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The Parthenon, November 10, 2021

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THE PARTHENON

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Leak Forces Classes in Smith to Cancel

West Virginia American Water was forced to turn off water supply to both Smith Hall and Old Main in order to repair a leak. WVAW and the Marshall Physical Plant were spotted working on 3rd Avenue in between the Communications Building and Morrow Library. Because of the lack of water supply, classes beginning at 9:30 on Tuesday were forced to cancel or meet virtually. The timetable for repairs is still uncertain.



Tyler Spence | Managing Editor

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Marshall International Festival Features 15 Countries

By KATYLYNN WORSTELL
REPORTER

Last weekend, the public was welcomed to West Virginia's longest running International Festival that featured over 15 countries.

"I was very excited to see people come out, enjoy, and learn in person about different cultures and take part in this interactive event," said Jyotsna Patel, the organizer of this event and program manager at Marshall University.

The tables were interactive, and each booth showed different products of each country.

"I really liked how inclusive it was. It really taught a lot about the other cultures that were represented. I hope they'll have more international food and cultures to experience at the next one," said Sofia Garcia-Arias, a biology pre-med major.

"The festival was a really nice experience to have on campus," said Kenzie Bastug, a biology major. "I learned a lot from being there. I also really enjoyed the interactive games, performances and the different foods that were available to try."

The festival featured world music, including the Daniel Ferreira, a Latin music band.

The festival also had international foods and a children's area with DIY passports, face painting,

henna tattoos, origami, and Korean games to enjoy. "It was really great to be able to do an in-person International Festival," Patel said. "Students were able to interact with guests in a way that they couldn't last year, making it a much more joyous occasion. I was happy seeing kids dancing and enjoying everything. The vibes and atmosphere are obviously very different from the virtual event last year."

At the festival, masks and social distancing were required.

COVID & flu vaccines were also available at the event.

"The purpose of this event is to bring many individuals from different backgrounds together and I really think this year was a really big success," said Patel.

Katlynn Worstell, worstell3@marshall.edu



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATLYNN WORSTELL



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATLYNN WORSTELL



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

Marshall Lowered Flags in Student's Memory

THE PARTHENON

A Marshall student, Maribeth Cox, was struck by a vehicle and killed Nov. 4 near Marshall's campus.

The 22-year-old was hit by a vehicle while crossing 3rd avenue near 18th Street by the Robert C. Byrd Biotechnology Science Center.

According to the Huntington Police Department, nearby camera footage showed that Cox exited the Tri-State Transit Authority bus that had come to a stop in the northern, outer lane of 3rd Avenue and 18th Street and "briskly" walked in front of the bus while it was stopped at an intersection.

Officials say the footage showed that the traffic light turned green before Cox entered the path of oncoming traffic in the crosswalk.

The accident remains under investigation.

With permission from the Governor's Office, flags on Marshall University's campus were lowered to half-staff in the student's memory on Nov. 4 and were to be remained Nov. 10 after Cox's funeral service.

Marshall Wind Symphony Presents Musical to Celebrate 150 Years of Huntington

By KATYLN WORSTELL
REPORTER

Last Friday, students and faculty from music, theatre and video production have come together to celebrate Huntington's 150th anniversary by creating a musical titled "Home."

"We hope that 'Home' can become an annual event for the city of Huntington and Marshall University as a kick-off to the holiday season," said Jack Cirillo, director of the musical and professor at Marshall University.

This musical is written by Clint McElroy, directed by Jack Cirillo, and conceived by Adam Dalton.

"The concert is broken up into two halves. The first half will tell the history of Huntington going back to our founder Collis P. Huntington. You'll hear music that will remind you of the railroad and the river which were vital lifelines to our town," said Adam Dalton, director of bands at Marshall University, he said before the show. "You'll hear original compositions by Marshall faculty and alumni. The second half will focus on the present and future of

our great town. There is a world-premiere of a piece written specifically for this event. Jim Stephenson, a renowned, internationally-known composer wrote 'Home Stretch' just for the Marshall Wind Symphony."

It will also feature over 50 musicians, traditional marches to Broadway to contemporary wind band pieces.

"It is such an honor to collaborate with the Marshall Artist Series and to perform in the historic Keith Albee Theatre," said Dalton. "This is a first for me and the Marshall Wind Symphony and we can't wait to get on that stage."

The musical will require all audience members to wear masks during the performance for safety precautions.

"COVID-19 has, of course, had enormous impact on the performing arts," said Cirillo. "Over the last year and a half, all of us who define ourselves artistically through live performance have had to be particularly creative in order to keep the machine going and we have! Streaming

performances, Virtual readings, concerts, even Drive-In Theatre have become solutions to the problem. As we begin to turn the corner and are able to present live performances again, we celebrate the opportunity but are mindful of the risk."

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PHOTO COURTESY OF KATLYNN WORSTELL

Artist Creates New Design for Huntington's 150th Anniversary

By ALYSSA WOODS
REPORTER

Graphic artist Don Pendleton, who has done work for Mtn. Dew, Logitech and even Pearl Jam, designed the new brand for Huntington to honor its 150th birthday.

To develop something memorable for the city, Margaret Mary Layne, head of the Mayor's council for the arts, collaborated with Pendleton and citizens of Huntington. Layne and Pendleton incorporated artwork into the city of Huntington after asking local citizens to share words that they associated with Huntington.

"It's one thing for me to have lived in Huntington, but I wanted direct input from current residents and I wanted to hear what came to mind when they think of the city," Pendleton said.

Pendleton chose to use the most frequently used words in his brand design which were, "nature, family, strength, roots, growth..." After many sketches of images that relate to the words, Pendleton began to design the brand.

Addressing the symbolism in the brand, Pendleton says, "There are a lot of subtle parts to the logo I think some people will catch and some will miss. I hope that makes it interesting."

Pendleton said he hopes that in this way, citizens will be able to find something new every time they look at the new logo, "much like a Rorschach Test in what people see and tend to focus on."

The bright color of the brand was no accident. Pendleton said he didn't want it to clash with the shade of green that Marshall uses, because of their "huge presence in the city, and they've got green down to a science." He said he wanted to reach a color that would represent the reoccurring theme of nature. This led him to going through 40-50 different shades of green before reaching his final decision.

Pendleton hopes the logo will become a symbol similar to that of a football team. "It gives everyone something to rally behind and becomes a symbol of every aspect of what's going on from tailgating to playoff games, to championships.

All I can hope for is that as it is incorporated into the city, government, businesses, etc, that it is a gentle reminder that Huntingtonians are all working toward the same goal and are on the same team."

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CITY OF HUNTINGTON

SGA Introduces the Freedom to Vote Act

CONNER WOODRUFF
REPORTER

A bill in favor of making election day a national holiday is now being represented by Marshall's student body on behalf of the Student Government Association.

The Freedom to Vote Act, introduced by a variety of democratic congressional senators on Sept. 14, is a bill that would tackle several large concerns regarding the United State's voting system. These concerns include voter suppression, third-party corporate and financial influencing, representation and more.

The act would expand the standard required for voting in the U.S. by nationally supporting early and mail-in voting along with encouraging to vote by

establishing Election Day as a national holiday. The bill would also increase the transparency of officials running in elections, by requiring campaigns to disclose the sources of funds and donations if they exceed \$10,000.

Isabella Robinson, an SGA senator, introduced the bill to the committee in October. The bill passed through the SGA last week in a unanimous vote and was forwarded to West Virginia's senators: Joe Manchin and Shelley Moore Capito.

"People from all across the political spectrum support the freedom to vote act," Robinson said. "It is just the first to us really cleaning up Washington

and moving things in the direction of young people."

During this semester's 11th SGA senate session, other SGA senators commented on the significance the bill and why they encourage West Virginia's senators to carefully consider this legislation.

"Understand that we are voting now, and we are your voting base," Jessica Spoor, an SGA senator who cosponsored the bill said. "I think everyone should have the right to vote and a right is not a privilege; therefore, it should be easy."

"Making election day a federal holiday would allow people to have the time off that they need," Jasper Ball, a fellow SGA senator said, regarding

the bill's proposed federal holiday policy.

"I hope that our senators will take student feedback, and feedback from young people seriously," Alyssa Malbee another SGA senator said.

The bill's passing through the SGA allows West Virginia's senators to represent Marshall as the state's second largest institution with supporting the bill.

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Trio Program to Aid First-Gen Students

ALAINA LASTER
REPORTER

Marshall University Trio Program helps to aid first generation students with academic advising and financial aid.

First generation students are the first in their family to attend a four-year institution.

"It is technically the first in your family to go to college, or if either parent did not get a full four-year college degree," said Nate Hensley, students success specialist.

Each year, first Generation students are celebrated for one day a week, and the Marshall Trio Program wants to change this to a weeklong celebration.

"The Trio program was founded by LBJ, (Lyndon B. Johnson) during the Higher Education Policy Act," said Zachary Jenkins, student success specialist. "There were seven programs created, so it's a pipeline from middle school through high school to college."

The First-Gen Celebration hosts events for students each day. On Monday, they hosted a banner signing, introducing students to the program in the Memorial Student Center Plaza. Tuesday was First-Generation Button making, also in the Plaza. The event on Wednesday Nov. 10 is in the Memorial Student Center lobby from 11a.m.-1 p.m., where they will introduce the new Tri-Alpha Honor Society. Thursday in the MSC Don Morris Room, they will host First Generation Coffee Talks from 1- 2:30 p.m.

Trio Programs span across West Virginia, as well as across the nation, to provide support through academic tutoring, personal

counseling, mentoring, financial guidance and more.

"At Marshall we have several programs, but we are with student support services, which house Marshall University College students," Jenkins said. "We just help first generation students with academic advising and financial aid predominantly."

Jenkins said this celebration began a few years ago.

"We are trying to raise awareness of first-generation college students across the country. Each institution is trying to do a week-long recognition of the different activities," said Jenkins.

The Tri-Alpha Honor society is just one way they hope to increase awareness for these students.

"There is usually a national first-gen day, and so we decided we wanted to celebrate the day, and also extend it out to a week's worth of activities," said Hensley.

Jenkins said Marshall is unique compared to other schools, because Marshall has five trio programs that work to support students. Marshall is home to the Heart of Appalachia Talent Program, Empowering Appalachia Talent Search Program, Upward Bound Program, Educational Opportunity Center, and Student Support Services.

The Trio Program plans to keep this extended week celebration as a tradition in the future, and host more events to raise awareness throughout the semester.

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ALAINA LASTER

After Virginia, GOP Amplifies Debate Over Race and Education

By THOMAS BEAUMONT, AARON MORRISON
and WILL WEISSERT
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans plan to forcefully oppose race and diversity curricula — tapping into a surge of parental frustration about public schools — as a core piece of their strategy in the 2022 midterm elections, a coordinated effort to supercharge a message that mobilized right-leaning voters in Virginia this week and which Democrats dismiss as race-baiting.

Coming out of Tuesday's elections, in which Republican Glenn Youngkin won the governor's office after aligning with conservative parent groups, the GOP signaled that it saw the fight over teaching about racism as a political winner. Indiana Rep. Jim Banks, chairman of the conservative House Study Committee, issued a memo suggesting "Republicans can and must become the party of parents." House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy announced support for a "Parents' Bill of Rights" opposing the teaching of "critical race theory," an academic framework about systemic racism that has become a catch-all phrase for teaching about race in U.S. history.

"Parents are angry at what they view as inappropriate social engineering in schools and an unresponsive bureaucracy," said Phil Cox, a former executive director of the Republican Governors Association.

Democrats were wrestling with how to counter that message. Some dismissed it, saying it won't have much appeal beyond the GOP's most conservative base. Others argued the party ignores the power of cultural and racially divisive debates at its peril.

They pointed to Republicans' use of the "defund the police" slogan to hammer Democrats and try to alarm white, suburban voters after the demonstrations against police brutality and racism that began in Minneapolis after the killing of George Floyd. Some Democrats blame the phrase, an idea few in the party actually supported, for contributing to losses in House races last year.

If the party can't find an effective response, it could lose its narrow majorities in both congressional chambers next November.

The debate comes as the racial justice movement that surged in 2020 was reckoning with losses — a defeated ballot question on remaking policing in Minneapolis, and a series of local elections where voters turned away from candidates who were most vocal about battling institutional racism.

"This happened because of a backlash against what happened last year," said Bernice King, the daughter of the late civil rights leader Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. who runs Atlanta's King Center.

King warned attempts to roll back social justice advances are "not something that we should sleep on."

"We have to be constantly vigilant, constantly aware," she said, "and collectively apply the necessary pressure where it needs to be applied to ensure that this nation continues to progress." Banks' memo included a series of recommendations on how Republicans aim to mobilize parents next year, and many touch openly on race. He proposed banning federal funding supporting critical race theory and emphasizing legislation ensuring schools are spending money on gifted and talented and advanced placement programs "instead of exploding Diversity, Equity and Inclusion administrators."

The coming fight in Congress over the issue was previewed last month, when Attorney General Merrick Garland appeared before two committees to defend a Justice Department directive aimed at protecting school officials who faced threats amid the heated debate over teaching about race. Republicans accused Garland of targeting conservative parents.

Democrats plan to combat such efforts by noting that many top Republicans' underlying goal is removing government funding from public schools and giving it to private and religious alternatives. They also see the school culture war squabbles as likely to alienate most voters since the vast majority of the nation's children attend public schools.

"I think Republicans can, will continue to try to divide us and don't have an answer for real questions about education," said Marshall Cohen, the Democratic Governors Association's political director. "Like their plan to cut public school funding and give it to private schools."

White House deputy press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre accused Republicans of "cynically trying to use our kids as a political football." But Jean-Pierre also took on conservatives' critique that critical race theory teaches white children to be ashamed of their country. "Great countries are honest, right? They have to be honest with themselves about the history, which is good and the bad," she told reporters. "And our kids should be proud to be Americans after learning that history."

Most schools don't teach critical race theory, which centers on the idea that racism is systemic in the nation's institutions and that they function to maintain the dominance of white people.

But parents organizing across the country say they see plenty of examples of how schools are overhauling the way they teach history and gender issues — which some equate with deeper social changes they do not support.

And concerns over what students are being taught — especially after remote learning amid the coronavirus pandemic exposed a larger swath of parents to curricula — led to other objections about actions taken by schools and school boards. Those including COVID safety protocols and policies regarding transgender students.

"I'm sure that most people have no problem with teaching history in a balanced way," said Georgia Democratic Rep. Hank Johnson. "But when you say critical race theory, and you say that it is attacking us and causing our children to feel bad about themselves, that is an appeal that is attractive. And, unfortunately for Democrats, it's hard to defend when someone accuses you of that."

Democrats were wiped out Tuesday in lower-profile races in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, where critical race theory was a dominant issue at contentious school board meetings for much of the summer and fall.

Continued on P11



Then-Republican gubernatorial candidate Glenn Youngkin addresses supporters at a campaign rally in Leesburg, Va., on Nov. 1, 2021. Republicans plan to forcefully oppose race and diversity curricula in public schools as a core piece of their strategy in the 2022 midterm elections. The party is supercharging a message that helped catapult Republican Glenn Youngkin to a win in Virginia's governor's race. (AP Photo/Cliff Owen)

Jayden Harrison Named Conference USA Special Teams Player of the Week

By TYLER KENNETT
SPORTS EDITOR

Marshall kick returner Jayden Harrison was awarded Conference USA Special Teams Player of the Week on Monday.

"It wouldn't be possible if it wasn't for (Jeremy) Springer dialing the return up and the other 10 guys who were blocking for me on the kick return," said Harrison this afternoon.

Harrison received the opening kickoff, taking it back for 99 yards and a touchdown in MU's 28-13 win at Florida Atlantic on Saturday. In doing so, Harrison etched his name in the history books as only the third player to return the opening kickoff for a touchdown, following Keith Baxter in 1987 and Keion Davis in 2017. The touchdown scored by Harrison is tied for the third-longest kick return in program history.

"It's fun to have coaches expect big plays," said Harrison. "To not let the team down, to boost them, is a lot for me."

A native of Antioch, Tennessee,

Harrison's high school career was star-studded. As a 5-9, 178-pound wide receiver, Harrison brought in 120 catches for 1,864 yards and over 2,000 all-purpose yards during his career in prep football. He was a 2018 all-region selection, 2017 all-city pick and a 2016 all-city selection. Harrison showcased the speed he put forth on Saturday back in high school as well, winning a state championship as a junior in the 400-meter relay. He was a three-star prospect coming out of high school.

"At first, when I caught the ball, I got the go ahead from the off-ball returner, Sheldon Evans," said Harrison when asked to reenact the play, "Sheldon Evans took on two defenders to let me get open and then the rest of the unit finished."

Harrison was a transfer from Vanderbilt following the 2020 season. In his time with the Commodores, Harrison played in nine contests, returning seven kickoffs for an average of over 20 yards per return. Within the tough SEC conference, he finished tied

for seventh in kickoff returns as a sophomore. With his transfer to Marshall taking place last year, Harrison is a newcomer to not only Joan C. Edwards Stadium, but the tradition of Marshall football. He made his first trip to Spring Hill Cemetery this week in preparation for the 51st anniversary 75 game versus the UAB Blazers.

"It's a moment of remembrance. The 75, that's who we come out to play for every week," said Harrison. "We make sure they're honored and keep them alive to remember those names."

Harrison, as well as the Herd, will face off against the UAB Blazers in a rematch of last year's Conference USA championship. The game will also be a blackout within the stadium in remembrance of the 75 that lost their lives in 1970. The game can be seen on CBS Sports Network or heard on Marshall's campus radio station, 88.1 WMUL.

Tyler Kennett,
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Wide Receiver Jayden Harrison

Courtesy of herdzone.com

Remaining Football Schedule



11/13
vs UAB



11/20
@UNCC



11/27
vs WKU

Marshall Wins vs FAU 28-13, Continues Winning Streak

By ANDREW ROGERS
REPORTER

Marshall football has become bowl-eligible after Saturday night's 28-13 road victory at Florida Atlantic in Boca Raton, FL, extending the team's winning streak to four games.

With the win, the Herd becomes bowl-eligible under first-year head coach Charles Huff, moving its record to 6-3 overall and tied for first in the east division of Conference USA with a 4-1 conference record.

"I thought we did a really good job of playing complementary football," Coach Huff said. "The defense stepped up when we needed

it to, the offense made some plays when we needed it to, and obviously special teams continues to improve."

The Thundering Herd got another complete effort in all three phases of the game. Marshall started the game with a statement, Vanderbilt transfer Jayden Harrison took the opening kickoff 99 yards for a touchdown to put Marshall up 7-0.

FAU would answer with 13 consecutive points. Quarterback N'kosi Perry threw a touchdown pass to Brandon Davidson and place kicker Aaron Shahriari booted home two field goals to give the Owls the 13-7 advantage early in the 2nd quarter.

"I think our red zone defense

has continued to be good," Huff said. "Early in the game, we gave up a couple field goals there instead of touchdowns that ultimately probably made a huge impact on the back end."

Those 13 points would be the only points Florida Atlantic would score the rest of the game. Running back Rasheen Ali scored two rushing touchdowns in the second quarter to put MU up 21-13 at the half. Late in the third quarter, quarterback Grant Wells found Willie Johnson deep for a 65-yard touchdown pass to help finish off FAU.

FAU's best scoring chance in the second half came on a drive that started at its own 1-yard line. The

Owls drove 75 yards, but Marshall safety Cory McCoy stripped the ball loose of FAU running back Johnny Ford to end the offensive possession.

Marshall's defense sacked Perry 6 times and also made 8 tackles for a loss. The defense did not give up any points in the final 43:31 of game action. Defensive lineman Owen Porter and Koby Cumberlander led the charge up front, as both recorded 1.5 sacks.

"We go out on the field and it's like 'They don't score. They don't score,'" Cumberlander said. "That's where we keep the mentality. We have to make every single tackle, I know today we didn't make every single tackle, but when it came down

to it, we made crucial stops."

Wells finished 26 of 38 passing for 352 yards, one touchdown and one interception. Ali recorded 85 rushing yards and two touchdowns, as well as a career-high 70 receiving yards. Johnson led all receivers with a career high 140 yards.

Marshall is 9-2 in November games the past four seasons. The November slate continues on this Saturday when the Thundering Herd welcomes UAB back to Joan C. Edwards Stadium in a rematch of the 2020 C-USA Championship game. Kickoff is set for 3:30 pm.

Andrew Rogers,
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Marshall Volleyball Falls to FIU in Final Game of the Season

By NOAH HICKMAN
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

On Saturday, the Marshall volleyball team's season came to an end after taking a 3-1 loss against the Florida International Panthers.

After winning the first game on Friday 3-1, the Herd could not find the mojo to get a clean sweep at home.

Head coach Ari Aganus said even though the season was full of obstacles, she is happy with the grit the team showed this season.

"Regardless of the result, this team is not defined by our statistics, but by our character," Aganus said. "I am so proud of our entire team and cannot wait to see what's in store for us in the future."

Before the final match, Marshall honored its five seniors/graduate students: Ciara DeBell, Destiny Leon, Sydney Lostumo, Zoie Holley and Sarah Schank.

The first set went back and forth as there were seven ties, but FIU managed to pull away and win the first set 25-19.

In the second set, the Herd was able to make it a landslide in its favor as they won 25-13 to tie the game at one apiece.

The Golden Panthers were able to rebound in the third set, winning 25-17 to take a 2-1 lead over the Herd.

The fourth set started off competitive as the set was tied at 5 apiece at one point. After that, the Golden Panthers went on a 20-10 run and won the game 3-1.

Schank recorded a game-high 23 digs on Saturday and finished the season with 473 digs, 10th-most in a season in program history. She also tallied 1,175 digs in her collegiate and Marshall career which is the 11th most total digs by any volleyball player wearing a Marshall uniform.

On top of that, DeBell led the Herd in her final collegiate game with a season-high 21 kills. She also had 13 digs which resulted in her 40th career double-double and 13th of the season.

DeBell is also third all-time in program history with 1,404 kills.

In her collegiate career, which includes the two years at Florida Gulf Coast, DeBell put up a stat-line of 1,490 kills, 4,359 attacks, 1,027 digs, 210 blocks, 71 aces, 58 assists, 1,687 points. She also played in 411 sets over 120 matches, respectively.

Despite finishing the season 9-16 and 5-7 in Conference USA play, Aganus, who joined the team in Jan. 2019, said this season is up there in terms of being the most gratifying of her coaching career.

"Honestly, this has been one of the most challenging but enjoyable season's I've ever been a part of," Aganus said. "We have five amazing seniors who have been an integral part of the culture and program growth I have been aiming to create since my arrival."

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THE PARTHENON

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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."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Change of Guard

By JAMIL CHAUDRI
PROFESSOR OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

As a member of Faculty I am proud of the fact that we continue to inculcate in our students the democratic values of protest and free speech. Recent protests at Mr. Brad Smith's appointment as President is an obvious manifestation of Marshall's success as an American University, in its foundational mission of 1837 – teaching values.

Now coming back to the appointment, I believe that this is among the most laudable decisions ever, if not the best, in Marshall's 174 years history. Having so opined, it behooves me to declare not only the logic of my assertion, but also the life and job experiences incipient to my line of thinking. Here are two formative strands.

1. For my doctoral degree I studied at Durham University Business School, Durham, England. My thesis was on Managerial Job Design.

2. I am a faculty member at Marshall, since 1984 (37 years of service); before that I worked for 10 years in industries in Basel, Switzerland (Novartis, Commodore Computers, and Prime Computers).

Marshall has gone through unprecedented growth, especially in Science (Engineering, Computer, Biological, Medicine), over the last 4 decades. The material and physical healthiness of the nation is predicated on advances through discovery (research) and services through highly trained personnel.

President Elect Smith, a tremendously successful entrepreneur, is coming to us with a track record of success in tech-industry. As I am also an avid listener of the NPR Program: How I built it, I have noticed that successful business people have a track record of tenacity, passion for the task at hand, and are problem solvers to boot.

At its current level of development Marshall needs a Business Manager type as the head of institution. American Educational Institutions in general, and those in West Virginia in specific, are facing headwinds with low levels of college-age cohorts. Specific to West Virginia, many low family-income students refuse going to college, for the Pell grant funds put receivers into life-long indebtedness and penury. Moreover, the level of State support for educational institutions has been dropping over the last 25 years; so, to compensate for the shortfall colleges are raising fees, which results in higher incidence of indigence among college educated young families.

Overall then, President Smith, with his business acumen will carve out for himself a managerial role: create more efficient, effective organization. In its current state Marshall needs a good fund-raiser to be able to offer scholarship to research students. Academic Scientific and Business Research are only areas where once a funding-ability threshold is reached and research reputation established, the Institutional Research Foundation can become self-supporting.

Now Marshall is a R2 institution; Even to maintain its R2 status Marshall must enlarge its Research Funding-kitty.

For an educational institution real freedom is reached when post R1 status, the Research Foundation is sufficiently endowed to support maintenance of status. I admire Mr Smith for his spirit to tackle new fields; and Marshall for its openness to new ways to traditional goals.

Dr. Jamil Chaudri is a Professor of the Weisberg Department of Computer Science at Marshall University. He joined Marshall University in 1984 as an Associate Professor. He has his Ph.D. from Durham University Business School.

Are More People Lying Since the Rise of Social Media and Smartphones?

OPINION

By David Markowitz
University of Oregon

(THE CONVERSATION) Technology has given people more ways to connect, but has it also given them more opportunities to lie?

You might text your friend a white lie to get out of going to dinner, exaggerate your height on a dating profile to appear more attractive or invent an excuse to your boss over email to save face.

Social psychologists and communication scholars have long wondered not just who lies the most, but where people tend to lie the most – that is, in person or through some other communication medium.

A seminal 2004 study was among the first to investigate the connection between deception rates and technology. Since then, the ways we communicate have shifted – fewer phone calls and more social media messaging, for example – and I wanted to see how well earlier results held up.

Back in 2004, communication researcher Jeff Hancock and his colleagues had 28 students report the number of social interactions they had via face-to-face communication, the phone, instant messaging and email over seven days. Students also reported the number of times they lied in each social interaction.

The results suggested people told the most lies per social interaction on the phone. The fewest were told via email.

The findings aligned with a framework Hancock called the “feature-based model.” According to this model, specific aspects of a technology – whether people can communicate back and forth seamlessly, whether the messages are fleeting and whether communicators are distant – predict where people tend to lie the most.

In Hancock’s study, the most lies per social interaction

occurred via the technology with all of these features: the phone. The fewest occurred on email, where people couldn’t communicate synchronously and the messages were recorded.

When Hancock conducted his study, only students at a few select universities could create a Facebook account. The iPhone was in its early stages of development, a highly confidential project nicknamed “Project Purple.”

What would his results look like nearly 20 years later?

In a new study, I recruited a larger group of participants and studied interactions from more forms of technology. A total of 250 people recorded their social interactions and number of interactions with a lie over seven days, across face-to-face communication, social media, the phone, texting, video chat and email.

As in Hancock’s study, people told the most lies per social interaction over media that were synchronous and recordless and when communicators were distant: over the phone or on video chat. They told the fewest lies per social interaction via email. Interestingly, though, the differences across the forms of communication were small. Differences among participants – how much people varied in their lying tendencies – were more predictive of deception rates than differences among media.

Despite changes in the way people communicate over the past two decades – along with ways the COVID-19 pandemic changed how people socialize – people seem to lie systematically and in alignment with the feature-based model.

There are several possible explanations for these results, though more work is needed to understand exactly why different media lead

to different lying rates. It’s possible that certain media are better facilitators of deception than others. Some media – the phone, video chat – might make deception feel easier or less costly to a social relationship if caught.

Deception rates might also differ across technology because people use some forms of technology for certain social relationships. For example, people might only email their professional colleagues, while video chat might be a better fit for more personal relationships.

To me, there are two key takeaways.

First, there are, overall, small differences in lying rates across media. An individual’s tendency to lie matters more than whether someone is emailing or talking on the phone.

Second, there’s a low rate of lying across the board. Most people are honest – a premise consistent with truth-default theory, which suggests most people report being honest most of the time and there are only a few prolific liars in a population.

Since 2004, social media have become a primary place for interacting with other people. Yet a common misperception persists that communicating online or via technology, as opposed to in person, leads to social interactions that are lower in quantity and quality.

People often believe that just because we use technology to interact, honesty is harder to come by and users aren’t well served.

Not only is this perception misguided, but it is also unsupported by empirical evidence. The belief that lying is rampant in the digital age just doesn’t match the data.

The Parthenon is committed to publishing a wide variety of opinions and perspectives. If you wish to send a letter to the editor for publication, email parthenon@marshall.edu.

Aspiring Border Agent, Dancer, Engineer Among Dead at Astroworld

By RANDALL CHASE and
MIKE CATALINI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

A teen who loved dancing. An aspiring Border Patrol agent. A computer science student. An engineering student working on a medical device to help his ailing mother. And his friend and high school football teammate.

Clearer pictures began to emerge Sunday of some of the eight people who died after fans at the Astroworld music festival in Houston suddenly surged toward the stage during a performance by rapper Travis Scott.

Authorities said Sunday they wouldn't release the names of the dead, but family members and friends shared accounts of their loved ones with journalists and through social media. Mary Benton, a spokeswoman in Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner's office, said identities were expected to be made public on Monday. The dead ranged from 14 to 27 years old, according to Houston officials. As of Sunday, 13 people remained hospitalized.

City officials said they were in the early stages of investigating what caused the pandemonium at the sold-out event founded by Scott. About 50,000 people were there.

Experts who have studied deaths caused by crowd surges say they are often a result of density — too many people packed into a small space. The crowd is often either running away from a perceived threat or toward something, such as a performer, before hitting a barrier.

'LOVED HIS MOM'

Franco Patino, 21, was working toward a mechanical engineering technology degree at the University of Dayton, with a minor in human movement biomechanics, his father, Julio Patino, said in an interview. He was a member of Alpha Psi Lambda, a Hispanic interest fraternity, and the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, and was working in an engineering co-op program.

Patino described his son as a charismatic, energetic leader who was active in his community and intent on helping people with disabilities.

He said his son was working with a team on a new medical device, and that he wanted to find a way to help his mother walk again after she was severely

injured in an automobile accident in Mexico two years ago.

Through tears, Patino described how his son — who enjoyed weight lifting, football and rugby — used his strength to break a door and free his mom from the wreckage.

"He loved his mom," Patino said. "He said everything that he was doing, it was trying to help his mom. The entire goal."

Julio Patino, of Naperville, Illinois, was in London on business when the phone rang around 3 a.m. He answered it and heard his wife, Teresita, crying. She said someone had called from a hospital about their 21-year-old son, Franco, and that a doctor would be calling her soon. About 30 minutes, she called back with the doctor on the line.

"The doctor was giving us the news that our son had passed away," Patino said.

Patino said he had last spoken with his son about 2 p.m. Friday. Franco told his dad that there weren't a lot of people at the festival site yet.

"Don't worry, I'm fine," Patino recalled his son saying. "I just said, 'Ok, just be careful.'"

'HUGE HOLE IN OUR LIVES'

Jacob "Jake" Jurinek, 20, was a junior at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, where he was "pursuing his passion for art and media," his family said in a statement Sunday. He was just a over two weeks short of his 21st birthday.

He was attending the concert with Patino, his friend and former high school football teammate, according to Patino's father Julio Patino. He was deeply committed to his family and was known as "Big Jake" by his younger cousins.

He will be missed by his father, Ron Jurinek, with whom Jake became especially close after Jake's mother died in 2011.

"In the decade since, Jake and Ron were inseparable — attending White Sox and Blackhawks games, sharing their love of professional wrestling, and spending weekends with extended family and friends at Jake's favorite place, the family cottage in Southwestern Michigan," the family's statement said.



"We are all devastated and are left with a huge hole in our lives," his father, Ron Jurinek, added in an emailed statement.

'HARD-WORKING MAN'

Danish Baig, who identified himself on Facebook as a district manager for AT&T, and appeared to be a devoted Dallas Cowboys fan, was among those who died at the the concert, his brother Basil Baig said on Facebook.

"He was (an) innocent young soul who would always put others before him. He was a hard-working man who loved his family and took care of us. He was there in a heartbeat for anything. He always had a solution to everything," Basil Baig told ABC News.

A funeral for Danish Baig is expected to be held on Sunday in Colleyville in the Dallas-Forth Worth area, his brother said. Messages left with Basil Baig were not returned.

LOVED TO DANCE

Brianna Rodriguez's family told People magazine that she was among those who perished at the concert. She was 16, a student at Heights High School and loved dancing, according to the family the magazine spoke with. A message left with the family was not immediately answered.

COMPUTER SCIENCE STUDENT

Axel Acosta, 21, was a computer science major at Western Washington University. His father, Edgar Acosta, told KOMO-TV his son was among the victims who died at the festival.

The school in Bellingham, Washington, released a statement Sunday: "By all accounts, Axel was a young man with a vibrant future. We are sending our condolences to his family on this very sad day."

ASPIRING BORDER AGENT

Rudy Pena, of Laredo, Texas, was a student at Laredo College and wanted to be Border Patrol agent, his friend Stacey Sarmiento said. She described him as a people person.

"Rudy was a close friend of mine," she said. "We met in high school. He was an athlete... He brought happiness anywhere he went. He was easy to get along with. It was like positive vibes from him at all times."

"We all came to have a good time ... it was just horrible in there," she added.

Virginia continued from page 5

Patrice Tisdale, a Jamaican-born candidate for magisterial district judge, said she felt the political climate was racially charged. She heard “dog whistles” from voters, who called her “antifa” and accused her of wanting to defund the police, she said. While canvassing a neighborhood in the election’s closing weeks, one voter asked Tisdale whether she believed in critical race theory. “I said, ‘What does that have to do with my election?’” recalled Tisdale, an attorney, who lost her race. “I’m there all by myself running to be a judge and that was her question.”

The issue had weight in Virginia, too. A majority of voters there — 7 in 10 — said racism is a serious problem in U.S. society, according to AP VoteCast, a survey of Tuesday’s electorate. But 44% of voters said public schools focus “too much” on racism in the U.S., while 30% said they focus on racism “too little.”

The divide along party lines was stark: 78% of Youngkin voters considered the focus on racism in schools to be too much, while 55% of voters for his opponent, Democrat Terry McAuliffe, said it was too little.

Youngkin strategist Jeff Roe described the campaign’s message on education as a broad, umbrella issue that allowed the candidate to speak to different groups of voters — some worried about critical race theory, others about eliminating

accelerated math classes, school safety and school choice.

“It was about parental knowledge,” he said.

McAuliffe went on the attack last week, portraying Republicans as wanting to ban books. He accused Youngkin of trying to “silence” Black authors during a flareup over whether the themes in Nobel laureate Toni Morrison’s 1987 novel “Beloved” were too explicit. McAuliffe still lost a governor’s race in a state President Joe Biden carried easily just last year.

Republican Minnesota Rep. Tom Emmer bristled at equating a movement to defend school “parental rights” and race.

“The way this was handled in Virginia was frankly about parents, mothers and fathers, saying we want a say in our child’s education,” said Emmer, chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee.

That didn’t rattle some Democrats, who see the GOP argument as manufactured and fleeting.

“Republicans are very good at creating issues,” deadpanned Democratic Michigan Sen. Debbie Stabenow.

“We’ll have to address it, and then they’ll make up something else.”

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

Brad D. Smith Hopes to Attract More Residents with Ascend W. Va

By CONNER WOODRUFF
REPORTER

Representatives of the Ascend West Virginia program and West Virginia Press Association hosted a media roundtable to discuss with Brad and Aly Smith, who kickstarted the program with a \$25 million donation, and other representatives.

Governor Justice launched Ascend West Virginia in April 2021, after Marshall University's 38th President, Brad Smith, donated to the program designed to promote and rebuild West Virginia through remote work.

The program was created to improve the state's economic infrastructure by attracting workers from out of state to enjoy West Virginia while working remotely from their new home. Smith said this program will give people a chance to experience the great qualities of West Virginia while also helping to rebuild the state.

"No one has the mountains, the streams, the rock climbing, the communities of West Virginia," Smith said. "It is absolutely the key ingredient to

building the next chapter of our economy."

Ascend WV's website offers a \$12,000 incentive for participants to live in West Virginia for two years while working remotely.

"Think of West Virginia as the startup state," Smith said. "It puts West Virginia front and center in an opportunity to diversify our talent and our economy."

Smith said he is confident in this program because of the popularity of rural areas to younger workers. "A lot of the younger generation are the ones that are driving this interest in rural, outdoor, and sustainability and beautiful experiences," Smith said.

As Marshall's next president, Smith said he believes that Ascend WV will have a positive impact on the state's students. "I do believe it is going to benefit Marshall, WVU, and all our colleges and technical schools throughout the state," Smith said.

Smith said he believes Ascend WV will be a great program for improving the image of West Virginia.

"If we didn't have John Denver writing a song 50 years ago people wouldn't know how beautiful this place was when you say 'almost heaven,'" Smith said. "I think more people are going to see and hear a narrative of West Virginia that they might not have imagined."

More information can be found on the program's website.

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Photo courtesy of Emily Hatfield



Photo courtesy of Austin O'Connor