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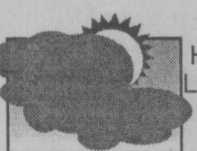
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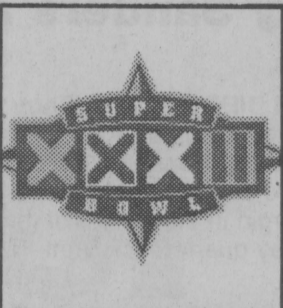
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Rain likely
 Highs in the mid 40s
 Lows in the lower 30s
 For Saturday:
 Chance of snow,
 high: 33; low: 23



What are students doing Super Bowl Sunday?

Page 3



Students are going comic crazy

Page 6

Students have their say

Page 4

Marshall University

the

Parthenon

page edited by Christina Redekopp

Friday, Jan. 23, 1998

Open House aimed at high school juniors

by ALISHA D. GRASS
 reporter

Marshall is going to dip a little lower in the age ranks of high school students to try to get them interested in becoming a student.

Last semester, the university had an open house inviting area high school seniors to campus. In March, high school juniors will be coming here to learn more about college life.

High school juniors are being invited to attend Marshall's first open invitation Open House, Saturday, March 14, at the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.

The program is designed "to get juniors involved in college as well as showcase Marshall," according to Randy Hatfield, admissions counselor and coordinator of the Open House.

"The goal is to start early and back up to juniors, that way we can get them interested in college," Hatfield said. About 550 students are expected to attend.

The Open House will consist of several showcase rooms, including residence halls and classrooms. The program consists of both academic and social aspects of life on campus.

A mock classroom will be set up so students can get an idea of what goes on in the classroom. Some scholar programs will be introduced and displays of different social organizations will be set up in the Memorial Student Center.

Jason Dodson, resident director of Twin Towers East, said if a prospective student is trying to decide what institution to attend the Open House can provide an overview of Marshall.

see OPEN, page 5

Strength in numbers

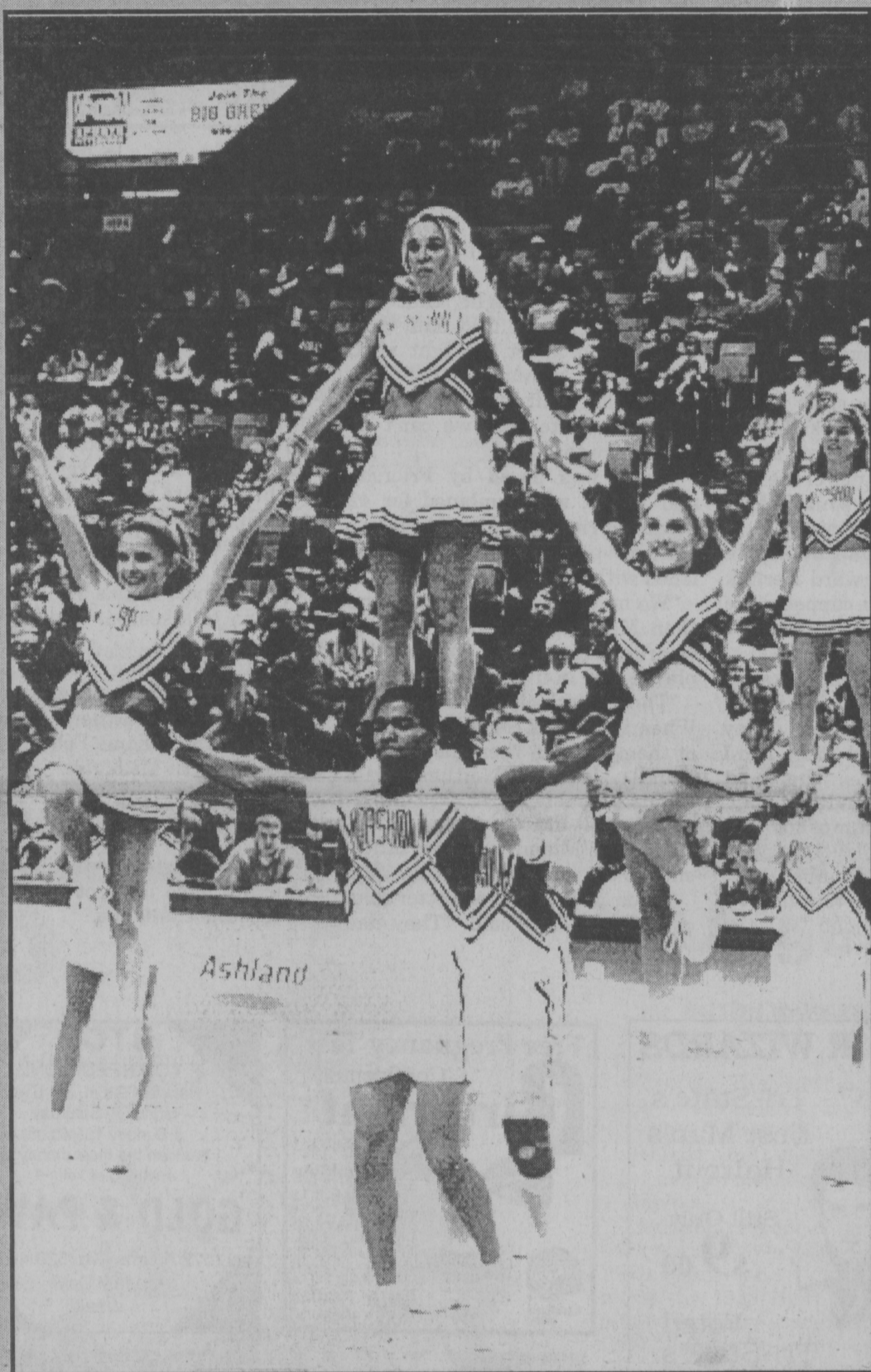


Photo by Missy Young

Unlike any pyramid in Egypt, the Thundering Herd cheerleaders formed a human triangle at Wednesday night's basketball game against Miami University.

Mitchell to stay after he retires

by KAREN LOUDIN
 reporter

Although C.T. Mitchell, director of university relations, announced he will retire at the end of the month, he will not be leaving the university until June.

Mitchell, who will officially retire Jan. 31, will continue his current position until June 30.

"He will probably stay on in some type of capacity beyond that," President J. Wade Gilley said. "Even though he is technically retired because he is 65, he is going to stay on for a while until we can figure out what to do. He is still there and I have asked him to stay on indefinitely."

Mitchell said, "I imagine I will continue to do much of what I've been doing because we don't have a successor yet."

Gilley said he has no plans to fill the position until he knows if Marshall will merge with the College of West Virginia. "The university will not try and fill Mr. Mitchell's job at this time," Gilley said. "If we merge we will have a whole new set of vice presidents and deans that we will have to figure out what to do

with." Mitchell, who earns \$72,000 a year, has no problems continuing as university relations director. "I'll stay until President Gilley is in a position to turn me loose," Mitchell said.

Mitchell said his job has been quite a challenge, but also exciting. "I've been fortunate to work with some outstanding people, including six presidents, all of whom contributed to the amazing progress Marshall has achieved since 1972," Mitchell said in a press release. "Right now, I believe Marshall is better, stronger and of greater importance to West Virginia than ever and I've enjoyed having a small role in what has been a fantastic era."

After 25 years of working as the director of university relations, Mitchell recalled one of his most memorable events. "One of the days that I'll never forget was when Fanny Seiler, the political columnist for The Charleston Gazette, called me twice on the same day. She hung up both times in anger. She called me a political hack the first time and a PR lack the second time. I enjoyed that."

In the next six months Mitchell will be assisting President Gilley with administration reorganization. This should give Mitchell several more memorable events before he leaves Marshall.



MITCHELL

Campus construction closer to completion

by MARIA CHAPMAN
 reporter

Construction of the John Deaver Drinko Library is on schedule, according to Michael M. Meadows, director of facilities planning and management.

The new library is scheduled to be completed this summer and open for use by fall.

Other than a few problems with the weather, nothing outside the normal nature has been encountered. "We feel confident the facility will be completed this summer," Meadows said.

Although students can only see a large skeleton covered with plastic, Dr. K. Edward Grose, vice president for operations, said "The library is between 60-70 percent finished."

Meadows said construction has advanced to the stage when wiring for data communications is starting.

This means the infrastructure is completed, and any other changes to be made will be minor.

The library is not the

only new construction happening on campus. Meadows said the bookstore addition to the Memorial Student Center is scheduled to be completed in February.

An interior renovation of the Henderson Center is in the planning stages at this time.

A \$1.2 million renovation is ongoing at the Byrd Institute, where the downstairs parking area is being turned into a flexible manufacturing center. The entire building is also receiving some updates in electric and data communication wiring.

Also, plans are underway for a central landscape project between Old Main and the student center. The project is scheduled to begin this summer and will include upgrading the Fifth Avenue parking lot by adding drainage equipment and paving.

Construction for the Joan C. Edwards Jazz Center is proposed to begin this year as well. The center will be connected to the east side of the Joan C. Edwards Fine and Performing Arts Center.

Computer class hits home

by NICOLE M. WRIGHT
 reporter

As you walk to a computer class you might think, "Gee...wish I were at home munching some chips."

Well, that really is possible. Marshall's Computers and Data Processing (CSD 101) is now offered through the Internet.

This is the first semester CSD 101E is being offered electronically through the Internet.

Dr. Hisham Al-Haddad, professor, said the most important requirements are a computer and an e-mail account with the Internet servers Netscape or Internet Explorer.

A student driving from miles away, living in dorms, or renting an apartment can take CSD 101E without walking to class everyday. The course is

completely Internet based and covers the basic fundamental concepts of computers with hands-on experience through a student's computer, Al-Haddad said.

Al-Haddad said students will be assigned assignments covering applications such as word processing, spreadsheets and electronic mail.

He corresponds with students daily through e-mail and he is available seven days a week, mornings and evenings.

"There will also be weekly chatroom hours for student questions and course discussions," he said.

Al-Haddad said a major benefit of CSD 101E is the ability to provide computer skills beyond physical limits of the campus.

People living off campus can participate in the course without commuting to campus. It is a convenient course, helping

students who work and go to college.

"Since the course is self-paced, it requires a certain level of ability on the student's part. Therefore, a student who needs a great deal of attention may not find the course as beneficial as a traditional classroom course," Al-Haddad said.

Jessica M. Kenney, Pineville junior, said the course is convenient because she can set her own time to do homework. "I can do my assignments at two in the morning, if I feel like it."

Kenney lives off campus and said she would definitely recommend CSD 101E to anyone who likes computers or needs the class. "I haven't had any problems with the course and don't expect to encounter any," Kenney said.

Al-Haddad said currently 28 students are enrolled, but session enrollment

should double and increase more by fall term 1998. He said fees are similar to CSD 101, but students might be charged an extra \$49 in the future.

Robert Hayes, acting chairperson of the computer science department, said CSD 101E is a challenging course that is corresponding with the future. "Exciting technology advances are happening in education now and Marshall is a part of it," Hayes said.

"With students coming out of high school more computer literate, we anticipate more enrollments in the course due to the convenience it provides to both on and off campus students," Al-Haddad said.

Information is available through the computer science department by calling 696-5424. The electronic courses are listed in the schedule of classes each term under the title "electronic courses."

Sports

2 Page edited by Carley McCullough

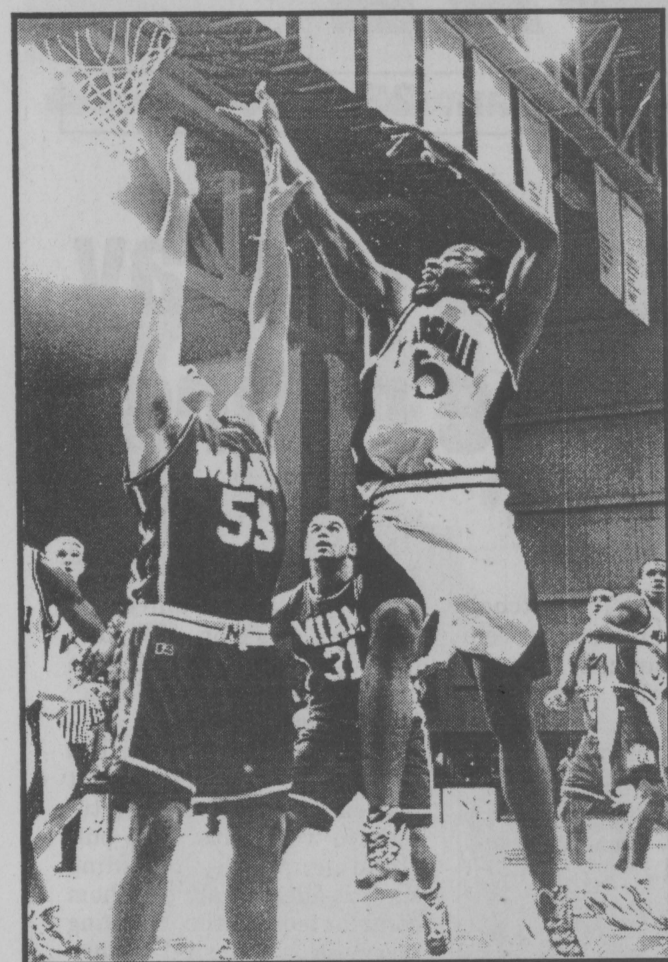
the Parthenon

Friday, Jan. 23, 1998

Herd falls prey to Redhawks 71-54

Barry Sanders awarded MVP

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Barry Sanders, who ran for 2,053 yards this season, also ran away with the NFL player of the year award. The Detroit Lions star received 81 percent of the votes in a poll of more than 200 writers and broadcasters, the highest winning margin in the history of the award. Last month, Sanders and Green Bay quarterback Brett Favre shared the MVP award in balloting by an Associated Press panel.



Coach calls next game a challenge

by JASON MCALLISTER
reporter

Marshall men's basketball coach Greg White knew to expect nights like Wednesday when his team took on Miami in a much-anticipated conference game.

After staying close for a half, the Herd was unable to keep up with the Redhawks who heated up in the second half en route to a 71-54 victory at the Cam Henderson Center.

"As hard as a night like this is," White said, "I knew there were going to be some of them."

Marshall was plagued with bad shooting, both from the free-throw line and from the field. The Herd made only 2-of-9 from the line while shooting finishing with a 37.5 field-goal percentage.

After the lead changed hands six times in the first half, Miami went ahead to stay right before the break and never looked back. Marshall fell behind by six at 34-28 in the early minutes of the second half before a 8-4 spurt helped it to crawl back to within two.

A layup by sophomore forward Derrick Wright capped the run, making the score 36-34.

The Redhawks responded with a run of their own as they outscored the Herd 11-4 over the next three minutes of play.

A jumpshot by Damon Frierson with 7:06 remaining gave Miami its first double-figure lead of the

game at 56-46. Marshall's shooting troubles as well as the hot hand of Miami's Anthony Taylor and Frierson, kept the Herd from staging any kind of serious comeback.

"Basketball has to be played with great emotion," White said. "Miami won the emotion part of the game as well. They beat us on all of the emotion statistics."

"I don't know why we wouldn't have the emotion for this game. It was an important game that I have continually talked about."

Sophomore forward Derrick Wright led Marshall with 19 points and 13 rebounds.

"Tonight I thought that we played well for the first half, then we just fell apart," Wright said. "We started turning the ball over and couldn't hit free throws. In order for us to win, we can't do things like that."

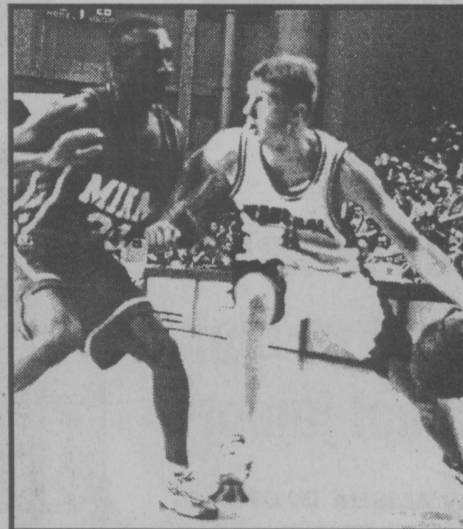
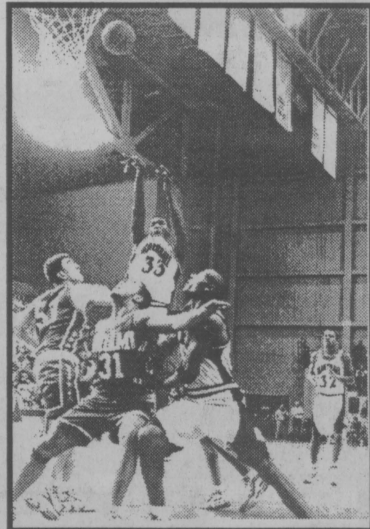
Miami was paced by Frierson and Taylor, who combined for 42 points. Frierson led all scorers with 25 points while Taylor finished with 17.

"We may have needed this more than Marshall did," Miami coach Charlie Coles said. "We haven't played well in a while."

"These are the best games to see. When the teams come in and both of them are 2-5, then the game is usually a war. Neither team should probably be 2-5."

White felt like the strong guard-play from Miami was the difference in the game.

"Their guards played better than ours did," White said. "They had



Terrell Mckelvy, (above left) Joda Burgess, (above right) fend off the Redhawks of Miami University.

veteran guys out there shooting a high percentage for them. When they needed a basket, one of their guards was going down and getting it for them."

John Estick added 13 points and a game-high total of 18 rebounds for Miami.

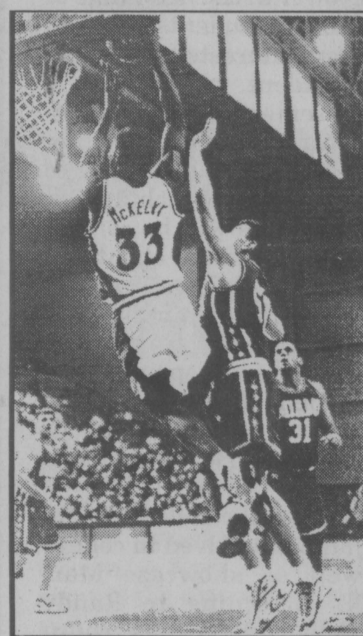
Freshman guard Joda Burgess was the only other player besides Wright to score in double figures as he finished with 12 points and seven assists.

Marshall will head back out on the road where it has yet to pick up a win this season. The Herd's next game will be at Bowling Green 1:30 Saturday.

From there Marshall will go to Ball State and Northern Illinois before returning home February 5 to face Western Michigan.

"Am I concerned (about going back out on the road)? Yes," White said.

"But you can't play them all at home. We have just got to go out and face the challenge."



Terrell Mckelvy soars in for this basket.

Women beat Miami, end 3-game streak

by CHIP TUCKER
reporter

Marshall's men's basketball team will be out of town this weekend, but basketball fans still can catch some hoop action with the women at the Cam Henderson Center.

Marshall's women's basketball team will play Mid-American Conference foe Bowling Green 1 p.m. Saturday.

The Lady Thunder goes into the game with a 6-12 record overall. Bowling Green comes into the contest with a record of 12-4.

In their last outing, the women broke a three-game losing streak Wednesday beating Miami of Ohio at Oxford, 65-60.

Kristina Behnfeldt seemed the hero of the day. She scored 18 points and brought down 12 rebounds to help secure the victory. This gave Behnfeldt her 12th double-double of the season.

MU's junior guard Natal Rosko of Youngstown, Ohio, was 6-10 from the field Wednesday. She wound up scoring 15 points and playing all 40 minutes.

Marshall as a whole made 15 of 30 shots from the field in the first half. The Herd was not quite as accurate in the second half. It only made 6 of 19 field goal attempts.

Coach Juliene Simpson's goal of 50 rebounds a game was almost achieved against Miami. The women Herd had 48 boards Wednesday night. Marshall turned the ball over thirteen times the entire game.

Miami of Ohio did not shoot the rock very well on Wednesday. They were 11-34 from the field in the first half. The Redhawks made 32 percent of the shots they put up. Things went downhill for Miami in the second half. They only made 12 buckets out of 42 attempts against the Herd.

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TITANIC (PG13) 5:00-8:45
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HALF BAKED (R) 5:15-7:15-9:15
AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG13) 4:10-7:00-9:45
MOUSE HUNT (PG) 5:05
JACKIE BROWN (R) 7:00-9:50
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SPICE WORLD (PG) 5:20-7:30-9:40
HARD RAIN (R) 5:15-7:15-9:15

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Sports

Page edited by AlysonWalls

the Parthenon

Friday, Jan. 23, 1997

3

Super Sunday in Huntington: what to do?

by ANDY BALLARD
reporter

Sunday, thousands of people will file into Qualcomm Stadium in San Diego, to watch Super Bowl XXXII and enjoy the sunny, 60-degree weather.

Marshall students, however, have found more creative ways to take in the gridiron action.

Not everyone has plans for the Super Bowl. Michelle Cooper, Milton sophomore, said, "I don't know what I'm going to do. I hate football and definitely won't be watching the game."

Even University President J. Wade Gilley doesn't know where he'll be for the game.

"I don't have any plans, he said. My wife hasn't told me what I'm doing yet."

But many students will be glued to television sets, guzzling their favorite frosty beverages, munching on Fritos and criticizing the million dollar commercial spots while watching the game.

Jeremiah Marcum, Huntington senior, and Terry Hansen, Kenova junior, both



Super Bowl XXXII
When: 6 p.m. Sunday
Station to watch: NBC

said they would be watching the game with their families.

Paul Weddington, Ashland freshman, is doing a little wishful planning for Super Bowl Sunday.

"I'll be watching the game and waiting for the Publisher's Clearing House Prize Patrol; this is my year," he joked.

For those of you who don't know, the Prize Patrol van will arrive at someone's house

during half-time to present them with a multi-million dollar check live on national television.

The Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity has planned a Rush event during the game.

A spokesperson for the fraternity said rushees will be invited to the house to watch the game and have pizza and sodas.

Other students will be attending religious-oriented

events. Michael Plymale, Huntington senior, said, "I'll be going to the tailgate party at the Newman Center and hopefully see Denver win." Activities at the Newman Center begin at 5:30 p.m. Sunday.

If you live in the residence halls, don't plan on having a Super Bowl floor activity. The parties were canceled because program money has not been allotted to the residence directors.

Residence hall director, Gabrielle Sulzbach, said, "The money hasn't been allotted because we are waiting for the occupancy reports to come in."

"People are moving in and out of the dorms and we can't give out any money until all the moves are completed."

Students agreed that whether you're spending Super Bowl Sunday with families or waiting for your significant other to tell you what to do, have a great time.

Don't drink and drive, and be responsible if alcohol is involved.

Favre: Defense wins championships

SAN DIEGO (AP)

The biggest crowds at Super Bowl interview sessions have surrounded Brett Favre and John Elway, Terrell Davis and Dorsey Levens, Antonio Freeman and Shannon Sharpe.

The defensive players get attention, too, but nowhere

near as much as the guys who do the scoring.

Hey, even Reggie White wasn't engulfed by cameras, microphones and notebooks every single minute.

Perhaps the question on offensive players is natural: The Broncos, after all, averaged

29.5 points a game in leading the league. The Packers scored 26.4 to top the NFC.

Yet when Favre, the NFL's three-time most valuable player, was asked what will make the difference Sunday, he didn't hesitate.

"Defense," the Packers quar-

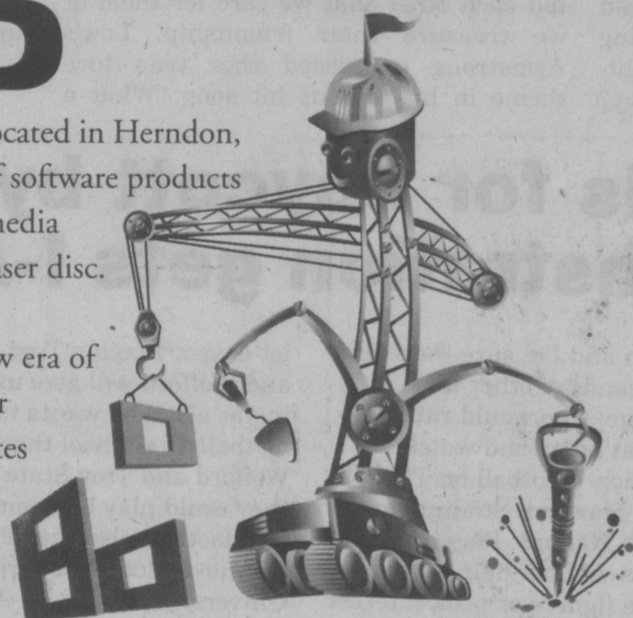
terback said. "Pure and simple, whichever defense makes more stops. Defense does win championships."

Defensive stats indicate a standoff. The Packers yielded 282 points, five fewer than the Broncos gave up.

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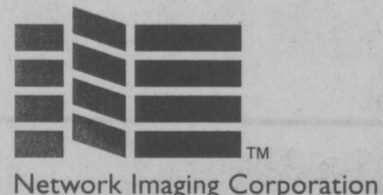
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Kent State to provide Herd runners glimpse of conference talent

CHRIS HAGY
reporter

The pond just became an ocean for Marshall University head track coach Jeff Small.

This first season in the Mid-American Conference is testing the resolve of the former Southern Conference champions.

The upcoming MAC Championships, hosted by Kent State University, Feb. 27-28, will provide Marshall with an important first look at top MAC schools.

This is the first of four scored events Marshall will attend this season.

"We're going to see how far we have to go," Small said. "Track is more than just telling people to run fast and turn left. MAC schools are rated 6 for conference difficulty and the Southern Conference is about 36. We're dealing with 16-years better competition."

The host school, Kent State, has remained within the top five ranked schools over the past several years. Small anticipates the primary competition to be between Kent State and Eastern Michigan for the

championship.

Kent State associate head coach Kent Pagel agreed with Small that championship contention will be tight between Kent and Eastern Michigan. "Last year we were both one and two, indoors and outdoors," Pagel said. He also added that Bowling Green looks strong coming into the championship.

This is taking nothing away from Marshall. "We have good hurdlers, jumpers, and throwers," Small said. "The team is well balanced...and our strongest asset is a lot of youth."

Pagel said he believes Marshall to be a well-rounded competitor.

"Marshall is traditionally strong and has an overall good team," Pagel said. "There are no real superstars, but they'll do all right...they're a good middle pack team."

Small anticipates a good performance for his team, however winning at Kent State isn't his primary concern; his team is.

"We may come in dead last," Small said. "But we expect a rough couple of years. We're going to take it one meet at a time."

Schedule confuses fans; I-AA games are step down

by BUTCH BARKER
reporter

When the Thundering Herd steps on the field to play Division 1-AA foes Troy State University and Wofford College, many fans may be wondering why.

Students responded to an informal survey conducted on Wednesday and Thursday about the 1998 Herd football schedule. Many students said they believe playing such Division 1-AA teams is a step down for the team.

Sara B. Jones, Teays Valley sophomore, understands the pressures on the Athletic Department, but thinks the team will fall behind in the program.

"The Marshall football program may have been rocky in the past, but they have worked hard to establish themselves as a 1-A team," Jones said. "I feel playing two 1-AA teams would be a major

"I'm sure the football program receives a lot of pressure from the city of Huntington."

— Travis R. Brightwell,
Wellsburg, junior

step down."

Chuck Adkins, Huntington freshman finds the 1998 schedule displeasing.

"It is ridiculous for Marshall to move to division 1-A then be scheduled to play 1-AA teams many people have not even heard of," Adkins said.

Although the students polled generally disagree with the schedule, most have reasoned with why such opponents are scheduled.

Travis R. Brightwell, Wellsburg junior, said the athletic

department should be sympathized with instead of criticized.

"I'm sure the football program receives a lot of pressure from the city of Huntington," Brightwell said. "The city of Huntington gets a great deal of revenue from the football games."

Brightwell said Huntington may press for more home games, but there is a higher force that makes the scheduling decisions -- the other teams.

"A highly ranked school would be knocked out of the polls if a smaller school like Marshall were to beat them."

Matthew J. Messer, Madison junior, agrees with Brightwell.

"Coach Pruett and the athletic department have contacted such teams as Pitt, WVU, Auburn and Michigan State," Messer said. "Many teams just do not want to play us."

Messer believes there is great reasoning behind the unexpected schedule.

"After last season's effort and the near win in the Ford Motor City Bowl, the Thundering Herd is respected and feared throughout the country," Messer said. "Many teams are not willing to visit or host Marshall and take a chance to be defeated by a young, promising Division 1-A team."

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"I don't have any plans. My wife hasn't told me what I'm doing yet."

— J. Wade Gilley, referring to the Super Bowl.

Quick feedback

Q: What's your opinion about Randy Moss turning pro?

"I think it was a really good decision on his part. If he does get hurt, he can go back to school with the millions he has made." —*Kurtis Wright, Huntington senior*

"I think he jumped on the bandwagon just for the money. He's a good player, but he needs to concentrate on school, not money." —*Jenny Vance, Barboursville freshman*

"He's got to do what's best for him." —*Adam Martin, Roanoke, VA junior*

"I think its the right move for him. He's already the top college receiver in the country, so why not go pro? I don't think he could accomplish more here." —*Jason Shilot, Culloden sophomore*

"Any college student that would get a job offer during their sophomore year for millions of dollars -- nine out of 10 would take it. I think he's doing more for Marshall than any athlete in school history." —*Jeff Prater, Huntington senior*

Student calls for SGA to help parking woes

To the editor:

Being a "non-traditional student" at Marshall University, I can understand the importance of a well-rounded education. The fact that the books are over priced, and my student activity fee is paying for a cluttered bowling alley doesn't bother me as much as the incredibly malignant parking problem. I have always heard that "Marshall University is a student friendly school." It's not the students or their education that matters to the administrators of this school, but the big bucks that follow. How hard would it be to build a couple of parking buildings on the lots that the school already owns? Sure parking would suffer during the construction of such buildings, but all of us commuters are suffering now. My earliest class is 10 a.m., and I have to get to the school at least by 8 a.m. to find a parking space. This is not how I want to spend my mornings. Not to mention the looks of utter rage on the faces of the "commuter lot congregation" when someone jumps the line. The fire is brewing, and it is up to the students of Marshall University to fan the flames, and get something done. Why do they give out more parking passes than they have for spaces? I don't know. Who is the student government when you need them?

Chris Troyer

People need to stop criticizing athletic staff

I am responding to everyone's complaints about Marshall's upcoming football schedule. Although I believe it is a step in the wrong direction to play two I-AA schools, people need to stop the harsh criticism. It was not long ago MU was a I-AA team, and now that we've been in Division I for an entire season, it seems as though I-AA is a bad thing. C'mon people how many times did we defend our beloved Herd saying I-AA isn't all bad. In 1996, Troy State was a game away from playing the Herd for the National Championship, they have a long history of fine football teams, just like the Herd. OK, so it isn't Pitt or WVU, but I don't think we should always have to travel to those schools to play. Hey Coach Nehlen, does 0-7 ring a bell, and you think your a powerhouse? Get off your high horse and

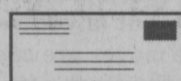
come to Marshall once every three years to play. It is not too much to ask. As far as Pitt goes, losing 41-7 to Southern Miss (who by the way cannot seem to get the "big" boys to schedule them either), they should just be honored that Marshall wants to play them. These are two great examples of so-called powers from a very overrated conference (Big East) who will not schedule Marshall unless every detail goes their way. I don't think MU should sacrifice home games, because we are the most loyal fans in the country and deserve to see our Herd in person, but I do agree scheduling Wofford is a mistake. There is nothing wrong with scheduling a quality I-AA program like Troy State. After all, teams like N.C. State scheduled us in the past, but Wofford is a developing I-AA school and does not belong on the

same field as the Herd. This game should've been slotted to a lower level Conference USA school like Memphis or East Carolina (who has a history of beating very good Division I teams) or how about Kentucky, they do not have the history of being a big-name school and may travel to Marshall. Who in Huntington would not want to see Chad Pennington air it out against Tim Couch? Wouldn't watching the Herd beat Kentucky 45-44 be more exciting than watching them beat Wofford 70-0. Of course it would, but before we continue criticizing I-AA schools, let's stop and remember where OUR heritage is from.

Rich Currier
senior

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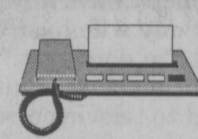
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Friends make difference in woman's life

To the editor:

Hello friends! I hoped everyone enjoyed their New Year. It was a sad one for me as I witnessed Life and Death. My best friend died. She was so loyal, so lovable, and she was there for me. Peppy, is her name, a female farm dog. She was our first dog when we settled in Kentucky. Peppy even stayed with us when we moved from Fishersville to Shelbyville. Life is so dear. Life is a shame to waste. That is what I learned from this experience. It does not matter anymore to me how mad, frustrated, and angry I can become toward an animal or a human being. At the end, you are only putting yourself through misery or a living nightmare which never seems to end. Why?

You either did not allow time to forgive or you never confronted the subject with the problem. It hangs over your head until you do. Then maybe, you will have a peaceful sleep. Until then, you wake up with bags under your eyes.

Ever since I came to Marshall University, I have met a variety of friends from every background. These friends are very dear to me because they may not know this, but each one of them has made a difference in my life. Through good or bad times we have shared laughter, sadness, and hatred. Every time we exchange smiles towards one another we tell each other that we care for them or we treasure their friendship. Louis Armstrong expressed this true love theme in his famous hit song "What a

Wonderful World."

These special friends have shared a common talent. I have seen the talent as being able to comfort someone who is crying inside. I have known these friends since my freshman year. I want to say "thank you" to these beautiful people who have been there for me when I was in need of a friend.

Life may be a puzzle to solve everyday of your life, but with the help of a friend it makes the day brighter. My friends have made a difference in my life. That is what counts.

Heather M. Redinger
junior

Student calls for boycott by other fans, hopes administration gets I-AA message

To the editor:

I am writing in response to Gary Hale's editorial which appeared in the January 21 Parthenon.

Hale is absolutely correct in his assessment of Marshall's schedule. This university had no business playing two division I-AA opponents in football. By scheduling Troy State and Wofford, the powers that be in the athletic department are destroying any chance we have at gaining national respect.

First of all, the NCAA requires a team to have a minimum of six wins over division I opponents in an 11 game season in order to be bowl eligible and seven wins in a 12-game schedule. Playing Troy State and Wofford eliminates two chances at getting the all-important six wins.

Secondly, Marshall is the only Mid-American conference member school planning to play two I-AA teams in the same season. It was bad enough that we played I-AA Western Illinois last year. Frankly, I don't want to watch Marshall plaster I-AA opponents, and I know a lot of Alumni that don't either. It's boring to

watch and I'm sure there are thousands of other fans, just like me, who would rather stay at home and watch Division I football on TV than go to Marshall Stadium and watch Wofford. Playing I-AA teams will not help attendance in fact, I plan to boycott both I-AA games and I hope that my fellow students and Marshall fans join me. Maybe this will send a message to those in charge that Marshall fans expect more for their time and money. Maybe I'll trek up to Morgantown and watch Division I football on those two dates.

Another negative to this will be the damage it will cause our national image. The 1997 campaign has done wonders for Marshall. Randy Moss' exposure and our Motor City appearance was an amazing step toward prominence. By playing non-conference opponents West Virginia and Army we helped ourselves in more ways than one. WVU gave us a very generous payout and with our performance in that game we earned respect and attention. Overall, Marshall fell just short of a Top 25 berth. And I'm sure Coach Pruett would tell you it made recruiting a

lot easier. Playing Troy State and Wofford will give us nothing at all. Who wants to play football at a school that plays Wofford and Troy State when they could play big-time college football elsewhere? You will never see West Virginia University playing a I-AA opponent.

Obviously this scheduling situation isn't the first bumble the "powers that be" in the Marshall Athletic Department has made. We could be playing West Virginia for the next couple of years, but because of our ridiculous demand to get a game in Huntington at our 30,000 seat stadium we lost out on a rematch in Morgantown (63,500 seat) and the chance at a series with the Mountaineers. A series that would have produced a great deal of interest and benefitted Marshall a great deal. Now there are rumors of new deals with Auburn University and the University of Pittsburgh over the same sticking point. Our athletic director and the "higher ups" need to learn that we are a small fish in a big pond now and that established teams from strong conferences will not play at a MAC school with a small

30,000 seat stadium, maybe some day we will have a 50,000 seat stadium and have more pull. But, until then we must try our best to schedule I-A opponents and give Marshall fans the ebst product for their money. In closing I have included a list of Division I opponents that would probably be willing to play Marshall in Huntington in return for a Marshall visit to their school. These teams would provide more fan interest and be quality opponents for the Herd. Marshall's players, students, fans and alumni deserve better and should demand more than games with Wofford and Troy sTate. Maybe this list will help our athletic administrators make better decisions in the future.

Wyoming, Wake Forest, Utah State, University of Alabama-Birmingham, Louisiana Tech, Idaho, New Mexico State, North Texas, New Mexico State, Navy, Army, Memphis, Louisville, Louisiana Tech, Idaho, East Carolina, Cincinnati, Central Florida, Nevada and Boise State.

Randy Burnside
junior

the Parthenon

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Editor's note:

Letters and columns may be edited to fit allotted space, take out profanity, vulgarity or potentially libelous material.

OPEN

from page one

Parents are welcome to attend the Open House, according to Hatfield.

"Our main goal is to get students, and we want them to bring their parents because they're involved in choosing the college," Hatfield said.

Parents will be able to ask questions and discuss concerns at an open panel, she said.

Last semester was the first time Marshall had ever had an open house. However, it was designed for seniors.

The last open house was Nov. 14 and more than 1,000 potential students attended.

Two open houses are scheduled in the fall for seniors. Another open house is also scheduled for juniors in the spring, Hatfield said.

Will the open houses affect the number of students enrolling for fall 1998?

Hatfield said, "Everyone, the faculty and the president, were pleased with the program and I have a feeling that it will."

Foreign films featured at festivalby **HEATHER HAGER**
reporter

A festival of foreign films has arrived.

The Foreign Film Festival will be presented by the Marshall Artists Series Jan. 30 through Feb. 5 at the Cinema Theatre.

Six films will be shown at this spring's festival. The featured films are "Crows," a Polish film about a little girl who is neglected by her mother; "Hotel de Love," an Australian film about twin brothers falling in love with the same girl and later trying to stop her wedding; "I am Cuba," a black and white Cuban film that is seductive and contrasts the world of the rich and poor in Batista's Cuba.

"Kolya," is a Czechoslovakian film about a bachelor musician who finds that he must take care of a six-year-old boy; "Maborosi," a Japanese film about a woman recovering from her husband's suicide; and "Microcosm," an

American/French film about the mysterious world of insects, which contains no dialect except for the narration of classical music.

"Kolya" won the 1997 Academy Award for Best Foreign Film.

"I think 'Kolya' will be the most popular film at the festival," said Angela Grant, Artists Series marketing coordinator. "It is heart-warming and has wide-spread appeal."

The films show in the evenings and all weekend long and have proven to be successful in the past, said Grant. She also said she thinks the festival is good for the students due to its cultural aspect.

"My English teacher started my interest by requiring the class to attend, but after that my friends and I went on our own," said Amber J. McLaughlin, Charleston junior. She also said she enjoys the films as well as their diversity.

The film festival is free to full-time students with a valid MU ID and half-price to part-time students and faculty.

Regular tickets cost \$6 and can be purchased at the door. Penny Watkins, Artists Series director, said, "Marshall is one of the few schools left that offers free tickets to students, which is why she thinks it's such a great idea for students to take advantage of events such as the foreign film festival.

Ansted senior, Hank W. Rider said he plans to see "Hotel de Love." "I heard it was a very interesting movie and it seems like a great movie to take a date to," said Rider. "I always like to take advantage of the activities paid for through my student activities fee."

Shows are offered at 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and at 5:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 9:45 p.m. Friday. Weekend showings are at 2:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 9:45 p.m.

Each film will be shown approximately three times throughout the week. More information is available by calling 696-6656.

More projects ahead for COEby **MATT ISNER**
reporter

Accreditation results, a proposed day care center and new courses are just some of the issues facing Marshall University's College of Education and Human Services this semester, according to its dean, Dr. Larry Froehlich.

Froehlich said the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) review the college went through in the fall is the biggest issue of the academic year. The review ensures the college is preparing students to meet the changing standards for educators. The college will learn the results of the NCATE review in April or May. "It is an ongoing effort that we took the last two and a half years to prepare for," Froehlich said. The college, which has been accredited by the NCATE since 1954, has been visited every five years by a national team spending four and a half days on campus.

The team reviews the college in four main categories including design of professional education and professional education faculty. The report is then sent to an accreditation board in Washington, D.C.

Also this spring, the college hopes to break ground on a new day care center. Marshall has donated the land and the City of Huntington will provide the money for the building.

The center will provide care for the children of faculty and students and others.

Another project this spring is the development of courses for people managing recreational vehicle trails such as the Hatfield McCoy Trail. The Hatfield McCoy Trail is a project proposed for southern West Virginia with hundreds of miles of trails for trail bikes, horses and all terrain vehicles.

Froehlich said the trail will help tourism in the southern part of the state. Marshall is one of two schools offering these courses. The only other university offering courses in this type of trail management is Colorado State University.

"Colorado is heading up the western part of the country," Froehlich said, "and Marshall is heading up the eastern part." Some of the trail management courses will be taught on the internet.

New activities courses also are being offered this semester. The courses include scuba diving, bicycling, and canoeing. Froehlich said the college is trying to be more creative than it has been in the past in developing courses.

Also planned for the spring is an internal newsletter for the college's students. There will be one or two issues of the newsletter written each semester.

Staff Council works to accommodate mergerby **ALISON FISHER**
reporter

The Classified Staff Council is working to accommodate the recent merger with the former College of Graduate Studies in Charleston.

The Classified Staff Council at the Charleston campus was disbanded when the two schools merged. Marthia Pierson, program assistant at the graduate college, remains in charge of the Classified Staff Council in Charleston and deals directly with the staff council at

Marshall.

When the council met Thursday, members discussed how the constitution needs to be updated to accommodate both schools, according to Nina Barrett, accounting assistant and president of the Classified Staff Council.

"The function of the council is to serve the staff," said Barrett. The council has 27 members representing everyone from groundskeepers to middle management.

The council meets every third Thursday of the month in the Memorial Student Center. The West Virginia Legislature is

now in session and many of the issues concerning the merger and the problems faced by the council are being addressed there as well.

The concerns of anyone on campus that holds a staff related position is addressed at the Classified Staff meetings.

Barrett said, "Everyone gets a chance to speak."

Some other issues that are being addressed are the worries and concerns that many have about the contracting out of jobs to such places as Manpower and Kelly services, Barrett said.

Soloists to perform today
Symphony Orchestra will perform Bi-Annual concertby **HEATHER HAGER**
reporter

The Marshall University Symphony Orchestra will perform its final competition for the Bi-Annual Concert of Soloists at 7 p.m. today in the Smith Recital Hall.

Six undergraduate and two graduate students will perform in today's competition. They include Timothy Brown, Jonathon Eddy, Mark Fort, Bethany Page, Matthew Price, Hirotsugu Saito, Eric Staats and Jeffrey Wolfe.

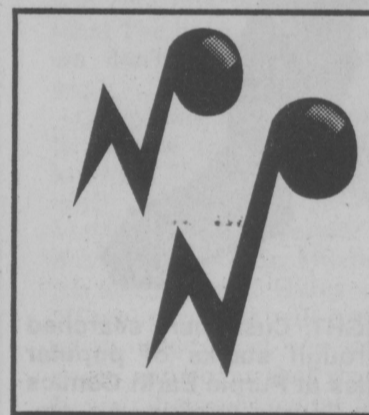
A preliminary audition was conducted last fall and according to Dr. Paul Balshaw, director of orchestral activities, the auditions were open to everyone within the music department. Up to three students in each area of study could be chosen to perform in the competition.

Today's performance represents the final competition where up to four students could be chosen to perform as soloists in the orchestra's final performance of the season, April 29.

"It would be a real honor and privilege to perform with the orchestra and also good performance experience," said senior Timothy Brown, who will sing baritone. Brown performed in this competition two years ago, but was not chosen to perform in the final concert.

Graduate student Matthew Price, who will sing tenor, said, "to be chosen for the competition itself is an honor because it's open to everyone (in the department)." Price added, "winning the competition would be like leaving on an up note."

Admission for the competition is free.

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Spanish teacher shares culture

Harold Blanco, a native of Caracas, Venezuela, has spent the past several years helping Marshall students and many others learn to speak Spanish. He shares his insights on everything from living and working in the United States to baseball and cooking.

Tuesday in Life!



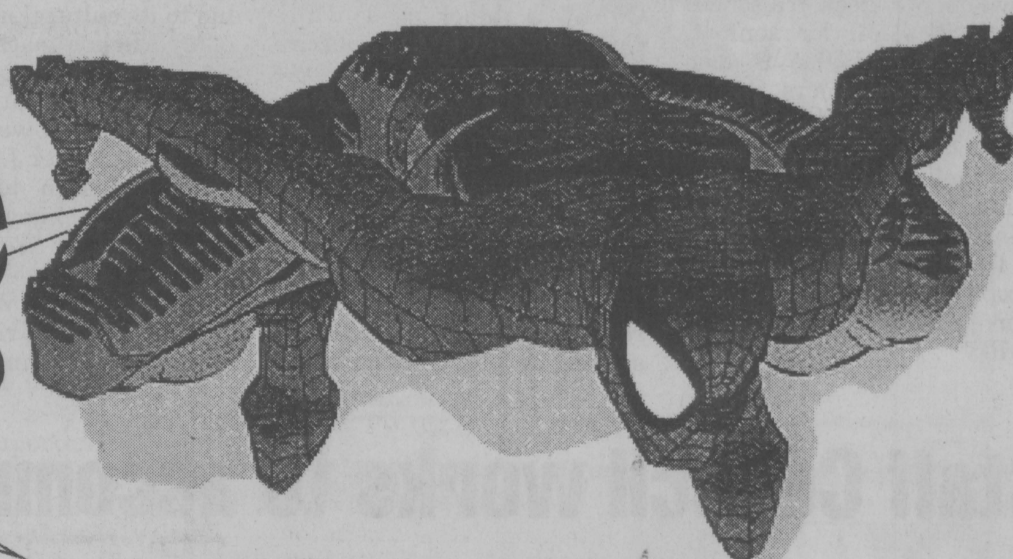
Friday, Jan. 23, 1998

Page edited by Robert McCune

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the Parthenon

Comic Craze



Comic books at local shops have big readership among students

by SHAWN GAINER
reporter

Comic books aren't just for kids. In fact, an increasing number of comics are being drawn for a more mature audience, which includes college students.

Cecil Adkins, an employee of Purple Earth Comics, 1115 4th Ave., said students are important customers. "I would say the majority of our customers are Marshall students," he said.

Kathleen Miller, owner and operator of Comic World at 1204 4th Ave., also relies on the patronage of mature readers to keep her business alive.

"The average customer is a male in his late teens to late forties," Miller said. "We also have some women customers."

The majority of today's successful comic titles are written for adults.

Marvel Comic's flagship title, "The Uncanny X-Men" deals with themes of social misunderstanding and systematic prejudice, while storylines in Todd McFarlane's wildly popular "Spawn" series revolve around themes of revenge, death and moral choice under duress.

"Kids are a decreasing percentage of customers," Miller said. "There's less and less for them to read because the companies have to cater to their

primarily adult audiences."

Adkins believes the quality of comic plots has vastly increased. "They used to be really bad," he said, citing the juvenile, campy nature of the 1960's "Batman" television series starring Adam West as an example of the level of older comics.

"Diversity started in the 1980's. When you had 'The Dark Knight Returns,' and 'Watchtower,' both of which were pretty adult." In "The Dark Knight Returns" DC hero Batman underwent a metamorphosis from a one dimensional superhero to a vengeful vigilante who carried an automatic pistol.

Why do comic books appeal to mature readers? Students and alumni cite appealing visual presentation and engrossing storylines. Not all are dependent upon traditional "hero vs. villain" conflicts.

"I like a lot of the artwork," said Sarah Poston, a Huntington resident and 1997 graduate of Marshall. "When you read a novel you don't actually get to see the writer's conception of what the character looks like," she said.

Shelly Clark, Martha, Ohio freshman, agrees that illustrations are the most important facet of the appeal of comics. "The greatest attraction to comics comes from the artistry," she said.

However, she expects quality stories as well. "My favorite comics are the gothic horror titles because there's more irony. It's not just the good guys winning and the bad guys losing. You have to have better writing."

Others are drawn to super heroes they can relate to. "I like Wolverine a lot," said Tres Donely, Richmond, Ind., sophomore. "I like his loner attitude. No one understood him

and he didn't want anyone to understand him. It fit my childhood, I guess."

The disadvantage comics face as a form of entertainment is the cost of buying several issues in order to keep up with an extended plotline.

While a typical issue of a major market comic is priced at \$1.99 to \$2.99, the resolution of a story may take several months, which effectively makes them more expensive than novels. "I never have enough cash to stay current through a storyline," Donely said. "I keep falling in and out of comics."

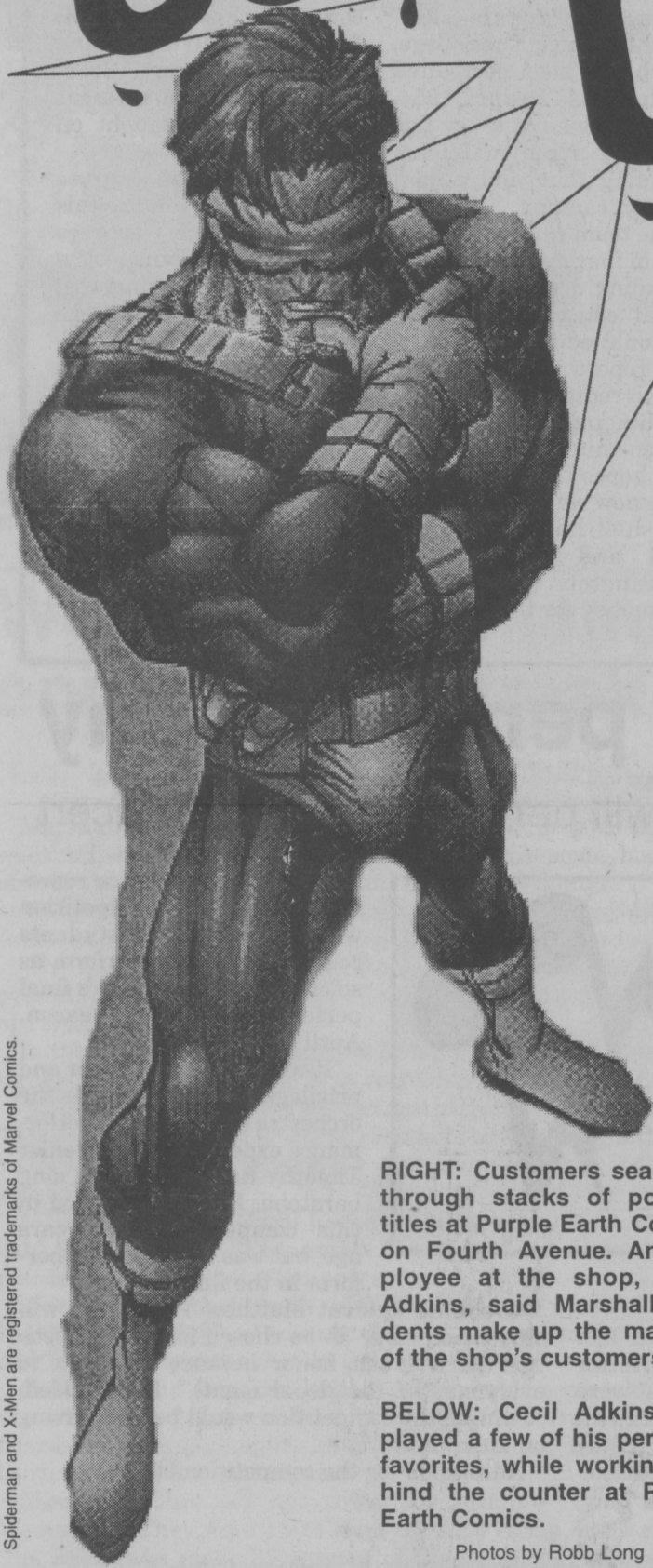
Comic shop owners sometimes feel squeezed as well. "We've definitely had some bad times," Kathleen Miller replied when asked if keeping a comics store profitable is difficult. "Comics are luxury items," she said.

However, Miller was quick to point out that spending on comics is less wasteful than spending on alcohol or arcade games. "When you buy comics, you at least have something durable."

Student enthusiasts can expect continued growth in mature comics as the industry branches into other media in order to bring today's more diverse and complex characters to a mass audience.

New Line Cinema, which produced the 1997 film adaptation of "Spawn" is scheduling the release of "Blade" for summer 1998. The character Blade, a vampire hunter who will be played by Wesley Snipes, is the property of Marvel Comics.

There is also speculation that Marvel will delve further into cinema with an "X-men" film, though no reliable confirmation exists. "You never know with Marvel," Adkins said.



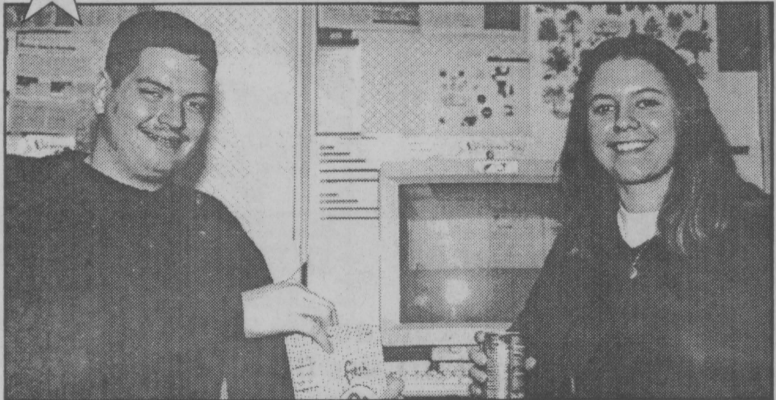
RIGHT: Customers searched through stacks of popular titles at Purple Earth Comics on Fourth Avenue. An employee at the shop, Cecil Adkins, said Marshall students make up the majority of the shop's customers.

BELOW: Cecil Adkins displayed a few of his personal favorites, while working behind the counter at Purple Earth Comics.

Photos by Robb Long



In Review



Robert McCune, Life! editor, and Christina Redekopp, news editor, write movie, music, concert and performance reviews for The Parthenon.

Nicholson's new movie 'as good as it gets'

Christina: Who can dislike Jack Nicholson's charming yet cynical smile? Although we generally see him in a dramatic role, Nicholson does a spectacular job in the comedy "As Good As It Gets."

Robert: Co-starring Helen Hunt, Greg Kinnear and Cuba Gooding Jr. the film is full of heart and should easily win over audiences of any age or gender. Some of the comedy is somewhat harsh, and potentially offensive. But

coming from Nicholson's character, Melvin Udall, it can only be side-splittingly hilarious and fun for all. Udall quickly finds his way into the hearts of the audience, who by the end have figured out that he isn't quite as bad as he seems.

Christina: I think Hunt played the perfect role as Carol, the waitress, because she is pretty but not glamorous and friendly, but still a little standoffish to Udall. I

was a little disappointed in Gooding Jr. however, because I was expecting a more energetic performance from him after his Oscar-winning role in "Jerry Maguire."

Robert: Gooding Jr.'s character, the tough but sensitive art dealer, tries to be the "Show me the money!" shouting football player in "Jerry Maguire," but falls flat about halfway through the movie. It is the performances by Nicholson and Hunt that really

sell the movie, and Kinnear is also very competent and believable as Nicholson's neighbor, the gay painter.

Robert and Christina: This movie with all of its knee-slapping antics and endearing characters is definitely as good as it gets.



'As Good As It Gets,' rated PG-13, is now playing at Cinema 4.