and their bad days. When you're around them so much you can always tell. That means if Fanny, for example, gets up on the wrong side of the still some morning, Wolfe knows to give her a wide berth until her grumpiness goes away.

To the delight of her grandchildren, Cole, 4, and Alivia, 2, the horses come with an assortment of other animals including a pygmy goat. Mary was given as a special Valentine's Day gift from her husband. All the children love her. Her husband and his grandchildren, find endless delight in romping through the fields and exploring all the wonders the farm has to offer. "They love it here," Wolfe says. "They can explore and have adventures, roam and romp, and just be kids.

Wolfe came to the graduate college in August, 1986 and has always worked in the admissions office. She had previously worked for various state agencies and later, while employed by a construction company at the John Amos plant in Putnam County, began dating her first husband John Meeks. A well known and much respected football coach, the Kanawha Valley, in 1994 he coached his South Charleston High School team to the state championship with their son, Jason as the quarterback. John Meeks died in 1996, leaving behind Mary and their two children, Julia, who was a senior in college, and Jason, a high school senior. It was a tough time, Wolfe admits, one that she got through only with the help of her family and friends, and her coworkers.

"We are so close in our department," she says reflectively. "We've all had our share of bad times. Like a family we share each other's tragedies but also the triumphs. I love the people I work with and the people I work for. They've all been wonderful to me and they're always there when I need them."

With her marriage creasingly a me, Mary's life got back on track and the couple realized a long-awaited dream when they moved to their farm two years ago. She's even upbeat about the daily hour and a half commute to work each day. "I don't mind it at all," she says cheerfully. "It's my quiet time. I can collect my thoughts and plan for the day.

In her early days in the admissions office she and her coworkers routinely did their share of traveling. Under a paperwork system that seems straight out of the Flintstone era now, the admissions office, along with the finance office and assorted faculty members, loaded up vans in the spring and fall and headed down the turnpike for various points in southern West Virginia. They left on Friday and spent the weekend meeting and registering students in Beckley, Bluefield, Athens, Princeton and Summersville. This entailed transporting, among other paper records, mammoth books of course information and computer printouts. It was a humbling task for the staff but it was much appreciated by students, who had the staff and faculty come to them before the era of computers made instantaneous contact a reality. Wolfe says.

Today virtually all admissions transaction can be done by computer, she says. Catalogs and schedules are now available online and an application for admission will soon be online as well. "Just a click of a button and we can do everything. We've really come a long way."

"The technical changes have certainly made my job easier," she says. "but I miss the interaction with students that we used to have I like meeting students in person and talking with them and luckily some still do come through here."

After some very dark days, her life is going well for her now. "I'm so happy with my life right now. I've been so lucky to have had two wonderful men in my life. I have wonderful children, step-children, grandchildren, step-grandchildren and we're expecting another grandson in September. My parents are in good health and live on the adjoining farm. I have the best coworkers and the best supervisor in the world. This is the greatest time of my life. My husband and I are very happy, and I've turned out to be what every parent dreams about."

But that's no accident, she says mischievously, "I tell them, after all, they've got great bloodlines!"
Marshall Surpasses Goal on Campaign for National Prominence

When Marshall University kicked off the public phase of its Campaign for National Prominence in December 2002, it set an unprecedented goal of raising $100 million in private donations by Dec. 31, 2005. On Friday, Feb. 29, President Kopp, President and CEO of the Marshall University Foundation, Inc., announced that Marshall not only reached its goal, but exceeded it by 10 percent. The total amount raised or pledged in the campaign was nearly $110 million, Kerkkan said.

"This campaign has lifted people’s sights as to what we can collectively accomplish at Marshall," Kerkkan said. "And once sights are raised they never return to the old nirvana.

"Raising $100 million was a daunting task," Tim Haymaker, national chairman of the campaign, said. "To get to $110 million is incredible. This is the first of many

Army ROTC Unit Receives National Recognition

Marshall University’s Army ROTC has been recognized as one of the top 100 ROTC units for the school year 2004-2005 according to Major General W. Montague Winfield, commanding general of the U.S. Army Cadet Command.

In a letter to President Kopp, Winfield wrote, “This is an outstanding achievement for the Marshall University ROTC unit and students at Marshall University.

"The continuing success of the Thundering Herd ROTC program is a true team effort, and we would not be successful if not for the overwhelming support we receive from the university and the community,” said Lt. Col. Joseph Samek, professor of Military Science and director of the ROTC program at Marshall. "The administration, starting with President Kopp and Acting President Farrell before him, the college’s coaches and the many staff and faculty, support our program and help mentor our cadets.

Samek said the Army ROTC is an affair, along with many friends and alumni of the ROTC program, have

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Third House Earns More Than $10,000 for School

The Third House, an annual "evening of political satire" that allows the capital press corps to poke fun at state leaders, continued its tradition of comedy by bringing a near full house to the Cultural Center on Monday, March 6. This year’s event also brought in $10,850 for Marshall University’s W. Page Fitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications (SOJC).

"We really appreciate all the hard work and creativity that goes into the Third House," said Dr. Corley Dennisen, director of the Marshall University’s W. Page Fitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications.

We also appreciate our sponsors of the Third House, West Virginia Lottery and West Virginia University’s W. Page Fitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications.

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Japanese Exchange Web Site Added to CIP Site

The Far East just moved a little closer to Marshall, thanks to the creation of a new Japanese cultural exchange Web site sponsored by the MU Center for International Programs (CIP). The site, located at www.marshall.edu/cip/japan, features online centers for conversation, exchange and travel tips but is not complete yet, according to Jessica Cox, a Marshall student who is developing the program.

"What we have put together is a place for students to meet and create their own exchange environment," Cox said. "We have created a sort of online open space so student can always add to it and it will be what they want. It doesn’t want the site to be ‘finished.

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Note of Thanks

To my friends at Marshall,

Many, many heartfelt thanks to all of you who contributed catastrophic love to me while I have been off these past several months. God will reward you for your kindness and generosity. God bless all of you.

Freda Richardson

We Are...Marshall!

Published by University Communications, with offices in Huntington (213 Old Main) and South Charleston (312 Administration Building).

The next regular issue of We Are...Marshall! will carry an issue date of March 24, 2006. Deadline is March 17. Articles or other materials for consideration should be sent to Pat Dickson, editor, We Are...Marshall!, 312 Administration Building, Charleston campus or by e-mail to pdickson@marshall.edu.

Profile: Mary Wolfe

A series on interesting Marshall University people.

After she finishes her day as a records clerk in the admissions office at MU in South Charleston, Mary Wolfe heads home to Mason County, where, after a scenic boulevard ride down her husband’s, including Angel, Fanny, Rachel, Sugar, Lassie, Dominique, and..." she says. "I’d sure miss her if I didn’t hear her barking at the door.

No, they’re not her children, but they might as well be for all the care and attention she bestows on them. They’re quarter horses, valuable broodmares producing prize-winning foals, which Wolfe and her husband, Dale, raise, show and sell.

"Two of our colts have gone on to become reserve world champions. "We now have horses in the latest one born March 6th. We run a business, we raise the foals and sell them to the people who train and show them.

"In addition to the horses, there’s Coot, a cold, laid-back stallion who is bred to about half the mares. The other mares are being in the process of being foaled.

Horses are nothing new, Wolfe, the daughter of long-time state Commissioner of Agriculture Gus Douglas, and her mother, Anna Leon grew up on a farm and bad her first pony at age 5. "I’ve always been a country girl," Wolfe says happily. "My husband and I both love horses; they’re a big part of our lives. We run a business but we don’t do this just for the money. We wouldn’t be happy without horses in our lives.

But the horses require an enormous commitment from the couple. Wolfe says, "I’ve got a couple cases for them, all they do is take me a brief time away from the stables. And when Wolfe gets home after putting in a long day’s work at the graduate college, she only has time to fix dinner before heading for the barn where she and Dale usually work until 11 p.m. When a horse needs medication, they set the alarm clock and rise through the night to administer the dose, just as they would for their children. When an expectant mare goes into labor, she is monitored on a video camera placed in a stall. The picture is relayed to a receiver in the barn that allows the Wolfe to keep close track on her progress.

Most of the time things go well with the birthing process, but things go unfortunately wrong. The couple recently lost one of their prized mares when, even with good medical attention, she was unable to deliver her foal and they had to make a tough decision.

"It is so hard to lose one of my ladies," Wolfe says sadly. "I have a real attachment to the mare..." She said with a smile on her face. "We wouldn’t be happy without horses in our lives.

Mary Anna Love

From Page 1

helps you with anything... Everyone should have a staff member like her... a real team player.

Baden said Love is punctual and often extends her work day, staying late to help students complete their work. "She definitely supports the mission of the university in her transactions with students, staff, faculty, administrators and the people she works with. She’s outside her job duties in order to accommodate the staff and students and to keep the department running smoothly.

Combs says, “She is always kind and supportive to our students and to the faculty. She works late, comes in early, helps those struggling with their job expectations, assisting them with student projects, helping faculty with special projects; all with a smile on her face. She is easy to talk to, has a great sense of humor and tends to take things in stride.

In her nomination, Fox wrote, “Mary Ann always goes the extra mile to make sure everything she does is done correctly... Although she works under the pressures of Nursing, Mary Ann always volunteers to help me with my projects... Marshall got a gem when Mary Ann came to work here."

Stotts wrote, "Mary Anna is an exceptional person. She anticipates your needs. She is very caring and goes out of her way to help the students. Turner noted “She unselfishly goes out of her way to do work for the faculty and interact with students. She is a top notch teacher and a great learner, always willing to take on extra responsibilities, said Welch. "She is willing to do whatever is needed for the good of the school, please consider her for all students, faculty, other staff and administrators. Mary Anna truly cares about others’ successes and challenges, both in and out of the classroom."

Love was presented with a plaque, a balloon bouquet, and a check for $100 from President Stephen J. Kopp.

Japanese Exchange from Page 3

because that would mean students are no longer using it to talk and share their culture. The site is titled "Hiroba," which is a Japanese word used to mean "open square." It offers a place for students who are either from Japan or interested in Japanese culture to share cultural practices and beliefs. Students can share photo albums from travel, meet conversational partners, learn more about Japanese language skills, or find traditional Japanese recipes.

Faculty and Staff Achievements

Dr. Michael Norton and Dr. Michael Castellani of the Department of Chemistry recently served as external reviewers for the departments of chemistry at Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania and Western Carolina University.


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