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RACE TO THE PRESIDENCY

CANDIDATES FOR HIGHEST STUDENT GOVT. OFFICE EXPLAIN PLATFORMS DURING DEBATE

by **EMILY INGLE**
reporter

Student Government Association (SGA) president and vice president hopefuls discussed the Marshall Plan, student activities and textbook prices in their first campaign debate Tuesday in the Memorial Student Center.

Each tandem was given two minutes to answer one question. Once all three teams were finished, they were given one minute to respond. Four questions, including what to do with the Marshall Plan and how to keep

students on campus on weekends, were asked during the debate.

Both Murphy and Gundrum agreed the most important issue facing students was high textbook prices. High tuition costs and the possibility of cutting summer school was the most important, Gaston said.

"Textbook prices is something that affects every single student," Murphy said.

The Murphy-Bryant duo said that from the \$70,000 allotted to the SGA from student fees, \$12,000 to \$15,000 could be set aside for book buyback. If the

bookstore is offering a book for \$30, they'll buy it back for \$40.

An eBay auction for books would be a better way to help ease costs, Gundrum said. Marshall students could post their used textbooks and selling prices on the World Wide Web.

Although textbook prices are high, it is not the most pressing issue, Gaston said. Rising tuition costs are a problem all students are concerned with.

"What we need to attack are the budget cuts," she said. "That's our

Please see **DEBATE, P3**



GASTON



GUNDNUM



MURPHY

Senate debates bring sparse gallery crowd

by **SEAN M. STEWART**
reporter

Aspiring senators from the Colleges of Science, Liberal Arts and Business debated last night about why they should be elected to the Student Government Association (SGA).

"I want to let everyone know what SGA does and where the money goes," William A. Alexander, junior science major from Barboursville, said.

"I just want everyone to get involved with activities and organizations at Marshall," Joe M. Fincham, sophomore liberal arts major from Huntington, said. "That's why I'm here, because I want to make a difference."

The mood was lighthearted among the delegates as they listed their accomplishments

Please see **SENATE, P3**

LCOB offers 24 awards

Some scholarships not GPA-based

by **CARLIE N. HILLMAN**
reporter

The Elizabeth McDowell Lewis College of Business (LCOB) currently offers 24 academic scholarships for eligible students.

"The important thing is I think students have this false impression that all of these require you to have financial need. Your mom and dad could be a doctor or a lawyer and you could still apply for some of these scholarships. The other thing is GPA. You do not have to have a 4.0 GPA," Lisa Williamson, an administrative assistant in the LCOB, said.

The amount for each scholarship depends on how much interest the scholarship generated from the previous year, Williamson said. Therefore, the amount varies every year.

Williamson said the largest scholarship awarded in 2003 was the Walter Treanor scholarship which was \$2,400. "The amazing thing about the Walter Treanor was you only needed a C+ average."

Some scholarships have very specific requirements, Williamson said. The Jay Hall Jr. scholarship, for example, is specifically for

Please see **LCOB, P3**

Biotech construction to diminish student parking



Third Avenue spaces to be blocked off

by **ANN K. ALI**
reporter

The student parking lots located between 17th Street and 18th Street, containing 200 spots, will be closed beginning March 6 for construction of the Robert C. Byrd Biotechnology Science Center.

The Biotechnology Center is expected to stretch across 200,000 square feet and take 30 months for construction, beginning March 9.

The current research center used by Marshall is the Veterans Administration Medical Center located in Spring Valley.

The Biotechnology Center will be positioned directly across from the Science Building so students who park in the Third Avenue lots will need to use the other student lots around campus.

"All the spaces being lost are student spots. That's a real problem," said Stephen W. Hensley, dean of Students. Security officers will be in the lots to direct the traffic changes, which include separating the employee lot between Elm Street and 17th Street.

Beginning Monday March 8, entry for the lot will only be on the

Elm Street side to accommodate construction equipment that will be on the other side. After construction is complete, the entire lot will be available for employee parking.

Jim E. Terry, Director of Public Safety at Marshall assures that plenty of parking is available in other areas. Hensley said the parking lot behind Marshall Commons will be paved to better accommodate students and the garage and stadium lots are never full.

The parking meters in both the employee lots on Third Avenue will be removed for employees to use while construction occupies the Elm Street and 17th Street lot. Once construction is complete the meters will return.

AFFECTED PARKING LOTS

All student surface lots along Third Avenue will be closed once Biotechnology Center construction begins

Courtesy of University Communications

Nobel winner speaks

Peace prize recipient talks about civil movements

by **ELIZABETH LEE**
for the Parthenon

"I am no saint," Jody Williams, 1997 Nobel Peace Prize laureate, said in her speech to kick off events for Women's History Month at Marshall University.

"A lot of people suffer the illusion that if you want to become an activist, suddenly you're transformed into Mother Teresa," Williams, who is a founding coordinator and ambassador for the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL), said. "I just wanted to do something to make the world a better place, for me and for other people."

Williams came to Marshall to speak on the importance of individual involvement in social and civil movements. She is one of only 11 women to have received the Nobel Peace Prize.

Please see **NOBEL, P3**



Williams

ID rep on campus to kick off new cards

by **MELISSA N. DUNN**
reporter

A representative from Higher One was on campus Wed. Feb. 25 to "kick off" the new identification cards and system with representatives from Marshall University.

Nora Lee, an implementation project manager for Higher One, met with representatives to discuss the preliminary stages of implementing the new ID cards.

"It was a 'kick-off' meeting," Lee said.

Throughout the rest of the semester, representatives will be back on campus to "get the word out" about the new cards, Lee said.

Campaigns will range through May. There will be tables set up with information and banners displayed on campus.



Courtesy of the ID Office

Everyone except graduating seniors will receive the new ID Card when it is released.

"We want [students] to be fully aware of the facts," Lee said.

The card's main function will be as an identification card, just like the present ID cards. But, the cardholder is then given the option to activate it as a

debit card by creating a checking account, a One Account, with Higher One.

The cardholder will activate the One Account with Higher One. There will be no monthly fee and no minimum balance, Lee said.

"The choice is yours," Lee

said. "We're not forcing anyone to open an account."

Although students do not have to activate a One Account, they do need to activate the card as an identification card, Lee said. They also have to select a form of refund.

Although the cards have had a positive response, some did not like the idea.

Stephen Hensley, dean of students, said that he did not like the idea of the new ID cards at first. But, after review, he feels it is necessary.

Technology is growing more and more and if Marshall doesn't keep up, it will be left behind, Hensley said.

The new ID card, if activated as a debit card, can be used at over 31 million merchants around the world.

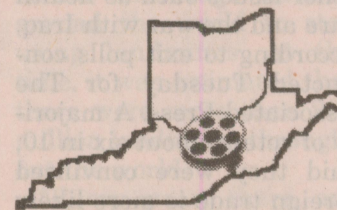
Regional Film Commission sponsoring cinema festival

by **SARAH HEREFORD**
reporter

The first Appalachian Film Festival, sponsored by the Huntington Regional Film Commission, is seeking contest entries until April 15, 2004.

The festival is scheduled to begin Thursday, June 3, and last through Saturday, June 5.

Contest entry categories include film, screenplay, short film, documentary and young filmmakers. According to the festival's website, www.appyfilm fest.com, all entries must be residents in one of the 13 states that make up Appalachia and all work must be original. A \$40 entry fee is required with each entry to help cover festival expenses. Late entries



will not be accepted.

Sam St. Clair, co-chair of the film festival marketing committee, said entries may not be optioned or under professional contract, but may be previous winners of other festivals.

All entries will be screened and considered by the film commission. Twelve entries will be selected to be presented during the festival. Finalists will be notified no later than May 15 and will receive five complimentary tickets to the screening of

Please see **FILM, P3**

Gay marriage results in criminal charges

Mayor charged with performing illegal marriages

by MICHAEL HILL
The Associated Press

NEW PALTZ, N.Y. (AP)

— The village's mayor was charged Tuesday with 19 criminal counts for performing weddings for gay couples, an act of defiance that thrust the small community into the center of

the national debate over same-sex marriage.

Jason West was charged with solemnizing marriages for couples who had no licenses, a misdemeanor under the domestic relations law, according to Ulster County District Attorney Donald Williams.

Although West could face a maximum penalty of a year in jail, the prosecutor said a jail term wasn't being contemplated at this point.

The 26-year-old Green Party mayor said he will plead innocent at his court hearing Wednesday and

Apparently, it's a crime to uphold the constitution of New York state.

— Donald Williams, Ulster County district attorney

that he would still go through with his plans to marry as many as two dozen gay couples Saturday.

"I'm incredibly disappointed," West said. "Apparently, it's a crime to uphold the constitution of New York state."

West performed wedding ceremonies for 25 gay couples Friday, making him

the second mayor in the country to perform same-sex marriages. It also made this small college village 75 miles north of New York City another flash point in the national debate over gay marriage. More than 3,400 couples have been married in San Francisco and West has about 1,000 couples on a waiting list.

Absent jail, punishment for the misdemeanor could run from a \$25 to \$500 fine. Williams said he still did not know whether West performed the marriages of his own accord or after getting bad legal advice.

"If he's doing it sincerely out of a moral conviction and out of some naive misunderstanding of the law, then that would enter into the equation," the prosecutor said.

Williams said his charges do not hinge on whether gay marriage is legal in New York, only that the weddings were performed

for couples who did not have marriage licenses.

State Attorney General Eliot Spitzer has said he will decide this week whether New York law allows gay marriage. He declined comment Tuesday night on the criminal charges filed against West.

Williams said the misdemeanor complaint lists 19 charges — instead of 25 for the number of weddings performed — because police at the scene provided eyewitness accounts of only 19 ceremonies. He said more charges are possible.

Voters rally around John Kerry for Super Tues.

ELECTION 2004

WASHINGTON (AP)

— The Democratic voters who rallied around John Kerry on Super Tuesday were worried about the economy, angry at President Bush and hungry for victory in November, exit polls found.

Kerry's main rival, John Edwards, made foreign trade and its effect on jobs a centerpiece of his campaign and he clearly hit a chord with Democratic voters, a majority of whom said foreign trade is more likely to take jobs from their state. Nonetheless, Kerry won six of 10 in that group.

About one-third of all voters in the Super Tuesday states put the highest priority on a candidate's ability to beat Bush. Other qualities viewed as important by voters in earlier primaries and caucuses did not fare as well, such as a candidate who cares about people like them and a candidate who stands up for what he believes.

Kerry handily beat Edwards among that group, winning four of five voters who said electability was the most important candidate quality.

In Atlanta, 49-year-old Mark Kelley, said he decided to vote for Kerry as he was walking to the fire station to vote in the morning.

"I figured he had the best chance to beat Bush," said Kelley, who said he's not that happy with the choice of candidates.

The combination of anger at Bush and worries about the economy helped focus Democrats on finding a candidate they thought could win.

About a third of the voters in Super Tuesday states said the economy and jobs were the top issues in the election, far outpacing other issues such as health care and the war with Iraq, according to exit polls conducted Tuesday for The Associated Press. A majority of voters, about six in 10, said they were convinced foreign trade is more likely to take jobs from their states, while only two in 10 said they thought foreign trade would add jobs in their states.

Almost three fourths of the voters in Ohio said trade costs the state jobs, and Kerry won the Ohio group as well, on the way to a lopsided win over Edwards, who had put heavy emphasis on that state.

Thirty-four-year-old Kim McCarty of Bristol, Vt., who voted for Kerry, said, "The rich are getting rich and the poor are getting poorer — we're on a downward spiral."



Kerry

Proposed bills to merge teacher retirement programs

CHARLESTON (AP)

— Proposals that would merge West Virginia's two troubled teacher retirement programs advanced toward Wednesday votes in the House and Senate on Tuesday.

The bills (HB4545/SB730) would require enrollees of the Teachers' Defined Contribution Retirement System to vote on whether to join the older Teachers Retirement System.

Lawmakers created the newer plan and closed TRS to new enrollees in the early 1990s after years of failing to fund the program left it with a multi-billion-dollar gap between benefits and collections.

The newer plan allows enrollees to invest their holdings, but many did so poorly and a tumbling stock market did little to help.

The merger would boost the older plan's assets by about \$500 million. Supporters say it would also shave \$1.9 billion off payments owed under a 40-year plan to cure TRS' unfunded liability.

At least half the newer plan's 22,000 enrollees would have to vote on the merger, and a majority of them would have to approve it. Otherwise, the defined contribution plan would remain but new enrollees would be steered

to a reopened TRS.

The newer plan included about 17,000 active educators, compared to 15,000 in the traditional plan.

The West Virginia Education Association represents about 15,000 teachers and administrators. It supports a merger but questions provisions in the House measure.

Teachers enrolled in the traditional plan pay 6 percent of their salary, while the newer plan requires 4.5 percent from its members. To equalize funding, the House bill would require merged enrollees make a one-time payment equal to 1.5 percent of their current salary multiplied by the number of years they transfer into TRS.

WVEA lobbyist Perry Bryant said the House proposal should consider what these enrollees would have paid in prior years, when they earned less.

"This might encourage a lot of people to vote against the concept," Bryant said. "It might also spur a lawsuit."

The American Federation of Teachers-West Virginia agrees, President Judy Hale said. It, too, supports the merger concept.

"We would like to see the old system opened up," Hale said. "A lot of people were misled and coerced into going into the new system."

I-64 chase ends with suspect being shot

Police pursue vehicle across three counties

CHARLESTON (AP)

— A police chase on Interstate 64 that spanned three counties and ended with the shooting of the suspect is being investigated by the Milton Police Department.

Several police agencies were involved in the chase and it is unclear which officer shot Ronald P. Bailey of Charleston as he drove toward a roadblock in the eastbound

lanes of I-64 in Cabell County, Milton Police Chief Gregg Mullins said.

Bailey was treated and released from Cabell Huntington Hospital. He was being held Tuesday in the South Central Regional Jail.

The chase began early Saturday when Kanawha County sheriff's deputies attempted to stop Bailey on Barlow Drive because the license plate did not match his vehicle.

Bailey allegedly fled and entered the westbound lanes of I-64. When his vehicle crossed into

Putnam County, officers from the Putnam County Sheriff's Department and Hurricane Police Dept. joined the chase.

Bailey's vehicle crossed the median near mile marker 22 in Cabell County and headed east on the interstate.

An officer shot one of the vehicle's front tires as it turned east but it did not stop.

Mullins said his department is investigating the chase, and each police agency involved is conducting an internal investigation.

McDonald's cutting out the super-size

CHICAGO (AP) — Say goodbye to those super-sized fries — McDonald's is slimming down its menu.

The hamburger giant has started phasing out its trademark Supersize fries and drinks in its U.S. restaurants as part of an effort to simplify its menu and give customers choices that support a balanced lifestyle, a company spokesman said Tuesday.

By the end of 2004, super size will no longer be available at the nation's 13,000-plus McDonald's outlets except in certain promotions, McDonald's spokesman Walt Riker said.

The move comes as the world's largest restaurant company, and fast-food

chains in general, are under growing public pressure to give consumers healthier food options in a nation that has suddenly become aware of its bulging waistline and the health dangers that come with it.

McDonald's added entree salads last year and has been moving to provide more fruit, vegetable and yogurt options with its Happy Meals. But the Oak Brook, Ill.-based company remains a magnet for public concerns — and legal actions — when it comes to obesity.

Riker said the changes started going into effect in January.

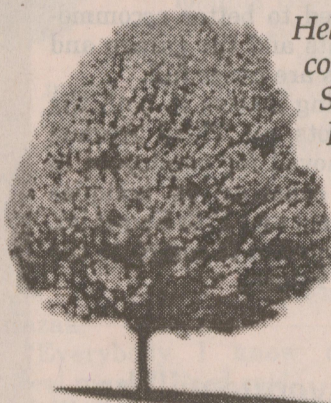
"This core menu, which has been under develop-

ment since 2002, simplifies our menu and restaurant operations and provides a balance of choices for our customers," he said. "A component of this overall simplification, menu and balanced lifestyle strategy is the ongoing phase-out of the Supersize fry and the Supersize drink options."

Supersize fries are a 7-ounce carton. McDonald's will still sell "large" fries, the 6-ounce size, Riker said. The company did not immediately disclose other details of the menu changes.

Two lawsuits claiming McDonald's hid the health risks of eating Big Macs and Chicken McNuggets were thrown out in federal court in New York last year.

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Miscellaneous

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National Student Exchange available to students

by **KATELIN F. ALBERTS**
reporter

Living in Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands or Guam sounds like something students would only consider for a week around Spring Break but The National Student Exchange offers Marshall students the chance to study with one of 176 other universities and colleges in the United States and Canada.

Through the National Student Exchange a student can study up to one calendar year, a full academic year and a summer semester, at another location, according to the National Student Exchange Directory of Exchange Opportunities. The National Student Exchange

places approximately 97 percent of its eligible applicants every year.

Eligibility requirements are as follows: Students applying must be enrolled as a full time student, have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.85 or higher, have good academic standing, have no incomplete grades from previous terms, have no current or pending probationary status due to academic dishonesty or misconduct, have no outstanding financial obligations to Marshall University, have no current or pending probationary or disciplinary action for violation of codes of student conduct, and must not be on probation, parole, or have any pending legal judgments, according to the National Student

Exchange Directory of Exchange Opportunities.

Tuition can be paid to Marshall University or to the school the student will be traveling to. Martha Woodward, executive director of the Center for Academic Excellence, said students should pay their tuition to Marshall because it's less than the tuition at other schools.

"It's a great deal for Marshall students," she said.

Even with the deal on tuition students still have to keep other costs in mind when deciding where they would like to study. Students will pay their tuition to Marshall but housing and meal plans will be paid to the host campus. Some schools don't have much housing available which should also be kept in

mind, Woodward said.

Housing isn't the only factor students should keep in mind when choosing their school. Students should meet with their advisor to choose a school that offers classes that will transfer and apply to their major.

"You're not going to have a real good experience if you come back and find nothing's counting for anything," Woodward said.

The Directory of Exchange Opportunities provides a list of questions interested students should answer to evaluate their decisions for participation. The following are some examples;

What do I hope to gain from the exchange experience, both educationally and personally?

Do I have a flexible academic plan for exchange?

Can my objectives be accomplished at the host campus?

Does the host campus offer access to adequate courses for maintenance of academic progress?

Will participating in the exchange delay graduation?

Will the time I have allowed for exchange give me sufficient opportunity to become acquainted with my new academic environment as well as the region, its people, and its culture?

Are my financial resources sufficient to cover the cost of tuition and fees; room and meals; as well as transportation, travel, and other personal expenses at the host campus?

Certain schools also have

Resident Assistant exchanges, though rules for applying to these exchanges vary slightly. According to the Directory of Exchange Opportunities, Resident Assistant exchanges must be for one academic year and are only open to students who have successfully completed one full year as a Resident Assistant on their home campus.

Students participating with the National Student Exchange are also able to apply for international exchange programs, though these programs require an additional application to be filled out.

The international programs that can be accessed through the National Student Exchange includes approximately 35 countries.

DEBATE

From page 1

biggest problem and it affects every one of you ... Our primary concern is to get tuition to a reasonable price."

All candidates agreed that decreasing student activities on- and off-campus was a vital problem that needed to be addressed.

Part of the Gaston-Cassidy platform is forming a HOUSE (Helping

Organizations Unite Students in Excellence) committee that would allow student organizations to meet twice a month and work together and promote their activities.

"We think people need to know about the things going on on-campus a little bit more and the HOUSE committee, if elected, would be a perfect opportunity for us to promote organizations and things affecting the student body," Cassidy said.

Committees should not be an option because little is

accomplished, and the SGA needs to provide free activities throughout the year for the students, Bryant said.

Although increasing student events is a solution, activities have decreased mainly because of a lack of marketing, and advertising is key, Steele added. One idea the Gundrum-Steele tandem has is to set up a marquee outside to know about upcoming events.

The next debate is scheduled for presidential candidates only Monday at 9:15 p.m.

SENATE

From page 1

and goals in front of a quiet audience of eight.

"There are a lot of flaws in the SGA constitution," Doug M. Evans, sophomore science major from Barboursville said. "I want to establish equal representation among the colleges and student organizations."

"The SGA needs to be more dynamic rather than static," Philip J. Woody, junior science major from Hurricane said. "We need senators that listen to alternative opinions and consider the other side."

"The most important issue affecting Marshall students is tuition increases, Nathan M. Hamilton, junior business major from Huntington said. "With 13 percent increases every year, higher education is being denied to a lot of people."

The recent conflicts about prayer amendments and unconstitutional votes were muted by agreement among the delegates about the need for cooperation among SGA members.

"I tried to organize a retreat last semester but it fell through," Leslie J. Pierson, freshman business major from Clay said. "I want to encourage positive relationships in the SGA."

Elizabeth A. Clemons, the SGA election commissioner, directed the debate.

"It's really hard to know what questions to ask," Clemons said. "Every college has its own unique problems, and unless you're in it, you don't know what needs to be changed."

Five students debated for seats in the College of Science, four students for seats in the College of Business and three students for the College of Liberal Arts.

The Senate election winners will be announced next Wednesday, March 10 at 9:15 p.m. in the SGA office, 2W29B of the Memorial Student Center.

FILM

From page 1

their film in the Jean Carlo Stephenson Auditorium in City Hall in downtown Huntington.

The finalists will be separated into categories of "Best Film," "Best Screenplay," "Best Docu-

mentary" and "Best Young Filmmaker" and juried by a panel of three judges during their presentation at the festival. Cash prizes range up to \$1,000.

Tickets are available to be purchased by festival participants, as well as the general public, for a series of activities planned for the weekend. Activities include writing workshops, parties

and film competitions. The festival will close with an awards banquet on that will award the contest winners.

"We want to showcase their talents and make an impression upon the industry that film is alive and well in these mountains," St. Clair said. For additional rules and regulations on entries, visit www.appyfilmfest.com.

LCOB

From page 1

graduates of Wahama High School in Mason County.

Other scholarships are more general. The only requirement for the Dr. W. Howard and Ann P. Taylor Memorial scholarship is financial need.

Certain scholarships are major specific. The Eva Miller scholarship is for accounting majors only.

Financial need is a requirement for some scholarships. "We verify financial need based on the financial aid office. We say 'Does this

student have any unmet need remaining?' An unmet need means they didn't get a scholarship or they still have some amount of money out that either their scholarship or grant didn't cover," Williamson said.

Dr. Loren Wenzel, professor and division head of Accountancy and Legal Environment, said the faculty of his department choose the scholarship recipients from the students that apply for the LCOB accounting scholarships.

Scholarships can be awarded in one lump sum or broken up, Wenzel said. "My preference is to give every-

body who qualifies, if we've got enough, something."

He said in 2002 the accounting department gave away \$5,200 in scholarships.

Wenzel also said scholarships are not only financially beneficial, but they look very good on resumes.

Williamson said scholarships were awarded in August last year. She said applications should be turned in any time until the end of June if students want to receive their scholarship for the next academic year.

The LCOB scholarship application asks for general information from students, including name, address and major. It also asks for a list of scholarships the student is applying for and a brief statement on "Why you feel you are an excellent candidate to be considered for college of business scholarships".

Students may also have to fill out additional information for specific scholarships.

NOBEL

From page 1

"Each and everyone of us is capable of making a big change in the world," she told the crowd of nearly 50 students and professors.

In 1991, members of the Vietnam Veterans Association asked Williams to design a program that would encourage nations around the world to stop using landmines. At the time, it was estimated that there were more than 200 million landmines throughout the world.

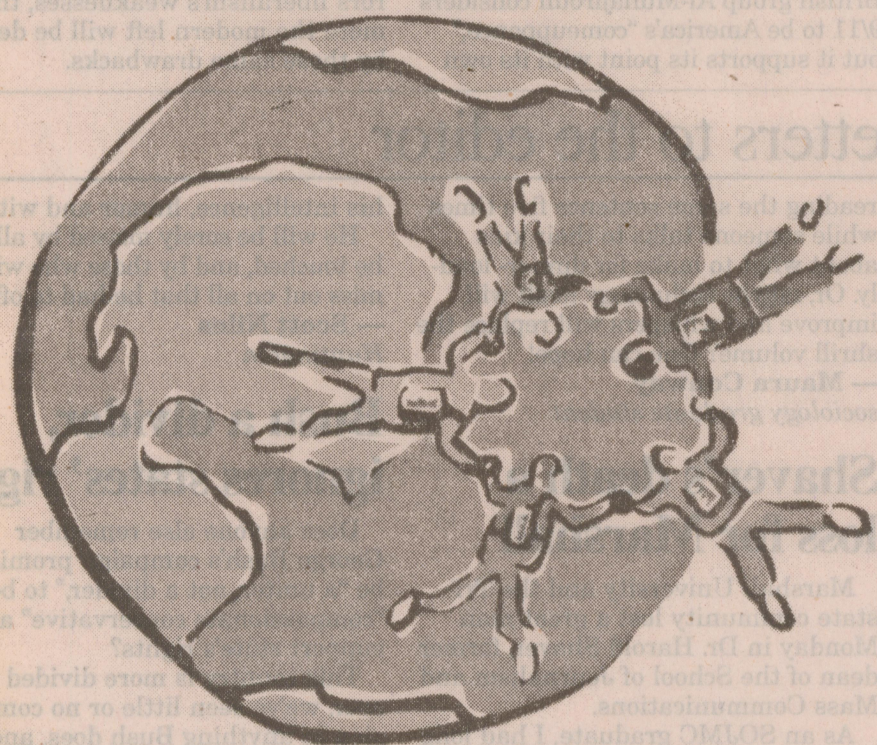
"Every year, there are 15,000 to 20,000 new victims. That's less than when we began, but it doesn't mean we're finished."

After her speech and the question and answer session that followed, Williams circulated among the remaining listeners, discussing landmines and her thoughts on using individual involvement to create international change.

The Women's Center is sponsoring events celebrating Women's History Month throughout March. More information on the Women's Center can be found at <http://www.marshall.edu/wcenter>.

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Redirecting browsers not ethical, even if totally legal

For a short time early in the week, if you made the mistake of typing www.gaston-cassidy.com, you found yourself looking at the Web site for the campaign team of Seth Murphy and Alicia Bryant.

While the use of Internet domain names is still highly disputed, there has been a lot of controversy over the use of domain names that use an individual's name.

The correct domain name for Jenn Gaston and Josh Cassidy's campaign Web site is www.gastoncassidy.com and the correct domain for Murphy and Bryant is www.murphy-bryant.com. Just a small difference, but enough to send people who confused the addresses to a site that advertised the Murphy-Bryant team.

By yesterday afternoon the Web site was redirected to a comical site called www.cowswithguns.com. This site was then changed to redirect www.gastoncassidy.com to the Marshall University homepage.

Seth Murphy claimed that he purchased three domain names for the campaign. The team bought www.murphybryant.com, www.murphy-bryant.com and www.gaston-cassidy.com. Murphy claims that purchasing the third domain was a strategic move and does not believe that redirecting the site back to the Murphy-Bryant Web site was unethical or unfair.

Jen Gaston, as can be expected, doesn't feel that the site being redirected to Murphy-Bryant Web site was ethical, but does not plan to file a complaint with the Student Court.

The difficulty in this situation is that the Internet is still an area that is mostly unregulated. Questions of copyrighting one's name are still going before the U.S. Supreme Court and being dealt with on a national level.

The Parthenon staff does not agree with Murphy's contention that the action is ethical, but we cannot say that it is illegal. The question is one of what should be done versus what can be done.

Many people think that the Parthenon attacks the team of Murphy and Bryant by publishing recent articles and student-submitted letters and political cartoons. A letter-writer mentioned that Murphy has been a target for attack because he writes and speaks out more than other candidates. That could be part of it, but the Parthenon thinks that some decisions that he has made with regard to this campaign have not been the best decisions.

The issue with the Web site domain names has prompted election commissioner Elizabeth Clemons to make a suggestion in her post-election report that there be an addition to the SGA election rules that offers guidelines to Web site domain registration.

The Parthenon thinks this is a good way to avoid the problem in the future. Whether one sees it as clever strategic move or as the unethical railroading of information-seeking students, we think finding a way to avoid the situation in the future is the best decision.



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

Conservatism must retain principles

by **ANTHONY F. HARRIS**
The Daily Iowan (U. Iowa)

(U-WIRE) IOWA CITY, Iowa — The popularity of intellectual diversity, marked by the success of Fox News Channel, means that more conservative voices are being heard all across the country, which also means the right has a lot more chances to say something stupid. For conservatives to continue to hold the intellectual, emotional, and moral high ground in America, they need to keep focused on principled conservatism, which involves a dedication not to imitate liberalism's ugliest mistakes, such as victim politics, collectivism, and Janeane Garofalo with short hair.

Before anything else, let liberals speak for themselves. Don't go all FCC and install speech codes every time communication produces uneasiness. Even socially valueless voices, unless they pose a danger to others serve society by highlighting erroneous behavior. It's not a polemical claim to say that the constitutional right to speak and the emotive right to avoid being offended are inherently at odds with each other.

A more complicated element of principled conservatism is the adherence to truth. A dedication to fact-checking and ideological consistency will keep the right from promoting bad science and creating a busybody big sister government that spends so much money that even FDR is clamoring for real Republicanism from beyond his grave.

Unprincipled conservatism creates people who claim that liberal media bias is rooted in an intricate conspiracy, which is manifestly paranoid. A principled conservative correctly attributes liberal media bias to reasonable explanations, such as a vast majority of reporters vote for Democrats and simply don't consider the idea that their viewpoints do not hold universal appeal.

Good conservatives should understand the psychology behind liberal arguments, even the most morally bankrupt. Believe it or not, liberals also adhere to arguments that appeal to reason; no one subscribes to beliefs he or she doesn't find merit in.

For instance, it's a travesty that the British group Al-Muhajiroun considers 9/11 to be America's "comeuppance," but it supports its point with its own

convoluted logic. Principled conservatives faced with this argument should be able to keep from hacking spit on people who believe this and instead counter the argument with precision that will have their opponents praying to be buried in the ash heap of history.

The most important thing conservatives should remember is that it's never a good thing to trade individuality for identity politics. Ronald Reagan never seemed to give a second thought to the Republican Party line during his presidency, and it didn't hurt him, the right, or America. In fact, it stretched the boundaries of conservative thinking for good. When Reagan walked out on the Reykjavik peace summit in 1986, many of his advisors went ballistic, but it became the most important step towards disheartening the Soviets for good.

Principled conservatism takes self-discipline and sacrifice to uphold, but that shouldn't pose a problem because all winners have those traits anyway. The less conservatism mirrors liberalism's weaknesses, the more the modern left will be defined by those same drawbacks.

Letters to the editor

Students need to learn cell etiquette

I would love to pick up an issue of the Parthenon and see that we've become leaders in some Academic capacity, but the advancement of wireless technology is pleasant as well. However, I think this comes with increased responsibility.

An all too common scene finds me doing research in Drinko and having to hear how drunk Tiffani or Tyrone got last night. An actual conversation heard quite audibly last afternoon as I was doing a literature search included "where you at?" about 5 times every 30 seconds for a six minute duration and peppered in were the fact that this person had some major "sh*t" to discuss with this individual. This all occurs within a "quiet zone" that is not enforced.

Library staff is horribly overworked and understaffed, and until some visionary with a budget sees the necessity for a quiet floor for academic activity, we only can rely on common courtesy. Is there a place for teaching class within Liberal Arts? Now we'll have even more students armed with phones just in case they endure the familiar "stuck on the highway with a flat" scenario used as a cell-phone marketing tactic; will this also mean that we'll have less time to research and learn since we're

reading the same sentence five times while someone talks to their kids about what to make for dinner loudly. Or, maybe technology itself will improve and whispers will replace the shrill volume? One can hope!

— **Maura Conway**
sociology graduate student

Shaver's death a loss for Marshall

Marshall University and the Tri-state community lost a great man Monday in Dr. Harold Shaver, former dean of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications.

As an SOJMC graduate, I had long heard the stories about how tough and difficult Dr. Shaver was in class. He certainly had a reputation that preceded him. But it wasn't until I took his mass media ethics course that I discovered a man and an educator who one can't help but respect and admire. Dr. Shaver was the kind of teacher students love to remember — and can never forget.

Personally, Dr. Shaver challenged me to think about my beliefs, never satisfied with a half-hearted or cookie-cutter answer. He made me strive to be a better writer, thinker, and a better person in the professional world. As I start my career, I look back fondly on not only the fundamentals he taught all of us, but also

his intelligence, humor and wit.

He will be sorely missed by all those he touched, and by those who will miss out on all that he had to offer.

— **Scott Niles**
Huntington

Bush a divider, ignores states' rights

Does anyone else remember George Bush's campaign promises to be "a uniter, not a divider," to be a "compassionate conservative" and to support state's rights?

This country is more divided than ever, we've seen little or no compassion in anything Bush does, and now he supports the Federal Marriage Amendment, which would overrule state's rights and write discrimination into the constitution.

This amendment isn't about protecting the "sanctity of marriage" or "activist judges," it's about politics. The timing is a sign of the desperation of his re-election campaign. He has to distract the American public from the problems he has created or made worse: The war in Iraq, jobs and the economy, health care, education, the environment and many others. It's a desperate attempt to salvage his campaign, by pitting one group of Americans against another.

— **Alan L. Light**
Iowa City, Iowa

the Parthenon

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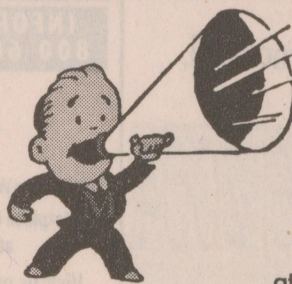
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Please keep letters to the editor no longer than 250 words. Longer letters may be used as guest columns at the editor's discretion. All letters must be signed and include an address or phone number for confirmation. Letters may be edited for libelous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

Herd blow out Zips

by **CARA BAILEY**
reporter

Marshall's women's basketball team beat the Akron Zips 67-52 last night in the final regular season game, and is now preparing for the Mid-American Conference playoffs.

Marshall (16-11, 8-8 MAC) was led past the Zips (7-20, 2-14 MAC) by sophomore Sikeetha Shepard-Hall, who was the Herd's leading scorer with 17 points. Shepard-Hall said that she is shooting the ball like she knows how to and how she has been told.

"The team needs me to shoot and I will continue to do that so we can win the MAC and turn some heads," she said.

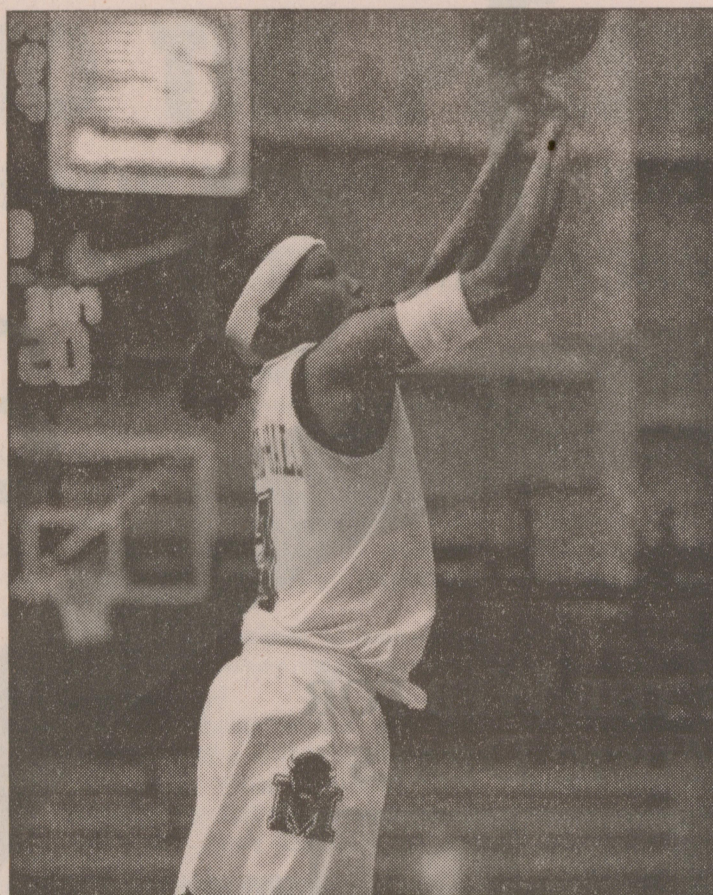
The win marks the first time that Marshall has been at .500 in the MAC regular season play and the eight wins is also a new school record.

Senior Catie Knable had a double-double with 11 points and 10 rebounds in her 90th start for Marshall. Head coach Royce Chadwick said that the Zips were overmatched and that Marshall's depth played a part in the win.

"It's March and people are tired," he said. "We wore them down. A lot of people don't have the depth that we have."

Although it was Senior Night, Chadwick said that the freshman, particularly guard Teyonka Hodge, carried the team when it needed a lift.

"The freshman kept us in the game," Chadwick said. "The younger players kept us going."



file photo

Sophomore Sikeetha Shepard-Hall scored 17 points to lead the Herd to its school-record eighth MAC win of the season.

Hodge started and had two points and one rebound but made the most difference in the assist column with eight. She said she is getting comfortable with being a detrimental part of the Herd's offense.

"I'm getting where I can push the ball, penetrate and dish," she said. "I'm looking for open people."

Chadwick said Hodge is a rarity in NCAA ball because she is a 5'3" guard and there are not many other players who are her height especially at her age.

"If there are any other 5'3" guards in the nation,

they are juniors and seniors," he said. "She is only 19 and she will be a really good guard before she is done."

With the win Marshall now looks to Saturday when the MAC playoffs begin. Chadwick said the win is important because it gives the team an adrenaline shot as they begin tournament play.

"It's very important with this team to have momentum," he said. "This win is a big shot in the arm."

The sixth seed Herd will face the 11th seed Buffalo in the first round of the MAC playoffs Saturday at 1 p.m.

MU Baseball hands loss to previously undefeated UAB

by **JENNIFER PIERCE**
reporter

The weekend started off slow for the Thundering Herd baseball team at Young Memorial Field, but the team came home with a win Sunday, breaking the seven-game win streak of the Blazers of the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB).

Sophomore catcher Richard Russell from Toronto, Ontario, had three hits and three runs in four at-bats, including a grand slam in the top of the fifth inning to put the Herd up by four.

"The team just needed momentum," Russell said. "Once we streamed a few hits, we just took off."

The Herd lost the first two of the three-game series to the Blazers with a 7-1 loss Friday and a 4-3 loss Saturday. Marshall wrapped up the series with a strong win Sunday, making their record 2-7 for the season.

"In the start of the season, our offense wasn't producing the way we should have, but we just caught on fire this weekend," he said.

Marshall only had two hits and one run as opposed to UAB's seven runs off 10 hits in game one. The tables were turned in game three with the Herd's 13 runs off 14 hits compared to the Blazers five runs in nine hits.

"We just stomped UAB in

game three," Russell said. "We had a lot of timely hits, and we played equally well Saturday, but unfortunately we didn't get the hits at key moments like we needed them."

Sophomore pitcher Chris Koutsavlis of Pittsburgh, Pa., credited UAB for being a "good, all-around solid team" and is confident that the team can still compete when Marshall moves from the MAC to Conference USA.

"We handled them well this weekend and proved that we are going to be fine with the teams in Conference USA when we get there," he said.

Koutsavlis pitched the first six innings Saturday in game two, starting off strong in the first by retiring the Blazers in order and allowing only three runs before being relieved in the seventh by hometown sophomore Chris Cummings.

"We didn't play bad in game one. We just came out a little flat," Koutsavlis said. "The difference from Friday to Saturday was that we just picked it up a lot in game two."

The two teams matched up evenly throughout most of game two, with the Herd scoring three runs in the top of the fourth and leading through the sixth. Blazer Nathan McCorkle advanced to second on a wild pitch and then scored after Eugene Rodriguez hit a single to left field, and the Herd

just could not pull off the win.

"The only thing missing was clutch hits," Koutsavlis said. "They just weren't falling when we needed them most."

Marshall did not let the one point loss bring down its momentum for game three and was determined to end on a positive note Sunday.

"The highlight of this weekend was definitely Richard Russell's grand slam," he said. "It just jump-started everyone and motivated our team to get some wins this week."

Head coach Dave Piepenbrink said he was not happy with this weekend because of losing two out of three games, but found it positive that the win was game three.

"We left 14 guys on base Saturday," he said. "I don't think I have ever coached a team where that has happened."

Piepenbrink said his team played the same Saturday, but did not get two crucial hits at the right time.

"We just needed those same two timely hits Saturday that Marshall Murray and Richard Russell had Sunday," Piepenbrink said.

The Herd has its home opener today at noon, playing host to the Yellow Jackets of West Virginia State College for a double-header at University Heights.

Marshall softball picks up two wins; drops final four games in Frost Classic

by **AMY E. MOSS**
reporter

The Marshall University softball team suffered four straight losses after defeating North Texas and UT Martin in the Frost Classic at Chattanooga, Tenn. this past weekend.

The team fell to Tennessee Tech, Wisconsin, Alabama, and Chattanooga. The Herd now stands with an overall record of 6-8.

Herd head coach Shonda Stanton said that, offensively, the team is just not getting any production right now.

"We are a year older on the defensive end, we have strong pitching and have the potential for both speed and power at the plate," Stanton said.

Sierra Davenport, a 22-year-old senior majoring in sports management and marketing from Tucson, Ariz., said that she is satis-

fied with the season so far, but she did anticipate it to go better.

"Some players from last year expect more wins, and we definitely have room for improvement, and need to work on a lot, but we have all the time in the world," Davenport said.

Stanton said that although she is disappointed with the team's start, it's still early and the team still has about 20 games before they open up with conference play.

"Our expectations for the season are not only for a conference championship, but an NCAA bid and we know that every game counts," Stanton said. "Our focus now cannot be our record, but getting better every single day to have an opportunity to fight for a championship."

Stanton also commented that hitting was the Herd's

biggest problem.

"We just did not hit the ball and that is why we are not winning," Stanton said. "You can't expect to win a ball game with consistently having fewer than five hits per game. Hitting is contagious, we just need someone to step up and get things going."

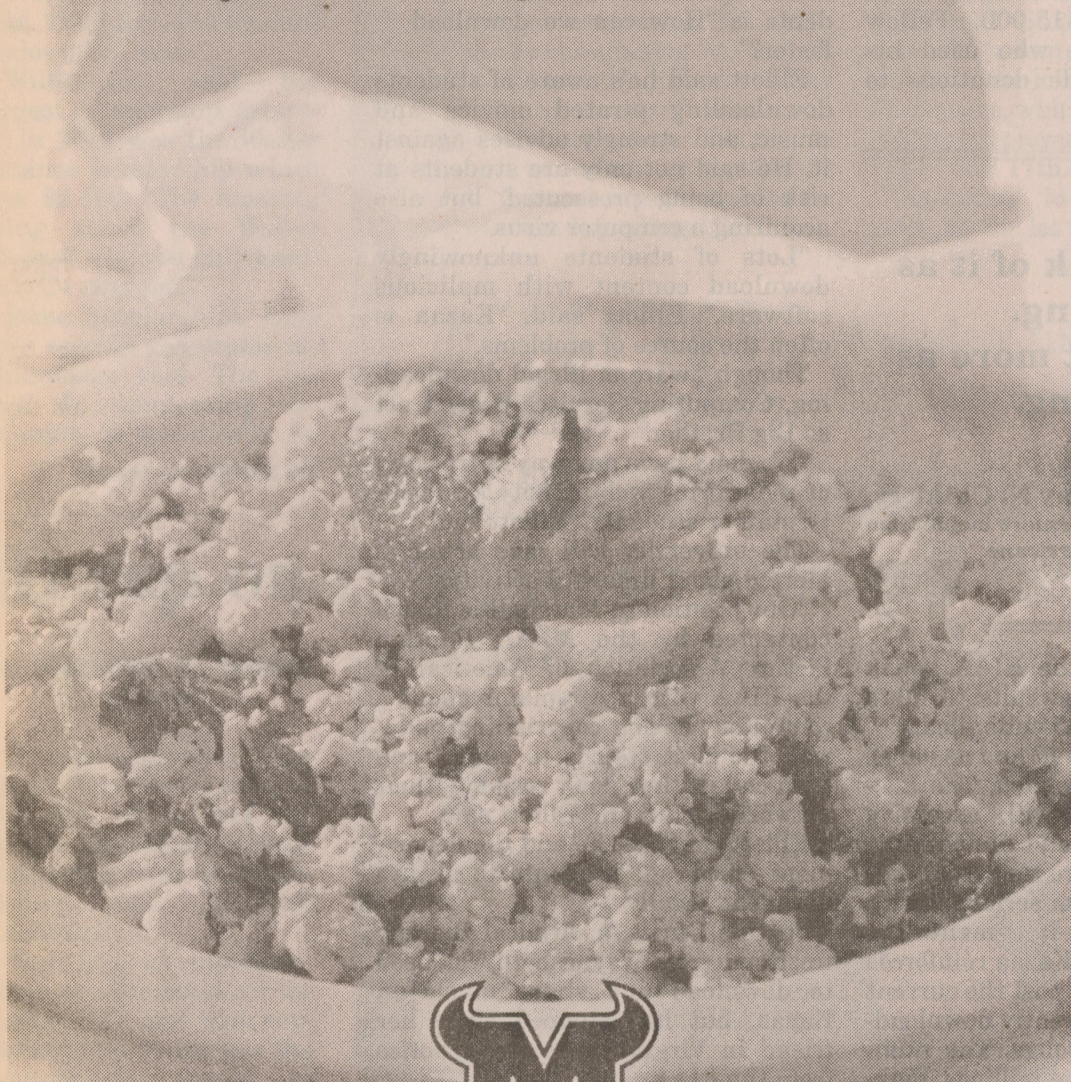
Davenport said that defense and pitching are the team's strengths this season, and offense is their main problem.

"The team is still very young, but everyone is experienced," Davenport said. "We are all still learning, and have a while to go."

The Herd will play for the first time this season on their own turf in the Ramada Marshall Softball Spring Classic this weekend at Dot Hicks Field. Marshall will first face Eastern Michigan at 4 p.m. on March 5.

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Richard Robb

- President of Senior Class and Captain of football team at Marshall University
- Born in Huntington, & family operated former Corner Grocery at 7th Ave. and Hal Greer Blvd.
- Grandfather was oldest living retiree at International Nickel
- Mayor of South Charleston, West Virginia's 10th Largest city, 8 consecutive terms
- Awarded Bronze Star as Military intelligence officer in Vietnam
- Married with two children, wife is a teacher

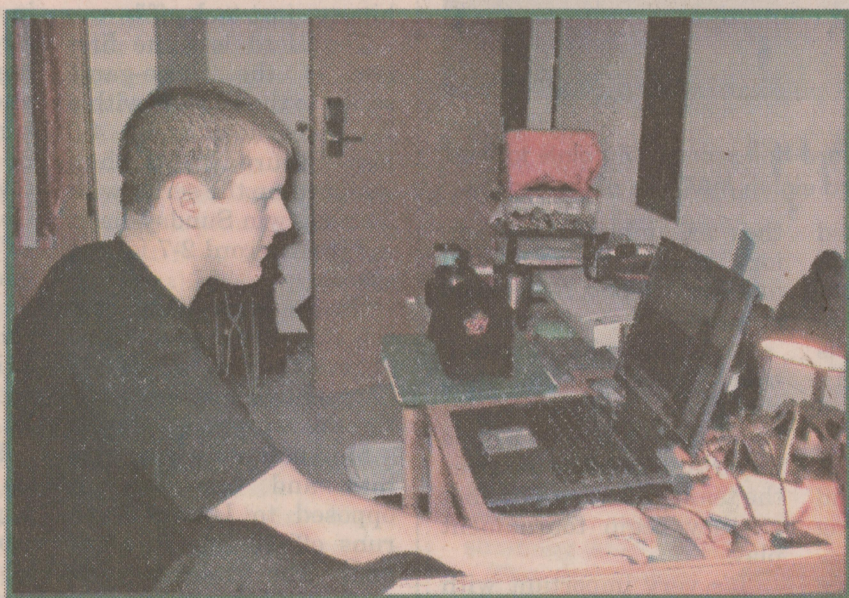
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STUDENTS SURF THE WEB FOR THE BEST IN MUSIC DEALS



Adam "Numbers" Ehlert downloads a free song from Kazaa in his Haymaker Hall dorm room.

story & photo by ABIGAIL KIMBERLAIN

College students are notorious for their love of all things free, and music is no exception. Downloading music from file-sharing Web sites like www.kazaa.com is commonplace for students, but breaking the law isn't. Yet with every song downloaded or shared, they're doing just that.

Twenty students were surveyed about their downloading habits for this article. All 20 admitted to currently downloading music illegally, and cited Kazaa as their primary source. Kazaa is a peer-to-peer (P2P) network allowing users to access files from one another's hard drives.

Christina L. Reed, a psychology sophomore from Huntington, said she downloads frequently from Kazaa.

"Everybody I know downloads [free] music," Reed said.

C.W. Dolin, a political science junior from Huntington, downloads music to preview before he buys it.

"I usually don't download that much music, just music that I don't know if I would like, and want to listen to before I buy," Dolin said.

Sean Schoolcraft, a computer science sophomore from Elkview, prefers downloading and seldom buys CDs because of their price.

The high price of CDs was a recurring complaint of the 20 surveyed.

Adam "Numbers" Ehlert, a mathematics freshmen from Appleton, Wis., used to buy CDs even if he only liked a couple songs on the album.

"Money plays a major role now, so I download music for free instead of wasting money on songs I don't like. It's impractical," Ehlert said.

Taking songs without paying is a crime.

"I don't really think of it like that [stealing]. It's just there and you download it," Reed said.

Jeremy N. Childers, a geology sophomore from Hurricane, said he doesn't regard taking songs as a felony.

"I don't think of it as stealing. I think of it more as sharing," Childers said.

Ehlert said he occasionally reconsiders downloading, since a friend of his got into trouble for downloading and sharing files.

"Sometimes I think, 'I shouldn't do

this,' but in the end I don't care," he said.

The Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA), an organization representing the U.S. recording industry, serves to "protect the intellectual property rights" of artists. The RIAA has launched a staunch prosecution campaign to end online piracy. Their weapon of choice is a pretty powerful lawsuit costing violators thousands of dollars.

Among the first to be sued were four college students, including Princeton University student Daniel J. Peng. From his dorm room, Peng ran a music and movie search engine, which located pirated material. The RIAA charged him with facilitating file-sharing of copyrighted music.

In his settlement, Peng was ordered to pay \$15,000. Fellow Princeton students, who used his search engine, made donations to help pay for his fine.

“

I don't think of it as stealing.

I think of it more as sharing.

—Jeremy N. Childers,
geology sophomore major from Hurricane

”

Last September, the RIAA began filing hundreds of lawsuits. To date there have been 1,445 suits filed.

People as young as 12 and as old as 71 have been subpoenaed. The lawsuits target people with excessive illegal downloading and file sharing. The consequences are very real, but it's hard to take them seriously with an everyone-does-it mentality. Simply logging onto Kazaa reinforces that mindset as they post the current amount of users currently downloading and swapping songs. The numbers are always in the millions, making it easy to think "It'll never happen to me."

Donald L. Frailie, an attorney in Ashland, Ky., believes that the RIAA lawsuits are the beginning of new rules and regulations for online piracy.

"This is a new evolving area of the law where the extent of the crime and the extent of the punishment have yet to be determined,"

Frailie said.

He thinks it's unfair to penalize only some engaging in this activity.

"It's not practical to think you can catch everyone who downloads, just like you can't catch everyone who speeds on the highway," Frailie said.

Chuck Elliott, computing services associate director of customer service, said that one of his most frequently asked questions by students is "How can we download faster?"

Elliott said he's aware of students downloading pirated movies and music, and strongly advises against it. He said not only are students at risk of being prosecuted, but also acquiring a computer virus.

"Lots of students unknowingly download content with malicious software," Elliott said. "Kazaa is often the source of problems."

Though aware of illegal downloading, Computing Services doesn't act as Big Brother.

"We don't have any way of tracking or monitoring web activity for faculty, staff or students," Elliott said.

The university will take action if alerted about unlawful activity.

"Our position at Marshall is that if contacted by the MPAA [Motion Picture Association of America] or the RIAA with a complaint about a computer sharing copyrighted material, the first step is to e-mail and then call. If they don't respond, their network is shut off," Elliott said.

Elliott said that he and the department encourage students to always download legally.

Justine Curtis, a physical therapy freshman from Waynesboro, Va., used to download and share music on Kazaa, but has stopped since her friend in Virginia received a notice from the RIAA.

"I don't do it [download illegally] so much anymore, because they're actually starting to bust you for it," Curtis said.

She still downloads music, but now she uses Apple iTunes and pays \$.99 per song.

Paid music download services, like iTunes, are growing. They are legitimate routes to obtaining music at relatively inexpensive prices.