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Synthetic marijuana becomes undercover sales operation

By LAIKI TURNER

The Harpeth

300 South Research Blvd., Nashville

Synthetic marijuana, also known as Spice, is a mixture of herbal spices that has been marketed as a “legal” alternative to marihuana. Although the mixture contains dried plant material, which allows the label to claim it contains “natural” psychoactive materials, the other ingredients are synthetic compounds. Before the West Virginia State Legislature banned synthetic drugs in July 2011, the Spices and other substances were openly sold in gas stations, tattoo shops, tobacco shops and head shops. Because the chemicals used in Spice have the potential for abuse and non-medical purposes, the Drug Enforcement Administration designated the five active chemicals most frequently found in the mixture as controlled substances, making them illegal to buy, sell or possess. Once the Spice mixture had been banned, telling went underground and available by adolescents.

The manufacturers of Spice have altered the chemical composition to circumvent the legal restrictions. The chemicals used in the mixtures are not easily detected in standard drug tests and have helped fuel in the popularity of the drug used among high school and college age students. Kim Miller, master addition counselor and director of corporate development at Prevention Center, said synthetic drugs are widely available and commonly used by adolescents. “The reality is that both are very strong, mind-altering substances that are not meant for science, so they have not been studied for their short-term or long-term effects,” Miller said. “They are very dangerous. Permanent and irreversible neurological brain damage has been documented by users of these drugs, and we’ve never seen anything like that.” The effects of Spice are more dangerous than the drugs they are meant to replace, and the effects can be dramatically different for each individual. The study is one of a series of state and national reports that trace the rise of a state of relaxation and altered perception as the most common effects of Spice, and some of the most extreme effects include anxiety, paranoia and hallucinations.

To date, there have been no scientific studies to determine the effects of Spice on the human brain, but they are clear as to all the ways Spice may affect an individual. Laiki Turner can be con- tacted at turner136@live.marshall.edu.
By JEREMY BROWN
THE PARthenon
(Marshall University’s) speech and debate team looks to build on recent success as they prepare for upcoming tournaments.

“We are excited about the upcoming West Chester tournament of the season. Overall the team placed fourth in combined-open content, for the workload, while competing against some of the top speech and debate teams in America. A total of 50 schools were represented as the event. Regional powerhouse Western Kentucky University hosted the tournament. Other major competitors included the University of Alabama, Ball State and Rice.”

The West Chester Tournament will be held at West Chester University and the debate team will be in West Chester, Pa., to compete against 15 schools. The team’s recent success has Ray confident about his team's chances in the upcoming events.

“For the Lafayette tournament I expect our student to qualify for nationals,” Ray said. “In the West Chester Tournament I expect us to finish in the top three.”

The selected students were then asked to perform various tasks, the driving an imaginary car and bring it to the beach.

Before removing the students from their trance, Nagle encouraged them to be more confident in every aspect of their lives.

The Parthenon can be contacted at parthenon@marshall.edu.

Campus turf war.

“Turf war” is an often-used term in the parlance of split campuses. Over the years, Marshall and West Virginia Wesleyan have been locked in a constant battle over who rules the land. Marshall University students love to call the Memorial Student Center “The Castle.” West Virginia Wesleyan students typically call their campus “The Castle.”

The campus’s divide is most evident in the traditional prelude to Homecoming Saturday. The Golden Tornado football team takes the field in front of approximately 1,200 students from 100 universities to Marshall. Later this month Marshall will host its own tournament, the fourth annual Chief Justice Speech and Debate Tournament. In April the university will host the 2012 National Combined Sweepstakes Tournament, an event that Ray said could bring as many as 1,200 students from 100 universities to Marshall.

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

Romney basks in glow of debate win, Obama looks for comeback

By ANITA KUMAR, WILLIAM DOUGLAS
WASHINGTON, D.C.
MCLEAN COUNTY NEWS-VISITOR
WASHINGTON, D.C. — Playing defense, President Barack Obama sought Thursday to use his superior performance at the first presidential debate as an opportunity to build on his momentum for his once beleaguered campaign.

Obama, who is seeking to reverse a monthlong standing ovation from nearly 2,000 people during a surprise stop Thursday as a conservative gathering, his first appearance after the debate, said he was a “majority-maker” in Congress.

Obama has been working to solidify his support among Hispanics and in the state of Virginia, he is confident in his team.

“I am confident in every aspect of our campaign,” Obama said. “I am confident in our team.”

Obama conceded his debate victory after weeks of campaign spin and had publicity. It is the same day that Romney, who once supported gun-control measures, reversed the backing of the National Rifle Association.

Joining by running mate Paul Ryan in Virginia, Romney spoke to supporters in Fishersville, in largely Republican Augusta County.

Romney, who was immediately interrupted by cheers when he started talking about the debate, said he thinks the president’s answers showed Americans “that he and I stand for something very different.”

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

C O L A sponsors homecoming tailgate

By JEREMY BROWN
THE PARTHENON
There is a storm coming to Joan C. Edwards Sta-

dium this Homecoming Saturday as the Golden

Tornadoes of Marshall University prepare to take on the Mountaineers of West Virginia University in a contest of the ages.

The tailgate will be located beside the Stadium, it is sponsored by the Marshall University Alumni Association, Black Alumni Association and MU Par-
tunes & Family Weekend.

The $15 party charge can be paid by cash, bank card or check at the tailgate.

While the event is geared toward Marshall alumni, students are welcome to attend.

“This is a real opportunity for us to show all the great things that are going on in the college,” Pittenger said. “I am extremely proud of what our students are able to do and all the many things our fac-
ulty for our students.

As for the outcome of the football game, Pittenger is just a traditionalist. “I would love to overpower the Mountaineers, but I am not going to worry too much it, it is just nice to be around good people.”

Jeremy Brown can be reached at brown654@mar-
shall.edu.
By WILL VANCE  

The Marshall University Thundering Herd will collide with Golden Hurricane Saturday with a Conference USA game, Hurricane. The game is important not only because it is a Conference USA game, but also because the Thundering Herd is facing the No.1 ranked defense, best in the nation. The Herd should be able to find some encouragement in last week's loss to the Purdue Boilermakers after being able to score points against the nation's 32nd ranked defense. Hurricane boasts the No.32 offense and No.1 ranked rushing defense. Nebraska transfer Cedy Green has fallen in well at quarterback, back for the departed G.J. Kinzie, leading the Golden Hurricane to a 4-1 record so far this season. Something will have to give on Saturday as this game will feature the conference's No.1 offense and No.1 defense. Marshall has fallen slightly in the total offense rankings but remains in the top 10 nationally at No.9. On the other hand, the Golden Hurricane boasts the No.32 ranked defense, best in the offensive-minded C-USA. "They do a great job of pressuring their defenses," Marshall quarterback Ryan Little said. The Thundering Herd, the Herd should be able to find some encouragement in last week's loss to the Purdue Boilermakers after being able to score points against the nation's 32nd ranked defense. Along the same lines, the defense will look to build upon a solid second half against the Boilermakers which they allowed only nine points and gave the team a chance to stage a comeback. Marshall players have repeated the mantra of winning the conference throughout the entire season, Hurricane. The Herd will have the opportunity to take upon its 1-0 CUSA mark against the Golden Hurricane, which itself is undefeated in conference after defeating Tulane and UAB. Though it is still early, given the weakness of the C-USA East Division and Tulsa's dominance in the West, this contest is potentially a preview of the C-USA championship game. With Vance can be contacted at vance162@marshall.edu.

By HUNTER MORRISON  

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By ADAM ROGERS  

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill athletic office announced its Men's Basketball Preseason All-Conference and All-Conference teams as voted on the conference coaches on Thursday afternoon. The senior and team captain, Dennis Jolley was named to the first team and was the top vote-getter. However, Kane was not the name that was prominently on everyone's lips. "I have been fortunate to have a good snapper in (Matt) Cincotta and a good team to where I can punt the ball," Williams said. "Not only to give me good stats, but give us better field position." The R. Nelson Snider High School graduate averaged 43.5 yards per punt his senior year. Williams has already increased that number by more than 12 yards. Williams said he wants to keep improving that number. As far as in this week's game in concern, Williams said he is ready to get back into conference play. "I focus on every game the same amount," Williams said. "I'll prepare for this game the same way that I prepare for the rest. I'll try to play and know we will be ready to go. It's a big game and we want to win the conference." The rest of the Thundering Herd squad will continue on its quest for the conference title Saturday against Tulsa Golden Hurricane.

Jeremy Johnson can be contacted at johann783101@marshall.edu.
The following are the results from the most recent poll question: Who do you predict will be most impressive in the upcoming Presidential Debate?

- Obama
- Romney

39% - 41 votes
61% - 64 votes

First marshallparthenon.com to share your opinion.

**Facebook still top dog, but beginning slow decline**

It was announced yesterday that Facebook has exceeded 1 billion users. Wait, that just happened? Additionally, Facebook seems to be losing its appeal to its initial target audience. Facebook has been in the forefront of the social-networking giant. It was announced yesterday that Facebook has exceeded 1 billion users. Wait, that just happened?

Facebook could be scrutinized in many other ways besides privacy. People like simplicity and Facebook is becoming too darn complicated. Facebook could be scrutinized in many other ways besides privacy. People like simplicity and Facebook is becoming too darn complicated. People like simplicity and Facebook is becoming too darn complicated.

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**Column**

**Romney plays morals’ card yet practices questionable ethics**

**BY JAMES BRENNER**

Wednesday night, Mitt Romney played the moral cards. During the debate, he stated that the budget deficit is “just an economic issue, I think it’s a moral issue.” What Romney was referring to was his belief that it’s a moral violation to borrow money that will have to be paid back to the generation that follows. I think most Americans would agree. We really aren’t off the federal government to borrow trillions of dollars in order to avoid passing the debt on to the next generation. What I found most compelling about this statement, however, was the use of the phrase “moral.” We’re not talking about forgiving religious morals. This morality is one of simple right and wrong — morals in their most basic sense. I find it interesting that Romney would reference morality when talking about deficit reduction. Since the debate, especially considering the sharp contrast presented in Wednesday night’s debate, but he shouldn’t have been. After taking such extreme positions during the primary, not to mention a swell of gloves and Obama’s campaign moms, which have painted a less than flattering picture of the former governor, I was expecting Romney to be left in the dust during the first debate. President Obama, however, faltered, while Romney pounded his best talking points home.

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**Letters to the Editor**

I understand the urge to use physical force for destruction. I recall for instance, Woody Allen’s characterization of the mafia in the movie, “Whatever Happened to Baby Jane”, in a conversation comparing the two philosophies to preserve an opulent Nancy called in New Jersey “Well, well, a satirical piece in a newspaper on things. However, baseball hats really gets right to the point. No, I don’t agree with Nancy because it’s hard to satisfy a guy with shiny boots. Although Woody was very feisty, I found however the sound of mauling a car on the campus green in order to generate homecoming spirit, rather disturbing. Has football grown too violent over the years? Isn’t there supposed to be such a thing as sportsmanship? Is it acceptable for the campus administration to encourage such behavior? How would a young child feel if they mauling a car when sitting in their own car? I see many instances like this on our campus every year. Are people who engage in violence perpetrated upon a car, supposedly in fact, are not entitled to any other way in which they see violence perpetrated upon a person? I was very interested in a recent column comparing my mauling matches at West Point, when our football team would commit a reared-backfaced and disfigured nose, yelled that we would work to save more blood. I was interested.

Thomas E. Wilson, Ph.D. philo. professor, Marshall University

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**Online Polls**

Who do you think made the best points in the Presidential Debate in Denver?

- Obama
- Romney

39% - 41 votes
61% - 64 votes

Find marshallparthenon.com to share your opinion.
Victims remember D.C. snipers rampage

By MATTHEW HAY BROWN

The Washington Post

WHEN THE WASHINGTON-AREA Snipers wounded or killed 10 people and terrorized the region for more than two months in 2002, it was a template for heights of fear and confusion, and a reminder that even in a sprawling, technologically advanced society, the very foundations of life can be threatened by an unknown and unseen enemy.

But in the end, the case was a triumph of justice, with the arrest of two men, Matthew Milnor Eugene and Lee Malvo, who were convicted of the shootings, and the 2005 publication of the 2,000-page sniper trial transcript, which is now available for public review. The trial was watched by millions of Americans, and the book was a best-seller, and a warning to all that the world was not safe from the next rampage.

Now, a decade later, as the anniversary of the shootings approaches, it’s time to remember the victims, the heroes, the suspects, and the days and nights of terror and fear that gripped the area for more than two months in 2002.

The shootings began on October 2, 2002, when a man was shot to death in a bowling alley in Woodbridge, Va., and ended on October 19, 2002, when two men were killed in a parking lot in Montgomery County, Md.

In the meantime, the area was in a state of heightened alert, with schools closing, parents racing to get children home, and businesses closing; people were afraid to leave their homes, and many were afraid to go out into public places.

The trial was a massive undertaking, with hundreds of witnesses and thousands of pages of evidence. It was the first time in American history that a trial had been broadcast live on television, and it was watched by millions of people around the world.

But the trial was also a mixed blessing, with some people saying it was too much, and others saying it was not enough.

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It’s time to enjoy fall with one of the region’s most popular festivals, the 27th annual West Virginia Pumpkin Festival.

The festival is located in Milton. The gates open on Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Entry into the festival is $5 per person, and children under the age of five will be admitted for free. Parking on the festival grounds is an additional $1.

Susan Davis, board member of the West Virginia Pumpkin Festival, said visitors of the festival would not be disappointed.

“Just come and enjoy it, don’t worry about the long lines. You will get here eventually. It is really worth the wait,” Davis said. “My motto for my business is that there is something for everyone. There is something for everyone at this festival for the old, young and middle age.”

The festival features events such as apple butter making, lye soap making, blacksmithing, giant pumpkin contest, print mill, railroad safety, sorghum molasses making, chain saw artist, Zappo the clown magic show, Smiles the clown, arts and crafts, pumpkin carriage photos and spanning and weaving pottery demonstration.

A wide variety of locally owned businesses are featured throughout the grounds of the festival. Davis said with thousands of visitors at the festival, local businesses gain good exposure and customers over the weekend.

“We have arts and crafts, handmade items, soap, pottery, jewelry and antique,” Davis said. “We have everything in the business booths from homemade fudge to soda.”

The festival started in 1985 and was designed to help farmers with the raising and selling of pumpkins.

“It is one of the best festivals in West Virginia,” Jane Anderson, owner of Huskies Dairy Bar, said. “It has the largest variety of crafts and always has a good country atmosphere.”

Anderson and her family have been making pumpkin ice cream for the festival for 25 years and were the first to serve pumpkin ice cream at the festival.

“Business is good,” Anderson said. “We have people come in and say that they have paid to get in the gate just to get the pumpkin ice cream.”

Pumpkin Festival 2012 has it all, from homemade fudge to pumpkin ice cream. The festival is in a family friendly environment with events for people of all ages and will last through Sunday.

Dwight Jorge can be contacted at jorge@marshall.edu.