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HE PARTHE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2015 | VOL. 118 NO. 72 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | marshallparthenon.com

INSIDE:

NEWS, 2

- > MLK MARCH
- > JURIED EXHIBITION
- > WE CHALLENGE U
- > NEW CAM DEGREE



SPORTS, 3

- > TENNIS OPENER
- > VOLLEYBALL **ACADEMICS**
- > ROBERTA FERGUSON



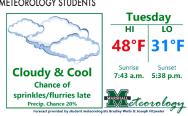
OPINION, 4 > 'AMERICAN SNIPER' > USING THE REC CENTER



LIFE!, 6 > HUMANS OF

- > BLACK SHEEP BREWS > TRIBUTE TO
- PRESIDENT STEPHEN





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Interim President Gary White talks to students and faculty at his welcome reception Friday in the John Deaver Drinko Library. AMY NAPIER | THE PARTHENON FFT THE PRESIDENT Welcome reception brings Interim President and students, faculty together

By AMY NAPIER

THE PARTHENON

Marshall University students, faculty and staff gathered in the John Deaver Drinko Library Friday to welcome Interim President Gary White and his wife Jo Ann to the university.

The Whites made themselves known to each of their guests, who consisted of both old and new faces.

Dorothy Hicks, a former Marshall athletic director and friend of the family, said she was not the only one who is happy to see White appointed.

"Many people told me he should be the one appointed," Hicks said. "And that just shows the caliber of a person

Senior biology major, Kyle Sebastian, said he really enjoyed the opportunity to meet the new presi-

It was very uplifting to see everyone gathered together in such a positive atmosphere.

-Kyle Sebastian, senior

"It was very uplifting to see everyone gathered together in such a positive atmosphere," Sebastian said. "I think this really showed a strong sense of community, and President White was just really pleasant to speak with."

White was appointed to the position after President Stephen J. Kopp died unexpectedly Dec. 17, 2014.

"It's a learning experience," White said. "We are very pleased, though, to be here and in a position to help the

The Whites are currently living on campus in the Freshman North dormitory until they can find a permanent home in Huntington.

Vandalism

concern for

cause of

students

"I'm assuming

they thought it was

cocaine because

iPod to get it."

- Daniel Thomas

they bypassed my

After a recent stint of vandalism near Marshall University's

campus, residents are con-

cerned there is not enough

being done to prevent these

Several vehicles had their

tires slashed Jan. 13 on Buff-

ington Avenue, according to

Rachel Marshall, a Buffington

Avenue resident and student at

Marshall, said she noticed the

flat tires as she arrived home

from class and immediately re-

ported them to the authorities.

it was not my vehicle, they

couldn't send an officer down

or anything," Marshall said.

"They had to wait until the

owners of those vehicles actu-

Marshall said she was not

"Instead of feeling comforted and safe with the officers start-

ing to patrol the area which is

what I wanted," Marshall said. "I felt like an idiot for calling

This incident is just one exam

ple of reported and unreported crime in that block alone.

Marshall's roommate, Jenna Burch, a nursing student at Marshall, was a victim of a car

break-in during the fall semester. "My driver side window was smashed, and they took a bunch of change out of the cup holders," Burch said. "It happened to three other people in my parking lot prior to that, and now

the same phenomenon is happening with the tire slashing so

I think preventative measures should be taken more seriously. Rachel and I constantly worry

Daniel Thomas, a frequent

"My passenger side window was completely busted out,"

Thomas said. "When I looked around inside, the only thing I found to be missing was my white powdery hand chalk I used when I play billiards. I'm assuming they thought it was cocaine because they bypassed

Thomas said he filed a police report and they said they would step up patrol of that area and call him if they found a suspect. Tyler Ferris can be contacted at ferris26@marshall.

visitor of the area, had the window of his car broken into

about safety on Buffington."

during the fall as well.

my iPod to get it."

edu.

since it was not my car."

pleased with that response.

ally called to report it."

"I was informed that since

By TYLER FERRIS

types of incidents.

eyewitness reports.

THE PARTHENON

White is a Marshall alumnus and has a Regents Bachelor of Arts degree. White said this opportunity has given him the chance to reconnect with the campus.'

"It's still just as beautiful, and I consider it to be very safe," White said.

He also served on the university's Board of Governors, which is one of the several committees he will be working with in the upcoming presidential search.

White will not be eligible for the permanent presidential position because of his current role.

He expects the process to last approximately six to nine months.

Amy Napier can be contacted at

dent face-to-face. community." napier168@live.marshall.edu. KAITLYN CLAY | THE PARTHENON MIXING THE ELEMENTS? Amalgam series opens in Birke Art Gallery

By KAITLYN CLAY

THE PARTHENON

An opening reception for its newest show Amalgam took place Tuesday at Birke Art Gallery.

Amalgam art is that which uses a mixture of elements. It fuses independent objects, mediums or substances to create a separate piece of art.

The exhibit is the first in a series of shows based off of the art foundations program courses.

Each show will make its main theme based around the core principles taught in each of the foundation courses for freshman and sophomore art and design students.

Megan Schultz, director of Birke Art Gallery, said she wanted to make sure a variety of art was available.

"We have almost every format represented," Schultz said. "We have everything from photographs to sculptures to prints. It was our main goal to represent as many types of art as we possibly could."

Brianna Jarvis, sophomore graphic design student, attended the gallery exhibit and said Amalgam work has really affected and influenced her this year.

"In my sophomore review, Amalgam work is a main focus," Jarvis said. "It's cool to see work based on that since I have to make my own gallery for my review."

Schultz said she also tried to get a large number of artists to contribute work and add regional diversity.

"We have artists from numerous places," Schultz said. "We have artists all the way from Indiana and Georgia to local people from right here in West Virginia. Many of the artists were invited by the faculty or

workers in the gallery and then were narrowed down to the work we have here today."

According to the exhibition statement, the aim for the series is to provide physical examples of the core principles so students and the community will have a deeper knowledge of Amalgam work.

The exhibit is open to the public 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday and noon to 4 p.m. Friday until Feb. 18 at Birke Art Gallery.

Kaitlyn Clay can be contacted at clay122@marshall.edu.



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2015 | THE PARTHENON MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Huntington residents march in remembrance of Martin Luther King, Jr. and his fight for civil

By CAITLIN FOWLKES

THE PARTHENON

The Huntington community came together on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day to march from the 16th Street Baptist Church to the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center 4:30

Preceding the march was a history of events leading up to the need for civil rights speech given by Sylvia Ridgeway, president of the West Virginia Conference of Branches and Huntington - Cabell Branch of the NAACP.

"You can be the catalyst for continued change that is needed in the world today," Ridgeway said during her speech.

Rabbi Jean Eglinton of the B'nai Shalom Jewish Synagogue carried a Torah in the march.

A group of children from the A.D. Lewis Community Center waved signs led by one of the community center's workers, Jasmine Felder.

"I used to attend the center as a child and march every year," Felder said. "Now I work at the center and bring the children to march. It is a very inspirational time; it's a symbol of hope."

Maurice Cooley, associate vice president of the office of intercultural affairs, said he hopes people continue to celebrate the freedom they have.

"I hope that most of us in modern day society have come to appreciate and understand the importance of solidarity and how to embrace the lives of others irrelevant of the color of their skin, lifestyle, race or religion," Cooley said. "We must continue to celebrate the freedom that we now have."

Huntington Mayor Stephen Williams, was also found amongst the people marching the streets of Huntington and singing hymns.

The assembly was given a police escort and was followed by a trolley for those who could not walk the length of the march.

People stood on porches and clapped for the marchers as they passed by.

The march was followed by a series of speeches, performances, prayers and gospels at the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center 5:30 p.m.

Caitlin Fowlkes can be contacted at fowlkes2@marshall.edu.



College of Arts and Media offering new degree

By MIKAELA KEENER

THE PARTHENON

The College of Arts and Media will offer a new Bachelor of Arts degree starting fall 2015 for students who are interested in the arts, but not interested in performing.

With this degree, students will take classes in music, art and theatre but will require fewer hours than the regular arts degree.

Coordinator of Music History and Literature, Vicki Stroeher said students could also take classes that will help them with the career they want.

Classes focused in public relations or management will help the students gain knowledge in the other aspects of the careers they

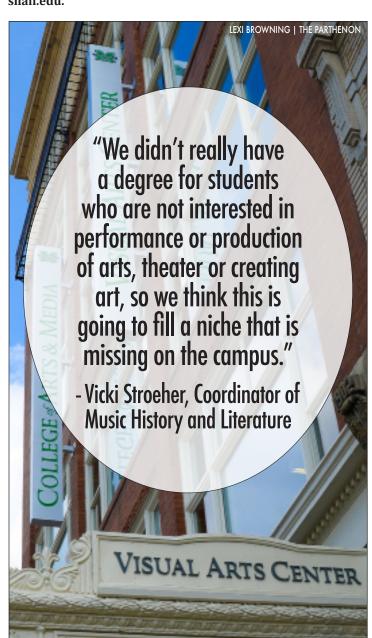
"It offers more potential majors and broadens our scope and allows us to work with colleges across the campus," Stroeher said.

Depending on the career the student wants will determine what classes the student will take Stroeher said. Students who are interested in music management will take some of the required courses for music majors such as music theory and music history to help the student learn all sides of the music industry.

"We didn't really have a degree for students who are not interested in performance or production of arts, theater or creating art," said Stroeher. "So we think this is going to fill a niche that is missing on the campus."

Some of the careers that come out of this degree include art therapy, music management, museum coordinator and arts administration.

Mikaela Keener can be contacted at keener31@live.marshall.edu.



Fourth Annual National Juried Exhibition presents diverse collection



By MATTHEW PRANDONI

THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's Fourth Annual National Juried Exhibition occurred Thursday at the Visual Arts Center Gallery. The event consisted of 27 pieces of art from 18 exhibitors.

The pieces of art were of different medi-

ums. Some mediums included sculptures, paintings, photography and mixed media.

Juror Arif Kahn, Marie Price Ratrie curator of art at the Clay Center for the Arts and Sciences, gave the Juror's Choice award to Jane Notides-Benzing for her two pieces called "Whirlwind Nights" and "Woodwinds."

Notides-Benzing said she has been painting and drawling since elementary

"Now being an older person, I'm retired, and I have much more time to devote to my art," Notides-Benzing said.

Notides-Benzing will receive a \$200 reward.

Honorable Mention awards were also giving out to Jim Toub's mixed media piece "Mapping Invisible Cities-2" and to Maurice Mufson's photo "Light and Solitude."

Megan Schultz, gallery director at the Visual Arts Center, said the artists submitted work from as far as Nebraska, New York State, Michigan, Virginia, Ohio and West Virginia.

The audience included Marshall University students and faculty.

Marshall art student Liza Caldwell said it was more than what she expected.

"It is a high level of art," Caldwell said.

The Visual Arts Center Gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and the art from the

exhibition can be seen until Feb. 20. Matthew Prandoni can be contacted

American Red Cross to sponsor month long campus blood drive

By ERIKA JOHNK

THE PARTHENON

The American Red Cross will introduce a We Challenge U Blood Drive at universities and colleges through Feb. 28.

The drive will be at Marshall University Jan. 21 from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Don Morris Room located in room 2W40 of the Memorial Student Center.

This event will guarantee the American Red Cross will have an adequate supply of blood for the winter months.

Marianne Spampinato, the external communications manager at American Red Cross located in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, said they need all blood types, but 0 negative, A negative and B negative are urgently needed.

"Everyday we need donors of all blood types in order to make sure we have efficient supplies to anyone in need," Spampinato said.

The We Challenge U program promotes the importance of blood donors and gets the students involved within the community to encourage friends, family and faculty to donate blood to the American Red Cross during these winter months.

January is the National Blood Donor Month that has been recognized since 1970 and it is a difficult time for blood

donations due to weather conditions along with the cold and flu season.

According to the American Red Cross statistics, donors from high school and college blood drives account for 20 percent of donations given through the American Red Cross. Blood donors will receive an American Red Cross t-shirt.

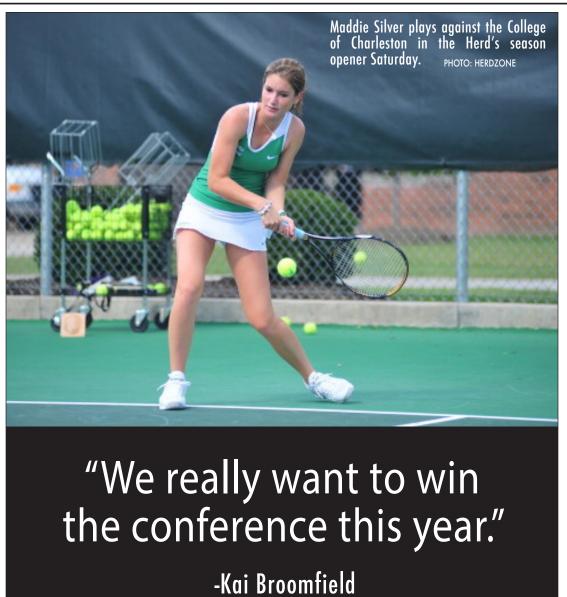
All student blood drive coordinators whose blood drives meet their set goal or exceed it, will be entitled to win one of five \$100 gift cards.

The winners will be decided by a raffle drawing.

Erika Johnk can be contacted at johnk@marshall.edu.

SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2015 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM



Herd tennis triumphs in season opener

By MALCOLM WALTON

THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's tennis team won five of its six singles matches and two of its three doubles matches Saturday and defeated the College of Charleston 6-1 in its spring season opener.

"I thought we did really good for the first day, for the level of competition," Marshall head coach John Mercer said. "The College of Charleston is a really good team. This was a tough match for us."

Led by senior Samantha Maddox, who had 18 wins last season, the Cougars finished last spring as runner-up of the Colonial Athletic Association.

Mercer said he was impressed with his team responding so well against an opponent who has won multiple conference championships in recent years, especially considering his team is much

younger than most teams.

The Herd has three freshmen and four sophomores on its eight-person roster this season. The lone upperclassman is senior Kai Broomfield.

Sophomore Derya Turhan, who is ranked No. 116 nationally in singles, said Broomfield sets a good example for the younger players.

"Kai tries really hard all of the time," Turhan said. "She never gives up. She always fights. It's easy to respect someone like that."

Despite being the only upperclassmen, Broomfield said she does not feel as if there is added pressure placed on her.

"Everyone on the team is very disciplined and everyone wants to win," Broomfield said. "So, I really don't have to do much in that regard. I really just enjoy being a member of the team. There are times I look to my teammates for

motivation even though they are younger than me."

Regardless of their class difference, Broomfield and Turhan both have similar aspirations for the season – winning C-USA.

"We really want to win the conference this year," Broomfield said. "We came close last year, so that's the only goal we have this year."

Turhan, who is the first Herd player to be ranked since 2011, also has her eyes set on a C-USA championship banner.

"We have a really young team, but a really good team," Turhan said. "We can do this."

The Herd's next match will be against top-ranked UCLA Jan. 24. The game will be played in Los Angeles. The time of the match has not yet been announced.

Malcolm Walton can be contacted at walton47@ marshall.edu.

Herd volleyball achieves academic honors



By JILL SHEMANSKI

THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University women's volleyball team made a statement with its academic achievements during the 2014 fall semester.

The Herd had a team GPA average of 3.72. The continued success came after leading the Herd athletic programs in the spring with a team GPA of 3.5

While in season, 14 of the 15 volleyball players earned a GPA of 3.0 or better, and six of the players received a 4.0 GPA during the fall semester.

Maggie Westfall, a freshman team member, was among one of the six players to earn a 4.0.

"As a freshman it was vitally important to me to achieve the best grades possible because freshman year is the foundation for the rest of my college experience," Westfall said. "After accomplishing a 4.0 my first semester, I am driven to keep focusing on my studies so that I will be able to maintain this GPA in succeeding semesters."

Head volleyball coach Mitch Jacobs said these accomplishments show dedication.

"To have a team GPA over 3.7 during our season time, or anytime, shows a real dedication from our student-athletes."

Jacobs gives credit for the team's academic success to the advisers and support system from the

Buck Harless Student-Athlete Program.

Sophomore libero Allie Kellerman also received a 4.0 for the fall semester and gives thanks to the helpful academic support the athletes receive from the Buck Harless Center.

"It is comforting to know that if I'm struggling with a class, need a tutor, or just want to print an assignment, I can go to the Buck and talk to an advisor or another helpful staff member," Kellerman said.

Joining volleyball with team average GPAs of 3.0 or better last semester were tennis (3.59), swimming (3.51), women's golf (3.48), women's soccer (3.48), softball (3.33) and track and field (3.05). Each of those teams' average GPAs went up from the 2014 spring semester as well.

At the end of the fall semester, 183 Herd student-athletes, or 53 percent of all enrolled student-athletes had 3.0 cumulative GPAs, which is higher than the 47 percent last May.

The Herd volleyball team along with fellow teams with 3.0 cumulative or fall semester GPAs will be recognized at half time on Jan. 22 in the Cam Henderson Center during the Marshall men's basketball game against The University of Texas at San Antonio.

 $\label{limit} \emph{Jillian Shemanski} \ can \ be \ contacted \ at \ shemanski@marshall.edu.$

Former Herd tennis player calls Huntington home

By KASEY MADDEN

THE PARTHENON

From the small town of Pineville in southern West Virginia, Roberta Ferguson started playing tennis at Marshall University in 1974, unaware she would still call Huntington home 41 years later.

Ferguson played singles and doubles tennis from fall 1974 to spring 1978.

Her highest seed achieved in singles was second her senior year and was seeded lower in doubles.

"I was a fairly strong player, but I certainly was not great," Ferguson said.

During her tennis years, Marshall women's athletics competed in an independent West Virginia conference, playing only schools from the state in the fall season.

Ferguson said for the postseason the teams played a state tournament, sending the winner to the Midwest Regional tournament in the spring.

Marshall played in the regional tournament twice while Ferguson was on the team, facing Big Ten schools like Ohio State University and Indiana University.

"We really got clobbered, but it was a lot of fun and we felt really good about beating WVU, because they were our strongest opponent," Ferguson said.

Through her tennis career at Marshall, Ferguson said she learned a lot about life from the competition.

"Attitude is everything," Ferguson said. "When I would go out on the tennis court and warm-up with my opponent, I decided right then if I was going to win or if I was going to lose, based on who appeared to be the strongest in the warm-up. I never won a match that I thought I was going to lose and I never lost I match

that I thought I was going to win."

Ferguson's advice on competition

Ferguson's advice on competition applies to those on and off the tennis court.

"Go out and compete. Don't make up your mind ahead of time that you're a failure," Ferguson said.

The tennis team's record was 29-13 while Ferguson played, with a 10-1 season in 1976. Regardless, she said she learned more from losing than winning.

"If you win, you just go off and celebrate and you don't really replay the match in your mind or look at where you made your mistakes, and if you lose, you do," Ferguson said. "You tend to analyze it more so that you can win the next time."

The end of Ferguson's tennis career was just the beginning of her actual career at Marshall.

Ferguson graduated in the spring of 1978 and started working on a grant in the College of Education in 1979.

Since 1979, Ferguson has only spent one year working away from Marshall and has been on staff for 33 years.

Ferguson has been faithful to Marshall for many decades and this service has not gone unnoticed.

In November, Ferguson was honored as Marshall University's M Club member of the year. According to its website, the M Club is a combination of those who have participated in Marshall Athletics and seek to bring them together.

"Athletics, I'm a big believer," Ferguson said. "I think it makes you a lot stronger as a person and it helps you prepare for competition in life."

Ferguson now works in the registrar's office at Marshall and works closely with the athletic department by reviewing team rosters, checking GPAs of student athletes, and making sure students are academically eligible for competition.

Her perspective on athletics and competition provides advice for those on the court or in the classroom.

"You've got to play the game. You can't decide before it starts whether you're going to win or lose," Ferguson said.

Ferguson is one of many former Marshall athletes employed by the university. Others include Athletic Director Mike Hamrick, faculty member Brian Morgan, Director of Printing Services John Winters and Executive Director School of Medicine Alumni Association Linda Holmes.

Kasey Madden can be contacted at madden24@marshall. edu.

Submitted Photo



THE PARTHENON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2015 MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

The Parthenon

The Parthenon, Marshall University's student newspaper, is published by students Monday through Friday during the regular semester and Thursday during the summer. The editorial staff is responsible for news and editorial content.

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AMENDMENT | United States of America

THE FIRST | The Constitution of the

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.

BE HERD: GUIDELINES FOR SENDING LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Please keep letters to the editor at 300 words or fewer. They must be saved in Microsoft Word and sent as an attachment. Longer letters may be used as guest request. All letters must be Parthenon staff. signed and include an adconfirmation. Letters may be edited for grammar, libelous statements, available space or factual errors. Compelling

letters that are posted on The Parthenon website, www. marshallparthenon.com, can be printed at the discretion of the editors.

The opinions expressed columns at the editor's discre- in the columns and letters tion. Guest column status will do not necessarily repnot be given at the author's resent the views of The

dress or phone number for to the editors at parthenon@marshall.edu. Please keep in mind, letters are printed based on timeliness, newsworthiness and space.



An almost unrecognizable Bradley Cooper dominated the silver screen during the long holiday weekend in "American Sniper." The straightforward account of Navy SEAL Chris Kyle, the man deemed the deadliest marksman

in U.S. military history depicted by a 40-poundheavier Cooper, broke several records this including weekend becoming the highest earning January release of all time and director Clint Eastwood's highest earning film at \$107.2 million.

With its recordbreaking opening, "American Sniper" has amassed its share of slams. Though critical reviews of the film rave about Eastwood's complex exploration into Kyle as a character, it has received political critiques from many commenters including condemnation for being nothing more than an

American ego-booster — "a heartfelt salute to U.S. muscle" — and for glorifying Kyle as a mass killer.

The film was never intended to become political. Both Cooper and Eastwood denied any political intentions in multiple interviews.

character study," Cooper told The Guardian. "We hope that you can have your eyes opened to the struggle of the soldier rather than the specifics of the war."

But despite the filmmakers'

intentions, "American Sniper" has endured political backlash since its wide release.

"American Sniper' kind of reminds me of the movie that's showing in the third act of 'Inglorious Basterds;" actor Seth Rogen Yes, he is faced with making decisions no human should ever have to make. And yes, it is a passionate display of Americanism.

But is that not the point?

Regardless of its ambiguous message, "American Sniper" leaves

man himself noted in his memoir, he enjoyed killing, especially considering his belief that every person he shot was a "bad guy."

So the man lived in a gray area. Maybe that statement downplays the extent of his hatred toward the

> enemy he believed he was fighting, but do his personal beliefs make him less of an American hero?

The fact is that he saved countless American lives, a feat he deemed worthy of his sacrifice. We have no right to condemn him for defining justice for himself.

The morally ambiguous nature of the film cannot be ignored. Its subtlety allows viewers to develop their own opinions based on the emotional content on the screen. The opening scene is a perfect example as Kyle must decide whether to pull the trigger on a young boy as he charges, grenade in hand, toward a troop of

Marines. The scene depicts a common dilemma for many American snipers — take the shot and save fellow soldiers, or do not take the shot for the sake of a young life.

"American Sniper" is an attempt



AP PHOTO | WARNER BROS. PICTURES | KEITH BERNSTEIN

In these images released by Warner Bros. Pictures, Kyle Gallner, left, and Bradley Cooper appear in a scene from "American Sniper." The film is based on the autobiography by Chris Kyle.

tweeted Sunday.

Though, when taken in context, Rogen's statement most likely came from a comedic standpoint, as do most statements made by the actor, people took it as a connection to Nazi propaganda.

It is not a complicated film on its surface level. Instead, the complexities of "American Sniper" must be subtly unraveled, piece-by-piece. Yes, it is a patriotic depiction of Kyle's struggle to find peace within himself as war rages around him.

viewers with a lasting impression of what it means to take one life or in this case hundreds of lives — for the sake of another. It examines the intricacies of patriotism beautifully and painfully.

There is, of course, another argument surrounding the criticism been criticized of being xenophobic, racist and psychotic.

Kyle claimed to have killed more than 255 people during a six-year career as a Navy Seal, and, as the

to understand what it feels like to make that decision and the effect of the film. Chris Kyle himself has the choice had on an undeniable American war hero. If it boosts the American ego, so be it. Eastwood's picture and Cooper's performance will be considered valuable historical pieces of film for years.



Get your voice Herd

Want the chance to give your fellow students valuable advice? Is there any topic you love to talk about, but you know your friends' eyes glaze over when you talk about it? Whether it's music, politics or Marshall University, The Parthenon is looking for regular

columnists for its opinions page.
Columns should be between 300-500 words, well-written and researched. Columns will be edited for grammar, libelous statements, available space or factual errors.

This is your chance to let your voice be heard.

For more information, contact managing editor Jocelyn Gibson at gibson243@marshall.edu.

Take advantage of the Rec

Included in student fees, the Rec could help students reach their 2015 fitness goals

By BRI SHELTON **COLUMNIST**

There are so many Marshall University students who don't take advantage of the Rec Center the way they should.

College is essentially the only time in our lives that a gym will be so easily accessible to us. For some, it's a simple walk from a dorm room that may only be a few yards away. For others, it's simply scheduling a time in their day to stop by to exercise. Basically everyone has the same opportunities for a good workout.

We are already paying for our membership to the Rec in our tuition, so there's really no excuse not to use it. It's too much money on our end not to use the facility at all. Even if exercise isn't your thing, there are many activities to partake in. You can play basketball with your friends, take a swim, join a yoga class, or even run on a treadmill. There's something for everyone, regardless of how in

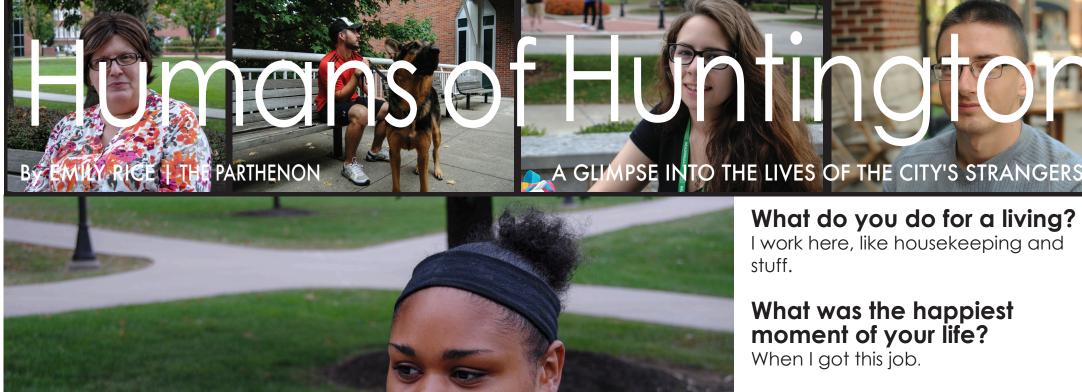
shape you are or what your endurance level is. You can also try different things until you find something that suits your gym persona.

Staying healthy and keeping in shape is important at any time in one's life, especially at our age. If we improve our physical activity this early on, we are more likely to keep up the pace throughout our lives. This will definitely lead to many benefits all around and could increase our lifespan and reduce our risk for obesity and heart disease. If the good outweighs the bad, why would anyone avoid getting in shape?

With the start of 2015 and a new semester, it's a perfect time to start penciling in trips to the Rec to stay fit. Unlike other New Year resolutions, this is one that everyone should keep. If it involves your health, it's a great idea, especially while in college.

Bri Shelton can be contacted at shelton76@live. marshall.edu.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2015 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM



If you could give one piece of advice to a large group of people, what would it be? Don't give up and keep trying, that's

what I do.

What is an example of a time in your life that you haven't given up?

I got my own job, my own place, graduated high school, and made it on my own.

GVB brings new brew to Black Sheep

By KELSIE LIVELY

THE PARTHENON

Brian Rymiller, head brewer for Greenbrier Valley Brewing Company, visited Black Sheep Burrito & Brews Monday night to introduce their new Winter Run IPA craft beer.

GVB also showcased potential food pairings to accompany the flavors of the beer followed by a question and answer session with

Rymiller said the Winter Run is an American IPA that showcases the hops flavor within the beer.

Located in Lewisburg, West Virginia, the newly established craft brewery serves two flagship beers throughout West Virginia along with seasonal beers.

GVB is the 11th craft brewery in the state and has been welcomed with open arms.

"It [feedback] has been amazing," Rymiller said. "People are super excited about local beer."

Greenbrier Valley Brewing Company uses a mash filter system that allows the grain to be ground into flour like substance allowing for 25 percent more efficiency from the product than a traditional system. It also uses 30-35 percent less water.

A homegrown brewery using local grains is something GVB is looking at for the future. However, the additional cost of sending the barley to the small craft malting company is keeping it from being able to use local grain.

"In today's market, craft beer connoisseurs are looking for what's new," Rymiller said. "In order to be competitive we have to be willing to try new techniques. People are more educated about beer and they know what to look for so you can't sell bad beer

The process of establishing a new flavor is a loose process for



Brian Rymiller of Green Mountain Brewery premiers three new beers at Black Sheep Burritos & Brews Monday.

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Rymiller. By being a part of the brewing community up and down the east coast, he has established relationships with people in the industry.

"I've been a brewer for almost 20 years, so I have a relationship with people in the industry," Rymiller said. "They will contact me with new hop flavors to try."

According to GVB, because there is a widespread market in West Virginia, the production of packaged beer allows them to reach a greater audience.

The introduction to their draft beer has been a slower process.

"Eighty percent of our profits are from packaged beer production," Crystal Bishop, director of marketing and sales, said. "The other 20 percent of sales comes from draft beer production."

Along with Black Sheep, Greenbrier Valley Brewing Company's three current beers are being sold at Davis' Place, The Union, Huntington Ale House, Hanks 4th Ave and Evolve.

Tours of GVB are unavailable while the tasting center of their facility is under construction.

They hope to begin tours and tastings by March. Kelsie Lively can be contacted at lively37@marshall.edu.



THERE ARE NO LIMITS TO WHAT IS POSSIBLE, **ONLY THE ONES** WE IMPOSE ON **OURSELVES.**

Stephen J. Kopp 1951-2014