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## The Parthenon, August 1, 2013

Rebecca Stephens  
Parthenon@marshall.edu

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# THE PARTHENON

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 2013 | VOL. 116 NO. 139 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | marshallparthenon.com

## Visting Writers Series announces lineup for upcoming school year

By **REBECCA STEPHENS**  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

The A.E. Stringer Visiting Writers Series is gearing up for another year of diverse and exciting authors to visit Marshall University's campus.

Founded by Professor Art Stringer in 1989, the series invites six to eight authors to come to campus and share their work with students, faculty and members of the community.

Rachael Peckham, assistant professor of English, said the series emphasizes authors both native and new to Appalachia.

"This is not a program that belongs only to Marshall," Peckham said. "It's about the preservation of a cultural tradition born in the hearts and minds of Appalachian Americans — a people as diverse and complex as the narrators and characters who populate our stories."

Peckham said this year's participating authors offer something for everyone.

"I'm very excited about the range of writers coming to campus this year," Peckham said. "It's an incredibly diverse line-up, both in terms of demographics and genre. The community will get exposure to two national award-winning poets, a graphic novelist, a Young Adult novelist, essayists who work in both print and video, a translator of Chinese poetry — as well as a fiction writer on faculty at

Marshall, John VanKirk, in celebration of his new novel. I'm so pleased by the variety of this list. Truly, there's something here for everyone, and I hope the attendance at each reading reflects it."

The series is sponsored largely by the English department and the College of Liberal Arts, but sometimes it receives sponsorship from other departments and colleges interested in bringing particular authors to Marshall.

Peckham said the series is beneficial to Marshall and those in the community because it offers a rich experience for the audience.

"Visiting writers do more than just read their work aloud," Peckham said. "They meet and talk to students, faculty and members of the community. They elaborate on their creative processes and share their ideas and experience. They sign copies of their books sold by the university bookstore. And whenever possible, they conduct class visits and give guest lectures."

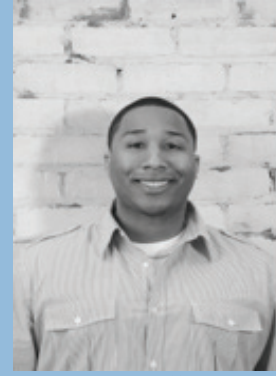
The first author in this year's installment will be Marcus Wicker, National Poetry Series winner and author of "Maybe the Saddest Thing." Wicker will speak at 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19 at Gallery 842.

**Rebecca Stephens can be contacted at [stephens107@marshall.edu](mailto:stephens107@marshall.edu).**

### First up for fall 2013

#### Marcus Wicker

Born in Ann Arbor Michigan, Wicker received his master's at Indiana University. He is the recipient of a 2011 Ruth Lilly Fellowship. His work has appeared in journals such as Poetry, Beloit, Third Coast and Ninth Letter. Currently, he is an assistant professor of English at University of Southern Indiana.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

#### Will Schutt

Schutt is the winner of the 2012 Yale Series of Younger Poets Prize and author of the collection *Westerly*. He is a graduate of both Oberlin College and Hollins University. His work has appeared in publications such as Agni, FIELD, The New Republic and The Southern Review.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

#### John VanKirk

VanKirk is the winner of the Iowa Review Award, as well as the author of "Song for Chance." Currently in his 20th year of teaching at Marshall, VanKirk's work has appeared in publications such as The New York Times Magazine, The Hudson Review and The Iowa Review.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

## School of Pharmacy announces new scholarship

THE PARTHENON

Just before starting its second year as a school at Marshall University, the School of Pharmacy is expanding its financial aid program after the creation of a new endowed scholarship fund.

On Monday, Dr. Kevin Yingling, dean of the School of Pharmacy, announced the creation of the Paula Campbell Butterfield Scholarship, which was named in honor of Butterfield, a pharmacist and the owner of Trivillian's Pharmacy in Charleston.

In a press release, Yingling said Butterfield's dedication to the field of pharmacy is something that should be recognized.

"Butterfield's generosity is obvious, not only in her willingness to create a scholarship for our students, but in her everyday commitment to mentoring young pharmacists in the field," Yingling said. "Additionally, she is the epitome of what a community pharmacist should be — a valued member of the health care team dedicated to educating her patients about their medications and how to use them safely."

The scholarship is renewable, requires a 3.0 GPA and is intended for full-time female students who live in West Virginia.

## Safe driving important for students to remember for the new semester

By **DWIGHT JORGE**  
NEWS EDITOR

For Marshall University students returning to campus for the fall semester, it is important to remember to practice safe driving techniques.

"The most common mistake is going too fast; that is typically the biggest issue," said Tracy Smith, director of safety and health at Marshall. "Students just need to slow down. Everybody seems to be in a hurry trying to get from point A to point B, and, especially if it's bad weather, it is important to slow down."

Smith said the three most important things to remember when you are driving are to drive the speed limit, to give spacing between you and the car in front of you and to make sure that your car is routinely inspected.

"Make sure you have enough space around your car because you always want to leave yourself an out," Smith said. "Controlling the space in front of your car is the easiest to control, so that means, if you're in a lot of traffic, to back off a little bit so there is at least three seconds between you and the vehicle in front of you."

Smith said when the weather is bad drivers should be extra cautious due to hazardous road conditions.

"It is important to make sure your car and tires are inspected," Smith said. "You can

hydroplane at any speed over 35 mph. The roads are very slick with in the first few minutes of a rain because all the traffic, oil and dust that is sitting on the road surface. Once the water hits, it doesn't completely wash it off, rather it basically makes like a skating rink for the first few minutes of the rain, so that's when it is extremely dangerous for driving, when the rain first starts."

Sydney Loftis, junior criminal justice major, said when driving around campus it is important to stay alert and safe especially during the rain.

"I go slower. It floods horribly here, so I try to be extra careful while driving," Loftis said. "You just need to watch where your going because people will just pop up everywhere around here. I always make sure to have my seatbelt on while driving and not to text."

Patrick Crockett, sophomore graphic design major, commutes daily to campus and said it is important to focused on driving.

"I don't text and talk on the phone in the car unless it is on my Bluetooth," Crockett said. "If the weather is bad, I tend to drive slower."

Smith said the important things students should remember is to slow down, plan ahead, give yourself enough space and to be patient.

**Dwight Jorge can be contacted at [jorge@marshall.edu](mailto:jorge@marshall.edu).**



PHOTOS BY DWIGHT JORGE | THE PARTHENON

Cars race down 5th Avenue (top) and 3rd Avenue (right) during rush hour. However, traffic around campus can be heavy at any point in the day. Tracy Smith, director of safety and health, said it is important for students to drive the speed limit, give themselves enough space, have their cars inspected and be patient with the other drivers.

# States tightening rules on college loans, wanting 'best bang for buck'

By **JON MARCUS**  
THE HECHINGER REPORT

Every year states hand out more than \$11 billion in financial aid to college students with no certainty as to whether they'll ever graduate.

Many states don't track the money. They simply hand it over and hope for the best, as one educational consultant put it.

It's a "one-sided partnership," according to Stan Jones, the president of the advocacy organization Complete College America. "The states provide the funds, but the expectations states have of students are really pretty low."

In Indiana, for instance, only around 40 percent of aid recipients will earn their four-year degrees in even six years, state figures show. That's lower

than the state average for all students. And while 75 percent may be certain they're on schedule, only half will end up taking the minimum number of credits they need, per semester, to get through.

But things in the Hoosier State and several others are about to change, as states begin to demand something in exchange for their investments: higher graduation rates.

Starting next year, Indiana students will be required not only to start but also to finish 24 credits annually for their aid to be renewed. They'll be rewarded with up to an additional \$600 a year in aid at public colleges and universities and \$1,100 more at private ones if they complete 30 credits or more. The idea is to put them

on track to graduate within four years.

"We want to make sure we're getting the best bang for the buck," said Mary Jane Michalak, Indiana's associate commissioner of student financial aid. "Right now our students aren't succeeding, and we believe this keeps them on target and shows them how to get to the goal."

Of course, there's always been one powerful incentive for students to finish school: In most states, their eligibility for financial aid expires after the equivalent of four years of study. But to a typical college student, four years can seem very distant. And when the aid dries up, the experts say, some are forced to resort to loans or other ways to pay, and many more drop out.

"It's the difference between immediate versus distant incentives," said Nate Johnson, a senior consultant at HCM Strategists, a Washington firm that states often hire to review their education policies. "The fact that I'm going to run out of aid in four years is a lot less pressing than the fact that I need to pay my rent right now."

Paradoxically, many state financial-aid programs pay for a maximum of 24 credit hours annually 12 per semester which isn't enough for a student to reach the 120 credits typically needed to earn a bachelor's degree in four years. Thirty percent of full-time students at four-year universities and 72 percent at community colleges take even fewer than that and

quickly fall behind, Complete College America reports.

"It's absolutely backward," Johnson said. "We've created a system where we cap (financial aid) at 12 credits (per semester), and the result is students taking a really, really long time to graduate, if they graduate at all."

Early results in the few states that have started to require that financial-aid recipients take 15 credits a semester, or 30 per year, show that these and other new conditions have begun to nudge success rates higher.

That's been the case in West Virginia, where about half the students who get state financial aid now are required to take 30 credits annually, said Brian Weingart, the senior

director of financial aid for the state's Higher Education Policy Commission. The proportion of these aid recipients who graduate within six years has increased to 70 percent, compared with the average for all students in West Virginia of less than 48 percent.

"The pendulum is swinging from access to success and getting these students a credential, or else there isn't much to show for the money you're investing," Weingart said.

Early results from similar pilot programs in Louisiana, Ohio and New Mexico show that connecting financial aid with meeting certain benchmarks has increased the number of credits earned and the proportion of students who stay in school.

# Kerry sets goal for reaching accord on Israeli-Palastinian conflict



OLIVIER DOULIERY | MCT

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry (center) watches as Israeli Justice Minister Tzipi Livni and Palestinian chief negotiator Saeb Erekat (left) shake hands during a press conference after the start of peace talks in

By **HANNAH ALLAM and LESLEY CLARK**  
MCCLATCHY WASHINGTON BUREAU

Heralding what he called a "new moment of possibility" toward Middle East peace, Secretary of State John Kerry on Tuesday announced an ambitious schedule for resolving the Israeli-Palastinian conflict, saying he hopes negotiators for the two sides will have agreed to a framework for a

settlement in nine months.

President Barack Obama put the weight of the White House behind the effort, personally greeting Israeli Justice Minister Tzipi Livni and chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat, who were in Washington for the first direct talks between the two sides in three years.

Kerry, too, has paid close attention to reviving the long-stalled process, and many now

feel its success or failure will be a major part of his legacy. He's traveled frequently to the region in the past four months, laying the groundwork. Overseeing the day-to-day progress will fall to special envoy Martin Indyk, who was named to the job on Monday.

Kerry conceded that pitfalls remain, but he said it wasn't the time to listen to the skeptics who wonder how this plan will succeed when all such

past attempts have collapsed. This time, at least, the talks appear to have made it to the next round the parties have agreed to meet again in the Middle East within two weeks.

"We're here today because the Israeli people and the Palestinian people both have leaders willing to heed the call of history, leaders who will stand strong in the face of criticism and are right now for what they know is in their people's best interests," Kerry said. "Their commitment to make tough choices, frankly, should give all of us hope that these negotiations actually have a chance to accomplish something."

Livni and Erekat, along with their entourages, met with their U.S. counterparts Monday night for a brief round of introductory talks, followed by an Iftar, the traditional breaking of the fast in the Islamic holy month of Ramadan.

More formal talks began Tuesday, but very few details were released. The State Department and the White House said all parties had agreed to keep the negotiations quiet, with only infrequent updates. Kerry said that he'd be the source of any official updates.

At the White House, press secretary Jay Carney said "all sides agree that it would be most conducive to this process" to not divulge details. He only gave a

broad-brush update, saying that Obama was still focused on the hard work that lies ahead.

"The president used this opportunity to convey his appreciation to both sides for the leadership and courage they have shown in coming to the table, and to directly express his personal support for final-status negotiation," Carney said.

It's no secret what contentious issues will be under discussion: setting starting points for border talks, deciding the future of contested Jerusalem, and Israel's continued construction of settlements, to name some of the perennial sticking points.

One of the biggest potential spoilers to any agreement is the fate of Gaza, which is controlled by the Islamist militants of Hamas, who oppose any negotiations with Israel.

Robert Danin, a former senior Middle East specialist for the State Department and the National Security Council who's now at the Council on Foreign Relations, said it's time for the United States to recognize that attempts to rout Hamas from Gaza have failed and that it's time to push for Palestinian reconciliation but not necessarily direct engagement with Hamas.

Otherwise, Danin said, the U.S. is pushing for a peaceful resolution that President

Mahmoud Abbas, of the moderate Fatah Party, won't be able to deliver to Gazans.

"Gaza is one of the huge elephants in the room that no one talks about," Danin said. "Abbas only controls the West Bank."

Despite the obstacles ahead, Danin said, Kerry's initiative is ambitious, broader even than what was initially called for by Obama after his visit to the region in March.

Kerry is determined to wrangle from the parties an end-of-conflict agreement that leaves no outstanding claims from either side. Even more daunting is the timetable Kerry is aiming for — only nine months to hammer such polarizing issues as whether Palestinian refugees have the right of return.

"If they start digging themselves into a ditch, that's where the U.S. role will be imperative," Danin said.

Ideally, State Department officials have said, the United States will play more of an observer role, letting the Palestinian and Israelis have plenty of time to work out their own issues. One senior State Department official, speaking to reporters on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue, insisted that the revived talks were not "a U.S. assistance program."

# Speculation about new Apple products kicks into overdrive

By **CHRIS O'BRIEN**  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

For Apple Inc. fans and investors, the future can't get here fast enough.

Chatter about what revolutionary products the company has cooking in its laboratories is incessant and often overblown. But anticipation that, finally, Apple is about to launch something big this fall has kicked into overdrive in recent days thanks to two separate but possibly related developments.

The first clue came during the company's earnings calls, when executives gave an unusual wink-wink, nudge-nudge about a planned announcement in October. The second clue was the sudden and mysterious disappearance of one of Apple's highest-paid executives from the Web page listing the company's top management.

Of course, this being Apple, nothing has been made explicit, and the Cupertino, Calif.,

company is doing its best to drape a cloak over all future products. But the speculation it has triggered is highlighting the growing pressure on Apple to deliver a revolutionary hit product that supercharges its growth and proves that it hasn't lost its innovation mojo.

"We are very hard at work on some amazing new products that we will introduce in the fall in across 2014," Peter Oppenheimer, Apple's chief financial officer, said during a conference call last week. Later he added: "We are on track to have a very busy fall. I would like to leave it there and go into more detail in October."

Last weekend, a few days after Oppenheimer spoke, Apple quietly removed Bob Mansfield, senior vice president of technologies, from its website.

Mansfield is a popular figure inside Apple, credited with shepherding many of its hardware breakthroughs during his long tenure. Mansfield retired last year and then came out

of retirement to take on a job created just for him overseeing the company's wireless and semiconductor teams.

"Bob is no longer going to be on Apple's executive team but will remain at Apple working on special projects" and reporting to Chief Executive Tim Cook, Apple spokesman Steve Dowling said.

"It seems like they're finding a way to keep his expertise available and let him sit in on the things he likes and not have to worry about all the executive responsibilities," said Colin Gillis, an analyst at BGC Partners. "This is probably coming at the end of a product cycle."

But what product cycle could that be? And will it be "amazing," as Apple's Oppenheimer promised?

For starters, Apple's new mobile operating system, iOS 7, and its new Mavericks operating system for Mac computers will be available this fall. But those products are old

news, having been announced weeks ago at the company's developers conference.

For October, analysts at Barclays Capital are betting that Apple will announce a new iPhone 5S that will feature a fingerprint sensor for added security. That may be followed by a new iPad Mini, complete with retina display, in late 2013 or early 2014, along with a thinner traditional iPad sometime.

Some pundits believe that the company needs a lower-cost phone to entice new users in the U.S., as well as buyers in emerging markets where phone companies don't subsidize the cost of phones. On Monday, one tech blog, Business Insider, reported that this low-cost phone would be called the iPhone 5C "C" because it will be available in many colors, not because it's cheap.

Patrick Moorhead, principal analyst at Moor Insights & Strategy, said becoming more

competitive overseas with such a phone is Apple's most pressing issue.

"I believe Apple will first focus on improving their success in emerging regions," Moorhead said.

But Mansfield's status change has also stirred up talk of something more dramatic, in part because he was rumored to be working on the company's iWatch. Analysts seemed to agree that a new category of product was still a bit further off, however.

Morgan Stanley and Piper Jaffray analysts wrote that they believe the iWatch and some kind of Apple TV set announcement are coming either later this year or sometime in 2014.

"Nothing about the report itself changes our belief that the key factors on the stock are the expected cheaper phone in the fall as well as the potential TV announcement late this year and an iWatch in 2014," Piper Jaffray analyst Gene Munster

wrote in a note to clients last week.

Just about any of these new gadgets, however, would be welcome news to Apple lovers.

Investors breathed a sigh of relief last week when Apple's third-quarter earnings report turned out not to be as bad as some had feared. The company reported higher-than-expected iPhone sales, primarily in the U.S.

Still, several analysts lowered their earnings target for the current quarter, which ends in September, noting that Apple still faced challenges such as a lower average selling price for iPhones, weakness in international markets, slipping iPad sales and declining shipments of Mac computers.

Apple's stock rose \$5.53, or 1.3 percent, to \$453.32 on Tuesday. That's a nice climb from the close of \$418.99 just before earnings were announced July 23, but still well below the \$582.52 price one year ago.

# SPORTS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 2013 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

## Coach Holliday says new-look C-USA good for Thundering Herd

By WILL VANCE  
SPORTS EDITOR

After an offseason dominated by conference realignment, Conference USA looks vastly different. Gone are familiar foes like UCF, Memphis, SMU and Houston, with new teams like Middle Tennessee, Old Dominion, Florida Atlantic and many others taking their place. Though the consensus says that C-USA has been weakened by the change, Marshall University head coach Doc Holliday believes the realignment has helped the Thundering Herd.

"I look at the conference right now and I think it's a better fit for us from a regional standpoint and a recruiting standpoint," coach Holliday said Monday at his pre-camp press conference.

"From our standpoint looking at the conference, our fan base has four or five they can get in the car and drive to," coach Holliday said. "This year we're talking about Middle Tennessee, a year from now we're going to be talking about getting in a car and driving to Middle (Tennessee), Western Kentucky, Charlotte and Old Dominion."

In the past, Marshall's only conference opponent within driving distance was East Carolina, roughly seven hours away in Greenville, N. C. This season, Marshall's game against Middle Tennessee in Murfreesboro is only five and half hours, and beyond this season games against Western Kentucky in Bowling Green, KY, Old Dominion in Norfolk, VA, and UNC-Charlotte in Charlotte N.C., all under seven hour drives.

From a competitive point of view, C-USA looks much weaker. Gone is Houston, which threatened the power conferences grip on the BCS two years ago as well as UCF, which managed to break the top 25 several times. Coach Holliday, however, believes the new additions have the same potential.

"We lost a few teams, but Louisiana Tech was pretty good last year," Holliday said. "They're an excellent football team."

Louisiana Tech defeated Houston, Illinois and Virginia last season and lost to Texas A&M and their Heisman Trophy winning quarterback Johnny Manziel by only two points. La. Tech is not the only team coach Holliday is excited about.



Geographical map of the new-look Conference USA. Western Kentucky University will not become a part of the conference until 2014.

COURTESY OF CONFERENCE USA

"Middle Tennessee went into Georgia Tech and beat them," Holliday said. "Some of those teams we brought in are excellent football teams that have won big, big games."

As one of the best recruiters in the nation, the realignment's implications on the recruiting landscape were not lost on coach Holliday.

"It helps you and hurts you," Holliday said. "We can go into Virginia and the Tidewater area and say 'your family has an opportunity to see you play, but Old Dominion will say 'look, we're in the same conference they are, why do you have to go to Marshall for?'"

"Same goes for Florida," Holliday said. "We

used to go in and beat those schools for recruits and now they're going to say 'why do you have to go clear to Marshall University when you can stay in your own backyard with your family and play in the same conference?'"

Even in areas that Marshall does not normally recruit, coach Holliday sees opportunities for C-USA's new members.

"You look at North Texas's facilities and they're unbelievable," Holliday said. They're in the most fertile recruiting ground in America around Dallas and UT-San Antonio and [coach] Larry [Coker] can do that too."

Holliday believes Marshall's new athletic

facilities, particularly the new indoor practice facility currently under construction, will help give Marshall an edge against its new opponents in recruiting.

"Mike [Hamrick] has done a great job of getting our facilities where they need to be," Holliday said. "We have to go out and take [C-USA teams] players from them because we don't have enough players in the state to go win a championship."

Conference USA may look depleted, but the Thundering Herd's future in it is bright.

Will Vance can be contacted at [vance162@marshall.edu](mailto:vance162@marshall.edu).

## Marshall ahead of the curve in fast-paced offense trend

By BRAXTON CRISP  
THE PARTHENON

Never mind the conference realignment, college football has experienced a different kind of transition, this one in terms of actual gameplay.

Over the past few years, teams have been going to a "hurry-up" style offense. It all started with then-head coach at Oregon, Chip Kelly, who instituted the fast paced, spread offense with the Ducks when arrived there in 2007 as offensive coordinator, and kept it going as head coach from 2009 all the way up through this past season.

As Kelly and the Ducks had more and more success, eventually making the 2011 BCS National Championship Game against Auburn, other teams around the country started picking up on the fast tempo style of play.

Marshall University football went that way with the offense in the 2012 season, and ended up snapping the ball 90.6 times per game, which was more than nine plays per game more than the Ducks in 2012. The fast-paced nature of the Thundering Herd's offense allowed Rakeem Cato and company to put up 41 points per game and rack up over 530 yards per game.

Head Coach Doc Holliday said that playing fast opens up doors for mid-major teams to compete with higher-level programs.

"I do know that people who play fast can sometimes compete and it gives them an opportunity to compete with teams that probably have better players than they do," Holliday said. "I think it's an equalizer. I don't think it is, I know it is. But I also know that teams that play extremely fast, if you don't play defense, you still get beat."

Holliday's mention of defense reaffirms his mantra that if a team's defense cannot stop the opponent, then it does not matter how many points the offense scores.

Last year the Herd defense allowed 43

points per game, which kept opponents in games despite the high scoring offense. Holliday said that teams with fast offenses often suffer from defensive woes.

"If you look around the country at teams that play extremely fast, there are not a lot of them that play very good defense," Holliday said. "In order to win championships at the end of the day, when you look up, the teams that play great defense are in those championship games. Whether it is Conference USA, whether it is the national championship, or whatever, at some point you've got to stop somebody."

Holliday did identify a way that the offense can help the defense become better, especially as more and more teams start playing high-tempo football.

"We did a lot of research in spring ball about how you practice; how that affects the way your defense plays," Holliday said. "We worked extremely hard all spring on making sure we changed tempos and making sure we gave the defense what they had to get to get their feet in the ground. When we line up this year against Southern Miss, they're going to be extremely high tempo and play fast because that's what he (Southern Miss coach Todd Monken) did at Oklahoma State and that's what he knows. Playing against our offense that does play fast, at times, your defense has to be prepared for that because in our league you're going to get it."

As the 2013 fall camp begins, Holliday will focus on making the defensive unit better as possibly the final piece to the winning puzzle that Marshall has been trying to complete.

"You've got to do a great job balancing your practice schedules and all that to get your defense prepared to play because at the end of the day, you've got to be able to get on the field and stop people or you can't win," Holliday said.

Braxton Crisp can be contacted at [crisp23@marshall.edu](mailto:crisp23@marshall.edu).

## Volleyball's Der named Pre-season All-Conference USA

HERDZONE.COM

Marshall outside hitter Laura Der was named preseason All-Conference USA in volleyball, the league office announced Wednesday morning.

Der, a senior from Clarksville, Ind., earns her first preseason honor after being selected to the All-C-USA first team and All-Midwest Region Honorable Mention

squad a year ago. The 5-foot-9 outside hitter ranked among the NCAA top 25 in kills (4.32/21st) and points per set (4.96/22nd). Der also is a 2012 C-USA All-Academic honoree.

The Thundering Herd, picked eighth of 15 teams in Wednesday's preseason C-USA poll, finished 18-13 for the 2012 season with an 8-8 Conference USA record.

## Marshall Men's Basketball 2013-2014 Conference USA schedule

Thursday, January 9	@ UTSA
Saturday, January 11	@UTEP
Thursday, January 16	vs. North Texas
Saturday, January 18	vs. Tulsa
Thursday, January 23	@Rice
Saturday, January 25	@Louisiana Tech
Thursday, January 30	vs. FIU
Saturday, February 1	vs. FAU
Thursday, February 6	@Southern Miss
Saturday, February 8	@Tulane
Saturday, February 15	@Charlotte
Thursday, February 20	vs. UAB
Saturday, February 22	vs. Middle Tennessee
Thursday, February 27	@Old Dominion
Sunday, March 2	vs. East Carolina
Thursday, March 6	vs. Charlotte

# OPINION

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 2013 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

EDITORIAL

## College costs: price gouging the American student

The cost of attending college keeps rising — there is no denying the fact — but is it due to inflation or is there a more sinister reason behind the 500 percent increase in tuition prices over the past 30 years?

People can blame it on inflation, which has increased more than 115 percent since the 1980s; but tuition prices are not consistent with inflation. For example, a gallon of milk cost almost \$2 in 1983. Today, it costs as much as \$4. If the price for a gallon of milk increased at the same rate as tuition, it would cost more than \$11. This should anger more people than it does.

There are many reasons the cost of college has increased in the past 30 years. Some are good, but others not so much.

Schools often increase tuition to offset high overhead costs due to bloated budgets, the renovation and replacement of old buildings and the construction of state-of-the-art facilities.

One only needs to step foot on Marshall University's campus, or any university for that matter, to see and hear the construction. Sometimes, new buildings are privately or federally funded, but what about the buildings that are not?

Colleges are growing as new majors are created and new facilities are built. Growth is a good thing, but someone has to pay the bills. Is it fair when that someone is a poor college student who has gambled his or her financial security in order to receive a diploma?

The overwhelming opinion in this country is that a person cannot be successful without a college degree. While this may be true to a certain extent — 3.9 percent of college graduates are unemployed compared to 6.4 to 10.7 percent of non-graduates — many have found success without finishing college.

Sadly, the successful ones are the outliers and the rest of college students end up crippled with debt for many years, even decades. But, students do not have to let that happen.

Blindly paying full tuition prices is throwing money away, and loans can be financially foolish. Instead, students should shop around to find the best deals and seek out scholarships and grants. If that fails, working through college and asking parents for help is a solution. After all, it is better to be poor for four years than in debt for 20.

Online Polls

## YOU CAN BE HERD

Which Marco would you like to see in the upcoming semester?

Current Marco  
Marco with a partial makeover  
Marco with a full makeover

How are you paying for your college tuition?

Scholarships or grants	55%
Student loans	24%
Parents	21%

Voice your opinion. It is your right. Answer our poll at [www.marshallparthenon.com](http://www.marshallparthenon.com) or tweet us your answer at @MUParthenon.

COLUMN

## A serial sexter stays in New York's mayoral race. What will be next?

By JOHN KASS  
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Sometime in the future, perhaps 10 years from now, candidates running for mayor of New York will look back on the Anthony Weiner saga and laugh.

Then they will each text photographs of their special purposes to perfect strangers, and voters will yawn.

You do not think so? Please think again.

The notion that American politics keep sliding down a slippery slope is not some random theory; it is now a measurable fact.

Getting lost in the uproar over the latest chapter in the saga is what really happened to the loathsome Weiner and his city.

He left Congress in disgrace in 2011 after he was caught texting images of his nether regions to young women. But rather than take a long walk of shame, Weiner instead decided to run for mayor.

The man is a serial sexter running for mayor, and he did not disappear after his first offense. What is remarkable is that only a few weeks ago, Weiner was on top in the mayoral race — as a candidate of such brazen ego, he had a certain appeal.

It is easy to forget that Weiner's virtual paramour, Sydney Leathers, has surfaced to discuss how she fell for his policy positions.

In an interview with a TV gossip show, Leathers said Weiner described himself as "an argumentative, perpetually horny middle-aged man. And that time I was like, 'Oh, no, you're not.' But, yes, he is."

Since then, Weiner's poll ratings have dropped, and it seems that New Yorkers do not want to give him a third chance.

A third chance? Why did New York even give him a second chance?

Probably because it is New York. And because America has been on this slope for years, slipping and sliding, and now we have picked up speed.

Children who get their political news from "Inside Edition" probably will not believe this, but there was a time when a candidate could get in trouble for merely thinking about sex.

Not broadcasting it, not photographing it, not using a smartphone to take pictures of his nether regions so that Sydney Leathers and the National Security Agency could see it.

Just thinking about sex was dangerous.

It happened to Jimmy Carter, before he was elected president in 1976. He once confessed to looking at attractive women with lust in his heart. The nation was aghast that a presidential candidate would touch the subject.

And all he said was that he looked.

A few years later, we were asking our candidates what kind of undershorts they wore, and we elected a draft dodger to the presidency. You probably thought that was impossible once too. Happily, Americans has since raised our standards, and during a time of worldwide economic collapse, we elected a community organizer.

One of that fellow's claims to fame was that in the Illinois Senate, he was so uncertain about what to do that he kept voting present. And now he is president of the United States.

Some consider that an improvement, others do not, but rather than argue, let history decide at the proper time, like when Americans are all on food stamps and China occupies Washington.

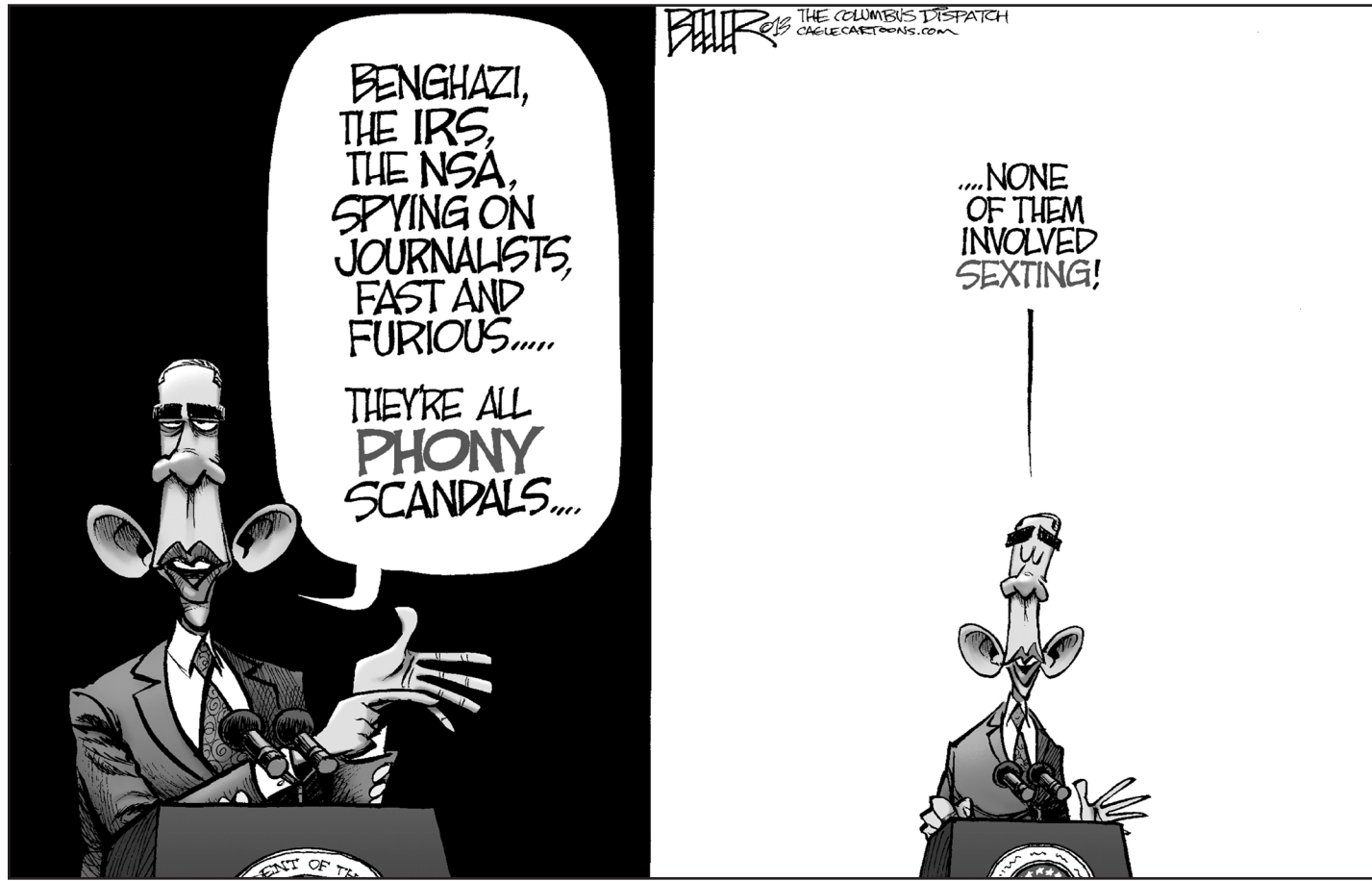
In the meantime, let us just acknowledge that the general trend has been a downward slide.

So, Anthony Weiner keeps on running and his wife stands by her man, although I'm sure you, too, were pleased that she did not use that fake Southern accent used by her mentor, Hillary Rodham Clinton, years ago in a similar circumstance.

And we move forward into a future where concepts like honor and shame are inexorably and relentlessly forgotten.

Why? Because they are awkward, they are about judging the behavior of others, and who wants that anymore?

Such troublesome words are best left to colorful, backward tribal peoples of other lands. We are Americans, looking ahead, to where the Anthony Weiners will lead us.



COLUMN

## Does whistleblowing make a difference?

By HENRY CULVYHOUSE  
COLUMNIST

Tuesday, a military court found U.S. Army Private Bradley Manning guilty of 20 charges including espionage and theft. The charges were leveled against him for giving WikiLeaks thousands of classified diplomatic cables and documents on the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. However, he did beat the most grievous charge: aiding the enemy.

The ex-intelligence analyst faces up to 136 years in prison, and sentencing starts Wednesday. As of this writing, the military prosecutors and lawyers are arguing over just how many years Manning will serve.

Edward Snowden, the leaker of the National Security Agency's controversial telephone surveillance program, still remains in the transit area at the Moscow airport, where he is vying for temporary asylum in the Russian Federation and permanent asylum in Latin America.

WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange remains holed up in the Ecuadorian embassy in London, where he is avoiding extradition to Sweden for questioning in two separate incidents of sexual assault in 2010. Assange has maintained the charges are politically motivated.

The thing I have noticed about the portrayal of these three men, no matter what their situation, is that people, regardless of stance, want to simplify them: Manning is a traitor to his nation or a whistleblower on the United States'

misdeeds; Snowden is a reckless security risk or a provocateur of civil debate; and Assange is a champion of transparency or a perverted publicity seeker.

But a cursory look into each of these men's lives show they are neither hero nor villain, but the products of their times.

One can get caught up on the details of these men's lives and attempt to trace what exactly motivated them to leak or publish top secret information. It is highly plausible that Manning's sharing of top-secret information with WikiLeaks was a reaction to years of homophobic bullying. Snowden may have talked to The Guardian because of what he saw the CIA do in Switzerland. Assange may have created WikiLeaks as way to battle the secrecy of government organizations across the world. It is hard to say what motivates these men, but what should be acknowledged is the zeitgeist they have come to represent.

We live in a time where the whole base of human knowledge rests at our fingertips, and new pieces of information, whether it is local news coverage of a three-headed calf or diplomatic cables revealing the U.S. thinks Vladimir Putin is corrupt, can be added to that data pool in a matter of seconds.

We also live in a time of vigorous debate over the future of our country and the world as a whole. Will the future be more equitable for the poor, or work to line the pockets of the rich? Will we have

to sacrifice our rights and freedoms in order to protect ourselves from terrorists and lunatics? Will we become better stewards of the environment or continue spewing carbon in the atmosphere?

On either side of the debate, one will always find idealists, who embed themselves in their positions. The idealist, for all intents and purposes, is a fool who seeks to cut down societal issues into easy fixes, based on their respective worldview, regardless of the actual complexity of the issue. For them, it is a black and white world.

These three men represent what happens when technical, pragmatic knowledge of computer science meets idealism. Without computer skills, there is no way any of these men could do what they did. However, without the idealism, they would not have put their skills to use in such a simplistic way.

Only an idealist would believe releasing all this information would somehow change how America does business. While their revelations are important, has it really changed anything, and has the public at large really gone into tumult over this? The answer, for better or worse, is no.

Whistleblowers, as we have seen, must avoid being crushed by the national security state, but when they blow their whistle, no one in America really gives a damn.

Henry Culvyhouse can be contacted at [culvyhouse@marshall.edu](mailto:culvyhouse@marshall.edu).

## THE PARTHENON

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

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.

REBECCA STEPHENS  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR  
[stephens107@marshall.edu](mailto:stephens107@marshall.edu)

DWIGHT JORGE  
NEWS EDITOR  
[jorge@marshall.edu](mailto:jorge@marshall.edu)

CODI MOHR  
LIFE! EDITOR  
[mohr13@marshall.edu](mailto:mohr13@marshall.edu)

SAMUEL SPECIALE  
MANAGING EDITOR  
[speciale@marshall.edu](mailto:speciale@marshall.edu)

WILL VANCE  
SPORTS EDITOR  
[vance162@marshall.edu](mailto:vance162@marshall.edu)

SANDY YORK  
FACULTY ADVISOR  
[sandy.york@marshall.edu](mailto:sandy.york@marshall.edu)

CONTACT US: 109 Communications Bldg. | Marshall University | One John Marshall Drive  
Huntington, West Virginia 25755 | [parthenon@marshall.edu](http://parthenon@marshall.edu) | @MUParthenon

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## Experiencing China: MU student spends summer months exploring Chinese culture

### Hiking at Qianling Mausoleum

By **MARCUS CONSTANTINO**  
THE PARTHENON

Every once in a while, we have one of those moments that stands out from the rest. A moment that unfolds so perfectly, you ask yourself if you are having an out-of-body experience or if you are experiencing an overwhelming rush of life. Yesterday was one of those days.

We left our Xi'an hotel at 8 a.m. Tuesday for a two-hour bus ride to the Qianling Mausoleum, a Tang Dynasty tomb on a mountain. The day started with two things I had not seen since I flew out of Detroit on July 8: a blue sky and direct sunlight. Though it made it a little bit hotter outside, it was nice to escape the haze that has shrouded the air since we arrived.

When you enter the mausoleum, you walk down a long concrete walkway lined with large, gold Buddha statues and other smaller stone statues. The path gives way to a mountain, which is actually the buried tomb of China's only ruling empress, Wu Zetian. At about 11 p.m., I asked one of our professors if we had time to climb to the top of the mountain, almost jokingly.

"It would take four hours," she said.

Challenge accepted.

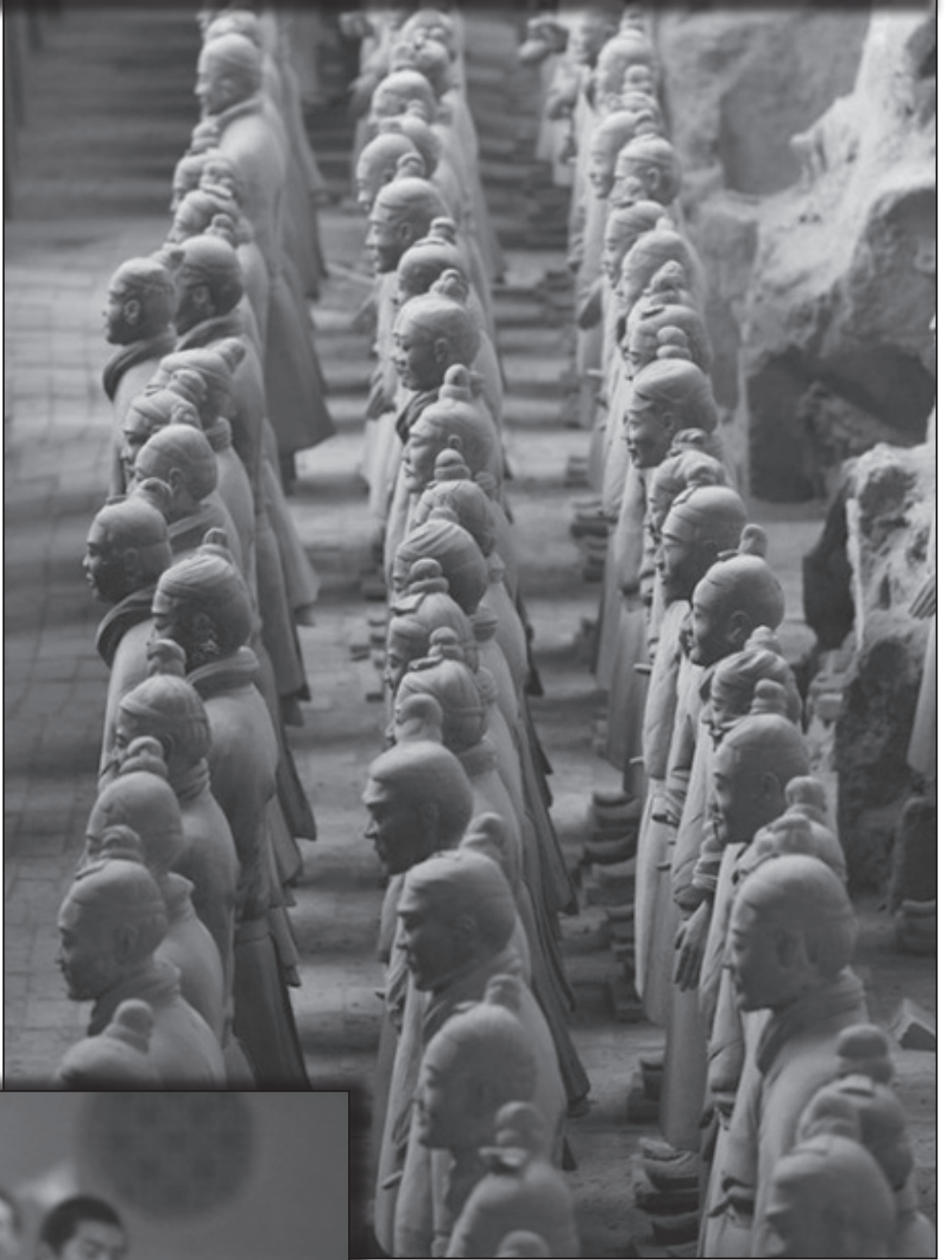
As I started walking up the mountain, the nice, concrete walkway turned into a dusty concrete ramp lined with old Chinese people selling colorful, handcrafted souvenirs. The other West Virginia students and a few others caught up with me

as I took a break to drink warm bottled water I purchased from one of the path-side sellers.

The concrete path turned into nothing more than a sign pointing to a dirt and rock path up the mountain. It was a steep, rocky climb. I had to be careful with my footing to keep from slipping on a rock or the hard-packed dirt and falling down. Along the way, we passed a boy laying in a hammock looking over the vista and many others just sitting along the path.

I was completely out of breath when I reached the top, but it was well worth it. The view was breathtaking. We had a beautiful vista that featured China's farmland, industry and urban life in the distance. Several old men were at the top, and one of them generously gave some of our group some tea. He also took a group picture of us with the view as a backdrop. He was smoking something in his pipe and was probably on this mountaintop more often than not, if I had to guess. I could have stayed there for hours.

Monday was also a pretty great day. After touring the Terracotta Warriors, we had lunch, then were given free time until dinner. Other students and I took this opportunity to go biking on top of the Xi'an Wall, a 13.7 km. defense wall around the city. We only had enough money to rent two bikes, so we rented two tandem bikes. It was a little difficult to get going at first, but once we were balanced, it was a smooth, relaxing ride with a great view of the Xi'an skyline.



Above: The famous Terracotta Army is a collection of sculptures depicting the 8,000 soldiers of the armies of the first Emperor of China, Qin Shi Huang. Though estimated to have been built in the third century B.C., the sculptures were not discovered until 1974 by local farmers.



Students visiting the Shaolin Temple in Dongyang watched as Songyang Academy students performed Kung Fu shows. Students of the academy often practice Shaolin Kung Fu, a collection of Chinese martial arts affiliated with the Shaolin Monastery, eight hours a day and nearly year-round.

PHOTOS BY MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON

### Kung Fu shows, artwork and theater in urban

Friday, we went to the Henan Museum, which has about 8,000 years worth of historical artifacts. Four of China's eight dynasties had capitals in Henan Province, so there is still much to be unearthed. I was amazed at how well kept many of the relics were such as pottery, instruments and statues. From primitive weapons and flutes made of bone to large cauldrons for cooking and statues of lions and Buddha, the museum was amazing because of the sheer amount of history inside it.

We also spent some time at Zhengzhou University. The campus is huge, as more than 36,000 students attend the university. We toured the campus's art gallery, which had oil paintings and sketches of

the local landscape by Zhengzhou students. Later, as we were walking around campus, I photographed a child on his scooter, and he came to me very curious about my camera.

We went to Dongyang, home of the Shaolin Temple and Songyang Academy. Set in a breathtaking landscape of tall, green mountains partially obscured in a heavy haze, the temple was our first up-close taste of traditional Chinese architecture. Many statues and tablets are still there, some about 1,400 years old. The area is famous for Kung Fu. While it is not the birthplace of Kung Fu, many types of Kung Fu have originated from Dongyang. There are thousands of children at the

Songyang Academy learning Kung Fu in a military-like structure. The students practice Kung Fu eight hours a day and are at the academy nearly year-round. We were able to watch a Kung Fu show at the end of our time at Songyang, and it was incredible.

We watched a play in a mountain valley. The show combined traditional dancing, Kung Fu, and men donning bright lights on their clothing running across zip lines along with an artificial moon that rose up over the valley. The set was literally the entire valley and mountainside with spotlights lights popping up all along the mountains.

**Marcus Constantino can be contacted at [constantino2@marshall.edu](mailto:constantino2@marshall.edu).**

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