

Summer 2006

Marshall Magazine Summer 2006

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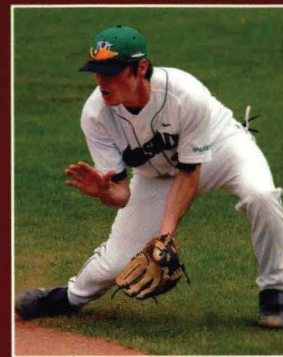
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Thundering Herd Baseball: A Proud Tradition

Marshall



m a g a z i n e

The inauguration ceremony
of President Stephen J. Kopp

Preparing for the return of
the Engineering Program

The university maps out its
strategic plan for the future

Chairmen of the Board

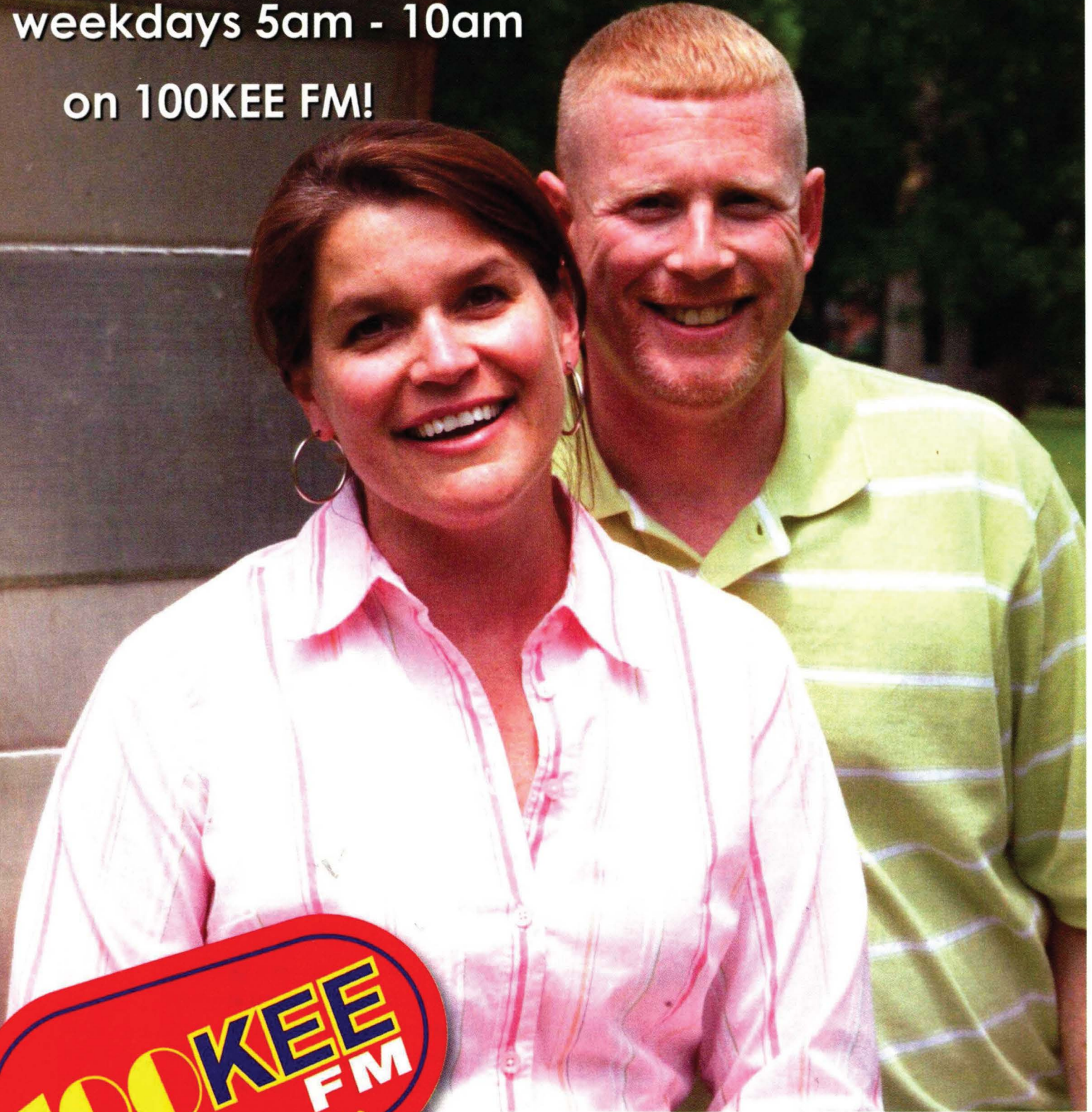
Meet power brokers Menis Ketchum
and Robert Shell, chairman and vice
chairman of the Board of Governors.



SEE PAGE 44 FOR ALUMNI WEEKEND & ALUMNI NEWS

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in an emergency?

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So, in an emergency, trust the physicians prepared for any situation — big or small. Trust the emergency physicians of Cabell Huntington Hospital.

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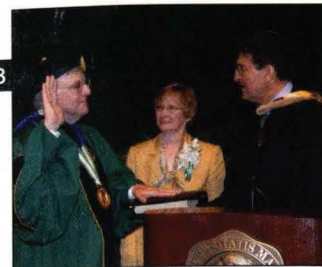
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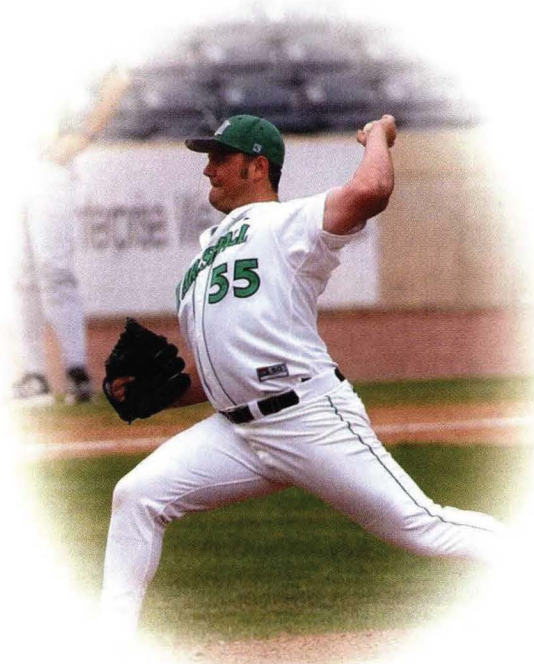
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up front

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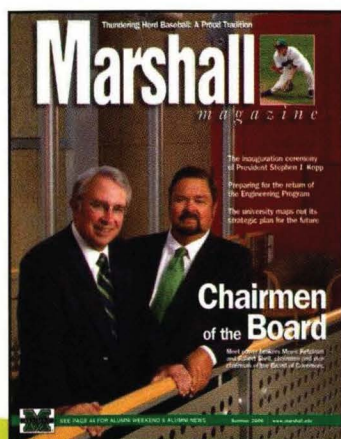
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summer
2006

on the cover

Board of Governors Chairman Menis Ketchum (left) and Vice Chairman Robert Shell (right) at the Drinko Library. Photography by Rick Lee.

The Spirit of “We Are...Marshall”

“We Are ... Marshall” is on the minds of Marshall fans and supporters nationwide this summer as the premiere of the Warner Bros. movie of the same name moves closer and closer. The tentative release date remains Fall, 2006.

Repeatedly hearing or reading the words “We Are ... Marshall” naturally brings to mind the loud cheers that vibrate through the Joan C. Edwards Stadium and Cam Henderson Center. But it also is a reminder of just what this very powerful chant means, not only to our athletic teams, but to this institution as a whole.

“We” is a commonly used pronoun that often is taken for granted in terms of its meaning. Its usage conveys a powerful message of unity and community. It brings together people from all walks of life from faculty, staff, students and community members to friends and alumni living in various parts of the world. It is no wonder the film crew making the movie saw so much power in this three-word sentence that they named the movie, “We Are Marshall.” It is far more than just a cheer. It is a way of life in Huntington and throughout the international Marshall Community.

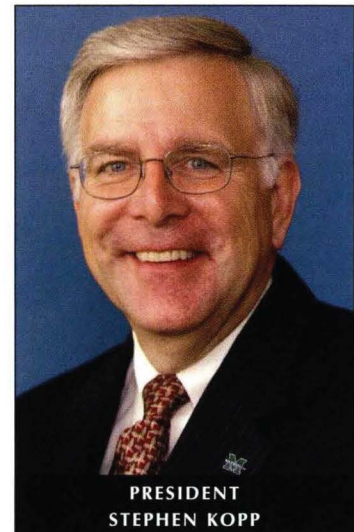
Last November, we began the process of creating a Strategic Vision that is being implemented through a collaborative effort

between the university and its various constituents. The “We” concept is the centerpiece of this process. We promised then that the process would be inclusive, dynamic and ongoing, and that is just what it has been and will continue to be.

With close to 1,000 people from within the university, the community and elsewhere submitting ideas concerning Marshall’s future priorities, “We” are well on our way to actualizing our tremendous potential and establishing the first in a series of definitive action plans for accomplishing the university’s foremost goals. The vision and plans represent the Marshall community’s Strategic Vision and plan for what this university can and should be. “We,” as one, are charting our future together.

Marshall University believes in individualism, but knows that when individuals join together to serve and work toward the common good, all of us benefit, especially the students we work so diligently to educate.

Various suggestions and ideas received concerned new facilities. The health and wellness center was identified and remains the top priority for this administration. At the time of this writing, eight bid proposals for a unique student-center complex (wellness center, residence hall, parking facility, baseball field and improved softball



field) on the Marshall campus have been received. They were submitted in response to the university’s “Request for Proposals” and are under review. Working together, “We” will see the dream of these much-needed structures become reality in the not-too-distant future.

In his poem, “We and They,” Rudyard Kipling wrote about the power of a culture. The culture of Marshall University is all of us coming together, making things happen, working as one. It is why “we” soon will have a health and wellness center.

It is why this university will become better and better, day by day. It is why we can join together with joy and pride in proclaiming that “We Are ... Marshall.”

“We Are Marshall”

Excitement continues to build for the upcoming Warner Bros. motion picture “We Are Marshall” starring Matthew McConaughey, Matthew Fox and David Strathairn. *Marshall Magazine* sat down with Dr. H. Keith Spears, Vice President for Communications and Marketing, for a Q&A session about the film. Dr. Spears, who brokered the deal to bring the story to the silver screen, has been involved with the project from Day One.

When did you first learn that you had a deal in the works for a Marshall movie?

We had a strong indication that the film was going to be made last summer. We went back and forth for about two months after that. We signed the papers on Dec. 19, 2005. We were all cautiously optimistic, not really sure of where this was going. We obviously have high expectations for the film.

For those who were not able to attend the kick-off party for the film, can you describe that day?

It was absolutely super, beyond our expectations. Nearly 10,000 Marshall fans turned out in front of the Keith-Albee Theatre to welcome the cast and crew to this community. It was magnificent. There was a private reception at the President’s home and vans filled with paparazzi were circling the block trying to get a photograph of Matthew McConaughey. That was followed by a press conference inside the Keith Albee which the movie stars absolutely fell in love with. Following the press conference

McConaughey and McG (the director) walked out of the theatre to throngs of screaming fans. I’ve never experienced anything like that in Huntington before. There was an electricity in the air that was palpable.

Everyone wants to know what Matthew McConaughey was really like. You worked closely with him. What were your impressions?

Matthew McConaughey is really a reserved individual when you’re

Coach. It was surreal. We were seeing the transformation of a person take place. He is a great talent.

What were your impressions of the rest of the cast?

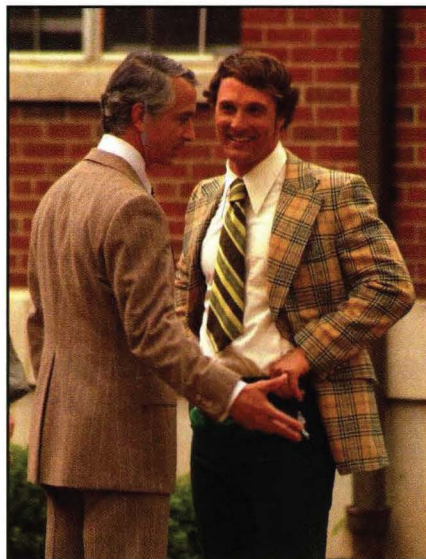
They were not only great professionals, but they had a sincere drive to do the right thing with regards to this film. They were determined to create characters that represented what Marshall and Huntington were like in 1970 and 1971. But, I could sense that it was difficult at times for them.

During the three weeks of filming in Huntington, what were some of the highlights for you?

The first thing that stands out immediately in my mind is the scene they shot at 2 a.m. on Fourth Avenue – a scene with the fire trucks and ambulances racing down the streets to the plane crash. Second, having Gov. Manchin come to the set was an important day for Marshall. Lastly, the filming of the scene with 3,000 people gathered around the Memorial Fountain. I think a spirituality took place there. It was something I can’t even explain.

There were a number of rumors floating around Huntington during the filming. Can you dispel any of them?

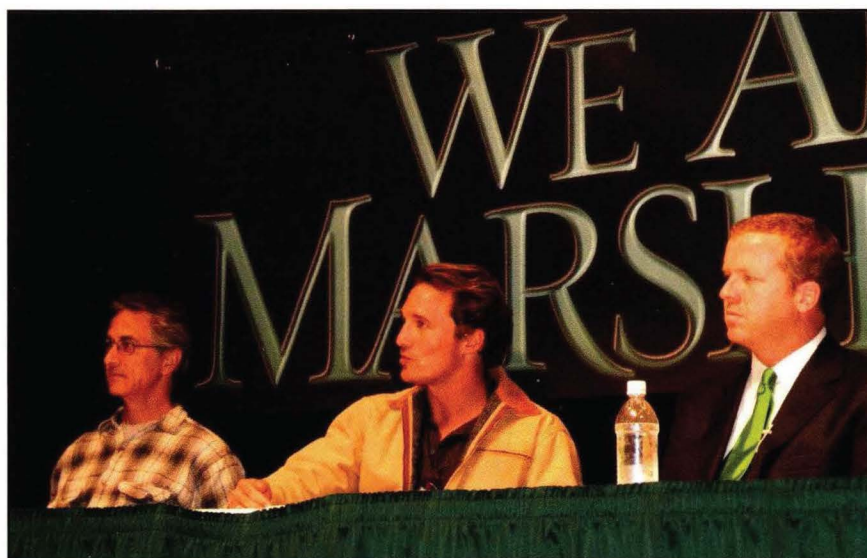
One of the funniest rumors that was going around was that Matthew McConaughey was staying at Jim & Verna Gibson’s home near Ritter Park when, in fact, he was staying at the Radisson with the rest of the cast. So, when Jim and Verna came to town one weekend for a visit they had people coming up on their



David Strathairn and Matthew McConaughey in a scene filmed near Hodges Hall.

one-on-one with him. When he gets on the set he is all business because this is what he does for a living. He assumes roles and characters. It was important from our standpoint to make sure he had the latitude to do that. He was always in character as Coach Jack Lengyel. I noticed in Atlanta that whether or not the camera was rolling the other actors were calling him

filming wraps



Actors David Strathairn and Matthew McConaughey are joined by Director McG at the initial press conference held inside the historic Keith-Albee Theatre.

porch peering in the windows and holding cameras up to the window hoping to get a photograph of the "Sexiest Man Alive." We had to call security and the police to shoo people off the porch.

How do you think the movie will be received when it is released?

For people close to Marshall or those who went to MU in the 1970s, it will be a great film. Having had the chance to see some of the footage I can assure you it is very stirring. It does demonstrate the resilience of the people here. For the general public, I think it will be an awakening. And I am confident it will dispel any negative stereotypes about West Virginians.

What inside information can you share with the alumni?

I think they will be pleased to learn that Warner Bros. has agreed to have special premieres across the

country for MU alumni. Alumni in selected cities who would like to get together for a private showing will be able to do so. So stay tuned.

There have been numerous conflicting reports about when the film will be released. What is the latest information you have?

As it stands right now the release date is October 27, but I suspect the release date will spill over to November. Hopefully, the week of November 10.

Will there be a premiere for the film in Huntington?

Yes, there will be a premiere in Huntington at the Keith-Albee Theatre and one other undisclosed location. The cast will be here. In fact, we are going to have a Hollywood style premiere complete with lights, limousines, red carpet-the works. Let's just say it will be more than what people expect.

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Board of Gov

The re-structuring of power within West Virginia's universities in 2001 was a landmark event that enabled Marshall to begin charting the course of its own destiny. On the fifth anniversary of the Board of Governors system, we examine the positive impact of Marshall's highly successful organization.

ernors

By Jack Houvouras & Carter Seaton

The advent of a new millennium brought with it the promise of tremendous change around the world. Computers were re-calibrated, calendars were redesigned and the State of West Virginia stood poised to oversee a new shift in power for institutions of higher learning. While not all of the change that accompanied the new millennium was positive, the re-structuring of power within West Virginia's universities was a landmark event that enabled Marshall to begin charting its own destiny.

Before the change, Marshall University's Board of Advisors answered to a centralized board in Charleston that operated all West Virginia state-supported universities and colleges. Studies had shown, however, that research universities needed more governing flexibility if they were to lead their states in economic development. Former Governor Cecil Underwood and the West Virginia Legislature concurred. Subsequently, the Legislature passed Senate Bill 653, which changed the governance structure of Marshall and West Virginia University.

Enter Marshall's current Board of Governors. Of its 16 members, 12 are appointed by the Governor, including a board of education superintendent. One represents the Community College Advisory Board and three are constituent representatives from the student body, faculty and staff. Re-appointment for a second term is allowed, but no member may serve longer than two terms.

According to Chairman Menis E. Ketchum, this new structure has allowed Marshall to make strides that would not have been possible under the old law.

"A centralized board cannot know what's going on at every university and college," says Ketchum. "By having a Board of Governors, we make a lot of decisions that couldn't have been made in the past. Now, If Marshall wants to start an engineering school, we can do it.

If Marshall wants to start an law school, our Board of Governors can do it."

Currently the Board's priority list includes an engineering building on the recently-purchased Weiler Steel property; a \$100 million student recreation center with a 750-unit parking garage and a 600-bed apartment style complex; raising salaries of faculty and staff; and revamping the Admissions Department. But its number

one priority is not about bricks and mortar, it's about increasing enrollment and improving the retention rate of students.

"The main reason to raise enrollment is to provide additional funds to raise the salaries of faculty and staff," Ketchum explains. "We can't keep giving pay raises out of a stagnant budget. One-hundred twenty additional out-of-state students would fund \$1 million in raises."

Ketchum believes the planned recreation facility will help attract more students and help sustain Marshall's low tuition rates.

"We fight really hard to keep our tuition fees low. A student in Virginia or Maryland can come to Marshall, pay out-of-state tuition, and still only be paying half of what they would pay at their in-state schools."

According to Ketchum, the board believes it has a special obligation to educate the students of southern West Virginia. Keeping tuition fees as low as possible provides that

opportunity for many students. And they are trying other incentives, as well. A recently adopted policy allows out-of-state children and grandchildren of Marshall alumni – so-called "legacy students" – who score high enough on their SATs or ACTs to attend Marshall at the in-state tuition rate.

If re-appointed by Gov. Joe Manchin, Ketchum can serve four more years. Under his leadership, the Board of Governors has an ambitious vision.

"I really think in another five years you won't recognize the place," Ketchum asserts.



By having a Board of Governors, we make a lot of decisions that couldn't have been made in the past. Now, if Marshall wants to start an engineering school, we can do it. If Marshall wants to start a law school, our Board of Governors can do it.

– Menis Ketchum, chairman

Chairman of the Board: Menis Ketchum

How did a Wayne county boy who, by his own admission, struggled to get out of high school, become the chairman of the Marshall University Board of Governors?

Actually, highly respected attorney Menis Ketchum resisted at first when appointed to the board, and tried to get his wife Judy, a former Marshall University cheerleader and alumna, to take his place. But, his good friend and board member Bob Shell insisted he serve along with him.

Ketchum, a senior partner in the law firm of Greene, Ketchum, Bailey and Tweel, comes from a family that dates back to the 1800s in Wayne County, W.Va. Following World War II, his father became a partner in the law firm of Greene, Ketchum and Baker. An only son, Ketchum and his sister Carolyn spent their childhood in Spring Valley. He graduated from Vinson High School in 1960 and headed to Ohio University where he majored in political science, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree four years later. When it occurred to him that he wasn't sure what he would do next, he applied to West Virginia University's law school. By this time he had mastered the art of studying and graduated third in his 1967 law school class and served on the Law Review.

Back in Huntington, Ketchum joined his father's law firm and on the advice of senior partner Ed Greene, ran for prosecuting



Board of Governors

Chairman Menis Ketchum

Attorney at Greene, Ketchum, Bailey & Tweel

Vice Chairman Robert Shell

President of Guyan International Inc.

Gary L. Adkins

Superintendent of Wayne County Schools

Chad Caldwell

Student Representative

Letitia Neese Chafin

Attorney at H. Truman Chafin Law Firm, PLLC

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Attorney at Farrell, Farrell & Farrell

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Vice President of Kanawha Stone Co.

Brent Marsteller

President & C.E.O of Cabell Huntington Hospital

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Sherri Noble

Academic Budget Officer at Marshall

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Owner of Heritage Farm Museum & Village

Dr. James M. Sottile, Jr.

Professor at the School of Education

William A. Smith

Superintendent of Cabell County Schools

Gary G. White

President & C.E.O of International Industries, Inc.

attorney in Wayne County in order to network with the people of the region.

"Ed thought it would be good publicity," Ketchum explains. "He said to go file for prosecuting attorney and he'd see me in four months. I was beaten by 63 votes, but after campaigning those four months, I had so much business in Wayne County that I didn't know what to do."

Now, fast-forward 35 years. In 2002 Menis Ketchum again accepted a suggestion that changed the course of his life. Bob Shell and Judge Dan O'Hanlon were discussing the future of Marshall with Ketchum over lunch.

"Both Bob and Judge O'Hanlon thought Marshall's Board of Governors needed new blood," Ketchum recalls.

In July of that year, after Shell met with then-Gov. Bob Wise, he was appointed to the school's Board of Governors along with Ketchum. While Ketchum makes it clear that he and Vice Chair Shell work as a team, he gives Mike Perry, former Chairman of the Board of Governors, credit for shortening his on-the-job learning curve.

"Mike Perry served as chairman before me. He knows more about higher education than anybody in the state and he loves Marshall. He took me under his wing and showed me the ropes. Mike told me that when I became chairman, I'd have to take a vow of poverty. If I count nights and weekends, I spend at least 30 hours a week dealing with Marshall issues. But I love it. It's been an eye-opening experience, and I truly enjoy it." □

Carter Seaton is a freelance writer living in Huntington. Her first novel, *Father's Troubles*, was a finalist in *ForeWord Magazine's* 2003 Book of the Year award.



Vice Chairman of the Board:

Bob Shell

In addition to his role as Vice-Chairman of the Marshall Board of Governors, he's a major investor in numerous financial institutions across the United States. He's a generous contributor to countless charities across the country. He's been a trusted advisor to two West Virginia governors and several United States senators and congressmen. His business interests span from Logan, W.Va. to Tianjin, China.

Those in "the know" call him a friend and confidant. They respect him for his business savvy, uncanny vision, devotion to family, dedication to community and, perhaps most of all, a generous and kind-hearted spirit.

Meet Bob Shell, one of the most powerful men in West Virginia.

Raised in Logan, young Robert Shell Jr. grew up in the shadows of southern West Virginia's coalfields. Upon graduating from high school, he enrolled at Marshall University where he began studying business.

"I have very fond memories of my time at Marshall," Shell recalls. "I made a lot of friends and everyone there, including my teachers, were all universally nice people. Being from Logan, the Marshall Artists Series was my first major exposure to culture. It had a profound impact on my life."

Ultimately, though, he chose to leave Marshall and go to work for the family business.

In 1968, his father, Robert Shell Sr. was a part owner in two

businesses – Guyan Machinery in Chapmanville, W.Va. and Permco, a fledgling manufacturer near Cleveland, Ohio. Both companies serviced the mining industry. Shell Sr., a no-nonsense businessman, opted to put his son to work at Permco where his business skills could be honed.

Though the company was struggling, Shell was successful in turning things around. By 1970, “Shell Junior,” as he was known at the company, was coming into his own. Under his stewardship Permco flourished.

In 1976 the company began producing entire hydraulic pump units. Today Permco’s hydraulic pumps, regarded as some of the finest in the industry, can be found around the world on mining equipment, construction equipment, garbage trucks, dump trucks, bulldozers and much more.

While his father was a major player in the business, it would be Shell Jr. and his vision that would propel the companies to new heights in the 1980s and 1990s.

In 1982, Shell made his first move overseas with the opening of a Permco operation in Switzerland. The location would serve as a foray into the European markets where the company would become a brand leader.

When his father passed away in 1984, Shell began overseeing the family’s interests in both Permco and Guyan Machinery. He was not only traveling back and forth between Cleveland and Logan, but grappling with tough business decisions as well. In 1985, he initiated a leverage buyout of Guyan Machinery.

“I’ll never forget going to my first board meeting in Logan,” says Marshall Reynolds, a longtime friend and business associate. “Bob was in the middle of a leverage buyout of the company. Talk about a boardroom battle. After the meeting ended I turned to one of the board members and bet him that Bob would be dead in three months from all the stress he was under. But I was wrong. Bob is a fighter. He’s one of the most determined people I know.”

The two originally met at a stockholders meeting for Key Centurion Bancshares. A short time later, Shell asked Reynolds to join the Board of Directors of Guyan Machinery and later Permco. In time, Reynolds put Shell on several of his boards and the two forged a lucrative business partnership. They have invested in numerous ventures including Broughton Dairy and Portec Rail Products. They also control significant interests in banks in West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Louisiana, Florida, California and Washington, D.C. They even share ownership of a private jet.

In 1986, Shell faced another leveraged buyout, this time of Permco. With the battle for control of the family businesses from outside interests now behind him, Shell relocated to Charleston. He continued to divide his time between business interests in Logan, Cleveland and Switzerland.

When he wasn’t traveling, he took an active interest in the community, including serving on the Board of Trustees at the University of Charleston. It was during this time that he met a promising graduate student. Lena Ji was a scholar from China nearing the end of her studies when the two struck up a friendship. In time they grew closer and married.

“We’ve been together for 20 years now,” Shell says. “I still can’t believe my good fortune.”

In 1989, the couple moved to Huntington. Shell purchased

the old Nichols estate near the Huntington Mall, a 14,000 square foot home on 11 wooded acres where he established the corporate headquarters for Guyan International – his holding company.

“I found that with a fax machine, e-mail and a jet airplane, we could remain in Huntington and make our home the corporate headquarters,” he said.

Once here, Shell immersed himself in the community. He worked behind the scenes on numerous boards and charitable organizations. He became a major contributor to the United Way, the Boys and Girls Club, Marshall University and more. And among those in “the know,” he became a powerful friend.



Robert and Lena Shell, who are proud supporters of Marshall University, at their Barboursville home.

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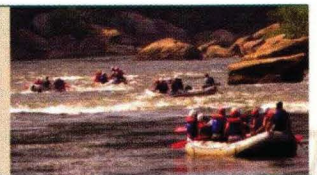
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"Bob has been the advisor and confidant of Senators, Congressmen, Governors and State Legislators," says Judge Dan O'Hanlon, a longtime associate. "All of them have sought him out for his expertise in such diverse areas as business, education and foreign trade."

Most recently, Shell served as the chairman of the transition team for Joe Manchin and Bob Wise – the state's last two Governors.

"Bob is just unbelievable," notes current West Virginia Gov. Joe Manchin. "He is a doer; he is a go-getter. While he was a great help to me financially during my campaign for governor, what I admire most about him is his compassion for others. The work he does on behalf of children is something very few people know about."

In 1998, Shell traveled to China for his boldest move to date – the opening of Permco's new manufacturing factory in Tianjin. Government officials and dignitaries were on hand to welcome the American businessman to the Far East. But this was not Shell's inaugural visit to the country. He had actually made the first of many trips to China in 1980 in the wake of the political good will established by former President Richard Nixon.

"I went out of intellectual curiosity," Shell recalls. "I recognized that China was going to be significant, but the country had a long way to go."

"He has great vision," notes John Hess, Shell's longtime accountant and fellow Board of Governors member. "This was old school Communist China and the barriers of entry into the business environment were tremendous. He was ahead of most manufacturers in the United States."

Reynolds echoes that assessment when he says, "He's a pretty futuristic guy. He saw the future of China 20 years ago."

Since making the move into Asia, Shell has seen a dramatic rise in sales and profits. Today, Permco is a brand leader throughout the hydraulics world.

"Lena has helped me in so many ways," Shell notes. "She has a unique understanding of how to deal with the Chinese customs and has been invaluable in helping me build our Chinese division."

A year after opening the plant in China, Bob and Lena made one of

I believe all too often
that young people
are left behind
academically and in
other ways simply
because they didn't
have the support
they needed.

– Robert Shell

the most important decisions of their lives when they decided to adopt two young girls from a foster home. Danielle and Heather, ages seven and eight at the time, were sisters when they were welcomed into the Shell family.

"Here's a guy who, at the age of 55, takes on the responsibility of adopting two girls to give them a shot in life," says Reynolds. "I think he understands that the more you give the more you get. I'm proud to call Bob Shell my friend."

Shell also has three children from his first marriage – two sons, Robby and Todd, who each own manufacturing companies, and a

daughter, Lisa, who is a vice president with the Montreal Alouettes, Canada's premier professional football organization.

During the fall of 2001, Shell contracted a rare strain of meningitis and became seriously ill. In fact, there were times when he was near death. Over the course of a very long year he was either in the hospital or confined to home. But he slowly began to recover and eventually was back on his feet.

"From that health scare I think Bob learned that life is fragile," Reynolds reflects. "He really changed after that and worked with a greater sense of urgency. You could see that he wanted to accomplish something worthwhile not only for himself, but for his community and family as well."

"Bob Shell is one of the most generous men I know, especially when it comes to children's causes," says O'Hanlon. "He has given freely of his time and money to make the lives of many children in this community better."

When Kellogg Elementary School in West Huntington needed more computers for its students, Shell raised \$200,000 in private funds through his vast network of business associates. Four months later the school dedicated Kellogg's new state-of-the-art computer lab, which Shell named after his good friend Marshall Reynolds. It is equipped with 60 computers, high-speed Internet access and networking capabilities with teachers at Marshall University.

When the new Spring Valley High School was in need of funds for band uniforms, Shell sent in a check for \$100,000.

While watching public television one evening, he took note of an articulate young lady from McDowell County, W.Va., who

wanted desperately to go to college. Shell picked up the phone and made arrangements to help pay her way through college. Today she is a graduate of West Virginia University College of Law and is clerking in the State Supreme Court.

In recognition for his tireless work on behalf of young people in the state, Cabell County's new Juvenile Center was named in his honor – one of the few public buildings in the state named after someone still living.

"This center is important to our community," says Shell. "Its mission is to intercept these troubled kids while there's time to work with them, so they don't end up another 100 yards up the hill in the big house."

So why does Shell have such a soft spot for young people? Why does he support these causes as well as nearly every Little League from Logan to Cleveland?

"I know it may sound clichéd, but the children are our future," Shell explains. "I believe all too often that young people are left behind academically and in other ways simply because they didn't have the support they needed. Anything that encourages children's activities and education is really important to all of us."

His reputation among the power brokers in the state has earned him a seat on the Marshall University Board of Governors, where he has assumed the position of Vice-Chairman. In 1999, he was elected to Marshall's Business Hall of Fame. So what drives a man to achieve this kind of success?

"The thing that motivated me was this phenomenon you see in southern West Virginia, where we're told all our lives that we're not as good as people from other

places. So, we have this negative self-image. I believe that was a driving force with me. I never felt that I measured up so I always thought I had to do more."

They say that the true measure of a man can be determined by how many lives he has touched. In Bob Shell's case, the list is long. Over the years he has received numerous letters from young people whose lives he has impacted. Here is just one:

"Dear Mr. Shell,

"I have always wanted to thank you for the profound impact you have made on my life. I know there is no way you could have known the difference it has made. In fact, I would be surprised if you remember me. Yet, I think that very fact is one reason your influence was so great. For the past several years the following quote has been on my desk, 'The real test of class is how you treat people who cannot possibly do you any good.' I worked for you from 1992-1994 at the football stadium. I was the hostess assigned to your skybox. I didn't want that job at first because I was sure I would fail. You see, before I ever walked in I had been told what an important client you were and I could not make a mistake. I was so nervous! Then when I walked in and saw how luxurious it was, I was really intimidated. I had never been around anything like it. I was certain that my clothes wouldn't be nice enough or I wouldn't know the right things to say to your guests. Then, I met you. You put me at ease. You made me feel trusted and important.

"One day, the Governor stopped by and you took me by the arm and introduced me. I'll never forget you telling him that he needed to meet me because I was going places! My background was very simple. I had

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hardly been out of the Tri-State area. Yet there you were introducing me to community and business leaders and telling them I was special. Well, I knew then I had a lot to live up to.

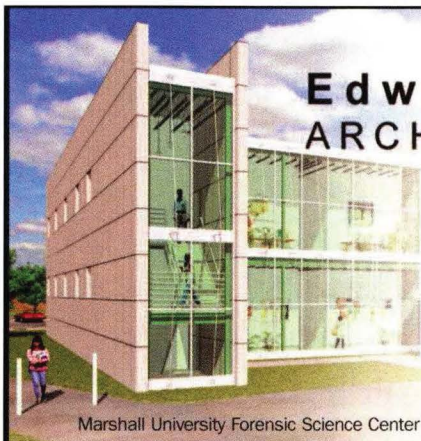
"I eventually got married and moved away. My husband and I built successful careers and enjoy a lifestyle I still can't quite comprehend. I have traveled all across the United States and a fair amount of Europe. I've been the guest of many influential people yet never feel uncomfortable in such settings. I think you're the reason. I have my first full-time faculty position at a college and, I swear, I think the sky's the limit for me. I try my best to make the lives of the people around me a little better in whatever way I can. Above all, I try to remember that showing faith in someone can change their life. Thank you for believing in me."

The letter, written Dec. 9, 2002, was signed by Christy Lampee.

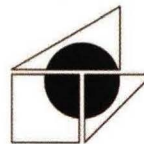
On a typical weeknight you can find Shell behind the large desk in his Barboursville home, usually on the phone, talking with one of his managers overseas. Or, he might be reading a letter just like the one written by Christy Lampee.

A night owl by nature, he logs late hours out of necessity and a sincere passion for his work. But there's more to it than that. Even today, with all he has accomplished, he is still trying to prove that he measures up and silence those negative stereotypes about Southern West Virginians. □

Jack Houvouras is a 1988 graduate of Marshall's W. Page Pitt School of Journalism & Mass Communications. While at Marshall, he served as editor of *The Parthenon*, the university's student newspaper. He is the publisher of the *Marshall Magazine*, *Huntington Quarterly* and *St. Mary's Today* magazine.



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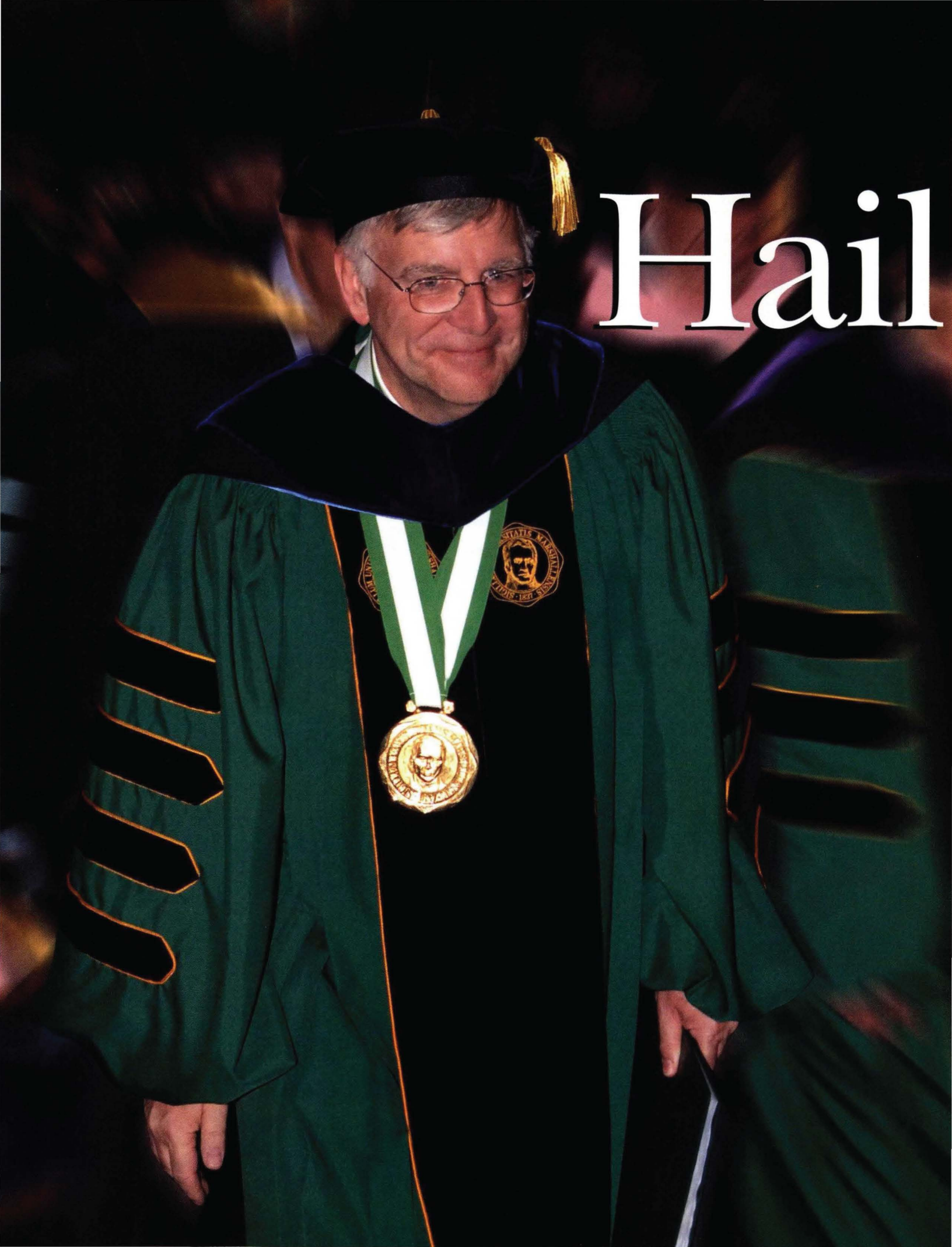
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Hail



to the Chief

The inauguration of Dr. Stephen Kopp as Marshall's 36th president was filled with pomp, circumstance and the promise of a new era of leadership.

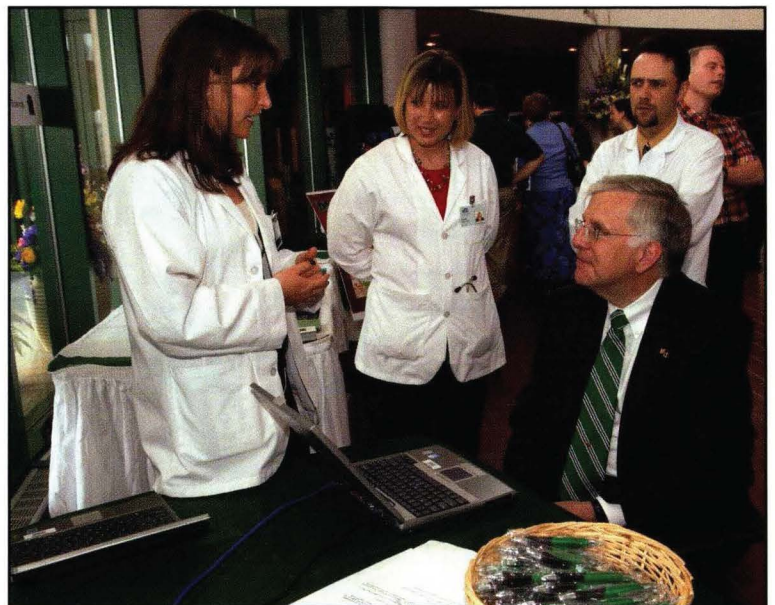
Article by James E. Casto
Photos by Rick Haye

As the majestic sound of the Marshall University Brass Ensemble fills the air, the members of the Marshall University faculty, dressed in their colorful academic regalia, march into the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse and take their seats.

Leading the way is Dr. Ramchandra Akkihal, professor of finance and economics at the Elizabeth McDowell Lewis College of Business. Acting as Chief Marshal of the Faculty, Akkihal carries the university's ceremonial Grand Mace. Carved from a limb of the Old Beech Tree that long was a campus landmark, the Grand Mace is a part of all important university events.

Today is certainly such an occasion.

Dr. Stephen J. Kopp has been on the job as Marshall's 36th President since July 1 of last year. Now, ceremonies today – April 21, 2006 — will see him officially installed. It will be a day of pomp and ceremony, a day when young voices are lifted up in song and young musicians offer up their own musical tribute, a day of praise for the school's proud past and a day that will emphasize the promise of an even brighter future.



Prior to President Kopp's inauguration ceremony, departments throughout the university showcased their research advances.



Sounds from the Marshall University Brass Ensemble and Chamber Choir, directed by Dr. David Castleberry, filled the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse for the inauguration ceremonies.

As the program begins, Marshall students offer representative prayers, and Cabell County School Superintendent William Smith, a member of the Marshall Board of Governors, welcomes the large crowd.

Then, one by one, Marshall's stakeholders step to the podium to bring official greetings and offer their support and good wishes.

First comes Dr. Joseph Touma, vice chair of the Marshall Foundation; then Sharon Porter, president of the MU Alumni Association. Mike Dunn, chair of the University Staff Council, is followed by Michael Misiti, immediate past president of the student body, and Larry Stickler, chair of the Faculty Senate.

Menis Ketchum, a member of the MU Board of Governors since 2002 and its current chair, tells those on hand for the ceremony that President Kopp's leadership

Throughout my career, I have followed the philosophy that the best way to predict the future is to create it.

– President Stephen Kopp

has “invigorated” the board's vision of Marshall's future.

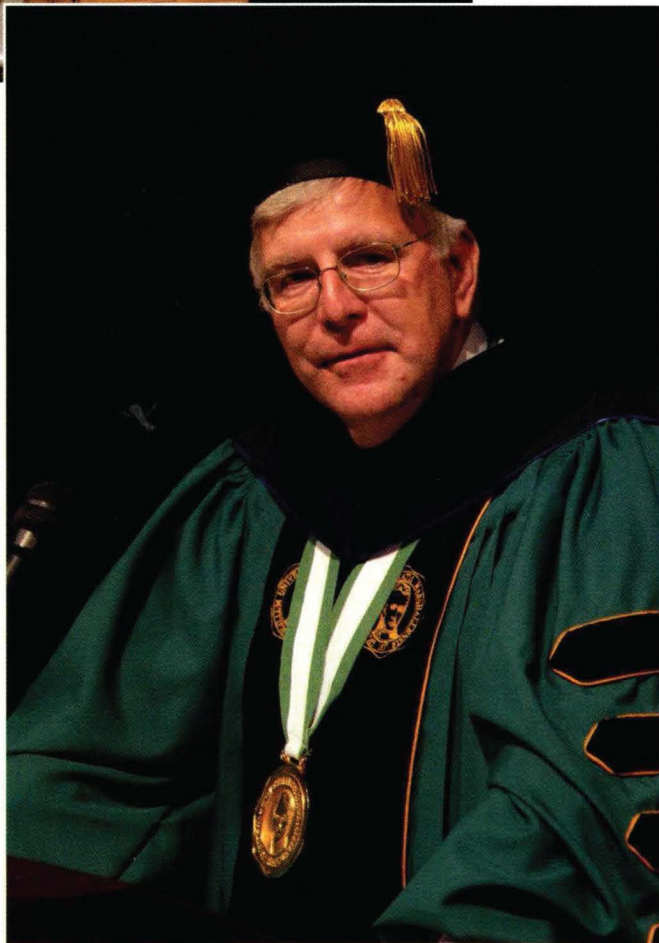
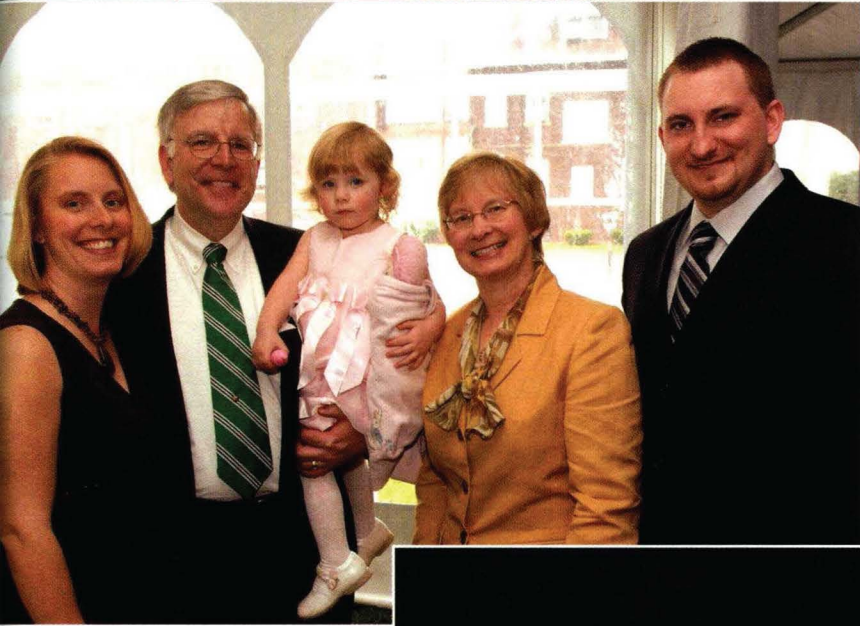
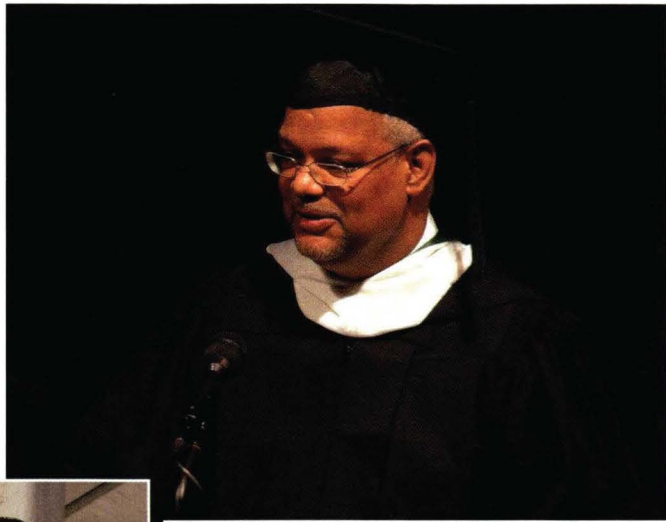
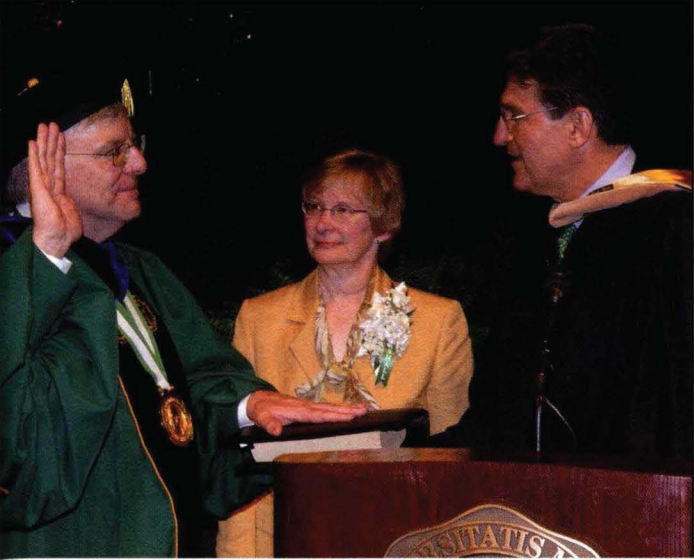
Fellow board member A. Michael Perry agrees when he says, “We absolutely have selected the right man for the right time at Marshall University.”

A day such as this is, of course, carefully scripted in advance. But the unforeseen takes place when Gov. Joe Manchin, poised to administer the official oath to President Kopp, has to stop and answer his ringing cell phone.

“Oh, my goodness,” an embarrassed Manchin says as he reaches for his phone.

The audience takes it all in stride. After all, the errant ringing of a cell phone has become a simple fact of life in the 21st Century.

On a more serious note, Manchin offers high praise for Marshall's new president: “In less than 10 months on campus, Dr. Kopp has exhibited outstanding leadership and vision that is moving Marshall University to a new level of success as a research and educational leader.”



(Clockwise from Top) Dr. Stephen Kopp is sworn into office by West Virginia Gov. Joe Manchin as First Lady Jane Kopp looks on. Board of Governors member Bill Smith welcomes the crowd. First Lady Jane Kopp is presented with a dozen red roses. Dr. Kopp outlines his bold vision for the future of the university. Dr. Kopp is joined by wife Jane, daughter Elizabeth, son Adam, and granddaughter Rachel.

When it comes his turn to take the podium, President Kopp vows to chart a course toward the future that will enable this generation and those who follow to experience greater opportunities and better lives.

“Throughout my career, I have followed the philosophy that the best way to predict the future is to create it,” he says.

As the ceremony comes to an end and the faculty procession makes its way out of the theater, an important chapter of Marshall University history has been recorded – and still another chapter is about to unfold. □

James E. Casto is a retired Huntington newspaperman and the author of several books on local and state history. His latest book, *Marshall University* (Arcadia Publishing, \$19.99) is a photo history of the school.

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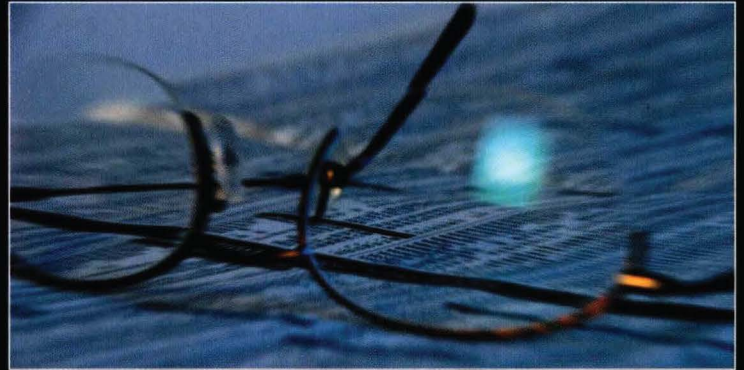
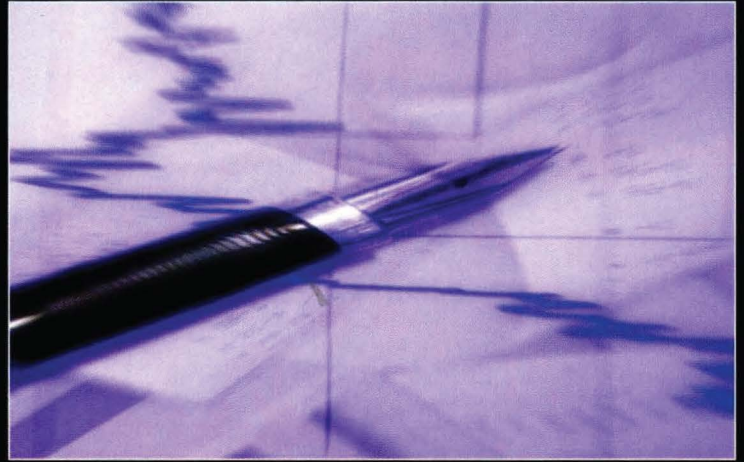
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A close-up photograph of a drafting table. A ruler with markings from 15 to 19 is visible, along with a pen nib resting on a sheet of blue grid paper. The scene is lit with warm, golden light, creating a sense of precision and craftsmanship.

The Return of Engi



Years of planning put Marshall in a position to hit the ground running in offering a four-year degree abolished 35 years ago.

Article By
Dr. Ralph J. Turner

What's the story to be told about Marshall's four-year bachelor in science in engineering degree to be launched this fall, 35 years after an undergraduate engineering degree was discontinued?

That was the question asked educators and others who played significant roles in bringing an undergraduate engineering degree back to campus.

"The story lies in the present condition of engineering at Marshall," Dr. Betsy Dulin, dean of the College of Information Technology and Engineering, said. "In a way it was one of the world's best kept secrets during a lot of planning and work."

Dr. Sarah Denman, senior vice president and provost who many

neering

give major credit for making the new degree possible, said "The word renewal is appropriate because we are really closing the circle after many years. With pre-engineering and post graduate engineering already offered at Marshall the missing piece was the third and fourth years of engineering studies."

State Sen. Robert Plymale, D-Wayne, chairman of the State Senate Education Committee and a leader in achieving legislation allowing Marshall to expand engineering offerings, said the Bachelor of Science in Engineering degree will greatly enhance existing research and academic programs and serve southern and western West Virginia in many ways.

Dr. William Pierson, chairman of the division of engineering and computer science, said if he were writing the story, the headline would be "ENGINEERING IS BACK AT MARSHALL UNIVERSITY." He said engineering educators at Marshall are excited because of the opportunities the degree provides students and the ability for students to stay at Marshall to complete a four-year engineering degree.

Huntington attorney Menis E. Ketchum, chairman of the Marshall University Board of Governors, said "A school can't be a class one research university without a good engineering school."

Others interested in the growth of engineering studies used such terms as *enthusiastic*, *excellent*, *way past due*, *good news* and *wonderful*.

Dr. Richard Adkins of Huntington, a Marshall engineering graduate in the earlier degree program, and who later was an assistant professor and now works as a professional engineer, said "I am enthusiastic about restarting the undergraduate degree. It appears they are going back and picking up where they were and there certainly is a need for it in this Tri-State Area."

Thomas Olson of Huntington, longtime professor in the 1950-60s engineering program and later professor in

Over the past 10 years Marshall has prepared for this day through strategic hiring, curriculum structuring and facility plans. By restructuring our computer science programs, the stage was set.

– Provost Sarah Denman



the two-year program, said, "This is good news for the profession, city, state and Marshall. This is an excellent adjunct for the medical program. Almost every good medical school has associated with it an excellent engineering program because of the amount of research and product development that requires engineering.

Another graduate of the former program, Col. John McHaffie of Tucson, Ariz., United States Air Force retired, said "It's wonderful and long past due." He said Huntington and the southern region of West Virginia have missed out on opportunities by not having a nearby institution for educating engineers.

The new degree will be offered through the Division of Engineering and Computer Science in the College of Information

Technology and Engineering.

Although Marshall continued to offer two years of engineering studies after the bachelor's degree was abolished in 1970, this is the first time since then that a Marshall bachelor's degree in engineering is available. Since discontinuance of the degree, students transferred to West Virginia University, WVU Institute of Technology or other schools for the final two years of studies. A graduate engineering degree already is offered by Marshall.

Senator Plymale said "Nationally, the United States is graduating fewer and fewer engineers and scientists and by adding this and future engineering degrees Marshall will play a role in reversing this trend.

"Marshall's primary mission is to provide access to high quality instruction and research to the citizens of southern and western West Virginia."

Dulin said the degree is important because of the increased emphasis at Marshall in the sciences and technology.

She said the new degree offers a lot of flexibility in courses while requiring completion of core courses in

engineering, mathematics and sciences. Students may choose areas of emphasis such as transportation, environmental engineering and manufacturing.

The dean added, "We wanted to do something a little different that will take advantage of Marshall's strengths such as a strong liberal arts tradition, a strong science program and medical school. The program will attract students to engineering who might not otherwise major in engineering. For example, they might want to go to medical school or have a variety of interests. They might come to our program when they would not be interested in a very traditional program."

Denman said she believes the region and state have tremendous promise and opportunity for economic development and growth. "This cannot happen without appropriate factors. Engineering programs and the graduates of such programs will provide the critical piece for the solution to our state and regional needs."

Denman, Dulin and Pierson all emphasized that Marshall is ready.

"Over the past 10 years Marshall has prepared for this day through strategic hiring, curriculum structuring, and facility plans," Denman said. "By restructuring our computer science programs, the stage was set.

"At the same time, Marshall has been developing complementary programs that would enhance and strengthen the engineering degree. In turn, engineering will enhance and strengthen those discipline areas. Examples are graphic art and digital design, biotechnology, geo-graphics, geology, mathematics and many more."

Dulin said, "Over the years we have been making strategic faculty hires. For instance, if we were hiring someone for environmental science or technology management, we tried to hire people with engineering degrees to do those things. We have built up in the last few years a critical mass of engineering faculty.

"I think it is important to get the word out that we have

more than 20 faculty members in our college. More than half of them are degreed engineers and most of them are registered professional engineers."

The engineering program will not be hurting for students.

Dr. Pierson said about 50 students are at the freshman level now. "Some will transfer, but we think that is OK. We think our transfer program will become stronger because we will be able to offer a more robust set of courses."

Also expected is a close working relationship with local organizations such as the Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing (RCBI), the Nick J. Rahall Appalachian Transportation Institute, the Army Corps of Engineers and the Center for Environmental, Geotechnical and Applied Sciences.

Although Dulin said administrators and faculty involved in designing the program believe Marshall is fully ready to proceed, they quickly point out lots of work remains.

Dulin said the next step is to build the program toward national accreditation by the Accrediting Board for Engineering and Technology. They expect to apply

for accreditation in the next two to three years. She said, "With respect to that we will be doing a couple of searches to hire additional faculty and also visiting high schools to recruit students."

She said additional facilities will be needed for fall. They have submitted proposals to President Stephen Kopp, whom she praised for his strong support.

"We are trying to be very innovative and thinking outside the box to meet some of our immediate needs such as renting mobile classrooms and working with faculty of other departments about sharing space. The university administration has been very supportive in acquiring equipment and we might, for example, provide equipment for use by another department if a department will share its space."

Nationally, the United States is graduating fewer and fewer engineers and scientists and by adding this and future engineering degrees Marshall will play a role in reversing this trend.

– Sen. Robert Plymale





From Left: President Stephen Kopp, Arthur and Joan Weisberg, Betsy Dulin from the College of Information Technology and Engineering and Monica Hatfield from the Marshall Foundation.

The Arthur and Joan Weisberg Division of Engineering and Computer Science

The Division of Engineering and Computer Science in the College of Information Technology and Engineering at Marshall has been named in honor of a Huntington husband and wife who have been longtime supporters of the university.

University President Stephen J. Kopp announced at a news conference May 23 that the division will now be the Arthur and Joan Weisberg Division of Engineering and Computer Science.

It also was announced at the news conference that the Weisbergs, founders of State Electric Supply Co., Arthur's Enterprises and Service Wire Co. in Huntington, are contributing \$2.5 million in support of the Division of Engineering and Computer Science. President Kopp said the Marshall University Foundation, Inc. will receive the entire amount of the gift within five years.

He said the division is being named in honor of the couple not only for this gift, but for their many years of supporting the university.

"They have impacted the university in many ways, including establishment of the Arthur and Joan Meyer Weisberg Chair in Software Engineering 15 years ago," he said. "Today's most generous gift will enhance the Division of Engineering and Computer Science, and benefit engineering students for generations to come. We are very thankful for their tremendous support."

Art Weisberg said the reason for the gift is simple. As the need for engineers grows, so does the importance of educating them locally. Marshall, he said, is the logical place for students to go for that education.

"Ten years ago we didn't have any engineers working for us (at State Electric)," Weisberg said. "We have eight now and they are very valuable. None of them went to Marshall. To keep bringing people in is very difficult. We have local talent here. We can't sell ourselves short. Unless we have engineers (in Huntington) the standard of living is going to drop. Engineering is where we are going to have to fight."

The new degree also has prompted considerable interest from companies and other sources that provide financial support and hire interns and graduates.

Program planners already are working on longer range plans such as additional space for the College of Information Technology and Engineering and major gifts.

Dr. Pierson said they expect good job opportunities in the region and beyond for graduates.

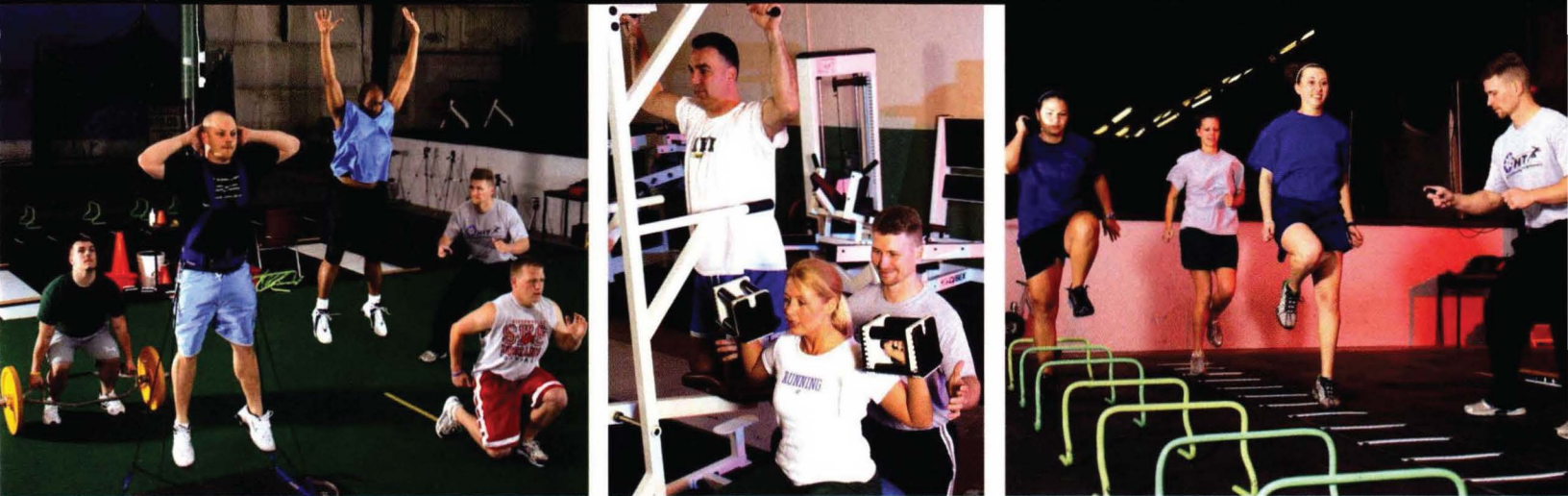
Ketchum, who speaks with great enthusiasm about engineering at Marshall, said, "We will work hard to find the resources for the engineering program. We absolutely have the leadership and, more important, it is a priority to get this program established and fully accredited."

Alumni speak highly of the former four-year program. They will quickly tell you graduates could compete for jobs with students from any university in the nation. They also say they are pleased the new program is not unlike the earlier degree in allowing flexibility while being rigorous.

Dulin said the times are right for the university's new giant step in engineering studies. Legislation has been passed. Faculty members are in place. Courses are ready. Considerable support has been offered on and off campus. Students are interested in enrolling. Years of planning has been accomplished. The alumni are energized. □

Dr. Ralph J. Turner is professor emeritus in the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism & Mass Communications at Marshall University. He has enjoyed a distinguished career as a professional journalist as a reporter and editor for newspapers. He has also written for magazines and worked in public relations. He wrote, designed and edited the Marshall University official sesquicentennial pictorial history.

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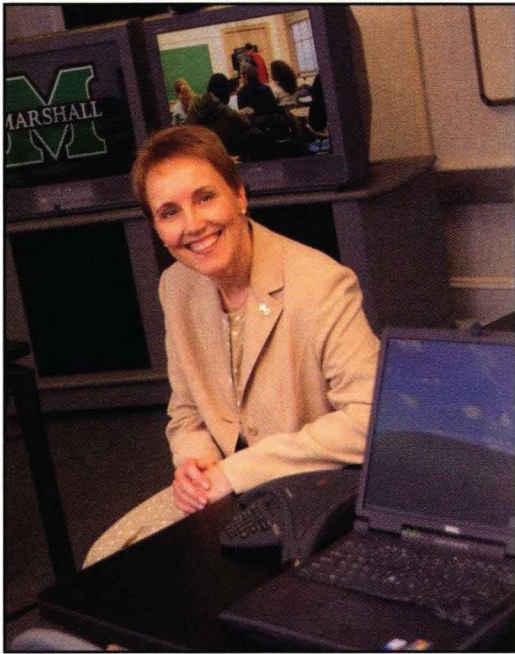
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ns of Marshall

By Tom Miller



Dr. Rosalyn Anstine Templeton
College of Education & Human Services

Four new deans with backgrounds as diverse as their disciplines have been named to key roles at Marshall University in the past 16 months and two of them are native West Virginians.

The first was Dr. Corley Dennison, who took over as interim dean of the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism following the death of Hal Shaver on March 1, 2004. A native of Sutton and a member of the Marshall family since 1985, Dennison was named dean a year later.

The most recent appointment was that of Dr. Shortie McKinney, who took over as dean of the College of Health Professions on Sept. 1, 2005. A Logan County native, she is a *magna cum laude* graduate of Marshall, class of '71, and had been director of the Nutrition Center at Drexel University in Philadelphia for the past 15 years.

In between, Dr. Rosalyn Anstine Templeton and Dr. Paul J. Uselding were hired from universities in Michigan to begin new assignments on the Marshall campus on July 1, 2005. Templeton, a native of Oregon, is executive dean of the College of Education and Human Services. Uselding, born in Wisconsin, is the new dean of the Elizabeth McDowell Lewis College of Business.

With more than 4,000 undergraduate and graduate students in the College of Education and Human Services, Templeton oversees a wide variety of programs, but she insists "placing teachers in the public school classrooms" is still the main focus.

She spent eight years as an elementary classroom teacher in Salem, Ore., before moving into higher

education at Willamette University in Salem. She was serving as associate dean of the College of Education and Human Services at Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Mich., when she accepted the Marshall position.

"I'm impressed by the incredible hard-working attitude of the faculty here," she said in a recent interview. "We have some who are in their 70s and could be retiring but they're still on the job. And they could earn more money working in the public schools."

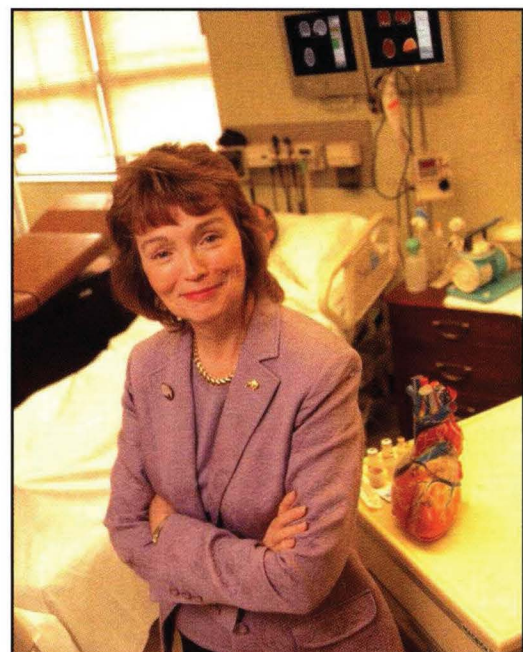
She hopes to launch a new National Institute of Teaching Excellence under provisions of a five-year-old state law that would bring two current public school teachers from each state to the campus for a week in the summer. She's talked to Sen. Bob Plymale, D-Wayne, chairman of the Senate Education Committee in the West Virginia Legislature, "who told me there's no funding provided for this program."

"But I'm convinced we can find a way to finance the program," she continued. "And I'd like to get this started in the summer of 2007. Bringing these teachers to the campus might just convince a few of them to stay here."

Dr. McKinney has no middle name and laughs when she explains that Shortie indeed is the name on her birth certificate. Her father got to name all the girls in her family, she said. As the first child in her family, she's an admitted over-achiever and the only college graduate.

"I never really left West Virginia because I came back from Philadelphia at least twice a year for family gatherings."

One of the reasons she wanted to return to Marshall after 29 years at Drexel University was her desire to "give something back. I am interested in health care and I mean positive health care," she said.



Dr. Shortie McKinney
College of Health Professions

"This part of the country is not healthy and preventive health care, particularly among children, is my interest," she said. "It's all about changing lifestyles. Some people want to change but simply can't do it."

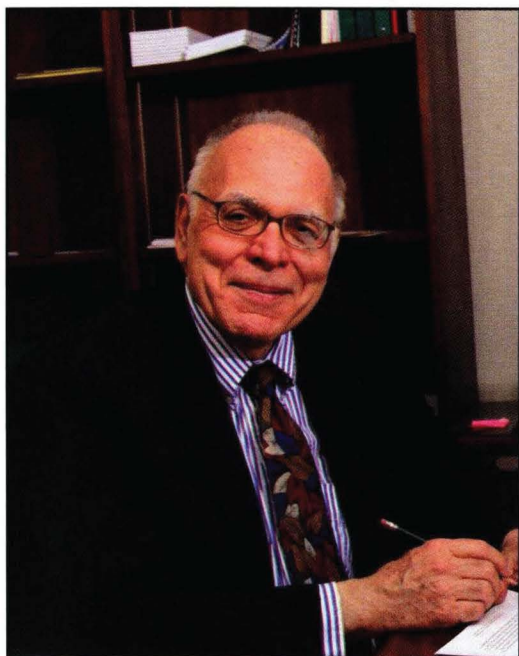
She fears current parents might be the first generation to outlive their children because of obesity and other health problems among youngsters. "I've done research on obesity and the treatment of it and I'd like to bring some of those ideas here to study children and families, particularly children."

She oversees the operation of five schools: nursing, which is the school's largest program; communication disorders, including speech therapy; lab technology; dietetics and social work, which has been on campus for several years but only now is moving under the College of Health Professions.

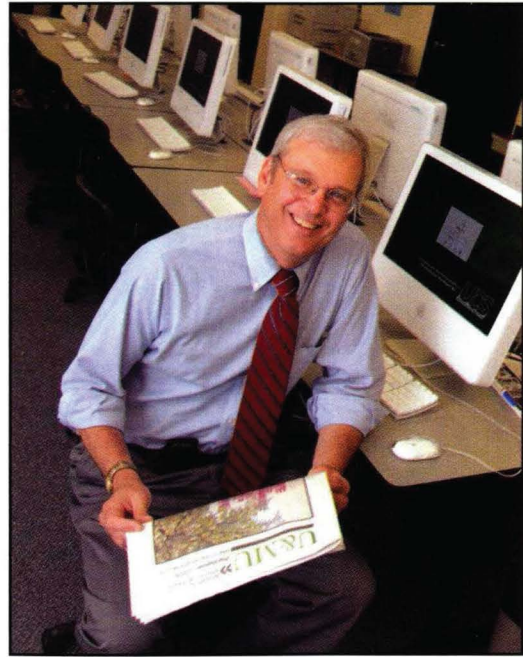
Dr. Uselding came to Huntington from University Center, Mich. where he had been dean for the past six years at the College of Business and Management at Saginaw Valley State University. He views his role as much like that of a beauty parlor operator.

"My attitude is that if the students look good, then we look good," he said. "Most people in the business community here have a desire for economic transformation and look to Marshall's business college to make this happen," Uselding said.

"I'm an economist and believe the economy of the 21st century won't be the same economy as the 19th or 20th centuries," he said. "The role of information will be so much more important and competition now is truly global. We have to prepare students for that and teach them that they have to keep learning in the years ahead."



Dr. Paul J. Uselding
College of Business



Dr. Corley Dennison
School of Journalism & Mass Communication

As for business ethics, he believes it is a continuing debate as to how a business college can best impart that knowledge, whether in a stand-alone course or woven into all the classes. "I do believe the message that you must be honest and not criminal in your business dealings is best delivered by a business executive during a job interview than in a classroom."

The Elizabeth McDowell Lewis College of Business now has 1,500 undergraduates and some 550 graduate-level students in four programs.

Dennison is focused on the current move of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications (SOJMC) into expanded quarters vacated when West Virginia Public Broadcasting's television campus studios were combined at the centralized Charleston location.

Located on the third floor of Smith Hall since 1966, SOJMC had outgrown that space and this expansion has more than doubled its space. The school has 400 undergraduate students in six programs—advertising, broadcast journalism, electronic media management, print and on-line, public relations and journalism education.

"We are also very proud of The Fourth Estate and the Third Sector, the nation's only program for journalists who cover nonprofit organizations," Dennison said. "Thanks to a \$167,000 annual grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, SOJMC, under the leadership of Burnis Morris, is completing its first full year of operation and hopes to secure a three-year extension of the grant." □

Tom Miller received his B.A. in Journalism from Marshall in 1959 and is a member of the program's Hall of Fame.

future

Marshall's



Next Move

An inspired initiative by President Stephen Kopp welcomes input from the campus and community in formulating a strategic plan for the university.

By Shelly Betz

The winds of change are blowing strong throughout Marshall University these days, and the level of enthusiasm that goes along with it is clearly evident among students, faculty and the surrounding community. By mid-April, filming on campus and throughout various parts of the city for the upcoming "We Are Marshall" movie came to an end, culminating with a record number of fans in attendance for the annual Green-White football scrimmage at Joan C. Edwards Stadium. Furthermore, spring commencement exercises presented the largest graduation class in the school's history, conferring degrees upon more than 2,800 students.

While these two examples represent a very public level of excitement about things, there may be more to the story brewing behind the scenes to propel the university to a higher plateau of success. It was

November of 2005 when University President Dr. Stephen J. Kopp launched an effort to formulate a visioning and planning process to guide the university towards a more prosperous academic and economic future. "From the time I arrived here at Marshall I sensed a real hunger for direction and purpose. There is a sincere interest among faculty, students and those who truly care about this institution to make a difference and there exists a tremendous degree of enthusiasm about the future," said Kopp.

Armed with an "Aiming for Perfection" theme for what would become the guiding principle for his strategic vision for the school, Kopp's plans to transform ideas into action were soon underway. "Having a formal plan that is actionable is critical to overall success. The idea is to establish directives, priorities and goals for the future. In order to be effective, it needs to be a flexible, living plan that is adaptable to changing circumstances and situations. If people continue to see a world of limitations, then they become bound by those limitations," said Kopp.

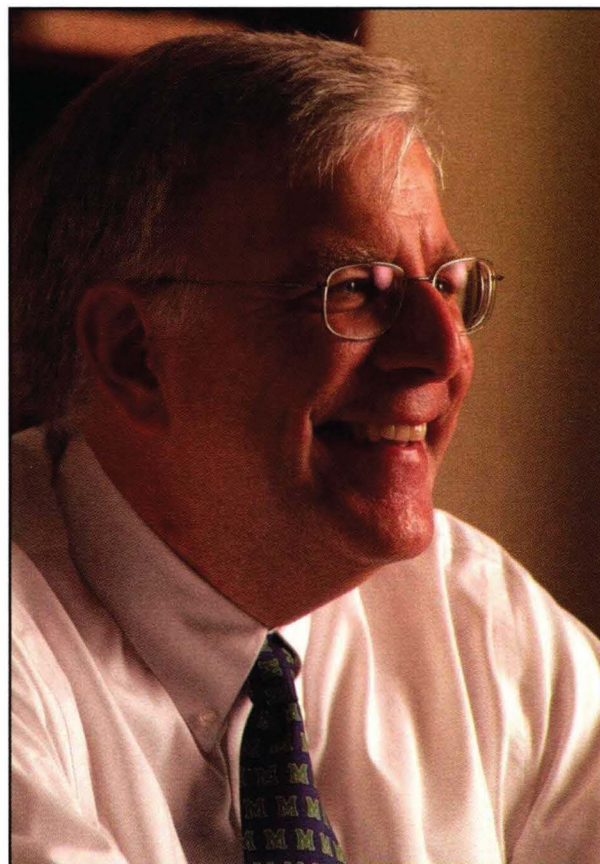
Perhaps the bold and innovative approach of Kopp's early mission to craft a strategic plan for Marshall University that involves not only campus administrators, but also faculty, students, MU alumni and the local community itself speaks to the heart of the matter. Kopp is confident in his belief that some of the best ideas about the future direction of the university may actually come from people outside the university walls. To prove this point, he enlisted the support of the school's Information Technology department, among others, to ensure the process would be inclusive and available to

as many who wanted to be involved. Using a variety of multi-media communication conduits, including radio, television, press releases, and online communication via an Internet web portal, Kopp made a very public appeal to Marshall's broad constituent base to get involved in the planning process by contributing ideas, feedback, and suggestions – all of which are to be considered in the development of the strategic plan itself.

For public input into the strategic direction of the university, a simple web-based submission form was available for anyone with Internet access to submit ideas

"Our plan is to get people interested and committed to the process. We want them to be updated on the process regularly, so that they can see some of their ideas come to fruition."

– President Stephen Kopp



on how to improve Marshall University in four key areas: Intellectual Capital, Community & Service, Economic Development, and Discovery & Innovation. To date, the university has received nearly 1,000 responses regarding the process, some by way of hand-written letters. The list continues to grow with each passing day. A variety of ideas have been expressed, such as the importance of creating a law school, offering additional Ph.D.-level programs, launching a school of veterinary medicine, and ways to make the campus more appealing to potential students and faculty, just to name a few.

A prime example of this inclusive process for the strategic plan came to pass in January of this year, when the Board of Governors approved a Bachelor of Science in Engineering degree, to be offered in the upcoming school year. From the university Web site, Marshall users such as faculty and students had access to a secured internal site that allowed for an even greater level of sharing and debate on numerous issues using



President Stephen J. Kopp meets with news media representatives to discuss his plan for formulating a long-term strategic plan for Marshall.

discussion threads and message board postings that were updated daily.

“From the beginning, it was clear that we needed to have a feedback mechanism that would be accessible and easy to use. It’s amazing to look back and see just how interested people became in the process. People really embraced the idea that, ‘You asked me, so I am going to tell you (what I think),’” said Dr. Jan Fox, Vice President of Information Technology at Marshall.

Kopp admits that high-level planning meetings typically occur behind closed doors with a select few contributing to the ultimate decision-making process, yielding a result that may be perceived as both confusing and disconnected from reality by those most likely to be affected. “Our plan is to get people interested and committed to the process. We want them to be updated on the process regularly, so that they can see some of the ideas presented come to fruition,” he added.

For critics of the all-inclusive process who suggest that perhaps too much of the university’s intellectual property is being shared with an information-hungry public audience, Kopp seems relatively unaffected. A recent visit by the university’s regional accreditation

body elicited very positive feedback regarding the steps he has taken to ensure the long-term viability and prosperity of the university.

“They were very impressed by how excited everyone here is about what’s going on. In fact, it is possible that what we are doing now may someday serve as a model for other universities to follow. That is innovation at its best,” he said.

While most would agree that the development of a strategic plan alone is both innovative and ambitious, Kopp’s methodology behind the plans may be the biggest surprise yet. His leadership role in guiding future development and priority setting for Marshall University offers a sobering reality.

“I cannot paint the picture of what the future should be, but I can help put the colors in all the right places to create the image,” he adds.

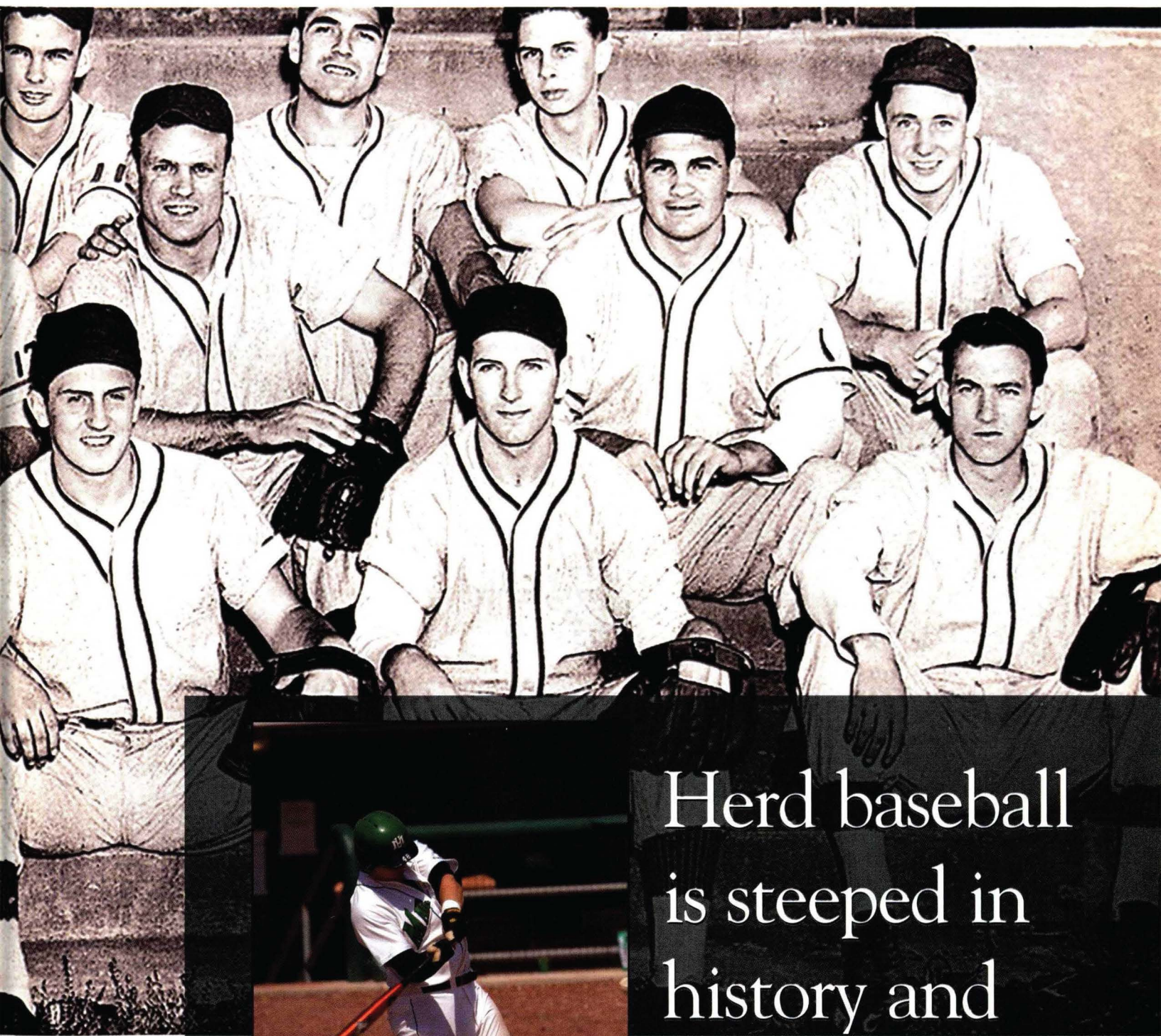
For complete details on the strategic plan for Marshall University or to learn how you can contribute ideas to the process, visit www.marshall.edu/strategic/. □

Shelly Ridgeway Betz is a freelance writer living in Huntington with her husband and two daughters.



PLAY BALL

Article by Tim Stephens • Photos by Rick Hays



Herd baseball
is steeped in
history and
poised for a
bright future

To see the good old days of Marshall baseball, fans look back 30 years. They might, however, want to look ahead to the very near future. Thundering Herd baseball appears on the rise, showing promise in rugged Conference USA, one of college baseball's premier leagues, while calling on its past for leadership.

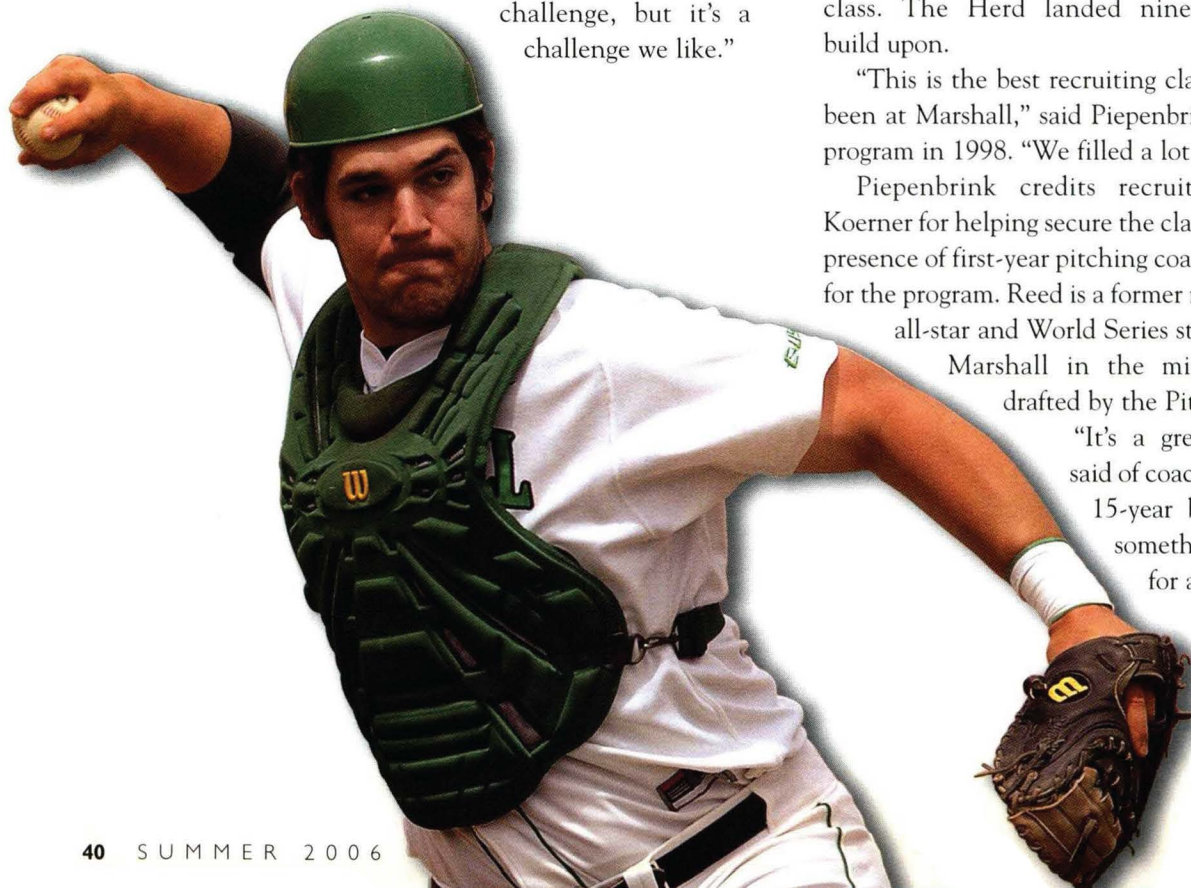
Marshall's initial season in C-USA, a league that finished with three teams in the nation's top 25 and several others that are perennial powers, resulted in a 22-30 overall record and a 6-18 conference mark. Not bad, considering the jump in competition. Rice is ranked near No. 1 in the country, while Houston and Tulane field Top-25 squads. Still, the Herd is nowhere near where Coach Dave Piepenbrink wants his team to be.

"No one wants to have a losing record," Piepenbrink said. "We have come a long way, though. We have a lot to look forward to."

Piepenbrink knows Marshall is capable of winning. He starred for the Thundering Herd from 1987 through 1990 and MU posted winning records in three of those four seasons. Marshall has featured just one winning season since, though, as the competition has improved, with the Herd moving from the Southern Conference to the Mid-American Conference in 1997, then this season, to C-USA.

"Our schedule was challenging from top to bottom this year," Piepenbrink said. "Conference USA is one of the premier baseball conferences in the country. It makes

for a lot of tough games. It's a challenge, but it's a challenge we like."



"I came to Marshall in 1980 and thought we'd have a new ballpark by the time I was a senior. I'm surprised it still hasn't happened. I think a new facility for Marshall baseball is key to the program."

— Jeff Montgomery
All-Star pitcher

And it's a challenge to which the Herd responded fairly well. In April, Marshall swept a three-game series with C-USA rival Alabama-Birmingham. Later in the month, Marshall won a game at East Carolina, a longtime power in college baseball. The Herd also swept a two-game, early-season series from James Madison, a program ranked in the top 25 this season. All of those victories bode well for the future.

"There are going to be some good things happening," Piepenbrink said of his program.

Reasons for optimism abound. The move to C-USA helps, as evidenced by Marshall's 2006 recruiting class. The Herd landed nine heralded players to build upon.

"This is the best recruiting class we've had since I've been at Marshall," said Piepenbrink, who took over the program in 1998. "We filled a lot of needs."

Piepenbrink credits recruiting coordinator Jim Koerner for helping secure the class. He also points to the presence of first-year pitching coach Rick Reed as a boost for the program. Reed is a former major leaguer, two-time all-star and World Series standout. Reed played at Marshall in the mid-1980s before being drafted by the Pittsburgh Pirates.

"It's a great opportunity," Reed said of coaching at Marshall after a 15-year big league career. "It's something I've thought about for a while."

Reed brings instant credibility to the program. The right-hander



The Thundering Herd baseball program faces stiff competition as part of its demanding Conference USA schedule.

compiled a 93-76 record as a major leaguer with the Pirates, Kansas City Royals, Texas Rangers, Cincinnati Reds, New York Mets and Minnesota Twins. Reed was an all-star with the Mets in 1998 and again in 2001. He was part of the Mets' 2000 World Series team.

"Rick brings a wealth of experience to us," Piepenbrink said.

The next expected boost to the program figures to be a new ballpark. Marshall currently plays at University Heights, an off-campus park that doesn't meet the requirements of Conference USA. Because of that, the Herd played its league home games this season at Appalachian Power Park in Charleston, home of the minor league West Virginia Power.

Hitting the road for "home" games is nothing new to Marshall baseball. While St. Cloud Commons was the primary home of the Herd from 1957 through 1998, the park was prone to flooding, meaning Marshall was forced to host games at Winfield, Boyd County, Greenup County or Ironton high schools at various points. MU also played two seasons at Woody Williams Field beside Veterans Memorial Field House in Huntington.

A new facility could be the edge that vaults Marshall into baseball prominence.

"It would complete everything we're trying to do," Piepenbrink said of a new stadium. "The teams we're recruiting against, well, it definitely factors in. It's being used against us."

Until this season, Piepenbrink never publicly spoke about the disadvantages his program faced while playing in a sub-standard facility. The move to Conference USA changed that.

"We try to avoid that," Piepenbrink said of dwelling on what MU doesn't have. "It's there, though. It's reality."

Marshall Associate Athletic Director Jeff O'Malley said a new ballpark is a priority but no timeline is yet set.

One ardent supporter of a new ballpark is former Marshall star Jeff Montgomery, a former all-star pitcher with the Cincinnati Reds and Kansas City Royals.

"I came to Marshall in 1980 and thought we'd have a new ballpark by the time I was a senior," Montgomery said. "I'm surprised it still hasn't happened. Facilities make a difference. I think a new facility for Marshall baseball is key to the program."

Montgomery is a link to Marshall baseball's strong past. The Southern Conference freshman of the year in 1981, he is the third-winningest pitcher in Marshall history. Montgomery was drafted by the Reds in 1983 and in 1988 was traded to Kansas City. A three-time all-star, Montgomery was one of the big leagues' top closers during the 1990s.

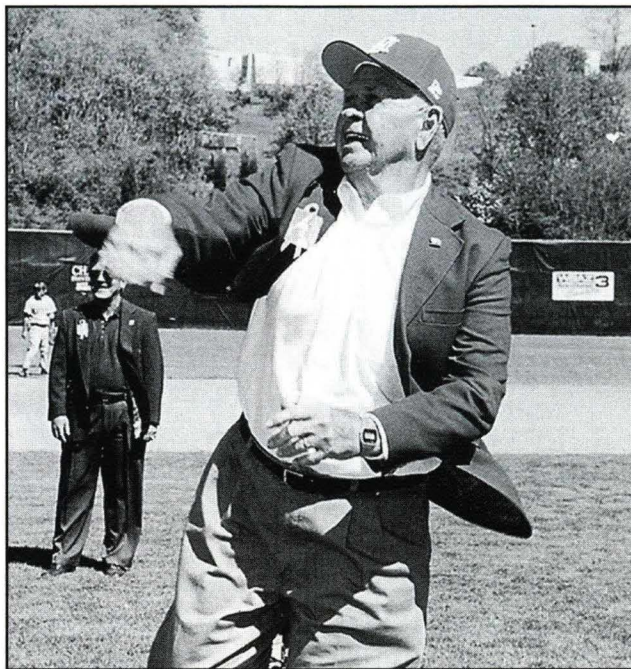
Montgomery credits many people for his success, including legendary Marshall coach Jack Cook, the winningest coach in any sport in MU history. From 1967 through 1989, along with an interim stint in 1955, Cook compiled a stellar 422-344-3 record. Cook's 1973 and 1978 teams earned trips to the N C A A R e g i o n a l Tournament, while his 1978 and 1981 clubs won Southern Conference championships.

"We had a lot of fun," Cook said. "I was blessed with a lot of good players."

While Cook is ever humble, what he meant to the program is represented by the Jack Cook Award, presented to Marshall's most valuable player each season. Cook's former players rave about the humble, gentle man with a great baseball mind and an even bigger heart. "He always taught his teams as a real gentleman," said Tom "T-Bone" Baker, who played for Cook and now scouts for the Pittsburgh Pirates. "He was so loyal to Marshall."

Piepenbrink, too, loves Cook and is honored to be second to him at Marshall in baseball victories.

"He embodied everything that is good about the game. There's really nothing you can say about Coach Cook that is enough," Piepenbrink said. "He is Marshall baseball."



Former Marshall Coach Jack Cook is the winningest coach in any sport at Marshall with a 422-344-3 record.

“He embodied everything that is good about the game. There’s really nothing you can say about Coach Cook that is enough. He is Marshall baseball.”

– Dave Piepenbrink
Current Baseball Coach

Cook's Herd was the surprise of the 1978 NCAA Regional Tournament. An afterthought entry in the minds of some, Marshall knocked off powers Clemson and Florida State before running out of pitching and falling to the Miami Hurricanes to finish one game short of the College World Series.

That club makes for just one of the good memories of a storied program. Marshall has sent 37 players to the professional ranks and has nine conference titles in 100 years of playing.

First baseman Tom Kuempel won the Mid-American Conference triple crown (home runs, RBI and batting average) in 1998. In 2001, first baseman Jason Brooks led the nation in home runs, while in 1973 Mark Doboney led the country in earned run average.

Some interesting little-known facts about MU baseball include the fact that legendary football and basketball coach Cam Henderson coached the Herd to a 6-3 record in 1938 and that 1987

Southern Conference Athlete of the Year Tony Petersen, who is a famed football quarterback, played for the Herd baseball team.

Often in the shadows of the Herd football and men's basketball programs through the years, baseball has held its own despite considerable challenges. Piepenbrink thinks the best is yet to come.

"It's an exciting time to be a part of Marshall baseball," Piepenbrink said. □

Tim Stephens is a freelance writer and the Huntington area director of Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

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a message from
Sharon Porter

*Class of 1975, 1978
President
MU Alumni Association*

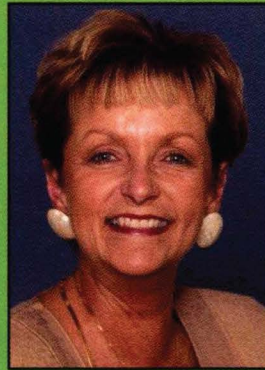


Photo credit: Rick Hays

Greetings fellow alumni and friends of Marshall, I have been sharing a lot of the Marshall Alumni board's plans and vision with you in my articles and my hope is you will want to get on board with these and help us accomplish all we can for our university.

I hope all alumni know about e-mail for life. This is a wonderful system to keep in touch with your university and your alumni association no matter where you live or work. We want all our alumni to be "in touch" with what Marshall is doing and how it's growing.

Our town and campus were abuzz this spring with a Hollywood feel because the crews and stars were here starting the *We Are Marshall* movie. This movie, once released, should bring the Marshall story to the world and garner us a lot of attention nationwide. That is so exciting and should help us reconnect with lost alumni, find new potential students, and maybe promote some generous giving to our alumni center and campus building projects.

We are moving forward with the Marshall University Foundation to make our Erickson Alumni Center a reality. If you have been thinking about donating to this project, please do so soon!

Our club network is getting stronger, but we still need your help. If you live in a city with a Marshall alumni club, please join and support it. If your city doesn't have a club, please help us get one started by donating a little of your time to set up a meeting, contact some alums and push the Marshall connection.

We celebrated our 169th commencement in May, meaning a whole new group joined the 78,000 living alumni around the country. That's something to get excited about!

Sincerely,
Sharon Porter

Alumni Weekend 2006

April 21-22

1.) Alumni Award Winners, left to right: Dr. Ramchandra Akkihal, the Carolyn B. Hunter Distinguished Faculty Service Award; Jeffrey Porter, the Distinguished Service to Marshall Award; Troy Brown, the Distinguished Alumni Award; MUAA President Sharon Porter (in front); Jeff Mullins, the Cam Henderson Scholarship Award; Dr. Barbara Priddy Guyer, the Community Achievement Award; J. Mark McVey, the Distinguished Alumni Award; Brandon "Brandy" Roisman, president of the River Cities Club, Club of the Year; James E. "Jim" Gibson, Distinguished Service to Marshall Award; Dr. Stephen J. Kopp. 2.) Three generations of Marshall women. Left to right: Matilda Cereske Hale, '36; Mary Evelyn Hale, '70; Sarah Moore. 3.) Distinguished Alumni Award winner and tenor J. Mark McVey treats banquet attendees to a song called, "Bring Him Home," from *Les Miserables*.

More details about Alumni Weekend can be found on the MUAA Web site at www.marshall.edu/alumni/

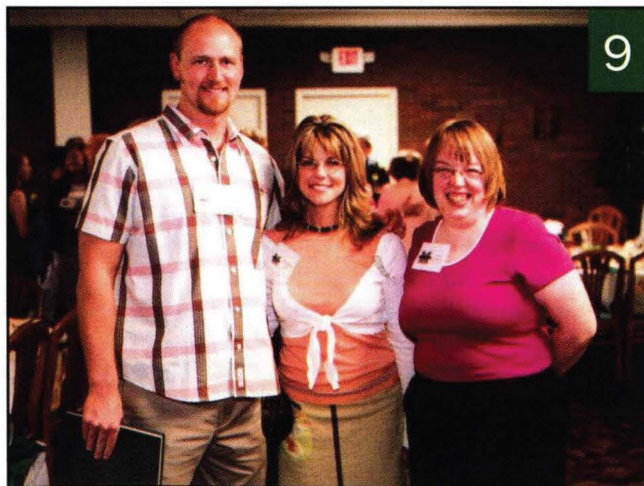


Alumni Weekend 2006

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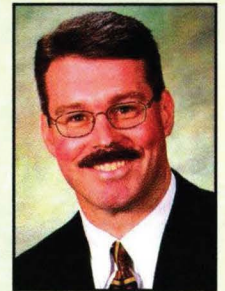
4.) Patsy Reid; Lance West, vice president for alumni development; and Thomas Reid, member of the Grand Class. 5.) Jim Gibson was surprised with a \$100,000 scholarship given in his name by the "Friends of Jim Gibson." Left to right: Ray Gibson; David Haden; Monica Hatfield, president of MUF board of directors; Dr. Stephen J. Kopp, president of Marshall University; Jim Gibson and Sharon Porter, president of the MUA. 6.) A toast to Dr. Stephen J. Kopp following his inauguration as Marshall's 36th president. Left to right: First Lady Jane Kopp; Dr. Kopp; Menis E. Ketchum, chairman, Marshall University Board of Governors; Sharon Porter.



7.) Class of 1946. Left to right: Constance Watrous Huffman; Dorothy Pryor McClure; Adelaide Meador Cole; Janice Edwards Gold. 8.) Class of 1956. Left to right: Mary Reeser Emmons; Maywood Ellifritt; Eleanor Stephens Terry; Shirley Wickline Bowen; Louis DeVaughn; Robert Dotson; John Ray; George Smith; Kenneth Utton; James Holmes; Alvin Sowards; Peter Donathan. 9.) Class of 1996. Left to right: Mark Davis; Amy Thompson Davis; Angela Henderson.

A Message from Lance West

[Vice President for Alumni Development]



It is with great pleasure that I have the opportunity to communicate with you through the *Marshall Magazine*. This publication serves as an excellent tool to promote and educate alumni and friends about the university and ways each of you can make a difference with your time, talents and treasures. Here are some of the ways we ask our alumni and friends to participate in getting reconnected with Marshall.

Student recruitment and retention

Alumni and friends are our best recruiters for prospective students to Marshall. You have the experience and passion for Marshall as well as the feeling of being part of the Marshall family—small class sizes, excellent professors, strong academic programs and exciting athletic teams. Retention efforts of current students are also important. Positive reinforcement and encouragement can help a person strive for his or her goals toward graduation and pursuit of a professional career. Please consider getting involved by contacting our admissions office. This is a great first step and one that greatly assists the university for many years to come.

MUAA club activities

Becoming connected to other Marshall alumni and friends helps strengthen the Marshall family. With more than 37 active clubs throughout the United States, MUAA clubs allow people to network for career opportunities, share stories about their times at Marshall and most importantly, have fellowship with each other. Gamewatching parties will be taking place this fall as well as activities surrounding the release of the much anticipated "We Are Marshall" movie. Visit our Web site, www.Marshall.edu/alumni, see what clubs are in your area and contact a club representative to see how you can become active.

Investing In Marshall University

The Alumni Association has been very active in securing private dollars for the construction of a new Erickson Alumni Center. This facility, will be the center of a lot of activity for students, faculty staff and supporters. If you are already involved with this campaign by making a donation, thank you very much; if not, please consider making a gift today. We welcome all alumni and friends of the university to become involved. We have wonderful naming opportunities still remaining. Please contact me directly at west24@marshall.edu, or (304) 696-2901.

As always, thank you for allowing our alumni staff and national board to serve you. We are fortunate to be able to work with such a dedicated group of passionate alumni and supporters and we strive to continue to do great things in the future. We hope the summer treats you well and we look forward to seeing you in person soon.

We are... Marshall!

Matt Haught

A junior from Barrackville, W.Va., Matt is majoring in print journalism with a minor in political science. He is production manager of *The Parthenon* and serves as vice president of Sigma Delta Chi (The Society of Professional Journalists). Matt also landed a role as an extra in *We Are Marshall*.



Why Marshall?

I wanted to go to a college where my other friends weren't going so I could have the experience of meeting new people. Marshall was my best option – I knew it would offer new experiences, my PROMISE Scholarship would be available to me and Marshall has one of the best journalism schools in the country.

First impression of campus

I first visited campus as a junior in high school as part of the Scholastic Journalism Program through Marshall's J-School. My first thought was, "It's flat! No hills." The campus is all together. It is part of the community but still separate. I liked that.

Favorite faculty member

Professor Dan Hollis has had the greatest impact on me. He is one of those professors who comes to class full of energy. You have to have this kind of energy for a career that can be stressful and demanding. His having that kind of enthusiasm for his job makes you know the career is worthwhile.

Plans for the future

I plan to get my master's in journalism at Marshall and continue working with *The Independent* in Ashland. I believe journalism is the driving force in America that keeps everything in check. Even after working in the field for three years, I don't feel I have gone to work a single day.

The importance of the Alumni Association

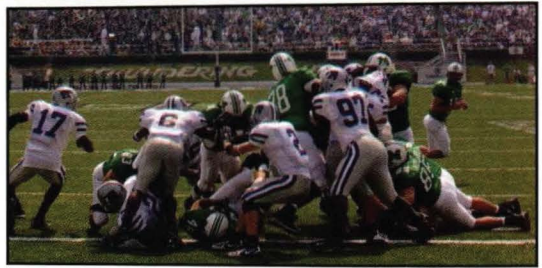
Every day I meet people in my profession who know I wear green and white – and there is an instant connection. The Alumni Association provides a place for that connection to happen and takes it from a chance meeting to a planned event.

How about that movie role?

Being involved in *We Are Marshall* is something I will never forget. I was a reporter for *The Parthenon* and the Office of University Communications happened to be on my beat, so I had the opportunity to cover the story from the beginning. I felt just covering the story was enough of an honor, but now, being able to say I was in the movie is something I will never forget. I played a football player at a scene before the Xavier game.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, WE ARE MARSHALL!

Homecoming 2006



Please save the week of October 23rd through the 28th for Homecoming 2006!

The Herd will be playing the University of Memphis Tigers on Saturday the 28th with a kickoff at 4:30 p.m.

More details will be in the Homecoming issue of the Marshall Magazine, as well as in the @Marshall online newsletter. And, you can always check for updates on www.marshall.edu/alumni/.

We hope to see you there!

Marshall University license plates are available through the state of West Virginia. The price of the plate ranges from \$50.50 to \$75, depending on when your current license plate expires. The plate numbers range from 1001 to 9999. Select your number and call Kimberly Brooks at (304) 696-2901 or (800) 682-5869 to see if it is still available.

Or you may e-mail Kimberly at HUDSON2@MARSHALL.EDU. You may also request an application by calling the same number. The renewal fee for the next year is \$45, payable to the DMV. Please allow 60 days for delivery. The Marshall GO HERD plate (see photo) may be purchased through the Office of Alumni Relations. The cost of the plate is \$25.

Ride With Marshall Pride

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MU Alumni Association Board

We are pleased to announce the new slate of officers and the 2006-2009 board members as approved at the April 22 annual board meeting.

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Mrs. Martha J. Hill '75

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Mr. Christopher L. Howard '95

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Ms. Natalie Ray Zigmund '02

Mr. Jack C. Trainor '64

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Mrs. Kathy G. Eddy '72

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Ms. Karen V. McNealy '74

College of Science

Dr. Thomas F. Lemke

College of Education

Dr. Stan Maynard

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Mr. Ben Sandy

College of Fine Arts

Mr. David L. Cook '72

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Mrs. Ruby A. Dyer '74

Community & Technical College

Mr. Michael G. McComas '85

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Mr. Johnny Walker

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Mr. Tom E. Miller '81

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Mr. David N. Harris '71

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Ms. Monica J. Hatfield '77

Society of Yeager Scholars

Mr. Scott Anderson '92

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- *Broadcast E-Mail: @MARSHALL,* a monthly newsletter that goes out to more than 24,000 alumni who have a registered e-mail address – a hi-tech way to keep up with what is going on at Marshall.
- *Class Notes:* A database for alumni to post notes regarding births, marriages, moves and career changes.
- *Events Calendar:* A complete list of all upcoming MUAA and Marshall University events available online.
- *Update your Marshall records online.*

Joining the MUAA Online Community is easy, free and painless. Here's what you do:

- Go to www.marshall.edu/alumni and click on the MUAA Online Community link at the top.
- Hit "Click Here to Register Now."
- Then just follow the simple steps and you will become a member of the online community.

More than 24,000 Marshall alumni received news of the university last month via the Alumni Association's online community! Please register today and stay connected with Marshall University.





Please share your news with us by filling out the form included with your magazine. Preference will be given to active alumni; other news will be printed as space allows, and should be received within six months of the event. For more Class Notes, go to www.alumniconnections.com/marshall/.

Arrivals

To **Candie Parrish Simpson** (BA'04) and **Frank Simpson Jr.** (BA'04) of Laurel, Md., a daughter, Morgan Antoinette, on February 9, 2006.

To **Kimberly Dickson Kudlik** (BA'97) and **Daniel Kudlick** (BA'96) of Charlotte, N.C., twin sons, Adam Joseph and Andrew Steven, on Oct. 27, 2005.

To **Sonya Casey Patrick** (MBA'04) and Charles Patrick of Huntington, a daughter, Isabella Rose, on May 14, 2005.

To **Pamela Baisden Poteet** (BBA'93) and Scott W. Poteet, a son, Marshall Paul, on April 11, 2005.

Marriages

Jennifer Bush (BS'99, MS'03) and Kevin J. O'Donnell of Indianapolis, Ind., on Feb. 4, 2006.

Kathleen Murto (BSN'98) and Walter E. Carson II of Chesapeake, Va., on November 26, 2005.

June Eiselstein (BA'71) and Evan Rossignol of Salisbury, Md., on October 8, 2005.

Kelly Yoakum (BA'89) and Mike Wilson of Germantown, Md., on October 1, 2005.

Nancy J. Rymasz (BBA'85) and Michael A. Stockwell of Murfreesboro, Tenn., on May 28 2005.

In Memoriam

The Marshall University Alumni Association extends sincere sympathy to the families of the following alumni and friends.

Barbara Marie Dray Bruce (BA'54) of Fairlawn, Ohio, on Dec. 12, 2005.

Dr. Soo Bock Choi of Huntington on March 2, 2006, at age 78. Choi was a retired professor of international politics at Marshall and founder of the university's International Festival.

George Edward Kessinger (BS'49, MA'53) of Lorain, Ohio, on Feb. 9, 2006, at age 84.

Tim Massey (BA'67) of Huntington on March 31, 2006, at age 65.

William H. Matney (BA'39) of Lemon Grove, Calif., on Dec. 14, 2005, at age 90.

Dr. Robert Shelton Nichols (BA'58) of Port St. Lucie, Fla., on Jan. 20, 2006, at age 70.

Capt. Christopher P. Petty (BA'96) of Fort Hood, Texas, on Jan. 5,

2006, at age 33 while on a tour of duty in Iraq with the Army's 4th Infantry Division.

Edmund Francis Quinlan (BA'36) of Houston, Texas, on Feb. 28, 2006.

Harriet Elizabeth "Betty" Clarkson (BS'47) on December 3, 2005.

Robert Carl Vallance (BS'70) of Huntington on March 11, 2006, at age 64. He taught engineering courses at Marshall for many years.

Suzanne Greenlee White (BA'56) of Winter Park, Fla., on April 11, 2006.

CLASS NOTES

1930s



Marian Snyder King and Henry George King of Myrtle Beach, S.C., both

of the Class of 1937, celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in 2005.

1950s

Vause Poage Smith Carlsen (BA'54) of Flushing, Mich., was ordained a minister at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Grand Blanc, Mich., in February 2006. Carlsen gained international fame for her project of knitting head caps for cancer patients and then teaching others, including prisoners at a nearby prison, to knit

the caps. She will be serving several churches in Michigan.

Verona Graham Cumberledge (BA'56) was appointed by University of Kentucky President Dr. Lee T. Todd Jr. to the President's Commission on Women. Cumberledge is the foundation relations officer at UK.

Johnnie H. Corns (BA'58), writing under the name of John Corns, will publish his fourth book this summer, *Owain's Own, a Story of Loyalty and Conflict*, based on the life of Confederate Col. James M. Corns. An immigrant from Wales, Corns brings his family from Pennsylvania to Twelve Pole Creek in Wayne County, Va., on the eve of the Civil War. The price he pays for his commitment to the Southern cause and the fortune of his friends and family is the heart of the story.

Dr. Robert C. Cole (BA'58) of Yardley, Pa., has retired as the only director of journalism The College of New Jersey has ever had. Since he joined the college, he transformed the journalism program from one class to an award-winning training program.

1960s

Ann Pendleton "Penny" Tully (BS'68) has retired from the University of Michigan in order to accept a position as associate director for conferences and events at the Center for Excellence, a unit of The Guidance Center. CFE is the research, evaluation and

dissemination arm of a human services agency with a staff of 600+ and more than 11,000 clients. The Guidance Center, located in Southgate, Mich., was named the Crain's Detroit Business 2004 Non-profit of the Year.

Eugene M. Elliott Jr. (BA'69) was inducted as a Fellow of the Virginia Law Foundation during the Virginia Bar Association's annual meeting. This is a special honor conferred on selected Virginia attorneys, law professors and retired judges who are deemed to be outstanding in their profession and in their community. Total membership is limited to one per cent of the active membership of the Virginia State Bar. Last year Elliott was named 2005 Local Bar Leader of the Year by the Virginia State Bar.

Dr. Bobby Barton (BA'69) was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Kentucky Athletic Trainers Society in January 2006. The award was presented by Jewish Heritage Hospital of Louisville. He was also inducted into the Marshall Sports Medicine Hall of Fame in 2000.

1970s

Rose Ann Ellis Burgess (MA'71) of Roanoke, Va., was selected as Concord College Alumna of the Year for 2005. She previously was awarded the Perry Kendig Award for Outstanding Support of the Arts in the Roanoke Valley. Burgess is retired from the Roanoke Public Schools after 31 years.

Dennis Meadows (BBA'71) is now director of purchasing for Marshall. He was previously director of purchasing for the state Department of Health and Human Resources. Last year he was given the Auditor's Award of Excellence from Glen B. Gainer, auditor of the state of West Virginia.

June Eiselstein (BA'71) accepted a position at Prudential Carruthers Realtors located in Ocean City, Md. as a realtor. She was employed previously at the Boston Public Library as supervisor of the General Library.



Frances V. Creighton (BA'73), has accepted a position within the International Brand Group

of British American Tobacco (BAT) in London. She was formerly executive vice president of marketing for R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, joining that firm in 1981 as a marketing research analyst.

Sharon Pastorius Hatchell (BA'75) of Amelia Island, Fla., was named chief operating officer of ReMilNet, LLC, a Jacksonville consulting firm, in October 2005. The firm specializes in delivering premier senior talent to U.S. government agencies and government contracting companies.

John Merial (BA'75) is an area manager with American Office Equipment in Naples, Fla. The company is one of the largest

Panasonic office equipment dealers in America.

Lisa Thomas-Laury (BA'75) of Philadelphia, Pa., the state's first African-American TV weather personality, reporting for WSAZ-TV, had the honor of appearing on the Oprah Winfrey Show in November 2005. The two women are longtime friends. Thomas-Laury, former anchor on WPVI-TV in Philadelphia, has received numerous community and professional awards throughout her career.

Peter Barr (BBA'75, MBA'77) assumed the presidency of Glenville State College in July 2006. He was formerly provost and chief academic officer at Coastal Carolina University.

Dr. Mark Paxton (1978) was promoted to professor in the Department of Media, Journalism and Film at Missouri State University in Springfield, Mo.

1980s



Patricia L. Seifert (BA'83) has joined the firm of Tucker Ellis & West LLP in its

Cleveland, Ohio, office as counsel. A member of the firm's trial department, she focuses on construction law and litigation. She previously represented the company and its affiliates in litigation, administrative proceedings, arbitrations and mediations in local, state and federal courts. Tucker Ellis & West LLP is a full

service law firm with more than 120 attorneys and offices in Cleveland, Los Angeles and San Francisco, Calif.

Melda Hamrick Brown (AAS'84) received an executive Master of Business Administration degree from University of Charleston in August 2005. She successfully passed the Medical Technologist (MT) Board of Regents examination through the American Society of Clinical Pathologists (ASCP) in Sept 2004 and is currently employed as a Six Sigma black belt at Charleston Area Medical Center.

Carl Adkins (BA'85) of Roswell, Ga., is the general manager of the Georgia Dome which hosted the Sugar Bowl game between WVU and the University of Georgia.

Gena Taylor Ellis (BA'86), a screenwriter in Madison, Ala., has her first screenplay being produced in Australia by award-winning director Mat King in 2006. She was also honored by the Alabama Council on the Arts to be included in Southernartistry.org, a multi-disciplinary showcase for outstanding Southern artists.

1990s

Leeann Lemon Sammons (AAS'90, BA'92) of South Shore, Ky., was promoted to vice president of health and safety at Southern Ohio Medical Center in Portsmouth, Ohio. She has been with the organization for eight years and most

recently was director of safety and occupational medicine.



John F. Hussell IV (BA'91) of Charleston, a partner in the law firm of Dinsmore & Shohl

LLP, was selected as a Fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel, a professional association consisting of approximately 2,700 lawyers from throughout the United States. Hussell received his juris doctor degree from Washington & Lee University School of Law (1994). While at Marshall he was a member of the Society of Yeager Scholars.

Scott Stover (BSN'91) of Katy, Texas, was accepted to the doctoral program at the University of Texas School of Public Health.

John Bruce Carter II (BA'94, MA'96) served in Afghanistan until May 2006 as a captain in the U.S. Army Military Police. He will be stationed at Fort Meade, Md., in June 2006 as the operations officer (S-3) for the 400th Military Police Battalion.

Jennifer Woodyard Price (BBA'95, MBA'97) joined the Marshall University Center for Business and Economic Research as a research associate in October 2005.

James Workman (BS'96) received a Master of Business Administration

from Morehead State University in December 2005.

Olen York (BS'96) received a Master of Laws in intellectual property from the University of Akron School of Law in May 2005. He received his Juris Doctor degree from the same university in 2001, and an L.L.M. in intellectual property in 2005.

Michele Renee Watts (BBA'96) of Huntington was promoted to supervisor in registration at Cabell Huntington Hospital.

Shane Cartmill (BA'96) of Columbus, Ohio, has accepted a position as the chief public information officer for the State of Ohio's fire marshal. He will serve as the media officer and on-scene spokesperson as well as overseeing all publications and Web site content and design. He will also be the supervisor of distance learning for the Ohio Fire Academy. Cartmill is a former employee of the Robert C. Byrd Center.

Sgt. Tyler Parris (BA'97) returned from a tour of duty in Djibouti, Africa, with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. There he managed the computer helpdesk at Camp Lemonier for about 1500 personnel and served as the platoon sergeant for the communication section on base. He earned the Joint Service Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter Award for Q405.

David Scott Simonton (MS'97) was promoted to associate professor of

environmental science at Marshall University.



Brian Golden (MBA'97) has been named a business banker by BB&T.

He serves the Kanawha, Putnam, and Cabell county markets.

Capt. Will Smith (BA'97) is serving in Tikrit, Iraq, with the 445th Civil Affairs Battalion, an Army Reserve special operations unit based in Mountain View, Calif. He was one of four servicemen selected for inclusion in a blog project hosted by *The New York Times* about what life is like in Iraq. He earned his army commission from Marshall's ROTC program.

Roger Lee Patrick Jr. (MS'99) of Grove City, Ohio, received his Juris Doctor degree from Capital University Law School. He is with the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas Domestic Relations, Juvenile Division.

2000s

Alison Gerlach (BA'00) is an associate at the law firm of Lamp O'Dell Bartram Levy and Trautwein in Huntington.

Brian Keith Thacker (BA'00) of Raleigh, N.C., graduated from Strayer University with a Master of Business Administration degree in March 2006. He is also performing improv with i.O. South and

Comedyworx in Raleigh. Thacker is a teacher in the Wake County Public Schools.

Christopher Sizemore (BA'01) of Columbia, Md., a professional actor with The Kennedy Center, has been performing in the National Tour of *Willy Wonka*.



Dr. Pamela J. Staton (PhD'03), associate professor in Marshall's Forensic Science

program, has been appointed to the science board of the Environmental Pathogens Information network, a U.S. Department of Agriculture National Facilitation Project that has been awarded support for the next three years. She will be the primary investigator on a USDA research project to study the Ohio and New rivers in West Virginia, seeking to develop DNA-based techniques to track microbial pollution sources.

Bethany Ross (BA'05) of Ona has been promoted to account executive at Charles Ryan Associates.



Judy Light Ayyildiz BA'63

Judy Light Ayyildiz feels that if you can't find something you need, chances are other people need it, too. This was the incentive behind her ninth book, *Some of My Ancestors Are Ottomans and Turks*, a full-color book targeted for middle school.

Ayyildiz, who has been married to U.S.-naturalized Turkish-American citizen Dr. Vedii Ayyildiz for 44 years, was in Istanbul several years ago shopping for a book about Turkish heritage for her grandson. "There were none available," said Ayyildiz. "So I came home and wrote this book about how the Turks got from the Asian Steppe into Europe and evolved into the modern Turkish Republic. Later when I was asked to make a presentation to a large group of Turks at the New York consulate on another matter, I was asked if I had written anything for Turkish children. I showed them the book and they not only loved it, but insisted they needed a book like this for their Saturday Turkish classes. I asked my husband to illustrate the text of the book and my daughter to design it."

The Ayyildiz family started its own press and sold copies of the book to the Turkish schools in the United States with remarkable success. Last year she went back to Istanbul to the Greenhouse Bookstore to see if they would carry her book. "They not only said yes," said Ayyildiz, "but wanted to publish it. They have since asked me to write a second book in the series with my husband as illustrator. This new book will focus on the republic and its founder, Atatürk, and the remarkable and progressive rights he gave to women and his insistence on their being equal."

This is not the first time Ayyildiz felt the need to write about something near to her heart. One day in 1985 she woke up paralyzed from the waist down. "I was soon to be diagnosed with Guillain-Barré syndrome, a disorder where the immune system gets confused and begins to attack itself," said Ayyildiz. I was told that nothing but time and physical therapy could help. I used this time to reflect on my life – my days at Marshall, how I met my husband and the challenges of our cultural and religious differences." This review of her life led to the poignant – and entertaining – *Nothing But Time: A Woman's Struggle with Guillain-Barré Syndrome*, published in 2000.

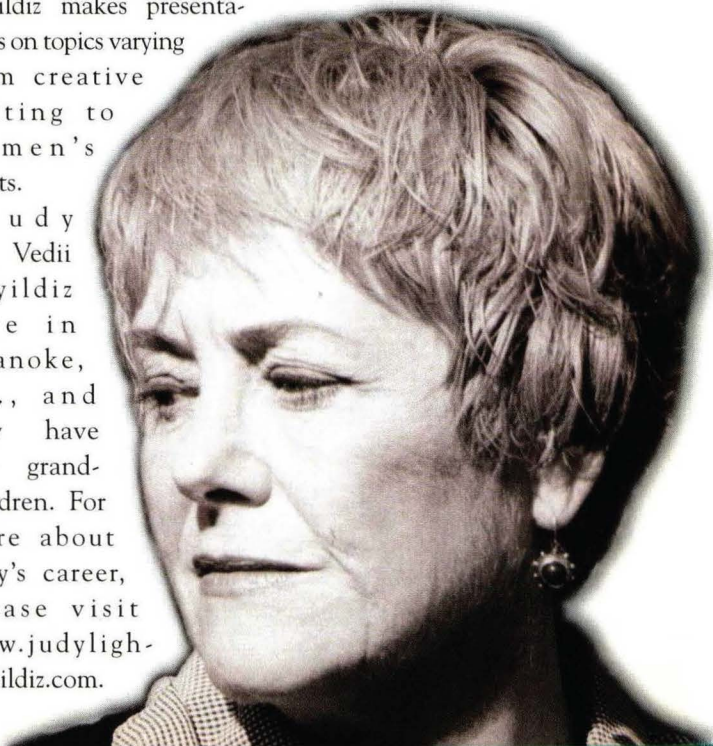
In spite of some personally emotional times while at Marshall, Ayyildiz enjoyed being educated in her "first"

career, music education. This teaching career may not have happened were it not for one of her mentors, supervisor Janet Chandler at Huntington East High School. "When I was doing my student teaching," said Ayyildiz, "I was not only married but pregnant. At that time it was illegal for a woman to teach in West Virginia if pregnant. Using mind over matter I managed to hide my afternoon queasiness. The day I got my degree I went back to tell Janet the truth, and as it turned out, she already knew. She chose not to tell. This was one of the nicest things anyone ever did for me. And to those young women reading this, it lets you know how things used to be, and how they have changed." Ayyildiz would go on to earn a master's degree from the Hollins University Creative Writing program.

Ayyildiz sustained some permanent damage from the Guillain-Barré, but yoga and a lot of meditation helped in the recovery. In addition to her books of poetry, her three textbooks for middle school, and the book in progress in Istanbul, she has a tenth book, the novel *Wife of the Revolution*, with her agent now. The book is based on the life of her mother-in-law, who was active in women's rights in Turkey.

As well as writing and teaching, Ayyildiz makes presentations on topics varying from creative writing to women's rights.

Judy and Vedii Ayyildiz live in Roanoke, Va., and now have two grandchildren. For more about Judy's career, please visit www.judylightayyildiz.com.



Reporting 'The Crash'



Marshall Memories
by Roger Dyer, Class of 1971

Spurred by the filming of *We Are Marshall*, the hearts and memories of those who were on campus in 1970 have come into sharp focus.

My most vivid memory is how the special memorial edition of *The Parthenon* was written, edited and produced during that time of heartache. I was a journalism major and reporter for the student newspaper and, like everyone I knew, was in some state of shock after hearing about the plane crash on Saturday night.

The day before, I'd joked with Jeff Nathan, our sports editor, about going to the East Carolina game. I was in Dr. Brian O'Connor's office interviewing him for a story about when he looked at his watch and asked if we could get back together on Monday. He had to catch the plane to the game. I never saw them again.

When I walked into the newsroom in Smith Hall early Monday morning, that shocked feeling turned to purpose. Already at work, some since early Sunday, editors and faculty were finishing plans for *The Parthenon* to commemorate the lives of those who died. It was to be distributed Wednesday.

George Arnold, then a faculty advisor, told Larry Hurley and me to go to Gullickson Hall and talk to whomever we could about the coaches and players who died. Seeing us stiffen up at the assignment, Wayne

Faulkner, editor-in-chief, just a student but with several more journalism courses on his transcript, said "Just talk to them like family. Today we all are."

He was right. As Larry and I moved through the halls and offices in Gullickson, we gathered heartfelt personal stories. It seemed that everyone had

something they wanted to share. We learned, among the stories, about the player who missed the flight from Tri-State, the equipment manager who would not fly on Friday the 13th, and about Art Harris Sr., who went to the game from New Jersey to watch his son Art Jr. play and decided to come to Huntington with the team instead of flying back home that evening.



The Parthenon news room in the 1970s.

Then it was back to the newsroom where we worked tirelessly on our stories, shared information with other reporters and editors, and focused on our tribute. Typically, the newspaper was eight pages; this one would have 24 pages. Every typewriter and telephone had a reporter or editor using it. Stories were finished, edited and headlines composed and changed as new information came in. *The Parthenon* was distributed throughout campus Wednesday morning.

I've often thought of how hard and how well everyone worked under such trying times to make a worthy tribute to our fallen friends.

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, 300 words or fewer, to Marshall Memories, MU Alumni Association, One John Marshall Dr., Huntington, WV 25755; or e-mail drastura@marshall.edu.

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