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THE PARTHENON

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015 | VOL. 119 NO. 26 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | marshallparthenon.com

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Homecoming events and campaigning begin



By **DESMOND GROVES** THE PARTHENON

It is homecoming season at Marshall University and the events and campaigning are underway.

Nominees for Miss and Mr. Marshall were announced Friday. A total of 16 candidates are running for the positions of Miss and Mr. Marshall.

The number of candidates will be narrowed down after an interview process and the first round of voting Thursday.

Students could cast votes starting Tuesday and voting will continue on the Memorial Student Center Plaza until Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Students can stop by to meet candidates and ask candidates about what they have to offer.

Candidates are using social media to attract attention to the ballot and urging friends and followers to vote. Social media has also given candidates a unique

chance to explain why they want to run, what organizations sponsor them and what the candidates are going to do if they win the title.

Sophomore engineering major Andrew Mays said he is not sure who he is going to vote for yet.

"There are so many," Mays said. "I'm not sure who I'm picking because I want to hear their platforms and what they are going to do if they win."

The week of Oct. 18 will hold many events presented by the Marshall University Alumni Association, Student Government Association, the Office of Student Activities, Marshall University Black Alumni Association and the Office of Intercultural Affairs.

Marshall's mascot, Marco will be on campus to support Homecoming 2015. This year's theme is "Blast from The Past." Marco will help the community relive the time of scrunchies, big hair and parachute pants.

Junior communication disorders major Jordan Blankenship said she thinks this year's theme is amazing.

"I love it," Blankenship said. "It's going to be so much fun to see how everyone dresses up and how much passion the people running for Mr. and Miss Marshall will put in to it. I also hope my professors get involved with the events, that would be so funny to watch."

Senior public health major Zachary Hill said this is his first year seeing the homecoming festivities.

"I've always had other stuff to do or I've had prior commitments," Hill said. "I'm going to make sure I know when the events are and attend them."

The second round of voting takes place Oct. 20 and Oct. 22 in the MSC, following a unity walk.

Desmond Groves can be contacted at groves53@marshall.edu.

Members of Fraternity come together to educate others on their rights

By **MICHAEL BROWN** THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's Nu Nu Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. will be hosting a Know Your Rights event at 7 p.m. Thursday for the second year in a row in the Don Morris Room of the Memorial Student Center.

Fraternity members want students and others to learn what their legal rights are if stopped by law enforcement officers. The fraternity is offering tips on rights while being stopped on the street, when pulled over in car, at home or in the event you are arrested, detained or even interrogated.

"Our goal is to inform people of their rights," said Cliff Charles, senior

public health major and president of the fraternity. "At a time when people are being mistreated by law enforcers, we feel everyone should be aware of their rights."

"My only hopes for this year is that more people are able to attend and more people are inspired to get enlightened on their rights," Charles said. "Last year we had a good crowd, eager to get informed, this year I can just hope more people come out."

The members of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. welcome all Marshall students and the community to learn about their rights.

Michael Brown can be contacted at brown790@marshall.edu.

CONTACT trains new volunteers

By **CADI DUPLAGA** THE PARTHENON

CONTACT Rape Crisis Center met for the first volunteer training meeting Wednesday evening at the Trinity Episcopal church.

CONTACT covers Cabell, Lincoln, Wayne and Mason counties. CONTACT serves victims of sexual assault and stalking. All services are confidential and free.

Liz Deal, a victim advocate for CONTACT, said she was interested in helping people and helping victims receive the best help available.

"We are the one person that doesn't want anything from the victim," Deal said. "I do not want to win a case, I don't want to gain a new client I just want to help this person through whatever the process is that takes them to healing."

The meeting welcomed 12 new volunteers and covered a variety of topics pertaining to CONTACT.

Topics included basic information on sexual assault,

confidentiality, sexual assault laws and family dynamics.

Victim blaming was a large topic of the discussion. Much of the conversation involved blaming the victim rather than the person who commits the crime, which is a problem CONTACT deals with a lot. Typically victims are the most vulnerable members of a group.

Deal said the discussion on national sexual assault statistics were quite shocking.

One in four girls and one in six boys is a victim of child abuse before the age of 18.

Holly Adkins, a junior education major, said she learned a lot from her first volunteer meeting.

"I just hope that I can help someone," Adkins said. "Whether it is just listening to them so their story is heard, or actually helping them report it."

Volunteers are able to answer the calls on the hotline CONTACT provides or volunteer in the CONTACT office.

The CONTACT hotline is available to anyone who wants to talk about sexual assault or related incidents that happened to them in either the past or the present. The hotline is anonymous and volunteers answer questions, listen to callers and provide help. The hotline is available to assure victims CONTACT does care and volunteers are there for them.

Volunteers primarily ensure victims believe they can make their own decisions and connect them to resources they may need. CONTACT works to provide crisis intervention and referral for victims.

If a victim feels the need to call the hotline, they aren't obligated to report anything. Members of CONTACT will also meet victims at the hospital.

The second volunteer training session will take place next week.

Cadi Duplaga can be contacted at duplaga2@marshall.edu.

NEWS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Color My College 5K coming to Marshall

By **CADI DUPLAGA**
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University Campus Activities Board and Religious Studies Association are kicking off Homecoming week with the Color My College 5K.

The 5K will be Sunday at 1 p.m., starting at the Joan C. Edwards Stadium.

The race is \$40 per individual runner or \$35 dollars for MU students.

The Color My College 5K will be similar to the popular Color Run, however only green and white will be used.

After the race, attendees will be able to win prizes from Qdoba, Chipotle, Vitamin World, Planet Fitness, Applebee's and Dick's Sporting Goods. Disk jockey Nick Scott will perform and a Zumba "pump-up" series will be held throughout the event.

Sarah Dyke, CAB graduate assistant, said she is looking forward to the 5K and hopes to have a good turn out from the student body.

"We hope that it will be an event that a lot of people will come out to and get excited for the fun week we have planned," Dyke said.

Aaron Dunn, president of the Religious Studies Association, also had a large part in planning this event.

"I am expecting a wonderful sense of community with Marshall University and Marshall alum," Dunn said.

Color My College will benefit the Tri-State Literacy Council. Dunn said he was happy to be supporting this charity because it is local and could help bring the community together.

Aside from the Color My College 5K, homecoming week will also consist of events such as Penny Wars, So MU Think You Can Dance, the Thundering Pomp Competition, Canned Food Art, the Unity Walk, Meet the Court, a parade and more.

Cadi Duplaga can be contacted at duplaga2@marshall.edu.

Huntington begins warrant sweep

By **JOHN COLE GLOVER**
THE PARTHENON

Huntington began a warrant sweep Tuesday, targeting residents who have not complied with the Huntington Municipal Court for numerous infractions.

Offenders who have city warrants going back five years or more are eligible for an amnesty program that allows them to pay reduced fines and have the warrants removed.

In a press release, Municipal Court Judge Cheryl Henderson said repeat offenders appear fairly often in her courtroom.

There are more than 500 outstanding warrants on file according to the Municipal Court's office.

The warrant sweep includes 10 repeat offenders who have either refused to clean up their property or pay city fines, but these repeat offenders may be targeted for other infractions.

The sweep lasts from Tuesday to Nov. 13.

Outstanding warrants can be paid at the Huntington Police Department on 10th Street with cash, credit card or a money order.

John Cole Glover can be contacted at glover39@marshall.edu.

Pharmacists Month Luncheon brings awareness about growing prescription drug problem in Huntington

By **MATTHEW PRANDONI**
THE PARTHENON

Pharmaceutical drug abuse is a growing problem in the United States. The number of people abusing prescription drugs has grown each year; Marshall University students and the community are fully aware and are actively trying to solve this issue.

Pharmacy students gathered for the Pharmacist's Month Luncheon Friday in the Don Morris Room of the Memorial Student Center. The keynote speaker was Kenneth Hale clinical professor in the College of Pharmacy at Ohio State University.

More than 250 people attended the luncheon. All pharmacy students in their first three years were required to be in attendance.

"We need to understand that prescription drugs are becoming the gateway to substance abuse," Hale said. "And that the incidents of those who are first starting to misuse a substance

for prescription are by far the highest number."

The pharmacists' code of ethics states a pharmacist will serve individual, community and societal needs. According to Hale, this means pharmacists must be able to help the community by informing them about the medication. If a person is abusing drugs, they need to be informed on why they should not by a local pharmacist.

Prescription drug abuse is a growing problem in the U.S. In 2014, about 6.5 million people misused prescription drugs.

"We use the most medications on the planet by far. We expect quick fixes," Hale said.

Only two countries allow prescription drug advertising, the U.S. and New Zealand.

"They do involve different kinds of medications that people might not understand," Kim Broedel-Zaugg, chair of pharmacy practice and administration

said. "It is best for a physician or a pharmacist to decide what medication is best for the individual."

One issue revolved around the fact West Virginia does not have a Good Samaritan law. A Good Samaritan law will prevent a person from getting into legal trouble after calling emergency services if seeing a person overdosing on drugs.

According to Hale, having a Good Samaritan law makes it easier for those who are having an overdose to receive help.

There have been 34 overdose deaths in Huntington in the first six months of 2015.

"Drug abuse is a big area for us as pharmacists to be able to change patients' lives and to be able to educate them and our community as a whole," pharmacy student Rachel Blackburn said.

Matthew Prandoni can be contacted at prandoni@marshall.edu.

Mississippi Native ready to trade in the gulf to lead Marshall



ASHLEY SODOSKY | THE PARTHENON



ASHLEY SODOSKY | THE PARTHENON

Left: Denis A. Wiesenburg, professor of marine science and former provost/vice president for academic affairs at the University of Southern Mississippi, speaks to the crowd during his tour of campus. Above: Wiesenburg speaks to Interim President Gary White.

Look for the other candidate profiles during the week.

By **ASHLEY SODOSKY**
THE PARTHENON

The common question buzzing through the Arthur Weisburg Family Applied Engineering Complex last night was why an oceanographer would want to come to West Virginia.

The oceanographer under question is Denis A. Wiesenburg, professor of marine science and former provost/vice president for academic affairs at the University of Southern Mississippi. Wiesenburg is one of three candidates under consideration for the 37th presidency at Marshall University.

Wiesenburg's answer to the popular question was connected to a professor of his first college course in oceanography.

"He led my life in a different direction," Wiesenburg said. "That's really why we're in universities and why we do what we do, because at a university you can change someone's life."

Wiesenburg is a native of Pascagoula, Mississippi, a gulf coast town half the size of Huntington. Raised by his mother, an elementary English teacher, and his father, a lawyer, member of the WWII army and two-term member of Mississippi state legislature, Wiesenburg said he learned the value of education, patriotism and public service.

Wiesenburg is a graduate of Duke University with a degree in chemistry. Wiesenburg got his master's at Old Dominion University and his doctorate in oceanography from Texas A&M.

After spending seven years as a research oceanographer for the United States Navy, Wiesenburg began his career in higher education. Wiesenburg spent four years as provost and vice president for academic affairs at the University of Southern Mississippi and said the university's similarity to Marshall gives him an idea of presidency in Huntington.

"I see a professionally run university that has the promise for a bright future and I would be honored to be the president that helps move it forward," Wiesenburg said.

In his statement, the candidate said his main effort for Marshall and higher education should focus on student success and endowment initiatives. Wiesenburg said his biggest achievement at Southern Mississippi was the initiation of a student success

program and he would love to transfer that to Marshall.

The Mississippi native is a husband and father of two college graduates and a soon-to-be grandfather. Wiesenburg said in his free time he enjoys photography and traveling, particularly in Europe.

Wiesenburg grew up valuing and enjoying sports, even joking at Tuesday night's reception that he was ready to transfer his allegiance to a university with a better football team. Wiesenburg said he also enjoys the arts and all the university has to offer.

"I love to go to see all the things the university has to offer," Wiesenburg said. "One of the great things about being in a university environment is you have a great menu of things to go to."

The reception Tuesday night brought together faculty, staff, donors and public figures together to get to know Wiesenburg. Huntington Mayor Steve Williams said the university is the heartbeat of the city and the presidential candidate agreed.

"The linkage between the university and the community is just phenomenal; they call it the town/gown relationship," Wiesenburg said. "We want everyone to understand that we're all working together."

The candidate said as part of a discussion campus safety is among the initiatives he would take seriously as president, in light of recent national incidents.

Wiesenburg stated his appreciation for the work done by President Steven J. Kopp and current Interim President Gary White to the university. Wiesenburg used a quote from Kopp, given during his presidential announcement.

"If I were the president of Marshall what I would do is try to build on the progress that you've made over the last decade, to continue the momentum forward toward the promise of a brighter future."

Wiesenburg ended the statement with a personal promise to the Marshall community.

"I would try to build on that momentum with all the energy that I have," Wiesenburg said.

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SPORTS

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Marshall assistant coach earns hall of fame induction for her career on the court

By BRITTANIE FOWLER
THE PARTHENON

At just 30 years old, Marshall University's women's basketball coach will be inducted into the University of Central Arkansas Hall of Fame Oct. 17. She played for the Sugar Bears in a career that saw the program change coaches and move to Division I.

During Caronica Randle's time as a Sugar Bear she guided the program to an average of 20 wins per season, and finished her career third in scoring at UCA with 2,089 points.

"I got a phone call when we were actually preparing to play NKU for the WBI, which is like an after the season basketball tournament, from the athletic director at Central Arkansas," Randle said.

"He called to let me know that I was getting inducted into my college alma mater's hall of fame," she said.

She averaged 17.1 points per game and was only one of 13 other student-athletes in UCA history to make at least 100 3-pointers. She also broke the school record with 597 free throws made, and is third in school history with 3,352 minutes and sixth in school history in blocks.

When UCA made the leap to Division I for her senior season, it didn't slow Randle down. She continued to lead the Southland Conference with 19.4 points per game.

Randle said she's happy for being recognized for all her achievements at such a young age.

"It's a great feeling because usually when it comes down to the hall of fame the school usually wait until you're older to give those awards out. So just being young and still being able to remember the same fans...I think that's a great opportunity at such a young age to still be alive and be recognized," Randle said.

But if there's one memory that stuck out to her most during her time as a

Sugar Bear, Randle said it would be when they won the conference championship. Not just because they won, but how they won.

"When we were playing in the conference tournament championship game there were just a few seconds left on the clock," Randle said.

"I mean literally impossible to get a basket up. I was standing on the block and one of my teammates was passing the ball in and I winked at her and she knew to throw me the ball. I scored a layup to win the game that took us to the final four," she said.

Randle grew up the youngest of seven in her family and said she credits a lot of her success to her older siblings.

"You're hearing from your five brothers how to dribble, how to shoot, how to pass and you just get to the point where you take all the knowledge that they give you and you put it into the game of basketball," Randle said.

No one in Randle's family went off to play college basketball except for her, so she said she was doing exactly what they would've wanted.

"I was living the dream for them," she said.

When Randle went on to college she was recruited by Coach Seals who eventually became her head coach. She said Coach Seals was a vital part to her success.

"She never let me settle for less," Randle said.

Randle graduated with a bachelor's degree in business administration in 2008 and joined the women's basketball coaching staff at Marshall with Matt Daniel in 2012.

Matt Daniel said he is ecstatic that Randle is being recognized for her accomplishments and to still have her coaching along side him.

"She has been with me since I called my first timeout in college," Daniel said. "She is not only a member of our coaching staff, she is considered a part of our entire family. What an amazing accomplishment for such an amazing person," he said.

Randle will fly out this Thursday to attend the hall of fame event at her alma mater where she said she would

attend smaller events like brunches, a golf tournament, and a meet-and-greet and take pictures.

Saturday morning she said she will attend another brunch followed by the inductee ceremony, where nearly 30 of her immediate family members will be present.

"I also have a lot of friends, family, church members and sorority sisters," Randle said. "So I know for sure about 50 people have told me they're coming," she said.

With the ceremony only a couple days away, Randle said she is thrilled and ready to go home and see her family.

Brittanie Fowler can be contacted at fowler85@marshall.edu.



Marshall women's basketball assistant coach Caronica Randle will be inducted into the Central Arkansas Hall of Fame Oct. 17 for her career as a player.

PARTHENON FILE PHOTO

Column: The Trial of Thabo

The sports media's ignorance of NBA player Thabo Sefolosha's altercation with police and subsequent trial represents a societal failure.

By BRADLEY HELTZEL
THE PARTHENON

As the NBA postseason unfolded last season, the myriad of injuries snagged storylines, with the health of players such as Cleveland Cavaliers guard Kyrie Irving and forward Kevin Love, Memphis Grizzlies guard Mike Conley Jr. and Atlanta Hawks guard Kyle Korver, discussed at length amongst the sports media.

However, ignored from most media outlets was the injury suffered by Atlanta Hawks guard Thabo Sefolosha. It's an understandable omission as Sefolosha's impact as a role player doesn't equate to that of the stars previously mentioned, but Sefolosha's injury was a story in itself and one with the potential to impact much more than the final scoreboard of a basketball game.

Sefolosha broke his leg in an altercation with police April 8 outside of a nightclub in New York City, in which police were attempting to clear the area outside the club after NBA player Chris Copeland had been stabbed. Sefolosha was arrested by

the New York City Police Department and charged with misdemeanor obstructing government administration, disorderly conduct and resisting arrest relating to the incident.

Sefolosha was acquitted Friday of all charges relating to the incident after unprecendently opting to defend

himself in court. Sefolosha's exoneration at the hands of the NYPD exposed a lack of evidence by prosecutors concerning any wrongdoing by Sefolosha. In court, Sefolosha testified he obeyed the orders of officers, who he said were confrontational, quoting one officer as saying, "With or without a badge, I'm going to (expletive) you up, and I can (expletive) you up." Sefolosha said when he

was violently tackled and handcuffed by police, which resulted in his broken leg, he was handing money to a beggar.

However, it wasn't the supposed injustice of the NYPD officers in which the lasting impact exists, as police brutality has received heavy coverage from the media, but rather the absence of coverage of the ordeal amongst sports media outlets and journalists. Sefolosha's indefatigable desire to clear himself completely of wrong doing not only offered a breakthrough in the pursuit of justice, but also a glimpse into the perils of the American judicial system, in which plea deals are typified as a helpful hand to the defendant as opposed

reer earnings to outlast the expenditures of court proceedings and the support in the court of law from the National Basketball Players Association.

Notwithsatnding his advantages in court, Sefolosha's refusal of multiple plea bargains leading up to his day in court was a risk, a risk many other contemplate, but ultimately do not pursue because of the

possible financial or legal obligations. The potential of one spending time in prison if convicted of their original crime is often enough to cause even the most ardent believer of justice to fold upon themself, and if possible imprisonment isn't enough to coax someone into a plea deal the exhaustion of

of NBA players? Was it an apprehension of the sports media to become involved in an unsolved legal matter? (Uh, Deflategate might kill that theory just a tad) Was it because of a masterful effort by the NYPD public relations department swaying the media?

Whatever the reason for the relative dismissal of Sefolosha's situation, it was a major misstep by sports media organizations. And even as Sefolosha's acquittal Friday presented a chance at redemption to rehash the process and the final verdict in its entirety the media, for the most part, balked.

In turn, a player's bold defiance, which presented a glimpse into the shortcomings of the American judicial system, the violent actions of law enforcement and the coalesced tandem of these two entities that repeatedly leave the names of innocent bystanders stained, was drowned out by the deafening silence of the sports media.

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Sefolosha testified he obeyed the orders of officers, who he said were confrontational, quoting one officer as saying, "With or without a badge, I'm going to (expletive) you up, and I can (expletive) you up."

OPINION

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THE PARTHENON

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

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EDITORIAL

#DemDebate turned Sanders v. Clinton



JOHN LOCHER | AP PHOTO

Hillary Rodham Clinton, right, looks on as Sen. Bernie Sanders, of Vermont, speaks during the CNN Democratic presidential debate Tuesday in Las Vegas.

Democratic candidates faced off Tuesday night for the first democratic debate of the season. We've heard from the Republican candidates and now the democrats have had their chance to address the nation.

Observant viewers would have noticed that democratic candidate Bernie Sanders was the only presidential hopeful singing along to The National Anthem. He showed the most spirit in the debate and he is one of only two real contenders. If that isn't worth a vote, what is?

While there were other candidates on the stage, the choice is really between former Secretary of State Hilary Clinton and Sanders. Clinton may have been the best choice at one point, but her views are becoming tired.

Viewers didn't hear anything new from Clinton Tuesday night.

Clinton is saying the same things, and we can't get a grasp on what she is hoping to accomplish with a presidency. Throughout the debate, Clinton even seemed to cling to her competitor's ideals, tweaking them slightly and then regurgitating them as her own.

Sanders made sure Americans know his position on the Clinton email scandal. "The American people are sick and tired of hearing about your damn e-mails," Sanders said. Sanders conveyed to people that there are more important issues that need to be dealt with.

Sanders, on the other hand, isn't afraid to own up to his political stance. Sanders isn't going to deny being a democratic socialist, he attempts to educate on his stance, not hide it. Although critics would state Sanders' socialist identity will be nothing

but detrimental to his campaign, he doesn't seem to be phased by the idea at all.

If there is one issue where democrats are going to be torn on Sanders, it is gun control, an area where he is not extremely liberal, but it could be said he makes up for it with his views on military and foreign involvement. Sanders doesn't want to send us to war, a selling point for many democrats.

Sanders admitted he was in objection to the policies that led us to the Vietnam War, and that's what we need in the oval office. Someone who has stood up to the government knows that it needs to be criticized. Sanders holds his own and doesn't seem like he would bully other countries. A conscientious objector thinks before he acts, something the U.S. seems to be missing: a

thinker.

While Sanders and Clinton both put up a good debate, Sanders resonates with college students. Sanders' proposals, if carried through, will undeniably benefit millennials and the middle and lower classes.

There were issues ignored in the debate, namely reproductive health which only got a brief shout-out from Clinton. However, Clinton and Sanders both made it clear where they stand on the legalization of marijuana and they did not agree on that issue—a telling moment for voters.

None of the other candidates stood out between Sanders and Clinton. Let's be real, who wants to elect "a block of granite," especially one who completely dropped the ball when asked why he voted a certain way?

COLUMN

It's not a hoverboard, it's not a skateboard

It's a self-balancing scooter.

By **AMANDA GIBSON**
THE PARTHENON

What are the two-wheeled contraptions people are riding to class now? It's not a skateboard and it's not a scooter. Some call it a hoverboard; but what exactly are they and where did they come from?

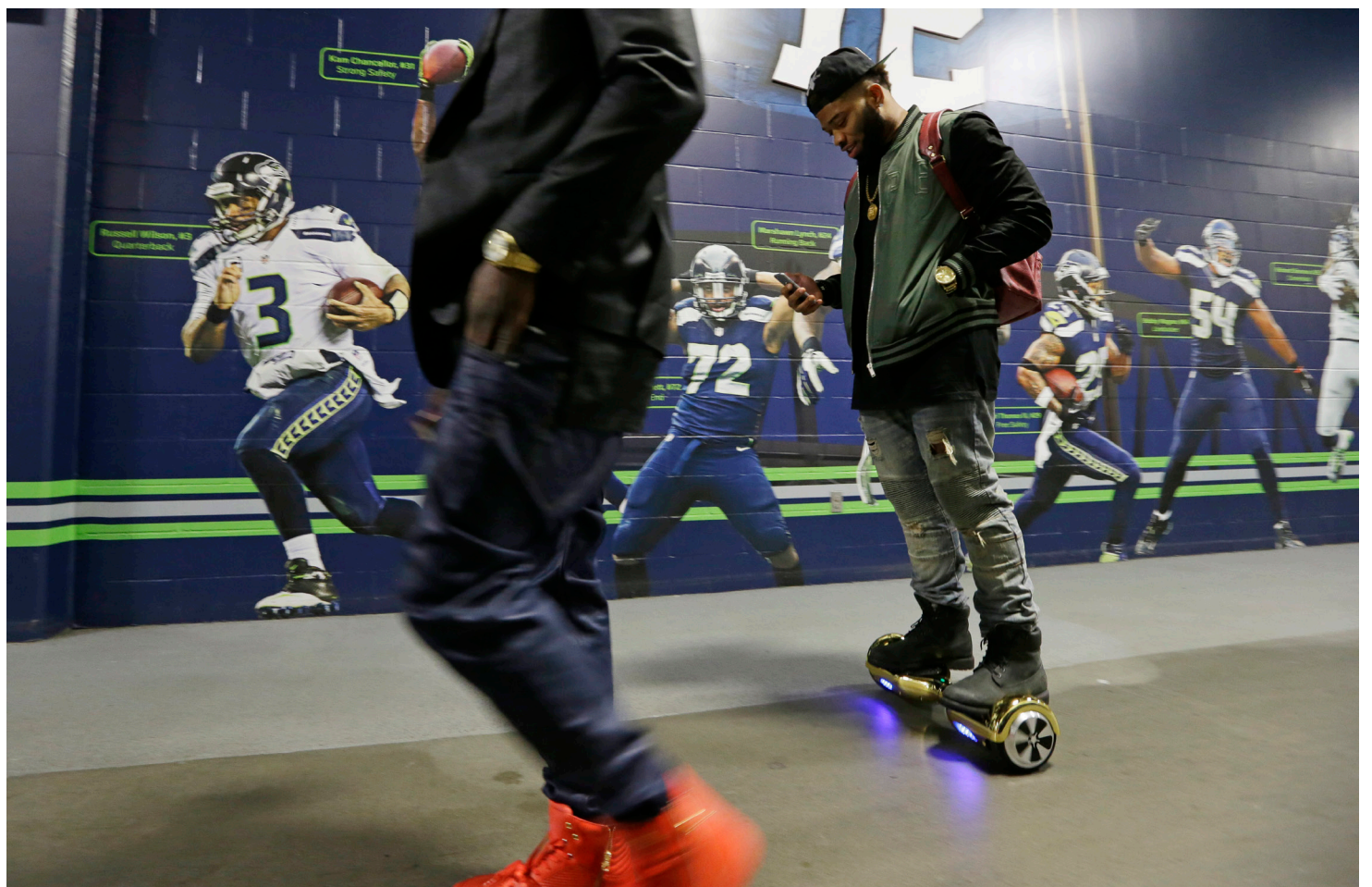
The two-wheeled devices are a self-balancing scooter, although called many names, this seems to be the most common. There are many sellers and companies that sell their own versions of a self-balancing scooter.

The prices, according to the first page of Amazon results, range from around \$300 to \$600. But I have also seen prices ranging up into the \$1000s.

One seller's website, PhunkeeDuck, said one full charge of the self-balancing scooter can last over ten miles, or six to seven hours and the scooter can reach up to 12 mph. The seller's website says charging time takes up to two to three hours. With all of its features, the PhunkeeDuck scooter is priced at \$1,499.99.

Another seller, 10 Hawk, in an instructional video said sensors in the scooter sense weight distribution for turning and going forward and backward.

10 Hawk's video makes the scooters look relatively easy to use



ELAINE THOMPSON | AP PHOTO

Seattle Seahawks wide receiver B.J. Daniels rides through a hallway at CenturyLink Field on an electric self-balancing scooter as he arrives for an NFL football game against the Detroit Lions Oct. 5 in Seattle.

and explains how to turn your feet to get the scooter to move where you want it to go. From a glance, the scooters seem to be pretty sturdy. I have never been on one and I am sure that if I have the opportunity, I would probably find riding one to be a challenge.

These scooters seem to be catching on quick. Celebrities are riding them and people on campus are riding them too.

A popular Youtuber Casey Neistat did a review video on the self-balancing scooter, which he calls both a "hands free Segway thing" and a "hover board". Neistat let some people try out the scooter in his video and they did not seem to easily ride the device at first. Neistat handled the scooter pretty well and even made some of his own

modifications to the device in his video. Neistat said in his video that ordering the scooter directly from China lowers the price to around \$200.

I would definitely like to try one out, just because I would like to see if I could successfully ride this scooter better than I have any other transportation device, like roller skates and skateboards; things I have failed at miserably on the first try.

We will have yet to see how far this scooter craze goes, but my prediction is that it will not be short-lived.

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Column

New + Cutting Edge: 'Rodeo'

By **NICK MORTON**
THE PARTHENON

Most people against rap music as a whole consider Jacques Webster to be a thug. That couldn't be less true. He is not much like Young Thug, Jay Rock or King Louie with their street credit and drinking lean on stage. He is a punk from Houston wearing a Thrasher hoodie, distressed jeans and classic Vans. While he is in fact associated with the aforementioned rappers, he's nothing compared to them when he hits the stage. He's just a crazy kid inciting chaos performance after performance, most people know this to be his trademark. Multiple sources over the past year have crowned him as one of the best live rappers. Keep in mind Scott is a strictly big-room performer, beating out arena sellouts and festival headliners such as Kanye West, Kendrick Lamar and Drake. Travis' objective is to have the crowd join him in a rebellion, half the time against security. I have personally seen him three times, and each time there's an undeniable energy that pushes you to join Travis. While he is not this wild regularly, he always still maintains that punk rock personality. Essentially, he is this generation's Kurt Cobain with his style, expression and swagger.



Travis Scott's new album 'Rodeo' was released on Sept. 4.

PHOTO COURTESY OF EPIC RECORDS

After endless touring accompanying the release of Travis' first mixtape "Owl Pharaoh," the word came out that Travis had already began working on "Rodeo." He realized that it would take awful long time to work on so he could find the certain sound he wanted his debut LP to have. To make the wait easier to survive, he released the free album "Days Before Rodeo," performing the duties of an EP. A title like that can generate a catastrophic amount of hype knowing that you have assurance of more to come. Much critical acclaim came along with the release with most of the love focused on his ability to put you in a vibe so signature and provide

incredible beats. His albums are not known for their lyrical presence, but there have always been a few songs that manage to shine a light on his storytelling ability with incredible flow and wordplay, such as "Owl Pharaoh's," "Uptown," "Hell of a Night," "Naked," and "Days Before Rodeo's Backyard," "Grey," and "Don't Play."

Travis Scott released his free album then kept his fans in a yearlong anticipation before announcing "Rodeo's" release date a month before it hit the shelves. "Rodeo" was a headlining topic with all of the big hip-hop culture sites during the yearlong wait. The question on everyone's mind was if it would

live up to the hype. Well it's finally here, and that question can be answered quite simply.

"Rodeo" is just right. It didn't live under or over the hype. The album's biggest pro is its ability to give a much clearer picture of who Travis is. "Owl Pharaoh" was a very indie and experimental mixtape with a very hungry feel to it as he was trying to get his name out there while taking the role of Kanye West's protégé. The tape went back and forth between different subgenres of rap. "Days Before Rodeo" had a much more aggressive tone and displayed what Travis does best: switch up trap rap. He was able to put these themes together and construct

a full length LP successfully letting know what kind of a rapper he really is.

This album is easily his most fun album, and it manages to make up for his C-grade lyrics, but again, he can take it up a notch when he wants to. What's great about this LP much like his first two projects, is the ability to create a very exciting opening track. "Rodeo" opens up with "Pornography." It begins his other industry partner T.I. telling a story about what La Flame is all about. The drums end up kicking in at the end of his introduction and Travis' auto-tune soaked vocals add a very druggy presence to the song. He ends up singing throughout the song, and closes it with an apocalyptic verse telling you to wake up and realize the rodeo is finally in town.

There's a wide variety of features contributing on the album. The Weeknd chimes in on "Pray 4 Love" and sings with Travis about not being to rely on love on his journey to where he is now. Kanye appears on "Piss On Your Grave," a psychedelic banger where he and La Flame have ton of fun venting out their frustration. Believe it or not, Justin Bieber appears on "Maria I'm Drunk" with Young Thug and does an unexpected fine job. He spits some pop music clichés such as "I wanna see what that booty do" and "them hips don't lie." His part could've been much worse, but it's definitely tolerable.

Travis' lyrics may have stepped down a bit ever since "Days Before," but it helped listeners discover him in a less complicated way. He could have given fans a bit more than what "Rodeo" has to offer, but the album's hit single "Antidote" was able to calm down the summer long anticipation and create a pre-mature acceptance for what's to come. La Flame's debut LP deserves a solid 7/10.

ALBUM POSTERBOYS: "Pornography," "Oh My Dis Side," "90210," "I Can Tell, Maria I'm Drunk," "Antidote," "Wasted"

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Little Free Libraries promotes literacy

By **ABI BLACK**
THE PARTHENON

Six years ago in Hudson, Wisconsin craftsman Todd Bol built a one-room schoolhouse model adorned with a "free books" sign for his mother. The schoolhouse became so popular Bol made several and handed them out to friends and neighbors, each offering free books to those who passed. Now, there are Little Free Libraries all over the world.

As of September, 32,000 Little Free Libraries have been built across the United States and in over 70 countries. Huntington is one of the latest U.S. cities to have citizens building libraries in their front yards.

Huntington resident, Ava Bicknell built her Little Free Library in July 2013,

with her granddaughter Jayda. Bicknell said even after two years, their library is still going strong.

"New folks discover it every day," Bicknell said. "It has been so much fun to share books with others. I see people stop as they walk by or ride by on their bikes. People tell me how happy they are to have it."

Little Free Library's goal is to promote literacy and help people love reading. Little Free Libraries help build a sense of community while sharing knowledge within the community.

According to West Virginia's Library Commission, 20 percent of adults in the state are low-level readers.

The Little Free Libraries in Huntington, including Bicknell's, are

located minutes away from the main branch of Cabell County Libraries.

Director of Tri-State Literacy Council Megan Shobe said she thinks the Little Free Libraries are good alternatives to going to an actual library.

"They are in individual neighborhoods, available for kids who may not be able to go to a county library," Shobe said. "It creates reading communities in neighborhoods."

Huntington is home to three registered Little Free Libraries. Bicknell said she would love to see one on every street in town. Bicknell's Little Free Library can be found on 12th Street.

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There are three Little Free Libraries in Huntington available to the public.

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