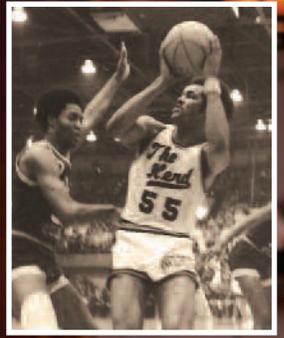


The Greatest Marshall Basketball Team Ever?

# Marshall



Magazine

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## A Lifetime of Good Decisions

*Pam & Joe Gillette of Atlanta are two of the university's most passionate supporters and generous donors.*



See page 42 for ALUMNI NEWS and more

Winter 2012

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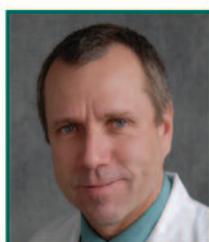
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# Marshall

magazine

The official magazine of Marshall University

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on the cover

Joe and Pam Gillette at their home in Atlanta, where nearly every room contains Marshall memorabilia. Photo by Chris Hamilton.

## Marshall

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# Getting Things Moving

Marshall University is offering its students, faculty and staff access to WeCar by Enterprise. WeCar is a membership-based, automated car rental option that offers a sustainable and efficient transportation alternative. Registered members have access to two vehicles – a Nissan Altima Hybrid and a Ford Fiesta – which are parked near Marshall’s Public Safety Building on the Huntington campus.

Marshall University’s Chief of Staff Matt Turner said participating in the WeCar program should help reduce the number of automobiles on campus while presenting students, faculty and staff with a simple, easy way to get where they need to go. He said Marshall President Stephen J. Kopp discovered the program and wanted to bring it to Marshall as a student service that also reduces the university’s environmental footprint.

“The WeCar program gives our students the opportunity to travel off campus whenever they want, without relying on someone else to take them and without the high cost and hassle of keeping their own cars,” Turner said. “These cars can be reserved for an hour, a day or even a weekend. Student groups can take advantage of WeCar, as can our international students. It’s very convenient, it’s inexpensive, it’s easy and it always beats having to ‘bum a ride.’”

Marshall students 18 and older, faculty and staff are eligible for membership. WeCar offers around-the-clock access to hourly, daily and overnight rentals and allows members to maintain the benefits of a personal car while only paying for the vehicle when they use it.

Members reserve a vehicle online, then access the vehicle using a membership card and return it to the



**Marshall President Stephen J. Kopp tries out one of the new vehicles being used in the WeCar by Enterprise program. WeCar is a convenient alternative for off-campus travel.**

same location. Fuel and basic vehicle physical damage and state-required liability protection are included in the standard rate plan.

“With WeCar, MU is providing a low-cost transportation opportunity to students, faculty and staff,” said Ryan Johnson, assistant vice president, WeCar and Rideshare for Enterprise. “Our car-sharing program is a convenient, sustainable and totally automated solution to parking and transportation challenges at universities.”

WeCar programs are supported by the extensive Enterprise Rent-A-Car neighborhood network of more than 5,500 rental offices located within 15 miles of 90 percent of the U.S. population. It is a natural extension of the local car rental service Enterprise pioneered and continues to provide.

WeCar operates car-sharing programs on more than 40 college campuses throughout the United States and Canada, as well as corporate and municipal programs throughout the United States. □

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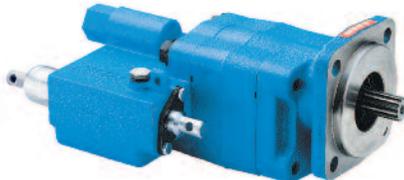
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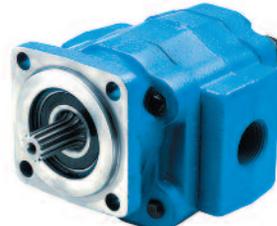
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# A Lifetime of *Good Decisions*



*Pam and Joe Gillette of Atlanta are two of the university's most passionate supporters and generous donors.*

Joe Gillette's life has been filled with decisions. From being the first and only child in his family to attend college to working as a restaurant manager in a struggling economy during the years following graduation, some decisions have been difficult. Others have been easy, like the choice to attend Marshall University and the decision later in life to generously give both time and money to his beloved alma mater.

Gillette and his wife, Pam, are two of the university's most ardent advocates. In 2011, they were recognized for their support and generosity by being added to the university's prestigious Pathway of Prominence. The pathway is a tribute located between Old Main and the Memorial Student Center that honors Marshall supporters who have given \$1 million or more to the university.

"Pam and Joe give completely from the heart," said Dr. Ron Area, CEO of the Marshall University Foundation. "They feel strongly about Marshall University, and because of how important Marshall is to them, they both have a strong desire to give back. They are truly making a difference in so many ways."

In 2008, the Gillettes made a financial commitment to the university that resulted in the renaming of the Marshall University Welcome Center to the Joseph M. Gillette Welcome Center, named in honor of Gillette's late father. In addition to their financial support, the Gillettes support the university by sharing their time and expertise with various boards: Joe Gillette is president of the Society of Yeager Scholars Board of Directors and is first vice chair of the Marshall University Foundation Board of Directors. He has also

By Katherine Reasons-Pyles  
Photos by Chris Hamilton



**Though Pam and Joe Gillette reside in Atlanta, their hearts are at Marshall University. In 2011, the Gillettes were recognized for their support and generosity by being added to Marshall's prestigious Pathway of Prominence, a tribute to honor supporters who have given \$1 million or more to the university.**



**In 2008, the Gillettes made a financial commitment to Marshall that resulted in the renaming of the Marshall University Welcome Center to the Joseph M. Gillette Welcome Center in honor of Gillette’s late father. The new Welcome Center, decorated in elegant patterns of green and white and complete with state-of-the-art technology, is a showpiece for visitors to Marshall’s Huntington campus.**

served on the Marshall University Alumni Association Board of Directors and is a past president of the Thunder Club. In 2006, he established the Joseph M. Gillette Scholar Award, also named for his father, which goes to a student selected to be a Yeager Scholar.

However, the journey to being two of the university’s most beloved supporters has been long and, at times, trying.

Gillette’s love for Marshall grew out of love and respect for his father. Although Gillette and his four siblings grew up in Johnstown, Ohio, he said his father’s love for Marshall University permeated every aspect of the tight-knit family.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WARNER BROS. ENTERTAINMENT INC.



**A student and former member of the Thundering Herd football team in the 1970s, Gillette found peace from the tragic plane crash during his role as an extra in the *We Are Marshall* movie.**

“My dad grew up on the corner of 20th Street and Seventh Avenue in Huntington,” Gillette said. “When he was 11 years old, his father was killed in an industrial accident, and my dad along with his four brothers went to work to support the family. That’s just what you had to do back in the ‘40s; he didn’t get to finish high school or attend college. Attending Marshall was a dream he was never able to fulfill.”

Gillette’s father and mother had to leave Huntington with their four young children in the 1950s to find work, and the family eventually settled in Johnstown. Gillette said he remembers returning to Huntington frequently to visit family, and he and his father attended as many Marshall football and basketball games as they could.

“As children, we are exposed to the things our parents enjoy, and sometimes that exposure causes us to form attachments at a young age. That attachment just grew with me when it came to Marshall. It was my dad’s dream that I attend Marshall, and like so many kids in West Virginia, I was the first and only one to go to college. It was the only school I applied to; there was never any doubt that I was going to go to Marshall University.”

Gillette began attending Marshall in 1969 and became a member of the Thundering Herd football team. In 1970, a year that will permanently evoke somber memories of Marshall football, he went through spring training

with the team and played in the Green & White game. He had suffered a shoulder injury the previous winter, and a tough hit during the Green & White game meant Gillette was unable to play with the team in the fall. Instead of playing football, he got a job at Pizza Hut on Fifth Avenue to help pay for his tuition. If not for that shoulder injury, Gillette said, he would have been a passenger on the plane that crashed on November 14, killing 75 football players, coaches and fans in the worst single air tragedy in NCAA sports history.

“The plane crash was something I couldn’t talk about for 20 years,” Gillette said. “My roommate, Marcelo Latjerman, was killed. I lost three fraternity brothers. I knew every player on that plane. After college, if I would be in a group of people and the plane crash would come up in conversation, I wouldn’t mention that I was a part of the team or that I even attended Marshall. It was just too difficult for me to talk about.”

Over time, Gillette’s painful memories of Marshall began to heal, and he was able to remember the university with an even greater fondness and admiration than he felt as a child. He said the 2006 filming of the *We Are Marshall* movie, in which he appears as an extra, helped in the healing process.

“For whatever reason, I decided to show up to one of the casting calls,” Gillette said. “They didn’t ask for any information; they just took my picture and my name. There was a line a block long, so I was pretty sure I wouldn’t be called. And I don’t know why, but I got chosen. Being a part of the movie helped a great deal.”

In spite of the unspeakable tragedy and loss he experienced as a sophomore at Marshall, Gillette continued to balance his schooling and work, graduating with a business management degree in 1973. Gillette worked at Pizza Hut during his entire time at Marshall; upon graduation, the company asked him to move to Bluefield, W.Va., to work as an assistant manager for a



**Joe and Pam Gillette met while Joe was working as a Pizza Hut manager in Bluefield, W.Va., and Pam has been his strongest supporter ever since. Although she did not attend Marshall, the university community has adopted Pam as one of its own.**

Gillette was the keynote speaker at the 2009 Memorial Fountain ceremony held in memory of the 1970 plane crash victims.



The Joseph M. Gillette Welcome Center opened in 2008. Located on the corner of Hal Greer Boulevard and 5th Avenue, the center is often the first stop on Marshall's Huntington campus for potential students, visiting alumni and many others interested in Marshall University. Additionally, the center provides a centralized location for the university's recruitment efforts.



salary of \$500 a month. Faced with a difficult job market, Gillette accepted.

“My dad was a factory worker all of his life, and I think he pictured me going to work at a bank after graduation,” he said. “And here I was, making pizza right out of college. If I hadn’t been working at a restaurant, I would have starved.”

While at Pizza Hut in Bluefield, Gillette turned the previously unranked location into the No. 2 Pizza Hut in the country. Although he never intended to make a career for himself in the restaurant industry, he realized at the Bluefield Pizza Hut that he had an undeniable talent for managing highly successful restaurants. Bluefield was also where Gillette met and married Pam, who he said remained his moral support and source of inspiration throughout his entire career.

“I started getting promoted every two to three years, it seemed like,” he said. “I wound up as vice president of a Fortune 500 company, then started my own company as a franchisee with Wendy’s. I thank God that I had Pam with me the entire time; she believed in me, took care of the family, removed my worries and was always very supportive of my career. We moved around many times before ending up in Atlanta.”

Gillette’s restaurant career culminated in the ownership of 16 Wendy’s franchises in Atlanta and Jacksonville. He sold the franchises earlier this year but retained the real estate of 12 of the properties. In addition to owning those properties, he owns several other commercial properties and manages a real estate holdings company. He and Pam have two daughters and four grandchildren, and they return to Huntington often.

“I never miss a board meeting, and Pam and I love going to games when we’re in town,” Gillette said. “Pam didn’t go to Marshall, but she has as much green in her closet as I do. She has adopted Marshall, and Marshall has adopted her.”

Without a doubt, the entire Marshall community has adopted both Joe and Pam as two of its most generous and sincere supporters. Beth Wolfe, Marshall University’s director of recruitment, said the first question the couple asks her when they visit the university is, ‘Is there anything that you need?’ That question resulted in a very generous donation that enabled the opening of the Joseph M. Gillette Welcome Center in 2008.

“Joe and Pam are very much in tune with what the university needs,” Wolfe said. “They really want to help spread the word about Marshall, and I think that goes back to Joe’s own experiences at Marshall. He wants other students to have the opportunities he had and to become a part of the Marshall family. With the Gillette Welcome Center, we now have our entire recruitment staff under one roof. This donation has really strengthened what we are able to do; the generosity of

the Gillettes has given us the resources we need to effectively recruit students.”

For the Gillettes, the renaming of the Welcome Center had great significance, not only because of how it would improve the university’s recruitment efforts but also for whose name would appear on the building.

“I was able to do something that needed to be done at Marshall University and at the same time honor my father,” Gillette said. “My dad was a wonderful man, and he was always very, very proud of me. I told him the

“Joe and Pam are very much in tune with what the university needs. They really want to help spread the word about Marshall, and I think that goes back to Joe’s own experiences at Marshall. He wants other students to have the opportunities he had and to become a part of the Marshall family.”

– Beth Wolfe  
Director of Recruitment



In 2011, Pam and Joe Gillette were named among Marshall's most prestigious and beloved supporters when they were honored with a plaque on the university's Pathway of Prominence. Donors who present gifts of \$1 million or more to Marshall are honored on the Pathway of Prominence, located between Old Main and the Memorial Student Center on Marshall's Huntington campus.

“Joe and Pam Gillette epitomize the type of support Marshall needs. They continuously set an excellent example for others to follow.”

-Dr. Ron Area  
CEO,  
Marshall University Foundation

year before I named the building, 'I'm going to do something really special for you at Marshall.' Before I was able to do that, he passed away. But I know he would have been proud of it.”

Today, the Gillettes are working to meet another need at Marshall; Joe recently partnered with Jim Farley, chair of the Marshall University Erickson Alumni Center/Foundation Hall Capital Campaign, to raise money to meet the Marshall University Foundation's most pressing needs.

“This is something we need all of our alumni to get behind,” Gillette said. “Providing funds to meet the immediate and emerging needs of the Marshall Foundation will help the foundation do so much more in support of Marshall University.”

“Joe has committed to help the Marshall University Foundation and Alumni Center secure resources to advance all operations,” said Area. “This flexibility to address our immediate needs will further the goals and direction of the entire university.”

Throughout his entire life, from his childhood dreams to attend Marshall to his current business operations and philanthropic efforts, Joe Gillette has had to

make decisions – and it is his uncanny ability to make the right ones that has brought him to where he is today. As for the future, the Gillettes plan to stay in Atlanta and spend time with their children and grandchildren, returning to Huntington as frequently as possible to assist the university in as many ways as they can. Of course, in the same breath that Joe Gillette describes his own plans for the future, he describes with equal excitement his hopes for the future of Marshall University.

“I want to see the university grow,” he said. “You know the old saying, ‘If you’re not growing, you’re dying.’ I want to grow our student body, and as we do that we’re going to need more space, more land. We’ve got to grow our physical plant as well as our student base.”

And with the passion and support of Joe and Pam Gillette on the university’s side, that wish is definitely a dream within reach.

“Joe and Pam Gillette epitomize the type of support Marshall needs,” Area said. “When I’m looking for people to serve on the Foundation Board of Directors, I look for individuals with the four ‘w’s – work, wisdom, wealth and wallop. Joe and Pam embody those four characteristics beautifully. They are not finished in supporting Marshall; they will continue to do more. They continuously set an excellent example for others to follow.” □

**Katherine Reasons-Pyles** is the managing editor of the *Marshall Magazine*. She is a former Yeager Scholar and a graduate of the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications at Marshall University.



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The legendary 1971-72 men's basketball team played for sold-out crowds at the Veterans Memorial Field House. The Field House was filled with energy as the crowds cheered on some of the best basketball players in the university's history.

By Tony Spinosa

Photos courtesy of *The Herald-Dispatch* and Marshall University

# Were They The GREATEST?

*A Marshall alumnus reflects on the golden age of Thundering Herd basketball at the **Field House** and the 1971-72 team which many consider the **greatest ever**.*

**P**erhaps the best way to describe the up-and-coming Marshall men's basketball team is by reflecting on the old adage, "history repeats itself."

Roll back to the 1971-72 school year at Marshall University. The Young Thundering Herd football team was rebuilding from the ashes of the most horrific tragedy in sports history. At the same time, the 1971-72 Marshall basketball team was preparing for one of the most storied seasons in school history.

Now, fast forward to 2012. We have seen a football program start the process of returning to its past glories of the 1990s and early 2000s, while the Marshall men's basketball team is finishing up a solid season of its own, bringing to mind the program's successful campaigns of the early 1970s.

Remember the '71 team? With greats like Mike D'Antoni, Russell Lee, Randy Noll, Bill James and Tyrone Collins, and a bench that included Gary

Orsini, Barry Driscoll, Bill Bertalan, Lyle Monroe, Willie Wilcox, Andy Frederiksen, Jerry Strittholt, Greg Imperi and John Sark, men's basketball at Marshall was a nearly unstoppable force.

That season saw the Herd get a berth in the NCAA tournament (when the tournament only included 32 teams) and finish with a 23-4 season record, which included wins over nationally ranked St. John's, Mississippi State, Wisconsin and George Washington. One of its four losses was a two-point last-second loss to nationally ranked Marquette in the finals of the Milwaukee Classic.

I was a freshman during that season and thought of the team recently when I heard the news of the upcoming demolition of the Veterans Memorial Field House. As we mark the 40th anniversary of that team, it brought back memories of the atmosphere at the Field House during those glory days. My first Field House experience was the 1971 season opener, when Marshall blew out South Dakota 104-70. Needless to say, it left a big impression.

As the memories of that season came flooding back to me, I went to dig out my *Chief Justice* yearbook from that school year. I also started talking to friends and fellow alumni about their memories and recollections of that season. I even reached out to a couple of players from that team, Mike D'Antoni, who is now head coach of the NBA's New York Knicks, and Bill Bertalan ('72), a key bench player on that team, who resides in Florida with his family.

What makes that team so special in Marshall basketball history? Its legacy includes not only its record and statistics, but also the atmosphere the team created at the Field House and the effect the team's success had on the university and community.

"We had a good group of guys whose skills blended very well," said D'Antoni from his office in New York's Madison Square Garden, reflecting on his own memories of the season. "That team was a bunch of good guys

who really enjoyed what we were doing."

The 1971-72 men's basketball team started the season with blowout victories against South Dakota, St. Peter's (coached by Dick Vitale), George Washington and Morehead State before hosting the Marshall Memorial Basketball Tournament, which included national powerhouses St. John's, Mississippi State and Rhode Island.

Marshall went on to beat St. John's in the finals in a thrilling 110-107 overtime victory. In the opener, Marshall disposed of Mississippi State, which had future NBA player Johnny Neumann as its star.

"After we beat St. John's in the Christmas Tournament, we felt we had something really special," recalled D'Antoni. "We knew we were a good team before then, but not *that* good."

During those early season games and the Marshall Memorial Tournament, the crowds at the Veterans Memorial Field House sensed something special was happening as well. The student body occupied the bleacher seats on the floor, with season ticket holders in the upper sections of the building. As the season progressed, the atmosphere, noise level and demand for tickets grew.

"I remember the ticket lottery for students," recalled Bill Fieldson ('74). "Student tickets were issued according to the first letter of the students' last names. Since student seating was limited, we would line up

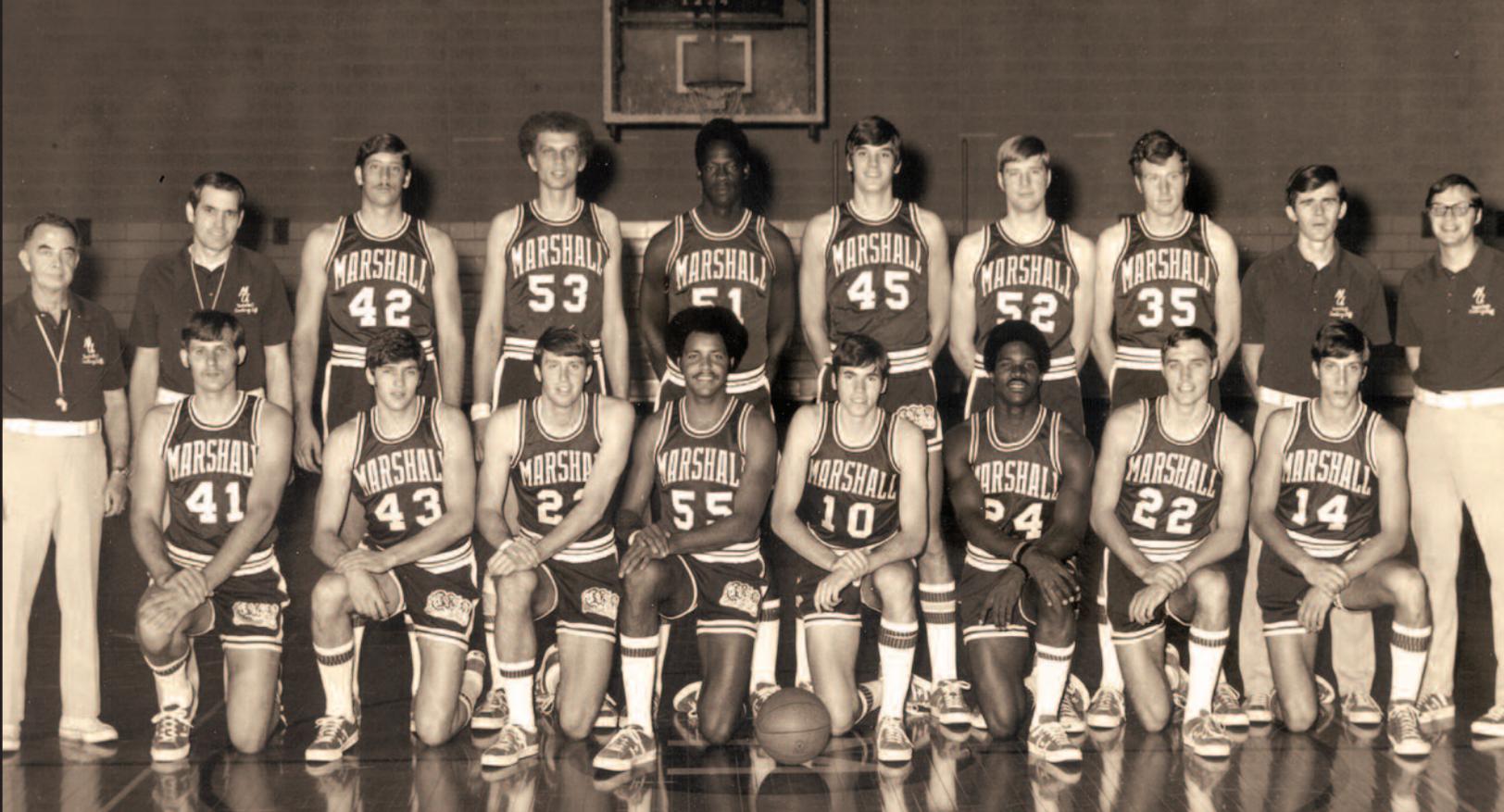
outside the Gullickson Hall ticket office early in the morning. If it wasn't your turn to get tickets, you would get a friend to stand in line for you. Tickets were at a premium, and if you wanted to go you had to find a way to get your hands on a ticket."

The players loved the atmosphere of their home court and building. Both D'Antoni and Bertalan said it gave the team a decided advantage.

"The Field House had the best floor; it was like playing on a trampoline," remembered Bertalan. "The floor had about 10 dead spots, and Mike [D'Antoni] always had a way of moving the opposing guard to the dead spot



One of the 1971-72 men's basketball greats was Mike D'Antoni, now head coach for the New York Knicks. A 1972 *Sports Illustrated* article described D'Antoni as the type of player who can "wink at a cheerleader at the same time he is whipping a pass to someone wide open under the hoop."



**With greats like Mike D'Antoni (No. 10), Russell Lee (No. 55), Bill James (No. 22) and Tyrone Collins (No. 24), men's basketball at Marshall during the early 1970s was an unstoppable force. The legendary team, coached by Carl Tacy, dominated the court during game after game at the Veterans Memorial Field House.**

on the floor. It was just a great place to play; you would be running down the court and talking to your classmates, whose seats were practically right on the floor.”

D'Antoni likened the atmosphere in 1971-72 to the current frenzied atmosphere found at Duke University.

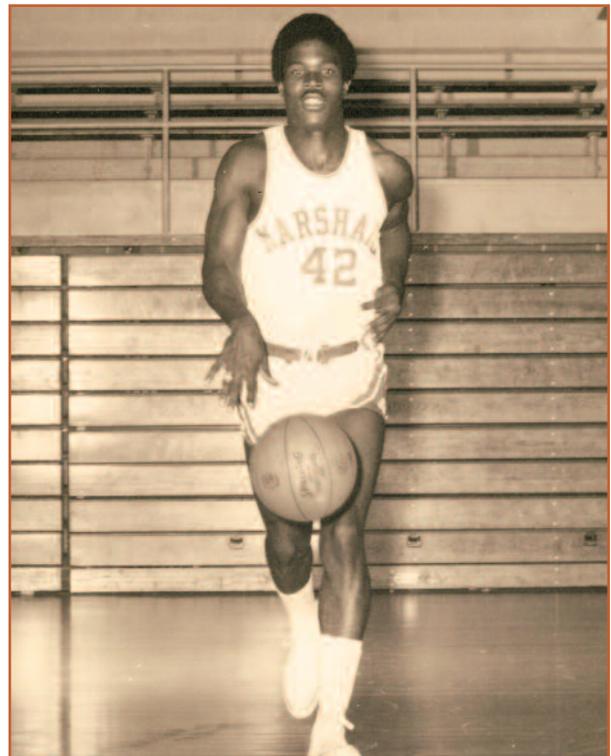
“The place was always packed,” he recalled, “and all of your friends were right there on the floor.”

The high-energy atmosphere at the Field House also traveled well, especially to games against Mid-America Conference teams. Bertalan said he remembers lines of cars following the Marshall team bus to games at Ohio University and Miami University. D'Antoni said the Ohio University away game was particularly memorable.

“The OU game was really cool,” he said. “We came out of the locker room, and our fans were louder than the home team’s. We really enjoyed that moment.”

One of the standout games in Bertalan’s memory was the finale of the Milwaukee Classic. Marshall beat Wisconsin in the opener and then faced the host team, Marquette (coached by the legendary Al McGuire), in the finals. Marshall lost by two points with a final score of 74-72.

“I’ll never forget the final game of the Milwaukee Classic against Marquette,” Bertalan said. “Marquette was ahead by two points in the final minute, and Mike was bringing the ball up the floor. The Marquette guard tackled Mike out of bounds, and the ref called Mike for



**The late Tyrone Collins was a three-year starter for the Marshall men's basketball team in the early '70s. After graduation, Collins returned to his hometown in New Jersey to teach and coach high school basketball.**



**Russell Lee, No. 55, takes aim during a game against Cleveland State. The high energy among fans at the Veterans Memorial Field House created a formidable atmosphere for opposing teams. Many of the players that season recall the excitement of hearing their friends and fans cheer them on from so close to the court.**

charging! We thought we had that game when we got the ball in the final minute.”

Marshall continued through its season and wound up with a first-round NCAA Tournament game against Southwest Louisiana, which was led by All-American guard Dwight ‘Bo’ Lamar. In typical Marshall fashion, the game was a shootout; it ended in a 112-101 loss. The Herd would finish with a 23-4 season record and a final national ranking of 12th in the country.

Memories of that team still resonate with anyone who attended games during the historic season.

“If you weren’t there to feel it, it is hard to describe to someone,” said Jim Foy (’73), who was a sports staff writer for *The Parthenon* and weekend sports anchor for WSAZ-TV at the time. “It was such a cozy environment that it really made it tough on opposing teams.”

Chuck Landon, currently a sports columnist for *The Herald-Dispatch*, was the sports editor of *The Parthenon* during that season.

“You could see [the success of that season] coming,” he recalled. “All the pieces were falling into place – Randy Noll transferring in from the University of

Kentucky, Bill James coming in from junior college, Orsini, Driscoll. The key components were there, and everything came together. They all had their roles and they believed in [Coach Carl] Tacy. They all believed in the roles he wanted them to play.”

“That team was a bunch of guys from a small university who played way beyond the size of their school,” commented Jeff Duncan (’75). “They had an air and winning attitude about them; you got chills walking into the building before a game. You knew something special was happening. That team and building created a lot of memories and gave us – the fans, students and community – something new and positive after the plane crash.”

As the site of the Veterans Memorial Field House is transformed in the early spring of 2012, sit back, close your eyes and visualize D’Antoni, Lee and company running that floor. I’m willing to bet you’ll also hear that crowd. □

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**Tony Spinosa** is a freelance writer with a B.A. in broadcast journalism from Marshall University. He currently resides in Streamwood, Ill.



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# The Thundering Word

*Marshall University's speech and debate team celebrates renewed focus and success.*

**M**ost people in America know that Marshall University's name is associated with a winning tradition in football. For much of the university's history, another group of fierce competitors has brought national renown to Marshall as well. The talented and dedicated students of The Thundering Word, Marshall's recently revived speech and debate team, are reestablishing Marshall as a powerhouse in the world of competitive forensics.

Marshall had a well-respected and highly successful debate squad for more than 100 years, beginning in the 19th century. At least three alumni of the speech and debate team have been national champions, and Marshall hosted the National Forensics Association National Tournament in 1985 and 1991. Funding cuts in the 1990s put a temporary end to this winning tradition until Danny Ray, a Marshall university graduate and for-

mer speech and debate team member, returned to Marshall to obtain his master's degree. Ray, now coach of the team and an instructor in the Marshall University Department of Communication Studies, returned to Marshall with the goal of not only reviving competitive speech and debate, but also returning the team to its days of national prominence.

"The team has become successful in a very short time," said Dr. Cam Brammer, professor and chair of the Department of Communication Studies, "because Danny has put his heart, soul and everything else into it. He works the students hard and he works hard."

Ray's hard work paid off quickly. The speech and debate team has achieved an amazing level of success considering that it was only 2008 when Ray approached university administration about restarting the team. In 2010, four students competed in the national tournament, scor-

By Molly McClennen • Photos by Rick Lee

Since Danny Ray first approached university administrators in 2008 about reestablishing The Thundering Word, Marshall's speech and debate team has been on the fast track to success, winning numerous awards and tournaments.



2011 WVIFA  
Overall Team  
Sweepstakes  
1st Place

20  
WVIFA Debate Team Sweepstakes

11

2nd



**Coach Danny Ray, left, rehearses with two members of The Thundering Word as they prepare for an upcoming forensics competition. With a minimum of 10 hours of practice per week, along with the time commitment of traveling to 16 tournaments per year, members of The Thundering Word must be extremely hardworking and dedicated to the program in order to succeed.**

**The skills students learn from participating in speech and debate will benefit them long after they graduate. They learn how to present themselves professionally for an interview and how to speak confidently and quickly under pressure.**

ing 9.5 points in competition. In 2011, the team had improved to scoring 40 points, being ranked 33rd of 100 schools at the national tournament and being named West Virginia state champions.

“It is hard to believe they have done so well so quickly,” said Dennis Taylor, a member of Marshall’s speech and debate team in the 1980s who continues to lend his support to the team. “It’s exceeded my expectations for growth and success. Honestly, I thought it would take them years to get to this place after they restarted the program.”

Members of The Thundering Word have the opportunity to practice many of the skills needed to achieve academic excellence.

“The speech and debate program emphasizes critical thinking skills,” Brammer said. “In debate, you listen to arguments the other side has developed and think about where there are holes in the argument and how to respond to them. And you have to do that in 20 minutes. It’s a talent to be able

to think like that, and the students take those same thinking skills into their classes.”

The skills students learn from participating in speech and debate will benefit them long after they graduate. They learn how to present themselves professionally for an interview and how to speak confidently and quickly under pressure. Taylor said his experience with speech and debate provided him a wealth of skills that have benefited him throughout his entire career.

“It taught me all kinds of skills,” he said. “You read a lot, write a lot and speak a lot, all of which help you in life.”

Having a prominent speech and debate team is key to the university’s mission of recruiting and retaining talented students. It also provides an opportunity for Marshall to show off its talented students to the nation.

“Speech and debate is something we can take on the road and show to people around the country, to highlight Marshall’s emphasis on the education of our students and to show them what our students are capable of,” Brammer said.

Ray said his plans for the future of the team include providing peer counseling to help team members balance their academic work with the significant time commitment required by the speech and debate program.

“They have to love and be dedicated to this,” Ray said. “They practice a minimum of 10 hours per week. That’s not including time spent traveling to tournaments, and they travel to 16 tournaments a year.”

Despite those demands, team members balance their obligations successfully. In 2010, the cumulative GPA for the team was higher than 3.9. Ray said he hopes to have the resources soon to provide a financial incentive to team members, who receive no scholarships for their participation. He also wants to establish an alumni network for past team participants, which will serve the dual purpose of providing support for the current team and allowing past members to stay connected with their teammates and friends.

While The Thundering Word might not yet be as well known as the Thundering Herd football team, that could soon change if the talented students on the team continue their meteoric rise to success.

“I want people to know there is something happening at Marshall that gets national recognition,” Ray said. “In the world of competitive forensics, when someone mentions Marshall University, people know exactly who they’re talking about. And that will become even stronger with time. Marshall can be proud that we’re ambassadors for the university.” □

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**Molly McClennen** is a native of the Huntington area and a graduate of Marshall University.



**Dr. Cam Brammer, chair of the Department of Communication Studies, said the success of Marshall’s speech and debate program is in large part due to the dedication of Danny Ray.**



**Danny Ray, Communication Studies instructor and coach of The Thundering Word, is a graduate of Marshall who was a member of the speech and debate team during its glory days.**



??????

Managed by Dr. Bill Marley, left, the School of Kinesiology's well-equipped Human Performance Lab is utilized by students and researchers to perform cardiopulmonary, metabolic, anthropometric and strength assessments. Here, oxygen consumption analysis is used to determine physical work capacity.

# Astounding GROWTH

The College of Health Professions has added new majors and programs to address the evolving health care needs of the region and nation.

Upon hearing “Marshall University College of Health Professions,” long-established programs like social work, nursing, dietetics and communication disorders may first come to mind. But in fact, the college’s growth since it was founded in 1998 has been so rapid that many may not even be aware of its numerous new programs and the ways in which the college has expanded to further enrich its community. The College of Health Professions, which is among Marshall’s largest and fastest growing, has recently added new majors and programs based on its assessment of what is needed to address evolving needs for health care, both locally and nationally.

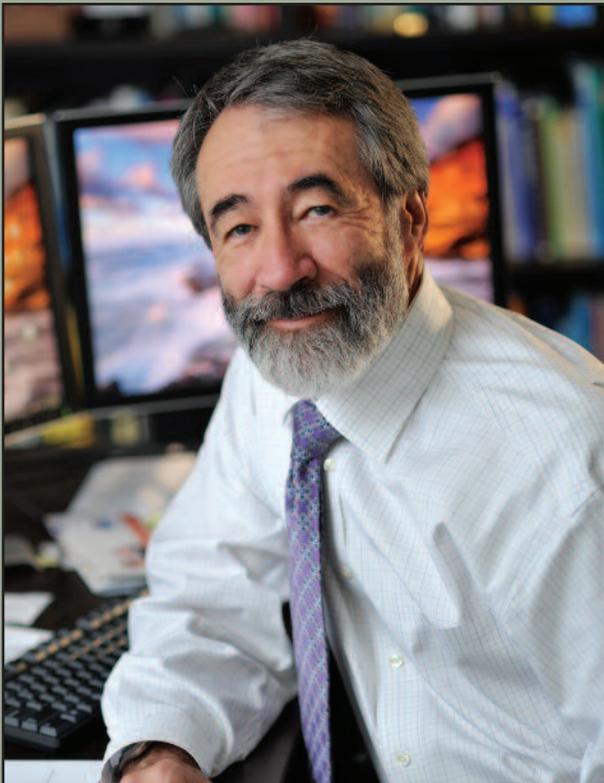
Dr. Michael Prewitt, College of Health Professions dean, said many students are drawn to the college because of excellent employment opportunities available to those graduating with health care-related majors. In addition, graduates have the satisfaction of making positive changes in the communities where they will work.

“Our graduates can really improve the overall health and quality of life for the people in the region,” Prewitt said, “and the college’s external partners look to Marshall to help fill the need for people qualified to do that.”

For example, West Virginia suffers from a severe shortage of physical therapists, and the College of Health Professions is preparing to meet that need. The new Doctor of Physical Therapy program is currently accepting applications for its inaugural class of 2015, which will begin classes in May of 2012.

The three-year program, which will teach students through hands-on experience and in-depth study of actual cases, will be housed in all-new facilities at the St. Mary’s Educational Center on the corner of 5th Avenue and 29th Street in Huntington. The building will feature everything needed to provide state-of-the-art clinical and classroom experiences for its students, including combination lecture/lab rooms to allow students to transition quickly

By Molly McClennen • Photos by Rick Lee



**Dr. Michael Prewitt, dean of the College of Health Professions, said the recent growth of the college has created excitement among faculty and students alike. The college continues to broaden its programs to meet ever-evolving health care needs.**



**Department of Physical Therapy Chair Dr. Penny Kroll (center) said she looks forward to welcoming the inaugural class of 2015 to the College of Health Professions' new Doctor of Physical Therapy program, housed in the St. Mary's Educational Center.**

between classroom learning and hands-on application. The facility will also have space devoted to clinical research.

Department of Physical Therapy Chair Dr. Penny Kroll, PT, said she has been impressed by the level of enthusiasm for the program in the community, especially among the area's physical therapy clinicians. For example, the program sought 50 internship placements where its students could receive their clinical experiences. It received an astounding 89 offers.

Current Marshall students have expressed that same excitement, Kroll added.

"We have had students who say they got into other physical therapy schools, but they decided to wait for the Marshall program because they wanted to stay here," she said.

Some of those students are likely well acquainted with another growing program in the College of Health Professions, the School of Kinesiology. Graduates of its Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training program often go on to physical therapy school. Dr. Gary McIlvain, interim chair of the School of Kinesiology, said the athletic training program, with more than 250 students enrolled, is the largest and fastest growing of the majors offered by the School of Kinesiology. Athletic training is listed as one of the nation's top 10 growth professions, with many jobs available that require only a bachelor's degree.

With a faculty that includes Dr. Won-Youl Bae, a practicing international sports agent, the School of Kinesiology at Marshall will soon be the first in the nation to offer a concentration in sport agency as part of its bachelor's degree in sport management and marketing. In addition to pursuing high-profile careers as sports agents, graduates of this program might work as college athletic directors or in management at sports venues.

Another high-demand major in the school is exercise science. Exercise science graduates are qualified to write fitness programs to treat chronic diseases such as diabetes, cardiac disease and pulmonary disease. Graduates from Marshall's bachelor's and master's degree programs in exercise science are currently employed in medical settings, corporate settings and fitness centers.

Exercise science students gain practical experience by working in Marshall's Human Performance Lab, managed by Dr. William Marley. The lab is a working clinic contracted to the university by Cabell Huntington Hospital to provide cardiac, pulmonary and diabetes rehabilitation. It is used as a model for similar programs throughout the state.

Additionally, the school is acquiring equipment to allow students and faculty to begin work in biomechanics, a field that uses technology to analyze human movement. Assistant Professor Dr. Suzanne Konz is the director of the



**Dr. Tim Tolbert, assistant professor of undergraduate athletic training, helps senior athletic training major Angy El-Khatib provide rehabilitative therapy to one of the many student athletes who utilize the services offered by Marshall's athletic training program, the largest and fastest-growing program within the School of Kinesiology. The hands-on program offers classes in first aid, medical terminology, assessment of orthopedic injuries and therapeutic exercise.**

school's Biomechanical Lab and teaches courses related to this high-tech field. Biomechanics can be applied on an individual level, such as an Olympic sprinter's form while running, or on a larger scale, such as a S.W.A.T. team's coordinated, strategic movements.

"Our programs feature many built-in clinical and field experiences," McIlvain said. "It makes a big difference in what our students retain from what they learn, and it increases their level of excitement for working in the field."

Cutting-edge technology of a different kind is integral to yet another new program in the College of Health Professions. A nationwide initiative to migrate all health records to an electronic format led Marshall to develop a new master's degree in health informatics, the first such degree offered in West Virginia. The program admitted its first class in the fall of 2011. This degree is offered jointly by the College of Health Professions, the Lewis College of Business and the College of Information Technology and Engineering. Health Informatics Department Chair Dr. Girmay Berhie said this interdisciplinary cooperation provides students instruction in three areas: informatics, information systems and information technology.

"We felt the instructors we selected from the three colleges have unique skills and knowledge to contribute to



**Dr. Won-Youl Bae, practicing international sports agent, teaches sports finance, research in sports studies, business of sports agency and current trends in sport marketing to students seeking a concentration in sports agency.**



**Dr. Suzanne Konz, assistant professor in the School of Kinesiology and director of the Biomechanical Lab, uses cutting-edge technology and video capabilities to analyze movement among athletes. Her research includes injury biomechanics, examining how obesity factors into injuries and dysfunction of the lower extremities; equipment reliability, specifically of isokinetic dynamometers; and sport performance biomechanics, including how to improve performance and reduce injury in the hammer throw, windmill pitch and javelin.**

the program,” Berhie said. “Our graduates will be highly qualified people.”

The health informatics program trains its graduates in how to develop systems that will reduce costs and improve access to medical records, while efficiently and securely managing the tremendous amount of medical data generated in the U.S. Job opportunities in the health informatics field are abundant, both locally and throughout the country. The program at Marshall works closely with an advisory committee, which includes community professionals from diverse areas of health care. Berhie and his colleagues are also working with the State of West Virginia to develop a center for health information research and to coordinate state public health records.

Berhie said he sees great things ahead for the health informatics program, its graduates and the entire state as a result of the vision and commitment to growth found in the College of Health Professions.

“If we continue the way we have been going, we will make a big difference in providing the state with a large number of quality health care professionals,” Berhie said. “Our graduates will be able to get jobs, and they will be job creators as well.”

The College of Health Professions has several other innovative programs either beginning or in development. The college now offers a program to allow registered nurses to earn a bachelor’s degree online. A new certificate program in corporate wellness will train students to work with human resource departments and insurance providers to cut health care costs by promoting healthful habits among employees. Dietetics students work with Huntington’s Kitchen to promote healthful eating within the community. In fall 2011, the college admitted its first class of students for a new bachelor’s degree in public health, the first undergraduate public health program in the state.

“It’s an exciting time to be connected with the college,” Prewitt said.

With the explosive growth in programs, services and enrollment the College of Health Professions has experienced recently, perhaps the word “exciting” is an understatement. □

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**Molly McClennen** is a native of the Huntington area and a graduate of Marshall University.



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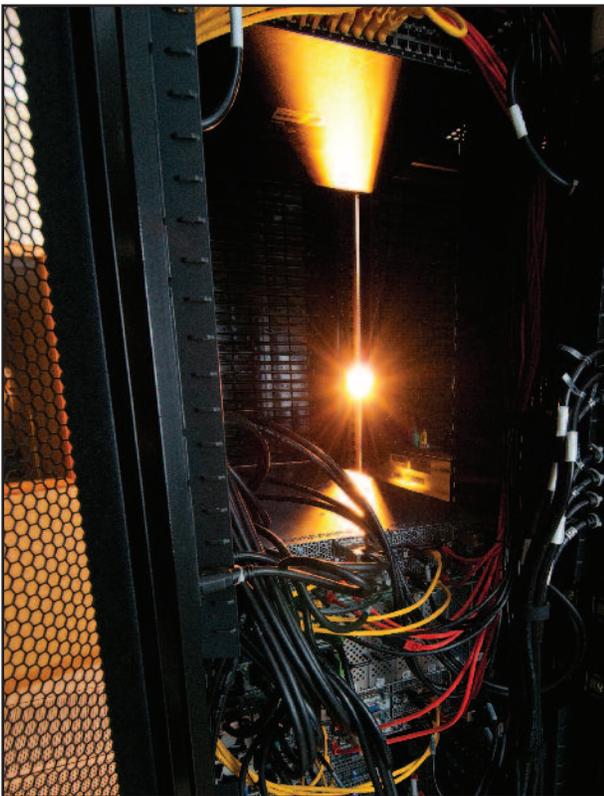
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# HIGH

By Dawn Nolan  
Photos by Rick Lee

# TECHNOLOGY

Marshall University is at the forefront of advanced technology and research capabilities.



**Utilizing the high-performance computers housed in Drinko Library, which can be accessed remotely, researchers at Marshall University and across the nation now have access to a significant amount of resources and data.**

In today's world, technology is a constant progression. Researchers are using sets of data that are larger and more complex than ever before, and to continue these advancements they must have access to equipment that can handle this information. Marshall University is an institution that understands the importance of advanced technology, and thanks to two recent grants awarded from the National Science Foundation, the university is able to stay on the cutting edge of research and technology developments.

In 2009, Marshall was awarded more than \$1 million for use over a three-year period to upgrade computing networks and further develop visualization capabilities.

"The driver of this project, which has several components, is the CI-TRAIN," said Dr. Tony Szwilski, professor of engineering and director of the Marshall University Center for Environmental, Geotechnical and Applied Sciences (CEGAS). The CI-TRAIN (Cyberinfrastructure for Transformational Scientific Discovery in West Virginia and Arkansas) is an alliance among eight higher education institutions in West Virginia and Arkansas. The alliance, created for the purpose of sharing resources that will enhance technological capabilities at each member institution, began in 2009 and will continue to September 2012. CI-TRAIN team members at Marshall include Edward Aractingi, Dr. Jan Fox, Dr. Venkat Gudivada, Dr. Arnold Miller,



CI-TRAIN team members at Marshall include (from left) Assistant Director of IT Infrastructure Edward Aractingi, CEGAS Research Associate Justin Chapman, CEGAS Director Dr. Tony Szwilski and Senior Vice President for Information Technology Dr. Jan Fox.



**Edward Aractingi and Justin Chapman analyze data, which can then be shared with thousands of institutions worldwide. Marshall's new technological capabilities and research opportunities have brought recognition to West Virginia as a whole.**

Dr. Jack Smith, Szwilski and several other faculty members.

At the forefront of the CI-TRAIN project is the High-Performance Computing (HPC) cluster. The HPC cluster, nicknamed “BigGreen,” gives the university access to a significant amount of resources and data that were formerly available only to the nation’s most highly esteemed research facilities.

“With the new HPC cluster, our students and faculty now have access to computing power, data and information we could only imagine just a few years ago,” Fox, who is senior vice president of information technology and chief information officer at Marshall, said.

BigGreen is made up of 23 high-end computer systems and is housed in Drinko Library on Marshall’s Huntington campus. Off-campus access is available to any individual who creates an account with the system, including Marshall’s CI-TRAIN partners.

“Our main goal is to avoid unnecessary duplication, and with this software, we can do that,” Szwilski said. “Researchers in Arkansas can use our equipment and vice versa.”

A second high-tech project at Marshall, Internet2, was funded by another National Science Foundation grant called West Virginia’s Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). The goal of this initiative is to enhance cyberinfrastructure throughout the state.

“Internet2 is a network design for education endeavors,” Fox explained. “It doesn’t have all the clutter of commercial networks, and it provides an unbelievable sense of closeness.”

Marshall partnered with the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission to sponsor West Virginia’s educational system as the newest Internet2 Sponsored Education Group Participant (SEGP). West Virginia is the 40th state to offer this type of network connection.

**“We are now able to share what we create at Marshall with institutions all over the world, including other universities, K-12 schools and museums. This makes us stronger as a state.”**

**– Dr. Jan Fox**  
CI-TRAIN Team Member

“This was a strategic move,” Fox said. “Not only does Internet2 expand research capabilities at Marshall and throughout West Virginia, but Marshall’s move to becoming an SEGP went along well with what the state was doing in terms of the broadband.”

An additional benefit of Marshall’s participation in Internet2 is the access to about 70,000 research and education institutions in the U.S and 80 international networks; access to these networks is available to students, faculty and staff.

“We are able to share what we create at Marshall with institutions all over

the world, including other universities, K-12 schools and museums,” Fox said. “This makes us stronger as a state.”

Internet2’s network capabilities among Marshall’s research facilities, partnering institutions and hospitals have enabled notable research in the medical field, specifically in biotechnology, gene mapping and cancer therapy.

“We have seen the successes, the synergy and the enthusiasm brought on thus far by all of these projects,” said Edward Aractingi, assistant director of IT infrastructure systems. “The resources are ever expanding.”

Several professional development opportunities have been offered recently to heighten the public’s knowledge about these advancements.

“One major component of the project is to increase awareness about what we can accomplish through this technology,” Szwilski said. “We want to give individuals the opportunity to learn how to use the tools that are available to them.”

One event, Cyberinfrastructure (CI) Day, took place on April 7, 2011. The conference consisted of a number of presentations that highlighted the computer technologies available to researchers at Marshall and the surrounding region and a keynote address by F. Selby Wellman, Marshall alumnus and former senior vice president of Cisco Systems Inc. Another event, the Next Generation Sequencing and Bioinformatics Forum, was held on Oct. 27, 2011, and featured three sessions showcasing



**Jason Carter, systems programmer lead for IT Infrastructure at Marshall University, installed the hardware utilized by the BigGreen computer system. He works closely with Edward Aractingi and other university researchers to ensure that on-campus technology works as efficiently as possible. The enthusiasm and collaboration of the faculty, staff and students involved in improving the university's technology have brought Marshall to the forefront of research, scientific visualization and data analysis.**

Marshall's latest research developments in the fields of genomics and bioinformatics as well as discussions of future plans for these areas. Session speakers were Dr. Jim Denvir, assistant professor of bioinformatics and biostatistics, Dr. Philippe Georgel, professor of biological sciences and director of the CDDC, and Dr. Venkat Gudivada, professor of computer science. In addition, Marshall faculty members involved in improving the university's technology have conducted workshops for high school, undergraduate and graduate students to help them understand computational science and visualization skills.

"We think it is important to teach students these concepts so that a high-tech work force can be developed," Szwilski said, adding that new outreach activities are in the works to further this effort.

With such highly advanced technologies available, Marshall will be a draw to both current and prospective researchers in all academic areas.

"All research fields benefit from these programs," said Dr. Arnold Miller, assistant vice president of Marshall University's Information Technology, "especially those with large amounts of data or who would need to use expensive equipment."

Szwilski said the technology currently in place at Marshall combined with the potential for the future will attract both research opportunities and business development. An increase in research and technology will keep the university competitive for future funding and, in turn, positively impact West Virginia's economic development.

"Future researchers will be able to see the resources that Marshall has available," Szwilski said. □

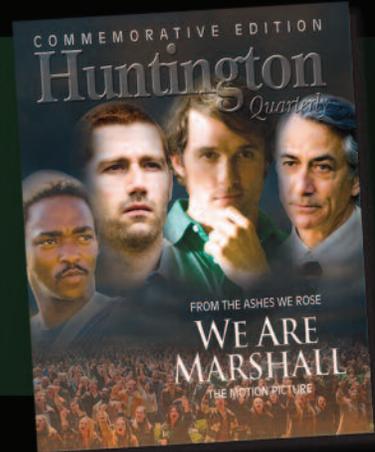
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**Dawn Nolan** is a freelance writer living in Huntington. She received bachelor's degrees in English and psychology from Marshall and is currently working on her M.A.J.

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# A Treasure Trove of HISTORY

*Inside Morrow Library on Marshall's Huntington campus is Marshall University Special Collections, a treasure trove of local, state and national history.*

When Marshall University's ultramodern John Deaver Drinko Library opened in 1998, it replaced the long-outgrown and outmoded James E. Morrow Library as the center of campus library services. But the old Morrow Library, built in 1930, still had an important role to play. Today it houses Marshall's Special Collections, a treasure trove of local, state and national history.

Curator Lisle Brown, who came to Marshall in 1972, presides over Special Collections, which includes an array of items ranging from Civil War books and artifacts and films of Tri-State area news stories to an assortment of Chuck Yeager memorabilia and many of the props and costumes from the *We Are Marshall* movie.

By James E. Casto  
Photos by Rick Lee



**Above: Electronic media technician Andrew Earles organizes hundreds of hours worth of WSAZ-TV news coverage, which he has digitized for use by both researchers and the general public. A vintage news clip is featured daily at a website called "50 Years Ago Today: As Seen on WSAZ-TV News" (<http://www.marshall.edu/50yearsago/>).**



**Right: The Special Collections staff stands surrounded by the plethora of books, artifacts and weapons included in the Roxana A. Blake Library of Confederate History. The staff includes Jack Dickinson, confederate bibliographer; Professor Cora Teel, archivist emerita; Professor Lisle Brown, curator; Andrew Earles, electronic media technician; and Professor Nat DeBruin, archivist.**



Three murals painted by former Marshall faculty member Marion Vest Fors in 1937 to celebrate the Marshall University Centennial were recently restored and put on display on the second floor of Morrow Library. The murals originally hung in a two-story reading room at the library, but renovations during the 1960s led them to be placed in storage. Fors used Marshall students during that time period as models.

Perhaps the best known of the individual collections is the Rosanna A. Blake Library of Confederate History.

A 1934 Marshall graduate, Rosanna Blake went on to become an attorney with the U.S Department of Labor in Washington, D.C. When she was 10 years old, her mother gave her a 75-cent book on the life of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee. That gift sparked a life-long interest in Lee and the Confederacy. Blake's job frequently caused her to travel, and she used those trips to scour bookshops across the nation and add to her collection. Ultimately, she amassed one of the finest collections of Confederate material anywhere - a collection that came to Marshall on her death in 1987. In addition to books, the collection contains newspapers, weapons and other artifacts.

Blake Collection Bibliographer Jack L. Dickinson, a retired systems engineer with IBM and the author of a number of books on the Civil War, used the Blake Collection extensively during his own research and said he jumped at the chance to take charge of it. Since taking over management of the collection, he has worked to expand it and authenticate many of the items included in it.

Requests to use the Blake Collection generally fall into two categories, Dickinson said. One is people who know they have an ancestor who fought in the Civil War but would like to know what battles he may have fought in.

"The other set of users are Civil War researchers," he said, "who are working on a book or other major project and turn to us because they know we have some unique items they can utilize."

The year 2011 marked the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, which Dickinson said sparked increased interest in the Blake Collection.

Brown said another enormously popular collection consists of news film donated to Marshall by WSAZ-TV. The station donated millions of feet of fragile 16mm local news film that it broadcast over the years, along with the accompanying scripts for each news story. Andrew Earles, electronic media technician, began carefully converting the film to digital format. And it was Earles who is credited with suggesting the idea of posting a different news story on the Internet each day. As a result, Marshall and WSAZ jointly created a website, "50 Years Ago Today: As Seen on WSAZ-TV News."

The site is accessible at [www.marshall.edu/50yearsago](http://www.marshall.edu/50yearsago).

“With the click of a mouse, the site allows viewers to see a news story that aired on local television exactly 50 years ago,” Brown said. “We know we have loyal viewers who follow it pretty much every day.”

Hamlin native and famed air ace and test pilot Chuck Yeager, the first man to fly faster than the speed of sound, is the subject of a Morrow Library room that chronicles his remarkable career. The collection includes papers, photographs, videotapes, mementos and memorabilia. Yeager donated the material, some of which came from a scrapbook kept by his proud mother, to Marshall in 1987.

“There are any number of other museums across the country that would love to get their hands on our Yeager Collection,” Brown said, adding that the collection includes a number of letters and other personal papers that are to remain sealed until after Yeager’s death.

Also the subject of a room of his own is Nelson Bond, who attended Marshall in the 1930s and went on to become a well-known fantasy and science fiction author for the pulp magazines of the day, a scriptwriter for radio and a pioneer writer in the infancy of television in the 1950s.

Before his death in 2006 at age 97, Bond donated to Marshall drafts of many of his stories, copies of the magazines they appeared in, various radio and TV scripts, correspondence, contracts and other items. Marshall even has the furniture from his office and has set it up in a recreated scene, just as if Bond had stepped out for a minute and would soon return.



**A model of Chuck Yeager's Bell X-1, which broke the sound barrier in 1947, is displayed at the Yeager Collection, housed in Drinko Library.**

“Marshall is very fortunate to have Bond’s papers,” said Brown. “They constitute a record of one of the most important contributors to fantasy and science fiction in the 20th century.”

The Dr. Charles A. Hoffman Collection consists of rare books on the history of medicine, purchased with funds donated by



**Special Collections features a partial recreation of the office of Nelson Slade Bond, one of the 20th century's most significant science fiction writers.**

the late Huntington urologist who served as president of the American Medical Association.

“Some books in the collection date back to the 1500s,” Brown noted. “Dr. Hoffman made a generous donation to establish the collection and then encouraged his friends and associates to do the same, which many of them did.”

Brown said the library’s West Virginia Collection includes not only books, newspapers, maps and other published items from the Mountain State’s history, “but also a few items about our neighbors in Ohio and Kentucky and our mother state of Virginia. So it’s really a regional collection.”

“The West Virginia Collection is a large collection containing just about everything we can get our hands on about West Virginia,” said Special Collections Librarian Kathleen Bledsoe. “The two biggest sections contain the works of West Virginia authors and state documents, with a close third being the history of the state, counties and towns. We have material on the rivers, soil, flora and fauna and geography; statistics on

WEST VA - PA. - OHIO - N-CAROLINA - VA - Kentucky

## OFFENSIVE RECRUITS

QB	RB	WR	TE	OL
<del>JAKE GIBBS (PA)</del>	<del>KERRY FEMEN</del>	<del>ERIC SHAN</del>	BOB LAMBERT	<del>JODY PARK</del>
TRUMAN ANDREWS	LUCAS BOOTH	<del>LUCYEN SEDAN</del>	TREY ECKERT	PEYESS SHEETS
<del>RONNIE LOVE</del>	NEIL RANDOLF	TERRY GARDNER	DALE TODD	SHANE HIRL BUT
JACK MEADLEY	<del>JERRY DEAR</del>	HERACIO PYLE	<del>ANDY METERS</del>	<del>ROBERTO DENROELTS</del>
<del>LARRY COOK</del>	DEVON HANDERS	TODD BURPIS	SAM BOTEK	JOHN SHIMP
JOHN CADY	LANE MARSHALL	SHAWN GRAY		BOBBY BUSK
RUSS BARD	ANDRW BENTLEY	TITUS RICE		VON BAGLEY
FLOYD HURST	RICH COWAN			BO STEINER
				JON PETERS

## DEFENSIVE RECRUITS

DL	LB	DB
<del>KEVIN ANDERSON</del>	KIP CHASE	MATT PETERS
ANDREW WARNER	<del>ISAAC DUNCAN</del>	<del>ANDREW YOUNG</del>
JOHN FINDER	TROY BOBISY	GINO BAER
NOLAN KELLY	MEL TOSSER	ALAN RUCK
RON ALLEN	SHAWN	AIDRON CORNWALL
ALLEN MEADOWS	DREW MAPLE	TAYLOR SMITH
STEVE MARKS	LEROY STONE	CHESS CAMPBELL
	ERIC GESSLER	GALEN HILL



Some of the most memorable props and costumes used during the *We Are Marshall* movie are housed inside Morrow Library. Above is the chalkboard used in the scenes where Coach Jack Lengyel, played by Matthew McConaughey, records his recruiting efforts for the Young Thundering Herd. Below is Falls City Beer, which in the movie Reggie Oliver, played by Arlen Escarpeta, picks up after the ECU game for his teammates on their way home. After the plane crash, the beer remains unopened until a particularly moving moment later in the movie.

births, deaths and income; ghost stories; and everything in between. The collection gives useful primary and secondary source material to the Marshall student body for research.”

Morrow Library is also home to the official University Archives, which hold items of historic significance to the school’s history.

“The archives are the records of the university,” explained Archivist Nat DeBruin. “It’s anything that has been published by the university, especially as it relates to academic, faculty or student life. We have a relationship with several offices such as the President’s Office and Academic Affairs so that we receive their records on a regular basis.”

The archives also hold old issues of student newspaper *The Parthenon*, old yearbooks, alumni publications, school catalogs and more.

“Our Manuscripts Collection,” Brown said, “consists of records from close to 900 individuals, businesses and organizations from the Tri-State region. The individual collections vary from file folders containing only a few letters to collections filling many, many boxes. The Ken

Hechler Collection alone fills 500 boxes.”

The Internet has made it possible for Special Collections to post many items online in what has been dubbed a “Virtual Museum.” The items posted range from a photo history showing how Marshall’s Old Main has grown over the years to the 1937 Ohio River flood and the Buffalo Creek flood to the tragic 1970 Marshall plane crash.

The many props and costumes from the *We Are Marshall* movie now carefully tucked away inside Morrow Library are the result of a generous offer from Warner Brothers, which opened its Hollywood warehouse and allowed the university to pick almost anything it wanted from the countless things that were crafted for the movie.

“There’s a large assortment of clothing,” said DeBruin, “all of it made especially for the movie – football jerseys, cheerleader outfits, band uniforms, letter jackets, even a Marco costume – as well as working scripts and even 1970-71 license plates made of cardboard or plastic.”

Each item carries with it a certificate of authenticity from Warner Brothers, he added.

The vast historical collections located inside Marshall’s historic Morrow Library require continuing care and preservation. Thanks to the dedicated staff of Special Collections, this treasure trove of history will be around for years to come. □

**James E. Casto** is the retired associate editor of *The Herald-Dispatch* and the author of a number of books on local and regional history. His latest book is *Highway to History: A Midland Trail Scrapbook* (Quarrier Press, \$17.95).

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Successful Gino's and Tudor's franchisor gives back to the communities that have supported him

## Oshel Craig

When Oshel Craig was a young boy, his grandfather, who had worked in the coal mines all of his life, told him that if he became a barber, he'd have arrived. Some 60 years later, from a table at Tudor's Biscuit World in Hurricane, W.Va., one of Craig's many Tudor's Biscuit World and Gino's Pizza restaurants, he recounts the story.

"Back then, barbers wore white jackets," Craig says, "and my grandfather would tell me, 'You'd be in a clean environment, wearing a white jacket. You'd be able to see the sun, see the rain, everything like that.'"

The young man took his grandfather's advice, but he didn't stop there.

Appointed to Marshall's Board of Governors in 2010 by former governor Joe Manchin, Craig is the owner and operator of Better Foods Inc. and lives in Winfield, W.Va.

Article by Carter Taylor Seaton

Photo by Rick Lee

Raised on Manila Creek outside of Poca, W.Va., Craigo left home after graduating from high school at 17 to work in the steel mills of Lorain, Ohio. Eighteen months later, with enough money for barber school in his pockets, he quit. Today he says that was the most important decision of his life. Although all of his family worked in the chemical plants, Craigo, armed with a barber's license and his grandfather's advice, became the youngest barber in West Virginia.

Young and aggressive, he soon established his own barbershop in St. Albans and eventually hired others to work for him. Recognizing the mobility of the employees in the booming chemical plants nearby, he decided to obtain a real estate license.

"I would cut hair, and when people told me they had to sell their house, I'd say, 'Well, maybe I can help you. I work with this firm and we do really well.' And I'd list their home," he chuckles.

For two years, Craigo cut hair during the week and sold real estate on the weekends. A broker's license came next, and soon he was also making money from other realtors. Next, he started buying houses and remodeling them to resell or rent.

"I would buy just anything anybody would sell me on credit because I didn't have anything to lose," he recalls.

This strategy was wildly successful; throughout his career, Craigo says he has had a hand in developing about 465 homes, either singly or in subdivisions.

It was one such purchase that led to his first Gino's Pizza franchise. Craigo bought a house in Nitro and gutted it for a storeroom. However, upon realizing that there was no pizza shop in Nitro at the time, he went to Huntington, met with Gino's owner Kenny Grant and got a Gino's franchise that covered the territory from Hurricane to Montgomery. Once Craigo entered the pizza business, he loved it. For two more years, he cut hair during the day and sold pizza at night. Then, he hung up his scissors and didn't cut hair again - until he gave his grandson his first haircut many years later.

Things moved rapidly, with a new Gino's location opening every six months. Around 1985, Craigo bought a Tudor's Biscuit World franchise and added the popular breakfast restaurant to his existing Gino's locations, becoming one of the early adopters of "double branding" - separate doors, separate menus, different store facades and different signage, but at the same location. It's common now, but at the time Craigo was a trendsetter.

Barbering also led indirectly to Craigo's 22-year political career. In 1980, he helped get a St. Albans

man, Jim Kessinger, elected to the West Virginia House of Delegates by encouraging other barbers to help promote the man. Intrigued by the experience, Craigo decided to run in the following election, which he won. After serving one term in the House of Delegates, he was elected to the Senate, where he served for 20 years, holding every major position including an eight-year term as finance chairman. Still active in civic and community affairs, Craigo currently serves on the Board of Directors of the National Restaurant Association, City National Bank, CAMC Teays Valley Hospital and the Putnam County Democratic Executive Committee, in addition to his membership on the Marshall Board of Governors.

Craigo's impressive career experience has benefited the Board of Governors in numerous ways, says current chair Verna Gibson.

"Oshel Craigo brings to the board outstanding business, legislative and governance experience," she says. "He has a passion for excellence in effective communication and best practices."

Craigo says one of his hopes for the future of Marshall is to bring a campus to Putnam County one day.

"We have about 2,000 students attending Marshall from Putnam County," he says. "A satellite campus would be a great addition to our community."

Craigo says he is excited by the new pharmacy school, the physical therapy school and the increased emphasis on recruiting foreign students.

"The diversity of students certainly will broaden the horizons of students who may be the first of their family to go to college," he says.

As the first in his own family, Craigo understands.

Craigo remembers a small grocery store near his house as a young child, which he says inspired him to pursue a career in business.

"Maybe that's because it's where the candy was," he muses.

Whether it was his grandfather's expectations or his boyhood dreams of owning a business, today Craigo certainly has "arrived." His grandfather would be amazed. □

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**Carter Taylor Seaton** is a freelance writer living in Huntington. She graduated from Marshall University in 1982. She recently published her second novel, *amo, amas, amat...an unconventional love story*. Her debut novel, *Father's Troubles*, was published in 2003. She's currently working on a nonfiction work about West Virginia's back-to-the-land artisans.



# *ever* GREEN

*a message from William “Mickey” Jackson*

*MUAA National President Class of '68*



Dear Alumni,

Thank you for reconnecting to the Marshall University Alumni Association! Each time you visit the website or one of the campuses, the Alumni Association Board of Directors hopes that you will learn something new about the university, your former classmates, faculty and staff.

The one thing I would like for you to learn now is that Marshall University is hard at work to meet the needs of not only its students, but also its alumni. President Stephen J. Kopp is hard at work with the entire university faculty and staff, creating new and relevant programs to attract new students to our campuses. The alumni office is hard at work with its new website, new mentoring and career programs and hosting events around the country to honor and reconnect alumni with one another.

There has never been a better time to get more involved with your fellow alumni, I promise you. As your Alumni Association president, I have the honor of representing your voice at our great university. During the recent plane crash memorial ceremony, I came to remember why I so value my connection to Marshall University. It was (and is) the sense of “family.” I felt connected to our past and to our future. I think many of you share this feeling as well.

The university is growing in programs, facilities and students, and it is my hope that you will reconnect with your classmates as well as the faculty and staff at our alma mater. They need you, all of them. When we come together, we can do anything.

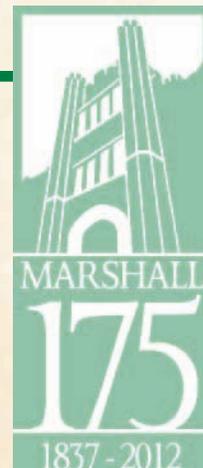
Please, reach out to Marshall University and to your classmates by reconnecting with a simple visit to our new Alumni Center and Foundation Hall, a phone call, email or note. You can also find us on Facebook or at an event near you soon.

I would like to offer a special thanks to those who continue to spend their time, treasure and talent to advance our organization and our university. We appreciate you more than you know.

*William “Mickey” Jackson*

## *Alumni Relations Staff*

Tish Littlehales, Director of Alumni Relations • Rob Ellis, Associate Director of Membership and Marketing  
Nancy Pelphrey, Coordinator of Alumni Programs • Jonathan Sutton, Accountant  
Shane Stafford, Graduate Assistant  
Lauren Friedrichs, Matthew Peters and Michael Starcher, Student Assistants



**Alumni Weekend, April 27-28**, will be one of the highlights of the 175th Anniversary Celebration of Marshall University. We will take a look back at the years that made Marshall the institution it is today.

Part of **what makes Marshall so amazing** is the incredible leadership, students, faculty, staff and alumni. The class of 1962 was a huge part of this journey. They will be celebrating their golden reunion this year.

Alumni Weekend is a great way to **reconnect with old friends** and rediscover your alma mater. **Special celebrations** will occur around the Huntington campus for the entire weekend.

On **Friday, April 27**, you won't want to miss the opportunity to **learn about the history of your alma mater**. The road that was traveled and the challenges that were faced will be presented in an entertaining way by the **archivist of the university**.

A **luncheon in honor of the class of 1962** has been arranged for **Saturday, April 28**. It will begin at noon in the **Marshall University Foundation Hall**, Home of the Erickson Alumni Center. A **reception** sponsored by the Heritage Society is being planned **prior to the luncheon**, providing you with news about Marshall University and **offering tours of the MU Foundation Hall/Erickson Alumni Center**.

Following the luncheon, the **Green and White football game** will be played at the Joan C. Edwards Stadium. A fun **tailgate party** sponsored by the Marshall University Alumni Association will be there for you to enjoy.

The pinnacle of Alumni Weekend will be the **75th Annual Alumni Weekend Awards Banquet**, preceded by a **champagne reception** in the lobby of the **Memorial Student Center**. This year's **milestone banquet** will honor many of our outstanding alumni and friends. You won't want to miss this exciting event.

If you would like to **volunteer** to call your fellow alumni and encourage them to return to Huntington for this weekend, please contact the alumni office at **304-696-3134**.

**We look forward to seeing you during Alumni Weekend 2012.**

# Alumni Weekend Reservation Form 2012



Name \_\_\_\_\_ MU Class Year \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone (        ) \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone (        ) \_\_\_\_\_

Your Guest(s) \_\_\_\_\_ MU Class Year \_\_\_\_\_

*Tickets for reservations received after April 17 will be held at first event.*

		No. of Tickets	Price per person	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/> Please make me an active member of the Marshall University Alumni Association. I have designated an amount to the right and included the amount in my total.		—	—	
<b>FRI.</b>	Historical look back at Marshall University as we celebrate 175 years – Foundation Hall: Home of the Erickson Alumni Center – 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.		complimentary	
<b>SATURDAY</b>	Pre-luncheon reception sponsored by the Heritage Society – Erickson Alumni Center – 11:00 a.m.		complimentary	
	Class Luncheon reception honoring the 50th Reunion Class (1962) and the Grand Class (those who graduated prior to 1962) – Erickson Alumni Center, Grand Ballroom – 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.		\$20/person	
	Green and White Tailgate Party at the Joan C. Edwards Stadium – Look for the Alumni Tent. Tailgate begins two hours prior to kickoff.			
	Champagne Reception – Memorial Student Center Plaza – 6:00 p.m.		complimentary	
	75th Annual Alumni Awards Banquet Honoring Distinguished Alumni and Friends – Don Morris Room, Memorial Student Center – immediately following the Champagne Reception		\$75/person \$140/couple	
			<b>TOTAL</b>	

Check enclosed. Please make checks payable and mail this completed form to:

**Marshall University Alumni Relations  
Alumni Weekend Reservations  
One John Marshall Drive  
Huntington, WV 25755-6200**

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To make reservations by phone and for more information, call the Office of Alumni Relations at **800-MU-ALUM-X** (800-682-5869) or **304-696-2901**.

[www.herdalum.com](http://www.herdalum.com)

Marshall University

# HOMECOMING



Thank you to all of those who attended Marshall University's Homecoming 2011. Following several days of celebration and spirit, Homecoming 2011 was capped by a 24-20 win by the Thundering Herd football team in front of more than 26,000 fans at Joan C. Edwards Stadium. We hope you will join us for Homecoming 2012!



The 2011 Homecoming court included (from left to right) Laura Hatfield, Lauren Mayes, newly crowned Mr. and Miss Marshall Sarafina Azman Al Rashid and Joshua Botkin, Timothy Barney, Jo Troller and Kevin Dennison.



Major General Anthony Crutchfield '82 was Grand Marshal of the 2011 Homecoming Parade.

Alpha Phi Omega was awarded the first-place prize of \$750 in the Homecoming Parade float competition, generously sponsored by the Marshall University Bookstore. Shown from left to right presenting and accepting the check are Tish Littlehales, Director of Alumni Relations; Mike Campbell, Manager, MU Bookstore; and members of the Alpha Phi Omega sorority.





Photos by Rick Hays

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"We are very excited to introduce the official Marshall University Alumni ring. This wonderful heirloom, which can be with us at all times, is a reminder of the great memories we have all shared as students and supporters and a way to display our pride in being part of the Marshall family. All proceeds from the MU alumni ring will benefit the MU Alumni Association. Be among the first to obtain your official MU alumni ring today! Go Herd!"

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In West Virginia, the price of the plate ranges tentatively from \$53.50 to \$75.00, depending on when your current license plate expires. The plate numbers range from 1001 to 9999.

In Pennsylvania and Maryland, plate numbers are issued consecutively beginning with 0001. Pennsylvania plates cost \$54.50, while Maryland plates cost \$55.00.

We are pleased to announce that \$30.00 of the initial amount for plates in West Virginia is a tax-deductible donation that will be used to fund programs and scholarships sponsored by the Marshall University Alumni Association.

To request an application for West Virginia, Pennsylvania or Maryland visit [www.herdalum.com](http://www.herdalum.com) or contact Jonathan Sutton (304-696-2901 or 800-682-5869, [jonathan.sutton@marshall.edu](mailto:jonathan.sutton@marshall.edu)). When emailing, please be sure to provide your name and complete mailing address.



In Virginia, check with your local DMV office for more information and pricing.

Through July 1, 2012, those ordering plates for West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland will receive a FREE prop plate used in and/or created for the *We Are Marshall* movie, along with a certificate of authenticity.

## Online Ballots and MUAA Board of Directors Election

Paper ballots have been mailed to active members for our 2012 MUAA Board of Directors Elections. Voting will take place between February 15 and April 13, 2012.

For the first time, eligible voters can cast their ballots online at [www.herdalum.com](http://www.herdalum.com).

This assists in our Green Initiative and will eventually save thousands of dollars in printing and postage costs. Beginning in 2013, paper ballots will only be mailed by request. Complete information on board nominees, election voting and election results can be found at our website.

We appreciate your cooperation and participation. Reminder to members: You will need your member ID to validate your ballot. Your member ID can be found on the mailing label from this magazine or by emailing [alumni@marshall.edu](mailto:alumni@marshall.edu).



# Class Notes



Visit [www.marshall.edu/lalumni](http://www.marshall.edu/lalumni) for the latest in alumni news.

## Spotlight: Dr. G. Marshall Lyon III



**Dr. G. Marshall Lyon III**, formerly of Huntington, was recently promoted to associate professor of medicine at the Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, Ga. He graduated from Huntington High School in 1986 and the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine at Marshall University in 1994. His B.S. degree is from Duke University, where he also did his post-doctoral training in internal medicine and pediatrics, which he completed in 1998. After leaving Duke, he spent two years at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Ga. He then went on to get additional subspecialty training in infectious diseases at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, Mass. During his three years in Boston, he also earned a Master of Medical Science in clinical research from Harvard Medical School.

A member of the faculty at Emory for eight years, Lyon serves as the Director of Transplant Infectious Diseases for the Emory Transplant Center. He also serves on the Disease Transmission Advisory Committee for the United Network for Organ Sharing and the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network, which is contracted by the federal government to oversee organ transplants in the United States. He has an active research program in infections related to solid organ transplantation but primarily focuses on fungal infections and novel diagnostic techniques. Along with his coauthors, he just published *Fundamentals of Medical Mycology*, a textbook on medically important fungal infections.

He lives in Decatur, Ga., with his wife of 11 years, Tabitha, and his two sons Jack (8) and Luke (6). He says he would love for everyone to become an organ donor. Currently there are more than 110,000 people waiting for an organ transplant, but there are just over 10,000 organ donors per year.



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The Marshall University  
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### United Van Lines

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### GradMed short-term health insurance

GradMed short-term health insurance can protect you during those critical weeks or months until you have arranged for coverage through a new employer or other sources – from 30 to 180 days. <http://www.gradmed.com>.



### Marshall Rec. Center

Active alumni members receive discounted membership.

By presenting your active Alumni Association membership card to these businesses, you will receive a discount as noted by each participant. These offers are designed to bring added value to your membership in the Alumni Association and to thank you for your support.

The Marshall Hall of Fame Café at 857 Third Ave. in Huntington offers a 15-percent discount on food, drinks (excluding alcoholic beverages) and merchandise at the Café Gift Shop.

Stadium Bookstore, 1949 Fifth Ave., offers alumni a 15-percent discount on purchases (excluding textbooks).

Please keep checking the Alumni Association website for additional affinity programs and benefits of being an active member.

# Marco is looking for YOU!



## The Online Community

Join the 34,000 others who are part of the Alumni Association's Online Community. Just go to [herdalum.com](http://herdalum.com) and follow the simple steps. Read Class Notes, search for a former college chum, get a permanent forwarding email address and more!



### YouTube

Type in "Marshall University" and find everything from Commencement to football footage to videos featuring prominent Marshall alumni like Chad Pennington and Joe Johns.



### Facebook

We are building it and hoping you will come. We are up to 3,100 fans, but we need more! Add your thoughts and photos.



### Twitter

Follow us on Twitter by typing in [@marshallalumni](https://twitter.com/marshallalumni). We're new at this, so help us out!

## Sports in the '50s and '60s

Marshall Memory by Hughes Booher '62

Having played sports at Moundsville High School in the mid-1950s, I came to Marshall College in 1957 and walked on to the freshman basketball team. Dr. Michael Joseph was the freshman coach. After a two-week tryout of scholarship [students] and walk-ons, the team included Church Gorden from Wheeling, W.Va.; Dick Parrott from Hamilton, Ohio; Bruce Moody from Bronx, N.Y.; Jim Spencer from Huntington, W.Va.; Mel Leiner from New York City; Ken Insani from Clarksburg, W.Va.; Charles Griffith from Huntington, W.Va.; Vic Quinet from St. Albans, W.Va.; and Fred Conley from Ceredo-Kenova, W.Va.

We played several games prior to varsity games at the Veterans Memorial Field House and away games at Kentucky Christian and Ohio University.

In 1958, I tried out for varsity basketball, but talent had improved to a point that I had no chance. So, I tried out and made the varsity men's tennis team. Jule Rivlin coached tennis first, then Dick Klitch and John Noble, assistant coach. We played in the Mid-American Conference and had many nice away trips to Cincinnati; Morehead, Ky.; Bowling Green, Ohio; [West Virginia] Wesleyan; West Virginia State; and West Liberty in the snow. The final match one year was a win against Coach Klitch's alma mater—Miami of Ohio. I remember each team member was given two wooden racks, two pairs of shoes and a V-necked warm-up. Nothing in green was available on campus, so I borrowed a green Marshall sweatshirt.

Teammates from 1960 to 1962 were Joe Shaffer, Bill Jefferson, Bill Price, David Ellis, Jack Fors, Bill Carroll, David Huffman, Noah Gregory, Owen Duncan, Bill Wellman, Don Wassum and Wayne Wookey. On away trips, we always tried to do meal time at either the Eagle's Nest in Morehead, Ky., or at a little-known, 12-stool restaurant in Gallipolis, Ohio—Bob Evans.



**Hughes Booher – pictured in the back row, fourth from the left – was part of the 1957-1958 Marshall College freshman basketball team.**

This column is designed to give you the opportunity to share memories of your student days at Marshall College/University. You can send your memory to Marshall Memories, MU Alumni Association, One John Marshall Dr., Huntington, WV 25755; or e-mail [alumni@marshall.edu](mailto:alumni@marshall.edu).



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ST. MARY'S  
MEDICAL CENTER