Marshall Prepares for Move to Conference USA

Marshall University, Rice University, Southern Methodist University (SMU), the University of Tulsa and the University of Central Florida (UCF), have officially entered into membership agreements with Conference USA, Commissioner Britton Banowsky announced Nov. 4.

“We are excited about adding new members and making structural improvements to Conference USA,” Banowsky said. “This is an opportunity for us to tighten our geography, group similar institutions together, create a divisional model, and possibly stage a football championship game. It will be very exciting to watch this league grow and develop.”

Dulin, 3 Others with Marshall Connections Named ‘Young Guns’

Four individuals with Marshall connections have been named “Young Guns 2004” by West Virginia Executive magazine. They were among 20 selected from more than 300 nominations received by the publication.

“Each young leader represents a commitment to dedication, honor, leadership and ethics . . . Each individual in this group has risen above the status and has [exhibited] a business acumen that demonstrates superior leadership,” the magazine reported.

Those honored from Marshall include Dr. Betsy Dulin, dean of Marshall University’s College of Information Technology and Engineering; J. Randolph Cheetham, a 1992 graduate with a degree in management who was recently appointed to the MU Alumni Association; Dr. Scott P. Duffy, physician and partner in Great Teays Medical Associates and a graduate of the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine; and Dr. Jessica Ybanez-Morano, president and CEO of Women’s Health Specialists, Inc., also a Marshall medical school graduate.

Dulin received a B.S. degree in civil engineering from West Virginia Institute of Technology, a Master of Science degree in environmental engineering from Virginia Poly-

“The presidents and chancellors of Conference USA universities are pleased to announce these five distinguished institutions have joined C-USA,” Dr. Shirley Raines, chair of Conference USA’s Board of Directors, said.

“Known as a conference with exciting competition and nationally recognized coaches, five new universities are joining other institutions committed to development of their student athletes, athletic programs, facilities and competition at the highest levels.”

“As we expected, the conference has been notified that Cincinnati, DePaul, Louisville, Marquette and USF will leave to become members of the Big East Conference,” stated Banowsky. “We have worked closely with each of these universities during this difficult process and I applaud the professionalism and integrity that each institution has exhibited. Their contributions to Conference USA have been substantial and we look forward to continuing to work with them through the 2004-05 academic year.

“While we clearly would have preferred that no Big East expansion occur, that expectation was unrealistic given the actions of the ACC. We appreciate the honest and professional manner in which Mike Tranghese and the Big East approached this very challenging situation. We are

Holiday Decorating Begins Nov. 9

Although it’s only early November, frosty winter is definitely in the air as Marshall students are invited to gather at the Memorial Student Center Plaza at 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 9 to decorate the main campus for the holidays.

The traditional day of decorating the campus, which includes stringing holiday lights and hanging other decorations, is known as Winter Wonderland Day. Students,

United Way Drive Kicks Off This Week

The Marshall University Campaign 2003 for United Way kicked off Nov. 3rd and will run through Friday, Nov. 14. This year’s campaign theme is “Pulling Together for What Matters” with a goal set for raising $60,000.

Maurice R. Cooley, director of the Center for African American Students’ Programs is the chair of the 2003 campaign. Forms and pledge cards have been distributed throughout the university.

A large number of local and state-wide community agencies rely upon United Way funding each year to continue serving children, adults, the elderly and families who face large burdens and struggles. Through participation Marshall will be assisting over 6,500 individuals and their families in the community during the coming year.
Harless Center Hall of Fame Inducts Three

The university’s June Harless Center for Rural Educational Research and Development honored three new Hall of Fame inductees last Saturday in a ceremony held in the Memorial Student Center.

The inductions of Jim Hale, Beverly Kingery and the Verizon West Virginia team of Gale Given, John Ruddick, John Golden and Greg Florence brought the number of Hall of Fame inductees to six.

Inductees are chosen for their significant contributions to enhancing education in West Virginia, particularly in rural areas. Each inductee made an impact in one of three categories, administration, teaching or business partnerships.

Jim Hall is the director of the Western West Virginia Tech Prep Consortium based at MU’s Community and Technical College. Kingery is the Reading/English and Language Arts Coordinator with the West Virginia Department of Education’s Office of Instructional Services. Given has been state president of Verizon West Virginia since July 1, 2000. Ruddick is Verizon West Virginia’s executive director of government relations and external affairs. Golden is area manager for southern West Virginia, and Florence is corporate account manager.

This year’s inductees were honored for providing distance learning and reading education as “gateways” to the 21st century for West Virginia children.

Accounts Payable Wins Herald-Dispatch Halloween Contest

Free blood sugar screenings and more will be offered Wednesday, Nov. 12, during Marshall’s Diabetes Center’s Diabetes Expo.

The event will be from 1 to 4 p.m. in the atrium of the MU Medical Center, located next to Cabell Huntington Hospital. Foot exams and blood pressure screenings also will be offered, according to Ronda Collins, certified diabetes educator. Vendors will display the newest innovations for diabetes care, including insulin pump management, she said. There will be free refreshments and giveaways.

Collins said those who are undiagnosed often have type 2 diabetes, previously called adult-onset diabetes. Risk factors include age over 40, having a parent or sibling with the disease, being overweight and being a member of an ethnic minority, she said. Symptoms include increased infections and excessive thirst, hunger or urination.

Clark Appointed to Harless Program Post

Mary E. Clark, a native of Lawrence, Kan., has been named director of MU’s Buck Harless Student Athlete Program. She assumed her duties on Sept. 29.

Clark came to Marshall from Marquette University in Milwaukee, where she was Coordinator of Student Programs—Intercollegiate Athletics for two years.

She received a B.S. degree in Mass Communication from Southeast Missouri State University in 1998, and her M.A. in Guidance and Counseling, also from Southeast Missouri State, in 2001.

“Mary brings a broad range of experience to the student athlete program,” said Dr. Barbara Tarter, Dean of Enrollment Management. “She has already started implementing many new ideas for student success. She is building on the fine job done by the previous director, Michelle Duncan.”

The Buck Harless Student Athlete Program, created in 1981, is designed to help student athletes succeed in college. Among the services provided by the program are counseling, tutoring and career development. Through the program, student athletes participate in many community service projects.

We Are...Marshall!

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

The next regular issue of We Are...Marshall! will carry an issue date of Nov. 21, 2003. Deadline is Nov. 14. Articles or other materials for consideration should be sent to Pat Dickson, editor, at the South Charleston campus or by e-mail to pdickson@marshall.edu.

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Fall Film Festival Underway

The Fall International Film Festival is coming to the Cinema Theatre Nov. 7 through Nov. 13 and will feature films from New Zealand, USA, Brazil, Australia and China. Each film will be shown several times during the seven-day festival. General public tickets are $7, but MU faculty and staff can receive two half-price tickets with employee identification. All full-time Marshall students are admitted free with a valid MU ID and part-time students are admitted for half-price with a valid MU ID. Tickets can be purchased at the Cinema Theatre, 1023 4th Avenue. Tickets for each film will be available for purchase 15 minutes prior to each film.

The films to be featured include:

- **Bowling for Columbine** (USA), a film by controversial Academy Award winning documentary filmmaker Michael Moore, takes on the issue of gun violence in America.
- **Whale Rider** (New Zealand). A contemporary tale characterized as one celebrating female empowerment, the plot chronicles the triumph of a 12-year-old girl as she has to overcome resistance to her assuming her family destiny as the leader of her Maori tribe.
- **City of God** (Brazil). This Academy Award nominee takes viewers to the world’s most notorious slum—Rio de Janeiro’s “City of God.” Avoided by police, it’s a place where residents are lucky if they live to the age of 20.
- **Til Human Voices Wake Us** (Australia). A 15-year-old boy’s best friend disappears, an apparent drowning victim in Victoria. Years later the boy returns to Victoria as a psychologist and rescues a woman whom he believes to be his lost childhood sweetheart. This psychological drama explores how trauma in life impacts the pattern of behavior as adults.
- **Together** (China). A poignant tale of a 12-year-old violin prodigy who lives in a provincial town with his father who decides his son must advance his studies in Beijing. The film has been lauded as an absorbing, heart-warming parable that speaks in a universal voice while revealing much about China’s culture.

The remaining schedule is:

- Monday, Nov. 10—5:30 p.m., **Whale Rider**; 7:30 p.m., **Bowling for Columbine**

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Faculty/Staff Achievements

**Dr. John D. Justice**, a faculty member in the MU School of Medicine, received a National Leadership Award from President George Bush recognizing his advocacy for tort reform and de-stigmatization in mental health. Justice is the new director of the Division of Forensic Psychiatry at the School of Medicine, as well as the director of the Medical Student Education Program in Clinical Psychiatry.

**Dr. Sandra E. Marra**, Associate Professor of Nursing, was selected as an item writer for the National Council of State Boards of Nursing licensure examination. Marra was one of 12 nurses from across the nation to be chosen by NCSBN for this assignment. She was nominated by the West Virginia Board of Nursing on the basis of background and nursing expertise.

Music Receives Gift of LPs

Peter A. Brown of New York City has made a gift of 684 long-playing classical vinyl disks to Marshall University in honor of composer Michael J. Valenti. Accompanying the recordings was a check for $5,000 to catalog the collection.

Brown’s donation will also be used to fund the Michael J. Valenti Graduate Assistantship.

A graduate of the Julliard School of Music, Valenti was Composer-in-Residence at Marshall University during the Spring 2002 semester. While he was there, Marshall students sang the initial performance of “Beau Nash,” a one-act opera he had written especially for them. The opera has subsequently been staged by the Seattle Symphony; the Portland (Ore.) Symphony, the New York City Opera Company and other musical organizations. Valenti is expected be invited to return to Marshall as Composer-in-Residence soon, according to Dr. Leonard Deutsch, dean of Marshall’s Graduate College.

Holiday Decorating

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Faculty and staff and members of the community who want to help are asked to meet at the student center plaza.

Emily Okes, co-chair of the Winter Festival committee, said pizza and soft drinks will be served after the work is finished, and door prizes will be given away.

The lighting ceremony, which will turn the campus into a shimmering wonderland, takes place at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 20 in front of the Drinko Library. President and Mrs. Dan Angel will throw the switch that illuminates the campus.

Afterwards, Santa Claus will pay a visit, and cookies and hot chocolate, photos with MU athletes, and Lego robotics will be available in the Memorial Student Center.

Film Festival

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- Tuesday, Nov. 11 – 5:30 p.m., Together; 7:30 p.m., City of God
- Wednesday, Nov. 12 – 5:30 p.m., Til Human Voices Wake Us; 7:30 p.m., Whale Rider
- Thursday, Nov. 13 – 5:30 p.m., Bowling for Columbine; 7:30 p.m., City of God

For additional information, call ext. 6656.

Conference USA

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Excited about the opportunity to strengthen the conference and feel C-USA has the potential to be better in many ways.” The five institutions will join the league as full members on July 1, 2005.

Diabetes Expo

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Additional information is available from Collins or certified diabetes educator Richard McGinnis at 691-1663 or through the medical center’s toll-free number at (877) 691-1600.