

THE JOHNSONIAN



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Olivia Esselman/The Johnsonian

Mural outside The Mercantile, host of Rock Hill's first community fridge

Community Fridge spreads food around Rock Hill

see [Fridge](#) pg. 4

Miracle Park: A place for everyone to belong

First park with Universal Design certification to host grand opening this month

Lily Fremed

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After many months of watching the progress along Eden Terrace Road, the long-awaited opening of Rock Hill's Miracle Park is almost here. The inclusive park is set to hold a Grand Opening for the public on Saturday, Sept. 18, from 4-7 p.m.

Executive Director Kylie Carroll does not know exactly how many members of the community will be in attendance, but she and her team are preparing for a large turnout of supporters.

"We know that the community has been waiting and [is] very excited. We could have a couple thousand visitors that evening. Because of this, we do want people to know we are planning a 'drop-in' event rather than having people plan to stay the whole time. We hope to encourage a steady flow of moving through the park," Carroll said.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the Miracle Park team is limiting the number of visitors on the playground and fields at a time and will also spread out a variety of activities across the park to avoid large clusters of the crowd.

Playgrounds will have a trained attendant to demonstrate proper use of each piece of equipment to families before use.

"Several of our sponsors will be set up and providing hot dogs, chips, and drinks. We'll also have a raffle with lots of great items to win. We will have sponsor booths with many freebies and informa-

tion on ways they can assist our community," Carroll said.

Miracle Park experienced delays in construction, as the pandemic interfered with the way the park received funding and materials.

"Many of the grants and funding opportunities we had planned to seek out needed to be converted to COVID-relief funds and support of essential businesses. We definitely understand this, but it did slow things down for a while," Carroll said.

Emma Crouch/The Johnsonian
Construction at Miracle Park, across from coliseum

According to the park's website, over 500 donors have supported the production of Miracle Park, raising an estimated \$6.6 million, but the park is still in need of roughly \$2 million more.

"We did reach and exceed our fundraising goal for Phase 1 and came in slightly under budget. That means that we now have the ability to begin Phase 2. We don't yet have a total budget for the next two phases, or a timeline, but both are in progress, and we hope to be able to unveil some of our plans at our grand opening," Carroll said.

Phase 1 construction involved building a state-of-the-art inclusive playground, a standard field and a miracle field. Phase 2 will include another miracle field and

two multipurpose fields for soccer, flag football, kickball, basketball and more.

According to the park's website, only 34% of people with intellectual disabilities are employed nationally, but only 26% of these employed adults have full-time jobs.

In order to combat the increasingly high unemployment rates of people with intellectual disabilities, Phase 3 of the park will create a retail space at the park to employ people with intellectual disabilities. The exact plans for what type of retail space are not official yet.

"This is still very much in process. We are working with several different organizations to form partnerships, and as we were with Phase 1, we continue to be amazed and blessed by the support of our community and their desire to help us continue to build the most inclusive community space ever — a place for everyone to belong," Carroll said.

With Rock Hill constantly growing to include new dining, housing and entertainment opportunities, as well as being a very sports-oriented community, it is the perfect place for the world's first park with Universal Design certification.

"Being known as Football City, USA, as well as an All-American City, we have great parks: the BMX Center, Aquatics Center, [and an] indoor sports complex. Miracle Park was the missing piece that will now afford barrier-free access to all," Carroll said.

To contributing or learn more, visit <https://www.miraclepark-rockhill.com/>.

Nest charges full month's rent for August despite late move-in

Winthrop students living at The Nest stretched thin financially and schedule-wise due to late August move-in

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Residents at The Nest at University Center were required to pay the full month's rent for August.

As of Aug. 27, The Nest's website lists the four-bedroom apartments at \$689 per month. Each apartment comes with a full kitchen, in-unit washer and dryer, fully furnished living room and bedrooms, along with one flat-screen television and a bathroom in each bedroom.

Senior computer science major Malik Smith moved in on Aug. 21 and was made aware that he would have to pay the full rent for the month of August.

"The move-in process was as expected because there's so many people here. So, the line was super duper long just to get your key and just to find the place. But other than that, The Nest is as expected. I just wish the rent was prorated just because we've only lived here 10 days before September comes," Smith said.

"So move-in actually worked out really well for me. I was told that I was going to move in on Aug. 21 and that was able to happen as planned," sophomore English major Haley Beu said. "I was, annoyingly, required to pay the full amount for the month of August."

Paying the full deposit affected Beu as it made money "kind of tight" for her.

Beu works at McDonald's and pays her rent without help from family while also paying for school.

Emma Crouch/The Johnsonian
The Nest, located across the street from Johnson Hallsee [The Nest](#) pg. 2



Cont. **Nest** from pg. 1

“It was really frustrating for me that I had to spend that much money on the first month’s rent when I’m only spending a week and a half of August actually in the apartment,” Beu said. “I think that The Nest can be more mindful of its residents’ needs by listening to us and our complaints and really just trying to understand our situation.”

“From what I understand, the vast majority of us residents are college students. I understand that, yes, we chose to live here and, for the most part, the pros outweigh the cons, but it’s hard to justify overpaying at the moment.”

Director of New Student & Family Programs Callie Lane Boyer Smith offered advice to students who are signing leases and contracts to live in off-campus housing.

“I encourage all students — on or off campus — to read their lease fully to understand what’s expected of them and what they’re agreeing to,” Smith said. “They should ask questions for clarity. Students living off-campus will need to coordinate and confirm other things, too, like when utilities will be set up and how to pay them.”

“All students should purchase renters insurance, as you never know what could happen, and you want to protect your property in the event of an emergency. All students should also have clear and honest conversations with any roommates so that they start the roommate relationship on the same page, including agreeing to continue to communicate in a constructive way.”



Emma Crouch/The Johnsonian
The Nest Rock Hill on Technology Center Way

2	9	6	1	4	5	8	3	7
3	5	7	8	2	6	1	4	9
1	4	8	9	3	7	5	2	6
6	3	9	5	1	2	4	7	8
5	8	1	7	6	4	3	9	2
4	7	2	3	9	8	6	1	5
9	6	4	2	8	3	7	5	1
8	1	5	4	7	9	2	6	3
7	2	3	6	5	1	9	8	4

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The solution to last week’s Sudoku

How to play: Each 3x3 grid, row and column must be filled with the numbers 1-9 without repeating numbers in the grid, row or column.

Share your idea with us for more games we can print in the paper!
editors@mytjnow.com

Winthrop student and mother Monkia Wells granted ANSWER scholarship

Scholarship dedicated to mothers who go back to school later in life

Jada Strong
Staff Writer

Winthrop student Monkia Wells, age 36 and mother of three, was one of two women at Winthrop that was awarded the ANSWER scholarship.

The ANSWER scholarship and the ‘Mentors For Moms’ program were founded in 2006 by Susan Andersen.

The program is dedicated to helping moms with school-aged children (pre-K through 12th grade) pursue their passion of going back to school full time.

The ANSWER scholarship has currently awarded more

than \$530,000 in college scholarships.

Wells has two sons, one in 10th grade and the other in eighth grade. She also has a daughter in the second grade. Wells started at Winthrop in the fall of 2019 and is expecting to graduate in May 2024.

She is a business administration major with minors in psychology and human resource management.

Prior to being awarded the scholarship, Wells had no knowledge of the program.

“The school had emailed me to let me know that I had qualified for the scholarship,” Wells said. “They had let me know that the scholarship was for

mothers, so I had applied, and I was so happy to get it.”

Amanda Cavin, an alumna of Winthrop and the ANSWER scholarship program, was also approached with the scholarship as well.

“In 2012, I was a sophomore working on my undergrad degree, and one of my professors approached me and said she heard about the scholarship,” Cavin said. “So I didn’t see anything advertised; it was directly through this professor because she heard about it.”

Cavin, who now has a bachelor’s and two master’s from Winthrop, also works at Winthrop now as the director of the EagleSTEM Scholars Program.

“I started at Winthrop originally straight out of high school, but I’d flunked out,” Cavin said. “I just wasn’t mature enough or ready to commit, but I came back and started on my bachelor’s in 2011. I started classes in August and turned 40 that September.”

Andersen founded the scholarship after being inspired to give back because of those who’d given her an opportunity.

“I had gotten into the Mary Kay world. I had become a Mary Kay consultant, then a Mary Kay sales director. So for the next 20 years, I had worked with a lot of women,” Andersen said. [see Monika 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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September 1, 2021

Passing of student Gabrielle Leondra Kelly *Kelly, a senior, lost her life on June 30*

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The Winthrop community is still reeling from the passing of rising senior Gabrielle Leondra Kelly, who passed away on June 30. Gabrielle's celebration of life was held on July 10 at Greater Faith Ministries Dream Center.

Gabrielle was a member of Winthrop's dean's list. She was also a member of Alpha Kappa Psi, participated in the Winthrop Gospel Choir and was a business administration major with a focus in healthcare management.

"She was so good. When we all say there's a southern term from North Carolina in a small town, my grandmother used to always say, she's a good egg. Gabby was smart, she was quiet, just dedicated," said Dr. Michael Matthews, professor of management.

"She had already been offered a full-time job. When she graduated in long-term care

administration, the goal was for her to get her license to become a licensed administrator of assisted living in North Carolina," Matthews said.

Gabrielle was known to always be in class and always on time.

"On Zoom, she always had a smile. I can't tell you in class because we had masks. But she was respected by her colleagues," Matthews said.

At the health department's poster board presentation, there will be an extra table to honor Gabrielle's memory at the event.

"And we want to have flowers at the table in a little memorial for Gabby for all spots if she can still be there with her classmates," Matthews said.

"She valued family. She valued the opportunity to care for others. And you see that in her choice of work, you don't go into long-term care and assisted living unless you value helping others. And that's, in my short time, that was my

experience," Matthews said.

Gabrielle was in one of the first classes that assistant professor of healthcare management, Dr. Joanna Jackson, taught here at Winthrop.

"She definitely valued God and her relationship with God. I would hear her talk a lot about that," Jackson said. "And her friends and family were really important to her too, her career was important... she was really good at making memories."

The Counseling Center is available for students at 803-323-2206.



Photo Courtesy of the Winthrop Gospel Choir



Police Blotter *A weekly round-up of crime on campus*

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On Aug. 25, the Reporting Officer (R/O) and Sgt. Gerald were conducting property checks around The Nest apartments. Gerald instructed the R/O to park the patrol car and walk in order to familiarize himself with the area. Upon exiting the vehicle, units immediately noticed a strong odor of marijuana coming from a vehicle in the parking area. Units made contact with the driver of the vehicle, who stated that he and the passenger had been smoking.

When asked where the marijuana was located, the driver presented a TAL brand water bottle from the floorboard, filled with a large amount of marijuana separated into three different bags. At this time, the R/O detained and searched the individuals and contacted the Rock Hill Drug Enforcement Unit (RHDEU).

While waiting for RHDEU, the R/O conducted a probable cause search of the vehicle, locating a loaded pistol in the center console. The R/O also located an electronic scale hidden in a styrofoam cup in the rear door and prescription drugs located in the front driver's side door. The driver took ownership of all items found, and the passenger was then released.

At this time, the driver was placed under arrest, and in a search, the driver was found to have \$999 in cash on his person. The subject was read his Miranda Rights by Gerald. At this time, RHDEU arrived on the scene and advised the R/O of the appropriate charges, as well as take possession of the money obtained. The driver was then transported to the Rock Hill City Jail. The evidence stated above, as well as the driver's cell phone, were seized as evidence. Interstate Towing took possession of the vehicle listed, and a tow slip was initiated and given to the subject.

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Cont. **Fridge** from pg. 1

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The Rock Hill Community Fridge, located at The Mercantile, serves as a hub for distributing excess and donated food to those in need.

The Mercantile, located at 130 W. White St. in Rock Hill, hosts the community fridge at its storefront and provides branding materials and marketing for it.

Launched to help those struggling during the pandemic, the community fridge provides fresh produce, water, bread, juice, packaged meats, dairy products and other food, some of which would otherwise be thrown away by grocery stores, at no cost and with no questions asked.

"The goal really was to try to eradicate food waste," Mercantile employee Erin Anderson said. "There is so much food insecurity in Rock Hill... We have got so much food in our own cabinets and in our own pantries. We might as well redistribute that. Or, you know, stores just throwing out countless amounts of food every day. So a lot of what we were trying to do is get people to come to donate things like that."

Despite having upwards of 200 people a day getting food from the fridge, Anderson said the fridge has never had a problem keeping food in stock.

Organizations and businesses

often directly donate money to keep the food stocked, and volunteers fundraise online to fill in the gaps.

A group of volunteers also help clean and maintain the fridge.

"There are at least 10 people that fill it up constantly, but 50 plus people [contribute], ranging from businesses to just people walking by," Anderson said. "And that's what we wanted to see. Instead of just having that solid group, make it our community."

Anderson encouraged everyone, especially Winthrop students, and not just those who are food insecure, to come and pick up something.

In addition to the fridge, Winthrop community members have access to the Winthrop Food Box, a donation-based food and personal care item pantry created by the Department of Human Nutrition located at 308 Dalton Hall.

"Access to food – both to enough food and to nutritious food that promotes health – is known as food security, and food security is integral to a person's overall success and wellbeing," Food Box Liaison Alexa Allen said. "Access to food resources, such as community pantries, boxes, and fridges, contributes to an individual's wellbeing by helping them become successful and reach their full potential. In doing so, they are also able to contribute more fully to their

community and those around them."

Around 30% of students at Winthrop experience food insecurity, according to Allen, which is higher than the Feeding America state average.

The Food Box, like the community fridge, is available no questions asked, but appointments are required and can be made through its website.

"Anybody can use this fridge. That's really the goal that we want to get out. Like anybody can come and grab something," Anderson said. "It's not about how poor you are or anything. It literally isn't about anything. It's just about trying to move food through our community and make sure that everybody eats."

"And creating concepts like this helps us understand that food insecurity should not be a thing. Even if no one is benefiting from this, they can still look at this and go, 'Oh wow, we really should be feeding more of our community.'"



Olivia Esselmen/The Johnsonian

The fridge filled with food open to the public

Cont. **Monika** from pg. 2

"So during that time, I saw how they'd struggle being a single mom or a mom going through a divorce.

"At first, I thought I'd work with traditional-age college students, but after working with these older women and seeing their struggles, I knew that by helping educate a mom, it would also help educate their children. So that's where I found that I wanted to give back."

Juggling parenting and while working a full-time job is no easy task, but mothers in these programs are resilient and

make it work.

"It has been hectic," Wells said. "I say that because I'm going to school, my children are going to school.

"So, it took me a minute to decide to go back to school because I had kept putting it off... I decided there's no point to keep putting it on hold because we're not promised tomorrow."

Cavin had to adjust as well when becoming a full-time student.

"It was quite an adjustment. I had always worked, so I was never a stay-at-home mom," Cavin said. "So I always had to figure out the balance of working and being a mom.

"I have four children. I found out pretty quickly that trying to go to class and come home to do my homework didn't work... So I started to complete my homework on campus on breaks or stay awhile after class, so that when I came home, I could just be a mom."

The ANSWER scholarship not only helps these mothers financially but supports them emotionally as well. Each mother that is awarded this scholarship is given a mentor. This past year, despite the pandemic, the ANSWER scholarship program had a 100% graduation rate for the class of 2020-2021.



Sam Hyatt/TheJohnsonian

The COVID Vaccine sign sits feet away from Winthrop's free vaccination clinic

FDA vaccine approval and possible third dose of vaccine

Sam Hyatt
Staff Writer

After months of dealing with COVID-19, the Food and Drug Administration approved the Pfizer vaccine for those ages 16 and up. Although the vaccine was offered to individuals before FDA's approval, it is hoped that more people will begin to be vaccinated since they were hesitant before.

COVID-19 has brought an extreme amount of fear and uncertainty to those around the world, and after a year and a half, we have experienced death, business closings and newer deadlier variants of the virus.

After all of the negative effects of the virus, the United States began to offer several different vaccines that can help protect individuals from contracting the virus, leading the country back to a sense of normalcy.

In the last few months, news sources have begun sharing information on the newfound variants of the virus. The delta, gamma and lambda variants are continuing to stir fear in individuals around the world.

Many people who have already been vaccinated are open to getting a third dose of the vaccine when it becomes available, according to CNN. While

there is still some uncertainty surrounding the long-term effects of the vaccine, most vaccinated individuals are more concerned with the possible lasting effects of contracting COVID-19 rather than those of the vaccines.

"I don't see a problem with a third dose of the vaccine. If it becomes available I hope people will take it," said Taylor McNair, a senior elementary education major.

In addition, Pfizer has submitted their application for a booster or third dose of the vaccine to the FDA, according to CNN. So far, there have been 306 individuals who have taken part in a trial of receiving the booster Pfizer vaccine.

After receiving the vaccine, some of the participants experienced mild to moderate side effects such as fatigue, chills, headache, and muscle and joint pain. However, these symptoms are normal side effects of your body building up immunity to the virus through the vaccine and have shown higher levels of antibodies.

"I think some people who have already been vaccinated will get the third dose, but there may be some people who don't want to go through that process again," said Jesse Martin, senior conservation biology

major.

Moderna announced on Wednesday that they are in the process of getting their vaccine approved by the FDA, which would make it the second vaccine to be approved by the FDA. This vaccine is currently available for those ages 18 and up.

Winthrop University hosted a vaccine clinic on Aug. 27, with SCDHEC offering the Moderna vaccine on the Campus Green. The next vaccine clinic will be held on Thursday, Sept. 16, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., this one in McBryde Hall, with the Pfizer vaccine being offered.

Those who are vaccinated during either of these events, as well as any other students who have submitted proof of complete vaccination to Patient Portal, will be eligible for vaccination incentives and may be picked to win a prize from the University.

Although students are encouraged to get vaccinated, it might not be for everyone, and it is important to take these actions into consideration. However, whether vaccinated or not, it is necessary we continue to follow Winthrop's COVID-19 regulations and wear our masks while we are around others so that we can get back to a sense of normalcy.

The Taliban takes control over Afghanistan, as Biden's deadline to pull American troops out of the country looms

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The Taliban took control over the Afghan capital of Kabul on Aug. 15, after the country's government collapsed.

The government takeover comes less than a month before President Joe Biden's vow to pull all U.S. Armed Forces members from the country by the time 9/11 expires.

On Thursday, there was an explosion outside of the airport in Kabul where evacuations were taking place, and numerous U.S. service members and Afghan American citizens were wounded and killed. This event was one of the deadliest attacks to come out of Afghanistan during the 20 years since the U.S. invaded the country.

With the Taliban takeover and recent bloodshed, many are looking for someone to blame for what happened in Afghanistan. While Biden's poor planned removal exacerbated events, it is important also to acknowledge where his predecessors went wrong as well.

"George W. Bush got us

mired in Afghanistan and all but doomed the mission by starting an unnecessary war in Iraq and dividing our forces. Barack Obama's expanded drone warfare was a perfect recruiting tool for the Taliban as civilian collateral damage deaths mounted.

Donald Trump legitimized the Taliban in a way they never could have hoped for by bringing them to Camp David to negotiate and setting us on a course for a time-limited withdrawal," said Dr. Scott Huffmon, political science professor.

Biden's removal, however, left not only the country unprotected but the American citizens in Afghanistan without protection from the Taliban.

"Joe Biden has put his mark on this debacle with an extremely poorly planned withdrawal that not only allowed the Taliban to retake the capital with a Sunday stroll but left American citizens, our allies and those who helped our troops and their families in a horribly dangerous situation that will surely cost many of them their lives," Huffmon said.

It is also important to note that the Mujahideen group that eventually became the Taliban was originally funded by the U.S. under former President Ronald Reagan to fight communist influences to the area by the former Soviet Union during the Soviet War in Afghanistan in the 1980s.

A worry of many Americans is what will happen to those who are now stranded in Afghanistan due to the blockade of the airport and the tactics to keep them in the country, as well as what to expect from the group now that they have taken control.

"The Taliban is a radical sect. It should not be conflated with all Muslims, all Afghans, or all people in the region broadly. That said, the radical view of the Taliban almost certainly means that we can expect to see the country shut itself out from the world. The Taliban will, most likely, be looking to take territorial sovereignty over Afghanistan and rule without regard to international opprobrium. The treatment of anyone who aided the U.S. or our allies will be stomach-churning," said Dr. Brandon Ranal-

Winthrop Title IX Coordinator position remains under Faust

Whoever hired to the position will report to the Chief of Staff, who is currently Kimberly Faust

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The Title IX Coordinator position continues to remain under Kimberly Faust's supervision despite backlash from the community and being removed from the role officially following allegations of negligence from sexual abuse survivors, according to Inside HigherEd.com.

Faust was originally removed from the role after an article published in The Johnsonian last spring alleged mishandling of sexual assault cases.

Winthrop Interim President George Hynd issued a message to the Winthrop student community following the allegations and stated that the school would be "initiating the steps to develop a new position at the university that will be dedicated to Title IX" and that the position responsibilities would transfer to the employee permanently once hired.

The Inside HigherEd description for the Title IX Coordinator and ADA Compliance Officer position states that the employee would "report directly to the Chief of Staff," who is currently Kimberly Faust, and "direct the University's response to Title IX sexual misconduct."

The student activist group, WU Students For Change, made a statement earlier this week on social media expressing discontent that the position would remain under Faust's supervision.

"We have been informed that the new Title IX Coordinator will be reporting to Kimberly Faust," wrote a post from the WU Students For Change Instagram page. "We reached out to the president and the board to let them know that we believe this is unacceptable. As we said in our email, we will continue to push back, speak up and organize demonstrations until we see real, meaningful change instead of underhanded, face-saving gestures."

The activist group will be holding a community meeting on the Campus Green on Sept. 2 from 11 am-12pm.



Bryn Eddy Smyth/The Johnsonian

A poster made by WUStudentsForChange hanging on Scholars Walk; advertises meeting to be held on Thursday, Sept. 2 on Campus Green

'Shang-Chi': Not an experiment, but the future

Gabe Corbin
Staff Writer

Marvel looks to make cinematic history with their newest feature, "Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings," as their first Asian-led superhero film with a predominantly Asian cast, coming to theaters on Sept. 3.

Destin Daniel Cretton's film stars Simu Liu as the titular superhero, alongside Awkwafina, Benedict Wong, Michelle Yeoh and Tony Leung Chiu-wai.

In the last couple of weeks, the star of "Shang-Chi," Liu, has vocally defended his film against insensitive comments made by Disney's CEO.

The synopsis of the film describes Liu's character Shang-Chi as a "martial arts master" who must confront "the past he thought he left behind when he's drawn into the web of the mysterious Ten Rings organization."

"Shang-Chi" has so far had positive fan reactions, with most fans praising the action and kung-fu sequences as well as the performances of Liu. However, something that has fans up in arms is a comment that Disney's CEO Bob Chapek has made about the film.

During Disney's Q3 earnings meeting on Aug. 12, Chapek commented about its theatrical release model with their Disney+ Premier model, noting that Disney values the flexibility of its movie releases.

As with other movies released with this model like "Cruella" and "Jungle Cruise," Disney plans to release the film after a couple of weeks in theaters.

However, one comment that Chapek said has fans up in rage.

Chapek called "Shang-Chi" an "experiment" in how they are going to release films. After 45 days in theaters, Marvel will release "Shang-Chi" on Disney+ as a "staggered release."

In the eyes of Disney, "Shang-Chi" is another possible way of how Marvel will release movies because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Chapek's comments about "Shang-Chi" caused a stir in the fanbase, with Liu stepping out and defending his film.

"We are not an experiment," Liu said on his Instagram and Twitter on Aug. 14. "We are the underdog; the underestimated. We are the ceiling-breakers. We are the celebration of culture and joy that will persevere after an embattled year."

His posts have stirred the Marvel fans and excited the eventual release of the film. Marvel has since responded to his comments, with Kevin Feige, the president of Marvel Studios, commenting on the interaction between the star of the film and Disney's CEO.

"[Liu] is not a shy man," Feige said at the movie's premiere in Hollywood on Aug. 16. "I think in that particular

tweet you can see — and I think everyone does — a misunderstanding. It was not the intention."

"The proof is in the movie, and we swing for the fences as we always do. With the amount of creative energy we put in and the budget, there's no expense spared to bring this origin story to the screen."

After a year of AAPI-related hate crimes, a movie like "Shang-Chi" provides an epic and powerful story that brings a spark of hope for the community.

As the future of the MCU arrives in theatres on Sept. 3, Chapek's comments about "Shang-Chi" being a "data point" have tried to diminish the potential success of the film.

The fans love the movie, and the stars are ready to make Shang-Chi leave his mark on the cinematic world. The "data point" that Chapek described looked more to be a massive success on Disney's economy and the future of Asian superheroes in theaters in the Marvel multiverse.

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A comment from the CEO of Disney has Simu Liu defending the movie and increasing the hype for when it appears in theaters

Winthrop DSU is hosting a showing of "Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings" at Manchester Cinemas on Sept. 3 at 8 p.m. Tickets, which can be purchased online through the Winthrop University Marketplace Mall, are \$5 for students, \$7 for non-students or free for All-Access Pass holders.

A review of the movie 'In the Heights'

Gabe Corbin
Staff Writer

As one of the many creations of Lin-Manuel Miranda, the most recent summer musical blockbuster "In the Heights" provides a tale full of fantastic music, heart and passion with every note.

Throughout 2021, movie companies have worked to release some of the films delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Warner Bros., and their new streaming service HBO Max, is looking to energize the film industry with one of their own delayed films: the movie adaptation of Miranda's "In the Heights."

Directed by "Crazy Rich Asians" director Jon M. Chu, "In the Heights" stars singer-songwriter Anthony Ramos as Usnavi de la Vega. Usnavi is one of the many residents of the New York-based Washington Heights, a place with love and family around every corner.

The film gives us an everyday look into people's lives in Washington Heights, highlighting many individuals who share the same dream.

The film features Corey Hawkins as Usnavi's loyal best

friend Benny, newcomer Leslie Grace as the "one who made it out" girl-next-door Nina Rosario, and the beautiful and driven Vanessa played by Melissa Barrera.

Joining the cast are also Daphne Rubin-Vega as Daniela, Stephanie Beatriz as Daniela's girlfriend Carla, Dascha Polanco as Cuca, Gregory Diaz IV as Usnavi's little cousin Sonny, Olga Merediz as Abuela Claudia, and Jimmy Smits as Nina's father Kevin.

And the film features Miranda himself, as Piragüero, also known as "Piragua Guy."

From an objective standpoint, "In the Heights" appears to be a great movie. It may not be as well-known as Miranda's other projects like "Hamilton," but it sure deserves a spot up there.

The movie combines the flair of Latinx culture and the dynamic roles of every character in the film and makes a stunning portrayal. Every character has a specific role in the movie and gives viewers a look into the lives of a block that was, in the film, "disappearing," according to Usnavi's narration.

The music and story in the movie are amazingly well-done. Every song was better than the last, with Ramos, Barrera, Grace and the rest of the cast making the music come to life on the big screen.

Highlights of the musical soundtrack include "96,000," "Blackout," and the opener "In the Heights," which were epic showstoppers in and of themselves. Every melody had a beat that you could jam to, and the passion in each song made them worthwhile.

The best of the music, though, had to be the sorrowful and hauntingly beautiful "Paciencia y Fe," performed by Merediz.

Her voice had so much love and energy in this haunting melody that it made it a powerful farewell to the Abuela that shaped the characters' lives in the pages of the script.

Another worthy standout had to be the farewell to the Abuela in "Alabanza," which translated to "praise." Every song made the movie stand out and acts as a labor of love dedicated to the Latino community.

Overall, this movie was going

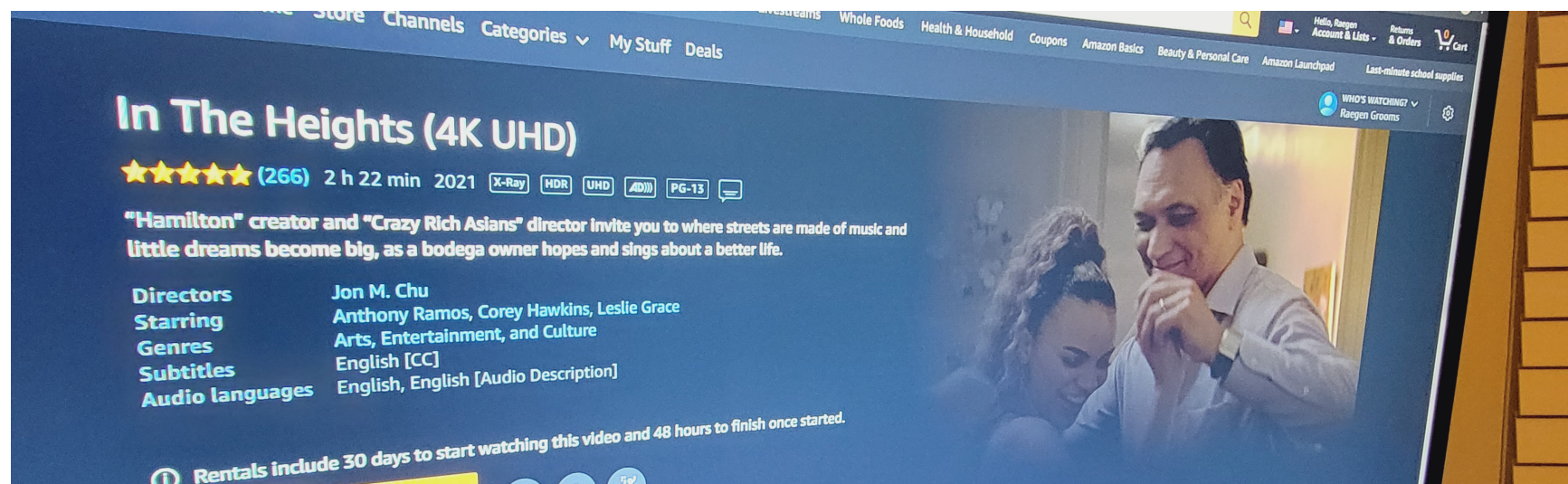
to be a summer success story. However, because of the pandemic and how COVID-19 changed streaming, the film never saw success at the box office, grossing a worldwide total of \$43.9 million against a \$55 million budget.

Most of the views of the film came from HBO Max streamers because of its "same-day streaming" program for their next blockbusters.

But the movie itself is a show-stopping musical full of heart and passion. The story it tells is about following your dreams, and it does so with every beat to every song. The movie itself reflects the culture of a group of people whose wish is to make the best out of their lives.

That is the message of the film. From start to finish, this is a work of true art. Fans of the original musical will love the movie, and new fans will walk in and find themselves dancing along as well.

"In the Heights" is available for purchase or rent online and from select stores and will return to HBO Max sometime later this year.



Gabe Corbin/The Johnsonian

The scalper problem

David Botzer
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It has been a long-running problem that scalpers would buy out tickets to events and sell them at a much higher rate. In recent years though, another community has become plagued by scalpers: gamers. Imagine this: A brand new item you've been wanting to buy has been out of stock for weeks.

The seller announces that it will be back in stock later that day. Full of excitement, you log on to the online store and wait on the item's page for something to change.

You refresh the page over and over again, leading up to the restock time. Yet, nothing ever changes.

Unbeknownst to you, somewhere else in the world, a scalper just bought out half the stock. Later that week, you'll look on eBay or another online store and see where the aforementioned scalper is selling the item you wanted for an absurd increase in price. And the worst part? Some buyers are desperate enough to pay those increased prices.

According to the Cambridge Dictionary, a scalper is "someone who buys things, such as theater tickets, at the usual

prices and then sells them, when they are difficult to get, at much higher prices."

Some of the most sought-after items for gamers recently, depending on platform preference, have been the latest generation of consoles from PlayStation and Xbox, as well as the newest graphic cards for PCs. Buyers spend hours at a time waiting for these items to go in stock, only to be thwarted by a scalper buying out as many as they can.

The reason scalpers do this is that they know they will profit. If they are the only one who is selling, they know buyers have no choice but to pay their price if they want the item. This has seen consoles that normally sell for around a few hundred dollars going for over a thousand.

This extortion of the gaming community has sparked anger from many.

Leroy Woods, a graduate counseling and development major, has been a PlayStation player for years but recently transitioned to PC gaming because of scalpers. Due to the PS5 never being in stock, Woods had to get a PC to play the latest games at the quality

level for which they were made.

"Scalpers are not good for any community as they limit the community resources," Woods said.

Whereas other buyers are simply looking to enjoy the games these systems and parts give them access to, Woods sees scalpers as just looking for a "side hustle" to earn them quick and extra money.

Artie Edwards, a junior digital information design major, shares Woods' views on scalpers. Edwards wanted to buy a 3070 series graphics card for his PC but could not find one at the normal price due to scalpers. He agreed that scalpers were not good for the community of gamers.

"They are hurting the consumers who will actually use the products for what they were intended for and not just sell them," he said.

At this point in time, it seems as if there are no ways to stop scalpers. While many people cry out for some sort of "anti-scalper" system to be put in place, it might feel like these requests are falling on deaf ears.

After all, whether it is a scalper or regular consumer, the

companies are still selling their products.

However, companies and stores alike are trying to take measures to ensure products are not falling into the hands of scalpers.

According to GamesIndustry, shops have begun announcing less when items will come back into stock, taking away the opportunity for scalpers to prepare.

Many sellers have started checking addresses, emails and card numbers to ensure buyers only receive one of whichever item they are purchasing.

One thing many members of the gaming community have suggested, Edwards said, is simply making more stock.

Unfortunately, this is not as easy as it once was due to the many hardships placed on the work industry as a whole by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The hope throughout the community is that, as things slowly creep back to the normal we knew before the pandemic, stock will rise, and scalpers will have less leverage for their inflated prices.

A review of the book 'The Song of Achilles'

Sam Hyatt
Staff Writer

Madeline Miller's new Greek mythology novel exceeds expectations

Before continuing, be aware that this article will contain spoilers about the book "The Song of Achilles" by Madeline Miller. Additionally, this article will discuss explicit scenes that take place within the novel. If you do not want the book or plot ruined for you, I suggest not reading this article until you finish reading the book.

Author Madeline Miller spent ten years writing her first novel, "The Song of Achilles," while she taught Latin and Greek mythology. The book was published in 2011. However, TikTok has been a major influence in bringing attention to the novel once again.

There are few characters in the novel that are not considered "famous" in Greek mythology. The main characters in Miller's novel are Patroclus, Achilles and Thetis.

The main plot of the novel follows the romantic relationship between Patroclus and Achilles while Achilles' mother, Thetis, interferes with their relationship as she disapproves of their companionship.

The novel begins with Patroclus being banished from his home village as a 12-year-old after pushing another child and causing a fatal head injury. After being orphaned, Peleus, Achilles' father, allows Patroclus to join their village and takes care of him as his own. This is the start of the friendship/relationship between Achilles and Patroclus.

After finding out about the relationship between Achilles and Patroclus, the sea nymph mother Thetis sends her son to live with a centaur, Chiron, in the woods in order to become the strongest and most skilled individual in the world.

However, after hearing the news, Patroclus runs away from the village and finds Achilles. They continue to live and learn new skills with the centaur Chiron.

During this period of five years living and learning in the woods with the centaur Chiron, the romantic relationship between two teenage boys begins. Even though they love each other, they continue to

keep their relationship private since homosexuality would not be accepted.

This aspect of the book is interesting because in the original Greek mythology story "The Iliad," these two characters are depicted solely as two close companions. However, many scholars have considered that perhaps these two were, in fact, lovers. Miller was able to take these scholars' thoughts and put them into play with these two characters.

Toward the end of the novel, it flashes forward to Achilles and Patroclus as grown men fighting in the Trojan War. Because of differing opinions on war tactics, problems arise between the couple.

In the end, Patroclus dies while pretending to be Achilles. He is later cremated, but his ashes are left unburied. In Greek mythology, if a body is not buried, then the soul is unable to pass into Hades, and they are left to wander the earth without rest.

After all the violence and heartbreak throughout the

novel, it would have been nice to have a happy ending. However, in the end, as Achilles is dying, he thinks about being able to see Patroclus in Hades and finds rest in that. But Patroclus is never buried; therefore, the two will never be able to be together again.

While we always want a happy ending that ties up the story with a pretty bow, Miller does not do that with this novel. It does set her and her novel apart from others, and in the field of writing, that is important.

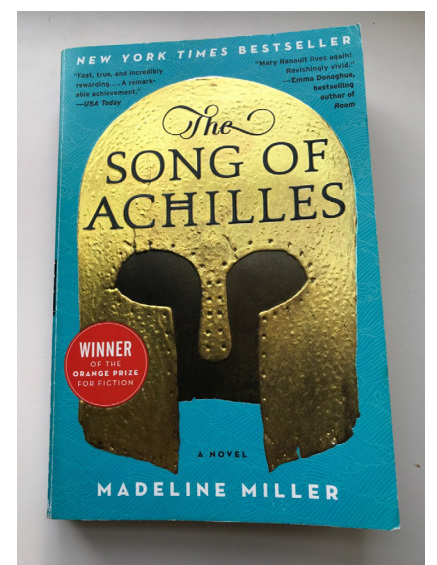
Applying the findings of scholars and the story of "The Iliad" while also adding "fictional" aspects to the characters' lives is brilliant and made the novel a page-turner.

Fortunately, Miller had her second novel, "Circe," published in 2018, which also follows the life of a Greek mythology character. Since expectations for "The Song of Achilles" were completely exceeded, many believe her more recent novel will do the same.

Do you want a platform to share your opinion with the campus community?

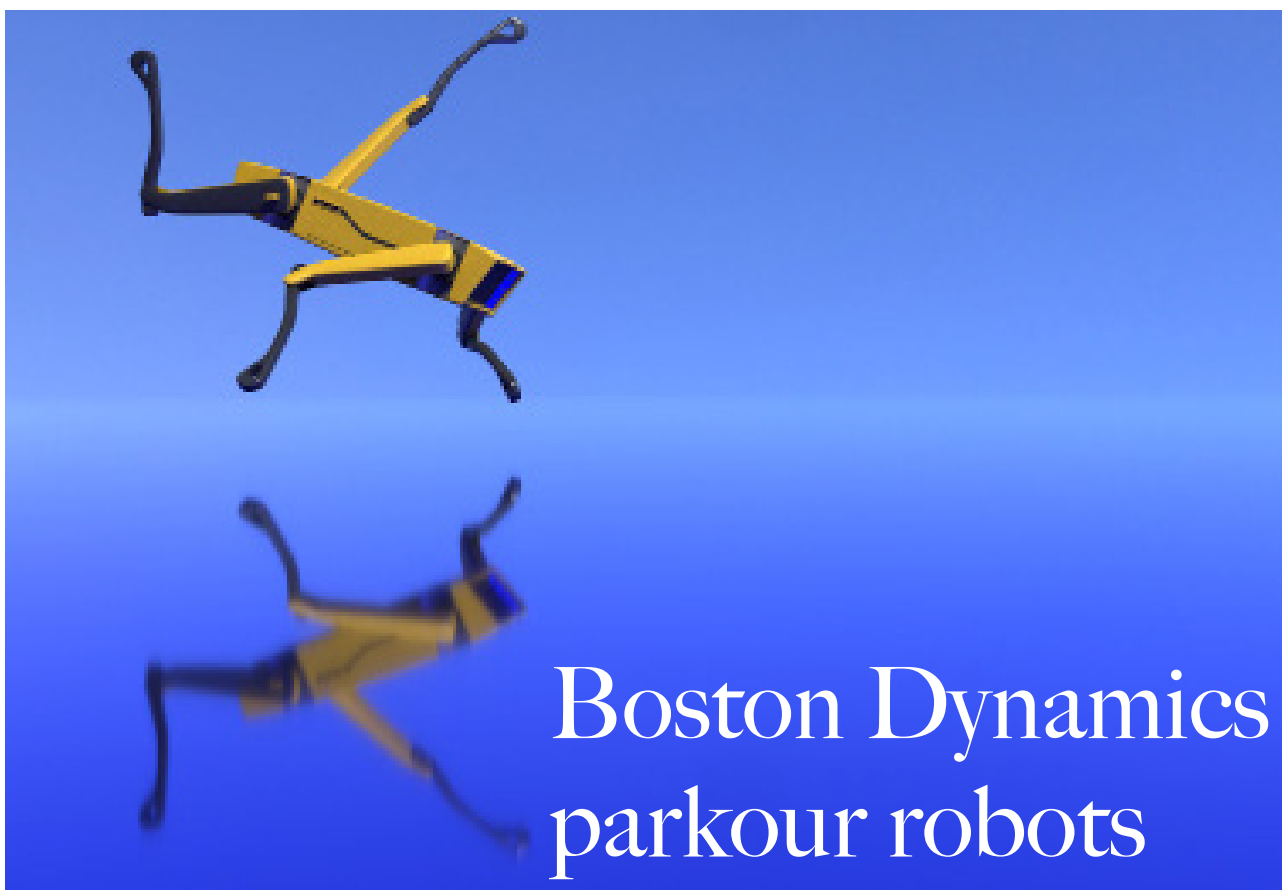
Submit a column to us and it might wind up in our opinion section!

Contact Opinion Editor Autumn Hawkins at hawkinsa@mytjnow.com



Sam Hyatt/TheJohnsonian

A video of Boston Dynamics robots went viral as viewers are shocked by the robots' parkour skills



Pixabay

Boston Dynamics' Atlas model has been making strides for years. Since 2016, videos of the humanoid robot doing incredible things have gone viral, with the most recent one being a video of two Atlas robots effortlessly completing a parkour course.

According to the company, the routine took months to develop and helped to test the robot's ability to keep its balance while coordinating actions. There is still a ton of work to be done, however, as the vault section of the course currently has a 50% chance of failure, and every step the robot takes has a slight chance of failing as well.

Boston Dynamics' aim is that this parkour practice will lead to better-designed robots that can handle tasks with human-like dexterity. But, right now, they are not in commercial production like their other model, Spot, the robot dog.

As these robots become more advanced, it is only a matter of

time before they are put into use in consumers' lives. The Boston Dynamics company website states that their "mission is to imagine and create exceptional robots that enrich people's lives."

Spot has already been used in a variety of ways, but mainly by corporations and the government. Companies Skarv and SpaceX have used Spot to help with inspection tasks at their locations, but the robot's most controversial use came from its use by the New York City Police Department.

In 2017, Netflix's original show "Black Mirror" had an episode that depicted a dystopian military state where robot dogs inspired by Spot are used to enforce the law. In 2020, the New York Police Department announced that they would be using a Spot robot named "Digidog" in a variety of ways on the police force.

Officers were convinced that Digidog had a bright future in the NYPD, being used to

navigate areas that were dangerous for officers to get into themselves, sending food to hostages, communicating with suspects and eventually opening doors.

In an interview with WABC-TV in December of 2020, NYPD Technical Assistance Response Unit Inspector Frank Digiacoia said, "This dog is going to save lives, protect people, and protect officers and that's our goal."

However, citizens of New York City were less optimistic about the robot and found it to be unnerving. And after public outcry, Digidog was decommissioned in April.

Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, on Twitter in February, called Digidog a "robotic surveillance ground drone" and praised activists who fought against the use of the robot.

Mayor Bill de Blasio said he was "glad the Digidog was put down," a mayoral spokesperson told WABC-TV. "It's creepy, alienating, and sends

the wrong message to New Yorkers."

Other Boston Dynamics models have been designed solely for military use, such as BigDog, which was meant to carry things for soldiers and accompany them in terrain that vehicles could not navigate, and LS3, a more refined version of BigDog.

Most Boston Dynamics models have been used for research purposes, such as PETMAN, a bipedal robot made for testing chemical protection suits, and Handle, a research robot with two legs on wheels and two hands for carrying objects.

Currently, it costs around \$75,000 to buy a Spot robot, so it is unlikely that these robots will be used in homes anytime soon. For now, only corporations and governments will get to enjoy the labors of these machines, and it will be interesting to see how they are used in the future.

Did you know... about art for the visually impaired?

Emily Curry
Assistant Editor

How art institutions are becoming more accessible to the visually impaired

Art is one of the most defining characteristics of humanity. Art reflects and influences our culture and can be a joy and beauty to behold. However, this is only the case for those with full vision. Anyone with impaired vision is at a disadvantage and cannot fully appreciate the visual arts.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there are 3.22 million people with a vision impairment, and "By 2050, the number of these conditions are projected to double." And that's just in the United States. This is a significant portion of people who are unable to take part in the visual arts, but luck-

ily, museums and other institutions that showcase visual arts are working on solutions.

The simplest is one that has been in effect at many museums: audio descriptions. These range from a Walkmanesque device one can pick up at the start of a museum experience or, more commonly, an app that can be downloaded.

But the Smithsonian Institution is taking the technology to the next level. This comes as little surprise as the Smithsonian Institution has always promoted free access to knowledge, and their museums and zoo charge no admission. However, in a news release released in 2019, the Smith-

sonian Institution announced that "visitors who are blind or have low vision can access a groundbreaking technology that uses their smartphone cameras or special glasses to get free on-demand verbal descriptions of everything from individual objects to entire exhibitions."

The program, known as Aira, connects visitors to live sighted agents who help guide visitors through the museum, creating personalized experiences. Beth Ziebarth, the director of Access Smithsonian, said in that 2019 news release that this technology helps the visually impaired not only to "engage with the museum but also

increase their mobility and independence."

A more unique way that some museums are making art more accessible is through tactile versions.

While most museums are vehement about enforcing "don't touch the art" policies, the Uffizi Gallery encourages it. According to My Modern Met, this gallery, located in Florence, Italy, has a three-dimensional rendering of Sandro Botticelli's iconic "The Birth of Venus."



Graphic rendered by Emily Curry

Submit your art to be in the paper!

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In a world where social media and news feeds can be programmed to fit one's own interests, it can be hard to learn about ideas going on in circles beyond one's own. This story marks the first of The Johnsonian's Arts, Culture & Tech section's new series, "Did You Know?" We will explore stories that may not get the most recognition but are still significant to the fields of art, culture and technology. Who knows? You may learn something that applies to you.



Matthew Shealy/The Johnsonian

The Eagles practiced on Saturday morning in preparation

Winthrop men's soccer earns first win in 663 days

Eagles defeat Stetson in 4-3 overtime

Matthew Shealy
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The Winthrop men's soccer team won its first game of the season Thursday, marking the team's first regular-season victory in 663 days.

After finishing last season with an 0-8-1 record, the Eagles are now 1-0 this fall following a trip to Stetson University, where they defeated the Hatters in overtime by a score of 4-3.

While Stetson took the lead early with a goal in the 11th minute, Winthrop equalized with a goal in the 29th minute and was the first to score in the second half to go up 2-1.

In the 82nd minute, Stetson evened the score to 2-2, and with less than three minutes remaining in regulation, the Eagles allowed another goal, giving the Hatters a 3-2 advantage.

"When I first came back from conceding a goal, I was pretty pissed off," junior Sean Green said. "Honestly, I wasn't happy."

Green channeled his emotion into his next kick — a shot on goal from the middle of the field.

"[I was] standing in the center circle and Tyler Hornsby there, he's looking at me," Green said. "He's like, 'Check out the keeper; he's off his line a little bit.' Gave me a little wink egging me on, so I thought, 'Okay, you know, why not?'"

Green's strike sailed from midfield, over the goalie's head and into the back of the net just seconds after the clock had restarted. The goal ranks Top 5 all-time in NCAA D-I for fastest consecutive goals scored by opposing teams.

"I've done a lot of ball striking. At a previous school, it was one of our main focuses," Green said. "Glad to say that's definitely paid off now."

With Green's goal leveling the score at 3-3, the game went to overtime.

"When we scored, we came up all together, and we said, 'Okay, let's go and win this,'" sophomore Bryant Jimenez-Pearce said.

The two teams were scoreless for the first eight minutes of the ten-minute overtime period. Then, in the 98th minute, senior Jonathan Foster found Jimenez-Pearce right in front of the goal, and the midfielder booted the ball in for the win.

"I told the guys before the game, 'If I score, I'm gonna take my shirt off,'" Jimenez-Pearce said. "That happened."

Jimenez-Pearce was not the only one to take his shirt off as Winthrop's players rushed the field in celebration.

"Couldn't be more proud of this entire group tonight. Almost at a loss of words," head coach Daniel Ridenhour said following the game.

"It's amazing right now that we come down here, and we can fight, and we can compete and we get a result just to get us going."

On Saturday morning, the Eagles practiced in preparation for Sunday's match against the South Carolina Gamecocks.

"All the guys are buzzing [and] you can see the energy a little [more now]," Green said.

"I know a lot of these guys

had a pretty rough year last year. So having that to kick-start our year and really pretty much wipe the slate clean and get started, to know that this is the new future of Winthrop soccer is really exciting."

The Eagles returned from Columbia having suffered a 4-1 loss to the Gamecocks but will look to bounce back against Furman in Greenville on Sept. 6.



Matthew Shealy/The Johnsonian

Jimenez-Pearce & Green



Matthew Shealy/The Johnsonian

Senior defender Taeyoon Oh was born in Seoul, South Korea, and has been playing soccer for over a decade.

While attending Incheon Hitech High School in South Korea, he received the Excellent Player award. Before transferring to Winthrop last year, Oh attended universities in both Texas and Ohio.

"When I spent my first year in Texas, I went to Korea for a short time during winter break, when Kyle, a coach of Winthrop, came to Korea. I talked

to him a lot then, and I had a good memory of Winthrop. Since then, I [was] thinking of transferring to Winthrop," Oh said.

At Lakeland Community College in Ohio, Oh started all 13 games he played. He scored his only goal of the season in a win over Michigan Lake College on Sept. 29, 2019.

Moving to the United States for college was a tremendous adjustment for Oh, learning not only how to balance the simultaneous athletic and aca-

Eagle of the Week: Taeyoon

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demical lifestyle but also learning how to communicate in a foreign country.

"Even though I still lack English, [it was] very difficult because I couldn't speak English at all when I first came to America," Oh said.

During the 2020-2021 season, Oh led his team in assists and was one of three players to play in and start all nine games for Winthrop.

Last Thursday, Oh played the entire season-opening game against Stetson in Deland, Florida, where the Eagles walked away with their first win since the fall of 2019 with a final score of 4-3.

"I'm looking forward to the game against Campbell University the most. We were beaten by them last season, and I really want to pay them back with a good game this year," Oh said.

Oh is striving for good grades in the classroom and wants to help bring his team to the Big South Tournament in November.

"There are bigger goals, but I look forward to every moment," Oh said.

After many years on the field, Oh can confidently walk into a regular-season game, but larger competitions occasionally bring on the nerves.

"When I'm too nervous, I have a habit of chewing gum and a habit of holding water in my mouth and then spitting it out," Oh said.

Oh finds inspiration in his favorite athlete, former footballer Nemanja Vidić who most notably played for Manchester United.

"He was more combative and one of the best defenders, I think, and he hated giving goals to his opponent even if his nose was broken. [He is] one of the players I want to resemble the most," Oh said.

Planning to graduate in the fall of 2022, Oh hopes to continue living in the United States to see what opportunities arise.



Winthrop Athletics

Winthrop Esports announces roster additions

New players and casters added to team rosters this semester

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The start of the fall semester has brought plenty of change to Winthrop's esports rosters. After winning titles in both League of Legends and Rocket League in the spring, Winthrop Esports is adding sixteen members to the program.

According to head esports coach Josh Sides, some of these new members will serve as casters, commentating Winthrop's matches as they are streamed online.

"We want to up our broadcast," Sides said. "We want to be able to have the community be able to find us on Twitch and see us. We can have clips, we can have highlights. We can have all that fun, easy, digestible stuff so that people can follow along and know what we're doing"

This semester, the team has added two streamers for League of Legends who go by the names Britishkoolaid and Paralisy. For Rocket League, the team brought in two other streamers - Pancakeking.x and Ar1pari, a local streamer from Clover.

Sides said the goal is to have a full content team by the spring. He said the esports program was able to (and is still looking to) offer scholarships to those joining the broadcast and content team.

"We're hoping to bring in video editing, graphic design - stuff to where we can start just

putting stuff out for the community," Sides said. "I feel like people have a hard time knowing what we're doing here and keeping track of what esports is actually doing.

"People wouldn't have known that we won a national championship if we didn't just blast it everywhere, and I'm sure there's probably people that still don't know."

That's right. If you didn't know, Winthrop won a national title in June, defeating Maryville University in the Collegiate League of Legends Championship. Before that, the Eagles won the Collegiate Esports National Championship Rocket League Tournament in May.

"We don't do a very good job of keeping our community informed [so] that's something that I wanted to take into my own hands and do a better job with," Sides said.

Along with the addition of casters, the esports program has bolstered and reloaded its rosters as they prepare to compete this fall.

Joining the Valorant team are two players by the names of Ali and West. According to Sides, West was originally recruited to head up the content team but will now fill in for Smooty (who came to Winthrop in the spring 2020 semester) who has a required class that conflicts with match times.

Sides described Ali as an "insane talent" with professional potential.

"It would really surprise me

if he's here for all four years to be candid, just because the kid's got pro-level talent and pro-level ambition," Sides said.

For Overwatch, Winthrop added players named Far and Lyar. Sides referred to them as "insane players" who have played at the semi-pro and pro levels.

"Having them come and join the team is a big step up for the Overwatch team. Overwatch in general in collegiate has taken a huge step up in the last year, year and a half," Sides said.

Sides said teams such as Northwood and Illinois State have put together extremely talented Overwatch rosters, so Winthrop sees itself as an underdog with an outside chance to pull some upsets.

In Rocket League, Winthrop had two really good players (Tcorrell and Hound) transfer to new schools. Tcorrell, "probably the most talented player in collegiate Rocket League" according to Sides, departed for Northwood just a week or two before the start of the fall semester.

"Collegiate esports being what it is, schools can come in and there's no transfer portal, there's no NCAA to say he has to sit out a year," Sides said. "If Northwood wants to come in a week before school starts and offer him a giant scholarship to pull him away then they can do that.

"It shows that we do a really good job of identifying talent at the very least, that schools are looking at us as teams to get

players from."

To replace the transfers, Winthrop added three new players in Kamikazi, Wildcherry and Kiralina.

In League of Legends, Sides said Winthrop is set to field two squads this year. While a school can't field two teams in Collegiate League of Legends competition, it can enter junior varsity and varsity squads in other tournaments.

While Winthrop lost two highly talented players in Saskio and Doxa, the Eagles brought in Avano and Vex who are expected to fill their roles. Along with those two players, Winthrop added Mabud, Koskinen and Grimm to the League of Legends roster.

Sides said he hopes that fielding two teams will push his players and encourage some healthy competition.

"Our A-team is great. I think anyone in the country would say top-3, top-4 team in the country even with the players that we lost," Sides said. "Our B-team is probably at least top-15. There's like 290 varsity esports schools. 280 of those schools would kill to have our B-team as their main team, so that's something that's real cool and we're gonna see how that shakes out."

According to Sides, the program has currently identified a few players to try out for the Super Smash Bros squad, but those roster spots have not yet been finalized and will be announced at a later date.

Hiring sports writers!

Please contact Bryn Eddy Smyth

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September 1, 2021

In Hyndsight: Expectations for Winthrop's next president

A look into what The Johnsonian staff expects from the next Winthrop president

Autumn Hawkins
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Recently, Winthrop University has announced that the search for Winthrop's next president has begun.

In January 2020, George Hynd was selected as Winthrop's interim president following the end of Dan Mahony's term. Before assuming presidency at Winthrop, Hynd served as the interim dean for the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Dr. Hynd has also served in other administrative roles at UTC, as well as at Oakland University, Arizona State University, Purdue University and the College of Charleston.

During Hynd's presidency, Winthrop has undergone one of the hardest struggles a university can face — a global pandemic. An

illness of this magnitude was last seen during D.B. Johnson's presidency with the influenza of 1918. Through one of the most tumultuous times in Winthrop's history, Hynd gracefully carried the university into a brighter future.

Though Hynd's presidency was never meant to last a full term, it is hard to imagine campus without him. The Hynds have quickly become a welcome and expected sight during their evening walks. Seeing presidential announcements has become a part of staying in touch with campus officials.

Whether it is physical, digital or emotional, George Hynd has left his mark on Winthrop University. As Winthrop searches for his replacement, the Johnsonian staff has brainstormed expectations for the new president. Expectations are high, as the diverse populace of Winthrop University has a large number of requests.

Lyn Horton, the podcast editor

for the Johnsonian, hopes that Hynd's replacement will communicate openly with students and faculty alike. Multiple editors have concurred with this, as communication was almost a unanimous desire. Whether this is becoming involved in student activities or sending a newsletter, communication is key at Winthrop University.

Arts, culture and technology editor, David Botzer, added on to the desire for communication by expressing a need for acceptance.

"I hope our next president is not quick to dismiss student complaints or concerns," Botzer said.

"I want them to put their best foot forward in order to improve our campus."

Much of Rock Hill's culture surrounds Winthrop University. Whether it is reflected in jerseys hanging at Towne Tavern or many of Rock Hill's teachers being alumni, Winthrop is an integral part of the local culture. Assistant news

editor, Christian Smith, hopes that the new university president respects this.

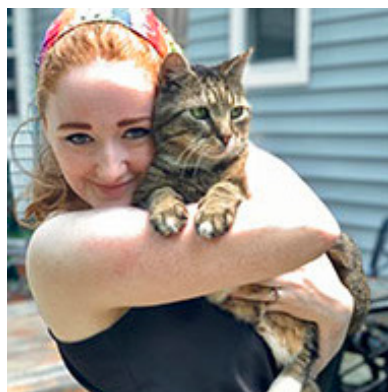
"I expect that our new president understands Winthrop University as a community as well as a culture," Smith said. He agreed with Horton's desire for communication by expressing a need for the president to feel a sense of duty to the university.

"I think that they should be accountable to Winthrop with a high level of integrity," Smith said.

While the Rock Hill community will be sad to see an end to Hynd's interim presidency, the anticipation for a fresh face has begun. No news has been delivered to students as of Aug. 28, but students can expect to hear an update once a successor has been chosen. As of now, the Johnsonian staff wishes Hynd the best of luck as he concludes his time as Winthrop's interim president.

MEET THE STAFF

Get to know the editors who are leading the staff in bringing you the best in news, arts and sports.



Bryn Eddy Smyth

Hey! My name is Bryn (she/her) and I am an English major and also the Editor-in-Chief of The Johnsonian. I am a senior at Winthrop and a fun fact about me is that after my journalism career, I hope to own a cottage in Maine with a heated barn outback where I can house and rehabilitate dogs and cats.



Chase Duncan

Hey, y'all! My name is Chase (he/him/his) and I am a senior mass comm major. I like reading, writing and Star Trek. I am an avid learner and am open to trying new things whether it be food, hobbies or areas of study. You can often catch me cuddling with puppies and kitties with a book in hand.



Mari Pressley

My name is Mari Pressley and I am the News Editor! I am a second year mass communication student with a minor in film and content production. A fun fact about me is that when I was a kid, I wanted to grow up to be a fashion designer. My pronouns are she/her/hers.



Autumn Hawkins
Opinion Editor

I am a senior middle level education major! My concentrations are English and social studies. This semester, I am interning at York Middle School in 7th grade history. My pronouns are they/them/theirs. This is my second year at The Johnsonian, but my first year as an editor. A fun fact about me is that I am working towards being bilingual, as I have been studying Spanish for six years.



David Botzer

Hi, my name is David Botzer and I am the Arts, Culture and Tech editor for The Johnsonian. I go by he/him/his pronouns. I am a senior English major pursuing a Master of Arts in Teaching and I like to title myself as an aspiring author who does a little too much aspiring and not enough authoring.



Matthew Shealy

My name is Matthew Shealy (he/him) and I am the sports editor for The Johnsonian. I am a senior majoring in mass communication with a minor in coaching. I'm also a member of the Screamin' Eagles Pep Band, which allows me to play my alto saxophone and cheer for Winthrop's basketball teams at every home game.



Hispanic Heritage Month
Preserved in Clay and Stone: Celebrating the History of Ancient Latin America

September 16
3:00 pm



Exhibit & Panel Discussion
Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections

Welcome Week 2021

**Create Your Success
@ Dacus!**

August 24 - August 26
11:00 am - 2:00 pm

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Bullet Journals

Wednesday:
Desk Organizers

Thursday:
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