What would you do if you were a kid again?

Thunder Dance Marathon raises awareness of pediatric cancer

By JARED CASTO

The Thunder Dance Marathon raises awareness of pediatric cancer.

Organizers from the Thunder Dance Marathon encouraged students to think about how they would answer the question “What would you do if you were a kid again?” Wednesday in the Memorial Student Center. Senior public relations major Lara Sedlock said the point of the banner is to make students understand that suffering from pediatric cancer likely does not have the same opportunities that the average college student had as a child.

“When we were kids we were able to do all of these things, and they’re spending hours of their week in the hospital getting treatment,” Sedlock said.

“They can’t jump on the treadmill after school or go swimming every day and I think it’s little things like that that we take for granted.”

This year the Thunder Dance Marathon is 12 hour no sitting, no sleeping charity event that benefits the Hoops Family Children’s Hospital, a pediatric cancer research center. According to Suffera, this year is also about getting further into the community with the event.

“It’s kind of like us putting ourselves in these kids’ shoes because they deal with cancer every single day of their lives,” Suffera said.

“This is the second year the Thunder Dance Marathon will be held and it hopes to top their “extremely successful” first year that brought in over $36,000. According to Sedlock, each member of the Rec Center can purchase a guest pass to gain access to Studio X. No appointment is necessary.

One more opportunity for a free Studio X experience will be available Thursday from 6-8 p.m. on the second floor of the Rec Center.

Students are encouraged to form a group and participate in a group workout. Additionally, the event is accepting donations from sponsors on its website.

“The Thunder Dance Marathon is $125 per person. While students are encouraged to form a team, single person entries are also welcome. Additionally, the event is accepting donations from sponsors on its website.

The Thunder Dance Marathon will be held and those organizing the event hope to break the $100,000 mark.”

Suffera said. The event is not just about dancing and there are certain activities taking place each hour. According to Sedlock, each hour will have a certain theme. Last year popular themes were “YoYo,” “Disney” and “yoga.” The organizers plan to incorporate different themes, genres and eras into this year’s Thunder Dance Marathons.

“We have games and we have breaks for food, but we stand up the whole time,” Suffera said.

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Ex-exec sentenced to one month in West Virginia chemical spill

By JOSEPH RYAN

The executive who appeared sympathetically when he spoke to the public after a chemical spill spilled water for 300,000 people in West Virginia was sentenced to one month in prison Wednesday in federal court in Charleston.

Former Freedom Industries President Gary Southern, who told reporters a day after the January 2014 spill that he had a “long day” and tried to “be a voice for the community” multiple times, also was fined $211,000 and sentenced to 1,000 hours of community service. Mr. Southern, the last of six ex-Freedom Industries officials to be sentenced on pollution charges and who had pleaded guilty to perjury Tuesday, said he accepted responsibility “for my shortcomings and oversight” and that he was “not the person that I was painted on television.”

Southern was a co-founder of Freedom Industries and had direct oversight of the Elk River facility. He was Freedom Industries chief operating officer starting in May, 2008, and was president and chief executive when he took over in March 2010 to October 2013 and Southern claims he was in December 2013. The following month, a 

C  M  Y  K   50 INCH

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Men’s hoops out for revenge as it hosts Charlotte

The Marshall University men’s basketball team will take on the University of North Carolina at Charlotte Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Cam Henderson Center seeking to avenge its loss to the 49ers earlier this season.

Charlotte handed Marshall (13-12, 9-3) its first conference loss of the season after a 5-0 run in the fourth quarter tied the game up at 61 with five seconds left.

“I was a tough loss,” freshman forward Alexander Dozic said, “but we are a better team now and that’s why we can beat Charlotte.”

Dozic’s assessment of the team’s offense is backed up by the statistics. Marshall has only failed to reach 90 points in three of its 12 conference games.

“Everybody is moving the ball well, shooting the ball well and playing with high energy on the offensive end, and continue its offensive production, it should come easy with the victory Thursday.”

The Charlotte matchup will be the first of a two-game home stand for the Herd as the team hosts the 49ers as it travels to Dale F.

The key to defeating the 49ers this time around, heading into the rematch, is to improve our defense,” Dozic said. “If we play defense at a really good level, I don’t think there anyone who can beat us in this conference.”

Dempsey’s assessment of the team’s offense is backed up by the statistics. Marshall has only failed to reach 90 points in three of its 12 conference games.

By CHRISTIAN HUMAN

Women’s basketball heads to Charlotte, North Carolina as it takes on the University of North Carolina at Charlotte Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Cam Henderson Center seeking to avenge its loss to the 49ers earlier this season.

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Policy-related sexual assault continues to go unreported

Two former Los Angeles police officers have been charged with sexual assault while on duty, according to the Los Angeles Times. The LA Times said the charges include “forcible rape, rape under the color of authority and oral copula under the color of authority.”

This is not an isolated incident. In January, an Oklahoma City police officer was found guilty of rape and sexual assault while on duty, resulting in a sentence of 20 years in prison.

These types of attacks happen across the country. Miami, Florida, Honolulu, Texas, New Orleans, Louisiana. The list goes on, and most of the cases have multiple counts against them for multiple incidences. Many of them are successfully prosecuted.

Victims of police-related sexual assault report that their assailants are less likely to even be investigated because they are the investigators themselves. Officers are also more likely to get away with sexual crimes because their victims have a record that is less credible, often coming from high-ground in sex work, are under the influence or coming from low-income areas.

Six percent of all sexual assaults in 2014 are estimated to be harassment, and only 3 percent of assaults actually get tried in court, according to the United States Department of Justice. With the added anxiety of having to give up their personal information, victims feel they are less likely to report it in any sexual assault cases.

Situations like these remind us that police conduct in the United States has more criticism than any other law enforcement branch. Even those who police our police are less likely to report incidents where police officers are less likely to report incidents where police officers are less likely to report incidents where police officers are less likely to report incidents where police officers are less likely to report incidents where police officers.

STATE EDITORIAL
The Exponent Telegram on West Virginia's Medicaid reform

One element of the Affordable Care Act, commonly known as Obamacare, that we have supported is the expansion of state-based Medicaid. West Virginia has expanded its Medicaid to residents that earn up to 150 percent of the federal poverty level. The expansion has also supported expansion of the West Virginia Children’s Health Insurance Program. Children under the age of 18 who live in households earning up to 300 percent of the federal poverty level.

Gary R. Trombley opted to expand Medicaid in the 2007 West Virginia Medicaid Act as of Jan. 1, 2014. The state is still gradually expanding its Medicaid to the newly eligible population of low-income adults age 18–64. The West Virginia Medicaid program, however, has found that even the state’s “safety net” plans for low-income, emergency room visit participants — an outcome that could affect how states approach loosening the cost of health care under the Affordable Care Act.

According to the article in the Charleston Gazette Mail, the study looked at the impact of the Medicaid Health Choices program, which replaced traditional Medicaid plans with two types of plans: Basic plans, which offered less coverage than prior Medicaid plans, and advanced plans, which offered more coverage and required participants to agree to rules that were designed to improve health behavior.

Consumers who opted for advanced plans were asked to sign a member agreement and follow a member health plan, while those with basic plans received far less extensive coverage, including a cap on prescriptions and no coverage for substance abuse services and inpatient mental health services.

Unfortunately, only 12 percent of participants have chosen an advanced plan through the Mountain Health Choices program. Also, the program saw an increase in emergency room visits among those who chose or were automatically enrolled in basic plans, placing an increase in the average number of two emergency room visits per person and recipients overall, despite a decrease among those who opted for an advanced plan.

Which simply proves that old habits are hard to break. We have trained generations of West Virginia Medicaid recipients to simply go to the hospital emergency room — the most expensive form of healthcare — when they need medical attention.

West Virginia’s Mountain Health Choices program was one of the most controversial, as it imposed coverage limits based on member behavior. But assessing the impacts of such efforts is important as states continue to grapple with the goal of reducing costs without causing negative health impacts.

Everyone must take responsibility for his or her own health care choices. The key is that everyone must have some skin in the game. From those of us on private insurance to FED — we are all forced to make smart health care and lifestyle choices.

West Virginia’s Medicaid recipients must be held to similar standards.
By KEN THOMAS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

By NANCY PEYTON
MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Rapper's comments at Sanders rally spark controversy

March 1. It comes weeks after former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright implied at a Clinton rally in New Hampshire there was a “special place in hell” for women who don’t support Clinton, a line that angered some female supporters of Sanders. The rapper, whose real name is Michael Bendar, suggested at a rally before 4,800 people at Morehouse College that Clinton would be slow to move on issues of racial justice. His comments reflected a recent conversation he said he had with anti-racist activist Jane Elliott.

“When people tell us, ‘Hold on, wait awhile.’ And that’s what the other Democrat is telling you ‘Hold on, Black Lives Matter, just wait awhile.’ Hold on, young people in this country, just wait awhile,” the rapper said. “But I talked to Jane Elliott a few weeks ago, and Jane said, ‘Michael, a utopia doesn’t qualify you to be president of the United States.’”

Killer Mike is the latest Sanders surrogate to use impolitic comments about Hillary Clinton, raising tensions between the two campaigns as they head into pivotal contests in the desert state of Nevada and New Hampshire. A string of “Super Tuesday” states on March 1 is expected to expose the 48 days before Lent most likely spent fasting in the desert where he endured temptation from Satan in the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

“Hold on, young people in this country, just wait awhile,” the rapper said. “But I talked to Jane Elliott a few weeks ago, and Jane said, ‘Michael, a utopia doesn’t qualify you to be president of the United States. You have to be — you have to have policy that’s reflective of collective justice.’”

Sanders did not address the comments during the Atlanta rally and it wasn’t clear if the senator heard them — he was off stage at the time.

The campaign did not immediately address the remarks. Clinton campaign spokesman Karen Finney responded to the rap song’s lyric: “Must be ignoring #HillaryClinton silence in doing the work breaking down barriers for all.”

KPMG Pro-Choice America, a reproductive rights organization supporting Clinton, called it “inappropriate and sexist” and urged Sanders to denounce the comments. The rapper defended himself on Twitter: “citing Elliott’s remarks, Albright later walked back her remarks in The New York Times that ‘it was the wrong context and the wrong time to use that line.’”

Killer Mike cited a prominent female supporter of Sanders, former Ohio State Sen. Nina Turner, writing on Twitter that “I don’t and never will be a complete woman for the world. Nina Turner is my Next Great Champ but I’m sorry. No HRC for me.”

Sanders vowed to run a positive, issue-based campaign and be “just really good to spend 40 days trying to bring yourself back from everything else that the world tells you is right and to figure out what’s actually right for you.” I’m going up grabbing my phone as soon as I wake up and spending like 30 minutes on it in bed before I even get out of bed. Then I’m going up going to the same restaurants over and over.”

“Just as Catholics believe in sacrifice for our religion, for our faith in Jesus Christ. Just as Jesus sacrificed his own life, we can also sacrifice something too, so that’s what we do during Lent. I’m probably going to do something along the lines of praying the rosary every day, or part of it at least one day every day.”

-Nancy Peyton, freshman broadcast journalism major

“Lent began February 10 and ends March 24. Here’s why they tell this tradition is what they will be giving up or doing extra during the Lent season. Nancy can be contacted at peyton22@marshall.edu.”

“Lent is about reflection, prayer and fasting in order to prepare for Easter. Many students on Marshall’s campus will be observing Lent this year.”

-Kyra Biscarner, freshman broadcast journalism major

“Rapper’s comments at Sanders rally spark controversy”

THESENATE RACIAL JUSTICE

Rapper Killer Mike’s comments during a rally with Bernie Sanders in Atlanta have sparked controversy by telling supporters that “a uterus doesn’t qualify you to be president.”

“I’ve always grown up Catholic, so it’s just kind of been instilled in me and I think it’s important because Jesus spent the 40 days in the desert, so we’re kind of emulating him. I’m going to try to not be as wasteful, like with my food and other products. I’m going to try to reduce spending and just try to be a little more earth-friendly.”

-Gianna Corelli, senior biology major

“Marshall students observe Lent, reveal Lenten promises”

“I believe observing Lent is important because I think it helps bring people closer to God and it also helps people to realize what is really important to them. This year, I will be giving up curse words because I feel like I use them too much often and I feel like they just bring more negativity into my life.”

-Nick Ullama, sophomore history major

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“The last we can do is do what he did. I’m going on a diet for these days until Easter and then I’m reducing my spending as well.”

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