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### The Parthenon, October 24, 2023

Evan Green

Parthenon@marshall.edu

Conner Woodruff

Matt Schaffer

Chayce Matheny

Victoria Ware

*See next page for additional authors*

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**Authors**

Evan Green, Conner Woodruff, Matt Schaffer, Chayce Matheny, Victoria Ware, Shauntelle Thompson, Rafael Alfonso, and Scott Price

## 125 Years of *The Parthenon*, Est. 1898

# Men's Soccer Win Streak Comes to an End

By **JOSEPH DISCRISTOFARO**  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Marshall Men's Soccer Team lost to the WVU Mountaineers 5-2 on Wednesday, Oct. 18, in the Mountain State Derby, ending the Herd's historic 12-game undefeated streak.

Going into Wednesday's matchup, Marshall had only conceded five goals on the season—the Mountain-

neers matched that total in just 90 minutes.

"It's just one of those games. Everything went badly for us—slips, falls and deflected goals. You name it, it happened," head coach Chris Grassie said. "That happens to the best teams. I told the guys it happens to Man City. It happens to Liverpool. It happens to Brighton."

Grassie went on to say, "No blame on the guys. I'm super proud of

them all season. We've had 12 games where everything has gone our way, and one game that doesn't go our way doesn't mean anything. We can still win the conference."

"It's all in our hands," he said. "We take care of business; we'll be champs. The last time we lost here, we won a national championship. So, for me, as long as this defeat hurts enough to let it be fuel for the fire, we'll be fine."

The Herd struck first in the sixth minute on a goal from Matthew Bell after a well-placed pass from Adam Aoumaich.

WVU answered back in dominant fashion, netting three goals in the 11th and 12th minutes of the contest. Marcus Caldeira accounted for two of those goals to push his season total to 12.

Morris Duggan netted the Herd's second goal of the match in the 18th minute after a corner kick from Alexander Stjernegaard.

Duggan's goal gave the Herd life;

in the final moments of the first half, Joao Roberto chipped the ball over Mountaineer goalkeeper Jackson Lee, which looked bound for the net. A WVU defender soared in, cleared the ball out of the goal to negate the would-be goal and zapped any momentum that the Herd could've gained.

WVU continued its dominance on the pitch in the second half, netting two more goals and holding the Herd scoreless in the final 45 minutes.

Goalkeeper Gabriel Perrotta accounted for four saves on nine shots



Adam Aoumaich during the matchup against the Mountaineers

Courtesy of Will Meadows

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# Bus Schedules On Your Phone

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# Marshall Releases Course Schedule for Spring 2024

By **MATTHEW SCHAFFER**  
MANAGING EDITOR

Students should begin planning their Spring 2024 Semester as Marshall has released the course schedule on Monday, Oct. 23.

The course schedule can be found online and contains the courses available for all majors and minors being offered in spring 2024.

Students will be able to begin scheduling courses starting with seniors on Monday, Nov. 6, juniors on Tuesday and Wednesday, Nov. 7-8, sophomores on Nov. 9, 10 and 13 and freshmen on Nov. 14-17.

Freshmen and sophomores are required to meet with their advisors prior to scheduling. Any account holds must also be removed

by academic advisors prior to registration.

Those given priority registration have already begun their advising for spring classes and will register for courses on Nov. 2 and 3.

The course schedule can be found on MUBert online or by searching "spring 2024 course schedule" on marshall.edu.

# International Festival Celebrates 60 Years

By **SARAH DAVIS**  
NEWS EDITOR

Cultures from around the globe will be showcased on Saturday, Oct. 28, in the Memorial Student Center's Don Morris Room.

The festival is West Virginia's oldest and longest-running international festival, with this year's being the 60th annual. The festival will feature vendors, food stands and other attractions.

A parade will open the festival, which will run from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. The parade will feature people wearing traditional cultural outfits in alphabetical order of the clothing's homelands.

Stephanie Shaffer, Marshall's coordinator for International Affairs, said that the festival is an opportunity to learn about various cultures. "There's a lot that we don't know living here in America, and there's a lot about us that they don't know when they come here," she said.

"It's just about learning about each other."

Acceptance is the ultimate goal of the festival, Shaffer said.

"That's the goal always—is students, faculty, staff, community feel they're represented, they're accepted, they're welcome on this campus," she said. "Immersing yourself into the cultures, accepting the differences."

The festival will also host a silent auction, where those in attendance can receive gift baskets. One of the baskets, sponsored by international vendors that cannot attend the event in person, will provide the winner with gift cards to their restaurants.

Those in attendance will have an opportunity to educate themselves on different foreign countries.

"You may learn about a culture you didn't even know about," Shaffer said.

## Spring 2024 ADVANCE REGISTRATION SCHEDULE

*Currently enrolled Undergraduate and Graduate students may register beginning November 6.*

SENIORS 90+ hours completed as of 8/21/2023	JUNIORS 60-89 hours completed as of 8/21/2023	SOPHOMORES 30-59 hours completed as of 8/21/2023	FRESHMEN 0-29 hours completed as of 8/21/2023
Monday, November 6	Tuesday, November 7 Wednesday, November 8	Thursday, November 9 Friday, November 10 Monday, November 13	Tuesday, November 14 Wednesday, November 15 Thursday, November 16 Friday, November 17



Official Advance Registration Schedule.

Courtesy of HerdNet



Performers from last year's event

Courtesy of HerdNet



# TEDxMarshallU to Host Student Pitch Event



TEDxMarshallU speakers from last year's event

Courtesy of TEDxMarshallU

By **MATTHEW SCHAFFER**  
MANAGING EDITOR

TEDxMarshallU is opening the door for students to pitch

their ideas for this year's event on Wednesday, Nov. 1, in the Memorial Student Center.

While the speaker spots are

open to all students, potential speakers must register. Students must provide an idea focusing on connectivity

between ideas and people.

The theme of this year's event is "Connecting Threads," where students can offer up their ideas on speeches surrounding the concepts of the threads that connect us as well as how to stay connected in an increasingly divided world.

The pitches should include a short introduction, conclusion and two minutes that describe and illustrate your idea. Up to 10 ideas will be selected.

The TEDxMarshallU event will take place at the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse next semester on Feb. 27, 2024. The event will be free with snacks and drinks provided.



The poster for the event

Courtesy of Herd Happenings

# Excessive Drinking Less Common Among College Students



The Wellness Center is located in the Memorial Student Center.

Photo by Samuel McElwain

By **SAMUEL MCELWAIN**  
STUDENT REPORTER

"Many students think drinking is an expected part of the college experience," Marshall University's wellness coordinator said, "despite the reality that the numbers of students drinking excessively have declined over the years."

Alcohol and drugs have become

coping methods when it comes to dealing with daily life stresses, and for college students, it may be an easy escape.

The use of risky substances affects your body and the decisions that you make, according to coordinator Kaye Godbey.

"Substance use plays havoc with the natural systems of the body that

moderate our focus, our emotional moderation and our physical bodies," she said.

Excessive use of these substances could lead to injuries, overdose and even accidental death, she said, and instead of partaking in drugs and alcohol, it may be best to find healthier options or even hang around people that aren't partaking.

"Other healthy habits are connecting to others and not isolating yourself; choose companions that don't make you act against your own best interests," Godbey said.

According to Godbey, taking time out of the day for your own well-being can help one's health and will help one from partaking in the use of substances to help with their

issues.

"Marshall students have access to resources included in their tuition like counseling and the collegiate recovery and wellness programs, which can help students take charge of their present and future health and success," she said.

It's important to prioritize one's health in order to make sure you are taken care of but also ensuring that alcohol and drugs are not treating personal issues.

"What we breathe and consume and absorb all impacts the body's ability to care for itself," she said. "Simply put: positive in, positive out, negative in, negative out."



Kaye Godbey

Courtesy of Marshall University Photos

## Walk Brings Attention to Safety Needs on Campus



A pedestrian crosswalk located on 20th St. in Huntington, West Virginia. Courtesy of WV MetroNews

By **TASHA ESSELSTEIN**  
STUDENT REPORTER

Marshall's community leaders collaborated to enhance campus safety by organizing a campus safety walk that resulted in the identification

and resolution of specific areas of concern on campus.

"The mayor, the city works director, along with representatives from all the university offices, including the president's office and student

government, take a tour of campus looking at lighting, crosswalks, stops—anything that they deem could be a safety issue," MUPD Chief Jim Terry said.

The purpose of the event is to identify campus trouble spots that might be overlooked, enabling swift and effective resolution.

"Since we're all there—physical plant, police department, safety—we can direct it to the right people to address it in real-time," Terry added.

Additionally, the event allows community leaders to network with one another and also gives them the opportunity to connect and discuss

with community members.

"But, most importantly, we just have time together that opens the door for us to just pick up the phone and call each other when we see something else, but this is a very special time for us," Mayor Steve Williams said.

Terry expressed the same gratitude for the event.

"It was a good evening," he said. "And it pulls everyone together at least once a year where we can all work on those issues."

The event was successful, with several suggestions and actions taken, including changing light bulbs that have gone out around campus and

addressing larger concerns such as crosswalk safety.

"Lots of good suggestions came out last night. One of them we're going to try to fix is pedestrian safety by making sure to activate the light because most people just walk across, which isn't safe at all," Terry said.

"I would love to sit out there with my megaphone to address the concern, but it probably wouldn't be effective, which is why SGA is working on ways to help fix that problem," Terry added.

## Cyber Defense Program Designated as Center of Excellence

By **SAMUEL MCELWAIN**  
STUDENT REPORTER

The National Security Agency and the Cyber Security and Infrastructure Agency has recognized the Marshall University's Cyber Defense program as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education.

This honor was granted last month with University President Brad Smith, Dr. David Dampier, the director of the Cyber Security program, and Professor Bill Gardner representing the University at the National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium.

According to Gardner, Marshall can finally be recognized for this program.

"This designation puts the NSA and other federal agencies'

stamp of approval on Marshall University's cybersecurity programs and helps to attract students to fill the cybersecurity shortage of skilled cybersecurity labor that currently exists," Gardner said.

Institutions that offer cybersecurity programs are awarded these designations, but the programs must fall into the requirements set aside by the NSA to receive the designation.

"Achieving the Center of Academic Excellence recognition from the National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security is a testament to the quality of the academic programs at Marshall University," Dampier said.

Dampier also said that this will bring more opportunities to Marshall through funding and



The award was presented in September 2023.

Courtesy of Marshall University News

more recognition through these programs.

The NCAS-E is designed to help colleges build cybersecurity programs that help build high curriculum standards.

"The NSA CAE-CD

designation recognizes Marshall as a critical part of the solution through interdisciplinary cybersecurity education, research and workforce development," said Dr. Josh Brunty, the director of Marshall's cyber forensic and

security graduate program.

"This designation also empowers our faculty and staff to make the most of our collective cyber expertise, enabling us to effectively train future generations of cyber experts."



## 'Us and Them' Podcast Recording Focuses on Distrust in Science

By **MATTHEW SCHAFFER**  
MANAGING EDITOR

Deteriorating faith in science was the topic of a live taping of the "Us & Them" podcast that drew a crowd of community members to the Drinko Library Atrium on Thursday, Oct. 19.

"Us & Them," hosted by award-winning podcaster Trey Kay, featured a panel of guests including Dr. Jona-

than Zimmerman, author and education historian at the University of Pennsylvania; Dr. Habiba Chirchir, biological anthropologist at Marshall University; and Dr. Adam Franks M.D., associate residency director at Marshall's Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine.

The panel discussed a wide range of topics, including faith in COVID-19 vaccines, climate change, evolution and the role technology plays in sow-

ing distrust in scientific research.

"Misinformation markets itself a bit better than we do as scientists," Franks said. "In America, there's a tribalism where if I believe in one thing, I can't believe in that."

The panel focused on the role of increased information that technology and social media have made available to the public, despite some of that information lacking verifiable research.

"What is fueling the distrust is that

there is so much coming out," Chirchir said. "Having all that information coming through all the different media...we have so much information that it is hard to know what to trust or distrust."

The panel discussion led to an audience Q&A, where community members lined up to ask questions and share their concerns about the current level of distrust in scientific research.

The taping marks the second stop in the podcast live event series exploring the diminishing trust in America. West Virginia University hosted the previous stop of the series, where the discussion centered around the diminishing trust in the media. There are more stops planned for other institutions across West Virginia.



Audience members watch the podcast presentation.



Panelists speak on distrust in science during a live podcast presentation.

Photos by Matthew Schaffer



## Men's Soccer Loses Second Straight Game

By **KADANN BONECUTTER**  
STUDENT REPORTER

A first half shutout by the Kentucky Wildcats Men's Soccer team resulted in the No. 1 Thundering Herd's first home loss of the season last Sunday, Oct. 22, at Hoops Family Field.

The Herd (12-2, 5-2 Sun Belt) lost to the Wildcats (4-6-4, 1-3-2 Sun Belt) 2-0. Shots were put up by the Herd, but nothing stuck the landing. Both Aymane Sordo and Alexander Stjernegaard had shots on goal that were saved at 47:14 and 47:24, respectively.

"It was unfortunate. I just don't think we were on our game in the first half," Marshall's head coach Chris Grassie said.

"We didn't quite do what we

needed to do," Grassie added. "I thought the patterns were there, and the game plan we had was totally to be played, but we didn't execute very well. We made some mistakes. A couple of mistakes led to the goals."

Two more attempts were made by Marshall, but the Wildcats deflected Pablo Simon in the 62nd minute and Taimu Okiyoshi the 90th.

The Wildcats dominated the first half with two goals by highlight player Mason Visconti. In the 22nd and 37th minutes, Visconti was able to win the game for Kentucky.

The Herd will be taking an away trip to Norfolk, Virginia, on Oct. 27 for a contest against Old Dominion at 7 p.m.

## Marshall Volleyball Sweeps App State at Home

By **JOEL SPEARS**  
STUDENT REPORTER

Marshall Volleyball had a successful weekend, sweeping the App State Mountaineers on Friday, Oct. 20, and winning a five-set match on Saturday, Oct. 21.

The Friday night matchup was dominated by the Herd, with a final score of 25-17, 25-21, 25-16. Coach Ari Aganus attributed the team's success to their focus on keeping the game simple and feeding the hot hand.

Brynn Brown had an impressive performance, finishing the match with 31 assists and 10 digs for a double-double. She also had a hitting percentage of .667. Kylee Stokes led the team with 12 kills, while Essence Clerkley had eight kills and a match-high seven blocks.

In the first set, the Herd trailed

6-2 early on but fought back to take the set 25-17. They finished the set with an 11-2 run, including a 5-0 rally that was capped off by a block from Stokes and Lydia Montague.

The second set started off similarly, with Marshall trailing 9-2. However, they once again battled back and took a 19-18 lead. They closed out the set with six of the final nine points, winning 25-21.

The third set was closely contested until the Herd took control, winning 13 of the final 17 points. They finished the set with a hitting percentage of .438 to complete the sweep with a 25-16 victory.

On Saturday, the Herd faced a tougher challenge from App State but ultimately came out on top in a five-set thriller. After winning the first two sets 25-20 and 25-23, Marshall dropped the third and

fourth sets 20-25 and 19-25, respectively.

In the final set, the Mountaineers took an early lead, but the Herd quickly regained control and won six of the next eight points. They went on to win the deciding set 15-10, with a kill from Stokes sealing the victory.

"App definitely answered back to what we did," Aganus said. "It was great volleyball. That's what you want."

Stokes had a career-high 21 kills in the match, while Brown recorded her second double-double of the weekend with 47 assists and 23 digs. Riley Winslow and Jazmin Parrish also had notable performances, with Winslow recording a career-high 26 digs and Parrish also finishing with a career-high of 25 digs and 11 kills for a double-double.



Aymane Sordo weaves between defenders.

Courtesy of Austin O'Connor



The volleyball team celebrates its victory.

Courtesy of Nevaeh Bright



# Marshall Football Dominated by Dukes

By **JOSEPH DICRISTOFARO**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Marshall football's October troubles continued on Thursday, Oct. 19, against the undefeated James Madison University Dukes at home, losing 20-9.

The Herd has lost all three of its games in the month of October. Head coach Charles Huff is now 5-6 in his coaching career at Marshall in the month of October.

Marshall's offense put up zero offensive points in the matchup against the Dukes. The Herd was

missing several starters on both sides of the ball, including star running back Rasheen Ali.

The Herd's offense tallied a mere 169 total yards, finishing the contest with negative four rushing yards. Ethan Payne started due to the absence of Ali and amounted 62 yards on 20 rush attempts.

Quarterback Cam Fancher finished the game with negative 66 rush yards after the Herd's offensive line could not contain the Dukes' pass rush. Fancher had 173 passing yards on 17 completions out of 30 attempts and an

interception.

Going into halftime, the Dukes led the Herd 3-0 after 30 minutes of defensive battling. On seven occasions throughout the game, James Madison forced the Herd to start its drives inside its own 10-yard line.

Marshall scored its first points of the game in the third quarter after defensive lineman TyQaze Leggs tackled a JMU player in the endzone to give the Herd a safety.

Wide receiver Jayden Harrison would be the only Marshall player to find the endzone Harrison

bobbed and weaved between the James Madison kickoff defenders and returned the ball 94 yards to score while also cutting the Dukes' lead to 20-9.

The Herd's special teams unit was a bright spot in Thursday's game after struggling against Georgia State in the team's last contest. Punter John McConnell averaged 48.9 yards on eight punts including a 74-yard punt in the first quarter and Harrison's 94-yard kickoff return for a touchdown.

"I thought John battled his tail

off to give us as much as he could from a punting perspective," Huff said. "I thought our defense battled. I thought our special teams, this week, showed up. Last week, we were all over their tails, but they made plays this week. It just wasn't enough to beat a good team."

The Herd will look to get back on track against the Coastal Carolina Chanticleers on Saturday, Oct. 29, in Conway, South Carolina, after dropping three straight games.



Cam Fancher is tackled by a JMU defender.

Photo by Abigail Cutlip



# President Joe Biden Must Appeal to Young Voters to Win the 2024 Election



The presidential election will be held in November 2024.

Courtesy of Adobe

The Parthenon, Marshall University's student newspaper, is published by students every Wednesday. The editorial staff is responsible for news and editorial content.

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

## 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.

By **MATTHEW SCHAFFER**  
MANAGING EDITOR

After a highly contested 2020 presidential election that saw former Democratic Vice President Joe Biden defeat incumbent Republican Donald Trump, the political landscape in America is expecting the incumbent president to run and clinch the nomination for 2024.

The incumbent Biden has accomplishments over his first term that will be put under examination. This article will highlight some of the accomplishments that the administration has made in the four-year tenure since Biden's inauguration, specifically, those that affect the voters.

Biden adopted an economy that was attempting to recover from high COVID-19 case rates, with much of the workforce still isolated. Biden's administration further combated the millions under economic pressure by signing the American Rescue Plan, which gave Americans a one-time \$1,400 stimulus relief check, expanded the child tax credit and further funded testing and vaccine research for COVID-19.

Furthermore, he signed the Inflation Reduction Act, which allowed Medicare to negotiate drug prices of certain prescription drugs, as well as passed (although a significantly reduced version) Build Back Better, an infrastructure investment package with green initiatives.

Despite the large investments from the Biden administration, the American public still holds an approval rating of only 40.2% (a high point of his presidency), with a 53.5% disapproval rating according to FiveThirtyEight. The approval rating has led some, including Democratic insiders, to question whether Biden is a viable candidate to run for re-election in 2024.

The Biden administration faced numerous hurdles when attempting to enact many of its policies. Democrats such as Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona and Joe Man-

chin of West Virginia stood in the way of vital pieces of legislation such as an increased national minimum wage from \$7.25 an hour to \$15 an hour, election reform legislation and extending the child tax credit that cut childhood poverty by nearly 30%.

Meanwhile, Build Back Better had significant cuts to the initial vision proposed by Biden with cuts including free community college, dental and vision coverage for Medicare recipients, paid family leave and further negotiation for prescription drugs by Medicare.

His administration also refused Supreme Court expansion, along with his failure to codify Roe v. Wade, which led to the overturning of the landmark case that prevented government interference to a woman's or birthing person's right to abortion access.

Some of these failures were due to opposition that persisted in the U.S. Congress; however, the administration failed to take the extra steps to prevent congressional interference while holding a Democratic majority in both the House and Senate.

Alongside these contentious shortcomings, there were a number of high-profile campaign promises that never made

Biden's agenda once elected. On the campaign trail, Biden made promises to voters that have since stalled or have not been mentioned since his inauguration, including comprehensive immigration reform and a public-option healthcare system.

### Analysis: Biden For 2024?

So, is Biden the Democrat's best candidate for 2024? Considering the political landscape, increased voter turnout in midterms and a new generation of politically active first-time voters, probably not. However, Biden will still likely become the incumbent Democratic nominee due to the DNC's fear of running an opposition candidate alongside a sitting president.

Biden will need to invigorate the younger Millennial and Gen-Z voters to win in 2024 as the previous election hosted record turnout, and many of the Biden voters were more against Trump than pro-Biden.

With the younger generations believing progressive politics, Biden will have to attempt to appeal to these voters in order to invigorate them to get out and vote, something that young voters are notoriously bad at.



Photo of the White House

Courtesy of Adobe



# Producer Joe Strechay Advocates for People With Disabilities in the Entertainment Industry

By **JADA MILLS**  
STUDENT REPORTER

A blind Huntington native has claimed his corner of the film and television industry despite the challenges that he has faced and has dedicated his life to advocating for and teaching others with disabilities that the world of TV and movies is not off limits.

Joe Strechay is a co-executive producer for season three of the show “See,” which is available on Apple TV+. One of his goals for the show was to change how blindness is seen by the world.

“I create accessibility for people who are blind or have low vision on sets,” Strechay said. “When creating the set of ‘See,’ the writers told me that we have to create an atmosphere of respect around blindness and disability.”

Strechay has also been working on the new Netflix show ‘All the Light We Cannot See,’ which will be released on Nov. 2. He is an associate producer and blindness accessibility consultant on that project.

Aria Loberti, who plays the lead role as Marie-Laure Leblanc, a blind French girl, in ‘All the Light We Cannot See,’ was born with the rare genetic eye condition achromatopsia, which is characterized as partial or total loss of color vision.

“We got to cast Aria and teach her how film works. We also created accessibility for her needs on set,” Strechay said.

To ensure accessibility, he evaluates the accommodations for actors and background performers with all types of disabilities. He also recruits actors through his connections and networking.

“Nothing about us, without us,” said Strechay. “I want to make sure people with disabilities have opportunities. Utilizing and representing communities is important.”

Thirty-five actors who are blind or have low vision were brought onto “See” by Strechay, and most have recurring roles.

“As we were building the show, I got to build in parts of the blindness community,” Strechay said. “There are little details about blindness that some people will never understand but hopefully pick up on in the show.”

Throughout his career, he has written scripts, trained actors for roles, produced, trained individuals who are blind or have low vision for everyday tasks and cast people for parts; the list goes on.

“We all want to be represented in film and television; it’s part of popular culture and culture, in general,” Strechay said. “I didn’t feel like I was represented.”

Strechay and his mother both have an eye condition that deteriorates their vision from the outside in.

In high school, his vision began deteriorating, and he was told he would be completely blind by age 25.

Strechay graduated from East Carolina University, where he lost most of his vision within the first semester. His vision closed in like a tunnel where he could only see 10% of what everyone else could see, he said.

“I didn’t know what to do. I was depressed,” Strechay said. “I didn’t know people who were blind.”

As a result, he began counseling and said that mental health is important, and counseling changed his



Strechay speaking at the event about his experience in television and film.

Photos by Jada Mills



Strechay speaking to event attendees.

perspective tremendously. “Like how I see myself, but also how I see life, and how I interact with it.”

Strechay lived in Huntington from 2009 to 2015 and currently resides in Fayetteville, WV, with his wife, who is from Beckley, WV.

While living in Huntington, he worked for the American Foundation for the Blind, where he wrote curriculum for a program that focused on employment skills and career exploration.

In his free time, while also working, he began writing about popular culture in television and film. He was passionate about this topic and started getting contacted by documentaries and commercials as they were casting people who were blind or experienced low vision, which brought him to where he is today.

“The most successful people are

self-aware; you know what you’re good at, and you also know what your weaknesses are,” Strechay said. “Know your sales pitch: who you are, what you can do and what you can bring.”

Strechay encouraged everyone who wants to get in film to do it and said West Virginia is on the up and rising for film and production.

“West Virginia is really investing in television and film, thanks to the economic development department and film commission,” Strechay said. “These tax credits are some of the best in the country now, and I think you are going to see more and more projects.”

Strechay does not plan to stop living out his dream anytime soon and encourages others to, “Make it happen; don’t let others tell you that you can’t.”



# University Donors Pull Funding for Lack of Support for Israel



By **MATTHEW SCHAFER**  
MANAGING EDITOR

Harvard and University of Pennsylvania are facing backlash from prominent alumni—including some cutting millions in donations—due to dissatisfaction with the institution’s handling of the conflict in the Middle East.

Several of the school’s alumni, including the likes of Utah senator Mitt Romney, billionaire Marc Rowan and “Law & Order” producer Dick Wolf, have spoken out over the institution’s responses to Hamas’ attack on Israel.

Since the attacks and Israel’s war declaration, over 5,700 Palestinians have been killed, primarily through Israeli airstrikes; meanwhile Israel has seen over 1,500 killed in the war according to the Associated Press. The conflict has caused a humanitarian crisis as resources have been cut off by Israel to the over two million people living in the Gaza Strip.

Following the attacks on Oct. 7, Harvard released a statement on Oct. 9 saying they were “heartbroken by the death and destruction unleashed by Hamas.”

Meanwhile, over 30 student groups on the university’s campus have blamed Israel’s continued mistreatment of the Palestinian people

for the terrorist group’s attack. The protesting alumni have since voiced their dissatisfaction by stating that the institutions have not done enough to distance their position from these student groups.

One alumnus, retail billionaire Leslie Wexner, created a program for Israeli students and donated over \$42 million to Harvard. Wexner’s foundation said it would cut financial ties to the program over the institution’s handling of the situation.

Other alumni, including Romney, penned a letter to Harvard for failing to prevent a hostile environment for Jewish students at the university. In it, he said, “We fear that history is on the verge of repeating itself.”

Meanwhile, UPenn is facing a revolt from the likes of Rowan, who stated that the school’s response to Hamas’ attack on Israel did not align with the condemnations of the Supreme Court’s overturning of *Roe v. Wade* in 2022 and the murder of George Floyd in 2020. Rowan previously donated more than \$50 million to the university and threatened to cut off his finances unless the school’s board stepped down.

Donations from alumni account for 17% of UPenn’s academic budget, with \$1.5 billion donated in the past two years. UPenn previously faced backlash over a Palestinian literary festival.

Additionally, student protests supporting both Israel and Palestine have swept campuses across the United States. Pro-Israel students have criticized failures to condemn Hamas on the pro-Israel side; meanwhile,

pro-Palestine students have denounced failures to condemn the murder of Palestinians on the pro-Palestine side.

The protests have extended beyond college campuses as well, with thousands having gathered in the streets of major cities across the country to

voice their support for each side of the conflict. Many, including the United Nations, are calling for world leaders to negotiate a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas, with President Joe Biden prioritizing the release of hostages before a ceasefire can be negotiated.

**The Spotlight page highlights stories from college campuses across the U.S.**

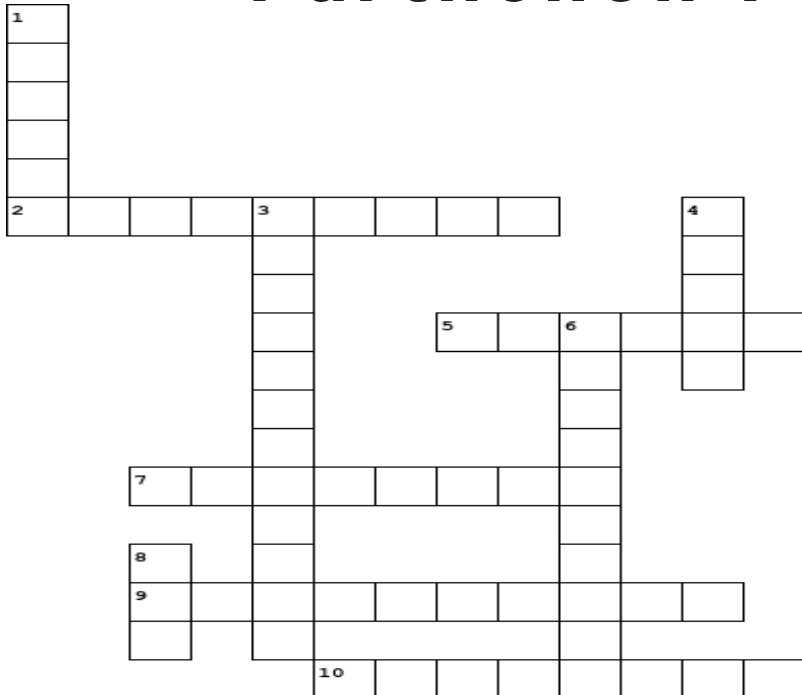


One of the buildings at The University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia

Courtesy of Adobe



# Parthenon Puzzle: Crossword #5





## ATTENTION ALL BRIDGE PLAYERS!

### The Huntington Duplicate Bridge Club

Would like to invite  
all bridge players to join us

**Every Monday & Wednesday  
12:30pm to 4pm**

Johnson Memorial Fifth Avenue Baptist Church  
(in the basement) Fee is \$5 per person per session

FOR MORE INFO, PLEASE CALL SAM AT 304-521-4992


All crossword clues are found on Page 12

**SOUTHSIDE CLOISTER GARDENS**

903-911 9th Ave.

1 BR, \$700 + \$600 SD  
2 BR, Kit furn, cent elec heat, wall AC, 950 sq ft w/patio, gated front & rear entrance, laundry facility on site, no pets \$850 mo + \$800 SD & year lease. Tenant pays elec/water. Parking.

**304-638-7777**

# Worship Directory

## Grow Your Congregation

Our Worship Directory aims to help readers connect with religious resources in our community. Make sure our readers know how you can help with a presence in our weekly worship directory.

Contact us today to secure your spot on this ad.  
Call Brenda at 304.526.2752



### Fifth Avenue Baptist Church

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

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

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

### CATHOLIC

#### St. Peter Claver Catholic Church

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

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

Father Shaji Thomas

### CATHOLIC

#### SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

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



# 'I Will Listen,' Students Say

By **TASHA ESSELSTEIN**  
STUDENT REPORTER

Holding signs that read "I will listen," students positioned themselves around campus on Tuesday, October 17.

"It's just something we do at Marshall where, when midterms are coming up, we like to come out on campus and just try and give a listening ear to students," said Tyler Corbin, a member of Campus Collective.

Huntington Community Church members stood outside, making themselves available for most of the day to engage with students and offer a listening ear for anybody who wished to talk.

Expressing the importance of this event during this time of the semester, Corbin said, "We know this season can be particularly difficult with just, maybe, seasonal depression kicking in with midterms happening, and people are getting stressed and anxious."

"And we just know that everybody, including ourselves, we need people to talk to during stressful and difficult times," Corbin went on to say.

Corbin also explained that their goal

for this event was to give an outlet for students and let students know that it's okay to not be okay.

He said that students tend to become engrossed in their daily challenges and overlook the fact that others are facing

similar challenges.

"For me, I've talked to people that I can relate with: their struggles and things they are going through and feeling," Corbin said.



Huntington Community Church members held signs around campus and listened to student's to alleviate stress.



Photo by Tasha Esselstein

## Crossword Clues: (Answers Posted on Instagram)

### Across

2. Associate-Producer of Netflix's "See"
5. I will \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_ in science has grown in recent

years

9. Marshall beat App State 25 to 23 in this sport
10. Consuming a beverage

### Down

1. Alumni who contribute money to universities
3. Annual speaker series held in February at Marshall

4. The incumbent president of the U.S.
6. Event hosted as a part of campus safety month
8. Marshall's in-state rival

@muparthenon on Instagram

@MUParthenon on

X (Twitter)

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