Chad Pennington's stirring Commencement address

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Thundering Herd
Fall Football Preview

MU's World-Class
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A New Leader

Dr. Shari Williams-Clarke has a passion for creating opportunities for students who historically have been under-represented.

SEE PAGE 36 FOR ALUMNI WEEKEND NEWS AND MORE

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Shari Williams-Clarke, Vice President for Multicultural Affairs, in the John Deaver Drink Library. Photography by Rick Lee.

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Aiming for Perfection

The dawning of our fifth year together seems a fitting time to draw attention to the noteworthy progress of Marshall University over the past four years.

The partial list below reflects the hard work of many committed, talented, passionate people who truly love Marshall University and demonstrate it by their actions. They share our Strategic Vision for the University and are a vital part of actualizing it. Part of our pledge to the Marshall University community has been and continues to be to work steadfastly toward fulfilling the promise of a better future for this institution, our beloved state, its citizens and, ultimately, our nation. In our vision statement, we reference aiming for perfection. We affirm that this aspiration is not a destination but rather a commitment to becoming better and better in all that we do each and every day. Those words guide us in everything we do. I believe when you review a few highlights below, you will agree.

- *"We Are Marshall"* movie: This film allowed us to share a tragic chapter in our history in ways that have inspired awareness and pride in who we are as Sons and Daughters of Marshall.
- Robert C. Byrd Biotechnology Science Center: This capital project is the most ambitious ever undertaken and has transformed the landscape of bioscience research at Marshall.
- Rebirth of the Bachelor of Science program in Engineering: With the coming retirement of many of our country's civil engineers and the immediate need for skilled and capable engineers to work rebuild and improve infrastructure around the world, this career path is without doubt one of the most crucial fields of study we can offer our students. A degree in engineering will prepare our students for a highly competitive global marketplace.
- Arthur Weisberg Family Engineering Laboratories: This modern facility is home to our resurgent engineering program.
- Marshall Recreation Center: Rapidly becoming the social and physical activity hub for our students, this amazing addition to the Huntington campus is one of the finest facilities of its kind in the nation.
- Dot Hicks Field: Marshall's softball team now plays its home games at one of the best facilities in Conference USA.
- Marshall University Honors College: This new college will increase the national visibility of Marshall to prospective honors students.
- First Year Living-Learning Residence Halls: These modern facilities are important to the overall campus life experience at the University and will help improve student retention.
- MIIR (the Marshall University Institute for Interdisciplinary Research): This initiative will intensify and accelerate the rate at which our applied research reaches the marketplace and fosters economic development.

President
STEPHEN J. KOPP

With the recent addition of Athletic Director Mike Hamrick, (see story on page 9) I will match our leadership team against the best in the country. The caliber of leaders we have assembled and the solidarity we share for Marshall University establishes a firm foundation for future success and progress. Simply put, they are the right people in the right place at the right time.

As you consider the accomplishments of the past four years in their entirety, I ask that you take a few moments to contemplate what a new building truly means to our community; that you think about how new majors and programs influence the lives and futures of our students; and that you ask yourself why research matters not only to the Marshall community but the world at large.

I trust you see what I see and not only take pride in it but support it as well. We now expect that world-class researchers will choose Marshall as their home. We are committed to developing new majors and programs and building new state-of-the-art facilities that are vital to realizing the vast potential of Marshall University in the 21st Century.

Our shared vision was set in motion nearly four years ago. All of our distinct achievements truly come together to light our journey as we endeavor to actualize the tremendous potential that lies within us as an institution of higher learning, as a state and as a people. Decisive, strategic leadership that effectively plans, prioritizes, acts and then follows through, characterizes who we are today at Marshall University. ☐

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11/21 SMU — Fan Appreciation Day

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A New Voice for many at Marshall: *Shari Clarke*

A new leader on campus has a passion for creating opportunities for students who historically have been under-represented.

Article by Carter Seaton
Photos by Rick Haye & Rick Lee

We learn early in life that the prefix "multi" means *many, multiple, more than one or two*, but until you know Dr. Shari Williams-Clarke, Marshall University's Vice President for Multicultural Affairs, you don't appreciate that. For her, multi-tasking is synonymous with her new job title. Since she hit the ground running in June 2008, she's worked to broaden and expand the services her office provides to all segments of the university community and to educate the broader community about issues of multiculturalism, the term she prefers over diversity.

First, she commissioned an external assessment of the Division of Multicultural Affairs – founded in 1989 – that revealed some common misconceptions about the role of the division among the students, the community and other stakeholders. Clarke knew from her interviews with President Stephen Kopp that inclusiveness was important in his vision for the future of the university and that her office would have to serve many populations. That, she says, was a good synergy with her own philosophy of diversity.

The Toledo, Ohio native has a long-standing passion for creating and promoting opportunities for folks who historically have had no voice or have been under-represented. One of two daughters of a schoolteacher mother and a city administrator father, Clarke graduated from tiny, historically black Lane College in Jackson, Tenn., with a B.A. in Sociology before moving on to Bowling Green State University in Ohio for her master's and to the University of Nebraska, Lincoln for her doctorate in Educational Leadership and Higher Education Administration.

At Nebraska, she was the Associate to the President and held a faculty position in women's studies while working on her doctorate. Apparently, she learned multi-tasking early in life.

> "There was a convincing feeling among the search members that this lady had all the mechanics, the tools, the experience, the qualities and the leadership that we needed."
>
> – Maurice Cooley

Maurice Cooley, Director of the Center for African American Students' Programs, who served on the search committee that recommended her hiring, recognized her many talents, as did the rest of the group. "There was a convincing feeling among the search members that this lady had all the mechanics, the tools, the experience, the qualities and the leadership that we needed," he recalls. "She had long seasoned relationships and experience in working directly with students and with faculty and administrators." According to Cooley, being able to communicate with students and understand how they feel and think, as well as how they view themselves and the world, is essential. The committee saw that ability in Clarke.

It didn't take long for her to prove them right. Soon, she was coordinating regular meetings among the directors of various diversity programs, including Women's Studies, International Programs, Disability Services and the Center for African American Students' Programs in order to share information and calendars and consider ways to support each other. Then she broadened her reach to campus groups representing Appalachian constituents, the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans-gender Office, other women's groups, and the National Pan-Hellenic Council Greek organizations to address their concerns in the initiatives her office was unfolding.

In January 2009, she formed the Multicultural Leadership Ambassadors, a select group of culturally diverse, trained, peer educators whose role is to help break down stereotypes by sharing their personal stories. As the official voice for the office, they speak in residence halls and classrooms, to community groups, and in public or private elementary and secondary schools. Since its inception, the ambassadors group has educated more than 1,200 students and members of the community on issues of multiculturalism and have been overwhelmingly well received.

Simultaneously, Clarke began searching for ways to diversify Marshall's faculty. "I've been working very closely with each dean, reviewing data on what his or her college looks like, and as a part of that we came up with the Multicultural Faculty Residence Program in collaboration with the Division of Academic Affairs," she says. Now during the regular hiring process, when deans identify top-notch candidates who are newly minted Ph.D.s and who belong to one of the federally recognized minority groups (African-American, Hispanic-American, Native-American and Asian-American), they can offer the candidate an incentive package to come to Marshall. It includes a reduced course load the first year, free on-campus housing and a limited on-campus meal plan for the first year, a Marshall mentor to help them acclimate to the community, and a senior or seasoned staff member to help with research and publishing. Furthermore, Clarke added another layer to the program by approaching West Virginia University's minority scholar program to ask these brand-new Ph.D.s to send their vitas to Marshall for consideration. This is a benefit to both universities, as

WVU wants to keep its graduates in the state whenever possible.

The office of Multicultural Affairs, under Clarke's direction, has also expanded the programs, celebrations, awards and scholarships it offers or co-sponsors. And to hear her tell it, she's only just begun. Next year, the ambassadors will begin to address issues of body image – for full-figured folks and those with anorexia – in response to student requests. The Faculty Diversity Committee will explore faculty exchange programs and other creative ways to enhance the multiculturalism of Marshall's faculty. Along with faculty member David Cartwright, Clarke is working on developing a program to help students from diverse backgrounds improve their critical reading skills so they can perform well on standardized tests like the SAT, the ACT, the Graduate Record Exam and the Medical School Advance. And, she will be working with the College of Engineering and the College of Science on diversifying the faculty in the Sciences, Technology, Engineering and Math, commonly called the STEM disciplines.

In her spare time, Clarke – a whirling dervish of activity – walks, reads voraciously, visits museums, power shops, serves on the Board of Directors of Dress for Success, and participates in the activities of her husband and two sons, one a junior at Marshall and the other a rising 7th grader at St. Joseph's in Huntington. She says she would Jazzercise if she could find an outlet. Recently, her article discussing the discrimination lessons to be learned from the popular Twilight books was published in *Women in Higher Education Administration*.

When Shari Clarke was awarded a special Akyem Shield Kente cloth during Marshall's traditional Donning of Kente Accomplishment Ceremony, it was for heroic deeds. She modestly says it was given not for what she *has* accomplished but for what she is going to do at Marshall. But according to President Stephen Kopp, she's already fulfilled the promise seen during the interviews more than a year ago.

"Dr. Clarke has brought to Marshall University an impressive record of success in advancing diversity at institutions of higher education she has served," Kopp says. "Her experience, energy and enthusiasm are enlightening and encourage a greater appreciation of multiculturalism and its benefits to society. During her first year at Marshall, we have witnessed important progress and achievements through initiatives Dr. Clarke has started. Through her inspired approach to her work, Dr. Clarke is making and will continue to make important contributions to the future of Marshall University."

Multi-tasking, multi-talented, multi-faceted, and multi-accomplished. That's Shari Williams-Clarke. □

Carter Seaton is a freelance writer living in Huntington. Her first novel "*Father's Troubles*" was published in 2003 and she is currently working on a second.

New Athletic Director Mike Hamrick has his Eye on the Future

Article by Dave Wellman • Photos by Rick Haye

Mike Hamrick, director of athletics at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas for the past six years and a 1980 graduate of Marshall University, has been named director of athletics at Marshall University, President Stephen J. Kopp has announced. Hamrick replaces Bob Marcum, who retired.

Hamrick, 51, was introduced by Kopp at a news conference July 20 in the Hartley Room at Cam Henderson Center on Marshall's Huntington campus. He will assume his duties in mid-August.

"In Mike Hamrick, we identified an outstanding leader for our athletic program, an individual of uncompromising integrity, experience and accomplishment," Kopp said. "He brings to Marshall University a vision for athletics that we can all embrace and support. His proven experience and accomplishments unequivocally demonstrate his ability to translate vision into action that leads to success. I cannot emphasize enough the value that this individual brings to our university and community.

"An added, but by no means less important quality of this individual is that he is a proud and successful Son of Marshall."

Hamrick played football at Marshall University from 1976 to 1980, starting at linebacker and defensive end his last two years. After receiving his bachelor's degree in education from Marshall, he earned his master's in sports administration from Ohio University in 1981.

Prior to his position at UNLV, Hamrick was director of athletics at East Carolina University from 1995 to 2003. He also has been AD at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, assistant AD at Illinois State in Normal, Ill., and assistant AD at Kansas University in Lawrence, Kansas.

"It's great to be back home," Hamrick said. "I am thrilled to be rejoining the Marshall University family and plan to work hard to help advance the success of Thundering Herd athletics in all facets. I thank President Kopp for giving me this opportunity."

Hamrick is a native of Clendenin, W.Va., and a graduate of Herbert Hoover High School. He and his wife, Soletta, are the parents of three children – twin sons, Brett and Justin (21), and daughter, Mollie Ann (18). □

Dave Wellman is Director of Communications at Marshall.

Mike Hamrick, 51, was introduced as athletic director by President Stephen J. Kopp at a news conference. Hamrick will assume his duties in mid-August.

Football Preview 09

Article by Keith Morehouse

Photos by Randy Burnside, Rick Haye and Marilyn Testerman-Haye

Thundering Herd players and coaches agree that success this season can be measured by only two criteria: a winning record and a trip to a bowl game.

Expect to see junior Brian Anderson running the Thundering Herd offense in the fall. His goal? A trip to the Liberty Bowl.

It's early April and the theatre meeting room in the Shewey Building at the Joan C. Edwards Stadium is packed with Thundering Herd football players. There's a buzz in the air, indicating this gathering is something more than just a mundane film review session from an assistant coach.

In walks the 6-3, 225-pound quarterback of the Miami Dolphins, with that same measured confidence and command he brought to the huddle as the Marshall quarterback ten years ago. This place is called Edwards Stadium but it may as well have Chad Pennington's name on it. In four years at Marshall, Chad's teams were 28-2 on the field outside this building. Listen up? They should!

"You guys don't understand what we as players, former players, old hats like me, what we talk about," Pennington told the team. "When we're talking on the phone, we talk about how are our boys doing down there in Huntington, what's going on down there, how are they doing, how are they working?"

Classic Chad-speak! Engage the players, make them realize you're interested. Send them a message that the two-time NFL Comeback Player of the Year, the runner-up in the 2008 NFL MVP voting and his former teammates care about the Herd. So what if it's been 10 years ago?

Junior Linebacker Mario Harvey, #30, is nicknamed "Thumper" and leads a hard-hitting Marshall defense.

The new-look Marco hopes to lead Thundering Herd fans to a bowl game at the end of the season.

Head Coach Mark Snyder says this is the most optimistic he has been since coming to Marshall.

Junior Tight End Cody Slate, #85, was an Honorable Mention All-American last season and is a fan favorite in Huntington.

"You know, we always had a saying coming through college, tradition never graduates," Chad said in an interview prior to the speech. "Regardless of who comes through there and what's happened, that tradition, that pride, that winning style stays. That's just something as individual players you have to take upon yourself."

Chad Pennington's words resonated for a lot of players that day. It's a message senior John Jacobs wants to bring to this season every single game day.

"I believe I speak for my entire class on this one," Jacobs said. "I don't want my class to be remembered as the first in a very long time not to make it to the postseason at some point in our five years. We know it's time for us to go out and win and that is our goal every week."

And so goes the template for the 2009 football season at Marshall. It's Year Five of the Mark Snyder era and 16 wins versus 31 losses has been un-"Herd" of around Huntington, at least since the 1980s. But with 15 starters back, including what should be the best defense Marshall has fielded under Snyder, there is plenty of positive chatter in the Shewey Building.

"There's no question this is the most optimistic I've been since we got here," Snyder said. "We beat three bowl teams last year (Southern Miss, Houston, and Memphis) and hung tough with the conference champions on both sides (East Carolina and Tulsa)."

Even with a home slate that includes games against East Division heavyweights East Carolina and Southern Miss, the Thundering Herd's schedule is a bit more manageable than it has been in the Snyder era. Marshall's West Division opponents rotate from Houston and Tulsa last year (two bowl teams) to Tulane and SMU, teams that went a collective 3-21 a season ago. Big crowds and big challenges await Marshall on trips to Virginia Tech and West Virginia.

Of course Marshall has to figure out which horse to ride in the quarterback derby. Brian Anderson heads to the fall as the starter with Press Taylor, Jacob Laudenslayer, and Mark Cann falling in behind in no particular order.

"I think we'll be okay at quarterback," Snyder said. "If the other guys are going to make a move they better do it in the first week or week-and-a-half at camp (fall practice).

> "Herd fans from South Beach to Myrtle Beach to Beech Fork will be watching. For them, the time to win is now."

Official 2009 Thundering Herd Football Schedule

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
09/05/09	vs. Southern Illinois	Joan C. Edwards Stadium	TBA
09/12/09	at Virginia Tech	Blacksburg, Va.	1:30 p.m.
09/19/09	vs. Bowling Green	Joan C. Edwards Stadium	TBA
09/26/09	at Memphis *	Memphis, Tenn.	TBA
10/03/09	vs. East Carolina *	Joan C. Edwards Stadium	12:00 p.m.
10/10/09	at Tulane *	New Orleans, La.	3:30 p.m.
10/17/09	at West Virginia	Morgantown, W.Va.	TBA
10/24/09	vs. UAB *	Joan C. Edwards Stadium	TBA
11/01/09	at UCF *	Orlando, Fla.	8:15 p.m.
11/14/09	vs. Southern Miss *	Joan C. Edwards Stadium	TBA
11/21/09	vs. SMU *	Joan C. Edwards Stadium	4:30 p.m.
11/28/09	at UTEP *	El Paso, Texas	3:00 p.m.
12/05/09	Conference USA Championship		

* Conference game

Right: The Thundering Herd defense looked very impressive during spring and fall practice. If the 2009 team is to be successful, it will have to rely on a defense that many say is the best Marshall has fielded in years.

The single thing our quarterback can't do is turn it over down the stretch."

Anderson's aiming high with his goal-setting this year.

"A winning season and make it to the Liberty Bowl," the junior-to-be said. "Everyone on the team is working hard. We had the most turnout we have ever had for summer workouts and people are just pushing themselves to get better."

Chad would be happy to hear that. Because you don't generate chemistry on game day—it doesn't materialize like the smoke the players run through before kickoff. Mojo, swagger, bravado, whatever you want to call it, is forged through hours together on and off the playing field. It's that unmistakable, indelible will to win that Chad remembers at Marshall. And it's been missing for far too long.

"The biggest thing I took from it [the '99 team reunion at the spring Green-and-White game]," said Jacobs, "was the leadership and camaraderie that the 1999 team had. Listening to all of them, they spoke about great leadership from players and they solved their problems amongst themselves and were devoted to the football family and that was impressive. That's what I think we need to take from them - their example of leadership."

This fall will tell if the summer lecture series by Pennington and his teammates helped. Chad will be watching closely from his perch in Miami as the Dolphins quarterback. That means Herd fans from South Beach, to Myrtle Beach, to Beech Fork will be watching as well. For them, the time to win is now. □

Keith Morehouse is the Sports Director for WSAZ NewsChannel 3 in Huntington.

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Giving Back

Gifts to Marshall come in all shapes and sizes. Learn how everyday people are making a big impact with small donations.

Article by Molly McClennen
Photo by Rick Lee

Marshall's alumni are familiar with the names of the high-profile donors whose million-dollar contributions to the university build buildings and endow scholarships. Equally important to Marshall's success are donations that aren't displayed on signs and don't make newspaper headlines – the smaller, everyday donations made by members of the Marshall community. Through its Attainable Gifts Initiative, which promotes alumni giving, and Family Campaign, which promotes giving among faculty and staff, the Marshall University Foundation is educating its community about the big impact of small donations.

Despite Marshall's successful and devoted alumni base, the percentage of alumni who donate to Marshall is about 10 percent, a relatively low number. One explanation for this might be that alumni do not realize how important all donations, regardless of the size, are to the university when combined with similar gifts. For example, if every alumnus whom Marshall is able to contact were to contribute just one dollar a week for one year, it would amount to $3.5 million.

"Giving at any level makes a difference," says Rebecca McPhail-Samples, Marshall University's Assistant Vice President for Development. "Small gifts usually flow through the University Fund, and are used as discretionary resources for the university's greatest needs. They may be used for scholarships, buying books for the library, campus beautification, upgrading technology, or student activities. Those everyday gifts can make the difference between a good education and an excellent education, especially for a state-supported university."

The positive impact made by a contribution goes beyond what the money buys for Marshall. Any donation, even a donation of a few dollars, boosts Marshall's alumni

Contributors to the Attainable Gifts Initiative and Family Campaign include (from left) Barbara Hicks, Ronnie Hicks, Camilla Brammer and Barbara Winters.

giving rate. This rate is one factor used to determine Marshall's place in U.S. News and World Report's annual ranking of colleges and universities, a resource often used by prospective students in deciding which university they will attend. The percentage of alumni, faculty, and staff who donate to Marshall is also a factor used by corporations and foundations in determining which institutions to support with their charitable contributions.

"More and more, corporations and foundations are looking at internal giving as an indicator of the strength and growth potential of universities," says Samples. "And giving is used as a barometer of alumni satisfaction. Alumni contribute because they feel good about the education they've received, because they've been engaged, and because as grads they are doing well. We believe all those things are happening with our alumni. We just have to create a culture of giving."

Barbara Hicks is an example of someone whose gratitude for her experiences at Marshall compels her to give back. Hicks is a Marshall graduate, and is now working on her master's degree in technology management. She has worked for Marshall's Office of Academic Affairs for twenty years. Her husband, Ronnie Hicks, has also worked at Marshall since interning in its carpenter shop while in high school. The couple met at Marshall and married at the 20th Street Baptist Church in a ceremony open to the entire campus community. "We always joke that when we renew our vows, it will probably be on the treadmills in the new recreation center," says Barbara, referring to the building that now stands on the former church site.

Barbara began to contribute to Marshall because of a phone call she received from a Marshall student during the annual Marshall Link fund drive. During this fund drive, Marshall students call alumni to update them on their alma mater, to share experiences and stories, and to encourage them to support the positive things happening at Marshall by making a financial contribution. The student who called was undecided about her major, and Hicks offered her advice and encouragement, then said, "I'm going to donate just to help people like you, to give them that little bit of extra support they need."

Barbara and Ronnie continued to contribute regularly to Marshall, then were recruited to be staff spokespeople for the Family Campaign. In this role, they serve as ambassadors to the university community, promoting the importance of financial support from Marshall employees. It is a role they are happy to perform. Ronnie Hicks says, "It's our home here. We'd do anything to help Marshall. I believe all charitable contributions are worthwhile, but nothing helps the future of the state of West Virginia and the future of America more than education. Our young people are our future."

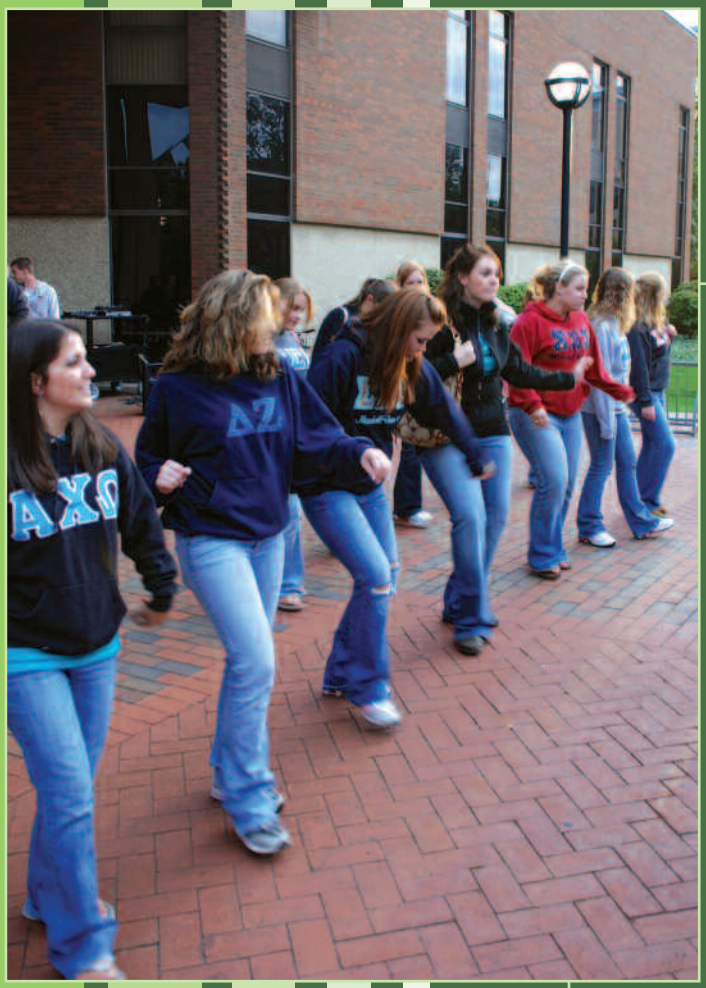
Samples says many faculty and staff cite similar reasons for supporting Marshall financially. "I think if you're in an office or classroom where you're involved in helping and working with students, you see the caliber of students we have, with 80 percent of our students being from right here in West Virginia. For some of them it's a financial struggle to get an education, and they may be the first in their family to do so. It compels you to want to give," she says.

Amy Whitehair, who graduated with her bachelor's in journalism in 1995, is an example of the young alumni whom Marshall hopes will receive its message about the importance of giving back to their alma mater. Whitehair says she gives out of gratitude to her professors and for the quality of education she received at Marshall. "The professors there really care that you learn. I look at giving as an investment in our future. We as alumni need to help support the university so it can continue to turn out good, professional graduates."

Even with many worthy charities and organizations competing for donations in today's tough economy, Amanda Means, a 2007 graduate who is now employed in Marshall's Office of Recruitment, says her time at Marshall as a student and as a staff member has helped her understand the importance of choosing Marshall to support. She says, "I want to see a world that makes education available to people that normally would not consider it... I feel alumni should donate to Marshall for the same reason they donate to other organizations: to improve the world by improving circumstances for people, because a donation to education could improve a person's circumstances for a lifetime."

Alumni and employees who want to make a financial donation to Marshall can do so online at www.marshalluniversityfoundation.com or by calling 1-800-682-5869. Samples says, "I would ask alumni to consider what Marshall has given to them, not only the obvious, tangible things, like the education necessary to develop a career, but the lasting friendships and relationships that they built while here. Even beyond the education, Marshall is life-changing." □

Molly McClennen is a freelance writer living in Huntington.



(Clockwise from top left) Marshall has 22 national fraternities and sororities from which to choose. Students enjoy a trip in scenic West Virginia. Hip-hop artist Bobby V. is one of numerous acts that Marshall brings to campus to keep students entertained. More than 13,000 students attended events sponsored by the Student Activities Programming Board.

Article by Marla Brannan

Photos courtesy of Marshall University

Simply Outstanding

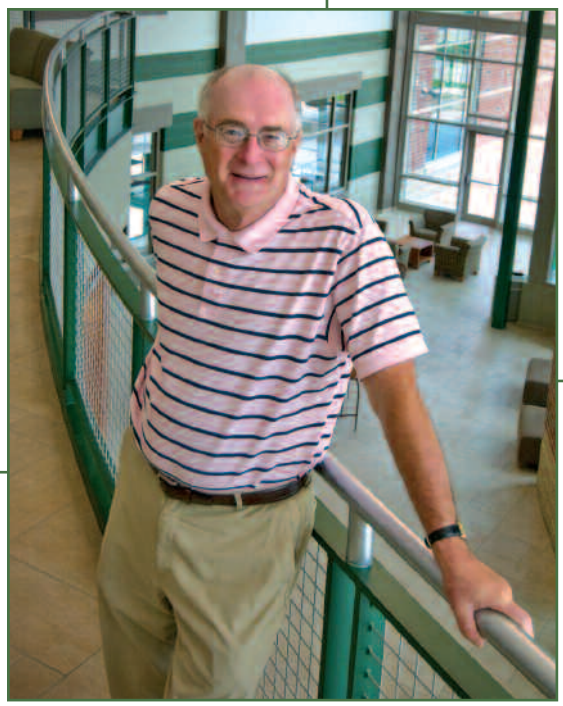
Last year Marshall was named second in the nation for outstanding programming by the National Association of College Activities. That means when it comes to student activities both on and off campus, the university is simply one of the best.

Question: What do the Human Race Machine, Thunder Bowling, Bobby V. and Wii are Marshall Raffle for the United Way have in common? Answer: They are a few of the sixty-seven events sponsored last year by Marshall University's Student Activities Programing Board.

These events were attended by more than 13,000 students this past year, an intentional attempt to get kids out of their dorm rooms, away from computers and cell phones, and into social relationships and practical learning experiences.

The idea is to coordinate what is learned in the classroom with what is learned outside the classroom. The bulk of what happens outside the classroom for the rest of life has to do with human interaction, Steve Hensley, Marshall's Dean of Student Affairs, explains. "You know it probably says a lot about me as a scholar," he says with a smile, "but when I look back at college I can remember a lot more about what happened outside class than inside. Those outside things where I tried to get something done and motivate people, some who didn't want to do it—those processes are valuable lessons in how to achieve things once you leave college. The other thing that I note, if you go into a student's room you'll find a computer, cell phone, bathroom in the room, cable. You can cocoon yourself as a student, never go out ... never develop friendships, 'enemyships' and all those things that need human involvement."

PHOTO BY RICK LEE



Steve Hensley, Dean of Student Affairs, stands in the new Marshall Recreation Center where many activities are offered. Hensley believes that student activities should complement what is learned in the classroom and assist students in understanding the importance of human interaction.

"I understand being part of an online community," agrees Andy Hermansdorfer, Director of Student Activities and Greek Affairs. "I understand the need and the satisfaction, but I believe the one-on-one interaction of being face to face is irreplaceable. An IM can't hug you when you fail. Yahoo! Groups can't shake your hand or physically smile and make you smile back."

So the Student Activities Programming Board offers antidotes to that: student organizations, fun or educational activities, 22 fraternities and sororities, volunteer opportunities, trips to ball games or Bridge Day or Europe—and those are in addition to all the practical aspects of student life covered by the office of the Dean of Students.

There are 200 student organizations at Marshall—more than 150 of them are active—and they run the gamut from religious organizations of every stripe to a herpetology club, from honoraries to the role-playing group Emerald Glade of Blackfire Valley. Whatever it is that a student is interested in, there's probably an organization for him or her. On the off chance there isn't, students are encouraged to start one.

This broad approach applies to activities programming as well—and Marshall's success in this area has been honored. Last year the university took second place for outstanding programming from the National Association of College Activities (NACA). Says Hensley, "Because we program intentionally to reach as many students as possible, we'll do unusual things ... host speakers on topics of interest like the risks and rewards of Facebook, money matters and leadership ... take students to Bridge Day or a fly fishing exhibition. We try to program for as wide a variety of people as we can imagine."

And, of course, there are concerts. "When I was a student, musical tastes were more homogeneous," Hensley says. "Today tastes are so discrete there are very few bands that cut across everybody. So we try to rotate across different tastes, like having the hip-hop artist Bobby V. in this year."

Those responsible for coming up with new and exciting ideas are actually the students themselves. The Student Activities Programming Board (SAPB) is open to all MU students and generally draws 30-50 of them to their Thursday brainstorming meetings. The Executive Board of 6 to 8 students culls through the ideas with Hermansdorfer present and having a final say.

Tiffany Clark, a second-year graduate student in School Counseling, acts as the Board's graduate advisor and is a former SAPB president. "I get all the details together, the forms that need to be signed, and I tweak ideas and do conflict resolution. One of the best-attended activities SAPB has come up with is Thunder Bowl Thursdays at Colonial Lanes—300 kids usually come out for that."

If a student wants to rush a fraternity or sorority, Marshall has 22 national groups from which to choose. The process has changed dramatically over the years. At one time, houses recruited solely during rush week. Now, a recruit can fill out forms online, with the possibility of joining Greek life anytime during the year. Hermansdorfer

Members of the Student Activities Programming Board raised more than $1,000.00 for the United Way with their "Wii Are Marshall" raffle.

> "I believe the one-on-one interaction of being face to face is irreplaceable. An IM can't hug you when you fail."
>
> – Andy Hermansdorfer
> Director of Student Activities

lauds the Greek program at Marshall. "When I was a consultant, I visited 26 other universities—and we have a good Greek system here. There are minor mistakes, but no major incidents."

Another important aspect of the Student Activities program is opportunities to volunteer. "Volunteering might get a bad rap because it is sometimes used as discipline," Hensley clarifies, "but kids learn how fortunate they are. I tell students they have an excellent deal here, good food, safe environment. It's good to give back because you learn civic engagement, and we feel that is very important."

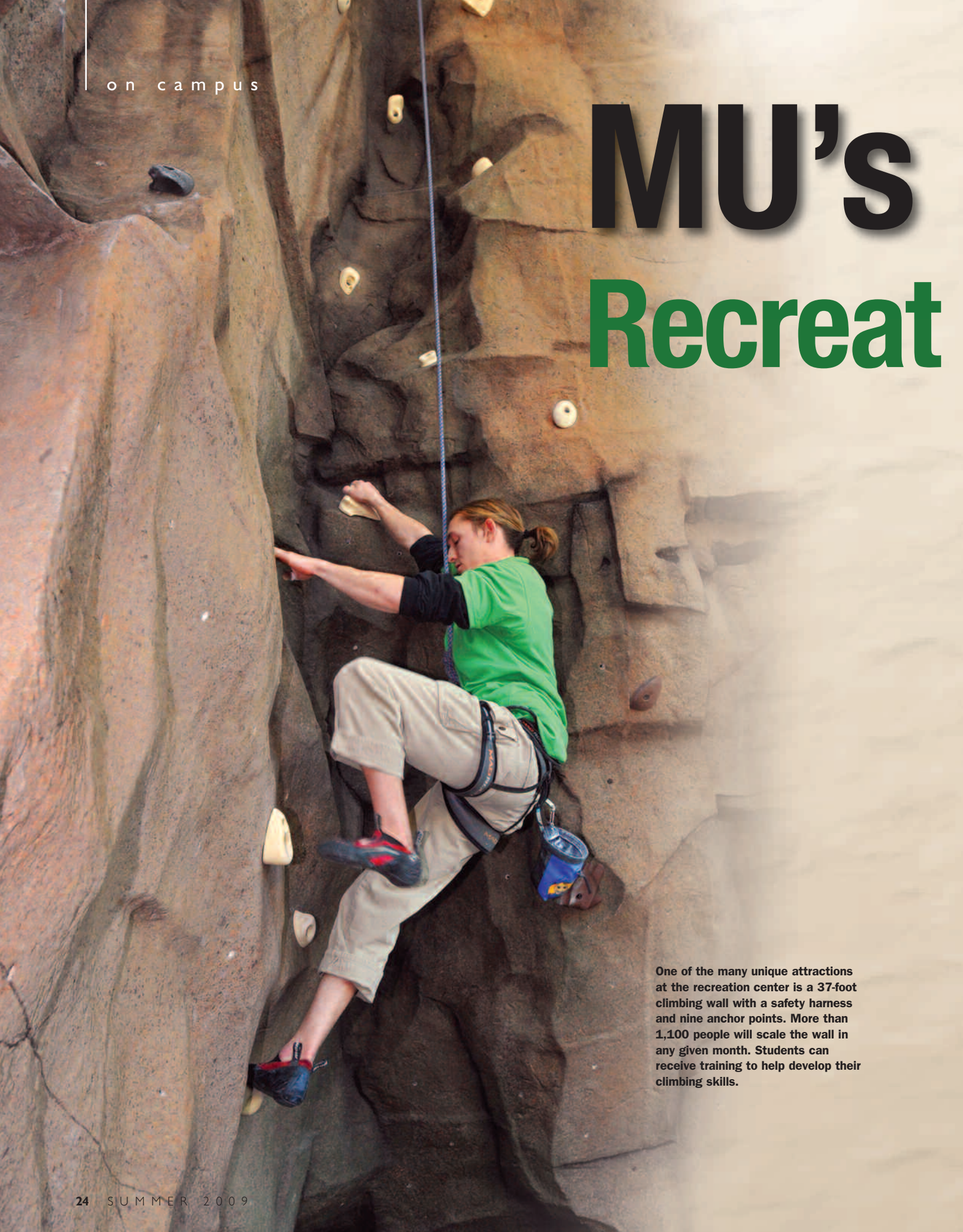
Getting the word out about what's going on around campus and what resources are available is a big challenge. UNI 101, a required freshman course, explains the practical aspects of what's offered by the Dean of Student Affairs' office, so a student should know where to get an excused absence, for instance. But the days of hanging a poster on a corkboard in a residence hall as the sole means of communication are over.

"The ways we communicate have really changed," Hermansdorfer offers. "Now it's mostly Internet based, though we still try to make it personal. We use Facebook frequently, both groups and events, and we had a computer program this past year where kids could sign up to receive texts about events. Honestly, though, it's still a lot about word of mouth."

"In the end," Hensley declares, "the most important thing we offer students is the opportunity for involvement." □

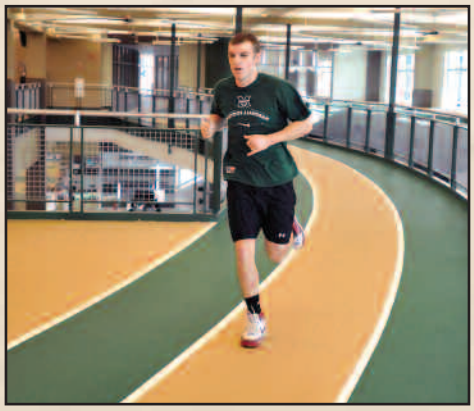
Marla Brannan is a freelance writer living in Huntington.

MU's Recreat



One of the many unique attractions at the recreation center is a 37-foot climbing wall with a safety harness and nine anchor points. More than 1,100 people will scale the wall in any given month. Students can receive training to help develop their climbing skills.

World-Class ion Center



The university's brand new 123,000-square-foot center will be the hub of all things "fit and fun" on campus

Mega! That's what the "M" located in front of the Marshall Recreation Center at the Fifth Avenue and 20th Street intersection should stand for.

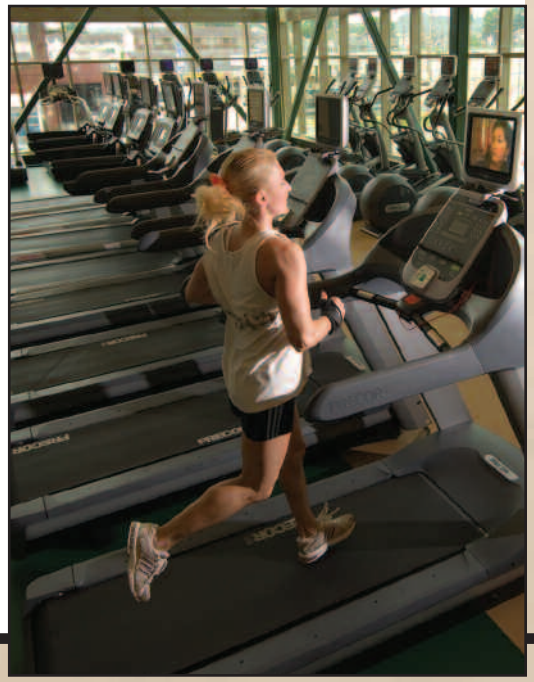
"Awesome is the word," says Sharon Stanton, Associate Director of Programs and Membership Services at the center. "This is a first-class, beautiful building with a lot of amenities. It was worth the wait to make sure we were doing it right."

She says the previous facilities at Gullickson Hall simply did not allow for the amount of activity now experienced at the new facility. The university's rec center opened its doors in February to students, faculty, staff and community members. The 123,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility is home to swimming pools, racquetball, basketball and volleyball courts, and weightlifting equipment, as well as top-notch spinning cycles and treadmills. Basketballs, racquetball racquets and other related equipment are available at the center and can be checked out to participants without any additional fees.

Article by Randy Snyder
Photos by Rick Haye & Rick Lee

"The center will be based on the principles of Fun, Fit, Friends and Forever. Access to opportunities to become fit earlier in life will give students greater chances of avoiding health-related diseases as they grow older."

– David Stewart,
Recreation Center director



Amenities with the step machines, treadmills and elliptical machines include a USB port that allows for playing and recharging iPods and other MP3 players and the ability to control devices from a personal HDTV monitor connected to the machine. The monitor can also be tuned into a host of television and music channels.

A highlighted attraction is the 37-foot climbing wall with nine belays or anchor points. An average of 1,100 people per month have scaled the structure. Students can receive training to help develop their skills to handle greater difficulty levels.

"We see smiling faces all of the time," says recreation center director David Stewart. "This is the focal point and everyone wants to come here. This is aimed at recruiting and the retention of students. This adds to the university."

In addition, Stewart says the center will be based on the principles of Fun, Fit, Friends and Forever. He says access to opportunities to become fit earlier in life will give students greater chances of avoiding health-related diseases as they grow older.

For Stanton the goal is to make the recreation center the "hub" of all things on the Huntington campus. Starting with the initial university orientation tours, all students will be encouraged to become involved in the various activities, whether they choose intramural sports, weightlifting or simply meeting new people and having fun. Students who are not already part of a club or part of an existing team can still sign up for intramurals as "free agents" and will be paired with a team.

Personnel will be on hand to show how to properly use

Opposite Page, clockwise from top left: The Aquatics Center features three lap lanes, a leisure pool, vortex pool and a 20-person spa, and men's and women's locker rooms. Dave Stewart, Recreation Center Director, is pictured here on the Climbing Wall with some of his dedicated staff. The fitness equipment is state-of-the-art and includes LCD televisions. The recreation center includes four group exercise rooms; a 3-lane, 1/7th-mile running track; massage area; fitness assessment room; juice bar; lounge areas and staff offices. Above: The 123,000 square-foot facility is considered to be one of the finest in the nation.

The recreation center contains wood gym courts for basketball, volleyball, badminton, pickle ball and dodge ball, as well as free weights, and a fenced area for sunning and relaxing. The entire facility is accessible for persons with disabilities.

Find out more online at:

www.marshallcampusrec.com

the equipment and instructors will offer a wide variety of fitness classes: yoga, spinning, cardio kick, body sculpting, and others. Also, personal trainers are available at $20 for a single session up to $160 for 10 sessions.

Associate Director of Facilities Andy Darling says careful consideration was given to competing against other fitness facilities in the area such as the Huntington YMCA "There was a deliberate collaborative effort by the administration to serve our student community and not compete against the 'Y.' Approximately 10-20% of the YMCA's membership were Marshall students. We're trying to bring them back and be a part of the campus community."

"This isn't just for students," says Stewart. "We have faculty playing sports together where we wouldn't have had the opportunity to meet members from other parts of the university.

"This is the third university I have worked at opening a new facility. This is one of the best in the country."

Stewart says the challenge is to maintain the "newness." The center will need to stay current with fitness trends and not be stagnant if it is going to be a successful tool to reach the students. Beginning in the fall, a new 80-yard outdoor mini-football/soccer field covered with FieldTurf will allow for additional intramural and individual activities.

Sharon Stanton says those interested in what is happening at the recreation center should visit the Web site at www.marshallcampusrec.com. □

Randy Snyder is a freelance writer living in Huntington.

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COMMENCEMENT 2009:

FEATURING GUEST SPEAKER

CHAD PENNINGTON

The NFL's Comeback Player of the Year returns to his alma mater to deliver an inspiring keynote address and receive a Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

Article by Jessica Farner
Photos by Rick Haye

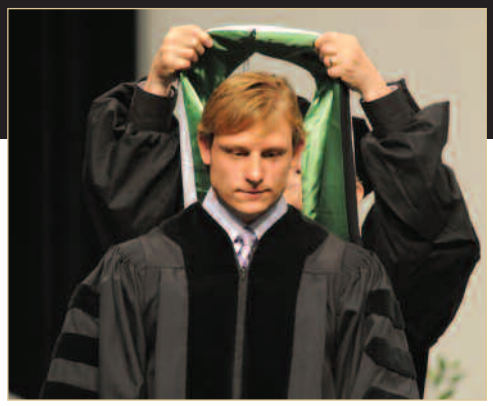
A self-proclaimed "Son of Marshall," Chad Pennington returned to his alma mater to deliver the keynote address and to receive a Doctor of Humane Letters degree at Marshall University's 172nd Commencement Saturday, May 9.

Pennington's on-the-field accomplishments, both at Marshall and in the National Football League, are well documented. However, it is his contributions to society, not only in the Marshall community but nationally, that many believe will be his legacy long after his playing days are over.

According to President Stephen J. Kopp, Pennington was asked to return to deliver the keynote address because of his contributions as an outstanding honors student while attending Marshall, his tremendous success as a student and professional athlete and his loyalty to his alma mater. "Chad is as committed today as he was as a student at Marshall to excelling in all that he does," Kopp said. "The personal and professional standards he lives by serve as a model for all of us. His achievements in every facet of his life, whether as a father or as a professional athlete, have been remarkable.

"Chad has overcome significant personal hardships along the way but has never lost sight of his commitment to helping others," Kopp said. "He takes great pride in making the world a better place through his volunteer and charitable works. We at Marshall are very proud of Chad and were truly honored to have him address the 2009 graduates of Marshall."

Referring to the invitation to deliver the keynote commencement address as a "once in a lifetime opportunity," Pennington spoke at length about success and attributed



much of his to the Marshall community. "I am a product of you; it is because of you that I have become the man I am today."

Paraphrasing legendary basketball coach John Wooden and author John C. Maxwell, Pennington defined success as "the peace of mind that comes as a direct result of knowing you did your best to become the best you are capable of becoming.

"Success is knowing your purpose in life, growing to reach your maximum potential and sowing seeds to benefit others," Pennington said. "It is a journey, not a destination; it is a process. You are the only one who truly knows if you've given everything you have, and you know who you are and who you are not."

"I AM A PRODUCT OF YOU; IT IS BECAUSE OF YOU THAT I HAVE BECOME THE MAN I AM TODAY."

This self-awareness sustained Pennington as the New York Jets released him in August 2008. "It was a bittersweet experience when I was replaced in New York," Pennington said. "But, the situation enabled me to take a step back and to examine who I am as a quarterback and as a person. It is important to embrace failure – not to accept it, but to embrace it. Failure is taboo in our society, and we have been conditioned to avoid it, but by embracing our mistakes, we can transform them into learning tools."

Pennington also utilized his keynote address to highlight the importance of service. "Success is a two-way street," Pennington said. "It is not self serving but rather is more rewarding when shared.

"My father started a camp for quarterbacks and receivers in 1991 at the Webb School in Knoxville, Tenn. I grew up attending the camp, coached as a college athlete and now run the camp as a professional athlete. It is extremely gratifying to share the advice I have been given by my heroes, including Herman Edwards, Curtis Martin, Bobby Pruett and Vinny Testaverde, and to watch young players progress in only three days."

Pennington graduated from Marshall in December 1999 with high honors and a degree in journalism. He also was a finalist for the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship as well as a two-time first-team Academic All-American, and he received an award as the top scholar athlete in college football.

Pennington, now the starting quarterback for the Miami Dolphins, was drafted by the New York Jets 18th overall in the 2000 NFL Draft. He has garnered the NFL Comeback Player of the Year Award twice, in 2006 and 2008, and in 2008 he finished second in MVP voting behind Peyton Manning. Pennington also is the NFL's all-time leader in career completion percentage with a 66 percent rating.

In 2001, Pennington married his college sweetheart, Robin; together, they have three sons, Cole, Luke and Gage. The couple established the First and Ten Foundation in 2003 with a mission to build stronger communities by funding programs and institutions that seek to improve the quality of life throughout West Virginia, Tennessee and the Miami and New York metropolitan areas. Since its inception, the foundation has given gifts exceeding half a million dollars to various organizations. □

Jessica Farner is a freelance writer and graduate of Marshall University's W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications. She lives in Logan, WV.

An impressive career based on a love for Huntington

Brent Marsteller

"You Can't Go Home Again," writer Thomas Wolfe famously warned in his classic novel of that name.

But Brent Marsteller has proved Wolfe wrong. Born and raised in Huntington, Marsteller spent more than a decade in Florida before successfully returning home in 2000 to take charge at Cabell Huntington Hospital.

With Marsteller as president and CEO, Cabell Huntington has experienced an era of unprecedented growth and expansion. The Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center was built to provide the region's residents with quality cancer care close to home. And the hospital's five-story, $85 million North Patient Tower, completed in 2007, ranks as the largest building project in the city's history.

Marsteller graduated from Huntington High and went on to earn a degree in business administration at Marshall University. While at Marshall, he met his wife, Sharon, a fellow student from St. Albans. The two were married in

Article by James E. Casto

Photo by Rick Lee

1969 and graduated together. After graduation, he went to work at Ashland Oil as an internal auditor, doing accounting work.

But talking with friends who were in medical school convinced Marsteller that his future career lay in hospital administration.

Enrolling at the Medical College of Virginia, Marsteller earned his master's in hospital administration in 1974 and took a job as assistant administrator at Camden-Clark Memorial Hospital in Parkersburg. The following year he served as administrator at Peterson Hospital, a branch of Ohio Valley Medical Center, in Wheeling.

"A year later," he says, "I was offered a CEO position at Martins Ferry Hospital, across the Ohio River from Wheeling. It was a great hospital. We changed the name to East Ohio Regional Hospital, added new facilities and built a major addition."

In 1987, Marsteller was offered the job of CEO of Sun Coast Hospital, in Largo, Florida — a position he held for six years. He then became senior vice president and chief operating officer of Good Samaritan Health Systems, in West Palm Beach, where he served until 1995.

Marsteller then returned to the Mountain State, serving as CEO of Raleigh General Hospital in Beckley. There he planned and implemented new services including a skilled nursing staff, a home health agency, quick emergency services, inpatient dialysis and a trauma program.

In 1998, Marsteller moved back to Florida to be CEO of Gulf Coast Medical Center in Panama City. While he was at the helm, inpatient admissions increased by more than 8 percent, patient satisfaction scores improved and the facility was named one of the nation's Top 100 Hospitals, as ranked by experts in the health care industry.

Yet, despite his success in Panama City, Marsteller welcomed the opportunity to return to his roots in Huntington.

"I love Huntington. It feels like home, it is home," he says. "West Virginia has always had a special appeal to us. It's always been a great place to live. We love the mountains and the foliage. The springs and summers are beautiful."

Since it welcomed its first patients in 1956, Cabell Huntington Hospital has had close ties with the community it serves, and Marsteller has worked hard to maintain and strengthen that bond. A good example is his service on the Marshall Board of Governors. Originally named to the board by then-Gov. Bob Wise in 2003, he was reappointed to a second four-year term by Gov. Joe Manchin in 2007.

In addition, he is currently chairman of the Huntington Area Development Council (HADCO), chairman of the West Virginia Hospital Association board of trustees and a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives, where he has achieved the rank of FACHE (Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives). He has lectured at the University of Florida, the Medical College of Virginia, George Washington University and Xavier University.

"My service on the Marshall University Board of Governors is important to me because, for my entire life, I have had a great love for Marshall University and the Huntington area. I grew up in Huntington and graduated from Marshall. They both are a big part of who I am. My work with the Board of Governors is also very rewarding because I am privileged to be able to collaborate with an immensely talented group of individuals who are equally committed to the best interests of Marshall University and Huntington. I feel very good about the work we are doing and the direction we are heading under the leadership of Dr. Kopp."

"My service on the Marshall University Board of Governors is important to me because, for my entire life, I have had a great love for Marshall University and the Huntington area. I feel very good about the work we are doing and the direction we are heading under the leadership of Dr. Kopp."

Brent and Sharon Marsteller are celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary this year. They have three children – Ryan, Shelley and Brandon. Shelley and her husband, Brad, have two daughters. Ryan and his wife, Amy, have a son. □

James E. Casto was a reporter and editor at *The Herald-Dispatch* for more than 40 years before his retirement in 2004. He is the author of a number of books on local history.

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a message from
Nancy E. Campbell
MUAA National President
Class of 1979

First of all, I would like to thank our outgoing Alumni Association board of directors, not to mention the Alumni Relations staff, for doing a marvelous job during a year of strict budget cuts. In spite of reduced funding, we saw well-attended and successful Homecoming and Alumni Weekend events, growth among our new and established alumni clubs, new marketing programs and increased participation by our alumni.

Our new board brings us new faces and new ideas. I look forward to working with them this next year as we open the new Erickson Alumni Center and have the opportunity to plan great events for the Marshall community.

Another challenge we are facing as a board, especially me – is technology! The MUAA staff is trying to bring me up to date with all of the new ways to communicate. I do know how to e-mail but I admit I am still a telephone person. I have a Blackberry and I know how to text. I even have accounts on Facebook and MySpace. This next year I plan to become even more Internet literate!

The Alumni Association has a Facebook account and even a Twitter page. Don't forget to connect and see what is going on. Give us your input – we want to hear from you. You can reach them from www.marshall.edu/alumni/. These sites present a great way to keep the Marshall connection going.

I challenge everyone reading this article to "friend" me on Facebook and My Space. Right now, my Facebook icon on my Blackberry is showing nine "friends." How many more of you are out there? Let's see how big our Marshall community can be.

See you somewhere in the Internet.

Nancy E Campbell

Alumni Relations Staff

Tish Littlehales, Director of Alumni Relations
Nancy Pelphrey, Coordinator of Alumni Programs
Jenny Drastura, Alumni Editor/Web Administrator
Jonathan Sutton, Accountant
Daniel Van Dyke, Graduate Assistant
Max Billmyer, Graduate Assistant

Saying goodbye to a beloved friend

Ms. Janis Winkfield

The Marshall University Alumni Association mourns the loss of board member and friend, Janis Winkfield, who died May 19, 2009. Janis, a graduate of Marshall University (RBA'91, EdS'00), was employed by Marshall as a senior financial aid counselor. She was vice president of Black Alumni Inc., and was to assume the position of second vice president of the Alumni Association board of directors on July 1. She will be missed by her family, friends and co-workers, and by the myriad of students she has helped throughout her years at Marshall University.

HOMECOMING 2009

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY

Class of 1984 25th Class Reunion and Class of 2004 5th Reunion

Saturday, October 3, 2009 • Noon Kick Off

Thundering Herd
vs.
The East Carolina Pirates

Event Highlights:

Thursday, October 1

7 p.m. - Homecoming Parade, Big Sandy Superstore Arena, Free Event

Friday, October 2

6 a.m.-10 a.m. - Coaches Breakfast, Erickson Alumni Center, Free Event

7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. - Joint Black Alumni Inc. and MUAA Reception, The Marshall CTC Culinary Institute, $20 per person

8 p.m. - Homecoming entertainment with Mike Birbiglia, Veterans Memorial Field House, $22 per person, tickets available September 8

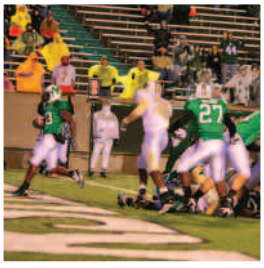
Saturday, October 3

10 a.m. - Brunch under the tent tailgate, Cam Henderson Center Plaza, $15 per person

Noon - MU vs. ECU, Joan C. Edwards Stadium, $15 limited group seating or visit Herdzone.com

6 p.m.-11 p.m. - Post Game Party: Boogie Fever, Mac-Reedo's Pub, $20 per person in advance, $25 at the door

Return your reservation today using the form below. For more information call (304) 696-2901 or (800) 682-5869. Visit www.marshall.edu/alumni/homecoming2009.htm for a complete schedule of events.



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Address_____ City_____

State_____ Zip_____ Daytime Telephone ( )_____

Evening Telephone ( ) _____ Your Guest_____

Guest's MU Class Year_____ E-mail_____

Please make checks payable and mail this form to: The Marshall University Alumni Association • Erickson Alumni Center • One John Marshall Drive • Huntington, WV 25755-6200

☐ Joint Black Alumni Inc. and MUAA Reception - $20 ☐ Mike Birbiglia - $22

☐ Brunch under the tent tailgate - $15 ☐ MU vs. ECU game - $15 ☐ Post Game Party - $20

I wish to charge my order to: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard Card Number: _____

Expiration Date_____ Signature_____

Alumni Weekend

"Bridging the Past with the Future"

(1) Sen. Robert Plymale ('78), James Gibson ('62) and Jennifer Plymale ('92). (2) Members of the Atlanta, Georgia Alumni Club, recipients of the 2009 Club of the Year Award. (3) Members of the Class of 1959 at the Alumni Weekend Luncheon. (4) Richard Jackson ('59), keynote speaker at the reunion luncheon, with MUAA Board President Nancy E. Campbell ('79). Opposite page: (1) Helen Chambers Hensley ('35). While a student, Hensley was the model for one of the murals, *Alma Mater*, in the James E. Morrow Library. (2) 2009 Award winners following the 72nd Annual Awards Banquet. (3) Reunion of the championship 1999 Thundering Herd football team.

2009

April 24-25

1

2

3

Results of 2009-2012 Board Election

The members of the new board of directors for the Marshall University Alumni Association began their duties effective July 1, 2009, and will serve a term of three years. Ten new members have been elected, including five from the local community and five at-large.

Elected to the **presidency** for her third term is **Ms. Nancy E. Campbell** '79.

Other officers are:
Immediate Past President: Mrs. Sharon W. Porter '75

First Vice President: Mr. Theodore "Teddy" Kleumper III '02, '05

Second Vice President: Mr. William "Mickey" Jackson '68

Secretary: Mr. Ronald G. Gadzick '95

Treasurer: Mrs. Frances M. Case '75

Executive Committee
Dr. C. Blaine Carpenter '66
Mr. Homer K. Preece '72, '80, '00
Mr. William "Mickey" Jackson '68
Mrs. Rebecca S. Morris '77, '79

Board Members
Kristen Lea Butcher Calder '95
Mr. Ryan J. Flanigan '97, '99
Jill I. Powell Francisco '94
Mr. Theodore "Teddy" Kleumper III '02, '05
Mr. Thomas S. McChesney '87
Mr. Robert L. "Bob" Osborne '76
Kellie R. Pelphrey '06
Deborah E. Prestera '71
Constance "Connie" Lee Reed '78
Christine "Cris" Rawson Young

Marshall Memory

(continued from page 48)

would frown. "The boys now, they're much wilder than you were, keep me too young to retire," she'd always say, and then fib about her age, frozen at 70 for about a decade.

And if Mom's age wasn't going to change, neither was anything else. Not if she could help it.

The first party of the year would be Stone Age Stumble, for that was tradition. She'd don her well-worn leopard skin cavewoman costume and make her appearance at the party to show the rushes just how "with it" the old lady really was.

She liked to ring the bell for dinner every night and retire to her parlor, waiting for the president to escort her between the two lines of boys waiting outside the dining room. That, too, was tradition.

She liked homecomings and chrysanthemum corsages, and Christmas trees and her boys caroling while she banged out a melody on the old upright.

She liked girls in evening gowns and her boys smartly dressed in suits or tuxes, wearing their fraternity pins just so, with the right side of the triangle parallel to the sternum.

Though she loved things traditional, she wasn't inflexible. In those days, she couldn't be. The seventies were dawning, and whether we liked it or not, things were changing. Like a sudden summer thunderstorm, the days of in loco parentis ended. The university no longer controlled what fraternities and sororities did in their private houses. We didn't need chaperones. The housemother didn't have to be there. In fact, we didn't even have to have a housemother.

I dutifully told Mom, and she frowned. "Well, we'll just keep things as they are, won't we?" she said affirmatively, and I nodded that I reckoned we would.

For Mom, there had always been campus rules and house rules and her rules. The others might change, but hers didn't. Looking back, I think she set the tone for the whole fraternity. We had something special; we had Mom and we had each other, and somehow we always knew it.

I suppose time is the enduring test. I know those four years in the TKE house were among the best I'll ever see. And, if today, 10 years after graduation, I had to pick my 10 best friends, half of them would have been made right there under Mom's nose.

She set the tone of love that was contagious. She sewed our socks and she ironed our pants; she fixed us iced tea and served us coffee and cookies at midnight during finals week; she comforted us when we broke up with our girlfriends, and acted proud of us, even after we had made such fools of ourselves singing off-key during Mother's Day Sing.

I don't suppose the place has been the same since she retired around 1975. But she is. A couple of years ago, she came to visit me in Fort Lauderdale. She looked as spry as ever. Last Christmas I got the annual card with a long note attached. As far as I know, Mom is still kicking up her heels, missing the smell of bacon on those special Saturday mornings and thinking fondly of her boys.

Regardless, Mom will live forever. At least for us boys who were lucky enough to call her Mom. □

To read this story in its entirety, please go to www.marshall.edu/alumni/mmwilson.asp.

This memory was submitted by John Wilson's life partner, Richard Poirier, of Las Vegas. He found the story among Wilson's personal papers after his death at age 57. Wilson, a member of the School of Journalism Hall of Fame, was the science editor for The New York Times. Poirier established a scholarship in Wilson's name after his death.

Submit a Nomination for the 2010 Alumni Awards

Deadline is October 23, 2009

The Alumni Association proudly recognizes achievements of distinguished alumni, friends and students by presenting awards at its annual Alumni Weekend Banquet. Past honorees have included outstanding educators, successful business people, prominent scientists, sports and entertainment personalities and ordinary people with extraordinary devotion to Marshall.

The Awards Committee makes its decision based on nominations received **on or before October 23, 2009**. Nominations received after that date will be considered for 2011.

CATEGORIES:

Distinguished Alumnus/Alumna — Given to Marshall alumni for outstanding national achievements in their particular fields of endeavor.

Alumnus/Alumna Community Achievement — Given to alumni for success in their particular fields of endeavor and personal contribution to their respective communities. (A Marshall alumnus/alumna is any former student who has received academic credit at Marshall University and whose class has graduated).

Distinguished Service — Given for loyal and unselfish service to Marshall. This award is *NOT* limited to Marshall alumni.

The Young Alumni Award — Presented to an alum who is 35 years old or younger; an active member of the Alumni Association; shows outstanding achievement in their field of endeavor; has a personal commitment to his or her community; and demonstrates service to the Marshall University and its students. This award is not open to members of the MUAA board.

The Dr. Carolyn B. Hunter Faculty Service Award — established to recognize contributions and to provide incentives for continued service from faculty to the community, the university and students in their respective fields.

For a list of past award winners, go to www.marshall.edu/alumni/nominate.asp.

If you would like to submit the name of an individual you believe is qualified as a nominee for one of the awards, please complete this form. It must be received in our office by the above date. The Awards Committee will review the qualifications of nominees and select the recipients.

Award winners will be asked to submit a number of photos for a video presentation during the Awards Banquet. Please make sure the nominee would be willing to submit these photos within two weeks after notification of having won the award. He/she must be able to attend the Alumni Awards Banquet, date to be announced.

Please include the following to support your nomination in order to provide the selection committee with as much information as possible.

An explanation of how your candidate fulfills the criteria for the award category for which he/she has been nominated;

1. The nominees' vita/résumé, including career highlights, volunteerism, honors and awards, community service, professional organizations, publications, etc.;
2. Letters of nomination detailing personal knowledge of the candidate and his/her personal and professional achievements; and
3. Other supporting documentation, such as copies of magazine and newspaper articles.

I hereby nominate the following person for _____

Name_____

Address_____

Phone _____ Business/Occupation_____

E-mail _____

My name_____

My address_____

My phone_____

My e-mail_____

Please send with the above documentation to:

Alumni Awards Nominations
Marshall University Alumni Association
One John Marshall Drive
Huntington, WV 25755-6200

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Help spread Marshall's name along the highways and byways of your state and across the nation!

In addition to our Marshall license plates for the state of West Virginia, we have plates available in Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

In West Virginia, the price of the plate ranges tentatively from $50.50 to $75 (and renewal at $45 annually) depending on when your current license plate expires. The plate numbers range from 1001 to 9999.

In Maryland and Pennsylvania plate numbers are issued consecutively beginning with 0001.

Pennsylvania plates cost $54.50 while Maryland plates cost $55.

***We are pleased to announce* that $30 of the initial amount is a 100 percent tax deductible donation that will be used to fund programs sponsored by the Marshall University Alumni Association.**

To request an application and select your number for West Virginia, Pennsylvania or Maryland, call Jonathan Sutton at (304) 696-2901 or (800) 682-5869, or send an e-mail with your name and complete mailing address to sutton11@marshall.edu.

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

The Marshall GO *HERD* plate issued by the West Virginia DMV (see photo) may be purchased through the Office of Alumni Relations. The cost of the plate is $25.

1934-1935 at Marshall

This picture was taken at the steps on the east side of Old Main. A stamp on the back says "1934-1935 Collegiate Digest." Second from left with his head turned is George Carlton Edmonds, Class of 1935. Can you identify any of the other students? If so, please let us know by e-mailing alumni@marshall.edu. *Photo submitted by D. Terry Edmonds, CSI, of Apex, N.C.*

flashback

Save the Dates!

- Friday, September 11 – **Thunder in the Mountain Weekend**. Joint street party with Virginia Tech in conjunction with the Thundering Herd vs. Hokies game in Blacksburg. Golf, shopping, spa and more
- Friday & Saturday, September 25-26 – **La Fiesta Weekend**. Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine Homecoming activities in conjunction with the Thundering Herd vs. Bowling Green game.
- Saturday, September 26 – **Memphis Tailgate**. Thundering Herd vs. University of Memphis Tigers, in Memphis. Experience the birthplace of Rock and Roll and cheer on the Herd.
- Saturday, October 3 – **Homecoming**. Thundering Herd vs. the East Carolina Pirates. Kickoff at noon. Homecoming Concert with comedian Mike Birbiglia. Plus, the **Class of 1984 – 25th Class Reunion** and the **Class of 2004 – 5th Reunion**.
- Saturday, October 17 – **Tailgate party – Thundering Herd vs. the West Virginia Mountaineers** in Morgantown. New location, details to follow.
- November 2 - November 6 – **Herd Fan Cruise**. Cruise following the Thundering Herd vs. University of Central Florida Game on Sunday, November 1.
- April 23 - 24, 2010 – **Alumni Weekend**, including Green and White Game.

Check for other events at www.marshall.edu/alumni/

Marketplace and Affinity Partners

By supporting our Marketplace and Affinity Partners, you will help generate additional revenue to support the programming and operations of the Marshall University Alumni Association. For more information and to apply, please go to our web site at www.marshall.edu/alumni/marketplace.asp.

The Bank of America® Credit Card with Worldpoints® Rewards

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Liberty Mutual Insurance

The nation's eighth-largest auto and home insurer makes more than 90,000 Marshall alumni instantly eligible to receive an additional discount – up to 15 percent on auto and 5 percent on homeowners insurance. Discounts are available where state law and regulations allow, and may vary by state. Check with your local Liberty Mutual agent.

Enterprise Rent-a-Car

Enterprise Rent-a-Car. With this partnership, active alumni will be given the opportunity to rent cars from Enterprise at a reduced rate.

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.

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 Avenue in Huntington offers a 15 percent discount on food, drinks (excluding alcoholic beverages) and merchandise at the Café Gift Shop.

Stadium Bookstore, 1949 Fifth Avenue, offers alumni a 15 percent discount on purchases (excluding books).

Please keep checking the Alumni Association web site 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 alumniconnections.com/marshall/ and follow the simple steps. Read Class Notes, search for a former college chum, get a permanent forwarding e-mail address and more!

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

Facebook
We are building it and hoping you will come. Within a month we added 664 fans, but we need more! Add your thoughts, photos.

Twitter
Follow us on Twitter by typing in marshallalumni. We're new at this, so help us out!

Class Notes

Visit www.marshall.edu/lalumni for the latest in alumni news.

"Mom," Tau Kappa Epsilon housemother Elizabeth Haden

Marshall Memory by the late John M. Wilson, Class of 1972

Nothing could beat the smell of those Saturday mornings: Henrietta cooking the bacon and eggs over the grill; crisp autumn air wafting through the crack in the window, and floors reeking of the same polish that pledges had spread across the hardwood floors for decades. Leaves on the maple tree that lined Fifth Avenue blazed forth in a collage of colors, and Dave sang "Sons of Marshall" off key in the shower.

Unmistakably, it was football morning, and the old rambling fraternity house was coming to life.

Everybody loved a football Saturday, but Mom most of all. It was her day, and she reigned over it in regal splendor. Out of bed long before the rest of the house stirred, she tidied up the dining room, straightened the long row of composite photos lining the stairwell, started the coffee in that ancient time percolator, laid out the food for Henrietta and sat down to preside over her court.

"G'morning, darling," she'd say, giving me a kiss on the cheek, as her snow-white hair gleamed just like the autumn sun reflecting off the big white pillars that encircled the porch of the old converted mansion on one of Huntington's most elegant streets.

Being Saturday, the usual mealtime formalities were cast aside. Mom even allowed t-shirts and bare feet at her breakfast table. The banter was more informal, too, as this was a day to linger over coffee and the sports section. [Even after tales of hangovers and girls being sneaked into rooms...], Mom loved to act shocked. But after 10 years as housekeeper at Marshall's Tau Kappa Epsilon house, nothing much could shock ol' Elizabeth Haden, dean of the housemothers.

Besides, nothing was going to ruin a football Saturday for Mom. After breakfast, there would be the hairdresser, for she liked to look her best on these special days when the old boys would come back with wives and children to pay her a special visit before or after the game. She looked forward to it almost as much as seeing her own children and grandchildren.

Brothers of Tau Kappa Epsilon posed outside their house in the early 1970s.

Mom, long a widow, never went to the games. She preferred sitting in her parlor, like the Alabama belle she was, waiting to receive her gentleman callers.

"You look prettier than ever," they'd tell her, and sometimes they'd bring flowers or candy. She'd hug them and kiss them and kiss the wife and kids and tell them all how cute they were and how they should come to see her more often.

Occasionally, one would ask her if she was ever going to retire. She

(continued on page 40)

This column is designed to give you the opportunity to share pleasant memories of your student days at Marshall College/University. You can send your memory, 300 words or fewer, to Marshall Memories, MU Alumni Association, One John Marshall Dr., Huntington, WV 25755; or e-mail alumni@marshall.edu.

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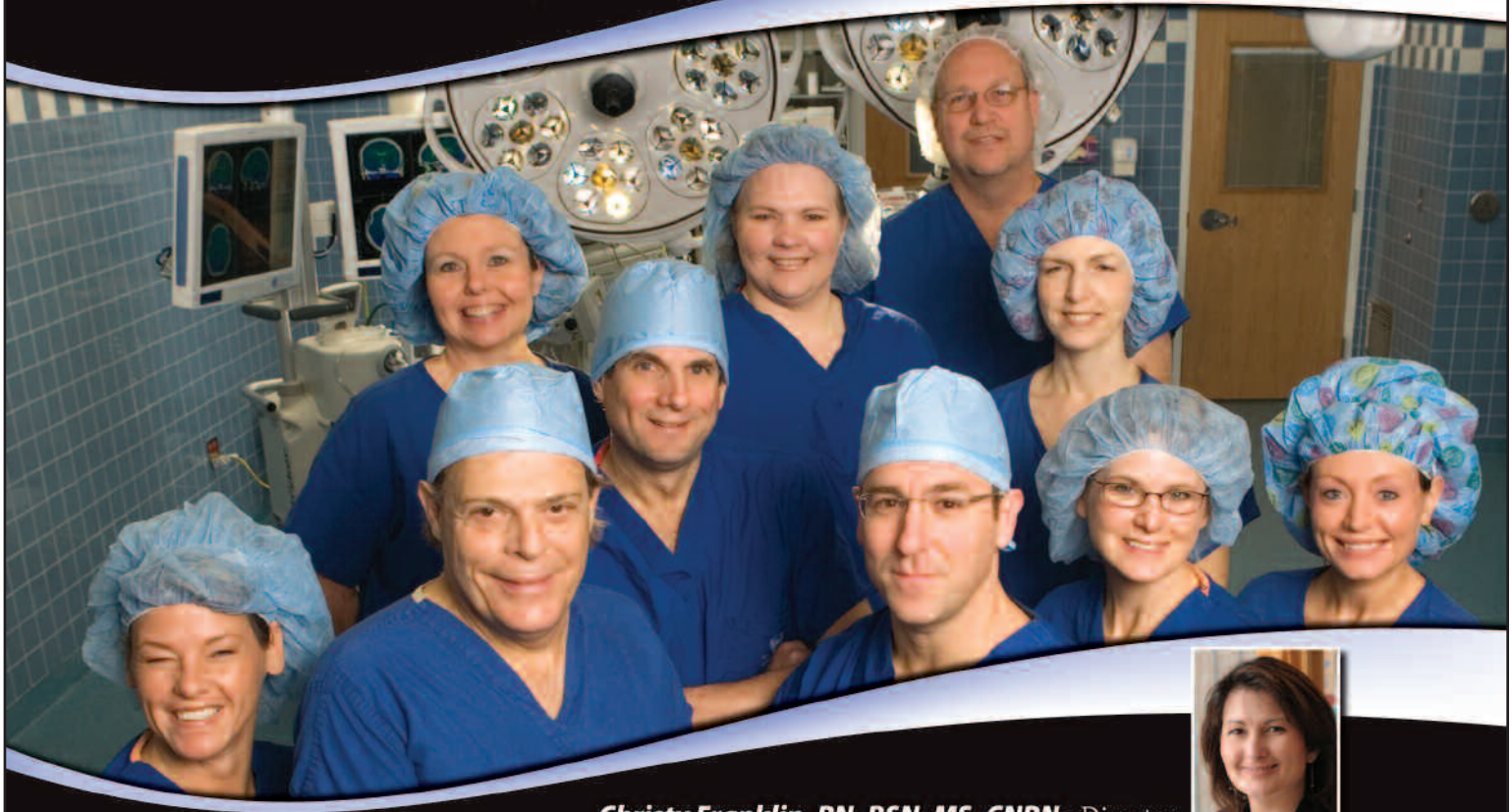

Christy Franklin, RN, BSN, MS, CNRN • Director
St. Mary's Regional Neuroscience Center