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## The Parthenon, October 29, 2009

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**Soccer survivor**  
Men's soccer player survived war-torn country to play for Marshall | pg 4

**Pumpkin house**  
Kenova home celebrates Halloween | pg 6

# THE PARTHENON

WWW.MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2009

VOL. 112 NO. 43 © 2009 THE PARTHENON

## Kopp, alumni silent on grade change controversy

BY KERISSA BENNETT  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University President Stephen J. Kopp remains silent about the violation of university policy regarding grade changes.

Marshall professor Laura Wyant was listed as instructor of Emily Perdue's two independent study courses when Rosalyn Templeton, dean of the College of Education and Human Services, changed the incomplete grades to letter grades Sept. 3.

Provost Gail Ormiston e-mailed Registrar Roberta Ferguson Sept. 29



KOPP

requesting Templeton be added as the primary instructor in the two independent study courses.

Emily Perdue is the daughter of West Virginia State Treasurer John Perdue.

Kopp declined an interview with The Parthenon regarding the integrity of Marshall, but his office did release this statement:

"For more than three weeks, we have

answered questions and provided public documents as requested to any medium who has asked.

"Whether continued questions and requests are motivated by journalistic curiosity, political motives or even internal disagreements, we remind you that an internal review was conducted, we are confident that there was no inappropriate action, and consider this matter closed."

Ormiston conducted a review, without a committee and found no fault to the situation.

"It was a simple, clerical error," said Bill Bissett, chief of staff, in an earlier in-

terview with The Parthenon.

Wyant protested the way the review was handled and requested the faculty senate perform an investigation. The Greenbook, Marshall's faculty handbook, states: "For any course primarily consisting of...independent study...the 'instructor of record' shall be the faculty member supervising the work the student does in the course."

Wyant also told The Parthenon the FBI contacted her to ask for a meeting regarding the situation.

The investigation also concentrated on whether John Perdue violated the

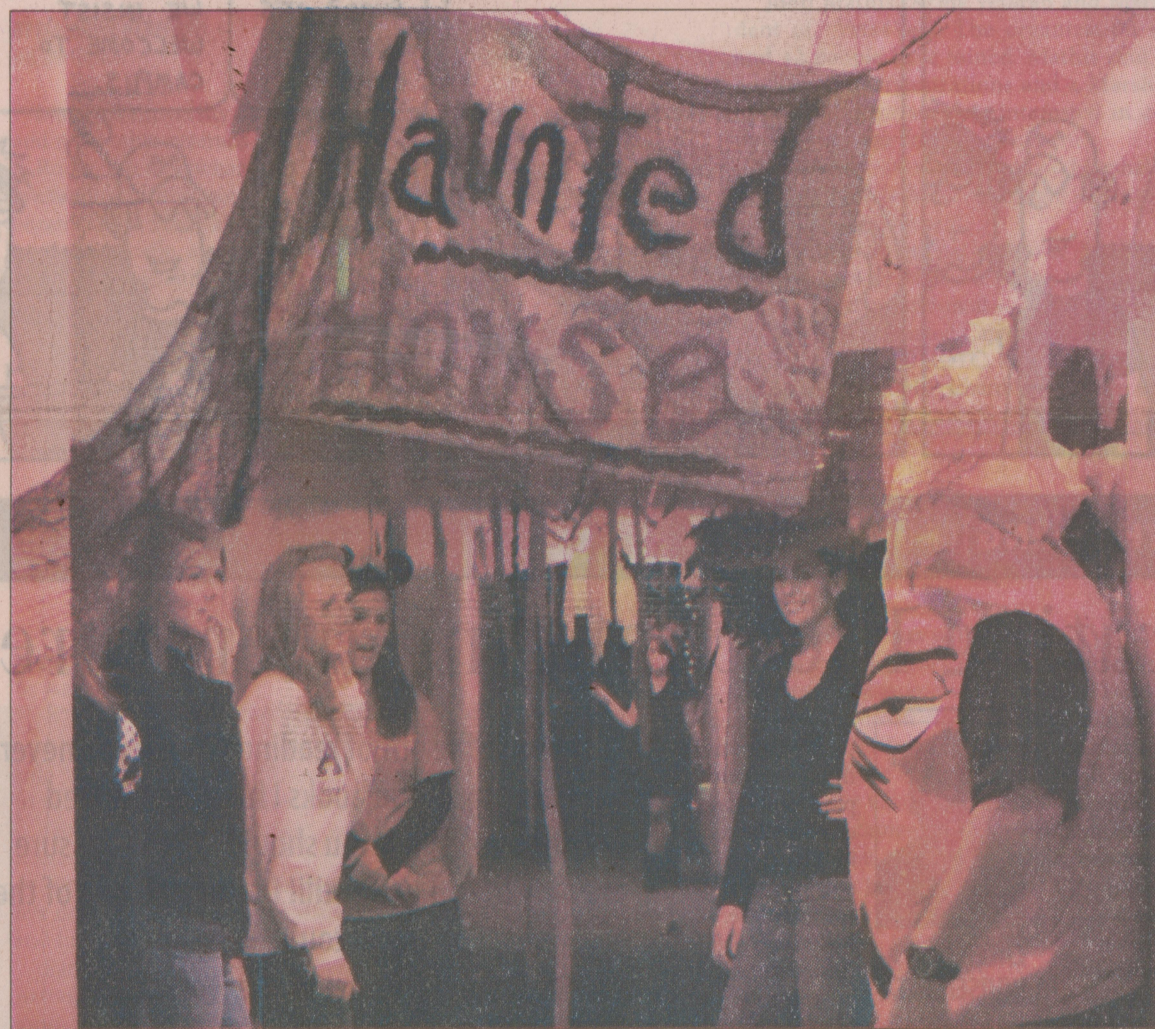
West Virginia state ethics law, which states a person in public service should not use their position for private gain.

Marshall Alumni Association President Nancy Campbell said in an e-mail that she had heard no concerns regarding image and integrity from Marshall alumni.

"I have not had any comments about this issue from alumni," Campbell said. "I have had contact with many alumni since this story broke and no one has brought it up."

Kerissa Bennett can be contacted at [Bennett120@marshall.edu](mailto:Bennett120@marshall.edu).

## TRICK-OR-TREAT Cafeteria helps to celebrate Halloween



SHOLTEN SINGER | THE PARTHENON

The sorority Alpha Xi Delta hosted a haunted house in Holderby Hall on Wednesday. Many festivities were organized across campus to celebrate Halloween, including the haunted house and trick-or-treating in the Twin Towers dorms.

BY MARIA ROMANO  
THE PARTHENON

The Twin Towers cafeteria's annual pumpkin carving contest and first costume competition took place Wednesday evening.

Lucian Stewart, freshman management major, dressed up as Willy Wonka and won best costume. He said he made his entire costume by hand.

"I bought cheap material and lining for the hat and glued the curly hair wig into it," Stewart said.

Nicholas Clark, freshman civil engineering major, won second place for his Samurai costume.

"A lot of the parts of this are authentic," Clark said. "The bow is from the 16th century and it's made of horsehair."

He said his mom bought each part of the costume piece by piece as Christmas gifts and did not tell him where she found them or how

much they cost.

Clark said the one item he made himself was the Samurai-style shoes.

"They were really expensive so I decided to just make them," Clark said.

Third place was awarded to Mariah Preast, freshman biology major, for her sequin devil costume.

"I looked online for costume ideas and saw something similar to what I already had," Preast said. "So this has parts of the same costume from last year and I didn't really spend anything on it."

Each winner received a certificate to Freshens Smoothies. The first place winner received a \$15 certificate, the second place winner won a \$10 certificate and the third place winner received a \$5 certificate.

SEE HALLOWEEN | PAGE 5



KYLE HOBSTETTER | THE PARTHENON

Students participate in the pumpkin carving contest held in Twin Towers Cafeteria on Wednesday. The winners will be announced today at 3 p.m. The cafeteria also hosted a costume contest.

## Yeager symposium ends with area Heritage talks

BY KRISTEN BARRY  
THE PARTHENON

The 23rd Annual Yeager Symposium had its final lecture Wednesday, which focused on heritage tourism and possible improvements for the Huntington and Tri-state area.

The lecture, "Ecotourism in Appalachia and Huntington, WV," was presented by the symposium and the Harry and Betty Wolfe Lecture Series, which helps the Yeager scholars get speakers for their events.

Tyson Compton, Audy Perry and Stacy McChesney spoke on behalf of the Cabell-Huntington Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Perry, chairman of the board for CVB, said Huntington's heritage revolves around the river and rail atmosphere.

The Harris Riverfront Park and Pullman Square

are positives for the Huntington community, but they need to be more pedestrian friendly, he said.

Perry said another unique aspect of Huntington is the 1920s architecture of the buildings downtown.

"If we don't achieve with heritage tourism, we should be ashamed of ourselves," Perry said. "It's a no-brainer."

Compton, director of the CVB, said the bureau moved its offices to Heritage Station earlier this year.

Compton said he thinks people don't realize how much potential Huntington has.

He said two local attractions that are good for Huntington's tourism economy are the Heritage Museum and Camden Park.

He said local tourism brought in about \$2 million in tax money for the city in 2007.

McChesney, kitchen manager for Jamie's Kitchen,

SEE YEAGER | PAGE 5



SHOLTEN SINGER | THE PARTHENON

Phyllis Baxter, a representative for the Appalachian Forest Heritage Area, was one of four speakers in the last lecture of this year's Yeager Symposium. Baxter focused on heritage tourism during this tough economic time.

CARTOONS, PAGE 2 | OPINION, PAGE 2 | SPORTS, PAGE 4 | SUDOKU, PAGE 5 | LIFE, PAGE 6

PAGE EDITED AND DESIGNED BY KYLE HOBSTETTER - [HOBSTETTER@MARSHALL.EDU](mailto:HOBSTETTER@MARSHALL.EDU)



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### EDITORIAL

## Weak opinions

### Grade change issue lacks reaction by administration, alumni

A violation of university policy has been under investigation concerning grade changes and Marshall University President Stephen J. Kopp hasn't said a word about it. Neither have any alumni.

The ordeal began during the summer of this year and new information was recently released in the news, yet Kopp seems quite nonchalant about the whole thing. He has issued no statement about his thoughts of the situation or actions being taken by administration to resolve the potential future issues. The only statement released from his office basically said that other questions from journalists, political persons or other internal disagreements need to stop because "we are confident that there was no inappropriate action, and consider the matter closed."

If Kopp and everyone else are so confident that it is cleared, then why not express some thoughts about how the situation was handled and what to do to prevent future issues such as this? Why give a generic statement about such a huge issue?

Furthermore, no alumni have had any comments about it. A potential grade scandal has taken place at their alma mater and they have said nothing. It's as if no one thinks this is a big deal, but when Gov. Joe Manchin and his daughter were involved in this very same ordeal at West Virginia University, there was a serious uproar. It's the same thing, just at Marshall and on a smaller political scale.

So, even if it is "closed" and "no inappropriate action" went on, someone, especially Kopp, should have more of an opinion about it and offer some explanation to how this even came up in the first place, if no one was guilty of these accusations. Step up to the plate.

#### Guidelines for letters to the editor

Please keep letters to the editor at 300 words or fewer. They must be saved in Microsoft Word and sent as an attachment. Longer letters may be used as guest columns at the editor's discretion. Guest column status will not be given at the author's request. All letters must be signed and include an address or phone number for confirmation. Letters may be edited for grammar, libelous statements, available space or factual errors. Compelling letters posted on The Parthenon Web site, [www.marshallparthenon.com](http://www.marshallparthenon.com), can be printed at the discretion of the editors.

The opinions expressed in the columns and letters do not necessarily represent the views of The Parthenon staff.

Please send news releases to the editors at [parthenon@marshall.edu](mailto:parthenon@marshall.edu). Please keep in mind that stories are run based on timeliness, newsworthiness or space.

## >> Online poll

### What are your plans for Halloween?

- A) Eat candy
- B) Drink beer
- C) Do nothing

**Previous poll**  
Are you going to the Coal Bowl in Morgantown

Vote online at  
[www.marshallparthenon.com](http://www.marshallparthenon.com)

Yes ..... 24%  
No ..... 40%  
Not sure ..... 36%

### EDITORIAL CARTOON | ROB ROGERS | PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE-DISTRIBUTED BY UFC INC.



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### BLUNDERGRADS

by phil flickinger ([www.blundergrads.com](http://www.blundergrads.com))



### SO, HERE'S THE THING | Caleb Whisenant

## Celebrating life-changing literature

I consider literacy to be one of my most valuable capabilities. For me few greater personal joys in life exist other than reading.

I was staring at my bookshelf yesterday, thinking about the books I have read over the course of the two decades of my life. I asked myself what my favorite five books are, and I mulled over the answer for several minutes, finally coming to a simple conclusion: there is no answer to that question.

It's hard to pick five books and call them my favorite. Each book is different and the comparison of any two books is like comparing apples and oranges. So, I rephrased the question to ask myself what five books have had the biggest impact on me. What books have made a profound difference in my life – that I can answer.

So, in celebration of books, here are five that have changed my life for the better. "To Kill A Mockingbird" by Harper Lee – There is probably nothing I can say about this particular book that hasn't already been said a million times over.

Everyone knows the story, and it's always ranked at the top of people's favorites list. For me, this book holds special meaning. I first read it in ninth grade English class. I had always loved reading, going back all the way to elementary school, but this was the first book I ever read that made me think on a deeper level, interact with the story in a way I never had before.



**CALEB WHISENANT**  
COLUMNIST

I asked ques-  
tions of the author concerning plot, structure, etc. I annotated in the margins of a book for the first time. If nothing else, this book taught me there is much more to literature than just enjoyment.

"Eat, Pray, Love" by Elizabeth Gilbert – This book is about the real-life spiritual journey of the author. After a messy divorce and subsequent painful relationships, Gilbert finds herself on a journey across Italy, India and Indonesia in pursuit of pleasure, spiritual enlightenment and balance. Yes, it's the story of a woman's personal voyage, but everyone, male or female, can relate to the book's themes of self-discovery and self-recovery, as well as the pursuit of happiness – something we all strive for every day of our lives. Gilbert's writing packs a punch, as every page is drenched with wit and humor.

"Art & Lies" by Jeanette Winterson – If there exists a literary canon of provocative novels, this book would have to be included in it.

Never before have I read a book so poignant and erotic, so philosophical and humorous. Three passengers are on a train hurtling through the

"Celebrate the gift of reading. Even if you never read any of the books I have mentioned (although I think you should, as you are sure to enjoy them), read still! Doing so is one of the best gifts you could give yourself, and the rest of the world."

future – Sappho, Handel and Picasso (not the originals). Their interwoven stories create a brilliantly daring novel.

The prose leaps off every page, and the story will have you thinking about art and identity in a way you probably never have.

"Song of Solomon" by Toni Morrison – I often tell people who inquire about my taste in literature that I worship at the altar of Toni Morrison, and I do.

I think she is the most brilliant writer still living, and I only hope I am fortunate enough to meet her in my lifetime. This is the first book I read by Miss Morrison, and it was love at first read. The narrative is phenomenal and the characters soar to life, and soar into your life.

The process of alienation the protagonist goes through is very poignant, and Morrison addresses a problem that has plagued this nation for more than a century.

"A New Earth: Awakening to Your Life's Purpose" by Eckhart

Tolle – This book changed my life. It changed the way I see myself and the rest of the world. It made me aware of each moment of my life and taught me to live in that moment.

Tolle addresses the problem of the ego, and provides a source of enlightenment for those who read the book with an open mind. Because of narrow-mindedness on the part of some people, the book has been typecast as insanity and spiritual heresy, but this couldn't be any less true. In truth, Tolle doesn't take sides with any particular religion but rather uses the teachings of many different religions to illustrate what he is saying. But, approaching the book closed mindedly will prove futile.

So, here's the thing. Celebrate the gift of reading. Even if you never read any of the books I have mentioned (although I think you should, as you are sure to enjoy them), read still! Doing so is one of the best gifts you could give yourself, and the rest of the world.

## THE PARTHENON | Reader information

### About us

The Parthenon, Marshall University's student newspaper, is published by students Mondays through Fridays during the regular semesters, and weekly Thursdays during the summer. The editorial staff is responsible for news and editorial content.

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### Daily News Quotation

"They are not courageous, they are cowardly. If the people behind these attacks were so sure of their beliefs, let them join the political process...make their case that they don't want girls to go to school...they want women to be kept back." — Sec. of State Hillary Clinton, after a car bombing in Pakistan.



## Festival welcomes high school bands to Marshall

MICHAEL SPURLOCK  
THE PARTHENON

High school students from four states will invade Marshall University's campus Saturday for the largest marching band festival in the area.

The Tri-State Marching Festival is a one-day event that will feature 38 high school bands. The bands are divided into four classifications determined by size. The groups range from A1, A2, AA and AAA.

The schools come from four different states: Ohio, West Virginia, Virginia and Kentucky. For most of the bands participating, this festival is considered the finale of the season.

"I don't know of a larger festival in the northeastern United States," said Steve Barnett, director of bands at Marshall. "Definitely the biggest of anywhere around here."

Greg Richmond, Marshall graduate student, works with Barnett and others to set up the festival. He first attended the festival while he was the band director of Pocahontas County High School.

"It was a really great opportunity for my students," Richmond said. "It was the largest crowd they ever played in front of."

The festival is a great recruiting opportunity for Marshall. The attendance for previous festivals has ranged between 10,000 and 12,000 people. Recruiting booths are set up for the event. The Marshall University Marching Thunder also does special performances.

"We perform last because everyone has to stay to listen, because the awards are after us and we do an

extended exhibition," Barnett said.

Ninety-eight percent of the Marching Thunder has previously participated in the Tri-State Marching Festival. The high school bands will warm up on the new AstroTurf practice field for the Marching Thunder.

"They'll see that and they'll say 'that's really nice,'" Barnett said. "We try to use that as a good recruiting tool."

If students participate in high school band, then they are good candidates for going to college, Barnett said. Marching Thunder does a commercial in the middle of the show that informs high school students about enrolling at Marshall and that the Marching Thunder is open to anyone.

One of the largest benefits to the bands is the judges' scores and comments.

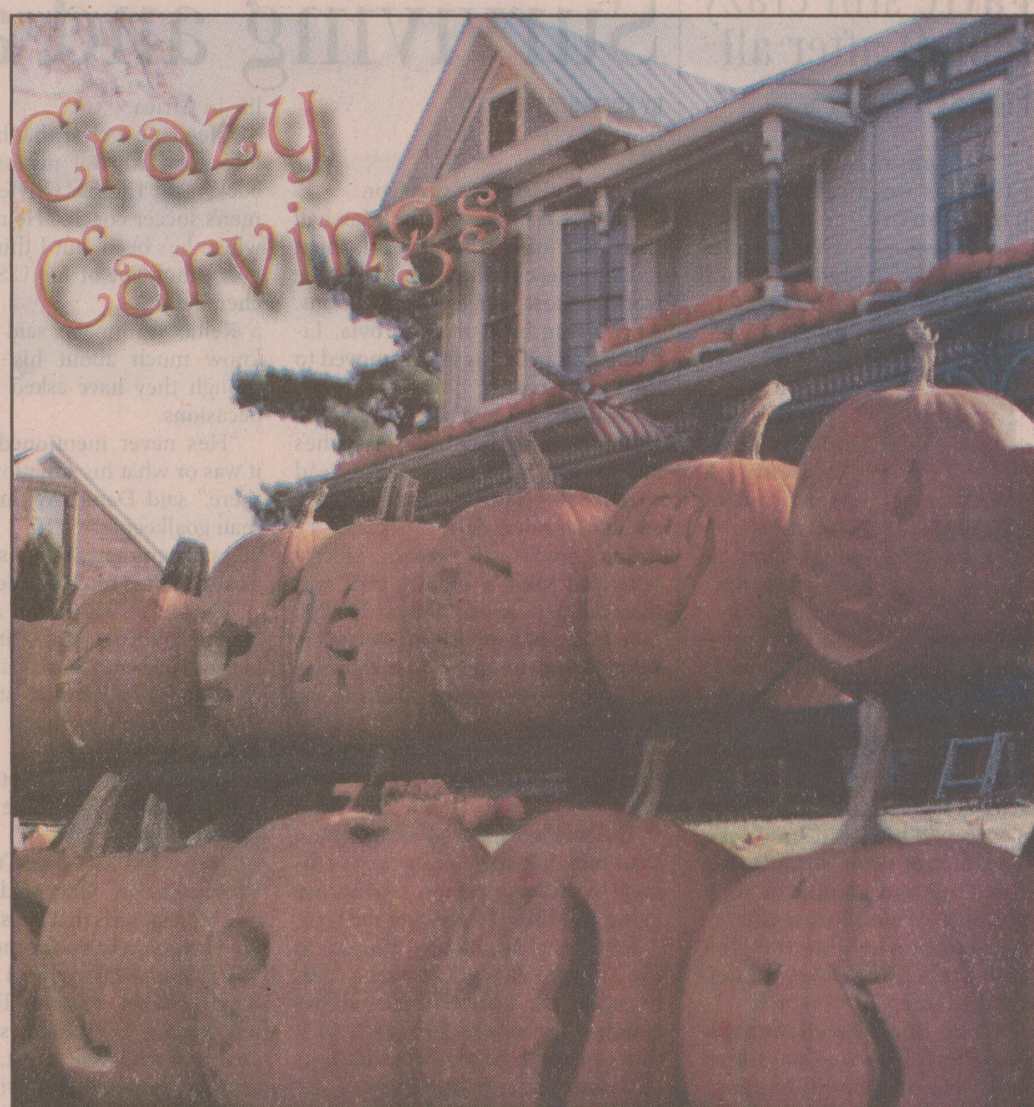
"There are a mix of judges from instate and out of state," Barnett said. "They judge bands on general effect, marching performance, music performance, drumming, color guard, dancers and twirlers."

Each judge covers a specific aspect of the competition, so they can give the schools the best critique and score possible. They make a critique tape during the performance for each school that discusses why the band received its score.

"On Mondays, we would watch the video and listen to the tape and make a list of what we needed to make better," Richmond said.

The Tri-State Marching Festival will start 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the Joan C. Edwards Stadium. It is free to everyone and will be an all day event.

Michael Spurlock can be contacted at [spurlock36@marshall.edu](mailto:spurlock36@marshall.edu).



SHOLTEN SINGER | THE PARTHENON

Each pumpkin has a one-of-a-kind design each Halloween at the Pumpkin House at 748 Beech St., Kenova, W.Va.

## MU Vets4Vets offers room, services for veteran students

BY MARLOWE HEREFORD  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University now has a place for veterans to relax, study, talk and meet other veterans.

Room 140 of Prichard Hall became a veteran's lounge Oct. 19. The availability of the room was made possible by efforts of the student organization, Marshall University Vets4Vets.

Carla Lapelle, associate dean of student affairs, said the room was not being used after faculty members relocated to the Marshall Recreation Center.

"We just had that space open," Lapelle said. "We want that to be the place where any questions that they have about their education can be answered. We want to work to meet their needs."

John Mathis, Army veteran and Marshall student, is the president of Vets4Vets. The organization started in mid-September and 42 people have joined. Mathis said several larger universities have similar organizations and a Marshall chapter would provide opportunity for soldiers interested in continuing their education upon returning from deployment.

More than 600 veterans attend Marshall and informing them of the presence of Vets4Vets on campus is one of the biggest goals of the organization, Mathis said.

"We've got to get the word out," Mathis said. "The thing about joining this organization, all you've got to do is show up. Give us your name, give us your e-mail — you're in."

Vets4Vets appointed Capt. Mike Armstrong, recruiting and operations officer for Marshall ROTC, to the position of faculty adviser. The organization and room in Prichard Hall is open to any veteran — regardless of

whether they've been in combat — and is a way of recognizing them for their service, Armstrong said.

"Through all their service to their country, sometimes it's overlooked," Armstrong said.

A priority of Vets4Vets is to educate Marshall students and faculty about the daily lives of veterans, including misinterpretations of post traumatic stress disorder, Mathis said.

"We're having more and more soldiers come back suffering from PTSD issues," Mathis said. "Stress really affects it. You don't have to be a combat soldier to have it."

Vets4Vets also seeks to inform veterans of available financial benefits. Mathis said he and five other non-commissioned officers collected \$2,000 to help veterans buy their books because the first payment of the post-9/11 GI Bill doesn't arrive until 12 weeks into the semester.

SEE VETS4VETS | PAGE 5

## Students texts to increase university funding

BY ERIC DIVITO  
THE PARTHENON

A struggling economy has led Marshall University to think outside the box in terms of increasing fundraising. Marshall is going to the students for help instead of just alumni.

Rebecca Samples, assistant vice president for development, explained the program.

"Prospective contributors can text a keyword to a short code and a five dollar contribution will come to Marshall University Foundation and that contribution is billed on their cell bill," Samples said.

Samples said half of the collected money would go to the Student Activities Programming Board. The winning class, which raises the most money will get to choose where the other half of the money will go via text.

The Student Government Association has presented projects

the winning class will vote. The projects include restoration of the Morrow Library bells, putting money toward the Memorial Fountain maintenance or toward scholarship relief.

"The freshman class is ahead with about 28 percent of the vote," Samples said. "Juniors and seniors both have 24 percent and sophomores are at the bottom of the pack."

Courtney Chapman, sophomore at Marshall, said she felt like the fundraising campaign was a little misleading.

"I got the e-mail and I punched the number in because I thought it was just a tally of votes, but then I get the text back, and they're like you're going to have to give this much money if you want your vote to count," Chapman said.

Marshall has tried to increase student participation by giving away an iPod touch to one voter.

Samples said Marshall is not just trying to increase participation from students but also alumni.

"We have been looking at ways to reach out to our alumni,"

Samples said. "It has been difficult in terms of the economy, particularly as we are trying to get new donors. It has been an uphill battle."

According to the flyer Marshall sends to alumni, more than 70,000 Marshall graduates do not give to The University Fund. Samples said if each of these people just gave \$50, the university could raise more than \$3.5 million.

"Marshall has 8 percent participation rate amongst alumni," Samples said. "That's below the national average of 12 to 15 percent pamphlet."

Sample said they created a new program in the summer where people can set up a profile similar to Facebook and challenge their friends to match their giving.

"They can make a pretty significant impact without having to give as much themselves," Sample said.

Eric DiVito can be contacted at [divito@marshall.edu](mailto:divito@marshall.edu).

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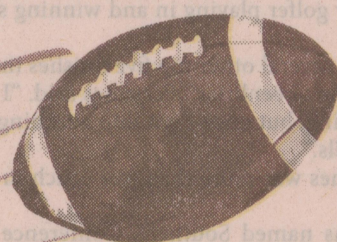
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## Favre still crazy (good) after all these years

"Conventional wisdom" rules this world; meaning if you don't fit the mold of



DAVE TRAUBE  
Fouled Off

what's come before, you'll probably find a lot of doubters in your way.

In his book, "The Element: How Finding your Passion Changes Everything," author Ken

Robinson tells the story of Elvis Presley and the days before he was a house-hold name.

"Organizers kept Elvis Presley from joining his school's glee club," Robinson writes. "They said his voice would ruin their sound; the glee club had standards to uphold. We all know the tremendous heights the glee club scaled once they'd managed to keep Elvis out."

When does the encouragement to follow our passions end? No one would expect Brett Favre to still be playing football at 40 years old, and very few people would have thought it was a good idea. Jerry Rice probably played a season too long and the same goes for Joe Montana. There are lots of examples.

After last year with the Jets, probably no sports fan in America was hoping their team would sign Favre. But he still wanted to play. Even with the career record for consecutive starts, he has a passion for it. His success with the Vikings this year would seem to vindicate the decision.

Still, last year didn't go so well for him, making the decision to play on after the Packers not seem so brilliant - but by going through that year, not ending on it; by following passion and not conventional wisdom and naysayers, Favre is adding to his legacy and [much more importantly] is probably having the time of his life.

As college students, we are at the place in our life where there seems to be so much before us, where we are encouraged to follow our heart and our passion.

However, that actually seems to be good advice for any stage of life. At the beginning of Favre's career, 275 starts seemed like a number too big to imagine.

After all, no one had ever done it before. Now, after all those starts, you have to guess that every one he has left - less than 20? less than 10? less than five? - has to be particularly sweet.

The Rolling Stones, who are closing in on their 70s, made a half-billion dollars on their last tour. Harrison Ford had passed 65 when he made the latest Indiana Jones movie. And Brett Favre has thrown 12 touchdowns in his first seven games this season as a Viking at the age of 40.

Enjoy your youth. It's a good starting place to get somewhere in life.

Dave Traube can be contacted at traube3@marshall.edu.

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## Surviving and adapting: The Keita Story

BY ADAM RUSSELL  
THE PARTHENON

Fayanga Keita is a survivor. Keita, freshman on the Marshall University men's soccer team, spent much of his childhood in two of the world's most dangerous locations. After being born in Monrovia, Liberia, Keita and his family moved to the Ivory Coast.

"You can tell he's had a tough life and everything he's been given he's had to earn," said men's soccer head coach Bob Gray. "He embraces every day as a new day."

For nearly 15 years, Liberia struggled with a bloody civil war that claimed an estimated 200,000 Liberians. Many of the survivors were forced to move to neighboring countries as refugees during the struggle.

"The war made my parents move from there to the Ivory Coast," Keita said.

The war left Liberia's economy in shambles, but the country's government is making strides to improve living conditions following the war.

Keita and his family moved to the Ivory Coast when he was a child to escape the unrest in their native country. The new residence would at times prove to be almost as dangerous, however, as political unrest and another civil war gripped the nation.

"My dad is still over there but my mom is here," Keita said. "We lived there for like 14 years."

Keita and his family moved one more time to France before he and his mother immigrated to the U.S. when he was 15 years old.

"My mom decided to move over here, so I had to come," Keita said. "It's OK so far."

Though he has a rich past, Keita prefers not to discuss his history and

life in Africa.

"He made it clear that he wants to look forward, not necessarily look back," said Thomas Olivier, assistant men's soccer coach. "He remembers where he's been, but I think he lives every moment of his U.S. stay and cherishes it."

Keita's teammates said they don't know much about his past even though they have asked on several occasions.

"He's never mentioned how bad it was or what his situation was over there," said Daniel Withrow, freshman goalkeeper.

As a teammate, Keita is described as a relentless force on the field.

"He always shows up and works hard," Withrow said. "It's difficult because he's never played with any of us and it's a different style of play than he's used to, but I think he's meshed in well."

Gray said his work ethic in the team's practices is unlike many domestic players.

"He's a kid that doesn't complain about injuries," Gray said. "He's not one of these kids that feels like 'What are you going to do for me next?'"

Keita has played in 11 games in his freshman season. Throughout his playing time Keita scored one goal and had one assist, but Gray said he hopes Keita will become a bigger scoring threat in years to come.

"He's got to fine-tune his game, and he's got to certainly adjust to the Division-I level," Gray said. "We expect good things from him."

Withrow said Keita's abilities help to elevate the rest of the team's skills.

"At times, he's raised the level of play when he steps on the field, and that's what we need from someone off the bench," said Aaron Dini, sophomore defender.

Even so, Keita said he feels like he can improve his game in the future.

Off the field, the 19-year old is described as soft-spoken but humorous. Fellow international student Tom Jackson said Keita tends to be quiet, but when he's around his teammates his personality shines.

Gray said Keita has an infectious personality that helps the team off the field.

"He's a happy go lucky kid and is very positive," Gray said. "He's contagious around the rest of the guys. They enjoy being around him."

Keita, who hasn't decided on a major, said he hopes to work with soccer in some way in the future. He said he would like to play professionally someday, but if he can't play, Keita said he wants a career in the sport.

"It depends how life goes," Keita said. "I always want to be around soccer."

Keita said he has been playing the game since he was five years old living in the Ivory Coast.

Whatever the future holds for the forward, one can be assured that Keita is a fighter. Whether on the field or in life, Gray said he gives 100 percent at all times.

"He's an aggressive player," Gray said. "He tackles hard and his teammates sometimes get a little upset with that because they get some knocks and bruises, but I think that makes them better players."

Keita said he thinks he has adjusted to American culture, but he said his new country had some differences he had to get used to.

"The weather is different here," Keita said. "It's cold over here. That's the stuff I hate the most."

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SHOLTEN SINGER | THE PARTHENON

Freshman Marshall soccer player Fayanga Keita hasn't lived the life of a normal 19-year-old. His father still lives in the war-torn Ivory Coast.

## Herd golf coach has been teeing it up for a long time

BY WILL SELBEE  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's Joe Feaganes has dedicated his life to Thundering Herd golf.

Feaganes, a Marshall alumnus, is the head coach of the men's golf team and has been with the program for 38 years.

"Marshall has had a long standing tradition as being a great golf program before I came here," Feaganes said.

Most people wouldn't know how rich in tradition Marshall golf really is until they have walked into Feaganes' office. He has wall-to-wall plaques, pictures, trophies and Herd memorabilia.

High marks in the classroom as well as on the golf course marked his stay in Huntington from 1962-1966 while he was a standout golfer for the Herd. During that time, a freshman team did not exist, so Feaganes didn't get to play much with the team until his junior year.

Feaganes was the captain of the team his junior and senior year and won the Mid-American Conference individual championship and team championship in 1966. He graduated from Marshall in 1967 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in physical education and speech.

"I think a highlight of my collegiate career was winning the Mid-American championship as a team more than the individual championship," Feaganes said. "I've always put the team before the individual accolades."

He would qualify for the U.S. Amateur in 1968 and go on to finish runner-up in the West Virginia Amateur in 1975.

"I got the privilege to attend a dinner during the U.S. Amateur, and the speaker there was Lee Trevino," Feaganes said. "I actually sat across the table from a guy that just graduated from Stanford University, PGA Tour great Tom Watson."

Closing out the 1970s, Feaganes was very active as an Amateur golfer playing in and winning several tournaments.

"I had several other top five finishes in the state amateur at the Greenbrier," Feaganes said. "I was pretty active playing, but once I got into coaching, I got my biggest thrills."

Feaganes was more than just coach in the 1980s and '90s.

He was named Southern Conference Coach of the Year in 1992. He served as chairman for the NCAA national golf committee from 1985-1990, was part of the NCAA District III golf advisory committee, Southern Conference golf committee, Mid-American Conference Executive committee and the USGA Collegiate Relations committee.

From 2000-2003, he coached the U.S. team to play against Japan. Feaganes also coached the U.S. in the Palmer Cup, which is a Ryder Cup-style tournament



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARSHALL SPORTS INFO

Marshall head golf coach Joe Feaganes, left, has been around the Thundering Herd program for 38 years.

putting the best U.S. collegiate golfers against the best European competition.

"Way back before the Palmer Cup, if you were one of the top players in the country you were chosen to play on the US or Japan team," Feaganes said. "The Palmer Cup is now the first-team All-Americans and the US-Japan team is more or less the second and third team respectively."

After the women's golf team was absent from Marshall for almost 20 years, Feaganes reinstated it in 2002. He relinquished his duties of the women's team after the 2003-2004 season. He is now the director of golf for the men's golf team.

"I've always felt like with coaching you can't just be a coach, get your paycheck and try to have winning seasons," Feaganes said. "I think you also have to give back to your sport because that's what paved the way."

Feaganes said good coaching tries to mold players into well-rounded people.

"Our role as coach is to not only set examples, but you are trying to make these players better men than they were when they came here," Feaganes said.

Feaganes also stressed that he is a disciplinarian.

"I'm big on discipline," Feaganes said. "I don't care what sport it is, you have to have discipline. I think young people now need discipline and they look for it

because you don't know how much they get before they come to campus."

Feaganes has some help with the team with volunteer assistant Pat Carter, who was also a standout player for the Herd from 1986-1990.

"Coach and I have had a great working relationship as well as coaching relationship," Carter said. "He was a great mentor. Not only did he lead me, but he has led players throughout the years to become better people not just golfers."

When talking about plans to retire, Feaganes was very adamant about staying until his 40th season.

"Not too many people have the opportunity to come back to their alma mater and do something that they love, and Marshall golf has been a part of my life since 1962," Feaganes said.

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## MU cross country runs into C-USA Championships

HOUSTON—The Marshall University men's and women's cross country teams lay it all on the line this Saturday in Houston as they compete at the Conference USA Cross Country Championships at Bear Branch Sports Field in Woodlands, Texas, hosted by the University of Houston.

Sophomore sensation Matt Schiffbauer headlines the men's team which is coming off two first-place team finishes in as many races.

Schiffbauer, a three-time C-USA cross country Athlete of the Week, will be in contention for the individual title.

Competing for the Herd along with Schiffbauer will be: David Caldwell, Chris Cole, Josh Feather,



Adam Frohnapfel, Eric Frohnapfel, Henry Heisey, Peter Starnes, and Alex Zurbuch.

The men's 8K race will get the morning started at 9 a.m. (CDT).

Senior Allison Cox and junior Kathleen Clark headline the

Herd women's team. The duo will be joined by sophomores Kylie Lemons and

Leslie Thomas, along with freshman Kelly Mortakis.

The women's 5K championship race will be approximately a half-hour after the conclusion of the men's race, roughly around 10 a.m.

For championship results, fans can log onto <http://conferenceusa.cstv.com/championships/09-cxc-championship.html>.

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# The Great Pumpkin



A volunteer at the Pumpkin House in Kenova W.Va. prepares the specially designed jack-o'-lanterns for the house's annual Halloween decorations.

## Sociology Club promotes study abroad

**BY CARLTON APGAR**  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's Sociology Club is hosting a presentation Thursday for students interested in taking social science courses abroad. The presentation will take place at 4 p.m. Thursday in Smith Hall, Room 531.

Students will learn from study abroad adviser and exchange coordinator Kylie Gallagher and other members of the study abroad office about which country would best suit their field of study. Students will learn about spring, summer and yearlong programs.

Members of the study abroad office will also present material from sociology and anthropology department chairman Anders Linde-Laursen regarding a spring semester program in Sweden.

Gallagher encourages students who have studied abroad to attend the meeting and share their experiences with the students in attendance.

"The meeting will cover a variety of aspects, but it focuses more specifically on the major," Gallagher said. "We're trying to emphasize to students how they can take courses in a unique and different way that you can't get from studying here on campus."

Costs for studying abroad vary with programs. Gallagher said the exchange program makes studying abroad affordable to students. Most students will pay the cost of tuition at Marshall for

their university of choice.

With the exchange program at Marshall, students will be able to study at universities in countries such as Argentina, England, Australia and Japan. Graduate assistant study abroad adviser Jessi Weddington said an international experience is essential in the current job market.

"I think it is a very big personal choice," Weddington said. "By doing this, you learn a lot about yourself, and it's a way to learn about the global economy, because all jobs are leaning towards anything global no matter what you do."

Thursday's meeting will be the final meeting before the orientation for the spring semester. Orientation is scheduled from 6 to 8 p.m. on Nov. 4 in the Memorial Student Center.

Linde-Laursen said having an experience studying in a foreign country is tremendously fruitful for a student.

"I think it is important to experience other places in the world," Linde-Laursen said. "Out there in the world, people think differently, do differently, and it is important to have some acquaintance with that. Not because you need to do as they do or think as they do, but they need to realize there are different aspects of the same reality."

Students can learn more about study abroad programs at the Study Abroad Fair, which will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 17 in the Memorial Student Center.

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## US Senate confirms new federal judge for W.Va.

**CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP)** — A unanimous U.S. Senate voted Tuesday to confirm Kanawha Circuit Judge Irene Berger to a seat on West Virginia's southern U.S. District Court.

A former county and federal prosecutor and Legal Aid Society lawyer, Berger has been a state trial judge since 1994. She is the first African-American confirmed for either of West Virginia's federal court districts.

During a brief floor speech before the vote, Sen. Robert C. Byrd recounted how Berger was also the first black female circuit judge in the state, and the first from her family to attend college.

"Through her drive and determination, Judge Berger broke barrier after barrier," said Byrd, D-W.Va. "Embodying true mountaineer spirit and pride, Judge Berger's contributions to legal service and education have been substantial."

Berger thanked those who helped her.

"There's not been any point in my career where I did not have people who were supporting me, who were mentoring me or who had an interest in me," she said. "I have tried to work hard and be fair and do the appropriate thing."

A biography provided by Byrd's office said the 55-year-old also helped integrate her local elementary school while growing up in McDowell County. She is the second woman, after U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor, to be confirmed by the Senate for a federal judicial post this year, Byrd's office said.

Both Byrd and Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-W.Va., recommended Berger to President Barack Obama, who nominated her in July. The Senate Judiciary Committee unanimously endorsed her earlier this month.

"We can be assured that Judge Berger will serve with enormous honor and distinction," Rockefeller said before the vote.

Once Obama signs the commission appointing Berger to the federal bench, she must take judicial and constitutional oaths of office after stepping down from circuit court. Berger said her timetable will depend on when Obama acts.

Gov. Joe Manchin would appoint a successor to Berger on the state bench. A special committee recommended seven potential successors last week.

# SUDOKU

Difficulty: 4 (of 5)

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### PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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### HOW TO PLAY:

Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

**VETS4VETS**  
FROM PAGE 3

"You would not know how many vets come to school here and are not aware of the programs that are out there for them," Mathis said. "We personally helped seven guys. They filled out their FAFSAs and they got their grants."

Mathis said he is hoping women veterans will join Vets4Vets because specific services are offered for them.

"People don't understand how much harder it is on a female in the military," Mathis said. "There's been women in the combat zones that have been raped, and it's not reported. If we would have a female student that is a vet and had anything like that, we know what routes to get things taken care of."

Kim White in Room 136 of Prichard offers counseling. Most veterans prefer to talk to another veteran rather than a civilian and would be comfortable talking to White, Mathis said.

Support groups will be available to Marshall students and faculty who have friends and family members deployed overseas, said Nick Blankenship, public relations representative for Vets4Vets. Students worried about someone overseas won't concentrate as fully in school, and the organization wants to take care of their concerns, Blankenship said.

Mathis said he wants Vets4Vets to be feedback-driven from veterans. He also said he is seeking donations to provide two computers, a television, office supplies and recreational activities for the organization.

Vets4Vets has scheduled a Toys for Tots event Nov. 5 and an open house Nov. 11, Veteran's Day, in the veteran's lounge. Mathis said the organization is still in the planning phase, but he is hoping it will grow and benefit the veteran population at Marshall.

"We know it's not going to happen overnight," Mathis said. "We started something not to benefit us, but to benefit everybody else. It comes from our drive of taking care of our soldiers."

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**YEAGER**  
FROM PAGE 1

said Huntington residents come together weekly to share their ideas on how to contribute to the Create Huntington project.

Create Huntington holds weekly meetings called Chat 'n Chews Thursday evenings in the lobby of the Hotel Frederick on 10th Street, where community members can participate in discussions about how to improve the city.

"Give us your ideas because we want to hear them," McChesney said. "We want to connect to the people who share similar interests. I know that whatever you come up with is ultimately going to improve my quality of life. It could most definitely improve the experience that people have when they visit downtown Huntington."

Phyllis Baxter, representative of the Appalachian Forest Heritage Area.

Baxter said the AFHA focuses on the conservation and heritage development of 18 counties in West Virginia and Maryland.

The AFHA works to conserve the natural beauty of Appalachia by doing things like planting trees and environmental cleanup.

Heritage tourism, also called place-based tourism, is the fastest growing segment of the tourism market, she said.

The lecture was the last of a three part series that focused on ecotourism.

The first lecture was given by Sterling Evans, Louise Welsh Chair at the University of Oklahoma, titled "The History of Ecotourism: Case Studies of 'Oro Verde' from Latin America."

Three speakers from El Salvador gave the second lecture, titled "Prodetur & Ecotourism in El Salvador," which was about their experiences establishing a tourism business in their war-torn country.

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**HALLOWEEN**  
FROM PAGE 1

Yvonne Combs, a Sodexo employee, was pleased with the enthusiasm of participants in the costume competition.

"I think this was really good for it being the first time," Combs said. "We'll probably do this every year from now on."

At 8:30 p.m. students began carving pumpkins for the competition. The judges will determine the winners today at 3 p.m. and the pumpkins will be displayed in Towers and Harless cafeterias at 4 p.m. in time for dinner.

Cheryl King, general manager of Sodexo, said she is always happy to attend the pumpkin carving contest.

"Especially for the freshman being away from home for the first time, I think it's good that we have a tradition like this that they can look forward to and feel at home," King said.

She said Sodexo ordered approximately 100 pumpkins from a local produce store and each pumpkin cost \$2.

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