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## The Parthenon, April 11, 2017

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# THE PARTHENON

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PARTHENON FILE PHOTO  
Jacob Bradley

## NEWS, 2

- > Budget bill goes to Gov. Justice's desk
- > 'Over the Edge'

## SPORTS, 3

- > Weekend softball recap
- > New WR coach

## OPINION, 4

- > Editorial: Free college in New York
- > Common Misconception

## LIFE, 6

- > President Jerry Gilbert

## Marshall baseball to host home games Tuesday and Wednesday



By **PATRICK O'LEARY**  
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University baseball team returns home for back-to-back games Tuesday and Wednesday. Tuesday, the team faces off with Morehead State, while Wednesday the team goes up against Ohio University.

The Herd succeeded in what outfield Sam Finfer called a "brutal" part of the schedule over the past week, as the team won three out of five games played. The team began with a loss April 4 in Morgantown against West Virginia University, then bounced back with a victory over Virginia Tech at Appalachian Power Park in Charleston April 5, 3-1. The Herd then went down to Birmingham, Alabama and took two out of three games against the University of Alabama at Birmingham. The team lost April 7, but responded and won 2-1 in 10 innings April 8, and won 5-2 April 9.

The Herd is now 15-15 on the season and 6-6 in Conference USA play. Up first Tuesday for the Herd is Morehead State. The Eagles are 22-10 on the season so far, but have lost four straight games coming into the matchup with Marshall, including most recently being swept at Tennessee-Martin. The Herd and the Eagles split the two meetings the teams played last year, with both teams winning at home.

The Ohio Bobcats meanwhile hold the same record as Marshall, an even 15-15. The Bobcats, like Marshall, play Tuesday also, as they travel to Youngstown State. The Herd defeated Ohio last season in the only meeting between the teams, 4-1 in Huntington.

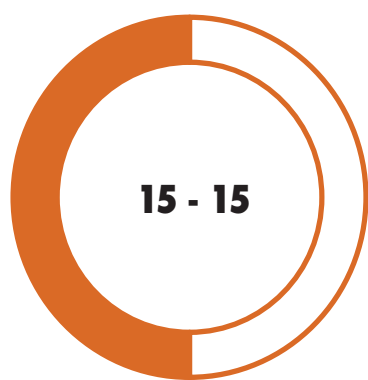
Both games for the Herd Tuesday and Wednesday are set for 3 p.m. at the Kennedy Center Field Route 2 in Huntington.

Patrick O'Leary can be contacted at [oleary7@marshall.edu](mailto:oleary7@marshall.edu).



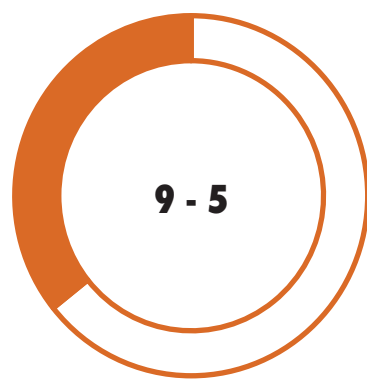
## Overall stats for the baseball team this season

### Overall Record



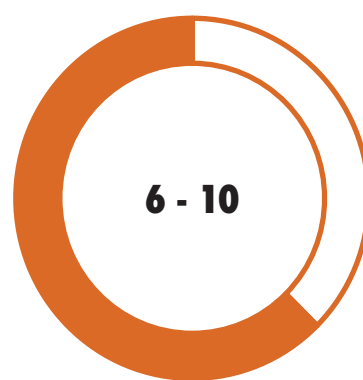
Wins Losses

### Home Record



Wins Losses

### Away Record



Wins Losses

### C-USA Record



Wins Losses

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COURTESY PHOTO

Man bathing in the Marshall Memorial Fountain Sunday afternoon.

## Marshall student under review for bathing naked through Memorial Fountain

By **HEATHER BARKER**  
THE PARTHENON

Officers were called to the Memorial Fountain outside the Memorial Student Center Sunday around 5 p.m. to a man who was walking through the water of the fountain naked in front of several students and others.

According to MUPD Chief Jim Terry, officers found the man in his underwear when they

arrived and determined the individual was not under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

The man is a current student of Marshall and the case is being dealt with internally by Marshall's Judicial Affairs, but Terry said he is "not criminally charged at this time."

**Heather Barker can be contacted at barker193@marshall.edu.**

## Marshall becomes ally for Autism Awareness

By **ALEXIS LEACH**  
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall community will have the opportunity to attend Autism Spectrum Diversity Training at two different times Tuesday in the Memorial Student Center.

The trainings, sponsored by the West Virginia Autism Training Center, Student Affairs and the Student Government Association, will be held at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.

The beginning of April marked the beginning of Autism Awareness Month. This event will provide training to individuals who want to provide a comforting environment to those living with autism spectrum disorder.

"Students can expect the training to be very educational and interactive," SGA President Matt Jarvis said.

The training will last an hour and a half and be led by members of the West Virginia Autism Training Center as part of their Allies Supporting Autism Spectrum Diversity project.

"I think students can benefit from this training because it's not Marshall specific, but rather focuses on developing skills that make better people in general," Jarvis said. "Learning skills to help work with these disabilities will not only promote more inclusivity on our own campus, but give students real world experience

after they graduate."

Madison Parker works in the Office of Disabilities on the Marshall campus and is a member of the Tristate Autism Society. In February, she traveled to Washington, D.C. to lobby for the services those with autism receive.

"I have the privilege to not only work at the Office of Disabilities on campus, but also to work one-on-one with a boy who has autism," Parker said. "I also work outside of campus with a boy who has autism, and we are currently working on his transition out of public school."

Parker talked about the importance of programs like this for the Marshall community and its students. "I always say that autism impacts everyone, at different times and in different ways," Parker said. "Even if the students are not passionate about autism, it is always useful to understand what autism is and how you can help an individual with autism."

"This is an important event on our campus because it offers a training that not only betters us as students, but just better people," Jarvis said.

These training programs will take place in BE5 and are open to all of the Marshall community.

**Alexis Leach can be contacted at leach34@marshall.edu.**

## Budget bill completes legislation, sent to Gov. Justice for consideration

By **KYLEE HURLEY**  
THE PARTHENON

The West Virginia Legislative session has officially ended as the House of Delegates and the Senate adjourned Sine Die on Sunday.

The end of session comes after Gov. Jim Justice extended session one day to further discuss the budget bill, House Bill 2018.

HB 2018 has been discussed and highly debated since being filed for introduction on Feb. 8 in the House of Delegates, as noted on the West Virginia Legislature website.

House Speaker Tim Armstead issued a press release Sunday encouraging Justice to sign the budget and agree with its terms.

"The Governor needs to accept the reality that his tax increase proposals simply do not have the support of the vast majority of elected representatives in the

Legislature," Armstead said in his release.

Armstead's press release also summarizes the budget bill and what it would include if the governor signs HB 2018.

According to the release, there will be no tax increases if HB 2018 is enacted.

With HB 2018 not implementing tax increases, the tax increases included in Justice's original proposed budget would not be enforced.

There will also be "an 8-percent cut to Marshall and West Virginia universities, and 4-percent cuts to all other state higher education institutions," according to Armstead's release.

The release also outlines how there will be up to \$90 million utilized from West Virginia's Rainy Day Fund if needed.

If Justice signs HB 2018, the bill would also include General Revenue spending of a total of \$4.1 billion, according to the release.

The West Virginia Legislature website

shows the official roll call of the bill, noting its passage in the Senate with a 22-12 vote.

According to the release, Armstead encouraged Justice to sign the budget as he notes the tax increases Justice proposed were not supported by the majority in the legislature.

Prior to the passage of HB 2018, Justice held a press conference and said he and the Legislature were "on the cusp of passing budget that will put WV on path to prosperity," he said in his conference and Twitter.

The Bill Status feature on the West Virginia Legislature website notes after the House voted to concur with an amendment made by the Senate, HB 2018 completed legislation.

The budget bill has since been sent to the governor's desk for consideration.

**Kylee Hurley can be contacted at hurley40@marshall.edu**

## Kick Off the bi-annual Islam Appreciation Week

By **KAREANN FLOUHOUSE**  
THE PARTHENON

The Muslim Student Association's Islamic Appreciation Week kicked off Monday. All week, the students of the MSA are sponsoring events to let the Marshall community get to know and understand the Muslim community. This is an event the MSA holds every semester.

MSA began the week Monday with Meet a Muslim outside the Memorial Student Center and Kick off Kickball on Buskirk field. Marshall students were given the chance to get to know the MSA students and discuss their ideas or misconceptions of Islam with practicing students.

"A lot of what people learn is not through like, just dialogue, it's kind of through interactions too," Deena Dehshan, the MSA secretary, said. "We're part of this community so we're just trying to get more community involvement and such."

Tuesday's event is Coexist with Cotton Candy. Dehshan said the goal of Coexist with Cotton Candy is to show the group's diversity and acceptance.

On Wednesday, the MSA will join World Fusion Day with Herd in Hijab. Students will be given a chance to try on the head scarves and learn about the religious use of the scarves, as well as receiving Henna.

Thursday, the MSA will host a Baklava and Brownie sale to raise money for Kali to Kali, an organization that builds water wells and schools in underdeveloped countries. This year, the money the MSA raises will be going to build a

school in Turkey for misplaced Syrian refugees.

"We decided that we wanted to do something important with our money," MSA President Ibrahim Mohammed said.

At 7 p.m. Thursday the MSA, along with the Women's Studies Program, will put on "I Want Her Story HERD," a panel that will discuss women in Islam with prominent community figures.

This will replace the typical interfaith panel the MSA usually hosts. This is where members from the three Abrahamic faiths:

Judaism, Christianity and Islam, would come together to discuss their beliefs on different topics.

Mohammed decided to conduct the women's panel this year instead of doing both panels to make sure one event would be executed well and not overstretch themselves with two large panels.

"This way we could just do a panel specifically focused on Muslim women and kind of like, get their stories voiced to the



KAREANN FLOUHOUSE | THE PARTHENON

Students gather outside the Marshall Student Center to inform students about the events coming up during Muslim appreciation week.

people attending," Mohammed said.

The week ends on Friday with an open house at the Mosque at 1:30 p.m. Friday is the Islamic day of worship and Marshall students will have the opportunity to enter the Mosque to see how sermons are run, see a traditional prayer and ask questions.

**Kareann Flouhouse can be contacted at flouhouse@marshall.edu**

## HUNTINGTON TO REPEL FROM W.VA. BUILDING FOR CHARITY

By **HANNAH SWARTZ**  
THE PARTHENON

Participants who raise a minimum of \$1,000 in United Way of the River Cities' Over the Edge fundraising event will be able to rappel down the 17-story West Virginia Building in downtown Huntington on Saturday, June 17.

The registration fee for the event is \$100, which will go toward the \$1,000 fundraising goal. The last day for donations is the week before the event.

United Way of the River Cities is a non-profit organization that has a mission to partner with the community to solve its greatest issues. It supports programs and strategies that address critical issues that focus in the areas of education, income, health and safety-net services.

The money raised will stay locally within the tristate to help support numerous programs and initiatives. This is the first year United Way of the River Cities is having the rappelling, but there are plans to make it an annual event.

"My predecessor, Will, came across a unique, exciting organization that actually

puts on this event for non-profits, such as United Way," Matt Ward, director of development at United Way of the River Cities, said. "They have done it all over the world for any non-profit organization that you can think of and they're very successful at doing it."

Part of Ninth Street Plaza will be closed and the two-day event will also feature a festival, including music, festivities and a place for spectators to watch the people rappelling down the building.

"Alex Vence, who owns the West Virginia Building, agreed to allow us to have this event," Ward said. "He was a very large part in the process, as well as St. Mary's ER agreeing to be the presenting sponsor of the event and they will be backing us financially."

Participant Michelle Marcum is in a young professional group in Huntington, called Generation Huntington. Generation Huntington provides networking opportunities to young professionals within the area, educating them through various speakers and workshops. The committee also provides an outlet for

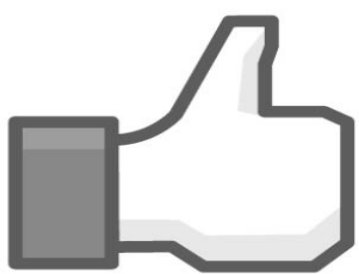
young professionals to give back to the community, and develop a core of young leaders committed to growing the Huntington region.

"We do community developments and we meet once a month and talk about what's going on in Huntington and in the tristate and talk about what we can do as a group," Marcum said. "I'm the chairwoman for the Community Development Committee, so what I do is reach out to the community and the non-profit organizations and see what is going on and find out what fundraisers are going on and what volunteer opportunities we have as a group."

When Marcum first heard of the event, she called United Way and asked if she could rappel down the building herself.

"I'm an adrenaline junkie, I'm an avid kayak and white water enthusiast, so this is right up my alley. From there, I've been trying to promote it as much as possible," Marcum said. "It combines my love for

see REPELS | pg. 5



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# SPORTS

TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2017 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

## Softball sweeps Florida Atlantic, surpasses 30 wins on the season for third consecutive year



RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University Softball team gathers around home plate celebrating a home run hit by sophomore Abigail Estrada Friday in the bottom of the second inning leading to a 4-2 win over FAU.

By **PATRICK O'LEARY**  
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University softball team was already turning heads on the national level before this past weekend's series against Florida Atlantic, as the team had been receiving votes in the national top-25 rankings. However, after a convincing three-game sweep of the Owls at Dot Hicks Softball Field, more national attention will likely be given to the Thundering Herd.

Marshall is now 32-5 on the season and 14-1 in Conference USA play after winning all three games against the defending Conference USA champions Florida Atlantic. The Owls move to 25-15 on the season and 7-5 in C-USA play. The Herd sits alone in first place at the top of the C-USA standings, as the only team in the conference with 10-plus wins.

"It was a great matchup all weekend," head coach Shonda Stanton said. "As a fan, you have

to love this weekend. You are seeing two competitive, really good ball clubs out of C-USA going at it. You are seeing the long ball, bunts being dropped and beaten out for singles; it was just a lot of fun."

Senior record-breaking pitcher Jordan Dixon earned two victories and one save in relief in the circle over the weekend. She improved her overall record to 23-4 with a 1.85 earned run average (ERA). It was a special weekend for

her as before the game on Saturday she was honored for her 1,000th career strikeout, a milestone she achieved a week prior at Southern Miss. Additionally, her mother Linda threw the ceremonial first pitch for Marshall's Strikeout for Cancer Day Saturday.

Sophomore Abigail Estrada had a big weekend at the plate, recording four hits and two runs batted in (RBI). One of her four hits was a solo home run Saturday.

"Beating FAU was huge for our team," Estrada said. "Last year they were the C-USA Champions and, coming into this series, we knew that we had an opportunity to show them what our team has. And we did just that, we came up with the clutch hits and our pitching staff did an amazing job to shut down the FAU offense."

Alongside Estrada's home run, the Herd also gained a home run apiece from seniors

Shaelynn Braxton and Morgan Zerkle and junior Taylor McCord. Braxton led the team with three RBI over the three games.

Next up for the Herd is a single-game at the University of Kentucky Tuesday with first pitch set for 6 p.m. The team will resume Conference USA play this weekend Friday at Florida International.

Patrick O'Leary can be contacted at [oleary7@marshall.edu](mailto:oleary7@marshall.edu).

## Baker aims to replicate success at Huntington

By **LUKE CREASY**  
FOR THE PARTHENON

Newly hired Marshall wide receivers coach, Dallas Baker, has been around football nearly his entire life. After winning a National Championship with the University of Florida in 2007 and a Super Bowl two years later with the Pittsburgh Steelers, Baker has finally fulfilled his lifelong dream of becoming a Football Bowl Subdivision receivers coach. That dream had everything to do with family.

"My uncle is Wes Chandler, a legend at Florida, so I grew up around football. I remember when he worked at UCF (and) being on the sidelines," Baker said. "Also growing up a Gator fan. My cousin was a part of the first national championship team as a walk-on. I was always around it and always saw how the coaches were about it, so that was my goal."

He brings a ton of experience to the program and specifically to a depleted receiving group after seniors Josh Knight and Justin Hunt graduated and juniors Michael Clark and Deon-Tay McManus were declared for

the upcoming 2017 National Football League Draft.

Baker said that even in the early stages, he is emphasizing the concept of turning struggle into success.

"My first few years at Florida we struggled," Baker said. "We had talent, it wasn't the coaches, it was more of us. We had too many egos. We were living off what the past Gators (had) done but we hadn't done anything, but we had egos as if we had done something. We didn't really hang together."

Family has always been a huge part of Baker's life, even outside football, and he said he wants to incorporate that atmosphere inside the locker room. One of the first things he did as a coach was not zero in on the X's and O's, but was try to unite the position group.

"Family is a big deal in our room and that's what we constantly talk about," Baker said. "Once you care about the guy next to you, it's hard to beat you."

With just two weeks of spring football practice in the books, there is still plenty of work to be done, but Dallas Baker is ready for the



JAKE GRIFFITH | THE PARTHENON

New wide receivers Coach Dallas Baker speaks to members of the local media after spring practice April 8. Baker played under Marshall Head Coach Doc Holliday during his time at Florida from 2005 to 2007. Baker won a National Championship in 2006 And a Super Bowl With the Pittsburgh Steelers in 2009.

challenge of leading the Thundering Herd wide receivers.

Luke Creasy can be contacted at [creasy4@marshall.edu](mailto:creasy4@marshall.edu).



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Six Originals for \$6



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2 FOR \$5



## COLUMN

## COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS

By XIANG PENG

CHINESE MARSHALL STUDENT

Everyone knows Chinese food is famous around the world, but foreigners do not know how many different types of Chinese food we have. There are eight types of Chinese cuisines, but I will introduce three types of eight Chinese cuisines, which are Xiang cuisine, Chuan cuisine and Lu cuisine.

First of all, Xiang is the short name for Hunan province. So, we called Hunan's food "Xiang cuisine." Also, Xiang is the spiciest cuisine among our Chinese cuisines. As all Chinese people know, Xiang people can eat spicy food normally. Every dish is spicy. Moreover, Xiang cuisine focuses on rice with spicy dishes, and those dishes are made with meat or vegetables.

Second is Chuan cuisine and it is the short name for Sichuan province. So, Sichuan food is Chuan cuisine. Chuan cuisine is spicy too, but is more focused on rice with pungent and spicy

dishes. Maybe foreigners do not know Chuan cuisine, but they must know about hot pot, and the hot pot is one of the most famous Chuan cuisines.

The last one is Lu cuisine. Like Xiang and Chuan, Lu is the short name of some provinces which are in north China. Lu cuisine is focused on noodles or food made with flour. Because of the weather, north China is not good for farming rice, so they use other food instead of rice and make the food look so beautiful.

In conclusion, all Chinese foods are good. But if foreigners want to visit China and eat Chinese food, I think Xiang, Chuan and Lu cuisines are the best choices for them. Those three cuisines are my favorites of all time.

**This column was submitted as an assignment for an INTO Marshall writing class.**

**The instructor, Saba Gebrehiwot, can be contacted at [gebrehwot1@marshall.edu](mailto:gebrehwot1@marshall.edu).**

"Common Misconceptions" is a weekly column series that gives students, faculty and staff the opportunity to address common misconceptions and misunderstandings of and about their culture, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity.

Columns may be submitted to [parthenon@marshall.edu](mailto:parthenon@marshall.edu).

Submission does not guarantee publication.

## EDITORIAL

## What does free education in N.Y. mean for W.Va.?

When Bernie Sanders proposed free higher-education for college students, it was one of his plans you could most likely put to the side as, "That would be nice but..." or simply view as a pipedream.

But that dream may come to fruition in New York State. New York has a very unique state school system where there are 64 campuses across the state that fall under the SUNY (State University of New York) umbrella. That's not including the CUNY (City University of New York) schools in New York City.

With the newest budget proposed by Gov. Andrew Cuomo, all state/city two-year and four-year schools will offer free tuition to families receiving less than \$100,000 in annual income. That will change next year to families making less than \$125,000. New York is the first state to approve a universal education system like this.

The Excelsior Scholarship is what this plan is being called by Cuomo and will be included into the FASFA for incoming freshman. This will only apply to students who are residents of New York and attend school in the state school system. The state has also proposed an \$8 million budget for electronic books to lower costs for students.

"What high school school was 75 years ago is what college is today," Cuomo said. "College is a mandatory step if you really want to be a success."

This has been the biggest step towards universal education, and with the \$153 billion budget passing, tax rates are guaranteed to go up in the coming year. But when you weigh the pros this could be huge for the state of New York and may be something for the state of West Virginia to consider.

When looking at the Excelsior Scholarship's surface you see a jump in taxes and a small group reaping the benefits. And sure, one could argue how many people



AP PHOTO | BEBETO MATTHEWS

can actually afford to live in New York (one of the top five most expensive states to live in) and make less than \$125,000, implying that this will only help the lower-class families of New York.

But what comes from this is retention. The idea of keeping students in the state and having them go to school in New York will keep them from leaving when they graduate high school, which West Virginia Gov. Jim Justice has made one his main priorities.

Justice has repeated his frustration with students leaving the state to go to school or work somewhere that is more populated and appealing. We won't be able to see this for at least a few years but Cuomo believes this will keep students in New York and working. New York also saw an alarming

amount of students leave the state this past year and this can be a way of combating that in the future.

The other problem it would solve in West Virginia would be the lack of students attending college and graduating. West Virginia comes in 58th in the country for graduation rates according to the U.S. Department of Education and much of this is due to cost of tuition and students being unable to afford all four years.

In the next year, we will use New York and its college tuition plan like we did Colorado and Washington for recreational marijuana. As a sort of "lab rat," that may influence other states to follow in its footsteps. Maybe West Virginia will be one of those states.

## COLUMN

## Full Moon emotions will wane, be replaced by clarity, understanding

By KABREA JAMES  
ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

It is certain this Full Moon has brought tough emotions to the forefront of our consciousness. Any issues we may have been able to tuck away throughout this month are unavoidable now. We're feeling a strong urge to speak up about our grievances and those who have caused them. Should we compromise with others or should we practice self-assertion.

Initially, we may feel overwhelmed by the amount of information we're having thrown at us. This may even cause some of us to go into a self-induced isolation. You are human and you have the natural right to do so. Come out once you've had time to recharge and process everything going on around you. This Full Moon illumination can be a lot to take in, but the clarity that comes after will be well worth it.

This Full Moon also brings about great financial healing. Investments made during the New Moon earlier in this month are sure to bloom at this time. Forgive yourself for spending "too much" money on the things that truly make you happy. Any monetary gaps will be filled. Remember money is a tool and nothing more. Indulge!

Don't let weird energy distract you from gaining emotional fulfillment. Misunderstandings are highly likely at this time, so simply listen and observe. Also, take time to yourself.

Trust your gut-feeling always. If a person or situation feels toxic to you, distance yourself. In order to remove negativity from your life, you must cut off its source. It is okay to let go and move towards happier living.

**Capricorn:** Don't let unnecessary drama prevent you from

enjoying the abundance all around you. You've worked way too hard to get to this point.

**Taurus:** A long-awaited solution may finally come to you this week, Taurus. Others will be in awe of how you always seem to find a way!

**Virgo:** You may have recently decided to wash your hands of a draining situation or way of thinking. It may have taken you some time to reach this decision, but better late than never!

**Scorpio:** Expect some disagreements or tension to loom this week, Scorpio. You could be a major part of the problem, but taking a step back could prove to be the solution.

**Pisces:** Things are looking up this week! Stay open to new opportunities that present themselves to you.

**Cancer:** An expected blessing may find you this week, Cancer. Enjoy this gift and set aside some time for yourself.

**Aquarius:** Try a new method. Unforeseen obstacles may appear this week, Aquarius.

**Gemini:** This Libra Full Moon may have you seeking out the approval of others. Stay true and solid in your decision making.

**Libra:** A Full Moon in your sign evokes great personal power from within. It couldn't be more clear what direction you must go from here.

**Leo:** It is okay to love and fully immerse yourself in love. Let go of anxiety.

**Aries:** You may feel restricted or slighted by recent Full Moon events. Take a step back and open your heart to different ways of thinking.

**Sagittarius:** You may not be seeing the results of your hard work just yet. Be patient, Sagittarius. Your seeds will bloom before long.

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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.

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## THE FIRST AMENDMENT | The Constitution of the United States of America

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# Alabama governor resigns, pleads guilty to misdemeanors

By **KIM CHANDLER and ANTHONY IZAGUIRRE**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gov. Robert Bentley resigned Monday rather than face impeachment and pleaded guilty to two misdemeanor campaign violations that arose during an investigation of his alleged affair with a top aide.

In a remarkable fall, the mild-mannered 74-year-old Republican and one-time Baptist deacon stepped down as the sex-tinged scandal gathered force over the past few days. Legislators turned up the pressure by opening impeachment hearings Monday. Last week, the Alabama Ethics Commission cited evidence that Bentley broke state ethics and campaign laws and referred the matter to prosecutors.

"There've been times that I let you and our people down, and I'm sorry for that," Bentley said in the old House chamber of Alabama's Capitol after he pleaded guilty.

The violations were discovered during the investigation of his affair but were not directly related to it.

In court, Bentley appeared sullen and looked down at the floor. One misdemeanor charge against Bentley stemmed from a \$50,000 loan he made to his campaign in November that investigators said he failed to report until January. State law says major contributions should be reported within a few days. The other charge stemmed from his use of

campaign funds to pay nearly \$9,000 in legal bills for Mason last year.

"He did what he did and he deserves now to be called a criminal," said Ellen Brooks, a retired district attorney overseeing the state investigation.

The plea agreement specified that Bentley must surrender campaign funds totaling nearly \$37,000 within a week and perform 100 hours of community service as a physician. The dermatologist also cannot seek public office again.

Bentley's successor is Lt. Gov. Kay Ivey, who became Alabama's second female governor. The first was Lurleen Wallace, wife of segregationist and four-term Gov. George C. Wallace. She ran as a surrogate for her still-powerful husband in 1966 when he couldn't seek re-election because of term limits. She won, but died in office in 1968.

"The Ivey administration will be open. It will be transparent. And it will be honest," Ivey said.

Bentley said in his statement that he no longer wanted to subject his family and staff "to the consequences that my past actions have brought upon them." His staff gave him a standing ovation as he entered and exited the old House chamber.

Bentley's resignation follows the ouster of former House Speaker Mike Hubbard, who left office in 2016 after being convicted on ethics charges, and former state Supreme

Court Chief Justice Roy Moore, who was suspended from his post last year over an order opposing same-sex marriage.

Bentley, a staunch family-values conservative who won two terms partly because of his reputation for moral rectitude, was first engulfed in scandal last year after recordings surfaced of him making sexually charged comments to 45-year-old political adviser Rebekah Caldwell Mason.

An investigative report prepared for the House Judiciary Committee and released last week said Bentley encouraged an "atmosphere of intimidation" to keep the story under wraps and directed law enforcement officers to track down and seize the recordings. The report portrayed the governor as paranoid and obsessed with trying to keep the relationship secret.

The committee on Monday started what was expected to be days of hearings.

Bentley lawyer Ross Garber had argued that impeachment should be reserved for only the "most grave misconduct," noting that only two U.S. governors have been impeached since 1929, and both were indicted for serious felonies.

"It is not unusual for elected officials to have ethics and campaign finance issues. In fact, many governors face these things. It is very rare, though, for legislators to try to leverage those issues to impeach a governor. In fact, it is simply not

done," Garber told The Associated Press in an email.

Garber also represented former Gov. Mark Sanford of South Carolina and ex-Gov. John Rowland of Connecticut during impeachment proceedings.

The last U.S. governor to be impeached was Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich in 2009. He was removed from office, and is now serving a prison sentence, for conspiring to sell an appointment to President Barack Obama's vacant U.S. Senate seat.

The investigative report contained text messages that the governor sent to Mason. They were intercepted by Bentley's then-wife, Dianne Bentley, who was able to read the messages because they also showed up on the governor's state-issued iPad, which he had given her.

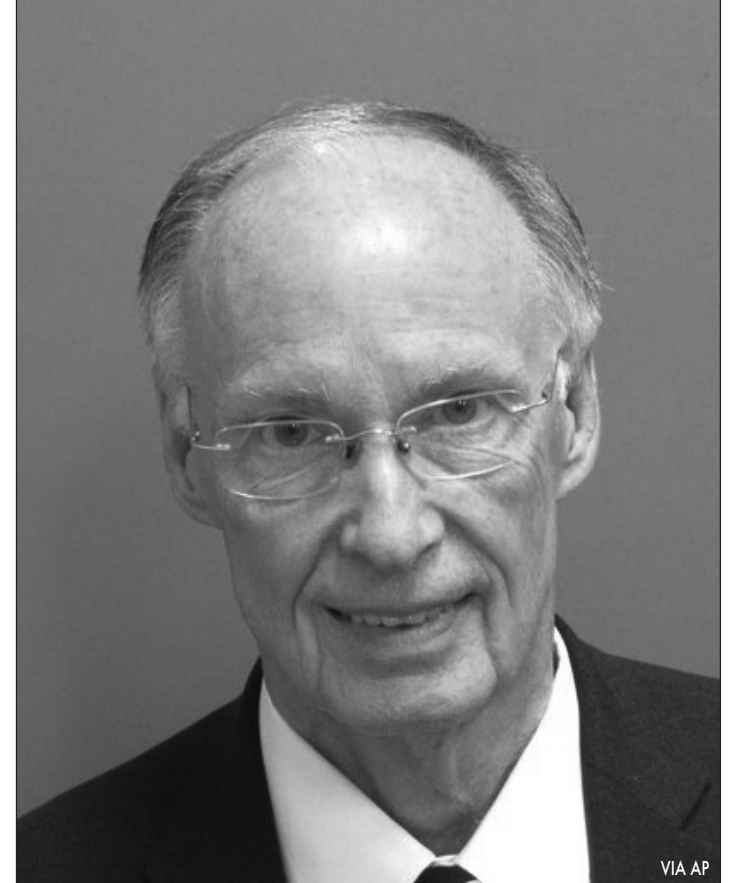
"I sure miss you. I need you. I want you. You are the only one," one message read.

Dianne Bentley divorced her husband in 2015 after 50 years of marriage.

At one point, according to the investigative report, the governor sent the head of his security detail to fetch the recording from his son Paul Bentley, who responded: "You ain't getting it." Dianne Bentley had secretly recorded her husband by leaving her phone on while she went for a walk.

The former first lady's chief of staff also charged that Bentley threatened her job because he believed she had helped his wife make the recordings.

On Friday, the governor made



This photo provided Montgomery County Sheriff's office shows a booking mugshot of Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley on Monday. Jail records show Bentley has been booked on two misdemeanor charges that arose from the investigation of alleged affair with a top aide.

a somber plea for forgiveness from the steps of the Alabama Capitol, acknowledging that he had let people down but promising that he had done nothing illegal or anything to merit his removal from office.

He has denied having a physical relationship with his former aide, though in some of the recordings he talked about the pleasure he got from fondling her breasts.

GOP leaders in the House and Senate called on Bentley to resign, as has the Alabama Republican Party's steering committee.

"It's really time for us to look ahead and start moving forward on more pressing matters," Republican Sen. Cam Ward said. "It was a constant distraction, one that was never going to change, and it's time for us to get back to work."

## Video of passenger getting dragged off flight sparks uproar

By **CARYN ROUSSEAU and DAVID KOENIG**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Video of police officers dragging a passenger from an overbooked United Airlines flight sparked an uproar Monday on social media, and a spokesman for the airline insisted that employees had no choice but to contact authorities to remove the man.

As the flight waited to depart from Chicago's O'Hare Airport, officers could be seen grabbing the screaming man from a window seat, pulling him across the armrest and dragging him down the aisle by his arms. The airline was trying to make room for four of its employees on the Sunday evening flight to Louisville, Kentucky.

Other passengers on Flight 3411 are heard saying, "Please, my God," "What are you doing?" "This is wrong." "Look at what you did to him" and "Busted his lip."

Passenger Audra D. Bridges posted the video on Facebook. Her husband, Tyler Bridges, said United offered \$400 and then \$800 vouchers and a hotel stay for volunteers to give up their seats. When no one volunteered, a United manager came on the plane and announced that passengers would be chosen at random.

"We almost felt like we were being taken hostage," Tyler Bridges said. "We were stuck there. You can't do anything as a traveler. You're relying on the airline."

When airline employees named four customers who had to leave the plane, three of them did so. The fourth person refused to move, and police were called, United spokesman Charlie Hobart said.

"We followed the right procedures," Hobart told the Associated Press in a phone interview. "That plane had to depart. We wanted to get our customers to their destinations."

Oscar Munoz, CEO of United Airlines' parent company, described the event as "upsetting" and apologized for "having to re-accommodate these customers." He

said the airline was conducting a review and reaching out to the passenger to "further address and resolve this situation."

The passenger told the manager that he was a doctor who needed to see patients in the morning, Bridges said.

"He was kind of saying that he was being singled out because he's a Chinese man" when speaking to the manager, who was African-American, Bridges said.

"You should know what this is like," the man said, according to Bridges.

The AP was unable to confirm the passenger's identity.

Two officers tried to reason with the man before a third came aboard and pointed at the man "basically saying, 'Sir, you have to get off the plane,'" Bridges said. That's when the altercation happened.

One officer involved has been placed on leave, the Chicago Aviation Department said Monday.

After the passenger was removed, the four United employees boarded the plane.

"People on the plane were letting them have it," Bridges said. "They were saying, 'You should be ashamed to work for this company.'"

A few minutes later, the man who was removed from the plane returned, looking dazed and saying he had to get home, Bridges said. Officers followed him to the back of the plane. Another man traveling with high school students stood up at that point and said they were getting off the plane, Bridges said.

About half of the passengers followed before United told everyone to get off, he said.

The man who was originally dragged down the aisle was removed from the plane again, and United employees made an announcement saying they had to "tidy up" the aircraft, Bridges said. Bridges' wife told him she saw the man taken away on a stretcher, he said.

After a three-hour delay the flight took off without the man aboard, Bridges said. A United employee apologized to

passengers, he said.

Airlines are allowed to sell more tickets than there are seats on the plane, and they routinely overbook flights because some people do not show up.

It's not unusual for airlines to offer travel vouchers to encourage people to give up their seats, and there are no rules for the process. When an airline demands that a passenger give up a seat, the airline is required to pay compensation of double the passenger's one-way fare, up to \$675, if the passenger can be placed on another flight that arrives one to two hours later than the first flight, or four times the ticket price, up to \$1,350, for longer delays.

When they bump passengers, airlines are required to give those passengers a written description of their compensation rights.

Hobart declined to say how the airline compensated the passengers who were forced to leave the plane, saying he did not have those details from employees on the scene.

Last year, United forced 3,765 people off oversold flights and another 62,895 United passengers volunteered to give up their seats, probably in exchange for travel vouchers.

That's out of more than 86 million people who boarded a United flight in 2016, according to government figures. United ranks in the middle of U.S. carriers when it comes to bumping passengers.

ExpressJet, which operates flights under the United Express, American Eagle and Delta Connection names, had the highest rate of bumping passengers last year. Among the largest carriers, Southwest Airlines had the highest rate, followed by JetBlue Airways.

Bridges said United should not have boarded the flight if it was overbooked.

"The man handled it wrong," he said. "The police were kind of put in a bad spot. There's a lot of ways United could have handled it, and that was not one of the good ways."

### REPELS cont. from 2

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Hannah Swartz can be contacted at [swartz20@marshall.edu](mailto:swartz20@marshall.edu).

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## Jerry Gilbert: President and friend of Marshall University

By **ADAM STEPHENS**  
THE PARTHENON

Jerry Gilbert, a Mississippi native and a Mississippi State University alumnus, is not just an administrator and an academic pioneer, he is also an advocate for students and a friend of Marshall University.

Gilbert came from very humble beginnings. Growing up in Jackson, Mississippi, he described his childhood as being “very idyllic.” He described how he and his friends would spend all day outside during the summertime, only to break for lunch and dinner.

“I had a lot of friends, and we did a lot of outdoor activities,” Gilbert said. “I just had a tremendous experience, I had a very loving family and always felt very secure.”

Gilbert grew up in the era of Jim Crow, where state and local laws enforced racial segregation in the Southern United States.

“There was a lack of knowledge of the culture and what it was like to be a person other than your own race because of the separation from the Jim Crow laws of the time,” Gilbert said.

After the Jim Crow laws were repealed and integration was enforced, Gilbert said many of the myths about people of other races that were created by the political structure in the South were proven to be untrue.

“It was a tremendous eye-opening experience for many of us to learn that there were no real differences between people based on race,” Gilbert said. “It was a road to Damascus type of experience where you see things very differently, and that was the case for many of us in my generation. Our eyes were opened and things changed for the better in the South.”

Gilbert said he believes that seeing the injustice firsthand in the past as a child influences the decisions he makes now as Marshall president. It encourages him to make sure everyone has an equal opportunity at Marshall.

“It goes back to those experiences I had as a kid where I saw the pitfalls and the ugliness and the hatred that was part of inequality,” Gilbert said. “It solidified my views and my core values about equality and how you should treat people,

it had an impact on me in terms of my strong commitment to equal rights and to making opportunities available for everyone.”

Even though Gilbert has spent a life in academia, that wasn’t what he had pictured as a career path. As a child in elementary school, Gilbert pictured himself working with his father.

As a small business owner, Gilbert’s father operated a small woodturning factory where he made leg chairs and other products.

As Gilbert went through school, he then started to believe he was geared towards a career in the sciences rather than in furniture. In high school, he thought he may want to become a veterinarian due to his love for animals and the outdoors. He also toyed with the idea of potentially going to medical school.

During a visit home one weekend, Gilbert’s brother, a chemical engineering student at Mississippi State University, told him the university was going to offer a new program called biological engineering. With this new option in mind, Gilbert continued his high school career by focusing on his science classes.

During his senior year of high school, Gilbert visited West Virginia for the first time when he attended the National Youth Science Camp for a month of science in the mountains. He was able to meet and learn from astronauts, scientists from major corporations and college professors.

“I was around some really bright kids that were interested in science and that really solidified my view that I wanted to do something in science. I thought ‘I can do science just like these other kids.’ I just had such a great experience in the outdoors in West Virginia and the science camp was just amazing to me,” Gilbert said.

Gilbert also had the opportunity to meet West Virginia sens. Robert Byrd and Jennings Randolph who made lasting impressions on Gilbert regarding the Mountain State.

“That impression was that they cared about young people and they cared about our future. They cared enough to bring us all to their state to give us an opportunity,” Gilbert said.

This was the first time Gilbert had visited West Virginia, a state he knew little about prior to his

time at summer camp.

“Having spent a summer in West Virginia left me thinking that they are a very compassionate state, a very forward thinking state and one that I will always be indebted to for solidifying my views about my career and going forward,” Gilbert said.

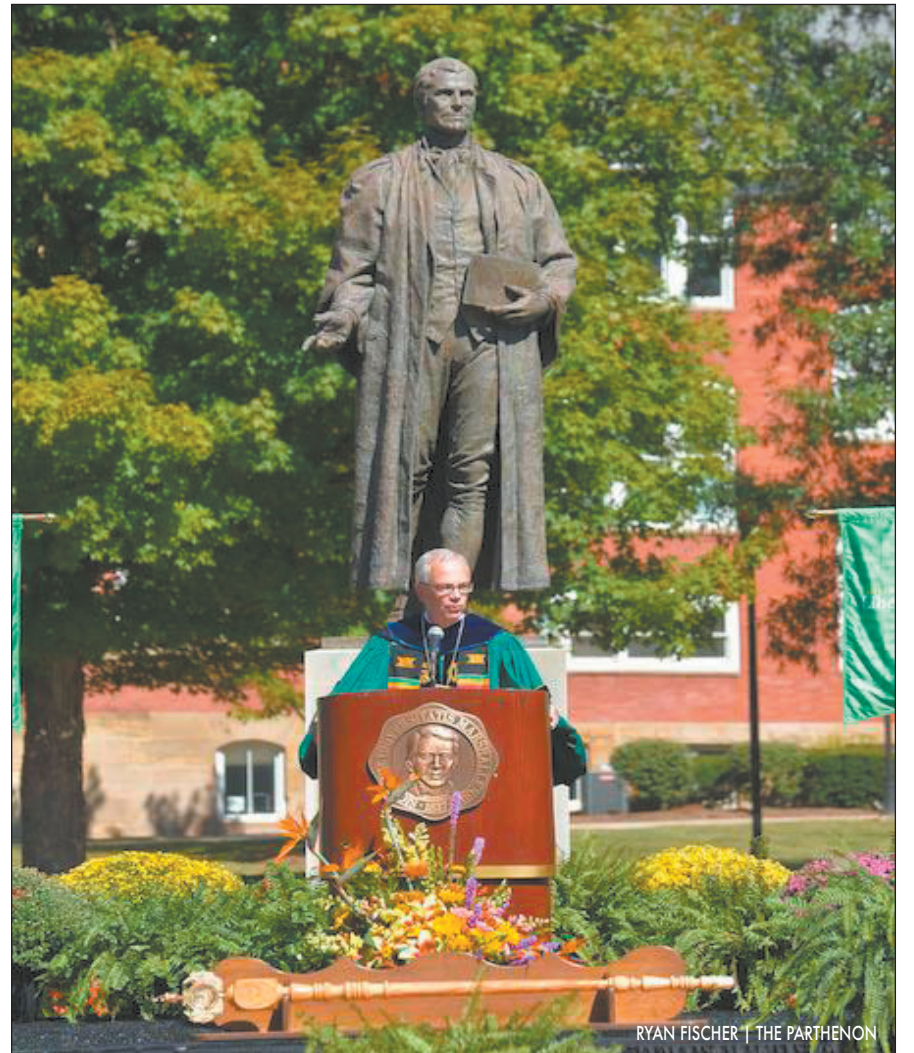
After being reassured that he wanted to go into the field of science, Gilbert went to Mississippi State to study biological engineering, the very program that his brother had told him about.

“Throughout most of my adult life as an engineer in academics I had to explain what biological engineering was because most people didn’t understand what it was,” Gilbert said. “It was an exciting time to be a biomedical engineer, and it is today, but back then you were a little bit more of a pioneer and had some really interesting experiences.”

Gilbert graduated with a bachelor’s degree in biological engineering from Mississippi State in 1977. Gilbert then went on to earn a doctorate in biomedical engineering from Duke University.

During the 1980s, Gilbert worked as a professor of engineering at North Carolina State before accepting a faculty position at Mississippi State in 1988 where he was a professor and conducted research in orthopedic surgery. He also led the Department of Agricultural Biological Engineering before becoming a provost of Mississippi State in 2010, where he served as executive vice president.

**Adam Stephens’ full feature story on Jerry Gilbert can be read online at**



President Jerry Gilbert at the Investiture ceremony, where he was installed as president in front of staff, faculty and students alike. Gilbert has served the university since September.

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