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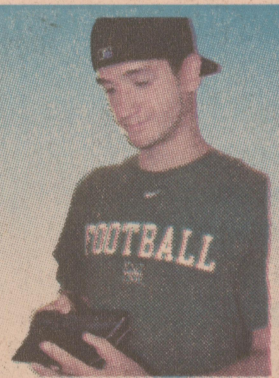


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Flat Broke
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INSIDE

THE PARTHENON

WWW.MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2009

VOL. 112 NO. 2 © 2009 THE PARTHENON

Talking Huntington Healthcare



NEERA DOSS | THE PARTHENON

Above: Members of the crowd at Joan C. Edwards Playhouse on the Marshall University campus show their displeasure with Congressman Rahall (D-W.Va.) during his town hall meeting on health care Monday | Below: Congressman Rahall defends himself to the audience during Monday's town hall meeting.

Congressman discusses health with community

BY NEERA DOSS
 THE PARTHENON

Congressman Nick J. Rahall, D-W.Va., came to the stage of the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse on Monday, and it wasn't just for a speech. Rahall held his first town hall meeting on Marshall's campus.

Rahall was pleased to see his constituents expressing interest in healthcare reform.

"I thank each of you for being here, and I appreciate you being here," he said. "Disagreement is what our democracy is about."

Almost 200 people from the area showed for the town hall meeting to express their opinions about the much-debated issue of healthcare reform. The audience included the elderly, students and even parents with babies.

Rahall said there has been a long-time healthcare reform problem in the United States, and said it should be changed by making it accessible, affordable and portable.

"I'm not being political," Rahall said. "We're all to blame for the mess we made. We didn't get into it overnight."

However, much of the audience that attended the town hall meeting opposed healthcare reform.

"We need to think," said Robert Grant, Huntington resident. "We need to pause. To have it ramrodded is not going to work."

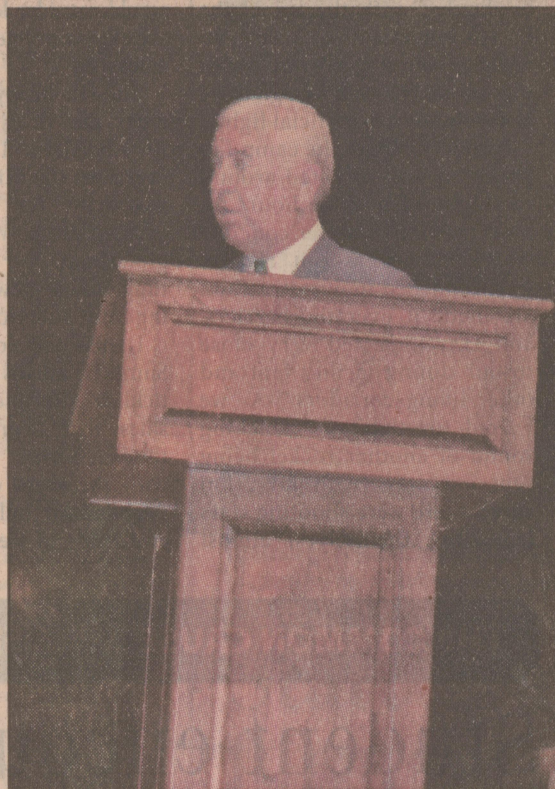
Nurse Practitioner Mona Baron also expressed her caution toward healthcare reform, and instead mentioned tort reform as another option.

Some residents even warned Rahall of the dangers of passing Health Care 3200, saying it would destroy America.

Healthcare reform wasn't the only issue that had the audience's attention. Attendees also brought up issues dealing with the war, economy, abortion, distribution of power and the November 2008 presidential election.

When questions weren't answered with a desired response, jeers from the crowd such as "Know your facts" could be heard. Not long after, another side would express their opinion by saying "Stop watching Fox News."

SEE HEALTHCARE | PAGE 7



New Alumni Center ready for fall open

BY KERISSA BENNETT
 THE PARTHENON

It's going to be a fantastic place to be. We are all very excited

Teddy Kluemper
 Vice President
 Marshall Alumni Association

As the opening for the new Erickson Alumni Center and Marshall University Foundation Hall nears, construction remains on schedule.

"We are still planning on an October or November completion date," said Rebecca McPhail-Samples, assistant vice president of development.

According to the Marshall University Alumni Association, construction for the \$9 million facility began in May 2008, and was originally expected to take about 16 months to complete.

Teddy Kluemper III, vice president of the Alumni Association, said minor construction delays were due changes in the design of the facility. McPhail-Samples said these changes and a rainy summer have not delayed the opening date.

In a public message Nancy Campbell, president of the Marshall University Alumni Association, some highlights of the new building include an alumni lounge, a large social hall and a "heritage room" to display the history of Marshall University and information about alumni.

"It's going to be a fantastic place to be," Kluemper said. "We are all very excited."

Structurally, precautions have been taken to avoid what Campbell called in her message "constant and expensive maintenance of an older building."

"There has been a lot of value engineering work put into this facility," McPhail-Samples said. "Long-term maintenance and sustainability have been considered."

McPhail-Samples also

said she hopes this will be a place current students will not only be able to visit once they have graduated from Marshall, but will also use the facility during their college career.

"We think the new facility will encourage inter-generational programming and will increase student engagement and networking with alumni," McPhail-Samples said. "It can be their point of contact."

Campbell said the Alumni Association wanted to "create a building that would become the 'home away from home' for our alumni, a first class facility that demonstrates the importance of alumni in the Marshall community."

McPhail-Samples also said the Marshall University Office of Development is actively continuing to fund-raise for the facility, and naming opportunities within the facility are still available for those interested.

The new Erickson Alumni Center and Marshall University Foundation Hall will replace the current Erickson Alumni Center located on Fifth Avenue.

In addition to hosting video conference rooms and socials halls, the center will be the home of Alumni Relations and the Foundation and Office of Development staffs.

Kerissa Bennett can be reached at bennett120@marshall.edu

Library waiting to be 'Discovered'

Drinko adds more common areas for students

BY HEATHER CRUM
 THE PARTHENON

Drinko Library is converting into the Marshall University Discovery Center to adjust to the upsurge of learning commons areas.

According to Jody Perry, director of information resources and customer Service, there will be many changes to the library including more hours, better technology and services, and better use of the space.

"We have taken many tours of universities who have done the learning commons areas," Perry said. "We are trying to duplicate those because they work more efficiently and effectively."

The most significant changes are on

the first floor. It is now open 24 hours a day, Sunday through Friday.

All resources and information a student needs can be found at the front desk. This is for convenience of all personnel, students and staff.

Most of the bookcases have been removed but the books are not gone. The legal collection can be found at the front desk at reserve or in the Morrow Library in Special Collections. The reference books are either duplicates or are available online.

The Corby Hall writing center will be available in the library starting Sept. 8.

More technology is being integrated with new big screen information monitors as well as new computer labs and an extended number of databases in Mar-

shall's online system.

The Information Technology Center where students can get personal help with computer problems has been moved to the first floor.

Also, the furniture is now mobile so students can adjust and move everything according to their desire of study, whether in groups or solo.

Perry is primarily focusing on the students in this remodel.

"We wanted to design the space around the students and not make the student conform to the space," Perry said. "This was the basis for our entire project."

There is no estimated cost for this

SEE DISCOVERY | PAGE 7



SHOLTEN SINGER | THE PARTHENON

Drinko Library has been renamed the Marshall University Discovery Center. The changes are in response to the new common areas shown above, which gives students more area for work and conversing



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THE FIRST AMENDMENT

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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

EDITORIAL

Healthcare should be everyone's right

Importance of issue lies in equality, not money

Congressman Nick J. Rahall visited Marshall University's campus Monday for a town hall meeting, and citizens of all shapes and sizes came to voice different opinions on America's healthcare reform.

It is no secret that healthcare is important to everyone because health is never guaranteed. Swine flu happens. Car accidents happen. Cancer happens. So why shouldn't every American, regardless of his or her political stance, annual income or social circumstances, have quality and affordable healthcare?

There are so many worries of the debt we are in and the money this healthcare reform will cost everyone, and rightly so. However, healthcare should never be pushed to the backburner with all of the other "maybe later when we have the money" issues. At the town hall meeting, Rahall tried to explain ways to make healthcare accessible and affordable and "The cost of doing nothing is even more," he said. We can't just ignore this problem.

Healthcare is something every person should have full access to without having to worry about whether or not this month's paycheck will cover the mortgage, the car payment, groceries and the medicines needed to stay alive. It should be a given. It should be equal. It should be a right.

Sen. Ted Kennedy fought most of his life for Americans to have high quality healthcare. He wanted everyone to think of it as a right and not a privilege, and it can only be hoped after his death that all he has worked toward may be continued.

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

Do you plan to go to the first home football game?

- A) Heck yes!
- B) Nah
- C) We have a football team?

Vote online at

www.marshallparthenon.com

Previous poll

What do you love most about summer?

No school 52%
Beaches, man, beautiful beaches..... 40%
The Parthenon! 8%

EDITORIAL CARTOON | ROB ROGERS | PITTSBURGH-POST GAZETTE — DIST. BY UFC, INC.



GUEST COLUMN | SARA YOKE

Soldier finds comfort in memories from home

Editor's Note
Specialist Sara Yoke is serving a one-year tour in Afghanistan as a member of the W.Va. Army National Guard based in Charleston. She is a public affairs writer for her unit and a junior majoring in public relations at Marshall University.



SPC SARA YOKE
COLUMNIST

HERAT, AFGHANISTAN — At 3 a.m., in Afghanistan, the stars are so bright that, with the aid of the moon's illumination, you can navigate your way between buildings (or tents), even though there is absolutely no artificial light.

Two weeks ago, the camp I'm living on was rocketed around midnight. For three hours we bunkered down under concrete and sandbags as ten rockets were launched in our direction. Six made it over the barriers, and two impacted very close to our dining facility tent and other living corridors. As we waited for that gut clenching sound of another rocket being sent our way (with love, I'm sure), there were shooting stars launching themselves, almost

mimicking us silly humans below.

I've had to make compromises in my own mind over the past two months I've had to ask myself, 'on what conditions are you going to be happy?' I've had to replace all the luxuries of home with what many would consider less: less comfortable, less convenient, less clean, less enjoyable.

But I'm happy to walk under a sky that hosts a candy bar in its barriers. I don't think I've ever seen the Milky Way in such a capacity. The "chemical valley" of Charleston, W.Va., the area I grew up in, only boasts an unsettling orange glow at night, resulting from pollution and haze.

I miss the color green here. Summer means barefoot walks ticklish grass and expansive blue skies that angrily evolve into thunderstorms, lacing the air with the scent of rain. Herat, Afghanistan only offers expansive fields of freshly laid gravel,

"...The absence of my family and friends' voices brings me down. I've negotiated with this sadness by focusing on memories of the most recent conversations with them."

meant to keep the "moon dust" grounded and not in our mouth, nose, ears. Walking through it makes you feeling like an ambling drunk; each step is unfounded. But I've compromised, knowing what I love about West Virginia will be so enhanced when I'm home for good next summer, and these strolls through gravel will give me some amazing calf muscles.

Phones rarely work here. I haven't talked to anyone back home in more than two weeks. I have continuous access to Facebook and e-mail, but the absence of my family and friends' voices brings me down. I've negotiated with this sadness by focusing on memories of the most recent conversations I had with them: hearing him say "I'll miss you" for the first time ever on a fire escape, saying goodbye to my girlfriends in the lobby of the Flats

on Fourth Avenue and my dad telling me, "Go on," on the tarmac of Yeager Airport.

I think the way people adapt to their surroundings, what they have, what they consider to be home and how long they can endure everything is fascinating. If you suddenly lose what you think is essential in your life, you'll soon find that you have a reserve of patience, strength and humor that simply gets you through it.

There is one thing I won't compromise about though; milk is essential for cereal, and the milk supply is seriously lacking in this Wild West frontier of Afghanistan. Eating dry Cheerios takes me back to my toddler era. Fruit Loops, Cocoa Puffs and Captain Crunch really just require milk to be enjoyed, and that's just one thing I can't get over.

THE COMMON CAUSE | JAY ROUBUSH

Student encourages working together

It is a pleasure to be returning to all of you for the beginning of a fourth year. The Common Cause is not just about politics, but about the social movement for the equality of all people. My hope for a brighter America that is more equalitarian than full of self-interest.

This great nation faces so many issues that determine the daily lives of each and every one of us. The progress or failure rests upon us, the electorate. It is a government of the people, for the people, by the people. We are the government of these United States of America.

It is so curious to me to see the hatred between the various ideologies of this nation. I myself get very wrapped up in the bickering from time to time. We look at one another as political rivals rather than brothers and sisters sharing in a common destiny.

I have often said in regards to the healthcare debate, which seems to continue to boil hotter and hotter daily, that there is a common good for all of us to share. About 20 percent of the citizens in the wealthiest nation on earth do not have access to health-



JAY ROUBUSH
COLUMNIST

care. The most common argument against the public option, which is only an option, you can choose not to take it if you want to stay with your current provider, is two-fold.

The first argument is that the government does not know how to run anything properly. Most of you were educated in a public school. Most of us use the public interstates and

"It is so curious to me to see the hatred between the various ideologies of this nation. As we look at one another as political rivals, rather than brothers and sisters sharing in a common destiny."

roads. The public emergency system, which protects us from crime, fire and natural disaster, has been a benefit to all. Is the system perfect, no, but what is? The system now does not include all Americans. It is unequal. Inequality has burdened this nation too often already.

The second most common argument is that our taxes are already too high, we do not need a tax increase. Well I say to all of you that oppose a public option due to taxes, I am

sorry your taxes are too high, but so are mine. I am willing for the good of all to help those in need. I will not be able to look myself in the mirror if I were to wake up knowing I let many die because of my personal greed.

The progress of this nation as a whole is on the shoulders of each and every one of us. Our citizenship to this great nation is not a free pass to prosperity, but instead it is a promise of equality to every citizen.

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

"Genuine religion ... stands at the base of any authentically human culture. It rejects all forms of violence and totalitarianism: not only on principles of faith but also of right reason." — Pope Benedict XVI to Muslim leaders in Cameroon.



DeRecco Lynch, junior psychology major from Charleston, and Breana Polk, senior nursing major from Beckley, dance to their own beats at the Welcome Back Block Party sponsored by Black United Students on Aug. 26.

EMILY AYRES | THE PARTHENON

Student organization to revamp mentor program

BY EMILY AYRES
THE PARTHENON

The Center for African American Students' Programs is about to undertake a new initiative in revamping an old program.

The plan is to take the mentoring program the organization has had since 1985, and turn it into something bigger and more effective.

"It's time for the program to have a significant jolt and to dramatically increase the number of students receiving mentoring," said Maurice Cooley, director of the Center for African American Students' Programs.

The title of the new program is "Each One...Teach One." Cooley got the idea for the title from George Arthur, associate professor from the school of education. The name, which is used by other institutions that have the program, is linked with an African philosophy that means people supporting one another within an environment.

"It is associated with someone to look over their shoulder, give them guidance or comfort," Cooley said.

The goal for the program is for black freshmen to be mentored by upperclassmen. So far, about 35 freshmen have joined the program and more have volunteered to mentor.

Each mentor was required to go to a training session last Sunday, Aug. 30 to learn about roles and responsibilities of the program. Another session is scheduled for tomorrow at 4 p.m. in the multipurpose room of the Memorial Student Center.

Most mentors are members

of the Society of Black Scholars, but there are some who signed up during orientation days in the beginning of the semester. Each mentor had varied reasons for volunteering.

"It's a great idea to have a mentoring program. It helps the students to be more successful," said Dominique Elmore, mentor and biology graduate student from Huntington. "It's a good idea to nurture and help freshmen get accustomed to campus and help the transition to college."

"It could benefit other students who don't have many friends here, and benefit them academically, socially and help them get involved," said Joshua Curry, mentor and senior criminal justice major from Charles Town, W.Va.

With mentors taking the program seriously, especially in this trial run, Cooley hopes positive effects will continue into the years that follow.

By observing the University of Virginia's program, Cooley learned freshmen who are mentored often want to be mentors themselves.

"They too want to recognize and take pride in the institution and so the program nurtures itself," he said.

Cooley's goal for "Each One...Teach One" next year is every black freshman has a mentor and make it a requirement for upperclassmen in the Society of Black Scholars to mentor.

"I think it's one of the most rewarding and important initiatives the department is taking on this year," he said.

Emily Ayres can be reached at ayres@marshall.edu

Organization hosts block party

BY EMILY AYRES
THE PARTHENON

The first weekend of the fall semester got off to an early start Wednesday, Aug. 26, with the "Welcome Back Block Party" hosted by the Black United Students' Organization.

The party was to promote the Center for African American Students' Programs, including Black United Students, Black Greek organizations and Society of Black Scholars. More than 45 students signed up at the event to be part of Black United Students.

The event attracted students with music pounding through speakers, a table laid out with food, spontaneous dancing and colorfully decorated information booths set up on the Memorial Student Center Plaza.

"September is (a month) to get our feet wet," said Ronald Jones, graduate assistant for the Center of African American Students' Programs. "It's building awareness for the organization as well as getting the membership familiar with the ins and outs of the organization."

For the fall semester, a lot of changes and growth is being implemented within the program.

Street Team, a new promotional group, has been created to give "on site support" for the program, Jones said. The Street Team played music for the block party, and post fliers for other events as well.

Street Team is also an opportunity to give people in the organization a higher leadership position if they want it, said Terick Thomas, a member of Street Team and graduate student. "It's a great thing, it's more hands-on."

Leadership development and providing more chances for involvement are the main goals for Black United Students this semester. The program has 20 to 30 events planned this year, not including other activities being conducted by the Black United Students.

During the block party, free t-shirts with the slogan "Black is Beautiful" were handed out. The phrase comes from a cultural movement in the 1960's started by blacks to be proud of their racial and cultural heritage, Jones said.

"We want people to not only put on the shirt, but wear it," he said.

However, no matter what race or ethnic background somebody comes from, every student of Marshall is invited to become part of Black United Students, Jones said.

Maurice Cooley, director of the Center for African American Students' Programs, stressed the importance of the organization's ability to be all-encompassing.

"When we include people of many backgrounds and races, it makes the whole experience much richer for everyone," he said.

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

MUPD offers students safety advice

BY NEERA DOSS
THE PARTHENON

Going to college can be an exciting experience for new students, but the Marshall University Police Department would like to remind those students to be aware of their personal safety both on and off campus.

"If you go out, walk in pairs," said MUPD lieutenant Dickey Parker.

While advising students to practice common safety practices, officers also do their part to keep campus safe. The MUPD Bike Unit consists of four officers who patrol campus all year.

When darkness falls, students become more aware of possible dangers.

"I wouldn't walk during night or anything, but during the day it's fine," said Megan Shaffer, senior nursing major from Huntington.

MUPD also offers escorts at night for students while traveling to their cars. There are also 33 help phones located on Marshall's campus for student emergencies.

"If you punch any of those,

an officer will respond. You can actually have a conversation on some of them. If an officer doesn't hear anything when called, they will respond automatically," Parker said.

The Rape Aggression Defense System is offered for female students. This program teaches those who participate "realistic self-defense tactics and techniques for women," according to the Web site.

Overall, upperclassmen students seem to be pleased with the safety of Marshall's campus, along with the law enforcement present.

"I've never had any problems on campus here," said Sarah Bonham, senior nursing major from Cross Lanes, W.Va. "I think they (Marshall University Police) do a good job."

While personal safety practices shouldn't be taken lightly, MUPD Crime Statistics Web site states the most popular crime on Marshall's campus from 1999 to 2008 has been larceny. The number of last year's reported larcenies on-campus was 86.

"Lock your stuff up, don't leave

it unattended," Parker said.

Items frequently reported stolen are laptop computers and books, and parking lots are prime targets for thieves. To keep valuables from being stolen, the MUPD website suggests to not leave anything of value in plain sight in cars.

Along with theft of personal items, students have their identity to protect as well. The MUPD Web site recommends students keep credit cards in a different place than wallets, and to carry only necessary credit cards.

Besides practicing more common sense ways of personal safety, Lt. Parker said students should always be aware of their surroundings and offered a general rule of thumb for students.

"If it doesn't seem right or it doesn't feel right, it's probably not right," Parker said. "Trust your instincts. For emergencies, call MUPD."

The MUPD on campus number is 304-696-HELP.

Neera Doss can be contacted at doss27@marshall.edu



KRISTEN HAINKEL | THE PARTHENON

The College of Information Technology and Engineering, pictured above, has received a grant from the state legislature to construct new buildings on campus. The total project will cost \$25 to \$50 million.

State grant provides money for new engineering facility

BY KRISTEN HAINKEL
THE PARTHENON

Several Marshall University departments will have a new home provided by funding from West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission.

The funding was authorized in a special legislative session in June. Robert Plymale, state senator and chairman of the Senate Education Committee was able to secure the funding for the university.

"This 25 million represents an investment that will give (Marshall University) a competitive advantage in the future as we rebuild infrastructure and recruit new business to the state," he said in a press release.

Betsy Dulin, dean of the College of Information Technology and Engineering, said she is pleased with the funding the school has received.

"(The project) is a huge step for our college," she said. "We haven't had our college all in one building."

Dulin said a new facility would not only provide a place to work together, but be a common ground for students to identify each other with.

"It's a way to produce students and collaborate with people who are familiar with technology," she said. "It also provides a place where students can identify with, call home."

The project is the second phase of an ongoing saga. The first phase was the opening of the Arthur Weisberg Family Engineering Laboratories last summer.

"[The new building] is pretty significant," said John Maher, vice president of research. "Last

summer, the first engineering building was built. The project is a product of many years of restoring a former staple on campus.

"I was a student when the engineering school vacated over 30 years ago," Plymale said. "I knew the impact [the school] had on the campus and wanted an opportunity to bring it back."

The school is preparing to be evaluated for accreditation Sept 13-15 by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, a collegiate education evaluation board.

Dulin said she believes having plans of a new facility will influence accreditation.

"The building will play a role in the accreditation process," she said. "It shows the university and state's commitment to the program."

The university is also seeking more funding for the facility to supplement the money already received.

"[The project will cost] anywhere between \$25 million to \$50 million dollars," he said.

Kristen Hainkel can be contact at hainkel@marshall.edu

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SPORTS

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2009

MarshallParthenon.com

MONDAY'S SCORES

MLB
Reds 4, Pirates 3 (1)
Reds 6, Pirates 3 (2)
Rays 11, Tigers 7
Yankees 5, Orioles 1
Blue Jays 18, Rangers 10
White Sox 1, Twins 4
Angels 10, Mariners 0
Royals at Athletics (late)
Braves 5, Marlins 2
Astros 5, Cubs 3
D'Backs at Dodgers (late)
Nationals 1, Padres 3

SPORTS BRIEFS

Wednesday last chance to grab VT football tickets

Wednesday is the last day student tickets are available for purchase for the upcoming Marshall football game against Virginia Tech.

The game is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Sept. 12 in Blacksburg, Va.

Tickets are \$50 each and can be purchased at the ticket office in the Cam Henderson Center before 5 p.m. Wednesday with a valid student ID card.

Aaron Goebbel, assistant athletic director for ticketing, said all tickets not purchased by Wednesday will be sold to the general public.

The ticket office is open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, call the ticket office at 1-800-THE-HERD.

Fired-up Rodriguez denies accusations

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—Michigan coach Rich Rodriguez said Monday that his football program has abided by NCAA rules, despite allegations from anonymous players and former players who say the team has practiced far beyond the time allowed.

"We know the rules," Rodriguez said, "and we follow the rules."

At a news conference in Ann Arbor, Rodriguez became emotional and had to gather himself several times with glassy eyes as he denied any wrongdoing.

"I guess I'm here to tell you that whatever you've heard or want to believe, the truth is that this coaching staff cares very deeply about the young men in our program," he said.

The school launched an investigation on Sunday into allegations that the football program regularly violates NCAA rules limiting how much time players can spend on training and practice.

The announcement came after a Detroit Free Press article in which players from the 2008 and 2009 teams said the amount of time they spend on football during the season and in the offseason greatly exceeds NCAA limits. The players spoke to the newspaper on condition of anonymity because they feared repercussions from coaches.

Big Ten compliance officials arrived on campus Sunday to assist with the investigation, according to two people at the school. One person, who spends a lot of time with the team, said the school's compliance office often makes unannounced visits to make sure the program is following the rules. Both people spoke on the condition of anonymity because the school will not publicly discuss the case until the probe is completed.

Rodriguez suggested the complaints were an attempt to "tear up" the effort to rebuild a program that stumbled to a 3-9 record last season, including a dismal 2-6 in the Big Ten. It was Michigan's first losing season since 1967 and its first without a bowl in 34 years.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Holding off the competition



FILE PHOTO

Marshall senior goalkeeper Liz Orton lunges to make a save in a 2007 match versus Rice. With the eleventh shutout of her career last Sunday against Manhattan, Orton became the Herd's all-time leader in that category. She is a four-year starter and three-year captain of a team which hasn't reached the postseason since joining Conference USA in 2005.

Marshall women get off to fast start, hope for strong finish

BY ADAM RUSSELL
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University women's soccer team has a new outlook heading into the 2009 season after finishing with a 5-10-4 record last year.

"Last year, there were a lot of could-haves and almosts," head coach Kevin Long said. "The players see this as a new beginning for Marshall women's soccer."

The team began the 2009 season with a 2-0 home win over Cleveland State on Aug. 23. Juniors Erika Duncan and Kristen Berquist scored the goals to give the Herd its first victory of the season.

The team followed that win up with victories over Duquesne University and Manhattan College in Pittsburgh to bring its record to 3-0 for the season. The successful start is its best since the 2000 season when the Herd got out of the gates at 4-0.

"They know how great our potential is," Long said of his team. "We're still new at this winning thing."

Long said the seniors will be the key to his team's success. Left midfielder Molly Snead is seventh all-time in points

scored (27) at Marshall and Long added that she is playing with a new intensity in this year's campaign.

Along with scoring goals, keeping opponents off the scoreboard will be essential for the team moving forward.

Senior goalkeeper Liz Orton leads Marshall in saves with 280. With the 2-0 victory over Manhattan College, Orton earned her 11th career shutout, which makes her Marshall's all-time leader in the category.

"Lowering our goals against average is a main goal for us this year," Orton said. "Last year we gave up too many goals."

The coaching staff said the team is on a mission this year to close out games when ahead. Long said last year's team had a habit of losing leads at the end of matches.

"We were a really young team last year and weren't used to being in the driver's seat," assistant coach Scott Letts said.

Senior defender Becca Voss will play a major part in defining the team's attitude this year. Voss started every match last season, and was named Player's Player of the Year by her teammates.

"We have more depth and are a more experienced team than

last year," Voss said. "We are focused more on soccer."

Long said he has difficult decisions to make when it comes to the starting lineup for each match.

"This year there is more competition at every spot, and nobody is guaranteed," Long said. "Nobody's position is assured because they played there last week."

The Herd's player depth will instantly be utilized as sophomore midfielder Kaitlin Devine suffered a broken leg in the Cleveland State match that will likely keep her out of the lineup for most of the season.

Long said fan support will be more important this season than ever before. Last year, the Herd went 1-4-2 for home games at Sam Hood Field but the players and coaches said they would like to improve that record this season.

"As a team, we love the support of the community and campus," Orton said. "Fans can help change the momentum and give us an extra boost."

Marshall's next match is against Winthrop 7 p.m. Friday at Sam Hood.

Adam Russell can be contacted at russell58@marshall.edu.

HERDZONE.COM

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—Marshall University's Angela DeSumma and Megan Tabler each tallied a goal to earn a 2-0 victory over Manhattan College to win the Duquesne University women's soccer tournament Sunday at Arthur J. Rooney Field.

Marshall improved to 3-0, its best start since the 2000 season when it began the season 4-0, while the Jaspers fell to 1-1 on the season.

"I don't think that we played with same intensity as we did on Friday. I think that is something we are going to have to do a better job of in the future," Marshall head coach Kevin Long said. "But we are happy to come out with a victory and start the season at 3-0."

Despite being outshot in the first half 8-4, Marshall was able to score nine minutes into the game when DeSumma launched a shot from 20 yards out off a pass from sophomore Erin Blakely. The goal was her first of the season and the eventual game-winner for The Thundering Herd.

Tabler scored her second goal of the tournament on her only shot of the afternoon late in the second half to seal the deal for the Herd.

Including her preseason tally against Morehead State on Aug. 14, Tabler has three goals this year after not finding the net all last season.

The sophomore out of Ashland, Ky., only had two shots during the 2008 campaign.

Goalkeeper Liz Orton finished the day with seven saves and earned her third consecutive shutout of the season bringing her career shutout total to eleven, which ranks her first in school history in that category.

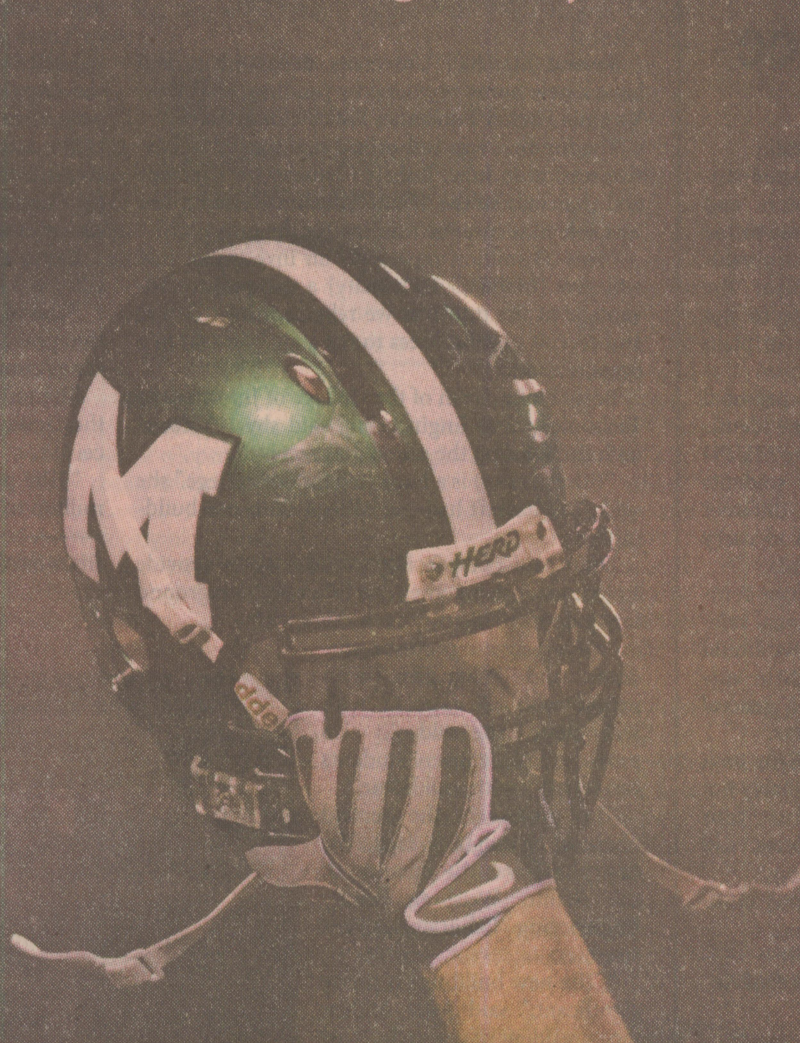
For her efforts, the Fort Collins, Colo., native was named Conference USA Defensive Player of the Week for the second time in her career. She also earned the honor during her sophomore season after she tallied a shutout of Delaware State.

Orton, who is a three-year captain and a four-year starter, is Marshall's all-time leader in saves and minutes played. She has played a major part in the Herd's fast start, which not only includes a perfect record but also a 5-0 score against its three opponents.

"One of our goals in the beginning of the year was to allow fewer goals than last season and so far we are doing that, and in an impressive fashion," Long said.

The Parthenon contributed to this story.

Football Preview Edition Coming Friday



The issue includes:

-An all-decade team

-Conference USA Outlook

-Meet this year's Herd

-Features on your favorite Herd players

First orientation challenges ROTC cadets



BY MARLOWE HEREFORD
THE PARTHENON

While most students slept late on the first Saturday of the semester, members of Marshall University's ROTC started their day at 6:30 a.m. to participate in training procedures in the first ever Cadet Orientation.

Events were scheduled throughout the day beginning at the Fitness Center Turf by the First Year Residence Halls and ending with a barbecue outside Gullickson Hall.

Cadet Kevin Linsenmeyer, criminal justice major from Barboursville, W.Va., said this is the first year Marshall ROTC has organized an orientation for new cadets.

"It's good that we're getting them all out here because a lot of these people are straight out of high school, and they don't really have a feel of what ROTC is all about and what we all do," Linsenmeyer said.

The training served as an introduction to exercises the cadets will see throughout the semester, Master Sgt. James Decker said.

"Today is not necessarily to make them proficient in those tasks. It's just to have fun," Decker said.

The cadets began the day by taking the physical fitness test, also called the PT. It consisted of push ups, sit ups and a two mile run, Linsenmeyer said.

Bethany Deem, freshman biology major from Parkersburg, W.Va., said the PT provided a sense of accomplishment.

"You feel like you've accomplished something you're not necessarily used to," Deem said.

The next outdoor exercise was the one rope bridge. Upperclassmen cadets stretched a rope between two trees on Buskirk Field and explained to the new cadets how to use a Swiss seat—a harness a cadet makes with rope and D-rings—to pull themselves upside down from one tree to the other.

"In the army it's used for crossing a water obstacle," Decker said. "It's kind of a small team event."

The cadets went to lunch before going to the field behind Joan C. Edwards Stadium to rappel from the 34-foot high Herd Heaven tower.

Michael Young, freshman radiology major from Summersville, W.Va., said compared to the PT test, rappelling was easy.

"I still don't like heights but it's fun," Young said. "The hardest part (of the day) was doing the PT because that's all on you."

The final exercise of the day was paint ball at Rotary Park. Paint ball allows the cadets to practice basic battle drills, Linsenmeyer said.

Saturday concluded the first week of ROTC for cadets who came to Marshall with various levels of prior experience. The transition to college ROTC was an easier adjustment for some.

"I just came out of basic (training) and AIT so I'm a little used to it already," Young said.

Others like Deem were just starting their ROTC career.

"I've had absolutely no experience with ROTC so the adjustment is just do what I'm told," Deem said. "I'm a follower right now and I aspire to be a leader."

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

Michael Young, freshman radiology major from Summersville, W. Va., said rappelling off the Herd Heaven tower was one of the easiest tasks of the day compared to the physical fitness test taken in the morning.



Bethany Deem, freshman biology major from Parkersburg, W.Va., carefully balances as she crosses another obstacle in the cadet orientation.



ROTC cadets are being briefed on the day's orientataion, which is the first one implimented for Marshall.

On campus activities benefit students involved

Joining clubs great way to help Marshall

BY CARLTON APGAR
THE PARTHENON

School is in once again. It is the beginning of a new semester at Marshall University and thousands of students have arrived on campus for the start of a new school year. What better way to familiarize with the university and get involved in on-campus activities than joining one of the many student organizations here at Marshall University.

Students can learn about and have the option to join more than 180 student organizations by visiting the Student Activities Programming Board (SAPB) office, located in room 2W38 in the Memorial Student Center. Students can also call (304) 696-2290, or e-mail SAPB at student-activities@marshall.edu, for more information regarding student activities.

"We work with various other student organizations in order to collaborate and reach more students," said Tiffany Clark, SAPB's graduate advisor.

Notices for student activities can be seen across campus through various mediums. "SAPB keeps students posted in various ways," Clark said. "Posting flyers in educational buildings as well as residence halls, working closely with the RA's to get the word out, Facebook and e-mail blasts, word of mouth, and placing ads in the school newspaper."

Student organizations on campus help students

meet fellow peers, become more familiar with the university, know when activities are taking place, and provide opportunities for students to improve particular skills that will benefit them outside the classroom.

Clark says there are many benefits to joining a student organization at Marshall.

"Just like attending class and getting good grades when students get involved, it has been proven that they are more likely to do well gaining important skills such as leadership, a respect for diversity, [and] building friendships that will last a lifetime, she said."

Research by Alexander W. Astin on student involvement shows that by becoming involved in a student activity, students receive better grades and thereby are more successful in their academic program. Students are then able to feel more satisfied with their college experience and are more likely to stay in school and graduate on time.

Astin says that student organizations are another way for students to socialize with others, including members of university faculty and staff. Participating in student activities also pushes students to practice leadership skills that are a benefit in becoming more marketable for job searching or applying to graduate school.

"Getting involved on campus is extremely important to your future," Clark said.

Carlton Apgar can be contacted at apgar5@marshall.edu.

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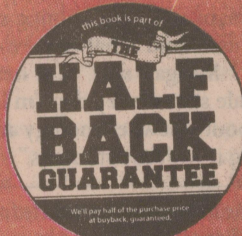
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Newman Center offers cheap activities and entertainment

BY JENNIFER CHAPMAN
THE PARTHENON

For college students struggling with a tough economy, the Marshall Catholic Newman Center may just

be the ticket for a cheap meal, some free entertainment, and some lasting friendships.

Dinners and movies are just a preview of what the Newman Center offers, and it's not just for

Catholic students. Natalie Rohan, Director of Campus Ministry at the Newman Center, wants students to know that it is open to all.

"We're a Catholic student organization," Rohan said, "But we're here

for all students of all faiths. We just happen to be owned and run by the Catholic Diocese of West Virginia."

The Newman Center is open to students during most hours of the week.

"Typically we are open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.," Rohan said, "And we have programs in the evenings, so really we are pretty much open all day."

The Newman Center has

Mass at 7 p.m. Sundays. Also, the facility hosts a variety of activities for students during the week and throughout the semester.

Alicia Hess, senior Economics and Finance major from Hedgesville, W.Va., said she has been coming to the Newman Center every week since her freshman year.

"It's a nice place to hang out," Hess said. "There's food, and we have a study and TV room where we study, or pretend to study."

The Newman Center is located on Fifth Avenue directly across from Corby Hall.

"On Wednesday nights we have movie nights, and each month we pick a different theme," Rohan said. "This month we are doing Disney movies. We will just hang out and watch a movie in the TV lounge."

Rohan said every Thursday there is "Dinner for a Dollar." Students receive a home-cooked meal, complete with drink and dessert, for just \$1. The students gather around in a circle and pray a blessing over the food and then line up for their meal. They sit at the table with friends, talking about their days and enjoying that time together.

"Dinner for a Dollar" starts at 6 p.m. every Thursday. This Thursday's dinner will be at 7 p.m., and will have a dedication of the kitchen in honor of Crawford.

The dinners used to be prepared by Newman Center's office manager Carole Crawford, but she was killed in a car accident last April. Crawford had worked at the Newman Center since 2005.

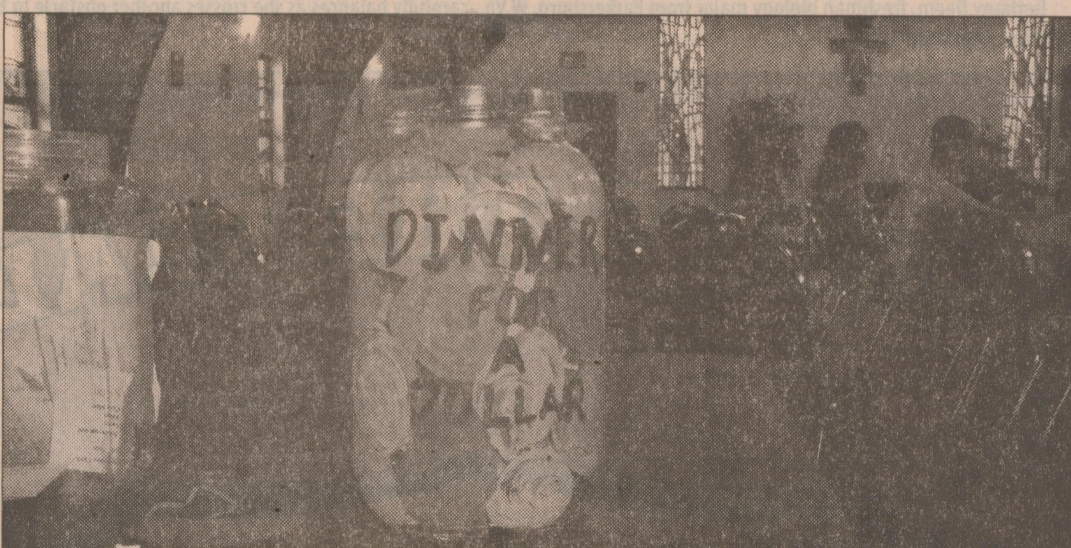
For more information about the Newman Center, visit www.marshallcatholic.com.



The Marshall Catholic Newman Center offers social events for students such as movie nights every Wednesday. The Newman Center is open to everyone from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. every day.

JENNIFER CHAPMAN | THE PARTHENON

Jennifer Chapman can be contacted at eastham1@marshall.edu.



JENNIFER CHAPMAN | THE PARTHENON

"Dinner for a Dollar" takes place every Thursday evening at The Newman Center offering students food and fellowship.

Professor uses skills in technology to help others

BY LUKE WILLIAMS
THE PARTHENON

Professor Brian Morgan loves using his expertise from his job to make others' lives easier.

"It's all about helping people," Morgan said.

Morgan, 35, teaches in the Department of Integrated Science and Technology.

Morgan, a resident of Proctorville, Ohio, entered Marshall in 1992 as a student and has not left the university since. While still an undergraduate student, he became an instructional technologist in 1996 and is now an assistant professor. Morgan has developed a number of programs for the university, including a database accessible by faculty called Marshall University's Banner Extraction/Reporting Tool, or MU BERT. Though not visible to students, MU BERT provides faculty and staff with past enrollment numbers, predictions of class size and more. Using PHP, a software language, MySQL, and Oracle, Morgan crafted the program to have easy access and include functions like the ability to bookmark reports and export in Microsoft Excel and HTML.

"I know what the faculty needs. It's built by faculty, for faculty," Morgan said. Morgan said he tries to develop think-

ing skills in his students instead of "spoon-feeding them." In an e-commerce course last semester, he taught students how to develop an online discussion forum and then asked them to build a portal system for an e-commerce site.

"Students were saying, 'Professor! You never taught us how to do that!' It's not straight out of the book. You have to know how to apply something you learn to something else," Morgan said. Morgan has developed Web sites for many organizations, including the Cable County School system and the West Virginia Dietetics Association. In particular, he included a feature in the Cable County School's Web site that allows potential employees to apply online.

Morgan has also used his programming skills to help New Beginning Apostolic Church. Besides building and maintaining its Web site, Morgan developed a program for the church that allows staff to enter offerings and income and then prints out a completed Internal Revenue Service report. Morgan is also using his tech-

nological skill to aid his school board member campaign in the Fairland School District by building a Web site he said he hopes will help people understand his experience as a teacher.

Looking to the future, Morgan said he hopes to teach a class on how to develop games for Xbox and applications for iPhone. After his copyright is complete, he also hopes to convert MU BERT into a more general format and market it to other schools.

Every person can see the work of one of Morgan's students who went on to develop the online payroll system for the state of West Virginia.

"This is the best job I could dream of doing, helping students understand what they're capable of," Morgan said. "I'm never in a stale state. Every day I'm learning about a new technology and sharing it with my students."

Luke Williams can be contacted at williams414@marshall.edu.

Wildfire makes menacing advance near Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A deadly wildfire destroyed more than four dozen homes as it blackened a wide swath of tinder-dry Southern California forest, forced thousands of residents to flee and burned dangerously close Monday to a vital mountaintop broadcasting complex.

Fire crews battling the blaze in the Angeles National Forest tried desperately to beat back the flames and prayed for weather conditions to ease. The fire was the largest of at least eight burning across California after days of triple-digit temperatures and low humidity.

The fire scorched 164 square miles of brush, destroyed 53 homes and forest cabins and threatened more than 12,000 others, but a lack of wind kept flames from overwhelming firefighters who protected suburbs northeast of Los Angeles.

The 53 homes destroyed included some forest cabins, said U.S. Forest Service spokesman Dennis Cross. He did not have an immediate breakdown on how many of the structures were full-time residences.

Columns of smoke billowed high into the air before dispersing into a gauzy white haze that burned eyes and prompted warnings of unhealthy air throughout the Los Angeles area. Smoke could be seen billowing around the fabled Hollywood sign.

"It's burning everywhere," U.S. Forest Service spokeswoman Dianne Cahir said. "When it gets into canyons that haven't burned in numerous years, it takes off. If you have any insight into the good Lord upstairs, put in a request."

The exact number of people injured or threatened by the fire was still not clear.

Among those evacuated were Los Angeles Dodgers shortstop Rafael Furcal and his wife from their home in La Canada Flintridge. Furcal entered Monday night's game against Arizona as a pinch-hitter in the 10th inning.

Over the weekend, three people who refused to evacuate were

burned when they were overrun by flames, including a couple who had sought refuge in a hot tub, authorities said.

Authorities revised an earlier report that five people were trapped in a canyon near Gold Creek. They later said five men and one woman refused several orders to evacuate the remote ranch.

“It's burning everywhere. If you have any insight into good Lord upstairs, put in a request”

Dianne Cahir
Spokesperson
U.S. Forest Service

"When we tried to get them out, they said they're fine, no problem, they didn't want to leave," said fire spokesman Larry Marinas.

Fire crews set backfires and sprayed fire retardant at Mount Wilson, home to at least 20 television transmission towers, radio and cell phone antennas, and the century-old Mount Wilson Observatory. The observatory also houses two giant telescopes and several multimillion-dollar university programs. It is both a landmark for its historic discoveries and a thriving modern center for astronomy.

If the flames hit the mountain, cell phone service and TV and radio transmissions would be disrupted, but the extent was unclear.

The blaze killed two firefighters who died when their truck drove off the side of a road with flames all around them.

The victims were fire Capt. Tedmund Hall, 47, of San Bernardino County, and firefighter Specialist Arnaldo "Arnie" Quinones, 35, of Palmdale. Hall was a 26-year veteran, and Quinones had been a county firefighter for eight years.

Quinones' wife is expecting and due to give birth to their first

child in the next few weeks.

Hall and his wife have two boys, ages 20 and 21, and was described as a family man who loved riding motorcycles.

They died fighting a fire that showed no signs of subsiding Monday. People who fled returned to find their homes gone.

Bert Voorhees looked through the empty shelves of a CD rack and his vanished vinyl collection at the seasonal stream that trickled through his property in Big Tujunga Canyon.

"Every single book I've ever read and all the music I've ever owned is gone. But it's the place that we can't replace. The aesthetics are lost," he said. "We used to sit on our patio and drink wine, wave to our neighbors on the road. It was a good 15 years."

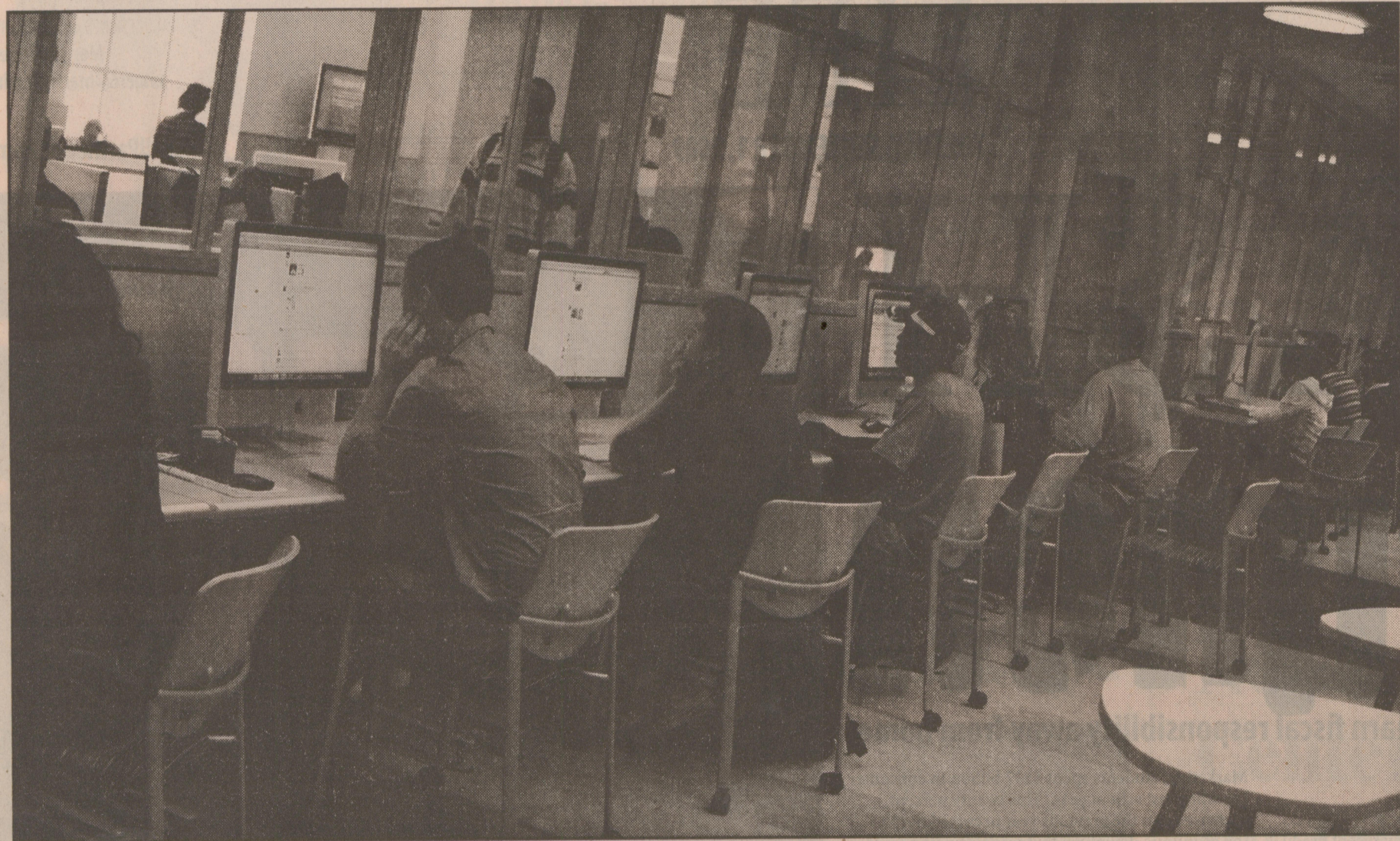
"It's the worst roller coaster of my life, and I hate roller coasters," said Adi Ellad, who lost his home in Big Tujunga Canyon over the weekend. "One second I'm crying, one second I'm guilty, the next moment I'm angry, and then I just want to drink tequila and forget."

Ellad left behind a family heirloom Persian rug and a photo album he put together after his father died. "I'm going to have to figure out a new philosophy: how to live without loving stuff," he said.

The blaze in the Los Angeles foothills is the biggest but not most destructive of California's wildfires. Northeast of Sacramento, a wind-driven fire destroyed 60 structures over the weekend, many of them homes in the town of Auburn.

The 275-acre blaze was 50 percent contained Monday afternoon and full containment was expected Tuesday. It wiped out an entire cul-de-sac, leaving only smoldering ruins, a handful of chimneys and burned cars.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger toured the Auburn area, where only charred remnants of homes remained on Monday. At some houses, the only things left on the foundation



SHOLTEN SINGER | THE PARTHENON
Students enjoy the new MAC computers that were installed in the new common rooms located in the newly renamed Marshall University Discovery Center. Plans for the newly remodeled building include adding more up to date technology into the already heavily remade first floor area.

Disney buys Marvel Comics

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Walt Disney Co. is punching its way into the universe of superheroes and their male fans with a deal announced Monday to acquire Marvel Entertainment Inc. for \$4 billion, bringing characters such as Iron Man and Spider-Man into the family of Mickey Mouse and "Toy Story."

The surprise cash-and-stock deal sent Spidey senses tingling in the comic book world. It could lead to new rides, movies, action figures and other outlets for Marvel's 5,000 characters, although Marvel already was aggressively licensing its properties for such uses.

The deal won't have benefits right away, and Disney stock sank on the news. Disney expects a short-term profit hit, and Marvel characters from X-Men to Daredevil are locked up in deals with other movie studios and theme parks. But Disney's CEO, Robert Iger, promised an action-packed future.

"Sparks will fly" is the expression that comes to mind," Iger told analysts.

Stan Lee, the 86-year-old co-creator of "Spider-Man" and many more of Marvel's most famous characters, said he was thrilled to be informed of the marriage Monday morning.

"I love both companies," he said. "From every point of view, this is a great match."

The deal is expected to close by the end of the year and make Disney's biggest acquisition since it purchased Pixar Animation Studios Inc., the maker of "Up" and "Cars," for \$7.4 billion in

stock in 2006.

Marvel would follow another recent comic book publisher into the arms of a media conglomerate. DC Comics, the home of Superman, Batman and Wonder Woman, was bought by Warner Bros. — now part of Time Warner Inc. — in 1969.

Buying Marvel is meant to improve Disney's following among men and boys. Disney acknowledged it lost some of its footing with guys as it poured resources into female favorites such as "Hannah Montana" and the Jonas Brothers.

"Disney will have something guys grew up with and can experience with their kids, especially their sons," said Gareb Shamus, whose company Wizard Entertainment Group runs several of the Comic-Con conventions around the nation.

Marvel TV shows already account for 20 hours per week of programming on Disney's recently rebranded, boy-focused cable network, Disney XD, and that looks likely to increase, Iger said. The shows are "right in the wheelhouse for boys," he said.

There will be some lag before Marvel's trove of characters are fully developed at Disney, because of licensing deals Marvel has with other studios.

For example, Sony Corp.'s Columbia Pictures is developing the next three "Spider-Man" sequels, starting with "Spider-Man 4" set for a May 2011 release. News Corp.'s 20th Century Fox has the long-term movie rights to the "X-Men," "Fantastic Four," "Silver Surfer" and

"Daredevil" franchises.

Both studios maintain those rights in perpetuity unless they fail to make more movies.

Separately, Viacom Inc.'s Paramount Pictures has a five-picture distribution deal for Marvel-made movies, the first of which will be "Iron Man 2," set for release next May. Paramount said it expects to continue working with Marvel and Disney.

General Electric Co.'s Universal Studios has an attraction called Marvel Super Hero Island in Orlando, Fla., that will stay in existence as long as Universal wants to keep it there and follows the contract terms, Universal said.

Disney said it will honor and re-examine Marvel's licensing deals upon expiration and may extend the profitable ones. Iger noted that when it bought Pixar, that company also had third-party licensing agreements that eventually expired, allowing the companies to move forward together.

Despite beginning to make its own movies, starting with "Iron Man" last year, licensing remained a key driver of Marvel's \$206 million in profit and \$676 million in revenue last year. Iger said Disney could give Marvel broader global distribution and better relationships with retailers to sell Marvel products.

However, analyst David Joyce of Miller Tabak & Co. noted that the \$4 billion offer was at "full price."

Marvel shareholders will receive \$30 per share in cash, plus 0.745 Disney shares for

every Marvel share they own. That values each Marvel share at \$50, a 29 percent premium over Friday's closing stock price. The final ratio of cash and stock will be adjusted to ensure Disney stock makes up at least 40 percent of the final offer.

Marvel shares shot up \$9.72, or 25 percent, to close at \$48.37 on Monday. Disney shares fell 80 cents, or 3 percent, to \$26.04.

Disney investors were probably unhappy that the deal will reduce earnings per share in the short term and might not turn positive until the company's 2012 fiscal year. Disney's earnings per share will drop partly because the company will issue 59 million new shares, and partly because Marvel plans to release two costly blockbusters, "Thor" and "The First Avenger: Captain America" in 2011. DVD sales of those films likely won't roll in until fiscal 2012.

Disney said the boards of both companies have approved the transaction, but it will require an antitrust review and the approval of Marvel shareholders.

If it works out, Marvel's chief executive, Isaac "Ike" Perlmutter, 66, will pocket a hefty payday. He snatched Marvel assets out of bankruptcy in 1998, in a deal that valued the company at around \$450 million including debt, outmaneuvering investors Carl Icahn and Ronald Perelman. His 37 percent stake in Marvel is now worth about \$1.5 billion.

DISCOVERY

FROM PAGE 1

project, but students do not have to worry about extra fees being attached to their tuition because all costs are being covered by student learning space money.

The MU Discovery Center has been a work in progress for the last 16 months and

more is still to come. Future plans include innovating even more technology into the first floor.

If you have any comments or concerns about the new MU Discovery Center, feel free to contact Jody Perry at jody.perry@marshall.edu

Heather Crum can be contacted at crum41@marshall.edu.

HEALTH CARE

FROM PAGE 1

Americans spend more on healthcare than education, building roads and feeding themselves, Rahall quoted from the AARP.

"I understand the fear out there, but I don't share that fear," he said.

While the majority of the meeting was spent defending healthcare reform, others came to show their support. Some used anecdotes of their own experiences to show their view of healthcare reform.

"Twenty percent of American people are uninsured," said Yvonne Jones, executive director of Ebenezer Medical Outreach, Inc. "We see them (at Ebenezer). If we don't do something about it, if this bill is not passed, it will destroy us."

According to Ebenezer Medical Outreach's Web site, approximately 83,000 people in the region use its services.

Charles Vance, a physician in Lincoln County, also let his opinion be known.

"There are hard working people out there barely making a living, and they are dying

because they can't afford health insurance," Vance said.

Most opponents of healthcare reform seemed upset about the amount of money that would be spent, but Rahall made it known there was more to take into account.

"The cost of doing nothing is even more," Rahall said.

According to a Gallup poll taken in July, about one in six Americans don't have health insurance.

Rahall also expressed his approval of the reactions made by those in attendance of the town hall meeting, and said the responses were different from those broadcasted by the national media.

"I have found in West Virginia the people are respectful and have solid based discussions," Rahall said.

Rahall was not only pleased to be at Marshall University holding his first town hall meeting, he was also enthusiastic about the student participation.

"They have an important perspective to add to the issue," he said.

Neera Doss can be contacted at doss27@marshall.edu.

Study: 1 in 10 binge drinkers get on the road

ATLANTA (AP) — One in 10 binge drinkers got behind the wheel the last time they drank heavily. And half of those drivers left from a bar, restaurant or nightclub after downing five or more drinks, a new study has found.

The study is being called the first to try to measure the likelihood someone will drive after binge drinking. It suggests a need for stepped-up efforts to prevent bars and restaurants from serving people after they're intoxicated, according to its authors at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The researchers focused on 14,000 "binge drinkers" — people who said that at least once a month they had five or more drinks on a single occasion. About 12 percent said they had gone driving within two hours of their last bout of heavy drinking.

Of those drivers, more than half took the wheel after drink-

ing in a bar, restaurant or other licensed establishment. And half of the drivers who left an establishment said they had seven or more drinks; a quarter said they'd had at least 10.

Some people can handle alcohol better than others, and eating food or drinking over several hours can soften alcohol's impact. But clearly 10 drinks is a lot, said James Fell of the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation, a national research organization focused on alcohol policy.

"Almost everybody's going to be intoxicated after 10 drinks," said Fell, who was not involved in the study.

Binge drinking is a main factor behind the more than 11,000 deaths annually from alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes, said Dr. Timothy Naimi, an epidemiologist with the CDC's alcohol program. He led the study, which was released Tuesday and will be in the October issue of the

American Journal of Preventive Medicine.

Nearly every state has a law that in theory prohibits licensed establishments from selling alcohol to drunk patrons. But most states don't have enough enforcement personnel to stop in on bars and watch for over-serving of customers.

"These are among the most disregarded laws in the country," Naimi said.

Without policing, there's little incentive for bars, clubs and restaurants to discourage drinking. Tips depend on keeping patrons happy and buying, noted Jim Mosher, a Washington, D.C.-based legal researcher and consultant on alcohol issues.

The American Beverage Institute, a restaurant trade association, had no immediate comment on the study Monday. The organization's Web site promotes efforts to apprehend and penalize drunk drivers, but also notes voluntary

server training and other efforts by restaurants to discourage drunk driving.

The CDC study was based on a telephone survey done in 2003 and 2004, and some things have changed since then. Drunk driving fatalities have decreased, dropping nearly 10 percent from 2007 to 2008, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. There have also been a variety of efforts to reduce drunk driving including court-mandated devices that prevent a car from starting if a driver is drunk.

But most efforts focus on punishing the driver and not preventing drunk driving by focusing on those who enable it.

"The drinking location is really important," said Naimi. "We're trusting these licensed establishments to serve responsibly, and more than half of the intoxicated people who drive have been drinking in these places."

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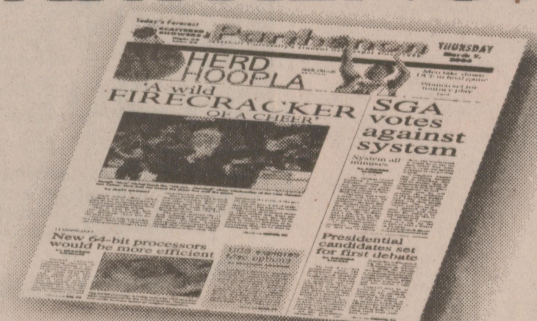
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CASH Crunch

Students forced to learn fiscal responsibility away from home

BY ERIC DIVITO
THE PARTHENON

High tuition prices may have many recent graduates starting their professional lives in debt, but today's current college students have more immediate concerns.

College students, especially freshmen, must learn how to handle the responsibility of monitoring their day-to-day finances.

Lauren Rone, freshman, realizes the importance of keeping a sound spending plan.

"You have to stay on your budget," Rone said. "I have a monthly budget that I have to live on."

Marshall University recommends students have between \$3,000 and \$3,500 in spending money per year. This money is meant to cover a variety of expenses ranging from personal bills to non-essential items.

Zakee Bashir, freshman, already began making a list of how he needs to spend his money.

"I have to pay my own phone bill," Bashir said. "I'm trying to get used to what I will need to get every month."

Rone said that being particular on how you spend your money is the key.

"Just focus on what you are spending, less money on partying and more on responsible stuff," she said. "[If you don't] you can get in some serious trouble."

According to a study done by Alloy Media And

Marketing, students spent \$237 billion in consumer spending last school year. This twenty percent increase from the previous year occurred despite the economic downturn that was also going on at that time.

A recent study published by Sallie Mae found that the average college freshman carries a median credit card debt of \$939 and the average senior over four times higher.

“Just focus on what you are spending, less money on partying and more on responsible stuff.”

Lauren Rone
Marshall University freshman

"I know I have to cut back on what I would be able to spend if I was home. There's more things to buy here," Bashir said.

Students who want to have a little extra spending money might want to consider getting a job during school.

According to Denise Hogsett, director of Career Services at Marshall, even though national unemployment numbers are high, students looking for part-time jobs will not have any more trouble than in years past.

"We're lucky here because we do have some really good part time jobs," Hogsett said.

Students looking for internships might even have an advantage in this economic climate.

"What we're seeing is definitely an increase in internships. These are paid internships that are local. It helps the students and it helps them (businesses). Hopefully those positions then turn into full time positions."

Eric Divito can be contacted at divito@marshall.edu.

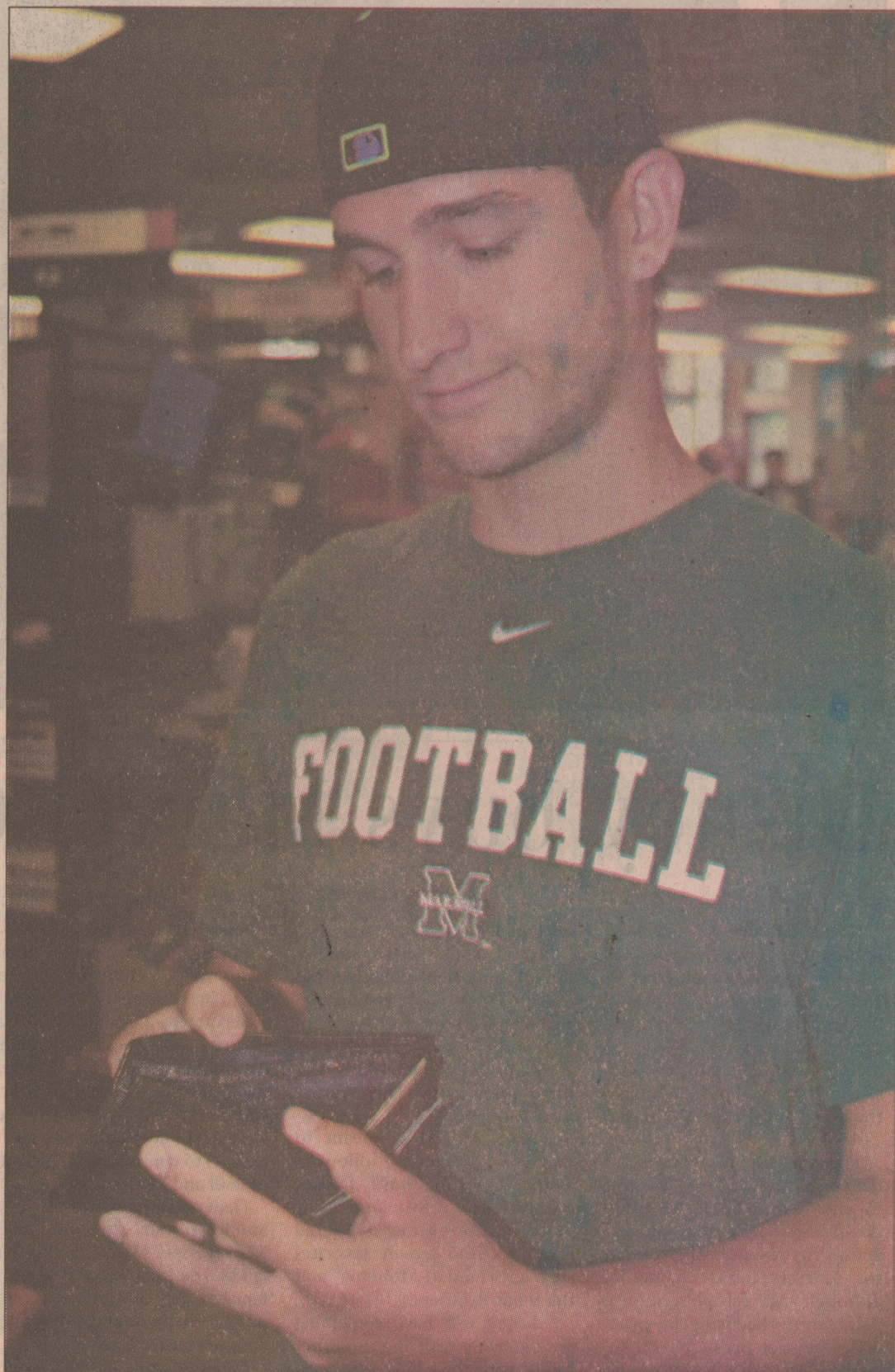


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College students often find their wallets empty as a result of high expenses and low income, often leading to debt.

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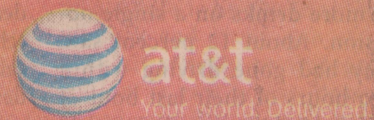


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