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The Parthenon, October 26, 2022

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Homecoming Week Underway, Court Set



Marshall University's 2022 Homecoming Court poses for a picture.

Photos by Austin O'Connor



Joelle Williams, sponsored by women's swimming and diving, accepts her homecoming sash from University President Brad D. Smith on Monday.

VICTORIA WARE

FEATURES & CULTURE EDITOR

The 2022 Homecoming Court was announced after the Unity Walk on Oct. 24 at the Memorial Student Center.

The Homecoming Court includes: Abbey McBrayer (Delta Zelta), Alex Roets (Kappa Sigma), Calvin Hunter (Society of Yeager Scholars), Catherine Blankenship (Marching Thunder), Gracie Queen (Baptist Campus Ministries), Joelle Williams (Women's Swimming and Diving), Michaela Marshall (Cru),

Neveah Harmon (the Society of Black Scholars) Taylor Isaac (Marshall's Village Projects) and Trey Moss (the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation).

Isaac is Marshall University's first gender-neutral candidate for the Homecoming Royalty.

Katie Stanley, the Coordinator of Student Activities, commended those who ran for Homecoming Royalty.

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MU Professor to be Honored for City Activism

THE PARTHENON

A Marshall social work professor who has dedicated his life to activism within the region is set to be honored during a public ceremony at Huntington's City Hall.

Phillip W. Carter Jr. has worked as a political organizer since 1970, and has served as a member of Marshall's faculty since 1980, where he started as the chairperson

for the university's social work department.

The ceremony to honor Carter is set to take place on Friday, Oct. 28 at 10:30 a.m. in Downtown Huntington. During the ceremony, a section of 9th Street between 4th and 5th Avenues will be designated as Phil Carter Plaza by Mayor Steve Williams.

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Panel Discusses Housing Discrimination



Redlining panel hosted by Assistant Provost of Inclusive Excellence, Cicero Fain.

Photo by Lucy Bell

By **LUCY BELL**
STUDENT REPORTER

Nearly a century has passed since “redlining” practices wove racism and discrimination into the fabric of American homeownership, yet many cities, like Huntington, still experience the effects and repercussions today, panelists told a Marshall audience last week.

“Redlining” most commonly refers to the act of the federal government denying African Americans loans for certain property because it was believed that property values would lower if African Americans moved into white neighborhoods.

After diving into research about Huntington’s Washington Place, a redlined subdivision set aside for black homeownership which aimed to keep Black people out of the surrounding white neighborhoods, panelist Professor Sarah McDermott turned her focus to the foundation and role of housing.

“It’s often where we create a sense of belonging and home, but it’s also a commodity in the U.S., and owning property is one of the main ways to build wealth,” McDermott said. “So,

it’s been one of the main letters of inequality as well.”

Black Americans who were only a few generations removed from slavery had no capital or intergenerational wealth to begin their economic growth as they began working to contribute to the formation of the city, according to panelist Cicero M. Fain III.

“Increasingly they begin to realize that they cannot move the needle politically, so they begin to try to move it economically,” Fain said. “Property acquisition becomes the avenue that Black people can move up the economic ladder.”

These federal public housing policies were meant to create a lasting division in communities as denying Black people the ability to purchase homes directly correlated to them not being able to build equity causing a ripple effect still present today, according to Fain.

“Today, African American incomes, on average, are about 60% of average white incomes, but African American wealth is about 5% of white wealth,” Fain said. “Most middle-class families in

this country gain their wealth from the equity they have in their homes. So, this enormous difference between a 60% income ratio and a 5% wealth ratio is almost entirely attributable to federal housing policy implemented through the 20th century.”

Factors such as today’s varying life expectancy within these formerly redlined communities drew the attention of geographer Dr. Jacqueline Housel, who discovered certain areas within the same city had higher levels of health issues and lower life expectancy.

“When we look at this geographically, our maps show that in these previously redlined areas there’s more high blood pressure, there’s diabetes and there’s more asthma and COPD,” Housel said.

Housel’s current maps of the city of Dayton, Ohio display parts of the area that were redlined have an average life expectancy of 61 years whereas the other parts of the city have an average life expectancy of 85 years, a 20-year discrepancy within miles of each other.

Students Work Together to Revive MESA After Covid

By **MATT SCHAFFER**
STUDENT REPORTER

After going into decline during COVID-19 the the Marshall Environmental Student Association (MESA) is being revived by students.

Devin Farmer and Alyssa Peyton, both seniors majoring in environmental science, as well as Anna Perella, a sophomore majoring in both microbiology and geology, were contacted by Professor Mindy Armstead about reforming the club after it failed due to pandemic restrictions.

“Finding our footing has been a little bit difficult,” Perella, vice-president and secretary of MESA, said. “Other clubs seem to have held their establishment over Covid.”

The goal of the club focuses on raising environmental awareness while introducing students who are interested in environmental sciences to concepts, fieldwork and advice that will aid them as they pursue their careers.

“I would like MESA to be a place where people in our major can go to get advice,” Farmer, president of MESA, said. “We want it to be a welcoming place.”

The club believes that as environmental awareness grows, an increase in the importance of environmental science will grow as well—an effect that Perella is already seeing.

“There is an increasing number of environmental science majors and natural resource majors coming into Marshall,” Perella

said. “That should provide us will a lot of prospective members.”

The club also offers students experience in the field through land assessments. These assessments allow students the opportunity to study the habitat, species, chemical balances and erosion of local environments.

These assessments are frequent occurrences in natural and environmental science careers, according to Farmer.

“These assessments are conducted to benefit the environment itself or the land that a company owns,” he said. “Either way, we benefit the environment.”

While MESA focuses on the education and experiences that are often required in environmental science careers, they welcome students of all majors who want to be involved.

“We accept everybody and we’re very flexible,” Perella said. “Even if students aren’t in this or adjacent disciplines, we will find a way to make it possible to get involved.”

MESA hopes to host a trivia event in November to raise club awareness and allow students to get involved with the club. For more information on the trivia event or any future events, follow MESA on HerdLink.

Black United Students Hosts Miss Captivating Pageant



Winners of the 2021 Miss Captivating Pageant.

Photo by Brea Smith

By **BREA SMITH**
STAFF REPORTER

The second Miss Captivating Pageant hosted by Marshall University's Black United Students organization will be held on Oct. 26 in the Don Morris Room.

Current president Kenaja Booth and former president Takira Williams wanted to hold an event for the organization, and, while giving a tour, they came up with one.

"We were giving a tour to a student,

and his family, who happened to be Marshall alumni and former members they mentioned that they used to have pageants when they were members, so we created Miss Captivating," Booth said.

From there, Booth and Williams began planning the pageant, or, as Booth said, "Our next big event for people to remember BUS by."

"Black United Students is an

organization that strengthens, motivates and unites Black youth here at Marshall University. One of the major events Black United Students hosts in the fall semester is Miss Captivating which was first held in October 2021," Aliyah Crozier, Black United Students vice-president, said.

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Course Registration Time Changes

THE PARTHENON

Marshall will be changing the time for class registration from midnight to 7 a.m. for the upcoming spring semester.

The change was made to allow I.T. staff to be on call for support in case of a site crash, as well as to not encourage students to stay up late,

according to Karen McComas, interim associate provost for Academic Affairs.

Priority registration will be open from Nov. 3-4.

Registration for current seniors (90+ credit hours) will be open Nov. 7.

Registration for current

juniors (60-89 credit hours) will be open from Nov. 8-9.

Registration for current sophomores (30-59 credit hours) will be open from Nov. 10-14.

Registration for current freshmen (0-29 credit hours) will be open from Nov. 15-18.

Panel Brings Attention to Domestic Violence



Law enforcement officers and prosecutors discussing domestic violence.

Photo by Lucy Bell

By **LUCY BELL**
STUDENT REPORTER

There is no one-size-fits-all approach to aiding victims of domestic violence who struggle to leave their situation, panelists told a Marshall audience this week in support of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

"It takes seven to nine times for a victim to fully leave their domestic violence situation," Sara Blevins, director of development at Branches Domestic Violence Shelter, said.

The panel featured speakers who devote their careers to domestic violence victim advocacy. From law enforcement officers to county prosecutors, it takes a team of advocates to help victims make a change for the better, according to Branches' director of client services.

"As advocates, we have to remember that no one person can save the world," Amber Ross-Chapman said. "And the people coming to us aren't looking for us to save them. They are looking for a connection to help themselves."

Services like BDVS provide emergency shelter, counseling, case management and legal assistance to a wide variety of victims.

One of the biggest challenges

victims face is navigating the legal system and the process it takes to acquire justice on their behalf, according to Ken Bannon, a Cabell County prosecutor.

"There are all these language barriers that victims have to traverse," Bannon said. "From the language of the law enforcement officers to the language of the legal system, and that is why having an advocate, like someone from Branches, is a huge asset."

Victims will often experience traumatic emotional abuse along with physical abuse in domestic violence situations. Friends and loved ones of victims have the power to assume advocacy positions to push back against this abuse, according to Sara Blevins.

"Make sure that you are that voice for them, and make sure that they know you are going to be resistant to this change that is trying to happen in their brains," Blevins said. "If you can practice changing the way that you think about domestic violence to a compassion-led conversation, it is going to radically change the way that people interact with you and confide in you."

MUPD Celebrates Policing Month



By **DESTINEY DINGESS**
STUDENT REPORTER

Community Policing Month shows students that not only are police here to keep Marshall University safe, but they also are community builders, assistant director of Student Conduct said.

“Our goal is to help campus police and the Student Conduct Department connect with the community as well as showing students campus police and student conduct isn’t just the people who get you in trouble,” Michaela Arthur said. “That’s a small part of our role, but we are also here to keep the community safe, engaging and learning. We want to help students connect with campus police and learn more about the services they provide.”

In honor of National Police Week, which was moved to October in the hopes for in-person activities, Marshall University’s student conduct and other organizations arranged “Policing Month” which consists of an event every week to get

Marshall’s police department more connected with students and ensure safety on campus activities end with the “Ask the Chiefs” luncheon on Thursday, Oct 27, giving students the opportunity to sit in and join a Q&A with the chief of campus police and Huntington chiefs as well.

Graduate students Carter Truman and Amir Richardson spearheaded the Policing Month events.

“I’m involved in today’s activity because this is probably one of the most serious things that we do on campus. It’s the safety of our property,” Officer James Parker said. “It’s one of our biggest problems too. So, in order to get people to pay attention and lock their stuff up and maintain their security they must be reminded that leaving your stuff unattended is a risk and it helps us in the long run, makes them safe and makes the university a safe place.”

Campus police want students to know they are here for them. MUPD

offers escort services for students afraid to walk alone at night, self-defense classes for women and other public safety services, according to Arthur.

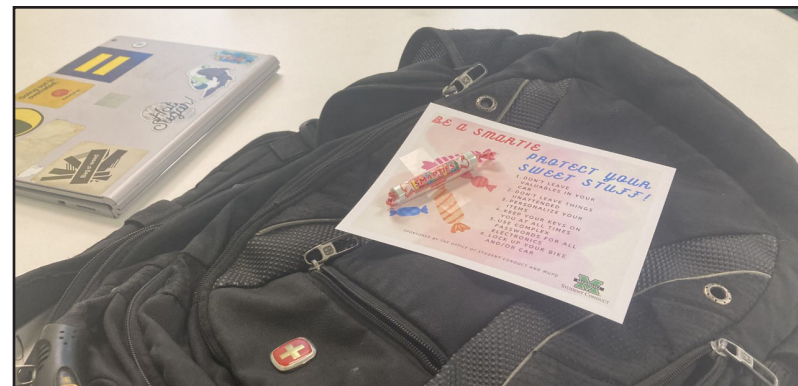
Policing Month events started out with mingle initiatives “Coffee, Cops and Donuts” and “Pop with a Cop,” which give students the opportunity to meet with campus police and ask them questions about public safety while also being able to get free food.

“We chose the first two events because we know college students are hungry, and we wanted to have a little outreach, so, if you’re going to meet college students, you want to meet them where they’re at, and where they’re at is hungry,” Carter Truman, a graduate assistant in the Office of Student Conduct, said.

EDITOR’S NOTE:
Carter Truman is a former Parthenon Editor.



MUPD performing community service throughout Policing Month.



Photos by Destiney Dingess

Students Start Weightlifting Club

By **MATT SCHAFFER**
STUDENT REPORTER

Logic 4 Lifters held their third meeting on Thursday to inspire healthy lifestyles and share workout tips among Marshall students.

“Our main priority of the club is to get rid of gym intimidation,” Jadon Lewis, president of Logic 4 Lifters, said. “Beginners go into the gym constantly and are worried, anxious and don’t want to go in there.”

Lewis got the idea for forming the club after he was approached by fellow students about form and techniques when working out at the campus rec center.

The Logic 4 Lifters club meets bi-weekly to discuss ways to achieve healthy lifestyles. Each meeting has a topic discussion ranging from advice on diet and supplements to tips on workout forms and improving mental health.

“We talk about gym stuff like lifting and training,” Lewis said. “Really, we want to keep everyone healthy and form healthy habits. Having physical

activity in your daily routine is proven to help mentally.”

Logic 4 Lifters emphasizes all aspects of harboring a healthy lifestyle and assures all students are welcome, regardless of their experience or knowledge of fitness. However, Lewis emphasized that a primary goal is to create a sense of community.

“This club is a safe space,” Lewis said. “It’s a group discussion where you can talk about your experiences if you feel comfortable.”

Lewis emphasized the club’s open-door policy in which students can always swing by one of the club’s meetings to learn more about Logic 4 Lifters.

“Come straight in,” Lewis said. “You don’t have to be a member to come to the club. You can stay for 15 minutes if that’s all you have time for.”

Logic 4 Lifters events can be found on HerdLink, and you can follow the club on Instagram @logic4liftersmu for more information.

Violence Prevention and Response Programs Host "Take Back the Night"



Photo by Morgan Pemberton

By **MORGAN PEMBERTON**
STUDENT REPORTER

Hearing the stories of both living and dead victims of violence can keep campus safe, students were told during the Take Back the Night event last week.

The Violence Prevention and Response Program sponsored the event.

The program's main goal is to maintain a safe campus by holding events like Take Back the Night and others.

The Violence Prevention Office has, "a mission that's dedicated to just maintaining a safe campus environment and we do that through bystander education; we also have events like this, Take Back the Night, to raise awareness," Alyssa Hager, Violence Prevention and Response Program coordinator said. "We provide consent education on campus too, and, of course, we provide resources for survivors."

She went on to say that things they do to help or resources they

provide are supporting them if they are going through the title IX process.

If they filed a student conduct report or go to court with the survivors if they need to fill out a domestic violence petition or protective order.

Take Back the Night was successful in the past when students hosted it, and Hager knew she wanted to be involved.

"I am new to this position. I have been here about a year, and then, prior to that COVID had happened," Hager said. "So, we did not have any events. And so, this year I really wanted to do this event, because students have done it in the past and it was successful."

Hager went on to say, "Students really seem to vibe with the message they really enjoyed coming together in unity and taking a stand against sexual or domestic violence."

Take Back the Night had a keynote speaker, Sharon Pressman, the

executive director of CONTACT, a rape crisis center

Pressman got up and talked about the website, Take Back the Night which was the inspiration behind the name of the event, where she talked about the statistics surrounding sexual and domestic violence.

"One in three women, one in six men, and two in three transgender people will experience sexual or domestic violence," Pressman said. Faculty, staff and students were also given the opportunity to speak about their own experiences or the experiences of someone they knew who was a survivor of sexual or domestic violence.

A candlelight vigil and a moment of silence was held to honor those people who had passed away.

"The candlelight vigil is to remember those who have passed away from domestic violence sexual violence or other related violence," Hager said. "It's just an opportunity

Interview With Storyteller Adam Booth

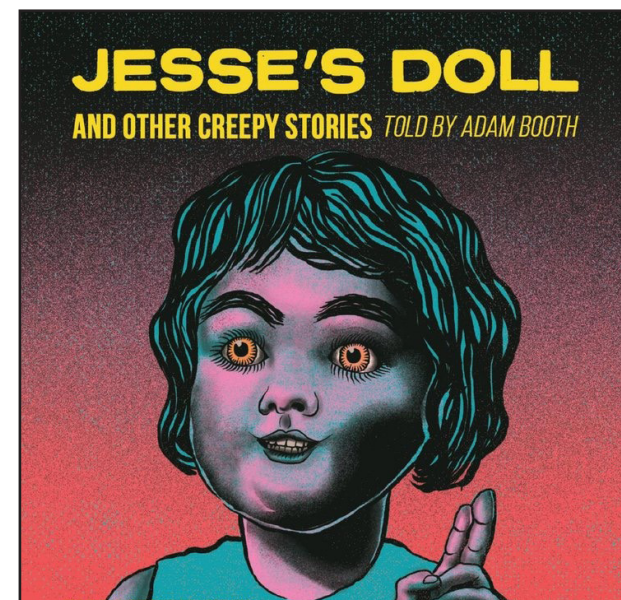


Photo courtesy of the Marshall Artists Series

By **VICTORIA WARE**
FEATURES & CULTURES EDITOR

Spooky Appalachian stories were told in celebration of Halloween by storyteller Adam Booth on Oct. 25 at the Keith Albee Performing Arts Center.

Speaking prior to the performance, Booth said, "I will share a number of spooky stories."

"So, we'll just kind of go around the spectrum of spooky stories in our region," he said. "So, there'll be some ghost stories. There'll be some witches in there. There will be some other creepy possessed things like the title story of 'Jesse's Doll.'"

Booth created a new story based on the organ at the Keith Albee; he collaborated with an organist during the telling of the story.

"I'm also creating a new story based off a little bit of folklore that is about the organ in the Keith Albee Theater, which I'm calling it the 'Keith Albee Phantom Organ,'" Booth said. "I'm collaborating with an organist. So, there's an organist in town who's going to be playing the organ at the theater while I'm telling that final story."

Booth said he was excited to perform at the

Keith Albee because he attended shows there when he was a child.

"So, I grew up in Huntington, and when I was a boy, I went to movies; I saw movies at the Keith Albee back when it was still a movie theater," Booth said. "And I also went to the Keith Albee for the Marshall Artists Series. I can remember seeing concerts from the Marshall Artists Series when I was a kid."

"I knew early on that I would be some type of artist or performer in my life, and I always thought I would love to come back and perform on this stage," Booth said. "And here it is. It's like a complete circle that's happening."

Booth said he enjoys traveling to different communities, telling stories and interacting with new people.

"I love to go to new places and meet new people and listen to their stories and learn about communities and learn about the traditions that they have there," Booth said. "That I get to have a job where I get to combine all those things is something that makes me feel really fortunate."

Former Assistant of Jack Cook to Lead Baseball Head Coach Search



Joe Carbone and AD Christian Spears speak at a press conference.

Photo by Chayce Matheny

By **CHAYCE MATHENY**
SPORTS EDITOR

A former graduate assistant to legendary baseball head coach, Jack Cook, will help lead the university to find its next baseball head coach, Athletic Director Christian Spears announced at his first “State of the Herd” press conference on Wednesday, Oct. 19.

Joe Carbone, a former Ohio University baseball coach is helping the Athletic Department as a special advisor in the search for a new baseball coach for Marshall. Jack Cook spent over 20 seasons with the Herd with a record of 422-344-3. Carbone’s job will be to evaluate the coaching staff, current players and the overall baseball program.

Spears said Carbone will also have a voice in the decisions made surrounding the new baseball stadium. “He’s going to ensure that, as we build this baseball stadium without a current head coach in place, we make great baseball decisions, having done that previously at Ohio University,” Spears said. “We have to honor Jack Cook as we build this baseball stadium, so I wanted someone connected to Jack to

ensure that happens.”

Carbone said he’s happy to be a part of this journey.

“It’s an exciting time,” he said. “The baseball stadium is going to be very attractive for a new head coach coming in. If I was an assistant and I’m coming to a school like Marshall University and I see there is going to be a brand-new baseball stadium, I don’t think you could ask for much more. We have no more excuses after that.”

Spears added that Charles Huff, Marshall’s head football coach, will also work with them to help find a new baseball coach.

“I actually asked Coach Huff to be a part of that process as well,” Spears said. “I want to ensure that a current head coach helps us vet the candidate pool in a meaningful way. I got a lot of confidence in Coach Huff to do that. So, together we’ll review all of the applicants and make a great decision.” Spears also gave his reasoning for the firing of long-time baseball coach Jeff Waggoner, who spent 16 seasons with the program.

“There can be difficult decisions when you work in college athletics,” Spears said. “Sometimes you have to make transitions that might not be received in the best light, or you decided that the experience our student-athletes are having-If that’s what’s going to be paramount, then needs to be the thing. So, you make a decision to move on from a leader, and that you hope that you will go find somebody new that can re-energize and connect to the student-athlete experience that we want to have here.”

Spears said he had seven months to evaluate Marshall’s baseball program. “It’s about the totality of the circumstances we inherited with this process,” he said. “I had about seven months to evaluate the program and determined that our student-athletes weren’t having the kind of experience that I would hope for. Every single student needs to have a remarkable experience here.”

Spears went on to say, “We want head coaches that connect meaningfully to the people that are associated with our program. We want head coaches

that connect with our community. We want head coaches to understand their purpose and what they are here to do. So, we are going to go find someone that embodies those things and, most importantly, ensures that our student-athletes have a remarkable experience, and I think we can do that.”

Spears wants to have a new baseball head coach announced by Jan. 1

“We’ll try to have a head baseball coach here announced by Jan. 1 and hopefully here soon after that,” he said.

Spears added that Marshall athletics is trending upward.

“We are a sleeping giant. Marshall athletics is special, and we are about to embark on building a brand-new baseball field,” he said. “I think we can attract a person to come to Marshall to lead our baseball program in a new facility and in a new league.”

Spears said the funding for the stadium happened because of legendary Marshall football head coach Bob Pruett who spent nine seasons with the Herd from 1996 to 2004.

“At Brad Smith’s investiture, ironically, we sat beside Coach Pruett, and the whole time coach was telling me, ‘Hey, you could do this’ or ‘You could that’ and ‘What if we ask for help here?’ and I’m just so thankful for him,” Spears said. “There is a grant process through the state; we followed that process and submitted our paperwork.”

Spears provided some details as to what the athletic department said on the application.

“Let’s build a baseball stadium with lights. Let’s engage the community. Let’s do a summer ball team. How can this be good for economic development? How do we connect the community? What kind of things does the city of Huntington need? Are we the right size to go out and attract these kinds of opportunities to host things in a great city? And that’s the story we told,” Spears said. “And if it hadn’t been for Coach Pruett, I don’t know if I would’ve figured it all out, so I just got so much respect for him.”

Marshall Dominates on Senior Day Against Georgia Southern



Men's soccer team celebrating seniors.

Via HerdZone

By **CHAYCE MATHENY**
SPORTS EDITOR

The No. 6 ranked Marshall University men's soccer team dominated on Senior Day against Georgia Southern by a score of 6-1 on Sunday, Oct. 23, at Hoops Family Field.

It didn't take long for the Herd to get on the board as Morris Duggan scored in the 14th minute, putting up Marshall 1-0. Just seven minutes later, in the 21st minute, Joao Souza scored his fifth goal of the season, putting up Marshall 2-0.

A 2-0 score would remain for the rest of the first half.

Not long into the second half, Taimu Okiyoshi scored his second goal of the season in the 52nd minute, making it 3-0 Marshall.

Six minutes later, in the 58th minute, Georgia Southern scored an own goal, making it 4-0 Marshall.

In the 64th minute, Adam Aoumaich scored and gave Marshall a 5-0 lead.

Three minutes later, in the 67th minute, Georgia Southern got on the board after Manuel Prieto snuck one in for the Eagles, making it 5-1 Marshall.

In the 75th minute, Milo Yosef scored his eighth goal of the season, putting Marshall up 6-1, which would be the final score.

Marshall men's soccer head coach Chris Grassie said he was happy with his team's performance.

"We did pretty well," he said. "We had a chance for the guys to get more dangerous. I think Georgia State, and even against ODU, we win those games more often than not, but we just didn't commit to getting in the box to score goals. Today, for moments, we did."

Marshall moved to 8-2-3 on the season, while Georgia Southern moved to 1-12-1.

On Wednesday, Oct. 26, Marshall will go on the road against Wright State at 7 p.m.

Women's Soccer Revels in Offensive Attack, Rolls Over Texas State

By **JOHNATHAN EDWARDS**
STUDENT REPORTER

Marshall women's soccer team frequently found the net in a 4-1 showcase of offensive power Sunday, Oct. 23. A resurgent Herd crew now finds itself among the crop in a race for Sun Belt tournament qualification, just three points away from making the cut with a few games to go.

Scoring came early for Marshall, with Kat Gonzalez finding the net in the game's first six minutes. Texas State answered before the 20-minute mark to tie the game at one goal each.

Alexis Wolgemuth had one save but only faced two shots on goal. She got the job done and played efficiently on

a day when that effort was more than enough. Tied up at the half, Marshall returned from the break with the last three goals to seal a crucial victory.

A vital victory cannot get in the way of the team's concentration, with Gonzalez saying, "I think we need to focus."

Her words encapsulate a resilient team's mindset, ready to take this second half of the season's resurgence into the final stretch.

"We are growing as a team," Gonzalez said, commenting on the squad's progression.

The electric duo of Gonzalez and

Morgan White spearheaded the Herd's cutthroat turnaround, leading the way to victory. White racked up a goal in tandem with the two from Gonzalez. Luiza Travassos rounded out the scoring for Marshall to complete the four-goal entourage on Sunday.

Marshall women's soccer is back in action in a critical regular-season finale against Old Dominion Thursday. Kickoff for the do-or-die matchup is set for 7 p.m. in Norfolk.

Marshall Gets First Sun Belt Win Against JMU

By **CHAYCE MATHENY**
SPORTS EDITOR

Marshall football got back on track with their first Sun Belt win against JMU by a score of 26-12 on Saturday, Oct. 22.

JMU got on the board first with a Camden Wise 35-yard field goal, making it 3-0 Dukes.

Just four minutes later, Billy Atkins found Zach Horton for a 17-yard JMU touchdown. The extra point was blocked and returned for a defensive PAT by Marshall's E.J. Jackson, making

it 9-2 Dukes.

With about one minute remaining in the first quarter, Camden Wise hit a 25-yard field goal, making it 12-2 Dukes. After that, it was all Marshall, as they would go and put up 24 unanswered points.

At about 9:50 left in the second quarter, Khalan Laborn ran for a 61-yard touchdown, making it 12-9 Dukes.

Later in the third, Cam Fancher found Corey Gammage for a 57-yard

touchdown, making it 16-12 Marshall. Five minutes later, Rece Verhoff hit a 38-yarder to make it 19-12 Marshall.

In the fourth quarter, Laborn ran for another touchdown, this time for 18-yards. It would make it 26-12 Marshall, the final score.

Up next for Marshall is Coastal Carolina at home on Saturday, Oct. 29, at 7:00 p.m.

How College in Prison is Leading Professors to Rethink How They Teach

By **MNEESHA GELLMAN**
EMERSON COLLEGE

When it comes to education in prison, policy and research often focus on how it benefits society or improves the life circumstances of those who are serving time.

But as I point out in my new edited volume, “Education Behind the Wall: Why and How We Teach College in Prison,” education in prison is doing more than changing the lives of those who have been locked up as punishment for crimes

– it is also changing the lives of those doing the teaching.

As director of a college program in prisons and as a researcher and professor who teaches in both colleges and prisons, I know that the experience of teaching in a correctional facility makes educators question and reexamine much of what we do.

My book collects experiences of college professors who teach in prison. A common thread is that we all went into education behind the wall thinking about ourselves

to some extent as experts but have since critically reflected on what we know through interactions with incarcerated students and the institutions that hold them.

Rewriting the book

One semester in 2020, I volunteered to tutor for a class on something that occurs frequently behind prison walls: conflict and negotiation. The class featured two books that are considered essential to the field. The first is “Interpersonal Conflict,” a 2014 text that invites readers to reflect on how conflict has played out in their personal lives. The second is “Getting to Yes,” a 2011 text described by its publisher as a “universally applicable method for negotiating personal and professional disputes without getting angry – or getting taken.”

“You know, I know these are very important books and all, but this isn’t really what would work in here,” one incarcerated student said after a few class meetings, gesturing to the prison walls. “Here, you can’t talk openly about your feelings like the authors want us to, and the rules of relating to people are different.”

I responded that his observation was astute, and that knowing both sets of rules – and how to switch between them – could be profoundly useful. For example, I theorized, I imagine he behaves differently during yard time than on a phone call with a family member on the outside. If the textbooks about conflict on the

outside didn’t adequately address how to handle conflict in prison, I suggested he write an equivalent book for conflict negotiation in prison.

“Maybe I should,” he chuckled, and looked around to his classmates. “Maybe we should.” The experience showed me how even though there are textbooks that are considered “universal,” that universality may not always extend itself to correctional institutions.

A new understanding of status As a full professor and chair of the sociology department at Clark University, a small, private university in Worcester, Massachusetts, Shelly Tenenbaum is used to being accorded a certain degree of respect for her professional accomplishments and credentials. But none of those things mattered once she passed through the gates of medium-security prisons for men located in Massachusetts.

“Status that I might have as a scholar, full professor, department chair ... is rendered invisible as we enter prison,” Tenenbaum writes. When passing through security, “I have been abruptly instructed to obey commands and my questions are ignored.”

Encounters with correctional officers are frequently unnerving for educators, particularly at the entrance gates.

“I find myself in the position of needing to second-guess what I may (or may not) have done

wrong and defer to people who are considerably younger than I am,” Tenenbaum continues. “There were times that I followed rules only to be scolded when the rules appeared to be differently interpreted from one day to the next. To be in the subordinate role of a power dynamic is a humbling experience. ... It takes having expectations defied to realize that they even existed.”

As college programs in prison become more prevalent, I fully expect that in the coming years there will be more and more college professors being transformed by the powerful experience of teaching behind bars. This is especially so given that Congress has lifted a long-standing ban on federal financial aid, namely, Pell Grants, for people who are incarcerated.

In 2022, there are 374 prison education programs run by 420 institutions of higher education operating in 520 facilities, according to the National Directory maintained by the Alliance for Higher Education in Prison.

Collectively, college programs in prison have been shown to lower the odds that a person who participates in them will return to prison after being released. But as I show in my book, the programs are also dramatically changing the perspective of the college professors who teach them.

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.

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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.

Miss Captivating continued

The pageant has five categories that the contestants will be judged on: swimwear, “for your culture” (outfit of choice), evening gowns, talent and on-stage questions.

The judges of the competition are Matt James, Jessica Kern-Huff, Walker Tatum, Takira Williams, Derrek Robinson and, according to Booth, a “special guest judge.” Not only will there be an opportunity for one of the contestants to win the title of Miss Captivating, but there are also two other titles the contestants could win: Miss Congeniality, which will be awarded to the contestant who is recognized by her fellow competitors as being the most friendly, helpful, genuine and outgoing contestant in the pageant and Audience Choice, where audience members will be given a chance at the end of the night to pick their favorite contestant.

MU Professor Honored continued

“Phil Carter has a 60-year legacy of social justice work in Huntington and surrounding communities,” Williams said. “His tireless efforts during that time led to desegregation in public establishments, the establishment of human rights commissions and racial betterment on Marshall University’s campus and in the Tri-State community. He was an outstanding student athlete who, when he walked away from the basketball court, transformed his competitive zeal into improving our community, state and nation.”

A reception is set to be held immediately after the ceremony in the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center.

Carter is the founder of Marshall’s Africana Social Work minor, which was created in the early 2000s. He teaches

a number of introductory and upper-level courses within the university’s social work program, and created the Tri-State Organizing Committee, a program designed to give social work students the opportunity to speak with local policy-makers.

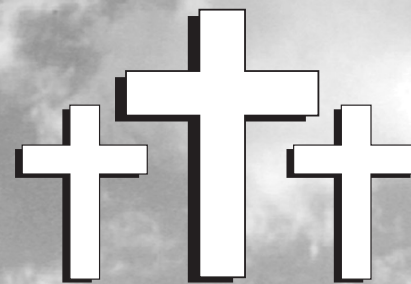
Over the last thirty years, Carter has served four different terms as the NAACP Huntington-Cabell branch president. Carter has received a number of different awards and special recognitions throughout his career, including being recognized by the Herald-Dispatch as one of the “50 Top Influential Leaders in the Tri-State for the 20th Century,” as well as being inducted into the West Virginia All-Black School Sports and Academic Hall of Fame.

Homecoming Royalty continued

“Not only have these candidates had to campaign for themselves and their platforms, but they’ve also had to interview with a panel of judges—which is so intimidating—and I know they can vouch for that,” Stanley said. “So, I’m very proud of them, and they’re all great candidates, and I know all of these students will be great advocates not only for their proposed platforms but for the student body as well.”

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at marshallparthenon.com**

Worship Directory



Fifth Avenue Baptist Church

1135 Fifth Avenue
Corner of Fifth Avenue & 12th Street in downtown Huntington
Sunday Morning Worship – 10:45 am

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

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
Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday
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
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2015 Adams Ave. Huntington, WV
304-429-4318

Mass Times: Sat. 5:00pm, Sun. 9am,
Confession: Tuesdays 4-5pm
Saturdays 4:15-4:45pm
or anytime by appointment
Office Hours Mon-Fri. 9am-2pm

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

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"An Evening With Mikey Day" Features Untraditional Standup Comedy



Comedians, Mikey Day and Alex English performed at the Keith Albee on Oct. 23.

Photos by Shauntelle Thompson

By **VICTROIA WARE**
FEATURES & CULTURES EDITOR

Standup comedy, storytelling and audience participation were featured in "An Evening with Mikey Day" at the Keith Albee Performing arts Center on Oct. 23.

The evening began with an introduction by WSAZ news anchor Tim Irr. He thanked the event's sponsors and previewed the upcoming programs the Marshall Artists Series will present.

The show's opening act featured Saturday Night Live (SNL) writer Alex English. His set consisted of commentary on current events and celebrities like Kanye West, Dave Chappelle and Meghan Markle. English also joked about his identity as a Black gay man. He addressed the Black Lives Matter movement and the

part that white allies play in it.

"It was tough being a Black person that has so many white friends and seeing so many of them out there protesting for me," English said. "It meant a lot to me, but it also gave me a headache. It put me through something. I went through a true Black dilemma because I have discernment. I know when there are white people on my side, and I know when there are white people who are not for me."

After English's performance, SNL cast member Mikey Day began doing what he said was not traditional standup. It was his first time visiting West Virginia. He walked out on stage wearing a Marshall University vest and recounted his experience going to the

Huntington Mall to purchase it.

Day told some stories from when he was in college. He also showed a slideshow of prank texts he sent to his father. He then brought an audience member up on stage and had a conversation with him. The set concluded with Day telling a story about a time he and his friends got into trouble at an amusement park in middle school.

Irr read out questions submitted by members of the audience, and Day and English responded to them. The questions were primarily about the creator of SNL, Lorne Michaels', involvement in the show, the writing process and the collaborative aspect of creating content.

"Even if it's your idea, and

you handle the majority of it, it's always nice to have someone look at it and be like, 'is this funny?'" Day said.

"I'm new to collaboration in that way," English said. "As a standup, it's just me by myself, so now I have to be in this environment where teamwork is very much welcomed and appreciated there. It's just nice to hear another voice on an idea that you've come up with."

Day also discussed what it is like when a sketch is unsuccessful.

"It happens a lot, but I feel like you're so used to it at that show you just move on," Day said. "Next week is another week. It's very up and down, but I feel like you can kind of learn to brush off failure."

Singer Katie Boytek Reflects on Performance

By **DESTINEY DINGESS**
STUDENT REPORTER

Being asked to do the pregame performance for a nationally televised Marshall football game almost feels like being called to perform at the Super Bowl, a West Virginia-native singer-songwriter said Thursday, Oct. 11.

"It was incredible and one of my favorite performances that I've done," Kate Boytek, a singer-songwriter from southern West Virginia, said.

Boytek performed last Wednesday, Oct. 12, before the Marshall versus Louisiana football game as the street, tailgate party's headliner.

"I was excited going in, and it exceeded even my high expectations that I had," Boytek said. "Everyone went above and beyond to make sure that I and my band were comfortable and felt welcomed."

Boytek headlined the "Marshall University Thunder Street Tailgate Party" presented by Michelob Ultra before the Marshall V. Louisiana matchup this evening. She performed a mix of her songs to covers of artists she loves.

Boytek says the crowd was amazing. They were excited and some even stayed to talk with her and her band after the concert.

One of the biggest highlights of that night was being on the jumbotron for the first time, Boytek said.

Boytek's newest song Hell or High Water is co-written and produced by Britton Cameron who has also written for Rock band Sister Hazel and Country Band Lonestar. Boytek says her newest song is a good representation of who she is as an artist now.

"Some people look back in my early 20s and some things I put out then and think I should be that same artist now," Boytek said. "But this will be the first time I've put out new music that's fully produced in almost 10 years."

A lot of 1970, 1980 and 1990s and not just the country genre influenced Boytek.

Boytek and her team pull from different artists, including Fleetwood Mac to Bon Jovi and mixed in the traditional country to create a rock-country style of music.

Boytek may make a name for herself in Nashville, but she hasn't forgotten where she belongs as her band comprises all West Virginia natives, including a local EMT and local firefighters.

Test Scores Show Historic COVID Setbacks for Kids Across U.S.

By **COLLIN BINKLEY**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — The COVID-19 pandemic caused historic learning setbacks for America's children, sparing no state or region as it erased decades of academic progress and widened racial disparities, according to results of a national test that provide the sharpest look yet at the scale of the crisis.

Across the country, math scores saw their largest decreases ever. Reading scores dropped to 1992 levels. Nearly four in 10 eighth graders failed to grasp basic math concepts. Not a single state saw a notable improvement in their average test scores, with some simply treading water at best.

Those are the findings from the National Assessment of Educational Progress — known as the “nation’s report card” — which tested hundreds of thousands of fourth and eighth graders across the country this year. It was the first time the test had been given since 2019, and it’s seen as the first nationally representative study of the pandemic’s impact on learning.

“It is a serious wakeup call for us all,” Peggy Carr, commissioner of the National Center for Education Statistics, a branch of the Education Department, said in an interview. “In NAEP, when we experience a 1- or 2-point decline, we’re talking about it as a significant impact on a student’s achievement. In math, we experienced an 8-point decline — historic for this assessment.”

Researchers usually think of a 10-point gain or drop as equivalent to roughly a year of learning. It’s no surprise that children are behind. The pandemic upended everyday life and left millions

learning from home for months or more. The results released Monday reveal the depth of those setbacks and the size of the challenge schools face as they help students catch up. Education Secretary Miguel Cardona said it’s a sign that schools need to redouble their efforts, using billions of dollars that Congress gave schools to help students recover.

“Let me be very clear: These results are not acceptable,” Cardona said. The NAEP test is typically given every two years. It was taken between January and March by a sample of students in every state, along with 26 of the nation’s largest school districts. Scores had been stalling even before the pandemic, but the new results show decreases on a scale not seen before.

In both math and reading, students scored lower than those tested in 2019. But while reading scores dipped, math scores plummeted by the largest margins in the history of the NAEP program, which began in 1969.

Math scores were worst among eighth graders, with 38% earning scores deemed “below basic” — a cutoff that measures, for example, whether students can find the third angle of a triangle if they’re given the other two. That’s worse than 2019, when 31% of eighth graders scored below that level.

No part of the country was exempt. Every region saw test scores slide, and every state saw declines in at least one subject.

Several major districts saw test scores fall by more than 10 points. Cleveland saw the largest single drop, falling 16 points in fourth-grade reading, along with a 15-point decline in fourth-grade math. Baltimore and Tennessee’s Shelby County also saw precipitous declines.



Peggy Carr, Commissioner of the National Center for Education, speaks during an interview with The Associated Press about the National Assessment of Education Process, Friday, Oct. 21 in Washington.

Photo courtesy of AP Photos/
Alex Brandon

“This is more confirmation that the pandemic hit us really hard,” said Eric Gordon, chief executive for the Cleveland Metropolitan School District. To help students recover, the school system has beefed up summer school and added after-school tutoring.

“I’m not concerned that they can’t or won’t recover,” Gordon said. “I’m concerned that the country won’t stay focused on getting kids caught up.”

The results show a reversal of progress on math scores, which had made big gains since the 1990s. Reading, by contrast, had changed little in recent decades, so even this year’s relatively small decreases put

the averages back to where they were in 1992.

Most concerning, however, are the gaps between students.

Confirming what many had feared, racial inequities appear to have widened. In fourth grade, Black and Hispanic students saw bigger decreases than white students, widening gaps that have persisted for decades.

Inequities were also reflected in a growing gap between higher and lower performing students. In math and reading, scores fell most sharply among the lowest performing students, creating a widening chasm between struggling students and the rest of their peers.

Surveys done as part of this year’s test illustrate the divide. When schools shifted to remote learning, higher performing students were far more likely to have reliable access to quiet spaces, computers and help from their teachers, the survey found.

The results make clear that schools must address the “long-standing and systemic shortcomings of our education system,” said Alberto Carvalho, superintendent of Los Angeles schools and a member of the National Assessment Governing Board, which sets the policies for the test.

Unity Walk Held to Kick off Marshall Homecoming Week



Alpha Sigma Phi was chosen as the winning banner during the Unity Walk.

Photos by Thomas Edwardson



Photos by Tyler Spence

University President Brad D. Smith walked with Student Government President Bella Griffiths during the Unity Walk.

By CONNER WOODRUFF NEWS EDITOR

Fraternities, sororities, sports teams and other organizations from all corners of student involvement joined together to kick off the 2022 homecoming season at the annual Unity Walk.

Walking around the Huntington campus led by President Brad D. Smith, Student Government Association President Bella Griffiths and Student Government Association Vice-President Walker Tatum, the Unity Walk serves to bring students from different parts of the campus community together ahead of the university's homecoming festivities.

"All of us bring our unique backgrounds, but we are all Marshall," Smith said. "It's a great

reminder of the connectedness and our commitment to a common goal: which is to have a very inclusive university experience."

This 2022 homecoming season marks a long-awaited return to normalcy with all events taking place in-person.

"We're just trying to bring back the old and enhance what we couldn't do in the last two years," Matt James, assistant dean of Student Affairs, said.

The Unity Walk event also featured guest motivational speaker Jessica Kern Huff, wife of Marshall football coach Charles Huff, who talked about the importance of solidarity and togetherness at Marshall's campus.

During her speech, Jessica Kern Huff described human connection as "undefeated."

"There's nothing like the will and the want of a campus who refuses to die," she said.

The Unity Walk ended with the announcement of the winner of the Unity Walk's Banner Contest, Alpha Sigma Phi, as well as the announcement of this year's homecoming court.

Another first for this homecoming season was the introduction of the university's first Mx. Marshall candidate, Taylor Isaac. Mx. Marshall is the gender-neutral title for a Mr. or Ms. Marshall.

The rest of homecoming week will include a social media campaign, parade, football game and other events following the "Fun in the Sun" theme, which celebrates Marshall's inaugural year in the Sun Belt Conference.



Many Marshall organizations, including Marshall's cheer team, participated in the walk.