

THE JOHNSONIAN



WU Students for Change call for accountability, action

Bryn Eddy Smyth/The Johnsonian

Students left unhappy with changes to sexual misconduct policy

Anna Sharpe
sharpea@mytjnow.com

Many students are not satisfied with recent changes Winthrop University officials have made to the school's sexual misconduct policy.

The updates to the policy are "blatantly anti-LGBTQ and perpetuate dangerous myths about sexual violence," according to a post on the group's Instagram, @wustudentsforchange.

Updates, as outlined in an email from Interim President George Hynd sent out to the campus community on Sep. 1, include changes that bring the policy up to date with guidance from the Biden administration and changes to the complaint resolution procedures in the Title IX investigative process.

"In the new procedures, all decision makers or appeal officers in the Title IX investigative process will be external to the university. Also, on-campus investigators will be selected from a pool of faculty and staff members who volunteer for the role and receive training from a law firm specializing in Title IX matters, including how to effectively investigate and report findings of an investigation," Hynd wrote.

Following a March 2021 article published in The Johnsonian, many students felt that the process for sexual assault investigations laid out in this article were lackluster and harmful to victims.

In response to campus unrest, which included two protests led by WU Students for Change, a new position dedicated solely to Title IX was created. Creating the Title IX Coordinator position removed these responsibilities from Vice President and Chief of Staff Kimberley Faust.

As of Sep. 1, a search committee, made up of student, faculty and staff representatives, has begun conducting initial interviews to fill the role.

While the creation of this position fulfills a demand from a petition created by WU Students for Change earlier in 2021, it was

revealed that the Title IX Coordinator will still be reporting to Faust.

A job listing for the position on Inside Higher Ed for the Title IX Coordinator and ADA Compliance Officer states that the position reports to Winthrop's Chief of Staff.

Ainsley McCarthy, a sophomore mass communication major and member of WU Students for Change, said upon hearing this she was angry and "above all insulted."

"I mean they are operating as though they don't think that we're smart enough to figure this stuff out. Like we're not going to realize that she's still in charge. It doesn't make the difference that it needs to make if she still has that power over what's happening," McCarthy said.

Drew Williams, a junior psychology major and member of WU Students for Change, said it seemed like the school was trying to avoid fixing the issue.

"I just felt like they tried to find a loophole that we wouldn't realize. I was like 'Really? Is this how you're going to do this?'" Williams said.

Milo Wolverton, a senior English major and member of WU Students for Change, said ideally the Title IX Coordinator would not report to the Chief of Staff, but to an independent advisory committee.

"That way it's not somebody who has a vested interest in the public image of the school. I think that's the problem we've seen throughout this entire process is the... person who is in charge of Title IX had a vested interest in protecting the school. It's insulting to think that they wouldn't even reach out and ask students what they think would be actually fair," Wolverton said.

WU Students for Change held a protest on Campus Green in

March 2021 and a silent sit-in in April. McCarthy said that the president's office reached out to the organization to meet with Hynd to discuss the issues at hand, but declined, instead requesting for a question-and-answer based town hall.

"What we had asked for too, is that instead they do a question and answer session with the president because we felt like a public question and answer session would actually give more students a chance to voice their concerns because we have a very diverse student body," Wolverton said.

"They told us that we could send two representatives from our group [to meet with Hynd]. We declined because we said that there's no way that just two of us

can accurately represent the entirety of our campus. That is completely counterintuitive to what we're trying to accomplish here," McCarthy said.

Jade Jones, a senior finance major and member of WU Students for Change, said the organization will continue to keep its momentum by having more meetings and keeping the student body up to date on the issues.

"The way that we want to keep the pressure on is to continually have these meetings, continually release this information, put out these think pieces about what's going on at this school and how it's unethical and how it's not helping either the school in the long run or the students in the long run. It's just keeping our foot on Winthrop's neck," Jones said.

"We really want to drive home that they will be in a much worse place if they continue with their complacency as opposed to listening to the students, the people who have been hurt," she said.

Wolverton said the biggest goal for the organization is keeping the university accountable.

"It is much deeper than people realize and it's much deeper than Winthrop wants it to be. It's just a matter of these people being held accountable," he said.

WU Students for Change formed in March 2021 and have been advocating for policy changes at Winthrop. Members from left to right: Jade Jones, senior; Milo Wolverton, junior; Ainsley McCarthy, sophomore; Drew Williams, junior.

Remembering Louise Pettus

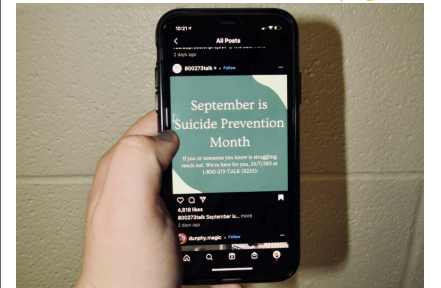
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Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections, Winthrop University

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Emma Crouch/The Johnsonian

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Pixabay

Volleyball alumna on front line in healthcare

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Photo courtesy to Becca Toor

Coliseum roof in need of replacement

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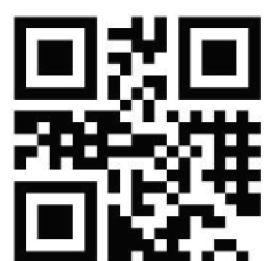
Olivia Esselman/The Johnsonian

What we think about the new required campus safety training

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Anna Sharpe/The Johnsonian



Remembering Professor Louise Pettus

Former history professor, Louise Pettus, passed

Jada Strong
Staff Writer

Former Winthrop Professor Louise Pettus passed away on Aug. 15. Pettus earned her B.A. at Winthrop in history in 1946, then her masters at the University of South Carolina in 1954. She also completed additional graduate studies at the University of Arizona.

After graduating, Pettus returned to Winthrop as a professor in both the School of Education and the Department of History for 22 years. She also wrote several books in her career and retired in 1989.

On Sept. 2, a memorial service was held for Pettus at Winthrop in the Tuttle dining room. The speakers at the service included former colleagues and friends of Pettus.

"I speak for the Board of Trustees and the entire Winthrop community in expressing sorrow at this news," Interim President George Hynd said. "Louise was a kind and giving woman, as well as an exceptional friend to her alma mater...Louise helped preserve and illuminate the history of this region as a distinguished historian and author for more than 50 years."

The university's archives were named after Pettus in 2006, officially being named the Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections.

"It was fitting that Winthrop named its Archives and Special Collections for Louise in 2006, particularly because she performed a masterful job in chronicling this institution's past and this region's rich history," Hyde wrote. "Her outstanding accomplishments prompted the university to name Louise the recipient of its 2006 Alumni Professional Achievement Award. It was one of many tributes for an alumna who loved Winthrop and remained devoted to this institution for her whole life."

Dr. Eddie Lee, a history professor at Winthrop, was a longtime friend of Pettus.

"Professor Louise Pettus and I had a long friendship dating back to 1976. We worked together on many things, including a program in 1995 commemorating Winthrop's re-location from Columbia to Rock Hill, which took place a century earlier," Lee said. "I served as president of the York County Genealogy and Historical Society, and Louise was editor of our journal, The



Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections, Winthrop University

Quarterly."

Lee remembers Pettus' advocacy for the archives and her devotion to her students.

"The Louise Pettus Archives is a permanent legacy to her love for students and her alma mater," Lee said. "I had many opportunities to observe the conscientious care she displayed for every student."

Long-time colleague of Pettus, Gina White, also spoke.

"I met Louise Pettus here at Winthrop. I was in the class of 1983, so I met her while I was a student, and while I never had her as a professor, she did a lot of research in the archives," White said. "So I had a lot of interactions with her as a student, and then again when I started working here full time

in the Archives in 1986, I got to know her even better."

Although Pettus retired several years ago, she always kept Winthrop very close to her. She'd even left in her estate a considerable donation to Winthrop University and the archives.

"She was so generous here at the Archives. She set up an endowment for us, so we were able to set up paid internships for students who were considering archival work as a career," White said. "It helped us create research projects. She helped researchers further their knowledge of Winthrop and this area of South Carolina."

Suicide Prevention Month

Suicide Prevention month brings awareness to the importance of mental health

Sam Hyatt
Staff Writer

The month of September is National Suicide Prevention Month. The month is used as a way to inform others about the potential warning signs of those contemplating suicide while also spreading hope and information on how those affected can seek help.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness, also known as NAMI, provides extensive information on how to seek help and provides updated data on those who are most affected by suicide each year.

According to nami.org, 78 percent of those who die from suicide are male, and the suicide rate has increased by 35 percent since 1999. Additionally, suicide is the second leading cause of death of those between ages ten and 34, and is the tenth leading cause of death in the United States.

"Suicide prevention needs

to be a discussion that people should not feel scared to talk about. It's important because you never know what a person is going through, and simply saying 'hey how are you?' can be impactful for them," freshman music education major Logan Szykajowski said.

Fortunately, there is a multitude of accessible resources for those who are experiencing depression and outside circumstances causing them to consider suicide. For Winthrop students, Health and Counseling Services is located in the Crawford building on scholars walk and across from the DiGiorgio student center.

Winthrop students are able to meet with a counselor after calling to make an appointment. Appointments can be made through the Mediat patient portal and can be made for same-day appointments or for later in the week. These sessions are essentially free as the payments are built into each

student's tuition.

"People should know that at Winthrop you are not alone, and people are here to help in any way possible," Coleman Smith, a freshman sports management major said.

Aside from services on campus, there are apps that provide resources for those seeking help. Apps such as Calm and Talk Space are available for both Apple and Android users and allow individuals to speak with a certified therapist for free.

Additionally, there are apps that help individuals keep track of their self-care and send positive affirmations to their phone throughout the day. Examples of these apps are Moodfit and Happify.

Helplines are available for those who are seeking help and do not know where to start. The national suicide helpline is 1-800-273-TALK. These helplines are available 24 hours and are free and confidential.

According to Suicide Prevention Lifeline, private chatrooms are available as well, along with text messaging for those who are not comfortable speaking on the phone. All conversations remain confidential.

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"Mental health is a serious thing and is not something to be ashamed of. Supporting each other is the most important and efficient thing to do when it comes to mental health," Szykajowski said.

About The Johnsonian

The Johnsonian is the weekly student newspaper of Winthrop University.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Our offices are located in suite 104 in the DiGiorgio Campus Center. Phone: (803) 323-3419 Email: editors@mytjnow.com Online: mytjnow.com

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Winthrop makes changes to Dining Services

2021-2022 school year has come with a multitude of changes, one of which is with dining services

Mari Pressley
pressleym@mytjnow.com

Winthrop Dining services has embraced several new changes this year alone, many of which include the renaming of Thomson to Eagle Eatery, Einstein Bros. Bagels extending its hours, Subway closing and Starbucks relocating temporarily to Markley's.

In the wake of Subway closing due to short staffing, Eagle Eatery has opened its new Super Deli Station where there is a menu handwritten by the chef each morning. There are more bread options, which come with the new ability to toast using the turboshift toaster.

"[E]specially because [of] the pandemic, y'all didn't really get to enjoy the made-to-order things that we had before. Because things were kind pre-packaged, because we needed to make sure that there were no lines, no hold up or anything," said Aba Hutchison, marketing specialist for Winthrop Dining Services.

"For example, you could choose to have a grilled chicken sandwich; we could pick out that grilled chicken separately, pick out your bread, you want all the toppings you want at the grill, which used to be the 360 station. And also, like with burgers, you don't have to have the cheese already pre-melted onto it; you kind of have different cheese options."

At the expanded Simple Servings counter, students have more options and are even able to participate in things like fried chicken Wednesday while enjoying gluten-free and allergen-safe foods.

"So we'll be having more events in [the Simple Servings] area too. And we have a purple blender that we're hoping that we can make some smoothies or something in the future, especially when our staffing gets up," Hutchison said.

Students have varying opinions.

"The eggs suck. They look like sponges. But other than that, the soups have improved. ... But there were way too many people in Thomson at the beginning of the semester. It was not welcoming at all. Me and my suitemates and my roommate, we did not enjoy our time in Thomson and actually avoided it. Oh, and I hate the new hours," said Grace Griffin, sophomore digital information design major.

The hours in Eagle Eatery have been reduced. Last school year, Thomson's hours were 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Fridays, and 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Eagle Eatery's hours are now 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on weekdays and 10:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on weekends.

"We all hate the new hours. It doesn't open early enough on weekends, because some people have got to get up and get their day going and it doesn't open for long enough because some people have late classes. It's inconsiderate to students," Griffin said.

Eagle Eatery cashier Nicole Massey shared her opinion about some of the dining hall's changes.

"I really like the changes... As far as the COVID and everything, I think we're doing a pretty good job as far as trying

to meet [students'] needs. ... I love it," Massey said.

This year marked another major change with Starbucks moving downstairs to Markley's food court due to renovations being made.

"I think that is something that should have been discussed, or at least let their workers know how long it's going to take over. ... We have known about the renovation since last year, but they're now telling us when it's gonna be done. And I just think that the timing on it is off. We have a lot of people who aren't coming back because they can't work in such a small space," said Portia Blackman, Starbucks barista and junior mass communication major.

In the heart of Winthrop's dining services, Markley's houses Chick-fil-A, Tres Habaneros, The Grill, Mein Bowl and Einstein Bros. Bagels. As a result of the Starbucks renovations, there is now a kiosk located in Markley's.

"There's just no space to move around. There's no space to make drinks. There's no space for everybody to get stuff that needs to be done," Blackman said. "They don't let their workers know the time of things. Like, we don't know when we're going to be up there or when we will even come down here. I just feel like there's no communication."



Mari Pressley/The Johnsonian



Police Blotter A weekly round-up of crime on campus

Sarah Hassler
hasslers@mytjnow.com

On Aug. 5, the R/O observed a gray Toyota Sienna driving 12 mph over the speed limit on Winthrop Alumni Drive. The speed limit on that road is 20 mph. The R/O conducted a traffic stop of the Toyota and made contact with the driver, and informed her that she had been stopped for driving 32 mph in a 20 mph zone. The R/O received all of the driver's necessary information was made aware that her license had expired in April. The driver stated that she did not have a current driver's license with her. The R/O then issued her a citation for an expired driver's license and a warning for speeding.

On Aug. 11, the R/O was conducting patrol when he observed a vehicle with an expired vehicle decal. The R/O confirmed this through NCIC, and Communications verified that the decal was expired in 2020, last year. At this time, the R/O initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle. The R/O asked the subject to provide his credentials. The subject could not provide his registration or his proof of insurance. The subject also stated that his insurance had been canceled.

At this time, the R/O requested Interstate Towing and Recovery to retrieve the vehicle. Interstate Towing arrived on the scene and took the vehicle to be impounded until the subject can get valid insurance reestablished. At this time, the R/O issued the subject with two citations, one for Failure to Register Vehicle (Expired) and the other for Operating Vehicle Uninsured. The subject was also issued a tow slip and instructions to contact Winthrop University Police Department when he had valid insurance to retrieve his vehicle. The subject left the scene with a friend at this time.



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Anne Springs Close's life and impact

Anne Springs Close, conservationist and philanthropist, lives on in the hearts and minds of those in Fort Mill and surrounding areas

Christian Smith
christians@mytjnow.com

"I saved one too many trees."

These were some of the last words of noted conservationist and philanthropist Anne Springs Close, as she lay in a hospital bed after being struck by a falling branch outside her home of 95 years, according to a post by the Anne Springs Close Greenway. Close died on Friday, Aug. 20, at the age of 95.

While most well-known for the creation of the Anne Springs Close Greenway in 1995 located in Fort Mill and for her work in the creation of the communities of Baxter and Kingsley, Close had a number of other personal achievements. According to the article from the Close Greenway, she was the first woman on the board of Wofford College in Spartanburg, was chairman of the National Recreation Association for 15 years and traveled to more than 60 different countries.

"She led an unbelievable

life," said Elizabeth Bowers, communications director at the nonprofit Leroy Springs & Company, which manages the greenway. "I mean, she was the last living person to have flown on the Hindenburg. She summited Mount Washington in '88, hiked Mount Kilimanjaro three times."

Close stayed active both in her community and her family's organizations to the end. She was on the board of the Leroy Springs & Company, a recreation nonprofit founded by her grandfather in 1938 for over 40 years, and served as the chairman of the Springs Close Foundation, which provides financial assistance to those in need, grants to nonprofit organizations and scholarships for college students, from 1983 to her death.

"When I met Mrs. Close, she was well into her 80s, but she has been incredibly active for the duration of her life," Bowers said.

Winthrop received support from the Springs Close Foundation to establish the Close Scholars program in 1998, which provides finan-

cial assistance and leadership opportunities to students who are willing to engage with their community.

"Mrs. Anne Springs Close represented the kind of life I aspire to lead. A life of love, devotion, and service. Her life is an example of the values of service, excellence, diversity, community, and leadership that have been instilled in me here at Winthrop," said Miguel Caldwell, junior elementary education major. "I can never repay her for what she added to my life."

"Being a Close Scholar is more than a scholarship; it has cultivated a way of life for me. When you live such a powerful life, you never really depart; you just leave a piece of you in the people you touch. Her life will be missed, but her legacy will live on."

The fortune of Anne Springs Close was primarily gained through her family's cotton mill business, which later expanded to include a bank, railroad, newspaper and insurance company, according to a post by the Close Greenway.

Death penalty upheld for Roof

Man who murdered 9 to still face the death penalty



Courtesy of The Beach Company

A makeshift memorial is set up in front of Mother Emanuel AME Church after the shooting.

Marley Bassett
Staff Writer

Nine African-American churchgoers were brutally shot to death during the concluding prayer of their evening Bible study on June 17, 2015, at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina. The man who shot them, Dylann Roof, fled the scene and was arrested a couple of days after the horrific mass shooting.

Roof was sentenced to death on Jan. 10, 2017, and then life in prison without parole as well a couple of months later on April 10, 2017. Roof has sought to appeal his death sentence after arguing that the court did not thoroughly vet if he was mentally sound. He claimed that his competency to stand trial relied too heavily on one psychologist's evaluation.

Two weeks ago, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit voted unanimously to uphold the death penalty for Roof.

"His crimes qualify him for the harshest penalty that a just society can impose. We have reached that conclusion not as a product of emotion but through a thorough analytical process," the Court of Appeals decision read in part.

Roof's legal team can take their case to the Supreme Court if they wish to appeal the penalty again, but his team has not yet publicly stated if that is what they plan to do.

Winthrop students are divided among whether the death penalty was the appropriate sentence for Roof.

"No one should ever be forced to be killed no matter how bad of a crime. There are other alternatives to resolving the issue rather than continuing the cycle of death," said KJ Adams, junior theatre performance major.

However other students view the issue differently.

"I think it is appropriate to have Roof serve that penalty. While the community of the church is centered on forgiveness and rebuilding, Roof was not put on the right path, and I would never feel comfortable with him gaining his freedom and citizenship back, as he does not deserve it," said Logan Szykowski, freshman music education major.

Members of those lost during the Mother Emanuel AME Church shooting have been vocal in the past about the pain they still feel, six years later.

State Rep. JA Moore, who lost his sister, Myra Thompson, in the shooting, said since the court's decision, "It is still just as shocking, just as egregious, just as hurtful, just as painful as it was six years ago."

Winthrop students, family members and friends of those lost in this tragedy are united in their belief that justice is being served.

"Overall, yes I feel justice is being served, but I wish there was another method," Adams said.

Once the decision was released, Moore stated: "Too often in this country for marginalized people, especially Black and brown folks, the criminal justice system has not been favorable to us. Fortunately in this situation with the tragic, barbaric murder of my sister and eight other lives, the justice system has been working," according to The State.

Even with the news of the upholding of the decision that was met with joy for those who lost family and friends as well as a grief-stricken community, the loss that has filled their lives for the past six years still remains and will continue to be there even with the glimmer of hope that comes with decisions like these.

What are COVID-19 vaccine passports?

COVID-19 passports are becoming more common in the U.S.; so what exactly are COVID-19 passports, and do people need to worry about getting them?

Taylor Sallenger
sallengert@mytjnow.com

As businesses start opening more and restrictions start lessening for vaccinated individuals, more safety guidelines to ensure those who claim to be vaccinated are actually vaccinated must also come into effect. That's where COVID-19 vaccination passports come in.

COVID-19 vaccination passports are documents that show that a person has been vaccinated. They can be a physical piece of paper or something digital, and in some places in the U.S., like New York and California, there are even scannable QR codes one can pull up on their phone to prove their vaccination status.

It is important to note that vaccination passports are not something new that was made specifically for the coronavirus. But, in fact, certain countries have required vaccination passports for traveling during past outbreaks.

With the rise of businesses and restaurants requiring patrons to be fully vaccinated, something like a vaccination passport may become more common. And with vaccine mandates becoming more common, having to prove one's vaccination status may also become more and more common.

Whether those in the Winthrop University community will have to begin worrying about getting a COVID-19 vaccination passport is unlikely right now due to Gov. Henry McMaster's strong opposition for any sort of mandate, as we saw McMaster ban mask mandates earlier in the summer.

If one is planning on traveling outside the country or to certain U.S. cities, it is recommended to look up local guidelines for COVID-19 and vaccinations.

With proof of vaccination becoming required more around the country, however, it is possible that private businesses may eventually be able to require proof of vaccination for employees as well as consumers despite a ban on mandating vaccines.

Sophomore psychology major Giselle Mesa believes COVID-19 vaccination pass-

ports are an essential part of proving one is vaccinated.

"I think vaccination passports for COVID-19 are important because now people have physical proof that helps them prove they have been vaccinated in a way that is more difficult to copy than the normal vaccination cards, and with COVID numbers rising, it is more important than ever for people to actually get vaccinated," Mesa said.

However, there is an argument from some Winthrop students that vaccination passports are not necessary when it comes to keeping the coronavirus under control.

"I do not think it is necessary for places to require a COVID-19 vaccination passport, at least in America, because with the vaccine, you can still spread the coronavirus. I personally think just requiring a negative COVID result is fine," said Ashley Bryan, junior chemistry major.

Whether requiring vaccination passports for COVID-19 is necessary or not, it is clear many believe something needs to be done to lower the number of COVID-19 cases, especially with the rise of cases due to the COVID-19 variants.

While it is still a bit unclear whether the university could require vaccinations for COVID-19 or vaccinations passports, Winthrop University is encouraging all students to get vaccinated and is having a free mobile vaccination clinic on Sept. 9 in several different areas around campus throughout the day. They will be giving out the Moderna vaccine, with the second round of vaccines being available on Oct. 6 on campus as well.



Taylor Sallenger/The Johnsonian

Daily Scoops offers ice cream and diversity

AEC Daily Scoops brings unique ice cream creations and diverse hiring practices to York County

Christian Smith
christians@mytjnow.com

The Adult Enrichment Centers' (AEC) Daily Scoops is a food truck serving custom ice cream and cone flavors that offers competitive wages to a diverse employee base, specifically differently-abled people.

The AEC, which owns and operates the Daily Scoops as an LLC, offers programs to the elderly and those with different abilities "that promote self-advocacy and independence," according to its website.

"During the pandemic, we were closed down for parts, and then we reopened. But obviously, we still aren't serving

at capacity," said Samantha Kriegshauser, the CEO of AEC. "We have always been looking for kind of a micro-enterprise that our adults of different abilities could participate in.

"And then during the pandemic, we actually came across an ice cream truck, and we decided to go ahead and buy it and begin that micro-enterprise, once again in the middle of a pandemic."

Employees of all types, those differently-abled and those not, work at the Daily Scoops. While other similar enterprises, such as Bitty & Beau's Coffee, hire only differently-abled employees, Kriegshauser said this is not true inclusion.

"They [Bitty & Beau's Coffee] have been able to do what no one else has been able to do, which is to bring that national attention to the fact that folks with different abilities have mad skills," Kriegshauser said.

The AEC Daily Scoops ice cream truck will be parked at Sub Station II on Wednesdays from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Charlie Ruffalo, owner of the Sub Station II on Cherry Road, said he was happy to help the AEC out.

"I was aware of what they do with the Adult Enrichment Center, and I know the lady who started it, Samantha Kriegshauser, and I just thought it would be a great

thing for the students [of Winthrop] and for the public in general, and good exposure for them," Ruffalo said.

Currently, the Daily Scoops has a custom "Taste of Summer" flavor, a banana pudding ice cream with mini chocolate chips, which is said to taste like a chocolate frozen banana.

While the truck does not currently turn a profit, the benefits, both to the organization and the community as a whole, are worth it to the AEC. Through promotion, marketing and word-of-mouth, Kriegshauser wants to increase sales to reinvest the profit back into the AEC, sustaining their work.

Christian Smith & Taylor Sallenger | Assistant News Editors

christians@mytjnow.com & sallengert@mytjnow.com



Jada Strong/ The Johnsonian

Campus Green, where the fair is being held at

Fall 2021 student involvement fair

Organizations for students on campus

Jada Strong
Staff Writer

With another fall semester beginning, the annual student involvement fair is quick to follow. This year's fair will be held on Thursday, Sept. 9. It will be located on Campus Green from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The event will be free to attend and open to all Winthrop students interested in joining a club or organization.

The Fall Involvement Fair is organized by event coordinator Ramonica Berry, graduate associate for student organizations and leadership at Winthrop.

The fair is a great way for students to get involved with

campus activities to make new memories and friends.

"This event is being held to showcase the student organizations on Winthrop's campus. Student organizations will be set up around the green for anyone to stop by and learn about them," Berry said. "Students should attend the involvement fair if they are interested in becoming more involved on campus or just want a preview of what's being offered."

Although the student involvement fair highlights a majority of the clubs and organizations available on campus, the fair will not be able to showcase all of them.

"As of now, students should expect around 60 organiza-

tions to be present," Berry said. "While this is not all the organizations we have active on campus, there will still be a variety of organizations that can interest all students.

"If there is not a student organization present that interests a student, they can always stop by DiGs 269 to learn more about other organizations we have or start their own if they would like."

The event will allow students to go from club to club to see what interests them; however, this is a one-time opportunity to check them all out in person.

"Unfortunately, this event will only be in-person. Again, students are welcome to reach out at any time to learn about all the organizations we have to

offer," Berry said. "There will also be another involvement fair in the spring for them to attend."

There are currently over 150 organizations available at Winthrop University. They range from sports activities to Greek life to religious ministries. There is something for everyone.

If students don't see a club that interests them at the event, they can check out Winthrop's website or go to DiGs 269 to find something that interests them. Students also have the opportunity to create their own club if they feel inspired to do so.

Jewish High Holy Days are not days off

Marley Bassett
Staff Writer

During the month of September, two of the holiest days in the religion of Judaism occur.

The first is Rosh Hashana, which starts on Sept. 6 and goes through Sept. 8. Rosh Hashana is more commonly known as the Jewish new year but also celebrates the creation of the world. This holiday is a period of self-reflection for practicing Jews.

A ram's horn is blown during the synagogue service to signal the start of the self-reflection and prayer period. Jews also eat apples and honey in hopes that their new year will be sweet and fruitful.

The second is Yom Kippur

which occurs on Sept. 15 and 16. Yom Kippur is the day of atonement and is often considered the holiest day on the Jewish calendar. It is a solemn day of reflection and prayer. These prayers typically center on forgiveness, confession, repentance and making peace with others.

Because Yom Kippur is such a holy day, the Jewish synagogue offers five prayer services where the congregation confesses their sins collectively. Practicing Jews fast from dawn until dusk with the exception of the elderly, young children and mothers who recently gave birth. They also participate in absolutely no work, which includes daily tasks like shaving and bathing. Orthodox Jews abstain

from intimacy, and males wear white shirts.

Winthrop strives to be an inclusive campus that is supportive and respects all students' and staff's religions. However, these Jewish holidays are not days off on this year's academic calendar.

"The academic calendar is not built around religious holidays," said Leigh Crain, assistant to the chief of staff for the board of trustees. "It is built around state holidays as well as the need to fulfill required days/hours for each university course."

All schools are required to have certain holidays as days off under state law. These holidays are New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Presidents Day, Memorial Day,

Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and the day after, as well as Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and the day after Christmas.

"My own approach to this issue is that I don't think I can automatically suspend work and classes for every religious holiday," said Kristin Kiblinger, professor of religious studies. "There are too many, and I feel obligated to follow the calendar that is published by the University Registrar."

Some faculty are willing to be flexible.

"If a student requests flexibility with work or attendance in my class in order to accommodate religious practice, I will certainly grant that flexibility and respect all religions," Kiblinger said.



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Shopping small in Rock Hill

Winthrop students share their favorite small businesses in Rock Hill

Sam Hyatt
Staff Writer

Rock Hill is filled with hidden gems for shopping or to grab a bite to eat as an alternative for larger chain stores and restaurants.

During the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, many people turned to shopping local as a way to support those in their communities since their businesses were met with financial troubles with the shutdowns.

Now that the country is beginning to head towards a sense of normality, students believe it is important that citizens continue to support these small businesses in the Rock Hill community.

"It is important to shop local because you are helping individuals grow their business," said Mikayla Sengle, clinical mental health graduate student. "Which allows them to provide for themselves and their families. Also, shopping local directly benefits the economy by giving people jobs, an income and a platform for them to display their work ethic."

There are multiple small businesses within walking distance from Winthrop University's campus and are accessible for students who do not have their own means of transportation.

Knowledge Perk is a ten-minute walk from campus and is a great place to grab a cup of

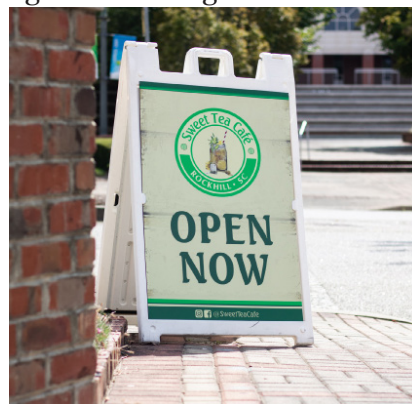


Olivia Esselman/ The Johnsonian

Liberty Book Store, Knowledge Perk, and the Sweet Tea Cafe are just a few of the hidden gems in the Rock Hill community

coffee and pastry while also working on schoolwork. In the past, they have hosted watch parties for major Winthrop men's basketball games.

Another great place to get some work done is the Sweet Tea Café. This café is located in downtown Rock Hill and is about a 10-minute walk from campus. Breakfast and lunch are served throughout the week and are affordable for the average broke college student.



Olivia Esselman/ The Johnsonian

"Sweet Tea Café is definitely my favorite small business in Rock Hill," said Austin Spencer, sophomore integrated marketing communication major. "Their food is heavenly, and their staff is super nice and has stressed that they have free

Wi-Fi and would love for Winthrop students to come there in the mornings to get their work done."

Everyone loves dessert and wants to have a go-to ice cream shop. Thankfully, Rock Hill has a small ice cream shop called PW's. This location is less than a 10-minute drive from Winthrop's campus and serves homemade ice cream.

"I love PW's because it is an authentic ice cream shop, and the people who work there are very nice," said Emily Reeves, senior exercise science major. "No matter how long the line is, it always moves very fast and is always worth the visit."

In addition to places to get food, local shops and boutiques are great alternatives to larger chains such as Target, Walmart or Barnes & Noble.

The Liberty Book Company is a cute used bookstore that has a multitude of books. All genres of books can be found here and are always cheaper than buying them from a well-known bookstore.

Wilson's Nursery & Garden Center is another family-owned business that is close

to campus. It is an affordable place to buy small plants for a dorm room or for others.



Olivia Esselman/ The Johnsonian

Now that students are back on campus for this school year, it is important to support the local small businesses that surround Winthrop's campus.

"To me, I feel so much better giving my money to a local business than a corporation who is already wealthy and does not distribute their wealth to their employees," Sengle said.

Gabe Corbin
Staff Writer

Lil Nas X/Tony Hawk blood beef

While rapper Lil Nas X and skateboarder Tony Hawk have both released products containing human blood, only Lil Nas X received major backlash

Two major superstars have been generating a lot of controversy over the concept of using blood in their products, with rising star rapper Lil Nas X putting blood in his shoes and skateboard legend Tony Hawk doing the same on his skateboards.

The thing that makes this a major controversy is how the public is reacting; while Hawk has been notoriously controversy-less, it is Lil Nas X who has sparked a controversial debate about the double standard between his blood shoes and Hawk's skateboards.

In late March, Lil Nas X announced his controversial "Satan Shoes": 666 pairs of modified Nike Air Max 97s that feature satanic images and a drop of human blood in them. The shoes were part of a collaboration between Lil Nas X and art collective MSCHF.

Fans of the rapper were excited about the limited-edition drop. The shoes, released alongside the music video for Lil Nas X's "Montero (Call Me By Your Name)," sold out instantly.

In late August, Hawk an-

nounced his own item with his blood included: a limited run of 100 skateboards, each painted with a red paint that had Hawk's (sterilized) blood mixed in. The skateboards were part of a collaboration between Hawk and canned water company Liquid Death, for whom Hawk is a brand ambassador.

The skateboards sold out quickly, and received notably less controversy than Lil Nas X and his "Satan Shoes."

The reception of the boards has reached Lil Nas X, who called out Hawk on using the idea.

"[N]ow that tony hawk has released skateboards with his blood painted on them, and there was no public outrage, are y'all ready to admit y'all were never actually upset over the blood in the shoes? and maybe u were mad for some other reason?," Lil Nas X tweeted on Aug. 25.

Lil Nas X's tweet showcases the distinct controversial comparison between his work and Hawk's. While Hawk, a

53-year-old caucasian male, has not received much controversy for his blood-infused skateboards, Lil Nas X, a gay Black man, was targeted by multiple celebrities for using blood in his shoes.

And while Tony Hawk and Lil Nas X have tried to bury the hatchet by teaming up for a skateboarding tutorial TikTok video, in which both the shoes and the skateboard are in, it still does not change the fact of this difference between the reception of their work.

Another factor that could play into the controversy is how Lil Nas X promoted the shoes with satanic imagery. He used images from the Bible that revolve around satanism and satanic imagery, which angered the Christian community and caused a major backlash.

"Most imagery that contains magic or satanic-esque imagery, even when it's not used for satanic worship or purposes, some parts of the community see that as blasphemy or evil," said Erin Springs-McCottry, junior visual communication

design major.

Other students believe that the controversy could be caused by Lil Nas X's status as a prominent gay figure who is living his best life.

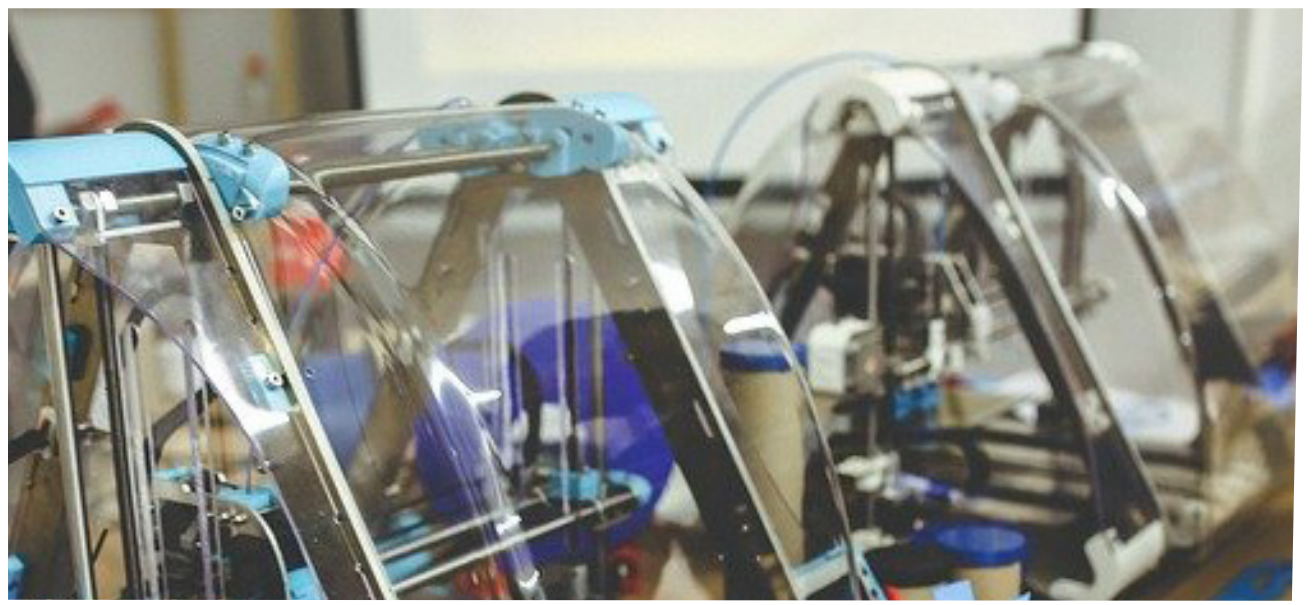
"I think they're causing controversy because the Christians that are bashing him are feeling the need to defend their beliefs against someone as prominent as him, which many Christians have never had to do before because Christianity is the dominant religion in the US," said Ainsley McCarthy, mass communication major. "I think it's because they don't like seeing an unashamed, successful gay man refute them and make money off of it."

No matter what people think or how people perceive Lil Nas X, the shoes are a step for him to cause a stir in his life. Lil Nas X is a prominent figure, and his stardom is growing every day because of his music and the publicity he receives from being seen as a controversial figure.

A C & T theJohnsonian

September 9, 2021

3D printing continues to make strides



Pixabay

The future looks bright for 3D printing, with advancements being made in 3D printed meat and a 3D printed bridge in Amsterdam

Spencer Horton
hortons@mytjnow.com

The first-ever 3D-printed bridge became open for use in Amsterdam on July 19.

After being in production for six years, the 12-meter bridge built by Dutch robotics company MX3D is now in use for pedestrians — and it has many feeling optimistic about the future of what is capable with 3D printing.

The company claims the bridge shows how 3D printing technology can lead to more efficient structures that use fewer materials.

“This robotic technology finally allows larger optimized designs to be 3D-printed in metal,” MX3D co-founder Gijs van der Velden said. “This causes significant weight reduction and reduced impact for parts manufactured in the tooling, oil and gas, and construction industries.”

Other organizations around the world are also pushing the boundaries of what 3D printing can do. The Italian 3D print-

ing company WASP uses soil to print sustainable shelters, and the city of Dubai plans to 3D-print 25% of its buildings by 2030.

Some think that the United States should take advantage of this construction method to update its infrastructure system. According to a 2019 report by the World Economic Forum, the United States ranks 13th in the world for quality of transportation infrastructure. Most bridges in the U.S. are only designed to last 50 years, and as of 2021, about 40% of bridges have already surpassed their life expectancy.

“In the search for methods to lengthen the longevity of our bridges and roads, conserve resources, and increase safety, 3D printing may be a legitimate option—and this steel bridge is the perfect case study,” wrote Laura Rider, summer 2021 intern for Popular Mechanics, in an article for the magazine on Aug. 25.

Also gaining traction is the attempts by organizations to create 3D-printed meat intended for consumption. Scientists

at Osaka University in Japan have printed lab-grown steak that resembles products made from the breeds of Wagyu beef cattle.

The team of scientists accomplished this by taking two types of stem cells from Wagyu cows, incubating them, and then converting them into muscle, fat and blood vessel cells.

The team says that this could lead to consumers being able to customize their steak, but this is likely to be pricey until it goes into wider practice. Keller Rogers, a freshman illustration major, said he would eat 3D-printed meat, but would not pay more to get it.

“I’d definitely try it,” Rogers said. “But for everyday meals, I’d go for what’s cheaper.”

3D printing meat becoming more cost-efficient could also lead to animal cruelty concerns being eliminated by getting rid of the need for restaurants to slaughter living animals and for researchers to use animals for clinical trials.

Fast food companies such as McDonald’s are often criticized for their poor conditions for

animals in slaughterhouses.

According to the World Animal Protection, “McDonald’s has shown a lack of progress in stopping the use of fast-growing meat chickens. These chickens are born to suffer. They are genetically selected to grow so fast, their legs often buckle under their own body weight. And they can suffer from a range of severe leg, heart and lung problems, as well as other illnesses.”

Researchers at the University of Stuttgart and Robert Bosch Hospital are working on 3D-printed tissue that could replace animal testing in clinical trials.

“If we are able to filter out the best drug candidates in ex-vivo culture systems, we can significantly reduce the number of experimental animals used in final preclinical tests,” Dr. Roland Kontermann of the University of Stuttgart said. “To replace animal testing altogether, de-novo and in-silico models will offer great potential in the future.”

A review of the movie ‘The Suicide Squad’

“The Suicide Squad” is gory, chaotic and funny as all get out

Gabe Corbin
Staff Writer

After his firing from Marvel Studios back in late 2018, many fans were wondering what James Gunn’s next great comic blockbuster would be. With hits like “Guardians of the Galaxy” and “Brightburn” under his belt, fans were excited when he announced he would take the helm of the sequel to David Ayer’s “Suicide Squad.”

His direction for “The Suicide Squad” was an immediate difference from what Ayer did with the team, but in the end, it worked out. The movie was a smashing success, and fans loved everything about it.

The movie is about the DC Comics’ group of the same name and their missions under the direction of Amanda Waller. This movie featured the team going to the fictional nation of Corto Maltese to battle their government, find and destroy “Project: Starfish” and even fight an alien conqueror.

The movie had an ensemble cast, led by Idris Elba as Bloodsport, Margot Robbie as Harley Quinn, John Cena as Peacemaker, Joel Kinnaman as Rick Flag and Viola Davis as Amanda Waller. Joining the cast are

Daniela Melchior as Ratcatcher 2, Sylvester Stallone as King Shark, David Dastmalchian as the Polka-Dot Man and Alice Braga as Sol Soria.

It also featured Sean Gunn as Weasel, Nathan Fillion as TDK, Pete Davidson as Blackguard, Jai Courtney as Captain Boomerang, Flula Borg as Javelin, Peter Capaldi as the Thinker and Mayling Ng as Mongal.

The movie was a dramatic shift from Ayer’s cut. While Ayer’s cut was dark and edgy with some comedic elements thrown in, “The Suicide Squad” by Gunn was a comedic thrill ride with introspective moments and insane comedy thrown in. Everything about the movie was a hit and featured a diverse and wonderfully chosen cast of characters.

One of the great things about the film was the moments it took for each character. Everyone had a spotlight, from Quinn taking on mercenaries to the quiet moment between Ratcatcher and Peacemaker after significant character death before Bloodsport arrived to defeat the former.

Some highlights of the film include the main cast of characters performing as the best versions of themselves. Elba’s Bloodsport was a reluctant

leader but an all-around insanely awesome character to which Elba brought an impressive amount of strength and authenticity.

Cena’s Peacemaker was an intense warrior. His stalwart demeanor was a standout to the audiences who loved to hate him.

Quinn was everything we knew her to be in this film, and Robbie delivered an icon in her third role as the Maid of Mischief.

Another actor who did a good job was the interestingly funny Dastmalchian as Polka-Dot Man. From the start, he was a tragic character; and Dastmalchian’s comedic timing and portrayal brought a heart to what Gunn has called the “dumbest DC character of all time.”

However, the film’s main stars had to be two of the lesser-known characters: Ratcatcher and King Shark. Their dynamic was very intriguing to see, and each one had its standout moments.

Melchior’s Ratcatcher was an unsung hero and deserved even more attention. Her role felt as authentic as the rats she controlled. She brought a very wanted opinion to a team of criminals that were very differ-

ent from her.

On the other hand, Stallone’s King Shark was pure joy. He is a chaotic character, and Stallone brought comedy and power to him in the film. The two together were an unstoppable force of comedy and drama and made this movie a standout.

Overall, the movie was a smash hit. The actors brought life to a chaotic and dysfunctional team, and everyone served their purpose. Gunn’s unique vision made it even more special and felt like a comic book coming to life before our very eyes.

No matter what happens, “The Suicide Squad” will be a standout among DC’s pantheon of iconic movies like “Man of Steel” and “Wonder Woman.”

“The Suicide Squad” will return to HBO Max later this year and will currently be released in theaters for the foreseeable future.

Emily Curry | Assistant Arts, Culture & Tech Editor

currye@mytjnow.com

Eagle of the Week: Chris Clare

Lily Fremed
fremedl@mytjnow.com

Raised in South Charlotte, newly-welcomed volunteer assistant coach Chris Clare has been playing baseball his whole life.

“I went to school at Charlotte Catholic and realized I was good enough to play in college. I tried really hard to actually play at Winthrop, but never got offers, so I went to High Point University,” Clare said.

After playing for three years for a team in the same conference as Winthrop, Clare earned a batting average of .320 and was soon selected by the Baltimore Orioles in the 21st round of the 2016 MLB Draft.

“I played in the minors for about five seasons, and I was able to go play in Australia for a season. Then I was considered a ‘COVID casualty,’ so a lot of people got released from the minor leagues when COVID hit,” Clare said.

Clare was unable to play in all of 2020 but was then offered an independent contract to play in Iowa in 2021.

“I played really well, but I could tell my career was going towards the coaching route. I was talking to a bunch of different colleges, different programs. Everyone who had an opening, I just called and put my name out there,” Clare said.

Clare’s previous hitting coach notified him about a coaching position available at Winthrop.

“I quickly gave [Coach Tom Riginos] a call and told him I was interested. He sat down and had an interview with me, and next thing you know, I got the job,” Clare said.

“I’ve been anxious to get started because I haven’t been around a college game for about six years, but I’m excited to be around that atmosphere and give the guys the knowledge that I have, and take some knowledge from them as well. You’re never done learning,” Clare said.

Fortunately, Clare was welcomed into the program with open arms, alleviating some of his worries.

“The coaching staff has been very welcoming and made me feel at home right from the beginning. As I mentioned I already knew TR, and then Austin [Hill] kind of took me under his wing and showed me the ropes. Coach Monday has also been super welcoming, and Eddie [Hill] has been helping out a lot. He’s just a great guy to be around,” Clare said.

The biggest adjustment for Clare has been knowing when to step back at times, recognizing that the Eagles are only in fall ball, not preparing for something as serious as the minor leagues.

“I try to think back on my days playing at High Point and the experiences I had and the coaching I had, and try to bring the best out of that for them,” he said.

Currently the Eagles are spread out for their workouts during the week, as a combination of off-season and COVID-19 regulations limit the number of athletes and the number of hours at a time.

“While I am coaching I like to work out and stay in shape with the team. I’ll do conditioning with them in the morning, bright and early. It’s cool to be on that side of things where they know I am a coach, but I’m still out there grinding with them and having that relationship,” Clare said.

Although there are no full-team functions at the moment, the team will compete in two scrimmages in October.

“I think a great coach is someone that the players can relate to and who can relate to the players. You don’t want to show up to the field and them be like, ‘Oh man, Chris is here,’

so I hope to bring some positivity and energy,” Clare said.

Even though Clare does not have a favorite baseball team now, as a child he favored the Yankees, looking to Derek Jeter and Brett Gardner for inspiration.

“It wasn’t necessarily the all-stars out there, but it was the guys that looked like they loved the game, played really hard, and enjoyed themselves out there,” Clare said.

“I take that aspect to everything I do in life, whether it’s outside of baseball and having faith in God and His plan, or in baseball having faith in the amount of work I put in,” Clare said.

“I think I have the same thought going into coaching, having faith in the guys over fear that they are going to make a mistake. I have faith in everything I teach them, and hopefully that translates to good performance on the field,” Clare said.



Emma Crouch/The Johnsonian

Alumna Becca Toor: Clinical Care Specialist and Athlete

Former volleyball Big South Player of the Year now serving on front lines against COVID-19

Lily Fremed
fremedl@mytjnow.com

Originally from Englewood, Florida, volleyball player and 2012 Winthrop graduate Becca Toor has dedicated years of her time to further her education in order to help those in the medical community.

“Dr. Grosseohme was my mentor. I learned so much from him; he was an incredible mentor and teacher. All these people have great stories about why they decided to go into the medical field, and really, for me, it was more ‘What do you even do with a chemistry degree these days?’” Toor said.

Toor stumbled upon Pharmacy as a potential career, so she decided to move back home to attend the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine’s School of Pharmacy in Bradenton, Florida.

“I did my first rotation, which was at a typical Walgreens or CVS, and I hated it. People are just really cranky, and I was like, ‘I don’t want to sit here and talk about why your insurance isn’t covering this medication,’” Toor said.

Discouraged that the pharmacy world was not as she expected, Toor did some more research and happened to dis-

cover the profession of clinical specialist.

“They’re a different kind of pharmacist. In order to be a clinical specialist in a certain field, you have to do a residency program, which obviously isn’t the most ideal when you’ll be putting yourself through school for another four years working towards your doctorate, on top of just finishing a degree after four years,” Toor said.

Nevertheless, Toor knew this was the right path for her when she “fell in love” during her first rotation at a trauma center.

“I was like, ‘This is where I am meant to be.’ I love the adrenaline rush. A lot of people aren’t aware, but pharmacists do a lot of work, especially going to these Code Blues: mixing up all the meds and getting the right drug to the right patient at the quickest time possible,” Toor said.

Following that first rotation, Toor earned a spot at her top pick residency program at Orlando Health, where she went on to complete her PGY1 and PGY2 internship in Critical Care.

“In total, it took me a good six years to get the education to do the dream job. It took a lot of time and dedication, and as a

resident, you are working crazy hours, but it got me where I wanted to be,” Toor said.

Upon finishing her residency, Toor started her first job as a clinical care specialist at Broward Health. She was employed there for two years until recently when she was able to move closer to her and her fiancé’s family to work at Sarasota Memorial Hospital.

With this new job, Toor is directly involved with assisting those who are suffering from COVID-19 in the ICU.

“As a critical care specialist, we round on all the patients with the intensive care physician on a day-to-day basis. I am fully working up the patients, understanding which medications they are on, what drug interactions, clinically assessing their liver function, their kidney status, and making sure all the drugs and doses are appropriate,” Toor said.

“I have really focused on a lot of research and education surrounding the COVID pandemic, and I think it’s definitely tough because we see the worst of the worst, but at the same time, it is rewarding to get those small victories for COVID successes,” Toor said.

As an avid volleyball player the majority of her life, Toor began her journey at Winthrop



Courtesy of Toor

Toor was the 2011 Big South Player of the Year

when she was recruited by former head volleyball coach Sally Polhamus.

“I felt this gut feeling as soon as I came onto Winthrop’s campus that this would be my home for the next four years. I felt such a strong connection with the coaching staff, including Chuck [Rey], my head coach Sally Polhamus, and my assistant coaches Shannon and Steve,” Toor said.

Toor was determined to find an institution where she could not only play volleyball but also study in a strong science program.

see Alumna pg. 9



Cross Country moving courses

New course in works for next year as Winthrop XC begins competition season

Matthew Shealy
shealym@mytjnow.com

The Winthrop cross country team is set to host the Winthrop Invitational next weekend in what will likely be the team's last competitive run ever on Winthrop's campus.

According to head cross country and track coach Ben Paxton, the team plans to utilize a course that is currently being built along RiverBend Park starting in 2022.

"We're building one of the top cross country courses in the United States," Paxton said. "We're looking at possibly bringing some of the biggest meets in the United States here — high school and collegiate."

While Paxton said he loves the current course Winthrop runs on, he acknowledged that it was time for something new.

"Having put on the NCAA regional here, we had about 9,000 people out here out of the top teams in the country [in] November of 2018. The NCAA asked us again, 'Would we want a bid?' and we said 'Yes, but we need a bigger place.'

"This course has had Michigan, Oregon, BYU — everybody's run here. It's a legendary course, but as with progress, you've got the intramural lights going up, losing part of the golf course. Things get built, and it was time to move, and then the county came to us and asked about this."

York County purchased the RiverBed Park land (a whopping 1,900 acres) in December 2018. Paxton said the county and Winthrop have been working together on the course for about 13 months.

"York County's trying to become the amateur sports capital," Paxton said. "They really wanted to do something that could draw two to three weekends throughout September, October, November; an economic impact in the millions and draw 50, 60, [or] 100 teams out here each weekend."

In the meantime, Winthrop will host 15 to 20 teams on Sept. 18 for the Winthrop Invitational, an event that's taken place for nearly 40 years. The meet is free admission for the public and will be Winthrop's second competition of the season.

The Eagles competed at Elon on Friday, with senior Olivia Esselman finishing highest for the women (32nd) and freshman Daren Hinds finishing highest for the men (40th).

"The beauty of our sport, maybe as opposed to the soccer and volleyball teams which are competing — they want to win every game, we want to be fast at the end. Cause really all that counts is how fast you are going into the conference meet or the NCAA regional meet," Paxton said prior to the opener at Elon.

Paxton said he expects both Hinds and Esselman to have a really good year, calling Hinds "the top freshman" that Winthrop brought in and noting

that Esselman looks really fit and poised to "hopefully finish All-Conference" this season.

Paxton also said he anticipates freshman Nolan Weisdorfer from Michigan to make an immediate impact on the men's side, joining Hinds as two of four freshmen new to the men.

Paxton pointed out that three of Winthrop's top freshmen last season — Austin Spencer, Max Davis and Darren Frasier — are all still freshmen eligibility-wise this year due to last season being shortened.

The women, on the other hand, return a veteran

squad with no newcomers. Redshirt-sophomore Sidney Jenkins was Winthrop's top finisher (66th) behind Esselman at Elon, followed closely by sophomore Madeline Simmons (72nd).

Following the Winthrop Invitational, the Eagles will compete at Coastal Carolina University on Oct. 1 and USC Upstate on Oct. 16 before taking on the conference championship and NCAA regional.



Olivia Esselman/The Johnsonian

After a number of delays, replacement of the Winthrop Coliseum's roof is set to begin within the current academic year.

Winthrop Coliseum set to receive new roof

Work to replace roof expected to begin in February 2022

Matthew Shealy
shealym@mytjnow.com

Plans are in motion to replace the Winthrop Coliseum roof next spring, funded through an allocation from the state for several roof projects on Winthrop's campus.

The cost to replace the roof on the coliseum is about \$2 million. The project's anticipated start date is in late February 2022 and the roof replacement should be completed by August 2022.

According to Associate Vice President of Facilities Management James Grigg, the current roof is original to the building and has needed to be replaced for the last five or so years.

"It has [been] repaired and temporarily patched over its life but in the last five years it was past the point of repairing and needed to be replaced," Grigg said.

Winthrop Coliseum was built in 1982 at the cost of \$10.7 million and is home to the Winthrop men's and women's basketball teams and the women's volleyball team. It also serves as the headquarters for the athletic department.

"The critical item is the removal of the existing roofing when we need to close the arena floor, and so that has been the challenge to find a window that works for Athletics," Grigg said.

According to Grigg, Winthrop had hoped to accomplish the coliseum's roof replacement this past summer but was un-

able to due to project cost increases and complications with material delivery and timing. As of now, the plan is to begin the project after basketball season.

During the last two seasons Winthrop's basketball teams have played in the Coliseum all the way into March, hosting Big South Tournament games. This season, however, the Big South Conference has chosen a neutral site, Bojangles' Coliseum in Charlotte, to host the conference tournaments.

The coliseum's need for a new roof has been apparent over the last several years through leaks in the ceiling, resulting in one area of the concourse inside the gym being blocked off with buckets and wet floor signs during last spring's limited-attendance volleyball and basketball seasons.

"Until the roof is replaced we will continue to mitigate any damage from leaks," Griggs said. "Once the roof is water-tight we will start repairing damage."

The allocation from the state that will be used to fund the Winthrop Coliseum roof replacement will also fund roof projects on other campus buildings, including Dinkins Hall, Johnson Hall and McLaurin Hall.

Cont. **Alumna** from pg. 8

She also hoped to attend a university in a state with distinct seasonal changes, as that is something she does not experience at home in Florida.

"I fell in love with the beautiful campus — the brick is incredible — and the connections I built with not only my coaches but also with my teammates. I felt like it was more of a family," Toor said.

As an incoming freshman, Toor and her team even had the opportunity to attend a welcome party at Winthrop's then-president Anthony J. DiGiorgio's house.

"It doesn't get any more welcoming than that," Toor said.

During Toor's time as an Eagle, she received many recognitions for her volleyball success, including being named Big South Player of the Year her senior year, being All-Academic First Team for two years and earning multiple Big South Player of the Week titles.

"I think it was like seven or eight times, which was a crazy amount of times," Toor said regarding the numerous times she was named Big South Player of the Week. "I still look back and am like, 'Wow, that was the best time of my life.'"

Recently, Toor was also named to the Big South All-Decade Team.

"They only select a few players from the entire decade to be recognized, and I was just so honored to be able to be on the All-Decade Team. That was

so incredible. I was shocked," Toor said.

Since graduating from Winthrop almost ten years ago, Toor switched to playing outdoor volleyball and was playing very competitively at a semi-pro level until her pharmacy schooling overtook the majority of her time.

"When I started my career, I was able to pick it back up, and now I still play multiple times a week. It's really nice that this old girl can still do something," Toor said.

Besides being immensely busy with her career and volleyball, Toor is excitedly awaiting her winter wedding in just a few short months.

"We are getting married on Dec. 3, 2021. I just love that date because it is a palindrome, and I will never forget that," Toor said.

Toor is also looking forward to the opportunity to travel back to Rock Hill to visit her old friends and coaches, as well as take part in Winthrop alumni events.

"I am certainly so grateful for all the learning experiences and my time at Winthrop. They really shaped me to be who I am today. I still look back today, and I don't think I would be as successful in my career if it wasn't for playing a college sport and for being at Winthrop University," Toor said.

September 8, 2021

‘Not Anymore’...or Not Enough?

A discussion regarding the sexual assault and substance abuse video training sent to students

Autumn Hawkins
hawkinsa@mytjnow.com

Recently, Winthrop University released a set of online training courses created by Vector Solutions centered around sexual assault and the use of drugs and alcohol.

In the spring of 2021, Winthrop students gathered outside DiGorgio Student Center in protest of how Winthrop administrators were handling reports of sexual assault.

Following the April protest, Interim President George Hynd sent out an email to the Winthrop community. In this email, he assured that Winthrop administrators were “actively listening to students to gain a better understanding of their perspectives.” Meetings with students were held, and a course of action was set into place for the upcoming year. No one expected the plan of action to be largely tone deaf.

On Sep. 2, Kimberly Faust,

Winthrop’s Title IX coordinator, sent an email inviting students to complete an online course of training videos similar to “Not Anymore,” a series of videos dedicated to educating students about peer pressure and consent. The new series of training videos is specifically centered around sexual assault and other forms of abuse.

Immediately following the announcement for these videos, Johnsonian staff members voiced their concerns. Lyn Horton, The Johnsonian’s podcast editor, called the decision to release the videos “silly.”

“It isn’t clear how seriously they are going to handle sexual assault cases that actually happen.” Horton said. “Prevention is good, but not when it isn’t backed up with actionable stuff on part of Winthrop.”

While students need to be educated on topics such as sexual assault and substance abuse, this new set of training videos does not exactly give students accurate information. The pre-

sentation of these videos relies heavily on victim blaming, as seen by one of the videos titled simply, “Sexiness.” In this video, the narrators warn students of dressing provocatively lest someone gets “the wrong idea,” and warns students of going to parties where they can be taken advantage of.

Scooter Mistretta, the podcast’s assistant editor, was particularly disturbed by the lack of information surrounding male survivors of sexual assault. The videos were largely targeted to female students, but what about the male-identifying students who are in similar situations?

“This is so utterly irresponsible,” Mistretta said in reference to the gender disparity.

An staff member of The Johnsonian who wishes to remain anonymous says they are horrified at the lack of diversity in the videos. “It’s 2021, the default should not be straight, cisgender couples. Queer assault happens daily, but nobody seems to notice because it

is still considered ‘taboo’ to be anything but straight or cisgender. When will our reports get taken seriously?”

While the videos are more inclusive than the original “Not Anymore” series, it is the videos’ implication that male students are always the aggressor, while female students are always the targets.

Overall, The Johnsonian staff is outraged that this is Winthrop’s “solution” to repeating issues involving sexual assault. It is especially frustrating that this is a response to student concerns that was done seemingly without the approval of students.

Taylor Sallenger, the assistant news editor, is displeased with this turn of events. “When Winthrop starts including students in their decisions, then I will know peace.”

It is unclear what Winthrop’s next steps will be in the case of bringing justice to campus. Regardless of the future, this present solution is not enough.

The Best of Welcome Week

Winthrop provides incoming students with enjoyable first week on campus

Gabe Corbin
Staff Writer

One of Winthrop University’s longest-standing traditions is Welcome Week, a whole week of events dedicated to introducing freshmen and transfer students to the campus. From Saturday to the next Sunday, Winthrop pulls out all the stops to make sure that incoming students feel welcomed and included.

The highlights of the week include events such as a live showing of The Suicide Squad and a concert by Ray Singleton. Many of these events were show-stopping by themselves, and made the week more

memorable than the last few years of Welcome Weeks.

The first of the best events was “The Drums of Polynesia.” This event showcased Pacific culture from places such as Hawaii and New Zealand, while also bringing traditional Pacific-Islander dances to Rock Hill. Another notable feature was the use of fire during the performance that brought audience members to their feet.

There was also a thrilling agility course. While some students came to watch others take part in the American Ninja Warrior-esque course, others took part in it. The best part of the course was the climbing wall - and not just because of the exercise it

provided!

The Ray Singleton concert in Tillman Auditorium on Aug. 26 was a success. Singleton gave an energetic and emotional performance, which consisted of established fans and those new to Singleton’s music.

A highlight of Singleton’s performance was when he performed a set featuring music by Bruno Mars. One of the most memorable parts of the concert was his cover of “Just the Way You Are,” which he dedicated to his wife who was watching via Instagram Live.

Additionally, there was a performance given by comedian Matteo Lane. His use of the Q&A format to deliver punchlines is one not often seen, and

was a welcomed change of pace to stand up comedy.

It was a night full of laughter for everyone who was there and Lane kept his audience entertained. He did a phenomenal job entertaining an eager crowd of eagles.

Overall, this Welcome Week was a huge success. The events were awesome, from students running the obstacle course to the viewing of fire dancing in the amphitheater. It was a week full of intrigue, comedy, and learning more about Winthrop. Welcome Week is a time-honored Winthrop tradition, and this was definitely one to remember.

Charleston Democrat Joe Cunningham seeks to unseat Henry McMaster in 2022 gubernatorial race

Elijah Lyons
lyonse@mytjnow.com

Democrat and former U.S. Rep. Joe Cunningham called on Gov. Henry McMaster to “step up and do your job, or step aside for someone who will” in his first ad of the 2022 election cycle.

Cunningham previously announced his candidacy in April and has since leveled criticism at the governor on a variety of issues, including his stance on mask mandates. “Mandating masks is not the answer,” McMaster said in an Aug. 9 press conference. “Personal responsibility is the answer. Common sense is the answer. We have an abundance of both in South Carolina.”

Cunningham accused the governor of putting politics ahead of the lives of children in the 30-second ad, as students across South Carolina

transition back to in-person learning. “Governor, instead of fighting this virus with science and facts, you’re keeping it alive with conspiracy theories and politics,” he said. The ad is part of a five-figure ad buy and is airing on both cable TV and online. According to recent fundraising reports, McMaster is said to have \$1.7 million cash-on-hand, compared with Cunningham’s \$437,000.

While McMaster has yet to comment on the ad, S.C. Republican Party Chairman Drew McKissick issued a response defending McMaster’s response to the pandemic, crediting him for working to “safely keep our state open.”

“If Joe Cunningham had his way, our economy would have been shut down and people would still be getting paid bonuses not to show up for work,” he said. “Parents have all the information they need about vaccines and masks to

combat COVID-19 and make decisions for themselves and their children. Like a typical Democrat, Joe wants to focus on mandates instead of personal choice.” Cunningham was previously elected as the U.S. House representative for the 1st District in 2018, flipping the seat from four decades of Republican control.

Cunningham famously was involved in a row of controversy for attempting to bring a six-pack of beer onto the House floor in the first weeks of his term. In a viral Twitter thread posted by the former representative, he claimed he was attempting to make friends with his fellow lawmakers.

“Making friends when you’re a freshman is hard, and I thought I’d grease the skids with some Lowcountry beer,” Cunningham tweeted. “Thankfully @RepPeterDeFazio got it in the end! Can I join the beer caucus now?”

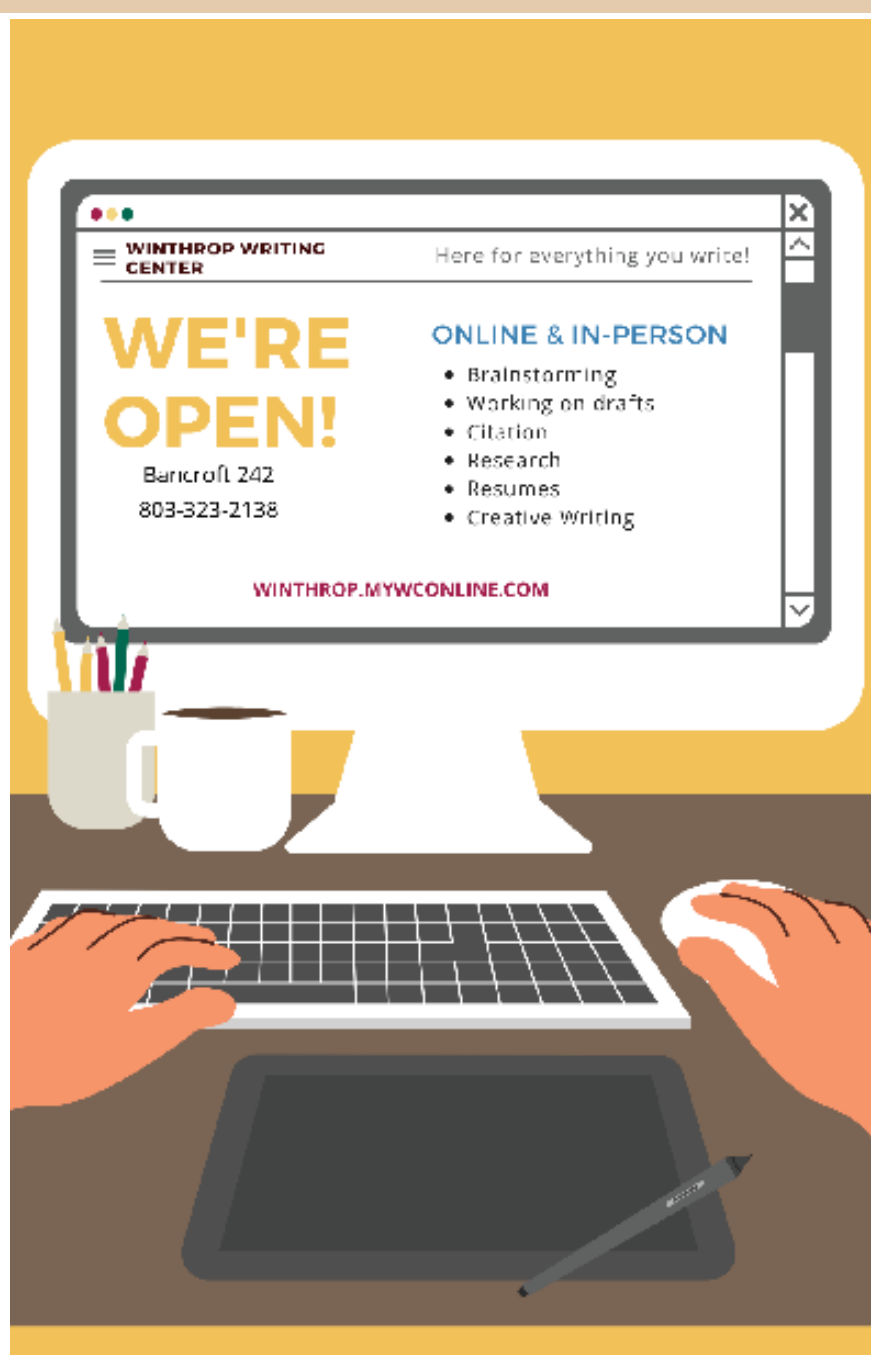
Cunningham’s stint in Washington was short-lived, losing re-election in 2020 to Rep. Nancy Mace. But Cunningham finally got his brew nearly two years later, when he cracked open a cold one on the House floor during his farewell speech, stressing the importance of bipartisanship. “I won’t ever stop reaching across the aisle or trying to work with one another or sitting down and having a beer and listening to each other,” he said.

Cunningham was voted Best Community Activist, Best Do-Goooder, Best Progressive, and was runner-up for Best Charlestonian, in Charleston City Paper’s 2021 Best of Charleston Awards. He will be vying for the Democratic nomination alongside state Sen. Mia McLeod, D-Columbia, and activist Gary Votour.

Bubble Soccer

Sept. 17th, 3:00 PM | Campus Green

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Exhibit & Panel Discussion
Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections



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