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## The Parthenon, April 21, 2010

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# THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's Student Newspaper | marshallparthenon.com | Wednesday, April 2010

## Like an eagle

### Local skydiving outfit offers airborne adventure

BY KELSEY THOMAS  
The Parthenon

Skydiving is an adventure sure to break up the monotony of everyday life.

"I think it's something definitely everybody should try at least once in their life," said Larry Lemaster, owner and lead instructor at Tri-State Skydivers in South Point, Ohio. "Usually after you try it once, you will want to try it again. I've taken up people from 18 to 92 and have never had anybody regret going, but I have had people regret not going."

Almost anybody can go skydiving, Lemaster said. The only two limitations are age and weight. Skydivers must be at least 18 years old for legal reasons and under 255 pounds because of parachute weight limits.

Tri-State Skydivers typically use small four-seat Cessna 182 airplanes to take skydivers up in, Lemaster said. The jump from a Cessna 182 is typically anywhere from 8,000 feet to 11,000 feet off the ground.

For larger groups of people, Tri-State Skydivers will rent a Pac 750, which can fit up to 15 passengers and typically reach altitudes of 13,000 feet to 14,000 feet off the ground, he said.

Lemaster said the most dangerous part about skydiving is actually driving to the facility or leaving.

"A lot of people think of skydiving as real dangerous because you're jumping out of an airplane, and it sounds dangerous, but anything that is inherently dangerous like that, there are a lot more

safety precautions that go into it," Lemaster said.

Tri-State Skydivers has been in operation since 1992, but Lemaster has owned it for the past 10 years. He said he has taught a few thousand people to skydive, and the business has maintained an excellent safety record throughout the years.

All instructors at Tri-State Skydiving are certified by the United States Parachute Association and have dealt with thousands of jumps, Lemaster said. During the winter when the skydiving business isn't as steady in the Tri-State, he and the other instructors go to bigger drop zones around the country to get some extra training and practice at a wind tunnel in North Carolina.

Lemaster said many college-level skydiving leagues exist around the nation. He said he would love to start a competitive skydiving league at Marshall University if students showed enough interest.

Outdoor pursuits at the Marshall Recreation Center had planned to take a group of students on a skydiving trip with Tri-State Skydivers on May 1, said Phil Snyder, assistant director of aquatics and outdoor pursuits at Marshall.

Unfortunately, the trip did not generate enough interest and had to be cancelled, Snyder said.

He said the two people who had already signed up for the trip would be refunded.

Kelsey Thomas can be contacted at thomas336@marshall.edu.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LARRY LEMASTER  
Larry Lemaster, top, and Magdalena Kowalska tandem skydive through the skys over South Point, Ohio. Lemaster owns Tri-State Skydivers and also offers static-line jumps. College students can receive a discount with a valid I.D.

### University takes new approach to freshman orientation

BY LAURA HATFIELD  
THE PARTHENON

The final plans are being made for Marshall University's first overnight orientation.

The official name of the event is called Up Late at Marshall, said Frances Hensley, associate vice president of academic affairs. The first overnight option will be introduced June 21 for the Honors orientation on June 22. The second and final overnight option will be July 19 for the July 20 orientation.

This is a pilot program to see how effective a longer orientation process is, Hensley said.

"We think it's going to be a fun opportunity, but that aside, our whole goal is to really start our retention effort with Up Late," Hensley said. "We want to spend more time with parents talking about academic expectations, talking about privacy concerns at the college level, just sort of talking to parents about their transitions from parents of high school students to parents of college students and how we can work together to help our students be successful."

"I think the faculty at Marshall share with parents a wish that these students will be successful and that they will meet their career goals," Hensley said. "The students will get to talk to Marshall students, ask what college is really like, what to expect and get tips to be successful."

Hensley said the faculty is planning a program for parents and a student committee is planning a program

for students. The program for parents is intended to give them a more extensive opportunity to get acquainted with Marshall and the faculty. The students will talk to current Marshall students about what it's like to be a Marshall student. They will have a scavenger hunt to help them get to know the terrain by finding places on campus.

The students will meet with their parents for dinner, Hensley said. Marshall has arranged for discounts at specific restaurants in downtown Huntington for those attending the orientation.

After dinner, the parents and students will split up into their specific programs again. The faculty will talk to parents about the emotional issues of sending a child to college and academic issues, Hensley said.

When the parents and students get together again, they will have two options for what activity they would like to do for the remaining hours of the program. They can either go to a taping of the program "Up Late" as well as possibly participate in the taping of "Up Late," or they can participate in activities at the Marshall Recreation Center.

The students will stay in Twin Towers East. The parents will make arrangements somewhere else for the night. The students will not have to pay to stay overnight.

Sherri Stepp, interim director of University College, said it is hard for students to get a real taste of college when they visit for one day during the summer since the summer pace is much slower than the regular school year.

See LATE 15



PHOTO COURTESY OF LARRY LEMASTER  
Tri-State Skydivers offers services to people of all ages, including this unidentified 80-year-old man who participated in a tandem jump.

PARTLY CLOUDY



72°  
48°

What's on  
your mind?

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Volume 113 | No. 59

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TODAY  
ON TV



America's  
Next Top  
Model  
8 p.m.  
CW



NCIS  
8 p.m.  
USA



American  
Idol  
9 p.m.  
FOX



Criminal  
Minds  
9 p.m.  
CBS



Modern  
Family  
9 p.m.  
ABC

#### CALENDAR

### "Lord of the Dance" comes to Keith-Albee



#### Sports

Baseball vs. Coppin State  
1 p.m. | Beckley, W.Va.

Women's tennis C-USA  
Tournament  
All day Thursday | Tulsa, Okla.

#### Entertainment

Lord of the Dance  
7:30 p.m. Thursday | Keith-Albee  
Performing Arts Center

#### On campus

Research and Writing Buffet  
Various times today | Drinko Library,  
2nd floor

An African Wedding  
7:45 p.m. Friday | Smith Hall Room  
154

#### Community

Empty Bowls  
10:30 a.m. Friday | First Presbyterian  
Church

#### New movies

April 23

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# Marshall students to perform "Our Country's Good"



Ethan Treutle, sophomore, and Rachel Kenaston, senior BFA production and design major, practice for tonight's performance of "Our Country's Good." The performance will be in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.

BY DREW HETZER  
THE PARTHENON

A drama with a sharp-edged sense of humor re-enacted by Marshall University's theatre department premieres its final performance of the season this week.

The performance of Timberlake Wertenbaker's "Our Country's Good" chronicles the journey of British convicts sent to Australia in the late 1780s as part of the first penal colony.

"This story is a real valentine to theatre," said Jack Cirillo, associate professor of performance studies in the theatre department at Marshall University and director of the play. "Through working collaboratively and creatively in theatre, they would become rehabilitated."

Cirillo said this story captures the language of the prisoners and through theatre that language refines itself.

In their new environment, the prisoners find themselves trapped between the brutality of the guards, starvation and dangers of the wild new land.

In efforts to create a more humane society and raise morale, the governor decides to put on a play using convicts as actors.

This unusual task sparks a transformative power of theatre, bringing together prisoners and jailers alike.

"I like directing but more than anything else watching my students build and grow, not only intellectually but artistically," Cirillo said.

Jeremy Plyburn, senior acting and directing major from Huntington, said this is an exciting play and most of its cast is playing two or more characters. This is Plyburn's 11th and final show as a theatre major at Marshall.

Plyburn will be acting as Captain Campbell, a Scottish Marine guard, and John Arscott, a British prisoner.

"The two characters are very diverse," Plyburn said. "One is an extremely drunk Scott and the

other is a big mean British criminal. The difference in dialect is very challenging."

Plyburn has also performed on the main stage in "I Hate Hamlet," "The Diary of Anne Frank," "Little Shop of Horrors," "The Seagull" and "The Glass Menagerie."

Cirillo said he saw the premiere of the show on Broadway in 1991 with inspiration to one day direct the play himself.

"This has always been on my list of plays to do," Cirillo said. "I just needed the right cast to make it happen."

Cirillo has worked on the New York City stages as well as in many regional theatres including The Roundabout Theatre Company, The Hudson Guild, The Goodspeed Opera House, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis and the Colorado and North Carolina Shakespeare Festivals.

Since coming to Marshall in 1998, Cirillo has been involved in many departmental productions both as a director and as a performer.

At Marshall he directed productions for "Oliver!", "Julius Caesar," "Hay Fever," "Twelfth Night," "Romeo and Juliet" and "To Kill a Mockingbird."

In addition, he performed in "The Tempest," "American Buffalo," "Our Town" and "Copenhagen."

"Our Country's Good" won the Lawrence Oliver Award in 1988 and the Tony and Drama Desk Awards in 1991 for Best Play.

The performance will be shown for mature audiences starting at 8 p.m. today from April 21-24 in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.

The box office is open from 1-5 p.m. Monday through Friday and door sales open at 7 p.m.

Admission is free to Marshall students with valid student ID, \$20 for adults, \$15 for faculty and senior citizens.

Drew Hetzer can be contacted at [Hetzer3@marshall.edu](mailto:Hetzer3@marshall.edu).

## New student government conducts first meeting, elects new senators

BY ALYSSA SALYERS  
THE PARTHENON

The Student Government Association conducted its first meeting for the 2010-2011 school year Tuesday. The newly-elected student body Vice President Samantha Turley called the meeting to order. The appointed senators were approved and all senators were sworn in.

During the session, senate officers were nominated and elected. Joe Stefanov was elected senate president pro tempore. Kelly Kutzvitch was chosen as parliamentarian, Alisha Woodall was elected historian and Addison Michael was elected sergeant-at-arms.

Stefanov said he was glad to have the opportunity to be more involved in student government.

"I'm happy that the Senate gave me this opportunity," Stefanov said. "I ran for president this year and lost, and this just gives me the opportunity to get even more involved in the SGA."

Staying involved in the SGA, whether he won or lost the election, was a campaign promise he made and one he took very seriously, Stefanov said.

Stefanov, in his capacity as senate president pro tempore, appointed the Judiciary and Finance committees. The Finance Committee passed the executive summer budget and the first bill of the new session. The Judiciary Committee approved

the executive staff.

Ray Harrell, sophomore political science major, was chosen as business manager. Ashton Bias, junior broadcast journalism major was made greek life director. De'rece Lynch was named diversity affairs director while Raymond Cousins was chosen to serve as student organization liaison. Andrew Browne was named chief-of-staff and Kara Hornbuckle was named communications director.

Patrick Murphy addressed the senate for the first time as student body president. Among other things, Murphy spoke about plans to work this summer with Create Huntington toward putting on a fair to open up downtown Huntington to the incoming freshman class and to Marshall University.

Turley said although this was a new situation for many of those present, she was pleased with the first meeting and looked forward to seeing what the newly-elected senate and officers can accomplish together.

"I think we've got a great combination of new faces that seem really excited to be here along with veterans who always show up for everything and have done great work already," Turley said. "I think it's going to be a really bright year and I'm really excited to see the way things turn out."

Alyssa Salyers can be contacted at [salyers@marshall.edu](mailto:salyers@marshall.edu).

## W.Va. gov seeks more on Race to the Top proposals

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — Gov. Joe Manchin wants more details from state school officials before he decides what to propose during an upcoming special legislative session on education issues, his spokesman said Tuesday.

The state Board of Education sent Manchin 28 recommended changes to state school policy, in response to his demands for ways to win the next batch of federal Race to the Top funding.

West Virginia placed 36th out of 41 applicants during the first round of the competitive grant program. Facing a June 1 deadline to apply again, Manchin plans to call the Legislature into session next month to pass measures that improve the state's chances.

Spokesman Matt Turner said the governor phoned board President Priscilla Haden and state Superintendent Steve Paine once he received the Tuesday report, to press them to flesh out its proposals.

"He's pleased with what he's hearing," Turner said. "But he wants more on what they're prepared to move forward with. What came out this morning didn't offer enough in the way of details."

Turner said Manchin expects a follow-up report by Wednesday. With up to \$70 million at stake, the governor hopes for "fairly significant" and "dramatic" measures to present to lawmakers during a special session, Turner said.

Race to the Top aims to encourage states to pursue innovative ways to boost student achievement. The 28 proposals include five the board deemed crucial for the second round application. These would offer incentives to reward high performing teachers, rate educators by student achievement, experiment with new routes for certifying teachers, change the process for removing administrators and move the state closer toward allowing charter schools.

Race to the Top scores applicants in six categories, and West Virginia fared worst when it

came to policies meant to evaluate, improve and support teachers and principals. Among the 18 criteria within those categories, the state lost the most points for now allowing charter schools.

Charter schools rely on public funds but operate independently, and can compete with regular schools for students and per-pupil aid. Tuesday's related proposal would build on the Innovation Zone program, which awards those that qualify with greater control over their curriculum, schedule and staffing.

Paine told The Associated Press on Tuesday that this recommended change would add budget-setting to the mix and allow schools to apply for charters that would hinge on performance standards.

Lawmakers considered but did not pass versions of four of those top five proposals during their recent regular session, Paine said. Other proposals would revise teacher hiring practices and seek to eliminate dropouts.

Paine said the board's overall goal is to bolster the state's second bid at the federal funding, while also advancing its recently launched Global 21 learning plan.

"We've recognized the need to raise the bar, raise the rigor, incorporate more complex skills into what we teach kids, and what we expect them to learn," Paine said. "The bottom line is, let's not compromise that long-term vision for the sake of a simple Race to the Top grant, which could be very helpful."

Paine also noted that the proposals came after focus groups, online surveys and interviews with every group involved in West Virginia schools: from students, teachers and principals to parents, legislators and the business community.

"I feel that I have a responsibility to move an agenda forward that moves us in a favorable way," Paine said. "But I also have an obligation to bring the community together around concepts."

## W.Va. Supreme Court OKs rules for juvenile cases

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — West Virginia's judicial system soon will have its first comprehensive set of procedure rules for cases involving juvenile offenders.

The West Virginia Supreme Court approved the Rules of Juvenile Procedure on Tuesday.

The rules go into effect July 1. They address such issues as legal representation,

sentencing, rehabilitation, cases that are eligible for a jury trial and confidentiality of juvenile proceedings.

Chief Justice Robin Davis said the most significant change is the focus on children who are in the juvenile system for a long time. Davis says these children need to be better prepared for independence when they "age out" of the system.

## Balloon boy parents to pay \$36K in restitution

FORT COLLINS, Colo. (AP) — The parents who pleaded guilty in the balloon boy hoax have agreed to pay about \$36,000 in restitution to authorities who responded to the incident.

Larimer County Chief Judge Stephen Schapanski accepted the agreement that prosecutors reached with Richard and Mayumi Heene, who weren't at Tuesday's hearing.

The Larimer County sheriff's office and other agencies had sought \$48,000 for responding to the Oct. 15 incident. The Heenes reported their 6-year-old son had floated away in a homemade UFO-shaped helium balloon, touching off a scramble of dozens of emergency responders and two Colorado National Guard helicopters.

The boy wasn't on the balloon and was later found at his home in Fort Collins, about 60 miles

north of Denver. Authorities accused the Heenes of staging a hoax to get publicity for reality TV shows they were trying to pitch.

The Heenes' attorneys had argued the couple should pay only a small amount in compensation. Richard Heene's attorney, David Lane, said in January that it appeared authorities wanted to make money on the episode.

The Heenes' attorneys didn't immediately return calls after business hours Tuesday.

Prosecutors reduced the amount sought, agreeing to drop the sheriff's request for investigative costs. Damage to a farmer's wheat crop where the balloon landed hasn't been calculated.

Richard Heene was sentenced to 90 days in jail for falsely influencing authorities. Mayumi Heene was sentenced to 20 days for filing a false report.

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by junior infielder Victor Gomez. This ties the record for most career home runs by a Marshall baseball player. He is tied with Jason Brooks (2000-01).

### As I see it

## A first draft for the NFL Draft

Aside from the playoffs, tomorrow is one of the biggest events for the NFL. The long-awaited NFL Draft begins tomorrow night and will continue through Saturday.



**Jonas Swecker**  
COLUMNIST

Yes, the St. Louis Rams and quarterback Sam Bradford have put off agreeing on a contract before the draft, leaving room for speculation that the Rams could either skip on Bradford and draft defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh, or even opt to trade their No. 1 overall pick to a team such as the Cleveland Browns, who have discussed the possibility.

In my opinion, St. Louis should go for Bradford, who is easily the best quarterback in the draft. After releasing Bulger, the Rams are thin at quarterback with only A.J. Feeley, Mike Reilly and Keith Null listed at the position on the roster.

Yes, defense can win you games. However, not having a capable quarterback can really put a damper on a team's offensive production.

It will also be interesting to see what teams will select players such as University of Tennessee safety Eric Berry, Oklahoma University defensive tackle Gerald McCoy, Clemson running back C.J. Spiller and quarterbacks Colt McCoy from University of Texas and Jimmy Clausen of Notre Dame.

While there is much speculation about which teams will take which players, two of the biggest topics of discussion may not even involve former college standouts.

On Tuesday, preparing for quarterback Ben Roethlisberger's suspension, the Pittsburgh Steelers traded a seventh-round draft pick to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers for quarterback, and on Friday Marshall Hall of Famer, Byron Leftwich, who backed up Roethlisberger for the Steelers in 2008.

Leftwich could easily start the opening-season game for Pittsburgh because he already knows the offensive system. In his five games backing up an injured Roethlisberger in the 2008 season, Leftwich threw for 303 yards and two touchdowns.

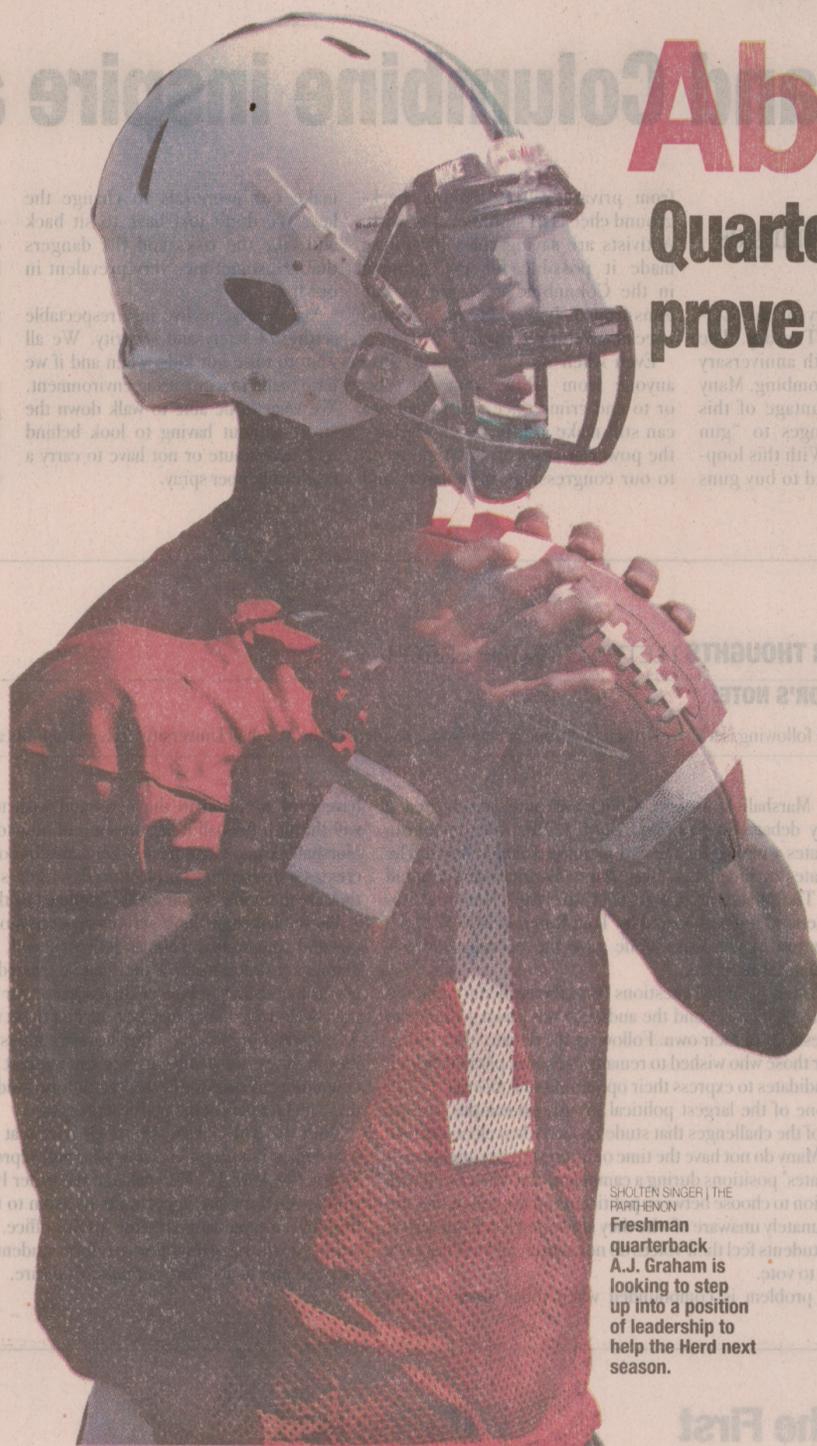
However, if Leftwich isn't ready, the Steelers still have quarterback Dennis Dixon on the roster.

In more startling news, it has been reported that newly-acquired Washington Redskins quarterback Donovan McNabb has asked the organization to consider signing his former teammate, Terrell Owens. McNabb has already gone on record to deny the reports, and that's not surprising to me.

Why would McNabb want someone in his car every time there's a broken play screaming that they were open and that he made the wrong choice?

McNabb is in a new place now and would be much better off starting over with new teammates and minimal controversy. If I were the Redskins GM, I would look for a gem of a receiver in the draft and avoid the circus that comes along with the T.O. Show.

Jonas Swecker can be contacted at [swecker@marshall.edu](mailto:swecker@marshall.edu).



# Above it all

## Quarterback trying to prove himself on the field

BY KYLE HOBSTETTER  
THE PARTHENON

To get a chance to play football, that's all he wants. Well, that and to win games.

Freshman quarterback A.J. Graham has had trouble during his Marshall career, but for him it was always about one thing when he came to Marshall University last year.

"I'm here to play football and I'm here to win games," Graham said. "That's the most important thing I want to do."

Graham had a tough path to join the Herd last year, after almost losing his scholarship because of being charged with armed robbery.

But those charges were dropped and he was able to join the Herd last season. But after all the legal problems, he missed most of summer practice and was behind his teammates.

After being red shirted for his first year, Graham was able to sit back and learn about college football, but it still bothered him.

"Last year I was redshirted so I didn't get the reps I wanted to," Graham said. "But I got behind a little bit in that. But this year with me coming out and getting reps I've been able to learn the system pretty quick."

New head coach Doc Holliday gets a chance to mold the young Florida quarterback and adjust him to Marshall's new offensive system.

Holliday said with a young quarterback, comes a challenge of getting them to learn at a quick pace.

"He's still learning, but you have to remember he's a freshman so he's seeing things for the first time," Holliday said. "I thought he got better as practice goes along. Is he there yet? No, he's not even close. But I thought as practice goes along he gets to see things, which is good."

A good thing for Holliday and the rest of the Herd is that while Graham doesn't have the experience, he has the talent.

Graham was named Mr. Football in the state of Florida and set school records in completions, passing yards and touchdowns at Godby high school in Tallahassee, Fla.

Yet he knows that the college game is completely different from the high school game, and he has to step up to an even more important position: a leader.

"You just come out and learn all the plays that you can get under your belt whatever you can," Graham said. "But you really come out and work on leadership. Me being young that's the most important thing right now, working on leadership and getting chemistry with my team."

With chemistry, Graham has been running with both the first-team and second-team offenses as he splits time with

See GRAHAM 15

## Women's golfer finishes C-USA tourney in top 10

HERDZONE.COM

**HATTIESBURG, Miss.**— Marshall University's Andrea Grier finished tied for 10th place (75-70-76-221) at the Conference USA Women's Golf Championship in Hattiesburg, Miss., at the Canebrake Country Club on Tuesday afternoon.

The three-day, 10-team tournament concluded the Thundering Herd's spring season, as Marshall took a ninth place finish.

Tulane held on to its two-day lead, finishing at six-over-par for the three days (290-283-285-858) and earning a berth to the NCAA Regionals.

Tulane's Ashley McKenney shot a 72 and earned a three-day-total of 210, finishing in first place at three-under-par.

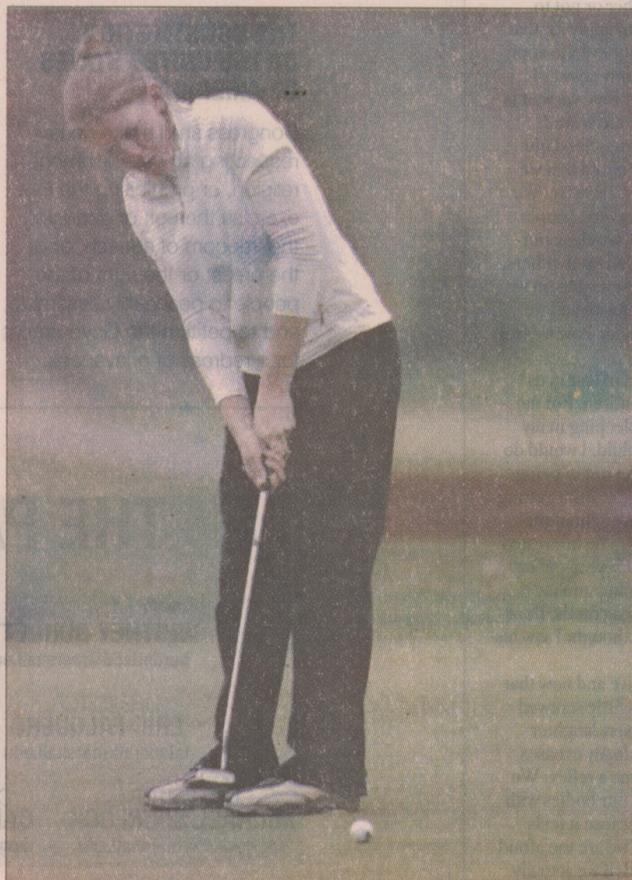
Grier finished at five-over-par for the tournament with a 221, her lowest three-day tournament total of the season. She finishes the year with Marshall's season-low round of 70, posted yesterday at the

championships. Grier completes her career with the Herd having one top-five finish and six top-10 finishes.

Larie Lynch posted her second 78 of the championships, rounding out the 54 holes with a score of 230 (78-74-78-230).

Lynch wraps up her career with three C-USA Gopher of the Week awards, two coming during her senior season and two Lady Herd golf tournament medals, one this season at the Lady Herd Spring Classic, and the other at the 2007 Lady Herd Fall Classic. Her 2009-10 season average of 77.5 combines with her previous three seasons to equal a career average of 80.

"I am very proud of the girls and the way they competed this season," head coach Meredith Knight Rowsey said. "This tournament is a great example where we were forced to battle through injuries but were still able to set a new team-low record yesterday."



SHOLTEN SINGER | THE PARTHENON

**Andrea Grier finished tied for 10th place at the Conference USA Women's Golf Championship in Hattiesburg, Miss. Grier helped push the Herd into ninth place as a team.**

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it's not flat feet -- by far the leading medical reason is being overweight or obese."

Norman Seip, retired U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen., about the more than a quarter of young adults who are unable to meet the military's physical requirements

## THE PARTHENON EDITORIAL

# Oklahoma City and Columbine inspire activism

**We may not be able to stop crime from happening but we can still make some changes**

Shootings, rape, theft and any other types of crimes you can think of are never going to end. We will always live in a world where no one is completely safe at all times. We have to be aware that no matter who we are, we are not immune to the horrible events that sometimes touch people's lives.

The 11th anniversary of the Columbine massacre was Tuesday. The day before was the 15th anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing. Many people are taking advantage of this time to advocate changes to "gun show loophole" laws. With this loophole, people are allowed to buy guns

from private sellers without background checks or signing paperwork. Activists are saying rules like these made it possible for the gunmen in the Columbine massacre to buy guns from a show where background checks weren't required.

Even when it's impossible to stop anyone from killing someone else or to end crime once and for all, we can still make a difference. We have the power at any age, any time to go to our congressman or senators and

make our proposals to change the law. We don't just have to sit back and take the risks and the dangers that are sometimes very prevalent in our lives.

We deserve to live in a respectable setting of safety and security. We all want to raise our kids, when and if we have them, in a nurturing environment. We want to be able to walk down the street without having to look behind us every minute or not have to carry a bottle of pepper spray.

It doesn't just have to be about changing things for murder. We can advocate for safer schools with less bullies. We can fight for more security in our neighborhoods, better lighting and up-keeping on our streets to keep crime away.

Don't let the idea of death and sadness about these two anniversaries get you down. Instead, use them as inspiration to do something about it and make our world a little better than it has been.

**KRYSALEA BURNS**  
MEN, MASCARA AND MOOD SWINGS

## Stop living in fear

If you read last week's column you would know that I pleaded to you to re-examine your life and the choices you are making, to look at your belief system and start asking questions on



**Krysalea Burns**  
COLUMNIST

how you feel about the truth of Jesus. To think about how he died on the cross for our sins and how he was raised from the dead, conquering sin so that we may have freedom in him.

After writing about that last week, there is no greater

spectacle I could give, no more words of flattery I could say that could even compare to what was said last week. I have no more material up my sleeve.

The only thing I have to say is why do we wait? Why do we wait to make the most important decisions in our lives, mainly on whether we believe, or even on smaller scales whether or not to date, to make a move, to apply for that job offer or internship or even to apply to school? Why? The only answer I have found is that every time we wait is most likely because we are scared.

We have been running scared our entire lives, constantly afraid that we will not be good enough if we try. We are afraid we will not be what people want if we open up. So, we close ourselves off. We don't open up to others. We stay away from that one person we know we could be great with and we wait, another day to decide how we feel about life and God.

We've had this belief of fear in us since we were small children. For me I was so scared of not sleeping in my room alone as a small child. I would do everything I could to get out of being alone in my room at night, from getting twelve cups of water throughout the night, somehow trying to be interested in the nightly news as a 5-year-old or sometimes even just going into my brother's room and laying on the floor with my dog because I thought I saw his heart stop beating.

Oh yes, I was inventive and now that I look back, probably a little screwed up, (that was a joke, insert laughter here). I gave myself so many excuses that it practically became a reflex. We do it every day. We fill our bodies with junk food, probably because it feels good but also because we are too afraid that if we actually cared, if we actually treated ourselves like we should, we still wouldn't be enough at the end of the day. The fear of failure pounds in our chest like a drum, so loud that we can't even hear the chimes of truth and freedom ringing in our ears. We must break free from these fears that cling to us. We must force our ears to hear the chiming of truth and drown out the clanging of fear. We must stop running and being afraid and start living.

Stop letting fear consume you and start making the choices you've been wanting to all along. This is a short life, so don't let fear destroy you but rather break these ties that bind you and run in confidence. It's time to start living.

Contact Krysalea Burns at [burns116@marshall.edu](mailto:burns116@marshall.edu).

## YOUR THOUGHTS | LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

The following is a letter written by Jordan Richardson, president of the Marshall University College Republicans.

The Marshall University College Republicans hosted a primary debate on Saturday, April 17 for the Republican candidates running for the 3rd Congressional District. The candidates included Lee Bias, Marty Gearhart and Conrad Lucas. The debate was in Marshall University's Memorial Student Center, and was hosted by Tom Roten of 800 WVHU. Huntington Mayor Kim Wolfe gave the opening address. More than 70 attended.

The event included questions from the moderator about a wide range of issues and the audience was given a chance to ask questions of their own. Following the debate was a reception for those who wished to remain and speak personally with the candidates to express their opinions and concerns.

As one of the largest political groups on campus, we are aware of the challenges that students face when elections take place. Many do not have the time or interest to pay attention to candidates' positions during a campaign, and when faced with a decision to choose between politicians on the ballot, they are unfortunately unaware of who they are voting for. Even worse, some students feel their voices do not matter, and will not even bother to vote.

The problem is compounded when those students who

have paid attention to the news and wish to express their will through the ballot are unaware of how to vote. Many on Marshall's campus are from other states or counties, and this creates a disconnect on election day when students assume they are ineligible to vote or are confused by the process.

These challenges have serious repercussions on our campus and community. Thomas Jefferson said, "Whenever the people are well informed, they can be trusted with their own government; that whenever things get so far wrong as to attract their notice, they may be relied on to set them to rights." As a student organization that has strong ties to national and local politics, we believe it is in the interest of the Marshall community to sponsor events that inform students about how they can be a part of the political process.

With the 3rd Congressional District seat in the balance, it becomes important to know who will represent us for the future. On April 17, Marshall and the wider Huntington area were given a unique opportunity to listen to the views of the Republican candidates running for this office. We believe this is a step in the right direction to inform students about the role they can play in deciding our nation's future.

## The First Amendment

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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

Are you going to participate in Earth Day?

- Yes
- No
- What is Earth Day?



### RESULTS

Should we start looking for cleaner, safer energy alternatives?

- Yes ..... 83%
- No way ..... 11%
- I don't care ..... 6%

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters can be e-mailed to The Parthenon with word length of 350 to 450 words. Writers must give contact information and editors will contact them to verify information and identify before anything is published.

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# University e-mail system to change

BY KRISTEN HAINKEL  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University Information Technology is converting the e-mail server to a different interface. MU LiveMail is the new server based on Windows LiveMail. The service already has 5,000 accounts consisting mostly of new freshmen. Over the summer, Information Technology will be converting every account in the Marshall system over to MU LiveMail.

"We started three years ago," said Jon Cutler, chief information security officer. "We figured the beginning of the school year is the best time to start it."

Cutler said other universities including Georgia State University, Indiana University, The Ohio State University and Butler University use a similar e-mail system.

Cutler said the IT department had limitations on what it could provide to users.

"We take great pride in having a good product, but the reality is the Googles and Yahoos of the world can do more than we can," he said.

Cutler said users e-mail addresses would not change, nor would the way students access their e-mail.

"We will still have the MyMU portal," Cutler said. "After we substitute the new interface, we

will hide the old e-mail icon and show the LiveMail icon."

The new LiveMail system has more storage than the older e-mail system.

"LiveMail has 10 GB of storage while MUMail has only 200 MB," said Ed Aractingi, assistant director of information technology infrastructure.

Another new feature is the SkyDrive, an online 25GB storage space for documents, photos, music and more.

The pre-existing V Drive will still be accessible. Cutler said the Information Technology department hopes to integrate the new SkyDrive and V Drive.

LiveMail also offers Office Web Apps, an Internet version of programs including Microsoft Word and Excel. Users can use these programs without having the program on their computer.

"It's beneficial to students because purchasing (Microsoft Office) can be \$150, even with the student discount," Aractingi said.

Another new benefit is easier maintenance.

"Very few people knew how to fix MU Mail, MU LiveMail is more reliable," Cutler said. "We're trying to provide the best platform for our users."

Information Technology plans to have the conversion complete by June 30.

**Kristen Hainkel can be contacted at hainkel@marshall.edu.**



**Ethan Treutle, left, sophomore theater major from Stephens City, Va., and Dylan Clark, junior theater major from Huntington, rehearse a scene from "Our Country's Good," the theater department's last production of the season. The play opens tonight at Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.**

# Top military official visits state, says more change is needed to care for war veterans

**MORGANTOWN, W.Va. (AP)** — The nation's top military official acknowledged Tuesday the systems intended to diagnose and treat wounded American veterans are "extraordinarily difficult and extraordinarily bureaucratic," and promised that change is coming in time.

Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and a key military adviser to the president, also pledged to look into the case of a West Virginia guard who committed suicide last year after tiring of a struggle with both the Army and cancer.

In a town hall meeting with veterans and community organizations that serve them, Morgantown resident Ann Leach said the system that should have protected her son Nicholas instead failed him. He killed himself four years after returning from service in Iraq and being diagnosed with lymphoma at age 24.

The Army tried to arrest him for being AWOL from weekend duties while he was in a hospital undergoing chemotherapy, Ann Leach said, and her son eventually returned his re-enlistment bonus and was honorably discharged. The military refused to acknowledge he may have suffered from

post-traumatic stress, she said, insisting that he was only depressed because of his disease.

"My son decided on Nov. 14, 2009 that the Army didn't give a crap about him. The cancer was more than he could bear," she said. "So he wrapped a cord around his neck and he committed suicide."

Because he was not full-time military, his medical treatment was not covered by the government, and his mother — herself a Marine Corps veteran — relied on help from the American Cancer Society. Mullen, who held a wallet-sized image of her son with his dog while listening to her, apologized for her loss and vowed to look into her son's case.

And for Ann Leach, that was enough — that, and the prospect that her son's story might help someone else.

"He was listening to me. The look on his face. I felt sorry for him," she said afterward of Mullen.

Still, she said, the Army should have told her son, "You served your country, you fought for our freedom, we're going to take you in and check you out, instead of saying, 'Sorry for your luck.'"

Mullen said his visit to West Virginia University and Morgantown was about ensuring all of the 2.2

million men and women who serve their country are cared for when they return, but he acknowledged some agencies don't communicate well.

He also acknowledged the Pentagon and Veterans Administration have created a health care system that is too complicated and adversarial.

"Literally, the day you're injured the fight's on for what your disability's going to be," Mullen said. "We've made it extraordinarily difficult and we continue in ways to do that."

However, the military is moving toward a single-evaluation system, run by the VA, that requires only one set of exams and provides one answer.

"We're not going to get there fast enough from my perspective, but we're going to get there," he said, saying pilot programs have gone on for too long and need to be expanded.

While that may create new demands and staffing requirements for the VA, he said, "it needs to be done."

Mullen began his visit by laying a wreath at a memorial on WVU's campus, where the mast and bell of the USS West Virginia stand. He then attended several forums to learn what local organizations are

doing to help integrate veterans back into civilian life.

Returning veterans are often in their 20s and need support finding jobs, employment, educational and training opportunities, and medical care if they are to lead productive lives for the next 60 years, Mullen said.

"It's not about disability, it's ability," he said. "It's not about lack of potential, it's about potential," he said. "It's not about money, even though that's a significant piece; it's about a future."

Their families often need help, too. Stress created by long-term separations manifest in different ways over time, and Mullen said the military and community organizations must find ways to collaborate and support them.

One community provider urged Mullen to focus on creating civilian certifications that mirror military jobs, such as issuing commercial driver licenses to people who drove trucks in the service.

Mullen said the Navy started moving that direction nearly a decade ago, but he could not say where that effort stands now. He agreed veterans' marketable skills need to be made more transparent to potential employers.

## GRAHAM

Continued from Page 3

last year's starting quarterback Brian Anderson.

Along with Anderson, Graham has to look ahead to have the Marshall quarterback position as strong as possible, Holliday said.

"They both have their moments both good and bad, but they're both growing," Holliday said. "I think they're starting to feel more comfortable but they still have a lot to learn and they have a long way to go. But they are taking steps forward."

Anderson had class during Tuesday's practice,

so a majority of the reps went to Graham.

While it felt weird, he knew this was a chance to help prove himself as a quarterback.

"It's different," Graham said. "Normally when he's here, we alternate between one's and two's. So were both working on the timing of each offense, but today I got to stay with the one's this time and I thought it worked out pretty good."

While working with the first team offense is important, so is getting renewed with the physicality of the game.

But the coaching staff helped with that idea at Saturday's scrimmage, stripping Graham of his red jersey,

which meant he was free game for the defense.

Instead of being a little weary of the contact, Graham said he embraced it head on.

"The last time I was hit was December of 2008, so being able to run down the field and get hit helped to get me back in the flow of things," Graham said.

Getting contact on the young freshman was necessary to help get Graham ready for the 14-game season.

"The one thing we never want to do is go into a game situation where he's never been tackled," Holliday said. "I thought he was little hesitant at times, but he grew as the scrimmage went on as far as being more

physical. But that was good to see that he gets himself tackled and gets right back up off the ground and goes and plays again."

Graham has a chance to get more physical at this Saturday's Green and White Game. The game will put the first team offense against the first team defense in a chance to build the team.

The Green and White game is at 4 p.m. Saturday at the Joan C. Edwards Stadium.

**Kyle Hobstetter can be contacted at hobstetter@marshall.edu.**

## SUDOKU

Difficulty: 3 (of 5)

4	3		9			6	2
		4				7	
	2			5			
		3	4		8		
2	6		1			5	
	1		8				6
5		1			6	4	
7			1		5		
		9		3			

4-13-10

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### PREVIOUS SOLUTION

6	5	1	4	2	3	7	9	8
4	7	3	8	5	9	1	2	6
2	9	8	1	7	6	4	5	3
1	6	2	5	9	7	3	8	4
3	4	9	2	8	1	6	7	5
7	8	5	6	3	4	9	1	2
9	2	7	3	4	8	5	6	1
8	1	4	9	6	5	2	3	7
5	3	6	7	1	2	8	4	9

**HOW TO PLAY:**  
Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

## Widow seeks public hearing in mine disaster

**CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP)** —

The widow of one of 29 miners killed in the Upper Big Branch explosion is seeking a public hearing from federal regulators.

Lawyers for Marlene Griffith sent the request Tuesday to Joe Main, head of the U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration.

William Griffith was among those killed in the nation's worst coal mine disaster since

1970. His widow has sued mine operator Performance Coal and its parent company, Massey Energy.

Her lawyers have moved her case to Boone County Circuit Court. There, a judge has ordered sections of the mine preserved along with records and other evidence at the request of the mother of miner Adam Morgan, who also died.

## LATE

Continued from Page 1

"We are hoping that the Up Late at Marshall event will make students and their parents more comfortable about coming to Marshall," Stepp said. "We also hope that it will build some excitement so they can't wait to come back on August

18 for Week of Welcome. It will be more than coming to get their class schedule, which is very important, but students also need a chance to connect to campus, to feel like they belong here. That's why we are offering Up Late."

**Laura Hatfield can be contacted at hatfield120@marshall.edu.**

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THE PARTHENON  [marshallparthenon.com](http://marshallparthenon.com) | Wednesday, April 21, 2010

## Bicycle. GENERATOR.

With much help and research, a Marshall University student was able to develop and create this human-powered generator



This bicycle powered generator, brain child of Marshall University's Lauren Kemp, will be present at the Earth Day festivities on campus. HALEY THAXTON | THE PARTHENON

BY HALEY THAXTON  
THE PARTHENON

A Marshall University student took a simple idea and turned it into a renewable energy source by building a human-powered bicycle generator.

Lauren Kemp, junior medical technology major from Pittsburgh, Pa., came up with the idea when the Student Environmental Action Coalition was faced with the task of creating an interactive project for the Sustainability Department.

"The Sustainability Department was looking for an interactive project to take to the Kanawha Valley Sustainability Fair," said Margie Phillips, sustainability manager.

Phillips said the fair is at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore in Charleston on May 22.

"Lauren approached me with the idea several months ago and I helped her find some resources in the Physical Plant," Phillips said. "Once we got the project going she decided she wanted to try to get it done for Earth Day."

Earth Day activities will be held on campus this Thursday.

"We were looking at things we could do as a group and what the most attainable renewable energy could be that we could bring to campus," Kemp said. "It seemed like a great project because it is interactive and in theory, the way it works is pretty simple."

Kemp said she did a lot of research to turn the idea into reality.

"To find out how to do it I really just watched a lot of videos about it on YouTube," Kemp said. "I found a lot of Web sites with information to help because it is a pretty well-known topic."

Kemp said the design for the bike came from her research.

"The set up was pretty standard throughout all of the pictures and video," she said. "It was always the same kind of parts used."

Kemp said the goal for the bicycle generator is to

generate enough electricity to power the speaker system outside the Memorial Student Center throughout Earth Day activities.

"I hope that it will generate enough electricity to power the P.A. system, but if it generates any electricity, that will be good enough," Kemp said.

She said if the generator cannot make enough energy to power the speaker system, they have back up ideas to use equipment that requires less energy.

"We might be able to set up a blender and use the bike to make smoothies or run a computer monitor off of it," she said. "We just want to show that something can be done with it."

Kemp said she wants the students to see the bike and feel like they own it.

"I hope they feel that renewable energy isn't some far-off, super expensive, illogical thing that can never happen," she said.

Kemp said the process has been time consuming, but she had a lot of help from outside resources.

"It took a lot to get people mobilized," Kemp said. "It was a lot of 'tell me what you need, so I can help you help me.'"

She has received help from almost every department in the Physical Plant. Professor Jonathan Cox from the art department was involved as well as five student volunteers from the coalition.

Kemp had most of the parts for the generator donated.

She said the battery and inverter were donated by Interstate Battery of Huntington and the Physical Plant donated the supplies for the platform. Marty Laubach, professor of sociology and the faculty advisor for the student group, donated the bike.

The Student Environmental Action Coalition received a \$500 grant from the Student Government Association.

Kemp said the group used some of this money on the bicycle generator and the rest is yet to be spent.

"We didn't even spend \$100 on this project," Kemp said.

Kemp has always lived in an environment where conservation was important.

"I spent a lot of time with older people that lived by the idea that they weren't going to waste even a sheet of napkin," she said.

Living at Marshall really sparked her involvement in sustainability.

"Freshman year is when I said to myself, 'this is what you're supposed to be doing,'" she said. "I could see the need for something and I had the chance to make it happen."

Working with the coalition and Sustainability Department, Kemp was involved in the start up of the campus-wide recycling program and the Green Fee.

"The whole idea of sustainability just makes sense to me," she said. "If you want something big to happen, you have to put a whole lot of effort into it."

Kemp said she faced adversity throughout the generator project.

"It's because I want to," she said. "Sometimes things get stuck in your head and you can't get

them out until it actually happens.

"People are still skeptical and it does motivate me. The crazy idea we had before was the Green Fee and it was supported overwhelmingly."

Kemp said her success on projects thus far is from the increasing interest in sustainability and going green as a global issue.

"I really believe that saving the earth is the next biggest trend," she said. "We have gotten so far in technology and how we live our lives, a lot of people are starting to feel overwhelmed and want to go back to basics."

Kemp said she thinks the idea is generational and that every group of students in the future is going to be interested in these issues.

"It is totally marketable right now," she said. "Luxury was marketable before, but now being green and energy conservative is the thing to do."

Kemp said she plans to stay in the area for at least five years and keep her involvement in sustainability.

Haley Thaxton can be contacted at [thaxton21@marshall.edu](mailto:thaxton21@marshall.edu).



Lauren Kemp helps put the finishing touches on the bicycle generator. HALEY THAXTON | THE PARTHENON

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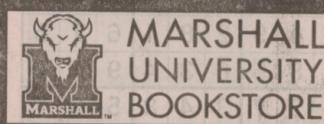
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