The Parthenon, September 2, 2020

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Locals march to protest police brutality and racism

W.Va. prisons spending increases

Column: Football is king

Editorial: Labor Day
By DOUGLAS HARDING
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Dozens of protestors marched through Huntington Sunday—stopping to demonstrate at the Huntington Police Department—outraged by the viral video of a recent incident showing police officers in Kenosha, Wisconsin firing seven gunshots into the back of Jacob Blake, a 29-year-old black man who was leaning into a car occupied by his three children.

Blake, who was shot by Kenosha Police Department Officer Rusten Sheskey while trying to break up a fight, has been left paralyzed from the waist down as a result of the shooting.

“The uncle of Jacob Blake said, ‘Damn, I never thought I was going to get that phone call,’” said a local activist who goes by Moe Money. “I don’t want to wake up tomorrow and get that phone call. I don’t want my kids to go through this. I don’t want my grandkids to go through this.”

According to Mapping Police Violence, police in the U.S. have killed nearly 800 people in 2020, as of Sunday. For the entire year thus far, there have been just twelve days when police have not killed at least one person in America.

Data also show that black people in the U.S. are about three times as likely as white people to be killed by the police.

Moe said it is unacceptable that black people must fear for their lives at the hands of public employees and institutions which are funded through taxation of the American people.

“No, why in the world should we have to be scared of these people who we pay?” Moe said. “Their money comes out of our pockets—our money. We work for it; We earn it. And you’re going to stand there and shoot me in the back? Shoot my granddaughter in the back? My grandson? This is not what I want my daughters to go through.”

Moe said protests and marches are important because they offer regular people the chance to make necessary changes to their lives and to society as a whole.

“There’s power in numbers,” Moe said. “That’s why we’re out here coming together and letting our voices be heard. We are making a difference. We might not see it today, and we might not see it tomorrow, but I promise you—our kids see it. They know it.”

Aaron Llewellyn, a local community organizer who attended the protest, said he and others chose to demonstrate because issues of racial injustice, specifically in policing, are prevalent in Huntington as in the rest of the country.

“We’re out here because we looked at the documentation, and it’s very clear that there is systemic anti-black racism in the Huntington Police Department and in West Virginia at large,” Llewellyn said. “Being black in West Virginia means you’re four times more likely to be incarcerated. Interacting with HPD, people of color are far more likely to experience a use-of-force incident, according to HPD annual reports.”

Llewellyn also noted that the City of Huntington spends thousands of dollars each year on settlements and lawsuits related to police misconduct. He said the city should further develop other options to be utilized in place of policing.

“We know the city has tried alternatives to policing, such as the quick response team and some other approaches, and we want to see those expanded so the police are taken out of situations in which other professional would be more fit to respond,” he said.

Del. Sean Hornbuckle (D - Cabell, 16), who attended the protest, said there are a lot of people in Huntington and across the country who are demanding change.

“I came out here today to support Huntington,” Hornbuckle said. “There are a lot of people in Huntington who are wanting change—black folks, white folks, yellow folks, red folks—a lot of good people from different backgrounds who understand there is a real issue growing here in this country. We can’t have these issues in our city. These people are passionate. We want change in our country, but we also want it right here in Huntington.”

Hornbuckle said the protests and demonstrations across the country as well as in Huntington also serve the larger purpose of getting more every-day people and young people involved in politics.

“This is about getting regular, good people involved in the fabric of our government,” Hornbuckle said. “A lot of people feel like they can’t even go out and try to make change because there is no hope anymore. For so long we have had actors masquerading as good officials and good politicians who are actually part of the problem.”

Hornbuckle said regular people unifying to put public pressure on elected officials and others in positions of power is crucial to the political process.

“If you call your mayor’s office, your city council office, your legislators, your congressman—you blow up their phones, and you show up and make your voices known, then slowly but surely, hopefully, they will change—or they will be forced to,” he said.

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Recreation Center taking advanced safety measures

By ALEX JACKSON
REPORTER

Marshall’s Recreation Center (the Rec) has had to take advanced safety measures during the coronavirus pandemic.

Through increased sanitation, limited capacity, and mask wearing, the Rec is doing everything they can to remain open.

Students have had mixed reactions on if they feel safe using the facilities during this time.

Katie Hill, a sophomore track athlete at Marshall said she feels comfortable using the rec.

“I feel safe using the Rec,” Hill said. “The new regulations will take some time getting used to, but most of them are what’s expected from us anyway, such as, socially distancing, mask wearing, and sanitations.”

Hill said, “I think the Rec’s precautions are working well. I think it’s a transition to working out in a mask, and the cleaning may become a little tedious, but it’s worth it for the gyms to stay open.”

Even with advanced measures being taken, not all students appear to feel safe using the facilities.

Ethan Wills, a junior, said he will not be going to the Rec this year.

“I just do not feel like it is worth it to go to a gym during the pandemic,” Wills said. “I do however think the Rec is doing a good job of maintaining these precautions and are doing everything in their power to keep everyone safe. But ultimately, it is up to the members of the Rec to follow these guidelines and most of the time they ignore them.”

With the COVID-19 Pandemic continuing, Marshall will continue to have precautions in place in order to make the on-campus environment as safe as possible.

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Tutoring services remain available to students for fall semester

By JONATHAN STILL
REPORTER

The ongoing coronavirus pandemic has brought several changes to how students can get the help they need with homework or an upcoming test by meeting with a tutor.

After President Gilbert suspended face-to-face meetings for the spring semester, tutoring services moved to virtual and students would have to conduct sessions with tutors through Microsoft Teams.

Skylar Mease is one of the tutors that students can request for help. Mease said he believes the idea of tutoring students virtually is one that can seem intimidating.

“For one, you must suddenly fear having a bad connection not only with your students, but also the Internet,” Mease said in an e-mail.

Mease said there are many challenges that come with meeting people online such as potential issues with technology and various other complications related to the use of Microsoft Teams for holding virtual course sessions.

“It takes more time on average to cover the same level of material online, because in-person, I have an extra means for understanding the state of my student body language,” Mease said in an e-mail.

Sabrina Simpson is the Director of New Student Orientation and the Coordinator of Tutoring Services. She said that students will still be provided with great service and can tutor from any place they are.

“The process was effective in the spring,” Simpson said in an e-mail.

“So, we anticipate that it will be equally as effective in the fall term.”

They can also go to the tutoring office’s website to fill out a Request Tutor form.

Marshall’s Tutoring Services website can be found at: https://www.marshall.edu/uc/tutoring-services/.

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W.Va. prison spending has increased more drastically than in any other state

By DOUGLAS HARDING
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

The amount of money West Virginia spends on its prisons increased 386% from 2001-2018, the most drastic spending increase of any state in the U.S., a recent ArrestRecords report reveals.

In 2001, West Virginia spent nearly $62 million on maintaining its prisons; In 2018, the state spent just over $300 million.

The following most significant increases in prison spending are:
- 275% increase in North Dakota, from $27 million to $101 million
- 233% increase in South Dakota, from $38 million to $125 million
- 218% increase in New Mexico, from $149 million to $475 million
- 197% increase in Vermont, from $46 million to $137 million

The state with the highest total cost for maintaining its prisons is California, which in 2018 spent $9.3 billion toward doing so.

The following states that spent the most on prison systems in 2018 are:
- Texas, $3.7 billion
- New York, $3.2 billion
- Florida, $2.3 billion
- Pennsylvania, $2 billion

Nationwide, the U.S. spends nearly $5 billion each year on its 1,833 state prisons, 110 federal prisons, 1,772 juvenile detention centers and 3,134 local jails.

According to the report, the most significant factors contributing to rises in spending in state prison systems across the country are increasing wage demands, increasing officer-to-inmate ratios, increasing incarceration rates and lengthier sentences across the board.

The most significant portion of prison spending by states goes toward paying the salaries, benefits and overtime of staff. The other most significant costs are attributed to health care, food, safety requirements and guidelines, recreation, educational opportunities and facility maintenance such as heat and electricity.

The vast American prison system, the report states, incarcerated about 1.5 million people in 2018, about 85% of which remain in state facilities rather than federal ones.

The U.S. prison system also is the largest in the world, with the highest rates of incarceration, followed by Russia, Ukraine, South Africa, Poland and Mexico.

The highest inmate population of U.S. states is in Texas, where about 164,000 people were incarcerated in 2018.

The following states that incarcerated the most people in 2018 are:
- California, 129,000 prisoners
- Florida, 98,000 prisoners
- Georgia, 54,000 prisoners
- Ohio, 50,000 prisoners

In contrast, Vermont and North Dakota each incarcerated just 1,700 people in 2018. Maine and Wyoming each incarcerated 2,500, and New Hampshire incarcerated 2,800.

The report reveals that of the nearly 1.5 million people imprisoned in 2018 throughout the U.S., 92% were male. Of that 92%, about half were between the ages of 25-39 years.

33% of the incarcerated men were Black, 29% were white, 23% were Hispanic and the remaining 15% are categorized as “Other.”

Of the 8% who identify as female, 46% were white, 18% were Black, 18% were Hispanic and 16% are categorized as “Other.”

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Center for Supported Learning adapts to reach community during pandemic

By ABBY HANLON
REPORTER

The Center for Supported Learning (CSL) were forced to adapt and think differently on how to reach their growing community because of the coronavirus.

Their fundraising efforts and community events for the spring and summer were halted due to the global pandemic.

“The Center is an alternative community space that focuses on developing sustainable community connections for youth and young adults with neurodiversity. The mission of CSL is to promote inclusive life-long learning activities in the Huntington, WV metro-area,” said Averi Aya-ay, CSL’s creative director. “CSL promotes this inclusivity through collaborations with community groups, local educational and arts programs, and many other organizations across Huntington and throughout West Virginia. They also focus on the research of neurodiversity. On their website, they write and share perspectives on ethical research procedures, community character and many other policy issues relevant to the center’s community outreach. The Center encourages sustainable and inclusive learning opportunities for youth and young adults with neurodiversity.”

Aya-ay had planned to have multiple art classes with their young adults that are involved with the center. This was to lead up to an art auction to serve as a fundraiser, but due to COVID-19, they had to adapt. She hopes to still have art classes virtually and have the auction when it is safe to do so. The group was still able to still fundraise through selling t-shirts to raise awareness for CSL and for neurodiversity.

“We recently started working on a podcast for the center that will share our stories and the stories of people involved with the center. This podcast is great because it’s a safe way to stay connected to our followers even in quarantine and the high-risk individuals that are featured can record themselves from their own homes,” Aya-ay said.

They rely on social media to stay in touch with the community and to keep spreading awareness for the center. They began by posting a series of videos across their Facebook and Instagram pages of CSL community members making various crafts and art so that their social media followers can follow along. She posts extra resources and information on neurodiversity to continue to raise awareness.

When it is safe to host bigger community events, CSL has planned a talent showcase, a project they had been working towards before the global pandemic. They also hope to work more with local sports programs to adjust these activities for youth with disabilities and neurodiversity.

Aya-ay hopes to plan a virtual dance marathon fundraiser in the fall and having virtual dance classes leading up to the big event.

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Physical Therapy faculty member to attend LaunchIt program for invention

UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Brad Profitt, assistant professor in the Marshall University School of Physical Therapy, will be part of the University of Louisville’s (UofL) LaunchIt program through the UofL NSF I-Corps site program in partnership with the Southeast XLerator Network. Profitt has developed a therapeutic device used to regain knee extension after an injury or surgery. Profitt has a patent pending for the knee extender and is working closely with the Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing (RCBI) on the extender.

LaunchIt, offered by UofL since 2011, is a 10-week program developed to help entrepreneurs and researchers gain a better understanding of the process for evaluating the commercial potential of their innovations and how to bring them to market. Participants like Profitt will work closely with experienced coaches.

While undergoing his own knee surgery, Profitt said he wanted to design a device that would allow him to regain full extension of his knee and normalize his walking quickly and correctly.

"Most everyone that has any type of knee surgery will need an outside force to help regain full extension, and this device is designed to do just that," Profitt said. "Returning to a normal walking pattern is often the hardest thing to restore after a knee surgery. While I was in physical therapy for my own knee surgery, I had an idea to create a device that would be smaller, portable and less costly than what is currently available."

Profitt said for now he's referring to his invention as the KED, or Knee Extender Device, but said the official name would be determined by whoever licenses the patent. He said none of this would be possible without the support of the Technology Transfer Office at Marshall and RCBI. Through his work with RCBI the KED is now on version 5.0, what he thinks is the final prototype.

"I don't think many of my faculty colleagues realize Marshall has resources like this to help us turn our ideas into reality. If we figure out a way to make things easier or more effective, Marshall is here to help get those concepts turned into tangible products," Profitt said. "The ultimate goal is to get this device in the hands of patients for home use to promote carryover between their physical therapy visits."

The 10-week LaunchIt program starts in Week 1 with exposure to key tools used in the commercial viability evaluation process, such as the Lean Canvas and Customer Discovery. During the program participants will validate the potential of their innovation and de-risk the commercialization process. In Week 10, participants will wrap up the program with an internal pitch event.

The Southeast XLerator Network is a group of research universities throughout the southeastern part of the United States and Puerto Rico, to which both Marshall and UofL belong. The institutions have joined forces to leverage an NIH STTR (National Institutes of Health Small Business Technology Transfer) award and the resources at each institution. This collaboration helps to develop and commercialize inventions in the health care industry from research at the institutions, creating a Regional Technology Transfer Accelerator Hub.

"We can greatly enhance our economic pipeline by connecting the brilliant, creative minds here at Marshall with resources to fill in the gaps between technology development and collaboration, funding, and commercialization," said Amy Melton, assistant director of the Technology Transfer Office at Marshall. "I’d like to acknowledge UofL’s NSF I-Corps Site program, which provided the funding for Brad’s participation in LaunchIt, and the Southeast XLerator Network Accelerator Hub, which brings together the economic forces of these states and Puerto Rico by connecting network members to local resources like RCBI, our own subject-matter experts and local service providers."

Marshall faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to contact the Marshall University Technology Transfer Office by e-mailing tto@marshall.edu to explore getting their ideas turned into a reality. RCBI (www.rcbi.org) is a great community resource for those with ideas and a desire to produce or manufacture items.
By TAYLOR HUDDLESTON
SPORTS EDITOR

The Marshall University football team is just one of a few programs kicking off the 2020 college football season this weekend a little differently.

Due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, it forced many college football teams to cancel, postpone and reschedule their seasons.

The Herd will be facing the Eastern Kentucky University Colonels Saturday, Sept. 5 at Joan C. Edwards Stadium.

Because of the constant changes and to assure the health and safety for all fans, players, coaches, personnel and media, face masks and social distancing of six feet will be required throughout the stadium. There will also be reduced capacity.

For the Herd, redshirt freshman Grant Wells has been named the starting quarterback. The Charleston, West Virginia native is the first in-state quarterback to start for Marshall since Mark Zban on Sept. 16, 1995 against Georgia Southern.

“It was a really long process. I had to battle all through camp,” Wells said. “I’m ready to play finally. It’s been a while since I’ve actually played a game that meant something. I’m stoked. I’m ready to get out there and start playing. I’ve tried to get mentally prepared throughout all camp and even last year, I was ready to play. Certainly, this year, I’ve been getting mentally prepared to go out there and show Marshall fans what all we’ve been practicing for.”

Herd head coach Doc Holliday announced this week’s captains are Sheldon Evans, Alex Mollette, Tavante Beckett and Nazeeh Johnson.

“We’re excited to get ready to go tee things up this Saturday against an Eastern Kentucky team that came in here a couple years ago,” Holliday said. “They got a lot of good players. It’ll be a challenge for us. Our team is excited and looking forward to it.”

Marshall is finished 8-5 overall and lost to Central Florida in the Bad Boy Mowers Gasparilla Bowl in 2019. Five of the Herd’s players were all named to first teams (offense - offensive lineman Cain Madden, defense - linebacker Tavante Beckett and defensive back Nazeeh Johnson, and special teams - punt returner Talik Keaton) Conference USA Preseason Football Awards. Redshirt junior running back Brenden Knox was named the 2020 C-USA Preseason Offensive Player of the Year.

Eastern Kentucky is coming off a 7-5 season in 2019 and now have a new head coach, Walt Wells. Seven of EKU’s players were named to the Phil Steele Preseason All-Ohio Valley Conference Team. Running back Alonzo Boon and offensive lineman Tucker Schroeder were named first team.

Marshall leads the all-time series against the Colonels 11-8-1. The last time the two teams met was in 2018 when the Herd won 32-16 in Huntington.

Kickoff is set for 1 p.m. ET and will be aired live on ESPN Saturday.

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In a normal year, these eight sports are all played in the fall at Marshall University; however, it is anything but a normal year. Seven of the eight sports have been postponed; football stands alone.

It is a reasonable first reaction to think it is unfair for football players to get their season in the fall while athletes from the other sports can only hope they get a season sometime later in the academic year.

To some level, it is unfair, but when you dig deeper into the logistics of the situation, there are reasons why football is the king of college sports.

First of all, the Marshall athletic department’s hand was forced when the Conference USA and NCAA championships were moved to the spring. Moreover, there were not a lot of possible opponents in the fall with so many moving to the spring as well.

Nevertheless, they are other factors involved that make this decision sensible from a sustainability standpoint.

In a 2017 chart by the Business Insider, sports editor Cork Gaines and graphics editor Mike Nudelman teamed up to create a graphic that illustrated the revenue power of college football.

According to the data the two compiled from the Department of Education, the average college football revenue compiled by the 127 FBS teams at the time was $31.9 million. That figure was more than the other 35 college sports combined.

Therefore, from a strictly revenue sense, football is superior. The money it brings into the athletic department is extremely important.

Using data collected from the 2018 season, Sports Illustrated writer Ross Dellenger took an even deeper look. He researched and plotted the profit gain and losses of each sport in the Power Five. Although Marshall is not in the Power Five, the data is still significant because the Group of Five functions similarly.

From the data, Dellenger found that football on average had a $28.8 million profit. Men’s basketball had a $4.9 million profit, but that was where the profits halted. All the other sports had an average net loss of $17.1 million.

Because most of a university’s sports are not money gainers, that means college football plays a huge role in keeping the other college sports afloat.

Looking at Marshall specifically, the athletic department has actually lost money overall in each of the past three years, based on data from the College Athletics Financial Information Database. In 2019, Marshall’s athletic revenue was around the FBS average at $32.9 million, but its expenses were a tad bit more. Overall, the athletic department lost $30,322 in the 2019.

SEE FOOTBALL ON PG. 10
The Parthenon, Marshall University’s student newspaper, is published by students Wednesdays during the regular semester and every other week during the summer. The editorial staff is responsible for news and editorial content.

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“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: The essence of united labor

Eugene V. Debs, member of the Socialist Party of the USA and presidential candidate, speaks to members of the worker’s union on Aug. 17, 1912, at an unknown location in the USA.

As Labor Day approaches, let us remember not only to celebrate the resilience and bravery of the American working class (and of those around the world), but also to recognize the reasons we understand the value of organized labor and labor movements.

If it were not for the brilliance and commitment of labor movements throughout history, countless more people around the world today would still be working 12-hour shifts seven days a week in the most horrid, dangerous conditions.

If it were not for the endless efforts of organized labor, countless more children in factories around the world would still be exploited for work, treated essentially as agentless slaves.

If it were not for those unionists who throughout history have fought and died in the name of protecting and promoting the interests of laborers across the world, we would all be so much worse off than we already are.

All examples of progress on these fronts, along with countless others, are the result of the blood, sweat, tears and unwavering dedication of labor movements and those who chose to do their part for the Greater Good.

Accordingly, all contrasting examples of regression, oppression and exploitation of the masses on behalf of powerful capitalists and elitists represent losses in the labor movements.

Every step of the way, organized labor has been at war against the ruling class solidarity and systemic power of excessively wealthy capitalists and corporations. Where throughout history there has been a struggle of injustice, exploitation, there too has been the red banner of organized labor waving in solidarity with the masses, the exploited. Where there has been a ruling class seeking to leech the essence of life out of the underclasses, there has been a people’s union willing to die fighting for what is right.

As West Virginians, we know this. We know the value of solidarity and the power of strength in numbers. We wear the label “rednecks” on our sleeves because we understand what happened at Paint Creek and at Cabin Creek and at Blair Mountain and even at the state capitol in recent years. In West Virginia, we value labor and unity and fighting for our brothers and sisters because it is all we ever have known. This struggle is in our blood. It is an essence of who we are as people, and who our people always have been. We understand this struggle is perpetual.

But we can’t always win.

Still today, far too many people around the world work long hours in grueling conditions for slave wages.

Far too many continue to be denied health care, benefits and fair wages for the profits they produce, as corporate CEO incomes climb off the charts.

see LABOR on pg. 10
COLUMN: Importance of Minority Representation in Media

By ISABELLA ROBINSON
NEWS EDITOR

I recently was presented with this information that, to date, there are no Black centered West Virginia news or media publications, one Black editor for a mainstream WV news pub, and no Black reporters on any West Virginian print media payroll.

The information was revealed via a Twitter post by poet and folk reporter Crystal Good.

“Please, West Virginia correct me if I am wrong. To date: ZERO Black centered West Virginia news/media publications. To date: One Black editor for a mainstream WV news pub. To date: ZERO Black reporters on anyone West Virginia’s print media payroll,” the tweet states.

This is alarming.

As a journalist, I have learned that “the media” is responsible for reporting and informing the public about the happenings of the world around them and the way their neighbors feel about those happenings. However, without Black representation behind the scenes, these duties cannot be upheld properly – and possibly ethically as well.

As a Black journalist, I understand the importance of diversity in the media. It isn’t difficult to grasp. Diversity is essential in any workplace to ensure that everyone is respected, has their needs met, and has a voice. The media, especially, NEEDS diversity. It is our livelihood to tell stories. If the stories that we decide to tell are chosen by a team lacking diversity, minority groups may not be given the platform that they deserve.

As a Black journalist and news editor that was born and raised in rural West Virginia, I promise there are minorities that need their stories told. This is not exclusive to the Black community, but it seems there is a need for West Virginian Black voices to be heard and seen in our media. People of color are often erased from the Appalachian narrative, and I believe there needs to be an initiative to amplify the voices that have been silenced for so long. This starts in the newsroom. We can, and we will, do better.

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Weekly Social Media Poll

Y  N

Have you experienced technical difficulties in virtual courses? 49% 51%

Have you participated in Make-and-Take a Mask? 17% 83%

Do you have a Marshall Mobile ID? 57% 43%

Are you a regular listener of any podcasts? 55% 45%

Do you plan to vote in the general election in November? 92% 8%

This poll was conducted on The Parthenon’s Instagram, @MUParthenon. The results reflect responses from an average of 47 individuals.

Parthe-Pet

Introducing Sir Henry “Hennessey” Thomas. Henry is a bearded dragon that resides in the Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity house. Henry enjoys riding on shoulders and going on leashed walks. He is a rather picky eater; he is not a fan of eating his greens but loves snacking on Dubai roaches. Social as ever, he likes meeting new people!

Interested in featuring your pet in the paper? Use #ParthePet on social media or contact robinson436@marshall.edu with photos and a short bio.
FOOTBALL cont. from 7

The largest expense for the Marshall athletic department was athletic student aid, and that is not going anywhere. So, what does the athletic department have to gain by postponing the seven fall sports other than football?

Around the country, there are many universities completely getting rid of some sports, but it seems that Marshall and a lot of other schools are going to extend every other option before its hand is forced to that level of attrition.

By postponing the seven fall sports where a loss of money is likely to occur; especially with the added Covid-19 protocols, the athletic department can save some money.

The main area where money will be saved is from game expenses and travel, which was the second highest expense for Marshall’s athletic department in 2018 according to the CAFI.

Football is still able to compete because even with ticket sales sure to take a huge hit, a noteworthy profit is still likely, due mainly to media rights money. Media rights money most notably includes or is related to television revenue.

Without a football season this year, the financial hit would be catastrophic for every sport and every athlete. Not having soccer, volleyball, golf, cross country and tennis does not financially harm the university, it essentially helps keep the athletic department stay sustainable for the time being.

Thus, the postponement of the fall Olympic sports is a move that will more than likely save them in the long run.

In theory, could Marshall, Conference USA and other conferences have made a fall season work for its Olympic sports with the same stringent protocols as football? Yes, but they would have taken an even bigger financial loss, which could have resulted in long-term sport cancelations.

All and all, football is the king of college sports. It not only bring in the most money, but it also takes care of the other sports, keeping most athletic departments thriving, or at least alive.

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LABOR cont. from 8

Far too many remain helpless to escape the factories where they are forced to work from the time their bodies are physically capable.

Indeed, we still live in a world plagued with some of the worst injustices and inequality imaginable.

Even in America, where far too often we imagine that we have progressed past such extreme circumstances, so many still suffer unjustly. One would certainly be amiss to suggest that the American working class, as of today, is thriving—it is not.

But let us not forget that nearly all progress we have made as a collective society on behalf of the working people of the world and all the most vulnerable amongst us, has been made through the power of unity and strength in numbers—through labor unions, through protests, through strikes, through passionate, uncompromising organizing for what we know is right even in the faces of the very exploiters whose sole purpose is to convince us we are wrong, to club us into dank submission.

So, when we celebrate Labor Day, let us not forget that this truly is what we celebrate. We celebrate the most inspiring and ambitious instrument, the most effective mainspring by which the workers of the world may truly unite behind and fight for inherently shared values and interests in the face of constant oppression and the perpetual struggle for this thing we call Freedom.

We may not always win, but we never stop fighting. And that is how we know we will win again.

Perhaps American unionist, activist and founding member of the Industrial Workers of the World, Eugene V. Debs, has articulated this struggle most effectively: “Ten thousand times has the labor movement stumbled and fallen and bruised itself, and risen again; been seized by the throat and choked into insensibility; enjoined by courts, assaulted by thugs, charged by the militia, shot down by regulars, traduced by the press, frowned upon by public opinion, deceived by politicians, threatened by priests, repudiated by renegades, preyed upon by grafters, infested by spies, deserted by cowards, betrayed by traitors, bled by leeches, and sold out by leaders, but, notwithstanding all this, and all these, it is today the most vital potential power this planet has ever known, and its historic mission of emancipating the workers of the world from the thralldom of the ages is as certain of ultimate realization as the setting of the sun.”
By Xena Bunton
THE PARTHENON

Todd D. Snyder, a liberal arts graduate, continues to thank Marshall University for his writing success with the publication of his third book.

Snyder worked with Hamilcar Publications to put the first biography of Drew “Bundini” Brown, “Bundini: Don’t Believe the Hype,” on the shelves.

As a son of a boxing trainer, Snyder was driven to write about his father’s hero, Muhammad Ali, but felt pressure to get Bundini’s story right for the sake of his family and legacy as Muhammad Ali’s assistant trainer and cornerman. Snyder said he worked with Bundini’s son, Drew Brown III, for 14 months in Atlanta to write the book.

Snyder always wanted to be a writer but did not know if he would have the resources to get a degree. He said Marshall University and the English department gave him the boost he needed as a first-generation college student.

“I would not be where I am today without Marshall University”, Snyder said. “And that is why I thank Marshall in every book I write”.

Snyder said his time at Marshall were some of the happiest years of his life and is where he found the confidence in himself as a writer.

Todd Snyder received his B.A. and M.A. in English at Marshall University in 2004 and 2006. He later received his Ph.D. in Rhetoric and Composition at Ohio University in 2011.

“The sense of community at Marshall is unmatched”, Kelli Prejean, Associate Dean of the college of liberal arts said. “I had professors who set me on my path, and I feel like I need to return the favor.”

Prejean said the professors in the English department try to pay it forward and they thrive on their student’s success.

Prejean was only at Marshall University for Snyder’s last two years but still made a lasting impact as his rhetoric and composition professor during graduate school.

Snyder said he hopes the students at Marshall University who want to be writers can look at his work and make their dreams come true too.

Xena Bunton can be contacted Bunton2@live.marshall.edu.
Student Football Ticket Guidelines 2020

Student tickets for Sept. 5 game against EKU are being distributed on first-come, first-serve basis.

What you need to know:

FROM UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

• The student gate for football games is Gate F (southeast corner) of Joan C. Edwards Stadium. This is the gate behind Wendy’s on 5th Avenue.

• Gates will open 90 minutes prior to kick-off for each game.

• There will be no paper student tickets distributed this season. In order to gain entry into the football games, all you will need is your Marshall ID. The digital ID on your phone is recommended. If you have not set this up, please contact Campus ID Services in Drinko Library.

• Per WV state guidelines and social distancing protocols as well as remaining in line with how the rest of the stadium was socially distanced, the Marshall student section will have a maximum capacity of 1,509.

• 150 student guest tickets will be sold on game day for $20 each at the football stadium Gate F ticket window. They cannot be purchased in advance. These tickets will be sold starting two hours prior to kick-off.

• The student sections are going to be sections 115, 117, 119, 121, 123, 221, and 223 as they have been in the past.

• Seating is still first-come, first-served in these sections

• You will be required to skip a seat in between each student and every other row in each section is to remain empty.

• The rows that will remain empty will be marked on the end seats of each row.

• There is no re-entry this season. Once you have scanned your ID to enter the game, you will not be permitted to leave and then re-enter the game.

• Facial coverings must be worn at all times inside the stadium. When eating and drinking, you are permitted to remove your mask but you must start wearing it again after you are finished.

• MarshallU HealthCheck is recommended to be completed prior to coming to the game.