Avian center provides high-flying information for Earth Day

BY HOLLY DUNN
THE PARTHENON

Poisonings can happen to anyone at any time of the day. The West Virginia Poison Center is the first line of defense for any age group. It is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. It's not just for children and pets. It's for anyone at any time of the day. The West Virginia Poison Center has provided assistance to any person who has been exposed to any poisonous substance. It's not just for children and pets. It's for anyone at any time of the day.

The National Poison Control Center website lists that when one eats or drinks a poison, signs and symptoms may include nausea, vomiting, pain, trouble breathing, seizures, confusion or abnormal skin color. The West Virginia Poison Center can provide assistance with trained medical professionals such as nurses, pharmacists and physicians, who are available to answer any poison-related questions. The free, confidential service handles any poison for any age group. Carolyn McFarren, community outreach coordinator for the West Virginia Poison Center, said that if a student believes he or she or the student was in contact with a poison, the first step is to get the poison away from them. If the poisoning was intentional, an individual should remain where they are until the poison is out of their system.
Marshall students promote ‘Check My Bag’ drive

BY ASHLEY FOSTER
THE PARTHENON

Marshall students promote a “Check My Bag” drive to support local nonprofit organization Dress for Success River Cities. The “Check My Bag” drive began Monday and will run through Wednesday. People who would like to participate are asked to write a check and drop it to Dress for Success River Cities.

Success River Cities has 60 referral organizations solely dedicated to helping women. Dress for Success River Cities helps empowerment of disadvantaged women as they enter the workforce. Dress for Success River Cities not only provides clothing to help women be successful in the job interview process and during the transition into a new job, they also provide support and counseling as well.

In lieu of a hand bag, monetary donations can be made as well. All checks made out on marshall.edu. Dress for Success River Cities will run through Friday before final exams. Natalie Rohan said the Catholic Newman Center offers a week of relaxation activities to help students prepare for finals by not becoming stressed. She said the activities for the stress free week are in the Newman Center.

Rohan said the Catholic Newman Center will have its Puppy Day from noon through 4 p.m. Monday. “We scour puppy-shaped chicken nuggets and SpongeBob mac and cheese.” Rohan said. “We cook dinosaur-shaped chicken nuggets and a dinosaur fruit punch.”

Relaxation week runs through Friday

THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2012
THE PARTHENON
MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Available positions:
Executive Editor
Managing Editor
News Editor
Life! Editor
Sports Editor
Photo Editor
Digital Editor
Copy Editor
Assignment Editor
Photographer or Columnist

Application deadline is Friday, April 20

Applications are available in The Parthenon newsroom, Communications Building 109. For more information, contact Sandy York at 304-696-2273 or sandy.york@marshall.edu.

See RELAXATION WEEK PAGE 5

Check us out on Twitter
@mu parthenon
Go on. Do it.

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MARSHALL CAREER SERVICES
OPEN HOUSE
5 x 4.0
Sophomore Maria Voscekova waits at the net during a doubles match on March 9 against East Tennessee St. The Thundering Herd tennis team is now in Memphis, Tenn. for the Conference USA finals. They will take on UTEP at 10 a.m. Tuesday.

TENNIS GOES AFTER C-USA SUPREMACY

BY LAWREN HIGHTOWER
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University Women’s Tennis team will play the University of Texas El Paso in the first round of the Conference USA Tournament Thursday in Memphis, Tenn.

The Thundering Herd earned the fifth seed in the conference and finished with a 12-9 record including going 7-6 at home. UTEP earned the 12th seed in the tournament. Head coach John Mercer said although being lower than a four seed in most territories, he is proud of the way his team battled all year.

“The fifth seed isn’t exactly where we wanted to be,” Mercer said. “But these girls worked hard to get where they are, and I’m proud of them. A few bounces of the ball for the better or worse and we could have been a higher seed or a lower seed so we are content.”

Marshall finished the regular season 7-0 at home going undefeated. The Herd finished the 2010-2011 season with a 10-2 record. Junior Kara Kucin said it meant a lot to the team to defend their home court.

“It felt really good to go undefeated at home this season,” Kucin said. “We have some regular fans, and it was important for us to go out and perform well for them each and every time.”

The Herd was 3-6 before reeling off seven straight victories in the middle of the season. Junior Dominkia Zaprazna said the conference game win streak was the turning point of the season for the team.

“After our victory against Liberty, something just clicked with our team,” Zaprazna said. “We finally started to realize our potential as a team and it all came together for us.”

If the Herd advances, they will face the Memphis Tigers in the quarterfinals of the C-USA tournament. The Tigers are 14-4 this season including 1-0 on their home court where the tournament is being held this year.

When asked how far he thought this team could go this year, coach Mercer said the Herd would take it one match at a time.

“We have a good chance to win tomorrow, seeing how we are the fifth seed, and they are the twelfth seed,” Mercer said. “But to look past Memphis or even over look UTEP because of their ranking is foolish.”

In their only other matchup vs. UTEP in the 2008 C-USA tournament Marshall beat the Miners 4-0. The Herd plays at 10 a.m. on the A courts.

Lawren Hightower can be reached at hightower5@marshall.edu.
Another horrible action on the part of the US in Afghanistan, it's time to pull out

As if the Quran burning, the killing of 16 innocents by a crazed United States soldier and pictures of U.S. soldiers urinating on the corpses of dead Middle Easterners were not enough, another failure has surfaced. Tuesday, the Los Angeles Times published a photo of what appears to be a soldier of the U.S. Army 82nd Airborne Division posing with the corpse of a dead insurgent. The soldier is seen smiling with the corpse placed on his shoulder.

The LA Times obtained the photo from a soldier who claims this photo is one of 18 others soldiers posed with corpses. As news of these photos continues to spread and draw wide criticism from U.S. political officials and military commanders, we as a country are still faced with the fact that we are in a war many have forgotten about.

With the surfacing of this photograph, which was believed to have been taken in the Zabul Province in Afghanistan around 2010, the little dust that had settled due to the other actions by U.S. forces will be kicked up again. Nearly 5,000 people have died since the U.S. began the occupation of Afghanistan in 2001. It is time we pull out of Afghanistan, for the sake of the people in Afghanistan, the U.S. troops and the taxpayers of this country.

The best public relations campaign could only save the severed relationship between U.S. Forces and the people of Afghanistan. More than half of the U.S. citizens disagree with us being in Afghanistan. And it seems that even if we are in Afghanistan we continue to embarrass ourselves and take innocents lives.

The idea of establishing democracy in Afghanistan is naïve — it was from the beginning. We should cut spending on defense and invest that money back into our own country instead of wasting it on perpetual occupations of middle eastern countries. The recent photo is nothing but another reminder that the U.S. needs to get out of Afghanistan before more lives are lost and dignity becomes a thing of the past.

What about single-payer health care?

BY JAMES F. BURDICK

President Barack Obama's vision for health care reform could have resulted in a much better health care system than we currently have if the political climate in 2009 had been more favorable for congressional decree at the start that a single-payer system was “off the table.” But guess what? It has appeared back on the table during the thoughtful pondering of the problem by the Supreme Court.

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MONROE — Wash. — The inmate hasn't spoken in months, yet he can still speak to his friends.

Except for the ants.

The ants are his friends. He doesn't talk to them out of a crevice in the prison cell block. He doesn't talk to them in the hallways.

But the ants are his friends. He can still talk to them.

The inmate is one of the many inmates at the Monroe Correctional Complex. He is one of the many inmates who have trouble with bugs — particularly ants.

The inmate is healthy. He is paranoid. He is not about to let the ants on stage in New York.

He's been in New York for 30 years. He's spent 30 years there. He's spent 30 years trying to find a way to do it.

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BY SHANE ARRINGTON
THE PARTHENON

In a small office on Third Avenue across from the Big Sandy Superstore Arena is a uniformed man offering young men and women the chance to join the “global force for good.”

While the nearest military officer recruiters, excluding Marshall University’s Army ROTC program, are in Columbus, Ohio, Chief Warrant Officer Max Velazquez, Navy officer recruiter for the Tri-State area, decided it would make more sense to set up shop in Huntington to be closer to Marshall.

“Right now, Marshall does not have a good pool of potential Navy officer candidates,” Velazquez said. “That’s because the previous officer recruiters didn’t really develop this area. The Navy name, the Navy idea hasn’t really been put out here, and that’s a change I’m trying to make.”

Velazquez focused on the shallow pool of Navy officer candidates coming not from lack of qualified individuals, but lack of knowledge of what the Navy has to offer — something that falls on past recruiters, not potential applicants.

Velazquez said he didn’t know much about Marshall or the area when he first arrived, but he said he made sure to put boots to pavement upon arrival to get a feel for his surroundings and the people he’d be working with.

“Since 2002, only 16 (Navy) officers have been produced from here,” Velazquez said. “That’s low compared to some areas with universities of similar size to Marshall. Officer recruiting historically doesn’t produce quantity but instead we produce quality. We’re not trying to recruit just anyone. We’re looking for competitive applicants who will be assets to the Navy.”

Velazquez said a student’s GPA is a good place to start when considering officer candidates. He said for pilots, a 3.0 is a good place to start, whereas Intelligence officers start a little higher with a 3.5. He also said that while GPAs are a good place to start, students shouldn’t be discouraged if they fall below the 3.0 mark. The Navy will look at candidates as a whole. The “whole person concept” includes, along with GPAs, things such as community service, leadership skills and recommendations from professors and employers.

Velazquez said he credits the Army for their ROTC program and said having a constant uniformed presence on campus helps with their recruiting, which is why he plans to spend more time on campus. “I’ve started going to Marshall’s Memorial Student Center once a month,” Velazquez said. “I usually go on Thursdays, set up a table and sit for four hours to talk with students and provide information on the Navy.”

Velazquez said when he’s not at Marshall, he can often be found in his office waiting for potential officer candidates to show interest in joining the world’s largest Navy.

Velazquez can be contacted by email at max.velazquez@navy.mil or by phone at 304-523-2851.

Shane Arrington can be contacted at arrington16@marshall.edu.

HE Wants YOU FOR THE NAVY

Huntington Navy recruiter says Huntington numbers are lower than average

BY SHANE ARRINGTON
THE PARTHENON

Velazquez was asked if he had any advice for students looking to join the Navy.

“I’d say come in and talk to us,” he said. “You don’t have to decide now, but you should talk to us and see what it’s all about.”

Velazquez said he’s seen a lot of students who go into the military only to find they don’t love it, but it’s never too late to change courses.

Velazquez said he encourages students to come in and talk to him even if they’re not interested in joining the Navy, as it’s important to know what’s out there.

Velazquez said he’s seen a lot of students who are happy with their decision to join the Navy, but sometimes they need help figuring out what they want to do once they’re there.

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