Freshman Record
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on the cover

The largest freshman class in Marshall history, at nearly 2,000 students, gathers around the Memorial Fountain for a historic photo. Photography by Rick Haye.
As the oldest public institution of higher education in West Virginia, Marshall University has a long and distinguished history. Since Marshall was founded in 1837, however, there has been perhaps no greater milestone than the earning of university status.

Fifty years ago this spring, on March 2, 1961, to the joyous cheers of students, faculty, staff and members of the community in the brand new Gullickson Hall, Governor W. W. Barron signed into law the bill granting university status to Marshall College.

It was a tremendous day for West Virginia and the entire Marshall family. I have to believe that Governor Barron, as he put pen to paper, must have envisioned a vast array of possibilities for Marshall University, its potential for growth and the enormous promise our beloved institution held for the great state of West Virginia.

Historical accounts tell us it took great maneuvering and political debate for our institution of higher learning to become a university. The change did not manifest from a simple petition or a common declaration. It was the culmination of a lengthy struggle led by one of my predecessors, President Stewart Smith, along with colleagues, friends of Marshall, legislators and other supporters.

It was indeed a defining moment in the history of Marshall University.

Today, I am proud to say that Marshall University is fulfilling the dreams of those who foresaw the institution’s extraordinary potential and had the courage to pursue it.

Our university boasts record student enrollment, a flourishing research enterprise and the growth of new, high-demand degree programs, like physical therapy, pharmacy and health informatics. The school’s nationally ranked school of medicine and forensic science program, as well as its growing engineering school and the new school of pharmacy, are among the many reasons more students than ever are choosing Marshall University to find their passions and pursue their dreams.

Our progress could not have been achieved without the steadfast support of our state’s legislative and executive leaders – both past and present. They embraced a vision for what Marshall University could be in service to the people of West Virginia and our nation and then placed their trust in us to make that vision manifest. We greatly appreciate their tireless support.

We also are thankful to each of you for your continuing support of Marshall University. We remain committed to honoring the legacy of our namesake and advancing the capacity of our university to serve our state and nation with distinction for generations to come.

We Are... Marshall!

From Huntington, West Virginia, we reach the world.

We proudly introduce Jin Zhang, president of Permco China (center), and key members of his management.
Nearly 1,800 of the 2,000 incoming freshman students pose for a historic photo at the John Marshall statue/circle. The students, dressed in colored shirts which identify their chosen field of study, were taking part in the university’s Week of Welcome activities.

Article by Pat Dickson
Photos by Rick Haye & Marshall University
Meet MU’s Largest Freshman Class Ever

The 2010 freshman class is the largest in the history of the university
new record was set at Marshall University in August. It wasn’t sports-related, and it didn’t involve funds raised for a capital campaign. Instead, it was the announcement that the university’s incoming freshman class was the largest in school history, with approximately 2,000 students.

On Aug. 20, 2011, an estimated 1,800 members of the freshman class were “WOWed” by events put on by university officials. WOW is short for “Week of Welcome,” a program to help freshmen get acclimated to their new home before classes actually begin. Some of the week’s events include the Freshman Academic Convocation at the Cam Henderson Center, picnic lunches on the Memorial Student Center plaza, games and other activities at the Recreation Center and a walking tour of downtown Huntington.

During the Week of Welcome, students in each college wore matching T-shirts that identified them with their academic program, resulting in a multicolored display both in the Henderson Center and on the plaza.

“It is a great day at Marshall University,” said Dr. Gayle Ormiston, Marshall’s provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, as he scanned the big crowd on the plaza. “The purpose of WOW is to have a first opportunity to speak with the students about expectations of them and the university. It went very well and the students were very impressive.”

President Stephen J. Kopp addressed the students about a variety of topics, including attitude, preparation and keys to success. He encouraged them to stay committed to their education and follow their dreams. The students also heard from head football coach Doc Holliday, who invited them to a 6 p.m. practice and encouraged them to support the Thundering Herd by attending games.

As part of the weeklong program, members of Marshall’s Department of Music taught the new students the university’s alma mater and later led the group in a “We Are ... Marshall” cheer. In this issue of the Marshall Magazine, we get to know a few members of this record-breaking freshman class.

Although the Huntington campus is relatively close to his St. Albans home, just a few miles down Interstate...
proximity isn’t the only reason Robert Denzie decided to attend Marshall.

The civil engineering major, who hopes one day to work as a state highway engineer, also appreciates the compact campus, which “lets you get everywhere you need to go easily.”

Denzie, who was awarded a scholarship, says he quickly felt at home on campus because he already knew several of his classmates. Additionally, he grew up in a Marshall family; both of his parents, John and Reba, attended Marshall.

“One of the main reasons I chose to come to Marshall is the size. I don’t feel like I’m lost in a crowd. All my professors know my name, and my advisers are taking care of me to help me keep on schedule so I can graduate in four years.”

-Katie Ferrell
Marshall Freshman

Denzie has been exceptionally busy since last fall; he says engineering classes and their requirements can be demanding.

“It’s a difficult degree, but I like that,” he notes. “I know it will be worth it in the future.”

Denzie will be the first person in his family to pursue an engineering degree.

Classwork doesn’t leave much time for leisure activities, but he makes good use of the recreation center, where he is currently enrolled in a conditioning class.

A talented lacrosse player in high school, he hopes to one day take up the sport again, and he’s looking at joining one of the several engineering groups on campus. But for right now, his studies are first and foremost.

“I try to make time for other activities,” he says, “but right now I’m concentrating on my classes.”

Katie Ferrell likes the coziness of Marshall, where she feels she’s among family and not just a faceless number.

“One of the main reasons I chose to come to Marshall is the size,” the Belle, W.Va., resident says. “I don’t feel like I’m lost in a crowd. All my professors know my name, and my advisers are taking care of me to help me keep on schedule so I can graduate in four years.”

And, too, she says, “I like the sense of pride that Marshall has. In addition, Huntington is close to my home so I can live on campus but go home on weekends and be with my family, which is very important to me. It’s the best of both worlds. Plus the price is great for what you get.”

An advertising major in the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications, this talented artist hopes to one day work as a graphic designer for a creative agency. Right now she’s enjoying the melding of her journalism and art interests.

“Marshall has wonderful journalism and art departments,” she says enthusiastically. “I really enjoy the class discussions; we talk about everything.”

And she has high praise for the Student Resource Center as well. Ferrell says she has received help with everything from navigating online paperwork to snagging the last spot in a class at midnight to finding out whether or not stamps are sold on the Huntington campus. (“They aren’t, by the way,” Ferrell is quick to report.)

“Those people can help you with anything!” she says with admiration.

Ferrell, who has had her artwork displayed in art shows at the Charleston Civic Center and at Riverside High School where she was a student, says she also appreciates all the extracurricular activities that Marshall offers, although right now she’s taking a temporary step down from her whirlwind high school days. At Riverside High, the dynamic Ferrell was student body president, played on the tennis and basketball
teams, played the piano for the school’s show choir and was named homecoming queen. Right now she’s limiting her outside activities to the weekly Wednesday night meetings of the Baptist Campus Ministries. But she loves the new Recreation Center and visits it several times a week.

The daughter of Alice and Larry Ferrell, Katie is the first person in her family to attend Marshall. Her sister Jennifer Medford graduated from West Virginia State College in 2004, and cousins usually attended WVU. But for Katie, the choice was easy — and the right one.

“For right now, I’m going to class,” she says. “Studying is a priority. I’m concentrating on my classes, looking forward to the future.”

Growing up in Huntington, Hailey Bellomy never even considered going to any other college but Marshall. For the gregarious Bellomy, it seemed a perfect fit and now, well into her freshman year, she says it’s everything she imagined it would be.

Bellomy, who is the daughter of Denise and Greg Bellomy, got an early taste of what life would be like at Marshall by taking several Advanced Placement and honors courses during her years at Huntington High School. An honor high school graduate, she was eager to uphold her family’s Marshall tradition: her dad and sister Taylor Carey are graduates, while sister Kelsey currently is a junior.

With her bubbly enthusiasm she can swiftly tick off the things that drew her to Marshall.

“I love being so close to home,” she says. “Since I’m a commuter, I can drive back and forth and still be with my family, which I really value. And I love the class sizes — they have a smaller student/teacher ratio than we had in high school. Marshall has a great staff; the teachers really care about you, and even though you are responsible for yourself, they want to know what is going on with you and will give you help if needed. They’re just great people. I also like the availability of extracurricular activities. There’s a group for everyone on campus. Whatever your interests are, whatever you like to do, there’s a group for you.”

“My impression of the campus was that it was so lively and friendly that I knew I wanted to come here. The smaller campus allows for more one-on-one time with your professors. They really want you to get that degree that will fulfill your dreams.”

—Emmanuel Reyme
Marshall Freshman

She’s joined a few groups so far but hopes to make time in the future to join the debate team. In addition, she says, “I appreciate all the help you can get. The Student Resource Center is a one-stop shop for any
questions you may have. I’ve spent a lot of time there getting help with scheduling and other things. It’s just awesome. And the Drinko Library has become a second home to me. There are rooms where you can be alone with a computer and just study.”

She’s excited about the new Honors College and in fact is the secretary of the college’s student association. This determined and motivated young woman hopes to graduate early so that she can fulfill her dream of going to law school, an idea that took root after she interned at a law firm last year just to see what a law career would be like. She promptly “fell in love with the profession,” she says with pride.

There’s also a bittersweet tie to Marshall for the Bellomy family. Hailey’s grandfather, JimBob Bellomy, a Huntington firefighter, was one of the first to arrive at the scene of the tragic 1970 Marshall University plane crash. She grew up hearing the chilling details of that experience.

But for now, with her characteristic enthusiasm, Bellomy says, “I’m focused on what I want to do, and now it’s a matter of getting there. I’m willing to stick to it and do the hard work that’s involved.”

It was after his move to West Virginia at the beginning of his junior year of high school that Emmanuel Reyme discovered his love of computers. Now he’s enrolled at Marshall planning for a future career in the field of computer science.

Born in Haiti, Reyme was a young boy when his family emigrated to the U.S. and settled in Fairfax, Va. Later they moved to Hedgesville, W.Va., where Reyme graduated from Hedgesville High School.

Learning that he qualified for a Marshall scholarship, he traveled to the Huntington campus for a weekend, which sealed his commitment to attend.
“My impression of the campus was that it was so lively and friendly that I knew I wanted to come here,” he says. “And now that I’ve finished my first semester, I’ve found that the instructors are truly here to help with your studies. The smaller campus allows for more one-on-one time with your professors. They really want you to get that degree that will fulfill your dreams.”

Reyme has tried to fit some extracurricular activities into his busy study schedule. He’s a devoted user of the Recreation Center – “I am there just about every day,” he says – and he plays intramural football and basketball. In addition, he’s been producing music for the past three years, writing, playing and working with genres from rap to techno.

“I started making music before I became involved with computers,” he says. “I guess in a way it also sparked an interest in computers.”

Next year Reyme says he’d like to participate in some additional computer science activities. But for now he is looking ahead to becoming successful in the career path he’s chosen, happy that he made the journey to Marshall.

It is the kind and caring staff at Marshall that impresses Cyrielle Tchoffo the most. A native of Cameroon, Africa, who emigrated to Martinsburg, W.Va., a few years ago with her younger brother, Luc-Henri Omgba, to be with their father, Tchoffo first became aware of Marshall when she was named a West Virginia Outstanding Black Student and came to campus for a special weekend visit.

Her father, who originally chose to live in West Virginia because he felt it would be a safe place for his family, approved of her choice because he felt his daughter would be safe at Marshall as well.

“The Marshall staff has been so helpful,” she says, noting that the staff at the Student Resource Center helped her get adjusted to campus life and gave her advice as she needed it. “There have been a lot of people around me who try to understand who I am and help me. Now I’m beginning to get comfortable with campus life and I can concentrate more on my classes.”

But the outgoing Tchoffo is willing to sample the other side of campus life as well. She’s joined an organization for African students and is a regular visitor to the Center for African American Students’ Programs, a group for which she has high praise, especially the center’s director, Maurice Cooley. Tchoffo has also become active with IMPACT, a Bible study group which meets weekly. And lately she’s been “hanging out at the Newman Center, where they’ve been really welcoming.”

“I spend a lot of time there,” she says. “These are nice people who make me smile and be happy just to be there.”

Tchoffo, a talented dancer, says on her initial campus visit she was most impressed with the Rec Center’s

Marshall President Stephen J. Kopp addressed the freshman students about a variety of topics, including attitude, preparation and keys to success. He encouraged them to stay committed to their education and follow their dreams. The students also heard from head football coach Doc Holliday, who encouraged them to support the Thundering Herd by attending games.
dance rooms, which “made me dream more about coming here.” Now she works vigorous dance routines into her schedule every chance she gets. But her study schedule always comes first. Currently she’s a student in University College, enrolled in pre-med courses with the hopes of one day gaining admission to the Marshall School of Medicine.

It is the many individuals who have gone out of their way to come to her aid that have most impressed Tchoffo. She remembers the staff member in financial aid, who upon learning that she was having a temporary glitch in her banking arrangements and concerned that she might not have funds for lunch that day, gave her money from his own pocket. And after Thanksgiving break, when she returned to Huntington by bus near midnight with no way to get to her dorm, she called her resident director Britt Frye, who arranged for someone to pick her up.

“There are caring people who make you feel like you’re not just a number, but a person with issues.”

-Cyrielle Tchoffo
Marshall Freshman
As Marshall celebrates the 50th anniversary of attaining university status, five graduates recall how the event affected their lives at the time.

Once upon a time, the brimming university that is now home to some 14,000 students was simply known as Marshall Academy and later Marshall College. Back then things were much simpler; Marshall’s enrollment never grew beyond a few thousand students. But all of that changed on March 1, 1961, when the West Virginia Legislature approved a measure that gave Marshall university status. That was big news for Huntington and Marshall alumni throughout the country. The Parthenon, the student newspaper, ran a huge front-page headline that read “Marshall U.” That famous “U” remains the largest-sized font in the newspaper’s history.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of that historic day, and Marshall plans to do some celebrating to mark the occasion. On March 2, designated “Marshall Day” at the State Capitol, a special tribute was displayed that featured the university’s highway historical marker and an exhibit of photos and documents from the university archives. In addition, a commemorative issue of The Parthenon was printed.

At the time of the historic name change, then-Marshall president Stewart H. Smith told The Herald-Dispatch, “Attaining university status is one of the great milestones in the long history of Marshall. It is indeed a red-letter day in the life of the institution named to honor one of our greatest Chief Justices, John Marshall. We shall not strive to be a ‘big’ institution but rather we shall direct our energies toward building a university with a great intellectual challenge.”

Article by Pat Dickson
Photos by Rick Haye and Marshall University
Students mark the 50th anniversary of Marshall attaining university status by tying a green and white ribbon around the historic marker located outside of Smith Hall and Old Main.
Barry Cohen certainly remembers the excitement and celebrations taking place on campus 50 years ago, but for him the elation was tempered by a very real problem. As editor of the 1960-61 Chief Justice, he knew the yearbook was nearing completion that March day, especially the cover, which was already in production bearing the name, “Marshall College.”

“The name change was wonderful, but it really threw a monkey wrench into the yearbook’s production because it came too late to allow us to get the cover changed. We desperately tried to get it changed to reflect ‘Marshall University’ but we couldn’t because it would have been prohibitively expensive at that late date and at that stage of the production,” he explains. “So that particular yearbook reads ‘Marshall College’ on the outside, but inside the copy reads ‘Marshall University,’ and we had a whole section about the change to university status. I guess you could call that edition a collector’s item.”

And although Cohen and his brother Kenneth, who graduated three years after him, have been gone from the campus for many years, they’re still giving back. The brothers established an emergency loan fund for Marshall students, named for their father, R.E. Cohen, which gives loans to students to handle sudden and urgent needs very quickly. The fund works on the honor system, Cohen says, with students paying it back when they can.

Graduating in 1963 with a degree in art education and social studies in what was then known as the teacher’s college, Cohen’s completion of the ROTC program and rising tensions in Vietnam led to his service in the military. Following his discharge, Cohen became the editor of the employee newsletter for Lazarus Department Store in Columbus, Ohio, and later spent several years as a representative in the pharmaceutical industry before his retirement to Findlay, Ohio, in 2006.

A native of Wheeling, Cohen was the first in his family to go to college, recruited to Marshall by friend and renowned basketball coach Jule Rivlen. Part of the reason he chose Marshall was its affordability, Cohen recalls.

“At the end of my freshman year, my father calculated all my costs – tuition, books, room and board, everything – and it came to just over $920,” Cohen says. “Such a great bargain for a great education.”

Larry Jarrett has traveled all over the world, but he has always remained a part of the many sides of Marshall.

Student-produced newspaper The Parthenon published a cover story reflecting the students’ excitement that Marshall College would now — and forever — be called Marshall University.

From his days as a football player - he was a guard for the Thundering Herd - to alumnus and then, after a distinguished career in foreign service, to faculty member and department chair, the road always seemed to lead inexorably back to Huntington.

He was a member of the Class of ’61, the first to add “university” to their résumés, and graduated with a degree in geography. After completing a master’s degree in geography from Marshall he would spend the next 25 years in foreign service with the U.S. Department of State. At the time of his early retirement in 1991, Jarrett was assigned to the United Nations headquarters in New York City and had no thought of returning to work until a meeting with then-Marshall president J. Wade Gilley changed all that. Gilley persuaded him to take a temporary position heading up the black students organization and teaching geography part time. By the following year he was a full-time faculty member, and he served as chair of the Geography Department for 10 years before his retirement in May 2010.

During his years in the foreign service, Jarrett served in Stockholm, Sweden; Brussels, Belgium; and in several African countries. Jarrett says his travels enriched his work as a professor because many of his students could relate to the experiences he had while living in those countries.
“I was able to give them a picture of what life was really like there,” he says.

And about that long-ago day when excitement buzzed around the campus as the name change became official, he recalls that “it was an exciting time.”

“I was busy with my classes and my football responsibilities,” he says, “and even though we were all young we realized that it would be a great thing to say that we graduated from a university rather than a college.”

And today, looking back on his many accomplishments from his retirement home in Wilmington, N.C., Jarrett can say enthusiastically, “It’s been a real ride. I’ve enjoyed every minute of it!”

It was The Parthenon’s large front-page photo of jubilant students celebrating Marshall’s transformation from a college to a university that L. D. Egnor, Class of ’61, remembers best.

“I still have a copy of that newspaper somewhere,” says the retired circuit court judge. “Everyone was caught up in the excitement that day. That was a great picture, a happy, bubbly photo which reflected the reaction.”

And, he points out, the change to university status came about because of substantial support not just from Marshall, but from the community as well. “There were people in the community who worked very hard to make this come about,” he says.

Long active in student government, Egnor, a political science major, was vice president of the Student Government Association when the change occurred. After graduation, the Huntington native went on to earn a law degree from West Virginia University. After serving a three-year stint in the Air Force as a judge advocate, he returned to his hometown, where he opened a law practice and later became a prosecuting attorney. He was named a West Virginia circuit court judge for Cabell County by then Gov. Jay Rockefeller in 1980, retiring in 1997. Today he continues to live in Huntington.

Egnor’s ties to Marshall are strong. His late wife, Ann Marshall, was a graduate as was his mother, Maxie, a Cabell County science teacher. Today his son Clark is the director of International Programs at Marshall while another son, Brad, lives and works in New York City.

“I was very fortunate to have been at Marshall at that time,” he says. “Marshall had an outstanding educational process at a low cost. It was affordable yet such high quality.”

And summing up his campus experience, he says simply, “Those were great days!”

Suzanne Brooks remembers that spring of 1961 as being a whirlwind of momentous events in her life. In March, there was the much-anticipated change to university status for her soon-to-be alma mater. She was married in April, and in May she graduated from Marshall.

Today the Huntington native lives with her husband David in Richmond, Ind., looking forward to celebrating both her 50th wedding anniversary and the 50th anniversary of her Marshall graduation.

She vividly remembers the excitement on campus the day the university status was announced. There was the feeling, she says, that at long last Marshall was emerging from the shadow of West Virginia University, the only other university in the state at the time.

“I remember that day very well. It was a very big thing for us,” she says. “It gave prominence to Marshall, and it made it possible for a broader variety of classes to be offered, which attracted more students.”

Growing up in Huntington, within walking distance of Fairfield Stadium, Brooks was eager to enroll at Marshall after spending a year attending a private girls’ school in Virginia. She graduated with a degree in business/accounting, then she headed off with her husband on a career odyssey that would take them to several midwestern states before their retirement in Richmond. As the nurturing mother of four, grandmother of nine and great-grandmother of two, she has had a busy, fulfilling life, she says.

Even a serious health scare has not slowed her down. In 2007, Brooks was diagnosed with bilo ductal cancer, a very rare cancer. But after undergoing extensive treatment, including a liver transplant, these days she reports she’s doing well and is looking forward to the five-year anniversary of her surgery, when she can be declared cancer-free. To celebrate their wedding anniversary, the Brookses are thinking about flying to Las Vegas to catch one of their favorite performers, Céline Dion.

(Continued on page 43)
Giving Back

Marshall University’s School of Medicine and the community of Chapmanville, W.Va., are working together to expand health care services and career opportunities in rural West Virginia.

The primary mission of a university is to educate its students, but in achieving that mission, universities also serve their communities. Thanks to Marshall University’s partnership with the community of Chapmanville, W.Va., to build a new clinic and teaching facility there, the people of this small town in rural Logan County are seeing firsthand how Marshall’s positive impact extends far beyond the boundaries of its Huntington campus.

In April 2010, ground was broken for construction of the Rural Health & Clinical Education Center in Chapmanville. The center will serve the dual mission of providing a place for students and residents at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine to receive clinical training and providing health care to a community in need of medical services. Construction of the facility was funded by a federal grant to assist communities designated by the federal government as medically underserved, meaning they have too few primary care providers, high infant mortality rates and a large elderly population. The building is being constructed in stages, with the first floor scheduled to open this spring. It will house examination and teaching rooms and X-ray and lab facilities. A second floor of the building, to be constructed later, will provide procedural rooms for specialty clinics.

Jennifer Plymale, assistant dean and director of the Center for Rural Health at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, said that after securing the grant, her staff sought feedback from the people of Chapmanville on how the project could best serve them.

“It’s the community that really makes these projects work,” she said. “The building is a wonderful, beautiful tool, but unless you have a program to put in the building that takes care of the people in the community, a building is just a building.”

In response to the feedback received from Chapmanville residents, the Center for Rural Health assisted community leaders in forming the nonprofit Coalfield Health Center, a medical clinic which opened in a temporary space in Chapmanville in July 2009. The Coalfield Health Center will be permanently located in the Rural Health & Clinical Education Center as soon as construction is completed. The center presently employs a part-time physician, a full-time family nurse practitioner, an RN and an LPN. The staff has seen hundreds of patients in the short time since the center
Ground was broken for the new Rural Health & Clinical Education Center in Chapmanville in April 2010. Now near completion, the facility is expected to open later this year.

The Rural Health & Clinical Education Center will allow students and residents of the Marshall School of Medicine to provide quality health care to a community in need.
opened. Moreover, the staff strives to be responsive to the needs of its community by offering health education and specific services for health problems common to the area’s population, like diabetes management. Plymale said eventually the clinic will offer visits from specialists and even basic dental screenings.

Prior to the opening of the Coalfield Health Center, residents of Chapmanville often had to drive to Huntington, Charleston or Logan to visit a doctor or have basic lab work done. Amber Kidd, the center’s family nurse practitioner, said the community’s response to the facility has been positive.

“Everyone here is very excited,” Kidd said. “They talk about the need for something like this and about how long we have needed something like this. This facility will bring the quality, affordable health care to our community that we have lacked for a long time.”

Kidd, a Chapmanville native, wanted to work at the Coalfield Health Center to be close to her home. Plymale said she believes other students, doctors and health care providers who spend time working and learning at the clinic will choose to practice permanently in rural communities, helping to alleviate the shortage of medical care that many rural parts of West Virginia experience.

“There are a lot of physicians who are interested in living in a rural area when they come here, and we get a lot of students who are interested in primary care or rural care,” she said. “But for others, they need to spend time there to develop the interest. If they spend enough time in the area, if we give them this opportunity to work at the clinic, it increases the chance of their staying in the area.”

Even in its temporary space, the Coalfield Health Center is already providing clinical education to future health care providers. Nursing students from the local community college visit the clinic as part of their training, and a family nurse practitioner student shadows Kidd as she works. Plymale said that, in addition to helping to educate future health care providers, the clinic’s location in an area that has one of the lowest rates of college enrollment in the state may encourage young people in the community to attend Marshall or another college.

“These kids can see people in their community who are now doctors, who are now nurses, who are successful,” she said. “The center can be part of Marshall’s programs which provide a pipeline to higher education to students in that region.”

Plymale said the project would not have been possible without the assistance of many people, including the late Sen. Robert C. Byrd, who helped secure the grant, Sen. Joe Manchin, Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin and the members of the Chapmanville community who donate their time to serve on the board of the Coalfield Health Center. She said the center is especially appreciative of the support it has received from the Logan Healthcare Foundation, which donated the land on which the center was constructed. In what was truly a team effort, involving people from Logan County to Huntington, from Charleston to Washington, D.C., the people of Chapmanville now have a new tool to provide the health and educational resources they need.

Molly McClennen is a freelance writer living in Huntington.
MARSHALL

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It was a clear, chilly October night last fall and you could hear the cacophony rising up over Marshall Stadium. Not the rowdy “We are...Marshall” chants that usually emanate from the stands – this was more like a dull drone. And the cicada-like sounds weren’t coming from the football stadium, either; they were originating from Sam Hood Field. More than 1,000 soccer fans were there, watching Marshall play Kentucky, and they were making noise from the horn section.

“When we played UK, it was great,” junior defender Jordan Hilgefort said. “They gave away vuvuzelas, those loud horns that made all that noise at the World Cup. It fires you up; it’s our 12th man. It gives us a home-field advantage.”

“We’re drawing great crowds and it’s exciting,” Coach Bob Gray said. “When we put five, six or seven hundred people in the stadium, it’s an atmosphere.”

Drawing crowds to Marshall soccer games is a relatively new development in the program, which was born in 1979. The team played its games then at a somewhat dilapidated and mostly empty Fairfield Stadium. Marshall’s first three games that year were forgettable losses, to the tune of a combined score of 22-0 in front of crowds consisting mostly of friends and family.

Article by Keith Morehouse
Photos Courtesy of Marshall University
More than 1,000 fans came out to watch Marshall take on Kentucky last October at Sam Hood Field. The game, which featured a loud crowd complete with vuvuzela horns, was proof of how far the program has come both in terms of fan support and level of competition.
Jack DeFazio was Marshall’s soccer coach when the program recorded its first winning season in 1982. To say that the program was playing shorthanded back then, in facilities and funding, would be an understatement.

“It was an exciting, mind-boggling time,” DeFazio recalled. “I was just a part-time head coach. I taught classes full time, and it made recruiting a nightmare. But I was 30 years old and coaching a Division I program.”

DeFazio’s years produced four Marshall Hall of Famers in Andy Zulauf, Scott Jackson, Mark Taylor and Brad Puryear, and he ended his career as Marshall’s winningest soccer coach. But if the Herd was going to take its program to the next level, it needed a place to call home.

It was 1996 and former Herd soccer coach and Huntington businessman Sam Hood was making a pitch – to build a new field for Marshall’s program. Hood convinced Lee Moon, athletic director at that time, to give up a prized piece of real estate just to the east of Edwards Stadium. It was used as a tailgate lot for RVs during football season, and if you know anything about football fans, you know they don’t like to give up their tailgating spots.

“I remember my first game [in 1995],” Gray said. “It was in the football stadium and there were maybe 100 people in the stands, and I thought, ‘We’ve got a challenge here.’ But thanks to Sam Hood and others who wanted to see the sport grow, Moon said, ‘We’re going to give you the space, but you’re going to have to build it.’ He took a lot of flak because it was a tailgate lot.

It was like the old adage in Field of Dreams, ‘If you build it, they will come,’ and it’s proved to be true.”

It helps to have a coach who knows how to win. Gray has surpassed 400 wins in 34 years of college coaching. Only three active coaches have more wins. He’s twice been named the Conference USA Coach of the Year. Gray matters at Marshall, and the players know it.

“When people think of Marshall, they think of football,” Hilgefort said. “But now we’ve got a lot of people coming out to watch us. Bob’s done a good job.”

All this has been done as Marshall switched conferences from the Mid-American Conference to Conference USA, a significant upgrade in competition.

“South Carolina and Kentucky are affiliate members,” Gray said. “That’s SEC money. We bang heads with them every year, along with SMU and Tulsa. At one time last year, there were five teams in C-USA ranked in the Top 20.”

Marshall is recording quality wins on the field, too. The Herd beat South Carolina 4-1 last year, and the Gamecocks went on to the Sweet 16 in the NCAA tournament. Marshall also beat SMU two years in a row, and the Mustangs are a perennial power in Conference USA.

“We feel like now when we step on the field, if we’re on top of our game, we can beat anybody,” Gray said.

Junior defender Jordan Hilgefort had a break-out season in 2010, scoring the game-winning goal against Wright State and the Herd’s only goal against East Tennessee State.

Travis Brent, defender from Virginia Beach, Va., finished the 2010 season with two goals and one assist and was a member of the Conference USA All-Freshman Team.
“It’s reflected in our recruiting. We’re starting to get better kids.”

One of those kids is goalie Daniel Withrow, the reigning C-USA Defensive Player of the Year. Gray said he has got a chance to be one of the best ever at Marshall, right up there with Taly Goode, who played professionally after his career at Marshall. With just three seniors leaving the team, Gray and his players hope for another impressive season for the soccer program in 2011. And maybe, just maybe, Sam Hood Field could be scheduled for more renovation.

“I envision one day they’ll have to rebuild the stadium,” Hilgefort said, “because there won’t be enough seats.”

Even without the vuvuzelas, Marshall is generating plenty of its own noise on the college soccer scene.

Keith Morehouse is the sports director for WSAZ NewsChannel 3 in Huntington, W.Va.
Exploring the UNKNOWN

With her first microbiology course, Dr. Joan Wilson’s career path was set. Now she is a senior scientist at the Marshall Institute for Interdisciplinary Research.

In the science-fiction novel and hit movie *Jurassic Park*, make-believe scientists manage to clone giant, menacing dinosaurs.

“We’re not hiding a cloned Tyrannosaurus Rex in our building,” says Dr. Joan Wilson. Nevertheless, she describes her job as “like coming to work in a Jurassic Park every day.”

“I’m working in a brand-new field with lots of exciting surprises all the time,” she says. “That’s my Jurassic Park. I work in a field that, 10 or 20 years ago, most scientists hadn’t seen, hadn’t even glimpsed.”

An expert in molecular biology, Wilson is a senior scientist and group leader at the Marshall Institute for Interdisciplinary Research (MIIR), a key vehicle in the university’s efforts to produce patent-worthy scientific breakthroughs and spawn new high-tech businesses. Interviewed in her office at the Robert C. Byrd Biotechnology Science Center, Wilson explains a bit about her work.

**Article by James E. Casto**

**Photos by Rick Haye & Rick Lee**
“We have found that the protein coding genes in the human genome comprise only two percent of it,” she says. “There’s a lot of interest in studying the remaining 98 percent. The molecules I work in are one of the components of this remaining mysterious part of our genomes. I study a class of molecules called the noncoding RNAs. They’re sometimes called the ‘dark matter’ of the genome. We didn’t even know they existed until recently, but we have since found there are thousands of these small noncoding RNAs, which I refer to as microRNAs. They have been shown to regulate every known cellular pathway we have looked at so far. They represent potential new markers and potential new therapeutics for treatment of a number of diseases and developmental disorders.”

Wilson was the second scientist to join MIIR since it was created with funding from the state’s “Bucks for Brains” research trust fund. The first was Dr. Eric Kmiec, director and lead research scientist of MIIR. It was Kmiec who recruited Wilson.

“She’s exactly the kind of person I want to attract to the organization,” he says, “someone with both an academic and biotechnology corporate background, who has taken basic discoveries and made them successful in the marketplace.”

Wilson came to Marshall in 2009 from System Biosciences, a California company, where she managed a fast-growing product portfolio that contributed 40 percent of the company’s sales revenue. Prior to that, she was a senior applications scientist and product manager with Panomics (now Affymetrix) and a research fellow at the Harvard Institute of Proteomics.

Growing up on a farm in Virginia, Wilson originally thought she wanted to be a veterinarian – until, that is, she found herself pressed into service to help a vet stitch up one of the family’s injured horses.

“I had to walk away and sit down, green and totally pale,” she recalls. “I can’t do this,’ I realized. But I loved science so much there was no question that I was going to major in biology. That’s what I did at the College of William and Mary, and the first time I took a microbiology course, my career path was set. I was so excited by DNA and the molecules that control genes, I was absolutely determined to be a research scientist, absolutely determined to be a molecular biologist.”

She went on to earn a doctorate in biological sciences at Stanford University, following that with post-doctoral work at Stanford and Harvard.

In addition to her own research, Wilson is collaborating with the Marshall College of Science, which recently
was awarded a National Science Foundation grant that included funds to establish a genomics research program. The grant enabled Marshall to purchase West Virginia’s first next-generation DNA sequencing machine.

“With this revolutionary technology, we can now determine the exact sequence of every single gene in an organism’s genome,” explains Wilson.

The sequencer’s first task was to solve a long-standing research question for Dr. Wendy Trzyna, an associate professor in Marshall’s Biology Department, who works on Acanthamoeba, a free-living, single cell microbe. Trzyna has identified one strain in particular that infects humans. After more than a decade of research, however, it remains unclear why this strain in particular is pathogenic. She believes that the secret may lie in the organism’s genome.

“After only our very first sequencing,” says Wilson, “we now have in hand complete genome sequences for the infectious strain as well as two closely related but non-infectious ones.”

The sequencer’s next challenge, she says, will be – in a single-run, “shotgun” approach – to characterize the genomes of all of the organisms in multiple local water...

“...Dr. Wilson joined the Marshall Institute for Interdisciplinary Research in 2009. An expert in gene regulation, Wilson’s research at MIIR may lead to the discovery of new drugs and treatments for a variety of diseases, including breast cancer and AIDS.

She’s exactly the kind of person I want to attract to the organization, someone with both an academic and biotechnology corporate background, who has taken basic discoveries and made them successful in the marketplace.”

-Dr. Eric Kmiec
MIIR Director
samples, taken from the Ohio River or area streams. The goal, Wilson says, is “to produce new insights into the effect of environmental conditions on biodiversity.”

If she’s not at work in her campus lab, you’re likely to find Wilson perched on her bicycle. She often pedals from her South Side home to Beech Fork State Park and back.

Her passion for cycling prompted her at one point to put her scientific career on hold and devote herself to bike racing. As a member of the U.S. National Cycling Team from 2000 to 2003, Wilson competed nationally and internationally, including such prestigious events as the Tour de France and Giro d’Italia.

She says she thought long and hard before undertaking her cycling venture.

“It was enormously disruptive to my career,” she says, “but I know that I was at a point in my life that if I didn’t do it then, I would never have that opportunity again.”

Catching up on what had happened in her field when she returned to it was difficult, she says, “but it was also fun.”

“I left at a time when there were things we didn’t understand very well. When I came back there was a whole new framework and I was able to jump right in. What followed was a period of exponential growth. So the timing worked out really well.”

“These days I find myself cycling less and running more,” she says. “I love running in the hills here.”

Wilson says she also enjoys taking her dog, a Rhodesian Ridgeback named Kariba, to Ritter Park every day, and she describes herself as a “voracious” reader.

“Obviously, I have to read a great deal to keep up with the literature in my field,” she says. “But at night, when I’m ready for bed, I have to read something else – a novel or maybe a biography – for a while. Otherwise I would be doing science in my head all night and would never get any sleep.”

Her love of reading has made the Cabell County Public Library one of her favorite places. “I truly love it,” she says.

Some people consider *Jurassic Park* a cautionary tale on unconsidered biological tinkering. As might be expected, Wilson has little patience with such fears.

“You can’t fear the unknown,” she says. “When you ask questions about the unknown, you’re not sure what the answers are going to be. You don’t know the answers, and that’s why we do it. When you explore the unknown, you have to accept that some of the answers you find are going to take you places you never anticipated. That’s one of the wonderful things about discovery research.”

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**James Casto** is associate director for public information at the Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing (RCBI).
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Dr. Marty Laubach (top), Dr. Jody Perry (bottom left) and Dr. Monica Brooks (bottom right) are among a growing group of faculty seeking to integrate technology into the classroom. The introduction of clicker technology in class, the use of Wimba software to teach courses and the integration of a wide variety of iPad applications allow faculty and students to take advantage of the growing technology at their fingertips.
Today’s college students have, for the most part, grown up with technology. They expect information to be available at their fingertips, and they learn in ways their parents never imagined. Now, when students arrive on Marshall’s campus with their mobile devices – laptops, iPads, smartphones – the university is ready for them. Senior Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer Jan Fox said she knows today’s students learn interactively, and engaging them through technology rather than through the traditional lecture-and-blackboard method is critical.

“It’s a matter of making sure they can get the course content by whatever device they prefer and whenever they need it, whether that’s in the classroom or from home at 2 a.m.,” Fox said. “This is not just technology; this is supporting the institutional vision. Our role in higher education is to enhance their knowledge set, to teach them to think critically, question everything, and to use massive information to get there.”

Fortunately, Marshall University has long led this technological revolution. According to Fox, 80 percent of Marshall’s Huntington campus has been wireless for five or six years. The university has been creating a solid infrastructure to sustain a wide variety of mobile devices for about 15 years, longer than many larger schools both in and out of the state. As a result, today’s students are seeing real innovations.

It starts even before freshmen hit campus. Director of Recruitment Beth Wolfe uses Facebook, the social networking website, to engage prospective Marshall students before they enroll. Beginning two years ago, her staff created the “Class of 2014” Facebook group, inviting recently admitted students to join. When the incoming freshmen joined the group, they had the ability to post questions for the recruitment staff and Student Resource Center staff to answer, learn about campus activities and organizations and begin to make friends online.
“When they arrived, they felt like they had people here that they knew and were their friends,” Wolfe said, adding that a new group is created every year for each incoming class.

In many classes, students use “clickers” – a classroom response system – to record attendance and to take tests. Jamie Christian’s finance professor gave a quiz at the beginning of each class to gauge whether or not his students were grasping the concepts he had covered.

With just the click of a button, students transmitted their answers, and their responses appeared on a screen with the correct answer highlighted. Christian said the clicker system provided a new way for students to interact in class.

“We were able to discuss among ourselves what we thought was the best answer,” she said. “It promoted a sense of community that is sometimes missing in traditional classes.”

Nowadays, not all classes take place in the buildings on campus. Through the use of Blackboard – a content delivery system that can pre-record and store a video presentation – students can log on and view an entire class lecture at any time from anywhere. Absent students, as well as those who feel they might have missed something, can review class content later in the semester. For students who work, or those with a heavy class load and busy schedule, this technology offers the flexibility to “catch up” from missed classes.

A recent add-on feature to Blackboard called Wimba allows even greater interactivity via video and sharing. During real-time class sessions transmitted through Wimba, students can ask their instructors questions...
and listen to comments from the other students who are logged in.

“The faculty member can be anywhere in the world while his or her class is in the classroom,” said Jody Perry, director of Information Resources and IT Services. “We have had at least one faculty member teaching from somewhere in Europe at a café. Similarly, a professor can be in an empty classroom, while the students are participating in class from their own preferred location.”

Nowadays, not all classes take place in the buildings on campus. Through the use of Blackboard - a content delivery system that can pre-record and store a video presentation - students can log on and view an entire class lecture at any time from anywhere.

The newest technology making its way onto campus is the Apple iPad. A prime example of its use is within the geographical and archeological sciences. Imagine being able to see via Google Earth the archeology site students are about to visit. Then, imagine actually being at the site, where instant access to images of artifacts allows the students to analyze them in real time, not weeks later in the lab. And best of all, information collected via iPad technology can be shared.

Even within the classroom, students become more engaged when they see a professor with an iPad, according to Research and Instruction Librarian Eryn Roles, who uses an iPad in the stacks to answer research questions. The library has six available for checkout, and Roles said they are in constant demand. Dr. David Hatfield, associate professor of English, uses his iPad as a Smartboard for presentations and then emails his saved notes to absent students. He also uses an iPad application to analyze photographs in class and another application to study old movies frame by frame. He said he has found that students respond well when teachers move into the digital realm. Clearly, Marshall’s efforts to interact through technology are beneficial both to students and faculty.

“If we aren’t educating our students to think critically and to question, and be better citizens to improve our world, then what have we done?” Fox commented. “These technologies help us do that.”

Dr. Monica Brooks, assistant vice president for Information Technology, oversees the university’s online learning programs and utilizes Wimba to teach virtual courses.

Carter Taylor Seaton is a freelance writer living in Huntington. She graduated from Marshall University in 1982. Her article on West Virginia’s back-to-the-land artisans won a Denny C. Plattner award in 2007. Her debut novel, Father’s Troubles, was published in 2003, and she has just completed a second.
“All I’ve ever done in my life is grow things,” said Verna K. Gibson, chair of Marshall University’s Board of Governors, and she’s not talking about flowers and herbs. She’s talking about a Fortune 500 company, several charitable organizations and foundations - and Marshall University itself. When the Elkview native was appointed to the Board of Governors in 2004, she saw Marshall’s growth potential and began working to see that the university would continue to be well-positioned for the future. First, she wanted to see greater educational opportunities and a stronger campus environment for the students. Additionally, she recognized that a strong Marshall would contribute to the revitalization of Huntington, and that, in turn, could provide jobs for Marshall graduates. Now, as the end of her term as chair draws near, she can safely say that much of the
growth she dreamed about has come to fruition – and that more is yet to come.

From her early days in Huntington, Gibson had an eye for the future in the fashion industry. Fortunately, her first employers – Simon Mazo and Selma Jacobson of the Smart Shop and later Jacobson’s son Steve, owner of The Princess Shoppe – were receptive to her new ideas and encouraged her. She worked at the Smart Shop throughout her two years at Marshall while earning an associate degree in marketing and retail and again from 1965 to 1971 when her husband, Jim, was transferred back to Huntington.

After the Gibsons moved to Columbus, Ohio, in 1971, Verna had a job with a group called The Madisons that exchanged specialty store information among its members. While in a Columbus shopping mall, she spotted a Limited store, where the display so impressed her that she recalls it to this day. She went to a phone booth and called the owner, Leslie Wexner. He invited her to come talk to him. When he offered her a job making less than her current salary, Gibson wondered how to deliver the news to her husband. Accepting that job offer proved to be a smart move, however. In her 20 years with Wexner and The Limited, the corporation has grown from a $4 million to a $6 billion business, from one company to 17 divisions, from eight stores to 100 during her first five years, and then to an international presence. In 1985, Gibson became the first female CEO of a Fortune 500 company.

“It was quite a roll,” she said. “From 1972 to 1974 we were probably in the air or on the road more than we were home.”

During her six-year tenure in the CEO position, the division exceeded $1 billion in sales, becoming the first retail store in the nation to do so.

While maintaining two busy careers, Verna and Jim also raised two daughters, both of whom now own small businesses of their own. Verna said they managed to spend a lot of time with them and that Jim was an excellent father, adding that without her family she couldn’t have accomplished what she did.

“We were very strongly agreed that we were not going to make As in business and Cs in children,” she said. “Our home, during their teenage years, was very much the place to come.”

Since leaving The Limited in 1991, Gibson has continued to help retail companies launch new businesses and expand existing ones. And, although she chose to limit her career activities to devote more time to her alma mater, she is currently on the Board of Directors of Chico’s (the trend-setting women’s fashion retailer) and chairs its Merchandising Committee.

Gifted with the ability to read and retain information easily, Gibson first became involved with Marshall’s Higher Education for Learning Problems (H.E.L.P.) program because she realized how terrible it must be to have difficulty reading or learning. From there, she became intrigued with other aspects of the university, and the Gibsons became deeply involved in supporting it.

When H. Keith Spears, then Vice President for Communications and Marketing at Marshall, was approached with the We Are Marshall screenplay, he asked Verna to read it. She did and then agreed to help fundraise and organize the 2006 premiere that benefited the Marshall University Foundation. According to Huntington CPA John G. Hess, current vice chair of the Board of Governors, she did a fantastic job. And, he said, her leadership on the board is equally outstanding.

“She works very hard to get everyone on the board engaged and involved, and she wants them to participate,” Hess said. “She’s very, very dedicated to the university and more particularly to the students. She works very hard to make it better for them.”

What’s next? When Verna’s term ends in June 2012, don’t expect to see her rocking on the front porch of the home she and Jim own in Huntington or lounging on the beach near their home in Sarasota. No doubt, she’ll continue to help move Marshall forward. As she once said, “When people ask why I go back to Marshall, I tell them, ‘I don’t go back to Marshall; I go forward with Marshall.’” Here’s to Verna’s future and to Marshall University’s.

“I don’t go back to Marshall; I go forward with Marshall.”
Conversation with Alumni Association President William "Mickey" Jackson ('68)

Q: Why do you feel such a connection to Marshall University?

A: I feel a connection to Marshall University for several reasons. First, I received a quality education that prepared me for life’s work. This solid foundation helped me through many challenging situations in my career. I continue to maintain a strong connection to Marshall University because the people at Marshall and in the Huntington community are special. The many relationships I have had through the years have been fulfilling, lifelong experiences. There continues to be a feeling of home and family when I return to Huntington. Being connected to Marshall University gives me an opportunity to pay it forward because I will never be able to pay back all the people who have helped me along the way. Mentoring, active membership and frequent visits to campus for special events are rewarding. Participating in Marshall University events has built the foundation for many positive experiences in my life and my family’s life.

Q: What does the Alumni Association do, and what are its goals for 2011?

The Alumni Association supports the mission of Marshall University through events, programming, communication and networking opportunities. We are launching a new website in 2011 and have already launched our new communication tool, the MyHerd Network, that allows alumni from all over the world to connect in a safe, protected environment. The Alumni Association is also launching a new Class Years page on our site that will further enable alumni to connect to each other and to the university. We also plan to connect fraternity and sorority affinity groups on our site. Each of these groups will have the capability to connect further through Facebook. Our Young Alumni and Mentoring programs have a goal in 2011 to promote the mentoring and career opportunities for current students and our alumni as a whole. And the association is working to encourage alumni to "come home to Huntington" and visit the Huntington campus for some of our signature events such as Homecoming and Alumni Weekend. And of course, we encourage all of our alumni to visit our wonderful new Erickson Alumni Center in the Foundation Hall complex, where we have naming opportunities that will fulfill our dream of carrying on the tradition and heritage of the university.

Q: Why is it important and what are the advantages of being an active member in the association?

The importance of being an active part of Marshall University and the alumni association cannot be overstated. The university, and its mission to educate and provide opportunity for students and alumni, is vitally important. Marshall University supports research efforts, educational opportunity and financial opportunity for our students and for our region. Our alumni have an impact around the world through their leadership and innovative ideas. The advantage of being an active member is the opportunity to support activities, programming and scholarship efforts that further the mission of the university. Active members also are the ones responsible for directing the goals and efforts of the alumni association by volunteering, voting for executive leadership and participating in giving programs. Active members also benefit by being able to connect with old and new friends, by networking with other Marshall alumni and by receiving discounts to many local and national retailers. Active membership requires only that you make a gift of your choice to the Marshall University Alumni Association or the Marshall University Foundation.
Please join us April 8 and 9 to celebrate Alumni Weekend 2011. This year’s Alumni Weekend theme is “Marshall Memories ... Some Kind of Wonderful.” Our honored guests will be the class of 1961 as we celebrate their Golden Reunion as well as the Grand Class (graduates prior to 1961).

Weekend events are as follows:

Friday, April 8

6-7:30 p.m. Champagne Reception and walking tour of the Marshall University Foundation Hall, Home of the Erickson Alumni Center. The cost of this reception is $15.00 per person.

Saturday, April 9

3rd Annual Heritage Society President’s Coffee will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the Marshall Foundation Hall Erickson Alumni Center mezzanine. This complimentary coffee is open to the public. Please call Ed Zimmerman at (304) 696-3739 for more information.

The Class Luncheon will honor the 50th reunion class (1961). They will be joined by the Grand Class - those who graduated before 1960. The event will be held from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. in the MU Foundation Hall, Home of the Erickson Alumni Center Conference room. The cost is $15.00 per person. There will be a trolley tour of the Huntington campus following the luncheon.

The highlight of the weekend is the 74th Annual Alumni Awards Banquet honoring our distinguished alumni and friends. A President’s Social will be held from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Memorial Student Center plaza, and the banquet will immediately follow. The cost of the banquet is $50.00 per person or $95.00 per couple.

For more information, please visit our website, www.marshall.edu/alumni, or call the alumni office at (304) 696-2901 or (800) MUALUMX.
James (Jim) L. Farley (BBA ‘65) will receive the Distinguished Alumnus Award. He is the president, managing partner and co-founder of Nursing Care Management Inc., a privately held health care company with ownership and management of long-term care nursing facilities and home health and hospice care companies.

Farley graduated from Marsh Fork High School in Raleigh County, W.Va, in 1960 with academic honors. He was a four-sport letterman in football, basketball, baseball and track and was also elected president of the student body.

In addition to his degree from Marshall, he earned a master’s degree in hospital administration from the Medical College of Virginia/Virginia Commonwealth University in 1967 and completed a one-year administrative residency program at Riverside Hospital in Newport News, Va.

Professionally, Farley served as a health care executive for 13 years, including serving as assistant administrator of Cabell Huntington Hospital in Huntington, W.Va., and as administrator of Pleasant Valley Hospital in Point Pleasant, W.Va. He was president of the West Virginia Hospital Association in Charleston, W.Va., for two years and president of the 11-state Southeastern Hospital Conference with its regional office located in Montgomery, Ala. He served on the Ohio Health Care Administrators Licensure Board in Columbus for six years, including four years as chairman.

He served on the board of the American College of Health Care Administrators for 10 years and was elected national president and chairman of that organization, serving from 1989-1990.

In southwest Ohio, Farley assisted several universities with their health care administration programs, including service on the advisory boards of Xavier University and the University of Cincinnati and as a lecturer and preceptor at Miami University.

Highly active in civic and community organizations, Farley served as president of his local Chamber of Commerce, a bank director and a member of the Rotary Club. In the late 1970s, he was honored by the West Virginia United States Junior Chamber of Commerce (Jaycees) as one of the state’s three outstanding young men.

Farley has served in many capacities as a volunteer in the tennis community at the local, regional and national levels. He served as president of the Greater Cincinnati Tennis Association for four years and chaired various committees of the GCTA, the Ohio Valley Tennis Association and the USTA/Midwest Tennis Association. He was the 2004 recipient of the GCTA Award for the most outstanding service to Cincinnati community tennis. He is the founder of the Cincinnati Tennis Hall of Fame and has served as chairman for the past nine years. He is the current president of the Cincinnati Tennis Club. In 1990 his family – with Farley and his wife Bobbie as volunteers and daughters Angela and Andrea as highly ranked junior, high school and college players - was awarded the National Tennis Family of the Year by the United States Tennis Association. In 2010, Farley was elected to the International Tennis Hall of Fame Board of Directors.

Farley has served Marshall in a variety of ways, including serving as national president of the Marshall University Alumni Association from 1976 to 1978. He also served nine years on the Board of the Society of Yeager Scholars and several years on the Lewis College of Business Advisory Board. He was heavily involved in establishing the Marshall University Mason/Gallia/Meigs alumni chapter in the early 1970s and the Cincinnati alumni chapter in the early 1980s, and he is also active with the Fort Myers, Fla., alumni chapter. Following the tragic plane crash in November 1970, Jim worked closely with other board
members of the Marshall University Alumni Association to host a Marshall Memorial Invitational (MMI) Basketball Tournament.

Farley has been recognized by Marshall with enshrinement into the Lewis College of Business Hall of Fame and with the MUAA Community Service Award in 1980. He also received the Medical College of Virginia/Virginia Commonwealth University’s Robert S. Hudgens Award.

Rick Slater (BS ’90) will receive the Distinguished Service to Marshall award. Currently serving as the chair of the Lewis College of Business Advisory Board, he is a corporate tax consultant and managing member of Dixon Hughes West Virginia.

Slater and Dixon Hughes helped Marshall’s accounting department become one of only 169 programs in the world to be accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). Dr. Loren Wenzel, then the division head for Marshall’s department of accountancy, said in a statement at the time, “Without the support of Dixon Hughes, we never would have made it this far.”

In addition, Slater helped Dixon Hughes form the Passion & Excellence Scholarship, which is awarded to outstanding accounting majors at Marshall and West Virginia University each year. Dixon Hughes also hosts an internship program each summer, during which the majority of interns are often from Marshall.

In 2008, Dixon Hughes was the presenting sponsor of Marshall’s homecoming game, at which Slater received a ceremonial ball on the field at halftime.

He and Dixon Hughes staff members regularly donate time and resources to the professional development of Marshall’s accounting students. Dixon Hughes donated laptops to the Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) honor fraternity to assist its VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program. Slater was named BAP’s Business Professional of the Year for 2009.

At the 40th Anniversary Celebration of the Lewis College of Business in 2008, Slater presented a check to the Accounting Department for $12,500 for continued support of its accreditation process and software upgrades for the students.

In addition to assisting accounting students while they are in school, Dixon Hughes regularly hires graduates from universities throughout West Virginia, including a number from Marshall.

The Young Alumni Award will be presented to Christopher Sizemore (MBA ’02), CEO of Loop Pharmacy in St. Albans, W.Va. Sizemore, who grew up in Belle, W.Va., began his career with the company in 1999 as a management trainee and moved up to positions as project specialist, general manager and vice president before becoming CEO in 2008.

Sizemore says he is thankful to the Lewis College of Business and the MBA program for the difference his business education has made in his career.

In addition to his MBA from Marshall, he also earned a bachelor’s degree in health services administration from the West Virginia University Institute of Technology and another master’s in Biblical studies and theology from Luther Rice Seminary, which is headquartered near Atlanta, Ga. Sizemore is serving as pastor of the Sandy Grove Baptist Church in Elkview, W.Va., a position he has held since 2003.

Sizemore is active in organizations in his community and statewide. In his local area, he serves as chair of the United Way, as secretary of the St. Albans Rotary Club and as a member of the St. Albans Chamber of Commerce. Statewide, he is a member of the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources Birth-to-Three Task Force.

He and his wife, Melissa, have been married for more than 10 years. They are active in the National Hydrocephalus Association, working toward a cure for the condition that affects their 3-year-old son, Andrew.

Pastor Samuel Moore (MA ’97) will receive the Community Achievement Award. A native West Virginian, he is the third child of Clarence and Dora Moore. He was born and reared in the coal mining community of McDowell County. After completing ninth grade in McDowell County, Moore moved with his family to Bluefield, Va., where he graduated from Graham High School.
Retired as an administrator with the Cabell County Public School System, in 2001 he was one of two teachers from West Virginia named to receive the prestigious Milken Family Foundation Educator Award. He is also actively involved in the community, serving on numerous boards and commissions. He has previously served on the Huntington Human Relations Commission (chairman); Cabell-Huntington Branch NAACP (president); Ebenezer Community Outreach Center Board of Directors (chairman); Huntington Black Pastors Ministerial Association (president); and the Cabell County Schools Strategic Plan Committee, among others.

Moore currently sits on the Board of Directors for Cabell Huntington Hospital, serving on multiple committees, and is secretary of the Black Pastors Ministerial Association. His efforts have gained him recognition in Who’s Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities, Who’s Who Among American Teachers; Outstanding Young Men in America and as Tri-Cities African-American Citizen of the Year.

Moore is an ordained minister with the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World Inc. He has served as pastor of Full Gospel Mission (later changed to Full Gospel Assembly) since 1983. The church has experienced consistent growth under his leadership. Over time, Moore was elevated to the office of district elder and later suffragan bishop within the West Virginia and East Tennessee Council of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World Inc. At the 2010 annual convention of the P. A. of W. Inc., in Minneapolis, Minn., he was elected to the organization’s International Board of Bishops. He was subsequently assigned as diocesan of Episcopal District 23 - the West Virginia and East Tennessee Council of the P. A. of W. Inc.

He is married to the former Renna Leftwich, and they are the parents of three children (Leland, Jakki and Harrison) and one foster child (Vince Carafelli). Moore holds a Bachelor of Science in Education from Bluefield (W.Va.) State College and a Master of Arts in Educational Administration from Marshall. He is also a former junior high school basketball coach.

Dr. Caroline A. Perkins will receive the Dr. Carolyn Hunter Distinguished Faculty Service Award. She is a full professor, chair of the Department of Classics and interim chair of the Department of Modern Languages. She also is co-author of two textbooks on the Roman poet Ovid and has published a number of articles on Ovid and the Roman historian Tacitus.

A member of Marshall’s faculty since 1988, Perkins previously served on the faculties of St. Bonaventure and Northwestern universities.

She earned her B.A. in classics with honors from McGill University in 1973, her M.A. from the State University of New York in Buffalo in 1975 and her Ph.D. from The Ohio State University in 1984.

Perkins said that when she first came to the Huntington campus, two things had a great impact on her. First, there were the students. She said she asked for a meeting with students because she wanted to see what they were like, and at the end of the meeting she knew she wanted to come to West Virginia to be their teacher.

“I have never regretted this decision,” Perkins said. “I teach the brightest and the best at Marshall University, and I am grateful for what they give to me. I respect them enormously because they work very hard for their education, and they have many outside pressures that could interfere with their goals, but do not.”

She said the second thing was the Martin Luther King Jr. march that she watched from her hotel window after a long day of interviews, teaching and the like.

“There was a bit of snow through which I could see people walking and singing,” she recalled. “It brought to me a strong sense of community and caring. I felt I was home, and I accepted the position two days later.”

Marshall is the only university in the state to grant undergraduate and graduate degrees in Latin.

Alumni Weekend Reservation Form

Name _______________________________ MU Class Year __________________
Address _____________________________ City __________________________ State _________ Zip ______
Daytime Phone ( ) ______________ Evening Phone ( ) __________________
Your Guest __________________________ MU Class Year __________________

Tickets for reservations received after April 1 will be held at first event.

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<tr>
<td><strong>FRIDAY</strong></td>
<td><strong>Champagne Reception &amp; Walking Tours of MU Foundation Hall, Home of the Erickson Alumni Center • 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Third Annual Presidential Coffee for The Heritage Society • Foundation Hall 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. • Call Ed Zimmerman at (304) 696-3739 for more information.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Class Luncheon honoring the 30th Reunion Class (1961) and the Grand Class (those who graduated before 1961) • 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. • Erickson Alumni Center, Grand Ballroom</strong></td>
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<td><strong>SATURDAY</strong></td>
<td><strong>Trolley Tour of Campus immediately following the luncheon</strong></td>
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<td><strong>President's Social • 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. • Memorial Student Center Plaza</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Alumni Awards Banquet honoring Distinguished Alumni and Friends • 7 p.m. Don Morris Room, Memorial Student Center</strong></td>
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Ticket Total

Please add 10% for postage & handling

Total Enclosed

To make reservations and for more information, call the Office of Alumni Relations at:
(800) MU-ALUMX (682-5869) or (304) 696-2901.

I wish to charge my order: [ ] VISA [ ] MasterCard [ ] Discover

Credit Card Number __________________________ Exp. ________

Please include the 3 digits on the back of your card ________

Signature ________________________________________________

Please make checks payable and mail this form to:
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Alumni Weekend Reservations
One John Marshall Drive • Huntington, WV 25755-6200

w w w . m a r s h a l l . e d u / a l u m n i

S P R I N G  2 0 1 1  4 1
This charming penny postcard, carrying the postmark of 1920, actually represents the appearance of Marshall after 1916 when Northcott Hall was opened. Old Main and Northcott were the only buildings on the Huntington campus until the Physical Education Building was completed in 1921. The open-air automobile passing by the campus, with its stylish occupants, is representative of an expensive touring car of the decade of 1910-1919.

Help spread Marshall’s name along the highways and byways of your state and across the nation!

In addition to our Marshall license plates for the state of West Virginia, we have plates available in Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

In West Virginia, the price of the plate ranges tentatively from $50.50 to $75 (and renewal at $45 annually) depending on when your current license plate expires. The plate numbers range from 1001 to 9999.

In Maryland and Pennsylvania, plate numbers are issued consecutively beginning with 0001. Pennsylvania plates cost $54.50, while Maryland plates cost $55.

We are pleased to announce that $30 of the initial amount is a 100-percent tax-deductible donation that will be used to fund programs sponsored by the Marshall University Alumni Association.

To request an application and select your number for West Virginia, Pennsylvania or Maryland, call Jonathan Sutton at (304) 696-2901 or (800) 682-5869, or send an e-mail with your name and complete mailing address to sutton11@marshall.edu.

In Virginia, check with your local DMV office for more information and pricing.

The Marshall GO HERD plate issued by the West Virginia DMV (see photo) may be purchased through the Office of Alumni Relations. The cost of the plate is $25.
Liberty Mutual Insurance

The nation’s eighth-largest auto and home insurer makes more than 90,000 Marshall alumni instantly eligible to receive an additional discount – up to 15 percent on auto and 5 percent on homeowners insurance. Discounts are available where state law and regulations allow and may vary by state. Check with your local Liberty Mutual agent.

United Van Lines

For personal service and a personal discount visit http://www.marshallrelocation.com

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The WorldPoints® card is the only credit card that supports Marshall University and earns points towards cash back, air travel, merchandise and more - all with no annual fee and a low annual percentage rate! Learn more or apply online today for the Marshall University WorldPoints™ Platinum Plus® MasterCard® Credit Card.

GradMed short-term health insurance

GradMed short-term health insurance can protect you during those critical weeks or months until you have arranged for coverage through a new employer or other sources – from 30 to 180 days. http://www.gradmed.com.

By presenting your active Alumni Association membership card to these businesses, you will receive a discount as noted by each participant. These offers are designed to bring added value to your membership in the Alumni Association and to thank you for your support.

The Marshall Hall of Fame Café at 857 Third Avenue in Huntington offers a 15-percent discount on food, drinks (excluding alcoholic beverages) and merchandise at the Café Gift Shop.

Stadium Bookstore, 1949 Fifth Avenue, offers alumni a 15-percent discount on purchases (excluding textbooks).

Please keep checking the Alumni Association website for additional affinity programs and benefits of being an active member.

Send Us Your Pictures!

Marshall University Alumni Association wants photos of YOU to feature on our new website! Send us pictures of yourself, family and friends at club events and MUAA events, wearing Marshall gear, or at gatherings and tailgates. We will post these photos on our new online community! Be sure to sign up and see if you’re a featured alum or friend!

Marshall’s 50th Anniversary

(Continued from page 15)

a teacher who urged me to get my degree. I did and I’ll always be glad I graduated from Marshall.”

Aubrey King came from the small town of Iaeger in McDowell County, but today he lives in the Washington, D.C., area just 20 miles from Capitol Hill and a world he knows so well.

After spending several years in the academic world as a faculty member teaching government and politics at the University of Maryland at College Park, the 1963 graduate left academia to work for several national trade associations, where he led their government affairs programs. Eventually King went into private practice and today runs his own firm, providing lobbying and other consulting services for diverse clients.

But King has never forgotten his small-town roots or the boost Marshall gave him in carving out his career.

“I came from a small-town high school and Marshall gave me a sense of confidence that I could compete with kids from much larger schools. I got the sense that I could go out in the world and perform well, and this was one of the most valuable things Marshall gave me. My experiences in the classroom, on the debating team and in a variety of other extracurricular activities were all rewarding. Regardless of the arena in which I found myself, I knew I could compete with anyone.”

He well remembers the day the news came transforming Marshall from a college to a university: “I remember the celebrations. It was an early spring day and the students were jubilant. I remember the famous picture in The Parthenon of the students celebrating in front of the Shawkey Student Union. Now we know that the change was an indication of the broader academic offerings that were to come – the medical school, more graduate degrees, doctoral programs. But at the time we as students mainly saw it as graduating from an institution with a more prestigious name.”

An added Marshall bonus for which he will always be grateful was meeting his wife, Mary Margaret, who had attended the on-campus lab school and went on to earn both an undergraduate degree and a master’s degree.

“I didn’t know it at the time but her father was the chair of the psychology department, Dr. Kenneth Loemker. Needless to say, we are and will remain a very committed Marshall family!”

By supporting our Marketplace and Affinity Partners, you will help generate additional revenue to support the programming and operations of the Marshall University Alumni Association. For more information and how to apply, please visit http://www.herdalum.com.
Visit www.marshall.edu/lalumni for the latest in alumni news.
Above: The Marching Thunder kicks off the Homecoming parade. Right: Marco overlooks the Huntington campus and welcomes alumni and friends back for Homecoming 2010.

Left: The commissioned bust of Nate Ruffin was unveiled during the Champagne Reception co-hosted by the Black Alumni Association and MUAA. Center: Ms. And Mr. Marshall 2009, Miranda Rosiek (far left) and Raymond Cousins (far right), along with President Kopp (second from left), Gen. Crutchfield (third from right), and Tish Littlehales (second from right), congratulate the newly crowned Mr. and Ms. Marshall, Katie Fowler (third from left) and Josh Simes (center). Right: Woody Woodrum, '80, longtime sports announcer, and Bernie Coston, '79, president of the Black Alumni Association, help kick off Homecoming at the Coaches’ Spiritfest Breakfast.

Left: Members of the 1971 Young Thundering Herd football team (from left: George Jackson, Rick Meckstroth, Allen Meadows, Reggie Oliver, Rex Repass) reunite at the Champagne Reception. Center: Gen. Anthony Crutchfield (left) presents a check for performing in the Homecoming parade to a representative of the Cabell Midland High School marching band. Looking on are Sara Deel (second from left), Mickey Jackson (second from right) and Tish Littlehales (right). Right: Head Football Coach Doc Holliday (far left) and Head Basketball Coach Tom Herrion (far right) present the grand prize in the Homecoming office decoration contest to (second from left) Debra Wilson, Mary Petranay, Glenna Michael, Judy Watters, Camille Kline and Crystal Call from Family and Community Health.
Nearly 50 years ago, in the early ’60s, the most exciting on-campus football was played on a grassy lot where Smith Hall now stands. It was among the many years when Otto (Swede) Gullickson ran the intramural program that had to be one of the best on any college campus.

The Thundering Herd team, which was in the throes of a losing season, played its games at Fairfield Stadium, a Southside location on the other side of the tracks from campus.

Intramural football was six-man, one-hand touch (no tackling), where skill, speed and razzle-dazzle were the most important ingredients for a winning team. In the fraternity division, in most years in that era, it was the Pikes (Pi Kappa Alpha), Sig Eps (Sigma Phi Epsilon) and Tekes (Tau Kappa Epsilon) who ruled the roost.

But in 1963, my fraternity, the SAEs (Sigma Alpha Epsilon), took home the chapter’s first Greek intramural touch football championship.

In touch football, all six players were eligible receivers and there were lots of hook-and-ladder plays (where a receiver catches the ball and then laterals to a teammate) and two laterals or hand-offs on a play were common occurrences.

The SAEs – mostly known at that time for scholarship, leadership, community service and good times – boasted W. D. Baker, one of the best quarterbacks ever, to play intramural touch football at Marshall. He had speed, quickness, intelligence and an uncannily strong and accurate arm.

The Ripley native, who is now a retired insurance executive in the state of Washington, also had a group of receivers with good hands and speed that made Baker’s skills even more deadly for opposing teams as he led the SAEs to their first Greek championship that fall.

The SAE receiving corps included Donnie Henry, Jim Headley, Ezra (Middy) Midkiff and Danny Egnor, with Wally (Junior) Jones at center and Eddie Eckley a top reserve.

Henry, now a retired teacher in Steubenville, Ohio, was a mousey little guy from Wheeling, and opposing defensives were always belittled by the deceptive little guy at the wide-out spot.

Headley, now CEO of his own medical company in California, was a big tight-end type from Pittsburgh, while Midkiff, Egnor, Jones and Eckley were all Huntington natives.

Midkiff died of cancer in 1999, Egnor is a retired Huntington lawyer, Jones is a retired teacher and former Marine colonel now in South Charleston and Eckley is a dentist in Beckley.

The sidelines at games between the top Greek teams were always filled with fraternity brothers and their sorority friends and pinmates. The outcome provided bragging rights for the winners that lasted until the next game the following week.

My memory can’t fathom up many of the players of the other teams, but I do remember that Jim Farley was the quarterback of the Pikes and Jim Houghton, Lou Sammons and Hobert Rakes were some of the Sig Ep players.

The only forgettable part of this Marshall memory was that the SAEs lost in the intramural championship game to an independent team that was quarterbacked by Corky Layman (who later became an SAE). Another player on that team was Osten Mathison.

I know there are names of deserving players whom I’ve left out and I apologize. The memories of those touch football games and the camaraderie they provided to the Greek organizations were special and another example of why my years as a student continually bring back smiles of my times with my friends at Marshall.

This column is designed to give you the opportunity to share memories of your student days at Marshall College/University. You can send your memory to Marshall Memories, MU Alumni Association, One John Marshall Dr., Huntington, WV 25755; or e-mail alumni@marshall.edu.
IT’S WHY WE’RE HERE.

This is my home.

It's here that I was born and learned to play the sport I love. Proud to now be a new son of Marshall, it's the loyalty I feel for this, my home community, that drives me to work harder than ever to deliver a level of service that the Herd faithful of this region deserve. — Doc Holliday

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