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## The Parthenon, October 12, 2012

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# THE PARTHENON

VOL. 116 NO. 29 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

## Event offers insight into local candidates

By **KATIE WISE**  
THE PARTHENON

Most people only know their political candidates through billboards and radio and TV ads, but an event at Marshall University provided them the opportunity to speak one-on-one with their future community leaders.

Nearly every inch of Marshall's Shawkey Dining Room was occupied Thursday evening for Meet the Candidates.

The event, sponsored by Marshall's Women's Studies and Women's Center, drew a variety of local, county and state candidates running for office in

the Nov. 6 election.

The event gave students, faculty and members of the community a chance to hear platforms and speak one on one with various candidates.

Member of the Women's Studies Advisory Committee, Kim White, said she was very pleased with the overall event.

"I am very pleased with the outcome," White said. "I have heard lots of positive feedback from the candidates, from people in the community and students."

White noted that the event was a prime example of how the public

has easy access to those representing them in our government.

"My hope is that the audience took away the accessibility of the political process," White said. "It is an intimidating process to some people and sometimes the issues are not clear, but here in West Virginia, you have a voice."

Keynote speakers present at the event included candidates for mayor, city council, magistrate, W. Va. House of Delegates, assessor, secretary of state, as well as Libertarian and Mountain State candidates for governor.



Huntington Democratic mayoral candidate Steve Williams, speaks with a potential voter during a Meet the Candidate event on Thursday.

TYLER KES | THE PARTHENON

See **CANDIDATES** | Page 5



BIDEN

## In debate, Biden, Ryan demonstrate differences

By **LESLEY CLARK** and **STEVEN THOMMA**  
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS (MCT)

DANVILLE, Ky. — In a battle of understudies, Vice President Joe Biden and Republican rival Paul Ryan went after one another repeatedly Thursday night on issues ranging from the fate of Medicare to the terrorist attack on U.S. diplomats in Libya.

Both men were assertive, eager to trumpet the strengths of their tickets and equally zealous in ripping the other party.

Ryan was aggressive from the outset, challenging the Obama administration's first accounts of the Libya attacks, which at first claimed that an anti-Muslim video inflamed a crowd rather than calling it a terrorist attack. He noted that President Barack Obama referred to the video six times in a speech to the United Nations after the Libya attack.

"This is becoming more troubled by the day," Ryan said of the still-emerging details of what the administration knew in those first days after the attack. Ryan said it was "indicative of a broader problem . . . the unraveling of the Obama foreign policy."

See **DEBATE** | Page 5



RYAN



## Witches hunted at Marshall University

By **BISHOP NASH**  
THE PARTHENON

The tension, fear and tragedy of the Salem Witch Trials came alive Thursday as the Marshall Theatre Alliance presented Arthur Miller's "The Crucible" at the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.

"'The Crucible' is a very controversial story of how false accusations in witchcraft can lead to undeserved deaths among innocent people in Salem," cast member Chase Likens said.

Likens plays the leading role of John Proctor, a character he describes as an upright, hard working farmer who finds himself in the middle of all of the accusations.

This is far from the Point Pleasant, W.Va. native's first stint in the spotlight, as Likens is best remembered for reaching the Top 24 during American Idol earlier this year.

The presentation is the College of Fine Arts' first of the 2012-2013 season, and the American theater classic carries with it waves of emotion and drama.

"This is a timeless Arthur Miller piece," Likens said, "I think that the stakes of this play will come across so prominently that the audience will be forced to experience the emotions and feel empathy for the characters."

Miller scripted the production in 1952 using the Salem witch trials as an allegory for McCarthyism and contemporary communist "witch hunts" in the United States.

The nearly three-hour performance featured straining emotional outputs by the cast and usage of a unique

multi-tiered stage. Smoke, screaming and shadows were the night's tools of stagecraft.

"The sheer emotional content in this play was something that the cast had to prepare for," Likens said, "But I think an understanding of the period in which these people lived was very important."

James Nowlin, a junior economics major from Ashton, W.Va., had previously read the play before attending, and lauded Thursday's performance.

"It kept with the essence, power and emotion of the original screenplay," Nowlin said, "They all did well. I'm not one for plays, but I thoroughly enjoyed this performance."

Nowlin made a specific point to comment on the performance of Likens, which he called brilliant.

"You could literally see spittle flying with his rage," Nowlin said.

Additional performances of "The Crucible" will be Friday and Saturday 8 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center. Admission is free with a valid student ID.

**Bishop Nash can be contacted at nash24@marshall.edu.**

TOP: Erika Toderic (Betty Parris), left, and James P. Smith (Reverend Hale), right, perform as Marshall Theatre Alliances presents Arthur Miller's "The Crucible" on Thursday at the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.  
LEFT: Chase Likens (John Proctor), right, performs during "The Crucible" on Thursday.

PHOTOS BY MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON



# NEWS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2012 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

## Romney trying to give his image 'extreme makeover,' Obama says

By **CHRISTI PARSONS**  
TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU  
VIA MCT

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — President Barack Obama cast the "new, latest version of Mitt Romney" as a salesman simply softening his image in an effort to close the deal with voters.

After running in a Republican primary in which Romney called himself "severely conservative," Obama said Thursday, "he's trying to convince you that he was severely kidding."

"He's trying to go through an extreme makeover," Obama told a crowd in the basketball stadium at the University of Miami.

As for analyses that estimate Romney's plans to cut taxes would cost close to \$5 trillion, Obama said, the Republican nominee for president "just pretends it doesn't exist."

"What \$5 trillion tax cut?" Obama said, imitating Romney at the first presidential debate. "Pay no attention to the \$5 trillion tax cut ... on my website."

Romney's website doesn't place a cost estimate on the tax policies he espouses, but the nonpartisan Tax Policy Center at the Brookings Institution analyzed the proposals and came up with the \$5 trillion figure.

After suggesting earlier in the campaign that the costs of his plans would be offset by closing loopholes and ending deductions, Romney more recently has simply said he would not support tax cuts that would cost that much.

"The idea is that lower rates but fewer loopholes and the faster economic growth that results can generate a similar amount of tax revenue," the editorial board of The Wall Street Journal said Thursday morning in an editorial supporting Romney's take on things.



**OBAMA**

Citing that editorial, aides to Romney on Thursday accused the president of lying about the \$5 trillion figure.

"Since President Obama can't run on his own record of tax hikes on middle-class Americans or his plan to raise them even more in his second term, he continues to spread false charges against Mitt Romney's plan to lower rates and strengthen the middle class," spokeswoman Andrea Saul wrote in an email.

But Obama argues that Romney's simply stating he won't support \$5 trillion in cuts doesn't make it true — especially as the policies the Tax Policy Center analyzed are still part of the Romney plan.

"What he was selling was not working, because people understood his ideas wouldn't help the middle class," Obama said here. "These days, Mitt Romney is for whatever you're for."

Some in the crowd still hungered for tougher talk from their president.

As Obama shook hands on the rope line at the end of his rally here Thursday afternoon, a young man in the crowd of students held aloft his iPad with letters bold enough for the president read from a few feet away.



TOP: An Afghan girl embraces her artistic abilities. Art is taught to young girls as part of the curriculum at Skateistan. LEFT: Afghans learn the sport of skateboarding in the streets of Kabul, Afghanistan.

## Huntington native teaches Afghans to skateboard

By **JO TROLLER**  
THE PARTHENON

"Skateistan," a documentary, portraying a side of Afghanistan not focusing on car bombings, terrorism and war, but rather a side that showcases the youth culture that is growing, learning and skateboarding on the streets of Kabul.

Last night the audience at the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center watched the documentary with a question and answer session with Huntington native Bryan Ridgeway, global strategic advisor for Skateistan, and Niki Williams, instructor at Skateistan.

"It was really impressive to

actually see some of the things a person from Huntington could do," Lauren Friedrichs, graduate counseling major, said. "We always see the side of Afghanistan on CNN and Fox that only shows the blood shed, but because of a program like this it is a relief to see something positive being done there."

Skateistan is more than just a documentary, it is an actual program focusing on giving the youth of Afghanistan something to do. Skateboarding is one of the few sports that females are allowed to participate in in Afghanistan.

"The first time you see them step on a skateboard you

automatically see their mind start to work," Ridgeway said. "They get the same mentality as a kid who is skateboarding in California and it just shows how close we really are."

However, this skateboarding program developed into a program that would educate the youth of Afghanistan based on what they want to learn.

"We ask the kids what do they want to know, what do they want to learn," Ridgeway said. "Whatever they dream up we will teach. If a student wants to learn how to take a picture we teach them the basics and set a curriculum around that."

The program has enlisted



the help of several professional skateboards including Tony Hawk. The professionals got to meet with students and

See SKATEISTAN | Page 5

## MU students need to check registration status

By **CODY FRANK PERKINS**  
THE PARTHENON

With registration for spring semester quickly approaching, the Bursar's Office is reminding students to resolve any outstanding holds on their accounts as soon as possible.

Holds often relate to overdue books, unpaid parking tickets, unpaid tuition, social obligation issues and the need to submit certain documents.

Freshmen and sophomores also need to meet with their advisers prior to registration for spring semester. Otherwise, a hold will be placed on their account.

"Just making sure you go to your adviser of your college and checking your holds and see what courses

to take makes everything easier," Kerissa Bennett, assistant general manager of first-year housing, said.

Students need to meet with their advisers not only to check on the status of their accounts but to plan their academic schedules. Advisers have been trained in each college to help students with their schedules and to make the registration process less stressful.

Students who buy parking passes by the semester will be able to renew their passes for spring semester at the Bursar's Office in December. Outstanding parking tickets and other fees can also be paid at the Bursar's Office.

**Cody Frank Perkins can be contacted at perkins66@marshall.edu.**

## Death toll at 3, could rise in parking garage collapse

By **JULIE K. BROWN, DIANA MOSKOVITZ, JESSICA DELEON and LUISA YANEZ**

MIAMI — A third man died Thursday morning, a day after a parking garage collapsed on the Doral campus of Miami Dade College.

Samuel Perez was pulled from the rubble around 1 Thursday morning by rescuers who had to amputate his legs to get him out. Perez, 53, died about three hours later in the hospital, according to Miami-Dade police.

Unlike Wednesday's frantic efforts, the rescue effort gave way to recovery mode on Thursday. Authorities are waiting for engineers to determine the

structural safety of the building before workers dig into the rubble looking for victims.

The death toll now stands at three and could go higher as the search continues and at least one worker remains missing.

Police on Thursday identified the other men who died: Carlos Hurtado Demendoza, 48, and Jose Calderon, 60.

The head of the garage contractor said his company is committed to working with local, state and federal authorities to determine what caused the collapse.

"At this time, we are properly focused on the tragic loss of life ... and helping the families

involved," said Bill Byrne, president of Ajax Building Corp.

The section of the garage that fell was the final piece, with a wall to be used by the college as a movie screen or a theatrical backdrop.

Byrne, who appeared distraught at moments at the site Thursday, said that the catastrophe was the worst in his career. He said there was "no warning whatsoever" and that while projects like this one are "fast-paced" on a deadline, he said the work was not rushed.

Wednesday was a day of drama and fear, with a portion of the under-construction garage collapsing flat around noon.

Hearing a rumble, a worried

Rick Rutigliano, an electrical supervisor, ran to the other side of the parking garage to check it out.

By the time he reached the site, a major chunk of the \$22.5 million, five-story building, under construction on the college's West Campus in Doral, already had collapsed.

Students ran screaming. Construction workers, yelling "Oh, my God!" scrambled for safety.

"It fell to the ground like a house of cards," said Victoria Buczynski, who was working Wednesday at Gurkha Cigars across the street from the construction site.

As many as 10 victims went to area hospitals with injuries.

## New jobless claims fall 30,000 from previous week to 339,000

By **RICARDO LOPEZ and DON LEE**  
TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU  
VIA MCT

WASHINGTON — The number of people filing new jobless claims plunged last week to a 4-year low.

Analysts said the report Thursday probably overstates what appears to be a moderately improving job market. It comes just days after officials reported that the unemployment rate fell in September to a post-recession low, which caused some Obama administration critics to claim that political interference skewed the data.

Thursday's report showed that there were 339,000 initial claims for unemployment

benefits in the week that ended Saturday, a steep decline of 30,000 from the previous week.

The data are seasonally adjusted, and the claims numbers can be highly volatile from week to week, especially when there is a holiday or the weather is bad and government offices are closed. Early Thursday, skeptics began raising doubts over the weekly jobless claims report.

Business Insider, an online news blog, published a story saying California did not process all its jobless claims, contributing to the drop in claims last week. The post, which was widely circulated on Twitter and on the Web, cited an unnamed Labor Department source.

Last week former

General Electric chief Jack Welch tweeted that September jobs data were manipulated by the White House.

Welch, who was met with a barrage of criticism after his Twitter post, later defended his position in a column for The Wall Street Journal. In his op-ed piece, he reiterated his claim that it was unlikely that the jobless rate fell to 7.8 percent last month from 8.1 percent in August — the lowest since January 2009, when President Barack Obama was sworn into office.

With the November presidential election less than a month away, charges of political bias in employment data have surfaced.

Some elected officials have raised questions over how the

Labor Department handles reports.

Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, has questioned how the government handles jobs data.

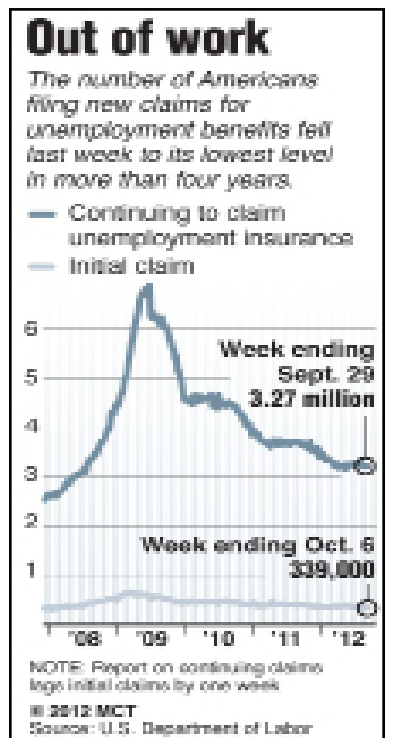
Issa "believes there are legitimate questions about the Department of Labor's method for calculating unemployment" and has "specifically pointed to the frequent revisions" of those numbers by the department after they are released, said his spokesman, Frederick Hill. But Issa has no plans to hold a hearing on the controversy over the latest jobs data, Hill said.

Jobless claims reflect layoffs, which have receded somewhat

in recent months even as there's been little evidence of any big movement in hiring. The last time weekly claims were as low as 339,000 was in February 2008 as the economy was beginning what would be a rapid descent. Initial jobless claims rose to a high of 586,000 near the end of 2008, peaking at 667,000 in March 2009.

Over the last year, initial weekly claims generally have been hovering in the high-300,000 territory.

To smooth out the week-to-week volatility, many analysts look at a four-week moving average of new jobless claims. That figure fell 11,500 to 364,000 for the period ending Oct. 6 — the lowest reading for the measure since May 2008.





EAST DIVISION	C-USA		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
UCF	1	0	3	2
MEMPHIS	1	0	1	4
EAST CAROLINA	2	1	3	3
MARSHALL	1	1	2	4
UAB	0	1	1	4
SOUTHERN MISS	0	1	0	5

# SPORTS

	C-USA		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
TULSA	3	0	5	1
HOUSTON	1	0	2	3
SMU	1	0	2	3
TULANE	0	1	0	5
UTEP	0	2	1	5
RICE	0	3	1	5



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2012 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

## Thundering Herd Madness

By JEREMY JOHNSON  
SPORTS EDITOR

Marshall University men's basketball program is set for Thundering Herd Madness Friday at 8 p.m. in the Cam Henderson Center.

Head Coach Tom Herrion and the Herd team will be introduced to the fans through a variety of events. Gates open at 7 p.m. and player introductions will begin at 8 p.m. followed by a two-ball competition, slam-dunk contest and an inter-squad scrimmage. There will be giveaways and post event autographs.

Robert Goff, a senior center, for the Herd will be participating in the dunk contest.

"It's a secret," Goff said, in an interview with The Parthenon during Marshall Media Day Thursday, about what he has in store for the contest.

The Thundering Herd basketball team went 21-14 last season and played in the National Invitation Tournament.

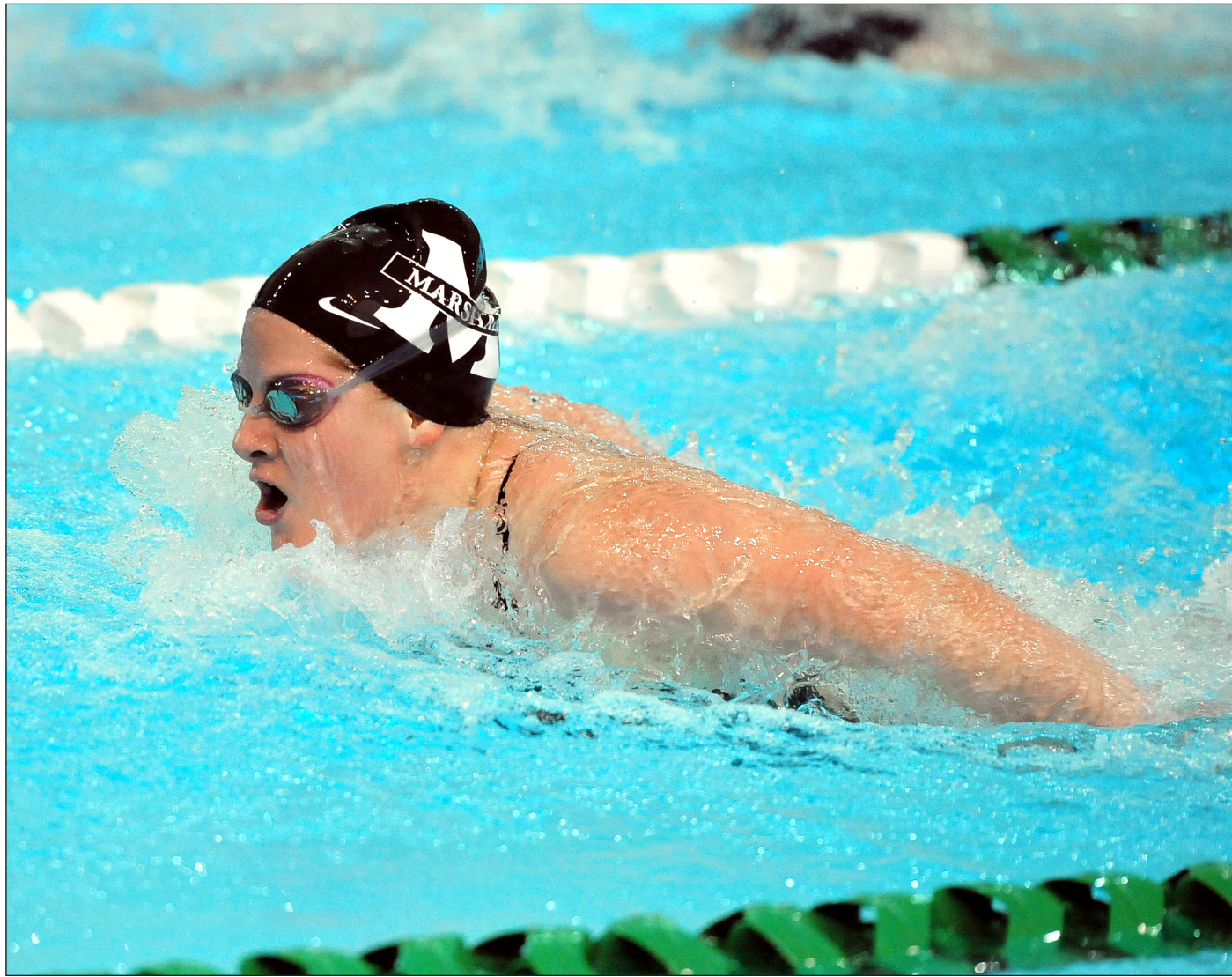
In Herrion's two seasons with the Herd the team has won a minimal of 20 games each season.

Tickets are \$5 and seating is general admission. Students are admitted free with a valid Marshall ID.

Prior to the event the Thundering Herd volleyball team will play the Rice Owls with a first serve at 5:30 p.m. in the Cam Henderson Center. The Herd are ranked No. 3 in the Conference USA while the Owl's boast a No. 2 record.

Volleyball Head coach Mitch Jacobs and the Herd own an undefeated record at home on the season and will look to keep that alive against the Owls.

Jeremy Johnson can be contacted at johnson783@marshall.edu.



COURTESY OF HERDZONE

Marshall University swimmer Sarah Kay swims in the pool at the Frederick A. Fitch Natatorium. Kay is a junior from South Africa who finished last season with 15 individual wins and was a perfect 9-for-9 in the 200 butterfly during the regular season.

## Herd swimming and diving prepare for first meet

By KARA KUCIN  
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University women's swimming and diving team will host the West Virginia State Games this weekend. The meet will be held at the Frederick A. Fitch Natatorium at 4 p.m. on Friday and all day on Saturday. This will be the first meet of the 2012-2013 season.

The Herd has been preparing since August. They have a rigorous day-by-day schedule each week with practices and workouts.

Freshman Megan Clemens from Cross Lanes, W.Va., had a slight adjustment to do coming from high school last year.

"In high school we didn't do as much as we do here. We do a lot of kicking in the water, which is something new for me," Clemens said.

Practice times vary, depending on the event. Clemens, a freestyle swimmer, has

early morning practice.

"My practice is in the morning at six. We have weights with the strength coaches in the morning too," Clemens said. "In the afternoon we have a team practice from three to five."

The head coach, Bill Tramel, is a new addition to the team. Tramel was hired for the 2012-2013 season and has a squad of 28 girls.

Senior Lauren Rone said it took the girls some time to adjust.

"Any major change such as a hiring of a new coach will be hard for such a big team but we have been doing really well," Rone said. "As we've gotten closer to our first meet everyone has been coming together and I can tell that we will have a lot of great experiences together this year."

Rone, a diver for the Herd, broke a record last year. She had the best 1 meter

score in school history (281.55) while competing against Xavier at home. During the C-USA Championships, Rone had the third best performance in platform diving with a 155.35.

Rone wants the team to excel and improve their record this year but said she has a few individual goals she would like to reach during her senior year at Marshall.

"I would like to final place top eight in conference in all three events," Rone said. I did this my junior year and it would be awesome to go out that way as a senior as well. I would also like to qualify for the NCAA tournament."

After this weekend's meet the Herd will compete against Youngstown State on Oct. 19 at 3 p.m. in the Frederick A. Fitch Natatorium.

Kara Kucin can be contacted at kucin@marshall.edu.

## Giants' end Reds' season with defense

By DANIEL BROWN  
SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS (MCT)

CINCINNATI — Angel Pagan's sensational diving catch came at a price. By the time the center fielder got back to the Giants dugout, the celebration that awaited him was perilous.

"Oh, man," the center fielder said. "I got punched. I got pushed. I got so many high fives."

If the moment was painful for Pagan, imagine what it felt like for the Cincinnati Reds, who watched the Giants make several brilliant defensive to cling to a 6-4 victory in Game 5 in the National League Division Championship Series.

## Jayson Werth walk-off in Washington

By MARK HERRMANN  
NEWSDAY (MCT)

WASHINGTON — By their own reckoning, the Nationals have defied expectations all season. "I think what we have done," pitcher Gio Gonzalez said, "is shock the world." So they were not surprised at what they did in Game 4 on Thursday. They gave themselves a chance to shock the world one more time on Friday.

Jayson Werth, who had said after a second straight eight-run drubbing Wednesday, "I like our chances," hit a home run in the bottom of the ninth to give the Nationals a 2-1 win and at least another day of life. They will play a deciding Game 5 against the Cardinals at Nationals Park on Friday night.

# Lauren Rone ready to dive into senior season

By KARLYN TIMKO  
THE PARTHENON

Lauren Rone has made a huge splash for the Marshall University Swimming and Diving team.

A senior from Aurora, Colo., Rone has secured a first-place, all-time Marshall performance record in one-meter diving, and five additional performances that were good enough for the top 20 all-time Marshall lists. Such achievements earned her two appearances at the NCAA Zone Diving Championships, once each of the past two seasons. Her 2010 performance enabled her to become only the second freshman in program history to qualify for the event.

With three years of competitive Division I experience under her belt, the diving standout will be competing her last season under the watchful eye of a new coaching staff.

In spite of a new atmosphere that has surfaced, Rone said she and her teammates have adjusted quickly and are moving in the correct direction.

"It was definitely a change for the better," Rone said. "The girls that are really serious about being here and competing are starting to step it up and realize that this is what we needed as a team to really get to where we

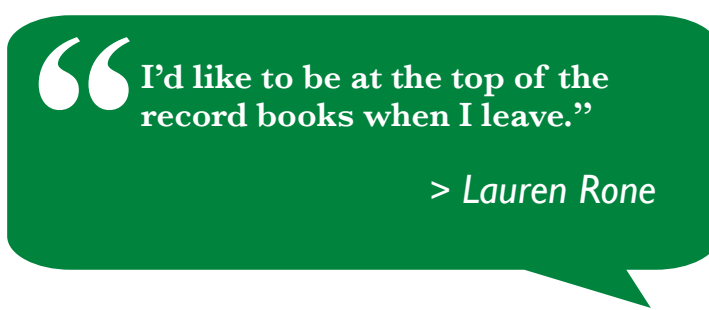
want to be."

Bill Tramel brings more than high expectations to Huntington, accepting the head coaching job at Marshall after devoting two decades of Division I involvement, including coaching the 2011-12 Minnesota Golden Gopher women to a Big Ten Conference title and 11th place NCAA Championships finish.

Rone said that with Tramel joining forces with returning three-year diving coach Jim Zagaria and new assistant coach Sarah Woodbury has brought a new level of experience that the Marshall swimming and diving program has never seen before.

"The coaches are really working on building a disciplined team that's focused on not only weight training and swimming but also working on other things like nutrition and taking care of our bodies, which is something that was never really a big focus in the past," Rone said. "It's obviously been a very new challenge for us, but the girls are really rising to the occasion and proving that we're serious and want to keep improving and be rewarded for all our hard work throughout the season."

Last season, the Herd had its best winning season since



joining Conference USA in 2004, earning seven overall wins and finishing fifth at the Conference tournament. Rone said their most recent approach on training enables them to continue to build off last season's successes.

"We're training a new way we've never trained before, pushing our bodies and our minds further than they have ever been pushed," Rone said. "This is all putting us in a great position to build a good foundation and, hopefully, that will show when we go and compete in the season."

"After you put so much effort into your four years, it's kind of sad knowing that it's all coming to a close." But it's exciting as well to think about beginning a new chapter and being able to look back on all I've learned and done."

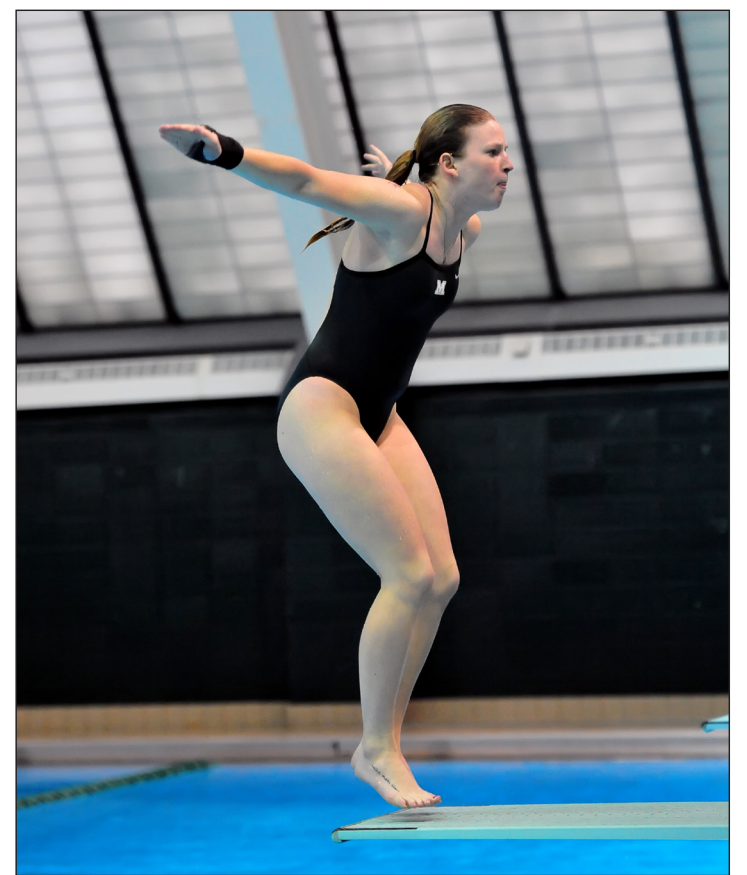
During the 2011 season Rone qualified for the NCAA Zone Diving Championships after setting the new best score in

the one-meter event, receiving a mark of 281.55 against Xavier in October. As the fourth diver in Marshall Diving history to be a part of the zone diving championships, Rone placed 38th by a score of 196.00. With a chance to qualify for NCAA performances for the third time within reach, Rone said she wants to have similar success in her last year representing the Herd.

"I just want to continue to be consistent and work hard and with hopes that it will all pay off like it has been," Rone said. "I'd like to be at the top of the record books when I leave."

The Herd will open its 2012-13 season by hosting the West Virginia Games Oct. 12. With the event rapidly approaching, Rone said the thought of her final first event is a bittersweet feeling.

Karlyn Timko can be contacted at timko@marshall.edu.



COURTESY OF HERDZONE

Marshall University senior Lauren Rone gets set to dive in the pool at the Frederick A. Fitch Natatorium.

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# OPINION

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## THE PARTHENON

### ABOUT US

The Parthenon, Marshall University's student newspaper, is published by students Mondays through Fridays during the regular semesters, and weekly Thursdays during the summer. The editorial staff is responsible for news and editorial content.

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### THE FIRST AMENDMENT | The Constitution of the United States of America

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people to peaceably assemble; and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

### Column

## Understanding the HPV vaccine

By **NORA IBRAHIM**  
U. ILLINOIS VIA UWIRE

Most people remember when their folks tried to give them the "sex talk." It was extremely uncomfortable, awkward and felt unnecessary. Maybe your parents split up the "talk," one covering the hairy emotions associated with sex and the other talking straight up anatomy. Maybe your parents were like mine, who cracked open their physiology textbooks from their schooling years: "And here's the ovum, which undergoes oogenesis. The corona radiata is the layer of cells surrounding ..."

Sex is a tough subject to be open about, and as a result, it is usually hushed, its meaning lost in between the lines. But no matter how hard it is to be serious about sex, it's even harder to hold an open dialogue about sexual health — and specifically, the human papilloma virus, otherwise known as HPV.

Last week, Gardasil, one of two vaccines protecting against many forms of HPV, was given the OK in a study conducted by the Kaiser Permanente Vaccine Study Center. The study followed about 200,000 subjects after having been administered the HPV vaccine and determined it is safe for use. At most, the vaccination could result in a skin infection or same-day fainting — a preferred alternative to cervical cancer.

This is a fantastic step forward for cancer prevention, and hopefully, it will drive down the death rate due to cervical cancer, which is one of the most fatal cancers observed in women. However, the study won't dispel the controversial nature of the vaccine. In the six years since the Food and Drug Administration approved the vaccine, Gardasil has undergone so much scrutiny for a vast number of reasons — but all of them come back to society's discomfort with acknowledging the nature of sex.

I was with my roommates and their friends when we started talking about the vaccination. It seemed that several people we knew had received the first vaccination (out of three). But a few years after Gardasil was approved by the FDA, many began to worry that the newness of the drug meant there was still a possibility of a side effect that was yet to be discovered. It doesn't make much sense because it's a pre-emptive sort of worry. Nonetheless, it effectively stopped girls from receiving the rest of the vaccinations.

While I was in high school, I remember the administrators encouraging the student body to get vaccinated. But the girls I knew made fun of each other if they did end up receiving the vaccination because that must mean "she's a whore." Some parents even looked down on their friends for getting their girls vaccinated because she must have been somehow "tainted."

And, even in the political arena, negative attention surrounded the HPV vaccine when, in 2007, former GOP presidential candidate Rick Perry issued an executive order to vaccinate every schoolgirl. He received a huge backlash from the Republican party and other candidates for having government meddle in an issue so personal as vaccinating one's children.

I doubt those who took part in the backlash, both on the community and political levels, understood that cervical cancer is directly caused by HPV, and that the vaccine would prevent transmission of the virus. I also doubt they understood that the vaccination is most effective if administered prior to being sexually active.

It's this lack of understanding about the vaccine that puts people off from promoting it. There may be a general understanding that Gardasil can lower your chances of developing cervical cancer, but people have still stigmatized the vaccine: Those who receive it must be sexually promiscuous — why else would they need to be vaccinated?

## ONLINE POLLS

Who do you think made the best points in the Vice Presidential Debate?

- Biden
- Ryan

The following are the results from the most recent poll question: Who do you think made the best points in the Presidential Debate in Denver?

- Obama 32% - 26 votes
- Romney 68% - 55 votes

Visit [marshallparthenon.com](http://marshallparthenon.com) to share your opinion.

### Editorial

## Lance Armstrong still under scrutiny for alleged drug use despite negative test results

Well Lance Armstrong is back in the news — or rather unfounded allegations against him are.

LIE STRONG, a play off Armstrong's cancer charity LIVESTRONG, is the new slogan in town, as critics continue their attempts to tarnish the reputation of the man who made Americans care about cycling as a sport.

Hundreds of pages of alleged evidence were released Wednesday, supposedly supporting the claims Armstrong took banned substances to give him an unfair advantage.

There is only one problem with this — the hundreds of pages of evidence pale in comparison to the hundreds of drug tests he has passed.

Hundreds. Not a few. Hundreds.

The blind ignorance shown by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency and international cycling officials would be laughable if they were not destroying the reputation of the man who defied the odds and won the Tour de France a record seven-straight times

after being diagnosed with testicular cancer.

Early in the year Armstrong said he was going to stop fighting the allegations — a move many considered admission of guilt. However, his fans insist it is because he was simply tired of fighting an obvious witch hunt.

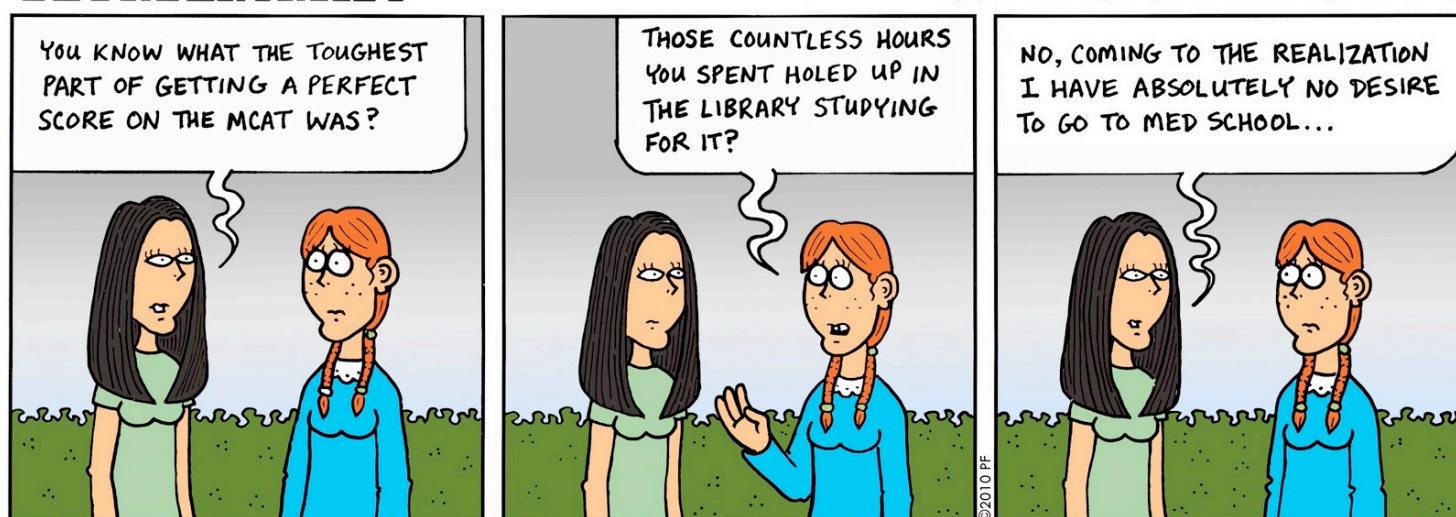
Regardless of whether he did it or not, the world may never know for sure, the simple fact is the only true proof of anything right now, the negative tests, show he did not dope. Which means this whole ordeal is a waste of time and money.

This moronic display of Middle Age style persecution reflects our current election cycle. Hateful attacking, stupid accusations and childish ignorance are always at the forefront while intelligent thought and debate have become a thing of the past.

You happen to be a superhero at a time when the world thrives on tearing them down Lance. Until you fail a test you are innocent, regardless of what those leading the inquisition say.

### BLUNDERGRADS

by phil flickinger ([www.blundergrads.com](http://www.blundergrads.com))



### Column

## Conciliatory companies

By **ALESY ITURREY**  
DARTMOUTH COLLEGE VIA UWIRE

In our pop-tech, consumer-based society, every company, product and service is rated, ranked and expected to be perfect. Just last Friday, Apple's highly anticipated release of the iPhone 5 quickly sparked reviews of the design and software. Of all the critiques, what was most striking was how poorly the Apple Maps feature functioned in the new iOS6 operating system. In response to the widespread discontent and consumer backlash, Apple's CEO Tim Cook posted a letter on Apple's website to Apple customers apologizing for this major malfunction. In response to this very public glimpse of corporate honesty, Apple has received positive press. This media response to Apple following its apology for failing to produce a product that satisfied expectations has demonstrated that it can be to a company's advantage to be honest about its product, even if it has shortcomings, in order to maintain the trust of its customers.

Apple Maps featured directions that were largely incorrect, flattened images of famous structures such as the

Eiffel Tower and bridges that went underwater, among other glaring inaccuracies. The faulty application was not only limited to iPhone 5 users, but also affected Apple products that were updated to the new operating system, iOS6.

Technology has changed our exposure to such mistakes in many ways. Information and communication are widespread, and blunders such as missing products on Amazon's website or unexpected changes like the implementation of Facebook's Timeline feature are more visible than ever before. This drastically changes the relationship between individuals and the masses, as online and technically-savvy businesses must be transparent in order to gain customer trust. Similarly, individuals are now able to openly express grievances with the intention and expectation that the intended audience — Apple, in this case — will know of their critiques. A company may even respond in a big way, such as Apple has, through a public letter on their homepage.

A quick search notes that many of the largest and most well-known tech-based

companies are frequently apologizing for a variety of issues. In addition to those mentioned at Apple, Amazon and Facebook, the Sony Corporation, Research In Motion's BlackBerry Corporation and even Netflix CEO Reed Hastings have all at some point (for some, more than once) apologized for faulty service.

As consumers, we should be pleased that the companies producing goods in our current technologically-advanced and media-regulated age are aware of the incredible loyalty required to ensure the trust of the consumer. Companies producing our products are interested in our satisfaction because it ensures good business. Honesty has become an effective means of managing product shortcomings and is better than previous attempts to mislead an intelligent and capable public.

Not only do these "incredibly high standards" lead major corporations to produce better products and larger profits, but they also are the same driving forces that create some of the most innovative and competitive brands that exist today. When we set these standards,

mistakes will happen. But we will also see the emergence of some really good ideas. Errors should no longer be seen in a negative light — they produce and enforce some of the most unique and practical ideas, expediting the creative process in most cases. In Apple's particular scenario, the Maps debacle could perhaps lead to a partnership between companies to change the way applications function on the iPhone and set the stage for more personalized and customizable smartphones.

Apologizing for a blatant inadequacy will generate respect. In a world in which creativity is a driving force in business and innovation is a proud sponsor of some of the most important cultural developments, there are plenty of opportunities to make mistakes. But in this same world where information is available with a click of a button, those mistakes or faulty claims are never hidden for long. Apple's big-time fluke reminds us of the importance of honesty in our society and that we should demand that individuals and businesses possess integrity in everything they do.

# Report says difficult high school curriculums, advisers help college students succeed

By **BONNIE MILLER RUBIN**  
CHICAGO TRIBUNE (MCT)

CHICAGO — Getting admitted to a top university isn't enough. For many students, finishing the mission and getting a degree requires a variety of initiatives, from a rigorous high school curriculum to more advisers, according to a new report released Thursday by the National School Boards Association.

The nonprofit found that only 57.8 percent attending four-year institutions in the U.S. earned a diploma in less than six years; while just 32.9 percent in two-year schools graduate on time. Students are more likely to drop out during their first year than at any other time. Of freshmen at four-year schools, 21 percent did not continue for a second year. In community colleges, 36 percent of freshmen failed to return.

Researchers also identified interventions to help improve the numbers and found that positive outcomes start long before a student moves into the dorm.

"This really provides a rare glimpse of what schools — especially high schools — can do to influence post-college

success," said Jim Hull, a senior policy analyst for the Center for Public Education, an arm of the National School Boards Association, which oversaw the project.

The findings were applauded by many area educators and confirm what they see in their own students, they said.

"I'm really excited about these findings," said Elizabeth Dozier, principal of Fenger High School in Chicago's Roseland neighborhood, where the school has added counselors and more challenging curriculum. "Many of our kids get a college acceptance letter, but they never make it. This means that, with the steps we're taking now, we're definitely on the right track."

Analyzing data from Department of Education, Hull and other researchers followed more than 9,000 high school sophomores in 2002 through 2006. They zeroed in on three factors for getting a degree:

High-level mathematics: More demanding high school math classes can be one of the largest predictors of success. Students from higher socioeconomic status had

a 10 percent better chance of persisting in a four-year college if they had gone beyond algebra II. The results were even more striking for disadvantaged students: They were 22 percent more likely to continue in college with these classes on their transcripts.

Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate classes: Taking an AP/IB class in high school had a dramatic effect on students' chances of persevering. Low achieving students were 18 percent more likely to finish at a four-year college by exposure to a challenging curriculum — even if they fail the end-of-course exam.

Academic advising: Talking to an academic adviser in college yielded better results for everyone, regardless of demographics. Undergraduates at four-year schools who saw their adviser "often" vs. "never" were 53 percent more likely to reach graduation. The researchers called these statistics "possibly the most surprising finding" of the entire report. They also noted that turning to well-trained adults is a habit cultivated early.

## Skatistan Continued from Page 2

help build a program that educates the youth as well as gives them something to do.

"The students are gaining the basic skills that will get them through life," Williams said. "There is a thirteen year old who just landed a full time career because of the program."

After the demonstration the audience was able to ask questions concerning the program and what the possibilities for this program are.

"We see something positive like this and only wonder what is going to come along to mess it up," Friedrichs said. "With modern day government, politics and military it is surprising how much has been done with something as simple as skateboarding."

Currently the officials of Skateistan are attempting to stay and impact the lives of the youth as long as possible.

"The exit strategy is Skateistan will possibly be taken over," Williams said. "We want to stay there as long as possible because the more days we have the more we can teach them and the more they can learn."

"The more time they can dream the more time we can teach them," Ridgeway said. "If they can dream then they can learn and if they learn they can lead."

The documentary was the official kick-off of the Fall International Film Festival hosted by the Marshall Artists Series.

**Jo Troller can be contacted at troller@marshall.edu.**

# Human rights organization says torture cases rise sharply in Mexico

By **RICHARD FAUSSET**  
LOS ANGELES TIMES (MCT)

MEXICO CITY — A leading human-rights group contends that the Mexican government under outgoing President Felipe Calderon has "effectively turned a blind eye" to a dramatic increase in reported instances of torture and abuse by police and the military in recent years, as those forces have been pressured to come down hard on the powerful drug cartels threatening large chunks of the country.

In a report issued Thursday, Amnesty International noted that Mexico's National Human Rights Commission received 1,669 reports of torture and abuse by police and the military in 2011. That number has grown each year since 2008, when the commission received 564 complaints. Many observers believe that those numbers represent a fraction of the actual abuse cases because many victims are afraid to report them.

The torture of criminal suspects has played a role in the Mexican justice system for decades despite clear federal laws prohibiting the

practice. In a 1984 report, Amnesty found evidence that Mexican police beat suspects, injected carbonated water into their nostrils, used electric shocks and sexually abused them, among other things.

But the issue has become more pressing of late with the growing power of the drug gangs and Calderon's decision, beginning in December 2006, to deploy the military to help restore public order. The armed forces were unprepared for domestic police work as they began to work beside an existing mix of local and federal law enforcement agencies that had a long history of abusing suspects.

Under the Calderon administrations, the torturers have "enjoyed almost total impunity," the report said, and coerced confessions continue to be entered as evidence in court.

Amnesty noted that the government has taken some steps to reduce torture. But the ineffectiveness of those efforts, the group argues, raises "questions about the political will at all levels of government" to eradicate the practice.

## Debate Continued from Page 1

Biden defended the administration's response, saying it relied on intelligence reports that turned out to be false. "We will get to the bottom of it," he said.

Ryan, the fresh-faced congressman who had never debated on the national stage despite his 14 years in the House, betrayed no signs of nervousness about the showdown with Biden, a veteran of 36 years of Senate debates.

Their meeting, televised nationally from Centre College, was moderated by Martha Raddatz of ABC. The candidates sat at a table, fielding domestic and foreign policy questions.

Debates by vice presidential candidates usually have little effect on elections, but

Thursday's took on added significance after Obama's lackluster debate debut on Oct. 3.

Since then, Romney has pulled even with Obama in national polls and closed the gap in several battleground states.

In Florida, Romney opened up a 7 point lead, according to a new Tampa Bay Times/Bay News 9/Miami Herald poll. Obama has a 1 percentage point edge over Romney in a new NBC/Wall Street Journal/Marist poll of likely voters, released Thursday. The margin was the same as before the Obama-Romney debate. In Ohio, Obama leads by 6 points. He had led by 8. And in Virginia, Obama was up 2, but Romney is now ahead by 1.

With just one debate, Biden and Ryan bounced back and forth from domestic to foreign policy.

Biden used a question about

the nation's unemployment rate to criticize taped comments by Romney in which he disparaged 47 percent of Americans as non-taxpaying freeloaders. Biden accused Romney of saying he'd let housing foreclosures hit bottom.

In one of the more personal exchanges, Ryan told how Romney helped a family hit by injuries pay for college, and how he gives more than 30 percent of his income to charity — more than Biden and Ryan combined.

"Mitt Romney is a good man," Ryan said.

Referring to the criticism Romney's received about the 47 percent comment, Ryan said, "He cares about 100 percent of the Americans."

Noting Biden's own tendency for gaffes, Ryan joked that "sometimes the words don't come out of your mouth the right way."



MARK CORNELISON/LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER/MCT

Vice President Joe Biden, left, and Congressman Paul Ryan listen to moderator Martha Raddatz during the Vice Presidential Debate at Centre College in Danville, Kentucky.

## Candidates Continued from Page 1

Several candidates expressed the importance of appealing to young voters, especially Marshall students.

"My office as mayor directly affects the students at Marshall more than any other elected office," Democratic nominee for mayor, Steve Williams said. "I want to have an opportunity to hear what student concerns are and give them a chance to see and hear what I might be able to do in representing them."

In addition to hearing from candidates, those in attendance were also given election information and the opportunity to register to vote.

Members from the League of Women Voters were present at the event to offer pro and con information on ballot issues.

Representatives from the Republican, Democrat, Mountain and Libertarian Parties also sponsored tables with candidate information, party platforms and suggestions for how to get involved in this year's election.

Candidates in the Libertarian and Mountain Party said it is important for people to recognize other party options and make informed voting decisions.

"In the last election, Governor Earl Ray Tomblin was elected with 12 percent of the



TYLER KES | THE PARTHENON

Candidates running for offices in West Virginia met with voters at a Meet the Candidates voter registration event in Marshall University's Shawkey Room on Thursday.

voting public. When you have 76 percent of the registered voter sitting at home on their hands instead of getting out and supporting a candidate, it speaks for itself," West Virginia Mountain Party candidate for Governor Jesse Johnson, said.

With tight races and important elections on the horizon, it is important for the American

public to gather as much information as possible when deciding on a candidate.

This particular event was specifically designed to provide accessibility to candidates and open the public's mind to new opinions and stand points.

"Marshall is the bloodline and livelihood of Huntington. To make sure these voters

know who they are voting for or why they should vote for candidates is invaluable," Sean Hornbuckle, West Virginia House of Delegates candidate for the 16 District said. "It is great that someone could put on an event like this to display just that."

**Katie Wise can be reached at wise37@marshall.edu.**

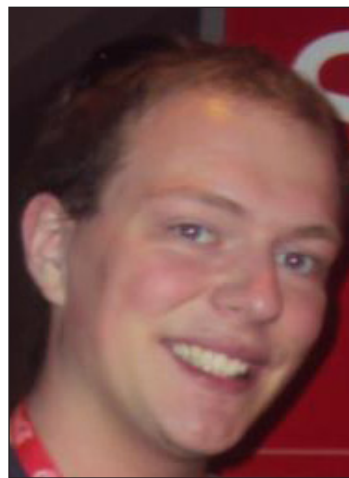
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**Music Review**

## Kelly Clarkson takes time to 'Catch Her Breath' and reflect in new single



By **EVAN FOWLER**  
COLUMNIST

Pop-sensation Kelly Clarkson gears up to release her first compilation album "Greatest Hits - Chapter I" in November

but is providing fans with a song in celebration of all that has been and what is still to come in her life.

Clarkson, who has been a dominant force in the pop music industry for over a decade, has five studio albums and a numerous streak of "Top 10" singles under her belt. Clarkson has been delighting fans one album and single at a time. With "Greatest Hits - Chapter I," fans will have a chance to reflect on all of her musical accomplishments as well as three brand new songs.

The newest single, "Catch My Breath," was co-written by Clarkson, with her musical director Jason Halbert and Eric



Olson. The song, which will be officially released to iTunes Tuesday, follows Clarkson's regular formula to success. This well-known approach

includes a combination of smooth up-tempo composition, lyrics that are easy to follow and a catchy chorus. Add in Clarkson's resilient

Jason Aldean and Kelly Clarkson perform at the 54th Annual Grammy Awards at the Staples Center in Los Angeles on Feb. 12, 2012. Clarkson will release her first compilation album in Nov.

ROBERT GAUTHIER/LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT

vocal range and recognizable radio sound and she has another hit just begging to be released to airwaves.

Clarkson sings about learning and growing through her past ten years and wanting to "C-c-c-c-c-catch my breath..." Clarkson sings about letting go of the negatives that have plagued her and just enjoying the rest of her life by seeing the

beauty in everything around her.

"No one can hold me back, I ain't got time for that, catch my breath," she sings. Just like the song implies, sounds like Clarkson is taking the time out of her hectic schedule to reflect on her life and career in a positive manner. The song is not released, but fans can preview the song via her official website, VEVO and YouTube. With over 20 million albums sold worldwide and dozens of music accolades, I think a chance to "Catch Her Breath" is well deserved for Clarkson.

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## Minnesota man preaches on nationwide tour

By **MARCUS CONSTANTINO**  
THE PARTHENON

Richard J. Shaffer is better known on Marshall's campus as the man who yelled Bible verses at students passing by Buskirk Field this week. Shaffer has made a career out of sharing his beliefs with college students nationwide, but he has faced no shortage of challenges along the way.

Shaffer, 59, of Howard Lake, Minn., graduated with an electrical engineering degree at the University of Minnesota, and worked for the university until he was inspired by traveling preachers on the campus 20 years ago.

"People would laugh at them and say bad things, and they would just keep on going," Shaffer said. "They would have like 30 or 40 people against them, and they would just keep on going, and I really admired that."

Shaffer made the difficult decision to quit his job at the university and follow a traveling preacher around for about six months to "learn the ropes." He then went out on his own.

Shaffer said he faced physical barriers during the first few months as he learned to live with no support system and little income.

"When I first went out, I didn't have money, and I would go hungry and I would go cold," Shaffer said. "I had no place to stay and it really affected me at first."

For the most part, Shaffer lives in a tent as he spends a week preaching on college campuses. As he preached on Buskirk Field, he stored his tent safely in one of the lockers near the Marshall University bookstore in the Memorial Student Center. Sometimes he stays in homeless shelters or is invited to stay with locals. But, for the most part, he lives, works and sleeps in the Great Outdoors.

"I prefer to travel light," Shaffer said. "I am a minimalist. I have very little material possessions, and I don't have a car. I just travel by bus, train, plane, I walk, and sometimes I travel by bicycle."

Over the years, Shaffer has learned to visit college campuses in the colder, northern states during the fall semester. He goes to the South during the winter months for warmer weather.

He has also learned to develop his messages to the situation. Sometimes, he has crowds gather



Richard J. Shaffer, 59, of Howard Lake, Minn., yells Bible verses from Buskirk Field, Thursday, in Huntington. Shaffer said he has traveled to college campuses in 38 states over 20 years, mostly by train and bus, in hopes of spreading Jesus's scripture.

MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON

around him and can preach entire stories, but in many cases, he only has a few moments to speak to passers-by.

"It's frustrating because if they're passing by, they are only going to hear about 15 seconds," Shaffer said. "So I pick scripture that is a short message. A lot of scripture has short messages like that. And I use that unless I get a crowd that stops, and then I can use longer scripture that is more developed."

Shaffer works for his brother, who is an atheist, at a "hobby farm" near the Twin Cities area of Minnesota during the summer. Shaffer's brother recently gave him an iPhone to stay in touch - Shaffer joked that "the Lord prompted him to give me an iPhone, even though he's an atheist."

The money Shaffer makes working for his brother, combined with the minimal amount of money he earns from working at a church during the winter, barely gets him by.

"I don't get much support," Shaffer said. I just get my own support. And that's my life now, and I feel like there's nothing more important than witnessing the Gospel."

Shaffer has traveled to 38 states since he began preaching about 20 years ago. His goal is to eventually make it to all 50 states.

"Sometimes I preach on the beaches, which

can be interesting because (students) are out there partying for spring break," Shaffer laughed. "I don't know how many times I've been offered a beer. My answer now is 'No, I'm on the job, I'm working, I don't drink on the job.' But I have fun with them. They don't get too angry."

Shaffer has also faced many intimidating and dangerous situations. He remembered once, he had a knife pulled on him by a person who disagreed with his preachings.

"(It was) A big, long knife," Shaffer said. "I had nightmares about that for about a week. It's not like the movies... that was the real thing."

Many years ago, Shaffer also faced a punishment straight from the pages of the Bible.

"I was out in a tent in Mormon country in Utah, and these kids started throwing large boulders - not little stones, softball-sized stones - into my tent," Shaffer remembered. "I was scared, man. If one of them would have hit me in the head, it would have killed me."

Shaffer said his goal is to help bring someone to the Lord. He admits his sermons won't single-handedly bring someone to the Lord, but he hopes that at least one bit of scripture will stick with students as they pass by.

"I pray about this, that someone will hear, that their heart will be convicted," Shaffer

said. "(I hope) some person will hear one sentence and it will stick in their hear for two or three years like a seed. I've heard testimony about that: somebody walks by and hears one little sentence that strikes them. I have faith that that has happened."

Shaffer said the most difficult thing about his job is talking when it seems like no one is listening. At many times, students simply pass by with a quick glance and keep walking.

"I'd rather have a heckler than nothing," Shaffer said. "Silence is the most discouraging thing. At least a heckler you know he's listening. This is the Word of God. It's not just a nut speaking, it's the Word of God they're ignoring."

Shaffer admits that many people write him off as crazy. As he yelled from Buskirk Field, a small crowd gathered nearby to listen to his animated preachings, including sophomore biology major Justin Gandee.

"It could be intimidating to a few people. I could see that," said Gandee, of Parkersburg. "He is kind of standing out in the middle of the field and yelling. That's a little scary. I thought he was crazy at first."

Despite what people think about his method of preaching, Shaffer said he will keep on preaching loudly.

"I am not saying my own words, only Jesus' words, but somehow they object to that and I don't understand that," Shaffer said. "Apparently they think yelling is not appropriate, but Jesus said when it's whispered into your ear, proclaim it from the roofs. It's right in the scriptures. It's definitely the way it should be done."

Shaffer said he will be taking the week off next week before he travels to colleges across Tennessee.

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## Marshall University dance company prepares for annual concert performance

By **ERIKA RITTENHOUSE**  
THE PARTHENON

AMUSED Dance Company is in its fourth year and ready to put on its second annual AMUSED concert.

AMUSED, A Marshall University Ensemble of Dance, was started four years ago by five students. The purpose of AMUSED is to build the Marshall University dance program, as well as showcase dancers of all skill level. Dance Workshop 491 is where dancers come together as a class, as well as a company to put together the concert.

Jessica Fox is the professor and choreographer for AMUSED. She received an undergraduate degree in dance from Ohio University and continued her passion for dance

by performing in New York as well as opening a non profit dance company in Washington D.C. She now works closely with AMUSED and is dedicated to the company.

"It is a student ensemble and a celebration of dance at Marshall University," Fox said. "We hope to create an experience that people will enjoy."

The concert performance focus' on an abstract look at life from childhood to today and encompasses collaborative choreography between professors and students.

The company prepares for the concert in an eight-week workshop from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday.

Thursday, the company rehearsed with run-throughs



Members of the AMUSED Dance Company practice for their second annual concert set for Wednesday.

ERIKA RITTENHOUSE | THE PARTHENON

can connect to.

"We want everyone in the audience to be able to connect with the story we tell through dance in some way," Brittany McDonnell, AMUSED president said.

The first half of the concert is a continuous piece choreographed by Jessica Fox, with the second half featuring choreography from students. The student choreography is based on personal experiences and the dances and movements tell a story

about who they are.

"We've all put our own little personal piece into the show," Christopher Collis, AMUSED vice president, said. "It's a lot of personal work and motivation of what we've felt and experienced that we've collided into one piece." "We hope that from meshing all of these stories that people in the audience will be able to pull something they have experienced or something they've seen and that they can connect with us through our dance."

The AMUSED Dance Company concert performance will be on Wednesday, in the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse at 7 p.m.

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