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The Parthenon, February 27, 2019

Heather Barker

THE PARTHENON

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Marshall community unites in protest of campus carry bill

By **DOUGLAS HARDING**
THE PARTHENON

Students and educators from Marshall University, West Virginia University and other local colleges united in recent weeks to fight back against legislation that would allow individuals with permits to carry concealed weapons on campuses.

Several protests, mainly on college campuses, have resulted from the public unrest regarding the proposed legislation within HB 2519.

The implementation of the bill would

likely cost the state over \$10 million.

Monday, university students and faculty and concerned citizens gathered at the state capitol to make their voices heard by lawmakers.

"Data analyses from the past 40 years show reduced gun restrictions lead to increased crime, homicides and suicides," Hilary Brewster, a professor at Marshall, said.

More guns lead to more instances of danger and violence, whether accidentally (or

see CAMPUS on pg. 2



WHAT'S INSIDE



MICHAELA CRITTENDON | PHOTO AND GRAPHICS EDITOR

3 Eating Disorders Awareness Week	4 UMS prepares disaster buckets	5 KAP combats negative stereotypes	6 Inside the life of a redshirt	7 Herd begins Bonus Play	8 EDITORIAL: No guns on campus	9 GINGER'S GUIDE TO: Stephen King	12 Student film festival
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Campus carry bill sparks protests, discussions at capitol, on campuses

CAMPUS cont. from 1

not), Brewster said. Furthermore, recent Stanford research shows when states increase gun restrictions, decreases in violent crimes, homicides and suicides normally follow.

"This bill is a disaster," Brewster said. "The overwhelming majority of university personnel, faculty and students are against this."

Amy Hessel, a professor at WVU, said she is concerned the bill would expose more young people who lack experience with firearms to weapons they are not trained to use.

"I'm not even as concerned about students from West Virginia who are vastly experienced with firearms, but we have to understand all the students from out-of-state who didn't grow up around guns will be exposed to them as well," Hessel said.

Hessel said she feels the bill is being forced upon universities by outside interests that have targeted the state.

Sabrina Thomas, a librarian and member of the Student Conduct and Welfare Committee at Marshall, also said she feels the bill is being forced upon universities.

"The bill directly goes against what the police want, what the faculty on campus want and what the students and student body governments want," Thomas said.

Several university students and faculty also voiced concerns regarding the cost of implementing 'campus carry.'

"That \$10 million has to come from somewhere," Thomas said. "Are students willing to increase their tuition?"

Thomas said she has no problem with a person's right

to own a gun; however, students and faculty also have the right to a safe place to learn.

"I don't mind people owning guns; they can have them, just not in my classroom, not on our campus," Thomas said.

Delegate Caleb Hanna (R- District 44), a student at West Virginia State University and co-sponsor of HB 2519, said he would also support a theoretical bill that would allow individuals to carry guns at the state capitol.

"I would be a huge advocate for that," Hanna said.

While speaking with university students and faculty about the likely negative impacts of the bill, Hanna said they "must have looked at different data."

There are already people carrying guns on campuses, he said, the proposed bill would simply allow individuals with proper permits to do so legally.

"I'm a strong supporter of the Second Amendment," Hanna said. "It's as simple as that."

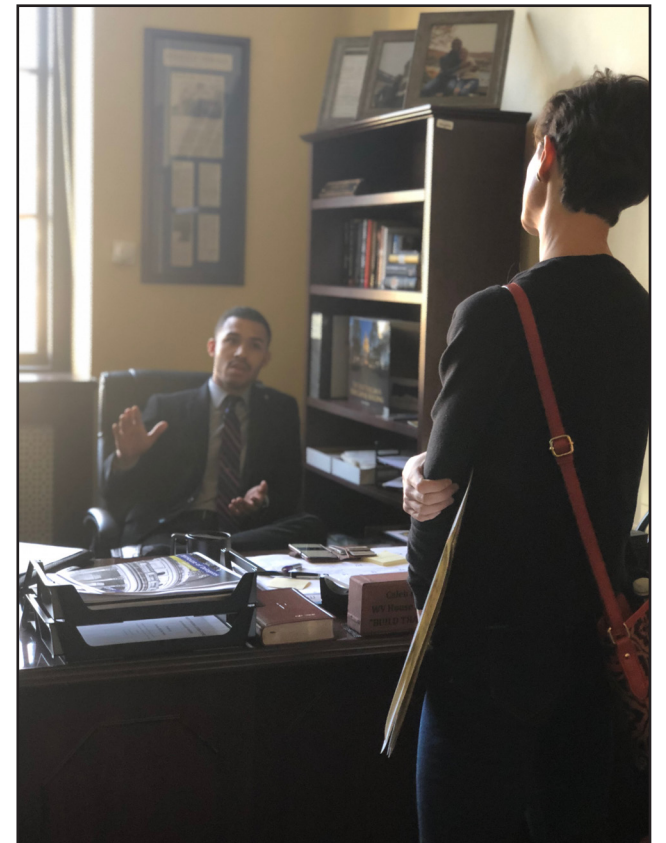
Leif Olson, a graduate student at Marshall, said he opposes the bill, because it would lead to an increase of policing on college campuses.

"I don't want to live in an increased security state," Olson said.

Olson said he would prefer to live in a place where ideas flow freely and individuals do not feel threatened during discussions and disagreements.

"We don't have to kill each other in order to learn something," Olson said. "We can resolve our disputes with ideas and words."

Douglas Harding can be contacted at harding26@marshall.edu.



DOUGLAS HARDING | ONLINE AND SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER
Professor at Marshall University Hilary Brewster speaks with Delegate Caleb Hanna (R- District 44) about the campus carry bill, Monday, Feb. 25 at the state capitol building.

Student Government Association approves rules for upcoming election

By **JESTEN RICHARDSON**
COPY EDITOR

A section of the Student Government Association election rules that could have caused a greater amount of runoff elections was a topic of discussion at a student senate meeting Tuesday in the Memorial Student Center.

A new proposed section of the Election Rules of the Marshall University SGA would have required leading presidential and vice presidential candidates in elections, involving more than two candidates, to have a majority of 2.5 percent of the total votes cast over the next leading candidates in order to win.

In the case of an election with only two pairs of candidates, the leading presidential and vice presidential candidates would have won an election by having the most votes from the student body without a required margin of victory.

As the election rules currently stood, apart from the proposal, leading presidential and vice presidential candidates would have won an election by having the most votes from the student body without a required margin of victory, regardless of the amount of



JESTEN RICHARDSON | COPY EDITOR
Student Body Vice President Hannah Petracca mediates discussion on proposed resolutions about funding at the Student Government Association meeting Tuesday, Feb. 26.

candidates in the election.
Senators were split on the proposed required margin of victory, with some individuals saying it could lead to a greater number of runoff elections, if the percentage

was not attained by candidates, requiring students to vote in another election. Some senators said this could take time away from students' education or be an inconvenience to students.

Some supporters of the proposed margin of victory percentage said it could be beneficial to students, as some elections have been particularly close.

A motion was made for an amendment to remove the proposed section of the SGA election rules, therefore removing the margin of victory percentage, so candidates would win the election by having the most votes, unless in a tie, in which case a runoff election would occur. Discussion was closed, and the proposed section of the SGA election rules containing the margin of victory percentage is set to be removed.

The Election Rules of the Marshall University Student Government Association document, which was under revision prior to the meeting, were approved during the student senate meeting.

Filing day for the SGA elections will be Sunday, March 3.
Jesten Richardson can be contacted at richardso164@marshall.edu.

Eating disorder stories shared to inspire, help others

By **MAKAYLAH WHEELER**
THE PARTHENON

Someone is sitting in the bathroom, throwing up the food they had for lunch. They have not digested a meal in days.

"Eating disorders are not a mindset that people can just pull themselves out of," said Ally Fletcher, a high school senior who's taking classes at Marshall University.

Fletcher said she suffered from anorexia for 5 years and has since suffered from a binge eating disorder as well. She said her disorders have taught her that "there's always a light at the end of the tunnel."

"Healing and recovery is not linear and requires a lot of patience and getting to truly know and love yourself for who you truly are," Fletcher said.

Marshall is helping students to understand these disorders this week as part of National Eating Disorders Awareness Week, a week-long observance that has encouraged some students, such as Fletcher, to share their stories as a way to bring awareness.

Another Marshall student who shared her story this week was Emily Fankhanel, a senior exercise science and psychology double major.

Fankhanel said she once allowed herself only 500 calories a day and exercised three to four times a day to ensure that her ribs were visible. Now, she said, she stays active to do what she loves and to focus on the health of her body, instead of its look.

"The less calories I would eat, the more proud of myself I would feel," Fankhanel said. "Today, I stay active to do what I love and exercise for my health and what my body can do rather than what it looks like."

Both women are contributing to a more "body positive" existence by sharing their stories and highlighting their recovery to prove that no one is alone and to end the stigma surrounding eating disorders.

"Keep the conversation going and talk about something that's uncomfortable and may be seen as not important," Fletcher said. "I'd like to see more of this from Marshall and maybe make it a more regular event, because people need help practicing self-love and acceptance consistently."

Fankhanel said showing self-love is a sign of progress toward things such as recovery and body positivity.

"Progress is being able to wake up in the morning and love myself the way I am," Fankhanel said.

Marshall is providing students an opportunity to share their support, and to "Come as you are...not as you think you SHOULD be," this week by offering free wellness activities and resources Feb. 25 through Feb. 28 in the Memorial Student Center and Marshall Recreation Center.

Makaylah Wheeler can be contacted at wheeler152@marshall.edu.

**"Progress is being able to wake up in the morning and love myself the way I am."
EMILY FANKHANEL**

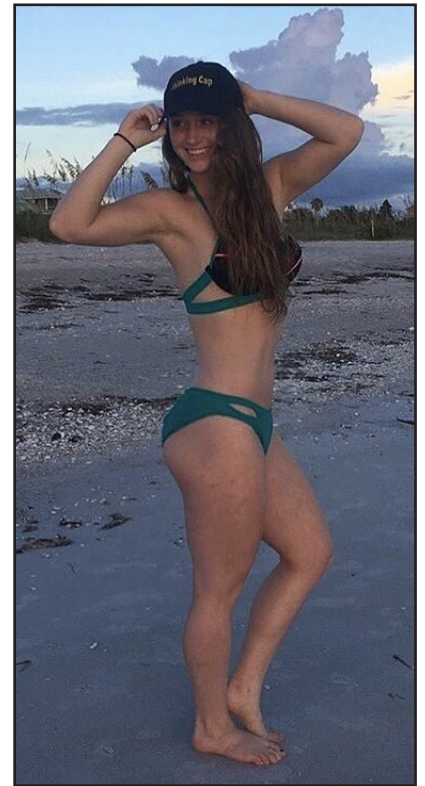


PHOTO COURTESY OF EMILY FANKHANEL

Marshall University student Emily Fankhanel pictured in (left) June 2013 and (right) June 2018. Fankhanel said progress is not only loving herself but sharing

Police Blotter



By **MACKENZIE JONES**
THE PARTHENON

Possession of Marijuana

A couple was noticed by an officer in the parking lot on the 1800th block of Maple Avenue, Feb. 18. When the officer approached, he noticed the white female, age 20, and the other occupant had red, glassy eyes and admitted to smoking marijuana. They handed the officer their bong and grinder, which contained pot residue, and they received a ticket.

Unlawful Taking of Vehicle

Feb. 19, around 11:25 a.m. to 12 p.m., a vehicle was stolen from the job sight at P3 project on 14th

Street and Charleston Avenue. It was recovered Feb. 22. There are no suspects at this time, but it is still under investigation.

Petit Larceny

Money was stolen from the INTO building in the amount of \$150. The money was last seen on Feb. 18, and then it was noticed missing Feb. 21. There are no suspects at this time and is still under investigation.

Trespassing

At 1:16 a.m. Feb. 21 a white male, age 28, was spotted in a dumpster. After being approached by officer(s) he was charged with trespassing and taken into custody based on his preexisting bench warrant.

Mackenzie Jones can be contacted at jones1032@marshall.edu.

Weekly Poll Results

	Y	N
Have you submitted your Parthe-Pet?	7%	93%
Will you be going to see Martin Short and Steve Martin on March 9?	31%	69%
Are you excited about a baseball stadium being built in Huntington?	90%	10%
Do you agree with the decision to not change the name of Jenkins Hall?	62%	38%
Do you agree with Marshall professors walking out to protest against the campus carry bill?	84%	16%

UMS prepares disaster buckets for future

By **MEREDITH O'BARA**
THE PARTHENON

The United Methodist Students service team and The Thundering Herd Recovery team partnered with the pre-physical therapy club to prepare flood buckets that will be used during a disaster such as a flood or hurricane.

Ben Wells, campus minister for UMS, said the buckets contain cleaning supplies that assist families after a disaster.

"The flood buckets are a collection of cleaning supplies and different things that you need when your house has been flooded or damaged in a storm," Wells said. "What people tend to forget is you do not just lose your furniture and pictures, but your cleaning supplies are ruined in a disaster."

The groups came together Saturday, Feb. 23, at the New Vision Depot in Beaver, West Virginia, to prepare these buckets, said Kaylan Johnson, junior exercise science major, President of the pre-physical therapy club and member of UMS.

"We traveled to the New Vision Depot," Johnson said. "The New Vision Depot is a disaster relief center that is part of UMCOR (The United Methodist Committee on Relief). They do multiple types of disaster relief, but we focused on updating and

cleaning their flood buckets."

The buckets are carefully planned and provide supplies that will not only be beneficial, but will last during a disaster, Wells said.

"The buckets are a five-gallon bucket with a pre-planned list of supplies that you need such as cleaning supplies, gloves and masks, for mold and dust," Wells said. "There are certain types of cleaning sponges, and it is all carefully planned out with the best products. It is also planned around, how you do not want anything that has toxic chemicals or things that are going to spray, and you do not want bleach or sponges that have moisture because they are going to have mold."

Because the buckets are carefully planned, each one must be looked over to make sure it contains what it is supposed to, Wells said.

"What we were doing on Saturday was processing through buckets to make sure they had everything they are supposed to have and repackaging it, labeling it and getting it ready to go," Wells said. "At the Depot, they have to go through each bucket to check that it has what it is supposed to have, make sure they do not have something in there that is not supposed to be, and they have to check them every three years to make sure everything is okay and



Junior Kaylan Johnson and senior Sarah Mullins pack flood buckets at the New Vision Depot in Beaver, West Virginia Saturday, Feb. 22.

HEATHER BARKER | EXECUTIVE EDITOR

nothing has happened to the bucket."

These buckets can go anywhere, Wells said, but also are stored for disasters that could happen in West Virginia. The group prepared 104 buckets which can help many families.

"The work they (students) did represents potentially 104 families or homes that could receive a bucket, and if you think about it some of the flooding we have had in West Virginia, that could easily be enough

for one town," Wells said.

Jacob Thomas, intern with UMS, said watching Sue Lowther, who runs the New Vision Depot, take everything out of the buckets when explaining made him realize the impact they had.

"She took this stuff out of the buckets to show us how to put it together, and just watching her shove all this stuff in this tiny

see UMS on pg. 10

City-wide campaign encourages revitalization of Huntington neighborhoods

By **TREY DELIDA**
THE PARTHENON

Parts of Huntington have a chance to be revitalized one block at a time through Huntington's Love Your Block campaign.

The Love Your Block competition, sponsored by Cities of Service, is a national competition aimed at engaging with and revitalizing communities that are deemed 'low-income.' In 2018, Huntington was one of 10 cities in the United States to win the Cities of Service City Hall AmeriCorps Volunteer In Service To America, or VISTA, Love Your Block competition.

That win resulted in the implementation of two AmeriCorps VISTA members, LaNette Hunter and Nathan Thomas. For a duration of two years, Hunter and Thomas will work with the city to manage the mini-grant program.

"Huntington was awarded \$25,000 to be used for mini-grants in the target area of 7th Street West to 14th Street West between Madison and Adams avenues," Bryan Chambers, communications director for the city of Huntington, said.

This year, the city of Huntington and the AmeriCorps VISTA members, took applications to allocate the reward money to the winner of the Love Your Block competition.

"Love Your Block is an initiative to revitalize neighborhoods one block at a time," Hunter said. "Mini-grants and city resources will be provided to support the efforts of citizen groups and local non-profits to fight blight, things that hinder community growth through home repairs, lot transformations and community clean-ups."

Mini-grants, totaling \$1,500 each, are awarded to the best grant submissions. These applications can be made for various needs one may think the city needs help with, Chambers said.

"Mini-grant funding include, but are not limited to, enhancing public space and vacant lots, organizing community programs and services and minor exterior home improvements," Chambers said. "While recruiting volunteers is important to the applications, city services that will be made available through the program include providing trash collection services and litter cleanup supplies, cleaning up city-owned lots and pruning overgrown, city-owned trees."

Overall, the initiative seeks to improve the city's appeal and functionality for residents, specifically in areas that may be overlooked, Thomas said.

"The purpose is to encourage neighborhoods to take

ownership of their community by providing funding and resources for volunteer projects, and to make our communities a more sightful place to live," Thomas said.

Applications for the competition are due by March 8.

Trey Delida can be contacted at delida1@marshall.edu.



Kappa Alpha Psi combats negative stereotypes for black fraternities

By **PAIGE LEONARD**
THE PARTHENON

With a goal of helping young men become better individuals, the first black Greek-lettered fraternity on Marshall University's campus paved the way for future organizations and continues to have an impact on its members and the community.

"It's actually a big thing for us," Tony Jernigan II, a junior pre-medical major who is vice president of Marshall's chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., said about the fraternity's origins.

Kappa Alpha Psi helped open the doors for other predominately black organizations, which did not have to face some of the same struggles Kappa Alpha Psi faced, Jernigan said.

"They didn't have to face some of the struggles that [Kappa Alpha Psi members] faced to bring them on campus," Jernigan said. "You can only imagine the things they [Kappa Alpha Psi members] had to go through in order to establish the chapter, and that they were brave enough to do so, so that we could all benefit later on from the chapter being here."



Kappa Alpha Psi was the first black fraternity on Marshall University's campus, and the fraternity says they aim to help members become better people. PHOTO COURTESY OF TOBIAS LUCAS

Phillip Carter, a Marshall professor of social work, was actually one of Kappa Alpha Psi's first members, Jernigan said.

"Knowing that there would be scrutiny, but still caring enough about their neighborhood and their community to withstand that, and to withstand that struggle, it just shows how much they cared about the men around them and the women around them," Jernigan said.

Tobias Lucas, a sophomore theater

performance major who is Kappa Alpha Psi's president, said current members of the fraternity try to overcome negative stereotypes associated with the black and African American community and combat them with their actions.

Jernigan said members try to teach other how to be gentlemen, adding that he and his brothers try to represent "what it looks like to be a black male, to

be fluent and eloquent."

In addition to helping its members become better individuals, Jernigan and Lucas said Kappa Alpha Psi participates in various community service projects.

"I remember one of the first things we did was we went to the Huntington City Mission," Jernigan said. "We went there and did a back-to-school drive, and we basically gave kids there some books and things they need for school."

About a month ago, Jernigan said the fraternity helped with an auction by St. Mary's Hospital in which the proceeds benefited the Huntington City Mission.

Additionally, along with the National Panhellenic Council, Jernigan said Kappa Alpha Psi has volunteered at the A.D. Lewis Center, a community center in Huntington, in the past.

With goals in mind for Kappa Alpha Psi, Jernigan said he hopes the fraternity is "forever bringing in new members, that we are always providing mentorship and that we establish a relationship with the blacks and African Americans all across campus."

Paige Leonard can be contacted at leonard64@marshall.edu.

Special topics course connects politics and video games

By **JESTEN RICHARDSON**
COPY EDITOR

Playing video games is part of the curriculum in one new special topics course offered this semester, which encourages Marshall University students to make connections between video games and real world politics.

The course "Politics and Video Games" (PSC 480) seeks to analyze politics within video games, look at political themes developed in games and look at the politics of both the video game industry and within gaming culture today.

Jess Morrisette, who created and teaches the special topics course, said what sparked his interest in the topic of video games and politics is that he has been a gamer all his life and gaming is a hobby he cares about, which he knows he shares with a lot of students.

Morrisette said in recent years, his research has focused on the politics of popular culture, so focusing on video games as part of pop culture, and looking at the politics that are represented in those video games, was something he wanted to do.

Jacob Redman, a senior political science major, said he is taking this special topics class because he thought it would be different from what he is used to.

Redman said he had never personally gotten into playing video games and wanted to see if the class could

open him up to it.

"I think what really held me back from playing video games is I never thought of them as productive, until I took the class," Redman said. "This emerging field of study of video games, and really studying the political dynamics, the political messaging of video games, whether it be intended or not, is very

“I believe interaction is a key component of playing video games, and through the lens of political theory and international relations, that interaction really brings home some of those concepts that we learn.”

-Jacob Redman

fascinating to me. We think of TV shows and movies and other forms of pop culture as political, whether they're intended to be or not, but not really video games, and this class has really opened my mind to that perspective."

Though video games may not be a form of popular culture people immediately connect with politics, Morrisette said he would argue that politics has been part of video games throughout the medium's history. He said that any

game that deals with any sort of relationship of power and authority has the ability to comment on or reflect critic real world politics in some way, he said.

One of the assignments Morrisette said he is excited about is the final project for the course, where students will have the option to either write a traditional term paper or to create a video game of their own that represents a political theme.

Morrisette said he hopes he built the course so that individuals, whether they play video games or not, will be able to take something away from it if they are interested in the subject matter. He said that it is not just for people who play a lot of video games a week and are hardcore gamers.

"Even if you do not label yourself as a gamer, there is much to be learned from it," Redman said. "I'm not a game player but I've really been able to see in action some of the concepts and theories that we've talked about in x number of classes over the past few years, and I think that's very important in the realm of learning, to be able to see what you're learning, to be able to interact with it. I believe interaction is a key component of playing video games, and through the lens of political theory and international relations, that interaction really brings home some of those concepts that we learn."

Jesten Richardson can be contacted at richardso164@marshall.edu.

Brooks-Harris, Dillon use redshirt season to improve on, off court

By TAYLOR HUDDLESTON
THE PARTHENON

Not everyone can score 1,000 points or more during their high school basketball career and expect to receive an NCAA Division I scholarship to a top university. Freshmen Cam Brooks-Harris and Jeremy Dillon achieved this dream and found their fate at Marshall University under one of the school's most notable head coaches, Dan D'Antoni.

However, it was unknown beforehand that D'Antoni would sit both players out for one year known as a redshirt season.

"We had no idea," Brooks-Harris said. "That was not the plan. We came in expecting to play. (The coaches) came to us with the idea of redshirting and took it from there."

The players were redshirted in order for them to get more playing time while they are at Marshall, D'Antoni said.



RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON



RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON

Marshall freshmen Jeremy Dillon (top, 5) and Cam Brooks-Harris (bottom, 24) are sitting out the season as redshirts. Both participated in the events at Herd Madness in October, with Brooks-Harris competing in the slam dunk contest and Dillon making a half-court shot.

"We're going to lose our backcourt, which is three West Virginia guards who have been a big part of bringing this program fully to the level we've gotten it to," D'Antoni said. "Which was the championship and first time ever victory in the NCAA (Tournament)."

Brooks-Harris is a 6-foot-7 forward from Zanesville, Ohio. At Lakewood High School, located in Hebron, Ohio, he participated in football, basketball, and baseball. However, he transferred to Zanesville High School and began to focus on basketball. During his time at Zanesville, he averaged more than 20 points per game. Between Lakewood and Zanesville, he scored over 1,000 points in basketball, was the unanimous 2018 Player of the Year in the East Central Ohio League and a first-team All-Ohioan by the Ohio Prep Sportswriters Association.

"It's different," Brooks-Harris said. "Being with the team practicing everyday like you're working towards something and normally you're working towards the next game. Now we're just working towards next year."

Dillon is 6-foot-5 guard from Mingo, West Virginia, where he scored over 1,300 points in basketball. Dillon was a two-sport athlete at Mingo Central High School, playing as the quarterback position for the football team and a guard for the basketball team. Dillon led the Mingo Central Miners to an undefeated season and its first state football championship in 2016. He has earned honors for being the West Virginia High School Football Player of the Year, known as the Kennedy Award. Dillon earned all-state honors for both sports.

"It's been good," Dillon said. "It's been a slow process. We definitely had to trust the process by sitting out this year. I think it's going to pay off for us years to come."

Being stuck in the redshirt situation has brought Brooks-Harris and Dillon closer as friends. They were set up to be freshman roommates together at Marshall.

"(Dillon) is my best friend," Brooks-Harris said. "He is my brother. I met him on my official visit. I had no clue we were going to be roommates. I love him and I don't do anything without this kid."

During their redshirt season, Brooks-Harris and Dillon have spent a lot of extra hours inside the Cam Henderson Center working on skills and how to better themselves as basketball players. The two redshirt players practice together with the team but come into the Henderson Center on their own time to shoot around and continue to improve basketball skills.

"A lot of it has got to do with shooting," Dillon said. "It's kind of focusing more on working on what we're good at."

Prior to every home basketball game, Brooks-Harris and Dillon can be found on the court with assistant coach Mark Cline, graduate assistants Milan Mijovic and Patrick Herlihy and other student managers. This is known as the "redshirt workout."

"We feel like with that year of redshirt and the way they've worked and how hard they've worked, that our program isn't going to step back very far," D'Antoni said. "I think those kids feel the winning atmosphere that the other group has created."

It takes effort to be the best. It takes determination to strive for greatness. It takes failures to become successful. It takes hard work for it to pay off. And it takes role models to inspire.

The senior class, consisting of Jon Elmore, C.J. Burks and Rondale Watson, are the teammates that are highly looked upon

see REDSHIRTS on pg. 10

Herd men's basketball to open C-USA Bonus Play at Louisiana Tech



RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON

Middle Tennessee guard Antonio Green (55) watches as Marshall guard Jarrod West attempts a contested layup during the Thundering Herd's win over the Blue Raiders at the Cam Henderson Center.

By TAYLOR HUDDLESTON
THE PARTHENON

Following a 12-day hiatus from basketball games, the Marshall men's basketball team is set to head to Louisiana Tech and North Texas once again to start out its last two away game series of conference bonus play.

Sophomore guard Jarrod West said that the days off from games has helped the Herd work hard during practice. West said that the rest has helped the team a lot as well as the pace of play and defense has been very locked in.

Marshall (14-13, 7-7 C-USA) is striving towards finishing in the top of pod two and competing against Louisiana Tech, North Texas, Florida Atlantic, and Florida International.

Marshall head coach Dan D'Antoni said that the Herd remains hopeful on its journey and has worked hard on those days off getting plenty of rest and focusing on the game.

"Well, the biggest thing is that we're in pod play," D'Antoni said. "Our whole thing is 'just get better.' The games are important but not dire. Two weeks from now they will be dire."

The Herd is set to take on the Bulldogs of Louisiana Tech (18-10, 8-7 C-USA) first during its road trip. The Bulldogs are 15-0 at home

see BASKETBALL on pg. 10

Athlete of the week: Erik Rodriguez, baseball



RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON

ABOUT ERIK RODRIGUEZ

Year: Junior

Hometown: San Juan, Puerto Rico

Position: Outfielder

PERSONAL BEST:

Four hits in four at-bats vs Southern Miss (May 19, 2018)

Two stolen bases (accomplished twice, last vs. UNCW)



Herd softball welcomes Ohio for midweek rivalry matchup

By TAYLOR HUDDLESTON
THE PARTHENON

After a 3-2 performance at the Holy City Showdown, the Marshall softball team opens its 2019 home slate Wednesday afternoon against longtime rival Ohio.

The Herd's overall record stands at 10-5, with all five losses being one-run contests.

"Overall I think it was a solid performance," head softball coach Megan Smith said regarding the team's performance over the weekend. "I think our pitching and defense were stellar all weekend and consistently stellar. Our offense was just a little inconsistent."

Marshall freshman pitcher Mya Stevenson and sophomore infielder Aly Harrell have hit four home runs apiece and nine and 13 RBI, respectively, since the season started. Senior outfielder Hannah Giammarino follows behind with three home runs and 12 RBI. The Herd has hit 15 home runs and totaled 73 RBI while owning a .434 slugging percentage. The team is hitting .272 as a team while limiting its opponents to a .204 batting average.

Marshall's opponent on Wednesday, the Ohio Bobcats, enter the midweek matchup at 7-5 and just came off a 5-0 win over Evansville over the weekend in a neutral-site game in Carbondale, Illinois.

"Offensively, we just need to work on some basic stuff,

getting back to basic fundamentals," Smith said. "Being able to recognize good pitches and being able to hit it with their pitch. Ohio is a really strong team. "We're preparing to face a really tough team. For us to be successful, we have to focus on what we do well."

The Herd continues to practice each day and work on getting better. Wednesday's game will be the first time that Coach Smith will get to coach the Herd on its home turf.

"I'm so excited to play a home game so early," Smith said. "I'm not used to that. It's going to be exciting to see the people who I know who are so supportive of our program."

Following the midweek game, the Herd will compete in its first home series with three games against the Rider University Broncs on Saturday and Sunday before heading back on the road to Morehead, Kentucky, to take on the Morehead State Eagles, another nearby rival.

"I'm excited to be with our fans," Smith said. "We take one opponent at a time. It's exciting to be home and for our players to sleep in their own beds and compete here. Our players are committed to competing for Marshall."

First pitch between the Thundering Herd and Bobcats is set for 3 p.m. at Dot Hicks Field in Huntington.

Taylor Huddleston can be contacted at huddleston16@marshall.edu.

Marshall baseball outfielder Erik Rodriguez hit .500 (7-for-14) in the Hughes Bros. Challenge and added five stolen bases.

In the 9-8 win over Iona, Rodriguez had two hits and two stolen bases. Although the Herd lost the second game of the tournament to Indiana State, which is now receiving votes in the rankings, Rodriguez had one hit. The team bounced back to beat Iona a second time, 8-3, where Rodriguez had two hits and a stolen base. In the Thundering Herd's 1-0 win over UNCW, a 2018 NCAA Tournament team, he had two hits, two stolen bases and was hit by a pitch.

The Puerto Rico native is batting a team-best .462 on the season with 12 hits, with seven coming in the four games in Wilmington. Out of the eight games played, he has six stolen bases. In 2018, he had seven stolen bases for the entire season.

Rodriguez was vital in three Herd wins at the Hughes Brothers Challenge this past weekend.

Marshall improves to 4-4 on the season and will start its home-opening series Friday at 2 p.m. against Binghamton. The series against the Bearcats marks the beginning of an 11-game homestand that includes a four-game series against Eastern Michigan, a three-game series against FIU and a single game against Virginia Tech.

THE PARTHENON

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

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EDITORIAL

Guns do not belong on college campuses



MICHAELA CRITTENDEN | PHOTO AND GRAPHICS EDITOR

Librarian and member of Student Conduct and Welfare Committee at Marshall University, Sabrina Thomas, addresses crowd of concerned citizens at protest, Friday, Feb. 22 on Marshall's campus.

When any restriction on the Second Amendment is proposed or discussed, gun proponents argue that the laws are taking away their guns and taking away their rights. However, every amendment comes with its restrictions in order to protect the majority. This includes the First Amendment, which allows free speech, press, assembly, petition and religion. Although we are given the right to free speech, we are not allowed to say whatever we want, wherever and whenever we want. We are not allowed to scream "fire" in a crowded room, because it can incite panic and cause harm to those

around us.

HB 2519 does not restrict guns, if passed, but grants certain individuals more access to carry concealed weapons in areas where the majority of citizens using that area oppose having guns.

Republicans are the main proponents of the bill because of their stance on the Second Amendment. However, this bill contradicts their stated belief of giving lesser power to the government. Republicans, in most instances, want individual jurisdictions to create laws and regulations because those bodies typically have more knowledge and expertise in the

area. This bill is allowing the state government to impose a law on a jurisdiction that does not want it. The Marshall University Board of Governors currently has control of gun restrictions on our campus, and Republicans supporting this bill are contradicting themselves in order to do what they want, not what the experts believe is right.

We do not question restrictions on firearms in other sensitive places. The West Virginia Capitol, courthouses and other governmental buildings restrict guns because of potential disputes that

see GUNS on pg. 10



TREY COBB | CONTRIBUTOR



GINGER'S GUIDE TO: Reading Stephen King books

By **AMANDA LARCH**
MANAGING EDITOR

Chances are, you're familiar with Stephen King, or you've at least heard of him. If you've lived this long and don't know who he is, I suggest moving out from under a rock. Anyway, the King of Horror has written well over 80 books, and his works have inspired about 75 movies. Coming out this year alone are three adaptations from King books: "Pet Semetary," "It: Chapter Two" and "Doctor Sleep." There are probably even more that I'm not familiar with yet.

I read my first Stephen King book my first year of college, and I've been hooked ever since. Though I haven't had as much time to read as I'd like, and I'm a much slower reader than I once was, I've read quite a few of his books in two years. And I've enjoyed every one. Well, almost. I finished reading "The Tommyknockers," a book about aliens, last week, and I'm sorry to say that it was a disappointment to me. I don't want to spoil anything, but the book is unnecessarily long, and the ending was subpar. It just fell flat. But, after doing some research, I learned that "The Tommyknockers" was one of King's last books he wrote while suffering from cocaine and alcohol addictions, and soon after he wrote it, he sought help to become clean.

It really makes you think. Celebrities, including best-selling authors, suffer from personal demons, and that doesn't

make them any less human. I really admire King, not just for his fantastic and skilled writing, but also for his honesty and openness. I didn't mean for this to turn into a feel-good Dr. Phil episode or anything like that, but we have to understand that people, famous or not, should not be defined by their addictions. And they're allowed to seek help without being judged. No one is perfect, certainly not me, but realizing this helps us all be better to one another.

Anyway, I apologize for the tangent. Now I want to talk about all the Stephen King books I did enjoy, such as "Misery," "Pet Semetary" and "The Shining." They're all so compelling; they're scary and make you squeamish, yet they also feel real and human. Perhaps, though, my all time favorite Stephen King book is "11/22/63." This brilliant work of historical fiction/science fiction/fantasy/all around amazing book no matter what genre, answers the question: What if John F. Kennedy had never been assassinated on that fateful day in Dallas, Texas? Again, I don't want any spoilers, but it took me about to weeks to read this book (remember, I'm a slow reader), and I relished every single page. It was stunning, and, just like any other well-written piece of literature, I think it really inspired me and has helped to improve my own writing.

If you've never read any King books, I'd recommend starting with his earlier works, like "Carrie" and "Salem's Lot."

More challenging books are much longer, but still worth the read, like "It," and his newer, addiction-free works are just as fantastic. I'm still in the beginning stages of my King fascination, and many of his books I've borrowed from the library, which I highly recommend. I bet you wouldn't have guessed this would have turned into a public library service announcement, but seriously, utilize your local libraries people. And pick up some torn, dog-eared, well-loved Stephen King paperbacks while you're at it.

As King once said, "Books are a uniquely portable magic."
Amanda Larch can be contacted at larch15@marshall.edu.



Part of Amanda Larch's ever-growing book collection, though she's borrowed many Stephen King books from the library.

SMIRL MEETS WORLD: Performing and anxiety

By **RILEIGH SMIRL**
COLUMNIST

I've been performing in theatrical productions for as long as I can remember. I was in my first real show at four years old, and pretty much haven't stopped since. Yet, also for as long as I can remember, I've had what I can now identify as anxiety when it comes to public speaking or being on a large platform of any kind. Whenever people would ask me how I could do theatre but get extremely anxious before a class presentation, I always just said "When I'm on stage,



Riley Smirl still experiences anxiety with public speaking, but she has been performing for many years.

"I'm not me, I'm playing a character." As I got older and I started my podcast, the "performing" I was doing was never public, it was all into a microphone in a room with just my sister. Because of the seclusion that a medium like podcasting can provide, I never felt that same anxiety I did when it came to presenting a project or giving a speech. Then, we started doing live performances of our podcast in front of pretty big audiences, and that same nervous feeling didn't surface the way I expected. Shortly after starting college, I had to give an important presentation at a formal event in front of a large crowd; it was unlike anything I had ever done before. Yet, even though I was nowhere near as prepared as I should have been, I found myself comfortably talking to the audience and being excited to continue, slightly disappointed when it was all over.

So, looking back on all of these experiences, I can't find those same reasons to be anxious anymore. Sure, I still get the occasional nerves when I have to present something to a class full of my peers, but nothing like I had experienced before that made me feel like my stomach was full of wasps, not butterflies. All I can gather is that there is something I have gained as I've grown up that I didn't have before,

see SMIRL on pg. 10

Parthe-Pet



This is Castiel, but he goes by Cas; he is one year old. He loves to have his butt scratched, which results in furious leg kicking. He also likes to have socks thrown at him so he can destroy them.

Interested in featuring your pet in the paper? Use #ParthePet on social media or contact larch15@marshall.edu with photos and a short bio.

GUNS cont. from 8

could take place. Guns are not allowed on planes because of past attacks and to prevent future ones. This common sense needs to also be applied to college campuses. The Marshall University Police Department has stated it does not support this bill because of the added risks it brings to campus. According to West Virginia law, those carrying concealed weapons are not required to inform police officers that they are carrying. This can endanger the officers, and others in the area, when a situation arises and multiple guns are out.

If the bill passes, so much is left unknown. How will students be able to carry concealed weapons to class in certain buildings and, later in the day, not be able to carry the weapon into Corby Hall, where there is a daycare, a restricted area according to the bill? This also makes it difficult to visit professors in their offices, when professors have the option to allow or not allow concealed weapons. How are professors or the MUPD supposed to enforce the professors' rights to a gun-free office?

Colleges promote critical thinking within classrooms as a requirement to graduate. One way students are challenged in their thinking is to discuss and argue issues not everyone agrees on. These situations could cause some to become upset and pull a weapon. Individuals with concealed carry licenses are trained on how to handle guns but are not trained emotionally and psychologically to handle stressful and triggering situations.

Residence halls would also become an issue. According to Rep. Caleb Hanna, one of the sponsors on the bill, the plan is to provide lockers in the common area of residence halls since individuals cannot carry them in

their rooms. What is the point of bringing a gun to campus when you won't be able to have it with you the entire time? Residents sneak illegal items into the residence halls all the time, including alcohol and drugs, but staff are not able to search rooms unless they are given cause to, such as smoke coming out of the room. This bill would increase the number of illegal weapons entering residence halls, which may not be the intent, but would be an unintended consequence because of students forgetting to store their weapon in the common area.

This bill is not well-thought-out and would cost the state millions of dollars to enact. Marshall President Jerry Gilbert and Marshall faculty, staff, MUPD officers and students have all stated their opposition to the bill. Why are state representatives only listening to constituents who don't even come to campus on a regular basis and to the sponsors supporting the bill? Every college and university has stated its opposition to the bill, and even the Chamber of Commerce has formally opposed the legislation due to its potential effect on enrollment, causing financial loss and damage to the state's image. West Virginia's legislators need to listen to the individuals whose lives are directly affected by the bill on a daily basis.

If you oppose the bill, I urge you to not only call and write your representatives, but write the governor. If this bill passes, the governor still has the power to veto it. Write him a heartfelt letter telling him why this bill will cause more harm than good and show him how the majority of those directly affected by this bill are opposed to guns coming to campus. Gov. Jim Justice's address is 208 Dwyer Lane, Lewisburg, West Virginia 24901.

INTERESTED IN CONTRIBUTING TO THE PARTHENON?

We are always looking for more people to contribute to The Parthenon. If you are interested in writing a column, drawing cartoons, taking photos or whatever you can come up with, email Amanda Larch at larch15@marshall.edu.

BASKETBALL cont. from 7

and Marshall is looking to give them its first home loss.

"We know they're gonna be two tough games," West said. "We know how important the games are."

During the regular conference season, LA Tech defeated Marshall in Ruston, Louisiana, in overtime, 89-80.

Senior guard C.J. Burks led the Herd with 29 points, 12 rebounds and four assists in the previous game between the teams. Freshman guard Taevion Kinsey followed behind with 14 points and three rebounds. Sophomore forward Jansson Williams contributed 11 points, eight rebounds

and one assist. Senior guard Jon Elmore only had eight points, three rebounds and eight assists. Senior guard Rondale Watson had nine points, and sophomore guard Jarrod West had five points.

"Obviously I think we should've won the game at LA Tech," West said. "That hurts. But obviously we know that we can beat them."

For the Bulldogs, four players scored in double-digits during the matchup against the Herd. Junior guard DaQuan Bracey led with 25 points, six rebounds, and six assists. Sophomore forward Anthony Duruji contributed 18 points, six rebounds, and one assist. Redshirt sophomore guard

JaColby Pemberton had 18 points, 11 rebounds, and one assist. Junior guard Ra'Shawn Langston followed with 12 points, three rebounds, and two assists.

"We know that they're a beatable team," West said. "Going to North Texas on Sunday is also going to be a tough game. They were at the top of the conference for a while. At this point, every game is important. It's going to be a tough week."

Tipoff between the Herd and Bulldogs is set for 7:30 p.m. EST in Ruston, Louisiana.

Taylor Huddleston can be contacted at huddleston16@marshall.edu.

UMS cont. from 4

five-gallon bucket, they have to shove so much stuff in there because it is needed," Thomas said.

Johnson said her favorite part of serving is being able to be with her club members and knowing that the buckets help those after a disaster.

"My favorite part of the day was being able to participate in this service event with my club members," Johnson said. "It is great to know that the buckets will be used to help someone recover after a disaster. This is the way of lending a hand when you cannot physically be there."

Wells said he hopes

providing these services teaches students empathy.

"One of the reasons we do service is because we believe an important part of our faith expression is that we show our love and faith in God in how we love other people," Wells said. "You hope that by doing these things where we are giving our time to other people, we want our students to develop empathy for other people and to understand the value of that we live in this really big community and what happens to other people in some ways affect us. I want our students to not only believe serving is important but

to enjoy it."

The Thundering Herd Recovery Team is planning on traveling to Wilmington, North Carolina, over spring break to continue the work they did over Christmas break with rebuilding homes after Hurricane Florence. Thomas said that there are still spots available for the trip and they are open to all campus.

For more information about the Thundering Herd Recovery team and future service events, the group may be contacted at herdrecovery@hotmail.com.

Meredith O'Bara can be contacted at obara@marshall.edu.

REDSHIRTS cont. from 6

because they've been in their shoes, winning the conference tournament to making it to the NCAA and leading the team, said Brooks-Harris and Dillon.

Brooks-Harris and Dillon are joined by Andrew Taylor, a 6-foot-2 guard from Corbin, Kentucky, who transferred to Marshall from Furman University. D'Antoni decided to redshirt Taylor as well.

As Brooks-Harris' and Dillon's redshirt season begins to wind down with the conference tournament coming up for the Herd and its future, basketball

never stops. Basketball will always be the focus, especially with the upcoming season and new leaders emerge as the three redshirts will no longer be redshirts together but play as a team of brothers that hold each other up on the court for the Marshall Thundering Herd.

"It's going to be a fun year. Stay tuned," Brooks-Harris and Dillon both said.

Taylor Huddleston can be contacted at huddleston16@marshall.edu.

SMIRL cont. from 9

and that I've never been used to: confidence. I feel confident now in who I am and how well I can present my ideas, and I never used to be. I used to need to hide behind a character or a microphone to not have an anxiety attack before speaking in front of people. I guess

confidence is another one of those "grown up things" that you hope you'll have one day, but never really fully realize when you finally do.

Raleigh Smirl can be contacted at smirl2@marshall.edu.

Third annual MU Student Film Festival showcases work, artistry

By **EMILY PHIPPS**
THE PARTHENON

A first place prize was awarded for the first time at Marshall University's third annual Student Film Festival Monday in the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse.

Despite technical issues, Kadin Tooley, a sophomore video production major, took home a \$250 prize after winning the "Best in Festival" award for his film "Mann Motte," a vintage-inspired horror movie that features Huntington student artists, musicians and designers. This is Tooley's third year being featured at the film festival.

"I've been wanting to make something that feels like the old German expressionist films, like 'Cabinet of Dr. Caligari' and 'Nosferatu,' for a long time," Tooley said. "But, I love vintage horror from the 80s and 90s so much as well. So, I thought 'What if I made an 80s horror b-movie, but made it feel like it was made 50 years earlier?'"

Each year, the student film festival evolves, and this year a selection process was used, as last year's festival was roughly three hours long with 28 films.

Walter Squire, director of Marshall's film studies program, said the Film Studies Committee judged each submitted film

by video and sound quality, how the audience would react, the importance of each film and the diversity of each film. Thirteen films were picked to be shown at the Joan C. Edwards Playhouse during the film festival.

Tooley and Dylan Smith, a junior video production major, have continuously made episodes for a web series named "Skull Crusher," which is an unscripted series on the Internet about a boy turned vigilante that attempts to take a drug problem into his own hands. The fourth episode of the web series aired at the festival.

"'Skull Crusher' is Dylan's and my brainchild," Tooley said. "He directs. I shoot and edit. We write it together."

Other genres for the festival included, but were not limited to, documentaries, narrative comedies, drama, music videos and avant-garde films.

Tooley's film, "Mann Motte," can be viewed at Kadin Tooley Photography on Facebook. The web series "Skull Crusher" can be viewed on YouTube.

The film festival was sponsored by Marshall's Department of English, the MU Film Studies Program, Housing and Residence Life and MU Libraries.

Emily Phipps can be contacted at phipps14@marshall.edu.



MICHAELA CRITTENDEN | PHOTO AND GRAPHICS EDITOR
Cast and crew of "Mann Motte" (from left) Sela Cottrill, Dylan Smith, Kadin Tooley, Gavin Grizzle and Katie Barker took home the "Best in Festival" award.

PAGE EDITED AND DESIGNED BY HANNA PENNINGTON | PENNINGTO131@MARSHALL.EDU

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