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## The Parthenon, October 24, 2018

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# THE PARTHENON

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## Pumpkin House relies on volunteers for success

READ MORE ON PAGE 2



WHAT'S INSIDE

3  
Autumn writing contest

4  
SGA senate meeting

5  
Studyrange launches

6  
Herd football victorious over FAU

7  
Week 8 Report Card

8  
EDITORIAL: Refugees

9  
Letters to the Editor  
SMIRL MEETS WORLD

11  
PREVIEW: Judgement House

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# Pumpkin House relies on volunteers for success

By MEG KELLER  
THE PARTHENON

Pumpkin carving at the famous Pumpkin House in Kenova, West Virginia, is set to continue throughout the week.

Volunteers from Marshall University's Herd Recovery organization began helping to carve 3,000 pumpkins into jack 'o lanterns to be used in the decoration of the house for viewing in the last two weeks of October.

Many local volunteers help decorate the Pumpkin House every year.

"We've come to the conclusion that there are a lot of likeminded people on campus who want to help out," Jacob Thomas, president of Herd Recovery, said. "We want to connect them."

The Pumpkin House was built in 1891 and began its first pumpkin display in 1978 with four pumpkins. The tradition and self-proclaimed obsession began when owner of The Pumpkin House and local pharmacist, Ric Griffith, started carving pumpkins each October for his daughters. He said it continued to grow into what it is today and now has annual visitors from across the world.

"The greatest joy for me is the wonderful people who show up to help us," Griffith said.

The carving of the pumpkins began Oct. 19 and is still in need of volunteers to help out, Griffith said.

Thus far volunteer help on Griffith's Pumpkin House has come from many local organizations, including the Marshall's Thundering Nerds math club. The Thundering Nerds have an entire display on the lawn of the house, arranged in a mathematical puzzle for guests to try to solve.

The process of carving 3,000 pumpkins takes up a hefty amount of time Griffith said, and in order to meet the end of the month deadline, he and volunteers work countless hours throughout the month. 400 to 500 pumpkins need to be carved daily in order to accomplish the Pumpkin House's goal. The pumpkins are cleaned out by hand and carved using drills and jigsaws because they work more efficiently than a pumpkin carving kit would, Griffith said. Once they are carved they are sent to soak in a liquid mixture containing bleach in order to preserve and prolong the life of the pumpkin. The bleach prevents mold from growing, Griffith said.

The pumpkins produce up to 3 million seeds,

one in five of which end up in Griffith's yard. He said in previous years he has disposed of the pumpkin remains through a local farmer but is unsure what he will be doing with them this year.

"Usually I have a farmer who takes all of the cuttings, seeds, scrapings and old pumpkins, and feeds it to his cattle and hogs," Griffith said. "This year I'm worried about that because my farmer backed out on me, so I'm scrambling around trying to find a way to avoid wasting it."

The Pumpkin house is featuring a new attraction this year: animals.

"The Cabell Wayne Animal Shelter is going to be bringing some dogs and cats, setting up in the corner of the yard to entice people to adopt them," Griffith said.

The Pumpkin House has become a community bonding tool, Griffith said, and he feels the Marshall public is a "vital part" of keeping the Pumpkin House going each year.

"I've had Marshall students stay until dawn to help me carve," Griffith said.

A "pleasant surprise" for Griffith, he said, is how people in the local area have developed a sense of pride in The Pumpkin House, and he credits Marshall for some of that pride.

"The Marshall connection is an opportunity for me to let people see who helps make this happen for people not from the area," he said.

Griffith said he hopes to gain even more help from the Herd, and he is not artistic enough to create the unique designs in pumpkins and hopes to elicit help from those who are capable.

"I'd like to send an open invitation to the art department at Marshall," he said. "Maybe some students who are capable of sculpting three dimensional designs in the pumpkins would be interested. I will provide the pumpkin."

Although there is a lot of work left to be done in preparation for thousands of visitors who will come to Griffith's home, he said he would keep it growing if it wouldn't overwhelm the volunteers.

"Volunteers make this happen," he said. "It's just a pumpkin, but it's also a sense of community pride."

The Pumpkin House will be open to visitors until Halloween night from dusk until the early morning hours. The address of the location is 748 Beech St., Kenova, West Virginia.

**Meg Keller can be contacted at [keller61@marshall.edu](mailto:keller61@marshall.edu).**



MEG KELLER | THE PARTHENON

The Pumpkin House, located at 748 Beech St., Kenova, West Virginia, opened Monday, Oct. 22.

# Et Cetera autumn writing contest is underway this week



Cicada Books and Coffee, located at 604 14th St. West, Huntington, will sponsor Et Cetera's annual autumn writing contest on Nov. 1.

DOUGLAS HARDING | THE PARTHENON

By **DOUGLAS HARDING**  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's literary journal organization, Et Cetera, is sponsoring its annual autumn writing contest, with winners to be announced Nov. 1 at Cicada Books and Coffee in Huntington.

All Marshall students are invited to send in submissions of poetry, fiction, nonfiction or hybrids until Sunday, Oct. 28. Students may submit up to three poems and one piece each of fiction and nonfiction, and winners will be published online and encouraged to read their work aloud at the event. All submissions will be judged by members of Marshall's English department.

"This competition is a wonderful opportunity for students to have their work read and published by writers and professors within the department," Morgan Byrne, an editor and social media representative for Et Cetera, said.

Byrne said the competition presents writers with valuable growing experiences such as reading work in front of an audience and having work judged by experts, and winners will have the opportunity to include their achievement on job resumes in the future.

Jennifer Whitt, a sophomore at Marshall majoring in philosophy, is one writer hoping to take advantage of the opportunities presented by Et Cetera. Whitt said she plans to participate in the upcoming competition as well as the spring

journal because they are great ways for her to challenge herself and share her work with others.

"I love to write creatively, whether it's prose, poems or stories, and as a writer, being able to share your work and experience it with others is a beautiful thing," Whitt said.

Whitt said it would be incredible to read her work aloud at Cicada Books and Coffee if she wins, but the sharing and experiencing of each other's works is a valuable experience itself.

"Writing is a very intimate thing for me, so I love being able to share that feeling with other creatives," Whitt said.

Submissions should be sent to [etcetera.mu@gmail.com](mailto:etcetera.mu@gmail.com), and files should include only the name of the work and the content itself, leaving the writer's name in only the subject line of the e-mail. This is to ensure judging is done anonymously, Byrne said.

Et Cetera's autumn writing competition is open only to Marshall students; however, all Marshall affiliates, including graduates, are encouraged to

participate in the journal's spring print edition. Submissions for the spring journal will open in late December or early January, Byrne said.

"Cicada Books is a lovely bookstore and coffee shop, and we are so incredibly thankful for their having allowed us to hold this event there," Byrne said.

**Douglas Harding can be contacted at [harding26@marshall.edu](mailto:harding26@marshall.edu).**

“Writing is a very intimate thing for me, so I love being able to share that feeling with other creatives.”

**JENNIFER WHITT**

## New campus organization aims to connect students

By **LEANNA OWENS**  
THE PARTHENON

The Buddy System, a new organization on Marshall University's campus, has an important mission: to make campus events more accessible to all students.

"We're an organization that helps students find friends to go to programs, games and events with," Matthew Jordan, general member of the Buddy System, said.

The Buddy System was formally known as the Welcome Brigade, an organization which strived to help transfer students become better integrated with Marshall's campus. The Welcome Brigade became the Buddy System when students who were not new to campus wanted to participate as well.

"I joined because I was a sophomore at Marshall, and I wasn't involved on campus at all, but I wanted to be," Rebecca Harrah, general member of the Buddy System, said.

Although the transformed Buddy System organization is new to campus, it is already involved in several campus activities. Buddies go to football games and attended several homecoming activities.

"We're small, but we're mighty," said Morgan Conley, mental health specialist at Marshall and staff adviser for Buddy System. "We're trying to build a network so students can connect to other students that want to go to the same events, so they can have someone to go with."

The Buddy System can connect upperclassmen on campus with younger students, which creates great mentoring opportunities, Conley said.

The Buddy System will organize their own events at the end of the semester through a holiday party and stress reliever event called Slime and Unwind.

Conley said the Buddy System is a safe place for students to reach out and ask questions they may be too afraid to ask anyone else, and it allows students to have a network of friends that support them.

The Buddy System is trying to expand their membership, and students interested may contact them through their Facebook page, [MUBuddySystem](https://www.facebook.com/MUBuddySystem).

The Buddy System meets every Friday at 4 p.m. in Prichard Hall room 143, and all students are welcome.

"Be a buddy to somebody," Jordan said.

**LeAnna Owens can be contacted at [owens121@marshall.edu](mailto:owens121@marshall.edu).**

# SGA compromises on House of Representatives proposal



SGA openly discussed a compromise on the proposal to create a House of Representatives for student organizations.

HANNAH GRAHAM | THE PARTHENON

By **HANNAH GRAHAM**  
THE PARTHENON

The Student Government Association met Tuesday, Oct. 23 to clarify the details of the long debated House of Representatives proposal, and the legislative body was able to work out a compromise in the matter.

“We took all of your concerns into consideration, and we have finally reached a solution that we can all work with,” Vice President Hannah Petracca said.

The original House of Representatives proposal in September called for an addition to the student legislative body. Under the initiative proposed by Student Body President Hunter Barclay, representatives from the 200 student organizations on campus would have the option to participate in a House of Representatives, another legislative facet of the SGA. The original proposal would

allow the House to initiate legislative and financial resolutions that the Senate members could vote on. The idea behind this initiative was to better engage organizations in student government and provide an additional step for organizations to gain funding from SGA.

“We have decided to do away with any Constitutional amendments, per your concerns last week,” Barclay said.

Opposition to the House of Representatives came to a headway last week, when Senators called for an executive session to discuss the future of the proposal without any pressures from press, the Barclay administration or advisers.

“We hear all of your opinions and we thank you, we have taken them all into consideration,” Barclay said.

The House of Representatives now stands as an executive committee rather than a legislative one. SGA has

abandoned all constitutional amendment endeavors, and now proposes a panel for representatives of student organizations to voice the concerns for their own groups in a separate meeting.

Senators had questions about the dramatic shift in the proposal, which has been at the forefront of most SGA meetings.

“Will the House of Representatives have any legislative powers?” asked Senator Jeremiah Parlock, who was re-sworn into the student senate this meeting.

“No, the House of Representatives will take no power from the senate,” Petracca said.

The new executive committee will operate as a panel that organization representatives can participate in as they please. They will be involved with SGA, but as student leaders to voice concerns, not legislators.

“What’s the difference between this and the concerns of the student body we host at the end of senate meetings?” asked Senator Angel Wallace.

“Students that are a part of organizations will be able to be a part of this panel, where they will be able to hash out ideas and concerns in a meeting separate from our own,” Barclay said.

“This is different from concerns of the student body because it doesn’t cut into senate meetings at all and it isn’t squished in at the end when Senators are starting to leave for class. There’s no rush, and it’s a forum where organizations can have their voices heard in SGA,” Petracca said. “This idea is as new to you guys as it is to us, and we’re still trying to iron out the details. At the end of the day, we listened to your concerns, and we are still getting more students involved in SGA.”

The future of the House, now that it has been defined, will continue to be worked on and set up by SGA, who are due to discuss the semantics of the new panel in the coming weeks.

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# Comic Book Club fundraiser to help animal shelter

By **SAM PHILLIPS**  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University’s Comic Book Club is sponsoring a pet food drive until Oct. 27, with all proceeds going to Little Victories Animal Rescue.

This is the club’s second food drive, but Hunter Reedy, the president and founder of the Comic Book Club, said due to pet food drives being uncommon, the club decided to focus on pets for this year’s.

“You don’t see pet food drives a lot,” Reedy said. “We figured it would be a unique thing, if we ask for pet food, people may bite at that.”

Reedy said the club is hoping to match its previous total of 60 donations this year. Reedy said the club chose to donate to Little Victories for multiple reasons.

“For one, it’s a no-kill shelter in the area,” Reedy said. “And secondly, it’s local. As [a Marshall] organization, we want to give back to the community.”

Reedy also said the Comic Book Club has donated to Cabell Huntington Hospital in the past as well.

Zelideth Rivas, faculty advisor for the Comic Book Club, said one of the key facets of the club is community service.

“When the students approached me two years ago, they had at their very core the idea of community service,” Rivas said. “They wanted to give back to the community through being ‘everyday superheroes.’”

Rivas said she was also onboard for the idea of a pet food drive, though it was not her first with the club.

“We tend to think of food insecurity as something that happens specifically toward people,” Rivas said.

“We forget about our little friends.”

Rivas also said the Comic Book Club works with Marshall to open up new volunteer opportunities, and students wanting to help their community can assist the club with future events.

Students interested in donating food may take it to the Memorial Student Center any time before Saturday, Oct. 27, at 4 p.m. Everyone who donates will be automatically entered into a raffle for Scooby-Doo themed prizes. Oct. 27 the Comic Book Club will have a Halloween party in the Harless Media Room, where the raffle winner will be announced and any final donations will be accepted.

**Sam Phillips can be contacted at [phillips252@marshall.edu](mailto:phillips252@marshall.edu).**

# Student-designed web platform to be introduced to Marshall community



Janzen McKinney launches Study Range to connect students from social media and professional media on one collective platform.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ROBERT C. BYRD INSTITUTE

**By HANNA PENNINGTON**  
SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

Janzen McKinney always knew he wanted to run a company and build a business from the ground up, and it was in the West Virginia town of Beckley that he began writing down his ideas in a notebook to save for the future.

From his hometown bedroom to an apartment in Huntington where 21-year-old McKinney lives attending Marshall University, the notebook remains; it now houses more than 400 potential ideas the young entrepreneur hopes to pursue one day.

In 2017, McKinney carefully chose a single idea from the list: a company called Studyrange. This online platform will work to connect pieces from both social and professional media into an educational medium where students can interact with one another and will be introduced to Marshall students by the turn of the year.

"I thought the most interesting idea to focus on first would be a tech company, sort of like a social media platform," McKinney said. "I think with the way the education and education-tech industries are looking right now, it's a growing industry, so I picked this one out of the notebook and went with it."

McKinney said Studyrange will fill the void of an educational social network in the generation of tech-savvy students and hopefully improve the way they learn.

"People view Facebook as a social network, they view Linked-In as a professional business network, and there needs to be an educational network that connects these students for the benefit of their educational experience and what their purpose is," McKinney said. "Studyrange is developed and designed for students, student school

networking, and studying purposes."

McKinney said he originally hoped to build Studyrange completely solo, but realized help from professionals in the business world would be to his advantage.

"I was teaching myself code, every day, all summer, because I planned on doing it all myself," McKinney said. "I realized this was a pretty complicated project, so I started going about the process of getting a professional development team on board."

McKinney, at the time a junior at Marshall, enrolled in a three-month long Business Accelerator program through the Robert C. Byrd Institute in Huntington.

The program gives participants with early stage companies or ideas access to mentors and support from business leaders, and for McKinney, it helped him through the nuts and bolts of building Studyrange.

"I went through the RCBI Business Accelerator in hopes of getting in contact with potential investors, getting some interest in the company and eventually hiring a development team," McKinney said.

Jamie Cope, director of innovation and entrepreneurship and deputy director at the Robert C. Byrd Institute, said the program gives start-up businesses the opportunity to make new contacts.

"We have the ability to connect people with resources all over the state," Cope said. "Whether it's business coaching or investment or just some general guidance, we can plug those people in to who the right partners are and how they can get their business up and running faster."

Cope said he believes Studyrange has the ability to expand to international levels.

"I think it has the potential to branch out all over the

country or the world for that matter," Cope said. "There's no one thing that will make an idea successful and there's a thousand things that could stop it, but if things go Janzen's way and he sticks with it, I think it will have a big impact on education."

Studyrange will differ from typical social media in that it will feature academic resources and access to libraries of research, but will be similar in that users will have a profile, a timeline and have the ability to post or share articles and ideas.

For group projects or presentations, the platform will feature a video-chat option similar to Skype; students will also be able to group chat and direct message friends and classmates.

"There's a lot you can do with a platform like this, but right now we are just focusing on getting it started," McKinney said.

Marshall President Jerry Gilbert said McKinney's work with Studyrange is what higher education is all about.

"We are very proud of Janzen and his novel work on Studyrange," Gilbert said. "Students at Marshall, like Janzen, are challenged every day to develop these skills which will lead to successful careers in many different areas."

After version 1.0 is introduced to Huntington, McKinney said he hopes to continue developing the company and begin focusing on other schools like Concord University, West Virginia Tech and West Virginia University.

"Eventually I'd like to get to schools out of state," McKinney said. "But I'm just taking it one day at a time."

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# Herd football claims crucial Conference USA victory over FAU

By **MORGAN GRIFFITH**  
THE PARTHENON

Five Florida Atlantic turnovers led to a 31-7 Marshall win Saturday at Joan C. Edwards Stadium.

With the win, the Herd improved to 5-2 (3-1 Conference USA), while FAU moved to 3-4 (1-2 C-USA).

"I said last week it was our most complete game up to date, and I think this week topped that," head coach Doc Holliday said. "Anytime that you can create five turnovers and don't turn the ball over on offense, you have a great shot at winning."

Marshall took a 3-0 lead at 14:23 in the second quarter with a 40-yard field goal by redshirt junior kicker Justin Rohrwasser. The Owls answered shortly after with a 2-yard touchdown pass from redshirt freshman quarterback Chris Robinson to junior tight end Harrison Bryant to take the lead 7-3.

The Herd answered, however. With less than four minutes to go in the half, Marshall ran four plays in under two minutes that resulted in a 29-yard touchdown pass to redshirt junior tight end Armani Levias from redshirt junior quarterback Alex Thomson.

The Herd had three takeaways in the first half. Redshirt senior linebacker Artis Johnson had an interception and redshirt senior defensive lineman Malik Thompson forced a fumble that was recovered by redshirt senior defensive back Kereon Merrell. Junior defensive back Chris Jackson also had an interception.

Marshall's defense started the second half with another takeaway, after Thompson pulled in an interception. That interception resulted in seven points after a 17-yard touchdown run by redshirt sophomore running back Tyler King to extend Marshall's lead to 17-7. Thompson said the Herd had something to prove.

"It was a home game and we had to lock the gates and do it for our community and for the 75," Thompson said. "That's very important and after last season, we just had something to prove and we executed."

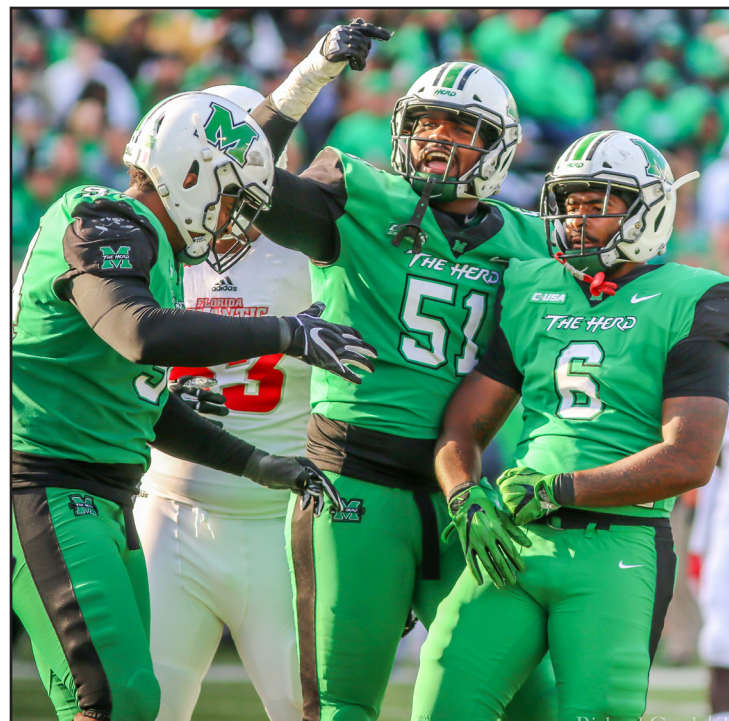
After a missed FAU field goal in the third quarter by redshirt freshman kicker Vladimir Rivas, Marshall continued to extend the lead after a 13-yard touchdown pass to Levias to make the score 24-7.

The last score of the game would come from Marshall with 1:35 to play in the fourth quarter. Thomson had a three-yard touchdown run to make the final score 31-7.

Marshall's defense held Conference USA preseason Offensive Player of the Year, junior running

Redshirt junior quarterback Alex Thomson makes one of his multiple rushing attempts in The Herd's 31-7 win over Florida Atlantic. Thomson rushes for season-high totals in Saturday's contest, gaining 50 rushing yards with one touchdown on 16 attempts.

RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON



RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON

Redshirt senior defensive lineman Malik Thompson (No. 51) celebrates with teammates after a defensive stop against FAU. Thompson earns C-USA Defensive Player of the Week for his performance Saturday.

back Devin Singletary, to 16 carries for 43 yards.

FAU ended the game with a total of eight penalties for 69 yards, while Marshall had a total of five for 55-yards.

Marshall has a bye week next week before heading to Hattiesburg, Mississippi to battle the Southern Miss Golden Eagles.

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# Herd volleyball falls to UTSA

By **SYDNEY SHELTON**  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's volleyball team lost to UTSA 3-1 Sunday at the Cam Henderson Center.

With the win, UTSA improved to 16-5 (8-1 C-USA) and Marshall fell to 10-13 (3-6 C-USA).

"We knew we had to play at an optimal level and there were times that we did, and I thought we were pretty equal," Marshall head coach Mitch Jacobs said. "Then, there were times that we didn't. That is why they are 7-1 in the league."

Marshall took the second lead of the match in the third set with a kill by senior middle hitter Lauren Mattmuller. After a kill by freshman Sarah Schank, Marshall took a two-point lead. UTSA collected three points on a kill and two Marshall errors and UTSA led 15-14. Marshall retaliated with four points from three UTSA errors and a redshirt sophomore Ciera DeBell kill giving the Herd an 18-15 led. Marshall pulled away and later won its only set of the match with a kill by junior Ivana Trencheva.

However, winning set three was not enough to win the match. UTSA won the match 3-1.

DeBell led the Herd with 14 kills and 12 digs. Schank had eight kills and 22 digs, Amber Weber finished with 23 digs, Gabby Coulter had 21 assists and Isa Dostal had three blocks and assisted on two blocks.

Marshall is currently placed 10th in Conference USA with six games remaining before the conference tournament, which will be held at the Cam Henderson Center.

"We have got to get some (wins)" Jacobs said. "They have to show up every day and want it. As coaches we have to keep grinding and getting them as good as we can this season. With six left, five in conference, they are all very good teams."

The Herd will travel to Hattiesburg, Mississippi Friday to face Southern Miss at 7:00 p.m.

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# Grading the Herd's week eight performance

**STAFF REPORT**

**OFFENSE: B**

The pass game still needs some work, but Alex Thomson looked much more comfortable in the pocket than he did a few weeks ago against Middle Tennessee. Thomson only threw for 102 yards, but he had a pair of TD passes to tight end Armani Levias and did not turn the ball over. The rushing attack had over 200 yards for the third-straight game, and Thomson and Tyler King both found the end zone on the ground. King had more than 100 yards for the third-straight game as well and continued to see an increased workload, though he was injured late in the game, and his status for the Herd's next contest at Southern Miss is unknown.

**DEFENSE: A+**

What else can be said about this unit? The Herd forced five turnovers (four interceptions, one fumble recovery) against Conference USA's top offensive unit. Florida Atlantic's Devin Singletary, whose 14 touchdowns led FBS rushers entering the weekend,

was kept out of the end zone for the first time in 20 games and was limited to 39 yards, his lowest output since the 2017 season opener. Defensive lineman Malik Thompson earned Conference USA Defensive Player of the Week honors after registering nine tackles (including five of Singletary), a forced fumble and an interception. The two turnovers were the first of his career.

**SPECIAL TEAMS: A-**

This grade is not reflective of the field goal unit, which had a 40-yard attempt blocked in the first quarter and another 40-yard attempt sneak through the uprights. Robert LeFevre averaged nearly 44 yards per punt on his nine attempts, placing five inside the 20 and having one over 50 yards. Alex Thomson's quick kick also landed inside the 20 for the Herd, as Marshall did an effective job flipping the field. Florida Atlantic's average starting field position was its own 19. In comparison, Marshall's starting field position was its own 45. That played a major difference in the final score.



RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON

# Herd women's soccer plays to draw at home against Louisiana Tech

By **DEREK GILBERT**  
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall Thundering Herd women's soccer team played to a 2-2 draw Sunday against Louisiana Tech at Hoops Family Field.

The draw brought the Herd to 5-8-3 (3-5-1 C-USA) on the year and moved the Lady Techsters to 11-5-2 (4-3-2 C-USA) for the 2018 campaign.

Marshall head coach Kevin Long said though they were not able to come away with a win, he liked what he saw from his team.

"I thought we played really well," Long said. "We owned the ball. We gave away a ball directly off the corner, and then we gave away the ball and their player just drives one home on a great finish, but we controlled the ball and played much better soccer the entire time."

The match had a fast-paced start and Louisiana Tech scored in the eighth minute of action with a goal from junior defender Alexandra LeBlanc just seconds after she sent a corner kick into play. The goal was the first of LeBlanc's college career and gave Louisiana Tech an early 1-0 lead.

Louisiana Tech kept its lead for most of the first half, but Marshall junior midfielder Gabby Powers sent an equalizer into the net off a deflection in the 43rd minute. It was her first goal of the season and tied the game at one going into the half.

The Herd continued to ride the momentum from Powers' goal early in the second half and scored another goal in the 60th minute when junior forward Farah Abu-Tayeh sent a shot past Louisiana Tech's senior goalkeeper Courtney Tompkins. It was her sixth goal of the year and gave Marshall a 2-1 lead.

LA Tech responded to Abu-Tayeh's goal with a sense of urgency, which paid off when senior defender Nomvula Kgoale sent a shot from outside the box past junior goalkeeper Megan Bonelli in the 64th minute. It was Kgoale's second goal of the year to bring the game to a 2-2 tie.

Both teams put shots on goal in attempts to take the lead, but 90 minutes was not enough to decide this Conference USA matchup and the game went into overtime tied at two.

Neither team budged in overtime and both goalkeepers recorded saves in the first 10-minute period to keep the game tied. A second overtime proved indecisive for either squad to break the stalemate, and the match ended in a 2-2 draw.

After Marshall's last home match of the year, Marshall head coach Kevin Long said it is a bittersweet feeling to send off the team's class of 2019 seniors following the draw.

"We're going to miss their leadership and we wish them the best as always, but we'll say goodbye to them after our last game, which hopefully we play at Old Dominion (in the Conference USA Championship Tournament)," Long said.

Marshall is currently 10th in Conference USA standings, three points behind Middle Tennessee and Rice for the final two spots in the conference tournament. The Herd has to beat WKU, needs Rice to beat ninth-place Charlotte, and needs Middle Tennessee to lose its final two games to North Texas and UAB to have a shot of making the conference tournament, which will be played in Norfolk, Virginia.

The Thundering Herd will hit the road to face Western Kentucky Lady Toppers Friday at the WKU Soccer Complex in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Derek Gilbert can be contacted at [gilbert75@marshall.edu](mailto:gilbert75@marshall.edu).

**CONFERENCE USA STANDINGS THROUGH WEEK EIGHT**

EAST		WEST	
<b>FIU</b> (5-2, 3-0 C-USA)		<b>UAB</b> (6-1, 4-0 C-USA)	
<b>MARSHALL</b> (5-2, 3-1 C-USA)		<b>LOUISIANA TECH</b> (5-2, 3-1 C-USA)	
<b>MIDDLE TENNESSEE</b> (4-3, 3-1 C-USA)		<b>SOUTHERN MISS</b> (3-3, 2-1 C-USA)	
<b>CHARLOTTE</b> (3-4, 2-2 C-USA)		<b>NORTH TEXAS</b> (6-2, 2-2 C-USA)	
<b>FLORIDA ATLANTIC</b> (3-4, 1-2 C-USA)		<b>UTSA</b> (3-5, 2-2 C-USA)	
<b>OLD DOMINION</b> (2-6, 1-4 C-USA)		<b>UTEP</b> (0-7, 0-3 C-USA)	
<b>WESTERN KENTUCKY</b> (1-6, 0-3 C-USA)		<b>RICE</b> (1-7, 0-4 C-USA)	



## 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.

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"Factual errors appearing in The Parthenon should be reported to the editor immediately following publication. Corrections the editor deems necessary will be printed as soon as possible following the error."

## 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.

## EDITORIAL

## Refugees are people, not political



ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Central American migrant sits amid a group of sleeping migrants, in Tapachula, Mexico, Monday. Thousands of Honduran migrants hoping to reach the U.S. stretched out on rain-soaked sidewalks, benches and public plazas in the southern Mexico city of Tapachula, worn down by another day's march under a blazing sun. (AP Photo/Moises Castillo)

Imagine fearing for your life while walking home after a hard day of work. Imagine paying unofficial taxes to the neighborhood gang just to be able to reside in the house that you have lived in your entire life. Imagine being in the wrong place, at the wrong time, wearing the wrong clothes and getting murdered because of that. Imagine living in fear only because you had the misfortune of being born in a place that does not value your best interest. Imagine walking 1,500 miles armed only with the hope that this life will be better than the one you left behind.

For some people in this world, these are the harsh realities.

According to The New York Times, 7,000 migrants and refugees are walking to the United States from Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras. Despite what others and the President of the United States say, it is not illegal for people without papers to seek asylum at the United States' border according to the American Immigration Council.

Most of these refugees are not coming to the border and demanding to be let in, they are coming to seek asylum

and earn a legal status in the United States. According to Human Rights First, a nonprofit, nonpartisan international human rights organization, the Trump administration has turned away hundreds of asylum seekers. Returning home can often put them in even more danger, making the idea of crossing the border illegally their only option.

The majority of these refugees are coming from Honduras. San Pedro Sula, Honduras is considered to be one of the most violent cities in the world with a homicide rate of 142 per every 100,000 people according to a 2015 report from InSight Crime, and is where the caravan began. According to data from Syracuse University, 7,350 Hondurans sought asylum in U.S. immigration courts within the five year period from 2011 to 2016.

President Trump has expressed his distaste through his favorite social media platform, Twitter.

"I am watching the Democrat Party led (because they want Open Borders and existing weak laws) assault on our country by Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador, whose leaders are doing

little to stop this large flow of people, INCLUDING MANY CRIMINALS, from entering Mexico to U.S... Hopefully Mexico will stop this onslaught at their Northern Border. All Democrats fault for weak laws!"

As usual, Trump is using false statements and fears to scare the American people, although he has no evidence to support the claims that criminals and dangerous people are marching toward the U.S. Even moreso, the president continues his divisive rhetoric by blaming democrats, when this is certainly not a partisan issue, but one of human rights. Let's remember that those in the caravan are not Republican or Democrat, but they are families desperately seeking safety.

The lives and overall well-being of our neighbors should not be a partisan issue; it should not cause debate. One life is not more important than another. Strong borders are an important asset to any country, but we are also a country that has historically been a beacon of hope for a better life. Donald Trump wants to shut the light off.

# Donald Trump does not define my existence

By **JOELLE GATES**  
THE PARTHENON

Throughout my transition I've had to fight for what I've wanted, and it seems as though I'll have to start fighting harder. Oct. 21 the Trump administration unveiled a new plan to derail the transgender community by seeking to redefine sex as male or female, unchangeable and determine by genitals present at birth. This would cause a major shift for transgender Americans as a legal definition would be set into place to change the protections of Title IX, a federal civil rights law that bans gender discrimination in educational programs that are funded by the government.

This announcement was scary and disappointing. I'm a transgender woman in America and I just want to live freely without constantly defending this freedom.

When I came out as transgender, my mom disputed my request for seeking hormones by saying she knew me better than myself; she said that there was no way I was transgender. The conversation was hard, and I felt like she had turned her back on me, but

I didn't let this phase me. My mind was made, and I was tired of waiting to live my life. I swiped my insurance card from her purse, made an appointment and found a way to live my life.

My story is very similar to what is happening in America right now. Our very own president has turned his back on the transgender community and has said that he and his administration understand trans people better than they know themselves. They are actively seeking to negatively affect the progress and acceptance my community has fought for.

From personal experience, I can tell you that gender designated at birth doesn't always work. There will always be outliers who feel as though they don't belong and that's okay. It takes an extraordinary person to be trans. Not many people would risk giving up their family's support and love, or chance being harassed or alienated just for existing. And according to the Human Rights Campaign, over the past three years the transgender murder rate has reached a new high each year. So, let me be clear: nobody would choose this life unless they knew

for a fact that living authentically would be worth it.

I believe the Trump administration has been targeting transgender Americans because they believe the trans population isn't significant, but according to a 2016 study provided by the Williams Institute, 1.4 million Americans identify as transgender.

Trans people have been here since the beginning of time and they will continue to be here long after Trump and his administration. This isn't a fight that America wants but it's one that will happen if it needs to.

With November just around the corner, now is the time for transgender individuals and allies to rise and vote. We must send the clear message that America has no place for hate, discrimination and ignorance. Our voices must be heard.

Throughout my transition I've had to fight for what I've wanted, and it seems as though I'll have to start fighting harder because this fight is worth it; my happiness is worth it.

**Joelle Gates can be contacted at [gates29@marshall.edu](mailto:gates29@marshall.edu).**

# SMIRL MEETS WORLD

By **RILEIGH SMIRL**  
FOR THE PARTHENON

It's my favorite time of year: October. (Usually) the weather hits that sweet spot where it's not too cold or hot, but just the perfect temperature to throw on a sweater and jeans and be perfectly comfortable, the leaves are changing, and when I was younger, I used to spend my weeks around this time of year deciding on the absolute perfect Halloween costume. However, I realized this October that I hadn't even noticed it was this most wonderful time of the year until the second or third week. Now, we're a week away from October being over, and my highlights include the one weeknight I got to go to sleep before midnight and the one day of weather where it wasn't eighty degrees and it wasn't barely thirty either. Today, as I sat down to write this column I realized this is what growing up feels like, in a naïve and juvenile sense. Yes, I'm not noticing monumental changes or even feel like a "real" adult yet, but now I'm planning out time to accompany my nieces on trick or treat in between doing homework, writing research papers, and scheduling classes for next semester.

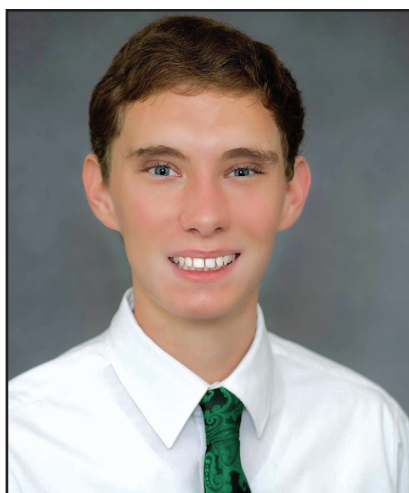
In high school, I thought I knew what stress was on the few nights where I procrastinated too much and had

to stay up until 2 or 3 in the morning to get all of my work done. Yet, even when I'm doing my homework on time, I seem to still always have something to do, whether it's schoolwork, actual work, social commitments, or just time I need with friends and family. Now, the time I get to spend enjoying my favorite month of the year is usually while I'm reading something for class with a warm cup of coffee instead of an iced one, or the moment I take to appreciate the fact that I can wear a sweatshirt early in the morning to class instead of having to dig up shorts and t-shirts. No, I'm not spending every evening carving pumpkins, binging scary movies, making cookies and hot chocolate, or just enjoying this time of year that I have always loved so much. I'm realizing more and more as this year progresses that a lot more has changed in my life than I initially thought, and that can be its own scary movie in and of itself. So, as October comes to a close, I am sad that I didn't get to spend it how I usually would have, but I also am excited knowing that this year is going by a lot faster than I thought it was going to, but I seem to be doing okay at the whole growing up part so far.

**Raleigh Smirl can be contacted at [smirl2@marshall.edu](mailto:smirl2@marshall.edu).**

# Barclay: New committee to represent student groups

By **HUNTER BARCLAY**  
STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT



In early September, Student Body Vice President Hannah Petracca and I proposed to the Student Senate the concept of an SGA House of Representatives (the House). The House would provide a platform for campus organizations to meet on a regular basis to express their concerns, to propose legislation, and to influence existing campus policies. The House's membership would consist of one voting representative from every campus organization. In a time where division is omnipresent, the House would create an opportunity for students from different religious, political, cultural, and professional backgrounds to engage in constructive dialogue.

Following the Senate's executive session last Tuesday, the Senate presented me with a dilemma: create a committee comprised entirely of senators to devise the governing documents for the House, or the Senate will not consider the idea. After carefully considering the Senate's proposal, I respectfully decline to create a Senate committee.

Therefore, I have decided to call an executive committee titled "The House of Representatives," which is not subject to Senate oversight. By calling an executive committee, I will serve as a non-voting member who facilitates discussion between voting representatives from every campus organization. Representatives will have the ability to create proposals that suggest improvements to the campus community, and then representatives can vote whether or not to support proposals. If the House votes in favor of a proposal, I will gladly assist with its implementation. Most importantly, the House provides an additional pathway for my peers to express their concerns, ideas, and opinions.

Never having served in the Student Senate, I know that students from any background or organization can evoke change on campus. Thus, the mission of the House is to increase Student Government's engagement with student organizations by providing a platform where additional student perspectives can be offered and considered in order to represent and serve the student body holistically. The first House session will occur before the conclusion of the fall semester. I encourage every campus organization to send a representative to this meeting where all voices are welcome.

**Hunter Barclay can be contacted at [barclay4@marshall.edu](mailto:barclay4@marshall.edu).**

# Woody Williams endorses Senator Joe Manchin

By **HERSHEL WOODY WILLIAMS**  
FOR THE PARTHENON

Senator Joe Manchin deserves thanks for standing up for West Virginia veterans. Joe has always had our backs and now we need to have his back. I'm proud to support Joe for the U.S. Senate because he always does what's best for our state.

Throughout his time as West Virginia's Governor and U.S. Senator, Joe has worked across the aisle to protect veterans and to ensure that every veteran is treated with the respect and honor reserved for men and women who fought for this great country. Senator Manchin understands that the families of service members also make major sacrifices.

It's not all talk, Joe is a man of action. He has proven that time and time again as he has voted to pass bills that support West Virginia Veterans. He implemented Yellow Ribbon legislation because Joe is committed to providing access to education for Veterans. He supported a 2.6 percent pay raise for our service men and women, the largest pay raise for members of the military in 10 years.

I'm proudly supporting Joe because he does what he says. He worked with Republicans and Democrats to write the HIRE Vets Act into law, because Joe believes that veterans deserve a chance to join the workforce honorably when they return home. This year, he worked to secure \$300 million for Veterans' employment and training.

In the time I've known Joe Manchin, he's done many things to help Veterans and their families. If Joe says he'll do something, take it to the bank because he is a straight shooter and a true West Virginian. In the Senate, Joe championed the expansion of caregiver benefits to veterans of all eras including family caregivers of veterans injured during World War II, Korea, Vietnam and the Gulf War. He helped secure the Donel C. Kinnard Memorial State Veterans Cemetery and the Veterans Nursing Home in Clarksburg.

Senator Joe Manchin never surrenders in the fight for Veterans. He's approved vans for VA medical centers, he's worked to make sure military families receive death benefit gratuities during government shutdowns, and because of him West Virginia was the first state to offer bonuses to Veterans, resulting in 8,600 bonuses and a total of 4.8 million dollars. He also brought the first Fisher House to West Virginia, which will be located at the Huntington VA Medical Center.

This isn't just talk. Joe Manchin is the best candidate for veterans. Period. He is the greatest advocate West Virginia Veterans have ever had. He listens to West Virginians and gets results. I can tell you that there are many things that would not have happened if Joe Manchin were not there to serve the Mountain State.

I hope you will join me and many other Veterans in supporting Senator Joe Manchin on Election Day, Nov. 6th 2018.

Woody Williams is a Medal of Honor recipient and chair of Veterans and Military Families for Manchin.

## INTERESTED IN CONTRIBUTING TO THE PARTHENON?

We are always looking for more people to contribute to The Parthenon. If you are interested in writing a column, drawing cartoons, taking photos or whatever you can come up with, email Franklin Norton at [norton18@marshall.edu](mailto:norton18@marshall.edu).

# THE PARTHENON

## podcast



Stay tuned every Thursday this fall  
[www.marshallparthenon.com](http://www.marshallparthenon.com)

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# Judgement House gives look into judgement, hell and heaven

By **LILLIE BODIE**  
THE PARTHENON

Christ Temple Church strives to grow churches throughout the community with its annual Judgement House "Spiked".

The Judgement House is a walk-through drama of heaven and hell laid out by actors and participants in the church or tri-state area. With 6,000 people anticipated to come this year, 300 volunteers committed to create "Spiked".

This year's drama is themed around a young girl getting her drink roofied at a Christmas party, which leads to three teens losing their lives, one being a girl who just lost her father to cancer.

Bobbie Young, co-coordinator of the Judgement House said the theme is always different, but the outcome remains the same when creating the walk-through drama.

"We give them a glimpse of what judgment, hell and heaven look like, and none of us know what this looks like exactly," Young said. "And we give

them a really amazing realistic drama with characters who will be making the choice to accept Christ or not."

Young said the event is not intended to scare people into Christianity.

"It's not a spook house for Halloween, it's not something to scare people, it's so people will question their own mortality," Young said. "And know not choosing Christ is making a choice."

Young said professionals are on scene to help anyone who may be frightened and need someone to talk to during the event.

"It's graphic, and we tell people ahead of time and have child psychologists, nurses on stand by," Young said.

Lillie Bodie can be contacted at bodie2@marshall.edu.



LILLIE BODIE | THE PARTHENON

Read the full story online at [marshallparthenon.com](http://marshallparthenon.com)

"Spiked" is occurring until Thursday, Oct. 25 from 5 to 11 p.m. Groups of 50-60 people are taken at a time. Food, coffee and live entertainment will be available while groups wait. Christ Temple Church is located at 2400 Johnstown Road in

PAGE EDITED AND DESIGNED BY HEATHER BARKER | BARKER193@MARSHALL.EDU

## Worship Directory

### Fifth Avenue Baptist Church

1135 Fifth Avenue  
Corner of Fifth Avenue & 12th Street in downtown Huntington

-Sunday Morning Worship – 10:45 am  
See our website for many other times of Bible study, worship, and activities for children, youth, and adults.

[www.fifthavenuebaptist.org](http://www.fifthavenuebaptist.org)  
**304-523-0115**

**PRESBYTERIAN**

**Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church**  
469 Norway Ave., Huntington, WV  
304.529.4651  
Sunday Service 11 a.m.  
**ALL WELCOME**  
Pastor, Cinda Harkless  
bhpcusa@comcast.net

**FREE WILL BAPTIST**

### Central Free Will Baptist Church

451 6th Avenue, Huntington, WV

9:45 A.M. — Devotion  
10:00 A.M. — Sunday School  
11:00 A.M. — Morning Worship  
6:00 P.M. — Evening Worship  
Weds. Services — 7:00 P.M.  
Pastor Steve Williams

**BAPTIST**

### First Guyandotte Baptist Church

219 Richmond St. P.O. Box 3121 Huntington, WV 25702

**SUNDAY**  
10am - Sunday School  
11am - Morning Worship  
6pm - Evening Worship

**WEDNESDAY:**  
6:30pm - Adult Bible Study

Come as a Visitor, Leave as a Friend - Pastor Paris McSweeney  
**304-690-2694**

### Bethel Temple Assembly of God

900 9th Street  
Huntington, WV 25701  
304-523-3505  
Pastor Duane Little

Wed. Bible Study 7pm  
Sunday Services  
Sunday School 9:45am  
Sun. Morning Worship 10:45am  
Sun. Eve. Worship 6:00pm

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Sunday 8 A.M. and 10:45 A.M.  
Spanish Mass: 2nd & 4th Sundays at 9:15 A.M.  
Misa en Español: segundo y cuarto los domingos a las 9:15 A.M.  
Confession: Saturday 3:30 - 4:30 P.M.  
[www.ourfatimafamily.com](http://www.ourfatimafamily.com)  
Father Paul Yuenger

### SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

2015 Adams Ave. Huntington, WV  
304-429-4318

Mass Times: Sat. 5:30pm, Sun. 9am,  
Confessions on Sat. 4:45pm-5:15pm or  
anytime by appointment  
Office Hours Mon-Fri. 9am-2pm  
**Rev. Fr. Douglas A. Ondeck**

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### Pentecostal Truth Ministries

(304) 697-5600  
PASTOR JANET MOUNTS

SERVICES:  
Sunday School 9:45 A.M.  
Sunday Worship 11:00 A.M.  
Wednesday: 7:30 P.M.  
[www.pentecostaltruth.com](http://www.pentecostaltruth.com)  
1208 Adams Avenue  
Huntington, WV 25704

**EPISCOPAL**

### Trinity Episcopal Church

520 11th Street Huntington, WV  
(304) 529-6084

Sunday Worship  
8:00 & 10:30 A.M.  
Adult Sunday School 9:15 A.M.  
Children's Sunday School 10:15 A.M.  
[www.wvtrinitychurch.org](http://www.wvtrinitychurch.org)

**METHODIST**

### Steele Memorial United Methodist Church

733 Shaw St.  
Barboursville, WV 25504  
304-736-4583

Sunday School — 9:40 A.M.  
Sunday Worship — 8:45 A.M. &  
10:45 A.M. & 6:30 P.M.  
Celebrate Recovery - Tuesday - 6:30 P.M.  
Rev. Kevin Lantz  
Rev. Ralph Sager, Associate Pastor

**CATHOLIC**

### St. Peter Claver Catholic Church

828 15th St. (on 9th Ave) Htgn.  
304-691-0537

Sunday Mass: 11:00a.m.  
Daily Masses: 12:05 on Monday,  
Wednesday, Thursday and Friday  
Confession by appointment  
Rev. Fr. Douglas A. Ondeck

### St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church

HUNTINGTON, WV  
526 13th Street  
(304) 525-5202  
Pastor: Fr Dean Borgmeyer

**Sunday Mass Schedule**  
Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm  
Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am,  
12:00 Noon, 5:30 pm

**Confessions**  
Saturday 8:00 am-8:25 am  
Saturday 4:00 pm-4:25 pm  
Tuesday 5:00 pm-5:25 pm  
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Sean

Hornbuckle

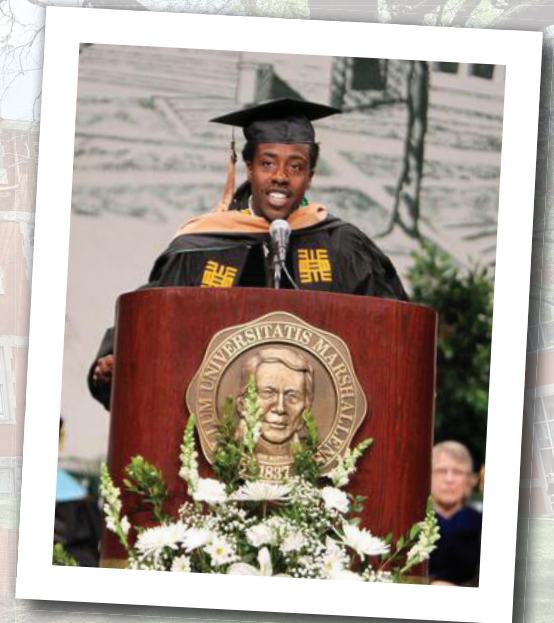
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