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**WARMER**

High: 50  
Low: 38

For Friday:  
MOSTLY SUNNY



High: 60 Low: 42

Dec. 2, 1999

# THE Parthenon

www.marshall.edu/parthenon

Volume 101 Number 44

Marshall University's student newspaper — Celebrating 101 years!

Books,  
check  
em out  
page 6



Page edited by Butch Barker

## Student Senate elections voided

by **CARRIE A. SMITH**  
reporter

Because of a miscommunication between the Student Government Association and Marshall's computing services, senate elections were suspended Wednesday and all votes are void.

The elections will resume today at 10 a.m. in the Memorial Student Center.

At 2:30 p.m., SGA president Brandi Jacobs was notified that

poll workers were not able to keep track of who had voted because the ID scanners on campus were not working. They also were not able to obtain a master list of students who are eligible to vote.

"There was no way for us to keep track of who voted," Jacobs said, "and it wasn't fair to the candidates, so I had to make the decision to cancel the elections."

Election rules state that poll workers must have a master list of eligible students as well as an

ID scanner during an election.

Jason Downey, election commissioner, said about 30 students voted Thursday.

"All the ballots had to be thrown out," Downey said, "but we strongly encourage those students who did vote to please come today and vote again."

"This is just one of those rare examples where no one is to blame. It was just a miscommunication."

Jacobs and Downey apologize to the students who did vote

and to the candidates.

"I know this has to be frustrating for the candidates," Downey said, "and we are truly sorry."

Jacobs said the decision was made in the best interest of the students and the candidates.

"We strongly encourage students to come out and vote tomorrow," Jacobs said. "We are very apologetic to everyone involved."

Elections will last until today at 6 p.m. Winners will be announced as soon as the ballots are counted.

## SGA leaders look to next semester

by **CARRIE A. SMITH**  
reporter

The end of the semester means a time of reflection for Student Government Association President Brandi Jacobs and Vice President Rogers Beckett.

While campaigning, Jacobs, Columbus, Ohio, senior, and Beckett, Apopka, Fla., graduate student, developed a 14-point plan of things they wanted to accomplish during their term. The main goal was to provide activities for students to get involved at Marshall and in the community.

"We've accomplished a lot of our goals," Jacobs said, "but there are a lot of things we want to improve for next semester."

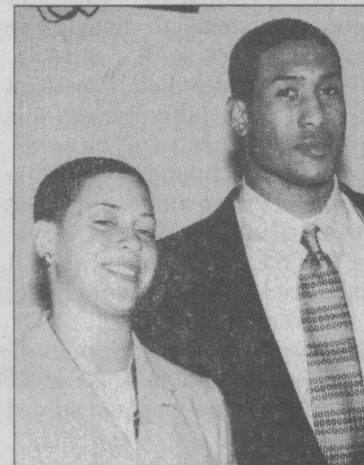
"Our relationship with the senate was fairly successful compared to other terms."

This relationship enabled Jacobs and Beckett to meet many of their goals.

"The call-in radio show on WMUL is a success and the Campus Week of Dialogue was very effective," Jacobs said.

"These are things we would like to see next semester."

Both Jacobs and Beckett expressed disappointment in the lack of student involvement for many of the events



Brandi Jacobs and Rogers Beckett will continue to lead Marshall through the spring semester.

that were planned throughout the semester.

"We really need to try to find a better way to get more students involved," Beckett said.

"We hear people complain all the time that there's nothing to do, but no one really does anything about it."

Jacobs said if there are issues, problems and concerns with the student body, people need to let the SGA know about them.

"Rogers and I have an open door policy, but not many students have taken advantage

Please see **SGA, P3**

### SPECIAL REPORT: BRANCHING OUT

## There's Marshall life beyond Huntington

Graduate college, main campus related, but share few similarities

by **LILLIAN L. WILLIS**  
reporter

**SOUTH CHARLESTON** — They have no problems with parking. In fact, they don't even have parking permits.

They rarely, if ever, attend football games. Some of them don't even know what The Parthenon is. Are these really Marshall University students? Yes.

They are students at Marshall University Graduate College (MUGC), a branch of Marshall in South Charleston. Students at the Huntington campuses may not even know Marshall has other campuses located in Point Pleasant, Teays Valley, Mount Gay and Gilbert.

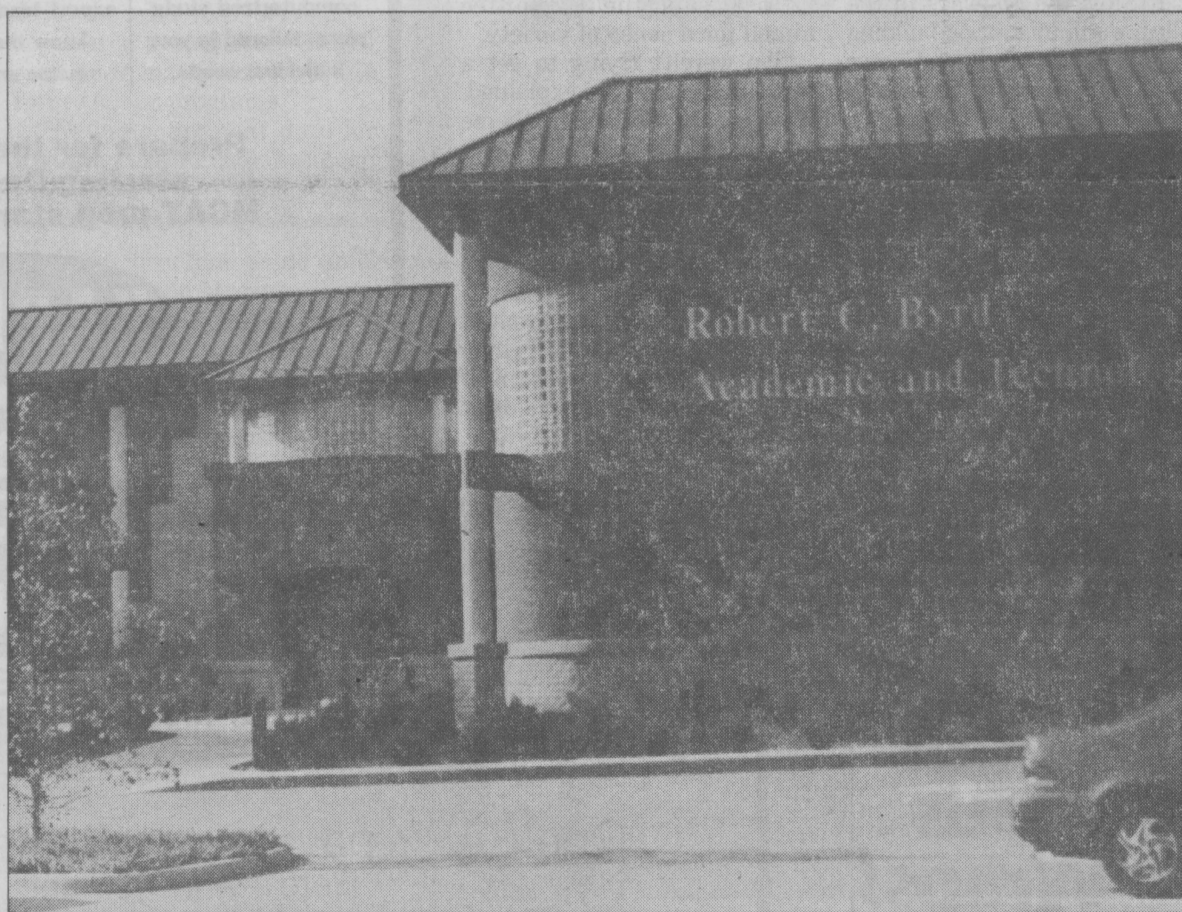
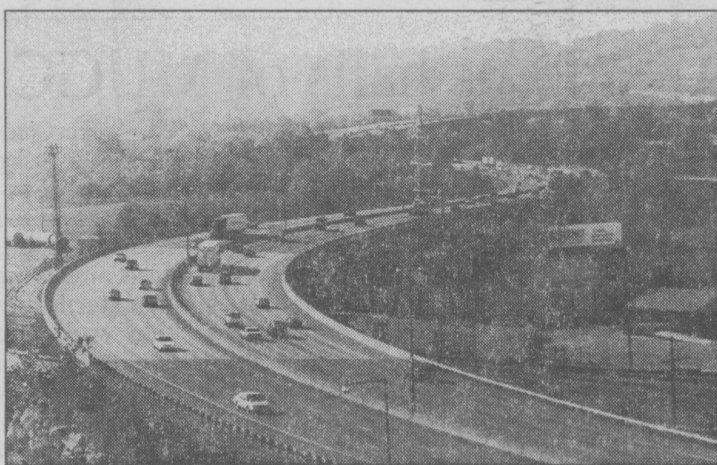
If a "typical" Marshall student from the Huntington campus were to visit the MUGC for a day, he or she would note several differences. To reach the campus, located near a Union Carbide plant, one must travel up a steep, winding hill to the campus secluded on the top.

Now, the term "campus" is used loosely here. There are two buildings that make up the MUGC. One is a classroom building named after Robert C. Byrd, the other is used mainly for administration, with a few classrooms scattered about.

The Byrd building contains the MUGC library. The administration building contains the student bookstore and the "one-stop shopping" area for paying bills, registering for classes and getting transcripts. It's pretty much an admissions office and bursar all rolled into one desk.

Don't expect to find any "student life" on the campus before 4 p.m., which is when classes begin. It's not like the Huntington campus, where there are students milling about on campus or in the

Please see **MGC, P2**



photos by Rebecca Cantley

The Robert C. Byrd Academic and Technology Center in South Charleston is one of two buildings that makes up the Marshall University Graduate College. The branch is one of several throughout the state, but the only one specifically for graduate students.

## Technology helps professors meet goals

by **REBECCA CANTLEY**  
senior writer

**SOUTH CHARLESTON** — Marshall University Graduate College professors have always been modern day circuit riders — instead of spreading the Gospel, however, they deliver higher education to people throughout West Virginia.

Driving to rural parts of the state continues to be a major task for MUGC faculty, but with the development of the Internet and distance learning classrooms, professors are reaching students in new ways. While technology continues to

redefine the responsibilities of faculty members, their mission remains the same — to offer education through MUGC courses and other community service projects to as many people as possible.

With at least one masters level course offered in 36 counties and cities throughout the state during the past year, MUGC's campus in South Charleston is simply home base for about 62 full-time graduate professors. Although MUGC continues to develop courses with WebCT, the software used for Internet classes, courses are still taught on site.

Michael Cunningham, assistant professor of leadership studies, said technology helps professors achieve MUGC's mission of providing educational opportunities throughout the state.

"Our students are adults, and our mission has always been to take education out to where the people are," he said. "The people here really believe in that, and technology helps us do that. We're not using technology for technology's sake. It helps us achieve our number one priority."

While professors are using

Please see **PROFESSORS, P3**

## Multicultural Affairs still searching for Blue's replacement

by **AARON E. RUNYON**  
reporter

Kenneth E. Blue's summer retirement left a void for some students and faculty members.

Now they are looking to the future, as they await the announcement of the new candidate for that position.

Blue, who had served as associate vice president for Multicultural Affairs and Coordinator of the Center for African American Students' Programs since 1993, retired July 30.

"He did so many things for this university," said Frances S. Hensley, assistant vice president for academic affairs. "Ken was highly instrumental in the implementation of many important programs. When you look back it was just incredible."

Blue began his 29-year tenure as a counselor in 1970, and held several positions including director of counseling services, associate dean of student affairs and interim vice president of student Affairs.

As associate dean of student affairs from 1977-1993, Blue implemented the Center for African American Students, the Women's Center, International Students Office, Disabled Student Services, Educational

Support Services, Black Alumni Series and the African American Faculty Forum.

In addition, Blue started the Outstanding Black High School Students' Weekend in 1985.

"The Outstanding Black High School Students' Weekend has been a marvelous program," said Hensley, who was one of

**MORE** eight members who made up the **INSIDE** search committee Our View p4 for replacement candidates.

"Starting that program provided a terrific recruitment effort that allows those students to look at what Marshall has to offer. More importantly, it emphasizes the importance of going to college in general."

Dr. Betty J. Cleckley, vice president for multicultural affairs and international programs, said the program is a highly regarded recruiting tool. "It's exceptionally positive," Cleckley said. "We must aggressively recruit those students. It is important that we strive to recruit all outstanding students."

Blue's charisma and involvement with students made him a valuable mentor to many students, Hensley said.

Please see **BLUE, P3**

### The Parthenon to publish special issue Monday

The Parthenon is planning special coverage of the Friday Mid-American Conference Championship game and the presidential search.

Therefore, the paper will be published for the last time this semester Monday.

## Chancellor says campus meeting likely will turn to president decision

by **EVAN BEVINS**  
reporter

Chancellor Charles Manning said he hopes to have Marshall's new president "signed, sealed and delivered" by the end of Friday's on-campus meeting of the West Virginia University System Board of Trustees.

The meeting is scheduled for

9 a.m. in the Alumni Lounge of the Memorial Student Center.

The presidential search is not on the agenda, but Manning said he predicts the issue will be raised sometime after noon. He said the search will probably be the last item because he does not see the Board getting much done after that is settled.

The meeting was scheduled

in the spring of 1999, before the departure of former president J. Wade Gilley, Manning said. It is a coincidence that the meeting is on campus and could determine the next president of Marshall.

"But a nice coincidence, don't you think?" Manning said.

The Board of Trustees will interview the three remaining

candidates today in South Charleston from 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., followed by a two-hour executive session, Dr. Ben Miller, professor of percussion and assistant band director, said. Miller is Marshall's representative to the Advisory Council of Faculty (ACF) to the Board of Trustees.

The ACF is also scheduled to

meet at 3 p.m. today in MSC 2E10.

Issues on the ACF agenda other than the presidential search include discussion of the first draft of the consultant's report on higher education for the West Virginia Legislature and a progress report on a method for evaluating administrators.



# Group trying to reorganize Graduate Student Council

by RYAN WHEELER  
reporter

**SOUTH CHARLESTON**—Graduate students have the opportunity to step forward and speak out.

The Graduate Student Council (GSC) is looking for students interested in representing the graduate population of Marshall University.

Three graduate students met with advisors Dr. Leonard J. Deutsch, dean of the graduate college, and Dr. Juett R. Cooper, professor of business, Oct. 14 to discuss the future of the council.

The organization has not been in existence for nearly two years, Deutsch said.

"[Former Marshall President J. Wade Gilley] didn't deem this a viable organization," he said.

But Deutsch said the GSC is a worthy group and can do a lot for Marshall.

"When the GSC was viable, it convinced faculty it could make a difference," he said.

Communications graduate Jennifer Yosafat, of Cincinnati, attended the meeting and agreed with Deutsch.

"This gives graduate students a



A student walks into the modern lobby of the Robert C. Byrd Academic and Technology Center.

voice. The longer standing it is, the more power it will have. We just want to get it off the ground for now," she said.

The GSC has so much it can do, Yosafat said.

For instance, the Academic Planning Committee, which decides and plans future curriculums for the university, has a slot for a graduate student to serve on the committee. Yosafat said the spot has been vacant

for three years.

"That is amazing to me," Yosafat said. "This group decides the future of our university and we don't have anyone on it. The GSC can fill that spot."

Yosafat said the GSC is hoping to organize this semester, elect officers and be officially recognized next semester.

More information is available by calling the graduate school at 696-6606.

# Bridging the gap

## Graduate school campuses learn to communicate well

by RYAN WHEELER  
reporter

**SOUTH CHARLESTON**—Communication — one word that involves so much. The sender, receiver, channels — the whole loop.

With schools in Huntington and South Charleston, as well as a program in Cross Lanes, the graduate school is finding out about communication.

"Over the last several years it has gone smoothly," Bob Forget, associate professor in the division of accountancy and legal environment in the Lewis College of Business, said.

"I don't think we're out of the loop," the two-campus professor said.

Technology is playing a big part in communication between campuses. Professors from either campus attend the same meetings via video conference.

In addition, e-mail, voice mail and four-digit phone numbers are keeping the groups in touch.

While professors seem to

agree that communication is good, some students are having a hard time.

"I've never received an official grade from Marshall," Chris Cornelius, Huntington graduate student, said. "I've never been shown where the registrar's office is. I have no ID."

Cornelius attends Saturday classes in Cross Lanes as a part of the Executive Masters of Business Administration (EMBA) program.

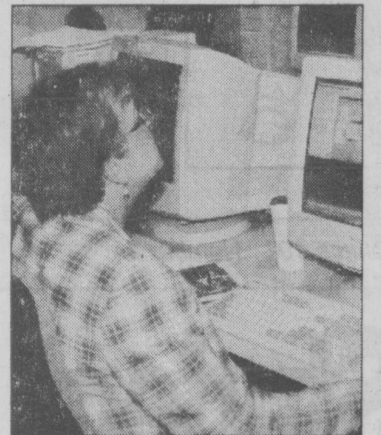
"Overall, I like the program. I just wish it was here on campus," he said.

Dr. Leonard J. Deutsch, dean of the graduate college, said the communication has been good. It is closer to being truly one university, he said.

People like Andrew Kinsey, who attended the graduate school last year, do not necessarily agree.

"The faculty was great. The hardest part was getting room receipts," Kinsey said.

Cornelius said although every student does have a



A graduate student works on a computer in a South Charleston computer lab.

school e-mail account, it is hard to receive information about classes.

All graduates are encouraged by the ID office to come to the Huntington campus and receive their school identification cards. They also have the option of sending a picture to the ID office and having a card mailed to them.

The computer center also has webmail. Students can view their e-mail accounts from any computer with Internet access using <http://webmail.marshall.edu>.

## Professors

From page 1

the Internet to reach students who otherwise may not have access to MUGC courses, they are adapting to a new style of teaching that, Cunningham says, can be more time consuming.

"In an Internet course, everybody in class participates in writing," he said. "I can talk much faster than I can write, but it's my job to respond in writing to each of those students, and that takes more time. This is something new, and we're working out all the kinks. Our first priority is to maintain educational quality for students and then deal with these faculty issues."

Many MUGC faculty are working to develop WebCT courses. Bob Rubenstein, professor of counseling, said about seven counseling courses are offered through WebCT, and he is building two more for the spring semester.

Rubenstein and Cunningham have both traveled to other universities, such as Ohio State University, to give presentations about WebCT. MUGC faculty and administration also are planning a WebCT conference for April 3 at the graduate college.

Even with the development of Internet courses, Rubenstein, a father of four, said many MUGC faculty travel once or twice weekly. Because courses are taught in the evenings, Rubenstein's children sometimes travel with him. Classes taught on-line meet also in person several times each semester.

Besides adapting to advances in technology, MUGC professors continue to face obstacles providing education across a wide geographical area.

Betsy Dulin, associate dean of the College of Information Technology and Engineering and

associate professor, said bad weather is often an issue for professors who travel.

Traveling also requires them to be more organized, she said.

"If you go off and leave something you need for class, you can't just run down the hall and get it," she said laughing.

Another issue for MUGC professors is providing community service. Many use their skills to offer training for businesses, schools and governmental organizations. Dulin is a member of the State Environmental Quality Board, the Legislative Council to Research Surface Mining and served on the Governor's Task Force on Mountaintop Removal.

"Community service is expected of us," she said. "We all need to stay involved with that part of our lives. If we didn't stay involved, we would not have as much to offer our students."

Dr. Joyce East, program director for humanities, said graduate professors face a special challenge teaching students who are usually adult professionals. She said MUGC faculty try to encourage students to learn from one another.

"Most faculty see themselves as graduate education facilitators as opposed to simply delivering a body of education," she said.

## Art adorns halls of MUGC

by SHAWN RATCLIFF  
reporter

Marshall's Huntington students who think the use of wall space in the halls is limited to credit card ads, campus announcements and the occasional piece of pre-chewed gum may be surprised to visit the Graduate College in Charleston.

The MUGC Art Collection, composed of more than 60 works of art, fills the hallways in the college's administration building and the Robert C. Byrd Center for Academics and Technology.

Curator Callen McJunkin said the collection took several years to assemble and spans a variety of media, including photographs, oil and watercolor paintings, wrought iron sculptures, wood carvings, pastel drawings and quilting.

All but one piece in the collection are by state artists, she said.

The art collection committee bought each piece from the individual artists, often at special discounts. Most of them cost less than \$3,000 and some were donated in "a great deal of generosity by the artists," she said.

Dr. Dennis Prisk, professor of leadership studies and chair-

man of the MUGC Art Committee, said the pieces were gathered for three reasons.

First, the planners wanted to provide a sense of humanity in the workplace, a place he described as "often sterile and dull." Second, they wanted to offer a space where people can experience art. Third, they wanted to showcase the "outstanding work and talent of West Virginia artists."

Prisk said the committee aimed for a sense of variety.

"We weren't trying to get a corporate image," he explained, referring to the single-theme art collections used in many companies. "I gave Callen and the committee a blank piece of paper to work with."

A catalog with photographs of each artwork and passages from the artists was created as a companion to the collection. Visitors may obtain a map at the receptionist's desk to go on a self-guided tour, McJunkin said.

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## MUGC

■ From page 1

Memorial Student Center at all hours.

There is a student lounge in the Byrd building. It is a room with three tables, vending machines and a phone for students to make on-campus phone calls. However, the MUGC students do not have as much of a need for a place to socialize as the Huntington students. Most MUGC students leave immediately after classes.

The average MUGC student is about 38 years old, said Rudy D. Pauley, assistant professor of secondary education. Ninety-nine percent of the students are employed full time and the majority are female, he said. Many students he advises have had to take time off from work to meet with him, he said.

These students do not usually

skip classes because they have had "a good time" the night before, Pauley said. Usually absenteeism, which is rather low, results from sick children or other situations, he said.

"At this level, recognizing who our students are, we deal with that — it's not like they're just skipping class," he said.

Lisa L. Copeland, Charleston graduate student majoring in education, is a non-traditional student as far as the MUGC is concerned. She attended Ohio University for her undergraduate work, and is an MUGC Graduate Assistant. She files, runs copies and does other jobs for professors.

"A lot of people have been out in the field and go from work to class," she said. "I went straight from undergrad to here."

"It's definitely different from being on a campus. Here it's kind of secluded, and not being on an actual campus, you forget you're part of Marshall. My

uncle constantly reminds me, though. He's a Marshall grad."

Charessa D. Wilkinson, from Cross Lanes, is a teacher's assistant in the department of communications. She attended West Virginia State College for her undergraduate work, and now teaches two sections of CMM 103 in Huntington while taking classes on both campuses.

"I haven't been (at Marshall) that long," Wilkinson said. "It's hard to get an identity because it is so much larger than State. There is more 'community' in Huntington than in South Charleston, though."

"I have two classes in South Charleston and one (in Huntington). It's convenient to go to South Charleston since I live in Cross Lanes, but next semester I have to have all my classes (in Huntington)."

Once inside the classes, the differences do not end.

Satellite classes are offered at both campuses. The faculty members can teach the classes at one campus, while the lecture is transmitted to the other via satellite.

"In the satellite classes, it is hard to ask questions," Wilkinson said. "It's been easier lately because the faculty have been coming (to MUGC) to teach."

She said most of the same people are in all of her classes, no matter the campus.

"I feel like I'm always here (in Huntington) because I see my professors here at school, and then see them on the screen while in South Charleston," she said.

Copeland had preconceptions of what her graduate classes would be like.

"It's not like people come straight from work in business attire," she said. "People make an effort to get home and change clothes first. It's pretty laid back."

"At first I was worried about being the youngest in my classes, but I love to just sit and take everything in from the others who have had experience."

Although they pay the student fees, the graduate students may not take advantage of the benefits, such as football tickets.

"I don't go to the football games, even though I know I can," Copeland said. "I do plan on going to the Ohio University game, though."

Football is a source of conflict in Wilkinson's CMM 103 classes. "I'm going to get in trouble with my students for this one," she said. "We aren't allowed to talk about football in my classes anymore. I am a WVU fan and have season tickets."

## Campus Crusade to present 'A Christmas Carol' with a twist

by LILLIAN L. WILLIS  
reporter

Santa Claus is hanging from the balcony of the Memorial Student Center with his pants slightly drooping.

In the cafeteria and on bulletin boards, a vintage-style flyer exclaims "Holly Jolly Daddy-o."

Those are both advertisements for "A Cracked-up Christmas Carol," presented at 9:11 p.m. today at Marco's, in the basement of the MSC.

The program is presented by Campus Crusade for Christ, an inter-denominational Christian movement. Usually the group has its weekly meeting, Prime Time, on Thursdays at that time, but the "Cracked-up Christmas Carol" will be taking its place this week.

"This will be a cross between 'A Christmas Carol' and Saturday Night Live," said Britton T. Sharp, Campus Crusade for Christ staff member. "At the same time, it will be accurately explaining the true meaning of Christmas."

The evening will include skits, door prizes and music, he said,

as well as a talk given by Chris Lipp, Marshall's campus director for Campus Crusade for Christ.

"This is the last Prime Time of the semester...of the millennium. We wanted to go out with a bang before Y2K hits," joked Sharp.

"I'm planning on going," Shawn Grove, counseling major from Sissonville, said. "I usually go to Prime Time, and I think this one will be really fun."

"We want to create an environment where students can have fun, celebrate Christmas and learn more about a personal relationship with God," Sharp said.

While at the program, students also will be given information on a conference Campus Crusade will have during Christmas break in Charlotte, N. C., he said.

"Marshall is in what's called the 'Mid-South region.' There will be over 1500 college students (there) from southern West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina. There will be nationally known speakers there."

More information is available by calling Joey Tackett at 525-5639.

## Blue

■ From page 1

"Ken had a lot of wonderful qualities that made him extremely effective," Hensley said. "His leadership skills, compassion and openness to new ideas gave him a great relationship with students and faculty. You would be hard pressed to find anyone on campus that did not like Kenneth Blue."

Kim Wynes, program assistant for the Center for African American Students, worked under Blue during his tenure.

"His determination and focus on helping students left a strong impression on me," she said. "He had a strong desire to get the best out of those he came in contact with."

Adam Martin, a senior social work major from Roanoke, Va., was one of those students.

"He was a father figure to me," said Martin, who served as a student assistant under Blue for three years. "He went far and beyond as an educator and administrator. It was a joy working with him and he will be truly missed by myself, as well as other students."

Fran L. Jackson, interim coordinator for the Center for African American Students, said Blue's

resourceful mentoring aided her in taking over the responsibilities after his retirement.

"I miss his insight," Jackson said. "He was a great, well-rounded individual who was prophetic in his understanding of the system."

A search committee consisting of eight student, faculty and staff members began the search to fill Blue's position after his retirement. The committee met with three candidates that visited Marshall in late September and early October, Hensley said.

From those candidates the committee made a referral to Cleckley. She will make a recommendation to the new Marshall president, who will extend an offer to that candidate.

"We have met with some fine candidates for replacing his position," Hensley said. "I am definitely looking forward to working with the new associate vice president."

Jackson agreed. "The candidates we interviewed displayed various areas of expertise," said Jackson, who also served on the search committee. "What I saw made me optimistic of the future of our programs."

The announcement date for the new director has not been given.

## SGA

■ From page 1

of it," Jacobs said.

Jacobs also said she plans to solicit surveys next semester to find out what issues are important to the student body.

Some of the activities planned for the spring are more Campus Week of Dialogue events, forums for individual colleges, and another Tri-State Youth Field Day.

"We'd also like to do something in the spring like a Homecoming during basketball season with a Spring King and Queen or nominate a professor of the year," Beckett said.

"I'd also like to see something during the spring like the MTV event," Beckett said, "or maybe a spring concert or festival."

Jacobs said any student with ideas for activities or ideas on how students can get involved may contact her at 696-6436.

### Special Ski Program Announced For Marshall University Students, Faculty and Staff.

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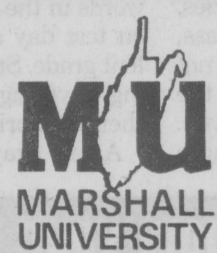
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**"Most faculty see themselves as graduate education facilitators as opposed to simply delivering a body of education."**

—Dr. Joyce East, program director for humanities at the Marshall University Graduate College in South Charleston

## OUR VIEW

# Finding Blue's replacement will be difficult

Replacing someone who devoted 29 years of his life to his job and his university is not an easy task.

That is why a search committee took its time and put careful consideration into finding a replacement for Kenneth E. Blue, who served as associate vice president for Multicultural Affairs and coordinator of the Center for African American Students' Programs since 1993.

The committee met with three candidates who visited campus in late September and early October. The committee then made a referral from those candidates to Dr. Betty J. Cleckley, vice president for Multicultural Affairs and International Programs.

Cleckley will make a recommendation to the new university president, who then will extend an offer for that candidate to fill the position vacated by Blue, who retired July 30.

We hope that candidate has the same qualities and capabilities of Blue. Anything less would be a disgrace to Blue's legacy and a disservice to Marshall's students.

In what may be the understatement of the year, Frances S. Hensley, assistant vice president for academic affairs, said, "He did so many things for this university."

Blue was the director of counseling services, associate dean of student affairs and interim vice president of student affairs at Marshall.

Among his accomplishments, Blue implemented the Center for African American Students, the Women's Center, International Students Office, Disabled Student Services, Educational Support Services, Black Alumni Series and the African American Faculty Forum.

Those organizations benefit minority groups whose concerns and otherwise may have been overlooked on campus. Those groups provided those minorities with offices to go to and mentors to talk to, services that could help them in their academic, athletic and social lives.

Blue also started the Outstanding Black High School Students' Weekend. That program has been extremely beneficial to the university in its attempt to recruit African Americans to come to school here.

More important than his accomplishments may have been Blue himself.

Although he was very busy, Blue always found time for students. That is invaluable to young adults.

Having a role model who values education in life and yields influence on campus is important to any student, whether they are white or black, male or female, young or old. That is what Blue, described by some as a "father figure," offered to students.

The person who fills his void has to do the same. Plus, the new associate vice president for Multicultural Affairs and International Programs and coordinator of the Center for African American Students must excel as both an educator and an administrator.

That is what it will take to replace Blue.



## HIS VIEW

# Returning to childhood can solve everything

Lately it has been hard for me to smile or eat. My girlfriend of about 11 months — a kind, beautiful, intelligent and personable young lady (Can you tell I want her back?) — broke up with me during Thanksgiving Break. Needless to say, my heart was broken and my vacation was ruined. I shed quite a few tears — and quite a few pounds — during that time.

Tuesday, however, I was able to eat a meal for the first time in several days. And, more importantly, I was able to smile for the first time since she broke up with me.

During a late night conversation with my roommate and best friend, The Parthenon managing editor Butch Barker, I discovered the key to solving all of life's problems — returning to your childhood.

It truly is that easy. At least it is for me. Those were the greatest days of my life. I did not have to worry about final exams and research papers. I did not have to spend more than 12 hours a day publishing a student newspaper. I did not have to worry about impressing anyone.

And there was nothing that could not be fixed by my father's hug or my mother's kiss. Everything was so simple then. Remember riding bikes and having army battles with your friends? I do.

What about the endless hours devoted to beating Super Mario Brothers, the Legend of Zelda and other Nintendo classics? Sore thumbs and tired eyes were worth the feeling you got when you had finally conquered the game of choice. I can still remember the code to get 30 extra men on Contra.

Better yet was using your action figures to re-enact monumental battles between He-Man and Skeletor, G.I. Joe and Cobra, Luke Skywalker and Darth Vader, and, of course, Big John Studd and Andre the Giant.

And forget about watching my weight to impress the opposite sex. My daily lunches consisted of chocolate milk, candy bars, potato chips and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. And dinnertime always included my mom's homemade and extra-cheesy macaroni and cheese.

The ultimate childhood experience? Easy. It has to be faking your parents out and getting to stay home from school. I was the master — or perhaps my mom was just extra nice.

Either way, many of my days in elementary, junior high and high schools were spent lying on my bed watching gameshows with my covers pulled up to my chin and an ice cold drink and snack food on my nightstand.

Some people say college is the greatest time of your life. They are wrong. Your childhood is.

So until my former girlfriend gets back together with me, I will be at my apartment eating Reese Cups, drinking Nestle Quik, reading Pro Wrestling Illustrated, playing Tecmo Bowl and watching Looney Tunes.

## CAMPUS VIEW

### Professor offers his version of academic calendar

This letter is in response to the Nov. 16 front-page news story and Opinion page editorial regarding fall break.

When this debate surfaced two years ago, I submitted a proposal for a new academic calendar to the university's calendar committee.

I never received a response, so I will repeat it here in hopes of generating interest among students, faculty and administrators.

My proposal:  
Fall semester would begin the Tuesday after Labor Day and conclude the second Friday in December, followed by exam week. There would be no class the week of Thanksgiving.

Spring semester would begin the Tuesday after Martin Luther King Day and end the last

Friday in April, followed by exam week. Spring break would be the second or third week in March.

Under this plan, each semester would be 13 weeks instead of the current 15. The class meeting time lost could be compensated for by having longer class sessions:

Monday-Wednesday-Friday classes would be 60 minutes instead of 50, and Tuesday-Thursday classes would be 90 minutes instead of 75.

MWF classes would be scheduled 8-9 a.m., 9:15-10:15 a.m., 10:30-11:30 a.m., etc. TR classes would be 8-9:30 a.m., 9:45 to 11:15 a.m., 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., etc. Classes that meet one night per week would be scheduled from 6-8:45 p.m. (instead of 6:30-9 p.m.).

This schedule has a number of advantages to students and faculty.

First, the semesters would be nearly identical; each would begin the day following a federal holiday and include a one-week break two-thirds to three-quarters

of the way through.

Second, students sometimes complain that they need a break before Thanksgiving (such as the two-day break previously provided in October), but this need could be reduced with a post-Labor Day start, as it would reduce the number of weeks prior to Thanksgiving week from 13 to 11.

Third, by increasing the time between MWF classes from 10 minutes to 15, students with back-to-back classes in opposite corners of the campus would have more time to get from one to the next.

— Dr. Randy Bobbitt,  
W. Page Pitt School of Journalism  
and Mass Communications  
associate professor

Letters sent to Campus View must not exceed 250 words. Opinion pieces longer than 250 words may be used as guest columns and published elsewhere on this page.

## OFF CAMPUS VIEW

# Curving courses not the answer

by MICHELLE MASSIE  
Daily Collegian  
Pennsylvania State University

**(U-WIRE) UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa.** — Imagine doing your best work for a class, studying hard day and night, and getting a D for your effort.

This is a harsh reality for many students, particularly in classes of 200 or more people, where the class average is a C or below. In these classes, teachers are not able to adequately assess every student's performance based on effort or attendance.

This also comes as a shock for many freshmen, who are used to smaller classes where the teachers pretend to care about their personal concerns, give them extensions on their projects because it's the weekend of the prom, and those who come to class every day and do their work are rewarded with an A.

This situation is atypical at most large colleges or universities. You can come to every class, study every single night, still not understand the material and the teacher will not hesitate to fail you. Then there are classes where

the attendance jumps from about 100 students during the semester to 350 during midterms or final exam time, and most of the people who didn't go to class simply read the book and get an A or B.

Whether you are the flunking perseverant student or the successful slacker, there is something wrong with both of these situations: The students are being cheated out of their educations.

For those who actually do learn something, they are punished for marking the answer that does not best suit the professor's interpretation of a particular concept. A professor might give a test on Chapters 1 to 25. If students spend all night studying the chapters and know the major concepts well, they still risk failing the exam if the material they studied is not "important" enough for the professor to put on the test.

Students who don't go to class, buy or copy the notes from someone else and memorize the bolded words in the textbook can walk in on test day and receive an excellent grade. Still, they are not learning anything but how to sharpen their memorization techniques.

A fair way to assess student

performance in large classes is needed, and the curving of grades is not the answer.

If every student in the class is failing, there is obviously a reason. Why give us a test on which professors expect us to do poorly? Instead of administering an exam very few people will do well on, why not test on what was taught and define for students what is important in the test?

The blame does not fall entirely on the format of the test; often it is the material presentation or the material itself that is difficult for most students to understand.

The result is hard-working students who receive bad grades must decide whether to withdraw from the class or hold their breath to see if the grading curve can redeem them. The grade-curving system may provide some relief to students, but it does not directly address the problem of mass failures in large classrooms.

Students expect to be given work that is challenging, but we also expect to be rewarded for learning. Otherwise, "higher education" loses its value and we try to live up to the expectations of the professors instead of ourselves.

## Let readers know your view. Contact us...

<b>BY MAIL</b>	<b>BY FAX</b>	<b>BY PHONE</b>	<b>BY E-MAIL</b>
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Please keep letters to the editor no longer than 250 words. Longer letters may be used as guest columns at the editor's discretion. All letters must be signed and include an address or phone number for confirmation. Letters may be edited for libelous statements, available space or factual errors.

## Parthenon

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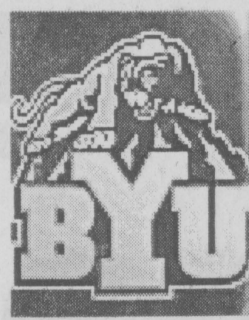
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## Motor City offers BYU bid

The Motor City Bowl extended its at-large invitation for the Dec. 27 bowl game to the Brigham Young University Cougars. The Cougars won the Mountain West Conference this season with an 8-3 record. BYU finished the season in a three-way tie with Colorado State University and the University of Utah but was awarded the league title through a tie-breaker. The Cougars will face the winner of Friday's Mid-American Championship game between Marshall and Western Michigan.

# Herd cannot overcome poor shooting, falls 57-47 at home

by HOMER DAWSON  
reporter

*"We have to learn from tonight — both the good and bad."*

**Toni Patillo,**  
Marshall guard

With cool temperatures outside Cam Henderson Center, the Thundering Herd followed suit with cold shooting in its game against the Duquesne Dukes Wednesday night.

After falling to the Dukes 57-47, the Thundering Herd drops to 1-2 on the season.

Both teams came out slowly with only six points scored in the game's first five minutes.

The Dukes led for the first 12 minutes, until Marshall evened the score at 13 following 3-pointers from guards Toni Patillo and Brandy Robertson.

The Dukes, led by Tionda Jennings' 10 points, took a 27-

20 lead into halftime. The difference in the first half was the teams' field goal percentages. Marshall shot 23 percent to the Dukes' 57 percent in the first half.

Duquesne stretched the lead to 10 early in the half, when the Thundering Herd made its first run. But after closing the gap to five, Duquesne's Oxano Shetko hit her third 3-point shot of the game to stop the Thundering Herd's rally.

Duquesne continued to stretch its lead throughout the second half, and at one point led 45-27 until Patillo hit three consecutive 3-pointers to bring the Thundering Herd within nine.

It would get no closer, though. Duquesne's defense proved to be too much for Marshall

as the Thundering Herd was out rebounded 41-39 and finished the game shooting 22 percent from the field and 65 percent from the free throw line. The Dukes also recorded 11 blocks to the Thundering Herd's one.

Even with the loss, Patillo was still upbeat after the game. "We gave all we had, but just came up short in the end," Patillo said.

Patillo, who played a team-high 38 minutes led the Thundering Herd with eight rebounds. She was the only Herd player who scored in double figures with 23.

Au'Yana Ferguson, who came into the game averaging 16 points and a Mid-American Conference-best 13 rebounds

per game, finished with only four and seven respectively.

The Dukes had four players score in double figures, led by Shetko's 16.

Patillo is confident in her team's chances this weekend.

"We have to learn from tonight — both the good and bad," Patillo said. "The tournament is winnable if we keep our head about us."

Patillo leads the team in scoring for the season averaging 13.3 points per game.

The Thundering Herd had a season-low 16 turnovers and forced 20 turnovers from the 2-2 Dukes, but was unable to take advantage.

Marshall, coming off a 63-50 win over Rider Nov. 26 travels to North Carolina this weekend for the Davidson Tournament. Marshall faces Boston University in Saturday's game and then will face either Davidson or Stony Brook Sunday.

The Thundering Herd returns to Cam Henderson Center Dec. 17 to face West Virginia Tech.

# Beckett hopes Broncos air it out in rematch

HUNTINGTON (AP) — Rogers Beckett hated missing out on all the fun.

When Marshall and Western Michigan played last month for the battle of supremacy in the Mid-American Conference, the Thundering Herd free safety sat out the game with a concussion.

Now, he wants to prove that Marshall's defense is better with him in the lineup.

"I'm giving it my best shot Friday night, no doubt about it," Beckett said. "I really wanted to play the last time we played these guys, so now I'll have to show them what they missed."

Western Michigan (7-4) meets No. 11 Marshall (11-0) for the MAC championship in Huntington. Marshall won the earlier meeting in Kalamazoo, Mich., 31-17.

"When Rogers is in there, the quarterback's mind gets messed

up," said Marshall linebacker John Grace. "He brings plenty of tenacity and big hits and he's always in the right place at the right time."

Beckett believes he might know what the Broncos have in store for the nation's top defense.

"The game is like a rematch in boxing in that the person who loses the first fight always comes out swinging in the first few rounds of the rematch," Beckett said.

"They'll probably throw the ball a lot against us and maybe try some trick plays also. I watched the film from the last game and they tried some trick plays early in the game."

If Western Michigan wants to throw the ball, that's fine with Beckett, who leads a group of defensive backs with 22 interceptions, tops in the conference.

"Being that I didn't have a chance last time, I may have to show them they need to relax on the passing by intercepting a pass or two," Beckett said.

Friday's winner will head to the Motor City Bowl on Dec. 27 in Pontiac, Mich.



BECKETT



PATILLO

## briefly...

Marshall head football coach Bob Pruett has been named 1999 GTE Regional GTE Coach of the Year for Region III. Pruett has led the Thundering Herd to an 11-0 record this season and



PRUETT

has a 48-4 career record at Marshall. Pruett also is eligible for the GTE National Coach of the Year award, which also awards a \$10,000 academic scholarship for the school's athletic department and student-athletes.

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# Life!

## King gets personal

by BEN GOLDSTEIN  
Michigan Daily  
University of Michigan

On the surface, Stephen King's new novel "Hearts in Atlantis" is an ambitious Vietnam epic with elements of fantasy, spanning forty years and the lives of four major characters. Underneath the plot devices, however, lies a deeper, intensely personal statement about tarnished ideals and the naivete of youth.

"Hearts in Atlantis" is divided into five interconnected parts. The first, "Low Men in Yellow Coats," takes place in 1960 and introduces us to eleven-year-old Bobby Garfield, who lives alone with his hateful, penny-pinching mother. It is summer, and Bobby is content to just hang around with his two best friends, John Sullivan and Carol Gerber, until a man named Ted moves into his apartment building. Bobby and Ted develop a friendship, and Ted reveals an entirely separate world to Bobby, one in which evil beings from another dimension hunt him relentlessly.

In the second part, entitled "Hearts in Atlantis," it is 1966 and we are taken to the University of Maine during the beginnings of the anti-war movement. In the third floor of Chamberlain residence hall, an epidemic of card playing has rendered Peter Riley unable to do anything besides bet on Hearts for a nickel a point. Neglecting his work, he is in danger of failing out of school. This is especially serious considering that with the draft in full force, young men who fail out of school are being shipped to war.

However, because of interactions with Carol Gerber, now a University of Maine student, and a crippled anti-war activist named Stokely Jones III, Peter realizes where his priorities should truly lie.

In "Blind Willie," set in 1983, a Vietnam-vet named Willie Shearman, who as a teenager stole Bobby's baseball glove and helped his friend beat Carol with a baseball bat, pays a bizarre form of penance to make up for the horrible things he's done in his life.

"Why We're in Vietnam" follows John Sullivan, another Vietnam vet, as he attends his friend's funeral in 1999. "When someone dies, you think about the past," he muses, and "Sully-John" thinks back on the horrors of the war and the vision of an old woman who has been haunting him ever since he got back from "the green."

The final section, "Heavenly Shades of Night are Falling," sees Bobby Garfield returning to his hometown for Sullivan's funeral. He miraculously finds Carol, whom he thought was dead, and is awestruck by the mystery of his baseball glove: It is on Sully's hand when he is found in his car, victim of a heart attack, and the glove contains a shocking message from Ted on a crumpled piece of paper inside of it.

Instead of being grouped into his more well tread genres of horror and fantasy, "Hearts in Atlantis" bears a closer resemblance to "Different Seasons," King's collection of non-horror

novellas and a representation of his finest work.

The interweaving and recurrence of Bobby, Sully-John and Carol works wonderfully. It is incredible to see the eleven-year-old characters in 1960 growing up through the course of this book, going to school, protesting, fighting and dying. By the end, the reader cares about each one deeply and is heartbroken at their losses.

Of course, no novel is perfect, and "Hearts in Atlantis" contains several scenes that could have been eliminated.

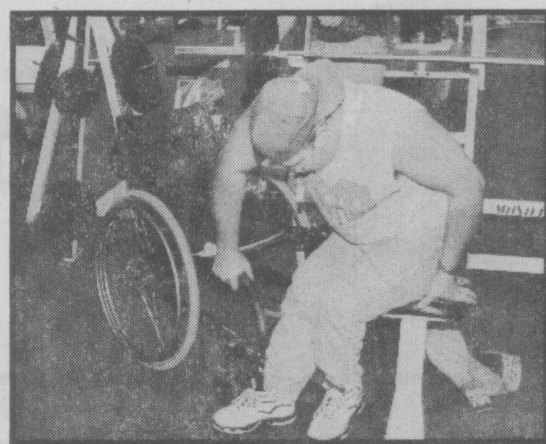
But seen as a whole, "Hearts in Atlantis" is a brilliant, courageous exploration of the effect of a chaotic time period on the lives of those who survived it. It is one of those books that you look back on after reading and feel something. "Hearts in Atlantis" is easily Stephen King's best work of the '90s, and it represents the next step in his career towards the more personal and the more poignant.



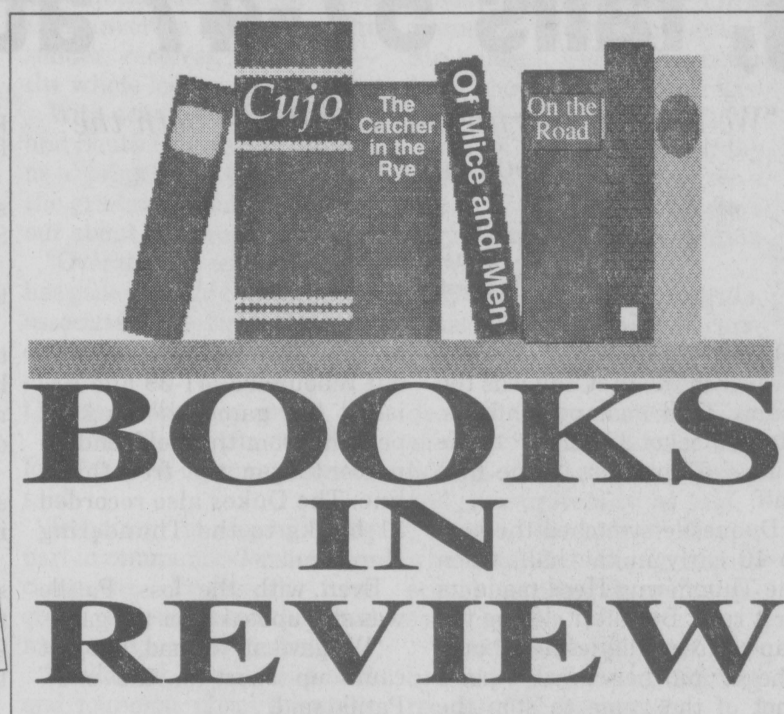
## Without limits

From softball to weight lifting, Chad Beam does not take life sitting down. Follow Beam through a day in his life on campus.

Soon in Life!



Thursday, Dec. 2, 1999  
Page edited by Krista Crawford 6



## BOOKS IN REVIEW

### 'Tis' not as good as the first novel

by JOSEPH S. PETE  
Indiana Daily Student  
Indiana University

The final chapter of Frank McCourt's literary debut consists of a single word.

The author, at that point 19, is standing on the deck of a ship bringing him to America after years of abject suffering and grinding poverty in Ireland. Standing beside him, the ship's officer asks him, "Now isn't this a great country altogether?" Somewhat abstractly, caught up in the excitement attending the impending realization of his life-long, sustaining dream, he replies, "Tis."

The eagerly anticipated second volume of his memoirs, which picks up the thread of the story exactly where "Angela's Ashes" left off, takes that word as its title, and shows over the next 30 years of young Frank's life.

The novel continues from "Angela's Ashes" with a half-starved lad with rotten teeth and infected eyes scrounging the docks of Limerick on Christmas Day for a few lumps of coal so that his mother can finish cook-

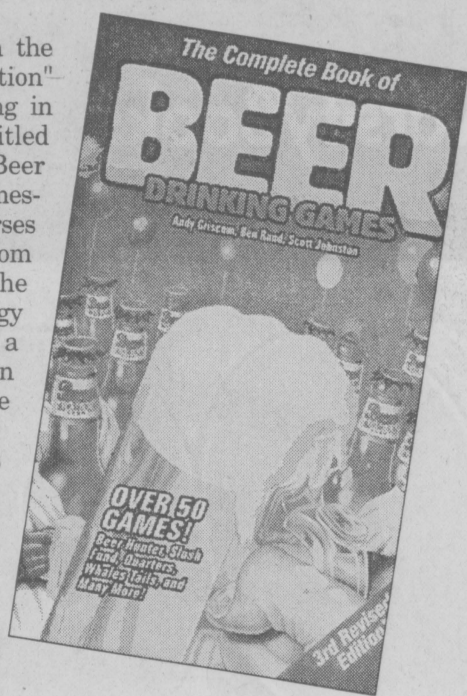
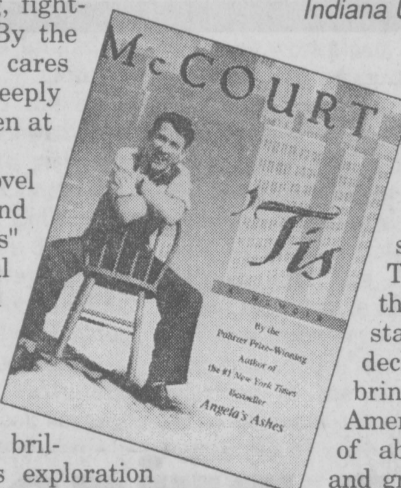
ing a half-boiled pig's head. And all this with the knowledge that he is going to go on to write about such incidents with acceptance.

After being helped to his feet by a troubled and perhaps too passionate priest, he takes his first shower in a New York hotel and, not knowing any better, uses the floor mat as a towel. Lonely and alienated by his appearance, ignorance of American customs and slang and thick Irish brogue, he proceeds through a series of menial jobs for pittance prior to his service for the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

Detractors have criticized "Tis" for being directionless as a result of its scope and comprehensiveness. However, with "Angela's Ashes" it is important to remember that everyone's childhood had the same basic plot — one of survival and escape. In adulthood, no such pattern presents itself.

In comparison "Tis" does have one major flaw. The incidents of his life are not always documented with the same exhaustive detail and photographic immediacy, particularly those relating to his doomed marriage and fatherhood. However, with all of his brutal honesty, one can hardly fault him for some self-censorship on touchy subjects.

Though arguably not the equal of "Angela's Ashes" in some respects, "Tis" retains all of its poignancy an lyricism.



## Graduates use degrees to write beer drinking book

by BARBARA MCGUIRE  
Daily Bruin  
UCLA

When there's beer at a college party, drinking games are sure to be around the corner. It's no surprise that three college graduates decided to compile a book of the games they tested, or at least remembered testing, at the drunken scene.

"The Complete Book of Beer Drinking Games," by Andy Griscom, Ben Rand and Scott Johnston, talks not about the education they received in class, but the priceless education they acquired while partying after, and according to them, before class.

"The Complete Book of Beer Drinking Games" is an easy read, complete with illustrations of ex-presidents chugging beers, rules of beer game etiquette, essential equipment and various beer drinking "terms."

The comical writing style holds the reader's attention, which is especially important when one has already started drinking before selecting a game to play. The games that are supposed to enhance the fun may seem too complicated for the near tipsy-minded. Not only do some of the games appear to require a little too much brainpower for even the sober to comprehend, most appear too complicated for the even shorter attention span of one who is "tossed."

The book justifies the act of drinking by insisting that alcohol at a party can teach you more about yourself -- more than you'll ever learn during

your four years in college.

The authors try to teach the reader about the "education" they imbibed while partying in college. In a section titled "Introduction to the Beer Curriculum," an entire semester of college drinking courses are presented, ranging from "History 124: Beer — The Catalyst of History," "Biology 150: The Anatomy of a Hangover" and even "Sociology 125: Beer — The Social Lubricant."

There are over 60 games to chose from, ranging from boot factor (drinking lingo which translates to "barf factor") one to five, with five being the most vicious in which the authors recommend only one round per player.

One of the more interesting games, which seems more like a spectator sport, is "Tang," invented by a group of students at Yale. The basic rules are that players from two different teams line up along side a picnic table and rest their chins along the table's edge. Each player receives a full glass of beer and they must chug them one at a time, in consecutive order. The quickest team wins.

Additionally, quotes from various well-known books and authors are strewn throughout the text to encourage drunkenness. One of the more obvious quotes comes from French poet Charles Baudelaire: "It is the hour to be drunken! To escape being martyred slaves of time, be ceaselessly drunk!"

There are also numerous asides in the book of varying

lists such as, "Ten places to leave your lunch," "Nine foreign terms for 'Hangover,'" and "Fifteen ways to say drunk," which provide even more laughs for the reader.

"The Complete Book of Beer Drinking Games" holds true to reader's expectations. It provides comical relief from studying for midterms or writing papers, and also provides a way to spice up a boring party.

Many of the games appear to require a little too much mental effort for one who is already "blitzed," while others like "I Never" and "Quarters" may bring back some fond memories of drinking days in high school, or last weekend for that matter. Your best bet is to pick and read up on a game before starting the night's festivities.

## Happenings...\*

\*your entertainment guide for activities and events at and outside of Marshall.

### On Campus

THURSDAY, DEC. 2, 1999

Campus Crusade for Christ, A Cracked-Up Christmas Carol, Marco's, 9:11 p.m. Contact: 525-5639

Graduate Record Exams Seminar, Dr. Wyatt speaking, Harris Hall 342, 12 p.m. Contact: Jeff Marcino at 529-1471

Campus Light, meeting, Campus Christian Center, 9 p.m. Contact: Mark Mills 696-3057

Campus Light Baptist Ministries, meeting, at Cave Greear's house, 7 p.m. Contact: Greear for directions at 529-1545

FRIDAY, DEC. 3, 1999

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

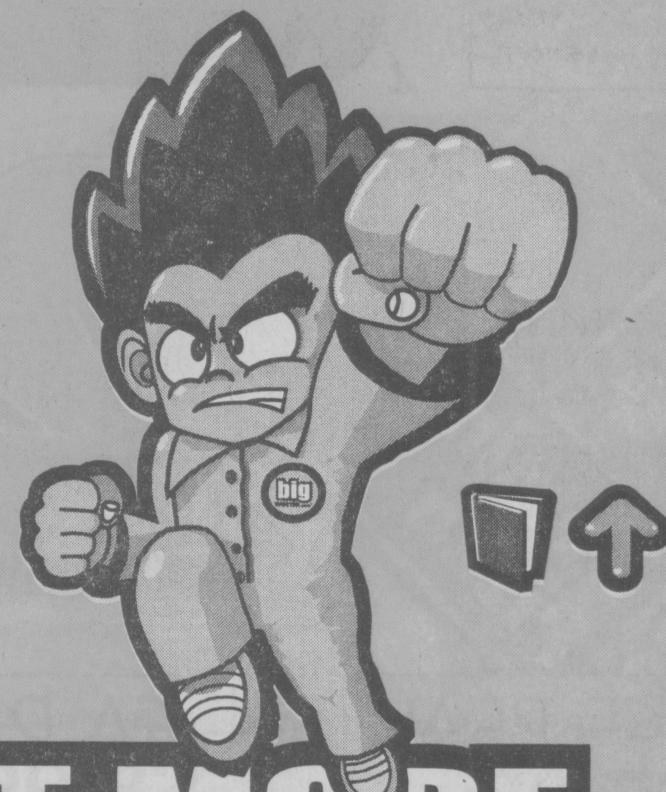
SATURDAY, DEC. 4, 1999

Committed to Christ Ministries, winter concert, Campus Christian Center, 4:30 p.m.

Committed to Christ Gospel Choir and Dance Team, concert, Campus Christian Center, 6 p.m. Contact: Nicole Yancey at 697-4082

MONDAY, DEC. 6, 1999

Lions Club, meeting, Memorial Student Center 2W37, 9:15 p.m. Contact: Sarah Cavendish at 697-9421



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