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THE PARTHENON

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2015 | VOL. 118 NO. 96 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | marshallparthenon.com

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KATHERINE SPENCE | THE PARTHENON

TODAY'S WEATHER:

PROVIDED BY MARSHALL UNIVERSITY
METEOROLOGY STUDENTS

Marshall University Meteorology			Wednesday
Morning	Mostly Cloudy Light Breeze		23
Afternoon	Mostly Cloudy Melting Snow		37
Night	Mostly Cloudy Refreezing / Black Ice		15

Brandon reads from Civil War novel at Drinko



By **MATTHEW EPLION**
THE PARTHENON

The A.E. Stringer Visiting Writers Series at Marshall University had a public reading event Tuesday by author John Brandon in the John Deaver Drinko Library.

Brandon read passages from a novel he is working on and said it is 50 percent finished.

The book takes place in the aftermath of the Civil War around the year 1865. The pages he read detailed the main character Gussy. In the story, Gussy's mother passed away. Her money was kept with another man, but when Gussy attempts to claim it, the man refuses, wanting to keep it for himself. Gussy later attempts to break into the bar the man owns and steal back his inheritance.

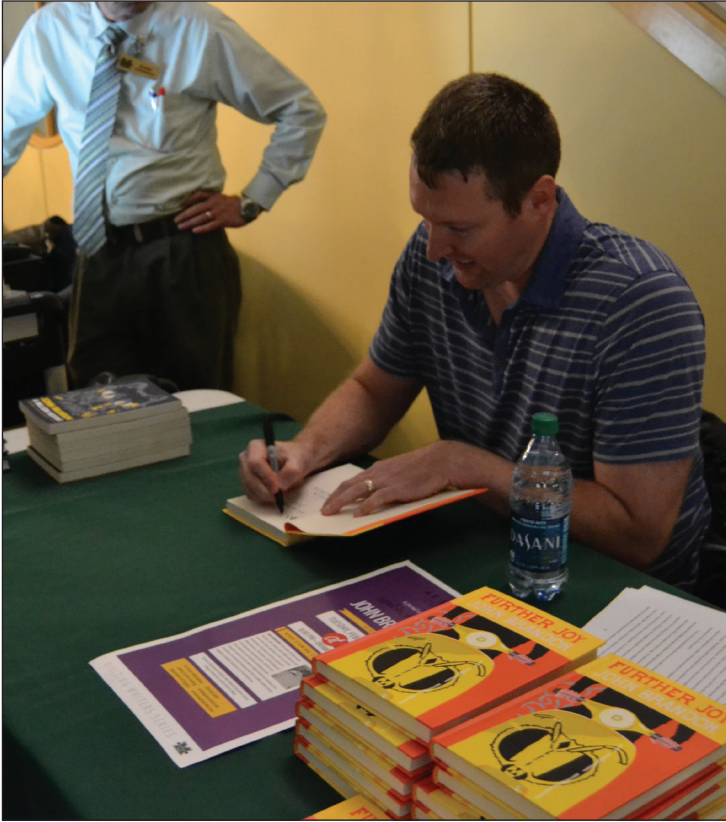
Brandon answered questions from the audience after the reading that lasted about 45 minutes.

When asked why Brandon chose the passage to read, he said he was looking for a section of the book without too much dialogue. He explained it would be easier for the audience to understand without much character introduction needed.

Brandon said he specifically chose to place the setting of the book after the Civil War instead of during it. If the setting had been during the war, the story would have been constrained to historical events. He said by setting

John Brandon, author, signs books for students, below, and speaks to students, above, in the John Deaver Drinko Library Monday.

PHOTOS BY ABIGAIL FELDMAN | THE PARTHENON



See **BRANDON** page 5

'The Loving Story' opens discussion of race

By **MATTHEW EPLION**
THE PARTHENON

The Black United Students Social Club and the Marshall University Libraries presented a showing of "The Loving Story" Tuesday in the John Deaver Drinko Library as a part of Black History Month.

The 77-minute film documents the story of Richard and Mildred Loving during the days of the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s.

The film chronicles the hardships and torments they suffered as a result of Richard being white and Mildred being black in the small town of Bowling Green, Virginia. The Lovings eventually meet two ambitious lawyers who are determined to take their case all the way to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court's unanimous ruling in Loving v. Virginia invalidated all laws in the U.S. prohibiting interracial marriage.

The film contains interviews with the Lovings and those

affiliated with them, such as the deputy sheriff of the town where the Lovings lived.

Approximately 20 to 30 students attended the screening and refreshments were served.

After the film, Frances Stevens, president of the BUSSC, had an open discussion on the problems facing interracial couples today. "Even though it's 2015, it's still an issue," Stevens said.

Stevens talked about her relationship with her boyfriend and how people still stare at them when they are out together. Stevens said she hopes progress will continue to be made at Marshall and across the country. The BUSSC has similar events planned throughout the semester.

The club's goal is to support the physical, social and psychological development of its members and to be the voice of the African-American community at Marshall.

Matthew Eplion can be contacted at eplion11@marshall.edu.

Low temps cause car troubles

"The key is to start your car every day or drive around to put a charge back in it."

By **HANNAH HARMAN**
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University students are having car troubles during the winter season.

Students are dealing with car issues caused by the sudden and drastic change in temperature. Dead car batteries are becoming common due to cold weather and inactivity this season.

Some students who live at the Village on Sixth, an apartment complex within walking distance of campus, could not drive their cars for several days after being snowed into their parking spots.

"My car was stuck in the parking lot of my building, so I didn't even try to go anywhere I couldn't walk to," said sophomore Emily Lively. "When I thought I could finally move it from my parking spot, it wouldn't start."

Jordan Thompson, junior, said he did not drive his car for a week.

"I knew my car battery was going to die," Thompson said. "I hadn't driven my car in a week, and there were some really cold days."

Larry Dawson, owner of Larry Dawson Auto Sales, said it is the temperature drop that is causing car problems.

"The problem occurs when we're creeping into winter and the temperature suddenly drops," Dawson said. "It's that avalanche of cold after the warmer weather. The key is to start your car every day or drive around to put a charge back in it."

Timmy Few, office manager at S and S Automotive, said car batteries are either made with a liquid or a gel. All cars are manufactured with a liquid battery while gel batteries are special ordered.

Dawson said gel batteries are more durable in harsh weather because they are sealed. Liquid batteries, found more often in older cars, experience evaporation when liquid mixes with acids in higher temperatures.

"Getting a new car battery will run you about \$100 to \$175," Few said. "They're not always beyond repair though. We can recharge a battery so you won't always need a new one."

Hannah Harman can be contacted at harman34@marshall.edu.

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MARSHALL CAREER SERVICES
PARTHENON FRONT PAGE

Award winning activist to speak about sexual indentity Thursday

By CAITLIN FOWLKES THE PARTHENON Award-winning activist Robyn Ochs will share her views on identity and sexuality 7 p.m. Thursday in the Shawkey Dining Room of the Memorial Student Center. Ochs is presenting "Beyond Binaries: Identity and Sexuality," focusing on how people chart sexual

orientation, the interchange between gender and sexuality and the complexities of attraction among other topics. Ochs' is an educator, speaker, award-winning activist and editor of the "Bi Women Quarterly", the 42-country anthology, "Getting Bi: Voices of Bisexuals Around the World" and the new anthology

"RECOGNIZE: The Voices of Bisexual Men." Her writings have been published in numerous bi-women's studies, multicultural and LGBT anthologies. Ochs will begin with a workshop for faculty, staff and student leaders on the topic of "Getting Bi: Unpacking Biphobia and Creating a Culture of Inclusion."

The workshop will focus on understanding and supporting the bisexual community on campus. A reception will take place before the interactive discussion at 6 p.m. and is open to everyone. The event is free and open to faculty, staff, students and the community. Caitlin Fowlkes can be contacted at fowlkes2@marshall.edu.

SCAVENGER HUNT

The Huntington Museum of Art presents a scavenger hunt as part of its monthly Tuesday Tour. Marshall students and Huntington residents follow clues throughout the museum to win the prize.

PHOTOS BY RYAN FISCHER | THE PARTHENON



TOP LEFT: The teams for the Huntington Museum of Art scavenger hunt assemble in preparation for the hunt. ABOVE: Amy Wolf and her son, Caleb, participate in the hunt in the C. Fred Edwards Conservatory. LEFT: The winning team (clockwise), MU students Jeremy Chon Jon Chu, Jessica Cain, Kelli Akers and Luke Nelson pose with their trophy.

Corrections

An article about the Huntington Cabell Wayne Animal Control Shelter credited a statement to the shelter's website. The statement should be attributed to the Friends of the Shelter: Huntington-Cabell-Wayne Facebook page. The Parthenon is committed to accurate reporting. If for any reason there is doubt about any of our printed or online content, please email us at parthenon@marshall.edu and we will make the appropriate correction.

Pipe burst causes flood in Twin Towers East

By MERCEDEZ SPEIGHT THE PARTHENON It was a series of unfortunate events at Twin Towers East Friday when residents experienced flooding due to a pipe burst, leaving some residents without their belongings. Resident advisors, Marshall University maintenance, Kappa Alpha Order and others were on hand to assist with the crisis. Marshall student Keberick Clark was not affected by the flood, but witnessed it firsthand. "I was in my room when the fire alarm went off," Clark said. "I went downstairs and then when I came back up, I saw the entire half of the floor starting to flood. I looked around the corner and in room 513 there was a water line break for the sprinklers." The flooding occurred on floors two through five but not all rooms were affected. "A friend of mine's room was flooded and he had to leave for a couple of days while they got everything situated," Clark said.

"He went to his frat house to stay there and a few others went to other rooms in Towers." Freshman Seth Blais said he was napping Friday when he was woken by the fire alarm. "I saw water coming down once we got back in," Blais said. "We went to help our friends get stuff out of their room because theirs started flooding first." Blais said their room was the only room on their side of the hall that was affected. "It skipped through three rooms on that side (of the hallway) and then just hit that one (Blais' room)," Blais said. Blais lives on the seventh floor, but said he has not heard anything about compensation in the aftermath of the flooding. "I have a bunch of clothes that aren't there anymore, so that's what I'm trying to figure out," Blais said. Housing and Residence Life is in the process of repairing the rooms for the students. Mercedes Speight can be contacted at speight@live.marshall.edu.

Freezing weather wreaks havoc on city water pipes

By WILLIAM IZZO THE PARTHENON Huntington residents are noticing lack of water in their homes this season due to frozen pipes. The Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety reports about 37 percent of frozen pipe failures occur in basements. This kind of a failure can cost residents more than \$5,000 in repairs to their pipes and anything damaged by water. John Cleer, owner of Liberty Air Technicians, said people who neglect to check their pipes can cause more problems. "People will let their pipes go until they break," Cleer said. "We go on calls to see that people haven't treated or checked their pipes in a long time. This neglect will only worsen situations." Cleer said there are multiple ways to keep your pipes from freezing. "If your pipes are in your basement, something like a little bit of heat in there helps," Cleer said. "This could be as simple as having a small

space heater in the area. If your pipes are in a crawlspace, you should close your foundation vents. You could also insulate your pipes with a special type of foam, or even use heat tape, which houses a wire that plugs in to most outlets to warm up your metal pipes." Cleer insists pipes should be checked out before and after winter. This can help residents avoid big issues by finding out small problems with their systems. If worse comes to worse and residents do find that their pipes have frozen solid or worse, then they should immediately get ahold of a professional. "If your pipes are made of plastic, you may be out of luck," Cleer said. "But if your home contains metal pipes, you should call a plumber immediately. They do have machines that may help you thaw your pipes out." Heating and cooling companies in the Huntington area offer assistance to residents with these issues. William Izzo can be contacted at izzo@marshall.edu.

SPORTS

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Herd swimming and diving breaks records



Herd swimming and diving competes against Western Kentucky University Jan. 31, in the Fitch Natatorium.

RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON

By **MALCOLM WALTON**
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's swimming and diving team broke 13 school records Saturday on its way to its best finish in C-USA history.

The team is adamant that its best years still lay ahead. Head coach Bill Tramel said while he is proud of his team's fourth place performance, this is what is now expected of the team.

"I honestly expected to have results like we had this year," Tramel said. "When you approach things with confidence as opposed to 'Oh, I hope I do well,' you will have success. And that's what we talk about on a regular bases here. We have high expectations which means the players will have high expectations for themselves."

Kaley Gregory, senior member of the swimming and diving team, said Tramel has changed the culture of Marshall's swimming and diving program.

"He runs it like a first-class Division 1 program," Gregory said. "I'm excited for the younger girls on the

team because there's really nowhere for the team to go but up. I can see the consistent development thanks to the coaching staff, and I'm excited for the future of Marshall's swimming and diving team."

Senior Lauren Hurd, who helped break the school's 400-yard relay record in the C-USA Championships, said the program has come a long way since her freshman year.

"The team's definitely heading in the right direction," Hurd said. "The coach we had my freshman year was a good coach, but he didn't really make the best decisions. I think that experience actually helped get the team to where it's at now."

Tramel said despite losing four seniors, he doesn't expect the team to take a step back next season.

"We're obviously going to miss their leadership," Tramel said. "But there's just so much to look forward to with the group we have coming back."

Malcolm Walton can be contacted at walton47@marshall.edu.



Herd swimming and diving competes against Western Kentucky University Jan. 31, in the Fitch Natatorium.

RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON

RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON

Track and field to travel to Birmingham

"Marshall's going to show up and show out."
-Shanice Johnson

By **KASEY MADDEN**
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's track and field team is competing in the C-USA Indoor Championship Tuesday and Wednesday in Birmingham, Alabama.

Head coach Jeff Small said with 14 schools competing, the Herd is a part of a tough conference.

"Well we're just hoping to go there and get season best performances in our events and, hopefully some more school records and score some points and kind of really see how it all lays, see how it all comes out," Small said.

Small said UTEP is competition for the Herd as it has won 19 NCAA Championships in track and field.

Herd team members competed in the Buckeye Tuneup Friday and earned two top-five finishes.

At the Marshall Invitational, the Herd finished in first place by 55 points.

Senior sprinter and jumper Loren Dyer placed second in the 400-meter dash and in the triple jump at the invitational.

"I think it's a big confidence booster for everyone going into conference," Dyer said. "Everyone feels confident and pretty much like we can do this."

Junior sprinter Shanice Johnson said

she hopes to break the school record in the 400-meter dash and place at conference by having a different perspective on the race.

"I went into it differently, saying that I'm going to sprint out the first 300 and give it my all, at the end and that's exactly what I did," Johnson said. "I'm going to try to do the same thing at conference."

Small said the Chris Cline Athletic Complex has been helpful in preparing the team for conference especially considering last week's winter storm.

"You can't imagine this past week without this place for us," Small said. "That's what we dealt with for 10 years, so it's been awesome."

Johnson said she hopes her practice pays off in her performance at the meet.

"Marshall's going to show up and show out," Johnson said. "We're underdogs but we're going to represent well."

After the indoor championship, members of the Herd track and field team could advance to the NCAA Indoor Nationals March 13-14 in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Outdoor season for the track and field team begins March 20 at the University of South Florida Bulls Invitational.

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PHOTO: HERDZONE

THE PARTHENON

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THE FIRST AMENDMENT | The Constitution of the United States of America

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people to peaceably assemble; and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

BE HERD: GUIDELINES FOR SENDING 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 that are posted on The Parthenon website, 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, letters are printed based on timeliness, newsworthiness and space.

EDITORIAL

I woke up like this, and this is beautiful

In a society obsessed with images and appearance, news has slowly started to criticize Photoshopped photos and the idea of body type as a beauty signifier. But in some ways society has overcompensated for its tendency to body shame and has found itself shaming the size twos and the pimply faces.

Recent headlines featured David Lopera and his plus size celebrity Photoshop tricks. Lopera's series of images features transformed celebrities with headline-worthy bodies including Katy Perry, Kim Kardashian, Iggy Azalea, Emma Watson and fictional characters such as Ariel from "The Little Mermaid" and Elsa from "Frozen." The 20-year-old computer technician altered images of the women into plus-size versions of themselves, in some cases adding up to 100 pounds, because he thinks they look more attractive that way.

"Mila Kunis is so much sexier with chunky thighs and a bulging belly," Lopera told Daily Mail. "These women look much better when they're overweight."

Lopera defeats his own intention with such a statement. Just as the same groups of stars are so often altered to look

skinnier to match a certain aesthetic, Lopera changed their bodies to fit his own preferences.

If the artist was truly concerned with beauty he would not feel the need to morph their bodies into

Beyoncé's 2013 L'Oreal campaign leaked last week causing an Internet uproar and a buzzing Bey Hive. The images show the "Flawless" singer with uneven skin and blemishes on her face.

arguably one of the most beautiful people on the planet. Criticizing the picture goes against everything the woman stands for.

Beyoncé as an artist represents confidence for every person, regardless of appearance, class, color, etc. To take the photos of her imperfect skin and critique them destroys that purpose.

These examples combined with other massively consumed pieces of popular culture—Meghan Trainor's "All About That Bass," for example—give the perception society is moving toward acceptance, but it could not be further from the truth.

Lopera's images represent his subjects' bodies as not good enough as they are, fat or skinny. Beyoncé's unretouched photo as breaking news reveals a culture of people who cannot cope with imperfections.

Society would like to believe it is heading in the right direction, toward a culture that does not shame a woman for not being a size two supermodel with perfect skin and hair. But it has yet to realize the true "right direction" has more to do with acceptance of all sizes, shapes, colors and textures.

Bodies are not newsworthy, and until we reach that point, we will never truly be an accepting society.



Beyonce arrives at the 2015 Vanity Fair Oscar Party Sunday in Beverly Hills, Calif.

EVAN AGOSTINI | INVISION | AP

whatever form pleased him at the time.

In another example, unretouched photos from

Basically the photos reveal Beyoncé as a real human being without perfect skin who is still

COLUMN

Don't take advantage of my favorite author

Was the choice to release Harper Lee's 'Mockingbird' sequel a good one and her own?

By BRI SHELTON
COLUMNIST

A few weeks ago, Harper Lee made a major announcement that she is releasing a sequel to her famous and only novel, "To Kill a Mockingbird" this summer.

The new book will be called "Go Set a Watchman" and takes place in the beloved town of Maycomb, 20 years after Mockingbird ends. Scout Finch, the former protagonist, will narrate the story again and feature many of the old characters in her new tale. She will travel back to her hometown from New York to visit her aging father and confront some of her own personal and political beliefs.

The main reason for my concern about the new book is the suddenness of its publication. Lee wrote the novel about 60 years ago, right after she finished "Mockingbird," but chose not to release it. And now, after her sister's

death, the manuscript has been found and set to release in July.

Her sister used to care for her estate and keep an eye out for Lee, but now that she is gone, the book has been discovered and prepared to hit bookshelves. Excited as I may be, this whole situation seems a bit off to me. How could Harper Lee be persuaded so quickly? Sixty years is an awful long time to have a book written.

As much as I love "To Kill a Mockingbird" and want to read more of Lee's work, I worry the famous author may have been taken advantage of. The woman is 88 and has not been in the best health for many years. Recent reports have also discussed her memory loss and how it has affected her interactions with fans. If the woman has suffered this much, health-wise, is she really sound enough to sign a publishing contract or

even negotiate? It seems like a vastly different decision than the one she has kept throughout the years.

I really don't want my favorite author to be pressured into something she doesn't want to do. There must be a reason why Lee chose to never publish Watchman before. Maybe she thought the book wouldn't live up to the success of Mockingbird. Maybe fame was not something the introverted author wanted to live in. Whatever her reasons, I definitely wonder about this novel and how it came to be. Who talked her into launching such a major book? Was this something she had considered for a while, or something someone suddenly convinced her to do?

Whatever the case may be, I am anxious to see how this all plays out.

Bri Shelton can be contacted at shelton76@live.marshall.edu.



This March 14, 1963 file photo shows Harper Lee, author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, "To kill a Mockingbird." The head of a group for Alabama writers says the new book by Harper Lee will help other state authors. Alabama Writer's Forum executive director Jeanie Thompson says the attention being given to Lee's long-awaited second novel reflects on other writers in the state.

AP PHOTO | FILE

This May 19, 2010 photo provided by Penny Weaver shows author Nelle Harper Lee in her assisted living room in Monteville, Ala. Friends and fans of the "To Kill A Mockingbird" author are having trouble reconciling a publisher's Feb. 3 announcement that her decades-old manuscript for a sequel has been rediscovered and will be released.

AP PHOTO | PENNY WEAVER



Early exposure to peanuts helps prevent allergies in kids

By **MARILYNN MARCHIONE**
AP CHIEF MEDICAL WRITER

For years, parents of babies who seem likely to develop a peanut allergy have gone to extremes to keep them away from peanut-based foods. Now a major study suggests that is exactly the wrong thing to do.

Exposing infants like these to peanuts before age 1 actually helped prevent a peanut allergy, lowering that risk by as much as 81 percent, doctors found. Instead of provoking an allergy, early exposure seemed to help build tolerance.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, called the results "without precedent" and said in a statement that they "have the potential to transform how we approach food allergy prevention."

His agency helped fund the study, the largest and most rigorous test of this concept. Results were published online Monday in the New

England Journal of Medicine and discussed at an American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology conference in Houston.

A big warning, though: The babies in the study were checked to make sure they didn't already have a peanut allergy before they were fed foods that included peanuts, so parents of babies thought to be at risk for an allergy should not try this on their own.

"Before you even start any kind of introduction these children need to be skin-tested" to prevent life-threatening reactions, said Dr. Rebecca Gruchalla, an allergy specialist at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas.

Also, small children can choke on whole peanuts, so smooth peanut butter or other peanut-based foods are safer, said Gruchalla, who wrote a commentary on the study in the journal.

The main finding — that early exposure to a problem

food may keep it from becoming a long-term problem — should change food guidelines quickly, she predicted.

"Isn't it wild? It's counterintuitive in certain ways and in other ways it's not," she said.

Peanut allergies have doubled over the last decade and now affect more than 2 percent of kids in the United States and growing numbers of them in Africa, Asia and elsewhere. Peanuts are the leading cause of food allergy-related severe reactions and deaths. Unlike many other allergies, this one is not outgrown with age.

Food allergies often are inherited, but research suggests they also can develop after birth and that age of exposure may affect whether they do.

Researchers at King's College London started this study after noticing far higher rates of peanut allergies among Jewish children in London who were not given peanut-based foods in infancy compared to others in Israel who were.

The study involved more

than 600 children ages 4 months to 11 months old in England. All were thought to be at risk for peanut allergy because they were allergic to eggs or had eczema, a skin condition that's a frequent allergy symptom.

All had been given skin-prick tests to make sure they were not already allergic to peanuts. They were put into two groups — 530 who did not show signs of peanut allergy and 98 others with mild-to-moderate reactions, suggesting an allergy might be developing.

Half of each group was assigned to avoid peanuts and the other half was told to consume them each week, usually as peanut butter or a snack called Bamba, a peanut-flavored puff.

The results at 5 years of age: —Among children with no sign of allergy on the skin test: Only 2 percent of peanut eaters developed a peanut allergy versus 14 percent of abstainers.

—Among children with

some reaction to peanuts on the skin test: Only 11 percent of peanut eaters developed an allergy versus 35 percent of abstainers.

Hospitalizations and serious reactions were about the same in all groups.

Questions remain: How much peanut protein do infants need to consume, how often and for how long, to avoid allergy? If a child stops eating peanuts for a while, will an allergy develop? Would the same approach work for other foods such as milk, eggs and tree nuts?

"These questions must be addressed, but we believe that because the results of this trial are so compelling, and the problem of the increasing prevalence of peanut allergy so alarming, new guidelines should be forthcoming very soon," Gruchalla and Dr. Hugh Sampson of Mount Sinai Hospital in New York write in the medical journal.

American Academy of Pediatrics guidelines used to

recommend against giving children foods with peanuts before age 3, but that advice was dropped in 2008 because there was no evidence it was preventing allergies. Now, most parents introduce peanut-based foods as is appropriate for the child's age, like other solid foods.

Gruchalla thinks that babies with some signs of a peanut allergy risk, such as parents who are allergic, should have a skin test between 4 and 8 months of age. If it's negative, they should be started on peanut products as the babies in this study were. If they show some sensitivity to peanuts, a "food challenge" monitored by a doctor experienced at this should be tried.

For children who already have peanut allergies, researchers have been experimenting with small regular amounts of exposure to try to train them to tolerate those foods. But these are still experimental and must be done with the help of a doctor.

This Feb. 20 photo shows an arrangement of peanuts in New York. For years, parents of babies who seem likely to develop a peanut allergy have gone to extremes to keep them away from peanut-based foods. Now, a major study suggests that is exactly the wrong thing to do.

AP PHOTO | PATRICK SISON

Man convicted in deaths of 'American Sniper' author, friend

By **JOHN L. MONE and JAMIE STENGLE**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

STEPHENVILLE, Texas (AP) — A former Marine was convicted Tuesday in the deaths of the "American Sniper" author and another man at a shooting range two years ago, as jurors rejected defense arguments that he was insane and suffered from psychosis.

The trial of Eddie Ray Routh has drawn intense interest, in part because of the blockbuster film based on former Navy SEAL Chris Kyle's memoir about his four tours in Iraq.

Since prosecutors didn't seek the death penalty in the capital murder case, the 27-year-old receives an automatic life sentence without parole in the deaths of Kyle and Kyle's friend, Chad Littlefield.

Routh showed no reaction in court, even when family members of Littlefield addressed him.

"We're so thrilled that we have the verdict that we have tonight," Littlefield's mother, Judy Littlefield, said at a news conference outside the courthouse.

Kyle's widow, Taya Kyle, had left the courtroom earlier in

the day and had not returned when the verdict was read.

Prosecutors and defense attorneys did not immediately comment.

The prosecution painted Routh as a troubled drug user who knew right from wrong, despite any mental illnesses. While trial testimony and evidence often included Routh making odd statements and referring to insanity, he also confessed several times, apologized for the crimes and tried to evade police.

Criminal law experts said the verdict hinged on whether the defense could prove Routh was insane and did not know the killings were wrong at the time they were committed. Jurors had three options: find Routh guilty of capital murder, find him not guilty, or find him not guilty by reason of insanity. If found not guilty by reason of insanity, the court could have initiated proceedings to have him committed to a state mental hospital.

Kyle and Littlefield had taken Routh to the shooting range at Rough Creek Lodge and Resort on Feb. 2, 2013, after Routh's mother asked Kyle to help her troubled son.

Family members say Routh suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder from serving in Iraq and in Haiti after the devastating 2010 earthquake.

A forensic psychologist testified for prosecutors that Routh was not legally insane and suggested he may have gotten some of his ideas from television. Dr. Randall Price said Routh had a paranoid disorder made worse by his use of alcohol and marijuana, calling his condition "cannabis-induced psychosis."

Defense attorneys noted that Kyle had described Routh as "straight-up nuts" in a text message to Littlefield as they drove to the luxury resort.

Among evidence entered by prosecutors was a recorded phone call between Routh and a reporter from The New Yorker magazine in which Routh said he was annoyed by reason of insanity, the court could have initiated proceedings to have him committed to a state mental hospital.

"Are you gonna shoot? Are you gonna shoot? It's a shooting sport. You shoot," Routh said in the phone call. "That's what got me all riled up."

Defense attorneys said Routh, who had been

prescribed anti-psychotic medication often used for schizophrenia, believed the men planned to kill him.

"I had to take care of business. I took care of business, and then I got in the truck and left," Routh said in the phone call.

A resort employee discovered the bodies of Kyle and Littlefield about 5 p.m.; each had been shot several times. About 45 minutes later, authorities say Routh pulled up to his sister's home in Kyle's truck and told her he had killed two people.

She called police, who later located Routh sitting in front of his home in the truck. A police video shown by prosecutors showed officers trying to coax him from the truck while he makes comments including: "I don't know if I'm going insane" and "Is this about hell walking on earth right now?"

"He told us he'd taken a couple of souls and he had more souls to take," Lancaster police Lt. Michael Smith testified.

Routh later took off and led authorities on a chase before the truck became disabled and he was arrested.

BRANDON

Continued from page 1

the story in the aftermath of the war, Brandon would have more creative freedom.

At the end of the event, Brandon was on hand to sign copies of his books, which were also available for purchase.

Brandon is the author of three novels, "Arkansas," "Citrus Country" and "A Million Heavens." He is also the

author of "Further Joy," a collection of short stories.

Brandon writes about college football and his works have appeared in "ESPN the Magazine," "Oxford American" and "The New York Times." He is also an assistant professor at Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota, where he teaches in various creative writing programs.

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Forensics expert Howard Ryan testifies during the capital murder trial of former Marine Cpl. Eddie Ray Routh at the Erath County, Donald R. Jones Justice Center in Stephenville Texas, Tuesday. Routh, 27, of Lancaster, is charged with the 2013 deaths of Chris Kyle and his friend Chad Littlefield at a shooting range near Glen Rose, Texas.

AP PHOTO | THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS | MICHAEL AINSWORTH

Old Crow member plays V-Club

By **KELSIE LIVELY**
THE PARTHENON

Gill Landry graced the stage of the V-Club Tuesday along with Justin Townes Earle.

Landry, the band Old Crow Medicine Show and Earle, son of legendary folk and country singer Steve Earle, showcased their sing-songwriter styles.

Coming from a non-musical family, Landry said he found his passion for music through the way he felt, as he listened to his favorite musicians.

“Something drew me to music, and I don’t know what it is, I really don’t know,” Landry said. “I’ve thought a long time about it. I know what it makes me feel, and what draws me to it, is a feeling.”

Landry said the wide range of musical inspirations weighed on him through the lyrical ability of their music.

“It’s very broad,” Landry said. “Mostly, I would say song writers across the board, certainly the American ones and some English ones, but the real wordsmiths of song writing.”

Transitioning from a band to performing solo comes with its own set of difficulties. Landry said if he could, he would prefer to sing his own material with a band backing him up.

“What my dream band is, is an 11 piece band,” Landry said. If it was just one person it would be Nina Simone.”

Landry began playing guitar at 5-years-old and first performed at 17, starting his more than, 20 year, music career.

Kelsie Lively can be contacted at lively37@marshall.edu.



ABOVE: Gill Landry of Old Crow Medicine Show plays a set at the V-Club Tuesday.

RIGHT: Justin Townes Earle, son of folk and country singer Steve Earle, plays at the V-Club Tuesday.

PHOTOS BY KATHERINE SPENCE | THE PARTHENON

15 Quick Questions with Gill Landry

Vinyl, CD, Digital?	Vinyl
City?	Paris
Country?	Holland
Color?	Rainbow
Song?	Werewolves of London - Warren Zevon
Band?	Bob Dylan and the Band / Crazy Horse
Food?	Mexican
Movie?	Sunset Boulevard
TV?	Twin Peaks
Sport?	I don’t have one
Nickname?	Gill
Tattoos?	I do
Morning or Night?	Morning
Best Day of Your Life?	No such thing.



CODINUNDRUM

A column about random pop culture stuff, mostly Beyoncé

A tragic night for an Oscars stan

By **CODI MOHR**
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

For anyone who knows me, it’s common knowledge that Oscars night is a religious experience. It’s like my birthday, Christmas and the Super Bowl all wrapped up as one perfect night of popular culture consumption. But the best night of the year was nothing more than a tragic trudge through the motions of the show. There was no life, no passion with the exception of a select few speeches and not enough celebrity face time.

So for this week’s column, I decided to express my specific disappointments:

THE HOST

If Neil Patrick Harris can’t host the Oscars, who can? He’s a Broadway star, a television star and one of the most universally beloved celebrities. But despite is likability, Harris fell flat with miserable comedic timing and too much time spent on a silly predictions bit.

Excessive references to box office number (or lack thereof), reminded the audience how few people saw their movies, and uncomfortable puns just made viewers squirm.

Harris had big shoes to fill. Ellen DeGeneres’ job last year had everything I look for in an award show host, but Harris just could not measure up to her subtle comedy.

THE ENTERTAINMENT

When I watch an award show I expect to see my favorite A-listers interacting with each other, making jokes about each other and

just generally reacting to what the others do.

In this year’s show, the camera rarely jumped to the audience, and when it did, it was only for lists of nominees or Oprah. I needed more of the Lego statues, more of Emma Stone’s goofy reactions, more Eddie Redmayne in general and more Meryl Streep-Jennifer Lopez bro moments.

Again, to compare to last year, Ellen spent most of her hosting time in the audience feeding them pizza and taking record-breaking selfies. Maybe it was less prominent this year because Harris is not a major movie star with major movie star friends. Perhaps that should be a hint to next year’s producers to stick to talk show hosts who interact comedically with the big stars—predicting a Jimmy Kimmel-hosted Oscars at some point in the future.

EXPECTATION VS EXECUTION

As this point in the world of popular culture, the expectations for the Academy Awards have arguably overwhelmed the producers’ ability to execute on a high enough level. When I watch the Oscars I am prepared for a lasting impression, but this year I’ll be lucky to remember the good parts.

Many of us spend three and a half hours of our lives consuming the massive beast of a show, and the expectations are incredibly high.

What did the show do right? Music.

If there was any hint of life throughout the show, Common, John Legend, Lady Gaga and Julie Andrews were it. A thirty-minute

span of the broadcast almost made up for its lackluster start.

After a cringy introduction by Adele Dazeem and a handsy Glom Gazingo, Common and Legend performed the nominated song “Glory” from “Selma.” By the end of Legend’s final note of the heart-breaking hook, the camera was panning over the tears streaming down David Oyelowo and Chris Pine’s faces. To anyone able to hold it together at the end, I commend you for your self-control.

Immediately following—which leads me to question why the producers would put their two best moments consecutively—Lady Gaga paid tribute to the 50-year anniversary of “The Sound of Music.”

I said it at the Grammys, but now if there is a single human who still doesn’t believe Gaga has some of the best pipes in the business, I’ll be surprised. Her somewhat random medley of songs from the film took my breath away, but it was the surprise Julie Andrews appearance from which I truly had to recover.

But the Oscars aren’t about music. The Oscars are about movies.

For next year I genuinely hope the Academy and the producers can find a way to make the films shine and maybe encourage more at-home viewers to see movies.

I’m a sucker for a good montage. The most creative, talented people in the industry combined with the Academy’s graphics team—the real MVP of the ceremony—the show has the ability to knock me off my feet.

So here’s to film, and here’s to 2016 Oscars.

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