



**Marshall hoops officials kicks off 2008-09 campaign with Herd Madness**  
 << Page 4



82° 56°

**Women's soccer carrying momentum into weekend home matches**  
 Page 4 >>



# THE PARTHENON

WWW.MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2008

VOL. 110 NO. 26 © 2008 THE PARTHENON

## Obama visits Tri-State

**ELECTION '08**

BY JESSICA WINTZ  
 THE PARTHENON

PORTSMOUTH, OHIO—Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama told hundreds of cheering supporters at a rally at Shawnee State University on Thursday that the nation cannot afford Republican candidate John McCain's "erratic and uncertain" leadership.

The Illinois senator said McCain's plan to direct the Treasury Secretary to have the government buy up bad mortgages would hurt taxpayers and reward irresponsible lenders.

He also said that the plan McCain announced at the presidential debate in Nashville this week wasn't really a new one. Obama said the problem is the way that McCain would carry it out.

"Senator McCain actually wants the government to pay the full face value of mortgages on the books," Obama said.

Obama said McCain at first proposed that the government buy the mortgages at marked down rates and then shifted positions.

"We need steady leadership, a president we trust in times of cri-

sis ... that's why I'm running for president of the United States," Obama told the crowd gathered at the Alumni Green on the Shawnee campus.

Obama outlined his education plan and said that it is time to invest in the education of future generations.

"It is time to provide every American with a world-class education," Obama said. "That means investing in early childhood education. That means recruiting an army of new teachers, and paying them better, and giving them more support in exchange for higher standards and more accountability. And it means making a deal with every American who has the drive and the will but not the money to go to college.

"You invest in America, America will invest in you, and together, we will move this country forward."

Obama told supporters that if he is elected president, he would work so Americans can have a rewarding economy, tax reliefs for the middle class and affordable health care and education but for that to happen, he would

need their support to help win the election.

"I promise you, we will win Ohio, we will win this general election, and then you and I, together, will change this country and change this world," Obama said.

With 25 days remaining until the election, Obama is campaigning in the battleground states of Ohio and Pennsylvania. A national poll results released Thursday by the American Research Group show Obama leads McCain 49 percent to 45 percent.

Pollsters from the American Research Group surveyed 1200 likely voters from Oct. 4-8 and the margin of error is 3 percentage points.

A new state poll, also conducted by the American Research Group, was released Thursday showing Obama having an 8 point lead in West Virginia with a 4 point margin of error. Six-hundred likely voters were surveyed Oct. 4-8.

Jessica Wintz can be contacted at [wintz@marshall.edu](mailto:wintz@marshall.edu).



AUDREY HAMOY | THE PARTHENON

Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama speaks to hundreds of supporters Thursday at Shawnee State University in Portsmouth, Ohio.

## Coach's wife discusses her battle with breast cancer

BY MIRANDA ROSIEK  
 THE PARTHENON

Breast Cancer Awareness Month is a time to inform, encourage and remember.

"This month is a good time to volunteer and raise awareness about breast cancer," said Beth Snyder, two-time survivor of breast cancer and wife of Marshall University's head football coach Mark Snyder. "It is a time to remember friends and family members who have went through this fight, who are going through this fight or might have lost the battle."

Pink is the prominent color on display during October on billboards, in stores and even clothes in memory of those who have lost the battle and to survivors of breast cancer.

This color means something different to everyone who has experienced the affects of some form of breast cancer in his or her life. The color pink can be seen around Coach Snyder's wrist this month showing his support for breast cancer awareness.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month is an opportunity to make people aware of the prevalence of cancer and what can be done to reduce the chances of acquiring the disease.

Beth Snyder said her first diagnosis was in 1995. She had two daughters at the time, ages 2 and 3. Snyder explained to her doctor that she was experiencing pain in her left breast, but the doctor told her it was probably from nursing two babies back-to-back.

"I kept telling my doctor something doesn't feel right," Snyder said.

Snyder's relentless intuition came to a head when driving down the road thinking about her two young girls. She worried about being separated from her daughters if there was something wrong with her health, leaving them without a mother.

"I ended up walking into a breast care clinic on my own and asked to have a mammogram," Snyder said. "I wanted that piece of mind that everything was OK."

Her mammogram results came back and showed a mass in Snyder's breast. A biopsy was done and it came back positive for cancer.

"Having the girls during this time kept me going," Snyder said. "I would think 'Well, if I am not going to make it, I don't want their only memories of their mom being sick.'"

Snyder recovered but was diagnosed with breast cancer again one year later, resulting in two mastectomies in two years.

"It was a rough road to travel but there is no choice but to keep on going," Snyder said.

Many who have been affected by this type of cancer travel this road.

SEE CANCER | PAGE 5

## Oxford professors lecture on Shakespeare and politics

BY AARON MCVEY  
 THE PARTHENON

Two distinguished Shakespearean professors compared themes of Shakespearean plays to political situations across the globe at the first installment of the 22nd annual Yeager Symposium Lecture Series.

John O'Connor and his wife, Kelly O'Connor, who are both professors of English at Oxford University, were the featured lecturers at "Shakespeare and Politics, Then and Now," the first installment of the Yeager Symposium Thursday at the Francis Booth Experimental Theatre in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.

Jacob Kilgore, Yeager Symposium co-chair and senior chemistry major from Kenova, W.Va., said this was the first time the O'Connors, who taught several Yeager Scholars at Oxford, had visited Marshall University and participated in the symposium.



JOHN O'CONNOR

University. We kept that relationship after I left.

"We stayed in contact by e-mail and sometimes by phone, and when we got the opportunity to plan this symposium I thought 'How can we make it relevant to this political year and tie in a little theater?'"

The O'Connors' lecture, which was spliced with performances from Shakespeare's play, compared Shakespearean plays to modern political situations.

"As part of the Yeager program we do the study abroad to Oxford," Kilgore said in an interview following the lecture. "It just so happened that I took two Shakespeare classes, and I had an outstanding relationship with Dr. John and Kelly O'Connor who taught (me) at Exeter College at Oxford



KELLY O'CONNOR

and "The Merchant of Venice."

While "Taming of the Shrew" was written as a comedy, Kelly O'Connor said the play, which revolves around making a woman more submissive, has taken a more serious tone since women's rights movements have occurred across the globe.

John O'Connor said "The Merchant of Venice" could be Shakespeare's most dangerous play because, if poorly performed, the play can come across anti-semitic.

Kelly O'Connor said there have been several comparisons made between the character of Macbeth and Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., by both literature authors and the media.

The O'Connors said that two of the most interesting parallels are drawn from "The Taming of the Shrew"

It is important to continue comparing Shakespeare plays to political situations, John O'Connor said, because it provides an interesting, intelligent view in which to view those political climates.

The remaining two events of the symposium are "George M!" and a panel discussion titled "All the (Political) World's a Stage."

"George M!," a play about American musical writer George M. Cohan, will take place Wednesday at 8 p.m. in the Joan C. Edwards Performing Arts Center.

"All the (Political) World's a Stage" will take place Oct. 23 at 7 p.m. in the Francis Booth Experimental Theatre.

The three panelists involved in the lecture are Jamie Warner, associate professor of political science at Marshall, E. Del Chrol, assistant professor of classics at Marshall and Greta Rensenbrink, assistant professor of history at Marshall.

Aaron McVey can be contacted at [mcvey12@marshall.edu](mailto:mcvey12@marshall.edu).

**PRESIDENT'S OFFICE**

## Community, service part of Kopp's vision

BY TAYLOR KUYKENDALL  
 THE PARTHENON

Community and service may not be a priority for some students, but it is one of four major areas of the Marshall Strategic Vision.

Marshall University president Stephen Kopp said the university's strategic vision is divided into four areas. The areas include intellectual capital, community and service, economic development, and discovery and innovation. Kopp said the four parts are largely based on state goals for higher education.

"I think when you look at the role of a public university, you have to consider its contribution to the community," Kopp said. "This is an area I think Marshall has been very successful at for a long time. There is a very strong relationship with the community here."



KOPP

also helps feed the homeless at the Huntington City Mission on Sundays. She said Marshall could be doing more to improve community service.

"I don't really see anything being done on a large scale at Marshall," Lokhande said. "There doesn't seem to be a specific person you can go to that will bring organizations together to accomplish something."

Kopp said he thinks the relationship be-

Ashlesha Lokhande, 24, is a graduate student at Marshall who transferred from Arkansas State where she was involved in multiple service organizations.

Lokhande is involved with Keep a Child Alive, an organization dedicated to AIDS awareness. She also helps feed the homeless at the Huntington City Mission on Sundays. She said Marshall could be doing more to improve community service.

Lokhande said she believes the university should do more to support community and service organizations on campus.

"I think people care and do want to help," Lokhande said. "I just see so many

tween the community and the university is good, but it is important to maintain continual growth in the community and service areas of Marshall University.

"The contributions of the folks associated with the university, students faculty, staff and so on, is very substantial," Kopp said. "However, I think it is important that we keep adding on to that. The health of our community both in terms of physical health, mental health and spiritual health — that whole spectrum really depends on that cooperative relationship between the university, our community and the community at large."

Lokhande said she believes the university should do more to support community and service organizations on campus.

"I think people care and do want to help," Lokhande said. "I just see so many

SEE KOPP | PAGE 5

## Kopp's Strategic Vision

*Editor's note: This article on President Kopp's Strategic Vision for Marshall is part of an on-going series by Parthenon reporter Taylor Kuykendall. This article is the third part of that series.*

### Inside The Parthenon

**Student Activities | SAPB** hosted a night of comedy at the Funny Bone. Page 3

**Life | Local Christians** say the more mainstream Christian music becomes, the further it separates itself from religion. Page 6