

12-5-2012

The Parthenon, December 5, 2012

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Recommended Citation

Arrington, Shane, "The Parthenon, December 5, 2012" (2012). *The Parthenon*. Paper 161.
<http://mds.marshall.edu/parthenon/161>

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THE PARTHENON

VOL. 116 NO. 61 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Changes coming to financial aid

By **CODY FRANK PERKINS**
THE PARTHENON

Some student who receive financial aid may be contacted in the near future as part of a federal process to verify their status.

The random verifications begin with the 2013-2014 FAFSA that students can update starting Jan. 1.

This is a national process conducted by the U.S. Department of Education.

Students who receive the Pell Grant and some other forms of aid can be selected at random to show they use financial aid for education reasons and not other purposes, Marshall Financial Aid Counselor Sarah Musgrave said.

"Students don't need to stress out. We are here in the office to help students out, and walk them through the process if they are selected by the



Education Department for verification," Musgrave said.

The selection is completely random, but some groups of students can be a possible target such as Pell Grant recipients or other grant based students.

"The purpose of this verification is to make sure that taxpayers aren't going further in debt, along with the federal government," Musgrave said.

Students are reminded that starting

Jan. 1, the FAFSA for the academic year of 2013-2014 will be online to complete.

Students who are West Virginia residents must have the FAFSA completed by March 1 to receive certain grants, scholarships and other means of financial aid.

Cody Frank Perkins can be contacted at perkins66@marshall.edu.

VA trademarks term 'GI Bill' to shield vets from deception

By **RENEE SCHOOF**

MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS (MCT)
WASHINGTON — Hoping to prevent online ads and the websites of for-profit schools from misleading Iraq and Afghanistan veterans, the Department of Veterans Affairs has trademarked the words "GI Bill."

Since the first GI Bill was enacted in 1944, it has represented the government's compact to provide an education for service members returning to civilian life. Recent government investigations, however, have spotlighted problems as for-profit schools compete for government dollars under the latest version of the bill.

Senate and Government Accountability Office investigations in recent months found that some for-profit colleges and universities recruit veterans without telling them the full truth about costs, loans, credit transfers and dropout rates.

At stake are billions of dollars divided among hundreds of thousands of service members and veterans, and their spouses and children, under the 2008 Post-9/11 GI Bill.

"We will continue to support our veterans by helping them obtain the best education of their choosing — a right for which they have bravely served, and which they have truly earned," Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki said in a statement Monday announcing the trademark. "We all want veterans to be informed consumers in their educational pursuit."

Sen. Kay Hagan, D-N.C., one of 14 senators who urged Shinseki last March to trademark the expression "GI Bill," said in a statement Tuesday that it was a "significant step towards ensuring that our veterans are not deceived when seeking to further their education."

Hagan is a sponsor of a proposed law that would permanently ban the misleading use of "GI Bill." Trademark owners must pursue those who use their material improperly. If they don't, the protection expires.

The federal government already protects other words that identify its programs, such as "Social Security" and "Medicare."

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ANNE CUSACK/LOS ANGELES TIMES | MCT

ABOVE, BELOW: In this Aug. 27 file photo, NASA holds an educational experience with will.i.am for students at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in La Canada Flintridge, Calif. His song, "Reach for the Stars," played after being transmitted from the surface of Mars by the Curiosity rover.

Mars rover Curiosity's other mission: PR

By **AMINA KHAN**

LOS ANGELES TIMES (MCT)

LOS ANGELES — NASA's Curiosity rover was designed to search Mars for places capable of supporting life. But the \$2.5 billion mission has another, unofficial objective: To serve as a goodwill ambassador for the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in La Canada Flintridge, Calif., at a time when funding for planetary exploration is in jeopardy.

Just as Curiosity is equipped with an array of high-tech instruments to fulfill its scientific goals, the rover has many tools at its disposal to press its public relations agenda. There are video games, iPhone apps, Twitter accounts and even an inspirational song by hip-hop superstar will.i.am of the Black Eyed Peas.

"All the Mars rovers have been very good public outreach," said Alan Stern, a planetary scientist at the Southwest Research Institute. The bells and whistles of the Curiosity program represent "the next generation of doing it in a more modern way."

Throughout NASA's 54-year history, science and PR have been inextricably linked.

NASA was formed as a response to the 1957 "Sputnik surprise," when the Soviet Union launched the first manmade satellite. "The United States suddenly spent a whole lot of money on science and engineering," said JPL historian Erik Conway.

NASA channeled billions of those dollars to high-profile missions at JPL. It poured roughly \$1 billion into the Viking program that sent two landers to Mars in the 1970s and spent \$865 million on the twin

Voyager probes that visited Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune in the 1970s and 1980s.

In those days, NASA didn't have to work so hard to keep the public's attention. "This was the era when kids got given chemistry kits instead of Nintendos for Christmas," said Janet Vertesi, a Princeton University sociologist.

But as the Cold War thawed, the appetite for big-budget efforts waned. The agency's budget fell by about 18 percent between 1992 and 1999, and Daniel Goldin, who led NASA at the time, pushed for "faster, better, cheaper" missions.

A turning point came in 1997, when JPL's first rover — the skateboard-sized Sojourner — landed on Mars. Spending only \$265 million, engineers made some creative decisions, including using the nascent World Wide Web to disseminate photos and information to

space enthusiasts.

It worked: The mission's Web pages racked up more than 566 million hits over the month that the rover wheeled around Mars.

That set the tone for future missions, Vertesi said. When the twin rovers Spirit and Opportunity touched down on Mars in 2004, the pictures they took were posted online right away.

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Ceramics sale offers unique holiday shopping experience

By **SARAH SMITH**

THE PARTHENON

Keramos Potters Guild will be selling ceramics in Marshall University's Memorial Student Center from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Thursday.

Keramos Potters Guild is a student organization for ceramics students that aims to promote the ceramic arts at Marshall and in Huntington.

Jaye Ike, special projects coordinator for the College of Fine Arts, said the proceeds from the sale will go toward the Keramos Potters Guild.

"Typically the artist makes a portion and Keramos gets a portion," Ike said. "The club uses the money for attending conferences or other professional development."

Frederick Bartolovic, assistant professor of art and ceramics area

coordinator, said the event is a good opportunity to support ceramics students.

"It is a real pleasure seeing students come together professionally to sell the ware they produce through the holiday sale," Bartolovic said. "It is also great to see the Marshall community come and support the event through purchasing one-of-a-kind, handmade ceramic ware." Ike said functional pieces like bowls,

mugs and vases will be sold along with art pieces like ceramic birds.

Ike said the prices of pieces vary, but are affordable because people often Christmas shop.

"It's a great opportunity to support student artists and do some holiday shopping," Ike said.

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

Calif. judge refuses to block gay 'conversion' therapy ban

By **PATRICK MCGREEVY**
LOS ANGELES TIMES (MCT)

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — The day after a federal judge cast doubt on a new state law banning sexual-orientation therapy for minors, a second judge issued a ruling upholding it.

According to Lynda Gledhill, a spokeswoman for the California attorney general, the ban on sexual-orientation therapy will take effect Jan. 1 as scheduled for everyone except two therapists and an aspiring therapist who sued to keep the ban from taking effect.

On Monday, U.S. District Judge William Shubb ruled that the law may inhibit the First Amendment rights of therapists who oppose homosexuality. He issued a temporary restraining order preventing the state from enforcing the ban, the first of its kind in the nation, against the three plaintiffs pending a broader ruling on its merits.

"The reality is those three individuals are not subject to the law, so (the initial ruling) is very narrow," Gledhill said.

In Tuesday's ruling, in a case brought by opponents asserting that the law violates free speech, religious and parental rights, U.S. District Judge Kimberly J. Mueller said the Legislature and governor had enough grounds to enact such a law, given that multiple mental health groups, including the American Psychological Association, have discredited the therapy.

"The court need not engage in an exercise of legislative mind reading to find the California Legislature and the state's Governor could have had a legitimate reason for enacting SB 1172," Mueller wrote in declining to issue a temporary injunction.

State Sen. Ted Lieu, D-Torrance, who authored the law, said he expects the first case to be decided in favor of it.

"On behalf of the untold number of children who can expect to be spared the psychological abuse imposed by reparative therapy, I'm thrilled that today's ruling by Judge Mueller will continue to protect our children from serious harm," Lieu said in a statement.

Lawyer says Bradley Manning wants to run for public office

By **BRIAN BENNETT**
TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU (MCT)

WASHINGTON — If he doesn't spend the rest of his life in prison, Pfc. Bradley Manning wants to go to college and perhaps run for public office, his lawyer, David E. Coombs, told supporters of the former Army intelligence analyst.

Manning is accused of illegally giving hundreds of thousands of diplomatic cables and classified reports about the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan to the website WikiLeaks. He faces 22 criminal charges and could be sentenced to life in prison if convicted.

"He's confident things will turn out OK for him," Coombs said Monday, standing in a wooden pulpit in the All Souls Church Unitarian, in front of two large posters printed

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President Barack Obama meets with a bipartisan delegation of governors in Washington, D.C., Tuesday, to discuss the actions needed to keep our economy growing and find a balanced approach to reduce our deficit. Jack Markell (D-Del.) (left), and Mary Fallin (R-Okla.) (right) attended the meeting. PETE MAROVICH/BLOOMBERG VIA ABACA PRESS | MCT DIRECT

U.S. governors meet with Obama, members of Congress on fiscal cliff

By **MICHAEL A. MEMOLI**

TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU (MCT)

WASHINGTON — A bipartisan group of governors came to Washington on Tuesday to express concern to the White House and members of Congress about the potential consequences to state budgets in the fiscal cliff negotiations.

The governors are worried both about the possibility a deal may not be reached by year's end and also that a final accord might rely on cuts to programs states are counting on to keep their own budgets balanced.

While the focus in Washington is on the impasse between President Barack Obama and congressional Republicans on the fate of George W. Bush-era tax rates for the well-off, governors are warily tracking discussions about spending cuts as many are set to

present their own budget proposals for the new year.

"We don't need cuts on the federal level that merely require tax increases on the state level," Arkansas Gov. Mike Beebe, a Democrat, told reporters outside the White House.

A new report from Harvard's Institute of Politics, the University of Pennsylvania's Fels Institute of Government and the American Education Foundation noted that grants to states make up 40 percent of discretionary spending in the federal budget, and that state block grants "will be a prime target" for national cuts.

The state leaders, three Republicans and three Democrats, said they came not to support any particular party's plans but to offer their perspective on the decisions lawmakers face, and to urge a quick resolution that would end uncertainty that has the potential to

hurt states and the national economy. "It has a dramatic impact on our budgets at a very difficult time for us," said Utah Gov. Gary Herbert, a Republican. "It's almost like we have to prepare one budget if they solve it and one budget if they don't solve it. And so states really understand the serious of this issue and the impact it's going to have on our own budgets and our own economy."

Herbert said that the states were willing to "do more with less," acknowledging that some funding cuts are inevitable in any deal. But in a familiar request on the part of state executives, the governors wanted greater flexibility in spending federal dollars that still come, a request that Herbert said Obama was receptive to in their meeting.

Obama was joined by Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner and Vice President Joe Biden in the meeting

with the executive committee of the National Governors Association. Biden was tapped to be a liaison with the governors during the fiscal cliff talks, a familiar role for the man who oversaw the implementation of the stimulus bill passed in 2009.

One day after Republicans offered a counterproposal that the White House swiftly dismissed, Obama offered no indication of how talks were going.

"I know that the president certainly wants a deal," said Delaware Gov. Jack Markell, a Democrat and the chair of the NGA. "He didn't try to handicap it for us, but he made it very clear that he's going to work as hard as he possibly can (to get one)."

The governors were set to head to Capitol Hill later Tuesday to meet with Speaker John Boehner and other legislative leaders.

George W. Bush calls for 'benevolent spirit' in immigration debate

By **TOM BENNING**

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS (MCT)

DALLAS — George W. Bush, who has listed the failure to pass comprehensive immigration reform as one of the regrets of his presidency, encouraged lawmakers Tuesday to debate the topic with "a benevolent spirit" and to "keep in mind the contributions of immigrants."

"America can be a lawful society and a welcoming society at the same time," Bush said in a speech at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.

Bush gave the remarks at the daylong conference organized by his namesake public policy think tank, the George W. Bush Institute, and the Dallas Fed. The event, focused on immigration and economic growth, features analysis by economists, business leaders and other policy experts.

The former president stopped short of advocating for a specific immigration policy, although he pushed for a guest-worker program while in the White House. He instead highlighted the important role immigrants play in the economy and said that they "invigorate our soul."

"Immigrants come with new skills and new ideas," he said. "They fill a critical gap in our labor market. And they work hard for a chance at a better life."

The conference comes after President Barack Obama romped to victory over GOP nominee Mitt Romney in the

Nov. 6 election, in part because of strong Hispanic support in swing states and backing from 71 percent of Hispanics nationally.

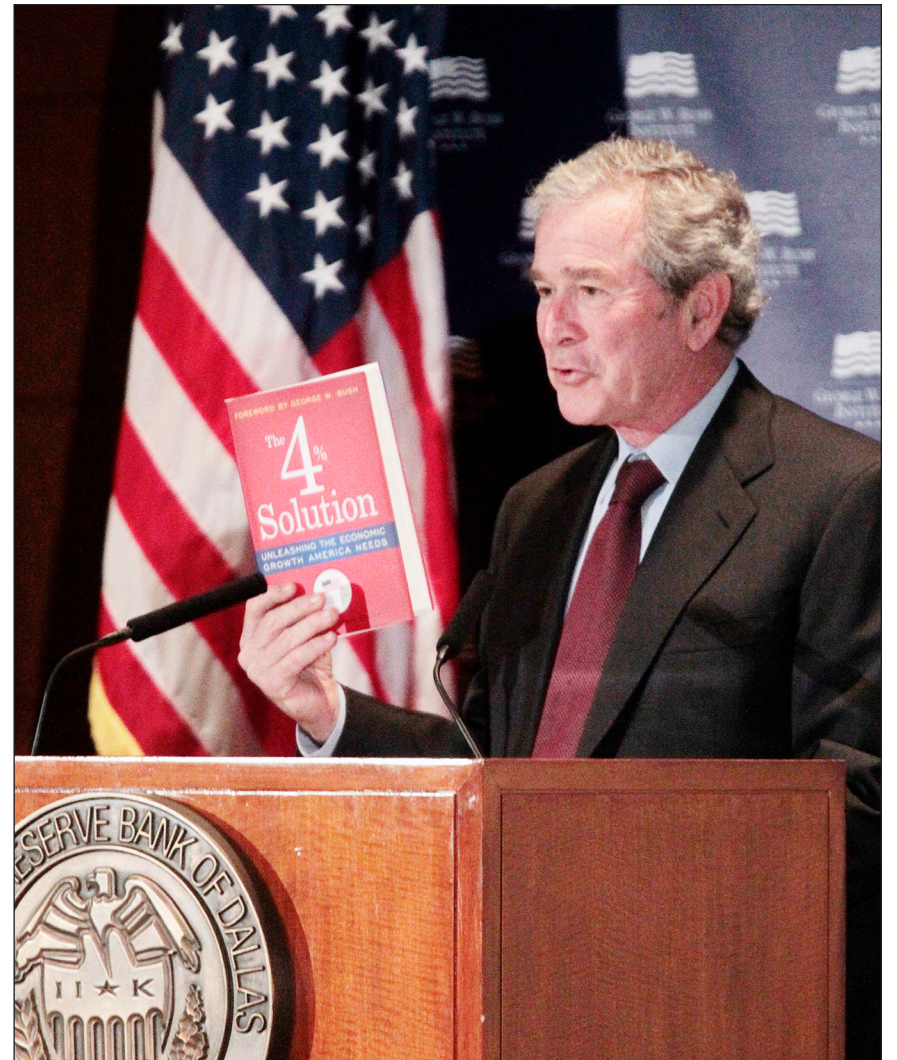
Given that the demographic is expected to grow for years to come, Republicans in Texas and across the U.S. have started re-evaluating how to appeal to Hispanics. That is despite Democrats looking to build upon that support and create a clearer path to citizenship for illegal immigrants already in the U.S.

While the Bush Institute event Tuesday was planned well in advance of the presidential election and the subsequent flurry of immigration talk, Bush's comments put him in the familiar position of helping lead the GOP's outreach to the Hispanic community.

"Growing up here in Texas, like many in this room, I had the honor and privilege of meeting the newly arrived," Bush said. "Those who I've met love their families. They see education as a bright future for their children. Some willingly defend the flag."

"As our nation debates the proper course of action related to immigration," he added, "I hope we do so with a benevolent spirit and keep in mind the contributions of immigrants."

Bush advocated hard for an immigration overhaul in 2006 and 2007 — despite resistance from his own



Former President George W. Bush speaks at the 4 Percent Growth Project: immigration and economic growth conference, held at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas on Tuesday. MICHAEL AINSWORTH/DALLAS MORNING NEWS | MCT DIRECT

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	C-USA		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
SMU	0	0	8	1
EAST CAROLINA	0	0	6	1
SOUTHERN MISS	0	0	6	1
TULANE	0	0	7	2
HOUSTON	0	0	6	2
MEMPHIS	0	0	4	2

SPORTS

	C-USA		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
UCF	0	0	4	2
MARSHALL	0	0	5	3
TULSA	0	0	4	3
UAB	0	0	4	4
UTEP	0	0	2	4
RICE	0	0	2	5



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Chesapeake Energy Capital Classic

Mountaineers silence Thundering Herd women, 64-48



By JEREMY JOHNSON
SPORTS EDITOR

Marshall University committed a season high 26 turnovers and fell to West Virginia University 64-48 in the Chesapeake Energy Capital Classic Tuesday night.

"It's going to be an issue for us," Head Coach Matt Daniel said about the turnovers. "I certainly appreciate our teams effort."

West Virginia, ranked 23 in the USA Today Coaches Poll, jumped out early and never looked back as the Mountaineers led the entire contest in front of 2,606 fans inside the walls of Charleston Civic Center.

The first half consisted of a game of runs. The Mountaineers (5-2) held an early 14-2 lead after the first media timeout, but in a stretch of just over four minutes the Herd (4-4) closed the deficit to 16-13. Marshall would get it as close as 18-17 off a Leandra King layup.

"I am happy to see the fight in us," Daniel said. West Virginia would use a 17-6 run to end the half with a 35-23 lead.

"It's a game of runs," Daniel said. West Virginia's Bria Holmes knocked down a three-pointer to end the half and lead all scorers at intermission, with 13 points. At the half, Veronica Ruiz paced the Herd with six points and six rebounds.

The Mountaineers racked up 39 shot attempts in the half. To put in perspective, Marshall is averaging just over 51 attempts per game on the season.

The second half was a bit of a back and forth affair, with both teams exchanging baskets.

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TOP: Marshall freshman guard Norrishia Victrum passes the ball to a teammate as West Virginia's Avere Fields defends during the women's basketball game between the Marshall Thundering Herd and the West Virginia University Mountaineers at the Charleston Civic Center on Tuesday.

ABOVE: Marshall senior center Leandra King, right, goes up for a shot as West Virginia defender Ayana Dunning attempts the block during the women's basketball game between the Marshall Thundering Herd and the West Virginia University Mountaineers.

MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON

Capital Classic women's game drew more fans than expected

By ADAM ROGERS
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Well I was going to start this column off by stating the Chesapeake Energy Capital Classic should return to a women's-men's doubleheader to bring more fans in for the women's game.

That thought was squashed when the public address announcer said there were 2,606 fans at Tuesday night's women's game for the Capital Classic.

Those 2,606 fans definitely made a difference in the game. Every time Marshall began to rally from behind, the fan bases for both teams rallied behind their respective teams.

Now, a majority of fans in attendance Tuesday night were West Virginia fans, but the atmosphere was significantly improved.

When the Capital Classic games were done as a doubleheader, fans began to pile into the Charleston Civic Center at the end of the women's game so they could get seated for the men's game.

Then they actually got invested into the game once they sat and watched for a while.

Several people I spoke with leading up to Tuesday's game didn't even know when the women's game was supposed to be played.

That's just sad.

This years WVU-Marshall women's game didn't need the assistance of the men's game to put fans in the seats, but that could change as the years roll by.

Adam Rogers can be contacted at rogers112@marshall.edu.

Thundering Herd men's basketball ready to face WVU in Chesapeake Energy Capital Classic

By KARA KUCIN
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University men's basketball team will compete against West Virginia University on Wednesday in the Chesapeake Energy Capital Classic. The Herd will be competing in their 41st match up against the Mountaineers. The Mountaineers came out with the victory last year with a 78-62 win over the Herd.

The Herd's record overall is 5-3 right now, coming off their last home win against UNC Wilmington 61-58. With three seniors on the squad, a final win against WVU would be nothing but sweet victory.

Senior Fort Lauderdale, Fla., native Nigel Spikes said he would love to come away with a win.

"As a player it's a great game to get to play in and a huge game to win but I think it would be a greater win for the fans," Spikes said.

In the January 2011 match up against WVU, the Herd came out with the victory 75-71 while the previous four years the wins went to the Mountaineers.

The Herd needs to come out ready to play from the first whistle and do what they know how to do best.

"We need to play as one, help each other on defense, execute on offense and have fun that is the most important

thing," Spikes said.

The game will be played at the Charleston Civic Center at 7:30 p.m. and will be televised on CCN/WOWK/ESPN3.

Following the match up against WVU, the Herd will host Coppin State at home on Saturday at 7 p.m.

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

Senior center Nigel Spikes shoots during the 40th annual Capital Classic on Jan. 18. The Herd lost to the West Virginia University Mountaineers, 78-62.

MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON



OPINION

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

THE PARTHENON

ABOUT US

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

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

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

Column

Yuletide goodbye

By HENRY CULVYHOUSE
COLUMNIST

Although it certainly doesn't feel like it outside, we students certainly know the score. The semester's winding down, we're prepping up for exams. Some of us will pass, others will fail, but we all get the time to celebrate the holidays after we turn in that last final.

Today is my farewell column for the semester. I'm hanging it up for the rest of the year; frankly, I don't have the time until next semester. It's been a good run this fall. I got to take on an election, a hurricane and a smoking ban. I've heard from a few of you readers and I appreciate the feedback and engagement you guys have provided me.

Like anything, writing columns for you guys has been a blast. It had ups and downs, but all in all, I had a good time. And I hope you did too.

However, I wouldn't feel like a columnist if I didn't leave you with some final thoughts to dwell on, until next time.

The holiday season, or in my case, Christmas time, is one of my favorite times of year. I know people can get jaded about the commercialism, advertisements and the constant whir of cash registers slamming open and shut. I'll admit, I've been known to get cynical about it too. However, when it comes down to it, I think Christmas is still a fine holiday.

Christmas, like anything besides death and taxes, is subject to interpretation. Many celebrate it as a religious observant, with the birth of Christ and what not. I've always been a little bit more secular, but I see nothing wrong with how you celebrate it. I just want to summarize what the holiday means to me.

Christmas is a time of year to hang out with friends and family. Now I know quite a few of you may not like chilling with the folks. Some of you probably have justified reasons to feel that way. I'm lucky enough to say mine are decent people and the holidays remind me to be thankful for it. The holidays also remind me to be thankful for my friends, because without them, I have no idea how I'd still be sane in this city. I take Christmas as a time to celebrate what I have and reflect on what I want to accomplish in the next year.

Not everyone looks at it as simplistic as I do and I don't blame him or her. Everyone is different and entitled to their own observances. My only wish for you this holiday season is celebrate however you want, as long as you are true to yourself while you are doing so. Don't just put up the tree because you have to; do it because you want to.

Most importantly, don't get wrapped up in trying to attain that "perfect Christmas." Half the fun about Christmas is if it actually happens or not. We don't know if Uncle Larry is going to get too crooked to open the prayer at dinner nor do we know if Aunt Dorothy will burn the ham again this year. That's half the fun. So just sit back, relax and make do with the time you're having with people you love.

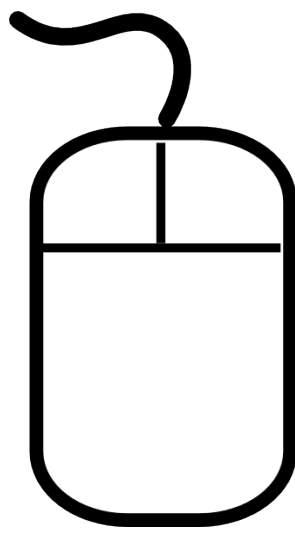
The saddest thing about life is that it ends. I like to use the holidays to be with those that I love and hold dear.

Oh, as a side note, if the world ends on Dec. 21, well, it was good knowing you guys.

Love,
Henry Louis Culvyhouse

Culvyhouse can be contacted at culvyhouse@marshall.edu.

ONLINE POLLS



How do you study for finals?

- Short bursts over time
- Cram session at the end
- What is studying?

Do you think the Thundering Herd men's basketball team will fare better or worse in Conference USA this season?

- Better 70% - 17 votes
- Worse 29% - 7 votes

Visit marshallparthenon.com to share your opinion.

Editorial

OMG I <3 U - JK LOL

Monday marked the 20th anniversary of the text message.

Now the question is – should we celebrate it and wish for another 20 strong years, or should we wish for the speedy death of the form of communication that has destroyed the English language as known by previous generations?

Obviously you will get varying answers depending if you ask a senior citizen or a teenager, but for those in between the answer can still be elusive.

The text message is, without a doubt, a valuable tool. Being able to quickly communicate with someone without having to drop everything you are doing and expecting another person to do the same at a particular moment comes in very handy – but a society that spends more time speaking with their thumbs than their mouths creates a new generation of problems.

Family, once extremely important, seems to be dwindling in the days where it is increasingly easy to move away from the area you were raised. Even the most homesick find it relatively easy to get over their anxiety with the ability to text, tweet or Facebook their

favorite family member any time they would like.

But with this comes shorter communications, often lacking any real meaning. Even the words are shorter as we more and more often bastardize words by turning them into textspeak such as OMG (oh my goodness), JK (just kidding) and LOL (laughing out loud).

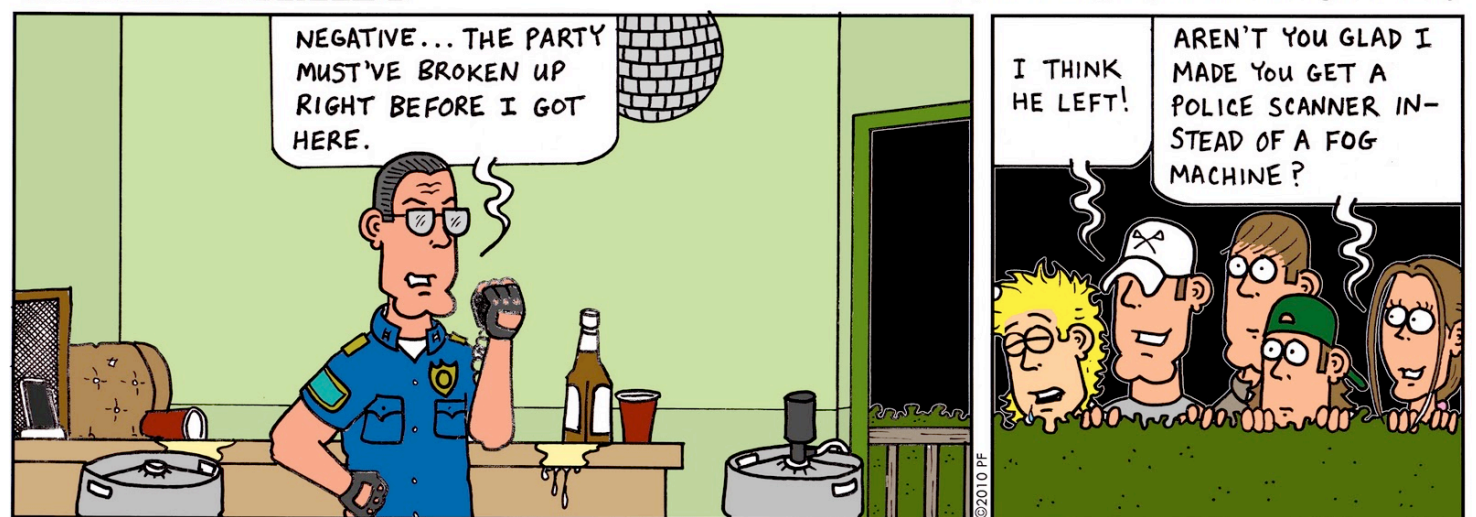
Now it may not be fair to blame text messages, our society as a whole seems to be getting more and more lazy, but it definitely plays a role by making it all too easy to avoid any real conversation – because the very effort of having to call or go to see someone actually causes us to do more than lay on the couch and twiddle our thumbs.

Around six billion short message service messages are sent every day in the United States according to Forrester Research – with over 2.2 trillion sent each year. If that keeps growing we could very well turn into the people from "Wall-E."

So put down the phone for a bit, actually leave your house to talk to a friend or family member and enjoy a little life before we are completely taken over by our machine overlords.

BLUNDERGRADS

by phil flickinger (www.blundergrads.com)



Column

Peace in Palestine no longer possible

By ERIC T. JUSTIN
HARVARD U. VIA WIRE

When pressed to make predictions, pundits sometimes retort that they are "not in the prediction-making business." They say this, of course, because they don't want to leave their results-disoriented business. The trick is to make a prediction so far in the future that no one could check if you were right anyway. With that in mind, I predict that there will not be an independent Palestinian state by 2040.

Three major events happened over the last month in Palestine: Gaza and Israel waged an eight-day battle, Palestine became a non-member observer state at the United Nations, and Israel simultaneously cut their aid to the Palestinian Authority and expanded the construction of settlements in East Jerusalem. Collectively, these actions symbolize

another lost generation on the never-ending path to peace and Palestinian statehood.

Let's look at each event individually.

There are a couple of very bad ways to understand the conflict in Gaza. Unfortunately, these are also the most popular ways. The first one is to count dead bodies and then use them to make an argument about "ethics." If you are seeking the laziest moral standard possible, just remember, whichever side had the lowest number of people die is automatically the bad guy!

Another fallacious way to understand the conflict is to ask who started it. Israel technically broke a peace agreement when it killed Al-Jabari, Hamas's military commander. But Hamas is officially committed to Israel's destruction, so all peace deals are temporary. Al-Jabari himself led an operation that

smuggled hundreds of rockets from Iran into Gaza through Sudan and Egypt.

The latest battle between Gaza and Israel really revolves around the development of military technology over the last 10 years, not to mention Iran's pivotal role in that development. Whereas Gaza's rockets in the 2008 engagement with Israel were highly inaccurate and faulty, often with a range under 10 miles, the new Fajr-5 rockets weigh more than 2,000 pounds and are capable of reaching Tel Aviv. Although Israel and Gaza arrived at some sort of peace agreement, Hamas's new access to high-level Iranian military technology raises the stakes both within Palestine and across the region.

Unlike the conflict in Gaza, the "achievement" of non-member observer state status by Palestine's president, Mahmoud Abbas, could

probably be described as a charade. Crowds in the West Bank greeted Abbas like a conquering hero, which a cynical observer could describe as the only concrete goal of the vote at the United Nations.

Abbas claimed that his effort to receive non-member observer state status for Palestine was motivated by the stalled status of peace negotiations with Israel and the continued developments of settlements. That's half nonsense. The Palestinian Authority's long-time president desperately sought public support as Gaza slipped further from his sphere of influence and he appeared helpless in the face of Israeli settlement construction. Regardless of whether one wants to attribute Abbas's move to Israeli intransigence or his own motivation to stay in power, the move unequivocally sets back the peace process.

Letter to the editor

Dear Editor,
I am writing to you as a Huntington community member and an active participant in the VOX: Students for Choice group at Marshall University. I had the chance to attend their most recent event, a screening of Christy Turlington Burn's film "No Woman No Cry", co sponsored by Planned Parenthood Health Systems. Vox partners with them

to provide education and advocacy opportunities for students. The film was selected because it passionately addresses the social health struggles women face in our country as well as around the world. It was also being shown in celebration of World Aides Day, which brings awareness to The Affordable Care Act, under which millions more people will be eligible for health

insurance and HIV care. The film focuses on pregnancy and the terrible dangers 4 women face in getting the professional medical care they need to survive delivery with a healthy child. Several professionals within the Huntington area who deal with similar issues were invited to discuss the film. It was wonderful to hear so many perspectives in a free and safe space and to

learn and talk about the social health issues women face here in Huntington, Cabell County and WV at large. I can't wait to attend more events sponsored by Planned Parenthood Health Systems. The experience of seeing this film and participating in the discussion has certainly encouraged me to find more ways to get involved.

Annie Fletcher

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

Israel vows to pursue settlement plans despite international anger

By SHEERA FRENKEL
MCCATCHY NEWSPAPERS (MCT)

JERUSALEM — Unshaken by rising international criticism, Israeli officials confirmed Tuesday that they plan to proceed with two new settlement construction projects, including development in a highly contentious area outside Jerusalem known as E1.

Six countries have summoned Israeli ambassadors to hear protests of the new settlement plans, and the United States labeled the plans "contrary to United States policy."

But Israeli officials appeared unconcerned by what one of Israel's most popular papers, Yedioth Ahronoth, called a "diplomatic tsunami."

"At the end of the day, it's a slap on the wrist," said one senior Israeli political official who was involved in the decision to approve the new settlements. He spoke to McClatchy Newspapers only on the condition of anonymity so he could discuss the issue candidly. "The international community is raising a fuss — which it feels it needs to do — but this too will pass."

The official pointed out that no nation had recalled its ambassadors to Israel or pledged to take any real action against Israel as a result of the announcement. "There is a lot of bluster and maybe a bit of bluffing, but that is international diplomacy," said the official.

The bluffing, he added, could also be on the part of Israel.

While Israeli officials have confirmed that they'll proceed

with building 3,000 new settler homes in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, they note that the most contentious part of the plan — new building in the E1 area — is only in the zoning phase.

"It can take years to go from zoning to actual construction, and it can take decades if the international community is protesting," said one Jerusalem municipal official, who spoke during a news briefing under the condition that he not be identified.

E1 is a narrow 12,000-acre corridor east of Jerusalem that serves as the main thoroughfare connecting the northern and southern portions of the West Bank. Building Jewish settlements in E1 would in effect cut the West Bank in two, irreparably altering the borders of what Palestinians see as their future state, international human rights groups have said.

Construction in E1 was first proposed nearly two decades ago, the Jerusalem municipal official said, but it's been routinely frozen because of pressure from international groups.

"Whenever Israel wants to raise the pressure it knows exactly where to push the buttons," said one senior European diplomat based in Jerusalem, who spoke only on the condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to talk to reporters. "There is no more sensitive topic as E1. It is the red line."

But he, too, thought it was unlikely that Israel would

break ground on construction in E1.

"We have to remember that here in Israel it's election season," he said.

Israeli political analysts said preliminary evidence showed that the decision by Prime

Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to build new settlements could make him more popular with his largely right-wing constituency, many of whom were disappointed that he didn't go further in last month's military operation in the Gaza Strip.



MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON

Marshall junior guard Erica Woods passes the ball around West Virginia defender Avereé Fields during the second half of the women's basketball game between the Marshall Thundering Herd and the West Virginia University Mountaineers at the Charleston Civic Center, on Tuesday.

Classic Continued from Page 3

Leandra King said that no matter the circumstance she never felt like her team could not come back and said she plays the same wherever the game is.

"My mindset is still the same, just go get a win," King said.

Marshall was unable to build the comeback and ultimately fell 64-48 on its second worst shooting outing of the season at 35.3 percent. A shooting performance of 32.8 percent against Marquette was the worst outing of the season.

The Herd struggled from the free throw line, going 5-17.

"That was atrocious," Daniel said.

King, voted Marshall's player of the game, finished with a team leading ten points and chipped in with six rebounds. King said she plays her hardest against everyone she goes up against.

"Me personally, I feel like no one is better than anyone because if you do you beat yourself already," King said.

West Virginia's Crystal Leary finished the game with 12 points, 11 rebounds and five steals, all career highs.

Marshall will next play Southern Illinois Saturday at 1 p.m.

Jeremy Johnson can be contacted at johnson783@marshall.edu.

Bush Continued from Page 2

party members, including many Texans, who accused him of pursuing amnesty. He proposed an immigration plan that included stronger border security, but also a guest-worker program.

In an Oval Office address in May 2006, Bush appealed on behalf of "the vast majority of illegal immigrants are decent people who work hard, support their families, practice their faith and lead responsible lives."

He offered his support for creating a path to citizenship, albeit one that would take a decade or more, for the millions of illegal immigrants already in the U.S.

"Some in this country argue that the solution is to deport

every illegal immigrant, and that any proposal short of this amounts to amnesty. I disagree," Bush said. "It is neither wise, nor realistic to round up millions of people, many with deep roots in the United States, and send them across the border."

But those efforts were stymied in Congress.

And upon leaving the White House, Bush told several news outlets, including The Dallas Morning News, that one of his regrets was first pushing Social Security reform, rather than immigration reform, after the 2004 election.

"If I had to do it over again, I probably would have run immigration after the '04 election, before Social Security," Bush told the News in 2009. "I campaigned on both."

Manning Continued from Page 2

with Manning's photograph and the words "Free Bradley."

Coombs described Manning, 24, as "very encouraged" by the way the pretrial hearings in his case are going. The trial is tentatively scheduled to start in March.

Coombs said he speaks on the phone with Manning every week, and described him as "one of the most intelligent

people I have ever met."

"He is a young man, obviously, and with this has limited experiences," Coombs said.

Last week, Coombs asked the military judge in the case, Col. Denise Lind, to dismiss the charges against Manning, arguing that his nine-month solitary confinement in a Marine brig in Quantico, Va., was illegal punishment. The judge has not yet ruled on the motion.

Manning, through his lawyer,

has indicated that he would be willing to plead guilty to a narrower set of charges that carry a maximum sentence of up to 16 years in prison.

Manning testified that he was stripped and forced to sleep naked for several nights while held in Quantico. Prosecutors said Manning's treatment was consistent with procedures for a prisoner who is considered a suicide risk. Manning was later moved to a cell at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas.

Coombs said Manning's treatment at Quantico was "criminal" and a "disgraceful moment" in U.S. history. He thanked Manning's supporters for pressuring the government to move him to another prison.

"Your actions resulted in Brad being moved from Quantico to Fort Leavenworth," Coombs said. "Make no mistake about that."

Coombs said Manning has received 72,000 letters since his arrest.

Curiosity Continued from Page 1

"We actually have to promote science and engineering," Conway said. "Without the Cold War, there's just no more motivation in popular culture for doing it."

Many of the measures JPL and NASA are taking to promote the Curiosity rover aren't all that different from past efforts.

In 1989, JPL invited Chuck Berry to perform his 1958 hit "Johnny B. Goode" in the lab's auditorium as a final send-off for Voyager 2 as it passed by Neptune and headed toward the edge of the solar system. The song is featured on the golden records carried by the Voyager craft to introduce alien civilizations to

the sounds of Earth.

And in 1997, Mattel Inc. honored Sojourner by creating a Hot Wheels version of the rover, along with the lander and spacecraft. The set was so popular that even JPL's Mars program manager reportedly had to buy one from a scalper.

Not that every publicity idea has materialized. When JPL was planning to dispatch a spacecraft for a rendezvous with the asteroid Hamburga, the lab explored an advertising agreement with McDonald's, said USC historian Peter Westwick. The mission was canceled in 1992 after going over budget.

As the public has become more tech-savvy, so have NASA's public outreach efforts.

Some of the doo-dads are built right into the latest rover,

like the two microchips with the names of more than 1.2 million earthlings who wanted to travel to the Red Planet in some small way. Then there's the augmented-reality tags that are still awaiting their raison d'être — they were stuck on proactively, in case the team came up with an interesting app after landing.

Back on Earth, JPL staffers spent \$11,592 on the cinematic "Seven Minutes of Terror" video, which depicted the rover's harrowing ride down to the Martin surface and garnered 3 million hits on YouTube. A Kinect video game based on the risky landing sequence was produced by Microsoft Corp., which declined to disclose its costs.

Then there's the Spacecraft 3D app, which conjures a lifelike model of the rover

(and other NASA spacecraft) on a smartphone screen. The Mars mission bore part of the \$50,000 price tag for the app, which was downloaded some 220,000 times in the first six weeks it was available.

And NASA has learned to take advantage of celebrities who are interested in its efforts. After William produced an after-school special dedicated to math and science, NASA Administrator Charlie Bolden approached the superstar about collaborating on a tribute to the rover. A few weeks after landing, Curiosity broadcast "Reach for the Stars" from Mars back to JPL.

Altogether, such efforts account for about \$18 million of the Curiosity mission's budget, said JPL spokesman Guy Webster.

GI Bill Continued from Page 1

For-profit colleges and universities have been in the spotlight as a result of several investigations, including one by the VA's online news team.

"In some cases, these schools have ensnared veterans looking for info by using official-looking websites, which funneled potential recruits to those schools without any balanced, objective information," Alex Horton, an Iraq war veteran and VA blogger, wrote Monday on the department's Vantage

Point blog.

The Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions also investigated for-profit colleges and universities. Its findings, reported in July, were that many of them used false advertising to recruit students.

The committee found that most for-profit colleges and universities charge higher tuition than community colleges and flagship state universities do, and that in 2010, 54 percent of the students who had enrolled in for-profit schools in the 2008-09 school year had

dropped out. The report also found that eight of the top 10 recipients of GI Bill funds were for-profit schools.

Specific problems with military-sounding sites came to light last summer with the case of GIBill.com.

That site mimicked the official GI Bill website, www.gibill.va.gov. Attorneys general from 20 states, both Republicans and Democrats, alleged that the company that managed it, QuinStreet Inc., violated consumer protection laws.

They found that several of QuinStreet's sites, including

GIBill.com, were deceptive by giving the appearance of being official and the impression that the schools they listed as eligible for tuition money under the bill, which were almost all for-profits, were the only places where the benefits could be used.

In June, Kentucky Attorney General Jack Conway, who led the effort by the attorneys general, announced that the company had agreed in a settlement to turn over GIBill.com to the VA and pay \$2.5 million to the states involved in the case.

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Life!

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Marshall University employee celebrates 40 year milestone at Morrow Library

By **SUZANN AL-QAWASMI**
THE PARTHENON

When Sue Ellen Bell stepped foot into the classroom of her first college course in 1970, she had no idea she was beginning a 40 year legacy at Marshall University. Bell, library associate in the Government Documents department of James E. Morrow Library, began at Marshall as a freshman work study student and has been working in the library ever since. She received a bachelor's degree and a master's degree, all while working full-time.

"I knew I wanted to get my degree, and working here and being close to my classes was ideal. It was very convenient for my situation at the time," Bell said. "But me continuing work, it just kind of happened that way."

Bell received her bachelor's degree with a major in religious studies and a minor in philosophy, eight years after she began at Marshall and her master's in religious studies several years after she became a full-time employee. She said because of her dedication to work and the library, it took her a long time to complete her degrees. She said she took advantage of the benefits the university provided its employees who were enrolled in classes.

"I was working so much that I had to cut back on the amount of classes I took per semester. I could only afford to be enrolled as a part-time student," Bell said. "But employees had this

educational benefit where we were allowed to leave work for one hour per day to attend classes."

Bell balanced work with classes by using her employee benefit to attend class for an hour per day and by taking classes in the evenings after work. She said Marshall also paid part of the cost for one class while she was working on her undergraduate degree and paid for her graduate classes in full.

"Staying at Marshall was really beneficial for me, because I could continue working at the library and working on my degrees at the same time," Bell said.

Bell said one of the things she has loved most about her job is being able to work alongside such dedicated members of the library staff and administration. She said she feels honored to be considered a part of such an amazing group of people.

"I could never say enough good things about the staff here. Majed Khader, my immediate supervisor, the library administration and the whole information technology team are fantastic to work with," Bell said. "We are a team committed to providing information to our students, faculty and community, and together I really do think we make a difference."

There have been many changes that have taken places at James E. Morrow Library since Bell became a part of the staff. Bell said one of the biggest changes

occurred when the library began going digital.

"Switching to computers was the big change for us because many of us had never really used a computer before. I had to take some computer science classes to learn how to use them," Bell said. "It was so different from what we were used to. To catalog books, I had previously used a typewriter to type up the information on catalog cards."

Despite the many changes, Bell said the library has become like a home to her. Forty years later, her love for the library still has not died.

"I love libraries. I love information and I love learning," Bell said. "I love helping people find the information they need. I don't think of my job as work—it is what I love to do."

Bell said one of her greatest hopes is that students are aware of the large collection of information Government Documents has to offer them. Marshall University is one of 1,250 federal depository libraries in the United States, so Government Documents receives published information from one of the largest printers and disseminators of information in the world, Government Printing Office. Bell said the library has a variety of primary sources available that students may not be able to get anywhere else. She said it is important for students to visit the library, because so many of the documents are not available online.



BELL

"We have so many older primary sources that are not available in the electronic format," Bell said. "Students can really benefit from some of the documents we have in the department, because we have such a valuable historical collection."

Bell recently received a certificate of appreciation from the state for her forty years of service to the state of West Virginia.

"It's two-thirds of my life," Bell said. "I've been working in this building, in this library, for two-thirds of my life."

Bell said it has been nothing short of a positive experience. She said she has loved working at Marshall for as long as she has. She said she plans to work in Government Documents until she retires.

Suzann Al-Qawasmi can be contacted at alqawasmi2@marshall.edu.

Column

'Scream and Shout' hits #1 position in 17 countries on iTunes

By **EVAN FOWLER**
COLUMNIST

Attach the internationally recognized name Britney Spears to any single and it is almost guaranteed to become a number one hit around the world. Spears has recently teamed up with will.i.am on his newest single "Scream and Shout" in preparation for his upcoming studio album "#willpower."

Spears, who has received world-wide acclaim for being the queen of pop music, had her most recent successes stemmed from her "Femme Fatale" album, which went platinum with three number one singles and a high grossing tour. This was enough to place her as seventh on Forbes "Highest Paid Musicians" list for 2012. With no time for a break, Spears is back at it again.

After receiving a radio debut, "On Air with Ryan Seacrest" and a music video debut on Fox's "The X-Factor," this new song has shot straight to number one in 17 different countries on iTunes.

Scream and Shout, which could succeed for weeks on Spears' name alone, is an upbeat electro pop track with the sole purpose of being declared the dance club anthem of the year. "Scream and Shout" uses will.i.am's well known futuristic

sound in conjunction with Spears' fake British accent to build up to a catchy chorus. "All eyes on us, all eyes on us," Spears sings in the build up.

The song combines dance beats with the artists' vocals blended almost seamlessly. The dark tones see will.i.am combining new and old club vibes to create a hit that will remain on charts around the world for at least several weeks. Even though a hit with the masses, many Spears fans will find themselves wishing she had a stronger presence vocally on the song or even a full verse. The mistake many make with this single is that although Spears has the driving name, this is still a will.i.am single and the vocals reflect this by reminding fans she is only a featured artist.

With the impending doom of the earth quickly approaching, according to the Mayan calendar, this song is a great way for all club goers and music fans to "scream and shout, and let it all out," as they dance the final days away. If there is a life after December — will.i.am has a great addition for his new album and Spears has another number one single for her record books.

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