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## The Parthenon, February 15, 2023

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**Authors**

Evan Green, Conner Woodruff, Matt Schaffer, Chayce Matheny, Victoria Ware, Shauntelle Thompson, Rafael Alfonso, and Scott Price

## 15-Week Semester Sparks Debate Amid Calendar Creation

By **EVAN GREEN & SCOTT PRICE**  
EXECUTIVE & COPY EDITORS

Debate over the number of weeks per semester has taken the forefront of the conversation as faculty and student representatives have begun working with university administration to draft the academic calendar for the 2024-2028 school years.

The calendar committee, which consists of faculty and student members, has sent their proposed calendar forward to the Faculty Senate and SGA. However, there has been debate within the process regarding whether the university should continue with a

14/14-week, 15/15-week or 15/14-week schedule.

The 14/14-week schedule would cause no difference for students or staff and is what Marshall has worked under for the last two calendar cycles, or the last eight years.

“A 14/14-week, which is what we currently do: that’s no extra days off and just, you know, it’s what we’ve done for the last two years since Covid,” Isaac Raines, student representative for the Budget and Academic Policy Committee, said.

The 15/15-week schedule would give staff an additional week for classes and also include an extra two days off each semester for students; the exact dates are

not decided for the days off yet.

“The reason for this is STEM majors can’t really do the 14-week calendar that well,” Raines said. “We’re not having enough labs or class time, especially in the chemistry department. It’s proving to be a real big issue.”

The third proposed calendar would be a blended 15/14-week semester. This would give the fall semester an extra week of classes while keeping the spring semester at 14 weeks.

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## Campus Carry Bill Moves Forward Amid Protest

THE PARTHENON

A bill that would allow the carrying of concealed firearms on West Virginia’s college campuses will receive a public hearing Wednesday from 9 to 10 a.m. by the state House of Delegates judiciary committee.

Called “the Campus Self Defense Act” (SB 10), the measure was

approved by the state Senate on Jan. 24 by a 29 – 4 vote, despite objections by university presidents Brad D. Smith of Marshall and E. Gordon Gee of West Virginia University.

The bill now before the House would allow concealed carry on campuses for those ages 18-21 holding provisional licenses and those 21 and up with standard

licenses. It also would apply to residents of other states who may legally carry in West Virginia under reciprocity agreements.

The bill contains 12 exceptions where institutions may continue to ban concealed carry.

In Morgantown earlier this week, a group of WVU students gathered to protest the bill.

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## Train Derailment Prompts Water Firm to Take Precautions



Smoke cloud following the controlled explosion to release hazardous chemicals. Photo courtesy of the AP/Gene J. Puskar

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A West Virginia water utility is enhancing its water treatment process as a precaution following the derailment of a train hauling chemicals that later sent up a toxic plume in Ohio.

West Virginia American Water said Sunday that it's also going to install a secondary intake on the Guyandotte River in case there's a need to switch to an alternate water source. The utility noted that there hasn't been any change in raw water at its Ohio River intake.

"The health and safety of our customers is a priority, and there are currently no drinking

water advisories in place for customers," the company said in a statement.

About 50 cars, including 10 carrying hazardous materials, derailed in a fiery crash Feb. 3 in East Palestine, Ohio. Vinyl chloride was later released into the air from five of those cars before crews ignited it to get rid of the highly flammable, toxic chemicals in a controlled environment, creating a dark plume of smoke.

Residents from nearby neighborhoods in Ohio and Pennsylvania were evacuated because of health risks from the fumes, but have since been allowed to return.

By BEX LAW  
STUDENT REPORTER

Once a month, students can go to the Campus Christian Center to connect, take a break and have a home cooked meal for \$1 at the Lunch For A Buck events.

"We want students to get plugged in, and we want local churches to invest in students," said Tatum Ferris, Campus Christian Center's office administrator.

Lunch For A Buck is a monthly event where a local church will bring boxed lunches made by church members and sell them for \$1 as a fundraiser for the Campus Christian Center, which is a non-profit.

Ferris said the events are open to everyone, although advertised

primarily to students. Ferris also said the church sponsoring the lunch will often bring a few members, and they will often host a lot of faculty and staff from the College of Education since the Education Building is across the street.

"It's mutually beneficial for students and the community," Ferris said. "The students can come and take a break, the community can network and participate in fellowship with students and staff, and the money we raise helps serve the building."

Ferris went on to say that since the COVID-19 pandemic, attendance of Lunch For A Buck has slimmed down remarkably. After stopping the event, it has been challenging to "get everyone on the same page that it's

happening again," Ferris said.

Ferris also said it is important to know that Lunch For A Buck is not just for students who attend the organizations hosted in the Campus Christian Center.

"All students - regardless of religious status or point of view - anyone is always welcome to come in and have a snack, have a break," Ferris said.

Remaining spring 2023 semester dates for the event are Feb. 28, sponsored by First United Methodist Church; Mar. 28, sponsored by Fifth Avenue Baptist Church and Apr. 11, sponsored by Pearidge Baptist Church.

For more information regarding sponsorship or participation, contact Ferris at campuschristiancenter@gmail.

## SGA Helps With New Internship Opportunities

By EMMA JOHNSON  
STUDENT REPORTER

New internships and research opportunities could come to the College of Liberal Arts in the near future because of a resolution proposed by the Student Government Association.

"If you are political science major, most people just assume you are going to law school," interim senator Savannah Harding said. "But there's obviously other careers out there that we just don't know about because we're not told about them."

While these internships and

research opportunities would be marketed towards students majoring in a liberal arts major, the internships would also be open to students getting a minor in a liberal arts degree.

"We just want there to be options for us," senator Makena Rauch said. "Because one thing about COLA is you can go into anything, but also that's the problem because students don't know what their options are."

Harding and Rauch are hoping to bring opportunities or students who cannot leave home, commute or do not have the funds to take a

summer internship in a different state.

"There's not a lot of internships in the Huntington area that people have shown they want, so we want local people to come to us and have internships students would be interested in," Rauch said.

While no set internship or research opportunities have been announced, Rauch and Harding have been working with the Alumni Association and Dr. Robert Bookwalter, the dean of the College of Liberal Arts.



# Society for Human Resource Management Recognizes MU



The Brad D. Smith Center for Business & Innovation currently under construction

Photo by Shaun Thompson

By **ABIGAIL CUTLIP**  
STUDENT REPORTER

The Society for Human Resource Management has recognized Marshall's Master of Science in Human Resource Management degree to be aligned with their suggested guides and templates.

"It's an honor to say that the Marshall University Brad D. Smith Graduate School of Business continues to be aligned with Society for Human Resource Management's standards, but more importantly, it's a tremendous advantage to our students," Dr. Avi Mukherjee, provost and senior vice-president for academic affairs, said.

Around the world, more than 500 programs at 425 different educational institutions have been acknowledged by the Society for Human Resource Management.

"For the human resource professional, the Society for Human Resource Management

certification is a significant distinction," Mukherjee said. "Beyond formal education, the Human Resource industry looks to Society for Human Resource Management for professional certifications."

The Society for Human Resource Management developed the Human Resource guidebook to define the minimum of what students in undergraduate and graduate programs should study and familiarize themselves with.

*"Students will continue to be better prepared than ever for careers in human resources."*

These guidelines help university business schools determine a set of curriculum to adhere to their standards as a part of the

Society for Human Resource Management's academic initiative.

"We were delighted to see Society for Human Resource Management, a globally recognized Human Resource authority, again recognize that the Marshall Master of Science in Human Resource Management program meets its standards," Mukherjee said.

Dr. Jeff Archambault, the interim dean of the Lewis College of Business, says that Marshall's Master of Science in Human Resource Management program has a long history of distinction that can assist students in their post-graduation job search.

"Students will continue to be better prepared than ever for careers in human resources," Archambault said.

This masters program provides students with the instruction needed to ensure that businesses and organizations can provide for the diverse needs of their employees.

# TEDx Returns With New Theme

By **ABIGAIL CUTLIP**  
STUDENT REPORTER

Identities will be explored at the fifth annual TEDxMarshallU.

The event will take place on Saturday, Feb. 25, in the Don Morris Room from 7-9 p.m.

Eight different speakers will be featured at the TEDxMarshallU event. They include: Ashalia Aggrawal, Audy M. Perry Jr., Dr. Hilary Brewster, Kathleen McAuliffe, Carmen Mitzi Sinnott, Rashad Sanders, Dr. Razan Khan and Sassa Wilkes.

"I am so excited to share our TEDx event this year," Darshan Sangani, one of the student co-organizers and this year's event coordinator, said. "I strongly believe we have curated a list of brilliant speakers whose ideas and associated stories will profoundly resonate with our audience. By the end, we hope to give our audience the tools and strength to explore their own identities and empower themselves in our complex reality."

TEDxMarshallU is an independent TED event where they are able to use the TED branding, but the funding and organization are done

independently. This allows for the topic to be focused more locally.

"The cool part about TED is that it's not about the story, it's about the idea, and the story is the vehicle to the idea," Bex Law, the event's executive producer and one of the student co-organizers, said.

This year's theme is "Complexities of Identity," and the organization of the event is being lead by Dr. Brian Kinghorn, an associate professor in Marshall's College of Education and Professional Development.

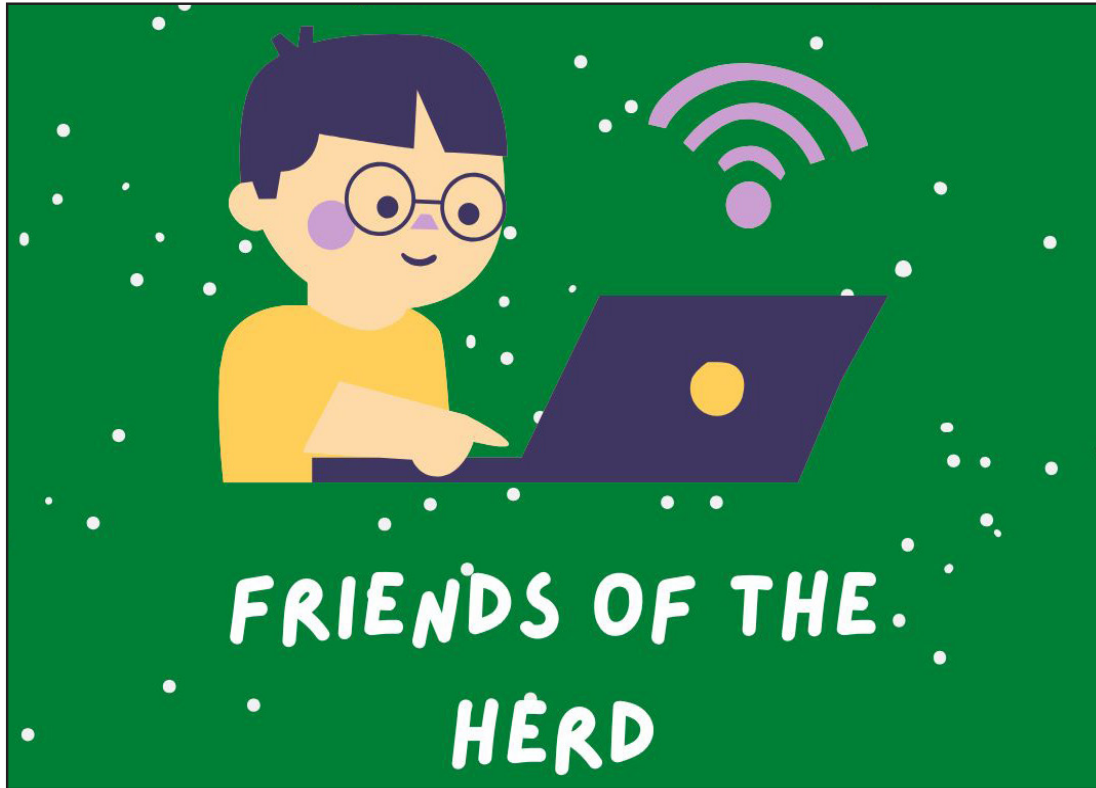
Kinghorn says that he is excited to be organizing the event and that, "Each year we wonder how we will find a comparable theme, team and lineup of speakers after our successful previous events, but each year we manage to go bigger and better."

Tickets are \$15 for general admission and \$5 for current Marshall University or K-12 students and are for sale on the event's website at [www.tedxmarshallu.com](http://www.tedxmarshallu.com).

**Bex Law is currently a Parthenon Reporter.**

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## Friends of the Herd: Accessible Resource Chat



Promotional Graphic for Friends of the Herd.

Graphic by Bex Law

By **BEX LAW**  
STUDENT REPORTER

For students feeling lost, intimidated or confused, Marshall offers an online chat box called “Friends of the Herd” to provide direct assistance to anyone with a laptop.

Friends of the Herd launched in 2021 as a way to help students navigate any aspect of college life, from academic needs, account holds, registration issues, financial aid and more.

Friends of the Herd can be found by logging into MyMU. The chat box is found on the bottom right of the MyMU dashboard with the sign “contact us” beside a text bubble.

“We have a list of resources, but often students just don’t know

a service is available to them or where to find that information, so I will just go on Marshall’s website and find it for them,” Chloe Murphy-Williams, an employee of Friends of the Herd, said.

Friends of the Herd operates from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday and is completely online. Those who experience phone anxiety or need an answer to a question outside of standard business hours can look to Friends of the Herd for assistance.

“The guidance is broad,” Murphy-Williams said. “Its purpose is so students across campus can access help through digital means.”

Murphy-Williams is a second semester practicum student currently living in Charleston.

She said a personal benefit to working with Friends of the Herd is the ability to feel connected and helpful to students from a distance.

Although Friends of the Herd is meant to be operational in the evening, Murphy-Williams said if someone uses the chat box during the day, they can expect a response within 24 hours. Anyone with an email is eligible to use it, as Murphy-Williams stated they have received emails from students, parents and friends of students.

Friends of the Herd employees are prepared to refer people to access further assistance for academic issues, IT problems, mental health, extracurricular activity resources and advisor assistance.

## Black History Month Features Hip Hop in Appalachia Event

By **JOSEPH DICRISTIFARO**  
STUDENT REPORTER

Hip-hop music, black culture and the Appalachian identity will be the topic of a panel discussion on the Marshall campus this week.

The two-hour discussion will explore the popular and sometimes not widely known thriving hip-hop culture in Appalachia. Eric Jordan, the West Virginia University Center for Black Culture and Research project coordinator, will be the keynote speaker.

Jordan, raised in Ansted and Morgantown, is an Appalachian music artist who has been performing since the age of seven. He and his brother started the independent record label Soundvizion Recordingz and the group 304 Reconz.

“We are delighted to have Mr. Jordan as our keynote speaker,” Dr. Cicero Fain, assistant provost for inclusive excellence diversity, equity and inclusion fellow at Marshall, said. “Not only is he an accomplished hip hop musician, performer and producer, he is a native son who is deeply steeped in Black Appalachia and hip hop culture. I am excited over the opportunity to bring Appalachian-based scholars

and local artists together to not only perform, but to discuss the historical, cultural and global impact of hip hop on the 50th anniversary of its birth.”

The panel discussion moderator will be Dr. Amy Alvarez, associate professor of English at WVU.

The discussion will host several prominent figures from the Appalachian hip-hop scene such as Deep Jackson, who is a Welsh veteran of the hip-hop scene. Duke Johnson, Scantag and Shelem all have ties to the Huntington area music scene.

Sociologist Dr. Angie Luvara from Frostburg State University will also be featured on the panel.

“This panel will serve as a platform to showcase local artists, discuss culturally-based responses and entrepreneurial strategies used by Black Appalachian musicians and producers as well as examine some of the challenges encountered in that process,” Fain said.

The event will take place Thursday, Feb. 16, from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Shawkey Dining Room of the Memorial Student Center.



# Black History Celebrated by West Virginia Singer



Lady D's performance is being held as a part of Marshall's Artists Series.

Courtesy of University Communications

By **VICTORIA WARE**  
OPINION AND CULTURE EDITOR

West Virginia songwriter Lady D is looking forward to an event at the Keith Albee Performing Arts Center where she can observe and celebrate the history of Black music.

Doris Fields, professionally known as Lady D, has been dubbed West Virginia's First Lady of Soul. She is a singer and songwriter who founded West Virginia's Simply Jazz and Blues Festival.

Preceding the concert portion of the event, the first episode of Lady D's documentary series "Those Who Came Before" will be screened. The series features several influential Black figures in West Virginia. Artists such as poet Crystal Good and singers Aristotle Jones and Rodney Boyden appear in the series.

"The point of the series is really to honor and celebrate West Virginia's Black musical heritage, history and future," Lady D said. "So, it's all about talking to people

now about who has influenced them in the past."

Lady D said she was surprised when she was contacted to perform at the Keith Albee Performing Arts Center. She is looking forward to having the opportunity to perform on the stage because she had often seen the advertisements for the Marshall Artists Series programs, but she wasn't ever able to attend a show.

The event is in honor of Black History Month. Lady D said that Black history is American history, and the contributions that Black people have made should be observed and celebrated.

"We are the history of the country," Lady D said. "There's really nothing that you can talk about in this country—in this history—without including Black people. We built the country. We have helped to keep the country running. We have contributed in all areas of life in the country. So, Black History Month is really 365 days a year to me. It's not something that's just set aside."

# 'People Person' Finds Degree in Marketing

By **ABIGAIL CUTLIP**  
STUDENT REPORTER

Following old friends to Marshall, one senior says she has learned that her instinct as a "people person" could be shaped into a career.

Shelby Blackburn, a marketing and entrepreneurship double-major from Minford, Ohio, decided to attend Marshall because some of her friends had also decided to attend and the surrounding area reminded her of home.

"The area kind of reminded me of home, so it was kind of like a cozy feel," Blackburn said. "And a whole bunch of my friends were also going to Marshall, so it was nice to know people and kind of feel like I had someone from home who was there with me." She decided to pursue marketing and entrepreneurship after a conversation with her mother in her senior year of high school.

"I had so many applications for different colleges, and Marshall's list of business programs and my mom looked at me and she just said, 'You are a marketing person. You're a people person, but also you have a very strategic mind. You should definitely go into marketing,'" Blackburn said.

Though she hopes to directly put her degree to use, she knows that she can utilize it in many different ways.

"I want to own my own business, and I wanna help people as much as possible," Blackburn said. "But if I would change my mind later, I also have that marketing degree where I can go into a field that

I'm actually comfortable with and where I can do the most good."

Blackburn started her freshman year undecided but focused on marketing. However, the COVID-19 pandemic began during her second semester. Though the transition online wasn't perfect, she says that "they gave it their best go." She also credits the professors with the transition.

"I really appreciate the professors who made it work," Blackburn said. "They definitely, like, made it as easy as possible to switch over."

"It was definitely a fun experience when you're freshly there with a whole

bunch of different people who are also freshly there," Blackburn said. "It was so cool to just be able to talk to people who were sharing the same experiences. It was definitely a sense of community." After she graduates on Apr. 29, she plans to start a career as an event coordinator in the Tri-State area. And she hopes to stay in Huntington.

"I don't know if I'll move yet, but hopefully there's some availability or some sort of market in Huntington, because I do love the city," Blackburn said.



Shelby Blackburn plans to work as an event coordinator after graduating from Marshall.

Courtesy of Kayla Wolfe

## Kinsey Scores a Career-High 37 Points as Marshall Sweeps Georgia State



Senior Taevion Kinsey

By Shauntelle Thompson

By **CHAYCE MATHENY**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Marshall defeated Georgia State on the road 88-77 Saturday night, Feb. 11.

Taevion Kinsey scored a career-high 37 points just after Andrew Taylor's career-high of 33 points on Thursday, Feb. 9, against Appalachian State.

Kinsey shot 12 of 19 from the field and finished the game with four rebounds and three assists.

"I think today I let the game come to me. I didn't force anything," Kinsey said. "They [Georgia State] played hard."

Marshall also had another player in double figures; Taylor had 26 points on 10 of 19 shooting, with five rebounds and five assists.

"I think it was us putting together a successful road trip," Taylor said about the team's

performance. "I think the last couple weeks on Saturday, we weren't as prepared and the energy wasn't there. Today, I'm proud of our guys for sticking it out. Even if they were tired, they kept playing. We have to play for all 40 minutes."

Micah Handlogten led the team with nine rebounds.

This game marks win 21 for the Herd, which ties the most regular season wins for Dan D'Antoni during his tenure as head coach.

"This is not an easy league. It's very similar to the one we came from," D'Antoni said after the road win. "Taevion was almost perfect, and Andy was A+. You don't get a sense of their determination and how it affects the team to propel us to win."

Now 21-6, Marshall will next host Georgia Southern Thursday, Feb. 16, at 7 p.m.

By **LYDIA MONTAGUE**  
STUDENT REPORTER

Marshall University Swim and Dive finished the fall 2022 semester with a 3.83 team GPA and accordingly earned College Swimming & Diving Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) Scholar All-America Team honors.

Earning the best team GPA in Division 1 swimming and diving, 16 student-athletes finished the semester with a 4.0, and 25 finished with a 3.5 and above.

"Performing at an elite level both athletically and academically is very demanding, but our women continue to find ways to elevate their performances in both areas," Head

Coach Ian Walsh said. "We could not accomplish this without all our support staff in the Buck Harless Academic Center, specifically Kaylyn Torain. She has been an integral part of helping hold our women accountable."

Torain, a student-athlete advisor assigned to the team, said swim and dive has been a great team to work with.

"They aren't a hard time to keep up with," Torain said. "I meet with the team weekly to make sure they remain on track. The team puts in the hard work. I'm just here to make sure they have all the resources they need."

According to the CSCAA, Marshall Swim received the highest GPA over other top five Scholar All-America teams such as Richmond, Harvard,

UNC-Wilmington and Brown.

"When I first heard the team received national honors for academics, I was so proud of them. It just makes everything that I do worth it," Torain said.

Although the entire team put effort towards the top GPA, Torain pointed out two athletes who she was particularly impressed with.

"Joelle Williams has had a 4.0 her entire career, and Maria McGovern has maintained a great GPA while swimming and participating in ROTC.

I love seeing my athletes succeed in everything they do," Torain said.

With the Scholar All-America title in their belt, Herd Swim and Dive will head to the Missouri Valley Conference Championships this weekend.

## Swim Team Earns National Academic Honors

## Women's Basketball's Win Streak Broken by the Bobcats

By **LUKE HAMILTON**  
STUDENT REPORTER

Marshall played against the Texas State Bobcats on Saturday, Feb. 11, ending their six-game winning streak. The Herd lost 64-60 at home in a close fought battle with the second-best team in the Sun Belt Conference.

The lead changed seven times in the game.

Marshall started off with great defense in the first quarter forcing seven turnovers and outscoring the Bobcats by five.

In the second quarter, the Herd lost its lead with a jump shot in the paint by Da'Nasia Hood with five minutes remaining. Marshall retained the lead near the end of the third quarter with help from the redshirt junior Mahogany

Matthews, who scored a bucket from mid-range.

For the first time in the previous six game win streak, Marshall had the lead at the end of the first half.

The Thundering Herd had trouble handling the ball in the second half, and the Bobcats took much better care of the ball in the second half with less turnovers.

Marshall still held on to the lead with two three pointers from Sydni Scott off the bench and a rare three from Marshall's center Mahogany Matthews.

The Herd went into the final quarter of the game up by two.

In the fourth quarter, Marshall started off going up by six in the first three minutes. Texas State quickly rallied back with layups by the Bobcats' reserve

center Jaeda Reed and starting center Laurn Thompson.

Marshall had a chance to tie the game up, but turned the ball over off the inbounds pass to junior guard Roshala Scott.

Although, Marshall was forced to foul, and Texas State converted four out of its six attempts from the free throw line.

Marshall had three players in double digits, which was not enough to stop the frontcourt duo of Da'Nasia Hood and Laurn Thompson who combined for 32 points.

The Herd's record has gone down to 8-6 in conference play with four important games coming up. Marshall goes on to play Georgia Southern and Georgia State this week on the road.



# Marshall Baseball Set for 2023 Season



Herd Baseball head coach Greg Beals talks to his players.

Courtesy of HerdZone

## THE PARTHENON

The Marshall University baseball team is set to begin the 2023 season under head coach Greg Beals, who is in his first season at the helm of the Herd. MU's first contest is set for Friday in Hoover, Alabama, as it begins a three-game set against the Saint Louis Billikens.

Beals, who was hired in January, has learned a lot about Huntington during his brief time at Marshall.

"The astounding overwhelming theme to me this first month is community," Beals said. "The sense of pride that's here in Huntington that revolves around Marshall University and our athletic department has been really cool. The people have been great and very welcoming. I'm excited to be a part of something that people care so much."

Herd fans will see a lot of new faces on the 2023 roster as it features 26 newcomers and 13 returning student-athletes. Among the returners is senior outfielder Luke Edwards. Edwards returns to Huntington after a season that saw him reach base in all but one game and had a 61-game on base streak from the 2021 season until the third to last game of the 2022 campaign. The all-Conference USA first-team honoree finished first in C-USA in hits per game at 1.53, 41st in the country, sixth in Conference USA, 88th in the nation, with 84 hits and 10th in C-USA with 137 total bases.

"Luke is a great college baseball player," Beals said. "He's got an even-keel tempo to him. That allows him to be consistent. That's what I like. I like to see a guy that's going to be able to consistently produce in some shape or form."

In addition to Edwards, Marshall returns some key arms. Patrick Copen and Zac Addkison each threw 63.1 innings in 14 appearances each with 11 and 10 starts on the hill, respectively. Addkison is the team's returning strikeout leader with 70 as Copen sat down 65 batters via the strikeout.

In limited work last season, Raymond Pacella recorded a 3.60 ERA in three starts with a 1-1 record striking out 13 batters in 15.0 innings. Ryan Capuano looks to be the team's stopper at the back of the bullpen after making two saves in eight relief appearances in 2022. He also made eight starts last season as he struck out 59 batters in 52.1 innings across his 16 appearances.

"We have some high-end stuff on our pitching staff," Beals commented. "Copen, Pacella and Addkison will be our starting pitchers opening weekend, in that order. Capuano will be the backend of the bullpen. If we have

the lead in the last couple of innings, you can expect to see Cap into the ballgame and finish it. The thing we're harping on is to pitch more efficiently and trust their stuff some to throw more strikes and pitch deeper into ballgames. We'll make our pitching staff better if we can get those guys to eat up innings to shrink the rest of the game and shrink everyone else's roles." With pitching being a strength of the team heading into the team's first season in the Sun Belt, Beals thinks there is one thing the team needs to focus on to be successful.

"Defense. I think we have the chance to pitch the ball really well. With pitching being a strength as you look at our ball club, then you have to take care of the ball defensively," Beals said. "So we have emphasized good defense. Not just the mechanical side of it, but positioning, philosophy and making sure the player is in the right

frame of mind to play good defense."

Beals knows that he and his team will be learning all season, but wants to see the team peaking come the end of May.

"There's going to be growing pains even within the season with the goal of being at our peak to play during the conference tournament at the end of season," Beals said. "What I have learned about these guys is that they're hungry. They want coaching. They want to get better. They want to play good baseball. That's what I'm fighting hard to keep providing them, right, wrong or indifferent, a different brand of baseball is what I'm trying to teach them. A brand of baseball that I'm comfortable with and a style of baseball that my experience tells me we're going to have success in the long run."

# A Silver Bullet to WV SB10 Campus Carry

By **NICOLAS RAFFINENGO**  
OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

Last week, the West Virginia Senate passed SB10, a legislation which seeks to allow students to conceal carry guns around colleges and universities across the state, with little exceptions to the policies on where concealed carry would be prohibited.

This policy has passed with overwhelming support in the WV Senate, but is lacking key support from the institutions which would be tasked with upholding the law: notably, West Virginia University and Marshall University, both of whom's students, faculty and

administration have come out against the legislation en masse. With such stark contradiction between what the people at these institutions want versus the legislators of West Virginia, why is it that higher education institutions are opposed to concealed carry, when, around the state, it is allowed with proper permits? The answer seems to come down to two key points: primarily, the safety of students and faculty as well as the cost impact to campuses.

Firstly, and most importantly, the safety of students on campus is of utmost concern. While legislators in the State Senate, most notably Sen. Rupie Phillips

(R-Logan) who sponsored the legislation, have come out and have stated that the bill is to protect the children of the state from violence, or more specifically domestic and sexual violence, this argument is not backed by overwhelming data. The Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness Center at the University of Michigan found in a report that "college-aged women (between 16-24) have the highest per capita rate of intimate partner violence. Twenty-one percent of college students report having experienced dating violence by a current partner, and 32% of college students report experiencing dating violence by a previous partner." But while this statistic is alarming, the solution that Phillips is providing with concealed arms is not the solution. The American Public Health Association reports that "abusers and firearms are a deadly combination, as the presence of a gun in a domestic violence situation actually increases the risk of homicide by 500%." Even in the cases of solely sexual assault, a gun owned by the victim has no effect on stopping the assault, according to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

Another prevalent argument by supporters of the legislation is that of being the "good guy with the gun against the bad guy with a gun." This rarely is the case as Hollywood movies may paint the picture, with increases in violence through shootings or homicides and an increase in suicides as reported in a 2016 report by the John Hopkins School

of Public Health. The report further states that there is no decrease in school shootings with the presence of campus carry. If anything, having students on campus trying to be a vigilante in an emergency could lead to more casualties, decreased effective response time from the authorities or themselves getting shot by cops or others. In one Google search, the majority of results show stories in which cops have killed the "good guy" in an accident, the "good guy" harms or kills others by mistake or makes it harder for the authorities to stop the emergency.

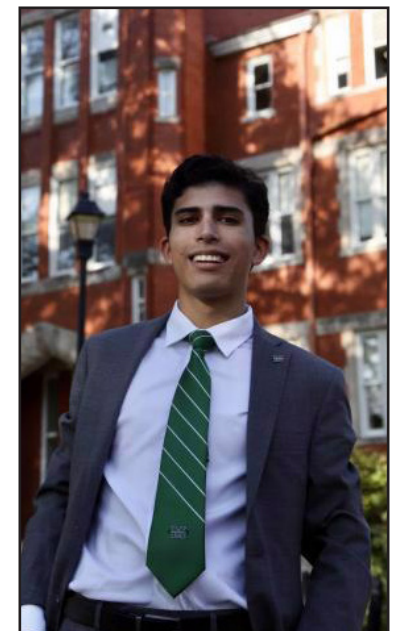
*"I find it imperative to shoot down bad legislation because good legislation is not one where you arm the students with 9 mm handguns, but knowledge."*

The other concern regarding the legislation, if we completely disregard the mountain of statistics that prove this legislation is a bad idea, is the cost burden on the colleges and universities of West Virginia, with no allocated funding plan in the legislation and possible further decrease in enrollment. The Register Herald reported last week that "the cost for implementation would be \$11.6 million in its first year alone." This cost increase coupled with the fact that other states that implemented campus carry saw a noticeable decrease in enrollment, with Colorado seeing a 5.8% decrease after campus carry,

according to PolitiFact, means that West Virginia higher education will have to adapt with higher tuitions or cutting costs, both of which are negative effects to the students and faculty at these institutions.

To the West Virginia legislators, I find it imperative to shoot down bad legislation because good legislation is not one where you arm the students with 9 mm handguns, but knowledge. Stand with the educators and students of the state and vote against this policy to continue to make our campuses in West Virginia "Wild and Wonderful" rather than "Worse and Wreckful."

*Nicolas Raffinengo is a sophomore double-majoring in political science and business. He is a Student Government Association senator, a Yeager Scholar and a presidential ambassador.*



Nicolas Raffinengo

Courtesy of  
TEDxMarshallU

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

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## THE PARTHENON'S CORRECTIONS POLICY

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



## School of Theatre and Dance Presents 'Steel Magnolias'

By **VICTORIA WARE**  
OPINIONS & CULTURE EDITOR

"Steel Magnolias" is a comedy-drama production presented at the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center beginning Wednesday.

The play, by Robert Harling, follows the lives of women living in Chinquapin, Louisiana. The story is set primarily in a beauty salon. The play was initially published in 1987 and had an off-Broadway run that led to its film adaptation in 1989.

Leah Turley will direct the production, and the cast includes

Kendra Williams, Eliza Aulick, Sierra Lutz, Samantha Phalen, Amelya Bostic and Nikki Riniti.

As part of the beauty salon setting, the play will feature running water on the stage; the actors will be performing hair styling techniques like washing and rolling curls. However, there are no mirrors for the actors to see themselves performing these tasks.

The play will be staged through Feb. 15-18, and Feb. 22-25 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are free for Marshall students with their student IDs.

## 54th Annual Winter Jazz Festival Features Joan C. Edwards Professor

By **ABIGAIL CUTLIP**  
STUDENT REPORTER

Jazz fans will be able to listen to multiple music ensembles at the 54th Annual Winter Jazz Festival on Feb. 16-18 inside the Smith Recital Hall.

Dr. Joseph Jefferson, a Joan C. Edwards distinguished professor in the arts and recipient of the 2022 Ellis Marsalis Jr. Jazz Educator of the Year award, is to be featured.

"We're honored and thrilled to have such a wonderful artist/educator for the 54th MU Winter Jazz Festival," Jeff Wolfe, Marshall's director of jazz studies, said. "Audiences won't want to miss hearing Joseph's performances during the festival."

Jefferson is a graduate of West Virginia University, and he is currently serving as an associate professor of trombone and euphonium along with being the director of jazz studies at Southeast Missouri State University.

The festival will begin at 7:30 p.m.

on Feb. 16, with performances by the MU Jazz Combo I and the WVU Jazz Ensemble I. At 6 p.m. on Feb. 17, the Jewel City Jazz Orchestra will perform, and the Joseph Jefferson Quartet will follow. Finally, at 6 p.m. on Feb. 18, the festival will conclude with the Thundering Herd All-Star Jazz Ensemble and then the Marshall University Jazz Ensemble I, which will feature Jefferson.

Additionally, middle school and high school jazz ensembles will perform on Feb. 17 and 18, beginning at 9:30 a.m. and will occur throughout the days.

Wolfe says that Jefferson's work could be of benefit to Marshall, middle school and high school students alike.

"All of our current Marshall University music students and area high school and middle school students will greatly benefit from Dr. Jefferson's work as a clinician, educator and role model throughout the duration of the festival," Wolfe said.

## Voyage of Life Art Exhibit Features Innovative Pieces



"The Thorn, The Side, and the Pleasure Principle" by Eli Kessler

Photo by Joseph DiCristofaro

By **JOSEPH DICRISTOFARO**  
STUDENT REPORTER

Walking sticks and digital fabrication art pieces were the topic of discussion at The Voyage of Life sculptural art exhibit on Feb. 9 at the Marshall University Visual Arts Center.

Eli Kessler and Christopher Mahonski were the featured artists of the talk and whose works combined to make the exhibit.

"The installation includes a series of sculptures that focus on the tension between ecological and socio-cultural developments throughout time," Kessler said. "When combined, the works examine existence within a world of hyper-digital industrialization and ecological uncertainty by incorporating subject matter and materials from a timespan predating humanity to contemporary."

The duo has been working together

for 20 years since their meeting in Philadelphia on various art projects over that time, Kessler said.

Inspiration for art pieces varies among artists. "I use types of ichnographies from around 100 years ago to gain an understanding of cultures before my life but also types that have been used during my lifetime as well," Kessler said.

This inspiration can be seen in his piece "The Thorn," where he used an American folklore technique called crown of thorns, which is from the early 1900s where cigar boxes would be cut into intricate pieces and puzzled together, Kessler said.

Much of history in some way involves handheld objects such as weapons or daily use items such as brooms and nets. These items are all tied into Mahonski's piece "Drifter History."

"I drew some inspiration for some

of the pieces in the 'Drifter History' work from our history with walking sticks, weapons and some LARPing things I had seen from people LARPing at parks and things like that," Mahonski said.

Much of Mahonski's works were inspired by his geology background and his love for collecting.

"These works are still kind of ongoing because a lot of it revolves around me collecting and my love for fossils," Mahonski said. "Which stems from growing up in Pennsylvania where I always looked for fossils as a kid."

Fossils and other things Mahonski found interesting are pieced together to form "Some Things," which was also on display in the exhibit.

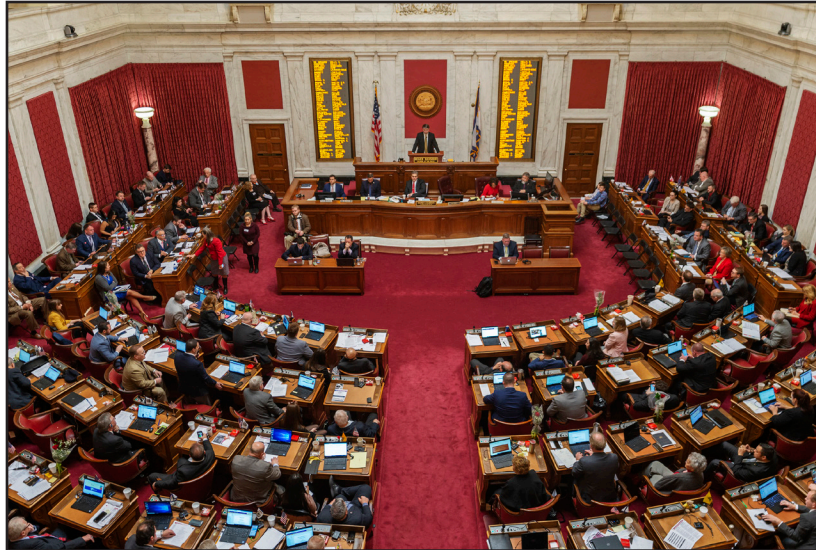
Both Mahonski's and Kessler's works portrayed many aspects of how art ties into the lives of Americans.



# The Right to Bear Arms On Campus? Our Founding Fathers Addressed It In 1824



Barbara Evans Fleischauer



West Virginia House of Delegates meeting in 2019.

Photo courtesy of AP/Craig Hudson

By **BARBARA EVANS FLEISCHAUER**  
GUEST OPINION WRITER

“A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.” That is the text of the Second Amendment to our U.S. Constitution proposed by our fourth President, James Madison and adopted as part of the Bill of Rights in 1791. But what did our Founding Fathers mean by those words? When it comes to the issue of guns on campus, we don’t have to guess. They left us a written record.

In 1819, Thomas Jefferson, our second president, founded the University of Virginia. Like WVU, our flagship university which was founded just 45 years later, it was a bold experiment – a public university designed to advance human knowledge, educate leaders and cultivate an

informed citizenry.

On Oct. 4, 1824, the University of Virginia’s Board of Directors met and Thomas Jefferson, the Rector for the University, signed the Minutes of that meeting. Board member James Madison was also present. Both former presidents voted in favor of the Resolutions passed by the Board.

One of those Resolutions addressed the issue of weapons on campus. Pages 71-72 of the minutes of the meeting state: the Board resolves that “No Student shall, within the precincts of the University, introduce, keep or use...weapons or arms of any kind...” Further, the Board resolved that “fighting with weapons, which may inflict death...shall be punishable by instant expulsion from the University, not remissible by the Faculty.” 1

These minutes are the clearest possible indication that campus bans on weapons do not violate the “original intent” of the Second Amendment, since the person who wrote the Second Amendment voted in favor of a campus gun ban thirty-three years after the Second Amendment was adopted.

This year, the West Virginia State Senate passed Senate Bill 10 (S.B. 10), which would eliminate the authority of state colleges and universities to restrict concealed weapons in most areas on campuses. All three Senate Democrats voted no, and all Senate Republicans voted yes, except for Senator Mike Maroney, the Health and Human Resources Chair. Legislators supporting S.B. 10 argued that campus gun bans violated the Second Amendment. Obviously they do not, given the evidence about the intent

of Second Amendment drafter contained in the 1824 Minutes.

I support our federal constitution, including the Second Amendment. But keeping our campus weapons bans in place serves other very important public policies. When we allow our children to leave home and invest in their higher education, we trust and expect that every effort will be made by those institutions to keep them safe. When young people enter college, they

have to learn how to balance greater freedoms with changes in hormonal levels, easier availability of alcohol and drugs, and the post-puberty onset of several types of mental illnesses. Adding weapons to this mix magnifies the risk of injuries and deaths on our campuses.

*“The person who wrote the Second Amendment voted in favor of a campus gun ban thirty-three years after the Second Amendment was adopted.”*

A study cited in the July 15, 2019 edition of Campus Safety magazine found a 153% increase

in shootings on campus between 2001 and 2016, with the most profound increase at colleges in states with increased access to guns. In 2020, the CDC reported that gun violence is now the leading cause of death of our children. In addition, after passage of a 2016 concealed carry law, murders committed with guns in West Virginia dramatically increased (64% up from 51%) and there was a 30% rise in homicides. The thought of receiving a call after a campus shooting where one of our kids is enrolled or employed is something that all parents surely dread.

Lifting campus gun bans does not violate the Second Amendment, as the 1824 University of Virginia Minutes prove. Moreover, lifting campus gun bans would have the effect of reversing the relatively recent law giving state colleges and universities greater authority to manage their campuses.

Presumably when Thomas Jefferson and James Madison passed a campus weapons ban in Virginia in 1824 they had the same safety concerns that West Virginia college administrators who oppose S.B. 10 do now. For all of these reasons, the House should not pass S.B. 10, and the Governor should not sign it.

**Barbara Evans Fleischauer served in the West Virginia House of Delegates for 26 years representing Monongalia County as a Democrat. She is graduate of the WVU College of Law.**

Continued from Page. 1

“The reason we put forth that one is you get the two days in fall off: Halloween and the day after Halloween,” Raines said. “But then in spring, it’s still 14 weeks; you don’t get the days off then, but administrators have enough time to overturn all the documents for summer term.”

The BAPC is in the process of making revisions and recommendations to the calendar. They have sent the calendars to different departments and administrators to see if the change would impact their ability to teach and have found it is mostly up to personal discretion. SGA

plans to send a survey out to Marshall students in order to collect their opinions on the calendar schedule and to see which semester schedule they should send forward to President Brad D. Smith.

The BAPC will meet on Feb. 20 to discuss the calendars and make an official recommendation to the Faculty Senate. Both SGA and the Faculty Senate will send their official recommendations to Smith by the deadline of May 15, where he has the final authority on the calendar.

# 3 People Killed at Michigan State University; Gunman Dead

By **JOEY CAPPELETTI & KEN KUSMER**  
Associated Press

EAST LANSING, Mich. (AP) — A gunman opened fire Monday night at Michigan State University, killing three people and wounding five more, before fatally shooting himself miles away after an hours-long manhunt that forced frightened students to hide in the dark.

Police announced the man’s death early Tuesday, four hours after shootings broke out at Berkey

Hall, an academic building, and later nearby at the MSU Union, a popular hub to eat or study.

“This truly has been a nightmare we’re living tonight,” said Chris Rozman, interim deputy chief of the campus police department.

Hundreds of officers had scoured the East Lansing campus, about 90 miles (145 kilometers) northwest of Detroit, for the suspect, whom police described as a short Black man with red shoes, a jean jacket and a ball cap.

The 43-year-old man was

confronted by police off campus before killing himself, Rozman said.

His name was not immediately released, nor any details about the gun or what police found at the scene. Rozman said the man was not a student or employee and had no affiliation with Michigan State.

The shooting at Michigan State is the latest in what has become a deadly new year in the U.S. Dozens of people have died in mass shootings so far in 2023.

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[www.ourfatimafamily.com](http://www.ourfatimafamily.com)  
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Office Hours Mon-Fri. 9am-2pm

Rev. Fr. Thomas

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HUNTINGTON, WV  
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(304) 525-5202

Pastor: Msgr. Dean Borgmeyer

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12:00 Noon, 5:30 pm

#### Confessions

Saturday 8:25 am  
Saturday 3:30 pm-4:25 pm  
or by appointment

HD-486492

HD-486890



# Administrative Searches Come to a Close, Finalists Begin to Visit Campus

By **MATT SCHAFFER**  
NEWS EDITOR

As the nationwide search for university administrators begins to wind down, the three finalists for the College of Arts and Media are visiting Marshall's campus this week, with students being

encouraged to share their input.

The three finalists for the College of Arts and Media dean position include Dr. Christopher J. McCollough, the head of the Communications Department at Jacksonville State University; Dr. Scott R. Irelan, the associate dean of the College of Fine Arts at Western

Michigan University and Dr. Maria P. Gindhart, the associate dean of the College of the Arts at Georgia State University.

Each candidate will present from Feb. 14-16 in room 2W22 of the Memorial Student Center; with the new dean to be named within the coming weeks. The

selected dean will officially begin their position starting the 2023-24 academic year.

After students, faculty and community members have shared their thoughts on the finalists, they will then be communicated to Marshall President Brad D. Smith

The visits began with Dr. McCollough on Tuesday, Feb. 14, with Dr. Irelan visiting on Wednesday, Feb. 15 and Dr. Gindhart visiting on Thursday, Feb. 16.

The meetings will also be broadcast live at [www.marshall.edu/livestream](http://www.marshall.edu/livestream).



Dr. Maria P. Gindhart,  
Georgia State University



Dr. Scott R. Irelan, Western  
Michigan University



Dr. Christopher J. McCollough,  
Jacksonville State University

## Mayor Williams Delivers State of the City Address

By **MATT SCHAFFER**  
NEWS EDITOR

"Our competition is not the city down the river. Our competition is the largest cities in the world," Huntington Mayor Steve Williams said in his State of the City Address at City Hall on Monday, Feb. 13, after announcing new infrastructure projects and investments around the city.

Williams spent much of his speech

to the City Council members boasting previous successful infrastructure investments, low unemployment rates, a rebounding economy, low crime rates and regional development before announcing 64 active projects that total nearly \$514 million dollars in the city.

Among these investments, Williams announced increased budgets for the Huntington Police Department, fire department and Public Works department, the last of which will

include \$2.6 million to establish a 10-year street paving cycle.

Williams also announced the \$15.9 million broadband deployment plan that will deploy fiber optic internet to every home and business in the city.

"We have a vision of creating a meaningful, measurable track record of success in developing a plan of action towards a new direction," Williams said.

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