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Hanna Pennington

Parthenon@marshall.edu

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THE PARTHENON

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University disciplines Delta Zeta sorority



MICHAELA CRITTENDEN | PHOTO EDITOR

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

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SGA president, vice president push for progress on campus

By TYLER SPENCE
FOR THE PARTHENON

Marshall University Student Body President Stephanie Rogner and Vice President Anna Williams said they are prepared to do the work it takes to positively impact students' lives across campus.

Even though students may only see the fruits of their labor when the work is done, both Rogner and Williams said their most basic previous experience was a prime qualification for running in the first place: being students at Marshall.

"I almost feel like, with the position that we're in has made us more of a student than we ever have been because we get to see and act on different parts of being a student," Rogner said. "(Yes), we might have been in these organizations and these clubs before, but now we really understand the pain points of what people are going through and how we can combat those. It's like we are a student but on steroids."

Tackling students' biggest issues has been the driving focus of their initiatives since taking office, and some of the firsts have been food insecurity on campus and working to provide additional resources with Marshall's food pantry. After seeing the need for the food pantry and the limited resources they were working under, Williams said she took the issue back to the office and to the Student Government

Association Senate to gather support for a solution.

"It was really upsetting, as they didn't really have a lot of supplies in stock," Williams said. "We now have been able to stock that pantry every week this semester and find, I think, six community partnerships now. It's been really incredible to see the support Marshall students have for one another, especially within our senate."

It is projects like these that Rogner and Williams said fuel them, even with the added responsibility of being full-time students, student representatives and for Rogner, a student athlete as well. They both added that these projects align with being a student in the first place, which makes the often-challenging balance worth it to them.

"We're representing over 13,000 students, which is insane," Rogner said. "But at the same time, it's really motivating, and that's what I was saying about the fuel."

More projects, such as a Marshall scholarship database, a gap program and a meal sharing program, all come from this same challenge of helping students on both a micro and macro level, the pair said.

Rogner and Williams further explained: The scholarship database will connect students with more than \$1 million in currently unused scholarship funds, the gap program is

Marshall University sorority issued cease and desist order

UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

HUNTINGTON, W.Va.— Marshall University has issued a cease and desist order for the Delta Upsilon chapter of Delta Zeta, located on the Huntington campus. The order came amid allegations of illegal drug use and hazing.

"The safety and well-being of our students is my top priority," said Marshall University President Jerome Gilbert. "An internal investigation by Marshall's student conduct office has officially started."

A cease and desist order requires all chapter activities, meetings and social events to stop until further notice.

Delta Zeta's national organization has been notified and invited to take part in the university's investigation.

designed to bail out students with relatively small dollar amounts and a meal sharing program would allow students to donate unused meal swipes and flex dollars to students.

However, these ideas were not created by just Rogner and Williams, Williams said.

"We took seeds from students during the campaign on what they wanted to see, and that's how we tailored these broad scenarios with the student input and put them into things that are narrow and achievable," Williams said.

Williams said she would never forget some of the stories she heard on the campaign trail.

"You remember the needs that people express to you and it makes it all worth it, it really does," she said.

Students undeniably can power change at any university, and Rogner and Williams said they want to encourage students to voice their ideas.

"There are so many people on this campus willing to embrace those ideas, it's just a matter of communication and connection," Williams said. "We were voted into this office by students, therefore we work for students. Bring those ideas and thoughts forward because that's what we can act upon. There is power in being a student at Marshall University."

Rogner said she and Williams are working on more than projects that just interest them, but projects that interest other students as well.

"We don't do it for us at all, if we may not feel passionate about something but a student feels passionate about something, we're doing something about it," Rogner said.

Students may connect with Rogner and Williams on social media through the Student Government Association's official accounts or by directly contacting them through email, phone or in their office on the second floor of the Memorial Student Center.

Tyler Spence can be contacted at spence83@marshall.edu.



JESTEN RICHARDSON | ONLINE EDITOR

Student Body President Stephanie Rogner and Vice President Anna Williams are sworn in at a Student Government Association meeting April 30, 2019.

You are Loved 5k raises awareness, funds for local suicide hotline

By **BRITTANY HIVELY**
THE PARTHENON

Rain and cold temperatures did not stop locals from gathering at Barboursville Park early Saturday morning to race for suicide and mental health awareness.

Oasis Behavioral Health Services organized the You are Loved 5k to bring awareness while also raising funds to support West Virginia Suicide Prevention Lifeline, which is currently facing a shortage in funding.

“Suicide is currently the 10th leading cause of death in West Virginia, and unfortunately, the hotline is underfunded,” said April Watkins, a psychologist with Oasis. “They actually have to reroute some of the calls to Columbus because they don’t have enough staff to cover it.”

The hotline provides free and confidential support to callers 24/7 who may be facing distress or in need of prevention and crisis resources.

Oasis is located in Barboursville and has been offering mental health services to the tri-state area for 23 years.

“We are a mental health private practice. We treat individuals who have problems with mood issues, anxiety, substance abuse, any kind of mental health issue,” Watkins said.

After the race, participants warmed up with coffee and hot chocolate while Dr. William B. Webb, director of Oasis Behavioral Health Services, spoke about the need for such resources and the overall purpose of the event.

“It used to be the standard was about 30,000 suicides in this country each year, and over the last few years, that’s jumped up to almost 50,000. That’s a tremendous change,” Webb said. “By next year, the World Health Organization estimates that depression, which is a primary cause of suicide, will be the number one disabling disorder worldwide. So, we’re all here to support something that needs our help.”

During the brief talk, Webb spoke about his experience with helping those affected by mental illness and suicide over the years and how asking someone a question can make the difference.

“If you hear something, say something. Ask people,” Webb said. “Most people are dying for someone to ask them what is going on with them. And a lot of them are willing to just spill the beans and tell you what’s going on with them if you just ask the question.”

Multiple local mental health support services had tables set up at the event to share the resources available to those in need.

Local businesses donated several door prizes to be given out during the event to show their support.

This is the first year for the You are Loved 5k. Watkins said they hope it will not be the last. 72 racers came out for the event along with a number of cheerers on the sidelines and other volunteers.

Brittany Hively can be contacted at hayes100@marshall.edu.



BRITTANY HIVELY | THE PARTHENON

Community members Julie Crum and Jim Cremeans participated in the You are Loved 5k on Saturday, Oct. 12.

“
By next year, the World Health Organization estimates that depression, which is a primary cause of suicide, will be the number one disabling disorder worldwide. So, we’re all here to support something that needs our help.”

— *Dr. William B. Webb*



BRITTANY HIVELY | THE PARTHENON

Support group helps students cope with homesickness

By **BLAKE NEWHOUSE**
THE PARTHENON

Leaving your hometown to come to college can often present hardship for many students, regardless of the distance, said a Marshall University mental health specialist on Thursday during the Surviving Homesickness Support Group.

“It is not unusual to be experiencing homesickness,” Stephanie Shaffer said. “I was from right across the river in Chesapeake, and it was a huge adjustment to me. Of course, it is true that it’s more common if you are from farther away, but it’s still totally normal to be experiencing those feelings of homesickness.”

Research shows that 70% of college students feel homesick at some point.

Two-thirds of the students state that the feeling lasted for more than a week, according to statistics from the Counseling Center.

“One of the biggest transitions in a person’s life is the transition from home to college,” said Ryan Majher, a mental health specialist with Marshall’s Counseling Center. “During times of increased homesickness, we have a tendency as humans to be

introverted, and that is one of the worst things we can do. When you start feeling this way, be social. If you feel like isolating yourself, that should be a red flag. You have to force yourself to get out. Isolating yourself is only going to make things worse.”

Majher also said that feeling uncomfortable should not always be seen as something negative.

Feeling uncomfortable can oftentimes serve as a sign of growth for individuals, he said.

“No humans like change, regardless of the culture we are from, but as a human, we have to make ourselves uncomfortable in order to grow,” Majher said.

The discussion was led by the homesickness support group, which is a part of the larger outreach program organized in October by the Counseling Center.

The group welcomes all students regardless of the distance of their hometown from Marshall.

For some students on campus, particularly international students, the adjustment to a new setting can often bring unexpected challenges, including something as simple as finding a suitable place to eat when hungry.

“

One of the biggest transitions in a person’s life is the transition from home to college. During times of increased homesickness, we have a tendency as humans to be introverted, and that is one of the worst things we can do. When you start feeling this way, be social.”

—*Ryan Majher*

“I’m from Egypt, but I have already lived in many countries, including Saudi Arabia, Dubai and Qatar,” Ahmed Elhosseing, a graduate student studying English, said. “When I came here, I experienced a culture shock, especially here in West Virginia. In my home country, I would walk around the streets late at night, going into shops and diners before I would go to bed. I was used to going to eat dinner around midnight, but around here all the restaurants are closed during that time.”

Since coming to West Virginia, Elhosseing said he has struggled to eat more than once a day.

The food in West Virginia is drastically different than the cuisine of his hometown in Egypt, he said.

“Here, I am not a fan of the foods within the culture. I can’t eat a burger or pizza every day, so I’ve also begun to lose weight from not eating,” Elhosseing said. “So, what can I do? The best thing for me was the YouTube application, where, two months ago, I began to learn how to cook my own food.”

Both mental health specialists at the event applauded how well Elhosseing has adapted to his situation in West Virginia.

The mental health specialists used Elhosseing as an example for how students can use the coping skills taught at the university’s Counseling Center to better their experience while at Marshall.

“I never in my life have had to cook for myself, but I actually really enjoy it,” Elhosseing said. “Now I can cook anything, and I often think to myself ‘what should I cook tomorrow?’”

Towards the end of the event, Shaffer reminded the students of how important it is to capitalize on the opportunities given to them by the university to help cope with their feelings of homesickness.

Even simple and easy methods of coping with such feelings can often be very effective, he said.

“Make sure you are utilizing your resources available to you,” Shaffer said. “Sometimes you just need to have somebody to talk to, and that’s why we’re always here for you in the Counseling Center.”

The Counseling Center will also be continuing its outreach program in November.

The mental health specialists at the event invited all students who are struggling during their time at Marshall to participate in their various upcoming events.

Blake Newhouse can be contacted at newhouse19@marshall.edu.

SOCIAL MEDIA POLL RESULTS

	Y	N
HAVE YOU VOTED FOR MR. AND MISS MARSHALL YET?	38%	62%
DID YOU SEE WHITNEY CUMMINGS’ INTERPRETATION OF W.VA.?	56%	44%
HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE LOCALIZATION POP UP?	36%	64%
ARE YOU FEELING STRESSED AT THIS POINT IN THE SEMESTER?	78%	22%
WILL YOU BE ATTENDING THE FIRST MINORITY HEALTH FAIR?	16%	84%

This poll was conducted on The Parthenon’s Instagram, @MUParthenon. The results reflect responses from an average of 45 individuals.

Marshall IT raises awareness for cyber security

By **BRIANNA TONEY**
FOR THE PARTHENON

Throughout October, the Marshall University Information Technology Department is participating in National Cyber Security Awareness Month to raise awareness for cyber security and teach students and faculty how to use caution in the digital world.

Sarah Quarles, an IT security analyst, said the main goal of NCSAM is to teach students and faculty how to be safe online and how to protect themselves on social media.

“Following the Stay Safe Online organization’s theme ‘Own IT, Secure IT, Protect IT,’ our hope is that students, faculty and staff will take responsibility of their own online security by staying safe on social media and learning about privacy settings,” Quarles said. “We hope they secure their data by using stronger passwords and taking advantage of better authentication methods. Finally, to maintain protection of the data, we hope they will keep software and operating systems up to date and use caution on shared networks or workstations.”

Other topics explored for NCSAM include how to share personal data safely and how to protect personal information.

“Our awareness campaigns in October and throughout the

““
Our hope is that students, faculty and staff will take responsibility of their own online security by staying safe on social media and learning about privacy settings.”

—*Sarah Quarles*

school year have taught students and faculty how to protect themselves online,” Quarles said. “They have become more aware of fraudulent schemes, like phishing emails, so they don’t fall victim to giving up personal or sensitive information.”

Quarles said skills learned during NCSAM provide various benefits to students and faculty.

“Students and faculty are improving password management skills, along with understanding the importance of applying software and operating system updates,” Quarles said. “Together, these benefits have protected their own personal information, as well as the Marshall University’s infrastructure and sensitive data.”

NCSAM started in 2004 to teach people how to stay safe online. Marshall IT began participating in NCSAM in 2010, making this year their 10th year being involved, Quarles said. The campaign is organized each October by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the National Cyber Security Alliance.

Those interested in more information about NCSAM may visit staysafeonline.org/ncsam or marshall.edu/it/ncsam.

Bianna Toney can be contacted at toney84@marshall.edu.

Campus tailgate celebrates Huntington community

By **JULIANNA EVERLY**
THE PARTHENON

Everyone has their own special story to share as to why Huntington is special to them, and the social media campaign #MyHuntington aims to highlight those stories.

Representatives of #MyHuntington partnered with Marshall University’s Campus Activities Board to organize a tailgate that occurred Saturday, Oct. 12 on the lawn by the campus tennis courts before the football game.

The #MyHuntington committee focuses on engaging the people and businesses of Huntington to change the narrative of their city.

When the Campus Activity Board partnered

with the #MyHuntington committee, the goal was to connect with students on a local level, according to Sara Payne Scarbro, associate vice president for external engagement and #MyHuntington committee member.

“Today we’re trying to get students talking about why Huntington is so special to them and why they love our city,” Scarbro said. “We want to highlight that on our social media platforms.”

#MyHuntington started roughly two years ago and is considered a joint-effort between businesses, nonprofits, Marshall and the city to highlight the events that are going on in Huntington.

“It’s really to empower people to tell their #MyHuntington story,” Scarbro said. “Whether your favorite thing is the rose garden at Ritter Park, or tailgating at the stadium on game days or going down to Pullman to shop and eat, everyone has their own special story to share.”

The tailgate was open to all community members and featured free food, games, prizes and more. Students such as sophomore nursing major Olivia Sweeney attended the tailgate Saturday before the game and viewed it as a positive way to spend game day.

“This tailgate was really nice because it supported Huntington by partnering with the


#MyHuntington campaign, and it gave us the opportunity to talk about the great things we love about Huntington and Marshall,” Sweeney said.

The #MyHuntington committee said they partnered with Marshall to work together to portray Huntington in a more positive light.

“If you didn’t have Marshall University, you wouldn’t have the city of Huntington,” Scarbro said, “and if you didn’t have the city of Huntington, you wouldn’t have Marshall University. The two are completely tied.”

Those interested in sharing a #MyHuntington story may do so at myhuntingtonwv.com.

Julianna Everly can be contacted at everly4@marshall.edu.



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THE PARTHENON



Herd men's soccer breaks Top 25 rankings, first time since 2001

By **TAYLOR HUDDLESTON**
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

It has been 18 years since the Marshall University men's soccer team has been nationally ranked in the NCAA and United Soccer Coaches Poll. The poll, released Tuesday afternoon, placed the Herd at No. 21 with an overall record of 8-1-2 (3-0-1 Conference USA). This rank marks the highest in program history.

The last time the Herd was voted into the Top 25 was Oct. 4, 2001. At that time, Marshall was ranked No. 23.

Following its last match against previous No. 5 Charlotte, Marshall ended up tying 0-0 against the 49ers and taking a point. The 49ers dropped to No. 10.

"It's nice to be ranked; it was an expectation of mine that we would get to that level," Marshall men's soccer Head Coach Chris Grassie said per HerdZone. "We are well-supported. We have the resources and the support and the logistical things in place. It's about getting the right players and, I think, maybe we're a year ahead."

There are three other Conference USA teams that are ranked in the Top 25. Charlotte is No. 10, Florida

International is No. 12 and Kentucky comes in at No. 20.

Grassie said that he feels the team is on the right path to stay ranked and make it to the NCAA Tournament.

"We're only halfway through the season," Grassie said per HerdZone. "If we finish the season ranked and in the NCAA tournament for the first time, then that's when we can get excited. I feel like we're on the track to do that and this ranking is a real sign of that."

"If we finish the season ranked and in the NCAA tournament for the first time, then that's when we can get excited. I feel like we're on the track to do that and this ranking is a real sign of that."

– Head Coach Chris Grassie

Depending on its outcome against Loyola Marymount in Los Angeles, California on Tuesday night, the Herd will continue to be challenged to uphold its Top 25 ranking with four upcoming away matches at San Diego State, Wright State, Florida Atlantic and Oakland. Marshall will then return home for its last C-USA home match against No. 20 Kentucky before making one final trip to No. 12 Florida International to cap off the regular season.

"We need to keep the ship steady and keep doing what we're doing," Grassie said per HerdZone.

The ultimate goal under Grassie is for the Marshall men's soccer team to win a national title. "We wanted to



SYDNEY SHELTON | SPORTS EDITOR

Carlos Diaz-Salcedo passes the ball to teammate Illal Osman; goalkeeper Paulo Pita is in the background.

teach the guys that you can strive for things in life, but it takes dedication and discipline and focus," Grassie said. "They have the talent coming in, and all of those things combine together to create the culture that we want. It has to be based on every year we're going to try and win a national championship. It's not easy, but that's what we're trying to do."

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

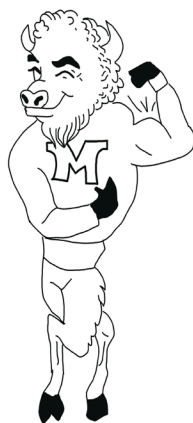
Athlete of the week: Darius Hodge, football

ABOUT DARIUS HODGE:

Class: Redshirt sophomore
Position: Defensive Lineman
Height: 6'2
Weight: 238 lbs.
Hometown: Wake Forest, N.C.

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS:

vs. Old Dominion University
Tackles: 4 solo, 3 assisted, 7 total, 4.5 tackles for loss, 26 yards
Sacks: 4.5 total, 26 yards



RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON

Darius Hodge celebrates a big play for the Herd during the Marshall vs. Old Dominion football game on Saturday, Oct. 12.

Herd football seeks a second conference win against FAU

By **BRIGHAM WARF**
THE PARTHENON

After securing its first conference win of the season (3-3, 1-1 Conference-USA), Marshall will look to keep the momentum rolling against Florida Atlantic University (4-2, 2-0 C-USA) with another short week of practice.

The trip for Head Coach Doc Holliday's team is a home away from home for many of his players. Thirty-two of the Thundering Herd players hail the Sunshine State.

"We have a lot of Florida guys on the team," Holliday said. "Anytime they get to go play in front of their friends and family, they're excited."

The Thundering Herd is coming off of a game where controlling the trenches led them to beat Old Dominion. The team rushed for more yards than any other team ODU has faced all season and accounted for eight total sacks on the quarterback, helping the squad gain confidence in their play. Redshirt sophomore Darius Hodge tied the Marshall single game sack record with four-and-a-half, but said he is already focused on next week.

"I'm not really focused on that record right now," Hodge said. "We have a lot of work and team goals to finish before personal goals come up. The win was a big stepping stone last week, but we have to



Marshall football player Isaiah Green is all smiles with teammate Brenden Knox in the game against Old Dominion.

forget about it and focus on this week."

FAU beat Middle Tennessee last week 28-13 through a strong second half by holding the Blue Raiders scoreless. The Owls are led by sophomore quarterback Chris Robison who completed 15-30 of his passes for 145-yards and one touchdown in the win over MTSU. However, Lane Kiffin's

team will bring sophomore quarterback Nick Tronti into the game to add a running threat to its opposition.

The Owls are on a four-game win streak after opening the season with back-to-back losses against then No. 5 Ohio State and No. 18 UCF.

The Herd will need continued success

out of its young wide receivers to help take away pressure on the run game. Redshirt freshmen wide receivers Corey Gammage and Broc Thompson have both shown they can provide that spark for the offense. Gammage opened the season against Virginia Military Institute leading the team in receiving with 82-yards and one touchdown. Against ODU, Thompson led Marshall with 91-yards on six receptions.

"We need a lot of young receivers to step up and help out," redshirt sophomore running back Brenden Knox said.

The run game will look to strive against FAU, as it has evolved into a one-two-punch between Knox and redshirt sophomore running back Sheldon Evans. Against ODU, Knox accounted for 104-yards and one touchdown and Evans had 50-yards on eight carries.

"Good things come to those who wait," Knox said. "Sheldon has definitely waited his turn. It is a settling feeling when you know you can have someone come in when you get banged up or a little tired and get it done."

Marshall will take on Kiffin's FAU at 6:30 p.m. EST Friday, Oct. 18 in Boca Raton, Florida.

Brigham Warf can be contacted at warf13@marshall.edu.

Softball in full swing of fall ball season with game against West Virginia State

By **MIKE DOTSON**
THE PARTHENON

Homeruns and crowd noise helped lift Marshall University softball over West Virginia State University in its third fall ball game of the year.

In a game where the score was not officially kept, it was clear from the start that Marshall was going to handle business and take care of WVSU, a Division II school.

Sophomore Mya Stevenson had herself a game to remember, going 3-4 with two homeruns, a double and also knocking in 5 RBI's.

"I just try and get on a base and try to move any runner I can move," Stevenson said. "It's like a job. If the runner scores, I did my part as a hitter."

Senior Haleigh Christopher, a transfer from Charleston University, also hit a long ball for the Herd when she pulled one over the left field fence.

"I thought offensively, we were able to generate a lot of runs; we had some big hits and we had some clutch hits," Head Coach Megan Smith said. "We were poised under pressure and able to get big hits."

WVSU also hit three homeruns as a team, which were all solo shots.

The Herd's fall season consisted of a green and black intersquad scrimmage along with games against Ohio Valley and West Liberty.

Marshall softball's last fall ball game of the season will be against Fairmont State. In the spring, Fairmont ended its season 26-23, with a 19-13 conference record. They are in the Mountain East Conference.

The game will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19 where the Herd will face off against Fairmont State in a double header at home.

Mike Dotson can be contacted at dotson132@marshall.edu.

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

EDITORIAL STAFF

HANNA PENNINGTON

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
penningto131@marshall.edu

DOUGLAS HARDING

NEWS EDITOR
harding26@marshall.edu

JOELLE GATES

LIFE! EDITOR
gates29@marshall.edu

JOE ARTRIP

PRODUCTION EDITOR
artrip30@marshall.edu

SARAH INGRAM

COPY EDITOR
ingram51@marshall.edu

MEG KELLER

SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER
keller61@marshall.edu

AMANDA LARCH

MANAGING EDITOR
larch15@marshall.edu

SYDNEY SHELTON

SPORTS EDITOR
shelton97@marshall.edu

TAYLOR HUDDLESTON

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR
huddleston16@marshall.edu

MICHAELA CRITTENDEN

PHOTO AND GRAPHICS EDITOR
crittenden2@marshall.edu

JESTEN RICHARDSON

ONLINE EDITOR
richardson164@marshall.edu

SANDY YORK

FACULTY ADVISER
sandy.york@marshall.edu

THE PARTHENON'S CORRECTIONS POLICY

"Factual errors appearing in The Parthenon should be reported to the editor immediately following publication. Corrections the editor deems necessary will be printed as soon as possible following the error."

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

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people to peaceably assemble; and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

EDITORIAL

Whitney Cummings doesn't deserve W.Va.



ANDY KROPA | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Whitney Cummings discusses her HBO special, "I'm Your Girlfriend," at AOL Studios on Jan. 20, 2016, in New York.

In case you missed it, last week comedian Whitney Cummings appeared on The Late Late Show with James Corden. Cummings discussed with the TV show host, as well as fellow guest Bradley Whitford, what she claims is her Appalachian heritage in a painful and cheap segment, which was done in incredibly poor taste.

Among other things too disappointing to name, Cummings, who wasn't even born here but spent summers at Harpers Ferry, recounted that her father always told her he was from the western part of Virginia. Imagine her surprise when she discovered he was actually born in West Virginia, and let the jokes begin.

"I'm basically first generation like Appalachia, full on like hill-billy," Cummings said with a sour

look on her face. "I just found out that that's my heritage, and a lot of things are starting to make sense."

Instead of embracing her heritage, the comedian wrote terrible jokes about our state to relay to James Corden, who was unfamiliar with West Virginia. Now, unfortunately, his only impression of us comes from someone who isn't from here and doesn't understand who we are.

And who knows how many guests and viewers now have that same image of West Virginia in their minds. Cummings should not have introduced our state like that, spreading hateful and untrue stereotypes that West Virginians themselves have for so long tried to overcome.

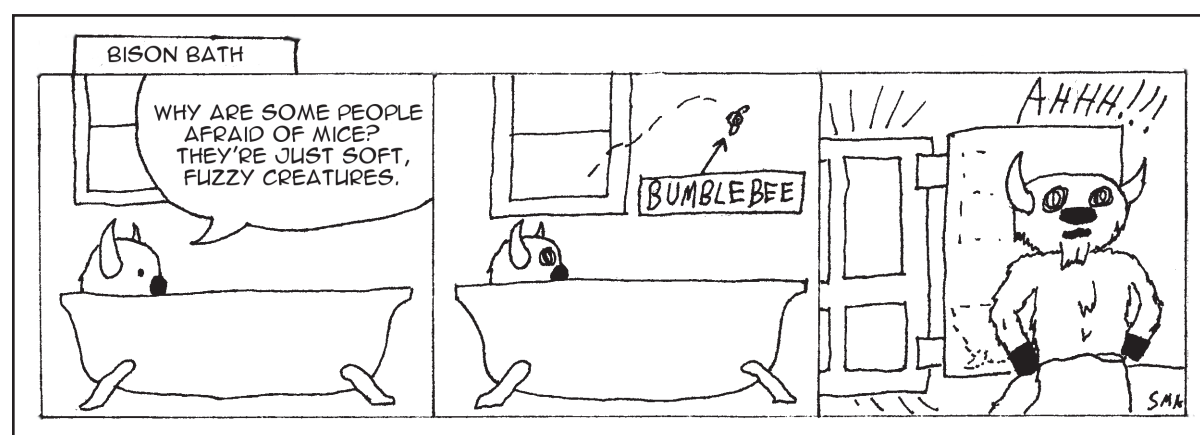
One of her jokes dealt with "hillbilly DNA," something that

suggests earlier settlers of the region fended off bears with our personalities. It's too bad we can't fend her off. Also, being "crazy" by her definition has nothing to do with where you're from. It's something you develop from a lack of compassion.

Comedy has a history of punching up those in power. On this TV appearance, Cummings chose to punch down the powerless, in this case the people of West Virginia who couldn't defend themselves against her rants. She has a national platform that she could have used to disprove stereotypes, or just spread some love. It's possible to still do that in a humorous way.

Perhaps what makes this situation worse is Cummings' responses to the backlash she received. Many

see W.Va. on pg. 10



SAM APPLETON | CONTRIBUTOR

PROGRESSIVE PERSPECTIVE: U.S. plutocracy rigged against working poor

By **DOUGLAS HARDING**
NEWS EDITOR

Due to the endlessly corrupting infection of big money in politics, the American economy is rigged against poor and working people in favor of wealthy elites, and such is all but undeniable.

In a damning indictment of any remaining hope for “The American Dream,” absurdly wealthy billionaires in the U.S., for the first time in more than a century, pay a lower tax rate than their country’s struggling working class, a recent analysis revealed.

The analysis, conducted by economists Emmanuel Saez and Gabriel Zucman, revealed the richest 400 families in the country paid an effective tax rate of about 23%, in 2018, while the bottom half of Americans living paycheck-to-paycheck, struggling to survive and provide for their families, paid over 24%.

“(The U.S. tax system) looks like the tax system of a plutocracy,” the economists said.

Put most simply, plutocracy can be defined as government of, by and for wealthy elites—a clear antithesis to the system the vast majority of Americans have been made to believe their country represents and has always represented.

As President Trump boldly and loudly proclaimed his tax bill served only to benefit the poor and working Americans his campaign focused on winning over, behind closed doors he signed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, which Saez and Zucman point to as the tipping point into American plutocracy.

In contrast to the 23% paid in taxes by ultra-wealthy



JEFF ROBERSON | ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2015 file photo, Terry cleans out his tent at a large homeless encampment, near downtown St. Louis.

Americans today, during most the country’s periods of economic flourishing, the same group of people have paid upwards of 50%. From 1950 to 1980, ultra-wealthy Americans paid more than double the rate they pay today, at about 50%. In the 1950s and 1960s, the top income tax rate in the country was 91%; today it is just 43%.

Furthermore, American economic growth throughout history has regularly occurred during moments when the wealthiest Americans claimed roughly 10% of national

income, and its worst moments, like the Great Depression, were accompanied by the wealthy 1% hoarding close to 25% of collective income. Today, the wealthiest 1% of Americans rake in roughly 23% of the country’s income annually.

Meanwhile, the country’s entire mainstream media and popular political discourse have remained bull’s-eye-focused on a doomed impeachment scandal that reveals little more than a deep, decadent bipartisan corruption amongst corporate political elites of both major parties.

As a result, most Americans reading newspapers or watching news shows on television today are aware of little more than that the president, at some point, for some reason, made vaguely inappropriate yet far from unprecedented requests during a phone call with a foreign leader.

The analysis regarding the corruption and death of the U.S.’s supposedly progressive tax system is infinitely more influential in the lives of everyday Americans than the destined-to-fail impeachment scandal is or ever will be, yet it has received only a fraction of media coverage, including from media outlets claiming to be in opposition to the president’s agenda.

It is an unquestionable failure of mainstream corporate media that so few Americans are aware of just how blatantly and absurdly they are being ripped off and abandoned by their government officials and representatives, only so the wealthiest 400 families in the country can further avoid paying their fair share in taxes to give others a

see PROGRESSIVE on pg. 10

COLUMN: It’s that point in the semester

By **SYDNEY SHELTON**
SPORTS EDITOR

If you’re a college student, you probably understand what I mean when I say it’s that point in the semester. You have a million things to do, you’re probably broke, you haven’t eaten and you’re on your seventh cup of coffee and it’s only 11 a.m. I get it, and so does every other college student. With fall weather and allergies upon us, honestly, most of us are miserable right now. It’s just that point in the semester.

For me, week seven of the semester should have been filled with working on midterms, covering several sporting events, washing laundry for the athletic teams, stressing about what I plan to do after graduation and dealing with the other reoccurring responsibilities that need to be taken care of. However, my week seven looked very different from what I’d expected.

I spent last week at home, and I’m not talking about the home I found among the Herd at Marshall University in Huntington; I’m talking about my home in Gretna, Virginia, dealing with unexpected family issues.

Life has a funny way of knocking you down when

you’re already down. A friend of mine told me last week, “Well, it can’t get any worse.” Boy, was he wrong. Already stressed beyond belief with class, work and school, having to spend a week away definitely wasn’t ideal; however, it gave me a perspective change that I realized I desperately needed.

Having five midterms, two papers, three discussion boards and 50 pages of reading due sucks; I totally get it. You’re expected to work a 20-hour-per-week job, eat properly, get enough sleep and exercise every day— it’s hard, but we still need to make the best of it.

These days, in between youth and adulthood, are supposed to be the ones that mold us into the people we are going to be for the rest of our lives. These days are supposed to be unforgettable.

So, that midterm is important. Yes, you need to reply to that discussion board and tell Sally you agree with her and you think her post is spot on. But you also need to have that “family dinner” with your friends once a week, take 15 minutes and sip a cup of coffee by the fountain and take notice that the leaves are changing and another season has come and gone.

As college students, sometimes we get so worked

see SEMESTER on pg. 10

Parthe-Pet



Maxine Macaroni is a two-year-old rescue who likes to model various seasonal bandanas and is a professional at fetching bottle caps. She spends most of her time in her window bed plotting against the birds outside.

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

SEMESTER cont. from 9

up about the next chapter in the book that we forget we are living a chapter now and we forget just how amazing our life is.

So hang out with your friends on a Monday night, laugh with your people and day dream about living together after graduation. Go to trivia on Wednesday nights and get the cheese fries because it's so worth it. Play jokes on your coworkers. Make sure you call and tell your mom you're doing well. Go support an athletic team that you don't know much about.

These are the moments that are important. These are the moments that make these days the best days. It's not about what you said to Sally in that discussion board or how many hours you spent stressing over if you were going to get into graduate school or go find a job once you leave this place. It's about the memories and the people you make them with. You can do this and you will make it, and you just might miss this little city. Just remember to live in this chapter and have some fun along the way, because you never know what tomorrow may bring.

Sydney Shelton can be contacted at shelton97@marshall.edu.

PROGRESSIVE cont. from 9

chance at success.

Even more reflective of such blatant injustices is the reality that since the infamous Wall Street crash in 2008, nearly 50% of all American income has gone into the bank accounts and pockets of the country's wealthiest 1% of citizens. Such has been highlighted throughout the campaign trail of Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, who recently announced plans to cut in half the wealth of American billionaires within 15 years.

Last month, Sanders tweeted, "There should be no billionaires. We are going to tax their extreme wealth and invest in working people."

Sanders' campaign has also drawn attention to the reality that, over the past 30 years, the richest 1% of Americans have seen their wealth increase by a total of \$21 trillion, as the poorest half of the

country have experienced their wealth plummet by more than \$900 billion.

The devastating impacts of such a regressive, dysfunctional tax system and economy cannot be overstated, and it is shameful that so few Americans are aware of the grave, gross injustices being inflicted upon them by government officials meant to represent their interests.

American politicians have sold out everyone except those already possessing obscene wealth, and most mainstream news media are failing on purpose to inform the masses, blinded by their profit-driven sensationalist tendencies tailored toward opposing President Trump's corruption on solely surface-level terms.

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

W.Va. cont. from 8

people on social media called out Cummings, stating how disappointed they were. In a few blanket responses, the comedian wrote "All love," and the clip was taken down.

But in a separate tweet, she stated, "We are at a point where we demand apologies we would never dream of accepting."

Maybe she simply shouldn't have made fun of those who have no way of standing up for themselves and

spread love instead of hate to begin with.

It's no wonder Cummings' father didn't tell her that he was from the Mountain State. She simply didn't deserve to know, and he realized it. West Virginians, please believe that she doesn't deserve us, our hospitality and our beautiful scenery.

So, while Cummings continues to explore her "hill-billy DNA," let us remind ourselves what's in our West Virginia roots and heritage: forgiveness.



HANNA PENNINGTON | EXECUTIVE EDITOR

The City of Huntington's 66th annual Fire Prevention Parade on Thursday, Oct. 9 drew hundreds of families to Fourth Ave. in downtown Huntington. The theme of the parade was "Not Every Hero Wears a Cape, Plan and Practice Your Escape," to emphasize the importance of developing household escape plans in the event of a fire.

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Professors utilize historical instruments to perform for local community

By **SUMMER JEWELL**
THE PARTHENON

A trio of Marshall University faculty members will bring classical music back to life with historical instruments during a performance at Johnson Memorial United Methodist Church Sunday, Oct. 20.

"The idea is that music actually sounded different in the time of composers two and three hundred years ago, and so we're trying to recapture what it really sounded like in the time of the composers," said Stephen Lawson, a Marshall professor and horn player in the H.I.P. Trio.

The H.I.P. in H.I.P. Trio stands for Historically Informed Performance. It features Stephen Lawson on horn, Richard Kravchak on oboe and Kay Lawson on bassoon.

"We've performed together, but this is our first venture just as a trio with the three of us," Stephen Lawson said. "We have a similar interest in keeping these historical instruments going. There aren't a lot of opportunities so we kind of have to create our own."

The event will take place at 3:00 p.m. at Johnson Memorial United Methodist Church, located at 513 10th Street in Huntington. The event is free and open to the public.

"It's a wonderfully live acoustic space and it's just a dif-

ferent venue than being on campus," Stephen Lawson said.

"We find that different attracts different audiences and we've performed on campus enough but getting out into the community helps attract a wider audience."

The trio will be performing works by Karl Graun, Carl Stamitz and Joseph Fiala during the performance. "Some of it is music that we found was written for the instruments," Stephen Lawson said. "Some of the pieces were originally written for other trios, for example a violin, horn and cello."

The trio will be performing with historical instruments that were used during the time period their set music was composed.

"We enjoy the challenge that goes in playing these," Stephen Lawson said. "The instruments are quite different than the modern instruments and it's like taking on a challenge every time you play."

Lawson said he encourages people to come out and view the performance because live music can be a great experience.

"You'll get to see the magic of live music making and see us mostly successful with the challenges of playing these old instruments," Stephen Lawson said.

Summer Jewell can be contacted at jewell44@marshall.edu.

"The instruments are quite different than the modern instruments and it's like taking on a challenge every time you play."

- Stephen Lawson

ferent venue than being on campus," Stephen Lawson said. "We find that different attracts different audiences and we've performed on campus enough but getting out into

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Confessions
Saturday 8:00 am-8:25 am
Saturday 4:00 pm-4:25 pm
Tuesday 5:00 pm-5:25 pm or by appointment

Local band promotes new album throughout cities in the U.S.

By **MEG KELLER**
SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER
CHICAGO, IL —

Tunes from the Huntington-bred band, Ona, filled the air at Chicago's Sleeping Village venue Saturday, Oct. 12. Ona's alternative/indie rock sound has spread from small clubs like Huntington's own V Club to larger crowds in cities such as Chicago, Illinois.

"We look forward to all the shows, but something about the major markets are really special, and we try to turn it on a little more," Brad Goodall, keyboardist for Ona, said.

Ona still enjoys Huntington shows and they try to give hometown fans an enjoyable experience, according to Bradley Jenkins, Ona's lead vocalist and guitarist.

"I think the biggest difference of home turf shows and going out west is I feel like sometimes when you play at home, you play for the crowd," Jenkins said, "but when we're in San Francisco and know no one, we do it for ourselves."

The band, consisting of five Huntington natives, got its start in 2013 when Jenkins met guitarist, Zack Owens, according to a VICE article. From there, the two began writing songs and eventually added the rest of the five-man crew.

Ona is now playing shows in cities throughout the U.S. promoting their second album "Full Moon, Heavy Light." According to Goodall, the band has plans to continue building their namesake and consistently improve their sound.

"We try to keep it fresh," Jenkins said. "If we did it the same every night, it would get stagered or boring."

The band members said they enjoy their craft and utilize their passion for music to further their careers. Jenkins said he enjoys himself on stage while performing music even if each band member has a different individual sound.

"We literally just laugh on stage when stuff hits," he said.

Goodall said by this time next year, he hopes to quit his "day job" to focus solely on his professional music career.

//

I think the biggest difference of home turf shows and going out west is I feel like sometimes when you play at home, you play for the crowd, but when we're in San Francisco and know no one, we do it for ourselves."

— *Bradley Jenkins*

"We might be at a little bit of a pivot point as for as trying to do something different maybe," Goodall said.

Given the band's six-year run playing together, Goodall and Jenkins both said nervousness no longer exists when preparing for a show.

"If there's any nerves, it's almost excitement," Jenkins said. "Because it's like, if we extend a solo, or a song, it is like 'alright, are we going to land on our feet?'"

Ona's newfound fame has provided them opportunities few local artists have experienced, according to Goodall.

The band's next show is Oct. 17 at Zanzabar in Louisville, Kentucky. Their next Huntington show is set for Dec. 21 at the V Club.

Meg Keller can be contacted at keller61@marshall.edu.

