

'Intrudeer' in West Center: Fawn breaks through glass door for a swim

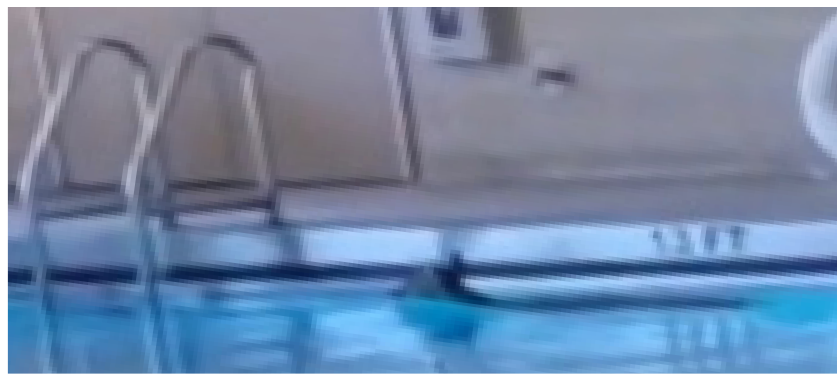


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Deer broke through West Center glass door

Gabe Corbin/The Johnsonian



Deer swimming in West Center pool

Photo courtesy of WU student Isaac Pelletier



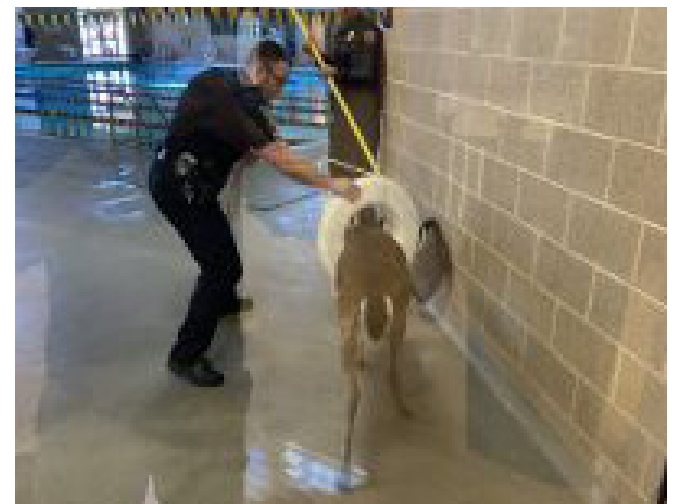
Deer at poolside after swim

Mari Pressley/The Johnsonian



Deer now out of pool, standing wet by door

Chase Duncan/The Johnsonian



RH police officer placing life saver on deer

Chase Duncan/The Johnsonian



RHPD officers holding West Center doors for deer

Ryan Lumbert/The Johnsonian



Deer being escorted out of West Center

Chase Duncan/The Johnsonian



Deer set free

Chase Duncan/The Johnsonian

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A deer broke through a glass door in the West Center late Saturday morning and took a dive into the 25-yard pool. Law enforcement and animal control officials pulled the fawn out of the pool and guided it out of the building using life floats and pool cleaning poles.

West Center employee Aaliyah Mitchell said she and other students were in the lobby when they heard glass breaking and splashing in the unattended pool. "Usually, it's really quiet on a Saturday,

and we suddenly heard two big splashes," Mitchell said. "No one is supposed to be in the pool without a lifeguard on duty, and we turn our heads to the left, and we see a deer at our window. And then we hear him in our pool, just swimming around for a while. We had to call WUPO and my supervisor to get it out of the pool."

Law enforcement and animal control officials arrived shortly after and found the deer struggling to get out of the pool. Police officers first used safety hooks to pull the deer out with limited success

but eventually pulled the tired animal out of the pool. The deer was steered around the perimeter of the pool with nearby objects and headbutted walls and doors as it exited. It ran off through the adjacent parking lot and away from the building. "At first, I thought it was cute and was just enjoying its life," said witness and Winthrop student Josh Wright. "But then it started struggling, and I was like, 'Oh gosh, oh no!' It took like thirty minutes, but they eventually got him out." Police officers said they do not have any

insight on where the deer came from or why it broke through the glass. One possible explanation is that the deer might have been infected with epizootic hemorrhagic disease (EHD), a midge-spread virus that causes deer to suddenly "lose their appetite and fear of humans, grow progressively weaker, ... and fever (affected animals frequent bodies of water to lie in to reduce their body temperature)," according to the Department of Natural Resources. English professor Amanda Stewart said that it was not the first

time deer have wandered onto Winthrop's campus and into buildings and that a lost buck once broke into Tillman. "This would have been between 2005-2007, based on where my office was located at the time (in what is now the Records & Registration suite on the 1st floor of Tillman)," Stewart said. "One morning, we came in to find blood on the carpet on the first floor – lots of it. A deer had jumped through a plate glass window in the breezeway between Tillman and McBryde and run through Till-

man. "Our facilities colleagues were able to catch it and make sure that its wounds were superficial – but it was very startling to arrive on an early morning to all that blood in the hallway." Director of Recreational Services and West Center Operations Grant Scurrey said the West Center pool will be closed until further notice and that Recreation Services will "follow DHEC guidelines regarding next steps." The glass panel broken by the deer has been boarded up.

Edward Serna now 12th president of Winthrop University

Serna's first day on the job will be July 1, Serna family to reside in President's House on campus

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Current president of the University of Maine at Farmington, Edward A. Serna, will serve as the 12th president of Winthrop University by the unanimous vote of the university's board of trustees. The Board of Trustees gathered in the Evans Room of the DiGorgio Campus center on Feb. 18 to vote in the 12th president. Several members of the Board attended in person, including Board Chair Glenn McCall, Vice Chair Kathy Bigham, and Seat 13 Jane LaRoche. Serna attended the event virtually through

Zoom alongside his family and accepted the Board's nomination. "It is my honor as a proud Winthrop alumni to accept your amazing offer," Serna said to the Board. Serna and his family will officially join the Winthrop community on July 1st and reside in the President's House on the Winthrop campus. Serna is currently serving out the end of his term as 15th president of the University of Maine at Farmington, where he has "led the institution through a comprehensive, year-long strategic planning exercise that focused on addressing

the significant internal and external challenges driving an erosion in enrollment," according to his letter of interest and curriculum vitae. Prior to serving as president of the University of Maine at Farmington, Serna worked in the private sector as a management consultant and served as Interim Chancellor of the University of Arkansas. Serna also has experience teaching management consulting and computer science courses. After graduating and receiving a Bachelor of Science in business administration from Winthrop, Serna went

on to receive a master's in management information systems from Auburn University, as well as a Master of Science in industrial management from Clemson University. He then received a doctorate of education in higher education from the University of Alabama. Current Interim President of Winthrop University George W. Hynd, who was appointed to the position by the Board of Trustees on January 31, 2020, said that he and his family are looking forward to welcoming him in person, according to news and media

services manager Judy Longshaw. "We are looking very forward to welcoming our new President and First Lady to campus as we know they will fall in love with Winthrop just as we have," Hynd said. "I am very excited for the Winthrop community as I am sure that Dr. Serna will bring the energy and vision to take the university in new and exciting directions." Council of Student Leaders Chair Erin Emiroglu said that she worked with the Presidential Search Committee in bringing student input to the Board of Trustees and called

the decision "truly representative of what students wanted." "He was a favorite across the board, so I'm very excited for him to get here and be able to work with students like he said he wanted to," Emiroglu said.



Photo courtesy of Winthrop University
Serna

Graphic courtesy of Cooper Beck



This Week in American Politics

A weekly roundup of American political news

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scheduled at this time.

Classified documents were recovered among former President Donald Trump's possessions at his Mar-a-Lago home. The National Archives confirmed that the former president took classified documents with him when he left the White House. Last month, 15 boxes were retrieved with documents Trump took when he left office. Some of these boxes included classified documents containing national security information. It is unclear yet whether the Department of Justice will take action against Trump for the mishandling of classified documents.

Biden plans to extend the national emergency for the COVID-19 pandemic, which was previously set to expire March 1. On Friday, Biden alerted Congress of his plans for an extension of the declaration. "The COVID-19 pandemic continues to cause significant risk to the public health and safety of the nation," Biden said, when citing his reason for the decision. More than 78 million people in the U.S. have now been infected with COVID-19.

Tensions continue to grow between the U.S. and Russia as Russia continues to threaten an invasion of Ukraine. On Friday, President Joe Biden revealed that U.S. intelligence shows that Russian President Vladimir Putin has made a final decision to reject diplomacy and invade Ukraine. It is believed that the first target in a potential invasion will be Ukraine's capital city, Kyiv. Biden currently hopes that Russia will not attack before the next round of planned talks between the U.S. and Russia on Thursday. If Russia invades Ukraine, it will be the biggest military conflict Europe has seen in decades.

A newly proposed legislation in Tennessee would allow for some gun owners to be classified as law enforcement. If passed, the bill in question would expand the definition of law enforcement to include anyone with an enhanced handgun permit. Both gun control advocates and the state's police union have expressed concern with the bill. The proposed bill currently does not have a hearing

Common time to return



Marley Bassett/The Johnsonian

The Edge has been a popular hangout spot during common time in the past

Set to return to Winthrop in fall 2022

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After being away for this year, common time is set to return to Winthrop's campus next fall for the 2022-2023 school year.

Common time is a set amount of time in the day where no classes are held so students can hold club meetings, do homework, or just hang out with friends.

It was also a time for many on-campus organizations to table on Scholars Walk and Campus Green. Tabling is when some organization members go out to popular campus spots and talk to students about what their organizations are in order to recruit more students.

For some, seeing this at Winthrop helped

them decide whether or not to attend Winthrop.

"When I toured Winthrop as a junior in high school (before COVID started), my tour was during common time, and I loved seeing all the organizations' tablings and everyone in DiGs spending that together. Seeing the Winthrop community during that time solidified my decision to come to Winthrop," said sophomore psychology major Savannah Brown.

Some students haven't been able to know what common time is and what it holds due to it being taken away these past two years.

"I haven't really experienced common time before because of COVID, so I don't really have anything

to compare to it," said sophomore human development and family studies major Grace Corbett.

Having common time would benefit many on-campus organizations and help increase membership levels.

"As a member of Greek Life and other campus organizations, I think it would be incredibly beneficial to this campus community to have common time return," Brown said.

Students would still like to see events held during common time even if it is possibly prevented from occurring next year.

"If common time doesn't come back next year, I think that there still should be events that would happen

during common time but on the weekends, as everyone pretty much goes home on the weekends," Corbett said.

It is also important to tell students about events occurring during common time.

"It should also be noted that the school should be holding events during common time that people actually want to attend, so it's important to have good communication with the student body," Corbett said.

Overall, a return of common time would be beneficial to students on campus.

"It was a time every week that people knew they could spend together and about half of current students have never experienced it," Brown said.

WUPO Visibility tabling

Event put on by Council of Student Leaders and Winthrop University Police Department, Garnet Table Talk put on day after tabling as a part of WUPO Visibility event



Bryn Eddy/The Johnsonian



Bryn Eddy/The Johnsonian

"The campus police tabling event that we're having is part of a campus safety initiative. ... I feel like it's important for the campus community to know who's out there patrolling." - Jaquarius K. Norman, Chair of the Campus Safety Committee

Rock Hill Drone Guy takes photography to new heights

Some of Drone Guy's photos have been used by the city of Rock Hill

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If you ever take a walk around downtown Rock Hill, you might notice something in the sky. Above the skies soars one of the many drones belonging to the Rock Hill Drone Guy. Also known as Aaron Longstreth, he has become a staple in the Rock Hill and surrounding community.

Longstreth has been taking aerial photographs and videos since 2015, but his experience with photos and videos stretches longer. His two-decade-long passion for photography and videography began while attending York Technical College in the late '90s to study television production.

Longstreth said he first became interested in aerial photography because he "is always looking for ways to get a better or more compelling shot. ... When drones became more accessible, it was like a dream come true. Until getting my first higher quality drone in 2015, I could've never imagined having the ability



Drone Guy flies about during museum event

Photo courtesy of Windy Cole

to get shots from all these unique angles."

The company, Rock Hill Drone Guy, is an FAA-certified drone company that specializes in almost any services where a drone would be useful, such as photography, videography, event recaps, commercial development planning, and real estate photography.

Longstreth has had many stories to tell since becoming a com-

munity staple. His favorite, however, comes from the 2020 prayer vigil that was held in Kannapolis, North Carolina, in the wake of the George Floyd killing.

"I saw people from all ethnicities and backgrounds united in a beautiful call to action. I remember police officers joining the protests and denouncing the actions of Derek Chauvin. I even saw officers driving senior citizens in golf carts so

that they could take part, too. Those moments really struck me. We're not so divided after all, despite the extremes we see on a national level."

Longstreth also believes in giving back to the community.

"There are so many great leaders and organizations locally doing incredible things. If I can be a sponsor or use my photos or videos to help show off these people and events that

inspire the community and bridge some of the social, economic and political gaps, then I am all in."

One of the biggest community members that benefits from Longstreth's talents is the Main Street Children's Museum.

"He volunteered his services to create a commercial for the museum. He also has given advice to our marketing team on drone photography and videography," said volunteer manager for the Main Street Children's Museum Windy Cole.

Community relations coordinator Marie Cheek added on to this statement.

"He took his drone and recorded footage of our Harry Potter Science Saturday. He produced a cool video and shared it to his social media, and we shared it to ours. It really helped the museum."

If anyone has a need for a drone, the Rock Hill Drone Guy is there. You can contact him at 803-579-8384 or rockhilldroneguy@gmail.com.

Police Blotter



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On Feb. 1, a victim met with the Reporting Officer (R/O) at the Winthrop University Police Department. The victim informed the officer that she had been swindled by a person she had met from an online website.

The victim explained that she had been chatting with a male subject online who told her he would pay her if she messaged him. The victim agreed, and the subject then sent her \$2,800. The subject then requested that she use the money to purchase Bitcoin, but the victim declined.

After declining, the victim attempted to return the money through CashApp. The subject informed her that the CashApp transaction was not going through and told her instead to transfer \$2,500 from her bank account. After making the transaction, she was informed by her bank that they had flagged her account for suspicious activity. After talking with her bank, she contacted WUPD regarding this incident.

On Feb. 11 the R/O responded to the area of Memorial Circle in reference to a pickup truck shooting BB/Airsoft pellets at pedestrians. The officer circulated the area and the rest of the main campus of Winthrop University looking for a black Dodge Ram. The R/O was unable to locate the suspect vehicle. The officer returned to Good Building to follow up with the victim via phone call to ascertain more information.

The R/O observed camera footage of Winthrop Park Avenue of the suspect vehicle entering campus from Cherry Road turning right into Winthrop towards the victim in front of Byrnes Auditorium. The victim stated that she was struck several times in the back of the leg but was not injured. The victim does not want to press charges.

Top left: Park avenue extension. Top right: A sign warning about towing. Bottom left: The sign for Park Avenue Extension. Bottom right: Ebenezer Avenue Extension.

Parking enforcement around campus to increase

Residents and business owners complain that faculty, staff and students have been illegally parking

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Parking enforcement on side streets around campus will increase due to an increase in complaints from residents and business owners about cars

blocking driveways, garbage pickup, fire hydrants, intersections, crosswalks, handicap access points and road signage.

The streets impacted include but are not limited to Park Avenue Extension, Ebenezer

Avenue Extension, Stewart Avenue, Park Avenue, Ebenezer Avenue, Aiken Avenue and Union Avenue, according to an email sent on Wednesday by Winthrop's Interim Chief of Police Charles Yearta.

Yearta said law en-

forcement and property owners are allowed to tow illegally parked cars that "block access to their property or are safety issues to general traffic."

"The City of Rock Hill and Winthrop University are commu-

nity partners on many fronts and we of course want to remain [a] good stewardess to our fellow citizens," Yearta wrote in the email.

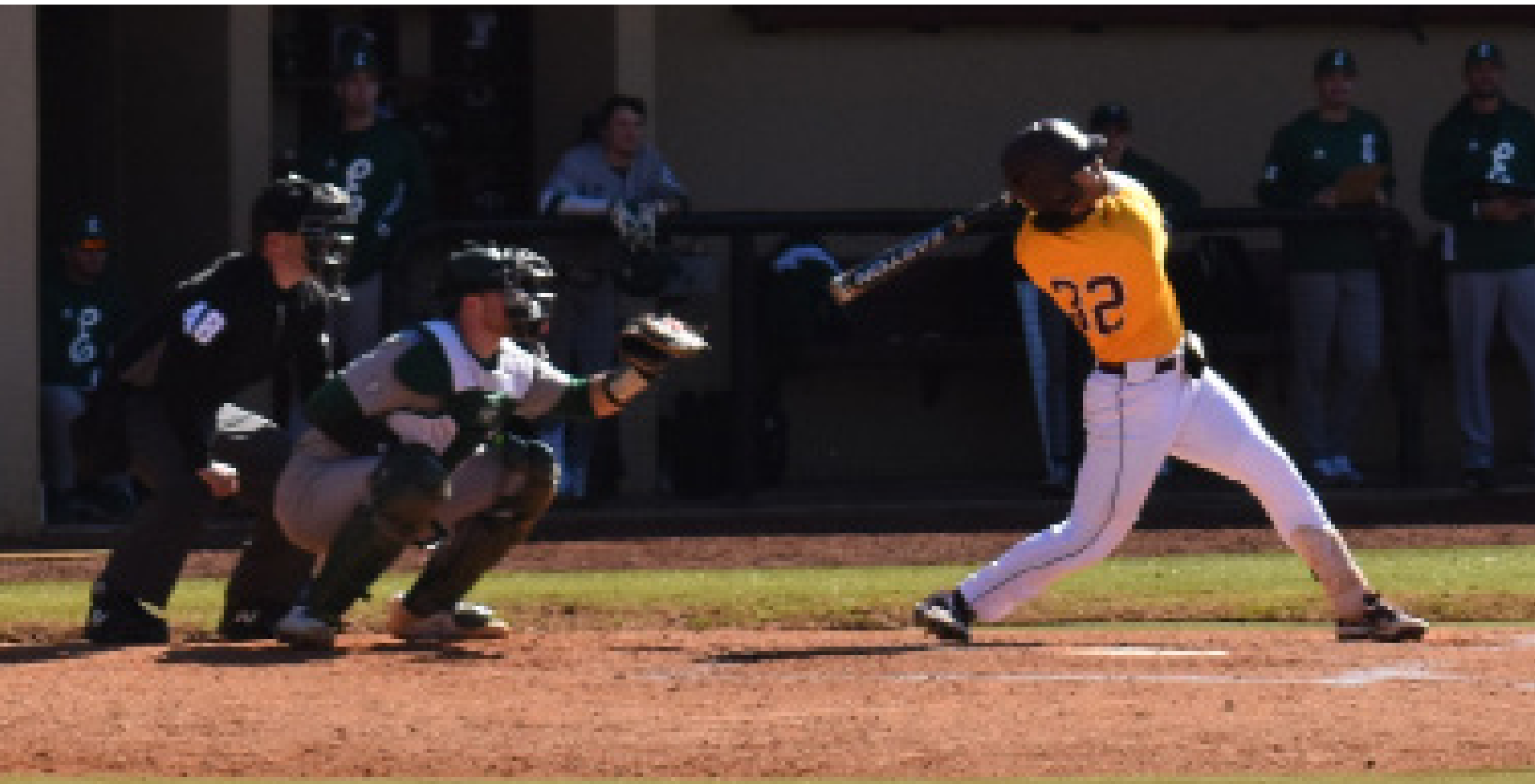
The Johnsonian will continue to follow the story as it develops.



Christian Smith/The Johnsonian

Taylor Sallenger & Marley Bassett | Assistant News Editors

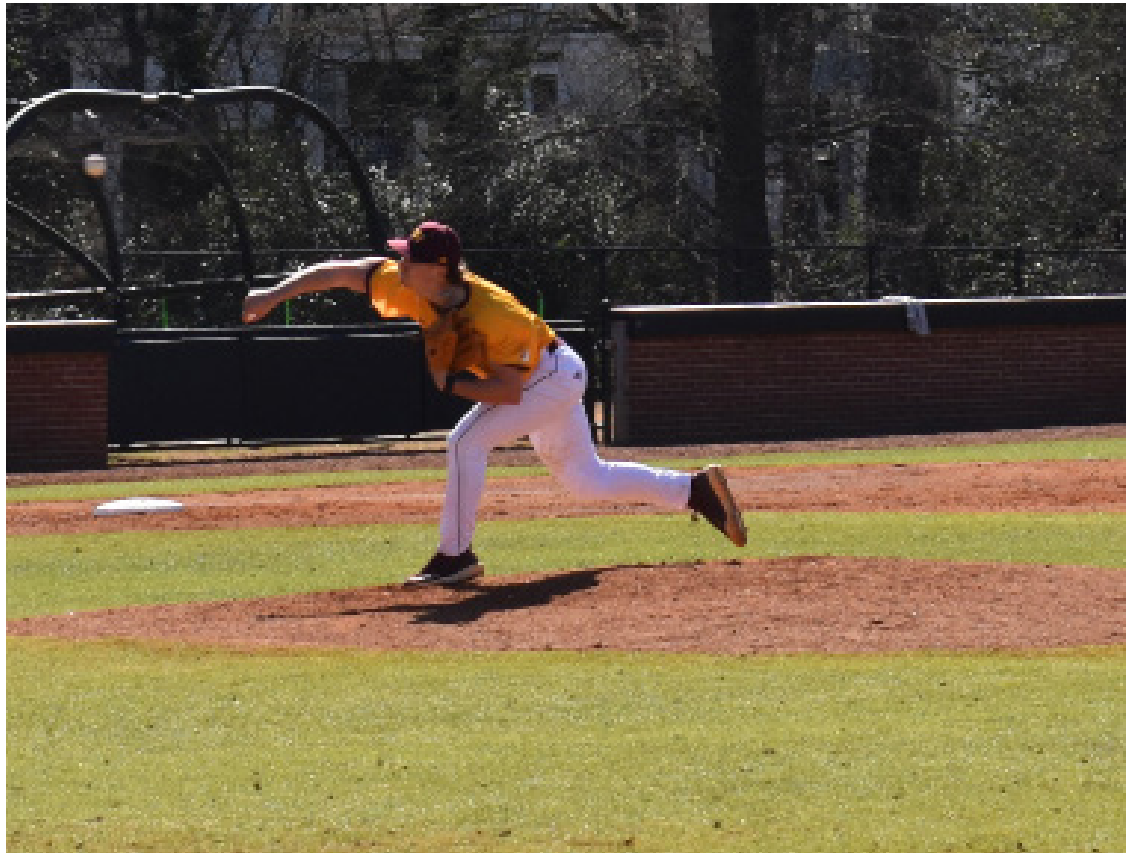
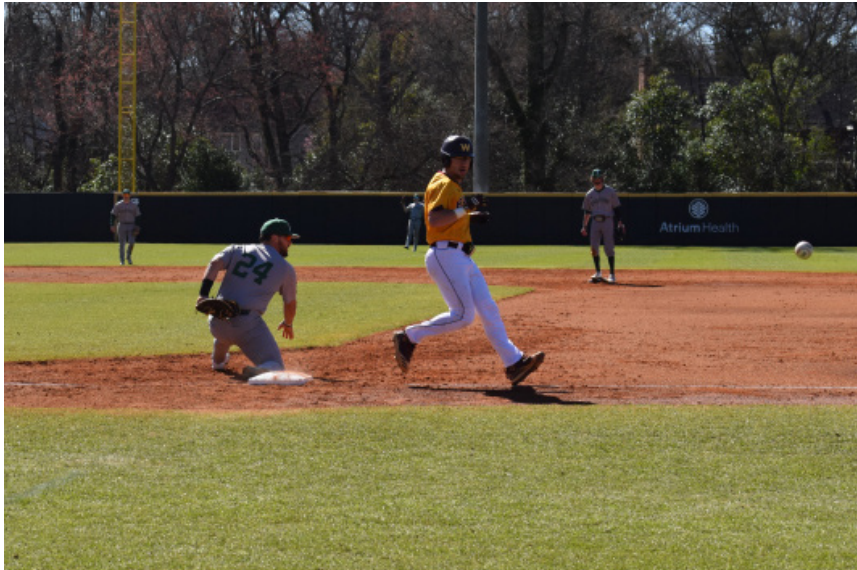
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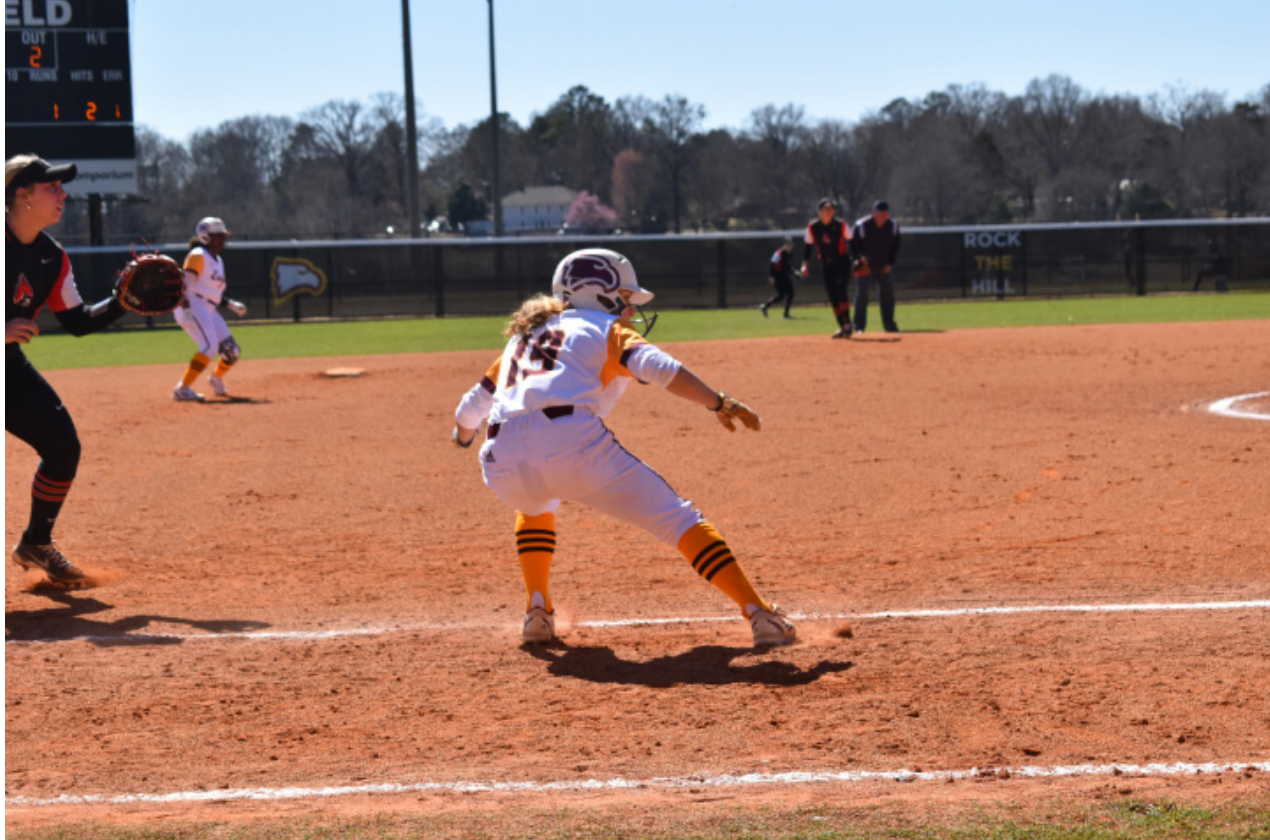
Opening Day 2022

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The Winthrop baseball team began its season over the weekend, scoring 19 runs and earning two wins in a three-game series against Eastern Michigan



The Winthrop softball team won its first home game of the season on Friday, defeating Youngstown State 10-1 in five innings



Eagles seek to double attendance numbers for final two home games

With an available 6,100 seats in Winthrop Coliseum, the men's basketball team has high hopes for fan attendance this week

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Through six home games versus conference opponents this season, the Winthrop men's basketball team has recorded an average attendance of 1,670 people per night. With two home games left, the team is hoping to see even more fans in attendance to close out the regular season.

"We appreciate the consistent support. That home court advantage turns the coliseum up another notch. Can we double up attendance our last [two] games?," graduate transfer Patrick Good wrote on Twitter.

The team's official Twitter account, @Winthrop_MBB, shared Good's post, adding, "PSA from Pat Good! Let's double the attendance for our last two home games this week!"

Winthrop recorded a season-high 2,192 people in attendance on Feb. 3 when the Eagles hosted North Carolina A&T State in a matchup that was featured on ESPNU.

"They bring it every night and just make it hard for the opposing team," said sophomore guard Sin'Cere McMahon of the Winthrop faithful. "If you've got a good sixth man that's your crowd, it's going to make it harder on the other team."

McMahon is one of several guys in their first season at Winthrop who can say they have not lost a game inside Winthrop Coliseum. This season, the Eagles are 11-0 at home.

"If nothing else, we've shown that it's not going to be boring when we play," head coach Mark Prosser joked following Winthrop's six-point overtime win against UNC Asheville on Jan. 13.

Of the nine Division I contests Winthrop has hosted this season, all have resulted in wins of 10 point margins or less for the Eagles. Two of those wins were earned in overtime, and another two came by just two points.

Just over 1,800 people showed up for Winthrop's game against Gardner-Webb on Jan. 22 in which the Eagles came from behind in the second half to narrowly defeat their opponent, 64-62. Rock Hill native DJ Burns Jr. recorded 19 points, five rebounds and four assists in that contest.

"It was just good to feed off their energy and they were giving it right back to us," Burns said of the home crowd following the Jan. 22 victory. "It had a lot to do with the energy we had going into the end of the game."

Burns and other Winthrop players are often



To'mara Carmichael/The Johnsonian

Fans at the Feb. 3 game versus NC A&T cheered loudly as the Eagles won 64-54

seen after home games signing autographs and taking pictures with young fans.

"The support we get from the city of Rock Hill and a lot of South Carolina is just unmatched. Being here in my hometown, it's great to give back the energy that I can to these guys, and they come out and they support us every game."

"You know, you've just got to love stuff like that. That's what we do it for. We do it to make other people happy, make ourselves happy. That's what makes us happy, so we love that kind of stuff."

For Winthrop fans,

this week's games are not only the last chance to see Winthrop at home this season, but the final opportunity ever to see some guys take the court at Winthrop Coliseum.

Graduate transfers Patrick Good and Drew Buggs have been a shot in the arm for Winthrop this season, providing leadership and coming up big in clutch situations. Senior Micheal Anumba has been a reliable defender and core piece of Winthrop's roster for four seasons (though he could return for one more year should he choose to use his 'covid eligibility'). Winthrop

may be without all three come next season.

Winthrop's remaining home games, which the team hopes to see an increased number of fans attend, are Thursday at 7:00 p.m. (versus USC Upstate) and Saturday at 4:00 p.m. (versus Charleston Southern). Following Saturday, the team will

look towards the Big South Conference tournament, which starts on March 2 in Charlotte at Bojangles Coliseum.

At 12-2 in conference play, Winthrop has already secured a first-round bye, meaning the Eagles will open tournament play in the quarterfinal round on March 4.



STUDENT MEDIA POLL

Week 15
Matthew Shealy's votes Michael Covil's votes

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Gonzaga | 1. Arizona |
| 2. Arizona | 2. Kentucky |
| 3. Kentucky | 3. Gonzaga |
| 4. Duke | 4. Villanova |
| 5. Kansas | 5. Duke |
| 6. Purdue | 6. Texas Tech |
| 7. Auburn | 7. Kansas |
| 8. Villanova | 8. Auburn |
| 9. Texas Tech | 9. Purdue |
| 10. Providence | 10. Arkansas |
| 11. Houston | 11. Providence |
| 12. Arkansas | 12. Houston |
| 13. Baylor | 13. Baylor |
| 14. Illinois | 14. Wisconsin |
| 15. Wisconsin | 15. Tennessee |
| 16. Michigan St. | 16. Illinois |
| 17. Murray St. | 17. Murray St. |
| 18. USC | 18. UCLA |
| 19. UCLA | 19. Rutgers |
| 20. Tennessee | 20. South Dakota St. |
| 21. Wyoming | 21. Ohio St. |
| 22. Connecticut | 22. Wake Forest |
| 23. South Dakota St. | 23. St. Mary's |
| 24. Rutgers | 24. SMU |
| 25. North Texas | 25. Vermont |



To'mara Carmichael/The Johnsonian

Students hope to catch a t-shirt during a timeout at the Feb. 3 game versus NC A&T

COMING SOON:

WEDNESDAY

WBB @ CAMPBELL 7 P.M.

THURSDAY

LAX @ KENNESAW ST. 2 P.M.
M/W TRACK CONFERENCE INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS (THURS-FRI)

FRIDAY

SB VS. WEBER STATE (DIXIE STATE TOURNAMENT) 2:30 P.M.
BB @ #21 LIBERTY 4 P.M.

SATURDAY

BB @ #21 LIBERTY 2 P.M.
WBB @ GARDNER-WEBB 2 P.M.

SAT. CONT.

SB VS. UTAH VALLEY (DIXIE STATE TOURNAMENT) 5 P.M.
SB @ DIXIE STATE 7:30 P.M.

Alumni Spotlight: Haila Harvey

Alumna Haila Harvey, class of 1991, shared details of her teaching experience

SAM HYATT
staff writer

Haila Harvey, a retired special education teacher, shared advice on becoming a teacher along with her experience as a student at Winthrop during the late 1980s and early 1990s.



Harvey poses in front of Tillman in the snow
Photo Courtesy of TP Media

As a student at Winthrop, Harvey majored in special education. Renovations to the interior of the Withers Building began in 1989, displacing some of her education classes.

“My final education classes were my

favorite. We held those classes at a local church, and all the education majors were able to spend time together and form lifelong friendships,” Harvey said.

After graduating from Winthrop in 1991 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in special education. As a result of Winthrop’s top-tier education program, she was hired by a local district right after graduating. Harvey retired after teaching for 28 years.

“I would recommend Winthrop because of the superior, comprehensive education and training they give those who are working towards becoming teachers. I highly recommend Winthrop for their teacher training,” Harvey said.

In regard to teaching, Harvey said, “Teaching is one of the most rewarding careers for people who are interested in helping others and making a difference in the world.

“There is no better reward than watching a child achieve or overcome something



Harvey's Winthrop University student ID
Photo Courtesy of TP Media

they were struggling with. Being a positive influence in the world of children really does make a difference.”

While Harvey was in the field of education, she said the best part of teaching was the relationships she formed with her students.

“My advice for those going into education is to always remember you are a cheerleader for those who need you most,” Harvey said.

Aside from spending her time in her education classes and preparing to become a teacher, Harvey recalled various other events that happened while she was a student.

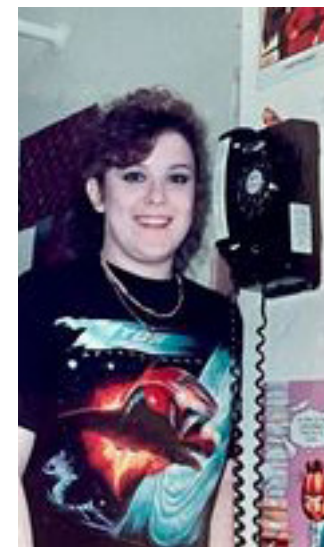
Harvey remembers watching Kinard Hall burn after catching fire from being struck by lightning during her first year.

She also experienced the devastation of Hurricane Hugo while on campus.

“That was definitely

a terrifying experience. The wind, rain and tornadoes rocked the buildings and snapped the huge oak trees like they were nothing. The carnage afterward was nothing we have ever seen before,” Harvey said.

As a student, Harvey recalled praying in a church close to campus amongst some other students. They specifically prayed for the United States troops as they were being sent to



Harvey poses in her dorm room in Margret Nance
Photo Courtesy of TP Media

Kuwait at the start of Desert Storm.

During her time as a Winthrop student, Harvey was not active in any organizations or clubs.

“If I had any advice to give, I would encourage students to find things on campus and in the community that interested them and get involved,” Harvey said.

“I would encourage them to focus on things that will encourage their personal growth and skills because life in the real world will challenge what they know and what they can do.

“Being a well-rounded person helps them cope with the many opportunities that come in life.”

Now that Harvey has retired from teaching, she works as a case manager at Spartanburg County Community Long Term Care.

Technological advances students can expect

Technology upgrades for fall 2022

JADA STRONG
staff writer

This upcoming fall 2022 semester, students can expect vast improvements to technology services here on campus to improve the quality of classroom life.

Andrew Besmer, an associate professor of computer science at Winthrop, helps with the technology staff committee and is very excited for the improvements to be implemented.

One of the things Besmer has been working on for the campus is ways they can improve remote learning, especially because the current pandemic has changed the way students have been able to go to class.

“You know, during the pandemic, everybody put technology, including us, into classrooms to try to help make it so that folks could go remote. But there was no play-book, right? I mean, nobody knew what to do,” Besmer said. “So, we’ve been able to find out what worked, what didn’t work, all that, and then figure

out for the technology upgrades we’re doing, not where we want to be because people put X piece of technology in the classroom for COVID, but post COVID.”

Currently in the works in a vacated classroom in Kinard Hall is a showroom where tech can be placed and set up, where there will be upgrades made to turn it into a classroom used for remote learning.

Professors will be able to teach lectures for students attending in person and those who choose to join through Zoom or a recorded lecture. These upgrades will ensure that those who choose to participate in remote learning will have the highest quality learning experience.

“Within the next few weeks, they’re going to be installing all the equipment and instructor stations. We’ve selected an instructor station for that room that is an accessible one, it moves up and down so that if somebody has accessibility needs, they can get in

there,” Besmer said.

“We also have cameras, microphones, assistive technology, and, to easily use the technology, we’ve got assistive listening devices for the room. So, if somebody needs to, or uses a device that can interoperate with those hearing systems, they’ll be able to pick that up.”

Audio on Zoom meetings have been known to go in and out, sometimes students have had trouble hearing professors, but with the upgrades, Besmer ensures the new advances will help with this issue.

“The room is equipped with a pendant that the instructor can wear which will help that person be able to hear what’s going on in the classroom,” Besmer said. “And it will also help with that room electric capture so that students who are on the Zoom call, or who are watching electric capture back that they’ll be able to actually hear what’s going on in the classroom without hearing all the rustling of papers and the negative artifacts

that go along with it. So we’re excited to have that done.”

Students have also been dealing with issues related to Wi-Fi on campus.

Emily Port, a senior digital information design student with a minor in computer science, on the technology committee at Winthrop, says that for the new Wi-Fi installations, students will have to wait for the next semester. Specifically, for students who reside in Phelps and Lee Wicker.

“The Wi-Fi upgrades to my knowledge, none of them have happened yet. But I know that they were delayed because they forgot they had to change the wiring throughout

the building,” Port said. “They’re going to change the wiring throughout the building, which they can’t really do while students are living there.

“So, unfortunately, they’re going to have to wait until May when everyone moves out to fix all the wiring. So, fingers crossed, there should be new Wi-Fi next year.”

The laptop loaner system is going to be a system where students who cannot afford a laptop can have one during the school year, and can eventually own it.

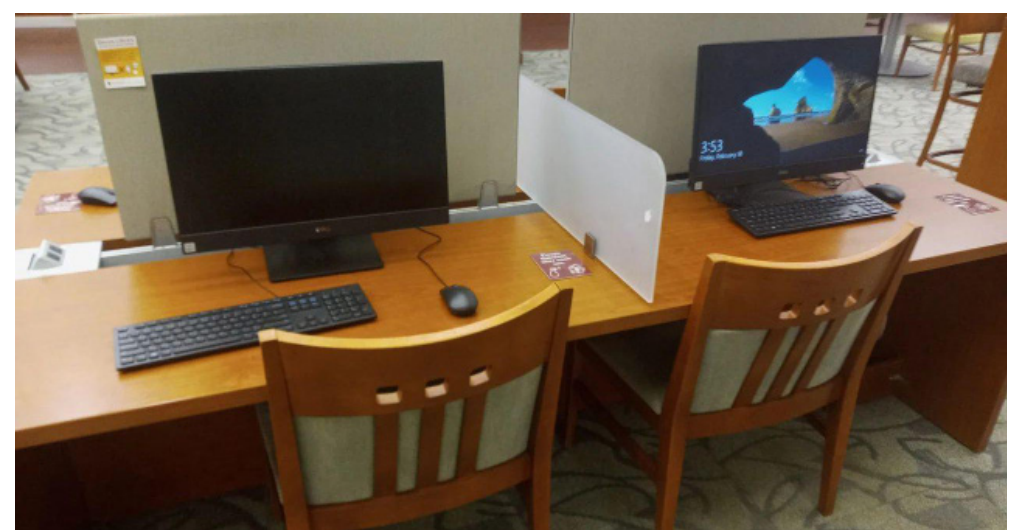
“We want a laptop requirement, so it’s not actually a loaner program. We would include it in your fees, so

you’d have a \$25 laptop fee every semester,” Port said. “And that fee would eventually pay for your laptop, and you would buy out at the end for around \$1. So that way you would leave Winthrop with a laptop, which is a good thing.

“It was a really cool plan. And if the university bought laptops in bulk, it lowers the price. So, it would be cheaper than if you went out on your own and just bought one.

“And if they’re technically owned by the university, then they have more abilities to help with it, like repairing.

“Whereas if you bring in your own personal laptop, there’s only so much they can do.”



Dacus Library computers

Ryan Lumbert/The Johnsonian

Response to 'Maus' ban by Tennessee school board

Controversy arises as Holocaust graphic novel gets banned

SPENCER HORTON
staff writer

The McMinn County School Board in Tennessee voted to ban the graphic novel "Maus" on Jan. 10, a move that has sparked controversy.

The school board cited the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel's use of profanity and an image of a nude female mouse (meant to depict Polish Jews who survived the Holocaust) as its reasons for banning the books. But with the ban coming at a time when many school systems are discussing bans on books teaching about slavery and racism in America, many are questioning the school board's motives.

The board's actions have since garnered responses from the literary community, including famed author Neil Gaiman.

"There's only one kind of people who would vote to ban Maus, whatever they are calling themselves these days," Gaiman tweeted on Jan. 26.

Winthrop associate English professor Casey Cothran discussed her own feelings about the ban, saying that books about the Holocaust should not be banned for historical reasons.

"I think it is crucial for modern people to learn about it, as well as the other genocides that have occurred (and continue to occur) in human history," Cothran said. "By studying the most shameful moments in our history, we can examine the causes that lead to the destruction of civil societies; we can see how deeply horrific dehumanization is."

"I worry that the banning of 'Maus' is part of a growing trend in this country," said associate history professor Gregory Bell. "The idea seems to be to block people from partici-

Photo courtesy of Flickr

Critics of the ban claim that the book was banned on the basis of trying to decrease discussion of racism in schools



pating in particular activities or studying a particular point of view."

Winthrop students who also studied "Maus" gave their own opinions about the importance of learning about this book.

"The book depicted Germans as cats and Jews as mice to make the concepts easier for younger readers to understand," said sophomore political science major Michael Suter. "So I don't think that's a justifiable reason to ban it."

The banning especially came as a particularly big shock to the novel's author Art Spiegelman.

"I'm kind of baffled by this," Spiegelman said in an interview with CNBC. "I've met so many young people who ... have learned things from my book. I also understand that Tennessee is obviously demented. There's something going on very, very haywire there."

Since the controversy has started, the McMinn County Board of Education has doubled down on the decision saying that "Maus" was removed because of its "unnecessary use of profanity and nudity and its depiction of violence and suicide."

One member of the McMinn School Board, Tony Allman, is recorded in the minutes from the Jan. 10 board meeting as having said: "I understand that on TV and maybe at home these kids hear worse, but we are talking about things that if a student went down the hallway and said this, our disciplinary policy says they can be disciplined, and rightfully so. And we are teaching this and going against policy?"

Many fear that this will only be the start of a new trend of book banning in America with Spiegelman referring to the ban as "Orwellian."

"In my mind, the practice of banning books often has been and continues to be used as a political tool," Bell said. "In Tennessee, this ban appears, at least to me, to be a political concern and not a question of morality."

"Book challengers, like book supporters, do have the right to free speech; nevertheless, even when parents argue that certain books should not be taught in a classroom because they believe that they violate community standards, I think books should never be removed from libraries," Cothran said.

Should the United States continue to build space infrastructure?

Starlink satellites create more space junk

SAM HVATT
staff writer

NASA plans to advance technology to explore and gain more information about space
Photo Courtesy of Pixabay

After the failed SpaceX attempt to set 49 Starlink satellites into orbit on Thursday, Feb. 3, is it worth putting more infrastructure into space just for it to later become debris?

The day after the satellites were placed into low Earth orbit and were expected to be launched into final orbit, a strong geomagnetic storm changed the conditions of the atmosphere, causing 40 of the Starlink satellites to fall out of orbit.

Geomagnetic storms are caused by solar wind shock waves and disrupt the Earth's magnetosphere.

According to NPR,

as of May 2021, there are more than 27,000 pieces of orbital debris, also known as "space junk," that are being tracked by the Department of Defense's Global Space Surveillance Network sensors.

These pieces of space junk travel up to 15,700 mph, which is fast enough to damage space vehicles and other space infrastructure such as the International Space Station.

What does this mean for the possibility of future space exploration and space infrastructure?

"Considering how bad infrastructure is on earth, I am not excited

care of the planet we are on," said sophomore English major Jaden Lemmonds. "The fact that we have not found another planet able to support life as we know it yet seems indicative of the fact that we should be worried about the planet we already have."

In the future, NASA plans to send astronauts to the moon in 2024 to land on the lunar south pole.

Additionally, NASA is in the process of advancing aeronautics, human spaceflight and other significant technology such as the 3D printer.



NASA plans to advance technology to explore and gain more information about space
Photo Courtesy of Pixabay

SpaceX attempted to save nine of the satellites and they are expected to survive in final orbit. Fortunately, the satellite debris that is falling out of orbit will burn up as it reenters the Earth's atmosphere and will not hit the ground.

Although there will not be debris hitting Earth's surface in this instance, the possibility is worrisome. Do we really need to continue to build space infrastructure when there is already plenty of existing space junk?

According to NASA,

about the continuation of it in space, especially since the possibility of people leaving Earth will only be accessible to rich white men," said Marin Grant, a graduate student in the master in English program.

As of September 2021, there were 6.3 billion tons of trash on Earth, according to Recycle Coach.

"I think that space exploration is definitely worth doing. However, I wonder if that money and time would be of better use if we put it towards taking better

"The idea of going to space scares me, but I do find the study of it very interesting, so I appreciate the people that have already gone in order to bring us new information about the cosmos," Lemmonds said.

Photo Courtesy of Pixabay

Satellites are used to gather data and information of Earth and space



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The Black Panther Party and Socialism

The history of the Black Panther Party and how it pertains to socialism

JOSH SIMON, Representative of Winthrop University's Socialist Student Union

During Black History Month, we are often taught a strict curriculum concerning the role of various Black leaders and their contributions to the system in place today. What is often overlooked are the achievements of these Black leaders or their beliefs when they challenge the system.

Not only are their achievements glossed over, but their entire lives or chapters of lives are glossed over in favor of a cleaner, capitalist-friendly version of history. One of the figures least friendly to the capitalist retelling of Black history is Huey Newton and his efforts in building Socialism as part of the Black Panther Party. One lasting contribution of this party was its Ten-Point Program, a manifesto for the demands of radical Black socialists during the 20th century.

Newton was born to poor sharecroppers in Monroe, Louisiana but migrated with his family early in life to Oakland, California as part of a general migration of Black families out of the south to escape poor conditions. Monroe was specifically known for its

high rate of anti-Black violence and lynchings. After graduating high school, Newton attended Merritt College becoming involved with local politics by joining the African American Association and becoming influential within the college's Phi Beta Sigma chapter.

It was during this time that Newton began his study of political literature. He regularly cited Plato's "Republic" as being of particular importance to his political development but was also an avid reader of Karl Marx, Vladimir Lenin, Franz Fanon and Mao Zedong. It was also during this time that Newton would meet Bobby Seale. In October 1966, they co-founded the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense, soon having chapters across the country.

Contrary to popular belief, the BPP was not a Black supremacist or separatist organization. While there were various peoples of various opinions, this new party was based on principles Newton called "revolutionary humanism," and was dedicated to the cause of Black militancy for the purpose of self-defense as well as socialism. The BPP was dedicated to making

Black communities safe and more politically organized.

For this purpose, the BPP had two strategies: the betterment of Black social conditions and political struggle against racist capitalism. For the former goal, the BPP instituted Survival Programs.

Along with distributing food such as in the Free Breakfast for Children program, the BPP also instituted programs to help the disabled community, offered community health classes, set up schools for children, provided assistance for those with substance abuse problems, and many more. The BPP also advocated for Black self-defense, leading to the party starting a police patrol program in which armed BPP members would keep an eye on police in Black communities to prevent police brutality before it happened.

The overall aim of the BPP was to have a self-sufficient and politically strong, organized Black community. While this was to be achieved (in the spirit of Malcolm X) by any means necessary, it was considered infeasible to meet the demands of the Black community via capitalism. The BPP then turned towards

Socialism as an alternative. Socialism not only identifies the issues of class conflict within capitalism, but it argues for an alternative based around community organization and using political power for the betterment of the people.

The view that the U.S. and its incarnation of capitalism was incompatible with Black freedom led to the creation of the BPP's Ten-Point Program also in October of 1966. The program put forward ten reasonable political demands: the self-termination of Black people, full employment, "an end to the robbery by the capitalists of our Black community," decent housing, truthful education about Black history, exemption of Black men from military service, an immediate end to police brutality, freedom for all Black men held in prisons, for Black people to be tried by a jury of their peers from their community, and the last demand being a reiteration of the need for "land, bread, housing, education, clothing, and peace."

All ten of these demands reflect the specific needs of the Black community during this time, but all focus generally shifts towards the

realization of policies that went against the interests of capitalist white supremacy. The first demand declares that "Black people will not be free until we are able to determine our destiny," which summarizes the BPP's general position. It establishes that Black people in America have never been allowed to determine their own destiny, including whether or not they wished to be part of America in the first place.

The right to self-termination is one which has been guaranteed to many ethnic groups acting in service of U.S. policy, but has never been granted to Black people who never chose to be in America to begin with but are a crucial element to its foundation. The BPP does not argue here for the separation of Black people from the U.S., but the opportunity for the Black community to pursue goals within its own interests rather than in the interests of white capitalism.

When representatives of the working class get together and formulate demands, they often ask for the same things. Indeed the final demand of "land, bread, housing, education, clothing, and peace," is reminiscent of the Russian revolutionary

slogan of "peace, land, and bread." A Latino organization called the Young Lords allied itself with the BPP on the same grounds. The Young Lords released a 13 point program calling for the self-termination of Latinos, "community control of our institutions and land," true education on the culture and language of Latinos, freedom for all political prisoners, etc. In all three cases, the subtext of "by any means necessary" remained poignant throughout. The BPP advocated that "all Black people should arm themselves for self-defense," while the Young Lords declared that "armed self-defense and armed struggle are the only means to liberation," and the Russian revolutionaries established the first Socialist government by arming themselves and revolting against the Tsarist dictatorship.

Many of the BPP's continuously relevant demands have yet to come true while the Black community is still very much in need of them. As such, we should continue to fight for these demands, Black liberation, and a Socialist future.

'My Name is Sir Benoit,' part two



Mariana Beltran/The Johnsonian