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# IHE PARTHENIC

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MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2009

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## Marshall can't hold on against Southern Miss

Rash of turnovers down stretch ends Herd's run in semifinals of C-USA tournament

BY ANDREW RAMSPACHER

NEW ORLEANS—It wasn't a coincidence that the most common word used in the press conference following No. 7 Marshall's Conference USA 'semifinal game versus No. 3 Southern Miss on Saturday was "press."

Press was the defense Southern Miss used. Press was what Marshall couldn't figure out. Press was what ended the Thundering Herd's season.

The Golden Eagles pressed and trapped their way into forcing 15 Marshall turnovers in the game's final 9:35 to turn an 11-point deficit into a 64-56 win at Fogelman Arena on Saturday.

Their press really changed the game," Marshall head coach Royce Chadwick said. "We couldn't get the ball in bounds. We tried two different press offenses and just couldn't make it happen."

An Alaya Mitchell layup with 10:20 remaining in the game finished off a 9-0 Herd run which had Marshall out to a 50-39 lead. A mere minute and a half later, Tynikki Crook was stripped by Southern Miss' Andrea Barber, which Candace Rucker turned into two Golden Eagle points on the other end. On the Herd's next possession, Alyssa Hammond threw away an inbounds pass and the turnover barrage was on.

"Once we turned the ball over a couple times, we began to play a little tighter instead of free wheeling like we had been," Chadwick said. "I thought one turnover lead to another lead to another. We changed our press offense. We changed some press

By the time Rucker swiped Tania Walters of the basketball with 37 seconds remaining for the Herd's 24th and final turnover of the night, it became evident that Southern Miss' defense was just too daunting

Marshall (17-15) had no answers. The Golden Eagles scored 24 points off those

"I told them at halftime, 'We're going to win this ballgame by pressing," Golden Eagles head coach Joye Lee-McNelis said of her locker room speech at the break when Marshall had a 32-26 advantage. "'And we got to dig down deep and lay our guts on the line to be able to win this ballgame. And if we want to win it, we have to press.' And at the 11-minute mark, they turned the corner."

Southern Miss (20-11) ended the game on a 25-6 run.

It was Marshall's third game in as many days, but Chadwick said physical fatigue

didn't play a big factor in the outcome. The Herd simply grew tired between the ears near the end of the game.

SEE C-USA | PAGE 3



FILE PHOTO BY CARRIE KIRK

Senior guard Casey Baker attempts to drive past Southern Miss guard Andrea Barber during a Feb. 15 contest at the Cam Henderson Center.

## Home sweet home

## First weekend at Dot Hicks starts with bang

BY JONAS SWECKER THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University women's softball team went 4-1 this weekend as it hosted the Marshall Softball Tournament, welcoming Canisius, Buffalo and Dela-

ware to perfect softball weather at Dot Hicks Field. In the Herd's tournament finale Sunday against Delaware, freshman Alianna Telles lit up the scoreboard early, leading off the bottom of the first inning with a deep shot over the left field wall. The home run was Telles' second of the tournament after her



KYLE HOBSTETTER | THE PARTHENON

Senior pitcher Autumn Mitchell winds and delivers during her Sunday start against Delaware.

grand slam against Canisius on Friday.

"I was just hoping that I could get the right pitches and leadoff like I'm supposed to and get things started," Telles said

After Telles' leadoff home run, senior Joscelyn Bitner was hit in the head by a pitch and freshman Melissa Loesing would be called on to pinch run. After making it to third on a stolen base and a passed ball, Loesing scored on a sacrifice fly by junior Caitlyn Jackson.

In the fourth inning Delaware threatened to score after three straight singles loaded the bases, but the Herd managed to get out of the inning with no runs

Herd starting pitcher Autumn Mitchell jammed Kim Ovittore, causing the infield fly rule for the first out of the frame, and got the Michelle Kenney to ground to third base. Kelly Nielson stepped on the bag for the force out and threw to first to complete the double play to end the threat.

In the bottom of the fourth inning, Marshall extended its lead to three as senior Rachel Schmidt got things going with a double to center field. Nielson doubled to center field and pick up the RBI.

Mitchell would pick up the win after cruising through six innings and allowing four hits, no runs and picking up five strikeouts. Mitchell also picked up a win Friday against Buffalo, allowing two hits in four innings.

"I knew what worked best for me and they were free swingers and I knew as long as I kept it off the plate and my ball was moving well that I would be successful," Mitchell said. "Going into conference next weekend, it just gives us all great momentum to come out strong and just dominate."

SEE HOME | PAGE 3



KYLE HOBSTETTER I THE PARTHENON

Freshman shortstop Alianna Telles takes a hard cut during Sunday's contest against Delaware. Telles had an impressive home debut with a grand slam Friday versus Canisius during the Marshall Softball Tournament and a solo blast Sunday.

## Tussle ensues over GOP leadership, party's future path

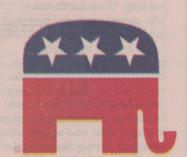
BY BETH FOUHY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK-Rush Limbaugh has been Topic A in the political world, with Republicans debating his influence on their party and Democrats trying to elevate the conservative radio host to the GOP's de facto spokesman. The skirmish has cast a bright

light on the GOP and its search for leadership in the Barack Obama era. But the personalitydriven diversion has deflected attention from the deeper problems the party faces.

Simply put, the public isn't buying what Republicans are selling right now.

An NBC/Wall Street Journal poll this past week put Republican popularity at near historic lows. Just 26 percent in the survey viewed the party positively, compared with 68 percent for President Barack Obama, despite the economic crisis and sharp GOP criticism of his \$3.8 trillion budget plan.



Republicans trailed by more than a 30-point margin on the question of which party is best positioned to end the recession.

Congressional Republicans did show remarkable near-unanimity in opposing Obama's \$787 billion stimulus plan. Yet party leaders have proved less successful in articulating a competing message on the economy. Their call for smaller government and further tax cuts has rung hollow with the public, a majority of whom believe sizable federal intervention is necessary to improve the country's bleak financial condition.

Electorally, the GOP faces an environment that is uncertain at best and challenging at worst.

Republicans are optimistic about their chances this fall in the governor's races in Virginia and New Jersey, where Democrats now are in office. But the situation is more complicated in 2010, when the GOP is defending four open Senate seats, including two in powerhouses Florida and Ohio. Both are important presidential states that swung to Obama in 2008.

Republicans also may have to contend with a costly Senate primary in Pennsylvania between incumbent Arlen Specter and conservative former Rep. Pat Toomey. In addition, the National Republican Senatorial Committee has courted potential candidates in Kentucky, fearing that incumbent Jim Bunning may be in danger.

The party's up and coming leaders have stumbled a bit as well.

Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal, a potential presidential contender in 2012, was widely panned after his nationally televised response

to Obama's address to Congress last month.

Jindal and other Southern governors, including South Carolina's Mark Sanford and Mississippi's Haley Barbour, have drawn flack for refusing money from Obama's economic stimulus plan to help expand unemployment benefits, even though their states have some of the highest unemployment rates in the country.

And Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, the 2008 GOP vice presidential nominee, has avoided the spotlight amid complaints in her state that she had been too focused on developing her national profile.

Democrats have their share of political headaches, most notably Illinois Sen. Roland Burris. He has refused to step down after acknowledging he had tried to raise money for the state's former governor, Rod Blagojevich, who appointed Burris to the seat before being impeached and removed from office.

In New York, Kirsten Gillibrand, recently appointed to the Senate seat left vacant when Hillary Rodham Clinton was named secretary of state, may face a serious primary challenge in 2010.

Still, little on the Democratic side compares with the Republican Party's challenges

'We are in a situation that is not enviable," longtime New Hampshire GOP activist Tom Rath said. "We don't control the White House, either house in Congress, and we don't have a huge number of governors. And we had eight vears where President Bush set the tone for the party."

Luckily for the GOP, many of those problems were obscured this past week by the Rush Limbaugh flap.

To be sure, lots of Republicans are furious their party got bogged down in a fight over Limbaugh, a bombastic bomb thrower who repeatedly has declared he hopes Obama's economic policies will fail.

Party leaders are reluctant to criticize a radio host who com-

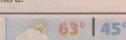
mands an audience of 13 million largely Republican listeners per week. But Limbaugh is a polarizing figure who has limited appeal beyond the party's most conservative base.

Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich sharply criticized White House chief of staff Rahm Emanuel, who kicked off the anti-Limbaugh strategy last weekend by calling Limbaugh "the voice and intellectual force and energy" driving the GOP.

"As long as Rahm Emanuel is in the White House, it's a Nixon White House," Gingrich said in an interview. Gingrich said the effort to tie Republicans to Limbaugh was "a totally cynical and divisive ploy that undermines what Obama has said about being bipartisan."

Other leading Democrats were part of the chorus as well. Former Obama campaign manager David Plouffe wrote a newspaper column comparing Limbaugh to "fingernails on a blackboard."

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MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2009

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#### THE FIRST AMENDMENT

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#### **EDITORIAL**

Editorial Board of Minnesota Daily, U. Minnesota

## Nationalized loans may provide opportunities

President Barack Obama is poised to kill two birds with one stone in nationalizing the quasi-private student loan industry. The move would inject another shot of capital into clogged credit markets already beginning to limit students' lending, and, according to Education Secretary Arne Duncan, save taxpayers \$4 billion a year by eliminating subsidies and loan-default safeguards currently guaranteed to private student lenders.

The Department of Education is buying a hefty responsibility as it allocates and spends \$84 billion to buy private student loan accounts. Loans are tricky business, with the failures of unbridled private subprime lending still freshly in mind, a radical swing in favor of public ownership of student debt may ultimately fail to bring the cost-effectiveness proponents found the policy upon. If the newly expanded direct Federal lending is any improvement, loans will become more readily-available and more affordable. Low-interest loans with high rates of default don't easily translate into a fiscally self-sustaining model.

The president recently called on every American to pledge one more year of education beyond high school, a lofty goal Washington appears dedicated to realize. The call implies an era of easy money for students and broader demand for education that may ultimately drive tuitions higher. Assuming students spend the money loaned to them ostensibly for education in a prudent manner, the public education program will whir with efficiency. Such developments are ideal at best: college students, like America at-large, spend with an 'easy-come easy-go' mentality. Most likely under these conditions, President Obama's student loan overhaul means the fiscal future of higher education will be largely a specter of the recent past: willingness to accept increased student indebtedness and higher tuition rates for increased accessibility.

#### 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

## **Online** poll

timeliness, newsworthiness or space.

## Do you believe in miracles?

A) Yes

B) No

C) Not sure

Vote online at www.marshallparthenon.com

## **Previous poll**

Which spring team's games will you be attending?

Baseball/Softball..55% Tennis......6%

More than one.....2%

None.....33%

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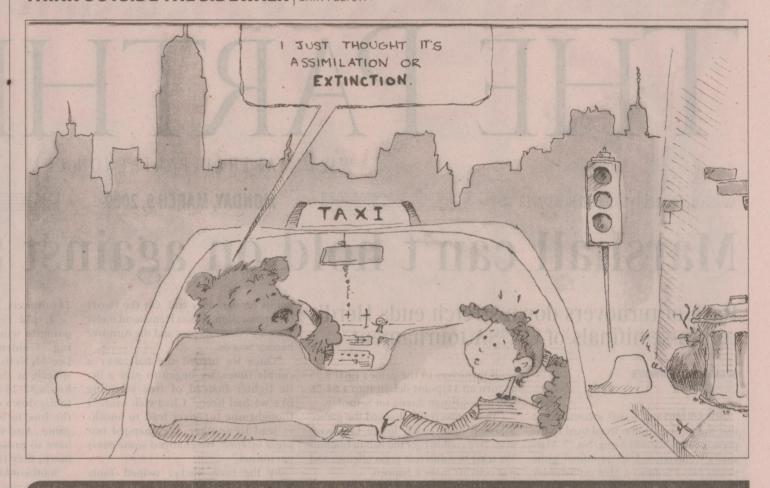
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#### THINK OUTSIDE THE SIDEWALK | ERIN FELTON



PARSON'S PULPIT | Joshua R. Parsons

## Belief in miracles is irrational

human beings

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No rational person can believe in miracles, to put it simply.

A miracle is by definition a given act or revelation of a supernatural being that defies and denies the natural order and the cosmological laws.

Miracles mock nature and disregard reality. The belief in them tears at the fabric of intelligence.

Thomas Paine greatly understood and boldly states in his 1793 work, "Age of Reason: Part I," that something revealed to one individual is a "revelation to the first person only, and hearsay to every other, and consequently they are not obliged to believe it.

In the paragraph following, Paine adds, "(A)nd though he (the individual to which the revelation was revealed) may find himself obliged to believe it, it cannot be incumbent on me to believe it in the same manner; for it was not a revelation made to me, and I have only his word for it that it was made to him."

One must notice that lying is a part of the human condition; all



Joshua R. **Parsons** 

man nature itself?

rationally side on the abroga-COLUMNIST tion of nature's laws in the light thereof of hu-

One simply cannot. Paine illustrates, "When Moses told the children of Israel that he received the two tablets of the commandments from the hands of God, they were not obliged to believe

him, because they had no other authority for it than his telling them so; and I have no other authority for it than some historian telling me so." To consider Christianity, a

religion with its unmitigated

doctrine entirely based on the

notion that the miracles of Jesus Christ denoted in the Gospels are nonetheless true, proving that Christ was the son of God and worthy of worship. A textual problem arises, since every one recognizes the Gospels were penned no less than a generation after Christ's supposed crucifixion.

Sam Harris, neuroscientist and author, explains, "The truth is, even if we had multiple contemporaneous eyewitness accounts of the miracles of Jesus it still would not provide sufficient basis to believe that these events actually occurred. One might ask, Why not?

Harris continues, "Well, the problem is, that first-hand reports of miracles are quite common even in the 21st-century." He says more about the hundreds of Western educated men and women who think "their favorite Hindu or Buddhist guru has magic powers. The powers ascribed to these gurus are every bit as outlandish as those ascribed to Jesus."

The foundational Christian claims that miracles of the sort, as by the present Hindu swami Sathya Sai Baba, Harris explains, "become especially compelling when you set them in the pre-scientific religious context of the first century Roman Empire decades after their supposed occurrence.

With at least a million eyewitnesses to certain miracles of Sai Baba, this man still does not, as Harris states, "even merit an hour on the Discovery Channel."

Man's two countering dispositions as a creature are to question and to accept. These two temperaments led man to battle himself socially and personally. However, only through questioning, not by accepting, did he come to a better understanding of his place in nature.

He began to place miracles in the same drawer as commonplace parlor tricks. He began to simply understand.

Joshua R. Parsons can be contacted at Parsons109@marshall.edu.

## THE UNREPENTANT CONSERVATIVE | Jennifer Chapman

## Gays asking for special treatment, not equal rights

A country that has fought for so long and lost countless lives in the name of freedom is fighting again. But this time, freedom for many will be lost.

That country is America, and those freedoms are the very ones listed in the First Amendment of the Constitution. The fighters: gay and lesbian supporters.

The biggest argument coming from this ever-growing group is that homosexuals do not receive the same rights as heterosexuals. But in reality, they do. A man who professes to be gay has the same right as a straight man: to marry a woman.

What homosexuals and their advocates are really fighting for are special rights. They lobby for the particular privilege to marry the same sex — an entitlement no person has. It isn't equal rights these people want — it's an exclusive allowance they're searching for. So much for equality.

But gay marriage is just the introduction to the fight. The quest for the exceptional right to unnaturally marry has spawned an entirely new argument: discrimination.

The Matthew Shepherd Act, which is to be reintroduced this month in the U.S House of Repre-

sentatives and in April to the Senate, is a hate-crime legislation proposed to strengthen the protection of homosexual discrimination

 not only regarding employment or educational discrimination. but also to prohibit the so-called freedom Americans have to voice their opinions of gays.

What is downright frightening about this legislation is, should it pass, it could very likely prosecute anti-gay groups, including churches and Bible-believing institutions. Such a law could prohibit extra-curricular groups like Fellowship of Christian Athletes from meeting in high schools and colleges. Equality? Absolutely not.

The most disgusting and upsetting facet of this legislation is that straight Americans will no longer have the right to free speech if it involves any negative connotations concerning homosexuals. In fact, it will be against the law and subject to prosecution.

What happened to the land of the free and the home of the brave? This so-called greatest country in the world is turning itself into the land of the free-aslong-as-you-are-tolerant-of-thethings-we-choose and the home of the cry babies.

This "hate-crime" law wouldn't be so ridiculous if all people received the same protection against discrimination. The law protects blacks, Hispanics, disabled persons, gays and even illegal immigrants. But what about white people? What about Christians? When will someone fight for that portion of the population?

The argument is that the typical white Protestant is the citizen who has been protected for far too long. Those are the ones who owned slaves and provoked injustice in this country. But is it fair to neglect dis-

crimination protection from a child in today's generation that surely had no hand in what happened hundreds of years before? Is it fair to allow more protection to a male child who would rather wear frilly dresses than a regular run-of-the-mill white kid? It's easy to say "absolutely not," but it happens every day, and with this Matthew Shepherd legislation, it will be ever more prevalent.

In short, what is happening to America is the downfall of equality and the rise of privilege. Not privilege for everyone, but for those who consider themselves oppressed. The so-called minorities are searching for an exclusive place in society, and the government is handing it over.

People will argue until breathless that this is simply not the case. But I beg to differ.

A few years back, I worked at a local restaurant where most of the servers personalized their aprons with badges and buttons stating clever witticisms. I pinned on a blue badge that read, "Straight Pride." A co-worker of mine said it offended her and took the issue to management, who subsequently made me remove my button from my apron.

Had my button said "Gay Pride," my manager would not have had the liberty to require the removal from my apron that would have been discrimination. Should he have asked me anyway, I could have filed a lawsuit and won his yearly salary.

When will equality truly be our incentive? When will "hate speech" be deemed either free speech or discrimination that does not discriminate?

The way this country is heading, it looks like the future is not any brighter.

Jennifer Chapman can be contacted at chapman92@marshall.edu.

## THE PARTHENON | Reader information

#### About us

The Parthenon, Marshall University's student newspaper, is published by students Mondays 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**

"I feel vindicated after eight years of struggle, and I know it's going to energize my research team. ... Science works best and patients are served best by having all the tools at our disposal." — Dr. George Daley of the Harvard Stem Cell Institute and Children's Hospital of Boston, a leading stem cell researcher. President Barack Obama plans to reverse limits imposed by President George W. Bush on using federal money for research with embryonic stem cells.

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# Relay For Life kicks off search for new members

MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2009

THE PARTHENON

It's finally starting to get warm daylight savings has passed and colleges and universities across the nation are counting down to the Relay For Life event.

Marshall is having a Kickoff for Relay For Life today3 at 9 p.m. in the multipurpose room downstairs in the Student Center. There are 61 participants and 14 teams that have signed up so far and Relay For Life members are hoping to recruit more at the Kickoff. The goal is 200 members, said Angela Taylor a Relay For Life Member

Relay for Life is held once a year in various communities around the nation to raise money for the American Cancer Society. It is an all night event where team participants take turns walking a track or path to complete laps. The walk celebrates people who have survived the disease and inspires other to fight it and it is also a time for people to remember loved ones lost. A Survivor's Lap, survivor recognition and Luminaria Ceremony take place at every event. There is also food, games, and entertainment according to a news release.

Fundraising starts every year in August. So far, Marshall has made \$4,300 compared to West Virginia University with \$12,962, Shepherd University \$15,605, Virginia Tech \$126,692, and Concord University \$667 as of March 8 according to each school's Relay For Life Web site.

The goal is to raise \$13,000 this year, said Taylor, sophomore criminal justice major from Williamstown, W.Va.

The plan for the Kickoff is to create enthusiasm for Relay For Life, show various promotional videos to give information on what members actually do, have more teams register and to hopefully have a survivor speak, Taylor said.

A Kickoff is usually held once a semester. In Fall 2008, only four to five people came in addition to people who were members already, Taylor said.

There is a major problem with getting students and faculty involved with our organization," she said.

As a member, one can spread awareness about cancer and raise funds to meet needs of cancer patients, like wigs or gas cards to get to and from chemotherapy, and cancer researchers, Taylor said.

The American Cancer Society provides members' fundraiser kits, which include ideas on how to start collecting donations, and participants of Relay For Life can donate so much money for how many laps they complete, Taylor said.

Taylor joined the organization last year because her mom was diagnosed with lung cancer June 2007, but is now cancer free, she said.

"I knew the hardships mom went through, so I could help other people and make them aware," Taylor said.

She said a lot of people should get involved because almost everybody is connected to cancer some how, whether it be through family, friends, fellow students, or coworkers. One in Three people will be diagnosed with cancer and one in four will die from it, Taylor said.

Members have the chance to reach out to other students who may have the disease, get involved in the community, fight for something worth fighting for, make friends and have fun in the process, in the relay and in general, Taylor said.

Emily Ayres can be contacted at Ayres@Marshall.edu



KYLE HOBSTETTER | THE PARTHENON

Rachel Schmidt gets ready to slide in for a double, as she helped the Herd in a 3-1 win against Delaware on Sunday.

## C-USA

"I don't think there was any kid out there that was exhausted from the sweat and perspiration and the physical nature of the game," Chadwick said. "I think it's a mental thing that once it gets on you, it's really, really hard to shake. And you start thinking, 'I played three games, I'm tired.' And you can't think that way when you're in a tournament situation like this."

tournament-self, scoring a team-points and six rebounds. high 15 points and grabbing 11 rebounds, and being named to the all tournament team. It was her fifth double-double in six C-USA tournament games.

Unfortunately for the Herd, once the Golden Eagles turned up their pressing intensity Crook became

a non-factor. Marshall couldn't get past half-court, let alone down to

"After like two turnovers, it really just brought us down," senior guard Casey Baker said of the team's morale during Southern Miss' press-filled rally. "And it just continued to just overlap. It was like we never picked ourselves up to let us know that we can get it in bounds.

"We just imploded." Baker finished the last game Crook was her traditional of her Marshall career with three

> Rucker led four Southern Miss players in double figures with 15 points, 13 of which came in the game's last nine minutes.

She kicked on an extra gear that the Herd couldn't match down the

"Rucker's going to the rim and

she still got to the rim," Chadwick said. "That's a mark of a very good player when you can still do what

Rucker's Golden Eagles lost the championship game Sunday afternoon to the UCF Knights 65-54 in overtime.

we know you're going to do and get

For the second consecutive season, Marshall was in the stands watching the final just a day removed form letting a big lead slip away in the semifinal. SMU ended the Herd's season last year after coming back from 15 down to win by nine.

"I feel bad for our kids because I thought they played so hard," Chadwick said. "We needed a break and couldn't find one."

Andrew Ramspacher can be contacted at ramspacher@marshall.edu.

## HOME

Overall, the Herd's offense and pitching were solid during the course of the weekend. Friday's game against Canisius saw three Herd players hit home runs including Telles, freshman Rebecca Gamby and senior Rachel Sofie.

Strong pitching came all weekend as well. Junior Katie. Murphree picked up the win over Canisius on Friday after pitching all five innings, allowing just one hit and recording six strikeouts.

Jackson picked up the win in the Herd's second game against the Griffins on Saturday, going all seven innings, allowing two hits and striking out eight. Jackson-also was 3-for-3 in Saturday's 5-2 loss to Buffalo.

Marshall head softball coach Shonda Stanton said she is pleased with the way the team played throughout the tournament and is glad to be home.

Through the course of the weekend our pitching has done what they needed to do," Stanton said. "I would like to see us be smarter ballplayers, and I cord on the season and will think we can do that. There are a lot of things that we can continue to get better at coming into our C-USA schedule.

"It's so refreshing and incredible to be at home. We have a great facility and our fans have also been great this weekend. We're so appreciative of what the administration has done and our players are excited to be home for such a long home-

Stanton said Telles' ability to leadoff along with the power she has shown makes her feel very good about Telles' future at Marshall.

"She's confident that she's going to break Amanda Williams, my assistant coach's, doubles record, but she's going to have to keep it in the park to do that," Stanton said as she laughed. "She's an exciting ballplayer. She's definitely an offensive threat and has great potential as far as power goes. It's all about good pitch selection and getting the pitches in her zone, and when she does that great things happen."

Marshall, after going 4-1 this Jonas Swecker can be contacted at weekend, now has an 11-7 re- swecker@marshall.edu.

prepare for conference play. The Herd's conference opener is against UTEP with a doubleheader March 14 and a third game March 15.

"UTEP is swinging it right now; they're on fire," Stanton said. "It's going to be a great matchup. We're excited about the weekend. Its going to be the team that doesn't give up the freebees and the team that makes the least amount of defensive miscues is going to win the ball game."

"Hopefully the momentum will carry over into this coming weekend. It definitely gets us to start rolling and gets us to be more aggressive. It shows us that we can put up big numbers," Telles said. "Now we have the confidence to know what we can do and what we are capable of doing."

The Herd will play the final five games of its 13 game home-stretch against Cleveland State and conference opponent Southern Miss.

## W.Va. gives temporary tax relief on coal

BY P.J. DICKERSCHEID

**CHARLESTON** — Hundreds of West intention of mining the valuable acres of mineable land last year. coal underneath their feet can breathe temporary sighs of relief.

The state has rolled back 2009 tax assessments on some coal reserves to last year's levels after unsuspecting landowners suffered sticker shock in January, said state Tax Department consultant Jeffrey Kern.

The recent reclassification from unmineable to mineable would have added nearly 3.7 Virginia property owners with no million acres to the 4.9 million their reserves, Kern said "a lot of

More coal reserves in West Virginia were deemed mineable after the price of coal jumped from about \$20 a ton in the early 1990s to about \$50 a ton today, Kern said.

The assessed value of mineable land has doubled to about \$4 billion.

were intended to target coal companies and landowners that planned to make money off people who have no intention of ever mining their coal got swept up in that process."

While the reclassifications

"A tax bill of \$100 or \$200 an acre may be reasonable if you're a coal company, but if you're an individual property owner that can be quite a shock," Kern said.

## Marshall football player arrested

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HUNTINGTON - Marshall defensive back DeQuan Bembry has been charged with three misdemeanors following a residence hall incident.

Western Regional Jail records show the 19-year-old freshman was arrested early Saturday on charges of public intoxication, obstructing an officer and underage drinking. He was released from jail a few hours later.

Marshall coach Mark Snyder said he is reviewing the incident.

Bembry started 11 games last fall. He was third in team tackles with 80 and also had an interception.

It marked the second Marshall player arrested in a span of three days. Linebacker Corey hart was charged Thursday with possession of a controlled substance and obstructing

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## Herd baseball rallies past South Florida

TAMPA, Fla. — Marshall University scored four runs in the top of the ninth inning to rally past the University of South Florida 9-6 in Sunday morning's baseball series finale at Red McEwen Field

With the win, Marshall improves to 4-5 on the season while USF moves to 5-5 overall.

With the score set at 6-5 in favor of USF, senior shortstop Adam Yeager led off the Marshall ninth when he reached on a dropped third strike. He then proceeded to steal second and third and came full circle when senior left fielder Brandon Casamassima singled down the left field line. Nate Lape moved the runner over with a sacrifice bunt before Casamassima scored from second on an infield throwing error, giving Marshall a 7-6 lead. USF got the second out of frame on a foul fly ball, but another infield error gave the Herd runners on second and third with two outs. From there, Vitor Gomez scored on a passed ball

and Josh Valle scored on the third error of the inning for the Bulls.

Down 9-6 in the bottom of the ninth, Brandon Smith drew a one-out walk and moved to second a single through the left side by Chris Rey, but a 6-4-3 double play ended the game give Marshall the hard-fought victory. Austin Coan earned the vic-

tory and moves to 1-1 on the season. Coan pitched three innings of scoreless relief with a strikeout. Lape finished 2-for-4 with a

solo shot and two runs scored, Casamassima finished 2-for-5 with a run driven in, while Kevin Shackelford went 1-for-3 with three RBIs and a two-run homer.

Marshall returns to action Tuesday when it hosts Kent State in a non-conference midweek home tilt. First-pitch is slated for 3 p.m. at George T. Smailes Field at The Kennedy Center on Route 2 in Huntington. Admission is free.

MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2009

# Dartmouth **BYEMILY GOODELL**

An e-mail that referred to Dartmouth College President-elect Jim Yong Kim as a "Chinaman" and warned the campus to prepare for "Asianification" has sparked controversy on campus, less than three days after the announcement that the Harvard professor and global health leader would be inaugurated as the College's 17th president.

The e-mail, which was sent to approximately 1,000 students and alumni, was the Tuesday morning edition of the Generic Good Morning Message, a student written and edited tongue-in-cheek compilation of each day's news.

THE DARTMOUTH

College President James Wright released a statement on the matter late Wednesday night.

"The announcement of Dr. Jim Yong Kim's election as the 17th president has been received enthusiastically across the campus and by all members of the Dartmouth community," Wright said. "It is unfortunate that an offensive attempt at humor has distracted us and has caused hurt and embarrassment. This does not represent the mood that we share and it will not deter us from our plans warmly to welcome Dr. Kim and his family to this open and gracious community.'

The Tuesday morning e-mail led with a feature written by anonymous GGMM intern "Lozar Theofilactidis."

. "On July 1, yet another hard-working American's job will be taken by an immigrant willing to work in substandard conditions at near-subsistent wage, saving half his money and sending the rest home to his village in the form of traveler's checks," the message states, in part. "Unless 'Jim Yong Kim' means 'I love Freedom' in Chinese, I don't want anything to do with him. Dartmouth is America, not Panda Garden Rice Village Restaurant.'

The GGMM, which began in 1996, is currently edited by a group of six Dartmouth upperclassmen. Underclassmen interns contribute to the publication.

The author of the original e-mail apologized for "inappropriate" and "insensitive" comments in an e-mail to the GGMM listserv on Tuesday, saying that the comments were intended to be satirical. The GGMM staff also offered a follow-up apology, saying they regretted their lack of oversight

"We cannot stress enough the intention behind this message was not malicious," Courtney Davis 2009, a member of the GGMM staff, said in an email to the listserv. "The writer is full of regret; did not intend to offend anyone, and has committed to meeting with others, from diverse backgrounds, to learn as many lessons as possible from this experience. Although the GGMM is a listsery administered by six students and is not affiliated with the College in any way, we recognize the impact that this unfortunate incident has had on the community."

Many students were upset by the e-mail both because of its perceived offensiveness and because they believed it reflected badly on the College, Aimee Moon 2009, an intern with the Pan-Asian Council, said. Moon is a member of The Dartmouth staff.

"We went from a really excited, hopeful mood on Monday to having all the excitement get deflated by something that doesn't reflect the campus' reception of the President-elect," Moon said.

Students and administrators met on Tuesday and Wednesday nights to discuss the situation and the

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College President James Wright spoke with students Tuesday and is open to future meetings to discuss the situation, according to Sylvia Spears, director of the Office of Pluralism and Leadership and acting senior associate dean of the College

The nature of the speech in the e-mail does not warrant College disciplinary action, Spears said in an open campus meeting Wednesday evening, noting that Dartmouth does not have a speech code.

Ray Leung 2010, who attended the meeting, expressed frustration that some people on campus saw the e-mail as a joke.

"This is a very severe issue," he said. "This should not be taken lightly as 'borderline inappropriate." Spears said that the e-mail has provided a "teach-

able moment" for students. "I have been very impressed with students' ability to engage in very difficult conversations with poise

She added that Kim has responded to the e-mail

and respect for each other," she said.

with concern about its potential effect on campus. "He had a very reasoned response and has been in conversation with President [James] Wright," she said.

Students interviewed by The Dartmouth had overwhelmingly positive comments about Kim's appointment. College Democrats president David Imamura 2010 said he had been warned before he matriculated that the College was less diverse and more conservative than others, but that Kim's selection shows that Dartmouth values diversity.

"Choosing Dr. Kim really sends a message that Dartmouth leads the way in diversity and in making sure that everyone has the opportunity to make what they can of themselves," he said.

Students and faculty have praised Kim's appointment as Dartmouth's next president. Many said they hoped

Kim would bring a fresh perspective to the College. Student Body President Molly Bode 2009, who served as the student representative on the presidential search committee, said she could not be more

pleased with the choice. "He is as impressive, or even more impressive, in person as he is on paper," Bode said. "I have never met someone who is so inspirational."

Kim's appointment will "put Dartmouth on the map" in the global health world, biology department chair Tom Jack said.

'There's been a great surge of interest in global health, and Dartmouth hasn't had a lot to offer in that area," he said. "With the hiring [of Kim], that changes pretty dramatically. Students with an interest in global health will want to come to Dartmouth now — undergraduate students, graduate students and faculty. He'll be a magnet to attract faculty in that area."

Many students said they believed Kim's selection could help change the typical image of an Ivy League leader.

"I have never been more proud to be a Dartmouth student," Alex Maceda 2011 said. "It feels great to be an Asian-American at Dartmouth."

Kim's race should not be the sole focus of the community's excitement and expectations, said Nora Yasumura, acting assistant director of the Office of Pluralism and Leadership and adviser to Asian and Asian-American students.

"It really isn't because he is a person of color that he'll be a great president," she said. "Most important are the skills and insight he will bring to campus."





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Students and faculty members of Dartmouth College in Hanover, N.H., stand up for new college president Jim Yong Kim after an offensive e-mail was sent to more than 1,000 students and faculty.

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