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Big Sandy Superstore Arena 
up for ACM Venue of the Year

By ALEXANDRIA RAKAL
THE PARthenON
For the last several years Huntington's Big Sandy Superstore Arena has been the destination for big names in country music. The arena's success is now being recognized on a national level alongside legendary and iconic venues. The SMG managing venue was recently nominated for an Academy of Country Music Award in the Venue of the Year category.

This is the first time the Big Sandy Superstore Arena has been nominated for an ACM Award. The award recognizes venues across the country that excel in producing, promoting and hosting country music concerts. Between December 2012 and November 2013, the Big Sandy featured country music sensations like Miranda Lambert, Florida Georgia Line and Willie Nelson.

Other venues nominated in the same category include the Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville, Tenn., Red Rocks Amphitheatre in Golden, Colo., the Bank of New Hampshire Pavilion at Meadowbrook in Gilford, N.H. and the Amphi-theater At The Wharf in Orange Beach, Ala.

General Manager Brian Sipe said it is a great honor, personally and professionally, to be nominated alongside such venues. “While it will be really hard to be the Opry in this category, it is a thrill to be in contention against them,” Sipe said.

In recent years, Sipe has also received national recognition for his success in the entertainment venue industry. He was awarded the Venues Today Generation Next award as well as the West Virginia State Board’s 40 Under 40 award.

Sipe, who began his career by selling tickets at the Giant Center Box Office in Hershey, Pa., said the key to success in the entertainment venue business is relationships in timing and business.

“Everyone wants to succeed, the artist, agent, manager, promoter and venue,” Sipe said. “Everyone wants anything in their power to make sure their show be in successful. When you get a reputation of being reliable, they’ll want to work with you and keep you.”

The arena’s line up for spring and summer shows no signs of slowing down. The venue recently announced two more concerts featuring Hunter Hayes on March 21 and Alice in Chains on May 16.

Along with concerts, the Big Sandy Superstore Arena also sponsors a number of conventions, trade shows, graduations, dances and sporting events for area organizations throughout the year.

To continue the success of the arena, Sipe said it’s important not to settle for mediocrity. “It’s a challenge to constantly try to top yourself, but in the past few years I believe we have exceeded expectations on many fronts and that’s what is our all about,” Sipe said.

The annual Academy of Country Music Awards will be broadcast live on CBS at 8 p.m. April 6 from the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas.

Alexandria Rakal can be contacted at rrakal1@marshall.edu.

Say it with tubas:
Norway passes Canada, US slides into fifth place

2014 Winter Olympics
Norway passes Canada, US slides into fifth place

2014 Winter Olympics
Norway passes Canada, US slides into fifth place

By RACHAEL ROBERSON
THE PARthenON
January 31st marks the minimum and galvanizer for Valentine's Day or a thing of the past, as tubas and euphonium players roam campus to deliver Tuba Valéntine’s to Marshall University’s students and faculty.

Tuba Valentine’s, which consist of a musical valentine accompanied by a handmade card and carnation, can be purchased for $10 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday in the atrium of Smith Music Hall. The valentines will then be delivered from 1-4 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. Friday at a place of the buyers choosing.

Euphonium player Emma Hensley was excited at the opportunity to volunteer her services on the campus for Marshall’s Tuba Valentine’s event.

“It’s funny and cheesy,” Hensley said. “How many people actually get serenaded on Valentine’s Day?”

Appointments are filling up quickly as students and faculty schedule their valentine deliveries, including many returning customers from last year’s event. Without missing anysurprise, however, several music department professors and bookstore employees have already reserved their tuba renditions of “Let Me Call You Sweetheart” by Bing Crosby and “The Longest Time” by Billy Joel for their loved ones.

The quartet, comprised of two tuba players and two euphonium players, will use these funds to pay for their instruments. Hensley said they will spend up to one hundred dollars on their instruments as well as food and travel expenses, however, she said they are being the philanthropists and want to make sure the Tuba Valentines go on sale and make this yearly event possible.

Tuba and euphonium players signed up for the quartet in support of this fundraiser and for the chance to get some laughs from Marshall students and staff. The cards and the tone of the instruments have all been donated to make this yearly event successful.

Rachael Roberson can be contacted at roberson14@marshall.edu.

Christian Center Board offers ‘Lunch for a Buck’

By LEXI BROWNING
THE PARthenON
Christian Center Board offered a new event called Lunch for a Buck. The event was held Tuesday in the Fellowship Hall. The event brings churches and Marshall students, staff and faculty together a couple times a year to roam campus and serenade Marshall’s students and faculty.

Marshall University’s Campus Christian Center Board started a new event called Lunch for a Buck. The event was held Tuesday in the Fellowship Hall. The event brings churches and Marshall students, staff and faculty together a couple times a year to roam campus and serenade Marshall’s students.

“The members of the church fixed it and served it and cleaned it up afterwards,” Sipe said. “Our food was really good and filling. It’s filling for only a buck!”

Sarah Beals said she had a great time and said the event was very successful. The food was really good and filling. It’s filling for only a buck!”

The event will be every other Tuesday throughout the spring semester.

By GEORGE PULON
THE PARthenON
George Pulon, a tuba professor at Marshall, organized this event as a way for the bond of the band to get some free time together. He said that other schools in the country do similar Valentine’s Day events with different instruments, and he was willing to trust you and keep your reputation. “It’s funny and cheesy,” Hensley said. “How many people actually get serenaded on Valentine’s Day?”

-Emma Hensley, Euphonium player

For the recipient, it’s unique and special. “I was worried that they wouldn’t actually get serenaded on Valentine’s Day?”

-Emma Hensley, Euphonium player

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The event brings churches and Marshall students, staff and faculty together a couple times a year to roam campus and serenade Marshall’s students.
The Environmental Protection Agency has little authority to regulate the use of diesel for hydraulic fracturing. The EPA has made a small step toward curbing the use of diesel from fracking.

The law requires the EPA to regulate fracking only if diesel of gasoline is used. But the EPA can already regulate other forms of fracking, and it has made a small step toward curbing the use of diesel from fracking.

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The oil and gas industry long denied it used diesel for hydraulic fracturing, according to a report by House Democrats. The report detailed how oil and gas companies from 2005 to 2014 have used billions of gallons of diesel to fracture shale formations.
US hockey team brings its best manners

By Frank Fitzpatrick
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

Some deliberately told the U.S. men's hockey team the story of their 1998 pre- 
decades, the Americans Who Destroyed Japan.

That veteran-laden American team, the night of its elimination 
at Nagano, trashed some Olympic Village rooms. Shutdown
ified players smashed chairs, opened the flames coming from two fire extinguishers over a few apartments and boarded
third from a fifth-floor window. They left Japan in disgrace, their vanquished en-
inhomogeneous country more than thoroughly through a medal-
less performance. The incident, if nothing else, provided a cautionary tale for future U.S. teams, especially its hockey players.

The 2014 U.S. Olympic team that arrived in Sochi clearly had learned the lessons of ’98.

During its first public appearance here, at an afternoon news conference Tuesday, the Ameri-
can players were strikingly polite, self-effacing, grounded and extremely complimentary to their Russian hosts. The Ugly Americans had man-
sual. Here were the Goodly Americans.

“Grown men,” one veteran player, as he described his teammates, said “I have never seen the tone of his voice change.”

Bylsma said he planned to thank his hosts in two weeks. Smart goalie.

“Every team is comprised of good, skilled hockey players. The team that figures out how to come together, the fastest is probably going to be the most successful.”

The Americans share a group with the Russians and their strategy, if that’s what it was, seemed to be to lay low and let the host team experience the pressure of its nation’s lofty expectations.

Whether the U.S. will be thanking their hosts in two weeks depends on how the Olympic hockey competition, which begins with two games Wednesday, plays out.

The Americans debut on

Thursday against Slovakia. The game, which begins with two games

Wednesday, plays out.

“We let America down. We let our fans down,” said Zach Parise.

It means, “Just join” the real flesh-and-blood Ovechkin translated here to reporters.

“Joining the Russian citizenship, might as well mean. You don’t churn, don’t churn!”

Make no mistake, the local

hockey team has the tough-
gest gig in the Caucasus after the Olympic hockey tournament

launch. Wednesday. At the

2010 Vancouver Games, the Canadian hockey team sweated under huge pressure to win on home ice. It did win, but the pressure on the Russians to win here might be even more intense, because the Russians seem to take hockey even more seriously than Canadians.

Some of that might have to do with their leader. The other night on Russian television, a program showed president Vladimir Putin—who de-
describes the country’s power

See RUSSIA | Page 5

The fall keeps White from medal in halfpipe

By Frank Fitzpatrick
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

The 2010 U.S. Olympic Games saw a huge star in Russia’s most

Olympics. Not the real Ovech-

kin, White failed to earn a medal in the event he not only popularized but rode to

wealth and fame.

Switzerland’s Iouri Pav-

Sam takes big step for gay athletes

Michael Sam's life has been a series of obstacles, the latest of which has been his sexual orientation.

Michael Sam has eight children, three of his siblings have died and two of his brothers are in prison. His relationship with his mother, a member of the Jehovah's Witnesses, was strained by Sam's decision to play football, as she wanted to send his brother to college, as no one in his family had before, but beating the odds, he did.

And now, Sam is projected to be a third or fourth round draft pick for the NFL.

Several days after coming out before the draft, speaking volumes of his character, it's putting everything out in the open, every name that has nothing to hide, and that's because he doesn't.

There's a stigma against gay in professional sports, as though being gay somehow makes you less of an athlete. (Guess it doesn't.)

Hopefully, Sam's announcement will pave the way for other professional athletes who are gay to be open about it, because let's face it, he is certainly not the first.

The NFL player Jason Collins, Collins came out in April 2013 and received support from those in the NBA community, as well as President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama.

To make the world of retired MLB player Michael Young who said he guarantees he has had a gay teammate, and furthermore, it's on no such thing as the teammate does his part.

What does common orientation have to do with the ability to play football? What does it have to do with success in general? It makes no difference if someone is gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender.

If they have what it takes, they take it and Sam has what it takes to be a successful NFL player.

DIGITAL EDUCATION

The Parthenon, Marshall University's student newspaper, is published weekly by students and staff of Marshall University in the United States of America.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES

The Constitution of the United States shall be so ratified as to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, ensure the1088

The first amendment: Freedom of the press

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 peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

GUIDELINES FOR SENDING LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Please keep letters to the editor at 200 words or fewer. They must be emailed to TheParthenon@marshall.edu and sent as an attachment. Letters may be used as guest columns at the editor's discretion. Guest columns should be no more than 500 words. Please include name, phone number, email address and a brief bio.

The opinions expressed in letters to the editor do not necessarily represent the views of The Parthenon. Please send news releases to the editor at parthenon@marshall.edu. All letters are subject to editing for length, in mind, letters are printed based on timeliness, newsworthiness and space.
The prospect of a U.S.-Russia battle game at a Russian Olympic site is a prop in the 1980 movie ‘Miracle On Ice,’ which portrays a true story. The New York Times Book Review was quoted the amount that the government has spent on hockey. "We'll see what happens." The forecast for Wednesday at Fourth Olympiad Park calls for a high of 45."
In a town obsessed with VIP status, it is a refreshingly meritocratic event.

At the Academy of Motion Pictures' annual Oscar nominees luncheon Monday at the Beverly Hilton, A-list stars such as Bono, Meryl Streep and Leonardo DiCaprio dined with Hollywood's many anonymous craftsmen, the sound mixers, documentary short directors and makeup artists who share with them one special quality — they are all among this year's 203 Oscar nominees.

"I guess at the Oscar luncheon we all mix and mesh together like a giant gumbo," said DiCaprio, nominated for lead actor for "The Wolf of Wall Street," upon arriving at his table with his father, George.

More than 150 of this year's nominees attended, with the notable exception of Woody Allen, whose absence was — even in years when he's not engulfed in controversy.

As the nominees kibitzed, the producers of this year's Oscar telecast, Neil Meron and Craig Zadan, took to the podium to offer some advice on speeches.

Whether anyone will listen is another story.

"The show is successful if the pacing of the evening feels brisk," Zadan said, pausing for effect. "You understand? The words should be spoken from your heart and not from a list on a piece of paper." He warned that winners would have 45 seconds to speak before the orchestra started, and that group winners should select a spokesperson.

After lunch, as the nominees lined up on risers for their class photo, with best song nominee Pharrell Williams and his signature tall hat stationed wisely at the back, there was time for more inter-movie bonding. "American Hustle" director David O. Russell made "August: Osage County" across the table laugh. "'American Hustle' lead actor nominee Christian Bale introduced himself to "Captain Phillips" supporting actor nominee Barkhad Abdi; and "Dallas Buyers Club" supporting actor nominee Jared Leto escorted "Nebraska" supporting actress nominee June Squibb up the steps.

Academy members will cast their votes for the Oscars Feb. 18-25. The 86th Academy Awards will take place at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood March 2.