

9-18-2012

## The Parthenon, September 18, 2012

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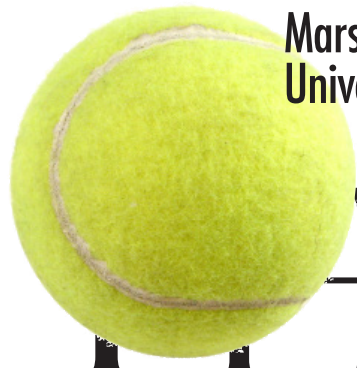
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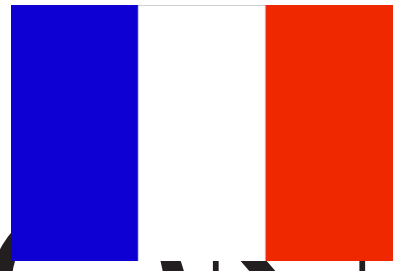
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Marshall tennis opens fall season at University of Virginia | More on Sports

**TUESDAY**  
September 18, 2012

Exchange student parties, tailgate style | More on News



# THE PARTHENON

VOL. 116 NO. 11 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM



THE PARTHENON

Soldiers with the West Virginia Army National Guard prepare a house for demolition Thursday on 18th Street in Huntington. The National Guard plans to tear down 50 homes in 30 days as part of a city revitalization effort.

## W.Va. Army National Guard demolishes condemned homes

THE PARTHENON

West Virginia Army National Guard troops are coming to town to demolish dilapidated homes in Huntington.

The plan is to tear down 50 homes in 30 days. The rundown, abandoned homes have been targets for arson fires, dwellings for the homeless and locations for drug deals.

Isabel Barnes brought her grandson to the demolition site so he can see the heavy-duty machinery, but for her it's a time of celebration.

"It is a joy and a blessing to be alive to see this," Barnes said. "We have waited so long for this project and for these houses to come down."

Becky Meeks has lived in the area for more

than 20 years and said the abandoned homes have acted as a breeding ground for crime.

"They are like cockroaches," Meeks said. "At nighttime they come out, day time they go in, if you call the police they see the lights and they scatter."

Meeks said she is glad to see the "eye sores" go, and feels safer in her neighborhood.

"We are so pleased," Meeks said. "I can now finally feel safe enough to let my grandson out of the gate, and we've lived here for 17 years."

Late last week Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin, U.S. District Attorney Booth Goodwin and Mayor Kim Wolfe, along with other leaders, toured the Fairfield West community where many

dilapidated homes will be torn down. They met with people living in the community and also talked with members of the National Guard.

Maj. Gen. James Hoyer, W. Va. National Guard adjutant general, said the "50 homes in 30 days" project also serves as a training exercise.

"It gives our guys a chance to train here on the ground," Hoyer said. "They also work with the Division of Highways and its good to learn how to work with them."

City officials said they are working with developers to figure out what to do with the space completion of this project is going to free up.

The Parthenon can be contacted at [parthenon@marshall.edu](mailto:parthenon@marshall.edu).

## Constitution Week kicks off at Marshall

By KATIE WISE  
THE PARTHENON

Constitution Week at Marshall University is in full swing. The celebration, which began on Sept. 10 and runs through Sept. 27, commemorates the adoption of the United States Constitution and the contributions of Chief Justice John Marshall.

One key event in this year's festivities is an appearance from The West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals. The Court is scheduled to hear four distinctive cases and begins at 10 a.m. in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.

Other Constitution Week activities include: The President's Invitational Quilts Media Challenge on Monday, Sept. 24 at 11:30 a.m. on Buskirk Field, the first of five Amicus Curiae lectures featuring guest speaker Thomas E. Mann, author of New York Times Bestseller, "It's Even Worse Than It Looks: How the American Constitutional System Collided with the New Politics of Extremism?" on Wednesday, Sept. 26 at 7 p.m. in the Marshall Foundation Hall, as well as The Robert C. Byrd Forum on Civic Responsibility on Thursday, Sept. 27 at 12:30 p.m.

Katie Wise can be contacted at [wise37@marshall.edu](mailto:wise37@marshall.edu).

## Speaker sought for MU's spring commencement

By KATIE WISE  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University Functions Committee is currently seeking nominations for individuals to be considered for speaker at the spring commencement ceremony.

Nominations for individuals to be considered for an honorary degree at the winter and spring commencement ceremonies are also being solicited.

Jamey Halleck, college of business professor, said nominees in the past have typically attended or contributed to the improvement of Marshall.

"We look at what individuals have done in their career that show they have tried to improve our university or society," Halleck said.

Some examples of past commencement speakers range from Marshall alumni and professional athlete Chad Pennington to key political figures such as West Virginia Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin, former West Virginia Senate President and Robert C. Byrd, who was the longest-serving U.S. Senator.

Other past speakers include: Julia Keller, Pulitzer Prize winner and Marshall graduate, Sean Callebs, CNN news correspondent, and Homer Hickam Jr., "Rocket Boys" author.

Hiliary Freeman, senior public relations major, said she would like to see an influential West Virginia politician speak at commencement this upcoming spring.

## Recycling event to collect electronics

By MARCUS CONSTANTINO  
THE PARTHENON

Students and Cabell County residents will get a rare chance to easily recycle their old and broken electronics this weekend.

The Cabell County Solid Waste Authority will host an e-recycling event Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the St. Mary's Education Center, located at the corner of Fifth Avenue and 29th Street.

Ralph Taylor, director and recycling coordinator for the Cabell County Solid Waste Authority, said the electronics recycling event will take anything with a cord on it, including computer monitors, TVs, printers, scanners and large appliances.

"Our main goal is to keep it out of the creeks and hollows

See RECYCLE | Page 5

## Cycling club rides to Marshall's campus

By ASHLEY KILLINGSWORTH  
THE PARTHENON

A cycling club has been formed on Marshall University's Huntington campus.

Jack Baronner, Marshall University Cycling Club president, said he wanted to create the club just out of his love for the sport.

"Once I heard about the cycling club starting at Marshall, I just knew that it was a community that I want to be a part of," Corey Clark, MUCC member and secretary, said.

Baronner said their goal for the fall semester is recruitment and getting out all of the kinks that come with being a new club.

MUCC is open to all students regardless of their skill level. Students can ride competitively, for fitness or just for fun.

"Don't be intimidated



Jack Baronner, freshman print journalism major and president of Marshall's new Cycling Club is shown on Marshall University's campus Sunday.

MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON

you can't keep up don't worry because we have a no-drop rule and at least one person will stay back with you, then next time you can move down one group and try their pace out, or vice versa, you can move up if you feel the first group was too easy."

Baronner said the club's ultimate goal is to compete in road races for the Atlantic Collegiate Cycling Conference against schools such as WVU and Virginia Tech.

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by the higher ability level cyclists, riding with them will only make you better," Clark said.

The group has also implemented a "Type" section that includes competitive beginner

through advanced, fitness beginner through advanced and recreational riding.

"You can join any group in which you feel you can keep up with and give it a shot," Clark said. "If

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# NEWS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2012 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

## Emergency phones provide easy access to police aid

By BISHOP NASH  
THE PARTHENON

One could have passed them a hundred times and never noticed, but 45 emergency phones are positioned across Marshall University and the surrounding areas.

The phones immediately contact Marshall police

and alert them to the alarm location.

“We ask people use them for emergencies,” Jim Terry, chief of Marshall police, said. “We ask people to use them for anything they see service wise, law enforcement or medical related.”

The program began in the

late 1980s and features three types of phones. There are stand-alone units, which are green poles with blue lights and wall-mounted units. These are placed in high-traffic areas around campus and on each floor of both parking garages. They go directly to MUPD emergency dispatch

when activated. They can be used to communicate back-and-forth with dispatchers and officers will immediately respond to the area.

The Third Avenue parking lot features radio phones, which broadcast an automated alert to the police radio to let officers know

both of the emergency and its location. These are in place because phone lines could not be used in the area and cannot be used to communicate verbally.

“Even if you can’t talk to us, just hit that phone,” Terry said, “We will respond to that area and come to that

phone to see what’s going on,” Terry said.

While the phones are not used as frequently as they once were due to the rise of cell phones, MUPD encourages their use for a quick and direct response.

Bishop Nash can be contacted at [nash24@marshall.edu](mailto:nash24@marshall.edu).

## Circle K flips pancakes for non-profit Saturday

By TYRELL CARLTON  
THE PARTHENON

The student organization Circle K International will host a pancake breakfast to benefit local non-profits and charities in the Huntington area.

The event will take place at Applebee’s Saturday on Third Avenue from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Circle K International, also known as CKI, is a service organization that plans and develops various community service projects throughout the year.

“I’m excited to see the turnout of the breakfast,” Jacquelyn Solak, club president of Marshall University’s CKI said.

Solak said the club is selling tickets throughout the week up until the day of the pancake breakfast.

“This is the first time we ever planned something like this for this semester, I’m preparing for a big turnout,” Solak said.

The pancake breakfast proceeds go to CKI for service projects which include the Eliminate project, Better World Books, March of Dimes, Students Team up to Fight Hunger and UNICEF. “This is my first time working the pancake fundraiser,” Autumn Frazee, CKI’s vice president of projects, said.

“I’m looking forward to it. I know we had a lot of luck with our previous one so I’m hoping we raise a good bit of money to help us out with our service ideas this year.”

CKI will be setting up the event, serving the food and cleaning after the event is over.

Tickets are \$5 and will be sold Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center.

Circle K meets every Wednesday night at 7 p.m. in the Harless Media Room.

Tyrell Carlton can be reached at [carlton5@marshall.edu](mailto:carlton5@marshall.edu).



## Exchange students discover American sports tradition

By BISHOP NASH  
THE PARTHENON

Tailgating is the traditional prelude to college football, and Marshall University students from all over the world gathered around that American concept Saturday before the Herd met the Ohio Bobcats.

“We wanted to be able to be all together and to gather all the international students, but also to introduce the international students to the American tradition of tailgating,” said Chloé Pasquet, business graduate student from Avranches, France.

Despite tailgating being a fairly new idea to most in attendance, one would have never known it.

“It doesn’t exist anywhere else, only in the U.S.,” Pasquet said. More than 20 students gathered under tents and around the

## INTERNATIONAL TAILGATING



Chloe Pasquet, business graduate student from Avranches, France, grills hotdogs during the international student tailgate on Saturday.

grill in the Sixth Avenue parking lot the afternoon before kickoff to enjoy hamburgers, hotdogs and music.

When asked how much they actually understand of football, Pasquet replied with “nothing”.

“When we see everybody screaming and being happy, we all scream,” Pasquet said.

The lot space was donated to the students by the athletic department, and Pasquet said everyone was very grateful for it.

Bishop Nash can be contacted at [nash24@marshall.edu](mailto:nash24@marshall.edu).

## Romney, Obama embrace coal industry

By SEAN COCKERHAM  
VIA MCT

WASHINGTON - Mitt Romney and President Barack Obama have wholeheartedly embraced coal on the campaign trail, despite past statements from Romney and Vice President Joe Biden that pollution from coal-fired power plants kills people.

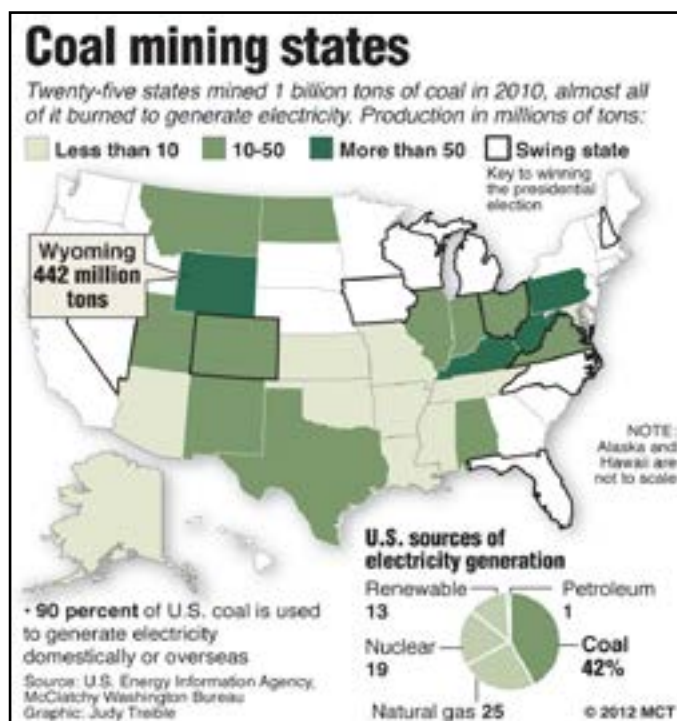
Coal has become a major issue in the presidential campaign, in part because the coal state of Ohio is among a handful of states that are expected to decide the election. Romney is telling voters that Obama is “waging war on coal,” a cry also taken up by Republicans

in the House of Representatives, who are putting out pro-coal bills as a message. Romney pledges to roll back environmental regulations if he’s elected.

But analysts say it’s questionable how much Romney could do to help a coal industry that’s been hurt more by utilities switching to cheap natural gas than by Environmental Protection Agency regulations.

“Coal is being done in by cheap natural gas. There’s no good reason for any utility company to build a new coal power plant right now, with natural gas prices being

See COAL | Page 5



## News briefs

### Marshall student receives \$1,000 scholarship

Marshall University student Donald J. Bays, who is pursuing an undergraduate degree in Physics, has been awarded a \$1000 Alva and Dixon Callihan/John Marshall Scholarship for the academic year 2012-2013 to help him achieve his goals.

### MU alumnus to display artwork at Gallery 842

Chicago artist and Marshall University alumnus, Michael Paxton, will be displaying his large-scale chalk and pastel drawings starting Thursday in Huntington. Paxton’s work will adorn the wall of Gallery 842 on Fourth Avenue.

## Teen sexting associated with actual sex, study finds

By JON BARDIN  
LOS ANGELES TIMES VIA MCT

LOS ANGELES - Hopeful parents, a new study has bad news for you: According to a study of Los Angeles area youth ages 12 to 18, kids who “sext” are not using it as a replacement for actual sex. In fact, the study shows that those who admit to sexting are significantly more likely to also say they engage in sexual intercourse.

That result may seem obvious, but some researchers hadn’t previously been convinced. They wondered if kids might use sexting as a safer but still thrilling activity that would partially replace sex in their lives, allowing them to interact in an explicit fashion with their peers without the risk of pregnancy or sexually transmitted diseases.

That turned out not to be the case. In fact, the researchers found that kids who sext were a whopping seven times more likely to say they also had sex. This does not mean that sexting leads to sex like a gateway drug — though that can’t be ruled out, according to the research.

Instead, it means that sexting and sex

form parts of what the researchers call a “clustering of sexual risk behaviors.” Find one, and you’re more likely to find the others.

In the article, published online Monday in the journal Pediatrics, the authors take pains to point out that sexting is often not a harmless activity, even when considered on its own. In particular, they point out the troubling ease with which a sext can be forwarded on to others, leading to traumatic social situations. There are also the worrisome legal implications of sending underage sexual material to an unpredictable series of recipients, who may be subject to child pornography laws as a result.

The researchers suggest that pediatricians should begin to integrate sexting into their discussions of sexual activity with adolescents, both as a segue to discussions about sexual intercourse and as a way of communicating the potential pitfalls of sexting — the things a kid should be thinking about before he or she hits “send.” They also suggest that sexual education programs in schools should take on the topic alongside other discussions of safer sex.

## COSMIC FRISBEE

### CRU to host game of cosmic proportions



By SAMUEL SPECIALE  
THE PARTHENON

A game of cosmic proportions is headed to the campus of Marshall University.

CRU, a campus ministry at Marshall, will play host to a game of Ultimate Frisbee Friday at 8:30 p.m. on Buskirk Field.

Alex Constantino, a Marshall graduate and intern with CRU, is coordinating the event.

Constantino said there will be a twist in the game since it will take place at night.

“We will be playing Cosmic Frisbee, which is basically Ultimate Frisbee in the dark,” Constantino said. “We have special LED discs that light up and we have glow bracelets for everyone so we can distinguish teams.”

Constantino said that the game is simple but fun.

“In Cosmic Frisbee, you basically have two teams trying to move the disc to their own respective end zones by passing the disc up and down the field,” Constantino said. “It works well, but you have to be mindful of other player—it’s easy to run into each other in the dark.”

Constantino said that Cosmic Frisbee is a CRU tradition that started during Marshall’s Week of Welcome last year.

“Many students in CRU and other campus ministries play Ultimate often, and we were looking for a way to spice that up and show the freshmen a good time during their first week on campus,” Constantino said.

Constantino said that the game was well received this year and that they had to expand the game due to an influx of new students.

“We had to make four fields across campus because more than 100 people showed up to play,” Constantino said.

Constantino said that CRU has socials and events like Cosmic Frisbee because they like to have fun and meet new students.

“We want to show other people that Christians can have a good time just like everyone else,” Constantino said. “I think there is a common misconception that people who love Jesus do nothing but memorize their Bibles and judge other people all day.”

Constantino said that although students at CRU love the Bible, they also love connecting with people.

“CRU is a caring community that is passionate about connecting people to Jesus, so sometimes we have to get outside and engage our community,” Constantino said. “Engaging the campus with the gospel of Jesus is what CRU is all about.”

Constantino said the game is open to any Marshall student and it will be a good time for freshmen to meet new students.

“We will meet at Buskirk Field and start the game at 8:30 p.m. on Friday and play until whenever,” Constantino said.

Samuel Speciale can be contacted at [speciale@marshall.edu](mailto:speciale@marshall.edu).

# SPORTS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2012 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

## Herd tennis solid in UVA fall invitational

By LAKE MOREHOUSE  
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University Women's Tennis team made their season debut this weekend at the University of Virginia Fall Invitational. The tournament was on UVA's campus in Charlottesville, Va.

The Invitational played host to a decorated field of elite tennis programs such as UVA, Wake Forest, UNC-Greensboro, Old Dominion and Winthrop.

As a team, the Herd fared well in overall play, but also had some impressive individual performances.

Junior Karlyn Timko and freshman Dana Oppinger claimed the doubles title by dominating Wake Forest 8-1 in the championship on Sunday.

They won the B Flight bracket of the Invitational.

Oppinger, from Weingarten, Germany, said she was pleased with her doubles performance.

"It was my first college tournament so it was a bit different. We did really well in doubles, but I think that I could have done better in singles," Oppinger said.

Herd tennis has team members from all over the globe; including players from Germany, England, Canada and Slovakia.

Oppinger said American



HERDZONE  
Junior Karyln Timko returns a serve in the 2011 University of Virginia Fall Invitational. Timko and teammate Dana Oppinger won the B Flight doubles championship at the 2012 University of Virginia Fall Invitational.

tennis has a different format than the European tennis she has grown accustomed to.

"In Europe, you have a lot more time in between matches to rest. In America, there are a lot more matches in a row, but I'm already starting to get used to it," Oppinger said.

England native and sophomore Ellie Ball placed fifth in the B Flight singles bracket. Ball said she focused on some fundamentals this summer to elevate

her play from last season. "I've definitely improved my consistency and I'm starting to manage my points a lot better," Ball said.

Ball said that she believes the Herd can produce a successful season this fall.

"I think that we can be higher ranked than last year, we're capable of that. We really have a great team," Ball said.

Head Coach John Mercer said in a news release that his team showed signs of

good play, but needed to be more consistent.

"In general, it was a typical first tournament of the year," Mercer said. "We played well at times, and not so well at others. We'll get back to practice and keep moving forward."

The Herd gets back in action Oct. 1 when they travel to Los Angeles, Calif. for the eight-day All-American Tournament.

Lake Morehouse can be contacted at [morehouse1@marshall.edu](mailto:morehouse1@marshall.edu).

Column

## Herd football abandons run game



By WILL VANCE

Rakeem Cato has improved drastically from his freshman campaign. His 1,222 passing yards so far this season rank first in the NCAA, and his eight touchdown passes rank 16th nationally.

Cato has been slinging the ball around the field in a way not seen at Marshall since the days of Leftwich and Pennington. To top it off, Cato broke Byron Leftwich's single-game completion record with a 44 of 65 performance. Yet the Thundering Herd stands at 1-2 with a blowout loss against West Virginia and a heartbreaking loss at home to Ohio.

An explosive passing attack should lead to more wins, right?

Not if the team has abandoned the run, which is what appears to have happened to the Herd.

In Saturday's loss to the Ohio Bobcats, the Herd had fewer rushing yards than passing attempts. Travon Van carried the ball 13 times for an abysmal 15 yards. Remi Watson averaged a decent five yards per carry, but was only handed the ball twice. Touted freshman Stewart Butler got only one

carry, and fellow freshman Kevin Grooms none.

From start to finish it was clear running the ball was not a priority. The Herd ran for a total of 59 yards.

Granted, Ohio has a tough defense, but it really looked like the Marshall coaching staff gave up on the ground game. This puts enormous pressure on Cato who, despite his video game type numbers, is still a young quarterback.

If the Herd cannot keep defenses honest, Cato's gun-slinging will continue to be for naught. The backfield is talented, but the tough between the tackles running style of injured Tron Martinez has been missed. To take full advantage of the passing games success the Herd must make defenses respect the run and not be able to put eight men in coverage every play.

A golden opportunity will be presented to the Herd this Saturday against Rice. The Owls rank 199th in the NCAA in rushing defense, giving up 7.2 yards per carry.

Surely the Herd can find running room against a defense apparently made of swiss cheese. But for that to happen the coaches need to make a concerted effort to run the ball and the running backs need to respond when their number is called.

If that happens, the Herd should be able to capitalize on the passing games success and put more games in the win column.

Will Vance can be contacted at [vance162@marshall.edu](mailto:vance162@marshall.edu).



TYLER KES | THE PARTHENON  
Travon Van carries the ball in Saturday night's loss to Ohio University.



MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON  
Freshman Stewart Butler rushes for his first collegiate touchdown Sept. 8 against Western Carolina.

## 2012 Herd football schedule



**Result:** (Loss) 69-34

**Who:** West Virginia Mountaineers

**Where:** Morgantown



**Result:** (Win) 52-24

**Who:** Western Carolina Catamounts

**Where:** Huntington



**Result:** (Loss) 27-24

**Who:** Ohio Bobcats

**Where:** Huntington



**When:** Sept. 22

**Who:** Rice Owls

**Where:** Houston



**When:** Sept. 29

**Who:** Purdue Boilermakers

**Where:** West Lafayette, Ind.



**When:** Oct. 6

**Who:** Tulsa Golden Hurricane

**Where:** Huntington



**When:** Oct. 20

**Who:** Southern Miss Golden Eagles

**Where:** Hattiesburg, Miss.



**When:** Oct. 27

**Who:** UCF Knights

**Where:** Huntington



**When:** Nov. 3

**Who:** Memphis Tigers

**Where:** Huntington



**When:** Nov. 10

**Who:** UAB Blazers

**Where:** Birmingham, Ala.



**When:** Nov. 17

**Who:** Houston Cougars

**Where:** Huntington



**When:** Nov. 23

**Who:** East Carolina Pirates

**Where:** Greenville, N.C.

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# OPINION

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2012 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

## THE PARTHENON

### ABOUT US

The Parthenon, Marshall University's student newspaper, is published by students Mondays through Fridays during the regular semesters, and weekly Thursdays during the summer. The editorial staff is responsible for news and editorial content.

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### THE FIRST AMENDMENT | The Constitution of the United States of America

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people to peaceably assemble; and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

### Letter to the Editor

## Welfare of everyone

By JORDAN FANNIN

A recent editorial in the Parthenon claimed that the American welfare system is broken because people who need assistance don't get it because those who could be working but are too lazy to get a job are taking all the funding. I find this to be offensively classist and the assumptions behind it to be obviously absurd. America has no lack of funds. We spend trillions on bombs and banks. Anyone who has done any research into where our money comes from knows that our currency is based on nothing and produced at whatever rate the Federal Reserve decides is good for business. Any concerns about the "National Debt" are based on a misunderstanding of how our monetary system works. It all comes out of thin air. That's right, thin air. The dollar is a token of debt and nothing more. Private banking institutions that make up the Federal Reserve (which is in fact not a true part of the government at all) create this money and determine the rate of inflation however they please. Furthermore, every bank charges interest which is debt which is money. Charging interest is counterfeiting. Beyond this charade is the grand myth of our time, the myth of scarcity. To say that we can't afford to feed every hungry person in this country, when the government pays farmers to grow less crops to protect the inflated cost of food, is ridiculous. One of the biggest lies of Capitalism is "there just isn't enough to go around." This is nonsense. If we organized our government and our economy with the needs of everyone as our primary concern, we could eliminate poverty and hunger in a very short time. Businesses have a vested interest to create artificial scarcity to protect the price of their goods. The less of a thing there is, the more you can charge for it. Consider a thought experiment: Lets say you had the last two surviving copies of the most valuable comic book in the world, Action Comics #1 (the first appearance of Superman). The best thing you could do, if you are only concerned about money, is burn one of them. The price on the lone surviving copy skyrockets. This same principal lurks around every industry in a Capitalist society. From food to medicine to housing to energy to education, all of it is under-produced to drive up the price. What we need is a fundamental change in our ethics of economics. Many of us have been deceived into believing that it is ethical to let a person starve simply because they don't feel like getting hassled by a boss every day. Who wants to trade those precious hours of their life (a real scarcity) for minimum wage? This world is enormously fertile and our technology has made it possible to harvest resources and manufacture goods with very little human labor. It is a heartless slave-driver who cracks the whip and demands obedience for sustenance in a world of plenty. If we cut out the rich parasites that leech off our productive power, we could all get by with only a few hours of work a week (if that) and still provide for the needs of everyone. The people who tell you that you are asking for too much are those same parasites who don't want to give up the mountains of wealth they have stolen from the working class. You prefer wage slavery and the pipe-dream of getting rich someday to a peaceful productive world? We have a deficit of expectations. We are capable of shaping the world into whatever we want it to be.

Letter to the Editor submissions are presented in their original state to ensure that the writer's intentions are preserved.

## ONLINE POLLS

What new television show are you looking forward to the most?

- The Last Resort
- Elementary
- The Mindy Project
- Revolution
- Other

The following are the results from the most recent poll question: Do you think that the Republican and Democratic National Conventions are a waste of money?

- Yes 58% - 32 votes
- No 40% - 22 votes
- Undecided 2% - 1 vote

Visit [marshallparthenon.com](http://marshallparthenon.com) to share your opinion.

### Editorial

## Internet offers enough news to sustain an in-touch generation

As college students, our generation is entirely connected by the worldwide web. One aspect of our livelihood that has been dramatically affected by the Internet is the way we acquire news. If you have chosen to read this editorial in its print form, you are commended. Some of us choose to browse well-respected, reliable online news sources to remain informed, but the majority of us make no effort whatsoever. Thank goodness for our intravenous drip of social media of Twitter and Facebook. Undeniably, our generation is immersed in the Internet and, meanwhile, is digesting news in a digital form.

The rise of online journalism has allowed traditional news sources to expand and provide more accurate, up-to-date coverage of what is happening in the world around us. Less admirably, online journalism has given life to a flood of unconventional, arguably less legitimate, news sources. For those (news) sites we love to hate, we salute

you, worldwide web.

Perhaps not all people habitually seek out the news, but almost everyone habitually checks their email. En route to your email, you may accidentally run upon some news. Yahoo! News is not often recognized for its hard-hitting journalism, but it is news nonetheless. More often than not, the featured stories on Yahoo.com are nothing but trash, trash wrapped in an attractive package and tied with an intriguing headline. Yahoo! News has its finger on the pulse of all things not so newsworthy, but even among all the rubbish, if you aren't careful, you might just learn something.

Arguably, there are better means of accessing current goings-on, but with the Internet serving as the primary informant of our generation, the glimmer of substantive news that we encounter within sites like Yahoo! News and social media outlets serves as just enough news to nourish us.



### Column

## The power of Pigovian taxes

By DEREK OLSON

U. MINNESOTA VIA UWIRE

If you've filled up at the pump recently, you probably were reminded how much it costs to drive. But all the gas, insurance, repairs and other things you pay for are not the only costs of driving. Your contribution to traffic congestion places cost on other drivers, your wear and tear on the roads puts cost on taxpayers, and cost is born by the environment due to the pollution from your car.

These are examples of the external costs of driving, or what economists call negative externalities. It was first recommended in 1920 by Arthur Pigou, an economist from the University of Cambridge, that negative externalities be taxed to internalize the costs. Pigovian taxes are a way of making individuals themselves pay for the costs they place on others. This eponymous form of taxation is now supported

by economists as diverse as Paul Krugman and Alan Greenspan. Conservative and liberal economists alike widely favor Pigovian taxes, especially on carbon emissions and gasoline. We just need our politicians to follow their economic advisors.

President Barack Obama recently announced mandates for dramatic increases in the Corporate Average Fuel Economy standards, but this is economically harmful. A 2007 study published in Economic Inquiry found that an 11 cent increase in the gas tax would conserve the same amount of fuel as a 3.0 mpg increase in the CAFE standards. More importantly, it found that the increase in CAFE standards would have a welfare cost 14 times greater than the tax increase. Many other studies have corroborated the finding that paradoxically, gasoline taxes are the less expensive way to conserve fuel.

The problem with fuel

efficiency standards is that they do not change consumer preferences. Consumers will have little, if any, new incentive to be fuel efficient. The new standards force automakers to manufacture vehicles that the market is not demanding, which increases the price on new vehicles. With higher prices on new cars, consumers will shift to buy used cars, and this won't accomplish any fuel reduction because used cars are not affected by increasing fuel standards.

Energy policy needs to affect consumer behavior in order to reduce the usage of energy. When the price of gasoline rises, drivers get creative. They carpool, use mass transportation, buy a more fuel-efficient vehicle, walk or bike and even move closer to work. Numerous studies and extensive empirical data show strong correlation between gas price and consumption per capita in developed

countries. Consider how often gas prices are on the news. One can think of few other things for which people watch the price so closely.

If gasoline prices were higher, consumers would find it financially rational to buy a fuel-efficient car, and they wouldn't do it solely by the good graces of their sympathy for the environment. The American Ford Fiesta gets 33 miles per gallon fuel economy. However, in the UK, where gasoline taxes are approximately \$4 per gallon, Ford produces a version of the Fiesta that gets nearly 72 miles to the gallon. The government is distorting the market with CAFE standards, forcing auto manufacturers to sell products people aren't demanding, the result of which is higher prices on all vehicles. Higher gasoline taxes are a less invasive way to alter market demand by making it a financially beneficial decision to buy a fuel-efficient car.

Editor's note: In the Sept. 17 edition of The Parthenon, the column "Honesty the best policy, be true to yourself," referred to visiting writer, Donna Britt as a "Pulitzer Prize Nominee." The term "nominated finalist" is reserved for those entries chosen as finalists in the competition and was mistakenly attributed to Britt.

**Coal**  
Continued from Page 2

where they are and where they look like they're going to be for a long time," said Andrew Holland, a senior fellow for energy at the nonpartisan American Security Project, a research center. "Even if there were no regulations on coal, I think you'd still be seeing a move toward natural gas."

Obama, like his challenger, nevertheless has talked up coal during the campaign. He highlighted a vision for the future during his Democratic National Convention speech in which the nation continues to invest in "clean coal" technologies meant to reduce the carbon dioxide impact of burning coal and keep the industry going.

The Obama campaign has run radio ads in Ohio hammering on that theme and portraying Romney as the one who's really anti-coal. The ads are about Romney's 2003 effort, as the governor of Massachusetts, against an unpopular coal plant in his state.

"I will not create jobs or hold jobs that kill people," Romney told the news media at the time. "And that plant, that plant kills people."

Ohio is among the most crucial prizes in the presidential campaign. The state ranks 10th nationally in coal production and gets 86 percent of its electricity generation from coal. But the battleground states of Virginia and Colorado are significant coal-producing regions as well.

There's also a lot of talk in the nation's top coal states - Wyoming, West Virginia, Kentucky, Pennsylvania and Texas - about what a Romney presidency might mean for coal.

Romney brought up to Ohio voters a video of Biden saying in 2007 that pollution from coal-fired power plants is more likely to contribute to the death of an average American than a terrorist attack is. Romney said it showed where the Obama administration really stood.

Romney has attacked coal regulations but he'd have limited power to roll them back if he's elected, said Kyle Danish, a lawyer who specializes in energy at the Van Ness Feldman law firm in Washington.



MOLLY RILEY/POLARIS VIA ABACA PRESS/MCT

Transfer cases are carried into a hangar during the Transfer of Remains Ceremony at Joint Base Andrews, marking the return of the four Americans killed this week in Benghazi, Libya, on Friday.

# U.S., Libya officials offer different versions of attack

By JONATHAN S. LANDAY  
MCCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS (MCT)

WASHINGTON - U.S. and Libyan officials are giving significantly different accounts of the gunfire and rocket-propelled grenade attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi that killed the U.S. ambassador to Libya and three other Americans.

The Obama administration says the assault was a spontaneous local reaction inspired by a demonstration that was taking place at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo against a video made in the United States slurring the Prophet Muhammad, the founder of the Islamic faith. It also contends that the attack grew out of a small protest.

A senior Libyan official says the attack was organized and planned by foreigners - some with links to al-Qaida - involved a local Islamic militia, and was timed for the anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States. Moreover, the Libyan official appeared to question whether there was a protest beforehand.

"The way these perpetrators acted and moved, and their choosing a specific date for this so-called demonstration, I think that this leaves us with no doubt that this was pre-planned, pre-determined," Mohammad Magarief, the head of the Libyan National Congress, the recently elected interim government, said Sunday.

The drastically different versions come as the investigation into the assault still is in its preliminary stages. FBI agents who are to assist their Libyan counterparts have yet to arrive in the North African country, and the Libyan Interior Ministry official who was in

charge of the investigation was fired Monday.

Both governments would have good reason to promote their version of the incident.

Libya's factionalized and weak interim government is confronting growing violence by militias and Islamic extremist groups that refused to disarm after overthrowing the late dictator Moammar Gadhafi last year. The interim government would appear less ineffectual and feckless if the attack were a deep-rooted conspiracy by the world's most feared terrorist network.

President Barack Obama's claims that he has kept Americans safe from terrorism and dealt debilitating blows to the remnants of al-Qaida have been centerpieces of his appeal for re-election in November. Those claims could be questioned by GOP candidate Mitt Romney and other Republicans if al-Qaida is found to have planned a well-coordinated attack on such a significant date without being detected by U.S. intelligence.

The attack claimed the lives of U.S. Ambassador to Libya Christopher Stevens, who was visiting Benghazi from the capital of Tripoli, Sean Smith, an information technology specialist, and two security men, Tyrone Woods and Glen Doherty, both former Navy SEALs.

Scores of attackers firing assault rifles and rocket-propelled grenades charged the walled compound from two directions, swarmed inside and attacked the main building, setting it afire, witnesses have told McClatchy Newspapers. Stevens and Smith apparently died from smoke inhalation. Woods and Doherty were shot dead protecting up to 30 U.S. staffers who had taken refuge in a nearby annex.

# Obama discusses consulate attack during Ohio visit

By MICHAEL A. MEMOLI AND KATHLEEN HENNESSEY  
TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU (MCT)

CINCINNATI - With violent anti-American protests stretching into a second week, President Barack Obama's re-election campaign is treading cautiously, albeit steadily, on the campaign trail, mindful that the continued turmoil abroad may still have an unpredictable impact at home.

While it was GOP nominee Mitt Romney whose stumbles in the wake of last week's deadly attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya, made headlines, the political fallout for the president is far from settled. Administration officials have said they are braced for a sustained period of unrest across the Arab world and campaign aides acknowledge they are balancing concerns about hitting right tone on the stump.

Obama campaigned in Ohio on Monday, staging two boisterous rallies in the all-important swing state, as anti-American rioters clashed with police in Karachi, Pakistan, and Kabul, Afghanistan. Despite the eruptions, there were signs the protests, spurred in part by an anti-Muslim film, were waning.

In his remarks, Obama made only a brief reference to the "events of last week" as evidence of the persistent dangers around the world.

"We can't just pull back," Obama said. "We've got to stay engaged and involved for our security. But we've also got to remain vigilant."

What voters take away from the wave of protests will likely depend on how long the unrest persists, as well as how the candidates frame the crisis on the stump and in a string of debates in the coming weeks.

For the president, who has enjoyed the edge on foreign policy, that could mean the chance to highlight an asset - or playing defense while images of angry protester air on the news.

Obama was largely spared the latter predicament last week, thanks to Romney's surprisingly quick political attack. Romney accused the Obama administration of apologizing to Muslims offended by American-made film that appeared to incite the first demonstrations in Egypt and Libya. The former Massachusetts governor's critique was panned by some in his own party as premature and political, at a time with American look for bipartisanship.

## Ceremony Continued from Page 1

"I think U.S. Sen. Joe Manchin would be a great person to have come speak because he has contributed so much to this state throughout his term as West Virginia Governor and he fights for the rights of students all over the country," Freeman said.

Senior biology major Adam Recknagel said he would like to see a sports figure speak at commencement.

"It would be really interesting to hear Bob Pruett speak at commencement because he was not only one of the best coaches Marshall has ever had, but he was also a former athlete and student," Recknagel said.

The nomination deadline is Oct. 12. All nominations must include supporting and biographical data.

Applications can be submitted to Jamey Halleck in Corbly Hall 424.

Katie Wise can be reached at wise37@Marshall.edu.

**Recycle**  
Continued from Page 1

of Cabell County," Taylor said. "The whole basis of the green future is recycling. We started our regular recyclables [program] last November... We thought we ought to get involved in this, and that has now become the mission of the Cabell County Solid Waste Authority."

Margie Phillips, sustainability manager at Marshall University's physical plant, said the inaugural e-recycling event was a success. She said the program gathered two tractor-trailers full of old electronics at the Joan C. Edwards Stadium parking lot in June.

Taylor said nine tons of electronics were collected.

"We had 6,000 pounds of TVs and 12,000 pounds of other electronics for a total of 18,000 pounds," Taylor said.

Senate Bill 398, which passed through the 2009-2010 session of the West Virginia Legislature, made disposal of covered electronic devices into landfills unlawful. According to the West Virginia Solid Waste Management Board, covered electronic devices include televisions

and computers or video display devices with a screen that is greater than four inches measured diagonally.

The ban went into effect on Jan. 1, 2011.

Taylor said the e-recycling event provides a safe, legal and eco-friendly way of disposing of electronics.

"[The electronics] will be taken to Knoxville and will be separated," Taylor explained. "Most of the TV materials will be taken to safe, secure landfills. Copper wiring will be stripped out and sold to be manufactured into something else."

Taylor said he planned the e-recycling event on Sept. 22 so it would not conflict with a Marshall home football game. He hopes students will use the opportunity to get rid of unwanted electronics.

"Some of the old Game-Boys and the things that are obsolete now, we'll take those," Taylor said.

Taylor said those dropping off electronics should enter from the 29th Street side of the St. Mary's Education Center. Phillips said student volunteers will help collect the electronics.

Marcus Constantino can be contacted at constantino2@marshall.edu.

**Club**  
Continued from Page 1

The ACCC is a collection of cycling clubs representing colleges and universities from Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and North Carolina. It is one of 11 conferences that make up the collegiate program of USA Cycling.

Members of the ACCC compete in road, mountain and cyclocross racing throughout the academic year at the conference level with hopes of qualifying for the USA Cycling Collegiate National Championships.

Baronner said although the task of competing against big schools would be daunting, he thinks they can do it.

"I was actually kind of surprised," Baronner said. "I honestly didn't think we would get that many people."

MUCC was just created this semester and so far the turnout has been much higher than the club anticipated.

"I am very surprised about the number of people that have joined," Clark said. "Right now I have a backlog of about 12 emails that I need to add to the membership roster, which is already at 40 members. It hasn't even been a week yet and we are past 50 members, I'm astonished."

Baronner said if there's any cyclists out there, they would love to have you, they need people.

The Marshall University Cycling Club has created a Facebook page for interested members to contact them.

Ashley Killingsworth can be contacted at killingsworth@marshall.edu.

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