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What will it take for the U.S. to beat Germany Thursday?
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THE PARTHENON

THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2014 | VOL. 118 NO. 3 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | marshallparthenon.com

Pro dreams become a reality for Herd's Bazzie

By **ADAM ROGERS**
SPORTS EDITOR

The dream of becoming a professional football player is a dream that many young boys have while growing up.

Less than two percent of National Collegiate Athletic Association football players are estimated to make that ascent to the profession rankings according to the NCAA in a report released Sept. 24, 2013.

Alex Bazzie can say he falls in that small category of people thanks to an opportunity in the Canadian Football League.

Bazzie, a native of Silver Spring, Md., arrived on Marshall's campus back in the fall of 2009 and would sit out his freshman season with a redshirt after spending the previous year at Fork

Union Military Academy.

After a redshirt freshman season where he saw action in six games and recorded eight tackles, Bazzie's role along the defensive front grew and he played in every game his final three years.

Expectations were high for Bazzie heading into his final year after a noticeable improvement from his redshirt sophomore year to redshirt junior year, and he met them head on-finishing the year with 66 tackles and 13 sacks.

Bazzie helped lead a defense that made a remarkable turnaround from being one of the worst units in the country in 2012 to one of the best in 2013.

His final season was capped off with helping Marshall win its first ever Conference USA East Division Championship and birth into the C-USA Championship Game.

The Thundering Herd lost the title game in Houston to the Rice Owls, but did receive an invite to play in the Military Bowl against the Maryland Terrapins.

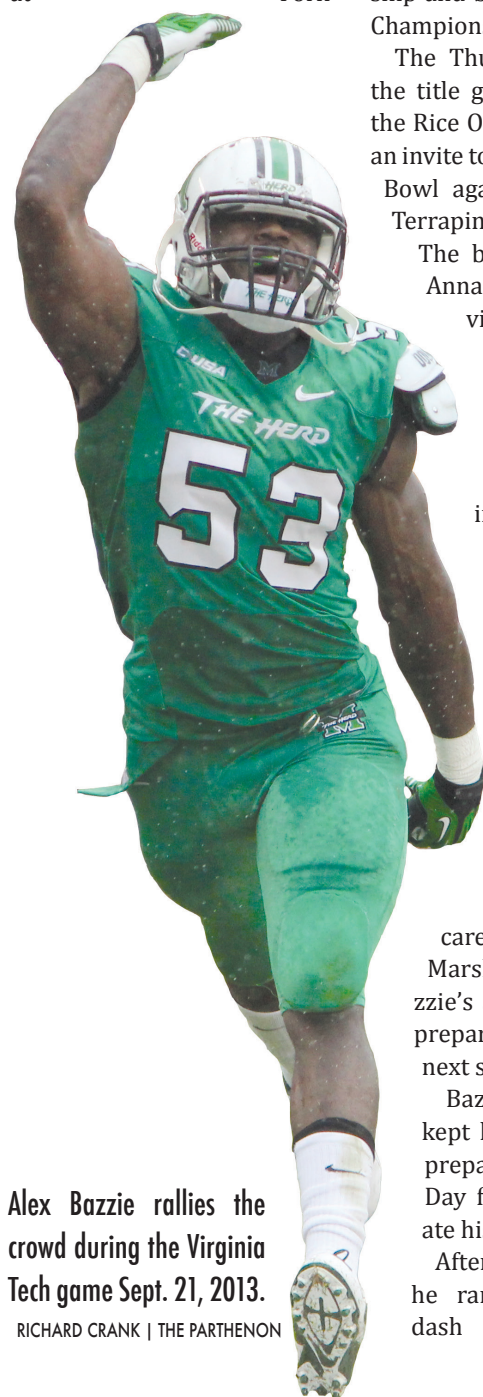
The bowl was played in Annapolis, Md., Bazzie's virtual backyard, and the Herd won 31-20 for its first 10-win season since 2002-03.

"It was amazing," Bazzie said. "I mean words can't even explain how amazing that feeling was for me to know that I get to finish my last college game against my home state team that was wonderful."

With his college career over following Marshall's bowl win, Bazzie's attention turned to preparing himself for the next step.

Bazzie worked out and kept himself in shape in preparation of his Pro Day for scouts to evaluate his skill set.

After his Pro Day where he ran a 4.87 40-yard dash time, the outside



Alex Bazzie rallies the crowd during the Virginia Tech game Sept. 21, 2013.

RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON

See **BAZZIE** | Page 5

Sneak Peek

Marshall opens the doors to the much anticipated Visual Arts Center



PHOTOS BY LEXI BROWNING | THE PARTHENON

ABOVE: Robert Bookwalter, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Student Body President Duncan Waugaman explore Marshall University's Visual Arts Center as it opens its doors in downtown Huntington Wednesday, June 25.

BELOW: One of the galleries in the new Visual Arts Center. The \$13 million transformation will house eight programs from the School of Art and Design and stands adjacent to Pullman Square.

By **LEXI BROWNING**
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University opened the doors of its Visual Arts Center Wednesday evening, debuting the \$13 million world-class facility and the future of the university's art education to the public. The Visual Arts Center contains six floors of interactive studios, classrooms and state-of-the-art technology for students of the School of Art and Design.

The Visual Arts Center lies in the midst of Huntington's historic district, just adjacent to Pullman Square. The building itself was purchased by Marshall in 2011 and is the former historic Anderson-Newcomb Co.

The Anderson-Newcomb building was constructed in 1902; the same year Marshall began its visual arts program. Student Body President Duncan Waugaman was in attendance for the Visual Arts Center's public premiere.

"I think the Arts Center is top of the line, and it's going to put Marshall University on the map," Waugaman said. "Students are going to choose our university because of our advancements in the art programs."

The Visual Arts Center incorporates the building's original hardwood floors and 65,000 pounds of new steel, natural lighting, and highly efficient heating and cooling. While the top floors house eight programs from the School of Arts and Design, the ground floor inhabits the retail areas and 2,200-square-foot gallery space.

"The College of Arts and Media and the Huntington community are going to grow and prosper from this expansion," Waugaman said. "This is going to change our university."

Marshall's Visual Arts Center is also preparing for the fall semester by hosting a competition for best design for the fiberglass buffalo that will be on display in the center. The competition's judging is currently underway and will be selected in September during the Visual Arts Center's grand opening for students.

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High school students get a taste of journalism at workshop

By **GEOFFREY FOSTER**
NEWS EDITOR

By the time a teenager becomes a high school student, he or she generally knows what path their professional life will take. When high school ends and we begin to make our own decisions about the future, rather than letting the board of education make them, it can be frightening. To help ease students into this transition, The School of Journalism and Mass Communications hosted a journalism workshop for high school students.

The four-day workshop gave students an authentic college experience, which involved a full curriculum of classes from 10 professors. It also included a visit to The Herald-Dispatch, giving students the opportunity to shadow reporters as they worked their beats. The workshop schedule also included regular meals, personal time and evening activities. Students spent their nights in the freshman dorms.

The project was created by Burnis Morris, Carter G. Woodson professor for the SOJMC. Morris said the event, now in its sixth

year, was a project carried over from the University of Mississippi. "I created a similar workshop at Ole Miss and I brought the idea with me to Marshall," Morris said. "Dr. Guinness and I went to The Herald-Dispatch and asked them if they would support it financially, which they have. Our goal is to improve the quality of high school journalism and to attract good journalism students to our School of Journalism and Mass Communications."

One such student was ninth-grader Darla Harrison, who said the stand-out moment for her was the visit to The Herald-Dispatch.

"The big thing for me was getting to see how a newspaper got made at the Dispatch," Harrison said. "They showed us how to interview people and took us out to interview a guy at the A.D. Lewis pool. They also took us to the Exotic Animal Shelter. The whole workshop was pretty impressive."

Ninth-grader Emily Adkins said she found the classroom-based curriculum particularly enjoyable.

"All the doctors and professors were fantastic," Adkins said. "They all had something interesting to say. They had a spark of life

in them, whether it be comical, serious or a combination of both."

Madison Birchfield, an incoming freshman at Marshall University, said the workshop created an authentic journalistic experience for the class.

"We went with a reporter to the A.D. Lewis pool about the vandalism that happened there," Birchfield said. "It was real time news. We were there when something happened and that was really interesting."

I thought it was a great experience. I had an opportunity that I never would had if I didn't come."

The journalism workshop occurs every year during summer session. Morris said he is looking forward to meeting the new crop of students attending the workshop in 2015.

"We would love students to apply next year," Morris said. "We haven't chosen a date yet, but we usually hold it the third week of every June and they should look for our announcement in early spring."

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NEWS

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Painter named director of H.E.L.P. Center

By **JOCELYN GIBSON**
MANAGING EDITOR

Debbie Painter has been named director of Marshall University's H.E.L.P. Center program. Painter is the fourth director in the history of the program.

Sara Barker, coordinator of skills and student development for the H.E.L.P. Center, said that Painter's promotion is well deserved.

"I have worked with Debbie for approximately 22 years and have always known her to be fair and compassionate when dealing with staff members and students within the H.E.L.P. program," Barker said. "She has always worked tirelessly to contribute whatever she could to enhance the program. In her capacity now as director, she continues to excel in her work and is well respected by all who work with her."

The Higher Education for Learning Problems (H.E.L.P.) Center is a national program that provides individual instruction and academic support for students with specific learning disabilities. The center opened at Marshall University in 1981, and now has six different divisions helping people of all ages.

Painter has been with the center since 1991 when she began tutoring for the program as a

graduate assistant. In 1992, her role changed to diagnostician.

Nancy McCormick, coordinator of registration and tutor development at the H.E.L.P. center, said that Painter is well suited to the position.

"She has great wisdom and is able to deal with the many different personalities in the H.E.L.P. program and expresses her confidence in the staff, encouraging all of us to have confidence in our abilities," McCormick said. "Perhaps her greatest quality is her even nature. Although she must be weary or even frustrated sometimes, it never shows. She always has a ready smile, welcoming one and all into her office. She has over 25 years experience with the operation of the H.E.L.P. program and is familiar with the ins and outs but she is not tied to 'we've always done it this way.' She has wonderful objectivity and is able to look at traditional policies and strategies and see where improvements can be made."

She became the coordinator of diagnostics, a division she continues to monitor, in 1995. In July 2012, she moved up to the position of assistant director to manage the college program.

Painter holds two degrees from Marshall University — a bachelor's in elementary education 1-6 and early education N-K and a

master's degree in special education and learning disabilities.

"Debbie brings not only experience in higher education and learning differences to her role as director, but a career-long investment in improving the lives of Marshall students and families in the tri-state area," said Susie Bruhin, reading specialist. "She offers a familiar, yet driven approach to her new role and we are excited to be moving forward under her leadership."

Last January Painter served as interim director, supervising the day-to-day operations of the program.

"I feel the responsibilities of the H.E.L.P. Director is to have leadership qualities and exhibit a compassion and understanding of dealing with students who have learning disabilities and/or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder," Barker said. "Debbie Painter exhibits both of those qualities. She has a definite understanding of what it takes to be a leader and she is trained and versed in dealing with students who have learning disabilities and/or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder."

Jocelyn Gibson can be contacted at gibson243@marshall.edu.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARSHALL UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

Debbie Painter, newly-appointed director of The Higher Education for Learning Problems (H.E.L.P.) Center at Marshall University

Study finds oil from BP spill impedes fish's swimming



(Left to right) John Stieglitz, Graduate Assistant, Martin Grosell, Professor and Maytag Chair, and Ed Mager, Post Doctoral Associate, all from the University of Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, look over a group of middle-age mahi.



John Stieglitz, Graduate Assistant at the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, scoops up a small amount of mahi eggs created by adult spawning mahi fish in an attached tank.

By **JENNY STALETOVICH**
THE MIAMI HERALD (MCT)

In a lab on Virginia Key, a group of baby fish are being put through their paces on a tiny fish treadmill.

The inch-long mahi-mahi, being used as part of a study to assess damage caused by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill that spread crude across the Gulf of Mexico for 87 days in 2010, were exposed when they were embryos to oil collected during the cleanup. Now, at 25 days old, the oil is doing exactly what scientists suspected it would do: hamper the swimming of one of the ocean's fastest fish.

And significantly so. Young mahi usually swim at a rate of five body lengths per second. For perspective, imagine a 6-foot man swimming 30 feet in a second. The fish, struggling against a current in a little tube attached to a propeller called a swim tunnel, can only muster three body lengths.

For a fish that needs speed to survive, this could mean bad news. Mahi, one of the most popular fish on menus, is already heavily fished. So losing a generation to an oil spill could take a toll. It also suggests that other fish suffered from the spill.

"Any life form is optimized compromise," Martin Grosell, one of the study's authors, said as a way of explaining physiology perfectly evolved to maximize speed. And if you mess with that treaty of parts, he said, "you're going to increase its vulnerability."

The treadmill study marks the second in recent months by the University of Miami Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science that has found that oil from the largest spill in U.S. history damages young pelagic fish, the large predators found in the open ocean. In March, UM researchers working with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration scientists determined that the BP oil also damaged the hearts of tuna embryos, a condition that likely killed them in the wild.

Both studies, disputed by BP, are worrisome because tuna, whose numbers have dropped by as much as 75 percent in the last 40 years, and mahi began their spring spawning just as the spill occurred, sending fragile embryos across warm surface waters and into a patchwork of oil slicks that covered more than six square miles.

These newest findings, published in the journal Environmental Science & Technology, build on that earlier report by looking at fish as they age.

BP says the study is invalid because, according

to the company, the tests used concentrations of oil not found in the Gulf during or after the spill. Researchers also failed to look at adult fish, spokesman Jason Ryan said in a statement.

"The tests only looked at impacts to fish under one year of age," he said. "Even if there had been an effect on a single-year class of such fish, the study does not provide any evidence to show that an effect on that group of fish would have had a population-level impact."

After the spill, NOAA began enlisting scientists to investigate the damage it caused — so far, the studies range from the acoustic damage done to endangered sperm whales to oil in fiddler crabs. For pelagic fish, which are particularly sensitive to changes in their near-constant deep-water environment, scientists want to know how much oil it takes to affect the fish and what those effects are.

To test the mahi, researcher Ed Mager first mixed oil from the spill and seawater in a Waring blender at concentrations replicating the spill. He exposed one group of embryos to the mix for two days and then raised them in clean seawater. Another group was raised in clean water and exposed to oil when they reached about 25 days.

Mager also wanted to ensure that no other factors stressed their performance. Like all babies, the mahi startle easily. So he wrapped the treadmill — a clear, four-inch swim tunnel outfitted with a propeller and immersed in a two-foot tank — in black plastic. Mager, who studied deadly respiratory viruses in premature human babies before he switched to fish, then curtained off the area and monitored his little subjects with a video camera.

Mahi are carnivores and foragers, so they swim fast. But when he turned on the treadmill, Mager was surprised to see that the outwardly healthy fish swam much slower. The ones exposed as embryos swam 37 percent slower. Those exposed as juveniles dropped 22 percent.

Because they are so sensitive to change, pelagic fish — and particularly fragile embryos and juveniles — can act as a kind of canary in a coal mine. So the information that Mager and the team have collected for the study, one of several ongoing at the school, will be fed to modelers to determine a more expansive view of the ecosystem after the spill and help figure out the limits for how much oil it can tolerate before damage happens.

"We'll be a little closer to knowing what to look for and how bad when, I cynically say, the next spill happens. Because it will," Grosell said.

NEWS BRIEFS

MU athletic training students win fundraising competition to prevent colon cancer

THE PARTHENON

Athletic training students from Marshall University and the University of Charleston teamed up last month to compete against students from five other states to win a fundraising competition for the LivON Foundation, which helps support prevention of colon

cancer.

The competition took place during the Mid-Atlantic Athletic Training Conference in Virginia Beach, Virginia. The competition was called Penny Wars. The students raised over \$162 just in change over the course of one week.

The money raised by the West Virginia athletic training students during the fundraising competition will help support diagnosis of colon cancer for those less than 50 years of age.

Marshall seeking volunteers for Fall move-in

THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University Department of Housing and Residence Life and the Residence Hall Association are looking for volunteers to assist with the fall 2014 move-in.

Volunteers are needed from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 20, Aug. 23 and Aug. 24.

Each volunteer must complete an online registration form by Aug. 1.

For more information contact

RHA@marshall.edu or call Britt Frye at 304-696-2574.

American Queen steamboat makes stop in Huntington

THE PARTHENON

The American Queen Steamboat, the largest steamboat ever built, will bring passengers to Huntington for two days Thursday, June 26, and Monday, June 30. The boat hasn't docked in Huntington for 11

years.

Passengers will learn the history of Huntington from locals as passenger busses tour the city.

To welcome the passengers, live music will be provided by a barber-shop quartet Thursday from 8:30 p.m. - 9:30 a.m. and Monday from 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. The Backyard Dixie Jazz Stompers will play Thursday from 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. The 1937 Flood will play Monday from 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

The public is encouraged to come to Harris Riverfront Park and see the majestic boat.



Life!

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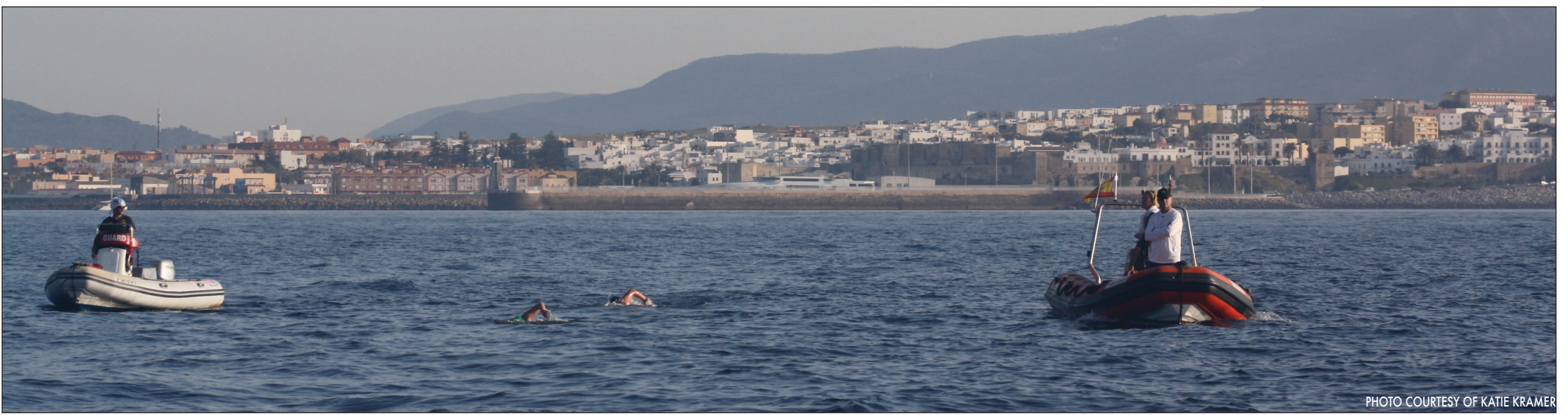


PHOTO COURTESY OF KATIE KRAMER

Marshall student Katie Kramer (left in water) and Ion Lazareno of Moldova swim across the Strait of Gibraltar on May 11, 2014. Photo courtesey of Katie Kramer.

IN FOREIGN WATERS

Marshall Student becomes youngest American female to swim Strait of Gibraltar



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATIE KRAMER

KATIE KRAMER

by **TAYLOR STUCK**
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

When Marshall University Yeager Scholar and swimmer Katie Kramer was looking at study abroad locations in 2012, she rediscovered the Strait of Gibraltar which separates the coast of Spain in Europe and Morocco in Africa.

"I thought it didn't look too far and I hadn't heard of anyone swimming it, so I googled it," Kramer said.

Kramer found an organization that organizes the swims and got the last spot for 2014.

"I didn't really think I would do it, but I got the spot anyway," Kramer said. "I thought it would be something to put on my bucket list to say I swam from Europe to Africa."

Not only did Kramer complete the swim, she became the youngest American woman to do it.

Kramer completed the 8.9 mile swim in open water on May 11, the day after she graduated from Marshall with a degree in

economics.

"It was the coolest experience of my life," she said. "It's still really surreal. I built up to it for so long and thought about it for so long."

Kramer originally planned to swim it alone, but chose to swim with Ion Lazareno, a man from Moldova who had been waiting to swim for 13 days, but couldn't because of the weather. He had been raising money for children in Moldova and wanted to make the attempt.

"We had one day to practice together," Kramer said, "when partners usually practice for years learning how the other swims."

The pair started at 8:30 a.m. A boat took them out off the coast and they swam back to touch Spain. Kramer said the Spanish coast's clear blue water was beautiful, but once she swam 15 yards, she couldn't see a thing.

Normally, the current is against swimmers at the beginning and helping at the end.

"Our day was weird," Kramer said. "It wasn't against us at the beginning and for a while there wasn't much of a current at all. The last 2,000 yards it was against us, so I started sprinting and it didn't feel like I was getting anywhere at all. It was actually really fun to have to work for it."

Near the Moroccan coast, Kramer said the water cleared back up and she could see squid, jelly fish and crabs.

"The only way I can describe it is like 'The Little Mermaid,'" she said. "I just wanted to hang around a snorkel."

The best part of the whole experience though? Being able to share the experience with her parents.

"It was on Mother's Day," she said. "The first thing I said when I got back on the boat was Happy Mother's Day."

Kramer will be back at Marshall in the fall completing the College of Business's three plus two program by getting her master's degree in business administration.

Taylor Stuck can be contacted at stuck7@marshall.edu.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATIE KRAMER

ABOVE LEFT: Kramer takes a snack and water break. She and Lazareno took a break every 45 minutes during the swim. RIGHT: Kramer poses with some camels on the coast of Morocco.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATIE KRAMER

Like it never happened: What happens after Bonnaroo

By **MEGAN OSBORNE**
LIFE EDITOR

Over 80 thousand fans flocked to the Bonnaroo Music and Arts Festival in Manchester, Tenn. from June 12 to 15, but after Elton John played the last notes to Crocodile Rock and everyone packed up camp, 650 of those individuals, myself included, stayed behind to clean up what everyone else left behind.

Clean Vibes is an organization that travels around the country to music festivals to promote environmentally responsible waste management. The organization gives people the opportunity to volunteer in exchange for a free ticket to the festival at which they volunteer. As a poor college student, I took advantage of a volunteer position and chose to do post-show cleanup.

Post-show cleanup volunteers have to work two 10-hour shifts picking up garbage left behind by the Bonnaroo attendees at their campsites and within the venue. Upon arrival to the festival, all campers are given trash bags—one for recycling and one for garbage; however, not everything makes it into the bags.

Most of our 10-hour shifts were spent combing the fields for small pieces of litter: cigarette butts, pieces of food wrappers, dropped change. Everything had to be picked up by hand and either recycled or thrown away.

After several hours of bending over to pick bits of cellophane and bottle caps out of the grass while the Tennessee sun was relentlessly beating down on us, the volunteers got the pleasure of looking around at what appeared to be just a

large piece of farm land. After 20 hours of backbreaking work, the entirety of the 800-acre property on which Bonnaroo occurs was returned to its original state. Not one piece of trash was to be found. It was as if Bonnaroo had never happened.

Suddenly, I realized that the work was not that bad. Sure, I smelled like I had gone dumpster diving and had sunburn from my shirt raising up, but I got to know people from across the country, I got a free ticket to Bonnaroo, and I made a huge impact.

Seeing that farmland completely clean changed my experience from just wanting to go to Bonnaroo affordably to becoming a part of the inner workings of the festival itself.

Megan Osborne can be contacted at osborne115@marshall.edu.

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OPINION

THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2014 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

EDITORIAL

Is social media having an effect on mental health?

It is probably safe to say most people enjoy social media like Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. But are we sacrificing our mental health by indulging in so many social media networks throughout the day?

Think about it: how many problems, insecurities and altercations could we avoid simply by checking out of social networking.

Certainly, we are connected to many people on social media whom we aren't connected to in any other way. In its ideal capacity, that is the essence of social media — connecting with those you don't see or talk to often.

However, it becomes an issue when vague acquaintances are contacting you for favors, adding to your daily list of worries and to-dos. Those with straightforward personalities might feel no guilt declining these requests, but there is another type of people who feel an obligation to everyone who asks. It is the latter group of people who suffer most from social media use.

Another issue rooted in the prevalence of social media is personal insecurities. You post a picture or a status and then you are checking the site all day to see who liked, favorited and commented. It is essentially a

dozen little ego boosts through the day, and when you post something that doesn't get a lot of feedback, it is disappointing.

Besides the little ego boosts we get from all the likes and comments, we are essentially using social media to feed our egos by thinking that our daily activities are so special they are worth sharing with the world.

On the other hand, maybe it's not that we believe our lives to be so interesting that they have to be shared. It could be that we are sharing for the few people who care about the small things without having to call and find out what we did each day.

Admit it though; we enjoy

the attention whether it is the reason we post in the first place or not. It boosts our moods to get a positive comment on a photo or status. It can make our whole day, even.

Since social media has the power to make a day great, doesn't it also have the power to launch us into depression? We are in an age of social media bullying, but even lesser put-downs can be devastating — especially when they are posted for all of our friends and acquaintances to see.

Just take a moment to consider this question: would we all be happier if we stopped using social media completely?

Online Polls

YOU CAN BE HERD

What is your favorite summer leisure activity?

- Swimming
- Reading
- Playing video games

Voice your opinion. It is your right. Tweet us your answer at @MUParthenon.

COLUMN

Music is universal

This is the second in a series of columns about Halie's experiences in Tanzania.

By Halie Putorek
GUEST COLUMNIST

A battle is raging within the United States' public school system. Funds have to be cut, which means certain teachers lose their jobs. Because school systems are being charged with the task of choosing which programs to eliminate for financial reasons, many opinions abound. For instance, should a football team be cut — thus eliminating the coaching positions — because the team lost all of their games last year? Many would argue in favor of keeping the football team for the sake of leadership skills, teambuilding skills, or simply because football is somewhat of an American society "necessity."

While many schools systems decide to keep the athletic teams, another crucial extracurricular activity usually gets eliminated. Music in American schools is considered a hobby, or at most a talent. What many fail to understand, however, is the importance of music to both cognitive growth as well as communication.

Cognition is the physiological and psychological mechanisms involved in processing information, or what many would consider "thinking." As the brain matures and literally increases in size, various areas become more relevant. One part of the brain may not mature until one reaches their early 20s, while another region will be mature from a very young age. The linguistic, critical thinking, and problem solving areas all benefit from music. In fact, many psychologists and neurologists believe that music is a contributing factor in higher reading and math scores on standardized tests.

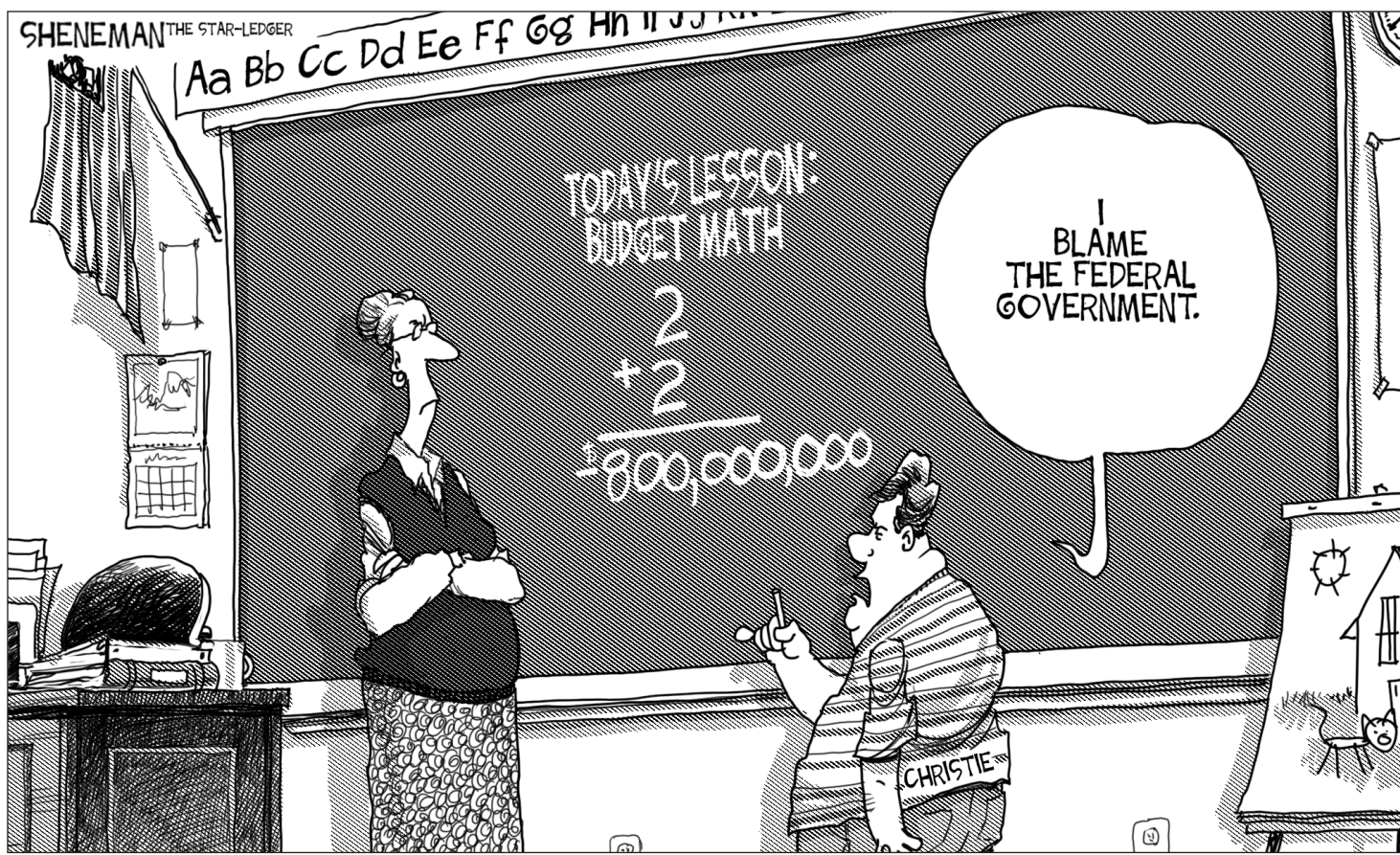
In terms of communication, music works as a liaison between generations, between classes and between different cultures. When one plays a song on the piano,

a listener may feel a deep connection to the song and might in turn feel more connected to the pianist. Or, as I learned earlier this week, music might very well be the connecting factor between cultures. Children learn different languages with songs or chants at a much faster pace. Not only do the songs speed the learning process, they also engrain the information within an individual's mind. If a child is able to sing a song about the alphabet then they are able to recall it on command, which improves performance on tests.

The children at a daycare in Tanzania enjoy singing songs in English to greet new teachers. The children also learn body parts, the English alphabet and English greetings by singing songs. While the children sing, they are excited. It promotes a better learning environment in which they are refocused and rejuvenated. The songs work as a sort of bridge between languages allowing for improved understanding.

Although I reference a daycare in Tanzania, the same ideology works in the United States public school systems. As a student begins participating in musical activities, sports teams, as well as extra curricular clubs and organizations, their intelligence becomes much more plastic. When school boards consider which programs to cut from school budgets, they should be mindful of the research surrounding the universality of music. There are many benefits to keeping music in the schools that range from mood improvement to academic performance improvement. After all, what school wouldn't want a happy, intellectual student body?

Halie Putorek can be contacted at putorek@live.marshall.edu or visit her blog at haliewanders.wordpress.com.



NATIONAL EDITORIAL

Keep the pill in Obamacare

THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER (MCT)

For the last half-century, millions of American women have been digging into their purses to pay for birth-control pills and other contraceptive methods that weren't covered by their health insurance plans.

Unfortunately, that won't change if the Supreme Court, following arguments expected Tuesday in the latest high-profile challenge to the Affordable Care Act, decides to void provisions that increase birth control coverage.

The court will consider two cases, one brought by a Pennsylvania cabinetry business, Conestoga Wood Specialties, whose Mennonite owners say it would violate their religious beliefs to help pay for employees' birth control.

The Affordable Care Act does exempt churches and other religious employers from providing

birth control coverage, but not for-profit companies like Conestoga or the other Obamacare challenger, Oklahoma City-based retail giant Hobby Lobby, whose owners are evangelical Christians. It's more than interesting that Hobby Lobby previously provided coverage for two birth control methods that it now seeks to drop. That religious conversion smacks of the Republican-driven effort to dismantle Obamacare at any price.

As the high court sorts through the case, it must beware of setting a dangerous precedent. Were these companies granted the right to bar insurance coverage of the pill, any business might well be able to raise objections to other types of medical care that its owners contend violate their faith tenets. That could derail the entire landmark health-care reform and set back the

nation's necessary efforts to cover millions of people with inadequate or no health insurance.

These court challenges appear to be the latest salvo from conservative forces trying to scuttle Obamacare, even as it's become clear that the law is putting affordable, quality health insurance coverage within reach of millions. Sign-ups for Obamacare have passed the 5 million mark.

It appears that the White House's target of 7 million enrollees by April may not be reached, but that's partly due to unresolved glitches. For example, a Philadelphia Inquirer analysis revealed last week that the Healthcare.gov website may be incorrectly calculating poverty levels and wrongly telling thousands of families who should qualify for insurance subsidies that they are ineligible.

But even that apparent misstep doesn't diminish the positive impact Obamacare is having. Millions of young adults have retained insurance coverage under their parents' plans, seniors are getting more help paying for drugs, and insurance companies can no longer deny coverage due to preexisting conditions.

Were states like Pennsylvania to sensibly expand Medicaid, as Obamacare allows, the ranks of the insured would swell by millions more. As for the insurance market — long reduced to a virtual monopoly in many regions — a number of states say they are seeing more robust competition.

The right path for the nation's well-being is clear. By keeping Obamacare intact, the Supreme Court can discourage other rear-guard efforts to cripple the health-care reform that is helping so many.

THE PARTHENON

The Parthenon, Marshall University's student newspaper, is published by students Monday through Friday during the regular semester and Thursday during the summer. The editorial staff is responsible for news and editorial content.

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.

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GUIDELINES FOR SENDING LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Please keep letters to the editor at 300 words or fewer. They must be saved in Microsoft Word and sent as an attachment. Longer letters may be used as guest columns at the editor's discretion. Guest column status will not be given at the author's request. All letters must be signed and include an address or phone number for confirmation. Letters will be edited for grammar, libelous statements, available space or factual errors. Compelling

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Please send news releases to the editors at parthenon@marshall.edu. Please keep in mind, letters are printed based on timeliness, newsworthiness and space.

Bazzie signed by B.C. Lions

BAZZIE

Continued from Page 1

linebacker received an invite from the Cleveland Browns May 10 to attend their rookie mini camp.

"That process was just tremendous knowing you're put in a position to try to earn a job, but not only that, to just embrace the moment of being there," Bazzie said. "Being where growing up as a kid you always dreamed of being. Once I got there I worked hard and I played hard."

Ultimately, the Browns decided not to sign Bazzie to a free agent rookie contract, but he did not let that get to him.

"Although I felt I went out there and left it out on the field, there was still a bit of anger in

me," Bazzie said. "I still carried a chip on my shoulder after not being picked up. But at the same time, God has a plan for everyone. There's a reason to his magic and what he does."

Almost immediately after the Browns passed on the 228-lb outside linebacker a call from the Great North came his way when the British Columbia Lions of the CFL signed Bazzie to a contract.

Bazzie went into camp without a single professional snap under his belt and walked out of training camp with the starting job at defensive end on the Lions 46-man game day roster.

The Maryland native took that starting spot away from two veterans and will be only one of three rookies on the Lions roster to start in week one.

"The coaches accepted me; they liked what I was about," Bazzie said. "They just allowed me to play comfortable, and once I started relaxing and playing comfortable it allowed me to show my talent. It was to the point where coaches were like 'we've got to get this guy on the field.' I was humbled, very humbled. I came out and worked hard everyday. I just wanted to show I make an impact and soon enough it came down to the point where the coaches wanted me on the first starting lineup."

Bazzie and the Lions start the season Saturday, June 28, with their home opener against the Edmonton Eskimos.

Bazzie said the hardest adjustment he's had to make with the Lions are the rule differences between American and Canadian football.

"I have to get used to (being) a yard off the ball, which I wasn't used to," Bazzie said. "Having two to three downs as opposed to four. The kicking rules are a little different too. I'm still learning, there's still a lot to learn and get a feel for, but as the weeks and days of practice go by, I'm learning a lot and I'm picking it up."

"Just coming in at the end of the day I just tell myself its football, so don't get too caught up in what you don't understand. Still remind yourself its football and just go out there and play football. Whatever there needs to be corrected the

coaches will correct and sure enough, these coaches have really done a great job of explaining downs and situations to me. I've been learning a lot."

B.C. has already played exhibition games at Edmonton and at home against the Calgary Stampeders, where Bazzie collected a total of four tackles and a sack.

Bazzie said the home pre-season game against the Stampeders was amazing because of the atmosphere.

"Just to see our fans go crazy and the stadium looks wonderful," Bazzie said. "Just to get the chance to experience all that I was very humbled. To come out this week and it be the first regular season game, I know it's going to be two times better."

Bazzie also said the football fans in Canada are no different from those here in America.

"When you step out on that field and you're hearing the crowd scream, it's the same adrenaline rush that you'd get if you were playing American ball," Bazzie said. "There's no difference and when the fans come and support, they're into it just like Americans are with their football."

The B.C. Lions' home opener against Edmonton Eskimos is Saturday, June 28, at 6 p.m.

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Penguins offseason moves call for more

Column

By BRAXTON CRISP FOR THE PARTHENON

Ask me to pick one cliché to describe the Pittsburgh Penguins' 2013-14 season and subsequent offseason to this point, and it would be "roller-coaster."

Consider the successes first: Making the playoffs and Crosby cleaning house, winning the Hart (MVP), Ted Lindsay (most outstanding player as voted by NHLPA members) and Art Ross (top scorer) Trophies at this week's NHL Awards Ceremony in Las Vegas.

Now consider the no-so-highlights: Barely making it past the first round against a Columbus squad that in its own right, barely made it into the playoffs, firing general manager Ray Shero, but retaining head coach Dan Bylsma upon being eliminated in the second round by the New York Rangers, then new GM Jim Rutherford electing to release Bylsma after all. Just yesterday, Pittsburgh introduced Mike Johnston as the new man at the helm.

Shero and Bylsma being let go was simply a move to shake things up and get some fresh faces into the organization. Each one of them did an excellent job in their time in Pittsburgh. Think about Bylsma, taking the Penguins to the Stanley Cup in 2009 after only being named head coach 58 games into the 82 game schedule. Shero made several trades right at the deadline in the last few years to improve the team heading into the playoff push. In my mind, the trade that sticks out the most was the move to acquire Jarome Iginla in late March of 2013, because of Iginla's immediate production in registering 23 points in just 28 games with the Penguins.

Johnston has to get more out of right-winger Craig

Adams, center Brandon Sutter, defenseman Brooks Orpik and left-winger Tanner Glass. Adams was the only Penguin to play in all 82 regular season games, and he had a team-worst +/- of -16. The other three all played at least 67 games, yet finished in the wrong side of the +/- fence.

Compare that to defenseman Matt Niskanen, who played in 81 games and led all Penguins at +33. Granted, he was commonly on the ice at the same time as Crosby and Malkin, but over an 82 game season things tend to even out and thus take away most of a perceived advantage a player may have in that statistical category.

Not only do the numbers support this need for change in play, but so does the quality of play that Pittsburgh put on the ice toward the end of the regular season and throughout the playoffs. Crosby, Malkin and crew are plenty capable enough to score the Penguins enough points to win quite a few games, but they have to have help in getting the puck in position to do so, and that is where players such as Adams and Orpik come in.

Many times last season, opponents could get into the Penguins' zone with ease, as compared to the most successful years of the last decade or so, when the Penguins defense borrowed the Steel Curtain from the Steelers and set it up at the Penguins' blue line.

That same defensive presence has to be there for the Penguins to reach the Stanley Cup Finals again. Until those changes do happen with the new faces at the helm, Rutherford and Johnston could face the same fate as Shero and Bylsma.

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BAZZIE

2014 FIFA World Cup

United States v.s. Germany: winner takes Group G

Column

By KYLE GIBSON FOR THE PARTHENON

Each week, on ABC's "Wide World of Sports," the late, legendary sportscaster Jim McKay's voice would say "The thrill of victory and the agony of defeat." What McKay forgot to mention and what many new soccer fans in the United States have now experienced is the emptiness of a tie.

The cruel nature of the game of soccer revealed itself to the U.S. Men's National soccer team Sunday in Manaus, the sauna-like jungle city in northern Brazil. After Clint Dempsey scored the go ahead goal in the 81st minute, the comeback from 1-0 down in the 5th minute was seemingly complete. The soccer gods, however, had more in store for this game. The U.S. tried to nurse the lead into a win, which would have qualified the team for the knockout round. That style of play worked well for 14 minutes, until Cristiano Ronaldo, one of the world's best players, whipped in a pinpoint cross that found the head of Silvestre Varela. The game ended tied 2-2 after a heartbreaking goal on the last kick of the ball.

Many in the United States seemed to think it was the end of the world, but alas, Monday the sun came up, the World Cup continued and even though it failed to qualify, the United States is still very well on the way to the Round of 16. Tied with Germany at fourpoints, all the United States needs to advance is a win or tie against Germany. That is easier said than done, because the Germans are one of the real favorites to win this World Cup. Thanks in part to Germany's 4-0 victory over Portugal in the opening game, a low scoring Portugal win would also see the U.S. through, as would a tie between Portugal and Ghana. ESPN's Nate Silver, who operates the "Soccer Power Index" said the U.S. has roughly a 76 percent chance of advancing.

Personally, I think United States fans are being a little too critical of the draw against Portugal. As mentioned above, there is still a great chance for the team to advance. Also, before the World Cup started, many

in the United States would have been in disbelief if you would have told them before the World Cup that the national team would have beaten Ghana and tied Portugal in its first two games. This group is the "group of death" for a reason. Each team has shown in at least one of its games that it could easily be in the quarterfinals. Portugal had yet to show that moment until it absolutely had to against the United States. Facing certain elimination, Cristiano Ronaldo's cross was one of the best I have ever seen, an inch-perfect ball that wrapped around a defender and completely split through two. If the U.S. had scored the dramatic equalizer instead of giving it up, I think fans would be looking at this game from a much different perspective.

Germany, in the Portugal rout, showed perhaps more than quarterfinals form. This team has a star lined up in essentially every position. Portugal was able to score in the fifth minute against the U.S. off a blunder from American defender Geoff Cameron, who shanked a ball off his leg that rebounded in front of Nani, who slotted the ball past U.S. goalkeeper Tim Howard. If the U.S. makes any type of blunder against Germany, it had better watch out. The German stars will punish anything less than stellar play from the U.S. defense. The team features clinical finishers like Mirsoslav Klose, the 36-year-old striker that tied Ronaldo's (Brazil, not Portugal's Ronaldo) World Cup record of 15 goals. Midfielder Thomas Muller already has eight World Cup goals at age 24. He, along with young-gun Mario Gotze and Arsenal star Mesut Ozil, form a very strong attack. Hulking defenders like Per Mertesacker and Goalkeeper Manuel Neuer present a strong German back line as well. Rangy captain Phillip Lahm can do just about anything, just like the team he leads.

I would not be surprised if the U.S. lost against Germany. After all, Germany is the toughest team in the group. It doesn't help matters that forward Jozy Altidore will not be available as well, after his hamstring injury in the first game against Ghana. Dempsey has performed admirably in the striker space vacated by Altidore though,

with a team high two goals so far. The U.S., however will need more than Clint Dempsey to win against Germany.

It will also be important for the American defenders to play a lights-out game. That includes defensive midfielders Jermaine Jones and Kyle Beckerman. The duo have played well so far in their position just above the defensive line, with Jones even scoring the opening U.S. goal against Portugal. The attack they will face from Germany will be a far different situation, though.

I have already mentioned the crucial mistake Geoff Cameron made against Portugal, but another U.S. defender made a mistake on Nani's goal. Left back DaMarcus Beasley was ball-watching on the play, simply viewing the game instead of marking Nani, which is what helped spring Nani free. Fabian Johnson and Matt Besler have had good outings so far, but Besler's hamstring will be something to watch Thursday. The injury has forced Besler out as a substitute in both games. United States goalkeeper Tim Howard has been blameless so far in my opinion. Besides Ronaldo, he was the best player on the field against Portugal. Howard will need to continue his excellent form and will probably have to make several critical saves against the Germans.

I say this not to sound like a defeatist, just a realist. Because, with all of this being said, I could perhaps just as easily see the U.S. get a win or draw. Manager Jurgen Klinsmann, a German legend, has already said there will be no agreement to play for a draw that would see both teams through. After all, that would go against the American spirit this team possesses in abundance. The team that battled with guts and ingenuity against Ghana and stormed back against Portugal has won our hearts.

Despite the cooling effect the last second draw against Portugal had for some fans, I still believe.

I believe that the U.S. team will advance, but if it doesn't, it still made a nation proud, fighting for its life in the group of death.

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