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## The Parthenon, April 1, 2015

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# LOCAL SHOP GOES OUT OF BUSINESS

**By SOFIE WACHTMEISTER**  
THE PARTHENON

Simply Whisk in Huntington is closing its doors at the end of the week.

The four and a half year old store sells kitchen and cooking items.

Owner Kim Lake, who also owns Mug and Pia on Third Avenue, made the announcement on the store's Facebook page March 2.

"Please know this decision was made with each customer and friend in mind," Lake said. "However, I must also keep myself (and family) in mind, and have realized I cannot be in two different businesses at the same time or do everything I want to

do at Mug and Pia as it continues to grow."

Lake's husband owns the Tropical Moon Frozen Yogurt stores in Huntington and Barboursville. Because they each own two businesses, Lake decided she had to let one go.

"It's a completely personal decision," Lake said. "I feel like I'm letting people down, but I need time with my family. It's getting too difficult."

Mug and Pia stands for most "unique gifts and paper items anywhere." The store will celebrate its seventh birthday April 1.

"Mug and Pia is my first love," Lake said. "Without thinking, I knew which one had to go."

A select few lines from Simply Whisk will be

carried over and sold at Mug and Pia.

Lake said she appreciates the support because it is a difficult time.

"It's hard enough having one small business, but when you have two it can be a challenge," Lake said. "But I'm very appreciative of the support I have received throughout this difficult process."

Simply Whisk has an ongoing liquidation sale all month with prices decreasing every week. During this final week, all items in store are 65 percent off.

Displays are being sold to the best offer and all sales are final.

**Sofie Wachtmeister can be contacted at wachtmeister@marshall.edu.**

# Defense rests in 1st phase of Boston Marathon bombing trial

**By DENISE LAVOIE**  
AP LEGAL AFFAIRS WRITER

Lawyers for Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev rested their case in his federal death penalty trial Tuesday, a day after they began presenting testimony designed to show his late older brother was the mastermind of the 2013 terror attack.

The defense admitted during opening statements that Tsarnaev participated in the bombings. But Tsarnaev's lawyer said he was a troubled 19-year-old who had fallen under the influence of his radicalized 26-year-old brother, Tamerlan, who died following a shootout with police days after the bombings.

Prosecutors and Tsarnaev's lawyers will give closing arguments April 6. The jury is expected to begin deliberations the same day.

The defense has made it clear from the beginning of the trial that its strategy is not to win an acquittal for Tsarnaev, now 21, but to save him from the death penalty. Three people were killed and more than 260 were injured when two pressure-cooker bombs exploded near the finish line April 15, 2013.

If the jury convicts Tsarnaev — an event that seems a foregone conclusion because of his lawyer's admission — the same jury will be asked to decide whether he should be executed or spend the rest of his life in prison.

During its brief case, the defense called four witnesses, including a cell site analyst who showed that Tsarnaev was at the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth when Tamerlan purchased components of the two bombs used in the attack, including pressure cookers and BBs.

On Tuesday, an FBI fingerprint examiner testified that Dzhokhar's fingerprints weren't found on any of the marathon bomb components, but Tamerlan's were.

Elaina Graff said Tamerlan's prints were detected on two pieces of cardboard that came from one of the bombs used at the marathon and on a piece of

paper found inside a backpack used to carry a bomb.

Graff said prints belonging to both brothers were found on another bomb recovered from the scene of a gunbattle with police days after the marathon attack. That bomb, which was not detonated, consisted of explosive powder and fuses packed inside a plastic container with a fuse protruding from the lid.

While being cross-examined by Assistant U.S. Attorney William Weinreb, Graff said it can be difficult to find fingerprints at bombing sites. "Due to the extreme temperature and force in an explosion, it is not unusual to not find fingerprints on items," Graff said.

Also testifying for the defense Tuesday was a computer expert who said Tamerlan Tsarnaev did Internet searches on bomb components in the weeks before the attack.

Mark Spencer, the president of a digital forensics company, said search terms on Tamerlan's laptop included "detonators," "transmitter and receiver" and "fireworks firing system." He said Dzhokhar Tsarnaev's laptop showed his computer activity focused heavily on Facebook and a Russian version of Facebook.

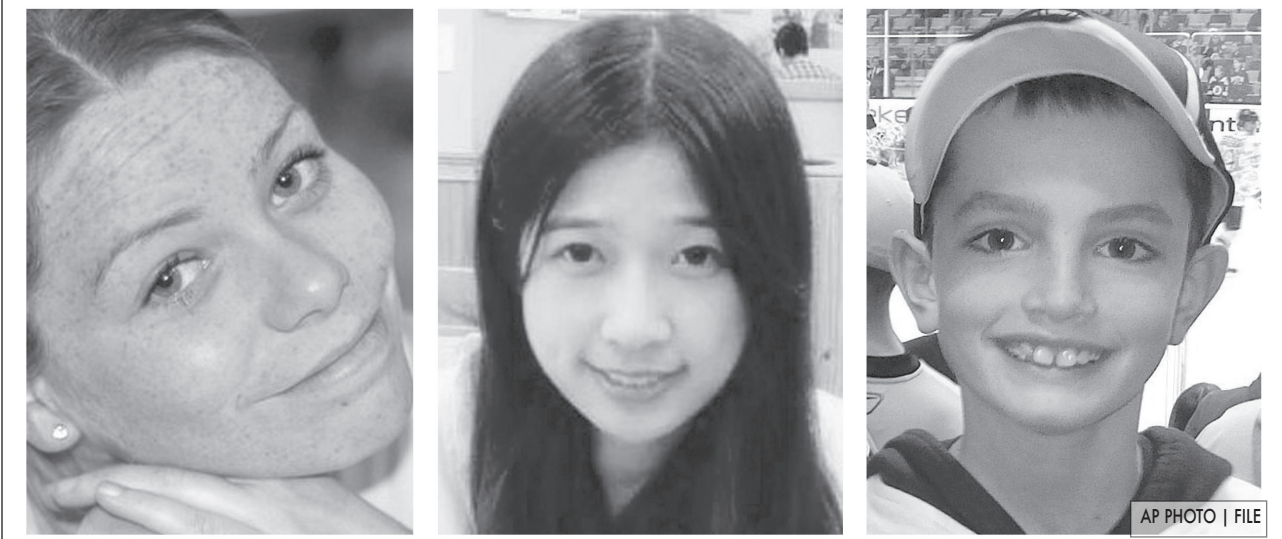
Tsarnaev's lawyer also told jurors in opening statements that it was Tamerlan who shot and killed Massachusetts Institute of Technology police Officer Sean Collier three days after the bombings.

Prosecutors rested their case Monday after calling more than 90 witnesses over 15 days of testimony, including bombing survivors who described losing limbs in the attack.

Jurors saw gruesome autopsy photos of the three killed: 8-year-old Martin Richard, a Boston boy who had gone to the marathon with his family; 23-year-old Lingzi Lu, a graduate student from China who was studying at Boston University; and Krystle Campbell, a 29-year-old restaurant manager.



AP PHOTO | JANE FLAVELL COLLINS | FILE



AP PHOTO | FILE

**TOP:** In this March 5, 2015 file courtroom sketch, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, center, is depicted between defense attorneys Miriam Conrad, left, and Judy Clarke, right, during his federal death penalty trial in Boston. Prosecutors rested their case against Tsarnaev on Monday after jurors saw gruesome autopsy photos and heard a medical examiner describe the devastating injuries suffered by the three people who died in the 2013 terror attack.

**ABOVE:** This combination of undated file photos shows, from left, Krystle Campbell, 29, Lu Lingzi, a Boston University graduate student from China, and Martin Richard, 8, all who were killed in the bombings near the finish line of the Boston Marathon on April 15, 2013, in Boston.

# Marshall celebrates Easter for students stuck on campus for holiday

**By NICHOLE HENDERSON**  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's Harless Dining Hall and Towers Dining Hall had a campus-wide Easter buffet Tuesday for students who do not get to go home for the holiday.

"As a student you're here on campus all of the time and you may not have the opportunity to go home," said Cheryl King, general manager of Sodexo. "So, we like to try to bring a little bit of home here to you. We all want to have that feeling of belonging, and to be home for the holidays especially, so I think it's important."

Cheyenne Glover, senior business management major, said she never gets to go home for Easter because home is too far away.

Usually, my friends and I go to church and then we go to Harless or Towers for Easter dinner," Glover said. "We think of this as our own little Easter tradition and we feel like we're close to home when we're together and having Easter dinner as a family."

The food at the Easter buffet played a major role in why the celebration felt like home to many students.

"Where I come from, it's in Jamaica, and

I mean it's a lot different from here, but still we do have celebrations all over Jamaica as well for Easter," said freshman Jayden Gillpin. "The food is a lot different from here in America like in Jamaica we have curry chicken, yam, rice and peas, ackee and salt fish and stuff like that, but here you have chicken, ham, turkey and you even have biscuits and gravy. I didn't even know that existed until I came here."

Gillpin said one American Easter dish really hit the spot for him.

"I really, really like the deviled eggs," Gillpin said. "Like that's the devil in me, I'll eat those all day if you let me."

Glover said she thinks the dining halls do a good job with celebrating the holiday.

"I think they celebrate it perfectly by having a simple dinner," Glover said. "In addition, I think they should also try to celebrate other holidays as well as they did for Easter."

Gillpin said he likes Easter because it brings happiness.

"Easter is all about happiness," Gullpin said. "It's just about being happy and enjoying friends, family and good vibes with others, no matter where you are."

**Nichole Henderson can be contacted at henderson86@marshall.edu.**

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Bike loan program now open to students

**By MATTHEW EPLION**  
THE PARTHENON

The Ecocycle Bike Loan Program is now available to Marshall University students, faculty, staff and Rec Center members.

The program allows participants to check out a bicycle for use around Marshall's campus or throughout Huntington.

Bike equipment rental is free but requires a Marshall ID and a debit or credit card to be charged if the equipment is lost or stolen.

The program runs March through November.

Times available for bicycle check out are 7 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday.

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

### Applications for mascot position now open

**By WILLIAM IZZO**  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's athletic department and the Office of University Communications are searching for a new student to be Marshall's mascot, Marco.

An eligible student has to be currently enrolled as a Marshall student, have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale, he or she cannot have health issues that may worsen by being Marco, applicants need a health and car insurance plan, he or she has to pass a criminal background check and be flexible with his or her schedule.

As Marco, he or she will attend all home football games, men and women's basketball games and some away football and basketball contests as determined by the athletic department.

The student chosen will receive a \$1000 scholarship each semester, free textbook rentals and free parking through the athletic department, and he or she chosen to be Marco with University Communications will get \$12 an hour along with travel expenses, travel apparel and free on-campus parking.

Applications are due online before April 13.

Applicants will have a follow up session, and tryouts will take place with the cheer squad the week of April 20.

**William Izzo can be contacted at izzo@marshall.edu.**



# SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2015 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

## From shot caller to white collar

Steve Williams’ journey from Herd QB to Huntington mayor

By KASEY MADDEN  
THE PARTHENON

When he first stepped foot on a field to play football at age seven, he had no idea that step would lead him to Marshall University and eventually to serve as mayor of Huntington.

Steve Williams and his family moved to Huntington in the middle of Williams’ junior year of high school, two years after the 1970 plane crash.

A photograph of the team from the 1970 season hangs behind Williams’ desk in his mayoral office.

“I wanted it in my office to be a constant reminder,” Williams said. “But anybody who is from Huntington who comes in here, I’m able to say, ‘We’ve been taken to our knees and have learned to prevail.’ It’s a reminder that they are why I’m here.”

Every day during practice, Williams would face the same defensive player. That defensive player is also still involved with Marshall Athletics, Mike Hamrick, the athletic director.

“When we were at Marshall, we didn’t have a whole lot of success,” Williams said. “But when I look at what we did, it is the foundation of everything that is being done now and in that regard I know that we’re setting the stage for the next 50 years.”

Williams said his journeys on the football field and to his office in City Hall have some parallels.

He began his freshman year playing quarterback but finished as wide receiver because other wide receivers sustained injuries through the season.

“I played three games where I played four separate positions in the game,” Williams said. “I’d be a tight end one down, a quarterback the next down, or a wide receiver or a wingback. All I wanted to do was to play.”

Williams was wide receiver and tight end his sophomore year. His junior year he moved back to quarterback.

When Williams began his political career, he was the city manager of Huntington, before the city switched to a mayor-council government.

Williams said he spent time working in the state legislature as a member of the West Virginia House of Delegates.

Then after the 2012 election, Williams found himself back in city hall, but this time as Huntington’s mayor.

“In those years that I went from quarterback to tight end to wide receiver back to being quarterback, most of my time I played wide receiver,” Williams said. “But when I stepped back into the huddle as a quarterback, that was natural to me.”

“My first day in office here as mayor

reminded me so much of that, I came back in and was like, ‘This is where I belong.’”

The lessons Williams learned on the football field stick with him as he serves the city today.

“I felt I had to work harder than anybody else to make sure I was getting time to play,” Williams said.

“I had to be in better shape than others, now what that translates to here, I was always the first on the field and the last to leave. I try to be the first in the office and the last to leave.”

Williams currently serves as the president of the M Club, Marshall’s organization of those who have participated and served in athletics.

“What’s incredible is that we all are, whether male or female, we’re all brothers and sisters because we competed at Marshall,” Williams said.

He said he relates to the current athletes at Marshall because of that connection.

Williams said in addition to the lessons he learned on the field, the education he received at Marshall prepared him for his political career.

“I am what I am today because I am a son of Marshall,” Williams said.

Kasey Madden can be contacted at [madden24@marshall.edu](mailto:madden24@marshall.edu).



MARSHALL UNIVERSITY YEARBOOKS

Steve Williams (11) celebrates with Thundering Herd swimmer Jim Sheridan after the Herd’s 21-16 victory over Miami University (Oh.) in 1976.

## Herd sweep doubleheader, improve to 23-10



By MALCOLM WALTON  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University’s softball team (23-10, 4-5) swept Wright State University (7-23, 3-2) Tuesday in its doubleheader at the Dot Hicks Field.

The Herd won the first match against the Raiders 3-2 in dramatic fashion.

Sophomore outfielder Morgan Zerkle hit a walk-off single to close out the game.

However, the Herd ran away with the second match of the doubleheader— winning 11-2.

Katalin Lucas, junior center for the Herd, hit a three-run home run in the second game. It was Lucas’ fourth of the season.

“My first at-bat wasn’t that great,” Lucas said. “I hit a short grounder right to the pitcher. So, for my next at-bat, I just told myself ‘better contact point and wait on the ball.’ I was just able to track it better, and I hit it really hard up the middle for the home run.”

Shaelynn Braxton, junior infielder for the Herd, said while the Raiders gave the team a tough match in the first game, the second match showed the level Marshall is truly capable of playing.

“I think we controlled ourselves much better in the second game than in the first,” Braxton

said. “We handled ourselves well during the first, to a certain extent, but we still allowed them to hang in there with us. In the second game, we were really focused and played the kind of softball we are accustomed to playing. And by doing that, we were able to have more quality at-bats than we did in the first game.”

The Herd’s impressive day also saw significant contributions from a few of its freshman players.

“I love our freshman class this year,” Braxton said. “Taylor McCord has been consistently playing well this season. And to see Madi Marshall and [Jordan] Colliflower also playing well in the middle of the season and really getting their chance out there, it’s been great. Colliflower got her first career hit today, and that was awesome. Madi Marshall just got her first hit over the weekend. I can’t wait to just see them grow over the next few years and see what they can provide for the Herd. That’s what I’m excited for.”

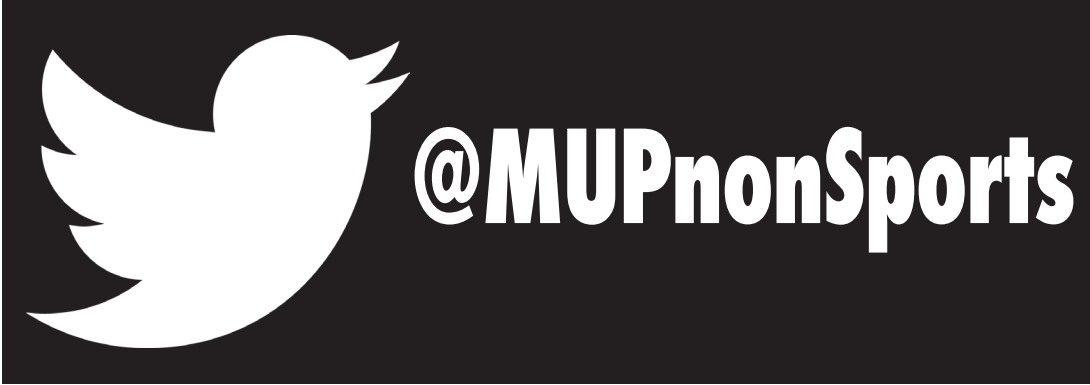
Marshall’s next match is a doubleheader against conference-foe University of North Texas scheduled for 1 p.m. Friday at Dot Hicks Field.

Malcolm Walton can be contacted at [walton47@marshall.edu](mailto:walton47@marshall.edu).



Kaelynn Greene waits for the perfect pitch in the Thundering Herd’s doubleheader with Wright State University Tuesday at Dot Hicks Field.

PHOTOS BY RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON





THE PARTHENON

The Parthenon, Marshall University's student newspaper, is published by students Monday through Friday during the regular semester and Thursday during the summer. The editorial staff is responsible for news and editorial content.

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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

Trans visibility is about more than just one day

The International Day of Transgender Visibility Tuesday brought to light to a community of people who have been historically invisible.

Rachel Crandall, a trans activist from Michigan, started the annual holiday to solve a lack of LGBTQ-centered holidays for transgendered people.

"I went on Facebook," Crandall told Pride Source in 2009, "and I was thinking... whenever I hear about our community, it seems to be from Remembrance Day [intended to remember the trans victims of hate crimes], which is always so negative because it's about people who were killed. So one night I couldn't sleep, and I decided why don't

I try to do something about that."

The beauty of the international recognition of the day is the magnitude of its visibility around the world.

Various related hashtags appeared all over social media platforms throughout the day with selfies of trans people. Their smiling or serving faces, some of which included transformation photos, filled timelines and newsfeeds with proud proclamations of not just existence but of living fulfilled lives.

But the reality of trans visibility is its invisibility.

According to Trans Student Educational Resources, 80 percent of trans students have

felt unsafe at school because of gender expression, 49 percent of trans people reported physical abuse in a 2007 survey and 41 percent of trans people have attempted suicide.

Trans people do not feel safe in schools, they have a large chance of being murdered (one in 12 trans women or one in eight trans women of color are murdered) and they are at a higher risk of suicide.

Society can recognize its trans communities on social media, praising its collective braveness through comments, likes and favorites, but it cannot manage to recognize its value within our institutions.

Such an exclusive society should feel an obligation to

these people to recognize not only their rights, but also the ways in which we can support them most effectively.

To effectively align with the trans community, the rest of society will have to ask about a person's pronouns, have patience with people who are questioning or exploring their identities, understand that the transitioning process is different for all people, never ask the silly questions—such as what a person's "real" name is, how he or she has sex or his or her surgical status—and support little steps toward equality like gender-neutral bathrooms.

Without true acceptance and support, there can be no true visibility for trans people.



Scott Hoying  
@scotthoying



Following

tmz just stopped us and made some semi-transphobic joke about bruce jenner and @mitchgrassi goes "um no comment happy transvisibility day!"



Twitter and other social media platforms have been key in spreading the word and the message of the International Day of Transgender Visibility and simply the issue of trans visibility itself to the public. However, in order for trans visibility to succeed the application needs to move beyond social media and into real-world situations. Society as a whole has yet to catch up and adjust to the idea of asking about an individual's pronouns or understanding the need to not conform to any gender binary.

SCREENSHOT | TWITTER

COLUMN

Summer 2015: saving memories saving space

By AMANDA GIBSON  
COLUMNIST

Warmer weather means we are all going to be getting out a lot more. Fishing, hiking, picnics, trips to the park and vacations are all in our near future and, of course, we will want to remember each moment of Summer 2015 by snapping a picture. Smartphones in tow, we will take pictures of everything and anything, leaving us with hundreds of photos ranging from our friends jumping in the lake to a blooming flower we saw on the front lawn. By the time fall rolls around again, our phones will need a major cleanout of all the photos we took.

But what do you do with all those photographs? You can't keep them on your phone, they take up too much space. And if you put them on your computer you will never look at them again. A Facebook photo album is always a great option, and many of your best photos will end up on Instagram, but you will still just post them once and never look at them again.

Remember those old photo albums your grandparents

brought out when they wanted to show you a picture of your great aunt? My grandma had a ton of these, and on each picture there was a caption marking when the photo was taken, where, and who was in it. There may even be a note about what the event was and what was happening at the time. Each picture told a story, not just in the photograph, but in the way it was laid out in her album and in the cursive scrawl on the back. There is something novelty about having a photo album, and not just the kind that is stuck in a folder on your computer.

I think photo albums are still just as great today as they were when the only way to see a picture you took was to get it developed. Photo albums are something you can show your kids when you get older, it is a way you can display your life, and it is something readily accessible and easy to look at.

Making an album today is so much easier than it used to be. You can drop your pictures from your phone right into your computer, then you can either print them at home on photo paper or put them on a USB to

take to the store for printing. Some stores, like Rite-Aid and Walmart, have photo printing stations where you can plug in a USB or memory card and print your pictures immediately. This instantaneous way to print your pictures makes it so much easier to get started on making your own photo album. You can pick up a photo album from the arts and crafts section of the store while you are there printing your photos as well.

Once you start accumulating vacation pictures this summer, a photo album may be a creative option to consider. Making one would also be a great summer hobby. A photo album would help you keep all those pictures you care about out in the open for you to see, and adding captions to the back of the photos will also help you remember all the moments you do not want to forget. Displaying your photos in an album is a project you can be proud of once you have completed it, and it is something that will continue as you take more unforgettable pictures.

Amanda Gibson can be contacted at gibson269@marshall.edu.

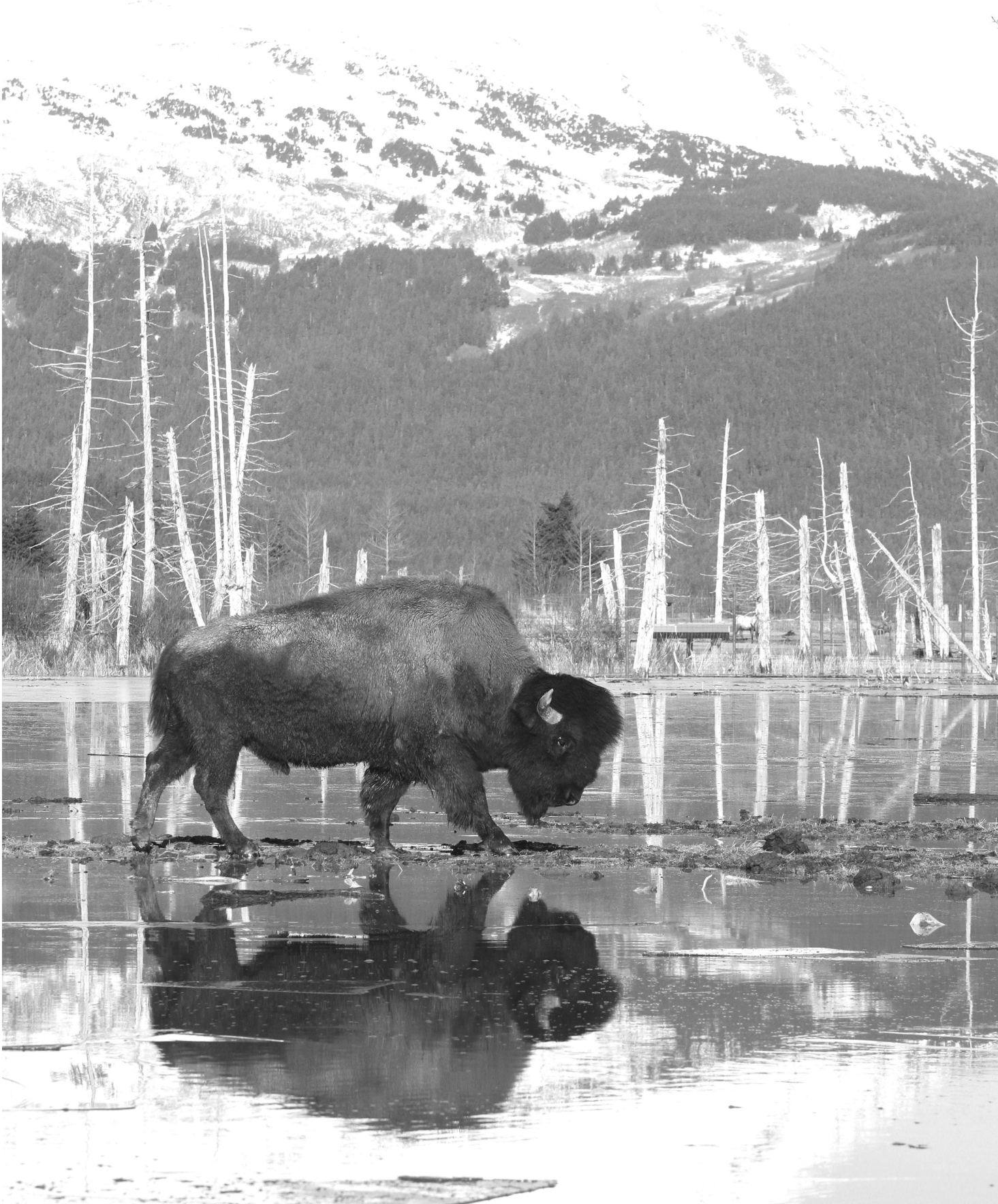


This summer memory photo shows flip flops buried on a sandy beach in North Carolina.

AMANDA GIBSON | THE PARTHENON



# Wood bison reintroduced to native grounds



LEFT AND BELOW: A bull wood bison weighing upward of 2,000 pounds browses in a field at the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center March 22 in Portage, Alaska. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game moved the first wood bison to a staging area in Shageluk, Alaska, for reintroduction in a few weeks to their native Alaska grazing grounds. They will be released into the Innoko Flats about 350 miles southwest of Fairbanks. Wood bison, which are larger than plains bison native found in Lower 48 states, disappeared from U.S. soil more than a century ago.

PHOTOS BY DAN JOLING | AP PHOTO



FAR LEFT: In this Feb. 3, 2010 file photo, large wood bison bulls await darting and testing at the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center in Portage, Alaska. LEFT: In this Feb. 3, 2010 file photo, a wood bison bull recovers from testing as Mike Miller, right, and others protect the animal from other bulls at Miller's Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center in Portage, Alaska. Alaska wildlife officials are preparing to release North America's largest land mammal into its native U.S. habitat for the first time in more than a century. A hundred wood bison will be released after they are acclimated in a few weeks.

AP PHOTO | THE ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS | ERIK HILL | FILE

## STATE BRIEFS

### About 100 Special Metals workers laid off in Huntington

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The parent company of the Special Metals alloy plant in Huntington is laying off about 100 workers.

Portland, Oregon-based Precision Castparts Corp. didn't specify in a statement whether the layoffs would be temporary or permanent.

The company says it will evaluate its staffing in the future as business conditions warrant.

The 130-acre plant manufactures high-performance nickel alloys for the aerospace, gas well and other industries and employs more than 500 hourly workers.

### Feds: 2 ex-Freedom execs agree to testify on behalf of US

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Federal prosecutors say two ex-Freedom Industries officials have agreed to testify for the government in two remaining chemical spill cases.

In Charleston federal court filings Tuesday, prosecutors wrote that plea agreements with William Tis and Charles Herzing say they're willing to provide testimony in the cases against fellow ex-Freedom officials Gary Southern and Dennis Farrell.

Tis, Herzing, two other ex-Freedom officials and the company itself have pleaded guilty to pollution charges.

The January 2014 spill spurred a ban on tap water for 300,000 residents for days.

Southern and Farrell pleaded not guilty. Southern also faces fraud charges related to Freedom's bankruptcy case.

Prosecutors say Tis and Herzing should have their June sentencing rescheduled until after the October trial of Southern and Farrell.

### W.Va. Medicaid switching from monthly to annual cards

ASSOCIATED PRESS

West Virginia Medicaid recipients are being switched from a monthly card to an annual card.

The change takes effect Wednesday. The state's Bureau for Medical Services says it will save the state about \$2.5 million a year.

For the first year, the Medicaid card will be printed on paper. State officials will consider alternative forms for future years.

New cards will be issued every January.

### FEMA approves federal disaster declaration in W.Va.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin says the Federal Emergency Management Agency has approved his request for a disaster declaration in West Virginia after a severe storm in early March.

Tomblin says the declaration will provide assistance for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged in the storm, which rolled through the state on March 4 and 5.

The declaration makes public assistance available to 29 counties for infrastructure and cleanup efforts.

The storm brought heavy snow and rain, knocked out power to more than 80,000 customers and caused flooding, landslides and mudslides.

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## MORRISETTE'S ADVENTURE IN GAME DEVELOPMENT



Morrisette began to get serious about vidieo game design with Pledge Quest 2: Noodle Shop of Horrors

SCREENSHOT

By **PATRICK BREEDEN**  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University Professor Jason Morrisette spends his time on campus transitioning from the chalkboard to the keyboard to write and develop independent video games in his spare time.

Morrisette began developing video games when he made a small game to create awareness for a Kickstarter crowd funding campaign. The creators of the PC game “Space Quest” created a campaign in 2012 for “Two Guys SpaceVenture,” and Morrisette wanted to create a way to convince others to fund the project.

“The creators of Space Quest – this game that I’d loved for so long and maintained this website about – were kick starting a new game that they were going to collaborate on,” Morrisette said. “So I thought, ‘What better way to raise awareness for this Kickstarter than to create my own short game that would be about a character who is donating money to this Kickstarter?’”

Morrisette said he and a partner worked on the game around the clock for three days and finished it. The game was released as the point-and-click adventure “Pledge Quest” and became a hit among supporters of the “Two Guys SpaceVenture” funding campaign.

“Pledge Quest 2: Noodle Shop of Horrors” has a more elaborate story than simply donating money to a campaign. It involves an

evil, time travelling cat and the player’s quest to stop the cat from altering history. The sequel was a more demanding project and took several months to complete. It released near the end of 2012.

Morrisette said working on “Pledge Quest 2” hooked him on game design. He is currently collaborating with other developers to create three different games. One project will be entered in an upcoming Game Jam contest where development teams are given two weeks to create a functioning game. Judges will then award teams for best graphics, best writing and other categories.

The project for the Game Jam contest is titled “Late Last Night.”

The story involves a woman who goes out on the town, drinks too much alcohol, loses important personal items like her keys or cell phone and must retrieve them.

Developers will have two weeks near the end of April to finish the games. Morrisette said he enjoys the challenge of a limited timeframe.

“The challenge of [developing a game] in two weeks was really appealing to me,” Morrisette said. “The first game I ever did with my collaborator took three days, and I loved that. I enjoy the idea that it’s not released because it’s finished, it’s released because time’s up. It’s a great pressure to try to work creatively under.”

Morrisette said he is not afraid of poking fun at his Appalachian

background, and he is creating a zombie game involving hillbillies called “Holler.”

He said the game involves a rural community transformed into zombies when toxic chemicals are dumped into a water supply.

His third work in progress, currently titled “Bad Cop,” will pay homage to the ‘80s “Police Quest” adventure games but involves a corrupt police officer. The anti-hero story will allow the player to steal money and perform other actions unbecoming of an officer of the law.

Morrisette said he knew he wanted to create point-and-click adventure video games around the age of 10.

“I love the genre in particular,” Morrisette said. “I loved graphic adventure games where the whole idea is to have a narrative that unfolds, but in order to advance that narrative, puzzles must be solved along the way. I began playing these games when I was 9 or 10, and I was fascinated by them. I enjoyed deconstructing the logic of these puzzles.”

Morrisette said he doesn’t believe he could leave teaching to develop games professionally. He said using games as an educational tool is something he plans to do in the future.

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## CODINUNDRUM

A column about random pop-culture stuff, mostly Beyoncé

## DISRESPECT US? NO THEY WON'T

By **CODI MOHR**  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Meghan Trainor is an overnight superstar.

In her breakout song “All About That Bass,” Trainor gives a doo-wop inspired tribute to vintage sounds and big butts. The bubblegum pop track went on to top 58 international charts, sell more than 6 million copies and Grammy nominations for both Record and Song of the Year.

Such wide success only makes the damaging effects of such a song more tragic for the female artists who have worked so hard to break the shaming mindset—Beyoncé, Kelly Clarkson, Rihanna, Nicki Minaj, etc.

The issue with the song is by no means the so-proclaimed body positive message it puts into the world. There’s nothing wrong with being “all about that bass.”

The problem with Trainor’s lyrics on such a catchy and widely successful track is that it’s not actually body positive. It is, in reality, the exact opposite.

With claims like “‘If you got beauty, beauty, just raise ‘em up/‘Cause every inch of you is perfect from the bottom to the top,” the song initially seems as though it has a valuable message about the importance of confidence and destroying perceptions of beauty. But the early lyric “It’s pretty clear I ain’t no size two... All the right junk in all the right places” hints at the downturn Trainor’s song takes in its bridge.

The entirety of the bridge completely destroys any hint of a positive message the song may have had.

“My mama she told me ‘don’t worry about your size’/She says ‘boys like a little more booty to hold at night’/You know I won’t be no stick figure silicone Barbie doll.”

If this is her perception of ideal body image, how can it be deemed positive in any way? It simply exists to skinny shame where music typically can be accused of fat shaming.

Not only is she promoting an image based on criticizing other

women, but she also promotes the idea that it’s ok to be a certain size because guys will like it more or less.

Trainor’s newest single “Dear Future Husband” doesn’t get much better. Instead of body shaming, however, Trainor details the ideal qualities of her future husband in this blatantly anti-feminist song.

“‘Cause if you’ll treat me right/I’ll be the perfect wife/Buying groceries/Buy-buying what you need”

What...?

She tries to make such a statement acceptable in a later line, singing: “You got that nine to five/But baby so do I/So don’t be thinking I’ll be home and baking apple pies.”

But the attempt to make the song not as ridiculously demeaning to women fails miserably. It comes off as more of a sarcastic commentary on feminist ideas than a real statement about her independent abilities as a woman. She croons another verse in the song with the lines “Open doors for me and you might get some kisses/Don’t have a dirty mind/Just be a classy guy/Buy me a ring.”

A counter-progressive play on Beyoncé’s “Single Ladies (Put A Ring On It),” Trainor’s lyrics eliminate any doubt that this song is harmful by making it about the guy, not the woman making the statements. Beyoncé, as a counter example, argues for the woman stating “If you like it than you shoulda put a ring on it/Don’t be mad once you see that he want it/‘Cause if you like it than you shoulda put a ring on it.”

I’m not just bashing Trainor for her artistry or her choices as a performer. “Lips Are Movin,” for example, is actually a pretty good song without degrading lyrics. If more of her music was along the same lines, she would not be a problem.

But the lyrics behind her nostalgic beats and unique voice are unacceptable, and as a star of her caliber, she should be a better example for the young people inevitably singing along to her tracks.

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