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COS hiring faculty for biotech

by SARAH HEREFORD
reporter

In response to Marshall's new focus on biotechnology education and research, the College of Science continues to hire new faculty members to teach and conduct research.

Biotechnology is becoming an increasingly important industry in which large growth is expected over the next several years. Currently, West Virginia is

significantly behind most of the country in taking advantage of its potential.

However, Marshall is taking the steps to become more productive and competitive in the industry by building new facilities and hiring new faculty. This is providing new opportunities for students, as well as recently hired faculty members. The four newest faculty members hired to the college are Phillippe Georgel, Ph.D.; Simon Collier, Ph.D.;

“At Marshall, I have the opportunity to conduct research independently, with no supervision.”

— Guo-Zhang Zhu, Ph.D., new COS faculty member

Eric Blough, Ph.D.; and Guo-Zhang Zhu, Ph.D.

Zhu came to Marshall this fall for the opportunity to gain teaching experience. He brought his research regarding mammalian fertilization from

the University of California at Davis where he was a research assistant.

“At Marshall I have the opportunity to conduct research independently, with no supervision,” Zhu said.

Blough started teaching

physiology and conducting his own research at Marshall this fall. He said he came to Marshall because he saw the potential of the university to do well in biotechnology.

“There is a great opportunity for young people to do well science-wise here,” Blough said.

Georgel believes Marshall's new interest in biotechnology is bringing a

Please see **FACULTY, P3**

State will not finance schools

As governor, McClure would remove higher education funding

Luncheon packs Christian Center

Soul Food Feast celebrates Black History Month

by LEE R. CLARKSON
reporter

The 19th Annual Soul Food Feast brought people together for food, fun and fellowship Sunday at the Campus Christian Center.

Started in 1985, the Soul Food Feast provides an opportunity to taste foods such as baked chicken, BBQ ribs, chitterlings, collard greens, candied yams, macaroni and cheese, cole slaw, potato salad and cornbread.

“As a part of Black History Month, this event is important,” Fran Jackson, program assistant for the Center for African



Cooley

American Students' Programs, said. “Soul food is a very integral part of black history, especially during Sunday dinner. Everybody looks forward to it every year.”

John Spotts acts as the chef for this event every year. Spotts, who retired from Marshall food services in 1993 after 40 years, said the feast is a tradition. He said chitterlings became a popular dish during the time of slavery and are now considered a delicacy.

“Our history is rich, and we need to celebrate it more often,” Paul F. Willis, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Huntington, said. Willis said approximately 30 people from his congregation attended the feast.

The Campus Christian Center was packed Sunday. The smell of hearty foods and the sounds of excited diners spoke to the quality of the food and the company. Jackson estimated more

Please see **SOUL FOOD, P3**

Black Heritage stamp unveiled



The Paul Robeson stamp is the fifth in the Black Heritage Stamp series. The stamp is the fourth to be unveiled at Marshall.

photos by Matt Riley



photo by Veronica Nett

Dr. Betty Jane Cleckly (left) was among those from the Office of Multicultural Affairs and the U.S. Postal Service teamed up Monday night to unveil the Commemorative Stamp series.

‘Renaissance man’ honored with commemorative postage

by LEE R. CLARKSON
reporter

The Office of Multicultural Affairs and International Programs and the U.S. Postal Service teamed up to unveil the 2004 Black Heritage Commemorative U.S. Postage Stamp to students and community members Monday night in the Don Morris Room of the Memorial Student Center.

This year's stamp is the 27th in the Black Heritage Commemorative Stamp series and honors Paul Robeson, renowned actor, singer, activist and athlete.

“Paul Robeson is a Renaissance man most worthy of honoring,” Ervin V. Griffin, Sr.,

Paul Robeson

Paul Robeson (1898-1976) attended Columbia Law School, played professional football, starred in a number of plays, helped bring attention to African American spirituals and worked as a civil rights activist before the rest of the country was aware of civil rights.

provost and chief operating officer of West Virginia State Community and Technical College, said in his keynote address. “He held the conviction that an artist and a citizen should champion a cause.” Robeson urged his classmates in a commencement address to

fight for a government in which “character shall be the standard of excellence and black and white shall clasp friendly hands,” Griffin said.

Marshall University and the U.S. Postal Service have organized the Black Heritage Stamp unveiling for the past four years. The Paul Robeson stamp is the fifth stamp to be unveiled at Marshall.

A group of 10 employees of the school and the post office make up the Unveiling Stamp Program Committee.

“This project has an immense impact on the area,” Betty Jane Cleckly, vice president of the Office of Multicultural Affairs

Please see **STAMP, P3**

Dance troupe to perform tonight at Keith-Albee

by EVAN S. HUBBARD
reporter

The Dance Theatre of Harlem will perform tonight at 8 p.m. in the Keith-Albee Theater in Huntington.

The Marshall Artist Series (MAS) presents the performance.

“For Marshall, it's a really big thing to have such a

prestigious dance troupe performing on campus,” Angela Jones, director of the MAS.

Arthur Mitchell and Karel Shook founded the troupe in 1969.

Tickets are available to day until 5 p.m. The show begins at 8 p.m. Students must show their MU-ID to be admitted to the performance.

Pastor, professor speak at Friday prayer forum

by EMILY INGLE
reporter

Student groups in favor of the Student Government Association's proposed prayer amendment hosted an open forum Friday afternoon in the Memorial Student Center plaza.

Sponsored by College Republicans and Baptist Student Union, the “Truth” program present-

ed the benefits of student senate-sponsored prayer.

“We thought it would be important to let the campus and community know that there is the other side to this issue,” Caleb Gibson, College Republicans president, said.



Prescott

About 300 students attended the forum, which was presented in response to one sponsored by the Marshall University Civil Liberties Union last Thursday.

Speakers were Southeastern Baptist College professor Dr. Stephen Prescott and radio talk show host Tom Roten.

Pastor Larry Green of River Cities Community Church gave an invocation.

“At the elementary and high school level, the court has said the school can't sponsor them because it may give the appearance to repress the children that this is official dogma,” he said.

“However, as far as I know, the court has always said that college students are adults.”

Prayer at SGA meetings will not corrupt students, he said.

Please see **MCCLURE, P3**

Students enjoy up-close art experience

by JESSICA A. COX
reporter

Marshall University students trekked outside the classroom to experience fine art first-hand last week.

Members of Yeager Seminar 272 (YGS 272) have been studying American Impressionism in their text books but last week they abandoned the books to study actual works of art. They visited two museums, the Huntington Museum of Art (HMoA) last Tuesday, and the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., Saturday. The students researched and viewed works that were created during the Impressionist movement during both visits.

They will later write a paper comparing two of the works they saw.

"Anytime you can have a hands-on experience in

relation to a class it augments the course material," Matt Prochnow, a sophomore history major from Tallmadge, Ohio, said. "Being able to see the original works is much more beneficial than seeing 2-D representations in a book or on a computer screen."

Marian Owens, art professor for YGS 272, stressed the importance of viewing artwork in its original form in addition to studying works in class.

"The central idea behind any study of the visual arts, is to enable you to develop critical thinking skills, learn the specific language with which to describe, and interpret and analyze works of art," Owens wrote in her statement of purpose for the project. "Class discussions and on-site visits to art museums and differing visual environments help to inform (students') opinions and critiques."

Nic Phillips, a sophomore from Elkins, said the trip was valuable in many ways, not just as a part of the Impressionism study.

"I loved the quilt exhibition," Phillips said of another exhibit that is hanging in the Corcoran. "It showed unique expression through a different form of art."

Phillips also noted the value of face-to-face experience with the works.

"The things I experienced first hand are the things that will stick in my mind permanently," Phillips said.

Ashley White, sophomore from Martinsburg, said she found the trip very helpful in understanding the works that she had been studying at the HMoA.

"It was nice to be able to compare the works of artists (in D.C.) with the works we looked at in Huntington," White said.

Prochnow said the trip to the Corcoran built on his

experience at the HMoA and that he was surprised at how at home he felt when he visited the gallery in D.C.

"I'm not big into art museums, but having learned at least something prior to the visit to the Corcoran enhanced the visit," Prochnow said. "The Corcoran had a more extensive collection on hand, as may be expected, but it was arranged much like the Huntington Museum in terms of lighting, flow of the exhibition, and text descriptions."

The Corcoran Gallery of Art is the oldest art museum in Washington, D.C. The gallery focuses on American art. The museum's collection originates from the collection of William Wilson Corcoran, a 19th century collector and patron for American art.

The class visit to the Corcoran was part of a four-



photo courtesy of The Corcoran Gallery of Art
Yeager seminar Students examine the world of fine art by visiting The Corcoran Gallery of Art and The Huntington Museum of Art: John Singer Sargent painting titled The Oyster Gatherers of Cancale, 1878 oil on canvas. Corcoran Gallery of Art. Museum Purchase, Gallery Fund, 1952.

day trip to Charlottesville, Va. and Washington, D.C.

Aside from the art museum, the YGS 272 students visited Monticello, former home of Thomas Jefferson, and the University of Virginia to study art through architecture

because both structures were designed by Jefferson.

The students also visited The Holocaust Museum, attended a French Opera, Opera Comique: La Vie Parisienne and observed national monuments throughout the trip.

MUPD: Records kept properly

by ANN K. ALI
reporter

West Virginia University was ordered Feb. 13 to award plaintiffs \$868,000 for retaliation after campus police officers claimed the school routinely mislabeled crimes, something that is not an issue at Marshall.

Three WVU officers reported officials to the Department of Public Safety Director, the Office of Social Justice and after no satisfaction took the case to court. A Monongalia County jury ruled that the school retaliated against those officers. Meal breaks and duties for the officers were changed and their foot patrols increased after the officers raised concerns.

"Our reports are as accurate as the facts given to the responding officers," MUPD Chief Jim Terry said.

When a crime is called in, the officer on the scene makes a report, classifying the information available at the time. An investigating officer then follows up on the report and if new information is received then the report can be re-classified. Another officer goes through the reports and sorts them before submission to the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) to be sure that everything is classified correctly and requirements for the Clery Act are met.

Marshall University was mandated nearly six years ago, along with every police department in West Virginia to use NIBRS, which requires crime to be broken down into specific statistics and reported to the Federal Government. The Clery Act, signed into law in 1990, requires col-

"Our reports are as accurate as the facts given to the responding officers."

Jim Terry,
MUPD Chief

leges and universities to disclose certain timely, annual information about campus crime and security policies, reporting them to the Department of Education.

Jeanne Clery was a freshman at Lehigh University in Pennsylvania when she was murdered

and sexually assaulted in her residence hall in 1986. The school had not informed students about 38 violent crimes on campus in the three years preceding her murder, pushing Clery's parents to lead the original Campus Security Act, according to the Security On Campus Web Page, www.securityoncampus.org

"Our number one concern is the victim," said Terry.

The Clery Act specifies that limited information may be withheld to protect victim confidentiality, to ensure the integrity of ongoing investigations or keep suspects from fleeing.

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Bowling alley to be replaced

by MELISSA N. DUNN
reporter

The bowling alley in the basement of the Memorial Student Center (MSC) will be no more, as plans for a new multi-purpose room are in the works.

Plans to renovate the bowling alley in the basement of the MSC were presented at a preliminary meeting Jan. 23.

"It was a preliminary meeting to discuss drawings for a multi-purpose area to replace the bowling alley," Karen Kirtley, director of auxiliary operations, said.

Architect John Harris

was at the meeting with initial drawings of the room.

The new room will include mounted television units, data connections and electrical connections.

"The room can be used for meetings, dances, career fairs and registration," Kirtley

Mike Meadows, director of facilities, planning and management, is in charge

of the design and construction on campus.

"We will take an active role in the design and actual construction and end product of the plans," Meadows said.

"We want to give an end product that is what the original goal was with the budget in mind. We want the renovation to be what the students want," Meadows said.

There is no date set for completion of the project.

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Room 2W16

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Information Table
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Student Center

For more information contact Jason Kane at
800-424-8580 or jkane@peacecorps.gov.



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Call 696-3346 for advertising information

New environmental organization in the works

by **LEE TABOR**
reporter

A new student organization may be gracing Marshall University's campus within the next couple weeks.

The Marshall University Environmental Protection Coalition (MUEPC) has just filed paperwork with Student Activities and is awaiting approval from the student court.

MUEPC will be a Huntington-based operation focusing on animal and

environmental interests. They will work with a number of local agencies to make Huntington and Marshall more environmentally friendly, said Mariah Hinshaw, director of animal interests for MUEPC and a senior biology major from Huntington. "This will give Marshall students an opportunity to get involved and make Huntington a better place for animals and people by cleaning up their environment." The last environmental

club, Marshall University Environmental Student Activists, disbanded over a year ago. Students and staff feel it's time to bring a club of this nature back to campus.

"I believe this club is needed," said Katie Krieger, graduate assistant for Student Activities. "There are so many students interested in the environment and this club will give them the chance to connect. I believe this club will be very successful on our campus."

MUEPC will be taking part in many local community service projects along with some of their own. Adopt-A-Highway, Beech Fork Lake Cleanup and doing volunteer work at the animal shelter are just a few activities which are on schedule for the club.

Dimes for Dogs, created by the club, will be one of the main philanthropies in which they will participate. Dimes is a project where MUEPC collects change and then gives it to local animal shelters to assist

them with the purchase of food and animal care.

"There is a real need for a club like this in the area," said Sarah Hansen, director of community service and a freshman pre-veterinary major from Cleveland. "There is not much help given to local animal shelters and environment improvement projects. We believe we can do something about this and help out in any way we can."

In order for a new organization to be considered, the group must have at least

seven members, a constitution and a faculty advisor. The "interest group" must then gain approval through Student Activities and the student court.

Those interested in starting their own organization should obtain an application from the Student Activities office located on the second floor of the Memorial Student Center.

For more questions or information on how to join, please contact MUEPC at MUEPC@yahoo.com.

MCCLURE

From page 1

can provide the best results for education in West Virginia."

If elected, McClure said he would encourage the repealing of the West Virginia Constitution's 12th Amendment, which calls for government regulation of education.

When told about Marshall's recent controversy over prayer in Student Government Association meetings, McClure said separation of church and state is essential.

"I feel there should be complete separation of state, food and state, education and state, guns and state, health and state, road

and state and plastic forks and state," McClure said.

Instead of regulating people's lives, McClure said the sole job of the state should be to arrest, prosecute and punish people. He said people should be allowed to carry guns wherever they want and that certain prisoners should be freed.

"I plan to chuck all the people in jail out on the street if they haven't hurt anyone or stolen anything," McClure said.

McClure said he also wants to repeal all state drug laws.

"They just cause more problems for everyone," he said.

When asked if he would like to add anything else, McClure simply asked, "Got liberty?"

FACULTY

From page 1

lot of cutting edge research to the university. "Students are being exposed to one of a kind research here," Georgel said. "Marshall will be able to move with the future and compete at a higher level with other schools."

With the new world of biotechnology competition and medicine, there is increasing opportunity for those trained in this field.

Collier said West Virginia is trying to raise research in order to come in line with other states.

"Most students at Marshall are probably not aware of what is happening and what is available here," Collier said. "Hopefully the new research and facilities will raise the university's profile and recruit science majors."

Plans of building the Marshall University Biotechnology Center will also help the growth of cutting edge research at Marshall. The purpose is

to provide an environment where concepts developed at Marshall can be guided to the marketplace. It will also help outside biotechnology firms find support for research and development.

Collier said the college is planning a Symposium Day in late March in which faculty members from University of Virginia and other universities will be invited to Marshall to discuss their research. All students, faculty and staff are invited to attend.

STAMP

From page 1

and International Programs, said. "The program draws a very diverse mix of people."

The Spring Hill Elementary School choir sang at the program, as did Maurice Cooley, director of the Center for African American Students' Program, and William Smith, assistant superintendent of Cabell County schools.

Richard Beckner, a U.S. Postal Service letter carrier, presented certificates of appreciation to Cleckley, Cooley and Feon Smith, program assistant for the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

He also presented door prizes featuring past Black Heritage stamps to eight audience members.

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SOUL FOOD

From page 1

than 160 people came through to have a meal.

Erra Thompson, a freshman nursing major from Beckley, and Chris Taylor, a freshman computer science

major from Keyser, shared in the feast. Two volunteers with the Black United Students Organization, Thompson and Keyser said they were happy to be a part of the event.

"It's a good cultural event for the community, especially since it's on a college campus," said Taylor. "But we'll

need more food next year."

Next year will have to be really big, Maurice Cooley, director for the Center for African American Students' Programs, said.

The feast cost \$4 for students and \$7 for adults. Next year's event will mark the 20th anniversary of the feast.

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Graduate College offers limited tuition waivers for summer term

by **SARAH HEREFORD**
reporter

The Graduate Dean's Office is now accepting applications for a limited number of graduate tuition waivers for Marshall University's summer terms.

Applications will be accepted through Friday, April 9, in 113 Old Main on the Huntington campus and by the students' academic area offices on

the South Charleston campus.

Priority will be given to faculty and staff of the state's public and private colleges and universities, as well as West Virginia residents.

However, a small number of waivers will be given to nonresident students.

Grade point average and scores on graduate admission examinations will be the main consideration in awarding the waivers.

Waivers cover tuition fees, but students are responsible for paying student center and activity fees, as well as some department specific fees. Up to three hours of waiver will be awarded to those qualified.

Students interested in applying for tuition waivers should contact the Graduate Dean's Office in Huntington or the Graduate Admissions Office in South Charleston. Those who held previous tuition waivers must reapply each semester.

Students awarded waivers will be notified by email. Beginning Friday, April 23, Huntington campus students may pick up waivers in 113 Old Main and take them to the Bursar. Waivers not claimed by Monday, May 3, will be assigned to other applicants.

South Charleston campus students must be registered for summer classes by Monday, May 3 to receive waivers and have the payments posted to their accounts.

If students are not registered by this time, waivers will be assigned to other applicants.

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Petition for faculty raises should be supported

Today professors will be in the Memorial Student Center gathering signatures on a petition to extend the Annual Experience Increment (AEI) to higher education faculty members. The AEI was established to give a \$50 salary increase each year to all state employees, but leaves faculty members out of this benefit.

While \$50 may not seem like much money, the petition states that a 10-year employee would receive \$500 and an 11-year employee would receive \$550.

We understand the state is strapped for cash and that times are tough all over, but when the school is unable to pay faculty at a competitive rate in order to keep them here instead of leaving for greener pastures, we suffer as students.

The Parthenon staff wants to encourage students to take a few moments and read the information that the faculty members have about the petition and sign one if you agree with it.

As students we already pay a lot for our education, we may as well do everything we can to see that we are getting the best education we can for our money. If the university's faculty haven't got a reason to stay with the school, we're going to be missing out on the education we're working to attain and paying thousands of dollars for.

The school is already offering fewer classes and fewer sections of the classes available. The budget crisis is already affecting us and it will continue to do so when the schools have to make further cuts. Faculty members who have no reason to stick around, probably won't. Worrying about the possibility of keeping your job because there's not enough money in the budget to pay you is not much of an incentive to stick around and see if you'll be able to work for the next semester.

If you don't think this issue is worth your time, still try to take a moment to think about the fairness of higher education faculty being the only state employees that do not receive this incremental bonus. Faculty members do a very important job and very few of them get any thanks for their work. Fifty dollars may still not sound like much, but it could be the little bit that keeps a good professor at Marshall.

Tell us what you

Think!

E-mail us at
parthenon@marshall.edu
or call us at
696-6696.

MUPD can make up for officer shortage

I've read with some interest about the Marshall University Police Department receiving a grant for \$10,000 to help them in the exercise of their duties. Many of my fraternity brothers, and other Greeks that I am friends with, have talked about it with disgust — "They're just going to be more of a pain about breaking up our weekend parties," we reason. Even worse, how can anybody justify spending more money just to try to bust underage drinking or public intoxication, when our entire educational budget is being cut for yet another year? However, this issue has a lot more to it than what it appears to be on the surface.

In the Herald-Dispatch yesterday, the editorial addressed the inadequate police force in the City of Huntington. And they are inadequate not in their abilities or dedication, but in the number of officers out on the street. The Editorial pointed out that since 2001, the City Police Department's budgeted positions decreased from 103 to 75. Although it has recently been increased to 84 positions. That is still a sizeable gap that needs to be filled somewhere. Enter MUPD.

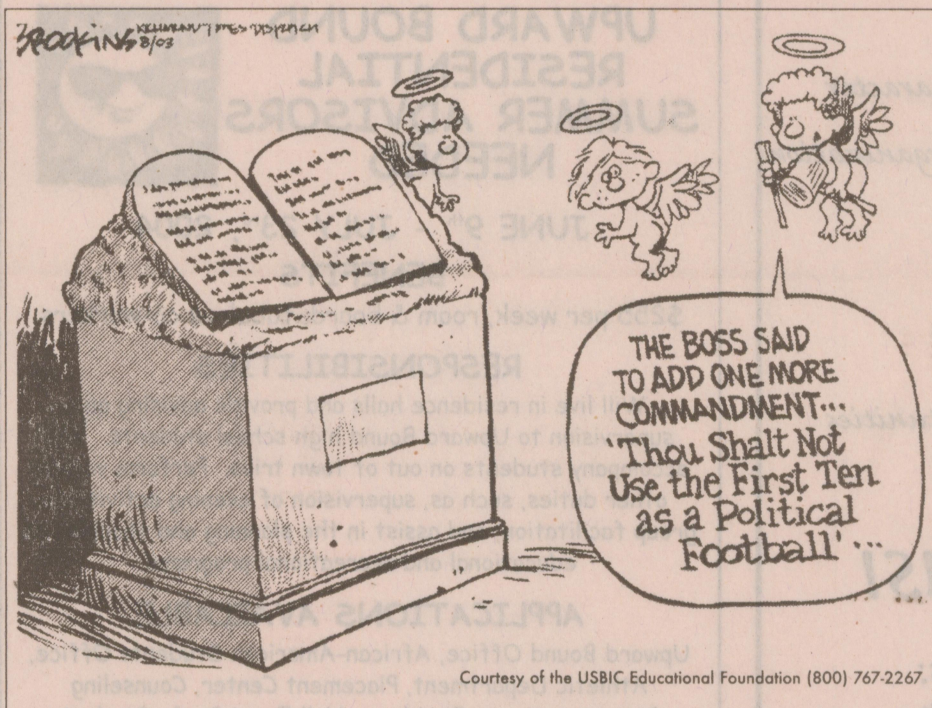
So MUPD has to expand and increase to fill in the gaps where the Huntington City Police, because of slashed budgets, are stretched too thin to fill. So there you have it. Now it all makes sense why Marshall got the large grant this year. But wait a minute — if the purpose of the grant is so MUPD can help out the City Police, why did the money not just go to the City Police in the first place? Now



SETH MURPHY
columnist

I admit that I am no budget guru, and this grant situation could very well just be because of the complexities of government funding. However, it just makes sense to me that if we want to actually address the problem of too few cops in Huntington, then let's help out the Huntington cops directly. Give them the money. It just seems like common sense to me, and that way we can keep our money here at Marshall going directly into our actual education. Although we as students naturally are not in a position to affect the poor budget situation in West Virginia, it more and more issues facing Huntington these days stem back to the people making the decisions in City Hall and in Charleston. So this is just more evidence of how important it is for us to vote for people that we think will make decisions that will best benefit Marshall University and Huntington as a whole. Young people traditionally have very low voter turnout in local, state and national elections, but if we really care about these things, we need to get out in May and November and cast our votes!

Seth Murphy is a columnist for the Parthenon. Comments may be sent to parthenon@marshall.edu.



Courtesy of the USBIC Educational Foundation (800) 767-2267

Christian arguments drawn from Bible verses ambiguous

As a former Christian who is disgusted and appalled at some of the hate-filled or illogical statements made by a few Christians over the course of the past few weeks, I would like to add my opinion on two topics, one minor, one fairly major.

Firstly, John Allan stated in an earlier letter that he did not support the use of instrumental music in worshiping God. I would like to direct his attention to Exodus 15:20, Psalm 149:3, Isaiah 30:32, and 1 Samuel 10:5-6, to name just a few.

Granted, these references are all from the Old Testament, but just because the Bible never specifically says that Jesus laughed, there used to be an entire Catholic sect that believed humor was sinful (whether the group still exists, I don't know). In debate classes, I believe that's called argumentum ad ignorantiam.

And as for the Christian argument against same-sex marriages, they follow a man who was a self-imposed eunuch who spent most

MARSHA HOFFMAN

guest columnist

of his days saying, "Love one another" to about a dozen men. The strongest evidence against homosexuality used by Christians today is often the Genesis 19 story of Sodom and Gomorrah, but the so-called "virtuous" man in this story was willing to give his daughters to the men who came to his house, rather than letting the men rape the angels. The angels themselves had to stop him from doing so.

Furthermore, the Hebrew verb "ya,da" means "to know," and the meaning is only sexual in about a dozen (out of close to a thousand!) uses of the verb elsewhere in the Bible. Clearly, this ambiguous passage is a poor argument against homosexuality in general.

Marsha Hoffman is a freshman in the College of Liberal Arts.

Letters to the editor

Bady's claims not clearly expressed

I would like to shed some light on Mr. Bady's claims in his letter. Bady claimed that Jesus said nothing about abortion or homosexuality. Now in a way he's right. Jesus never specified the procedure of abortion no. However He did mention that no one should ever harm children for doing so was at their own risk. The thing that determines what side we take on that debate is often, "What do we consider human life to be?"

Now, onto homosexuality. Now again, Jesus never said the term, for that term did not exist, however if one believes Jesus to be a part of the Holy Trinity that would make Him one with the Creator. God the Father destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah and had laws against it. In that round about way I think it shows exactly where God (which I believe includes Jesus) thought about homosexuality.

At this point I should probably confirm that I'm not attempting to disprove Mr. Bady's claim, it's just he seemed to wonder where people seem to be getting the idea that Jesus was against these things. He's wondering; I'm telling.

As for the much debated public prayer. I believe the reason Jesus was against the public prayer of the Pharisees was not because it was public but because of the motives. The Pharisees only prayed in public to draw attention to themselves and to promote how good they are. Now whether or not Seth Murphy, Brad Williams, or any other member of the SGA or anyone on this campus prays publicly for only self-promotion is frankly none of our business. Indeed can we know the hearts and souls of these people just by looking at them? I leave that to God. He seems to be able to do that a lot better than I can.

— Samir Abdel-Aziz
freshman journalism major

MU Law club open for members

The MU Law club has had its second meeting of the Semester in the Memorial Student Center at Marshall University. The purpose of this club is to allow students who are interested in going to law school, an opportunity to pool their resources, practice for the LSAT and to meet lawyers from the local community who are willing to give advice on what it takes to gain admittance to a good law school.

Road trips and tours of law schools on the east coast are currently in the planning for any student who is considering a career as a lawyer or who is not sure which law school they may want to go to.

Our main goal is to encourage our members to aggressively pursue a legal profession through support and preparation. We will accomplish this goal by pooling resources, inviting attorneys to the campus for speaking engagements, and by visiting law schools.

It is our hope that with enough student interest, that Marshall University and the state of West Virginia will come to realize that Marshall University is the next logical choice for a law school here in West Virginia. After all, we are named for one of the chief justices of the U.S. Supreme Court.

For more information please contact the MULawclub@Yahoo.com.
— Harrison O'Dell
political science, pre-law junior

the Parthenon

Volume 105 • Number 66

The Parthenon, Marshall University's student newspaper, is published by students Tuesdays through Fridays during the regular semesters. The editors are responsible for news and editorial content.

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<http://www.marshallparthenon.com>

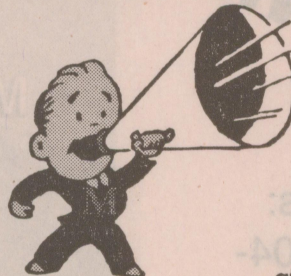
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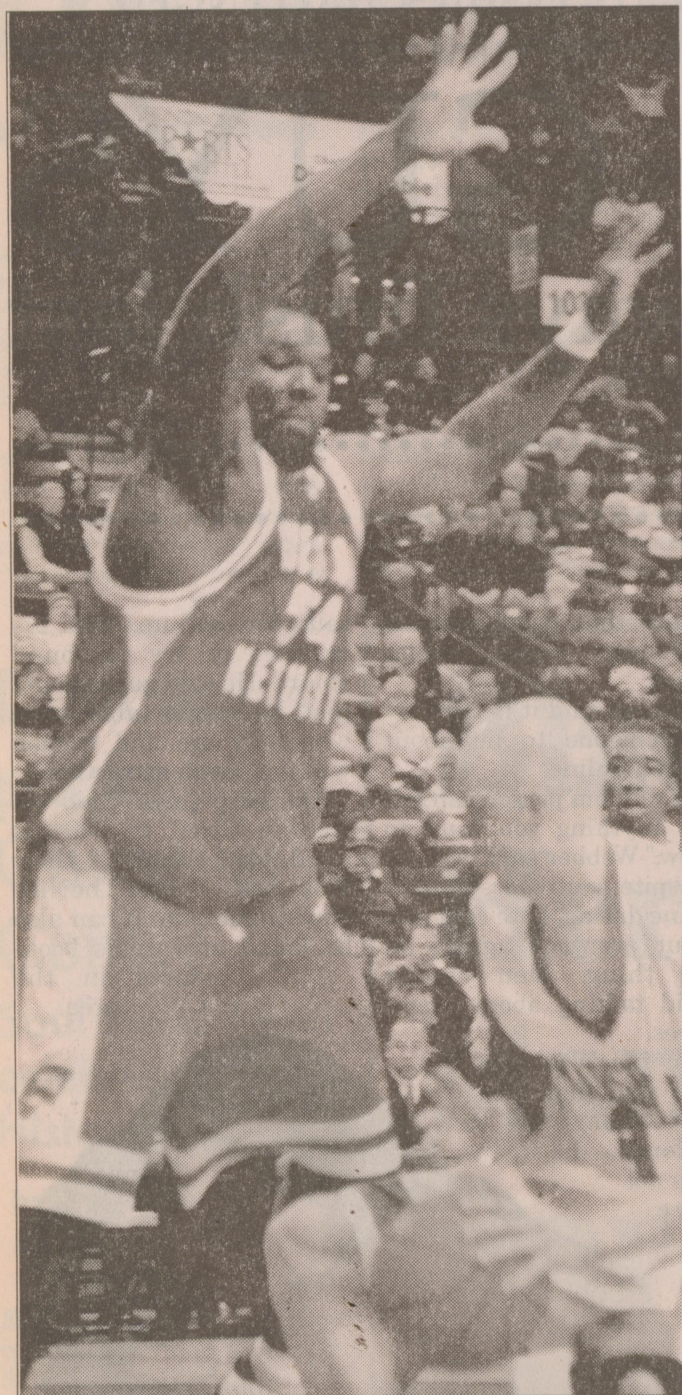
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Please keep letters to the editor no longer than 250 words. Longer letters may be used as guest columns at the editor's discretion. All letters must be signed and include an address or phone number for confirmation. Letters may be edited for libelous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

Marshall falls to Hilltoppers



Western Kentucky's Nigel "Big Jelly" Dixon overshadows the Herd's A.W. Hamilton as he makes an attempt to cut to the basket for two. Dixon finished the game with 29 points and 16 rebounds.

by MARY BALLER
reporter

The Thundering Herd (overall 9-14, MAC 6-7) lost to the Hilltoppers of Western Kentucky (14-11, 7-5 Sun Belt) 66-87 in the Bracket Buster game Saturday.

Western Kentucky came out strong in Saturday night's game against the Herd and grabbed the early lead. Marshall responded, however, and was able to contain the Hilltoppers' first half lead to no more than an 8-points.

"We tried to do the right thing and stuck with the game plan," Western Kentucky head coach Darren Horn said. "We made a lot of shots which makes it easier on the road."

The Herd was able to come back before the end of the first half, and eventually took a 41-40 lead going into halftime. The turning point came in the middle of the half when Eric Smith faked a behind-the-back pass and threw down a unbelievable dunk. The basket brought the fans to their feet, and brought Marshall's bench to life.

The Herd's halftime lead was short-lived, however, and only lasted about two minutes into the second half. Western Kentucky came out even stronger after the half and went on a 19-point run.

A big contributor to Western Kentucky's success on Saturday was center Nigel "Big Jelly" Dixon. The 6-foot-11, 320 pound center played 29 minutes of Saturday's game and scored 29-points for the Hilltoppers.

"We just moved the ball and got a couple of inside

touches and that opened it up for the perimeters for the point guards," Dixon said. "It was big on both parts and we just had a little run."

Marshall's senior forward Marvin Black said that when he went to set a screen on Dixon, it felt like a Mack truck hit him.

"I fought him pretty hard in the second half and it was sort of like it didn't even phase him," Black said. "He is just like a horse and there's nothing you can do about a guy that size."

The Herd only managed to cut the Western Kentucky's lead down to eight points at one point, but the Hilltoppers ran the score right back up and went on another 20-point run.

"They had a 20-point run and we couldn't break it up," Jirsa said. "We called two timeouts, we subbed and we changed defenses, but we couldn't keep the pace and that's when I really thought fatigue also took over."

The Herd played with several players hurt, and Saturday's game added junior guard Ronnie Dawn to the injury list. Dawn got poked in the eye and, as a result, had to have two stitches.

Jirsa said that Dawn was feeling dizzy and was not able to return in the second half. Dawn playing status for Tuesday's game is still questionable, and according to Marshall's Sports Information office, Dawn is taking day to day.

The Herd will be back on the court again on Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Henderson Center, and will clash with MAC foe Ball State.



Jessica Johnson in practice action Monday.

photo by Ashley Kroh

Tennis takes two more

by MATT RILEY
senior sports writer

Marshall rolled by Penn State and Princeton to bring its win streak to four in a row in women's tennis action over the weekend at State College, Pa.

Friday, the Herd knocked off the Penn State Nittany Lions 6-1 and followed it up with a 7-0 beating of the Princeton Tigers Saturday at the Penn State Tennis Center.

"It was a really good weekend," head coach John Mercer said. "They just keep getting better and better and that's important."

In the 7-0 win against Princeton, the No. 14 duo of Jessica Johnson and Ashley Kroh won from the No. 1 doubles slot. The combo of Lille Nzudie and Alice Sukner also won from the No. 2 spot to start off the weekend for the Herd by winning the doubles point.

Marshall swept all six singles points against the Tigers.

The Thundering Herd also took the doubles point against Penn State and picked up victories in singles from Johnson, Sukner, Nzudie, Kroh and Joelle Good for the 6-1 win.

"It was tough at times, but they rose to the occasion together," Mercer said. "Penn State will do well this year and so will Princeton."

Kroh agreed that it was a total team effort that propelled the Herd.

"Overall as a team it was a really good weekend," she said. "We all played really well from top to bottom, which showed up in the scores."

The two victories, are on the heels of wins two weeks ago against Louisville and Southern Methodist.

SMU knocked off the No. 31 and No. 44 ranked teams, LSU and Alabama respectively last weekend. The Herd's victory over SMU shows the quality of wins the Thundering Herd is able to accumulate and the players are pleased with the level they've been able to reach.

"The past two weekends have been great preparations for our upcoming matches," Johnson said. "To be able to beat the good teams helps us and everybody on the team is playing well so hopefully we can keep building on it."

The wins against Penn State and Princeton are also important for the Herd because they were over East region opponents.

Marshall plays its first home matches this weekend against Toledo and Pittsburgh Saturday. Mercer said the Herd hopes to be able to play outdoors for the first time this season.

Marshall women hold off Northern Illinois

by CARA BAILEY
reporter

Marshall's women's basketball team started the final home stretch of the season with a critical 58-55 win over the Northern Illinois Huskies.

The win guarantees the Herd at least a .500 regular season record and also puts the team in a heated race for a first round home play-off game.

"We feel pretty good about this win. Any win in February is exciting," head coach Royce Chadwick said. "We played February-caliber defense. We are who we are and right now we are playing really good defense."

Nadia Swanigan, senior forward, drew several

charges and pulled down six rebounds including a critical board with 13 seconds left to help seal the win.

Sikeetha Shepard-Hall, sophomore guard, shot a season high 78 percent from the field and led all scorers with 22 points.

"Sikeetha Shepard-Hall was the difference down the stretch tonight," Chadwick said. "Great players make us look good. Tonight we looked great."

Shepard-Hall said she has struggled on offense all season and decided to put more emphasis on defense.

"I decided to focus on defense and felt confident in myself," she said. "I didn't hesitate and stepped up and shot the ball. I'm more confident and my team-

mates are more confident in me."

The crowd of 938 had a scare when Shepard-Hall was fouled and injured her left knee with 13 seconds left in the game. The fans were also an essential part of the game for Marshall, and Chadwick thanked the crowd for helping the team over the hump.

"The crowd was great," he said. "They lifted us when we needed a lift."

Marshall also turned the ball over 19 times during the game, yet had no turnovers in the last eight minutes. Chadwick chalked the mistakes up to inexperience.

"We've got a lot of new players and it takes a long time for them to get focused," he said. "It took us 32 minutes to get focused."

Chadwick also said that the young players played well because they want to get the seniors out on a good note.

Marshall returns to action on Wednesday night against the Bowling Green Falcons. Tip-off is 7 p.m. at the Cam Henderson Center.

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NICE GUYS

don't always finish last

story by ARIEL A. BRINKER

Men can attract more women by learning what the opposite sex thinks is attractive, according to a new book written especially for nice guys.

"The Nice Guys' Guide to Getting Girls" was written John Fate and a group of his friends at The Nice Guys' Institute in Tampa, Fla.

Fate said the book is for ordinary guys who are not especially attractive, rich or famous.

"Nice guys like us need our own approach to women," Fate said in the book.

Fate said girls avoided him and his friends in college. They could not get girls to date them, or even just be friends with them.

"We went on a mission: to become friends with dozens of women and understand first-hand what women are looking for," Fate said on The Nice Guys' Web site.

Fate said he and his friends started spending a lot of time around the women they met. For several months, they studied how other guys tried to pick up their new female friends and saw what worked and what did not.

The study, resulted in discovering the many likes and dislikes women have about men approaching them, communicating with them or taking them out, Fate said.

"The Nice Guys' Guide to Getting Girls" is the second of the Nice Guys' books.

The first was called "Make Every Girl Want You." Fate and his friends also wrote "The Nice Guys' Guide to Getting Girls 2."

The Nice Guys offer the three books, an audio series and even courses "to help the nice guys of the world,"

Fate said on the Web site.

"The Nice Guys' Guide to Getting Girls" is dedicated to a guy whose real identity is not given but whom Fate refers to as Oscar. Fate said Oscar is his role model of a nice guy, who knows how to attract women. Fate said he watched Oscar to learn many techniques he personally uses and also suggests in the book.

Dr. Helen Linkey, a psychology professor at Marshall, agreed that a guy could learn a lot from someone else.

"Watch other guys and copy what they do," Linkey said.

By watching Oscar, Fate said, he began to change his techniques for approaching women.

Fate learned to approach a woman, without trying to pick her up. Fate said a guy should just try to engage a woman in a conversation, so she does not feel intimidated.

Any other books encourage men to approach every woman they see throughout the day to try to hook up, Fate said on the Web site.

He said most women do not want to be approached aggressively while they are doing their errands after a long day at work. Fate said most guys would get rejected if they took that approach.

"These repeated rejections will only serve to lower your confidence, which, in turn, makes it even more difficult to meet women," Fate said.

In the book,

Fate said it is good to meet women in an environment

where there are not many distractions, but he points out that most women congregate in places where there is a lot of activity.

He said it is important to make a good impression, by asking her about herself, using eye contact and appropriate body language.

Jeff Ware, a social work senior from Charleston, said some men just seem to have a presence about them that attracts women, but other men have to put effort into it.

"If you approach a woman you don't know, you have to impress her," Ware said.

Ware said this might be done through a smile, eye contact or a comment.

"There's something that catches her off guard and intrigues her," Ware said.

Fate said a guy could be more attractive to a woman if he knows how to use body language properly. He said many of his female friends are stunned by a guy's eyes, even though there is nothing particularly remarkable about them.

"Women recognize the importance of eye contact," Fate said.

Sometimes, a guys' eyes seem more beautiful to a women, just because he knows how to make her feel like the center of his focus, Fate said.

Fate said women are attracted to many different traits, not just physical appearance. He tells guys how to be more

attractive to women by focusing on the other traits women are intrigued by, he said on the Web site.

Kristin Webber, a health-care management sophomore, from Harrisville, said she is tired of guys either trying to take her home for a night or else being the type of guy who stalks her. "Try to get to know me," Webber said.

In his book, Fate suggests getting to know someone online.

Ware said he considers the Internet a great place for someone who is unsure about his physical appearance to meet a woman.

"If you can get to their mind, you can get to them," Ware said.

Ware said the Internet helps allow the mind and personality to be the most important thing, instead of just physical appearance.

Dr. Linkey said she would not be interested in meeting a person online, because there is a good

chance that people can be dishonest about themselves.

Webber said it is too easy for someone to lie about himself online.

"A random person can tell you anything you want to know," Webber said.

Despite controversy about online dating, Fate said just about everyone agrees on one thing. Men should avoid talking about themselves.

On his Web site, Fate said that if a guy has confidence, he does not have to

talk himself up, flex his muscles or try to sound smart. He said guys should just be comfortable with who they are and women will find them attractive.

"The Nice Guys' Guide to Getting Girls" in 2004 is available through their Web site www.TheNiceGuysGuide.com. It can also be found at various bookstores in the area.



“Women don't want jerks. They want guys who are compassionate and provide them with reassurance. Women don't want expensive presents and fancy dinners; they want intimacy and understanding.”

..... The Nice Guys' Guide to Getting Girls

To read an excerpt from the book, go to www.theniceguysguide.com