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US News Best Colleges list

Legends of the autumnal equinox

Eagles versus Gamecocks



# THE JOHNSONIAN



## Miracle Park grand opening

A park designed to provide the differently-abled with a fun-filled playground experience; Grand opening on Friday, Sept. 18

Olivia Esselman  
photographer



"We've worked very hard to create an outdoor space where no matter your age or ability, there's a place for you here," said Miracle Park Executive Director, Kylie Carroll.







## Winthrop Bridge Program introduces Meta-Majors

*Winthrop seeks to further grow their bridge program with York Tech through the use of its new Meta-Majors initiative*

**Mari Pressley**  
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Winthrop has expanded its collaboration with York Technical College with the introduction of Meta-Majors for students in its bridge program.

While Meta-Majors group individual majors under a broader academic umbrella, students select their Meta-Major based on their career interests. The guided pathways provide them with a clear track to graduation. Students are able to make connections between their studies and different career tracks.

The Guided Transfer Pathway Initiative committee, convened in February 2020 by Winthrop Provost Dr. Adrienne McCormick and YTC's then-Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs (now President) Dr. Stacey Moore, was implemented with the intention of improving transfer credit, increasing student success and reducing the cost and time required to complete an undergraduate degree.

“By creating Meta-Majors with eight-semester academic pathways for each major, it makes it a smoother transition from York Tech. It also decreases the chance of a transfer student taking a class that would not count toward their bachelor's degree at Winthrop University,” said Winthrop Admissions Transfer Counselor Craig Gero.

While the program offers 29 guided pathways (eight-semester plans) with built-in check-

lists to keep track of academic milestones, the development of the Winthrop Meta-Major and revised guided pathways are intended to make impactful changes to enrollment and advisement and integrate student services to create a cohesive learning experience across both institutions.

“A student interested in business, for example, can join the Business and Management Meta-Major and immediately start their path towards earning a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Winthrop by taking transferable classes at York Tech,” said Pre-College Programs Coordinator Erica Panton.

“For students who have a general idea of what they want to study, the Meta-Majors streamline the process of selecting a major and take the guesswork out of which classes will be applicable to their Winthrop major.”

Meta-Major students may also attend cultural events to simultaneously earn credit towards Winthrop's cultural event requirement whilst fostering a life-enriching pattern of cultural involvement.

Other benefits enjoyed by students in the Winthrop Bridge Program include a “Winthrop ID card, which gives you access to campus facilities and services, including the West Center physical education and wellness center, the Academic Success Center, Writing Center, and Dacus Library, as well as admission to Winthrop cultural and select sporting events” and a “Win-

throp academic advisor who can help you plan your path to WU,” according to York Tech's website.

While students complete their associate degree at York Tech, they are also made to feel at home on Winthrop's campus. The collaboration with York Tech provides students with the opportunity to utilize available facilities and resources on both campuses.

“Bridge students are guaranteed admission to Winthrop University upon successful completion of the bridge program and upon transferring receive the Bridge Scholarship (valued at \$1000 per year, for up to three years). We're so proud of our bridge students' achievements, and we look forward to welcoming more students into our program,” Panton said.

Bridge program students also receive emails from Winthrop to invite them to campus events and remind students of deadlines for transfer.

“There are so many student benefits to the Meta-Majors and guided pathways — planned and intentional exploration of careers and opportunities within a general field of study, less uncertainty about requirements for completion; ability to move through coursework with fewer obstacles and a clear understanding of path; fewer excess units taken, saving time and money, and embedded counseling and feedback on students' progress throughout their educational journey on both campuses,” Panton said.

Winthrop is working to make the transition for all transfer students easier through the Transfer Credit Evaluator (TraCE) on the Winthrop transfer webpage, allowing transfer students to enter all of their transfer courses and determine how close they are to receiving their Winthrop University bachelor's degree.

“[T]ransfer Admissions has a Virtual Transfer Information Session once a month that allows prospective students to view a presentation and ask questions about our transfer process,” Gero said. “In addition, our Transfer Admission Counselor is on campus of our top two-year institution twice a month to be available to explain our transfer process.

“We are also working with those institutions to create academic pathways for those students as well.”



Courtesy of Pre-College Programs Coordinator Erica Panton

## My Ride offers free transportation for students

*Winthrop University reveals 2021-2022 school year budget.*

**Jada Strong**  
Staff Writer

Many students may not be aware of the benefits of the free, fixed-route bus system that runs through Winthrop's campus, My Ride Rock Hill. If you reside on campus, there is a very slim chance that you have never seen the My Ride bus drive through campus. At the very least, you have probably gone past their bus stops. Sophomore English major Emily Morris has heard about

My Ride before and has used it once but has yet to use it again. However, Morris thinks it is a very useful way to run errands.

“I personally don't have a car on campus, so it would be useful to be able to go places without having to rely on a friend,” Morris said.

Katie Quinn, My Ride communications and marketing manager, plays a big role in contributing to the development and growth of the bus system.

“My Ride is the city's fare-free bus system. It is a six-route system that runs from

Monday-Saturday 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.,” Quinn said. “There are multiple stops on campus, but there's also a couple available off-campus as well.”

There are multiple areas available for students to visit, whether it is to run errands or head downtown.

“One of the biggest perks of taking the bus is that there's a bunch of different grocery stores. You can go to the nearest Publix or Food Lion,” Quinn said. “You can also travel to Target or the Galleria Mall area where there are several

shopping centers. You can go downtown or maybe even a park.”

The buses themselves come with several amenities, like Wi-Fi.

“The bus comes with Wi-Fi and charging ports if you ever need them,” Quinn said. “Also our buses are electrical, so they're environmentally friendly and don't make too much noise. They are also accessible and accommodat[ing] to people who need to bring their bicycles with them on the bus.” Another contributor to the My

see *My Ride* pg. 3

### About The Johnsonian

The Johnsonian is the weekly student newspaper of Winthrop University.

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clarity. Please include your name, major and year if you are a student; your name and title if you are a professor, or your name and profession if you are a member of the community. Letters, cartoons and columns reflect the opinion of the authors and are not necessarily the opinions of The

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Cont. *My Ride* from  
Ride system is Winthrop Sustainability Coordinator Christopher Johnson.

“Part of sustainability looks at community development: ‘What do we value in our communities? What type of community do we want to live in?’ Our participation in the community determines that,” Johnson said. “The more people we get out of car[s] and in alternative transportation helps the community as well as the environment.”

Although the bus has great advantages, some students do not take advantage of My Ride due to a lack of understanding of how to navigate the bus route.

“I am comfortable riding the bus, but not comfortable enough to use it alone,” Morris said. “I sort of know what it is, but I don’t know how the stops or schedules work.”

Morris once had an unfortunate travel experience with My Ride when she and her friend got lost.

“Honestly, I didn’t have a great experience because my friend said she was going to figure everything out, and she read

the schedule wrong, and I ended up being late for one of my classes,” Morris said.

Johnson has been made aware of students’ concerns and expressed his interest in helping students learn how to use My Ride.

“I’ve been thinking of creating an event where I could gather some students, and we could ride the bus route for some time so they could become more comfortable with a hands-on approach,” Johnson said. “That way, it could help students be aware of the benefits of My Ride, and they wouldn’t be afraid of riding on their own.”

My Ride is always looking for ways to expand routes across the city.

“With the city expanding, there’s more people commuting here and more events to go to and see,” Quinn said. “So it all comes down to money, buses are expensive to buy, but we also have backup buses right now. [W]e’re trying to grow the system, but also make sure we have enough buses to cover the routes. [W]e’re trying to grow with not only more routes but

also more service hours and shorten the wait time on the buses.”

For more information on My Ride or how to use it, you can download the My Ride Rock Hill app, available on the App Store or Google Play, or be sure to visit the site at <https://myriderockhill.com>.



Mari Pressley/The Johnsonian



A My Ride bus stop located outside of digs and across from Courtyard.

## Winthrop ranks on US News Best Colleges list

*Winthrop has retained its highest ranking yet among public universities in the South*

Mari Pressley  
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Winthrop retained its highest ranking among public universities in the South in U.S. News & World Report’s annual “Best Colleges” guidebook for the second year.

Recognized in other categories such as veterans, value, undergraduate teaching and social mobility of alumni, Winthrop ranks 17th among regional universities in the South.

In the annual guidebook, Winthrop rose from 7th to 5th place among best colleges for veterans, moved to 15th place for best undergraduate teaching as judged by peers, rose from 23rd to 16th place for social mobility, a fairly new category that measures how well schools graduated students who received federal Pell Grants, and was rated 43rd as a Best Value among regional universities in the South. Interim President George Hynd credited this ranking to the hard work of the campus community.

“These accolades are a reflection of, in some cases, years’ worth of hard work from individuals all across this campus. It’s a great feeling to know that our peers and U.S. News recognize what we already know: that Winthrop is a unique place, and our mission is to provide a first-class and well-rounded education to each student we serve.”

## Justice Department sues Texas

*Justice Department sues Texas over newly passed abortion ban*

Marley Bassett  
Staff Writer

The U.S. Justice Department filed a lawsuit against the state of Texas over concerns regarding the state’s abortion ban that was passed at the beginning of September.

The new law bans abortions after the six-week mark with no exceptions for rape or incest. Currently, the only exception is when there is a threat to the mother’s life. The law also allows private citizens to receive up to \$10,000 for reporting someone who gets or helps facilitate an abortion.

U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland said in the lawsuit that the abortion ban “is in direct violation of Supreme Court precedent.” The precedent referred to in the lawsuit is *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*.

*Planned Parenthood v. Casey* states that “regardless of whether exceptions are made for particular circumstances, a state may not prohibit any woman from making the ultimate decision to terminate her pregnancy before viability.” A fetus is considered viable in the United States once it meets the 24-week mark.

This lawsuit comes after the

Supreme Court refused, on a 5-4 ruling, to issue an emergency ruling that would block the enforcement of the new abortion law while leaving the “door open” to rule on further challenges. Twenty-two members of the House Judiciary Committee also submitted a letter to the Justice Department, urging them to issue a lawsuit to block the new law.

In response to the announcement that the Justice Department was suing Texas, Planned Parenthood released a statement that called the ban “unconstitutional.”

“Texas’s S.B.8 is blatantly unconstitutional. It flies in the face of 50 years of precedent and has made abortion virtually inaccessible in the state of Texas,” the statement, from Helene Krasnoff, vice president for public policy litigation & law, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, read.

Winthrop students were mostly in agreement concerning both the abortion ban and the new Justice Department lawsuit.

Biology major Edward Carter said the Justice Department is well within its rights to sue Texas.

“The Justice Department has full right to sue Texas for the abortion ban. This was wrong,

and Texas knew what they were doing when passing it. If it isn’t your body, then you shouldn’t be making decisions for others,” Carter said.

Elementary education major Audry Hocott agreed. “Banning abortions only stops safe abortions, and if you stop safe ones, then you have more women dying,” Hocott said. “And as for the Justice Department suing Texas, that was the right thing to do. You’re taking the right to make a decision away.”

The Justice Department recently asked a federal judge to step in and issue an injunction. The department said that the injunction was “necessary to protect the constitutional rights of women in Texas and the sovereign interest of the United States.” The injunction would stop the law from going into effect while it is challenged in federal court.

The future of this abortion ban remains uncertain, and there will be several legal battles fought over the constitutionality. The Supreme Court has agreed to hear a case on a similar abortion ban that was passed in Mississippi. This future case has the potential to overturn the previous precedents of *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*.



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# Rock Hill Mayor John Gettys runs for re-election

Part two of a series on Rock Hill mayoral candidates

**Garrett McCluggage**  
Staff Writer

Incumbent Rock Hill Mayor John Gettys is running for re-election. He vows to revitalize the city.

"I believe I have the experience and know-how to drive our community forward," Gettys said.

According to the City of Rock Hill's website, Gettys served two terms on the city council, first being elected in 2002 and then re-elected in 2005.

Gettys believes his greatest achievement was "opening up that vaccination clinic... and putting over 50,000 shots in peoples' arms."

"Since we've opened up this vaccination clinic ... and the vaccination has been so widely distributed now, ... I don't think a mask is necessary," Gettys said. "It was before we had vaccines, in my opinion, or at least what we thought at the time, and now I think people are using some revisionist history to suggest otherwise."

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention website advises that all those who are vaccinated should still "wear a mask indoors in an area of substantial or high transmission." According to Statista, South Carolina is ranked the seventh-highest state in COVID-19 cases per capita, as of Sept. 17.

Gettys said he wants to revitalize the south side of Rock Hill.

"What we've done is started the process of creating a tax-increment district ... so that we can take new property taxes and put them to public infrastructure on the south side only," he said.

On the issue of police department expansion, which his opponent, Ishmael Lowery, says is the biggest difference between the two, Gettys supports police.

"Well, Mr. Lowery, I've never seen him at a police ball supporting our police department. I've never seen him at a gathering of police officers. I didn't see him downtown helping the police when I was there ... so he can jump up and down and say all he wants, but he's never shown that in practice," Gettys said.

The vote for the Rock Hill Mayorship will be held on Oct. 19. Deadlines for voter registration are Sept. 17 in person, Sept. 19 online, and Sept. 20 by mail-in application.

# 10 SC citizens charged in Capitol riot



Obtained from an FBI document

Screenshot of CCV footage from inside the Capitol showing James Douglas Lollis Jr. entering the Capitol during the Jan. 6 riot

## FBI continues to investigate citizens for their role in the Capitol riot

**Christian Smith**  
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Ten South Carolina citizens, one of whom has pleaded guilty, have been charged by the FBI for their connection to the Jan. 6 storming of the Capitol.

The latest to be charged is James Douglas Lollis Jr., who has been charged with knowingly entering and remaining in a restricted building, disrupting government functions with disorderly conduct in a restricted building, disorderly conduct in a Capitol building and demonstrating in a Capitol building, according to an FBI document.

On Jan. 6, supporters of former President Donald Trump violently broke into the Capitol during the joint session to certify the Nov. 3 election of now-President Joe Biden to disrupt or stop the certification, with many citing false claims Trump and others made that the election was "stolen" by election fraud. The riot resulted in the death of five people, and about 140 law officers were injured.

Lollis was the latest in a se-

ries of South Carolina citizens to be charged for their part in the Jan. 6 Capitol riots, all facing similar charges. According to the Department of Justice, others include:

Andrew Hatley, who pleaded guilty to "parading, demonstrating or picketing in a Capitol building" on Sept. 14 as a part of a plea deal with federal prosecutors and will be sentenced on Dec. 16.

Elliot Bishai and Elias Irizarry, both of York County, were arrested in March but charged in April with the same charges facing Lollis. Irizarry is the son of actor Vincent Irizarry and is a Citadel cadet.

John Hubert Getsinger Jr. and Stacie Ann Hargis Getsinger were arrested in June and face many of the same charges as Lollis, with an additional charge of violent entry.

Derek Cooper Gunby, who was arrested in August, faces the same charges as the Getsingers.

Nicholas Languerand was arrested in April and indicted in May. He is charged with similar charges to the Getsingers, except with additional charges of assaulting, resisting or impeding an officer using a dangerous weapon and aiding

and abetting civil disorders. While all others have been released until such time as their "status conference," Languerand remains detained.

William Robert Norwood III was arrested in February and indicted in March. He faces charges that include theft of government property, entering and remaining in certain rooms in the Capitol building and obstruction of an official proceeding.

George Amos Tenney III was arrested in June and charged with, amongst other charges, interfering with law enforcement officers during civil disorder, obstruction of justice or congress and disorderly conduct in a capitol building.

According to a report by The New York Times, some Republican lawmakers and conservative pundits continue to downplay or valorize the riot and those who took part in it, despite mounting evidence of the damage and violence done by the rioters.

In a statement on Sept. 16, Trump said, "Our hearts and minds are with the people being persecuted so unfairly relating to the January 6th protest concerning the Rigged Presidential Election."

## Biden proposes vaccine mandates

### U.S. citizens outraged at Biden's vaccine mandates

**Sam Hyatt**  
Staff Writer

After President Joe Biden's announced new COVID-19 vaccine requirements, which will affect around 100 million Americans, citizens have become outraged at the president's push for mandating vaccines.

In a speech on Sept. 9, Biden explained his desire for the vaccines to be mandated. According to the New York Times, Biden proposed that all healthcare workers, federal contractors and federal workers be required to take the vaccine.

Additionally, according to the New York Times, it will be mandatory for businesses with one hundred or more employees to require either the vaccine or COVID-19 testing every week. This will go into place once the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) implements a rule that

requires this of businesses.

Biden expressed frustration towards those who are eligible for the vaccine but have yet to receive it.



Sam Hyatt/The Johnsonian

"We've been patient, but our patience is wearing thin. And your refusal has cost all of us," Biden said.

Currently, there are roughly 80 million people in the United States who are eligible for the

vaccine but have not received it, according to The New York Times.

Some people have taken to social media to voice their disappointment and anger towards Biden's views on the need for a vaccine mandate.

Coleman Smith, a freshman sport management major, is skeptical of the vaccine.

"I don't agree with it, to have a vaccine rushed out in a year and expect people to trust it. It is a little premature," Smith said.

The Democratic Party is facing backlash for the push for vaccine mandates, despite the vaccines being approved under a Republican administration.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there have been 670,565 reported deaths from COVID-19 in the United States and 385,586,012 vaccines administered as of Sept. 19.





Courtesy of Winthrop University

## Sabine Gruffat VR exhibit unveiled at Winthrop Gallery

**Jada Strong**  
Staff Writer

Winthrop always strongly advocates and encourages their Fine Arts program by continuously providing opportunities for students interested in pursuing or students who just enjoy engaging in creative art.

On Sept. 13, two professional galleries were unveiled at Winthrop University. One of them was entitled “AntiBodies” by Sabine Gruffat. These galleries will be up for display for everyone on campus to view until Dec. 10, so there is plenty of time to take advantage of this opportunity and see the art available for free on campus.

Sabine Gruffat is a French-American artist who is currently living in North Carolina and working as a professor of digital art at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is one of the two professional artists displaying artwork here at Winthrop’s gallery in the Rutledge Building.

Gruffat’s art includes using virtual reality and multimedia installations to convey the theme of her art and reach her audience.

Upon entering Gruffat’s exhibit, one of the first things displayed on the walls is a short introduction to the meaning behind her artwork and information on the artist herself.

The introduction reads, “‘AntiBodies’ is a Virtual Reality (VR) artwork and multimedia installation that explores body dysmorphia - a fixation on perceived flaws of one’s body - and gender and race representation in the context of eating disorders and self-image.”

The director of Winthrop University Galleries, Karen Howard, coordinates these exhibits, including Gruffat’s.

“We have three different spaces of the Winthrop University Gallery, one student gallery and two professional galleries. So we do exhibitions of different people,” Howard said. “Up in the Patrick Gallery is the ‘AntiBodies’ exhibition. This is an exhibition of artist work and a part of the artwork that the artist [Gruffat] has created using VR.”

Howard explained how Gruffat’s art tackles pressing issues about how people view their bodies.

“She’s exploring body issues and the views in our society of eating disorders and body dysmorphia,” Howard said. “Part of that is her own personal experience, and the other

part of it is that she works in many different kinds of media and film. She has started to use newer technologies including gaming and virtual reality.”

Howard explained how Gruffat noticed the physicality of gaming avatars was not a true representation of diverse body types.

“She realized that a lot of the stock kinds of sounds and body forms and all those kinds of things to build games. She found that they were highly masculine or an objectified version of a woman, like with big breasts, etc.,” she said. “She was coming across this idea that even if she was trying to represent this ideal of a female in a virtual world, there wasn’t one in the library of options that had the abrupt or the interest of female sounds, etc.”

One of the pieces set up in the exhibit shows a virtual image of two girls making the same sounds on a loop.

“Ms. Gruffat created different avatars in one of her pieces that show the different kinds of movements and sounds that can come from an avatar that are in those stock bodies,” Howard said. “You can say they’re not terribly feminine; they might not be representative of everyone in a sense. Even though everyone is playing these games, they don’t necessarily represent everybody.”

Gruffat had also created a virtual reality game, available for

attendees to experiment on.

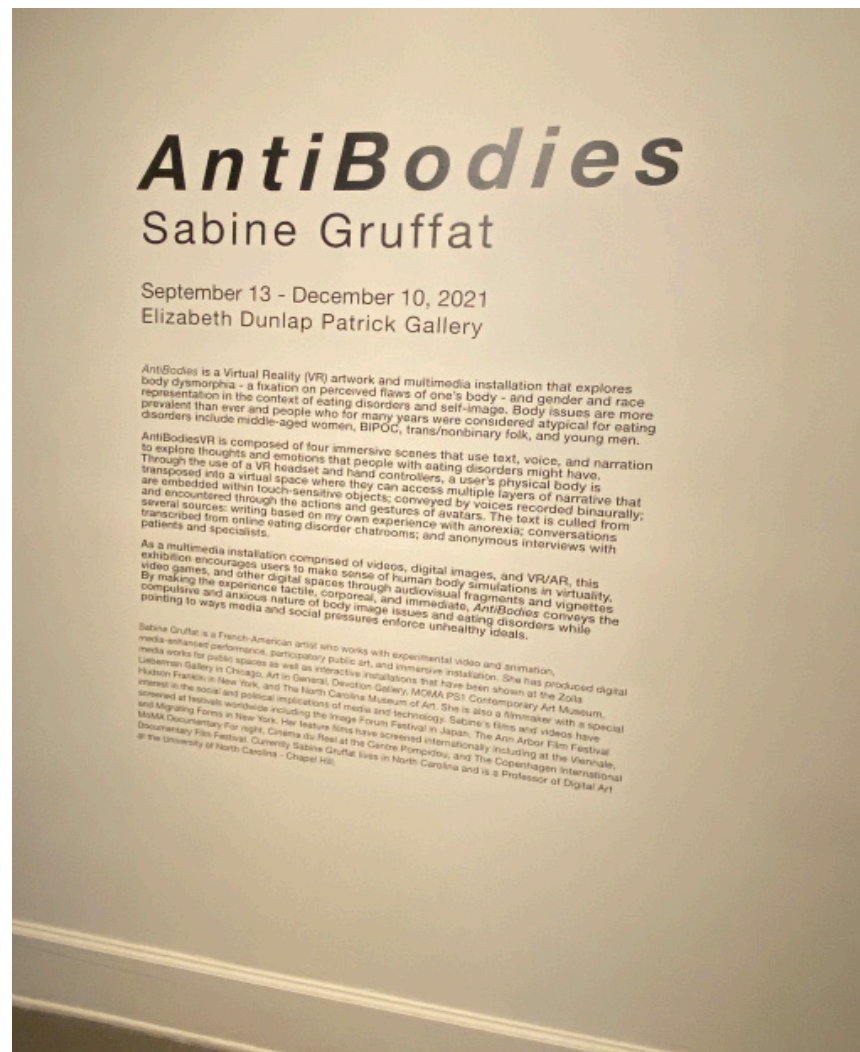
“This game is centered around your ‘goal weight,’” Howard said. “So these projected images on the wall are some that you will see when you play the game. When you’re in the VR headset, you can play the game. The images on the wall are there so that when someone is playing the game, the people on the outside can get a sense of the imagery you’re looking at.”

“It all has to do with this idea of what the representation of bodies is in this virtual reality and making a statement for what that means for our society, how we view these topics.”

When someone enters the virtual game, there is an instructor helping to navigate you through the game. As one plays, they can interact with different avatars and walk around as if they are there.

The art pushes forward to evaluate hard pressing matters that should be discussed and provide a creative outlet for not only the artist but the viewers as well.

“We use creative work to have these larger conversations about body dysmorphia. Any student at Winthrop University could have similar issues with this that they could relate to,” Howard said. “It’s just that we are using creativity as a jumping-off point to have these discussions. We use these spaces to do that throughout the year.”



Jada Strong/The Johnsonian

A short biography and introduction displayed on a wall inside of Elizabeth Dunlap’s Gallery.

## Fun facts about famous people

*Fascinating fun facts about some of the most famous people in history*

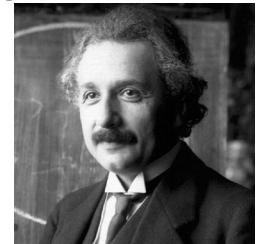
**Marley Bassett**  
Staff Writer

Americans have long had a fascination with trivia and fun facts, especially when it comes to famous people. Below is a compiled list of some of the most interesting fun facts about famous people.



Flickr

**Marilyn Monroe:** The FBI had a file on Marilyn Monroe due to her relationship and later marriage with suspected Communist sympathizer and playwright Arthur Miller. During a remodel of her former home, the couple who had purchased it also found a government-grade taping system throughout the house.



Flickr

**Albert Einstein:** After his death, the pathologist who conducted his autopsy, Thomas Harvey, stole his brain in hopes of discovering the secret of his genius.



Flickr

**Michael Jackson:** On his ranch, Neverland, he owned, along with a variety of other animals, two pet llamas named Lola and Louie.

**Abraham Lincoln:** Lincoln holds the record for being the tallest president at 6 feet 4 inches tall which was helped by his stove-pipe hat. He also used the hat to store important letters and documents.



Flickr

**John Lennon:** Although he is known as one of the most famous singer-songwriters, Lennon actually hated the sound of his own voice and would often ask to double-track all of the songs he recorded.



Flickr

**Princess Diana:** Princess Diana set a new trend for royal brides when she became the first one to have a job before getting married. She had previously worked as a nanny and a nursery school teacher before she became engaged to Prince Charles.

see [Fun Facts](#) pg. 7



## Legends of the autumnal equinox

*A look at myths and folklore with ties to the autumnal equinox*

Emily Curry  
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The leaves have begun to turn, and the air has started to crisp; sure signs that fall is on the way. In fact, Sept. 22 is the autumnal equinox, the official start of autumn. The autumnal equinox has been an important date in many ancient cultures and even some modern ones. After all, it's not every day that the day and the night are the same length.

In Greek mythology, for instance, this would be the day that Persephone returns to her husband, Hades.

According to legend, the goddess of spring was kidnapped by the ruler of the Underworld to be his bride. At some point, Persephone ate pomegranate seeds, though the ancient writers differed on whether she ate them of her own free will or if she was tricked.

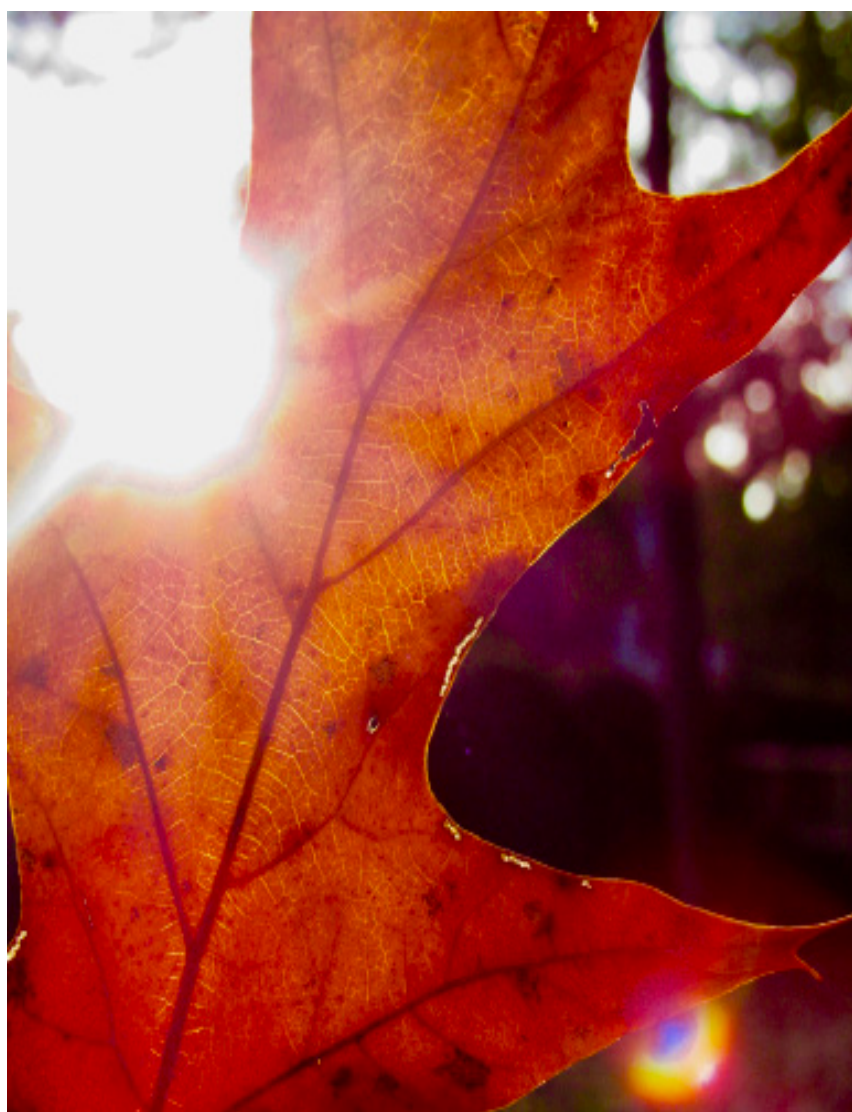
By eating the seeds, she sealed her fate as Queen of the Underworld and agreed to spend a third of the year with

Hades. Persephone's mother, Demeter, so mourns the loss of her daughter every year that she forbids anything to grow.

In ancient Chinese culture, according to the History channel, the "full moon that falls closest to the autumnal equinox is sometimes called the Harvest Moon." This tradition originated in the Shang dynasty and involved offerings made to the moon.

According to the History channel, many Chinese and Vietnamese still celebrate this holiday. It is also known as the Mid-Autumn Festival, during which "lanterns adorn streets, and family and friends gather to give thanks, share food and watch the moon." One of the most popular delicacies served is the mooncake.

The celebration comes from the Chinese legend of the moon goddess Chang'e. The myth has many different interpretations, including one, according to Encyclopedia Britannica, that "[Chang'e] sought refuge in the moon when her consort, Hou



Emma Crouch/The Johnsonian

Yi (the Lord Archer), discovered she had stolen the drug of immortality given to him by the gods."

The Egyptians must have held the autumnal equinox in high regard as, according to the Smithsonian, the day played a large part in the construction of the pyramids. An archaeologist recently made the claim that the pyramids' positioning is based on the sun's movements on the autumnal equinox.

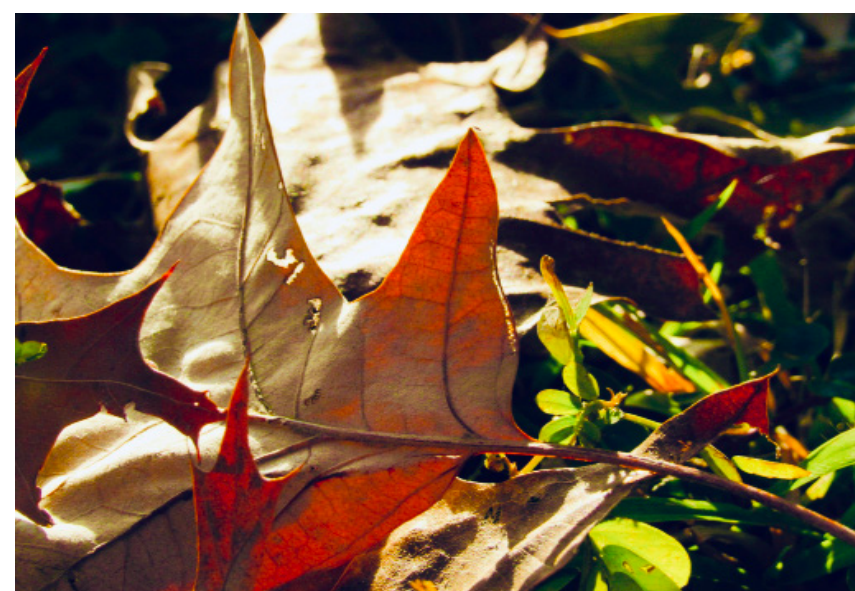
The same goes for one of the great structures of the Mayans, the El Castillo step pyramid. According to National Geographic, on the autumnal equinox, "a snake made of light would appear to slither down the pyramid's steps."

"There's a legend that the ancient feathered serpent god descended from the sky." This

deity, according to Mythopedia, was popular across Mesoamerican mythologies. One incarnation is called Quetzalcoatl, god of wind and inventor of calendars.

His specific connection to the autumnal equinox is unclear, but according to myth, "he was responsible for creating humanity and providing them with their staple crops." Perhaps he uses the autumnal equinox as an annual occasion to check up on his creation.

These are just a few of the stories that surround the autumnal equinox. While, starting this day, the nights will be longer and the weather will grow colder, the beginning of autumn is all part of the natural circle of seasons that will one day bring spring back to us.



Emma Crouch/The Johnsonian

## How 'Dear Evan Hansen' might end up like other adapted musicals

*"Dear Evan Hansen" is the next musical to receive a musical adaptation, but previous reception might lead the blockbuster*

Gabe Corbin  
Staff Writer

The hit Broadway musical "Dear Evan Hansen" will be released into theaters on Sept. 24. Fans of the musical will be excited to see Ben Platt reprise the role that defined his Broadway career, but current reviews of the musical might see it flop like others who dared to try a similar format.

"Dear Evan Hansen" is a drama movie based on the hit Broadway show of the same name, directed by Stephen

Chbosky, best known for "The Perks of Being a Wallflower."

The movie stars Platt as the title character struggling with social anxiety disorder, who ends up in a complicated situation when a letter to his therapist gets stolen and lands in the hand of a depressed teen named Connor Murphy.

Connor, after taking his own life, inadvertently forces Evan to create a series of lies after Connor's family mistakes the letter Evan wrote for a suicide note from their lost son. These events end up pushing Evan into a downward spiral.

Platt leads the film and is joined by Kaitlyn Dever, Amy Adams, Julianne Moore, Amandla Stenberg, Nik Dodani, Danny Pino and Colton Ryan as Connor.

Many fans were excited about the film's adaptation to the screen after recent successes. However, recent reviews about the film have led excitement levels downward.

Reviews of the piece have called it an "exercise in restraint," and that while the actors playing the parts did a fantastic job (especially Dever

as Zoe and Stenberg as Alana), it struggled due to the director's vision and the performance of Platt, who plays Evan as 17-years-old while the actor himself is a decade older.

There were also talks that Platt was hand-selected for the role because of his connection to the producer: his father, Marc E. Platt. Even though Platt denied these accusations, it still caused a major backlash from fans who were grossed out to see the nearly 30-year-old actor play a teenager.

"Dear Evan Hansen" is not the first musical to have a negative backlash even though it was clearly hyped. Other musicals have suffered just like it has. One example is the 2019 adaptation of the smash-hit "Rent" on the FOX network. This featured performances from Jordan Fisher, Tinashe, Vanessa Hudgens, Valentina and Kiersey Clemons.

The live television-aired musical was destined to become a smash hit, but issues with the set and problems with understudies led to a disappointed fanbase as Keala Settle soared in a rendition of "I'll Cover You

(Reprise)." While the actors received positive praise, the show was called "chaotic" and "middling" by The New York Times.

It suffered the same fate as the current "Dear Evan Hansen" film, with the actors being praised for their parts while the film suffered as a whole.

While there has been negative feedback to recent adaptations of musicals, others have soared. The recent "In the Heights" movie became a smashing success and led to the cast being nominated for awards from the National Hispanic Media Coalition and the Hollywood Critics Association.

Another adaptation of "Hamilton" had soaring reviews, with the musical becoming the second most-watched straight-to-streaming title of 2020. Both "In the Heights" and "Hamilton" have rave reviews online, while "Dear Evan Hansen" is lacking behind.

In the future, if "Dear Evan Hansen" is adapted again, will it learn from the mistakes of its predecessor? And how will fans react to the changes in the film once "Dear Evan Hansen" is released to the public?

"Dear Evan Hansen," starring Ben Platt, Kaitlyn Dever, Amy Adams, Amandla Stenberg, Nik Dodani and Colton Ryan, will be released in theaters on Sept. 24.



Photo Courtesy to Wikimedia



# Joe Bennett removed from Marvel over antisemitic imagery

With a new wave of comic books coming to stands in late-2021, Marvel announced that they are firing Joe Bennett, a long-time artist, after his antisemitic art popped up on the internet

**Gabe Corbin**  
Staff Writer

CW: The following article contains details about antisemitism, racism and bigotry.

Marvel has recently announced a new wave of comic books for fans to enjoy at the end of 2021, including one written by Jed MacKay (“Black Cat”) with art by Kev Walker, Mark Bagley and Joe Bennett. However, after antisemitic art appeared from Bennett, he was dropped from the project and fired from the company.

Marvel Comics has made a name for itself with its flagship titles and the quality of writing and art they all have.

On Aug. 30, Marvel announced eight new “tentpole titles,” flagship series that would define Marvel for 2021 and 2022. Writers like Rainbow Rowell (“Runaways”), Jason Aaron (“X-Men: Schism”) and Benjamin Percy (“X-Force,” “Wolverine”) teaming with fan-favorite artists to define the next generation of comics.

One of the new issues was “Timeless,” a one-shot starring the supervillain Kang the Conqueror as he reveals secrets of the 2022 year of Marvel. It is the one going to be written by fan-favorite writer MacKay as he works with iconic artists like Walker (“New Avengers”), Bagley (“Amazing Spider-Man”) and Bennett.

However, after his firing from Marvel, Bennett was replaced by Greg Land (“Uncanny X-Men”) in the issue.

Bennett, known for his horrific and well-developed images in the “Immortal Hulk” by Al Ewing, was fired from the multibillion-dollar company because of art depicting antisemitic caricatures of both Jewish people and Brazil’s president, as well as



Photo Courtesy to Wikimedia

humans being exterminated.

This art is not the first time Bennett has been under fire because of antisemitism in his work.

Earlier this year, in the pages of “Immortal Hulk” #43, Bennett drew images framed to say “jewelry” and had the Star of David hanging up. This drew anger from the fans and anger at the apparent response from Marvel letting this happen. Marvel since edited out the art when Marvel moved the issue to their digital store and Marvel Unlimited.

One of Bennett’s constant co-creators, Ewing, has de-

nounced his partnership with Bennett, claiming that this was the “last straw.”

“This isn’t the first issue with Joe that I’ve been made aware of. I’ve spoken behind the scenes, but that’s no comfort to people at the sharp end of this kind of brutal propaganda. My lack of public visibility on this has let people down, and I apologize,” Ewing tweeted on Sept. 2.

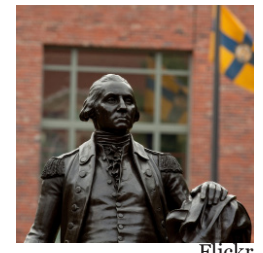
“Immortal Hulk is done, but I won’t be working with Joe again.”

This is not the first time that Marvel has come under fire for hidden images in their comics.

In 2016, “X-Men Gold” #1 had a similar controversy for Islamist messages hidden in the background art by Ardian Syaf (“Blackest Night”). The art was edited later, with the anti-Christian messages similarly removed from the comic, like what happened to “Immortal Hulk” #43.

Marvel is a company founded by a Jewish man, the late Stan Lee. If these kinds of images are happening before our very eyes, will there be others? This is a company that has reached millions of readers worldwide.

There should be some kind of review process, but lately, it seems that there is not one. Will Marvel make the same mistake again? And if they do, where will it lead one of the most famous comic companies of all time?



Flickr

George Washington: Although the famous myth is that his fake teeth were made of wood, that is actually false. His teeth, various full and partial dentures throughout his life, were “constructed of materials including human, and probably cow and horse teeth, ivory (possibly elephant), lead-tin alloy, copper alloy (possibly brass), and silver alloy,” according to Washington’s estate website. They were said to be extremely uncomfortable, which is why he almost never smiled.



Flickr

Audrey Hepburn: She began dancing ballet at age five and quickly developed a talent for it. She later conducted silent dances as a member of the Dutch Resistance to raise money for the allied forces.

Winston Churchill: The U.K. prime minister during World War II wrote a number of historical books and won the Nobel Prize in Literature for his book, “Victory,” published in 1953.



Flickr

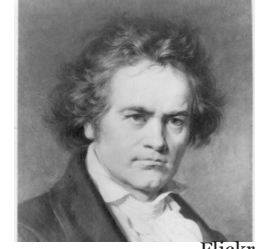
Cristiano Ronaldo: Ronaldo was named after former U.S. President Ronald Reagan, who was his father’s favorite actor as well as being someone he admired.



Flickr

Walt Disney: Unsurprisingly, the man who had a role in everyone’s childhood holds the record for most Academy Awards. Disney has won 22 individual Oscars and has been nominated for 59.

Marie Antoinette: While she was largely known as the Dauphine and later Queen of France, she was born as an Austrian princess. She was the fifteenth child of Holy Roman Empress Maria Theresa and Emperor Francis I.



Flickr

Ludwig van Beethoven: Beethoven went completely deaf by the age of 26, and to this date, no one knows the actual cause. Some theories suggest that it was from a childhood illness such as smallpox, while others say he suffered from an autoimmune disorder.

Fun facts can be incredibly useful, so be sure to remember these if you ever want to win at trivia night or appear on Jeopardy.

## Australia increases surveillance of citizens, LAPD follows suit

Australia and the LAPD increase surveillance of citizens and gain access to their social media information

**Spencer Horton**  
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In under 24 hours, the Australian Parliament passed the Surveillance Legislation Amendment (Identify and Disrupt) Bill on Aug. 25. The bill allows the government to modify or delete the data of suspected offenders, collect intelligence on criminal networks and take control of a suspected offenders’ online account.

According to the Department of Home Affairs, this bill is necessary because more and more criminal activity in the modern age makes use of the “dark web” and “anonymizing technologies.”

Many people are concerned about the bill and the issues it brings to the privacy of Australia’s citizens. The Office of the Australian Information Commissioner has raised concerns that the bill may impact third parties who are not suspected in the investigation of criminal activities. Specifically, the bill can authorize access to third-party computers, communication and data.

Another issue of concern is that the bill may enable law en-



Pixabay

forcement agencies to modify potential evidence in a criminal proceeding. Because of these concerns, human rights groups in Australia have called for the bill to be abandoned altogether.

Kieran Pender from the Human Rights Law Centre expressed concern to a parliamentary committee back in March.

“Any surveillance law intrudes on the rights of everyday Australians,” Pender said. “Any surveillance need to be strictly necessary and really tightly proportionate to the legitimate purpose they are trying to address.”

CEO of Civil Liberties Australia, Bill Rowlings, told SBS News in March, “These are particularly draconian and particularly bad, so my message would be to throw these out, start again and get some proper consultation from the beginning.”

“They are draconian, right-wing, extreme, they are removing civil liberties and human rights from Australians.”

Similarly, in the U.S., the Los Angeles Police Department has been collecting social media information from citizens.

In 2015, then-LAPD Police Chief Charlie Beck told the department in a memo that, “similar to a nickname or an alias, a person’s online persona or identity used for social media and communication can be highly beneficial to investiga-

tions and possibly even future outreach programs.”

Beck said that officers should collect “social media and email account information” when filling out field interview report forms.

This is not the only way that the LAPD has increased surveillance. The department also used tracking service Geofeedia to monitor protest-related keywords, including #BlackLivesMatter. And more recently, the LAPD has entered a contract with Media Sonar Technologies that gives them the ability to “automatically find digital footprints in a matter of seconds.”

Many are questioning the LAPD’s expansion of social media surveillance and have raised concerns regarding potential violations of privacy rights and civil liberties, especially for communities of color and activists.

“There are real dangers about police having all of this social media identifying information at their fingertips. There’s a chance that they are storing it all in a database,” Brennan Center deputy director Rachel Levinson-Waldman told The Guardian.

Freshman music composition major Adrian George described the LAPD’s new tactics as “extremely shady.”

“It’s definitely a way to cover up their tracks,” George said. “They’ll probably use it to get rid of evidence of police brutality.”



## Eagle of the Week: Valentina Mosquera

Jada Strong  
Staff Writer

As an international business major and a newcomer on the women's soccer team, Valentina Mosquera, who goes by "Val," is already off to a great start at Winthrop.

So far, the freshman has scored two goals in the first five games her team has played this season.

"So, I'm from Argentina, but I moved here when I was in sixth grade," Mosquera said. "I've been playing soccer since then. Some girls have been playing soccer since they were like 3 or 4, but in Argentina, soccer is like the most popular sport, so I very much grew up around it."

Although Mosquera isn't sure what she'd like to pursue yet with her business degree, she's keen on continuing soccer after graduation.

"I do want to play professionally after college," she said. "Honestly, anywhere, if they give me a chance, I would take it."

With the pandemic interrupting her plan, Mosquera only got to see so much of Winthrop during her visits in high school when she came for camp.

"With COVID, it was so hard getting in touch with schools, so during my junior year, I came here for campus, and I really liked the campus. I really enjoyed it here," she said. "I think the coaches and my campus [were] what really drew me in. The girls I met who are now sophomores were so kind and welcoming."

Transitioning from high school to college soccer, Mosquera has learned quite a bit so far from her fellow teammates. Confidence is key, she said.

"I honestly think that since I've been here, I've learned that

confidence is a really important part of a college athlete," she said.

"Especially with balancing school, I think confidence makes you realize that you can actually do that, and you do have that time. If you have confidence in yourself, you will see that you will play well and improve your skills."

To play a sport is to commit. Athletes dedicate so much of their lives to the sport they love because of what it gives to them. The sport an athlete plays can bring something different for every one of them. Soccer, for Mosquera, is an outlet.

"It's an outlet to the things around," she said. "Like if I am having a bad day, I can just go out and train and forget everything. Having something like that to connect to and as you're doing it, you get better, and you work hard."

This past weekend, Mosquera and her team had their first conference game.

"The girls are really excited, and it's a big deal," she said prior to Winthrop's match against Longwood on Saturday. "Not only is it our first conference game of the season, it's also a home game."

As a key factor in some of Winthrop's early-season success, Mosquera shared some thoughts on being a part of a sports team.

"Getting to know the team and getting along with them is so important. It gets you to play better, because if you don't get along with your team then they won't want you to pass the ball, and that could cause issues," she said.

"And I think that working hard and putting [in] the hours after and before training is important. Always push to do more and focus on school as well."

### 2021 statistics

Games played: 6

Games started: 2

Avg. minutes played per game: 53

Shots on goal: 4

Goals scored: 2

Assists: 1



Olivia Esselman/The Johnsonian

Mosquera has scored 2 goals in 6 games.

## Winthrop Volleyball battle



The volleyball team hosted the Gamecocks on Thursday evening in a non-conference match.

## Eagles fall at home to South Carolina

Matthew Shealy  
shealym@mytjnow.com

The Winthrop volleyball team hosted the South Carolina Gamecocks in a non-conference match on Thursday, losing 3-0.

While the Eagles did not manage to win a set, they did play the Gamecocks close for the majority of the game. Winthrop lost the first two sets 25-18, and the final set 25-21.

"They served really well tonight against us, and we didn't pass as well as we could at home," said head coach Chuck Rey. "When we were at the net, we were able to get some good swings at the ball."

"I thought we were really productive and I thought our physicality showed [in] some ways equal to them in terms of some of our positions. It was really just a pass and serve thing tonight and they were better than us in that way."

South Carolina came to Rock Hill without a top-25 ranking, but the Gamecocks had been ranked No. 24 in the nation the previous week and received the 27th amount of votes on the most recent coaches poll prior to their match against Win-

throp.

The Eagles earned the first point of the match but soon trailed 5-2 after an early four-point run for the Gamecocks. The teams fought back and forth but Winthrop could not string together enough consecutive points to erase the deficit.

Winthrop once again got behind early in the second set as the Gamecocks won the first three points. The Eagles hung on and pulled the score back to within two (7-5) before a couple of calls from the officials that the Winthrop crowd questioned made the score 10-5.

"That's just the way it goes sometimes. I think we got some calls our way tonight too and I think they evened out," Rey said.

"Nobody's perfect and I thought they (the officials) did a really good job. I don't think that swayed the game."

Winthrop looked its best all night in the third set. After South Carolina took the first two points, the Eagles kept the score within one or tied for all but one of the next 16 points.

Down 9-7, Winthrop went on its first 4-0 run of the night to capture a 11-9 lead. During the run, Winthrop recorded three kills — two from sophomore



Olivia Esselman/The Johnsonian

Mosquera heads the ball against Longwood on Sept. 18. The Winthrop women's soccer team had a 2-2-1 record entering the match.



Olivia Esselman/The Johnsonian

Mosquera looks for the ball as she approaches the goal. Winthrop and Longwood went on to tie 0-0 after two overtime periods.





## Winthrop Scoreboard

### Women's Soccer

Winthrop 0-0 Longwood

### Men's Soccer

Winthrop 2-4 Georgia State

### Volleyball

Winthrop 0-3 South Carolina  
Winthrop 3-0 UNC Charlotte

### Esports - Overwatch

**HUE Invitational**  
(Quarterfinal round)  
Winthrop 0-3 Bay State

### Esports - LoL

**HUE Invitational**  
(Semifinal Round)  
Winthrop 1-2 Saint Louis

### Men's Cross Country

**Winthrop/Adidis Inv.**  
Austin Spencer, 19th place  
Jeremiah Boyd, 24th place

### Women's Cross Country

**Winthrop/Adidis Inv.**  
Olivia Esselman, 6th place  
Sidney Jenkins, 27th place

## s hard against Gamecocks



Olivia Esselman/The Johnsonian

## in three sets

Brookelynn Thomas and one from fifth-year Morgan Bossler.

Winthrop's rally was quickly squashed by South Carolina as the Gamecocks won six of the next seven points. The Eagles persisted and pulled back to within one (22-21) before conceding the final three points of the match to South Carolina.

Rey said the team made some adjustments after the second set that kept the third set closer.

"We are resilient and I told the team at the end there that we are a really good team," Rey said. "We made some changes that were probably better — maybe thought we should've done that in the second set."

Rey said the team switched to a 6-2 formation which allowed all the front row players to be hitters, as opposed to the 5-1 formation Winthrop ran at times throughout the first two sets, which put a setter on the front row.

"When we put in a little bit bigger block, it slowed them down enough which made it more competitive for us. If I was smarter maybe I would've done it earlier and we could've made a better match out of it," Rey said.

Winthrop's loss does not erase the fact that attendance for the game was the highest attendance for a volleyball match in Winthrop Coliseum since the 2019 Big South Tournament.

"It was awesome to have such a turnout tonight," Rey said. "[That's] part of the reason to bring South Carolina up — and we're lucky cause we're playing at such a high level that South Carolina's willing to come up.

"The support in this community has always been good. Tonight you can see that, and I think with the Olympics this year and the gold medal from the women's side, I think volleyball's back on top again and it was good to see everybody here tonight."

Winthrop will face its first conference opponent Friday when the Eagles take on Gardner-Webb University at 6 p.m. in Boiling Springs, NC. Rey said the teams Winthrop faces from the Big South won't be as tough as the Gamecocks.

"We're not going to see a team this physical in our conference, and to know that we can make those changes and still compete, it says a lot for where we're gonna go," Rey said.

## Women's golf competes in Golfweek Fall

### Challenge Eagles place 16th out of 20 teams, hope to improve in next match

Lily Fremed  
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After competing for three days at the Golfweek Fall Challenge in Pawleys Island, the Winthrop women's golf team finished 16th out of 20 teams.

"As a team, we are all trying to eliminate big numbers from our rounds that end up hurting our team score. This semester has been great so far and we have a really amazing team chemistry. We are all very supportive of each other and this will help us to keep getting better and improving our games," senior Sabrina Fonda said.

In the first round on Sunday, Sept. 12, junior Makenna Brindley shot a collegiate-low 1-over of 72, as well as led the team in Par 3 scoring with -1 and tied for the third lowest on the field.

Brindley and Fonda also tied second-best among the field for Par 5 scoring.

The only two sophomores on the team were also successful in the first round, with Regan Clifford posting the second-lowest score on the day for the Eagles with 75 and Valentine Savioz earning the third-lowest score for the team at 79.

Savioz also hit the most birdies by an Eagle with four, and overall the Eagles tied for the 7th most birdies in the field. On Monday, Savioz continued to make an impression on the field, leading the Eagles with a 5-over (76), while Clifford had the second-lowest with a 9-over (80).

During this second round, freshman Emilie Marie Marceliussen-Dahl, Brindley and Savioz led the team in Par 3 scoring with +3 after 36 holes. Marceliussen-Dahl also led the Eagles in Par 4 scoring with +4, while Fonda and Clifford lead the team's Par 5 scoring with -1.

Finishing strong in the final round of the challenge, Fonda shot a collegiate-low even par score of 71, moving her up 19 spots. Prior to this competition, Fonda's lowest score was a 75 in the second round of the 2019 Starmount Fall Classic.

"It felt great to have shot my collegiate low score. For the rest of the semester, I hope to

continue improving and scoring even better," Fonda said.

Fonda also birdied five holes on Tuesday, finishing out the day as one of only 12 golfers with a final round of even par or better.

"This was definitely a huge boost for my confidence and I will keep working hard on my golf and mental game to consistently play well for the team," Fonda said.

Another notable performance during the final round includes Brindley earning the top team finish with the second-lowest round score of 79.

Similar to the day before, Brindley and Savioz led the Eagles in Par 3 scoring with +4, while Marceliussen-Dahl led the team in Par 4 scoring with +9.

Although the team was slightly disappointed to finish 16th in the tournament, Fonda recognizes that it is only the first competition of the 2021-2022 season, so there is plenty of room for the team to grow.

"We want to keep building on the positive takeaways from this tournament and learn from the experience. We know what we need to keep working on and we will use this tournament as motivation to make those improvements and finish better over the rest of the semester," Fonda said.

The Eagles played in seven tournaments last semester since the fall and spring competitions were all placed into the one spring semester. On Monday, Sept. 20 and Tuesday, Sept. 21, the team participated in its second tournament of the season, the Pirate Collegiate Classic hosted by East Carolina University, and will follow it up with two more competitions later this fall semester.

"This week we [had] a quick turnaround before leaving for the Pirate's Collegiate Classic. We [had only] a few days to practice and will individually focus on fine tuning the parts of our games that may have been weak at the Golfweek Fall Challenge," Fonda said.

"I want to work hard and play well in my last year of college golf. By doing this, I hope to support the team goals of having successful tournament finishes and making a run at the Big South Conference Championship," Fonda said.



The Johnsonian Archive/Tate Walden

Women's golf competes next Oct. 18-19 at the Buccaneer Classic.



September 22, 2021

## Crawford Health and Counseling Services said to not serve all students

*The clinic has become the target of some students' dismay due to erratic hours and scheduling difficulty*

**Autumn Hawkins**  
hawkinsa@mytjnow.com

For some Winthrop students, Health Services located in Crawford has been less than helpful.

With class schedules taking up the majority of their weekday time, many full-time students rely on services being available 'after hours,' either late in the evening or on weekends. Health Services' (often referred to as Crawford by students) hours are strange at times and some days it will be closed in the middle of the week without listing it on its web page.

"It's crazy difficult for me to get an intake session scheduled," said Lyn Horton, podcast editor for The Johnsonian. "They don't let you schedule in advance, only the day of. And even when I was in counseling, my schedule was so restrictive

so I could only have sessions with a counselor I didn't feel helped me out very much."

During freshman orientation, Crawford representatives have had a booth at the information fair, often advertising the availability of health and counseling services or the ability to fill prescriptions there.

An editor at the Johnsonian who wishes to remain anonymous said that "For me, they literally refused to give me counseling when I was at the lowest point of my college career and was considering relapsing into self-harm."

Students say they have been turned away for many seemingly superficial reasons.

Liz Barton, a former Winthrop student, was injured on campus and went to Crawford seeking aid. Barton said the members of staff on duty turned her away because they said they were "too busy to help." Barton said there were no other patients in the build-

ing at the time she could see and that the staff members had been gossiping at the front desk when she arrived.

A Winthrop student who wishes to remain anonymous said that it was very difficult to schedule an appointment, and even harder to get their prescription filled.

"I am transgender and when I was first trying to deal with my gender dysphoria, I waited about two months to get an appointment with a counselor here and I still haven't had them follow up with that three years later. More recently, trying to get Crawford to prescribe my hormones was like pulling teeth. It ended up being cheaper—and less effort—for me to drive up to Planned Parenthood in Greensboro, which is about a two hour drive each way."

"They are aggressively and criminally understaffed in the counseling department" said Scooter Mistretta, a member of

the Johnsonian's podcast team. "And it sucks for everyone else because then they can't get the care that they need unless they're in capital 'C' crisis. I understand that even if this was a good situation, they probably still wouldn't be able to handle students that needed to come into counseling a couple times a week."

Health services charge a regular fee to students as a part of the tuition package. The health and counseling fee for fall 2021 was \$200, which was billed as a part of the "Tuition and Required Fees" package.

According to a U.S. News report from 2020, Winthrop's undergraduate population alone was 4,406. This begs the question—how are students' fees being used at Crawford and will it become easier for every student to access mental and physical health care while on campus?

Interested in writing  
a volunteer column  
for the Opinion  
section?

Email Autumn Hawkins at:  
hawkinsa@mytjnow.com



Visit our website,  
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podcast, "On Air: The Johnsonian."





# MEET THE STAFF

*Get to know the staff that creates the magic behind THE JOHNSONIAN!*



**Christian Smith**  
**Assistant News Editor**

Hey! My name is Christian (he/him), and I will be one of the assistant news editors this year. I am a senior pursuing a mass communication major with a journalism interest and a political science minor. In addition to journalistic writing, I also enjoy writing fiction and playing tabletop roleplaying games, like Dungeons and Dragons!



**Lily Fremd**  
**Assistant Sports Editor**

Hello! My name is Lily Fremed, and I am a junior early childhood education major working as the assistant sports editor for The Johnsonian. Aside from writing for the newspaper, I work in the on-campus preschool class at Macfeat Laboratory School, give campus tours as an Ambassador and am a member of Alpha Delta Pi. I am also a major Disney fan, and I have visited Disneyland more times than I can count!



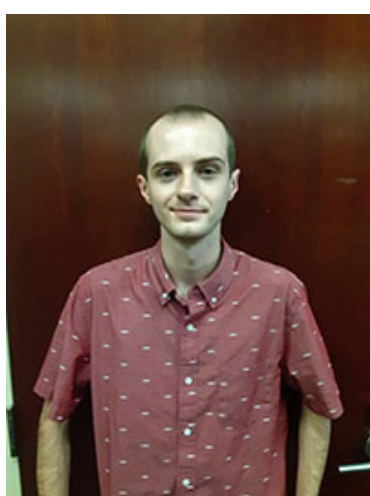
**Emily Curry**  
**Assistant Arts Editor**

Emily Curry (she/her) is currently in her second year at Winthrop University. She intends to major in mass communication with an interest in journalism and minor in legal studies. This year, she is excited to be working with The Johnsonian as an assistant editor in the Arts, Culture & Tech section. She enjoys writing stories, both original and fan fictions, and adores anything Disney.



**Jessica Shealy**  
**Executive Copy Editor**

My name is Jessica Shealy (she/they), and I am a senior double majoring in English and political science. I am the executive copy editor for The Johnsonian this year. My interest in copy editing sparked the day I started noticing spelling errors in my copies of the Harry Potter books.



**Spencer Horton**  
**Assistant Tech Editor**

Hi! My name is Spencer Horton, my pronouns are he/him, and I'm a senior mass communication major who will be the assistant tech editor for The Johnsonian this year. I've always enjoyed writing of any kind, whether it be creative or journalistic, and a fun fact about myself is that I play bass in a rock band.



**Anna Sharpe**  
**Copy Editor**

My name is Anna Sharpe (she/her). I'm a senior MCOM & Spanish major and will be on staff at The Johnsonian as a copy editor this year. A fun fact about me is that in 2019 I was the youngest person to serve as Editor-in-Chief for The Johnsonian.





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