

# To Do...

# What's going on at Mason this week?

## Monday

**Black History Month: Lecture**  
*Does Racism Still Exist? The Controversy: A Forum on Race & Humor*

- Johnson Center, Room A
- 6 - 8 p.m.

## Tuesday

**Post-Socialist Film Series:**  
*4 Months, 3 Weeks & 2 Days*

- Romanian with subtitles
- Series leads up to Mikhail Gorbachev's visit in March
- Student Union Building II, Rooms 5-7
- 7 p.m.

## Wednesday

**Men's Basketball:**  
Mason vs. Drexel

- Free tickets with student ID
- Wednesday, Feb. 18
- Patriot Center
- 7 p.m.

## Thursday

**Mardi Gras Dance with Jim Lepore**

- Johnson Center, Room 239A
- 2 - 4 p.m.
- Women's and Gender Studies Center Event

## Friday

**Support Group for Working Mothers at Mason**

- Free brown bag lunch
- Occoquan Building, Mercer Library Conference Room at Prince William Campus
- 12 - 1 p.m.

## Saturday

**Women's Basketball**  
Mason v. Georgia State

- Sunday, Feb. 8
- Patriot Center
- 2 p.m.
- Free w/ Mason ID

**Visiting Writers Series:**  
**A Reading by Alexandra Johnson**

- Author of *Leaving a Trace: On Keeping a Journal* and *The Hidden Writer: Diaries and the Creative Life*.
- Research I, Room 16
- 7:30 p.m.

**LAST DAY TO DROP SPRING SEMESTER CLASS!**

**LAST DAY THIRD-PARTY BILLING AUTHORIZATIONS ACCEPTED FOR SPRING SEMESTER!**



# MASON SPECIALS

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# news

INSIDE

■ Need somewhere to study on campus? Hear which places students think are best. **News | 4**

■ Virginia smoking ban awaiting approval from Senate. Get details inside. **News | 4**

■ Mikhail Gorbachev is coming to Mason. Need details on tickets? **News | 4**

## POLICE FILES

February 9	<p><b>Petit Larceny/Credit Card Fraud</b> Robinson A Complainant stated that person(s) unknown stole a GMU credit card and there had been several fraudulent charges made. This case is under investigation. (38/Parker)</p> <p><b>Grand Larceny</b> 4403 Patriot Circle Complainant stated that person(s) unknown stole a "Jumping Jack Rammer" from a construction site. The theft occurred over the weekend of Thanksgiving 2008. Loss estimated at \$2,100. (38/Parker)</p> <p><b>Medical Assist</b> Student Union Building I Officers responded to a medical assist. The individual was transported to Fairfax Hospital by EMS for further treatment. (40/Ross)</p> <p><b>Suicide Threat</b> Student Union Building I Complainant stated that a GMU student threatened to commit suicide. Individual was located and interviewed by a counselor. (40/Ross, 38/Parker)</p>
February 10	<p><b>Two Vehicle Accident</b> University Drive / St. John's Place A vehicle turned left in front of oncoming traffic causing an accident with no injuries. Damage estimated at \$2,500. (23/Brownell)</p> <p><b>Welfare Check</b> Presidents Park Officers checked on a possible suicidal subject (GMU student). Individual was located and voluntarily committed to Dominion Hospital for treatment. (40/Ross)</p> <p><b>Two Vehicle Accident</b> Lot K Vehicle #1 was traveling southbound in parking Lot K and was turning westbound. Vehicle #1 failed to yield right of way and struck Vehicle #2. Damage estimated at \$1,000. (38/Parker)</p> <p><b>Medical Assist</b> Science &amp; Technology I Officers responded to a medical assist in reference to an unconscious GMU student. EMS arrived on scene and subject refused to be transported to the hospital. (38/Parker)</p> <p><b>Two Vehicle Accident</b> Roanoke River Road / Po River Road Driver failed to pay attention while driving and struck another vehicle as it was leaving Lot K. Damage estimated at \$6,800. (25/Green)</p> <p><b>Medical Assist</b> Presidents Park Officers responded to assist medics with a student complaining of dizziness after a injury to the head. Student was transported to Fairfax Hospital. (24/Ewald)</p> <p><b>Trespassing</b> Roberts Road Subject (non-GMU student) received a trespass warning after admitting to smoking marijuana on campus. (25/Green)</p>
February 11	<p><b>Medical Assist</b> Krug Hall Officers on patrol were flagged down in reference to an unconscious person in a classroom. EMS responded and the victim refused transport. (60/Will)</p> <p><b>Petit Larceny</b> Johnson Center Complainant reported person(s) unknown stole an iPhone that had been left unattended in a computer lab. Loss valued at \$199. (44/Rindell)</p> <p><b>Credit Card Theft</b> Skyline Fitness Complainant reported person(s) unknown stole a credit card from an unsecured locker. The credit card was cancelled and was not used. (56/Lighthiser)</p> <p><b>Medical Assist</b> Student Union Building II Officers were called to the Student Union Building II in reference to a person who was having pains in the abdomen. Subject refused transport. (60/Will)</p> <p><b>Medical Assist</b> Student Union Building I Officers were dispatched to student health services in reference to a person suffering some form of medical distress. EMS responded and transported the victim to Inova Access for treatment. (56/Lighthiser)</p> <p><b>Grand Larceny</b> Skyline Fitness Complainant reported person(s) unknown stole a backpack with personal items. Loss estimated at \$500. (44/Rindell)</p> <p><b>Credit Card Theft</b> Central Heating and Cooling Plant Complainant reported her credit card was stolen on 2/10/09 from the Central Heating and Cooling Plant on campus. Fraudulent charges of \$270 were made on the card. (54/Galle)</p>
February 12	<p><b>Medical Assist</b> Science &amp; Technology II A victim that had suffered a seizure during class was transported to Fair Oaks Hospital for treatment. (60/Will)</p> <p><b>Underage Possession Of Alcohol</b> University Drive Anastasia Ward, 20 (GMU student), of Hillsville, VA was issued a summons for Underage Possession of Alcohol and was released. (54/Galle)</p>
	<p><i>Police Files are taken verbatim from <a href="http://www.gmu.edu/police">www.gmu.edu/police</a>. Broadside does not make any changes to public records such as these files.</i></p>

# Limited Weekend Dining ‘Financial Crunch’ and Student Demand Alter Options

KEVIN LOKER  
Asst. News Editor

The current economic recession paired with a changing student demand has caused Dining Services to alter hours of operation across campus in an effort to do what makes the most “financial sense.”

In effect since the start of the spring semester, Damon’s Express in Student Union Building I is closed on Fridays. Café a la Cart in Enterprise Hall now only operates Monday through Thursday and Southside’s Gold Rush closes its doors on Saturdays and Sundays.

“Everyone is facing the financial crunch right now, and what we all have to do is do what makes the most financial sense,” said Resident District Manager Denise Ammaccapane. “We constantly pull quarter-hour reports to see where people are buying, what people are buying and when people are buying. We monitor that information and when it makes sense, we talk to the university.”

The decision to close Gold Rush on the weekends came after an examination of the difference in sales between Gold Rush and the nearby One-Stop Patriot Shop convenience store. Quarter-hour reports, which are detailed enough to show what specific products are being bought, showed many more students frequented One-Stop on the weekends.

Labor pool also plays into dining’s decisions regarding hours of operations.

“In our case, in terms of the growing options on campus and the resources we have, I like to say it’s like spreading the peanut butter thinner and thinner,” said Ammaccapane.

Sodexo, the caterer under which all dining locations on campus are contracted, employs roughly 400 employees for the academic year.

“Needless to say, we always manage to have food. People can always eat,” said Ammaccapane. Some students, however, feel otherwise.

“It was really convenient for people to pick up food on the weekends [at Gold Rush] after a long study session or having

come from the gym,” said senior global affairs major Kent Zimmerman. “Now we have to pay high prices at Southside to sit down, and the Johnson Center menu is rather sub-par.”

Many of the JC Food Court operations run under altered hours, while Freshens, World of Greens, Sub Connection and the Starbucks kiosk at the Express Convenience store are closed on weekends.

“[The limited food selection] really cuts back on your ability to relax on the weekends. They even cut down about half of the stuff at Southside,” said freshman psychology and government and international politics double-major Aaron VanAnel.

The main entrée station, Without Boundaries and Tossed Up are closed within Southside on Saturdays and Sundays.

“I really think you would increase student life if you had something interesting, maybe special selections, a weekend selection—something to spice things up,” said VanAnel.

Though students’ purchases may have altered hours of operation on the weekend for

the spring semester, more options are in the works in response to the housing additions on the northern end of campus.

To accompany the approximately 800 beds being added with Housing Unit 7C, work has begun on plans for an “Ike’s II,” a 120-seat restaurant with a “lodge feel” to be the sister of the night-service restaurant located in Presidents Park. In August, Northern Neck will become neighbors with a 50-seat, fully-operational Starbucks.

“I personally cannot wait for the Starbucks to come,” said VanAnel. “That almost makes everything okay.”

Students may voice concerns or opinions regarding hours of operations or menu items by contacting Denise Ammaccapane at [denise.ammaccapane@sodexo.com](mailto:denise.ammaccapane@sodexo.com).

“Because we make changes one way, it doesn’t mean we can’t make changes the other,” said Ammaccapane. “I love to hear from students. If I don’t know, I can’t fix it.”

# Recyclemania

## A Competition to Increase Environmental Awareness

What is Recyclemania?

Colleges and universities are small cities that consume large amounts of resources and generate much solid waste. Whether a school has an extensive waste reduction program or is just getting basic recycling collections off the ground, experience has shown that all schools have potential to further reduce the amount of resources they consume and dispose of.

RecycleMania provides a tool for campus recycling coordinators, student green teams and facility service professionals to engage their campus community in recycling and waste reduction in a fun and friendly way.



In the process, participation in the competition familiarizes students with a campus’s environmental programs and hopefully instills in them a life long habit. Past surveys have indicated 80 percent of participating schools experienced a noticeable increase in recycling collection during the competition.

How can students participate?

“Mason decided to participate in this competition to highlight what we are doing in Southside and to illustrate our commitment to sustainability,” said Dan Waxman, the sustainability projects manager.

“Students participate by placing their food waste into composting bins or by placing their plates into the return area where their food waste is then processed through our pulper, which is then sent to a commercial composting facility,” said Waxman.

“Students can participate by placing their food waste in composting bins and by dining in Southside,” said Waxman.

Information taken from [recyclemania.org](http://recyclemania.org)

# Buying a Foot in the Door Parents Purchase Internships for Their Children, Securing Future Amid Increased Unemployment

JARED TRICE  
Staff Writer

Amid the economic crisis, parents of young, career-bound students are managing to pay thousands of dollars for the chance to secure an internship for their children.

A recent trend has emerged where individuals may consult internship placement programs to buy themselves a foot in the door. These programs have emerged after many parents and students have encountered difficulty securing an internship in an overly-saturated market. Some are paying for-profit companies for unpaid internships while others are bidding for them on online charity auctions.

The concept of parents shelling out thousands of dollars so that their child will have an advantage, if not a guaranteed position, over other applicants leaves many people alarmed. In today’s dismal economy—even in a healthy one—the majority of parents cannot afford to pay the \$8,000 that the internship placement program, University of Dreams, located in Los Gatos, California, charges for their services.

In their defense, parents who choose to consult with these

firms argue that if it were not for these placement programs they too would be at a disadvantage as internships often are awarded to individuals who have connections with the employer.

University of Dreams is among several for-profit internship programs that help students locate internships. The University of Dreams has 11 campuses throughout the world. Depending on the destination, most of the eight-week programs cost upwards of \$7,000. University of Dreams helps applicants refine their résumés, arranges interviews with employers and provides internship coaching. After the program selects applicants, the University of Dreams guarantees participants internship placement.

Other parents are purchasing internships directly from charity auctions. As a way to increase contributions in tough economic times, Charityfolks.com offers online charity auctions. Charity Folks currently offers 10 internships, which are available to the highest bidder. Opportunities such as a two-week internship with *Elle’s* editorial department can be purchased for \$1,500. The auctioneer also offers

experiences at *The New York Times*, GFI Inter-Dealer Brokerage and MPG North America. According to *The Wall Street Journal*, a one-week internship at a music production company recently sold on Charitybuzz.com for \$12,000.

Some parents argue that this practice will only distort students’ perceptions of the job-seeking experience by circumventing a student’s effort. Claudia Tattaneli, CEO of Universum North America, located in Philadelphia, said, “The type of students corporate America wants are the students who can find their own internships.”

Critics also argue that this new go-to placement practice may eventually lead to companies only referring to these costly programs when seeking interns, resulting in the isolation of students who do not have the connections and cannot afford to pay what these placement companies charge. Since 2003, Ruder Finn, a public relations firm based in New York, has found 29 of its 36 unpaid interns through University of Dreams.

Stephanie Davis, the mother of a college-bound high school student in Northern Virginia, finds this pay-and-

receive practice unsettling.

“Programs like this worry me. Obviously this is a profit-producing market and I’m worried that eventually this will become common practice. My husband and I will hardly be able to afford to send [our son] to college. Are we expected to pay for his internship? To me, it’s equivalent to a parent sending a check along with their child’s college application.”

Linda Bayer, executive director of the Washington Internship Program, was recently quoted in *The Wall Street Journal* arguing that without these placement programs, Washington would be “the playground of the children of the rich, whether they were capable or not—because snaring internships would largely be based on personal connections.” Bayer says that with her program, “there’s no distinction here between the uber-rich and someone whose parents are schoolteachers.”

Though Bayer rightfully argues that these programs help individuals who have no personal connections, the practice of purchasing an internship does not suggest capability.



# Most Popular Study Areas

## Students Offer Opinion on Personal Favorites on Campus, Where and Why

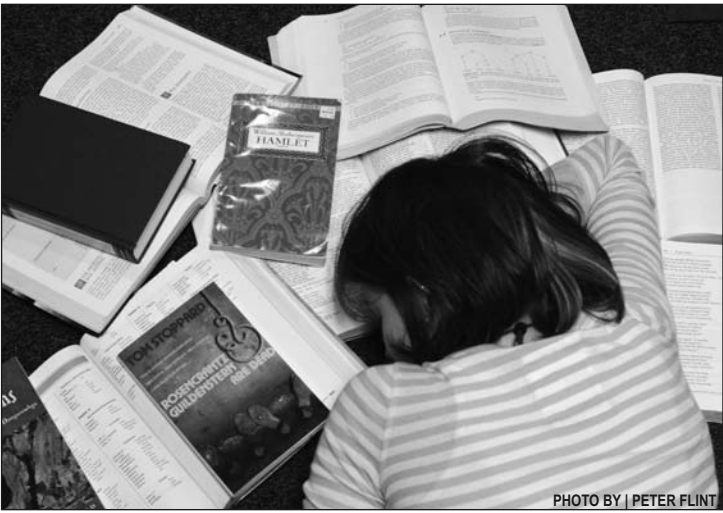


PHOTO BY | PETER FLINT

**KAITLYN MILLER**  
*Broadside Correspondent*

A significant part of being a college student involves studying. George Mason University is a large campus with a variety of study spaces available.

One popular study spot is the Johnson Center. The JC is located at the center of campus and tends to be the social heart of Mason.

"My favorite place on campus to study is the JC. It's not too quiet and not too loud," said Stephanie Hair, a junior

communication major.

Studying in the JC can be optimal for students that like being around others or meeting people for study groups.

Lori Kaye, a communication major, also prefers to study in the JC. She said, "The energy of others helps keep me alert and attentive to my studies."

The JC also offers quiet and secluded study options. The cubicles on the upper levels offer quiet individual study spaces with a place to plug in laptops.

There are also study rooms on the second and third levels. These are ideal for studying in groups and are often booked

ahead of time.

"I prefer studying on the second floor of the JC library. It's nice and quiet and nobody bothers me up there," said Carrie Jowers, a communication major.

Some students, like communication major Jodi Esposito, prefer a more intimate location. "I like to study in Jazzman's. I can relax with a cup of coffee in a comfy chair."

Comfort seems to play a big role in some people's choice of location. "I most enjoy studying in the study lounge facing Fenwick Library on the third floor of Shenandoah. It's sunny

and quiet and has comfy chairs with room to spread out," said Sarah Skolnik, a junior with a major in communication.

For those living on campus, there is also the option of studying in a residence hall. Resident Advisors have "study bucks" to give to residents that are spotted studying during finals week.

Fenwick Library provides study spaces where students can be surrounded by information. Not all students know that there is a library liaison for every major that can assist you in researching or gathering information.

## Creating a Healthier Campus Community

**DAN WAXMAN**  
*Broadside Contributor*

Through University Services, many efforts have been taken to create a healthier university. Dining Services, the Child Development Center and Student Centers have taken steps to help create a healthier George Mason University community.

**Dining Services**  
Dining Services offers vegetarian and vegan options at the Worldatarian station. It also features options for those who have a gluten-free diet. Lois Durant, a registered dietician, highlighted that the pizza in Southside is made there and has a whole-wheat crust. Changing Colors, the Southside salad bar, also features more variety than Ciao Hall.

Located near the entrance of Southside is now a computer with access to <http://balancemindbodysoul.com>. Through this website, students can keep track of calories, find recipes that are made at Southside and the Bistro and learn about different topics concerning the mind, body and soul. One of the topics, according to Durant, describes how houseplants help to absorb fumes.

Durant assists students with nutrition counseling and gives talks on nutrition. During one of her talks, she stated, "my main focus is to encourage students to reduce portion sizes, to enjoy their favorite foods, but in small amounts and to balance higher calorie foods with healthier ones and physical activity." She also plans to offer a six-week weight management class for students in the

future. In conjunction with several other people, Durant is working on a Health and Fitness Expo on March 26, tentatively in Dewberry Hall from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For questions regarding the Health and Fitness event, please contact Megan Shull at [mshull@gmu.edu](mailto:mshull@gmu.edu).

### Child Development Center

The Child Development Center has a week called "Healthy Habits" which teaches students about how to be healthy. Some of the habits taught include brushing teeth and hand washing. The week also teaches about nutrition and the food pyramid. Jennifer Arnowitz, the lead teacher for the Polar Bears class, said, "We want [the students] to get habits early when young and stick with them when older."

### Student Centers

Student Centers, partnered with the Housekeeping Department, use healthier cleaning products. These products are healthier not just for the employees, but also for the Mason community at large.

Student Centers also has hand sanitizers located in the Johnson Center in the food court. "We are investigating expanding this program to other dining locations," said August Runge, assistant director of facilities maintenance for student centers.

### Living the Green Life

Here are three easy ways to help live a healthier campus life

- Wash your hands
- Add exercise into your weekly routine
- Watch what you are

eating

### Green Calendar

Monday, Feb. 16:  
Visit the Environmental Awareness Group at Kiosk F in the JC to learn about the Patriot Green Fund from 12-4 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 17:  
Third roundtable

discussion in the Mason Energy Roundtable Series: The focus will be on nuclear power, entitled "Nuclear Power: The Next Generation." Seating begins at 4:30 p.m. in Research I, room 163. For more details and to reserve a seat, please contact Colin Bennett in Mason's Office of Sustainability at [cbennet6@gmu.edu](mailto:cbennet6@gmu.edu).

Wednesday, Feb. 18:  
Visit the Environmental

Awareness Group at Kiosk C in the JC to learn about the Patriot Green Fund from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 18:  
Wear a green shirt and join in the Green Spirit at the basketball game when Mason plays Drexel at 7 p.m. at the Patriot Center.

Cheer for Climate Action t-shirts are available for only \$6.50 at the Environmental Science & Policy office, 3043 David King Hall, or from Carrie Meyer, Dept of Economics, [cmeyer@gmu.edu](mailto:cmeyer@gmu.edu). Games are FREE for students with a Mason ID.

For more green events please visit: [green.gmu.edu/calendar](http://green.gmu.edu/calendar).

Dan Waxman is the Sustainability Projects Manager for University Services and can be contacted at [dwaxman@gmu.edu](mailto:dwaxman@gmu.edu).

## New Smoking Ban

### Restaurants, Bars Possibly Off Limits

**SONYA HUDSON**

*News Editor*

The Virginia House of Delegates has agreed to sign off on a statewide smoking ban in bars and restaurants.

If approved by the Senate the ban will go into effect July 1 and will ban smoking in nearly all restaurants across Virginia.

Private clubs and restaurants with designated smoking rooms and outdoor patios would not be included in the ban.



•The state of Virginia pays nearly \$400 million for smoking-related illnesses.

•The state spends \$113 million a year on health-care expenditures related to exposure to secondhand smoke.

•According to the Virginia Department of Health, secondhand smoke is responsible for about 1,700 deaths per year.

•23 other states and Puerto Rico have passed bans on smoking indoors at bars and restaurants.

## Snap Shot



PHOTO BY | STEPHANIE KNAPP

Center for Global Education advertises their study abroad opportunities to interested students. CGE has over 25 options for upcoming summer 2009 programs. Their office is located on the second floor in Room 235 in the Johnson Center. Visit [globaled.gmu.edu](http://globaled.gmu.edu) for more information on their programs, to apply online, or check out the different locations. -

## News in Brief

### Mikhail Gorbachev to Give Keynote Address at Cold War Conference

Former Soviet President and Nobel Laureate Mikhail Gorbachev will deliver the keynote address of a conference on the Cold War on Tuesday, March 24, at 8 p.m. at the Center for the Arts Concert Hall.

The conference, "1989: Looking Back, Looking Forward," will explore the historical implications of the end of the Cold War, as well as how its lessons should be applied to promote peace and international cooperation in years to come.

In addition to his keynote address, "A Conversation with Mikhail Gorbachev," Gorbachev will participate in a roundtable discussion on Wednesday, March 25, from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

Lee Hamilton, president and director of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, as well as co-chair of the Iraq Study Group and Vice-Chair of the 9/11 Commission, and William Webster, Director of the FBI from 1978-1987, will also take part in the discussion.

A limited number of free tickets are available for Mason students for the March 24 lecture, as well as the discussion on March 25.

Beginning Tuesday, Feb. 17, at 10 a.m., students may pick up tickets upon presenting their student ID at the Center for the Arts box office.

Mason students who are attending the March 24 lecture as a class assignment will receive free tickets from their professor.

All others who wish to attend may purchase tickets from the Center for the Arts box office for \$20.

For more information on the film series associated with the conference, as well as other conference events, visit [gorbachev.gmu.edu](http://gorbachev.gmu.edu).

### Hilton to Move Headquarters to Fairfax

Hilton Hotels announced earlier this month that it will be moving its headquarters from Beverly Hills, Calif., to Fairfax County.

The decision comes after the county and state provided a \$4.6 million incentive package to lure the international hotel chain, which operates 533 hotels worldwide, to the state of Virginia. Approximately \$2.5 million in funds from the Virginia Economic Development Incentive Grant program, as well as \$1 million from the Governor's Opportunity Fund, were included in the package.

Hilton will invest \$17 million in its move and will create more than 300 full-time jobs in Fairfax over the next three years.

Public reports have hinted that a newly constructed 313,000-square-foot building in Tysons Corner, Park Place II, is to be slated as the location of the new headquarters.

*Compiled from the Fairfax County Times and the Washington Business Journal*

### Fairfax County Policemen Being Investigated for Cheating Exam

Three Fairfax County policemen have been removed from their duties after an officer said he received questions from a superior prior to his promotional exam.

Officials familiar with the investigation said that a sergeant on the testing committee leaked the exam questions to a lieutenant, who in turn offered the material to at least one officer. The sergeant and lieutenant have been suspended with pay, and another sergeant has been placed on administrative duty.

Fairfax Police Chief David M. Rohrer confirmed the investigation and that the test had been scrapped.

The names of the policemen have not yet been released, and no formal charges have been made.

*Compiled from The Washington Post*

*News in Brief compiled by Kevin Loker, Asst. News Editor*

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