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By REBECCA TURNBULL

Marshall University President Jerry Gilbert hosted an open house Wednesday afternoon to give students and faculty the opportunity to meet and talk with him.

Gilbert said the event was a fun way for him to interact with people on a personal level and learn about their different interests and perspectives.

“I want them to realize that they can come and just about the breez with me and talk about things that are going on and things that are of interest to them,” Gilbert said. “I’m curious to hear their ideas about the campus and about what we’re doing right at Marshall.”

Sophomore healthcare administration major, Alissa Flack attended the event and said it is important members of the campus community use opportunities like the open house.

Crist said attending such events will encourage people to communicate their ideas directly with the president, instead of simply taking their ideas or problems to social media and other outlets.

“It doesn’t do much good to tweet about it or put it on Facebook,” Crist said. “If you have a real concern or you want your voice heard, it’s really important to come out, because he will take the time to listen.”

That’s his job. He’s here for us and he’s super-friendly!”

Junior finance major, Kelli Paling also attended the event and said she was excited for the chance to personally meet the president of her university.

“I really want to see what the future has in store for me and see how it will affect my future like,” Paling said. “He’s extremely polite and such a nice guy.”

Gilbert said he hopes the open house will encourage the students, faculty and staff to meet to feel less reluctant to come up and talk to him when they see him around campus.

“They should feel free to come up to me and introduce themselves, because I would love to interact with them,” Gilbert said. “I’m not going to interfere with what they’re doing, but they can always interfere with what I’m doing.”

Gilbert said he was able to obtain a lot of good feedback and make connections with many of the people he met.

Gilbert met students, faculty at open house

By JARED CASTO

The Marshall University Student Government Association is currently accepting donations for “Mardi Bras,” a Charleston YWCA personal care collection drive that asks for donated bras, undergarments and feminine products to help women in need.

The Mardi Bras event will take place Feb. 9 and will offer entertainment, food, information and door prizes for those attending. The YWCA and event coordinators are also collaborating with East Coast Tees to have shirts for the first 200 attendees.

Anyone can donate to the drive, including non-student Cabell county residents. Epling said those interested in donating can attend the event or leave donations in a box located in the SGA office in the Memorial Student Center.

Those donating are encouraged to include their name, phone number, email and mailing address with their donations so that the YWCA can send them an in-kind donation form and a thank you card.

Epling said she decided to present it to SGA as their first community service activity of the spring semester.

Epling said she was also interested in the event from the perspective of a women’s rights activist and someone who likes helping people.

“I believe this is their first annual event,” Epling said. “So I’m trying to help them out and get people involved with it.”

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Jared Casto can be contacted at castoJM@marshall.edu.
Once a bromance, now a brawl: Trump and Cruz go at it

By KATHLEEN HUSSONET and STEVE PETERS

Once a bromance, now a brawl: the bromance between Donald Trump and Ted Cruz has sailed as the two candidates jousting over the Republican nomination go head-to-head.

The bromance was quashed Thursday night when Cruz accused Trump of violating the terms of a non-prosecution agreement for his alleged conduct toward a woman.

Cruz said he believed Trump violated the terms of a non-prosecution agreement for his alleged conduct toward a woman.

Trump, who has been embroiled in legal battles for months, denied Cruz's claims.

The feud between the two candidates has intensified in recent weeks as Cruz struggles to gain traction in the crowded Republican field, while Trump has dominated the polls.

The debate came as Republicans prepare for the New Hampshire primary, which will be held on February 9th.

Trump, who has won the first two primaries, is facing increased scrutiny as he heads into the New Hampshire contest.

Cruz, who finished a strong second in Iowa, hopes to build on his second-place finish and score a major upset in New Hampshire.

The New Hampshire primary is a crucial test for both candidates, as it will set the tone for the rest of the primary campaign.

As the candidates battle it out, the bromance between Trump and Cruz is a thing of the past, as they fight to emerge as the Republican nominee.

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Concrete canoe to be completed by engineering students

By FRED PARNISK

The concrete canoe team is currently working on completing their concrete canoe for the Regional Competition, which will be held in New Hampshire.

The team, led by engineering students at Marshall University, is working on a two-year project to design and build a concrete canoe that can compete in the regional competition.

The team has been working on the project since August 2015, and they are excited to see their hard work pay off.

The canoe will be made from a mixture of concrete and water, and it will be tested for strength and durability.

The team is currently working on the design phase, and they plan to complete the construction phase in the coming months.

The concrete canoe team is made up of students from various engineering disciplines, including civil, mechanical, and electrical.

The team is headed by project manager Mike Wray, who is a senior engineering student.

The team has been working together for over two years, and they are looking forward to seeing their hard work pay off.

The concrete canoe team hopes to be competitive in the regional competition, and they are looking forward to the challenge.

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First "CAB presents Galactic Bowling" for spring season begins Thursday

By BOB MOBLEY

"CAB presents Galactic Bowling" is gearing up for its spring season this Thursday.

This popular event is a great way for students to socialize and have fun in a relaxed setting.

The event features a night of bowling and games, with prizes for the winners.

The Galactic Bowling event is a popular event on campus, and it is open to all students.

This year, the event is being held in the Student Union Ballroom, and it is open to all students.

Students are encouraged to come out and enjoy the event, and they will have a great time.

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Marshall football announces 2016 recruiting class

By JAKE GRIFFITH
THE PARTHENON

With yet another National Signing Day in the books, it was finally time for Marshall University football head coach Doc Holliday and the rest of the coaching staff to take a look at the future for the first time since the regular season ended.

When the clock struck 3 p.m. Wednesday and all the National Letters of Intent (NLI) had been signed, not only had Marshall compiled an impressive list of 24 talented incoming freshmen, but the Herd had also put together the eventual number one 2016 recruiting class in Conference-USA.

At his press conference, Holliday, who enters his seventh season at the helm, understood just how important this day was for his team going forward.

“We had some really good classes in the last several years and this class matches up with any of them, or better maybe than any of them,” Holliday said.

Star power wasn’t the only thing the coaching staff scored on Wednesday.

Holliday said during the press conference, there were clear team needs that needed to be addressed this offseason.

“I think of all that at the same time. Did we get the guys we needed? Did we get the right guys who can contribute?” Holliday said.

The star-studded class of recruits is good news for inside linebacker Javon Yulee, the No. 10 ranked inside linebacker in the nation. Yulee comes to Huntington from Chesapeake, Virginia, helped gain the Herd Nationwide attention after de-committing from the University of Alabama and opting to commit, and later sign, with Marshall.

“This is the future of what we do in this class, but he’s a tremendous player,” Holliday said. “I think his commitment is going to just help fuel us, and I think he’s going to be a great leader for this team.”

With yet another National Signing Day in the books, Holliday spoke to the media at a press conference during the 2015 season.

“It’s not a secret anymore, the elite student-athlete is going to stay around,” Stanton said.

The Marshall University women’s basketball team will begin a three-game home stretch 8 p.m. Thursday when the University of Texas at El Paso Miners visit the Cam Henderson Center. The Herd (16-4, 6-4) has a tough task in its three-game homestand as the Miners (9-11, 5-7) currently reside atop the conference standings with a perfect 7-0 record.

In its most recent contest, Marshall defeated the Miners to extend its winning streak to six games. Senior forward James Gaines hit the go-ahead 3-pointer with 29.8 seconds left on the clock and knocked down a game-winning jumper in the paint to seal the win.

Scott may need to put up similar numbers as the Herd is to keep pace with UTEP’s top-ranked offense during conference play. UTEP is averaging 72 points per game in nine conference games.

However UTEP’s offensive output is more reliant on generating a surplus of shot attempts as opposed to top-line shooting proficiency. UTEP ranks just-eight in the conference in field goal percentage, but obtains extra shot attempts through turnovers and offensive rebounds.

The Miners force a conference-leading 20.2 turnovers per game and grab 15.0 offensive rebounds per game, which ranks fourth in the conference. The variance in how UTEP produces its additional shot opportunities will put pressure on Marshall’s backcourt and frontcourt to reduce the Miners’ offensive opportunities and box outs.

Holliday’s primary ballhandler point guard Norvin Vitamin will need to be sharp in getting the Marshall offense into its offensive sets without coupling up the ball.

The veteran has excelled in this department throughout the season with a 2.1 assist-to-turnover ratio. In addition to UTEP’s shooting advantage deriving from more possessions, the Herd is heavily reliant on maintaining its scoring efficiency through its types of shot attempts.

Zerkle was named to the Top 50 “Watch List” of the 2015 Honda Softball Collegiate Player of the Year, the Amateur Softball Association announced Wednesday.

“It’s not a secret anymore, the elite student-athlete we know in Zerkle,” Marshall head coach Stan Stolte said. “She will be the greatest to come through our program with numerous honors.”

As a sophomore last season, Zerkle performed at a historic level never seen by the conference. The senior was named to the All-Atlantic-10 First Team and the Atlantic-10 All-Academic Team.

As the Herd’s primary ballhandler, senior forward James Gaines comes to Huntington as the JUCO position leader. The senior transfer also contributed to preparing the team for spring football practices that starts in late March for Holliday, though he is changing at the bit to get started as soon as possible.

“As the end of the day, we’re excited where things are and are looking forward to getting them on campus.”

Trailer: Greg Gibson can be contacted at gibson@gvsu.edu

Marshall head coach Doc Holliday speaks to the media at a press conference during the 2015 season.

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The power of the youth vote could give Sanders the lead he needs

Ask each of the recent Democratic candidates who won the Illinois caucus: Hillary will claim victory and Bernie will claim second place. The truth is, due to flawed vote-counting procedures, it is unclear.

That is clear is that Sanders made immense progress since the beginning of his campaign. In his speech, Sanders referred to the first time his campaign went to Iowa. "We had no money. We had no name recognition. And we were taking on the most powerful political organization in the United States of America," Sanders said.

"It's true that Hillary Clinton's campaign administration is the most powerful political organization in the United States. Clinton's political experience, resources and funding far surpass that of any other candidate on either side (other than Trump, financially speaking). Support for Sanders going from nothing to coming within a hairline margin is more split than any victory than Hillary could ever rally.

The Iowa Caucuses' importance lies in the fact that it is the first electoral event in the nation before the election and it is used as a test to see where each of the candidates stand.

That in turn is being determined by coin flips and countless recounts of course letters that are posted on The Parthenon website, www.marshallparthenon.com, can be printed at the discretion of the editors.

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