

THE JOHNSONIAN



Photo Courtesy to Winthrop University

\$12 million will go towards Thomson Dining Hall renovations or the construction of a new dining facility depending on the cost-effectiveness.

Board of Trustees approves facility upgrades and discounted summer tuition

The Board of Trustees approved resolutions introduced by the Committee of Finance to allocate funds for renovating dining and housing facilities, as well as keeping the tuition for Summer 2021 courses at a discounted rate

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The Winthrop Board of Trustees has approved a \$21 million financial debt issuance to be utilized for renovations regarding the maintenance and improvement of housing and dining facilities, as well as the consideration of constructing a new dining hall dependent on budget flexibility.

The finances allotted from the motion will be split between the housing and dining facility needs. \$9 million of the sum will go to improving and maintaining housing facilities, including replacement of the Phelps Hall roof and the renovation and replacement of Lee Wicker Hall's mechanical, electrical, HVAC, plumbing and roof needs, according to information collected by Communications Coordinator, Nicole Chisari.

The remaining \$12 million will be used for renovations of the Thompson Dining Hall or the construction of a new dining facility depending on cost-effectiveness, according to Chisari.

The resolution was brought forth by the Committee of Finance Chair, Randy Imler.

Imler said that the information in their report was compiled by a committee made up of representatives from the Winthrop Real Estate Foundation and members of the Committee of Finance over the course of two years to examine housing and dining facility needs. Imler also said that the committee employed the aid of a Public Financial Management consultant to run over 20 projections to certify the need for funds towards certain projects.



Photo Courtesy to Winthrop University

Dr. Randy Imler is the Chair of the Committee on Finance.

Additionally, board members approved a motion to hold the tuition costs for the Summer 2021 semester at the same discounted rate as 2020. The decision to lower the price of tuition for the summer semester was approved by the Board last year due to financial challenges imposed by COVID-19.

The discount applies to all graduate and undergraduate courses, regardless of whether they are online or in-person. The decision applies a 29.5% cost reduction to summer courses compared to spring and winter tuitions, according to Chisari.

The motion's introduction elicited surprised but positive reactions from many board members. The Board of Trustees Chair Glenn McCall said the motion's approval was the "right thing to do as a result of COVID."

COVID-19-themed panel hosts York County leaders

A virtual panel featuring several Rock Hill and South Carolina leaders provided information and updates on the state of COVID-19 spread and vaccine distribution



Photo Courtesy to Winthrop University

Hynd.

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Winthrop Interim President George Hynd spoke on the current and future status of COVID-19 preventative measures for the university at a COVID-19 focused virtual panel, outlining an intention for a more optimistic and traditional Fall 2021 semester.

"We have about 5,500 students here on campus taking class in person, in a hybrid setting or remote," Hynd said. "Having said all of that, we do require masks, social distancing, and hygiene since we've returned to campus. That bodes well moving forward into the future as more of our faculty and staff are vaccinated, and we're hopeful that we can very quickly move to the point where we can have vaccines available for everybody."

"I think we're going to be looking at a fall semester that is looking more like what you expected when you came to campus as a freshman or sophomore, where we would be able to congregate more. We might not have to wear masks; that, I think, is still to be determined. The fact of the matter is that things are starting to look much brighter than they did in the fall."

Hynd reflected on some of the lessons that the Winthrop administration has learned over the course of the past year dealing with the pandemic, citing the newfound effectiveness of requiring negative tests for returning students introduced in the Spring semester.

"One of the lessons we've learned was that we should be requiring proof of a negative test for students to check in and take in-person classes and move into our residence halls. We instituted that requirement this semester and, lo and behold, we found that there were about 150 students that said they felt fine, but they came back and tested positive. We did not let those students into the residence halls, and in many ways I think we cut off the potential for a great deal of spread across campus," Hynd said.

The pandemic prioritized panel platformed a host of other York County leaders who spoke on the mitigation efforts and current status of COVID-19 in their respective fields, including SCDHEC board member Rick Lee and Rock Hill mayor John Gettys. Lee provided an in-depth rundown on the state of vaccine distribution and preventive measures for slowing the spread of COVID-19 in the state.

"We've conducted, if you can believe these

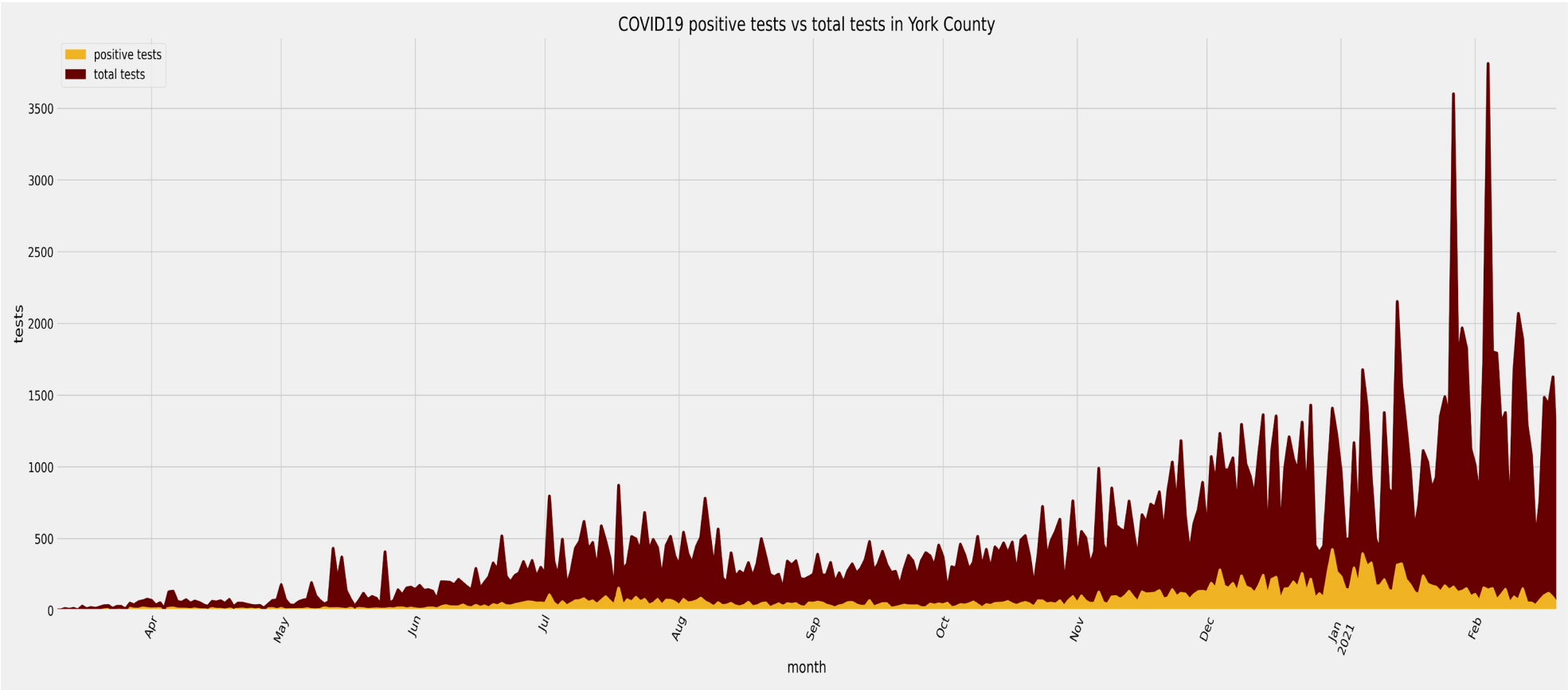
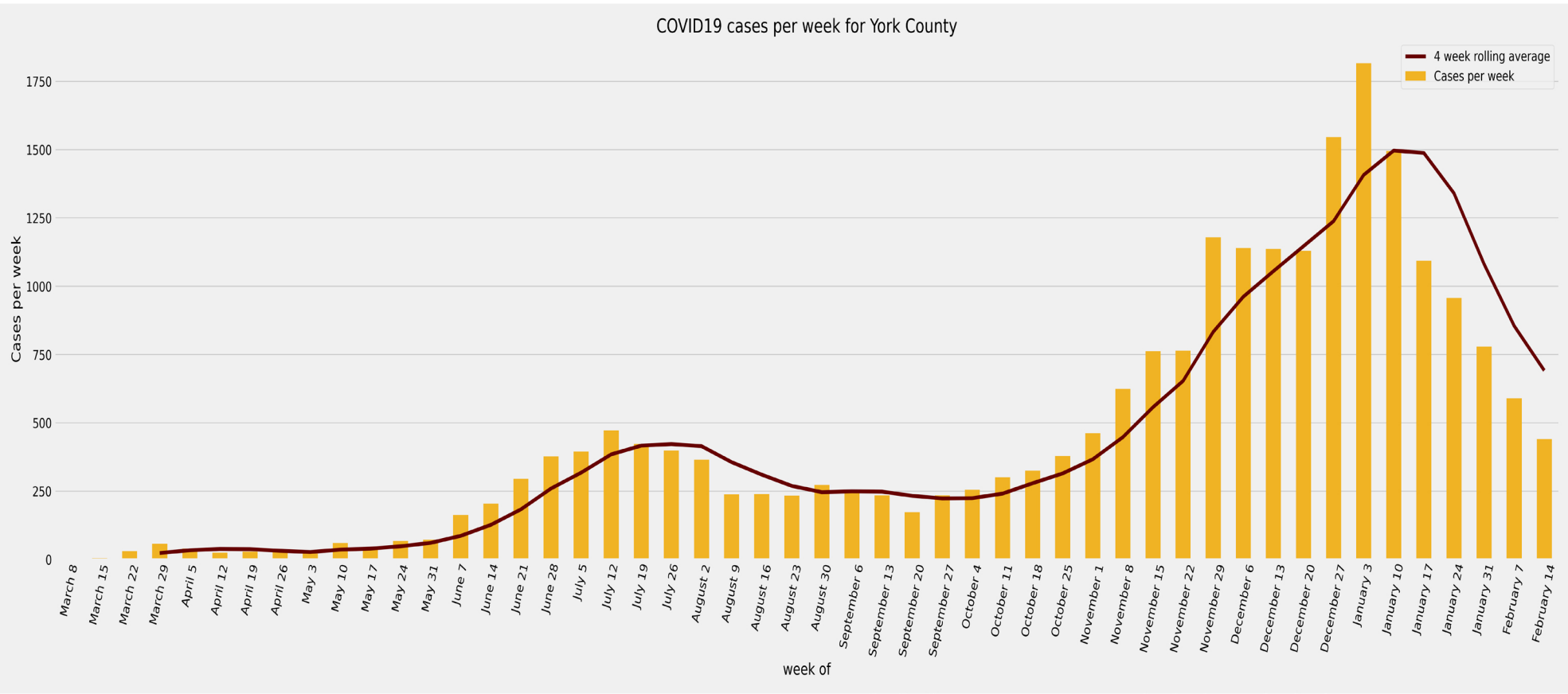
▶ see Panel pg. 2





COVID-19 data

During the pandemic, The Johnsonian wants to keep you up to date with the number of positive cases in the York County area.



Philip Nelson/The Johnsonian

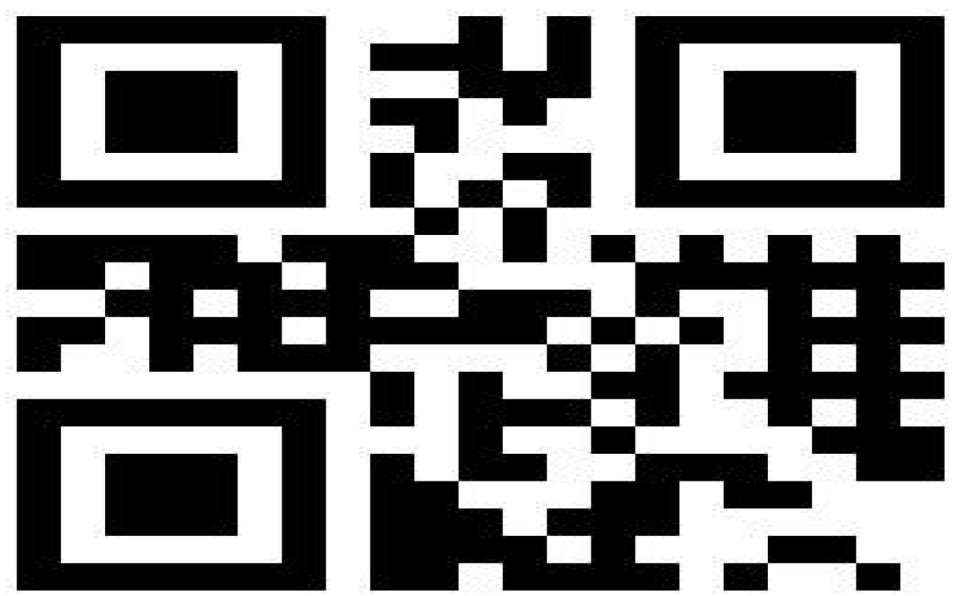
Panel from front

numbers, 5.5 million tests for the virus,” Lee said. “You’ve probably seen the clinic over beside the Colosseum; we used to get nearly a thousand people a day through that clinic. ...Currently, the positivity rate for tests for the virus have fallen from over 20% on any given day to about 8.5%. We’re optimistic that this drop will continue, though I’m not sure everyone understands exactly why the rate has fallen.”

“Presently in South Carolina, our vaccination program has sites in every county delivering vaccines to the public. We have over 487 official providers accepted by DHEC, including drug stores, hospitals, clinics, and more. Today we received almost a million doses of vaccine, and presently of that nearly 1 million, we’re in the high 70% of the vaccines that have gone into the arms of South Carolina residents. ...I’m confident, barring a variant that somehow neutralizes the effectiveness of the vaccine, that a year from now we’ll be walking around without these facemasks on,” Lee said.

Mayor Gettys praised the collaborative efforts of Rock Hill residents and businesses, as well as the efforts of SCDHEC, in remaining socially distant and aiding each other during the pandemic, and said he looks forward to eventually seeing the city return to normalcy.

“It really is a wonderful thing to see, after someone has gone through the clinic and gotten their shot, the relief and the joy and the hope they have as they’re walking out the door. We’ve come a long way, but we’ve got a lot more work to do.”



To view more of our weekly COVID-19 data visit our website by scanning the QR code

About The Johnsonian

The Johnsonian is the weekly student newspaper of Winthrop University.

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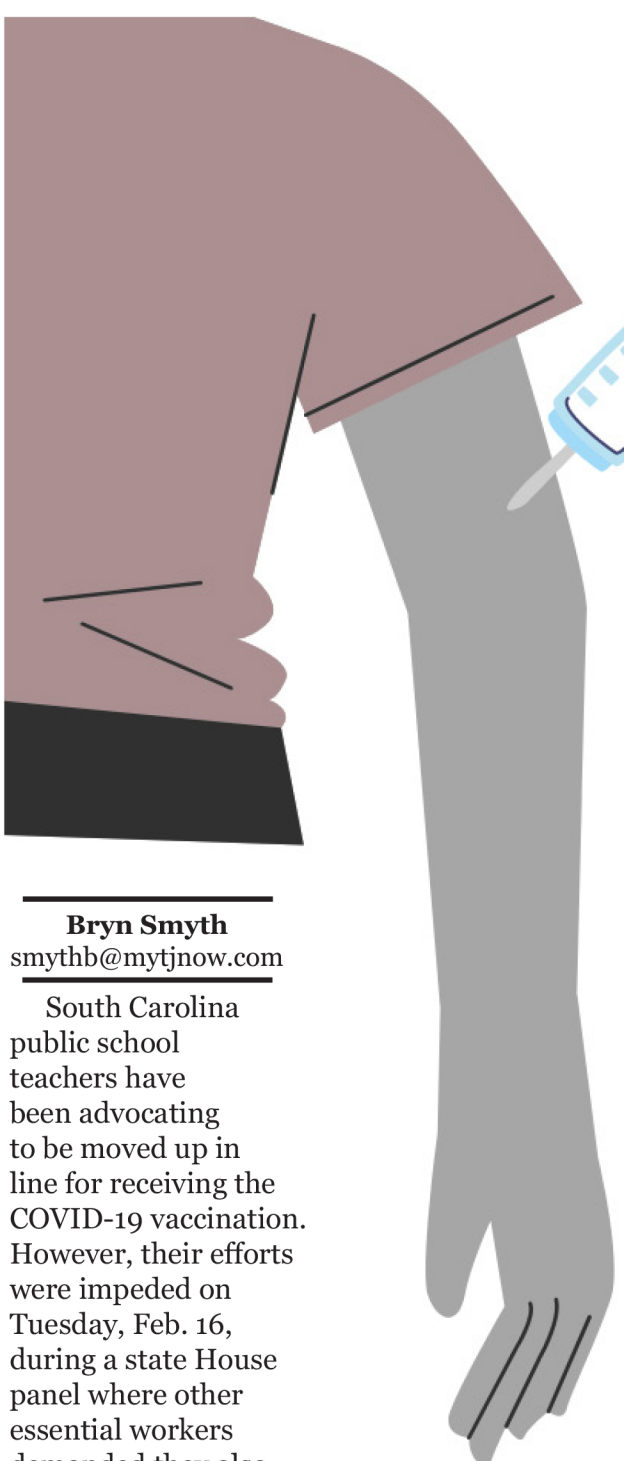
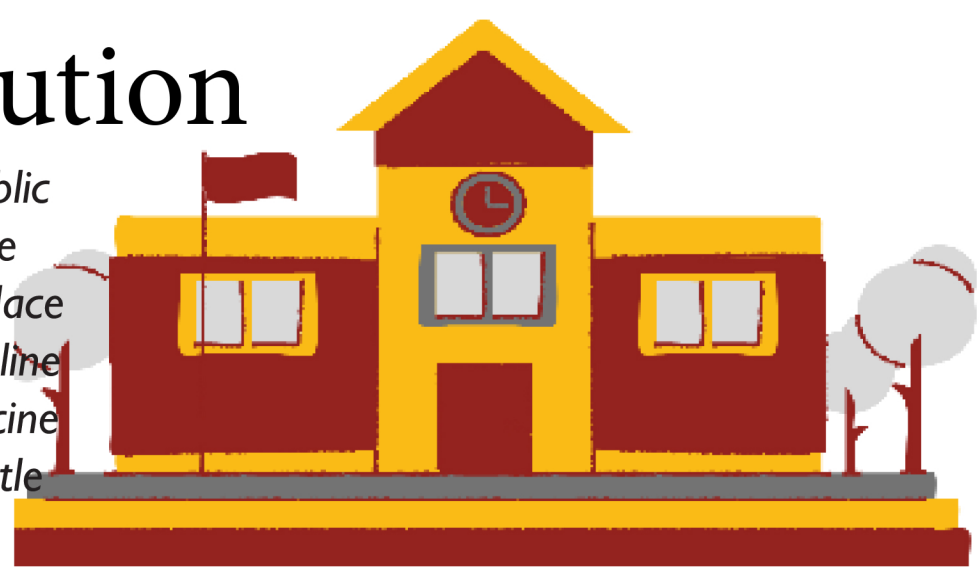
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SC not prioritizing public school teachers in vaccine distribution

South Carolina public school teachers are fighting for their place in the front of the line for COVID-19 vaccine distribution with little luck



had COVID-19. According to an article published by The State on Feb. 17, "Currently, South Carolina

teachers are scheduled to be in phase 1B of vaccine distribution along with those who work in manufacturing, grocery stores, food and agricultural, the postal service, and in public transit workers."

Teachers have a lot of competition with other essential workers in receiving the vaccine, thus making it increasingly unlikely they will be made a priority in receiving the vaccine.

Over the course of the pandemic, teachers felt the weight of the economy riding on their shoulders because most working parents rely on the public school system to take responsibility for their children during the 40-hour workweek.

As the vaccine is being rolled out, South Carolina teachers are at a disadvantage compared to other public school teachers around the country whose states are prioritizing them in vaccine distribution.

"Around the country, 28 states and Washington, D.C. have made all or some teachers and school staff eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine," according to The State article. California is

receiving a significant amount of attention because of how its vaccine distribution strategy is impacting teachers.

According to a New York Times article published on Feb. 20, "Under pressure to reopen classrooms in California, Gov. Gavin Newsom said on Friday that, starting March 1, the state will reserve 10 percent of its first doses of Covid-19 vaccines for teachers and school employees."

South Carolina public school teachers have received the short end of the stick in terms of salary and resources when compared to other states, and now South Carolina teachers are also struggling to receive the vaccine while being expected to return to traditional in-person instruction.

According to U.S. News & World Report, South Carolina is ranked number 43 in education. The state is becoming an increasingly unpopular state for teachers to pursue careers in due to the low median pay and lack of resources resulting in low test scores.

The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated South Carolina public schools' tribulation. The teacher shortage has been made worse and will continue to worsen if teachers are not made a priority in receiving the vaccine, thus placing the economy in a precarious position.

in-person instruction while the others have taken on a hybrid way of learning. "I strongly believe that teachers should be prioritized in receiving the vaccine. Even though not all schools offer five days a week in-person instruction, many teachers are working five days a week in schools," said an anonymous Fort Mill School District teacher who recently



Police blotter 2/5-2/7 A roundup of crime on campus

Sarah Hassler
staff writer

On Feb. 5, the Reporting Officer (R/O) was dispatched to Phelps Hall due to the detection of marijuana. The R/O arrived and made contact with the complainant, a resident assistant. The complainant led the R/O to the suspects' room. Upon arrival, the R/O could detect an odor of marijuana. The R/O made contact with Suspect #1 and asked if she had any marijuana in the room. The suspect stated that she had some in the room and gave it to the R/O. The R/O then informed the suspect that he would search the room to be sure there was no other marijuana. The suspect stated that her boyfriend was in the shower, and the R/O informed the suspect that she and her boyfriend needed to stand in the hallway while the search was conducted.

Upon searching the room, the R/O discovered several packs of cigarillos and two bottles of liquor. The liquor was in Suspect #2's desk. Suspect #2 is also under the age of 21. The R/O asked who brought the marijuana, and Suspect #1 stated that she did not want to tell on anyone, but they went in together as roommates to get it. The R/O then informed Suspect #1's boyfriend that since he was not a student and there is no tolerance for illegal substances on campus, he would be trespassed from campus for one year. The R/O informed Suspect #1 that she and Suspect #2 would be referred to the Dean of Students for the marijuana and alcohol in the room.

On Feb. 7, the Reporting Officer (R/O) was dispatched to 1210 Winthrop Senior Circle, in the city limits of Rock Hill, at Phelps Hall. Dispatch informed the R/O that there were several individuals outside yelling and talking about alcohol. Once the R/O arrived, he made contact with

several students in a Nissan Altima playing loud music. The R/O asked them to turn the music down, and they complied. The R/O then observed a group of about four individuals talking extremely loud. The R/O informed them to keep it down because there were several complaints about the noise level outside Phelps Hall. Three of the individuals then went to their dorm.

The R/O observed several cans of beer on the ground and one individual still standing right near them. The R/O asked the suspect if the beer cans were his. The suspect then replied, "Why would they be mine?" The R/O informed the suspect that he was standing right next to them, the odor of an alcoholic beverage was coming from his person, and it appeared that there was spilled beer on his shirt. The R/O then asked for his identification, to which the suspect responded, "Don't you have anything else f***ing better to do?"

The R/O then asked for the suspect's identification again, and the suspect gave the R/O his student identification. The R/O then asked for his driver's license as well, and the R/O observed that the suspect was under the age of 21. The suspect told the R/O that he was just going to get some food, pointing at Thomson. The R/O then informed the suspect that he could not enter Thomson because he was intoxicated. The suspect stated that he would then run and try to get away. The suspect then became emotionally angry once the R/O informed him he could not leave. So, the R/O asked the suspect to put his hands behind his back, causing the suspect to become physically agitated. Once the R/O had one cuff on the suspect, the suspect was balling up his right fist and grabbing his right wrist with his left hand. The R/O told the suspect to let go of his wrist.

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College of Ed addresses SC teacher shortage with ASPIRE

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Winthrop University's College of Education is creating a center of excellence called Addressing Shortages

through Partnership Internship Residences in Education, putting to use a one-year grant from the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education for \$99,802.

ASPIRE is coming at a time when the

South Carolina public school system is suffering not only from the pandemic, but also from years of teachers choosing not to pursue their careers within the state due to most other states being accommodated with

higher pay and greater resources.

"South Carolina has provided some new guidance on a program that's existed for a long time. It's called an internship certificate, and it allows a student

▶ see ASPIRE pg. 4

▶ see Police pg. 4

WU students encouraged to provide feedback on university experience through NSSE

Winthrop University is once again participating in the National Survey of Student Engagement

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Winthrop University is once again participating in the National Survey of Student Engagement during the month of March.

The NSSE “gauges the quality of students’ educational experience and the level of their engagement in campus life.”

The survey will be sent to freshmen and seniors at the beginning of March on their Winthrop emails. Completing the survey takes about 10 to 15 minutes and 100 students who take the confidential survey will receive a \$5 Starbucks gift card.

According to Dr. Noreen Gaubatz, director of assessment and assistant professor of education, “The NSSE is a national survey that is administered to freshmen and seniors only. Data is collected as students enter college and as they leave college.”

The survey is online and will address areas such as academic challenge, active and collaborative learning experiences, student-faculty interactions, enriching educational experiences and the campus environment.

“The National Survey of Student Engagement is

a great tool for getting feedback from students on how we’re doing at Winthrop in providing strong engagement opportunities,” said Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Adrienne McCormick.

“NSSE was designed by survey experts in higher education to ask students key questions that give us insights on where we are doing well and where we can improve.

NSSE explores areas such as active learning, experiential learning, application of core knowledge and skills, leadership opportunities, and opportunities to work with students from different backgrounds than your own. The answers we get from NSSE provide us with an ‘indirect measure’ of your student learning experience; it’s indirect because student answers are based on student perceptions of their learning experiences. Direct measures of learning are found in the work you produce in your classes and experiential learning opportunities, which demonstrate what you have learned in direct form. Both kinds of measures are needed for faculty, staff, and administrators to improve how we

support students,” McCormick said.

For Winthrop freshmen and seniors, participating in the survey is well worth the effort because their responses will aid Winthrop in providing each student with a positive college experience.

“If students are debating whether it’s a good investment of their time, I can say emphatically that the responses you provide are important. Think of them as evidence we use to inform decisions. NSSE data points are used to indicate whether we are achieving the goals of our institutional strategic plan - the Winthrop Plan. So I will say thank you in advance to everyone who takes advantage of this opportunity to share your feedback with us! We want to hear from you,” McCormick said.

As a student, it is imperative that your university hears your voice and heads your input. Through the NSSE, Winthrop is lending an ear to freshmen who have high expectations for their undergraduate and possibly graduate experience as well as seniors who can comment on their experience as an undergraduate thus far.

◀ ASPIRE from front

to take on the role of the teacher in their final semester. Our partner districts started contacting us and asking if we can do this at Winthrop,” said Dr. Beth Costner, associate dean of the Richard W. Riley College of Education.

“There’s a huge teacher shortage,” Costner said. “Teaching is not an easy profession, but it’s certainly a rewarding one, and there is a shortage at all levels and in many subject areas, so this was a way that they could address that.”

Typically, students seeking to become a teacher through various programs within Winthrop’s College of Education do not receive payment during their internships. And this can be problematic for many students who do not have the financial flexibility to work full-time in a school without pay.

But with ASPIRE, students will be able to receive valuable teaching experience while getting paid.

“With our current NetSERVE grant, we are developing teacher residencies built on an 18-month MAT program where students are paid \$20,000 to serve alongside a mentor teacher in a year-long residency,” said Dr. Jennie F. Rakestraw, dean of the College of Education, at the board of trustees meeting held on Friday, Feb. 19.

“We recently received a Center of Excellence grant from

the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, and this will give us an opportunity to develop an option for an undergraduate model that is built on the teacher residency idea,” Rakestraw said. “This will allow education majors to step into a classroom, as a teacher, during their last semester and be paid.”

According to the Winthrop website, “Costner and Bettie Parsons Barger, director of the Rex Institute for Educational Renewal and Partnerships, will serve as co-directors of the ASPIRE Center.”

Initially, the College of Education is implementing this program in a pilot fashion in order to retain a better understanding of what will be expected of the intern, Barger explains.

“So this semester, the grant allows us to do a pilot study, and we are able to work with eight different schools and three districts,” Barger said. “And there were some pretty significant guidelines and parameters for the districts and schools with which we could work

“So, we will pilot from approximately beginning of April through the end of the K-12 school year with an internship certificate model. And what that means is that one of our interns will step in as the primary teacher for the rest of the semester.”

“The way the typical internship works is there’s an intern and a

mentor, and they work very closely together, and they co-teach, and they’re in the room together a lot,” Barger said. “But for the pilot, the mentor teacher will be removed and working on other projects for their schools and districts at that time, and still help serve as a support role.

“Our intern will be the primary teacher, and that is to see what we need to do in terms of preparing our interns so that we can support them and make sure that the K-12 student is learning and what kind of model works really well for the mentor role, which we are calling a master teacher in the internship certificate program.”

“So we’re looking at all of the pieces from intern screening to identify who is going to be most successful through implementation, and we’ll have some reflection and gather a lot of data so that when we begin full implementation in Fall 2021, we’ll have a good system in place,” Barger said.

As one of the most respected teaching colleges in the south, the Richard W. Riley College of Education is on the front lines of the teacher shortage in South Carolina. School districts in the state rely on Winthrop to produce effective and experienced teachers, and ASPIRE is an excellent means of producing such teachers.

◀ Police from front

Once the suspect was in handcuffs, the R/O checked for proper fit and double-locked each cuff. The R/O then asked the suspect to calm down, and the suspect replied, “F**k you, bro.” The suspect then began to say, “Put me in jail, bro. I want to die, bro.”

The R/O then escorted the suspect to the back of his patrol vehicle to begin a search. The suspect then turned around and started to scream in the R/O’s face, “Put me in f***ing jail.” The R/O then pinned the suspect to the back of his vehicle to prevent the suspect from spitting at him. The suspect attempted to keep turning around on the R/O while yelling at him, and the R/O performed a leg sweep and assisted the suspect to the ground lying face down. The suspect then began to yell, “I want you to die. I literally want you to f***ing die.” As the R/O searched the

suspect, the suspect said, “Kill me, bro, kill me.” The suspect then yelled as loud as he could, “I want you to kill me.” As the R/O attempted to help the suspect back up to his feet, the suspect yelled, “I don’t give a f**k,” and was spitting as he said it. After the R/O asked the suspect to stop spitting, he began to spit even more. The R/O then tilted the suspect’s head to the ground to prevent him from spitting on the R/O. The R/O then assisted the suspect to his feet and placed him into the back of the patrol vehicle.

The R/O then collected the empty beer cans as evidence and returned to his vehicle to ask the suspect if he needed EMS. The suspect stated he wanted to be let go. The R/O informed the suspect that it was not happening. The suspect then stated, “Well, then I don’t give a f**k what you say.” The R/O then transported the suspect to the

Rock Hill city jail.

On the way to the jail, the suspect began to hit his head on the glass of the rear passenger side window, and the R/O asked him to stop. As the R/O was approaching Rock Hill Jail, the R/O radioed dispatch to have the jailers assist in trying to get the suspect out of the vehicle. Rock Hill Police Department (RHPD) arrived and assisted the R/O in getting the suspect out of the vehicle. The RHPD officers began to escort the suspect into the jail. As they were escorting the suspect, he attempted to spit on the officers. As the RHPD officers escorted the suspect to his cell, he began yelling at the officers, telling them, “You ain’t sh*t,” “Kill me,” and “I just want to f***ing die.” The R/O then booked the suspect in the Rock Hill City Jail for public disorderly conduct.



The **National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)** is your chance to tell us about your college experience and to help shape the future of Winthrop. **15 minutes** is all it takes to make a difference!

Freshmen and seniors – starting **March 1** – watch your Winthrop e-mail for your personal link to take the survey.

Complete the survey for chance to win one of **100 \$5 Starbucks gift cards!**





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HIRING!**

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Super senior leads softball team to solid start

Eagles begin the season 4-4 as Gilreath earns conference honors

Lily Firmed
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Fifth-year first baseman Ansley Gilreath was named the Big South Conference Player of the Week for the first time in her career on Monday Feb. 15.

"I felt so thankful and blessed to be recognized. My first thought — all glory to God," Gilreath said.

"It was the moment that I realized all of my hard work this past year had paid off. I am proving to not only myself but everyone else why it was so important for seniors across the nation to get that extra year of eligibility."

After competing in Feldberg's Invitational from Feb. 12-14 in Miami, FL, the Eagles were 2-3. In just those three days, Gilreath hit four homeruns, taking her from ninth all-time in school history for homeruns to fourth place with 24.

"I came into this season feeling so grateful to be here because I wasn't supposed to be. I decided to give my all to this season and this team and that's exactly what I tried to do opening weekend and it paid off," Gilreath said.

Hosting the first home tournament of the 2021 season Feb. 19-21, the Eagles finished the

Winthrop Kickoff Tournament with two big wins and one loss.

The tournament opened with a double-header against Bowling Green on Friday where the Eagles lost the first round 0-2, but returned later in the afternoon stronger than before, crushing the Falcons 10-1. On Sunday, Winthrop defeated the Furman Paladins 9-2.

With another homerun against Furman, Gilreath is now only eight away from tying the all-time career leader, Chelsey Schoenfeldt, with 33, but she is focused on the team as a whole instead of her personal goals.

"I want to be the player that does whatever it takes to get this team a conference championship and if that means I break the home run record then that's awesome. But if not and I can still help this team win games and conference, then that's just as awesome," Gilreath said.

"Before every game, during the national anthem I always say a quick prayer to God asking him to give me confidence on the field and to play my best. That's why I always point up to the sky when I cross home plate after a homerun, to show that it's not just me out there, but He's with me, helping

me every step of the way," Gilreath said.

Although the season just began, Gilreath is already thinking about ways the Eagles can make it to the Big South Conference Tournament, especially since there will only be four teams competing instead of the traditional six.

"I think we're really going to have to bear down and not slack off or take any games off, especially conference games," Gilreath said.

Gilreath is most looking forward to competing against Clemson, whose 2021 season will be only the second season with a Tiger softball team.

"I grew up in a family of huge Clemson fans so naturally I am one, and their program is so new that I think it will be really fun to play them and see their field," Gilreath said.

Four freshmen and one transfer joined the team this season, and as one of the oldest players on the team, Gilreath is extremely proud to see the work they have put in, bringing in "so much talent and energy."

"They all want to be out there playing and doing their best and they have so much heart for this game. Because they work so hard,



Photo Courtesy to Winthrop Athletics

Gilreath

it's made the rest of us step up and work harder as well," Gilreath said.

"I'm very confident in this team moving forward in the season. I trust every single girl out there to give it their all, and I think that's a huge part of our success."

The Eagles return to the home field Friday Feb. 26 for the Winthrop Garnet/Gold Classic, opening the tournament at 1:30 pm against Syracuse University.

All home games are open to the general public as long as fans wear a mask, practice social distancing, and avoid large gatherings.

Fans allowed in Coliseum

Halpin says spectators may attend games, limited tickets available for indoor sports

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Winthrop Athletics announced that a limited number of fans would be allowed to attend home men's and women's basketball games and volleyball games beginning on Feb. 23 and 24.

While family members of student-athletes and coaches have been allowed inside Winthrop Coliseum since January, this will be the first time the general public has had the chance to enter the building since the women's basketball team lost its first-round conference tournament matchup last March. (Two days prior, the men's team won its respective conference championship game in front of almost 5,000 fans).

According to Winthrop's athletic director Dr. Ken Halpin, allowing fans into the coliseum was a decision that the athletic department had been working toward for weeks.

"It's not just getting permission, it's making sure that we can get permission from the state in a way that complies with CDC and

DHEC guidelines so that we can then build up to the capacity that we can pull off safely," Halpin said.

"Right now we've identified about 500 seats that we can safely offer that keeps us in compliance with the proposal we had to submit to the state to get approval to do this."

Halpin said roughly 100 tickets are currently being set aside for students, with the others going toward player families, Eagle Club members and general fans. He noted that while the coliseum has been approved to hold more people, that number reduces when the athletic department implements its additional safety procedures.

"That cap is roughly 1200, but we have to be able to socially distance the teams and the gameday workers down on the floor," Halpin said. "We push in the lower bleachers on both sides in order to do that."

Halpin said pushing in the bleachers eliminates about 1000 of the coliseum's 6000 total seats. Then once a six foot radius is



Kaily Paddie/The Johnsonian

Limited tickets are available to watch live sports at the Coliseum.

established around each seating pod, there ends up being a very limited number of fan space available.

Since Winthrop's announcement about hosting fans, the Big South Conference announced that the men's basketball series against Hampton on Feb. 23 and 24 would no longer take place.

The league chose to prioritize

rescheduled games that will affect tournament seeding, and since Winthrop secured the No. 1 seed last week with a conference record of 17-1, the Eagles need not play again until the conference tournament.

As the top team, Winthrop is guaranteed to host every conference tournament game it plays in. ▶ see Coliseum pg. 7

Eagle of the Week: Alyssa Angelo

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Lacrosse midfielder and defender Alyssa Angelo is a sophomore in the classroom but a redshirt freshman on the field. Hailing from Atlanta, GA, Angelo never considered herself a homebody, so moving four and a half hours away to attend Winthrop was an easy decision.

“Going out-of-state was something I always considered if it were the right school and Winthrop happened to be that place. It felt like home and still isn’t too far away from home,” Angelo said.

Throughout high school Angelo participated in softball and basketball as well, but her growing love for lacrosse and the fact that she always wanted to be a collegiate athlete helped lead her to the Winthrop field.

“I still played softball and basketball for my high school and they made me a better lacrosse player and all-around athlete. One word I’d use to describe myself on the field is ‘driven.’ I try to work very hard not only to improve my own skill but help my teammates get better as well,” Angelo said.

On Valentine’s Day the Eagles began their 2021 season with a home game against Presbyterian where Winthrop dominated the



Olivia Esselman/The Johnsonian

Angelo

field, winning 19-6.

“It was the best feeling to be back out on the field with the team. Everyone has been so dedicated and committed to get back to the point of playing and it was just a good feeling all around,” Angelo said.

As the leading scorer of that first game with four goals, Angelo humbly accredits her success to her teammates.

“That is more a testament to my teammates helping me get open and seeing the feeds, as well as to our defense for getting the ball back and allowing our offense to work. It was so cool to see so many

people score that game, especially the freshmen,” Angelo said.

The Eagles returned to the field to compete against Coastal Carolina in the second home game of the season on Feb. 20, but the close match sadly ended in the Chanticleers’ favor with a final score of 12-9.

“I love how well the team works together for a common goal. I’m excited to see where that takes us and I’m just excited to win some games and play lacrosse,” Angelo said.

Angelo scored a single goal in that match, but she is not letting the loss slow her roll. She often

looks to her favorite Bible verse, Luke 12:48, for inspiration.

“It says ‘to whom much is given much will be required.’ I love this [verse] because I have been so blessed and fortunate to be given a talent that has brought so much more to me than I could ever ask and it reminds me to do whatever I can to give back to other people and benefit them in any way while also glorifying God and giving back to Him,” Angelo said.

Off the field Angelo can be found making social media content for her team, as well as for Coker University and occasionally Wake Forest University.

“I’m pretty passionate about it and I’m trying to build a brand. I have a portfolio account on Instagram @aangelomedia. I love seeing how media affects players on the team and their confidence and just making them feel special and recognized,” Angelo said.

With numerous games on the schedule ahead, Angelo is thrilled to have a full season on the field.

“A goal I have for myself is to play it to the best of my ability with everything I [have] and just be the best teammate I can be for everybody else on and off the field,” she said.

Angelo and the Eagles take the field next against Mercer at home on Feb. 27th.

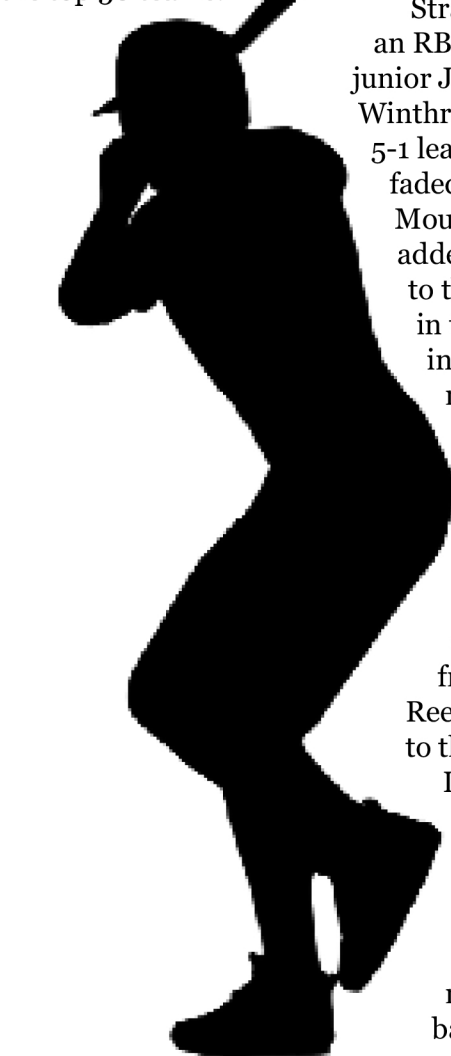
Baseball earns first win

Eagles avoid sweep with barn-burning victory over App State

Matthew Shealy
shealym@mytjnow.com

There was no joy in Rock Hill as the mighty Eagles struck out Saturday, losing 4-1 to Appalachian State in their first game of the season, and dropping another to the Mountaineers later that afternoon, 4-0.

An 0-2 start to the season is likely not what the Eagles had in mind after ranking 40th in the Collegiate Baseball Newspaper’s preseason poll, especially given that their opponent did not earn a spot among the top 50 teams.



Sunday’s contest provided a much better start for Winthrop however. Though the Eagles allowed one run to score in the top of the first inning, they brought home five runs of their own in the bottom of the inning.

Senior Joe McNamara got the scoring started for the Eagles with a solo homerun to left field. Winthrop collected three more hits during the inning, including

a 2 RBI-double from sophomore Jonathan Strauss and an RBI-single by junior Joey Tepper. Winthrop’s early 5-1 lead quickly faded when the Mountaineers added two runs to their total in the second inning, and two more in the third.

With the game tied at 5 runs each, the Eagles called freshman Reese Lumpkin to the mound. Lumpkin faced eight straight batters without allowing a runner on base, which let

Winthrop regain the lead in the bottom of the fifth inning.

With runners in scoring position, the reliable catcher Spencer Yankle stepped up to the plate and dropped a single into center field, scoring one and giving Winthrop a 6-5 advantage. This lead, once again, did not hold for long.

The Mountaineers scored three more in the top of the sixth inning, putting the Eagles down by two. Winthrop’s Garrett Gainey relieved Reese Lumpkin, retiring two batters to leave two runners stranded on base for App State.

The Eagles returned fire on offense, as Tepper singled for the second time and redshirt senior Tyler Baker smashed a two-run homer, tying the game at 8-8.

It looked as though the Mountaineers might collect their third win on the weekend when they scored their ninth run of the game in the top of the seventh, and Winthrop didn’t answer in the bottom of the inning or the next. Still, the Eagles only trailed by one heading into the bottom of the ninth.

Winthrop’s McNamara started a last-chance rally for the Eagles, leading off with a single. He

made it to second base on a ground out by freshman Andrew Jenner.

With the tying run on second, the Mountaineers pitched four straight balls to Scout McFalls to give the veteran a free base. A double from Winthrop’s Yankle moved McFalls to third and scored McNamara to tie the game.

After an intentional walk that loaded the bases, Winthrop’s Strauss stepped into the batter’s box with only one out and the winning run standing 90 feet away. With a swing of the bat, the outfielder launched a single down the left field line, and the Eagles earned a 10-9 walk-off victory.

Winthrop is set to host Towson University next for a three-game series on Feb. 26 and 27. While the ballpark is currently open to just family members of the teams playing, an announcement is expected to come soon regarding tickets for the general public.

If fans are not allowed to attend the Towson series, their next chance would be March 2, when the Eagles host the South Carolina Gamecocks for the first time in school history.

◀ Coliseum from pg. 6

That means fans have at least one more opportunity (but as many as three) to see the Eagles in person this season.

“We want as many fans there as we safely can fit, because we have the best home court advantage in the conference,” Halpin said. “It’s not even a question — any other coach would tell you that.”

“Our fans are the best, they’re the loudest, and they come strong, and so we want desperately to rebuild that, as long as we’re always doing it safely.”

Of course, men’s basketball games are not the only event fans can now attend. Along with the other sports in the coliseum, Halpin said the athletic department is moving toward allowing spectators at outdoor sporting events as long as they wear their masks and socially distance.

“If people are wandering on the farm and wander over to watch [a] game, we really can’t stop them, but we can keep them distanced in a way from the participants for those events,” Halpin said.

While baseball is the only sport that currently remains closed to just family and close friends of the team, Halpin said an announcement would come soon about the general public’s ability to



attend these games too.

Halpin also noted that one thing he has been thankful for throughout the pandemic is the university’s partnership with DHEC to provide free testing in the back parking lot of the coliseum.

“That detail alone has saved our athletic department more money than you could possibly imagine, allowing us to continue adhering to the NCAA regulations on how often we have to test in order to compete.”

According to Halpin, the Big South Conference is leading the country in the number of basketball games played without a delay relating to COVID-19, and Winthrop is near the top for individual schools.

“I’m proud of our athletes and our staff who have been taking the right steps to do this the right way — to be committed to safety first, but within being safe, committed to giving our athletes the opportunity to compete,” Halpin said.

A&C the Johnsonian

February 24, 2021

Once Upon a Time, All Around the World

A preview of Winthrop's upcoming cultural event

Emily Curry
staff writer

doctorate in 19th Century British literature, which was a time when fairy tales and folklore were being collected and published by people such as Andrew Lang and the Brothers Grimm.

Dr. Cothran explained how folklore has shaped cultures. They were originally stories passed down orally, and "one of the joys of fairy tales is that they're always evolving," Cothran said. *Cinderella*, for instance, one of the most popular fairy tales today, actually traces its roots back two thousand years to the ancient civilizations of Greece and Egypt.

According to an article written for Vox, what is considered to be the first *Cinderella* story is about a Greek courtesan named Rhodopis, who "has one of her shoes stolen by an eagle, who flies it all the way across the Mediterranean and drops it in the lap of an Egyptian king."

The *Cinderella* story of rags-to-riches has almost become a genre of its own. When speaking about it, Dr. Cothran

brought up adaptations such as Hillary Duff's *A Cinderella Story* and Roger and Hammerstein's *Cinderella*. Even *Pretty Woman*, starring Julia Roberts, can be seen as a retelling of the fairy tale. As Dr. Cothran wondered, "What is it about these stories that are so attractive to us that we keep telling and retelling it?"

After a brief lecture from Dr. Cothran, the cultural event will see several international students talking about folklore and fairytales from their own cultures. Dr. Cothran expressed her excitement that this would be "giving our international students an opportunity to share some exciting, fun, magic stories from their different cultures" and "an opportunity for Winthrop's American students to hear about some of the neat tales from different parts of the world."

The theme that nearly all fairytales have in common is a message of hope. Dr. Cothran said that "the joy of most fairy tales is that they typically show an individual



Emma Crouch/The Johnsonian

"Once Upon a Time: All Around the World" is a production that the Winthrop International Center is presenting. It is about fairy tales from around the world.

going on some sort of heroic quest to overcome seemingly impossible odds, and I think that's why we like these stories. They give us hope that dragons can be slain, that we can wake up out of a dark slumber." Whether that involves hope that we can get through our own personal struggles, or hope on a more global scale such as the current pandemic, it is important for us to believe that we are worthy of a happily ever after.

The "Once Upon a Time, All Around the World" global learning cultural event will take place virtually Friday, Feb. 26 at 11:00 am.

A review of Judas and the Black Messiah

Looking at one of the latest movies to double release on HBO Max and in theaters

Allison Reynolds
staff writer

On Friday, Feb. 12, the movie *Judas and the Black Messiah* was released on HBO Max and in theaters. The movie is about the Black Panther Party, and the FBI trying to stop them.

The film begins with William "Bill" O'Neal being arrested in Chicago after attempting to hijack a car while posing as a federal officer. O'Neal is approached by FBI Special Agent Roy Mitchell, who offers to drop the charges if he can infiltrate the Illinois chapter of the Black Panther Party. Specifically, Mitchell wants O'Neal to get close to the chapter's leader, Fred Hampton.

O'Neal begins to get closer to Hampton while he forms alliances with rival gangs and militia groups, specifically the Rainbow Coalition. Hampton is also extending community outreach through the Party's Free Breakfast for Children program. Hampton also begins to fall in love with a fellow BPP member, Deborah Johnson. O'Neal continues to relay intel to Mitchell who, in return, begins to pay O'Neal for the information. A fugitive Party member, George Sams, hides out at the local office. O'Neal later learns that Sams is also an informant and Sams' presence as a fugitive allows the FBI to obtain search warrants.

Hampton is arrested and imprisoned and O'Neal begins to move up in the ranks of the Party. O'Neal sneaks out of the office in the middle of a shootout, which eventually leads to the bombing of the office. O'Neal attempts to quit being an informant, but Mitchell reminds him of the charges he would be facing in prison. Hampton is later released from prison and reunited with Johnson, who is now pregnant with his child. Jimmy Palmer, a Party

member, engages in a shootout with police and later dies after being transferred to a different hospital. Another member, Jake Winters, is outraged by Palmer's death and engages in a shootout himself. Winters is gunned down after shooting several officers.

Hampton's appeal gets rejected, meaning he will have to return to prison. FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover orders that Hampton be neutralized before returning to prison. Mitchell corners O'Neal into helping with the plan by stating that the Party will retaliate if they find out he is an informant. O'Neal reluctantly agrees and is later handed a vial of sedatives to drug Hampton's drink with. The next evening, BPP members are gathered at Hampton's party to say goodbye before Hampton has to return to prison. O'Neal drugs Hampton's drink and departs soon after. Hours later, officers and agents raid the apartment and kill Hampton. O'Neal later meets with Mitchell who gives him more cash and keys to a gas station that he now owns.

O'Neal tries to quit again, but ends up taking the keys and money. The film ends with clips of Hampton's speeches and his funeral procession. The film also ends with an interview that O'Neal did in 1989. Title cards say that O'Neal remained an informant up until that interview, and later committed suicide. Today, Fred Hampton Jr. and his mother serve as chairman and board member for the Black Panther Party Cubs.

I believe that *Judas and the Black Messiah* could serve as a wonderful educational type movie to watch, especially during Black History Month. The Black Panther Party is not something that is talked about in schools and is

▶ see Judas pg. 9

Should artists be discussing politics or stay out of it?

Sam Hyatt
staff writer



Tate Walden/The Johnsonian

Music artists tend to express their political opinion through their music.

that artists should be using their platform to talk about politics. They are also people with opinions, and they can use their platform for good by sharing how they feel whether it be through the different mediums created or by actually taking the time to discuss how they feel." Taylor Swift is one artist that openly speaks out concerning politics and advocates for groups of people who are oppressed and bullied because

of their beliefs or skin color. In the 2018 Congressional Election, Swift spoke out against a candidate because she believed their political stance did not align with the state of Tennessee's beliefs and morals. Although the candidate won the election, numerous young voters registered to vote in Tennessee as a result of her influence. Senior conservation biology major, Jesse Martin, said, "A few artists I've seen speak

out about politics are Kacey Musgraves, Taylor, Swift and Dolly Parton. Most recently I've seen a lot of artists using their platform to encourage their fans to vote in the 2020 election." During the Black Lives Matter protests in 2020, several celebrities such as Halsey, Ariana Grande and Billie Eilish were seen supporting and marching in support of the BLM movement. Other artists who did not participate in the marches used their social media accounts to discuss the events occurring and shared GoFundMe petitions to raise money to support the movement and organization. Because of their platform and thousands or millions of followers, celebrities are able to reach a wide audience of people. However, it is important to fact check the information that is being shared.

▶ see Artists pg. 9

In the last few years, with the increase of social media usage, it seems that more and more celebrities and artists are becoming involved in politics. But should they be using their platform to discuss their political beliefs?

Artists have become more involved in politics and have begun using their platforms to inform and influence their followers by sharing their personal opinions and beliefs about different political topics. For some people, they are happy to see those with a greater reach speaking out on injustices and other political beliefs. However, others believe that this elite group of people should be censored on what they share concerning politics. Courtney Smith, a middle level education major, said, "I think

Artist Spotlight: Lights camera action

Mari Pressley
staff writer

After joining her school's theatre program during her junior year of high school, sophomore theatre major Carrington Wigfall was thrown into the world of theatre, forced to retain a whirlwind of information at once.

"Instead of being taught things in steps it's like, okay you get thrown into it. And it wasn't as bad as I thought. Theatre has just been a really good outlet for me and anytime I forget how much I love theatre, I do a project and then I say, 'Oh this is why I love this thing so much!'" Wigfall said.

Taking on the role of director in a high school showcase, Wigfall was given the opportunity to take a leadership role early on. "I got to be the set designer, I got to do the blocking, I got to do just about everything when it came to the set, got to just figure out what costumes were which. It was just a really fun experience to take all the information I learned that year and pour it all into one scene," said Wigfall.

Wigfall got to fulfill the role of assistant stage manager on one of her favorite projects, *The Swing of the Sea*, in Winthrop University's theatre department's most recent show. Wigfall said, "It was really fun, I got to sit from the very beginning and saw how all of the different steps were coming together. When we first started out, I was just like 'How is this

going to work? Is this going to be online? Is this going to be virtual? How is this going to play out? How are we going to do different scenes with social distancing?' And then seeing how it all played out at the end, it was just a fun project to work on."

While Wigfall was able to perform during *The Vagina Monologues* last spring, she also plans on auditioning for the spring production this year. However, the artist is trying to focus on the design technical aspects of theatre now.

"I'm a design tech major so I focus mostly on the technical aspects, so stage management, directing, those are two of my favorite things to do in theatre. I'm also starting to get into costuming with the costuming shop that we have, but hopefully in the future I get to do stage managing and directing. Lighting and set design is fun and all but that's mostly what I like to do."

When asked about the most difficult production problem she had to solve for a production, Wigfall said, "The *Swing of the Sea*, it was so difficult at first but everything ended up working out, there were lots of COVID concerns throughout the whole process...so we were like 'Okay how do we make sure that everyone is comfortable? How do we make sure that everyone feels safe to come in this space? How do we get our audience to know that we're one doing this safely and cater to them?'" Wigfall went on to say, "Before, it was going to be half virtual,



Cooper Beck/The Johnsonian

Wigfall

half online and then we changed everything to completely virtual, so it took a while because we were like, 'We have the lights, but how do we get the lights to look good on camera? How do we get the sound to work on camera? How many camera angles do we want? Do we want close ups? Do we want long shots?' So I think one of the biggest problems is adapting it to virtual theatre."

Wigfall explained how she touches bases and keeps production going throughout COVID. "I think the most important thing is making sure that everyone is transparent and

making sure that everyone is on the same note. Since I was assistant stage manager, I was able to watch my stage manager...touch bases with everyone especially because [of] COVID...making sure that there's constant transparency. Constant communication is something that I plan to do when I walk in [to] future productions, with things that I have been doing and I got to see, so I think transparency is like the best thing...production or just in life."

◀ Judas from pg. 8
something that I never really learned about until watching this movie. This movie gives viewers a chance to learn about something they may have never learned about before. Although it takes place in the late 1960's, the movie also features things that are still relevant today, such as the killing of black people for no reason.

I also believe that the Black Panther Party was a prequel to the Black Lives Matter movement. The Black Panther Party was originally formed in Oakland, California to challenge police brutality. The Party later established the Free Breakfast for Children

program to combat food injustice and established free health clinics for education and to combat HIV/AIDS and sickle cell anemia. The Black Panther Party is not a topic of discussion in history classes because the party is sometimes described as more of a criminal group than anything else.

My only criticism of the movie is that I feel it contained too much filler instead of just including the main plot points. However, the movie is based off of a true story and without the filler, the movie may not have been as impactful.



Tate Walden/The Johnsonian

Vinyls are a way to listen to music.

◀ Artists from pg. 8

Not all information we read will be 100% true.

Artists who are censored by their agencies or managers, they may have to be creative in the way they share their beliefs or show their support for various organizations.

Lj Hardy, a sophomore exercise science major said, "I think that due to the way that entertainment and media have taken over

the way we see things, the more creative displays of political views are the ones that get the most attention and can spread awareness." "No matter what, critical thinking skills are important to have when you see what artists and celebrities post" Smith said, "you have to be able to discern what sources or information is true and false."

The history of Super Bowl commercials

In recent years, movie-goers seem to have gained influence over movie studios' final releases

Sam Hyatt
staff writer

One of the most watched annually televised programs, the Super Bowl, was streamed for the fifty-fifth time Sunday, Feb. 7, as the Kansas City Chiefs were dominated by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. But do people only watch the Super Bowl for the game, or are they more interested in the commercials?

The Super Bowl commercials are always a topic of discussion the day after the game. They are sometimes talked about even more than the final score of the game or the plays made by the players.

This year, while we are still in the middle of the pandemic, more people are staying home with not much to do. According to Fast Company, it was expected that more people would be

watching the Super Bowl this year and as a result companies would make their advertisements bigger and more appealing to the audience.

These infamous commercials have changed in different ways over the years. The first Super Bowl commercial was called "Hey Kid, Catch!" and was advertising Coca-Cola in 1980. According to Sporting News, when this advertisement was created and released, it cost the company about \$37,500. Today, it costs about \$5.5 million for a company to show a 30 second advertisement.

Over the years, there have been several commercials that people have remembered whether it be because of the humor, relatability or because of the heartwarming story the advertisement tells. A few memorable ones are the Apple

1984 commercial, the 2011 Volkswagen "The Force", or the 2020 "Loretta" Google commercial.

Bryson Perdue, a sophomore finance major, shared that his favorite older commercial was the 2019 Bud Light advertisement. "The knights in the commercial made it cool and I liked the humor in it," he said. According to The Wall Street Journal, many companies use the Super Bowl advertising slots as an opportunity to take risks in advertising.

In recent years, companies have begun touching on issues of immigration and social issues such as inequality and gender. Even though these advertisements cost millions of dollars, various commercials are only shown during the game.

However, some companies and organizations do not

want to take the risk in touching on different social or political issues. Rather than discussing these topics in the commercials, they gain the attention of the viewer by using humor. Everyone likes a funny commercial. Matthew Ervin, a junior social work major said, "I think people like the commercials because of the humor, but they have changed in that they are more politically correct and aren't crossing any lines with some humor, and I believe they will continue to do that."

Brad Tinsley, a junior business management major, shared that his favorite Super Bowl commercial this year was the General Motors commercial starring Will Ferrell. "I just love Will Ferrell, he has always made me laugh." Tinsley adds "The commercials are not as funny as they used



Kaily Paddie/The Johnsonian

Superbowl commercials are one of the most popular things of the Superbowl.

to be, they are more serious and not as laid back as I remember."

While acknowledging that commercials have changed, it is important to look to the future to see how these advertisements will continue to change as time goes on. As new technology, vehicles, and

other advancements become available we can expect companies to continue connecting with their audience through humor, heartwarming stories, or through discussing social and political topics occurring at the time of release.

February 24, 2021

Local street names: lingering racism vs. history

Charlotte City Council's decision to rename streets named after white supremacists

Wren Brooke
staff writer

Stonewall Street, Secession Way, Jefferson Davis Street, and Jackson Avenue; if you are from the southeastern United States, you might know of a few similarly named roads, so why has Charlotte moved to change street names like those?

On Feb. 9, the Charlotte City Council unanimously voted in agreement with the Charlotte Legacy Commission's recommendation to retitle roads named after Confederate leaders, slave owners and white supremacists, according to WCNC Charlotte. The Legacy Commission plans to work with the city council in the future to decide on other names.

In the United States, roads are sometimes named for wealthy individuals or self-ambitious developers. But for the most part, the National League of Cities reports that numbers, trees and names of popular or important people are by far the most common name inspirations and are usually decided upon by a city planner or governing council.

What names are considered to be

within the scope of relevant important figures, though, varies widely by the locality. Founding fathers, presidents, and generals are quite common: Washington, Sherman, and Lincoln to name a few (Lincoln being much more popular in Illinois).

Although some new figures have risen recently, in the South, the lion's share of observed local names are known for Confederate, pro-slavery, Jim Crow or white supremacist roots.

In Rock Hill alone, the roads that fall under this category include Dixie Lane, the North and South Confederate Avenues, Jackson Street, Barringer Road, Bancroft Drive and the North and South Stonewall Streets, not to mention Winthrop University buildings also using names such as Tillman or Thurmond.

▶ see [Street](#) pg. 11



Katelyn Miller/The Johnsonian

Charlotte replaced the names of streets which are named after white supremacists.

The TikTok squeeze on skinny jeans

Skinny jeans: a look into why millennial icons are ridiculed and how they're not as bad as you think

Wren Brooke
staff writer

A Feb. 16 Vox article gave voice to TikTok's recent trend criticizing the millennial vices: earnest fondness of 'cringe' subjects such as 'doggo' or the crying emoji, being "weirdly obsessed" with franchises like Disney and Harry Potter and apparently most of all "they wear side parts and skinny jeans."

How did this stereotype come to be, and should this lifestyle be a bygone trend?

The movement grew hot around the time that writer Sejla Rizvic published an article on The Walrus titled "Everybody Hates Millennials: Gen Z and the TikTok Generation Wars" on Feb. 9.

In the article, Rizvic described her experience as an older millennial navigating the relatively young app as "refreshingly honest and hilarious," saying TikTok "embraced idiosyncrasy

and irreverence over conformity and overwrought styling."

It is no secret that millennials are the rather tenuous bridge between the older generations, who are relatively disconnected from technology, and the Zoomers, a generation practically raised by technology.

The world's 'middle child' age group was young enough to intuit computer interfacing almost as a second language. But they are also old enough to remember the rules that were needed for an analog society, like writing in cursive, solving mathematical equations without a calculator or reading an analog clock, both the older and younger generations have gone on as normal, almost heedless to each other's nearly wholly separate cultures and societies. However, the Western culture of the millennial generation's adolescence has become all but frozen in time

▶ see [Skinny](#) pg. 11

Paradoxical McConnell

Trump's acquittal and McConnell's contradiction: why McConnell voted "not guilty" but ended up condemning Trump

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Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell threw Republicans and Democrats for a loop when he attributed responsibility of the Capitol insurrection to former President Donald Trump, despite his vote against conviction.

Trump reacted, calling McConnell a "dour, sullen, and unsmiling political hack," and went on to say, "I will back primary rivals who espouse Making America Great Again and our policy of America First," according to CNN reporting.

Trump's statement is not only threatening but also evidence that he has a death grip on the Republican Party. While many Republican representatives can still say Trump "should be held accountable," they do not want to be the ones to do it.

Only seven Republicans voted to convict Trump, two of whom are retiring, and only one is up to face their voters in the 2022 election cycle — Senator Lisa Murkowski of Alaska.

Though other

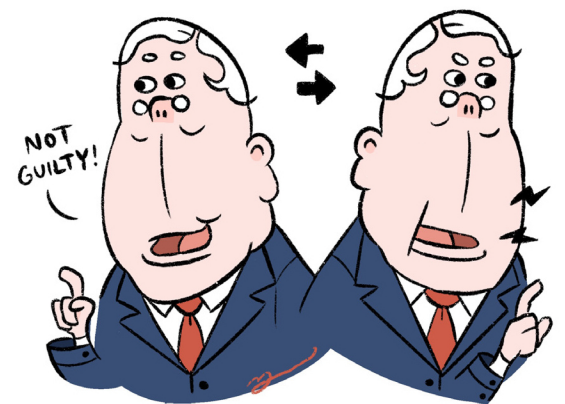
Republicans agreed that the attack on the Capitol was shameful, they also knew that the same people who were involved are also voters who are loyal to Trump, whether he runs again or not, so if they want to be reelected as well, they must protect him.

Those like McConnell may want to keep democracy and integrity, but they also want to keep their jobs. Why McConnell would even give any remarks pertaining to Trump's responsibility, puzzling.

If McConnell's motive behind the way he chose to vote had to do with only being reelected, he most likely destroyed that effort when he gave criticism afterward. It is unfortunate for that to be the case, but it reveals that it is just not worth it to make decisions based upon anything other than logic, evidence and one's own moral compass or conscience.

McConnell's criticism unravels his true thoughts and views behind the events on Jan. 6.

However, it was far too late for him to be sharing those thoughts at that point because it only damaged and contradicted



Micheal Yelton/The Johnsonian

Mitch McConnell condemned Trump after saying he wasn't guilty.

his prior stance. If his vote had reflected these views, Trump, as well as others, would have probably still insulted him, but at least his credibility would still be intact. In the end, it seems as though McConnell wanted Americans to know that the attack would not have happened if it weren't for Trump's careless words.

Still, the contradiction did not start there. In the beginning, McConnell proposed that the Senate should delay the trial until February (after inauguration). According to an ABC news report, "He wrote that his proposal includes a 'modest and reasonable amount' of additional time for sides to prepare arguments."

Yet, later in a letter

to GOP conference members, McConnell wrote, "While a close call, I am persuaded that impeachments are a tool primarily of removal and we therefore lack jurisdiction."

Despite the contradictory statements and choices McConnell has made, it is clear that he, along with the majority of Senate Republicans, protected the former president.

Though Trump was indeed twice impeached and now twice acquitted, his legal issues are just beginning, as multiple states have opened investigations and lawsuits against him. Perhaps there will be fewer contradictions and more justice concerning the cases ahead if fewer politicians are involved.

Advocating for educators

Teachers are still not receiving the deserved salary

Sam Hyatt
staff writer

In the times that we are experiencing, it is always refreshing to read a story about someone doing good for the community. Recently, Henry Darby, the principal at North Charleston High School in South Carolina, has been recognized for his dedication to his students. After learning that his students and teachers were unable to afford the school supplies needed for their classrooms, Darby began working at the local Walmart three nights a week. Each paycheck he earns, he donates towards school supplies for students and teachers.

Even though this is a heartwarming story about a man taking a step to help those in need, it also exposes the flaws in the education system and a problem with low teacher salaries.

Senior English education major Ashley

Moore said, “It is sad that teachers work a second job to get their students the supplies they need, and this article shows us just how hard it is to be a teacher and how much some educators care about their students.”

According to the South Carolina Department of Education, a first-year teacher only obtaining a bachelor’s degree will make an average salary between \$28,190 and \$35,000 annually. The salary amount earned can increase as teachers spend more time working in the field and by obtaining higher degrees.

It is not uncommon for teachers to regularly buy supplies for their students and classrooms with money from their own pockets. Some districts allow their teachers a small allowance at the beginning of the year to buy various materials for their classrooms, and teachers are able to buy whatever they feel will be necessary for

that school year. Due to low funding from the state, this is not always possible for each school district.

For years there has been a push for teachers to get a raise in their salary. In May of 2019, over 10,000 South Carolina teachers protested outside the State House to fight for higher wages. The openness of opposing opinions on this subject is becoming more frequent. Sophomore international business major Sam Jones said that she believes with more extensive education teachers will begin receiving more pay.

Even though there has been a constant push from teachers to get the deserved earnings, there is currently no information concerning the possibility of the wages increasing.

However, with an educator in the White House, First Lady Dr. Jill Biden, we may begin to see more advocacy for educators and possibly positive changes to the educa-

tion system.

“I really hope that teachers finally get the salary they deserve,” senior sports management major Isaiah DeSantis said. “Because the care and effort they put in translates to the students and how much they care to do better and how much they want to learn.”

Until teachers get recognition through increased salaries, it is necessary for people to continue to support and advocate for teachers. Singing petitions on Change.org can be a way to advocate for teachers, as can be making donations to local teachers or through GoFundMe pages.

“I think college students can become advocates to support teachers,” Moore said. “They can do this by attending school board meetings, posting on social media, and by listening to what teachers and future teachers have to say.”



Photo Courtesy to CCSD

Darby

◀ Skinny from pg. 10

— a testament to the speed Zoomer culture is developing. Even though every generation fondly clutches the society of their childhood, only a few come from the short period of time that saw Disney Channel Original Movies and Hannah Montana, Mr. Rogers and PBS Kids, Harry Potter and Percy Jackson.

So, just as older generations have bittersweet memories of mullets and bell-bottom jeans, the millennials and some zillennials can fondly remember unironically middle parting their hair or squeezing themselves into the least possible amount of denim and adopting ‘the skinny jeans stance.’

It’s hard to justify such harsh criticism over something as inconsequential as a fashion trend, though. After all, the generation of Zoomers behind this TikTok fad is the same group that had to be forcibly

prevented from eating laundry detergent pods, and that has also become mystifyingly conservative, despite being at the front lines of gun violence at schools, climate change and government failures.

For those who enjoy 2000s fashion, this isn’t all fun and games, though. While middle parts might not have adverse health effects, wearing skinny jeans can. According to a TENA Men survey, 10% of skinny jean wearers experienced unpleasant effects, including urinary tract infection (UTI), groin damage and bladder weakness.

In the end, though, the health risk of tight jeans is not particularly major. If you compare the dangers of too-small jeans to the health risks from almost completely outdated practices like corsetry, footbinding or crinoline-framed dresses, denim seems like a pretty safe way to go after all.



Jamia Johnson/The Johnsonian

A trend on TikTok is calling to cancel the skinny jean look.

◀ Street from pg. 10

When you compare the sheer number of roads and sites named after renowned racists compared to the amount of infrastructure named after heroes of equality, some of these Confederate names start to seem repetitive.

Even acknowledging the names, one might still ask — why is it important to switch them out?

Racist and fanatical groups will often rally around symbols of their cause, even if the icon is outdated and publicly unpopular.

Nazis, the Klu Klux Klan, the Confederate Army and the flag, as well as the symbols of all those groups, are all rallying points for racist and white supremacist groups.

While naming monuments or roads after Washington or Hamilton may be respectful and commonplace enough, using racists’ names for similar purposes is a disgrace to Southern culture.

We’ve essentially become blind to the horrors that hide behind the names of historical Southern

figures.

What can be done about this?

Visit the City of Rock Hill’s website (or the site of whichever city you live in) and check to see which ward and district you live in. Contact your councilperson, your mayor, or if you want to make changes at a higher level, gather a group of assenting people and talk to your governor or congressional representative.

Although it is a strange and unwieldy venture, giving your opinions to your rep-

resentatives and participating in politics is actually part of being a good citizen and making our government a more democratic one, especially if you voice multiple opinions together.

Young people as a whole share a historical trend of underestimating their political voice. So, regardless of who you agree with or what exactly your opinion is, if you feel strongly about it, then you should give it a voice.



Charlotte City Council voted to change the names of streets on Feb. 9.

Photo Courtesy to Flickr

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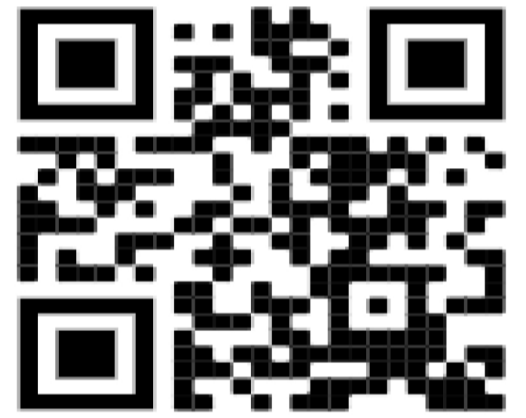
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