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THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's Student Newspaper | marshallparthenon.com | Friday, April 23, 2010

Mother Earth

University celebrates 40 years of Earth Day with activities, educational sessions

BY HALEY THAXTON
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's Sustainability Department conducted a campus-wide celebration of Earth Day on Thursday.

The daylong event included interactive and education sessions for students and staff.

"This year marks the 40th anniversary of Earth Day, which brings people around the world together to celebrate the planet," said sustainability manager, Margie Phillips, in a news release.

"This is the first year the Sustainability Department has existed, so we are quite pleased to partner with students to make this day an eye-opener for our Marshall University community," Phillips said.

Phillips said the Sustainability Department had help from several student organizations including the Parks and Recreational Organization for Students, the Student Environmental Action Coalition and the Marshall Environmental Student's Association.

Matt Weber, member of the Parks and Recreational Organization for Students, organized the event with the help of Phillips.

"I decided after a meeting in February that PROS needed to do something big for Earth

Day," Weber said. "This is the first time something of this scale and magnitude was put on."

"It is important for Marshall to have something for Earth Day because it is an urban campus in the middle of Huntington," he said. "We lead by example, a lot of things that Marshall does are looked at by the community."

Weber said he attributes the success of the event to a lot of coordination with Phillips, the Sustainability Department and the other student groups involved.

"There were a lot of planning hours on all parts," he said.

Weber said the student groups had to plan for the many events in multiple locations throughout the day.

The day's schedule included nine educational sessions in the Memorial Student Center.

"We provided tons of education and awareness from all aspects," Weber said. "Companies were thrilled to be here and be able to get information out to the students."

There were interactive sessions such as rock climbing, kayak and canoe demonstrations and flower planting at the Marshall Recreation Center, according to the schedule.

See EARTH 15



SHOLTEN SINGER | THE PARTHENON

Lauren Kemp, junior medical technology major from Pittsburgh, Pa., powers a blender with her bike-powered generator. The generator was on display as part of Earth Day activities.



HALEY THAXTON | THE PARTHENON

Brittany Davies, senior English major from Elizabethtown, W.Va., exchanges lightbulbs with Long Pham, graduate IT student from Vietnam. Students could exchange incandescent lightbulbs for energy efficient CFL bulbs donated by State Electric of Huntington. Ninety-nine bulbs were swapped.

Expert shows safe use of natural gases

BY HALEY THAXTON
THE PARTHENON

Mountaineer Gas Company sent a representative to speak to students about natural gas safety during Marshall University's celebration of Earth Day.

Phil Gregory, safety training coordinator, has given presentations at schools and fire departments and trained other employees in safety throughout his 30 years with the Mountaineer Gas Company.

Gregory said he wanted to show the basics of natural gas usage and share safety tips for students and staff to use at home.

Gregory demonstrated the differences between methane and propane with the use of a

training tool that Mountaineer Gas developed in 1984.

"The device allows us to show a pilot light, ranger burner, Bunsen burner, flash arrestor and explosive properties of methane and propane," Gregory said.

The equipment allowed Gregory to give a visual experience to the audience. He was able to fill a metal box with methane gas, make a spark inside and cause an explosion, then do the same with propane gas.

"Propane is much stronger than methane, so it takes less gas to cause an explosion," he said.

When Gregory filled the box with methane, he

See GAS 15

University's Board of Governors approves tuition increase for out-of-state students

BY ELLEN KIST
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University Board of Governors approved a 3 percent increase in tuition for non-resident students Thursday.

In the State of the State Address in January, Gov. Joe Manchin requested tuition freeze for all public institutions, but several universities have considered the request and gone another route.

Marshall and Shepherd University are two of those institutions.

"There are real cost increases every year," said Marshall University President Stephen J. Kopp. "Non-resident students are not taxpayers in the

state, so it is a bit unfair that they do not incur some of these expenses."

While Marshall is raising tuition for non-resident students, the Shepherd University Board of Governors approved tuition increases for both in-state and out-of-state students, according to a news release. The increase for in-state students will be 3.7 percent while the out-of-state students will receive a 4 percent increase.

West Virginia University has not announced any changes in tuition.

"As I understand it, West Virginia University has delayed their budget discussion until their June, Board of Governors meeting," said Ginny Painter, interim senior vice president for communications

at Marshall.

The Board of Governors also approved a 4 percent increase in student housing fees that are not included in the tuition fee increase and a \$24.50 increase for all students for the Marshall Recreation Center fees.

"On average, there will be a less than a 1 percent increase in cost for in-state students," Kopp said.

Other issues discussed were projects going on this summer on campus such as converting a part of the alumni room on the second floor of the Memorial Student Center into a student resource center, the Joan C. Edwards stadium will receive two new video boards and the sound system replaced, the new Starbucks going in the student center will soon be completed and

a new parking lot located off Hal Greer Boulevard for the medical center will be constructed in the summer.

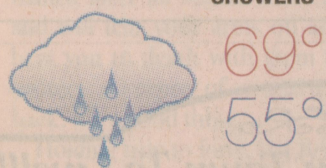
The university is also expecting a record number of freshmen to attend next year.

"Freshmen applications are up 20 percent compared to last year and admissions for freshmen is up 17 percent," Kopp said. "There are 2,000 freshmen expected this fall and this was the initial goal for the university's enrollment in fall 2012, which means the goal was reached two years earlier than expected."

"I feel very good about where we are and we are positioned in a very enviable position if you look nationally."

Ellen Kist can be contacted at kist@marshall.edu.

SHOWERS



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PAGE EDITED AND DESIGNED BY
WHITNEY BURDETTE
BURDETTE56@MARSHALL.EDU

TODAY
ON TV



Who Do You
Think You Are?
8 p.m.
NBC



Ghost
Whisperer
8 p.m.
CBS



Smallville
8 p.m.
CW



NCIS
8 p.m.
9 p.m.
USA



Jamie Oliver's
Food Revolution
9 p.m.
ABC

CALENDAR

Empty Bowls to raise money for local food bank



Sports

Baseball vs. UCF
2:05 p.m. Friday | Appalachian Power
Park, Charleston, W.Va.

Green and White Game
4 p.m. Saturday | Joan C. Edwards
Stadium

Entertainment

Beauty and the Beast
7:30 p.m. | Vern Riffe Center for the
Arts, Portsmouth, Ohio

West Virginia Dance Festival
7:30 p.m. Saturday | West Virginia
Culture Center

On campus

"Our Country's Good"
8 p.m. | Joan C. Edwards Performing
Arts Center

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

Hair From the Herd
11 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Memorial Student
Center Plaza

Minds of Marshall
All day today and Saturday |
throughout campus

Community

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

New movies

Today

The Back-Up Plan
The Losers

President of student veteran group resigns, new officers chosen

BY ALYSSA SALYERS
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's Vets4Vets club recently underwent a changing of the guard.

In a letter of resignation dated April 11, John Mathis, founding member and first president of Marshall's Vets4Vets Club, resigned, citing family medical issues and school hours as his reasons for stepping down. Mathis said he felt fortunate to have been part of the organization and would continue to be active in the club.

Nick Blankenship, former vice president of Vets4Vets was chosen as the new president of the club. Andrew Wendt was tapped for the vice presidential position and Brandy Wilkes was chosen for

the job of secretary-treasurer.

The club is moving forward in its mission to assist student veterans. Several projects are in progress, Blankenship said.

"We've been working on a new Web site for the club that we're pretty excited about," Blankenship said. "It should be up and running by Memorial Day."

One project Vets4Vets is beginning to work on is the Wounded Warriors Project, Blankenship said. A charity in Ohio sponsors a weekend of celebration and recognition for wounded service personnel.

The celebration includes a banquet where wounded soldiers are recognized for their service and sacrifice as well as a trap tournament, he said. The weekend provides opportunities for wounded veterans to meet other wounded veterans from

the community. It also provides opportunities for these veterans to network with Columbus executives who are interested in showing their support for the brave men and women who have made such sacrifices for their country.

"I've been going for the last two years and it's a pretty awesome thing to see," Blankenship said. "One of our big goals is to support this program."

Blankenship said the club wants to raise money to donate to the charity. He said in return, two or three wounded veterans from Marshall would be sponsored for the event.

"They will pay for their travel, food and hotel so they can spend the weekend in Columbus and be involved in this event," Blankenship said. "We've got a couple of alumni involved in this charity organization and they want to reach out to MU veterans

from Columbus."

Wilkes said she hopes to use her new position as secretary-treasurer of the club to affect positive change for veterans at Marshall.

"I'm looking forward to hopefully staying in this position for awhile and trying to get some things changed around Marshall so we can have a better environment for student veterans overall," Wilkes said. "We plan to be very active this fall."

Beginning in the fall semester, MU Vets-4Vets will meet twice monthly. Meetings will be held at noon on the first and third Wednesday of each month. The meetings are open to all members.

Alyssa Salyers can be contacted at salyersa@marshall.edu.

Marshall student runs for Cabell County Board of Education

BY KRISTEN HAINKEL
THE PARTHENON

A Marshall University student is campaigning to make a difference in the local school system.

Jonathan Nance, senior computer forensics major from Barboursville, W. Va., is running for a position on the Cabell County Board of Education.

"I want to change how children are treated in the Cabell County school system," Nance said. "I've seen my daughter go through the school system and I'd like to see some things changed."

"He has the best interests in improving the schools for the children," said Lisa Baladjay, secondary math and science education major from Huntington.

Nance said he has plans to put more counseling in the schools if elected.

"I want to put more counseling in the elementary and junior high schools so kids can have emotional problems addressed before high school," he said.

Nance said he wants to influence the drop out rate.

"We need to have kids state why they want to drop out to prevent kids from wanting to drop out," he said. "If they do, we'll figure out their individual situation and make extra tutoring programs for them so they can get caught back up."

Nance said he would like to see more involvement between the community and the school board.

"We need to have a more transparent school board," he said. "We should have TV broadcasts of board meetings. I'd like to see more communication between Board of Education, teachers and families. I'd like to get parents involved get problems resolved."

Nance said he has had to balance this campaign with school, homework and a job at the Hampton Inn.

"It's made it harder for my school responsibilities," he said. "I have to go to several functions to do with the election. I'd say I have spent 20 hours going to functions and things of that nature."

Nance said he participated in a board of education debate at Huntington High School.

Nance said he has done several things to publicize his campaign including making yard signs, putting up flyers in the Huntington area and having an interview with The Herald-Dispatch. He also has a Facebook group for his campaign called "How do you feel about the school board of Cabell County." The group has 51 members.

Early voting will continue until May 8. Election day is May 11.

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



Marshall University's Wind Symphony performs in the Smith Recital Hall. Directed by professor Steve Barnett, the ensemble performed Thursday at 8 p.m.

Council debates occupation tax, makes no recommendation

BY TESS MOORE
THE PARTHENON

The city of Huntington's finance committee hosted a public hearing concerning the proposed occupation tax Thursday at City Hall, which ended with no recommendation for council.

The administration opened the meeting with a presentation giving their response to the voiced concerns they have received concerning the 1 percent occupation tax.

"It is abundantly clear that numerous individuals employed in the city have concerns about the proposed occupation tax," said Brandi Jacob-Jones, director of administration and finance. "Even our own Chamber of Commerce has come forward in opposition to the ordinance that is before you."

Jones said that although the population has declined in Huntington, the size of the city has not and the city has to provide the same level of service.

"We are seeking diligently to solve many of the issues facing us," Jones said. "This was not the quick answer, the occupation tax was not the easy answer for us to fix some of these problems."

Council members were in attendance to voice their opinions as well. Scott Caserta, councilman for District 7, said he cannot speak in favor of the

occupation tax at this time.

"I cannot in good conscious ask the residents in Huntington or any of the surrounding cities or states to bail the city out when we have over \$100,000 in cell phone bills," Caserta said. "I don't think the city employees would care to step forward and pay their own cell phone bills."

Caserta said he strongly urges the finance committee and administration to contact the chamber to set up a meeting and go over other options.

"I'm not sure we need to rush into a full 1 percent occupation tax at this time," he said.

The floor was then open for public opinion. Several people shared their thoughts and expressed how disagree with the occupation tax. The main argument was taxation without representation.

Maurice Lockridge, assistant chairman of Marshall University faculty senate, spoke to the committee about his oppositions with the ordinance.

"I am a noncitizen, nonvoting victim of your proposal," Lockridge said. "But I am here today to represent someone other than myself, I am here to tell you I am the assistant chairman of the Marshall University faculty senate and on behalf of them, I would like to inform you that the Marshall University faculty senate endorses the position of the

Chamber of Commerce."

Lockridge said he used to make an effort to come and spend his money in Huntington instead of Barboursville, because he knows the city needs the money.

"All the money I am spending with Huntington merchants, adios," he said. "Barboursville here I come."

Kelli Sobonya, District 16 representative for the House of Delegates, also voiced her concern about implementing the occupation tax.

"I am not speaking in favor or against this proposal, what I am speaking as is a legislature who is wanting to work with members of city council to address the issue with our shared constituency," Sobonya said.

Sobonya said she strongly urges councilmembers not to pass the ordinance so quickly and to work with elected officials who gave the city this taxing authority under the Home Rule Pilot Act.

"To put this in the general revenue fund is just setting yourself up for failure because this can go away," she said. "I would greatly consider you not to put this into the general revenue."

After the finance committee heard the citizens' voice their opinions they made a decision on the ordinance for Monday's council meeting.

Nate Randolph, councilman for District 4, said he had several concerns about the ordinance and the Chamber of Commerce is correct on all fronts.

"I cannot support this unless, as the Chamber of Commerce stated, there are significant reduction in taxes," Randolph said.

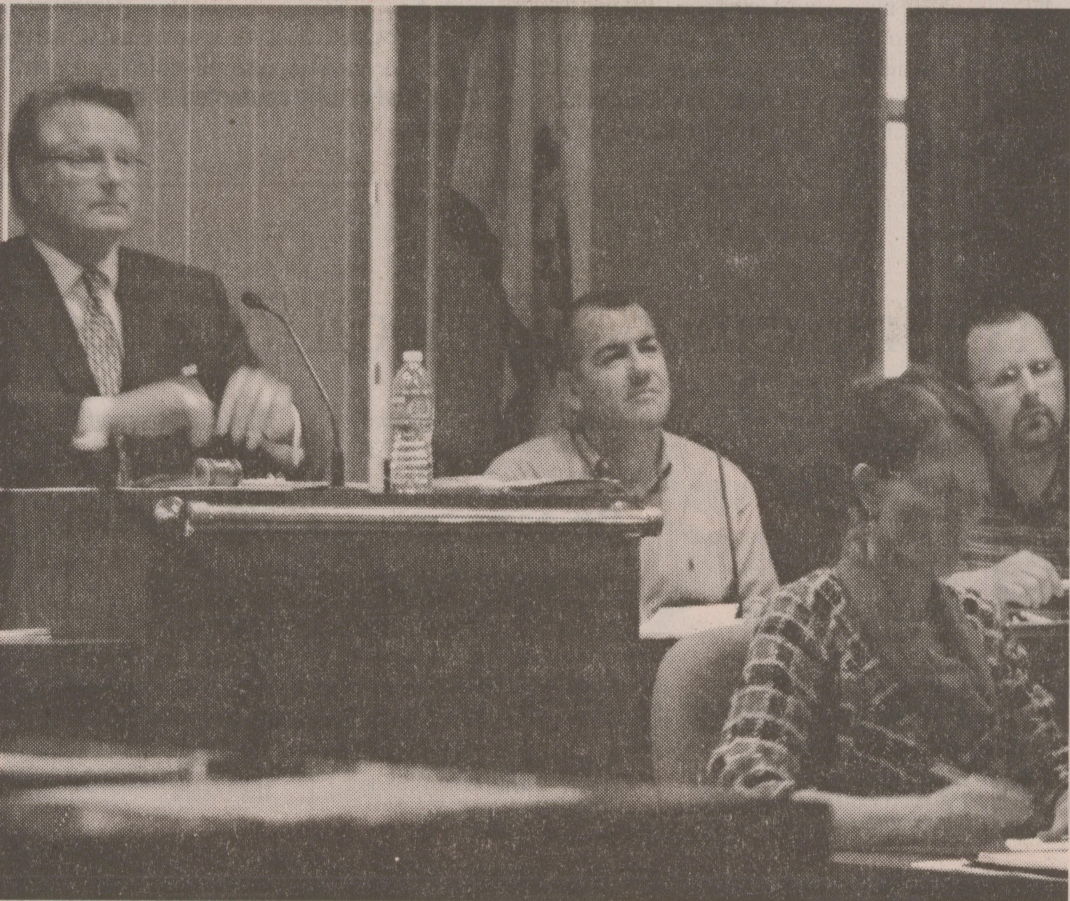
Randolph said what the city needs is a tax reformation to make the city look attractive to businesses and the burden needs to not be so severe.

Steve Williams, finance committee chairman, proposed that the administration prepare a tax package to create growth by eliminating some of the business and occupation taxes and municipal fees.

"I want to build a city that encourages business development, that encourages people to work," Williams said. "The best thing we can do to send a message is to remove the manufacturing provision of the B and O tax. In changing our tax structure, we are changing philosophy here and I don't mind that. But I personally don't care for creating an occupation tax just to create a money grab so we might be able to pay for things."

The finance committee voted that no recommendation would be made to council regarding the ordinance that is on Monday's agenda.

Tess Moore can be contacted at moore231@marshall.edu.



Huntington City council meets to discuss the proposed occupation tax. After the long Thursday meeting, no recommendation was made for the tax.

Look for The Parthenon's graduation issue!
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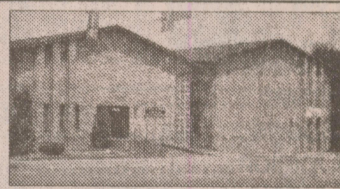
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"My biggest adjustment is just sitting back
and watching these other guys work. I've got a great staff, I really do.
And I enjoy watching them coach."
Marshall head football coach Doc Holliday on his first spring as head coach

THE PARTHENON marshallparthenon.com Friday, April 23, 2010

Third and a Mile A fan dealing with a top draft pick

Being a fan of an NFL team with a coveted top 10 pick in the draft is agonizing.



Tom Bragg
COLUMNIST

For starters, to get that high in the draft order, your team usually has sucked the previous season.

So after sitting through Sunday after Sunday of receivers running bad routes, kickers missing everything, quartermen struggling to understand, let alone master an offensive scheme, the fan is faced with the prospect of drafting a guy who is sure to cost the team a bunch of money and could possibly suck worse than the team did the previous year.

So here I sit, waiting for the Redskins to use the fourth pick on a lineman to protect our new, old quarterback.

The first and second picks went pretty much as expected, with St. Louis taking Oklahoma quarterback Sam Bradford and Detroit electing to bring Ndamukong Suh to their own professional football purgatory with the second pick.

Now is when things should get interesting.

7:50 p.m.: Wait, wait, wait. Tampa Bay is on the clock, probably about to take defensive tackle Gerald McCoy from Oklahoma.

I know this because McCoy is laughing, crying, smiling and frowning all at the same time right after getting a phone call. The commish makes it official a few minutes later and thoughts of adopting the name Mel Kiper III.

7:54 p.m.: Now it gets tough. The Redskins are on the clock and one of a few things could happen. If they don't take the guy I want — Russell Okung — the club could trade down a few spots (Cleveland?) and hope to still be able to get one of the big fellas to start filling the massive holes on the offensive line.

The other option is Dan Snyder's typical madness and draft day insanity continues. I'm getting that sick feeling listening to Jon Gruden verbally fustigate the Skins. Kiss of death.

7:58 p.m.: Welcome to the nation's capitol, Trent Williams. I'm sure the list of guys referred to by their nicknames by the commish at the podium on draft day is short, but when Goodell said, "With the fourth pick in the 2010 NFL Draft, the Washington Redskins select Trent 'Silverback' Williams," I got excited.

Anytime you draft a guy nicknamed after an animal that can and will tear your arms off and beat you to death with them to protect a corpse of a quarterback, it's a good thing.

Holding true to the Redskins don't have another pick for a while, so my interest in the prime-time festivities isn't that high.

Check back next week to see the tale of how I had to be talked off the ledge of the West Virginia Building upon hearing, "the Washington Redskins select Tim Tebow, quarterback from the University of Florida," tonight.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tim Tebow was drafted 25th overall to the Denver Broncos. Tom is safe in his home and relieved that the Redskins did not draft Tebow.

Tom Bragg can be contacted at tom.bragg@marshall.edu.

Thundering Weekend



During last year's Green-White game, Martin Ward was the highlight player of the game between two Marshall squads. This year many are wondering who would step up in Doc Holliday's debut in his first Marshall spring game. The game happens at 4 p.m. Saturday at Joan C. Edwards Stadium.

Green-White Game highlights Marshall events

BY KYLE HOBSTETTER
THE PARTHENON

As Marshall football enters its last official spring practice on Saturday, Thundering Herd faithful have a lot to look forward to over the weekend.

Probably the biggest event of the weekend is the culmination of spring practice with the annual Green-White game.

And when the players step on field at Joan C. Edwards Stadium, head coach Doc Holliday, head coach Doc Holliday, said it will be about getting better.

"At the beginning of the spring, we said we could squeeze everything we could out of those 15 practices in order to meet the challenges ahead of us," Holliday said. "We're going to lineup and play on Saturday. I told them every day we have to come out and be better going off the field than coming on and the same thing applies for Saturday."

In years past, the Green-White game was a scrimmage between the first team and the walk-ons.

But this year's game will be different as Holliday said the fans can look forward to a game featuring fair competition.

"We're going to good on good," he said. "It's important it being our first year we get as much as we can out of the scrimmage. In order to do that, we're going to put the ones against the ones and play it like a real game so we can get good people versus good people."

And with that attitude, it has fans of Marshall football excited for Holliday's first season at the reins of the Thundering Herd.

With a big turnout expected for Holliday's first Green-White game, Holliday said it's important for people to not only respond, but get used to playing in front of crowds.

"I want to see them all respond," he said. "You don't know how a lot of guys will react with people in the stands, so hopefully we'll see 15-20,000 or 25,000 people in the stands like we should and see how these guys react with people looking at them and watching them play."

While some players aren't used to playing in front of fans, many are still excited to get on the field and compete in front of the Herd faithful.

Senior tight end Lee Smith said that fans who come to the game on Saturday will see something special.

"They're going to see a lot of what they used to see in the 90s: a lot of passing the ball but still running down people's throats," Smith said. "It's going to be awesome and the fans have something to be excited about. They come out here to the spring game and we'll give them a taste of what's to come."

And with the Green-White Game game counting as the team's last spring practice,

See FOOTBALL 15

Baseball hosts UCF in pivotal C-USA matchup

HERDZONE.COM

The Marshall University baseball team hosts Conference USA opponent UCF for a three-game series starting at 10 a.m. Friday. The first game was moved up because of the possibility of inclement weather disrupting play. The second game will begin at 7:05 p.m. on Saturday and the series finale is slated for a Sunday at 1 p.m. All three games will be played at Appalachian Power Park in Charleston, W.Va.

Both Marshall and UCF are in a race for the top six spots in the C-USA Tournament in Houston, Texas. The Thundering Herd and Knights enter the series in a three-way tie for fourth place with Memphis as all squads own a 6-6 league record.

The home squad enters the week after sweeping a doubleheader against Coppin State at Epling Stadium in Beckley, W.Va. The Herd captured the first game 10-4 prior to taking game two, 7-3.

Kurt Lipton went 3-for-3 with two triples and three RBI in the first game, while Victor Gomez drove in three runs and Kenny Socorro crossed home on three occasions to highlight the first contest.

In the second game, Thor Meeks had a big game for the Herd, clubbing two three-run homers as part of a six RBI day at the dish. Meeks and Eric Semeniuk hit back-to-back homers in a four-run second inning to help the Herd earn the sweep.

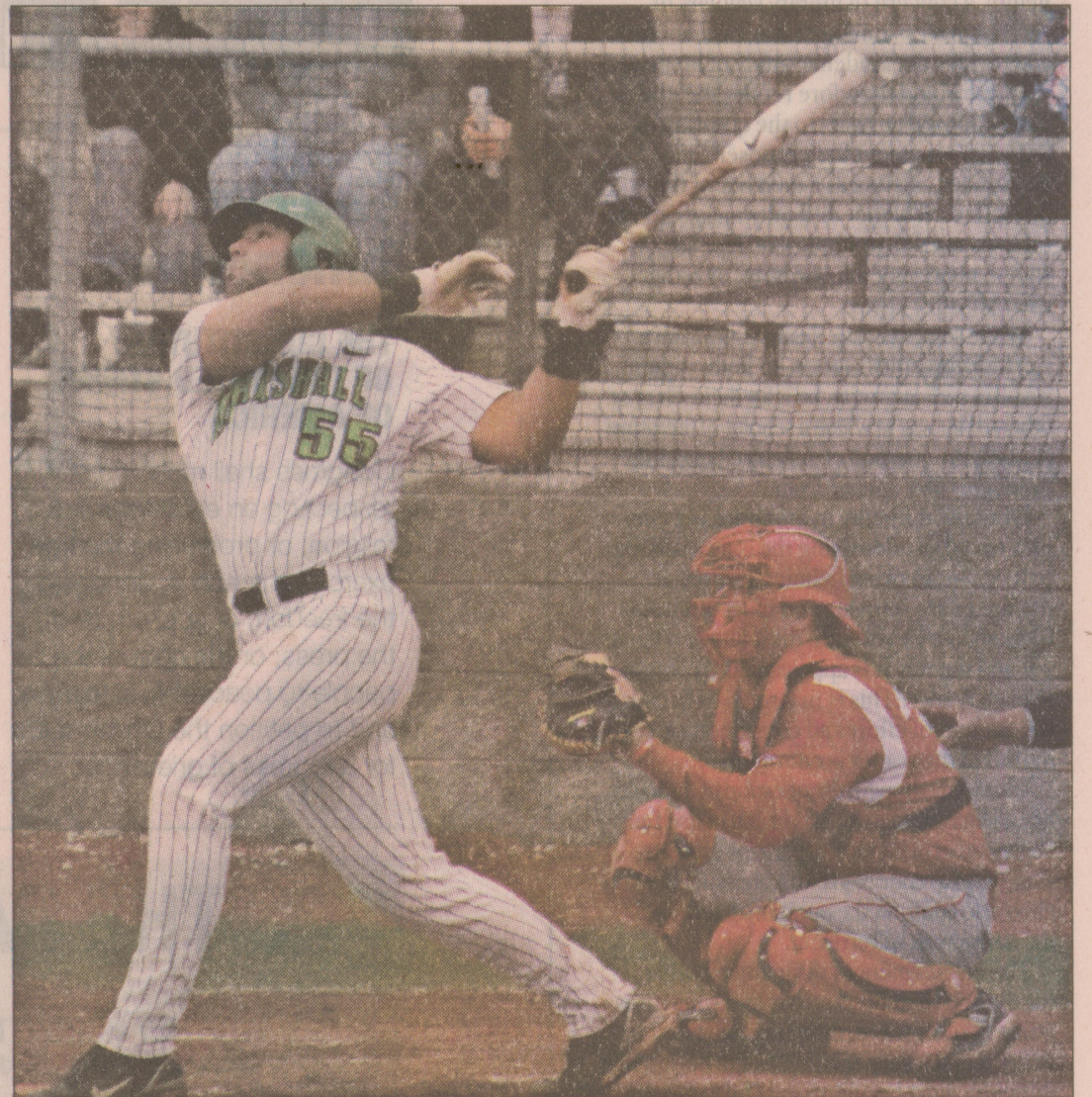
Since the start of conference play, second baseman Kirby Pellant has been on fire in the batter's box. The freshman is hitting .408 (20-for-49) against league pitchers with 14 runs scored, seven doubles, three triples and nine RBI out of the leadoff spot.

Sunday's starter Arik Sikula has been outstanding on the bump against league opponents as well. The junior right-hander owns a perfect 2-0 record in four starts with a 3.33 ERA in C-USA action. He has recorded 22 strikeouts in 24.1 innings, while holding batters to a .209 average against him.

UCF has been an offensive machine all season as the team ranks either first or second in nearly every offensive category. The team posts a .340 batting average led by Chris Duffy, who is tops in the league with a .448 average. Teammate Shane Brown is not far behind, ranking second in C-USA, hitting at a .426 clip.

Duffy also leads the conference in hits (69), homers (15), RBI (59) and total bases (131) as the Herd pitching staff should be aware of his powerful presence in the lineup.

The Knights rank eighth of nine teams in the league in ERA at 5.79. Saturday's starter, Owen Dew, tops the team in wins with a 5-1 record. The UCF staff leads the conference in saves with 14 as five different relievers have been credited with one save a piece.



Marshall catcher Thor Meeks, who is coming off a two home run and six RBI game against Coppin State on Wednesday, is looking to help the Herd against Conference USA rival UCF. Today's game has been moved to 10 a.m. at Appalachian Power Park.

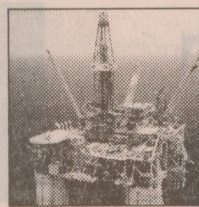
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"The only thing I was thinking was,

'How am I going to tell my kids that their dad is not coming home?' The worst goes through your mind. We were just blessed we got the call."

Carrol Moss, wife of a crew member working on the oil rig that exploded Tuesday in the Gulf of Mexico, about her husband being one of the men that was rescued while 11 others remain missing

THE PARTHENON **EDITORIAL**

Don't let your actions contradict each other

President Barack Obama fails to support his green initiatives with his personal actions

Marshall University's community got it right when they decided Earth Day should be celebrated from dusk till dawn. Activities were scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday. Why should it have been any other way?

If activities weren't scheduled like they were, it would have been far easier for people to do something good for the Earth one moment and then go back to the ways they

have been always doing things, which may or may not be so Earth friendly.

When we decide to do something good for the Earth, we should have all our actions reflect that point of view. If not, our actions may conflict and counter each other.

For example, Barack Obama, president of the U.S. obviously cares about the Earth. He has used the American

Recovery and Reinvestment Act passed in February 2009 to invest more than \$80 million in clean energy, according to www.whitehouse.gov. The act has given \$4.5 million to green federal buildings and \$600 million in green job training programs, to name a few initiatives. The Obama administration has increased the fuel economy standards for model year 2011 vehicles to get better mileage and on Earth Day 2009, Obama unveiled projects that would create electricity from wind, wave and ocean currents.

However, at the same time that Obama

has supported furthering green initiatives, his actions don't always follow through on those efforts. On Thursday he took a few trips by plane, six to be exact, to Iowa to give Earth Day speeches. His flights ended up using 9,000 gallons of fuel, according to a post by CBS News White House correspondent Mark Knoller.

Obama could have easily saved that fuel by making his speeches in Washington D.C. People have TVs, radio and the Internet for a reason. Why travel all the way out to Iowa when those people could have easily listened to or watched the speech from a distance and still get the same information?

Obama's speeches would come across far more powerful if he had decided to make those speeches in Washington to save fuel. His actions made his words weaker because his personal decisions did not follow the policies he was supporting.

So if we acknowledge that we love the Earth and support its day, we should make sure our actions match our claims. If you didn't get a chance to participate in any Earth Day events, you still have time. We can do good things for the Earth any day. Multiple sites exist on the Internet where you can find easy things to do.

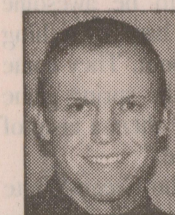
CALEB WHISENANT
SO, HERE'S THE THING

The concept of difficulty in literature

I'm difficult. Rather, I enjoy difficulty, at least in literature.

If I take up the task of reading, investing my time and energy into a text (which, let's be honest, in and of itself is never a simple task) I want to be challenged. I want the language of

whatever it is I'm reading to force me to be an active participant in the landscape of the text. I don't want to be passive in the experience. I want literature to be the place where I work out the philosophical questions I have concerning life. But not every avid reader would agree with me.



Caleb Whisenant
COLUMNIST

The issue of difficulty as it arises in the academic discipline of literature is curious and predictable. Difficulty, a concern of literary scholars of varying professional agendas, both unifies and divides the academic study of literature.

Logic would therefore render the notion that proposed answers to the question of difficulty represent the proposer's motivation for existing as a member of the discipline. Whether difficulty makes literature sustainable or implosive depends on who is answering the question, or rather what it is they covet.

While some scholars desire continuance - of literature, their careers, or both - other scholars seek authority, be it for themselves or others. The way in which a scholar of literature engages the question of difficulty dictates the paradigms they operate from.

Defining difficulty in literature is a complex task, but addressing the issues relating to it can be an overwhelming canvas, as the issues are intricate and most often ambiguous. To begin with, difficulty is relative - it and the way it is approached are unique to each reader. This is in large part because the amount of effort and consideration required of the reader is enormous.

Ultimately though, the question of difficulty, like all literary questions, is in and of itself an engagement of literature, perhaps even on some level a rendezvous with oneself. How you choose to confront the question determines the answer you will arrive at.

The engagement of difficulty resolves for the self what literature is and where it is going. To get there, difficulty must first be defined and issues relating to the notion of difficulty must be addressed and explored. And these things must be placed in the context of audience to frame an effective answer to an especially unanswerable question.

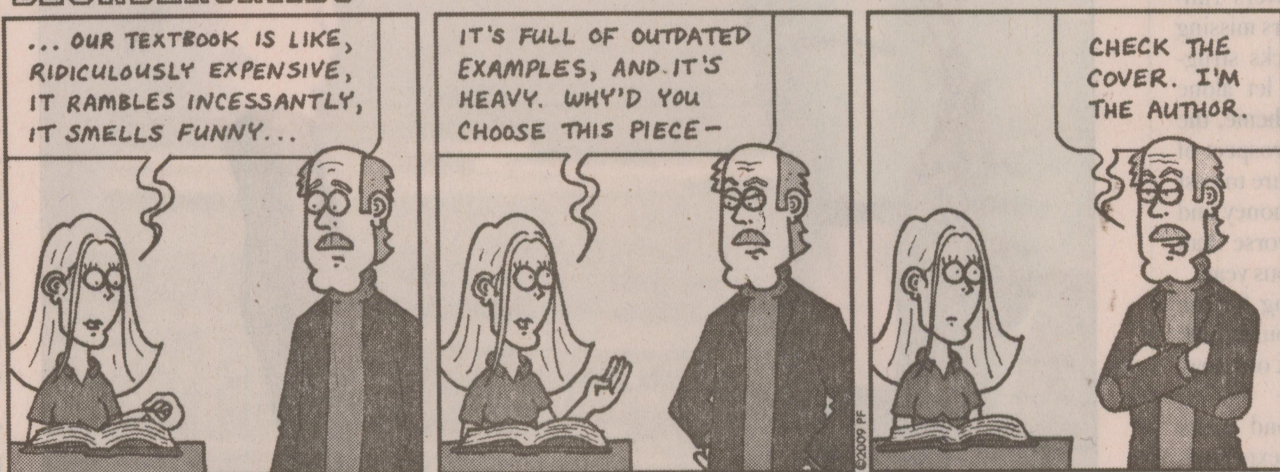
The audience of a text varies greatly; no two readers are exclusively similar. Difficulty in literature will be perceived differently by each reader.

So, here's the thing. To put it as directly as possible, different people have different tastes. Some readers seek only entertainment in a text, but that does not necessarily mean they cannot find that engaging in a difficult text. Similarly, some readers prefer to read texts that are challenging, but that does not make them superior readers to readers who most value entertainment in texts - superior literary scholars perhaps, but not superior readers. Difficulty in literature is effective, essential, and enjoyable only inasmuch as it is so for each individual reader.

Contact Caleb Whisenant at whisenant@marshall.edu.

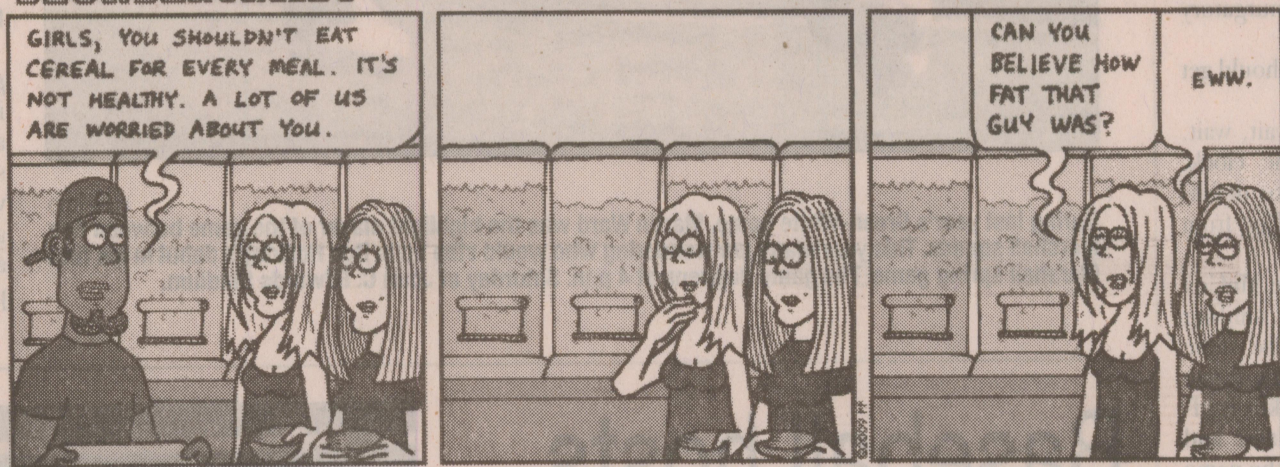
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THE PARTHENON STAFF

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WHITNEY BURDETTE
burdette56@marshall.edu

MANAGING EDITOR
EMILY AYRES
ayres@marshall.edu

NEWS EDITOR
STACI STANDIFORD
standiford1@marshall.edu

LIFE EDITOR
ERIC FALQUERO
falquero@marshall.edu

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR
JONAS SWECKER
swecker@marshall.edu

SPORTS EDITOR
KYLE HOBSTETTER
hobstetter@marshall.edu

COPY EDITOR
MICHAEL SPURLOCK
spurlock36@marshall.edu

COPY EDITOR
CARLTON APGAR
apgar5@marshall.edu

WEB EDITOR
JUSTIN DICKEY
dickey8@marshall.edu

PHOTO EDITOR
SHOLTEN SINGER
singer10@marshall.edu

CONTACT US

109 Communications Building
Marshall University
One John Marshall Drive
Huntington, WV 25755

E-mail: parthenon@marshall.edu.

Newsroom.....304-696-6696

Fax.....304-696-2732

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Nerissa Young.....304-696-2736
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Virginia-based fraternity inspired by Confederate general bans Rebel uniforms

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — A college fraternity inspired by Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee has banned members around the country from wearing Confederate uniforms to “Old South” parties and parades after years of complaints that the tradition was racially insensitive.

The Virginia-based Kappa Alpha Order issued new rules to chapters earlier this year saying members aren’t allowed to wear Rebel uniforms to parties or during their parades, which are a staple on campuses across the South.

The decision, announced in an internal memo posted on the group’s website, followed a flap last year at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, where a black sorority complained after a KA parade stopped in front of its house on campus. KA members were dressed in the gray uniforms of Confederate officers, and young women wore hoop skirts.

More than 70 alumnae of the sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha, sent a petition to Alabama President Robert Witt complaining about the use of Confederate flags and uniforms on campus.

In the memo to chapters, Kappa Alpha’s national executive director, Larry Wiese, said such displays had to end.

“In today’s climate, the Order can ill afford to offend our host institutions and fend off significant negative national press and remain effective at our core mission, which is to aid young men in becoming better community leaders and citizens,” Wiese wrote.

The KA chapter at Alabama has canceled this year’s Old South parade, which was set for this week. Still, a large Confederate national flag covers the front of its house on campus.

Other KA chapters quit donning Confederate uniforms or holding parades with Old South themes in recent years as criticism grew. The University of Georgia chapter canceled its parade in 2006 after complaints by residents of a black neighborhood. Instead, it switched to a Founder’s Day parade, with members riding horses but ditching

Confederate gear.

Auburn University’s chapter ended its Old South parade in 1992 after black students confronted white students with Confederate flags.

Kappa Alphas at Centenary College in Shreveport, La., moved their Old South events off campus in 2002 after drawing protests from the Black Student Alliance and others over the Confederate garb.

On Thursday, the University of Alabama said the decision to call off the parade there was made by the fraternity in consultation with school administrators.

Thomas Wilson, KA’s president at Alabama, said the fraternity supports “an inclusive campus environment, and as an organization we chose not to participate in an activity that we knew other members of the community found offensive.”

“The members of the fraternity understand that when traditions hurt others, even unintentionally, it’s time to change them,” said dean of students Tim Hebson.

An alumna of the black sorority that complained about racial insensitivity at last year’s parade said there are ways for the fraternity to acknowledge its Southern heritage beside dressing up like Confederate soldiers.

“The women of Alpha Kappa Alpha and other racially diverse groups on UA’s campus trust that the men of Kappa Alpha will find ways to commemorate their founders in a spirited and significant manner that simultaneously recognizes the progress that we have made in race relations since the founding of Kappa Alpha and the rich diversity and inclusiveness of our progressive and positive campus,” said Joyce Stallworth, now an associate education dean at Alabama.

Kappa Alpha was founded in 1865 at Washington & Lee University — a school partly named for the Confederate general, and the group calls Lee its “spiritual founder.” It has about 130 chapters nationwide.

GAS

Continued from Page 1

waited nine seconds to set off the spark, but filling it with propane only took 4.5 seconds to make the same size explosion.

In his demonstration, Gregory said the price of natural gas is decreasing because there is a surplus in the region.

“About five years ago, there was a lot discovered,” he said. “As a company, we try to buy it in bulk and store it in wells.”

Gregory said he doesn’t foresee the prices jumping but rather becoming more affordable.

“It looks like power companies will eventually go to natural gas instead of using coal, simply because of the price,” he said.

Gregory said natural gas could be used in many ways because it can be broken down.

“There are 63 different properties that can be taken from natural gas,” he said. “We strip it down to methane and the rest is put to use elsewhere.”

Annette Graybeal, senior communications studies major, attended the education session.

“I wanted to learn a little bit more about how to help the Earth,” she said. “I actually got insight into gas being safer than I thought before, and I definitely feel better about using it.”

Graybeal said she was most intrigued by the technology that has advanced in the industry.

“It’s good for business in West Virginia,” she said. “I didn’t realize how much gas we produce as a state.”

Haley Thaxton can be contacted at thaxton21@marshall.edu.

EARTH

Continued from Page 1

The schedule listed the Memorial Student Center as the location for the bulb exchange, cell phone recycling, electronics recycling, plant sale, bake sale and a human-powered bike generator.

The bulb exchange took place from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., according to the schedule.

“Anyone could bring a regular incandescent bulb and exchange it for a CFL bulb,”

Phillips said.

She said State Electric of Huntington donated more than 100 compact fluorescent light bulbs.

In the final tallies of the exchange, Phillips said they had swapped 99 light bulbs.

Phillips said the regular incandescent bulbs that were collected would be donated to the Habitat for Humanity ReStore.

Haley Thaxton can be contacted at thaxton21@marshall.edu.

FOOTBALL

Continued from Page 3

Holliday said he has been proud of the work his team has put in this spring.

“I think they’ve made some great strides,” Holliday said. “We’ve made strides but we’re not near where we need to be. We need to finish things up right these last two days. We’ve got to have a great summer and get ready for August.”

The Green and White Game begins at 4 p.m. Saturday at Joan C. Edwards Stadium. Following the game will be a concert by country music group Gloriana.

Very Big Green Dinner

While the Green and White Game is the supposedly the main attraction this weekend, Marshall University will honor its own.

Tonight will be The Big Green Scholarship Foundation Dinner, which will feature a special “Sons of Marshall” Hall of Fame Induction of former Marshall stars Chad Pennington, Randy Moss, Byron

Leftwich and John Wade.

Holliday said it’s going to be a special moment not only for fans but for him as well.

“To be able to sit in the same room as Chad, Randy, Byron and John is just going to be special,” Holliday said. “They’re the face of Marshall football and put the expectations so high and we want to thank them for that because that’s what made this such a special place.”

The dinner is sold out and more than 1,200 people are expected to attend.

Holliday said the response to the dinner just shows how passionate Marshall fans are for their football team.

“How about that?” Holliday said. “I haven’t been to a whole lot of places where you go to a banquet the night before the spring game that has 1,200 people and it’s sold out with people begging for tickets. That just tells you how special this place is and the passion they have for their football.”

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



Dancers perform in Thursday’s showing of “Lord of the Dance” at the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center. The show was in town for only one night and was part of the Marshall Artists Series.

SUDOKU

Difficulty: 4 (of 5)

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

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

Blagojevich wants Obama to testify

CHICAGO (AP) — Former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich’s lawyers asked a federal judge on Thursday to issue a subpoena for President Barack Obama to testify as a witness at his corruption trial.

Blagojevich said in court papers filed by defense attorney Sam Adam that Obama would be able to resolve questions surrounding the government’s allegation that the former governor sought to sell or trade the seat left vacant following the president’s November 2008 election.

“President Barack Obama has direct knowledge of the Senate seat allegation,” Blagojevich’s 11-page motion filed with U.S. District Judge James B. Zagel said.

Massey board says it’s sticking with Blankenship

JULIAN, W.Va. (AP) — Massey Energy’s board says it’s sticking with Chief Executive Don Blankenship amid calls for his resignation.

Lead independent director Bobby Inman said Thursday the board has concluded that changing senior management now wouldn’t be in the company’s best interests. The Richmond, Va.-based company is under pressure from industry regulators and shareholders after 29 miners died in an explosion at Massey’s Upper Big Branch coal mine in West Virginia on April 5.

A growing number of Massey shareholders have asked that Blankenship’s role be re-examined. Some even want him to resign. But Inman says Blankenship has the board’s full support.

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PERCY JACKSON (PG) 4:20
DEAR JOHN (PG13) 7:10-9:25
\$6 *Cinema Exclusive*
THE RUNAWAYS (R) 5:25 - 7:35 - 9:45
\$5 *FlashBack Mondays*
THE SHINING (R) 4/26

Families of mine victims meet with federal, state investigators

BECKLEY, W.Va. (AP) — The families of the 29 men killed in the explosion at Massey Energy’s Upper Big Branch mine have a new way to reach government investigators.

About 100 people met privately with federal Mine Safety and Health Administration official Kevin Strickland and agency investigators Wednesday.

MSHA spokeswoman Amy Louviere said families got a phone number to anonymously report anything they think might help the investigation. She says that’s never been done before.

The tip line — (304) 256-3525 — is answered Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The public can also use it. Louviere said the meeting at Liberty High School was mainly to let families meet the team. They also learned how the investigative process works and what to expect in the coming months.

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◆ **THE BACK-UP PLAN** (PG-13) 12:00
2:35 5:05 7:40 10:15

THE BOUNTY HUNTER (PG-13) 11:50
2:25 5:00 7:35 10:10

CLASH OF THE TITANS (PG-13) 12:15
1:30 2:45 4:00 5:15
6:30 7:50 9:05 10:20

DATE NIGHT (PG-13)
12:10 1:15 2:20 3:25
4:30 5:35 6:40 7:45
8:50 9:55

◆ **KICK-ASS** (R) 1:00
3:45 6:35 9:25

THE LAST SONG
(PG) 11:45 2:15 4:45
7:20 9:50

◆ **THE LOSERS** (PG-13)
12:05 2:30 4:55 7:15
9:45

◆ **DEATH AT A FUNERAL** (R) 11:55
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◆ **THE LOSERS** (PG-13) 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 9:55
◆ **OCEANS** (G) 12:00 2:15 4:30 6:45 9:00
◆ **KENNY CHESNEY: SUMMER IN 3D** (R)
Fri 7:15 Sat 2:00 9:30 Sun 2:00
Wed & Thu 7:30
(Digital 3D - All Seats \$20)

◆ **DEATH AT A FUNERAL** (R) 12:10 2:30 4:50 7:15 9:50
◆ **KICK-ASS** (R) 1:00 3:30 4:15 6:30 7:00 9:15 9:45
◆ **DATE NIGHT** (PG-13) 12:25 2:45 5:00 7:25 9:40
◆ **LETTERS TO GOD** (R) 1:00 3:45 6:30 9:15
◆ **CLASH OF THE TITANS 3D** (PG-13) 11:30 2:05 4:40
7:25 9:55
(Additional \$2.50 charge for 3D films)

◆ **TYLER PERRY’S WHY DID I GET MARRIED TOO** (PG-13)
12:45 3:40 6:30

◆ **THE LAST SONG** (PG) 11:40 2:10 4:20 6:45 7:20 9:55
◆ **HOT TUB TIME MACHINE** (R) 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00
◆ **HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 3D** (PG) 11:30 1:30 2:00
4:30 7:00 9:30
(Additional \$2.50 charge for 3D films)

◆ **THE BOUNTY HUNTER** (PG-13) 1:40 4:20 7:00 9:50
◆ **DIARY OF A WIMPY KID** (PG) 12:00 2:15 4:30 6:45 9:00
◆ **ALICE IN WONDERLAND IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D** (PG) 11:30 2:05 4:40 9:50
◆ **THE SHINING** (R) 4:40 7:15 9:50
◆ **Wed & Thu** 11:30 2:05 4:40 9:50
(Additional \$2.50 charge for 3D films)
◆ **SHUTTER ISLAND** (R) 9:35 PM

Times for Friday, 4/23 - Thursday, 4/29



LORDS OF

Dance

BY JOHN YEINGST
THE PARTHENON

The highest grossing dance show performance in the world, "Lord of the Dance," performed Thursday night at the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center.

The story of the show is based upon mythical Irish folklore. It's a love story encompassing a classic tale of good versus evil — all fueled by the dramatic leaps and turns of dancers doing what they do best against a backdrop of Celtic rhythms.

"I was excited for the show because I had never seen it before," said Angela Jones, marketing director for the Marshall Artists Series. "It never played in our market, and I think a lot of people were very aware of the show but didn't have to opportunity to see it because it had never played here."

Jones said an estimated 1,500 tickets were sold by the beginning of the show. She said Lord of the Dance was a great conclusion to the Marshall Artists Series and its just good for people to be exposed to a variety of new things such as this event.

The average age of the dancers in the show is 22. There are more than 40 dancers whose style is unique to Irish dancing, stretching a form of dance that has evolved over more than 2,000 years.

"My mother influenced me to do my work which encouraged me to start dancing at the age of three," said Adam McSharry, the lead villain in "Lord of the Dance." "I've been Irish dancing for about 28 years now. When you first come into the

show, you don't dance the same as other people so you have to work together to learn each other's style of dance."

McSharry said the main objective with "Lord of the Dance" and any chorus line of the show is to get the dances looking the same. "We have to move at the same time and get it in sync but I had a good feeling that we would get great reactions from the audience tonight," McSharry said. I always prefer having our shows in older theatres like Keith-Albee. The crowds from smaller cities really appreciate these types of performances. I have been to every state in the United States; and I can say that my favorite show took place in New Orleans."

"Lord of the Dance" has performed in 67 countries and grossed in excess of \$800 million in global ticket sales.

"One of the biggest parts of our job that people don't realize is that we need to know every role in the show in case something ever happens," said Maggie Revis, the lead role of Saoirse in Lord of the Dance. If somebody is not healthy we need to know their part exactly to be able to jump in and take over their spot. A lot of people are sick with the flu lately and it can spread fast when were are together all of the time."

"I think the show was even a little better than River Dance, because it had a storyline to it between the good and bad," said Ann Buchanan, a resident of Ona, W.Va. "It was more than I expected and am so glad Marshall is able to have programs like this. I think it is great for Marshall and the community."

The Marshall Artists Series also offered a master class for anyone to learn Irish step dancing from the professionals Thursday afternoon.

John Yeingst can be contacted at yeingst@marshall.edu.

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Scenes from "Lord of the Dance" performed Thursday at the Keith Albee Performing Arts Center.

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