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 Low: 20
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 High: 45 Low: 28

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FLICK PICKS
page 6



Volume 101 Number 42

Marshall University's student newspaper — Celebrating 101 years!

Page edited by Butch Barker

Kappa Alpha Order receives suspension

by **AARON E. RUNYON**
reporter

The Kappa Alpha Order fraternity is facing a possible expulsion stemming from a violation of the student handbook code of conduct section for harassment.

That violation includes acts exhibiting prejudice and/or racism.

A Code of Conduct Violation Hearing is scheduled for Friday to decide if further

action will be taken concerning the violation.

P. Andy Hermansdorfer, director of student activities and Greek affairs, said the chapter allegedly committed a violation on Nov. 4, for singing a racially explicit song at a fraternity social activity. Members of the Kappa Alpha and sorority members were present.

The song was not recognized by Kappa Alpha's national organization, he said.

"They weren't using their

heads," Hermansdorfer said. "They allegedly sang a song with inappropriate connotations of a racial nature. The members knew they were wrong and now it's up to the hearing for a final decision on the outcome of the situation."

MORE INSIDE
Our View p4

Kappa Alpha was reinstated as a fraternity on campus in February, but was suspended on Nov. 10, following a formal complaint of

the allegations.

Three fraternities were suspended from national colleges following racial harassment violations in 1998, Hermansdorfer said.

Dr. Donnalee Cockrille, dean of student affairs, said the group was suspended before the hearing because the student affairs decided the violation was detrimental to the institution and its members.

Please see **FRATERNITY, P3**

Weather can cause closings

by **LAURA B. TURLEY**
reporter

In the event of bad weather, university closing or delays may be necessary.

Weather-related closing and delays are made by Dr. K. Edward Grose, senior vice president of operations, and Dr. Sarah N. Denman, vice president for academic affairs.

Grose said if the weather looks questionable, he stays awake all night and watches the weather. He said he has a general outline he follows as he observes.

"If there are two inches of snow at 2 a.m., then I am watching on a minute-by-minute basis," Grose said. "If at 3 a.m. it's still snowing and accumulating, that triggers me to pay attention."

"If by 4 a.m. there is accumulation, I am close to making a decision," Grose said.

A decision is usually made around 5 a.m. he said.

"When it looks like a decision needs to be made to close or delay, I call her [Denman] and she concurs with my decision," Grose said.

After a decision is made, radio and television stations are notified. Audix messages are also left on every campus phone as well as the university response number.

"If you don't hear anything [about the weather] and you want to make sure, students, faculty and staff can call the university response number at 696-3170 for the latest updates," Grose said.

According to the "Weather-Related and/or Emergency Closings and Delays" policy, there are three types of actions that may be taken concerning bad weather.

The first action is to close the university. This means all classes are suspended and offices are closed.

The second action is to cancel classes. In this instance, all classes are suspended, but offices are open.

"Normally, we will never only cancel classes because if the weather is too bad for the students, then the faculty and staff won't be able to make it there, either," Grose said.

"However, there are a few people who will have to report, such as the physical plant workers, because they will help to clear the snow."

The final weather-related action that may be taken is a delay. This means that university operations will begin either one or two hours later than usual.

The delay schedule for Monday, Wednesday and Friday classes is different than the schedule for Tuesday and Thursday classes.

For example, in the event of a two-hour delay on Monday,

Please see **SNOW, P3**

11-0!

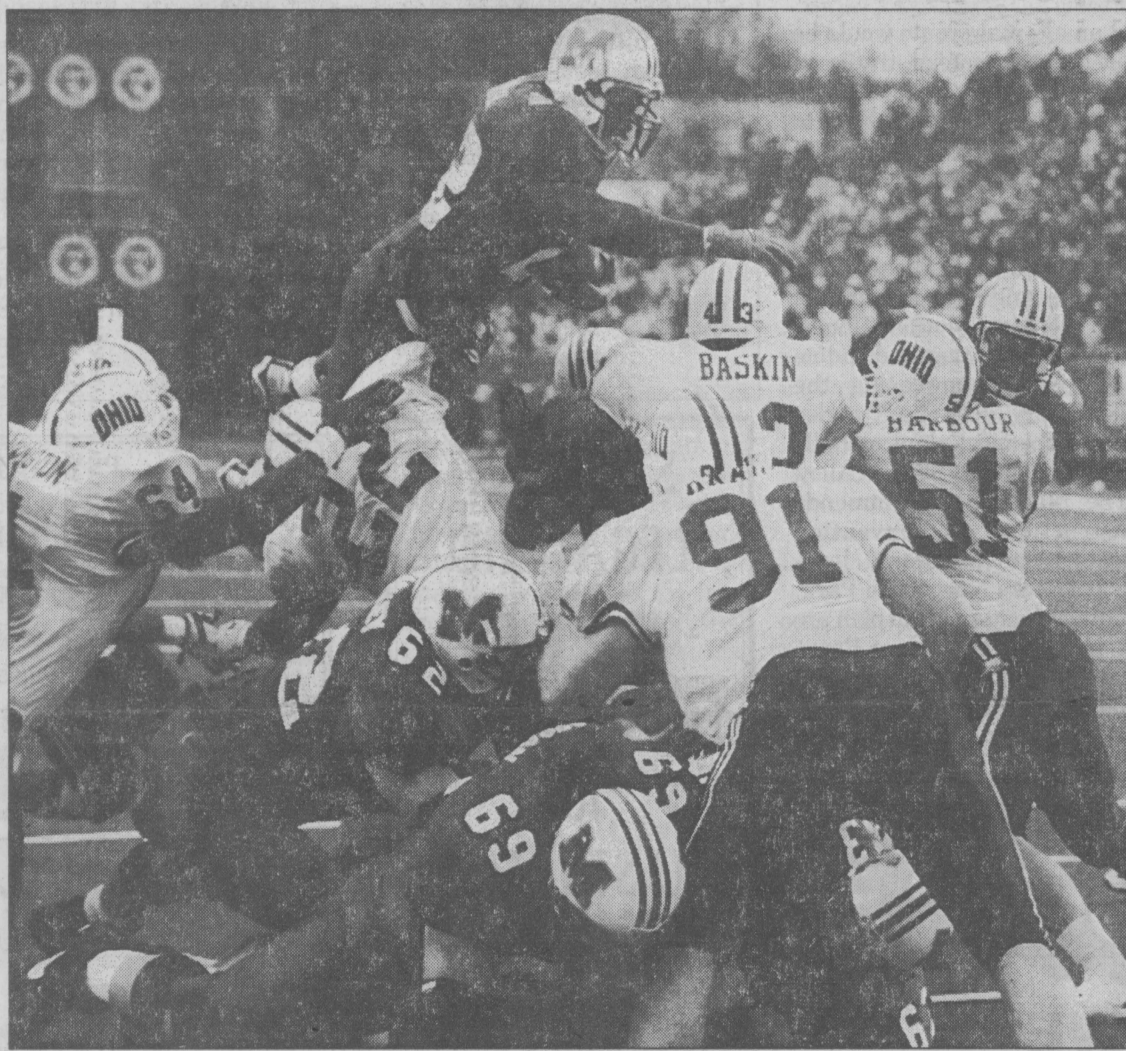


photo by Rick Hays

Marshall running back Doug Chapman soars over the Ohio University defensive line for one of his two touchdown runs Friday. The Thundering Herd won the 'Battle for the Bell' against the Bobcats 34-3 and finished its regular season unbeaten at 11-0. More in Sports, page 5.

Marshall's history includes children

by **LILLIAN L. WILLIS**
reporter

From 1937 to 1970, college students were not the only ones receiving education at Marshall.

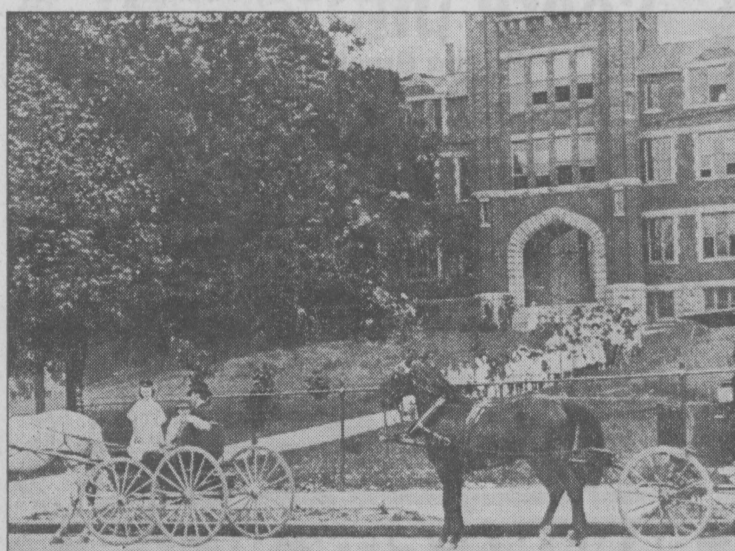
Students in kindergarten through 12th grade also were taught at the Albert Gallatin Jenkins Laboratory School for Teachers.

The "lab school," now Jenkins Hall, was built in 1937 to be a K-12 school taught by Marshall faculty, as well as education majors, said Dr. Larry G. Froelich, College of Education and Human Services dean.

"Local students paid tuition," Froelich said. "And would attend the equivalent of public school."

Many universities had lab schools at that time, he said, enabling education students to get experience with different age levels.

Education dean D. Banks Wilburn (1947-1964) considered the Marshall lab school to be an "invaluable auxiliary to teacher education," according to a



Although Jenkins Hall housed a "lab school" for children from 1937-1970, students kindergarten through 12th grade could have been seen on campus through 1970. Above, students from 1908 await their parents' arrival.

book written by Dr. Charles Hill Moffat, chairman emeritus of the Marshall Department of History.

The basement of the building contained the school's cafeteria as well as a recreation center, both now classes and offices. The first floor housed the elementary school.

The upper floor of the building was the high school area. The lockers the students once used are still there.

Where the dean's suite is located was once the stage for the auditorium, and the former principal's office is now

Please see **SCHOOL, P3**

The Parthenon to publish special issue Monday, Dec. 6

Although The Parthenon's publication was scheduled to end for the semester this Friday, we have decided to put out a special issue Monday to update readers on the search for the new Marshall presi-

dent and provide complete coverage of the Mid-American Conference Championship game.

Following Monday, The Parthenon will take its winter break as well. Publication will resume in the spring.

Presidential search nears conclusion

by **MARISSA HAGY**
reporter

"It's in their hands now," A. Michael Perry said of the university presidential search process.

The presidential search is almost over. The final decision now rests with the members of the University System of West Virginia Board of Trustees.

Last week, the search committee unanimously voted to recommend the three finalists to the Board of Trustees as candidates for the Marshall presidency.

The names of the three finalists, Daniel Angel, Gladys Styles Johnson and Michael A. Wartell were sent in alphabetical order to the Board of Trustees.

"The committee simply sent the three names to the Board of Trustees as required by the statute set forth by the state legislature," Perry said. "The committee found all three candidates to be acceptable for the position."

Each candidate now will be interviewed by the board members before a decision is made. The interviews are expected to be in South Charleston later this

"The committee found all three candidates to be acceptable for the position (of Marshall president)."

A. Michael Perry
interim president

week, although a schedule was not finalized as of Monday afternoon. The board is scheduled to meet Dec. 3 in Huntington.

Perry said he expects the board to complete the interviews before Friday.

"As a general rule, the Board of Trustees will interview the candidates on Thursday," Perry said. "They are trying to get it done before the Friday meeting in Huntington."

Perry said he would like to see a new president in office by early January. He said it was important for the new president to prepare for the state legislative session that will begin that month. The Board of Trustees could announce its decision as early as Friday.

Faculty Senate will have no say in leader selection

by **EVAN BEVINS**
reporter

When the Board of Trustees meets Friday at Marshall, they will do so without a presidential candidate recommendation from the Faculty Senate.

The West Virginia University System Board of Trustees is scheduled to meet on campus at 9 a.m. Friday. The presidential search is one of the board's topics.

Discussion of the candidates took place at the Faculty Senate's Nov. 18 meeting.

Dr. Pamela Mulder, associate professor of psychology, moved that candidate Daniel Angel is unacceptable.

"I do not feel that he is at all in touch with what faculty need at a university," she said.

The motion was voted down, however after a discussion revealed not all the senators shared Mulder's opinion and only four senators had seen all three candidates.

Faculty Senate President Donna Donathan said the fact that most senators had not seen all of the candidates influenced the vote.

"Some of the more experienced senators may have felt that this was not the way to begin a relationship if in fact Angel were to be the new president," she said.

Donathan said there are some senators who still remember when the senate supported a candidate other than former president Dr. J. Wade Gilley.

"It created somewhat of an adversarial relationship at first, which they were able to overcome," she said.

Dr. Bert Gross, Faculty Senate

parliamentarian and a member of the search committee, was a member of the Faculty Senate during the search that brought

Gilley to Marshall. He said the initial problems came from a variety of factors, such as a budget problem and a more active management style.

"My hunch is that yes, of course there were some problems, but I really doubt that it had to do with whether the Faculty Senate supported him or not," he said.

Gross described any difficulties that arose from the recommendation as "very minor."

Had the motion passed, the recommendation would have gone to the presidential search committee. Gross said the most important factor in the board's decision would be its own interviews with the candidates.

The agenda item generating the most discussion at the meeting was a recommendation from the Faculty Personnel Committee concerning the hours of clinical faculty in the Community and Technical College (CTC). Clinical faculty are non-tenure track teachers.

Faculty teaching developmental math classes teach four classes at five hours apiece, resulting in 16 credit hours and 20 contact hours.

After discussing the background of the problem, the senate unanimously voted to bring the clinical teaching load in line with that of non-clinical faculty.



DONATHAN



Web site in use to promote Marion County school bond

FAIRMONT (AP) — Supporters for a multimillion dollar school bond in Marion County are using technology to promote their cause. A Web site is under construction that will include details for a new Fairmont Senior High School and a gym at North Marion High School. The address is www.mteer.com/bond. The board of education is asking residents to approve nearly \$30 million dollars for the improvements.

Beloved giant panda put to sleep

by JIM ABRAMS
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Hsing-Hsing, the giant panda who arrived in America as a symbol of U.S.-China detente and quickly transcended politics to become the most beloved attraction at Washington's National Zoo, has been put to sleep.

Zoo officials said they decided Saturday to end Hsing-Hsing's life because of his deteriorating condition in recent days from kidney disease first detected last May.

He was 28, well beyond the life expectancy of about 20 for pandas living in the wild.

Hsing-Hsing was given a lethal injection early Sunday after being treated Saturday to his favorite foods — blueberry muffins, sweet potatoes and the staple of the panda's diet, bamboo shoots.

"It doesn't get any more difficult than this," said Lisa Stevens, associate curator of mammals at the zoo.

"Seeing an animal still struggle to live and weighing that against what's humane."

Hsing-Hsing's death leaves five pandas in American zoos — three in San Diego and two that arrived earlier this month at Zoo Atlanta.

There are some 130 giant pandas in zoos around the world, all

but 16 in the animal's only native habitat, China.

The panda is one of the world's most endangered species, with estimates — believed by many to be outdated and overly optimistic — of about 1,000 surviving in China's mountains.

Even before Hsing-Hsing's death, the National Zoo was negotiating with China to obtain a pair of pandas for research and breeding.

Deputy Director McKinley Hudson said it would be a long process, particularly because the National Zoo, a unit of the Smithsonian Institution, doesn't have the financial resources of some private zoos.

Organization raising funds to put paper on news line

CHARLESTON (AP) — For years, Roland Payne relied on his wife to read him the morning newspaper.

But now the president of the Kanawha Valley chapter of the National Federation of the Blind dials a toll-free number and selects articles to listen to.

Payne and other visually impaired people want to add West Virginia newspapers to the National Newsline for the Blind Network.

They're raising money to first put The Charleston Gazette on the news line.

And they hope to raise enough money to add other state papers, too.

Newspapers now available include The Washington Post, The New York Times and USA Today.

Subscribers obtain a six-digit identification code and select stories from a menu.

The choices include news, features, sports, obituaries and television listings.

More than 100 blind people already subscribe to the news service in West Virginia.

Federal money needed to improve Midland Trail

CHARLESTON (AP) — A multimillion-dollar plan to draw visitors to the Midland Trail in southern West Virginia is off the drawing board and heading to Washington where backers hope to win federal money.

The management plan for the 119-mile Midland Trail Scenic Highway, a state-designated scenic highway tracing U.S. 60 from Charleston to White Sulphur Springs, seeks federal designation and grants.

The plan, which cost \$50,000 to draw up, would eliminate dilapidated structures and other roadside eyesores. Billboards would be discouraged and industrial sites screened from view. Timbering and surface mining visible from the highway are to be addressed by planners.

U.S. 60 in Kanawha County between Quincy and Montgomery would be widened to four lanes

and an alternate route would be built for commercial traffic in Malden and Belle.

Parks at Cannelton in Fayette County and Rainelle and Lewisburg in Greenbrier County would be upgraded and links to bicycle paths would be built.

The plan includes visitors centers featuring women such as labor activist Mother Jones, river transportation and industrial history showcasing the 19th century Malden salt works, DuPont chemical plant at Belle and Elkem Metals plant at Alloy. The plan also recommends construction of convention facilities and additional lodging at Hawks Nest State Park.

Cost estimates for the plan are not included, but Larry Rowe, president of the Midland Trail Scenic Highway Association, said it would "require millions of dollars."

Getting wired

State churches establish technology labs to encourage computer literacy

CHARLESTON (AP) — A network of West Virginia churches is getting wired to help improve computer literacy in the state.

Using \$257,000 that remained from a record-breaking \$1 million raised for Gov. Cecil Underwood's 1997 inauguration, Mission West Virginia identified three priorities that included boosting computer use.

More than 30 computer labs have been established in churches and community centers by Mission West Virginia, which was created by Underwood.

Recruitment of foster parents, an issue important to first lady Hovah Underwood, and a welfare family partnership are the group's two other priorities.

"Faith communities especially need to lead the way," said the Rev. Emerson Wood, director of Mission West Virginia.

"Faith communities especially need to lead the way. We need to be conscious of helping other people because we've been blessed."

Rev. Emerson Wood,
director of Mission West Virginia

"We need to be conscious of helping other people because we've been blessed."

The computer education program also represents the Republican governor's philosophy of building partnerships between government, business and churches to tackle social and economic problems.

In a lab at Christ Church United Methodist in Charleston, aging computer parts have been replaced and obsolete software, donated by Microsoft Corp., has been updated.

"There's a lot of possibility here at almost absolutely no cost," said church member David Mullins, who has

worked for several months to establish the lab.

Rev. Anne Rex of Christ Church said the program hopes to bring children to the Internet for help with homework, teach adults to type and assist job applicants to write resumes.

Wood said Mission West Virginia is waiting to hear whether it will receive more than \$1 million in grants for daily costs. Wood would not disclose potential sources of money.

The grants would supplement \$1.5 million pledged by Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corp.

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Offices of student, judicial affairs look to spring

by **LILLIAN L. WILLIS**
reporter

The offices of student affairs and judicial affairs already are preparing for the spring. Dr. Donnalee Cockrille, dean of student affairs, said next year will be the first for a slogan. "Personal responsibility, trust and respect" is the central theme for each program developed during the spring semester, she said. During summer orientation

programs, a T-shirt with the slogan on it was distributed to incoming students. The student affairs office has focused the theme toward freshmen during the fall semester, Cockrille said. "Next semester, we want to take (the programming theme) to a new level," she said. "We are



COCKRILLE

opening it up to all students." April 3-7 is planned for "Community Service Awareness Week," Cockrille said. She said she wants to get all student organizations, campus offices and departments involved. "We believe we're going to try to have a conference during the summer for incoming students," she said. "It would be focused on leadership and be separate from orientation. "We want students to see how important leadership is to

their education process." Cockrille and P. Andy Hermansdorfer, director of student activities and Greek affairs, also are working on a spring break trip to Italy and Greece. "So far, we have 13 people signed up," Cockrille said. "There is still room for people who want to go." Linda Rowe, director of judicial programs, said the student code of conduct will be reviewed next semester. "We've already formed a

steering committee," Rowe said. "We're looking at other codes right now and interviewing students." She said next semester, focus groups and forums will be arranged, in an attempt to get student opinions. "The insights students have about day-to-day life are helpful," she said. "We'd like to hear what they have to say, and hope they attend." More information is available by calling the Office of Student Affairs at 696-6422.

Art students spend hours in workshop every Friday

by **KRISTINA WISE**
reporter

Instead of starting the weekend with a party, some students are spending their Friday evenings at work in the studio. "When other students are thinking it's time to escape from school, we are coming back," Sinisa Lenac, Croatia, said. Lenac is one of about 10 art majors participating in a weekly three-hour figure workshop every Friday from 6-9 p.m. in Smith Hall 801.

Huntington graduate students Adam Hodges and Stuart Mohr organized the workshop in response to students' concerns. "We discussed getting a model on our own and just paying for it out of pocket," Hodges said. Hodges said when he brought concerns to Dr. Robert Lemon, chairman of the art department, Lemon said there was departmental money that could be used for art students to conduct that type of class.

Hodges and Mohr then hired a model and organized the workshop. "I think that it's great," Lemon said. "The workshop is possible because of the initiative of the students. They have really been instrumental in the program."

In the workshop, which is open only to art majors, students work with one model in one specific pose to get one finished work by the end of the semester. Students work in a range of areas, from painting and drawing to sculpting.

Some faculty members also join students in the workshop. "Faculty members often participate because they really don't get a lot of time outside class to work on their own," Mohr said.

"It's really nice to work with professors as fellow artists in a more relaxed atmosphere," Hodges said. Hodges said the workshop is much different than a regular classroom experience. Students sometimes make coffee and discuss art before they get to work.

However, some participants agree that the quality of learning is just as high as that in most courses. "As art students, we enjoy art and we enjoy what we're doing," Lenac said. "This weekend practice is essential to our work."

Art students, faculty earn top awards at state exhibition

by **KRISTINA WISE**
reporter

Marshall's art department was successful at the annual West Virginia Juried Exhibition in Charleston. Results from the exhibition were announced in a press release Nov. 15. Out of 500 entries, 86 pieces of artwork were chosen for exhibition and 13 of the artists were faculty or students from Marshall. Eighteen awards also were

given, with seven going to artists associated with Marshall. The exhibition takes place each year at the Cultural Center in Charleston. Art professor Stanley Sporny, who won an award at the exhibition, said Marshall usually does well, but this is the first year the department has brought back so many awards. "The fact that 13 of the chosen artists come from Marshall says a lot for our department," Sporny said.

Judging the exhibition were Brian Clinkingbeard, curator and director of the Kentucky Art and Craft Exhibition, and Gary Pettigrew, professor emeritus of art at Ohio University. Sporny said the judges were impressed by the high quality of workmanship in Marshall artists' pieces. "They were looking for a combination of an idea and the craft coming together," Sporny said. "It's making more than the sum of the parts."

Monetary awards were given to the top three winners and their artwork was purchased by the exhibition. All three of these winners are, or were at one time, associated with Marshall. Prizes went to Dunbar senior Susan Poffenberger, former art department chairwoman June Kilgore and Sporny. Pieces selected for the exhibit will be on display at the Cultural Center until Feb. 27. Marshall students whose work

will be on display are Poffenberger; Sinisia Lenac, Croatia; Drema Duncan Watts, St. Albans; Allen Toney, Huntington; graduates Kathleen Kneafsey, Huntington; Steve Pauley, Charleston; Patricia Chapman, Huntington; Caryl Toth, Winfield; professor emeritus June Kilgore, Huntington. Professors are Sporny, Huntington; Mary Grassell, Hurricane; Robert Rowe, Huntington; and Susan Petrysak, Scott Depot.

Snow policy outlined

From page 1

Wednesday or Friday, classes that usually meet at 8 a.m. or 9 a.m. would be canceled. Classes that meet at 10 a.m. or after will meet at the normal time. In the event of a two-hour delay on a Tuesday or Thursday, classes that usually meet at 8 a.m. will be canceled. Classes that are scheduled at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday, will meet for a shorter session at 10 a.m. "The two-hour delay has worked well for us," Grose said.

"Normally, in a couple of hours, we can clear the snow and get most of it done with out cancelling." The decision for a delay is based upon snow accumulation, as well as the weather forecast, he said. He also added that all cancellations or delays made by Grose and Denman are "campus specific." Grose said the announcements will specify if the cancellation is at the Huntington campus, the South Charleston campus, or both campuses. Decisions about the off-campus sites, such as the Mid-Ohio Valley Center, will be made by the center's director and their supervisor.

School part of MU history

From page 1

an office suite for faculty. Moffat also writes that the trend of lab schools declined, and the new trend was toward student-teachers practicing in the public system. The Marshall lab school slowly became inadequate for accommodating all of the "practice teachers." He writes that the North Central Association gave the university two options: enlarge the lab school or find other places for the practice teachers to teach. The college chose the latter, and in 1968, "the first stage of the gradual elimination of the laboratory school was implemented." Danny G. Fulks was the last Marshall lab school principal. "I had been at Marshall for a few years," said Fulks, a recently

retired elementary education faculty member. Fulks jokes about the assignment. "He gave me that job knowing the lab school was going down, and he hoped I would go down with it." Fulks said that at the lab school, the student-teachers used experimental teaching techniques, which were not bound by county regulations. It was thought to be an unrealistic situation at that time, he said. "It also was thought to look exclusive because of the fees the enrolled students paid, though, he said, it was only a moderate fee and very affordable for the time. "They thought they needed to send (student teachers) into the 'real' schools," he said. "So they could see the problems of public schools. They needed experience with inner city schools and suburbs at that time."

Fraternity under fire

From page 1

Other Kappa Alpha violations of conduct were found during an investigation of allegations, and prodded the decision for suspension, she said. "They have been charged of racial harassment, and it is a serious violation," Cockrille said. "That strong of an offense can result in a suspension or expulsion." Campus members and national representatives of the Kappa Alpha fraternity would not comment Monday on the pending investigation and hearing.

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"A lot of people go to school for seven years, Tommy. They're called doctors."

—Richard (David Spade) talking to Tommy (Chris Farley) in the comedy *Tommy Boy*

OUR VIEW

Racist remarks deserve proper punishment

The Marshall chapter of the Kappa Alpha Order fraternity faces possible expulsion stemming from a violation of the student handbook code of conduct section for harassment that includes acts exhibiting prejudice and/or racism.

A Code of Conduct Violation Hearing is scheduled for Friday to decide if further action will be taken concerning allegations that the chapter, allegedly committed a violation Nov. 4 when members allegedly sang a racially explicit song at a fraternity social activity in which members of Kappa Alpha and a campus sorority were present.

The chapter, which was reinstated as a fraternity on campus in February, was suspended Nov. 10 following a formal complaint of the allegations.

If there is validity to the allegation, then we think further and harsher action should be taken.

Racism is a deplorable act. Those who practice it ridicule, harass, stereotype and belittle other races based on their beliefs that their race is superior to all others. Whatever happened to "all people are created equal?"

If the allegation is true, the campus chapter of the Kappa Alpha Order has blatantly disregarded school policy and harassed its peers. And it also has wasted the time it spent working to get reinstated.

Racism — or any other form of prejudice — must not be allowed to rear its ugly head at our university and go unpunished.

Punishment for an action like the one that is alleged should be extensive and conclusive, not to set an example, but to set a standard on campus.

That is why we demand campus officials to administer proper punishment if the allegations are true. If the chapter is found guilty, then it deserves more than a slap on the wrist.

THEIR VIEW

War on drugs must continue

STAFF EDITORIAL

The Oracle
University of South Florida

(U-WIRE) TAMPA, Fla. — A survey released Monday found teenage drug use is leveling off and even decreasing among some age groups. This marks a good trend that we hope will continue through the millennium.

Education about the dangers of drug use seem to be working, as well as publicity about entertainment idols' avoidance of such behavior. Together, the two have helped teens shift their ideas about drug use from thinking it was cool, to realizing drug use may be harmful to them.

The 12th annual survey, performed by the Partnership for a Drug-Free America, shows that 40 percent of the 6,529 teenagers questioned said "really cool" teens don't use drugs. It seems teenagers no longer see drug use as the rite of passage it was once considered by American teenagers in the past.

According to the survey, only 8 percent of 13- to 15-year-olds thought smoking marijuana was cool. This is promising because 13 percent thought marijuana smoking was cool in 1998 compared to 17 percent in 1997.

Also showing progress is the role teen idols play in making marijuana look cool. Last year, 48 percent of teens thought musicians made drug use look good, but this year's figure dropped to 42 percent. This is partly due to the clean-cut teen bands and singers that have been popping up in recent years, like 'N Sync and Britney Spears.

Still, the war on drugs is hardly over. Drug prevention education shouldn't loosen. A tight campaign should continue.

This survey should be used as support that positive results happen and to encourage teenagers to continue making good decisions about their health.



OFF CAMPUS VIEW

Former university president: Marshall's academic reputation is well deserved

by DR. J. WADE GILLEY
guest columnist

Marshall University President Michael Perry and Professor James Joy are to be congratulated for their recent expressions of confidence in the quality of academics at Marshall.

As the president of the University of Tennessee, as a former president of Marshall and as a student of American higher education who has visited more than 500 institutions as an evaluator or consultant over the past 30 years, I can attest to the fact that Marshall's academics are rising just as fast as the "Thundering Herd" football team.

There is no question as to the dramatically growing national recognition of Marshall as a quality university.

The Marshall Plan for Quality Undergraduate Education is unequaled in America and the science, library, theatre medical and other facilities are as good as can be found anywhere. Marshall is a national leader in technology.

Marshall's scholarship pro-

Marshall is Huntington's best hope for a good future. And Marshall's future is dependent on the goodwill and unity of purpose of the greater Huntington community.

grams are among the most aggressive in America. In addition, more so than at any other university of its type and size, Marshall's faculty members are dedicated to teaching students.

Peer institution presidents evaluating Marshall for the "U.S. News and World Report" annual survey recently gave the university a composite score of 3.4 — a better score than any other West Virginia institution or, for that matter, any Mid-American Conference school received from peer institution presidents.

In other words, those acade-

mics who should know Marshall better than any others are continually giving the university higher and higher scores for academic quality.

This quality is important for it will attract increasing numbers from across the planet to the university over the next few decades.

This will move the university up to compete with new peers and at the same time it will provide a powerful stimulus to the local economy.

Marshall is Huntington's best hope for a good future. And Marshall's future is dependent on the goodwill and unity of purpose of the greater Huntington community.

Uniting behind the university is good for everybody. Lack of unity would be disastrous.

I am confident Huntington will unite behind the new president and help the university achieve even higher goals.

Gilley became president of the University of Tennessee Aug. 1 of this year after serving eight years as Marshall University president.

HIS VIEW

Marshall fans are soooooo spoiled

by JEROD SMALLEY
guest columnist

Forgive me for what I am about to say. Marshall football fans are insanely spoiled. No question about it.

With the team nearing the completion of an undefeated season and a possible third consecutive MAC title, some fans still seem disappointed.

Why? Because the team has not been able to improve on its No. 11 national ranking and No. 14 showing in the Bowl Championship Series rankings.

The words of the average Herd fan: What a disappointment. I mean, seriously, this entire season is just a waste. There is no point in playing another game, because we will just be wasting our time and money watching the team. And we will probably end up in that stupid Motor City Bowl again, where it will be 12 degrees Celsius outside and we'll play some podunk team from Conference Who Cares. None of our wins matter, because we play the Romney School for the Blind every week.

Reality: These are truly the best of times. The football program has come to represent the

best in the university and the Huntington community. With all the prior heartbreak and struggles, we deserve the success we now enjoy.

I am absolutely amazed that we have, according to the polls, one of the best 11 football teams in all of college football. It's bizarre to turn on the television each Saturday and hear college football "experts" talk about the Thundering Herd. They talk not just because of Chad Pennington, but because of the program's winning tradition.

And about the Motor City Bowl, I would be thrilled if Marshall got back to that bowl game. Hey, it's a nationally televised bowl game against what has been promised to be a better opponent this year.

Sure, it would be nice to play in larger, more prestigious bowl against a better team. There is a chance for an Independence Bowl berth, among others, but the odds of that happening are not good. That magical call from the folks at the Sugar Bowl isn't coming anytime soon. So what, I say.

Average Herd fan: Man, we are going to suck next year. I mean we are going to be so bad. I've already canceled my season tickets. Who's going to play

quarterback...and the offensive line...and the head trainer?

Reality: The last time Marshall had a quarterback position for grabs was 1995. After two players were hurt, Marshall put its fleeting hopes on a noodled-armed kid from Knoxville. The result: Marshall lost the I-AA national title game by two points. That Pennington kid didn't turn out so bad, so maybe fans shouldn't be so quick to judge.

Byron Leftwich, Chuck Spearman, Steven Galbraith and Andy Cowan, among others. These are the guys the Herd will rely on at quarterback, and the guys who will play well for the team next year. The team is deeper than it has ever been, and some of the best young talent Marshall has ever had has yet to see the field. Trust me, the future is bright.

In closing, just shut up and enjoy this wonderful season. Stop whining about the polls and the bowls. Because in the end, it's just football. And Marshall football is doing just fine, thank you.

Jerod Smalley is a reporter for The Parthenon. Comments can be sent to him at Smith Hall 311 or he can be reached at 696-6696.

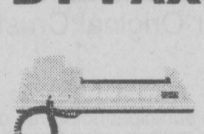
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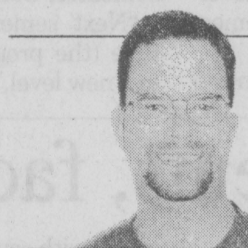
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HIS VIEW



MARK BLEVINS
columnist

Some days, ideas are hard to find

Some days inspiration flags.

Not that what I write calls for inspiration, but you do run out of ideas. I thought about writing a column about my innermost feelings and desires for mankind. Then I discovered that I don't have any, so I chucked that idea.

And then I thought that it might be a good idea to write a column about a topic so controversial that everyone who read the column would get upset. But I decided I didn't want to write a column about Tinky Winky and there went another idea.

I realized that I don't have many columns left to write this semester, so I thought I should come up with something meaningful and something with a purpose. But then I realized that I will be at Marshall for at least two more years and I will probably be able to write another column. So I was still stuck for an idea and inspiration was not calling.

I suppose the problem could be my number isn't in the current phone book. But whatever the cause, I still was at a loss for any topic.

It was becoming painfully obvious that in order to meet my deadline I would have to make something up. But what, I asked myself. If I had written a column ahead of time, then I wouldn't have been in the predicament I was in. But I had not written any columns and at that moment I was beginning to wonder if I would be able to write about anything. Instead of being focused, or what passes for focus when I write my columns, I found my mind wandering in all sorts of directions.

I began to wonder about final exams, the upcoming Thanksgiving break, and then, for some unknown reason, an old country song popped into my head. I started to think that someone was playing mind games with me by preventing me from writing a column. Perhaps someone unhappy with my view on greetings or it could have been an irate Alex Trebek, but something was keeping my mind off of writing a column. I may never know why "It's a Cheatin' Situation" popped into my mind at this point and I'm not certain I want to. The situation was getting desperate and the time was getting short.

I banged my head against the wall hoping for an idea to hit, but I received only a few knots on the head. After my apartment stopped spinning, I sat down and began to write, but nothing was working. I thought about writing about my experiences after completing a semester at Marshall, but then I decided that no one would want to read about that.

Suddenly inspiration struck me like a door smacking someone in the face. As I drank my cup of coffee, I realized how terrific the brew was and I decided that coffee would be my topic. But as I typed feverishly, the power suddenly flicked off. Everything I had written was lost because I had not yet saved my column. And that's pretty much where we are.

I'm really hoping an idea comes before my next deadline because no one wants to read about my thought process twice and I don't want to write about Tinky Winky.

Parthenon

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Herd keeps bell, perfect record

by **AARON E. RUNYON**
reporter

Falling behind 3-0 after a scoreless first quarter may have given the Thundering Herd second thoughts on going undefeated for the 1999 season.

But by going downfield with an aggressive passing attack the Thundering Herd responded to the challenge with five unanswered touchdowns en route to a 34-3 victory over the Bobcats on Friday.

"We played well on both sides of the ball today," said Marshall head coach Bob Pruett. "After the first half we told the guys we needed to throw the ball down the field more."

The advice worked. Marshall senior quarterback Chad Pennington finished 25-of-37 with 378 yards and three touchdown passes, the longest a 71-yard touchdown reception by James Williams.

The numbers made Pennington the third player in NCAA history to record 1,000 career completions behind Louisville quarterback Chris Redman and former Brigham Young quarterback Ty Detmer.

Pennington also moved into fifth place on the NCAA career passing-yards list with 12,869. Pennington's touchdown total of 112 stands at eighth in NCAA history.

"We just went back to the basics," Pennington said. "We threw the ball downfield, moved the pocket around a little bit and played Marshall football."

Those basics proved successful

for the Thundering Herd.

"Offensively we just hung in there and took advantage of their blitzing," Pennington said. "In the second half we were able to catch them in a few things that we didn't catch them in the first half. We just got in sync and put some points on the board to help the defense out."

The Marshall offense gained 500 total yards in the game despite gaining less than 20 yards in the first quarter. The victory, which puts the Herd 11-0 on the season, marks its sixth unbeaten regular season and only the third unbeaten season in the MAC.

Pennington gave credit to the Herd defense.

"Our defense is playing awesome," Pennington said. "We don't like to get scored on first, but that was a great kick. It was a good defensive stop and offensively we just had to get it together. We did a good job of keeping them out of the red zone all day."

Pruett agreed.

"It's hard to go undefeated, I don't care who you are," Pruett said. "They had a good scheme on defense and they did some things that put pressure on us but we hung in there. To hold that team to three points is outstanding."

The Thundering Herd did more than that.

The Bobcats entered the game with one of the nation's top rushing offenses, but were held to 112 yards, with senior line-backer John Grace reaching the 400-tackle mark for his career.



photo by Rick Hays

Marshall senior defensive tackle Giradie Mercer wraps up Ohio University quarterback Joe Sherrill during the Thundering Herd's 34-3 victory last Friday in the "Battle for the Bell." The Thundering Herd finished the season undefeated at 11-0 and faces Western Michigan Friday for the MAC championship.

Marshall senior defensive tackle Giradie Mercer was part of that resilient defensive effort that limited the Bobcats to a 53-yard field goal from Kevin Kerr. That lone score set a Marshall Stadium record.

"We knew we had a lot on the line today," Mercer said. "I

wanted to come in today and leave Marshall the way I came with a perfect season."

In addition to completing the perfect season, the Thundering Herd won its third straight "Battle for the Bell" and its 15th straight game, the most consecutive wins of any team in the nation.

Championship tickets available

Tickets for the Thundering Herd's Mid-American Conference Championship game matchup with the Western Michigan Broncos are available at the Marshall University Ticket office. Students do not receive tickets for free for the title game but they can pick up a reserved seat ticket for \$20. The Thundering Herd and the Broncos face off at 8 p.m. Friday at Marshall Stadium.

Herd sports notebook

Men's basketball defeats UMass 65-55



SLAY

Marshall's men's basketball team won its third game of the season and remained unbeaten with a 65-55 win over the University of Massachusetts Monday night in Amherst, Mass.

Sophomore guard Tamar Slay led the Herd with 24 points on 5-of-7 shooting from behind the three-point line. The win was the second straight for the Thundering Herd over the Minutemen. Marshall defeated UMass in Huntington last season.

Marshall began its season in the Hoopfest tournament in Binghamton, N.Y., with wins over Canisius and Stony Brook.

Women's basketball splits games in first week

The Thundering Herd women's basketball team lost its season opener last Tuesday to Youngstown State 85-74 despite four players scoring in double figures. Marisa Williams led Marshall with 22 points in the loss and Au'Yana Ferguson recorded her first career double-double with 14 points and 10 rebounds.



FERGUSON

The Thundering Herd then got its first win of the season Friday with a 63-50 win over Rider. Marshall was led by Au'Yana Ferguson who scored 18 points and pulled down 16 rebounds. The Thundering Herd opens its home schedule Wednesday at 7 p.m. against Duquesne at Cam Henderson Center.

Marshall places 13 on First Team All-MAC team

After completing an 11-0 regular season, the Thundering Herd placed 13 players on the All-Mid-American Conference first team and five players on the second team. Marshall players on the first team offense are center Jason Starkey, offensive tackle Mike Guilliams, offensive guard Jimmy Cabellos, wide receiver Nate Poole, wide receiver James Williams, quarterback Chad Pennington and running back Doug Chapman.

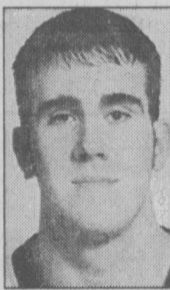
First team defensive selections are outside linebacker John Grace, defensive tackle Giradie Mercer, defensive end Paul Toviessi, strong safety Rogers Beckett, cornerback Daninelle Derricott and cornerback Maurice Hines.

Thundering Herd players selected to the second team defense are outside linebacker Andre O'Neal, inside linebacker Max Yates, nose guard Jimmy Parker, defensive end Ron Puggi and punter Curtis Head.

Marshall (11-0) meets the Western Michigan Broncos (7-4) Friday at 8 p.m. in the MAC Championship game at Marshall University Stadium. The winner of the game has an automatic bid in to the Motor City Bowl Dec. 27 in Pontiac Mich. against an at-large team, which will be announced as early as today and no later than Friday. Possible opponents for the game are Brigham Young University, Utah, Wyoming, Louisiana Tech and Louisville.

Correction

Men's basketball player Sean Wuller's name was misspelled in The Parthenon basketball preview Nov. 18.



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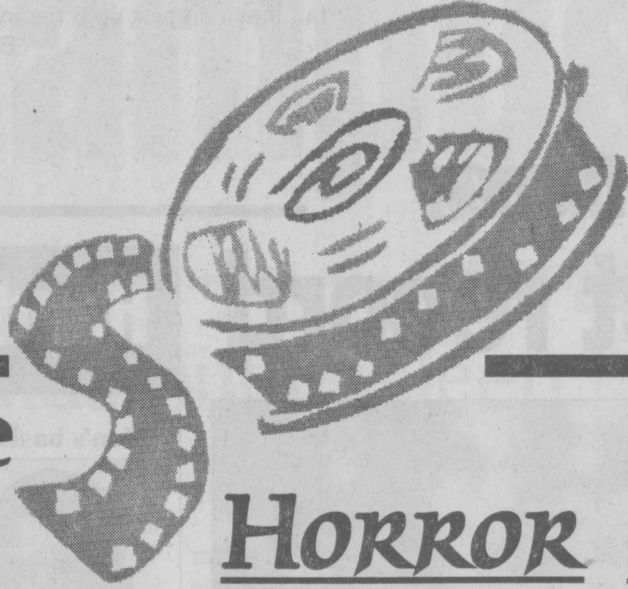
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A new movie has its perks, but often we are let down and can think of at least three other things you could have purchased with \$6.50.

To avoid the problems we at The Parthenon suggest gathering up \$2.50 and rent one of your personal classics or one of ours.

We've joined together to offer you a chance to avoid the problems with new releases and a chance to get to know our tastes.

"There's nothing like locking the doors, turning off the lights and watching John Carpenter's 'Halloween,'" said Butch Barker, The Parthenon managing editor. "When I get too scared, and that movie does scare the hell out of me, I'll put in 'Sixteen Candles.'"

Life! editor Krista Crawford likes flicks that can test her mind and teach her a thing or two.

"Movies like 'JFK' and 'Shindler's List' are movies that can serve more of a purpose than entertainment," Crawford said. "They can change your outlook on history."



Jacob Messer
Editor

I Know What You Did Last Summer, Cujo and Scream.



Happy Gilmore

Shawshank Redemption, American History X, Varsity Blues and Goodfellas.



Butch Barker
Managing editor



Halloween

16 Candles, The Breakfast Club, Airplane! and Mr. Mom.

American History X, Stand By Me, Very Bad Things, Wild Things and Ordinary People.



Andrea Copley
News editor

"I don't watch them. They give me nightmares."

There's Something About Mary and all the Naked Gun movies.



Shawshank Redemption



Krista Crawford
Life! editor



The Exorcist

So I Married an Ax Murderer, Uncle Buck, Ace Ventura and Tommy Boy.

JFK, Amistad, Schindler's List, Boogie Nights and Usual Suspects.



Charles Shumaker
Sports editor

The Shining, The Serpent and the Rainbow and The Prophecy



The Jerk

Glory, Reservoir Dogs, Godfather and Rain Man.



Amy Shultz
Wire editor

The Birds, Psycho and The Candyman.

The Mighty Ducks, Risky Business, When Harry Met Sally and You've Got Mail.



Stand By Me

Happenings...*

TUESDAY, NOV. 30, 1999

Student Government Association, meeting, Memorial Student Center 2W29B, 4 p.m. Contact: 696-6435

Student Activities Programming Board, meeting, Memorial Student Center 2W37, 3:15 p.m. Contact: 696-2290

P.R.O.W.L., meeting, Campus Christian Center, 9:10 p.m. Contact: Rev. Bob Boudurant at 696-3052

Residence Hall Programs, "Mad About You," Holderby Hall, 9:15 p.m. Contact: 696-3193

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 1, 1999

Lambda Society, meeting, Memorial Student Center Alumni Lounge, 9:15 p.m. Contact: Raymie White at 696-6623

Habitat for Humanity, meeting, Campus Christian Center, 1 p.m.

Baptist Campus Ministries, meeting, Campus Christian Center, 9:15 p.m. Contact: Jerry Losh at 696-3053

Residence Hall Programs, "Around the World in Eighty Dishes," Hodges Hall, 9:15 p.m. Contact: 696-3193

Residence Hall Programs, "BYOT" (Bring Your Own Trash), Holderby Hall, 9:15 p.m. Contact: 696-3193

Residence Hall Programs, "This is Your Life," Laidley Hall, 9:30 p.m. Contact: 696-3193

Student Dietetic Association, meeting, Corby Hall 103, 6 p.m.

Advent Communal Reconciliation, Christmas tree decorating, Newman Center, 8 p.m.

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