Grant allows MU professor to study how temperature effects bone growth

By ELIZABETH STEWART

A grant received three years ago by the College of Science at Marshall University is continuing to benefit students and the community. Maria Serratt, assistant professor of anatomy, used the grant to buy a new microscope and demonstrate how she is copying the effects of temperature on bone growth. Serratt received the grant three years ago and is continuing to use the funds for further study.

“Drug delivery to growth plates is an interesting idea,” Serratt said. “If we’re trying to come up with a drug to increase blood flow to the bone because the amount of blood that’s delivered to the bone can impact or increase the amount of bone that’s delivered to the bone because the idea is if we’re trying to come up with strategies to get targeted drug delivery to growth plates of children that have growth impediments or any sort of disease and we want to target a drug therapy,” Serratt said.

The grant received allowed Serratt to work with other professors in the department to completely customize the microscope to allow for live animal imaging.

“I was able to work with Professor Torn at Cornell University, where I learned this technique,” Serratt said. “This multi-photon microscope was invented by researchers at Cornell a couple of decades ago and so they were really pioneers and they really had to push the envelope to get the hardware. They developed the technology that they did, so you were able to work with some of them to create a system that would let me do the same thing.”

While the research is in the preliminary stages right now, getting to this point has been Serratt’s focus since she began teaching at Marshall three years ago. “We found out during my first year here that the grant was approved for purchasing the microscope, so it was in my second year that I built up the system and my third year that I wanted to collect the data,” Serratt said. “It’s been a long road but I’m excited for where we’re at and hopefully we’ll continue to move forward.”

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SGA greets students with hot chocolate

By STAR DELANCY

Members of the Marshall University Student Government Association greeted students who arrived to campus early Tuesday with a free cup of hot chocolate.

Ashley Roberts, SGA historian, proposed the idea to SGA executive committee to increase the SGA’s visibility, do something to encourage students to come to campus early because the hot chocolate was ready ad waiting,” Wylde said.

Ray Harrell Jr., student body president, said the event was designed to accomplish several things, but it was mainly intended to be a nice gesture from the SGA toward the students they serve. ’

“Any effort to reach students more proactively is great,” Wylde said, the sentiment of gestures go a long way in improving each student’s day.

“The senate is constantly working to benefit the student body,” Harrell said. “Many times small things like this get pushed aside due to more pressing issues, when the small things make a large impact for the students we serve.”

According to Roberts, the SGA may continue to provide free hot chocolate to students in the morning based on the number of students who took a free cup of hot chocolate on Tuesday.

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Civil rights lecture series concludes

By JEREMY BROWN

Tuesday evening Marshall University welcomed author and historian Betty Collar-Thomas as the sixth and final speaker in “The Long Civil Rights Movement in America” lecture series. Collar-Thomas spoke about the often overlooked role women played in Civil Rights Movement.

“Though the many black and white men have been celebrated for their contributions to the African-American struggle for freedom, recognition of women and their organizations has been slow,” Collar-Thomas said.

Collar-Thomas argued that the Civil Rights Movement in the United States began well before 1955 and Brown v. Board of Education’s school desegregation ruling with powerful Caucasian women and Caucasian women’s groups to achieve their goals. Eventually the NAACP became involved with the internationally known Young Women’s Christian Association, which until that time excluded blacks.

“By 1955, African-American leaders were actively soliciting the help of white religious and secular moderates in organizing the Southern attack on racism,” she said.

Over time, many influential interracial women’s groups formed, including the prominent Church Women United, which by 1958 represented more than 10 million protestant women. The CWU’s endeavors to stifle segregation and racism extended beyond just the black and white struggle to CWU leaders, for example, locally protested Japanese internment in America during World War II.

Collar-Thomas points out these efforts by the women brought about the fundamental changes in race relations which took place in America.

“The CWU played a significant role in laying the groundwork for the launching of the modern civil rights movement,” she said.

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ONE on ONE
Samuel Craigo sits down with the Herd’s goalkeeper

Daniel Withrow is a senior, starting goalie for the Marshall University Thundering Herd men’s soccer team. He was recently named co-CUSA Player of the Year. The secondary education major from Rochester Hills, Mich., finished out his soccer career with Marshall on Nov. 3. He was named captain in his junior year and he holds the single season shutout record at 7-11-1. At the close of the 2012-2013 season, Withrow was ranked second in the division for shot save percentage. He was unanimously All-C-USA and was the only goalkeeper elected to the C-USA team in 2011. He was selected as Conference USA Defender of the Year and Second Team All-Midwest region in 2010.

Q: If you could inherit a certain skill what would it be?
A: Flying or to be able to travel like that movie Jumper.

Q: What is your greatest love in life?
A: My family.

Q: What is your greatest fear?
A: Spiders. I am so afraid of getting bit by a spider and dying.

Q: How would you like to die?
A: Quick, I don’t care what it is.

Q: What is your favorite place you’ve been to?

Q: What trait about yourself do you hate the most?
A: Trying to be perfect.

Q: Which historical figure do you identify most with?
A: Thomas Jefferson. He was responsible for writing everything we base today off of.

Q: What is your greatest achievement?
A: Being selected as team captain of the Marshall University soccer team my junior year.

Q: If you were to die and reincarnate what would you choose to come back as?
A: Lebron James, I can’t stand him. He is a punk and way too arrogant.

Q: What trait about yourself do you despise?
A: Over the next few weeks The Parthenon will run edited transcripts of several Q & A’s with representatives of Marshall University’s sports community. The interviews, conducted by reporters in the sports reporting class, incorporate a questionnaire-style text borrowed, in part, from French writer Marcel Proust and made famous in the back pages of Vanity Fair magazine.

Women’s assistant soccer coach completes seventh season

By KARA KUCIN
Assistant coach for the women’s soccer team recently completed his seventh season on the Thundering Herd’s coaching staff. Scott Letts attended Marshall and competed on the men’s soccer team recently as the central defender, captain and four-year starter.

Letts is originally from Nottingham, England, where he says the game of soccer is quite different.

“English ball is very fast, you tend to have very little time on the ball to make decisions,” Letts said. For Letts it didn’t take him long to adjust from playing to coaching soccer.

“If you remove the physical element, the game is the same when you analyze strengths and weaknesses of the opposition and expose them when they get at their weakest point,” Letts said. “Once you start coaching you become such a stronger player, as everything seems to be so much simpler.”

Letts has taught men as well as women in the past. Letts said men are physically stronger and faster, which can turn the game into more of a battle.

“Sometimes girls can have a little dramatic at times,” Letts said. “However, they are better in the classroom and smarter all together.”

Letts said he could easily go on to England to coach but it is harder in the United States to be successful with all of the rules in the USA.

“I feel like in the USA, you can develop players and nurture their talent, that’s the part that I really enjoy,” Letts said.

Since the women’s season has finished, Letts has been preparing for the Beauts Freeman Competition. He has been running, biking and swimming every day to get prepared for the race.

Letts hopes to coach somewhere in England, whether it was male or female, at any level.

Letts and his women’s team finished their season with a record of 7-11-1. The Herd will finish their season on Saturday, March 2, 2013 at 1 pm.

Kara Kucin can be contacted at kucin@marshall.edu.
Abuse of prescription medications is one of the biggest issues plaguing West Virginia residents and the problem is due in large part to the convenience and accessibility of getting a prescription filled in West Virginia. Many patients are being placed on doctors who prescribe medications and physicians who prescribe strong or a large number of prescription medications are still staggering.

Like alcohol, tobacco, and prescription medications abuse are in high volume in the Mountain State. A study issued Tuesday by the Center for Disease Dynamics Economics and Policy reported that West Virginia ranks second in the nation for the number of prescriptions filled. The mountain state also saw the smallest decrease in prescriptions of any state in the past 11 years, with a mere one percent drop.

As many more and more antibiotics are prescribed, the drugs lose their effectiveness. Often the purpose of antibiotics is misdiagnosed, because doctors prescribe antibiotics that are inappropriate for treatment of certain infections such as the flu or the common cold, while antibiotics are only designed to combat bacteria. To promote awareness of antibiotics and how they should be used, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention launched a campaign titled "Antibiotics Awareness Week." In 2010, 178 prescriptions for antibiotics were filled for every 1,000 West Virginians. West Virginia's figures were just shy of neighboring Kentucky who leads the nation with 1,157 antibiotic prescriptions for every 1,000 residents.

Marijuana remains illegal despite recent voting

Marijuana remains illegal despite recent voting

by phil flickinger (blundergrd.com)

MARIJUANA

Are you young, just a college student?

Do you smoke marijuana? No

Do you smoke marijuana? Yes

30% of high school seniors say they smoke marijuana a few times a month. Is it more in your state? Do you think it should be illegal?

Weigh in now.

Do you think the Thundering Herd will win its final two games and become bowl-eligible? No

Are you old enough to vote?

Do you vote?

Yes

No

In very small part, this is because my move-to-the-middle prescription for parties has been defeated by the evidence of the past 11 years in the House and Senate. 2006 and 2008 even as they rebuffed all comprehensive and Abramoff-bashed reform, were years of the rebirth of the Tea Party in Congress. The rebirth of the Tea Party in Congress is a sign of this election because it is plainly different than the sea changes which demoralized Democrats in 2010 by running a slate of Tea Party ideologues.

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Ohio inmate convicted in 1997 slaying is executed

By PHIL TRELICK

LUCILLEVILLE, Ohio — Brett Hartmann was set free.

After 15 years of failed appeals, the condemned Akron man was strapped to a gurney Tuesday morning at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility. The ordeal ended.

“I’m good. Let’s eat,” he said before being hooked up to a line of calcium and drugs that were shot into his system.

The trial and the pain and the anxieties and the emotions and the uncertainty and the suffering ended.

Nearby, Brett’s mother, Ann Hartmann, sat in a hallway of the prison following the execution.

“I’m glad it’s over,” Ann said.

Almost everything else, though, remains the same. Details of the life lived under a cloud of uncertainty remain in the past.

“Starkness is the word. Just starkness,” Ann said.

A starkness that has been part of the Hartmann family, which includes a daughter and a son, and sister and brother and a sister.

They are the Hartmanns. They are the state of Ohio.

“Election” is not a word that has an easy connotation here. The family is in its name. It is its business.

“How are you? We’re doing fine,” Ann said.

“Everything’s the same,” she said.

Over the years, whenever a news story about another state or Ohio carried out Brett Hartmann’s death sentence, the Secretary, Governor, Director, Sheriff, morning talk show host, and he hopes the search for Starbucks’ true killer continues.

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By ERIKA RITTENHOUSE
THE PARTHENON

On this day in 1970, 75 lives were lost in a plane crash just outside the Tri-State Airport. The plane crashed into a hillside in Wampsville County around 7:30 p.m., taking the lives of the 37 Marshall University football players, eight members of the coaching staff, as well as 25 fans and five flight crewmembers. This event marked the worst air tragedy in NCAA sports history.

The team was on its way home after a 17-14 loss to the East Carolina Pirates in Greenville, N.C. when the crash occurred. Originally, the team had planned to drive to and from East Carolina University but later decided to book a 95-seat Southern Airways DC-9 flight. The plane crashed into the hill just 5,000 feet outside of the airport’s runway. The plane cut through trees, leaving a trail of debris behind. Once the plane was identified, the National Guard was called in and at that point body identification began.

Forty-two years later, Marshall football players, students, administration, and the Huntington community still remember the lives lost on that night so many years ago. “It’s an honor to play in memory of the people who died doing what they love,” Garrett Scott, junior Marshall University football player said. “It’s amazing how the team has built itself back up from just about nothing. Knowing that, and knowing everything this town and this team has been through makes me proud to be a part of the program and to wear that ‘M’ across my chest.”

Today, the Marshall community remembers the lives lost on this day with a memorial service and the ritual of turning off the fountain in the Memorial Student Center Plaza.

President Stephen J. Rupp and Head Coach Doc Holliday are set to speak in commemoration of those who lost their lives that night. After each of the speeches, members of the football team will place flowers around the fountain, with each flower representing a life lost. At that point, the traditional laying of the wreath and turning off the memorial fountain will take place.

“The purpose of the memorial and the wreath is to commemorate living and upward growth. An inscription on the wreath makes a statement about the meaning and purpose of the memorial. The inscription reads: ‘They shall live on in the hearts of their families and friends forever, and this memorial records their loss to the university and to the community.’”

This is a day that will forever sit heavy on the hearts of Marshall University students, administration, faculty, athletes and coaches, alumni and the surrounding Huntington community. Every year on this day, the community comes together to mourn and remember those lives lost in the plane crash. This special day, not just Marshall, but everyone in the city of Huntington steps to remember that, We Are… Marshall.

Erika Rittenhouse can be contacted at rittenhouse4@marshall.edu.