



Winthrop University		Wednesday November 3, 2021		Rock Hill, SC	
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Door to Title IX Coordinator and ADA Compliance Officer position opens to Kevin Sheppard Sr.



New Title IX Coordinator/ADA Compliance Officer and students' concerns

TAYLOR SALLENGER, sallengert@mytjnow.com

Kevin Sheppard Sr. began as Title IX Coordinator and ADA Compliance Officer on Nov. 1.

Sheppard was a Title IX Investigator at the University of South Carolina for the last eight years.

Sheppard is a South Carolina native and a Reverend at Mt. Zion Baptist in Chaplin, South Carolina. Sheppard has a degree in both religious studies and paralegal studies and is currently working to obtain a Master's in public administration. He is also a veteran of the United States Air Force.

Sheppard chose Winthrop due to the environment of the campus and the location, which allows him to stay close to his family.

"My final decision for choosing Winthrop was simple: location, which again allows me to stay closer to my family, and not have to relocate to a different state, was the best fit for me," Sheppard said. "My professional career and where I'm trying to go based on the experience I've had and the people I met during the interview process at Winthrop, I felt I had a connection where we would be able to form partnerships that would allow Winthrop to

be able to take the next step in this Title IX arena that we're now living in."

In this next step, Sheppard is looking forward to getting on campus and partnering with those who he sees as the stakeholders in things like Title IX and accessibility issues.

"I'm looking forward to the challenge of being able to come in and to partner with the stakeholders, whether that be faculty, staff, students, the community, to make a difference in what's going on there. So I'm just really looking forward to the challenge of getting there, getting on campus and getting to work," Sheppard said.

Sheppard is also open to the idea of working with students and opening up to the concerns students have raised about Winthrop University's issues with their Title IX program and the accessibility issues on campus.

"And so one thing that I did talk about [during the hiring process] was having not just a town hall, but multiple town halls, multiple events and programs put in place where, again, the partnerships can be formed with the students and the student organizations. Because again, the students

are what I would call the foot soldiers on the ground. They're more in tune with what's actually going on in the residence halls, what's going on around campus and things of that nature," Sheppard said.

He acknowledges that the students are an important part of knowing what is actually happening on a university's campus. Sheppard said that only communicating with administrators will leave out an important group that can assist in making things better.

"[I]f we're only talking to administrators and not talking to students as well, then we're missing an important sector of the individuals who can assist in making Winthrop be the premier college in regards to Title IX compliance and how we work with those things. So I would be very open in working with students and student organizations," Sheppard said.

Members of the student-led group WU Students for Change, who work to make students' voices heard by administration, are nervous about the hiring of Sheppard to the position of both Title IX Coordinator and ADA Compliance officer.

"We are quite concerned that not

only has the person that we looked up not had much Title IX training, but he has not had much Title IX success at his previous position. USC is facing multiple lawsuits right now related to Title IX, so it is clear that no matter what happened on that campus, he did not do the best job he could've done," said Rayvn Speigner, freshman music technology major.

Speigner also addressed the group's concerns with the combination of both the Title IX Coordinator position and ADA Compliance officer position.

"They're not unrelated. But they are both intricate in different ways... So to create a position, like I said, for both of those things, invalidates both of those groups, separately and mutually" said Speigner.

Dwayne Kirkland, a freshman mass communication major and member of WU Students for Change, echoed Speigner's concerns.

"Title IX is a massive, complicated law. The Americans with Disabilities Act is also a massive complicated law. And I think that trying to put all that into one position is going to disservice somebody, whether it's survivors or its students with disabilities," Kirkland said.

As a university with an extremely diverse student body, it's important to also highlight the LGBTQ community and what a new Title IX Coordinator will mean for them, especially with the heteronormative outline of what is considered sexual assault to Winthrop University.

"When we talk about things in reference to the LGBTQ+ community, again, when we look at those things, and my perspective about it is any individual who falls in any of those categories, first and foremost, they are persons, they are human beings, and they are human beings with rights and rights that have to be protected," Sheppard said.

Members of the LGBTQ community are concerned with Sheppard's position as a reverend and pastor and how that may affect survivors.

"We are asking queer people to report sexual assault or domestic violence to somebody who might have held a position as a pastor, similar to somebody who traumatized them. I mean, that's putting queer people, and other people who have been traumatized by religion in a really bad place," said Milo Wolverton, senior English major and member of WU Students for

Change.

Sheppard believes that he will be able to leave his job as pastor at the door when he comes onto campus as Title IX Coordinator and ADA Compliance officer.

"When I come to Winthrop University, I don't come as Reverend Sheppard or Pastor Sheppard, I come as just mister Sheppard. I'm just Kevin Sheppard."

Overall, students want to be represented well by those in high positions like Sheppard's.

"WU Students for Change has always been open to a fair, free dialogue with whoever would like to make change," Speigner said. "We just don't want to be put in a position that is unfair to us and is unfair to our members, our survivors that we represent, but we would totally be willing to have a town hall or even just to have a few representatives. Communication is excellent, but if the intention is not there, there is only so much you can do as an angry student."



Courtesy of Winthrop University Sheppard



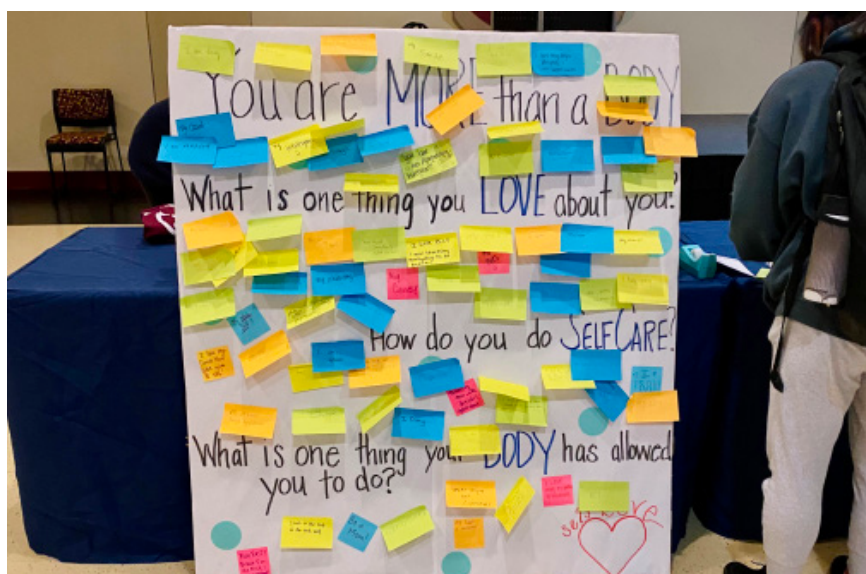
Fresh Check Day raises mental health awareness on campus

MARI PRESSLEY,
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Fresh Check Day is a cultural event ran by Winthrop Health and Counseling Services to promote mental health care



Mari Pressley/ The Johnsonian



Emma Crouch/ The Johnsonian



Mari Pressley/ The Johnsonian



Mari Pressley/ The Johnsonian



Mari Pressley/ The Johnsonian

Winthrop Fresh Check Day welcomed students to learn more about their mental health through stations covering topics like body image, sexual assault and being aware of one's drinking. In addition, students were able to undergo a free mental health screening.

After students were given a stamp card, they were invited to visit at least five interactive booths where they would be given a stamp for their visit. The booths interacted with students through wheel spinners, distortion goggles and collaborative art pieces.

One table was named "9 out of 10" because one out of ten college students contemplates suicide, leaving nine

out of ten students in a position to recognize warning signs. At this station, students were invited to sign the pledge to become one of the nine.

Warning signs include giving away possessions, drastic changes in mood and behavior, stopping the things that a person normally loves to do, not going to class, talking about not being around anymore or outright talking about self-harm.

"Being one of the nine means to know those signs and to not ignore them but to be direct with your friends and asking them what's going on and trying to get them to the resources that can help," said Julie Schrader, assistant director of residence life for staff development.

While many students are not qualified to treat others who exhibit these warning signs, it is possible to get them the resources that they need. This includes, but is not limited to, walking a friend to health and counseling services, utilizing the community clinic in the Withers Building, or calling a national suicide hotline.

"I think [Fresh Check Day] definitely brings mental health issues out more so that people are comfortable talking about them," Schrader said. "And anytime that you can talk about something more and educate people more, it's going to have a positive impact."

"We want them to understand resources for being

able to help folks whether they're the ones having the issues or it's friends and loved ones having the issues."

At another booth called "Rise Up," students were invited to color in different puzzle pieces with the part they have colored representing their voice. The completed puzzle stated, "your voice has power," to show support for sexual assault survivors.

"This booth is bringing awareness to sexual assault because we know it is very prevalent on college campuses worldwide," said Office of Victim Assistance Coordinator Itali Jackson.

"Some survivors of sexual assault experience different mental health illnesses such as anxiety, depression,

post-traumatic stress disorder, due to the traumatic event or events," Jackson said. "And sometimes different survivors engage in different risky behaviors in order to cope with that event or events."

"So we're just letting students know that it's on us to end rape culture on our campus by educating ourselves and others, supporting survivors of sexual assault, and also knowing resources."

The mental health screening station was where students were able to speak with some of the counselors from counseling services and sign their names on a piece of paper that read, "Mental Health Matters to..."

"Once they complete a screening, it

indicates or suggests to them that further evaluation might be needed," said Dr. Kwabena Sankofa, training coordinator and staff counselor.

"And then we are able to refer them not just to the counseling services but also to the community clinic which is in the Withers Building, the College of Education, and it's free, and they have extra extended hours to see not just students but also people from the community."

"The assessment, the test, will give them a good sense of where they are emotionally and psychologically and that the services are available to them on campus."



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Inside details about Winthrop University's chapter of Her Campus

Her Campus members share their experiences with the club

SAM HYATT,
Staff Writer



Courtesy of Her Campus
President Abigail Helm and Vice President Sabrina Hafner of Her Campus at Winthrop



Courtesy of Her Campus

Her Campus members at the first meeting of 2021 school year



Courtesy of Her Campus

Her Campus members tabling at Club/Organization Fair Fall 2021

Her Campus was created by three women with the goal “to create an online magazine dedicated to and focused on empowering college women,” according to the Her Campus 2021-2022 Handbook. The Her Campus website contains thousands of articles written by college students from all over the world on various topics, including culture, style, career and more.

At the Winthrop Her Campus chapter, members of the club are required to write an article on a subject that is appealing to them. On Wednesday nights, members of Her Campus meet in Owens Hall to discuss upcoming events along with ideas for upcoming

articles. Members have the freedom to write about almost anything they want. Once they pitch their article idea and it is approved, the members have the opportunity to publish their thoughts and opinions on topics they enjoy.

For the 2021-2022 academic year, Her Campus at Winthrop had 11 returning members and 23 new members. “Her Campus is a great environment, especially [for] people that identify as women,” Emma Oresic, a sophomore elementary education major, said. “It is a fun experience where you get to know your peers, learn about the many different viewpoints that others have, and get

to express yourself through writing.” Abigail Helm, the current President of the Winthrop’s chapter of Her Campus, started at the organization in the role of Social Media Director in May 2020 during its relaunch. “When Loren Allison, our previous president, approached me to rebrand our organization and hop on as social media director, I didn’t hesitate to say yes,” Helm said. As president Helm is responsible for keeping track of national requirements, ensuring expectations are being met and working towards exceeding expectations. Additionally, Helm edits articles bi-weekly, leads weekly meetings and manages a

team of 30 writers. “I would recommend students to join Her Campus if they are looking for an outlet to express themselves and connect more to campus,” Helm said. “College can be isolating, and as an introvert, I understand that finding that outlet is not easy. Joining Her Campus can ease those feelings of disconnection and can help you find your community at Winthrop.” While joining Her Campus offers students a way to find community and make new friends, it is also an opportunity for students to strengthen their writing skills and build their resume. “Her Campus, while being a great way to branch out, also looks amazing

on a resume. On top of all the technical skills that members gain, I think my experience with Her Campus will show employers that I have a drive to make an impact outside of my academic life,” Helm said. Each week, Her Campus uses their Instagram to feature newly published articles while encouraging the Winthrop community to view the work of some of their peers. “Her Campus is a wonderful stress reliever. But above all, it is a great way to connect, grow as a writer, and make many new friendships,” Chloe Pearson, a Her Campus writer said.

Police Blotter

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On Oct. 22, the Reporting Officer (R/O) was conducting stationary patrol at the intersection of Columbia Avenue and Alumni Drive when he observed the subject vehicle disregard the stop sign at said intersection. The R/O pulled behind the vehicle and initiated his lights. The subject vehicle came to a stop in a parking space in front of the apartment complex. At this time, the R/O approached the vehicle to explain the reason for the stop and asked for the subject’s credentials. While the door was open, the R/O noticed a bag of tobacco sitting in the driver’s door pocket, as well as an odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle. When asked what the bag was, the subject stated it was “wrap guts.” Finding nothing on the subject or passenger of the vehicle, the R/O then began a probable cause search of the vehicle. During the search, the RHPD officer was able to contact the subject’s insurance provider and confirm that the vehicle possessed valid insurance. The R/O finished the search without locating any further evidence of drug violation. A criminal history of the subject came back clean. After confirming that the subject had no other drug violations, the R/O allowed him to return to the vehicle and allowed the passenger to leave the scene. Due to the small amount, honesty of the subject, and lack of other drug violations, the R/O did not charge the subject for possession of marijuana. The R/O did seize the marijuana cigarette, weighing in at 0.9 grams, to be put into evidence and destroyed. The R/O then issued the subject a citation for disregarding a stop sign. The R/O explained the reason for the citation, the penalties, and the time, date, and location of the subject’s court appearance. The R/O then cleared the scene.

Something going down around town?
Let us know!
localnewstip@mytjnow.com

Health clinic offers free services to those who qualify

York clinic offers a variety of health services in Rock Hill

MARLEY BASSETT,
staff writer

York County Free Health Clinic is a local healthcare provider located near Winthrop's campus on Cherry Road. The clinic provides free health services to those who qualify in the surrounding community.

To qualify, patients have to be York or Lancaster county residents who are between the ages of 18 and 64, have no government or private health insurance and be at or below the federal poverty line.

The mission of the York County Free Clinic is "to provide

compassionate, quality healthcare to the uninsured, eligible adults in York County. It is our vision that York County residents have access to high-quality healthcare, regardless of their ability to pay," Kathy Grier, executive director of the York County Free Clinic, said.

The clinic provides services including "blood pressure management, pap smears, mammograms, prescription assistance, lab procedures, optometry, eye care, and acute and chronic medical care," Grier said.

The clinic also provides pregnancy

and STD testing for those who qualify. Clinical partners provide colon cancer screenings as well as other social and educational services. Patients can receive free medication through the Welvista Medication Assistance Program.

Healthcare services are the number one cause of bankruptcy to families and it can often be hard for lower-income citizens to afford services. 8.6% of York County residents live at or below the poverty line.

The clinic's average patient is a 53 year old female with a monthly



Marley Bassett/The Johnsonian

The entrance to the clinic, located at 410 Oakland Ave.

household income of \$1,320 a month. Patients average four visits a year and are on approximately five medications.

Last year, the clinic provided healthcare services that were valued at \$3.4 million, which includes 18,188 prescriptions and 1,058 on-site diagnostic tests. The clinic had a total of 2,139 in-person patient visits and 375 telehealth visits last year during April and May.

The services are provided by a combination of staff and

50 active volunteers.

The Winthrop community agrees that having these services are important.

"As a social work student, having clinics like this is so important for not only college students but for the surrounding community. Many could argue that we can get services like these on campus, however many might feel more comfortable going to an off-campus area for the services. Overall I think it's wonder-

ful," senior social work major Charlotte Kinder said.

Other students are for this service as well.

"It's nice knowing that there are resources for affordable care services in the area if you need it," freshman English major Emily Morris said.

The staff at the York County Free Clinic encourages the community to, according to Grier, "give us a call if you think you qualify, and we can set up an appointment to become a patient."

\$2.58 million awarded to ABC Project's rural arts education

ABC Project partners with Allendale County School District for the CARE Project

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The Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) Project, a 35-year effort between Winthrop University, the South Carolina Arts Commission and the South Carolina Department of Education, will begin a five-year case study with the Allendale County School District to research how to improve arts education in rural communities, according to a press release.

A \$2.58 million Assistance in Arts Education grant funded by the U.S. Department of Education was awarded to the ABC project, to be put towards the Community Access to the Arts in Rural Education (CARE) Project, its study and resulting guidebook.

The project, which will begin in 2021, will include several state and local partnerships to develop ongoing approaches, which organizers hope will last even beyond the 2026 grant completion date.

"Rural communities require a rural network of partnerships be-

cause of their lack of resources, and the CARE Project will align, strengthen and expand community partnerships among the Allendale schools with state and local partners," ABC Project Director Kim Wilson said.

Superintendent of the Allendale County School District Margaret Gilmore said her district is excited and grateful to have been awarded the arts grant for the students of Allendale County School District.

"This funding opportunity will certainly provide access to a sustainable arts-rich learning environment for the entire school community," she said.

Director of Community Arts Development at The South Carolina Arts Commission Susan DuPlessis said she is also excited about the project.

"After many years of working in Allendale County, it's clear that there are many people who love and care about their community and the next generation," DuP-



Photo courtesy of ABC Project

Students working on an art project.

lessis said. "We are excited about ways to engage the community as this study and new practices are developed."

In communities with high rates of poverty, access to the arts can be difficult due to rural schools' financial constraints, but access to the arts helps student engagement, and there is hope for fostering the arts in all of South Carolina's communities, Wilson said.

The goal of the CARE Project is to develop and distribute a guidebook based on the experiences of Allendale County School District to help other rural communities of persistent poverty to improve access to arts education.

"There is an urgent need to research and serve these communities, which have been continually absent from research and policy discussions, yet represent the most extreme gaps in equitable educa-

tion," Wilson said.

South Carolina has a higher percentage of schools in rural communities than the national average, and 12 of the state's 46 counties suffer from persistent poverty, meaning poverty rates have exceeded 20% of the population for more than 30 years, according to Wilson.

The CARE Project plans to provide arts education programs and professional development for arts educators, teachers and principals to support arts-rich learning.

The guidebook will contain instructional materials, lesson plans and other resources to engage groups in other rural communities to replicate the process researched during the CARE Project in Allendale.

This article is a reflection of a press release from The Arts in Basic Curriculum Project.

This week in American politics



Pixabay

Pfizer Coronavirus vaccine is now available for children between 5-11

TAYLOR SALLENGER,
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Biden and other global leaders are planning on signing a global tax deal which will include a 15% tax minimum that applies to multinational corporations who earn more than \$867 million a year. This will keep corporations from being able to set up in "tax havens," or countries with lower taxes. Enacting this in America may prove to be difficult due to the resistance from Republicans in Congress.

The F.D.A. has officially cleared the Pfizer coronavirus vaccine for children in the 5-11 age range. The Pfizer vaccine becomes the first coronavirus vaccine available to this age group, allowing about 28 million children to be eligible for the vaccine if their parents choose to vaccinate them. While children are less likely to contract a severe case of the coronavirus, they are still susceptible

for long term health conditions if the virus is contracted.

The Supreme Court declined to block a health care employee vaccine mandate in Maine. The group who requested this block is made up of unvaccinated employees stating the mandate violated their "religious liberty rights." Maine, however, does not offer religious exemptions for vaccinations, only medical.

Biden appointed Sara Minkara as U.S. Special Advisor on International Disability Rights Day. Minkara, who lost her eyesight at age 7 and has a history of advising on disability issues, will work in the State Department and was tasked with leading the U.S. strategy of promoting and protecting the rights of those with disabilities. This position was created during the Obama administration, but left empty during the Trump Administration.



A professional headshot of Marilyn Martin from a few years ago.

Courtesy of Marilyn Martin

Alumni Spotlight: Marilyn Martin

SAM HYATT, staff writer

Marilyn Martin earned her undergraduate degree in business administration with a concentration in health administration in 2000 and then earned her Master of Business Administration in 2003;

both degrees were earned at Winthrop University.

“My college experience was absolutely amazing,” Martin said. “My favorite events were the cultural events and homecoming. Some of my favorite memories were having dinner with friends in the Café

and hanging out in West Thomson.”

Martin explained that her absolute favorite memory was attending the Million Woman March with other African American students in 1997.

As a student, Martin was extremely active in clubs and organizations. She

was a senator and later the treasurer for the Student Government Association, now known as the Council of Student Leaders.

Martin was also a Winthrop Ambassador, a member and the president of the American College of Healthcare Executives, a member of

the Xi Beta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and was on the College of Business Administration Dean’s Advisory Board.

Although Martin enjoyed her time as a student, her only regret is that she did not participate in the study abroad

see [Spotlight](#) pg. 6

A preview of ‘A Night of Musical Theatre’

Winthrop’s upcoming musical event is an opera performance sure to wow audiences

JADA STRONG, staff writer

On Monday, Nov. 8 at 7:30 p.m. Winthrop Opera Theatre is presenting “A Night of Musical Theatre,” a music concert showcasing several of Winthrop’s talented vocalists, in Barnes Recital Hall, located in the Conservatory of Music.

This event is directed by associate professor of music Jeffrey McEvoy. Admission is free and will count as a cultural event credit for students who are interested.

Colleen Guseman, a senior vocal performance major, is one of the 10 students performing at the upcoming event.

“We’re doing a musical theatre, kind of a cabaret-style event,” Guseman said. “We’ll all be singing different songs from musical theatre shows, and the official opera of ‘Hansel and Gretel’ will be held in February.”

Guseman will be performing two

songs for the opera concert.

“I’m going to be singing ‘When I Look at You’ from the musical ‘The Scarlet Pimpernel,’” Guseman said.

“And I’m going to be singing ‘Don’t Rain on My Parade’ from the musical ‘Funny Girl.’” Each student was able to have some say in the songs that they wanted to sing for this event.

“The first one from ‘The Scarlet Pimpernel,’ it was just assigned to me from my voice teacher,” Guseman said. “It seemed best for me because of my vocal repertoire, because of where it sits in my voice. It’ll challenge me. And I chose the second song because I just love Barbra Streisand, and I just idolize her and everything she does.”

Another senior and performer, Lauren Pace, is also ready for the showcase.

“I’m doing ‘Vanilla Ice Cream,’ from ‘She Loves Me’ and ‘And This



Jada Strong / The Johnsonian

The performance will take place in Barnes recital hall in Byrnes Auditorium.

is My Beloved’ from ‘Kismet,’” Pace said. “I was a big musical theatre fan before I got to Winthrop, then I got here and realized I really enjoyed opera music, and the pieces I’m singing are more legit rather than me screaming the whole time; it feels a lot more fun.”

Senior and musical performer, Sarah Ochoa, is singing two songs for the event as well.

“I’m singing ‘Waitin’ for My Dearie’ from ‘Brigadoon,’ and I’m also singing ‘I Could Have Danced All Night,’ from ‘My Fair Lady,’” Ochoa said. “I chose my pieces because they were required for my class, so I was assigned these pieces, but I also really like how they fit in my voice

because I’m so used to singing classical pieces, but they’re not super belty.”

“Being a music major or in the arts, in general, comes with hardships,” Ochoa said. “It is something that we all really love, and we want to do, but it can get rough, it can be a huge burn-out...but at the end of the day, you’ll realize that it’s something you’ll always love, and it’s worth it, it’ll give you a lot of opportunities.”

According to these performers, it’s all about balance when it comes to the performing arts.

“As a music major, the biggest thing I’ve learned is that you have to separate work from your social life,” Pace said. “If you’re a singer, sing the song you want to sing when you’re

not in school or in class. Having the separation and understanding that it’s merging the two but also having some distance.”

Winthrop has a big performing arts program that has allowed students to find their place on campus.

“I definitely like being a part of the music program here specifically because it’s given me the opportunity to make friends who have similar interests and I see on the daily,” Guseman said. “I’ve been able to form deeper bonds with people since we have this shared experience. And it’s great to see each other on this journey as well.”

“A Night Of Musical Theatre” will be performed on Nov. 8 at 7:30 p.m.

Calendar of events for the first half of November 2021

Winthrop University has numerous exciting events between now and Nov. 16

DAVID BOTZER, botzerd@mytjnow.com

Ongoing
“Art Education Exhibition”
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. 3
“Fissures (lost and found)”
Theatre Performance (Cultural Event)
Runs until Nov. 6, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Nov. 7 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Johnson Studio Theatre

Nov. 8
“Arabic Canvas Set-Up”
Tabling
12 p.m. to 1 p.m.
Scholars Walk

Nov. 9
“Amelie’s French Bakery & Cafe”
Tabling
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
DiGiorgio Campus Center Main Lobby

Nov. 10
“Stereotypes out”
Lecture
7 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Dina’s Place

Nov. 11
“Winthrop Dance Theatre”
Dance Performance (Cultural Event)
Running until Nov. 13, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Nov. 14 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Johnson Theatre

Nov. 12
“College of Arts & Sciences Encore Lecture Series”
12 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Dina’s Place

“The Best Friend Game”
Special Event
7 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Dina’s Place

November 3, 2021

Crew member killed in prop gun misfiring on the set of 'Rust'

Cinematographer Halyna Hutchins, 42, was fatally shot by Alec Baldwin, lead actor of the movie 'Rust'

MARSHALL KURIAKOSE,
staff writer

On Oct. 21, in Bonanza City, New Mexico, cinematographer Halyna Hutchins, 42, was fatally shot, and director Joel Souza, 48, badly injured after actor Alec Baldwin discharged a firearm prop during rehearsals.

The prop was handed to Baldwin by assistant director Dave Halls, who, according to Souza, shouted "cold gun" to indicate that it was unloaded before giving it to Baldwin.

The incident is currently being investigated by the Santa Fe County Sheriff's Office,

New Mexico First Judicial District Attorney Mary Carmack-Altwies and the New Mexico Occupational Health and Safety Bureau. The production of the movie has been halted indefinitely.

According to Carmack-Altwies, criminal charges have not been ruled out of the case. A third search warrant affidavit filed Wednesday, Oct. 27, revealed that Halls admitted that he "should have checked" all the rounds inside the barrel of the gun but didn't.

The production's armorer Hannah

Gutierrez-Reed showed Halls the gun before re-summing rehearsal, where he recounted seeing three rounds in the chamber and that the prop vehicle holding all of the firearms on set had ammo left unsecured on a cart.

There has been a lot of controversy surrounding this situation, with some, such as Donald Trump Jr., using it for political reasons by selling t-shirts that say "guns don't kill people, Alec Baldwin kills people."

Meanwhile, others, such as prop maker Maggie Goll,

have called for the industry to improve occupational safety and remove the use of real guns as props.

In addition, Halls has been subjected to strong criticism due to failing to properly check the prop before handing it off as an unloaded firearm. After all, this is not the first time Halls has gotten in trouble for mishandling props.

He was fired off the set of the 2019 movie "Freedom's Path" after a crew member was injured as a result of a prop gun discharging with live ammu-

tion.

Goll, who worked with Halls on the set of Hulu's "Into the Dark," claims that Halls did not maintain a safe working environment, with sets "almost always allowed to become increasingly claustrophobic, no established fire lanes, exits blocked. ... Safety meetings were nonexistent," she told NBC News.

She also claims that Halls neglected to inform the crew prior to filming that there was a live firearm on set, which has called into question Halls' participa-

tion in this tragic event. However, the investigative team leading this case has yet to arrest or charge anyone in the shooting.

Halls released a statement to the New York Post on Monday.

"I'm shocked and saddened by [Halyna Hutchins's] death," he said in the statement. "It's my hope that this tragedy prompts the industry to reevaluate its values and practices to ensure no one is harmed through the creative process again."



Hutchins Flickr

A review of 'Axiom's End'

How would we handle our first encounter?

EMILY CURRY,
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Lindsay Ellis's novel "Axiom's End" takes science fiction to a whole new level. In her novel, Ellis tells the story of a first encounter that leads to a deep emotional bond between human and alien, but she also explores the many implications of a first encounter.

One of the more interesting aspects of this novel is that despite being published in 2020, Ellis chose the year 2007 for her setting. This year fell under the presidential administration of George W. Bush. The events of 9/11 were still fresh in everyone's minds. In another year, the economy would crumble. All of these elements help shape the story and influence many of the protagonist's decisions.

The main character and protagonist of "Axiom's End" is Cora Sabino, a college dropout in her early twenties. Cora's estranged father, Nils Ortega, is a popular conspiracist who has

just blown the whistle on a government operation to cover up a first contact with an alien species in 1971.

Cora quickly finds herself in the middle of it when she herself makes contact with an alien. The alien takes Cora as a hostage and gives her an implant that allows them to communicate through thoughts and allows him to control her.

However, Cora finds herself sympathizing with the alien, who she nicknames Ampersand after the codename given to Ampersand's arrival on Earth by the government. She learns that Ampersand was sent to find the aliens who initially arrived on Earth.

These aliens, called the Fremda group, have been held by the U.S. government for over three decades since their arrival in an attempt to study and communicate with them, to no avail.

Cora convinces Ampersand to turn themselves in. As

the only one who can clearly communicate with the alien, she knows she is an asset to the government. In exchange for her service, she'll make sure Ampersand is allowed to see the Fremda group.

Cora contacts her father's sister, Luciana, who she has suspected of being more involved with the government's first encounter than she's been told. Luciana admits that she was part of the team trying to communicate with the Fremda group.

One of Nils Ortega's beliefs is that truth, a core theme, is a human right. As more information is revealed to the public as to what extent they have been lied to, the U.S. government faces very serious consequences. President Bush resigns in order to avoid impeachment. Although "Axiom's End" is a work of fiction, the scenarios that occur are too easy to imagine if a similar secret was exposed.

"Axiom's End" is

a really fantastic and intriguing read. It's certainly a book that will make its readers think not only about what it might be like to encounter an alien species, but also what it means to be human.

"I hope to see more plants like this in the future," Grubbs said. "As for now, while we are waiting for better technology at cheaper prices, we can help remove carbon dioxide from the air by the use of the natural process for removing the carbon, which is photosynthesis."

"We can grow more plants or keep a couple of house plants such as pothos, aloe vera, spider plants and many more. They are beautiful, easy to take care of, absorb harmful substances and break down some pollutants inside our homes."

continue **ALUMNI** from pg. 5

regret is that she did not participate in the study abroad program and advised that students study abroad if they can during their time at Winthrop. "The best advice I would give to current Winthrop students is to enjoy the college experience," Martin said. "Get to know people and make acquaintances outside of your primary 'friend' circle."

"For those getting ready to graduate, I would say start transitioning at the end of your junior year or the beginning of your senior year."

After graduating, Martin was able to solidify a place to live and a job with the help of her mother and a sorority sister.

"If I could have done anything differently, I would have had a roommate for two to three years and kept the car I had in college rather than purchasing a new one simply because I could," Martin said.

Martin currently works as the program chair of the Office Administration and Medical Office Administration certificate programs at Central Piedmont Community College.

Just as Martin was active within the

clubs and organizations that Winthrop offered, she is also an active alumna.

"In the College of Business Administration, I have been a guest speaker, presented at the Student Professional Development Conference and have been an alumni mentor, specifically for Health Administration students," Martin said.

Additionally, she has served as a member of the Winthrop University Alumni Executive Board and is currently the affinity group liaison for Sorors Initiated Through Xi Beta.

Students and faculty are always excited to have the opportunity to learn from the alumni who came before them. Thankfully, Martin has found that pouring into current Winthrop students is important and necessary for their education. The Winthrop community hopes that Martin will remain active as a Winthrop alumna.

"My time at Winthrop has totally helped mold my life as it is and has prepared me for numerous roles and opportunities," Martin said. "I would not change anything."

Apple now most profitable gaming company

The company profited more from mobile gaming in 2019 than Nintendo, Sony and Microsoft combined

SPENCER HORTON,
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Even though Apple made no mobile games of its own, the company made \$8.5 billion in 2019, according to The Wall Street Journal, and many are wondering if the future of gaming lies more in mobile than on console.

Though Apple has disputed this figure, saying that it's inaccurate and too high, most still agree that the profits that the company generates far outweigh other companies, and this comes from the cut that they get from mobile game purchases.

With every purchase from the App Store, Apple takes a 30% cut. This cut, combined with the large amount of Apple products in circulation that use the App Store, such as the iPhones, iPads and MacBooks, lead to huge profits.

Over the past four

years, Nintendo has sold around 90 million Switches, while Apple sold 196.9 million iPhones just in 2020.

Even many companies that primarily deal with console gaming recognize this market and produce mobile games themselves.

Nintendo has found great success in the mobile market with games like "Pokémon GO" and "Super Mario Run." Bethesda has also had hits with "Fallout Shelter" and "The Elder Scrolls: Blades."

In 2015, Konami Digital Entertainment CEO Hideki Hayakawa announced that the company would be shifting its model to focus primarily on mobile gaming.

"Gaming has spread to a number of platforms, but at the end of the day, the platform that is

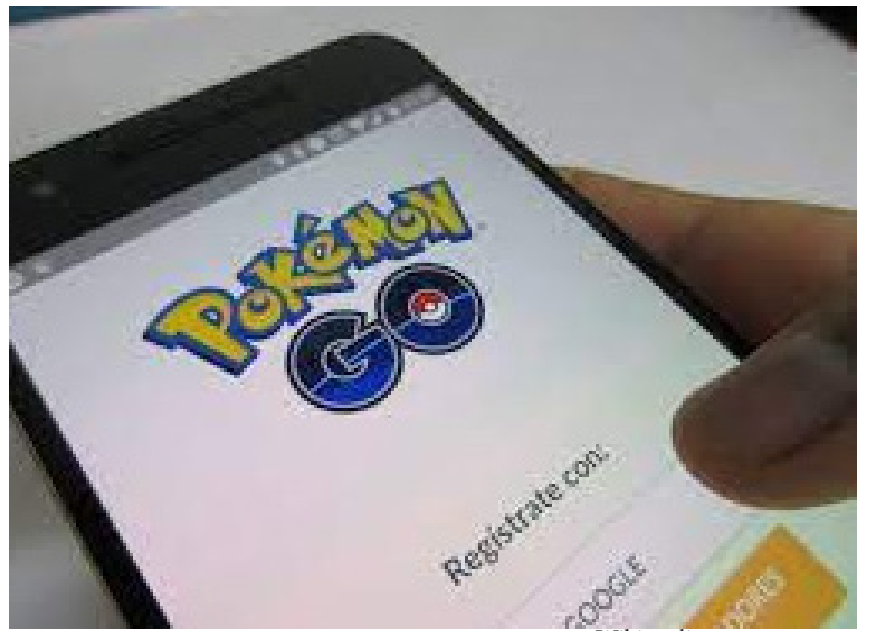
always closest to us, is mobile. Mobile is where the future of gaming lies," Hayakawa told Nikkei, as translated by a user on gaming forum NeoGAF.

There has even been a recent trend of games that were first made for console getting popular mobile versions such as "Fortnite," "PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds" and "Minecraft."

"Fortnite" developer Epic Games has actually challenged Apple when it comes to profits.

In August 2020, the company filed a lawsuit against Apple, claiming that it held a monopoly over how software is sold on its devices by forcing developers to use the App Store.

"Fortnite" is a free-to-play game and needs in-app purchases to make a profit, and Epic



Wikimedia

Games saw Apple's 30% cut as unfair.

The trial took place in May 2021. Apple argued that its system was similar to ones used by other companies like Microsoft and Google.

U.S. District Judge Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers mostly agreed with Apple but ordered that developers should be allowed to inform users of alternative ways to pay inside

the app that would circumvent the 30% cut.

A study released in 2018 by Electronic Entertainment Design and Research found that mobile devices are the most popular gaming platform, according to Variety — with 90% of Americans who play video games on at least one type of device playing on their smartphones, tablets or both.

"I don't really play a lot of mobile games," said Kyle Cawthon, a senior accounting major. "I play 'Pokémon GO' mostly, and '2048' when I'm waiting somewhere to kill time."

"I do play mobile games," said Taylor James, a senior mass communication. "I play games like 'Gardenscapes' and 'Voxel Land.'"

A graphic advertisement with a teal background and a white border. The text is white and reads: "Interested in writing a volunteer column for the Opinion section?" Below this, it says "Email Autumn Hawkins at: hawkinsa@mytjnow.com". The background of the graphic is a repeating pattern of small, colorful icons of books and papers.

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Kish shares insight into NIL deals for Winthrop student-athletes

Says roughly 25 student-athletes have signed deals

MATTHEW SHEALY,
shealym@mytjnow.com

Since the NCAA's ruling this summer to allow student-athletes to sign name, image and likeness (NIL) deals, Winthrop Athletics has seen many of its student-athletes ink their own deals.

"We have about 25 deals that our student-athletes have garnered all on their own," said interim athletic director Kelley Kish.

Kish spoke at the meeting for Winthrop's Board of Trustees Committee on External Engagement and Athletics on Thursday.

"The most common is social media endorsements," Kish said. "Our student-athletes will post about it

(the company they are representing) — some of them even have discount codes."

According to Kish, national trends show that football players have boasted the most NIL deals since deals have been allowed (July 1), followed by volleyball players, though she noted this is likely due to the sports being in-season. Rankings after those two sports include men's basketball, women's soccer and women's basketball.

As for Winthrop, Kish said the most deals have been signed by members of the golf teams, followed closely by members of the soccer teams. She said baseball and lacrosse "have a handful."

"We actually only

have one on each of our basketball teams," Kish said.

She said most student-athletes at Winthrop are receiving other forms of payment outside of money.

"There's very few of our student-athletes making just dollars from this," Kish said. "Most of them are making product and even a percentage of what might be sales using their link or their code."

While the majority of deals signed by Winthrop student-athletes have been related to social media, Kish did say there have been others.

"Outside of social media, we have just a few that are doing a commercial and then one that's doing private lessons and monetizing their name that way," she said.

Kish said in most cases at Winthrop, the student-athlete's social media presence and sheer following are what scored them a NIL deal, as opposed to their athletic ability. She also said that in many instances, the student-athlete is the one to initiate conversations with a company.

"It's them reaching out. It's not necessarily the companies finding our

student-athletes," Kish said.

Kish said there is a process and a requirement for student-athletes and the company they partner with to notify the athletic department in advance of payment.

Kish said oversight of NIL deals will soon be the responsibility of an individual (the "NIL contact") within Winthrop Athletics once the department fills some of its vacancies.

"That'll probably be about 25% of their job duties because right now we're fielding questions from our student-athletes

left and right about what they can do. They want to stay within the guidelines — within the NCAA guidelines and within our institutional guidelines."

Kish said student-athletes are a separate entity from Winthrop Athletics, and therefore, the athletic department cannot be held responsible for any implications (such as taxes) the student-athlete does not take into account. She said the department has educated its student-athletes on their NIL responsibilities and will continue to do so.



Interim AD Kelley Kish spoke at the Board of Trustees meeting on Thursday about developments in Winthrop Athletics.

Olivia Esselman/The Johnsonian

Winthrop men's soccer clinches spot in postseason

Eagles erase two-goal deficit in final five minutes to earn 3-2 win in OT

MATTHEW SHEALY,
shealym@mytjnow.com

The Winthrop men's soccer team earned a 3-2 victory in overtime Saturday night, securing a spot in the Big South Conference Tournament.

The Eagles got off to a bad start, carelessly turning the ball over and giving up a goal to Radford less than 30 seconds into the match.

Nearing the 12th

minute, Radford was awarded a free kick and scored again to take a 2-0 lead.

"Our guys didn't stop fighting," said head coach Daniel Ridenhour. "We dug down, and we stayed positive, and we kept knocking on the door."

Ridenhour said he felt like Winthrop was "probably unlucky not to get a couple of goals" in the first half. The Eagles had seven

shot attempts in the first half — three of which were saved, two of which were blocked, and two that missed wide.

Winthrop's seven first-half shots outnumbered Radford's three, and Winthrop remained more dominant during the second half, outshooting the Highlanders 14 to five.

Despite the lopsided shot attempts, Winthrop still trailed Radford 2-0

with five minutes left in regulation.

In the 86th minute, Winthrop earned a penalty kick, and sophomore Bryant Jimenez-Pearce converted to give the Eagles new life.

With 19 seconds to go, Radford's Juan Benavides was issued a red card, giving Winthrop possession with one less player to get past.

The Eagles kicked the ball upfield and into the box as the final ten seconds began to tick off the clock. Players from both teams made contact with the ball before freshman Brigham Larsen located the ball and drilled it into the back of the net with just three seconds to spare, tying the game at 2-2 and forcing extra time.

After no team scored in the first ten-minute overtime period, Win-

throp obtained possession of the ball quickly to start the second overtime. Chasing down a pass sent in front of him, Winthrop's Larsen collided with the Radford goalie.

The goalie, Joseba Incera, had come off his line and out of the box, warranting a red card. Radford subsequently substituted a backup goalie (Joseph England) in for one of their other players.

England produced a save on the free kick that was rewarded from the previous play, but the deflection gave Winthrop a corner kick.

Winthrop's first corner did not lead to a score, but the Eagles earned more corner kicks. On the third attempt from the corner, Winthrop's Jimenez-Pearce curled the ball over the crowd-

ed box, netting the golden goal from the corner.

"If you weren't at Eagle Field tonight, you missed an absolutely great match," Ridenhour said.

Those students and fans who were in attendance (and did not leave early) not only witnessed a miraculous comeback, but they also got to participate in a top-notch celebration. After scoring, Jimenez-Pearce sprinted to the home sideline, leaping right in front of the crowd that stayed to see the Eagles through.

The Eagles play their final regular season game Wednesday at Gardner-Webb. Winthrop is slated to finish in either third or fourth in the conference standings, meaning the Eagles will host a Big South quarterfinal match on Sunday.



Matthew Shealy/The Johnsonian

Winthrop's Bryant Jimenez-Pearce (bottom left) was surrounded by teammates after netting the game-winning goal in the 102nd minute.

COMING SOON:

FRIDAY
VB
@
CHARLESTON SOUTHERN
(6 P.M.)

SATURDAY
VB
@
PRESBYTERIAN
(2 P.M.)

SUNDAY
MSOC
HOSTS
BIG SOUTH QUARTERFINAL
(TBD)

TUESDAY
MBB
VS.
MARY BALDWIN
(6 P.M.)

TUESDAY
WBB
@
DUKE
(7 P.M.)



Remembering Bert Black

Winthrop Baseball superfan passes away

SAM HYATT,
Staff Writer

The Winthrop community is mourning the loss of one of Winthrop Baseball's biggest fans, Bert Black, following his death on Oct. 15 from COVID-19.

Black spent much of his time around the Winthrop baseball field talking with the coaches and players, watching the games and practices, and loved chasing down foul balls.

"Bert was a true hustler," said Scout McFalls, a former Winthrop baseball player. "He would chase down every foul ball hit out of the stadium so that he could sell the balls to people. No kid wanting a foul ball at the ballpark [had] a chance because Bert was there before anyone."

In addition to chasing down foul balls, Black would come to practices, summer camps, and summer tournaments because he loved to be involved with baseball and Winthrop's pro-

gram.

Winthrop's Director of Baseball Operations, Eddie Hill, explained that he had been friends with Black for many years. Their friendship started during Hill's time as head baseball coach at Rock Hill High School.

"There stood this young man with a big smile on his face wanting to help," Hill said. "I was not sure what he wanted to do, but when a foul ball occurred, he was fast to get it back, and the games went smoother when he was around. It seemed that he was a part of the team. The players would always ask about him."

After Hill began working at Winthrop, he would always see Black eating a meal at the picnic table, getting ready to chase down the foul balls.

"He would bring his friends David and Will to the games. He cared about them a lot and made sure they would get a hat or t-shirt to wear," Hill said.

"It was tough to hear that he lost his battle with COVID," Hill said. "He's a special angel and in heaven chasing foul balls for the Lord's angels."

Garrett Gainey, a pitcher for the Winthrop baseball team, was impacted by the love of baseball Black expressed.

"I actually got to see Bert a lot being a pitcher for Winthrop," Gainey said. "Bert parked right behind the pitchers' bullpen, and it was always great to see Bert every gameday walk through the gates with that infectious smile. He enjoyed the game of baseball so much, which made me appreciate him and the game that much more."

Before games, the team would get good luck from Black, and he was always excited to be close with the team.

"We appreciated him for loving the team the way he did," Gainey said.

Head baseball coach Tom Riginos described Black as "a breath of fresh air and a happy-go-



Courtesy of Tom Riginos via Twitter

Black (left) got to know many of the players, including McFalls (right), when he would spend time at Winthrop Ballpark.

lucky guy."

Riginos and Black met in 2010 when Riginos started working as head baseball coach at Winthrop. Since then, the two would always talk in the press box about baseball and trains.

"He was a train guy," Riginos said. "He loved everything about trains and could tell you anything about them."

When the baseball season begins, Riginos plans to have stickers placed on the back of the players' helmets that display the initials of Bert Black.

"Everyone at the ballpark loved Bert and the spirit he brought forth," McFalls said. "Winthrop family is all we knew him as."

STUDENT MEDIA POLL



The Student Media Poll was founded in 2021 by Indiana University student Patrick Felts. Students from collegiate media outlets across the country submit their votes weekly, including The Johnsonian sports editor Matthew Shealy and Winthrop's own Michael Covil.

Preseason Poll

Matthew's picks

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

Michael's picks

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

Winthrop Volleyball wins twice

Eagles earn two conference wins



Marley Bassett/The Johnsonian

Winthrop's Lily Leistiko (No. 19) and Colleen Siebold (No. 15) go up to block UNC Asheville at the net on Friday.

MARLEY BASSETT,
Staff Writer

After losing four of its last six games, the Winthrop volleyball team was hungry for a win — and it got that win twice this weekend.

The team beat both UNC Asheville on Friday and USC Upstate on Saturday. Both games were won 3-0.

"The wins this weekend were really encouraging for the team," Bossler

said. "We've had a difficult last couple of weeks, so for us to start the second half of conference in such a dominant fashion is a huge confidence boost for us as we wrap up the regular season."

Winthrop dominated the court with an advantage held in every set on Friday. The Eagles beat UNC Asheville 25-19 in the first set, 25-14 in the second and 25-12 in the third. For kills,

Morgan Bossler led with 16 and was followed by Nikkia Benitez, who had 14.

Benitez also had the most aces with two. Jana Owens had the most assists with 42 and the most digs with 18 total during the game.

Owens was followed by Alayna Jansky, who had 13 digs. Jansky also had the second most assists with two.

Winthrop looked to continue their winning streak from Friday into Saturday when the Eagles hosted USC Upstate. They beat USC Upstate winning three sets to zero.

Once again, the Eagles had domination over the volleyball court, continuing their advantage in every set. They won the first set 25-19, the second 25-18 and the third 25-8.

Benitez led with kills, having 12 during the game. She was followed closely by Karli Shepherd, who had 11 kills.

Shepherd also led the count for aces during the game, totaling three, and she was followed by Madison Gorniak, who had two. Owens once again had the most assists and digs with 32 assists and 13 digs throughout the game. She was followed by Jansky in both. Jansky had

four assists and 12 digs total.

Winthrop recorded 61 points during three sets. The team led in all other categories having 45 kills, seven aces, nine blocks, 39 assists and 62 digs.

The team was encouraged by the two wins.

"I'm super proud of my team for our performance this weekend," Shepherd said. "We all knew these two games were super important and we played our roles very well."

Shepherd, who earned Big South Freshman of the Week honors on Monday, said each person playing their role was key.

"I also think that every person on our team played an important role

in our success this weekend," Shepherd said. "Whether someone was on or off the court, they were always fulfilling their role as a great teammate."

The team also celebrated senior weekend.

"It was our senior weekend, so it was great to get back-to-back home wins," said sophomore Isabel Schaeffbauer.

This year's seniors are Nikkia Benitez, Morgan Bossler, Colleen Siebold, Lily Leistiko, Camila Gomez, and Jana Owens.

Winthrop's next match is Friday at Charleston Southern University, and the team's next home game is Nov. 10 at 6 p.m. against Gardner-Webb University.

WINTHROP MADLIBS!

Story: Friends

College life! You do _____(activity) and get to be free out all on your own. I have made many friends like _____(name) and _____(other name)! They are my besties! Sometimes we like to go to _____(place) to play _____(game)! It is a roller coaster with us, though. Sometimes we just lie down and listen to _____(music artist) so so so so much! We'll be going to their concert soon! There is sometimes some drama between us... I heard that one of my friends may like _____(Youtuber) and I think they are so not cool! Instead I tell them to watch _____(favorite Youtuber) so we can watch more of them together. My friends and I invest so many hours into watching _____(TV show) it is not even funny. Maybe we should try to _____(hobby) instead so that we have something productive to do while we hang out... I don't know! I love my friends! They are my BEST FRIENDS 4EVER !!!!

Do this madlib with your roommate or a couple of people you hang out with on campus and make sure to tag us with our social media accounts displayed here!

**SHARE YOUR RESULTS ON
SOCIAL MEDIA! BE SURE TO TAG US!**

Somewhere in Antarctica

Here are our
comics from
October!



Mariana Beltran/The Johnsonian



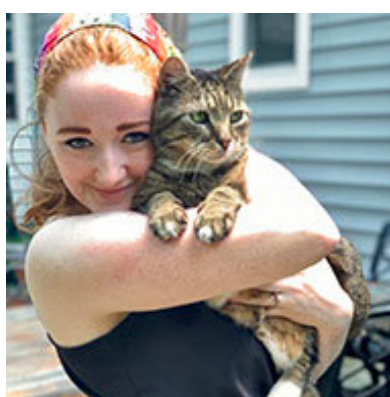
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MEET THE STAFF

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.



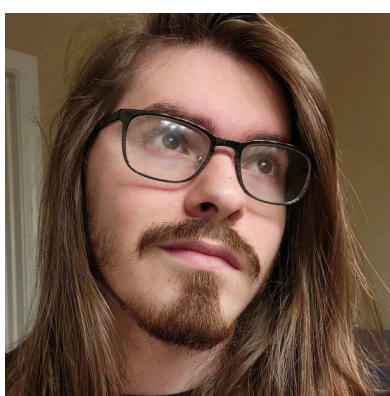
Mari Pressley

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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