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## The Parthenon, September 5, 2012

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# THE PARTHENON

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## Manchin, Tomblin speak at business summit

BY MICHAEL RAMSBURG  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University College of Business staff recently joined state leaders and business owners in discussions about the state of business in W.Va.

Dr. Deanna Mader, interim dean of the College of Business, served as Marshall University's representative

at the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce's 76th Annual Meeting and Business Summit. The discussions were held at the Greenbrier Resort in White Sulphur Springs, Greenbrier County.

According to the Chamber website, the gathering "is the largest gathering of business, industry, financial and political leaders from around (the)

state." The Summit took place Aug. 29 to Aug. 31.

Attendees of the Business Summit were introduced to a variety of state political and business leaders.

Summit speakers included Sen. Joe Manchin and Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin, among other state notables.

Topics of discussion ranged from the challenges

facing state manufacturers to recent West Virginia Supreme Court decisions that effect state business owners.

The Summit also included a symposium titled "The Status of Young Talent in West Virginia and its Future Economic Impact." The talk was sponsored by Generation West Virginia, an organization that supports

and encourages young talent – including young entrepreneurs – throughout the state.

On Thursday, Summit participants were encouraged to attend a symposium titled "Solving Education Challenges in West Virginia." Several state education officials, including the presidents of several private and public universities, acted

as discussion panelists. W.Va. state senate education committee chairman Bob Plymale served as the session's moderator.

The West Virginia Chamber of Commerce's annual meeting is a private, member-only event.

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## Democratic Party Campaign HQ opens in Huntington

BY KATIE WISE  
THE PARTHENON

Friday afternoon marked the grand opening of the Cabell County Democratic Party Campaign Headquarters on 4th Avenue.

The event, which was sponsored by the Cabell County Democratic Executive Committee and the Democratic Women of Cabell County, drew several notable speakers, including U.S. Sen. Joe Manchin, W. Va. Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin and Democratic nominee for mayor Steve Williams.

Patrick Hensley, Field Director of the West Virginia Democrat Party, said the event was fantastic and far exceeded expectations.

"We estimate that somewhere between 150 to 200 people attended the event on Friday," Hensley said. "To put that in perspective, the Republican Party in West Virginia has already had about 5 Headquarter openings throughout the state, and our Cabell Headquarter opening had more people than all of their events combined."

The headquarters grand opening gave Democrats a chance to rally support and influence West Virginians to get out to the polls and vote during this upcoming election.

"This is our country, this is our government and we own it; whether you like it or not, it's yours. And if I own something I'm going take care of it and I'm going get involved with it," said U.S. Sen. Joe Manchin. "So I'm asking everyone to get involved." West Virginia Gov. Earl Ray

Tomblin also commented on the upcoming election.

"The Democrats in Cabell County always come through and you're doing that again. I'm just thrilled to see such a crowd here today," said Tomblin. "I want your help, I need your help and together we're going to win this thing in November."

In addition to rallying voters, Tomblin briefly discussed some of the bills passed this last session, touching on legislation regarding coal miner health and safety, anti texting and driving, substance abuse and cutting the food tax.

Tomblin also commented on the financial stability of West Virginia.

"It's been over 17 years since the last general tax increase in our state. No other state can say that," said Tomblin. "Everybody else over the last three or four years during the Great Recession has been raising taxes and cutting programs. We have not had to do that and that's because of good Democrat leadership."

The headquarters grand opening also gave political newcomer and former Marshall Student Body President, Sean Hornbuckle, a chance to spread the word about his campaign and gain support from local Democrats. Hornbuckle is running for the West Virginia House of Delegates for the 16 District.

As a reminder: Tuesday, Nov. 6 is Election Day. United States citizens may vote for public offices at local, state and national levels.

Katie Wise can be contacted at wise37@marshall.edu.

## Michelle Obama pays tribute to husband in speech

BY MARK Z. BARABAK  
LOS ANGELES TIMES (MCT)

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - Michelle Obama took to the stage of the Democratic National Convention on Tuesday night to offer a personal testimonial for her husband, capping a night devoted to attacks on his Republican rival, Mitt Romney.

Appearing in the hour of prime time carried by the major TV networks, Obama recounted her travels across the country as first lady, saying, "Every day they remind me how blessed we are to live in the greatest nation on Earth."

Her tribute followed a history-making keynote address by San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro, who presented his family's history as a parable of the American Dream: a rise, in just two generations, from impoverishment to elected office.

"America didn't become the land of opportunity by accident," he said, implicitly making President Barack Obama's case for government as a helping hand. He cited the schools and universities and roads and bridges built through the investment of an earlier generation, including his immigrant grandmother.

"Like many of you, I watched last week's Republican convention," Castro said. "And they told a few stories of individual success. We all celebrate individual success. But the question is how do we multiply that success. The answer is President Barack Obama."

Castro then turned to Romney, who was formally installed as his party's nominee last week in Tampa, Fla., an important swing state.

"Republicans tell us that if the most prosperous among us do even better, that somehow the rest of us will too," Castro said. "First they called it 'trickle-down.' Then 'supply



OLIVIER DOULIERY/ABACA PRESS/MCT

First Lady Michelle Obama speaks to the delegates after finishing her speech at the 2012 Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, Tuesday.

side.' Now it's 'Romney/Ryan,' or is it 'Ryan/Romney?'"

Castro said, referring to Wisconsin Rep. Paul D. Ryan, the GOP vice presidential nominee and architect of the House GOP's budget plan.

Castro, 37, the first Latino to deliver a convention keynote speech, spoke just before Michelle Obama, who was spared from going on the offensive after so many others had done the work for the president.

Some of the harshest rhetoric came from Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada. He accused congressional Republicans of trying to sabotage Obama's presidency, attacked the tea party wing of the GOP as "extremists and ideologues" and went after Romney for refusing to release more than two

years of personal tax returns.

"We can only imagine what new secrets would be revealed if he showed the American people a dozen years of tax returns, like his father did," Reid said, referring to former Michigan Gov. George Romney, who sought the White House in 1968. "Truth comes from transparency and Mitt Romney comes up short on both."

In a bit of barbed stagecraft, Romney appeared inside the convention hall on tape during a video tribute to the late Sen. Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts. A more moderate Romney unsuccessfully ran against Kennedy in 1994. The partisan crowd roared when Romney,

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## Clay Center showcases MU-WVU rivalry

BY DWIGHT JORGE  
THE PARTHENON

The Clay Center is now featuring a special art gallery that includes a very familiar rivalry.

Marshall University and West Virginia University are now displaying unique pieces of art at the Clay Center.

"Gallery Divided" will be on display through Nov. 11 at The Clay Center, which is located at One Clay Square, Charleston, West Virginia.

The exhibit features local artist such as Dylan Collins, Alison Helm, Erika Osborne, Michael Sherwin, Naijun Zhang, Miyuki Akai Cook, Ian Hagarty, Daniel Kaufmann, Natalie Larsen and Brent Patterson.

Ian Hagarty, Assistant Professor in the School of Art and Design at Marshall University, encourages students and faculty to visit the exhibit at the Clay Center.



Natalie Larsen, art and design professor, creates a work of art for "Gallery Divided." The gallery will be on display through Nov. 11.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

fun opportunity for students and the viewing public to see Marshall and West Virginia University go head to head off the field," said Natalie Larsen, Professor in the School of Art and Design.

The winning university will receive a \$1000 scholarship.

"I would love to be able to give that to a Marshall student," Larsen said. "It would be proof of what I already know that not only do we have the best faculty, but we have the best students."

Larsen has two drawings for display, one of which she drew at the exhibit.

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"Marshall students and faculty should go to the exhibit, because there is a wide variety of highly accomplished works of art," Hagarty said.

At the event visitors can choose the better art exhibit between Marshall and West Virginia University, as well as an individual MVP.

"The exhibition at the Clay Center is a

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MARSHALL CAREER SERVICES

# Civil rights lecture series to begin next week

BY JEREMY BROWN  
THE PARTHENON

Starting next week, the first of six lecturers will visit Marshall to speak about the history of the civil rights in the United States.

The Long Civil Rights Movement in America: A Lecture Series begins

Tuesday, September 11 when Bancroft Prize winner Dr. Thomas Sugrue comes to the university, and will continue throughout the semester.

Every month until November, Marshall will welcome two distinguished speakers to present different aspects of the civil right struggle in

the United States as part of the series.

"I can't emphasize how lucky Marshall is to have these six speakers come to our campus," David Trowbridge, director of African American studies at Marshall, said. "The fact that all six will be here in one

semester is nothing short of a miracle—you can't get this kind of programming at Harvard."

Dr. Sugrue will speak on civil rights issues above the Mason-Dixon line. He is the author of the acclaimed book Sweet Land of Liberty: The Forgotten Struggle for Civil

Rights in the North. A Newsday review stated "The book covers more fresh ground than any history of race has in many years."

Also appearing this month on Tuesday, September 25, Dr. Tracy K'Meyer. Dr. K'Meyer will lecture on civil rights in Kentucky and the

importance of community activism in the movement. She is the author of the book of Civil Rights in the Gateway to the South: Louisville, Kentucky, 1945-1980.

In October Dr. Hasan Kwame Jeffries will visit

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## Fraternity and Sorority Life begins 3-year commitment

BY JOSHUA PRINCE  
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall Greek community has taken the initiative to help disadvantaged school children by collecting school supplies for the Boys and Girls Club.

The Greek community recently kicked off the three-year commitment with the Boys and Girls Club of Huntington.

"The overall significance is the chance for Greek community members to really make a difference by taking the time to help out the Boys and Girls Club," Lee Tabor, Greek Affairs Advisor, said. "The Boys and Girls Club is an organization that can sometimes be forgotten. However, Fraternity and Sorority Life at Marshall is taking a stand in order to raise awareness, funds and support."

The drive ends on September 5 at 9:15 p.m. The supplies will be collected and delivered to the Guyandotte Boys and Girls Club Friday, September 7 at 3 p.m. The supplies will then be divided among the three Huntington Clubs.

"The Greek community has never had a stable philanthropy before now," Erica Law, Council President of Boys and Girls Club, said. "By teaming up with the Boys and Girls Club we are able to directly impact children in our area." The Greek community is proud to say that they have collected an abundant amount of school supplies already.

"So far, the fraternity/sorority life community



has collected thousands of items," said Tabor. "We are still collecting supplies until September 5 and I know these numbers will continue to rise."

There are no prizes for the most items collected by a chapter who raises the most for the Boys and Girls Club, however, the drive, along with other philanthropic/community events, does figure into Greek Week and Chapter Excellence standings.

"This drive and partnership with the Boys and Girls Club is in no way to benefit ourselves or image within the Huntington community," Tabor said. "We are doing this to make a difference in these children's lives and hope to inspire others to do the same."

The Greek community is also planning a Trunk-or-Treat on October 26 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Guyandotte Boys and Girls Club. A winter clothing drive is also in store for November and a toy drive in December.

Next semester the Greek community will hold a Boy and Girls Club Easter egg hunt, a kickball tournament sponsored by the Marshall Fraternity and Sorority Life for the children.

Joshua Prince can be contacted prince37@marshall.edu.

## 2012 DNC kicks off in Charlotte

Democrats turn left on social issues, widening chasm with GOP

BY DAVID LIGHTMAN  
VIA MCT DIRECT

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - Democrats staked out unmistakably liberal positions on some of the nation's most volatile social issues Tuesday, notably abortion and gay marriage, planting the party as firmly on the political left as Republicans are on the political right.

The differences are vividly reflected in the two parties' platforms. For years, platforms strived to be lofty and gentle, brushing aside any hint of extremes while couching controversial positions in language carefully crafted not to offend swing voters.

Not anymore. The Democratic platform lights a fire from the start, fans the flames and urges votes to pick sides.

"This election is not simply a choice between two candidates or two political parties," it says, "but between two fundamentally different paths for our country and our families." Republicans at least agree on that much.

The firebrand reflects two significant trends: Both parties see 2012 as a "turnout election," where getting out the faithful could mean the difference, and both parties' ideological wings are now firmly in control.

"The platform is most important to Democratic Party activists more, and feminists," said John Green, a senior fellow with the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. "For the Democratic activists, these issues are a plus. If you look at the Democratic Party voter, there are some constituencies that care about these issues, particularly women."

So, too, with Republicans, whose strong opposition to abortion and gay marriage is a surefire base-motivator.

Neither stance is particularly new or surprising, but some of the details and tough language are. Since the Supreme Court's 1973 Roe v. Wade decision, which permitted abortion in most cases, the Democratic Party has supported the ruling.

In 1980, as conservatives gained control of the Republican Party, its platform was quick and pointed: "While we recognize differing views on this question among Americans in general \_ and in our own party \_ we affirm our support of a constitutional amendment to restore protection of the right to life for unborn children."

Democrats also kept the language soft.



President Barack Obama greets supporters Tuesday at a campaign stop in Norfolk State University in Norfolk, Virginia.



In 1996, the party wrote in its platform: "We respect the individual conscience of each American on this difficult issue, and we welcome all our members to participate at every level of the party."

The party's goal, it wrote, is "to make abortion less necessary and more rare, not more difficult and more dangerous."

This year, such niceties are all but gone. You're either with us or you're against us, they seem to say.

"The Democratic Party strongly and unequivocally supports Roe v. Wade and a woman's right to make decisions regarding her pregnancy, including a safe and legal abortion, regardless of ability to pay. We oppose any and all efforts to weaken or undermine that right," the 2012 platform says.

The word "rare" is not used. There are no exceptions to allow any limits on the right to abortion, such as laws requiring parental notification or a ban on the later-term procedure called "partial-birth" abortion.

The 2012 platform takes aim at Republicans: "Abortion is an intensely personal decision between a woman, her family, her doctor and her clergy; there is no place for politicians or government to get in the way."

The Republican view on abortion takes

three paragraphs. The platform endorses a human life amendment to the Constitution, and makes no references to exclusions. Republican nominee Mitt Romney says abortion could be permitted in cases involving rape, incest or a threat to the woman's life.

Both parties see political gain.

Democrats angle to strengthen President Barack Obama's already-big lead among women. Republicans counter that women care most about economics, not abortion \_ but they aren't shy about promoting their view as a way of firing up their base.

Gay marriage also has bitterly divided the two parties. Democratic platforms have supported gay rights since 1980, though in 1996, President Bill Clinton signed the Defense of Marriage Act into law, which defines marriage as the union of a man and woman. Obama personally opposed gay marriage, as well, until recently.

This year's platform rejects that notion. "We support marriage equality and support the movement to secure equal treatment under law for same-sex couples. We also support the freedom of churches and religious entities to decide how to administer marriage as a religious sacrament without government interference," it says.

Republicans differ: "We believe that marriage, the union of one man and one woman, must be upheld as the national standard, a goal to stand for, encourage and promote through laws governing marriage."

## Marshall welcomes new service organization

BY ASHLEY KILLINGSWORTH  
THE PARTHENON

A new service organization will be established on Marshall University's campus Wednesday.

John Pinkerman, State Secretary Treasurer of the Lions Clubs of West Virginia, said an informational meeting for the club will take place Wednesday at 7 p.m. in room 2E10 of the Memorial Student Center.

"We've been tabling and some of these kids have stopped by and we'll be inviting them," Pinkerman said. "We'll have pizza, talk about the organization and see how many of them want to be part (of the club)."

Pinkerman said the organization is looking for students who have big hearts and want to help others. He said the club is



being formed to give students a chance to learn how to give back.

The Lions Club is the world's largest and most active service organization with more than 46,000 clubs and 1.35 million members. Founded in 1917, the Lions clubs are best known for fighting blindness, but have branched out to a variety of community projects. With the motto "We Serve," the Lions are active in a variety of community projects in over 207 countries.

Ashley Killingsworth can be contacted at killingsworth@marshall.edu.

## Cleanup from Isaac continues in Gulf Coast states

BY MICHAEL MUSKAL  
VIA MCT DIRECT

Helped by a declaration of a statewide health emergency, Louisiana officials pressed forward Tuesday with their cleanup from last week's Hurricane Isaac. They also reported that electrical power had been substantially restored throughout the state.

A spokesperson for the state's unified command group estimated that 95 percent of all electrical power had been returned. Officials at the utility Entergy placed the number of customers without power at 56,807. Some flooding was still reported from the storm, which made landfall a week ago, on Aug. 28.

On Monday, Gov. Bobby Jindal formally declared a statewide public health emergency \_ a move that allows government workers to enter private property and remove debris.

In the announcement, Jindal noted that 200 advisories to boil water had been issued and that more than 40 percent of electrical power had been lost for extended periods of time.

The health emergency will last until Oct. 3, though it can be ended sooner if the cleanup



Rescue efforts in La Place, Louisiana assisted in removing dozens of families whose homes were surrounded by water after Hurricane Isaac made landfall on August 30.

progresses well, officials said.

Meanwhile, officials in Hancock County, Miss., were removing the bodies of 15,000 to 16,000 nutria killed by the storm. Workers in hazardous material suits were loading the bodies of the water-borne rodents for removal to a local landfill, Brian Adam of the Emergency Management Agency said by telephone.

The cleanup is being done by a private contractor, and officials hope it will be

completed in one to two weeks, he said. The nutria washed up on some local beaches from the marshy areas where they normally live.

With the cleanup well under way, officials at the National Hurricane Center reported that a new tropical storm named Michael had formed in the eastern Atlantic Ocean. The storm, some 1,200 miles southwest of the Azores, is expected to remain away from land.

# SPORTS

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## 2012-2013 Marshall Men's Basketball Schedule



Date	Opponent	Location	Time	TV
Oct. 29	Bluefield College (Exh.)	Huntington	TBA	
Nov. 9	Longwood	Huntington	TBA	
Nov. 11	at Villanova \$	Philadelphia	TBA	
Nov. 16	vs. UDC \$	Long Island, N.Y.	TBA	
Nov. 17	vs. South Dakota State \$	Long Island, N.Y.	TBA	
Nov. 18	at Hofstra \$	Long Island, N.Y.	TBA	
Nov. 24	Nevada	Huntington	TBA	
Nov. 28	Morehead State	Huntington	TBA	
Dec. 1	UNC Wilmington	Huntington	TBA	
Dec. 5	vs. West Virginia #	Charleston	TBA	
Dec. 8	Coppin State	Huntington	TBA	
Dec. 15	vs. Cincinnati #	Charleston	TBA	
Dec. 19	Savannah State	Huntington	TBA	
Dec. 22	at Kentucky	Lexington, Ky.	4 p.m.	ESPN 2
Jan. 2	Delaware State	Huntington	TBA	
Jan. 5	at Ohio	Athens, Ohio	TBA	
Jan. 9	Tulsa*	Huntington	TBA	
Jan. 12	at UTEP*	El Paso, Texas	TBA	
Jan. 19	East Carolina*	Huntington	TBA	
Jan. 23	at Southern Miss*	Hattiesburg, Miss.	TBA	
Jan. 26	at Memphis*	Memphis, Tenn.	TBA	
Jan. 30	SMU*	Huntington	TBA	
Feb. 2	UCF*	Huntington	TBA	
Feb. 6	at Tulane*	New Orleans	TBA	
Feb. 9	at UAB*	Birmingham, Ala.	TBA	
Feb. 13	Rice*	Huntington	TBA	
Feb. 16	Memphis*	Huntington	TBA	
Feb. 20	at UCF*	Orlando, Fla.	TBA	
Feb. 23	UAB*	Huntington	TBA	
March 2	at Houston*	Houston	TBA	
March 6	Southern Miss*	Huntington	TBA	
March 9	at East Carolina*	Greenville, N.C.	TBA	
March 13-16	C-USA Championships	Tulsa, Okla.	TBA	

All Times Eastern  
 \* Conference USA game  
 \$ 2K Sports Classic benefiting Wounded Warrior Project (Nov.16-18 are hosted by Hofstra)  
 # at Charleston Civic Center

page designed and edited by JEREMY JOHNSON | johnson783@marshall.edu

## Herd falls to Campbell 4-2

BY KARA KUCIN  
 THE PARTHENON

In their sixth game this season, Marshall women's soccer suffered a 4-2 loss against Campbell University. The Herd went into the game with some confidence after coming off a 2-1 win against Saint Francis last Friday, however it was not enough to stop Campbell from scoring three goals in the first 15 minutes.

"We've really struggled these last couple of games taking off right from the start," senior Annabelle Bramwell said.

The Herd started off slow, which affected the pace of the game and the ability to keep a high level of intensity. In practice the girls have been working on having a sense of urgency during their games and coming out of the gate firing with a lot of energy.

Senior Chelsey Maiden and Freshman Kelly Culicerto scored goals for the herd in the second half. Culicerto kicked her first collegiate goal in the final minute, rallying the score to 2-4; it will be a memorable goal for the freshman but it was not enough to give the Herd the win.

They did not quite get off with as good of a start as they anticipated due to multiple injuries during preseason; a couple of the players suffered broken bones and muscle strains.

"Everyone has been stepping up this season and we are all realizing that it is more than the starting players, it's a whole team effort," Bramwell said.

However, Marshall does have something different this year than last, the Herd has a total of 30 players on their roster. All players

are now forced to work extremely hard to earn a starting position because only 18 players are allowed to travel to the games.

Bramwell said she was pleased with her teammate's performance and said the team battled until the end.

"Our team never stopped fighting the whole game, and even after we dropped a couple of goals we kept fighting until the last whistle."

Bramwell said she hopes to make the conference tournament this year as a senior. She said she also wants to help the younger players on the team get better and improve the program at Marshall.

Marshall (2-3) will hit the road again Friday for a game against Morehead State at 7p.m.

Kara Kucin can be contacted at [kucin@marshall.edu](mailto:kucin@marshall.edu).



The Thundering Herd women's soccer team lines up before the start of a game.

HERDZONE

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# OPINION

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2012 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

## THE PARTHENON

### ABOUT US

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

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### THE FIRST AMENDMENT

The Constitution of the United States of America

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

## ONLINE POLLS

Do you plan to upgrade to the iPhone 5 after its release on Sept. 15?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

The following are the results from last week's poll question: How many touchdowns do you think Marshall will score during its Sept. 1 game against WVU?

- 0 13% - 12 votes
- 1-2 35% - 33 votes
- 3-4 36% - 34 votes
- 5 or More 17% - 16 votes

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

### EDITORIAL

## You have the right to not vote

So there are a lot of people out there disenchanting with the current administration. There are also a lot of people across the country that downright hate President Obama. Well obviously everyone is entitled to their own opinion.

The problem is that people are taking their jaded thoughts and hatred to vote for Mitt Romney simply because he isn't the person who they currently hate. The even bigger problem is anyone who is not a rich, old white man voting for the person who will almost

surely make their lives a living hell.

The tag team of Romney and Paul Ryan will destroy our country, given the chance. These are the people that bring us these wonderful quotes:

**ROMNEY:** "I'm not concerned about the very poor. We have a safety net there." Really Romney?

This is especially funny, though not really, considering he and his party seem to be doing all they can to remove those safety nets.

His running mate provided this wonderful quote during

an interview with WJHL, Roanoke, Va., on Aug. 23 referring to rape as a method of conception:

**RYAN:** "I'm very proud of my pro-life record, and I've always adopted the idea that, the position that the method of conception doesn't change the definition of life."

Really Ryan? So you are so determined to tell a woman what she can and can't do with her body that you can say with 100% conviction women who are raped should be forced to have their rapist's babies? Debate

on abortion aside, which is not the point here, it's good to know the possible future vice president knows more what's best for women than they do.

So we have a duo that hates the poor, hates women and actually supports legislation that would be extremely detrimental to those two groups of people. Knowing what they think on this - is it really better to vote for someone just because you don't like the guy currently in charge, regardless of their policies?

## BLUNDERGRADS

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



### Column

## Drilling efforts would quell rising gas prices

BY ANDREW RISAVY

U. CENTRAL FLORIDA VIA UWIRE

An article released by the Associated Press last week reported that drivers have been paying record prices for gasoline. The national average for Aug. 20 was \$3.72 per gallon, up from \$3.58 a gallon in 2011. Judging by these numbers, we can observe that the cost of gas has risen dramatically, leaving many students posing the question, "When, if ever, will prices begin to go down and stay down?" Before we can discuss how we lower costs, let's look at what determines them.

A myriad of factors come into play influencing day-to-day fluctuations in gas prices, such as speculation, daily refinery output, geopolitical events, etc. However, the greatest factor that affects cost is supply and demand. If demand is greater than the amount of fuel being supplied, then naturally prices will increase. If supply is greater than demand, prices will decrease. At this time, demand is greater than the supply. The U.S. is only one of many industrialized nations, much like China and India, that consumes large amounts of gasoline every day. We are competing in a globalized economy. In order to drive costs down we need to increase the supply.

While the U.S. is a major exporter of crude and refined oil, we are trying to help feed the voracious appetite of growing nations all over the globe. That being understood, we need to increase domestic drilling in areas like the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and the untouched oil sands in Utah and Alaska, develop new and more efficient ways of harvesting existing oil and gas reserves and continue the ongoing search for more

untapped sources at home and abroad. An increase in production will help to meet existing demand. In addition, pursuing the above measures at home will produce an additional much-needed consequence: jobs!

With unemployment still hovering above 8 percent and underemployment above 17 percent, the American public needs a way to make a buck. An increase in oil production will dramatically help to reduce the number of Americans out of work. To see an example of this, we can look to North Dakota.

In 2008, an ongoing period of extraction from the Bakken oil shale formation began. Since then we have seen an economic explosion in North Dakota, giving it the lowest unemployment rate in the nation. The increased production has brought a huge influx of people searching for jobs. In fact, the Associated Press said the population of the city of Williston has doubled to 30,000 residents in less than a decade. The average salary of a resident of Williston has increased from \$32,000 in 2006 to more than \$70,000, and the unemployment rate is at 1 percent while, astonishingly, there are still 3,000 unfilled jobs in the city.

Now, imagine economic transformation just like that on a national scale. We could literally turn our economy around overnight achieving an unheard of level of prosperity for most Americans young and old alike. That, my friends, is real change we can believe in. The only question I have now is, why has our current president worked to stand in the way of so many opportunities like this? We need real leadership for America. Vote for prosperity on Nov. 6.

### Column

## Assault weapons ban won't stop mass shootings

BY SAM TRACY

U. CONNECTICUT VIA UWIRE

There seem to have been a lot of mass shootings lately.

On July 20, James Eagan Holmes who is innocent until proven guilty, walked into the premiere of 'The Dark Knight Rises' in Aurora, Colo., and opened fire, killing 12 and injuring 58. Sixteen days later, seven people, including the presumed gunman, Wade Michael Page, were killed in a shooting at a Sikh temple in Oak Creek, Wis.

When it comes to gun control, I agree with most Americans - normal people should not be allowed to have machine guns that can fire hundreds of rounds in a few seconds. It is also reasonable to have background checks for people looking to purchase guns, to help keep guns out of the hands of criminals or the mentally ill.

Unfortunately, some of the people who want greater restrictions on the firearms used in these mass shootings argue for the reinstatement of the assault weapons ban. This is an incredibly misguided policy that will do nothing to safeguard America.

The federal assault

weapons ban was signed into law by President Clinton in 1994. At first glance, it appears to be a great idea.

Who would be against banning assault weapons? By their very name, it seems like "assault weapons" are clearly intended for killing large numbers of people, not for self-defense, hunting or sport.

Unfortunately, the law features an incredibly broad definition of "assault weapon" and includes many semi-automatic guns, which fire one bullet per pull of the trigger. A gun would be lumped under the umbrella term of "assault weapon" if it used detachable magazines and had just two characteristics from a long list of features.

Now, there were some good parts of that law. Most people do not think civilians should be walking around with grenade launchers. But many of the features on that list - such as the type of magazine, the shape of the grip or the ability of the stock to change sizes - are purely cosmetic and do not make it any easier to commit an assault. This law outlawed many guns purely for their appearance, rather than for

their potential use in a mass shooting.

Fortunately, the assault weapons ban included a sunset provision that made it expire after 10 years. Upon its expiration there was not enough political support to re-instate it, due to many government agencies finding the ban ineffective. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention published a report in 2003 that found "insufficient evidence to determine the effectiveness of any of the firearms laws reviewed for preventing violence." The National Research Council concluded that the ban "did not reveal any clear impacts on gun violence." Many independent academic papers by criminologists corroborated these conclusions.

But this has not stopped media personalities and politicians from calling for the renewal of the ban. Calls for the ban's renewal are a predictable part of the aftermath of any mass shooting in the country. But reinstating the federal assault weapons ban as it was written in 1994 is a nonsensical proposal that distracts from the real issues surrounding gun violence.

# Student reluctantly agreed to hazing to gain respect

By Denise-Marie Ordway and Stephen Hudak  
ORLANDO SENTINEL (MCT)

ORLANDO, Fla. - Florida A&M University drum majors Robert Champion and Keon Hollis grew close in 2011, working together to direct the school's famous marching band. Yet one situation frustrated both young men as they tried to keep their fellow musicians in line during last fall's football season, according to a recent affidavit by Hollis. Band members were challenging the newly promoted drum majors' authority. The two knew there was one sure way to capture the group's respect, especially among the band's largest

section, the percussionists. They had to cross Bus C, a violent hazing ritual held on the bus that transported much of the percussion section to football games. The beating would kill Champion, leave Hollis aching and vomiting in a hotel parking lot and lead to the arrests of 14 fellow marching band members. It also would expose a violent culture in the band that had festered for years. Hollis' version of events leading to the tragic scene aboard Bus C on Nov. 19 is contained in a three-page, typewritten statement that the Orange-Osceola State Attorney's Office made public Tuesday. Given under oath, Hollis' statement also describes in

troubling detail the beating that he and Champion took that night. It is part of a probable-cause document that outlines the state's criminal case against Dante Martin, the leader of Bus C. Martin recently became the 12th member of the band to be charged with felony hazing in connection with Champion's death. The 11 others charged with felonies in Champion's death were arrested in May. Two other former band members are charged with misdemeanor hazing. In his statement, Hollis, 22, describes how his friendship with Champion, 26, evolved and why they felt compelled to submit to the hazing ritual together after the Florida Classic

football game. "We were 'Squad Dogs,' a term used to define the people who made drum major together. So that meant we were our brother's keeper," wrote Hollis, who was Champion's roommate during the weekend in Orlando. After performing at the Classic, the two men changed clothes in their hotel room and reluctantly agreed to cross Bus C. "I asked him if he was sure he wanted to do it and he stated, 'Yea I just want to get it over with,'" Hollis wrote. "So then I took a shot of vodka and I and Robert went downstairs." Hollis explained how he boarded a bus that was "very cold" from the air

conditioning and "very dark" because it was parked in a dimly lit lot behind the Rosen Plaza hotel. He described how he was instructed by Martin to sit with his head down on the left side of the bus and Champion was told to sit on the right as a young woman finished taking her punishment in the Bus C ritual before them. As the young woman made her way from the front of the bus to the back through a gauntlet of fists, feet, drum sticks, drum mallets and other items, Martin announced that Champion had not yet completed a different hazing ritual called the "hot seat." Typically, band members

have to complete one or more rounds of the "hot seat," being beaten while sitting before they can cross Bus C. Champion withstood that beating before Hollis was directed to start crossing. He described Champion's struggle to make it to the back. At one point, Champion fell down and the crowd dragged him back to the front of the bus to start over. As Champion moved toward the back, two other drum majors started pulling Champion to help him along. After the hazing, many band members returned to the hotel. Hollis later learned Champion was rushed to the hospital and died.

# How governors govern higher education

By Ben Wieder  
STATELINE.ORG (MCT)

WASHINGTON - This past June, twelve days after the surprise dismissal of its president plunged the University of Virginia into turmoil, Gov. Bob McDonnell sent a strongly worded letter to the institution's Board of Visitors. The governor criticized the board for not being more transparent about its reasons for dismissing President Teresa Sullivan. "The role of any Governor is not to micro-manage personnel decisions of the Board," he wrote, "for doing so undermines the entire university governance structure, and weakens the chain of command and authority of the Board and President." The controversy at UVA, resolved days later with Sullivan's reinstatement, is the latest in a series of higher education crises in which a governor has played a crucial role. These episodes raise questions about how much influence governors have on the colleges and universities within their borders, and whether it is too much or too little.

Florida Gov. Rick Scott made headlines in December when he urged trustees at Florida A&M University to suspend the university's president, James Ammons, in the wake of a hazing death. Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett was on hand last November when Penn State University's Board of Trustees decided to dismiss President Graham Spanier, football coach Joe Paterno and other administrators in the wake of the Jerry Sandusky sex abuse investigation. As the former attorney general, Corbett was particularly well-versed in the details of the Sandusky case. The tradition of governors serving as trustees themselves goes back more than a century in some cases, according to Rich Novak, senior vice president for programs and research at the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges, and he thinks it's outlived its usefulness. "A governor can have a voice with the board at any time," he says. "It's archaic." Before participating in the

November meeting where Penn State trustees decided on the fate of Spanier and Paterno, Corbett had skipped the first five meetings since he had become governor. Many governors designate a proxy to go in their place. "It's difficult to go to all of them," says Bob Riley, the former governor of Alabama. He sat on the governing boards of all the universities in his state, but says he avoided asserting his authority unless there was a serious problem. For example, Auburn University and the Universities of West and North Alabama all faced losing accreditation during his term. "Only the governor can fix it at that point," he says. While Riley was happy to offer an opinion on the hiring of university presidents and other leaders when asked, he says he never tried to lobby boards in favor of one candidate or another. "If you ever take that authority away from the board of trustees," he says, "then you basically take away their ability to have any control over the operation." While Riley endorses a hands-off role in university governance, plenty of other

governors have disagreed. Recently, Texas Gov. Rick Perry has demonstrated that he has strong ideas about who should lead his state's universities and how they should operate. Former Texas A&M President Ray Bowen says of four governors he's worked with in Texas and Oklahoma, Perry was the most active in promoting candidates and ideas he supported. "He wanted to pick the president, he wanted to pick the football coach, he wanted to give jobs to his friends," Bowen says. That approach first became apparent after Bowen announced his departure, he says. Perry backed former U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm to be Bowen's successor, while trustees supported future U.S. Secretary of Defense Bob Gates, then a dean at the school. Perry survived both contests and his spokeswoman, Lucy Nashed, says he hasn't changed his approach since re-election. "Governor Perry is very involved in his vision for Texas," she says. "He lays out priorities and wants to see them come to fruition."

# Hurricane season off to slow start

By Ken Kaye  
SUN SENTINEL (MCT)

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. - When harmless Tropical Storm Michael emerged on Tuesday, the 2012 hurricane season officially became busier than normal. But so far, there haven't been any major hurricanes. And never before in 161 years of tropical recordkeeping have 13 consecutive named storms formed without at least one major hurricane sprouting up. Experts credit a combination of dry sinking air over the tropical Atlantic and some stronger-than-normal wind shear for disrupting systems before they can spin up. "The systems are running into an environment that simply is not conducive for them to become large major hurricanes," said Gerry Bell, lead hurricane forecaster for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. That's not to say major hurricanes, with sustained winds greater than 110 mph, won't arise this year; NOAA calls for two to three to develop, and Colorado State University climatologists Phil Klotzbach and

William Gray predict two. Still, on average a season's first major hurricane forms on Sept. 4, and none are in sight. Of the five hurricanes to emerge this year, only two - Gordon and Kirk - reached Category 2 status. Chris was at hurricane strength for six hours in the Atlantic in June. Ernesto lasted less than a day in the Caribbean in August. And, despite the widespread flooding it caused along the Gulf Coast last week, Isaac was a weak Category 1 system with top sustained winds of 80 mph. Still, the overall tropical energy is about 150 percent of average, Klotzbach said. "It's an unusual year," he said. "We've had 48.5 named storm days this year, but only 6.75 hurricane days." Whether El Nino is suppressing storms remains unknown. Officially, it has yet to emerge, as water temperatures in the Eastern Pacific Ocean have not hit the 75 degree threshold. However, it is expected to develop by the end of this month and possibly dampen systems before the end of the season in November.

## Lecture Continued from Page 2

the university to discuss the birth of the original Black Panthers and voters rights issues that inspired the party. Later in the month Dr. Danielle McGuire will lecture on civil rights and violence against black women in the south. Dr. John M. Glen will visit in November to address Appalachian history as it

relates to the civil rights movement. He will discuss the Highlander School that trained civil rights leaders like Martin Luther King Jr. Lastly, Dr. Bettye Collier-Thomas will focus on the civil rights movement and how it inspired activism among women. Dr. Trowbridge said this lecture series will provide students the chance to learn about aspects of the civil rights movement that are

often overlooked in history classes-- a chance to learn a more complete history. "Textbooks and most lecturers only focus on one freedom ride, one voting rights campaign, one boycott, and one sit-in. What is most amazing is that it seems to always be the same ride, the same boycott, the same voting rights campaign, and the same sit-in," he said. "These lectures go well beyond the

"easy" history that only superficially covers one "epic" sit-in or speech." Each lecture will begin at 7 p.m. in the MU Foundation Building. The event is free to all students, and free to the public. The speakers will be available following their presentations to sign copies of their books and answer questions. Jeremy Brown can be contacted at brown654@marshall.edu.

## DNC Continued from Page 1

during file debate footage, stated his support for legalized abortion, something he now opposes. The speeches highlighted a program that put on full display the patchwork quilt that is the Democratic Party base, with a program full of women, Latino and African-American speakers. The politics of the programming were straightforward: Obama and the Democrats hope to drive up enthusiasm among the constituencies he needs to offset weakened support among white voters, especially blue-collar men. Polls suggest an enthusiasm gap. An NBC/Wall Street Journal survey last month found just 49% of Latinos expressed high interest in the upcoming election, down about 20 percentage points from roughly this time in 2008. "If, by the

end of this week, you don't think we've hit it with Latinos and women, then we haven't done our job," said one highly placed Democrat who requested anonymity in discussing the Obama campaign's strategic thinking. Another task was to answer Republican assertions that Obama's was a failed presidency. With Romney closeted in debate preparation, his running mate took up the campaign's cudgel Tuesday, comparing Obama to President Jimmy Carter at a rally in suburban Cleveland. "When it comes to jobs, President Obama makes the Jimmy Carter years look like good old days," Ryan said. The president will close the convention with his acceptance speech Thursday night at the open-air Bank of America Stadium.

## Rivalry Continued from Page 1

"I worked directly on the wall for that drawing. It took me about six days to complete it, and I was very excited about the result," Larsen said. The exhibition has created a chance for the public to see the work of various artists from both universities. "I wanted to participate in the exhibition, because I

really enjoyed the playfulness of the theme," Hagarty said. "Also, to showcase my work among my colleagues and give the public insight into the individuals teaching at these institutions." Admission to the gallery is \$7.50 for adults and \$6 for children. All college students will receive the student rate of \$6 with their school ID. Dwight Jorge can be contacted at Jorge@marshall.edu.

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