

Marshall University

Marshall Digital Scholar

---

The Parthenon

University Archives

---

9-8-2021

## The Parthenon, September 8, 2021

Xena Bunton

Parthenon@marshall.edu

Isabella Robinson

Madison Perdue

Abby Hanlon

Catherine Blankenship

*See next page for additional authors*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://mds.marshall.edu/parthenon>

---

### Recommended Citation

Bunton, Xena; Robinson, Isabella; Perdue, Madison; Hanlon, Abby; Blankenship, Catherine; Hiser, Zach; Spence, Tyler; Truman, Carter; Kennett, Tyler; Ayes, Abby; and Hickman, Noah, "The Parthenon, September 8, 2021" (2021). *The Parthenon*. 3678.

<https://mds.marshall.edu/parthenon/3678>

This Newspaper is brought to you for free and open access by the University Archives at Marshall Digital Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Parthenon by an authorized administrator of Marshall Digital Scholar. For more information, please contact [zhangj@marshall.edu](mailto:zhangj@marshall.edu), [beachgr@marshall.edu](mailto:beachgr@marshall.edu).

---

**Authors**

Xena Bunton, Isabella Robinson, Madison Perdue, Abby Hanlon, Catherine Blankenship, Zach Hiser, Tyler Spence, Carter Truman, Tyler Kennett, Abby Ayes, and Noah Hickman

# THE PARTHENON

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2021 | VOL. 125 NO. 2 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | marshallparthenon.com | SINGLE COPY FREE

## Marshall Thunders Past Navy for Huff's First Win



Richard Crank | The Parthenon

By ANDREW ROGERS  
REPORTER

The Marshall Football team dominated the Navy Midshipmen in all three phases of the game on Saturday afternoon, in route to a 49-7 victory season opening win. Charles Huff is the first year Marshall head coach to win the first game on the road.

"It was a good day for us", Huff said. "There is a lot of work to do, there are some spots we need to get cleaned up, but overall, I am proud of how we performed."

Redshirt freshman running back Rasheen Ali scored on a two-yard run to finish a 9 play 75-yard drive a little over two minutes and 30 seconds into the game. That opening drive set the tone for Marshall's offense the rest of the way and helped Marshall take a 21-0 lead at the half. Six of Marshall's seven touchdowns came on the ground, with Ali running 59 yards and four touchdowns and redshirt junior Sheldon Evans ran for two touchdowns. The passing attack propelled the Thundering Herd's offense down the field. Quarterback Grant Wells threw for 333 yards and averaged 17 yards per pass.

*Navy continued  
on page 7*

### WHAT'S INSIDE

**Coal Themed Art Exhibit...**  
PAGE 2

**Searching for the Best  
Pepperoni Roll...**PAGE 10

**Flood Challenges University  
Budget...** PAGE 2

Last week's flash flood devastating parts of Marshall University's campus will be another unwelcome burden to MU's already tight financial situation. Regarding the University's "Structural deficit," Mark Robinson, the senior vice president for finance, dived into the larger causes. "We obviously have fiscal challenges here with decreasing enrollment and state...

*Budget continued on  
PAGE 2*

PAGE EDITED AND DESIGNED BY XENA BUNTON | BUNTON2@MARSHALL.EDU

**Bus Passes On  
Your Phone**  
Get the Token Transit app 



**Text TOKEN to 41411  
for a download link**

 **Token Transit**



Apple and the Apple logo are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. Google Play and the Google Play logo are trademarks of Google Inc.

# Recent Flood Adds to Budget Concerns

CONNER WOODRUFF  
THE PARTHENON

Last week's flash flood devastating parts of Marshall University's campus will be another unwelcome burden to MU's already tight financial situation. Regarding the University's "Structural deficit," Mark Robinson, the senior vice president for finance, dived into the larger causes. "We obviously have fiscal challenges here with decreasing enrollment and state support dwindling," Robinson said. Since the beginning of the nationwide lockdown starting in early 2020, the University has had to jump through a variety of financial hurdles. Fortunately, these challenges were remedied by the CARES Act. The CARES Act has allowed the university to delegate support funding for all Marshall students. "It's propping us up this year, it propped us up some last year," Robinson said. Of the \$13 million supporting Marshall students over the next year, \$500,000 will assist students in response to emergency crises or COVID related incidents and losses. Students who did not receive support funding on behalf of the CARES Act last semester, such as international students and freshmen, will receive support in the form of the Technology Grant, which is to be dispersed in early September. Marshall, along with other universities around the state, are struggling with the state's decline in student enrollment, which Robinson says may challenge the justification of so many colleges in West Virginia. "We've got too many universities in the state, particularly with the shrinking population of students," Robinson said. Despite the criticism, Robinson acknowledged the important roles colleges and

higher education programs play in their home communities. "The backside of it is those are 'economic piers' that hold up those communities," Robinson said. Above all, Robinson said the continuously shrinking student population may be one of the highest threats to the university's financials. "We have got to get students from out of state because the population of those eligible in this state is shrinking," Robinson said. "We've got a real bad triangle here; you have got less students coming in, student debt, and a state that's not going to really support education for whatever reason."

**Conner Woodruff can be contacted at woodruff9@marshall.edu.**



PHOTO BY TYLER SPENCE

Flooding on 3rd Avenue behind Smith Hall

# Smith Hall Art Exhibit Shows Coal Pieces

KATLYN WORSTELL  
THE PARTHENON

The Smith Hall art gallery is displaying from Aug. 30 to Sept. 30 a new art exhibit filled with coal art pieces that represent the mining industry in West Virginia. The artists Caroline Hatfield, Andrew Needle and Kathleen Thum have used coal in each of the art pieces. Kathleen Thum, an art professor at Clemson University, said her piece was inspired by her interest in fossil fuels, specifically oil and pipelines when the BP Deepwater Horizon happened in 2010. "My interest in oil was curiosity, what is the substance that is so vital to our contemporary way of life, fascination and concern," Thum said.

Thum said the coal she used in the exhibit was stored in her studio for two years before creating her piece. "I realized that the way to approach the subject of coal in my artwork was with a more objective approach—to simply draw the material realistically in detail, observing this powerful rock," Thum said. "As the drawings evolved, I became increasingly interested in the black of coal, thus I simplified the coal forms to silhouette shapes, as a more subjective approach." The gallery director for the School of Art & Design, Jamie Platt, said

there will be a wide range of artwork for students and faculty to see. "What I think students will be happy about is greater access to the Birke Art Gallery in Smith Hall and hopefully being able to attend in-person receptions and artist talks," Platt said. Van Preston, a musical theater major, talked about his interest in the exhibit as he walks past the gallery on his way to class. "I haven't been able to check out the exhibit yet but, every time I pass by the door and see that glowing red light with the darkness of the coal spilling out into the floor it just really pulls me in," Preston said. "It makes me wish I don't have a class." The exhibit also connects students to their own family history. "Considering I have a family history in coal mining, I think it is really great to see how it [coal] is turned into art," Taylor Racer, a secondary English major, said. "Art is such a fluent thing and it tells different stories to different people so, hearing that they have something like that here is really exciting."

**Katlyn Worstell can be contacted at worstell13@marshall.edu.**

# Residence hall guidelines changes for fall semester

BY KATLYN WORSTELL  
REPORTER



TYLER SPENCE | MANAGING EDITOR

Due to COVID-19, guidelines have been strict at Marshall, especially in the resident halls.

With it being a new semester, those protocols have become less strict for students.

Last semester, daily health checks were mandatory, masks were to be worn at all times when leaving your dorm room or when you enter the building, making visitation limited to only students living in the same hall and most importantly tapping your Marshall ID every time you enter your building.

Health checks are no longer necessary, but if the student is not vaccinated or has chosen not to say, the student will have to get tested every so often during the semester. They will get ahold of you via email.

Visitation is now available for students to bring guests from on or off campus. Maximum is three people to be checked in.

Masks are still strictly enforced after recently it being lifted at the beginning. Due to that, tapping your Marshall ID when you enter will ensure the right person is checking into that specific room to ensure safety during this hardship.

Residents, resident advisors, and desk assistants alike

have positive things to say about this rule and how it helps rather than make things difficult.

Tabby Collins, a resident advisor for Twin Towers West said, "I actually like this rule being enforced. A lot of students can work around the old rule by just switching the sticker out with the building they are trying to get into and covering the picture with their hand if it was stolen. This way, it is a lot safer for the students and I can make sure something like that doesn't happen."

Laura Hundley, a senior said, "I think that the rule of having to tap your ID was difficult to upperclassman at first. Now, at this point, we have just grown so used to it since it has been a rule for so long. Honestly, I think it is better than the old rule, because people can't commit sticker fraud and try to impersonate you."

Taylor Racer, a resident advisor and desk assistant for Buskirk Hall said, "I think it's a good idea because it adds a layer of safety to the resident hall. It also lets us get to know the students better. Which is always a great thing!"

**Katlyn Worstell can be contacted at [worstell3@marshall.edu](mailto:worstell3@marshall.edu).**

# Symposium held for late professor

BY LEEAH SCOTT  
REPORTER

Calling late Marshall professor Jean Edward Smith "the pre-eminent biographer of contemporary public figures in the United States," Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist George F. Will last week said his old friend was proud to have heroes.

Smith was "a model of what a professor should be -- wise, tolerate, judicious and temperate," Will said, adding, "Jean had heroes, but he knew you could be a hero and still have feet of clay."

The featured speaker at the Sept. 1 Jean Edward Smith Memorial Symposium taking place on the second anniversary of Smith's passing, Will said, "A real critic understands high standards, and a good historian/biographer knows how to praise." For instance, he added, Smith admired one of his books' subjects, President Dwight D. Eisenhower,

"but he cast a cool eye on (him), as Jean did on everything."

Smith -- who came to Huntington in 2007 as the John Marshall Professor of Political Science after 35 years at the University of Toronto and served Marshall until his death -- "believed that individuals matter and he proved it" with his 11 acclaimed books, Will said. Smith wrote a number of award-winning biographies, including "John Marshall: Definer of a Nation;" "Grant," which was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 2002; and "FDR," which won the Francis J. Parkman Prize of the Society of American Historians as 2007's best book on American history.

"There is a leveling impulse in modern culture," the columnist said, "a presumption against greatness. Against that stand certain people who say they beg to differ... Jean Smith knew that greatness might be resented, but greatness is handy."

What Smith understood, Will said, is that "without a clear sense of individuals and their agency... there are

not heroes, but there also are no villains. If you cannot praise Eisenhower, you also can't properly disparage the man Eisenhower defeated in Hitler. And if you can't celebrate heroes -- as we do with biographies of great, heroic but flawed people -- you cannot have an important moral dimension of life."

Will was joined at the symposium by other Smith friends and colleagues, including Simon & Schuster vice president and executive editor Robert Bender; retired William and Mary historian, documentary editor and author Charles F. Hobson; and Princeton University professor of politics and author Jan-Werner Müller.

**Leeah Scott can be contacted at [Scott367@marshall.edu](mailto:Scott367@marshall.edu).**

# Jill Biden is Going Back To Her Whiteboard

By ARLENE SUPERVILLE  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

After months of teaching writing and English to community college students in boxes on a computer screen, the first lady resumes teaching in person Tuesday from a classroom at Northern Virginia Community College, where she has worked since 2009.

She is the first first lady to leave the White House to log hours at a full-time job.

“There are some things you just can’t replace, and I can’t wait to get back in the classroom,” she recently told *Good Housekeeping* magazine.

A working first lady is a “big deal,” said Tammy Vigil, a Boston University communications professor who wrote a book about first ladies Michelle Obama and Melania Trump.

The nation’s early first ladies did not work outside the White



COURTESY ASSOCIATED PRESS

JILL BIDEN IS THE FIRST FIRST LADY TO TEACH FULL TIME WHILE IN OFFICE

House. They supported their husbands, raised children and performed the role of hostess.

Some first ladies acted as ambassadors for their husbands. Eleanor Roosevelt was especially active, traveling around the U.S. and reporting back to President Franklin D. Roosevelt, whose activities were limited by polio.

More recent first ladies, like Laura Bush, who was an elementary school teacher and librarian, had stopped working outside the home after having children and were not employed when their husbands were elected. Hillary Clinton and Michelle Obama were working mothers who decided against continuing their careers in the White House.

The first lady has said she always wanted to be a career woman. She taught at the Virginia community college during the eight years that her husband was vice president and was not about to let the added responsibility of being first lady force her to give up a career she so closely identifies with.

“Teaching isn’t just what I do. It’s who I am,” she says.

Women made up nearly half, or 47%, of the U.S. labor force in 2019, according to Catalyst, a women’s workplace advocacy group.

Leaders of the nation’s largest teachers’ unions are pleased that one of their own is now in a position to help influence the administration’s education policies and raise the profile of a profession in which many have long felt unappreciated.

President Joe Biden told teachers attending the NEA’s annual meeting that he learned about what they were going through by

watching his wife learn how to teach online.

“It gave me an appreciation firsthand that I thought I had, but I wouldn’t have had had I not seen it,” he said at the July meeting.

Jill Biden started teaching English at a Roman Catholic high school in Wilmington, Delaware, in 1976, a year after she met and began dating then-U.S. Sen. Biden. She later taught at a psychiatric hospital and at Delaware Technical Community College.

She earned two master’s degrees and a doctorate in educational leadership during those years.

After Joe Biden became vice president in 2009, she joined the faculty at Northern Virginia Community College. She continued to teach there after he left office and throughout his 2020 presidential campaign, including virtually after the pandemic hit.

Jill Biden tries to keep her political identity out of the classroom and has said that many of her former students in Virginia had no idea she was married to the vice president. She also did not talk about it. Secret Service agents accompanied her for security, but she had them dress casually and tote backpacks in an attempt to blend into the campus environment.

Anne M. Kress, president of Northern Virginia Community College, said she looked forward to welcoming the students and faculty, including Jill Biden, for the fall semester and expressed gratitude for their commitment to “excellence in instruction and equity in opportunity.”

“Their belief in our students is deep, real, and transformational,” Kress said.

# Comedy Group Hosts Local Comedians

By JAYDEN TAYLOR  
REPORTER

The Huntington Comedy group hosted on Sept. 1 the Huntington Music and Arts Festival Comedy Night, a free and interactive variety show aimed at showcasing local comedians through standup, music, drag and skits.

Huntington Comedy was organized by the community to create an environment in which seasoned comedians and newcomers can perform. The ever-growing organization produces local comedy showcases, comedy open mics and storytelling events.

Huntington Comedy is run by Alex Runyan and

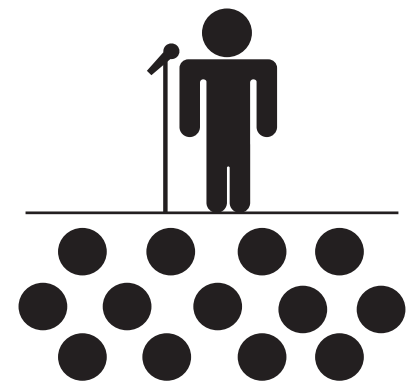
Nate Cesco with help from Nathan Thomas, who produce and perform in the minimum four monthly comedy shows in Huntington. Runyan said the atmosphere of the shows is laid-back and friendly.

“The goal of all Huntington Comedy shows is to have fun,” Runyan said. “Nate and I strive to do as much as possible behind the scenes to create events that comics don’t have to feel worried about. For the audience, we want it to feel like you’re attending a well-run show, something you could find in a bigger city full of career comics.”

There are three open mics each month at Black

Sheep Burrito and Brews, as well as Taps at Heritage Station. Huntington Comedy also produces at least one one-hour showcase per month, in which both local and out-of-town comedians are regularly brought into headline. These shows cost between \$5 to \$10.

Runyan said he encourages people who are interested in comedy to try it, and that it’s okay to be nervous. “It can be scary to try to make a room full of strangers laugh,” Runyan said. “But once you do it, you’ll never want to stop.”



ZACHARY HISER | GRAPHICS EDITOR

# Deal with OxyContin Maker Leaves Families Angry, Conflicted

By JOHN SEEWER and GEOFF MULVIHILL  
Associated Press

Among the families who lost children and other loved ones in the nation's opioid crisis, many had held out hope of someday facing OxyContin maker Purdue Pharma and its owners in a courtroom.

That prospect all but vanished Wednesday after a bankruptcy judge conditionally approved a settlement worth an estimated \$10 billion. It was a deal that left many of those families feeling they didn't get what they really wanted.

There was no apology from members of the Sackler family who own Purdue Pharma, they weren't forced to give up all of their vast fortune, and there was no chance to confront them face-to-face about the lives lost to opioids.

Instead, the individual victims, thousands of state and local governments and other entities that sued Purdue Pharma agreed to a deal in which the Sacklers will pay \$4.5 billion and give up ownership of the company, which will be reorganized.

The company's profits and the Sacklers' contribution will go toward fighting opioid addiction through treatment and education programs. Also, victims of drug addiction can receive payments ranging from \$3,500 to \$48,000.

The conclusion to the case left families conflicted, deflated and still angry.

"Am I happy they don't have to admit guilt and give up all their money? Of course not," said Lynn Wencus, of Wrentham, Massachusetts. "But what would that do? It doesn't bring my son back and it doesn't help those who are suffering."

In the first years after her son Jeff died of an overdose in 2017, all she wanted was vengeance. While her anger remains, she is hopeful the settlement will finally bring help to communities ravaged by overdoses.

"I know people disagree with that and want the Sacklers to suffer," she said. "But the reality is we need money to get into the states, into education, into treatment."

A half-million Americans have died from opioids over the past two decades, a toll that includes victims of prescription painkillers like OxyContin and Vicodin and illicit drugs such as heroin and street-grade fentanyl.

In one of the hardest-fought provisions in the settlement, the family will be protected from any future opioid lawsuits. While the Sacklers weren't given immunity from criminal charges, there have been no indications they will face any.

Despite the settlement, the family could see its wealth

rise from an estimated \$10.7 billion to more than \$14 billion over the coming decade, according to a group of state attorneys general who based their projection on investment returns and interest. Lawyers for Purdue and the Sackler family disputed the estimate.

"Their lives aren't going to change. It's a shame there can't be something done that would make them suffer with the rest of us," said Tamara Graham, of St. Petersburg, Florida.

But she was willing to accept the outcome because it gives her a sliver of hope that the money for treatment could save her youngest brother, who has struggled with addiction for longer than she can remember.

"I wish that I could stand up there," she said. "I would love to make them watch a video of him going through withdrawals, the pain, the vomiting, him begging us to kill him."

The settlement came nearly two years after the Stamford, Connecticut-based company filed for bankruptcy while facing some 3,000 lawsuits that accused Purdue of fueling the crisis by aggressively pushing sales of OxyContin.

"You don't take the architects of the opioid crisis and give them a sweetheart deal," said Ed Bisch, whose 18-year-old son died of an overdose nearly 20 years ago. "Where is the deterrent?"

Bisch, who has spent more than a decade pushing for the Sacklers to be criminally prosecuted, is leading a group of families asking the U.S. Justice Department to appeal the settlement.

"The Sacklers are buying immunity with blood money," said Bisch, of Westampton, New Jersey. "The only silver lining is their name is mud, and it will forever be mud."

Purdue Pharma will be reorganized into a new company with a board appointed by public officials and will funnel its profits into government-led efforts to prevent and treat opioid addiction.

The drugmaker said in a statement that the settlement will avert years of costly litigation and instead ensure that billions will go to help people and communities hurt by the crisis.

"I feel like the victims are once again at the bottom of the list," said Dede Yoder, of Norwalk, Connecticut. "I don't know what the states feel that their loss was. I can tell them what my loss is."

Her only child, Chris, died of an overdose in 2017 when he was 21. He was first given OxyContin after knee surgeries as a teenager.

"I would have loved a moment in front of the Sacklers to show them pictures of my son as this beautiful boy and this happy, athletic, strong person that they decimated," she said.

U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Robert Drain acknowledged the concerns of those who complained that the proposed payouts to victims are insufficient. He also pointed out that none of the four Sacklers who testified offered an explicit apology.

"A forced apology is not really an apology, so we will have to live without one," he said.

The judge said he did not have "fondness for the Sacklers or sympathy for them" but he also said that drawn-out litigation would delay getting settlement money to victims and programs for treating opioid addiction.

"Now it's its over. It's done, just like our children's lives," said Vicki Meyer Bishop, of Clarksburg, Maryland, whose 45-year-old son, Brian Meyer, died four years ago.

She said she at least hopes the money will help open more spaces in treatment programs and lift the stigma surrounding addiction.

"We need to worry about the 200 who will die tomorrow. If the money can go to help them, it's all worth it," she said. "I'm hoping we can save 200 today, 200 tomorrow and the next day."

Seewer reported from Toledo, Ohio, and Mulvihill from Cherry Hill, New Jersey.



# Athlete of the week: Rasheen Ali, football

By Noah Hickman  
Assistant Sports Editor

**About Rasheen Ali:**  
**Class: Redshirt Freshman**  
**Position: Running back**  
**Number: 22**  
**Hometown: Cleveland, Ohio**

Several football players stood out as Marshall willed its way past the Navy Midshipmen in a 49-7 victory.

Many of them were veterans who have made their presence felt before, but the athlete of the week is a redshirt freshman who suddenly burst onto the scene. Last season, Rasheen Ali had only five carries for 22 yards. With reports that he was going to see increased production and possibly the starting job, Ali did not let the opportunity go to waste as he put up a stat line of 14 carries, 59 rushing yards and four rushing touchdowns.

Ali split carries with redshirt junior Sheldon Evans who had nine carries, 27 yards and two rushing touchdowns. Evans also had three receptions for 12 yards, respectively. Ali and Evans accounted for six of the seven Herd touchdowns but were far from the only offense.

The Marshall receivers combined for 21 receptions and 363 receiving yards. Redshirt sophomore Talik Keaton and redshirt sophomore Corey Gammage proved to be a dynamic duo as they combined for 12 receptions and 194 receiving yards.

Marshall will look to pick up where they left off at Joan C. Edwards Stadium against North Carolina Central for the home opener.

Saturday's game will start at 6:30 p.m. and can be streamed on ESPN+.

# Eli Neal Wins CUSA Defensive Player of the Week

By Tyler Kennett  
Sports Editor

After a dominant showing against the Navy Midshipmen, Eli Neal was awarded Conference USA Defensive Player of the Week. Neal recorded three sacks against Navy in the 49-7 win, doubling his total from all of last season, while also recording 11 tackles.

"It was just my turn," said Eli Neal. "I take the plays they give me and make them count."

Neal was also active on special teams, recovering a blocked field goal and becoming a presence for the Herd team that recorded 9 sacks, the second most in a single game in program history.

"We've been doing 100 reps in practice," said Neal. "Once you get to the fourth quarter, you've still got twenty or thirty plays left in the tank."

It is worth noting that the Midshipmen rarely throw the ball, recording only 25 pass attempts. The Herd sacked Navy on over a third of its attempts.

Only four players in the country recorded three or more sacks in college football this weekend, placing Neal in elite company to start off this season. The Memphis native showcased why he was chosen as an honorable mention for the Conference USA all-conference team in 2020.

The Herd looks next to take on NC Central, an FCS opponent that has an experienced running back core.

"They're an RPO team with a big O-Line and a quarterback that's not afraid to use his feet," said Neal.

For Neal, as well as the rest of the Herd defense, the home opener will be a chance to set

the tone defensively before the Herd begins conference play.



*Rasheen Ali and Eli Neal*

*Courtesy of Herdzone.com*



# Navy..

..continued from page 1

“He was really good today,” Huff said. “Once Grant gets in a rhythm he gets better, and I think we saw that today.”

Redshirt sophomore Talik Keaton led the team in receiving yards with 100 on five receptions.

Redshirt sophomore Corey Gammage had a career in receptions (7) and receiving yards (94).

Navy had no answer for Marshall’s defense. The Midshipmen did not score on any of its six first half drives. The first half stops included a pair of special teams plays. Defensive lineman TJ Johnson blocked a field goal and safety Naquan Renalds blocked a punt.

Finally, the Midshipmen broke the shutout using a 14 play 82-yard drive, that Quarterback Xavier Arline capped off with a quarterback sneak from a yard out to make it 28-7 early in the fourth quarter. The Herd would pile on three more touchdowns late following Navy’s only score of the game.

Defensively, Marshall got stellar performances from several players. Linebacker Abraham Beauplan recorded 13 tackles, Linebacker Eli Neal had 11 tackles and a career best three sacks and Defensive end Sam Burton made nine tackles to go along with a sack and a half. “We stayed disciplined and let

the play come to us,” Burton said. “We did that and everything else fell into place.”

As a unit, the Herd defense had 13 tackles for loss, nine sacks and two interceptions. “The defense kind of played off our tempo,” Huff said. “When you start seeing points go up on the board, defensively you get a little bit more energy.”

Huff commends Marshall’s fan base for his team getting off to a great start, with the team playing in front of 30,131 fans. “When we ran out of that tunnel, it felt like a home game,” Huff said. “It really calmed our guys down. The power of the Thundering Herd nation was on display.

The 42-point win for the Thundering Herd was its largest in program history, in a season opener against an FBS team.

Marshall returns to the field Saturday evening when it welcomes NC Central for a 6:30 p.m. kick off.

**Andrew Rogers can be contacted at:**  
[rogers217@marshall.edu](mailto:rogers217@marshall.edu)

## Your Herd Newsletter



### ALL THE LATEST HERD NEWS IN YOUR INBOX

*Breaking news, highlights and stories emailed to you from The Herald-Dispatch.*

**Other Available Newsletter:**

- Daily News Headlines
- Weekend Events
- Breaking News

**SIGN UP FOR THE NEWSLETTERS TODAY:**  
[www.herald-dispatch.com](http://www.herald-dispatch.com)

1. Click on news tab in green bar
2. Click on sign up for our email newsletters

# THE PARTHENON

The Parthenon, Marshall University's student newspaper, is published by students Wednesdays during the regular semester and every other week during the summer. The editorial staff is responsible for news and editorial content.

CONTACT The Parthenon: 109 Communications Bldg  
Marshall University | One John Marshall Drive  
Huntington, West Virginia 25755 | parthenon@marshall.edu

XENA BUNTON  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR  
bunton2@marshall.edu

ISABELLA ROBINSON  
FEATURES EDITOR  
robinson436@marshall.edu

MADISON PERDUE  
COPY EDITOR  
perdue118@marshall.edu

ABBY HANLON  
CAMPUS EDITOR  
hanlon10@marshall.edu

CATHERINE BLANKENSHIP  
REPORTER  
blankenship403@marshall.edu

ZACH HISER  
PHOTO EDITOR  
hiser1@marshall.edu

TYLER SPENCE  
MANAGING EDITOR  
spence83@marshall.edu

CARTER TRUMAN  
NEWS EDITOR  
truman18@marrshall.edu

TYLER KENNETT  
SPORTS EDITOR  
kennett@marshall.edu

ABBY AYES  
ONLINE EDITOR  
ayes@marshall.edu

NOAH HICKMAN  
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR  
hickman76@marshall.edu

CHARLIE BOWEN  
FACULTY ADVISER  
bowench@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."*

## REVIEW

# Drake's "Certified Lover Boy" - 4/10

By TYLER SPENCE  
Managing Editor

Canadian rapper, singer, and 6 god - Drake returns with his sixth full-length album "Certified Lover Boy". The album comes in the midst of an ongoing beef with fellow rapper Kanye West, who recently released his album Donda to generally positive critical reception. The record is an hour and a half long, comprised of 21 tracks that vary wildly in quality and effort by Drake.

"Champagne Poetry," the album's opener, is one of the strongest tracks on the album, with Drake flowing a nice level of swagger across a great sample. "Papi's Home" is another solid cut, with Drake embracing his fatherhood over a soul beat. After these songs however, the quality of bars and beats Drake shows on this album drop tremendously.

"Girls Like Girls" is one of the worst concepts for a song Drake has rapped on in years. Unlike maybe the most boring Drake hit of his discography, "Tootsie Slide," where its boredom is its main cause of pain to the listener, "Girls Like Girls" is just cringy. Lil Baby raps as if they're his last bars on earth, but Drake just sounds like he doesn't even care on this track. The lyrics "Said you were a lesbian / girl me too" makes one's skin crawl. This is one of numerous examples of Drake being outshined by his features. Most all of which bring more energy and better bars to Drake's own album than he does.

Somehow it seems as if most of the interesting parts of this record have already been discussed. Jay-Z

provides a solid feature on "Love All." Travis Scott and Drake have a solid track with "Fair Trade," though granted, it's not as exciting as what the duo has released in the past. "Way 2 Sexy" is practically a meme track, with Future and Young Thug both having more exciting verses than Drake himself. However, the Kawhi Leonard feature in the music video is pretty entertaining.

"Pipe Down" is one of those classic Drake cuts you listen to when your girl has just cheated on you, and serves its purpose fine. Hardly would it be a standout on a better Drake album, but here it just sounds like Drake trying to emulate the songs he made on projects like "Take Care". "You Only Live Twice" is probably the best track on the album. Drake finally comes through with some strong energy, and Rick Ross provides an excellent and tight feature. The beat is also one of the most entertaining and solid on the whole record.

"Certified Lover Boy" feels like a low-effort album. Compared to some of the songs Drake has produced in recent years, "Wants and Needs," and "Nice for What" as examples, most of the songs on this record have such little energy and effort to make them interesting. Everyone benefits when Drake is releasing bangers, but most of these songs will appeal to his diehard fans and not many others. *Certified Lover Boy* will likely be forgotten relatively quickly, not unlike previous projects like *Views*.

# Virginia Set to Remove Richmond's Lee Statue on Wednesday

By DENISE LAVOIE  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — A towering statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee in Richmond, Virginia, is expected to be taken down on Wednesday as a symbol of racial injustice, more than 130 years after it was erected in tribute to the South's Civil War leader.

While many other Confederate symbols across the South have been removed without public announcements beforehand to avoid unruly crowds, Gov. Ralph Northam's office is expecting a multitude and plans to livestream the event on social media.

Northam announced plans to take down the statue in June 2020, 10 days after George Floyd died under the knee of a Minneapolis police officer, sparking nationwide protests against police brutality and racism. The plans were stalled for more than a year by two lawsuits filed by residents opposed to its removal, but rulings last week by the Supreme Court of Virginia cleared the way for the statue to be taken down.

Patrick McSweeney, an attorney for plaintiffs in one of the lawsuits, said Monday that he plans to notify the high court that he will ask for a rehearing, but such requests are rarely granted. From 2016 through 2020, the court granted rehearings in just two of the 86 requests it received, said L. Steven Emmert, an appellate attorney who publishes a website focusing on appellate rulings in Virginia.

"The chances are extremely remote," Emmert said.

The imposing, 21-foot (6.4-meter) tall bronze likeness of Lee on a horse sits atop a granite

pedestal nearly twice that high in the grassy center of a traffic circle on Richmond's famed Monument Avenue

"Virginia's largest monument to the Confederate insurrection will come down this week," Northam said in news release on Monday. "This is an important step in showing who we are and what we value as a commonwealth."

In Monday's news release, state officials said that preparations for the statue's removal will began 6 p.m. Tuesday when crews will install protective fencing.

Once the statue is hoisted off the pedestal, it's expected to be cut into two pieces for transport, although the final plan is subject to change, said Dena Potter, a spokeswoman for the state's Department of General Services.

After the statue is taken down Wednesday, crews on Thursday will remove plaques from the base of the monument and will replace a time capsule that is believed to be there.

In Richmond, a city that was the capital of the Confederacy for much of the Civil War, the Lee statue became the epicenter of last summer's protest movement. The city has removed more than a dozen other pieces of Confederate statuary on city land since Floyd's death.

As one of the largest and most recognizable Confederate statues in the country, the removal of the Lee statute is expected to draw large crowds.

Limited viewing opportunities will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis, state officials said in Monday's news release. The removal

will also be livestreamed through the governor's Facebook and Twitter accounts, both of which have the handle of @governorVA.

The Lee statue was created by the internationally renowned French sculptor Marius-Jean-Antonin Mercié and is considered a "masterpiece," according to its nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, where it has been listed since 2007.

When the statue arrived in 1890 from France, an estimated 10,000 Virginians used wagons to haul its pieces more than a mile to where it now stands. White residents celebrated the statue, but many Black residents have long seen it as a monument glorifying slavery.

The Northam administration has said it would seek public input on the statue's future. The 40-foot granite pedestal will be left behind for now amid efforts to rethink the design of Monument Avenue. Some racial justice advocates don't want it removed, seeing the graffiti-covered pedestal as a symbol of the protest movement that erupted after Floyd's killing.

Lawrence West, 38, member of BLM RVA, an activist group that's been occupying the transformed space at the Lee monument, said he believes the decision to remove the statue was fueled by the work of protesters.

"I mean, it hadn't come down before. They (Democrats in charge of state government) had all the opportunities in the world."

West said he would like to see the statue site turned into a community space "to cultivate all types of connections between different people."

# Rest of the West (Virginia): Pepperoni Rolls

By XENA BUNTON  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

I could sit here on my college dorm bed (two creaky twin-sized beds pushed together) at Marshall University and blame the pandemic for not exploring the state of West Virginia. Sure, I have only had one “normal” semester and most places were closed, but I do have time now. As a curious person and a journalist, my list of people to talk to, places to go, and things to try is overwhelmingly long and ironically makes me procrastinate even more. Just like scrolling through the rows of movies on Netflix, it is hard to pick just one thing when there are too many options. What a first-world problem.

When I realized I only had one more semester at Marshall before I graduate in December—I knew I had to explore the state, especially since I have not been too far for most of my life. I have lived in Ohio since I was seven. Although my home is a little over an hour from campus, 40 minutes away from Point Pleasant, I have never explored the Mothman Museum or stopped by the statue—which feels like a crime.

The first step of organizing a column like this is to create a list of what makes West Virginia different from other states. The first thing that I thought of was obviously pepperoni rolls. I would usually say that I have never tasted the traditional savory meal, with the result of a gasp from a West Virginian, but I feel like I need to explain myself. I have experienced the roll in one bite by an accident. I was at a political event in downtown Huntington, and I decided to eat a few chips and a roll from the table of food. I was expecting a regular roll and my eyes shot wide open as a pepperoni was pulled out of my bite. I didn't finish the roll and was confused why someone would want to order such a thing. Now, I am trying to answer that question.

I wanted to seek out food lovers in West Virginia. At first I thought I was going to limit the pepperoni roll tasting to Huntington, but after asking for recommendations on Huntington Foodies, I realized it was not going to be so easy. I was going to be traveling for these rolls filled with WV history, pepperoni, and sometimes—mozzarella cheese. My post received recommendations varied from downtown restaurants that offered specialty rolls, local band boosters who raised money with their homemade rolls, gas stations, and of course—the original pepperoni roll in Fairmont. To accept the 3-hour drive from Huntington, I had to do my research.

As I started to read about the creation of pepperoni rolls and even while tasting them, the hype and appreciation for the rolls

are based strongly on the history of the roll—especially as it connects to the state's love and appreciation of coal mining. According to West Virginia Culture, Giuseppe (Joseph) Argiro is still considered the inventor of the West Virginia staple. Argiro left Italy in 1920 to work in the mines of the Clarksburg-area of West Virginia, where he noticed miners eating bread and pepperoni for lunch. The inconvenient meal inspired Argiro to experiment with the two ingredients and later opened People's Bakery in 1927 (now named the Country Club Bakery), where he sold his pepperoni rolls—and it was a hit!



COUNTRY CLUB BAKERY IS LOCATED AT THE ORIGINAL BAKERY IN FAIRMONT, WV. | XENA BUNTON

I knew there was no way I could start my column (and let down my non-existent fans) without trying the original roll. I spent a weekend traveling to Fairmont to try the original pepperoni roll at the Country Club Bakery, the three pre-packaged “Home Industry” rolls at Sheetz, and a Huntington/Barboursville favorite, Big Loafer in the Huntington Mall.

## Country Club Bakery

Price: \$1.50  
Rating: 4



The location of the Country Club Bakery felt underwhelming when traveling 3 hours for one destination—a small brick building where one woman would transfer either pepperoni rolls or a homemade desert through a small window, which seemed like a constant routine as cars continued to pull in and out of the limited parking

lot. No visible picnic tables, no inside dining, and no physical menu (besides a list of current deserts available). “We have some deserts right now and pepperoni rolls—but the pepperoni rolls are what keeps the lights on,” the lady said through the window.

The \$1.50 roll is priced well for the original—and it is important to note that you do get the original taste and creation. The bread itself is quite dry and does not help that it is paired with only stick pepperoni—no cheese. The stick pepperoni is superior as you get a piece of meat in each bite (compared to one section of the typical 8 layers of sliced pepperoni in other rolls).

## Home Industry

Pepperoni Roll

Price: \$1.50  
Rating: 4

Pepperoni Roll and Cheese (Mozzarella)

Price: \$2.19  
Rating: 4.5

Pepperoni Roll and Hot Pepper Cheese

Price: \$2.19  
Rating: 4



According to Paul Serbert, a member of Huntington Foodies Facebook group, the “Home Industry” rolls are “for the authentic blue collar West Virginia experience,” when you are not able to pick up the original. These rolls can be found in a Sheetz, either individually packaged or by a pack. The difference of the two are important to note—individual rolls have sliced pepperoni (8 layers), where the bags have stick pepperoni (like the original). I had to try all three of the individual packaged rolls to experience the sliced pepperoni and—most important—cheese.

The roll is just like the original, but as it sits in a convenience store, the bottom is smothered in grease. This could be an inconvenience for a quick meal in a car, but also provides flavor throughout the typical dry roll. The cheese options (Mozzarella or the “Hot Pepper Cheese”) are filling and worth the price—but the mysterious spicy cheese is quite disappointing.

**Big Loafer**

Price: \$5.70

Rating: 4.5



I have passed the Big Loafer several times at the Huntington mall and never decided to check out the menu—the restaurant and dining is like its own West Virginia amusement park.

This is not your usual pepperoni roll, making the amusement park comparison even more valid when ordering for your food. Shall I say the funnel cake of pepperoni rolls? The menu is filled with options you can find from your favorite vendor at a festival—chili cheese fries, corndogs, pretzels, and slushies.

The “roll” at Big Loafer is a mix between a buttery biscuit and flaky croissant rather than a traditional dry pepperoni roll. The bread and cheese/pepperoni ratio is perfect—but this is not an original pepperoni roll and is not priced like one either.

If I were craving the roll and pepperoni combo that many WestVirginians love, I would most likely go to the Big Loafer or a local restaurant that puts their own twist on the staple. But it is also important to realize and appreciate the history of the original pepperoni roll, even if it is not your preferred style.



THE BIG LOAFER, LOCATED IN THE HUNTINGTON MALL FOOD COURT. | XENA BUNTON

Recommendations for the Rest of the West (Virginia) column can be sent to [bunton2@marshall.edu](mailto:bunton2@marshall.edu).

# Worship Directory



To advertise on this page, call Brenda at (304) 526-2752

## Fifth Avenue Baptist Church

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

Sunday Morning Worship – 10:45 am  
Social distancing & wearing masks required

Visit our website for Worship Services and for other times of Bible study, worship, and activities for children, youth, and adults.

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

### CATHOLIC

#### St. Peter Claver Catholic Church

828 15th St. (on 9th Ave) Htgn.  
248-996-3960

Sunday Mass: 11:00a.m.  
Daily Masses: 12:05 on  
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday  
Confession by appointment

Father Shaji Thomas

#### OUR LADY OF FATIMA Catholic Parish & Parish School

545 Norway Ave., Huntington • 304-525-0866

**Mass Schedule:**  
Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm  
Sunday 8 am, 11:00 am & 6:30 pm

**Confession:** Saturday 3:30 - 4:30 pm  
or by appointment

[www.ourfatimafamily.com](http://www.ourfatimafamily.com)  
Father Tijo George, Pastor

#### SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Mass Times: Sat. 5:00pm, Sun. 9am,  
Confessions on Sat. 4:30pm-4:45pm or  
anytime by appointment  
Office Hours Mon-Fri. 9am-12pm

Rev. Fr. Thomas

#### St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church

HUNTINGTON, WV  
526 13th Street  
(304) 525-5202

Pastor: Msgr. 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 8:25 am  
Saturday 3:30 pm-4:25 pm  
or by appointment



# A Sea of Green at the Naval Academy: Marshall's Strong Fanbase Travels to Annapolis

By ISABELLA ROBINSON  
FEATURES EDITOR



*Photo by Alyssa Parks*

Student Body President, Alyssa Parks, meets Jack Lengyel at the Big Green tailgate.

Marshall fans arrived in Annapolis in droves on Saturday as the 2021 Herd football season kicked off against the Naval Academy.

Student Body President Alyssa Parks attended the game in Annapolis this weekend. Parks said she was impressed with how many fans made it to the away game, and she encourages all students to support the football team.

"It was definitely a great experience," Parks said. "It was very different than playing at home but there was a great Marshall turnout. My favorite part of the game was how they honored Jack Lengyel - it was really cool to see, and I actually got to meet him at the Big Green tailgate."

Lengyel has had a significant affiliation with both the Naval Academy and Marshall, being the 1971 Marshall Football coach and serving as the Athletic Director at the Naval Academy.

Senior sports journalism major Zach Bollinger said the highlight of his trip to the Naval Academy was the pregame festivities.

"The pregame was one of the coolest things I've ever experienced - with the flyover and then the guy jumping out of a plane with the American flag and all the students from Navy on the field beforehand was something I have never experienced," Bollinger said. "Obviously, Marshall winning by 40 points was pretty cool, but the pregame festivities and just the sportsmanship - no matter how much we were up, every single Navy fan and student stayed the entire game and was still cheering even with two minutes left down by 40."

The etiquette of the Naval Academy impacted many visitors from Huntington, and, as Peyton Weekly recounts, it was a very pleasant experience to begin a new chapter of Herd football.

Weekly has had family attend the Naval Academy, and says the culture is something to witness.

"If you get a chance to visit Annapolis, do it. Everything is just so pure - the people are nice, and the way the midshipmen carry themselves is on another level," Weekly said. "Marshall football also just looks so good this year."

Weekly also noted that the Thundering Herd fans had a strong presence at the game.

"There was a lot of Kelly green - not only in the stadium, but throughout Annapolis on both Friday and Saturday night," Weekly said. "It was awesome to see really."

Marshall plays NC Central at 6:30 Saturday.

**Isabella Robinson can be contacted at [robinson436@marshall.edu](mailto:robinson436@marshall.edu).**



*Photo by Alyssa Parks*



*Photo by Alyssa Parks*