

BROADSIDE

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Future was the opening band for Patriots Day. The event took place in Presidents Park on Saturday, Sept. 20, and there were different games to play and prizes to win.

Students Get Together For Patriot's Day

Program Board Hosts Day of Music and Games In the Park

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On Saturday Sept. 20, George Mason University's Program Board hosted Patriots Day 2008 in Presidents Park for the first time. Patriot's Day 2008 is a fun-filled event with food, games and prizes.

Usually held on the third Thursday of September, the Special Events Committee wanted to make it a weekend event this year. Committee Chair Erin Baker says that they wanted to make the event more accessible to students with a busy schedule during the week.

"We wanted to make a Patriot's Weekend this year so that there could be more participation from the students," said Baker.

"It's a good way for everyone to get out there and meet each other," said freshman Elan Cameron.

This year's Patriot's Day theme was "A Day at the Beach." The five-hour event offered different student organizations on campus the opportunity to promote their services. Christians on Campus, Pride

Alliance and Feminist Ninjas were just some of the organizations out to encourage students to get involved.

Tables of various student activities were advertising and giving away free prizes that included sunglasses, Frisbees, beach balls, telescopes, cotton candy, hot dogs, hamburgers and energy drinks.

"It's been a pretty good day," said senior Ryan Miller, a student group representative. "We have had a nice steady flow of people coming by."

The student organizations took turns rotating who was out to promote their services. Each organization had one to two hours at the event to have their table set up.

"I'm really happy with all the free food, cotton candy and energy drinks, and with all the people that came out for this," said freshman Taylor Reiman.

According to Baker and Co-Chair Jen Amano, the event was like a "mini-Mason-Day." Whether invited by the Facebook ad, flyers, chalkings or brought in by the sound of live music, students had filled the lawn.

The park was adorned with green and yellow balloons with foot-

ball, Frisbee and badminton, just some of the games played by students who took advantage of the weather. The biggest hit at the event was the fortuneteller; students were lining up to know more about their futures.

It's pretty chill and I have had a lot to do," said Freshman Corey Perez, who arrived to the event around 1:30 p.m.

Aside from the organizations on campus, the event also had live bands for entertainment. Different local bands came out to play for Patriot's Day 2008. The live bands could be heard as far as the Aquatic Center so many students were woken up by the music playing outside their bedrooms. "I heard the band from my dorm, that's how I decided to come out," said freshman Bryan Runion. From 12 to 5 p.m. Presidents Park was rocked by four live bands, EarthTone, Mudge, Free Money and Future.

The Greek Life of campus was also a part of the event. The Alpha Omega Pi Sorority was out holding a pie-in-the-face contest.

To get involved with the Special Events Committee and help with events on campus contact Erin Baker at ebaker2@gmu.edu.



PHOTO BY TEDDY MEYER, ASSISTANT PHOTOGRAPHER EDITOR
Madeleine Albright and Richard Clarke speak at a town meeting in Dewberry Hall.

Talking Foreign Policy With Madeleine Albright

DAVID PIERCE
Staff Reporter

Former United States Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, spoke at a foreign policy town hall meeting Saturday, Sept. 20., in Dewberry Hall on the bottom floor of the Johnson Center. She was part of a three-person panel that included terrorism expert Richard Clarke and Rep. Jane Harman (D-Calif.).

Albright, 71, introduced herself as a life-long scholar of national security policy, before expressing her opinion regarding the current global scene.

"I don't think I have ever seen the world in such a mess, and that is a diplomatic term," said Albright.

Albright outlined major foreign policy issues that she felt the next president has to face once elected. She explained that the country needs to fight terrorism without creating more ter-

rorists in the process, placing blame on the Bush administration.

"Even former Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld said we were creating more terrorists," Albright said, adding "not everybody who dislikes us is part of al-Qaida."

The former secretary of state claimed that our nonproliferation system was broken. She said that the original agreement was that nations with nuclear arms should disarm, while those who don't have nuclear weapons should not acquire them.

"Both sides of that bargain have been broken," Albright said. She felt that the U.S. has not disarmed, and that North Korea has exploded a nuclear weapon, both occurring while President Bush has been in office.

Restoring democracy in the world was another issue that

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Bienvenida Latina Kicks Off Hispanic Heritage Month In The Quad

MIGUEL PEREZ
Broadside Correspondent

Hispanic student groups came together on the quad by Student Union Building I on Sept. 15 to kickoff their celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month in *Bienvenida Latina* (Latin Welcome).

The event showcased the various Latino student groups on campus and featured panels of Latino sororities, fraternities and interest groups. It was also accompanied by live music, dancing, performances by the sororities and fraternities, and authentic Central American cuisine.

"You hear a lot about Mason's diversity, but you don't really get to see it," said junior Michael Jennings, who works as webmaster and helped to print flyers for the event. "Today, I was able to see that diversity and culture we hear so much about."

"The event was to welcome new Latino students at Mason and kick off our celebration of the National Hispanic Heritage month," said junior Luis Gonzales, president of the Hispanic Student Association. "We organized [*Bienvenida Latina*] with all the other Hispanic student groups present on campus. People came, networked and ate food."

The performances included an authentic, traditional Bolivian dance called "Caporales" and an Afro-Peruvian band. The unique, bright colored skirts and blouses worn by the dancers characterize Bolivian dancing.

Afro-Peruvian music is a fusion of

Andean and African music that traces its roots to slavery. It has since evolved into many variants, but it is characterized by its distinct use of non-traditional instruments, such as the cajon (the box), a percussion instrument that resembles a drawer.

be checked for the use of public services and facilities and requires law enforcement officials to check the status of criminal suspects.

The Immigration Advocacy Group panel featured a recreation of the Statue of Liberty and a banner with the words "Beautiful faces make beautiful places." The group members handed out brochures and shared their points of view on immigration.

"We want to see the resolution, that the board of supervisors passed, rescinded due to the suffering it's caused for immigrant families, documented and undocumented, and we are asking the president of the university to make a statement to end the resolution," said sociology professor Victoria Rader. "Teachers tell us stories that people are scared to leave their

homes, and that United States citizens are receiving calls threatening to be reported. This is also not just directed against Latinos."

Another member of The Immigration Advocacy Group, PhD student of the Geography Department, Steve McClure, expressed his concern, "[People] don't make a distinction between legal and illegal."

The rest of the month and the first two weeks of October will continue to have many events hosted by the HSA and other Hispanic student groups. Highlights include the HSA's first General Body meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 16 and the Cultural Fusion Field Day on Oct. 8.



PHOTO BY BRITANNY ROUSE
Members of Lambda Theta Phi perform in the Quad.

The food was catered by Centreville's Castillo Café, who served, among other things, a Salvadorian tortilla called a Pupusa, Carne Asada, a roasted beef dish, and classical Mexican tacos. While the initial prices were about \$5 per plate, as the event came to an end, the caterers reduced the prices, and those who stayed around were able to reap the benefits.

Also present at the event was the Immigration Advocacy Group, a student group made up of faculty and students who oppose the laws passed in Prince William County, where George Mason University holds a campus. The county passed a bill last year, requiring immigration status to

Check out Broadside Style's spread on the Rockstars of Writing featured at this year's Fall for the Book on B6 and B7

BROADSIDE GAME WEEK

Men's Soccer
vs.
Virginia Commonwealth

Saturday, Sept. 27th, 7:00 p.m.
George Mason Stadium

*** FREE D.C. United Tickets**

* While supplies last

Admission is FREE with your valid Mason Student I.D.!