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THE PARTHENON

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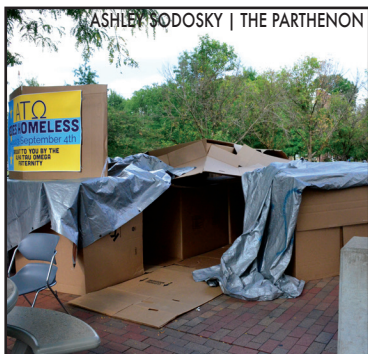
INSIDE:

NEWS, 2

>ATO GOES HOMELESS

>ROTC

>WING FLING



SPORTS, 3

>MEN'S SOCCER

>COLUMN: DEFENSE



OPINION, 4

>HASHTAG NOT OKAY

>YES MEANS YES



LIFE!, 5

>VIDEO GAME

CONFERENCE



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Little Victories begins month-long Cram the Van event

By **ABI BLACK**
THE PARTHENON

Little Victories set up outside the Kroger's on Route 60 in Barboursville, Saturday for its event Cram the Van. Cram the Van provides people with the opportunity to donate pet food and/or money for pet food to Little Victories animal shelter.

The event has been going on for three years, twice a month and has received positive feedback according

to site supervisor, Joshua Morrison.

"We haven't had to buy dog food at all this year," Morrison said. "That saves us a lot of money to spend on medical care."

The shelter is located in Ona, West Virginia and currently houses 105 animals, the maximum capacity according to Morrison. The animals don't stay too long though. The shelter can sometimes have up to three



Christina (left) and Nora (right) Paul at Little Victories Cram the Van event Saturday in Barboursville. PHOTOS BY RYAN FISCHER

adoptions per week, Morrison said.

Morrison volunteered at Little Victories before becoming site supervisor.

"I just always liked the animals, I always liked Little Victories and what they did," Morrison said. "I've been going out to Little Victories since after high school and other shelters since I was in school, so any help these animals can get really gives me hope."

The shelter gives pets a

chance at life, a chance to find a new home, a forever home. Morrison also said people don't realize how much it helps elderly people specifically.

"They just can't take care of them," said Morrison. "If we can, we take them and they don't have to sit and worry about it."

The shelter currently has around 30 volunteers; many are students and others who simply love animals. Deborah

Bennet has been volunteering for two years and loves giving her time to the animals.

"I love animals," Bennet said. "I can't have a dog right now so this is my way to help out."

Little Victories will continue its Cram the Van campaign throughout September in Huntington and again in Barboursville.

Abi Black can be contacted at black195@marshall.edu.



Katelynn and Nikki Sullivan speak with Little Victories site supervisor, Josh Morrison at the organization's event, Cram the Van, in Barboursville Saturday.

"I love animals. I can't have a dog right now so this is my way to help out."
-Deborah Bennet

Kicking off football season with Green Fridays

Starting Friday, Herd fans will wear school colors for National College Colors Day

By **ASHLEY SODOSKY**
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University and Herd fans will wear school colors on Fridays starting Sept. 4 for "Green Fridays" in participation with the 10th annual National College Colors Day.

Marshall students and Herd fans are encouraged to wear kelly green every Friday throughout football season. The first Green Friday will start two days before the Thundering Herd's season kickoff game against Purdue.

Thundering Herd fans across the nation are encouraged to wear Marshall colors to support the university. Tara Lambert, Marshall graduate, is excited to support Marshall from her new home in Raleigh, North Carolina.

"Wearing the Marshall logo makes me feel at home, although I'm away from home here in Raleigh," said Lambert. "When you come across another Marshall fan here it's exciting and special, in that you both share in the passion of loving such a small place that made such a huge impact on our lives."

College Colors Day is organized by the Collegiate Licensing Company and coincides with the kickoff of intercollegiate athletics. Marshall's participation this Friday is a tradition that encourages members of the Marshall community to support the Thundering Herd.

In addition to Green Fridays, the university will hold a contest for local businesses, schools and other organizations to participate in for the opportunity to win

prizes every Friday. Organizations must be registered in order to win. Registration is available on Marshall's website.

Students and individual fans also have the opportunity to win prizes by entering the Fan of the Week contest. Herd fans are eligible by posting a photo of themselves in their Marshall gear on Instagram using the hashtag #HerdGreenFriday or by submitting it to the contest page on Marshall's Facebook.

Fan of the Week will be chosen every Friday and the winner will receive a \$25 gift card to the Marshall University bookstore.

Green Fridays and Fan of the Week are intended to support school spirit around the community. Mallory Jarrell, Marshall University marketing and branding coordinator, said the ongoing event will

help to get people excited all season. "It's another way

See GREEN | Page 5



Wing Fling Wednesday
45¢ Wings All Day
(Sold in orders of 8 traditional wings only)



FILE PHOTO

HALF PRICE APPETIZERS
Daily 4pm-7pm 10pm-1am



HUNTINGTON BARBOURSVILLE TEAYS VALLEY ASHLAND

Alpha Tau Omega fraternity raises awareness for the homeless

By RILEY MAHONEY
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University Fraternity, Alpha Tau Omega (ATO), is holding its annual “ATO Goes Homeless” event this week.

The members of ATO hold this event annually to raise money for the Huntington City Mission. Members sleep in a shelter made of cardboard boxes donated by local businesses every night for a week.

The makeshift shelter is located outside of the Memorial Student Center near the fountain on campus.

“We take it really seriously,” Blake Hettlinger, President of ATO, said. “Every member is required to spend at least one night in the shelter.”

When the members are not in class, they are required to spend some time at the box shelter to keep the simulation as “real” as possible.

According to the Center for Capacity Building, a national alliance for the homeless, in 2011 there were 227 homeless people in Huntington.

The Huntington City Mission provides a safe place to go and a warm meal for the homeless in Huntington. The church’s main goal is to “offer help and hope to everyone who comes to [their] door.”

Marshall University’s ATO Chapter was the first chapter in the country to simulate homelessness to raise money and awareness.

“Most of them thought it was a crazy thought, but they went ahead and did it anyways,” Hettlinger said. “They had crazy success with it. Now, every ATO chapter in the country does it.”

Since the fraternity started doing this event, the members of ATO said that awareness and donations among students has risen.

“We only raised a couple hundred dollars last year, so we are hoping to reach \$1,000 this year,” Hettlinger said.

The City Mission accepts financial contributions, volunteer work and accepts donated goods. The Huntington City Mission is located at 624 Tenth Street.

Riley Mahoney can be reached at mahoney10@marshall.edu.



ABOVE: ATO’s home for the week made out of boxes and tarps.
ASHLEY SODOSKY | THE PARTHENON

Pictured left to right: Scott Tezza, Lotsy Yang, Hunter Ballamy, Matt Riggio, John Barnette and Peter Coffman.

ASHLEY SODOSKY | THE PARTHENON

Army ROTC cadets get the chance to travel and help

By DESMOND GROVES
THE PARTHENON

The Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency Program (CULP) is a program that gives Army ROTC cadets the opportunity to travel the globe and immerse themselves in foreign cultures.

Three cadets were selected from Marshall University this year to participate in the program and had the opportunity to travel to West Africa and The Republics of Slovenia and Slovakia.

Junior Sociology major, Chris Gonzalez, was one of the cadets selected to go during the Summer of 2015. He traveled to Burkina Faso, West Africa and spent 30 days in the country.

“I went there to help train the foreign military and immerse myself in the culture,” Gonzalez said. “The experience was pretty rewarding.”

Gonzalez said he was excited to practice his knowledge of the French language and enjoyed every aspect of the experience.

“My favorite part was probably traveling. Whether it was the Village of Timbale or even on safari,” Gonzalez said. “We didn’t just stay there (Burkina Faso). We got to go to Ghana, which is a very jungle type place, we got to see all sorts of city infrastructure

and we got to go shopping. It was all really cool.”

Gonzalez was with eight other people from various universities across the country and most of the people were around his age.

“I was excited,” Gonzalez said. “I had a big work load while I was there but I couldn’t wait to get there and get immersed in the culture and see what I could do to really help the people there and how they could help me become a better person.”

Gonzalez enjoyed the experience so much that he recommends it to other ROTC cadets.

“If anybody ever gets the chance to travel, I really recommend it.. Just that one month I was gone, a lot of things changed there and a lot of things changed when I came back,” Gonzalez said.

Senior nursing major, Colton Whitehouse, ventured into the program during the summer of 2014 and went to Burundi, Africa on a medical mission.

“When I first got there, we went to the Burundian Military Compound to help teach English and then my group split in half,” Whitehouse said. “All the medical like nursing, pre-med and any one like that went to the hospitals that were there and tried to help them out.”

Whitehouse’s favorite part was working in the orphanage that was being ran by two people from the United States.

“We moved a bunch of dirt for them. They were building a new section of their orphanage to run a maternity clinic because they are in the woods and there is nowhere to really do that,” Whitehouse said.

The program helps teach cultural sensitivity and designates leadership roles.

“It fits within the military bearings but it’s different from your typical training,” Whitehouse said. “All the counties they send us to, our Army works with their Army so it’s just not random places.”

Whitehouse found the experience to be extremely humbling.

“Kids there were ecstatic just to get a plastic bottle to play with or carry water in,” Whitehouse said. “That alone would put a smile on their face. People who could be healed in the United States over there are dying or living horrible lives just because they didn’t have the ability to fix them.”

Desmond Groves can be contacted at groves53@marshall.edu.

Huntington Wing Fling tickets coming soon

By MACKENZIE KYLE
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University students will have the opportunity to purchase tickets for Huntington’s inaugural chicken wing festival from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. this Wednesday, Sept. 2.

Big Sandy Superstore Arena, in partnership with Kindred Communications, will host Wing Fling on Saturday, Oct. 17.

Tickets for the event will be sold to the public for \$20 per person. Students may purchase their tickets on campus for a discounted rate of \$15 with a Marshall ID. Tickets include entrance to the event and all-you-can-eat chicken wings from a variety of vendors. Beer and soft drinks will be available for purchase at the event.

Along with all-you-can-eat wings, adventurous chicken wing-eaters can enter the chicken wing eating contest.

“Students will absolutely be eligible for the contest,” said Cara Hedrick, Marketing and Sales Manager for the Big Sandy Superstore Arena.

Those who want to enter the wing eating contest may sign up upon arriving at the event, then six applicants will be selected to participate.

Wing Fling guests will be able to sample many different types of chicken wings and different wing sauces, flavors,

dry rubs and more.

Vendors will enter their best recipes into a contest to be voted on by a panel of judges. Visitors will also be able to vote for their favorite flavors at the event.

Local restaurants will take part in the festival including Gino’s Pizza, Mancini’s Pizza, Black Sheep Burritos and Brews along with many others. Nationally known restaurants like Roosters and Marco’s Pizza will also have booths at the event to allow visitors to sample their wings. More vendors will be announced closer to the date of the event.

Local restaurants not typically known for chicken wings, like Prime on Fourth and Christopher’s Eats, will also attend the event to bring a wider variety.

“Students [will] be able to check out places they might now have heard of before,” said Henrick.

Wing Fling will be held inside the Big Sandy Superstore Arena, located at One Civic Center Plaza, in Huntington.

Tickets can be purchased at the Campus Activities Board tent on the Memorial Student Center Plaza Wednesday from 10 until 2. Non-student tickets can be purchased for \$20 at the Big Sandy Superstore Arena box office.

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SPORTS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2015 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Roster Rundown: Defense

PARTHENON FILE PHOTO

Marshall defenders bring down a Florida Atlantic University player last season



By **BRADLEY HELTZEL**
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Due to the alluring state of the Herd offense, the defense was often portrayed as the ancillary unit in terms of the responsibility for the program's 2014 success. However, the Herd defense finished 15th in the country last season in defensive efficiency, a mark goaded by a pass rush that ranked 13th nationally in adjusted sack rate, via Football Outsiders.

Elements of the pass rushing success can be attributed across all of the defense's positional groupings, but the defensive line holds the distinction of the primary proprietor. However, the unit is in a state of flux heading into 2015, with former starters James Rouse, Arnold Blackmon and Ra'Shawde Myers all lost to graduation.

Hulking redshirt senior nose tackle Jarquez Samuel will be the lone returning starter, and he will be doing so accompanied by expectation after being named First-Team All-Conference in the preseason. Aligned alongside at the three-technique tackle will be Steve Dillon who entered into the Marshall program with Samuel in 2011.

Meanwhile, a free-for-all has taken shape during fall camp for the right to start at defensive end in the team's opening game

against Purdue on Sept. 6. With Gary Thompson, Joe Massaquoi, Armonze Daniel, Blake Keller and even some freshmen vying for playing time, Defensive Ends coach Sean Cronin may feel as if he's been tasked with selecting a GOP candidate. With options at a premium, a deep rotation is the current projection with defensive snaps being divided.

Similar to the line, the linebacking core will also return only one starter in strong side linebacker, D.J. Hunter, who was one of five Herd players selected to the All-Conference preseason team. Joining Hunter will be Maryland transfer Shawn Petty, who if all goes according to plan, will leave his quarterback-playing days behind at College Park.

Hunter finished fourth on the team in tackles last season with 80, including 10 for loss and 5.5 sacks, leading to his placement on the Conference USA Honorable Mention team. Petty, who was forced to play quarterback at Maryland in 2012 due to injuries, will take over the middle linebacker position having last played in 2013, accumulating 24 tackles and two sacks.

In contrast to the front seven, the secondary returns much of its core from last season with cornerback Darryl "Swagg" Roberts being the only starter who will not return this season after being

selected by the New England Patriots in the seventh round of the NFL draft.

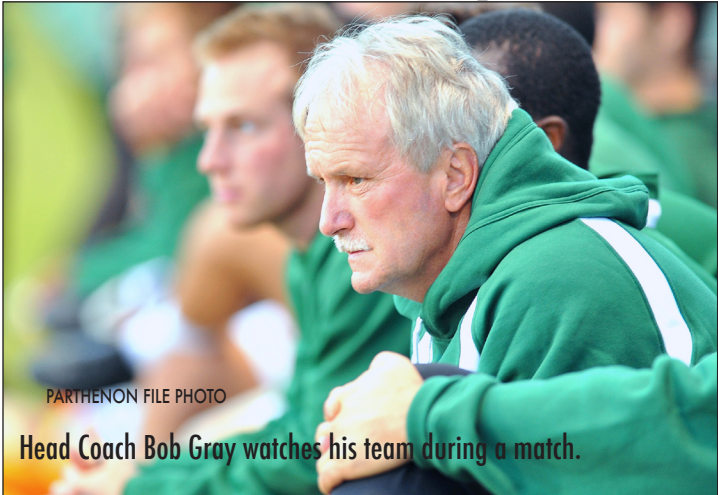
Entering 2015, redshirt senior Keith Baxter is projected to hold down one corner spot after starting four games last season, while the other will belong to Corey Tindal who started all 14 games last season and was credited with 12 pass break-ups. Atlanta, Georgia native Antavis Rowe is projected as the team's third corner, but he may swap nickel back duties with Tindal at times and play more on the outside. Redshirt sophomore Rodney Allen will serve as the fourth corner.

At safety, Taj Letman and A.J. Leggett return after tying for the team lead in interceptions last season with four apiece.

Letman, a svelte 185 pounds, ranked third on the team in tackles in 2014 with 90 and also brings valuable experience having started 27 games the past two seasons. Leggett is more of a coverage safety, and displays the ball skills that had him pegged as a corner coming out of high school. With Kendall Gant and Tiquan Lang as the backups, the safety position may be the sturdiest on the team.

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Men's soccer splits weekend matches, remains optimistic for new season



By **BRADLEY HELTZEL**
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The 2015 Marshall University men's soccer season commenced last weekend when the Herd toured the state of Michigan, taking on Western Michigan University and the University of Detroit Mercy.

The Herd split the meetings as they fell 2-0 to Western Michigan on Friday, but the team rebounded with a 1-0 overtime victory against Detroit on Sunday when freshman Chris Taibi secured his first career goal as a member of the program.

Taibi said as a freshman he felt he needed to prove his worth to his teammates, but after his game-winning goal, his comfort level is at an all-time high.

"It gives me a lot of confidence," Taibi said. "Going into the season, as a freshman, you're kind of nervous. It's like a new team. But after I scored the goal, I'm officially on the team."

Despite Taibi's satisfaction with a road split, Head Coach Bob Gray said the team has plenty of areas in need of rectification heading into its next match.

"Normally, you go on the road and get a split and you're pretty happy," Gray said. "But I was not real pleased with our overall play." Gray said he expects his team to grow from its first weekend of competition.

**"I believe this team is going to have a very successful year."
– Head Coach Bob Gray**

"We're going to build from that," Gray said. "That's one of the reasons we are out here training. I think [the players] all realize we've got a lot of work to do to get better. I believe this team is going to have a very successful year."

The Herd finished sixth in Conference USA last season with a 3-4-1 record. However, the team's conference statistics suggest a more melancholy tone. Marshall finished second to last in the conference in goals and points per game.

Gray said despite his team's lack of offensive production in 2014, and although the issue reared its head again this weekend, Gray is optimistic about his team improving.

"I think there is great potential to score goals," Gray said. "We've got to get a lot more movement off the ball. We were very stagnant. We've got to be able to play through the midfield a lot better than what we did, and we've got to be able to get numbers forward."

Gray cited junior midfielder Daniel Jodah as a player who has displayed creativity on the offensive side but who can also step up to achieve an even higher level of play. Jodah led the team in points, goals and shots last season.

The Herd's next match is scheduled for 7 p.m. Friday against Duquesne University. The game will be played in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania at the Duquesne Rooney Athletic Field.

Bradley Heltzel can be contacted at heltzel1@marshall.edu.

PARTHENON FILE PHOTO

Marshall's Matt Freeman dribbles pass a defender.



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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

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Please send news releases to the editors at parthenon@marshall.edu. Please keep in mind, letters are printed based on timeliness, newsworthiness and space.

STATE EDITORIAL

Times West Virginian, Fairmont, on possible tax cuts

It is shaping up to be a busy winter for West Virginia legislators, but there is perhaps one thing they can mark off their todo list.

That item would be changing the state's tax structure to entice new businesses to the Mountain State.

In testimony before the Joint Committee on Tax Reform last Monday, Secretary of Commerce Keith Burdette told lawmakers that it isn't the state's tax structure that is keeping businesses away.

In fact, previous efforts to cut business taxes have shown no clearcut evidence of creating jobs, according to the Center on Budget and Policy at West Virginia University.

Burdette says the No. 1 issue in drawing new businesses to the state is the lack of flat land. Numbers 2 and 3 are legal and regulatory issues, respectively, Burdette reported.

Well, there is little we can do about the former, but lawmakers better get busy with finding fixes for the latter.

Also dragging the state down in drawing businesses is the lack of an educated workforce, a point we have

mentioned frequently.

For so long, West Virginia's economy was fixated on the mining industry, which provided good-paying jobs with good benefits. Education beyond high school was not a priority for becoming a coal miner.

But as hard as it may be to accept, that is no longer the case. And as we work to diversify the economy, the need for affordable educational opportunities will take center stage.

Some strides have already been made with programs engineered by Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin. But more are needed.

The word about schools with certificate programs, vocational education and twoyear associate degrees must get out to the masses, along with ways to help them take these classes and learn new skills in a fast, affordable manner.

Lawmakers must also tackle the problem of low workforce participation, perhaps through the same initiatives that will get people in school and learning.

But they also have to look at

See TAX CUTS| Page 5

EDITORIAL

CHECK YOURSELF BEFORE YOU WRECK YOURSELF

Students should think about privilege before reappropriating hashtags



Matt Jarvis @MattJarvis2 · Aug 29
A house party was just shut down for having people in the street and noise complaints. Why isn't this on the news? #GreekLivesMatter

← ↻ 3 ★ 9 ...

SCREENSHOT | TWITTER

Twitter has been providing users with messages no more than 140 characters since March 2006. With roughly 316 million monthly active users and 500 million tweets sent per day, Twitter's impact on both social media and everyday life does not seem to be heading downhill anytime soon. The injection of the hashtag into the vein of American pop culture is to this day, one of the crowning achievements of Twitter's success.

In more recent years, social activists have taken to using the hashtag to their advantage. Just one tweet with a powerful

enough message can be seen by any of those 316 million monthly users at any time. In particular, after the death of 18 year old, Michael Brown of Missouri, #BlackLivesMatter became viral overnight. Many users tweet #BlackLivesMatter in conjunction with stories of oppression, racism and police brutality. People find solidarity with strangers they may never meet over seventeen characters. With tweets coming in every few seconds sporting the hashtag, it's a good example of how this feature helps get causes out.

With every important

hashtag, more and more parodies and offshoots of the originals seem to come out of the woodwork. Some Marshall University students in particular have taken to using #GreekLivesMatter in response to Huntington Police Department's recent clearing of frat row parties on Fifth Avenue. HPD said that students cooperated and no one was hurt in the clearing.

After the murder of Brown, people in Ferguson were subjected to riot gear, tear gas and rubber bullets. At least 13 people were injured and one person was even killed during

the riots.

To even use #GreekLivesMatter is essentially to compare the events of this past week to those of Ferguson and that is simply wrong. Students need to check privilege and be enthusiastic about the fact that authorities did not harass them, like many African Americans who use #BlackLivesMatter have to deal with everyday. That's not to say a hashtag can't be used to express whatever distaste students have for the incident but consider the lives of the 170 African American citizens that were taken in this past year.

COLUMN



GEOFF FORESTER | THE CONCORD MONITOR VIA AP

Owen Labrie leaves Merrimack Superior Court with his attorney Jay Carney in Concord, N.H., Aug. 28 in Concord, N.H. Labrie was cleared of felony rape but convicted of misdemeanor sex offenses Friday against a 15-year-old girl in a case that exposed a campus tradition in which the oldest students of St. Paul's School competed to see how many younger students they could have sex with. Each count carries up to a year behind bars. Labrie could get as much as 11 years in prison at sentencing Oct. 29. He will also have to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life.

A NEW VIEW: How can students feel safe anywhere if they can't at school?

By NANCY PEYTON
THE PARTHENON

A New Hampshire jury recently made a ruling in the trial of Owen Labrie, a 19-year-old St. Paul's prep school graduate accused of raping a girl when she was 15.

The fact that this case even made it to a trial shows the progress that this country has made toward battling rape and rape culture in our society. However, this case also showed that there's still plenty that needs to be done.

When it comes to rape being reported, people have to decide whether they believe the victim or the accused. More often than not, many flock to the

side of the accused. Rape is no joke.

If a woman says that she's been raped, she should be taken seriously. The problem lies in the fact that today's society likes to make a joke out of everything.

In this court case, Labrie was quoted using the words "slay," "pork" and "score" when telling his friends about his encounter with the victim. Labrie told the jury that these terms were "used loosely" and "could mean a range of activities, from kissing to sex." No, these words are meant to demean both women and men. They make sex sound like something casual. Sex is one of the biggest

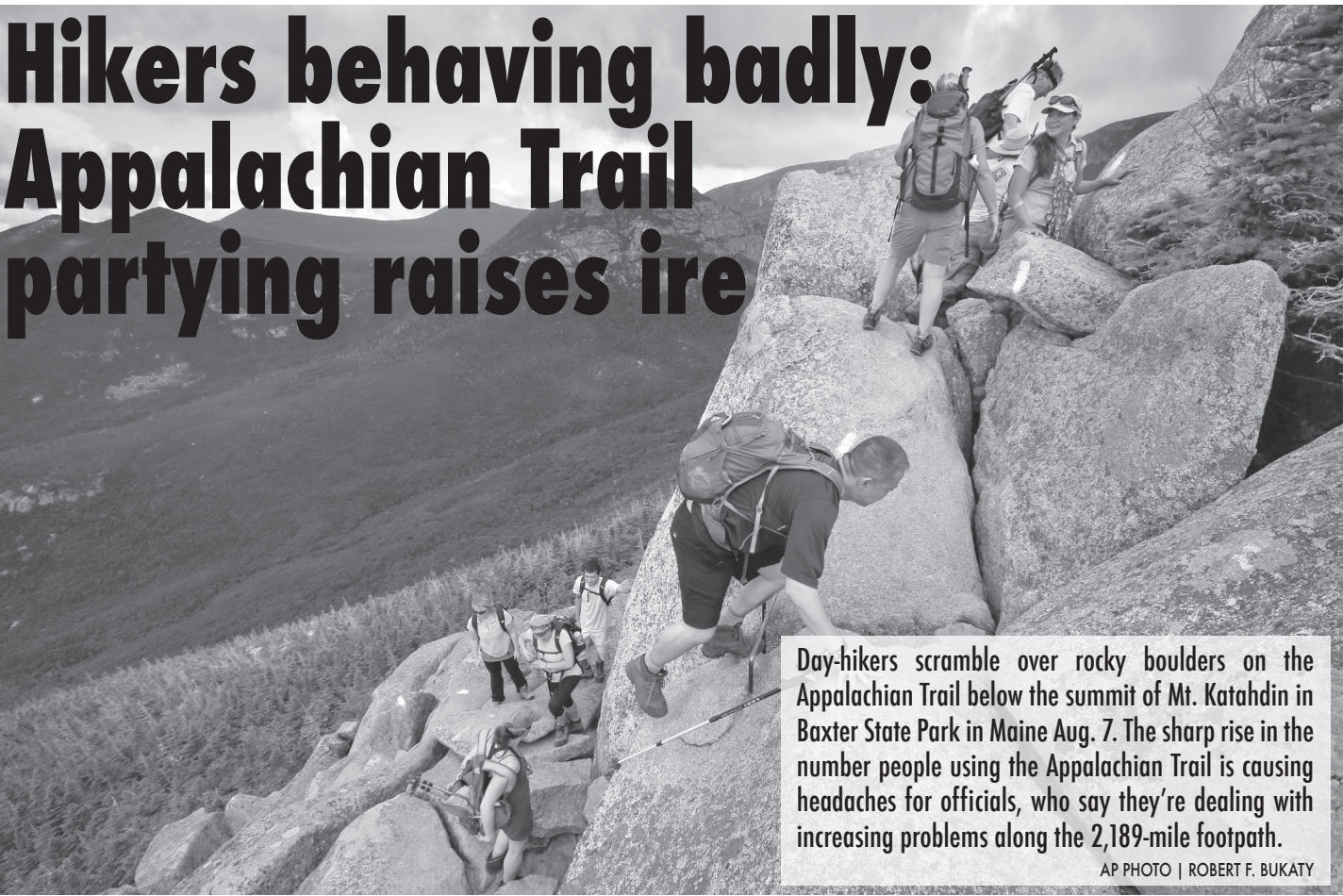
responsibilities a person could ever take on. As such, it should be treated with respect. Consent is always needed.

This case has also sparked a debate on what real consent is. The rule of thumb is usually "no means no." Perhaps a better phrase to remember would be "yes means yes." It should be clear that both parties consent before engaging in any sexual activity. The victim said that she did agree to meet with Labrie but that she said "no" multiple times before he had sex with her. Some may argue that her agreeing to meet him was her way of giving consent because she "knew what would happen" but anyone

should be able to say no if they are not comfortable with the situation that they're in, and that no should be respected.

The fact that St. Paul's prep school has a tradition like the "Senior Salute" where senior boys take the virginities of young girls before graduation, makes you question how many other schools turn a blind eye to traditions like these. One thing is clear: something needs to be done. If students can't even feel safe and comfortable at a "prestigious" and "elite" school, how can they ever feel safe anywhere?

Nancy Peyton can be contacted at peyton22@marshall.edu.



Day-hikers scramble over rocky boulders on the Appalachian Trail below the summit of Mt. Katahdin in Baxter State Park in Maine Aug. 7. The sharp rise in the number people using the Appalachian Trail is causing headaches for officials, who say they're dealing with increasing problems along the 2,189-mile footpath.

AP PHOTO | ROBERT F. BUKATY

ASSOCIATED PRESS

When Jackson Spencer set out to tackle the Appalachian Trail, he anticipated the solitude that only wilderness can bring — not a rolling, monthslong frat party.

Shelters where he thought he could catch a good night's sleep while listening to the sounds of nature were instead filled with trash, graffiti and people who seemed more interested in partying all night, said Spencer, who finished the entire trail last month in just 99 days.

"I wanted the solitude. I wanted to experience nature," he said. "I like to drink and to have a good time, but I didn't want that to follow me there."

Spencer, or "Mission" as he is known to fellow thru-hikers, confronted what officials say is an ugly side effect of the increasing traffic on the Georgia-to-Maine footpath every year: More people than ever causing problems.

At Maine's Baxter State Park, home to the trail's final summit on Mount Katahdin, officials say thru-hikers are flouting park rules by openly using drugs and drinking alcohol, camping where they aren't supposed to, and trying to pass their pets off as service dogs. Hundreds of miles away, misbehaving hikers contributed to a small Pennsylvania community's recent decision to shutter the sleeping quarters it had offered for decades in the basement of its municipal building.

With last year's release of the movie "Wild," about a woman's journey on the Pacific Crest Trail, and what experts call a growing interest in outdoor activities, the number of people on the Appalachian Trail has exploded. And the numbers are only expected to climb further after "A Walk in the Woods" — a movie based on the 1998 Bill Bryson book about the

Appalachian Trail— hits theaters this week.

More than 830 people completed the 2,189-mile hike last year, up from just 182 in 1990, according to the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, based in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. At Baxter, the number of registered long-distance hikers grew from 359 in 1991 to more than 2,000 in 2014.

The growing number of hikers is becoming a management nightmare at Baxter, where officials say they also believe the culture and attitude of the people using the footpath is changing.

Jensen Bissell, director of the park, said in a letter to the Appalachian Trail Conservancy late last year that AT hikers are "open and deliberate in their desire for freedom from all rules and regulations." He warns that the trail may need to end somewhere besides Katahdin if something doesn't change soon.

"If we have 2,000 hikers now, how will it be when we have 3,500 or 4,000 hikers?" Bissell said.

Some say there appears to be a growing sense of entitlement among thru-hikers, many of whom are just out of college or have enough money to leave work for months at a time.

"We had to take off half a year of working, and not a lot of people can do that," Karl Berger, a 24-year-old Maine resident known on the trail as GQ, said from a camp site in Baxter, where he was resting with his father behind finishing the hike up Katahdin. "I don't think a lot of hikers acknowledge that it's a privilege to be out here."

Many hikers said they believe the concerns are being overblown.

"There is always a bad apple or two,

but these are people that spend four to six months for a year on the trail, on their feet, experiencing the wilderness. I can't imagine them wanting to do things that would violate the wilderness," said Scott Jurek, an ultramarathoner from Colorado who last month completed the trail in a record time of 46 days, eight hours.

After celebrating with a bottle of champagne at Katahdin's summit, Jurek received citations for consuming alcohol, hiking with a large group and littering. He argued that the citations were unfair and that Baxter officials were using him to send a message to problem hikers.

Policies regarding alcohol vary by state and park. Dogs are allowed along most of the trail except for a few places, including Baxter.

Ron Tipton, executive director of the Conservancy, said the vast majority of thru-hikers are respectful and on the trail for the right reasons. He said he believes that the sharp increase in hikers has simply made it more challenging to deal with the behavior of a few.

His group has implemented several initiatives to deal with the surge in trail use, such as encouraging people to start the path at different spots to better distribute hikers. It also recently held a meeting with Baxter officials to address the concerns about hiker behavior and is dedicated to resolving the issues, Tipton said.

With the end of the trail in jeopardy, there's much at stake, officials and hikers say.

"Katahdin is such an icon; it's such a prize that it motivates all kinds of people," said Lester Kenway, president of the Maine Appalachian Trail Club. "Having the trail end somewhere short of that would be a disappointment for many of us."

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TAX CUTS
Continued from page 4

ways to get the many potential workers who can't pass a drug test off of pills, heroin, meth or the drug du jour. To us, there is a mandate to find the means to fund more treatment and diversion centers to help people kick their habits for the longterm.

The federal government also must step up and do something substantial about the appalling shape of roads, bridges and the transportation system in general. Congress has a duty to get off their duffs, discuss and pass long-term transportation legislation that will unlock the mountain ridges and hollows and make travel easier.

Another strike against us? The ill health of many West Virginians. What businesses want a workforce that is rife with heart attacks and strokes waiting to happen?

Burdette told lawmakers companies aren't making decisions about locating here based simply on state rankings.

"The cost of doing business is absolutely a key element," he said. "But you have to acknowledge that it is also clear it isn't the only consideration. If it was, 80 percent of the businesses in the country would be clamoring to come to West Virginia."

"Simply making us the lowest cost state without acknowledging and focusing attention and resources on other factors which make an attractive business climate would be a mistake."

We hope that lawmakers listen to Burdette and other experts who testify before them. To listen politely and then go ahead and do whatever you intended all along is senseless.

We don't think that only one or two people have all of the answers that will bring West Virginia through these travails. It will take open minds and compromise to turn things around.

We ask lawmakers to pledge to take that approach and not push an agenda through because it's the "Republican" or "Democrat" thing to do.

Make sure it's the right thing for West Virginia.

GREEN
Continued from page 1

to get people involved and excited about the

University," said Jarrell.

Ashley Sodosky can be contacted at sodosky@marshall.edu.

Faculty member passes away

By MICHAEL BROWN
THE PARTHENON

Word of Fran Jackson's passing spread Saturday morning. Jackson was a proud daughter or Marshall, member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and Marshall faculty member.

Jackson was the program assistant for the Center of African American Students. The effect she had on campus was great, as she was a mentor to many.

Bria Armstrong is a senior biology Pre-Med major and fellow member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

"I valued her genuineness, her fun spirit and her thoughtfulness," said Armstrong. "No matter what you needed she would always find a way to help or find a resource that could help you. If you were having a rough day, you always knew you could stop by her office for some words of wisdom and some laughs."

Derek L. Robinson, health informatics grad student, said Jackson was very student oriented.

"She was all about the students," Robinson said. "She would know how to keep the jokes rolling but get serious

when time called for it. She gave back any way that she could and she didn't hesitate to help a student in need. She was real. She didn't sugarcoat much, and she knew how to tell you exactly what you needed to hear."

"She would go out of her way to make sure that the students that she came in contact with enjoyed their Marshall experience and left with a degree in hand. She was a huge advocate when it came to encouraging students to get involved on campus whether it was with a club, a sport or Greek letter organization while she gave examples of her own experiences within her sorority Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and her countless organizations and committees that she served on while at Marshall as both student and faculty member."

Shuante Polk is the admissions assistant in the office of admissions.

"Fran was everything, just to generalize it, she was everything. She was a mentor, friend, sorority sister, chapter advisor, my chapter president, she was a host of things but most important she was a very good friend to me," Polk said. "I



Fran Jackson

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY THE CENTER OF AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDENTS

just value and love her spirit. I will always remember her."

Members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority will be having a memorial for Jackson Tuesday. More information is available from the Center of African American students.

Services for Jackson will be Friday at First Baptist Church at 801 6th Avenue. The viewing is 11 a.m. to noon. The service begins after.

Michael Brown can be contacted at brown790@marshall.edu.

Retro video game convention warps into downtown Huntington

By KELSIE LIVELY
THE PARTHENON
Vintage Video Games came to Huntington, West Virginia over the weekend and the turnout was above expectations. Born and raised in Wayne County, West Virginia, Power Up Vintage Video Game Convention creator, Ben Durfee, saw the potential of his 'almost' hometown. Power Up 2015, in its second year was much more than last years convention located in the small back rooms of the Big Sandy Super Store Arena

"It's about triple the size it was," Durfee said. "If you go back into the panel room, there are three other adjacent rooms next to it we were packed into that. It got really hot in there, it was sweaty and stinky, we had to upgrade the space a little this year." Marshall University alumni Glen Brogan works from his Charleston, West Virginia

home. Having graduated from the Marshall's School of Art and Design in 2007 majoring in Graphic Design the convention was a wonderful place for him to display and sell his work. Having attended last years convention, Brogan was happy to see the number of supporters grow and hopes the trend continues in the years to come.

"Last year they had a really good turnout so I'm glad this year they got a space to accommodate more people," Brogan said. "I just want to see it keep going how it is, I think its great. Like I said they've had a great turnout and I just want to keep seeing the same thing every year." Durfee was able to use his local connections with in the video game community

to seek vendors for the convention and others were brought on by word of mouth. Keeping local businesses in the mix was important. "Honestly I think Huntington is the perfect little hub city," Durfee said. "We are a four hour drive from Cincinnati, Louisville, Pittsburgh, and Columbus." Marshall University student Alex Wriston, was pleased with his first experience at Power Up and the local video game scene. "It was a fantastic experience and it felt like a really good environment for gamers in the Huntington community to be able to come out and be around people they are used to being around," Wriston said.

The future of Power Up seems bright as a positive atmosphere of the convention was felt within moments of walking through the doors. Durfee said he hopes to "grow as much as I possibly can. Hopefully some day we'll move over to the arena and a bigger game room. If I can get a room full of arcades



RYAN FISCHER | THE PARTHENON

Gamers from around the Mid West gathered to the Big Sandy Superstore Arena Saturday for the Captial Retro Video Game Convention.



RYAN FISCHER | THE PARTHENON

Gage Ross, freshman Chemistry major (left) and Devin Hankins, freshman Radio/ TV major (right) check out the merchandise at the Capital Retro Video Game Convention at the Big Sandy Superstore Arena on Saturday.



RYAN FISCHER | THE PARTHENON

Power Up Team led by Ben Durfee (back center).

What we are listening to in the newsroom...

Jocelyn Gibson

"Mama, You Been On My Mind"- Bob Dylan
"Wild and Wonderful (West Virginia)"- Qiet

Megan Osborne

"Summer Skin"- Death Cab For Cutie
"Leave Me Alone"- FIDLAR

Will Izzo

"HELP!"- The Front Bottoms
"Where Ya At?"- Future

Shalee Rogne

"Last Kiss"- Pearl Jam
"Crash and Burn"- Thomas Rhett

Malcolm Walton

"One Love"- Nas
"Cadillactica"- Big Krit

Kaitlyn Clay

"Roman Holiday"- Halsey
"What Do You Mean"- Justin Bieber

Bradley Heltzel

"Let Me See Ya Girl"- Cole Swindell
"I Don't Dance"- Lee Brice

Sara Ryan

"Hide Away"- Daya
"Hold Me Down"- Halsey

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