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**MU Indian Student Association brings first India Day to campus**

By MICHAEL BROWN

Marshall University’s Indian Student Association hosted its first India Day Tuesday on the Memorial Student Center plaza.

India is a vast South Asian country with extreme diversity. Hindi, which is the dominant language spoken in India, there are over 10 other languages spoken, over 30 different festivals and many different religions.

The presence of Indian students at Marshall has doubled if not tripled, within the past year. The students from the organization hosted India Day to share their culture with Americans as well as other international students.

“We want to make our country and culture known to people of many different backgrounds and cultures,” said Geethamini Kothakapu, graduate student and member of the Indian Student Association. “This way they see our culture to be prosperous. We have a lot to share from our different languages, festivals, gods and religions.”

“I came today because I wanted to see the unique tradition of India and their different culture,” said Matthew White, senior physical therapy major. “It’s something that I am not used to.” Everyone is unique in his or her own way and respecting this culture seems pretty amazing. It’s nice to see people come out and open their eyes and see the amazing and the brightness that India has."

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—Geethamini Kothakapu, member of the Indian Student Association

**Huntington allocates user fee money for police, roads**

By JOHN COLE GLOVER

Huntington’s updated user fee is expected to add $2.2 million to the city budget this year and $3 million in the following years. The money will go to street upkeep and the hiring of more police officers.

The city’s fall paving program, which allocated some funding from the user fee, has come to a close following several repairs. Areas likely to have hill slides or areas that have already experienced slides will also see improvements as a result of the user fee, as well as certain bridges.

The 8th Street Bridge near Ritter Park is an example of a structure likely to be repaired next year. The hillside and bridge update plan is part of Huntington’s capital improvement project, which cost the city about $1 million.

Bryan Chambers, director of communications for the mayor’s office, said before any money is moved it must be approved by city council.

“We want to provide transparency to the public,” Chambers said.

Chambers said the community was told up front what the money was to be used for and said that transparency is what the city is aiming for.

City council members will talk to their constituents in their respective districts to find out which roads they feel need the most improvements. Traffic will also be considered before a decision is made.

The city user fee was somewhat controversial when it was first introduced to the community and some citizens were unhappy with the decision.

“Once they start seeing progress, they will see the value of it,” Chambers said. “We have to have additional income to provide infrastructure and hire additional officers.”

The city is hoping the investments can attract more businesses to the area, provide more jobs and a better environment for the people who live here.

The updated infrastructure is part of Mayor Steve Williams’ revitalization of Huntington.

John Cole Glover can be contacted at glover39@marshall.edu.
By MICHAEL BROWN

THE PARTHENON

Students of the Muslim Student Association continued the week’s events Tuesday by hosting an “Intro to Islam.” The teach- ing of Jesus Christ and Muhammad.”

The association, brought in scholars to discuss the topics and help people understand the Muslim faith from a scholarly view.

Sheikh Semah Asal and Sheikh Mostafa Rawash, the scholars who came to Marshall, told people in attendance Islam is a way of life, not just a religion. They said that many times it is hard for people to contribute to especially the older veterans in our community and that a lot of them have jumped ship from the time period and for them to learn somewhat of an appreciation for what these people did for us," Saunders said.

The ensemble players will perform songs from the late 1920s to the late 1940s, which Saunders said covers the World War I and World War II time periods. The concert is open to the public. Saunders said he wants everyone to have a relaxed and fun evening and to appreciate for what these people did for us," Saunders said.

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Men’s soccer vying for upset in conference tournament

By MALCOLM WALTON
SPORTS EDITOR
No. 7 Marshall University (7-8-1, 2-5-1) faces No. 2 University of North Carolina at Charlotte (10-5-2, 6-1-1) Wednesday in the quarterfinals of the Confed- erate USA Men’s Soccer Championship.

The Herd ended the regular season on a high note after recording its only three goals in its last four games, and it’s a big game because of that.”

“I think that all takes care of it – make sure we get off to a good start this time around. And we want to make sure we play a complete 90 (minutes). If we play a complete 90, we’re tough in the game, and the Herd was unable to recover,” Oliver said the 49ers stifled the Herd in the game, and the Herd was unable to recover.

“What you saw in that game was a wrap. So, we want to make sure we get back and get to the next game after that if we go home.”

“We just had a great game, and we’re really excited to be in the tournament,” Thomas Oliver, Marshall associate head coach, said the team looks at it as if the conference tournament was a set of pre-season games and its match against Charlotte is the opening game of the season.

“His efforts have raised Marshall University’s athletic program to the next level and set it on a path to sustainability.”

“Today, our team demonstrated a really good thing,” Thomas Oliver said. “We look at it as a head-to-head matchup, which we definitely deflated them, and we had to play down for quite a bit of the game as well. And then we even had one de- cent look that could have made it 1-1 at that point. And then at 2-0, I think the game was a wrap. So, we want to make sure we get back and get to the next game after that if we go home.”

Wednesday’s match is set for 7 p.m. at Transamerica Field in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Malcolm Walton can be contacted at walton7@marshall.edu.

Herd football sticking to business during emotional week

By BRADLEY HETZEL
THE PARTHENON
Can the Herd head coach Doc Holliday lead the Marshall Uni- versity football team’s sure-to-be-emotional Saturday day off from Florida International University, the team’s quarterfinal opponent against a Florida-based team? Expecting a trip to the conference championship game means a lot to the Herd, but it also means a lot to their fans.

“Winning three in a row against the Herd still it controls our own destiny in terms of reaching the conference championship game, a message senior wide receiver said was reiterated after last weekend’s loss.

“Do everything we can to be conference champions; you can call by the Herd that this locker room just the locker room, just the arch in the stadium. But as soon as we got on that plane, we knew that we have to bounce back. Doc said perfectly, he’s never going to let this loss beat us twice.”

Saturday’s kickoff is set for 3:30 p.m. at Joan C. Edwards Stadium.

Bradley Hetzel can be contacted at hetzel1@marshall.edu.

Q & A WITH MARSHALL ATHLETIC DIRECTOR MIKE HAMRICK

By TRACE JOHNSON
THE PARTHENON

Mike Hamrick was named Marshall University’s athletics director on July 20, 2009 and since returning to his alma mater, he has re-energized Marshall athletics and the Huntington community. His efforts have raised Marshall University’s athletic program to a level not seen before. In Hamrick’s five-plus years at Marshall, the athletic program’s facility growth and ascension has involved more than $42 million.

“Doc really excited to be in the tournament.”

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“War” on Christmas is melodramatic, downplaying real tragedy

The Intelligencer of Wheeling on the state’s rainy day fund:

Byline: Virginia legislators intended the rainy day fund as a safety valve for state government — not a piggy bank for local officials and small communities. Unfortunately, the rainy day fund has not acted as many Virginians anticipated to cushion the blow of state budget shortfalls. With less than six months left in the fiscal year, the rainy day fund will drain down and will likely be Drawing down the $850 million rainy day fund would limit the state’s ability to address future fiscal challenges. Local officials will have to find alternative sources of funding — and spending cuts — to manage the state budget and maintain essential services in communities across the state. The Intelligencer encourages local officials to consider combining the state’s rainy day fund with other sources of revenue to address the budget shortfall and maintain essential services. The Intelligencer also calls on the state’s political leaders to prioritize responsible fiscal policies and avoid future budget shortfalls. A proactive approach to fiscal planning and responsible budgeting can help prevent future budget shortfalls and ensure the state’s ability to maintain essential services and programs. The Intelligencer urges all Virginians to support responsible fiscal policies and work together to ensure that essential services are maintained in our communities. The Intelligencer of Wheeling, November 11, 2015

The Journal of Martinsburg on children in need:

Byline: The Journal of Martinsburg, November 11, 2015

The Journal of Martinsburg reports on the need for support for children in need. The Journal notes that many families struggle to provide basic needs for their children, including food, clothing, and shelter. The Journal encourages readers to consider donating to organizations that support children in need and to support local initiatives that provide resources for children. The Journal also highlights the work of local organizations and individuals who provide support for children in need. The Journal of Martinsburg, November 11, 2015

The Partapenon on “War” on Christmas:

Byline: The Partapenon, November 11, 2015

The Partapenon Editorial Board notes the irony of the “War” on Christmas. The editorial states that the phrase “War” on Christmas is melodramatic and downplays the real issues of poverty and inequality. The editorial encourages readers to focus on the true meaning of Christmas — giving, love, and kindness — and to support organizations that provide resources and support for those in need. The Partapenon, November 11, 2015

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Free show at Campus Christian Center demonstrates need for more venues

By MEGAN OSBORNE

While Dead Leaves and PINE have never been to Huntington, the free show at the Campus Christian Center Tuesday featuring these bands, as well as local acts Embracer, A Story Told and Sly Roosevelt was a first-time experience for everyone involved.

That is, except for Embracer, who played the venue back in 2011 before Dylan Costinteen was a part of the band.

Dead Leaves of Cleveland, Ohio had been in touch with Embracer for booking shows and Huntington happened to fall in the route of the Dead Leaves and PINE tour. Because of family ties in West Virginia, Dead Leaves bassist Alex Tucker contacted Costinteen for a show date.

"Obviously I was going to give them a show," Costinteen said. "There's not really anywhere in Charleston, especially on a Tuesday, that would be that great of a turnout, the scene's not that great right now, not that great of a turnout. I figured Huntington would be a better bet, being that it's during the school year and if we could have it as close to campus as possible, especially on a Tuesday it would be the easiest way to get as many people out as we could."

Dead Leaves and PINE are on tour promoting their 7" split released Nov. 6 through Take This to Heart Records and will continue travel through the eastern United States into Canada.

Darlene Deschamps, singer for PINE, said playing at the Campus Christian Center exceeded expectations for a free show in the area.

"It was great; there's actually a lot more people here than I expected," Deschamps said. "And the setup is professional!"

PINE has enjoyed its statewide tour so far, coming into Huntington straight from Nashville with Dead Leaves, which band members said they enjoyed exploring.

"We're playing the tourist role as well as being a touring band," said Will Lapine, bassist for PINE. For Dead Leaves, the CCC was just another venue.

"This isn't surprising," Tuck Buck of Dead Leaves, said. "We play pretty much anything, any space that will have us.

While that's true for Dead Leaves, Huntington band Sly Roosevelt said the show was a contrast to what they're used to.

"We're used to playing in dive bars a lot of the time and we've played a few other venues like it," said Sly Roosevelt guitarist, Jyoshua Cade Sanders. "We actually played the Southgate Revival House this weekend, or it also is a church venue. So we've kind of used to the structure, they've really good for sound. But we've not done a lot of this and it's really great. There's a lot of people here today that I've not seen before and that's very refreshing because it lets us know that this is actually a good networking opportunity, like we're getting to expose ourselves to new music and also get to play with bands we've never played before." Sean McDaniel, Sly Roosevelt frontman, also saw the atypical venue and time slot as an opportunity to expand the band's audience.

"People can't get into venues if they're not 21, or if they don't like the bar scene," McDaniel said. "So this is on campus, this is refreshing for us. It's early, so people are out and about, that's weird for us because we're usually playing at 11 or 12 at night. This is interesting."

"As far as the scene goes here, I think it was a great turnout," Costinteen said. "Other places with healthier music scenes this would be an average to not so good turnout, but for our area this is really great."

Costinteen said he noticed a significant decline in the West Virginia music scene after the Brickhouse, an all-ages music venue in St. Albans, closed in 2010. With the lack of venues, especially all-ages ones, in the area that aren’t bars, the scene suffered tremendously.

"Once that went down, there was no place for bands to play," Costinteen said. "A lot of local bands ended up breaking up and the few that stayed were bands that ended up starting to tour a lot because they were dedicated to music and really wanted to pursue it. So, that left there not being any shows here and people found other stuff to do and kind of forgot about music being a thing at all. Nobody cared about opening a venue and then finally when something like the Carrot [Crown Lanes] for instance opened up, nobody really cares anymore because they've all found other things to do instead."

While the music scene in the area is on a clear upswing, there is still a lot of work to do especially concerning venues.

"It's really just a matter of like continuously trying to get a show together whenever you can and get as many people there as you can," Costinteen said. "Eventually people will start realizing that it's cool again and people will come out, but I think it's basically persistence. But it's kind of hard where there's not many music venues, especially all-ages venues, because bars really seem to be conduits to people who actually want to play music actually for a career, rather than just play music for fun. At a bar it's more about drinking and being with your friends than going in to a show and watching music, versus like this is an all-ages show. There's no alcohol at all, literally the only reason people are here is for the music."

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