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### The Parthenon, March 22, 2023

Evan Green

Parthenon@marshall.edu

Conner Woodruff

Matt Schaffer

Chayce Matheny

Victoria Ware

*See next page for additional authors*

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**Authors**

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

## Feds Asked to Investigate Baseball Stadium Funding

By **CONNER WOODRUFF**  
MANAGING EDITOR

A federal investigation into Gov. Jim Justice's multi-million-dollar donation to Marshall University's baseball field has been requested by a West Virginia senator.

Sen. Eric Tarr, (R-Putnam) who is also the chairman of the West Virginia Senate Committee on Finance, has written to the Office of the Inspector General to propose an investigation into Justice's "grossly misappropriated and misused"

handling of CARES act funds.

The CARES Act was an economic stimulus bill granting money to government institutions around the country to help states with the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The governor converted at least more than \$10,000,000 funds received from the CARE Act to give away, not even remotely related to Covid," Tarr said in his Mar. 20 letter.

The discussion started in a West Virginia senate panel that claimed

Justice had incorrectly used \$13.8 million of federal support funds for the University's baseball field project.

The other \$3.8 million came from the Economic Development Enhancement Fund, which was originally intended to improve public safety by improving the quality of drinking water around the state.

In an email exchange with the governor's chief counsel, it is mentioned that money from the CARES act must only be used when

it is directly related to the COVID-19 emergency if it was not accounted for in the budget when the act was written or was incurred between Mar. 1, 2020 and Dec. 31, 2021.

The governor's Chief Counsel Berkeley Bentley said that \$10 million of the CARES funds were transferred to the Governor's Office Gifts, Grants, and Donations Fund. Considering the money was then no longer part of the CARES Acts' funds, Justice used it to bankroll his \$13.8 million donation to Marshall

University.

In the email chain, Bentley said that the governor's use of the CARES funds was under the guidance of a consultant.

In September 2022, Justice publicly made his \$13.8 million donation to the baseball field project. The letter also refers to other examples of Justice's spending of the money including the "Do It For Baby Dog" give away series.



Gov. Jim Justice announced that the State would cover the remaining cost of the baseball stadium during a press event on Thursday, Oct. 4, 2022.

Photo by Shauntelle Thompson

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# New Title IX Changes Coming and What You Need to Know

By **MATT SCHAFFER**  
NEWS EDITOR

Title IX changes are imminent after several recommendations were approved on Friday, Mar. 10, by University President Brad Smith following months of controversy and changes surrounding the University's implementation of the law's protections.

The changes being planned include mandatory Title IX training, reporter training and bystander training for all faculty and staff. Both Title IX and bystander training will also target the University's fraternities and sororities, and an annual, voluntary climate survey will also be administered, so those in Marshall's community can voice their concerns.

A permanent advisory board for students, faculty and staff will be created to oversee the changes made. New principles of transparency and accountability, including a more significant line of reporting, implementation of public forums, a satellite office in the student center and relocation of the Title IX Office are also being planned.

Further commitment to care for complainants and respondents through increased support from social workers, behavioral health clinics and a Title IX internship program, along with a peer-to-peer program, will also be implemented.

Amnesty programs, which protect students from disciplinary action when reporting an incident, along with supplementary

policy measures, such as no-contact orders and separation arrangements, will be revised and advertised.

These recommendations were presented by the Title IX Task Force, a student-led advisory commission that was created in response to a protest that occurred last fall following the release of a USA Today article that exposed failures of the Title IX Office at Marshall.

The task force included additional proposals for the Office of Student Conduct, including employee and staff seminars and performance reviews in January 2024.

Upon the presentation, Smith said Marshall University wants to become a leader in Title IX implementation and ensuring student safety.

"Let's be the gold standard," Smith said. "I think we're going at the outcomes that you proposed and also not creating a bottleneck of the process."

The approved list of six recommendations was created in tandem with staff and faculty members, along with a voluntary, anonymous campus-wide climate survey that began in late January and concluded in late February that showed that most students feel safe on campus, but there is still concern over the priorities of the Title IX Office.

The original list included 22 recommendations such as increasing student legal and mental health resources and the

limited use of legal jargon when discussing Title IX information for greater student understanding.

Marshall University's Title IX dealings came under scrutiny in the past months following the publication of the USA Today article in November that detailed the case of Joseph "Chase" Hardin, who sexually assaulted a fellow student, Alicia Gonzalez, in 2016. Through the appeals process, Hardin was allowed to remain on campus, leading to the assault of a second student, Ripley Haney, in 2018.

In 2019, Hardin would eventually be charged with four counts of second-degree sexual assault, two by Haney and two by an anonymous third student.

In 2020, Hardin was found guilty of both counts involving Haney and sentenced to 20 to 50 years in prison, which he is currently serving at West Regional Jail.

Just days following the publication of the article, a protest sparked on campus with students demanding the restructuring of the Title IX Office at the university and the resignation of then Title IX Coordinator Debra Hart. Jessica Rhodes assumed the position of coordinator for the office last month.

"If there's a way to say, 'we have a new leader in place in Jessica, who brings that empathy,' and we have a legal office that understands it's not just the law, it's how we do it," Smith said.



*"Let's be the gold standard."*

*- Brad D. Smith*

"We have a president who's right next door, so they have a chance to sit with me too, and I'll have a chance to hear from them."

Title IX is a federal, anti-discrimination law which prohibits discrimination against any person, regardless of sex, in any education program or activity that receives federal funding. Under federal law, institutions are required to handle, specifically, cases of sexual harassment and violence.



The Title IX office is in Old Main.

Photos by Shaun Thompson



## Faculty Votes on Academic Calendar

By **BEX LAW**  
STUDENT REPORTER

The final decision on the Academic Calendar is drawing near as the Student Government Association officially recommends a 15-week semester and the Faculty Senate is to vote later this week before being sent to the Board of Governors and President Brad D. Smith.

The Budget and Academic Policy Committee asked for student participation in creating a new academic calendar which would change the fall semester and spring semesters to 15 weeks rather than the current 14-week semesters.

SGA created three potential calendars, but voted on the

recommendation of a 15/15-week model after doing research and working with the BAPC and Faculty Senate to learn about the potential benefits and express concerns. There was even a motion to drop the recommendation of the current 14/14-week schedule after students learned more about it from faculty.

According to Student Body President Isabella Griffiths, it is likely the Faculty Senate and the BAPC will also vote to recommend the 15/15-week model. This would provide the university administration with a unanimous recommendation.

Ultimately, the decision is left to President Smith, but Griffiths suspects when presented with a unanimous recommendation, it would be unlikely

the president would go against the recommendation.

Students are not fully informed of all of the details that must be considered when creating the academic calendar. Griffiths has gotten an inside look at the process while serving on the Faculty Senate, and she is hopeful that in the future, the BAPC will create the calendar and then receive feedback from student senators. According to Griffiths, this would allow students to become more informed on the process in order to provide an educated opinion.

It is unclear when the official decision will be made and released to the public at this time.

## Documentary Brings AIDS/HIV Awareness to Marshall

By **SARAH DAVIS**  
STAFF REPORTER

Crowds gathered in the American streets on screen, shouting for changes to be made concerning the handling of the AIDS epidemic.

“Healthcare is a right!” protestors said. “Pump up the budget!”

Marshall showcased the 2012 documentary “How to Survive a Plague” on Tuesday, Mar. 7. This screening was sponsored by Marshall Libraries, Collegiate Recovery and the LGBTQ+ Office.

The director of the documentary is journalist and filmmaker David France. France dedicated the film to his late partner Doug Ghoult, who passed away due to AIDS-induced pneumonia in 1992.

With “How to Survive a Plague” being his first film, France went on to direct three other films, “The Death and Life of Marsha P.

Johnson,” “Welcome to Chechnya” and “How to Survive a Pandemic.”

France described the reality of the AIDS epidemic in an interview with Collider, saying that relief did not come for those affected at the start.

“During those first six years of the epidemic, nothing was being done and no money was being spent,” he said. “The only response, delayed from the White House, came six years into the epidemic after tens of thousands of people had died, and it came in the form of a series of jokes at the White House.”

The documentary specifically highlights the activism of ACT UP and TAG—both groups that fought for the ending of the AIDS epidemic. Mostly archived footage, “How to Survive a Plague” incorporates news coverage,

interviews and conferences that took place during the epidemic.

In addition to the screening, Marshall will host various other events for AIDS/HIV and Addiction Awareness week. These include a panel discussion and resource fair.

The merging of AIDS/HIV and addiction is a necessary one, said Meghan D. Sexton-Harness, Marshall Libraries associate.

“We chose to tie addiction into AIDS Awareness Week because it is such a large problem in this area,” she said in a Marshall University press release. “Kanawha County is currently experiencing the most alarming HIV outbreak in the country, according to the CDC. As a neighbor to Kanawha, we want to get ahead of the wave before it hits in order to save lives.”

## Engineering Program Gets \$1.3 Million

By **JOSEPH DICRISTOFARO**  
STUDENT REPORTER

\$1.3 million has been gifted to the civil engineering program at Marshall for use towards a research project that explores the applications for the use of carbon nanostructures.

Dr. Greg Michaelson, the principal investigator and associate dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Sciences, will oversee the project along with help from other civil engineering faculty members Dr. Andrew Nichols, Dr. Suk Joon Na and Dr. Sungmin Youn.

“The main goal of the research is to assess the viability of producing carbon nanomaterials such as graphene, carbon nanotubes etc. from locally available coal in West Virginia,” Michaelson said.

Carbon nanomaterials can be used widely in material science and engineering, but most commercially available products are not domestically produced.

“The faculty members in the Department of Civil Engineering who will be conducting this research

bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to a project that has exciting applications,” said Dr. Isaac Wait, professor of civil engineering and chair of the Department of Civil Engineering.

“Translating science and engineering into solutions that benefit West Virginia and our region is a key focus of our department,” Wait said, “and this initiative has the potential to help develop new technologies, build new markets and provide valuable experience for our students.”

The money donated by the Kenai Defense Company will help the Civil Engineering Department work with the Air Force Civil Engineering Center with its research.

“Marshall University will be the lead in sampling coal resources across the state, conducting bench-scale testing in producing nanomaterials from our local resources, and testing their performance in reinforcing asphalt and concrete installations,” Michaelson said.



Marshall's Engineering Complex

Photo by Shaun Thompson



Graphic for Commission on the Status of Women.

Graphic by UN Women

## Opinion: 10,000 Women Gather at the U.N. for Tech Equaility

By **BEX LAW**  
STUDENT REPORTER

More than 10,000 women gathered in New York City for the past two weeks to assist the United Nations in creating a framework for global governance for technology use and creation at The 67th Annual Commission on the Status of Women, and I was lucky enough to attend.

This year's theme was "Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls." The goal was to have a formal agreed conclusions document by the end of the event, Mar. 17; however, the final draft of the document has not been released as of Mar. 18.

The 67th Annual Commission on the Status of Women was the

first in person commission since the pandemic, with most events hosting a livestream as well as in-person opportunity. It was also the most attended CSW to date, according to H.E. Ms. Matthu Joyini, chair of The Commission on the Status of Women and ambassador of South Africa and the African States Group.

I was able to attend in person for four days and virtually for the rest of the two weeks. I attended several opening events, networking events and orientation events. I attended an orientation at the general assembly hall, where each seat had a headphone hooked-up for live translations of five different languages, making events more accessible since I only speak English.

Events at CSW67 included sessions at the general assembly, where the ambassadors from the 45 Member States gathered to

deliberate the agreed conclusions based on a "zero draft." The "zero draft" is a document each Member State contributes to and is a list of suggested regulations to be instituted globally. This year, general assembly sessions started at 8 a.m. and wouldn't close until 10 p.m. on most occasions.

Side events also took place, which are events hosted by government agencies. These events typically focused on a specific geographic area and its current state in relation to technology and digital access. I was unable to attend many of these events because they were presented in the host's native language and there was no live-translation technology available.

Continued on Page 11

## Nike CEO Announced as Spring Commencement Keynote Speaker

By **SARAH DAVIS**  
STAFF REPORTER

John Donahoe, president and chief executive officer of Nike, Inc., will speak at Marshall's upcoming Spring Commencement.

President Brad D. Smith made the choice known to the public on Tuesday, Mar. 14.

"John is truly a titan of industry – a visionary who understands what it means to bring purpose to life," Smith said in a statement. "His business acumen is top tier, and his daily actions at Nike show he genuinely cares for people, the planet and community success."

*"John is truly a titan of industry."*

Donahoe, a graduate of Dartmouth College and the Stanford Graduate School of Business, began his career at Bain & Company, a management consulting firm. He took on the role of the firm's president and CEO in 1999. Donahoe went on to lead companies ServiceNow and eBay.

Donahoe joined Nike, Inc. initially as a board of directors member. By early 2020, Donahoe was chosen to lead the company as its president and CEO. His main responsibility includes facilitating

the growth of Nike, Inc.'s global profile, including the brands of Nike, Jordan and Converse.

Donahoe is married to Eileen Chamberlain Donahoe, who serves as executive director of the Global Digital Policy Incubator at Stanford University. She previously served as the United States Ambassador of the United Nations Human Rights Council. Together they have four children and five grandchildren.

Marshall's 2023 Spring Commencement will take place on Saturday, Apr. 29.

To properly serve the graduates and their families, two ceremonies will take place. Undergraduate and graduate students from the following colleges will report to the ceremony at 9 a.m.: College of Business, College of Education and Professional Development, Doctor of Education, College of Science, College of Engineering and Computer Sciences, Doctor of Nursing Anesthesia Practice and Management, Biomedical Research and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

At 2 p.m., students with the College of Health Professions, College of Arts and Media, College of Liberal Arts, Regents Bachelor of Arts, and Doctor of Physical Therapy will report to the ceremony.

Donahoe will be the keynote speaker at both ceremonies.



# Medical Students Receive Match Results

By SARAH DAVIS  
STAFF REPORTER

Matching with a medical institution is a grand stride to the student's future, said a leading professional in the school of medicine.

"Matching into and completing a residency is the next step toward becoming a practicing physician," said Bobby Miller, M.D., interim dean at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, in a Marshall University press release. "Where they receive their residency training shapes the course of their medical careers. The future of health care looks promising with this accomplished class and the impact they will have on patients and the profession."

Marshall's Joan C. Edwards School

of Medicine revealed results of 2023 Match Day on Saturday, Mar. 17.

Match Day, a nationwide event, serves as a future-thinking occasion for medical students in their fourth year. These students discovered where they will continue their education for the next three to seven years.

The class of 2023 consists of 78 students, and they represented a 99% match rate.

More than half of the students matched with a primary care facility. West Virginia defines these facilities as family medicine, internal medicine, internal medicine/pediatrics, pediatrics and obstetrics/gynecology facilities. Students were also accepted into dermatology, emergency medicine, general surgery, neurology, orthopedic

surgery, otolaryngology, psychiatry and radiology programs.

Among the class of 2023, 25 students will remain in West Virginia for their residency and four students matched with specialized programs,

ophthalmology and military residencies.

Luke Hamm, class president among the fourth-year students, described Match Day as a cheerful occasion.

"On Match Day, you experience the joy of moving to the next phase of your

career," he said in a Marshall University press release. "It's one of the largest milestones in a doctor's life."

A complete list of Match Day results are available on the school's website, as well as photos.



Graduates were matched with medical schools during the annual Match Day event.



Photo Courtesy Marshall School of Medicine



## Softball Rolled Over App State in Conference Opener



Sophomore Bub Feringa

Courtesy of HerdZone

By **LUKE HAMILTON**  
STUDENT REPORTER

The Thundering Herd improved its win streak to 12 after an eight to zero win over the Appalachian State Mountaineers this past weekend.

Marshall improved to 22 wins and three losses in its first game against a Sun Belt Conference opponent after a historic start in non-conference play.

Senior pitcher Sydney Nester showed up for her 14th win of the season throwing four strikeouts.

Junior catcher Autumn Owen hit her 13th home run of the season to seal the game for the Herd in the top of the sixth.

The Herd had six of their eight runs in the fifth and sixth innings, with four coming in the fifth from

Owen, Sydney Bickel, Grace Chelemen and Alex Coleman.

Bickel finished the game with one RBI and two runs scored, and Owen ended with three RBI and two runs as well.

Marshall was scheduled for three games against the Mountaineers, and two of the three were postponed due to weather conditions until further notice.

The Thundering Herd will take on UT Martin and Bellarmine in a double header on Wednesday, Mar. 22, at 1 and 5 p.m., respectively.

This weekend the Herd returns home to face the Southern Miss Golden Eagles on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

## Marshall Men's Basketball Coach Dan D'Antoni Signs Three-Year Extension

By **CHAYCE MATHENY**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Herd men's basketball head coach Dan D'Antoni has agreed to a three-year extension to stay with the team.

D'Antoni, age 75, has completed nine seasons with Marshall.

"I love coaching, and I love our team," D'Antoni said. "My first year here was a dream come true, and it's the same as I go into my 10th. I've got a great fan base, and I enjoy living here. We've got a great team coming back. We look forward to adding a bit to what we've got and seeing if we can't make another run and finish up a little stronger in these next three years."

The team just completed an historic season in its first year in the Sun Belt Conference, finishing 24-8.

Marshall Athletic Director Christian Spears said the team is ready for great things.

"I am convinced that if we all stay together, we can do something spectacular," Spears said. "We have a team that cares about each other, a coach that is committed to our program and our community and a community that rallies behind us all. Combine that with aligned leadership, and we know that great things are in store for our basketball program. Believe it."

Marshall President Brad D. Smith said D'Antoni had restored

greatness within the program.

"We are so excited to extend excellence by showing our continued commitment and confidence in Coach D'Antoni," Smith said. "In his nine years, he has done incredible work restoring us to a position of greatness within this athletics program. To win more regular season games this year than we've won in 76 years is an outstanding achievement, and we want to continue that excellence for years to come. I am excited, and I congratulate Coach D'Antoni and all of Herd Nation."

In nine complete seasons at Marshall, D'Antoni is 164-128 with seven winning seasons, which includes 20 plus-win seasons.

## Track & Field Begins Their Outdoor Season With a Record-Breaking Start

By **KADANN BONECUTTER**  
STUDENT REPORTER

After receiving 16 individual placings and five first-place titles, Marshall track and field began their outdoor season with a record-breaking start.

Marshall traveled south this weekend to compete at River City Spring Break Classic. This is also the first season in 10 years that

Marshall has had a men's track and field team participate at an outdoor meet.

Brett Armbruster and Evan White had historic distance events for the

men's team.

Senior, Armbruster, competed in the 1500 with a new personal best of 3:53.91 and placed fourth in the 800 with a time of 1:52.07.

On the field, Macie Majoy, a First Team All-Sun Belt Conference member, won the Pole Vault event with a vault of 4.00 meters.

Teammate Dianna Goodman finishes right behind Majoy in second place, with a 3.85-meter vault.

Rebecca Merritt set a new personal record in the discus event with a throw of 49.93 meters, landing Merritt in second place.

Tyra Thomas crossed the finish line in first place during the 100-meter hurdles. Thomas finished with a time of 13.52.

Following in hurdles, Mikah Alleyne also finished with an individual win in the 400-meter event.

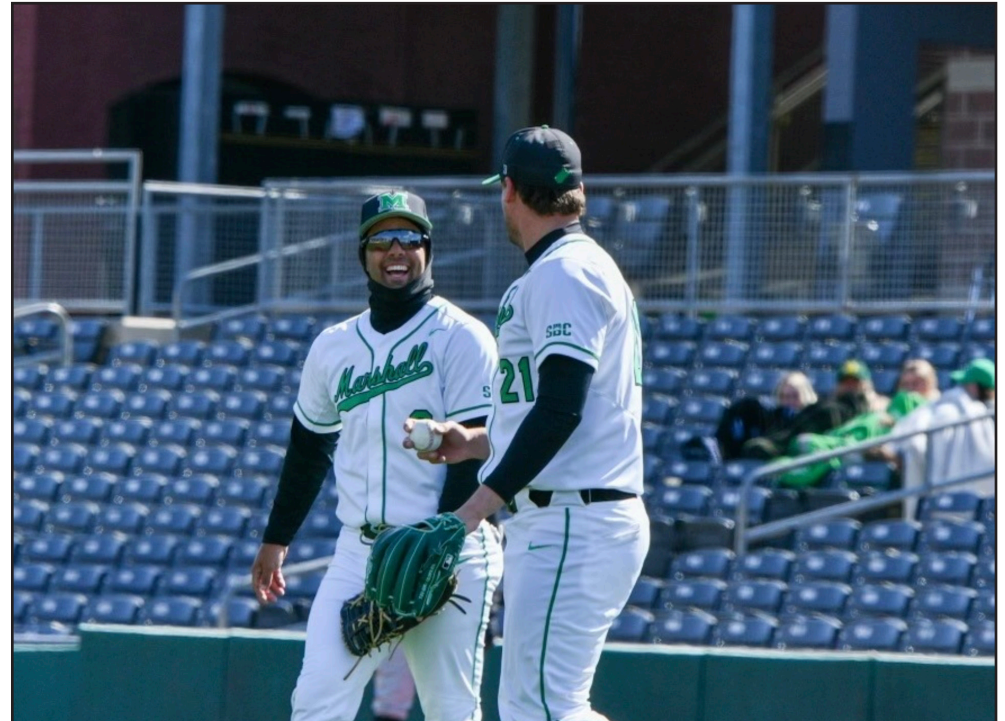
Finishing out the meet, the women's 4x400 relay team claimed the last win of the weekend, granting Marshall their fifth victory.

Teammates Alleyne, Astoria Beckett, Niyah Mitchell, and Marlee Porter finished their race with a time of 3:47.51.

# Baseball Drops Three-Game Series Against App State in First SBC Series of The Season



Senior Luke Edwards



Senior, Daniel Carinci and Senior Ryan Capuano

Courtesy of HerdZone

By **CHAYCE MATHENY**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Marshall Baseball lost a three-game series over the weekend against Appalachian State.

In game one on Friday, Marshall lost 12-4.

“We have to execute pitches better. That’s where it’s at,” Head Coach Greg Beals said after the loss. “The game got in a situation where they got offensive. They were relaxed and got a lead. It makes it tougher on our bullpen. We have to do more offensively in the middle of the game and make sure we’re on the pitches we want to be on.”

App State was leading 4-1 going into the bottom of the ninth until the mountaineers exploded for a seven-run inning that included a three-run home run.

Marshall added three runs in the bottom of the ninth on Elijah Vogelsong’s sacrifice fly, scoring Gio Ferraro; Kyle Schaefer’s ground out, scoring Daniel Carinci; Owen Ayer’s single, scoring Christian Lucio.

In game two on Saturday, Marshall lost 9-8.

“Drew Harlow has been so good all year long. We were in a position where he had the ball with a lead, and it just didn’t work out today. That’s baseball. I’m going to give Harlow the ball in

that position again,” Beals said. “We did a lot of good things as a ballclub today. We got ourselves in positions. We played with great energy and kept competing.”

The game was back and forth, with Marshall leading 6-5 into the top of the seventh.

App State put four runs on the board in the seventh inning to give them a three-run lead.

Marshall fought back in the bottom of the seventh with a Schaefer single that scored Vogelsong and a Calin Smith sacrifice fly that scored Edwards. The fight was ultimately not enough, as the Herd fell short by just one run.

In game three on Sunday, Marshall

won 7-5.

“Zac (Addkison) set the tempo for the day. They’ve been tough offensively all weekend. Zac went four hitless and six innings strong. He put our team in a good spot,” Beals said. “I love the fight our guys showed offensively. They kept battling and battling. We had a game plan, and we executed it.”

Starting pitcher Addkison got his first win of the season, pitching 6.0 innings with four strikeouts.

Marshall scored three early runs in the first and third inning.

In the first inning, Smith singled, scoring Ayers. In the third inning, Ayers homered, scoring Edwards and Smith homered.

App State got on the board in the fifth, scoring two runs.

Marshall responded in the fifth with Ferraro’s single that scored Edwards, making it 5-2.

In the sixth, App State added one run, with Marshall adding one themselves on an Edwards sacrifice fly, scoring Vogelsong.

With App State scoring a run in the seventh, Marshall responded in the eighth with an Edwards single scoring, Kebler Peralta.

App State added one more in the ninth with a home run, making the final score 7-5.

Marshall will next play at Cincinnati on Tuesday, Mar. 21.



# Is ChatGPT Plus Worth \$20/Month?

By GREGORY GAYNOR  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Not even its own predictive text could have prophesied the rise of Artificial Intelligence in the form of ChatGPT. Bouncing from controversy to controversy, the OpenAI platform went viral with more than 100 million users in its first few months of public trials.

When OpenAI released ChatGPT for public trial in November 2022, they referred to it as a free public trial. But after the chart topping numbers in January 2023, OpenAI shifted gears, offering upgraded access and useability for an additional fee.

While ChatGPT is the latest must-have in the tech and productivity spheres, in the time since OpenAI

announced its subscription model, people wonder if it's worth the cost to pay for ChatGPT Plus.

The world now knows where the project is heading, but this announcement left some users with even more questions, such as

“What will happen to non-paying users? Can they still access ChatGPT?”

“What are the new features?”

With over 100 million users accessing ChatGPT for free, whether it would suddenly disappear behind a paywall was on everyone's minds.

OpenAI responded that the free version of ChatGPT will continue to be “available when demand is low.”

OpenAI hasn't indicated what new features might be in store for paying users, but The New York

Times recently published an article saying that a new version, GPT4, is rumored to be released in 2023. Microsoft is reportedly integrating this new version of the chatbot into its software.

It has been a month since users could pay for ChatGPT Plus, so is it worth it?

Michael Dinich, owner of the blogging group “Insiders” and many content-based websites, including Wealth of Geeks, a site that receives over a million monthly views, offered his thoughts. “While tools like ChatGPT Plus may help you craft catchier headlines and better hooks, it's crucial to remember that readers are most interested in unique, authentic content from experience,” was his response.

According to Dinich, chatbots like OpenAI's ChatGPT won't replace ‘real’ writers any time soon, especially for new, unique content like news. But he acknowledges that there are real use cases, even for writers.

Spending \$20 per month on the service is a personal choice, but knowing how ChatGPT can help you is the first step to making that decision.

## What Can ChatGPT Do?

Answer questions with detailed, unique responses.

Write copy and articles for you on almost any given topic and in different styles (try “write a futurist scene in a mars base in the style of Shakespeare.”)

Write basic code in many different programming languages.

Brainstorm ideas. For example, ask it for monk mode or self-development ideas.

Rewrite and revise text.

Recommendations. Ask it what to do with your life.



Courtesy of AP/Gregory Gaynor

Create tweets with relevant hashtags. ChatGPT can remember what you said earlier in the conversation, up to 3000 words.

## What Can't It Do?

ChatGPT has a word limit for its replies. There has yet to be an official word from OpenAI about this, but anecdotal evidence from users online suggests the cut-off point is about 500 words. If you ask ChatGPT if it has a word limit, this is the response, “I don't have a strict word limit for my replies, but it's generally a good practice to keep responses concise and to the point.” It can't write about illegal or obscene topics.

Original or genuinely creative ideas. Although responses may seem innovative, the language model is limited to rewriting ideas it already knows with the help of its algorithm. It won't tell you the meaning of life.

Events after 2021. OpenAI trained the model on data from 2021, so it isn't aware of events after that, except for some important events that OpenAI

has subsequently given.

Highly technical information. The AI only knows the data fed into it, so it may not know about some specialized fields.

The easiest decision to pay for ChatGPT is if it makes you money. If you use the language model to build an app or service for which you charge clients a fee, \$20 per month is a tiny expense for your business. For example, The note-taking app Obsidian has many plugins, including one integrating ChatGPT into the software.

Although Google isn't a fan of AI-generated content, the purpose of written content isn't only to please search engines. For example, a one-person start-up needing sales copy and email templates for their new product or business could save a lot of money using an AI instead of hiring someone. ChatGPT will be the cheapest employee you ever hire at twenty dollars per month.

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.

Evan Green - Executive Editor  
Conner Woodruff - Managing Editor  
Matt Schaffer - News Editor  
Chayce Matheny - Sports Editor  
Victoria Ware - Opinions & Culture Editor  
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Follow The Parthenon on Twitter and Instagram @MUParthenon  
109 Communications Bldg

Marshall University | One John Marshall Drive  
Huntington, West Virginia 25755 | parthenon@marshall.edu  
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## THE PARTHENON'S CORRECTIONS POLICY

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# School Library Book Bans are Seen as Targeting LGBTQ Content

By **SCOTT McFETRIDGE, ANTHONY IZAGUIRRE and SARA CLINE**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Teri Patrick bristles at the idea she wants to ban books about LGBTQ issues in Iowa schools, arguing her only goal is ridding schools of sexually explicit material.

Sara Hayden Parris says that whatever you want to call it, it's wrong for some parents to think a book shouldn't be readily available to any child if it isn't right for their own child.

The viewpoints of the two mothers from suburban Des Moines underscore a divide over LGBTQ content in books as Republican Gov. Kim Reynolds pushes an especially sweeping crackdown on content in Iowa school libraries. The bill she's backing could result in the removal of books from school libraries in all of the state's 327 districts if they're successfully challenged in any one of them.

School boards and legislatures nationwide also are facing questions about books and considering making it easier to limit access.

"We're seeing these challenges arise in almost every state of the union," said Deborah Caldwell-Stone, director of the American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom. "It's a national phenomenon."

Longstanding disagreements about content in school libraries often focus this year on books with LGBTQ themes as policymakers nationwide also consider limiting or banning gender-affirming care and drag shows, allowing the deadnaming of transgender students or adults in the workplace, and other measures targeting LGBTQ people.

The trend troubles Kris Maul, a transgender man who is raising a 12-year-old with his lesbian partner in the Des



Banned Book Library at American Stage in St. Petersburg, Florida

Courtesy of AP/Scott McFetridge, Anthony Izaguirre and Sara Cline

Moines area and wants school library books to reflect all kinds of families and children. Maul argued that those seeking to remove books take passages out of context and unfairly focus on books about LGBTQ or racial justice issues.

LGBTQ people are more visible than even five years ago, Maul said, and he believes that has led to a backlash from some who hope limiting discussion will return American society to an era that didn't acknowledge people with different sexualities.

"People are scared because they don't think LGBTQ people should exist," Maul said. "They don't want their own children to be LGBTQ, and they feel if they can limit access to these books and materials, then their children won't be that way, which is simply not true and is heartbreaking and disgusting."

In Louisiana, activists fear a push by Republican Attorney General Jeff Landry to investigate sexually explicit materials in

public libraries — and recently proposed legislation that could restrict children and teens' access to those books — is being used to target and censor LGBTQ content.

Landry, who is running for governor, launched a statewide tip line in November to field complaints about librarians, teachers, and school and library personnel. Landry released a report in February that listed nine books his office considers "sexually explicit" or inappropriate for children. Seven have LGBTQ storylines.

In Florida, some schools have covered or removed books under a new law that requires an evaluation of reading materials and for districts to publish a searchable list of books where individuals can then challenge specific titles.

The reviews have drawn widespread attention, with images of empty bookshelves ricocheting across social media, and are often accompanied by criticism of Gov. Ron DeSantis, a

Republican expected to run for president.

The state's training materials direct the reviews to target sexually explicit materials but also say that schools should "err on the side of caution" when selecting reading materials and that principals are responsible for compliance.

Florida's largest teachers union is challenging the law, arguing its implementation is too broad and leading to unnecessary censorship. An education department spokesperson did not immediately comment.

DeSantis said the state has not instructed schools to empty libraries or cover books. He said 175 books have been removed from 23 school districts, with 87% of the books identified as pornographic, violent or inappropriate for their grade level.

The Iowa legislation comes amid efforts there to keep a closer eye on public school curriculums and make taxpayer money available to parents for private school tuition. Reynolds, the governor, has made

such proposals the core of her legislative agenda, telling a conservative parents group that their work was essential to guarding against "indoctrination" by public school educators.

Under a bill backed by Reynolds, the titles and authors of all books available to students in classrooms and libraries would be posted online, and officials would need to specify how parents could request a book's removal and how decisions to retain books could be appealed. When any district removes a book, the state Education Department would add it to a "removal list," and all of Iowa's 326 other districts would have to deny access to the book unless parents gave approval.

At a hearing on Reynolds' bill, Republican lawmakers, who hold huge majorities in both legislative chambers, said they might change the proposal but were committed to seeing it approved. The bill has passed a Senate committee and is awaiting a floor vote.

"The parents are the governing authority in how their child is educated, period," said Sen. Amy Sinclair. "Parents are responsible for their child's upbringing, period."

Patrick, a mother of two, expressed befuddlement about why anyone would want to make sexually explicit books available to children.

"I have to believe that there are books that cater to the LGBTQ community that don't have to have such graphic sexual content in them," said Patrick, a member of a local chapter of Moms for Liberty, a conservative group that has gained national influence for its efforts to influence school curriculum and classroom learning.

"There are very few books that have ever been banned and what we're saying is, in a public school setting, with taxpayer-funding money, should these books really be available to kids?"

# Kids Are Hungry, Schools Say

By CHEYANNE MUMPHREY  
and ARLEIGH RODGERS  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHOENIX (AP) — America's schools say kids are hungry — just as pandemic-era benefit programs have lapsed. There is growing concern about the effects on kids' ability to learn.

Congress temporarily made school meals free to all American schoolkids, but since that ended last fall, the need has only seemed to grow.

Soaring food prices are adding strains on families who are seeing reductions in multiple kinds of financial assistance. One federal program that ends this month had given nearly 30 million Americans extra food stamps during the pandemic.

School cafeterias typically don't turn away a hungry kid, but debts for unpaid school meals have been rising — showing the level of need, and raising questions about how schools will keep feeding everyone, without federal money to do it. The neediest kids are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, as before the pandemic, but qualifying for those benefits requires applications that haven't been necessary for several years.

"Programs that provide direct food assistance are hugely critical and we are going to see the effects of not having them over the next couple of months," said Megan Curran, policy director for Columbia University's Center on Poverty and Social Policy.

In the last academic year, with nearly all schools back operating in person, the number of school meals

served to students jumped

dramatically, and was slightly higher than pre-pandemic levels, according to a report Thursday

from the Food Research & Action Center. Already, it said, states now are reporting drops in the number of meals served.

More than 34 million people, including 9 million children, in the United States are food insecure, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, meaning they lack consistent access to enough food for every person in their family to be healthy.

Children in such households are more likely to struggle academically and repeat grade levels, among other challenges, according to researchers.

For fourth-grader Fabian Aguirre, it's hard to think about math equations when he's sitting in class with a growling stomach.

When he arrives in the morning, Fabian eats breakfast served by the school in South Phoenix, but he can get hungry in the classes before lunch. On days he doesn't eat at home first, even the meals offered by the school aren't enough to keep him feeling full.

"It's hard to focus in class when I'm hungry. Food helps me pay attention to what I'm learning," said Fabian, 10.

At his school, V. H. Lassen Academy of Science and Nutrition, all students are eligible to receive free meals. The Roosevelt School District, where 80% of students are Hispanic and 12% are Black, covers the meals with aid from a federal program for low-income school

communities.

To reach students who might be embarrassed about not having eaten at home, the school recently changed how it distributes free breakfast. Carts filled with prepackaged breakfast meals are rolled outside by the entrance to the school, instead of being kept in the cafeteria.

"We realized that a lot of our students were going straight to the playground and not going into the cafeteria to eat before school, from the 7 a.m. to 7:15 a.m. timeframe," said Jessica Padilla, a sixth-grade math and science teacher.

While they lasted, the universal free meals addressed several concerns about student hunger. There was no paperwork involved. And kids who needed them didn't have to worry about stigma because they were available to everyone. Some states including California are using state money to continue these programs, but most have gone back to charging all but the neediest kids for meals.

When the free meals for all came to an end, "families were left scrambling and confused," National PTA President Anna King said. They weren't prepared for the paperwork after two years without it — and many families with young kids had never filled them out.

It can be difficult for parents to ask for the help they need, said Jillien Meier, director of No Kid Hungry. Immigrant parents, she said, might also avoid filling out forms requesting free or reduced-price meals out of concern it could bring unwanted attention if they are in the U.S. illegally.



Students during lunch break at V.H. Lassen Academy of Science and Nutrition

Photos by AP Photo/Alberto Mariani

Teachers often are the ones to pick up on chronic hunger in students.

Martissa Moore, a teacher at Bainbridge Middle School in Bainbridge, Georgia, recalls a seventh-grade student who had his head on his desk during class, picked arguments with other students and struggled to keep up academically. Moore sensed he wasn't getting enough to eat.

Each day that year, she brought him whatever her daughter had for breakfast and slowly saw progress in his reading skills.

"You just do what you have to do

for your students because you don't want them hungry," Moore said.

Hilary Seligman, senior medical advisor with Feeding America, said it shouldn't be up to teachers to address child hunger.

"Because we have so much food insecurity among children, we shift that responsibility to the schools," she said. "But normal childhood development is having access to food at home. That is part of creating for families in America a stable environment where kids are ready to learn when they arrive in school."



Continued from Page 4

The last kind of events were called parallel events, which were hosted by non-government officials. NGOs had to be approved through UN Women, an official office at the United Nations, in partnership with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. To receive accredited ECOSOC-NGO status, an organization must be a non-governmental, non-profit, public or voluntary organization. Notable NGOs include the Girl Scouts of America, Girls Learn International, The Hong Kong Federation of Women and many more.

This year was special because it was the first CSW to include a global youth delegation, featuring high school girls who hosted several parallel events as well as a session in the general

assembly. The youth delegation focused primarily on preventing and ending online sexual exploitation and assault. A representative from India, speaking on the importance of youth representation, said, "When you invest in people and make them thinkers, they can create solutions to all problems."

The parallel event I attended that impacted me the most was a panel called "Educating Women and Girls to Lead Innovation, Technology, and Digitalization" hosted by the University of Dayton's Human Rights Center. Damineh Akhavan-Zanjani, co-founder and CEO of Global Women in STEM Inc., spoke about the importance of women holding more design and creation jobs in the technology workforce.

Akhavan-Zanjani said, "If women don't have a seat at the design table,

the world will continue to not be designed for us."

In the short four days I was in person, the experience was unlike anything I have ever participated in. The chair of UN Women follows me on Instagram now; I had coffee with a representative from Germany, I stood in a room where women were the majority and I got to partake in global governance creation.

I met and learned from women from every corner of the world and left with one primary thought: this is not just a women's issue. We cannot let diversity, equity, and inclusion become a box for organizations to tick and do the bare minimum. We are all stakeholders in gender equity.

## "Heard But Not Seen" Celebration Coming to the Joan

By **BEX LAW**  
STUDENT REPORTER

A master class, artist talk and concert called "Heard But Not Seen - The African American Voice: A Musical Landscape" will feature a visiting music professor from the University of Michigan at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Mar. 31 as part of the Birke Fine Arts Symposium.

"Making the Unseen Visible" is the theme for the Birke Fine Arts Symposium, a university-wide celebration of art featuring works in theater and dance, lectures, literary readings and gallery exhibitions.

Daniel Washington, a bass-baritone and tenured professor of voice at the University of Michigan

School of Music, Theatre & Dance, will be joined by Dr. Carline Waugh, Dr. Alexander Lee, pianist Sara Lee, the Marshall Chamber Choir and the University Chorus. There will be a reception following the event that is free and open to all.

Washington will present a vocal master class at 2 p.m. on Mar. 28 and will lead an artist talk at 6 p.m. on Mar. 30. All events will take place in Smith Recital Hall.

The visit is sponsored by the School of Music in the College of Arts and Media and the Birke Fine Arts Symposium Endowment, with support from the Joan C. Edwards Professorship Award.

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HD-486692

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# International Women's Day Panel Hosts Diversity Discussion

By **BEX LAW**  
STUDENT REPORTER

More than 60 countries, which included Marshall students, faculty and staff, were represented in the International Women's Day Panel, hosted by the Women's and Gender Center, in a discussion on international diversity and inclusion on

Wednesday, Mar. 8.

"Change comes from using our voices," said Dr. Zelideth Rivas, moderator of the panel and Japanese professor. The panel included Dr. JiYoon Jung, Bindu Mannan, Dr. Pamela Puppo, Elnaz Rahimpour and Nko Okina Solomon.

Jung spoke about navigating a different culture with different cultural priorities and

standards.

"I didn't know how to use the system," she said, referring to entering spaces not occupied by women in her country. She was raised in systems that depend on women for domestic work, but coming to America allowed her to enter into different workforces.

Mannan spoke about how in India, a woman's in-laws take preference over her

children and her husband.

"If you don't give 200 percent, you're a bad wife," she said. She has lived in America since she was a child and has learned from observing other Americans' behavior about what is common and standard cultural practice. "It's nice not having to monitor what I say to my husband," Mannan said.

"In my country, my name is Pamela, but I think I have perfected the American accent calling me 'Pam,'" Puppo said, poking fun at a generalized American accent. Puppo spoke about the Lantinx experience in West Virginia. She hasn't met very many Latinx people; however, she has found a new found family in Africans.

"The southern hemisphere has a lot in common, and there's not a lot of Latinos here, but the support network is so important," she said.

When asked about the pros and cons of living in America, Solomon said, "You're richer because you know more cultures, but there's always a price. You'll always be missing something from home."

Rahimpour, who was born in America but lived in Iran for ten years as a child and teenager, gave insight into the experience of young adults protesting modesty laws in Iran. "They don't think anyone cares," Rahimpour said. "They have lost hope that

the world cares about them."

All of the women on the panel expressed excitement to be at the panel, but Rahimpour was especially touched. Through tears, she said, "It's beautiful that we are here. In my country, there is no Women's Day."

Rivas explained her theory of "boutique multiculturalism." She explained how through food, clothing and media, people may begin to view other cultures as performances. She said, "We begin to view other cultures almost like dolls on a stage that we can play with."

Moving forward, the panelists invite Americans to move past boutique multiculturalism and find opportunities to hear the true stories of other cultures and peoples.

"International folks carry the burden of being ambassadors," Rivas said.

Rahimpour closed by referencing the motto for the Iranian liberation movement: Women, Life, Freedom.

"Accessing basic freedoms isn't something we should have to ask for," Rahimpour said. "These things are yours. 'Women, Life, Freedom' will someday be all over the world, spoken in every language, when we are finally all liberated."



Panelists gather for the International Women's Day discussion.

Photo by Bex Law

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