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Office of University Relations

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Need for extensive studies of stadium situation cited

Fine Arts facility MU's top priority, Clagg declares

Marshall University's other needs must not be overshadowed by an apparently growing movement to build a new football stadium, MU Acting President Sam Clagg cautioned Monday.

His comments came in response to a recommendation from a Big Green Scholarship Foundation subcommittee that a new Marshall stadium be built on the eastern end of the campus, adjacent to Henderson Center. The proposal has been endorsed by the Alumni Association's executive committee.

The recommendation for a new stadium follows a January announcement that the east stands of 55-year-old Fairfield Stadium have deteriorated to the point that they cannot be used until major repairs have been made.

Clagg said he welcomed suggestions from interested individuals and groups, but noted the university has a process for determining its physical facilities needs. One of the university's major needs is a fine arts building, "a need which was recognized as far back as 1958," he said. "This project must remain at the top of our list of priorities."

He did not, however, rule out construction of a new

stadium if it can be accomplished "without hampering the institution in meeting its already documented needs." He added that extensive studies are needed before a commitment is made on building a new stadium.

Clagg's full statement reads:

"We welcome the Big Green group's input and recommendations in regard to the stadium situation, just as we value suggestions from all individuals and organizations interested in the welfare of Marshall University.

"As in any circumstance involving capital improvements, Marshall has a process - basically internal - which must be followed. In this case, we will need recommendations from the task force appointed to study the stadium situation, the Athletic Committee, and the Physical Facilities and Planning Committee.

"Another factor which must be considered is the fact that Marshall has a construction priorities list of many elements. Some of these needs have existed for many years, awaiting their turn as we have attempted to make the best possible use of Marshall's and West Virginia's limited financial resources. One such example is the Fine Arts Building - a need which was recognized as far back as 1958. This project must remain at the top of our list of priorities.

"If, however, some 'angel' can find a way to provide for construction of a new stadium without hampering the institution in meeting its already documented needs, we certainly will be interested and cooperative.

"Today, in our opinion, extensive studies are needed relative to need for a new stadium, architectural and space consideration, availability of funds, and other factors."

Atwood out, Olsen in for Birke symposium

Tillie Olsen, award-winning short story writer and critic, will appear on the Marshall University Birke Writers Series, April 9 and 10, Symposium Coordinator Barbara Brown announced today.

Ms. Olsen replaces Novelist Margaret Atwood, who had been scheduled to appear on the series March 20-21. Dr. Brown said Ms. Atwood indicated that publication deadlines for a novel on which she is working forced her to cancel her visit here.

Ms. Olsen will appear on the symposium at 8 p.m. on Monday, April 9, in Memorial Student Center's Morris Room. Tuesday, April 10, she will be in the Student Center at a location to be announced later from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for a more informal discussion.

Both the Monday night reading and discussion and the Tuesday session will be free and open to the public.

Ms. Olsen's "Tell Me a Riddle" is considered a contemporary classic, Dr. Brown said. Its title novella received the O. Henry Award as the best short story of 1961.

Alumni director dies

Mrs. Karen C. Thomas, director of Marshall's Office of Alumni Affairs, died at her home about 6:30 a.m. today (Feb. 23). She was 41. Mrs. Thomas, who was a Marshall graduate, had headed the Alumni Affairs office since Sept. 1, 1980.

The body has been taken to Beard Mortuary.

Shakespeare play March 1

The Acting Company, on tour for the John F. Kennedy Center, will perform Shakespeare's "The Merry Wives of Windsor" in Marshall University's Old Main Auditorium Thursday, March 1, at 8 p.m.

The performance is being sponsored by the Student Division of the Marshall Artists Series. Nancy P. Hindley, Artists Series coordinator, said tickets are available to the public at \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for youth. Marshall students may obtain tickets free upon presentation of MU identification and activity cards.

The Acting Company, which lists John Houseman as producing artistic director, is composed of 17 actors and actresses from America's leading professional training programs, including Juilliard, Yale, Carnegie-Mellon, The Goodman, and the University of California-San Diego.

In its 11-year history, the Acting Company has performed a repertory of 51 plays in 235 cities. This will be the group's first visit to Huntington.

Tickets may be obtained at the Artists Series Office in Memorial Student Center or by telephone: 696-6656.

Campus briefs. . .

A Women's Coffeehouse will be held Friday, Feb. 24, from 8 to 11 p.m. in the Campus Christian Center at Marshall University, according to Patricia Matters, MU coordinator of women's programs.

The program will feature talented female performers, food and beverages in an informal atmosphere, Ms. Matters said.

The Women's Coffeehouse is sponsored by the MU Women's Center, the United Methodist Ministry and the National Organization for Women. Those attending will be asked to make a \$1 donation, Ms. Matters said.

STRING-A-LONG DAY

The second annual "String-A-Long Day" for elementary string students through the sixth grade will take place at a Marshall University Saturday, Feb. 25, in Smith Music Hall and feature a 3 p.m. concert by the children open free to the public in the Recital Hall.

Directed by Patricia Green, associate professor of music, the event brings together students from West Virginia, Ohio and Kentucky for "musical games" and ensemble playing rather than instruction.

The day is designed for performing, according to Ms. Green, who says the children all participate in public school or private study and make use of a Suzuki-type format, which includes individual and group lessons.

Assisting Ms. Green will be Robert Schubert, string artist-in-residence in the Cabell County Public Schools, James McWhorter, cello instructor at Marshall, Cabell County music teachers Jon Pascolini, David Becker and Jean Ersek, and Dan Boyer, who teaches privately.

MU PLAY CONTINUES

A satire on political corruption and human gullibility, "The Inspector General" by Nikolai Gogol, will be continued by Marshall University Theatre today through Saturday at 8 p.m. in Old Main Auditorium. The play opened Wednesday.

Directed by N.B. East, chairman of the Department of Theatre/Dance, the classic Russian farce features New Martinsville senior Dan Henthorn as the mayor; Hamlin sophomore West Curry as Klestakov; and Huntington sophomore Karen Errington as Anna.

Reserved seat tickets at \$3.50 are available in the Theatre Box Office, OMB 23, or by calling 696-2306 during regular office hours.

CARTER IS SPEAKER

Professor Phillip W. Carter Jr. will address the Marshall University community tonight (Feb. 23) at 7 o'clock in Memorial Student Center Room 2W22. "The Conspiracy To Destroy Black Boys and Black Men" is his topic. The address, sponsored by the Minority Students Program, is open to the public as part of the Black History Month observance.

COLA SELECTS THREE

The following have been nominated and elected unopposed to committees by the College of Liberal Arts, Dean Alan B. Gould announced:

Donna Spindel, Research Board; Charles Bias, Budget and Appropriations Committee; Robert Sawrey, Faculty Personnel Committee.

Learning disabled conference topic

About 250 teachers and parents are expected to gather at Marshall University for the annual Learning Disabilities Conference, Friday and Saturday, Feb. 24 and 25.

The conference is being sponsored by Marshall in cooperation with the West Virginia Association for Children with Learning Disabilities (ACL D) and the Huntington Area ACL D, according to Dr. Barbara Guyer, coordinator of Marshall's Learning Disabilities Program.

Principal speaker for the conference will be Suzanne Stevens of Winston-Salem, N.C., author of the book "Classroom Success for the Learning Disabled."

Ms. Stevens, a former teacher of the learning disabled, met one of the principal figures in her book during an earlier visit to Huntington.

She will speak at a dinner in Memorial Student Center Friday evening and will give the keynote address Saturday morning on "A New View of the Right Brain." She also will speak at two sessions later Saturday on "Getting More of the Child Involved in Learning Activities" and "Creative Child Management."

Other conference speakers include Dr. Steven Cody, director of the Marshall Psychology Clinic testing program, who will discuss "Techniques for Working with the Behavioral and Emotional Problems of the LD Child," and Dr. Carl Johnson, MU associate professor of education, who will speak on "Computers for the Learning Disabled Student."

Pat Butler of Vinson and Ceredo-Kenova high schools; Cathy Richmond of Central and Martha elementary schools, and Diane Williams of Cammack Junior High School will take part in "A Roundtable Discussion with Three LD Teachers."

The field of learning disabilities is concerned with persons who have average intelligence or above, but who are not performing as well as they should, Dr. Guyer said.

Persons wishing to attend the conference or to obtain additional information may call Dr. Guyer at (304) 696-2340.

Whear work featured

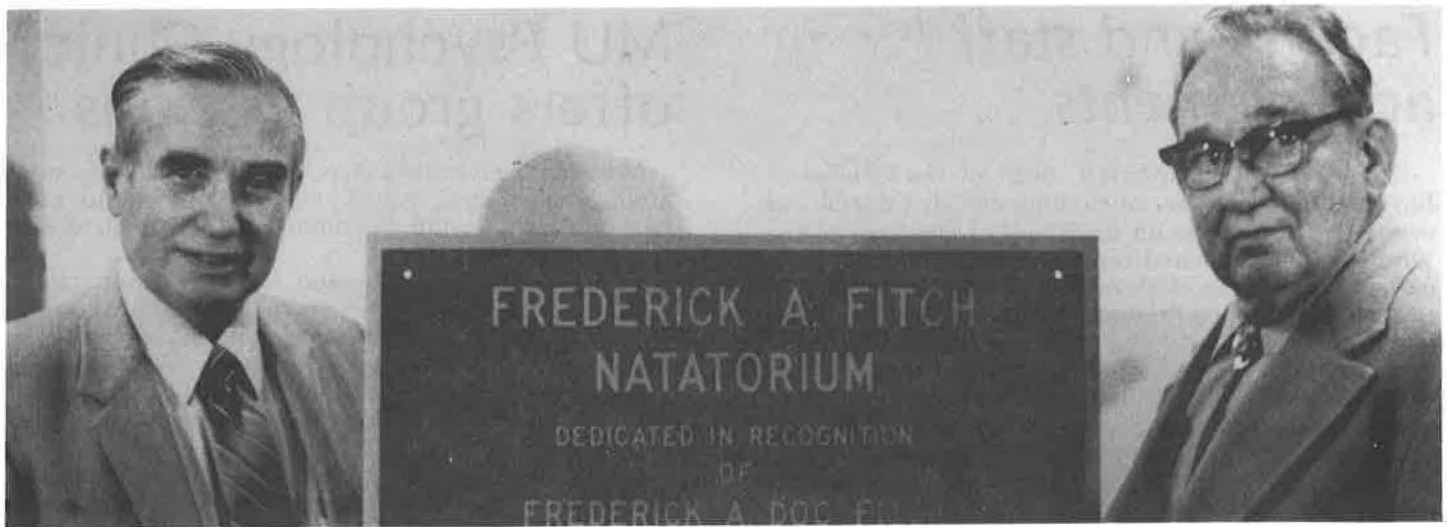
A concert featuring "Ulysses," a newly-completed work by Paul A. Whear, for chorus, baritone solo, brass and timpani, will be the featured work at a concert by Quintessential Brass Monday, Feb. 27, at 8 p.m. in Smith Recital Hall.

The work was completed this year by Whear, composer-in-residence and professor of music at Marshall University, though the last part was first written 11 years ago as a commission for the 50th anniversary of the West Virginia Division of the American Association of University Women and published by Ludwig Music Publishing Company, Cleveland.

Whear will direct the piece featuring in addition to the brass quintet Paul A. Balshaw, baritone, Ben Miller, timpanist, and a chorus.

Balshaw is professor of music and director of the School of Fine Arts. Miller is assistant professor in the Music Department.

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Frederick A. Fitch, right, and Marshall Acting President Sam Clagg pose with the plaque for the Fitch Natatorium, dedicated last Saturday evening in ceremonies conducted in the Big Green Room in Henderson Center. The plaque will be mounted in the nearby

swimming complex, named in honor of the long-time faculty member by action of the university's Physical Facilities and Planning Committee. More than 150 people attended the dedication. (Marshall University photo by Rick Hays)

'Great teachers influence eternity...'

Editor's note: More than 150 friends and colleagues crowded into the Big Green Room last Saturday evening to hear Acting President Sam Clagg recount the inspirational story of a teacher who served Marshall and its students for more than four decades. Here's what they heard:

Frederick A. Fitch, Jr., commonly known to all of us as "Doc," came to Huntington in 1908, at the age of two, when his father, a doctor, moved his practice here from Washington, D.C. It may be that Doc holds the record for time spent on this campus as his family home was established on the present site of Harris Hall. Doc retired from our faculty in 1971 which would have given him a total of 63 years on the Marshall campus. His teaching years at Marshall numbered 41.

As a former student of his, as were many in this room, I am certain that we agree he was a great teacher. There are generals, presidents, kings and other wordly things, but none of these is so magnificent as a great teacher. Great teachers influence eternity through their students, and their students' students, or children. The influence never ends.

Doc was a product of the local school system, graduating from Huntington High School in 1925. He attended West Virginia University for one year, but being a bright student, he returned to the Marshall College in his back yard and, except for graduate school stints and service in World War II, remained here until retirement.

During Doc's school days, the Marshall buildings consisted of Old Main, Northcott Science Hall, and the old gym. When Doc began at Marshall that fall of 1926 there was a student enrollment of 1,173 and a faculty of 55. (That same year I enrolled in grade school.)

The college catalog of the time (which is considered the academic bible) read as follows: "In college life morale is of the highest importance. Listlessness and loafing are educational sins. Intense interest and hard work are essential to success. A dominant purpose tends to develop a strong personality which is itself one of the essentials of a general education. Marshall College will

do its utmost to help students find themselves, to assist them in the formation of all helpful habits, and to encourage them in their work. It does not invite the attendance of students who are unwilling to devote themselves to a course of earnest, persistent, hard work."

Marshall College did not fail Doc Fitch, nor did he fail Marshall. That catalog paragraph could well be his credo.

Marshall was pleased with its product for Doc was hired here upon his graduation, which increased the size of the Physical Education staff to two men and two women. The present Health, Physical Education and Recreation staff numbers 14.

The crash of 1929, however, marked the beginning of the Great Depression. Doc's first full year salary was \$2,000 - and that was for ten months. The economy continued to plunge, and so did the Fitch salary. In the academic year 1932-'33, his ten-month salary was \$1,800. The following year, '33-'34, the salary was reduced to \$1,700 and there it remained until the academic year 1939-'40, when, now armed with a masters degree from New York University and promotions in rank to associate professor, Doc had a nine-month salary of \$2,050. That is a real success story. He had gained a masters degree, earned promotions from instructor through assistant professor into the associate professor rank, had his work load reduced one month, and after ten years, was now making \$50 more than when he started. During this period, the records show that he received for travel pay a total of \$44.00. Also, during this ten years Doc had gained a wife and two children. In the academic year 1941-'42, Doc earned \$2,300 and had travel allocations in the amount of \$137.81. But also during this year, war came.

Doc, now easily exempt from service by age and family responsibilities, felt a duty to his country. He joined the Air Force where travel was not logged in dollars and cents, but in ready-rooms, bombing missions, safe-unsafe returns and air medals. This travel of another kind took

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Faculty and staff achievements. . .

DR. ROBERT ALEXANDER, dean of the College of Business and a member of Huntington City Council, has been elected to serve on the Board of Directors of the West Virginia Municipal League as the league's official parliamentarian. Dr. Alexander also has been appointed to the West Virginia Productivity Award Board and will judge individuals and companies increasing productivity in the past year. The West Virginia board is part of the Washington (D.C.) Coordinating Council on Productivity.

DR. CAROLE VICKERS, chairman and professor of home economics, attended the annual meeting of Southeastern Family Economics-Home Management Professionals at VPI-SU in Blacksburg, Va., Feb. 2-4. She was a member of an invited panel that gave the conference summary and implications for the future.

'No person. . . more deserving'

(Continued from page 3)

him to New Caledonia, New Zealand, Australia, New Guinea, China and The Philippines. After nearly four years, Doc returned to Marshall a much-decorated major, 40 years old, with a 1946-'47 salary of \$3,700 for 11 months.

Air Force promotions were more rapid than academic ones. The ex-major now served at the rank of associate professor for 21 years being elevated to professor in 1960. Eleven years later, in 1971, after 41 years of devoted service to Marshall, he retired and his final nine-month salary was \$15,030. At that time the Physical Education Department offered 55 different courses and Doc, at one time or another, had taught 35 of these. Most of that number, he had designed.

If the State of West Virginia ever got its money's worth out of a man, this was it. He served on about every committee in the university, and chaired most of them. He was the veterans advisor following World War II. He was the dean of men. He was chairman of the Physical Education department for 16 years. He headed the United Fund drive two different times. He was the campus safety officer for years. He fathered and mothered the building of Gullickson Hall. He introduced to most of us the word "natatorium" when it first appeared here on the pool in Gullickson. He was the founder of safety education on the campus and a pioneer in the state movement. He served this region as a quality athletic official for years. He did, in short, more than you and I know to carry Marshall through the lean years - and he did it with competence, free of complaint, and with little compensation.

His first love through all of this was swimming. He was an excellent one in his time. He saw thousands of us to the achievement of our Red Cross junior and senior water safety certification (even I, a real brick of a swimmer). He hired our present excellent swimming coach, Bob Saunders.

No person could be more deserving of this honor. My greatest regret is that Marshall did not do more for him. I know that is not the regret of Doc Fitch. He has never asked for more than the opportunity to be of service to this institution and the thousands of students he taught. As a great teacher, his influence on humanity will continue long after this plaque has turned to nothingness. Doc Fitch can never become nothing.

MU Psychology Clinic offers group sessions

Marshall University's Psychology Clinic will offer group sessions designed to help people deal with common problems in life, according to Dr. Joseph Wyatt, clinic director.

Groups on stress reduction, marriage preparation, weight reduction and assertion and communication will be conducted for six weeks beginning the week of Feb. 27.

The sessions are free to MU students and staff and open to the general public on a \$15 per person enrollment fee basis.

"Stress Management," which will be offered from 7 to 8:15 p.m. on Mondays, beginning Feb. 27, will deal with psychological and physical effects of stress at work, home and in the community. Participants will be trained in relaxation techniques and the management of thoughts and worries that interfere with happiness and productivity. Meetings will be held in Harris Hall 139.

Also offered on Mondays from 7 to 8:15 p.m., "Assertion and Communication" sessions will focus on development of effective verbal and nonverbal skills. The group is designed to improve interpersonal relations in dating, marriage, employment and community life. It will meet in Harris Hall 138.

"When the Honeymoon Ends: Planning for a Successful Marriage" is a group for both unmarried people and those recently married. It will deal with handling major life events that produce stress between spouses, including arrival of children, lifestyle changes, career demands, and in-laws. Sessions will be held from 7 to 8:15 p.m. on Wednesdays, beginning Feb. 29, in Harris Hall 331.

In the "Weight Reduction" group, a variety of techniques will be used to help members learn to avoid the temptation of overeating. Nutrition and exercise will be discussed and environmental and mental attitude restructuring strategies will be explored for maintaining weight loss. Sessions will be held on Wednesdays, beginning Feb. 29, from 7 to 8:15 p.m. in Harris Hall 139.

The group sessions will feature a combination of lecture, films, discussion and guest speakers, the clinic director said.

For additional information or to enroll in a group, call the Psychology Clinic at 696-6446.

ABSENCES EXCUSED

Absences have been excused by the respective deans for: ROTC cadets attending an Army orientation visit to Fort Knox, Ky., Feb. 16-17; members of the men's basketball team traveling to VMI Feb. 15-16; members of the women's basketball team making trips Feb. 10-13 and Feb. 16-19; members of the golf team participating in a tournament at Hilton Head Island, S.C., Feb. 16-19.

Whear work is featured

(Continued from Page 2)

Dr. Whear, who is in his 15th year of teaching at Marshall, was inspired in his composition by the poem, "Ulysses."

The concert will be the final in the month-long residency of the brass quintet. General admission is \$3 and \$1.50 for youth 17 and under. Tickets are available through the Marshall Artists Series and the Institute for the Arts and at the door.