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Sadie Helmick Parthenon@marshall.edu

Sarah Ingram Parthenon@marshall.edu

Rick Farlow Parthenon@marshall.edu

Franklin Norton
Parthenon@marshall.edu

Heather Barker Parthenon@marshall.edu

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THE PARTHENON

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PAGE ILLUSTRATED AND DESIGNED BY SADIE HELMICK | HELMICK32@MARSHALL.EDU

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As many in America deck the halls, others find their place within a season counter to their culture

By AMANDA LARCH

COPY EDITOR

Iram Kingson doesn't celebrate Christmas. She and her family don't exchange gifts or decorate a tree. She may gather with family friends on Thanksgiving and reflect on what she is thankful for, but that doesn't mean she and her family celebrate it in the same way as most Americans. (Her parents believe it's a Christian holiday, but Kingson is halfway convinced her mom just doesn't know how to cook turkey.) In her culture, New Year's isn't celebrated Jan. 1 because they have a different, lunar based calendar. The holiday season can be an uncomfortable time for her, where she doesn't quite feel like she fits in. But she doesn't want anyone to feel bad for her, either. As a Muslim Pakistani-American woman, Kingson's life is just a little different than those of many other sophomores in college, but she still enjoys holidays and partakes in fun and exciting traditions just the same.

"I guess you do feel kind of left out because everyone is getting together and celebrating," King-son said. "Since around this time when everyone is doing Christmas stuff, my family takes it as an opportunity to visit back home in Pakistan. Since we have all those days off it's a good opportuni-ty, and it just makes us feel more at home because it is a Muslim majority country; they're not cele-brating Christmas there. We don't feel left out."

When in Rome, do as the Romans do. That's a motto Kingson has lived by for a long time. She said she has grown accustomed to American holiday traditions, and she tries her best to fit in, but it can still be awkward. Since she arrived at Marshall University, however, she feels less pressure to pretend to enjoy these holiday customs, but she said she is not immune to the Christmas spirit.

"There are extreme Muslims who say you're not even supposed to say Merry Christmas at all," Kingson said. "If someone were to wish me a merry Christmas, I would just wish people happy holidays, like they want me to have happy holidays. My family still puts up lights around our house, just because they want to fit in with the neighborhood. It's just the Christmas spirit, it's definitely a thing. And I love the fact that everyone is nice and it's the season of giving. I feel like I still kind of celebrate Christmas, we just don't do gifts and stuff. It's the mindset."

Kingson was born in Pakistan, but she moved to America when she was two months old. She lives life as a typical college student as she balances her American and Pakistani roots. About a year ago, Kingson's life changed when she took the step to start wearing the hijab, a transition she said was overwhelmingly positive.

"I like educating people and breaking their stereotypes. I wear hijab, and just because I have this thing around my head doesn't mean I'm any different than you are. It's also crazy to me how there are Muslim girls who don't wear hijab, but people don't differentiate. Women who don't wear hi-jab are more easily assimilated into American culture, I feel like," she said. "I've only been wearing hijab for about a year now. I haven't actually experienced any racism ever, or any negative com-ments or anything. I think it's the fact that a college campus is more open toward diversity, but if anything, people come up to me and say they think I rock the hijab, or they appreciate that I'm not afraid to do me. I'm fortunate for that. I know it's not like that everywhere or for everyone. I think it might just be the way I wear hijab since it's not super conservative. Just the fact that I wear jeans and sweatshirts, it makes people feel more open toward the idea."

Kingson loves the traditions and holiday celebrations of her culture and religion, but she enjoys nothing more than a good old fashioned weeklong Pakistani wedding celebration.

"I've never actually been to an American wedding, but from the pictures I've seen they're really simple and elegant, but sometimes in a minimalistic way. But if you go to a Pakistani wedding, they're so extra," she said.

"Especially if it's someone close to you, then you get to be in on all the customs, and all these guests come over to your house and you have a henna night and you dance. You don't sleep at all the entire week, you are just pumped up with adrenaline. It's exciting. The weddings are just super colorful, and you dress up. You just feel like you're royalty. Especially when you're from America and go there, people are expecting you to be super extra, so you have to go above and beyond. Like, 'Yo, I'm from America, this is how we do it!' And normally when-ever one of my cousins are getting married, they try to make it around our Christmas break time, so my family is able to attend. But I don't think there's anyone getting married this year, and I'm kind of sad. Someone just get married please so I can come and dress up."

Kingson loves Instagram, and she's a regular fashionista, but she also uses her social media as a platform to spread awareness about her culture and religion. She is very open to questions and ea-ger to educate.

"Because I wear hijab and stuff, people are just assuming I'm a foreign student, and that's why I just like having, especially with my Instagram, I like having that platform to educate or inform peo-ple," Kingson said. "Because the media portrays Islam in just this super negative way, especially for women who wear hijab, it's just like, 'Women are oppressed, they're going to be killed if they take it off their head.' But it's not like that whatsoever. So, I like using my Instagram as like a way to promote more positive feelings toward Islam and just proving I wear it because I choose to. Islam is not as scary as people think it is, it really is just a religion of peace, but no one really gets that from the media."

If Kingson could be summarized in one phrase she says often, and that perfectly captures her es-sence, it would be this:

"I just do me."

Amanda Larch can be contacted at larch15@marshall.edu.





Provost Taylor: reflection on his first semester



"Prior to starting at Marshall University

I heard numerous times that the alumni.

go above and beyond to make Marshall a

By GRETCHEN KALAR THE PARTHENON

Provost Jaime Taylor is nearing an end to his first semester at Marshall University and reflects on the culture and hospitality of the community.

"My first semester has been amazing," Taylor said. "I can't believe how fortunate I am to be at Marshall Univer-

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sity and be a part of so many great things that are happening."

Taylor joined Marshall this summer from Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee.

"I've been an interim provost at my last university for two years," Taylor said. "It was challenging. I did not really have the chance to get faculty, students and community were all things moving. When very passionate about Marshall University. I came here, it seemed like things were ready to It is absolutely true. Everyone wants to happen. The timing was perfect."

While at Austin Peay, better place." Taylor started an Autism Center that was modeled after Marshall's program.

"Marshall University

is full of hidden gems," Taylor said. "An example is the Autism Training Center. This is the world's number one Autism Center. I started an Autism Center in Austin Peav. and I modeled it after a school that modeled theirs after Marshall. Autism centers at universities are becoming more common nationally, but they are all modeled after Marshall's center, which began over 30 years ago. My goal

is to make sure other hidden gems at Marshall do not remain hidden. There is a lot of stuff like that I have found since I have been at Marshall."

Taylor said he heard about the community sense that Marshall students and alumni give to the school.

"Prior to starting at Marshall University I heard numerous times that the alumni, faculty, students and

> community were all very passionate about Marshall University," Taylor said. "It is absolutely true. Everyone wants to go above and beyond to make Marshall a better place."

> Taylor said the challenges he faced this semester were easier to handle thanks to the community.

> "Because of the support we have here, they haven't been nearly as big of challenges as I thought they would be," Taylor said. "People want to solve the problems."

> Taylor said he appreciative environment President Jerry Gilbert.

"President Gilbert has created an open, positive culture at Marshall University where good ideas rise to the top," Taylor said. "It is exactly the type of culture I love to work in. I believe a happy work environment makes for happy and productive workers."

JAIME TAYLOR

Gretchen Kalar can be contacted at kalar1@marshall.edu.

It's the most wonderful (and stressful) time of the year

By MEG KELLER

THE PARTHENON

Although the most wonderful time of the year is right around the corner, Marshall University students must overcome their most stressful two weeks of college before they can enjoy the winter break.

It is dead week and with finals, graduation, jobs and social stress bearing down on students; they must adapt

Each semester students undergo an array of obstacles, but they seem to all pile on during the week before finals. For sophomore biology pre med student, Alyssa Mills, this week alone she said she has four tests before her finals next week. Mills also said she is trying to manage working her part time job as well.

"It is very hard," Mills said. "I think the most stressful thing is the tests before finals week. It doesn't give me time to study for my actual finals."

Mills said she suggests more review time for the finals instead of learning new material.

"I wish we could not cover new material right before we are tested comprehensively on everything," she said.

While students are struggling to manage similar issues this week, the way the cope with the stress may differ.

Allison Aldrich, a junior civil engineering student, said she uses prayer and food to overcome the overwhelming feelings of finals.

"A lot of it is prayer for me," Aldrich said. "I've just been praying over it a lot."

While working on her lab report, she also said she uses food to find some comfort.

"I've been obsessing over buffalo chicken dip from Fat Patty's," Aldrich said.

Aldrich also had similar feelings to Mills' about how to improve the last two weeks of the semester for students.

"I feel like exams shouldn't be weighted as much," Aldrich said. "Make them the same as every other exam."

For first year computer science major Ethan Wills, overcoming the stress of finals is about perspective

While preparing for his four upcoming finals Wills said he does his best to mentally block out any overwhelming feelings.

"All stress is self-induced, so if I don't think about it I'll be fine," he said.

Stress has no place in Wills' mind because it "doesn't get anything done," he said.

While stress is not a factor for Wills, other students may disagree. One thing for certain is that finals week will not be avoided.

Meg Keller can be contacted at keller61@marshall.edu.

Student Government Association discusses past semester, upcoming semester plans

By HANNAH GRAHAM

THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's Student Government Association joined together for its final meeting of the fall semester Tuesday, Dec. 4 to discuss election rules and budgetary guidelines for the rest of the year.

The budget was initially made public to the student legislators in mid-September, but in the bustle of September legislative business, it was neglected and was not put on the agenda.

"Where a lot of departmental funding got cut across the university due to state funding allocation, we did lose some funding as a result," Student Body President Hunter Barclay said. "We lost \$14,000 in funding from last year, but we were able to increase our funding for student organizations."

While there were some concerns involving how large the Barclay cabinet is and how much funding was allotted to the executive branch, both the Barclay administration and student advisers were able to put those concerns to rest.

"This is really the simplest budget I've seen in quite a

while for student government," Matt James, assistant dean of students for involvement, said. "The funding for executives is less than 30 percent of the entire budget, you guys have really worked hard to prioritize funding for organizations. I don't see a reason to vote against the budget."

The budget garnered a lot of conversation regarding what had been done in the past semester and how that aligns or does not align with the funds allocated.

Senator Jeremiah Parlock asked if the budget had accounted for the funding for the recently announced Herd Haven and the catering for the first House of Representatives meeting.

Cedric Gathings, vice president of student affairs, said the funding for the House of Representatives activities came from student affairs and did not have to be accounted for within the proposed budget.

The budget was approved by the senate, and then the senate proposed election rules revisions for the next election season in 2019. Changes included the inclusion of a new five percent required margin of victory for the winning campaign, the barring of campaigning in the Recreation Center and the requirement of a 3.25 GPA for students to

run for president and vice president.

"We're not approving these updated election rules permanently yet," Senate President Pro-Tempore Noelle Soares said. "We are voting on this document to go to Student Affairs for them to approve and modify it, and then it'll come back to us next semester for us to vote on definitively."

The additions to election rules were approved by the senate, and the document will return to the floor before elections in March this next semester.

"With the New Year approaching after finals, take this time as student lawmakers and reflect on what you've done and what you can do to improve this organization," Michelle Barbour, student advocate and success specialist, said. "Think about how you can better communicate with one another, work better with one another, and express your feelings in a professional way."

Matt James said he agreed with these ideas.

"We can get a lot done if you guys work together and make your concerns vocal, let's make this next semester a good one," James said.

Hannah Graham can be contacted at graham155@ marshall.edu.

Ronald McDonald House invites community members inside

By LILLIE BODIE

THE PARTHENON

Faces lit up and hearts were warmed Sunday, Dec. 2 at the Ronald McDonald House of Huntington's annual Light the House that Love Built. Santa Claus, with the help of all attending, lit up the Christmas lights on the Ronald McDonald House behind Cabell Huntington Hospital, proceeding an evening of appetizers and conversation amongst volunteers, staff and residents of the non-profit organization.

Annette Chappelle, volunteer of Ronald McDonald House since 1988, said the house has always been a part of her life and was a base of an act of kindness.

"When they started building this house my grandson was only four, and every morning we came by the house and watched them build the foundation and say good morning to everyone," Chappelle said. "And I knew the house was a place where good was going on and I wanted to be a part of that so I came over and applied for a job as the house-keeper and I got it."

Chappelle said while working at the house she met an abundance of people with different stories.

"I met more wonderful people here from residents and workers," Chappelle said. "And today seeing a set of twins that were born as tiny little things grow into young adults at the age of 18 is amazing."

Chappelle said the annual Light the House event is to give back to the people who support and help the Ronald McDonald House.

"This event is to show appreciation to the community, because the community and people all over everywhere

support this house, and it's just wonderful with the good that's done here," Chappelle said. "Ronald McDonald house gives so much from the staff and volunteers, which is already a part of being in the Christmas spirit."

Jaye Toler, director of development at the Ronald McDonald House of Huntington, said the event is unique to the house on behalf of the opportunity it gives the public to have an inside look on what exactly happens behind closed doors.

"Light the House is a special event because it offers the community an opportunity to come in and see Ronald McDonald House for themselves," Toler said. "Most of them know the overall mission is to support sick children, but they

may not know how we accomplish that. It also serves as an opportunity for our 'graduates' to come back and visit. We are always so grateful to see them growing up and thriving. That is a really special part of the event for our staff."

Toler said the event helps build relationships and conversations between current and past residents of RMH, which helps them during their stay.

"When current guests see supporters of the House in attendance, I think they feel that love," Toler said. "And they also get to meet families who were in their shoes not too

The Ronald McDonald House of Huntington opened its doors to the public to show them what happens inside.

long ago and doing much better now. I think that provides some confidence to them."

Kimberly Hudson Brooks said the Ronald McDonald House means the world to her because of her daughter, who was born only weighing three pounds and having to spend three weeks in the neonatal intensive care unit.

"We declined the offer being so close to home but I just felt like when you have a child that is sick it's nice to have a place to call home," Brooks said. "So being able to help when I can is awesome and I love it."

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

Females Facing the Opioid Epidemic

By JOELLE GATES

THE PARTHENON

Societal gender roles may be preventing females with long-term addiction disorders from receiving treatment for their addiction.

As West Virginia's opioid epidemic continues to grow, societal gender roles and misinformation surrounding the opioid crisis may be creating obstacles for women with substance use disorder.

Ashley Ellis, recovery coach at the Recovery Point treatment facility in Huntington, said strict expectations for women can play a huge role in many individuals' treatment processes.

"All women are expected by society to have certain roles," Ellis said. "Drug addiction will take those away. Addiction can completely strip women of their identities."

Serving as a female who has battled long-term addiction with alcohol, Ellis now helps other females through their addictions. She said misunderstandings surrounding drugs and alcohol are contributing to the state's opioid crisis.

"People think that users and alcoholics are horrible people and that's not true," Ellis said. "This disease can affect anybody."

With opioids becoming a widespread issue that's affecting West Virginia, Kim Miller, director of corporate development at the Prestera Center, said that substance addiction affects men and women differently.

"Hormonal differences cause the road to addiction to be quicker for women," Miller said.

Many obstacles may arise once a female becomes afflicted with a substance addiction, but according to Miller, the aspect of being a primary caregiver seems to be the leading cause in preventing treatment.

"Women are the bearers of children," Miller said. "Because parenting responsibilities in our culture rest with the mom, substance use disorders cause the process to be disrupted. This may explain why fewer mothers make it

In addition to finding treatment, Amy Saunders, director of Marshall University's Wellness Center, said the need for additional medical treatments, such as detox beds, serve as another obstacle for women.

"Only a few substance addictions require a person to detox, and even though heroin doesn't require one, it's still dangerous to not receive one," Saunders said. "Limited numbers of detox beds will often prevent women from receiving the correct care before treatment."

Ellis said once in treatment, many women may continue to struggle as they seek to connect with the counselors working to help them.

"Many times, counselors don't even understand what a user is going through," Ellis said. "Sometimes it takes meeting someone who's went through treatment to educate a user about what to expect."

Studies are now beginning to show a direct line between traumatic life events and substance use disorders,

"If a person is abusing opioids, there is a 95 percent

chance that they have suffered some sort of trauma," Miller misinformed," Saunders said. "Educating people about the said. "We're now seeing that women, sometimes mothers, are more commonly exposed to traumatic life events when compared to men."

Particularly with a rise in women seeking to attain a desired substance, Miller said the potential risk of sex work is "running rampant" throughout the state.

"Sex work is definitely a product of drug addiction and is probably one of the biggest contributing factors for the development of substance use disorders in women," Miller said.

By providing a way for women to maintain their addiction, Saunders said the sex work industry also serves as a common connection to other individuals battling with long-term addictions, particularly minorities.

"Many people don't understand how prevalent sex work



"A lot of people seem to think the key to recovery is wanting to stop abusing a substance, but that simply isn't the case. Substance addiction is a disease of the mind and spiritual condition." **Ashley Ellis**

is in this area, not just for cisgender women, but specifically with transgender women and individuals within the LGBTQ community," Saunders said. "Being pushed out of a family and into a homeless lifestyle increases the risk for any individual to be faced with drug addiction."

With safe needle exchanges begin to arrive in different areas around the state, Mary Crouch, manager of Substance Abuse Treatment Services at Cabell Creek Health Center, said that although receiving clean needles will benefit some users, sanitary needles won't be able to reach everyone.

"We're now seeing many addicts try to clean their needles the best they can, but the risk is still incredibly high," Crouch said. "There is still an enormous number of addicts who are sharing needles because it's the only thing they can do."

As drug users share needles and encounter the risk of spreading various infections, West Virginia has seen a recent rise in infections such as Hepatitis C and B, which Crouch said is due to a lack of prevention information.

"The addiction community is fairly connected," Crouch said. "Almost everyone using is usually aware when things such as Hepatitis become an issue, but nobody receives information focused on prevention."

Saunders said misinformation is actively one of the largest contributing factors for the current drug epidemic.

"There's a huge amount of misinformation around all topics having to do with substance abuse, addiction and recovery; the public and the people using are equally

nature of addiction would need to be the first thing done in order to solve this issue."

Despite addiction commonly being seen as an issue that only affects the user, Ellis said the public's misinformation about the nature of addiction helps to contribute to the problem.

"A lot of people seem to think the key to recovery is wanting to stop abusing a substance, but that simply isn't the case," Ellis said. "Substance addiction is a disease of the mind and spiritual condition."

While West Virginia's opioid crisis begins to gain national attention, Saunders said she hopes future funding is provided to the state in order to ensure better education and new opportunities for those struggling with long-term addiction.

"Many treatment centers haven't received sufficient education to correctly support someone with long-term addiction issues," Saunders said. "Education and funding must come along to help improve this situation."

As for improved treatment, Ellis said she would like to see more secure ways for women to maintain their sobriety after leaving a treatment faciality.

"More transitional living opportunities, also known as halfway houses, will be as crucial as long-term treatment services in the future," Ellis said. "More treatment centers

see FEMALES on pg. 10



What Recovery Point offers in Huntington:

A 100-bed men's long-term facility A drop-in recovery coaching service at

A 9-bed transitional recovery residence

A certification board-recognized Peer Recovery credential training program Off the Streets Recovery I and II as introductions to recovery

Recovery Phase I to focus on recovery dynamics, peer mentoring and community

Recovery Phase II to allow residents to move into the peer mentor office or move to transitional living houses

MARSHALLPARTHENON'.COM

SPORTS

Herd football Tampa-bound for bowl game



RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON

Redshirt freshman running back Brenden Knox rushes into Virginia Tech defenders. Knox is the starting running back for the Herd after starting the season as fourth string.

By MORGAN GRIFFITH

THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University football team found out Sunday afternoon that it will face the University of South Florida in the Bad Boy Mowers Gasparilla Bowl Dec. 20 in Tampa, Florida.

The Herd finished the regular season 8-4 and will be making its fifth bowl appearance in the past six seasons. Under Marshall head coach Doc Holliday, the Herd is 5-0 in bowl appearances.

USF finished 7-5 and will make its fourth-straight bowl appearance. It will be the Bulls' fourth time playing a Conference USA opponent in a bowl game.

Both teams will feel somewhat at home. The game will be played at Raymond James Stadium, where the Bulls play their home games during the regular season. Marshall, on the other hand, has 30 players on the roster that will be playing in their home state of Florida.

Marshall junior long snapper and Florida native Matt Beardall will get a unique opportunity most players do not. Beardall's brother, Andrew Beardall, is a freshman long snapper for the Bulls.

"I was excited when I found out because I get to play my brother's team, and it pumped me up," Matt Beardall said. "I called my parents immediately and told them they only had to go to one bowl game this year."

For some Herd players, this will be the last time they ever put on their Marshall

uniform. Marshall has 17 departing seniors after this season. Senior wide receiver Marcel Williams acknowledged it is important for the team to end the season on the right note.

"The team is excited, it's going to be an exciting and emotional game for the seniors," Williams said. "We have to make sure we go out and do the things we need to do to end it in the right way."

The Bulls are averaging 202.5 rushing yards per game, while Marshall's defense is ranked ninth nationally against the run, only allowing 103.9 yards per game. Marshall's defense is also averaging 3.25 sacks per game and has 23 takeaways on the season.

Marshall and USF are both coming off losses. The Herd fell to Virginia Tech last week, 41-20, while USF fell to the No. 8 UCF Knights two weeks ago, 38-10.

On offense for the Bulls, junior quarter-back Blake Barnett has thrown for 2,498 yards and 11 touchdowns this season. USF also has an offensive weapon in junior running back Jordan Cronkrite, who has 1,095 yards and nine touchdowns on the ground this year.

For Marshall, redshirt senior receiver Tyre Brady has 914 receiving yards and nine touchdowns this season. This past week, Brady accepted an invitation to play in the Reese's Senior Bowl Jan. 26. The bowl showcases some of the best NFL Draft

see FOOTBALL on pg. 10

Women's basketball downs Coppin State

By DEREK GILBERT

THE PARTHENON

The Marshall Thundering Herd women's basketball team defeated the Coppin State Eagles, 88-67, Saturday afternoon at the Cam Henderson Center.

"We came out ready to play, and that was great," Marshall head coach Tony Kemper said. "We can shoot again. We had lost it, but we found it and that's good. This ought to be a good shooting team."

The Herd started the game by making shots and jumped out to a 25-7 lead at the end of the first quarter. Marshall shot 50 percent from the field and 7-for-11 from beyond the arc in the first quarter.

Marshall led for the entire game, something Kemper said was crucial in his team's win.

"I think that was really important," Kemper said. "We've been playing from behind almost all year. We looked more relaxed all day."

Coppin State cut Marshall's lead to four points in the second quarter due to Marshall shooting struggles. The Eagles failed to shrink the deficit to less than four points, and redshirt senior guard Taylor Porter extended the Herd's lead to eight by converting a four-point play with 0.6 seconds remaining in the half. The Herd had a 38-30 lead after the sequence.

Kemper said he was glad to see Porter play well in this game, and she looks more like herself after sitting out the 2017-18 season.

"That was a big sequence," Kemper said. "I thought Taylor Porter was back. I turned to the sidelines and said '(Porter) is back,' and that's a good thing."

Marshall came out into the second half in an attempt to not sacrifice its lead—Porter's buzzer-beating 3-pointer was the Herd's lone 3-pointer in the second quarter, Kemper's squad found its shooting groove again in the second half.

Sophomore guard Kristen Mayo shot consistently for the remainder of the game and finished the contest with 18 points on a 6-for-6 3-point shooting performance.

Mayo said she attributes her three-point shooting success to the ball movement that the team stressed following its Thursday win against Evansville.

"Coach has talked about how we need to focus in more," Mayo said. "I think we really bought in to that, and I think we really executed it well tonight."

Following a Tuesday night tilt at Wisconsin, Marshall returns to the Cam Henderson Center Saturday for a 5:30 p.m. tipoffagainst Cleveland State.

Derek Gilbert can be contacted at gilbert75@marshall.edu.

Herd men's basketball travels to Duquesne

By SYDNEY SHELTON

THE PARTHENON

Marshall men's basketball looks to add a road win against Duquesne Wednesday night in Pittsburgh. Marshall sits at 5-2 on the season with losses to Maryland and Ohio University, both of which were on the road. Duquesne is 4-2 on the season with losses to Notre Dame and Pitt.

Duquesne currently leads the all-time series with a record of 3-1. The last time the teams faced off was in 1979.

In Marshall's last game, the Herd fell 101-84 to the Ohio Bobcats. Marshall took the 3-0 lead early, but Ohio surpassed the Herd and led the rest of the game. The Herd shot 36-for-70 from the field and 9-for-17 from the 3-point line. Elmore led the team with 26 points, his fifth game with more than 20 points.

In Duquesne's last game, the Dukes fell

74-53 to the Pitt Panthers. The biggest struggle for the Dukes was missed shots and turnovers. Pitt went on a 15-3 run that included eight-straight missed Duquesne shots and six Dukes turnovers. Duquesne shot 19-for-57 from the field and 5-for-24 from 3-point range. Sophomore center Michael Hughes posted his first double-double with 20 points and 10 rebounds.

It is also notable that Duquesne's sophomore guard Tavian Dunn-Martin is from Huntington and went to Huntington High School. He has made an appearance in all six of the Dukes' games so far this season, averaging nearly 20 minutes a contest.

Both teams beat William & Mary earlier this season. Marshall beat William & Mary 84-64, shooting 48.4 percent in field goals and 31.8 percent from 3-point range.

see BASKETBALL on pq. 10

Offensive struggles lead to blowout loss against Virginia Tech



RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON

Virginia Tech redshirt junior quarterback Ryan Willis passes over Marshall's defense in the Hokies' 41-20 defeat of the Herd. Willis completes 18 of his 26 passes for 312 yards and four touchdowns.

By MORGAN GRIFFITH

THE PARTHENON

Marshall football struggled in the red zone Saturday in its 41-20 loss to Virginia Tech at Lane Stadium.

With the loss, Marshall finished its regular season 8-4, while Virginia Tech finished at 6-6, making the Hokies bowl eligible for the 26th consecutive season.

"We moved the ball up and down the field, we just didn't score enough points," Marshall head coach Doc Holliday said. "Give Virginia Tech credit, they played well, and we made too many mistakes."

Just six seconds into the game and on Marshall's first play from scrimmage, the Herd turned the ball over after redshirt freshman quarterback Isaiah Green was strip-sacked. Virginia Tech redshirt senior defensive lineman Ricky Walker sacked Green for a loss of eight yards, and redshirt freshman defensive lineman TyJuan Garbutt recovered the fumble

The Hokies took advantage of the turnover, scoring three points after a 32-yard field goal by redshirt sophomore Brian Johnson to make the score 3-0.

During the Herd's second possession of the game, Green threw an interception in the end zone. Virginia Tech sophomore defensive back Bryce Watts came away with the interception, the first of his career. The interception resulted in a touchback after Herd junior receiver Obi Obialo tackled Watts.

With five minutes to play in the first quarter, redshirt junior quarterback Ryan Willis threw a 46-yard touchdown pass to sophomore receiver Hezekiah Grimsley. The Hokies extended their lead 10-0, capitalizing on yet another Marshall turnover.

The first quarter ended after a 2-yard Marshall touchdown by redshirt freshman running back Brenden Knox to make the score 10-6 after a missed extra point by redshirt junior kicker Justin Rohrwasser. Knox had a 67-yard run earlier in the drive to set up his short touchdown.

On the first scoring drive of the second quarter, Willis threw a 47-yard pass to freshman wide receiver Tre Turner. This resulted in Willis' 20th touchdown pass of the season, which extended the Hokies' lead to 17-6.

Virginia Tech continued to extend its lead in the second quarter and scored two touchdowns to make the score 31-6 at halftime. In the first half, Marshall had only 68 passing yards, while the Hokies had 254.

Marshall did not have another scoring drive until the beginning of the fourth quarter, when Green found redshirt sophomore tight end Xavier Gaines on a 34-yard touchdown pass.

It was a quiet day for Herd star redshirt senior wide receiver Tyre Brady, who had two catches for 24 yards total.

The Hokies had two scoring drives in the second half, with the first being a 32-yard field goal by Johnson. The second score came in the fourth quarter after a 40-yard run by sophomore running back Jalen Holston to extend Virginia Tech's lead to 41-13.

On the final scoring drive of the game, Knox scored a touchdown on a 5-yard run to make the final score 41-20. Knox had 27 carries for 204 yards and two touchdowns—a career-high. Knox acknowledged he was proud of the team for continuing to fight.

"We didn't execute early on but I love the way our guys executed later on in the game and just kept fighting," Knox said. "It's just a stepping stone to move on to the bowl game."

The Herd accepted an invite to the Bad Boy Mowers Gasparilla Bowl Sunday afternoon, where it will play USF at 8 p.m. Dec. 20.

Morgan Griffith can be contacted at griffith 126@marshall.edu.

Herd football week 14 report card

STAFF REPORT

OFFENSE: D-

Sure, the offense put 20 points on the board, but 14 of those points came in the fourth quarter when the game was well in hand. Virginia Tech's defense made Isaiah Green look like a freshman for the first three quarters, and Tyre Brady had just two catches for 24 yards. The only bright spot was that Brenden Knox had over 200 yards on the ground and a pair of touchdowns, continuing his impressive run through the month of November.

DEFENSE: D+

This was by far Marshall's worst performance on the defensive side of the ball. Ryan Willis completed nearly 70 percent of his passes, threw for over 300 yards and had four passing touchdowns. Steven Peoples and Jalen Holston proved to be a two-back tandem that Marshall had difficulties stopping throughout the game.

SPECIAL TEAMS: D

Justin Rohrwasser missed an extra point in the first quarter, which started the downward spiral on special teams. Rohrwasser also sent a kickoff out of bounds, which is inexcusable on special teams. Robert LeFevre had a decent day in terms of punting, averaging nearly 45 yards per punt, but Rohrwasser's miscues drag this grade down severely.



OPINION

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.

CONTACT US: 109 Communications Bldg. | Marshall University | One John Marshall Drive Huntington, West Virginia 25755 | parthenon@marshall.edu | @MUParthenon Letters to the Editor are accepted. See guidelines online.

EDITORIAL STAFF

SADIE HELMICK

EXECUTIVE EDITOR helmick32@marshall.edu

SARAH INGRAM

NEWS EDITOR ingram51@marshall.edu

HEATHER BARKER

LIFE! EDITOR barker 193@marshall.edu

JOE ARTRIP

PRODUCTION EDITOR artrip30@marshall.edu

HANNA PENNINGTON

SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER penningto 131@marshall.edu

AMANDA LARCH

COPY EDITOR larch15@marshall.edu

FRANKLIN NORTON

MANAGING EDITOR norton 18@marshall.edu

RICK FARLOW

SPORTS EDITOR farlow@marshall.edu

KIERAN INTEMANN

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR intemann@marshall.edu

LILLY DYER

PHOTO EDITOR dyer67@marshall.edu

MICHAELA CRITTENDEN

ONLINE EDITOR crittenden2@marshall.edu

SANDY YORK

FACULTY ADVISER sandy.york@marshall.edu

THE PARTHENON'S CORRECTIONS POLICY

"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."

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----EDITORIAL Marshall entering a new era



There is an energy in the Huntington region that is exciting and new, an energy that pulses through the city sidewalks, with the words of renewal and revitalization on the mind of everyone. This same energy exists inside of the Marshall campus.

In the past year, the university has had a host of exciting and groundbreaking announcements that are sure to shape the direction of Marshall and the culture of the surrounding community.

In March, the men's basketball team, after 31 years, earned their spot in the NCAA championship tournament, a program-defining moment in Herd history.

"I'm happy," Marshall head coach Dan D'Antoni said. "I'm happy for these kids, I'm happy for the school. It's been a long time coming."

The Marshall community also welcomed a new provost this, Dr. Jaime Taylor, who hit the ground running to bring innovative and robust curriculum to Marshall. "Everything at Marshall seems to be happening," Taylor told The Parthenon in a June interview. "It seems like the right people are in the right place...things are moving forward."

In one of the largest donations in Marshall history, Intuit CEO Brad Smith and his wife, Alys, gifted \$25 million to the university's Lewis College of Business, a gift that President Jerry Gilbert called transformational.

"In addition to redesigning our programs through experiential learning and close industry-academic partnerships, we will build new facilities with spaces to nurture collaboration, creativity and entrepreneurship," said Avinandan "Avi" Mukherjee, dean of the Lewis College of Business.

Marshall also is working on several other large, transformative projects-including plans for aerospace programs and the continuing development of the pharmacy

school along Hal Greer Boulevard. Herd athletic fans can also expect a home baseball field in the near future, located at the Flint Group Pigments Plant property, purchased by Marshall for \$1.2 million.

All of these things combined with the announcement of the appointment of three new members on the Board of Governors, display a clear message that Marshall is entering into a new era thanks to active and visionary leadership on campus and beyond.

In the context of the My Huntington movement, which aims to engage the residents, businesses, students and others to positively change the narrative of our region, Marshall is doing its part to make this community one to be proud of.

As the 2018 year comes to an end, Marshall University students, faculty, staff and alumni should be proud of the transformative season this school has seen.

THE PARTHENON

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2018 MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM



By SADIE HELMICK EXECUTIVE EDITOR

In 2012, I met a group of nursing students from Marshall in Tegucigalpa, Honduras during my first trip to Honduras, a place that changed the course of my life After meeting familiar faces in a strange place that I came to love, I told myself that I would attend Marshall as a nursing student so I could go to Honduras.

I soon realized that I would make a terrible nurse, but after attending Green and White Day I found a new path.

During my junior year of high school, I visited Marshall for a Green and White Day. During the tour of the J-school, I found myself in the newsroom flipping through old copies of the paper. I left the building with a newfound sense of belonging as I washed my newspaper ink-covered hands. I would have never imagined that I would be the Executive Editor of The Parthenon.

I came to Huntington with no expectations. Coming from Paden City, West Virginia, I never expected to feel at home in a larger city and I never would have thought I would meet a gaggle of friends who have become my family.

Huntington has become my second home. Franklin and I were driving around downtown before print night on Tuesday reminiscing on our friendship and our careers at The Parthenon. Franklin and I met during our First Year Seminar class. I am glad to call him my best and first friend. Having him as my sidekick this semester has been the best. I am going to be "Frank" for a second, but I am thankful to have found the greatest friend, sidekick and workplace proximity associate.

Throughout my tenure at Marshall, I waited for this day, but now that it is 10 days away, I am filled with nervousness. Excitement outweighs the nerves, but anxiety is definitely there.

As I design the last cover page and I write this silly goodbye, I think about all the good things that happened here. My pap has always told me that school is the best time of your life and I can see that he is right.

My experience can all be summed up with the quote from the best fictional character, Leslie Knope, "There's nothing we can't do if we work hard, never sleep, and shrink all other responsibilities in our lives."

Six years have passed since I first met that group of nursing students. Although nursing was not my path, serving in Honduras is and come February I will be living with the best group of boys.

Sadie Helmick can be contacted at helmick32@mar-shall.edu.



By FRANKLIN NORTON MANAGING EDITOR

As my undergraduate career at Marshall University comes to a close, I pause to reflect on the few years I've spent as a student here. The experiences I've had, the relationships I've formed and the lessons I've learned have all worked to shape me into the person I am today.

Almost two years ago, I started out as a reporter for The Parthenon, a necessary step toward my degree and something I dreaded. I ended up finding my place in storytelling and reporting, and applied for an editorial staff position, leading to my being the managing editor for the last year.

One day, the Managing Editor at the time, my good friend Tom Jenkins, asked me to write a quick column piece for the day's print edition—a column that became my first of a longer series: Let Me Be Frank. In that first column, I wrote these words:

"This phase is one of movement and of growth and uncertainty, but if we can embrace this uncertainty and embrace the change and challenges that come with it, we may just find that we are better for it on the other side of adversity."

I can say that, in hindsight, I truly am better for all of it. And as I face the wave of uncertainty and change that comes with a new college degree, I can rest in the fact that, as history reveals in the pattern of my life, one day I will look back and say, "I'm better for it." I think I'll be okay.

These columns are really a gift for me, as I can look back and read through my own reflections and how I have processed this transformative period of life. I can see how I overcame bouts of depression and anxiety, how I worked to understand both falling in love and heartbreak. I am given insights into the ordinary moments of life, the small, daily events that contribute to my perspective. I can read on a page how important and beautiful friendship, community and faith have been in my life.

I'm nervous and excited, but more importantly, I'm ready. I'm ready for whatever life throws at me. Before I sign off, I want to remind myself and you: Lean on others. Pray often. Rest well. Read great stories. Live greater stories. Do it scared. Act justly. Love kindness. Walk humbly. Weep with those who weep and rejoice with those who rejoice. Life is a beautiful thing—please don't ever forget.

Franklin Norton can be contacted at norton18@ marshall.edu.



By RICK FARLOW SPORTS EDITOR

One of the first things I did when I came to Marshall as a freshman in 2014 was walk into the Parthenon newsroom and inquire about a position with the student-paper.

Armed with a year-and-a-half of experience with my high school newspaper, I thought I'd be writing stories for publication in no time. I was ready to win a Pulitzer and no one was going to stop me.

That was, until the Parthenon adviser, Sandy York, asked me if I knew what a lead was. I don't remember my answer, but it wasn't the correct one. Then, she told me I had to take prerequisite classes before I was allowed to be a reporter. I was dejected (to no fault of Sandy's).

After I escaped an internal dilemma in which I fervently questioned my choice to study journalism, I realized that everyone makes mistakes, but the best people learn from them (pardon the cliché). I stuck with it. I had a lot to learn. And learn I did.

My first two years at Marshall consisted of slacking, procrastinating and scrambling last-minute to turn in assignments. I exhibited typical college student tendencies and it was rough (for my GPA). Eventually, though, I woke up.

When I entered my junior year at Marshall, I said to myself, "Self, anyone can do the minimum. Do you really want to get a college degree to sell car insurance?"

I had an epiphany and I found my niche—my passion. I channeled my inner Creed Bratton and realized: I like sports, and I like writing. Why not be a sports writer?

Turns out, I'm good at it.Four (and-a-half) years later, I write this column as sports editor for the Parthenon—sports editor who knows what a lead paragraph is. People I've never met actually pay me to write words about football. Think about that. It's a pretty good gig.

It wasn't a slam dunk, though. My first two years here were a failure—a major setback. I had to work hard to catch up with the pack. I found an internship, reported for the Parthenon and did well in most difficult journalism courses Marshall offers. Most importantly, I got my name out there.

I graduate in less than two weeks. When I do, I'll have a lot to remember and even more to be thankful for.

At Marshall, I've done things that can't be done at most schools. I've been courtside, in the locker room, on the side-

See FARLOW on pg. 10

Fall 2018 Exam Schedule

Exam Time	Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Monday
	Dec. 10	Dec. 11	Dec. 13	Dec. 14
8 a.m. to	Classes meeting at	Classes meeting at	Classes meeting at	Classes meeting at
10 a.m.	8 a.m. MWF	9:30 a.m. TR	8 a.m. TR	9 a.m. MWF
10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.	Classes meeting at 10 a.m. MWF	Classes meeting at 11 a.m. MWF	Classes meeting at 11 a.m. TR	Classes meeting at 12 p.m. MWF
12:45 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.	Classes meeting at 2 p.m. MWF	Classes meeting at 12:30 p.m. TR	Classes meeting at 2 p.m. TR	Classes meeting at 1 p.m. MWF

Marshall University's full exam schedule can be found online at http://www.marshall.edu/registrar/files/Fall-2018-Exam-Schedule.pdf

PAGE EDITED AND DESIGNED BY SADIE HELMICK | HELMICK32@MARSHALL.EDU

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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.

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Saturday 8:00 am-8:25 am Saturday 4:00 pm-4:25 pm Tuesday 5:00 pm-5:25 pm or by appointment

BASKETBALL cont. from 6

Elmore led the team with 26 points, followed by senior guard C.J. Burks with 16 points.

Duquesne beat William & Mary 84-70 in its first win of the season. Duquesne shot 52.5 percent from the field and 46.2 percent from beyond the arch. Freshman forward Austin Rotroff and sophomore guard Eric Williams Jr. scored 17 points apiece in the win.

Sydney Shelton can be contacted at shelton97@ marshall.edu.

FOOTBALL cont. from 6

prospects in college football.

Throwing to Brady is redshirt freshman quarterback Isaiah Green. This season, Green has thrown for 2,238 yards and 15 touchdowns. Like USF, Marshall has its own threat at running back with redshirt freshman Brenden Knox. Knox had his third 100-yard game in four appearances last week against Virginia Tech, running for 204 yards and two touchdowns.

The Gasparilla Bowl will be the first meeting between the two teams. Kickoff is set for 8 p.m.

Morgan Griffith can be contacted at griffith126@marshall. edu.

FEMALES cont. from 5

in general would benefit West Virginian because so many people need help."

Not only will potential users need more resources for education, Miller said families and individuals connected to users will also need to be provided with information.

"Educating families will always be an important part of the solution," Miller said. "Families are too often inadvertently contributing the problem."

In addition to new educational resources and state funding, Crouch said she hopes to see more laxed laws surrounding the public's use of overdose prevention drugs such as Narcan.

"The state's overdose rate may be up, but the overdose death rate is down," Crouch said. "That's simply because more people have access to Narcan."

Despite the opioid crisis' effects on West Virginia's men and women, Crouch said there is certainly a solution to the issue.

"Addiction is a huge destroyer of human life, but it doesn't have to stay that way in this state," Crouch said. "There are things we can do to prevent more issues but it's going to take efforts from many different people."

While the it may seem daunting, Crouch said she is optimistic for the future ahead in West Virginia.

"This isn't a simple problem with a simple solution, but where there's life there's hope," Crouch said. "Nobody wants this problem to destroy us and we aren't going to let it happen."

Joelle Gates can be contacted gates29@marshall.edu.

FARLOW cont. from 9

lines and in the press box. I covered the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament! Not many people get that opportunity in college.

At Marshall, I learned what it takes to cover Division I athletics. I learned how to write, how to interview and how to report the truth no matter how much people (coaches and SID's) don't like it.

At Marshall, I became a journalist.

I couldn't be more thankful to my professors, bosses, colleagues, family and readers for the opportunity and the support. Because of them, I have a job inter-

I'm ready to win a Pulitzer and no one is going to stop me.

Rick Farlow can be contacted at farlow@marshall.edu.

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The Herald-Dispatch

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 norton 18@ marshall.edu.

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PAGE EDITED AND DESIGNED BY FRANKLIN NORTON I NORTON18@MARSHALL.EDU

Coach Spotlight: Chris Grassie

By MILLARD STICKLER

FOR THE PARTHENON

Editor's note: Chris Grassie, 40, is the second-year head coach of the Marshall University men's soccer team. Previously, he was head coach at the University of Charleston, where he became the winningest coach in history. He coached the team to the NCAA Division II Final Four the last three seasons, while being the national runner up in 2014 and 2016.

Under his direction the UC soccer program reached No. 1 in the nation dropping to No. 2 after losing to Wingate University. Grassie spent four years as an assistant head soccer coach at the University of Michigan from 2007 to 2010. The Wolverines won the Big Ten Championship in 2010 and appeared in the 2010 College Cup, losing in the semifinals to the eventual national champion Akron. He is a native of Newcastle upon Tyne in the United Kingdom. He served as a graduate assistant at Marshall University in 2003-04. He played soccer professionally in England for Northwich Victoria.

This story is a piece written for Professor Burnis Morris's JMC 330 class and is an edited version of the interview conducted by a student named Millard Stickler, who recently interviewed Grassie using a style borrowed from the Marcel Proust/Vanity Fair magazine format located in the back pages of Vanity Fair magazine, which is designed to reveal the private and personal side of newsmakers.

Q: What is your most marked characteristic?

A: I would like to think that I've got a sort of steady growth mindset. I've worked hard on trying not to react emotionally to everything. I was always the guy who would fight every battle and argue every point. You know I want to prove my point all the time. I am trying to be a little bit more patient and a little bit more willing to listen and not get offended first.

Q: What is the quality you most like in a man?

A: Positivity - if it came down to like somebody who is an energizer, someone who could walk into a room and lift people and be able to find solutions as opposed to problems. I would say overall positivity would be my favorite.

Q: What is the quality you most like in

A: I would say, I mean positivity is very

important for both. I would say like my wife, she is sort of the glue that holds everything together. She can you know make me feel better and make me feel supported. She can reach out to friends and family and keep everybody connected and keep everything on the right track. So, I feel like that positivity-supported glue, amazing would be my favorite quality.

Q: What do you most value in your friends? A: Trust, I think it is the older I get the fewer friends I have, but the better our relationships are. Same with my siblings, my brother and I are very close. We don't talk often, but once every couple months we have a long conversation, but we don't need to because we have a shared history and have that trust that we won't let each other down. I think with friends it is the same way. I consider the guys I work with friends of mine, and I would like to have that relationship with them. Having that trust and knowing that if you fall left they will catch you, and if they fall right you can catch them and we have a shared history together and it builds and builds and builds and that trust gets stronger and stronger.

Q: What is a trait you most deplore in

So, they can help you there.

A: Probably anger, I grew up in a different time and a different place where there was a lot of violence and a lot of fighting and a lot of that everyday, and I think anger was something that was always felt, always felt angry. It was like I had this anger to tap into as I've gotten older I have learned how important anger is as an emotion, and it is something that you can show and use for your own means. As a younger man I think I didn't use it, but rather anger used me for its means as opposed to me using it for my means and I think you gotta keep that in control and in check and make that work for you and not lashing out and not getting upset.

Q: What is your favorite occupation?

A: College soccer coach.

Q: What is your idea of perfect happiness?

A: My idea of perfect happiness? I think that the meaning of life is joy and happiness, and I think that perfect happiness would be if my neighbors, if my friends, and if my countrymen all had everything they needed. I think that it is a utopian society where we are all looking out for each other. I think like there is a fable that I have heard about heaven and hell. I'm not religious; I don't believe in either one but heaven and hell being exactly the same thing. So, there is a big bowl of rice in the middle and everybody is sitting around the table chained to their chairs with chop sticks that are too long to get rice and feed themselves and they are all starving and miserable in hell. While in heaven it is the exact same picture, but everybody is feeding each other from the rice bowl. I thought it was very profound and sort of proper. So perfect happiness would be knowing that everybody is looking out for everybody else and were not trying to take everything for ourselves.

Q: What do you regard as the lowest depth of misery?

A: The lowest depth of misery would probably be complete and utter loneliness, complete lack of purpose and complete lack of human connection.

0: In which country would you like to live?

A: I would like to live in America. I have lived in the UK. I have lived in Canada. I have always had this idea of living in Brazil, maybe do a sabbatical for a year. It would be interesting to learn a different language and work in a different language.

Q: Who are your favorite writers?

A: Malcolm Gladwell. He is a genius who kind of gets to the point of it and looks at things from a different angle in a way that most people don't really see. It's like he is coming at something from a different point of view, then by the time he is finished writing it's like how did we not see that? How did we not look at it from that it is so obvious? ... I quite liked this Chinese author of sci-fi, Cixin Liu, that was quite nice. I just read three books on him that were kind of sci-fi just took your mind out there. Steven Backster, I have enjoyed. My cousin wrote a novel called "Fox Law." I really enjoyed her work; she is excellent. Eleanor Rosenberg got to have a plug in there.

Q: Do you have a favorite poet?

A: I like Kahlil Gibran "The Prophet." I think that is a really nice book. My wife got me that when we got married an I really enjoyed reading that. I like Robert Frost, and I have actually started liking Walt Whitman.

Q: Who is your favorite hero of fiction?

A: I don't know. I read a lot and listen to a lot of books on tape these days, so I don't know if there is one hero or heroine that stands out in fiction. I guess I always liked Robin Hood you know like the stories and the Disney cartoon with the fox.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARSHALL ATHLETICS Chris Grassie is the head coach of the Marshall University men's soccer team.

Q: Who is your favorite heroine of fiction? **A:** I am going to go with Maiden Marion for the combination of her job is much more difficult being in a position of somewhat power and trying to negotiate politically you know that environment. I would have

to say those two are the classy ones. **Q:** Who are your favorite painters?

A: I quite like Mark Rothko, the big giant different colors where you just kind of stare at them and see something different all the time.

Q: What are your favorite names?

A: My favorite names are Ever and Ia. They are my kids.

Q: What is it you most dislike?

A: I would say in my profession I hate when people take things for granted.

Q: Which talent would you most like to have?

A: Which talent besides being able to fly. I would love to be able to... God, I would love to be able to speak many languages. I would love to speak every language to be able to talk with every person on the planet that would be awesome.

Q: How would you like to die?

A: How would I like to die? Honestly, as a 5,000-year-old man surrounded by loved ones.

Millard Stickler can be contacted at stickler16@marshall.edu.