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The Parthenon, November 13, 2015

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2015 | VOL. 119 NO. 44 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | marshallparthenon.com | SINGLE COPY FREE

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Barry Nash

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Brian O'Connor

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Murrill Ralsten

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IN MEMORY

WEEKEND NEWS

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2015 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Marshall graduate competing in Miss Jetset 2015

By **DESMOND GROVES**
THE PARTHENON

Santana Maynard graduated from Marshall University at the age of 19 with three degrees in criminal justice, Japanese, education and a minor. Maynard was featured as an extra in “We Are Marshall” and “Burning Annie” and visits conventions all over the country, where her cosplay has been featured in “1000 Incredible Cosplay and Costume Ideas” by YayaHan and in the Japanese magazine, Cosmode Magazine.

Maynard is competing to win Miss Jetset 2015. If Maynard wins, she will be awarded \$100,000 and fly out to Arizona to be featured on the cover of Jetset magazine. Maynard said she plans on using some of the money to donate toward Little Victories, The Humane Society and The American Heart Association.

Maynard’s reasons for donating to those organizations are personal.

“I’m a huge animal advocate,” Maynard said. “I have always loved animals and want to do everything I can to help them. The American Heart Association is something that hits close to home, as my grandmother died with heart problems and she was like a second mom to me. I know a lot of people that have suffered from heart conditions and I work with the Heart Association at my local school, educating kids and

doing fundraisers for them.”

Maynard wants to use her title as Miss Jetset 2015 to represent West Virginia and put a positive light on cosplay.

“I’m going to be in Miss Jetset Magazine, regardless if I win or not,” Maynard said. “But now I have the opportunity to win the title of Miss Jetset, which will represent West Virginia on its cover. If I get the cover, I will have a much bigger platform to work off of because this will open up so many doors and opportunities for me to able to talk about the causes I’m working for and even help represent cosplay in a positive light to get my own voice heard out there a lot more.”

Cosplay was not originally what Maynard wanted to do within entertaining. Maynard started singing professionally at age 9 and has sung at venues around the Tri-State, as well as at venues in Nashville, Tennessee. Maynard released her debut extended play titled “Prison Key” in February of this year and opened up for Brad Paisley.

“He (Paisley) was really nice,” Maynard said. “He seemed to have really liked my music.”

Voting for Miss Jetset 2015 ends Dec. 10 and voters are allowed to vote once every 12 hours.

Desmond Groves can be contacted at groves53@marshall.edu



Santana Maynard is a Marshall graduate in the running for the title of Miss Jetset 2015.

Of The Dell releases debut single

By **NATHAN THOMAS**
THE PARTHENON

Huntington rock quartet Of The Dell has released its debut single “Runnin’ on Good Times,” consisting of two of the band’s original songs.

“We just want it raw to sound like it’s live and to interpret the band on the best of their ability,” said Jim Curnutte, producer of the release.

The band is comprised of Corey Hatton, vocals and guitar, Cody Hatton, vocals and bass guitar, CJ Davis, drums and Issac Hodges, guitar.

Of the A-side “Runnin,” Corey Hatton said, “I was sitting at home in 2012, suspended from high school as always, playing guitar and there it was.”

The B-side “Good Time All Of The Time” was co-written by brothers Corey and Cody Hatton.

“Corey got a new 12-string guitar last summer and I wrote the riff,” Cody Hatton said. “I didn’t show it to the guys in the group until a few months ago and we worked with it and made a song out of it.”

The band met Curnutte in early 2015 at different open mic nights; Corey Hatton immediately hit it off with Curnutte because of his interest in Curnutte’s Gretsch electric guitar. Curnutte is known for his work under the monikers Assassin of Silence and J.C. Storyteller.

“They started coming over to my house,” Curnutte said. “I’ve got a studio in my house and they were after me to produce their material because they felt I had the background and knowledge of where they wanted to come from. They wanted it to sound like my first Assassin of Silence album and it’s all come along from there. “

The songs have the vibe of rock songs from the 1960s, which comes to no surprise to those who have seen the band live. Of The Dell tends to incorporate Beatles, Paul McCartney and Grassroots covers into their live performances.

“That’s what we want out of our original music,” Cody Hatton said.

“It’s been an experience so far to work on the single,” Curnutte said. “Basically we work whenever our vibe is there to do it because it’s important to have that connection. The last couple of months have been really chaotic which has helped us with these two songs, especially ‘Runnin,’ because of the chaos that is trying to be interpreted in the production of the song.”

Curnutte plans to reissue his Assassin of Silence and J.C. Storyteller albums while also working on the full length Of The Dell album. Of The Dell has multiple performances in the area coming up.

Nathan Thomas can be contacted at thomas521@marshall.edu.



Members of Of The Dell Cody Hatton, CJ Davis, Corey Hatton and Issac Hodges perform at the V-Club Oct. 2.



The Marshall 75 to be honored at 45th Annual Memorial Fountain Ceremony

By **ROB ENGLE**
THE PARTHENON

The 75 sons and daughters of Marshall who lost their lives in the 1970 plane crash will be honored at the 45th Annual Memorial Fountain Ceremony Saturday on the Memorial Student Center plaza.

Because Marshall plays a home football game at 3:30 p.m., the service is scheduled to begin 10 a.m., rather than the regular noon starting time.

This year’s keynote speaker is Stephen Ward, who was 5 years old when his father, Parker Ward, owner of Hez War Buick in Huntington, died in the crash along with 74 others.

Stephen Ward lives in Louisville, Kentucky with his wife, Shari, and two children. Stephen Ward currently works for Boehringer-Ingelheim Oncology.

“The love I feel for Marshall University and the city of Huntington cannot be measured,” Stephen Ward said in a press release. “Remembering the 75 we lost on Nov. 14, 1970 is a special day for all of us. Thank you for keeping the Marshall spirit alive.”

Isabelle Rogner, student body vice president, has worked closely with Ward in preparation for his address. Rogner said even though Ward did not attend Marshall, the university has always been a huge part of his life.

“He wants to talk about how even though he didn’t go here, Huntington and the University have always come back into his life and how a lot of the people he looked up to in the past have been from Marshall,” Rogner said. “Through his loss, he was able to continue to progress in life, which I think is a great message for students.”

Rogner said she has been honored to be a part of the Fountain Ceremony planning.

“I’d never thought I’d be able to say I’ve been part of such an impactful university,” Rogner said. “I’ve gotten to help with a special event that’s so sacred. But it’s not just me, it’s truly a community effort. I’m just the one making phone calls and everyone I’ve talked to is so willing to help. It’s a community event, not a university event, and that’s what makes it so special.”

Duncan Waugaman, student body president and Huntington native, said working on the ceremony for two years has made him realize the impact of the event.

“I’ve gone to Marshall games since I was knee-high. Until last year when I stood up on the podium and got to meet the families, I never realized the impact,” Waugaman said. “Being able to come back this year and share that different perspective that I now have, I’m looking forward to it. It’s a way to celebrate their lives on the day Marshall went from a school to a family.”

Waugaman said he is looking forward to the large crowd he expects the ceremony draw, seeing that this year’s memorial is on a home game day.

“So many people are in Huntington for game day who are typically out of town,” Waugaman said. “Also, some people who work are unable to come during the weekday. I think we’re going to have so many people coming to this game because of the Fountain Ceremony, that it will be one of the biggest crowds we’ve ever had.”

For those who cannot attend, the ceremony will be streamed live at www.marshall.edu/it/livestream beginning at 10 a.m.

Rob Engle can be contacted at engle17@marshall.edu.

Epicenter Studios Friday the 13th tattoos

By **CADI DUPLAGA**
THE PARTHENON

Epicenter Studios puts a creative twist on the superstitious day Friday the 13th.

Epicenter, located on Sixth Avenue is giving \$13 tattoos on Nov. 13 in honor of the “holiday.”

Anyone interested in getting a tattoo can pick from a series of tattoos the shop has already designed specifically for Friday the 13th.

Each tattoo is small in size and has the number 13 somewhere in the design of the tattoo.

Tattoos must be selected from the designs the shop has already provided on the list. No custom orders or adjustments can be made to the tattoo design the artists

have already provided.

Tattoo artist Ryan Worley said the first time Epicenter Studios did Friday the 13th tattoos, approximately 200 people got tattoos. The second time, approximately 170 people got them.

Epicenter Studios has been giving 13-themed tattoos for five to six years and give them every Friday the 13th.

All tattoos are done in black ink; however, color can be added to some designs, but not all of them.

Epicenter Studios is the only tattoo shop in the area that gives Friday the 13th tattoos.

Worley said a large number of people typically come out for the tattoos and

the wait can last up to two hours.

The trend has received a lot of positive feedback from the Huntington community for several years.

Senior communication disorders major Mary Margaret Wolfe said she got a Friday the 13th tattoo last year with her friends and said she is considering getting another one this year.

Tattoos will be given on a first-come first-serve basis and can only be paid for in cash.

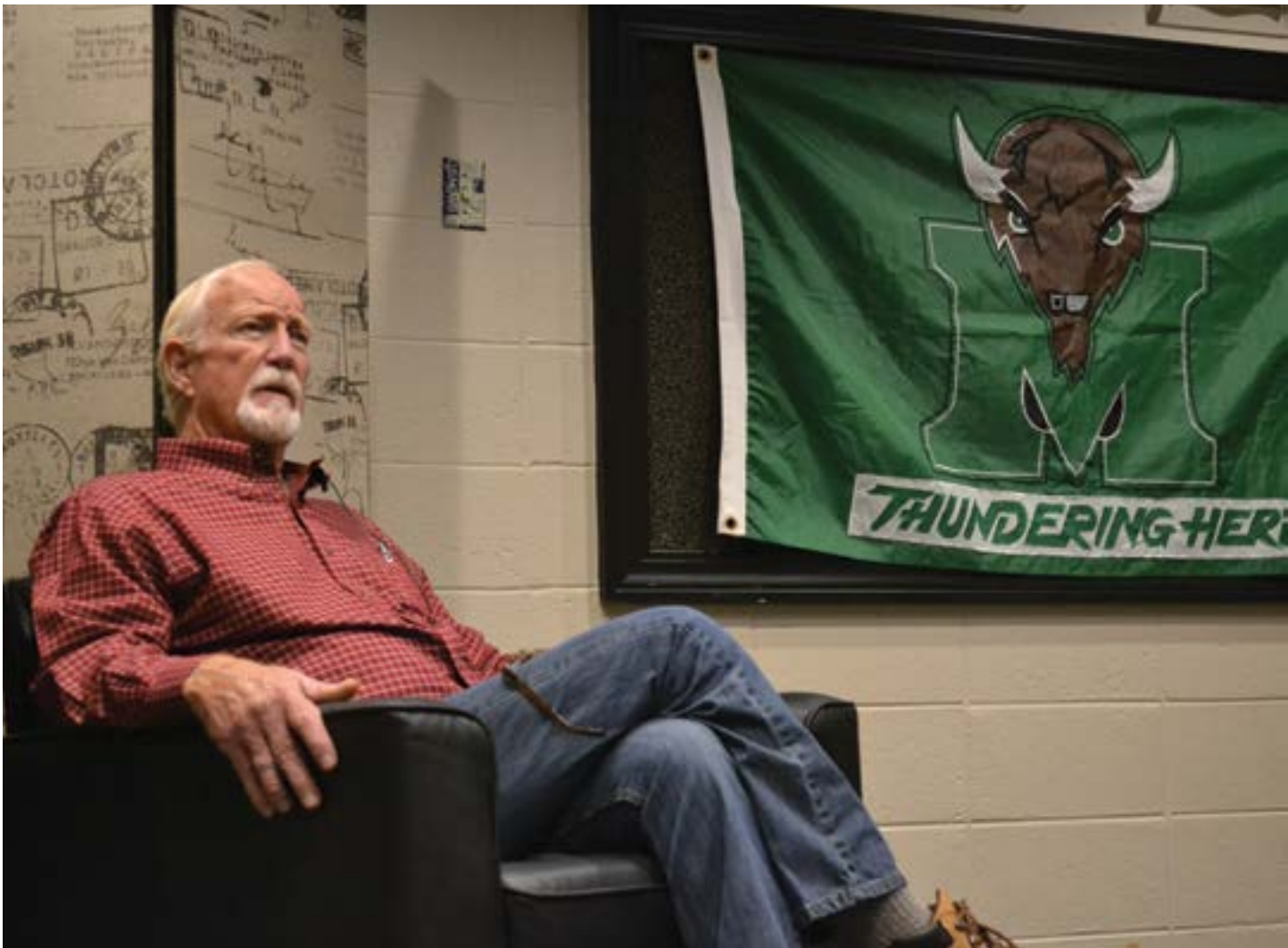
Epicenter will follow its normal operating hours opening at noon and closing at 8 p.m.

Cadi Duplaga can be contacted at duplaga2@marshall.edu.

WEEKEND SPORTS

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Dawson, a staple of Marshall's football program



Former Marshall University assistant coach William "Red" Dawson sits in the Marvin L. Stone room in The Parthenon newsroom. (IMANI SPRADLEY | THE PARTHENON)

By MALCOLM WALTON
SPORTS EDITOR

There was a time when Red Dawson had to distance himself from Marshall University and from the game of football. Dawson, the only Marshall football coach to return to the team after the 1970 plane crash, said it took years before he could attend the Memorial Fountain Ceremony or even watch a football game on television. Dawson said he credits former Marshall head coach Jim Donnan, who took over the program in 1990, with bringing him back to the program and, ultimately, football. "When someone had told him that I lived in Huntington still, he reached out to me, personally," Dawson said. "At first, I thanked him and said 'I'm doing fine, but I don't think I'm going to go to football games.' I hadn't gone to a football game or even watched one in so long. It was just too painful, too many bad memories. I had nightmares of the crash a lot of nights. It wasn't easy."

Dawson, who drove instead of flying on the plane that crashed due to a recruiting trip obligation, said he struggled with survivor's remorse for a long time. However, Donnan assured Dawson he would not have to speak with anyone if he came to the game. Donnan simply wanted him to be around the team. Dawson accepted the offer and has continued being a part of the Herd's football program over the years. Dawson said head coach Doc Holliday and Mike Hamrick, the athletic director, have continued the tradition of keeping him around the program and its players. "He's more than a former coach," Hamrick said. "When you look at our success, Dawson is the foundation of that. Look at Marshall football now, the wins, the championships, this wouldn't be possible without Red Dawson. He came back after the tragedy to begin putting in the hard work of rebuilding the team." Hamrick said he wants Dawson to be around the program as often as possible and to continue making relationships

with its players. "Coach Holliday and I go out of our way to make him feel welcomed," Hamrick said. "We want our players to know him and know what he did for them to be in the position they are in now." Aside from rejoining the program, Dawson said the Warner Brothers film "We are Marshall" has helped him with the healing process. "I was actually dreading it when they first started talking about the movie," Dawson said. "I didn't want anything to do with it. I told them that I just didn't want to wake up all those demons." After some thought, Dawson said he decided to participate with Warner Brothers to ensure the movie was honest and respectful to those who lost their lives. "It turned out being a saving grace for me," Dawson said. "It's getting easier and easier. Life's been hard but sometimes it's good." Malcolm Walton can be contacted at walton47@marshall.edu.

Marshall faces FIU in final home game of season

By BRADLEY HELTZEL
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Emotion will encapsulate the Marshall University campus Saturday and that emotion will be transferred to Joan C. Edwards Stadium around 3:30 p.m. when the Herd takes on Florida International University. "It's going to be very emotional," senior wide receiver Deandre Reaves said. "It's kind of hard to put into words." Marshall head coach Doc Holliday said the players have embraced the significance of the game, which marks the 45th anniversary to the day of the plane crash in 1970 resulting in the death of 75 people, including 36 Marshall football players. "([The players] know how important it is," Holliday said. "And if you talk to them, they'll tell you how important it is to our fan base and community. Nobody else has our story and these kids understand that, so it's been great for me as a head coach to see how our kids have embraced the tradition of Marshall University and they'll carry that on. I'm proud of the way they've represented themselves toward this school and what it really means."

Holliday said he and about 40 players will attend the Memorial Fountain ceremony Saturday morning before making final preparations for the game. However, the Herd will also commemorate the lost sons of Marshall once it hits the field as the team will don a new black jersey. Although Saturday will represent a historical day for the university, it doubles in

going to miss them. It's important that we send those guys off the right way." Freshman quarterback Chase Litton said the 18 seniors have represented themselves and the team well and symbolize what the game of football is all about. "It's just 100 percent them," Litton said. "The passion they have for the game, the effort with Evan McKelvey, D.J. Hunter Davonte Allen, 'Swede' (Sebastian Johansson). It's just players like that you can't coach. It's just what they have in them; it's for the game, it's for the love of the city. And they play for those 75 every time they step out on the field and they play for the 'M' on their helmets and the 'Herd' across their chest. Those are things you really can't coach. And to have those players on your team that really play for the passion of the game and the passion of this community and the people around us is truly special." Bradley Heltzel can be contacted at heltzel1@marshall.edu.



Members of Marshall University's football team take the field Oct. 3 against Old Dominion University. (SHANNON STOWERS | THE PARTHENON)

meaning for the Herd seniors. "It's also a big game for us because we have 18 seniors playing their last game here at our stadium," Holliday said. "Those are 18 guys who have changed the culture of this program. They've won a bunch of games around here and we're

● ● ● Hoof Beats ● ● ●

● Predictions show a

● Herd victory

● ● By Jeff Nathan ● ● ●



Jeff Nathan was the sports editor of The Parthenon and perished in the 1970 plane crash. Nathan wrote a daily sports column in The Parthenon and was considered a "major part" of the newspaper.

"Jeff worked hard, always trying to win, but knowing how to lose. And he felt deeply. He loved Marshall and West Virginia. Through his spirit and drive it seems he wished to make his adopted home state a better place. He did." -Carl Denbow, instructor of journalism (Nov. 18, 1970)

Marshall cruises to win in exhibition opener



(MEGAN OSBORNE | THE PARTHENON)

Marshall University guard Austin Loop runs the court Thursday against Bluefield State College.

By ISHMAEL WITTEN
THE PARTHENON

Austin Loop was a key factor in Marshall University men's basketball team's 112-78 victory Thursday evening against Bluefield State College. The junior guard scored 24 points on 8-13 shooting, including 7-11 on 3-pointers. Despite his big night, Loop said he expects defenses to key-in on him more during the regular season. "It was a big change going from the end of last season to tonight," Loop said. "They probably didn't do a lot of scouting since it was an exhibition, but when we go down to Tennessee, I figure I won't get looks like that." Senior transfer James Kelly posted a double-double in his Marshall debut, scoring 17 points and grabbing 10 rebounds. Head coach Dan D'Antoni said he thinks his system and Kelly's skillset will mesh well this season. "[At Miami] James didn't know whether he was an inside person or an outside person," head coach Dan D'Antoni said. "In my system you can do both and maybe that's what's needed for him to put up big numbers." Junior forward Ryan Taylor chipped in with nine points, six rebounds and two blocks. Marshall played without two members of its backcourt in sophomore Jon Elmore, who was out for an undisclosed reason, and junior transfer Stevie Browning, who missed the game because of a violation of team rules. Browning will also miss the Herd's final exhibition when it hosts Newberry College 3:30 p.m. Sunday. Marshall begins regular season play Nov. 19 when it travels to Knoxville to take on the University of Tennessee. Ishmael Witten can be contacted at witten4@marshall.edu.

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THE PARTHENON

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The Parthenon lost one of its own in Marshall plane crash

By MARK SUEK
CONTRIBUTOR

As Southern Airways Flight 932 made its descent to land at Tri-State Airport, Jeff Nathan was likely pondering how he was going to report Marshall's 17-14 loss at East Carolina in the university's student newspaper. Since the Douglas DC-9 twin-engine jet airliner required about an hour to fly from Kinston, North Carolina to Kenova, West Virginia, the sports editor of The Parthenon likely had his story and accompanying column planned out in his mind. All that would remain would be the labor-intensive task of banging out the words on a typewriter, just as he had done many times before. The date was November 14, 1970.

Nathan's next entry in his "Hoof Beats" column would be the 30th by the energetic and likeable junior from Parkersburg and Vienna, who had befriended many members of the Thundering Herd football team and coaching staff. Alas, the events of the next few seconds would mean the column would never appear. The time was 7:37 on a rainy and foggy Saturday evening in Wayne County.

Less than two miles distance and 30 seconds' time from touch-down and traveling at about 160 miles per hour, the plane (tail code N97S) carrying Nathan and 74 other people failed to check its descent and came in 300 feet too low and outside of the preferred flight path. Clipping trees on the way down, the plane nosedived into a wooded hilly area west of the runway near where Interstate 64 crosses the Big Sandy River, burst into flames and exploded in a giant ball of fire, killing all aboard.

The aftermath of the worst air tragedy in the history of American sports devastated Marshall University and its Huntington community home as well as much of West Virginia and even the nation. The pain and melancholy have not departed; even after 45 years,

one simply cannot attend a Thundering Herd game or traverse the campus without seeing reminders of and memorials to the disaster.

Parkersburg and Vienna were not and are not, spared from those feelings of profound sadness and loss, for one of their own was taken away that night and a promising young life cut short at just 20 years of age.

The elder son of George and Grace Nathan, originally from Long Island, New York, Jeff Nathan was a 1968 graduate of Parkersburg High School. Jeff and his family had moved to West Virginia in 1963 when George accepted a customer service management position with the Ames Tool Company (locally known as O. Ames). The Nathans briefly lived on 23rd Street in Parkersburg and then moved to Sixth Avenue in Vienna. About a year after Jeff's passing, the surviving family members moved to

Eighth Avenue in Vienna.

"Jeff was a loving brother and a family guy. He had lots of friends," said Don Nathan, who was 12 years old at the time of the plane crash. "We shared a bedroom for years and fought the way brothers do, but Jeff was a great guy. I remember Jeff sent me a Marshall sweatshirt, for no particular reason and it arrived the day before the plane crashed."

Jeff Nathan loved sports and dedicated himself to the art of journalism. Those who knew Jeff best were astounded by the amount of high quality work he could churn out and the enthusiasm he showed for the craft. Mentors and colleagues collectively knew he was special and thought he would one day be the sports editor of a newspaper—perhaps even one in a major metropolitan city.

"Jeff quickly adopted West Virginia as his home and was extremely proud of the state and Marshall University,"

to as "the man with two first names" by journalism advisors, earned multiple "reporter of the week" and "reporter of the semester" honors.

"I knew Jeff was really going to be something and go places," said Marti Vogel, the managing editor of The Parthenon when she was a Marshall senior in 1970-71. "He had the determination, curiosity and drive to go with the talent. He was one of those remarkable people you just knew was going to be special. I think Jeff was ADHD before there was a name for it. Sometimes, people with the drive Jeff had will turn off other people. But Jeff was so nice and everyone liked him. You knew you could be friends with Jeff the first time you met him."

Read the full story on
marshallparthenon.com



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Parthenon sports editor Jeff Nathan, 20, was one of the 75 who lost their life in the plane crash Nov. 14, 1970. Nathan was widely respected by his co-workers, friends and professors.

Former team manager revisits memories after 15 years

By KELSIE LIVELY
THE PARTHENON

It has been 45 years since the plane crash that killed 75 Marshall football players, coaches and supporters. It has only been in the last 15 years Eugene Jones has been able to talk about the loss of the many friends he made during the fall semester of his freshman year.

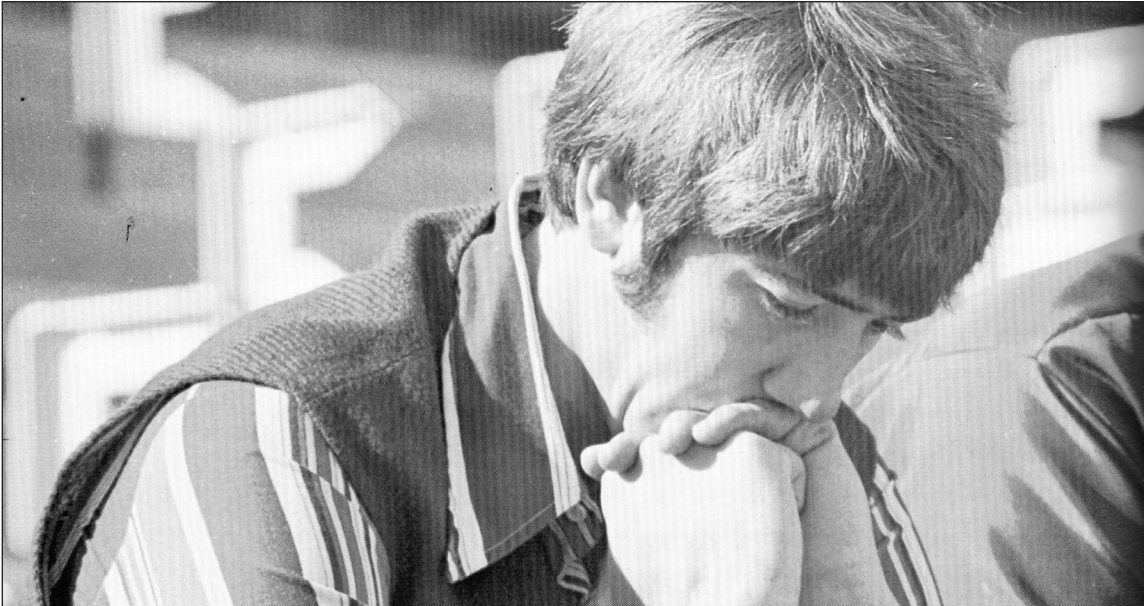
At the time of the crash, Jones was an 18-year-old freshman at Marshall, working as an equipment manager for the football team as part of his work-study program.

During the preseason, it was Jones and the other equipment managers' job to make sure all of the equipment was ready and on the field for practice. Then, during two-a-day practices in August, Jones' job was to wake the players up at 4 a.m. to make sure they were dressed and on the field on time.

As the season went on, Jones and the other managers worked with the players on the field, where Jones became good friends with them and the coaching staff.

"It was good because we got to know the players," Jones said.

Approaching the East Carolina game, Marshall Athletics made the decision to charter a plane for



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Herd football team manager Eugene Jones, 18, holding his head in his hands during the memorial ceremony following the crash in 1970.

players and community boosters to take to the game.

"When it came time to go to the East Carolina game, Marshall decided they were going to fly down. They were going to charter a plane. It was the first time they'd flown," Jones said. "They told

us that only one manager could go besides the head manager. Another friend of mine (and I) talked about it and we agreed I would go to this game because I had never flown before."

While on campus on November 11, 1970, a call from home changed Eugene Jones' life forever.

Just three days before he was to step on to Southern Airways Flight 932 on November 14, 1970 from Kinston, North Carolina to Huntington Tri-State Airport, Jones was called home to Hinton, West Virginia attend his grandmother's funeral.

"A few days before the team left my grandmother passed away and so I went home for the funeral, thus I didn't make the flight," Jones said. "Of course, that just changed my life forever."

Like the entire Marshall community, the news of the crash hit Jones hard, making it difficult for him to come back to school and try to live a normal life. The friends he made that year before school had even started, before he had an opportunity to know any other Marshall students, were now gone with only the memory of them left.

"I stayed away a good while, because there wasn't any classes, but one of the first days back to classes I was walking across (campus) and come around the corner and here come a girl from Hinton I graduated high school with," Jones said. "She turned white as a ghost and came up and hugged on me and said 'I thought you were

MEMORIAL EDITION

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Q & A WITH Patrick Garbin

**By ROB ENGLE
THE PARTHENON**

The recently-released “A Coach in Progress: Marshall Football—A Story of Survival and Revival” is the first-ever book to document the loss of the 75 sons and daughters of Marshall through the eyes of former Marshall assistant football coach, Red Dawson. Working with freelance journalist, Patrick Garbin, Dawson reveals what he previously would not discuss: the insurmountable obstacles, guilt and difficulties he faced following the 1970 plane crash.

Parthenon reporter Rob Engle had the opportunity to speak with Garbin about the book and what it was like working with Red Dawson.

What is “A Coach in Progress” about?

It’s a memoir of Red Dawson, primarily centered on the time he coached at Marshall, 1968 to 1972. Obviously, the tragedy is a huge part of that, which still has effects on him now. He still has survivor’s guilt—it’s better than it was 45 years ago—but he still has it.

The book contains what “We Are Marshall” does not: the difficulties Red had with rebuilding the Marshall football program. When the movie came out ten years ago, he was approached by several publishers to write a book, but he turned them down because he didn’t feel like he was ready to tell the story. When the time came, he called me straight up and said, “Hey, if I’m going to tell my story, I’m going to tell all of it.”

What was it that inspired this project?

That’s an interesting story. I live outside of Athens, Georgia and I work as writer for the University of Georgia’s football team. It just so happens that Red has a lifelong friend who he visits in Athens, named Rosie, who’s son approached me about Red. I was familiar with Red, primarily through the movie, and my friend told me Red was finally thinking about writing a book. He asked me if I was interested in at least sitting down and talking with Red and I definitely was. I met with him and the project just kind of grew from there.

What was it like working with Red Dawson?

I believe it was Matthew Fox in an interview who said Red was like John Wayne. It’s true; Red is like an old cowboy you’d see in a Western. When I was growing up, there was an old man in my neighborhood you didn’t want to mess with. We called

him Old Man Strong. Red was like that. He’s very imposing and commanding.

I’ve had other book projects where people wanted to add stuff to it to make it sound better. So I wanted to let Red know that this would be a process, and we’d have to be careful and truthful about it. Before I could say a word, he said, “I don’t want any BS, I want to tell the 100 percent truth.” In other words, this was his one shot to tell everything.

When I heard that, I had total respect for him. We became fast friends. He’s the kind of person who commands respect. He’s truly a wonderful, honest man.

What is different about this version of the Marshall plane crash story?

Well, he was there. He was there prior to the crash. He was there when it happened and had to face this unbelievable tragedy. He was there immediately following the crash to rebuild the program. He was there for the whole operation.

Also, an interesting part of the book is what’s happened with Red from 1972 to present day, beside the survivor’s guilt he’s endured, but also how he walked away from the program. The book goes into how he’s since been brought back into the program and is now a major part of it.

I don’t think you’ll be able to find any book that can be told about the last 50 years of the Marshall football program as completely.

Being an outsider to the Marshall community, what was taking on this project like for you?

In a word, unbelievable. Typically, with huge universities, there are a lot of “fair weather” fans. I came to Huntington last year the weekend of the fountain ceremony and it was almost like apples and oranges when comparing Marshall with other fan bases—I saw fan base that was truly dedicated to it’s team. A fan base, many of who weren’t even alive when this tragedy happened, who seemed so heartfelt and unbelievably connected to the tragedy. I never imagined going the fountain ceremony and seeing so many young people, some of whom were crying. As Red said, “I don’t care who you are, if the fountain ceremony doesn’t move you, something’s wrong with you.”

I’ve experienced a lot of different college football atmospheres, but Huntington is something special and I think it has to do with the strength this community has built from tragedy.

In terms of the book, how did you and Red collaborate on the content?

I actually wrote it, but it’s all Red’s work. I did some of the background research, but the content is almost all from Red. It was a blessing that he was such an extensive note-taker with the details of what was happening at Marshall in the ‘60s and ‘70s, which helped him recount the story.

What is the ultimately take-away of “A Coach in Progress”?

The ultimately take-away is that Red wants to honor the 75 people who perished in the plane crash and this was his way of doing so. Sitting down and doing this project also helped his survivor’s guilt. In the grand scheme of things, it was his tribute to those 75 by telling the entire story, the entire truth. I think readers will recognize that.

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Blackout jerseys to honor the 75

**By MACKENZIE KYLE
THE PARTHENON**

In a town held together by railroad ties and steel, the pride and passion for a football program that suffered an unimaginable loss is still remembered to this day.

Each year on Nov. 14, members of the Marshall University community, young and old, gather to remember the 75 lives that were lost 45 years ago. Through the difficult times the Marshall Football program has had over its history, the unity and community pride still rings out through chants of “We Are... Marshall.”

Nov. 14 is normally a day of remembrance and solemnity. Only this year, for only the sixth time in the 45 years since the crash, it is game day. Following the fountain ceremony, the Marshall University Thundering Herd will honor the 75 as they take on the Florida International University Panthers.

For the first time ever, the Herd will take the field in black jerseys and members said they hope the crowd will join them in wearing black to the game.

In the history of the program, the Herd has never had black jerseys, like many other collegiate teams have for certain games.

Last year, Athletic director, Mike Hamrick, told the team if they won a conference championship, he would make sure they had black jerseys for one game the following season.

After the Thundering Herd 26-23 victory over Louisiana Tech in the C-USA championship in December 2014, Hamrick kept his promise.

Once the decision had been made to get the black jerseys, players were asked to choose which home game they wanted

to wear the jerseys. Without much hesitation, the team decided they wanted to honor the 75 by wearing the jerseys for the game against FIU, Nov. 14.

“They told us that they wanted to do something different,” said Aaron Goebbel, associate director of Athletics for External Affairs. “The stars just kind of aligned when we got the black jerseys.”

While there was a small amount of pushback from community members who thought setting the date of the “black out” on Nov. 14 was in poor taste and inconsiderate to the families of those who lost their lives that day 45 years ago, most changed their minds after hearing members of the current team made the decision.

“I know there were families that had some questions about it,” Goebbel said. “I think once we told them the backstory and once they heard about it, they understood.”

Nov. 14 is a day many in the Marshall community hold very close to their hearts; the current Marshall Thundering Herd football team included.

“I would say that we’re at 100 percent when it comes to their understanding,” Goebbel said.

Saturday morning after the fountain is shut off and the town goes silent, a thunder will begin to roar from the Joan C. Edwards Stadium and the Thundering Herd will do what it feels is the best way to remember the 75 lives that were lost in 1970, play football.

“It is a celebration,” Goebbel said. “It brings proper recognition to such a powerful day.”

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on the plane.”

It wasn’t until Marshall unveiled the “From Ashes to Glory” plaque during the 30th Anniversary of the crash that Jones was able to talk about what had happened.

“It was the 30th year (anniversary) of the crash and they

were putting this big plaque on the Marshall Stadium that says ‘From Ashes to Glory’ with a big bronze buffalo,” Jones said. “I got home that night and watched ‘Ashes to Glory’ and did alright and right toward the end of it they started scrolling the names of the player, it took 30 years and I finally cried.”

Jones said being able to sit down and watch the

documentary brought him some of the closure he needed.

“I felt like a lot of the other guys that didn’t go, there weren’t many of them, you know we felt guilty because all my friends and people I knew were killed and I wasn’t,” Jones said. “I wasn’t one of the players or anything but I was apart of it.”

With the struggle to cope

with the loss of his friends, Jones said he kept his faith and told himself that he wasn’t meant to be on the plane and God had another plan for him.

“I had the attitude and was told then the Lord didn’t want me on that plane and that’s why I’m here today,” Jones said.

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PIKE fundraiser honors fallen brothers among 75 plane crash victims

**By RILEY MAHONEY
THE PARTHENON**

Marshall University’s Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity members are remembering those who they lost from the 1970 Marshall University plane crash by selling memorial wristbands.

Pike members have begun their annual sale of wristbands at the Memorial Student Center.

Members sell rubber wristbands every year to raise money for their alumni association. The association helps the Marshall chapter pay for repair on memorials in case they are vandalized or break. Some proceeds help go to the fraternity’s scholarship fund.

“We do this fundraiser every year,” Bryan Bozeman, public relations major, said. “It’s a great way to remember the five Pi Kappa Alpha brothers who died in the plane crash.”

The 1970s plane crash took the lives of all 75 members on board. Of those 75 members, five were members of Pi Kappa Alpha.

“Whenever we have Homecoming and events like that, we normally have guys from the plane crash era that knew the five brothers come and buy the bands and tell us stories about watching them play football and being Pike brothers with them,” Bozeman said. “It’s a good thing for the alumni and a good way for us to do a fundraiser.”

The front of the Pi Kappa Alpha house features a memorial statue of football player James “Jimo” Adams one of the football players who passed away

in the crash.

“This one man came by the house the day before Homecoming one year who was really good friends with James ‘Jimo’ Adams,” Bozeman said. “He told us a bunch of funny stories about how they used to hangout and play football together.”

Every year on the anniversary of the plane crash, members of the fraternity dress up and have what they call a “Jimo ceremony.” Members go out to the memorial statue in their front yard and share memories they have had with their brothers since joining the fraternity.

“We also have a man that comes by the house every year and plays the bagpipes in front of the memorial on Homecoming since he was best friends with James as well,” Bozeman said. “He plays the song ‘Amazing Grace.’”

This year’s wristband is made of black rubber and says, “Rise from the Ashes, November 14, 1970.”

“The past few years we have seen great student participation and this year the turn out has been really well,” Bozeman said. “We made the wristbands black this year to go along with the blackout game that Marshall is having on the 14th this month. Thankfully, many people have reached out and supported it.”

Pi Kappa Alpha will continue to sell the wristbands for another two to three weeks in the Memorial Student Center.

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