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## The Parthenon, November 15, 2010

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# THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's Student Newspaper | marshallparthenon.com | Monday, November 15, 2010

## Editor's note



Look for a series on the United Way to be published in The Parthenon later this week.

## Sports



After emerging early in the season as a playmaker for the Thundering Herd, a junior wide receiver had his breakout game by doubling as a running back.

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## Opinion



My columns so far have set up three steps to succeed as a student: first, set up the right foundation; second, develop the right attitude; and third, take charge of your education.

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## Life



Hundreds gathered around the Memorial Fountain outside the Memorial Student Center on Sunday to remember and pay their respects to the victims of the 1970 plane crash.

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## Today's weather



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## Marshall professor honors the past by sharing his story

### History instructor was one of five athletic trainers for 1970 Thundering Herd football team

BY MARLOWE HEREFORD  
THE PARTHENON

Every November — especially on chilly, rainy days — he remembers.

Louis Peake, retired professor of history at Marshall University, was one of five athletic trainers for the 1970 Thundering Herd football team. He still teaches part-time at Marshall, and every year on the last class day before the memorial ceremony at the fountain, Peake shares his story with his students and allows them to see and touch pieces of the past.

While he shares his memories, he passes around the jerseys of Art Harris and Kevin Gilmore, a piece of Astroturf from Fairfield Stadium, photos from the 1970 games and the season media guide. He also offers extra credit to any of his students who attend the memorial ceremony.

Peake has made this annual practice a priority — no matter where he is in his syllabus — to bridge the gap between past and present and give his students something to take with them long after their time at Marshall has ended.

"They're sitting in the same seats that these young men sat in," Peake said. "They're taking some of the same classes that they took from some of the same professors that are still here. Consequently, we don't forget our heritage. Why it's important to me to tell them that story is because you are here at Marshall. This will be part of your legacy, part of your heritage when you leave here."

Jade Boggs, freshman criminal justice major from Cincinnati, Ohio, is a student in one of Peake's fall 2010 courses. Hearing his personal account put history into perspective, she said.

"It was really interesting (hearing him) because I've only heard it from the movie (We Are Marshall)," Boggs said. "To hear that someone, my own teacher, was related to the plane crash was interesting. It made me realize that even though it's been 40 years, it is still a huge deal no matter what."

A lifelong resident of Huntington, Peake attended

Marshall briefly before being drafted into the U.S. Army in 1966. After three years of service overseas, he returned to Marshall in 1969 and met Donald Tackett.

The two became close friends and Tackett talked Peake into becoming an athletic trainer for the football team — a job he said did not feel qualified for. After introducing himself to head athletic trainer Jim Schroer, Peake was added to the staff and attended a camp in Morgantown, W.Va., to become certified in time for the 1970 football season.

Peake was one of five trainers that year who alternated responsibilities. Two different trainers attended each away game. Peake said he traveled to Toledo and Bowling Green.

There was uncertainty about who would make the trip to East Carolina almost up to the last second. Tackett decided to make the trip because he was excited to fly on a plane for the first time, Peake said, and Schroer decided to accompany him. Peake remained in Huntington, listened to the game on the radio and prepared to treat the injured players in Gullickson Hall upon their return from Greenville, N.C. The other two trainers — Jim Wilson and Mark Smaha — had the weekend off.

What would have been just another evening waiting for the team to return quickly took a turn for the worst when Peake's phone rang at 6:45 p.m. on Nov. 14. On the other end was Peake's brother who lived close to Tri-State Airport and told him a plane believed to be the team's had crashed. Minutes later, Jim Hickman — a team doctor who had stayed in Huntington — called Peake and said to be ready to leave for Gullickson to pick up the medical and dental records. Hickman arrived with a sheriff, and after picking up the records, they left for the airport, Peake said.

"I can see plainly to this day, 40 years later, all the cars parked on I-64 going toward Kenova," he said. "In my mind, I'm thinking, 'Maybe somebody survived. Maybe somebody is badly hurt.'"

A makeshift morgue and several hours passed before

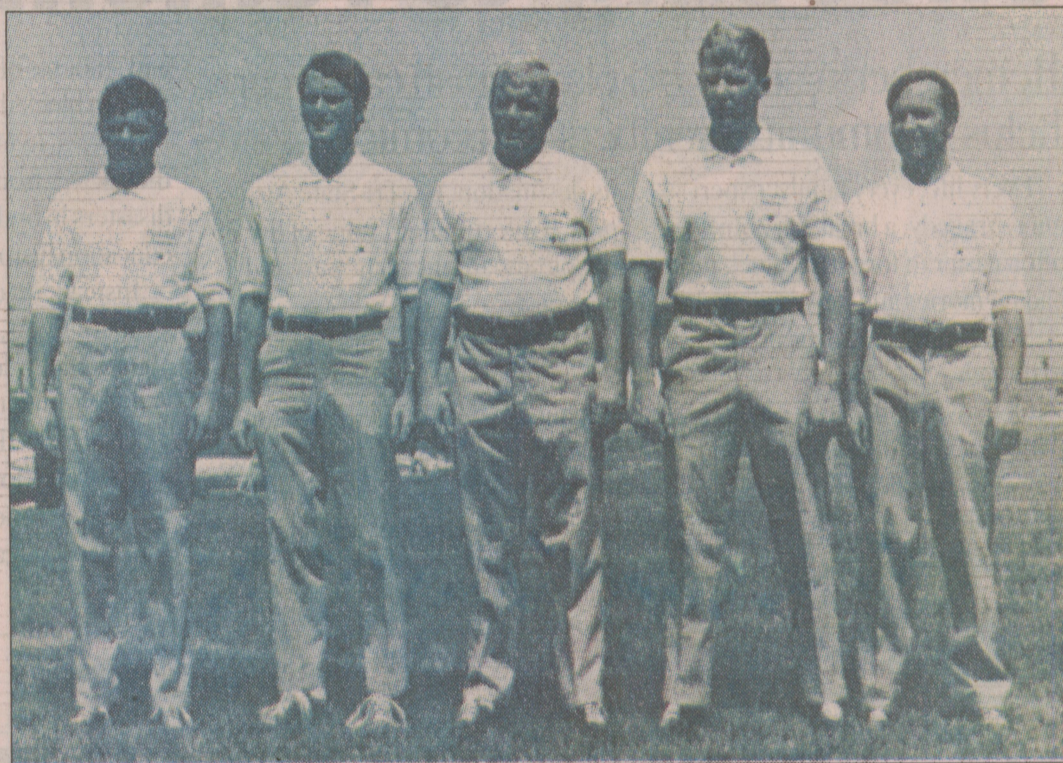


PHOTO COURTESY OF LOUIS PEAKE

The 1970 Marshall athletic trainers: Jim Wilson, Louis Peake, Jim Schroer, Mark Smaha and Donald Tackett. Schroer, head athletic trainer, and Tackett died in the plane crash on November 14, 1970.



MICHAEL SPURLOCK | THE PARTHENON

Louis Peake, professor of history at Marshall, holds up the jersey of 1970 Herd athlete Art Harris and shares his recollection of Nov. 14, 1970 as an athletic trainer for the team. Among other items Peake brought were game photos and Astroturf from Fairfield Stadium, which he passed around the room.

firefighters started bringing up the wreckage from the Veterans Memorial Field House. Empty chairs representing the lives lost were lined up on the floor, Peake said. Life at Marshall and in Huntington came to a standstill for almost a month.

"I really didn't start crying until I went over to the field house," Peake said. "To see those chairs sitting in the front all empty — roped off — that really got to me. Everybody was at a loss for words. I think there's a picture of Coach (Red) Dawson sitting in one of those seats by himself with his head down. For three weeks, it was just like someone dropped a

bomb here. The mourning just went on and on."

Marshall agreed to not play the final game on the 1970 schedule with Ohio University, and the season ended. After several months of controversy about the football program's future, Jack Lengyel of Wooster, Ohio, was hired as head coach of what would become the 1971 Young Thundering Herd. The NCAA granted Marshall permission to play freshmen and excitement developed for all the newcomers. However, Peake never returned to athletic training again, despite being invited by Lengyel.

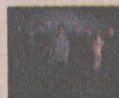
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TODAY  
ON TV



Chuck  
8 p.m.  
NBC



The Event  
9 p.m.  
NBC



Castle  
10 p.m.  
ABC

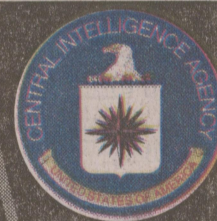


House  
8 p.m.  
FOX



Hawaii Five-0  
10 p.m.  
CBS

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Aung San Suu Kyi, pro-democracy leader, calling for freedom of speech in army-ruled Myanmar.

## THE PARTHENON EDITORIAL

# Choosing to remember not always easy

### Remembering the 1970 plane crash each year helps community members find comfort

Every life, every family, experiences tragedy, a breaking point. It's often easier to forget, to block the bad memories and move forward.

Marshall University is no stranger to tragedy.

On Nov. 14, 1970, a plane carrying the Thundering Herd football team, coaches and supporters crashed less than a mile away from

its destination, the Tri-State Airport. Unfortunately, none of the 75 people aboard the plane survived the crash.

Huntington and the Marshall community were in shock and overwhelmed with grief. Perhaps it would have been easier to forget. Huntington community members, as well as, the administration, faculty, staff

and students of Marshall could have tried to block the tragedy from their memories, to move on, separating themselves from one of the worst disasters in both sports and higher education history.

Instead, we choose to remember. Year after year, we meet on the Memorial Student Center plaza and gather around the fountain, a single piece of art dedicated to the memory of many lives lost too soon.

We meet and experience the pain all over again. The family and

friends of the victims relive the emotions they felt on Nov. 14. Those of us who were not around 40 years ago experience the heartache through the connection we feel to those members of the Marshall and Huntington communities. The grief we experience is one of association.

As members of the Marshall family, we choose to reopen the wound each and every year. We choose to remember, not because it's easier, but because we hope to find

understanding and comfort when we gather together to remember.

During Sunday's memorial ceremony, Marshall University President Stephen J. Kopp said in remembering we find comfort and peace for a void that cannot be filled.

For four decades, the Marshall family has made the choice to remember, not because we want to experience the pain each year, but because forgetting our fallen brothers and sisters never has been, and never will be, an option.

**ANNA SWIFT**  
THE ART OF EXCELLING AT SCHOOL

## How to pass a class with confidence

My columns so far have set up three steps to succeed as a student: first, set up the right foundation; second, develop the right attitude; and third, take charge of your education. Remaining columns for the semester will focus on how to be a model, successful student and how to make the most of your education.

This column on passing a class with confidence will represent a culmination of everything I've written so far. After all, doing well in a class involves eating right, exercising your body and mind, studying and taking notes effectively and efficiently and completing papers and projects strategically.

When speaking of these steps, however, some general key points emerge.

First, to pass a class it is critical to be aware of the structure and goals of the course. The best way to gather information on these topics is by analyzing the course syllabus.

For instance, what have the professors listed as the outcomes of his or her course, and what assignments is he or she using to help fulfill these goals? When is every assignment and exam scheduled or due? Furthermore, how much time do you have to complete them? The more you understand the setup of your courses, the better you'll be able to plan activities in an effective and efficient manner.

Second, one of the best ways to pass a class is by getting to know the professor. Professors are in charge of your grades, lesson plans, homework assignments and exams. They control the whole contents of a course and are the best resource available to you. Therefore, they should be the first person you turn to for clarifications or advice.

Third, passing a class entails picking up on patterns. Are quizzes and tests multiple choice or essay style? Do you continue to miss the same sorts of questions? Also, are you having more difficulty with some subjects than others?

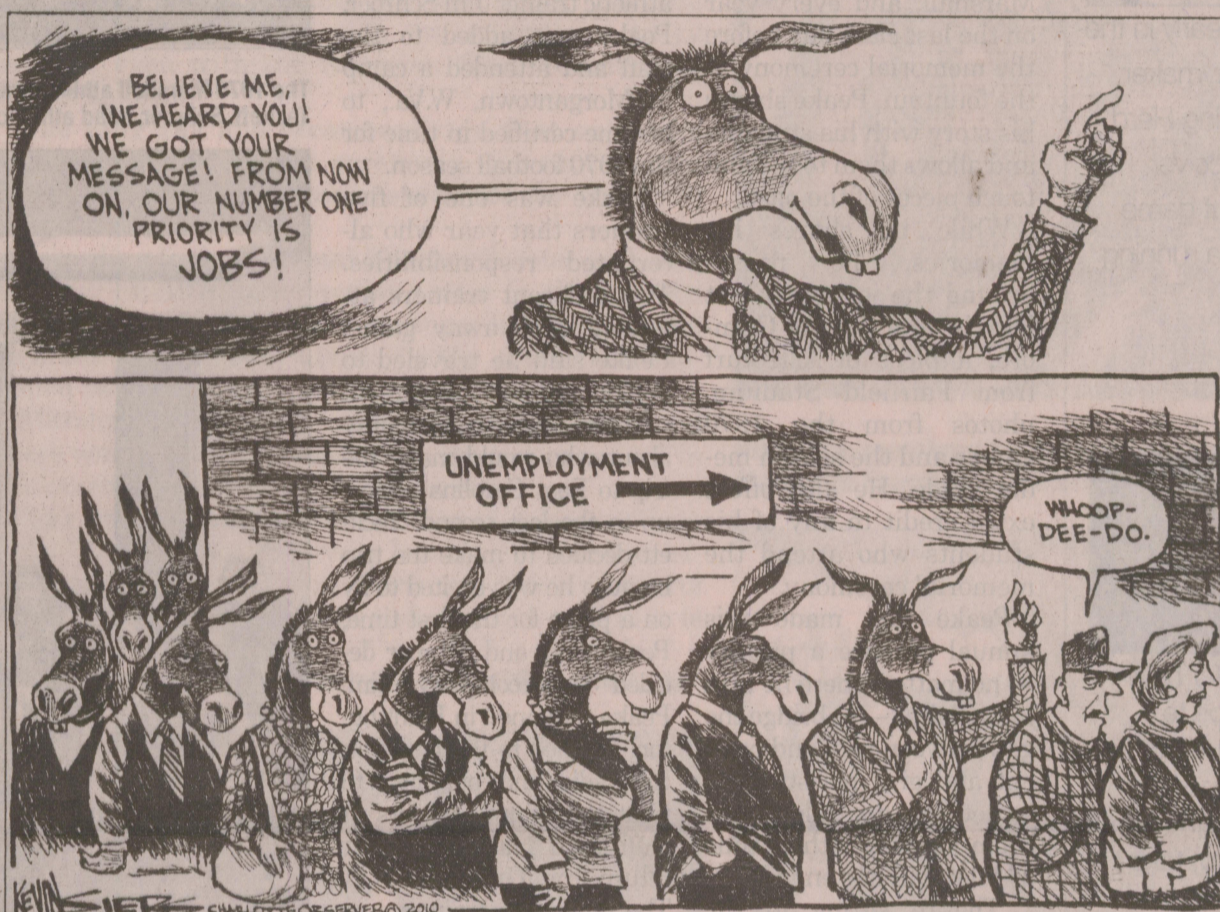
To address these questions, it is vital to recognize your problems, figure out why they are occurring and experiment with potential solutions. Just like the early hominids who only learned through trial and error, it's amazing how much learning goes on through experimentation, whether it is figuring out how to take good notes or how to pass an exam, and you should be open to the process.

If you still have trouble in your studies, then there's no shame in reserving a tutor. Doing so shows that you really care about the material. As with most things in life, it'd be best to get the help early on in the semester.

So, doing consistently well in our classes is essential to succeeding as a student. In my next column — and also as promised in my first column — I'd like to take this line of thinking a step further and focus on how to be a teacher's pet while still gaining respect.

Contact columnist Anna Swift at [fahrmann3@live.marshall.edu](mailto:fahrmann3@live.marshall.edu).

EDITORIAL CARTOON | KEVIN SIERS | CHARLOTTE OBSERVER



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Letters can be e-mailed to The Parthenon with word length of 350 to 450 words. Writers must give contact information and editors will contact them to verify information and identity before anything is published.

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## Online poll

### What are your plans for Thanksgiving?

- Eating... alot
- Shopping
- Sleeping



### RESULTS

### What is the best part of Thanksgiving?

- Food.....43%
- No School.....40%
- Football.....17%



# Herd battles back to defeat Tigers, extends winning streak to three

## Evans records three catches, five carries and two touchdowns

BY MARLOWE HEREFORD  
THE PARTHENON

After emerging early in the season as a playmaker for the Thundering Herd, a junior wide receiver had his breakout game by doubling as a running back.

Troy Evans made three catches for 81 yards and scored two touchdowns to help Marshall (4-6, 3-3 Conference USA) overcome a 10-0 halftime deficit to defeat Memphis (1-9, 0-6 C-USA) by a final score of 28-13 in front of 25,108 in attendance Saturday at Joan C. Edwards Stadium. The Herd has now won three consecutive games.

The last month has been an emotional one for Evans, who missed practice and a game to attend a relative's funeral and is now playing without his first cousin and Herd senior wide receiver, Chuck Walker, because of injury. To end a tough personal stretch with a Marshall win on his birthday was something to be thankful for.

"I'm just happy that Coach Holliday gave me the opportunity to go out and play and try to help my team," Evans said. "We (Walker and I) kind of switched roles a little because he played hard for me last year when I came across and broke my foot and he played every down for me. I'm just trying to play every down for him. I just have a heavy heart and want to go out and play hard."

Evans' touchdown with 6:18 remaining in regulation was one he called "high up" in his all-time list of career plays and one junior defensive end Vinny Curry joked will probably end up on YouTube. A Memphis defender nearly tackled Evans after he caught a pass from senior quarterback Brian Anderson, but failed to bring him down. The 5-foot-9-inch Oakland, Calif., native escaped the tackle and completed a 62-yard touchdown. Officials reviewed the play and confirmed it as a Herd score.

Evans said he was able to stop himself from falling and continue running.

"My off hand was free so I was able to put my hand down when I got my legs taken from underneath me," he said. "I went out and kept my balance and kept

running down field. It ended up turning into a touchdown."

That drive by Evans was the last of four Herd touchdowns in the second half that propelled Marshall to the win after little success in the first half. Memphis played beyond its overall record in the first two quarters and the Tiger defense held the scoreless Herd to 133 total yards. The Tigers also sacked Anderson three times in the first half, something the Herd had only allowed twice the entire season before Saturday.

"We felt going in that Memphis's defensive front was probably as good as anybody we've played against in the conference," said Marshall head football coach Doc Holliday. "Their defensive front was solid. We had a hard time blocking them at times, especially the first half."

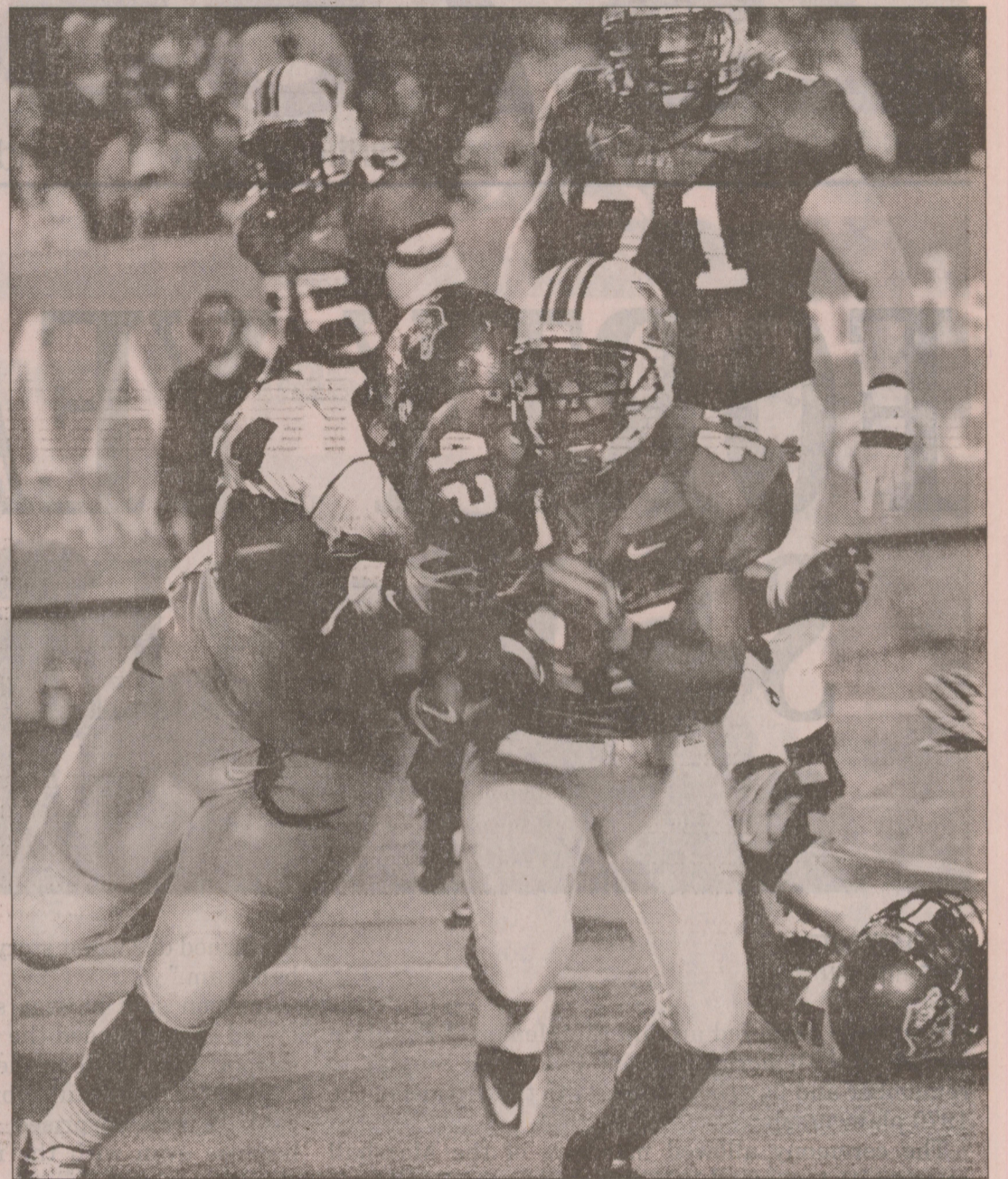
First-year Memphis head football coach Larry Porter acknowledged the strength of the Tiger defense in the first half and attributed the team's second half performance to not responding to Marshall's defensive pressure.

"I thought our defense was solid throughout the whole night," Porter said. "We've got to move the pocket some. We've seen it all year. When teams get ahead, they like to pressure us. We have to be able to counter their pressures. They got a little confidence going and we couldn't turn it as fast as we needed to."

Anderson overcame three sacks and an interception in the first half to finish the evening with 20 completions in 28 passes for 251 yards and three touchdowns. Leading the Herd in rushing were sophomore running back Martin Ward with 37 yards in 10 carries and freshman running back Essray Taliaferro, who accumulated 66 yards in 12 carries.

Taliaferro's effort was an example of the Herd's versatility, despite recent injuries to Walker, sophomore running back Andre Booker and freshman running back Tron Martinez, all of whom contributed significant playing time in previous games.

"As a coach, it's fun to go out and watch Essray Taliaferro, who's a walk-on nobody knows about, go in there and



MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON  
**Freshman running back Essray Taliaferro is tackled by a Memphis defender in the Herd's 28-13 win over the Tigers. Taliaferro finished the game with 66 yards in 12 carries.**

play his tail off," Holliday said. "We don't worry about injuries. Somebody's going to go in and play well."

The Herd finished the game with 369 total offensive yards compared to 241 by the Tigers. Marshall held Memphis to 40 total rushing yards. Offensive leaders for the Tigers were running back Gregory Ray, who rushed for 60 yards in 15 carries, and wide receiver Jermaine McKenzie, who made six catches for 109 yards. Freshman quarterback Ryan Williams completed 14 of 32 passes for 201 yards and one touchdown. Williams, like Anderson, was sacked three times.

A pair of linebackers — senior Mario Herd and junior Kellen Harris — led the Herd defensively with nine tackles each. Curry also contributed with eight tackles, one sack and one fumble recovery. For the Tigers, defensive tackles Lester Lawton, Corey Jones and Dotari Poe each recorded a sack and linebacker Jamon Hughes finished with 14 tackles.

Penalties were frequent in the contest. The Herd was flagged six times for 52 yards and Memphis was flagged 11 times for 95 yards.

Marshall will travel to Dallas next to face the bowl-seeking Mustangs of SMU,

but for now, the Herd athletes appreciate a win that occurred before several notable members of the Marshall community on a weekend just as notable.

"If the Young Thundering Herd and those freshmen (of 1971) hadn't stepped up, I wouldn't even be having this conversation right now," Curry said to members of the media following the game. "It was definitely a good win for them."

Marlowe Hereford can be contacted at herford4@marshall.edu.

Notes:  
- A video honoring the 1970 Thundering Herd was played on the videoboards before kickoff.

- Among those in attendance Saturday were members of the 1970 cheerleading squad, who were given honor letterman jackets by the M Club on the field before the second quarter.

- Jack Lengyel, coach of the 1971 Young Thundering Herd, and athletes from that team were honored on the field in the second half and led the "We Are Marshall" cheer.

... The family of Marcelo Lajterman, a member of the 1970 team, entered the field during the first quarter to present a \$23,000 check to Marshall for a scholarship in Lajterman's honor.

## Professor

Continued from Page 1

"I went out there (to practices) a couple times, and my heart wasn't in it," he said. "I just told them, 'I can't do this.' At that time, I'd see the numbers and think of who used to wear them."

Peake said he then turned his attention to academics. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in history, taught in Ohio for two years, returned to Marshall to earn his master's degree and became a history professor in 1978.

Decades later, he is still questioned about his affiliation with the team. He said he vividly recalls moments from what became both the happiest and saddest time of his life. One of the most difficult things was accepting how many friends he had lost. He became good friends with starting kicker Marcelo Lajterman and taped him every day. He also knew quarterbacks Art Harris and Ted Shoebridge very well.

Although he never returned as a trainer, Peake said he has remained a dedicated fan of Marshall through the losing drought that did not end until the late 1980s, the national caliber truemts of coaches Jim Donnan and Bob Pruett in the 1990s and the Herd of the last decade. Peake has seen "We Are Marshall" and despite some added storylines for Hollywood effect, said he feels it was a suitable tribute to the university and community. He said he can still recall several things from his college years, from meeting former Louisville head football coach Lee Corso to witnessing the Young Thundering Herd's 15-13 upset of Xavier.

"When Reggie Oliver threw that pass to Terry Gardner and went into the endzone with no time on the clock,

the student body just poured onto the field," Peake said. "Nobody left. It was just an amazing sight. That place was pandemonium."

Peake said he also remains in good contact with the other trainers, coaches and players from his time at Marshall and is active in the M Club. One of his friends and colleagues from decades ago, none other than Lengyel, also said he shares Peake's dedication to the Marshall community. For Lengyel, that dedication began upon taking the Marshall head coaching job in 1971 after seeing news of the crash on television and several other coaches turned down the position.

"My heart sunk, as I'm sure every other football coach in the country that saw that," Lengyel said. "I thought, 'Well, maybe I can help.' My college (the University of Akron) hired me, then I went into the service at Fort Bragg, came back, went to college and went to Cornell. I got the head coaching job (at the College of Wooster) when I was 29 years old. I thought, 'Here's my opportunity to pay back in football what they gave to me to be a head coach at the age of 29.' That's why I took the job."

It took several years and several times attending the annual memorial service at the fountain for Peake to become comfortable sharing his memories of that year and that time in his life, he said. What at first was difficult to do has become something he considers vital to his job at Marshall.

"It was a wonderful time in my life," Peake said. "It was also the saddest time in my life. In a flash, all those boys were gone. It comes down to the university's heritage. This is just something we can't forget."

Marlowe Hereford can be contacted at herford4@marshall.edu.

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# FORTY YEARS LATER STILL REMEMBERED

BY KELSEY DUTTINE  
THE PARTHENON

Hundreds gathered around the Memorial Fountain outside the Memorial Student Center on Sunday to remember and pay their respects to the victims of the 1970 plane crash.

The ceremony allowed members of the Marshall community to remember the 75 victims on the 40-year anniversary of the crash. The fountain, which was dedicated to those who died in the crash was silenced for all to remember and honor those who passed.

"When I heard that last drop of water finally stop, I suddenly felt a brush of emotion, and it felt as if my heart had stopped," said Mickey Jackson, former running back and assistant coach to the 1970 team. "I realized it didn't because I suddenly remembered my guys."

Jackson was the keynote speaker of the ceremony. He was not on the flight from Greenville, N.C., with his team, but remembers finding out about the crash after scouting Marshall rival Ohio University with assistant coach Carl Kokor.

"We heard there's a plane that went down in Huntington, and may have lost the entire football team," Jackson said. "We knew then we needed some sort of confirmation. Finally, the state highway patrol

confirmed our worst story: that we lost our entire football team."

Jackson said he was surprised by the size of the crowd that attended the ceremony, and it showed the support that exists in the Marshall community.

"What a beautiful crowd we had today," Jackson said. "I was surprised with the attendance today because even with the rainy weather, we only had standing room."

The gray sky and occasional rain that onlookers experienced during the ceremony was reminiscent of the weather that was responsible for the 1970 plane crash.

According to the National Weather Service archives, on Nov. 14, 1970 temperatures were in the low 40s with a light rain and low ceilings, which were the weather conditions to blame for the crash that happened two miles from the Tri-State Airport.

Marshall University President Stephen J. Kopp said there was power in remembering those who passed in the crash when he spoke at the ceremony.

"In remembering, we find comfort and peace," Kopp said. "Anyone that has ever lost a loved one has experienced the wound that opens and forever imparts an emptiness in our hearts and spirits, a void that is never rebuilt."

Kelsey Duttine can be contacted at [duttine3@marshall.edu](mailto:duttine3@marshall.edu).



MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON

Audience members held hands in prayer Sunday at the Memorial Fountain ceremony.



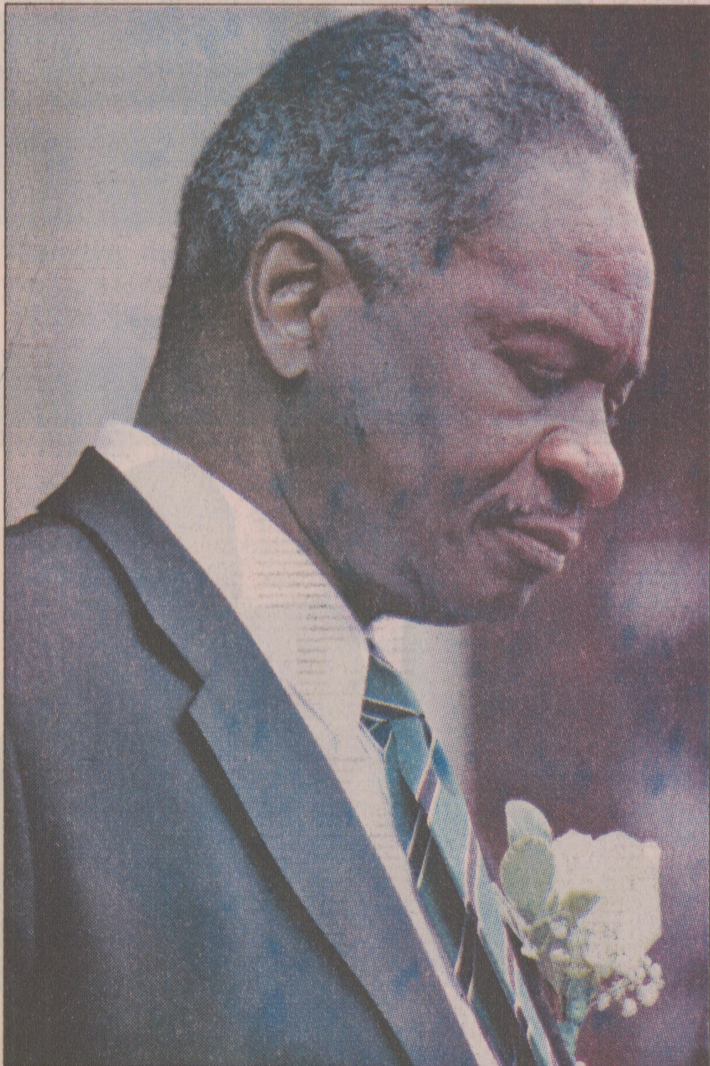
MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON

Audience members place white roses around the Memorial Fountain to pay respect to the 1970 plane crash victims.



MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON

Hundreds gathered at the Memorial Fountain on Sunday, leaving standing room only, to pay respect to the victims of the 1970 plane crash.



MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON

Mickey Jackson, assistant coach of the 1970 Marshall University football team, was the guest speaker for the 40th anniversary ceremony.



MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON

The last drops fall from the Memorial Fountain as it is shut off, which is done every year during the ceremony.

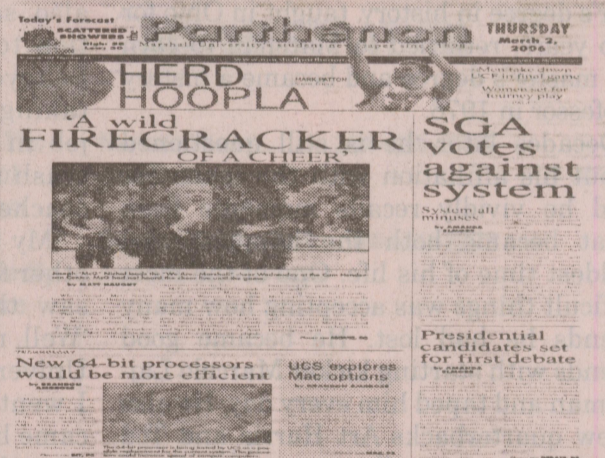
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