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MONDAY
April 23, 2012

THE PARTHENON

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Four Marshall football players arrested Sunday



Martin Ward



Phillip Warren



Corie Wilson



Stefone Grace

THE PARTHENON

Four Marshall football players, senior running back Martin Ward, sophomore defensive back Phillip Warren, freshman cornerback Corie Wilson and freshman linebacker Stefone Grace were arrested Sunday morning and taken to Western Regional Jail.

A statement issued by Marshall head coach Doc Holliday said "We are aware of the situation and are currently gathering all of the facts pertaining to this issue. Once that process is complete, we will handle the matter appropriately."

* PHOTOS RETRIEVED FROM WESTERN REGIONAL JAIL WEBSITE

Separate ceremonies planned to shorten graduation

BY BRITTANEE BARTON
THE PARTHENON

For the first time, Marshall University will have separate graduation ceremonies for undergraduate and graduate students. The associate and bachelor's degree candidates will have a ceremony at 9 a.m. May 5, while master's and doctoral degree candidates will graduate at 2 p.m. Both ceremonies will be at the Big Sandy Superstore Arena.

Donna Spindel, dean of the graduate college, said Marshall has grown to a size that requires multiple ceremonies.

"Many institutions across the country hold a separate ceremony for undergraduate and graduate students," Spindel said.

See GRADUATION | Page 5

RELAY FOR LIFE

MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON

Marshall mascot "Marco" paints Kevin Tephabock, state vice president of West Virginia's Relay for Life, during Marshall's Relay for Life event near Buskirk Field on the Marshall University campus, Friday. Tephabock, WVU alumnus, allowed attendees to paint him green because Marshall met its fundraising goal.



KONY 2012: Students cover the night

BY TRAVIS EASTER
THE PARTHENON

A small but dedicated group of Marshall Students and Huntington residents gave their time Friday to be part of a big cause.

People gathered at Harris Riverfront Park to participate in Cover the Night. The group got together to write letters, distribute fliers and chalk sidewalks to support Invisible Children, Inc.'s KONY 2012 initiative.

"You can make a difference wherever you live, even in a smaller area like Huntington" said Marshall graduate Jessica Nicholson. "You don't have to be in a big city to make a big difference."

See KONY | Page 5

Cover the Night was an initiative of the KONY 2012 campaign that took place in towns and cities all over the world Friday.

Participants in the Huntington group began the evening by chalking sidewalks around the park and writing letter to their representatives in Congress urging them to support a recently introduced resolution that would give United States support to local forces tracking Joseph Kony and the Lord's Resistance Army.

"A little ripple can lead to a big wave," said Marshall graduate student Charles Patrick. "Starting here tonight can lead to awareness

Inauguration celebrates Harrell's second term

THE PARTHENON

Raymond Harrell, Jr., the newly elected incumbent for the position of student body president, celebrated his inauguration for his second term Saturday.

The event took place at the Marshall University Foundation Hall. Friends and family of Harrell and Aja Smith, the newly elected student body vice-president, gathered to celebrate.

Stephen J. Kopp, president of Marshall University, said he was excited to see Harrell win reelection.

"I was excited to hear

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Marshall graduate Jessica Nicholson hangs Kony 2012 fliers with her little brother at Harris Riverfront Park on Friday.

Speaker informs students of the criminal side of sexual assault

BY ALLYSON WARNER
THE PARTHENON

Students gathered in Drinko to hear a guest speaker sponsored by the Women's Studies Department on sexual assault Friday.

April marks sexual assault

awareness month and is a topic many people are trying to get the community to know more about.

"I'm really pleased to be here, especially because April is sexual assault awareness month," said Margaret Brown, professor in criminal justice/criminology and

Cabell county assistant prosecuting attorney. "It's so appropriate for me to be here."

Brown said 20-25 percent of college-aged women report they experienced rape or attempted rape while they were in college. Brown said students have to use caution

when speaking of statistics because they come from different sources.

There are a couple of major types of crime collection when it comes to sexual assault. Most crime data is collected by the federal government and also through grants. Official data is collected by law enforcement

agencies that then report every year to the FBI.

"Obviously, we know not every crime is reported to the police so we expect sexual assault numbers to be lower," Brown said.

The second type of data is looked at is victimization studies and the big way to

receive this type of data is by the victimization survey. This defines sexual assault as both the psychological aspects of things and also the physical side.

Brown said the national crime victimization survey is

See ASSAULT | Page 5



NEWS

MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2012 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Huntington native shares excerpt from new book with students

BY ALLYSON WARNER
THE PARTHENON

One author was able to return back to her roots and discuss her brand new book, "A Killing in the Hills," to fellow Huntington natives Friday night.

Julia Keller was born and raised in Huntington, where she graduated from Marshall University, earning her master's in English. Keller then went on to receive her doctorate in English at Ohio State University. She currently works at The Chicago Tribune where she received a Pulitzer Prize in 2005 for her work.

"I've lived in lots of places, but it is Huntington that looms largest and most vividly in my imagination," Keller said.

Keller said she grew up in the shadows of the Ohio River. The theme of the evening was based on rivers because that is one thing Keller said she feels a special attraction to.

"The word river resonates with me," Keller said. "It can never be a normal word for me."

Rivers are something many American authors write about, from authors such as Mark Twain to Ernest Hemingway. Keller said rivers in literature are not about what they are right now, but what they will be.

When Keller wrote her

upcoming murder mystery novel she said she made sure she placed a river in it. She wanted to give her perspective and vision of West Virginia to her readers.

"You may read it and say to yourself well that isn't my West Virginia, but that just means they're standing in a different spot," Keller said.

The story is based on a killing of a 16-year-old girl in a fictional town.

Keller then went on to describe one of the lead characters in her book that is based on her great aunt who she knew very well.

The character grew up in a fictional town in West Virginia but moved later in her life. The character does eventually move back to her hometown and helps the community in the best way she can.

As she read a section out of her book, she didn't give much of the story plot away.

"I'll stop there so that way you'll go out and purchase my book," Keller jokingly said.

Her speech ended based on rivers and their importance to readers and writers alone.

"I wish you bright days ahead and your own dreams everlasting," Keller said.

A Killing in the Hills is scheduled to come out Aug. 21.

Allyson Warner can be contacted at warner65@marshall.edu.

ROTC aims to recruit with 'Herd Challenge'

BY REBECCA STEPHENS
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University ROTC saw a semester's worth of planning take shape Saturday as it had its first Herd Challenge competition for students in the JROTC programs of high schools in the Tri-State area.

Cadet Grant Ross, sophomore business management major from Wayne, W.Va., said he had the idea as a way to recruit students for Marshall's ROTC program and help them with their training.

"I thought it would be a good idea to bring high school students to Marshall instead of us coming to them," Ross said. "We're letting them practice their skills and enhance their abilities."

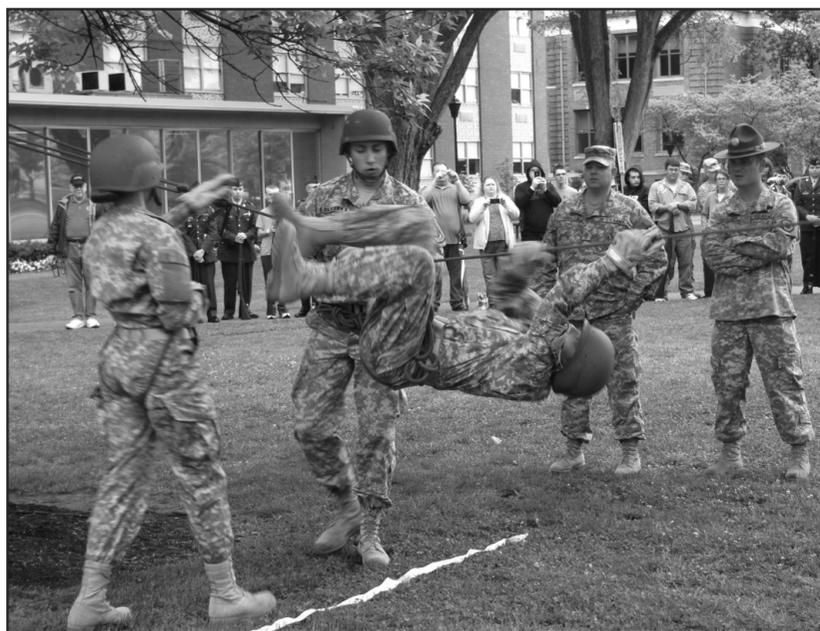
The competition began with the physical training, or PT, test, which included two minutes of pushups, two minutes of sit-ups and a mile run.

Additional events included the color guard, one-rope bridge and the commander's challenge.

Maj. Lilrita Daniels, recruiting officer, said the cadre do their best to support their students when they have ideas such as Ross'.

"It takes a lot of prior planning, coordination and making sure your time frames are right," Daniels said. "It was very time consuming, but it was well worth it."

Aaron Jefferson, battalion commander, said he liked



REBECCA STEPHENS | THE PARTHENON
Marshall's ROTC played host to JROTC programs from around the Tri-State area with its "Herd Challenge" on Saturday. The competition included physical training, color guard, one-rope bridge and the commander's challenge.

that Ross took the initiative to plan Saturday's event.

"It looks like it's turning out pretty well, and it'll be good for recruiting," Jefferson said.

The high schools in attendance for the Herd Challenge included Huntington High, Lincoln County High, Tolsia and East Carter High from East Carter, Ky.

Chief Warrant Officer Stephen Brown, army instructor at Tolsia High School, said he brought his JROTC students to Marshall for the Herd Challenge to give them a chance to compete with

other high schools.

Aaron Marcum, junior from Tolsia High School, said he used to get in trouble a lot, but joining his school's JROTC program helped straighten him out.

"I'm going to stick with it all the way until I graduate," Marcum said.

Marcum said he would consider Marshall's ROTC program if he decides to attend college.

At the end of the day's events, awards were given to the school's that placed first, second and third in each of the events, as well as

the award for the school that won overall.

"The team that gets first place, you can tell they've practiced, rehearsed together, built that teamwork," Daniels said.

East Carter High School took home the trophy for first place for being the overall winner for Saturday's competition.

Daniels said the Herd Challenge was a success, and the ROTC hopes to make it an annual event.

Rebecca Stephens can be contacted at stephens107@marshall.edu.

Rates of autism on the rise

BY LAKIN TURNER
FOR THE PARTHENON

Although doctors do not know the cause of autism, they do know the numbers of children affected are increasing.

The rates of autism in children continue to rise, and educating the community on the disorder continues to decline.

"Obtaining educational and behavioral intervention appropriate to each individual has been and remains the biggest problem," said Deana Prince, executive director of Mainstream Services.

Mainstream Services is a licensed, nonprofit behavioral health agency that provides services to people with developmental disabilities throughout the community.

Prince said a great need for autism awareness and an understanding for the specific individuals with the special needs exists.

The need for autism awareness is important because recent reports show one in 88 children are affected by autism.

These children may seem overly sensitive in highly stimulated situations, perform repetitive body movement, and experience

distress when a routine is changed.

Thirty years ago, people with high-functioning autism were viewed as strange, they were not diagnosed with a disorder that many people did not understand.

"There is a lack of education and lack of involvement. The general population needs to be exposed to special needs people one by one, group by group and function by function to integrate a greater understanding," said Missy Bailey, special education teacher of Spring Valley High School.

Bailey said the rates have increased by 25 percent since 2008, and it is important

to educate the community to attain a better understanding with the disorder because the numbers are only continuing to increase.

Autism affects the brain's normal development of communication skills, and Stephanie Sission, Marshall University student, said the community needs to be patient with special needs people and learn about the disability, especially in a school setting.

The public school system is continuing to improve the environment in which the special needs children are being introduced by starting

See AUTISM | Page 5

Marshall campus outreaches joins for celebration picnic

BY SHAUN FRENCH
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's Baptist Campus Ministry and Revolution will have a joint picnic from 11 a.m. through 1 p.m. May 2 at CSX Field behind Kroger.

Adam Goodwin, director of BCM, said the purpose of the campus outreach picnic is to celebrate the end of the school year and to give the students a break from studying for final exams.

"The students have worked hard – not with just school but also with the ministry," Goodwin said. "It's not only to celebrate the end of the year but also to get together one last time before we don't see each other for a few months."

The director of Revolution, Glen Larue, said the celebration of the picnic will be a time of success of his leadership role he started in the middle of Fall 2011 with Revolution.

"Revolution did a leadership transition in the middle of the fall that could have been a catastrophe, but it wasn't," Larue said. "I feel like Revolution is just as strong now as it was then. The students

have been supportive and receptive of me."

Larue said he looks forward to spending time with the students in an informal setting the picnic creates.

"Christianity is about relationships," Larue said. "We want to invest in students to show them Christianity is real. It's not something we talk about. The picnic is an opportunity to do that."

Lindsay Emmite, senior print-making major from Charleston, said she looks forward to spending time with her fellow believers during the picnic.

"It's a time when we get together and fellowship," Emmite said. "It means a lot as a senior, even though I'm not graduating, to see a lot of solid believers coming together and fellowshiping. We're going in different places in our lives, but it's encouraging because the Holy Spirit is in them. They're taking the Gospel to different places and aspects in their lives."

Larue said the picnic will not have a set schedule, but he looks forward to playing Ultimate Frisbee.

Shaun French can be contacted at french25@marshall.edu.

Fall tour guide applications due Tuesday

BY MARISSA DEMARIA
THE PARTHENON

As one semester comes to a close, preparation for another begins. Those in the Office of Recruitment have begun accepting applications for Fall 2012 tour guides, in preparation for the influx of freshmen soon to be on Marshall's campus.

All application materials are due Tuesday.

Beth Wolfe, director of recruitment for Marshall

University said a tour guides' first responsibility is to lead prospective students and their families on a campus tour during the daily visit program.

The tour guide position has been geared to accommodate a student's schedule. Current tour guides have said the position works cohesively with their endless to-do lists.

One current tour guide, Kelsi Jo Phillips, junior elementary education major said while there might be

an array of reasons to become a tour guide, she took the opportunity as a way to connect with the Marshall community.

"I love to talk to people," Phillips said. "I can't think of a better way to interact with people than to play a role in their process of making one of the biggest choices in their lives thus far."

Wolfe said a tour guide is the first member of the Marshall family who spends significant time with many of Marshall's future students.

Thus, it is important that a tour guide remember that they were once a freshman as well, dealing with the excitement of such a monumental progression in life.

"It is particularly important that a guide be a good representative of the university, knowledgeable about Marshall's facilities and programs, be friendly and approachable," Wolfe said.

Wolfe said a tour guide is instrumental in the

See GUIDE | Page 5

Relay FOR LIFE

Event celebrates cancer survivors



Debbie Ratliff, seven-year cancer survivor, leads the first lap of the Relay for Life near Buskirk Field on the Marshall University campus Friday in Huntington. MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON

Dinner and a show



MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON
Members of the band Mountain Station play a set during late night at Towers Marketplace on Tuesday.

Spring practice continues with Friday scrimmage



'Bee' Cautious

Bees take over tree on Marshall campus



MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON
Bees populate a tree near Haymaker Hall on the Marshall University campus.



MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON

ABOVE: Head football coach Doc Holliday addresses the Thundering Herd football team prior to the squad's scrimmage Friday. **RIGHT:** Marshall freshman wide receiver Dameon Garrett leaps for a catch during a drill prior to the scrimmage.



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OPINION

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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.

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GUEST EDITORIAL BY KELSEY THOMAS, LIFE! EDITOR

Redefining beauty, W.Va. needs to take a stand against tanning

In February, a bill to ban “children” from indoor tanning in the state of West Virginia moved one step closer to becoming a law. The Senate voted 30-4 on a decision to pass the law, which would keep those 18 years of age and younger from being able to tan indoors anywhere in the state. The bill is currently moving through the House of Delegates, but many states have already passed limitations on the use of tanning beds for minors. According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, California is currently the only state that bans usage for those 18 years and younger though, at least 31 states place some sort of limitation on usage by minors. For example, many states have ruled out the use of such facilities for those 14 years of age and younger, while others only allow usage with parental consent.

Whether someone is tanning several times a week or simply trying to get that “healthy glow” for prom, the risk for cancer increases with each use. According to the National Cancer Institute, those who use tanning beds more than once a month are 55 percent more likely to develop melanoma. That’s all it takes. Women and teenage girls make up a growing number of tanning bed clientele, and the American Academy of Dermatology reports that

melanoma is the second most common cancer in women 20 to 29 years old.

The National Cancer Institute sponsored a study in 2009 in which they hired and trained college-aged girls to pose as 15-year-old, fair-skinned girls who had never used a tanning bed before. Collectively, the girls gathered studied more than 3,600 tanning salons covering all 50 states. The results: Appalling. Regardless of the statistics mentioned earlier, less than 11 percent of the facilities followed the FDA’s recommended exposure schedule of three or fewer sessions the first week. Nearly 71 percent said they would allow a teen to tan all seven days the first week, and many promoted frequent tanning with “unlimited tanning” discount price packages.

When is this sickening trend going to end? And more importantly, when did feeling confident become more important than life itself? The statistics are out there, they’re real and the public has been made acutely aware of the risks, yet tanning beds continue to become more and more popular in today’s society. West Virginia can make a stand by passing this law, hopefully forcing society to rewrite its definition of beauty to something a little less deadly.

COLUMN

MTV's 'Buck Wild' to portray W.Va. in yet another negative way



BY SYDNEY RANSON
THE PARTHENON

While we do not live in a state that is necessarily seen in the media frequently, we sure do live in a state, more often than not, portrayed in a negative way in the media. Between MTV’s “16 and Pregnant” and “Teen Mom,” West Virginia has been made to look like a sad joke. I understand the shows are meant to raise awareness for teenage pregnancy, and they might have done that, but they have also managed to make our state look pitiful. You never see the landscape and natural elements that make our state beautiful, but only trailers and a broken marriage.

Now, MTV has a new

Mountain State show in the making – “Buck Wild.” If it is even possible, “Buck Wild” will surely make the state of West Virginia seem less appealing than “16 and Pregnant” and “Teen Mom” have. The reality show follows recent high school graduates in rural West Virginia, as they take part in activities that make it seem as though our state has absolutely nothing to offer. The young adults are shown squirrel hunting, mud racing and rope swinging.

These might seem like normal everyday pastimes to West Virginia natives, but to people outside of our region, we are going to look like nothing more than uneducated hillbillies. I don’t know about you, but this show is not something that is going to make me proud to live in West Virginia.

It isn’t true that these are the only things to do in our state but, just as MTV has done many times before, they will edit the show as they please. I could be wrong, but I cannot help to predict that “Buck Wild” will portray West Virginia as anything but wild and wonderful.

“I cannot help to predict that ‘Buck Wild’ will portray West Virginia as anything but wild and wonderful.”
— Sydney Ranson

COLUMN

Instagram instigating instability

BY KAYLA OLIVER
DAILY TEXAN, U. TEXAS
VIA UWIRE

I can see it now: The camera winds slowly up a trendy Santa Barbara street before focusing on a slightly aged Jesse Eisenberg as he sips a latte in a locally-owned coffee shop. He adjusts his thick-rimmed, lens-less glasses and cocks his fedora at an appropriately haphazard angle, gazing expectantly at the door. In walks Instagram CEO Kevin Systrom — played perhaps by Joseph Gordon-Levitt — and the dramatic theme music begins to play. Bathed in the pleasant yellow glow of Instagram’s “Earlybird” filter, negotiations begin. Once again, we witness Internet history in the making.

OK, so maybe Facebook’s \$1-billion purchase of the photo sharing application Instagram isn’t quite intriguing enough to inspire “The Social Network 2,” and maybe the acquisition doesn’t indicate Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg’s transformation into a sepia-filtering hipster. Instead, it seems that the truth behind the massive purchase is much more pragmatic and worrisome.

The staggering figure Facebook paid for Instagram, a startup with no revenue to speak of and a total of 13 employees, may indicate an impending tech bubble burst. When a

commodity’s popularity — its “cool factor,” if you will — causes consumers to drive its price drastically above any realistic valuation, a crash is inevitable.

Facebook itself provides additional reason for concern over a bubble burst. As the company prepares to go public, The New York Times reports it will be valued around \$100 billion, a number most analysts find exorbitant. Few would argue against the brilliance of Facebook’s concept and business plan, but the highest estimates of its 2011 revenue hover around \$4 billion, according to Bloomberg. This level of overvaluation is clearly unsustainable and, once the company’s finances go public, threatens to scare away investors.

The billion-dollar Instagram purchase also points to a monopolistic mindset possibly taking hold at Facebook, whereby the company aims to buy up all potential competitors before they can do any lasting damage. Of course, Facebook has the innovators and resources to produce an application similar to Instagram, but there is little reason to innovate when you can simply purchase.

Of course, the market bubble in which social networking sites and applications are currently encapsulated enables this form of financial bullying. Facebook users should not be surprised to see new options for

photo filters such as the ultra-saturated “Lomo-fi” or nostalgic “1977,” but once Instagram’s “cool” wears off, Facebook will be forced to acquire the next networking fad or lose some of its own popularity.

Perhaps the most troublesome aspect of Facebook’s financial domination is its discouragement of competition. Photo startups such as Instagram can hope to be purchased by Facebook because they offer a valuable addition to its services, but alternative social networking sites such as Google+ or Wavii seem unable to step outside its looming shadow. Whether they are impeded by a lack of funds or a lack of name recognition, competitors stand little chance against Facebook, at least until this latest tech bubble bursts. It is difficult to estimate Facebook’s staying power — it has certainly defied the bleak examples set by its forebears Friendster and Myspace — but a dramatic drop in investor confidence could set the stage for competitors to challenge the networking behemoth.

Until Facebook goes public and makes it plans regarding Instagram explicit, observers can do little but speculate. While this particular purchase may not motivate a film sequel, the fall of Facebook, whether dramatic or gradual, is sure to captivate and inspire generations of tech innovators to come.

ONLINE

What are your plans after graduation?

- I’m taking a job in my field.
- I’m moving back in with my parents.
- I’m going to graduate school.
- I’m doing an internship so I can maybe get a job in my field.
- I am directionless, currently.

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BENEFIT LUNCH FOR

Student organizes event to help two Marshall professors

Luke Davis

THE PARTHENON

A benefit lunch was conducted Sunday on campus to help George Davis and Jamie Warner, two professors in the political science department, raise monetary donations to assist with the treatment of their son, Luke Davis, who has been diagnosed with Lymphoblastic Leukemia, fast moving

cancer of the blood.

The event was organized by Ashley Clark, a junior political science major from Ona, W.Va., who personally knew Warner through working with her and her husband in the political science department.

Clark said she thought the event went really well.

"I think it went really well and exceeded everyone's

expectations from when we started planning the event," Clark said. "There were about 100 people in attendance."

Warner, who attended the event in honor of the family, said she was so thankful for the work to host the event.

"I know how busy you all are at the end of the semester and how precious your time is," Warner said. "I also

know that something like this isn't easy to pull off and you've done it so gracefully. Thank you so much."

There will be another benefit to assist with the cost of treatment April 28 at Colonial Lanes. The funds raised will be split between treatment for Luke Davis, and the VA's Homeless Veterans Resource Center in Huntington.

Researchers see connections between Facebook and narcissism

BY DREW OROS

DAILY COLLEGIAN, PENN STATE U. VIA UWIRE

The amount of likes on a Facebook status or the number of comments and uploads of pictures may be an indication of narcissism, according to a recent study.

A study conducted by Dr. Christopher Carpenter, assistant professor of communication at Western Illinois U., tested 294 participants whose ages ranged between 18 and 65. The volunteers participated in an

online survey that asked them questions about Facebook use, according to the study.

But, Carpenter said Facebook does not cause users to become narcissists.

Narcissism is a trait people genetically inherit, and Facebook gives those who share this trait a platform to interact, he said.

According to the study, traits of narcissism include a sense of self-importance or uniqueness, an inability to tolerate criticism, an expectation of special favors without reciprocation and greater leadership ability.

Narcissists on Facebook may leave negative comments that can harm interpersonal relationships, according to the study. Carpenter said narcissists who participate in this behavior often do not know the implications of their actions.

"The purpose of the study was to find the correlation and the patterns of narcissism on Facebook," S. Shyam Sundar said.

Facebook and Twitter allow users to be the masters of their own domain, Sundar said. If they feel like the "rock star" of their

personal page, it can give them a sense of self-importance, he said.

But he said this feeling of importance does not constitute narcissism in everyone. Facebook may give someone who is an introvert the ability to express himself or herself online, he said.

Vanessa Foster said people who constantly change their profile picture may be trying to draw attention to themselves. They may be trying to draw positive comments to boost self-confidence, she said.

Informatics study looks at why tweets go viral

BY KIRSTEN CLARK

INDIANA U. VIA UWIRE

After studying 120 million re-tweets in a year's time, a team from the Indiana U. School of Informatics and Computing found that whether a tweet goes viral doesn't necessarily depend on its message or the user who posted it.

Instead, the study shows it has more to do with the fact that Twitter users have limited attention to devote to a massive amount of information transmitted daily on the Twitter network.

The 2012 study behind the information, "Competition Among Memes in a World with Limited Attention," was conducted by third-year doctoral student Lilian Weng, along with informatics professors Alessandro Flammini, Alessandro Vespignani and Filippo Menczer.

The study, Weng said, is the first to scientifically show how social network users' attention spans affect popularity of posts.

Weng said a tweet's survival can be measured in the number of times the post is re-tweeted and does not necessarily depend on the post's message.

She said two hashtags grouping tweets about singer Justin Bieber illustrate her point.

"#BieberFact and #Bieberthing — they both exist and are about the same object," she said. "They try to represent the same thing, but one of them is extremely popular, and the other was re-tweeted less than 15 times."

According to the report, factors like the tweet's exposure to media and its relation to world events can affect the popularity and longevity of posts.

Competition in the Twitter world works in a similar way to competition in nature, she said, where memes are like species fighting for limited space in users' memories.

"In the grand scheme of things, Weng said, most tweets don't go viral.

Twitter users looking to craft a viral tweet might not find the secret in the new study, however.

"In our paper, we studied the heterogeneity of meme popularity at a very aggregated, average level," Weng said.

"But if you look at individual cases, it's very hard to predict whether it will be successful. Sometimes it's just luck."

GRADUATION

Continued from Page 1

"We have just gotten big enough that the time has come for us to follow that model."

Roberta Ferguson, registrar, said the change is due in large part to the increase of doctoral candidates. The new

doctorate degree of management practice in nurse anesthesia accounts for 20-25 graduates alone. Doctoral graduations include an additional practice, which lengthens the ceremony.

"We've added new doctoral degree programs," Ferguson said. "Doctoral candidates are hooded at commencement, which means advisers

put on the student's academic hood on stage. It's part of the ceremony and because the number of these graduates increased, the ceremony was lasting three hours."

With the split, both the morning and afternoon sessions are slated to last two hours.

Ferguson said this is the perfect time for a change

because graduate programs will continue to grow. Doctoral degrees in the areas of physical therapy and pharmacy will be introduced next year. Both programs take three years to complete, meaning graduation numbers will increase again in three years.

Ferguson said for the first time in recent memory, there

will be no commencement speaker or student speeches this year in attempt to better honor and recognize the graduates.

"In order to put all of the emphasis on the graduates, we don't have a commencement speaker this year," Ferguson said. "Dr. Kopp (Stephen Kopp, president of Marshall) will deliver brief

remarks to the graduates and their families. Hopefully, it will put more attention on the graduates."

According to Ferguson, approximately 600 students are walking in the associate and bachelor ceremony, while approximately 200 will participate in the graduate and doctoral graduation.

Brittane Barton can be

ASSAULT

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housed in the Bureau of Justice Statistics, which is part of the Department of Justice. They randomly select thousands of households every year, and they gather information from them.

Many victims will never

report to the police that they have been sexually assaulted in their lifetime. The victims feel that the criminal justice system will not adequately protect them or prosecute the person who assaulted them.

"They also feel that when they are going through a criminal prosecution that

they are going through their rape a second time," Brown said.

Promptly reporting to the police that have been sexually assaulted has a much better outcome than waiting days, weeks, or even months before reporting it. If the victim does wait until they report it, the

assault will be looked into with great suspicion.

"No matter how anyone views sexual assault, it is a crime that has both lasting physically and emotionally consequences," Brown said.

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HARRELL

Continued from Page 1

when Ray was running again," Kopp said. "Then when he ran unopposed, he won by a landslide. I was also excited because it allowed for some continuity between years with

the Student Government Association."

Also in attendance at the event were Stephen Hensley, dean of students and Lisa Martin, director for the Office of Judicial Affairs.

Harrell and Smith's first meeting with the new SGA will take place April 24.

KONY

Continued from Page 1

in Huntington, which can lead to the surrounding areas and go from there."

The group then went out to post fliers around the park and Pullman Square and talk to passerbys about the campaign and how they can help.

The KONY 2012 campaign

started with a video released by Invisible Children, Inc. in early March. The campaign is aimed at capturing Joseph Kony by the end of the year.

"It definitely all started with the video," said public relations major and co-organizer of the event Chelsie Shuldies. "I know, for me, after I watched the video I logged online to the website

to get ideas of what was expected for Cover the Night."

Joseph Kony is the leader of the Lord's Resistance Army, a militant group operating in east central Africa. The group has been accused of numerous human rights violations, and has displaced nearly two million people in central Africa since the late 1980s.

Kony has kidnapped

more than 30,000 children and used the males as soldiers and the females as sex slaves. In 2005, the International Criminal Court issued an arrest warrant for Kony's arrest for war crimes and human rights violations — but he has yet to be captured.

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GUIDE

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execution of Marshall's open house program, Green and White Day and assisting with everything from registration to guiding groups through

their rotations.

"Our tour guides help the university achieve its enrollment goals while helping prospective students during a pivotal and difficult life decision," Wolfe said. To those wanting to

apply, resume building and further connections with Marshall students might be some of the perks to consider when deciding to become a tour guide.

Wolfe said being a tour guide is a way to pay

forward the benefits a student is receiving from their Marshall education.

"They truly make a difference to the Marshall community," Wolfe said.

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AUTISM

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at an early age.

"School has changed, and yet when the special needs children are in a regular classroom it allows the quote "the normal child" to understand them better," said Eula Robinson, first grade teacher at Buffalo Elementary School.

In a classroom of 24 students, 14 children in the class have some form of

developmental disorder, which is becoming more common in the public school classroom.

Robinson, teacher for 45 years, said this has been her hardest year because of the amount of stress endured in getting each child on the level that they need to be on.

Robinson said she always explains to her first grade class that some children are special in different ways, but they need to show kindness

to everyone.

"I tell my students that we did not all learn to walk at the same time when we were babies, and we didn't all get our teeth at the same time. We don't lose our teeth at the same time so we do not have to learn to read at the same time. Sometimes, math is hard for some people, and it is easy for some people. We have to help each other, and everyone will do it when they are suppose to do it,"

Robinson said.

The rates of autism have been proved to only increase in the past decade, and more children are forced to cooperate with the effects every single day.

Educating the public on the disorder is a learning process, one in which the community will have to face together.

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MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2012 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

ROTC's military ball commemorates school year

BY REBECCA STEPHENS
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University ROTC commemorated the school year with its annual military ball Friday in the John Marshall room in the Memorial Student Center.

Events for the ball included dinner, a keynote speaker and award presentations, as well as a slideshow of photos and video skits performed by the cadets.

Current students and cadre of the ROTC program attended the ball, but alumni were also welcomed to join.

Second Lt. John Kmetz graduated from Marshall last year and currently works for the 2nd Brigade Special Troops Battalion at Fort Campbell, Ky.

Kmetz said he attended the ball to enjoy an evening with the cadets and cadre he knew during his time with Marshall's ROTC program.

"I met a lot of people here, a lot of good friends, met a lot of good people and had a lot of fun with it," Kmetz said.



Marshall University's ROTC celebrated the year at its annual military ball Friday in the John Marshall Room. Students and cadre of the program were in attendance, as well as alumni.

TYLER KES | THE PARTHENON

Cadet Geoffry Mitchell, senior chemical engineering major from Wheeling, W.Va., attended the ball for the fourth and final time as an ROTC cadet.

Mitchell said he gained leadership, social and time management skills because

of his involvement with the ROTC. He said ROTC is an overall awesome experience.

"I've had fun over the four years," Mitchell said. "It's kind of sad that I have to leave, but I'm excited to move on to my career."

Master Sgt. Derek Heavener, senior military instructor, said although he's only been at Marshall for eight months, he thinks the ROTC had a great year.

"I think there's been a lot of growing and a lot of learning on everybody's

part to include my own," Heavener said.

The keynote speaker for the evening was Col. Kelly Knitter.

Heavener said Knitter's son, Thomas Knitter, is a freshman with the ROTC's program, and he proposed

the idea for his mother to speak at the event.

Knitter said it was important for the ROTC to always remember that their words, actions and character matter as they represent the army.

"All I expect is for you to do your best," Knitter said.

Knitter said as long as the cadets strive to do their best, the unit cannot fail.

During the awards presentation, Mitchell received the National Defense Committee ROTC medal and certificate, which was presented to him by members of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

The ROTC honored Sgt. 1st Class Drake Brownlee with a plaque as he is leaving Marshall's ROTC program in the summer to transition back to the front lines.

Also honored was Chong Kim, dean of the college of business. The ROTC presented him with a saber to thank him for his support of the program throughout the years and to wish him well in his retirement.

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Love story finishes Marshall Theatre Alliance 2011-2012 season

BY KEYAIRA MCCAULEY
THE PARTHENON

Marshall Theatre Alliance brought a little romance to Huntington with "Pride and Prejudice," at 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday at the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.

De'Metrius Thompson, of Huntington, said the play showed a very interesting view on love and the things done, as far as dating goes, in that time period.

According to the Marshall University College of Fine Arts website, all the wit and romance of Jane Austen's classic story come to life in a fast-paced and engaging new adaptation.

Nathan Mohebbi, senior theatre major at Marshall, played the role of Mr. Darcy and said this was actually the hardest show he's ever had to do as an actor.

"The movement is so different than the way we move today," Mohebbi said. "We talk with our hands, and back then, they didn't do that so you have to do a lot

of work with your voice and your body. I actually did shows in a British dialect when I was a little kid, so we just stuck with it."

"Pride and Prejudice" is set in and around Hertfordshire, England in 1813 — the year when the novel was first published. The original version of the novel was written in 1796-1797 and entitled "First Impressions."

Ethan Treutle, senior theatre major at Marshall, played the role of Mr. Bennett and said he has been at Marshall for three years and they've never had a turnout this big for the shows.

"This season has been great for student turnout," Treutle said. "The quality of the shows has gone up, word has gotten out, and now people are flocking to them."

Mohebbi said he thinks the play is a good support for the arts in the community.

"I think art is a very empowering element of life," Mohebbi said. "For people to get together and come see a show together, it's unifying for all majors to come and

see shows like this."

Treutle said students should show support for other students because "we are all Marshall."

"We use 'we are Marshall' to celebrate the football team, we use 'we are Marshall' to celebrate the basketball team and the theatre is 'we are Marshall' as well," Treutle said. "When you're at Marshall, you're part of the Herd, and no part is more important than the other."

Thompson is a former football player for The Herd. He said he also thinks students should support the arts more.

"I think here at Marshall, we're a big school on sports, but Marshall has a really great performing arts program, and I think students should really take advantage of that while they're here," Thompson said. "There's a lot out there that the school has to offer."

"Pride and Prejudice" is the last show for the Marshall Theatre Alliance's 2011-2012 season.

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ARE YOU A GRADUATING SENIOR?

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