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The Parthenon, February 16, 2022

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Green and White Day, Valentine's Day Take Over Campus



Photo by Shauntelle Thompson

By **MEGAN GRAGG**
REPORTER | GRAGG4@MARSHALL.EDU

Several Marshall programs tried to recruit visiting high school students this past Friday at the university's most recent Green and White day.

"We got to answer many questions and inform students and parents how our

program works," Layne Assif said, a Marshall junior majoring in exercise science. "We got to inform them what classes they will be taking if they were to join the program."

Read more on page 2.

Mayor Williams Sets Vision, Shares Plans in Address

Mayor Steve Williams gave his annual State of the City address and presented the proposed budget to the City Council on Monday. Williams spoke thoroughly on addressing infrastructure and staffing.

Read more on page 2.

C-USA Fights Back - Insists Marshall Stay Until 2024

Read more on page 6.

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Mayor Williams Gives Annual State of the City Address, Shares Budget

By TYLER SPENCE

EXECUTIVE EDITOR | SPENCE83@MARSHALL.EDU

“Make no little plans” has served as the motto of Huntington Mayor Steve Williams since his inauguration in 2013.

Williams believes Huntington’s present is a transformative and important piece of its future; and he described Huntington’s journey from a city that once bustled in the Industrial Revolution to a city of the digital age in his State of the City Address on Monday.

“We are not being labeled by our challenges. We are being acknowledged by the manner in which we create solutions,” Williams said.

Williams spoke thoroughly about the city’s finances and budget, frequently making reference to the urgent need for new and improved infrastructure throughout the city. Because of the city’s positive financial situation, Williams believes Huntington will now be able to address these needs quickly, creating a roadmap for their continuous improvement in the future.

“[2021] is the first time in over 50 years that we are not operating from a perspective of scarcity. In 2022, we can report that the city of Huntington, West Virginia is a financially sound operation with resources available to provide basic services and aggressively address crumbling infrastructure that has either never been addressed or not been addressed in decades,” Williams said.

Mayor Williams said the level of neglect rampant in Huntington due to the lack of resources over the decades surprised him when he first took office in 2013; however, he praised the city’s leadership team and city department employees for their improvements to public resources. As a result

of those improvements, public facilities can now be created, repaired, replaced and upgraded for the first time in the past sixty or more years.

By 2024, the Public Works Department will operate on a ten-year paving cycle where all roads will be scheduled for paving and ongoing maintenance.

“The policies set forth and programs established by this administration will continue on their steady path. As a result, there is no need to change direction or tone. As I said, this budget will be familiar. We have governed intellectually and its result is a steady, strong fiscal balance sheet. We now have the capacity to not just govern intellectually—we now have the capacity to govern with our heart,” Williams said.

Despite the familiarity of the budgets, many departments would have their largest budgets in the history of the city of Huntington if the budget were to be approved. The Huntington Police and Fire Departments and the Public Works Department would also be able to operate fully staffed and “effectively and safely perform their duties” according to Williams.

Williams emphasized that no fire stations would be consolidated, and two new stations would be built as replacements for two older stations needing serious attention.

“The greatest compliment placed upon the city of Huntington by others was not when we were named “America’s Best Community” or named the “City of Solutions” or a “City of Service.” The greatest compliment that was placed upon our city and our residents was when an African Governor called Huntington, West Virginia a “city of compassion,”” Williams said.

Green and White Day continued from front page...

Green and White Day at Marshall welcomes high school seniors and parents to tell them more about the university. All the different academic programs set up tables to answer any questions parents and students may have concerning the program. Clubs also set up tables to inform students about the different events that happen during the academic school year.

In addition, Green and White Day allowed parents and students to meet with professors and take a campus tour.

“It was very busy here. We made sure the gates were unlocked for everyone to get in and

out,” said one Rec Center employee. “It was not as big as the fall Green and White Day, but there was still a good turnout.”

As with most events on campus and beyond, Covid has had its effects on the annual Green and White Day activities. For instance, for last week’s event, group could include no more than the registered participant and up to two guests.

Also, all visitors were required to wear a face covering, and maintain social distancing at all times, while on campus. Disposable mask were provided for those who forgot to bring their own facial covering.

Despite pandemic precautions, Green and White Day visitors also had opportunities to tour residence halls and learn about living on campus.

And for high school seniors preparing for graduation, the university had officials standing by to help with applications and registration.

This was the first Green and White Day event for this semester at Marshall University. The next Green and White Day will be April 2. More information can be found on Marshall’s website.



Photos by Shauntelle Thompson

MU-Based Law School Proposed by Delegate



Photo by Tyler Spence

By **TREVOR SMITH**

REPORTER | SMITH2784@MARSHALL.EDU

A second law school for West Virginia has been proposed by the House of Delegates for Marshall University. If approved, the school would be situated at the university's South Charleston campus.

The bill proposing the new law school for Marshall was introduced

by Delegate Mathew Rohrbach (R-Cabell), who believes a second school would benefit southern West Virginia beyond creating more lawyers for the state. He hopes for the school to function as a part-time school for those who would benefit from legal education in their current careers.

Rohrbach said the school would

be “probably more night and weekend classes than you would have in a traditional law school. It’s geared more at people in banking, insurance, and mineral law.”

West Virginia’s Office of the Insurance Commissioner reported over 2,700 insurance related entities at the end of 2020 within the state.

If legislation approves the bill and it is signed by the governor, then Marshall would have to create a strategic plan for implementing the school by Nov. 1.

Marshall University’s president would have the authority to appoint the head of the graduate college who would report directly to the president.

An editorial from the Herald-Dispatch said if the University receives approval to create this extension of their graduate school, the school would need to act before the University of Charleston declares their own or West Virginia University begins to open a second law school in the city.

Currently, House Bill 4425 is stalled in the House Education Committee.

students introducing themselves in the Japanese they’ve learned.

Akiko Praylow, Japanese outreach coordinator at Marshall, said that students have very limited opportunities to be exposed to a different language culture because of COVID-19.

“The middle schoolers get to hear the English and talk to them directly. It’s a very inspiring event for them in Japan. For Marshall students, I think it’s a great first-time learning experience to have

Free Narcan Training Offered to Students

By **GRACE HEWITT**

REPORTER | HEWITT23@MARSHALL.EDU

Marshall students will receive Naloxone training in honor of national Save a Life Day and to follow the new drug prevention initiative.

A new overdose prevention initiative launched by Marshall University and the West Virginia Drug Prevention Institute (WVDPI) on West Virginia Universities and Colleges called “Be The One.”

Be The One focuses on overdose prevention and how a bystander, students, staff and faculty at any University or College can save a life.

Joey Justice, regional coordinator for the West Virginia Office of Drug Control Policy, said this event is primarily for bringing awareness to the opioid epidemic that has affected many families and friends.

“You never know when you’ll be in a situation where you can help save someone’s life.” Justice said, “You’re giving that individual a second chance to enter in recovery and make that choice to live to see another day.”

Justice also said people can learn from this training how Naloxone can

benefit individuals and the community, as well as how to tell the signs of an overdose.

“We want people to be able to feel open to talk about the epidemic and ways we can help families and friends and our community to overcome addiction and reduce the stigma around addiction, recovery, and naloxone in general,” Justice said.

Tyler Bryant, a senior at Marshall University, said he plans on attending the training to help raise awareness and help the community in any way he can.

“People close to me have struggled with addiction their whole lives, and I’m always willing to learn more to help protect those I care about,” Bryant said.

Anyone who participates in the training will receive information on campus recovery resources, a certificate of completion and one free box of Naloxone.

The training will be held on February 16, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the MSC lobby, and is open to Marshall faculty, students, and the Huntington Community.

Japanese Students to Visit Marshall

By **GRACE HEWITT**

REPORTER | HEWITT23@MARSHALL.EDU

Middle schoolers from Nagasaki, Japan will meet with Marshall students through a new virtual classroom set up by the university’s Japanese Outreach Program this coming Thursday on Feb. 17.

This virtual classroom will include different learning experiences, starting with the Japanese students introducing themselves using English and Marshall

this event with the students in Japan,” Praylow said.

Praylow said in Japan it could be a great opportunity for Marshall students to start thinking about career paths, if they want to study abroad or work in a different country outside the U.S.

“It’s a very positive experience for both Marshall students and Japan students. It’s a great cultural exposure for them,” Praylow said.

Praylow is one of the coordinators

for the outreach program and said coordinating the virtual classroom is always fun, despite having to start from scratch every new time.

“Since this is the first attempt, maybe we can expand to a different grade or country in the future,” Praylow said.

Marshall students and middle schoolers in Japan have another chance to practice what they’ve been learning on February 17, Eastern Standard Time at 6:45 p.m.

The Landing to Host Open House for Students

By **CALVIN STATEN**

REPORTER | STATEN30@MARSHALL.EDU

Leasing agents will host an open house on Feb. 16 showcasing the Landing at Marshall for all graduate students looking for a place to live.

The Landing at Marshall is an apartment complex created by the university to give grad students another option for local housing.

Located close to Cabell Huntington Hospital along 14th Street, living at the Landing could make for an easier commute for those students seeking a medical degree from Marshall's medical school.

Built roughly three to four years ago, the apartments are "in good condition with hasty maintenance

employees ready to fix anything that may need to be [fixed]," said Paige Santore. Santore acts as one of the leasing agents for the Landing.

However, despite the Landing's strides towards quality, its occupancy rate in 2021 was about 50-60%. This year, though, its estimated occupancy rate is 70-80%.

When it comes to paying rent, the Landing presents three different options that renters can choose from, which are: \$899 for a single studio; \$699 for a two-room apartment with one roommate and a single room; and \$1,398 for the entire two-room apartment. No matter the plan, all amenities are included with rent, like water and

electric.

"The main goal of the open house is to get the word out to students and try to build a pre-existing relationship with any potential residents," said Santore. "We held a Super Bowl party on the fourth floor open to all the residents on Sunday. It was a nice way for them to eat food and socialize with each other."

If anyone wishes to find more information pertaining to the Landing—whether it be the floor plans or more details on what the rooms look like and how much space they have—interested students can go to their website at www.thelandingatmarshall.com

Collegiate Recovery Hosts Valentine's Day Paint



Photos by Shauntelle Thompson

Students Receive Wave of COVID Relief funding

By **TREVOR SMITH**

REPORTER | SMITH2784@MARSHALL.EDU

Covid relief funding was announced for eligible students with a valid FAFSA last week by Marshall University for current students.

The funds will be deposited to eligible students either by direct deposit or through mailed paper checks based on their preference.

Eligible students include currently enrolled students with a valid Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and those with an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of zero.

Students who believe they should be

awarded funding and do not receive during the initial process can apply for an appeal on the university's financial aid website. If applying for an appeal, students must provide documentation that supports the reasoning behind their application.

Unlike last Spring, where nearly every student received at least some aid, this round of aid money will be reserved for students that meet the established criteria.

This year's stricter award system is due to having less money remaining from the funds given to the university last year. There were over four million

dollars to give out last year, so many students were eligible for relief. This year, that number has gone to about 3.2 million.

Eligible students who receive funding will have their awards based on the federal needs-based formula. The Federal Student Aid website says that the EFC is "calculated according to a formula established by law. Your family's taxed and untaxed income, assets, and benefits (such as unemployment or Social Security) all could be considered in the formula." A full rundown of how the EFC is calculated can also be found on the website.

By **AUSTIN JOHNSON**

REPORTER | JOHNSON1489@MARSHALL.EDU

To help those in recovery—from drugs to abuse to any other kind of trauma—the Collegiate Recovery Community hosted a painting event for students and other people throughout the city of Huntington.

This past Thursday on Feb. 10, the Collegiate Recovery Community sponsored a painting exercise themed around Valentine's Day at Marcos at the lower level of the Memorial Student Center.

Kai Kendora, a freshman at Marshall University studying dietetics, went to the student center for the Valentine-themed painting event. Looking back, Kendora said she hoped to see more

painting events brought to campus in the future.

"Painting is a great creative expression," she said. "Who doesn't like painting?"

Reflecting on the event as a whole, Kendora said the session was a good time and great opportunity for students.

Chasity Street, a peer recovery support specialist for Marshall's collegiate community, explained the goals of the Collegiate Recovery Community and the various events they host.

"We are trying to get students that are here on campus in recovery or people in the community that want to go back to college," Street said. "We accept any kind of recovery."

Two Marshall Professors Research Food Insecurity



Campbell's Chunky donated 200,000 bowls of soup to the L.A. Regional Food Bank in the fight against hunger last Thursday

Photo courtesy of Tyler Kaufman / AP

By SEMONI WEAVER

REPORTER | WEAVER161@MARSHALL.EDU

Student survey responses about the accessibility of affordable and nutritious food will assist two Marshall professors researching food insecurity and eating behavior.

Doctors Penny Koontz and Brittany Canady from Marshall University's psychology department recognized a limited amount of research surrounding young adults access to food and how their eating behaviors are affected by it. Although the coronavirus did not present a driving factor behind this research, Canady identified a pattern of trauma that Covid has since exacerbated in relation to food insecurity.

On Jan. 26, Marshall's University of Communications sent out a mass email to all undergraduate students regard-

ing a research project survey on "Food Insecurity and Eating Behavior."

According to Canady, she and Koontz hope to publish their findings in a scientific journal. Canady said this could add to the corpus of literature surrounding how food insecurity influences eating habits, as well as the connection between adverse childhood experiences and one's relationship with food. Canady added that publishing would allow other psychologists to build on their research, leading to better clinical solutions for eating habits.

Canady has been fortunate enough to not have a personal experience with food insecurity despite her father having encountered very significant poverty as a child which resulted in critical consequences.

Koontz endured an entirely different upbringing as a child.

"I would say that I experienced food insecurity in the sense that my family could only purchase canned vegetables and we used a lot of prepackaged ingredients that, of course, contained things like high sugar, high sodium and high fats because of low income; and so, I didn't have access to fresh vegetables, fresh fruits and leaner cuts of meat. So, I think that—just on a personal level—that this definitely played a role in my food choices and food preferences as an adult," said Koontz.

There is no set end date for when the research project survey closes, and Koontz and Canady plan to keep it open until responses taper off and the survey stops receiving new responses.

Along with completing this survey, the school of communications is awarding participants one of four \$10 gift cards to Marshall University's bookstore.

Garden Therapy Puts Students at Ease

By ANDREW CORLISS

REPORTER | CORLISS2@MARSHALL.EDU

The Marshall Greenhouse opened its doors to offer students a variety of relaxing gardening activities for Valentine's Day.

On Monday, students planted seeds for the student garden, painted flowerpots and took potted plants home with them to beat the Valentine's Day blues. The seeds they planted will grow into herbs and vegetables to be sold later on campus market days.

"There's microorganisms in the soil that keep you healthy. They give you a euphoric feeling and kinda just make you happy," said lead gardener Angela Kargul.

Vikki Mitchell, a worker for the Sustainability Department,

emphasized the health benefits of working with nature and the outdoors.

"There are nutrients and minerals in the soil that are good for your body that help your immune system," Mitchell said. "I've been doing this work for 25 years, and I hardly get sick. I think a lot of my immunity is because I've been in the dirt for years."

Mitchell said she is always looking for new volunteers to assist in the Greenhouse, located in front of the Science Building. Students can email bemarshallgreen@marshall.edu if they are interested.

"We always accept volunteers. If you wanna come in and play in the dirt or help in the garden, come on over," she said. "We always look for extra help."



A plant from Garden Therapy

Photo by Andrew Corliss

Marshall Announces Plans to Leave C-USA, but Conference Insists Herd Stays

By JUSTIN ZIMMER & TYLER KENNETT
REPORTER & SPORTS EDITOR
ZIMMER3@MARSHALLEDU | KENNETT@MARSHALLEDU

Marshall University announced Friday that the athletics program will plan to depart from Conference USA a year earlier than expected, joining the Sun Belt Conference effective July 1, 2022.

Marshall University Athletics released the following statement: “Marshall University has communicated to Conference USA that it will cease participation in the conference effective June 30, 2022. The Thundering Herd will not participate in Conference USA during the 2022-23 season.

This decision comes after consideration of the best interests of Marshall’s student athletes and its loyal fans. Marshall first advised the conference in early December 2021 of its desire to not participate in the conference after this current academic year. Since then, the University continued to communicate

its intentions to Conference USA and has offered to find an amicable resolution to this matter. The Conference refuses to discuss a resolution with the University. Our student athletes, coaches, staff, fan base and the remaining members of Conference USA are deserving of clarity in this matter, thus the need for today’s message.

We are grateful for our 17 years of Conference USA membership, an era that will always be an important part of Thundering Herd history. It is now time to turn the page on Marshall’s future.”

The exit fee for Conference USA is \$3 Million. Keith Gill, Commissioner of the Sun Belt Conference, announced back in November that the Sun Belt entrance fee has been waived for Marshall University.

In response, Conference USA issued a statement on Tuesday announcing that it will “exhaust all necessary legal actions to ensure all members meet their contractual

obligations.”

At the present moment, Marshall has not issued a response. C-USA has disabled Twitter replies under the announcement.

In conjunction with the statement, C-USA has published its 2022 football schedule.

For UAB, the Blazers currently have Marshall and Southern Miss, two teams planning to leave the conference, on their active schedule.

In a statement made by Southern Miss, another C-USA school that plans to leave for the Sun Belt, the Golden Eagles representatives said:

“The University first advised C-USA in early December 2021.”

This timeline aligns with Marshall, showcasing that both programs showcased intent to leave prior to the 2022 calendar year.

Southern Miss also stated that Conference USA has “so far refused to discuss any such arrangement” regarding an arrangement for other C-USA schools to compete with



Keith Gill, Jerome Gilbert, Brad Smith, and Jeff O'Malley during November Announcement Courtesy of Herdzone.com

Southern Miss if it were to join the Sun Belt in 2022.

Despite the statement from Conference USA, Marshall plans to join Old Dominion, Southern

Mississippi, and James Madison University in joining the Sun Belt a year earlier than expected in July 2022.

Marshall Defeats UTEP In Upset Win As Herd Responds to Coach D'Antoni's Comments

By JUSTIN ZIMMER

REPORTER | ZIMMER3@MARSHALLEDU

After head coach Dan D'Antoni said his players lacked heart, the team responded with a defeat over the University of Texas at El Paso Miners by a final score of 88-79.

On Thursday D'Antoni said, “You’re not any good without a big-time heart at this level.”

Within the first few minutes, D'Antoni's players were able to have a quick start with a four-point lead over the Miners. However, with 17:15 remaining in the first half, the Miners were able to take

the lead on a Jamal Bieniemy layup bringing the score to 5-4.

Marshall retook the lead on a Marko Sarenac three-pointer two minutes later. However, between the 15:29 to the 12:52 mark, the Miners were on a 6-0 run. The run ended on a Taevion Kinsey driving layup. However, for the remainder of the first half, Marshall and the Miners went back and forth, and the Herd would take the lead in the final seconds of the half on Mikel Beyers free-throws. Marshall led at halftime by a score of 39-38.

At the start of the second

half, Marshall started pulling away with a lead. However, the lead never expanded into double digits. The Miners kept narrowing the deficit, but Marshall would maintain the lead throughout the entirety of the second half and would win its second conference game of the season.

After the game, Goran Miladinovic spoke about how the team has to maintain composure and not receive so many technical fouls. “Well, we just got we just got to push through it and keep our heads cool.” Miladinovic also said “I mean, we can’t celebrate what like I’ve never seen that before

but it’s fine. We won.”

A jovial Dan D'Antoni talked after the game about how Kinsey and Andrew Taylor and how they were able to effectively set up the offense. “Well, their defensive scheme means balls got to get out of their hand to the next guy. Goran really made decisions from there on. He and Toussaint did a nice job getting up in there, making decisions.”

Marshall is back in Huntington Thursday night, as the Herd will face the Old Dominion Monarchs for the second time this season. The tipoff is at 7 p.m.



Andrew Taylor

Courtesy of Herdzone.com

Sydney Nester Named Conference USA Pitcher of the Week



Sydney Nester threw 25 strikeouts in 3 appearances *Courtesy of herdzone.com*

By TYLER KENNETT

SPORTS EDITOR | KENNETT@MARSHALL.EDU

Marshall Softball redshirt junior Sydney Nester was named Conference USA's Pitcher of the Week on Monday.

Nester had a phenomenal weekend, throwing 25 strikeouts and not allowing a single run in 14 innings. She finished the weekend 3-0. In her appearances this weekend, Nester only threw one walk.

"Sydney definitely made a statement this weekend with her dominant performance," Herd head coach Megan Smith Lyon said. "Her work ethic, commitment to excellence and competitive mindset have been such a great addition to our team, and I am excited to watch her continue to grow this season."

Nester is a transfer from North Carolina State. In her time with the Wolfpack, she was awarded ACC Pitcher of the Week one other time in March of 2019, a week in which she also went 3-0, not allowing a run and striking out 40 batters.

In 2021, Nester led the Wolfpack in appearances and strikeouts with 102. She finished with a 7-10 record and an ERA of 3.87. For NC State, her career ERA of 3.49 is good for 10th all time.

Nester has consistently been dominant from the circle, striking out an average of 7.06 batters per 7 innings.

As a student, Nester graduated from NC State in three years with a Bachelor's degree in sport management and is working on a Master's degree in communication studies at Marshall.

The junior is off to an amazing start in the circle for the Herd. Nester has two contests with 10 or more strikeouts in three appearances. Only one extra base hit was allowed in those matches.

As for the Herd as a whole, Marshall is sitting at 3-1 on the season following a cancellation due to an accident that involved Marshall's team bus. Two individuals were treated for minor injuries and were released from a local hospital last weekend.

The Herd will travel to Conway, South Carolina for the Battle at the Beach this weekend. The Herd will face off against Coastal Carolina, a future Sun Belt conference opponent. The Chanticleers currently sit at 3-2.

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After the FDA Issued Warnings About Antidepressants, Youth Suicides Rose and Mental Health Care Dropped

By **STEPHEN SOUMERAI** - a professor and researcher at Harvard University.
ROSS KOPPEL - a professor and researcher at the University at Buffalo.

Depression in young people is vastly undertreated. About two-thirds of depressed youth don't receive any mental health care at all. Of those who do, a significant proportion rely on antidepressant medications.

Since 2003, however, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has warned that young people might experience suicidal thinking and behavior during the first months of

treatment with antidepressants.

The FDA issued this warning to urge clinicians to monitor suicidal thoughts at the start of treatment. These warnings appear everywhere: on TV and the internet, in print ads and news stories. The most strongly worded warnings appear in black boxes on medication containers themselves.

We are professors and researchers at Harvard Medical School, the University

of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine and University at Buffalo. For over 30 years, we have been studying the intended and unintended effects of health policies on patient safety.

We have found that FDA drug warnings can sometimes prevent life-threatening adverse effects, but that unintended consequences of these warnings are also common. In 2013, working for the FDA itself, we published a systematic review of the effects of previous FDA warnings on a variety of medications. We found that about a third backfired, resulting in underuse of needed care and other adverse effects.

In our more recent study from 2020, we found that the FDA antidepressant warnings have led to reduced mental health care and increased suicides among youth – even though researchers have yet to find a clear link between antidepressants and increased suicidality in young people.

Further, despite the warnings, monitoring by clinicians of suicidal thoughts at the start of treatment has not increased from its tiny rate of less than 5%.

Youth suicides rose following FDA warnings

For our 2020 study, we obtained 28 years of data, between 1990 and 2017, on actual suicide deaths in the U.S. among adolescents and young adults. We used data from the WONDER Database, maintained by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which contains mortality counts based on death certificates for U.S. residents and population counts for all U.S. counties.

We found that during the pre-warning period, there was a 13-year stable downward trend in youth suicides, following availability of new and safer antidepressants.

That trend reversed, we found, soon after the FDA began antidepressant warnings in late 2003. Youth suicide deaths increased significantly.

Then we applied our findings to the whole U.S. population of adolescents and young adults. The results of that analysis suggest that there were almost 6,000 additional suicide deaths in just the first six years after the FDA issued the boxed warnings, from 2005 through 2010. The rates also continued to rise thereafter.

Over this same time period, older adults – whose depression is not targeted by the warnings – experienced much lower increases in suicide.

Fewer depressed youths got treatment

Our findings align with a growing body of research that confirms these warnings have had serious unintended effects: scaring many patients, as well as their parents and doctors, away from both antidepressant medications and psychotherapy that can reduce major symptoms of depression.

These studies include a rigorous 2017 study that analyzed mental health care trends among 11 million youths who rely on Medicaid for insurance coverage. This research documented that immediately after the FDA warnings began in 2003, there was a sudden and sustained 30%-40% drop in youth visits to doctors for all depression care, including antidepressant prescriptions.

Seven years after the first FDA warning, doctor visits for depression by young people had dropped by around 50%, compared with the pre-warning trend, thus severely reducing treatment and suicide prevention.

That trend included Black and Latino youths, who have already long suffered from undertreatment.

Almost simultaneously, youth poisonings via prescription drugs, such as sleeping pills, went up. Research has shown that prescribed medications are a widespread method by which young people attempt suicide. This finding adds to the evidence

that the antidepressant warnings increased suicidal behavior.

In 2018, researchers reported on two patients in their 20s whose experiences illustrate the potential real-life impacts of the black-box warnings. Both young adults had been prescribed antidepressants for major depression and severe panic attacks, but they refused to take them because of the FDA's message.

Their conditions worsened, and eventually both attempted suicide. Fortunately, family members were able to intervene in time, and each young adult was then hospitalized.

After they accepted the reassurances of hospital psychiatrists that the benefits of the medications would likely exceed any risks, both patients began to take their prescribed antidepressants. These medications, combined with talk therapy, alleviated their symptoms without intensifying suicidal thoughts.

As scientists, we are trained to always seek potential alternative explanations – some additional factor not included in the research – that could explain the reduction in care or increase in suicides that we and others have recorded in our studies.

However, the sudden, simultaneous and large effects – all of which directly reduced treatment and increased suicidal behavior – strongly suggest this is not a coincidence. It is unlikely that any outside factor can account for the multiple parallel effects on depression care, suicidal behavior and suicide deaths.

A large and growing body of evidence shows that the FDA's black-box warnings on antidepressants need to be reevaluated.

More generally, there's a need for independent researchers to monitor the effects of FDA warnings on public health – both intended and unintended.

The Parthenon, Marshall University's student newspaper, is published by students Wednesdays during the regular semester and every other week during the summer. The editorial staff is responsible for news and editorial content.

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President Biden Has Long-Term Inflation Plan, but Voter Patience Short

By JOSH BOAK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden came into office with a plan to fix inflation — just not the particular inflationary problem that the country now faces.

His belief is that a cluster of companies control too many industries, which reduces competition for both customers and workers. That leads to higher prices and lower wages in what the White House says is an average cost of \$5,000 annually for U.S. families. Biden is now trying to remedy the situation with 72 distinct initiatives — everything from new rules for cell phone repairs to regulations on meatpacking to more merger reviews.

“The dynamics of the modern American economy — the increased consolidation and lack of competition — has distorted market incentives in important ways,” said Brian Deese, director of the White House National Economic Council. “The president gave us the direction that he wanted us to come back and say what could we do to address this issue of consolidation across industries in a way that would be durable.”

But even administration officials acknowledge that the initiatives outlined by the president’s seven-month-old competition council aren’t designed to quickly stop the 7.5% inflation that’s frustrating Americans and damaging Biden’s popularity. Furthermore, business groups dispute the fundamental premise that competition has faded within the U.S. economy and they are prepared to challenge the

administration’s new initiatives in court. “It will strangle economic growth,” said Neil Bradley, executive vice president and chief policy officer of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. “Ironically, what this will do is actually lead to more inflation.”

Part of Biden’s dilemma is that reorienting a bureaucracy to promote competition takes time, and voters want to see inflation — running at a 40-year peak — start dropping now. Voters feel the bite of inflation with every trip they make to the grocery store or the gas station, yet the president is traveling the country to discuss solutions such as competition and new infrastructure that predate the current predicament and would have a much more gradual impact.

America’s current inflation woes stem from the pandemic. Supply chains for computer chips, clothes, furniture and other goods are under stress. At the same time, consumer demand has surged after a historical amount of government aid flowed into the economy. Despite efforts to get the kinks out of the supply chain, price increases have stayed high in recent months instead of fading as many initial forecasts suggested. That has the Federal Reserve ready to increase interest rates to lower inflation.

In a January survey by the University of Chicago, two-thirds of leading economists said that the concentrated power of companies does not explain the current rash of inflation.

New York University economist Thomas Philippon has welcomed the

administration’s approach — while allowing it would do little to bring down prices. As the author of the 2019 book, “The Great Reversal: How America Gave Up on Free Markets,” Philippon is the source of the administration’s statement that market concentration places a \$5,000 drag on an average family.

What Philippon observed was that other nations had embraced a level of antitrust enforcement and competition that no longer exists in America, resulting in lower costs for cell phone service, internet and airline tickets in Europe relative to the U.S.

“As a way to fight current inflation, it is unlikely to have a big impact in the short term, but it can still be useful,” Philippon said. “I think of it more as a positive side effect of something that should be done in any case.”

The Biden administration contends that even if the lack of competition didn’t directly trigger the recent spike in prices, it has contributed to inflation. The White House Council of Economic Advisers blogged in July about how more sectors of the economy are effectively controlled by a smaller number of companies.

It cited studies that show how mergers led to higher prices for hospital services, health insurance, airline tickets and beer. It also documented a decline in government reviews of mergers and noted that the 2020 federal lawsuits against Google and, separately, Facebook were the first major monopolization cases in 22 years.

After the second meeting of the

government-wide competition council in late January, the White House charted its progress. The Food and Drug Administration has proposed selling hearing aids over-the-counter, “lowering their cost from thousands of dollars to hundreds of dollars,” according to a White House statement. The Federal Trade Commission will increase enforcement against restrictions that companies place on people repairing their own electronic devices. The Transportation Department figures it can cut prices of airline tickets in the New York City area by opening up 16 slots to a low-cost carrier at the airport in Newark, New Jersey.

For proof that more competition can lead to lower prices, administration officials cite the example of eyeglasses. Before 1979, people could only buy eyeglasses from doctors who wrote their prescriptions. The FTC then passed a rule that forced doctors to give out prescriptions, causing the average price of glasses to fall 30.4% to \$178 (in 1979 dollars).

The issue does not break cleanly along partisan lines. Republican Sens. Todd Young of Indiana and Kevin Cramer of North Dakota have sponsored a bill to limit companies from using non-compete agreements, which can keep workers from going to another employer for more money.

But many in the business sector dispute Biden’s core premise that the U.S. economy has become less competitive. They argue that mergers allow companies to operate more efficiently

and the resulting gains in productivity benefit consumers.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce says market concentration had waned by 2017 and it intends to challenge some of the administration’s regulatory actions in court.

Airlines for America, a trade association, says that consumers are better off under industry consolidation. In inflation-adjusted terms, it said, the average price of a roundtrip ticket has fallen nearly \$100 since 2010 to \$306 in 2020.

Despite the pandemic and inflation, companies have still found ways to achieve historic profits. Corporate profits after tax equaled 11.8% of the total U.S. economy in the second quarter of last year, the highest share on record going back to 1947. The Biden administration is arguing that government policy can ensure that more of that money goes to workers and customers.

The fact that the Biden administration is focused on corporate profits and structure could ultimately limit how much companies can charge and that could deter some inflation, said Barry Lynn, executive director of the Open Markets Institute.

“It sends a message,” Lynn said. “Just having cops walking the beat, having cops out there, saying, ‘Hey, we’re watching. We’re looking. We’re going to be checking your profit levels. We’re going to be targeting those who seem to be really exploiting their monopoly power.’ That’s going to have an effect.”

"Rebellious" Artist Talks on Human Body Representation

By VICTORIA WARE

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Lindsey Guile - a classically trained figure artist whose body positivity exhibition, "Rebellious," is on display at the Birke Art Gallery - loves the human body, but never saw bodies like her own represented in the media.

"If there was my body... [it was] the headless form on the news warning about the dreaded obesity," Guile said.

During a reception last week honoring her exhibition, Guile travelled from Poughkeepsie, New York to hold a live event discussing her artistic process and what led her to create the type of art that she does.

"As an artist who loves the human figure - who loves classical sculpture - those ideas were knitting together as an art student," Guile said. "I love the human body. I think Greek and Roman sculpture is stunning."

"You were never a person that was loved, that was beautiful, that was worshiped, that was cared for..." Guile continued. "I was never that star of the show, and it really led me to not be the star of my own show. Many times throughout my life, I did diets... and unfortunately when I was in my thirty's, I developed an eating disorder."

Guile wanted to provide artistic representation for body types that were not typically shown as beautiful in the media.

"A little lightbulb went off that I could use the narrative of art-



Artwork from "Rebellious"

Photo by Victoria Ware

the hierarchy of art - and draw bodies that you didn't normally see and maybe start to change some people's opinions on their own body."

"Rebellious" first displayed at Birke Art Gallery on Jan. 24 and will remain on display until Feb. 25

Guile went into detail about the supplies she uses to create her artwork. For example, at one point she was using a polypropylene paper called Yupo paper with graphite dust. Due to a change in formulation, though, she began working with Stonehenge Paper and

compressed charcoal.

Guile considers figure drawing as a way to show appreciation and acceptance of one's body.

"The physical act of drawing- the tactile nature of it was almost like a love letter of how I can start to figure out who I am and how to love who I am," Guile said. "And when I say 'love,' it's not always this active passionate love. It's waking up every day going, 'This is who I am, and that's okay.'"

She concluded by highlighting different pieces she had done and her experience with the different female models.

Opulence Models Displays Urban Fashion With Student Members

By SEMONI WEAVER

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The Opulence Modeling Troupe of Marshall University recently held auditions for new members in late January, rounding out their numbers to around 15 models in the troupe.

The Opulence Modeling Troupe strives to better its members by building their confidence, public speaking skills and determination through runway performance. Membership into the troupe is open to any gender and is not based upon race, age, religious affiliation or any other attribute.

Opulence displays urban couture fashion shows for entertainment within the Marshall community. Team members have the opportunity to perform and showcase their runway walk and create choreography, all while building on their teamwork skills and confidence abilities. Tobias Lucas and Marcus Williams—with the support of Shakira Bowman, a faculty member and their current advisor—founded the organization in 2019.

"Those who are devoted and are willing to work as a team and with others to embrace urban couture are welcome to join Opulence," said Williams. "We also ask that our members be coachable and take direction as well as constructive criticism from

their respective peers."

Currently, Opulence has two undergraduate students serving as team captains for the modeling troupe: Takira Williams, a senior health science major from Miami Gardens, Florida; and Kenaja Booth, another senior psychology major who also serves as the vice president for Black United Students.

"To be considered as a captain for Opulence," said founder Lucas, "a member must complete a runway show demonstrating their capability to precisely perform any given choreography and exhibit a strong runway presence. It is also vital that the captain exemplify accountability skills such as hard work, dedication and respect."

This upcoming Mar. 27, Opulence will participate in the Liberty Ball, Philadelphia's Premier Dance Competition. The ball will offer events for all levels and in all styles for a chance to showcase dancing skills in front of an international judging panel. Opulence also hopes to finalize a date for their extensive spring runway show at Marshall this year.

Marshall Joins U.S. Cyber Command

By BREA SMITH

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Recently, Marshall University has joined the U.S. Cyber Command (USCYBERCOM) which, according to John Sammons, will give students and staff many opportunities in the field of cyber.

Sammons has served as a member of Marshall University staff since 2008, and now he is the Chair of the Department of Cyber Forensics Security along with being an Associate Director of the MU Institute for Cyber Security.

Marshall was selected to join the Cyber Command Academic Engagement

Network based on a couple of qualifications, according to U.S. Cyber Command academic engagement information page. The information page says that to join USCYBERCOM, a university needs to “be a two-year, four-year, or post-graduate degree institution with programs that align with the study and work in cyber.”

The programs in cyber vary from journalism to robotics and plenty of other programs in-between. Being a member of the Cyber Command

Academic Engagement Network presents opportunities for staff and students to participate in research projects according to Sammons.

These research projects will be beneficial in several different ways.

“First, this could lead to some very interesting research projects that students could get involved in,” Sammons said. “Second, those research projects are not only tremendous learning opportunities. Third, one of these research projects could lead to a security clearance. Having

an active security clearance can be a major advantage in a job search. Fourth, this experience could be the beginning of a career working in the military or the U.S. Department of Defense.”

The possibilities now open to Marshall as a result of joining the U.S. Cyber Command will likely prove extremely beneficial to students and faculty involved in cyber-related fields—from general computer science research, cyber forensics and cybersecurity—looking for work and research experience.

Worship Directory

To advertise on this page, call Brenda at (304) 526-2752

Fifth Avenue Baptist Church

1135 Fifth Avenue
Corner of Fifth Avenue & 12th Street in downtown Huntington

Sunday Morning Worship – 10:45 am
Social distancing & wearing masks required

Visit our website for Worship Services and for other times of Bible study, worship, and activities for children, youth, and adults.

www.fifthavenuebaptist.org
304-523-0115

fpc First Presbyterian Church of Huntington

www.fpcwv.org

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HUNTINGTON, WV 25701
304-526-6476

Rev. Dr. Parrish L. Bridges, Pastor

Worship will begin at 10:45 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM
You can find all the Live Stream links on our website.
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828 15th St. (on 9th Ave) Htgn.
248-996-3960

Sunday Mass: 11:00am
Daily Masses: 12:05 on
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
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Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm
Sunday 8 am, 11:00 am & 6:30 pm

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304-429-4318

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Confessions on Sat. 4:30pm-4:45pm or
anytime by appointment
Office Hours Mon-Fri. 9am-12pm
Rev. Fr. Thomas

St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church

HUNTINGTON, WV
528 13th Street
(304) 525-5202

Pastor: Msgr. Dean Borgmeyer

Sunday Mass Schedule
Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am,
12:00 Noon, 5:30 pm

Confessions
Saturday 8:25 am
Saturday 3:30 pm-4:25 pm
or by appointment

Huntington Trading Card Show Provides Insight Into One of the World's Hottest Hobbies

By TYLER KENNETT

SPORTS EDITOR | KENNETT@MARSHALL.EDU

An autographed Michael Jordan trading card sat in the Huntington Mall last weekend.

“You want to take a picture of something with some value?” One vendor said as he pointed a finger across the room. “Somebody over there has a Michael Jordan autograph that’s graded as a ten. It’s worth over \$70,000.”

The photo was elusive; someone had either bought the card or locked it away. Instead, the search led to an older man who sat in a lawn chair behind dozens of his cards. Each of them had prices, ranging from 50 cents to thousands of dollars.

“This is the best thing I have on me,” he said as he picked up a protected card and handed it to a potential buyer. “Joe Burrow—he could win the Super Bowl this weekend. That could be a good price.”

While Burrow didn’t win the Super Bowl, the card still has a pricing of over \$2,000 on eBay this week. It was produced in his rookie year, giving it even more value. It sat in West Virginia, a place rich with the culture of card collecting and trading.

“I’ve been doing these shows for 30 years,” the owner said of the Burrow autograph. “Covid hit and it all blew up, I’ve never seen anything like this. There used to only be about five of us.”

The man who owned that card would remain unnamed as he had a consistent flow of buyers, but at another table sat the very example of what he was aiming to say.

“I lost my job two years ago when the pandemic hit,” Joel Mullins, an admin of the Facebook page “J&J Sports Cards” said. “This is one of my first



Traders set up their cards to sell at the Huntington Mall



Photos By Tyler Kennett

times really doing stuff like this in person,” he said as he motioned his arm across the cards in front of him. “I invested \$1,000 in cards that I thought would do well in the future. I’ve done so well since then. I do this as a full-time job from home now, making more money than I was when I was working.”

Aisles of tables throughout the lobby of Huntington Mall were draped with black tablecloths and showcases. Each vendor brought their own style to their setups. One table had dozens of autographed jerseys layered on top of each other. Another had full size Marshall football helmets that sat next to a shelf of rookie cards of Marshall’s NFL alumni: Justin Rohrwasser, Brenden Knox, Chase Litton and Byron Leftwich. It was simply labeled “Marshall Guys.”

The concept of a single card hauling in more money than a luxury car has become more common since the start of the pandemic. In February 2021, an autographed card of Luka Dončić sold for \$4.6 million. It is a “one of one,”

meaning that it is the only one of its kind. The card was printed in 2018, a time right before the sports card boom. At the time, it was the largest sale for a single basketball card in history. However, Dončić has not won an MVP, championship or anything comparable to that Michael Jordan card that was in Huntington this weekend. Instead, the price is based on the speculation that one day he will.

“I think that the biggest thing to think about is potential,” one vendor said when asked about how to invest in sports cards. “A retired player can’t get better, so their prices usually stay the same. The thing about a guy like Luka Dončić, though, is that he could potentially be better than anyone. He still has all the time in the world.”

When thinking about speculation in the sports card market, it is akin to investing in a company’s stocks. A player’s value is defined by what it could be in the future. While most collectors start their collections by opening packs of cards found in Walmart, it

eventually snowballs into a risky game where thousands of dollars can be lost in a single moment of injury, poor performance or outside issues.

“I’ll sell you that card for one dollar,” a vendor said while holding up a rookie card of Alvin Kamara. “I bought it a year ago for a lot of money. You win some and you lose some.”

Kamara, a Pro Bowl NFL running back, was arrested and booked for battery resulting in substantial bodily harm earlier this month. An item similar to the one that was being sold for one dollar this weekend could be found as a completed sale on eBay for \$400 a week prior to his arrest. Prices fluctuate like this every day in the world of sports card stock trading.

This is where Pokémon cards come in.

“Charizard can’t get arrested,” one person said as he held a graded Pokémon card in his hand. “It’s your safest bet.”

Alongside the many sports card traders sat those who sold Pokémon cards,

including a young vendor with thousands of dollars worth of Charizard cards.

“He’s our Pokémon guy,” Nate White, an admin of Elk River Sports Breaks, said while he patted his younger partner on the head. “His dad and I sell the sports cards and he gets a chance to make some money for himself.”

While Pokémon cards typically target a different audience, they tend to draw in a comparable amount to that of sports cards. A Charizard card from the base Pokémon trading card set sold for nearly \$10,000 online this weekend.

No matter what people collect, though, there’s always intrinsic value in what is left to be found.

“People had nothing to do a couple of years ago when they were sitting at home,” Scott Melton, a vendor and National Guard member, said. “Eventually you started breaking out some shoeboxes to see what you have. That’s how you start.”