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Marshall Prepares to Implement Campus Carry

By MATT SCHAFFER **NEWS EDITOR**

Following the signing of Senate Bill 10—or the Campus Self-Defense Act-by Governor Jim Justice on Mar. 1, Marshall and other colleges statewide are preparing for what campus safety will look like after the new law allows the concealed carry of handguns on campus.

"Since January, our Division of Operations has led an ad committee to develop recommendations for implementation

of the then-possible legislation," said Leah Payne, Marshall University's director of communications.

She went on to say, "Working with the Higher Education Policy Commision and other colleges and universities across the state, the group will deliver its final recommendations relating to overall campus safety prior to its implementation date."

While the university has until July 2024 to produce the recommendations, Payne elaborated that Marshall will continue to prioritize students, faculty, staff and community members, a sentiment echoing that of Marshall President Brad Smith in a press release that followed the measure's introduction.

Meanwhile, Marshall professor Chris White-who was a vocal opponent of the law-has been considering a teach-in or lecture series that would highlight concerns of the Marshall community. However, it is still in the early stages of development.

"We want to have a nice presentation on the main points of the law and our interpretation of the

law and what it means for Marshall," White said. "It would really be about having an honest conversation."

White advises students who may be wary of the new law to read the measures to further understand the implications of its passage.

He also explained that concealed carry license holders are required to go through background checks; however, his fear arises from the accidents that could occur from a lack of safety provisions preventing students without a license from obtaining a weapon.

The law allows for the concealed carry of handguns on college campuses state-wide for current concealed carry permit holders including those from 18 to 21 with a provisional license—by overriding the authority of higher education committees to restrict the carry of firearms on campuses.

Story continued on Page 2



Old Main houses the office of President Brad D. Smith, who spoke on the issue of Campus Carry late last week.

Photo by Evan Green

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Wellness Center Promotes Safer Spring Break



Spring breakers at Miami Beach, Florida

Courtesy of AP/Pedro Porta

By JOSEPH DICRISTOFARO STUDENT REPORTER

"Safe Spring Break" will promote healthy ways for Marshall students to enjoy their spring break while still having fun.

For those planning to consume alcohol over spring break, the Wellness Center offers some tips on how to drink responsibly.

Those tips included: drink in moderation, know one's limit, refuse drinks when that limit is reached and only accept drinks from licensed bartenders or self-poured drinks, according to a pamphlet from the Wellness Center.

The pamphlet also advises students to travel in groups whenever intoxicated to avoid being taken to an isolated area and also to make sure that one member of the group is either sober or drinking responsibly to ensure everyone makes it home safe.

If members of the group are feeling ill, have them lie down on their side to prevent choking. If someone feels sick, ask a group member to look after him or her. If alcohol poisoning is suspected, call 911 immediately.

Apart from drinking, there are other safety tips the Wellness Center promotes. While out, people should not carry all of their bank cards in their wallet or purse. They should carry only the amount of cash that they need and keep the extra cash in the hotel safe.

The Wellness Center also advises to alert friends and relatives about travel and return plans. This can look like a person calling those friends and family to let them know when that person has returned.

Additionally, those going out should never bring strangers back to personal living spaces and do not give out any personal information.

If there is an emergency, alert the proper authorities as soon as possible.

More information on responsible drinking will be given out during the event which will be held in the Memorial Student Center from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Thursday Mar. 9.

Campus Carry continued from page 1

The law does include exemptions, such as for sporting events, campus daycares and residence halls, except in common areas such as student lounges. Senate Bill 10 also prohibits the concealed carry in office spaces, disciplinary hearings, grievance hearings and mental health patient care facilities. The measure allows institutions 18 months to prepare before the law takes effect in July 2024.

The universities are responsible for providing storage facilities or in-room safes for handguns. The measure allows the universities to charge students fees for firearm storage. The higher education institutions will also be responsible for any additional training required for faculty, staff and campus police.

The law was opposed by both Marshall President Smith as well as West Virginia University President E. Gordan Gee. Both presidents released a joint letter to the West Virginia Senate Judiciary Committee saying that while they "support local control," they did "not support statewide campus carry."

However, in light of the law's passing, Smith addressed some of its ramifications and Marshall's preparations in a press release that same Wednesday.

"Now that this bill has been signed into law, we must come together as a community and work through the implications as they relate to the overall safety of our campuses and centers," he said. "As we move forward, we will continue our prioritized focus of safety for all of us – students, faculty, staff, visitors and community."

During the signing ceremony, Justice thanked the West Virginia legislature for the law's passage and the National Rifle Association for their support for the measure while also addressing the fears over student safety.

"We awaken over and over and over—whether it be to a television broadcast or whatever it may be—to a catastrophe happening in lots of different places in our nation many, many, many times," Justice said. "If we have gun-completely-free areas—to where absolutely, without any question, there's no way to defend ourselves—then it seems like those are the targets that are targeted many, many, many times."

Senate Bill 10 previously passed the State Senate in a vote 29-4, followed by the House of Delegates in a vote of 84-13

Debate Team to Compete in Tokyo

By ABIGAIL CUTLIP STUDENT REPORTER

The Thundering Word, Marshall University's speech and debate team, will travel to Tokyo, Japan, to compete at the International Forensic Association Tournament after its rescheduling in 2020.

Seventeen out of 30 members of the team qualified to attend. They will fly from Columbus, Ohio, to Tokyo on Mar. 9 and return on Mar. 16.

Thundering Word has previously attended the International Forensic Association Tournament in Germany in 2019 and was supposed to attend the tournament in Tokyo in 2020; however, that tournament was rescheduled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

While in Japan, the team will compete across the country in four basic areas: oral interpretation of literature (prose, poetry, duo, programmed oral

interpretation), prepared speeches (informative, persuasive, after dinner, rhetorical criticism), limited preparation speeches (impromptu, extemporaneous) and debate.

Clara Adkins, one of the team's coaches and the director of forensics for the Department of Communication Studies, says that she was "extremely excited" when she was contacted about the Thundering Herd attending the tournament.

"The very first thing I did was contact Dr. Bookwalter," Adkins said. "Dr. Bookwalter is an Avid fan of the speech and debate team. He said, 'How much do you think you need?' I gave him a number and he said, 'Let's see what we can do.' And about two months later he came to me and he said, 'I already have a nice donation and we have other donations coming in.""

The team members who will be attending are Ben Chambers, George

Urling, Matthew Lebo, Gabe Corbin, Bryson Connolly, Mason Pomeroy, Olivia Hindman, Liv Stockwin, Kia Booth, Adley Fry, Lily Mays, Ella Hiles, Aaryn Bonyak, Grace Stowers, Zoe Davin, Frances Harper and Aayush Damai.

Davin, a dual-enrolled and homeschooled high school student, said that she is "excited to get to compete against schools from all over the world."

Adkins, meanwhile, said that the team will have "at least three full days where we can go out and experience not just Tokyo proper, but outside of the city."

"I'm really excited to go to Tokyo," team member Damai said. "There are a lot of really cool museums and shrines around Tokyo that I could visit, as well as interesting shops. It's a very international city, so there's a lot of different things that you can do there."

UN Reviews Tech Laws for More Equity



Outside of the United Nations building

By BEX LAW STUDENT REPORTER

There is currently no global governance on the use of, or access to, technology. Hoping to combat this perceived oversight and to advocate for global peacemaking and gender equity, the United Nations is hosting the 67th annual Commission on the Status of Women in New York City Mar. 3 through Mar. 17.

The priority focus of CSW67 is "innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls" with a review of the agreed conclusions from the 62nd session: "challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls."

Banerjee, executive coordinator for generation equity and director of the civil society division of the United Nations Women, said technology is viewed as a mode of profit and not viewed as a global good. "We have to shift the narrative to show how we benefit from technology, not how we consume technology,"

Banerjee said. "We must create a global framework for governance to serve the global good."

CSW67 had record breaking attendance this year, with over 8,700 non-government officials along with the 45 member state delegations, some of which have over 100 representatives present, according to Banerjee. NGOs include organizations such as The Girl Scouts of America, Ecumenical Women (a non-denominational Christian coalition). International Federation for Peace & Sustainable Development and more.

CSW67 will host an interactive dialogue with youth representatives for the first time. This official meeting, held in the general assembly hall, will focus on, "Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls," said H.E. Ms. Matthu Joyini, chair of The Commission on the Status of Women and ambassador of South Africa and the African States Group.

Ecumenical Women hosted an orientation on Mar. 4 to prepare Christian women to participate in CSW67. According to Rev. Sharon Starling-Louis, co-moderator of the 225th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, "until we do right by children and women, there is no

Starling-Louis also pointed out that women perform 66% of the world's work and produce 50% of the food, but earn only 10% of the world's income and own only 1% of the world's available property. "At present, only 28% of engineering graduates and 22% of artificial intelligence workers globally are women. We need to get women and girls participating in the production and advancement of technology. Without a seat at the table, technology will leave us behind," Starling-Louis said.

CSW67 will host official meetings to debate agreed conclusions, as well as review the implementation of the agreed conclusions of the review theme. These conclusions will be available at the end of March. CSW67 also hosts side and parallel events in order to promote education of global issues regarding technology, the digital age and peacemaking between governmental and non-governmental agencies.

Abortion Clinics Unwelcome Across State Borders

By KIMBERLEE KRUESI, SARAH RANKIN and HILARY POWELL ASSOCIATED PRESS

BRISTOL, Va. (AP) — The pastors smiled as they held the doors open, grabbing the hands of those who walked by and urging many to keep praying and to keep showing up. Some responded with a hug. A few grimaced as they squeezed past.

Shelley Koch, a longtime resident of southwest Virginia, had witnessed a similar scene many Sunday mornings after church services. On this day, however, it played out in a parking lot outside a modest government building in Bristol where officials had just advanced a proposal that threatens to tear apart the very fabric of her community.

For months, residents of the town have battled over whether clinics limited by strict anti-abortion laws in neighboring Tennessee, Kentucky and West Virginia should be allowed to continue to hop over the border and operate there. The proposal on the table, submitted by anti-abortion activists, was that they shouldn't. The local pastors were on hand to spread that message.

"We're trying to figure out what we do at this point," said Koch, who supports abortion rights. "We're just on our heels all the time."

The conflict is not unique to this border community, which boasts a spot where a person can stand in Virginia and Tennessee at the same time. Similar disputes have broken out across the country following the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to overturn the landmark 1973 decision

establishing a constitutional right to abortion.

As clinics have been forced to shutter in Republican-dominant states with strict abortion bans, some have relocated to cities and towns just over the border, in states with more liberal laws. The goal is to help women avoid traveling long distances. Yet that effort does not always go smoothly: The politics of border towns and cities don't always align with those in their state capitals. They can be more socially conservative, with residents who object to abortion on moral

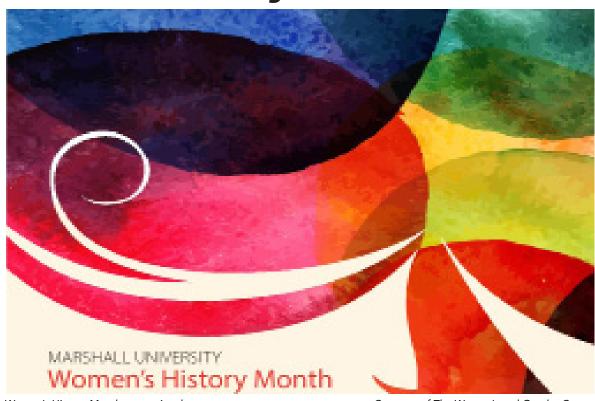
Anti-abortion activists have tapped into that sentiment — in Virginia and elsewhere — and are proposing changes to zoning and other local ordinance laws to stop the clinics from moving in. Since Roe was overturned, such local ordinances have been identified as a tool for officials to control where patients can get an abortion, advocates and legal experts

In Texas, even before Roe was overturned, more than 40 towns prohibited abortion services inside their city limits. That trend, led by anti-abortion activist Mark Lee Dickson, has since successfully spread to politically conservative towns in Iowa, Louisiana, New Mexico, Nebraska and Ohio.

Under Roe, the high court had ruled that it was unconstitutional

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Classic Events Return After Spring Break for Women's History Month



Women's History Month promotional poster

By BEX LAW STUDENT REPORTER

The return of two classic events - BodyShots and the Charlotte Schmidlapp Lecture series - will return at the end of March as a part of The Women's History Month events hosted by Women's and Gender Center.

Speaker and life coach Charise Lindsey will be visiting campus for the Women's Mental Health and Wellness Self-Care Event on Mar. 21 at 4 p.m. This event, held in the Don Morris Room, will include free food, giveaways, relaxation yoga and the first thirty female students will receive a five minute chair

massage.

After the self-care event, up to 100 students can come to room BE-5 of the Memorial Student Center at 6 p.m. to enjoy a women-inspired Paint & Sip. Snacks, tea, coffee, lemonade and water will be provided.

BodyShots XV: Holler! returns to the Joan C. Edwards Experimental Theater on Mar. 24 at 7 p.m. BodyShots is an annual multimedia performance which includes film, dance, poetry, creative writing and art. A reception will follow, and this event is free and open to the public.

The Charlotte Schmidlapp Lecture returns to the Don

Courtesy of The Women's and Gender Center

Morris Room on Mar. 29 at 7 p.m., featuring New York Times best-selling author and cultural critic Mikki Kendall. Kendall is the author of "Hood Feminism: Notes from the Women a Movement Forgot" and "Amazons, Abolitionists, and Activists: A Graphic History of Women's Fights for Their Rights."

This event is free and open to the public with a reception to follow as well.

Five Students Awarded Gilman Grants

By JOSEPH DICRISTOFARO STUDENT REPORTER

The chance to study abroad has become easier for five Marshall University students who were awarded a \$5,000 scholarship to put toward internship programs or studying abroad.

Students Cynthia Collins, Chandreonia Harris, Juliana Hernandez, Leanasha Jones and Walker Tatum received the U.S. Department of States Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship. Over 1,000 U.S. undergraduate students were awarded the scholarship in December.

Tatum has already put forth his scholarship funds to support a 10-day winter program in Italy over Marshall's winter break.

"It was a rigorous program, but a good balance of learning and fun," Tatum said.

While in Florence and Rome Fatum studied art's chemical

components and the chemicals needed to preserve art. The program was led by Marshall faculty member Dr. Rosalynn Quinones-Fernandez.

Collins, meanwhile, will go to Argentina this spring with the program led by Dr. Shawn Schulenberg. Lastly, Hernandez is eligible to win the Critical Need Language Award as she will be spending a full academic year at the Kansai Gaidai University in Japan.

Harris and Jones, on the other hand, will travel to Japan and Korea over the summer for the Japan-Korea Pop program led by Dr. Zelideth Rivas, assistant provost for global education and modern languages professor.

The Gilman scholarship has awarded 38,000 students since 2001, with over half of the recipients being from small or rural towns and 100% demonstrating financial need.



Gilman Scholarship logo

Courtesy of gilmanscholarship.org

Survey Points to Unequal Minority Healthcare

By JOSEPH DICRISTOFARO STUDENT REPORTER

Black and Latino communities in The Mountain State are often underrepresented in healthcare, new data suggests.

"We really see that in West Virginia, where Black communities are almost seven times more likely to not have insurance," said Nick VinZant, senior analyst at QuoteWizard, "and when we look at Hispanic communities, they

are eight times more likely to not have insurance."

Nineteen percent of Black residents in West Virginia are without any form of health insurance, which is nearly double the national average of 10%, according to a study released by QuoteWizard, a national insurance comparison website.

"We have also found that there are institutional and organizational challenges that people of color face that white communities generally do not that lead to this disparity in healthcare,"

VinZant said.

Many of these institutional challenges faced by minorities are not specific to West Virginia, but rather nationwide.

"One of the institutional challenges is that healthcare services are often not as prevalent in certain areas, and those areas are often where people of color live," VinZant said.

He went on to say, "You can see these challenges in not only West Virginia, but nationwide where people of color are two to three times more likely to not have

insurance;

While these disparities can be found nationwide, in rural states such as West Virginia and Wyoming and in southern states such as Mississippi, healthcare disparities among minorities are much more prevalent, VinZant said.

Using several different methods of data gathering led to the creation of a much clearer picture of how and why people of color are often left without adequate health insurance.

"We used a combination of information

from the Kaiser Family Foundation, which studies and looks into health insurance and healthcare nationwide," VinZant said, "and then we also used information from the United States Census Bureau household poll survey."

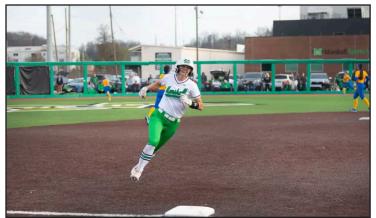
The use of this information, when creating this study, gave researchers an immediate picture as to what changes are happening in society involving healthcare, VinZant also said.



Cabell-Huntington Hospital is one of the leading healtchare providers in the Huntington area.

Photo by Evan Green

Softball Sweeps Through Weekend Tournament



Courtesy of HerdZone

By LUKE HAMILTON STUDENT REPORTER

Marshall University Softball is off to a historic start this season winning the most games out of its first 19 games in history.

Marshall improved its record to 16 wins and three losses after winning all five home games this past weekend.

The Herd played Morehead State in a double header on Mar. 2 to start off the Thundering Herd Round Robin tournament.

Marshall won both contests, scoring nine times in both games and only allowing two runs from Morehead State on the day.

On Saturday, Marshall took on Kent State and won eight to one. Junior catcher Autumn Owen led the team with two runs. Owen is currently tied at first place in the country for home runs.

Marshall went up against Kent State again on Sunday and won 10 to one. The Herd's sophomore right fielder Alex Coleman had a season high in hits with four, along with three stolen bases.

Marshall played Pitt in the second game on Sunday. The Panthers are a power five school, and Marshall won four to three. This win is the first time since March of 2020 where Marshall beat a power five school.

Pitt held Marshall hitless in the first four innings, but Marshall came back with help from Sydney Bickel's triple, Owen's walk and a hit from Rielly Lucas.

Marshall was able to win the game and go up by one with a run from Sydney Nester in the seventh inning while standing on third base.

"The fight, the heart, the grit we have really showed," coach Megan Smith Lyon said after the victory over Pitt.

Marshall takes on Ohio University on Wednesday Mar. 8, making this the 61st time the two teams have faced off in 30 years.

Men's Basketball Falls in SBC Tournament Against Texas State

By CHAYCE MATHENY SPORTS EDITOR

Three-seeded Marshall lost to eleven-seeded Texas State 71-68 in the Sun Belt Conference Tournament.

"I want to congratulate Texas State. I thought they played an outstanding ballgame," Marshall head coach Dan D'Antoni said. "They hit key shots when they had to. They played extremely well, and we wish them the best of luck."

Taevion Kinsey came into the game needing 16 points to take over Jon Elmore as the all-time leading scorer in Marshall's history. He broke Elmore's 2,358-point record with 7:25 remaining in the game.

"[Taevion] has given me five great years, and it's a special time," D'Antoni said. "Through wins and losses, good times and bad, the caliber of person he is, is the kind of person you want to be around for five years. He's certainly had a remarkable career at Marshall in

all statistical categories, but also in leadership and representing the school the way it should be."

Kinsey finished the game with 18 points, eight rebounds and six assists.

Andrew Taylor had a game-high 19 points on seven of 18 shooting.

Obinna Anochili-Killen had 13 points, five rebounds and one assist. Marshall only scored two points in the last five minutes of the contest.

Women's Basketball Loses to JMU in SBC Tournament

By LUKE HAMILTON STUDENT REPORTER

The Thundering Herd Women's Basketball team lost to James Madison in its second game of the Sun Belt Conference tournament 62-43.

The last game of the Herd's regular season ended with a win against the top seeded James Madison team, but this game was in favor of the Dukes.

Head Coach Tony Kemper said, "You have to credit James Madison a lot. I thought their early ability to make shots panicked us."

James Madison made four of its five attempted three-pointers in the first quarter and outscored Marshall 24-16.

The Dukes continued to stay ahead until the end of the contest shooting 42% from outside the arc.

In comparison, Marshall shot 32% from the field and made three of their 17 threes in the loss.

James Madison went up by 24 in the final quarter, which sealed the deal with under four minutes left.

The six-foot one senior guard Kiki Jefferson led the way for the Dukes shooting 100% from three and tallied up 12 points.

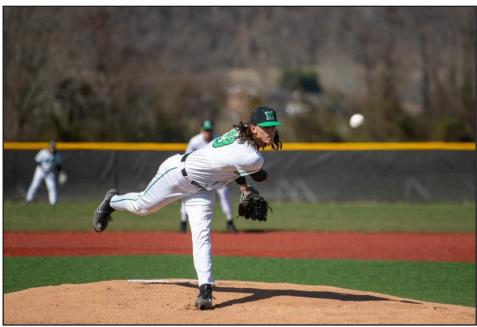
Marshall's seniors Shanniah Wright, Kia Sivils and Kendall Miller played in their last game for the Herd.

"We really hope to be in a better position next year," Abby Beeman said post-game. Beeman finished with 11 points and nine rebounds.

Roshala Scott led the team in points with 12, making one three-pointer and five field goals.

Marshall ended the season with an overall record of 17-14 and won nine games in conference play with nine losses as well.

Marshall Baseball Loses Three-Game Series to St. Johns







Marshall Baseball lost a three-game series over the weekend to St. Johns.

On Saturday, Marshall lost 8-4.

"The beauty of baseball is you get another game tomorrow," Herd Baseball Head Coach Greg Beals said after the loss. "We lost our Friday game last weekend, and we responded well on Saturday with a win, and I challenge our guys to do that again tomorrow."

Marshall got things rolling in the first inning after Owen Ayers walked; Gabriel Cabrera advanced to second; Kyle Schaefer advanced to third and Luke Edwards scored, putting Marshall up 1-0.

St. Johns responded in the second with a double by Marty Higgins, scoring Kevin Michaels to tie the game, and

later Paul Orban struck out swinging, reached first on a passed ball; Higgins advanced to third and Aaron Mann scored, unearned, putting St. Johns up

In the third inning, Marshall scored two runs on a solo home run by Cabrera Gio Ferraro single that scored Ayers putting Marshall up 3-2.

St. Johns would score six unanswered runs through the next five innings.

Through those five innings, Jace Jeremiah doubled to right field, Higgins advanced to third and Austin Machado scored. Higgins homered to left field; Paul Orbon homered to left field; Machado singled up the middle; Mann advanced to second; Michaels scored; Tate Ballestero homered to right field and Jackson Tucker scored.

Marshall responded in the bottom of the eighth with an Ayers home run, but more would be needed as Marshall

would fall in game one.

Patrick Copen was the starting pitcher and, ending his 4.2 innings, pitched with 10 strikeouts. Bryce Blevins would end up with the loss (1-1).

On Sunday, Marshall played a doubleheader with St. Johns.

In game one, the Herd won 4-2.

St. Johns started first in the second inning after Jimmy Keenan doubled to left center, scoring Ballestero and a Paul Orbon single, scoring Higgins.

Marshall then would score four unanswered runs in the third, fifth and sixth innings.

In the third, Daniel Carinci singled, scoring Amari Bartee. Carinci tripled in the fifth inning, scoring Cam Harthan. In the sixth, Schaefer homered, scoring Edwards.

"We got the big hit from Schaefer. The two-run homerun to give us the lead, and Drew took care of it from there," Beals said.

Drew Harlow was the winning pitcher (3-0).

"Drew has been really good for us early on this season," Beals said. "He was as good as he's been today, was just what we needed."

In game two, St. Johns won 5-3.

St. Johns got on the board first in the second inning when Tucker grounded to shortstop, scoring Mann.

Then later in the fourth, Higgins doubled to left center, scoring Machado, putting St. Johns up 2-0. Then Jeremiah singled to left, scoring Higgins, making it 3-0. Then Ballestero doubled down the right field line, scoring Jeremiah, making it 4-0.

In the fourth inning, it was more St. Johns when Tucker reached on base by a fielding error, scoring Higgins, making it 5-0.

Marshall rallied in the eighth after

Calin Smith singled, scoring Chris Noble. Then Ayers doubled to right, scoring Smith and Kebler Peralta, making it 5-3, but it was not enough as the Herd fell short.

Zac Addison was the starting pitcher and was given the loss (0-2). He pitched 3.2 innings while striking out four.

"The character of our ball club is not going to allow us to stop," Beals commented about game two. "We put those three runs up in the eighth and put us in position. We just needed two runs in the ninth. We just needed to put a runner on base, and we weren't able to get it. They did a great job executing pitches in game two. Their starting pitcher, you have to give him credit. He commanded the outer part of the plate and used his changeup very effectively, and so did their closer."



Right-handed pitcher Drew Harlow

8 OPINION THE PARTHENON MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM Are You Missing Out? 4 in 10 Adults Never Went on Vacation as Kids



Courtesy of AP/Michael Dinich

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.

By MICHAEL DINICH **ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Forty-two percent of Americans never went on vacation as a kid, according to new research.

A survey of 2,000 U.S. adults showed that while 51% went on their first trip before they turned 18, a third of Americans didn't take a vacation until early adulthood.

Baby boomers were the most likely to experience vacationing for the first time as young kids (43%) while millennials (46%) and Gen Z (45%) took their first trip as adolescents.

The survey also looked at people's feelings about FOMO and found that the average person has been on six vacations purely for leisure and relaxation in their life and is longing for more.

Nearly half have left a vacation feeling unsatisfied (46%) but have made peace with those feelings, as 76% agree that it's impossible to do and see everything on a trip. This leaves a quarter of Americans daydreaming about traveling most of the week (24%), averaging six destinations on their "I'll go there someday!" list. Respondents in the survey conducted by OnePoll for Funjet Vacations shared some "must-do" trips everyone should consider, like casino-hopping and gambling for a weekend in Las Vegas (46%), seeing Mount Rushmore in South Dakota (38%), visiting Disney World Resort in Florida (36%). Others suggest more experiential

trips like visiting a volcano in

Hawaii (29%), exploring the Greek Islands (19%), visiting the Great Pyramid of Giza in Egypt (17%) or swimming with the pigs in the Bahamas (17%).

Looking at what's trending in travel, 45% of those surveyed think people will be traveling more in 2023 than in 2022, with two in three saying they plan on taking at least two trips this year and spending an average of \$4,000.

Nostalgia plays a major factor in deciding where to go, as respondents named previously popular destinations that may make a comeback like the Bahamas, California or New York.

In fact, Gen Zers said that California and the Caribbean were some of the most popular vacation destinations among their generation right now. Millennials are looking to more long-haul destinations like Dubai and France.

For Gen X respondents and baby boomers, this year is all about relaxing in peaceful places like Florida and Hawaii.

"The 'perfect vacation' can differ from one couple to another," said Pauline Pigott, vice president of sales, North America at Couples Resorts. "Some want to do it all and others prefer to simply relax on the beach with a piña colada in hand. Whatever your preference, an all-inclusive is a great option for those who want to create their own unforgettable experience."

But sometimes a "trip away"

isn't always a "vacation."

When asked what makes a vacation different from a trip away, more than half said the main difference is being away from home for a certain amount of time, with the average person agreeing that a vacation is at least seven days long.

For others, vacations are more about going somewhere they've never been before (53%) or experiencing something new (52%).

One in five predict that vacationers will be interested in outdoor settings this year like camping or staying in cabins.

Americans are also interested in "set-jetting" this year, where they visit places where their favorite TV shows or movies were filmed (59%), with 44% saving they've already been on one of these trips.

"After the travel-induced stress people have experienced over the past couple of years, more people are booking all-inclusive and packaged vacations," said Dana Studebaker, vice president of marketing of consumer brands at Apple Leisure Group. "Booking an entire vacation through a site helps to take the stress of planning away so travelers can instead just be excited for their vacation instead of worrying about every small detail."

A.E. Stringer Visiting Writers Series Features Poet Allison Joseph

By ABIGAIL CUTLIP STUDENT REPORTER

Writer's block isn't real, according to a poet who, to celebrate Black History Month, gave a reading of some of her poetry works for the Marshall community.

With writer's block, the writer is only blocked with that subject; and the solution is to step away, write about something new and then return to what was blocked at a later time, said Allison Joseph, director of the Master of Fine Arts program in creative writing at Southern Illinois University.

She was hosted by the Marshall University A.E. Stringer Visiting Writers Series on Tuesday, Feb. 28, in the Shawkey Dining Room of the Memorial Student Center.

"It's a delight and an honor to bring Allison Joseph to Marshall," Dr. Rachael Peckham, a Marshall English professor, said.

"I was lucky enough to see her read years ago when I was in college," Peckham said. "The experience never left me. She encircles some tender truths about race, gender, love and loss, in portraits and scenes that are intimately and powerfully rendered."

Joseph read a total of 15 poems, including one written by her late husband and fellow poet, Jon Tribble.

Joseph opened the event by reciting her husband's poem

and discussing her thoughts on a wife's task. She said that though many wives' task is to get their husband to take out the trash; hers was to "keep him a poet."

She also discussed her book, "Confessions of a Bare-Faced Woman," and how it relates to a woman's idea of beauty and beauty standards.

Though many of the poems she read discussed being a woman, others were more simple in nature. She said that sometimes a topic is just handed to her, and she can't ignore it. One of these topics was what inspired her poem "I Love You, Jimmy Poquette."

Joseph said that she had received a dollar that had "I Love You, Jimmy Poquette" written on it, and she decided to write a poem speculating about who Jimmy Poquette is and who could have written it.

When asked how she gets around being labeled a "women poet" or a "Black poet," Joseph said she will write about whatever she wants, but it will always come from those perspectives.

"Everything I write is a Black poem, but not everything speaks to Black issues," Joseph said.

Her interest in poetry was originally cultivated by her interest in language, she said, adding that "we are all multilingual even if we speak only one language."

Visual Arts Center Could Receive New Community Art Supply Room

By EMMA JOHNSON STUDENT REPORTER

A new community art supply room may be coming to the Visual Arts Center thanks to a recent proposal made by the Student Government Association.

"It is unknown to the general population of Marshall that as an art student in the first year, you must take five foundation classes," senator Lana Thacker said. "Most, if not every one of these classes you must buy different materials for."

The proposed community art supply room would be in the basement of the Visual Arts Center, and it would allow art students to donate unwanted and unused supplies for other art students to take as they need.

"As an art student on a tight budget, buying new materials isn't always an option for me," Alex Sawyer, second year art student, said.

Art supplies can be expensive, and sometimes, students are spending up to \$100 for one class on supplies, so this would be a way for art students to save money, Thacker said.

While many art professors try to make sure the art supplies needed for their classes are inexpensive, sometimes students are still left spending quite a bit of money. "Art supplies are expensive, and that is just a fact," Thacker said. "Not everyone will have a disposable income to be able to drop over \$100 for a class or even a semester."

Mark Zanter, interim dean of the College of Arts and Media is in full support of this idea, Thacker said.

"I hope that once this resource is open to student use that it will help many students with the financial part of being an art student," Thacker said.

While nothing official has been set, Thacker hopes this proposal will help art students cut back on waste while helping other art students save money.

Artists Series Presents Blues Rock Ensemble Tedeschi Trucks Band

By VICTORIA WARE OPINIONS & CULTURE EDITOR

Grammy award-winning blues rock band Tedeschi Trucks Band performed in support of their new album on Feb. 28 at the Keith Albee Performing Arts Center.

The evening began with an introduction by WSAZ news anchor Tim Irr. He thanked the event's sponsors and previewed the upcoming programs the Marshall Artists Series will present.

The show's opening act featured British singer and songwriter Jack Broadbent. He sang several original songs and a cover of "Willin" by the rock band Little Feat, at which point members of the audience sang along.

After Broadbent's performance

and a subsequent intermission, Tedeschi Trucks Band began their performance. Along with singing, the songs they performed contained musical solos or duets that showcased certain instruments such as the guitar, saxophone, trombone and drums. On top of their original songs, the band sang a cover of "Angel from Montgomery" by John Prine.

The 12-piece ensemble is touring in promotion of their latest album, "I Am The Moon." The album is their fifth studio release and was written while the band was not touring during the pandemic. The band—based in Jacksonville, Florida—is led by the husband and wife duo Derek Trucks and Susan Tedeschi.



Derek Trucks and Susan Tedeschi

By Victoria Ware

Legal Fight Over Student Debt A Prelude to Political Battle



Student debt relief advocates gather outside the Supreme Court.

Courtesy of the AP/Patrick Semansky

By CHRIS MEGERIAN and ZEKE MILLER ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Facing the possibility that the Supreme Court will reject President Joe Biden's plan for student loan forgiveness, the White House is aiming to turn the political heat toward Republicans while deflecting criticism from disappointed borrowers.

At stake is the loyalty of young, college-educated voters who are a critical part of the Democratic coalition that Biden is counting on to return him to the White House for a second term. And plenty of people are making sure he doesn't forget.

"The president still has the responsibility to ensure that we see this become a reality," said Wisdom Cole, national director of the NAACP Youth and College Division. "There are folks that are still suffering, and

we want to ensure that they have the opportunity to see relief."

White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said Wednesday the president would make it clear to borrowers that "we have your back," but it's far from clear that the administration has a backup idea to cancel debt.

"We do not have another plan," she told reporters. "This is our plan. This is it"

In arguments this week, the court's conservative majority appeared deeply skeptical of Biden's plan, which would slash federal student loan debt burdens through an executive order he signed last year.

In all, up to 43 million Americans could benefit. Out of the 26 million who have applied for relief, 16 million have been approved, according to

administration officials. However, all relief has been on hold amid legal challenges from Republicans.

"I'm confident we're on the right side of the law," Biden told reporters Wednesday at the White House. "I'm not confident about the outcome of the decision."

With a Supreme Court ruling expected by summer, the White House is vigorously labeling culprits — and is sure to hit that message even harder if the court kills the program.

"Currently, the only thing blocking that plan is opponents of the plan suing us," Biden said Monday during a Black History Month reception at the White House.

Foreshadowing what aides said would be his likely political message should the court overturn the plan, Biden criticized Republicans who sued and those in Congress who cheered them on.

"They're the same folks who had hundreds of thousands of dollars, even millions of dollars, in pandemic relief loans forgiven," he said. "And many of them in Congress, by the way, Republicans, who voted for tax cuts (that) overwhelmingly benefit the wealthiest people in America, who are the people who paid to bring these suits."

Clearly, not everyone sees it that way. In fact, Republicans seem happy to fight over student debt relief, saying it's actually the Democrats' plan that is a "bailout for the wealthy."

"Biden's student loan cancellation unfairly punishes Americans who saved for college or made a different career choice," Ronna McDaniel, chairwoman of the Republican National Committee, said in a statement on Tuesday. "While hardworking families struggle with soaring costs, Biden is giving a handout to the rich, and voters see right through this desperate vote grab."

Some legal scholars have suggested that Biden's plan was always on shaky legal ground, and they've urged the administration to start over. However, White House officials insist they're still confident about their case.

One basis for that hope is that the justices may decide that the plaintiffs, which include several Republican-led states and two students, don't have legal standing to sue.

The administration also draws parallels to the tough questioning over the Affordable Care Act more than a decade ago. The court eventually upheld most of that law's provisions.

While publicly unwilling to entertain the prospects of a judicial brushback, Biden aides privately harbor the belief that for all the embarrassment, there is little to lose politically if the Supreme Court overturns the loan forgiveness program the president proposed and fought for.

The administration has communicated Biden's efforts to the tens of millions of people whose emails were collected as part of the application process.

Survey data suggest a college degree is increasingly tied to identification with the Democratic Party. Fortyone percent of Democratic voters in

2019 had at least a college degree, up from just 22% in 1996, Pew Research Center surveys show. By comparison, 30% of GOP voters in 2019 had a degree, up slightly from 27% in 1996.

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Biden won support from a majority of college-educated voters in the 2020 presidential election, according to AP VoteCast data.

In 2022, VoteCast found that college graduates voting in the midterm elections were slightly more likely than those without a degree to approve of Biden's job handling student debt, 50% vs. 44%.

VoteCast also shows that the youngest midterm voters were especially likely to approve of Biden's job handling student debt. Sixty percent of voters under 30 approved, compared with 39% of voters ages 65 and older.

Biden issued his debt-forgiveness executive order only after months of pressure from activists, something that Democratic lawmakers reminded demonstrators of outside the Supreme Court this week.

"All of you rallied around this country to try to make sure our president, who at the time was hesitant, would finally realize that this was not just a politically viable thing, but it was the right thing to do," said Rep. Ilhan Omar, D-Minn. "And after we get the president to sign the executive order, canceling student debt, bringing hope and promise to millions of people who had been begging, marching, what did Republicans do? What they always do, which is snatch hope from the American people."

Continued from Page 3

for state or local lawmakers to create any "substantial obstacle" to a patient seeking an abortion. That rule no longer exists.

While such local ordinance changes are no longer necessary in Texas, which now has one of the most restrictive abortion laws in the country, Dickson says he and others will continue to pursue them in other states with liberal abortion statutes.

"We're going to keep on going forward and do everything that we can to protect life," he said.

In New Mexico, which has one of the country's most liberal abortion access laws, activists in two counties and three cities in the eastern part of the state have successfully sought ordinance changes restricting the procedure. Democratic officials have since proposed legislation to ban them from interfering with abortion access.

In the college town of Carbondale, Illinois, a state where abortion remains widely accessible, anti-abortion activists have asked zoning officials to block future clinics from opening after two already operate in town. Thus far, they've been unsuccessful.

Meanwhile, some of the states that have severely restricted abortion access are trying to make it harder for residents to end their pregnancies elsewhere. Employees at the University of Idaho who refer students to a clinic just 8 miles (13 kilometers) away in the liberal-leaning state of Washington could face felony charges under a recently passed state law.

Perhaps no other place so neatly encapsulates the issue as the twin cities of Bristol, Virginia, and Bristol, Tennessee. Before Roe, an abortion clinic had operated for decades in Bristol, Tennessee. After Roe, which triggered the Volunteer State's strict abortion law, the clinic hopped over the state line into Bristol, Virginia.

That's when anti-abortion advocates began pushing back. At the request of some concerned citizens, the socially conservative, faith-based Family Foundation of Virginia helped draft an amendment to the city's zoning code that says, apart from where the existing clinic sits, land can't be used to end a "pre-born human life."

"Nobody wants their town to be known as the place where people come to take human life. That's just not a reputation that the people in Bristol want for their area," said foundation President Victoria Cobb.

The amendment has stalled before the Planning Commission as the city's attorney, the American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia and others question its legality. Meanwhile, the board of supervisors in Washington County, which surrounds Bristol, passed a similar restrictive zoning ordinance on Feb. 14, and at least three counties have since adopted resolutions declaring their "pro-life stance," according to the Family Foundation.

Before Roe was overturned, such zoning restrictions would have been unconstitutional, noted ACLU attorney Geri Greenspan. Now, however, "we're sort of in uncharted legal territory," she said.

In 2020 — when Democrats were in full control of state government — they rolled back restrictions on abortion services, envisioning the state as a safe haven for access. Virginia now has one of the South's most permissive abortion laws, which comforted Koch when Roe was overturned.

Now, however, her relief has been

replaced by anxiety.

"I realized how little I knew about the workings of local government," she said. "It's been a detriment."

The Bristol Women's Health clinic is battling multiple lawsuits but would not be affected by the proposed ordinance unless it tried to expand or make other changes.

Clinic owner Diane Derzis, who has owned numerous other abortion clinics — including the one in Mississippi at the center of the Supreme Court's recent decision — downplays the pushback. She said she's grown accustomed to protests and even experienced the bombing of a separate clinic.

But Derzis is also girding herself for many more post-Roe battles in the future

Abortion "is just under attack and it's going to be for years," she said.



Latest Amicus Curiae Emphasizes the Importance of the Jury

By SARAH DAVIS STAFF REPORTER

American jurors are created and not discovered, an author and professor suggests while speaking on the importance of the jury.

"Jurors should wear robes just as judges wear robes," Dr. Sonali Chakravarti said. "It

shows that you drop a lot of parts of who you are to take on this task."

Marshall's Amicus Curiae Lecture Series, which is sponsored by the Simon Perry Center for Constitutional Democracy and the West Virginia Humanities Council, continued on Thursday, Mar. 2 with "The Role of Juries in Social Change."



Dr. Sonali Chakravarti speaks during the latest Amicus Curiae presentation.

Photo by Sarah Davis

The speaker was Dr. Sonali Chakravarti, an author and government professor at Wesleyan University. In addition to her two books: "Radical Enfranchisement in the Jury Room and Public Life" and "Sing the Rage: Listening to Anger After Mass Violence," Chakravarti has written for various publications, including *The Atlantic* and *Political Theory*.

In her presentation, Chakravarti discussed her book "Radical Enfranchisement in the Jury Room and Public Life," the trials of the Black Panther Party and Derek Chauvin and jury nullification. She also strived to combat various myths about serving as a juror.

"It is my opinion that juries are wrongfully overlooked as an important node of democratic life," Chakravarti said.

She explained that Americans often are intimidated by serving on a jury. However, she proposed that all a juror needs is their life journey.

"Jurors are not meant to be mini judges, doing exactly what a judge would have done in that situation. They need to bring with them their life experiences," Chakravarti said. "It's their distance from the law that makes them an asset in the courtroom."

In her book "Radical Enfranchisement in the Jury Room," Chakravarti suggests that there are three moments that help jurors understand their influence in the courtroom during a criminal trial: consideration of reasonable doubt, indecisiveness of the jury and debate on nullification.

Chakravarti went on to discuss the trials of the Black Panther Party. These trials, beginning in 1969 and ending in 1971, took place in New Haven, Connecticut. The jury selection process for these trials lasted four months, making it the longest jury selection process in the history of Connecticut.

"The ideas of the Black Panther Party moved from the margins to the center of political conversation at that time," she said.

Chakravarti then looked at the trial of Derek Chauvin. The 2021 trial took place in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and was highly invested in by Americans. This led to the selected jurors to not be shown on the televised trial. Chakravarti notes the decision to not identify the jurors with the high stakes in the courtroom.

During the jury selection process, candidates were asked a series of questions in the hopes of finding impartial jurors for the trial. This process is called voir-dire. With the trial of Derek Chauvin, potential jurors were asked about their views on racial matters.

"The voir-dire questions that jurors were asked in this case helped to think about the need to understand patterns of racial discrimination apart from the particulars of the case," she said.

Chakravarti went on to talk about jury nullification, which is when jurors of a trial reach a verdict that acquits the defendant, regardless if they believe the defendant is guilty or not.

Reasons for jury nullification include unjust law, unjust enforcement of the law and corruption of the prosecution.

In some cases, judges may "bully" the jury into the outcome they want. However, non-guilty verdicts must be respected in the courtmon

"We should not be afraid to have thoughtful departures from the application of the law," she said

In conclusion, Chakravarti compared the American jury to love, saying they are "fleeting and rare.

"Their role in our imagination structures much of how we live and what crimes we think should be punished and how severely. What we believe juries can and will do has an impact far beyond the number of cases they decide," she said.





