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Marshall Hosts U.S. Youth Soccer Region I Championships

The opening ceremony of the U.S. Youth Soccer Region I Championships at Marshall University, organizers say, will be a spectacular event.

For certain, the ceremony on Thursday, July 2 at Marshall University's Joan C. Edwards Stadium will get off to a "flying" start when three skydivers from the All-American Freefall Team from the U.S. Army's famed 82nd Airborne Division in Fort Bragg, N.C., parachute onto the stadium turf to deliver a proclamation that will be read by Gov. Joe Manchin.

The skydivers will jump at 3:50 p.m., or 10 minutes before the official 4 p.m. start of the ceremony. Gates open at 2 p.m. and admission is free. Free parking will be available on all Marshall University surface lots and concessions will be open at the stadium. No outside food or drink will be allowed into the stadium.

The ceremony will last nearly two hours and feature an Olympics-style parade of the 5,000 young athletes from 13 states onto the field. They will be joined on the field by hundreds of referees. A torch run by West Virginia's 1997 Region 1 U-12 soccer champions will conclude the event.

Moppy Lavery, co-chairman with Diane Shattls of the opening ceremony, said soccer fans throughout the Tri-State Area are encouraged not only to attend the ceremony, but also to attend some of the matches that start Friday, July 3 and run through Tuesday, July 7 on 22 fields at the Barboursville Soccer Complex and the Huntington YMCA Scott Orthopedic Soccer Complex.

"It's going to be so exciting for the city of Huntington," Lavery said of the opening ceremony. "It will be a very festive occasion. We are trying to make it the best ever. We are going to focus on Huntington and Barboursville and show all the good things about our area and the state of West Virginia and Marshall University."

Yeager Program Receives Hilton Grant

A grant of \$15,000 from the Board of Trustees of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation to the Marshall University Foundation, Inc., will help support Marshall University's Society of Yeager Scholars.

The donation, which Marshall University received earlier this month, is the second gift from the California-based Hilton Foundation, which was established in 1944 by hotel entrepreneur **Conrad N. Hilton**. Offices are located in Los Angeles, Calif., and Reno, Nev. The first gift, also \$15,000, was presented in August 2008.

"This gift, as stipulated in our proposal, will be deposited into the Society of Yeager Scholars greatest needs fund to support our current and in-coming Yeager Scholars," said Bob Galardi, Director of Major Gifts for the Society of Yeager Scholars. "The grant will assist us in our efforts to replace the funds lost in the market over the past few months, and compete with the rising costs of our Yeager Scholars' studies at Marshall."

"The continued kindness of the Hilton Foundation demonstrates the importance of securing new funding sources needed to grow our program and our university into the 21st Century," Galardi said.



Marco will participate in a "five-on-five" mascots competition before the opening ceremony of the U.S. Youth Soccer Region I Championships July 2.

The tournament will attract 268 boys and girls teams, with players ages 11-19, from Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont and West Virginia. According to the Cabell-Huntington Convention and Visitors Bureau, an estimated 16,000 parents, coaches and referees will attend the ceremony and the tournament, resulting in an economic impact of more than \$12 million.

West Virginia and the West Virginia Soccer Association are hosting the tournament this year and in 2010 as part of the U.S. Youth Soccer National Championship Series. West Virginia Soccer Association President Len Rogers, who chairs the tournament's local organizing committee, said he expects between 16,000 and 20,000 people to attend the opening ceremony, but "we'd love to fill the stadium."

"In all my years of doing it, we've never had the opening ceremony at a Division I stadium," Rogers said. "This facility will be the best one we've ever had. Marshall's people have been super to work with and Joan C. Edwards Stadium is top notch. It's going to be a gorgeous and memorable opening ceremony."

Pre-opening ceremony activities at the stadium are planned as well. Crossbar competition starts at 3 p.m., a five on five soccer game between mascots starts at 3:25 p.m., and videos featuring Marshall University and the Huntington area will be shown on the video board beginning at 3:42 p.m.

The ceremony begins with greetings from West Virginia Sen. Bob Plymale and Rogers. A flag roll-out follows, with the 249th Army Band of the West Virginia National Guard playing and Randall Reid Smith singing "America the Beautiful." Also, the band will play and Smith will sing the National Anthem.

Greetings from Manchin and other local officials, including Marshall University President Stephen J. Kopp, will follow.

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SURE Program Promotes Undergraduate Research

Ten undergraduate students are conducting original scientific research by participating in the Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) fellowship which began May 18 and continues through July 31.

"We want students to know how strongly Marshall supports undergraduate research," said Dr. Michael Norton, professor of chemistry at Marshall and director of the program. "This is the time when these young minds start utilizing their research skills in preparation for graduate school."

Students will receive stipends totaling \$4,000 each and supplies for their research for a period of ten weeks uninterrupted by classes during the summer.

Marshall has received funds for SURE, now in its 4th year, from West Virginia's Research Challenge Fund to advance research in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics through the support of undergraduate research. This year, SURE will fund ten research projects that have been selected for support by the proposal evaluation committee.

Faculty/Staff Achievements

Dr. Alberto Coustasse, Assistant Professor of Management and Marketing, has had several journal articles published this year. Publications addressing health services research and management in health care and health care disparities include:

- Coustasse, A., Pekar, A., Sukula, A., and Laurie, S., "Genetic Presymptomatic Testing and Ethical Consequences in Huntington's Disease" in the *Journal of Hospital Marketing and Public Relations*;
- Coustasse, A., Larry, J., Arvidson, C., Singh, K.P., "Kawasaki Disease in Texas" in *Hospital Topics*;
- Johnson, K. and Coustasse, A., "Lead Effect's on Pediatric Development," Oral presentation at Research Appreciation Day, University of North Texas Health Science Center;
- Coustasse, A., Cogar, C., Olmosk, K., Mukherjee, A., "Pharmaceutical Counterfeiting In Business and Health Care Administration" in *Proceedings of the 2009 MBAA Annual Midwest Business and Health Care Administration Association Conference, Chicago, Ill.*;

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This year, the awardees and their projects are:

- Amber Inman from Princeton, W.Va. Biology, Functional Distribution of Dopamine and Serotonin in the Crayfish CNS. Mentor: Dr. Brian Antonsen.
- Hannah Mick from Ripley, W.Va. Biology, Identification and Enrichment of Cancer Stem Cells. Mentor: Dr. Jagan Valluri.
- Hayden Hedrick from Huntington. Biology, Water Quality Analysis Based on Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria Found in Local Lakes. Mentor: Dr. Charles Somerville.
- Mallory Douthitt from Cumberland, Md. Biology, Investigation of Acanthamoeba Diversity. Mentor: Dr. Wendy Trzyna.
- Natalie Elkins from Huntington. Chemistry, Ab initio investigation of pre-reactive complexes of hydroxyl radical. Mentor: Dr. Rudolf Burcl.
- Nicholas Gardner from Keyser, W.Va. Biology, Digital Morphology of the skull of the basal diapsid reptile *Youngina capensis*: an anatomical foundation for the study of the reptilian head. Mentor: Dr. F. Robin O'Keefe.
- Robert Demuth from Pamplin, Va.; Anthropology, The efficacy of controlled surface collection in archaeological research. Mentor: Dr. Nicholas Freidin.
- Samantha Fox from Elkins, W.Va. Psychology, Encoding of Location Information: Automatic or Effortful? Mentor: Dr. Steven Mewaldt.
- Stephen Pennington from Charleston, W.Va.; Biology, The functional distribution of dopamine in the crayfish CNS. Mentor: Dr. Brian Antonsen.
- Tiffany Bell from Wake Forest, N.C. Biochemistry, Examination of Upregulation of Cytoplasmic Prohibitin in Cancerous Cells. Mentor: Dr. Leslie Frost.

Med School Ranks Third for Graduates Entering Family Practice

Marshall University's Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine ranks third in the nation in the percentage of graduates entering family practice programs and has received a "Top Ten Award" from the American Academy of Family Physicians as a result. The awards were presented during the 2009 Society of Teachers of Family Medicine spring conference in Denver, Colo.

"It is a testament to the outstanding role-modeling of the faculty in the Department of Family and Community Health at Marshall, and the unwavering support from the administration of this medical school in promoting primary care, that for 20 years in a row we have placed in the top tier of schools across the nation in the percentage of graduates entering family medicine residency programs," said Dr. John B. Walden, who is both an associate dean at the medical school and chair of its Department of Family and Community Health.

Walden noted that national surveys consistently show that the demand for primary care physicians continues to skyrocket, and also warn about a looming shortage of residency-trained family doctors across America. "Clearly, Marshall is doing its share to address these critical primary care physician training issues," he said.

Marshall tied with two other schools for the third-highest percentage, with 16.8 percent of its graduates entering family practice over the three-year period.

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The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall!* will carry an issue date of July 10, 2009. Deadline is July 6. Articles or other materials for consideration should be sent to Pat Dickson, editor, at the South Charleston campus or by e-mail to pdickson@marshall.edu.

Profile: Margie Phillips

A series on interesting Marshall University people.



Margie Phillips

It was entirely appropriate that Margie Phillips' first day on the job at Marshall was on St. Patrick's Day, a day traditionally awash in green at a university whose legions of followers proudly proclaim they "bleed" green.

As Marshall's energy analyst, Phillips is a key player in the university's burgeoning greening efforts. In fact, she and the job she does have always been part of it, one of the university's best kept secrets, but she's more than happy

to spread the word and let everyone know what her office does.

She first came to Marshall as a student in 1977, but put her studies on hold to help her widowed mother. Although she followed a circuitous route through the years, all paths eventually led right back to Marshall. In 1978, she was employed as a MU police dispatcher. She performed the dispatching job for five years, before taking a leave of absence due to health problems, but eventually returned to work part time in the Public Safety and Parking Offices for another five years. This was followed by another hiatus, to be a full time mom to her three daughters. In 1997 it was back to Marshall to take on the role of Marshall's first Energy Analyst. She had finally found her niche.

Her current position actually came about as the result of a mandate, enacted several years ago by the Federal Government, requiring all Federal buildings to have an energy person on staff. Technically that didn't apply to Marshall, but Dr. Edward Grose, former Vice President of Administrative Services, and O. Dale Allman, former Director of Physical Plant, thought it was a good idea, so they created the new position.

"I monitor energy usage, indentify and investigate anything out of order, and look for ways to improve energy usage," Phillips explains. "I look at three utilities, water, electric and natural gas. I don't monitor telephones or other remote metering devices. Invoices come to me to analyze to ensure we're paying a good rate, there are no mistakes on the bills, and usage is within expectations. Our goal is to use energy as efficiently as possible."

Phillips is delighted that the greening effort, which she has always championed, is taking hold at Marshall and is growing with more people becoming conscientious about the conservation of resources. "When I first started (emphasizing conservation), some people would look at me like 'well that's not important' but there's a big turnaround now. While I've always advocated cutting back on usage, people are currently seeing that we need to do it right now."

And you can see—or in some cases not see—some of the greening efforts taking place on campus. "We were awarded three grants through the West Virginia Development Office which allowed us to upgrade the lighting in Smith and Corbly Halls. These upgrades help make each building more energy efficient. Currently, the Physical Plant is changing (retro-fitting) restrooms; by installing low flush handles, more energy efficient toilets, as well as motion sensors on sink facets which have lower pressure resulting in less water being used." She is particularly proud of the motion sensors that were installed in

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Exhibit on Women Musicians Underway at Special Collections

"Banjo Women in West Virginia and Eastern Kentucky," a multimedia exhibit of photographs, text, and audio that celebrates the role of women in the development of banjo music in Appalachia, has opened in the Special Collections Department of Marshall University Libraries.

The exhibition was created from information gathered in oral histories with 10 women banjoists – seven from West Virginia and three from Kentucky. Visitors can learn about the women included in the exhibit while listening to selections of music recorded during their oral history interviews. The Special Collections Department has the exhibit on display to highlight one of its many unique collections.

The project was completed in 1997 as a collaboration of Dr. Susan Eacker, currently a visiting professor of history at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, where she teaches courses in Appalachian Studies, and Geoff Eacker, director of the Arts Center at Miami University.

Susan Eacker conducted the interviews and wrote the text for the displays and Geoff Eacker took the photographs and built the frames and stand. They received a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship from the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Gender in Appalachia (CSEGA) at Marshall University and were the first resident fellows at CSEGA. "Banjo Women" was previously displayed in 2000 at the first CSEGA conference and at the Cincinnati Appalachian Festival in 2001.

In addition to the exhibit, Special Collections also houses the audio recordings and transcripts of the oral histories. The exhibit is open to the public from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday and from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p. m. Tuesday through Friday. Special Collections is located in Room 216 on the second floor of the Morrow Library.

Justice Grant to Establish Fire Accelerant Database

Marshall University received a \$198,000 grant from the National Institute of Justice for a two-year project in which Dr. J. Graham Rankin, associate professor Forensic Science, is studying kerosene and medium petroleum distillate residues to build a database and develop methods which may aid in future investigations of suspicious fires.

The project, which began in January 2009, is titled "Development and Validation of a Method for Individualization of Middle Distillates and Kerosene Residues in Fire Debris." Kerosene and medium petroleum distillates, commonly sold as charcoal lighters, paint thinners and industrial solvents, are the second most common accelerants used in arson cases, Rankin said. Samples of these flammable liquids will be analyzed to produce a "chemical fingerprint" which will identify the individual liquids by its unique composition. He also is conducting similar research with gasoline, the most common accelerant found in arson cases.

The study will develop two tools that may assist fire investigations: a method to enable analysis of samples to establish a match and proving it works with real samples, and development of a database that will enable determination of statistical probability that the samples are identical.

Rankin said development of the database is important because there is currently no standard in place to assist fire debris analysts with statistical assessment of evidence, and courts are requiring forensic scientists to provide more proof in support of their expert opinions.

A component of the research is to determine how many points of similarity are needed to determine if they came

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Margie Phillips

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classrooms in Harris Hall, which automatically turn off the lights when no one is in the room. "I'm known (around the physical plant) as the light turner offer," she says laughing. "Little things do add up. It might seem like a small thing, but turning off lights when no one is in room saves money and those dollars add up."

She has high praise for the current conservation efforts going on, with students singled out for special recognition. She's involved with the Green Committee and with the Student Coalition. "The students are doing a wonderful job. They voluntarily passed the 'green' fee to pay for a recycling campaign and there are a lot of things coming about because of them. There are many positive changes planned and we'll be seeing them soon."

Phillips hasn't been hesitant to make positive changes in her own life. In the mid-90s she returned to her studies at Marshall, completing her Regents Bachelor of Arts degree in 1995, then fast-tracking her studies to earn a Master of Science in Safety and Health Management the following year. Currently she's working on an Ed.S through Adult and Technical Education.

The Marshall connection doesn't stop there for the Phillips family. Her husband of 29 years, Rodney, is a MU graduate with Bachelor of Business Administration and Master of Business Administration degrees. Their daughters also have carried on their family's Marshall-rich tradition. Amanda, who is married and lives in Washington State, is a senior majoring in marketing and will complete her degree either online or at a later date. Both Jennifer and her husband, Zachary, will receive bachelor's degrees at the end of this summer, hers in history and his in political science. (As an added joyful bonus, Jennifer and Zachary will welcome a baby in December, the Phillips' first grandchild.) Youngest daughter Sara is currently a junior majoring in English. Another family member with ties to Marshall is Margie's twin brother, Marty Newman, a long-time Marshall staff member, who is a manager in Physical Plant.

They're a busy and active family who enjoy working out in the new rec center, gardening and just spending time with the family. She and Rodney frequently can be seen walking their two rambunctious dogs—well, trying to walk them. They don't do well on leashes and are into doggy disobedience, she says with a laugh. Soft-hearted and unable to turn away any needy animal, she says their current menagerie includes six very territorial cats: two inside ones, two who live on the front porch and two who inhabit the back porch—and never the twain shall meet. The family can't turn away any stray and word apparently has gotten around that they're running a mini-Humane Society. Even one of the dogs just showed up at their house.

Helping people is important to her, and she fulfilled a dream when she recently completed training to become a certified Red Cross Disaster Services Volunteer. She can now be called out to work on disaster relief such as the recent floods in Southern West Virginia. She is trained to work in shelters and she is training to become certified to drive an emergency relief vehicle. "Disaster service is an area where I've felt a need to volunteer," she explains. "As volunteers, we can work in flood or fire disasters for example, to help people get their lives back in order. Right now we're working on getting survival kits to senior citizens, who might be stranded in their homes if a disaster strikes. We always hope these things don't happen, but if they do, I'm ready to go to work."

She is encouraged by the vigorous energy conservation efforts now getting underway at Marshall and the enthusiasm with which they're being met throughout the campus. "Some very positive things are happening; people are really getting involved and that's very encouraging. My office is here to analyze needs, make recommendations for current utility use, and to seek out grants and other funding opportunities to support future green and sustainability efforts." She welcomes anyone with questions about her job, or the "green" efforts she's involved in, to call her at any time. "If I don't know the answers, I'll find them."

Championships

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In addition to hosting the opening ceremony, Marshall University's Huntington campus will be used to house an estimated 1,500 people, including players, their families and referees. All four of the Marshall Commons residence halls will be used, along with Buskirk Hall and rooms in Twin Towers East and West not currently occupied by Marshall students.

Players and their families interested in learning more about Marshall University can visit the Gillette Welcome Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday and Saturday, July 3-4, or take part in campus tours on both days. No reservation is necessary to take campus tours, which begin on the hour from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Gillette Welcome Center, which is located on the corner of Hal Greer Boulevard and 5th Avenue.

The Marshall Recreation Center and the bookstore also will be open during the tournament. The recreation area on the lower level of the Memorial Student Center will have free pool and ping pong for all soccer players, families and other representatives.

Volunteers are still needed to help with the opening ceremony and various duties throughout the tournament. To volunteer, persons may contact Kheng McGuire at 304-525-6042 or via e-mail at khengmcguire@aol.com.

Database

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from a common source and the statistical probability of a match to similar kerosene that appears to match.

He said an analogy would be the millions of fingerprints in the population. "For years it was accepted that no two individuals' fingerprints are alike," Rankin said. "However, now there are studies underway which propose to look at these fingerprints to determine how many points of similarity are needed to prove two fingerprints match."

In ignitable liquid analysis, no such database of analyses is available for research by fire debris analysts, he added.

Additionally, Rankin is developing a collection of thousands of samples of gasoline, kerosene, and medium petroleum distillates to analyze.

The ongoing gasoline project, also funded by the NIJ, has acquired nearly 1,000 gasoline samples so far with analysis by high resolution gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GCMS) in progress.

The activities for the "Development and Validation of a Method for Individualization of Middle Distillates and Kerosene Residues in Fire Debris" program are funded through the National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs. The gasoline study is supported by NIJ.

Faculty/Staff Achievements

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- Coustaasse, A., Emmett, D., Patel, N., and Pekar, A., "Disparities among Elder Non Hispanic Blacks: Self Report ADL and IADL Disability Results from the National Health Interview Survey 2001-2003" in *Press Journal of Hospital Marketing and Public Relations*;
- Coustaasse, A., Lorden, A., Nemarugommula V., and Singh, K.P., "Uncompensated Care Cost: A Pilot Study Using Hospitals of Texas County" in *Hospital Topics*;
- Coustaasse, A., Bae, S., Arvidson, C., Trevino, F., and Singh, K.P., "Disparities in ADL and IADL Disabilities among Elders of Hispanic Subgroups in the U.S.A.: Results from the National Health Interview Survey 2001-2003" in *Hospital Topics*.