

11-1-2012

The Parthenon, November 1, 2012

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Recommended Citation

Arrington, Shane, "The Parthenon, November 1, 2012" (2012). *The Parthenon*. Paper 142.
<http://mds.marshall.edu/parthenon/142>

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THE PARTHENON

VOL. 116 NO. 43 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Obama, Christie tour N.J. coast in Sandy's aftermath

By **MOLLY HENNESSY-FISKE, BRIAN BENNETT and SCOTT GOLD**
LOS ANGELES TIMES (MCT)

SEA BRIGHT, N.J. — President Barack Obama and New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, an unlikely pair thrust together by a national crisis, toured ravaged stretches of the coast on Wednesday. The sun came out, the stock exchange reopened and the electricity crisis ebbed — but the rolls of the dead rose, and some areas were still coming to grips with

Sandy's staggering destruction.

In pockets of New Jersey, in particular, the storm's scope was just becoming clear.

Half of Hoboken, N.J., birthplace of baseball and Frank Sinatra, was covered with a stew of river water, sewage and oil. Roughly 20,000 people were stranded in the flood but warned to stay put because of live wires. In little Union Beach, where a flood surge pulverized some houses, the principal of the local elementary school said it couldn't reopen for three weeks.

Some small beachfront communities instituted new evacuation orders after gas leaks erupted amid the wreckage. In Sea Bright, a barrier-beach borough of 1,800 people south of Coney Island, officials labored to shut down gas lines.

"If we had a fire now, it would just burn," said Sea Bright's emergency management coordinator, Danny Drogin. "All it takes is

Costliest disasters

Preliminary estimates suggest that superstorm Sandy could cost as much as \$50 billion in property damages and lost business, putting it on track to be among the most expensive disasters.

U.S. disasters	Global disasters
Overall losses since 1980, by event, in billions	Overall losses since 1980, by event, in billions
Hurricane Katrina (2005) \$125	Tohoku, Japan, quake (2011) \$200+
Northridge, Calif., quake (1994) 44	Hurricane Katrina, U.S., (2005) 125
Hurricane Ike* (2008) 27	Kobe, Japan, quake (1995) 100
Hurricane Andrew (1992) 27	Sichuan, China, quake (2008) 85
Hurricane Rita (2005) 16	Northridge, Calif., quake (1994) 44
Hurricane Wilma (2005) 16	Hurricane Ike** (2008) 38
Hurricane Charley (2004) 15	China floods (2008) 31
Hurricane Ivan (2004) 14	Conception, Chile, quake (2010) 30
Southeast tornadoes (2011) 10	Honshu, Japan, quake (2004) 28
Hurricane Irene (2011) 10	Hurricane Andrew, U.S., (2002) 27
10	27

*U.S. losses only
Source: U.S. National Climatic Data Center, Insurance Information Institute
Graphic: Pat Carr © 2012 MCT

See SANDY | Page 5

MU Multicultural Affairs offering new scholarship

By **TESSA WOOTEN**
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's Division of Multicultural Affairs is recruiting for a new scholarship program for minority students who are interested in receiving a doctoral degree.

The program is called the Chancellor's Scholars Program and begins fall 2013.

Mary Clark is the program coordinator for the Division of Multicultural Affairs and said it's important to make sure minorities are represented in an advanced degree field.

"One of the challenges is we don't have many doc students of color and it's a challenge not only in West Virginia, but across the nation," Clark said. "We need passionate educators and we don't have many people of color in those positions."

Because this is a new program to Marshall, there are only two scholarships available. Clark said the scholarships are a large stipend that covers tuition as well as money for mentoring and research.

The four programs that are covered by the Chancellor's Scholar Program are biomedical sciences, education, management practice and nurse anesthesia and psychology.

Clark said students really need to pay attention to the specific application criteria for their program because it is key for them to be first accepted into the program, then seek out the Chancellor's Scholars.

"Students can simultaneously sign up for the Chancellor's Scholars as well, but the best and easiest thing to do is to get admitted into their program first, then apply," Clark said.

Students can apply through their specific graduate department, and once they have been accepted the Division of Multicultural Affairs will get their information. Students then go through a short process in which the heads of the program identify and compare applicants and then choose who will be the Chancellor Scholars.

See SCHOLARSHIP | Page 5



Marshall students explore opportunities at Volunteer Fair

By **SUZANN AL-QAWASMI**
THE PARTHENON

Students who were interested in learning about community service opportunities were in luck Wednesday as Marshall University hosted its annual Volunteer Fair.

Representatives from 12 local organizations met with students in the lobby of Memorial Student Center to tell students about how they can get involved in the community.

Elizabeth Sheets, Coordinator of Community Engagement, said she thinks the Volunteer Fair is a great opportunity for both students at Marshall and the organizations that participate. She said she plans the event every year because she thinks it is important that students know that there is a need for their help.



SUZANN AL-QAWASMI | THE PARTHENON
TOP: Julitha Braggs, far left, sophomore social work major, and Josef Johnson, left, junior accounting major, talk to representatives from Big Brothers Big Sisters during Marshall University's Volunteer Fair on Wednesday.
BOTTOM: Students and faculty speak with representatives from area organizations during Marshall's Volunteer Fair.

See VOLUNTEER | Page 5

Marshall Revolution to host video game tournament Friday

By **SAMUEL SPECIALE**
THE PARTHENON

Marshall Revolution will play host to Brawl-a-thon this Friday in the Campus Christian Center from 7 p.m. until 3 a.m.

The event's namesake comes from the video game Super Smash Brothers: Brawl. The evening will be centered on Brawl and other video game tournaments.

Clay Thacker, a Revolution student who is planning the event, said Revolution does Brawl-a-thon to have a good time with students on campus.

"We do Brawl-a-thon so we can build relationships around campus," Thacker, a sophomore athletic training major, said. "We want to get more involved with people who normally wouldn't come to Revolution."

Thacker said when people arrive they can sign up for a variety of different tournaments.

"Brawl-a-thon is a video game tournament where people can come in and have a good time with other gamers," Thacker said.

Jonathan Pearson, a Revolution student who is also planning the event, said Brawl-a-thon is a night of video games, food and community and that Revolution seeks to reach out to students through those means.

"Brawl-a-thon is a ministry and we don't hide that," Pearson, a sophomore nursing

See TOURNEY | Page 5

National Guard troops mobilized for Sandy response

By **DAVID S. CLOUD**
TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU (MCT)

WASHINGTON — More than 10,000 National Guard troops in 13 states have been mobilized to assist in the response to Hurricane Sandy, including more than 2,200 who are assisting with recovery efforts in New York, the Pentagon said Wednesday.

Eric Durr, a spokesman for New York's Division of Military and Naval Affairs, said that 650 National Guard soldiers and air personnel are deployed on Long Island, while another 400 are in New York City, with another 400 on the way.



The Guard is using Humvees and trucks to clear debris, rescue stranded people and to help transport local officials in flooded areas.

"They're taking cops and fireman around in Humvees helping to rescue people," Durr said.

Thirty guard personnel are helping to lug fuel to the 13th

A portion of Harvey Cedars, on the bay side of Long Beach Island on the New Jersey shore, is under water, Tuesday after Hurricane Sandy blew across the New Jersey barrier islands.

CLEM MURRAY/PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER | MCT

floor of Bellevue Hospital in Manhattan, where the facility's emergency generators are located, he said.

Ten Black Hawk helicopters and other aircraft are being used for aerial surveillance and are assisting local first responders, he said.

Two are being used to fly

personnel from the Federal Emergency Management Agency over affected areas to conduct aerial assessments and one is ferrying New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, Durr said.

An additional 350 troops from southern and western parts of the state are on their way to Camp Smith in Westchester County, 30 miles from New York City, which is serving as a staging center.

In hard-hit New Jersey, 2,070 Guard troops are assisting in the recovery effort, he said, and another 2,100 have been activated in Pennsylvania.

NEWS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2012 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Marshall students assisting W.Va. environmental agency

By JEREMY BROWN
THE PARTHENON

Students within Marshall University's geography department has been working with The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection since December to have student interns transfer paper mine maps to a Geographic Information Systems digital mapping database format.

As part of the project students will look at digital copies of maps scanned by WVDEP and align them with the surface of the earth in a process called georeferencing. Once the maps have been aligned students can determine the mining activity in the areas.

"They attribute the data so the maps show this particular polygon has already been mined or this particular polygon is being mined," James Leonard, geography professor, said.

Leonard said the project is important for mining in the region because the more accurate digital maps will help mining companies know the exact location of underground miners from other companies.

This renewed contract, which provides \$129,000 in funding from WVDEP, will last until December 2013. The money for this project will benefit student employees.

"All the money we transfer from the WVDEP goes into the



students' salaries," Leonard said.

Leonard said students are limited to a 20-hour workweek. Participants in the project will earn around \$15 an hour for their work. They can also earn college internship credits.

Many of the student interns on the project are geography majors, but Leonard said not all participants are majoring in geography. Still, he

recommends those interested in working on this project have taken some geography classes and are familiar with GIS databases.

Originally the contract called for 10 students, but Leonard said only seven are currently working on the project and the department is considering adding a few more people.

Overall, Leonard said he is excited about the renewed project. With the success it has already had and the potential success with the renewed contract Leonard sees similar opportunities for the university in the future.

Jeremy Brown can be contacted at brown654@marshall.edu.

U.S. is nearing its debt ceiling again, Treasury Department warns

By JIM PUZZANGHERA
LOS ANGELES TIMES (MCT)

WASHINGTON — The nation's debt ceiling once again looms as an economic threat.

The Treasury Department said Wednesday that the U.S. probably will hit its \$16.4 trillion borrowing limit by the end of the year, at the same time that Congress will be grappling with the automatic tax increases and large government spending cuts scheduled to kick in Jan. 1.

"It adds to the cauldron of the dark brew," Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics, said of the fast-approaching debt limit. "That makes the disaster more disastrous."

The Congressional Budget Office and most economists predict another recession in 2013 if the confluence of tax increases and spending reductions known as the fiscal cliff takes place.

And straying too close to the debt limit — not to mention hitting it — probably would lead to a second downgrade of the U.S. credit rating. In mid-2011, a bitter standoff over the issue led to the first credit revision.

The Treasury said Wednesday it could take "extraordinary measures" to juggle the nation's finances to give Congress and the White

House more time to work on a debt-limit increase. But even those steps — essentially a series of accounting maneuvers — would buy only into early 2013 before the government faced a possible default.

As of Tuesday, the U.S. debt was \$16.165 trillion.

"I think that, as we saw last summer (2011), it's important that the debt limit is raised in a timely manner, but really that's in Congress' hands," said Matthew Rutherford, assistant Treasury secretary for financial markets.

It was the agreement then to boost the limit that created the \$1.2 trillion in automatic spending cuts that are part of the fiscal cliff. The other part is the expiration of the George W. Bush-era tax cuts.

Lawmakers and President Barack Obama will try to deal with the fiscal cliff after next week's elections. The debt limit will probably be addressed then as well, although it has not yet been the focus of Democrats or Republicans.

House Speaker John A. Boehner, R-Ohio, said in May that he had a simple principle for raising the debt limit — any increase must be offset "by spending cuts and reforms that exceed the amount of the debt limit increase."

See DEBT CEILING | Page 5



PHOTOS BY HECTOR GABINO/EL NUEVO HERALD | MCT DIRECT

TOP: Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney at a campaign event at the University of Miami on Wednesday, in Coral Gables, Florida. LEFT: Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., speaks at the rally featuring Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney on Wednesday, in Fla.

Romney keeps positive tone on Fla. campaign trip

By MARC CAPUTO
THE MIAMI HERALD (MCT)

MIAMI — Mitt Romney campaigned Wednesday in Miami and Tampa where he delivered his standard campaign speech, with two notable exceptions.

Romney called on people to aid the survivors of Hurricane Sandy in the Northeast.

"This is quite a time for the country, as you know," Romney said in both Tampa and Miami. "We're going through trauma in a major part of the country. ... It's interesting to see how people come together in circumstances like this."

Romney's toned-down approach

underscores the difficulties of criticizing the nation's commander in chief after a disaster.

But, with Vice President Joe Biden sharply criticizing Romney and running mate Paul Ryan on a campaign stop in Sarasota, the chances are that the Republican campaign won't stay too positive for too long.

Romney's positive tone also indicates his status in Florida: He's ahead, albeit narrowly, according to numerous polls. Add in absentee-ballot and early-vote numbers, and the race is as close as ever.

With unemployment and home-foreclosure rates higher than the national average, Florida has been receptive to Romney's

promise to create more jobs. While avoiding Obama by name, Romney still pointed out the high number of people on food stamps, anemic job growth, and the low number of new-business startups.

As part of his Sandy-oriented stump speech, Romney drew a connection between the aftermath of the storm and the tight presidential contest.

Obama has not campaigned since Monday and will tour storm damage in New Jersey on Thursday. Biden did campaign at a noontime rally in Sarasota, and former President Bill Clinton is campaigning on Obama's behalf.

2012 campaign set to cost a record \$6 billion

By MATEA GOLD
TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU (MCT)

WASHINGTON — Accelerating spending by outside groups in the final weeks of the 2012 campaign will drive total spending on federal elections this cycle to a record \$6 billion, according to a new analysis by the nonpartisan research group Center for Responsive Politics.

That tops the record set in 2008 by \$700 million, making this campaign the most expensive in U.S. history.

The major force behind the spending: hundreds of super PACs and advocacy groups, which proliferated after a series of federal court rulings in 2010 lifted the ban on corporate political activity and permitted wealthy donors to pool unlimited sums of money for election spending.

"We are in an entirely new environment," said Sheila Krumholz, the group's executive director.

As of Wednesday afternoon, outside groups had reported spending more than \$892 million on TV ads and other forms of voter contact.

In all, CRP estimates that expenditures by outside groups will reach more than \$970 million this election. That's more than three times the previous record of \$301 million in 2008.

And the total does not include tens of millions of dollars spent by tax-exempt advocacy group on issue ads and other forms of voter outreach that do not have to be reported to the Federal Election Commission. Those organizations also do not have to report the sources of their funds, and their stepped-up influence this year has triggered calls for more transparency.

"It is confounding, because we have no idea how much we're really seeing," Krumholz said. "We know it's some part

of the iceberg. This is going to be a puzzle we put together over weeks and months to come."

More than half of the money spent by outside groups has gone to efforts to influence the presidential race — spending that has rapidly picked up as Election Day approaches. In early September, super PACs and advocacy groups spent \$19 million a week on their presidential efforts. By week of Oct. 21, they were up to \$70 million a week.

Republican challenger Mitt Romney has largely been the beneficiary of the involvement of outside groups, with more than three-quarters of the money spent on his behalf.

Overall, spending on this year's presidential campaign is expected to be \$2.6 billion, down slightly from \$2.8 billion in 2008, when both parties had contested primaries.

Spring 2013 Registration Schedule



- Nov. 5**
Seniors (90 hours completed as of Aug. 27)
- Nov. 7**
Juniors (58 hours completed as of Aug. 27)
- Nov. 8-9, 12**
Sophomores (26 hours completed as of Aug. 27)
- Nov. 13-16**
Freshmen

Students can register for classes by logging into MyMu and clicking on the MILO tab. From there, click on the Student tab and then click on Registration. The course reference numbers (CRN) are needed for a quick registration process.

POLICE BLOTTER

The following was compiled from Marshall University Police Department reports.

By BISHOP NASH
THE PARTHENON

DINING HALL ALTERCATION

Marshall police were approached Friday by a Harless Dining Hall employee who claimed that he had been choked by another employee during an on-the-job altercation. The incident occurred around 12:58 p.m. in the dish room when the fight broke out resulting in the suspect being choked for five to ten seconds. According to MUPD, warrants have been filed with the Cabell County Magistrate regarding the matter and the university has taken no disciplinary actions.

STOLEN PLAYSTATION 3

On Saturday at around 6:45 p.m., a victim reported that his Playstation 3 setup had been stolen from his shared suite area in Gibson Hall. Stolen with the system were three controllers, the power adapter and one game. Official reports allege that those responsible likely gained entry through an open door. There are currently no suspects.

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EAST DIVISION	CUSA		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
UCF	4	0	6	2
EAST CAROLINA	4	1	5	4
MARSHALL	2	2	3	5
MEMPHIS	1	3	1	7
UAB	0	4	1	7
SOUTHERN MISS	0	4	0	8

SPORTS

	CUSA		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
TULSA	5	0	7	1
SMU	3	1	4	4
HOUSTON	3	1	4	4
TULANE	2	2	2	6
RICE	1	4	3	6
UTEP	1	4	2	7



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2012 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Senegal native ping for The Herd

By **KARA KUCIN**
THE PARTHENON

One of the Herd's basketball players competes a long way from home. Junior center Yous Mbao is from Senegal, Africa. It takes him over 18 hours to travel from his hometown to Huntington.

Mbao left his home country when he was 14-years-old to live in other parts of the world to play basketball. Mbao lived in Germany for a year, then France and Spain before he came to the United States to live in California where he attended a prep school. After attending prep school he went to play collegiate basketball at Marquette University for a year. Mbao then got in contact with Marshall University and transferred here to being playing his sophomore year.

Mbao said when he first left his country it was extremely difficult to get used to being so far away from his family and friends.

"It was hard for me and my family to adjust to what I was doing over here, but now they

are more used to it and are happy for me," Mbao said.

The food and clothing are a lot different in the United States than his hometown in Senegal. There is no such thing as fast food like McDonald's or Burger King back in his hometown.

"We cook every meal at home as a family," Mbao said.

There is a traditional clothing style which people wear every day and on Fridays they wear a more sophisticated, business like attire. They wear this because they have a special church service that everyone goes to at 2 p.m.

Mbao has not seen his parents or any of his family since he moved to the United States, which was over four years ago.

"It's been hard for me not being able to see them at all, not even during holidays but I get to talk to them everyday on the phone which helps," Mbao said.

Mbao has a special talent that most people here cannot say they have. He speaks five languages: Wolof, French, Spanish, Arabic and English.

Some of Mbao's favorite things in the U.S.:

Food: Subway

Drink: Hi-C

Television show: Prison Break

Movie: Coming to America

Singer: Wiz Khalifa

City: Miami, Fla.

When Mbao is in the United States he speaks mainly English but sometimes finds people who he can speak to in French or Spanish.

Unlike a lot of international students the language was something that Mbao did not have trouble getting used to.

Mbao said he has had a lot of great experiences in the United States but his favorite was when he went ice fishing in Milwaukee with his friends. His favorite basketball

experience was when the Herd beat Tulsa in the conference tournament.

Mbao is majoring in international business and said he would like to run his own business making African art. He hopes to one day play professional basketball and travel the world.

Mbao and his fellow teammates will begin their season at the Cam Henderson Center on Nov. 1 against Bluefield College at 8 p.m.

Kara Kucin can be contacted at kucin@marshall.edu.

TOP: Mbao attempts to block a shot by West Virginia forward, Kevin Noreen at the Charleston Civic Center on Jan. 18, 2012.

LEFT: Mbao blocks out Tulsa center D.J. Magley at the Conference USA tournament on March 8, 2012.

COURTESY OF HERDZONE

RIGHT: Mbao's hometown, RuPisque, Senegal.

COURTESY OF YOUS MBAO



Herd men's hoops ready for Bluefield College

By **LAKE MOREHOUSE**
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall men's basketball team will take the floor Thursday at 8 p.m. for the first time this season in an exhibition matchup against Bluefield College.

The contest was originally set for Monday evening, but was postponed due to inclement weather as a result of Superstorm Sandy.

The Rams of Bluefield College are an NAIA-1 program based out of Bluefield, Va. and are members of the Mid-South Conference. The Rams finished

19-16 last season and placed third in their conference.

There will be new faces putting on a Marshall jersey come 8 p.m. Thursday. Notable newcomers such as freshman Kareem Canty, transfers D.D. Scarver and Elijah Pittman will all be suiting up in kelly green for the first time of their careers.

Marshall Head Coach Tom Herrion said the postponement was unexpected, but should not affect his team.

"It was unfortunate that we had to postpone it," Herrion said. "Our kids were amped up

to play and now we have to regain that level of enthusiasm, which I'm sure we will."

Returning sophomore guard Chris Martin said he is anxious for the first matchup of the season.

"I'm excited to see the fans back in the Cam Henderson Center," Martin said. "The fans have yet to see the new guys. I know I'm not a new guy, but they didn't see a lot of me last year. I think it's going to be a great time."

Canty, a Harlem, N.Y., native, said he already likes how the team has connected as a unit

and is looking forward to his first collegiate game.

"We're real close and we're bonding," Canty said. "I'm excited to play my first college game and to see the adjustment from high school coming into college."

The Thundering Herd has been chosen by many analysts to contend alongside Memphis for the conference championship this season. Marshall received one vote in the USA Today Coaches Poll, which upped the hoops community excitement even a little more

than it has been.

Martin said the key to success this season will be found on the defensive side of the ball.

"I feel like we have enough people offensively where scoring is going to come," Martin said. "We've gotten a lot of hype. If we take care of that (defense) we can really make some noise and do some big things this year."

Coach Herrion said he is eager to finally see his team in live competition.

"We have a lot of things we want to work on," Herrion said.

"(I'm ready for) the in-game atmosphere, with the officials and the fans, against somebody different."

Marshall's women's team is set to play its exhibition game at 5:30 p.m. against Concord University. The purchasing of one \$5 ticket grants admission into both the women's and men's basketball games.

Tip off for the men's game is set for 8 p.m. at the Cam Henderson Center.

Lake Morehouse can be contacted at morehouse1@marshall.edu.



MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON

The Thundering Herd huddle up as a team during Thundering Herd Madness 2012 inside the Cam Henderson Center on Friday, Oct. 12. Marshall begins its 2012 season with an exhibition against Bluefield College (Va.) Thursday at 8 p.m. The first regular season game for the Herd is Saturday, Nov. 9 at home against Longwood University at 7:30 p.m.

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PHYLLIS KIRTLEY SMITH
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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.

ONLINE POLLS

Who do you think would win a debate, Michelle Obama or Ann Romney?

- Obama
- Romney

The following are the results from the most recent poll question: Who do you think made the best points in the third Presidential Debate?

- Obama 48% - 39 votes
- Romney 52% - 42 votes

Visit marshallparthenon.com to share your opinion.

Editorial

Syria, Iran add superstorms to their arsenal

While the current political climate makes it all too easy to point out the idiocy of people today, anti-America groups in Syria have taken stupidity to a whole new level.

A pro-Assad group has credited secret, advanced weather control technology for the creation of Superstorm Sandy and its destruction of the East Coast.

Wow.

Besides bringing up memories of China and its attempt to control the weather for the Summer Olympics in 2008, this information is wacky enough to make you think the people making this claim have gone completely insane.

And if the fact the Assad regime has been committing genocide is not enough to make the world root for the downfall of that tyrant, knowing his followers believe they have the power to control the weather should be enough to push the undecided over the edge.

Seriously – here is a quote from a pro-Syrian government group Facebook posting:

“Sources confirmed to us that Hurricane Sandy that is slamming the U.S. was set off by highly advanced technologies developed by

the heroic Iranian regime that supports the resistance, with coordination of our resistive Syrian regime.

“This is the punishment for whoever dares to attack Syria’s (Bashar) al-Assad and threaten peace and stability.”

Who knew – wish for the downfall of a murderous tyrant and Syria and Iran, big players in the technology world, and they will send a superstorm your way.

Apparently, America is falling behind in the weather control race ... oh darn.

Seriously – think about this for a second. There are people in the world who believe they can control the weather, due to technology is irrelevant. How is this not a sign that the human race has just gone completely over the deep end? Between those crazies, the people who think President Obama has a to-do list on his nightstand which reads “start war on coal” and the morons who attempt to define rape and marriage, we have proven we are not worthy of being the supposed most intelligent species on the planet.

So watch out – Planet of the Apes could become a reality any day now.

Column

Tutorial in politics

By HENRY CULVYHOUSE
COLUMNIST

It was called the “Frankenstorm.” Hurricane Sandy landed ashore Monday, bringing with it floods, high winds and snow. It closed the New York Stock Exchange, the first time it has done so for weather since 1888. The Big Apple’s subway system received the worst damage it has ever seen in its history. On a more tragic note, it killed 40 people, cut the power for 6.2 million people and destroyed countless coastal towns. For all she did wrong, Hurricane Sandy did something right. In the last leg of a skin-of-your-teeth presidential race, the country’s politicians, so partisan on the campaign, came together.

Both Mitt Romney and President Obama suspended their campaigns in response to the disaster relief. As of this writing, Romney is going back on the campaign trail and has been careful to attack Obama on handling the destruction. He even used a campaign stop on Tuesday in Ohio as a disaster relief event. Obama has taken the time to visit disaster areas, even drawing praise from G.O.P. governor and critic, Chris Christie.

We’ve got Republicans and Democrats coming together, for the sake of the American people’s health and welfare. I’m afraid this might be proof the Mayans are right; these two factions have fought like cats and dogs over every single issue, from jobs to abortion, and they’re working together. The world must be ending on December 21, 2012.

A republic, such as ours, should perform two functions: represent the people and ensure its citizenry can reasonably pursue life, liberty and happiness. Those are the principles we’re founded on, dating back to John Locke, amended by Thomas Jefferson. We’ve forgotten that today and the people are paying the price.

Politics today is a war to see who is right. Democrats will do anything to outmaneuver the Republicans and the Republicans will do anything to undermine the Democrats. No matter what the issue, it’s all about who can get “the win” and who can get elected. The people are left out and are forced to root for a side, like a Cubs fan in the post season.

What Hurricane Sandy showed is our politicians can cut the bickering and pull it together to address a national crisis. Imagine if they did the same for unemployment, the national debt, Iran, global warming, gun control, abortion, gay marriage, marijuana or healthcare? Why I’d say our problems would be solved. Governing ought to be about how to solve a problem, not winning or losing.

That’s not to say there’s room for disagreement. Our country needs dialogue between the right and the left, so they can exchange ideas and let the people decide where the country should go. But this can only work if the right and the left would keep their people, their American brothers and sisters’ interests at heart and agree to meet one another in the middle.

I believe the federal and state response to Hurricane Sandy is a clear demonstration of this political philosophy.

I think we, the American people, need to keep the spirit of these times in their hearts. We missed an opportunity on September 11, 2001, when Republican, Democrat and Independent laid partisan politics aside for the sake of swift, decisive action. Today, we have the opportunity again. Don’t blow it, Hoss.

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BLUNDERGRADS

by phil flickinger (www.blundergrads.com)



Column

Internet trolling has its consequences

By KEVIN COOK
U. HOUSTON VIA UWIRE

The Internet can be a scary place. It gives users the ability to connect effortlessly and anonymously to one another across vast physical distances. As Thomas Friedman said: The world is flat.

While the benefits of bringing together diverse and far-flung people of widely varying interests are obvious, there are some very real and tangible downsides to allowing users unfettered access to one another, wrapped in the warm, snug blanket of anonymity the Internet can provide.

Reddit.com is arguably a microcosm of the Internet, itself. According to the website, Reddit had more than 42 million unique visitors to its content-aggregating site in September. There is much good that comes from gathering people together in such enormous numbers — Reddit’s Secret Santa program, for instance, is the largest in the world with more than 17,000 participants — but it is inevitable and a fact of the human condition that such an enormous and anonymous conglomeration of people will magnify humanity’s worst impulses, too.

Three weeks ago, nobody on the national stage knew who Michael Brutsch was. He was a polite, nondescript application developer for First Cash

Financial Services in Arlington. He went about his job quietly, and no one complained of any improprieties or misbehavior. He was just another quiet face in the crowd, doing his job, chatting idly with co-workers and going home to his family at night.

Brutsch’s Reddit alter ego, Violentacrez, was a different matter altogether. Posting anonymously, Brutsch drew the attention of Anderson Cooper, who devoted a portion of his CNN show, “Anderson Cooper 360,” to condemning one of Brutsch’s creations — a forum on Reddit, commonly referred to as a subreddit, called r/jailbait, that acted as a repository for suggestive photographs of underage girls.

As Violentacrez, Brutsch was an incredibly influential and prolific user and moderator. He was also responsible for the subreddit r/beatwomen, which is unfortunately exactly what it sounds like. For Brutsch, it all started to unravel as the result of r/creepshots, which promoted and displayed compromising photographs of young girls taken without their knowledge or consent.

One notable contributor was a Georgia substitute teacher, who was identified and subsequently fired after students in the suggestive photos he contributed were

recognized and the photos were traced back to him.

Given the amount of attention being paid nationally to the Violentacrez subreddits and their content, it was only a matter of time before Brutsch’s identity became known, though this was apparently lost on him, and he continued to act as though his anonymity was inviolable and absolute.

The bitter end came when Gawker.com writer Adrien Chen identified Brutsch in early October. Brutsch was fired from his job once his extracurricular activities became known, leaving him and his family with no health insurance. His wife is disabled and hasn’t been able to work in more than a year.

This outing sparked an enormous amount of debate and rhetoric about the right to privacy and anonymity on the Internet. While Brutsch is nominally apologetic about his online activities, he also maintains that his privacy was violated and that Chen wronged him.

Brutsch is by no means on the fringe here. There has been an overwhelming wave of free speech-themed defense of Brutsch’s anonymity, and there is no shortage of people outraged about the perceived violation of a sacred right.

But the world is flat, and that goes both ways. With the amazing and world-altering

speed and effectiveness of the Internet in connecting its users, also comes the easy identification of a contributor. Chen didn’t do anything difficult, brave or laudable. He did a little research, took the story and ran with it. He’s not Woodward and Bernstein by any stretch.

Everyone comes out of this story looking worse for it. Brutsch is a sad, unsympathetic character who encouraged and promoted some of the most reprehensible content anywhere on the Internet, and Chen is a sensationalist, yellow journalist who was hardly out for the greater good so much as web hits — precisely the same motivating factor for Brutsch as Violentacrez.

There is no real catharsis. There are bad people everywhere, and they will use all the wondrous and powerful tools decent people use with all the same effectiveness and power. Outing Brutsch may have curbed his activities, but it isn’t a solution.

There really isn’t a solution. Humanity’s darker nature is not going away. The only honorable response is to monitor content they consume and tacitly support or aggressively disapprove of content that violates the rights of others, acknowledging that the good fight will never be definitively won but continuing to fight it nonetheless.

Eurozone unemployment hits record high 11.6 percent

BY HENRY CHU AND LAUREN FRAYER
LOS ANGELES TIMES (MCT)

LONDON — Europe's economic gloom deepened Wednesday on the back of news that unemployment in the 17-nation eurozone hit another record high in September as the region's debt crisis continued to sap the confidence of business owners, investors and consumers alike.

About 18.5 million people were out of work in the eurozone in September, adding up to a jobless rate of 11.6 percent. That figure exceeds August's record of 11.5 percent and follows the worrisome trend of the past half-year, during which unemployment has either remained static or worsened with each successive month.

The grim picture painted by Eurostat, the European Union's statistical agency, comes as the continent's debt crisis sits on the cusp of entering its fourth year with no full resolution in sight. Lawmakers in Greece, where the crisis began, are still grappling with another punishing round of austerity cuts demanded by international lenders, while Spain is keeping markets on tenterhooks over whether it will become the latest country to seek a bailout from its European partners.

According to Eurostat, there were 2.2 million more people out of work in September than a year ago in the 17 nations that share the euro currency. Since then, a number of those economies have tumbled back into recession, government debt ratios have risen, commercial lending has

dwindled and investors have taken flight.

But the newly released figures highlighted the alarming gap that continues to widen between nations in northern Europe and those in the south where the debt crisis is having the most crushing impact.

Although the overall eurozone unemployment rate was 11.6 percent, in both Germany and Austria it was a mere 5.4 percent. By contrast, Spain and Greece are struggling with almost unimaginably high jobless rates of about 25 percent.

In Athens on Wednesday, the government of Prime Minister Antonis Samaras offered a preliminary look at the new round of spending cuts and tax hikes that lawmakers must approve if Greece is to receive its next installment of bailout loans in November, without which the Mediterranean nation will go bankrupt. The \$17.5 billion austerity package includes salary and pension cuts and a boost in the average retirement age from 65 to 67.

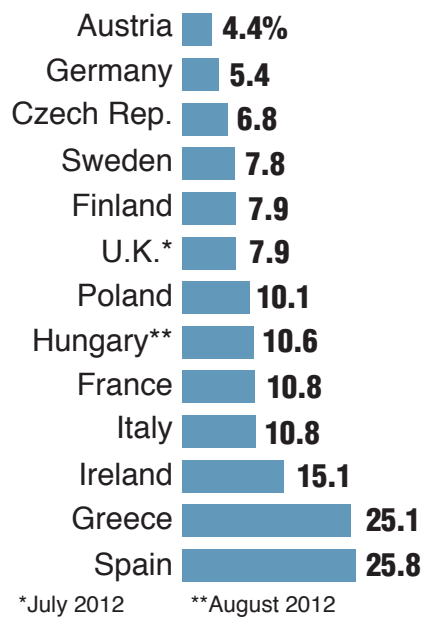
But Samaras faces dissension within his shaky coalition and could have a difficult time securing enough votes for the plan in the parliament. And public unrest engendered by the proposed cuts is growing: Unions called a 48-hour general strike for next week.

The vote Wednesday ran strictly along party lines, with all members of the center-right ruling coalition voting in favor of Prime Minister Pedro Passos Coelho's budget, and all opposition lawmakers, led by the Socialists, voting against it.

EU jobless rate

Unemployment rates in September 2012, seasonally adjusted:

Selected EU member nations



EU 27 10.6%
Eurozone 11.6

NOTE: Eurostat uses harmonized unemployment rates for the EU; based on the definition recommended by the International Labor Organization; measurements are based on a harmonized source, the European Union Labor Force Survey
Source: Eurostat © 2012 MCT

Debt ceiling Continued from Page 2

"No decisions have been made on timing, but the speaker's principle — that spending cuts and reforms must exceed any debt hike — will have to be met," Boehner spokesman Kevin Smith said Wednesday.

A White House spokeswoman declined to comment.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben S. Bernanke and Christine Lagarde, head of the International Monetary Fund, have warned about the negative ramifications for the U.S. and world economies if the debt limit is not raised.

But the rising limit has become a focus of conservatives, who point to it as evidence of the nation's spiraling budget deficits.

Rep. Tim Huelskamp, R-Kan., a freshman with tea party support, voted against the 2011 debt-limit deal because he said it didn't cut enough government spending.

"The Treasury's predictions are no surprise, as we have anticipated hitting the debt limit right around or before the time any actual cuts from the debt deal take effect," he said. "Every

day that goes by without a change of course in Washington is another \$4 billion added to our debt. Is that the legacy we want to leave our children?"

The brinkmanship leading up to the mid-2011 debt limit increase caused Standard & Poor's to downgrade the U.S. credit rating for the first time, to AA+ from the highest level of AAA.

The Government Accountability Office estimated recently that the delay in getting a debt-limit deal cost taxpayers an additional \$1.3 billion in borrowing costs for the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, 2011.

Part of the debt-ceiling deal provided that the automatic spending cuts — half from defense, half from domestic programs — would occur over the next decade if Congress and the White House could not agree on a broader deficit-reduction plan.

After the U.S. technically hit its then \$14.3 trillion debt ceiling in May 2011, the Treasury was able to delay the effect for about 12 weeks through maneuvers such as borrowing from two federal employee pension funds.

This time, analysts estimate the Treasury would be able to make it until sometime in February.

Sandy Continued from Page 1

someone lighting a cigarette." Of Sandy, he offered this assessment: "It's like Katrina without alligators. The damage is catastrophic."

There were numerous signs, however, of relief and reinforcement.

The Pentagon said more than 10,000 National Guard troops in 13 states had been mobilized. The deployment included 10 Blackhawk helicopters, 100 pumps sent to New York to siphon water from tunnels, about 120 medical personnel and 573 vehicles. Another 40 Humvees were on their way from Fort Drum, in upstate New York.

Five hundred U.S. Department of Health and Human Services workers arrived to provide emergency medical care and public health assistance. Nearly 2,000 utility workers were on their way to Long Island from states as far-flung as California and Texas.

Military trucks lumbered into one town after another, ferrying food, water and generators, and going door to door in Hoboken to pluck out stranded residents.

"There's been so much anxiety," said Kim Giddens, who has lived in Hoboken, across the Hudson River from Manhattan,

for nine years. Portions of the city have long been flood-prone, she said, but: "This is worst it's ever been."

Obama offered the assistance of additional military assets, including a Navy ship and transport planes, and said he had laid down a "15-minute rule" — meaning that every call placed to the White House by a mayor or a fire chief would be returned within 15 minutes.

"If they need something, we figure out a way to say yes," the president said. Obama said four states — New Jersey, New York, Connecticut and West Virginia — had shouldered the worst of the storm, and the region's first priority was restoring power. About 5.9 million homes and businesses were without power Wednesday, down from about 8.5 million at the height of the crisis.

"We are here for you," the president said in New Jersey, in front of three boats stacked atop one another in the middle of the street. "We will not forget."

Both men have insisted that Sandy's scope has made politics immaterial. Christie, with typical bravado, said he didn't "give a damn about Election Day," and had "bigger fish to fry." But Wednesday had unmistakable political undertones, and it came less than a week before the presidential election.

Volunteer Continued from Page 1

"It is important for agencies to come on campus and connect with students because a lot of students want to volunteer and just don't know where to go," Sheets said. "All the agencies here have a need for volunteers."

Sheets said bringing the organizations to campus makes it easy for students who are interested in learning more information about the volunteer opportunities but who may not have the time to seek out the information themselves.

"Bringing the agencies here is like one-stop shopping. We have representatives here who have all the information for them," Sheets said. "It allows students to really see what they can do to help. It brings it all here to them."

Faith in Action of the River Cities was one of the organizations in attendance. It is a faith-based organization that provides non-medical care for the elderly and disabled and chronically ill adults. Rose Thornburg, executive director, said volunteers help with things such as taking those in need to doctor's appointments and grocery shopping.

"The majority of our volunteers themselves are retired people, so their ability to go out and do some of the things is somewhat limited," Thornburg said. "We are always in need of new volunteers and having younger volunteers is always helpful."

Thornburg said she participates in the Volunteer Fair

every year and tries to take every opportunity to get the word out about her organization. She said she would love for Marshall students to volunteer for Faith in Action because she thinks it is really important for the elderly to have a connection with a younger generation.

"I always think it is a great thing to have a younger generation volunteering with us, because the older generation really enjoys the younger company," Thornburg said. "They love talking to them about their childhood, because they can't really do that with people of their same age."

In addition to Faith in Action, other organizations that attended the Volunteer Fair were Ebenezer Medical Outreach, Huntington Area Food Bank, Ronald McDonald House, Lions Club, 4H, Cabell Huntington Hospital, J.W. Scott Community Center, American Red Cross, Unlimited Future, Coalition for the Homeless, Wild Ramp and Little Victories Animal Rescue.

Josef Johnson, junior accounting major, said she thinks the Volunteer Fair was a good way for students to become more aware of what is going on outside of Marshall's campus. She said the fair helped her find an organization that interests her.

"I'm considering participating in Big Brother, Big Sister," Johnson said. "It seems like such a great experience, and I would love to impact someone's life like that."

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Tourney Continued from Page 1

major, said. "But our philosophy on ministry is not to bait and switch anyone, it's not to invite people to a video game tournament and then have them listen to a sermon before they get to play any video games."

Pearson said Revolution seeks to love people in ways that others do not.

"We want to love people who love video games by giving them a fun time with people who are like them," Pearson said. "We want to befriend them and show them the love of Jesus in our words and actions."

Pearson said he has made lasting friendships at past Brawl-a-thons and that the sense of community is his favorite part of the night of gaming.

"There's not a lot to do if you are a video game player on campus," Pearson said. "This is one of the few Marshall activities beside the gamer club where gamers get to be with other gamers."

Pearson and Thacker encourage gamers of all degrees to come to the event and to enjoy the food, games and good times with fellow gamers.

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Scholarship Continued from Page 1

Clark said it is important to see how well the students fit into the program by determining their goals and their commitment to taking the time to get a doctoral degree.

"We'll take applications on a rolling basis. It's a short application process for us just so we can identify what program you're in and what your interests are and if you best match the program," Clark said.

The overall goal of the program is to advance minorities and produce a fellowship at Marshall.

"The main goal is definitely to recruit, educate and graduate underrepresented minority students with doctoral degrees," Clark said. "Another goal is to grow the program and get more students of color out into the larger society and into the Marshall community as faculty and staff."

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THE PARTHENON

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Marshall student to open for Landau Eugene Murphy Jr.

By **EVAN FOWLER**
THE PARTHENON

Andre Williams, a freshman broadcast journalism major from Leslie, W.Va., with a talent that may not be hidden from the world for much longer. He can sing.

Williams met "America's Got Talent" winner Landau Eugene Murphy Jr., through a mutual friend last December at an event in Charleston. What was supposed to be a quick meet and greet soon provided Williams with the opportunity of a lifetime. Murphy surprised Williams by inviting him on stage to sing a duet of "Silent Night."

"I felt like I had some really big shoes to fill," Williams said. "I was almost intimidated by the opportunity but I worked up the courage to go out on stage and I just left it all at the mic."

Williams was asked again to sing with Murphy this summer at the West Virginia State Fair. He was offered the opening act position. Following the success of his previous encounters with Murphy, Williams has been asked back again a third time to open for the reality show winner at the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center on Thursday night.

Williams said he began singing in church at a young age in Brooklyn, N.Y., and his mom decided to move the family back to her hometown of Leslie, W.Va.

"She didn't want us to grow

up in the bad environment and develop the bad habits that New York can have on you," Williams said.

Bad news came for Williams when he was 9-years-old and diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma, a cancer originating from white blood cells called lymphocytes. Williams said the doctors said his chances were slim to none of surviving. After extensive radiation and chemotherapy, said he is feeling better than ever and has been in remission for six years.

Williams started doing local singing competitions as a hobby. In November 2005, William's father passed away. Williams said this was the point in his life music became more than something for fun. "It became an escape," Williams said. "It was my refuge for quite some time and my way to escape reality and pour my heart into music."

Williams said he lost his mother to illness in September 2011. Although he looks up to the music of artists like Michael Jackson, Celine Dion, Usher and Beyoncé, he said his greatest influence in life would always be his mother.

"She's always been my biggest fan," Williams said. "My rock that has been with me through everything."

He has a passion for all music. Williams said this is more



than just a dream for him, it's becoming a reality.

"I love music that tells a story," Williams said. "Music is something that's no longer on the back burner. I'd really love to make this my career."

Williams has competed in several competitions and has also won West Virginia's Finest in 2008 and again in 2011. In addition to winning competitions, he is working with songwriters and producers throughout the state. Williams

is also starting to write his own music and said he hopes one day to share it with the world.

"More than anything, I hope that one day my music is able to inspire people," Williams said. "I'm content with where I'm going and I'm going to keep moving."

Andre Williams will be the opening act for Murphy at the Keith Albee Theater Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

Evan Fowler can be contacted at fowler68@marshall.edu.

'Vampire Diaries' actress proves versatility with EP release of 'Up Against the Wall'



By **EVAN FOWLER**
THE PARTHENON

Most of the world knows her as Bonnie Bennett, a witch on the hit show "Vampire Diaries," but to everyone else she is known as Kat Graham, who is smashing her way onto the music scene with the release of her EP "Against the Wall." With the ever-growing trend of actors and singers trying their hand at another trade, Graham is a pleasant surprise.

In addition to her successful acting, Graham proves to the world she is ready to take the music industry by storm. "Against the Wall" contains four songs that ooze confidence, sexiness, fierceness and club-ready beats. Graham, without a doubt, channels a modern day Janet Jackson meets hip-hop princess sound.

The debut single, "Put Your Graffiti on Me" uses Graham's irresistibly catchy vocals against "come and hither" verses begging for attention the song deserves. From the opening with heavy breathing to the catchy phrase "tag me,"

the song is a layered club track that will, with no doubt, hit a chord with fans. The street chic clicks and bells against a sick bass line will leave listeners encouraging others to "put your name on it."

"Heartkiller" shows off Graham's seductive tones against a futuristic version of a throwback to 80s synth sounds. "Wanna Say" quickly follows this. It is an up-tempo ballad that takes just a brief second to show off Graham's versatile sound that could be missed in the hustle and bustle of the EP.

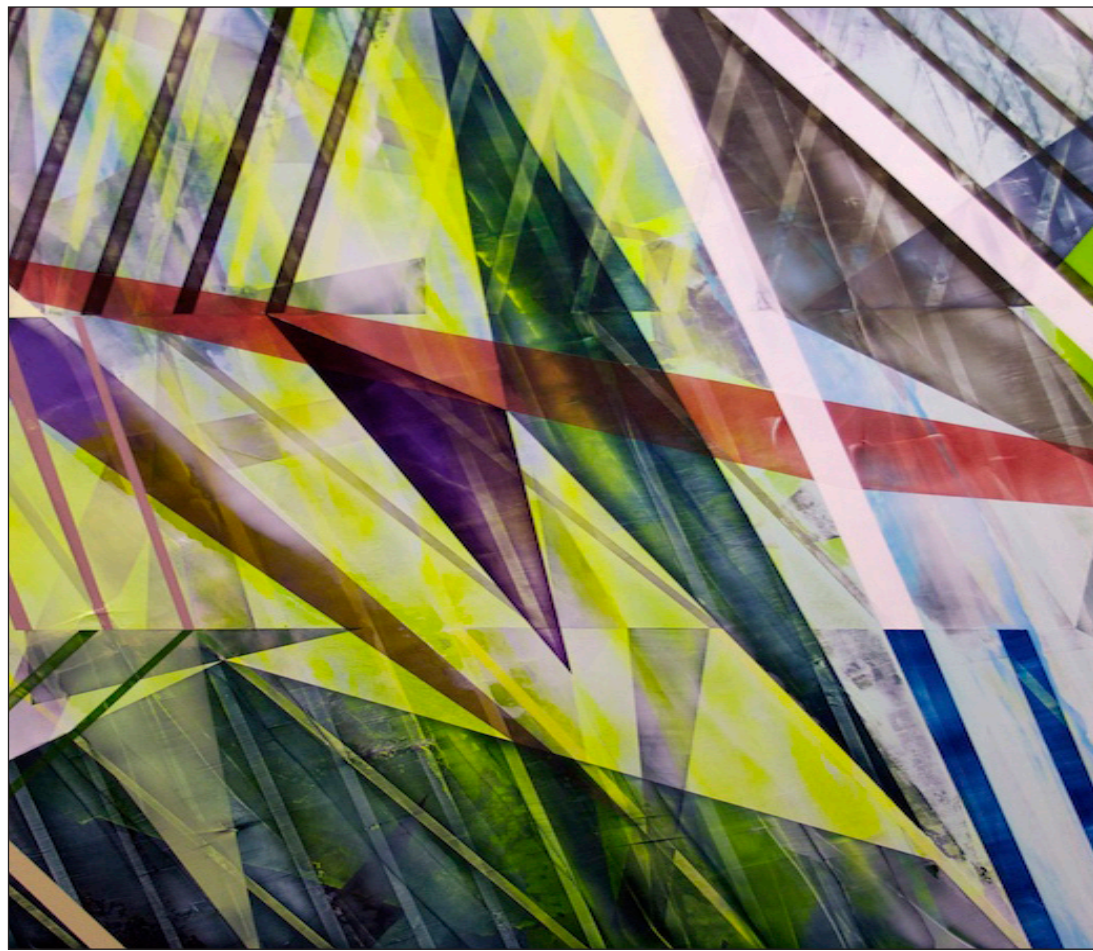
"Supa Dope" waves a proud flag for femme fatales around the world. The song uses its repetitive lyrics and musical composition to leave fans singing, "I'm supa dope, funky fresh."

If anyone was challenging Graham to push her limits, it looks like she has willingly danced onto the stage to claim her status of "triple-threat."

In a music industry predominantly ruled by female artists, there is a lot of work for her to accomplish. Graham has received a seal of approval from artists like Britney Spears and is working her way to the top and fast. If anyone blinks just a second too long, this young woman's rise to the top of the charts as the next big thing in the entertainment industry may be missed. She's on a projected path that shows no sign of slowing down.

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School of Art and Design faculty exhibit to open Friday



SARAH SMITH | THE PARTHENON

"SunGlitters," acrylic on canvas, 35" x 45," 2011, by Assistant Painting Professor Ian Hagarty.

By **SARAH SMITH**
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University School of Art and Design Faculty Exhibition will open with a public reception Friday from 6 to 8 p.m. at Gallery 842.

Wine and light refreshments will be served. Gallery 842 is located at 842 Fourth Ave. in downtown Huntington.

John Farley, gallery director, said the exhibit will include art from full and part time faculty and staff who work or teach in the School of Art and Design.

"It will be a very strong display of the diverse and rich artistic talent the School of Art and Design is known

for," Farley said. "An exhibition like this recognizes the scholarly and creative pursuits that we are all so passionate about, and helps encourage that same passion in our students."

Approximately 15-20 artists will display their art in the exhibit.

The exhibit will include painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics, fibers, graphic design, digital media and others.

Ian Hagarty, assistant painting professor, said the exhibit will be a good opportunity for students.

"As a faculty member at Marshall, it is always inspiring to open up a dialogue

about my practice as an artist by sharing my work," Hagarty said. "The faculty exhibition is also a nice opportunity for the students to get to know their instructors a little bit better, by seeing first hand the kind of projects we are all involved in. It promises to be a broad and fascinating exhibition."

The School of Art & Design Faculty Exhibition will remain on display through Dec. 7.

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 7 p.m.

The gallery is free and open to the public.

Sarah Smith can be contacted at smith1682@marshall.edu.

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