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Jocelyn Gibson
Parthenon@marshall.edu

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THE PARTHENON

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2015 | VOL. 119 NO. 8 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | marshallparthenon.com

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Brewing up laughter

By ROB ENGLE
THE PARTHENON



Every other Wednesday night from 9 to 10 p.m. at Black Sheep Burrito & Brews, people come not only for a belly full of food, but for a good belly laugh.

Open Mic Comedy Night has been a staple at the restaurant for the past four years, and Eric Wilson, who helps organize arts and cultural events at Black Sheep, asked one question of people considering attending.

"Do you want to see things get weird in a restaurant?" Wilson asked.

Wilson has worked at Black Sheep since the inception of the Comedy Night, and said that during his time as a server he has seen both the size of the crowd and the quality of the comedy improve.

"It's grown tremendously. The comedians have really learned how to be eloquent and vulgar at the same time," Wilson said. "They're tactful and strategic. They've been upping their game. It's always refreshing and funny."

One performer who got his stand-up start at Black Sheep is Nate Cesco, who now helps emcee the event. Cesco said his original reason for stepping up to mic was to test out material from his sketch comedy YouTube videos.

"I was getting good responses online, but whenever someone would say, 'Hey, that's funny, I never knew if it actually was,' Cesco said. "For there not being a lot of comedy in the area, it's great that there are still plenty of people who come out to listen to completely untested material."

Cesco said the intimacy of Black Sheep's venue tends to energize his performance.

"There's a certain energy you tap into, a certain vibe," Cesco said. "It usually takes a group of people, like a table, and when they

start laughing, it's contagious."

The energetic and constructive atmosphere that Cesco described is what Wilson said Black Sheep tries to cultivate through this event.

"It's great when the comedians are getting that instant feedback to their material from the crowd," Wilson said. "Performers have the bravery and the audacity to get in front of that microphone, and people are really biting into it. All of the 'Ooohs' and 'Aaahs' from the crowd go a long way in bettering the performer and the energy for everybody."

Another comedian looking for laughs last night was Rebecca Fitzgerald, who was back behind the mic for the first time in four months. Fitzgerald said her love for comedy started when she was young.

"I have been into stand-up comedy my whole life," Fitzgerald said. "In about three years ago, I found out they did stand-up comedy here. I was keeping a note pad around in case that opportunity ever came up. And I did it, and I've been doing for three years since then."

Fitzgerald and Cesco were among 13 comedians who performed Wednesday night. Wilson said he hopes these performers are the kind of talent the restaurant continues to attract.

"Black Sheep has a way of bringing in awesome people. We just seem to draw in people who have that creative spirit, and we encourage that," Wilson said.

Anyone interested in performing at Open Mic Comedy Night can contact the restaurant for dates and sign up the night of the event.

Rob can be contacted at engle17@marshall.edu.

Students show appreciation during annual Thank-A-Donor day



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Students were able to fill out thank-you cards, record video messages and create signs to show their gratitude for donors Wednesday at the event.

By KERBIE GIBBS
THE PARTHENON

Students, staff and faculty were able to have fun, get creative and show appreciation during the third annual Thank-A-Donor Day in the Memorial Student Center Plaza.

Several activities including signing thank-you cards, creating signs, taking photos and recording video messages were available for students to show their gratitude for the donors who support Marshall University.

Krystle Davis, the program director of scholarships and donor relations with the Marshall University Foundation said donors play a huge role when it comes to supporting the Marshall community by providing scholarships, learning supplies and travel opportunities for students.

"There are so many students here who, without scholarship dollars provided by donors, wouldn't even

be at Marshall," Davis said. "The donors, usually alumni or a person who has a connection with Marshall University, really enjoy hearing from the students and knowing their donations have positively impacted their lives and made getting an education easier."

Over 200 students expressed their gratitude during this year's Thank-A-Donor day. Senior Evan Lewis said giving thanks is the least he can do for the ones who have made his college career possible.

"Donors have made it easier for me to attend Marshall, so signing a thank-you card is an easy way to show them how much I appreciate their generosity," Lewis said. "I hope one day I'll be able to give back and make things easier for a future Marshall student."

With music provided by WMUL-FM and the Marshall University Alumni Association giving away free items

including t-shirts and refreshments, the Thank-A-Donor day event drew in students by taking over the Memorial Student Center Plaza. Davis said having different forms of entertainment was an effective way to attract students.

"Not only were there thank-you cards, but we also took photos of the students posing with the gratitude signs they made and we had a video booth where we sat down and interviewed students who wanted a more interactive way to send their thank-you message," Davis said. "We wanted everyone to just enjoy the festivities and everything else that was going on for our event."

After the event, the Marshall University Foundation shared the photos and videos to its social media accounts.

Kerbie Gibbs can be contacted at gibbs63@marshall.edu.

Out with the old, in with the new library hours

By IMANI SPRADLEY
THE PARTHENON

Budget cuts have been sweeping the Marshall University campus and the John Deaver Drinko Library was not exempt from the wave.

The library that was once open "24 hours a day" now closes at 11 p.m. Monday through Thursday and some students on campus are not taking the news too well.

Senior nursing major Jasmine Woods said Drinko could have notified students that the change was coming.

"I was in the library around 10:30 p.m. and kept hearing announcements that the library would be closing in 30 minutes and I was immediately confused," Woods said. "At 11 p.m. they rounded everyone up and told us we had to leave."

Jody Perry, executive director of Drinko Library, said that he was an advocate for the extended operation hours.

"I've gotten several complaints from students already and I understand," Perry said. "I started here in 2009. That's one of things I wanted to do when I got here was open the whole building 24-hours."

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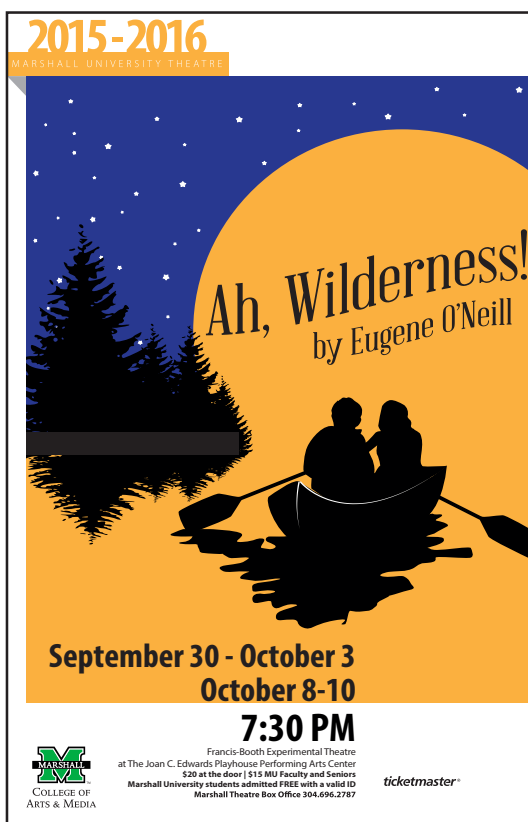
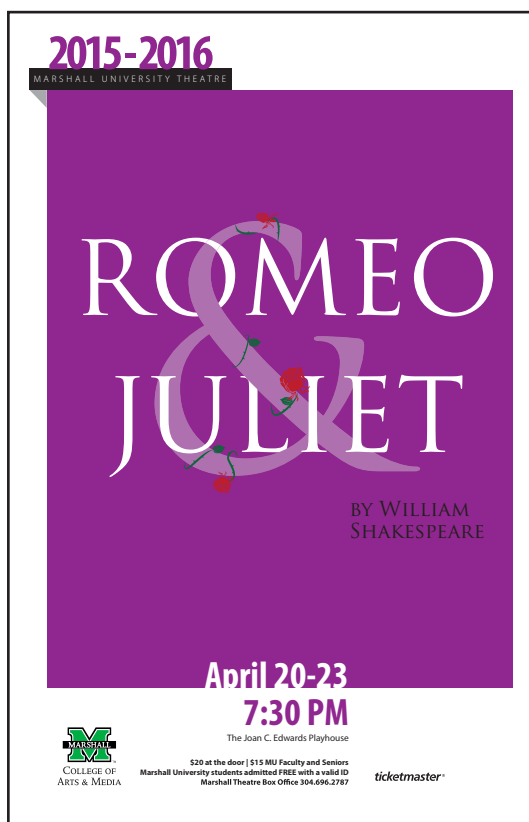
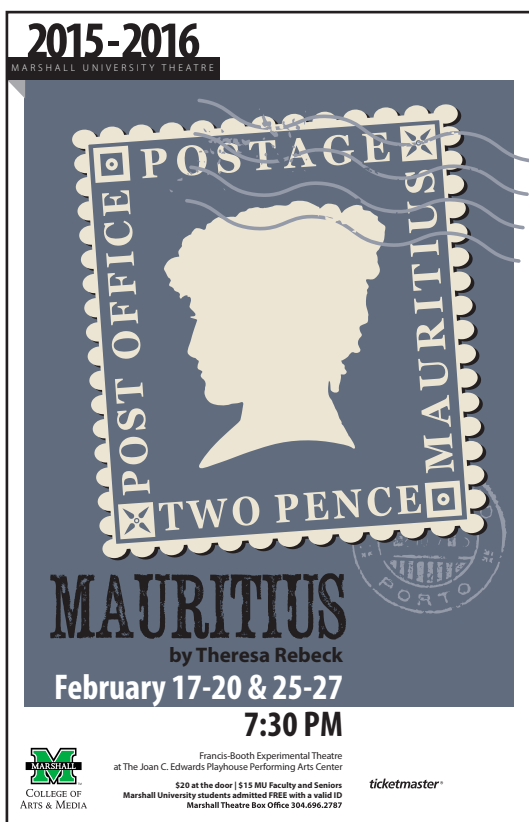


Students take advantage of the computers at Drinko Library. The library will now be closing at 11 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

EMILY RICE | THE PARTHENON

NEWS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2015 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM



MU theater department shows to begin soon

By **KALYN BORDMAN**
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University theater department will begin its season at the end of September. The department puts on two shows per semester, and this year it kicks off its season with "Ah Wilderness."

"Ah Wilderness" is set in the year 1906 and reflects what it is like to grow up in a small town. The show's focus is about teenage love and the struggle of growing up.

Opening weekend of Sept. 30 through Oct. 3 at 7:30 p.m. It will continue Oct. 8-10 at the same time.

The show will be at the Francis-Booth Experimental Theater at the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.

"This venue is very nice because it provides a close relationship with the audience and allows them to be close to the action," said Joan St. Germain, theater department associate professor and costume designer.

The next show will be "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens. This classic story teaches Ebenezer Scrooge the meaning of life.

The show will take place Nov. 18-20 at 7:30 p.m. and then again Nov. 21 at 2 p.m. at the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse.

"This is a Town and Gown Production meaning that we will not only use our students, but faculty, alumni, and community members as well," said Jack Cirillo, theater program director.

The show "Mauritius" will kick off next semester's performances with a tale about two half-sisters who discover a rare book of stamps. The story turns dangerous as the sisters face high-stake collectors.

The show will take place Feb. 17-20 and again Feb. 25-27 at 7:30 p.m. in the Francis-Booth Experimental Theater.

The last show of the season will be "Romeo and Juliet," the well-known forbidden love story.

The show will be held at the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center April 20-23 at 7:30 p.m.

The students put on the productions in every way. They do the lighting, the props and run the shows themselves.

"Faculty doesn't run the shows," said St. Germain. "It's all done by students so it's pretty cool."

The shows are free to students with a Marshall ID, \$20 for the general public and \$15 for Marshall faculty and seniors. Tickets can be purchased at the Marshall Theater Box Office.

Kalyn Bordman can be contacted at bordman3@marshall.edu.

Out with the old, in with the new Drinko library hours

Continued from page 1

Perry stated that due to the budget cuts the library suffered, it was forced to eliminate two overnight positions. Without those positions, it wouldn't be possible to keep the building open past a certain time.

Even though the hours have been changed, Drinko staff has decided to open the entire building for 24-hours during the last two weeks of the semester for final exams.

Previous to the hour change, Drinko Library redecorated the first floor. The library's old furniture has been replaced by new desk areas, couches and computers for students to use. They also have

updated laptops are also available for the students to check out and use for a 24-hour period.

The study rooms have been upgraded with new room reservation software that allows students to have easier access to room reservations.

All of these changes have been set to improve the appearance and quality of the library, and library staff are anticipating more changes to come.

Drinko's new hours of operation and all information regarding study room reservations can be found online.

Imani Spradley can be contacted at spfadley@marshall.edu.

Marshall helps out local high school

By **ABI BLACK**
THE PARTHENON

Clothing collection bins have been set up around Marshall University's campus to benefit a local public school. Huntington High School, located 11 minutes from campus, has a closet that is open to students in need of clothes. Teresa Rapp, career specialist at Huntington High, began to donate clothes to students in need while her children were in high school.

"I would bring things in and they would disappear," Rapp said. "They kept asking me if I had anything else."

Now both her children have graduated but the donations have not slowed down. A t-shirt and a pair of jeans here and there became a whole closet. A place where students in need can get, not only clothes, but food and hygiene products as well. The closet is open at all times to any students, no questions asked, according to Rapp.

Sara Campbell, a freshman at Marshall and former Huntington High student remembers the closet being open to any and every situation that arose.

"Even throughout the day if you got in trouble for wearing leggings or something you could go get stuff, but it was mainly for people who didn't have enough money to get stuff," Campbell said.

According to Rapp 55 percent of the school's students are on free or reduced lunch and she said that particular program is based on their household income.

Rapp said the closet serves 40 students a day, many who are repeat customers, homeless or transient.

"I don't ask a lot of questions, but some of them do open up in the end," Rapp said.

Rapp recalls assisting one of the students by providing him a bed. One of the teachers had an extra mattress and they gave it to the student, who according to Rapp, told them he had never had his own bed.

The collection bins for the clothing drive will be available until Sept. 18, and can be found in The Women's Center, the Marshall Rec Center and Harris Hall 107.

Abi Black can be contacted at black195@marshall.edu.

Tickets for nationally known comedian on sale Thursday

By **KALYN BORDMAN**
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall Artists Series starts soon and a nationally known comedy act will kick off the show.

Tickets for comedian Anthony Jeselnik go on sale Thursday at noon at the Artists Series Box Office.

Jeselnik gained popularity from channels like Comedy Central and his stint on the popular show, "The Last Comic Standing." Jeselnik will perform Oct. 1 before country artist Kacey Musgraves comes to the stage Oct. 2.

"Last year we had two shows to kick off the season and although it may not always be that way, that is how it has worked out the last two seasons," said Angela Jones, marketing director of the Marshall Artists Series.

Some students are waiting for the Artists Series to come around for a chance to see some of their favorite acts.

"I have never been to a comedy show and I am excited because I know Anthony Jeselnik and I have seen his work before," said Breckin Wells, student.

Wells says she first heard about Jeselnik when he hosted "The Last Comic Standing" and appeared on Comedy Central. Wells says she also became a fan because she found out he used to date another national comedian, Amy Schumer.

"I fell more in love with him when I saw he and Schumer perform together," Wells said.

In addition to his roles on "The Last Comic Standing" and Comedy Central, Jeselnik is also known for his appearances on "Late Night with Jimmy Fallon" and his own show, "The Jeselnik Offensive."

Jones thinks this year's Artists Series has a little something for everyone.

Kalyn Bordman can be contacted at bordman3@live.marshall.edu.

President's Office remodeled for arrival of new President

By **ASHLEY SODOSKY**
THE PARTHENON

The university president's office is undergoing a facelift and is expected to finish before the arrival of the new president. The Old Main office is one of many projects finishing up from this summer's campus renovation list.

The office renovation features new lighting, flooring, paint-job, air conditioning units and new furniture. Ron May, director of facilities, planning and management, said he hopes the renovations add to the welcome of the future president.

"We renovated the whole complex basically," said May. "I think they had never had an opportunity that was convenient to renovate, it was old and it had been a long time since anything had been done to it."

Along with a new office, the president's house, located near Ritter Park, is undergoing timely construction as well. Renovations started over the summer along side other projects that are coming to an end.

The two largest summer projects, the Indoor Athletic Complex and Sports Medicine Building and the Arthur Weisberg Family Applied Engineering Complex, are open for use but, are still undergoing finishing formalities.

Other finished summer renovations students

can utilize include the \$1 million makeover of Harless Dining Hall and the new outdoor lights at the intramural field.

Some prospective projects for Marshall's near future are being prepared for bidding this fall. Advertisements for construction bidding will be sent out in October for three projects that May said are needed on campus.

A half-million-dollar waterproof seating project will be proposed for the Joan C. Edwards Stadium, a project May said needs to be done to control the water that gets through the concourse at the field.

Other projects include replacing the three 12-year-old chillers on top of Harless Dining Hall, as well as installing emergency power generators in Towers Residence Hall. The generators will supply limited power during power outages including the use of one elevator per building. "Everybody has to walk the stairs," said May. "The elevator will be a big convenience to students."

Work on new projects will not start until approval and formalities are met. Some summer projects are still underway and are generally kept out of student traffic.

Ashley Sodosky can be contacted at sodosky@marshall.edu.



SPORTS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2015 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Column: Marshall rugby emphasizing fundamentals

By **SCOTT BOLGER**
THE PARTHENON

In the midst of the Marshall University football pandemonium, it is easy for other sports to get lost in the fold.

The Division II Marshall rugby team is a perfect example.

This group of college students play for no official prize while hoping to perform well enough for a chance to one day compete for their country.

During the 2014 fall season, Marshall had some explosive players in USA national team hopeful Cameron Thompson, veteran Darrian Smith and speedy, game-altering sophomore Jarrod Diggs. However, each player is no longer with the team.

The Herd finished last season with a 3-2-1 record, going 0-1-1 against rival Xavier University.

What kept last year's team from attaining ultimate success? A lack of cohesiveness combined with a mix of egos.

With the loss of the aforementioned players, Marshall will have to cope with a loss of athleticism, as well.

However, last year's athletes had trouble keeping ego off the field, as each player would try to make a big play independently rather than play within the fluidity that rugby demands.

"We have really gotten rid of some of the bad attitudes and the egos that came with it," Justin Apgar, the team's head coach, said. "A lot of the egos that went along with those big, strong guys hurt the team as much as it helped it."

This year's team brings back some familiar and vitally important faces, including Corey Sowards and Jake Harter.

However, the rest of the edges are rough.

With every new season and a slew of able-bodied but inexperienced athletes, where does a rugby coach begin to look for success with that lack of five to six agile players?

Apgar says fundamentals are the building blocks to those big plays that came so easily last year.

"It all comes down to fundamentals," Apgar said. "If somebody can perform the fundamentals well, the details and the small things, then the big things become easy. The attention to detail and being very decisive are very important. You have confidence and you are more decisive when you're aware of what to do and when you have muscle memory. Then, when all of those little things fall into place, you'll be able to execute those things that you weren't able to. We have to make sure that they perform the techniques the right way."

This season, it is safe to say the Herd will alter its game plan.

"The last two years, we had a very big and very physical team," Apgar said. "Very, very athletic. But, there wasn't very much good rugby. It was just athleticism, very explosive athleticism, but lots of mistakes that were made up for because of it. This year, we are going to be a little bit scrappier. We're not going to be as big and strong, but we're definitely going to be fitter than the other team and we're going to know the fundamentals a lot better. We have to perform everything together."

That is the whole idea of rugby: playing together. There is no secondary option, even in defeat.

"This is going to be a team of angry, little monsters that are going to be moving the ball together," Apgar said. "Whether we're right or we're wrong, we're going to be doing it together, and we're going to be maintaining possession and coming out ahead."

Apgar and his team will take their efforts to the field for the first time this season, hosting Eastern Kentucky University 1 p.m. Saturday on the St. Mary's Memorial field on 29th street in Huntington.

Scott Bolger can be contacted at bolger@marshall.edu.

Birdsong, Herd on to Ohio after a solid debut



After leading the Herd to victory in his debut, Birdsong will face his first road test this weekend against Ohio University.

PARTHENON FILE PHOTO

By **ISHMAEL WITTEN**
THE PARTHENON

For a new quarterback, the home opener can be rather intense.

Thousands of screaming fans can sometimes disrupt timing and rhythm during a game.

However, this was not the case Sunday for Marshall University quarterback Michael Birdsong.

Birdsong completed 7 of 8 passes while conducting an 11-play, 84-yard drive to give the Thundering Herd the lead late in the final quarter.

Having waited over a year to play in a game, Birdsong said he was excited to finally see action.

"It's been a long time since I've played another team," Birdsong said. "Just to finally be out there again and playing with this great team here at

Marshall, it's awesome."

Birdsong transferred to Marshall from James Madison University after the 2013 season but was forced to sit out last season due to NCAA transfer rules.

With JMU being an FCS school, Birdsong said he knew the opponents would only get larger at Marshall.

"Obviously, they were bigger than any other team I've ever faced before," Birdsong said. "Fortunately, we've got some big guys on our side of the ball, so we were good."

Head coach Doc Holliday said while he was pleased with Birdsong's performance, in order to continue such success, minimizing mistakes is key heading into this weekend's road contest against

Ohio University.

"I thought he was tremendous," Holliday said. "We had a couple of turnovers which we can't have, but I thought for his first start he went in there and played extremely well."

Birdsong also said turnovers were a major problem that needs to be corrected but said he expects the offense to be solid going into its first road test.

"Getting more comfortable as an offense and eliminating turnovers will be key," Birdsong said. "We'll be fine."

The Herd's contest against nearby-rival Ohio is set for 7 p.m. Saturday at Peden Stadium in Athens, Ohio.

Ishmael Witten can be contacted at witten4@marshall.edu.

Marshall golf teams finish tournament on different notes

HERDZONE

The Marshall men's and women's golf teams finished up the GolfWeek Program Challenge earlier this week. The men's team climbed six spots to finish the tournament in fifth, while the women finished 12th overall.

The men's team entered the final day of competition in 11th place. Led by junior Clark Robinson's career-low tying 66, Marshall climbed back up the leaderboard to finish fifth. Robinson's 66 was the best score of the final day of the tournament and tied for the second lowest score from all three rounds.

Along with Robinson, sophomore Alex Weiss shot a 67 and redshirt freshman Andy Bott came back with a 69.

Head Coach Matt Grobe said he was very proud of his players in the way it came back.

"I am so happy for the team," Grobe stated. "We really played poorly in the second round and they could have let this tournament get away. But they

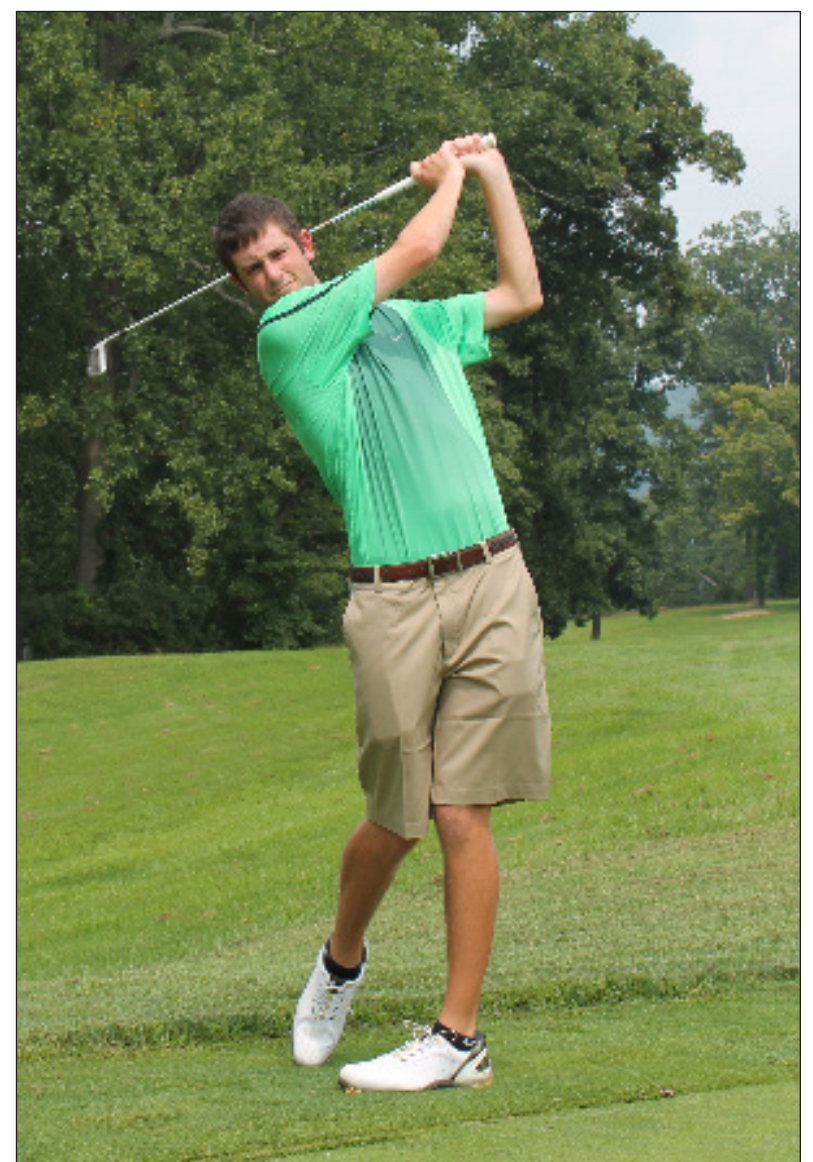
dug deep and showed a ton of character. It was fun to watch."

The men's team next competition will be hosting the Joe Feaganes Marshall Invitational Sept. 14-15 at the Guyan Golf & Country Club in Huntington.

The women's team ended the tournament 12th overall. Sophomore Leigha Holt was the top finisher for the Herd, tied for 23rd. Freshmen Ylya Forslund and Joey Walz both had better finishes in the third round. Forslund shot a 74, helping her to climb up 10 spots on the leaderboard and Walz scored a 77 to move up two spots.

"We had a rough tournament," head coach Tiffany Prats said. "The team will go back to the drawing board and continue to work on their games. I still have full confidence in this team and what they are capable of. The key now is for each of them to put in the work and believe in themselves."

Next up for the women is the Murray State Drake Invitational Sept. 14-15 in Murray, Kentucky.



Marshall golf team member Clark Robinson takes a swing on the course during a match from last season.

PARTHENON FILE PHOTO

OPINION

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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.

JOCELYN GIBSON
EXECUTIVE EDITOR
gibson243@marshall.edu

MEGAN OSBORNE
MANAGING EDITOR
osborne115@marshall.edu

MALCOM WALTON
SPORTS EDITOR
walton47@marshall.edu

BRADLEY HELTZEL
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR
heltzel1@marshall.edu

KAITLYN CLAY
ONLINE EDITOR
clay122@marshall.edu

DONYELLE MURRAY
SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER
murray91@marshall.edu

SANDY YORK
FACULTY ADVISER
sandy.york@marshall.edu

SARA RYAN
NEWS EDITOR
ryan57@marshall.edu

SHALEE ROGNEY
LIFE! EDITOR
rogney@marshall.edu

WILL IZZO
COPY EDITOR
izzo@marshall.edu

EMILY RICE
PHOTO EDITOR
rice121@marshall.edu

MIKAELA KEENER
ASSIGNMENT EDITOR
keener31@marshall.edu

CONTACT US: 109 Communications Bldg. | Marshall University | One John Marshall Drive
Huntington, West Virginia 25755 | parthenon@marshall.edu | @MUParthenon

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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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 may 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.

EDITORIAL

Kim Davis is not a hero, stop making her one

As if the Kim Davis situation couldn't get any weirder, after being released from jail, Davis walked out to a crowd of her supporters from across the country, showing the state of bigotry in the United States.

Mike Huckabee and Davis's lawyer, Mathew Staver, held up her arms on stage as if she had just won a boxing match, complete with "Eye of the Tiger" playing in the background and raucous applause from a cross-wielding audience.

Survivor has since filed a lawsuit against Davis for playing the song publicly without permission.

Facing a 1.2 million dollar

lawsuit, going to jail and being restricted from interfering with marriage licenses isn't a win for Davis, no matter how many supporters she gathers.

Creating this much hubbub over someone who refused to step down from a job she refused to do is making a hero out of someone without a basic understanding of how the First Amendment functions.

The public display around Davis was nothing short of terrifying mass bigotry and is comparable to the antics of Westboro Baptist Church.

Comparing Davis to people like Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King Jr. is not only

inaccurate, it grossly undermines those who fought valiantly for the basic civil rights Davis is taking away from the citizens of Rowan County.

Glorifying ignorance is not very becoming of a nation, especially one that invades other countries and shits on everything that isn't a Christian-based society, even though the number one priority in the constitution is basic freedom of expression.

If Davis was a Muslim who refused to issue the marriage licenses, this amount of circus would be replaced by riots and gunfire led by the same GOP candidates and supporters who

currently celebrate Davis as a hero. There would be all kinds of fear-mongering about the Islamic State and how the country is falling apart.

Instead, Davis is being glorified for standing up for her beliefs, and while her persistence is admirable, her beliefs are nowhere near oppression. Rowan county is as Appalachian as they come in terms of Bible-belt ideals.

This all goes to show even though the Supreme Court has deemed the barring of same-sex marriage as unconstitutional, there is still a long way to go in terms of LGBTQ acceptance.

COLUMN

#FeministThursday: We have every right to be angry, but we can be nice too

By **JOCELYN GIBSON**
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

I joined a feminist group on Facebook. I know, Facebook was my first mistake, but I am always looking for ways to connect with other like-minded people and I thought this would be a good way.

However, after a couple of weeks, I started to notice that the group can get very hostile and there are various rules in the group about tone policing and silencing and while I agree with the rules, I think sometimes it's taken too far.

The group is specifically for intersectional feminism and many of the problems that come up are perceived when someone makes a post or a comment that isn't intersectional.

I completely understand the need for intersectional feminism and all feminists should be intersectional, but sometimes just plain ignorance

keeps feminists from knowing how to achieve intersectional goals or even comment in a way that upholds them.

I think I try pretty hard to make my feminism intersectional, but I don't know everything and more than once I have been scared of commenting on an issue that I didn't understand or needed clarification on because other people were being removed from the group for doing the same.

When someone in a comment asks why a certain issue is the way it is, they are often met with other group members telling them if they were there to learn they would be reading and not asking.

I'm not really sure when asking questions became a bad thing. I completely understand that it is no one's responsibility to educate me, but at the same time, if we aren't in the group to learn from one

another what are we there for?

Sometimes I am able to learn by just reading the original post and the comments, but sometimes I do all that and I'm still left blanking. I have found that one positive aspect of the group is that it does encourage me to do outside research and occasionally that leads me to answers.

I still think one of the beautiful things about feminism is being to talk things out and I'm not getting that from this group. Yeah, I should probably just find another group, but I'm as anti-social on Facebook as I am in real life.

I'm not even upset about the anger many express in the group because as a feminist I know how frustrating certain issues can be, but I don't think that makes it okay to talk down to other group members who are there to learn. Definitely call out racism. Definitely call out transphobia. There is no

place for those attitudes and beliefs in intersectional feminism, but don't assume that someone is being willfully ignorant or self-absorbed when you aren't willing to educate them or share your personal experience.

Again, it's no one's job to educate me or anyone else. However, when I think someone can be helped to understand an issue or a concept by sharing my experience with him or her or giving an example, I do because I would want someone to do the same for me.

I understand the justified anger of group members when others display these behaviors because they're unacceptable in the intersectional feminist community, but anger isn't going to help them realize the error of their ways.

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

COLUMN

The Book Nook: "In Cold Blood" by Truman Capote

By **ALI BRAENOVICH**
THE PARTHENON

"In Cold Blood" by Truman Capote is a literary canon classic. It is also a very controversial novel. Some sources say that Capote didn't have the authority to write about the situation since he had no relation to the tragedy. He simply read about it in his city newspaper then came up with the idea of his next novel. Capote then teamed up with friend Harper Lee (author of "To Kill a Mockingbird") and took off to Holcomb, Kansas.

The novel is about the slaughter of a well-loved family (the Clutters) in the small town. The family consisted of the father, William Clutter, the mother, Bonnie Clutter, and the two children, Nancy and Kenyon. The beloved family was brutally murdered in mid-November of 1959. Capote

uses this quote at the beginning to put the unsettling story in perspective for readers, "At the time not a soul in sleeping Holcomb heard them—four shotgun blasts that, all told, ended six human lives."

This is one of my all-time favorite books. I can give Capote nothing but praise for this masterpiece of "nonfiction." His way with words really makes you develop feelings for the family before their tragic death and, ironically, one of the murderers Perry Smith. In the entire first half of the book, he does a fantastic job of building up the murder of the Clutter family. Every time I read a section describing the family, I couldn't help but feel anxious knowing what unfortunate fate awaited them. I found myself reading faster and faster trying to get to the part of the murder. Capote has a way with words that

forces you to almost have a relationship with these characters.

As said earlier, although it is very well written, it turned out to be a very controversial novel (that made me want to read it more!). This is because Capote had no tie to the family that was murdered. This makes readers and, more importantly, friends and family of the deceased question his authority on writing in such detail about them. To get all of his information about the family Capote interviewed a lot of the close friends of the family, townies and read diaries. Doing this helped him attain the dialect of the family and made his writing more detailed. It is also rumored by several sources that Capote changed the story a little bit when describing the murders. Throughout the entire novel, Capote makes Dick seem like the bad guy (even though it turns out differently). He writes

Perry as an actual sensitive and normal guy, someone who wouldn't seem to be the type to slaughter four people. Near the end, you will actually start to feel bad for Perry despite what he has done. This shows the talent of Capote, and the compelling way he writes.

"In Cold Blood" was Truman Capote's last novel he was able to write before he passed. He died from alcoholism, which could have possibly developed from depression from the reviews of his controversial book or the love he developed for Perry while interviewing him. I definitely recommend everyone to read this book. It is a story that people from all genres will love. I hope you all fall in love with the art and story of Capote's last novel.

Ali Braenovich can be contacted at braenovich@marshall.edu.

AP PHOTO

Golden Girls Group Home offers a safe place for women

By **ABI BLACK**
THE PARTHENON

Imagine being in a situation where your entire life is turned upside down. You are taken from your home for your own safety into a new environment. The Golden Girls Group Home is a haven for girls that find themselves in such situations.

Located in Ceredo, the Golden Girls Home is licensed to house 24 girls from ages 12-18. The house is for girls who have been neglected or abandoned, but specializes in helping girls recover from sexual abuse cases.

Judy Gilkerson founded the home 30 years ago to fulfill a need in the state; the need to give girls a safe, normal place that is as close to a home as possible. Nikki Thomas, the Home's Advancement Director, said the staff goes to great lengths to make sure the girls feel comfortable.

"When the girls come here they live, they go to school, the bus picks them up in the front," Thomas said.

The home stretches down a block of B Street in Ceredo, but there is no sign, no indication to show that this is a special place where lives are being changed, helped and saved. No multi-story buildings, just a simple group of houses to make the transition into new life easy for the girls seeking a change.

"We want to make sure they have

a home experience. We don't want to make them feel like they are in an institution or anything, we are their family," Thomas said.

The houses vary in occupancy from four girls to ten. One of the houses is designed with five rooms on the bottom floor and five on the top. The Golden Group Home, according to Thomas, is known for the quality of services it offers.

When they turn 18, the Home helps girls go to college through a transitional living program. Thomas said it's a big deal for the girls to graduate from college, so they may become self-sufficient and feel a sense of accomplishment.

"We've had girls graduate from Marshall in social work and now they are off doing the same work they needed themselves," Thomas said.

The Home set aside a specific house for those who choose to stay and continue in the transitional living program. The four girls currently enrolled in college live together in the house and Thomas said this gives them a "dorm-like" feel.

The girls all have their own room. Each room has a different theme, a bed and a desk for schoolwork. Each of the girls puts their own special flair into their room.

"They have little living environments in each house, like little cultures,"

Thomas said.

The Home helps girls find work either immediately or when they grow a little older, they take girls to Marshall games, to movies and get them to any after school activities they want to be involved in.

The girls' backgrounds vary, but Thomas said she sees the biggest struggle for them is positive self image. These girls may constantly be struggling with typical teenage girl issues on top of the harsh situations life has thrown at them.

"I think they struggle with their identities, as far as being confident, because of diverse situations they've been through were not of any fault of their own," Thomas said.

The Home has produced many success stories through its 30 some years. Current staff once lived and grew up in the program themselves. Now they lend a helping hand to girls going through the same hurt times as they did. The Home's first girl went through the program and went on to become a neonatal nurse and now has a family of her own. According to Thomas she even changed her name to Gilkerson, after the founder of the program.

"There is a key phrase the executive director, Renee Harrison, made up," Thomas said. "It's 'Once a Golden Girl, always a Golden Girl'."

Abi Black can be contacted at black195@marshall.edu.



ABI BLACK | THE PARTHENON

The Golden Girls Group Home has been serving the community since 1983 and continues to help girls that have come from a dangerous home life.

Locally produced music video achieves YouTube success

By **NATHAN THOMAS**
THE PARTHENON

Country singer and Marshall University graduate student Pat Morgan's locally produced music video "Girls Like Jeeps" has amassed over 5,000 views on YouTube in just over a week.

"It's happened really quickly," Morgan said. "It's simmering off a bit from where most people locally have seen it so we'll have to figure out how to get it seen outside of where it is now."

The song was recorded and produced by Bud Carroll, whose work includes Huntington indie rock band Ona and Morgantown based Goodwolf at Trackside Studios. Carroll also provided all instrumentation except for Morgan's vocals, acoustic guitar and bass.

"Most of the time when people hire you, they want to take shortcuts," Carroll said. "Patrick literally wanted to make it as good, fidelity, playing and production wise, as good as a hit song you'd hear on big country radio and he spent the time to do that. So I'm not surprised a lot of people like it."

The roots of the song's lyrics come from seeing multiple Jeeps during spring break in his last year of undergrad, Morgan said. "Over the next day, day and a half I got a rough version put together."

The music video was produced by local filmmaking collective Brainwrap Productions, the group for the "Live at Trackside" series, as well as the short film "Trace Around Your Heart."

"Patrick gave us a lot of videos to watch and study since we all hadn't seen any bro-country videos," Max Nolte of Brainwrap said. "I didn't know it was such a thing. Patrick sort-of scientifically figured out what made a good bro-country video and had a lot of incredible ideas we tried to execute."

"We looked at the 'Cruise' video, and a couple of others," Morgan said. "It seems like any bro-country song is about some kind of four-wheeled drive video and then some girl. I can say it's more than a business thing, I feel like I'm friends with all those people now."

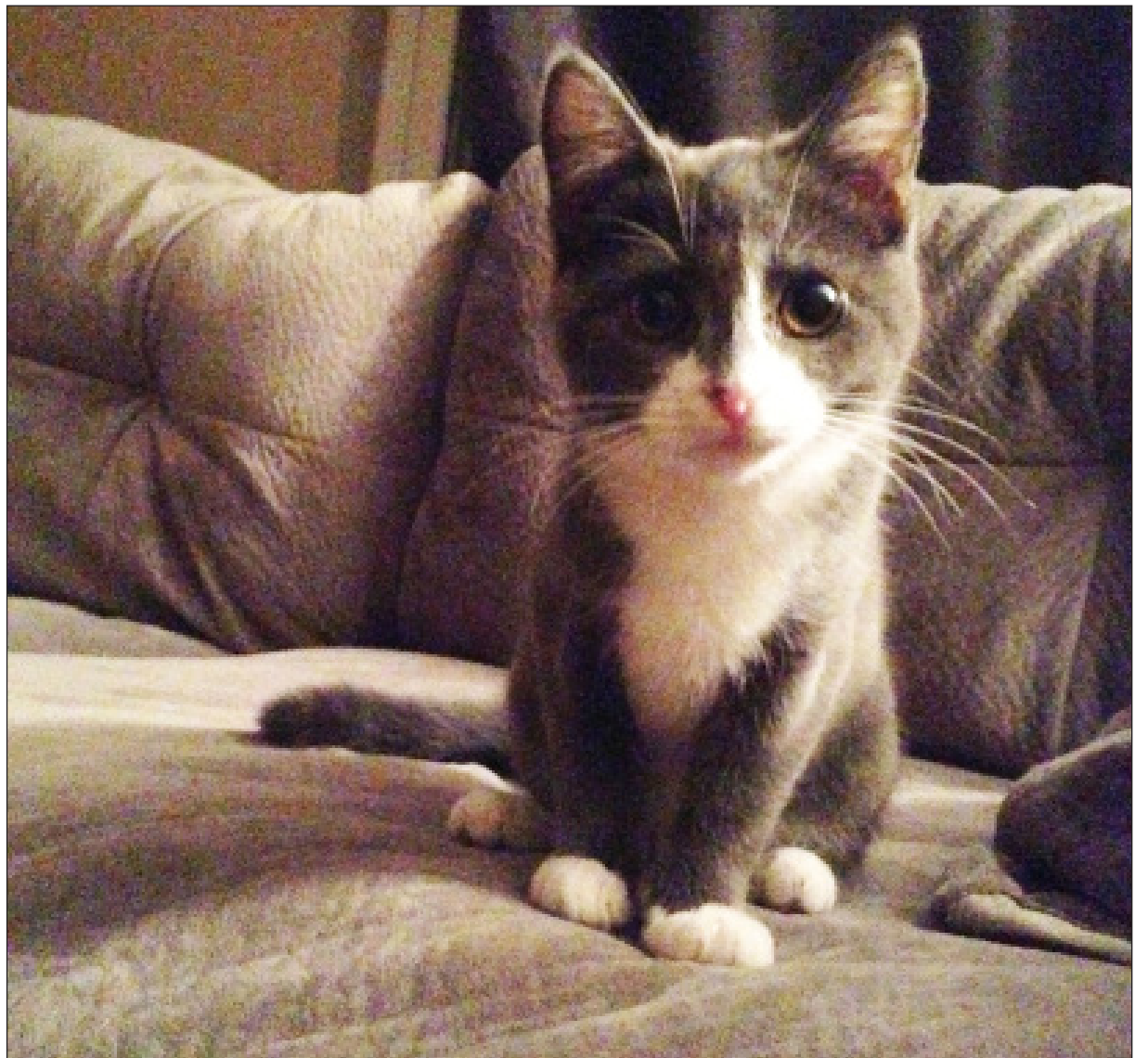
"It's always fun," Carroll said of working with Brainwrap. "You always work hard and try to do a good job but it's never at the expense of it not being fun. And Max is always stepping up his game, trying to get better lenses and equipment. I feel a kindred spirit with them. They put the same quality and dedication into their outlet for media that I attempt to do."

Brainwrap Productions will be the center of a showcase at the West Side Factory, Sept. 23, as a part of the 2015 Huntington Music and Arts Festival.

After graduating, Morgan plans to pursue a career in songwriting in Nashville, Tennessee. Morgan also plans to have more music videos in the future, including a lyric video in late October.

Nathan Thomas can be contacted at thomas521@marshall.edu.

This week's ParthePet is... Dova



Dova is a rambunctious, fearless, lovable kitten. She is named after the Dovahzul language from Skyrim. Dovah means Dragon, and this kitten is just as fearless, though she also enjoys belly rubs, her blankie and hiding in boxes. She was rescued by her mom's friends and is very thankful. She one day hopes to be able to jump in the kitchen counter like her bigger cat roommates.



YOUTUBE SCREENSHOT

"Girls Like Jeeps" singer Pat Morgan and band in the recent hit music video.



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