Championships from Page 1

In addition to hosting the opening ceremony, Marshall University's Huntington campus will be used to house an estimated 1,500 guests, including players, their families and referees. All four of the Marshall Commons residence halls will be utilized, along with Ruskirk 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 Cotton Bowl, 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 will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude at 3 p.m. at the Guvette 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 center will be open for free play and a movie. The bookstore will feature a variety of merchandise, including tournament paraphernalia.

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 e-mail at khengmcguire@hhs.marshall.edu.

Database from Page 3

A five-day tournament, the U.S. Youth Soccer Region 1 Championships bring national and international teams to Huntington. The tournament will be spread throughout Marshall’s campus at multiple locations. The upcoming event was spurred by similar events that were already being hosted by nearby Cabell County High School.

The tournament will attract 268 boys and girls teams, with players ages 11-19, from Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Michigan, South Carolina, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. According to the Cabell-Huntington Convention and Visitors Bureau, an estimated 16,000 parents, coaches and referees will attend the tournament and the event will result in an economic impact of more than $12 million.

Margie Phillips from Page 3
classrooms in Harris Hall, which automatically turn off the lights when no one is in the room. “As known around the physical plant as the light turner off,” she says laughing. “Little things do add up. It might seem like a small thing, but turning off lights when we save thousands of dollars and those dollars add up.”

She has pride 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 recycling campsites throughout the valley 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 Respiratory Care degree in 1999, 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.D through Adult and Professional 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-Eh 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 Rodney frequently can be seen walking the two rambunctious dogs—they’re walking by trying to walk them. They don’t follow on leashes and are allowed to run as long as they say with a laugh. Soft-hearted and unable to turn away any needy animal, she says their current menagerie includes six very terrestrial cats: two inside ones, two who live outside, and two that live in the back porch—and never the twain shall meet. The family can’t turn away any stray and some wonder if 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 an 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 is being trained to become a certified disaster case worker.

She is encouraged by the vigorous energy conservation efforts now getting underway and the enthusiasm with which 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” effort, to free please in, to call her at any time. “If I don’t know the answers, I’ll find them.”

Faculty/Staff Achievements from Page 3


Yeager Program Receives 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. It was established in 1944 in memory of the late hotel entrepreneur Conrad N. Hilton. Offices are located in Los Angeles and New York City.

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 account to fund scholarships for our current and incoming Yeager Scholars,” said Bob Galardi, Director of Major Gifts for the Society of Yeager Scholars. “The grant will assist the Yeager Scholars 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.”

“Over the years, the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation demonstrates the importance of securing new funding sources needed to grow our program and our university into the 21st Century,” Galardi said.

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Profile: Margie Phillips

A series on interesting Marshall University people.

It was entirely appropriate that Margie Phillips’ first day on the job at Marshall University’s Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, she arrived on March 31, 2009. As the new dean of the three-year-old School of Medicine, Phillips is a key player in the university’s burgeoning growing efforts. In fact, she and the job she does have always been part of, and in her words, “a good fit” with Marshall’s energy analyst, Phillips is a key player in the university’s history.

Margie Phillips

This year, the awardees and their projects are:

- Amber Irons from Princeton, W.Va.; Biology, Functional Distribution of Dopamine and Serotonin in the Crayfish CNS. Mentor: Dr. Brian Antonsen.
- Hayden Hedrick from Huntington, Biology, Water Quality Analysis Based on Antithetic Resistant Bacteria Found in Local Lakes. Mentor: Dr. Charles Somerville.
- Malory Douthitt from Cumberland, Md.; Biology, Investigation of Acantamoeba Diversity. Mentor: Dr. Wendy Traver.
- Natalie Ekins from Huntington, Chemistry, Ab initio investigation of pre-reactive complexes of hydroxyl radical. Mentor: Dr. Rudolf Burd.
- Samantha Fox from Elkins, W.Va.; Psychology, Encoding of Location Information: Automatic or Effortful? Mentor: Dr. Steven Mewaldt.
- Stephanie Ponomarchuk 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 Natural Prohibitin in Cancerous Cells. Mentor: Dr. Leslie Frost.

We Are... Marshall

Published by University Communications, with offices in Huntington (213 Old Main) and South Charleston (1212 Administrative Building).

The next regular issue of WE... Marshall will carry an article on the school and faculty and a feature on the growing of the school's library.

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, 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 two weeks. Undergraduate students are highly encouraged to participate in this program.”

Marshall has received funds for SURE, now in its 4th year, from West Virginia’s Research Challenge Fund, in addition to the 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 Coutasse, Assistant Professor of Management and Marketing, has had several journal articles published this year. Publishing addressing health services research and management in health care and health disparities include:

- Johnson, K. and Coutasse, A., “Lead Effect on Pediatric Development,” Oral presentation at Research Appreciation Day, University of North Texas Health Science Center;

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 residency programs, said 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.

The award 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 for 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 practice residency programs.”

Walden noted that national surveys consistently show that demand for primary care physicians is skyrocketing, and also warn about a looming shortage of residency-trained family doctors across America. “Clearly, Marshall University is doing its work to ensure that 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.

SURE Program Promotes Undergraduate Research

The SURE Program, which promotes undergraduate research, is now in its fourth year. The program provides students with an opportunity to conduct original scientific research under the guidance of Marshall faculty members.

This year, SURE will fund ten research projects that have been selected for support by the proposal evaluation committee.

The research projects include:

- Amber Irons from Princeton, W.Va.; Biology, Functional Distribution of Dopamine and Serotonin in the Crayfish CNS. Mentor: Dr. Brian Antonsen.
- Hayden Hedrick from Huntington, Biology, Water Quality Analysis Based on Antithetic Resistant Bacteria Found in Local Lakes. Mentor: Dr. Charles Somerville.
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- Tiffany Bell from Wake Forest, N.C.; Biochemistry, Examination of Natural Prohibitin in Cancerous Cells. Mentor: Dr. Leslie Frost.

The research projects will be presented in a poster session at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Family Physicians in Denver, Colo.

Exhibit on Women Musicians Underway at Special Collections

“Banjo Women” is a multimedia exhibit of photographs, text, and audio that celebrates the role of women in the development of banjo music in Appalachia. The exhibit is sponsored by the Special Collections Department of Marshall University Libraries.

The exhibit will feature interviews and 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 by listening to the voice recordings of music recorded during their oral history interviews. The Special Collections Department has the exhibit on display through July 31.

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, and her graduate students, who undertook to locate the women, gather information about their lives, and produce the exhibit.

In addition to the exhibit, Special Collections also houses the audio recordings 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 $180,000 grant from the National Institute of Justice for a two-year project in which Dr. J. Graham Rankin, associate professor Forensic Science, is studying Kannapolis and other fire distillate residues to begin to build a database and develop methods which may aid in future investigations of suspicious fires.

The grant, which was awarded in the fall of 2008, is titled “Development and Validation of a Method for Individualization of Middle Distillates and Kerosene Residues in Fire Debris.” Kerosene and medium petroleum distillates are 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 it by its unique composition. He also is conducting similar research with gasoline, the most common accelerant found in arson cases. The goal of the research is to conduct on-the-ground investigations. A method to enable analysis of samples to establish a match and prove it works with real samples is a development of a database that will enable determination of statistical probability that the samples are identical. Rankin said 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 relying on experts to provide more proof in support of their expert opinions.

The research is conducted by a team of highly skilled professionals who are trained in the evaluation of fire debris.
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, dean of the College of Science and Technology, 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 Coutasse, Assistant Professor of Management and Marketing, has had several journal articles published this year. Publication addressing health services research and management in health care and health care disparities include:


- Coutasse, A., Larry, J., Arvidson, C., Singh, K.P., “Kawasaki Disease in Texas” in Hospital Topics

- Johnson, K. and Coutasse, A., “Lead Effect’s on Pediatric Development,” Oral presentation at Research Appreciation Day, University of North Texas Health Science Center;


Profile: Margie Phillips

A series on interesting Marshall University people.

It was entirely appropriate that Margie Phillips’ first day on the job at the new Marshall University Police Department, a day a day traditionally awash in green, was marred by a series of followers proudly proclaiming they “bleed” green.

As the campus’ energy analyst, Phillips is a key player in the university’s burgeoning green energy efforts. In fact, she and the job she does have always been part of, or perhaps more fittingly the campus’ 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 and then right back to Marshall. In 1979, 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 Energy Analyst. She finally found her niche.

Phillips’ 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. Phillips was on staff that didn’t 100% serve Marshall, but Dr. Edward Grose, former Vice President of Administration, and O. Dale Alman, former Director of Physical Plant, thought it was a good idea, so they created the new position.

“I monitor energy usage, identify and investigate anything out of order, and look for ways to improve energy usage,” Phillips explains. “I look at three utilities, water, electric and gas. I look at monitor telephone or other remote metering devices. I come in to analyze data, find the problem, then perform the dispatch, or fix it.” How can she tell something is wrong with the bills, and usage is within expectations. Our goal is to use energy as efficiently as possible.

Phillips has always been passionate about the environment, which she always has championed, is taking bold at Marshall and is growing with more people becoming conscious about the conservation of resources.” When I first started (emphasizing conservation), some people would look at me like I was from Mars and I was a bit loony, but they have come around. We are a working group promoting a more green environment, and this is something that others are starting to talk about.

And you can see—or in some cases not see—some of the green efforts. One case in point is our use of soap. “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 working on changing some older, less energy-efficient windows, by installing low flush handles, more energy efficient toilets, as well as motion sensors in public spaces to help lower pressure resulting in less water being used.” She is particularly proud of the motion sensors that were installed in...
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 Youth Soccer National Championship Series. A good deal of the money is needed to fund an upcoming Youth Soccer National Championship Series being held this month, is the second gift from the California-based Hilton Foundation. The first gift, also $15,000, was presented in August 2008.

This gift, as stipulated in our proposal, will be deposited into the "Marketing and Public Relations fund to support our current and in-coming Yeager Scholars," said Bob Galardi, Director of the Society of Yeager Scholars. "The grant will help support Marshall University's Yeager Program as well as the Society of Yeager Scholars greatest needs fund to support our current and in-coming Yeager Scholars," said Bob Galardi, Director of the Society of Yeager Scholars.

Yeager Program is a program that provides scholarships to qualified students who want to attend Marshall University. The program is funded by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, which has been a long-time supporter of the program.

The Yeager Program is a part of the Marshall University’s Youth Soccer National Championship Series, which is held annually in Huntington, West Virginia. The program is designed to provide opportunities for underprivileged children to participate in soccer and to improve their skills. The program is funded by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, which has been a long-time supporter of the program.

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