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The last farewell

Senior men's basketball players prepare for final home game **Sports, Page 3**

THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's Student Newspaper **marshallparthenon.com** | Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Governor, mayor welcome students to work in city

BY KIMBERLY BRADLEY
THE PARTHENON

West Virginia Gov. Joe Manchin and Huntington Mayor Kim Wolfe welcomed 12 students from Boston College to the city Monday morning.

The Boston College students arrived in Huntington on Sunday to begin the 2010 Collegiate Challenge Program with the Huntington Area Habitat for Humanity.

The Collegiate Challenge is an alternative spring break program that provides opportunities for students from youth groups, high schools and colleges to spend a week of their breaks building a house in partnership with a Habitat for Humanity, according to a news release.

"The governor was very pleased and honored that students from another state would come to our state to help the people of Huntington," said Sara Payne Scarbro, press secretary of the governor.

The students will be working on the completion of the 72nd house build, located at 2769 LaTulle Ave., as well as starting a new build located at 2512 Adams Ave. in Huntington.

Students from Boston College have been working with the Huntington Area Habitat for Humanity during their spring break for a few years, said Alex Choen, senior Boston College student and team leader.

Cohen said he came to Huntington two years ago for a Habitat build and decided to come back to volunteer for a second time.

"I kept in touch with the Huntington community and with the regular volunteers," Cohen said. "It's nice to see them again and see them staying involved."

"We've built a great relationship with Huntington," Cohen said. "The governor was very appreciative of the work that we are doing. He and his wife have both been involved in past builds in

the Huntington community."

Wolfe presented a proclamation to the students that recognized March 1 as Boston College Appreciation Day in Huntington.

"I think it's a great service that students take their spring break here, when they could be in Florida," Wolfe said.

Students will be installing tile, digging the front sidewalk for concrete and putting siding on the 72nd house build.

"Our goal was to have the block laid for the foundation at the 2512 Adams Avenue house, but the weather has slowed us down," said Daryl Kinch, site supervisor.

"We have a warehouse that we are going to let the students build the window and door frames for the house," Kinch said.

"This is the first time that these students have worked on finishing a house, said

Jane Edelen, former business manager of the Huntington Area Habitat for Humanity. "They've never really worked on the inside and seen it finished."

Edelen has had contact with the students and has been organizing the collegiate week for four years.

"The 12 students are breaking up into six and taking turns working on the inside and outside of the house," Edelen said. "It's a first to have students working on two different houses."

It's a learning experience for them, having them pick up different tools and then seeing a completion of a house, Edelen said.

"This is my first manual labor type of experience," said Lauren Tempesta, junior Boston College student and team leader.

"The governor wanted to simply thank the students for going that extra mile and touching someone else's life," Scarbro said.

Kimberly Bradley can be contacted at bradley82@marshall.edu.



KIMBERLY BRADLEY | THE PARTHENON
Gov. Joe Manchin, far right, and Huntington Mayor Kim Wolfe welcomed students from Boston College on Monday. The students came to the area to work on two Habitat for Humanity Houses that are currently under construction as part of the 2010 Collegiate Challenge Program, which provides an opportunity for college and high school students to spend their spring breaks building houses. Wolfe declared March 1 as Boston College Appreciation Day.

City begins making the switch to energy efficient LED stoplights

BY TESS MOORE
THE PARTHENON

The city of Huntington is installing a new LED traffic signal system funded by a \$4.2 million federal grant to improve the city's air quality by helping the flow of traffic.

The resolution that authorized the mayor to sign an agreement to install new traffic signals was approved at the last council meeting, said Charles Holley, executive director of development and planning. The 57 new traffic lights will be between Third and Seventh Avenue and Fifth and Twenty-Ninth Street.

"The new system will be energy efficient, going along with the green trend. That's where we want to go," Holley said. "Instead of using incandescent bulbs, we'll use LED bulbs. Also everything will be connected wirelessly."

The wires that connect the current signals have begun to rust and break underground, and none of them are connected to help the traffic flow, he said.

The city started looking at ways to improve the traffic signal system, but it would cost several million dollars to replace them, so they had to find a way to fund the project, Holley said.

"We learned about this funding source called congestion mitigation air quality that the state of West Virginia gets millions of dollars from each year," Holley said. "It is very hard to get the money because you have to have your science and show what your mitigating air quality issue is."

Cabell County has very poor air quality, so it is one of the areas the state wants to target, he said.

"We hired a group of engineers that could do the calculations for us," Holley said. "They showed that if we got all of the signals back and operating and traffic could travel smoothly, it would reduce the amount of energy used and increase in the air quality."

The city submitted the calculations and information and were able to receive a \$4.2 million grant to replace 57 out of the 110 intersections within the city, Holley said.

The city will replace the older traffic signals that were installed around 1970 during urban renewal, he said. The signals throughout town that have been installed recently are already on a LED wireless system.

Huntington is the first city in West Virginia to install a wireless system, and the state will use the city as a model to develop the rest of the traffic signal systems in the state, Holley said.

"If there is a breakdown in communication, that's something we will be able to walk up and fix instead of digging up the street," he said. "So we're really excited about that."

The money the city is saving is just a side benefit, Holley said.

"Right now we spend about \$250,000 a year on operating the old system, he said. The LED system has the claim that it can save up to 90 percent of energy costs. So we're looking at over \$100,000 in saving each year."

Two years ago the city installed the LED light system in Wayne County and from what they can tell the claim is accurate, he said.

In addition to the traffic signals, every intersection has a street sign, Holley said. The new system will have internally illuminated street signs so people driving at night can easily navigate throughout town.

"It's going to be really cool and really nice for the city," he said.

There will be one new intersection on Veterans Memorial Boulevard and Tenth Street and all the other intersections will just be replacements, Holley said.

The new LED lights will last up to 10 years, which will also help the labor costs associated with maintaining the current system, Holley said.

See LED 15

CLOUDY

35°
29°



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Online
marshallparthenon.com



TODAY'S CALENDAR

Men prepare for UTEP match-up

Sports

Men's hoops vs. UTEP
7 p.m. | Cam Henderson Center

Women's hoops vs. ECU
7 p.m. Wednesday | Cam Henderson Center

Marshall Softball Holiday Invitational Tournament
All Weekend starting 2 p.m. Friday against Kent State | Dot Hicks Field

Baseball at Georgia Southern
7 p.m. Friday | Statesboro, Ga.

Entertainment

Craig Gass
9 p.m. Friday-Sunday | Funny Bone Comedy Club

The Good ol' Boys and a Girl
9 p.m. | Shamrocks' Pub

Habib Koité & Bamada
7 p.m. | Charleston Clay Center

On campus

Baylor Brass Quintet
8 p.m. Thursday | Jormie Jazz Forum

Guitarist Andrés Saborio
8 p.m. Wednesday | Smith music Recital Hall

New movies

Opening March 5
Alice in Wonderland
Brooklyn's Finest

Opening March 12
Green Zone
She's Out Of My League

Volume 113 | No. 31

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TODAY
ON TV



The Biggest Loser
8 p.m.
NBC



American Idol
8 p.m.
Fox



NCIS
8 p.m.
9 p.m.
CBS



Lost
9 p.m.
ABC



Melrose Place
9 p.m.
CW

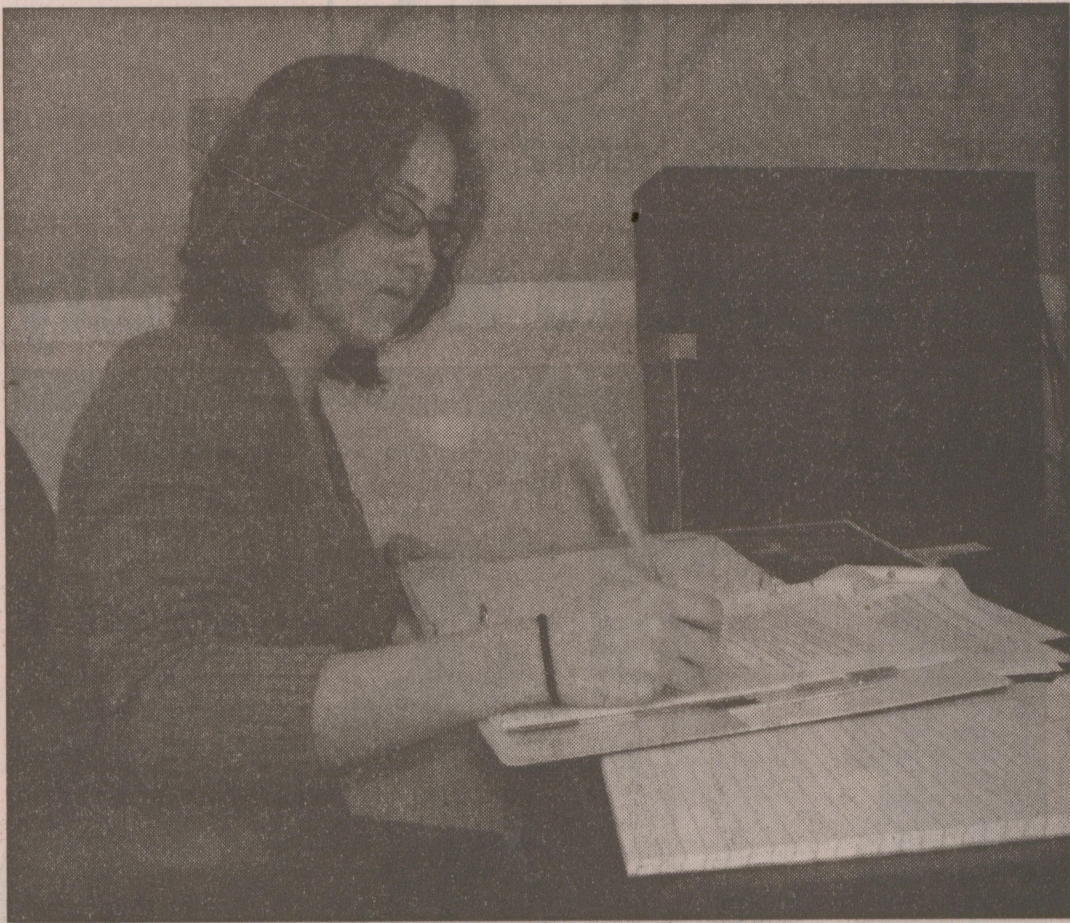


Monday - Wet T-Shirt Night
Thursday - Amateur Night

\$200 Weekly Winner
\$500 Weekly Winner

Happy Hour Nightly!
Buy 1 get 1 Free 6pm - 11pm!
#2 Mall Road Barboursville, WV
(304) 733-6176 Open 3pm - 3am

Service program seeks to fight poverty, receives volunteer



Nicole Lumadue, AmeriCorps VISTA, prepares to spend one year working with Marshall University's Service Learning Program. As a VISTA, Lumadue will help the community fight poverty by organizing projects and securing the resources needed for community service.

BY KIMBERLY BRADLEY
THE PARTHENON

An AmeriCorps VISTA will be serving Marshall's Service Learning Program for a year to help link Marshall to the community.

Nicole Lumadue will serve as a Volunteer in Service to America.

She became interested in the program as an undergraduate at Pennsylvania State University, she said. She performed community service work through student organizations on her campus and volunteering locally.

"I've been doing volunteer work all of my life," Lumadue said. "I've always been on the doing end."

Founded in 1965, AmeriCorps VISTA is a national service program designed to fight poverty, according to the AmeriCorps Web site. Members commit to serve full-time for a year at a nonprofit organization or local government agency.

"Her main mission as a VISTA volunteer is one of capacity building," said Kim Detardo-Bora, Lumadue's site supervisor and director of the Service Learning Program. "In other words, she is assigned to the Marshall University's Service Learning Program to expand our ability to fight poverty and help us in creating the necessary mechanisms to help Marshall meet its own service mission and goals."

"Rather than providing services to low income individuals and communities directly, she will strengthen and support our university by building infrastructure, coordinating service-learning projects, expanding community

partnerships, securing long-term resources and numerous other activities that strengthen anti-poverty efforts," Detardo-Bora said.

In college, Lumadue was involved in a student-run club on campus called Project Haiti. The club traded services for donations, and all the proceeds went to a sponsored community in Haiti.

"We would sell programs at games. We would have spaghetti dinners at local churches, and we pushed people in wheelchairs during football games," Lumadue said. "We were involved in a lot of different activities. All the proceeds from the activities would go to our cause."

During spring break, students would have the option of going to the Haitian community they were helping.

"We would bring them goods and help them with any project they had," Lumadue said. "We were allowed to do a lot with that community, and that kind of sparked my interest."

Lumadue was also involved with the Center for Sustainability.

Students set an environmentally friendly example of living off the land to reflect their studies, she said. Students lived in a yurt, received power from wind and solar energy and grew their own food. They also used bicycles to get into town and used rainwater collected from buildings to wash dishes and clothes.

"It was a really interesting program," Lumadue said. "What I liked best about it was other departments in the school, like the engineering,

See VOLUNTEER | 5

Medical school trains students to speak with patients

BY ANDREA POLING
THE PARTHENON

Medical students from the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine get hands-on experience using standardized patients at the Byrd Clinical Center.

Amy Smith, assistant director of medical education and clinical skills coordinator, said students practice interview skills, professionalism and basic medical skills by using standardized patients and medical simulators.

"Standardized patients are people we hire from the community as temporary employees," Smith said. "They are given cases in which they become actors or actresses, and they portray whatever scenario we have trained them to do."

Debby Johnson, a standardized patient for the school, allows students to gain experience by interviewing and evaluating her medical history.

"They have to learn to deal with individual people of all backgrounds and ages," Johnson said. "This is very practical experience for them."

Johnson said it is important for students to be able to communicate with the average individual.

"Because of their academic backgrounds, they must be able to transfer all of their knowledge to that of the average individual," Johnson said. "They need to learn to not use the high medical terms that a normal person would not understand."

Smith said as students progress into the program, the curriculum breaks into separate systems.

"If they are doing a cardiac lecture in their didactic sessions, then we bring them into the

clinical skills lab where they see a cardiac physical performed by Dr. McCormick, clinical skills director," Smith said. "They then break into small groups with fourth year students and standardized patients to practice a cardiac example."

Smith said the standardized patients are the number one learning source for the medical students.

"We believe the more exposure that they have to these simulated cases, the more confidence they will gain as they go into their third year where they are actually in a hospital or by the bedside of patients," Smith said.

Smith said the school has a new cardiac medical simulator that is being integrated into the curriculum.

"Harvey is a cardiac simulator that has a computerized chest," Smith said. "When you run a magnetic stethoscope across his chest you will hear a cardiac sound that mimics whatever program we put into the system."

The cardiac simulator has 10 wireless stethoscopes that allow students to stand around the simulator and listen to the cardiac sounds at the same time, Smith said. The students begin using the simulators and standardized patients in the first month of their first year in medical school.

"In the fall of 2009, we changed the entire curriculum for the first and second year medical students to center around patient care," Smith said. "If they are learning about the cardiac system, then we bring them in here and teach them how to do a normal cardiac assessment on a patient."

Andrea Poling can be contacted at poling26@marshall.edu.

W.Va. jobless fund sinks below \$100M

BY LAWRENCE MESSINA
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — The fund that provides benefits to jobless West Virginians while they seek work has dropped below \$100 million, and officials fear it will run out of money by October.

The state's Unemployment Compensation fund ended February with a balance of about \$93 million, less than half what it had a year ago. Program Director Michael Moore projects that the fund will become insolvent by mid-fall.

"Unless the economy turns around, that appears to be what we're looking at," Moore said.

The continuing effects of the worst recession since the 1930s contributed to a state unemployment rate of 9.3 percent last month, when adjusted for seasonal hiring trends. The rate averaged 7.9 percent in 2009, compared to the prior year's 4.3 percent.

Around 28,730 out-of-work West Virginians relied on benefits as of Feb. 13, the latest date for available figures. That's down from more than 33,400 recipients during the previous month. Initial claims also fell to 2,055, their lowest level so far this year.

At least 30 other states have run out of funds within the last 18 months, forcing them to borrow a combined \$33 billion from the federal government to keep benefits flowing. Moore said his counterparts in other states believe all but 10

states will need federal funds by year's end.

West Virginia is facing a painful replay from the 1980s, when it borrowed \$308 million to keep its fund solvent. Double-digit unemployment — the state's rate soared as high as 18.2 percent in early 1983 — hammered a trust fund also weakened by flat revenues. The state later sold bonds to repay those loans, hitting both employers and workers with special charges to cover them.

Gov. Joe Manchin hopes to avoid all that by pursuing options with federal officials short of borrowing, said spokesman Matt Turner.

"We're watching it very closely," Turner said. "He still believes very strongly that we can manage our way out."

Turner said Manchin also noted that the state's fund would have bottomed out sooner, had lawmakers not passed a measure he requested last year to shore up its balance.

Moore estimates that the 2009 legislation has pumped an additional \$80 million into the trust fund. About half that reflects a one-time transfer from a state insurance-related account. The rest came from increasing the share of wages upon which employers pay a tax into the fund.

The tax, 2.7 percent for most businesses, applies to the first \$12,000 of each workers' wages. That's up from the first \$8,000, and the share will drop to the first \$9,000 once the trust fund balance stays above \$220 million. It will then remain linked to changes in wage levels.

Cabell County's expanded smoking ban on hold

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. (AP) — Cabell County's ban on smoking in bars and video gambling parlors is on hold.

The ban was scheduled to go into effect Monday. But a judge on Friday issued a temporary injunction delaying the ban's implementation.

The injunction was sought by more than 50 bars and gambling parlors that are suing the

Cabell-Huntington Board of Health. They claim the board's decision to expand the county's indoor smoking ban to bars and gambling parlors is arbitrary, unreasonable and denies them the economically viable use of their property.

Cabell County Circuit Judge Jane Husted has scheduled another hearing in the case for Thursday.

Electric companies request 8.2 percent rate hike

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — Appalachian Power and Wheeling Power say they're seeking an 8.2 percent rate increase in West Virginia.

The companies said the request filed Monday with the state Public Service Commission is the second of what is expected to be four annual increases. The commission approved a 12.1 percent hike last September.

The utilities, both subsidiaries of Ohio-based American Electric Power, say their latest request

would increase revenue about \$96 million. Monthly residential bills per 1,000 kilowatt hours would rise to \$86.44, from \$80.47.

The utilities say the increase wouldn't generate any profit. Rather, it would cover passed-along costs for fuel, purchased power and equipment to remove flue gas from the John Amos power plant in Putnam County.

If approved, the utilities say rates would go up July 1.



Alex Cohen, a senior at Boston College and team leader of the 2010 Collegiate Challenge Program, works with Habitat for Humanity to build houses during his spring break.

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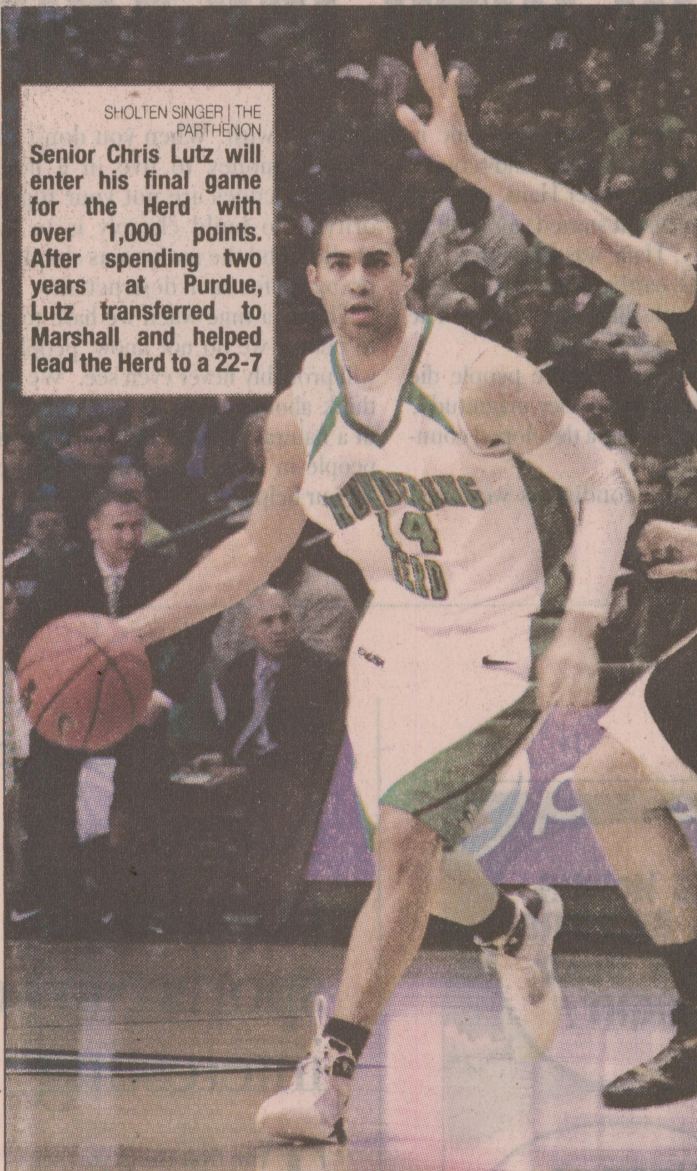


Hassan Whiteside, basketball

Whiteside registered his nation's-best third triple-double of the season with 14 points, 11 rebounds and 13 blocks against UCF. He is also the first player in C-USA history to record three triple-doubles in a career. This is his sixth Rookie of the Week honor.

THE PARTHENON marshallparthenon.com | Tuesday, March 2, 2010

ONE LAST HOMESTAND



SHOLTEN SINGER | THE PARTHENON
Senior Chris Lutz will enter his final game for the Herd with over 1,000 points. After spending two years at Purdue, Lutz transferred to Marshall and helped lead the Herd to a 22-7

Time has gone by fast for senior Lutz

BY TROY HEMINGWAY
THE PARTHENON

When Marshall takes the court tonight against UTEP at the Cam Henderson Center, it will be the last home game in the green and white for Chris Lutz.

He is hoping that it will go much like his senior night in high school.

"My senior night in high school was good," Lutz said. "I actually hit 12 shots in a row and eight of them were 3s."

That would be a welcome sight for Marshall, as UTEP comes into Huntington ranked No. 21 in the country. This game is important for seeding in next week's conference tournament and head coach Donnie Jones said UTEP is a very talented team.

"They are probably the most talented team we will face," Jones said. "They are deep and really good at every position and are probably one of the top 20 most talented teams in the country."

Lutz is also aware of the importance of the game he said is

going to stay focused amidst the emotion of senior night.

"You have to stay focused," Lutz said. "When you are a senior, you have gone through three years of seeing guys leave, so you need to savor the moment, but at the same time stay focused."

After transferring from Purdue, Lutz had to sit out for one year because of NCAA rules. With that extra year, Lutz spent four years in Huntington, but he said they have gone by quickly and he can't believe his last home game is near.

"It's going to be crazy," Lutz said. "It has gone by really fast, but I will always remember the little things, on and off the court, like being in the locker room laughing with the guys."

Jones praised Lutz's maturity and leadership, and said that he has grown during his time at Marshall.

"Chris is a high-character person," Jones said. "His leadership and how he handles himself is awesome, and he has been a great

See LUTZ | 5



SHOLTEN SINGER | THE PARTHENON
Senior Tyler Wilkerson is the Herd's leading scorer at 13.4 points per game. Head coach Donnie Jones said Wilkerson is one of the main reasons for Marshall's resurgence.

Wilkerson ready to honor Herd family

BY KYLE HOBSTETTER
THE PARTHENON

Even though he has family coming to see his last game at the Cam Henderson Center, Tyler Wilkerson would feel at home even if they didn't show up.

The senior from Lexington, Ky, feels that after four years in a Marshall uniform, he has grown to consider the Herd fans his faithful extended family.

"I'm going to miss them and hopefully they miss me," Wilkerson said of the fans. "I'll have a lot of family here, but these fans at Marshall are my family too. If I had family coming or if I don't, I'll still feel at home."

This season, Wilkerson has given his extended family something to smile about. As Marshall's leading scorer with 13.4 points per game, the 6-foot-8 forward has helped in the Herd's basketball resurgence.

Before this year, the most games Wilkerson had won with the Herd was 16. Now with 22 wins and counting, Wilkerson has not only seen

a change in the program but also himself.

"It's been like night and day," he said. "The team has grown so much with so much talent with so many new players. Everybody loves the gym, we don't like leaving the gym. We're in the gym so much its become fun."

As Wilkerson has gone through his four years, you can see the transformation in his play. Originally when Wilkerson came in, most spectators saw him as a post player and nothing more.

But as the years have passed Wilkerson has learned to be a more versatile player. It is not uncommon to see him step out to with nail a 15-foot jumper, or even a 3-pointer.

Head coach Donnie Jones said that with age came responsibility for Wilkerson and that it took a year or two to get the Lexington native where he is now.

"He came in and we thought he was a five-man, who we thought was going to post up

See WILKERSON | 5



SHOLTEN SINGER | THE PARTHENON
Senior Darryl Merthie will enter his last game after playing 122 games in a Herd uniform. This is second most in school history behind Skip Henderson's 125

Merthie prepared for final-game emotions

BY KYLE HOBSTETTER
THE PARTHENON

Fans that look at Darryl Merthie can call him the elder statesman of the Marshall men's basketball team.

The fifth year senior from Sanford, Fla., has seen the Herd go through two coaches, go from 12 wins in a season to 22 and has seen a resurgence in the Marshall fan base.

It wouldn't be hard to blame him if he got emotional.

"I'll try not to cry," Merthie said. "When I walk out on the court it will be tough, but I don't know. We'll see what happens."

What seems to have been a long and crazy ride for Merthie may continue to get longer.

The senior is currently second in all-time games played wearing a Herd uniform with 121. The record currently stands at 125 games for Skip Henderson, who played for Marshall from 1984-1988.

Head coach Donnie Jones said that when he met Merthie he saw potential, but Merthie struggled

with things on and off the court. Merthie was ruled ineligible to start his sophomore season, but soon returned to action.

Jones said it was because of the work ethic the senior has shown.

"When I got here, there were a lot of things he needed to catch up on," Jones said. "To his credit, he took the discipline we put on him to catch up, and get his grades up and make himself eligible. He just keeps making strides each year to get better, and I'm really proud of Darryl. And if he completes what he has to do here, he'll graduate this spring."

Merthie remembers that suspension vividly. In fact, his favorite memory of being in a Marshall uniform was his return from suspension.

In his first game back against East Tennessee State, Merthie sent the game into overtime with a layup with 3.1 seconds left.

"That was a great feeling," Merthie said. "I'm going to remember a lot though, especially

See MERTHIE | 5



MICHAEL P. REESE | THE UTEP PROSPECTOR
UTEP senior Randy Culpepper, shown throwing up a shot against ECU earlier in the season, will lead the No. 21 Miners into Huntington against Marshall in a C-USA battle.

Herd end home season against No.21 UTEP

BY KYLE HOBSTETTER
THE PARTHENON

With 22 wins on the season, the Herd has yet to do one thing: beat a ranked team.

The Herd has had chances. They were ran out of the gym against No. 10 North Carolina. They then came up just short against No. 11 West Virginia in the Capitol Classic.

Tonight the Herd gets one more crack as Conference USA leader and No.21 team in the country comes to the Cam Henderson Center for Marshall's home season finale.

Marshall knows that while emotions will run high as seniors Darryl Merthie, Tyler Wilkerson and Chris Lutz will perhaps play their final game in Huntington, the team still has to be ready for a tough game.

"They are a talented team," Marshall head coach Donnie Jones said. "They are deep and really good at every position.



No.21 UTEP at Marshall

7 p.m. Tuesday

Cam Henderson Center

Radio: 88.1 WMUL

TV: Time Warner El Paso

They could be in the Top 20 most talented teams in the country."

UTEP, who is on a 12-game winning streak, has five players who average double figures in points and on any given night, any one player can beat you.

But the players the Herd have to keep an eye on are guard Randy Culpepper and forward Derrick Caracter.

Culpepper is in the running for C-USA Player of the Year, averaging 18 points per game, which is third best in the conference.

See UTEP | 5

DRIVE

THE AWAY FROM HOME TOUR FEATURING
K-OS AND FRANCIS & THE LIGHTS
APRIL 16 • 8:30PM • WWW.COLISEUM.COM

Arts & Entertainment
West Virginia University • [Tix @ ticketmaster.com](http://Tix@ticketmaster.com) • 800.745.3000

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OPINION

THE PARTHENON  marshallparthenon.com | Tuesday, March 2, 2010

THE PARTHENON EDITORIAL

People must dig a little deeper in their pockets

Haiti and now Chile are depending on us and other well-developed countries for food and relief

An earthquake measuring 8.8 on the Richter scale struck Chile on Saturday, killing over 700 people, according to CNN.com. Residents are scrambling for food and shelter, panicked by the natural disaster.

Efforts to help Chile were advertised just as quickly as the efforts to help Haiti. Universities and organizations are raising

funds and sending medical and volunteer teams to help Chile recover.

It's hard to ask people for money. It's even harder when it's already been done.

Nonprofits are asking people to dig a little deeper, give a little more for a country that was also hit with a devastating disaster.

We should all give what we

can, just like we did the first time around. Chile not only has the misfortune of a natural disaster, but it is the second country to have one within two months.

We may feel like we have done enough, completed our charitable act, done our good deed for the year, or month.

But how would we feel if it was our country? If it was our home that was destroyed and we were searching for food and a safe place to live?

"Gamers are willing to work hard

all the time if they're given the right work."


Jane McGonigal, game designer, about her new game, 'Urgent Evoke,' which launches players into Africa to solve problems such as environmental degradation, lack of food, water scarcity and poverty.

4

JAY ROUDEBUSH
THE COMMON CAUSE

Let's go back to the drawing board

This past week there was a health care summit given by the president. Many important leaders from both parties in Congress were in attendance. In honesty it was a showboating opportunity for both sides of the issue.


Jay Roubush
COLUMNIST

The Republicans made sound bites for future elections, and the Democrats said they wanted a bipartisan bill while stating clearly they would do it with or without Republican support. The success of this summit was huge if measured in points by the fringe of both parties.

The hyper progressives will be satisfied that the Democrats are willing to use reconciliation to pass the bill without Republican obstruction. The hyper conservatives will be pleased that the Republicans didn't care about any compromise; they would stand against the bill.

The fact is the people that lost in the health care summit were you and me. The average American is losing on this health care debate.

The Republicans say they want to start over and work out a new bill. The fact is they aren't willing to allow the government to regulate or offer assistance. That means the solution will have to come from the health care market. That is what got us into this in the first place. Tort reform is the second battle cry, but it isn't a long term solution. People must be protected by the courts from mistakes by doctors.

The Democrats aren't willing to go back to the drawing board. The bill has changed so much from the start. Who really knows what is or is not in the current bill? Senate or House bill? It is a mess. The process has failed. We need to go back to the start and make a bill worth passing. That will help the American people, not trying to force a bill on the people to claim success on the subject.

Too many people in Congress are worried about keeping their jobs. They don't care about the people's need for affordable health care. They care about the success of their career and the ambitions of their party.

Don't be fooled by either side at the moment. We know that the system needs to be fixed. We know the market can't do it alone. We know the government can't do it alone. We need a balance. Stop trying to force-feed the American people taxes and regulations that aren't proven to work. We need to sit down together, both parties, and work out a health care bill that will help all Americans.

Contact Jay Roubush at roudebush1@marshall.edu.

EDITORIAL CARTOON | ROB ROGERS | PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE



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.

Online poll

What is the first thing you want to do when the weather gets warm?

- Play some frisbee
- Wear shorts
- Walk to Pullman Square instead of driving

 marshallparthenon.com

RESULTS

What do you think about Tiger Woods' apology?

- I don't care 63%
- He's right, he needs his privacy 23%
- He deserves nothing 14%

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VIEW FROM THE VALLEY

Not so popular sports can be interesting

The first thing you see when you walk into my bedroom is a five-foot long bulletin board holding some of my most valued personal effects. It includes my U.S. Senate pass, letters from my young cousins in New York, pictures of my little brother and my favorite: a 1996 newspaper clipping showing the Magnificent Seven singing our national anthem.

For those of you who don't remember that Olympics, the Magnificent Seven was the name of our women's gymnastic team. I will never forget watching Kerri Strug performing her second vault despite a sprained ankle and tendon damage and bringing the Americans their first team gold medal ever.

The Olympics are a display of national pride. It gives citizens a reason to set aside their differences and come together as a country and support their athletes. The men and women who compete represent the best of their respective sports and have worked their entire lives to achieve that honor.

Americans know this. It is apparent by the sheer number of complaints due to inadequate live coverage and the number of newspaper front pages dedicated to Olympic wins. However, once the Olympics end, most of the fans will disperse and return to football and baseball without a second thought.

As an avid soccer and hockey fan, I find it hard to believe that so many Americans would prefer to watch games that constantly pause rather than a fast-action sport like soccer. Honestly, baseball bores me. I generally look up if I hear the bat hit the ball, and read through the rest of the game.

I would like to challenge the U.S. to follow a sport outside their comfort zone for the next two years. I think many would be surprised by the sheer skill and personal discipline it takes to compete in sports such as cross country skiing and speed skating, and I think more would be surprised at just how interesting these sports really are.

Although the U.S. might not be ready to wear curling jerseys or become loyal fans of Evan Lysacek, it will still support our Olympic athletes, and that's better than nothing.

Contact Amanda White at white461@marshall.edu.

Interim director supervises University College



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHERRI STEPP
Sherri Stepp is serving as interim director of University College.

BY ELIZABETH ADAMS
THE PARTHENON

University College needed a new director when Michelle Duncan left in November for the opportunity to work at James Madison University.

"Rather than doing a search for a full-time director, we decided to appoint an interim and have someone in place while we decided what we were going to do with University College and with the programs," said Frances Hensley, vice president of Academic Affairs.

"There are so many new initiatives going on right now that will change the nature of the position," she said. "It's hard to go out and advertise for that position when it is changing, even in terms of the number of people that the position will be supervising."

Key criteria for the interim director are good organization skills and a good sense of student programming.

Sherri Stepp was offered the job, which officially began Dec. 17, 2009.

"Sherri has been really active at working with orientation and recruitment, so she seemed like a good person to move in when Michelle left, to sort of smooth in seamlessly to keep the University College functioning at the high level that they have been functioning," Hensley said.

Stepp said she has been on campus 20 years, working 15 years in financial aid, and five in Parent Resources.

A native of Chesapeake, Ohio, Stepp earned a bachelor's degree from Marshall University in 1987 and a master's degree in adult and technical education in 2004.

"Once I became a full-time employee here, I've never really looked to go anywhere else," Stepp said.

Stepp said she enjoys working for the university and has no desire to leave.

"I enjoy being around students," Stepp said. "It keeps me young, or young thinking maybe. I'm comfortable here. I like helping people, and I think Marshall has a lot to offer."

"As to whether or not Stepp will be considered for the new position when it is created, it will just depend on whether it's a position that will be something that she's interested in, whether it will be something that she's eligible for and will she apply for it," Hensley said. "We're not thinking of it one way or the other. She's doing a great job as the interim director, and we're very grateful for Sherri being willing to step in and do this."

Hensley said University College has not created the position yet. "We're not even working on a job description right now," she said.

Stepp said if she is given the opportunity to apply for the position when it is created, she definitely will.

"At this point, I'm just taking it one day at a time because I don't know how long I'll be interim director, but it appears it'll be a while since they have not posted a job," Stepp said. "I'll stay as long as they'll have me."

"Since I've been here, I'm getting better at delegating. It has been a learning process. I'm not coming in and doing a routine day's work because I'm still learning everything, but I am trying to learn things completely and do them well."

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Look for The Parthenon's Spring Sports Edition Monday, March 8.

UTEP

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Character, who is a transfer from Louisville, Ky., is averaging 14.1 points per game and is fourth in the C-USA in rebounds at 8.8 per game.

The two stars have helped the Miners clinch a share of the C-USA title, UTEP's first C-USA men's basketball title.

But even with the winning streak and the accolades, Wilkerson said that they are ready for the Miners to enter the Henderson Center.

"It's going to be exciting," Wilkerson said. "We know there is a lot going on and we're trying not to think about that. The last game we are going to be ready to play."

The one player who needs to be ready is freshman Hassan Whiteside. The 7-foot freshman will probably draw Character on the defensive end.

Character is one of the most physical players in C-USA, averaging three personal fouls a game. Whiteside has struggled against physical teams all year including UAB and WVU. But Whiteside is the only player in the NCAA to have three triple-doubles this year.

While Whiteside and Character may be the game focus, it is senior night for Marshall seniors. To honor the seniors and the overall play of the Herd, Marshall officials are expecting a sell-out for the game.

Jones said that getting the fans there would be a great boost for the team and its seniors.

"The fans really give us energy," Jones said. "I hope we can pack this place and honor those three guys who helped get us back on the map at Marshall."

Getting on the map is right. Marshall has won more than 20 games for the first time in over a decade and have earned a bye in the C-USA tournament.

But the team knows that it's always about the next game, and the next game is probably the most important of the season.

"We have to focus on what's ahead," Jones said. "We are going to play the best team in our league, and it's going to be an incredible challenge for our team."

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CORRECTION

In the Monday, March 1 edition of The Parthenon, it was mistakenly reported on the front page that the Marshall men's basketball team will play against Tulsa on Tuesday. The Herd will actually play against UTEP. The Parthenon apologizes for the mistake.

VOLUNTEER

Continued from Page 2

environmental, agricultural departments went hand in hand with this program. They were the departments that developed the solar panels, wind turbines and yurt.

"You were able to see what they were doing in their classrooms, work in real life," Lumadue said. "On a smaller scale, I think that's what the service learning department at Marshall is trying to do. We are trying to incorporate what students are learning in class and putting that into context with a real life situation."

Lumadue was involved with these organizations as well as an Eco-Action Environmental Club and volunteered at food drives, soup kitchens and donated blood regularly. When Lumadue graduated, she realized the driving force behind her volunteer work was her minor, peace and conflict studies.

"Studying politics and cultures in different situations such as poverty made me realize my passion of finding out why people are in these situations, who these people are and the cultural disconnect I was feeling with these people," Lumadue said.

Her experiences made her curious about the AmeriCorps VISTA program.

"After graduating, I researched the Peace Corps and many nonprofits, and that's how I found AmeriCorps," Lumadue said. "I've been preparing for almost a year for a position and researched the different programs AmeriCorps had to offer."

Lumadue said her objective is not to recruit students for community service but to get students involved in service learning curriculum and get faculty on board with the Service Learning Program.

The Service Learning Program is under a national organization, Campus Compact.

West Virginia's headquarters is at West Virginia University.

"WVU has been very successful with their program. So, there is success," Lumadue said.

"I expect that Nichole will be successful in capacity building, that is, in creating the necessary infrastructure to sustain our Service Learning Program goals well after her term with us has ended," Detardo-Bora said.

"Her service and devotion to the project thus far is invaluable. We are very fortunate to have her," Detardo-Bora said.

During her one year term, Lumadue will receive a modest living allowance, health care and other benefits, according to the AmeriCorps Web site. Upon completing her term, she will choose to receive either a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award or post-service stipend.

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LED

Continued from Page 1

Josh Cooley, 21-year-old Huntington resident who works at Little Caesar's Pizza, said he thinks the new system will definitely help traffic congestion and be more energy efficient.

"I think the city is taking baby steps in the right direction towards going green, which is a good thing," Cooley said.

The new system has a lot of benefits for the city but Holly said he thinks it will help give people a more positive spin on the city.

"With a system that's broken, and people have to stop at every intersection, it can make one angry," Holley said. "So changing from a negative attitude to a positive attitude is huge for me. The energy consumption is also a nice benefit and a step towards going green, which I think we as a city and community need to start thinking about more."

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Wilkerson

Continued from Page 3

nothing else," Jones said. "He was a freshman who didn't want to put in time or work for it. But he put in his time this summer. He's been a great leader for us and has been great for us this year."

And with the leadership aspect, it has been Wilkerson's job to help get freshman Hassan Whiteside to step up and compete at the college level.

Jones said with Wilkerson, it was easy for the senior to help those younger guys, especially showing them by example.

"He's shown those guys how to compete," Jones said. "He's shown those guys how to work and bring it every day. As a freshman that's a hard thing to do, and Tyler has really show them that by example. He pushes these guys every day and it makes these guys better."

Wilkerson knew he would have to be a leader this year, and was ready to accept the responsibility.

"I just had to stay focused and stay vocal," Wilkerson said. "It's easy to lead guys who want to be leaders themselves. We got good core guys who listen and do everything right."

With becoming a leader on a winning team, Wilkerson has seen the two things improve he wanted more than anything: the atmosphere and the fan base.

As the senior goes into his last game at home, he can't wait to play in front of the Cam Henderson Center fans one more time.

"This is the best year I've had at Marshall, I've just had so much fun playing ball this year and I'll always remember it," Wilkerson said.

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Merthie

Continued from Page 3

this year. With my teammates, my coaching staff, and we're winning. So I'm excited about that."

Another factor that makes Tuesday even more special is that for the first time in five years, Merthie's mother will come to Huntington to watch her son play.

While she has seen him play, she hasn't left Florida to do it. His mom's first game in

Huntington adds a little extra incentive to the Florida native's last game.

"My mom hasn't come up here since she dropped me off when I was a freshman," Merthie said. "I asked her about it, and she said she would be excited. So I can't wait for her to get here."

Five years is a long time for anyone to spend in one place. But soon Merthie will have to leave the surroundings of Huntington for a new challenge.

"I spent all my time up here as a teenager and as a young man," Merthie said.

"This is going to be a great feeling, and I'm going to miss Huntington a lot. But it's time to move on."

But before he moves on Merthie has one more goal he would like to achieve.

"Winning the Conference championship," Merthie said with a smile.

Merthie's smile will turn in to a competitive edge as he leads the Herd in his last home game against UTEP at 7 p.m. tonight at the Cam Henderson Center.

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Lutz

Continued from Page 3

role model to younger players on the team and also a great representative of the school."

Jones also said that Lutz has progressed as a basketball player while at Marshall.

"Chris is a complete basketball player," Jones said. "He came here as just a shooter, but now he is a complete scorer and one of the best defenders on the team."

Tonight's game is more than just senior night for the Thundering Herd. It is a very important game for the whole team, as Marshall tries to make the postseason for the first time in 23 years.

"Our goal is to play in the postseason," Jones said. "This game is huge towards seeding for the conference tournament and also for our RPI. It has been 23 years since we have played in the postseason and these seniors want to be remembered as one of the best teams to ever play at Marshall."

Although Lutz has many memories with his teammates, he said he hopes that the best memories are yet to come.

"Hopefully if there is a best moment it will be coming up this postseason," Lutz said. "Our goal this season has been to make the postseason and that is what we are working towards."

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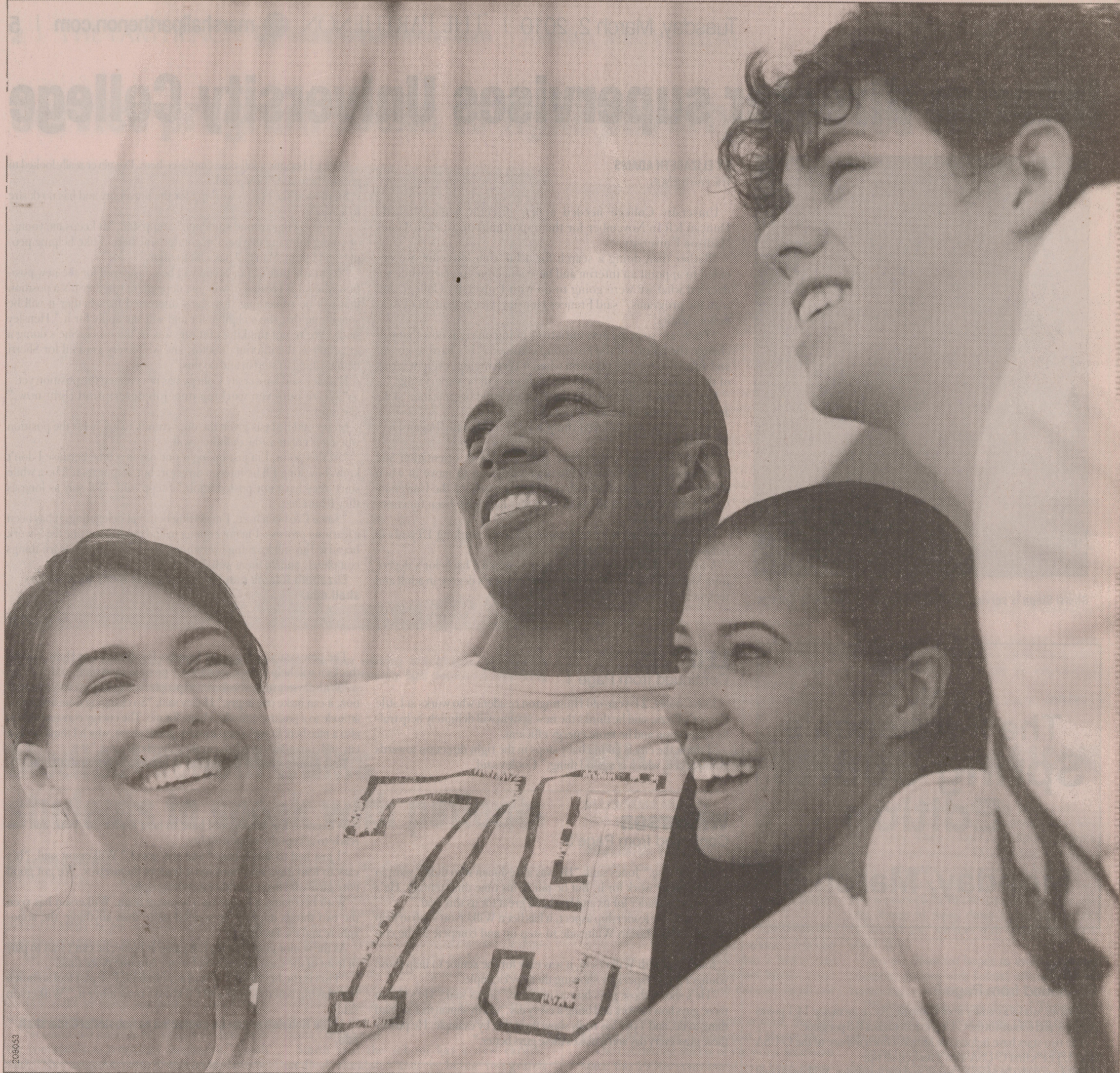
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