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We Are ... Marshall, November 16, 2001

Office of Marshall University Communications

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We Are...Marshall!

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • NOV. 16, 2001

“Jam the Cam” to Seek Attendance Record Dec. 5

There's a move afoot to “Jam the Cam” and it doesn't have a thing to do with toast or butter.

When the women's basketball team takes to the court to meet Navy on Dec. 5 at the Cam Henderson Center, the objective actually will be to set a new Mid-American Conference record attendance for a women's basketball game. And in addition to what promises to be an exciting matchup, there will be plenty of intriguing extras. For example, a celebrity foul shooting contest will star President Dan Angel, Football Coach Bob Pruett and two members of othe local media..

The Marshall Pep Band will perform, and a host of other activities are planned such as autograph sessions by football players and coaches, a rappelling demonstration by members of the Marshall ROTC, and a display of football championship trophies.

Campus Lighting Set for Nov. 27

By day it's a cozy university campus but at dusk it will be transformed into a shimmering winter wonderland—at least if students Kristy Hays and Natalie Ray have their way.

For the second year in a row the Huntington campus will be festively decorated with an official lighting ceremony set for Nov. 27 at 7 p.m.

Working from ideas suggested by Mrs. Pat Angel, Hays and Ray invited students to come out on a Sunday in early November to help deck the campus. More than 100 students turned out, according to Hays. Poles were wrapped with ribbon, colorful bows sprouted all over campus and members of the grounds crew were on hand to string green and white lights in every available tree.

Hays has been delighted by the student response. “Last year was the first time in 163 years that the campus was decorated,” she said.

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Women's Basketball Coach Royce Chadwick is urging everyone to attend to see a great game and swell the crowd. “It's going to be a great night for Marshall University,” he said. “It's a situation where we have an opportunity to gain some respect nationwide as well as to gain respect in the MAC if we can get that attendance record. I think there are a lot of people behind us, backing us, and pulling for us so I hope everybody comes to the game.”

Using the theme, “I'll Be There at Jam the Cam,” students, faculty, staff and members of the community are being urged to fill the seats as a way of showing support for the team.

The festivities begin at 7 p.m. Ticket information can be obtained by calling 1-800-THE-HERD.

David Arigan is Employee of the Month

David J. Arigan, shipping and receiving assistant in Receiving-Purchasing and Materials Management, has been named the Marshall



President Dan Angel presents David Arigan with the plaque commemorating his selection as Employee of the Month.

University Employee of the Month for August, according to Jim Stephens, chair of the Employee of the Month Selection Committee.

Arigan, who has been employed at the university for 24 years, was nomi-

nated by Carol A. Skaggs and Karl Shanholtzer.

In her nomination, Skaggs noted, “Dave is a longtime employee who goes out of his way to help all the people he comes in contact with. He helps students with packages and directions and

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WMUL Celebrates 40th Anniversary with Third Straight Best of Show

Marshall's public radio station, WMUL-FM, which celebrated its 40th anniversary on Nov. 1, received the "Broadcast Best of Show" award for the third straight year at the 80th Annual National College Media Convention/2001 Associated Collegiate Press (ACP) College Annual Competition ceremony.

Presented to Marshall on Oct. 28 in New Orleans, the award-winning entry was in the News/Feature category and was a compilation of segments from feature reports, newscasts, sports play-by-play, documentary and drama productions edited by Vince Payne, a senior from Hansford.

The entries were evaluated for general excellence, but emphasis was placed on reporting and leadership as expressed through content, according to Dr. Chuck G. Bailey, associate professor of broadcasting in the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications at Marshall and faculty manager of WMUL-FM.

Extra Holidays Given

Governor Bob Wise has given state employees two extra holidays. Classified staff members voted to take these holidays on Wednesday, Nov. 21, 2001, and Friday, March 29, 2002.

We Are...Marshall!

Published by University Communications, with offices in Huntington (213 Old Main) and South Charleston (110 Administration Building).

The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall!* will carry an issue date of Nov. 30, 2001. Deadline is Nov. 26. Articles or other materials for consideration should be sent to Pat Dickson, editor, at the South Charleston campus or by e-mail to pdickson@marshall.edu.



United Way Sets Goal of \$75,000

The Marshall University United Way campaign is continuing with a goal of raising \$75,000 by Dec. 20, according to co-organizers Barbara Tarter, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Enrollment Management, and Martha Woodward, Executive Director of the John R. Hall Center for Academic Excellence, and Director of the Honors Program.

Last year faculty and staff contributed \$66,543.

Tarter said the campaign offers a way to help people who have special needs such as the elderly, the poor, and people with disabilities. "Marshall University helps a lot of different people with a variety of things. It's a chance to give something back," Tarter said.

"We now have \$15,000 through the generosity of the Marshall community," Woodward said. "We have an ambitious goal which we expect to reach the way people have been responding."

Woodward said a chart has been placed in the lobby of the Memorial Student Center so people can watch the totals rise. "We're just thrilled with the response so far," she said.

Marshall has joined with the United Way of the River Cities which has set a goal to raise \$1.9 million in Cabell, Wayne, Lincoln and Mason counties, together with Lawrence County, Ohio.

And organizers say it's easy to make a donation. A packet has been distributed to each faculty and staff member with explanatory materials and a pledge card. Donations can be made by check or through a payroll deduction plan. In addition, if they wish, donors can specify an agency or agencies to receive their contributions.

A United Way web site is linked to the Marshall web site at www.marshall.edu/em/unitedway.

Faculty/Staff Achievements

The Department of Physics & Physical Sciences hosted the 50th annual meeting of the Appalachian section of the American Association of Physics Teachers Oct. 12-13 on the Huntington campus. President-Elect ***Dr. Wesley Shanholtzer*** chaired sessions and presented a paper with ***Dr. Ashok Vaseashta*** on "Use of Interactive Physics in the Class Room." ***Dr. Ralph Oberly*** chaired a session, "Image Database Development and Signal Processing." Oberly and ***Dr. James Brumfield*** presented three publications on "Image Database Development and Signal Processing."

Profile: Jose Simental

A series on interesting Marshall University people.



Jose Simental

He wouldn't renounce his U.S. citizenship and that cost him a degree in civil engineering after he had completed all the coursework.

But Jose Simental doesn't regret his decision for a minute. Simental, who is the new Minority Faculty Fellow based at the graduate college in South Charleston, is surprisingly magnanimous about not getting that final official piece of paper.

After all, as the holder of dual citizenship from Mexico and the United States, he's been used to crisscrossing two countries, going from Durango, Mexico, where his Mexican father and his American mother lived, to his grandparents' home in Huntington where he spent summers as a youngster. And everything was going pretty well until he neared completion of his degree from a Mexican state university.

The dual citizenship came about when the former Margaret Ann Adkins of Huntington married Dr. Antonio Simental, a neurosurgeon who, as an intern, practiced from 1955 to 1960 at the now demolished C & O Hospital in Huntington. Born and reared in Mexico, but with an American mother, Jose Simental was automatically a citizen of both countries.

Being eligible to attend Mexican government schools, he completed coursework for a degree in civil engineering at a public university. But then came a final demand from the school which he would not meet.

"At the time Mexico had a policy that required dual citizenship holders to renounce their non-Mexican citizenship in order to be granted professional degrees in government-run schools. If you were a registered foreign student, then you were granted the degree," Simental explains. "Since I had registered as a dual citizen, I had, in effect, taken the place of another Mexican. The government official said something to the effect that, 'Okay, we've educated you as a Mexican, we want you to choose a nationality. You have to renounce your U.S. citizenship in order for us to grant your degree,' and that I wouldn't do." Given the choice of quitting on the brink of getting his degree or giving up his citizenship, he chose to keep his American citizenship.

"I didn't get my official civil engineering degree, the sheepskin, but I was not about to give up my U.S. citizenship. So I can say I have been trained and worked as a civil engineer in road construction and road maintenance and other construction projects in Mexico without the official degree," he says.

A resident of Huntington since 1993, he worked full time for the city government for more than five years as an engineering technician. He started taking courses full time at Marshall in 1996 and earned first a Regents B.A. degree, and then a master's degree in geography. Encouraged by several faculty members, he applied and was accepted into the doctoral program of the geography department at the University of Cincinnati, where last May he finished his coursework. Now he is working on his dissertation, which examines

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David Arigan

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he is always willing to help fellow employees even if they are from another department of the University community. Dave is one of the many unsung heroes Marshall University currently has in its family. He always does his job without supervision or mistakes. He gives 100 percent every day to his position and fellow employees."

Arigan's helpful attitude and his ability to work well with others drew praise from Skaggs and Shanholtzer.

The nomination went on to say, "Dave is a longtime MU employee who puts his job at Marshall first. He gives the same smile and friendly attitude to students, professors and the staff. Dave is loyal to his fellow employees and does an outstanding job for this department. If we gave out attendance awards he would have an entire wall filled with them....He is worth his weight in gold."

President Angel presented Arigan with a plaque, balloon bouquet and a check for \$100. He will be eligible for the Employee of the Year Award.

Visitors Parking Switches to Meters

Marshall is installing a "Pay-by-Space" multi-space parking meter at its visitors parking lot at the corner of John Marshall Drive and College Avenue. Installation of the meter will be completed by Nov. 26, according to James Terry, director of Public Safety at Marshall.

"The objective of the multi-space meter project is to increase the number of parking spaces that are available for guests when they come to campus," Terry said.

Museum Concert Series Continues

The partnership between the Department of Music and the Huntington Museum of Art continues with concerts by faculty, students and ensembles. Programs are free and open to the public and take place the last Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. in the Grace Doherty Auditorium at the museum, which is located on McCoy Road. The last concert of the Fall 2001 Series, Heidi Wick, horn and friends, will take place Nov. 25.

Jose Simental

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international migration networks and their influence in the acculturation and assimilation of immigrants to the United States. His research also details the influence of cultural, economic and political variables of the host culture in the socio-economic success or failure of Hispanic immigrants.

For two years he commuted back and forth to Cincinnati but since accepting the Faculty Fellowship he's now able to live full time in Huntington with his wife and four children. His widowed mother and grandmother, along with numerous aunts, uncles and cousins, live nearby.

He has high praise for the fellowship, which originated 10 years ago at the graduate college with the objective of enlarging the pool of culturally diverse people with doctorates. Dr. Ron Childress, Vice President for Graduate Studies, was the chief architect of the program, which is specifically designed to help participants like Simental who are actively engaged in doctoral dissertation studies during the fellowship period.

Actually, moving back to West Virginia was a welcome homecoming for him. "I spent every summer of my youth visiting my grandparents here...Over those summers I made a lot of friends and I had great childhood adventures with them," he remembers.

Now, as part of his fellowship, he's using his Hispanic heritage to craft a new class that will help West Virginia teachers become certified to teach middle school Spanish.

He has always been bilingual, as are his children, Javier, 12, Ana, 11, Adrian, 8, and 6-year old Alexandra, who is the only one of his children born in the United States. His wife, Maria E. Gallegos, a biochemical engineer who now works for the River Valley Child Development Center, is a native of Mexico. Right now the family is eagerly looking forward to Maria and the three older children receiving their U.S. citizenship--early next year, they hope.

"During the weekends my wife and I speak Spanish at home. The children speak Spanish to their mother, English to me, and usually English among themselves, except when they're trying to hide something from their peers," he says with a father's patience. "And, of course, when they are in Mexico, they sometimes switch to English to have private conversations that confuse their cousins." He points out that "some people have told me that on Mondays my Hispanic accent is more noticeable than on Fridays. I attribute this to the weekend language switch!"

And probably nothing has been more confusing to Simental than the problems he has encountered with his name. And his name is no way Jose, he says with a laugh. He tries to explain a very complicated scenario which has plagued him since his move to the United States. And it's a good thing he's got a great sense of humor.

"My name is Jose Antonio, but all my friends and relatives call me Tony or Antonio after my father. I never used my first name until I began attending Marshall where everyone calls me Jose. In Mexico it is customary to use both your father's and your mother's last name on all official documents. So my name comes out Jose Antonio Simental Adkins," he relates.

With self-deprecating humor, he delights in telling the story about the time he tried to use a credit card with the "Adkins" last name and was asked for further identification because the clerk told the brown-eyed, dark-haired Simental, "You don't look like an Adkins."

He's still listed on Marshall and the University of Cincinnati records as "Jose Simental," but by now he's philosophical. After all, with the help of his fellowship he hopes one day to be officially addressed as Dr. Simental. Or maybe it will be Dr. Adkins. He'll answer to either.

Campus Lighting

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"The Angels brought the idea of decorating the whole campus from Texas. Mrs. Angel wanted it to be a student project as much as possible and the turnout was great. Students came from all over, the dorms, fraternities and sororities, from off campus. We wrapped red ribbon around poles and even parking meters. The object was to give a bit of color and pop to the campus. We wanted to decorate all the visible parts of the campus. We put a decoration on everything that was standing still!"

With Mrs. Angel as their mentor, Hays and Ray agreed to act as co-coordinators for the project, doing the planning and monitoring its progress.

Because students are prohibited from climbing on ladders for safety reasons, the grounds crew proved invaluable, according to Hays. "They are fantastic," Hays said. "They did all of the decorating that we couldn't reach and they have all gone out of their way to be helpful. This project couldn't have been done without their help."

Ray echoed her enthusiasm. "The grounds crew has been wonderful. They did everything we asked them to do and much more."

In addition to the campus decorations, the towering 30-foot tree that has traditionally graced the Drinko Library Atrium is being erected, stretching from the third to the fourth floor. With most of the work being done from scaffolding, the building and grounds crew will once again be handling that part of the decorating.

And the festivities won't stop with the lighting ceremony. Santa and Mrs. Santa will be on hand once again to greet children at the Memorial Student Center. There will be caroling in the vicinity of the Center. The cheerleaders will be there, Ray, who is co-captain of the cheerleading squad, said. And it's rumored that elves will probably make an appearance.

In making the campus an inviting place to visit, Ray and Hays said they hope members of the Huntington community will take part in the festivities.

"Since Marshall University has such a good community base, we hope people will come to the lighting ceremony," Ray said. "And it would be great if maybe one night everyone in the community could turn on their lights as an affirmation of Marshall."