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Marshall University **the Parthenon**

Anti-smoking cab driver shoots a passenger. See story, Page 3

Selection process for SGA positions reorganized

By **COURTNEY VEST**
reporter

A new way of getting students to enter the student government race is simply by asking.

Three years ago, Dr. Donnalee A. "Dee" Cockrille, dean of student affairs, made a change in how student government candidates are cho-

sen to run. She said she identifies students and asks them to run.

"We call potential students who have shown leadership skills and ask them to run," she said.

She said she and her staff call organizations and ask them to recommend students who have shown outstanding leadership skills. If the stu-

dent accepts to apply they come to an interview to talk with her she said. She said she asks the student to think about the positions and what it would mean to become a leader at Marshall.

"I have the students envision themselves as being a leader and becoming the voice of the students," she said.

Cockrille said she tries to

identify 20-25 students who aren't currently serving in student government, but who does have a position in an organization. She said she has a much better response with this system.

"When more students get involved it makes the selection of candidates bigger," she said, "Students might know the candidates and decide to

get involved themselves," she said.

Student government elections are March 5, 6 and 7 with campaigning beginning this week she said. She said the voting period has been extended to give students off campus a chance to vote. She has also seen a considerable

see **SGA**, page 6

Incoming freshmen may get the red light

by **SARAH D. WARRICK**
reporter

Incoming freshmen who live on campus and whose hometown is within a 300 mile radius of Marshall may not be able to obtain university parking permits next fall.

The bill was passed at Tuesday's Student Senate meeting and will now go to the Faculty Senate for further approval.

Sponsored by Brandi D. Jacobs, College of Liberal Arts senator, and Hugh J. Ladd, College of Science senator, the bill was written at the suggestion of Tom Johnson, director of Public Safety and Transportation.

In the bill, it is suggested that if students do not have access to their car, apathy towards campus events and organizations will be reduced.

"The Student Government Association's assumption that forcing students to remain on campus during the weekends

to reduce the so-called apathy problem is absurd," James Mooney, College of Liberal Arts senator, said.

David L. Wickham, Graduate School senator, also opposed the bill, claiming the Student Senate was "picking on" one group of students, and said it is wrong.

Jacobs said she did not have a car down here her first year, and said she would not have been half as involved with campus activities had she been able to go home every weekend.

Another parking bill proposed that current resident hall parking, located behind the Chevron on 5th Ave., be moved to the stadium.

The stadium parking lot, which is used by commuters, would then be for resident hall parking.

Sponsored by Joe Limle, Graduate School senator, the bill will now go to the Faculty Senate.

Here it comes...



Brett Hall

Jonathan Joy, Jeremy Richter, Teresa Wilson and T. Kevin Legeman go through a scene in a dress rehearsal of "Philadelphia, Here I Come!" which begins tonight at 8p.m.

The Chief Justice goes online

by **REGINA FISHER**
reporter

Marshall's yearbook staff is surfing unfamiliar waters this semester with a pilot program that will put The Chief Justice on the World Wide Web.

The project began as an effort to revive the existing yearbook program which is no longer supported by student activity fees, said Dr. Dee Cockrille, dean of students.

Cockrille said that in a survey conducted of 15 universities, the yearbook programs at each were in trouble.

"We knew that if we wanted a yearbook we would have to leave the traditional yearbook format," Cockrille said. "I wanted to do a full-blown yearbook and I wanted it to be a multimedia project," she said.

Kim Reece, programs specialist for the office of student activities and Greek affairs said

that she did not know of any other universities that are participating in a program like this one.

"We need to emphasize that we are one of the first universities to have a yearbook on the Internet," Reece said. "We will be showcasing it at conferences all over the country," she said.

The yearbook will be interactive and will incorporate sound, animation, motion graphics and video.

"This year, there is a 30-second video clip contained in the sports section of the book for those who want to see a Marshall football game," Reece said.

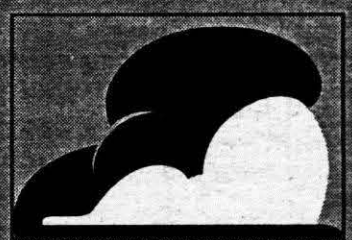
Cockrille said she hopes that in future issues, the project will evolve and expand from the lessons learned from pilot project experience.

see **WEB**, page 6

Inside

Outside

How's the
Herd
baseball
team?
See story,
page 7



Mostly cloudy
High: 68;
Low: 37

the Parthenon-line
www.marshall.edu
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Page edited by Sherri Richardson

CNN faces low ratings crisis

ATLANTA (AP) — Everywhere you turn at the CNN Center, there's a risk of running into a contractor.

New offices are constantly being created to make room for the network's burgeoning empire — CNN Interactive, the financial network CNNfn and the CNN-SI sports channel.

There's even staff to produce news reports to flash on pagers and for television in airports.

It's a good thing, too, because these aren't easy times for the Cable News Network itself, which started the whole franchise 17 years ago.

Increased competition from MSNBC, the Fox News Channel and ever-expanding local newscasts have combined with a relatively slow news period. The result? Sagging ratings and questions about whether CNN can thrive in times of noncrisis.

"That's a great concern to me," said Ed Turner, executive vice president of CNN. "What do you do when the earth isn't on fire?"

CNN's reputation as a go-to network when there's a big news story was confirmed the night President Clinton's State

of the Union address conflicted with the verdict in O.J. Simpson's civil trial.

Its ratings were double what they are on a normal night.

Unfortunately for CNN, these nights come far too infrequently.

Nielsen Media Research has given the network some ugly numbers lately. Prime-time ratings sank 33 percent in 1996, Nielsen said.

To try to tweak this year's ratings, the network is making some changes.

"Burden of Proof," the mid-day program with Roger Cossack

and Greta Van Susteren that was an outgrowth of the Simpson trial, has joined the glut of prime-time legal shows.

"Burden of Proof" will be repeated at 8:30 p.m. on weekdays, and will go live when the stories are compelling.

Two of CNN's up-and-coming anchors, Joie Chen and Leon Harris, will be teamed to host the 10 p.m. news hour.

And on March 2, CNN will debut "Impact," a weekly newsmagazine that is a collaboration between journalists from CNN and its new corporate partner, Time magazine.

the Parthenon

Cabbie shoots smoker trying to enter his car



MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP) — A taxi driver refused to let a man into his cab with a lit cigarette, setting off a struggle that ended with the would-be passenger shot to death.

Cabbie Richard Cromlish, 30, was charged with manslaughter in the death of Russell McDonald, 57.

Police said McDonald tried to get into Cromlish's cab while smoking a cigarette early Saturday, then held onto the door as Cromlish started driving away.

"Richie told him to put out his cigarette because that's the law, not because he didn't like his face," said Simon Musat, an owner of Queen City Cab Co., whose dispatching service Cromlish used.

When McDonald jumped in and grabbed at the steering wheel, Cromlish drew a 9 mm

handgun and opened fire, hitting McDonald twice in the chest and twice in the groin, officers said.

Cromlish had a concealed weapon permit, said Assistant Attorney General

Joseph Laplante. Relatives said he'd carried the gun for 10 years for protection.

Cromlish was being held in lieu of \$100,000 bail. Manslaughter carries a sentence of 15 to 30 years.

NEWS



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SOUTH CHARLESTON (AP) — Two teens riding all-terrain vehicles Monday near South Charleston found a skull at a former trash dump. Buried beneath it was a fully clothed body, said Sgt. G.K. Barnett. The body had been shot, police said Tuesday. The victim was a white male in his 40s, Sgt. J.J. Dean said.

Police searching for body

NEW YORK (AP) — When 8-year-old Justina Morales disappeared more than a year ago, her school and child welfare workers failed to notice and her mother kept quiet.

Now, police are searching for Justina's body, following a confession from her mother's ex-boyfriend, Luis Santiago, that he beat the girl to death with a metal pipe, investigators said.

The case raises questions about how Justina could have vanished without drawing the attention of her public school or a child welfare worker who had investigated why she missed so many classes.

The girl's mother, Denise Solero, took Justina out of the school around the time of the killing and enrolled her in another school. But officials apparently never investigated when the child failed to show up at her new school, and authorities didn't know the girl had disappeared until last week.

"It seems that the system in place to keep track of children like Justina apparently broke

down," Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said Monday through his spokeswoman, Colleen Roche.

Ms. Solero, 29, who now lives in a battered women's shelter, was too afraid of Santiago to tell police about her daughter's death, said her lawyer, Michael Dowd.

"He had threatened her and other members of her family's lives if she ever spoke," Dowd said. She has a 6-year-old son with Santiago.

Acting on a tip from a friend of Ms. Solero, police arrested Santiago, 23, on Sunday. He was being held without bond on a murder charge.

According to the criminal complaint, Santiago confessed to fatally beating the girl Dec. 31, 1995. Dowd said Santiago was trying to hit Ms. Solero with the pipe when he accidentally struck Justina, who had tried to intervene.

Police were searching for the girl's body in vacant lots around the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn, using shovels, dogs and sometimes bulldozers.

The city medical examiner

was testing bones that were found in one vacant lot to see if they could be the girl's remains, spokeswoman Ellen Borakove said today. She said that it hadn't yet been determined if the bones were human.

A child welfare employee had worked with Ms. Solero from November 1995 through January 1996, investigating reports that Justina was skipping school.

The case was closed after the worker concluded the absences were not enough to keep the girl from advancing in school, said Nicholas Scopetta, the city children's services commissioner.

As for Ms. Solero, her lawyer said he didn't think she would be charged. But Kathleen Wilcox, a spokeswoman for the Brooklyn district attorney, said Ms. Solero was still under investigation.

"What's she going to be charged with? Not getting hit with a pipe?" Dowd said. "Being paralyzed by fear of this man ... is really the thing that does it."

President of CompuServe Corp. resigns

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Robert Massey, president and CEO of CompuServe Corp. since June 1995, resigned as top executive of the money-losing computer online service.

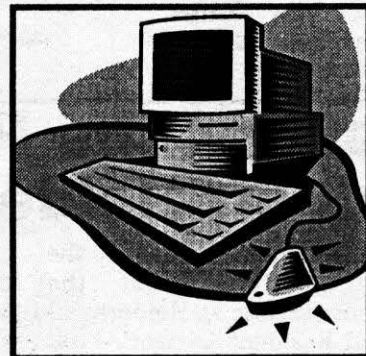
Massey resigned Feb. 17 to pursue other interests, according to CompuServe's parent, the income tax preparation company H&R Block Inc.

CompuServe reported a \$58 million loss in the quarter ending Oct. 31. The company also shut down its family-oriented WOW! service Jan. 31

saying it would concentrate on marketing to businesses.

Company spokesman Steve Conway said the resignation had nothing to do with the financial troubles at CompuServe, the nation's second-biggest online service. CompuServe has 3.3 million customers. Conway said Massey was unavailable for comment.

Massey, 50, joined CompuServe in 1976 and became chief executive in June 1995. CompuServe chairman Frank L. Salizzoni, who is chief executive of H&R Block,



will assume Massey's duties while the company looks for a successor. H&R Block owns about 80 percent of CompuServe.

briefs

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Let's see ... beach towels, a trip to the Caribbean, a new truck. It was no ordinary Garth Brooks concert for Melinda and Ricky Huffman, who bought ticket No. 2 million on the country star's tour.

Brooks called the couple backstage at Sunday night's show in Charleston, W.Va., and offered them a vacation in the Virgin Islands or the Cayman Islands to thank them for buying the tickets.

Brooks threw in the towels, snorkels and underwater goggles, and a new Chevrolet Tahoe. The Huffmans didn't immediately decide where they'll go.

"I'm still waiting for someone to pinch me and wake me up," said Mrs. Huffman, who sat in the last row at the Charleston Coliseum with her husband.

In July, the fan who bought ticket No. 1 million was given a Chevrolet Camaro.

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — A city councilman was convicted and fined \$250 Tuesday for smacking a store clerk in the head with a flying one-pound package of sliced ham.

A judge found Paul Riddick guilty of assault and battery in the incident Nov. 16.

Lynda Doss testified that Riddick came to the store where she works to return ham that was spoiled. Ms. Doss said that when she put a package of fresh ham on the counter, Riddick shouted, "Don't throw that ham at me!"

The councilman then threw the package, hitting her in the side of the head, knocking off her glasses and bruising her nose, she said.

Riddick testified that the woman had "slung" the ham onto the counter, snarled, "Take your damn ham" and called him an "SOB."

NEW YORK (AP) — Fidel Castro invited cigar-smoking celebrities Jack Nicholson, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Danny DeVito, Matt Dillon and others to a \$500-a-seat cigar soiree in Havana.

About 600 notable cigar-smokers from around the world have been invited to Castro's decidedly un-proletarian celebration of the 30th anniversary of the famed Cohiba cigars Feb. 28.

The soiree, to be held at Havana's famed Tropicana Club, is a fund-raiser for the nation's cash-strapped health care system.

The smokers could get around Washington's 35-year ban on travel to the Communist-ruled island — if the cigar maker picks up the tab.

CHARLESTON (AP) — People have a right to know about juvenile criminals living in their communities, a state senator said.

Sen. Vic Sprouse, R-Kanawha, filed a bill Tuesday that would strike the entire section of state law that makes juvenile criminal records confidential.

"We have 15-year-olds shooting each other in the street and communities have the right to know who they are. Their classmates know who they are but nobody else does," Sprouse said.

Another bill filed in the House of Delegates would eliminate confidentiality for juveniles at least 10 years old who are charged with serious crimes. The bill is sponsored by Delegate Jon Amores, D-Kanawha, vice chairman of the House Judiciary Committee.

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"It was very encouraging, I was really impressed with the kids' attitude and work ethic."

— Craig Antush
head baseball coach discussing the team's first three games of the season

4 Wednesday, Feb. 19, 1997

the Parthenon

Page edited by Carrie Hoffman

our VIEW

First Amendment applies even to differing views

The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America, among other things, guarantees the freedom of the press. This basic liberty allows the American media to criticize and scrutinize many facets of life. The media also provide the opportunity for readers, listeners and viewers to voice their concerns publicly. Sometimes these opinions differ with other members in the medium's audience.

This is when normal, rational Americans began to question the basic freedoms of the country. Freedom of the press is pushed aside as the newspaper or radio station begins receiving the blame for the views of private citizens.

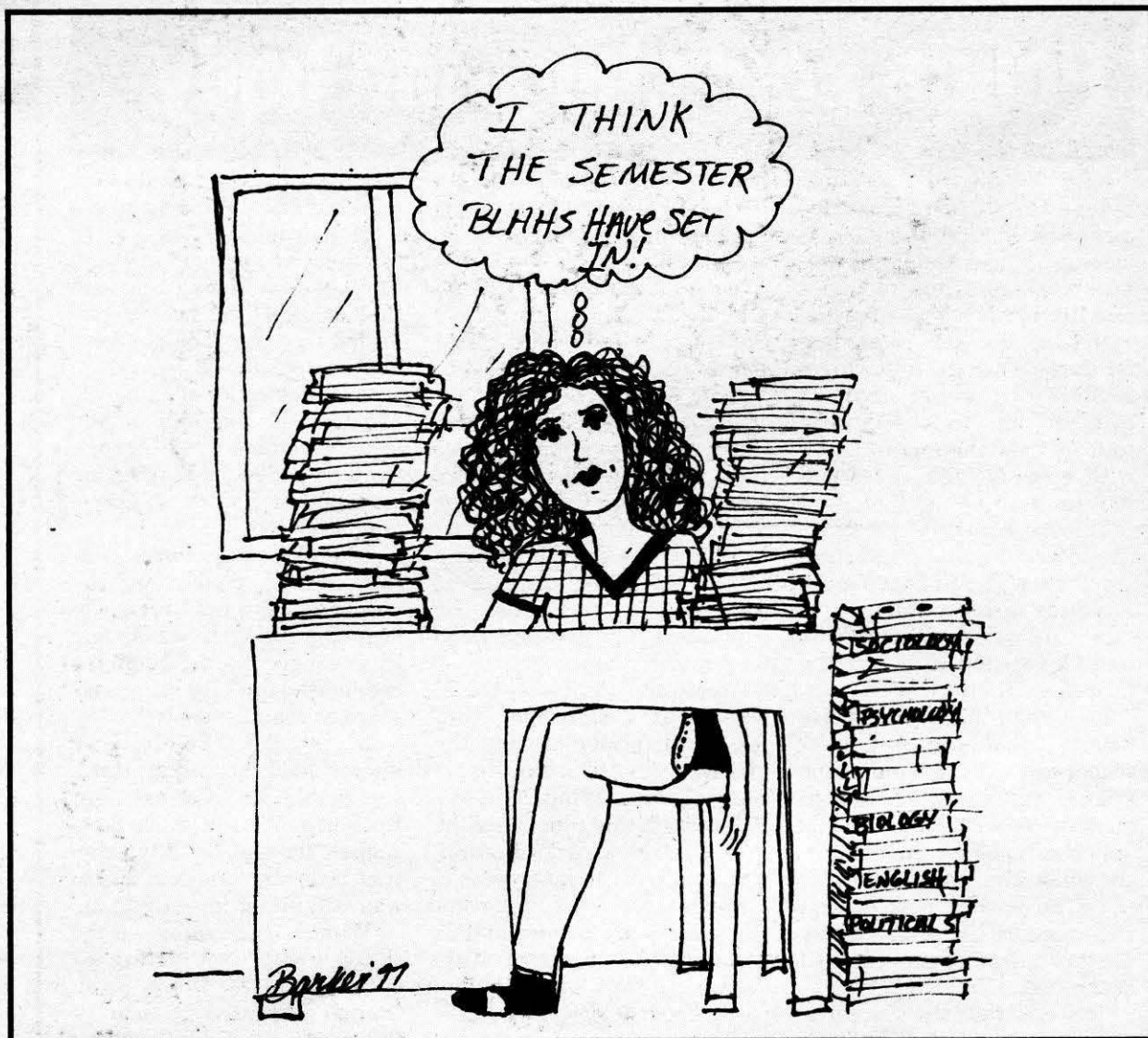
Letters and columns appearing on opinion pages do not necessarily reflect the view of the medium. They reflect the view of one person. Headlines given to these letters and columns also do not reflect the view of the medium. They are merely a summary of what the following letter or column is about.

Even if an editorial board disagrees with a letter from a reader or viewer, it is inclined to publish or broadcast it. Not letting it appear would be going against the true intent of the freedom in the First Amendment. It would be nothing more than self-imposed censorship.

Freedoms provided in the First Amendment outline some of the essential liberties of this country. Given along with these freedoms is a sense of responsibility to use them in the fullest sense that they were meant.

If something appears on the opinion page of a newspaper, do not get mad and blame it on the people who work there just doing their job. Be thankful you live in a country where you can respond without fear.

Remember, don't kill the messenger because of the message.



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the Parthenon

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Mallory, the Parthenon tick off Holderby RA

I am writing in response to the articles written about the Resident Advisor at Holderby. I am that Resident Advisor! First of all let me say that when I saw the article entitled "RA guilty of conflict of interest," I had no idea it would be about me, but as I read on too see how associate professor (biological sciences) Dr. David S. Mallory was very uninformed of the program selection process that a Resident Advisor must go through. I can understand how a former RA might (at first glance) become a "little miffed, but Dr. Mallory, being in the department of biological sciences department should know to do his research thoroughly before throwing liable accusations against some one, (like myself, who was paying attention during RA training and obviously does know the solicitation policies that are stated in the Residence Hall Guidebook and Student Handbook). I do understand why he may feel this way, but it is not his fault that he is ignorant of the fact that when I was giving the program I made it clear and have before (when giving other programs as favors to

my fellow RAs) that "I am not here to "solicit" but to teach you how to treat their skin because skin care does not lie on a certain product, but the technique in which it is used."

This is the statement I put on my program request form and if Dr. Mallory had attended; he would've known that I made that statement before I proceeded with the program and by the way-Residence Services approved the request!

Residence Services has strict policies and it is my job to enforce and facilitate those policies. I do not see why I should explain myself, but Mr. Mallory and the Parthenon could've cost me the opportunity to be a great RA and hinder me from being well respected among other RAs and my Supervisors. For this I thank you!!!

But let it be known that when I was interviewed, I explained the solicitation policy, which failed to be mentioned in the article entitled "Holderby residence get clean skin."

Ashlee Erinn Barker
Holderby Hall RA

This letter was printed exactly as it was received.

Republican sign stereotypes, offends some

I would like to express my deepest dissatisfaction with the College Republicans' latest flyer. Speaking from a minority's perspective I find it offensive and very inappropriate— especially during African-American History Month. The flyer (for those of you who have not seen the flyer in question), depicts a man from an ethnic background in a tribal head dress. The heading on the flyer is "Do you really want this character running the country?" The question should be "Do we need republicans running this country?" One simple flyer had undermined years of combating negative images of our culture that is portrayed in the public eye. My main point is "Walk a mile in my shoes and then tell me where I have been!"

In other words, respect is a valuable tool in dealing with a diverse society. One shouldn't disrespect the unknown.

By disrespecting a few, you have conveyed your message with the utmost clarity. How does that make you feel? I hope no better than me!

LaShunda D. Goard
Charleston freshman



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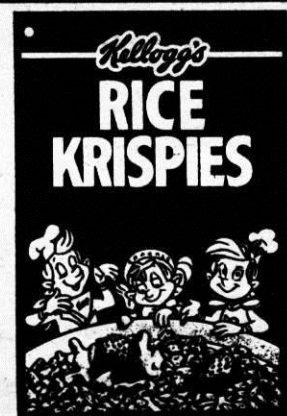
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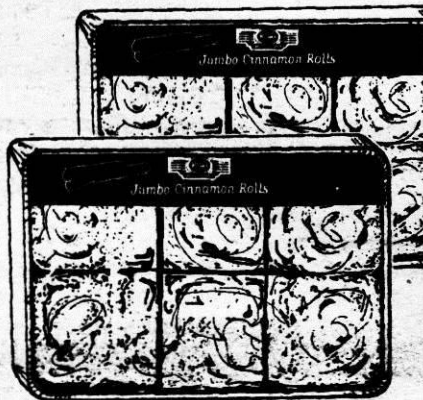
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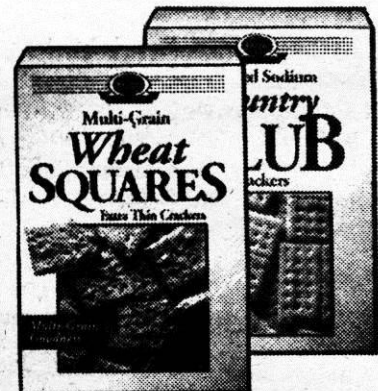
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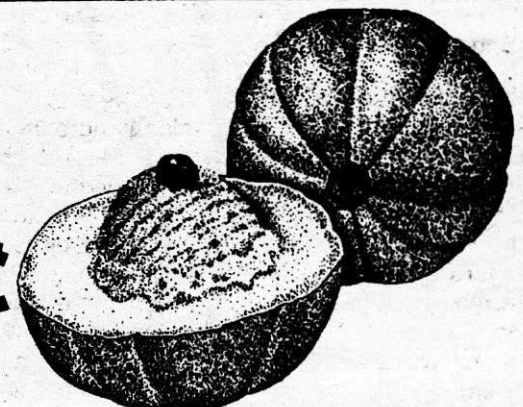
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The food is out there...

Job fair benefits both employers and prospective summer employees

by JACOB MESSER
reporter

They came, they saw, they looked for jobs.

Students attended the eighth annual Government/Summer Jobs Fair Wednesday, Feb. 12, looking for job opportunities and making a few contacts.

The career fair featured more than 20 employers and recruiters, including the Huntington Fire Department, West Virginia State Police, and Appalachian Wild Waters.

Scott A. Morrison, Hurricane senior, said he attended the fair because he needs a summer job.

Mandy J. Hicks, Julian freshman, and Chris T. McNeely, Ridgeview freshman, agreed.

"I heard it would be a good opportunity to find a summer job, so I came here in hopes of getting a couple of applications and making a few contacts," Hicks said.

"It gives me a choice of things I could do this summer and maybe a job I could look at as a career," McNeely said.

Morrison said the fair could be improved.

"I really had trouble finding the time to come over here today," Morrison said. "Also, there needs to be more summer jobs available. There seemed to be more career-oriented jobs than summer jobs. That was disappointing."

Patricia Gallagher, recruiting coordinator for the Career Services Center, said fairs offer students many advantages.

"The Government/Summer Jobs Fair brings together a lot of different employers and puts them on campus where

students can meet with them and talk with them," Gallagher said. "It's a good place to find out about jobs and get applications for jobs."

West Virginia State Trooper Scott Mayo agreed.

"Coming to the fair gives you a head start on knowing what the requirements are for the hiring process," Mayo said. "If you don't know what is required of you, there is no possible way you can go into the hiring process with a good idea of what you need to have. Employers get out to the fairs and give the students an idea of what they need to have."

Jim Ashley of Appalachian Wild Waters, a white water rafting company, said summer jobs can be a "launching ramp to a career."

"The jobs we offer are mainly summer jobs, but I think we are a launching ramp for young professionals," Ashley said. "They have the opportunity to learn professional skills they will need, including customer service skills, sales skills and they also build confidence."

Ashley said "the people you come in contact with can lead to a better job in the future."

"If the people you take down the river see how good you perform, they may want you to come work for them once you get out of college," Ashley said.

Students are not the only ones enjoying the benefits of the career fair.

Employers said they also benefit from the fair.

Mayo said the fair is an opportunity for the West Virginia State Police to "recruit highly-qualified candidates instead of those who meet the minimum requirements."

SGA

from page one

jump in voting among students due to this system.

"Last year 1700 students voted compared to the 1000 students the year before," she said.

In the spring, president and vice president positions seem to generate a lot of interest she said.

Cockrille said after the candidates are chosen to run they are on their own. She has two main goals which are to find outstanding leaders and get the student to believe in themselves she said.

"We are asking students to reach their potential and to take a chance," she said.

WEB

from page one

"In following years we want to capture group and organizational events on video and incorporate them into the book," Cockrille said.

Reece said the theme for the first Online yearbook, a project she was not certain would be possible at the onset, is "Traditions and Transitions."

"After several months of researching we realized that we can do this, but we need the students to become involved," she said.

Reece said there is a need for photographs involving students participating in university activities during the summer and fall semesters. Students will receive photo credit for submissions

used.

"I want this to be a student publication," Reece said. "We need students who have experience with any of the web programs because we are able to incorporate them all," she said.

Yearbook staff positions are available on a volunteer basis this year, but Reece said she hopes to hire a student editor for future issues.

"I can't do this alone; student volunteers are a necessity," Reece said.

Interested students can contact Reece at 696-2292.

A CD-Rom version of the book is also being considered in addition to the book on the Internet, Cockrille said.

"A CD would provide an archival record for 20 years from now that would be like watching a slide show," Cockrille said.

the Parthenon

classifieds

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CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

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Miscellaneous

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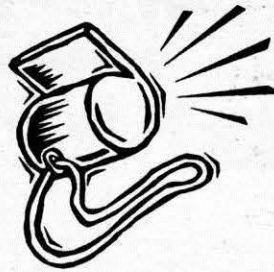
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Wrestle-Mania hits campus

The Office of Recreational Sports and Fitness Activities will be hosting a wrestling tournament Thursday at 5 p.m. in Gullickson Gym. Weigh-ins will begin Wednesday in the Fitness Center and participants may sign up at the Office of Recreational Sports and Fitness Activities in the Cam Henderson Center 2018 until 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Herd baseball winless after three

by NAWAR W. SHORA
reporter

The baseball team played its first three games against the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa this past weekend.

Friday the team lost 8 to 2, Saturday the score was 17 to 4 and Sunday it was 16 to nothing.

"On paper it looks like they beat us really bad, but we helped them out and made a lot of small mistakes that devastated us. We need to reduce those and I feel we can do that," coach Craig Antush said.

"It was very encouraging, I was really impressed with the kids' attitude and work ethic," Antush said.

The University of Alabama was in the college world series last year. Antush labeled Alabama as one of the top teams in the country and said Marshall was definitely

overmatched.

"But, we showed signs that we're an improved team," Antush said.

"We had a few players really stand out, which is encouraging when you're rebuilding a program," Antush said. "The players showed the staff that they are an improved program and just need some more time to get into it," he said.

Antush said that Marshall is expected to do better once it gets into a schedule more equal to the team.

"The first two opponents we just take the lumps and bruises and find out what our weaknesses are. It's a huge learning experience for the staff and players and the program itself," he said.

In a related issue, team members commented on the possibility of a summer college season.

"It would be good to push it forward because of the weather," James Watts, Huntington

junior and pitcher for the team, said.

"I wouldn't mind taking summer classes. The only negative would be the college summer league, we would have to move the amateur draft back."

Because of cold weather, schools in the north, including Marshall, do not usually get enough practices in before their season starts. Some advocate for the season to be in the summer like the professional season.

Some students still prefer to play baseball with other teams during summer.

"I'm not really for it, players usually play summer ball and get a lot of exposure in the summer that they don't usually get," Tim Frantz, Fayetteville senior and Herd catcher, said.

The team will be on the go again this weekend as it heads south to face the Florida State Seminoles in Tallahassee.

Annual boat and RV show disappoints some

by SCOTT E. PARSONS
reporter

The Tri-State boat and RV show this past weekend brought mixed feelings from Marshall student both present and past.

Andrew H. Marcum, Prichard senior, had boat ownership in mind when he went to the show. "I went to see what the prices were for a new bass boat because I'll be graduating this spring and I will have a boat by the following fall," a confident Marcum said with a grin.

The boat and RV show is an annual event at the Huntington Civic Arena. Boat and recreational vehicle retailers set up displays of the merchandise.

Marcum had mixed feelings about the show. "I found a boat that I really liked and it wasn't all that expensive, but I was really disappointed because there were only a few boats and no fishing equipment," Marcum said.

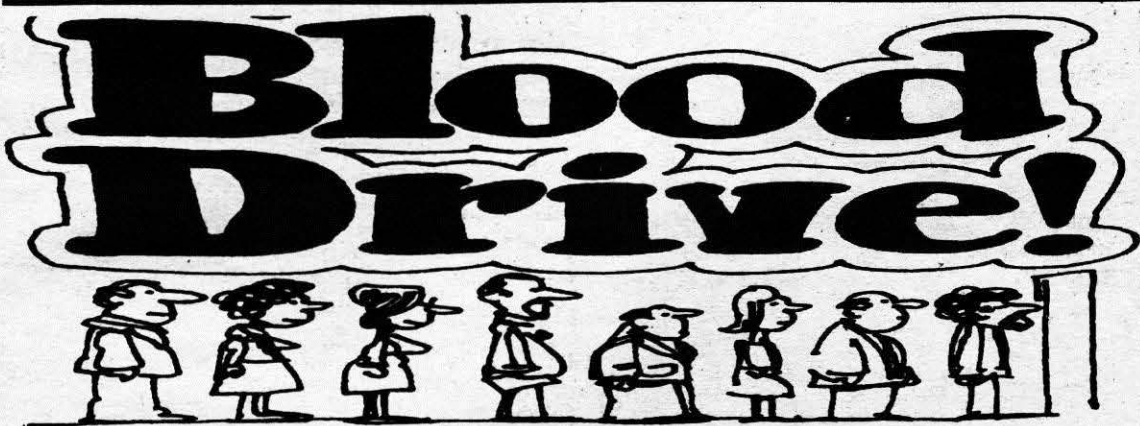
"The past few years there have always been bait shops set up with equipment and this year they weren't there."

The disappointment wasn't felt by Marshall graduate Karen Knowles. "I loved it!" Knowles said. "My husband and I walked through all of the motor homes that were there and enjoyed imagining what it would be like to travel the country in one when we retire and what it would be like to be able to afford the fifty thousand dollar motor homes."

Both Marcum and Knowles agree that it wasn't worth paying the admission fee to get in. Knowles said "why should there be an admission fee for the show when the whole purpose is to sell you something." Marcum echoed this sentiment. "I don't feel that the show was worth the price of admission."

While Marcum was pleased with the prices he discovered at the show he was also apprehensive about how long the prices will last. "I talked with a salesman and he said the price of the boat that I liked was the normal price, but by the time I'm able to get one the [19]98s will be available and they'll be a little more expensive and there is a good chance that the boat I was looking at might not be available at all."

The boat and RV show offered both reality and fantasy for Knowles and Marcum. Both agreed that while only a few of the items on display were within their means the rest were nice to dream about.



Wednesday, February 19, 10-2

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Living the American dream

Twin sisters reveal secret of success

Identical twins Faye Hudson and Maye Smith tell the inspiring story of their remarkable success from bank tellers to bank president and vice president to millionaires. Read how they achieved the American dream the old fashioned way.

Thursday in Life!



Wednesday, Feb. 19, 1997
Page edited by Robert Risley

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Parthenon

Domestically speaking

A woman is violently beaten while her children watch. She cries out in terror for him to stop hitting her. She is bleeding from the head and falls to the floor in a slump.

This is a typical situation that crisis workers use in training to learn how to counsel those involved in domestic violence.

One in three American families are affected by domestic violence according to the Kingman Aid To Abused People (KAAP) which is funded in part by the Department of Economic Security and United Way. KAAP's goal is to provide shelter for women and children who are victims of domestic violence. Men are abused too, but according to the Handbook for Victims of Family Violence, in West Virginia about 95 percent of victims are women.

There is no need to suffer in silence. There are ways to get help. Branches, a local women's shelter, is a safe method of getting out of an abusive relationship.

At first, a women's shelter brings images of empty rooms with nothing but cots for sleeping on and children running everywhere crying for their mothers. In fact, it is not like that at all. It is a home away from home. Branches provides temporary shelter to victims of domestic violence who are in immediate physical danger, according to Dawn Booth, a legal advocate for the shelter.

"You don't have to be a shelter resident to get help," Booth said. "We provide legal advocacy and counseling to all victims. Right now we are housing three families in the shelter."

Residents can stay initially three weeks unless an extension is needed. Branches helps people start their lives over and find a placement for them to do this, Booth said.

Domestic violence is a growing problem. Sandra Stith, who wrote the book "Violence Hits Home" states that exposure to and experience with violence in one generation increases the likelihood of violence occurring in the next generation. Adults who have witnessed violence in their families as children are affected throughout their life and are more likely to continue the abusive cycle.

Twenty-five to 50 percent of current homeless families headed by women left their original home to escape domestic violence according to "Family Violence" by

Harvey Wallace. Another startling statistic in the book is half of the murdered women in the United States are killed by a current or former partner. Women who are divorced, separated or otherwise estranged from their partners are at highest risk of assault.

Domestic violence can hit close to home for some college students. One sophomore who wishes to remain anonymous shared her story of growing up in an abusive family. She wants to start over and stop the cycle.

"It was hard growing up in my family," she said. I watched my father beat on my mother often. She never deserved it. To see her in so much pain was unbearable.

"When I was little I thought about running away all the time but I just couldn't leave my mom behind. My mother's

cries were heard throughout the house. More than anything I feel sorry for my father. Yes, I hold a lot of anger for him but I know he has a problem," she said.

"I remember one time when he held her down and just beat on her. He would punch her and I would hear her scream. I could hear her sobs but there was nothing I could do but listen. I would try to help but she would tell me to get back because she knew he would come after me," she said.

This true story is just one example of what goes on in abu-

sive families. According to Donna E. Shalala, secretary of health and human services for the Clinton administration, domestic abuse has become as American as guns on our streets and murders in our movies.

Shalala explains that family violence affects all Americans, regardless of background. It is found all over, in poor and in wealthy suburbs as well as middle-income homes. Domestic violence, she says, is terrorism, "terrorism in the home."

There is help on campus if you or someone you know is in an abusive relationship. The Marshall University Women's Center, 143 Prichard Hall provides counseling to individuals. It can be contacted at (304) 696-3338/3112/3111. For more information or help contact Branches at (304) 529-2382 or the State Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-352-6513.

You can learn more about KAAP on the internet at (<http://www.kingman.com>.)



story by Andrea Sells