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HARAINA



Volume 101 Number 92

Marshall University's student newspaper — Celebrating 101 years!

Page edited by Rebeccah Cantley

sends 7 to

by JACOB MESSER Life! editor

Before the weekend, Marshall had seven players on National Football League rosters.

By the end of the weekend, the Thundering Herd had doubled that total.

Four former Thundering Herd standouts were taken in the seven-round, two-day NFL Draft this weekend in which 31 teams selected 253 players.

Three others signed free agent

contracts with NFL teams.

It is the most Thundering Herd players to enter the NFL since 1996, when five players signed free agent contracts following Marshall's 15-0 record and Division I-AA national title.

The New York Jets took quarterback Chad Pennington in the first round with the 18th pick.

The San Diego Chargers selected safety Rogers Beckett with the 43rd overall pick and 12th pick of the second round. The Minnesota Vikings reunit-

shall teammate Doug Chapman when they chose the Thundering Herd running back in the third round with the 88th pick overall.

The Seattle Seahawks, looking to replace Joey Galloway, drafted speedy wide receiver James Williams with the 175th selection overall.

The Tampa Bay Buccaneers signed linebacker John Grace, the Kansas City Chiefs signed linebacker Andre O'Neal and the Carolina Panthers signed

ed Randy Moss with former Mar- defensive tackle Giradie Mercer.

Those former standouts join wide receiver Troy Brown of New England, center John Wade of Jacksonville, quarterback Eric Kresser of Cincinnati, defensive end B.J. Cohen of Oakland, punter Chris Hanson of Miami, defensive tackle Billy Lyon of Green Bay and guard Jamie Wilson of Indianapolis to give Marshall 14 players in the NFL.

> Please see Page 5 for more coverage of the NFL Draft.



Pennington





Chapman



Williams





Mercer



From Spring to Jazz

ringFest 2000 wrapped over over the weekend. "The goal of

SpringFest is to provide fun," said P. Andy Hermansdorfer, director of student activities and Greek affairs. "Everyone who participated in the events did

have a good time."

Hermansdorfer said SAPB has a focus group after events to learn from mistakes.

LEFT: Many students go their picture drawn by a caricature artist. **BELOW:** Marshall students perform with the Jazz Preservation Hall Band on Friday night.



Angel's inauguration Wednesday

by STEFANIE FRALEY

Wednesday it will be official. President Dan Angel's inauguration is scheduled for 4 p.m. Wednesday in the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse at the Fine

Angel will be sworn in by Gov. Cecil H. Underwood and will give his inaugural address,



portunity."

Board of Trustees.

public. Since taking office Jan. 1, Angel has dealt with a \$2 million budget cut and has worked with the passing of the higher education bill.

Angel was president of Stephen doches, Texas.

The ceremony is open to the and University Committee.



Candidates talk about the Earth

by KIMBERLY BAGBY reporter

Candidates for governor of West Virginia are scheduled to be the highlight of the Marshall University Earth Day 2000 Celebration on Wednesday at the Memorial Student Center (MSC).

The candidates are to present their views on environmental issues, such as mountaintop removal and air pollution, said Dr. Jeff May, associate professor of biological sciences.

"The gubernatorial candidates will be giving a 5-minute presentation and responding to

Editor's note: This is the first of

a three-part series examining the

competition between Marshall

and West Virginia University.

The first part focuses on the competition for students; the second,

for money; and the third, compe-

by ANDREA COPLEY

managing editor

Marshall University faithful

may boast of being the firstborn,

but West Virginia University

serves the state as a research and land-grant institution.

And thus the comparisons

"It seems like we're always com-

paring ourselves with WVU," said

Baruch Whitehead, Marshall's

director of athletic bands. "I am

very tired of the comparisons.

WVU is WVU, obviously. It is the

big university in the state. But, I

think Marshall has some wonder-

One of the biggest areas of

competition is recruiting stu-

dents. S.C.O.R.E.S. (Student

Committee on Recognizing

Excellent Students) brings in

high school students for a week-

"S.C.O.R.E.S. is a big recruit-

end of academic competition.

ful programs."

begin — and never seem to end.

tition on the athletic field.

students will be able to evaluate for themselves the candidates' environmental positions."

Earth Day should be interesting to students "because they live on planet Earth," May said. "They ought to be concerned

that there are significant signs that the resources and ecological processes that sustain us are degrading," he said.

Two of the candidates who will be speaking are Jim Lees, Democrat, and Bob Myers, Libertarian. Other candidates were invited, but have not confirmed their participation.

Dr. Frank S. Gilliam, profesaudience questions," said Dr. 'sor of biological sciences, said, Cheryl Brown, professor of "I think this will be not just

omparisons never end

political science. "This way the interesting to students, but it will be important for them to attend. Virtually all of them are voting adults. They should vote, and vote in the most informed way possible."

The candidate forum will be from 7-9 p.m. in the Alumni Lounge of the MSC.

Information tables will be set up on the plaza of the MSC from noon to 3 p.m. The tables will be presented by organizations, such as the Tri-State Transit Authority, the Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition and the League of Women Voters, and they will display views on environmental issues, Gill-iam said.

The celebration is free and open to the public.

reporter

and Performing Arts Center.



Other speakers include Sarah N. Denman, provost, and Cathy M. Armstrong, chairman of the Uni-

of West Virginia

versity System

"Owning the Op-

Before coming to Marshall, F. Austin University in Nacog-

He is a former Michigan legislator who served on the College ment program," said Dr. James W. Harless, director of admissions. "It's very important for the students to see the campus. They're looking for safety, for a clean campus and if they will

fit in with other students." Tricia Petty, WVU assistant to the assistant vice president for student affairs and enrollment services, said many students are

Web site. "Our online applications have easily quadrupled in past years," she said. "More and more high school students have access. It's

much more convenient." Petty, who has worked at the University of Virginia, the University of Georgia and Bluefield State College, said WVU really takes students into considera-

"Every decision made takes students in mind first," she said. "A lot of people say that, but they don't really do it. It's a campuswide collaboration to make that first and foremost."



Competition

Some students slip through Both universities spend much

time and money recruiting stu-

Kanawha County, with its 8,742 high school students, is a feeding ground for the universities. Ian T. Lovejoy, a senior at Sissonville High School, is one of 2,167 Kanawha County seniors. He has been recruited by Marshall, WVU and other colleges. Lovejoy said he receives about two letters a week from

See COMPETITION, P2

Students struggle because of sexuality

Editor's note: The following is the first in a three-part series on homosexuality. This story examines the struggles of Marshall's gay liberation and the adversity the gay community faces today. Part two will concern the successes seen by the gay community and part three will look at opposing views of homosexuality.

> by BUTCH BARKER editor

Julia Hagen can tell her gency phones and the camdaughter's horror stories with- pus wasn't well lighted." out crying these days.

It's been some 16 years since her daughter Laura was beaten on The Marshall's campus two separate times.

"She was in charge of hanging signs for Lambda [Marshall's first

gay organization] the night MORE before their meetings," Hagen said. "It was always late, there were no emer-



INSIDE

face by a man. The second incident included at least three men. "They were wearing fraternity shirts," Hagen said

sion, Laura was

with a sense of underlying anger. "They beat her up badly - men beating up a woman."

Hagen said her daughter recovered from the beating Hagen said on the first occa- and left West Virginia for good.

"She didn't run away right away though," Hagen said. "I punched in the am proud of my daughter." The beatings helped Laura and

> herself grow stronger, she said. Laura now leads an AIDS clinic at the University of New Mexico and Hagen has become an activist for gay rights.

She said it wasn't long after her daughter's attacks that she joined Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). Her work has brought her to Marshall's campus time and

Please see STUDENTS, P2

FROM THE WEEKEND



Sophomore Danielle Esenwein drives a pitch Friday against Mid-American Conference rival Ball State at Dot Hicks Field.

The Thundering Herd, (17-20) lost Friday's opener 2-0 but defeated the Cardinals 2-0 in the second game of the doubleheader. Marshall shutout conference foe Toledo1-0 in Saturday's opener and defeated the Rockets 3-1 in the nightcap to secure first place in the MAC Eastern Division.

photo by Mike Andrick

CSEGA searching for student, scholar affiliates

by NICOLE L. JIVIDEN reporter

The Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Gender in Appalachia (CSEGA) is accepting applications for new student and scholar affiliates.

Applicants must send in a curriculum vitae, including education, job history, achievements and the type of writing the applicants have completed in their research, two letters of reference and a project proposal describing the research, Dr. Shirley Lumpkin, CSEGA co-director and professor of English,

"Affiliates have to demonstrate they have expertise in their research in the areas of ethnicity and gender in Appalachia," Lumpkin said.

Student affiliates must be enrolled in a Master's or a Ph.D. program and submit a research proposal that meets the goals of CSEGA, Mary K. Thomas, CSEGA administrative assistant,

Current student affiliates are Karaleah Reichard, assistant professor of management and marketing, Travis Williams, Dunbar sociology major, Maura Conway, CSEGA graduate assistant, Sharon Brescoach, assistant professor of journalism and mass communications, Connie Zirkle, senior

administrative secretary of the psychology department, Julia Lewis, CSEGA graduate assistant and Okey Napier, a part time instructor for the department of sociology and anthropology,

Thomas said. Scholar affiliates must have a Ph.D. or professional equivalent and should send a proposal for research activity that is congruent with the aims of CSEGA and approved by a committee,

Thomas said. Current scholar affiliates are Dr. Mary Jo Graham, associate professor of family and consumer services and director of the Early Education Center Marshall, Dr. Linda Spatig, professor of advanced educational studies at Marshall and William Drennen Jr., professor of history and race relations at West Virginia State College, according to the center's Web site http://www.marshall.edu/cse

"Affiliates want to be part of CSEGA because it lends credibility to belong to center that has external funding," Lumpkin said.

CSEGA will be taking applications until the group's grant from the Rockefeller Foundation is finished, Lumpkin said.

For further information, applicants may call Thomas at 696-3348.

Competition

Marshall student leaders recognized

by COURTNEY M. ROSS reporter

Students got recognized for their hard work and accomplishments at the 23rd annual Student Leadership Awards on jealousy out there."

President Dan Angel greeted the recipients and their families as they entered the reception before the awards ceremony.

comed the audience before the awards were handed out.

Della Crews was the keynote

speaker for the evening.

"It's hard after graduation. Don't go out wearing rose-colored glasses," Crews said. "The road to success isn't smooth because of human nature and

Crews encouraged the audience never to quit or give up. She said life isn't easy and everyone should just have patience.

"Even if you have to take a Dr. Ernest Middleton weldetour, keep your eyes on the prize," Crews said. "Oprah Winfrey once said that the sweetest revenge is success.'

Crews also told the students to always work hard because someone would always be watching who could take them to the next level. She closed with a challenge.

"There are a lot of talented students at Marshall, and I know you will make your parents and West Virginia proud," Crews said. "If you don't feel challenged anymore with your job, move on. Future generations need to redefine age so that people don't have to retire until they are ready.'

Forty-two students received Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities Awards.

The Karen C. Thomas Award was given to Dana M. Kinzy.

The Outstanding Adviser Award was given to Dr. Margaret Rotter.

The Dean's Award was given to Brandi Jacobs. J.J. Spichek and and Matt Ladd received the Student Involvement Award.

More than 20 other students received various other awards. A complete list is available at www.marshall.edu/parthenon/ studentleaders.html.

Students

From page 1

again as a contributor to Marshall's Lesbian Gay Bisexual Outreach Office and the Lambda Society, which her daughter helped reorganize

before her attacks. Okey Napier Jr. remembers when gay liberation took a turn at Marshall. Although it was later than some other universities, 1985-1990 were the years things began to change.

It was jeans against camos. "Queers" against "breeders."

Whatever it was called, it was ugly, said Napier, who was among the students in jeans for Marshall's first Pride Week events in October of 1989.

"About 10 of us organized [Lambda Society's] first pride event," Napier said. "It was called 'Jeans Day.' Everyone in support of gay rights wore jeans. Those opposed mostly wore camouflage pants."

Napier said among the nega-

tives of that day was that were torn down or thrown "Jeans Day" made it into the public schools. "This some how spilled over into the public schools and caused a lot of grief," Napier said. "Kids wearing jeans got [beat up]."

Back at Marshall, however, gay supporters were faced with protests at the Memorial Student Center Plaza during a speaker's lecture on gay rights. "A group of people wearing camouflage formed a circle around us and eventually closed us in," Napier said. "They shouted down one of the speakers."

Napier said anti-gay activists at Marshall have been less vocal since that day. He said anti-gay graffiti and slurs have been around since, however.

Graffiti took on a new meaning this semester when Marshall's colony of Delta Lambda Phi National Social Fraternity for gay, bisexual and progressive men reported the

defacement of their Rush fliers. Words like "faggots" and "queers" were scribbled across more than 30 fliers. Others

away. Personal attacks, which receive little notice, occur more frequently, Napier said.

A Huntington freshman who asks to be identified as Celeste, said she has endured several years of abuse from her family and the public because she possesses what she calls "character."

"I wear my pants way too big and my hair color changes from day to day," Celeste said. "I go to gay bars and have gay

"None of those things mean I'm gay, yet people still refer to me as a dyke. I've been called names here on campus, this semester even."

Celeste said she has been in several arguments with men and women about her sexuality and would graciously admit it if she were a lesbian, but she cannot. "My boyfriend would be very upset with me," Celeste said with a laugh. "No, really, I'm straight. I'm just open minded and a bit freakish."

It took her boyfriend of one

year to convince her own mother she was not a lesbian, Celeste said. "Perceptions are so wrong these days," she said. "My own mother asked me about every day if I liked girls."

Shawn D. Rose, Gallipolis junior who attends Marshall's Mid-Ohio Valley Center in Point Pleasant, said his sexuality left him beaten outside a straight bar in Athens, Ohio. "I'm a proud gay man," Rose

said. "I went into this college bar with a T-shirt that said 'I Hate Girls' on it. Some guys gave me a rough time at first. Then things were fine, so I preceded to get drunk."

The night worsened for Rose, however.

"I was trying to make it back to my friend's apartment, but the same guys [from the bar] grabbed me," Rose said. "They pushed me down, took my wallet and one of them kicked me in the face."

Rose said his physical injuries were minor but the mental injuries probably never will

Candidate for governor visits campus today

by COURTNEY M. ROSS reporter

Those interested will have a chance to go one on one with gubernatorial candidate Jim

The Young Democrats will

sponsor a forum featuring Lees at 6 p.m. today in the Alumni Lounge of the Memorial Student Center. Anyone is welcome to

attend and ask questions.

"We wanted to bring the candidates to the students," Nate Kuratomi, president of Young Democrats, said. "This will give them the chance to see the candidates and why they should vote for them." The goal of the forum is to

increase student involvement, Kuratomi said. -This forum will be similar

to the forum they had last week for the Secretary of State candidates. "He really wants to know

student perspective," Kuratomi said. More information is avail-

able by contacting Kuratomi

at 522-3269.

Concord College in Athens. "I get letters from [Concord]

From page 1

alumni — even the dining staff. It makes you feel wanted," he said. "Concord is a small college. I'm from a small high school and am used to one-onone attention."

says Marshall lacks.

"The only thing I've gotten to fit them in." from Marshall is my acceptance letter," said Lovejoy, who is interested in majoring in communications. "I interviewed for Yeager [scholars program], but didn't get in. In the rejection letter, they didn't even say, 'We still want you to come here.' I've gotten more personal attention from the WVU admissions counselor." Still, Lovejoy says both uni-

versities lack a personal touch. "I'll probably go to Concord."

Universities seek top students Harless knows the competition for good students is tough.

"High school graduating classes in West Virginia are going down. We're going after for fall 1999.

the same West Virginia students," the admissions director

"At meetings, the WVU group is over here, the Marshall group is over here and the Concord group is over here," Harless said. "We don't sit and debate who's best. We want to raise the college-going rate. It's professional atmosphere. When WVU's enrollment went up, you didn't see WVU throwing confetti up in the air. It's that attention, or even Actually that [increased enrollthey were trying to find dorms ty.

WVU also has a higher that for about 15 years enrollment: 22,315 in fall 1999, compared with Marshall's 15,635.

Harless defines Marshall's target recruitment area as below an imaginary line from Parkersburg to Lewisburg.

One recruiting tool Marshall uses is the automatic scholarship, which guarantees students money based on a high grade point average and college entrance exam score. Harless said 390 students accepted the scholarship when it was offered for the first time in fall 1996; 900 for fall 1997; 1,500 for fall 1998; and 1,770

"It's a good recruiting tool," Harless said. "Parents love it when we name you [as a recipient of a scholarship] at graduation and have you walk across the stage."

Along with the automatic scholarships, Marshall seems to have an admissions philosophy of "Make it easy and make it fast." Admissions employees automatically send preprinted applications to students who send their ACT (American College Testing exam) scores acknowledgment, that Lovejoy ment] caused problems because of 19 or above to the universi-

> "Marshall has been doing Harless said. "WVU doesn't."

> competition, or curiosity, between the admissions offices. I'll go around and look at WVU's booth to see what they are doing. They probably come around and look at ours. But, I don't think it's to the point of taping phone conversations," he says with a laugh.

'We all benefit'

Representatives from the universities' admissions offices aren't the only recruiters marching bands also draw in students through exhibitions at high school band competitions, among other things.

"We always try to create positive relationship with local [high school] band directors," Whitehead said. "We help rehearse their bands, give them ideas for shows, lend them music and [we] network. I've done several all-county bands around the state and always plug Marshall."

WVU's associate director of bands, John Hendricks, said he focuses on live performances for recruitment.

"If we're traveling to Virginia Tech for a ball game, we will stop at high schools along the way," he said. "We do about five Harless said there is a bit of or six demo shows at high school festivals in the fall. Sometimes when we travel, it's "When we're at a college fair, a joint university effort. We work closely with admissions to coordinate it."

Marshall gets many of its students from Ohio and Kentucky, and WVU draws students from Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania, he said.

Whitehead has been working on sweetening students' involvement in Marshall's marching band with a \$200 stipend for every fall semester a student is in the band. Although Whitehead asked for a \$2 increase in student fees to fund the stipend, the Committee on Student Fees recommended \$1.50.

The recommendation has been presented to President Dan Angel for approval, but Whitehead said he hasn't heard an answer.

Although financial incentives are not the norm, many bands give them, Whitehead said. Louisiana State University gives \$750 a year to each band member and Southwest Louisiana gives dorm waivers, he said.

"Whenever we get students in the marching band, it increases numbers for the math department and English department, etc.," he said. "The majority of our members are non [music] majors.

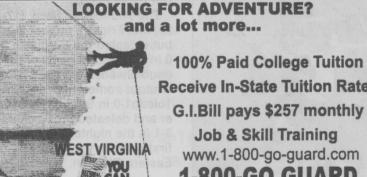
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Page edited by Carrie Smith

Parthenon

Tuesday, April 18, 2000

Protesters tie up government and confront police

by LARRY MARGASAK The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Police clubbed defiant demonstrators and dispersed them with pepper spray outside world finance meetings Monday, but then - in a grace note near the end - the three days of confrontations wound down with negotiated arrests. "Give yourselves a hand," a police official told protesters.

The demonstrators, their ranks thinned in a driving rain, disrupted the government's workday and private business but failed to shut down the two days of meetings of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

A day that began with swinging clubs turned more amicable as police orchestrated a goodnatured arrest of several hundred who wanted to be taken into

Police negotiated for an hour with protest organizer Mary Bull before proceeding with the arrests. "Give yourselves a hand," Terry Gainer, executive assistant police chief, told the crowd.

He gave Bull some flowers and then placed her under arrest.

The protesters were charged with unlawful assembly and crossing police barricades. About 500 were arrested Monday, not all so peacefully, making a total of more than 1,000 for the three days of protests.

"We view this as a total success," said Robert Weissman, codirector of Essential Action, one of smoke canisters.

"We view this as a total success. We have shined the light on these institutions as never before in this country."

> Robert Weissman, protester

hundreds of groups in the protest coalition. "We have shined the light on these institutions as never before in this country."

Earlier, drum-beating marchers vented their fury about the treatment of the poor.

They accused the bank and 4MF of imposing crushing debts on poor nations, destroying the environment and perpetrating a host of other ills. "World Bank destroys tropical rain forest," said a two story-banner hung on a building under construction.

Unlike demonstrations Sun-day when police let protesters take over empty streets, confrontations developed Monday over the din of traffic as Washingtonians went to

Traffic was disrupted and some government buildings and shops never opened. When several hundred demonstrators came within a block of the IMF and menaced a police car, black clad officers with helmets, billy clubs and visors responded with pepper spray and

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Wall Street recovers after falls brings stocks to record-breaking low

NEW YORK (AP) - Bigname stocks rallied back Monday, surging into the close amid hopes Wall Street hit bottom in last week's punishing selloff. Most other stocks fell again, however, as bargain hunters remained leery of smaller companies.

According to preliminary calculations, the battered Nasdaq composite index jumped a record 217.68 points to 3,538.97, nearly all of it coming over the final hour of trading.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 276.74 to 10,582.51, recovering nearly half of Friday's record one-day point drop of

Leading technology stocks such as Intel and Cisco Systems dominated the 6.5 percent gain by the Nasdaq index, which last week lost one quarter of its value in a scary selling frenzy.

But while investors showed renewed interest in many of the big and popular companies that tumbled last week, the bias remained negative on the

broad market, where declining inflation and interest rates will issues outnumbered advancers by nearly a 3-to-2 margin.

bragging rights over who has the biggest telescope. The California Institute of Technology

has the current world's biggest, the Keck Observatory atop Hawaii's Mauna Kea with a primary mirror 33 feet across. Bigger mirrors collect more light, enabling astronomers to

Technology are collaborating with several other schools to build two telescopes with 211/2 feet mirrors at Las Campanas, Chile, that will function together as one bigger telescope. Schools want the best telescopes so they can lure and retain top scientists and give

detect fainter and more distant objects. Harvard and Massachusetts Institute of

potential donors evidence that their programs are on the cutting edge.

Still, it was encouraging to see signs of stability, especially since foreign markets had tumbled overnight in reaction to Friday's brutal slide on Wall Street, which sliced a record 617 points off the Dow and a record 355 points off the Nasdaq.

Japan's Nikkei stock average fell 6.98 percent. In afternoon trading, Germany's DAX index fell 0.38 percent, Britain's FT-SE 100 fell 2.97 percent, and France's CAC-40 fell 0.09 percent.

Last week, worried that rising

cut into company profits, investors began dumping stocks in just about every sector of the market along with the speculative high-flyers from the Internet boom. The Dow was left 12 percent below its record high, while the Nasdaq fell to 34 percent below the record it reached March 10.

Possibly helping sentiment Monday were some more strong profit reports on the first three months of the year, this time from Citigroup, Merrill Lynch, Eastman Kodak and Ford

Top-secret photos of Area 51 are being posted on the Web

Stock market makes comeback at closing

by MARTHA WAGGONER The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — The truth is out there — on the Web. Photos of Area 51, the super-secret Air Force test site in Nevada that has tantalized UFO and conspiracy buffs, are being posted on the

"This is the first glimpse into the most secret training and testing facility for the Air Force," said John Hoffman, president of Aerial Images Inc.

The company planned to post five images of the site in collaboration with Microsoft, Kodak, Digital Equipment Corp., Autometric Inc. and the Russian agency Sovinformsputnik.

The partners launched a Russian satellite from Kazahkstan in 1998 to map Earth's surface and Area 51. An openskies agreement signed in 1992 by 24 nations, including the United States and Russia, made the effort possible.

TUITION FINANCING

The Air Force only recently there, where their parts are acknowledged that Groom Dry Lake Air Force Base even exists. The 8,000-square-mile base is 75 miles northwest of Las Vegas, in the arid, rugged Nellis Range.

The base's airspace is restricted; aircrafts are not allowed to fly over it. UFO aficionados believe that unidenticopied for U.S. prototypes.

Several government agencies are aware of the images and haven't responded, Hoffman said. "I've had no feedback from anybody that indicates anybody gives a hoot," he said.

An Air Force spokeswoman would not comment on any secu- offer a link to the Area 51 pages. fied flying objects are hidden rity concerns about the images. Viewing the images is free.

"We acknowledge having an operating site there, and the work is classified," spokeswoman Gloria Cales said. The work involves "operations critical to the U.S. military and the country's security."

Aerial Images, on the Web at www.terraserver.com, planned to

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—Dr. Jeff May associate professor of biological sciences

Page edited by Butch Barker

OUR views

New group is on right track

We've all had the feeling of loneliness. We've felt that we are different — maybe even freakish.

There's a strong truth to that though. Some of us share beliefs, dress alike and come from similar families. Regardless of the similarities, we're all different.

Most of us on the staff are young — 21-24. Each of us believe we need individual support groups from time to time. Some of us have found ours, others still are looking.

That's why we're saying "way to go" to The Marshall University Students For Improving Team Support (MUS-FITS). This new group for non-traditional students, or those who just want support, is the most uplifting news we've heard in a while.

We all need support and non-traditional students sometimes find it hard to become involved in groups that are generally composed of younger members

Tina R. Martin, a member of MUS-FITS explained the group on today's Life! Page.

"I think our organization will benefit all the non-traditional students by giving them a platform and a voice on campus," Martin said. "All students deserve that support and positive social environment that can be achieved by belonging and participating in a college group or organization."

Good luck and way to go MUSFITS.

Why the three-part series? Let us tell you

The debate on homosexuality at Marshall is an issue that is still current and likely will be for a while.

Although the forum for debate provided by The Parthenon has not featured the subject for a while, it is still obviously an issue. Following reader response from the articles and opinions printed on the defacement of Delta Lambda Phi's Rush fliers, we decided to take a closer look at the topic.

Today and the next two days we will examine the history of Marshall's gay liberation, the adversity faced by homosexuals at Marshall and the varying heterosexual views on homosexuals. The stories can be found on the front page of The Parthenon for the next three days.

Parthenon

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Parthenon

I still don't like that stupid bird



I have been called many names in my life, some that are unprintable. The other day I was told that I had no soul. A claim such as this is not made lightly by most people, so you may be wondering why someone would accuse me of not having a soul. I was merely talking about how I watched cartoons when I was younger and there was something I could not understand. Why did Wile E. Coyote never catch the Road Runner?

I never liked the Road
Runner. I always felt he was a
bird that was only trying to
show off. I'm not saying that I
thought the Coyote was a great
character either, but the Road
Runner just got under my skin.
I wanted the Coyote to catch
that annoying Road Runner
just once and eat him. The
Coyote went through a lot of
pain during those cartoons and

I felt that he deserved some compensation for what the Road Runner had inflicted.

I don't know why the Coyote would bother with trying to catch the Road Runner to begin with. The Road Runner was just a skinny little bird who made an annoying beeping sound. Maybe the Coyote didn't want to eat the Road Runner at all. He could have just wanted to shut the Road Runner's beak. I never liked the Road Runner if for no other reason than all he did was make that stupid noise and run off. Wile E. Coyote was a genius! You think a bird is going to be able to get away from someone this smart? I don't think so.

There have been many cartoons where the plot has to do with one animal chasing another to eat it. Tom and Jerry made a career out of it, but Jerry was nowhere near annoying as the Road Runner. Heck, Jerry even misled me to believe that all mice were cute and smart. Most just want to eat the crumbs you were too lazy to clean up. It's not that I have anything against animals, but the Road Runner has it coming

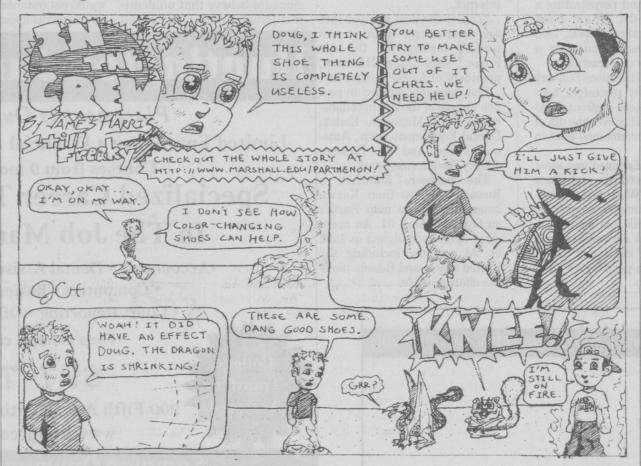
Road Runner has it coming.

They don't make cartoons fea-

turing the Coyote and the Road Runner. I wish that just for once that stupid bird would go off the cliff instead of Wile E. Coyote. Wile has had enough bandages to last a lifetime. And while we're at it-shouldn't Wile E. have sued the Acme company by now? He should at least get a discount for being such a good customer. This company has spent years taking advantage of a hungry coyote that just wanted to have a decent meal. That's the reason Wile E. was always so darn skinny.

Someone claimed that I have no soul simply because I wanted Wile E. to capture the Road Runner and eat him. I admit that it may not be the most popular thing to say, but I stand by it. I don't think it would hurt the Road Runner just once. Wile E. has fallen off so many cliffs that he should be dead now, but he isn't. If it means that I am a bad person because I desire to see the Road Runner's smirk wiped off, then that's too bad. I still don't like that stupid bird.

Mark Blevins is a columnist for The Parthenon. Comments can be sent to him at 311 Smith Hall



CAMPUS views

Article may lead to misunderstanding, director says

I thank The Parthenon for the front page article about Marshall's ongoing review and revision of the Student Code of Conduct. Unfortunately, I fear that the wording of the article may lead to a misunderstanding among students who wish to participate in the revision process.

The policy on notifying parents when students commit alcohol and drug violations is not a proposed policy, but an existing policy. It was adopted in May 1999, following a series of open meetings, discussion in the pages of this newspaper, and deliberation by all the proper committees. Many students were involved in the drafting of the parent notice policy, which is not, by the way, a part of the Code of Conduct. What the reporter referred to in the article was simply our plan to add this already established policy to the language in the Student Handbook.

Students who attend the April 18 forum hoping to discuss the Parent Notice policy may be disappointed. It will not be on the agenda. However, forum attendees are invited to discuss Marshall's rules and sanctions regarding alcohol and drug usage, as well as any other sections of the Code that interest them.

- Linda P. Rowe, E.d.D., director of Judicial Programs

Professor takes on columnist's views on musicians

This is in comment on Mr. Blevins' column on the call for retirement of old rock musicians. I do not understand if his problem is with their age or with the price of tickets. Your argument fails to take into consideration the reason people buyout those concerts in the first place. It is not the performer's ability to do the same he/she did 30 years ago, is not their ability to hit those notes. It is about remembering the days when those songs

were on the radio.

Without getting into the arguments that those groups you dismiss as "needing to retire" made rock what it is today, many people would take any of them today over those Harley rockers on a Moped band called the Backstreet Boys, or they rather pay to see those "old timers" than silicone-filled Britney. Sorry, those geriatric bands have made Retro-shows and Oldies the No. 1 and No. 2 radio formats in the United States.

I believe they had your opinion in mind when they made members of MENUDO retire at age 14. Don't worry about those musicians making so much money, this is America, land of opportunity and free enterprise. Anyhow, The Rolling Stones are the No. 1 money making act in U.S. history. Ask anyone that has gone to one of their concerts if they think Mick needs to retire. I bet that in return they will ask you about the policy for retirement as a Parthenon columnist that never really got it.

- Harold Blanco, instructor of modern languages

Phi Mu members say Greek Week was a success

Greek Week 2000 seemed to go off without a hitch and ended with a bang and the sisters of Phi Mu would like to thank all those involved.

Greek Week is supposed to pull chapters together and unite the Greeks in a friendly yet competitive way and this year that's exactly what it did.

Our sisterhood definitely got stronger as we pulled together and came out closer than ever not to mention the new friends that we made from other chapters on campus. We would like to congratulate the sisters of Delta Zeta and the brothers of Alpha Tau Omega for their first place victories.

We would also like to congratulate the sisters of Alpha Chi Omega and the brothers of Pi Kappa Alpha on receiving the Chapter of Excellence Award. Not to forget Matt Ladd (Sigma Phi Epsilon) for being honored as Greek Man of the Year along with our own Devon Kelly who was named Greek Woman of the Year. And last but certainly not least we would like to recognize Christine Boggs, Chris Nourse, Jason Southall, and Sobera Sohain who made this entire week possible. Again, we would like to thank and congratulate all the Greeks for making Greek Week 2000 great!

— The sisters of Beta Phi Phi Mu

Forget 'Got Milk?,' try 'Milk Sucks'

by CHRISTOPHER HAYNES
guest columnist

Several weeks ago, most Marshall students probably saw the "Got Milk?" booth in the Student Center, or read an editorial in The Parthenon about PETA's bizarre response to the ad campaign. Even James Harris addressed the controversy in his comic strip, "In the Crew." Well, here's another reason that Whoopi Goldberg, Vanessa Williams, Spike Lee, and Kristi Yamaguchi should wipe off their milk moustaches and clean up their acts.

Lactose — or "milk sugar" — is a natural sugar commonly found in milk.

While whites can digest the sugar without a problem, many non-whites cannot. Unable to break the substance down due to the absence of the enzyme lactase, lactose ferments in their intestines causing abdominal cramps, bloating, diarrhea, and gas. According to a published review by the Physicians Committee of Responsible Medicine, lactose intolerance affects some 70 percent of African-Americans, 90 percent of Asian-Americans, 74 percent of Native-American, and 53 percent of Mexican-Americans.

Yet the "Got Milk?" campaign pumps milk into school breakfast and lunch programs around the United States, and cereal companies are partners in the controversial practice. "Cereal? That means they will have to have milk, said Massachusetts Senator Diane Wilkerson. "It's crazy we should be giving urban children milk for breakfast when such a high proportion of them are children of color." The Congressional Black Caucus has also spoken out against the "Got Milk?" campaign and its indifference to lactose-intolerance among minorities.

Even the late Dr. Benjamin Spock, America's leading authority on child care, spoke out against feeding cow's milk to children, saying it can cause anemia, allergies, and insulin-dependent diabetes and in the long term, will set kids up for obesity and heart disease, America's number one cause of death. Dr. Frank Oski, former Director of Pediatrics at Johns Hopkins University, added that "there's no reason to drink cow's milk at any time in your life. It was designed for calves, not humans, and we should all stop drinking it today."

In addition, dairy products may not prevent osteoporosis, since their high-protein content leaches calcium from the body. Population studies backed up by a Harvard study of more than 75,000 nurses, suggest that drinking milk can actually cause osteoporosis instead.

Cow's milk is an inefficient food source, as well. Cows, like humans, expend the majority of their food intake simply leading their lives. It takes a great deal of grain and other foodstuffs cycled through cows to produce a small amount of milk. And not only is milk a waste of energy and water, the production of milk is also a disastrous source of water pollution. A dairy cow produces 120 pounds of waste every day—equal to that of two dozen people, but with no toilets, sewers, or treatment plants.

Consider the effect on the environment. In Lancaster County, Pa., manure from dairy cows is destroying the Chesapeake Bay, and in California, which produces one-fifth of the country's total supply of milk, the manure from dairy farms has poisoned vast expanses of underground water, rivers, and streams. In the Central Valley of California, the cows produce as much excrement as a city of 21 million people, and even a smallish farm of 200 cows will produce as much nitrogen as in the sewage from a community of 5,000 to 10,000 people, according to a U.S. Senate report on animal waste.

Finally, anyone who claims to care about animals should know that corporate-owned factories, where cows are warehoused in huge sheds and treated like milk machines, have replaced most small family farms. With genetic manipulation and intensive production technologies, it is common for modern dairy cows to produce 100 pounds of milk a day -- 10 times more than they would produce in nature. To keep milk production as high as possible, farmers artificially inseminate cows every year. Growth hormones and unnatural milking schedules cause dairy cows' udders to become painful and so heavy that they sometimes drag on the ground, resulting in frequent infections and overuse of antibiotics.

Male calves, the "byproducts" of the dairy industry, endure 14 to17 weeks of torment in veal crates so small that they can't even turn around. Female calves often replace their old, worn-out mothers, or are slaughtered soon after birth for the rennet in their stomachs (an ingredient of most commercial cheeses). They are often kept in tiny crates or tethered in stalls for the first few months of their lives, only to grow up to become "milk machines" like their mothers.

I agree with the editors of The Parthenon: "Got Beer?" was a ridiculous slogan. PETA would have been better off with its original campaign, which comes straight to the point: "Milk Sucks."

Marshall men's basketball Coach Greg White announced Sunday that Latece Williams, a 6foot-8 power forward from Okaloosa Walton Community College in Niceville, Fla., has signed a National Letter of Intent for the next season. Okaloosa Walton was ranked in the top 20 during the 1999-2000 season and ended the year ranked No. 19 nationally in NJCAA Region VII.



Parthenon

National Football League Draft Coverage

A win-win situation

Chad Pennington says playing for Jets will be a learning opportunity

by JACOB MESSER Life! editor

A student of the game whose study habits and intelligence helped him earn All-American honors on the football field and in the classroom, former Marshall quarterback Chad Pennington thinks the New York Jets franchise is the perfect opportunity for him to do two of his favorite things - play football and learn.

"This is a win-win situation," Pennington said after the Jets selected him with the 18th pick of the NFL Draft, the highest any Marshall player has been taken.

"I'm playing under a great mentor in Quarterbacks Coach Dan Henning and I'm playing behind a great quarterback in Vinny Testaverde.

"Plus, I'll have great skill people around me in (wide receiver) Wayne Chrebet and (running back) Curtis Martin. There's no

pressure on me to perform. I can go in there and learn, knowing that I'm not going to get

"This is just a great fit for me." Jets Coach Al Pennington Groh thinks it is

a great fit for the team, too. That's why he used the third of his four first-round draft picks on the 6-foot-4, 220pound signalcaller after pass-

13th selections. "We were a little surprised to find him at that position," Groh said. "He was too good to pass up. Pro football is a game of quarterbacks and we have to have a

ing him up with the 12th and

soild triggerman back there. "All successful teams have great quarterbacks. This pick ensures the Jets will have that for a long time. This is a very fortuitous drop for us.'

Pennington, whose accuracy and intelligence allow him to pick apart defenses, will compete against reserves Jim Jaworski said. "He has a high Kubiak, Tom Tupa and Ray Lucas for the No. 2 spot.

Groh and Henning will groom Pennington to replace Testaverde, who turns 37 in November and is coming back from a torn Achilles' tendon, when the veteran quarterback retires.

Pennington, a four-year starter who threw for more than 10,000 yards and 100 touchdowns in compiling a 45-6 record, was praised by commentators and draft analysts, who could not explain his descention into the lower half of the first round.

"Chad Pennington is the 5th or 6th best player in this draft," draft expert Mel Kiper Jr. said moments before the Jets (8-8 last season) finally selected Pennington, who finished fifth in the Heisman Trophy balloting this season. "He's going to be a super steal wherever he goes. He's a potential franchise signalcaller."

ESPN commentator and former NFL quarterback Ron Jaworski compared Pennington to former San Francisco 49ers great Joe Montana and current Indianapolis Colts star Peyton Manning.

"He understands the passing game, he's accurate and he can throw wherever he wants," release to go along with his height. He has good balance, good stride and good arm strength. His throws are right on the body. He has it all."

Dropping down didn't bother Pennington — that much.

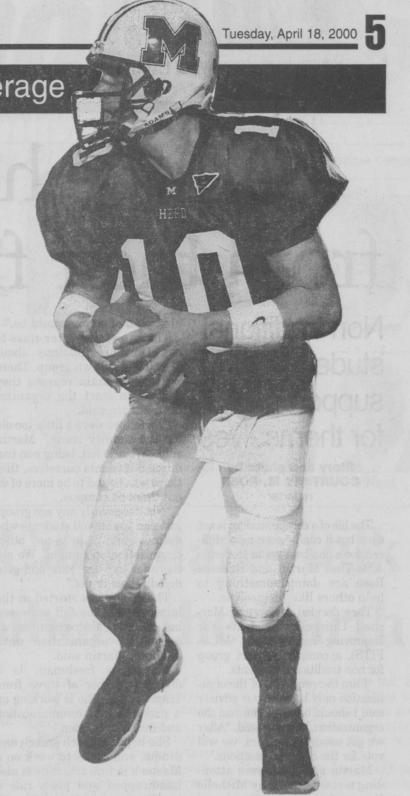
"Of course, your competitive spirit kicks in and you want to be taken as high as possible, but 18th in the first round isn't too bad," said Pennington, who admitted he was surprised Pittsburgh, Denver and San Francisco passed him up.

"Teams have needs they have to fill. That's why you may drop lower than you expect. The draft works in mysterious ways.

"I'm just happy to be a New York Jet. It's a great organization and a big-time football town. The Jets are an established winning team on the verge of making it back to the AFC Championship Game and getting to the Super Bowl."

Their color scheme doesn't hurt either, huh Chad?

"That's another great thing about it," Pennington said, "I'm still going to be wearing green and white. It's kind of neat.



A good reason to miss class

Chargers take Marshall safety in 2nd round

by JACOB MESSER Life! editor

Normally, Rogers Beckett would have been in Smith Hall listening to Political Science Professor Simon Perry on Monday afternoon.

But this week the former Marshall safety was at Qualcomm Stadium talking with San Diego Coach Mike Riley.



With their first pick of the NFL Draft, the Chargers took Beckett with the 43rd pick overall and the 12th selection in the second round.

"It feels pretty good," Beckett said shortly after NFL

Commissioner Paul Tagliabue announced San Diego's selection to the studio and television audience Saturday. "Reality hasn't hit because my lifestyle hasn't changed yet.'

It soon will. Beckett flew to Fla. "We really like him." San Diego Sunday, attended a press conference Monday and returned to Huntington later

that night. Diego when the Chargers (8-8 sees the field very well. He last season) start their mini- makes plays." camp next week.

"Strengths and weaknesses don't matter because I need to go out there and improve in every area," Beckett said. "It's a job who went to the Chicago Bears. now and that's how I have to

tee is I'm going to go out there and play hard on every down. That's how I've always played and that's how I'm going to continue to play."

A big adjustment, Beckett said, will be mental.

"I have to get used to playing with and against those guys," Beckett said of his NFL teammates and opponents. "Those are household names. I'm just happy to be getting this chance."

The Chargers and Riley are secondary.'



The San Diego Chargers took Rogers Beckett in the second round of the NFL Draft.

happy to be getting a prototypical safety in the mold of Steve Atwater or Tim McDonald.

"We think he can play strong safety, free safety, in our nickel package and be a part of our special teams," Riley said of Beckett, a native of Apopka,

San Diego General Manager Bobby Betherd also likes Beckett.

"He has excellent range," Betherd said. "He's very pro-Beckett will return to San ductive. He can tackle and he

> Beckett was the sixth defensive back drafted overall and the second safety selected, five picks behind Nebraska's Mike Brown,

Beckett, a three-year starter and two-time all-conference "The one thing I can guaran- selection, had 84 tackles and six interceptions this past season despite missing two games after suffering a concussion.

Draft analysts said they were impressed with the 6-foot-3, 205pound Beckett's size and range.

"His ball skills are very good and he is a better than average tackler," former Pittsburgh Steelers Director of Football Operations Tom Donahoe said.

"His addition will bring athletic ability and range to their

Chapman eager to join Moss in Minnesota

by JACOB MESSER Life! editor

The Thundering Herd rarely lost a game during the two years Randy Moss and Doug Chapman were teammates.

Chapman hopes that trend continues when he joins his old teammate with his new team.

The Minnesota Vikings used the 88th pick of the NFL Draft to we can bring some of that select the former Marshall running back in the third round, reuniting Moss and Chapman. "It's going to be great to play Vikings are expecting from break into the secondary."

again," Chapman Saturday said night from his parents' home in Chesterfield, Va. "We only lost

three games at Marshall when we Chapman played together (in 1996 and 1997). Hopefully,

Marshall success up here." Coach Dennis Green and the

Chapman, who rushed for more than 4,000 yards and 50 touchdowns in his career. "He can do it all," Green said of the 5-foot-10, 218-pound Chapman, whom he compares to

because he's a pure runner.

"That's what we're looking for, a guy that, when we spread a team out, who has the size at 215 pounds to go in and break That's what Minnesota tackles (and) enough speed (4.45 in the 40-yard dash) to

Minnesota running back Robert

Smith. "We had him rated high

The Vikings (10-6 last season) probably will use Chapman in short-vardage situations, on third downs and as a receiving threat out of the backfield.

Chapman said the lessons he learned playing behind Erik Thomas as a redshirt freshman will serve him well in the NFL.

"Playing behind Erik was a great learning process," he said. "I realized I had to capitalize on my opportunities when I got them. It's the same way now. I have to be ready to do my best when I get a chance."

Williams is ready for his revenge

by JACOB MESSER Life! editor

The Indianapolis Colts. The Carolina Panthers. And the Atlanta Falcons.

James Williams cannot wait to play those teams this season. The former Marshall wide receiver owes them a touchdown catch or two.

"They all called four or five times over the weekend, telling me this and that, but they never followed through on me," said Williams, who



Williams

was taken in the sixth round of the NFL Draft by the Seattle Seahawks with the 175th pick overall. "I'll prove what I can do

when we play them.' Williams, who runs a 4.38

40-yard dash, hopes to replace Joey Galloway, who Seattle traded to Dallas for two firstround picks. "Going in, I'm already the

fastest guy on the team," he said. "That means I give them a deep receiving threat and can return some kicks." Mini-camp begins April 27.

Williams (6-foot, 185-pounds) promises to be ready. "All they have to do is sit back, relax and watch the

show," he said. The Seahawks (9-7 last season) also selected former Florida wide receiver Darrell Jackson in the third round.

two wishes out of one

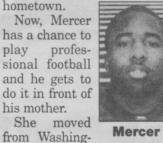
by JACOB MESSER

Giradie Mercer got his wish Sunday. So did his mother, Bobbie Cureton.

The former Marshall defensive tackle agreed to a free agent contract with the Carolina Panthers, who play in Charlotte — his mother's

hometown. Now, Mercer has a chance to professional football and he gets to do it in front of his mother. She moved

ton, D.C., to



Charlotte in 1997 to care for her ailing father, who passed away in October. This is a double blessing,"

said Mercer, who was courted by the Philadelphia Eagles, New York Giants, Seattle Seahawks and Washington Redskins. "The Lord worked this situation out perfectly. He deserves all the credit.'

Mercer, who reports to minicamp April 27, must compete with starters Sean Gilbert and Tim Morabito, five reserves and two draft picks to earn a roster spot for the Panthers (8-8 last season).

"I'm a great athlete for my size," said the 6-foot-3, 285pound Mercer, who runs a 4.81 40-yard dash and has a 34inch vertical jump. "I can turn some heads and see some playing time if I get the chance."

Mercer gets | Chiefs like O'Neal's hard hits

by JACOB MESSER Life! editor

To Andre O'Neal, the bonecrushing hit he delivered to Mike Bath to force the Miami of Ohio quarterback out of the game this past season was ordinary.

To the Kansas City Chiefs, it was extraordinary.

In fact, that play is one of the reasons the Chiefs signed the former Marshall linebacker to a free agent contract Sunday. "All the

coaches kept



talking about that hit," O'Neal said with a laugh. "They were impressed by it. They were more impressed by the fact that I just got up after I did it and acted like it was nothing." They also liked his ability to

play all three linebacker spots. O'Neal, who turned down lucrative offers from St. Louis and San Francisco, reports to mini-camp April 27. The Chiefs (9-7 last season)

were left with only six linebackers after the death of starting inside linebacker Derrick Thomas in an autombile accident earlier this year.

"They need serious help in the linebacking corps," said the 6-foot-2, 235-pound O'Neal, the only linebacker the Chiefs drafted or signed, "and I'm going to do everything I can to help them."

Tampa Bay, Grace are a good match

by JACOB MESSER

For some NFL teams, John Grace fits into their programs like a round peg in a square hole.

But to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, the former Marshall linebacker is a perfect fit. Grace and the Buccaneers agreed to a free

Sunday. "They really don't look at your size," said the 5-foot-11, 218-pound Grace, whose stature may

have caused

agent contract



other teams to pass on him. "They look at your ability to make plays.' Grace, who reports to mini-camp Wednesday, can

do that. He had more than 400 tackles in his career. "I fit their style of play," said Grace, a native of Okeechobee, Fla. "They're aggressive. They

come at you. Your ability is

what matters to them." Grace likes his chances at Tampa Bay (11-5 last season) given the depletion of its linebacking corps, which dropped from 12 linebackers in March to eight linebackers in April. That number includes Grace

"I have a great chance to come in and make this team." Grace said. "I'm happy just to get a chance."

and third-round draft pick

Nate Webster of Miami (Fla.).



Summer vacation is less than three weeks away. What are you going to do during your much-needed vacation? Go to school? Get a job? Be lazy? Find out what your fellow students plan to do during their three-month vacation from the world of academia...

A little help from their friends

Non traditional students form support group for themselves

Story and photo by **COURTNEY M. ROSS** reporter

The life of a college student is not easy, but it can be even more difficult for a non traditional student.

So Tina Martin and Rebecca Rose are doing something to help others like themselves.

They decided to organize Marshall University Students For Improving Team Support (MUS-FITS), a campus support group for non traditional students.

"I am the president of the organization only because our adviser said I should be since I formed the organization," Martin said. "After we get enough members, we will vote for the different positions."

Martin and Rose were attending a class taught by Michelle Duncan, now their adviser, and she was speaking on the different organizations and clubs Marshall had to offer.

"While we sat and listened, we noticed there was really nothing out there for us," she said. "Michelle started talking about how it was possible for someone to start their own organization. Rebecca and I both looked at each other at the said. "I don't have anywhere to same time and knew what our park it, so my husband comes

next plan of action would be."

The two stayed after class to ask Duncan questions about starting their own group. There were three main reasons they wanted to start the organization, Martin said.

"We felt we were a little too old for the sorority scene," Martin said. "We also felt, being non traditional students ourselves, that there was bound to be more of us out there on campus.

"Not necessarily any age group, just non traditional students who did not quite fit in to any other organization on campus. We are there for any age, race and gender, disabled or not."

The group was started in the latter part of the fall semester, but did not gain recognition as an official organization until January, Martin said.

Martin, a freshman, is a divorced mother of three from Teays Valley. She is working on a major in oral communication and minor in theater.

She hopes to teach speech and drama, and hopes to work on a Master's in fine arts. She is also handicapped and must ride a handicap cart on campus.

Rose, legal studies major from Hurricane, is in the same position. "I missed early registration last semester because the only ramp in to Old Main was

blocked," Martin said. The parking problem is a little different in their situation.

"The handicap cart isn't the same as a wheelchair," Rose

with me to help."

They also have problems sitting in the desks in the classroom, Rose said.

Aside from these worries, they also have families at home to take care of.

"I am a full-time mom and a full-time student," Martin said. "My kids are my first priority."

Martin is close to her children and wishes there were a way to be with them more on campus.

"I was one of the first people on the list when the daycare center opened on campus," Martin said. "It ended up being too expensive so my mom watches them everyday.

"I overcompensate a lot. By the time I get home they are asleep. I don't get to tuck them in and say their prayers with them."

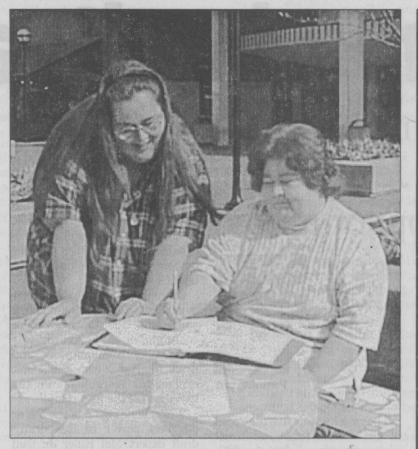
Rose's situation is a little different. She has four children and two grandchildren. She had her own ceramic shop but put it on hold for an education. "I am often here late and

miss seeing the kids because they are in bed," Rose said. "I wish Marshall would have more things to involve us as students with our kids." The group is not a part of any

national chapter or organization. But members do hope to contact other independent organizations on other campuses to link into some of their platforms and ideas. The organization was started

in hopes of reaching those people on campus who did not quite fit in to what organizations and groups offered, Martin said.

Rebecca and I came up with



MUSFITS President Tina Martin (left) and MUSFITS Vice President Rebecca Rose look over plans for the campus group.

the name of our organization... because we were tired of not fitting in, being misfits if you will," she said. "So we became the MUS-FITS. We want to participate and have the full college experience, and we do not feel that being older, returning students should keep us from achieving that."

Martin added, "There are people who want an equal and productive voice on campus. There are also people who need a support system where they can come for any type of information or help they might need.

"We also needed to establish lines of communication between MUSFITS and the faculty and/or staff to help with the needs and concerns that relate to the non-traditional student."

The group is in its beginning stages. It has about six members and has had one official meeting

since forming, Martin said.

"It is slow getting started because of sickness," Martin said. "We are hoping that this article, along with our fliers on campus and our official Web site, will help us establish ourselves and bring in new members."

Information about the group can be found on the Marshall Web site with other organizations and groups.

"I think our organization will benefit all the non traditional students by giving them a platform and a voice on campus," Martin said. "All students deserve that support and positive social environment that can be achieved by belonging and participating in a college group or organization."

More information may be obtained by e-mailing Martin or Rose at tinainoz@earth1.net.

Happenings.

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

On Campus

TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2000 **Rationalists United for** Secular Humanism, meeting, Memorial Student Center 2E10, 4-5:15 p.m. Contact: 562-6738.

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

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

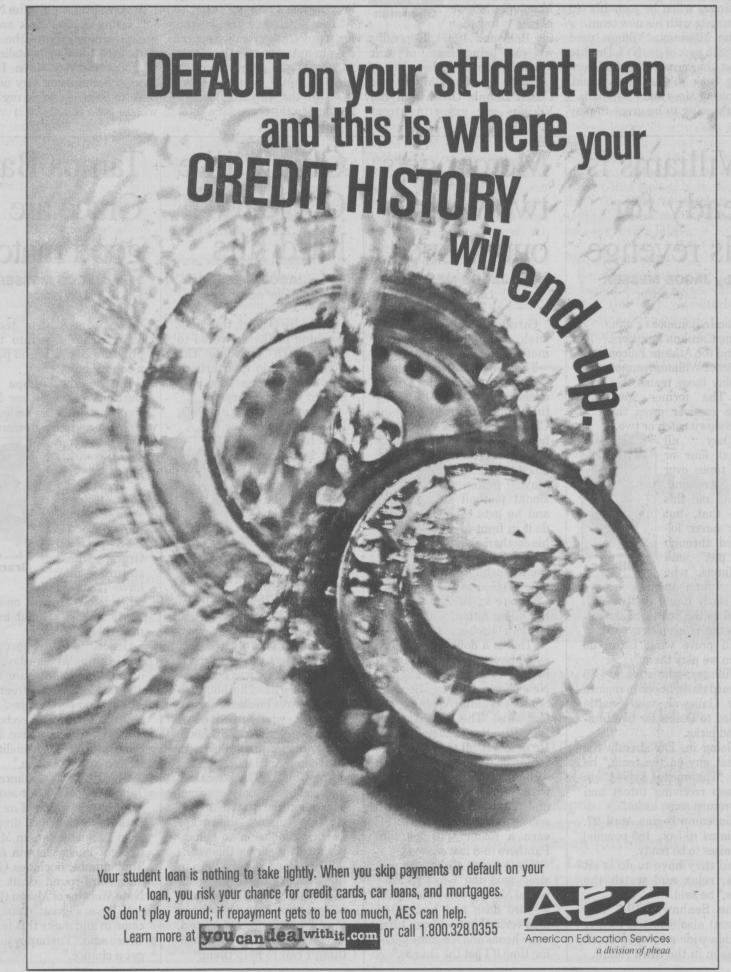
American Society of Safety Engineers, meeting, Safety Office, 3 p.m. Contact: 696-4664.

Office of Judicial Affairs, comment on and propose changes to the Student Code of Conduct, MSC 2W22, noon. Contact: 696-

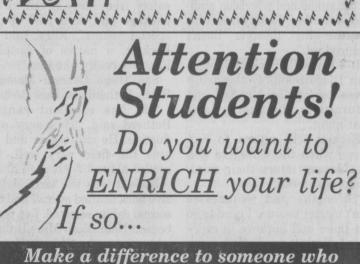
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2000

Lambda Society, meeting, MSC Alumni Lounge, 9:15 p.m. Contact: Raymie White 696-6623.

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







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