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## We Are ... Marshall, July 23, 2004

Office of Marshall University Communications

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# We Are...Marshall!

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • JULY 23, 2004

## Board of Governors Welcomes New Members

Three people have been appointed by Gov. Bob Wise to serve on Marshall University's Board of Governors.



John G. Hess

The new members, all of whom will serve four-year terms ending June 30, 2008, are John G. Hess of Barboursville, Verna K. Gibson of Sarasota, Fla., and Letitia Neese Chafin of Williamson, W.Va.

"We're always delighted to have new enthusiasm and support for Marshall University," President Dan Angel said. "We're delighted with our three new members and look forward to working with them."

The board now has 16 members. In addition to the new appointees, they include:



Verna K. Gibson

Terms ending June 30, 2005—Virginia King, A. Michael Perry, Joseph L. Williams, Dr. James Sottile (faculty representative), Brandon Stevens (student representative) and Sherri Noble (Classified Staff Council representative).

Terms ending June 30, 2006—Robert Shell, Jr., Menis Ketchum and Gary G. White.

Terms ending June 30, 2007—Michael J. Farrell, Gary Adkins and Brent A. Marsteller.

Hess, a certified public accountant, is a member/partner with Hess, Stewart & Campbell, PLLC, which

### **Bookwalter to Chair Conference USA Faculty Group**

Dr. Robert B. Bookwalter, Marshall's faculty athletic representative to the NCAA for the past two years, has been elected faculty athletic representative group chair for the new configuration of Conference USA.

Bookwalter, who is beginning the third year of a four-year term as Marshall's faculty athletic representative, already has begun his duties with C-USA. He will preside over three meetings in the upcoming year as the league prepares to welcome six schools—including Marshall—to competition in 2005.

"It's good for us and it's good for Marshall," Bookwalter said of his new role with C-USA. "The whole affiliation is good, they're happy to have us. I'm honored to have been chosen for this role and look forward, just as we do at Marshall, to promoting the best possible education for the student-athletes in Conference, USA."

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Letitia Neese Chafin

has offices in Huntington, Beckley and Oak Hill. He graduated from Marshall in 1973 with a B.B.A. degree in accounting. Hess is a member of the Huntington Chamber of Commerce, the Marshall University Foundation, Inc., and the Big Green Scholarship Foundation.

"I'm really excited about being appointed to the Board of Governors," Hess said. "It is a wonderful opportunity to become involved in an institution I have great passion for. I'm honored and thrilled and feel very privileged."

Gibson is nationally known for her career and leadership in the retail fashion clothing industry. She joined The Limited Stores as a merchandising trainee in 1971 and worked her way up the corporate ladder to become the president and CEO of The Limited Stores. She was the first woman CEO of a Fortune 500 company.

She is a member of the John Marshall Society and a former member of the Society of Yeager Scholars. She and her husband, Jim, are vice chairs of the Campaign for National Prominence. They support MU athletics, the West Virginia Autism Training Center at Marshall and the H.E.L.P. Program. Gibson, too, is excited about joining the board.

"Whatever I'm asked to do, I hope to do a very good job," she said. "I'm very proud to be part of the board and I hope we can keep the university moving in the positive direction it's currently moving in."

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### **Caution Urged at Construction Site**

Steel erection at the site of the Robert C. Byrd Biotechnology Science Center on the Huntington campus began July 19, according to Mike Meadows, director of facilities planning and management.

Because of the construction process involved in erecting the steel, Meadows is urging pedestrians and motorists in the area to use caution. The facility is under construction between 18<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> streets on the north side of Third Avenue and the steel erection process is estimated to take about 12 weeks.

Meadows said the right lane (north side) on Third Avenue near the site will be closed at times, possibly one to two days a week during the 12 weeks as trucks unload steel for the project.

Construction of the \$40 million Robert C. Byrd Biotechnology Science Center is expected to continue for about two more years.

# Thesis, Dissertation Research Awards Announced for Summer

Nineteen graduate students have been awarded summer 2004 thesis/dissertation research awards, according to Dr. Leonard J. Deutsch, Dean of the Graduate College. These \$500 scholarships are designed to provide financial support to help students complete their theses, Deutsch said.

The recipients and their advisors are:

- **Sandra and John Boyle Award:** Amanda Adams for "Intimate Partner Violence and Rural Women: Risk factors for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder." Advisor: Dr. Salli Lewis, Psychology.
- **John and Janett Casto Award:** Fredrick Heath Damron for "Characterization of Vinyl Chloride Degrading Bacteria." Advisor: Dr. Chuck Somerville, Biological Sciences.
- **Charles Crow Family Award:** David Washington for "Discovering the Literary Discourse of Schizophrenia." Advisor: Dr. John Young, English.
- **Stephen Cupps Award\*:** Anthony P. Curtis for "Mohawks in Manhattan: The Evolution of Warrior Culture in the Shadows of an Industrializing Nation." Advisor: Dr. Kat Williams, History.
- **Jaci Maszta Award:** Tara Hatfield for "Discovering the Barriers to Health Promoting Lifestyles Among Appalachian Veterans." Advisor: Dr. Diana Stotts, Nursing.
- **Bill Jr. and Judith Minner Award:** Jaime Sias for "The Natural History and Possible Extirpation of Upland Chorus Frogs, *Pseudacris feriarum*, in West Virginia." Advisor: Dr. Tom Pauley, Biological Sciences.
- **Lamina Queen Award:** Tracy LeGrow for "Improving Access to Health Information for Rural Women: Access, Barriers and the Importance of Informal Support Networks." Advisor: Dr. Margaret Fish, Psychology.
- **Jack Yeager Award\*:** Kathleen Loughman for "Testing a Bacteria-based Bioindicator of Water Quality Above and Below USACE Impoundments in the Big Sandy Watershed." Advisor: Dr. Chuck Somerville, Biological Sciences.
- Jennifer Cavender for an untitled novel. Advisor: Prof. Arthur Stringer, English.
- Teresa Fogus for "The Distribution and Natural History of the Shenandoah Mountain Salamander, *Plethodon virginia*, in West Virginia. Advisor: Dr. Tom Pauley, Biological Sciences.
- Diana Frazier for "Pandora's Box: A sculptural vision for the wood container." Advisor: Professor Jonathan Cox, Art.
- Jeff Hanson for a novel, *Into the Dark Heart*. Advisor: Dr. Dolores Johnson, English.
- Christina Johnson for "Detection of Shiga Toxin Genes in Fecal Coliforms from the Great Kanawha River." Advisor: Dr. Chuck Somerville, Biological Sciences.
- April Keenan for "Multiple Antibiotic Resistance Patterns of Microbes from the Great Kanawha River." Advisor: Dr. Chuck Somerville, Biological Sciences.
- Zachary Loughman for Herpetofauna diversity of reclaimed strip-mines with an emphasis on the natural history of *Heterodon platirhinos* (Eastern Hognosed Snake). Advisor: Dr. Tom Pauley, Biological Sciences.
- Deborah Merritt for "Determining a new species of Black-bellied Salamander (Genus: *Desmognathus*) from West Virginia. Advisor: Dr. Tom Pauley, Biological Sciences.
- Deborah Ann Moore for "How Abused Women in Cabell County, WV, Conceptualize the Problem of Spousal Abuse." Advisor: Dr. Richard Garnett, Sociology.
- Lisa Smith for "Survey of Fecal Coliforms and Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria in the Ohio River." Advisor: Dr. Chuck Somerville, Biological Sciences.
- Lisa Stuchell for "Malory's Maladies: Determining Intention and Influence through Editorial Theory in Sir Thomas Malory's *Le Morte D'Arthur*. Advisor: Dr. John Young, English.

\* Thanks to the generosity of Dr. F. Duke Haddad.

## We Are...Marshall!

Published by University Communications, with offices in Huntington (213 Old Main) and South Charleston (312 Administration Building).

The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall!* will carry an issue date of Aug. 6, 2004.

Deadline is July 30.

Articles or other materials for consideration should be sent to Pat Dickson, editor, at the South Charleston campus or by e-mail to [pdickson@marshall.edu](mailto:pdickson@marshall.edu).



## Staff Voting Set for Aug. 11

Voting places for a Classified Staff Council election to elect representatives from Technical/Paraprofessional and Skilled Craft/Service/Maintenance, have been announced.

General voting will be on Wednesday, Aug. 11, at the following places:

- Sorrell Maintenance Building, Room 200 (Plant Operations Room) 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Robert C. Byrd Center for Rural Health, Deans Office, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Laidley Hall, Room 127A, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Staff Council Office, 123 Morrow Library, 8 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.; and 12:30 p.m. - 4 p.m.
- Medical Education Building, Room G08 (Associate Dean's Office), 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Absentee voting will be Tuesday, Aug. 3 in 123 Morrow Library from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Everyone voting must have a valid Marshall University ID.

## Profile: Lynn Mayfield

*A series on interesting Marshall University people.*



Lynn Mayfield

Her voice is as warm as the sun in which she gardens.

For Lynn Mayfield optimism is a way of life. She's cheery and positive, and her affection for Marshall has kept her coming back to the campus time and again over the past 37 years.

Mayfield, who is administrative secretary senior in the departments of Classics, Philosophy and Religious Studies, began her odyssey with

Marshall in 1967, when she took a job in the fledgling computer center, which was then located in the basement of Old Main. She not only found a job, she found a husband, John, a systems analyst, whom she met when he took a course at the computer center. Married in 1970, the couple found themselves making a series of moves as John was transferred to various cities in Ohio. And then in 1975 the family had a welcome transfer back to the Huntington area.

"I wanted to go back to work at Marshall," Mayfield recalls, "so I called a friend in the Computer Center and she said there was an opening in University Relations working for C.T. Mitchell. I got the job and stayed there for 10 years until my husband was once again transferred, this time to Cincinnati and then to Cleveland. We were gone about three years, and then John switched jobs and we were back in Huntington, this time for good."

It was a happy homecoming for the couple in more ways than one. Eager to go back to work, she was surprised to find her old job working for C.T. Mitchell had just become vacant. Mitchell, who was the long-time director of University Relations and for several years the spokesman for the university, was delighted to have Mayfield back.

"I think that was karma," Mayfield says with a laugh.

Many of her duties back then were low-tech and time-consuming. "We did the staff directory, press releases and the faculty/staff newsletter," she remembers. "We did the directory by working with hand-written individual cards. The newsletter came out weekly and varied in length. It was on 8 ½ by 11 printed sheets. One of my jobs was to collate the newsletter, 1500 copies, by hand and that could take a couple of hours or more to do."

But one of her favorite things about the job was working with students. "We had a lot of student help and the students were just joys. C.T. accused me of mothering them and I guess I did. I always made sure they went to class."

Actually most of Mayfield's family have been Marshall students at one time or another. The list of graduates includes her daughter Nichole, a teacher at Ironton High School; three nephews, who are respectively a minister, physician, and nurse anesthetist; her sister, also a teacher; a brother-in-law who works for the Corps of Engineers and two sisters-in-law who are retired teachers. John Mayfield was a member of the fabled 1955-56 basketball team, which has been the only Marshall team to win the Mid-American Conference

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## Marshall to Participate in River Research Project

Marshall will be one of four institutions participating in the annual Ohio River Run, a research expedition in which faculty and students collect data from the river's entire 981 miles.

Ohio River Run 2004 begins Aug. 1 in Paducah, Ky., and ends Aug. 15 in Pittsburgh. Joining Marshall will be faculty and students from Thomas More College in Crestview Hills, Ky., the University of Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky University in Highland Heights, Ky. Participants will travel aboard the 65-foot long Chattanooga Star Riverboat.

The same four institutions participated in the past three Ohio River Runs, the first two of which covered half the distance. Last year's trek was the first to cover the entire 981 miles.

During Ohio River Run 2003, Marshall's team of researchers, led by Dr. Chuck Somerville, professor of Biological Sciences, and graduate student Lisa Smith, monitored the density of culturable bacteria and *Eschercheri coli*, and the proportion of bacteria resistant to one or more antibiotics as indices of land/water use.

This year Marshall will be looking at two major groups of bacteria. The Marshall crew includes five people, but no more than three at a time on the riverboat. In addition to Somerville and Smith, the crew includes undergraduate Sydnee Smirl, graduate student Kathy

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## Booth Scholars on Huntington Campus

The Booth Scholars Program, designed to prepare students to succeed in higher education, is underway on the Huntington campus and will run through Friday, July 30.

The purpose of the Booth Scholars Program is to assist academically promising youth in a selected region of Appalachia to further their preparation for entrance into higher education while preparing them for a successful college experience.

Ninety students from Wayne County in grades 9 through 12 are taking part in this summer's program

"They (Booth Scholars) will spend one to two weeks on campus participating in various math and science related activities, as well as cultural and ACT prep classes," said Brenda Napier, director of the program.

"The most important thing about the Booth Scholars Program is the exposure these students will get to college life," Napier said. "They will feel more like a college student being here on campus, and that feeling of what it's like on a college campus will remain with them."

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## Faculty/Staff Achievements

**Marcia J. Booth**, professor in MCTC's department of General Studies, was appointed to the conference review committee for the annual "International Conference on Computing, Communications, and Control Technologies: CCC '04" by Dr. Nagib Callaos, conference coordinator. The year's conference is sponsored by the University of Texas at Austin, in Austin, Aug. 14-17. Booth evaluated and chose papers for presentation at the conference in the areas of technology and communication.

## **Lynn Mayfield** *from Page 3*

championship. "John is very proud of that feat," she says.

She came to her present position after C.T. Mitchell retired in 1998. It was something of a bittersweet time for her. "I had worked in administration in Old Main for so many years and I really enjoyed the work I did. I was hesitant about making a change because I hadn't worked in an academic section before."

She needn't have worried. She and the departments were a good fit from the beginning. She has a wide variety of duties but that doesn't daunt the energetic Mayfield. "I have thoroughly enjoyed it," she says. "I have eight wonderful faculty that I work with and I get to work and interact with the students. They are just such a delight."

Just as she is attentive to the people around her, she loves lavishing time and attention on her flower gardens. They're a passion with her, and she and John even have a flourishing vegetable garden, which he mostly tends, she says.

"I love working in the garden, feeling the soil and dirt in my hands, watching things thrive and bloom," the intrepid gardener says. "It's a great way to work out any frustrations you may have ... I find it to be very relaxing and therapeutic."

And besides, she says with a laugh, "An extra benefit is that you always have fresh flowers on your desk. That's definitely an added bonus!"

The Mayfields are lucky enough to have their own blackberry patch right in their yard and the vines are loaded this year, she says. Lynn Mayfield loves to can, and she's making good use of the berries, putting up jams and loading bags into the freezer. Her cupboards will soon overflow with summer's bounty, jars of home-canned green beans and tomatoes along with the homemade ketchup she makes. Homemade ketchup? It's really not hard to make, she says reassuringly. "It's just very, very messy."

A stamp collector for more than 40 years, she tries to work in time to spend with her steadily growing collection, which now fills three large binder notebooks. "My mother collected stamps and I was fascinated by her collection, so I started one," said Mayfield. "Collecting stamps is like a history lesson. You use them everyday but seldom think about them. I never realized there was such a rich history in stamp collecting."

Family is the most important thing in Mayfield's life. She's a proud grandmother to Allison, 15, and Andrew, 12. "They're the light of my life," she says with pride. They're a close-knit family and it helps that she hosts a weekly Sunday dinner for assorted relatives who gather at her dining room table to talk and enjoy one another's company.

"One of the things I enjoyed most when I was growing up was that our family always gathered to eat and share the day's activities. I've tried to continue that tradition. We seldom have fewer than 10 people for dinner now and sometimes we have more. We are a tight-knit family and I feel very fortunate to have my family so near."

"I've been blessed," she says with her usual good nature. "I've had a good life and Marshall has been a big part of it ... During the time we lived in Ohio I did quite a bit of temporary work and I had an opportunity to work at several interesting places, including King's Island and the Mattel Toy Company. But when it comes to a good place to work, Marshall is head and shoulders above the others."

"I've been here for almost 31 years now and it is still a great place to work. The campus is beautiful and it is good to be able to get out and walk and sit on a bench if you want to," she says thoughtfully. "After all, there aren't many places where you can come to work and be in a park-like setting every day!"

## **New Board Members** *from Page 1*

Chafin is an attorney with her husband, Senate Majority Leader H. Truman Chafin, in the H. Truman Chafin Law Firm, PLLC in Williamson. She is a former employee of NCR Corporation as both West Virginia and national representative. Chafin graduated with honors from Marshall in 1986, and is a 1996 graduate of the West Virginia University College of Law. Chafin said she believes higher education is the answer to the economic problems facing West Virginia.

"I'm very honored to be selected and excited about the opportunity to serve," she said of her appointment. "I'm looking forward to it, it's going to be challenging. I'm ready to roll up my sleeves and get to work."

## **Bookwalter** *from Page 1*

Bookwalter, who was elected in May, said he stays in constant touch with the league office in Dallas as he prepares to preside over meetings in Dallas in October, in Charlotte, N.C., in March 2005 and in Destin, Fla., in May 2005. The first two meetings will involve items such as planning, reviewing bylaws and policies, and eligibility requirements.

Besides Marshall, other new C-USA members are Rice University, Southern Methodist University, the University of Tulsa, the University of Central Florida and the University of Texas El Paso. They join East Carolina University, the University of Alabama-Birmingham, the University of Southern Mississippi, the University of Memphis, Tulane University and the University of Houston to form the 12-team league.

Bookwalter, a professor in the Communications Studies Department, has been teaching at Marshall for 17 years.

## **River Research** *from Page 3*

Loughman and Andy Johnson, lab manager and a senior researcher in Somerville's lab.

"It takes a huge amount of cooperation and coordination between the four schools," Somerville said of the river run. "I've gotten to know these folks from Thomas More College, the University of Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky really well. Different institutions have different interests."

A benefit of the collaborative research is the ability to create "layered data tests," Somerville said. Those tests result from four different samples being taken in the same location at the same time, he said.

The riverboat is expected to dock at Huntington's Harris Riverfront Park at about 8 p.m. on Aug. 10 then leave early the next day on its way to Pittsburgh.

## **Booth Scholars** *from Page 3*

To qualify for the program, the students must have an overall grade point average of at least 3.0 and must have scored 60 or better on their SAT 9 tests.