



| Winthrop University | | Wednesday November 17, 2021 | | Rock Hill, SC | |
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| <p>What's inside</p>  <p>Pixabay</p> <p>Remembering those who passed in 2021</p> |  <p>Graphic Courtesy to Maggie Claytor</p> <p>Police Blotter - Nov. 10</p> |  <p>Courtesy of Matthew Shealy</p> <p>A word from our sports editor</p> |  <p>Emma Crouch/The Johnsonian</p> <p>F/S parking problematic for students</p> |  <p>Mariana Beltran/The Johnsonian</p> <p>Turkeys, a comic</p> |  <p>Visit mytjnow.com, to listen to our podcast, "On Air: The Johnsonian." Also on Spotify and other podcast platforms</p> |

Cultivate RH secures land deal walking distance from campus

Winthrop University adjunct professor co-founds nonprofit to help local entrepreneurs get off the ground

CHRISTIAN SMITH, christians@mytjnow.com

Cultivate Rock Hill, a nonprofit organization which looks to provide a location and training to local entrepreneurs, signed a land deal with Freedom Temple Ministries and can now begin planning and building its restaurant and retail "incubator space." The site will be located on West White Street between Lee Street and Stuart Avenue.

The organization was founded by Charlotte Brown, adjunct professor of management and marketing and member of the Rock Hill Economic and Development Committee, and Brittany Kelly, owner of the Mercantile, to foster economic development in Rock Hill by offering an affordable location and training for local entrepreneurs to open unique businesses.

According to its website, "Cultivate RH will offer a 2 year program called S.E.E.D. (Supporting Entrepreneurs + Economic Devel-

opment). In this program, entrepreneurs will learn all the necessary skills to open a business. Classes in financing, marketing, economics and networking will be offered as key to set them on the path for success."

Kelly said the project is focused on diversity, with over 50% of the spaces leased out to people of color.

"That's one of our biggest hurdles that we want to make sure that we can figure out, because back when I was head on into the Black Lives Matter movement, I realized there were only two downtown businesses owned by Black people," Kelly said. "And it just, like, killed me. And we've just got to figure out: what is that? And I think, ultimately, it's the cost of rent."

Rent will be intentionally kept low: \$500 a month for retail, \$1,000 a month for restaurants. After the two year S.E.E.D. program, the organization will help renters get a more permanent location

in Rock Hill.

Brown, who received her bachelor's and master's degrees from Winthrop and is currently pursuing a doctorate in business administration at Northcentral University, said she went to Kelly



Courtesy of Brittany Kelly

with an idea for an entrepreneurship training program because she felt Winthrop's program wasn't doing enough.

"We have a culture of entrepreneurship in the city, but Winthrop's entrepreneurship program in my opinion needed some more work to it, like the entrepreneurship culture that's in the city and what exists at Winthrop don't match," Brown said.

Cultivate RH's original planning was delayed due to a previous land deal which fell through. At that location, it planned to have 23 restaurants and retail locations in a shipping container development, which uses shipping

containers instead of custom built structures to lower cost. At the new location, however, Cultivate RH's Facebook page said it will have three times the space and double the entrepreneurs as originally planned.

Brown hopes the organization will be able to partner with Winthrop to provide new opportunities to students, such as sponsoring a shipping contain-

er space for a student who wins an entrepreneurship contest.

"With entrepreneurship students, if you don't have the funding, when you get finished, then you pretty much just have a business idea that's going nowhere, because funding is very hard to find. So if we're already on the front end, saying, if you win this competition, you can go into the space and grow your business there for two, three years," Brown said.

Kelly said she and Brown want this location to be more than just a place of business, but also a community center.

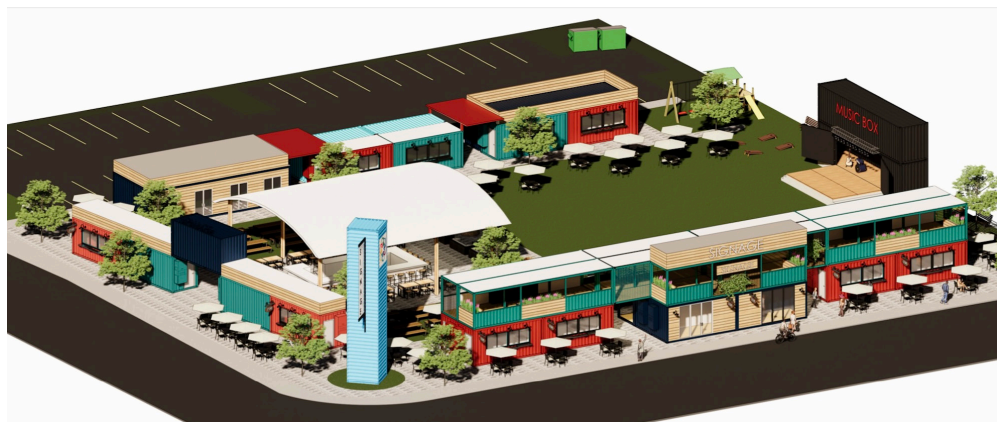
"Not only is it going to just be an incubator for entrepreneurship, it's also going to be a community hub. So we have a fitness center in there. We have an EA Games Center in there. We have a community garden," Kelly said. "And then we want to be able to feature local bands, local groups. I mean, we just want this whole hub and sense of community."

The new location

is being leased from Freedom Temple Ministries, a local "aggregation of multicultural believers," which Kelly said will be more than just a landlord for the organization.

"They will be our landlord in this, but also a little bit more. They want to be a part of this. They want to sponsor some of our entrepreneurs," Kelly said. "But we'll treat it just like a regular landlord lessee agreement. However, we just are thankful that they have a lot of the same visions, and they align with what we're trying to do, as well, in the community."

While they have to revisit the plans, and may have to change direction slightly due to the rising cost of shipping containers, get permits from the city and build the site, Kelly said she believes it will be built and ready by, at the latest, fall or winter 2022.



Plans for Cultivate Rock Hill's future location

Courtesy of Brittany Kelly



New and improved Starbucks on campus

JADA STRONG,
Staff Writer

Renovations for Starbucks at DiGiorgio's



Jada Strong/ The Johnsonian



Jada Strong/ The Johnsonian

Starbucks employees train at the newly renovated and prepare to reopen to students on the second floor of the DiGiorgio Campus center.

Since the beginning of the fall semester, Winthrop's Starbucks has been serving students at a temporary kiosk on the ground floor of DiGiorgio Campus Center. While renovations were being conducted at its original location, Starbucks employees were working hard to satisfy customers. Now, Winthrop Dining announced Monday that Starbucks has reopened and with several new features.

Cristian Carrion, regional manager for Starbucks and Chick-fil-A, said that customers can look forward to having a full menu again.

"We will have a full menu because definitely at the kiosk, we were very limited to what we could do," Carrion said. "We're bringing back frappuccinos, and we're going

to have a lot more space for espresso machines. Instead of just having one person work on the espresso machine, we're going to have two separate people work on those."

New kinds of drinks can also be expected, along with new machines to benefit students' dining experience at Starbucks.

"Something new that's coming in is the nitro cold brew, which I know everyone's really excited about," Carrion said. "I finally got to try it out today, and it's really exciting and a different flavor from the regular cold brew."

Along with another espresso machine, there's a larger quantity of machines to make drinks and food faster.

"We've always only had one oven, and now we have two," Carrion said. "We can now cook sand-

wiches and pastries a lot faster instead of waiting on one oven per customer."

Along with new equipment at Starbucks, students can expect new seating arrangements as well.

"There will be plenty of more space for the baristas," Carrion said. "We're going to have a lot more seating areas and tables for students to just hang out at." Helen Hoban, general manager of dining services at Winthrop, has guaranteed more choices for students to choose from at Starbucks.

"The renovation of Starbucks has upgraded the store to the new Starbucks standards, has made the design of the work area more efficient, and will allow us to offer new concepts including cold brew and Nitro," Hoban said. "There will be

more machines and equipment to offer more choices."

These renovations have been a work in progress for quite some time now, resulting in the use of a temporary pop-up kiosk downstairs in the DiGiorgio Campus Center.

"Renovations were actually supposed to start at the beginning of summer, but due to certain things, they really started working on renovations in mid-July," Carrion said. "There's been a lot of shipping issues lately with materials. That's why renovations have been pushed back until now." Aba Hutchison, marketing specialist for Winthrop Dining Services, knows that there have been questions regarding the expenses of the renovations and how that affects students.

"One thing I'll say is that I know that

there were questions because we had announced the renovations on social media," Hutchison said. "I know some students were wondering if the new renovation budgets came from students' tuition. And no, I can say that none of the renovation budget came from students' tuition." Hutchison also noted that the inconvenience of moving the Starbucks was not solely a Winthrop University decision. The staff is aware of how the inconvenience has affected students.

"Everyone on campus has been very patient as we navigated through the use of a kiosk as opposed to a full store," Hoban said. "It has been a challenge as the kiosk is a much smaller footprint and did not allow for many of the Starbucks signature beverage-

es, which required blenders and such. "The staff is very excited to be working in a new environment and can't wait to show everyone the new options. I think students, faculty and staff will be enthusiastic about the new venue." Starbucks officially reopened on Nov. 15, returning with some exciting specials.

"I know that students have been peeking through and looking at the Christmas decorations," Hutchison said. "So we will be open in time for students to enjoy the Christmas specials at Starbucks. "We will actually be having a grand reopening, where we plan on having golden tickets, where students can get a free grande or a specialty cup. Just be on the lookout, we want to make this fun for students."



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Faculty and staff parking on Winthrop's campus

The Faculty and Staff parking system explained

MARI PRESSLEY, pressleym@mytjnow.com



Emma Crouch/ The Johnsonian

In recent years, students have brought up problems with parking on campus and the abundance of parking that faculty and staff seem to have.

Winthrop faculty and staff parking spaces allow student parking between the hours of 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

Some spaces "prohibit student parking 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Students may park only in Faculty/Staff spaces where signs with designated times are posted," according to the campus police website.

"So all of our faculty staff parking lots kind of work like this. There are the 24/7, which means regardless of time or day, students can never park there because we hold them for faculty staff purposes, or events," WUPD Interim Chief Charles Yearata said.

Behind residence hall Margaret Nance, there is a faculty and staff parking lot across from the Digiorgio Campus Center. It is held 24/7, not only because of faculty and staff, but because it is the main parking lot for McBryde Hall, which hosts a lot of events on the weekends.

The second 24/7 faculty and staff parking lot is for the Parker building, a very small building off Stewart Avenue.

The third 24/7 faculty and staff parking lot is outside on this side of campus across from the withers building.

While street parking areas are faculty staff, they are designated faculty and staff seven days a week between the

hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

"[The signs] have down below them 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. There are no days on there. The reason there are no days on there is because we have weekend classes, weekend events, things like that. So we reserve those for faculty staff as well," Yearata said.

There is one sign that Winthrop police are in the process of getting changed.

"It was one of the last holdouts that used to have parking from seven to nine. And I changed them all to seven to five. But that's the one side we kind of overlook. Currently it is behind Jones Hall and the Phelps loop. And it says it actually says seven to nine, that sign is in the process of getting replaced hopefully, in the next this month, to where it'll come down and it'll all say 7:00 to 5:00." Yearata said.

Aside from updating the 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. sign from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. sign, no policies have changed for faculty and staff parking as of late.

While Winthrop police try to provide ample resources on campus and to make all parking areas are covered adequately, Winthrop police has parking enforcement coverage from 6:00 a.m. to midnight.

As students know, "we have very few parking areas on this campus," Yearata said. As campus police make

their best effort to control these parking areas with the resources available, occasionally you will see the parking enforcement officers work on the weekends to cover that gap.

"We have classes that actually only meet on weekends. They are master level classes, there are some undergrad classes that literally, they are not on campus, except for every third Saturday of the month. And they spend like 12 hours here," Yearata said. "If I didn't have parking enforcement that worked on the weekend, those individuals would never buy a parking pass."

Students who feel that a citation was unjust, are given the opportunity to appeal.

Sophomore mass communication major, Jennifer Cruz was given a ticket of \$40 during her freshman year after choosing not to walk from the Cherry Road, Legion parking lot to the Richardson residence hall with groceries at a late hour. When she returned to her car at 7:30 a.m. the next morning, there was a ticket on her car.

Cruz submitted an appeal for this ticket but after her second time receiving a parking citation, she was not granted an appeal after submitting.

"It was when it was cold out though around this time, I went to the walmart for medicine and went to get food

and it was really late and I didn't want to walk from legion to Richardson alone in the dark and cold so I parked right in front of Richardson but when I explained they didn't care," Cruz said. "I haven't gotten one for [faculty and staff] this year because I wake up early to move my car, but it's insane that should even be a thing. Waking up at 6:00 am for what?"

Yearata explained that students have the chance to appeal tickets up to 14 days after receiving a citation.

"You have the ability to appeal that. First step is we issue the ticket usually on our electronic writers, we issue those tickets out. At the bottom of that ticket, it has information on how to appeal that ticket. Once that ticket is processed, which is usually about 24 hours after the fact, you will then get a follow up email to your Winthrop account saying, 'hey, on this day in time, you got this, you know, citation for whatever it is location, fine amount, all that'. And then at the bottom, and again says, These are the, this is the process to appeal if you feel it was unjust. Our process is from the time you get that ticket, you've got 14 days to appeal it," Yearata said.

"[T]hen a committee that's made up of students and faculty staff meet to discuss it to literally

review all those, and they sign off on them and they discuss some and they decide if this person is going to have their ticket voided for lack of a better word, and it's made a warning, and then there's no fine attached to it. ... There are five members on that committee, they all have a vote. The police department is there but we do not have a vote. So all the tickets that we write, we do not get a say on if they stay or go so to speak." Yearata said.

Once the committee has decided, a follow up email is sent to students updating them on whether their ticket was voided and made a warning or if it was upheld and the student will have to pay.

Now that Winthrop police have allowed students to request an appeal before they have to pay for their ticket, the number of appeals has now increased.

"In this entire year thus far, I think we've received upwards of 300 appeals. And they are still like I said the committee only meets for an hour every two weeks. So they take time to get through a lot of these. It is not uncommon to be honest with you to where you file an appeal and you may not hear anything for four weeks. It just takes time to... get through that many that come in so fast." Yearata said.

Police Blotter

SARAH HASSLER, hasslers@mytjnow.com



On Nov. 10, the Reporting Officer (R/O) responded to Richardson Hall in reference to an assault that had just occurred. Once on scene, the R/O met with the complainant, who stated that the victim had been punched in the face by the suspect. The complainant then showed the R/O surveillance footage of the incident. At this time, the R/O met with the victim, as well as several witnesses who all stated that they were playing a card game with the suspect in the common area of Richardson when he made a joke directed towards the victim, who then pushed the suspect's phone onto the table.

The suspect then reached over and punched the victim on the right side of her face, knocking her from her chair, and then continued to hit her until he was stopped by a witness. At this time, the R/O called for EMS to check the victim and began searching the building for the suspect. The R/O first checked the suspect's room but was unable to locate him.

The R/O then returned to the scene of the incident and found that EMS had arrived and that the suspect had returned to the room. The R/O then spoke with the suspect, who stated that he had no recollection of ever hitting the victim and had possibly "blacked out." The R/O then took the suspect into custody, read him his Miranda Rights, and transported him to the Rock Hill City Jail.

The suspect was issued a citation for assault and battery third degree. The victim was taken by EMS to Piedmont Medical Center at her request. The R/O then met with the victim at Piedmont Medical Center and explained to her the victim notification form, as well as her rights as a victim.

The R/O then escorted the victim to her residence at Margaret Nance Hall and advised her to contact WUPD if she had any concerns or questions regarding the incident.

SOMETHING GOING DOWN AROUND TOWN?
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Buzzfeed Deputy Politics Editor, Ryan Brooks stresses importance of community

Winthrop's Society of Professional Journalists hosted BuzzFeed Deputy Politics Editor, Ryan Brooks as he discussed tips for students interested in a career in journalism

MARI PRESSLEY,
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Winthrop Alumni and Deputy politics editor at BuzzFeed Ryan Brooks spoke with students at an event hosted by Winthrop Society of Professional Journalists.

Brooks graduated from Winthrop in 2017 with a double major in journalism and political science. He started at BuzzFeed after landing an internship the summer directly after college. After the three month internship, he was hired as a full time employee.

The journalist shared his opinion about the importance of community and how it affected his experience beyond Winthrop and South Carolina.

Brooks started the discussion asking students what their definition of community was.

"For me, it's kind of like a group of people coming together," one student said. "Or like a group of people around you who kind of you just exist with. And as you go through things, oftentimes they go

through them as well. Whether like, I guess, I guess, in some senses community can be a much tighter knit group than these people who live together. But you don't have that common connection of, like, the things in your area or in your life like you want to do that at the same time."

Brooks shared his response saying, "It's definitely the people you're closer with the people that you sort of, like, see every day, but it's people that share some with a common characteristic or a certain location or some belief system or just shared background, but you can sort of relate to that there."

Brooks shared his experience surrounding the importance of source building.

"Making connections with sources where they feel comfortable enough with you to give you bits of news that you can report out like scoops, or like having that your ear to the ground and like a community so that they give you stories that

like you might not have seen before, or you might not be paying attention to," Brooks said, "But having people that know that community, well, it's talking to them constantly, like they're going to give you sort of like the information or point you in the right direction when you're on the ground there."

Building community and trust he says are "extremely important to get them to trust you enough to give you that information, because they're putting themselves at risk by giving you that stuff half the time, especially in sort of like sensitive areas."

Brooks shared that BuzzFeed reporters recently worked on a story covering FinCEN files, which are financial records that came from the government.

"And that took months and months and months to build up like source trust and building community with those people, and sort of like being in the network with them and know

what they're talking about. ... And that's something I've learned from a ton of the reporters here too," Brooks said.

Brooks wrote an article called Generation Free Fall about the effect of the coronavirus pandemic on Gen Z and Millennials' lives.

"During our lifetime, the US has always felt like it was in crisis. I talked with nine young millennials and Gen Z'ers about what the coronavirus pandemic means for their futures," The blurb for the article reads.

"Whereas initially, as a young reporter, we discourage first person, but as you get more seasoned, and you understand that your perspective, it's part of the story. And you have the freedom to write that way. In an organization like BuzzFeed that's okay. Can you talk a little bit about changing from third person to first person? And was that an adjustment for you?" Mass Communication Professor, Guy Reel asked. "It's an adjust-



Photo of Ryan Brooks

ment for sure. Like, you don't want to make yourself a part of the story most of the time, but like, you have to know that like the way that you view things and the way that like you're listening to like the people, your subjects, and the questions you're asking them are formed by like, your own life experiences, too. So like making sure that like, you're putting that sort of like, feeling like in there and like explaining that away, like not explaining it away, but like explaining, like, how, then like how you're viewing the story is extremely important, I would say BuzzFeed is just the place that like does a ton of experiments anyways, like just like makes it a great place to

work as an early reporter." Brooks said.

While many of his reporters are flying around the country, he makes sure to maintain community through sharing not only what stories are being worked on and they want to work on but also apprehension about upcoming pieces.

"And it's just like, I would say, the job of an editor is just, honestly, one, making their work look great. But like, also, like, push them to the point where they know that they can get across the finish line and try and adapt to you. It's a very different set of skills than just reporting. I would say, and I'm still getting used to that. But it's like, very fun."

This week in American politics

A summary of what's happened this week in United States politics

MARLEY BASSETT,
Staff Writer

The independent January 6 committee that was established by Congress has issued their 5 and 6 rounds of Congressional subpoenas. The fifth round included members of the 2020 Donald Trump presidential campaign such as William Stepien, Jason Miller, Angela McCallum, John Eastman, Michael Flynn and Bernard Kerik.

The sixth round included staff members of the Trump White House such as Nicholas Luna, Molly Michael Benjamin Williamson, Christopher Liddell, John McEntee, Keith Kellogg, Kayleigh McEnany, Stephen Miller, Cassidy Hutchinson and Kenneth Klukowski.

Those subpoenaed have until Dec. 3

to file a deposition for the committee. If they refuse to comply they could be referred to the Department of Justice for criminal contempt of Congress.

The \$3.5 trillion investment bill that will cover much of President Joe Biden's social bill remains stuck in Congress. The Build Back Better bill was supposed to be passed by the House along with the bipartisan infrastructure bill last week, but Democrats are being forced to make cuts to appease more conservative members in the Senate. No Republicans plan on supporting the bill, meaning Democrats will have to pass the bill through reconciliation in the Senate.

The bill has currently been cut from \$3.5 trillion

to \$1.75 trillion in hopes to get the two most conservative members; Joe Manchin and Krysten Sinema on board. Climate infrastructure has been significantly pared down and the paid family leave that was included in the bill has been cut from nine weeks to four weeks. These changes have been met favorably by the senators but they are still calling for more before they agree to vote for it.

Rising prices in consumer goods were thought to be "transitory," according to the Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell, something that would happen as the United States economy shifted from being heavily virus-based to something more normal. Now, economists are warning

that higher prices are predicted to last well into next year. The consumer price index went up 6.2%, the largest increase since the 1990's.

Concerns are also mounting by Congressional officials who say the government should not spend more until inflation is brought under control.

"Congressional leaders propose to pass the largest single spending bill in history with no regard to rising inflation, crippling debt, or the inevitability of future crises. Ignoring the fiscal consequences of our policy choices will create a disastrous future for the next generation of Americans," said Senator Joe Manchin in response to the proposed Build Back Better Bill. Inflation is predicted to subside



Photo courtesy to Flickr Images

The US Congress where the bipartisan infrastructure bill recently passed.

by the end of next year according to Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen.

The long-awaited bipartisan infrastructure bill finally passed the House of Representatives almost two weeks ago after being passed in August by the Senate. The bill saw 13 House Republicans vote for it and 6 House Democrats vote against it. The Republicans that voted for it are Don Bacon, Brian Fitzpatrick, Andrew Garbarino, John Katko, Nicole Malotakis, Tom Reed, Anthony Gonzalez, Adam Kinzinger, David McKinley, Chris Smith, Jeff Van Drew, Fred Upton and Don Young.

These members have faced severe

blowback from members of the party inside and outside of Congress. Representative Upton said to CNN that he received a voicemail saying "I hope you die. I hope everybody in your f**king family dies."

There are also calls among some of the far-right members of the House Republican Caucus to strip the 13 representatives mentioned above of their committee membership. "I respect their right to vote their districts and their conscience. But that doesn't mean that they should get the privilege of leading," said Representative Andy Biggs in a statement.



Disney announced a slew of new content coming to their streaming platform for 2022 and beyond.

Trusted Reviews

Disney+ Day recap

On the second anniversary of their launch, Disney+ has unleashed a slew of brand new content from all of Disney’s major companies

GABE CORBIN, staff writer

In the two years since its release, Disney+ has become one of the most popular streaming services in the world, with over 116 million subscribers logging on to watch fan favorite movies from all of the companies that Disney owns.

Recently, on Nov. 12, the company announced new details for current

shows as well as new updates for the future.

Disney’s main company announced brand new titles and movies. Twentieth Century Studios announced a brand new “Ice Age” adventure called “The Ice Age Adventures of Buck Wild,” starring the eponymous character who made his debut in the 2009 film. Simon Pegg

will reprise his role as Buck, who goes on an adventure with Crash and Eddie throughout the Lost World of the Dinosaurs.

Disney is also planning to release a brand new “Cheaper by the Dozen” movie, this time starring Zach Braff (“Scrubs”) and Gabrielle Union (“Breaking In”). Both films are expected to launch

in early 2022.

Amy Adams and Patrick Dempsey announced the sequel to their hit film, “Enchanted,” which will be released in Fall of 2022. They also announced that “Enchanted” will be on Disney+ for viewers to watch.

Jeff Kinney, the creator of the “Diary of a Wimpy Kid” books, revealed a brand new

poster for the upcoming animated movie as well as announced that a sequel called “Roderick Rules” is in development. The new “Diary of a Wimpy Kid” movie will be released on Dec. 3.

Andy Samberg and John Mulaney showcased a new poster for their next movie together: “Chip ‘n Dale: Rescue Rangers.” Samberg and Mulaney will voice Chip and Dale respectively, and Corey Burton will join them from the TV show. It is expected to release

see DISNEY pg. 6

Campus calendar of events for the second half of November 2021

Winthrop University has numerous exciting events between Nov. 17 and Nov. 30

DAVID BOTZER, botzerd@mytjnow.com

Please note that all recurring and consecutive-day events will be listed at their first occurrence with the days they are recurring.

More information, such as descriptions and Zoom links, for cultural events can be found on Winthrop’s cultural events webpage and for all other events on Winthrop’s events calendar website.

Ongoing
“Art Education Exhibition” — Art Exhibit
Weekdays until Nov. 22, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Lewandowski Student Gallery

“Red Delta” — Art Exhibit
Weekdays until Dec. 10, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Rutledge Gallery

“AntiBodies” — Art Exhibit
Weekdays until Dec. 10, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Elizabeth Dunlap Patrick Gallery

Nov. 17
“Celebrating Native American Heritage Month: DIY Dreamcatcher”
12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
DiGiorgio Campus Center Main Lobby

“Skills and Technique in Mindfulness and Stress” — Lecture (Cultural Event)
7 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Online, Zoom

“Winthrop Symphony Orchestra” — Music Performance (Cultural Event)
7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Tillman Auditorium

Nov. 18
“The Resilience of Southern Identity” — Lecture (Cultural Event)
5 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.
Dina’s Place

Gone but not forgotten

Remembering those who have died in 2021

EMILY CURRY, currye@mytjnow.com

2021, while exponentially better than its predecessor, has not been without its own downfalls. Losses have still been suffered, just as in any other year.

Nothing shakes a community as much as the loss of a well-known public figure, and in a world connected by the internet and social media, well-known figures can be loved by their families as well as people halfway around the world. When they pass away, it can come as a shock and sorrow to all.

One of the most high-profile deaths this year was that of Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh and consort of Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom. Buckingham Palace announced the passing of the duke at the age of 99 on its official website on April 9.

According to an article from People magazine, the duke “had been plagued by health issues in recent years after retiring from his public duties in August 2017.” The duke and Queen Elizabeth shared a 73-year long marriage.

The actor Christopher Plummer also died this year, on Feb. 5, at the age of 91. Plummer had an active acting career for most of his life, even in his old age. He played Harlan Thrombey in Rian Johnson’s blockbuster murder-mystery film “Knives Out” at the age of 89.

Plummer was also famous for his role as Baron Georg von Trapp in the 1965 stage adaptation of Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein’s “The Sound of Music,” where he starred alongside renowned actress Julie Andrews.

After his passing,



2021 saw the deaths of many well-known figures, from actors to princes. Pixabay

Andrews released a statement saying, “The world has lost a consummate actor today and I have lost a cherished friend. I treasure the memories of our work together and all the humor and fun we shared through the years.”

Another sad death was that of Joanne Rogers, the widow of the famous Fred Rogers of the television show “Mr. Rogers’ Neighborhood.” She died on Feb. 11 at the age of 92. According to an article from The New York Times, she was always very supportive of her husband’s career throughout their 50 years of marriage.

Joanne Rogers also helped keep her husband’s

legacy alive after his death in 2003. According to the same article, “She vigorously promoted ‘Won’t You Be My Neighbor?’ (2018), Morgan Neville’s documentary about her husband, and ‘A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood’ (2019), a feature film with Tom Hanks as Mr. Rogers and Maryann Plunkett as Mrs. Rogers.”

One of the more tragic deaths of this year was Gabby Petito, whose disappearance became a source of nationwide interest. According to an article from CBS News, Petito, a lifestyle blogger, was reported missing on Sept. 11. Her fiancé quickly became a

person of interest in the investigation.

Ten days later, reports came out saying, “A coroner confirms that the remains found in Wyoming is Gabby Petito and determined the initial manner of death is homicide.” Her fiancé’s remains were found on Oct. 21. Petito’s disappearance sparked conversation about why white women receive more attention when they go missing than women of color.

As sad as it is, death is one of the few things that can be certain of anyone. But this sentiment should serve as inspiration to always live life to the fullest.

AC&T theJohnsonian

November 17, 2021

cont. DISNEY from pg. 5
in Spring of 2022.

Disney also announced a sequel to "Hocus Pocus," with the Sanderson sisters' actresses reprising their roles, as well as a brand new movie called "Better Nate Than Ever" starring Lisa Kudrow, Joshua Bassett and introducing Rueby Wood.

Finally, a modern day Cinderella story starring Chosen Jacobs as "El" in the new Disney+ film "Sneakerella" will be released on Feb. 18, 2022.

Disney also revealed a slew of new series as well. They revealed the first look at "Baymax," the newest animated series starring the loveable robot that will be released in 2022.

Also, they showcased the first concept art from "Tiana," starring the titular princess from "Princess and the Frog" that will be released in 2023.

For National Geographic, Chris Hemsworth and Will Smith announced a brand new series that will feature them travelling all over the world. Hemsworth will star in "Limitless with Chris Hemsworth" in 2022 while Smith will star in "Welcome to Earth" on Dec. 8.

"The Proud Family" will be making its return to the small screen in a new reboot of the show, with the original cast expected to reprise their roles and will be joined by stars like Lil Nas X, Lizzo, Tiffany Haddish, Lena Waithe, Brenda Song and more.

Also, "High School Musical: The Musical: the Series" will return for Season 3 as the Wildcats put on "Frozen."

Owen Wilson and Larry the Cable Guy will reprise their roles as Lightning McQueen and Mater in a new "Cars" series called "Cars On the Road," which will feature the duo in a cross-country road trip.

All three new shows are expected to release in Spring and Summer of 2022.

Marvel announced new logos for all of their upcoming shows, as well as brand new clips for their

next major release "Hawkeye" starring Jeremy Renner and Hailee Steinfeld.

They also announced an all-new original series called "X-Men '97," which will return to the world of the X-Men from the 90s in a brand new series with the same cast.

Marvel Studios also announced four new shows: "Echo," starring Alaqua Cox as the heroine after a stint in the "Hawkeye" series, "Spider-Man: Freshman Year," which will see Peter Parker begin his journey to becoming Spider-Man, "Agatha: House of Harkness," with Kathryn Hahn expected to reprise her role from "WandaVision," and "Marvel Zombies," which will feature a new generation of heroes battling an ever-spreading zombie scourge.

They also revealed the first looks at all of their new content in the 2022 year, with fans getting a first look at the future stars of the MCU.

Oscar Isaac stars as the brutal Moon Knight as he struggles with his multiple identities inside himself when the series releases.

Tatiana Maslany was revealed as the newest MCU Hulk hero, She-Hulk, in a comedic teaser that also featured Mark Ruffalo as Bruce Banner.

Finally, Iman Vellani soars as Ms. Marvel as she explores her mysterious new powers and her identity as the first Muslim superhero in the MCU.

All three new series, as well as the second season of the show "What If?," are expected to be released next year.

In the last of the announcements, "Star Wars" promoted a new documentary starring Boba Fett and a first look at the newest "Star Wars" TV saga "Obi-Wan," starring Ewan McGregor as the titular Master Jedi and Hayden Christensen as Darth Vader.

Disney+ will reveal more about the upcoming series and events in the next year, as well as more details about when these new shows are going to be released.

What is the 'meta-verse'?

Mark Zuckerberg announced a change in direction and rebranding for Facebook, which will now be under the company's new name, Meta

SPENCER HORTON,
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In the wake of a rough couple of weeks for Facebook that saw the company come under fire after being accused of contributing to mental health problems in teenage girls, Mark Zuckerberg announced a shift in direction for the company and the creation of the "metaverse."

The first step in this shift was renaming the company. The app and website are still named Facebook, but the company behind the social network and other apps such as Instagram and Whatsapp will now be known as Meta.

Many are still confused about what exactly the metaverse is and what it will entail. So far, Zuckerberg has presented it as a way of doing everything virtually in the future.

It will be accessible through wearable devices, like smart glasses and virtual reality headsets, and through the use of smartphone apps and other devices. The company has shown off the ability to do things such



Users are already starting to see the Meta logo pop up when using the Facebook app. Flickr

as attending work in a virtual environment as an avatar of one's choosing and using a device on the wrist to text one's friends.

The goal is for the metaverse to be just like the physical world but extended virtually into a place where people can shop, work, socialize, play video games and more.

The term "metaverse" is not a new one. It was first used in the 1992 dystopian science fiction novel "Snow Crash," in which the metaverse was a combination of virtual realities that people could walk through as avatars.

Many games have had metaverse elements in the past, but never reached the point that Zuckerberg is trying to reach.

"Fortnite," along with its normal game modes, has also featured concerts and museums within its world. "Second Life" was a PC game in which a person could do pretty much anything, and many used the game to try and escape reality and form a new version of their life in the virtual world.

The metaverse will not be owned

by Meta, though, and Zuckerberg envisions it as a decentralized world operated by users.

"The metaverse is a vision that spans many companies — the whole industry," Zuckerberg said in a July interview with The Verge. "You can think about it as the successor to the mobile internet."

"And it's certainly not something that any one company is going to build, but I think a big part of our next chapter is going to hopefully be contributing to building that, in partnership with a lot of other companies and creators and developers. But you can think about the metaverse as an embodied internet, where instead of just viewing content — you are in it."

Meta will simply be a company contributing to the metaverse if it's even something that catches on. The announcement has come under heavy criticism, though this could still be from backlash over the whistleblower incident.

"Is this what most people want? The ability to attend virtual meetings as avatars drifting

through a pretend corporate Death Star?" said Hannah Levintova of Mother Jones. "Of course not. But Facebook executives are not 'most people.' Unlike many of their nearly 3 billion users, they exist in some of the most vaunted ranks of the professional managerial class."

Despite the criticisms, many companies are gearing up to stake their claim in the metaverse. For example, Unity purchased Peter Jackson's Weta Digital to start preparing for it. The company plans to use Weta Digital to build 3D models in the metaverse.

"The unified tools and the incredible scientists and technologists of Weta Digital will accelerate our mission to give content creators easy to use and high performance tools to bring their visions to life," Marc Whitten, Unity's senior vice president and general manager, said in a company blog post on Nov. 9. "Whatever the metaverse is or will be, we believe it will be built by content creators, just like you."

The Johnsonian's Festive Art Showcase

Hello, artists of all shapes and mediums! We in the Arts, Culture & Tech section invite you to submit your works for a chance to appear in the Dec.1 issue of the paper and on our social media feeds. While all submissions will be accepted, precedent for publishing will be given to those that are more festive in nature and relate to the upcoming holiday season.

All newspaper-friendly submissions are welcomed and include, but are not limited to: drawings, paintings, digital art, poetry and writing 500 words or less, pictures of physical art pieces such as sculptures and crochet, and various styles of photography.

Videos and audio-based pieces can also be submitted and may appear on our social media. Those interested can send submissions to any of the AC&T editors, botzerd@mytjnow.com, currye@mytjnow.com, hortons@mytjnow.com, to editors@mytjnow.com, or to The Johnsonian Instagram or Twitter account @thejohnsonian.

No submissions will be accepted after Nov. 26 at midnight. We look forward to seeing all your amazing submissions and featuring them in our Dec. 1 issue.

Send in your creative pieces for a chance to be featured in the Johnsonian!



Shane Duncan as a student at Winthrop University Photo Courtesy of Shane Duncan

Alumni Spotlight: Shane Duncan

Shane Duncan, an alumnus from the class of 1998, shares his experience as a student at Winthrop University during the spark of various technologies

SAM HYATT, staff writer

When searching for a place to continue his education, Shane Duncan found that the size and traditional feel of Winthrop University's campus were exactly what he was looking for.

"The staff and professors I met during my tour solidified that Winthrop was the right choice for me," Duncan said.

During his time at Winthrop, Duncan double majored and earned his Bachelor of Arts in French and a Bachelor of Science in Business with a concentration in marketing.

Duncan explained

that Winthrop allowed him to have a "fresh start" because he was able to start his own journey.

In addition to having a double major, Duncan was active in various clubs and organizations. Duncan was involved in the Student Alumni Council, Winthrop Ambassadors, RUF and BCM, Council of Student Leaders and the French Club.

Duncan was also during his time at Winthrop: the captain of the Winthrop Cheerleaders, the president of Pi Kappa Alpha, the president of Inter-

fraternity Council and the Senior Gift Chair.

"Some of my favorite memories happened with my fraternity," Duncan said. "One memory in particular that comes to mind is when we rode bikes from Winthrop's campus to the University of Virginia to raise money for the American Cancer Society. We rode day and night and raised money before and along the way."

"In the 1990s, I would describe the environment at Winthrop as friendly but competitive," Duncan said. "When competitive

events happened around campus like Greek Games or blood drives, each respective group would take on a must-win mentality. But off the field, the student body was very supportive of each other."

Duncan also shared about his time as a Winthrop cheerleader and the connections he made with his teammates.

"I made many memories as a cheerleader," he said. "We were together often and had so much fun practicing for the upcoming game and getting ready for cheer camp."

Amongst the various competitive games occurring around campus, Duncan shared that Winthrop students were still learning about the internet, emails, servers and dial-up modems.

"It was an interesting time for sure," Duncan said.

As an alumnus, Duncan has remained active within the Winthrop community.

"Over the years, I have served on the Board of Trustees, Alumni Association Executive Board, and was a local contact for alumni events along with being a donor," Duncan said. "I was honored to be the 2006 Most Outstanding Young Alumni."

Inspired by his

own college experience, Duncan has several pieces of advice for future and current Winthrop students.

"Find friends and groups that mirror who you want to be but also challenge you to think differently," he said. "Diversity of background is important, but so is the diversity of thought."

"Also, college is a great time to learn and fail without long-term consequences, so take risks and say 'yes' more than 'no.'"

Upon graduation, Duncan found his transition into the real world to be like a "natural progression."

"Winthrop prepared me well for the workplace. I was interning my senior year, which led to a full-time job in sales after graduation," Duncan said.

Currently, Duncan is the Head of Sales for a New York City-based FreightTech start-up called Transfix, where he leads the marketplace and tech sales teams.

"Making new friends, unlocking potential you didn't know you had, being open to new ideas; that's what college is all about," Duncan said.

"Winthrop offered a canvas to paint the best version of 'Shane' during my time there."

cont. CALENDAR from

"Cultural Humility Workshop"

6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Dinkins Auditorium

Nov. 19

"Global Nutrition: Health and Longevity in the World's Blue Zones" — Lecture (Cultural Event)
2 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Dina's Place

"Winthrop Wind Symphony" — Music Performance (Cultural Event)
5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Tillman Auditorium

"Student-Directed Fall One-Act Festival" — Theatre Performance (Cultural Event)
7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Nov. 19 and 20, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Nov. 20 and 21
Johnson Studio Theatre

Nov. 21

"WU VOGUE Fashion Show"
7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Dina's Place

Nov. 22

"Winthrop Chorale & Winthrop Chamber Singers" — Music Performance (Cultural Event)
7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.
McBryde Hall

Nov. 30

"Thesis Proposal Presentation: Grant Mahan" — Lecture (Cultural Event)
5 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Online, Zoom

"Winthrop Percussion Ensemble" — Music Performance (Cultural Event)
7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Barnes Recital Hall



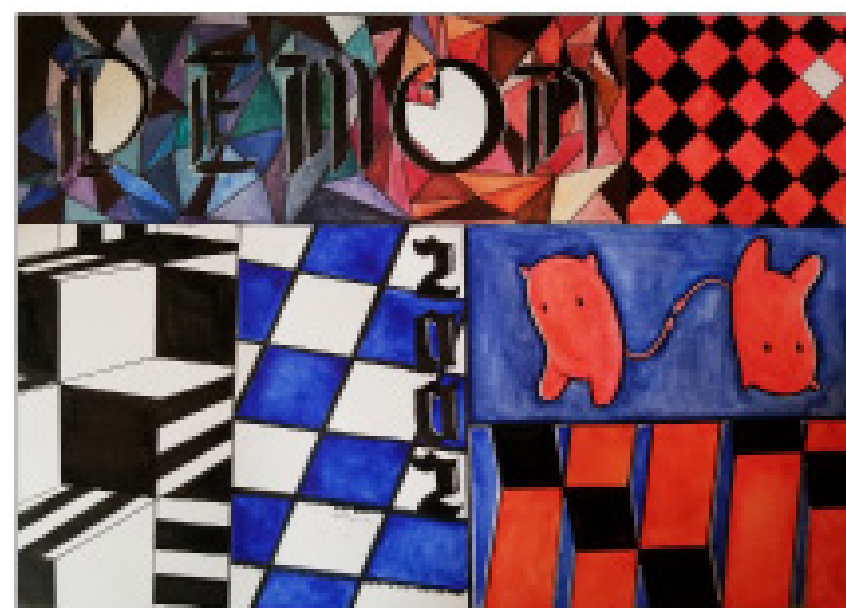
Benefits coming with the new versions may include new game modes or added missions in the modes that are already available.

Flickr

Student Art Submission

Marshall Kuriakose (Design Major)

"Demon Established Since 2002"



'GTA V' coming to a third generation of consoles

"GTA V" and "GTA Online" will be available on PS5 and Xbox Series X in March 2022

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"Grand Theft Auto V" first launched on the PlayStation 3 and Xbox 360 in 2013. In 2014, it was released on the PlayStation 4 and Xbox One. Seven years later, as many have been calling on "GTA" developer Rockstar Games to announce the next installment in the series, "GTA V" received a release date for PlayStation 5 and Xbox Series X instead.

As it is expected when games are brought up to more

advanced consoles, players can look forward to technical and graphical improvements for the game. Rockstar is also promising "special benefits" and "surprises" for players in the new versions of the game that will coincide with the twentieth anniversary of "GTA III."

"GTA Online" will also be brought to new consoles as a standalone game and will be free for PS5 owners for the first three months after launch.

Though fans of the series have been poking fun at Rockstar, claiming that the company is trying to squeeze every last dollar out of "GTA V," the next installment in the franchise that they want is in development, but it is in the early stages.

Due to production issues, it's rumored that the company is considering making the next installment a "moderately sized release" that is expanded over time with updates.

This may prove

to be disappointing to a lot of fans who had big expectations, such as the map for the next game being based on the entire United States.

After eight years of the same game, fans are expecting something big, so a change in scope for the franchise may not be the best move.

To hold fans over, Rockstar released "Grand Theft Auto: The Trilogy – The Definitive Edition" on Nov. 11, but it has still left some

members of the passionate fan base unsatisfied.

The game is currently riddled with bugs and is lacking certain details of which fans once held fond memories.

"I wanted to love these remastered games, as I'm a big fan of the older GTA titles," said Zack Zwiezen of Kotaku. "The idea here is sound; I wanted to experience these games in their full glory, without the wonkiness. Currently, the

collection needs a bit more polish before I'd recommend picking it up."

No matter what the next game looks like, it will still probably come under heavy criticism at launch as many are tired of games releasing unfinished and having to wait for updates to get a complete experience.

Hopefully, for the sake of its fans, the game will come quickly, so eight years of waiting doesn't turn into nine years or more.

Emily Curry | Assistant Arts, Culture & Tech Editor

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Late-game heroics lift Winthrop over Mercer on Homecoming



Photo courtesy of Winthrop Athletic Communications

Graduate transfer Patrick Good (No. 5) shoots a three-pointer in front of the Winthrop bench.

Eagles force overtime, emerge victorious after exciting comeback

MATTHEW SHEALY,
shealym@mytjnow.com

Down by nine points with 51 seconds left in Saturday's game against the Mercer Bears, Mark Prosser's Winthrop Eagles appeared to be in line for their first loss of the 2021-2022 season.

Mercer's Felipe Haase (a transfer from the University of South Carolina, now in his second season with the Bears) had scored 40 points as his team led Winthrop, 79-70. However, it still wouldn't be enough to hold off the Eagles.

"Really good players made really good plays," Prosser said, describing the effort his players exerted to tie the game and force overtime. "The last minute, I watched ... sort of in awe, just like everybody else was."

With 43 seconds remaining, graduate transfer Patrick Good drained a three-pointer to make the score 79-73. Good then stole the ball from Mercer, and Winthrop's Sin'Cere McMahon (a transfer from Western Carolina) was fouled during the fast break with 34 seconds to go.

McMahon hit both of his free-throw attempts to reduce Winthrop's deficit to four

points. Winthrop's Russell Jones Jr. then quickly fouled a Mercer player to stop the clock at 28 seconds.

After Mercer went one-for-two at the line, Jones Jr. quickly rebounded the ball and dribbled coast-to-coast, taking the ball all the way to the basket and bringing the Eagles within three points with 20 seconds left in regulation.

On the next play, as Mercer tried to inbound the ball, Winthrop's McMahon intercepted the pass and immediately passed it to Good, who already had his feet set behind the arc. Good said he knew he was going to hit the shot before he even took it.

"Those are the shots that I work on, so it wasn't out of character, and my teammates trust me, and they know, and the coaching staff trusts me as well," Good said. "This is what I came here to do. I didn't come here for anything else but to win basketball games and to win the championship."

While Chase Claxton produced a block during the final moments to fend off a last-second Mercer victory, Good's tying

three-pointer is what ultimately gave the Eagles a chance to keep fighting.

"It's easy to believe in a guy who's always putting in work," Jones Jr. said of Good.

Jones Jr. said he has known what Good was capable of since he faced off against him two seasons ago when Winthrop traveled to East Tennessee State.

Prosser also noted that he has seen Good sink big shots before, as Good's ETSU team competed against Prosser's Western Carolina team multiple times by virtue of competing in the Southern Conference.

"To see him do it wearing our uniform is a lot of fun," Prosser said.

With Good being the second shortest scholarship player on Winthrop's roster, he said he has experienced similar adversity to teammate Jones Jr., who

is the shortest at 5-foot-6.

"Me and Russ have been in two similar situations with being overlooked just because of our height," Good said. "I'm satisfied with the height that I have because maybe I wouldn't have the same motivation and the same adversity that I have at 5-10 [or] 5-11."

"At the end of the day, me and Russ are going to give everything we have because, statistically, we're not supposed to be here," Good said. "You look at the average height for a college basketball player; we're nowhere across the board supposed to be here, but we're here, so we're going to make the most of it every single day."

Winthrop trailed by 11 at halftime, and at one point in the second half, the Eagles were down by 15. With about 12 minutes to go

in the half, Jones Jr. lit a fire under the Eagles when he ripped off steals on back-to-back possessions, taking the first in for a floater inside the paint and pulling up for an open three the second time around.

"That was just a lot of hunger built up," Jones Jr. said. "We're not used to that (being down big), but it's something that we've been through before, so I know we've got to keep pushing."

Jones Jr. mentioned that Winthrop trailed by 15 early against Hampton in the Big South Championship game his freshman year before, ultimately, storming back for an eight-point victory.

"We just had to buckle down and be us," Jones Jr. said.

He said that's essentially what Prosser told the team at halftime — to be themselves.

"He told us at halftime [to] just be us," Jones Jr. said. "We had nine deflections at the half, and that's not really us. We're a good team offensively, but to win a championship and go where we want to go, we're going to have to get on the defensive end."

Winthrop

completed the comeback in overtime as Cory Hightower (Winthrop's other transfer from Western Carolina) sank a go-ahead three-pointer with eight seconds to go, and Jones Jr. purposefully fouled to prevent Mercer from getting a chance at a three-point play of its own.

The Eagles won 88-85 and now face a daunting four-game road trip (which began at Middle Tennessee on Tuesday).

Jones Jr. said that in talking with former Winthrop basketball stars like Chris Gaynor, Michael Jenkins and Torrell Martin, he could see how their ability to beat big teams stemmed from their belief that they could beat those teams.

"I believe that we can beat anybody in the country," Jones Jr. said. "I feel like, if you don't have that mindset when you're going against those top teams, you don't need to be playing basketball. You've got to believe that you can beat anybody that steps in front of you."

Winthrop will face Vanderbilt on Saturday, followed by Washington State on Monday and Washington on Nov. 27.



Photo courtesy of Winthrop Athletic Communications

Head Coach Mark Prosser speaks with graduate transfers Drew Buggs and Patrick Good, and redshirt-junior DJ Burns, Jr.



Eagle of the Week: Olivia Esselman

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fremedl@mytjnow.com

On Friday, Nov. 12, Winthrop senior Olivia Esselman competed in the NCAA Division I Southeast Region Cross Country Championships in Louisville, Kentucky. As the only female representing Winthrop, Esselman finished in 144th place with a time of 23:05.4 for the 6-kilometer race.

"It's been a dream of mine for a long time to compete at the course at Louisville because I have a lot of family in the area that I visit frequently. Getting to run my last college race there with my family cheering me on was such a blessing," Esselman said.

This was the second time in Esselman's collegiate running career she has traveled to compete in the NCAA Division I Southeast Region Cross Country Championships. Her first trip was as a sophomore in the fall of 2019.

"It's both inspiring and humbling to be racing alongside that many fast people," Esselman



Photo courtesy of Winthrop Athletic Communications

Olivia Esselman led the Eagles with a sixth-place finish at the Winthrop/Adidas Invitational hosted at the Winthrop Farm on Sept. 18.

said. "That being said, I wasn't terribly concerned about my placement for this race; I was content just being there, letting the pack pull me along for a great race."

Two weeks prior to the NCAA Championship, Esselman ran her personal best for a 5-kilometer race with a time of 18:57.5 at the Big South Cross Country Championships in Kernersville, North Carolina.

"It was exhausting," Esselman said. "It can be so easy to be affected both mentally and physically by your surroundings, and to do your best in a race can take so much focus. I was putting a lot into that race and it felt

great to get a satisfying result from that effort."

Unlike many athletes who began playing their chosen sport before even elementary school, Esselman did not start racing competitively until she was further along in school.

"Growing up, I always competed on the swim team, primarily because my older siblings did, and it was the sport my family had always done ... but it was intense and was stressing me out," Esselman said. "On a whim, I decided to try out track instead that spring, and I absolutely loved it."

Esselman likes to stick to a consistent warm-up routine

before each race as a distraction to help keep her nerves at bay.

"I like to have a lucky pair of socks that I wear on race day, but my socks get holes in them pretty fast, so I tend to cycle through like three lucky pairs of socks," Esselman said.

Although "it's a little cliché," Esselman has always been inspired by Eric Liddell from "Chariots of Fire."

"In a sport like this, it can be really easy to get caught up in performance, perfection, doing things in exactly the right way," Esselman said. "I love that, even as a world-class athlete, he always seemed motivated by a love

of running, rather than a need to win or be the best."

"Having a team is a really special thing, and it's easy to take something like that for granted. They make the difficult experiences more bearable and the good moments more worthwhile," Esselman said.

"Also, I really enjoy all of the complimentary gear. Getting new stuff at the beginning of each season is like a mini Christmas."

Outside of athletics, Esselman enjoys being a member of campus ministry Reformed University Fellowship (RUF), as well as being a photographer for The Johnsonian.

Studying mass

communication, Esselman is thankful she has been able to attend in-person classes, campus events and, of course, have a normal cross country season.

"During my time as an athlete, I've learned to be more grateful for the days where you have great workouts, awesome races, and beautiful weather, but also to not take the disappointments too seriously," Esselman said.

"Competing at this level is such a privilege, and while it's realistic to be upset by failures, I've learned more to be heartened by them because it means there's something to keep working towards."

Winthrop fans showed up for Homecoming... but it isn't enough

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The crowd roared Saturday as Patrick Good nailed a three to tie the game and take Mercer to overtime.

I was in the pep band, and I'll be honest: the "Defense!" cheers and "Let's go Eagles!" chants from the student section near the end of the game (and especially during that final 51 seconds of regulation) were actually overpowering the pep band's cheers.

This is my third year helping lead cheers from the band (would be fourth if not for a global pandemic), and Saturday was the first time I've experienced

this problem. It's a problem I would welcome again.

While it did feel like a large crowd, Saturday's official attendance record tells a slightly different story. The headcount came out to 1,778, meaning less than a third of the seats in Winthrop Coliseum were filled.

Sure, it's a big arena to fill, and it's only been done on special occasions — but we didn't even reach a third of the capacity, on Homecoming, for a team that has won back-to-back league championships and is projected to finish on top of the Big South once again this season.

Last Tuesday's

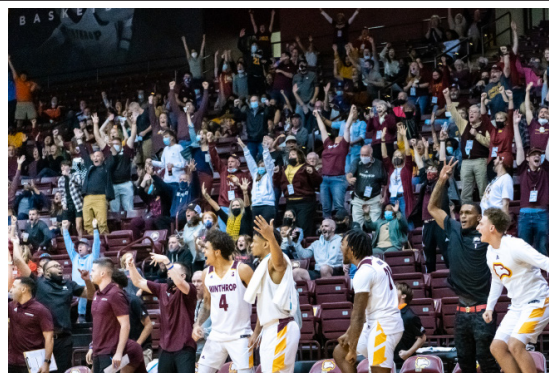


Photo courtesy of Winthrop Athletic Communications

Fans cheered as Winthrop fought back to force overtime.

season-opener shows an even more eye-opening statistic. Just 921 fans were in attendance to greet the Eagles for the first time since they represented us on the big stage at the NCAA Tournament in March.

As Winthrop legend Chris Gaynor messaged me on social media, when he played at Winthrop, one of the major contributors to the team's success was the crowd.

Gaynor said that during his freshman

year, there weren't a lot of people at the games, so coach Gregg Marshall told the community they were earning a D-minus for their (lack of) support. Soon, more fans started attending games.

Well, midterms have passed, and I promise we don't have an 'A' in Coach Prosser's class. I'd argue we don't even deserve a 'C' right now.

Students, professors, Rock Hillians: I'll see you at the Coliseum.



STUDENT MEDIA POLL

Week 1

Matthew's picks

Michael's picks

1. Gonzaga
2. Michigan
3. UCLA
4. Kansas
5. Baylor
6. Villanova
7. Purdue
8. Duke
9. Texas
10. Kentucky
11. Alabama
12. Illinois
13. Oregon
14. Houston
15. Arkansas
16. Memphis
17. Florida
18. Tennessee
19. Ohio St.
20. Connecticut
21. Texas Tech
22. North Carolina
23. Auburn
24. St. Bonaventure
25. Iowa

1. Gonzaga
2. Kansas
3. UCLA
4. Baylor
5. Purdue
6. Michigan
7. Illinois
8. Duke
9. Villanova
10. Kentucky
11. Texas
12. Memphis
13. Alabama
14. Arkansas
15. Tennessee
16. Houston
17. Oregon
18. Ohio St.
19. Auburn
20. North Carolina
21. Florida
22. Maryland
23. St. Bonaventure
24. Texas Tech
25. Virginia Tech

Fake News and Inconvenient Truth: The Democratic Approach

A guest column looking into the truth behind media's "fake news" and how it can change public perception

SKYLER ALLEN of Winthrop University's Collegiate Democrats

As Democrats, we have seen our fair share of slander in the media throughout the decades.

Fake news is something we all have had to endure, and misinformation is by far one of the most manipulative tools found within political media. As voters and citizens, we must do our own research before going to the polls and engaging in discourse. However, it must be noted that this research can become tedious. Oftentimes, the pipeline between curiosity and truth

becomes tainted and dark. Democrats have seen the effects of this.

Especially within the age of COVID-19, the misinformation about vaccines has been detrimental to public health. Masks, vaccines, and social distancing are all aspects of modern life that have become heavily politicized, and this affects us all. What some may see as slander to the Democratic Party is a threat to survival within a pandemic. Another example is the media's role in social corruption during the 2020 Presidential elec-

tion. We all saw how chaotic and damaging the first presidential debate was, as well as how much time was spent simply going back and forth about what had been said in the media versus what was true. The audience, both present and at home, absorbed this chaos and it filled our nation.

Fake news and misinformation in the media also takes place on social media. Facebook has become a battleground. How many families have we seen target each other? This could be done through blocking, expos-

ing one another's private details, or public arguments.

Social media is simultaneously the land of misinformation and truth. The lines between truth and fiction become blurred, and people wage war on each other trying to figure out what to believe. We see how violent misinformation can become. Back in January, online misinformation led to an insurrection that threatened not only the lives of many, but the very foundation of the country.

Fake news is not just inconvenient, it is detrimental to

civil discourse and overall safety in the United States. On the left, we have our own misinformation to work through. Democrats share many commonalities but there is a diverse range of thought within the party.

When our political figures have stories about them out in the media, tedious researching and checking must be conducted to assure that we hold our members and leaders accountable. Who voted for what bill back when? Who knows who? Who did what? As Americans, we should all

be asking ourselves these questions and being honest about the information we find.

The political world is complex enough without adding dishonesty to it through the media. Fake news deepens the ambiguity and makes voters feel used, hopeless, and continuously uninformed. We want an energized America with informed voters and citizens, and fake news is a true threat to that.

Turkeys



Mariana Beltran/The Johnsonian

WINTHROP MADLIBS!

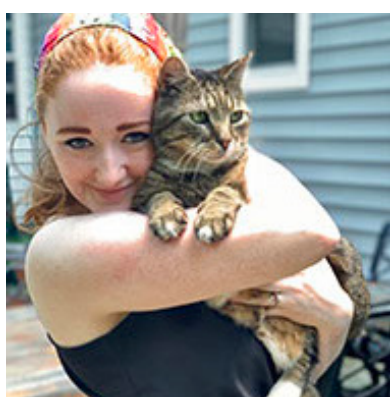
Story: Coffee

Our coffee shop just opened back up! My favorite barista _____ (name) will be there looking as _____ (adjective) as usual! I cannot wait to visit the coffee shop and get a _____ (drink)! They have a lot of business! Sometimes my professor _____ (name) goes by and gets such a _____ (adjective) drink! I don't understand how he drinks the stuff... The music they play in the shop slaps! They have many featured artists like _____ (singer) and _____ (band) playing every day! Sometimes I go in there just to listen to the music. Sometimes all the workers talk about is _____ (Internet trend) and it makes me wish I knew these people outside of work. They are all so _____ (adjective), I cannot wait to go and grab my favorite cup of coffee.

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MEET THE STAFF

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



Bryn Eddy

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.



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We are hiring for the Spring 2022 semester!

Staff Writers, Photographers,
Copy Editors
email Editor in Chief Bryn Eddy at
smytho@mytjnow.com



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vol. 1128

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