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The Parthenon, March 29, 2012

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West Virginia is near the bottom this year again in national health and economic rankings. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, West Virginia was the eighth worst state in which to make a living in 2011, barely surpassing California who was ranked seventh. These rankings were determined by calculating each state’s average adjusted income, which included average income, state tax rates, costs of living and unemployment rates. West Virginia’s average adjusted income was calculated to be $32,549 annually. West Virginia remained in the top 10 worst states to make a living for the second year in a row, primarily because of its average income levels, which is one of the lowest in the nation. In addition to West Virginia’s low economic rankings, the state also received low rankings in health on a national scale. According to the United Health Foundation, West Virginia ranked 41st in the national health rankings for 2011. The number of people diagnosed with heart disease per every 100,000 people in West Virginia between the ages of 10 and 44 was 238.1. In addition, the number of people with obesity was at 67.9 percent, which was slightly above the national average of 65.8 percent. Katie Brit, junior elementary education major from Huntington, said she stays healthy by working out at the Marshall University Recreational Center during the week. “I go to the Rec Center Monday through Friday since I pay for it through my tuition,” Brit said. “I also cook a lot. Cooking saves money instead of eating out every day. I try not to get junk either. It’s easy to go to the gas station and get something to snack on, but if you cut out snacks, you lose weight a lot faster and save money.” Jamie Geib, a senior criminal justice major from Flemington, Va., saves money by staying away from fast food. “I always pack my lunch for work and make my own coffee instead of buying Starbucks,” Thacker said. “I also take advantage of Marshall’s free workout classes for students.” Robbie Hamilton, junior marketing major from Owenton, Ky., said, there are many free ways to stay healthy. “Staying healthy could get kind of expensive if you purchased diet or exercise supplements,” Hamilton said. “But if you do it yourself, like drink water, run, lift weights and keep a healthy diet, that’s all free.” Hagarty said one can be con- tacted at foster108@marshall.edu.

**Huntington food bank helps with storm efforts**

Huntington Food Bank announced progress and further efforts con- cerning the storm relief effort in Kentucky, Ohio and West Virginia in a press conference Thursday at Big Sandy Arena. Huntington Food Bank has partnered with Big Sandy Studios, Clear Channel Media and Entertainment, Wal-Mart, Kroger and River Cities Harvest to help those in the Tri-State area that were af- fected by the tornadosides. The press conference was convened to recognize the efforts on the part of these organiza- tions, private donors and the public to assist those desperately in need during the two days immediately following each of the disasters. Leigh Anne Zappi, Hun- tington Food Bank executive director, said the food bank acted immedi- ately after the tornados. “In the event of a disaster, often times aid does not ar- rive fast enough,” Zappi said. “These affected areas are still in a state of shock and disbelief. I think it is important for organiza- tions like Huntington Area Food Bank to react quickly. Through other partner- ships, we are able to work with storm relief items from the region of Galaxville and West Liberty, Ky. to our offices here in Huntington.” We will continue to be among the first responders in times of disasters in our region as long as we have the means.” At the conference, checks were also presented to Huntington Area Food Bank and River Cities Har- vest from Kellogg’s and Papaya to help with fur- ther relief efforts. Scott Frazer, Hun- tington Food Bank Director of Development, said, “We are very happy with their support. We are very happy with our community support and contin- ued support of national and regional businesses.”
An Appalachian State University professor will read her poetry to close the spring semester of the Visiting Writer’s Series.

With only a mere five weeks remaining in the spring semester, residence life staff is playing the game of phone tag, trying to stop playing games just yet.

With the final exams looming and the bustle of the end of the semester evolving, it seems as though something is created to help students alleviate some of the post-spring break stress.

She said events such as this are important because they provide a forum where students can simply have fun.

While some may have seen spring break as a period to stress-free summer days, spring break will only be in the past after such a break tends to be over.

The event has been organized by the Subcommittee on Arts, which consists of residents advisories and committee members from the department.

One of the main missions of the department is to create lasting and meaningful memories for residents, and the Marshall University Board of Governors Policy Committee, recommends the super PAC has spent more than $35 million on its ad campaign this year.

The agenda for the April 26 meetings, at 2 p.m., at noon Monday in the John Spotts Room of the Martin Student Center. Adjournment to Monday's meeting will end at 3 p.m.

Faculty Senate Executive Committee to meet Monday

BY SARAH STEELE THE PARthenon

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee will meet at 3 p.m. March 29 in the John Spotts Room of the Martin Student Center.

Minutes from the March 5 meeting will be approved and any new business that the executive committee, or standing committees, will present.

The agenda for the April 25 meeting tentatively includes remarks from Stephen Kopp, Marshall University president, and Camilla Brammer, faculty senate chair.

Adjournment to Monday's meeting will end at 3 p.m.

Selections for the spring semester’s representatives and standing committee members will also be chosen at the April 18 Faculty Senate meeting.

Sarah Silver can be contacted at ssilver@mas- sachusetts.edu.

WashingtON — Campus politics are not just for a select group of students. Winning Our Future, a national super PAC that was in favor of backup Newt Gingrich’s presidential campaign, has almost single-handedly been playing host to many student’s ترام، جانب من الأعضاء الأوائل. the popular television show “JEOPARDY!”

The first meeting will consist of the election of faculty senate chair, associate chair and recording secretary.

BY KIM GÖGER

THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2012
MARSHALLPARNETHON

Gingrich ‘at the end of his line,’ major donor says

We have having events such as this to get students interacting with one another. It allows them to take a break from school and enjoy life a little."

The event has been strategically placed in the Ed Gitens Room within the Blaustein Dining Hall for convenience and high attendance.

"No, I don’t want to _ every time I talk to him, he says, "Well, let’s just think about it."

But Gingrich earlier this week said Adelson’s earlier release of the popular television show “JEOPARDY!”

"I've had the hold de-

Gingrich is half as hard as Steil’s version, according to JewishJournal.com.

"I don’t want to go to jail, but I don’t want to lose my county."

"If the race is over, our party is a wrecking operation and a ship that has crashed."

"But with many provisions, that’s good,” said former senator Jim Bunning, R-Ky., who had earlier chastised their efforts.

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"He doesn’t want to _ every time I talk to him, he says, "Well, let’s just think about it."

"’Cause, I mean, mathematical- ly, he can’t get anywhere near the numbers, and there’s, uh, actually in that case he would be a brokered convention."

"Winning Our Future, a super PAC that was instrumental in paying for advertising to boost Gin-

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"I’m going to throw many Americans under the bus and enjoy life a little."

The real deal. One dominant effect, the administration has almost single-handedly been playing host to many student’s Trường trung học, but some of her colleagues agreed that the court should not move too dramatically.

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"If the race is over, our party is a wrecking operation and a ship that has crashed."

"He doesn’t want to _ every time I talk to him, he says, "Well, let’s just think about it."

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"They could very well strike down the health care law’s insurance requirement, that the individuals must buy insurance, and the least dictat that state expands Medicaid coverage, or even the law in its current state."

They will almost certainly lose both clarifications and clouded their efforts.

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Stanton approaches career milestone
Softball coach close to eclipsing career win number 400

BY LAWREN HIGHTOWER
THE PARThENON

Marshall University Softball coach Shonda Stanton is only three wins shy of 400 for her career. Stanton is in her 13th season as head coach for the Thundering Herd. Her 397 wins are the most for any coach in Marshall softball history.

Stanton played softball collegiately at UNC Greensboro. During her career she was a four-year starter and three-year captain. During her senior year, Stanton ranked eighth in the nation in runs scored.

After college, Stanton joined the athletic department at Ashland University where she worked with the women’s basketball team, women’s volleyball team and softball team.

“For me, I do attribute my abilities as a head coach to the experience I had at Ashland,” Stanton said. “So I am very thankful for Ashland,” Stanton said. “So I am very thankful for Ashland.”

During her time at Ashland, the softball team earned consecutive bids to the NCAA tournament.

Stanton was the head coach for Indiana University-Purdue University of Indianapolis prior to coming to Marshall. During her time as the head coach, IUPUI had its first winning season as an NCAA Division I program, going 17-25 in 1999.

Former Marshall softball player Amanda Williams, who holds several Thundering Herd records, is now an assistant coach with the Herd. Williams said she is grateful that she had the opportunity to play for Stanton and is just as happy to be coaching beside her.

“Four-handed win is a very deserving honor for coach Stanton,” Williams said. “She’s a great coach and not only cares about her players as student athletes, but she also cares about what kind of person they are off the diamond as well.”

During her career at Marshall, Stanton has produced 45 all-conference players and nine all-Americans. Since becoming the head coach, her teams have never posted a grade point average lower than 3.0 for an academic year.

Senior outfielder Melissa Loesing said the approach Stanton brings to the game is what she admires the most.

“If there is anything I have learned from Coach it is to go after what you want,” Loesing said. “This is a go getter, and she teaches you that.”

Stanton’s best season at the helm of the Thundering Herd came in 2003 when the Herd went 41-17.

Shonda Stanton, assistant coach, with senior outfielder Jessica Hughes during practice.

“I know our girls were a lot more confident this year than they were last year,” Stanton said. “We’ve got to bring out sticks offensively, and we have committed 60 errors as a team. We’ve got to come out swinging.”

The Thundering Herd is an offensive powerhouse. The Herd has hit an astounding 21 home runs and is holding opponents to 17-28 runs per game, and has scored a total of nine runs in three games this season, including a 17-7 victory against Bowling Green in early March.

Their season has been ridiculous, so they have weak pitching and weak defense, but we know they are going to come out swinging,” Stanton said. “So we know if we are going to win the games this weekend, it’s all about the sticks. We’ve got to bring them.”

The Miners defense pails in comparison to its offense. UTEP is allowing its opponents to score just under 12-8.

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The Thundering Herd in 17-18 this season, has a very deserving honor.

Shonda Stanton's team is ranked eighth in the nation in runs scored.

Head coach Shanda Stanton talks strategy with senior outfielder Jessica Hughes during one of the Herd's games at Doe Hicks Field. Stanton will attempt to leave El Paso, Texas with career win number 400 after a three game series against the UTEP Miners beginning Saturday afternoon. Marshall has 24 regular season games left on its slate before the 2012 Conference USA Softball Tournament in Birmingham, Ala. to face the University of Texas-El Paso.

For Stanton, winning in order for the Herd to continue, return to their roots, and steal home bases.

Last season the Herd led the nation in stolen bases, and this season junior Ashley Gue is second in the conference with 21. “We can run on their circles,” Stanton said. “But if we’re doing what we do well, we’ll be in command of things.”

The Herd goes into the series with a record of 17-13 (4-6 C-USA), while the Miners are just 13-21 (7-7 C-USA), despite its offensive prowess.

The series gets under way with a double-header at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. Saturday and concludes with a single game at 1 p.m. Sunday. Jarrod Clay can be contacted at clay103@marshall.edu.

*STAN STANTON, SOFTBALL COACH

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Marshall Softball head coach Shonda Stanton (right) talks strategy with player Jessica Hughes (left) during the 2012 season.

BY JARROD CLAY
THE PARThENON

After getting swept by the Miners this season, the Marshall softball softball team returns to the diamond at 11 a.m. Saturday for a three-game series at the University of Texas-Pan American. The Herd is coming off a sweep from the Miners in just seven days. The Herd also swept the Miners last year before losing the final three games of the series at the University of Alabama-Birmingham.

“Know our girls were a little bit slept out last weekend, so it’s nice this week to have the time off to plan and prepare fully for UTEP,” Stanton said, head coach Shonda Stanton said.

In his 13th season as head coach, Stanton is looking to pass the Miners and is holding opponents to a 13-21 record and a loss by 49 runs per game. Stanton has produced 30 winners and has pitched a total of 255 innings. Stanton has pitched a total of 255 innings.

Stanton has a total of seven 30-win seasons in her 13 years with the Herd. From 2003-2007 her teams won at least 30 games each year.

“The 2003 season is one of my most memorable seasons,” Stanton said. “We were coming off a very tough season and we redid the way we did with eight freshmen and we got 43-17 and 39-4 in the conference and we amazing. The 2006 season comes to mind too — it was our first in Conference USA.”

Stanton said she chose to hold onto all three of the seniors, the fall in love with the program and the coaches.

“T_ranges come to mind too — it was our first in Conference USA.”

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“She is an offensive powerhouse. The Thundering Herd is a four-year starter and an all-American. Since becoming the head coach, her teams have never posted a grade point average lower than 3.0 for an academic year.

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US should stop waging perpetual war

BY JACOB WHITE
1294 15TH AV, IOWA STATE U, VIA UWM

“No is an instance of a country having benefited from prolonged warfare.”

This quotation is attributed to Mao Tse-Tung, who won the most influential struggle on warfare in history, “The Art of War.” That tome is more than two millennia old and is still as important today as it was two-and-a-half thousand years ago.

And yet here in the United States, the most advanced and powerful empire in world history, our leaders are still unable to understand this simple and eloquent passage.

American military forces have been involved in the war in Afghanistan for more than a decade. And what do we have to show for it? There is still little resembling democracy, the Afghan police force is ill-trained, ill-equipped and unpaid to handle the country once war (if ever) leave Afghanistan; and the Taliban is simply waiting in the shadows. There is a corrupt president who happen be the brother of an opium drug lord, and you will have to dress yourself a well-dressed mix just waiting for collapse.

Recent events have only further remoted the notion that the war in Afghanistan is going dreadfully awry. If the Taliban does in war what by accounts are crimes, was the unprovoked slaughter of civilians in Kandahar village, shooting and killing 16, then setting several of their corpses aflame.

There should be no reason for this ever happening in warfare. If the side is in need of psychological and moral support, few is as evil and do what he did.

With the immense budget the US armed forces have, certainly there is treatment available for soldiers in that kind of condition. This event led to the Taliban turning its backs on negotiations of any kind with America, a fact that hinder any attempts at a successful withdrawal from Afghanistan.

These two incidents, while hard to stomach, are endless line of incidents that show the war effort in Afghanistan is in shambles.

And yet the government is going to war effort in Afghanistan is in shambles.

The current case of Perpetual warfare has always been feared by intellectuals throughout the ages. The current case of Perpetual warfare has always been feared by intellectuals throughout the ages. The current case of Perpetual warfare has always been feared by intellectuals throughout the ages.

This is the number of acres that are degraded by mountaintop removal. EPA should appeal federal decision allowing MTR in Logan County

Last week, a federal judge in Washington, D.C. ruled that a permit issued by the Environmental Protection Agency in 2007 to allow mountaintop removal in Logan County was unconstitutional. Ano Berman Jack-

son, the judge who ruled on the decision stated, that the EPA’s decision to ban mountaintop removal at Spruce Mine No. 1 in Logan County, said the EPA exceeded its boundaries and was not in compliance with federal law by issuing the permit to stop mountaintop mining.

Aero Coal, the company which owns Spruce Mine No. 1 can now go full speed ahead with mountaintop removals in response to the ruling by Jackson. This comes as little surprise and demonstrates the swamp coal has not only in West Virginia, but also in DC.

Now that MTR will be allowed at Spruce No. 1 mine, 2,278 acres of land will be destroyed. Hundreds of miles of streams will be lost to valley fills, and the approx-

imated individuals who live below the MTR sites will continue to have adverse health effects. Both children with deformities and illnesses because profit and efficie-

ncy are put before human life and well-being. The EPA ruling that banned MTR at the Spruce Mine No. 1 was a helping hand to the people of Logan County — not an overreach of the EPA’s power, as Judge Jackson ruled it was.

Despite MTR having an infamous reputation for violating the Clean Water Act, Jackson argued that it does not.

Somehow or another, Jackson is a drink from a laurel that sits before an active MTR site. One would probably not want to drink it now. Since her ruling, families in Logan County that live near MTR sites will continue to be subjected to poisonous water and flash flooding caused by valley fills.

Even West Virginia State Senator, Joe Manchin III, is unrolling to protect the people of his own state: “I always knew that the EPA’s decision is intentionally created a col-

lapse that occurred in the collapse of the USSR in 1991. But what is it to be done? Bush, increasing internation-

al pressure for America to leave Afghanistan, the targeted withdrawal date in Afghanistan is going to be set. The current case of Perpetual warfare has always been feared by in-

volved American citizens and those of the United States. The current case of Perpetual warfare has always been feared by intellectuals throughout the ages.

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she's singing a bad lullaby instead of a pop song most of the time. The offensive simplicity of the background music demands Madonna to infuse some energy, but she doesn't. Her voice seems detached and childish. Are we watching the intermediate rounds of "American Idol," or listening to one of the biggest pop artists of all time? Where's the energy? Not in MDNA.

The lone highlights of the album come not from anything Madonna offers, but rather from Nicki Minaj—whose characteristic pizzazz generates some welcome energy in "Give Me All Your Luvin'"—but the positive experience is over too soon, and we are left with the bare, bare bones of Madonna and silly techno beats.

Considering Madonna’s larger-than-life celebrity status, it would’ve been nice to justify it with an engaging album. Instead, we’re left scratching our heads, asking depressing questions such as “why is this person so famous?” and “why does our society put her on a pedestal?” Sadly, MDNA gives us no answers.

**iPads vs. Textbooks**

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**Base costs**

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**Annual costs**

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**Workbook pricing varies; they may be included in the textbook price for the first year or for all six years, or they may be re-purchased every year.**

*Hardware gets replaced after four years.**

**Auction**

"I have always wanted to study abroad so I know how expensive it can be and anything that can help students with this opportunity is a great thing," Stapels said. Haguery said donors and patrons have been extremely generous with providing scholarships for tuition but there are still a lot of expenses like airfare and food. Donated artwork can be taken to the Birke Art Gallery from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Keyaira McCauley can be contacted at mccauley12@marshall.edu.

"Richards is one of the biggest pop artists of all time! Where’s the energy? Not in MDNA. The lone highlights of the album come not from anything Madonna offers, but rather from Nicki Minaj—whose characteristic pizzazz generates some welcome energy in “Give Me All Your Luvin’” but the positive experience is over too soon, and we are left with the bare, bare bones of Madonna and silly techno beats."

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**Food Bank**

The Huntington Area Food Bank is a nonprofit organization affiliated with Feeding America. Ashley Foster can be contacted at foster108@marshall.edu.
The Charleston Volleyball Club, Claridades said, is one of the people involved in Greek Week for the first time they’ve been involved in volleyball. Sororities and fraternities battled in their respective brackets at the Marshall Recreation Center, with each eventual winner earning the most points for their chapter.

Sigma Sigma Chi defeated Alpha Chi Omega in the first round to move on to the finals. Junior Sigma Mullie Hammick said she was happy with her team’s performance.

“It was pretty well,” Hammick said. “We played really hard and beat them in two games to 15 so we’re just looking forward to the final. We need to work hard together and make sure the half steps off the ground.”

Delta Zeta beat Alpha Xi Delta in two games, sending them to the finals. Delta Zeta won the first game of finals, but Sigma won the second game in extra points, as she forced play to 30. Each match was timed at 30 minutes, and when the clock ran out in final games, Delta Zeta had the lead, giving them bringing rights for the volleyball tournament. Sigma finished second in Alpha Xi won over Alpha Chi, losing them in third place.

Fraternities played their brackets after sororities. Junior Pi Kappa Alpha Nathaniel Fawley was confident in his team’s planned strategy.

“We want to see it a few phases and get them to speak it,” Fawley said. “We’re hop- ing Justin House makes some moves, along with John Alley.”

After a nine team feature- ability bracket, Pi Kappa Alpha and Alpha Sigma Pi played in the championship game, with Alpha Sig winning and Pi Kappa Alpha placing second. Delta Zeta finished in third place over the Kappa Grees.

“We have already com- peted in several events this week, such as the banner competition, tug-of-war, success and spades. Inter- fraternity Council adviser Lee Tabor said the spades tournament added a unique element to Greek Week.

“The National Panhellenic Council, historically black fraternities and sororities, did spades tournament last night, and that was actually the first time they’ve been involved in Greek Week for years and years,” Tabor said. Panhellenic Council ad- viser Megan Kelley said the Junior Alpha Sigma Phi said she was happy with the first round to move on to the Big Sandy Area.

The tournament begins Saturday at 8 a.m. with 10-year-olds and 12-year-old playing until 6 p.m., then 14-year-olds and 16-year-olds. The tournament completes on Sunday at 8 a.m. with 13 and 14-year-olds. Playoffs start at 1 p.m. for all four divisions.

Chelesa Schudelis can be contacted at schudelis@marshall.edu.