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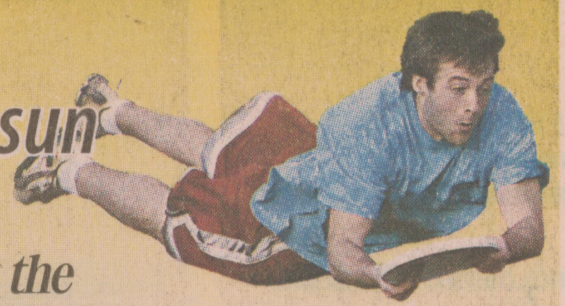


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THE PARTHENON

WWW.MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2009

VOL. 111 NO. 14 © 2009 THE PARTHENON

Rec Center classes could come at a cost

BY ASHLEY ADKINS
THE PARTHENON

Although the Marshall Recreation Center is only a few days old, students and members will need to adjust to new fees.

Full-time Marshall students are required to pay a mandatory recreation fee of \$150 for the fall and spring semesters.

"This is one of the methods in which we are financing," said Dave Stewart, director of campus recreation. "If we didn't have this opportunity we wouldn't have the

recreation center."

Josh Sime, sophomore criminal justice major from Rochester, N.Y., said he thinks the mandatory fee for full-time students is worth every penny because the quality of the center is great.

Stewart said that part-time students pay a pro-rated fee that is based on the amount of credit hours taken that semester. For each credit hour, a part-time student pays \$12.50. Graduate students will also pay based on a pro-rated fee, which is \$16.67 for

"If we didn't have this opportunity (charging a fee) we wouldn't have the recreation center."

Dave Stewart
Director of Campus Recreation

credit hour.

Part-time and graduate students taking less than three credit hours can purchase a \$6

single entry pass instead of buying a membership.

According to the Marshall Recreation Center Web site, the membership availability is prioritized as follows: Marshall students, Marshall Community and Technical College students, employees, associates, alumni, friends of Marshall and affiliates of Marshall. Memberships for alumni, friends and affiliates of Marshall are capped to a limited number of memberships.

Other fees at the recreation center include renting lockers, ad-

vanced instructional fitness programs, personal trainers, fitness assessments, nutrition consultation, body fat assessment and the rock-climbing wall.

"Term lockers are available for a fee and daily use lockers are free," Stewart said.

Advanced instructional fitness programs can cost anywhere from \$30 to \$40 for those with a membership and \$50 to \$60 for non-members. Some instructional programs include Iron Girls and Iron Women, Kid Fit, Water Conditioning and Belly Dance Chore-

ography Level 1.

Members can still attend group fitness classes that are listed on the recreation center's class calendar for free. However, free classes can be limited based on space availability.

Like the advanced instructional fitness programs, personal trainers are available to members and non-members. There are three options for hiring a personal trainer: individual, partner and group personal trainers.

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Rolling Thunder

Huntington looking to get skates spinning with roller derby team

BY MELISSA ISON
THE PARTHENON

A Charleston roller derby team is trying to help establish a women's flat track roller derby team in Huntington.

Liz Turner and Laura Collins are the founders and captains of the Chemical Valley Roller Girls, and want their group to act as a sister team to a new Huntington squad with shared practices and scrimmages.

Several women from Huntington have expressed interest in joining their team, but the travel distance to practice at Campbell's Creek Skateland in Charleston has been a problem.

Shannon McKinney, who graduated from Marshall in December with a bachelor's degree in physics, said she would like to stay in the area. She said she is hoping to be one of the first to join the local team.

"Huntington is a college town, but we don't have some of the things other college towns have," McKinney said. "I think this would be a nice addition for stuff to do."

Erin Cunningham, a member of the Chemical Valley team, said the first step is having women interested in starting a team. There is interest in the Huntington area, but the women do not yet have someone to coach them.

"We need someone who knows the rules of the game, the game play," Cunningham said. "It's really important to teach the girls how to skate derby style."

Turner said derby style can be dangerous if the players of a team do not understand the techniques associated with the game such as stopping, falling, jumping and sitting.

According to Cunningham, the Chemical Valley team had an experienced competitor in Turner. Originally from Teays Valley, Turner lived in Asheville, N.C., where she was a member of Blue Ridge

Rollergirls.

Turner said she moved back to the area in August and decided along with Collins to start the Chemical Valley team, which has been practicing together since November.

According to the Women's Flat Track Derby Association, each game lasts 60 minutes and is broken up into either 20 or 30 minutes periods depending on what the two teams competing decide. The goal of the game is to earn points by having one sprinter from each team, known as the jammer, lap the rest of the pack. On each lap, the jammer can earn one point for every player from the other team they pass.

The game can be rough and fast, but hitting and fighting are clearly stated as illegal in the rules, and carry a penalty of automatic ejection from the game, according to the Women's Flat Track Derby Association.

Hundreds of teams currently compete in the league from all over the country, and several teams have been popping up recently in the region including the Motown Roller Vixens in Morgantown, W.Va., the Jaded Misfits in Bluefield, W.Va., and the NRV Rollergirls in Christiansburg, Va.

For some women, joining a roller derby team is a way to make friends while exercising at the same time.

"I do it because it's way more fun than going to the gym," Cunningham said. "I have met a lot of like-minded women. With roller derby we all have the same goal in mind of being strong and fast. It's a rare thing when you find a group of women you can get along with. I didn't have friends that were girls before, but now I do."

Chemical Valley practices two days a week at Campbell's Creek Skateland in Charleston. Since there are few rinks in Charleston, Cunningham said some team members come to Huntington's Skateland

SEE THUNDER | PAGE 5



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHEMICAL VALLEY ROLLER GIRLS

The Chemical Valley Roller Girls, a roller derby team located in Charleston, wants to partner with the future Huntington roller derby team to share practices as well as scrimmages.

Student found dead

THE PARTHENON

Local authorities are investigating the death of a Marshall student found inside a dorm room Monday night.

Bill Bissett, Marshall University chief of staff and senior vice president of communications, confirmed Monday night that a male student was found dead at Towers West residence hall.

The cause of death had not been determined, but there was no evidence of foul play and it was being considered an unattended death. Bissett could not release what floor the student was living on in Towers West.

Bissett said further information would be released Tuesday after the student's family could be notified.

"This is a difficult for Marshall University. Our primary concern at this point is not only the safety of other students but making sure the parents are notified as well," Bissett said.

The Huntington Police Department was working with Marshall University Police Department to gather more information at the scene Monday evening. Bissett said in cases of this nature that the HPD typically handles the investigation. No official time of death has been released but authorities arrived at the scene around 10 p.m. Monday night.

Bissett said counselors were on scene at Towers West for students who were asked to stay clear of the scene. Counselors will also be available in the following days.

Towers West is a coed residence hall by floor. The building had been a female dormitory before the start of the academic year.

Students in the dormitory were asked to stay in the lobby of the building Monday night while the investigation was ongoing. Bissett said housing would be made available to students who could not get back to their room for the night.

The Parthenon will have further details as information becomes available.

Coal is not going away

BY AMANDA WHITE
THE PARTHENON

Recent support for renewable energy should not worry the estimated 34,000 people employed by West Virginia's Coal Industry.

In an energy panel held at the Legislative Look Ahead Thursday, Don Garvin, legislative coordinator for the West Virginia Environmental Council, West Virginia Coal Association President Bill Raney and Deputy Revenue Secretary Mark Muchow discussed the role that coal will play in the coming years and said that it would remain a large part of the West Virginia economy.

"Coal is not going away," Garvin said.

According to Raney, West Virginia miners extract between 150 and 160 million tons of coal per year, making West Virginia second only to Wyoming in amount of coal produced.

"We hope to stay between 150 and 160 million tons," Raney said. "We rely on it."

This reliance comes from severance taxes amounting to 5 percent of the sale price of mined

coal. Muchow said West Virginia gets about \$70 for every ton of coal sold. The West Virginia Coal Association's publication "Coal Facts" said more than \$400 million was collected in severance taxes in 2007.

Muchow said that this fiscal year would show the highest taxes collected so far. He also said that some of the money collected will go towards the worker's compensation fund.

Not all coal is safe, however. Metallurgical and thermal coal, two things that were instrumental in West Virginia's energy boom six months ago, are taking a huge hit because of the economy. Muchow said the downward trend would not stop until 2011 or 2012.

"Metallurgical coal is a whole different animal," Raney said. "It's simply that steel plants do not want metallurgical coal today like they did six months ago."

Steel, however, is not West Virginia's focus.

"We're an energy state here in West Virginia,"

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THE PARTHENON
MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

OPINION

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THE PARTHENON

ESTABLISHED 1898

BRIAN DALEK
EXECUTIVE EDITOR
DALEK@MARSHALL.EDU

SHEA ANDERSON
MANAGING EDITOR
ANDERSONS4@MARSHALL.EDU

MARLOWE HEREFORD
SPORTS EDITOR
HEREFORD4@MARSHALL.EDU

EMILY AYRES
COPY EDITOR
AYRES@MARSHALL.EDU

DAVE TRAUBE
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR
TRAUBE3@MARSHALL.EDU

KYLE HOBSTETTER
NEWS EDITOR
HOBSTETTER@MARSHALL.EDU

KAYLA QUEEN
LIFE EDITOR
QUEENS3@MARSHALL.EDU

WHITNEY BURDETTE
COPY EDITOR
BURDETTE5@MARSHALL.EDU

CARRIE KIRK
PHOTO EDITOR
KIRK39@MARSHALL.EDU

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

Waiting to try fitness center

Remember that feeling on Christmas or on that special birthday when you could see the wrapped gifts you were about to receive but your parents said that you had to wait until later to open those presents? That was exactly the feeling Marshall students had to deal with during the past four days with long lines at the Marshall Recreation Center.

After Thursday's open house that allowed anybody to wonder through the building to see what was inside, Friday came and there were lines that serpented through the front of the building. The regular waiting time for students trying to get their photos taken and sign a waiver was about two hours or more. This led to many disgruntled students who either decided not to wait to register as a member or voiced their complaints while the hours passed.

We understand that there was a huge push to get the building open on time, and everything within the facility was ready to go. But come rush time Friday afternoon, there were more people waiting in line than actually in the facility.

Even on Monday evening there was still a long line for people trying to register. It is fantastic to see Marshall students who are willing to stand in line for a couple of hours and are excited to workout in the new fitness center, but the lack of planning is almost unacceptable.

We say almost unacceptable because the new fitness center is still worth the wait. If you are still not registered and wish to do so, it is advisable that you try to avoid heavy usage times. According to a university announcement about the delays, all prospective members are urged to be processed at lower usage times. These times are Monday through Friday, 5:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., Saturday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. You can also call ahead to inquire about processing time at 304-696-4REC (4732) or 304-696-4108.

Once you get registered it is as simple as swiping your ID card to enter, and then you can finally enjoy Marshall's new gift instead of looking at it from the outside.

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, 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. Please keep in mind that stories are run based on timeliness, newsworthiness or space.

Online poll

What is your favorite networking Web site?

- A) Facebook
- B) Myspace
- C) Twitter
- D) Other

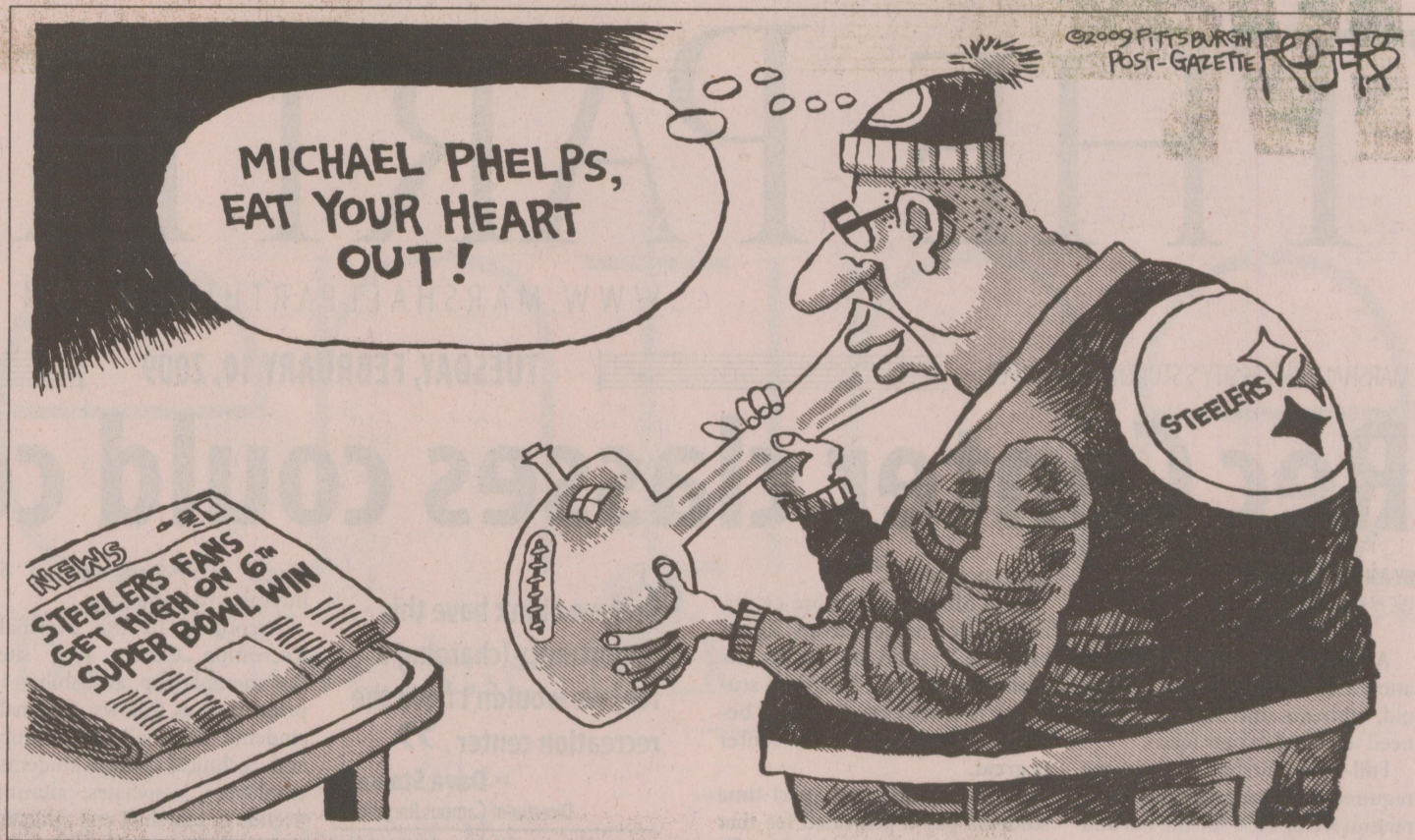
Vote online at
www.marshallparthenon.com

Previous poll

What feature of the new recreation center are you most looking forward to?

Climbing wall..... 24%
Pool..... 36%
More classes..... 12%
New equipment..... 28%

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



THE COMMON CAUSE | Jay Roudebush

The issue of sexual inequality

In my column from last week I mentioned that Michael Steele, the new Republican chairman of the Republican Party, believes that the party should push for a constitutional ban on homosexual marriage. This means that Steele does not believe in equality for all the people of America. This caused responses from many people on the Parthenon Web page marshallparthenon.com on both sides of the issue.

One of the respondents had this to say, "Those that (are) inclined to same-sex attraction have the very same rights as everyone else in this country. It is a fallacy to say otherwise."

This column is written to show that many Americans believe this lie. Gay Americans are treated as second class citizens in America. To say there is equality is to either be ignorant of the rights being withheld from some citizens of this great nation or to simply be a bigot who does not care.

The most obvious issue of inequality concerns tax status.



JAY ROUDEBUSH
Columnist

A "straight" married couple will have benefits when they file their taxes. These tax breaks help give money back to the family to continue surviving in this tough economy. Homosexuals cannot file

as married in many states, including West Virginia. They do not get to have the same benefits financially that straight couples have, even if they have been living as partners for decades.

So a man and woman can be married for a year and receive benefits for being married from the government, but a homosexual couple can be together for 50 years but not receive equal benefits from the same tax system.

A less obvious inequality is property ownership. If a man or a woman is the owner of

"There is no justice when one must suffer or rights are withheld over their race, creed, gender or sexuality."

property (not just land, but various things that belong to him or her) and he or she gains a partner of the same sex than inequality occurs.

They live as a married couple, but are not allowed to become married as the government will not allow them. Since they are not married, if the owner of the property should die the partner could lose everything.

They could have been together for 40 years, but if the family of the person owning the house wants to take away the property of the now deceased family member they can leave the partner with nothing. They were not married, and the partner does not have a legal right over the

family in many cases.

I don't speak for the gay rights movement. I only plainly see that rights are being withheld from some Americans. Some Americans are being treated as second class citizens because of their sexuality. These people are citizens of the nation of freedom and justice. These people aren't free to live their lives, because they are not given equal rights.

There is no justice when one must suffer or rights are withheld over their race, creed, gender or sexuality. The issue for America is bringing equality to all Americans.

Jay Roudebush can be contacted at roudebush1@marshall.edu.

SCOTT PEARRING | Daily Bruin | UCLA

Pepsi continues trend of controversial advertisements

Pepsi is taking full advantage of the times.

Driving down Santa Monica Boulevard last week, I saw what I thought was an Obama billboard: "Yes You Can" scrawled in bright, bold letters. It was actually an advertisement for Pepsi. In addition to hijacking the Obama campaign's catchphrase, Pepsi has recently unveiled a new logo that eerily resembles Obama's. Although Pepsi has a history of political contributions, I wondered about the ramifications of this brazen marketing campaign.

Pepsi has already lost fans over this issue. Its promotional extravaganza unleashed on Times Square during New Year's Eve was blatantly pro-Obama, with gigantic billboards containing short, specific phrases such as "Hope," "Hooray!" and "Together."

This new advertising plan, dubbed "Refresh Everything," arrived just in time for the excitement of the new administration. In the days before the inauguration, Pepsi ads splattered the sides of buses and the outside of Union Station, covering Washington in distinctive posters that promote the soda while not-so-subtly endorsing the new president.

Many bloggers and educated consumers are irate, criticizing the

subtle ploy and calling for a boycott of all Pepsi products.

Todd Lohenny, a conservative critic for The Right Side of Wisconsin, called on his Web site for a boycott of all Pepsi products because of the company's "shameless pandering to the Obama Oligarchy through the use of their new Obama-logo."

However, Pepsi representatives defend the new campaign, claiming impartiality toward the new president.

Nicole Bradley, a Pepsi spokesperson, said, "Pepsi's 'Refresh Everything' campaign signifies the prevailing spirit of optimism and renewal sweeping the country. We're targeting anyone who embodies optimism and the spirit of youth."

Including Obama, Bradley also addressed the Obama-PepsiCo connection:

"We're not looking to align our ad campaign with the administration's communications. Republicans and Democrats are embracing optimism; it's a cultural movement that crosses party lines."

There is nothing wrong with targeting a cultural movement that embraces optimism; putting aside our differences for a uniting positive spirit sounds like a wonderful idea. That said, it doesn't change

the fact that many Americans who have seen the new campaign will likely be repulsed. What about the 46 percent of American voters who preferred McCain? Pepsi may soon find out what those 58 million consumers think about the company's deliberate support.

Regarding the similarity between the two logos, Pepsi brands chief Frank Cooper offered little explanation in a press interview last week.

"I'm not sure (which company's logo) followed whom. But President Obama was relatively unknown a few years ago. This logo he developed is probably a year and a half old. We've been around for a long time."

Pepsi has never been known for playing it safe. From the edgy Britney Spears and Beyoncé commercials to the dancing lizards with the short-skirted Naomi Campbell, they have always pushed the envelope.

The American Family Association is currently boycotting all Pepsi products because of their refusal to "remain neutral in the culture war," according to their Web site. While remaining neutral doesn't seem like too much to ask, the world's second-largest soda company recently donated \$500,000 to the Human Rights

Campaign (the largest and most powerful gay lobbying group in America) and another \$500,000 to Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays.

The Human Rights Campaign proceeded to donate \$2.3 million to oppose Proposition 8, convincing some that every can of soda directly supports same-sex marriage.

The American Family Association wrote Pepsi multiple times, but Pepsi refused to stop supporting these organizations.

When Bradley spoke to me about the American Family Association boycott, she defended the company by arguing that the donations were labor-related, intended to encourage acceptance of the gay lifestyle in the workplace.

"We're simply communicating our philosophy. Diversity and inclusion are among the values we've adopted for ourselves in the workplace because they're important to our success — both as individual employees and as a company," Bradley said.

"For a company the size of ours, it's impossible to please all of the people all of the time," she added.

True story. But when we're talking about potentially alienating 58 million Americans, you better tread very carefully.

THE PARTHENON | Reader information

About us

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Contact us

109 Communications Building
Marshall University
One John Marshall Drive
Huntington, WV 25755
E-mail: parthenon@marshall.edu

Phone and Fax

Newsroom	304-696-6696
Editor	304-696-2522
Reporters	304-696-2520
Fax	304-696-2732
Advertising	304-696-2273

Advertising & Administration

Nerissa Young Adviser	(304) 696-2736
Sandy Savage-York Advertising Manager	(304) 696-2273
Advertising Office	(304) 696-3346

Daily News Quotation

"I first would like to thank God who has brought me through. I would like to thank my family in heaven and those who are with me today." — Jennifer Hudson, accepting the Grammy for best R&B album for her self-titled debut.

Marshall Militants

Enlistees balance college, defending United States

KERISSA BENNETT
THE PARTHENON

Being a college student and holding a part-time job can itself be challenging, but imagine if that job were protecting your country.

This is exactly the case for many of Marshall's own students. These students serve in different ways, from the Air Force to the Army and from the reserves to the guard. On top of getting an education, they go through military training and prepare for deployment.

"I have always wanted to be in the military," Adam Runyon, junior business management major from South Charleston, said.

Runyon serves in the West Virginia Air National Guard as an air transportation specialist. He enlisted during his senior year of high school and has already been

deployed to the Middle East once.

Runyon spends a weekend training with his unit each month. He said he also has to stay in good physical shape to pass mandatory physical fitness tests.

Chris Chapman, sophomore business management major from Flat Top, W.Va., and lance corporal in the Marine Corps Reserves said he tries to work out five times a week to prepare for monthly physical fitness tests.

Chapman has already completed officer candidate school and will be commissioned as an officer upon his graduation from Marshall. Like Runyon, he spends a weekend each month training with his unit located four hours away.

Despite the fact that both Runyon and Chapman worry that deployment may delay graduation, both feel that being in the military has not taken away from their college experience, but added to it, giving

While many students are still trying to figure out what they will be doing after college, the ROTC has given me a sense of direction. I already know what I will be doing.

Chris Shaffer

Geography graduate student from Sissonville, W.Va.

them the motivation and drive they will need in the future.

Chris Shaffer, geography graduate student from Sissonville, W.Va., has had a similar experience in the military. Shaffer said he is one of approximately 50 students who participate in the Army ROTC at Marshall.

"While many students are still trying to figure out what they will be doing after college, the ROTC has given me a sense of direction," Shaffer said. "I already know what I will be doing."

One way the ROTC motivates students is through grades. Shaffer said that after the cadets' third year of college, their grades are evaluated. These grades help determine what job the cadet gets.

Shaffer believes that the ROTC cadets are close because they see one another on a regular basis. For example, while students like Chapman and Runyon must be self-motivated to keep themselves in military shape, cadets in the ROTC work out together in physical training three mornings a week.

With the challenges of the military lifestyle and the stress of a college workload,

SEE **MILITARY** | PAGE 5

LGBTQ offers resources

BY BROOKS TAYLOR
THE PARTHENON

In the basement of the Memorial Student Center there is an office that is open to all students, no matter their sexual orientation.

The Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Outreach is a resource for students to find out more about the LGBT community at Marshall.

Rebecca Wass, co-director of the LGBTO, said the office is also a place where LGBT students can go for support.

"We have a lot of books that students can check out. We have DVDs, pamphlets," Wass said. "We tend to have more access to information than the average student would, so they can check out our books, our DVDs, ask us for help."

Not only does the LGBTO have resources in its office, but also it's active on the Marshall campus.

"We do a lot of Uni 101 classes also, just to go out there and let them know that we are here if they need anything," Wass said. "We do a lot of dorm programs, too."

LGBTO conducts a training program with RAs that offers helpful tips and advice if a student comes out.

The LGBTO has two directors and is staffed by volunteers from around campus.

Justin Stewart, a business administration major from Charleston, started volunteering after he stopped by for a visit.

"I was a freshman and I just found out there was a resource place like this so I came down to check it out and see how it was and met interesting people and just came back," Stewart said.

Stewart said he had several responsibilities as a volunteer.

"If there's programs going on or the desk needs to be watched for a second or something, I can lend a helping hand. Helping here helps other people," Stewart said.

Aside from helping students, the LGBTO has a program in place for staff and faculty.

"We also have the safe space program," Wass said. "It's a training that we go through with them (staff and faculty) that deals with different issues about coming out, with having students that are gay or lesbian, what have you, and it trains them on having a safe place students can go if they need any help."

When staff and faculty complete the training they are given a T-shirt and a sticker to put on their doors to let students know their room is a "safe space."

The LGBTO also holds events on and around campus that are LGBT related.

"We have brown bag lunches where we will invite faculty and staff from the campus to come in and students are free to come in, and we will just discuss certain topics over lunch," Wass said. "We bring in a lot of guest speakers who are obviously LGBT related. Some of them are educational some of them are entertaining. Typically students respond to somebody they know."

Stewart said he believes the LGBTO is a good thing for Marshall.

"I think it puts a good impression on students, it provides a place for them to go, it provides people with information and makes them feel more comfortable, because it makes people feel more accepted by being acknowledged by the university," Stewart said.

For more information on the LGBTO call 304-696-6623 or visit the Web site at www.marshall.edu/LGBO.

Brooks Taylor can be contacted at taylor341@marshall.edu.

Epic catch



CARRIE KIRK | THE PARTHENON

Tommy Legg dives to catch a Frisbee while playing on campus. The warmer temperatures in Huntington encouraged students to go outdoors.

Social work program provides jobs

BY KELLY CHRISTIAN
THE PARTHENON

While the job market may seem uncertain during the nation's economic recession, Marshall University offers a degree program that provides students with some job security and stipends to help cover the cost of tuition.

A Bachelor of Social Work or a Master of Social Work degree provides students in the social work field with an opportunity to choose from a variety of jobs working with people of all ages. Because these are professional degrees, graduates can be licensed anywhere in West Virginia. Jobs available to those who complete a degree program include, but are not limited to, working for the government, hospitals, private

They're (employers) on our backs to bring them more (graduates) because they're complaining we're not graduating enough for them.

Jo Dee Gottlieb
Professor of social work

practices, foster care, adoption and youth services.

Social work is a helping profession and there are always families, children, veterans and even hospitals in need of social work help, said Jo Dee Gottlieb, professor of social work. Gottlieb said there is an ever-growing need for more students to enter social work. The U.S. Bureau of

Labor Statistics reported that in 2006 the number of people working in social work was 595,000. That number is projected to grow to 727,000 by 2016. It also reported that approximately five out of 10 jobs were social-work related when the report was updated in 2007.

"We actually can't fill all the jobs out there with enough people," Gottlieb said. "They're (employers) on our backs to bring them more (graduates) because they're complaining we're not graduating enough for them. There are also lots of private child welfare agencies that want our social workers."

Gottlieb said many people don't know about the social work program Marshall offers.

"Not as many people are familiar with social work. I want to say that all of our students who

want to find a job after graduation usually find a job within two months of graduation and about a third go on to graduate school," she said.

Gottlieb said the program has a contract with the state where students can receive stipends that total \$1,500.

"In exchange for receiving funds, they agree to go to work for the state of West Virginia for child welfare for the amount of time they receive the stipend. There's a one-year minimum," she said.

Gottlieb said a Bachelor or Master of Social Work degree is very marketable for students to have and are employers' first choice.

"It's broad enough that we don't just work with individuals,

SEE **PROGRAM** | PAGE 5

Awards to honor writers

BY SARA YOKE
THE PARTHENON

The English department will recognize excellence in student writing with the 35th annual William J. Maier Awards.

Entries are due Feb. 16 to John Young in Corbly Hall Room 246 or his mailbox in the English department office.

Work considered for the awards must have been written by students enrolled in English courses during the 2008 school year.

"I would and definitely am considering submitting something for the awards because it's a great way to recycle works that took a lot of effort at the time," Anna Chenoweth, junior English literature major from Charleston, said. "I think it's great that the English department puts this on because it's a way to reward students for their work in other ways than a grade."

Award categories include: First-Year Research, First-Year Non-Research, Upper Division Non-Fiction Prose, Graduate Non-Fiction Prose, Poetry and Fiction.

Submissions from the First-Year categories are written during a composition course like English 101, 102 or 201 honors, and entries in the Upper Division category are generated during 300 and 400 level English classes.

Only one entry per category, per student is allowed. Three copies must be submitted and names should not appear on any copies. An English faculty member should recommend work to Young.

The Maier Awards include scholarship prizes ranging from \$100 to \$500 from the Sarah and Pauline Maier Scholarship Foundation. The foundation is named after Maier's mother and wife.

William J. Maier Jr., a native West Virginian, is a Harvard alumni and a recipient of the Rhodes Scholarship. He began funding the awards after reading an article by English faculty member Dr. John Teel in "The National Review" in 1973.

The winners of the awards are announced and publicly recognized at the Maier celebration in April. In 2008, more than 100 people met with Ed Maier, president of the Maier foundation. Copies of William Maier's autobiography, "The Education of a Philanthropist," were presented to entry winners.

Other Maier awards, competitions and contests are acknowledged at the same time, including the Maier Latin Cup Awards, The Maier Latin Sight-Translation Contest and The Maier Latin Scholarship.

Sara Yoke can be contacted at yoke3@marshall.edu.

Interested in writing
for The Parthenon?

contacts Shea Anderson at anderson84@marshall.edu

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QUESTIONS?

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saine1@marshall.edu

SPORTS

PAGE DESIGNED AND EDITED BY
Marlowe Hereford
hereford4@marshall.edu

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2009

MarshallParthenon.com

MONDAY'S SCORES

NBA
Clippers 73, Bobcats 94
Suns 91, 76ers 108
Hornets 80, Grizzlies 85
Rockets 112, Bucks 124

NHL
Rangers 0, Devils 3
Canadiens 2, Flames 6

NCAA BB
West Virginia 59, Pittsburgh 70
Kansas 60, Missouri 62

SPORTS BRIEFS

A-Rod admits to using steroids

NEW YORK—Already the highest-paid player, Alex Rodriguez wanted to prove himself one of the greatest. Instead, he wound up atop another list: the highest-profile player to confess to cheating in baseball's steroids era.

The All-Star third baseman, responding to a weekend Sports Illustrated report that he flunked a drug test, told ESPN on Monday he used banned substances while playing with the Texas Rangers from 2001-03 to justify his 10-year, \$252 million contract.

"Back then it was a different culture," Rodriguez said. "It was very loose. I was young. I was stupid. I was naive, and I wanted to prove to everyone that, you know, I was worth, you know — and being one of the greatest players of all time."

He said he didn't do it before that and quit during spring training in 2003, before the first of three AL MVP seasons, because "I've proved to myself and to everyone that I don't need any of that." He was traded to the New York Yankees before the 2004 season, and said he hasn't used since.

The admission came two days after Sports Illustrated reported on its Web site that Rodriguez was among 104 names on a list of players who tested positive for steroids in 2003, when testing was intended to determine the extent of steroid use in baseball. The results weren't subject to discipline and were supposed to remain anonymous, but were seized by the government in 2004 and remain under seal.

"When I arrived in Texas in 2001, I felt an enormous amount of pressure. I felt like I had all the weight of the world on top of me and I needed to perform, and perform at a high level every day," Rodriguez said.

"And I did take a banned substance and for that I'm very sorry and deeply regretful. And although it was the culture back then and Major League Baseball overall was very — I just feel that — You know, I'm just sorry. I'm sorry for that time. I'm sorry to fans. I'm sorry for my fans in Texas. It wasn't until then that I ever thought about substance of any kind."

Rangers owner Tom Hicks said the admission caught him by surprise.

"I feel personally betrayed. I feel deceived by Alex," Hicks said in a conference call. "He assured me that he had far too much respect for his own body to ever do that to himself."

The 33-year-old Rodriguez ranks 12th on the career list with 553 homers, including 52, 57 and 47 in his three seasons with the Rangers. He is 209 behind Barry Bonds' record 762.

The Yankees said in a statement that "we urged Alex to be completely open, honest and forthcoming" and that "we take him at his word that he was."

"Although we are disappointed in the mistake he spoke to today, we realize that Alex — like all of us — is a human being not immune to fault," the team said. "We support Alex, and we will do everything we can to help him deal with this challenge."

Marshall to face Rio Grande in home contest



Marshall senior forward Markel Humphrey prepares to dunk against Tulane.

BY MARLOWE HEREFORD
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University men's basketball team will close out a four-game home stretch with a contest against nonconference foe Rio Grande tonight.

The Herd is coming off a 89-86 overtime win over Tulane Saturday with junior guard Chris Lutz's career high 37 points. It was the first game for Marshall (10-13) without junior forward Tyler Wilkerson who sustained a season-ending jaw injury.

However, the Herd has been plagued with yet more injuries since Saturday.

"We're beat up," Marshall head coach Donnie Jones said. "Dago (Pena) is out at least two weeks, could be for the season. He dislocated his shoulder in practice. He could just go ahead and do surgery. It requires five months recovery."

Junior forward Octavius Spann is dealing with a back injury and freshman guard Shaquille Johnson is coping with an ankle injury, Jones said. Both of them will be game-time decisions tonight.

"We're dressing seven eligible guys for sure," Jones said of tonight's lineup.

Rio Grande (17-10) has played

Marshall 12 times since 1920 and the Herd holds a 12-0 advantage. Last season, Rio Grande fell 87-51 to Marshall in Huntington. Marshall senior guard Darryl Merthie had a career-high 22 points and five assists in that game.

"Just because its not in league play, its another opponent. We're trying to get better every game regardless of who we play," Jones said. "That's going to be important for us and how we come out and approach this game with limited numbers."

The Red Storm features 6-foot-8 guard/forward Brandon Ivery who averages 17.5 points and 9.5 rebounds per game. Guard P.J. Rase averages 11.7 points per game. Rase shoots 41.5 percent from beyond the arc. Rio Grande head coach Ken French is in his third season and is a Huntington native.

The Herd practiced twice Sunday and Monday and has been working on the faster style of play it incorporated in the Tulane game, Jones said.

"We're adding in some new things we've worked on the past couple of days, work on our press again," Jones said.

For a season themed by the slogan "reaching new heights," the Herd is now taking the approach

of a "new season" that began with the win over Tulane.

"The whole thought process to reaching new heights was taking that next step in our program and obviously try to build on last year's success. We've had some things that've held us back," Jones said. "It's really made it difficult to take that next step that we wanted to. But we're going to continue to try to do that."

The Herd will continue to maintain a positive attitude with the remaining games on the schedule, Jones said.

"We've still got at least nine games left if you count the tournament," Jones said. "We've still got a lot of basketball to play."

The experiences and adjustments of the "new Thundering Herd" also provide a glimpse into next year.

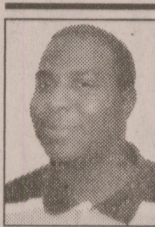
"Everything we do in practice every day prepares us for next year," Jones said. "That's the way we look at it. We're still teaching and coaching and obviously recruiting. We'll add some more people in that'll help us."

Tipoff is scheduled for 7 p.m. in the Cam Henderson Center.

Marlowe Hereford can be contacted at hereford4@marshall.edu.

KENNETH COX | Cox's Corner

Pro athletes disgrace game, records by cheating



KENNETH COX
COLUMNIST

Alex Rodriguez has admitted to using steroids. Today, he apologized for his actions.

Just add his name to the list of all the great baseball players from the past two decades. Rafael Palmeiro, Barry Bonds,

Mark McGwire and any other professional baseball player that entertained you in the recent memory.

A-Rod apologized and for the sake of his popularity. That was the right thing to do. But as the old saying goes "fool me once, shame on you, fool me twice... shame on me." None of us should be surprised at any player being caught using steroids, especially anyone with extraordinary talent on the field.

During my earlier years baseball was highlighted by Mark McGuire and Sammy Sosa's home run race.

No other period of baseball history has captivated me like that. But I wasn't alone. The whole world watched pointless games just to see the two attack the home run record at a lightning pace.

This period and other periods of supreme athletic record breaking will always generate the interest of life long fans but it also brings the sport into the mainstream media and introduces more people to it. Major League Baseball and all its teams benefited from the athletic enhancement of players brought on by steroids and for years looked the other way.

It seems as if you weren't cheating, you weren't trying. Not to say that they all did steroids. But it's hard to say that or believe it to be any other way.

The players in this modern era have tainted the record books without a shadow of a doubt. But

how are they going to be punished for their actions? Not to be in the Hall of Fame seems too light of a punishment for me. It is also too vague. A-Rod signed a deal for more than \$250 million four years after his failed drug test. Teams should be allowed to terminate contracts of cheating players or at least be allowed to pay the players less than their contracts state.

In certain situations, people

will make mistakes, just like these baseball players, but nobody has gotten in trouble until years after they used. Some will try to get an advantage, especially if the chances of getting caught is low. In the steroids era, it seemed like everyone was juiced. The upside of cheating was earning millions of dollars and the admiration of millions of people. The downside, which

only recently has been discovered, was missing a chance to go to Cooperstown and being suspended for a couple of games.

So, A-Rod and every other player to taint the game, keep your apologies. You've made your money. You've made your decision. Now you have to live with it.

Kenneth Cox can be contacted at kenneth.cox@marshall.edu.

Snyder names Fello new Marshall defensive line coach

HERDZONE.COM

Marshall University Head Football Coach Mark Snyder announced Monday that Bob Fello has been hired as the Thundering Herd's defensive line coach.

"I am excited to have Bob join our coaching staff," Snyder said. "He is a veteran coach and I have known of him and the players he has coached for a long time. He is a great addition to our coaching staff and I look forward to having him on board."

Fello has more than 34 years of football experience (as a coach, scout, teacher and administrator), and comes to Marshall after spending the last four seasons at The Citadel, the last three as assistant head coach.

"I competed against Marshall as a player at Kent State and watching where the program has gone since the tragedy in 1970 is simply amazing," Fello said. "I am very excited to be a part of a tradition-rich program and work for a head coach the caliber of Coach Snyder. I have a great deal of respect for Coach Snyder, Rick Minter, John Shannon and Mike Cassity. This is a tremendous opportunity to join a wonderful staff and continue to grow professionally."

During his tenure at The Citadel, Fello oversaw special teams. The Bulldogs produced the #1 punt returner in the FCS this past season in All-American Andre Roberts. The Citadel finished the season as the top ranked punt return team in the nation (FCS) and the 13th-ranked squad for net punting.

Before joining the Big XII staff, Fello spent two seasons, 2002-04, as the assistant head coach at SMU. His punt return unit set

several single game and season records and was ranked third in the NCAA.

From 1999 to 2001, Fello was the defensive line coach at Kansas State University under head coach Bill Snyder. During his tenure at K-State, Fello helped the Wildcats achieve a total defense national ranking of fourth in 2001.

Preceding his three years at KSU, Fello was the defensive and recruiting coordinator at James Madison University from 1998-99. There he coached All-American Tony Booth who went on to play for the Carolina Panthers. From 1995-97, he was the special teams coordinator and the defensive line coach at TCU. The Horned Frogs' 1995 squad was ranked in the top-20 in every special teams category.

He began his coaching career at Kent State University as a graduate assistant coach, but progressed up the chain of command from linebackers' coach to defensive coordinator to recruiting coordinator from 1976-87. Fello was with head coach Glen Mason at the University of Kansas from 1988-94.

Before entering into the coaching profession, Fello was a three-year starter for legendary coach Don James at Kent State where he earned a bachelor's degree in health, physical education and recreation in 1974. Fello was born in Baton Rouge, La. He, and his wife Rona, currently reside in Charleston, S.C.

Fello replaces Jerry Azzinaro who has accepted a coaching position at the University of Oregon.

"Jerry had an opportunity that he and his family could not pass up," Snyder said. "I appreciate all of his great efforts here at Marshall and wish him the best."

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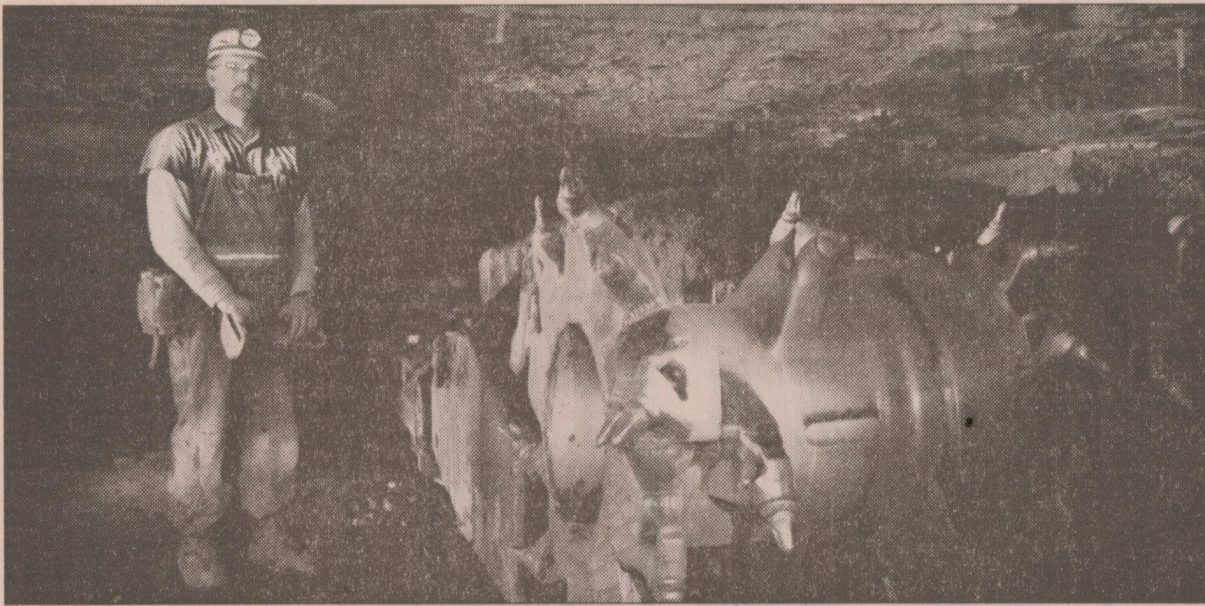
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A miner stands at the Rockstping Development Inc. located in Wayne County. West Virginia legislators told coal miners that the resource will remain a strong source of energy in the coming years.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FOUNDATION COAL

COAL
FROM PAGE 1

Garvin said. "We need to be proud of that." This continuing reliance on coal does not exclude environmental improvements from the legislative session. Garvin expressed the desire to close down some of the older mines, claiming they are some of the dirtiest places in the world. "We shouldn't have all our eggs in one basket," said Garvin. He also said that the coming years would see some increased investment in windmills and hydropower. "Renewables could probably sap up some of

the energy boom, but coal will probably still be used as much, if not more," Garvin said. He did, however, say that he thinks mountain top removal goes against the Clean Water Act introduced by the Environmental Protection Agency. "The risks today aren't much different than they were in the '70s and '80s," said Garvin. "We still have issues with the coal industry." One of the larger issues he discussed was the insufficient number of inspectors. He said that an increase in inspectors

"The risks today aren't much different than they were in the '70s and '80s."

Don Garvin
Legislative coordinator for the West Virginia Environmental Council

would benefit both the coal industry and the environment. "These are not yuppie wishes," he said. "It's clean water, it's clean air, its health. We can have a good environment and good economic growth."

Amanda White can be contacted at white461@marshall.edu.

THUNDER
FROM PAGE 1

for open skate Sundays and Wednesdays to practice skating. The team welcomes prospective members to come to open skate nights and to attend their "newbie night" at Campbell's Creek Skateland on Tuesdays to get their skate legs without the

intimidation of skating derby style. "We hold newbie night to help them to see if it is right for them and then invite them to come to practice if even just to watch at first," Cunningham said. "It is a little intimidating when you haven't been on roller skates for 20 years." Chemical Valley will be holding a fundraising event at the

Blue Parrot in Charleston on Feb 24. Anyone interested in meeting or contributing to the team is welcome to attend. Anyone interested in either the Chemical Valley Roller Girls or in a Huntington team may contact myspace.com/chemicalvalleyrollergirls. Melissa Ison can be contacted at ison@marshall.edu

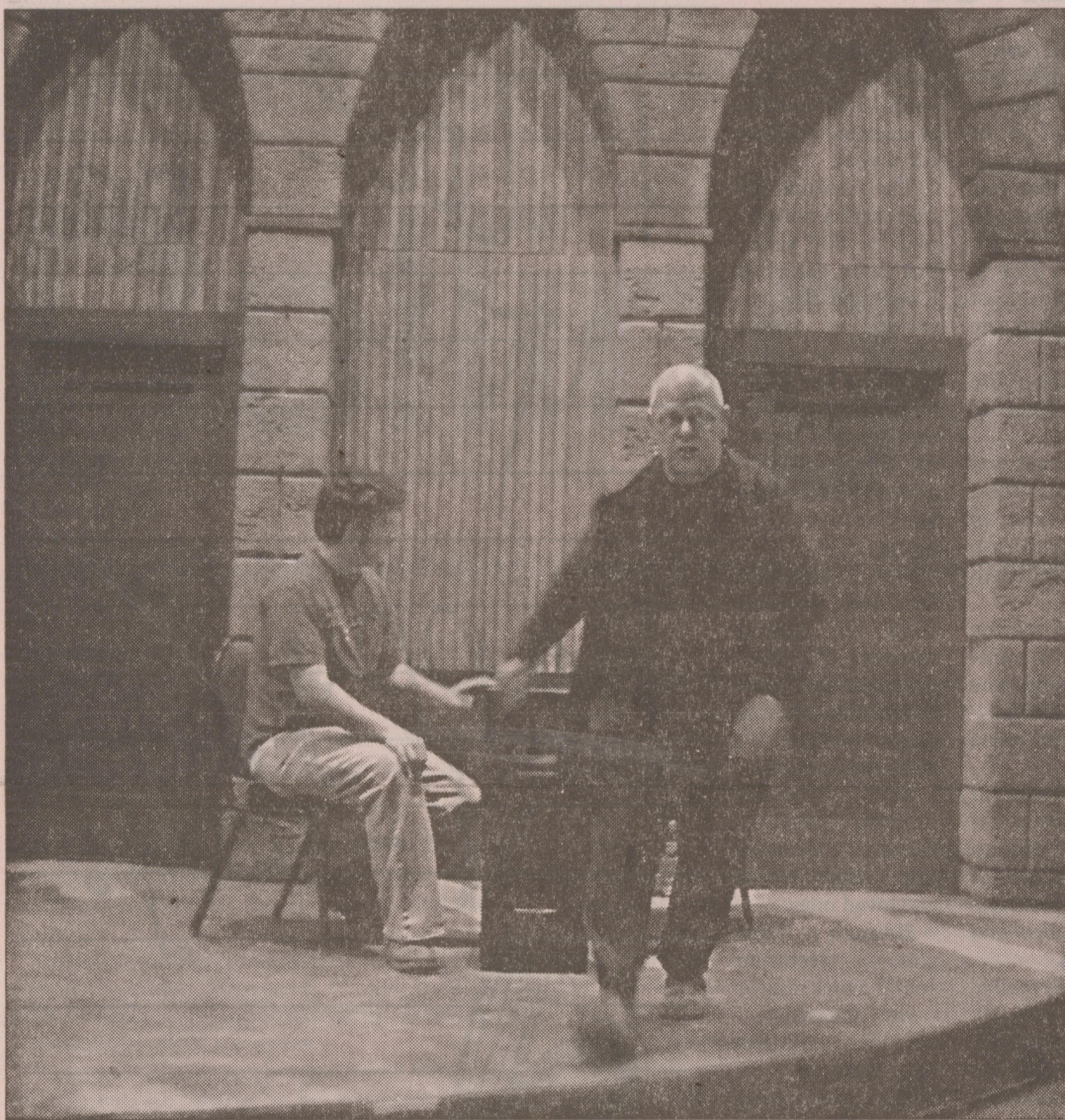
FEES
FROM PAGE 1

The cost for an individual personal training session for a member is \$20 and \$30 for a non-member. The cost for five sessions for a member is \$90 and \$140 for a non-member and the cost for 10 sessions for a member is \$160 and \$260 for non-members. Partner personal training consists of two clients and one trainer. The partner personal training will cost each member \$30 and each non-member \$40 for one session, \$140 each member and \$190 for each non-member for five sessions and \$260 per mem-

ber and \$360 for each non-member for 10 sessions. The group personal training consists of three clients and one trainer and is only available to members. Members can choose between five to 10 sessions. Each member will pay \$180 for five sessions and \$330 for ten sessions. Fitness and body fat assessment and nutrition consultation are available to members and non-members. The fitness assessment and nutrition consultation will cost a member \$25 a session for each one and \$35 for non-members. The body fat assessment costs members \$5 and non-members \$8. There are two options avail-

able for those who plan to climb the rock wall. Both options require a safety orientation prior to the climb unless a member has climbed before or is certified. Those members have the option to take a safety test. After all the requirements are fulfilled members can choose between two payment options: \$3 for each entrance or \$15 for the entire semester. For more information check the Marshall Recreation Center Web site www.marshall.edu/rec or visit the now open Marshall Recreation Center. Ashley Adkins can be contacted at adkins428@marshall.edu.

Getting ready



Christian Whitt, left, and director Gene Anthony prepare for the upcoming theater production of "Charley's Aunt," a three-act farce by Brandon Thomas. The show opens Feb. 25 and runs through Feb 28 at Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.

ERIKA COURTNEY | FOR THE PARTHENON

PROGRAM
FROM PAGE 3

we work with families, we work with groups, we work with communities and we view problems at a strengths perspective. We look at the big picture," Gottlieb said. Even as vast amounts of layoffs occur across the country, Denise Hogsett, director of Ca-

reer Services Center, said there are still job fields that are looking to hire people, including social work. "I think any field in health care or health care issues are going to be in demand," Hogsett said. Hogsett listed many other professions that are growing, such as financial planning, accounting, securities in criminal justice, engineering and teaching, just to

name a few. She also said she has been seeing an increase in information technology. While social work positions may not be high paying starting out, Hogsett said she encourages students to take those jobs because they can gain experience to move up and make more money. Kelly Christian can be contacted at christian55@marshall.edu.

MILITARY
FROM PAGE 3

Marshall students who are in the military like to think they are almost balancing two separate lives. However, they manage to see

through this and think of the benefits. Their military careers will lead them in different places. But one thing Chapman, Shaffer and Runyon agree on is they feel more disciplined and prepared for what is to come after college because of the military

experience they are receiving during there time at Marshall University. "I think that this work is going to help further my career," Chapman said. Kerissa Bennett can be contacted at bennett120@marshall.edu.

Bar won't face discipline for fighting smoking ban

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLESTON—Kanawha County and state officials are awaiting the outcome of a criminal case before deciding whether to take disciplinary action against a Charleston bar for flouting the county's smoking ban. The Blackhawk Saloon is charged with two misdemeanors for smoking-

ban violations. A hearing is scheduled Feb. 25. Owner Kerry "Paco" Ellison had said state Alcohol Beverage Control Administration agents notified him early Saturday that the Kanawha-Charleston Health Department planned to revoke his bar's health permit on Monday. Ellison would lose his liquor license as a result.

Anita Ray, the health department's environmental director, told the Charleston Gazette that no action would be taken Monday against Ellison. ABCA Commissioner Dallas Staples told the newspaper that Ellison must have misunderstood. Ellison said he stands by his previous comments.

Chris Brown's smile could fade

BY NEKESA MUMBI MOODY
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES—At this point, Chris Brown would have been better off getting caught with a bong. At least then, the scandal enveloping his white-hot career could have been dismissed by some as a youthful indiscretion. But Brown's arrest in connection with an alleged assault of a woman has potentially devastating implications for the 19-year-old heartthrob because it unravels the charming, wholesome image that fans know and love. "If it's true, his career is probably over," said Billboard magazine's editorial director, Bill Werde, although he cautioned that "it's important to withhold judgment until all of the facts are known." On a night in which Brown was supposed to deliver a prime-time Grammy performance, he was instead being processed in a Los Angeles police station on a charge connected to an alleged assault on a woman reports have identified as Rihanna, the 20-year-old pop princess. Brown was booked on a suspicion of making a criminal threat after he and a woman had an argument that escalated into a fight in a ritzy Los Angeles neighborhood, according to police; Rihanna and Brown pulled out of the Grammys hours before the Sunday telecast.

Brown nor his representatives have made statements about the case, and the only comment Rihanna's publicist has made was to say that the statueque star was doing "well." Already there was immediate fallout from Brown's arrest, with Wrigley stopping all ad and marketing campaigns tied to Brown, who had been their Doublemint gum pitchman. The singer also withdrew from planned appearances at the upcoming NBA All-Star Game, scheduled for this weekend in Phoenix, NBA spokesman Tim Frank said in an e-mail. "Wrigley is concerned by the serious allegations made against Chris Brown. We believe Mr. Brown should be afforded the same due process as any citizen," the company said in a statement. "However, we have made the decision to suspend the current advertising featuring Brown and any related marketing communications until the matter is resolved." Brown rose to fame as a sweet-faced, 16-year-old with an engaging voice and amazing dance skills with the 2005 smash hit "Run It!" Since then, his popularity has mushroomed; he's been featured in movies such as dance flick "Stomp the Yard," had top-selling tours and a string of hits, including "Forever" and "No Air" with Jordin Sparks, for which he was nominated for a Grammy on Sunday.

SUDOKU

Difficulty: 2 (of 5)

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9	1	2	4	8	6	3	7	5
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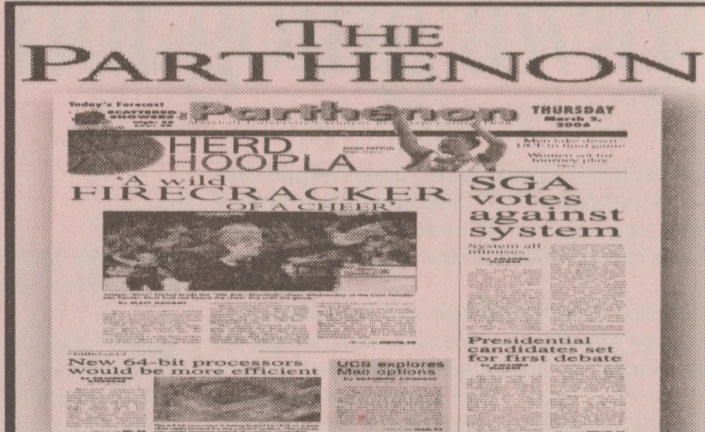
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Brazil — "Day of the Enamored" is celebrated on June 12, rather than in February.

China — Young girls demonstrate domestic arts around this holiday to show they are mature enough for a mate.

Denmark — Males send a valentine known as a "Joking Letter," which he signs with dots, one dot for each letter in his name. If the girl who receives it can guess the name of the sender, then she is rewarded with an Easter egg later.

France — If men seemed to be disappointed with their valentines, they may desert them. A bonfire is lit later and women can burn pictures of ungrateful valentines and verbally abuse them out loud. This tradition was eventually banned because of the nastiness and outright rudeness.

Germany — Marriage or baptismal certificates where once considered to be valentines.

Guatemala — Valentine's Day is known as "Día del Amor y la Amistad," which actually translates into "Day of Love and Friendship."

India — Only college students are allowed to celebrate Valentine's Day. However, it is not an actual holiday.

Saudi Arabia — In 2008, a ban was placed on all Valentine's Day items by religious police because the day is considered an un-Islamic holiday. A black market for roses and wrapping paper was created because of this ban.

Scotland — An equal number of single men and women gather together. Each person's name is written down and placed in a hat, one hat for women and one for men. The women draw from the men's hat and vice versa, and if the two names do not match, the men accept the female who has drawn his name. They exchange gifts, dance and the end of the night usually includes marriages to take place. Another custom is that the first young woman or man came across on the street will be valentines.

South Korea — Their version of Valentine's Day is celebrated twice. Women give chocolate to men on February 14 and men give women candy other than chocolate on March 14. South Korea also celebrates a holiday on April 14 called "Black Day," which is an informal tradition for single people.

Spain — Valentine's Day is much like in the United States, where it is routine for courting couples to exchange gifts and for husbands to send their wives bunches of roses.

Sweden — Their version of Valentine's Day, Alla hjärtans dag, translates into "All Hearts Day" and was launched sometime in the 1960s by the flower industry and because of the influence American culture had on them.

Venezuela — In 2009, President Hugo Chavez suspended their version of the holiday, "San Valentin," because it could distract voters from the referendum that was celebrated February 15, and instated a "Week of Love," beginning on February 16, the day after the referendum.

Day of love dates back thousands of years

By Shannon Miller
THE PARTHENON

Valentine's Day is just around the corner, but its mysterious Roman and Catholic origins date back to thousands of years ago.

Rev. Monsignor Lawrence Luciana, pastor of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Huntington, said that there has been more than one St. Valentine, and no one is certain which St. Valentine was honored on this day.

The man for whom Valentine's Day is most likely named was a Catholic priest who was killed in Rome by Claudius the Goth around A.D. 269.

"He was martyred. He was special because he died for what he believed in," Reverend Luciana said.

After St. Valentine's death, a feast was held each year in his honor. On his feast day, people would send notes or cards to one another, which began the tradition of sending love notes on Valentine's Day.

Rev. Luciana also said that the mating season for birds is thought to be in mid-February. In medieval times, this became a time to celebrate love, and it became custom for people to send notes to their loved ones in mid-February.

Dr. Eric Chrol, classics professor at Marshall, said that Cupid has been associated with love since ancient Roman times. He said that Cupid is the child of Venus, the goddess of love and sex. He was depicted as a young boy with a bow and arrow, both with and without wings.

"The image of him just became popular, kind of like how angels are popular. He just became a popular artistic image," Chrol said.

When people fell in love, they thought that Cupid was to blame, and he became a metaphor for falling in love, Chrol said.

"Falling in love was thought of as a very dangerous thing, because it makes you do dumb things sometimes," Chrol said.

According to americancatholic.org, Valentine's Day actually began as an ancient Roman festival celebrated each year on February 15, known as Lupercalia, which was dedicated to the Roman god Lupercus.

On this day, the names of young women would be put into a lottery. Each

young man would draw a name and keep that woman as a sexual partner for a year.

The festival of Lupercalia continued for 800 years, but Pope Gelasius I changed the tradition of young men selecting from the lottery to both young men and women drawing the names of saints which they were to imitate for a year.

St. Valentine's Day was dropped from the Roman calendar of Catholic feasts in 1969 due to its confusing origin, but it is still widely celebrated.

Many Marshall students plan to celebrate Valentine's Day with friends and loved ones.

Hannah Langlet, freshman social work major from Charlottesville, Va., said that she plans to celebrate by hanging out with friends and going out for dinner.

Another Marshall student, Sean Webb, sophomore music education major from South Point, Ohio, said that he plans to give some gifts on Valentine's Day.

"I plan on giving something to my friend I'm interested in, like maybe a flower and

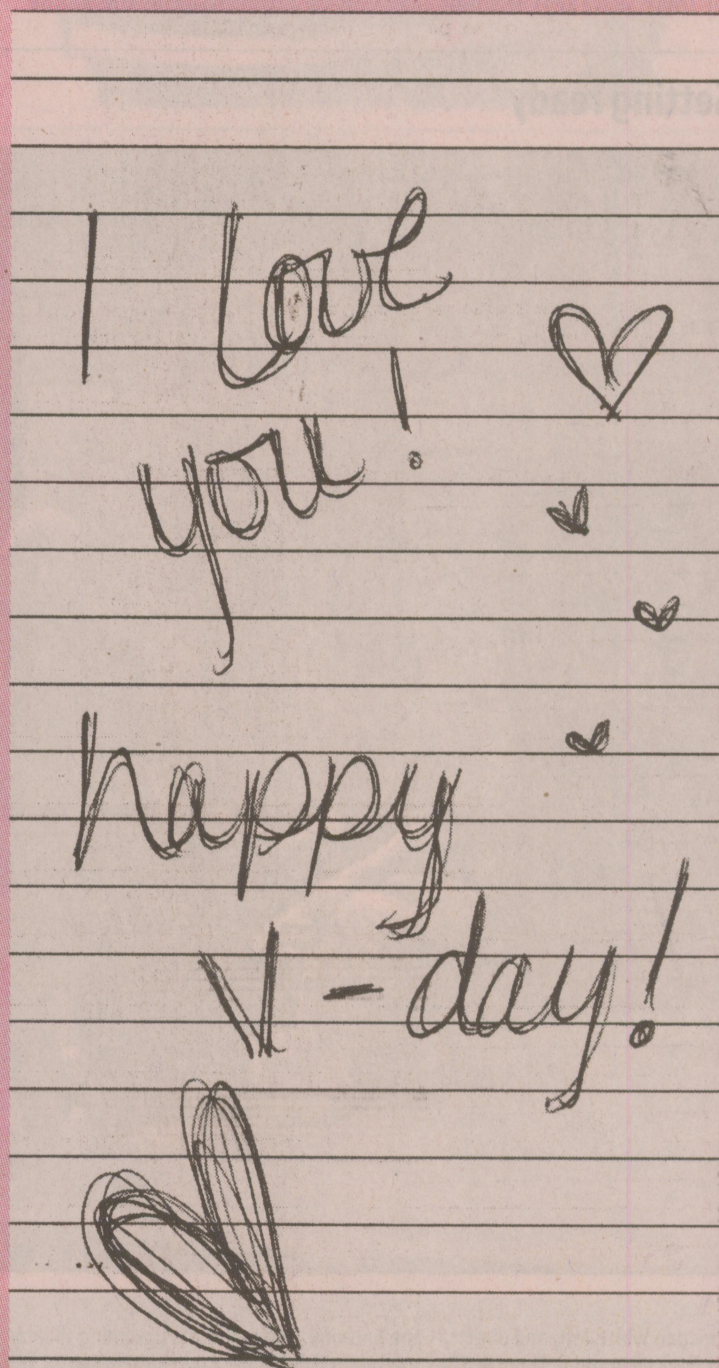


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY KAYLA QUEEN | THE PARTHENON

a card or something. We went on a date in September, but I don't want to freak her out," Webb said.

Shannon Miller can be contacted at miller535@marshall.edu.

Ideas • • • • • Valentine's Day

You either love it or hate it. Get excited for all the flowers and chocolate or despise every heart-shaped box and in-love couple you see. Whatever your stance for Valentine's Day, there are relaxing and romantic ways to spend it.

For the Couple:

There are countless ways to show your love and affection for one another on this holiday.

From my perspective, I don't think a girl really cares what she gets for Valentine's Day.

It can be something as extravagant as a weekend trip to a secluded spa or a homemade card created from red construction paper. We just want to be loved.

El Haij Salon and Spa, located at 1119 20th Street, has a variety of Valentine packages to help you and your honey relax that include everything from manicures to massages to a bubble filled jacuzzi.

A romantic restaurant is always nice, but what's even more romantic is having dinner cooked especially for you. Find an easy recipe from food-network.com or your mom's cookbook and cook your lover a candlelit dinner at home.

However, if you can't cook to save your life, there are plenty of restaurants close by, such as Rocco's Ristorante in Ceredo, W.Va., Blackhawk Grill in Barboursville, W.Va. or Lola's in

Charleston, W.Va.

It doesn't really matter what you do on Valentine's Day. All a person really wants is to be with the one he or she loves.

For the Single:

Just like El Haij has Valentine packages for couples, they also have treatments that can make you feel great and look fabulous.

Marquee Cinemas at Pullman Square is always open, so go to the movies, or catch a game with your buddies.

Get together with a bunch of your other single friends and have a night out on the town.

Go catch a local band or go dancing at a club. It is always fun to be surrounded with friends and music. Or, if you're not into clubs, make dinner for your closest friends or family.

Also, it is always fun to give your friends valentines. Go to Wal-Mart and get a box of those children's valentines with princesses or super heroes on them and pass them out to your friends just for fun. It will surely put a smile on their faces.

No matter what you're doing for this day, have fun doing it and surround yourself with the people you love.

Kayla Queen can be contacted by email at queen53@marshall.edu.

Valentine Poetry

BY EMILY AYRES

THE PARTHENON

When I think of you,
I want to linger on the outlines
of your pursed lips, always ready to be kissed
lying next to you, your arms cradled around me
the lines of your smile making a perfect half circle
and I'm just noticing your bright eyes.
But these features all seem cliché
and I want to give you more
I want to think of something
nobody else has
so with just the effort
you can see how much you mean to me.
You are the light triangle on somebody's cheek
in a portrait photo,
the sheen of their skin that makes them glow
you are my rose, I don't need another,
I put my nose to your shoulder and breathe in
and the scent of your cologne swallows me whole.
You hold me up, my head sunk in your chest now
my knees bent as you gingerly grasp my arms
keeping me afloat.
Your encouragement,
being a faithful friend
holds my head up when I'm blue
and reminds me of hope.
Your kind words put strength into me
and I stand before the world
knowing you think of me highly.
I think of you
and know I want to try
with you.
I want to put in all my energy
being patient, hungering to learn more about you.
This is the difference,
even when there is a bad day
and I want to cry
and I do,
I look up in the middle of my tears
and still want to make you smile,
and I hope I do with this poem.

Emily Ayres can be contacted by email at ayres@marshall.edu.