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## The Parthenon, November 10, 2008

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# THE PARTHENON

WWW.MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM



**BASKETBALL**

**EDITION**

**2008**

## THE PARTHENON

ESTABLISHED 1898

**AARON MCVEY**  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

**BRIAN DALEK**  
MANAGING EDITOR

**SHEA ANDERSON**  
NEWS EDITOR

**TOM BRAGG**  
SPORTS EDITOR

**BETH ROBERTS**  
LIFE EDITOR

**ANDREW RAMSPACHER**  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

**ERIN THOMPSON**  
COPY EDITOR

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### 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

## Go Herd hoops!

### Basketball season looks promising

College football's regular season is nearing its end, but have no fear sports fans because basketball season is right around the corner.

The Marshall women's basketball team has its first regular season game on the road against Appalachian State on Friday, while the men's team begins its regular season Nov. 16 at home against West Virginia Tech.

This year, men's head coach Donnie Jones and women's coach Royce Chadwick are sure to bring some excitement to the Cam Henderson Center. Both teams posted records above .500 last season — the men's team finished 16-14, its first winning campaign in seven seasons, and the women's team, which hasn't had a losing record in five years, finished 17-16.

Both coaches have put together some talented rosters of both new and returning players, and the future of the basketball program looks promising.

But what fans need to keep in mind this season is that it isn't just the men's regular winning games — Chadwick and company get their share of wins as well.

So Marshall fans need to come out in support of both the women's and men's teams.

As a basketball player, there aren't too many feelings that equate to coming out onto the court only to see a packed house.

So as a university, let's show some support for our teams and give them the encouragement they need to go all the way.

## Parthenon online poll

What news channel did you watch on election night?

Answer 1 ..... CNN  
Answer 2 ..... MSNBC  
Answer 3 ..... Fox News  
Answer 4 ..... Comedy Central

Last week's poll:  
What did you think of Marshall's green helmets?

I liked them ..... 75%  
I hated them ..... 3%  
I don't care ..... 8%  
For special occasions only ..... 15%

vote at marshallparthenon.com

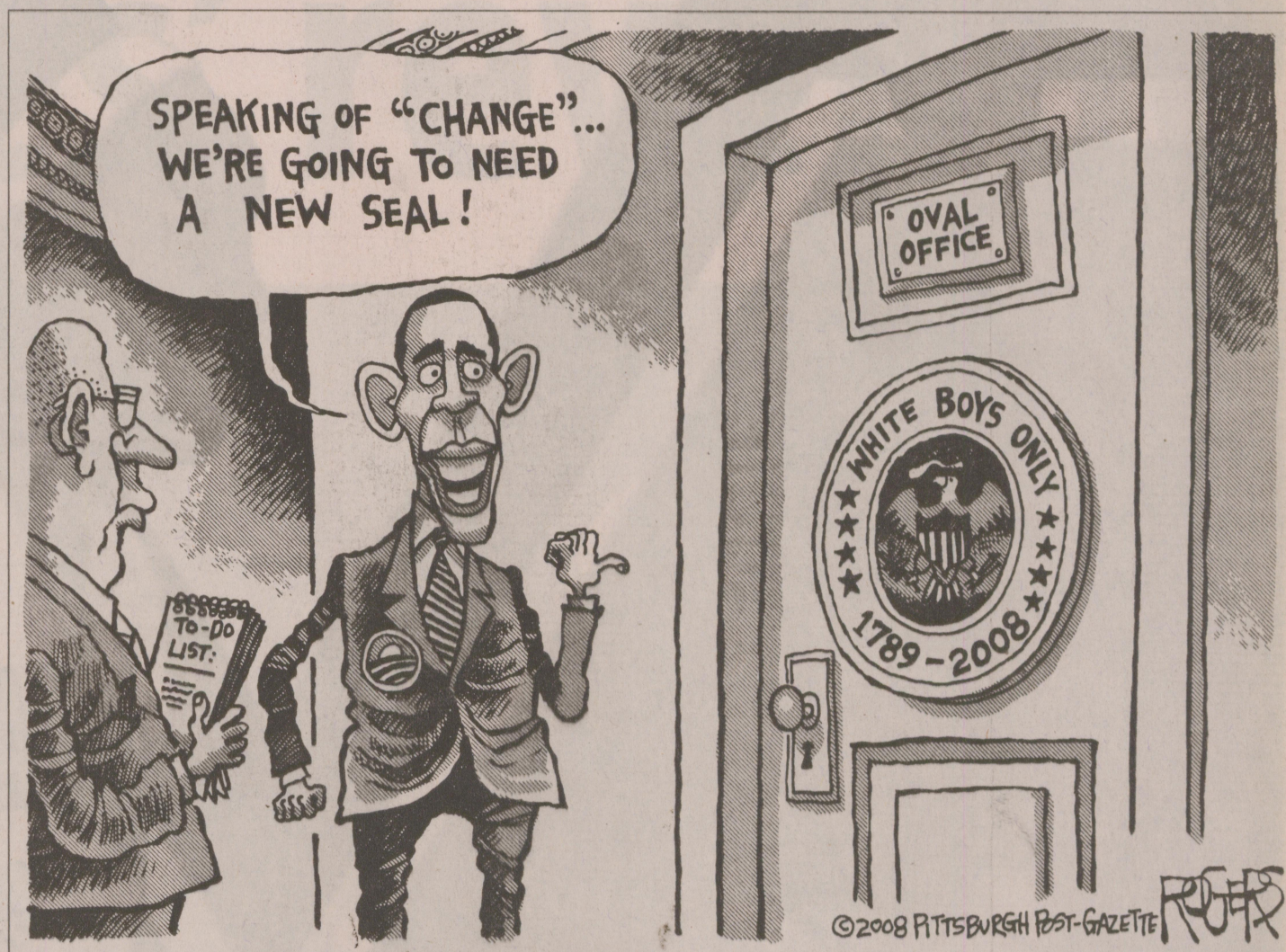
### Guidelines for letters to the editor

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.

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.

### EDITORIAL CARTOON | ROB ROGERS | © THE PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE — DIST. BY UFS, INC.



**SHARI CLARKE** | Guest Columnist | Vice President of Multicultural Affairs

## America's victory: A multicultural perspective

I grew up in the shadow of the civil rights movement. Like the country's latest president-elect, I was knowledgeable of the struggles African-Americans had experienced, but I did not personally experience the harsh ugliness that characterizes the 1960s.

I vividly recall black and white footage on the evening news of police attack dogs, gas masks hiding white faces and fire hoses filled with water beating down on struggling black citizens. Those photos of hate and struggle are seared into my memory.

I am like so many other Americans enthralled with the possibilities for change and prosperity in our country under the leadership of President-elect Obama. His message of diversity; it is the model of

inclusiveness that Multicultural Affairs strives to achieve. Separateness based on differences is obsolete. The divisiveness, name calling and negative jabs at those who are different based on race, ethnicity, gender, ability, socioeconomic level or sexual orientation is harmful to society. It is toxic and it hurts us all.

My son, who attends a private school in which a mock election was held on election eve with Sen. McCain the victor, was giddy after Election Day. He was eager to show his classmates that as an Obama supporter he had, in fact, been vindicated in his vote choice — Obama had indeed won. When he made a comment upon exiting the car that he was going to tease his friends, I quickly stopped him and pulled him back into the car

"I quickly stopped him and pulled him back into the car to discuss Obama's message... It makes no difference who you voted for — we are all in this together."

to discuss Obama's message: We respect Sen. McCain's heroism, leadership and sacrifice for our country. In other words, it makes no difference who you voted for; we are all in this together.

I am still in a wonderful state of mind, a kind of euphoria that grips me throughout the day when I recall what we as Americans have done. Obama's victory is a victory for all of us. It is about country, inclusion and humanity.

I am grateful for the pictures on the evening news that my

sons will recall years from now will be vastly different from those pictures I remember. Their's will be footage of a vibrant America in celebration, eyes filled with disbelief with the reality of President-elect Obama, faces of every hue shouting with joy, color photos of a world that has paused to applaud and to celebrate this historical choice, this transformational leader, this richly diverse United States of America embodied in the multiple representations of Obama and the American people.

**JIM LITKE** | Associated Press Sports Columnist

## Pros: It's not just you, we've all got mouths to feed

Move over, Latrell Sprewell. At long last, you've got competition as poster boy for the "out-of-touch" athletes movement. All it took was the threat of a visit from the tax man.

Before we open the floor to nominations, let's be clear about two things: First, no one likes to pay higher taxes; and second, no one should begrudge ballplayers the money they make.

Despite what some people still think, those are not "kids' games" they're playing and they didn't get to the top of their profession by being "lucky." If pro sports team owners spectacularly overestimated their value every so often — see: Rodriguez, Alex — well, good for them. The headlines these days prove the Steinbrenners weren't the only bosses taking big risks.

So, while being rich is not the same thing as being out of touch, talking about how rich you are is just that.

Sprewell was taking home \$14.6 million in the final year of a contract with the Minnesota Timberwolves in 2004 when the club, recognizing his advancing age and declining

skills, offered him a three-year, \$30 million extension.

Insulted, Sprewell turned it down, saying famously, "I've got my family to feed."

What set off a round of similar grousing in the pro sports world this week was the election of Barack Obama, and with it the likelihood of a hike in both the top tax rate — from 35 percent to 39.6 percent — and Social Security taxes.

"It's a sad day for me," said Minnesota defensive lineman Jared Allen, who supported John McCain. "There is nothing I can do about it now. Our paychecks will be cut in half."

Woe is him. Allen joined the Vikings for three draft picks just before the season started, signing a record six-year contract for a defensive player. He got \$31 million in guaranteed money and can make as much as \$74 million. That's on top of the extra \$69 he insisted on to match his jersey number.

Who else is dreading every nickel and dime?

Boo (Hoo) Weekley, for one. The PGA golfer was preparing for the Children's Miracle Network Classic at Disney

tournament Wednesday morning when he felt a stabbing pain in his back only to discover it was his wallet. Weekley would rather be hunting and fishing than playing golf, so he's talked often of retiring. Once he banked \$8 million, Weekley vowed, he would call it quits.

"That number went up, as of last night," he said.

Don't know if Boo's heard this, but retirement just got pushed back for anyone with a 401(k) plan, and the rest of us won't have courtesy cars, lavish buffets and the easy money of lucrative sponsor outings to soften the blow.

So instead of complaining, we'd advise Boo to do what most smart athletes are doing. Stop talking to reporters, get your agent and the accounting department on the phone and get what you're owed before the end of the year. Or maybe just win more.

A professor at Chapman University calculated that Tiger Woods' take-home pay from the \$1.35 million check he earned for winning last year's US Open was \$764,000, a figure that could be cut by almost \$200,000 if he wins it again

## 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.

### Contact us

109 Communications Building  
Marshall University  
One John Marshall Drive  
Huntington, WV 25755

E-mail: parthenon@marshall.edu

### Phone and Fax

Newsroom (304) 696-6696  
Editor (304) 696-2522  
Reporters (304) 696-2520  
Fax (304) 696-2519  
Advertising (304) 696-2519

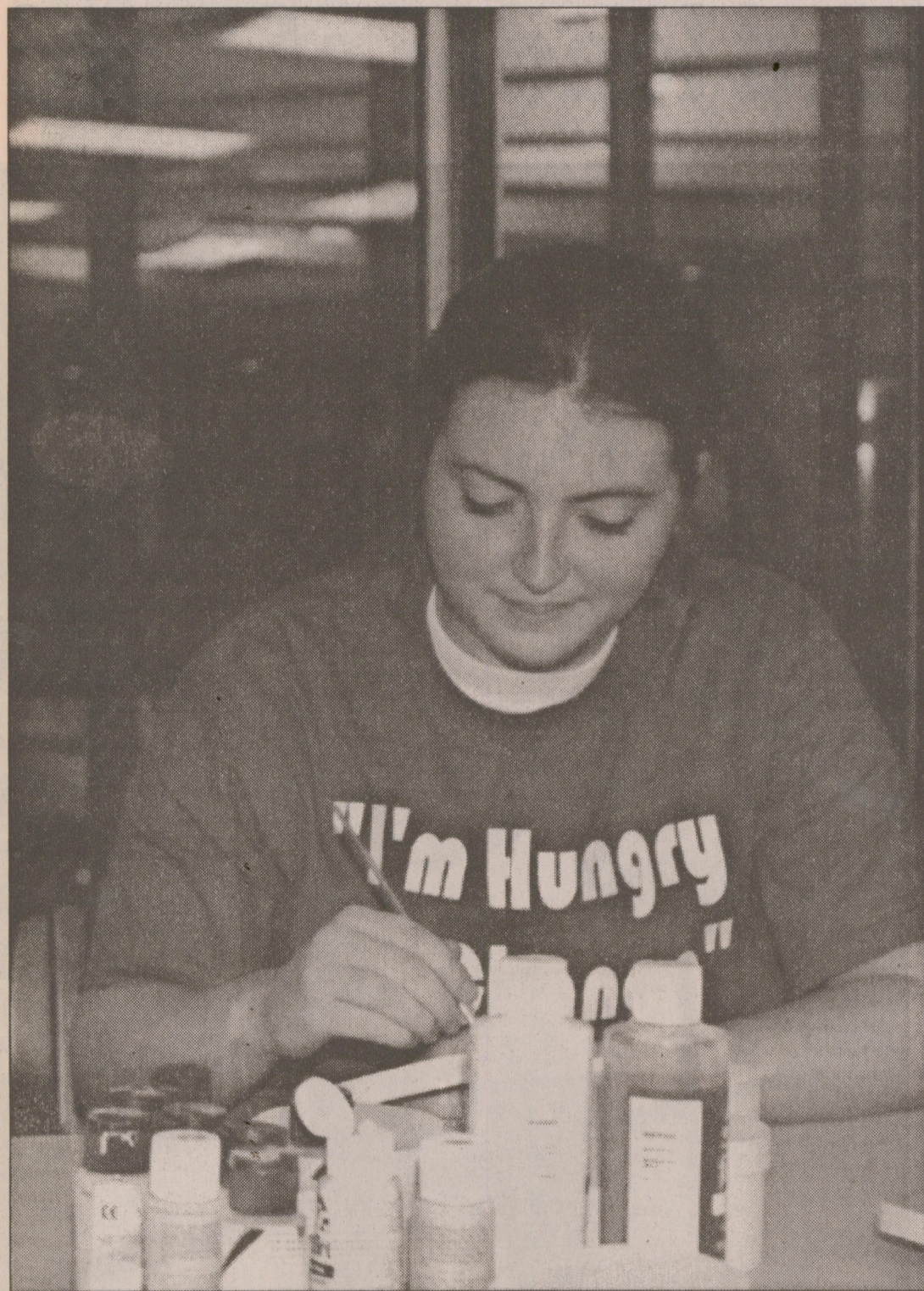
### Advertising & Administration

NERISSA YOUNG (304) 696-2736  
Adviser  
SANDY SAVAGE-YORK (304) 696-2273  
Advertising Manager  
ADVERTISING OFFICE (304) 696-3346

### Editors

Aaron McVey Executive editor mcvey12@marshall.edu  
Brian Dalek Managing editor dalek@marshall.edu  
Shea Anderson News editor anderson84@marshall.edu  
Tom Bragg Sports editor bragg41@marshall.edu  
Andrew Ramsbacher Assistant Sports editor ramsbacher@marshall.edu  
Beth Roberts Life editor roberts102@marshall.edu  
Erin Thompson Copy editor thompson234@marshall.edu  
Marlowe Hereford Copy editor hereford4@marshall.edu  
Audrey Hamoy Photo editor hamoy@marshall.edu

## Darfur: Breaking the Silence raises awareness, funds



Kayla Cole works on crafts that were available at Darfur: Breaking the Silence's "Hungry for Change" event.

BY MEGAN BRYANT  
THE PARTHENON

In an attempt to feed her passion for helping others, a sophomore nursing major from Huntington created an unofficial student group at Marshall University that aims to increase understanding and raise money for the victims of the genocide in Darfur.

Kati E. Bailey, creator of The Darfur: Breaking the Silence, said the main goal of the group is to educate, not only Marshall students, but also people of the community about what is going on in Darfur.

"I want to raise awareness of the crisis in Darfur," Bailey said. "I hope that they will want to help out and become a part of it."

Darfur is a region in Sudan about the size of Texas. In 2003, two groups rebelled against the Khartoum government. The government launched a campaign in response that affected millions of innocent civilians.

The 2 million civilians who fled from the genocide rely on help from international aid to survive.

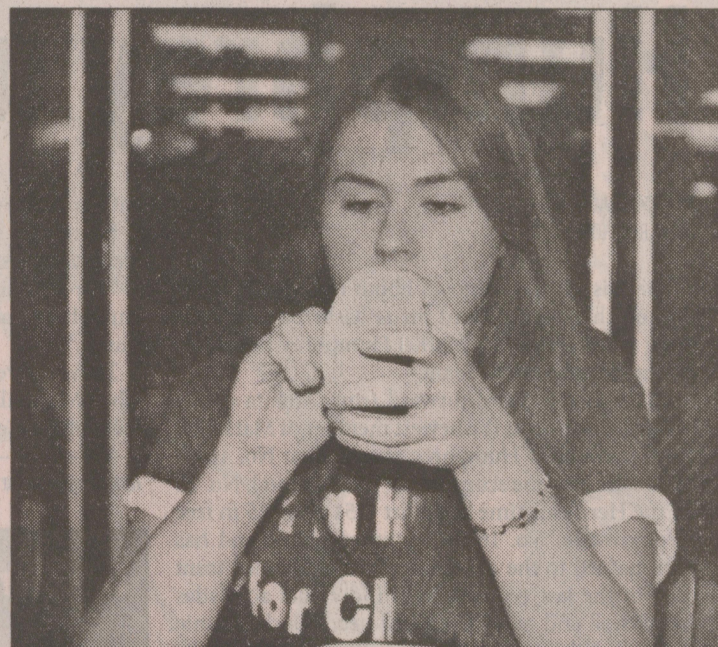
That is where the group Darfur: Breaking the Silence works to help out.

"It isn't right that people have to die and no one cares because of where they live," Bailey said.

A recent event that the group sponsored was the barefoot walk.

Members of the group and others who wanted to participate walked on campus barefoot for the entire day. The group did this in an attempt to raise awareness of how the refugees of Darfur walk barefoot every day.

All the proceeds raised went to help feed the children of Dar-



Morgan Young stays busy while fasting for 30 hours during "Hungry for Change."

fur and send 100 pairs of shoes to refugees.

The group also hosted an event called "Hungry for Change" on Friday.

Group members and others went 30 hours without eating to represent their "hunger" for change.

They began the famine at 9 a.m. Friday and ended at 3 p.m. Saturday.

"I have a heart for people who are suffering," member Ashley Stephens said. "I think it is wrong."

The event took place on the second floor of the Student Memorial Center where a Rock Band challenge for the event was held to raise money. The event also included T-shirt sales, making bracelets and playing board games. All of the proceeds from the Hungry for Change went the World of Vi-

sion organization.

Bailey said she was hoping a lot of people would come and gain from the experience.

"It is to literally educate everyone in the community and show how they can make a difference," Bailey said.

She said people want to help out and contribute but that they don't know how, and that is what the group is designed to do.

"We provide people with a way to make a difference," Bailey said.

Darfur report cards were also available to the students to show them how well their representatives were doing in helping out with the Darfur situation.

If a student wasn't happy about the grade, he or she could write a letter to his or her representative and express how he or she felt.

The money will be used to send rice and water to the refugees.

Megan Bryant can be contacted at bryant90@marshall.edu.



Students play basketball in Gullickson Hall, one of the few intramurals offered there. With the opening of the new recreation center in February, more sports will be added including water polo, dodgeball and indoor soccer.

## Rec center to offer intramurals

BY KELSIE EBERLY  
THE PARTHENON

For those students who might not be athletes but still want their sports fix, intramural sports are on the rise at Marshall.

"With the opening of the new campus recreation center, the opportunity for new intramural sports will be great," said Phil Snyder, assistant director of intramural sports and special events.

The current Gullickson Hall gym schedule only has enough time slots for dodgeball, basketball and ultimate Frisbee.

The new campus recreation center will have four basketball or volleyball courts, three badminton or pickleball courts and three racquetball or walleyball courts.

The use of these courts will strictly be for Marshall students

and faculty and will offer a wide variety of intramural sports.

The tentative list of intramural sports offered in the spring will include basketball, water polo, weight lifting, wiffleball, walleyball, table tennis and badminton.

The new expanded schedule for the fall 2009 semester includes flag football, dodgeball, tennis, racquetball, volleyball, indoor soccer and kickball.

Eric Wilber, freshman sports marketing and management major from Cincinnati, Ohio, said he is looking forward to getting more involved.

"I played sports in high school and would like to keep playing here at Marshall," Wilber said. "So this gives me a way to do that."

Snyder said he thinks intramurals also provide an outlet for students to relieve stress from college life.

"Intramural sports are great because they work to enhance the academic experience and promote friendly competition, teamwork (and) exercise," Snyder said.

The expanded intramural schedule and opening of the new facility also brings another opportunity for students.

Snyder and the rest of the campus recreation staff will be looking to employ hardworking and eager individuals for officiating and scorekeeping, as well as supervisor positions.

Anyone interested should contact the Department of Campus Recreation. Their offices are located in the Henderson Center.

The new campus recreation center is scheduled to open February 2009.

Kelsie Eberly can be contacted at eberly@marshall.edu.

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40021

# Thundering Herd

## Men's Basketball

# Humphrey undisputed leader of Herd

BY TOM BRAGG  
THE PARTHENON

There is much unknown about this season's version of Thundering Herd men's basketball, but one thing is for certain — Markel Humphrey is the undisputed leader of the team.

The 6-foot-6 guard/forward from Atlanta enters his senior season as the newest member of Marshall's 1,000 point club. Humphrey checks in at No. 41 on Marshall's all-time scoring list (1,014 points), No. 28 on the Herd's all-time assist list (151), No. 25 in free throws made, No. 16 in 3-pointers made and has been named to the All-Conference USA third team each of the last two seasons. Individual accolades are all well and good, but Herd head coach Donnie Jones said the team's added depth will help make Humphrey a better all-around basketball player this season.

"(Last season) everybody knew it was coming through Markel," Jones said. "This year, we have some different options that can make things happen which can open up his game to a different level for us."

One of those options will be freshman point guard Damier Pitts. Fresh off a stint at the Hargrave Military Academy, Pitts said while he feels he has earned his teammates respect in practice, he has guys to look up to as team leaders.

"When the time comes I'll become a leader, but for now I'm looking up to Markel and Tyler Wilkerson," Pitts said. "They are the leaders of this team. It's their team right now."

Humphrey downplayed the kind words his teammates offered, saying people should focus on the team rather than on an individual player.

"Everybody has a part on this team," Humphrey said. "My job is to be a vocal leader and lead by example."

Humphrey will be without Mark Dorris for the first time as a member of the Thundering Herd. The duo known as "Fire and Ice" to some will no longer be a part of Herd basketball, but Humphrey said even though Dorris is no longer his partner-in-crime, the Herd will move on.

"We lost a great player but we have a lot of freshmen and transfers playing well," Humphrey said. "All 13 players — that's my partner in crime."

Humphrey missed action last season with a stress fracture in his foot, and has missed preseason camp and the Herd's exhibition win over Wheeling Jesuit

with an ankle injury.

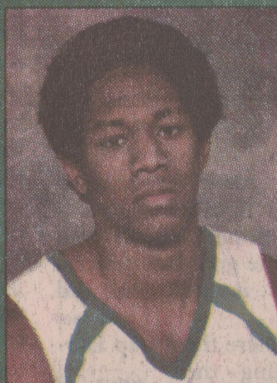
Humphrey said despite his history of injuries, this team can prosper even when he is not in the lineup.

"We have so many secret weapons on this team," Humphrey said. "Everybody can do so many things."

Those secrets will be brought to light Sunday when Marshall opens the 2008-09 season at the Cam Henderson Center against WVU Tech.

Tom Bragg can be contacted at [bragg41@marshall.edu](mailto:bragg41@marshall.edu).

### The Markel Humphrey File >>



Hometown: Atlanta, Ga.

Height: 6-6

Position: Guard/Forward

#### Career Highlights

■ 11.7 points per game

■ 1,014 career points

■ Started in 78 games in three years



PATRICK STANLEY | FOR THE PARTHENON

Markel Humphrey contemplates his next move in a game against Boston University last season. Humphrey returns for his senior season with the Thundering Herd as the newest member of Marshall's 1,000 point club.

## Freshmen to see floor

BY TOM BRAGG  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall men's basketball head coach Donnie Jones' time at the University of Florida as an assistant coach has been well documented, but that Sunshine State connection is starting to pay dividends for the Thundering Herd.

Jones was able to land three recruits from Florida — guard Shaq Johnson, guard/forward Dago Pena and forward Kore White.

Johnson and Pena finished first and second, respectively, in Florida's 5A Player of the Year voting. White's Dillard High School squad went 29-9 last season and captured the Florida 5A state championship.

Now, Johnson said, the team needs to come together.

"We've got to bond on the court," Johnson said. "We can't really bond in practice because we all don't play on the same team (in practice)."

Freshman point guard Damier Pitts from Hargrave Military Academy figures to see significant time on the floor for Marshall this season. Pitts said he chose the Herd because of how much he liked the Marshall coaching staff.

"Donnie Jones, when I came here, told me I had a good opportunity to play here," Pitts said. "I just feel comfortable with Donnie Jones and the assistant coaches and the team so I felt this would be the best place to come."

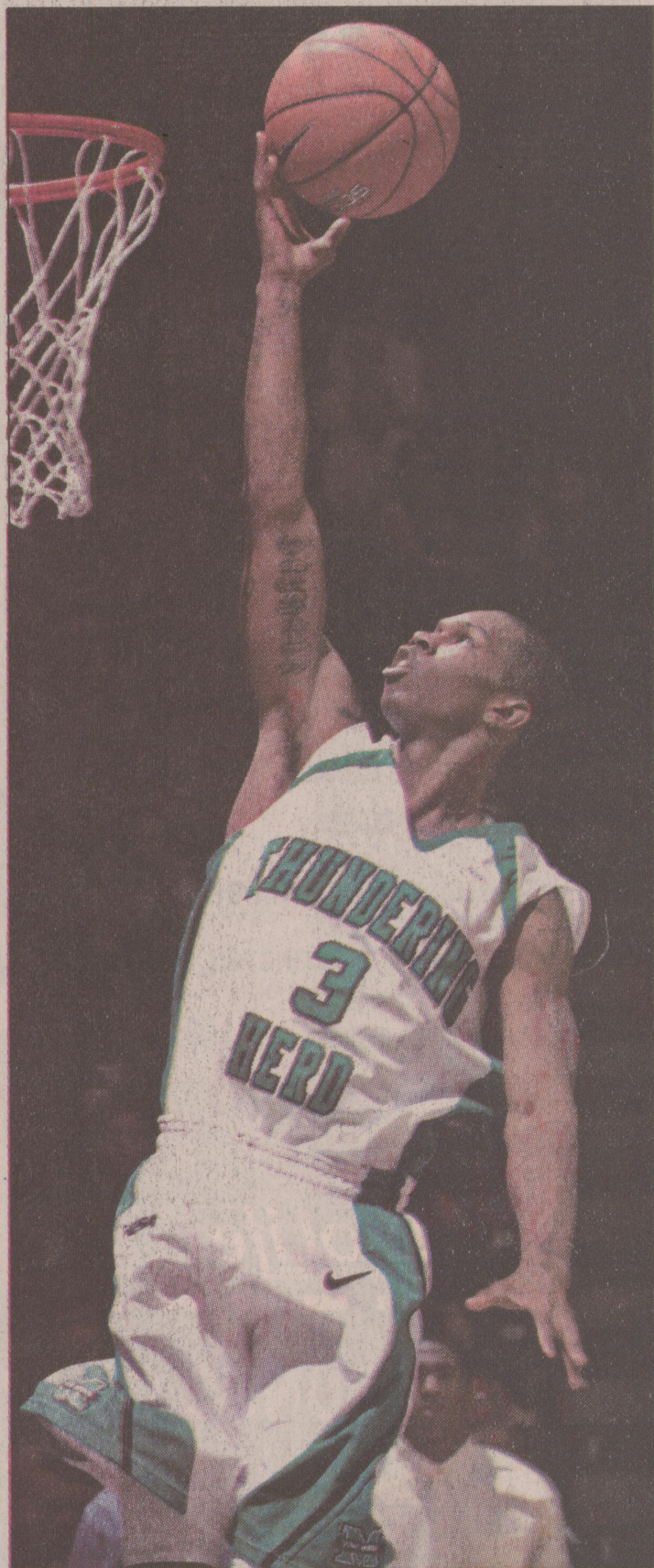
Marshall won its Nov. 1 exhibition game against Wheeling Jesuit 87-58, but Johnson said many of the Herd players were nervous, and not just the freshmen.

"I think everybody was nervous," Johnson said. "We have eight newcomers on the team. With the transfers, the freshmen and Marcus (Goode) being a Prop (48), we were all nervous. Even the returning guys were nervous — they were playing with all new people."

Johnson said despite the abundance of newcomers, all the players on the Herd were recruited or brought in knowing what style of play Jones expected.

"Everybody that Coach Jones recruited, he recruited to play in his system," Johnson said. "Pressure on defense, getting out in transition and scoring easy buckets — that's Thundering Herd basketball."

Tom Bragg can be contacted at [bragg41@marshall.edu](mailto:bragg41@marshall.edu).



RICK HAYE | FOR THE PARTHENON

Freshman point guard Damier Pitts goes in for a finger roll in the Thundering Herd's 87-58 victory over Wheeling Jesuit on Nov. 1 at the Cam Henderson Center. Pitts is one of four freshman on this year's roster and should see significant playing time.

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**MEN**

**>>> 2008-2009 <<<<**

**WOMEN**

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY

Thundering Herd

**Markel Humphrey**  
Senior  
Guard/Forward

**Chris Lutz**  
Junior  
Guard

**Casey Baker**  
Senior  
Guard

**Alix Barnette**  
Junior  
Guard

**Tyler Wilkerson**  
Junior  
Forward/Center

**Tynikki Crook**  
Sophomore  
Forward/Center

**Tirrell Baines**  
Sophomore  
Forward

**Damier Pitts**  
Freshman  
Guard

**Chantelle Handy**  
Junior  
Guard/Forward

**Alyssa Hammond**  
Junior  
Forward/Guard

**>>> 2008-2009  
Men's Roster <<<<**

**>>> 2008-2009  
Women's Roster <<<**

NO.	NAME	HT	POS.	CLASS	HOMETOWN
30	Tirrell Baines	6-6	F	SO	Laurens, S.C./The Patterson School
53	Marcus Goode	6-10	C	SO-HS	Chapin, S.C./The Patterson School
4	Markel Humphrey	6-6	G/F	SR	Atlanta, Ga./Stockbridge HS
23	Shaquille Johnson	6-3	G	FR-HS	Jacksonville, Fla./Robert E. Lee HS
14	Chris Lutz	6-3	G	RS JR	Bedford, N.H./Purdue
0	Darryl Merthie	6-0	G	SR	Sanford, Fla./Lake Mary HS
2	Camden Miller	6-8	F	FR-HS	Wheelersburg, Ohio/Western Carolina
10	Dago Pena	6-6	G/F	FR-HS	Punta Gorda, Fla./Charlotte HS
3	Damier Pitts	5-10	G	FR-HS	Charlotte, N.C./Hargrave Military Academy
1	Brandon Powell	6-3	G	RS SO	Memphis, Tenn./Florida
24	Octavius Spann	6-7	F	RS JR	College Park, Ga./Georgetown
34	Kore White	6-8	F	FR-HS	Fort Lauderdale, Fla./Dillard HS
32	Tyler Wilkerson	6-8	F	JR	Lexington, Ky./Lafayette HS
25	Adam Williams	6-4	G	RS JR	St. Albans, W.Va./Kentucky

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	CLASS	HOMETOWN
2	Casey Baker	G	5-8	SR	Bradenton, Fla./Lincoln Trail (Ill.) CC
21	Alix Barnette	G	5-8	JR	Chapel Hill, N.C./East Chapel Hill HS
25	Keona Brooks	F	6-0	JR	West Memphis, Ark./Southwest Tennessee
4	Tynikki Crook	F	6-1	SO	Detroit, Mich./Pershing HS
1	Raechele Gray	G	5-5	FR	Shelbyville, Ky./Shelby County HS
32	Alyssa Hammond	G/F	6-1	RS JR	Oak Hill, Ohio/Oak Hill HS
22	Chantelle Handy	G	6-3	RS JR	Durham, Tenn./Mount de Chantal
24	Angelica Harris	G	5-9	JR	Memphis, Tenn./Rend Lake Junior College
3	Rashedah Henriques	G	5-7	RS FR	Brooklyn, N.Y./Notre Dame Prep/St. Dominic HS
35	Andrea Ibezim	F	6-2	JR	Mt. Vernon, N.Y./Monroe Community College
10	Kendra King	F	6-0	SR	Fairfax, Va./Paul VI Catholic HS
30	Annette Kristiansen	G	5-9	FR	Westborough, Mass./Westborough HS
52	Kamille Lisonbee	F	6-7	FR	Providence, Utah/Mountain Crest HS
5	Alaya Mitchell	G	5-5	FR	Canton, Mich./Salem HS
11	Adrian Randall	F	6-2	FR	Brooklyn, N.Y./The Patterson School
33	Tania Walters	G	5-0	RS FR	Toronto, Ontario/Notre Dame Prep

**COACHES**

**Donnie Jones**  
HEAD COACH

**Shawn Finney**  
Assistant Coach

**Darren Tillis**  
Assistant Coach

**Brett Nelson**  
Assistant Coach

**Tim Thomas**  
Director of Operations

**JONES**  
2nd Season (Marshall)  
**16-14**

**Royce Chadwick**  
HEAD COACH

**Roxanne White**  
Associate Head Coach

**Jordie Soso**  
Assistant Coach

**John McGraw**  
Assistant Coach

**CHADWICK**  
8th Season (Marshall)  
**105-103**

**C-USA Preseason Ranking: 6th**

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
11/16/08	vs. West Va Tech	Cam Henderson Center	2:00 p.m. ET
11/21/08	vs. Morgan State	Daytona Beach, Fla.	2:00 p.m. ET
11/22/08	vs. Wigan State	Daytona Beach, Fla.	2:00 p.m. ET
11/23/08	vs. Mississippi	Daytona Beach, Fla.	4:00 p.m. ET
11/29/08	vs. Old Dominion	Cam Henderson Center	11:30 a.m. ET
12/02/08	vs. East Tennessee State	Cam Henderson Center	7:30 p.m. ET
12/06/08	at Boston University	Boston, Mass.	3:00 p.m. ET
12/13/08	vs. UT Arlington	Cam Henderson Center	7:00 p.m. ET
12/17/08	vs. Ohio	Cam Henderson Center	7:00 p.m. ET
12/20/08	vs. U. of The Cumberlands	Cam Henderson Center	7:00 p.m. ET
12/23/08	at Dayton	Dayton, Ohio	8:00 p.m. ET
12/28/08	vs. Tennessee State	Cam Henderson Center	2:00 p.m. ET
01/02/09	at San Diego	San Diego, Calif.	10:00 p.m. ET
01/07/09	at Memphis	Memphis, Tenn.	9:00 p.m. ET
01/10/09	vs. East Carolina	Cam Henderson Center	3:00 p.m. ET
01/14/09	vs. West Virginia	Charleston, W.Va.	8:00 p.m. ET
01/17/09	at Tulsa	Tulsa, Okla.	8:05 p.m. ET
01/21/09	vs. SMU	Cam Henderson Center	7:00 p.m. ET
01/25/09	vs. UCF	Orlando, Fla.	2:00 p.m. ET
01/27/09	at Southern Miss	Hattiesburg, Miss.	9:00 p.m. ET
01/31/09	vs. UAB	Cam Henderson Center	7:00 p.m. ET
02/04/09	vs. Tulsa	Cam Henderson Center	7:00 p.m. ET
02/07/09	vs. Tulane	Cam Henderson Center	5:00 p.m. ET
02/10/09	vs. Rio Grande	Cam Henderson Center	7:00 p.m. ET
02/14/09	at UTEP	El Paso, Texas	9:05 p.m. ET
02/18/09	vs. Houston	Cam Henderson Center	7:00 p.m. ET
02/21/09	at Tulane	New Orleans, La.	9:00 p.m. ET
02/25/09	at East Carolina	Greenville, N.C.	7:00 p.m. ET
02/28/09	vs. UCF	Cam Henderson Center	7:00 p.m. ET
03/04/09	vs. Rice	Cam Henderson Center	7:00 p.m. ET
03/07/09	at UAB	Birmingham, Ala.	3:00 p.m. ET

**C-USA Preseason Ranking: 6th**

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
11/14/08	at Appalachian State	Boone, N.C.	7:00 p.m. ET
11/17/08	vs. North Texas	Cam Henderson Center	7:00 p.m. ET
<b>Fifth Third Classic</b>			
11/21/08	vs. Tennessee State	Cam Henderson Center	7:00 p.m. ET
11/22/08	Morgan State/UL Monroe	Cam Henderson Center	5:00 p.m. ET
11/25/08	vs. Morehead State	Cam Henderson Center	7:00 p.m. ET
12/02/08	vs. Texas-Arlington	Cam Henderson Center	4:00 p.m. ET
12/06/08	at Seton Hall	South Orange, N.J.	2:00 p.m. ET
12/13/08	vs. Ohio	Cam Henderson Center	3:00 p.m. ET
12/16/08	vs. Houston Baptist	Cam Henderson Center	7:00 p.m. ET
12/20/08	vs. Richmond	Cam Henderson Center	3:00 p.m. ET
<b>Terrapin Classic</b>			
12/29/08	at Mississippi State	College Park, Md.	12:00 p.m. ET
12/30/08	Maryland/UNC Asheville	College Park, Md.	TBA
01/03/09	at East Carolina	Greenville, N.C.	2:00 p.m. ET
01/08/09	at SMU	Dallas, Texas	8:00 p.m. ET
01/10/09	at Tulsa	Tulsa, Okla.	3:00 p.m. ET
01/14/09	vs. West Virginia	Charleston, W.Va.	5:30 p.m. ET
01/18/09	vs. East Carolina	Cam Henderson Center	2:00 p.m. ET
01/22/09	vs. UAB	Cam Henderson Center	7:00 p.m. ET
01/24/09	vs. Memphis	Cam Henderson Center	12:00 p.m. ET
01/29/09	at Southern Miss	Hattiesburg, Miss.	8:00 p.m. ET
01/31/09	at UCF	Orlando, Fla.	6:00 p.m. ET
02/01/09	vs. Tulane	Cam Henderson Center	7:00 p.m. ET
02/08/09	at UTEP	El Paso, Texas	3:00 p.m. ET
02/13/09	vs. UCF	Cam Henderson Center	7:00 p.m. ET
02/15/09	vs. Southern Miss	Cam Henderson Center	3:30 p.m. ET
02/20/09	at UAB	Birmingham, Ala.	8:00 p.m. ET
02/22/09	at Memphis	Memphis, Tenn.	3:00 p.m. ET
02/26/09	vs. Houston	Cam Henderson Center	7:00 p.m. ET
02/28/09	vs. Rice	Cam Henderson Center	3:00 p.m. ET

SCHEDULE

SCHEDULE



# Thundering Herd

# Women's Basketball

## Marshall ready for banner season

Four returning starters, disappointing loss in C-USA tournament fuel Herd's fire to cut down nets for first time since 2005

BY ANDREW RAMSPACHER  
THE PARTHENON

Shortly after the 2007-08 season, Casey Baker sat in her room with a pile full of game film.

The 33 videos stacked to her right included everything from Marshall's thrilling overtime win at Morehead State to the Herd's triumph over UCF which gave coach Royce Chadwick career win No. 500.

While these highlights were great for fans to watch, the only thing Baker wanted to see was a lowlight.

She popped in the Herd's disappointing loss to SMU in the Conference USA semifinals.

"I was just sitting there like, 'How did we lose that game?'" Baker said. "Losing a 15 point lead in five minutes, I'm like 'How did this happen?' And then I see, we weren't hype enough. Our intensity wasn't up enough to keep the lead and once they got on their run, they just took over."

For Chadwick and the Herd's six returning players, last year's collapse in Orlando will serve as the rallying call as Marshall women's basketball attempts to win its first C-USA title since joining the conference in 2005.

Of course, the Herd did see a champion crowned last year — it just wasn't them.

"(The Marshall coaching staff) made us stick around and watch the championship," Baker said. "It wasn't like we asked, they made us. We were there to watch SMU cut the nets down, but it was a really great experience. It

made me believe that we can do that someday and I think this is our year."

Chadwick said having his players stay one more night in Orlando paid dividends for his team.

"That deal worked out for us very well," Chadwick said. "It was a situation where we got the opportunity to watch two teams play in a game that we couldn't play in. Then, we had a young lady who was selected to the All-Tournament team who had a chance to go down there on the floor. And we go to see accolades go out, knowing full well that those teams (SMU and UTEP) were going to the NCAA Tournament."

"So a lot of positives came out of that and we got a chance to see where we wanted to go."

Where Marshall goes will depend on the "young lady" Chadwick spoke of — sophomore forward Tynikki Crook. The Detroit native completed three consecutive double-doubles en route to earning C-USA All-Tournament honors.

She said she felt honored by the conference's recognition, but felt slightly sheepish being congratulated for her accolade on a floor shared by the team that ended the Herd's season.

"I had to go down there and accept the medal while SMU celebrated," Crook said. "I felt horrible."

If Crook is to make a second trip to the podium this season, she said it would eliminate all guilty feelings if she is joined by her teammates as C-USA

"We need to put some banners in the Cam Henderson Center. We haven't put one up there since we won the MAC (East) a few years ago and it's time."

ROYCE CHADWICK  
HEAD COACH

champions.

"That would feel great — Oh my goodness," she said. "All of us have worked so hard in the offseason to make our weaknesses our strengths, and if we were to win it all, that would just complete the cycle for me."

Junior forward Alyssa Hammond said she welcomes another chance like the one her team had last March.

"If I get there and the same opportunity presents itself again, I'm going to fight 10 times harder because I know what it feels like not to be in the conference championship with a shot to go to the NCAAs," Hammond said.

Baker, Crook and Hammond represent three-fourths of Marshall's returning starters who experienced last year's heartbreak. The other is junior forward Chantelle Handy, and her will to win is just as strong.

"My goal is definitely to win a conference championship," Handy said. "Especially being a junior, I don't have that much time left and I think this is the team that has the talent to do it."

Chadwick has a roster highlighted by an experienced nucleus of returning players who still

have a bad taste in their mouths stemming from what happened on a disappointing afternoon last March in Orlando.

It's that kind of desire that will help add a decoration to the rafters of Marshall's home arena, Chadwick said.

"We need to get in the NCAAs and win some basketball games," he said. "I think that's where we need to go and I think that's what this team can do."

"We need to put some banners in the Cam Henderson Center. We haven't put one up there since we won the MAC (East) a few years ago and it's time."

Andrew Ramsbacher can be contacted at [ramsbacher@marshall.edu](mailto:ramsbacher@marshall.edu).



RICK HAYE | FOR THE PARTHENON

Junior forward Alyssa Hammond is one of four returning players for the Herd this season.

## Casey Baker: A family girl with serious basketball talent

BY ANDREW RAMSPACHER  
THE PARTHENON

Casey Baker led Conference USA in steals last season. A surprise to her? Not really, she's been competing for possessions of things her whole life — the senior guard grew up in a house with four brothers and two sisters.

Making plays on the basketball court has always been easy for her — it was finding something to eat at the dinner table that was the difficult part.

"It was a first-come, first-serve type of deal," Baker said with a laugh, describing a typical family meal at her home in Bradenton, Fla. "Usually everybody gets to eat, but you know how that goes."

Today, Baker is regarded as one of C-USA's premier defenders. Her 3.2 swipes per game last year not only led the league, but also placed her in the top-15 nationally. She said her natural instinct for creating turnovers stems from her days growing up as the middle child in a family of seven.

"Stealing plates, stealing passes, it's all second nature to me," she said.

Baker came to Marshall last season after spending two years as a junior college standout at Lincoln Trail College in Robinson, Ill. She left as the Lady Statesmen all-time leader in assists and steals,

and after the 2006-07 season became Lincoln Trail's first ever All-American.

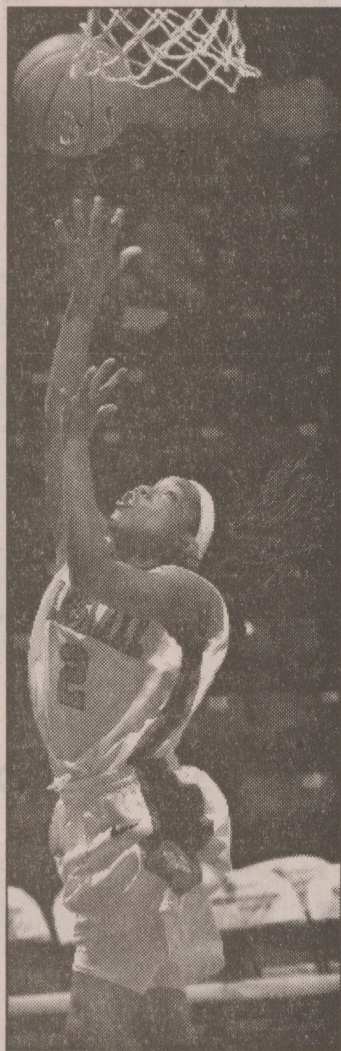
The move from JUCO to the Division I ranks is an obvious step-up in competition, but Baker made it a smooth transition. She was inserted as coach Royce Chadwick's starting two-guard before the season opener at Evansville and never left the lineup.

Not even a month into her career in Huntington, Baker was named C-USA Player of the Week on Dec. 17, 2007, after a two-game stretch in which she scored 22 points, pulled down 10 rebounds, dished out 13 assists and nabbed 15 steals.

She finished the year as the Herd's leader in steals, assists and free throws made and her 11.9 points per game was second on the team.

Chadwick said he sees what Baker does on the basketball court every day and can only smile thinking about what Baker did to her siblings in pickup ball games on the driveway. "When she is competing it brings out her will to win," Chadwick said. "I'm sure there were some very good games in that driveway and some mad people when Casey's team won every single game."

Baker didn't give away who



RICK HAYE | FOR THE PARTHENON

Casey Baker floats toward the basket.

SEE BAKER | PAGE 7

## Top players shine as Herd closes out exhibition season with win

BY ANDREW RAMSPACHER  
THE PARTHENON

This was supposed to be the exhibition game Marshall used simply as a learning tool, but apparently somebody forgot to tell Casey Baker.

The senior guard had 14 points, 13 rebounds and 10 assists as the Thundering Herd rolled to a 71-56 win Saturday over the DT-3 All Stars at the Cam Henderson Center in its final tune-up game

of the season.

"(DT-3 All Stars) are a good team," Marshall head coach Royce Chadwick said. "That's the first time all year they've been behind at the half. They've beaten some very good people and we're fortunate enough to get away with a little confidence as we move into the week where it starts to count."

The DT-3 All Stars were a roster full of former Division I players who are still trying to make their

way to play professionally. Since the start of exhibition season, they had been on a whirlwind tour of various college basketball arenas, making stops to play the nation's elite.

But for a team that had beaten No. 13 George Washington and taken No. 3 Maryland and No. 15 Virginia to the wire, it had no answer for Marshall from the opening tip.

SEE EXHIBITION | PAGE 7

## Homecoming 2008 SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

The Marshall University Alumni Association, Black Alumni Inc., Student Government Association and Student Activities Programming Board invite you to participate in all the activities scheduled for Homecoming 2008 — where there is truly "Something for Everyone."

### Monday, November 10, 2008

Office decorations begin to promote Homecoming  
12:01 a.m. - Voting for Mr. & Miss Marshall begins  
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. & 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. All American Air Brush Team on the plaza, SAPB providing shirts

### Tuesday, November 11, 2008

Voting continues for Mr. & Miss Marshall. Voting ends at 5:00 p.m.

### Wednesday, November 12, 2008

11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. All American Air Brush Team, on the plaza  
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Money Machine - MSC lobby  
Noon - 12:45 p.m. Jazz Band - MSC Lobby  
12:45 p.m. Homecoming Court Announced - Refreshments served - MSC Lobby

### Thursday, November 13, 2008

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. NCAA Challenge, Rock Band & Mario Kart on the Wii, MSC plaza  
1:00 p.m. Office decoration judging begins

### Friday, November 14, 2008

6:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Coaches Breakfast in the Erickson Alumni Center  
9:00 a.m. Announcement of winners of the Homecoming Office Decoration Contest  
Noon - Memorial Service at the Fountain  
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Reception prior to the Steve Miller Band Concert at the Marshall Hall of Fame Café  
7:30 p.m. - An evening with the Steve Miller Band at the Big Sandy Superstore Arena

### Saturday, November 15, 2008

Noon - Homecoming Parade kicks off in downtown Huntington  
1:00 p.m. - Tailgate Party Students & Alumni Welcome - at the corner of 5th Ave. and 20th St.  
4:30 p.m. - Marshall University vs. University of Central Florida football game  
8:00 p.m. - Step Show - Jean Carlo Stephenson Auditorium, City Hall



# Destiny awaits, but be patient

BY TOM BRAGG  
THE PARTHENON

The last time Marshall played a basketball game that counted in the standings, the Herd dropped a 48-47 decision to Tulane in the first round of the Conference USA tournament in March. In that game, the two teams combined 95 points set the mark for futility in a C-USA tournament game.

Herd sophomore forward Tirrell Baines doesn't want to re-live that moment, ever.

"I was crying (after the loss)," Baines said. "We didn't do the little things and (Tulane) came back and beat us. It was a bad taste in my mouth and I couldn't wait for this year to start."

Marshall had its biggest lead of the game, 47-37, with less than seven minutes to play in the second half. Tulane would score 11 more points. The Herd, however, would not make another shot.

"Ever since that game I have had a bad feeling in my gut," junior forward Tyler Wilkerson said. "We're real hungry right now."

Hunger is a good trait to have when a team is coming off its best season in quite some

time. Despite the turnaround season for the basketball program that saw the Herd win more games than it lost for the first time since 2000-01, the thing the Marshall players liked the least about last season was the way it ended.

For head coach Donnie Jones' second season, Marshall has a schedule that, at a glance, looks as if it could produce a 20-win season. The Herd has few, if any, significant tests on the schedule before returning to the site of its forgettable loss to Tulane, the FedEx Forum, to take on last season's national runner-up, Memphis, to open C-USA play. This is a season that could change the mentality of people around the country about Marshall basketball.

It's been years, decades even, since the Herd was relevant in hoops on a national scale. Not since the days of Huck's Herd in the 1980's has Marshall been a significant threat to challenge for a postseason berth. This season, that all changes.

With the advent of the College Basket-

ball Invitational, more teams qualify for postseason play than perhaps ever before. C-USA was represented well in the inaugural CBI. In fact Tulsa, a team Marshall beat in Huntington last season (and lost to in Tulsa), won the tournament. For Jones and the Herd though, an invite to the CBI should be a worst-case scenario.

All that being said, if things do not go perfectly this season, don't panic Herd fans. Marshall will be playing with a freshman point guard and only returns five players from last season's squad. Only three of those five figure to see significant playing time (Baines, Wilkerson and senior Markel Humphrey), so this will be a very inexperienced Marshall team on the court this season.

It's hard to say exactly how good this season's version of the Herd will be. It is much easier to say how high the ceiling is for how good this team could be.

Ever heard of the Sistine Chapel?  
Tom Bragg can be contacted at [bragg41@marshall.edu](mailto:bragg41@marshall.edu).



TOM BRAGG  
Third and a Mile

## BAKER

FROM PAGE 6

took those family battles, but said she still has the bruises to show from them.

"My older brothers, they're the more rough ones," she said. "They don't take it easy, they don't care. They foul or whatever and if they knock you down, they wouldn't say anything and keep playing. That's how my older brothers were."

After such a successful stint at Lincoln Trail, Baker had her pick of the litter when it came to choosing her next stop. Among her Division 1 college choices were Illinois and Michigan State, both nationally respected Big 10 programs.

Chadwick went with the potential legend approach to attract her to Marshall.

"What we told her at the time was, 'Yeah, you can play in the Big 10 and do some things, but you can come here and maybe put your picture on the wall as one of the all-time greats,'" he said. "And she's doing exactly that."

Another advantage to Baker playing in Huntington comes

each year in the schedule when the Herd travels to Orlando to play UCF. On paper, it's an away game, but those who were there last year said the Baker contingent in attendance made New UCF Arena look and sound a lot like the Cam Henderson Center.

"It's really nice and probably got us more excited," senior forward Alyssa Hammond said about the Baker clan filling the seats at last year's UCF game. "It actually put a little fire under our step because there were so people who traveled down there and then there was all of Casey's family — it was like a home game at Marshall."

Baker has traveled many miles over the duration of her basketball career, but never had a room to call her own until she came to Marshall — she said she couldn't have scripted it any other way.

"Growing up was fun," Baker said. "My brothers and sisters and I have always gotten along. We were never lonely, always having fun. It's been a blast to reach this point of my life."

Andrew Ramspacher can be contacted at [ramspacher@marshall.edu](mailto:ramspacher@marshall.edu).

## EXHIBITION

FROM PAGE 6

Sophomore forward Tynikki Crook scored five points and grabbed three rebounds during a 16-3 Marshall run that opened the game and foreshadowed the result.

Crook finished the night with 22 points and 12 rebounds — her second consecutive double-double.

Chadwick said Crook's success has been a testament to the hard work she put in during the offseason.

"Tynikki Crook is an outstanding basketball player and has learned an awful lot in a short period of time," he said. "One of the reasons Ty is playing so well is because this summer (Marshall redshirt freshman guard Tania Walters) and Ty got in the gym ... It made them both better players."

Walters said she saw Crook's uprising coming.

"I knew that she was going to be this much improved because we made it a routine for us to go every day," Walters said. "We would take some shots and she would post up on me, which didn't make much of a difference because I'm so small, but I pushed her up and everything and made it tough for her. She has a little hang time now, so I guess it worked."

The assist line on Baker's first career triple-double was a credit to Crook and company capitalizing on her feeds into the block. Fellow forwards Andrea Ibezim and Alyssa Hammond shot 50 percent from the floor and poured in a combined 18 points.

"I try to click with everybody on the floor," Baker said. "Ty is just a really good player and if a big man is running the floor you have to give them the ball so that's just what I'm trying to do to make my team better."

Baker averaged close to 12 points a game last season, so her 14 points were nothing unusual. Her 13 boards as a 5-foot-8 guard were a different story.

She said her individual rebounding total was a team effort. "The post players had their players boxed out so it was easy for me to get the ball," she said.

DT-3 was headlined by a trio of guards who had impressive college résumés — Laquita Owens was a perennial All-Big East performer at West Virginia, Jasime Byrd was a 1,000 point scorer at UNC-Greensboro and Kalika France was a national champion at Maryland.

The Herd, however, was not buying their accolades — the three combined for just 22 points on six of 28 shooting.

"I thought we did a real good job defensively, especially in the first half," Chadwick said. "Kalika France is just fun to watch and I thought we did a very good job playing team defense on her and a good job manning up 1-on-1."

All facets of the game clicked for Marshall with the exception of avoiding injury. Playing already without forwards Chantelle Handy, Kendra King, Keona Brooks and Kamille Lisonbee, its post hit another blow when Ibezim went down with an ankle injury late in the game.

"We have to keep them all healthy," Chadwick said. "We missed Chantelle and missed Keona tonight — there's no doubt about it. But when you have a team and you have good chemistry, when this one's sick, this one steps up."

The Herd's depth will be challenged Friday when it opens the regular season at Appalachian State.

Andrew Ramspacher can be contacted at [ramspacher@marshall.edu](mailto:ramspacher@marshall.edu).

# Herd volleyball splits weekend matches at Henderson Center

BY ARIANNA PRICE  
THE PARTHENON

Marshall volleyball split two conference matches this weekend at the Cam Henderson Center.

The Herd fell to 11-14 overall and 4-11 in C-USA after a loss to Southern Miss on Sunday afternoon. The Golden Eagles defeated Marshall three sets to one to improve to 16-12 overall and 6-9 in the conference. The scores of the sets were 25-18, 14-25, 25-21 and 25-18.

The Herd rallied in set three, but was unable to pull out the win, setting the stage for the loss.

After a Marshall point in set three to make the score 13-18, Southern Miss scored the next seven points to establish set point for the Golden Eagles. The Herd then took over, scoring the next seven points to bring Marshall within three. But, the Herd was unable to close out the set as the next point went to Southern Miss and the Golden eagles led the match two sets to one.

Senior Jalcia Ross, a middle and outside hitter from Bank Village, Trinidad, was the only Marshall player with double digit kills, with 11. Junior Emily Sullivan, an outside hitter and middle blocker from Cincinnati, added nine kills.

Freshman Megan Carlson, an outside hitter converted to libero from Andover, Minn., tallied 17 digs, while junior Kristin Marcum, an outside hitter from Arlington, Texas, added 10.

Sophomore Elizabeth Fleming, a setter from South Bend, Ind., had 33 assists.

The Herd fared much better Friday evening, picking up a win over UCF.

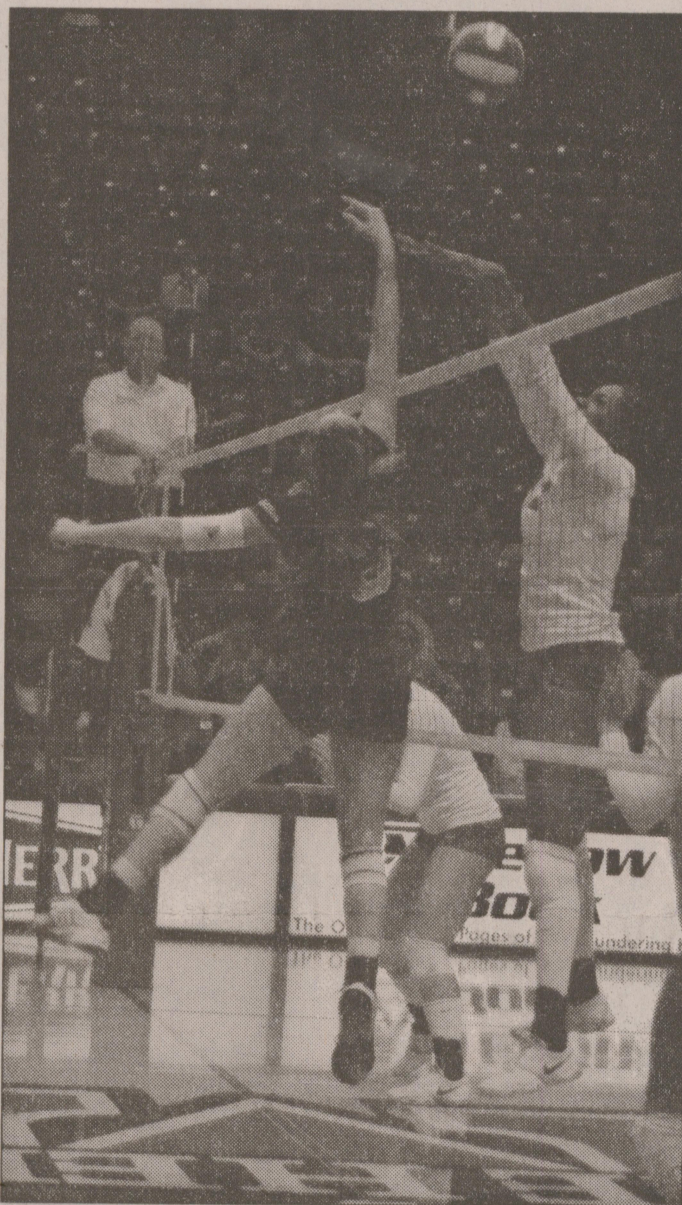
Marshall defeated UCF three sets to two. The scores of the sets were 25-23, 22-25, 25-22, 26-28 and 9-15.

With the loss, the Knights fell to 14-14 overall and 6-8 in the conference.

"They made a couple of mistakes that allowed us to take advantage and get some points on the board," head coach Mitch Jacobs said. "It's just like what happened at UCF except we got the win in this game. They are two of the best matches I have ever been apart of — this match and the one at UCF."

UCF defeated the Herd three sets to two on Oct. 3 in Orlando.

The Herd had four players tal-



AUDREY HAMOY | THE PARTHENON

Marshall senior middle hitter Jalcia Ross attacks the net Friday in a match against UCF. The Herd defeated the Knights but fell to Southern Miss on Sunday.

ly double digit kills and another four with double digit digs in Friday night's game.

Ross and Sullivan both had 19 kills, while sophomore Elizabeth Herman, an outside hitter from Dunwoody, Ga., added 14.

Carlson led the Herd with 29 digs. Freshman Jessica Dhoore, a libero from LaPorte, Ind., added 10.

Marcum and Fleming tallied double-doubles. Marcum had 13 digs and 12 kills, while Fleming had 58 assists and 10 digs. Fleming also added seven kills.

With the Herd down two sets to one and trailing in set four, Jacobs was issued a red card for yelling at the referees, but it seemed the coach's anger was just what was needed to turn the match around.

"Honestly, you hate for that to

be the trigger, but they did get fired up," Jacobs said.

Marshall was able to turn around and take the next four points to take the lead. After many lead changes and several ties, the Herd came out victorious in the set. This momentum carried over into the final set, where Marshall dominated, winning the set by six points.

"We need to keep in this moment, right here, right now," Jacobs said. "We made a lot of dumb mistakes, but in the end it was the way we played that got us the win."

The Herd returns to action Saturday at 1 p.m. at the Cam Henderson Center against East Carolina for senior night.

Arianna Price can be contacted at [price150@marshall.edu](mailto:price150@marshall.edu).

## SUDOKU

Difficulty: 1 (of 5)

8	6	7	1	9				
	1	9	8	5				
	3	7			1	8		
					4	2		6
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7		5	6					
6	7	4		9			2	
	8	9		6				
3		8						4

### PREVIOUS SOLUTION

4	1	3	2	7	8	5	6	9
8	7	6	9	3	5	1	2	4
5	2	9	6	4	1	7	3	8
6	4	2	7	8	9	3	5	1
3	9	1	5	2	6	4	8	7
7	8	5	4	1	3	6	9	2
1	6	4	3	9	2	8	7	5
2	3	8	1	5	7	9	4	6
9	5	7	8	6	4	2	1	3

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

# Forensic Science Center expanding with program

BY CHRISTIAN BRAND  
THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University Forensic Science Center is expanding because of its continued growth in the past few years. Construction has recently begun on a three-story addition to the center.

"We have one of the oldest and most established programs in the country," said Mary Thomasson, Public Information Officer for the Forensic Science Center.

The center provides DNA laboratory training for state and local forensic scientists. It was built in 1994. The first class totaled seven. The two year program now has 32 total students.

The addition may attract more students to the program. "Our goal is to eventually have 20 to 25 students in each class," Thomasson said.

The construction project will continue throughout the winter into next year. The building is scheduled to be finished in August, Billy Jack Stapleton, Superintendent of the building project, said.

The first floor will have two DNA training laboratories, Thomasson said. Each lab will be able to train eight people on high tech equipment at a time. There will also be a new classroom with the ability to seat 50 people. The classroom will have a removable divider making it able to convert to two different classrooms.

**"We have one of the oldest and most established programs in the country."**

MARY THOMASSON  
FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER  
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

The second floor will have four different teaching labs Stapleton said. The second floor will also have four different offices. The center will also lease biotechnology laboratory space to start up companies.

The third floor will have more research and teaching laboratories. The floor will "primarily be dedicated to training and office space," Thomasson said.

Neighborgall Construction is building the addition. Starting late this summer, the building has taken shape recently.

"A building looks to be moving slow until you put up steel beams up or something like that," said George Johnson, construction worker for Neighborgall Construction.

The \$4.2 million construction project was funded by student fees and National Institute of Justice cooperative agreements. The agreements were obtained with the support of Robert C. Byrd, Thomasson said.

Christian Brand can be contacted at [brand6@marshall.edu](mailto:brand6@marshall.edu)

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ENTERTAINMENT



# Pirates' revenge



MYRIAH HISAM | MARSHALL ATHLETIC VIDEO DEPARTMENT

Sophomore running back Darius Marshall breaks a run past Pirates' defensive back Dekota Marshall. Marshall was one of the Herd's standout players against ECU on Saturday, rushing for 123 yards on 20 carries.

## Marshall stages comeback, falls to ECU in overtime

BY TOM BRAGG  
THE PARTHENON

GREENVILLE, N.C.—Special teams doomed Marshall on Saturday at East Carolina as the Herd missed two field goals and an extra point en route to a 19-16 overtime loss to the Pirates.

"It was a very emotional game," Marshall head coach Mark Snyder said. "This is the first championship type environment we've played in since I've been here. I was proud of the way they came back and battled. (ECU) just made one more play than us."

Trailing 16-9 late in the fourth quarter, freshman quarterback Mark Cann found junior tight end Cody Slate over the middle for a 33-yard touchdown pass with 1:21 to play in regulation. Freshman placekicker Tyler Warner's extra point tied the game at 16.

"I had a post route read and there was nobody in the middle of the field with a linebacker guarding

me," Slate said. "I knew it would come down to me and him so I was hoping I would win."

East Carolina had a chance to win the game at the end of regulation, but Pirates placekicker Ben Hartman sailed the potential game-winning field goal wide left as time expired.

Marshall had the first chance to score in overtime, but failed to gain a yard on three plays before Warner missed a 42-yard field goal. ECU took advantage of the Herd's misfortune when Hartman made up for his previous miss by hitting a 27-yard field goal right down the middle to give the Pirates a 19-16 win and sending the sold-out crowd of 43,515 fans at Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium into near pandemonium.

Warner was in the game in relief of starting placekicker Craig Ratanamorn. The former goalkeeper for the Marshall soccer team missed a 26-yard field goal early in the second quarter and smacked an extra point off the right upright following the a Thunder-

ing Herd touchdown drive to open the second half. Snyder said the decision to pull Ratanamorn was an easy one to make.

"(Ratanamorn) kept pushing the ball right (in practice and in the game) and then missed an extra point. That was enough," Snyder said. "Tyler (Warner) did OK, but then he pushed his right too."

Snyder said despite the missed kicks, no one player is to blame for the Herd's loss.

"There is no finger pointing in the locker room," Snyder said. "We win as a team and we lose as a team."

Cann recovered from a poor first-half performance to nearly lead the Herd to victory. In the first half Cann completed only two passes for 11 yards with interceptions on two of his first three passing attempts. By the end of the game Cann completed 13 of 29 passing attempts for 137 yards and two touchdowns, both to Slate, to go with the two interceptions.

Sophomore running back Darius Marshall had another stellar performance, gaining 123 yards on 20 carries to lead the Herd in rushing. Snyder said his talented young running back showed a lot of heart in the loss.

"There is going to be a lot of evaluating going back and watching this film to see who can play at the championship level," Snyder said. "I thought we had a lot of guys

play right into that role, and Darius was one of them."

The Thundering Herd now faces the reality of having to win two of its last three games to reach six wins and become bowl eligible. Snyder said despite the heartbreaking loss, he was proud of how the team played and appeared upbeat about the future of the program.

"It's a dejected locker room right now," Snyder said. "I got to see some character tonight. In a championship-like setting with a lot on the line — we saw tonight who makes plays and who don't make plays. We haven't been able to evaluate that since I've been here."

Marshall, however, is left wondering what could have been. A Ratanamorn missed field goal at UAB and the missed kicks Saturday are the only things keeping the Herd from being 5-0 in C-USA. Slate, however, said both games should not have come down to kicks.

"It hurts, but both games shouldn't have come down to that," Slate said. "We should have had touchdowns and field goals before that."

Marshall will have a chance to redeem itself next week when former Mid-American Conference and now C-USA East rival UCF comes to Huntington for homecoming at Joan C. Edwards Stadium.

Tom Bragg can be contacted at bragg41@marshall.edu.