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WEATHER



THE PARTHENON

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MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2008

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Enrollment numbers down in 2008

BY BRITTANY EVANS
THE PARTHENON

Marshall's enrollment has decreased 5 percent since 2004, according to preliminary data developed by the office of Institutional Research and Planning.

Marshall's graduate program has increased enrollment by 10 percent in the last four years.

The biggest loss in enrollment belongs to the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications, which has lost 18 percent since 2004.

The other colleges at Marshall that have experienced a decrease in enrollment are the University College, the College of Business, the College of Education and Human Services and the College of Liberal Arts.

"Our enrollment for this year is not final," said Mike McGuffey, director of the office of institutional research and plan-

ning. "This is a mid-semester submission and we have a lot of classes that begin and end throughout the semester."

While enrollment is down for the university, the College of Information, Technology and Engineering has made the biggest jump in enrollment numbers, increasing 32 percent in the last four years.

Among the majors that have experienced an increase in enrollment are medicine, science, health professions, fine arts and regents of bachelor's of arts.

Gayle Ormiston, provost and senior vice president of Academic Affairs, said that any decrease in enrollment for a

public institution is significant. He said it is normal for academic programs to experience an increase or decrease in enrollment, and the figures should have little impact on the stability and longevity of the programs.

Betsy Dulin, dean of the College of Information, Technology and Engineering said enrollment has increased since it became an undergraduate college in 2000. She said good recruiting efforts from the university as well as within the college have helped aid the increase.

"Everyone in our college feels the support of the university at large and from

the university administration," Dulin said. "We understand it is an important part of the strategic initiatives of the university."

Dulin said she hopes facilities such as the Arthur Weisber Family Engineering Laboratories and future accreditation for the engineering program will retain students in the college and encourage continuous enrollment growth.

"Our primary focus is having successful accreditation next fall and we certainly plan to grow further and enhance our presence further at an undergraduate level," Dulin said.

Corley Dennison, dean of the school of journalism, said enrollment numbers may be declining in the school because students are not aware of job opportunities available for those with a degree in journalism.

Dennison said providing information is still an important service to the public, and the journalism industry is in a transition period. He cited the television shift from analog to digital in February of next year as one reason for the transition.

"I think once we get through the transition period we can promote information as a commodity," Dennison said. "There is still going to be a demand for entertainment and there is still going to be a demand for news and information. We just don't know the platform."

Dennison said future plans to help increase enrollment include creating

"Our enrollment for this year is not final. This is a mid-semester submission and we have a lot of classes that begin and end throughout the semester."

MIKE MCGUFFEY

DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH AND PLANNING

SEE ENROLLMENT | PAGE 5

Medical student remembered by friends, fiancé

BY MIRANDA ROSIEK
THE PARTHENON

She would have been a beautiful bride. Her sister probably would have stood beside her as she vowed to spend the rest of her life with her college sweetheart on the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

But Monica Chroussis was diagnosed with pulmonary hypertension in June 2005 and succumbed to her condition when she died Nov. 1, said her fiancé Sean Ray. He said even though the doctor's prognosis gave her one to three years to live, she continued to live her life while touching the lives of everyone who knew her.

Chroussis started in the field of medicine at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine in 2005, Ray said. It was at medical school where she met Ray. He said Chroussis continued medical school until her condition became so bad that she couldn't keep up with the pace that was required.

Ray said Chroussis didn't tell many people about her condition and no one could tell she was sick.

"Monica was always happy no matter what was going on," Ray said. "She didn't even let her health get her down. She always had a smile on her face."

Despite the projected timeline, Chroussis had events and plans for her future. The date of Nov. 29, 2008 marked the day Ray was to take her hand in marriage.

"The day I proposed to her was one of the happiest days of my life," Ray said. "We were both looking forward to getting married."

Ray said when he started dating Chroussis, one of their favorite things to do was to walk by the river together. He said they would usually bring bread to feed the ducks.

"On the night I proposed to Monica, I took her back to the river to feed the ducks," Ray said. "We started feeding the ducks and the ring was in a piece of bread



PHOTO COURTESY OF LORA CHETEL

Monica Chroussis, who died of pulmonary hypertension on Nov. 1, displays her positive attitude her friends so fondly remember.

that had a hole cut out of it. Her saying yes will be a memory I keep forever."

Chroussis was born on Aug. 17, 1983, in Oakland, Md. She grew up in Terra Alta, W.Va., with her parents and sister, Sara Beth. Ray said she enjoyed playing softball and volleyball and always had a passion for reading. After graduating high school, she completed her

undergraduate degree at Alderson-Broaddus College and ended up in Huntington.

Ray said she was involved in many activities that helped members in the community such as working for autism services and volunteering for Big Brothers

SEE CHROUSSIS | PAGE 5

Obama reads book by MU professor

BY HANNA FRANCIS
THE PARTHENON

One professor at Marshall University has the ear of President-elect Barack Obama, figuratively of course.

Jean Edward Smith is the John Marshall political science professor at Marshall and an esteemed biographer. His latest book, "FDR," has gained national attention after being mentioned by Obama last week.

In an interview on "60 Minutes" Sunday, Nov. 17, Obama opened up about a book he is reading in preparation for the White House.

"There's a new book out about FDR's first 100 days," Obama said. "And what you see in FDR that I hope my team can emulate is not always getting it right, but projecting a sense of confidence, and a willingness to try things."

Obama did not say the title of the book or who authored it, leaving Internet bloggers and newspapers to speculation.

According to The New York Times, a spokesman for Obama said Monday that Obama was referring to two books. One of the books was written by Newsweek's Jonathan Alter and covers Franklin Delano Roosevelt's first 100 days in office. The second, by Smith, addresses Roosevelt's entire run as president, including his administration's task of dealing with the Great Depression.

George Davis, assistant professor of political science at Marshall, said it does not come as a shock to him that Smith's book would be read by Obama.

"It doesn't surprise me because I think his biographies are pretty well respected," Davis said. "He's gotten a lot of notoriety nationally and internationally."

Davis also said while having Smith here at Marshall is good for the university, it is also good for the students.

"A good thing that he has brought to the university is that he's really allowed his students to participate in the process of his research and thinking through ideas," Davis said.

During seminar classes, Smith said he uses his students — or as he likes to call them, his "captive audience" — to read drafts of his biographies.

"When I have a seminar of a dozen or 15 students I usually let them read it," Smith said. "I'm 76 years old, and I'm not always up with what people know and don't know."

"There are probably a lot of Marshall students who in one way or another have a connection to the books that President-elect Obama is reading," Davis said.

Smith's book, "FDR," secured him the Francis Parkman Prize. It is awarded every year by the Society of American Historians for the best nonfiction book with an American theme written in the previous year.

Smith said he is currently working on a book about Dwight Eisenhower and plans to write another about George W. Bush. His previous biographies included works on Ulysses S. Grant and Chief Justice John Marshall.

Hanna Francis can be contacted at francish@marshall.edu.



United Way Bringing the Tri-State together

Editor's Note:

As a public service to our readers who volunteer and donate money to charities and others who just want to keep informed, The Parthenon staff has produced a series of stories about United Way of the River Cities' fundraising campaign and profiles of many of the 31 agencies benefiting from its allocations of those funds. "Live United" is the campaign's latest slogan. The Parthenon is concerned about where the money goes and who benefits from the campaign. The series also will include stories about a few charities not affiliated with United Way. This series will run during most of our remaining editions this semester, and we encourage readers to provide us with feedback about this service.

Thanks to volunteers, Special Olympics is year long affair

BY BRENNNA K. SLAVENS
THE PARTHENON

The director of the Cabell County Special Olympics has worked for 33 years to support mentally challenged West Virginian athletes.

Susan DeFazio was student teaching in Kentucky in 1972 when some of the students in her class participated in the Special Olympics. The competition was held at the University of Kentucky, and DeFazio attended to support her student athletes who were competing.

After graduating, DeFazio acquired a teaching position at Milton Elementary in Milton, W.Va, in 1975. She was asked to become a member of the Special Olympics advisory council in Cabell County, which she has been the director of since 1980. Her involvement in the Special Olympics has given her the opportunity to be a member of Team West Virginia, which has competed at five international competitions and one national competition.

Cabell County Special Olympics, a branch of the Special Olympics West Virginia, is a nonprofit organization and is partially funded by the United Way of the River Cities. United Way gave Cabell County Special Olympics almost \$6,000 during the past year,

DeFazio said. She said the remainder of the budget comes from the donations of businesses, organizations such as Lions and Rotary clubs and individuals. The overall annual budget is approximately \$10,000, and DeFazio said any money given to the organization is for the athletes' programs.

According to the SOWV Web site, the organization serves more than 5,000 mentally challenged West Virginian athletes. There are four state-level competitions that offer 15 Olympic-type sports in which the athletes can compete.

Athletes representing Cabell County Special Olympics have participated in the national event since the first International Special Olympics Games on July 20, 1968. Cabell County sent 10 athletes to compete in the 1968 games. The first local Cabell County Special Olympics competition was in 1970.

DeFazio said approximately 350 Cabell County athletes compete in the program.

Local and regional events also take place throughout the year. Locally, the Cabell County Special Olympics has its annual spring games in April at Huntington High School and training regimens are scheduled year-round. Community members make the competition possible.

"We are 100 percent volunteer organization," De-

Fazio said. "At least 400 volunteers assist with the competition."

On a state level, Cabell County Special Olympics sends teams to compete in track and field, bocce and golf. In November a team will travel to Parkersburg, W.Va. to compete in the state volleyball tournament. A group will go to "Canaan Valley for a skiing and snowboarding competition in January. Basketball takes over in March with a state tournament at WVU in Morgantown. During the summer there are camps for the athletes to attend.

"Special Olympics is not just a one-day track and field competition, but a year-round program that involves many sports and opportunities for our athletes," DeFazio said. "In 2006 we had four athletes and one coach who were chosen to attend the first-ever National Games held in Iowa. Last September we had an athlete who was a member of Team USA representing our country in the International games held in China."

The philosophy of the organization is that a consistent program of year-round training will help the Special Olympics athletes develop skills that will help them to become better citizens.

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THE PARTHENON

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THE FIRST AMENDMENT

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EDITORIAL

Better safe than sorry

It is hard to imagine 10 to 15 years ago most people lived without necessities of the world such as personal computers and cell phones.

From mid-Wednesday afternoon until about 1 p.m. Thursday, Marshall students re-lived the dark ages as those who use Marshall's myMU e-mail system were left with an error message for almost 24 hours. As this is the only way students at Marshall are supposed to formally interact with professors at the university — whether to send an assignment or ask a question — losing that vital campus resource for even a small amount of time could leave desperate people needing their main e-mail service feeling a bit naked.

Faculty and staff should not have experienced this problem as they can use applications such as Outlook Web Express. By the time the e-mail server came back Thursday, many could breathe a sigh of relief.

Arnold Miller, assistant vice president of information and communications, said that University Computing Services discovered there was some confusion between a few of the servers and their internal mapping. What it came down to was there was nothing fundamentally wrong with the university's software, but UCS wanted to make sure there was not a major corruption of the software's database, which could have led to more problems. He also mentioned a temporary Internet outage on campus before the e-mail stopped working may have played a factor in the nearly 24 hours students had to deal without e-mail.

"The bottom line is we don't know precisely what took it out, but we know what to look for the next time around," Miller said.

The work of Marshall's UCS is a thankless job. When things work with the Internet or servers, nothing is said. But when e-mail crashes for almost a day, it is bombarded with calls.

It was annoying that the e-mail had to be down so long, but in the end it is always better to be safe than sorry.

Guidelines for letters to the editor

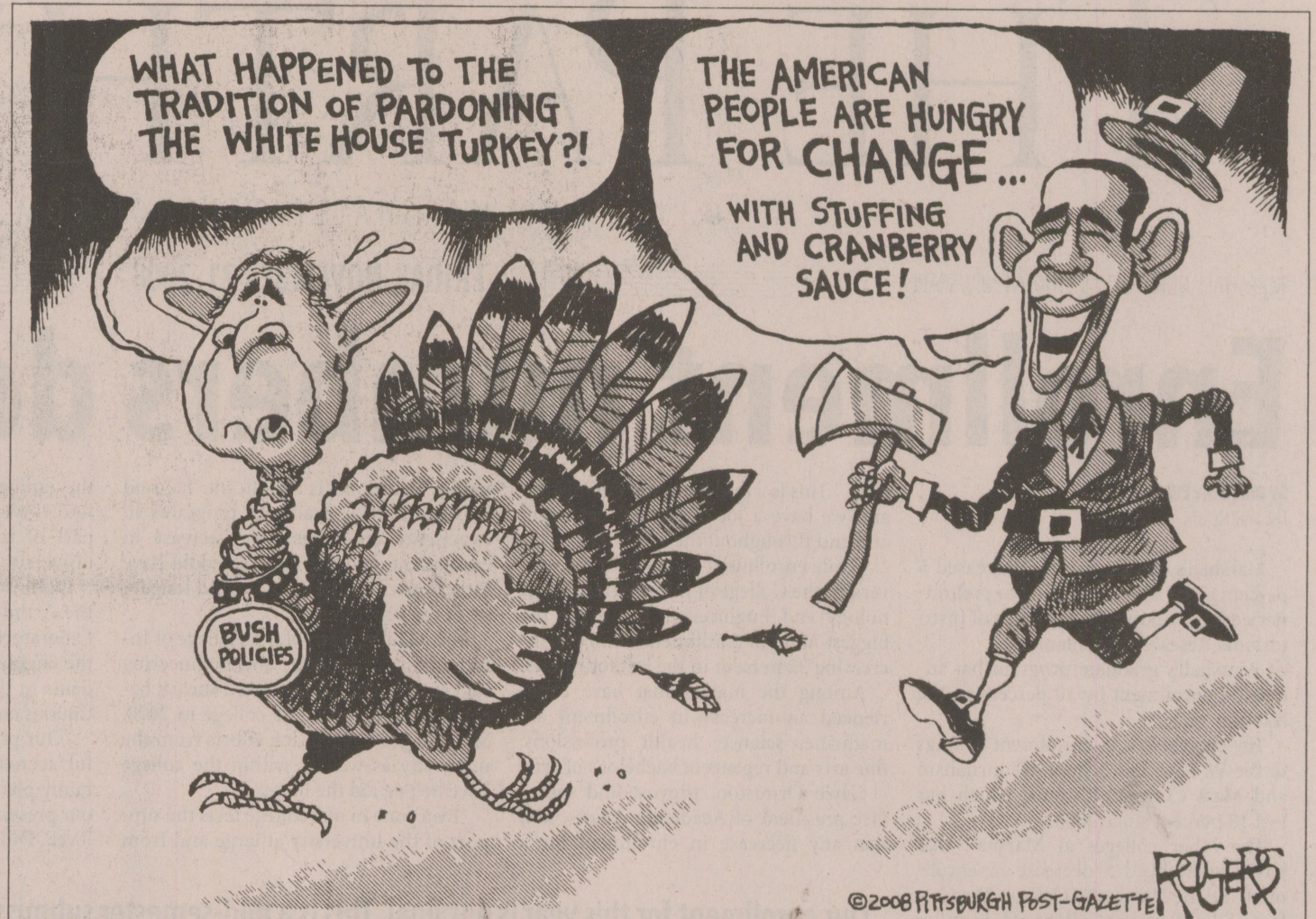
Please keep letters to the editor at 300 words or fewer. They must be saved in Microsoft Word and sent as an attachment. Longer letters may be used as guest columns at the editor's discretion. Guest column status will not be given at the author's request. All letters must be signed and include an address or phone number for confirmation. Letters may be edited for grammar, libelous statements, available space or factual errors. Compelling letters posted on The Parthenon Web site, www.marshallparthenon.com, can be printed at the discretion of the editors.

The opinions expressed in the columns and letters do not necessarily represent the views of The Parthenon staff.

Please send news releases to the editors at parthenon@marshall.edu. Please keep in mind that stories are run based on timeliness, newsworthiness or space.

At The Parthenon, we want to be the voice of the students. Send us a letter or e-mail and tell us what you **Think.**

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JERROD LABER | Voice of Reason

It is the most wonderful time of the year

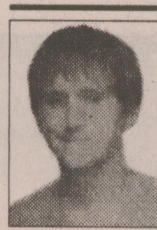
Oh, when the weather outside is frightful! Drastic temperature drops accompanied by a snow that actually painted the fields around campus partially white signal the fast approach of winter and the ensuing holiday season.

Thanksgiving right around the corner brings about a student's first extended break from school since the start of the semester, and then back to the grind for an excruciating week preparing for finals.

Also with Thanksgiving comes the official start of the holiday shopping season on Black Friday, where stores slash their prices and customers will frantically flock to the doors in the wee early hours of the morning.

The early winter months are often dubbed, thanks in large part to Andy Williams, as the "most wonderful time of the year," and most people will tend to agree.

Thanksgiving helps bring whole families together around



JERROD LABER
COLUMNIST

a single table, followed by good food, fun, laughs and memories that often last a lifetime. The following weeks leading up to Christmas are filled with determined shoppers trying to find the perfect gifts for family, friends and that special someone.

Finally, the holiday season culminates in some of the biggest celebrations of the year, as thousands crowd the streets of Times Square in New York City or their living room couches as they watch the ball drop and toast to the year past and the year ahead.

Of course, everyone has heard all of the clichés regarding the true meaning of the holiday season, and what lies deep at the heart of it all. As

"For many it is the most wonderful time of the year, but then again it is not for many. Remember all the blessings bestowed on this nation, but also recognize the pain and strife many will continue to experience."

with most, they are now often disregarded, but that does not make them any less true or relevant.

So do not take anything for granted this holiday season. For many it is the most wonderful time of the year, but then again it is not for many. Remember all the blessings bestowed on so many in this nation, but also recognize the pain and strife many will continue to experience.

Think about the numerous amounts of people who would give anything to be in situations that many American families are in. Are American troops stationed

in Iraq and Afghanistan who would much rather be at home with their families. Consider the millions all around the world who are struck by violence, oppression, starvation and homelessness.

Financial misfortunes are sure to be on a lot of people's minds in the coming weeks, with many people feeling the pull of the economic downturn during their shopping and preparations. But just keep in mind that no matter how bad it seems to get, there is someone out there who has it a whole lot worse.

Jerrod Laber can be contacted at laber4@marshall.edu.

MATT SOWARDS | The Sowards Report

Liberal thinker feels sorry for Republicans

I feel sorry for Republicans. Really, I do.

I don't just mean that in the sense of I feel sorry for them because their candidate lost the general election. I say that because the core ideology of conservatism has been hijacked. This realization did not hit me until I read an editorial in the Herald-Dispatch a few days ago. In this editorial, the writer predicted that "true conservatism will rise again." By his definition of true conservatism he meant a candidate whose sole focus was on ending the practice of abortion, prohibiting gay marriage and appointing conservative judges to the Supreme Court.

Whoa, back up. This took me by surprise for some reason. Here we have someone saying that above all else, social issues and judges are the most pressing issues facing this country. Not the size of the federal government, not the economic crisis and certainly not the multiple wars we are carrying on in foreign countries;



Matt Sowards
COLUMNIST

but preventing two people of the same gender from getting married. That is the most dire issue of our time?

Then it hit me, like running into a "straights only" sign above a water fountain.

Real conservatism is dying in this country.

The Republican Party has been hijacked by the evangelical voters of this country. Groups like the Moral Majority have infiltrated the ranks of the party, and now have taken over what once was the party of small government. If a candidate for office does not cater to this group of voters, then he or she will not win the election. This is a dramatic change from the Republican Party of just a few decades ago.

Barry Goldwater, who ran

against President Johnson in the 1964 Presidential Election, was known by many as "Mr. Conservative." This was because of his strong stance on the size and role of government, not for his positions on social issues. Mr. Goldwater did not believe the government had any role in dictating the behavior of private citizens in their private lives and homes.

But now, I honestly think that someone such as Goldwater, someone who affectionately took the title of "Mr. Conservative," could not win an election with this Republican Party.

I know most of you have read this up to this point and are wondering why, given my liberal nature, do I feel sorry for Republicans? This mindset of the party as it is now completely disenfranchises the voters who are the real "true" conservatives.

Those who believe that the government should be small and play a minimal role in the lives

of the citizenry no longer have a voice in the Republican Party.

The sad thing here is the reason for all of this can be traced back to their idol Ronald Reagan. It was Reagan who allowed special interests to infiltrate the party and begin to play such a significant role in the way the GOP does business. Consequently, it is the same groups that Reagan embraced that have redefined conservatism in a way that does not reflect the true views of the ideology.

But in response to the editorial writer: If his kind of conservatism is that of segregation, hatred and more bigotry, then perhaps it is in the best interest of this country (and Republicans) if that sort of conservatism fails to rise again.

It can remain where it is now, sitting right beside the old Confederate States in our history books; as a thought and piece of history, not popular ideology.

Matt Sowards can be contacted at sowards52@marshall.edu.

THE PARTHENON | Reader information

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The Parthenon, Marshall University's student newspaper, is published by students Mondays through Fridays during the regular semesters, and weekly Thursdays during the summer. The editorial staff is responsible for news and editorial content.

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ROTC members practice water survival

BY COLIN THORN
THE PARTHENON

The splashes were a little bigger than your regular swim practice.

In their final training lab of the semester, cadets in Marshall University's ROTC program practiced water survival tactics, basic swimming and completed the Combat Water and Survival Test. Col. Jason Horne, professor of military science, said the test is a minimum requirement for all prospective Army soldiers.

"The goal is to build confidence in their ability to complete the requirements and for us to identify people who can't do it so we can get them extra training and instruction," Horne said. "We're just demonstrating an ability. You won't be Michael Phelps in the pool, but you'll develop confidence as a swimmer."

The exercise began with a 15 minute free swim including five minutes of treading water. Then cadets began exercises from the Combat Water and Survival Test including a 50 meter swim wearing equipment and an equipment shredding exercise where cadets must strip off heavy equipment underwater. The exercise also involved stepping off a 3 meter high dive springboard with equipment while blindfolded.

Junior Joshua McMillion, of Ravenswood, W.Va., said he grew up with opportunities to swim, but others from larger cities may not have the same experience.

"This lab really helps people — especially with basic water survival," McMillion said. "This will definitely help teach army values, and it'll build self confidence. Every time they do this exercise it'll increase their skills."

Throughout the semester, the training labs have focused on overcoming fears. In this exercise cadets faced the fear of water and heights together.

"With the fear of water, you feel like all of the control is out of your hands," McMillion said. "This teaches you how to control your body and control your mind and not to panic."

This is Marshall ROTC's final training lab of the semester. Previous labs included a rappelling lab, a paintball lab and an M16 rifle lab. ROTC students take part in all the labs throughout the semester in preparation for the Leader and Development Assessment Course during the



COLIN THORN | THE PARTHENON

(Above) During the final training lab of the semester, an ROTC cadet prepares to jump off of a 3 meter high diving board into a pool while wearing heavy gear while blindfolded. (Right) An ROTC member participates in the Combat Water and Survival Test.



summer. Juniors and seniors attend the 33 day course. "The labs have been well organized and the (freshmen) and (sophomores) that have no military experience at all have come in and they've understood what to do because the leadership has taught them what to expect," McMillion said. "I think that everyone this year has a really good understanding of what ROTC is about."

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PHOTO COURTESY OF BARBARA RACKER

"Nude" from Roy Lichtenstein's Brushstroke Series will be one of the pop culture pieces on display at the Clay Center.

Clay Center displays pop culture art

BY KAYLA QUEEN
THE PARTHENON

The artistic movement inspired by popular culture will be celebrated and displayed at the Clay Center beginning Jan. 7.

"Art and Popular Culture From the Permanent Collection" is an exhibition showing the major influences of artists during the pop art movement.

The Pop art movement has influenced other artists, movements and societies. Covering issues from political to social problems, the pop art movement began in the 1950s. It was more about the issues and objects that inspired the art, rather than the art itself.

Barbara Racker, curator of art at the Clay Center, said there is a very strong pop art collection at the Center and hopes to show viewers the statements these artists were trying to make.

"We are also expanding the pop art theme to get audiences to talk about the artists that addressed these social issues," Racker said.

Denise Deegan, assistant curator of registrar at the Clay Center, said this exhibit brings together different pop artists.

"We try to pull together the American pop artists and other American artists who were influenced somehow (by pop art)," Deegan said. "It reflects the pop culture of the 50s and 60s. It's typical of what you see from most artists from this time."

The "Art and Popular Culture" exhibit features contemporary artists such as Jim Dine, Roy Lichtenstein and Andy Warhol.

Deegan said these pieces use visual elements to express social statements.

"(The artists are) using visual art because they think it's a stronger way to get the message across," Deegan said.

Deegan said bright colors and the large size of some of the pieces make this exhibit interesting.

"People seem to gravitate toward pieces that have a lot of col-



United Way Bringing the Tri-State together

Program volunteers act as role models

BY ARIANNA PRICE
THE PARTHENON

When Marshall senior Amy Crowder and junior Joshua Curry walked into their criminal justice class during the spring semester, they probably didn't expect to get a grade for playing board games and basketball.

Crowder, a criminal justice major from Charleston, and Curry, a criminal justice major from Charles Town, W.Va., were required to perform 10 to 15 hours of community service. Crowder and Curry chose to volunteer for Big Brothers Big Sisters, one of the 31 agencies that receive money from the United Way of the River Cities.

But it wasn't all fun and games as Crowder helped her little sister in the subjects she was struggling with.

"We spent 15 minutes doing academics, such as helping with her homework, which consisted mainly of math," Crowder said. "Also, I had her read a book to me from time to time."

Curry was able to incorporate

both aspects of fun and learning into one activity.

"One thing I found really neat was that when I involved spelling into something that he liked, for instance basketball or music, he became more willing to learn," Curry said. "When I challenged him to do something academically, he would go above and beyond efforts to get it done."

Another aspect of volunteering was being a role model and encouraging them to be better students.

Crowder said if her little sister did not do her schoolwork, they were not allowed to spend time together.

"I think that was a motivation for her to do better," Crowder said. "I believe she looked up to me as a role model and a big sister. It made me feel special when she introduced me to everyone as her big sister and give me a big hug."

Curry, too, had experiences that allowed him to be a role model for his little brother.

"I felt that by just being there

on a regular basis for him to talk about anything made a big impact," Curry said. "He knew that he had somebody beside family that cared and that he could look up to as a big brother, family or not."

Overall, Crowder learned some things through this experience that are not found in any book.

"It gave me some experience with children and I realized how good of a life I had because not everyone does," Crowder said. "Sometimes children just need someone to look up to."

Curry said he learned things he can apply to situations inside and outside the classroom.

"It taught me how to be more understanding of how other people are raised and how the way they are raised can truly affect someone," Curry said. "It made me realize that helping people is what I really want to do and it helped me understand that although children respond negatively when they are labeled as such, a positive influence can change that."

Kimberly DeTardo-Bora, an

associate professor of criminal justice, created the class. She said the class had to go through an extensive approval process to be classified as a service learning course.

With this classification, the course must meet five specific objectives and have a community-based objective listed on the course syllabus.

DeTardo-Bora designed the class so the students of the juvenile justice course could work with at-risk youth.

"My students can see youth at the end of the system or start at the beginning," DeTardo-Bora said. "Let's go back and examine the risk factors and see what's going on in their lives."

DeTardo-Bora chose three organizations that service the target children. In addition to BBBS, students in the class could choose the Child Assault Prevention Program or the Cabell County Youth Empowerment Program.

Another objective of the course was to help the students apply what they are learning

inside the classroom to real-life situations.

DeTardo-Bora said any student would be able to apply what they are learning to a situation when volunteering in an organization such as these. She said volunteering enhances learning in any discipline.

"It benefits the students, giving them a better world view than what they would have as college students," DeTardo-Bora said. "They can see the factors that can affect a youth's life."

DeTardo-Bora said the experience helps her students understand complex issues, such as juvenile delinquency.

DeTardo-Bora said at first she was worried that her students would dislike the class and the outside class assignment, but found it was just the opposite.

"It has been very well received," DeTardo-Bora said. "I was very nervous about teaching the class, but the feedback I got was very positive."

Arianna Price can be contacted at price150@marshall.edu.

Harless serves Thanksgiving dinner

BY KELSIE EBERLY
THE PARTHENON

Students who attended Harless dining hall Thursday night were in for a Thanksgiving treat.

Everything from turkey and mashed potatoes to cranberry salad and sweet potato casserole were served at the annual Thanksgiving buffet.

"Our goal was to bring a little bit of home to the students," said Cheryl King, Sodexo's general manager.



AUDREY HAMOY | THE PARTHENON

Karli Alsop, left, junior sports management and marketing major, Meghan Robinson, sophomore sports management and marketing major, and Kristi Schroeder, sophomore elementary education major, eat Thanksgiving dinner at Harless Dining Hall.

and salad.

Sodexo also offered a variety of desserts such as pumpkin pie, pecan pie and chocolate and cinnamon cake.

Fillinger said the pecan pie was her favorite part of the meal.

"The meal makes me really excited to go home and spend Thanksgiving with my family," Fillinger said.

"This was an opportunity for students to spend the traditional meal with their friends," King said.

It was also an opportunity for international students to experience a holiday they would not have experienced otherwise.

"We are able to give back to them a little bit of our culture," King said.

King also said there was nothing different offered in this year's buffet but they always take students suggestions.

"I wish there would have been chocolate crème pie," Fillinger said. "That is always a family favorite."

"We just hope that this meal got students in the mood for the upcoming holiday season," King said. "Finals are coming up, so we just want them to be able to relax."

Kelsie Eberly can be contacted at eberly@marshall.edu.

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THURSDAY'S SCORES

NFL
Bengals 10, Steelers 27

NHL
Panthers 1, Devils 3
Penguins 3, Thrashers 2
Canadiens 3, Senators 2
Canucks 3, Wild 2
Blackhawks 6, Stars 3
Red Wings at Oilers (late)
Flames at Avalanche (late)
Capitals at Kings (late)

NBA
Pistons 80, Celtics 98
Lakers at Suns (late)

NCAA FOOTBALL
Miami (Fla.) 23, Georgia Tech 41

WEEKEND SPORTS

TODAY

-M. Basketball
Glenn Wilkes Classic
vs. Morgan State | 2 p.m.
Daytona Beach, Fla.

-W. Basketball
Fifth-Third Classic
vs. Tennessee State | 7 p.m.
Cam Henderson Center

-W. Volleyball
C-USA Championships
vs. UAB | 5 p.m.
Memphis, Tenn.

SATURDAY

-Football
@ Rice | 3:30 p.m.
Houston, Texas

-M. Basketball
Glenn Wilkes Classic
vs. Wis.-Green Bay | 2 p.m.
Daytona Beach, Fla.

-W. Basketball
Fifth-Third Classic
vs. TBD | 5 p.m.
Cam Henderson Center

-Volleyball
C-USA Championships
vs. TBD | 3 p.m.
Memphis, Tenn.

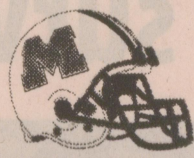
SUNDAY

-M. Basketball
Glenn Wilkes Classic
vs. Ole Miss | 4 p.m.
Daytona Beach, Fla.

-Volleyball
C-USA Championships
vs. TBD | 3 p.m.
Memphis, Tenn.

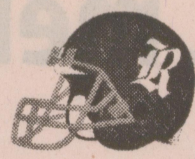
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during
Fall Break
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Marshall vs. Rice

3:30 p.m., Saturday, Rice Stadium, Houston, Texas
Radio - WGGG-FM 93.7, WRVC-AM 930
TV - CBS College Sports



Do-or-die time for Herd seniors

BY ANDREW RAMSPACHER
THE PARTHENON

In the 1999 football drama/comedy, "Varsity Blues," West Caanan football coach Bud Kilmer left his Coyotes with one final message before they took the field for the final game in Kilmer's career: "It's 40 minutes for the next 40 years of your life."

As Marshall senior running back Chubb Small prepares what could be the final two games of his career, he speaks with a similar desire.

"These two games are real crucial," Small said. "This is going to affect the rest of our lives for the seniors. And for this team, if we come out with these victories, everybody will be proud. But if we lose, it's going to affect the rest of my life."

When the Herd kicks off with the Rice Owls at 3:30 p.m. Saturday in Houston, it will be the first half of a two game mission to avoid being shutout for bowl eligibility for the fourth consecutive season.

And after back-to-back disappointing losses to East Carolina and UCF, the Herd will have to earn it the hard way — close the season by knocking off the two best teams in Conference USA's superior West Division.

The Owls represent task No. 1 and it's a daunting one. A product of the wild West's style, Rice runs a fast-paced spread offense that, when worked efficiently, can put a scoreboard's electricity in jeopardy — the Owls pile up more than 40 points per game.

"They are very explosive on offense as you look at them, they've given up 36 points per game on defense and they're still 7-3," Marshall head coach Mark Snyder said. "That tells you what kind of offensive input they are

having at this point in time."

A trio of Owl offensive stalwarts more than makes up for Rice's suspect defense. Senior quarterback Chase Clement is second in C-USA in passing yards and his favorite targets, senior receiver Jarrett Dillard and sophomore tight end James Casey, both rank in the top five of the conference in receptions and receiving yards.

"Chase Clement is playing as well as anyone on that side right now," Snyder said. "He is running that offense to perfection."

"They're a going to spread you out horizontally and vertically. Jarrett Dillard is one of the best wideouts in the league — he's their deep threat. And No. 12 (Casey), he's kind of like Superman for them."

The challenge to find the Owl's kryptonite will require the Marshall defense to repeat its performance of a pressure-packed effort it threw on Houston. Almost identical in technique and personnel, the Cougars entered Joan C. Edwards Stadium on Oct. 28 with one of C-USA's hottest offenses, but left feeling coldly shut down.

The Herd sacked Houston quarterback Case Keenum four times and forced two interceptions in a 37-23 upset win.

"In the Houston game, we just pinned our ears back on the defensive line and just got them guys," said sophomore defensive tackle Delvin Johnson. "The linebackers did a real good job of applying pressure and the secondary did a real good job covering."

Noting the similarities between his team and Houston, Rice head coach David Bailiff saw far beyond Marshall's sub-par 4-6 record when he popped



Marshall senior running back Chubb Small races past a Rice defender last season in MU's 34-21 win over the Owls. RICK HAYE | FOR THE PARTHENON

SEE RICE | PAGE 5

Contenders and pretenders for NFL's stretch run

November is separation time in the NFL where the pretenders expose themselves and the contenders pull away from the pack. Several teams are beginning to make their push while others are fading away into obscurity. Let's take a minute to glance at the teams that have legitimate shots at the title and expose the ones that are looking ahead to draft day in April.

Several teams decided that waiting until November to play bad football wouldn't be very fun, so they decided to stink it up all year. We can go ahead and leave the Lions, Bengals, Rams, 49ers, Texans, Raiders, Seahawks and Chiefs alone for today. Normally a handful of last place teams make drastic

improvement in the off-season and are surprise contenders the next season, but if any of these teams are in the playoffs next season I will be shocked.

In the NFC the Giants have clearly emerged as the team to beat. Their defense is excellent and the running game is down right scary. As long as Eli Manning continues to play like his older brother Peyton, the G-Men have a real good shot at repeat-



SETH CRABTREE
Drinkin' the Kool-Aid

ing as champs.

The Carolina Panthers, leaders of the NFC South, feast on other teams mistakes. If you turn the ball over against the Panthers you will pay for it, which usually makes for a dangerous playoff team.

In the AFC North you have three teams tied for first place at 5-5, and I firmly believe that all of them are pretenders. The Packers have glaring holes on the defensive front and have struggled to run the ball all year. The Vikings play well on the turf in the Metrodome but haven't traveled well this year and I just can't see Gus Frerotte carrying them into the playoffs. Finally there are my beloved Chicago Bears — a team with no pass

rush, a secondary in disarray and an offense that is scatter-shot. One of these teams will make the playoffs, but advancing past the first round would border on the miraculous.

Finally in the NFC West the Arizona Cardinals are playing some pretty sharp football, the defense is much improved over the course of the season, and lo and behold Kurt Warner must have re-upped on his deal with the devil because he once again looks like the guy that went from stocking groceries to Super Bowl MVP in a little over a year.

Dallas, Washington and Philly are all good football teams at times, but they also lost to the Rams (Cowboys, and Redskins) and tied the Bengals (Philly)

so they must be discounted as contenders. Tampa and Atlanta have turned some heads this season but putting faith in a team with a rookie quarterback or Jeff Garcia behind center is a dubious postseason bet. All indications point to a Cardinals versus Giants showdown for the NFC crown and my bet is on the red birds. The Giants have to run out of gas sometime.

(Editor's Note: Check out the complete version of this column, including Seth Crabtree's thoughts on the AFC, online at marshallparthenon.com.)

Seth Crabtree can be contacted at crabtr10@marshall.edu.

Marshall volleyball advances in C-USA tourney

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—Marshall University sophomore Kristin Marcum registered 11 kills and 12 digs and Megan Carlson blasted 11 kills and 13 digs to help pace the 10th-seeded Thundering Herd defeated No. 7 Southern Miss 3-0 (25-23, 25-19, 25-13) in the first round of the 2008 Conference USA Volleyball Championship at Elma Roane Field House in Memphis, Tenn.

With the win, Marshall improves to 13-14 overall, while Southern Miss concludes its season with a record of 17-13 overall.

Leading 2-0 in the match, Marshall stormed out to an early 13-5 lead and was able to maintain that cushion for the entire third stanza, never allowing the Golden Eagles to pull to within more than six points as the Herd finished the sweep by posting a 25-13 third frame score, capped by a Carlson kill.

After falling to Southern Miss twice during the regular season, the third time was the charm for Marshall in 2008, as the Herd

extended its all-time series lead to 6-3.

"It was possibly the most focused we've been in a long time," head coach Mitch Jacobs said following the victory. "We were playing some really good ball in the first four or five weeks of the season, and then it just kind of slipped away. You get into a rut and one day doesn't change the world, but we've won three of four now. We've just got to keep playing strong."

In the opening set, Marshall took an 18-14 lead on the strength of four Carlson kills and a pair of block assists by Emily Sullivan and Layne Kehl and Jaliccia Ross and Sullivan. Ross and Kehl downed two kills apiece, while Elizabeth Fleming and Jessica Dhoore added a service ace each to help build Marshall's cushion.

From there, Southern Miss scored eight of the next 11 points to take a 22-21 lead. The Herd then received a kill from Marcum and one from Carlson to reclaim the lead at 23-22 before the

"It was possible the most focused we've been in a long time."

MITCH JACOBS
HEAD VOLLEYBALL COACH

Golden Eagles knotted the set at 23-23. A service error and a kill by Sullivan allowed Marshall to claim the frame 25-23 and take a 1-0 lead in the contest.

In the second stanza, Marshall posted an early 4-1 lead and then pushed that lead to 10-6, highlighted by Dhoore's second service ace, a solo stuff from Sullivan and kills from Carlson and Ross.

From there, the Herd used two Marcum kills, and a kill by Kehl to score six of the next eight points and extend its cushion to 16-9. Southern Miss responded with a 5-1 run before Sullivan stopped the surge with a kill, making the score 18-14.

The Golden Eagles then scored four of the next six points to cut its deficit to three at 20-18 before

Marshall moved its advantage back to five at 23-18 thanks to a block from Carlson, a Southern Miss attacking error and a kill from Ross.

The teams then traded points before Marcum closed out the set with her sixth kill of the match, giving Marshall a 2-0 lead in the contest.

In addition to the double-double performances from Marcum and Carlson, Ross finished with 10 kills and a .316 hitting percentage.

Marcum also added three solo blocks and a pair of assisted blocks as the Herd out-blocked Southern Miss 11.5-6.0, Thursday. Marshall also held the higher seeded Golden Eagles to a hitting percentage of .046. Sullivan finished with seven

kills and four blocks (1 solo, 3 assisted) while Kehl downed four kills and assisted on four blocks.

"I thought Emily Sullivan, although she had a tough offensive night, made a big difference with us in front of their left side attackers," Jacobs stated. "Jess Dhoore and Megan Carlson were both good. Everybody just did their work today."

The Marshall offensive was paced by Fleming's 34 assists, while Dhoore collected 12 digs as the third Herd player to reach double figures.

"Liz Fleming diversifying our offense was a big deal," Jacobs added. "Just the fact that she wasn't being predictable with our patterns of offense was a big start. Being young, we've tried to be unpredictable. It's starting to come together. Hopefully it's not too late now. I say Liz was fantastic tonight."

Marshall returns to action Friday, Nov. 21 against No. 2 UAB. First-serve is slated for 6:00 p.m. ET at the Elma Roane Field House.

Studies suggest washing food helps avoid diseases

BY JENNIFER L. CHAPMAN
THE PARTHENON

In the midst of a social revolution to go green, health and agriculture experts say organic foods may not be the healthiest option available in the produce aisle.

Despite the Dirty Dozen list released in 2006 by the Washington, D.C.-based Environmental Working Group that identified the 12 produce products highest in pesticide levels, Registered Dietician Amy Gannon said buying organic foods is not necessarily the way to go.

"There is no evidence that organic foods are any healthier," said Gannon, who is also assistant professor of dietetics in Marshall's Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. "Some pesticides (on produce) could lead to cancer, but it would have to be a high intake. But I don't think consuming food with pesticides would cause cancer."

The Dirty Dozen list includes peaches, apples, celery, strawberries and potatoes. At the bottom of the list, onions, pineapples, bananas and broccoli were dubbed some of the cleanest foods in the produce aisle. The list is based on the results of nearly 43,000 tests for pesticides on produce conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Food and Drug Administration from 2000 to 2004, according to an article released by the Environmental Working Group.

Just because some foods are considered clean, however, does not mean they are pesticide-free. The USDA regulates food that comes into the country and allows a certain amount of pesticides in food, Gannon said.

But bacteria, rather than pesticides,

should be the main concern, she said. "All foods have bacteria, even organically grown foods," Gannon said. "Food is grown in or on the ground, where animals defecate. Soil is full of bacteria."

Several foodborne illness scares have surfaced in the U.S. recently, including the spinach and E. coli link and the most recent salmonella outbreak from tomatoes.

The West Virginia Department of Agriculture, which is not affiliated with the USDA, shares the views of Gannon concerning healthy foods.

"We are not stressing organic as much as we are locally grown," said Buddy Davidson, communications officer for the WVDA. "It puts the consumer closer to the producer of the food and provides a level of trust between the two."

Some locally grown products may be grown organically but may not have the USDA organic certification because of the extensive process required to receive qualification, Davidson said.

But if a problem would arise as a result of food consumption, Davidson said it would not be a lengthy process to find the culprit.

"It is much easier to trace a problem if it is made at home," he said.

Home for Allan Balliett, however, is an organic farm in Shepherdstown, W.Va. Known to many as Farmer Allan, he disagrees with Gannon and Davidson, asserting that there is a difference between organically grown and conventionally grown products.

"People always tell me how much better they feel after eating a portion of their diet with my produce," Balliett said. "They say they have more energy

Watch what you're eating

The Dirty Dozen: (in order)

- peaches
- apples
- sweet bell peppers
- celery
- nectarines
- strawberries
- cherries
- lettuce
- imported grapes
- pears
- spinach
- potatoes

The Cleanest: (in order)

- onions
- avocado
- frozen sweet corn
- pineapples
- mango
- frozen sweet peas
- asparagus
- kiwi
- bananas
- cabbage
- broccoli
- eggplant

INFORMATION COURTESY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING GROUP

and feel better, in general."

Balliett said he grows everything on his farm the way he would expect it to be grown in a state of nature with no chemicals, but sometimes has to help nature along.

"Plants require nutrients that aren't in the soil because of bad farming," Balliett said. "I have to build the soil through time to get it back to its natu-

ral state."

Buying organic is not only a good option just because of the health benefits, Farmer Allan said.

"When (people) purchase organic products, the money they spend goes against what they would spend in medical bills," Balliett said. "It promotes biodiversity and biodynamic farms like my own."

Buying conventional also has its promotions, he said.

"When people purchase conventional products, they are paying to promote erosion, brain damage in some cases and cancer in children," Balliett said, adding that the boosted prices of organic products are a result of capitalism.

Allan said his products, however, sell for the same price as the "crappy, nutrient-free foods that can be purchased at Safeway."

Organic choices or not, Gannon and Davidson agree that the larger issue is sanitation at both the consuming and producing levels.

"Certainly (food) recalls are someone's fault at some level, but not the consumers," Davidson said, adding that it is important to sanitize foods before consumption to stay protected.

To be safe, Gannon suggests that foods always be washed with running water before consumption, although no soap is needed. For dirtier foods like potatoes, she recommends scrubbing the product with a brush to physically remove dirt.

This process of washing fresh produce can reduce levels of pesticides but does not eliminate them, according to the Environmental Working Group article that identified the Dirty Dozen. The article reported that peeling also reduces exposure, but valuable nutrients can often be lost when the peel is removed.

Whether produce is purchased from the local farmer's market or the town's nearest Wal-Mart, the general expert consensus is to wash and sanitize before consumption.

Jennifer L. Chapman can be contacted at chapman92@marshall.edu.

CHROUSSIS

FROM PAGE 1

and Big Sisters.

"She loved being a part of these programs," Ray said. "She always wanted to help others."

Aimee Neill, third-year medical student at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and good friend of Chroussis, said after Chroussis had to quit medical school she still didn't give up and started into the graduate teaching program at Marshall.

"She loved teaching and she loved all the kids," Neill said. "I think she wanted to do anything she could do to help other people and positively affect their lives."

Neill said Chroussis' death was very sudden, and her bachelorette party was just the weekend before.

"She had been doing well," Neill said.

Chroussis had been coughing up

blood the week she died, Neill said, which made Ray take her to the emergency room. Chroussis spent a week at a hospital in Pittsburgh with specialists.

"By the end of the week on the Saturday she passed, she was improving and being sent home on oxygen," Neill said. "Then she started being short of breath and just like that she was gone."

Pulmonary hypertension is when the blood pressure in the artery running from the heart to the lungs increases, Ray, who is a fourth-year medical student at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, said. He said the elevated pressure in the vessel eventually causes the artery to harden causing shortness of breath or even the rupture of the vessel such as in Chroussis' case.

"After learning about Monica's case I hope people will become more educated about the condition," Neill said.

Lora Chetel, close friend of

Chroussis and a graduate student at Marshall University, said she ate lunch with Chroussis every day in the biotech center.

"It was something I looked forward to each day," Chetel said. "She always brightened up my day."

Chetel said a group of Chroussis' friends got together and had a memorial service Sunday in celebration of her life.

"Sean made a slideshow for Monica and there were picture boards everywhere," Chetel said. "Her favorite food, French toast, was even served in her memory at the service."

Chetel said she wants this story to open other students' eyes to how precious life is.

"After Monica was diagnosed with this disease, she still continued to go to school, work and make time for her friends and family," Chetel said. "This situation helps everyone realize how much people take life for granted and don't know

CULTURE

FROM PAGE 3

color," Deegan said. "There are some advertisements that feature products they may recognize, too."

Racker said "Art and Popular Culture" stands out because of the familiarity of the pieces and the culture they represent.

"It is about a wider culture," Racker said. "It is about images we

have seen. We don't have the most famous images (in this exhibit), but we have other images that will appeal to a wider audience."

Racker said the artists, such as Warhol, featured in the exhibit were very important in making the pop art movement.

"Art movements are like opposite ends of the spectrum," Racker said. "Before (pop art) there was abstract expressionism. Then other artists like Andy Warhol

came along and said art is about things you see everyday, like his Campbell soup cans."

Racker said the Clay Center owns one Warhol piece, and Deegan said his pieces are popular no matter what collection or mu-

seum they might be featured in. "Art and Popular Culture" will run at the Clay Center until July 5.

Kayla Queen can be contacted at queen53@marshall.edu.

RICE

FROM PAGE 4

in the Herd-Cougar game tape earlier this week.

"When our football team sees how Marshall physically dominated Houston and how they had big plays in that game, we better not look past anybody and we better not look past Marshall," Bailiff said.

Clement, much like Keenum, is more than just a traditional quarterback — he can scramble outside of the pocket when needed. The Alamo Heights, Texas native's 510 rushing yards are second on the team.

"On that (West Division) side, (Clement) probably has the most escapability," Snyder said. "He's not as tall in stature as some of the other guys are. He's a small guy, but makes a lot of plays, finds ways to get the ball in windows."

Johnson said the key to stopping Clement will be a joint effort from his crew and the work of the defensive backs.

"This is the game plan we're going to go with: (The secondary) is going to give us sacks by providing good coverage and we're going to get them interceptions by providing pressure on the quarterback," Johnson said. "So we depend on each other."

Snyder agreed.

"We're going to have to get pressure on (Clement)," Snyder said. "After we get pressure on him, we have to keep him in the pocket and you are going to have to have superior coverage."

Containing the quarterback and keeping the receivers at bay is the defensive game plan Snyder used for Houston and the one he'll probably try again in the season finale versus Tulsa next week. Snyder said the similarities in strategy are a product of facing another interdivisional opponent.

"We're two different sides as you look at us," he said. "Night and day between the two sides for the most part and that's what makes this league interesting and fun."

Andrew Rampacher can be contacted at rampacher@marshall.edu.

SUDOKU

Difficulty: 5 (of 5)

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

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

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Bolt 3D PG	11:20; 11:50; 12:20; 1:40; 2:10; 2:40; 4:00; 4:30; 5:00; 6:20; 6:50; 7:20; 8:45; 9:15; 9:45
Quantum of Solace PG13	11:40; 2:10; 4:45; 7:20; 9:55
Madagascar Escape 2 Africa PG	11:30; 12:00; 12:30; 1:50; 2:20; 2:50; 4:10; 4:40; 5:10; 6:30; 7:00; 8:45; 9:15
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Soul Men R	7:20; 9:50
The Hunting of Molly R	12:40; 2:50; 5:10; 7:25; 9:40
Zack & Miri Make a Porno R	11:50; 2:15; 4:45; 7:15; 9:50
Changeling R	12:00; 3:05; 6:15; 9:25
High School Musical 3 G	1:00; 4:00; 6:40; 9:10
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WHO IS DAVID ELLIS?

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