

9-7-2012

The Parthenon, September 7, 2012

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Recommended Citation

Arrington, Shane, "The Parthenon, September 7, 2012" (2012). *The Parthenon*. Paper 89.
<http://mds.marshall.edu/parthenon/89>

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Herd takes on old SOCON rival
Western Carolina | More on Sports

FRIDAY
September 7, 2012

Rec Center offers swimming
lessons | More on News



THE PARTHENON

VOL. 116 NO. 4 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

MU student receives prestigious fellowship

By **JEREMY BROWN**
THE PARTHENON

A Marshall University graduate student will intern with the West Virginia State Legislature for the next academic year.

Jack Baisden was chosen as a McManus Fellow, a position offered to only one graduate student in the state each year.

Beyond being the only student in the state offered the position, Baisden holds a second distinction.

"It's definitely a great honor to be the first Marshall student ever chosen for this position," Baisden said. "The individual who will be overseeing me during the fellowship is a Marshall alumni, and he's very excited to have a Marshall student this year as well."

The fellowship is named for Beckley, W.Va. native Lewis McManus, who served in the West Virginia House of Delegates from 1965 to 1976.

The fellowship gives one West Virginia graduate

student, planning a life of public service, the chance to work as a legislative intern with the House Judiciary Committee.

According to Mary Beth Beller, Marshall's faculty sponsor for the program, Baisden will report to fellow Marshall graduate Joe Alitzer, member of the W.Va. House of Delegates Judiciary Committee.

McManus Fellows must be seeking a masters degree in public administration. Baisden fits the description.

He is earning a Master of Arts degree in political science with a focus in public administration.

He said he is excited to be the first Marshall student to have this opportunity. Beller said she is excited too. She credits recent growth in the program for helping students like Jack qualify for internships like the McManus Fellowship.

The internship has two parts. This fall, Baisden will travel to the Capital three

times a month for interim committee meetings, and meet the people he will work with during the next part of the internship. In the February, he will be in Charleston full-time, conducting research, making presentations, and even drafting bills.

"I'm definitely most excited about learning how the legislative process works from an inside perspective," Baisden said.

He said his interest is deeper than curiosity about

the inner workings of the legislature. He is concerned with more than procedure.

Candidates for the McManus Fellowship need to demonstrate a commitment to public service in West Virginia. Baisden wants to serve the public.

He believes that the knowledge gained in the course of the fellowship will aid him as he pursues a career serving West Virginians.

See FELLOWSHIP | Page 5

Fit Fest 2012 set for Sunday

By **DWIGHT JORGE**
THE PARTHENON

This Sunday hundreds of runners, walkers, children, volunteers and spectators will participate in the 4th annual Fit Fest.

Fit Fest is a community event hosted at Ritter Park in Huntington aimed at creating a healthier community by encouraging healthy lifestyles. The event benefits the Paul Ambrose Trail for Health.

PATH is named after Marshall alumni Dr. Paul Ambrose, who was a promising young physician whose life ended on Sept. 11, 2001, when terrorists crashed American Airlines Flight 77 into the Pentagon.

PATH is a growing bicycle and pedestrian trail system that provides healthy and recreational opportunities for the city of Huntington.

Emily Hagan, marketing programs and project specialist at Rahall Transportation Institute, works to raise money for PATH.

"Fit Fest is our main fundraiser for PATH," said Hagan. "All the money from Fit Fest goes to the construction and maintenance of the path."

For every dollar that's raised, 80% is designated for construction of the path and 20% goes towards maintenance.

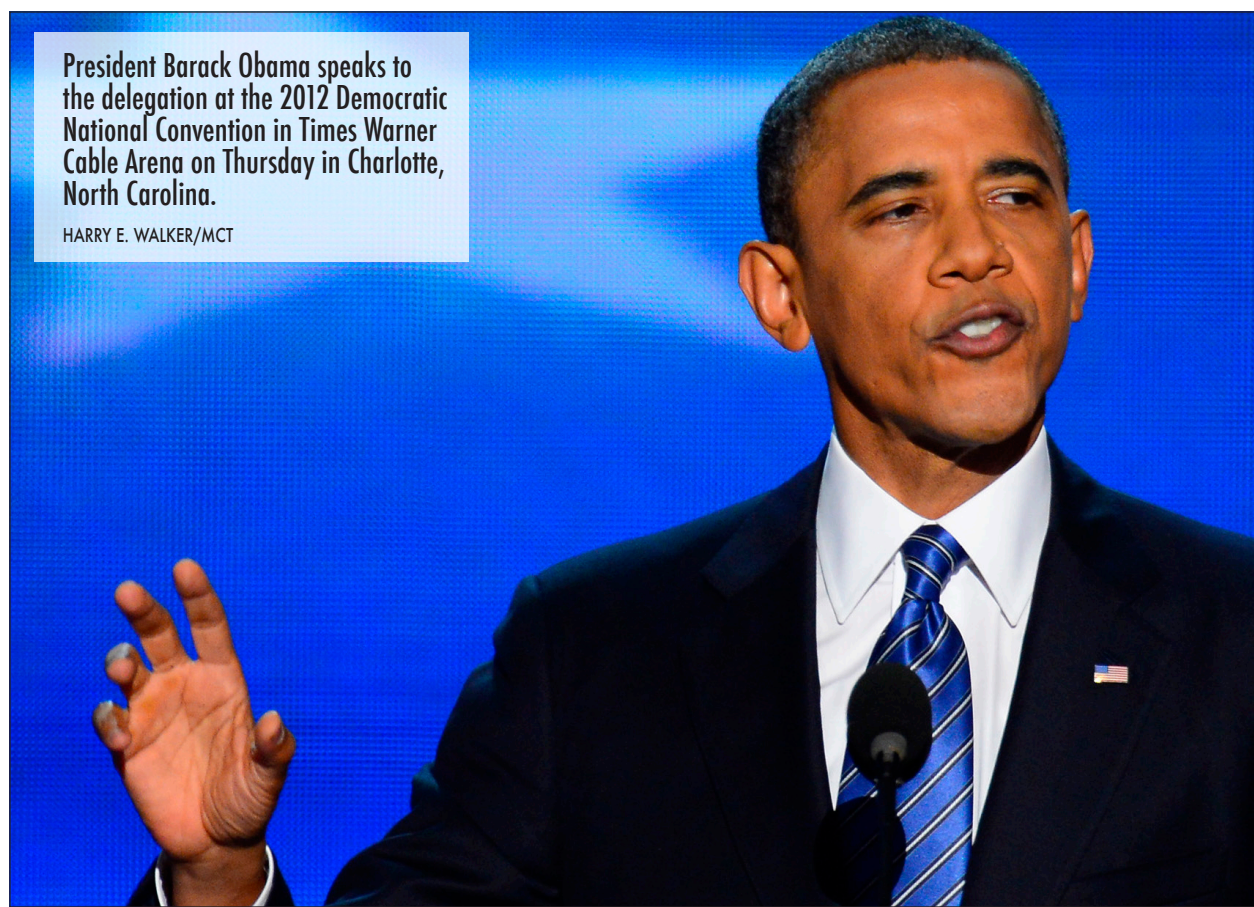
The event includes activities such as a 5K run/walk, 10K run, free kids' dashes, one-mile fun run, healthy exhibits and demonstrations.

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COURTESY OF EMILY HAGAN

Runners participate in 2011 Fit Fest 5K/10K event on Sept. 11, 2011, in Huntington.



President Barack Obama speaks to the delegation at the 2012 Democratic National Convention in Times Warner Cable Arena on Thursday in Charlotte, North Carolina.

HARRY E. WALKER/MCT

Obama asks for re-election with plea to reignite hope

By **Lesley Clark and Anita Kumar**

MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS (MCT)

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - With his presidency on the line, President Barack Obama on Thursday asked for more time from voters, acknowledging that despite his lofty goals of hope and change, the economy is going to take years to recover.

As he sought to regain trust from a disaffected electorate weary of months of high unemployment, Obama warned of tough times as the nation emerges from what he said are "challenges that have built up over decades." But he offered a rousing defense of his stewardship and insisted his vision - not that of his Republican rival, Mitt Romney - will lead to true prosperity for the middle class.

"Know this, America: Our problems can be solved. Our challenges can be met," Obama

said. "The path we offer may be harder, but it leads to a better place. And I'm asking you to choose that future."

In a speech that at times seemed far from the soaring rhetoric of his first nomination speech as he detailed what he's accomplished and still needs to do, Obama used one of the biggest platforms he'll have before Election Day to convince the electorate he's on the right path.

"Yes, our road is longer - but we travel it together. We don't turn back. We leave no one behind. We pull each other up. We draw strength from our victories, and we learn from our mistakes, but we keep our eyes fixed on that distant horizon, knowing that Providence is with us, and that we are surely blessed to be citizens of the greatest nation on Earth," he said.

After attacking Romney for failing to offer specific proposals at

the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Fla., last week, Obama outlined a series of goals including creating 1 million new manufacturing jobs, recruiting 100,000 math and science teachers and reducing the deficit by more than \$4 trillion.

"They want your vote, but they don't want you to know their plan," Obama said. "And that's because all they have to offer is the same prescription they've had for the last 30 years."

Republicans immediately called the goals scaled down or recycled promises from 2008.

With polls showing the race even, Obama needed to enthrone a dispirited base and persuade the last few undecided voters that his prescription for prosperity will restore the middle class.

Obama cast the election as a choice between "two different

See OBAMA | Page 5

JFK daughter says Obama has quality her father admired

By **ROBIN ABCARIAN**
LOS ANGELES TIMES (MCT)

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - It was an important moment in Barack Obama's 2008 presidential campaign, and it involved a betrayal of sorts: The Kennedys, America's most storied political dynasty, turned their backs on their long-time alliance with the America's other political dynasty, the Clintons, and endorsed the young U.S. senator from Illinois.

The charge was led by Caroline Kennedy, who early on, announced her support in the pages of The New York Times, in an essay called "A President Like My Father."

On Thursday evening, Kennedy, 54, reprised that theme at the Democratic National Convention, drawing a straight line between the unfinished work of her father, John F. Kennedy, and the lifelong goals of her uncle, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts.

"Over the past four years, we have had a president who has committed himself and his administration to the values that made America great - economic fairness, equal opportunity, and the belief that if each of us gives back to this country we love, all of us work together, there is no challenge we cannot overcome," Kennedy said. "Those are the ideals my father and my uncles fought for. Those are the ideals I believe in. And this election is about whether we will advance those ideals or let them be swept away."

She praised Obama as a champion of women's rights, including equal pay, reproductive rights, and, indirectly, abortion rights. "His commitment to women is about even more than economic rights - it's about healthcare, reproductive rights, and our ability to make our own decisions about ourselves, our families and our future."

Marshall University Tutoring Center offering free peer tutoring to students

THE PARTHENON

Now that the fall semester is two weeks underway, the Marshall University Tutoring Center has started to offer its services to students who have found themselves struggling with classwork and need a helping hand.

The Tutoring Center offers free peer tutoring to part time and full time students at Marshall. Tutoring is available in five main categories: Business, math,

modern languages, science, and social science/miscellaneous. There is also help offered in more specific and high-demand courses.

The Tutoring Center is organized by a drop-in appointment schedule. These schedules contain the individual courses for each subject, the time tutoring will be provided, along with the name of the tutor. Drop-in tutoring is unlimited and based on a first-come, first-serve basis. Schedules are posted online

and inside of the Tutoring Center.

A student may also request individual tutoring sessions by appointment, but the center requires a minimum of a one-hour session for each appointment and restricts the weekly use of the center by appointment to two hours per course and two courses per week.

Patricia Gallagher, academic counselor at the University College, said there is one thing she stresses above anything else.

"Do not use the Tutoring Center as a last resort or wait until midterms come around to use the center," Gallagher said. "You feel like you are struggling, come see us. The Tutoring Center is not just for struggling students, but can make the difference between an A or a B."

The Tutoring Center is open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays throughout the fall semester.



NEWS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2012

| THE PARTHENON

| MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Swimming lessons scheduled at the Rec Center

By Caroline Vassiliou
THE PARTHENON

Swimming lessons for the fall at the Marshall Recreation Center start Monday.

Swimming lessons will be offered to adults and children. Each individual can chose from seven different levels.

Level one focuses on the three main parts of swimming- arms, legs and breathing.

In level two, participants will learn about the free-style stroke, floating and gliding. This level consists mostly of children between ages four and six.

Level three is slightly faster paced. Participants primarily learn how to improve arm strokes and kicking. The average age group for level three is five to seven year olds.

Level four is designed for children who are confident in the water and have mastered the fundamentals of swimming, typically ages six to eight.

Level five will teach the skills used on swim teams such as stroke development, kick coordination and flip turns. This level is for children who are at least seven years old.

Level six is designed for people interested in learning about lifeguarding and water safety instruction. Children should be completely confident, competent swimmers by the end of this course.

There is also a parent and tot level, which is



MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON
The Marshall Recreation Center offers activities for students and others.

beneficial because it allows the parent to interact with the child and contribute to helping the child overcome the fear of the water. This level is for children too young to participate in level one.

Swimming lessons are offered in four-week sessions.

The first lesson is Monday and ends the week of Oct. 1.

Each time period has a 10-child maximum.

There will be a fee of \$50 for members of the Rec Center and \$60 for those who are not members.

Swimming Lessons at the Rec Center

Monday: Levels 1 and 2
4:00p.m. - 4:45p.m. and 5:00p.m - 5:45p.m.

Tuesday: Levels 3 and 4
4:00p.m. - 4:45p.m.

Tuesday: Levels 5 and 6
5:00p.m. - 5:45p.m.

Wednesday: Levels 1 and 2
4:00p.m. - 4:45p.m. and 5:00p.m - 5:45p.m.

Thursday: Levels 3 and 4
4:00p.m - 4:45p.m.

Thursday: levels 5 and 6
5:00p.m. - 5:45p.m.

For more information or registration contact Phil Snyder at 304-696-6477 or snyderp@marshall.edu.

Caroline Vassiliou can be contacted at Vassiliou1@marshall.edu.

Multicultural Leadership Ambassadors Program welcomes diversity

By Bradleigh Ewing
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's Multicultural Leadership Ambassadors Program works to make students and faculty of diverse cultures feel welcome.

The Division of Multicultural Affairs created the Multicultural Leadership Ambassadors Program as part of its commitment to diversity. The program is comprised of a select group of student leaders

who are trained each year as peer educators.

The program's aim is to represent diversity and serve as the student voice for the Division of Multicultural Affairs.

Members participate in the college community with classroom presentations as they act as liaisons to faculty, students and administrators.

According to the division's website, they represent a vision of

finding common bonds between different culture.

"The leaders have educated over 4,000 people on campus and in the community," said Shaunte Polk, the coordinator of special projects of the Division of Multicultural Affairs.

Research shows that students who participate in a diverse mix of college life, activities and programs have an increased chance of overall success, according to the division's website.

The division lists several goals for the Multicultural Leadership Ambassadors Program.

According to the website, the number one goal is "to increase knowledge and awareness of issues facing underrepresented students on campus."

Other goals involve promoting leader diversity, leadership planning, community involvement and role models who motivate youth.

In addition to the Multicultural Leadership Ambassadors Program, the Division of Multicultural Affairs sponsors several events throughout the year to promote diversity on campus. Fall semester events include a step show and a visit from journalist Daisy Hernandez.

The step show will take place on Oct. 6 at The Big Sandy Superstore Arena, and is presented

in conjunction with the National Pan-Hellenic Council at Marshall.

Hernandez will be visiting as multicultural faculty in residence from Oct. 15 to 19. She has written for various publications, including the National Catholic Reporter, the New York Times and the Christian Science Monitor.

Bradleigh Ewing can be contacted at Ewing14@marshall.edu

IFC sponsors Recruitment Week Kickoff

BY JOSHUA PRINCE
THE PARTHENON

Inter-Fraternity Council sponsored recruitment for Marshall University fraternities officially kicked off on Monday.

A guided fraternity row tour was scheduled Monday, but was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Lee Tabor, Greek adviser, said there are many changes made to recruitment this semester.

"Recruitment is focusing on increased presence of the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life-more representation and influence on recruitment as 'Fraternity Life' instead every chapter for themselves," Tabor said.

IFC recruitment events are scheduled for the next two weeks. Each fraternity will host their own event.

Sigma Tau Gamma football and barbeque took place Wednesday at the Sig Tau fraternity house.

"It has been a good event. We

IFC Sponsored Activities

- Pi Kappa Alpha will sponsor "Pike Spike Volleyball" Friday, at 7 p.m., at the Pi House.
- Tau Kappa Epsilon will sponsor "House Tour" Monday, at 7 p.m at their fraternity house.
- Sigma Phi Epsilon will sponsor "Football and Pool" Tuesday, at 5 p.m. on Buskirk Field.
- Sigma Alpha Epsilon will sponsor "Pie A SAE" Wednesday, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Alpha Sigma Phi will sponsor "Cookout and Slip N' Slide" Thursday, at 5 p.m. at their fraternity house.
- Kappa Alpha Order will sponsor "KA Poker Tournament" on Friday, Sept. 14 at 7 p.m. at their fraternity house.
- Pi Kappa Phi will sponsor "Poker with Pi Kapp" on Monday, Sept. 17 at 5:30 p.m at the Memorial Fountain at the Memorial Student Center fountain.

had a very good turnout and look forward to meeting more men looking to be Greek," Sigma Tau Gamma Rush Chair, Tyrell Carlton said.

Alpha Tau Omegasponsored "Back to School Hangout" on

Thursday at the ATO fraternity house at 6 p.m.

Fraternities will continue to host events through Sept. 17.

Joshua Prince can be contacted at prince37@marshall.edu

Huntington Museum of Art features Docent Open House

The Huntington Museum of Art will sponsor a Docent Open House Tuesday from 6 to 7:30 p.m. for anyone interested in becoming a docent.

Docents are volunteers that lead guided tours for school children and museum visitors.

Cindy Dearborn, museum and schools coordinator, discussed some qualities docents should have.

"They should have an interest in art but they do not need to have a background in art. The museum's staff provides training on the exhibits. Friendly, outgoing, enthusiastic, dedicated and caring are all characteristics that come to mind when I

think of our docents," Dearborn said.

According to a Huntington Museum of Art press release, "Docents work with the HMA's Education Department and receive training on the

HMA exhibits on Monday mornings."

Dearborn said the museum has different types of Docents.

"We are also seeking

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page designed and edited by NIKKI DOTSON | dotson76@marshall.edu

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AUGUST SPECIAL
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THE VILLAGE ON SIXTH
PARTHENON 1/4
3 x 10.5

SPORTS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2012

| THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Herd football opens home schedule against old SOCON foe

BY ADAM ROGERS

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

After a 69-34 blowout loss to No. 11 West Virginia in the 2012 season opener, Marshall football returns home Saturday to rekindle an old Southern Conference rivalry with Western Carolina Saturday at 7 p.m.

The Thundering Herd and Cata-mounts last met in 1996 in the very stadium the two will do battle in this weekend.

Marshall defeated Western Carolina in their last meeting 56-21 to improve the Herd to 7-0 that season, and would later go on to win its second Division I-AA national championship after a 15-0 year.

The Catamounts are still members of the SOCON (a Football

Championship Subdivision conference) and Head Coach Doc Holliday said he and his team know what can happen if you take an FCS team lightly after week one of the season.

"The important thing our coaches and players have to understand is that we have to prepare to play every week or you're going to get beat. There are a couple of examples of that last week," Holliday said. "Pitt was upset by Youngstown State, Houston beat by Texas State and Memphis losing to Tennessee-Martin. We have Western Carolina coming in and we have to prepare to play.

"You better be prepared and play your tail off or you're going to get beat. It's amazing in college football

every Sunday you'll pick up the paper and see a team get beat that shouldn't have been beaten."

Western Carolina has a familiar name to Herd fans on its roster as potential starting quarterback Eddie Sullivan left Marshall toward the end of last season to join the Catamount program.

Sullivan is listed as the starter with an "or" next to his name after being suspended for Western Carolina's season opener last week and will probably split time under center with freshman Troy Mitchell.

Holliday and the Herd have the advantage of knowing Sullivan's strengths and weaknesses, but Holliday said he does not expect the Catamounts to change their

schemes with who is on the field.

"I don't think they will change what they are doing offensively whether it is Eddie or Troy," Holliday said. "We just have to prepare for what they do. Regardless of who is in there, we have to make sure we do a great job and get stops."

Getting stops is something the Herd struggled to do against the Mountaineers in the season opener, as WVU scored a touchdown on eight of 12 offensive possessions.

Missed tackles were a large reason the Mountaineers were able to put up 655 yards of total offense and Holliday said he knows the Herd must tackle better going forward in the season.



MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON
Doc Holliday looks on in Marshall's season opener against WVU.

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Herd heading forward

The Herd is looking to rebound for its first win Saturday in its home opener, and its opponent, Western Carolina, is seeking its second win.

Saturday's game will renew an old Southern Conference rivalry. They have not played each other since 1996.

Marshall exhibited a strong offense in last week's loss to West Virginia. Marshall put up more than 500 yards of total offense. Quarterback Rakeem Cato showed the promise and potential he previously demonstrated saw only in spurts.

Western Carolina had its own offensive barrage against Mars Hill in North Carolina. The Catamounts put up 493 yards of offense during that game.

In their first game, the Catamounts were a running team, and Marshall was a passing



Andrew Harrison
COLUMNIST

team. The game between these two teams Saturday may turn out to be a ground attack from one team and an air assault from the other.

Marshall's defense looks to regroup and show focus for the home opener. The defensive line Saturday looked like it was in shambles in the 69-34 loss to WVU. Pressure on the quarterback just seemed absent. But Marshall's won't face an offense of WVU's caliber

for the rest of the season.

The series record between the Herd and Catamounts stands tied at 9, but WCU has dropped four-straight and nine of the last 10 dating back to 1987. Mark Speir, first year head coach of the Catamounts, Mark Speir will bring his true freshman quarterback Troy Mitchell to his first major test of the season Joan C. Edwards Stadium. Marshall also has a freshman in a key position. Tyler Williams made his collegiate debut Saturday against WVU. Williams averaged 51.2 yards on four punts, including a long of 59 yards.

Keys to the game: Marshall must play well against the run, and the Catamounts must hold the Marshall offense to low digits.

Andrew Harrison can be contacted at harrison96@marshall.edu.

Herd lineman injured in season opener

By Kara Kucin
THE PARTHENON

Milan Puskar Stadium was filled with 60,000 fans in Morgantown on Sept. 1. Marshall University had its last shot at defeating the West Virginia University Mountaineers during their season opener game.

During the second play of the second quarter Thundering Herd offensive lineman Garrett Scott went down with a leg injury.

"I was going down to a defender on the inside of me, took a few steps, planted my foot and then all the sudden I was on the ground with a sharp pain," said junior offensive lineman Garrett Scott.

Scott was unable to get up on his own. The trainers helped him up and carried



MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON
Offensive lineman Garrett Scott is being carted off the field after sustaining a leg injury during the WVU game.

him onto a medical cart where he was driven off the field into the locker room to see the athletic trainers.

The fans can only imagine all the emotions going through the heads of the

players and coaches knowing that one of their starting lineman was seriously injured in the first half of such an important game.

See INJURY | Page 5

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

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PARTHENON 9-7-12 ALP
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OPINION

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 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.

Column

Party identification should not trump personal opinion

By **HENRY CULVYHOUSE**
COLUMNIST

The Democratic and Republican conventions are over and the American people will watch both candidates shift into overdrive as they scramble to swing our votes one way or the other before November 6. Between now and then we will see name-calling, truth-bending and outright lies thrown at each candidate.

This isn't new to politics. During the election of 1800, Thomas Jefferson charged John Adams as being a tyrant who wanted to bring back British rule, while Adams accused Jefferson of openly teaching murder, robbery, rape, adultery and incest upon election. Or think about the election of 1884, where James Blaine accused Grover Cleveland of having a child out of wedlock. Or that one obscure election where the losing side fired on Fort Sumter. I think that makes today's accusations of socialism on the left and plutocracy on the right pretty mild.

But what's new is how highly polarized our political landscape is. Thanks to 24-hour news, we get to hear a minute-to-minute play-by-play about each candidate's day. Even the slightest gaffe turns into a political controversy, like Obama's "the economy's doing fine" or Romney's criticism of Britain's Olympics. Partisans become enraged and get into arguments over a candidate's sneeze or a hiccup this time of the election year.

Like religion and sports, we tend to stand behind our political preferences 100 percent in this country. If you're a Republican, the GOP is gospel, if you're a Democrat, the DNC does no wrong and the independents kind of pick a side. People support their candidate and view the opposing side as inherently ignorant at best. I've heard it before, "if you support Obama, you're a commie." Or, "if you support Romney, you're against the middle class." If you ask such airheads why they feel this way, they'll retort with a two-word response, if that. If you do not understand each candidate's policy, you're probably not qualified enough to talk about it. There's no room for reason, just rhetoric.

I think what causes this is an unwillingness to question the authority of our chosen political affiliation. We accept whatever our side says and take it as our own. We accept what's reported in the news. We accept what the cashier at Kroger said that he heard on television last night. This election season, no matter who you support, I just ask you to support reason.

Our Founding Fathers created the Electoral College because they frankly didn't trust the people's judgment. They were afraid the electorate was uneducated and could be easily swayed by demagogues. Well, for every moron I meet who thinks Obama is a foreign citizen or Romney wants move the White House to Wall Street, I can't help but to respect our Founder's judgment. But part of me wants to prove those old, dead, slave owners wrong this election season.

If you hear a report that sounds remotely false, fact check it. Cross-reference it with another news source. If you see an advertisement that just seems blatantly untrue, check out its claims. You have resources, such as Factcheck.org, Politfact.com or Snopes.com.

ONLINE POLLS

Do you think that the Republican and Democratic National Conventions are a waste of money?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

The following are the results from the most recent poll question: Do you plan to upgrade to the iPhone 5 after its release on Sept. 15?

- Yes 13% - 3 votes
- No 78% - 18 votes
- Undecided 9% - 2 votes

Visit marshallparthenon.com to share your opinion.

EDITORIAL

Ratings too generous for Honey Boo Boo

While TLC no longer sees itself as The Learning Channel, it stopped officially using the name in 1998, its current programming is an absolute disgrace to its former purpose of educating cable TV viewers.

The channel was founded in the '70s by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare and NASA and aired a variety of educational programs. Now the channel features such programming as "19 Kids and Counting," "Sister Wives," "Kate Plus 8" and most ridiculous of all, "Here Comes Honey Boo Boo."

The program Honey Boo Boo is just depressing. A 7-year-old from Georgia whose day pretty much seems filled with "beauty" pageants and various redneck activities such as eating road kill, helping take care of her teenage sister's baby and calling each other by the wonderful nicknames of "Chickadee," "Chubbs," "Sugar Bear" and "Pumkin."

Now, in the end, the intention of this editorial isn't to make fun of any lifestyle, but to focus on how sad it is shows like this receive such high ratings. For instance, on Aug. 29, "Honey Boo Boo" drew 2.9 million viewers while the Republican National Convention only drew in 1.2 million. Of course those who tune into "Honey Boo Boo" religiously are probably the ones who will mindlessly vote for Romney come November anyway.

So we live in a country where "Honey Boo Boo," the thankfully cancelled "Jersey Shore" and a number of other soul-sucking shows receive higher ratings than programs that portray people and speeches that shape our nation - anyone else feel like throwing up? If you do, then how about you stop watching little girls dressed up like harlots and tune in to documentaries and educational programs that may actually make you a slightly better person after watching them?



Column

'Forward' slogan for Obama a tricky sell

By **SCOTT STIRRETT**
GEORGETOWN U. VIA UWIRE

With only two months to go until the 2012 election, President Obama has an average lead in the polls of only a few percentage points, according to realclearpolitics.com. In essence, the race is tied.

With the numbers so close, it's really anyone's guess at this point whether President Obama will win a second term in office. It is often said that two weeks is a long time in politics and two months is an eternity. A lot can still happen before election day.

But some of the biggest determinants of the fall elections are largely out of the control of either candidate. For instance, neither has much say in whether Greece chooses to exit - or gets thrown out of - the Euro Zone, which could substantially impact the American economy and thus the elections.

That being said, there is still great potential for both presidential campaigns to shift the 2012 election in a whole new direction.

Contrary to the glee that many of my fellow Democrats felt when Rep. Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) was announced as

Romney's vice presidential nominee, I actually believe it was quite a shrewd choice.

As scores of Republican commentators have argued, the Ryan pick brought economic issues to the forefront. The national unemployment rate is 8.2 percent, and millions more Americans have simply chosen to leave the workforce. It may not always be justified, but voters tend to blame the incumbent for economic problems.

Moreover, while the adjective "wonkish" is often used to describe Ryan, he is in some ways equally passionate about social issues. While many GOP voters are both fiscal and social conservatives, a substantial number of Republicans subscribe to only one of the aforementioned realms of conservatism, and it is important for Republicans to work to appeal to both major constituencies.

As in 2010, the Tea Party is making it difficult for the Republican Party to appeal to more moderate voters. One need only look at current headlines and the scandal surrounding Rep. Todd Akin's (R-Mo.), inflammatory remarks regarding rape. In 2010, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.) was able to win a fifth term in large part because

he had the good fortune of facing Tea Partier Sharon Angle. Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-Mo.) may also be able to pull off re-election because of her opponent Akin's lack of sensibility.

Consequently, the Democrats in this race have increasingly made this election about cultural modernity and the GOP's opposition to many facets of it. The fact that the Obama campaign has decided to use the slogan "forward" indicates how Democrats have worked to present themselves as the party of the future.

In some ways, this is a dangerous path to follow. Placing so much emphasis on representing the future leaves room for Republicans to portray Democrats as not being the party of the present.

The reality is that the United States is changing economically, socially and demographically at a rapid pace. These changes have caused increased social alienation, as evidenced by the Occupy Wall Street movement and the Tea Party.

That is the main challenge for Democrats: How do you present yourself as the party of the future when it is the future and the accompanying changes that scare so many voters?

Injury Continued from Page 3

The 6-foot-5, 310-pound Scott is a Douglas, GA native and graduated from Coffee County High School. Last year Scott was a starter for the Herd at left guard, but he switched to right tackle for this 2012 season.

The Herd had been looking forward to the rivalry match-up against the Mountaineers since last year.

"I knew I wasn't going to be able to finish this game, I was in so much pain and was feeling a lot of different emotions at once," said an

injured Scott.

The athletic trainers diagnosed Scott's injury as a high ankle sprain. He came back out onto the field in crutches wearing a soft cast from his ankle to his knee. The Marshall athletic trainers have been working with him everyday doing specific rehab to speed up his recovery.

"I am trying to get back on the field as soon as possible, just taking it day by day," Scott said. "The trainers have me icing my leg a couple of times a day and walking on it to prevent it from getting too stiff."

The Herd is hoping to

have Scott back out on the field this weekend, if not he knows his team will hold their own without him.

"If I'm not playing this weekend, I feel like everything will be fine, we practice everyday so everyone should be ready to step up and play," Scott said. I know the guy behind me in my position is ready to play and do his job."

The Herd (0-1) has its home opener Saturday at 7 p.m. against Western Carolina University (1-0).

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Fellowship Continued from Page 1

Baisden said with the new position comes nervousness. Baisden is alien to the legislative environment. "It has not been an area of focus for me in my studies, but I see that as an opportunity," Baisden said. "I'm hoping the fellowship will really spark my interest in a specific area so that I can tailor my career plans."

Jack said it was his graduate

adviser who brought the McManus Fellowship to his attention. Once he learned of the program he recognized its potential. "I thought this would be a perfect opportunity for me," Baisden said.

Baisden said he knows the internship is demanding. Interns must maintain a 3.0 G.P.A. while the holding title of McManus Fellow. The award is taken away if grades fall below that line.

With the pressure comes one

year's college tuition and fees paid in full. Baisden said he also gets stipend during the legislative section of the internship.

He collects per diem pay in the interim session. "I do plan to stay in public service. I've lived in this region all of my life, and I'd like to stay close by if I can," he said. "I'm looking forward to representing our university at the Legislature this year."

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Fit Fest Continued from Page 1

"Its more then just a run and a walk. It includes healthy lifestyles for the community," said Hagan.

Fit Fest will include a designated area for children's activities called the "Hoops Family Children's Hospital Fit Zone" and an area to highlight healthy lifestyle options for adults called "St. Mary's PATH to Healthy Living."

"Our main purpose is to raise money for PATH and to encourage the community to have a healthy lifestyle. We also want them to be involved in healthy activities," said Hagan.

This year Fit Fest has a total of over 400 participants who are expected to take place in this Sunday's event.

For individuals who have not registered, there is still a chance to participate in the day's events. There will also be an option to register the day of the event.

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Docent Continued from Page 2

nature docents," Dearborn said. "Nature docents lead mostly school and scout groups along the museum's trails, offering understanding of the region's trees, plants, birds and animals."

Dearborn said the HMA's docents toured 7,684 children, students, and adults through the museum and on the nature trails last year.

Admission is free and refreshments will be served.

For more information on the Docent Open House and the HMA docent program, Cindy Dearborn can be contacted at 304-529-2701 or cdearborn@hmoa.org.

Sarah Smith can be contacted at smith1682@marshall.edu.

Preview Continued from Page 3

"There's no question we have to do a better job at tackling," Holliday said. "Our goal is always to have single-digit missed tackling when you play. That's one area that we have to make sure we get better this week. We have to become a better tackling team and we will."

The Herd and Catamounts are tied in the all-time series at 9-9-2, but Marshall has won nine of the last 10 in the series including four straight.

Last season Marshall defeated Southern Miss in the home opener 26-20.

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Obama Continued from Page 1

paths for America," warning that "over the next few years, big decisions will be made in Washington, on jobs and the economy; taxes and deficits; energy and education; war and peace."

Obama blamed Republicans for preventing him from accomplishing more, but he did not fully explain how he would work with House Republicans in the future. He took some swipes at Romney, particularly on foreign policy, but he only once mentioned him by name, when he spoke about his disdain for providing tax breaks to the wealthy.

"No party has a monopoly on wisdom. No democracy works without compromise," Obama said. "But when Governor Romney and his allies in Congress tell us we can somehow lower our deficit by spending trillions more on new tax breaks for the wealthy _ well, you do the math. I refuse to go along with that. And as long as I'm president, I never will."

He delivered a forceful

defense of his record, but at the same time he asked for patience, invoking Franklin D. Roosevelt's efforts to bring the U.S. out of the Great Depression _ "the only crisis worse than this one."

"I won't pretend the path I'm offering is quick or easy. I never have," Obama said. "You didn't elect me to tell you what you wanted to hear. You elected me to tell you the truth. And the truth is, it will take more than a few years for us to solve challenges that have built up over decades."

And he made the case for an active government, saying recovery "will require common effort, shared responsibility, and the kind of bold, persistent experimentation that Franklin Roosevelt pursued."

Republicans have lambasted Democrats for looking to government to solve problems, and Obama included a caution to his own side, noting that it "should remember that not every problem can be remedied with another government program or dictate from Washington."

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