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TODAY'S FORECAST

PARTLY CLOUDY
High: 55
Low: 33

For Thursday:
PARTLY CLOUDY
High: 65 Low: 48

WEDNESDAY
April 12, 2000

the Parthenon

www.marshall.edu/parthenon

SELF-DEFENSE/6

Volume 101 Number 89

Marshall University's student newspaper — Celebrating 101 years!

Page edited by Andrea Copley

SGA accepts amended budget

New leaders take reign, anticipate 'a lot of good work' with senate

by RHANDA M. FARMER
reporter

The Student Senate accepted an amended version of Student Government Association President Bill Walker's budget proposal Tuesday.

Changes were made by the senate to the personnel budget and to the scholarship funds.

The personnel budget provides the money for the executive staff salaries and the scholarship money provides the funding for student organizations.

The senate voted to reduce the presidential and vice presidential salaries by $100, the public relations director salary by $200 and the scholarship fund by $300 to increase the election staff salaries to $1,800.

"I am extremely happy that we managed to come before what some might call a somewhat hostile senate and get a one-year budget passed in two hours. It's probably a world record," Walker said.

His initial budget proposal boosted the scholarship fund by about $4,300 to give the scholarship fund a higher budget than last year.

The senate voted to increase election staff salaries because of the requirement in the by-laws for three election commissioners per election.

Walker

Dennison

"We need to make sure we have enough there in case we have to have a special election like we did this year," Sen. Nate Kuratomi, College of Liberal Arts, said.

Finance Committee chairwoman Sen. Kristy Hays, COLA, added, "The SGA and finance committee meetings went as well as could be expected. Anytime you're dealing with such a large sum of money, you will have debates. Everyone is looking out for the best interests of students and people have different ideas of how to get that done."

Alpha Kappa Delta, a sociology honor organization, received an allocation of $500 to help send eight student representatives to the Southern Sociological Society Conference in New Orleans April 20-22.

Theta Theta Omicron, a theater group, also received an allocation of $500 for a conference seven members attended March 19-26. The allocation was rewarded after the event because the funding packet information was turned in late.

Please see **SGA, P3**

Comedian hams it up

Marty Putz adds laughter to list of SpringFest events

by COURTNEY M. ROSS
reporter

Elvis impressions, flying cats, marshmallow fights and laughter filled the Memorial Student Center Tuesday night.

Marty Putz, a comedian from Canada, entertained the audience of about 50 with his crude Chris Rock style along with a mixture of Carrot Top's props and Gallagher's messes.

Putz is part of SpringFest activities this week. He has made appearances on "The Tonight Show" and "Laugh-in" on Comedy Central, according to Dennis Hicks, graduate adviser for the Student Activities Programming Board.

Putz said Marshall is the 78th school he has visited in his university tour, and he will soon be touring overseas.

"I started doing this right out of high school," Putz said. "I love to make people laugh."

Putz asked audience members their favorite childhood toys. G.I. Joe, Barbie and Easy Bake Ovens were among the answers.

"I was tired of straight stand-up comedy, I wanted some interaction," Putz said. "I liked to watch Python and Steve Martin in the old days."

Putz did an Elvis impression with an aging twist. As he sang, his suit filled up with air to look like Elvis at an older age. He then transformed into a large sumo wrestler.

photo by Mike Andrick

Comedian Marty Putz instantly goes from Elvis to a Sumo wrestler Tuesday.

He had an audience member stand in the middle of the room and put a mask on that had a net coming out of the top. Putz then took a stuffed cat and launched it from a slingshot into the net.

Putz also shared some of his inventions with the audience, such as the leg cast keg. He put a cast on his leg. With a few pumps, he opened a part of the cast and pulled out a hose to fill up a cup.

To end the show, the Don Morris Room was transformed into a war zone. Giant water guns came out of his trunks and he shot water guns at the audience.

"I can't imagine doing anything else with my life," Putz said. "But if I had to choose something else, I would be a professional hockey player."

Heather Boggess, Charleston sophomore, decided to attend after seeing a poster for the event in one of the dorms.

"I have actually seen him before," Boggess said. "I ordered a video of him from a Pop Tarts box."

Boggess said she enjoyed the show. "He was very funny and had good props," Boggess said. "I liked how he was so interactive."

MU-AFT nominates new officers

by CARA D. COOPER
reporter

Marshall University's American Federation of Teachers (MU-AFT) nominated officers Tuesday in the Memorial Student Center's Shawkey Dining Room.

MU-AFT faculty chairman, Edmund M. Taft said the nominations were the first of three final steps the union must complete before it can receive an official charter.

"Members must elect permanent officers and then apply to the West Virginia American Federation of Teachers to receive the charter," Taft said.

Faculty members nominated the following: vice chairman, Steven Shuklian, associate professor of economics; secretary, Drema Stringer, instructor at the Community and Technical College; treasurer, Linda Hunt, assistant professor at the Community and Technical College; at-large representatives, Dallas Brozik, professor of finance and economics, Lynn Rigsbee, associate professor of political science and Pamela Mulder, associate professor of psychology.

Several nominations were made for chairperson, however, no one has accepted.

"Members must elect permanent officers and then apply to the West Virginia American Federation of Teachers to receive the charter."

Edmund M. Taft,
MU-AFT faculty chairman

Although Taft and Vice Chairman Joseph Wyatt said they have tried to find a member willing to run for chairperson, they have had no success.

Taft and Wyatt said they would not run for office again because they think "new blood" would serve the union and do not want the perception that the same people are running MU-AFT.

Taft said he will keep trying to find someone willing to take the position and urged members to talk to their colleagues.

Staff members also made nominations, but because those nominated were absent and have not yet been notified, their names are not being released at this time.

COFA celebrates 15 years of the arts

by CHARLENE L. CORNELL
reporter

A celebration of 15 years of music, art and theater starts Thursday.

College of Fine Arts was created in July 1984. It was initially set up in 1982 as the School of Fine Arts.

"I think that we are doing a better job of serving more students than ever before," Donald L. Van Horn, dean of the COFA, said. "We continue to try to be engaged in the broader community. We are building on a solid foundation. We are going to continue the excellence that has always been a part of this college."

Looking back on the past 15 years offers Van Horn a chance to hope for the future.

"We are working on programming and designing of a new visual arts building," Van Horn said. "We seize an opportunity to revise our curriculum and in that process make sure the course work we are offering and the degree requirements we have are truly relevant to what students in this new century will need."

These artists either have performed or will perform this semester. Clockwise from upper left: Preservation Hall Jazz Band, Frifot, The Dirty Dozen Brass Band, Cubanismo! and Chucho Valdes, center.

A celebration of the arts is planned for Thursday through Sunday.

The Marshall Artists Series and the West Virginia Public Radio's Mountain Stage will feature Cubanismo! at 7:30 p.m. Thursday.

The show explores the spontaneous sounds of live music by Cubanismo!, Chucho Valdes, The Dirty Dozen Brass Band and Frifot.

Tickets are available at the Marshall Artists box office in the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse. Student tickets are free with Marshall ID. Students

Please see **COFA, P3**

Nubian prince, princess to be named

by COURTNEY L. BAILES
reporter

Seven guys and eight girls have signed up to compete in the Nubian Prince and Princess Pageants.

The pageants will be at 7 p.m. Thursday in Marco's in the Memorial Student Center, said Pierre Walker, president of the Black United Students.

"We are encouraging people to come out, watch the show and have a good time," Walker said.

Anyone can come watch the contest, he said.

"People get it [the pageant] mixed up with the African American Center," Walker said. "But it is open to everyone."

Three judges will rate the contestants on a scale of one to 10, Walker said.

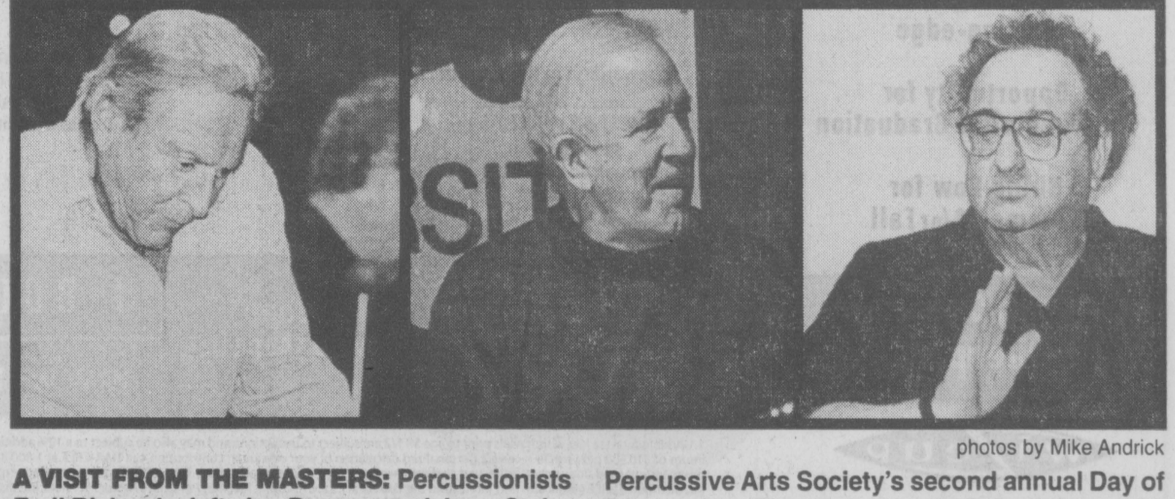
Contestants will compete in three categories, he said. They will be judged in the categories of campus, business and evening wear.

At the end, the contestants must answer one spontaneous question, Walker said.

The judges will base their ratings on how the contestants present themselves during the pageant, Walker said. They will be looking for contestants who display self-confidence while competing.

The winners will receive gift certificates from local businesses, he said. Kroger, Avon and a few local bookstores have donated certificates.

Contestants had to sign up in the Center for African American Students by Monday to be able to participate in the contest, Walker said.


photos by Mike Andrick

A VISIT FROM THE MASTERS: Percussionists Emil Richards, left, Joe Porcaro and Jerry Steinholtz came to Marshall on Saturday for the Percussive Arts Society's second annual Day of Percussion. The three conducted clinics, gave demonstrations and taught masterclasses.

DOUBLE take

Slippery suspect

KENOSHA, Wis. (AP) — Police are looking for an irate motorist who allegedly hurled a half-peeled banana at another car's windshield, then sped away. The Kenosha County Sheriff's Department said the incident happened Monday morning as a 35-year-old Kenosha woman was being tailgated. The offending driver allegedly made an obscene gesture after the woman tapped her brakes. When she stopped for traffic several blocks later, the car drove onto a gravel shoulder and the angry driver rolled down his window and threw the banana at her windshield. The car then fled the scene. Charges could range from disorderly conduct to a ticket for throwing a foreign object from a moving vehicle.

Bush outlines $42 billion plan that will help working poor

by GLEN JOHNSON
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — George W. Bush outlined a plan Tuesday to give the working poor credits for health insurance and rental vouchers for home down payments.

Bush

He also said he plans to offer tax credits for banks that match the savings deposits of poor people.

Called "New Prosperity Initiative," the $42 billion plan expands on tax-cut and education proposals previously offered by the all-but-official Republican presidential nominee and continues his outreach to independents and moderate Democratic voters by talking about subjects often ignored by Republican candidates.

"At the edges of affluent communities, there are those living in prosperity's shadow," Bush said in remarks prepared for afternoon delivery to community and church leaders.

"The same economy that is a miracle for millions of Americans is a mystery for millions as well, Americans who live in a world above welfare assistance but beneath prosperity's promise," he said.

One part of his plan: expand home ownership by giving participants in the Section 8 rental voucher program permission to get a year's worth of vouchers in a lump sum for a home down payment.

Another element: provide a credit of up to $2,000 per family to cover 90 percent of health insurance costs for those who do not qualify for government-sponsored programs such as Medicaid, yet do not receive insurance from their employers.

"It is true that government can undermine upward mobility, as welfare once did," Bush said. "It is equally true that government — active but limited government — can promote the rewards of work. It can take the side of individual opportunity."

The Texas governor was unveiling his proposal during an afternoon speech to about 250 community and church leaders on Cleveland's West Side — a heavily Democratic area.

Gore goes back to school

by ANDREW WELSH-HUGGINS
The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Sent off to Avondale Elementary with a mom's "have fun at school today," Al Gore made the best of a rainy day with teachers and students.

"This is inside recess today," he said as he was introduced to a group of children sitting in the hallway watching "Rugrats" on television. The rain kept them indoors.

The Democratic presidential contender was visiting classes Tuesday and eating lunch with the students as part of his pledge to spend a day at a school every week or two during the campaign.

The vice president had spent the night with a teacher's family.

"I just told him to have fun at school today," said Susan Fadley, 38, a kindergarten and special education teacher at the school. She said she and her husband, Dick, did talk about education with Gore, but mainly swapped stories about families and other things that were important to them.

Gore slept in the bedroom of Fadley's daughter, Maggie, who stayed in a spare bedroom.

Gore

Gore had arrived at their home about 10:30 p.m. after visiting a high school in Dayton Monday night.

At Avondale, Gore toured the 109-year-old school. He also released an "education bluebook" summarizing his education proposals that include universal preschool for 4-year-olds, smaller class sizes, testing new teachers, and making sure new and current teachers are qualified to teach their subjects.

Gore started his eighth trip to Ohio in the past year at Vandalia Monday night, where he talked to about 250 undecided voters at Vandalia-Butler High School. The city of 14,000 people is 10 miles north of Dayton.

Gore said he has made no decision on a vice presidential candidate or any other appointments should he be elected.

"I'm not drawing up a list, short or long, for a running mate, Cabinet members or the Supreme Court," he said.

W.Va. official resigns to take Marshall job

CHARLESTON (AP) — State Tax and Revenue Secretary Robin Capehart said Tuesday he is resigning this summer to direct a tax studies program at Marshall University.

Gov. Cecil Underwood said he has accepted Capehart's resignation "with some degree of mixed emotions." Capehart is leaving Aug. 16.

Underwood and other state officials credit Capehart, who has been tax secretary since February 1997, with dramatically improving technology in the state's tax department.

Underwood said that after Capehart takes his post at Marshall, he will continue to serve the governor's administration as a tax policy consultant.

Capehart will advise Underwood on issues involving "electronic commerce and the potential effects of the deregulation of the electric power industry," Underwood said.

A recent survey published by Government Technology magazine said West Virginia from 1998 to 1999 moved from 50th to 11th in the nation in the use of technology to improve administration of its tax system.

Capehart's resignation follows up on a proposal he made last year. After serving as chairman of a committee that looked at ways to streamline state government, Capehart in December recommended that Underwood eliminate the tax secretary job and assign the responsibilities to other officials.

Underwood proposed the idea during his State of the State address in January, but the Legislature did not approve the proposal.

But Underwood said Tuesday he doesn't plan to fill the tax secretary position. Underwood said he intends to eliminate the cabinet position by executive order.

State Tax Commissioner Joe Palmer will take over most of Capehart's duties, Underwood said.

briefly...

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., voted with the Senate Tuesday to reject a temporary federal gas tax cut.

The bill would have rolled back 4.3 cents of the federal gas tax for the rest of the year.

Opponents said its meager benefits for motorists wasn't worth jeopardizing money for critical transportation projects.

"We cannot backfill the potholes this bill will leave," Byrd said.

The bill was rejected on a 56-43 roll call. Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-W.Va., did not vote.

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String quartet to visit Marshall

Making Music

by COURTNEY M. ROSS
reporter

Members of the Society of Composers will have a chance to work with professionals this week.

The Montclaire String Quartet will have two masterclasses today in the Jomie Jazz Center's Forum Area.

Joey Dangerfield, graduate student and president of Society of Composers, thought it would be a good idea to bring the Montclaire String Quartet to Marshall.

"It was my idea to get the Montclaire String Quartet to come and do these classes because I knew they had done things here previously," Dangerfield said.

"They were in residence at Marshall for three years."

"This will give them (students) exposure to see how things work. They can work with the performers to write better music."

Joey Dangerfield,
president of the Society of Composers

The first class is a composition masterclass from 9 to 10 a.m. The second class is a string masterclass from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

"The string students at Marshall will perform pieces and discuss them with the quartet," Dangerfield said. "The quartet will also discuss 20th Century string techniques."

It wasn't hard to get the Montclaire String Quartet to come to Marshall, Dangerfield said, but the Society of Composers had to get the money to bring the quartet here.

"I applied for grants and SCI held fund-raisers," Dangerfield said. "We received money from the Student Fine Arts Gala Fund and from the music department."

Dangerfield said he thinks this will be a good experience for students.

"This will give them exposure to see how things work," he said. "They can work with the performers to write better music."

Cadets left out in cold

by CHRISTOPHER M. HAGY
reporter

"I felt like a lot of people wanted to break down and cry. Some did. It was a big accomplishment, and I am proud we came through."

Bryan Atterson,
sophomore MS1 ROTC cadet

This past weekend proved to be a cold, wet experience for ROTC cadets during their spring field training exercises at Camp Arrowhead in Ona.

"It was pretty cold out there," Lt. Jamethon Honaker said. "At the top of the mountain, which was about 600 feet above the base, temperatures were freezing.

"A couple of the cadets were miserable, but they all came down alive," he said.

"My feet were wet, my hands were blue and ants and spiders were crawling all over me," freshman MS1 cadet Sean Scott said.

"I tell you what," he said, "I have a deeper appreciation for those young men and women who perform these missions."

"It's a whole different ball game when harsh weather comes into play," sophomore MS1 cadet Bryan Atterson said.

Many of the cadets had difficulty functioning in the cold weather with simulated sounds of war in the background.

"I felt like a lot of people wanted to break down and cry," Atterson said. "Some did. It was a big accomplishment, and I am proud we came through."

Despite poor weather conditions, Honaker said training was a success. Cancelation of rappelling was the only change in plans because of weather.

Battle scenarios were added to make amends for the rappelling. One that drew particular interest was "react to media in a live fire situation."

"One soldier in my lane shot the reporter," Honaker said.

SGA

■ From page 1

An allocation of $500 was awarded to Omicron Delta Epsilon, an economics honor society, for six members to participate in a professional conference in Chicago

Ryan Gray resigned as senator for the College of Business. Michelle Herrell was sworn in as senator from the Graduate School.

One open senate seat still remains in the Graduate School. There also are open seats in the Community and Technical College and the College of Business.

Applications for the open senate seats may be picked up in the SGA Office in Memorial Student Center 2W29B. They should be returned to Kuratomi's mailbox in the office.

Walker and SGA Vice President Cory Dennison addressed the senate for the first time in their executive messages.

"It's important to remember that the elections are over and all of us are here for the good of the students," Walker said. "We will make progress this year. We want to work together with the senate. You don't have to love us, but I want you to work with us."

"First off, I'd like to thank everybody for helping me along today with the things I wasn't sure about," Dennison said after conducting his first senate meeting.

"We're going to go through a lot more of these and we're going to do a lot of good work up here. I can feel it."

COFA

■ From page 1

can purchase a guest ticket at half-price with Marshall ID .Part-time students, faculty and staff tickets can buy two tickets at half-price with Marshall ID.

The COFA will dedicate the Jomie Jazz Center, Friday at 11:30 a.m. The dedication is free and open to the public.

The College of Fine Arts Awards Convocation is at 2 p.m. Friday in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center. The convocation focuses on student and faculty achievement. Graduates will be recognized.

Dr. John Mead, professor of music, will be recognized for his 31 years of service.

After the awards convocation, the Preservation Hall Jazz Band will teach a masterclass. Select students will perform with them. Preservation Hall Jazz Band performs at 8 p.m. Friday in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.

Tickets are available through the Marshall Artists Series at 696-2787. Tickets cost $40. COFA representatives are giving tours Saturday of the Jomie Jazz Center.

Works from the art department will hang in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center throughout the week. To end the celebration, the Chamber Choir and Cantori Montani will perform at 7: 30 p.m. Sunday at the St. John Passion Trinity Episcopal Church. The performance is free and open to the public.

The Parthenon. A Forum For All Voices.

Learning 911 song helps 3-year-old save her mother

JOHNSTOWN, Pa. (AP) — Learning a song about 911 enabled a 3-year-old girl to call for help when her mother suffered an epileptic seizure.

"She saved me," said Terry Panek on Monday of her daughter, Abby Jo.

The two were at home Apr. 5 when the seizure struck. Panek's husband, Steve, had gone to visit family.

"I got up and wasn't feeling well. I thought I would get some air," Panek said. But she never made it to the door, instead telling her daughter, "I think Mommy's having trouble."

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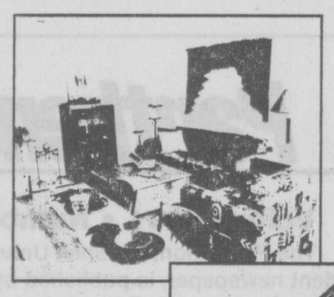

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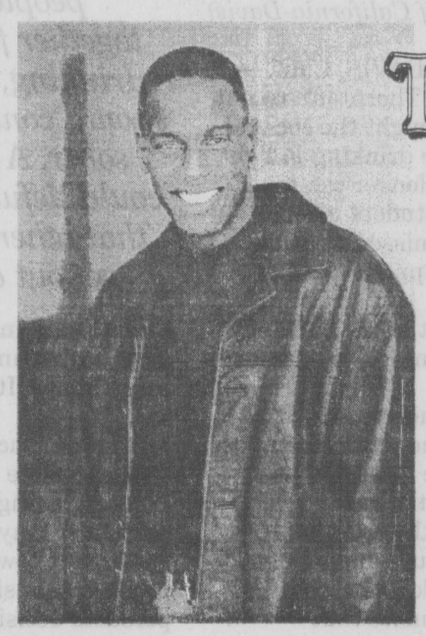
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Opinions

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—Judd Nelson in "The Breakfast Club"

THEIR view

We need to save Social Security

Staff Editorial
The State News
(Michigan State University)

(U-WIRE) EAST LANSING, Mich. — Social Security is an important program that supports retirees and must be supported by everyone, including college students.

A poll sponsored by Third Millennium, a New-York based organization, said 77 percent of those who responded are concerned about their financial futures. The survey also stated 52 percent of Americans believe it's more likely a professional wrestler will be president than they will receive the Social Security benefits to which they are entitled.

Social Security is given to retired workers and is also given to people with disabilities and children of deceased workers. "Approximately one out of four workers will suffer a debilitating injury" said William Halter, Social Security Administration deputy commissioner.

It is in the best interest of the nation to extend Social Security indefinitely. Because so many people benefit from its existence, keeping it stable is important. President Bill Clinton proposed a plan that would extend Social Security to 2054. This would keep the program solvent long enough for current MSU students to receive benefits. Students should voice their support for the plan by contacting their local and state representatives.

Although most college graduates will probably go into retirement with an adequate pension, many people will not. Social Security can be the only means of support for some senior citizens. The working classes in the United States depend on Social Security to secure their futures.

It is imperative that MSU students vote to secure Social Security for the future. By voting for candidates who want to maintain Social Security, students support their future.

Many university students are not concerned or informed about the future of Social Security. ASMSU, MSU's undergraduate student government, should get involved and help students learn about the politics that obviously affect them. Because retirement is the furthest thing from the minds of people thinking about their first careers, ASMSU should step in to remind students to think further ahead. ASMSU needs to speak in favor of Social Security and inform students about the benefits of the program.

It is highly unlikely that the Social Security program will end. There are a lot of people who must have Social Security to be financially stable and politicians would not dare to upset so many of their voters, especially with the Baby Boom generation nearing retirement age.

However, this does not mean Social Security will stay the same. By not voting for the appropriate candidate or looking toward the future, students might not see the same program — featuring the same funding or application — in years to come.

The government must continue to support Social Security and so must students. Many people throughout the United States depend on it, and someday students will too.

Fired up?
Write us a letter
311 Smith Hall

How to build a better human being

by RUDY SAN MIGUEL
Daily Egyptian
(Southern Illinois University)

(U-WIRE) CARBONDALE, Ill. — What if you could find out what kind of diseases your child will have before it is born? What if you could create the "perfect" child, free from disease? It may be possible sooner than you think. Using human genes to determine specific diseases and other problems has been under way for some time. However, there is a new step in the challenge of figuring out the human body. A step that could create a world free of disease and allow us to live a lot longer.

According to a recent Newsweek magazine article, for the past 13 years scientists have been trying to decode the human body. At $250 million and rising, the Human Genome Project is the most expensive biology experiment ever. The goal of the project is to read every "chemical letter" in human DNA. What will this accomplish? Because human genes are 99.9-percent identical, this list will help doctors in diagnosing specific types of cancers. Knowing what makes us tick will help evaluate a child's genes in order to test the likelihood of getting any disease. The project will also help us predict different types of diseases like cancer. The most ambitious beliefs of those involved are that we will be able to create the "perfect" child. That is a child free from disease and free from obesity, learning disorders, and even being short.

The study's aim is to name all 3.2 billion letters. They have already named 2 billion and are naming 12,000 letters every minute of every day. The medical benefits of this discovery are astounding. Besides being able to "turn off" the genes that promote disease and create a child free from it, this information could slow down the aging process, increasing our life expectancy dramatically. Being touted as the greatest find since the periodic table of elements, this project promises a lot in ways of the human body. But do we want to know this much?

Imagine a society where parents are creating their children in labs, deciding what color their hair is, how tall they are and even what sports or studies they will be interested in. Suppose further that there are a few "rebellious" parents who refuse to play God and want a natural child, regardless of the outcome. Imagine what sort of outcast this child would be. If he or she were overweight or had problems reading, he or she would be a pariah and their parents considered fools. And what about the workplace? If this project does what it promises, we may be able to know what kind of disease we are predisposed to 50 years down the road. If our employers have this kind of power, they could decide not to hire us based on that fact. Why would an employer put someone on the payroll and offer them benefits if they know that two years before they retire, they will succumb to cancer? Imagine the money they'll save. Think this won't happen?

It already has. According to the article, a man listed as healthy at a pre-employment physical exam, was later fired for "lying" when it was found that "he carried a gene for kidney disease."

It is easy to imagine the benefits of this project. We would all like a world free from disease. We would all like to know when we'll get sick or if our children will be prodigies. But do we want to? These scientists are discovering something that could not only revolutionize medicine as we know it, but could destroy society. Imagine this information in the wrong hands. The project brings us a step closer to the world Adolf Hitler imagined.

Public schools making a mistake with freedoms

Staff Editorial
The Daily Athenaeum
(West Virginia University)

(U-WIRE) MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — It's the most controversial, most contested, most ambiguous law in the Constitution.

However, it's also the most important, and some people continually forget that freedom of speech is not necessarily the freedom to speak only what they want to hear.

Two years ago in Rhode Island, then-sophomore Robert Parker was called into the principal's office for wearing a White Zombie T-shirt with the number 666 on the back. It eventually led to a legal battle between the ACLU and the Rhode Island School Committee that is still dragging on today.

The school continues to insist that they cannot drop the case since the shirt violated the school dress code and permitting that sort of clothing just opens the door for worse.

The school has a point, to an extent. The school is supposed to be a safe, non-disruptive learning center, and improper influence can be a problem. However, this problem runs much deeper than that. Freedom of speech has invariably been more restricted in schools and to minors than it is to the rest of the nation.

That's understandable in the earlier grades, but once students are in high school, the restrictions should be lessened. Students are not just there to learn about academics, they also have to learn a little about the real world too, and placing a protective blanket around the building does nothing to further that idea.

Of course, one bad T-shirt does not a real life lesson make, but it is a good example of the way schools go over the limit to keep schools free from controversy. Schools routinely restrict shirts with beer and cigarette advertisements on them, with no other justification than the fact that those clothes are "disruptive," in the same way that they also forbid school newspapers from questioning school policy.

That's not disruptive. Gang fights are disruptive. Weapons are disruptive. Bullies are disruptive. Amazingly, schools have been doing very little to curtail seriously disruptive and dangerous behavior, but the administrators are always there to punish otherwise good kids for wearing inappropriate attire or for questioning their educator's judgment.

In Parker's case, he had to endure two years of legal battles to defend his right to wear a simple shirt. Meanwhile, the Rhode Island school board wasted over $60,000 dollars fighting the case, money that could have much more easily been spent on computers or books, or even metal detectors that would solve a more serious problem within America's public schools.

Instead, the people in charge of educating children would rather show everyone how stubborn and repressive they can be. Unfortunately, that might be the only real lesson some students take out of their high school years.

Staff Editorial
The California Aggie
(University of California-Davis)

(U-WIRE) DAVIS, Calif. — David Earl Thornton's recent death has brought the societal issue of binge drinking to light in Davis. No longer can concerns about student alcohol abuse be dismissed as something that happens at other schools.

Too often, it takes a tragedy such as Thornton's to open one's eyes.

While alcohol abuse occurs every weekend on this campus, until now the issue has been swept under the rug. Considering the collegiate drinking culture and student patterns of alcohol abuse, UC Davis is fortunate that Thornton's death is the first tragedy to occur as a result of binge drinking.

Sadly, this college's social scene practically revolves around alcohol. For most, every weekend — which starts Wednesday night and runs through Saturday — is just another chance to get wasted.

Binge drinking on a 21st birthday has become a collegiate tradition. When midnight rolls around, the birthday boy or girl is whisked away to a local drinking establishment to get the royal treatment.

When a group of people goes out together for a night of drinking, one person should consider staying sober. A level head could defuse situations that otherwise would get out of control.

Countless drinks later, the vomiting begins and everyone goes home happy. It's an absurd ritual.

In a case such as Thornton's, it's impossible to assign blame. Pointing a finger at the bar or bartender may make people feel better, but it won't solve the problem. Abusing alcohol is a personal decision — happy hours and drink specials aren't the culprits.

Alcohol consumption is a privilege. Just like other rites of passage — a driver's license and the right to vote — drinking legally carries with it a burden. To think that uncontrolled binge drinking is socially acceptable is not only irresponsible, but potentially fatal.

The pitfalls of alcohol abuse are plentiful — no one wants to experience citations for driving under the influence, hangovers, fights or liver disease. People need to help one another understand the hazards that stem from overdoing a night on the town.

Oftentimes, binge drinking is a result of peer pressure. As the night goes on, it becomes more difficult to refuse just one more drink, especially when you're with a group of friends. Given the dangers of drinking, peer pressure — which can have a tremendous amount of influence on one's behavior — has no place in a bar.

If you care about your friend, let him or her call it a night when they've already had too much to drink.

When a group of people goes out together for a night of drinking, one person should consider staying sober. A level head could defuse situations that otherwise would get out of control. Keeping tabs on how much alcohol everyone's consumed would be a noble — though difficult — task.

Because alcohol consumption often begins in college, people are unfamiliar with their personal limits. Instead of taking it slow and getting familiar with drinking, students may drink 10 beers, pass out and realize that five might be a better number.

David Earl Thornton is dead. No voluntary program or seminar about the hazards of binge drinking will bring him back, but his death does not have to be in vain.

The Parthenon

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Sara Gulla captures MAC honors

Thundering Herd pitcher Sara Gulla was named Mid-American Conference Pepsi Pitcher of the Week for the second time this season Tuesday. Gulla, a junior from Garden Grove, Calif., recorded a 6-0 victory over Wright State, striking out 10 and holding the Raiders to one hit in the complete game victory. With the win, Gulla lowered her season earned-run average to 0.78 to rank No. 3 in the MAC in that category. Gulla also leads the conference in strikeouts, innings pitched, shutouts and complete games.

MU drops three straight

by KIRK D. LIGHTNER
reporter

Old man winter hadn't packed his bags for good this past weekend.

The weather played a role in the Thundering Herd baseball team's two conference doubleheaders. The Thundering Herd's doubleheader with Northern Illinois scheduled for Saturday was snowed out and rescheduled for Monday in DeKalb, Ill.

Marshall managed to play its two games Sunday afternoon against Mid-American Conference foe Ball State, dropping both games to the Cardinals by scores of 11-9 and 17-14.

"The weather played a big factor in the game," third baseman Homer Renshaw said. "The wind was blowing out and everything that was hit in the air was a home run."

The doubleheader with the Cardinals featured 11 home runs, some of which would have been

Reeder

routine fly balls without the aid of the wind.

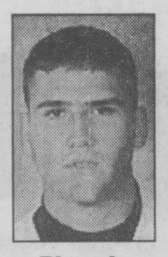
The Thundering Herd led in both games, but could not avoid something that has plagued it all season – the big inning.

Ball State had a seven-run third inning in the first game and a nine-run third in the second game.

"Our pitchers didn't really have that much of a chance," shortstop Jason Ricceri said. "Every single ball they hit in the air seemed to result in a home run."

Sean Reeder (5-5) pitched a complete game in the first game, allowing 11 runs — six of which were earned — on 11 hits. He struck out eight batters to move into second place on the Marshall career list.

The Thundering Herd played


Plymale

one game Monday afternoon against Northern Illinois before more inclement weather arrived.

Marshall didn't fare any better against the Huskies, losing its sixth straight league game by a count of 6-2.

"We just didn't come out today ready to play," Renshaw said. "It's pretty simple, we didn't get the job done against them and we got beat."

Mickey Plymale (1-2) got the start against Northern Illinois and gave up six runs on four hits in the second inning.

Marshall (12-17-1 overall and 1-6 in the conference) returns to action this weekend when it tries to snap its conference losing streak at East Division favorite Bowling Green. The teams will play doubleheaders at 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Marshall finishes third in weekend rugby tournament

Despite injuries, Thundering Herd ends 2-1 at OSU

by JAY M. MORLACHETTA
reporter

Hungry for wins and recognition, Marshall's men's rugby team battled hard in a tournament this weekend despite injuries and an its incomplete roster.

The Thundering Herd traveled to Ohio State University to compete in the Ohio Classics Tournament.

The tournament played host to 112 teams, including men's, women's, high school and club programs.

"We really played well, and it was one of our better weekends," said Jeff Starcher, a Parkersburg junior and team veteran.

"We had a lot of injuries, and some guys on the team who are in the Marine Corps had to miss because of drill weekend," Starcher added.

The Thundering Herd finished third in the tournament.

Marshall won its first game 7-0 against the University of Cincinnati and won its second game 17-3 against Central Michigan University.

The Thundering Herd was defeated 15-12 by the University of Dayton.

The Flyers scored a try with three minutes remaining in the game to set the final margin of victory.

"We've never beaten Dayton, and there is a lot of angst between us," Starcher said. "This was the toughest loss we've had in a while.

Charleston senior and team captain Chad Carte said the Thundering Herd needs to improve on its conditioning.

"Toward the end of the games we sometimes tend to slack off a little," Carte said.

With the Mid-American Conference Tournament this weekend at Bowling Green University, Hurricane senior and forwards captain Jason Hayes said he thinks the team is ready for the weekend tourney.

"I think we can beat anyone, and I expect that we'll be in the championship game against Bowling Green," Hayes said.

"We expect nothing less than a win," he said. "We've got to go show them that we can play."

Pennington still quarterback option for Pittsburgh

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — No impact player on offense. No impact player on defense. A weak offensive line.

The Steelers' problem going into the NFL draft isn't which weakness to address with their first Top 10 pick since 1989, but which of many needs fixing first.

Weaknesses that have become glaring to director of football operations Kevin Colbert in the two months since he replaced Tom Donahoe.

Of course, the Steelers weren't coming off consecutive seasons of 7-9 and 6-10 in the recent past, either. That's one reason why Colbert and coach Bill Cowher agree this draft is so important, if only because the Steelers can't afford to make a mistake.

Especially with the No. 8 pick.

"This player we pick at eight, for the long term, he had better be a good player," Colbert said.

'If we can spend as much money as we're going to spend on him and pass on good players ... this guy, hopefully, someday will be a Pro Bowl player."

For the first time in years, the Steelers may have the chance to draft the top-rated quarterback — Marshall's Chad Pennington.

But with $7 million in salary already committed this season to quarterbacks Kordell Stewart and Kent Graham, they must decide if a team with so many needs can afford to draft a player who may not be ready for years.

If they pass on Pennington, the Steelers may go for Michigan State receiver Plaxico Burress or, with Jerome Bettis in the final year of his contract, a running back such as Virginia's Thomas Jones, Wisconsin's Ron Dayne or Alabama's Shaun Alexander.

"You can't, in this system, diminish the importance of what your team's needs are and what you need to address," Cowher said. "You also can't ... take a player higher than maybe you should be taking him."

Does that rule out Pennington?

"I don't think you can ever have too much money in the quarterback position," Colbert said. "If you don't have a quarterback who can effectively play, you don't have a chance in this league."

Griffey youngest to hit 400 homers

The Associated Press

DENVER — Ken Griffey Jr. has a way of giving inexpensive, but meaningful birthday presents to his father.

Eleven years ago on his father's birthday, Griffey hit his first major league home run. On Monday, he helped celebrate his father's 50th birthday with another homer, a historic 400th.

The Cincinnati Reds star became the youngest player in history to hit 400, doing it at 30 years and 141 days, beating Jimmie Foxx, who was 30 years, 248 days old when he did it.

In the fourth inning at Coors Field, Griffey sent a 2-0 pitch from Colorado's Rolando Arrojo into the left-field seats. It was his second homer of the season and second in as many days.

He was cheered by the Coors Field crowd as he rounded the bases, then was high-fived by teammates and hugged by his father, Reds coach Ken Griffey Sr., in the dugout. In all, it marked the fourth time Griffey homered on his father's birthday.

Griffey is fifth on the career homer list among active players, trailing Mark McGwire (525), Barry Bonds (447), Jose Canseco (431) and Cal Ripken Jr. (403).

"I haven't really had a chance to think about it," he said of No. 400. "The biggest thing is, I tell my dad it's a cheap way of not buying him a gift on his birthday. So he'll get this ball. My mom got 399 and he's got 400.

"But it's on his birthday, so it's a special moment for both of us, especially that I can do it in front of him. That was pretty special."

MATH & ENGLISH CHALLENGE PLACEMENT EXAMS

SCHEDULE FOR SPRING 2000

You may choose one of the following three options:

A. DATE	TIME	LOCATION
April 11 and 12, 2000	2:00 PM and 4:30 PM each day	EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN IN CC 135

Students may take only one exam per time period.

B. In addition to these dates, a **limited number of alternative dates and times** are available by appointment only in the MCTC Advising Center in the lower level of the Community and Technical College Building. Please call 696-7047 for an appointment.

C. Information about the **online** Placement Exams is available at http://web.marshall.edu/ctc/

Students must have the following items to be admitted to the on campus placement exam session:

1. **$10.00 Registration Fee** for each exam attempted.
   (Make checks payable to Marshall University or have correct amount in cash.)
2. **Photo ID.**
   (MU ID or valid driver's license.)
3. **Pencils.**
   (Calculators **ARE** permitted.)

Students must meet the following guidelines to qualify for these placement exams:

1. A student must be **fully admitted** to Marshall University or Marshall Community and Technical College OR currently enrolled in a secondary school with at least junior status.
2. A student who has received a "NC," "F," "WP," or "WF" in developmental course is **ineligible** to attempt the placement exam for that dropped or failed course.

For more information, contact Nedra Lowe at 696-3017 or Monica Shafer at 696-5229.
*Pre-registration is **not** required.*

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Unsung heroes

That ball of paper under the desk? They pick it up. That wad of gum on the chalkboard? They scrape if off. They clean the toilets and sweep the floors. They're the janitors and other staff employees on campus. They do the "dirty work" here. Find out more about the men and women whose job it is to make sure Marshall is a clean, comfortable campus...

Thursday in Life!

The Parthenon

Fighting back

Rape Aggression Defense classes teach women how to fight assailants

by DIANE POTTORFF
reporter

Inside a Gullickson Hall classroom, a female student pretends she is withdrawing money from an automatic teller machine at night.

Officer Stan Harper of the Marshall University Police Department comes out of a dressing room, dressed like a "Star Wars" character in black pads and a hockey-style helmet.

Harper attacks the student and he does not make it easy for her, attacking fervently.

Howell

Sgt. Angela Howell yells "strike" and "kick," as the student defends herself from Harper with Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D.) techniques — different kicks, punches and commands — she learned in an eight-week course.

Howell said the self-defense course will be offered during the fall semester and it also can be taken as part of a non-credit class Mondays and Wednesdays from 6-8:30 p.m. May 8-24. It is open to female students, faculty, staff and the community.

Huntington resident Tammie Clatworthy heard about the course on WKEE-FM.

Clatworthy, an employee with Alcon Surgical who took the course this semester, said the class is very beneficial and every woman should take it. She said she wants to start a class at Alcon.

Lisa Allen, who works in the Counseling Center, said she recommends it to all women.

"As an employee and working in the offices late at night, everybody should learn to do this," Allen said.

Charleston junior Melissa Arnold agreed.

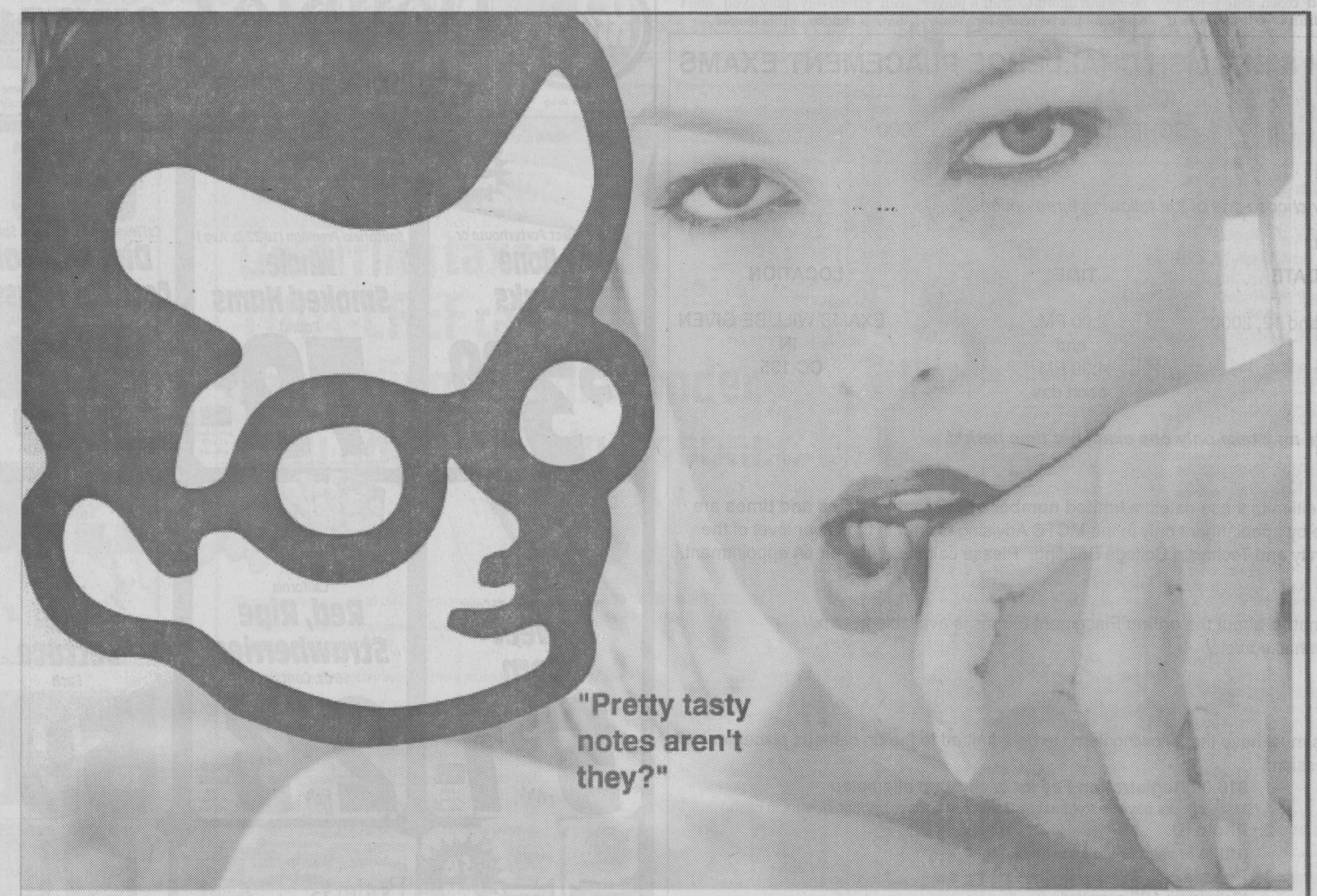
"I have known a lot of people that were attacked and didn't know what to do, I wanted to know what to do," Arnold said.

Erin Compton, Oak Hill freshman, said she took the course because she wanted to learn how to defend herself.

Harper said students who have taken the class before can come back for practice with new classes or to do the simulation again.

More information is available by calling 696-4357 or visiting www.marshall.edu/mupd.

photos by J. Nesbitt

ABOVE: A R.A.D. students defends herself from an attack from Officer Stan Harper as Sgt. Angela Howell looks on.

LEFT: Another R.A.D. student practices her self-defense techniques.