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Parthenon

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Volume 101 Number 81

Marshall University's student newspaper — Celebrating 101 years!

Page edited by Andrea Copley

Six groups get money from SGA

Organizations to use money for conference, pageant, rugby costs, Russia trip and more

by RHANDA M. FARMER
reporter

Six student organizations received funding Tuesday from the Student Senate. The senate voted on seven bills that had been debated before spring break and then allocated the funds.

The Gamma Beta Phi National Honor Society received \$500 to help fund the cost of its annual induction ceremony for new members. The ceremony will take place April 17.

Gamma Beta Phi President Mike Kasey said, "This is a serious event we take a lot of pride in."

"Last year 232 students were inducted and 690 people were at the ceremony. It's a rather expensive endeavor, but at the same time it's an event that honors the top students."

The Marshall University Percussive Arts Society received \$500 to help defer the cost of their presentation of the Third Annual Day of Percussion. The presentation will be April 8.

Marshall University Percussive Arts Society President Steve Petrucci said, "The day will

include four clinics plus three concerts. With this, we hope to educate not only Marshall students and faculty but also members of the community."

The presentation will be free for Marshall students.

Student Senate allocated \$500 to the Men's Rugby Club to help pay the expenses for attending tournaments.

Players pay \$90 in dues each year to help defray costs, but there are still many expenses according to Men's Rugby Club representative Allen Wilkins.

Men's Rugby Club representative Jimbo Boyd said, "We are able to pay for a lot on our own, but we need some help with entry fees and traveling costs."

Black United Students received an allocation of \$250 to help finance the Nubian Prince and Princess Pageant for Spring 2000.

Black United Students President Peter Walker said, "Our desired result is to cure apathy on campus. We aim to reach the students, community and faculty."

Please see **SENATE, P3**

Sodexho Marriott gives a history lesson with food

by SUMMER L. RUGGLES
reporter

Girls dressed in poodle skirts serving root beer floats behind the counter at "Big Daddy's Drive In" set the scene Tuesday for the Sodexho Marriott's catering showcase "Dining Through the Decades."

"The Sodexho Marriott hosts this show not only to exhibit our own goods and services but also those of local businesses that have joined with us to present this event," according to a news release from Sodexho Marriott.

Participating businesses included A to Z Rental, Barbie's Formals, Patricia's Florist and Green House, Stewart's Hot Dogs, The Old Village Roaster and Victoria's Designs.

"This is our second year participating in the showcase," said Xylphia Beaver, general merchandise manager at the Marshall

University Bookstore. "We have a section of cookbooks we wanted to show people on campus."

Patricia Crews, owner of Patricia's Florist and Green House said, "This is the third year I have participated. It gives people a chance to see my flowers. It's nice to meet people and the food is wonderful."

Pete Cooper, Old Village Roaster owner said he attends events in the area to let people know about his 108-year-old roaster that he uses for coffee, nuts and caramel corn.

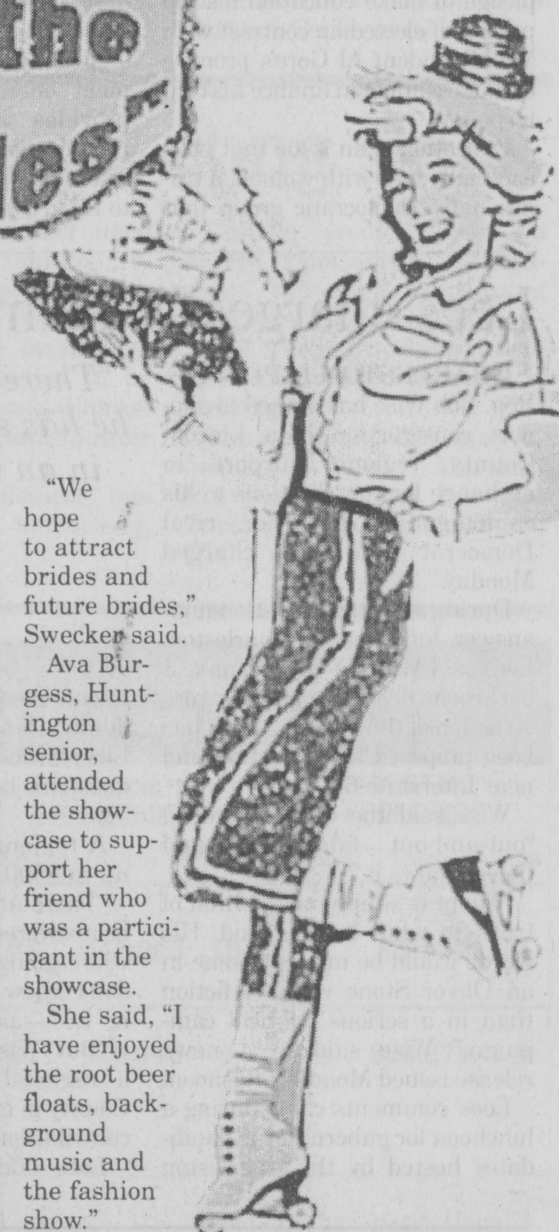
"We love to do things the old fashioned way. We think the old fashioned way is better," Cooper said.

Vince Swecker of Sodexho Marriott said the attendance for the 1999 showcase was between 400 to 500 people and he expected the same for this year.



photos by Summer L. Ruggles

ABOVE: Sodexho Marriott employees, left, take on the role of soda jerks Tuesday for the "Dining through the Decades" catering showcase in the Don Morris Room of the Memorial Student Center. RIGHT: Pete Cooper, of The Old Village Roaster, gave away fresh roasted peanuts at the event.



"We hope to attract brides and future brides," Swecker said.

Ava Burgess, Huntington senior, attended the showcase to support her friend who was a participant in the showcase.

She said, "I have enjoyed the root beer floats, background music and the fashion show."

Dave Grubb, Huntington sophomore said he decided to visit to sample the free food.

Gender equality not quite equal on Marshall's campus

Editor's Note: This is the first in a three-part series about gender relations on campus. Part One focuses on the issue of equality at Marshall.

by CARRIE A. SMITH
wire editor

Like other women nationally, Marshall's female professors make less money on average than males. But before the university is determined to be gender-biased in its salaries, President Dan Angel said many factors must first be taken into consideration.

Statistics from the U.S. Census Bureau indicate that women earn 73 cents for every

dollar paid to men. The Statistical Profile of Higher Education in West Virginia for 1998-99 shows that the situation at Marshall is not much better.

Marshall's male full professors with doctorates earn an average of \$56,083 for nine months compared with about \$5,239 less for women. However, Angel points out that the pay gap may be due to years of experience. The average for male full professors is 20 years; for women, 16.

"You might be talking about



Angel



Denman

people who haven't necessarily had the same amount of years of experience even though they're doing the same job," Angel said.

"You've got people who are full professors, associate professors, assistant professors, and so forth. And you may be in your ninth year of being a senior professor, or you may be in your first year of being a senior professor."

"You have people who have stopped out for family purposes and things like that, so you really have to look at it broadly

rather than just reading the numbers. Now, if a study considered all things

and still came up with those kinds of considerations, then that's a different issue."

More than a century has passed since the Women's Movement, by women, for women, to achieve equal civil rights. However, today, Marshall's full-time faculty is less than equal in number.

According to the Statistical Profile, females comprise 39 percent.

Dr. Frances S. Hensley, associate vice president for academic affairs, said Marshall fares

better than other institutions in the state.

"As far as statistics go, Marshall is ahead. The average in West Virginia is 31 percent, but we are still well under half," she said.

Dr. Sarah N. Denman, senior vice president for academic affairs, said she recently came across a statistic she found shocking.

"We looked at professors who have had 25 years of service to Marshall," Denman said. "We found 78 who have been here that long and only nine of them are women. But Marshall is unique in the number of female administrators."

Twelve women are in a position of dean or higher. The student body and Faculty Senate presidents are also females.

Hensley said she is "always reminded at conferences that the situation at Marshall is not true everywhere. There are strong groups of women on this campus."

She also said there is a lot of support from the male faculty in situations such as hiring and promoting women.

Denman said Marshall's colleges try very hard to look for women and minorities to fill positions.

Please see **WOMEN, P3**

42 sign up at voter registration drive

by TAMARA ENDICOTT
reporter

Voters in the age bracket of 18-24 have always been hard for politicians to capture during an election, but Sen. Mike Oliverio gave students the opportunity to register Tuesday in the Memorial Student Center.

"We want our campaign to leave a positive mark, and we believe by coming to college campuses and encouraging students, faculty and staff to register to vote, to become involved in the political process, that that will make the political process better," Oliverio said.

"This is our first (campus drive), so we're just kind of trying it out," said Oliverio, who is a candidate for the office of Secretary of State in this year's election.

The 18- to 24-year-old group is one of the most unregistered groups. But after being registered, they do vote regularly, said Brad Price, student volunteer for the registration drive.

"It hasn't quite been what we had hoped it would be so far," Price said. "Most of the people

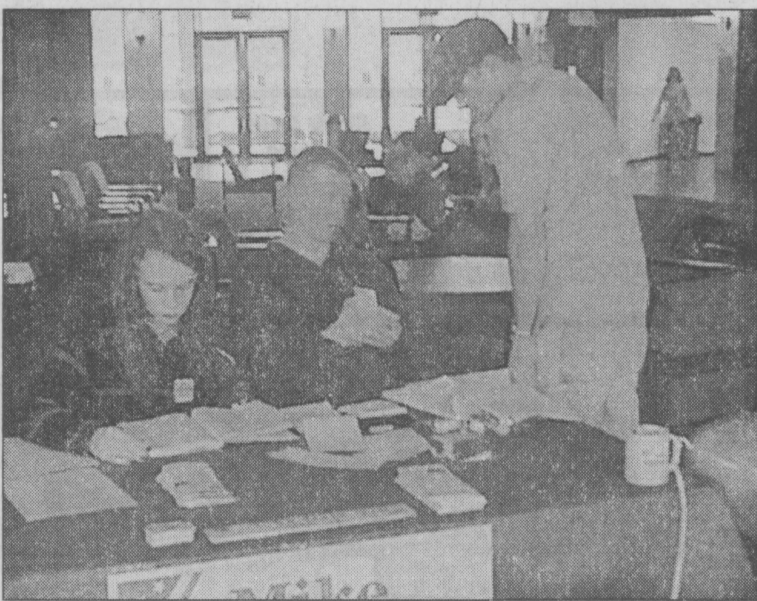


photo by Tamara Endicott

Student Government Association President-elect Bill Walker, center, talks with D.J. Watts Tuesday in the Memorial Student Center about the importance of voter registration. Walker said 42 people were registered during the drive, which was sponsored by W.Va. Sen. Mike Oliverio, who is running for Secretary of State.

looking that are interested in looking at the information are already registered. It's kind of like preaching to the choir, and the kind of people that aren't registered don't want to be bothered with it.

"So we're just trying to get them more involved and more interested. It's a struggle, but I think it's worth a try."

Statistics from the Federal Election Commission show the percentage pattern for regis-

"Most of the people looking that are interested in looking at the information are already registered. It's kind of like preaching to the choir."

Brad Price,
student volunteer
for the voter registration drive

tered voters rises steadily with the age of the voter.

Forty-two people were registered during the drive and most of the new voters were in the 18-24 age range, Bill Walker, senior volunteer and president-elect of the Student Government Association, said.

"I changed my party from Republican to Democrat just because Bill (Walker) was bugging me to," said D.J. Watts, Kenova freshman.

Other campus registration drives will be at West Virginia Wesleyan College, Bluefield State College, Concord College, Fairmont State College and West Virginia University.

Quick-stop e-mail check

by ANGELA MYHRWOLD
reporter

Students now have a new place on campus to reach into their virtual mailboxes.

Computing Services has opened an e-post office on the first floor of the Memorial Student Center next to the University Bookstore. This room is intended for students who simply want to check their e-mail without going to one of the larger, and sometimes more crowded, computer labs.

"We noticed many people using the computers in the Drinko Library and in several of the other labs on campus to check their mail," Les Preece, assistant in computing services, said. "We opened the center for easier access."

Jody Perry, manager of computing services, said, "We decided to go ahead with our plan and at the same time, the student center made this space available to us. After that, everything just sort of fell into place for us."

The lab currently contains six computers originally used in general facilities after upgrades. Plans for the lab include more machines, new furniture and



photo by Ted Dickinson

Six computers wait to be used in the new e-post office, which is located on the first floor of the Memorial Student Center.

possibly even a printer, pending budget approval.

Amy Morris, Huntington senior, said, "I think this lab is a great idea. There are so many times I go to the library to check my mail and can't find a computer. This is something that has been needed for a while."

The e-post office will remain open 7:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Friday, in accordance with MSC hours.

Bush outlines education proposals

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a week devoted mostly to his top issue, George W. Bush was adding the promise of a federal literacy program to his education palette, along with plans for improving teacher recruitment and retention.

Aides to the Texas governor and presumed Republican presidential nominee said the proposals are aimed at fleshing out his pledge to make education his top priority if elected, in contrast with Vice President Al Gore's promise to make campaign finance his centerpiece.

Education is an issue that polls especially well with women, a traditionally Democratic group that



Bush

Bush is courting in his race against Gore, the likely Democratic nominee. Bush was outlining the new reading program Monday in a speech to Asian-American business people at the Reston, Va., headquarters of Sallie Mae, the nation's largest issuer of student loans.

Already, the federal government offers Even Start, which provides literacy training to preschoolers and their parents. There also is a literacy component to Head Start, as well as adult lit-

eracy training provided under the Vocational Education Act.

"This is a sign of how important reading is, education is and how both are fundamental parts of the governor's agenda," Bush spokesman Ari Fleischer said.

The governor was detailing the plan to recruit and retain teachers Thursday in Pewaukee, Wis., during a two-day campaign and fund-raising swing through the state.

The trip to Virginia was part of a two-day East Coast swing that included appearances and fund-raisers in Parsippany, N.J., New York and Baltimore. Bush also planned to visit Eau Claire, Milwaukee and Green Bay, Wis., while in the Midwest.

His fund-raisers were expected to raise \$1.375 million, including \$500,000 at a New York luncheon, \$450,000 across the Hudson River in New Jersey, and \$250,000 in Baltimore.

The governor has delivered three major education speeches since last fall.

His plans call for spending \$5.5 billion over five years, although its cornerstone is not spending but accountability through locally designed and administered tests.

He also proposes taking away federal Title I money from poorly performing schools and giving it to families to help defray costs of educating their children elsewhere.

Gore hopes playing offense is best defense for finances

WASHINGTON (AP) — Scarred by his own fund-raising past, Al Gore is trying to overcome the issue of what he did with a promise of what he will do on campaign funding if voters take him at his word and entrust him with the presidency.

The vice president combined his confession of a role in conduct in 1996 "that pushed the system to the breaking point and fueled further cynicism" with a vow to push for changes in 2001.

It was an attempt to deflect an issue that Gov. George W. Bush has used against Gore since they won primary campaigns in which reform became a catchword. As the likely Republican nominee, Bush won't let it go and, as the presumptive Democrat, Gore can't afford to be a standing target.

So he moved Monday to claim the issue, which required him to concede that he is an "imperfect messenger" because of his own excesses and missteps in raising campaign money.

"I've got the scars to prove it," he said.

That's a new look for a candidate with a problem. The standard tactic is to deny or change the subject, evade the questions. And in the worse case, lie.

Bill Clinton did when sex, marijuana and draft avoidance questions threatened his 1992 campaign. And again in the Monica Lewinsky scandal that led to the impeachment he survived.

But on campaign finance conduct, Gore was cornered. It's all



Gore

on tape, the vice president at a Buddhist temple fund-raiser.

"No controlling legal authority," his own words in defense of the fund-raising calls he placed from the White House. The conviction of a friend for arranging more than \$100,000 in illegal donations to the Democrats.

Now come Justice Department investigations of his campaign chairman's personal financial conduct and of missing White House e-mail messages that could bear on the inquiry into 1996 Clinton-Gore fund-raising.

Campaign finance reform isn't a topic that has turned elections, but character and trust have become top issues after the ethically marred Clinton years.

Gore joked at a dinner Saturday night that his strategy for winning the White House is to claim some of the credit for the thriving economy and leave the blame for scandal with Clinton.

But controversy about his own fund-raising conduct is Gore's problem, not Clinton's. So the vice president is out to pre-empt it and put his own imprint on reform.

He did so Monday with a new feature, a "Democracy Endowment" to raise \$7 billion in tax-deductible donations to pay for House and Senate campaigns.

Lees charges Wise made 'backroom deal' on regional airport

CHARLESTON (AP) — U.S. Rep. Bob Wise has agreed to support construction of a Lincoln County regional airport in exchange for contributions to his campaign for governor, rival Democrat Jim Lees charged Monday.

During a political question-and-answer luncheon in Charleston, Lees said Wise, D-W.Va., "made a backroom deal" to push for construction of the airport, which has been proposed for a tract of land near Interstate 64.

Wise said the charges are an "out-and-out fabrication and (Lees) knows it."

"There is simply not a shred of truth to what he has said. His words would be more at home in an Oliver Stone work of fiction than in a serious political campaign," Wise said in a news release issued Monday afternoon.

Lees' comments came during a luncheon for gubernatorial candidates hosted by the Charleston

"There is simply not a shred of truth to what he has said. His words would be more at home in an Oliver Stone work of fiction than in a serious political campaign."

Rep. Bob Wise,
D-W.Va.

Exchange Club. Lees, Independent Denise Giardina and Libertarian Bob Myers fielded questions before a crowd of about 50.

A regional airport could cost up to \$500 million, Lees said.

"There are lots of questions to be answered, and the main one is who's going to pay for it. I just don't know that we can support it," Lees said.

"But (Wise) made a deal to put a regional airport in Lincoln County in exchange for campaign contributions."

Lees offered no proof of the

claim, and did not say how much money he believes was given to Wise's campaign.

Former Public Port Authority Chairman Sam Bonasso said recently that a master plan and environmental impact study for the airport is in the works and is likely to cost about \$4 million. The airport would be designed to serve the Charleston and Huntington markets.

Wise has attempted to portray Lees as "being in the pocket of business," Lees said. But Lees said he is in no one's pocket and has largely had to support his

own candidacy because he refuses to take political action committee money and won't "broker deals" to gain financial support.

Wise said, "In 1996 Jim Lees pledged to West Virginia's voters that he would never run a negative campaign. Jim's latest charges against me show that he's left the high road of the 1996 campaign for the low road of gutter politics in 2000."

Wise campaign manager Steve White said the accusation was little more than an effort by Lees to kickstart his campaign. Lees has "no evidence and no proof" of his charge, White said.

"I knew the pressure of running a longshot statewide campaign over the last three years was getting to Jim, but I never believed he would stoop to this level," White said.

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Some call her the Grammar Goddess

Writing coach visits Marshall

by CHARLENE L. CORNELL
reporter

The Dallas Morning News assistant managing editor will coach students and professionals this week-in writing and language use as part of the Newspapers-In-Residence Program.

Paula LaRocque, writing coach and assistant managing editor, is the final professional to visit the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications during this semester.

She will visit Marshall today through Friday. During her visit, she plans to talk about improving writing skills.

"When we found out that we would have the program in conjunction with The Dallas Morning News, I suggested that we invite Paula LaRocque," said Dr. George T. Arnold, journalism professor. "She has a national reputation as a writing coach and conducts workshops and seminars."

Her visit will include five seminars.

Wednesday from 12:15 to 1 p.m. in Smith Hall 332, she will answer questions with The Parthenon editors about good writing and editing. At 4 p.m. in SH 336, she will speak with



Paula LaRocque, assistant managing editor and writing coach of The Dallas Morning News, will meet with professors, students and professionals this week.

Arnold about writing and language use. That presentation is open to all students.

She will meet with faculty of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication in SH 330 Thursday from 4-5 p.m.

She will discuss language use with Marshall administrators from 1-2 p.m. Friday in the Memorial Student Center Alumni Lounge.

Saturday, she will travel to the South Charleston campus to speak about language use to professional journalists and

communicators.

"Students will be surprised at the editing she can do to a piece of copy at anyone's level—students, professors or professionals," Arnold said.

LaRocque speaks about effective communication. She has spoken in both the United States and abroad.

She has traveled to the Drehscheibe Institute in Germany.

Her television special, "The Writing Coach, With Paula LaRocque" premiered in Dallas and airs on PBS stations across the country.

She writes a column for Quill magazine and the Associated Press Managing Editors.

She has conducted workshops for the media and non-media groups including the Internal Revenue Service, U.S. Postal Service, Intel, AT&T, IBM and the City of New York.

LaRocque received her bachelor's and master's degrees from Western Michigan University, where she taught technical, creative and journalistic writing.

She also taught at Texas A&M, Southern Methodist and Texas Christian before going to the Morning News in 1981.

She worked as a writing consultant for the Associated Press Washington Bureau until 1993.

Elvis Presley running for mayor of Wisconsin town

PHILLIPS, Wis. (AP) — His name is Elvis Aron Presley — and he wants to be mayor.

Presley, an Elvis impersonator who has legally changed his name to that of the late musician, moved to Price County two

years ago from West Dundee, Ill. Now he wants to get into politics like Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura.

"If the people of that state can put a wrestler in office, I don't see what's wrong with the peo-

ple in Wisconsin electing an Elvis impersonator," said Presley, proprietor of Bloom's Tavern, a 108-year-old bar.

Voters in the town will choose between Presley and Keith Corcilus April 4.

Center to honor women contributors on campus

Author scheduled to speak at event

by DIANE POTTORFF
reporter

The Marshall University Women's Center will end Women's History Month with an awards ceremony at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in the Memorial Student Center Alumni Lounge.

"The program is geared toward women's contributions on campus," Leah Tolliver, Wo-

men's Center coordinator, said.

Tolliver said scholarship winners will be announced at the ceremony.

Susan Faludi, author of "Backlash" and "Stiffed: The Betrayal of the American Male," will be the guest speaker.

Faludi was born in New York and began her career as a journalist in 1981. She won a Pulitzer Prize in 1991 for "The Reckoning," an investigation into the human costs of the 1986 buyout of Safeway Stores, which appeared in the Wall Street Journal in 1990.

She also has written for the magazines "The Nation" and "The New Yorker."

She gives credit to her mother, a newspaper editor, for her views on feminism. In her latest book, "Stiffed," Faludi tells of the problems men have had in the United States. She claims their problems did not occur during the feminist movement, but during a history of broken promises made to men by the government.

A reception and book signing will follow the program. More information is available from the Women's Center at 696-3338.

CTC offers basic marketing skills

by SUMMER L. RUGGLES
reporter

The Community and Technical College may have a useful class for those thinking of starting a business or those who want to be savvy shoppers.

The CTC offers a "Basic Marketing Skills" course for those who want better under-

standing or who may need extra help on the subject.

"The course focuses on product placement, promotion strategies, global marketing, and successful tactics to be used in profit," said Sharon Smith, Huntington Junior College teacher.

To operate a business, one needs to know marketing, Smith said.

College credit toward a degree is not earned, but students can earn Continuing Education Units (CEU).

CEUs are earned at a rate of one unit for each 10 hours of training.

The marketing class is sponsored by the Marshall University Small Business Development Center and the CTC.

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Source: Statistical Profile of Higher Education in West Virginia, 1998-99

Women

■ From page 1

"That is especially the case where a large number of those in the particular program are

females," she said.

"There is a strong effort to hire equally."

Hensley said people need to acknowledge what is good at Marshall.

"Even though we have not reached total equity, we're

ahead of other institutions."

Editor's note: Part Two will provide an in-depth look at what women at Marshall think about gender relations.

Part Three will offer advice from Marshall females on how to get ahead.

Senate

■ From page 1

The Marshall University Navigators received \$500 to help with the cost of a trip to Russia.

Five students and one adviser will go to Tver, Russia, from May 10 to June 10.

Chris Carter, director of the Marshall University Navigators said, "The students will interact on three campuses and learn with the students there."

"Russian students are very eager to learn about Marshall University."

"This will be a positive cross-cultural experience that will help students to interact with international students on our own campus."

The total cost of the trip is \$24,000. The Navigators are seeking private donations as well as conducting fund-rais-

MORE INFO

Six student organizations received funding Tuesday from the Student Senate.

■ Gamma Beta Phi National Honor Society received \$500.

■ Marshall University Percussive Arts Society—\$500.

■ Men's Rugby Club—\$500.

■ Black United Students—\$250.

■ Marshall University Navigators—\$500

■ Psychology Club—\$500.

dents an opportunity to do research and get the results of their research out there."

In other action, the senate passed a resolution commending the election staff on the work it did.

Senate President Pro-Tempore Derek Scarbro said, "I think the election staff did a very good job."

"They had a lot to deal with this year and stayed fair and impartial."

The resolution commends Election Commissioner Shannon Dean and her staff on behalf of the Student Senate.

Student Government Association President Brandi Jacobs told the senate that Tri-State Youth Field Day has been postponed until summer.

"The reason it was such a success last year is because we had so many athletes taking part."

"The summer is off-season for athletes and I would rather have it then than take the one free weekend they have during spring training," Jacobs said.

Sen. Kevin Edmunds, Community and Technical College, was reinstated after being removed from office. Edmunds said he was unaware he had been elected. At the recommendation of Judiciary Committee Chairman Nate Kuratomi, the senate rescinded the decision to remove Edmunds.

ers, such as car washes and bake sales.

The Psychology Club received \$500 to aid with the cost of the eighth annual Tri-State Psychology Conference.

Psi Chi president and Psychology Club representative Kelly Dick said, "The conference brings people from schools in seven different states. The goal is to give stu-

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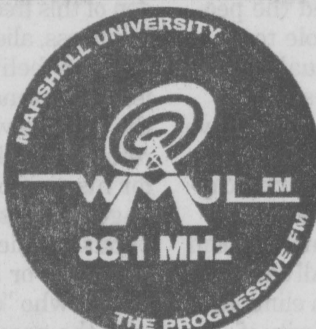
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OUR views

Women a part of MU's growth

It's not news to anyone that times have changed for women.

Housewives are now executives. Nurses are now construction workers. Teachers are now administrators.

It's been a slow move for women though. Gaining the right to vote didn't come for women until the 1920s. The 1970s was the first decade associated with women's liberation.

It was those times represented in play-turned-movie "The Heidi Chronicles." Heidi represented the "changing woman." She was single. She was successful. She was a mother raising a daughter alone.

All these things are normal these days.

But women are still struggling for true equality in some areas. According to a Page One story in today's Parthenon, at Marshall, women are earning far less money than men.

Although President Dan Angel offers intelligible suggestions for such a difference in pay for the sexes, it still seems behind the times.

One thing does have a good ring to it, however — 12 women are in a position of dean or higher. The Student Government Association and Faculty Senate presidents also are women.

Even if the pay could still use some work, Marshall sure should hold its women in high regards. This ever-growing university has improved with the help of those women.

It's time for true equality. Women should be paid the same. However, it's good that that's one of few worries women in the work force face these days.

New e-post office was a great idea

Everybody loves to complain about what the university doesn't do.

We hope someone notices what the university has done. We now not only have a coffee shop on campus, but an e-post office as well.

It's about time that the university has recognized the desires of 20-something students. We live in a world of cappuccino and e-mail.

Thanks for bringing it to us.

Now, if we could just get the two ideas to unite — an electronic coffee house would be the deal, we say.

Guest columnist examines gay theories

by PAUL KUCHARICH
guest columnist

Although studies by Dean Hamer and Simon LeVay are also commonly cited yet actually damaging to the "born gay" argument (you can study them on the internet), gay rights activists frequently point to work by J. Michael Bailey and R. C. Pillard. They claim this study, even with a relatively small sample size, indicates homosexuality is at least partially genetic.

The study found that among homosexuals having an identical twin, 52 percent of the time the twins were both homosexual. This, as opposed to 22 percent of the time with nonidentical twins, 10.5 percent of the time with adopted brothers and 9.2 percent of the time with regular biological brothers. We immediately notice that 48 percent of identical twins were not both homosexual, so homosexuality is not entirely genetic.

When really examined, however, these findings say more.

Identical twins are 100 percent genetic copies — they are born genetically the same. Both non-identical twins and regular brothers are on average 50 percent genetically the same. Adopted brothers are virtually 0 percent genetically the same.

Nonidentical twins and regular brothers both share 50 percent of their genes, yet 22 percent of non-identical twins compared to just 9 percent of regular brothers have homosexual siblings. That means the 22 percent/9.2 percent=2.4 con-

cordance rate difference must be entirely due to factors other than genetics. So if 2.4 times as many nonidentical twins are both gay than regular brothers, the ratio of identical twins (100 percent copies) to nonidentical twins (50 percent copies) should be significantly higher if there is a partial genetic component to homosexuality. This ratio, however, is 52 percent/22 percent=2.4: the same, meaning one cannot legitimately say the concordance rate difference between identical and non-identical twins is due to genetics.

Notice that regular biological brothers share a 9.2 percent concordance rate. So, even if genetics played any role at all, we would expect this percentage to be higher than the rate of adopted brothers, who share essentially 0 percent of their genes. But the study shows a higher concordance rate for brothers that are adopted than for regular brothers. The evidence is a testament against the belief that genetics plays any determining role in homosexual behavior.

Interestingly, the American Psychiatric Association changed its characterization of homosexuality as an illness in 1973. What was the hard, grueling research done to justify this change? There was none. The Journal Medical Aspects of Human Sexuality did a survey of psychiatrists four years later. Sixty-nine percent disagreed with the change. In 1975, the American Psychological Association also normalized homosexuality. But LeVay's study was done in 1991, Bailey and Pillard's in 1991 and

Hamer's in 1993. Many reputable scientists have called both Associations' changes political and there is considerable evidence that they are correct. Even the pro-gay magazine The Guide said in October 1995, "The media seized upon a study suggesting the existence of a 'gay gene.' Now that it's unravelling, mum's the word."

Romans 1: 26 and 27 says, "Their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameful acts with men and receiving in their own persons the due penalty for their error." There is hope, though! We are all sinners, but 1 Corinthians 6: 9-11 talks about the reality of God's love and promises (caps and words in parentheses added). It says, "... neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders (there is some debate on the use of 'homosexual' here, but it's clear from Romans 1: 26 and 27 combined with the Old Testament traditions of what is sexually good that homosexual behavior is still against God's will) nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. AND THAT IS WHAT SOME OF YOU WERE. But you were WASHED, you were SANCTIFIED, you were JUSTIFIED in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God."

Paul Kuharich is a Pre-engineering from Huntington.

OTHER views

Paying the price for true justice

Staff Editorial
The Post (Ohio University)

(U-WIRE) ATHENS, Ohio — Terry Anderson has 341 million reasons to smile. But the Ohio University visiting professor of journalism is not smiling because his wallet is bulging with cash — he's smiling because a U.S. federal judge declared Iran responsible for the more than six years he spent as a hostage in Lebanon. He and other captives claimed Iran engineered their kidnappings.

"It was a victory that the federal court judge announced Iran guilty," Anderson told The Post. "That is our point. It's not supposed to be whether or not we get rich, but if Iran gets punished."

But what kind of punishment does Iran really receive?

Anderson admits the lawsuit was not about money. He wanted justice for Iran's actions. For justice to be served, however, punishment must follow. Unfortunately, Iran would have to voluntarily pay Anderson, which likely will not happen. So where's the punishment if Iran doesn't have to pay the settlement?

Although the verdict looks good on paper, it's probably a meaningless gesture to the Iranian government. The U.S. government must see that the hostages get their money.

The money most likely would come from U.S.-owned Iranian assets. The U.S. owns assets valued at about \$12 billion. But the federal government has jurisdiction of over only a small fraction of the assets.

Anderson has a long road ahead of him if he wants to see his money. His next step is to attend the court hearing in April and testify along with other hostages in hopes of passing a congressional bill that would pay the hostages from those assets.

Anderson, 52, is the former chief Middle East correspondent for The Associated Press and the longest-held American hostage in Lebanon. He was taken hostage at gunpoint in March 1985 and released in December 1991.

U.S. District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson concluded Anderson was kidnapped and "imprisoned under deplorable, inhumane conditions" by agents of the Islamic Republic of Iran, known as the Hezbollah, or "party of God." Anderson was chained and blindfolded, fed only bread, cheese and water, moved from cell to cell numerous times and often feared he would be executed, the judge wrote.

After surviving 2,454 days as a hostage, Anderson battled through the courts so Iran would be held responsible for what happened. Now he is joining a political battle to make sure Iran pays.

The court settlement is meant to punish Iran. But without more efforts by the U.S. government, Anderson and other hostages, Iran probably won't fork over the money.

Despite the long road ahead of him, Anderson continues on his quest. And we hope by the time he reaches the end, the price of justice still makes him smile.

Putting a price on eggs can seem scary

Staff Editorial
Daily Targum (Rutgers University)

(U-WIRE) NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. — Getting paid thousands of dollars for donating your eggs might still sound like a possible story line for a science-fiction novel.

But is the procedure now becoming commonplace enough to be deemed acceptable? The question as to whether this is ethically right is a tough one.

Although the prospect of assigning a price to one's eggs can seem a scary one, legislation banning women from being allowed to donate their own eggs poses an even scarier prospect.

There is an undeniably large number of women who want children but who are not able to produce fertile eggs. Thus, women who agree to donate aren't necessarily acting solely out of self-interest. Helping a couple have a baby that is made of 50 percent of their DNA can't be too unethical. It certainly is a desirable option for female college students or working women who are in financial dire straits.



Americans forget importance of independence

by CHRIS KOONS
Daily Collegian
(Pennsylvania State University)

(U-WIRE) UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — The recent spate of senseless gun violence in this country has led to much gnashing of teeth and pointing of fingers over what has been the cause. The main debate has been over gun control, as the easy availability of guns is the most obvious culprit.

National Rifle Association Executive Vice President Wayne LaPierre's recent accusation that President Clinton "... is willing to accept a certain amount of violence in this country to further his political agenda" was ridiculous and pointless.

However, the sheer number of shooting incidents in the past year, beginning with the Columbine High School massacre, has forced all sides to reevaluate their approach to the issue of gun violence.

However, politicians and even religious leaders have been ignoring the deeper spiritual causes of the violence, for what we are facing in America right now is a crisis unprecedented in human history. It is a crisis of the individual self.

Think about it. Throughout history, most crises have been about issues that deal with great masses of people rather than with individuals.

Whether they are crises of eco-

nomics, crises of religion or crises of government, most problems that societies have faced have been about the relationship between the people as a collective and the impersonal state or church.

From the French Revolution to the fall of the Berlin Wall, the great convulsions of history have mostly concerned the people rising up as a whole to demand their individual rights from the totalitarian state.

In America right now, we have the exact opposite problem.

Democracy and free-market capitalism have endowed us with almost unlimited personal freedom and material comfort. All social problems have not been eliminated, but for the vast majority of Americans, conditions are better now than they have ever been.

Therein lies the problem. In order for the human spirit to grow and develop properly, it needs something significant to struggle against.

Traditionally, this opposition has been provided by the forces of tyranny and oppression. What, then, is there to cultivate the spirit when we have unlimited freedom?

The French philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre once said that "... man is cursed with freedom."

This is a highly pessimistic view, but it rings true today.

Since Americans can no longer count as much on the traditional supports of state, family and church to determine their indi-

vidual paths in life, everything in their lives now weighs upon their personal, individual choices.

People can use their individual freedom to accomplish great things, whether it is winning big money on Who Wants To Be A Millionaire or marrying the person of their dreams. However, the burden of this freedom can also lead to loneliness, alienation and despair.

These feelings, in turn, can lead to intense paranoia about the outside world. A person who refuses to take responsibility for his own problems directs his anger against vague, amorphous entities such as "the government" or a faceless mass of people who "are out to get him."

In the process of blaming his problems on everyone else, he de-individualizes those around him and no longer sees their lives as having any value.

Thus, when a person feels totally disconnected and alienated from those around him, he has no moral qualms about taking a gun and murdering several people.

It doesn't matter whether it is in the halls of a Colorado high school, or in a small church in Texas or in the offices of a day-trading firm in Atlanta. The result is always the same.

Liberals like to blame the violence on the easy availability of guns while conservatives prefer to blame movies, music and TV shows that glorify senseless violence. Unfortunately, both of them are right.

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Pressed?

Send us a letter.
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Missed bunts mean missed opportunities

Marshall strands 9 baserunners in its 4-all tie with Morehead State

by JACOB MESSER
Life! editor

When Marshall plays host to Western Michigan and Central Michigan in a pair of double-headers this weekend, the Thundering Herd probably will be able to bunt baserunners into scoring position if need be.

Coach Dave Piepenbrink plans to make sure of that in practice.

"We've got to spend some time talking about and working on bunting," a frustrated Piepenbrink said after Marshall played Morehead State to a 4-all tie on a chilly, windy and rainy Tuesday afternoon at University Heights.

The game, which started at about 3:15, was stopped three hours later because of darkness. There were two outs and no runners on for the Eagles in the top of the 10th inning when the game was called by the umpires.

Marshall (10-10-1) may have emerged victorious Tuesday had it been able to execute a bunt against Morehead State (13-9-1).

One failed bunt was particularly costly, Piepenbrink said.

With the score tied at 3-all in the sixth, left fielder Marty Rini reached on an error and went to second base on third baseman Homer Renshaw's bunt single.

With Rini on second and Renshaw on first, catcher Ryan Kobbe missed three straight bunts to strikeout and Rini was thrown out trying to go to third base.

Renshaw advanced to third base on a passed ball in the next at-bat, but shortstop Jason Ricceri hit a pop fly to right field to end the inning.

"That was a straight bunt," Piepenbrink said of Kobbe's unsuccessful attempts and Rini's subsequent baserunning miscue. "We just couldn't lay it down. If we can't bunt our guys over, we can't get them in."

The Thundering Herd also left the bases loaded in the ninth, much to the dismay of its coach.

"We do a decent job of hitting, but we have got to do a much better job at situational hitting because right now we're just not doing that," said Piepenbrink, whose squad had eight hits and drew six walks but stranded nine baserunners Tuesday.

"That's been a problem for us. We've been getting big hits in big innings, but we need to be able to score in every inning."

Morehead State took a 1-0 lead in the second off back-to-back doubles from Mike Reichert and R.J. Hayes.

The Thundering Herd grabbed a 2-1 lead in the fourth. Pinker-

ton hit a leadoff double, went to third base on a single by Rini and scored on a single by Renshaw. Rini scored on a single by Ricceri.

Freshman center fielder Greg Gaines — starting in place of junior Matt Eldridge, who was serving a one-game suspension for a violation of team rules — got his first collegiate hit with an opposite field solo home run over the left field wall in the fifth. His dinger gave Marshall a 3-1 lead.

The Eagles tied the game at 3-all in the sixth on a home run by Cameron Langham and back-to-back doubles by Jason Kennedy and Reichert.

Both teams scored a run in the seventh. Morehead State's Hayes reached first base on an error, stole second, went to third on a wild pitch and scored on a fielder's choice by Sam Hochner.

Marshall's Aaron Amburgey drew a leadoff walk, advanced to third on Bryan Colley's single and scored on Brooks' sacrifice fly.



photo by Mike Andrick

Freshman Greg Gaines (center) celebrates with his teammates Tuesday after getting his first collegiate hit — a solo home run.

Cornerbacks enjoy spring competition

by JACOB MESSER
Life! editor

When cornerbacks Danny Derricott, Maurice Hines, Terrance Tarpley and Yancey Satterwhite get beat by their receivers in practice, Defensive Backs Coach Jay Hopson usually is the first person to let them know about it.

The second, third and fourth people to alert them of their shortcomings are themselves.

"If one of us gets beat on a pass," Hines said with his broad gold-toothed smile, "we'll all joke about it all day or even all week."

"We all live together, so we talk and laugh about our competition all the time. It carries over from the football field into our apartment."

Derricott added, "We like to remind each other about getting burnt. It's a friendly competition, though. The four of us... we're like a family."

The four teammates and roommates are vying for the starting cornerback spots in Marshall's secondary, which returns three starters from a unit that had an NCAA-best 24 interceptions and ranked third in pass efficiency defense in Division I-A this past season.

Hines and Derricott, both seniors-to-be and pre-season All-American picks by College Football News, were starters in 1999. They are joined by senior Doug Hodges, who is moving to free safety this season after starting at strong safety last season.

Gone from the secondary is Rogers Beckett, a three-year starter at free safety. Hopson said junior-to-be Michael "Kool-Aid" Owens will replace Beckett, who is projected by many analysts to be chosen in the first two rounds of the upcoming NFL Draft.

Another junior-to-be, Larry Davis, will see significant playing time at both safety positions, Hopson said.

"We feel really good about our secondary," Marshall Coach Bob Pruett said.



Derricott

Hines



Satterwhite

Tarpley

Pruett should feel good about the unit, which lost only one starter and no reserves from this past season.

Tarpley, Satterwhite, Owens and Davis were not starters in 1999, but they received significant playing time throughout the season.

Senior Curtis Sanders and redshirt freshman Gladstone Coke will add depth at the cornerback slots.

Senior Willie Tisdale, junior Fardan Carter, sophomore Chris Crocker and redshirt freshman Denero Marriot will offer help at the safety spots.

Hopson said none of the defensive backs are guaranteed a starting spot for the upcoming season, even if they were starters this past season.

"The young guys aren't conceding anything to the returning starters," he said. "They're out there day-in and day-out competing for starting jobs."

"The starters from last year realize they're not guaranteed a starting job this year."

Having such a talented group makes Hopson's job easy and fun, he said.

"We're very interchangeable," Hopson said. "We've got a bunch of guys who I consider starters. We're going to have more experience than we did last year. It's fun to coach a group like this."

Herd has stable of capable running backs

by AARON E. RUNYON
sports editor

Before a March 15 knee injury sidelined Chanston Rogers for the remainder of spring drills, the sophomore running back was expected to replace Doug Chapman as the workhorse for the upcoming season.

But don't expect the Thundering Herd to be putting the running game out of its misery because of his injury.

Especially with the talent it has in the backfield.

Chapman and Llow Turner combined for 1,162 yards in the backfield for Marshall during the 1999 season as the team posted a 13-0 record, a Mid-American Conference championship and Motor City Bowl victory to finish with a No. 10 national ranking.

With that duo's graduation, Rogers returns to the squad with the most running experience. He rushed for 243 yards on just 58 carries, averaging 4.2 yards per carry last season.

Rogers is expected to return for the fall after the torn knee ligament heals.

"For the last few years our running backs have shown a lot of commitment," Marshall Running Backs Coach Ernie Purnsley said after Tuesday morning practice. "Each one has done a great job."

Now, Purnsley feels it is time for a new group to display the same commitment.

"All of these guys have made great strides in the off-season," he said. "Now it's time for them to take the torch and keep going to carry the weight."



photo by Terri Blair

Junior running back Jim Pertee (45) runs a pass pattern in morning practice Tuesday. Thundering Herd running backs are competing to fill the backfield void left by Doug Chapman and Llow Turner.

After Rogers' injury, Brandon Carey, who sat out the 1999 season to focus on academics, moved to the head of the pack.

"I think Brandon gives us another dimension because he is very elusive," Thundering Herd Coach Bob Pruett said. "He can do a lot of things to make you miss. He gives you a lot of the things that you look for at a running back."

And as a receiver, Purnsley and Pruett both placed emphasis on Carey's receiving ability.

"He's not very big but he's quick," Purnsley said of the 5-foot-10, 180-pound sophomore. "Brandon's a good receiver out of the backfield."

Pruett added, "He has great speed, great hands and I think he will be a great receiver."

Still, Carey has competition. Juniors Jim Pertee, Josh Lohri and Trod Buggs are battling for a backfield spot, as are Ben Poe, a redshirt freshman from Huntington, and Ernest Pitts, a junior college All-American from Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson, Miss.

Pertee and Lohri each had one carry this past season in their limited roles. Buggs, who played reserve linebacker and special teams a year ago, is making an impression on both sides of the ball this spring.

"He's been the biggest sur-

prise this spring," Purnsley said of the 5-10, 214-pounder from Orlando. "It's impressive how well he's been working at both positions."

For now, the concern over the backfield positions is still questionable.

"The spring is important to us, but the fall is what we're shooting for," Purnsley said. "We travel three backs."

"The (final) decision will be based on production and it will come down to who's been producing the most. We ask (our running backs) to concentrate on making plays, not just running the football. This is a good group of backs. They work hard."

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ORGANIZED or...

OUT OF CONTROL?

Professors provide reasoning behind their messy offices

Story and photos by
CHRISTOPHER M. HAGY
reporter

Is office clutter an academic catastrophe in the making or simply a misunderstood form of organization? Different professors have different views.

"I save everything because sooner or later it will become useful," said Dr. Karen L. Simpkins, associate professor of sociology and anthropology. "I have all sorts of things."

"I can generally find everything in the afternoon if I look hard enough. Sometimes I have to move all the furniture out into the hallway. But, I can generally find everything."

Clutter also serves as a form of organization and security, Simpkins said.

"If you were going to come in, and I make my tests up at the last

minute anyway, but if you come in and were going to try to find my test, where would you look?" she said. "I could have it right out in plain sight and you wouldn't know. If you have to rummage around, somebody will find you."

"I follow the same method with house cleaning," Simpkins added jokingly. "At least that's what I tell my sister-in-law."

Despite her positive views of clutter, Simpkins said it does have its drawbacks.

"It does have its consequences since I haven't got the ultimate promotion yet," she said, referring to receiving full professorship.

"It may be a while before I get there because they want you to keep a clean office," Simpkins said. "Although, every once in a while I clean a space and bring the secretary in to prove that I've cleaned something."

Dr. Charles G. Bailey, associate professor of Journalism and Mass Communication and faculty manager of WMUL-FM, said he doesn't have a problem with clutter. To him, his mess is simply a form of organization.

"At any given time I have three or four students working in and out of my office," Bailey said. "Files, music and various other items are always cycling in and out my door."

It would be nearly impossible to put everything in a special place, he said.

Bailey said despite the disorganized appearance of his office, he knows where everything is and has not misplaced important items yet.

Not all practitioners of clutter are open with their reasoning, though. Take Dr. Alan Horwitz, assistant professor of mathematics, for example.

"Well, it's a mess, but I've almost got there," Horwitz said. Horwitz declined further comment. "I try to keep a low profile," he said.

Not all professors are surrounded by mess.

Dr. Samuel L. Dameron, a criminal justice professor and the chairman of the department, maintains an orderly office.

"Office clutter is anything that bothers you," he said. "I know people who have big stacks of papers and can go and pull anything you ask for out of them."

"It's their filing system," he continued. "Some people use file cabinets; some people use stacks in the floor."

Dameron added, "For me, if I let clutter build up, it interferes with me, it bothers me. For others, clutter just has to reach that point where they can't stand it anymore."

"Until that point, it just doesn't matter. For me, it's that one magic piece of paper that pushes me over the edge."

Messy offices can also push students over the edge.

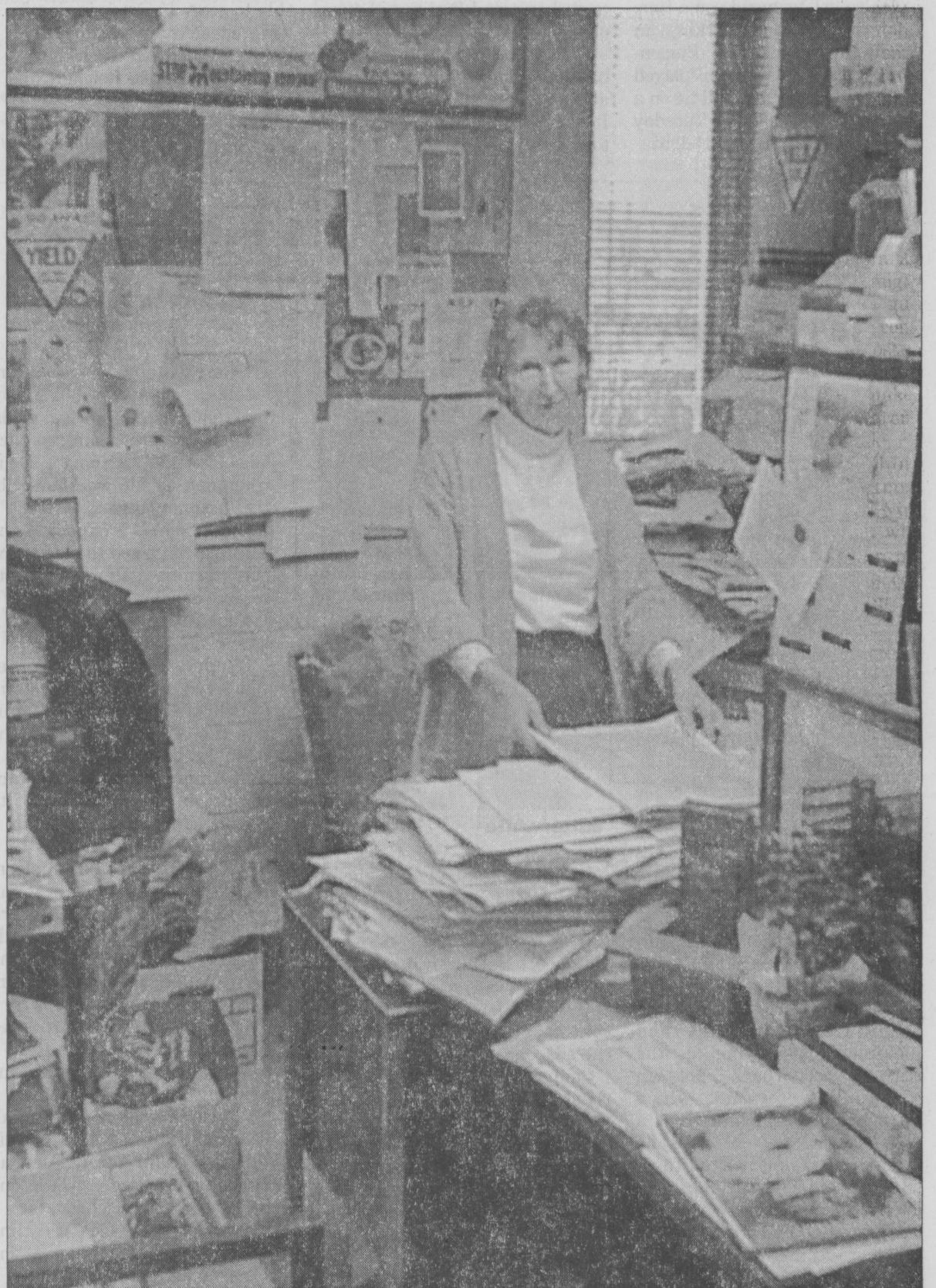
"I've seen some pretty bad ones in my day," Charleston graduate student Jennifer L. Igo said.

"I know that some of the professors are very busy, but sometimes it scares me that they don't know where my test is or even who I am."

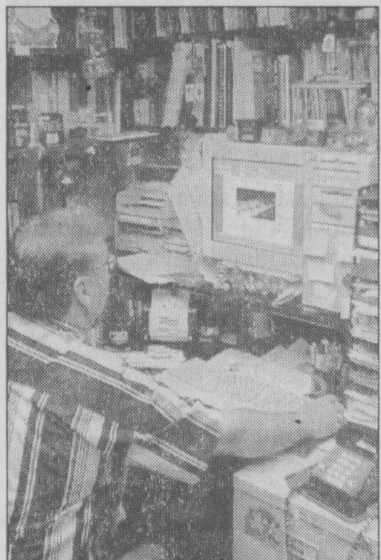
Igo said she has noticed some professors have cleaned up. Take Dr. Clair W. Matz, professor of political science and coordinator for International Studies, for example.

"Dr. Matz underwent a cleaning rehabilitation period," Igo said.

Maybe a few more professors should do the same.



Dr. Karen L. Simpkins, associate professor of sociology and anthropology, admits her Smith Hall office is a mess, but she says her clutter serves as both organization and security.



Dr. Samuel L. Dameron, a criminal justice professor, maintains an orderly office because he doesn't like clutter.

Two best movies of 1999 didn't receive Oscar nominations



EVAN BEVINS
columnist

Before I reveal my "Top 10 Movies of 1999," I'd like to point out that, although I see far too many movies, there were a few popular 1999 offerings that I missed.

So obviously, no matter how good they were, they can't be on the list. I'd also like to remind everyone this is an opinion column. If you don't agree with my choices, OK. If you want to write a letter explaining why, great (as long as you don't base your answers on criteria like "He's stupid").

The point is, everybody has a different opinion when it comes to things like movies. Just because mine are printed in The Parthenon, does that make my opinion more important than yours? Absolutely, but that's no reason we can't be civil.

And now without further ado:

10. "The Matrix" — I'll be honest. I just went to see cool special effects and to laugh at

Keanu Reeves. But suddenly, I found myself watching one heck of a movie.

The word "cool" doesn't come close to describing these effects — some of which didn't even exist when they started filming. I really don't think the story was as deep as it wanted to be, but it was immensely better than most action "plots." To quote the star: "Whoa."

9. "The Green Mile" — A moving tale of faith, wonder and the cruelty people can inflict even without the help of the supernatural, "The Green Mile" is filled with wonderful performances, most notably Tom Hanks and Best Supporting Actor nominee Michael Clarke Duncan.

I didn't agree with some of the theology in this movie, but it does make you think. And if Mr. Jingles doesn't get to you, there's something wrong.

8. "Bowfinger" — Steve Martin is hilarious as low-budget director Bobby Bowfinger. Eddie Murphy does him one better with a double-turn as action star Kit Ramsey and a nerdy lookalike. There are no morals to this story, but there are a lot of laughs. In fact, the last two minutes are funnier

than most movies all the way through.

7. "Man on the Moon" — I know little about Andy Kaufman and I'm hardly a Jim Carrey fan, but I know a good movie when I see it. Carrey totally disappears into the character of Kaufman. The movie is very funny and it raises some interesting questions about the entertainment industry.

6. "Fight Club" — This movie is so twisted, it's hard to explain why it's so great. In spite of the unpleasant and sometimes shocking scenes, "Fight Club" contains a disturbing element of truth.

Just about everybody can identify with the emptiness that arises when you feel like you don't have a purpose. "Fight Club" doesn't say violence is the way to solve this problem; it just shows what can happen if people relieve their frustration in the wrong way.

5. "The Sixth Sense" — This movie surprised a lot of people. At first glance, it seemed like just another horror movie. Not so. From the opening note of the haunting soundtrack, I was on the edge of my seat. The tension continued to build until one of the most shocking end-

ings in recent memory. Only a break in the suspense toward the end dropped this one a little lower on my list. It's a crime it didn't take home any Oscars.

Now, in the spirit of "March Madness," here's my Final Four (of course, the Final Four doesn't take place until April, but you get the idea):

4. "The Blair Witch Project" — I usually hate gimmicky films that get such an avalanche of publicity, but even I couldn't deny how great this movie turned out to be.

Once you get past the fact that most of the words the unknown cast could speak contained no more than four letters, you've got to appreciate how well this movie messes with your mind.

I wasn't as frightened as some people — I know one guy who said he had to sleep with the lights on after he watched it — but I still have weird flashbacks, particularly of the last 10 minutes or so, that demonstrate the lasting effects of the Blair Witch.

3. "American Beauty" — It won the Best Picture Oscar and with good reason. This suburban psycho-drama is both funny and frightening, as it forces viewers

to wonder "Just how fictional is this?" Kevin Spacey, Annette Bening, Wes Bentley — the entire cast is outstanding. So why did I only rate it No. 3? Well, the film seems almost too hip.

At some points, the words "Give Us an Oscar" might as well have been flashing on the screen. And, as good as it was, it didn't have the emotional payoff (at least for me) of my top two choices. But, of what was nominated, this was definitely the Best Picture.

Then there were the films that weren't nominated...

2. "The Iron Giant" — OK, OK, don't quit reading now. Yes, I know it's a cartoon and, yes, I know cartoons aren't usually considered among the cinematic elite. But give this one a chance before you dismiss it.

This isn't some singing-for-forest-animal-Disney-historic-distortion kind of movie. It could have been filmed as live action, but that would have ruined the fantasy aspect. You know those movies they say are "fun for all ages?" This one legitimately is.

It's serious and clever enough for adults, clean and fun enough for kids and exciting enough for everyone. Harry Connick Jr. and Jennifer Aniston provide the

adult voices in this wonderful story of a boy and his robot and choosing who you are. It just doesn't get much better than this, unless you're talking about...

1. "Three Kings" — Humor, suspense, drama, exploding footballs — this movie's got it all.

The unlikely quartet of George Clooney, Ice Cube, "Marky" Mark Wahlberg and "Being John Malkovich" director Spike Jonze go on an odyssey looking for Iraqi gold and end up finding their humanity.

This movie paints the Gulf War in a different picture than we got from CNN. It also shows you why shootouts aren't as much fun as they look on TV.

In fact, Wahlberg said in an online interview that he might have trouble even using a gun for hunting after seeing the completed film. And, unlike most of the movies on this list, no matter how great, "Three Kings" makes you think, maybe, people aren't such a hopeless lot after all.

Which makes me think maybe some of you out there will just agree to disagree with me. And, for those of you who are really angry, consider my own shock ending — this column was actually written by Mark Bevins.