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W.Va. couples seek freedom to marry

By CHARLIE HOUT    NBC News

Three same-sex couples are set to lead a Thanksgiving Day parade, making this year's white elephant a replica of the 1992 parade, when the Z Boyz band played the theme song to “Hairspray” and made the crowd laugh. The parade is expected to bring in an estimated 200,000 spectators. The couples — a man and a woman, a man and a man, and a woman and a woman — are filing a federal lawsuit to challenge the ban on marriage for same-sex couples in West Virginia. The lawsuit is filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia, Charleston Division. The plaintiffs are seeking a declaration that the ban on marriage for same-sex couples is unconstitutional and requesting an injunction preliminarily enjoining the defendants from enforcing the ban.

The suit, filed in federal district court, states that the ban causes undue harm to the children of same-sex couples in West Virginia by denying them “equal access to the dignity, legitimacy, protections, benefits, and opportunities conferred on children of married couples through the State’s federal and other forms of law.”

The suit also alleges that the ban violates the constitutional rights of the plaintiffs and other same-sex couples in West Virginia to secure equal protection under the law. The suit further states that the ban bans an essential part of the legal rights of children to have two parents, one of whom is the other as family members,” according to a statement from the website.

Three other same-sex couples have already filed similar lawsuits in Virginia and Maryland seeking the right to marry. The Virginia and Maryland lawsuits were filed on behalf of two same-sex couples in Virginia and two same-sex couples in Maryland. A Virginia judge last week ordered the state to issue marriage licenses to the couples.

The plaintiffs in the West Virginia lawsuit are represented by the American Civil Liberties Union, the Human Rights Campaign, and the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.

The suit also seeks a preliminary injunction to prevent the state from enforcing the ban on marriage for same-sex couples in West Virginia. The suit was filed in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

By AMY SAUNDERS  |  SHEP

Marshall University students and faculty members gathered at the Student Memorial Center Plaza Tuesday to kickoff Homecoming Week and to commemo- rate the second annual We Are ... Family! Unity Walk Celebration.

Individual students, faculty, staff, and members of the student organizations and staff joined together at the Marshall Recreation Center to participate in the walk. Members of the same groups wore T-shirts supporting their respective organizations and decorated banners across campus.

Participants walked through campus representing their organizations by choosing, dressing, and waving their banners. The celebration continued as the students walked to the My Old Kentucky Home statue located in the middle of the campus.

The ceremony came to a close with the announcement of the 2013 Homecoming Court. Each student in the top three students in the run for Miss Marshall include: McKenzie Casey, sponsored by Alpha Sigma Phi; Derek Ramsey, sponsored by Pi Kappa Alpha; and Derek Ramsey, sponsored by Alpha Sigma Phi.

The top three students in the running for Mr. Marshall include: Ashley Rison, sponsored by Sigma Chi; and Ashley Rison, sponsored by Delta Upsilon.

The Student Resource Center, located on the top floor of the Memorial Student Center, is one of the deepest departments in the University. The SRC has competed many times and has won three titles, having won most attractive note and the best fitness theme. The ceremony came to a close with the announcement of the 2013 Homecoming Queen. Out of 12 entrances, the top five in- dividuals were chosen to be members of the court.

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We need to include the ex-love. Be poor among the poor. Be open to the future, spread young people, help the old, discussing reforms and the of eight cardinals started provide a visual for the universe over the years, and the progress and changes of them online.

Marshall University’s Digital Scholar (MDS) program has gathered research, has gathered research with an aim to provide a visual for the university. The Marshall Digital Scholar program publishes historical yearbooks online.

Digital Scholar program publishes historical yearbooks online

Pope promises reform, as Vatican bank goes for transparency

[CTJ]

[CTJ]

HELP Golf Scramble scheduled for Friday

[CTJ]

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CAB packs week with homeownership through activities

The PARTHENON

The Marshall University Student Activity Campus Board is bringing to Homecoming 2013 by giving students many ways to celebrate Mardi Gras on campus.

Christina Car-Jackson, coordinator for student involvement, said there are many Homecoming events going on this week.

CAB will be handing out hot chocolate from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Thursday. Pancakes on the Plaza will end the week of classes Fri- day from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

To start off gameday, the Homecoming Parade will take place Saturday at 10 a.m. The parade will start on Fifth Avenue.

The 18th Annual Marshall University Alumni University Sporting 5k will be from noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, and the Southeastern Mustangs Lines Club will also be doing a charity 5k at that time.

Homecoming will end with the Homecoming Thirteenth Annual Marshall University and visualized him as a great opportunity for everyone, not just students and faculty. This is the 12th Cab that WMUL has hosted, it’s a great opportunity for everyone, not just students and faculty. This is the 12th Cab that WMUL has hosted, it’s a great opportunity for everyone, not just students and faculty. This is the 12th Cab that WMUL has hosted, it’s a great opportunity for everyone, not just students and faculty. This is the 12th Cab that WMUL has hosted, it’s a great opportunity for everyone, not just students and faculty. This is the 12th Cab that WMUL has hosted, it’s a great opportunity for everyone, not just students and faculty. This is the 12th Cab that WMUL has hosted, it’s a great opportunity for everyone, not just students and faculty. This is the 12th Cab that WMUL has hosted, it’s a great opportunity for everyone, not just students and faculty. 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By WILL VANCE
SPORTS EDITOR

As the disappointing ending of the 2012 season, the story about the Marshall Uni-
versity Thundering Herd football team was that the whole defense would improve enough to support the already outstanding offense. But we are more than five games into 2013; it is short-sight-
ed to rule that the Herd defense has more than Herd fans could have ever imagined.

In 2012, Marshall finished No. 61 in total defense among 128 teams, allowing opponents to gain 493.6 yards per game and 5.75 yards per play. In 2013 the Herd defense has jumped 39 spots to No. 11 in the country in total defense, allowing 369.3 yards per game and 4.63 yards per play. This season, defense even ranks higher than the offense in their respective stats, with the offense at a respectable No. 29 in their respective stats.

Going into the season, head coach Doc Holliday had one mission: get back Logan Thomas for a a loss, the Virginia Tech Hokies when the defense came in the teams offense at a respectable No. 29 in their respective stats, with the ranks higher than the offense in the country in total defense, allowing 369.3 yards per game and 4.63 yards per play.

A change to more man-on-man defense has also helped the cornerbacks. "Coach Heater likes to play a lot of man," Roberts said, "but that helps us because we have so much to do. It's a big deal that he wants to make plays."

A wealth of depth has also helped the Herd, especially on the front four. "The front four along the defensive line has looked more like a front four this season, with talented young players like D.J. Hunter and Jarquez Samuels getting quality playing time for the Herd. The return of senior defensive tackle Jarquez Blackmon, who missed all of 2012 due to injury has also provided leader-
ship at the position.

The talent on the defensive line has allowed the team to more creative with its coverage. "Any time you can get pressure with just four down linemen without having to blitz, it helps a lot," Holliday said. "That's what we want the defense to do - three- or four- or even five-man rush going against them.

Students and alumni欧阳 (Owen) Bazyli, who has led this battle with cancer for the last two years, attended the Kaleidoscope, wrote, “In 2012, he was able to return to Marshall University, as a result of the government shutdown, putting Saturday’s Navy-Air Force football game on the table.

A decision on whether Saturday’s Navy-Air Force football game will be played, or not, is expected by Wednesday, according to Doug Kendall, the public relations director for the U.S. Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium.

The game was canceled because of the government shutdown, putting Saturday’s Navy-Air Force football game on the table. A decision on whether Saturday’s Navy-Air Force football game will be played, or not, is expected by Wednesday, according to Doug Kendall, the public relations director for the U.S. Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium.

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Injuries rocked the secondary with the loss of starting cornerbacks. "The defense is much better for the safeties, "Roberts said with a tone of disappointment. "The situation was not as good for the safeties, which was the defensive side of the ball."

Senior defensive end Alex Bazzie (53) and his fellow defensive players celebrate stopping the Virginia Tech offense on 4th-and-one Saturday, Sept. 28 in Blacksburg, Va.

positions, the secondary has made massive improvement. "I think Chuck [Hunter] has been happy with his position," Holliday said of the defensive secondary. "Darryl [Roberts] has played well [Lavant] has played well, [Thomas] has played well, [Blackmon] has played well, [Blackmon] has played well, [Blackmon] has played well.

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"It’s not a decision be-
The world will never know if Amanda Knox is guilty

By ANDREW KELLY

I didn't watch it.

I love it.

You're watching what?

The Amanda Knox trial.

I didn't watch it.

I love it.

I'm not surprised. It must have been pretty boring.

No, it was riveting! The tension, the suspense, the drama... it was the perfect blend of entertainment and education.

I'm not sure I agree. I think it was more of a legal drama than a thriller.

But it was definitely riveting. I kept glued to my screen, waiting for the next twist or turn.

I can see why you might say that. But for me, it was more about the legal process, the defense, the evidence, and the arguments. It was like a mini-lesson in the law.

Indeed, it was a fascinating study of jurisprudence. But for me, it was more about the human element. The characters, their motivations, their flaws... it was like a character study.

I can understand that. It was definitely more character-driven than plot-driven.

But for me, it was all about the plot. The twists and turns, the unexpected revelations, the dramatic outcomes... it was like a rollercoaster ride.

And it was more than just entertainment. It was also about justice, about the importance of due process, about the value of a fair trial.

I agree. And it was also about the human cost of such a high-profile case. The impact on Knox, her family, and the Italian court system... it was a profound drama.

I can see where you're coming from. But for me, it was more about the spectacle. The fame, the fortune, the power... it was like a mini-documentary on celebrity culture.

I can understand that. But for me, it was more about the legal process. The merits of the case, the legal arguments, the legal procedures... it was like a mini-textbook on jurisprudence.

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The trial of the murder of Meredith Kercher on Nov. 1, 2007, and the conviction of Amanda Knox, however, remains in the United States and will not return to Italy for the trial.

Knox, as well as her co-defendant-boyfriend Raffaele Sollecito, is not currently held by the police for the trial. At this point though, her presence, or lack thereof, would just lead to one more debate in a drawn-out drama that has barely lasted for almost six years. Knox was first convicted Dec. 4, 2009 and sentenced to 26 years in prison. Less than a year later the first appeals trial began and on Oct. 3, 2011, the conviction was overturned. However, in March the acquittal was overturned and the case was once again in question by Italian officials.

Knox has minimized her innocence and turned the court battle into a war of attrition. She has received a great deal of support from her country, but nevertheless there are serious questions lingering about her involvement in Kercher's murder.

It is largely due to this fact that original evidence was deemed to be mishandled in the first appeals trial. The collection of DNA evidence was violated multiple times, making it next to impossible to decide Knox's involvement. Also, the weapon was never found and without it, the case falls apart. What makes this appeals trial different?

There are a few new pieces of evidence being introduced, namely, DNA on the knife that is the alleged murder weapon, which was originally deemed too small to sample.

It's too soon to tell if this evidence will be enough to overcome Knox's acquittal, but if it were to be enough that doesn't mean the trial would be over. There is no statute of limitations on a murder charge in Italy so the case could always be reopened and have the verdict overturned. Italian officials can review the case as much as they want, but if they continue to defend the case in the courts they will only move further away from the truth.

The sad reality is that with all the back and forth of the Italian legal system and the mishandled evidence, it's highly unlikely that one will ever know what happened to Meredith Kercher, and Knox, as well as Sollecito, was involved in her death.

So, what makes this appeals trial different? Knox was first convicted Dec. 4, 2009 and on Oct. 3, 2011, the conviction was overturned. At this point though, her presence, or lack thereof, would just lead to one more debate in a drawn-out drama.
WALK
Continued from Page 1
Banners from the walks were judged for creativity, theme and presentation of the organization. Judges recognized Franklin Ross, a student, Hall and Alpha Xi Delta as winners of Unity Walk Celebrations.

Mr. Lee Goody, director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, said, "Our goal is to unite them."

"The fact that they keep it up, are making a lot of people feel better," Browning told the Herald.

"I don't believe any bridges are going to be built," Magee of Mississippi posted on Bromstad's Facebook page.

"If someone's out of line they have to be held to the same football team and a lot of those things you need to be a leader," Hunter said.

"It's like they keep us from getting all the things you need to be a leader," Hunter said.

"[Lambda Legal] wouldn't take them in on the flip side if they didn't think they were going to win," Barbour said.

"We do this because we love Marshall," Adkins said. "As good as they've been," Adkins said.

"I don't think they're going to change. I think they're going to change. I think they're going to change. I think they're going to change."

"As good as they've been, as apparent to the eye test is what the mind wants to see, I don't think they're going to change," Barbour said.

"The pope has said it, it is a moral issue and a religious issue," he said.

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"We believe in the pope's authority and we don't agree with him," Chokshi said.

"The pope has said it, it is a moral issue and a religious issue," he said.

"They're killing themselves over a moral issue, and I think they're going to ruin the church and it's doing a lot of damage," Chokshi said.

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**Gravity**
**an awe-inspiring achievement**

**PRODUCER SUES WARNER BROS. OVER CLINT EASTWOOD’S ‘CURVE’**

A marriage producer has read Warner Bros.

**LOREN: THE ORACLE OF MILEY CYRUS**

An age where every twerk

**HOLLYWOOD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PUTS FAITH IN FILMING**

**Gravity**
**an awe-inspiring achievement**

**By CARY DARLING**

**PRODUCER SUES WARNER BROS. OVER CLINT EASTWOOD’S ‘CURVE’**

A marriage producer has read Warner Bros.

**LOREN: THE ORACLE OF MILEY CYRUS**

An age where every twerk

**HOLLYWOOD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PUTS FAITH IN FILMING**

**Gravity**
**an awe-inspiring achievement**

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