

BROADSIDE

April 1, 2013

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1963

Volume 89 Issue 19



Jumping Ship

The decision to leave the CAA for the Atlantic 10 sparked excitement and discussion about how the change will influence the future of the university. Learn more about last week's announcement inside.

Page 10

News

Write-in presidential ticket expresses concerns about student government

Page 8

Lifestyle

Mason Players bring "Passaggio," written by a Mason alumnus, to the stage

Page 14

Opinion

Public reaction to the Steubenville rape case was typical and needs to change

Page 21

Sports

Men's basketball continues on in the CBI tournament, despite recurring mistakes

Page 22

Mason in the News

"I love the small schools but when one starts winning I start hoping inside, actually saying to myself, 'Please don't let a mid-major win the national championship.' I don't want them to forget that we were the first to get that far."

-Lamar Butler Jr., 2006 basketball shooting guard, said to *The Washington Post* looking back at Mason's 2006 run in the NCAA March Madness Final Four.

"I always wanted to be a writer. I remember telling my third grade teacher I was working on a novel and that she should look for it in bookstores before the end of that year."

- Art Taylor, English professor, said to *The Washington Examiner* about his success. Taylor received two Derringer Awards and a nomination for his story, "When Duty Calls" as well as a nomination for an Agatha Award.

"Their health needs are different; they are more severe and more complicated than boys.' They come in underserved.... They remain underserved."

-Catherine Gallagher, a Mason professor and an expert in juvenile justice, said to the *Los Angeles Times* about girls' health concerns in juvenile detention centers.

OPINION

Letter from the Editor-in-Chief

After spending three years at the Fairfax campus, I finally took the initiative to visit the campuses at Arlington and Prince William and I couldn't have been more impressed.

Again and again I hear from students that campus life at Mason is a bore. I can sympathize, suburban Fairfax is not your typical college town. Instead of sitting around and complaining, the one activity that the entire Mason community seems able to get behind, I challenge the student body to go out and explore and enjoy the opportunities Mason offers.

Go to a play, explore the streets of Fairfax or attend an event this week - it will only make your college experience better. I visited Arlington almost by chance when I went to dinner with my family for my brother's birthday a few weeks ago.

If I could choose which campus I'd like to live at, without hesitation I would up and move to Arlington. The whole area thrives with culture - there were bars, stores and restaurants crowded along every street, something that the Fairfax campus lacks.

In addition to the bustling streets and pretty campus, there is a metro stop that

will quickly bring you to downtown D.C. Arlington is the perfect compromise between the perks and culture of the city without the hassle of downtown.

There is currently not a shuttle available to the Arlington campus, something I would love to see added, but it is worth the trip down 66.

This past week, I spent the day at Prince William and was enchanted by the hardworking and engaging administrators and the beautiful Hylton Performing Arts Center.

The Center for the Arts at the Fairfax campus is a resource that too many students don't take full advantage of, including myself. I didn't even realize what I was missing in the Hylton at Prince William.

The building has a beautiful modern exterior, but the architecture pales in comparison to the interior décor. A step in the front door felt like a trip to New Orleans.

Deep purples, reds and oranges are accented with bronze details, making the whole building feel like the perfect setting for a masquerade ball.

The announced season for the upcoming year is jam packed with concerts, plays and special performances, most of which offer free student tickets.

The whole venue would be the ideal date night for any Mason student, and a ride on the shuttle and student tickets make the whole evening completely free.

Dazzled as I was by the Hylton, I was even more blown away by the administrators I met with to discuss a developing relationship between Broadside and the satellite campuses.

Dr. Anne Burriss and her team have a true passion and dedication to Mason and are willing to do everything they can to help students and the community.

Students, in the interest of incorporating the entire Mason community into the paper, we are looking for editors and writers to help us cover the community and news of both Arlington and Prince William.

If you attend classes at either of those campuses and are interested in helping out, send me an email at eic@broadsideonline.com and we'll get you started.



Colleen
Wilson
Editor-in-Chief

Number of the Week

7

The number of performers in the Les 7 Doigts de la Main, an acrobatic performance that visited the Center for the Arts last week. Read more about their artistic interpretation of mental burdens on page 17.

Broadside wants you.

Are you a writer, graphic designer, photographer or cartoonist?
Want to see your work printed in Broadside? Email us!

eic@broadsideonline.com



(JENNY KRASHIN/BROADSIDE)

Photo of the Week

"Press Pressures"

Broadside is opening up photo of the week for submissions. We are looking for dynamic, engaging, quality photos.

Please submit to
eic@broadsideonline.com.

News&Notes

March 25 corrections

- The story on the Arlington page included several factual errors. University Life made a request for a fitness space, however they were not responsible for choosing the space in Founders Hall. That decision is left up to the Space Administration Committee, which was incorrectly identified as the Student Allocation Committee. The space in Founders Hall that was referenced throughout the story is currently unoccupied and is not being used as a law library and study space.

- Hala Numan's name was misspelled on page 18.

Former Professor nominated to Nuclear Regulatory Commission

President Barack Obama has re-nominated Dr. Allison Macfarlane, a former associate professor of Environmental Science and Policy, for Commissioner of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Macfarlane has served as Chair of the Commission for the past year.

Macfarlane received a Bachelor of Science from the University of Rochester and a doctorate in Geology from MIT and has taught at several schools and served as a member of the Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future.

Students publish "National Security Law Journal"

Students in the School of Law published the first issue of the biannual journal, which focuses on topics regarding national security law, on March 18.

The National Security Law Journal (NSLJ) focuses on topics legal issues related to diplomacy, intelligence and the military.

The NSLJ will host a symposium on April 2 featuring a former director of the National Security Agency and CIA, a partner at Arnold & Porter and a deputy under secretary for the National Protection and Programs Directorate at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to discuss cyber-security and the threat of foreign and domestic hackers.

Police chief candidates to present at Town Hall meetings

The search for a new, permanent Mason Police chief has been narrowed down to three candidates.

These three finalists are now required to provide a brief presentation to the Mason community with embedded question and answer sessions.

Interim Chief Drew Tracy will present in Johnson Center Room 336 F on Wednesday, April 3 from 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Finalist Eric Heath will present in Mason Hall room D3 A&B on Tuesday, April 9 from 2 p.m.-3 p.m.

Finalist Larry Volz will present in Research Hall room 163 on Thursday, April 11 from 10:30

a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Students and faculty are invited to attend the public presentations.

Each candidate has also set up an hour in the next two weeks where they will be available to meet with individuals from the community to answer any other questions outside the larger presentation.

Tracy will be available on Tuesday, April 2 from 7:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. in the Johnson Center Bistro.

Heath will be available on Monday, April 8, from 7:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m., in the SUB 1 Patriot Lounge.

Volz will be available on Wednesday, April 10, from 7:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m., also in the SUB 1 Patriot Lounge.

Senator Warner announced as commencement speaker

Board of Visitors revamps selection process after difficulties with timeline

Last week, Senator Mark Warner was announced as the commencement speaker for the class of 2013.

Warner is the former Virginia governor and co-founder of the company that would become Nextel. Warner has served in the United State Senate since his election in 2008.

Warner was selected by Mason's Board of Visitors (BOV) under a more non-traditional timeline than what the university is used to. The BOV dealt with a change in policies and the departure of the individual leading the process midway through the year.

"We clearly need more time than we had this past year to do what we did. We did it much more quickly than I would prefer, and much more quickly than I think anybody else in the process would prefer," said Frank Neville, Chief of Staff of the BOV.

This time around, the board began with an initial list of fifteen names.

"Three emerged as priorities through a combination of affiliation with the university, prestige and standing on the individual and the probability that we could get them," Neville said.

Going forward, the board has established a new calendar for selecting a spring commencement speaker that begins in August with a university screening committee generating a list of potential speakers.

From there, the committee works over the next several months to meet and discuss with prospective candidates and revise the list to fit the university's needs. A final decision is meant to be made at either the December or January Board Meeting. The final confirmation of the commencement speaker

is not directly approved by the BOV, but, as Neville explains, it might as well be.

"In most instances, the commencement speaker is going to be receiving some honorary award. Only the board has the authority to approve those things. So in practice, what happens is then the board is essentially approving the commencement speaker as well," Neville said.

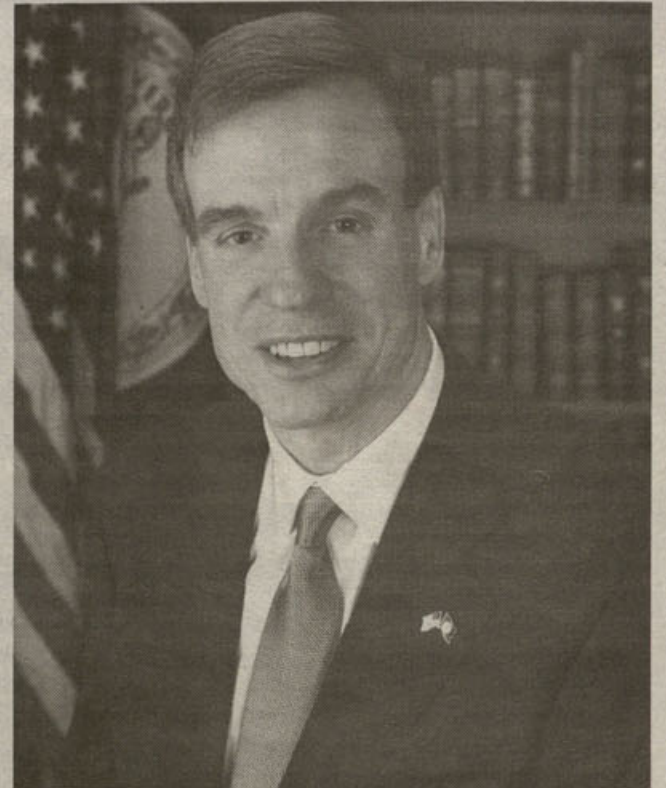
On account of how many different voices are involved in selecting a commencement speaker, Neville hopes the new established process will benefit them in the long run. The board is also working to include another voice in that group; a stronger, more active student voice.

"We found when we started digging through records that it didn't seem that students had been involved in this decision at all, which was clearly not what we wanted to do going forward," Neville said. "We want student representation. I would say that the student body president will have a larger voice at the table going forward."

Ultimately, Neville is confident that the BOV made the right choice, despite the time constraints.

"I was personally impressed with [Senator Warner's] understanding of policy, not just in a mechanical or political way, but in terms of what the policy means, how they impact people, what it means for the state, what it means for the country, so I am very confident you will hear something interesting from the Senator," Neville said.

AARON LOCKE
MANAGING EDITOR



(PHOTO COURTESY OF FRANK A. FEY/MARK WARNER)
Senator Warner was chosen to speak because of his understanding of higher education and involvement with the Mason community.

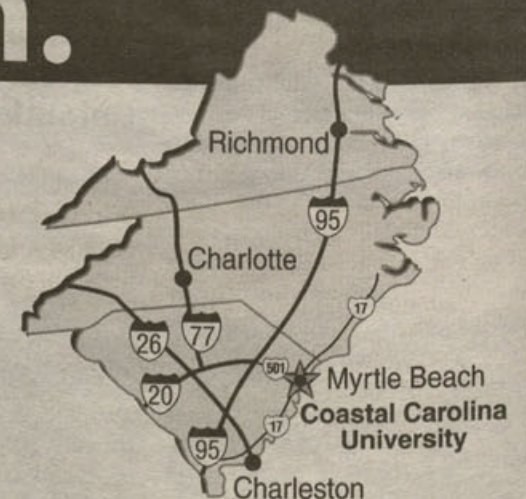


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- **Summer 8-week** (June 10 - July 30)
- **Summer II** (July 15 - Aug. 9)



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Neglecting advisors' help

#GMU_Problems: Advisors



Broadside
@MasonBroadside

Hey #MasonNation, what has been your experience with academic advisors? Positive? Negative? We need your input for #GMUproblems this week

Social media provides students a way to share their thoughts, feelings and opinions with the Mason community. The twitter handle and hashtag GMU problems has a pulse on the students and the problem they face on campus each day. Broadside is looking into whether each problem is one specific to Mason and whether any solutions are available.

What's the problem?

The information from a seven minute meeting with a professor you have never met is the same that you can get online. In several instances, the only time a student sees an advisor is their semester before graduating. Students advise themselves using the resources provided to them online, running the risk of being outdated for information or having difficulty understanding.

What's the risk?

Unfulfilled requirements

Assistant Dean of Student Academic Affairs, Advising and Retention, V. Ann Lewis, notes several instances of third-year students seeking advising for the first time because they are graduating in the next year, who have found out that they will need more time to fulfill their requirements to graduate. For example, each degree requires 45 credits of 300 and above level classes. The communications department, for example, does not have 45 credits worth of 300-level courses, so students must take classes in other departments to fulfill this requirement.

Excess of classes

If the classes needed to progress toward a major are not laid out, come registration time, students may take classes that their friends suggest as an easy elective or a general education course that may not be applicable for major requirement.

Students then end up with a large of elective credits.

How is the problem avoided?

Recurring advisor visits

Lewis recommends an advising session at least once a semester during the midterm evaluation period.

During those sessions, the advisor will suggest classes per major, as well as check on midterm grades. If the student wants to switch majors or declare a minor, this is the time to do so with the support of an advisor.

For many colleges, creating an appointment is done online. At peak times during the semester for advising, before registration opens, some advising offices provide walk-in advising. It is necessary to check with departments because each college has a different system for meeting with students.

Online resources

Lewis notes that students use the online resource, advising.gmu.edu, which then links to each college specifically, the most frequently to choose their classes, check their degree requirements and find worksheets to guide finding the right classes to take.

"I have to feel optimistic that those students that aren't coming to see us are at least using that website," Lewis said. "Some of the folks that will pull up the PDFs and follow the worksheets and read the requirements that are online choose not to go to see advisors for one

reason or another," Lewis said. I'm not saying that they are not doing well, but I'm just saying they could probably do better if they had a sense of personal connection with someone in their department."

The requirements for majors and minors for any degree program can become confusing and are constantly changing. Lewis cautions that the most updated information about each major and minor will come from the school website or from seeing an advisor.

"There is a lot of confusion in some cases with the worksheets and that's why we say, link to the department, link to the advisors, ask questions, come see us," Lewis said.

The degree evaluation tool on Patriot Web is another online resource to help keep track of which classes account for which requirements. It finds the courses a student has taken and categorizes them to show how it will fit into a major. Though Lewis admits it is difficult to understand at times, she thinks it is a useful tool especially for students with transfer credits.

How to find an advisor?

Go to the department's offices or call the department and set up an appointment. Events such as the Advising Expo are set up to create awareness and to get students in touch with academic advisors.

NIKI PAPADOGIANNAKIS
NEWS EDITOR

Tweets of the Week

#YOUR TWEET HERE

Want your tweet to be featured in Tweets of the Week? Hashtag your tweet with #gmu or tweet us @MasonBroadside.



Bob Walsh
@CoachBobWalsh

A George Mason professor did a study on the school's 2006 Final Four run and concluded it was worth \$677 million in free publicity for GMU.

3/28/13, 6:01 PM



Matt Bess
@BattMess

No table at the campus 24 hour Starbucks. Don't all of these people have partying to do? @GMU_problems

3/27/13, 10:34 PM



Phil
@PhilthePill

...The bus skipped my stop. I am on George Mason's campus. #GMU

3/27/13, 9:43 PM



Danny
@dmarks52

GMU operates in the CBI of life, if that makes sense

3/27/13, 9:07 PM



Ángel Cabrera
@CabreraAngel

Fascinating to see the = profile picture campaign go viral and global in support of equal gay rights. Has there been any precedent?

3/27/13, 8:27 PM



George Mason Univ.
@GeorgeMasonU

I hate it when people use the word retarded as a synonym for the word stupid. All that does is prove your ignorance and lose my respect.

3/26/13, 6:52 PM



gmuhoops
@gmuhoops

Bryon Allen sportin' the goggles like that old guy at Y

3/27/13, 7:09 PM

Students lead Mason's first Fashion Week



(MAURICE C. JONES/BROADSIDE)

A part of the Mason Fashion Society's "4 Days 4 Fashion," the group hosted a Fashion Night In, an event that helped showcase Mason talent and allow an opportunity for students to network with local fashion designers and retail businesses.

The Fashion Society at Mason brought its first fashion week, "4 Days 4 Fashion," to the Mason community.

Each of the four events took place on and off campus from March 25-28.

The Mason Fashion Society focused on four focal points that allowed Patriots to embrace their inner fashionista by incorporating events where students could network with local retail businesses, support local charities, promote self-esteem awareness and show how they express themselves through fashion.

There were two major events for fashion week held on March 27—Fashion for a Cause Part One and Two. The Fashion Society collected gently worn clothing donations from Mason students for less-fortunate teens in the Fairfax community.

"We connected with local Fairfax charities in hopes of getting a partnership so that we can donate the clothing, but if we can't, we will donate our pieces to the local high schools. And we're looking for clothing donations that are trendy and in," said Jasmine Jackson, president of the Fashion Society.

Jackson hosted the second half of the event, Fashion for a Cause Part Two.

This event allowed students to tackle the issue of low self-esteem and to improve their self-confidence and self-worth. Jackson also reminisced how fashion was her way out of the negative self-esteem and confidence struggles that taunted her as an adolescent.

"I was able to kind of determine what

my fashion sense or style was. My confidence skyrocketed, and that's why I love fashion," Jackson said.

Participants in the Fashion Night Out Scavenger Hunt at Fair Oaks were given a list of fashion items like clothing and accessories to find around the mall.

To be more cost-efficient, students were asked to take pictures of all of

"I was able to kind of determine what my fashion sense or style was. My confidence skyrocketed, and that's why I love fashion"

Jasmine Jackson

their items, instead of purchasing the merchandise.

Travis Brown was the first participant to report back to Avis Shackelford, treasurer and e-board member of the Mason Fashion Society, and win the grand prize.

"I feel really excited, and honestly a little surprised. I was actually the second participant to finish the hunt, but luckily the participant that finished first

actually forgot to find one of the items on the list," said Brown, a senior. "But I'm a very competitive person, so I was really happy. In terms of tactics, I used a combination of things. I shop at Fair Oaks a lot so I used my knowledge of the mall to my advantage. I first stopped at one big store to knock out as many items as I could in one place and that made things a lot easier."

The Fashion Night In showcase and networking mixer event was coordinated by Janel Taylor, public relations E-board member.

It served as an outlet for students to network with local and student fashion bloggers, photographers, designers and local retail businesses.

Every 30 minutes, Taylor would place the spotlight on a different guest so that they could introduce their brand or merchandise.

This event also allowed students to communicate in an intimate setting where they could positively influence each other and express what they are passionate about to build connections among their peers and colleagues.

The final event, titled Express Yourself, featured members of the Fashion Society in a photo shoot where members of the organization and students came to express themselves by wearing whatever brought out their fashionable personalities.

CHRISTEN ROBERTS
STAFF WRITER

Professor named National Art Educator of the Year

This year, the National Art Education Association (NAEA) recognized Renee Sandell with the 2013 National Art Educator of the Year Award. This award is reserved for those few who are "highly qualified art educators active in education today: leaders, teachers, students, scholars and advocates who give their best to the profession."

Sandell has been teaching art for four decades. She started her career in the New York City public school system and as time went on she moved down the east coast. She spent 14 years at Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore before starting at Mason in 2004.

"I continue to be amazed and inspired by the creative efforts of our students who have collaborated in our annual Artful Adventures university-museum partnerships," Sandell said.

According to Sandell, the proposals written by her students for the Virginia Art Education Association and National Art Education Association annual professional conferences have received rave reviews.

Sandell uses two hands-on methodologies, the informative and transformative processes, to deepen the experiential process of visual engagement.

"When we choose to organize our marks to visually share an experience or tell a story or capture a memory, we practice the art form of mapping," Sandell said. "This highly accessible approach to visualization by making meaningful marks and organizing them helps students create unique depictions of history, events and other experiential phenomena."

In Sandell's view, the role of an art teacher is not just to teach art. The role of an art teacher is to foster a deeper understanding of visual symbols and perspectives so that their students will not only create better art, but become better learners.

"Increasingly, art educators are leaders and change agents functioning in today's ubiquitous online, instantly in-view world where people can't 'un-see,'" Sandell said. "Nurturing productive learning communities within their classrooms, museums and other settings to develop visual literacy, art educators engage all learners to proactively explore and interpret what they see by meaningfully balancing art's diverse forms, themes and contexts."

NATHAN AMMONS
STAFF WRITER



Renee Sandell, second from the left, received an award for her dedication and contribution to art education. (COURTESY OF RENEE SANDELL)

A stand against modern slavery



(JENNY KRASHIN/BROADSIDE)

Students stood at North Plaza asking others to sign a petition to stop modern-day slavery

As spring break wound down, the new campus chapter of International Justice Mission (IJM) was gearing up with its first ever event. For 27 hours, students took turns standing in North Plaza to symbolically protest the 27 million people enslaved in the modern world as part of their version of the Stand for Freedom movement.

"It sparked interest. You talk to [students] and tell them that slavery still exists and they say, 'No wait, Lincoln ended that.' He did, but it still happens," Morrison said.

Freshmen Matthew Morrison's and Shalini Boddu are the co-founders of the Mason IJM chapter, which they both found inspiration for after attending Passion conferences through their churches. IJM is a human rights agency that is dedicated to find justice for victims of all violent oppression, including slavery and sexual exploitation.

"It helped raise awareness and also get people involved in the chapter. This was the first time it was done on campus and it was interesting trying to mesh our event with the campus," Morrison said.

The Passion conference included IJM President and CEO Gary Haugen and introduced Morrison to the Stand for Freedom anti-slavery movement. Boddu will serve as the president and Morrison will serve as treasurer of the chapter. The two have filed all of the necessary paperwork to become an

official student organization and are waiting on confirmation.

Morrison is also a Young Life member at Mason and discussed the national IJM with Young Life's college director, Derek Walne. From there, they decided to plan the Stand for Freedom event at Mason. Boddu joined the process as Morrison began researching the IJM website.

"I want to bring more awareness about human trafficking on campus. Since Matthew started planning it I would just participate in it," Boddu said.

Morrison and Boddu along with other students from Mason Cru participated in the campus event on March 22 and March 23. Each participant took shifts standing at North Plaza with signs saying, "end it, slavery still exists" and "be a voice for the voiceless."

Once IJM becomes an official organization, Morrison and Boddu will continue to raise awareness by keeping the Mason community informed. These plans include creating anti-slavery petitions, conducting general meetings and managing kiosks.

"Human trafficking will be a major topic we discuss because it encompasses both sex slavery and forced labor," Boddu said.

SAFFIE KAMARA
STAFF WRITER



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Write-in campaign criticizes student government practices

Donald Garrett and David Noyes run for president and vice president



(JENNY KRASHIN/BROADSIDE)

Donald Garrett is running as a write-in candidate for student government president. His running mate David Noyes was not available for this picture.

When junior Donald Garrett heard that Jordan Foster and Sam Wettasinghe were running unopposed for the 2013-2014 student government presidential ticket, he became concerned.

"I really feel like its the failure of student government, people are disconnected with organization. There are clearly lots of stakeholders on this campus, with 33 thousand students," Garrett said. "They are disconnected with what this organization can do for people and there are resources going to waste."

Garrett and David Noyes decided to register as a write-in campaign to run against Foster and Wettasinghe.

"Jordan and Sam represent what is currently going on with the organization. We're a fresh perspective. The logical choice is if you don't know what student government does for you or if you want them to do more for you, don't vote for them because they're just going to keep going on the same path," Garrett said.

Garrett and Noyes have no official platform document, and have found interacting individually with students through texting, email and in person has been a more effective way to campaign.

"My main goal really is just to increase shared governance. Students should be in the room when decisions and policy is being made," Garrett said. "There are lots of different committees on this campus, advisors and

committees that decide things. It's important to have student input and student government is the perfect place to start. Students who are involved have already been through the vetting process of an election."

Noyes was at a funeral and not available for an interview for this story.

"David is an out of state student from Massachusetts and he's on the men's club crew team. He was a part of student government in fall semester, but became disillusioned with how things happened internally. He wants to come back and make a difference," Garrett said.

Garrett cites internal organization as a key problem with the current student government organization.

"With my experiences with the organization, there has always been an inner clique and outer clique. The inner clique is made up of committee chairs, vice chairs and mentees," Garrett said. "Those are the ones who stick and stay around. Everyone else [in the outer clique] ends up dropping out. I'd fix this by reducing the number of committees and giving them actual jurisdiction."

Garrett, who has a tumultuous past with student government, believes that the organization is not structured efficiently and is not serving students to its best ability.

While serving as a senator, a resolution was passed to impeach Garrett. According to the

resolution, Garrett caused a disruption in the learned environment of student government, disturbed the well being of the organization and hampered the work of other student government members, which under the student government constitution are grounds for impeachment.

Garrett resigned before impeachment hearings were held. Several unsuccessful lawsuits followed the resolution.

Though Garrett is not currently a part of student government, he has continued to take on projects that impact the student body.

"I've gotten things done without the organization. For example, last week with moving the precinct," Garrett said. Garrett spearheaded a campaign to keep the campus polling place at University Hall. "Student government, even though they passed the resolution, didn't get involved. I took my own initiative because they weren't stepping up."

As part of his plans to restructure the current organization of student government, Garrett hopes to get senators out into the community to better interact with students.

"Forums are not working, they're not what students are looking for. Student government needs to go out to the students," Garrett said. "For example right now, senators have office hours, which most people on campus don't know about. I'd change office hours to outreach hours. One hour a week, senators

"I feel like I have what it takes to turn the organization around. I'm a registered Parliamentarian, so I study organizational procedure and how to more effectively run meetings and manage organizations. I see the path the student government is going down and I don't want the organization to roll off the cliff before it's too late."

Donald Garrett

would be responsible for manning a kiosk, hanging out in North Plaza and talking to students or going to events."

The budget for student government is another concern of Garrett's. He hopes to fund projects to encourage students to get involved with student government and interact with the office.

"Just as an example, I'd go out and buy maybe 2,000 scantrons and have them in SG office," Garrett said. "Students who were engaged and came to talk to us would be provided free scantrons. That way we could provide the student body with academic supplies and get feedback for student government."

The rules for write-in campaigns are determined by a panel of students on the Elections Disputes Committee (EDC). By registering as a write-in ticket, Garrett and Noyes have agreed to abide by the rules for fair fundraising and campaigning.

Voting for student government begins on April 2 at midnight at getconnected.gmu.edu. Voting will continue through midnight on April 4. Voters will have to write in Garrett and Noyes name.

COLLEEN WILSON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Braddock Supervisor engages students on GMU Reddit

In an attempt to connect with Mason students and allow them to voice their concerns, Braddock District Supervisor John Cook hosted a Reddit Ask Me Anything (AMA) on the George Mason's Subreddit page.

This session, which took place on March 7, gave students the opportunity to ask Cook about issues affecting the Mason community.

The questions ranged from concerns about Mason's current and future construction projects to an inquiry about Cook's favorite restaurant in Fairfax.

"You have to communicate the way that the people you're trying to talk with communicate. That means you have to be broad and you have to do new and different things," Cook said. "The old community meeting where you set up the chairs in the community hall and 25 senior citizens show up, that's nice, but that's not complete and that's not getting you cross-sections of the populations, so it's important for us to keep getting out there."

Cook has realized the increasing need to utilize social media to improve communication between college students and local government.

"As we have been trying to continue to develop a communications strategy that reaches as broadly as it can, we have started talking about the need to reach people through social media because that is how so many folks, especially younger people, are communicating these days," Cook said.

Cook recognizes the importance of the Mason community to the area and is always looking for new ways to communicate with students.

"I think it was a great success because I think we had 30 or 40 people at least that plugged in with a like or a dislike and we would not have gotten 40 people if we had held a physical

meeting in a meeting room," Cook said.

According to Cook, one of the most important issues discussed in the session concerned relations between Mason and the rest of the community.

"Obviously we have a great asset with the university, and likewise we have neighborhoods close by where people have homes and children that they are raising, and they are concerned about noise and trash and everything else," Cook said.

The forum included many questions about Mason construction projects, including the beginning of construction near Route 123 and its impact on traffic.

Cook also addressed the University Mall renovations, which he said will greatly expand the facility there.

He also answered questions about transportation, showing his support for Mason to establish a shuttle system between campus and the Burke VRE station.

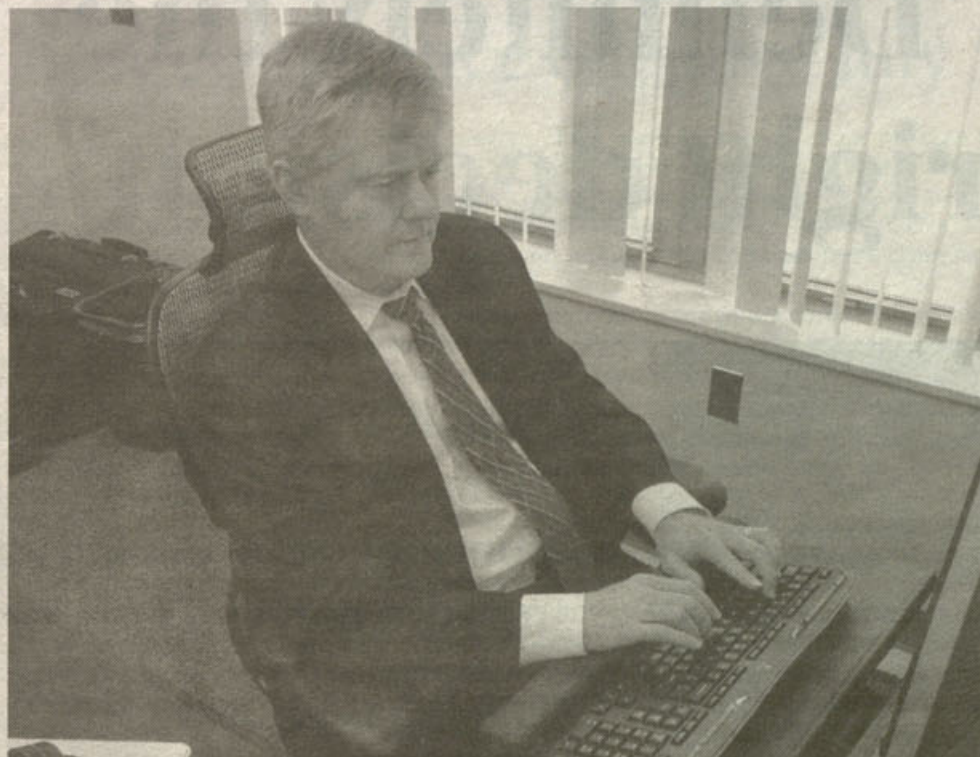
Senior Craig Haseler is a moderator for George Mason's Subreddit page and was contacted by Cook's communication director with the proposal for this AMA. Haseler believes the forum was successful and a great opportunity for Mason students.

"I think it was really good for Mason students to be able to ask someone about all of the different projects, construction-wise, that are going on," Haseler said.

While most of the issues dealt with genuine concerns about the community, one user posed a question asking Supervisor Cook about the authenticity of his hair color.

"There's some silly stuff, but nothing really inappropriate," Haseler said. "The Mason community has been surprisingly well-behaved."

George Mason's Subreddit page currently



(PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN COOK/REDDIT)

Braddock Supervisor John Cook answered questions on Reddit. He posted the photo above to prove that he himself was answering the questions posed by undergrads.

has an audience of more than 1,000 readers. Haseler hopes that more officials will approach the page and host AMA's on the site.

"President Cabrera is obviously a great example of someone we would love to see on there," Haseler said.

Cook encourages students to come out to the quarterly meeting in which Mason administration and Fairfax County and City residents join to discuss issues affecting the three groups.

"I really appreciate the interest that the students had in talking to me and I hope they will continue to reach out and feel part of the community," Cook said. "I certainly view the students as an important part of our district and I hope you all feel that you are connected with our community and that you will continue to stay in touch."

JANELLE GERMANOS
STAFF WRITER

Event promotion offices merge to serve student body

Instead of competing for the same crowd, Weekends at Mason and Patriot Activities Council (PAC), formerly Program Board, have joined forces to provide more focus for each on how to make events on campus better.

Weekends at Mason will now focus on the promotion aspects, whereas PAC will be planning and cooperating with other student organizations on events.

Each organization was responsible for programming events and, even though they were part of the same office, had to compete for certain populations, spaces and other resources necessary to create successful events.

"It got to the point that now that we have organizations on campus, 300 of them, it's unnecessary to have two student run offices that were basically doing the same thing," said Taren Henry, junior and lead public relations director of PAC. "We're already competing with other organizations and trying to bring them all together with our programming."

Combining these two offices creates more of a distinction of responsibilities and define what each can provide for events on

campus.

"We wanted to have more of a distinction between programming and promotion," said Caitlyn Beisley, graduate assistant for Weekends at Mason. "So now PAC is just doing events and Weekends no longer does their own events."

Weekends at Mason will focus on the public relations, advertising and marketing aspect of events as well as outreaching around campus and find out what events are happening all across campus and out in the community.

Student organizations who wish to partner with PAC or Weekends at Mason can fill out an application on pac.gmu.edu or can contact members of the PAC executive board directly.

Jorge Velasquez, junior and director of cosponsorship who was previously part of Weekends at Mason, notes that the cosponsorships with other organizations on events must be true cosponsorships in that the work provided by both sides will be equal.

"For example, if we are providing funding [for an event], [the student organization] ha[s] to provide advertising to

compensate, kind of, so that it's equal partnership," Velasquez said. "Because you don't want anybody to overtake your program. You just don't want to be added into the program, you actually want to be a part of the decision making. That's a true cosponsorship. Not just someone planning and you just tag along."

For a partnership to occur, the student organization must come to PAC with a rough plan at least two months ahead of the event to allow for time to plan.

Any student organization whose event is happening between Thursday and Sunday can apply to have the event put on Weekends at Mason's website as well as in their weekly newsletter to students.

"We want to be the resource for people who want to know what's happening anywhere around the area and on campus on any given weekend," Beisley said.

NIKI PAPADOGIANNAKIS
NEWS EDITOR

“Definitely the right decision”

A-1

Now that the decision has been made, Daniel Clemente, the Rector or the head of the BOV, believes it will help to improve Mason and Mason basketball.

He cites economic benefits, increased ticket sales, the opportunity for local competition with George Washington and an overall increase in the university's profile as positives in Mason's move to the A-10.

Another positive is the affordability of the decision.

“There is no increase in the student fees that they pay for athletics,” Clemente said. “We are able to make this transition, we are able to pay the fees for getting out of the CAA, we are able to pay the fees to get into the A-10, and not have to raise student fees at all.”

Clemente acknowledges how dramatic the change may seem to some and hopes that they will see this is as a good decision made by the university to improve the student experience and the university's national profile.

“I know that George Mason was one of the founders of the CAA, but we have a new president, and a fresh outlook on everything. The whole concept, change and control, is to take the university to the next level, whatever that translates to. Dr. Cabrera has looked at this very carefully and made the final decision and the board supported him a 100 percent.”

AARON LOCKE
MANAGING EDITOR

“This is an exciting time for George Mason University. After careful consideration, we have concluded that joining the A-10 is the right move at the right time for Mason.”

President Ángel Cabrera, at the March 25 press conference announcing the conference change. Cabrera, along with Tom O'Connor, director of athletics and the Board of Visitors said that the decision had been discussed and analyzed for months leading up to the announcement.

7 The number of spring sports who became ineligible for post-season play after the announcement was made

11 The hypothetical rank Mason would hold if it were a part of the current A-10 season in terms of how much money is spent on basketball

\$2,560,000

The number, in millions, of projected loss of revenue Mason will incur by leaving the CAA tournament



Mason announces plan to head to Atlantic 10

All sports would transfer to the new conference effective July 1

On March 25, Mason announced in a press conference the decision to move to the Atlantic 10 conference for all sports, effective on July 1.

According to a Mason Athletics press release, the university's decision to move to the A-10 will "help further showcase the exemplary contributions of Mason's faculty and students and all that the university has to offer."

"Our partnership with the Atlantic 10 aligns with our core commitments as we move into the next phase of this university's impressive journey," said Mason president Ángel Cabrera via video conference.

Mason, a founding member of the Colonial Athletic Association in 1985, felt the time was right to relocate to the A-10 with uncertainty within the CAA and drastic conference realignment across the country.

"With changes in the collegiate landscape, the opportunity to become a member of the Atlantic 10 conference provides outstanding opportunities for our intercollegiate athletics program and the university as a whole," said Tom O'Connor, athletic director. "Our vision to be the best overall athletics program in the conference, with an emphasis on men's and women's basketball, perfectly aligned with the Atlantic 10's vision and accomplishments."

The addition of Mason to the A-10 will increase the number of schools in the conference to 13 and will re-affirm rivalries between Mason, Virginia Commonwealth University and Richmond while rekindling "Battle of the Orange Line" between Mason and George Washington University.

The A-10 has been successful in men's basketball recently, which was the main concern of Mason Athletics in the deci-

"Our vision to be the best overall athletics program in the conference, with an emphasis on men's and women's basketball, perfectly aligned with the Atlantic 10's visions and accomplishments."

Tom O'Connor

sion to join the conference. For the second year in a row, five schools in the A-10 received bids to the NCAA Tournament and each school advanced to the third round.

Butler, Xavier and Temple will all be leaving the conference on July 1, so adding Mason opens a new phase for the A-10 to find successful academic and athletic institutions.

Repercussions of the move for Mason include paying a \$1 million exit fee, forfeiture of roughly \$1.65 million in conference payouts and ineligibility of spring sports participation, including women's lacrosse, baseball, softball, men's and women's track and rowing in the CAA conference championships in May.

In the press conference, O'Connor mentioned his remorse to the student-athletes and coaches for the lack of post-season play with the intent of holding an individual meeting with the senior student-athletes.

Student fees will not be increased to fund the move to the A-10.

"Every decision that we make, we look at it very, very carefully," Cabrera said. "In assessing this move, we made sure that we could do it without imposing any additional burden on our students. That was a key part of this decision."

According to estimates conducted by Mason administration, if the A-10 continues its athletic success in the coming years, it would be a positive move financially for the university.

"We've been analyzing this from different time frames," Cabrera said. "In as little as five years, this becomes a very positive move for us - if not sooner. We're structuring things internally through internal loans so that in fact, the additional expected revenues will compensate for the investment. So, really no financial concerns at all."

PAT CARROLL

C2M SPORTS AND RECREATION EDITOR

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED ON CONNECT2MASON.COM

Ask an Athlete

What is your opinion on the A-10 conference change?



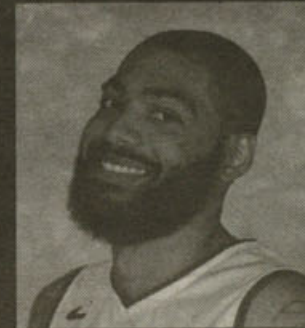
"I am excited for the stronger teams in the A-10 like Richmond and VCU which will get us a better chance at making the tournament. I redshirted this year because of a back injury, if I knew the change was coming before deciding on Mason I would still have come here."

- Annie Lawler redshirt women's basketball



"It is still a little too early to tell how this will impact our recruiting because the two leagues are very parallel in strength, at least on the top end. I think change is good and this will be good for my team. Change makes you uncomfortable and instills growth, you have to train on the edge and be uncomfortable if you want to improve."

- Diane Drake women's soccer coach



"The move to the A-10 is a great move. The A-10 is a great conference with great teams and Mason will flourish."

- Ryan Pearson, former men's basketball player

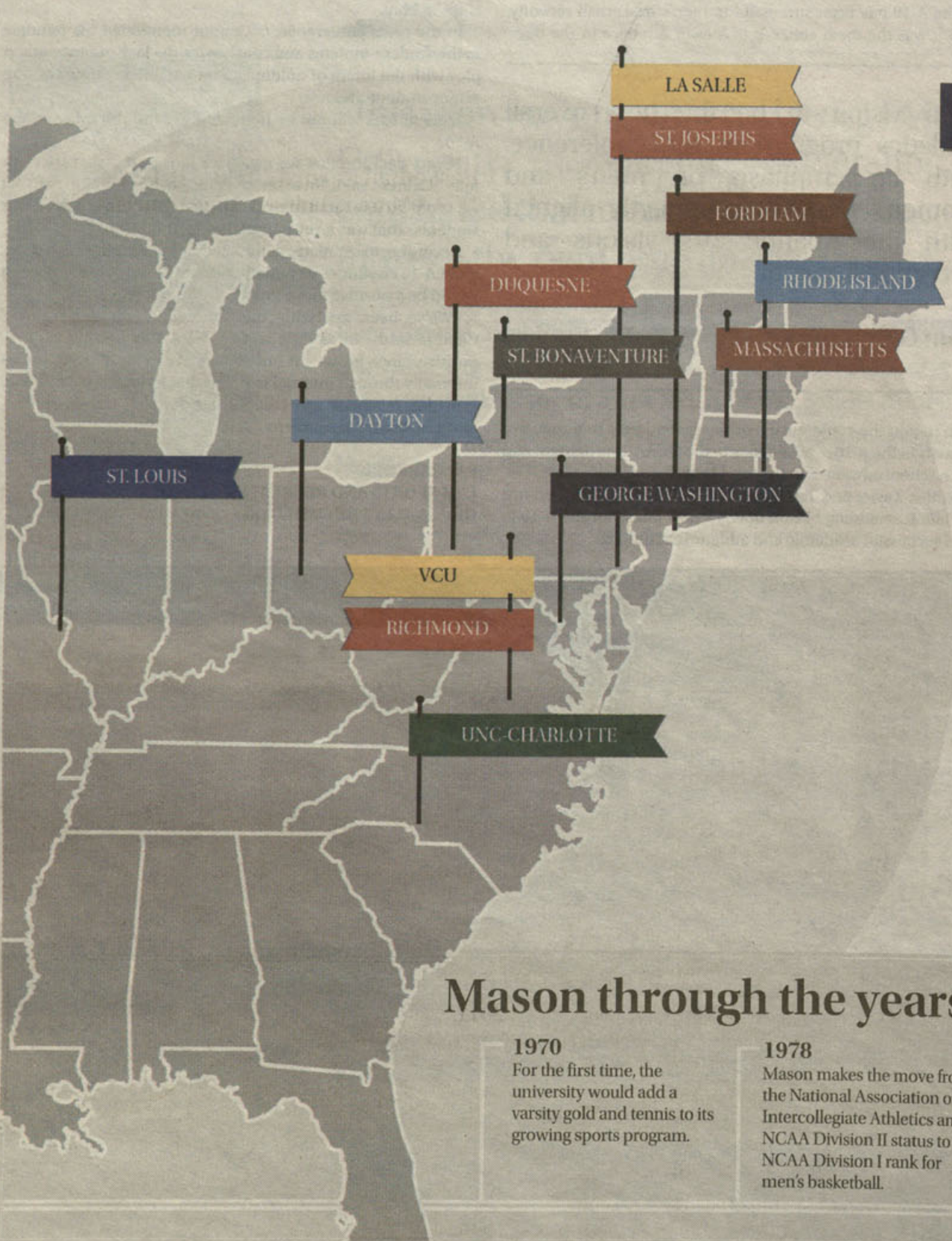


"This move has given us a great opportunity to compete against a host of new teams in a very competitive conference. I am going to miss our rivalries with schools like JMU and William and Mary. Hopefully we will get to play these schools outside of conference games."

- Katie Montgomery, women's soccer redshirt

Breaking down the new competition

A new conference means new competition. Here is a guide to some of the basics for the current members of the Atlantic 10



ATLANTIC 10

Founded: 1976
Members: 17 full, 1 associate
Sports: 21
 (9 men's, 12 women's)
Conference Tournament:
 Barclay's Center,
 Brooklyn, N.Y.

MASSACHUSETTS

School Size: 27,269
Arena Size: 9,493
Basketball Record 2013: 21-11
NCAA March Madness Appearances:
 1962, 1992 (Sweet 16), 1993, 1994, 1995 (Elite Eight), 1997, 1998

Mason through the years

1970
 For the first time, the university would add a varsity gold and tennis to its growing sports program.

1978
 Mason makes the move from the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics and NCAA Division II status to NCAA Division I rank for men's basketball.

1979
 Mason was a founding member of the Eastern College Athletic Conference South basketball league, which was later, renamed what is now called the Colonial Athletic Association.

1985
 Mason's women's soccer team won the 1985 National Championship after defeating the UNC Tar Heels on November 24. The team had played its first ever varsity match just four years before.

LA SALLE

School Size: 7,554
 Arena Size: 3,400
 Basketball Record 2013: 21-9
 NCAA March Madness Appearances:
 1954 (Champions), 1955 (Finals), 1968, 1975, 1978,
 1980, 1983, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1992, 2013 (Sweet 16)

ST. BONAVENTURE

School Size: 2,450
 Arena Size: 6,012
 Basketball Record 2013: 14-15
 NCAA March Madness Appearances:
 1961 (Sweet 16), 1968 (Sweet 16), 1970 (Final Four),
 1978, 2000, 2012

DUQUESNE

School Size: 10,363
 Arena Size: 4,406
 Basketball Record 2013: 8-22
 NCAA March Madness Appearances:
 1940 (Final Four), 1952, 1969 (Sweet 16), 1971,
 1977

ST. JOSEPH'S

School Size: 8,800
 Arena Size: 4,200
 Basketball Record 2013: 18-13
 NCAA March Madness Appearances:
 1959, 1960, 1961 (Final Four), 1962, 1963 (Sweet 16), 1965
 (Sweet 16), 1966, 1969, 1971, 1973, 1974, 1981 (Elite Eight),
 1982, 1986, 1997 (Sweet 16), 2001, 2003, 2004 (Elite Eight),
 2008

GEORGE WASHINGTON

School Size: 24,531
 Arena Size: 5,000
 Basketball Record 2013: 13-17
 NCAA March Madness Appearances:
 1954, 1961, 1993 (Sweet 16), 1994, 1996, 1998, 1999,
 2005, 2006, 2007

U.N.C.-CHARLOTTE

School Size: 26,232
 Arena Size: 9,105
 Basketball Record 2013: 21-12
 NCAA March Madness Appearances:
 1977 (Final Four), 1988, 1992, 1995, 1997, 1998,
 1999, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005

FORDHAM

School Size: 15,184
 Arena Size: 3,470
 Basketball Record 2013: 7-24
 NCAA March Madness Appearances:
 1953, 1954, 1971, 1992

DAYTON

School Size: 11,186
 Arena Size: 13,435
 Basketball Record 2013: 17-14
 NCAA March Madness Appearances:
 1952 (Sweet 16), 1965 (Sweet 16), 1966 (Sweet 16),
 1967 (Finals), 1969, 1970, 1974 (Sweet 16), 1984
 (Elite Eight), 1985, 1990, 2000, 2003, 2004, 2009

RICHMOND

School Size: 4,205
 Arena Size: 9,071
 Basketball Record 2013: 19-15
 NCAA March Madness Appearances:
 1984, 1986, 1988 (Sweet 16), 1990, 1991, 1998,
 2004, 2010, 2011 (Sweet 16)

RHODE ISLAND

School Size: 19,095
 Arena Size: 7,657
 Basketball Record 2013: 8-21
 NCAA March Madness Appearances:
 1961, 1966, 1978, 1988 (Sweet 16), 1993, 1997, 1998
 (Elite Eight), 1999

ST. LOUIS

School Size: 13,785
 Arena Size: 10,600
 Basketball Record 2013: 27-6
 NCAA March Madness Appearances:
 1952 (Elite Eight), 1957, 1994, 1995,
 1998, 2000, 2012, 2013

VCU

School Size: 31,899
 Arena Size: 7,622
 Basketball Record 2013: 26-8
 NCAA March Madness Appearances:
 1980, 1981, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1996, 2004, 2007,
 2009, 2011 (Final Four), 2012, 2013

1985

Basketball is played in the Patriot Center after its construction in October 1985.

2006

As a #11-seed, Mason advanced to the Final Four in the NCAA basketball tournament, after defeating North Carolina, Connecticut, Michigan State, and Wichita State.

2006

Head basketball coach Jim Larranaga receives the Coach Clair Bee Award from the Basketball Hall of Fame and Chip Hilton Sports.

2011

Larranaga leaves Mason for the University of Miami after 14 years with the team.

2013

After 28 years with the Colonial Athletic Association, Mason joins the Atlantic 10 Conference.

Mason Players produce play written by alumnus



Mason Players put on "Passaggio" as part of the theater department's Season of Magic and Transformation. Passaggio was written by alumnus Clayton Austin. (COURTESY OF BETH RADO)

The dressing rooms of the Harris Theater performance building are what some would call stereotypical.

Eggshell-white painted cinderblock walls, no windows and bulbous Hollywood-styled light bulbs, meant to mimic the light effects of stage lights, outline wall-to-wall mirrors.

Students, ranging in age and theatrical experience, strip down to undershirts and underwear to don hand-me-down or thrifted costumes, and then spend the rest of their time applying stage makeup to age their young faces.

"See?" said Collin Riley, who is playing the protagonist, Franco Baldini. "You learn so much doing theater," he said, jokingly, as a crew member in charge of costumes taught him the importance of properly tying his necktie.

Every spring, these Mason students and faculty come together to form the Mason Players, a theatrical group that performs an array of plays and musicals that are generally free or low-cost to students with Mason identification.

As a part of the Department of Theater's Season of Magic & Transformation's lineup of plays for the spring semester, the Mason Players are acting out the story of "Passaggio," the goings-on of a small Italian town struggling to find a medium between reality's

responsibilities and the drive to achieve life's larger dreams.

"It's considered a dromedy," said Christopher Chandler-Lui, a freshman who is playing the part of Pasquale, a good friend of the protagonist in the play. "You know, like a comedy mixed with a drama."

"There's a lot of tension between the characters in the play because they are trying to find what is right -- taking chances or following responsibilities," said Clayton Austin, the production manager of the show who has also been teaching at Mason since 1993 in technical theater.

"Passaggio" is the only show this semester that was written by a Mason theater student, Michael Patrick Smith, who is now a faculty member for Mason's English Language Institute. Smith studied in Mason's playwriting program and the Theater of the First Amendment's First Light play-development program when "Passaggio" was born.

"When I directed the staged reading of Michael P. Smith's life-enhancing new play 'Passaggio' two years ago I never dreamed it would ever see the light of a fully staged production," said Director Stevie Zimmerman in the "Passaggio" playbill as her note from the director.

The play's cast of 21 Mason and Acting For Young People students, as well as the

elaborate scenes and low budget, posed as a challenge in producing the show.

"With faith, hard work, talent and inspiration from many sources, Team Passaggio, as we have become known, has created something of which I am very proud," said Zimmerman, concluding her director's note in the "Passaggio" playbill.

The moral of the play resonates strongly with not only the director and playwright of "Passaggio," but with the student actors as well. College is a time of juggling multiple, day-to-day responsibilities, while attempting to achieve a larger goal of graduating and entering the world as a well-rounded adult.

"I've been doing theater since the fourth grade," said Christopher Chandler-Lui, who is studying civil engineering at Mason. "It's something I love, but at the same time, it can be hard to complete homework and do other things. It's all so rewarding, though; it's worth it."

"We spend about four hours a day, six days a week rehearsing. Not to mention the time outside of rehearsal we use to run lines and practice," said George Tralka, a senior theater major and business minor at Mason who is performing his second Harris Theater production with the cast of "Passaggio." "As a theatre major, this fulfills a practicum, but you can still easily get behind in your studies, if you allow

yourself. It's later nights and longer hours, but I love it all. I'm just constantly learning. I'm constantly having a new teacher, scene partner, new play -- it's an ongoing process, and that's what keeps it interesting."

The cast and crew of "Passaggio" were the ones who ultimately brought the show together. Mentors and faculty were available for guidance to assure smooth production of the play, but the actors and crew members of "Passaggio" were a completely student-run group.

"I was at opening night, and seeing the students step up and really do a great job was amazing to see," said Austin. "The real work is done by the students, and it's good to see everything that they did throughout the semester unfold during their performance."

"Passaggio" runs for two weeks at Harris Theater. Shows take place March 28-30 and April 4-6 at 8 p.m., as well as April 6-7 at 2 p.m. Students receive one free ticket with a Mason ID and extra tickets are \$15 for students. Faculty, staff, seniors and groups pay \$15 per ticket, and admission is \$20 for the general public.

RYAN WEISSER
LIFESTYLE EDITOR

Traditional Festival of Colors celebrates Indian culture

Time flies, and so do colors.

On March 30, Holi was celebrated at Finley Lot, near Krug Hall, Thompson Hall and Finley Building. The event was a collaboration between Student Government, Class Councils and the Indian Student Association, who worked together to provide refreshments, sunglasses and colorful powder for the celebration.

Holi is a religious spring festival celebrated by Hindus in celebration of the end of winter and the beginning of spring. It is also known as a Festival of Colors.

Primarily observed in India and Nepal, this is the first time the celebration was held on campus on such a large scale.

"We want to make this an annual event, so if Holi Moli goes well [this year], this will be happening every year," said Navita Khatri, president of ISA.

Holi is celebrated by wearing white and throwing colored powder and water at one another, with the intent to cover each other with as many colors as possible. Blue, yellow, green, pink and orange could be seen tossed around in festivity.

"It was a dust cloud, nobody could see anything. Stuff was going into my mouth, so it was best to close your mouth, eyes, nose, everything," sophomore Chaya Kanchiraju said.

All powder, which was a simple colored cornstarch, was provided by ISA. This made sure the supplies were in accordance with university policy and would not contain material considered harmful.

People were free to bring face shields or towels, but supplies for clean-up were readily available on the side of the field.

Historically, the word Holi originated from Holika the sister of Hiranyakashipu. As the tale goes, Hiranyakashipu, the great king of demons, was granted the ability of immortality.

Because of this gift, he grew arrogant and demanded people stop worshipping gods and start worshipping him. His own son, Prahlada, denied his father.

After several failed attempts of killing his son, the father had one last idea: to order Prahlada to sit on the lap of Holika, Hiranyakashipu's demoness sister, who could not be burned by fire.

Prahlada obeyed his father and prayed to his god. Holika burned to death, while Prahlada survived unharmed.

The tale recognizes the triumph of good over evil, and Holi is the celebration of that good over evil. But ultimately, the colorful celebration brings the community together to have fun.

"It's really an event that bring all types of people together. The



(PHOTO BY DARLENE ALEGRADO/BROADSIDE)

The Holi Moli Festival of Colors was a joint effort by student organizations to celebrate the traditional Indian celebration of the Festival of Colors.

young and the poor, and the old and the young all celebrate together," said Nupur Khullar, the vice president of ISA.

Not only did it bring people together, but it taught new celebrators the tradition and culture of India.

"In India, there are many different religions, but Holi brings together everyone. It's about unity and never forgetting to always be good," Navita Khatri said.

DARLENE ALEGRADO
STAFF WRITER

"It's really an event that bring all types of people together. The young and the poor, and the old and the young all celebrate together."

Nupur Khullar

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April 7 at 4 p.m. \$27, \$46, \$54 CA
1 Free Ticket per ID avail. NOW

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April 7 at 3 p.m. & 7 p.m.
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April 15 at 7 p.m. \$10 adu., \$5 stu./sen. HT
1 Free Ticket per ID avail. Apr. 2

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Center for the Arts FAIRFAX

Hylton Performing Arts Center PRINCE WILLIAM



Acrobats interpret the struggles of mental burdens in PSY

On March 29, PSY came to the Center for the Arts to perform a breathtaking show. No, not the silly k-pop club banger Mason's become used to, but rather a hair-raising acrobatic spectacle directed and performed by Les 7 Doigts de la Main.

Les 7 Doigts de la Main, meaning "the seven fingers of the hand," is a company of artists founded in Montreal in 2002.

Each one of the seven "fingers" is a former circus performer, harnessing their unique backgrounds to create a show that is at some times stunningly aggressive, and at others passionately intimate.

Since the fingers' first performance, their small company has expanded to feature a number of other artists, some of which lent a hand to create the magic of PSY.

Their fourth creation, out of a series of shows written and directed by the founders of the company, PSY delves into the labyrinth of the mind. Through a series of death-defying stunts, the audience is told the story of a group of people, each struggling to cope with their own mental burdens, each serendipitously bound to each other in a therapist's lobby.

The show begins with a brief, robotic monologue outlining the annals of neuroscience with a hint of humor. The spoken word introduction is directly preceded by Kevin Beverley, a trapeze artist and dancer, rising from the crowd and ascending to the stage into a mock therapist's office.

Playing the part of Michel Michel, a schizophrenic young man, Beverley personifies his conflicted emotions and frustration through a gravity-defying trapeze routine.

The act of demonstrating one's internal, emotional state through the use of circus acrobatics becomes a theme throughout the show. Trapped inside their own heads, the performers show us the literal leaps and bounds they must make just to get by in everyday life.

Dreams and memory collide when an amnesiac recounts a memory of a childhood birthday, which quickly descends from an innocent pin-the-tail-on-the-donkey game, to an erotic sword dance. Throughout PSY,

the juxtaposition of delicate classical music and the coarse, fluctuating crunch of dubstep baselines serves to highlight the duality of opposing forces; innocence and sin, safety and danger, isolation and community.

Two of the more stirring acts came in PSY's second half. The first, utilizing a circus favorite, the "Chinese Pole," tells the story of Claire the Insomniac, played by Alana Moggridge, and her estranged husband, played by Kenneth Lindemann.

Carrying a pillow around with her, Claire is always tired but never asleep, and it has taken a toll on her marriage. The audience gets a glimpse into a night spent with an insomniac, which unfolds into a blue-tinted, dexterously executed Chinese pole routine that outlines how perfect Claire and her husband are together, but how far they've been driven apart.

The second act, performed by Julien Silliau, depicts a young man caught, quite literally, in the ring of addiction. Silliau's mastery of the German Wheel, a form of gymnastics that originated in Germany and actually uses a wheel, helped to personify the futile cycle of addiction and how frustrating and seemingly impossible it feels to break free once you have been ensnared.

One of the most amazing things about PSY is how little it took to put on a great show. Aside from a set of reversible stairs and some circus equipment, the stage had an almost minimalist feel to it.

However, this did not subtract from the show's overall quality, for the lack of props served to bring more purpose to the performers, who in turn used their strength of character and athletic abilities to convey all the emotion and context they needed to convey without it feeling like the show was lacking.

Though the performance ends somewhat ambiguously, there is an underlying message of hope for PSY's dysfunctional cast.

Though they have become disjointed and foreign in the outside world, they have found a certain harmony and coordination with each other.



(PHOTO COURTESY OF LUDDE DUREGARD)

Through acrobatic feats, Les 7 Doigts De La Main represent the struggles of mental burdens in PSY.

As they come together to perform an excellently choreographed juggling routine, one can see the community being built between them.

Though they could not be more different, they are united by their struggles, and through adversity, miscommunication and loneliness they have become a family. A family whose

imperfections make them perfect for each other like the beautifully awkward dexterity of a seven-fingered hand.

NATHAN AMMONS
STAFF WRITER

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(MAURICE C. JONES/BROADSIDE)

An event this past week at The Ridge showcased student talent.

The Ridge hosts event to feature student talent

Circa early 2000s All-American Rejects and Fall-Out Boy carry on in the background of a dimly-lit area, lined with cozy burgundy sofas for Mason students to nonchalantly lounge around on a Thursday night. Microphones are set up in a corner of the room, with green and gold spot lights shining up the walls, creating the perfect backdrop for the first artist of the night to perform.

"So, well, we're John, Matt and Patrick, and we're gonna do a few songs for you all tonight. I guess we'll start off with 'Born and Raised' by John Mayer," said Patrick Foit, the lead vocalist for the three-man band, as he whipped out a not-so-popular instrument, a harmonica.

This band, comprised of three Mason students, was the first of eight performances at The Ridge on March 28. The Ridge, a connecting building between Sandbridge and Blue Ridge dormitories, is becoming one of the main on-campus chill spots, with tables and sofas to accommodate studious types during the day and night performances and get-togethers for Mason's night walkers. The Office of Housing and Residence Life has also been trying to get more students out to The Ridge by hosting a monthly concert series, "Live @ The Ridge."

"We have a good list of regulars; students who perform a lot for us. They're kind of like our local celebrities," said junior

Marriah Humphrey, the host of "Live @ The Ridge" for the Thursday night performance. The March 28 performance not only was a chance for students to showcase their talents and for people to come out and share their experiences specifically relating to equality struggles and social injustice.

"When we advertised for students to sign up and perform, we also made sure to encourage students to open up about their life experiences and any social injustice issues they've had," said Humphrey, noting that this specific "Live @ The Ridge" performance was aimed at being a precursor to Mason's PRIDE Week which begins on April 1.

The Ridge's decor for the night also went along with the theme of the event.

"If you noticed, on the walls are a bunch of art pieces done by Mason students and members of the LGBTQ community on campus," Humphrey said.

A few of the student performances tied in with the theme of the night. D'Mari Creque's performance of Bonnie Raitt's "I Can't Make You Love Me," Dalyn Dessauere recitation of a poem he wrote, "First Death," and Jessica Owens's three pieces of spoken word that focused on love, break-ups and teenage wisdom, all carried over into the idea of support, love and the value of equality for people.

"No matter how deep that darkness grows, remember to love yourself unconditionally," said Dessauere, reciting the last line of his poem.

Other performances by Mason students did not necessarily tie in to the theme of the night's performances, but the support for each artist and performer was evident in the audience.

"I love doing this," said sophomore Barry Siford, one of the artists for the night who performs at "Live @ The Ridge" frequently. "Every time I come here, there's someone I know in the crowd supporting me."

Siford was one of the other performing acts at the event, who go mainly for the experience and support. The blues band Bones & Branches and Mason music majors Purev Arslanbaatar and Trey Douglas performed toward the end of the evening.

"At their last performance they did an awesome cover of Muse's 'Supermassive Black Hole.' In acoustic. It was super sexy," said Siford, commenting on Arslanbaatar and Douglas's talent.

The next round of auditions to perform at April's "Live @ The Ridge" series will be held on April 4.

RYAN WEISSER
LIFESTYLE EDITOR

Beacon

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University

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Mason Makes Careers

Every week, Broadside features a student or alumnus with a great internship or job to highlight the opportunities and potential earning a degree at Mason offers.

How would you describe your place of work?

It's family. I've never worked anywhere like it. NBC4 is the gold standard for Washington TV news and you feel it in the newsroom. It's high energy and can be stressful but it's that good kinda stress. It's the kind that pushes you to work harder to be the best possible. It's a 24/7 newsroom that has the never ending goal of being the area's leader in giving news that really matters to you.

What are some of your day-to-day responsibilities?

On the weekends I anchor the morning news but the process of preparation usually starts days before. I work with my co-anchor and producer to come up with news and events we should cover. We also line up any interviews that we think will add to a big story that will carry over into the weekend.

During the week, I wake up at 2:30 a.m. and I'm on-the air by 4:30. Usually I have a couple breaking news stories to cover from the moment I step into the station. My job is to track all the big stories throughout the morning. After the morning show I often get out in the field to shoot stories that will air in various newscasts. It's a pretty packed day.

How did your degree and/or courses at Mason help you with your job?

While at Mason I did four broadcast internships. If done right you will walk away with valuable contacts and more knowledge than you'll find in any textbook.

GMU is in a great location — so close to D.C. and local/national media outlets. I also had some great instructors — love you Steve Klein — who were very supportive.

What's the most exciting part of your job?

I used to say you walk out of the newsroom everyday either feeling good or bad. What I mean by that.. is you either feel like you've made a difference or you didn't. Cool stories range from

getting a state to change a sex offender law to going to LA to hang with Cee Lo and Adam Levine for the finale of The Voice. That's what's great about this business — you get to tell so many different stories that are all rewarding in their own way. And yes, ladies. Adam is THAT good looking in person.

What's the most challenging part of your job?

The alarm clock. I hate that thing. When it goes off at 2:30 a.m. there are mornings I'm like "What the heck am I doing?" But after a couple cups of coffee, it's all good.

The other challenge is of course never having the time on TV to tell all of the story. Thank goodness for social media and the web now. We now have another way of getting those extra nuggets of information out for those interested.

What advice would you offer anyone trying to get a similar internship?

Be persistent and annoying if you have to. Also, don't be afraid to become an 'expert' in what you are truly passionate about. Whether it's law, animals, transportation, crime, social media or politics, I think it's great to really be able to bring an insider perspective to the table as a journalist.

When you care about something in particular it will be easier to report on it. More and more outlets are looking for people with these skills. Intern as much as you can. In this world of easy access, invest in a good social media package — meaning clean up your Facebook, Twitter, online resume or website.

Many news managers are quick to google applicants. First impressions are everything, and these days most of them are being made on the web.

MELANIE MILES
ASST. LIFESTYLE EDITOR



(COURTESY OF ROBIN FADER/NBC4)

NAME: Angie Goff

GRADUATION DATE: 2001

DEGREE: Communication

CAREER: NBC4 Anchor/Reporter

Busboys and Poets offers stage for expression, art

Wearing a black shirt with bold letters reading "Pro-life, pro-God, pro-gun," the young man on stage with a microphone shouted disparaging remarks about President Barack Obama. He vented his frustrations regarding the assault weapons ban proposal with catchy rhymes and metaphors to a diverse crowd.

"So when Mr. President decided to ban, he definitely lost his number one fan," said Jack Davis, a sophomore NoVa student, as the crowd applauded his five-minute performance.

A young woman sat at a dark corner table alone, rehearsing lines from a small booklet. The host called out her name as the next performer and she burst onto the stage, articulating her story of a dead cousin who was shot nine times by a rival gang. At the end of her performance it was clear that she was an advocate of banning guns. The crowd—including Davis—began clapping.

This was Busboys and Poets' Monday night open mic event for spoken-word poets. The Arlington restaurant houses a packed room of 40 people who all have different social and political views but come together to share their artistic poems every Monday night. The crowd sipped on their teas and coffees quietly while listening to stories of faith, struggle, success and love.

The Monday night open mic events run from 8-10 p.m. and allow each performer five minutes to speak their mind on

stage. There is no censorship of words, but the only rule is that the audience has to respect the performer.

"We don't care about your background, religion, politics or skin color. We only care about whether you have the skills to tell a story," said Kris Nguyen, a freshman NoVa student. "I've been writing and performing for four years and this is the only community where I can get on stage and say whatever the hell I want, and people will fall in love with my poem even if they don't agree with my views."

Busboys and Poets was first established in 2005. Founders Anas Shallal, Ari Roth and Mimi Conway wanted to open a place for free-thinking artists to express their creativity. The flagship restaurant first opened on 14th and V St., in Washington. There are a total of four locations, with two in Washington, one in Arlington and another in Hyattsville, Md.

"I feel at home when I come here. I'm not performing tonight, but it's music to my ears listening to all of the poets letting their emotions out on stage," said Quynh Vo, a sophomore Mason student.

Patrons enjoy not only the atmosphere, but the menu selections as well. Vegetarians such as Phantippa Chutchainon, a freshman Mason student, is a regular at the restaurant because of the vegan-friendly menu.

"You pay \$5 for the entrance fee to enjoy the open mic event and get organically grown vegetarian dishes with awesome

service. You can't find that deal anywhere else," Chutchainon said.

When it was Nguyen's turn to take the stage, the crowd chanted his alias: Illadelphia. His hands and facial expression mimicked every phrase and punchline that he delivered. He told the story of an ex-girlfriend who had cheated on him. The story ended with a twist about him discovering his ex-girlfriend's lesbian partner. The crowd gave a standing ovation.

Back at the dark corner table, Davis and the young woman who performed after him were both laughing and conversing while enjoying their tea.

"I told her that her performance was amazing for a first timer," Davis said.

He gave her pointers on how to get over stage fright, and asked how she felt about the assault weapons ban.

"I expressed my sympathy to her dead cousin, but I jokingly admitted to her that I felt like her performance was better than mine; therefore, I'm going to write a better piece and call her out next time I see her. It's all love in the end," Davis said.

SMITHCHAI CHUTCHAINON
STAFF WRITER

Broadside

George Mason University's Student Newspaper

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OPINION

When the gender binary is OK

Last Saturday, the Aquatic & Fitness Center was the location for a pool party. While American college campuses are quite familiar with all sorts of such social functions, this one was a little different. It was a females-only potluck-style pool party. The single sex event was geared largely toward Muslim and Middle Eastern students, as noted by some of the organizations sponsoring the event including Muslims Without Borders, GMU Pakistan Student Association.

Given the cultural backgrounds and religiously-influenced norms of most involved, this gender-specific event makes sense. What is strange is that one of the sponsors for this pool party, as well as a similar get-together held last year, is Mason's Women and Gender Studies Department (WGST). Judging by appellation alone, the association is fitting. However such a deduction comes without noting the various causes Mason WGST has allied itself with.

Mason WGST is noted for its contemptuousness of traditional gender identity, as seen with the curricula it advances and items it supports. For example, one of their upper level classes, titled WMST 600-001: Women and Nationalism, says in its description that "the course will explore the reinforcement of binary gender roles and processes of sexual

control and exploitation in the interplay between nationalism and militarism."

Then there is social media. On Mason WGST's Facebook page, they approvingly posted news articles hailing an MMA fighter coming out as transgendered and transgender students gaining more visibility on American campuses. On their Tumblr account, links to stories about concerns over schools wanting students to "gender appropriate" clothing and the Arizona Legislature wanting to maintain gender-specific bathrooms.

"We like dichotomies. Good/bad. Black/white. Yes/no. Life is easier to navigate that way. But binaries don't always slip so neatly onto human affairs, however much we'd like them to," reads one entry on the Tumblr account.

"Gender roles and expectations place boundaries on what people can do, can feel comfortable doing, or can be respected and applauded for doing."

Despite the strong desire for more blurring of gender identity in America, Mason WGST still lends its support for the gender-specific party. Sounds like a double standard. Would Mason WGST support Saturday's party if it had the backing of one or two American evangelical Christian groups instead? What other standards have entities in the ideological wing that Mason WGST inhabits opted to ignore due to a fear of offending Islamic culture?

Liberal outrage against Chick-fil-A's

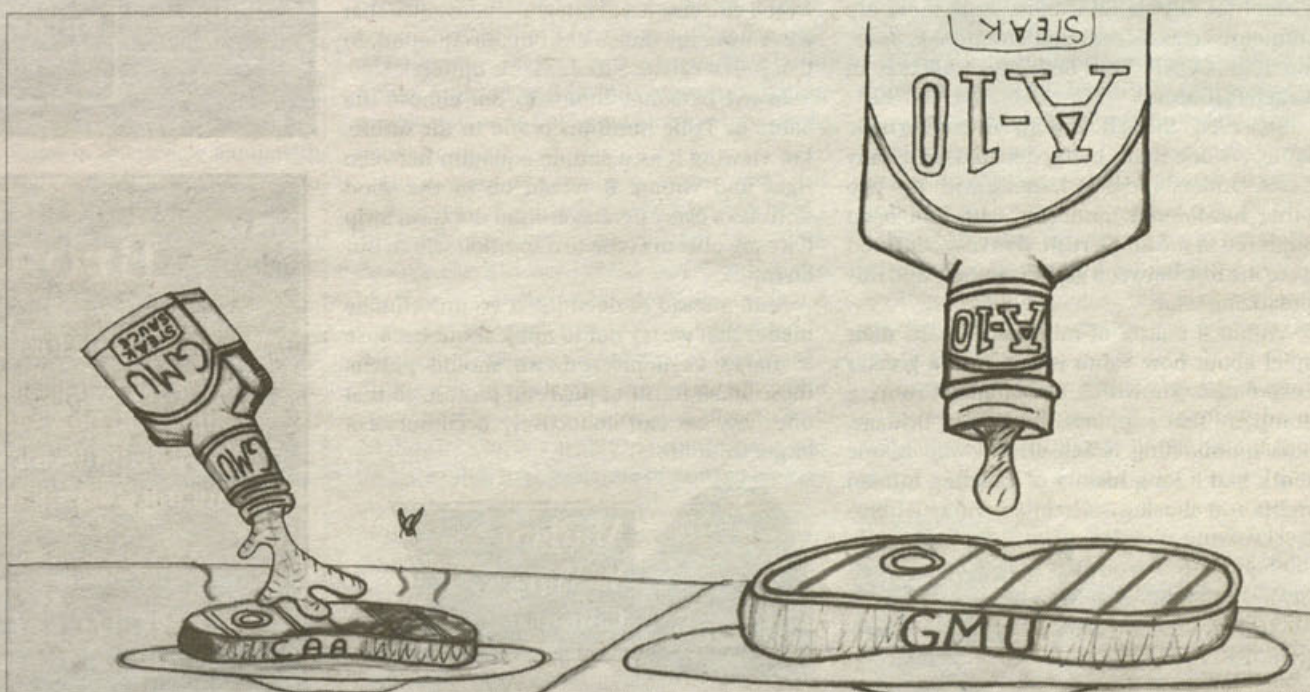
evangelical Christian CEO Dan Cathy for expressing his religious views on homosexuality was far more intense than liberal outrage against Abdallah Adhami, imam at New York's controversial Ground Zero Mosque. In early 2011, Adhami said homosexuality resulted from violent emotional or sexual abuse and that homosexuals should resist the propensity. Apparently, progressives were too busy defending the masjid's right to be built (a right that is indeed constitutionally protected) to demand a boycott. It would be interesting if such favoritism would exist for the hypothetical Ground Zero Catholic Church.

It's good that the Women and Gender Studies Department is respectful of other cultures' preferences and norms on gender identity. Now why can't they be just as respectful when native-born American Christians want a similar courtesy? Why must they seek to destroy gender as we know it for us while fiercely tolerating it for them? Why can't "us" and "them" get the same treatment, the same tolerance? It looks as though the progressive agenda for humanity has found its kryptonite: cultural sensitivity.



Michael
Gryboski
Columnist

Now the main course by Manny Alfaro



Four steps to being annoying and intolerable in class

I'll admit it, I zone out in class sometimes. Every now and then I may even not pay attention. I still strictly adhere to one rule though: do as little as I can to not distract everyone sitting around me. It seems like almost every week I come across a fellow classmate doing something mind-blowingly annoying during class. It may just be because I'm a senior, and have seen just about everything there is to see in college classrooms, but it could just also be because I'm a cranky old man.

Which brings me to: Stephen's four steps to being annoying in class.

1. Set your phone to anything but mute. It's a fact that if you leave your phone on your desk, the sound the vibration makes is more annoying than your ringtone. Not only does it vibrate the desk/chair/core of the Earth, but it also ranks right behind nails on a chalkboard on my list of most annoying sounds in the world. Just put your phone on mute and look at it occasionally—I promise that very few of your girlfriend's texts are important enough that she can't wait the five seconds it will

take you to check your phone.

2. Walk into class after it has started. I can count on one finger the number of times I've been late to class throughout my entire career here at Mason. In case you missed it earlier, I'm at about the max amount of time you should be spending here unless you're really smart. It's not like it's a fluid schedule that's difficult to keep track of. Every week you know exactly when your class is and know precisely where it is. Set yourself an alarm and show up before the professor starts talking.

3. Talk. You see that guy up in front of the class? That guy talking? Yeah, I paid who-knows-how-much to be able to sit in this incredibly uncomfortable chair and hear that guy talk. Please, do not talk. If you absolutely need to talk, which I seriously doubt, go outside. Don't come back in.

4. Watch a video in class. I instantly get confused when I see this. You're telling me that you're going to bother coming to class, but you're going to sit in the front of the class, in full view of everyone else, and watch a video? With headphones? Not even pretending to pay attention? It boggles my mind on so many levels, but luckily I care very little about your education

and really only care about mine. I also want to be watching a movie, but I'm busy being a student. Your video is distracting me. Go back to internet shopping or something.

So there you have it, follow those steps and you'll earn the "Most Hated by Stephen" award in a heartbeat. And don't think that I'm cold hearted- I know that class is boring and in all likelihood you don't want to be there. If you've been reading all of my editorials you might notice a very small running theme: being professional.

In my opinion, college is all about preparing you for a career. A very important lesson you'll learn is how to handle yourself, even when you're bored.



Stephen
Kline
Design Editor

A response to JC activism

"Don't Dip Into Apartheid." I'd seen this phrase on t-shirts being worn by people across campus, adorned with a huge picture of Sabra Hummus on the back.

Thinking it some inside joke that I wasn't privy to, I went about my day. Later on, I was let in on the intel during my walk

through the JC. These people were talking about something that I was interested in, the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict.

Being a university on the outskirts of the Nation's capital, global concerns like Israel-Palestine relations come up a lot in conversation.

We even offer internships for students to go study in Israel and Palestine through the Center for Global Education. And, there are numerous classes centered around this issue, such as CONF 713: Reflective Practice in Israel/Palestine.

So, even though it's an uncomfortable issue, it's one that's being debated on a daily basis. Understandably, I, along with the two other bewildered innocents who had been captured in the lunch rush, was very confused as to the link between garlic hummus and this polarizing issue.

Within a matter of minutes, I heard their spiel about how Sabra is a part of a greater corporation known as the Strauss Group, a company that supports the Golani Brigade. This intimidating Israeli army group is one that's had a long history of violating human rights and abusing Palestinian and neighboring Lebanese people.

The history lesson that they gave me reaffirmed a theme that's been in my mind since I first learned of Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. in the second grade- the fact that peaceful

protest is the most powerful means for change.

Reading this, you might think that I support Palestine and believe that everything Israeli is wrong. Your thoughts might be further corroborated when you look at my name and assume that I'm of Islamic heritage, which would, in this case, be a correct judgment.

But that character assessment couldn't be further away from the truth for me, and for the greater majority of Muslims, Jews, Israelis, Palestinians and every other kind of person weighing in on this issue.

We often hear the polarizing views, because the crazy ideas are the ones that sell papers. But it's important to impress upon our collegiate population the need for peaceful change.

Whether it's an Israeli brigade terrorizing Palestinians or Palestinian militias harassing Israeli citizens, it's of integral importance that we remove the menaces from the equation, so that peace can be a more viable option.

In my personal choice to not choose the Sabra or Tribe hummus brand in the future, I'm viewing it as a simple equation between right and wrong. It would be in the good fortune of every person around the Gaza Strip if we are able to come to a solution within our lifetimes.

And, instead of deeming it an unfortunate matter that we try not to think about because it makes us depressed, we should pursue these small forms of peaceful protest, so that one day, we can collectively accumulate a larger solution.



Mariam
Waqar
Columnist

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Media takes lenient approach in portrayal of rape case

After a grueling trial in mid-March, the Steubenville rape case came to a close, although further investigations are taking place with regards to bystanders. Seventeen year old Trent Mays was sentenced to at least two years in the juvenile system for raping and distributing nude photos of a 16-year-old girl. Sixteen year old Ma'lik Richmond was sentenced to at least one year.

Upon hearing the verdict, the media flew into a frenzy, wailing about how the promising futures of two high school football stars were ruined, about how painful it was to watch the lives of two young men fall apart.

Give me a break.

I don't care how promising their futures were. I don't care that they are good at football. I don't care that this will haunt them for the rest of their lives, because they deserve every consequence being handed to them. These two young men made the choice to harm another human being, undoubtedly traumatizing and scarring her and her family for many years to come.

Quite honestly, the sentences were sickeningly lenient. The rapists should have been tried as adults. They deserve more than a couple of years in a juvenile jail for what they have done

— and they knew exactly what they were doing. There were posts circulating social media that night tagged with the word 'rape'. A bystander even tweeted, "Song of the night is definitely 'Rape Me' by Nirvana."

When the sexual assault took place that night, partying bystanders did nothing to stop it. Throughout the night, the victim's peers took to social media, posting humiliating pictures and videos of her assault. People posted comments calling her a whore, a slut, loose and sloppy. They tweeted things like, "Who's this sloppy drunk bitch?" and "Some people deserve to be peed on."

After the victim reported her rape to the police, she received intense backlash from the community, including death threats from friends of the rapists. Many proclaimed that it was the victim's fault that she was raped for drinking in the first place. Even the football coach has been accused of trying to cover up the rape in order to preserve the team's image.

It is troubling that the rapists received sympathy, but it is even more troubling that the victim received the opposite. The worst part is that this case isn't unique, and neither are the reactions to it. We've all heard it before: "She deserved it because she got too drunk" or "It's her fault because she wore revealing clothing."

Victim-blaming only leads to more sexual assaults. By placing the blame on victims rather than the perpetrators, we are giving teenagers the green light to rape. If we say that it's the victim's fault for "not being careful enough," if we say that the victim was "asking for it," how do you think people will react? This mindset does not discourage rape. If anything, it encourages it. Victim-blaming makes rapists feel more justified and less guilt-ridden, and it makes bystanders less inclined to step in and stop it.

And the thing is, not raping someone is not hard. Don't touch someone who can't consent. Not violating an unconscious or intoxicated person should be the minimum requirement for status as a decent human being. You don't deserve a cookie for not raping someone when you could have, just like you don't deserve an award for not punching someone you don't like. We are not savages, we are not incapable of self-control.



Editorial by
Alexandra
Sudak

Watch the news, Mason

Over my past few columns I had the honor to praise Mason students on their commendable beliefs and knowledge of modern day American politics. But unfortunately over this past week, my opinion has been drastically altered.

On my quest to write another column for Broadside, I decided to write a piece on the reaction of the student body toward the sequester. I entered the JC to receive quotes. I asked six people there and only one answered my question.

Now why didn't those five want to provide a quote, were they shy? According to all five, they did not know enough about the issue to comment.

When I heard that statement uttered, I became frustrated with a student body I thought so highly of. If you do not want to pay attention to news centered on the NRA, Occupy Wall Street or US troops in Korea, that is your choice.

But an understanding of the sequester is a must because it will affect every person you know. The following cuts will not just effect the individual but families, businesses and friends:

According to CNN, the sequester resulted in a reduction of \$902 million in loan guarantees to small businesses, lowering opportunities for entrepreneurship and the creation of jobs.

A two percent cut to Medicare, which according to the American Hospital Association, the American Medical Association, and the American Nurses

Association will eliminate 766,000 health care related jobs.

And most importantly 207,571 jobs lost in Northern Virginia according to Mason's Center for Regional Analysis.

We are not on the outside looking in—our area is receiving the brunt of this sequester and as students at Mason being either part-time or full-time residents in NoVa, we must react.

We must hold our leaders accountable. But demands from the people cannot come without diligent research. You can search phrases on Google like: "sequester effects on country", "sequester by the numbers", and "sequester effects on northern Virginia".

By searching all three of these captions I was able to compile a large amount of information that I utilized in this article along with many other figures, stories and reactions to these cuts.

I don't know what happened that night in JC. I'll just say that the student body was experiencing a down day.

Knowing the news is not a choice— we must ensure that the leaders we elected are fulfilling their duties. To better understand an issue entails a lot of research, but it is our duty as citizens to consistently stay diligent.



Nate
Falk
Columnist

Crack open your books to the first page

The first time I read an entire book on my own, which happened to be "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone", I was in the third grade. Granted, it took me two weeks to read it but I still felt a huge sense of accomplishment afterward.

That was years ago. In today's society, some people are denied this wonderful experience because they choose to utilize the new advances in reading technology. Thanks to Apple, Amazon and various other companies, people now have the opportunity to buy whole books online.

No wonder Borders Bookstores went out of business. People just aren't buying books anymore—paperback books that is. With devices like Kindles, tablets and e-books, the joy of holding a brand new book in your hand has been stripped away. What happened to the thrill of opening a book for the first time?

Or going to sleep with the book opened on your chest because you couldn't bear to stop reading? I love being able to turn the page and find out what happens next or putting creases on the binding of a good book.

These are things you just can't do when reading on the Internet. I got a book this past Christmas and I couldn't have been happier, I do love a good story.

I remember seeing a commercial a few years back when a guy was convinced to read a book

on a Kindle instead of reading the paperback book. I thought that was a little ridiculous but I also realized it was a commercial, promoting a product for profit.

At this rate, there will be no need to have bookshelves in homes anymore because soon everyone will be storing their books on these 16 by 20 inch devices. There's a rise in second-hand book stores because more people are selling and trading books.

To be fair, I have to at least take a peek at the opposite side of this issue. The convenience of this new technology cannot be overlooked. A small tablet or e-book fits more comfortably in purses and pockets than the often bulky traditional book.

Also, when the light is not good for reading, advanced e-books and tablets have built-in lighting. Adding fuel to this fire, professors are beginning to lean toward e-books and readings online.

However, while online books may be cheaper and save paper, I personally would still rather buy the books. But that's just me.



Meghann
Patterson
Columnist

CBI gives opportunity to work on recurring mistakes

March 25 marked the official announcement of Mason's move from the CAA to the Atlantic 10. It also saw Mason attempt to continue its run in the CBI and leave the CAA on a high note.

Mason entered the College Basketball Invitational (CBI) this year to gain practice for the young, post-season team. While the experience has been worthwhile, the games are continuing much in the same way they have been all season.

University of Houston

The team was unable to play consistently in the second half and lost their lead to Houston with 1:24 remaining in the game.

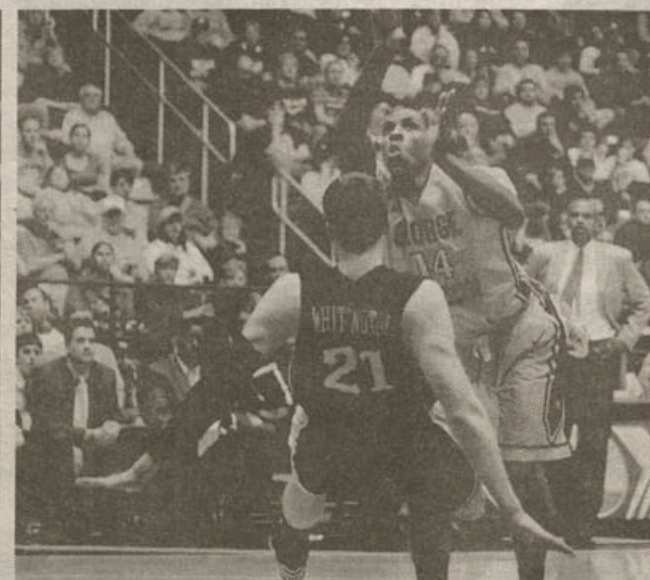
In the March 25 tilt at the Patriot Center against Houston, Mason stormed out to a 17-0 lead in just the first three minutes of the game. However, by halftime, the same difficulties made holding a commanding lead nearly impossible.

During overtime, Mason regained the lead and never looked back, winning the game 88-84. Junior guard Sherrod Wright was the game's leading scorer with 29 points, going 7-of-12 from the field and an efficient 4-of-6 from beyond the arc.

Western Michigan

On paper, Western Michigan posed a tough matchup problem for Mason. The Broncos' leading scorer, junior center Shayne Whittington, stands a towering six-foot ten. Whittington led the Broncos in scoring all season with 13.3 points per game.

Ultimately, it was Mason's own big man, Jonathan Arledge, who would prove to be the star of the game. Arledge was the game's leading scorer with 23 points, going 7-of-11 from the field and a perfect 8-for-8 from



(JENNY KRASHIN/BROADSIDE)

Mason basketball has already made it through two rounds of the CBI and will head to the finals. After two hard wins for Mason, they will begin a best of three in the final round against Santa Clara.

the free-throw line. Arledge had a standout game, imposing his will in all areas of the court showing off his scoring versatility. No other Patriot finished the game with points in double digits.

Both team's stars were held in check by the other's defense. Whittington went into halftime without a point or even a single shot attempt. He would end the game with 12 points going 5-of-7 from the field.

For Mason, Sherrod Wright ended the game as the team's second leading scorer with nine points, going 3-of-7 from the field. It was a sloppy game throughout—Mason fell behind early, but went on a 16-0 run leading 24-17,

16:23 into the game.

From then on, Mason would not relinquish the lead again, closing out the Broncos in a 62-52 final. It was a game fraught with turnovers for both teams—Western Michigan ended the game with 23 turnovers and Mason with 18.

Despite the turnovers, it was the first game in a while where it appeared that Mason was able to control the pace of the game, slowing down the Broncos' offense and executing coach Paul Hewitt's half-court game. Mason bailed themselves out of turnover troubles by converting 24-of-28 of their free throws.

"It wasn't the prettiest effort obviously but I

am just happy we were able to grind out a win," Hewitt said. "We looked a little dead-legged out there. That can happen this time of year, but I am just happy we got our 21st win of the year."

Mason will now enter into a best of three series with Santa Clara University in the CBI Finals. Santa Clara comes into the game with 24 wins to their name and the 45th most efficient offense in the country.

HAU CHU
STAFF WRITER

Man on the Street

How would you rate GoMason's new app?



"I'd give it five out of five stars. It would be cool to be able to easily check scores while I was in class or not on campus."

- Jeff Clayton



"It would get four out of five stars from me. I wish it was a little more organized. It's a little confusing."

- Meaghan Parker



"I would give it five out of five stars. It has all the information I need. If I needed scores or updates, it's all there."

- Ben Coffinberger

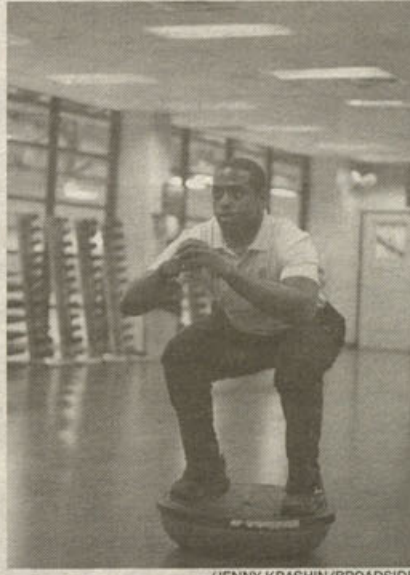


"Four out of five stars for me. It's easy to navigate, has a lot of articles and I like that it has all the photo albums. I wish I could find the scores easier though."

- Bethany Olsen

WORKOUT ^{OF} THE WEEK

Squat workout: Bosu ball balance



(JENNY KRASHIN/BROADSIDE)

Bosu balls can be used to work smaller muscles in your hips, knees, ankles and feet. To begin the Bosu ball squats, step onto the ball. Before beginning your squats, make sure you have found your balance to avoid injury or an embarrassing moment in the gym.

Begin your squat by placing your weight over your heels, making sure your feet are shoulder-width apart and bending at the knees while still keeping your upper body forward. Do not be alarmed if the ball wobbles.

To finish the workout bend until your knees and thighs are making a 90 degree angle. Then come up slowly while still keeping your balance on the ball. If you would like to increase the difficulty, try adding hand weights to your squat.

OPINION

The Bosu ball is a valuable exercise tool at the gym that is underutilized. It can allow you to train your entire body in new and exciting ways.

Adding a Bosu ball makes squatting more complicated. You will want enough space at the gym to move around because the ball may move around some. Place the ball so that the soft side is on the floor, and the hard, flat surface facing up. Step onto the ball and position your feet shoulder-width apart on the ball.

You want to be balanced on the ball. Face your feet forward—at this point you will realize just how unsteady a Bosu ball really is.

Slowly begin performing your squats, but take your time—the Bosu ball can be tricky at first. You should have the same motion on the Bosu ball as you have when performing squats normally.

I like using the Bosu ball because it adds a little variety to my workout and the Bosu ball can add a fun challenge. It can also be used for other exercises such as lunges, or you can even just stand on it for a workout.

The people who are most successful with a workout plan are the ones who are most flexible and have fun. Going into the gym and doing the same thing every day is boring and your body will become acclimated to it. P90x supports this viewpoint by

subscribing to a view of “muscular confusion,” where you do something different each day so that your muscles never know what is happening. This allows for continuous growth and progress.

The Bosu ball is also useful for working out the smaller muscles in your hips, knees, ankles and feet that you might ignore. Too often we only focus on the big muscles that we can see, but there are little muscles holding those big muscles together. It can be dangerous to make your main muscles too big and not have the necessary support. Bosu ball training can help stabilize your legs to prevent injury. Increased strength provided by the Bosu ball can also improve your running because your legs will be much stronger as a whole. Training yourself to maintain balance on an uneven surface makes your legs ready for running anywhere or playing a sport where you need quick stops and starts.



Column by
**Danny
Lehnert**

OPINION

Life lessons from sports

To be a successful athlete you have to be smart—when your coaches are teaching you game strategies and lessons, you have to be able to understand and apply them. A great athlete can take the lessons they learn on the court or the field and apply them to rest of their life.

One of the most important aspects of basketball is rebounding. Every coach I have played for has stressed to follow your shots and box out. This is because no matter how good your shots are, no one shoots 100 percent—no one.

You follow your shots in basketball because you will look foolish if it bricks off the backboard and ends your team's possession. The value of following your work in the real world and rest of your life shows dedication to your craft and humility about your skills—especially if you get a chance to improve it.

Following your shot to the rim in basketball does not mean you're going to get it back—you're going to have to get low and work your way inside for the best position to make a play. Whatever it is you want in your life—that car, that job, the hottie in your Spanish class or even if it's just the ball—there are at least nine other people who want it too. And guess what? There is a good chance they're prepared to get a little rough in the paint.

When you're battling for position to make a play for the objects of your desire, you need to remember your fundamentals. That is why you practice them every day, so they become second nature.

Whatever those fundamentals may be for the situation—maintain eye contact, stand up straight, make more than the minimum payments, etc.—you sure as heck are going to need them because anything worth having is worth working for.

You're waiting for the right moment to strike and make a play on the ball, not too early not too late. The best way to know when to jump is to know your limits, how hard can you push yourself.

Yao Ming may be 7-foot-6 but he can't catch a ball 20 feet in the air. You might be stronger in math and sciences than the liberal arts, but you are not a computer. Understanding your limits is the first step in learning how to push them.

Once you're making your play at the right time, you need to be completely committed to it. Watch it reach your hands, don't just assume you've got it and let some other guy swat it out of reach.

Catch it using both hands. Why would you jeopardize your chances at success by being lazy or flashy? You are never too cool for two hands because the guy with the ball is a lot cooler than the one who just missed a freebie.

Basketball is about putting an orange ball in a 10-foot hoop, and life is about chasing dreams. Whichever you are going for right now you're going to have to be smart about it. Follow your shots and box out or someone else is going to run cleanup on your shot.



Column by
**Bryan
Dombrowski**


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