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the Parthenon

How do international students spend an American holiday? Today in Life!

WP/WF policy may change

by **CHRISTINA REDEKOPP**
reporter

Students may soon find withdrawing from classes easier and less harmful to their records.

The recommendation that 'WP' and 'WF' be eliminated was proposed by the Budget Academic Policy Committee of Faculty Senate last week. The proposal was to extend the withdraw period to the end of 12 weeks, said Dr. Frances Hensley, assistant vice president for academic affairs.

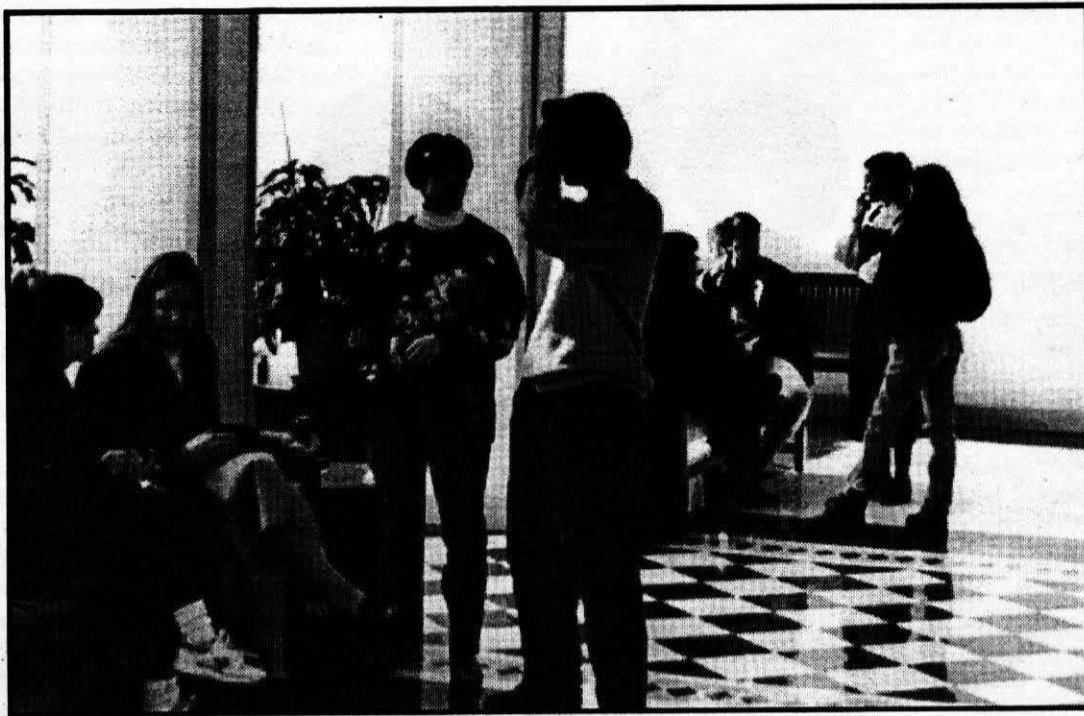
The extension will give students enough information about their grades to make an informed decision whether to

remain in the course. The proposal may be considered during the Dec. 12 Faculty Senate meeting, she said.

Hensley said the deans, associate deans and Student Body President Nawar Shora's rationale was that a withdraw fail (WF) grade was misunderstood. "It was not useful to students," Hensley said. "It was not a productive policy."

Shora, a Huntington senior, said that a withdraw pass (WP) is neutral and does not count toward the student while a 'WF' does count against the student. "A 'W' says they withdrew and the whole thing is neutral. I am for that revision," Shora said. see **WP/WF**, page 6

A place in the sun



Jon Rogers

With cold weather coming, students seek refuge in the atrium outside of the Birke Art Gallery. New benches were recently placed in the area, providing a place to sit and gather sun, not dust.

Some checks to come electronically

by **JAMES L. RAY**
reporter

Because the Bursar's Office is instating a new program for dispersing financial aid and student loan checks, 200 students will not be mailed theirs in January, but rather receive them via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).

EFT will be used with a test population of 200 students who wish to participate in the new program. By summer term, the program will be in full operation.

Bob Collier, manager of student accounts, said, "The checks will be in the students' accounts Jan. 15, the

Students have until Dec. 2 to register to have financial aid and student loan checks deposited via EFT.

same day that they are mailed, including out-of-state accounts."

Students interested in participating in the test population for the new program need to fill out an authorization form by Dec. 2. Students also need to take a bank deposit slip to the Bursar's Office, Old Main 101.

"The Dec. 2 deadline allows us enough turn-around time to key the

information into the software package, which is downloaded over the phone line to the bank," Collier said.

Heather Hager, Huntington junior, said, "The check mailing is so irritating. I'll participate in this [program] because you don't have to deal with picking your check up. It will make things a lot easier."

Collier said, "We want to service the

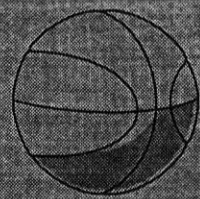
students and make it more efficient for this office by reducing long lines. This office disperses 3,000 checks at one time — we want to control it so the timing is in place."

Collier said other institutions, including Florida State University and Virginia Tech University, use the EFT system. "Some in-state institutions want to see how we are handling our program because they are considering implementing a similar one."

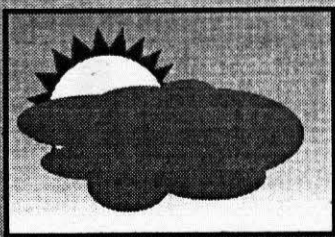
"It is a one-time sign up and all financial aid matters will be handled the same way from this point," he said. "It is important that students contact me if, for any reason, their bank account closes," Collier said.

Friday Outside

First
came
football.



Tomorrow,
it's all
about
basketball.



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Page edited by Kerri M. Barnhart

AmeriCorps service program becomes available at Marshall

by **RICH STEELE**
reporter

The AmeriCorps service program, which gives students an opportunity to earn money for college while serving their communities, will be offered for the first time this year at Marshall, said Kimberly D. Reece, program specialist for student affairs and volunteer services.

AmeriCorps is the national service program that allows students to earn an education voucher worth \$4,725 in exchange for one year of full-

time community service. The voucher can be used to cover future costs of college or vocational school and to pay back student loans.

Reece said AmeriCorps has a national program, as well as state and local programs. West Virginia has its own program this year for the first time. "With President Clinton's re-election, there is going to be more money for the program," Reece said.

AmeriCorps participants serve their communities in one of four areas: education, public safety, human services

or the environment.

In addition to the education voucher, students receive a modest living allowance and health coverage while they are in the program. The education award is given after the year's service is complete.

Reece said there are other benefits to the program besides the money for education. AmeriCorps members also learn new skills, acquire leadership qualities and gain self-satisfaction from helping their communities.

Besides AmeriCorps, Reece see **SERVICE**, page 6

U.S. grape exports continue to grow

CARUTHERS, Calif. (AP) — Table grape sales from the Coachella and San Joaquin valleys set a record in both volume and value during the 1995-96 season.

Last season's crop totaled 64 million 23-pound boxes worth \$859 million, says Scott Horsfall, vice president of the California Table Grape Commission.

"We had strong sales in not only the U.S. but export markets as well," Horsfall added.

Increasing exports is the key to keeping those sales strong for California's 700 table grape growers, Horsfall says.

"Our goal is to increase markets around the world so our growers can sell more at a better price," he says. "Clearly, the future for profitability of our industry is in export markets."

Exports have been increasing for 12 years, and Horsfall thinks China is the best hope for future growth.

"China is a tremendous development story for agriculture," he says. "If you are selling product to Hong Kong, you're selling to the

Chinese because an estimated 60 to 70 percent goes to China. It is a very strong developing market."

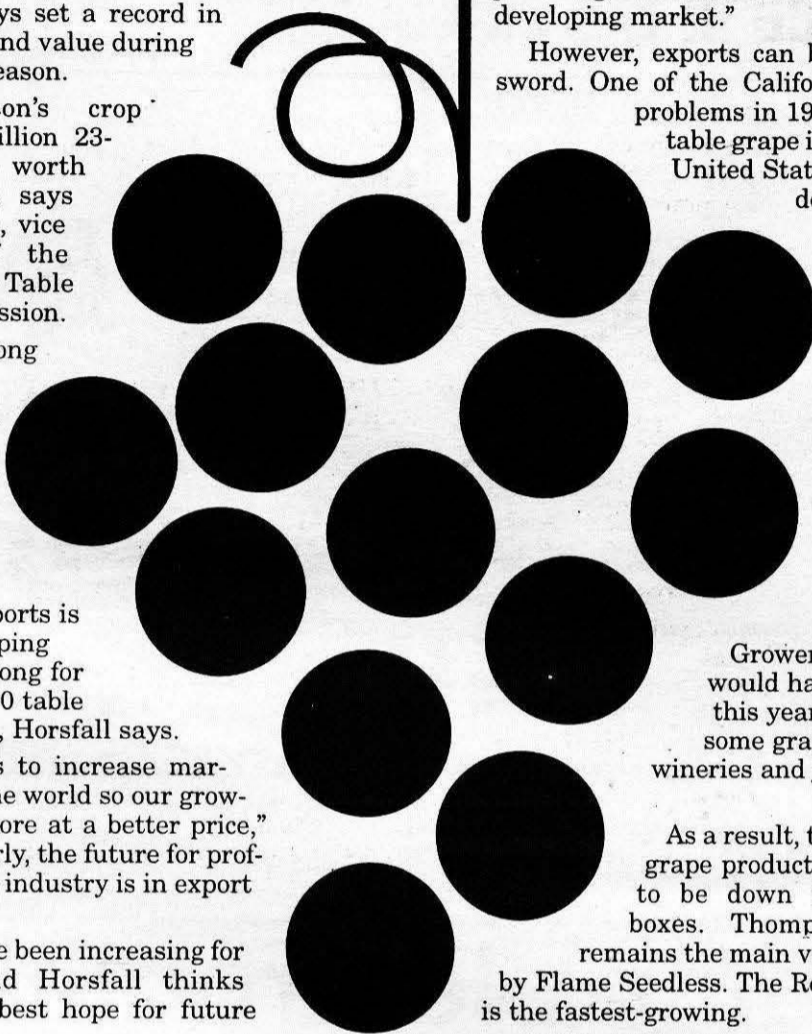
However, exports can be a two-edged sword. One of the California industry's problems in 1995-96 was that table grape imports into the United States from Mexico doubled to about 8 million boxes, Horsfall says.

"They come in on top of our Coachella Valley grapes, so there is a great deal of competition," he explained.

Growers thought they would have a large crop this year, "but they lost some grapes to weather, wineries and juice markets," Horsfall says.

As a result, the state's table grape production is expected to be down to 60 million boxes. Thompson Seedless remains the main variety, followed by Flame Seedless. The Redglobe variety is the fastest-growing.

"1997 will be a question mark," Horsfall says. "If winery demand is still strong, more (grapes) may move there. We expect continued strength in the export market."



Carriers bet on bare legs

BERGENFIELD, N.J. (AP) — In a bet to see who could last the longest wearing shorts, two letter carriers have been baring their legs on the job for almost two years, even in the dead of winter.

Steve Nason and Ron Filera began their bet for a case of beer in December 1994. Their boss, Bergenfield Postmaster Gregory D'Alessio, has called it off for 1997.

"It's a mutual thing," D'Alessio said. "In the winter it gets chilly and we're concerned about them getting sick."

Nason, 35, and Filera, 26, remained healthy during the winters of 1994 and 1995. Nason said he caught a cold last week.

It appears that no one will get the beer, but Filera says he's gotten so used to the shorts that he'll wear them on his days off.

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News from Hollywood

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The breakup of Pamela Anderson Lee and rocker husband Tommy Lee may not be as easy as some: They have each others' names tattooed on their ring fingers.

Anderson Lee, a former Playboy centerfold who became a star of "Baywatch," filed for divorce Tuesday, citing irreconcilable differences.

The couple's wild 21-month marriage began with a bikini-and-shorts ceremony on a Mexican beach and included several lawsuits and fights with paparazzi. They have a 5-month-old son, Brandon Thomas.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Thirty-eight years after Ross Bagdasarian sped up a recording of his voice to create The Chipmunks, the trio is leaving the family company for a major label.

MCA Inc. said Tuesday it has signed a long-term development deal with Alvin, Simon and Theodore.

Bagdasarian, under the stage name David Seville, appeared with The Chipmunks on many of their songs. In December 1958, "The Chipmunk Song," now a Christmas standard, was the nation's No. 1 single for four weeks.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The family on "Roseanne" may have won the lottery, but it's losing its audience.

The sitcom scored its lowest-ever rating for a non-repeat episode last week as the blue-collar Conners continued to live it up after winning \$108 million.

But Roseanne is promising to wrap up the show's ninth and final season with a return to the family strife that made the ABC series the most-watched comedy a few years back.

Roseanne defends the current season, which has been criticized for its use of high-profile guest stars and fantasy sequences.

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NEW YORK (AP) — Two-thirds of the country's wealthiest parents are afraid their children will be overly materialistic and ignorant of money's value, according to a survey released Wednesday. The poll was based on interviews with 151 people who earn at least \$200,000 a year.

Ousted Russian leader cites security threats

NEW YORK (AP) — Russia's nuclear arsenal is vulnerable to blackmail and terrorism, and only a \$400 million U.S. aid program can protect it, says ousted Russian national security chief Alexander Lebed.

Speaking with reporters on his first visit to the United States, the former general said Tuesday that safeguards against a potential catastrophe are "unsatisfactory" and it is in America's best interests to pay to guard Russia's nuclear stockpile.

"One not-very-clever person can create a very great headache for all the wise people of the world," Lebed said. "It is better to deal with this problem before it occurs."

Lebed said he came to the United States to talk to as many political figures as possible.

"I came to see what a true democracy looks like," he said in his rumbling bass voice. "What I am going to see is how we are going to live in the

not-too-distant — I hope — future."

The main danger, he said, is that hopes raised by the fall of Communism five years ago have been crushed, and Russia's "humiliated and pauperized" armed forces are especially vulnerable to despair.

"Our people are very patient, but if it gets into their liver, if patience snaps, nothing can stop them. Then one will have to work very seriously to restore everything to the channel of common sense."

The U.S. General Accounting Office has reported that about 1,500 tons of plutonium and highly enriched uranium are stockpiled in the former Soviet Union, and supplies are growing as missiles are dismantled — but authorities lack the resources to guard them.

The Clinton administration has asked Congress for \$400 million over seven years to continue funding security at Russian nuclear sites.

briefs

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — Eager to forge stronger ties to Asia, President Clinton Wednesday committed the United States to improving relations with China and defended his administration's handling of questions about campaign contributions linked to Asian interests.

Clinton told a receptive audience at the Australian Parliament that an open and prosperous China "is in our deepest interests. True cooperation is both possible and plainly productive."

Underscoring the global stakes, Clinton told legislators, "the direction China takes in the years to come ... will help to decide whether the next century is one of conflict or cooperation."

WASHINGTON (AP) — Newt Gingrich is preparing for a second term as House speaker as Republican respect for his leadership has outweighed concerns about his ethics clouds and his unpopularity with the public.

House Republicans, met Wednesday to select their leaders for the next Congress, seemed likely to vote by acclamation to keep the Georgian in the post he has held the past two years. Gingrich, 53, is widely credited with masterminding the GOP's 1994 capture of the House, and most Republicans say he did an effective job as speaker and in helping them retain their majority in this month's elections.

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — African governments are weighing whether to continue supporting Egyptian Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali in defiance of the United States, which vetoed his second term.

As expected, the United States cast the lone vote Tuesday against Boutros-Ghali among the 15 Security Council members, in the opening round of a selection process that could take weeks.

The Africans endorsed Boutros-Ghali, arguing that an African secretary-general deserved a second term, as has been the custom for U.N. chiefs from Europe and Asia.

WASHINGTON (AP) — America's eighth graders scored lower than the international average in math but higher than the norm in science in a study that tested students from 41 countries, a private research group said today.

Singapore, Korea and Japan took the top three spots in the math rankings, according to the Third International Mathematics and Science Study. Singapore, the Czech Republic and Japan were at the top in science.

The U.S. students scored an average 500 in math, below the international average of 513, for a ranking of 28 out of 41 countries. In science, the American students scored 534 compared with an international average of 516, for a ranking of 17th.

Collision sinks towboat

ASHLAND (AP) — A barge tow sank early Wednesday after colliding with another tow on the Ohio River, and two crew members were rescued from the overturned hull of the stricken vessel, the U.S. Coast Guard said.

The two-member crew of the Vivian McGinnis was standing on the hull when rescued by other passing vessels, the Coast Guard said.

Neither crew member was injured, said Lt. Commander George Burns of the Coast Guard's Huntington office.

"The crew of the sunken vessel was rescued before it sank," he said.

The Vivian McGinnis sank after colliding with the tow boat James Faris at 4:30

a.m. just north of Ashland, Burns said. The other tow boat suffered minimal damage, he said.

The Vivian was pushing one empty coal barge, and the other vessel was pushing two empty asphalt barges, Burns said.

The accident briefly closed the river to traffic until workers marked the location of the sunken tow with a buoy. River travel resumed mid-morning.

The sunken tow had 1,500 gallons of diesel fuel aboard, Burns said.

Greenup County DES Director Buford Hurley said the nearby Russell water plant had been closed as a precautionary measure.

A sheen of diesel fuel was detected in the Ironton,

Ohio, area, Burns said.

"It will be difficult to boom that (fuel) off, so the company will raise the vessel," Burns said.

The Vivian McGinnis' barge was rounded up by other tows, Burns said.

An investigation into the cause of the collision had begun, he said.

"We have a pretty good idea of what happened but nothing I can comment on at the moment," he said.

The two crew members were rescued by the crews of the E.W. Thompson and the Bill Joiner boats.

The Vivian McGinnis was owned by McGinnis Inc. of Southpoint, Ohio, and the James Faris by Ramsey Transportation Co. of Greenville, Miss.

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"For me it's a lot different, obviously. Americans are giving thanks for getting away from the English."

— Robert Risley, senior from Great Britain, on Thanksgiving

our VIEW

WP/WF doesn't help faculty, but harms students

The most peculiar stigma on students' transcripts soon may come to an end.

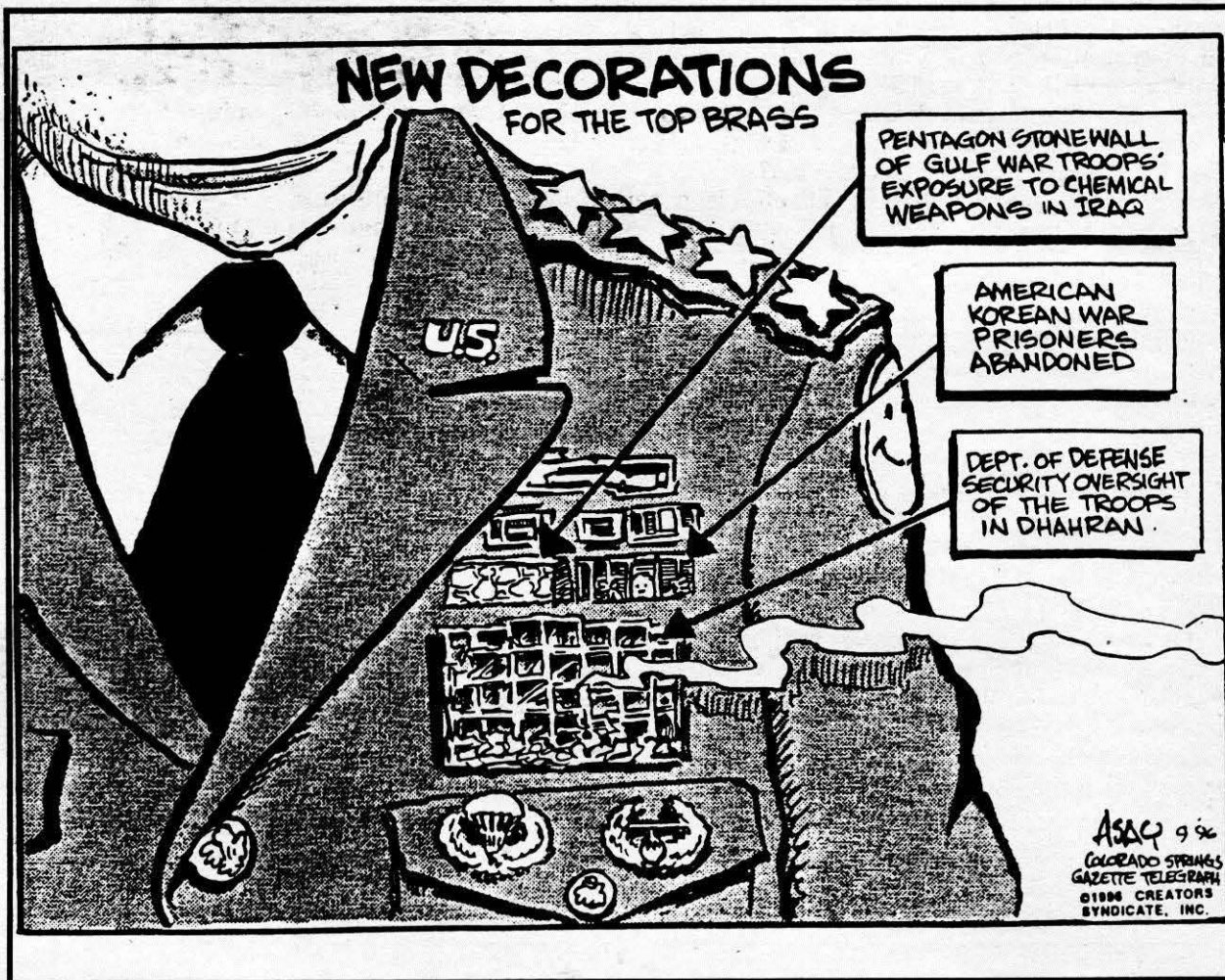
A Faculty Senate committee is considering doing away with the "WP/WF" period. Right now, should a student withdraw from a class during this time, a WP (for withdrew passing) or WF (withdrew failing) will be marked on the report card. They stick on transcripts like sharp thorns, showing possible employers how many classes a student has dropped, and what the student's status was.

For students forced to bail out of a class they are failing, a WF is an unnecessary scar to carry around forever. It may not affect a grade-point average, but students have to live with the reality they dropped a class because they weren't doing well in it. That is what WF has become, a punishing mark to students who had the good sense to get out of a class they were about to fail.



The desire of faculty to start the WP/WF period is understandable. Students needed another deterrent not to sign up for classes which they likely would end up dropping. That way, professors are teaching to students who want to be in a class and want to learn something. The students who would sign up, but never show up now would have consequences to face. And for those students who simply had signed up for too much, a WP wasn't that bad an alternative.

Overall, WP/WF hasn't greatly improved the university. The small number of students potentially harmed by the policy need to be considered before the slightly larger number who would unnecessarily take classes and not do any work.

By extending the "W" (withdrew) period, all the transcripts show is that a student did not finish a class. That way more emphasis is placed on what students did accomplish, not on they didn't.



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Football players rude at session

Dear editor,

I am a member of the sorority Sigma Sigma Sigma. I was required to attend the Nov. 13 presentation of Bob Hall concerning Sex and Intimacy. As much as I would have liked to learn about the information Mr. Hall presented, my hearing, listening and attention was greatly obstructed by a certain group of noisy, disrespectful boys sitting behind me. I am speaking of our esteemed football team.

I am greatly appalled at the behavior of these boys. With all of the talking, noise making and actions unbecoming to college men during a guest speaker's presentation, I felt as if I was still in grade school. In sum, the behavior of these men furthered the already negative stereotype of football players being dumb jocks.

In my opinion, the next time Marshall University sponsors a guest speaker with certain groups in mandatory attendance, my suggestion to you is to have a separate presentation for the football team and let the rest of us who appreciate guest speakers and who are interested in the information presented, have a

your VIEW

The Parthenon welcomes letters to the editor concerning issues of interest to the Marshall community. Letters must be limited to 250 words, typed, signed and include a phone number, hometown, class rank or other title verification. The Parthenon reserves the right to edit letters for potential libel or space. Longer guest columns also will be considered.

chance to listen.

Christine M. Boggs
Barboursville senior

Cafeterias need alternative foods

Dear editor,

Again I have walked into the dining hall and been faced with no alternative foods to eat. It gets tiresome eating only a variety of pastas, zucchini and basic salad. Vegetarians are ready for a change. In order for this university to serve its vegetarian stu-

dents better, each cafeteria needs to add more variety to the salad bars such as cucumber, fruit and three-bean salads, and more meatless soups and quiches.

Marshall's cafeterias tend to favor meat eaters over vegetarians, probably because of their budget and the greater number of meat eaters. But for the price we pay to eat food in the dormitories we should all get our money's worth.

The salad bars in each dormitory leave a lot to be desired. The only time they are fresh is when the salad bars are first set up at 10:30 a.m. By the time dinner comes around, the salad bar becomes nonexistent. Students do not always have the time or the money to eat anywhere else but on campus, so it is important to serve a variety of fresh and nutritious food.

Although the cafeterias have attempted to offer the vegetarians on campus a vegetarian Sampler Day, it is not enough. Although a minority, Vegetarians need to eat seven days a week like the common carnivore. In the near future, vegetarians and meat eaters should be treated equally in the cafeterias at Marshall.

Jill Wyland
Charleston, S.C., freshman

the Parthenon

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High schoolers discuss dual credit program

by **MARGARET F. KAYES**
reporter

Some students who started college before they graduated from high school are looking forward to completing their first college level class.

This fall, 148 students in Wayne, Cabell and Mason counties are taking advantage of the opportunity, said Pat Campbell, coordinator of the university's Dual Credit High School Program.

"While most high school students come to campus to

take college classes, the Dual Credit High School Program brings the class to the students," Campbell said.

This fall, 24 students are enrolled in English 101 which is taught by Paul Martin a Vinson High School teacher. Martin has a master's degree in English with a specialization in novels and creative writing. He received his degree from Marshall in 1987.

Beth Eplin is a senior at Buffalo-Wayne High School. Three days a week she goes to Vinson to take an English

"I have learned that time management is very important."
— Seth Smith,
Vinson High School senior

class that is the beginning of her college education. She said, "This class makes it a lot easier because I only have to take one English class to give me credit for senior English and college English."

Jill Norris, Vinson senior, said, "I like it better because we have a teacher we are used to and we are already here, plus we get three hours credit for the class."

Seth Smith, also a senior at

Vinson, said, "I think it is a neat class because it puts you in the college atmosphere easier. This class breaks you in a little easier."

Smith said, "I have learned that time management is very important. You do not have someone standing over your head saying these things need to be done."

Eplin said, "It has helped me learn how to write. They say that college is all writing and I think this will help me get ready for college life."

Miller said, "I think it helps with the college schedule because we come three days a week for an hour and a half. On Tuesdays and Thursdays we do not have to be at school until 9:30 a.m."

Martin said he believes that his students are getting the same education but they are missing the college experience. "They are missing the diversity and the exchange of ideas with people they do not know," he said.

GSC announces slate of activities

by **REBECCA MULLINS**
reporter

A parking survey, raffle, logo contest and charity donations are all in the works for Graduate Student Council.

In an attempt to find a solution to the parking problem, GSC is compiling a survey to find out how many students are parking on campus and which lots are preferred, according to a press release from Keith Sarver, vice president for public relations.

"We are conducting this survey to tabulate information and then present it," Shiela Coe, GSC president, said. The information will be presented to Thomas Johnson, director of public safety, who has agreed to consider alternate solutions to the parking problem, the press release states.

The council is selling \$1 raffle tickets for a Longanberger 1997 Inaugural basket valued at approximately \$60.

"The basket and the raffle tickets were 100 percent donated to the council," Coe said. Information about purchasing a ticket may be obtained by calling the Graduate School office at 696-6606.

The council is sponsoring a logo contest for the GSC. Entries should be submitted on 8 1/2 x 11 paper, and should be black and white and camera ready.

"We welcome anyone to enter," Coe said. "The first prize is \$100, the second prize is \$50, and the proceeds from the basket raffle will go for paying for prizes for the logo contest."

Coe also said GSC is challenging student groups and organizations to match their donation of a turkey to the City Mission for either Thanksgiving or Christmas.

The council will meet again at 4 p.m. Monday in Memorial Student Center 2W22.



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WP/WF

from page one

Angi Price, a Huntington senior majoring in math education, said, "I think that's a wonderful idea — to be able to just withdraw and do away with the whole 'WP/WF.'"

But a few students may have some concerns about what happens if the proposal does pass.

Patricia Quach, St. Albans sophomore and science major, said, "I'm not sure it's such a good idea because then it's hard for others to tell whether you were failing the class or you just had to withdraw."

Dr. Elaine Baker, president of the Faculty Senate, said

because she has not received the recommendation yet she is not sure whether the proposal is being considered at the Dec. 12 meeting.

Baker said there is divided opinion among the faculty about the proposal, but she thought the proposal would not go before Student Senate because most students would agree with the proposal.

"I almost have no doubt that students would rather have an extended 'W' [period] instead of a 'WP/WF,'" Shora said. He said this proposal will not go before the Student Senate.

Shora said that if the proposal is passed it may be put into effect next fall.

SERVICE

from page one

said her office has many other opportunities available for community service. Community agencies that need volunteers have registered with Reece. She said student groups and individuals can contact her for ways they can help out the local community.

Reece will soon be working with Dr. William N. Denman, chairman of communication studies and the 1996-97 Drinko Academy Fellow.

Denman said he and Reece will look at ways to incorporate community service opportunities into the university's curriculum. He said

that the service learning approach is one way Marshall is considering to meet the citizenship requirements of West Virginia Senate Bill 547.

Reece is also working with Carla S. Lapelle, coordinator for student health education programs. Lapelle's office has a grant available for student organizations that want to earn money for their groups while serving the community.

Reece said organizations can earn \$1 per hour per person for service events. Half of the money earned goes to the student organization and half goes to the organization's designated community charity.

More information about Americorps or volunteer op-

Fraternity's ceremony honors brothers who have passed away

by MARGARET F. KAYES reporter

The brothers stood talking as the procession leader began to take control of the evening's events. The lanterns were lit and handed to each active brother.

Announcements were made that this procession should be done in total silence. As the brothers lined up, camera flashes filled the dark night.

The procession began and the only sound was the beat of footsteps.

The Omega symbol was formed, the lanterns were set down and the brothers stepped away for a moment of silence.

The brothers began to slowly disappear. The Omega symbol was left in place to represent a day of remembrance for all the brothers who have passed away.

The Black Lantern Processions began in 1845. The first ceremony was performed at Yale University by the Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity. The fraternity's chapters perform the ceremony across the country, said Rob Salvino, Barbourville senior and Marshall's Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity president.

Members of the fraternity at Yale marched to student residences to announce to candidates that they had been selected for membership, according to a press release from the Alpha Sigma Phi.

"The procession is usually done during pinnacle week, which is a week of activities that celebrate the initiation of new members. The fraternity's new members were initiated Nov. 15," said Andy Hermansdorfer, director of student activities and Greek affairs.

The black robe ceremony at

Marshall this year took place Nov. 12 at 9:15 p.m. The members dressed in black robes and carried lanterns. They marched from the Memorial Student Center to the center of Buskirk Field. They formed an Omega and left their lanterns.

"The Omega represents a place you go when you die," Salvino said.

"Most fraternities and sororities have these types of ceremonies during their weeks," Hermansdorfer said.

History and tradition are an important part of Alpha Sigma Phi, which stresses leadership development, community service and social programs.

Scholastic achievement is stressed in the fraternity which was founded as a literary society, according to a press release from the Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity.

Marshall University
the Parthenon **classifieds**

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Pairings for the first round of the NCAA I-AA playoffs will be announced Sunday at 1 p.m. The selection show will be aired live on SportSouth cable network. It can also be heard live on WKEE 800 AM in Huntington. The Southern Conference will have league champs Marshall and possibly two other schools represented.

Hokies suspend mascot

BLACKSBURG, Va. (AP) — Virginia Tech has suspended another Hokie accused of fighting. But to coach Frank Beamer's relief, this time it's not a player.

The school's mascot, the Hokie Bird, has been suspended for the rest of the season following an incident of fowl play with the Miami mascot during Saturday's football game.

Assistant athletic director Danny Monk said the Hokie Bird's playful action with the Miami mascot, an ibis, got out of hand.

Spectators told the Roanoke Times the Hokie bird, a turkey, sent the Miami ibis to the ground with a punch in the second half.

The Hokie Bird was then dragged from the field by Orange Bowl security. His identity is being kept secret by Virginia Tech.

"The Hokie Bird has been suspended for conduct detrimental to the game," Monk said. "But we will have a backup bird, yes, for the rest of the season."

Earlier this month, seven football players and one former player were suspended for one game or more after they were charged with beating up a Virginia Tech track athlete.

The same grand jury indicted another player on an abduction charge for allegedly forcing a visiting student to stay in an apartment and drink so many shots of liquor that he was hospitalized.

West Virginia University plays Virginia Tech in Blacksburg Saturday.

Switzer defends Cowboys' decision to go for field goal

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas Cowboys coach Barry Switzer has committed some well-publicized gaffes in his nearly three years as an NFL coach.

Letting Chris Boniol kick a record-tying seventh field goal at the end of Monday night's 21-6 victory against the Green Bay Packers wasn't one of them. In fact, it was a demonstration of why Switzer is now 35-13 as a head coach, his players like him because he cares about them.

"I wouldn't deny your son, my son, anyone's son a chance to make an NFL record," Switzer said after Boniol's kick with 20 seconds left tied the mark previously achieved by Jim Bakken in 1967 and Rich Karlis in 1989.

Switzer knows the consequences.

The extra three points set off a minor melee that ended without blood being shed. They also gave the Packers more incentive than they already have (and they have a lot) in any playoff meeting, which despite Monday's victory by Dallas, could still be at Lambeau Field.

But the long-run effect the field goal will have on his team is more positive than negative, for it reinforces for the spear-carriers (everyone but Troy Aikman, Emmitt Smith, Michael Irvin and Deion Sanders) that their coach is willing to give them their time in the spotlight.

"If Reggie White needed a

sack record, you know they'd have him go after our quarterback," cornerback Kevin Smith said after the game.

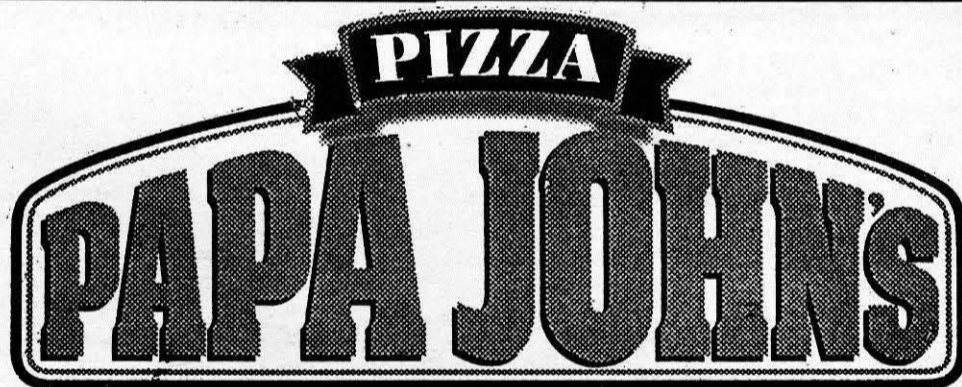
Remember this — while Switzer sometimes uses college analogies he won't run up the score the way he occasionally did at Oklahoma. There are no pollsters to impress in the NFL.

Monday night's melee took place in part because the Packers had no idea that Boniol was kicking for a record.

On the previous play, Aikman took a knee in the gentlemanly way it's done in the NFL — the Dallas linemen gestured to the Green Bay linemen to stay down, that there would be no play.

the Parthenon, it's more fun than a "Saved by the Bell" reunion show

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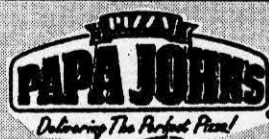
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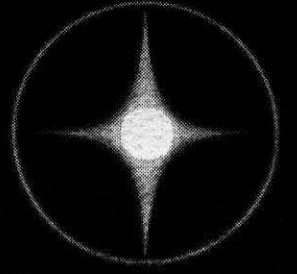
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What's in the future?

Need to know the future now? The Huntington area is filled with people who say they can predict the future. Whether it be tarot cards, palm readings or writing analyses, area psychics say they know how to determine what will happen next.

Dec. 4 in Life!



AN INTERNATIONAL THANKSGIVING

Turkey and stuffing smothered in gravy, creamy mashed potatoes and corn, hot rolls covered with butter, sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, and of course, pumpkin pie...The feast is only a week away.

For most American college students, Thanksgiving means heading home to mom's or grandma's to gobble up turkey and all the trimmings.

It's a chance to spend some time with family and friends and kick off the Christmas shopping season.

This tradition, dating back to 1621, commemorates the harvest festival celebrated by the settlers of the Plymouth Bay Colony in Massachusetts, who survived a bone-chilling winter that killed half of the group who had come ashore on the Mayflower.

But for those in the United States who did not grow up in a country where citizens celebrate Pilgrims and Indians feasting on fowl, how will they celebrate this all-American tradition?

Abdulaziz Al-Wasil, a graduate student from Saudi Arabia, says he is going to an American friend's house for dinner.

"I'm looking forward to seeing what the turkey looks like and celebrating in a typical American house," he says.

In Saudi Arabia, Al-Wasil says there are only two holidays, both which are part of the Islamic religion. "One is after the pilgrimage and the other after fasting," he says.

Caroline R. Lotoux, a freshman from France, says she will spend Thanksgiving Day with her boyfriend at his family's house.

She says the American tradition is a lot like the way the French celebrate the New Year.

"It's a good reason for family

and friends to get together," she says.

Gelila Yilma, a graduate student from Ethiopia, says she will be celebrating the holiday with her American boyfriend at his parents' house.

Yilma says she has been in the U.S. for eight years and has celebrated Thanksgiving before.

She says she usually spends time with friends and tries to forget it is a holiday to avoid homesickness.

For Odysseas Lougklos, a freshman from Greece, Thanksgiving is "like Greek Christmas."

He said he will celebrate with some Greek friends he met through the Greek Orthodox church. Lougklos says he has only been in the states for three months, but has celebrated Thanksgiving once before with relatives from New Jersey.

"It's great!" he says.

Robert A. Risley, a senior from Great Britain, says he is flying to Miami with his American girlfriend to spend the holiday with her family.

"For me it's a lot different because, obviously, Americans are giving thanks for getting away from the English," he says. "So I just sort of try and keep quiet and hope everyone just accepts me into their family."

Risley says he has been in the U.S. for four years and has celebrated Thanksgiving in the past by going to Florida with friends from college.

"I've gone to Tampa twice to get some sun and get away from the cold here."

Risley says he enjoys the tradition calling it a "prelude to Christmas."

He says he looks forward to the turkey because in England they only have turkey for Christmas.

For Canadians, who are not

quite so far from their homeland, this holiday is hardly a culture shock.

Canada first observed a day of Thanksgiving in 1710 at Port Royal, Nova Scotia, after the English gained control of the town and fort for the last time.

After that, Thanksgiving days were held at various times to celebrate military victories and the births of royal children.

In 1879, a national Thanksgiving Day was proclaimed in Canada.

Since 1931 the northern neighbors have celebrated Thanksgiving on the second Monday in October.

Christina N. Redekopp, a sophomore from Canada, said her family has been living in the U.S. for three years.

"Our first year here we celebrated twice. Once on the traditional Canadian Thanksgiving day and once on the traditional American Thanksgiving day," she says.

Redekopp says American and Canadian Thanksgiving celebrations are very similar.

"Both include turkey, potatoes, and rolls...but it's not as big of a deal in Canada," she says.

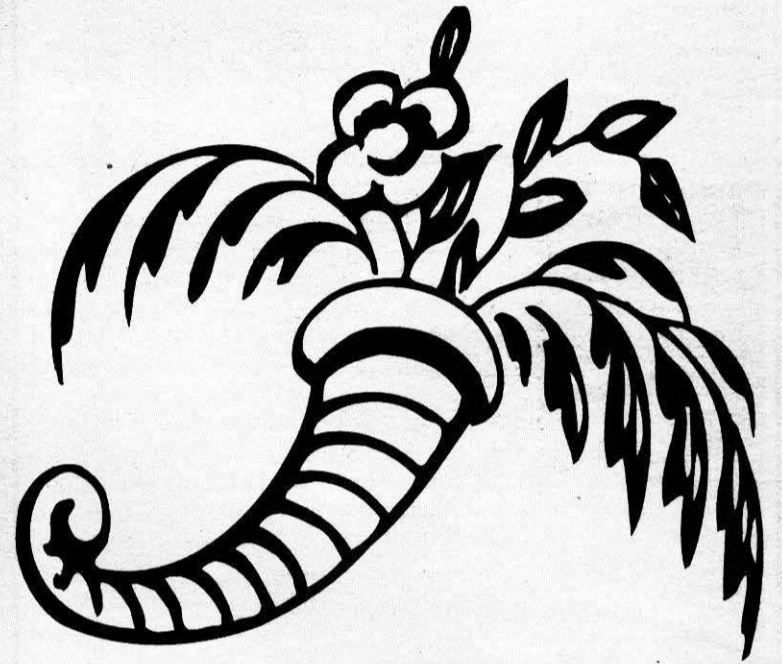
For some international students, though, Thanksgiving is a different experience.

"The food is very different," Danxia Wu, a graduate student from China says. "I'd never tasted something like turkey. It's so huge." She adds, "The leftover tradition was new to me, too."

Wu says she hasn't decided what she is doing for Thanksgiving this year.

She says she has been in the U.S. for more than a year, and last Thanksgiving she went to an American friend's house for dinner.

Wu says Thanksgiving reminds her of the Chinese



Lunar New Year celebration in her country. She says during the festival, which is celebrated at the beginning of February, family and friends gather together for a meal.

Marina Busatto, a graduate student from Brazil, says she is going to eat dinner at a friend's house then go on a trip to Washington, D.C.

Busatto says this is her first year in the U.S. and she is very curious and excited about trying turkey.

"In Brazil, we celebrate Thanksgiving, but it isn't as important and it doesn't get as much attention," she says. "In one of the big cities there is a celebration on one of the television stations. The theme is thanking God for everything, but there's no talk of pilgrims," Busatto says.

Victoria H. Uranga, a graduate student from Chile, says, "I was real surprised that you put

marshmallows on sweet potatoes. I thought marshmallows were just for desert."

Uranga says she has been in the U.S. since August 1995.

Last year she says she celebrated with the traditional family dinner, and this year she is going out to dinner with her American roommate's family.

Despite the little cultural differences, Uranga says the American Thanksgiving tradition is very similar to the way they celebrate other holidays in her country.

"When families get together, there's not a lot of difference in the way we do it, and the way people do it here," she says.

All across the globe people come together for holidays just like Americans do in the U.S.

Even though Turkey Day may not be a world wide tradition, food and family are a part of everyone's culture.

STORY BY
MICHELE MCKNIGHT