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## The Parthenon, February 3, 2009

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# THE PARTHENON

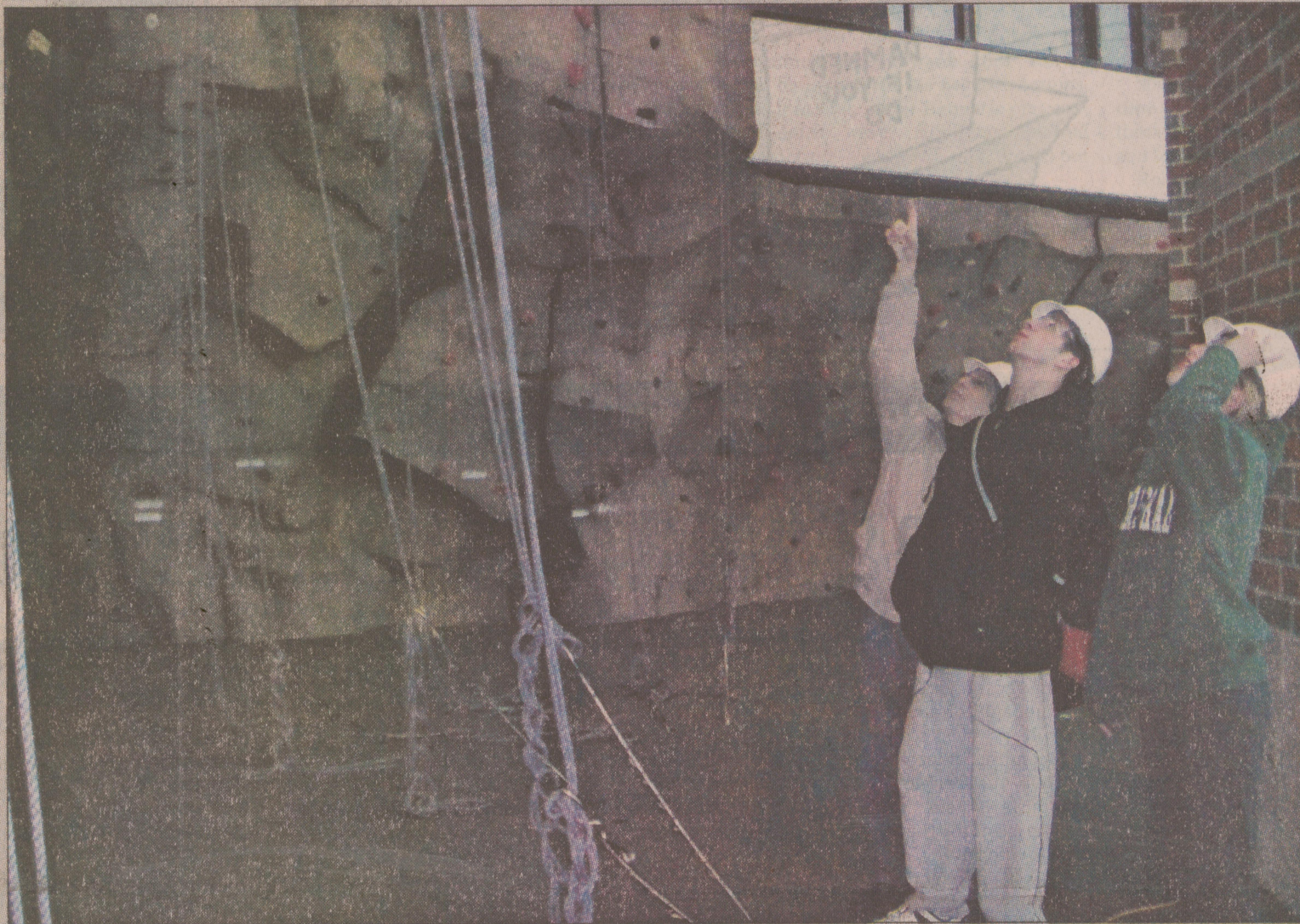
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MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2009

VOL. 111 NO. 9 © 2009 THE PARTHENON

## BUILDING *anticipation*



Dave Stewart, director of campus recreation, shows how high the rock wall goes to Jonathan Michael and Maggie Stonestreet during their exclusive tour.

ASHLEY ADKINS | THE PARTHENON

## New recreation center offers modern 'spin' on exercising



A row of treadmills attached with new television screens stand ready for Thursday's Open House.

ASHLEY ADKINS | THE PARTHENON

BY ASHLEY ADKINS  
THE PARTHENON

Two Marshall University students had the privilege of touring the new Marshall Recreation Center on Jan. 29 a week before the opening.

Jonathan Michael, a sophomore finance major from Beckley, W.Va., and Maggie Stonestreet, a sophomore nursing major from St. Albans, W.Va., were given an exclusive tour of the new building. Their tour guide was Dave Stewart, director of campus recreation.

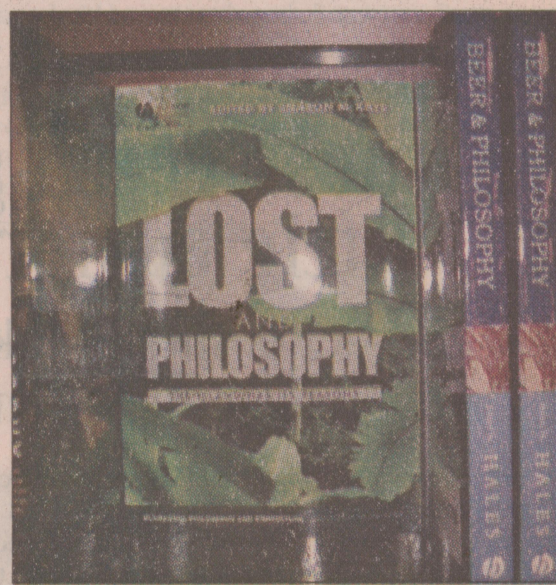
Michael said he has been looking forward to seeing what the gym courts look like since the courts in the Gullickson Hall gymnasium are not full size. He also said he is eager about the new recreation center having heat because the heat in the Gullickson gym doesn't work.

Stonestreet said she is anticipating the new workout equipment, especially the treadmills. She also said she is looking forward to enjoying the new recreation center's extended hours because they are more flexible than the Gullickson Hall fitness center.

"You're going to be in Herd Heaven," said Stewart before he walked through the front door of the newly built recreation center.

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## Professors get 'Lost' helping with new book



MELISSA ISON | THE PARTHENON

"Lost and Philosophy: The Island Has Its Reason" features two articles written by Marshall University professors.

BY MELISSA ISON  
THE PARTHENON

What do your favorite television shows have in common with philosophy? More than you might think.

Marshall philosophy professor Jeremy Barris wrote one article and co-wrote another with Marshall professor of religious studies Jeffrey Ruff, both that were published in two recent books examining the TV shows "Lost" and "House." Both books are in the Blackwell Publishing series on philosophy and pop culture.

The series is designed to introduce and teach philosophical concepts in an interesting and fun way using similarities found in various popular culture phenomena, such as the TV shows "Family Guy," "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" and "South Park."

Though Barris does not use popular culture mediums in his classes, he does believe it is important to compare texts to what we already know for better understanding.

"Everyday things like taking a walk and waking up in the morning, very ordinary things, as well as pop culture and entertainment can help us to understand difficult concepts," Barris said. "But the other way around as well. Philosophy can help us to understand and appreciate the everyday things and pop culture."

Barris and Ruff are currently collaborating on a book examining the way identities are informed by our environments and those around us.

"Lost and Philosophy: The Island Has Its Reasons" and "House and Philosophy: Everybody Lies" are available through Blackwell Publishing.

Melissa Ison can be contacted at [ison@marshall.edu](mailto:ison@marshall.edu).

## Decision 2009: Making the call to cancel is tough

BY MELISSA ISON  
THE PARTHENON

When inclement weather hits the area it is hard to please everyone with the final decision of whether or not to close the university.

Some students, faculty and staff may get upset if the university remains open during a particularly nasty storm because they still have to make the commute. Others may not understand why school would be closed when all roads around the campus seem clear.

According to university policy, making such a decision is put in the hands of Marshall University President Stephen Kopp, after the vice president of finance and administration and the provost of the university make recommendations to him.

Kopp was forced to make such a decision twice last week with a full day and a half-day closing on Tuesday and Wednesday, respectively. With the threat of more bad weather coming this week and the fact that winter is only about halfway through Kopp may be saddled with the decision yet again.

"It is all a judgment call, we try to make a good call for the benefit of the students, faculty and staff," Kopp said. "I think so far we've done a good job and kept the university open, and we have closed when it was really critical."

Bill Bissett, chief of staff to the president and senior vice president of

communications, said many resources are consulted before making the decision to close, including State Trooper detachment, Metro 911, The West Virginia Department of Transportation and future forecasts.

"What is being forecasted two, to four, to six hours into the future?" Bissett said. "That is what is really frustrating."

Kopp agreed that one of the most difficult aspects of making the decision to close the campus is trying to look into the future to see how conditions are going to change.

"That's when the alchemy comes in I think," Kopp said, "You are relying on what people are reading in terms of patterns and so on, and those patterns could intensify or diminish. You try to make the best call you can."

Kopp said it is the prerogative of faculty when it comes to dealing with absences in these types of events. For students, he believes it is important to save absences for these types of situations and to keep a line of communication open with professors about particular circumstances.

"Just as I can't anticipate every individual circumstance, the same thing is true of professors," Kopp said. "The more you communicate and keep in touch the better it is in terms of people understanding what you are dealing with."

Melissa Ison can be contacted at [ison@marshall.edu](mailto:ison@marshall.edu).



MELISSA ISON | THE PARTHENON

Students still attempt to avoid icy sidewalks and deep puddles as last week's nasty weather continues to affect students walking around campus.



# OPINION

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2009

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## THE PARTHENON

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### THE FIRST AMENDMENT

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people to peaceably assemble; and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

### EDITORIAL

## Fitness getting a little easier

Students should take advantage of new center

After years of planning, the new recreation center will finally open Thursday.

An indoor pool, a climbing wall and updated exercise equipment are among the new features. More than 60 fitness classes will be open to students, offering a wide variety of ways to get fit and be active.

With so many additions and such a wide range of exercise options, students should be excited to take advantage of the new recreation center.

The gym facilities in Gullickson consisted of only outdated exercise equipment, a small pool, a basketball court and a racquetball court. The new center will finally make Marshall's gym offerings up to par with the major universities across the country.

Before, many students chose to purchase memberships to the YMCA, if they exercised at all. Students will now have access to the convenient on-campus gym for a \$150 fee, which is automatically added to tuition. Since all full-time students are paying the fee, they should try to get the most out of their money by using the gym regularly.

Gym hours will also extend, making workouts easier to fit into students' schedules. The new facility will remain open 45.5 additional hours a week.

After being labeled the "fattest city in the country" in an Associated Press article, students at Marshall should use the center to shed this negative image of Huntington. There is no longer an excuse for avoiding the school gym.

### Guidelines for letters to the editor

Please keep letters to the editor at 300 words or fewer. They must be saved in Microsoft Word and sent as an attachment. Longer letters may be used as guest columns at the editor's discretion. Guest column status will not be given at the author's request. All letters must be signed and include an address or phone number for confirmation. Letters may be edited for grammar, libelous statements, available space or factual errors. Compelling letters posted on The Parthenon Web site, [www.marshallparthenon.com](http://www.marshallparthenon.com), can be printed at the discretion of the editors.

The opinions expressed in the columns and letters do not necessarily represent the views of The Parthenon staff.

Please send news releases to the editors at [parthenon@marshall.edu](mailto:parthenon@marshall.edu). Please keep in mind that stories are run based on timeliness, newsworthiness or space.

## Online poll

What feature of the new recreation center are you most excited about?

- A) Pool
- B) Climbing wall
- C) More classes
- D) New equipment

Vote online at  
[www.marshallparthenon.com](http://www.marshallparthenon.com)

### Previous poll

Did you get a free Marshall University notebook?

Yes ..... 19%  
No ..... 33%  
I didn't know about them..... 48%

EDITORIAL CARTOON | ROB ROGERS | © THE PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE — DIST. BY UFS, INC.



THE COMMON CAUSE | Jay Rouddebush

## Betting against America

On Election Day Americans gave an edict about how they wanted their country to move forward. It was not a dull roar or a small cry.

It was a commanding shout that left little doubt that people like George W. Bush were no longer representative of the people, and the ideology of the Republicans was no longer believable.

The House of Representatives went to vote last week on the president's stimulus package. It is important to realize that a vast majority of the bill is for infrastructure, which helps business, gives tax cuts for the middle class and lower class and funds the programs necessary to make America progress as a nation.

Many believe that some of the spending in the bill is not going to help the economy. Those people fail to realize that almost everything in some way affects the economy.



JAY ROUDEBUSH  
Columnist

Things like millions of dollars toward birth control will help stimulate the economy. If the impoverished people of America cannot get free or low cost birth control they will get pregnant. If they get pregnant and cannot afford to properly take care of the child they will need state assistance. They will not have extra money to spend, and tax dollars, which would have gone to other things, will be spent on helping support that family.

Disagree all you want with government assistance, it is there. So accept that this is the way it is and that things like prevention of unplanned pregnancies will make sure

more money is in the pockets of citizens and in the treasury of the government.

Every Republican in the House voted no on this economic stimulus package. They are betting that if it passes and it does not work they will be the heroes. They hide under the veil of excuses such as "There is too much spending for needless programs."

America showed the Republican Party how their opinion was viewed by removing many from Congress and giving back the presidency to a party that represents the interest of the people first. The Republicans are hoping for a failure. This means they are willing to sacrifice our jobs, our way of life and our very future for their gain as a party.

The Republican Party elected a new chairman of their party this past week, and his name is Michael Steele. He had this to say about why the Republican

party was having issues: it is a "problem of the messenger but not the message."

He went further to say that the Republican Party will continue to support a gay marriage ban under his rule and that he personally supports the Republicans obstructionist method of all the House Republicans voting no against the stimulus. I believe the problem is far more than the messenger. The problem is the Republican Party under this new leadership is going to continue down the road of bigotry (against gay rights as equal citizens) and failed policies.

For the Republican Party the messenger is lost and the message is what the American people said they were tired of. Americans want hope for the future, not nay-saying from the party we just kicked out.

Jay Rouddebush can be contacted at [roudebush1@marshall.edu](mailto:roudebush1@marshall.edu).

YOUR VIEWS | Letters to the Editor

### Students were put at risk with icy parking lots

I rolled out of bed (Wednesday) morning to see that we didn't have a delay and we didn't have a cancellation. According to a document on Marshall's Web site entitled "Marshall University Classified Staff Council February 15, 2007" President Stephan Kopp explains "that the road and sidewalk conditions, conditions on campus and surrounding areas, the weather forecast and information from the State Police are taken into consideration when invoking the Weather Policy Codes."

Really? So when the news stations were reporting (Wednesday) morning "Freezing rain, don't travel, stay off the roads," that was taken into consideration when we weren't allowed so much as a delay? When students were walking in slush up to their knees in some places Wednesday only to find out the professors had canceled their class, sidewalk conditions were tested?

Surrounding areas were not

taken into consideration because as soon as you get off Hal Greer or Eighth through Third Avenues, the streets quickly become an attempt to navigate your vehicle along the same ways as you would Mario Kart.

Further, West Virginia doesn't get snow like this frequently so we don't get practice time. Was driver experience taken into consideration? No.

Did any other student notice that faculty parking lots were plowed but student parking lots were not? On my way into Drinko Library, I took note of the six parking spots labeled "Office of the President" and noted that five of the six had vehicles with a four wheel drive option and the sixth vehicle was a cherry red Corolla that I doubt a man of Kopp's stature would drive.

I drive a Jeep. I had some slipping on 11th Avenue pulling away from my house but was otherwise fine. However, as I pulled into the lot next to the theater building, I watched three cars sliding and spinning their wheels, the drivers looking frustrated and miserable. That'll get them in the mood to

learn! Still yet, I got here safely, but is my vehicle safe when an inexperienced driver slides into my vehicle because the snow wasn't plowed or so much as salted?

What do our parking passes and quarters pay for? Seeing as the parking lot was not clear and students are slipping on sidewalks, perhaps Kopp could use some of his recent raise to cover plowing our parking lots.

Opening school when it is cold and snowy is one thing. People should know how to dress appropriately; opening school when not all conditions by your own definition are not clear, is not acceptable.

Erika Courtney  
senior theater major

### Plenty of talent ready to start a men's tennis team

When is Marshall University going to start a men's tennis program? There are a lot of good male tennis players currently on campus who have been in the

high school state tournaments in Charleston, W.Va. through the years.

Ray Gajtka  
Weirton, W.Va.

### Christian voters for Obama need to repent

While I shared a desire with my Christian brothers and sisters throughout America to have a black president, I was very discouraged that party affiliation and ethnic background were more important to many than the Word of God when voting.

My main point is that followers of Christ, especially preachers of the Gospel, cannot support abortion or the gay lifestyle, which our newly sworn-in (on the Bible) President Obama does. May the "change" that has come to America include repentance by all wavering Christians, including Obama.

Bruce Barilla  
Bluefield, W.Va.

## THE PARTHENON | Reader information

### About us

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

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### Daily News Quotation

"One second you are on Cloud Nine and the next second you feel like a piece of garbage."  
— Pittsburgh Steelers' James Harrison, speaking about his 100-yard touchdown run followed by his failure to catch Arizona Cardinals' Larry Fitzgerald as Fitzgerald scored a touchdown in the Super Bowl.



## Republicans losing power, gaining more negativity

BY KAYLIN ADKINS  
THE PARTHENON

In today's terms, it's somewhat unpopular to be a Republican.

With a Democrat-controlled Congress and new president, CNN reports that Republicans are slowly losing power in federal and state government.

According to CNN, several Congressional Republicans are awaiting elections in 2010 that will determine their fate in the nation's capital, as well as their overall reputation.

For many, Republicans' reputations were tarnished during George W. Bush's presidency.

Matt Sowards, Young Democrats president, said the War in Iraq, the faltering economy and Bush's policies potentially give Republicans a bad name.

"I would say that the general discontent over the Bush administration has given Americans a bad taste of the Republican Party," Sowards said.

Other students said they also think Bush was to blame for the party's woes.

"It's just because they view Republicans as being like Bush when he was in office," Sam Krumski, junior history and political science major from

Wheeling, W.Va., said.

Anna Maria Firth, freshman chemistry major from Hurricane, W.Va., said Bush was a deciding factor in the way many people voted in the 2008 election.

"Republicans were in power for so long," Firth said. "Things didn't turn out so wonderfully."

Scotty Robertson, College Republicans president, said he thinks the party's reputation was not affected by Bush's decisions but by the media and Hollywood.

"The American people have to see past the ridiculous rhetoric," Robertson said.

Robertson said Hollywood manipulated Bush's presidency and influenced voters' opinions. He said the GOP's ideas are still intact despite opposition from Democrats.

"Our ideas are still very much in tune with the American people," he said. "I think that the people understand that they need to live to the highest moral standards."

Both Robertson and Sowards said the younger demographic shaped the outcome of the election. As the campaigns progressed, students became more interested in the issues.

**“It's too soon to judge (Bush's) administration. Yes, he will be judged for his negative actions, like Iraq. But, under immense pressure, he didn't waver from his internal conviction — good or bad. It turned out to be horribly wrong.”**

**Matt Sowards**  
president of Young Democrats

It will likely be 10 to 20 years before Bush's legacy is complete, but Sowards said he still thinks controversy will surround Bush's eight-year tenure in the Oval Office.

"It's too soon to judge his administration," Sowards said. "Yes, he will be judged for his negative actions, like Iraq. But, under immense pressure, he didn't waver from his internal conviction — good or bad. It turned out to be horribly wrong."

Robertson said he thinks Bush should be respected because he kept Americans

safe after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. He said he wants Bush to be remembered as someone with a compassionate heart.

Although he believes there is a significant shift in power, Sowards said he doesn't think the Republican Party will dwindle. He said the United States works best under a two-party system — one in the majority and one in the minority.

"What you've got to do if you're a Republican is distance yourself from the Bush connotation," Sowards said.

Robertson said the Republicans' ideas will boost their election-year campaigns.

"If you're at the bottom, you can't go anywhere but up," Robertson said.

Robertson said he can see Obama not capitalizing on his promises and only serving one term. He said if a strong GOP candidate emerges then he or she could oust the Democratic ideas and policies.

Sowards said it is the Democrats' time to shine in Washington and said he thinks Republicans should "wait it out and let the Democrats have their turn."

Robertson said some of the key issues facing the nation are the economy, the closing of the Guantanamo Bay prison

and Obama's stimulus plan.

"The economy, right now, is Barack Obama's economy," Robertson said. "He inherited it when he took the oath of office."

Obama saw opposition to his stimulus package from Republicans in Congress. The House passed the legislation without a single Republican vote Jan. 30.

"They have no voice in the vote anymore," Krumski said.

Despite opposition, some Republicans and Democrats across campus said they want to see the country come together and respect both sides of important issues. However, some said they are still skeptical.

"It depends how flexible the Republicans are," Adam Howell, freshman art major from Hurricane, W.Va., said.

Robertson said he commends the president for meeting with House and Senate Republicans, but he said he still doesn't agree with many of Obama's plans.

The GOP has also shown some change recently with Republican Party naming Michael Steele as the first African-American party chairman last week.

Kaylin Adkins can be contacted at [adkins581@marshall.edu](mailto:adkins581@marshall.edu).

## Herd4Christ hosts clothing drive

BY SHANNON MILLER  
THE PARTHENON

Herd4Christ did its part in keeping the community bundled up this winter by hosting a clothing giveaway for those in need.

The clothing drive was held Jan. 31 at the 26<sup>th</sup> Street Church of Christ and provided clothes to 98 people. This is fewer than the last clothing giveaway hosted by Herd4Christ in October 2008, which provided clothing to about 110 people.

Daniel Hager, the Herd4Christ campus minister, said he was afraid nobody would come to the clothing giveaway because of the poor travel conditions that morning, but his fear did not become a reality.

"We were afraid because of the ice at first," Hager said.

However, within the first hour, 45 people had stepped through the church doors.

Johnny Christopher, a Huntington native who attended the clothing giveaway, said that he decided to go to the clothing drive when he saw a flier for it while picking up cans along the side of the road Saturday morning.

"I usually pick them up from the Marshall yards on the weekends. You know, from partying," Christopher said.

Christopher, who is currently unemployed, said he hasn't had access to much money since the death of his wife 15 years ago and he appreciated what Herd4Christ was doing through their clothing giveaway.

"I got a lot of summer clothes and a lot of real nice shirts," Christopher said. "Everybody's nice. At some of those other places they make you feel guilty that you're even there. They watch you like a hawk."

Hager said that Herd4Christ members spent a total of 13

hours preparing for the clothing giveaway. The students prepared fliers and news releases and sorted clothes the night before the drive.

Herd4Christ received more clothing than in previous giveaways, Hager said. They received clothing for all ages and seasons from members of the 26<sup>th</sup> Street Church of Christ.

"This is definitely the most clothing we've ever received," Hager said. "We've got stacks and stacks of clothes."

Hager said that he along with all of the Herd4Christ members were excited to be holding another clothing drive and glad that they could help so many people just by giving away used clothing.

"It feels outstanding," Hager said. "Doing jobs like this really makes you feel great. It's good to feel like you're a part of something bigger."

Shannon Miller can be contacted at [miller533@marshall.edu](mailto:miller533@marshall.edu).



Johnny Christopher looks through coats during the Herd4Christ clothing giveaway at the 26th Street Church of Christ.

SHANNON MILLER | THE PARTHENON

## Habitat for Humanity hopes to increase applicants

### Organization to hold its first monthly seminar

BY WHITNEY HOWELL  
THE PARTHENON

The Huntington Area Habitat for Humanity hopes to gain more applicants for housing this spring after application entries dropped to a low of 67 in 2008.

Beginning Feb. 3, the Huntington Area Habitat for Humanity will hold its first monthly seminar to supply information to new families and individuals who wish to apply for Habitat-built houses this spring. The seminar will start at 7 p.m. and will be held at the River Cities Community Church on Route 60 in Huntington.

Teddy Klumper III, director of development and communications for the affiliate, said there is no cost, obligation or commitment for those to attend.

"The goal is for us to continue increasing the number of partner families so we can continue providing safe, decent and affordable housing to the low-income families in the Huntington Area," said Klumper.

National Habitat for Humanity records show that more than 300,000 houses have been built by the organization for deserving, low-income families. Kerri Boyd, construction supervisor for the Huntington Area Habitat for Humanity, said the Huntington affiliate built 67 homes for residents of Cabell County last year.

"We are looking forward to building even more homes this spring, but we really need reach out more to the community and boost our applicant numbers," Boyd said.

These seminars have become the affiliate's primary method of attracting families to apply for housing.

"These seminars are both efficient and effective, and I hope they will continue to allow us to identify prospective families in need of safe, decent and

affordable housing," said Klumper.

Executive director David Michael said Habitat for Humanity wants to reach out to deserving families and individuals through the seminars and give hope to those who have no home of their own.

"Applicants do not need to bring anything. All paperwork, handouts and applications will be given out after a short presentation orienting them on Habitat in general, and the guidelines for housing," Michael said.

Klumper said there are many people in the community who are not aware that they can receive assistance from the organization and be able to afford a house.

Tim Runyan, Century 21 agent, said an average habitat home costs \$42,500, compared to \$176,000, the average contractor-built home in West Virginia.

"These homes are such good opportunities for families to create homes and get their lives back on track," Michael said.

Whitney Howell can be contacted at [howell38@marshall.edu](mailto:howell38@marshall.edu).

## 'Legislative Look Ahead' to be held at MUGC

BY AMANDA WHITE  
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University Graduate College in South Charleston will be the site for a "Legislative Look Ahead" that will provide media outlets with a preview of what will happen in West Virginia's next legislative session.

Hosted by The Associated Press, the event will feature two panels and a speech by Gov. Joe Manchin.

"The goal is to discuss issues that will confront law makers in this 60 day session," said Brian Farkas, the news editor for the West Virginia bureau of the AP.

The two panels this year are "What are the stakes for the energy boom" and "Health care for all." According to Farkas, those issues were important during this past campaign and will be a significant topic in this legislative session.

The energy panel will focus on West Virginia's role in making the United States "energy independent." Farkas said coal production, the use of natural gas reservoirs and the growing wind-market will be covered in the session. The panelists are Legislative Coordinator of the West Virginia Environmental Council Don Garvin, Deputy Secretary for West Virginia's Department of Revenue Mark Muchow and the West Virginia Coal Association's President Bill Raney.

The health care panel will focus on Gov. Manchin's desire to provide health care to all West Virginians. The panelists are West Virginia Delegate Don Perdue, West Virginia Senator Roman Prezioso, president of the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce Steve Roberts and the Director of the West Virginia Public Employees Insurance Agency Ted Cheatham.

Farkas said that it is tradition for the governor to speak between the panels.

So far, 22 people have registered for the event. Those wishing to attend should call Farkas at 304-346-0897.

Amanda White can be contacted at [white461@marshall.edu](mailto:white461@marshall.edu).

## Phelps apologizes to his fans after marijuana pic

BY PAUL NEWBERRY  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Michael Phelps is unbeatable in the water. It's on dry land where he runs into trouble.

Phelps has embarrassed himself again after a triumphant Olympics, this time getting his picture snapped as he inhaled from a marijuana pipe. The photo wound up in a British tabloid Sunday, forcing Phelps to publicly apologize and have his handlers deal with sponsors who are surely none too pleased about the swimmer's choices away from the pool.

"I engaged in behavior which was regrettable and demonstrated bad judgment," Phelps said in the statement released by one of his agents. "I'm 23 years old and despite the successes I've had in the pool, I acted in a youthful and inappropriate way, not in a manner people have come to expect from me. For this, I am sorry. I promise my fans and the public it will not happen again."

It all sounded so familiar, with good

reason. After the 2004 Athens Games, an underage Phelps was arrested for drunken driving, pleaded guilty and apologized to his fans, saying he wouldn't make the same mistake again.

This was different, to be sure, but it could have the same damaging impact on Phelps' image and reputation, which were riding high after he won a record eight gold medals at the Beijing Games.

"Michael is a role model, and he is well aware of the responsibilities and accountability that come with setting a positive example for others, particularly young people," the U.S. Olympic Committee said in a statement. "In this instance, regrettably, he failed to fulfill those responsibilities."

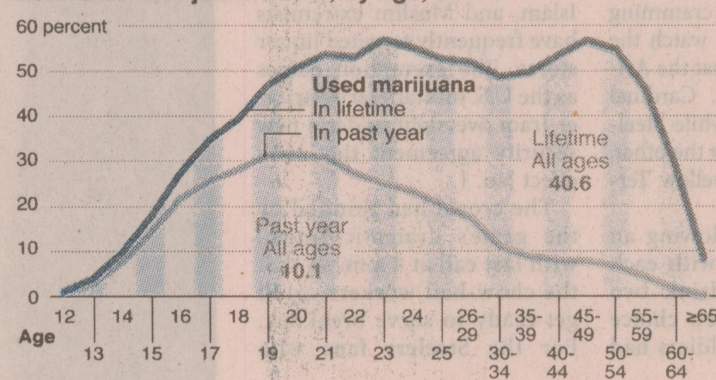
News of the World said the picture was taken during a November house party while Phelps was visiting the University of South Carolina. During that trip, he attended one of the school's football games and received a big ovation when introduced to the crowd.

Phelps and his advisers did not

### Marijuana use is not uncommon

Olympic swimmer Michael Phelps is not alone in his use of marijuana. In 2007, 40.6 percent of people older than 12 admit to using marijuana in their lifetime.

Estimated marijuana users, by age, 2007



dispute the authenticity of the photo.

The party occurred nearly three months after the Olympics while Phelps was taking a long break from training, and his actions should have no impact on the eight golds he won at Beijing. He has never tested positive for banned substances, and this case doesn't fall under any doping rules.

Phelps' main sanctions most likely will be financial — perhaps doled

out by embarrassed sponsors who could reconsider their dealings with a swimmer who hopes to earn \$100 million in endorsements.

Phelps was in Tampa, Fla., during Super Bowl week to make promotional appearances on behalf of a sponsor. However, he left the city before Sunday's game between the Pittsburgh Steelers and Arizona Cardinals, abandoning his original plan to be at Raymond James Stadium.

read more online @  
[marshallparthenon.com](http://marshallparthenon.com)



## MONDAY'S SCORES

### NBA

Mavericks 105, Magic 95  
Grizzlies 113, Wizards 97  
Clippers 95, Heat 119  
Lakers 126, Knicks 117  
Trailblazers 97, Hornets 89  
Kings 81, Suns 129  
Bobcats 86, Jazz 105  
Spurs, Warriors—late

### NHL

Blues 3, Red Wings 4 (SO)  
Flames 3, Avalanche 4  
Sabres, Ducks—late

### NCAA BB

Connecticut 68, Louisville 51  
Robert Morris 72, Pittsburgh 92  
Butler 66, Green Bay 75  
Kansas 75, Baylor 65

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Georgia snaps Marshall tennis' winning streak

**ATHENS, Ga.** — The Marshall University women's tennis team fell 5-0 to the University of Georgia, Monday afternoon at the Hopkins Indoor Courts at Georgia. The No. 45 ranked Thundering Herd fell to 3-2 overall, while the No. 6 Bulldogs remain undefeated so far this season at 4-0.

Marshall was the second seed, while Georgia stood as the one seed during play this weekend to compete for a spot in the 2009 Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) National Team Indoor Championship. "Georgia was a great host this weekend," Marshall head coach John Mercer said. "I thought we competed very hard in today's match."

Georgia's duo of Naoko Ueshima and Cameron Ellis took an 8-2 advantage over Catherine Kellner and Isabell Raich at the No. 3 slot. Then the No. 34 Nadja Gilchrist and Monika Dancevic defeated the pair of Jessica Keener and Deanna Bailey 8-1 at the No. 2 mark to secure the doubles point.

The 44th-ranked senior tandem of Kellie Schmitt and Karolina Soor did not have a chance to finish its match against the No. 10 Chelsey Gullickson and Yvette Hyndman. The Bulldogs duo had a slight lead over the Herd, 6-5, before stopping the match.

The 33rd-ranked Schmitt's upset bid fell short to the seventh-ranked Gullickson, 6-2, 4-6, 6-4, at the No. 1 mark, which secured Georgia's victory.

Playing the No. 4 position, Soor fell to the 44th-ranked Gilchrist, 7-6, 6-3.

"I am very impressed with our team for playing our game," Mercer said. "I was also impressed with a very talented and tough Georgia squad."

The No. 123 Ueshima and Keener left their match unfinished with Ueshima taking the first set 6-1 and the second set was at 1-1. Kellner and Ellis also left their match unfinished with Ellis taking a 6-0 decision in the first set.

Georgia enhanced its all-time series lead over Marshall to 2-0.

With the win, Georgia earned one of the 15 available spots to the Sweet 16 of the 2009 ITA National Team Indoor Championship, to be held Feb. 13-16 at the University of Wisconsin's Nielsen Tennis Stadium.

Marshall will play host to the University of South Alabama and Penn State University this weekend. The Herd will first challenge the 56th-ranked South Alabama. First serve is set for 5 p.m. Friday.

Marshall then faces the Nittany Lions at 11 a.m. Sunday with both matches played at the Huntington Tennis Club. South Alabama and Penn State will face-off Saturday at 2 p.m. at the Huntington Tennis Club.

HERDZONE.COM

BY JONAS SWECKER  
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University softball team is looking to bring back the thunder this season and two new assistant coaches with familiar faces hope to help it do just that.

During the offseason head coach Shonda Stanton announced former Herd pitcher Randi Nielson as the team's new pitching coach and Amanda Williams, also a former Herd player, as the team's new assistant coach.

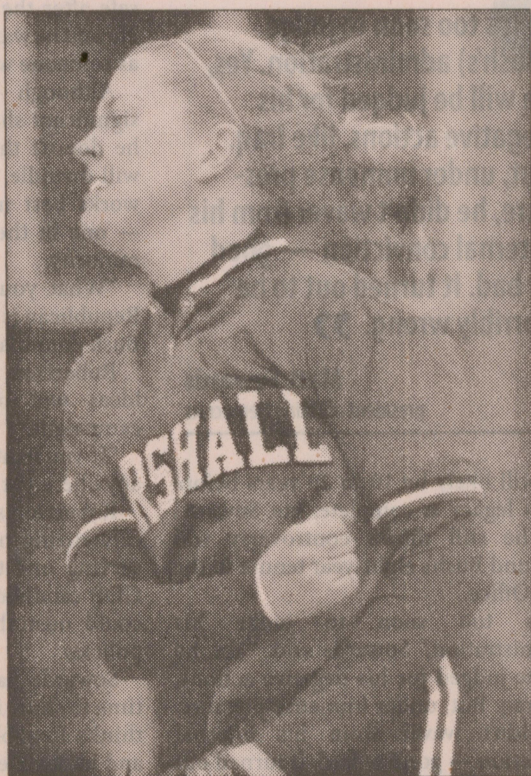
"Coach Stanton is what brought me to Marshall in the first place," Williams said. "Her tactics made me better as a player, and have now made me better as a coach."

In 2003 Nielson and Williams played on a Thundering Herd team that won the Mid-American Conference Championship. Nielson, perhaps the most prolific pitcher in Marshall softball history, led the Herd to the 2003 MAC Championship with a school record 23 wins.

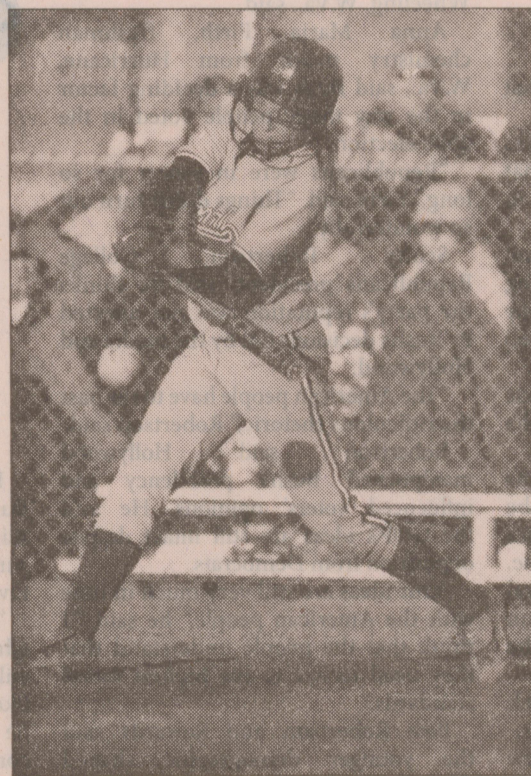
Williams not only won a championship in 2003 as the team's hits leader as a freshman, but also led Marshall to its second MAC championship in 2005.

Nielson said her past experience and success will have a large impact on her coaching strategies.

"I think the biggest thing is being under Coach Stanton for four years



Randi Nielson, (left), was ranked 12th in the nation in win-loss percentage for the 2003 season and was named MAC Pitcher of the Year. Amanda Williams, (right), was named the 2003 MAC Freshman of the Year, leading the conference with 51 runs scored.



FILE PHOTO

and knowing what she expects," Nielson said. "My work ethic is also a big part because I know what it takes. I always demand the best of myself so I also demand the best that I know they can be."

Nielson and Williams said they feel they have a good thing going into this season with the strong relationship between the three coaches.

"I think the players see how close we are and how much we want that closeness for them," Nielson said. "The girls know that

we know what it takes to get to the regionals and win a championship and they respond to that."

Williams said she realizes the importance of team chemistry between coaches and players.

"As a player I was always able to go to the coach's offices with any question," Williams said. "Coach Stanton always tried to bridge the gap between the coaches and the players. I want the players to be able to feel like I'm here for them."

Nielson is also the sister of

current Herd shortstop Kelly Nielson.

Nielson said Kelly's opinion was the first thing she considered after Stanton approached her with the job opportunity.

"This is her element and I didn't want to intrude on her senior season if she wasn't comfortable with it," Nielson said. "I think it helps that she plays field and I'm the pitching coach. I'm not directly over her so she has taken to it pretty well."

“Coach Stanton always tried to bridge the gap between the coaches and the players. I want the players to be able to feel like I'm here for them.”

Amanda Williams  
Marshall softball assistant coach

With the season opener coming up the team has been working hard, getting out on the field when weather permits and doing a lot of batting practices.

"We're looking to start the season off 5-0 and set a standard for the rest of the season," Williams said. "I feel like the girls are refreshed and ready and I feel like we have a lot of leaders on the team who can step up at any point in time whether they are freshmen or seniors."

Williams and Nielson said playing at Marshall was a great experience for them as student-athletes and now are looking forward to a great experience as coaches.

"We are hoping a lot of people come out to our wonderful new facility this year to support our team," Williams said.

The Herd travels to Las Vegas to open the season Friday against Seton Hall in the first game of the Sportco Kick-off Classic hosted by UNLV. First pitch is set for 1 p.m.

Jonas Swecker can be contacted at swecker@marshall.edu.

# Pittsburgh takes to streets after win

BY RAMIT PLUSHNICK-MASTI  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**PITTSBURGH, Pa.**—Gold and black-clad fans with Steelers' iconic Terrible Towels waving in the air partied into the early morning hours Monday in an impromptu block party across Pittsburgh to celebrate the team's historic sixth Super Bowl win.

In pockets of the city, fans went a little too far, police said. More than 100 people were arrested, mostly for failing to disperse from various locations. One officer suffered a possible broken arm and some revelers broke windows, threw bottles at police — including at a state trooper on horseback — and engaged in fights, city police spokeswoman Diane Richard said.

Couches and several garbage containers were set on fire, and several vehicles were overturned as police

responded to more than 400 emergency calls during the game and a similar number in the 2½ hours after it ended, Richard said.

Police in riot gear and on horseback were out in force in the city's Oakland neighborhood near the University of Pittsburgh, where thousands of people gathered, and also along a quirky strip of bars known as the South Side.

City officials had about 400 police on the streets as a precaution, but they mostly kept watch and let the loud and rowdy celebration run its course.

At least one person was arrested for arson and two others for drunk-driving.

Later in the day, city officials announced a victory parade for the Steelers will be held Tuesday. An estimated 250,000 fans turned out for a parade in 2006 to celebrate the Steelers' Super Bowl victory over Seattle.

Moments after the Steelers sealed the 27-23 victory over the Arizona Cardinals in Tampa, Fla., on Sunday night, revelers poured out of Pittsburgh bars, and some broke out in song, bellowing Queen's "We are the Champions." The Steelers are the first NFL team to win six Super Bowls.

Yellow confetti swirled in the air, people released gold and black balloons and Super Bowl championship paraphernalia was up for sale in the middle of the street.

Crowds spilled out of the doors of Primanti Bros., Pittsburgh's famous gut-busting sandwich shop.

Rocky Plassio, a 32-year-old high school teacher from the suburb of Washington, had his 3-year-old son, Noah, perched on his shoulders. The elder Plassio made sure his son didn't miss the celebration.

"The last time the Steelers won, he was an infant," Rocky said. "If you're from Pittsburgh, the Steelers

are really part of your culture. It's in your blood."

Nearby, Jim Jacobs, 43, had his 8-year-old son, Marcus, on his shoulders and 9-year-old Luke by his side. They traveled from the suburb of Mt. Washington and, even when the Steelers were losing late in the game, Marcus was preparing for the celebration.

"We're going to have a hard time getting them up for school tomorrow, and they are home schooled," Jim Jacobs said about 90 minutes after the game ended.

Bars were packed in the area popular with college students and the 20-something crowd, with music blaring.

One man carried a life-size cutout of President Barack Obama, with a Terrible Towel draped around the neck, while a one-man band played in the middle of a blocked-off street and photos of players were projected onto the sides of buildings.

Dan Decriscio, 51, returned to Pittsburgh from Philadelphia and had the chance to celebrate yet another NFL title.

"This is awesome," Decriscio said. "I've been here for every Super Bowl. Every one is great. From the first one with Chuck Noll to Mike Tomlin; this is Christmas in February."

In one neighborhood south of Pittsburgh, people lit fireworks and ran outside and cheered after the game.

When the Steelers last won the Super Bowl in 2006, thousands of drunken fans celebrated in the streets and several small fires were set.

Pittsburgh schools delayed openings two hours Monday to allow for the celebration, but other schools were following suit after the victory. TV news stations were scrolling school delays for Monday as if it were a snow day.

# US troops watch the Super Bowl from afar

BY MAYA ALLERUZZO  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**CAMP VICTORY, Iraq** — With its six big-screen TVs, assorted beer and a menu of chicken wings and pizza, it looked like any bar hosting a Super Bowl party. But this was the chow hall at Camp Victory, the sprawling U.S. military base on the outskirts of Baghdad.

The kickoff was at 2 a.m. Monday but that didn't stop some 660 raucous soldiers from cramming into the dining hall to watch the Pittsburgh Steelers defeat the Arizona Cardinals 27-23. Cardinal fans sat on one side while Steelers fans congregated on the other, many swinging their yellow Terrible Towels.

The beer started flowing an hour before kickoff, with each soldier allowed to drink two 12 oz. brews from their choice of six brands. The soldiers had

been granted a one-time exception to a strict military ban on drinking alcohol in combat zones.

"The Guinness went within minutes. It didn't stand a chance," said Staff Sgt. Gerald Thompson, 45 from Apple Valley, Minn., one of several senior noncommissioned officers tasked to dole out beer.

Drinking alcohol isn't illegal in Iraq but is banned under Islam, and Muslim extremists have frequently targeted liquor stores. The exemption comes as the U.S. military faces stricter Iraqi oversight under a new security agreement that took effect Jan. 1.

The crowd had thinned by the game's dramatic finish, with last call at 4 a.m. so that the chow-hall workers could get ready to serve breakfast. For the Steelers fans who

remained, the approaching dawn put no damper on the celebration.

Staff Sgt. Michael Sauret, 23, picked up his lieutenant, 30-year-old Julie Glaubagh, and swung her around. The Pitts-

burgh natives were in a group of public affairs reservists from Pennsylvania who were going home in two days.

For troops who had to work, Armed Forces Network planned to rebroadcast the

game at noon and beer will be served then.

"It just makes it a little more like home. But just a little bit," said Chief Warrant Officer Luis Campos, 35, from El Monte, Calif.

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# College of Business student board hosts organizational fair

**BY KELLY CHRISTIAN**  
THE PARTHENON

The Lewis College of Business student advisory board is focusing its efforts to attract new members to professional organizations by hosting an organization fair.

The student organization fair is the first of its kind and will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday in Corbly Hall. The student advisory board is made up of all the heads of each student organization and additional at-large members.

"This is something we hatched out of the student advisory board meeting. It's never been done before," Ben Eng, LCOB graduate assistant, said.

Eng, who is an at-large member of

the student advisory board, said that he thinks it is especially important and beneficial for business students to participate in LCOB organizations. He said that these organizations offer a chance to network, which is essential in the business world.

He said that students would be networking with potential clients or someone who could help the students find future jobs.

These organizations also bring in guest lecturers to give more information to students to help them with their future careers.

Student participation in organizations has been down in recent years, Eng said. Eng said the main goal of the organization fair is to create aware-

ness among students that the organizations are active and are beneficial to students. Networking, leadership roles and a credit to students' resumes are among the many benefits students will gain, Eng said.

Organizations participating in the fair include Management Information Systems Club, Society of Human Resource Management, Omicron Delta Epsilon, American College of Health Care Executives, American Marketing Association, Beta Alpha Psi, Beta Gamma Sigma and Delta Sigma Pi.

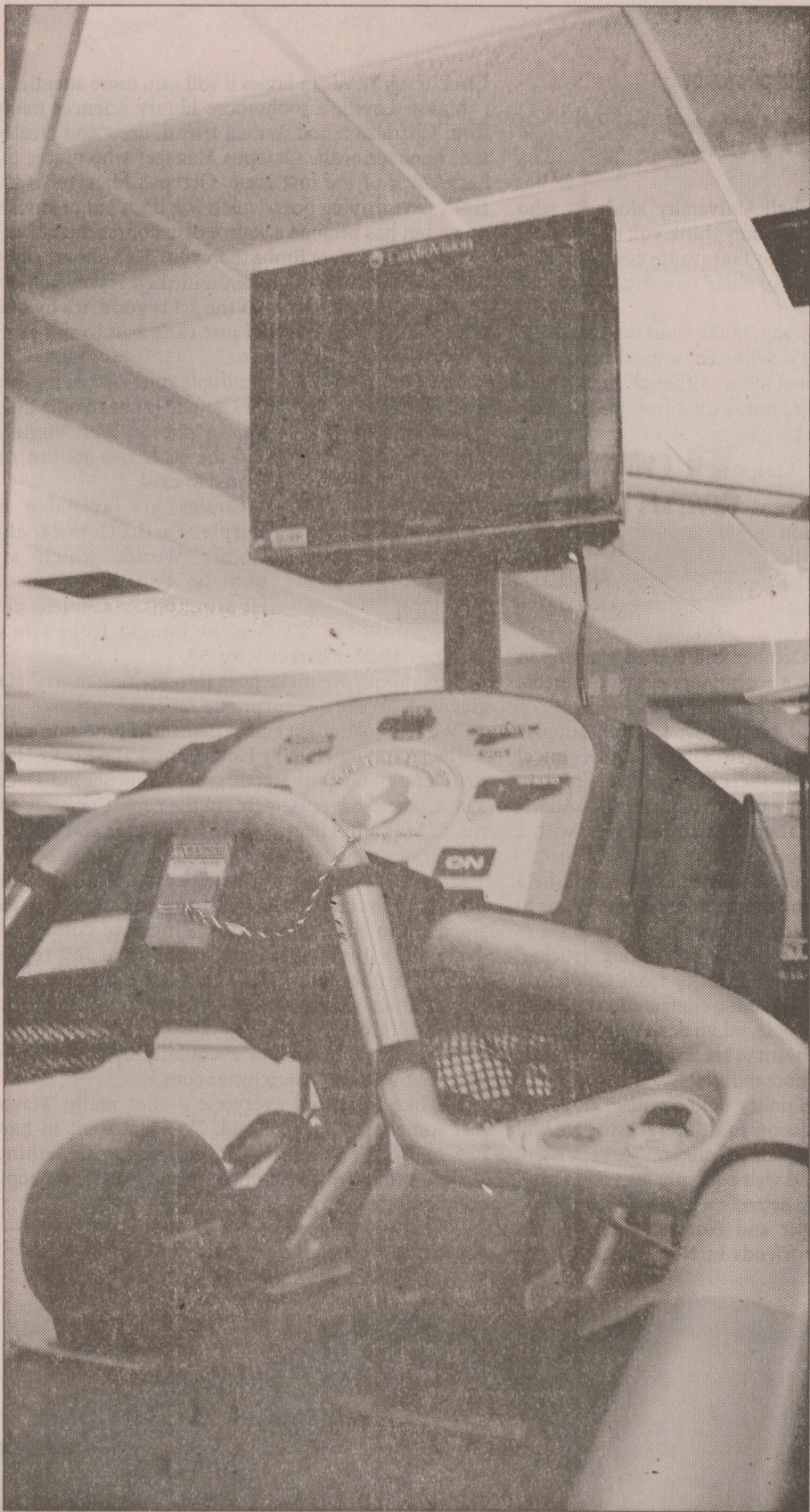
Pizza and soft drinks will also be sold for \$1 each.

*Kelly Christian can be contacted at christian55@marshall.edu.*

>> Organizations attending fair

Management Information Systems Club  
Society of Human Resource Management  
Omicron Delta Epsilon  
American College of Health

Care Executives  
American Marketing Association  
Beta Alpha Psi  
Beta Gamma Sigma  
Delta Sigma Pi



Equipment in place, the new recreation center will open Thursday.

PHOTOS BY ASHLEY ADKINS | THE PARTHENON

## REC CENTER

FROM PAGE 1

The Marshall Recreation Center is still a construction zone and Mascaro, the construction company, will be working up to the opening day.

The first thing the tour group saw as it walked through the front doors of the building were construction workers placing tan tile in the lobby. Also in the entrance was the control desk, which is where students will swipe their Marshall ID to gain access to the facility and check-out equipment. Alongside the control desk is the juice bar. Because Sodexo's contract expires in June the juice bar will temporarily be a juice cart until a renewal or new contract is signed.

The juice cart will offer healthy and energizing foods and beverages, such as Gatorade, Propel Fitness Water, SoBe Life Water, fruit, veggie cups and chef salads. The juice cart will accept cash, points and flex dollars.

Past the lobby are the four gym courts, the pool area and the racquetball courts. The gym courts and racquetball courts were in the process of being sealed with polyurethane, the group was not permitted on the courts.

"It's gonna be crowded," Michael said as he stared through a window looking at the four gym courts. "It's gonna be the place to be."

All the pools and the hot tub were filled with crystal clear water but were still being worked on. A construction worker said the current temperature of the pools was 47 degrees. However, Stewart said the pools will be warmer than the pool in the Gullickson Hall gym.

The rock-climbing wall is located toward the back of the building and has a perfect view of the 20th Street and Fifth Avenue intersection. Stewart said there are two choices for students climbing the rock wall. One option is for students to attend an orientation on the safety of climbing the



The new recreation center will include more advanced exercise equipment.

wall and then pay a fee of \$3 each time they climb. The second option requires a test on safety practices or the completion of an orientation. The fee for this option is \$15 a semester.

The lockers in the men's and women's locker rooms were designed to have a wood-like finish to them and they also have a unique form. They are not your typical rectangular lockers because they were designed with extra space to hang clothing or towels without them getting wrinkled. Lockers are available for free by the day or for a fee by semester and annually.

"Oh my goodness," said Stonestreet as she walked into the fitness complex for the first time. "You were right when you said you can picture it but when you see it, wow."

The fitness complex houses free weights, plate loaded, selectorized and cardio exercise equipment. Attached to some of the cardio equipment will be small flat screen TVs. There will also be four 47-

inch and four 37-inch flat screen TVs located throughout the fitness complex. At the center of the fitness complex is a control desk where employees are available for help and instruction on the machines.

There are four group exercise studios on the second and third floors. There will be 44 free group exercise classes and 21 instructional classes available for a fee. Each studio has a ceiling fan and electric shades to prevent excessive sunlight.

A lounge area is available on the second floor where students and members will be able to relax, hangout with friends or do homework. The entire building is set-up with wireless Internet.

On the third floor is the three-lane track used for walking, jogging and running. The track has specially colored lanes, the two outside lanes are green and the middle lane is beige. The second fitness complex is located on the third floor.

"I just ask one thing, tell your friends how great it is," said Stewart to Michael and Stonestreet as the tour was coming to an end.

The Marshall Recreation Center is scheduled to open Thursday.

*Ashley Adkins can be contacted at adkins428@marshall.edu.*

“You were right when you said you could picture it, but when you see it, wow.”

**Maggie Stonestreet**  
Sophomore nursing major from St. Albans, W.Va.

“It's gonna be crowded. It's gonna be the place to be.”

**Jonathan Michael**  
Sophomore finance major from Beckley, W.Va.

## Settlement pending in Marshall lawsuit

**BY JOHN RABY**  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**CHARLESTON, W.Va.** — A former athletic compliance officer who claims Marshall University used him as a scapegoat said Monday he has settled a lawsuit against the university and several officials for an undisclosed amount.

The lawsuit filed by David Ridpath was scheduled to go to trial this week before U.S. District Judge Chuck Chambers in Huntington. But lawyers notified the court Monday of the pending settlement.

Ridpath claimed he was blamed after the university was placed on four years probation and was stripped of some football and basketball scholarships. Ridpath was demoted after the sanctions were imposed in 2001 and was fired in 2003.

The lawsuit had named Marshall's Board of Governors, then-president Dan Angel, then-football coach Bob Pruett and general counsel F. Layton Cottrill. It had sought \$1 million in damages and alleged fraud, breach of contract and violations of Ridpath's free speech and due process rights.

Ridpath, who now is an assistant professor at Ohio University, declined to reveal the amount of the settlement but called it "fair." He said the amount will likely be released once the settlement is completed in the next few days.

"I'm obviously relieved that this painful episode is over for me, my family and for Marshall as well," Ridpath told The Associated Press. "It enables both parties to move on."

Charleston attorney Charles Bailey, who represented Marshall in the lawsuit, and Chuck Jones, director of the state Board of Risk and Insurance Management, the state's liability insurance carrier, said they had not seen a signed agreement and declined comment Monday.

Pruett's attorney, Edward Kowal of Huntington, didn't immediately return a telephone message.

Ridpath was hired as assistant athletic director in charge of compliance in 1997.

According to the lawsuit, after he reported some academic violations to the NCAA in 1999, he became aware that some student-athletes were receiving improper employment assistance at the McCorkle Machine Shop in Huntington, which is owned by Marshall booster Marshall Reynolds.

Reynolds was cited by the NCAA in December 2001 for providing extra work benefits for Marshall athletes. The school was ordered to sever all ties with the Huntington multimillionaire for at least five years. Reynolds has said he was wrongly saddled with most of the blame by the university during the NCAA investigation.

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# MONSTER CLUTTER

## Marshall students release new zine

Story and photos by

**SARA YOKE**

There are two Marshall University students who really enjoy monsters, and they think you should too. Derek Hagler and Angelo Fioravante compiled and published the first issue of their new zine "Monster Clutter" in January.

A zine, a shortened version of the word magazine, is a self-published work that is defined by a small circulation because of its concentrated focus. Although zines have a narrowed focus, this does not detract from the content covering broad topics such as politics, art and music in one issue.

A couch at The Java Joint was the conception spot for the zine when the two friends joined after German class to drink coffee and talk.

"We got the idea in October and started working in later November," Hagler, a sophomore electronic media management major from Shinnston, W.Va., said.

Eight people worked on the first issue, supplying content like obscure music reviews and comical drawings. Inside the zine there is a guide on how to plant a pie tree, a critique of movie producer and director M. Night Shyamalan, plus an interview with a musician known as Emotron.

Hagler and Fioravante's, "Monster Clutter," will be a bimonthly publication and the creators said they hope to have the second issue ready in March.

"I'd like to see outside people submitting articles," Fioravante, sophomore English major from Charleston said. "I had to badger people for contributions. As an editor I have to harass people, set up deadlines and there would still be nothing. I want to see less music reviews in the next issue and just more monsters."

The zine's submission policy online states: "If we decide to use your submission in a future issue, we will inform you. If your submission sucks, we will destroy it and wait patiently for you to send something better."

Hagler and Fioravante sent copies to friends in New York City and

Clarksburg, W.Va., in hopes it will gain more attention.

Mason Lovell, a sophomore library sciences major from Charleston and mutual friend, drew and created the character of the Octopus Manager who graces the back cover of the first issue. Octopus Manager is the zine's slave driving boss, which was born out of amusement, but has become a source of encouragement.

"He has six more limbs than you. He's always right. He beats us to work harder, and then leaves goo everywhere," Hagler said. "If the art is good, it's by Mason, if it's bad it's by me. I just can't wait to put more stick figures in the next one."

In larger cities there are multiple zines circulating on a number of topics. "Monster Clutter" is one of only three known zines in West Virginia, and the other two are just rumored to exist.

Copies are available at Purple Earth Comics and Comic World, which are both on Fourth Avenue in Huntington. Copies can also be bought from Fioravante or Hagler directly for \$3.

"Any money we make goes into making more," Hagler said. "We're not corporate fat cats."

"We only joke about embezzlement," Fioravante said.

The Java Joint, Hillbilly Hotdogs and The Rocky Horror Picture Show's thespian group, Downhome Decadence, placed advertisements in the zine. Currently ads run \$25 for a full page, \$15 for half a page and \$8 for a quarter of a page.

Hagler and Fioravante said they laid out the zine using only scissors, tape and the occasional swear word when they messed up. Zines are commonly designed without the use of computers and reproduced via photocopier. Hagler and Fioravante's final product was photocopied at Prime Copy Plus in Huntington.

"Monster Clutter" will eventually upload content online at [www.monsterclutter.com](http://www.monsterclutter.com).

"I'd like to offend everyone — not really. Maybe just somebody," Hagler said. "We just want to have fun, really. It's better than doing drugs or something. We are proud we could make something, and people are reading it."

Sara Yoke can be contacted at [yoke3@marshall.edu](mailto:yoke3@marshall.edu).

