

To live on or off campus. What's the move?

What to know when searching for a home this fall

AINSLEY MCCARTHY
staff writer

With just over a month until the end of the spring 2022 semester, returning students must decide where they will live in the fall. There are a number of choices with varying accommodations, which range in cost depending on availability.

Margaret Nance and Richardson Hall are the two lower-cost dormitories on campus.

Margaret Nance is an all-female residence located at the center of campus, and Richar

am an RA, but there is a very increased sense of community because we share literally everything," Thompson said. "Winthrop is also generally cheaper than the cheapest Rock Hill apartments you can get, but if it were just down to the amenities, then I would live in an apartment."

All on-campus rooms have microwaves, MicroFridges and separate laundry facilities, except for Roddey Hall and Courtyard, which are apartment-style. Roddey is the less

two-bedroom, one-bath suite for \$4,035; or a two-bedroom, two-bath suite for \$4,188.

Those who find Courtyard's features particularly appealing are unlikely to find a similar setup without going off-campus.

Walk2Campus, The Nest at University Center and the Wesley House are all potential alternatives for commuting students.

CampusWalk, owned by Walk2Campus, is located at 610 Rose Street — a three-minute walk to the university.

room. The living space has a full kitchen with "modern appliances and finishes," as well as a number of other communal features, such as a pool and two fitness centers.

Lilyann Kanipe, a junior who lives at The Nest, said that though there is limited parking space, she does "really enjoy" living there.

"[I] am super happy I got to experience this as I know I won't get much better options for the amount that I pay now if I live somewhere else," she said.

The Nest is fully booked for the fall semester. However, ads for subleases can be found in Winthrop University student-led Facebook groups.

Both The Nest and Walk2Campus are pet-friendly, while the Wesley House only allows pets on a situational basis.

The Wesley House is maintained and sponsored by the Winthrop Wesley Foundation, the United Methodist campus ministry across the street from the Rutledge Building.

The house has a full kitchen with appliances, a washer and dryer, high-speed internet, two living rooms and three private bedrooms. The rent currently sits at \$425 a month, including utilities, though the application process and rent may change when a new apartment manager takes over in the fall.

Jack Shelton, a student who has lived at the Wesley House for the past two academic years, said the house is not accessible to disabled people and has mold and temperature issues.

Shelton also said they would recommend the Wesley House for its "cheap rent, unique layout, and LGBTQ+ friendly environment." The Wesley House is full for the summer, but further inquiries can be sent via email to winthropwesley@gmail.com.



To/mara Carmichael/The Johnsonian

A Walk2Campus home; W2C homes are considered off-campus housing

son is a coed dorm on the north side near the science buildings.

Potential residents for either residence hall may choose a private room for \$3,749 a semester or a double room for \$2,929 a semester. Occupants have access to study lounges and hangout areas, as well as communal kitchens and bathrooms.

Lee Wicker, Phelps, and Thomson Hall all consist of private and double suite-style rooms for \$3,584 and \$3,011, respectively. They are also equipped with hall kitchens, study rooms and elevators. Thomson is connected to the Eagle Eatery. Phelps Hall has a 24-hour computer lab and wheelchair-accessible spaces.

Oakley Thompson, a second-year student who has lived in both Lee Wicker and Richardson Hall, said that they prefer hall-style over suite-style.

"In Richardson, I kind of have a different perspective than a regular resident because I

expensive choice of apartment layouts.

Winthrop's website currently lists the hall's double rooms at \$1,375 for a two-bedroom, one-bath, or \$2,193 for a one-bedroom, one-bath.

Though it is not set up for cooking, it does come with private bedrooms and bathrooms, a full-size fridge and furniture for each room. However, it lacks the study rooms and shared kitchens other buildings have.

Courtyard is the second apartment-style residence hall. Because it serves as the honors college, it has a meeting room, computer lab and its own parking lot.

Apartments come with private bedrooms and bathrooms, an in-house washer and dryer unit, a dishwasher, a pantry and a full-size refrigerator with an ice maker. Each hall floor has a kitchen with a stove and oven.

Students living in Courtyard have a choice between a four-bedroom, two-bath suite for \$3,548; a

The apartment complex gives residents the choice between a studio or a suite with two bathrooms and up to four bedrooms. Prices are listed monthly and start at \$1,050, decreasing incrementally as the number of rooms increases.

Units are fully furnished and include an on-site washer and dryer, a full-size kitchen, garbage disposal, central air conditioning and a sprinkler system.

According to current CampusWalk resident Jessica Taylor, the residence offers financial aid to help with rent. She also says that all of the apartments have four bedrooms, and the ones not in use are kept locked.

As of March 30, there is only one four-person room in CampusWalk available for rent on the Walk2Campus website. The Nest does not offer pricing until an application is submitted, though two-, three-, and four-bedroom units are advertised. Private bathrooms are attached to each bed-



Transgender pride flag on Scholars

Bryn Eddy/The Johnsonian

Winthrop holds first Transgender Week of Visibility

SAGE organizes week of education about and by transgender people

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Winthrop's first Transgender Week of Visibility, sponsored by the Sexuality and Gender Equality club, took place from March 28 to April 1. Small flags were placed along campus green, and a large trans flag was drawn with chalk on Scholars Walk until the rain washed it away on Thursday.

SAGE hosted a table all week with different topics presented each day and a cultural event about cisgender parents of transgender children on March 31, the international Transgender Day of Visibility. The weeklong event was planned and organized almost entirely by trans people.

"Everything that has been happening this week has been by trans people. That is the first time, [at] Winthrop and also at a college campus in general that a week — not even just a week, but an event — [is] for trans people

that is centered on their voices," SAGE co-leader Oliver Bartow said. Despite some transphobic comments made on social media apps like Yik Yak, both Bartow and other co-leader Terry Millett said the week was a "massive success."

"I think we've had mostly positive experiences. I would say we've had some ups and downs. We've had some people, you know, glares or the here and there. But for the people who come up to the table and ask questions, it has been respectful," SAGE social marketing executive B Ray said.

The week happened to take place on the same week as both the 46th Winthrop University Model United Nations Conference, at which high schoolers from across the region travel to compete, and multiple school tours, further increasing the amount of people passing by the table.

see VISIBILITY on page 2

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Lee Wicker Hall, an on-campus residence hall

To/mara Carmichael/The Johnsonian

Council of Student Leaders election forum plans for future

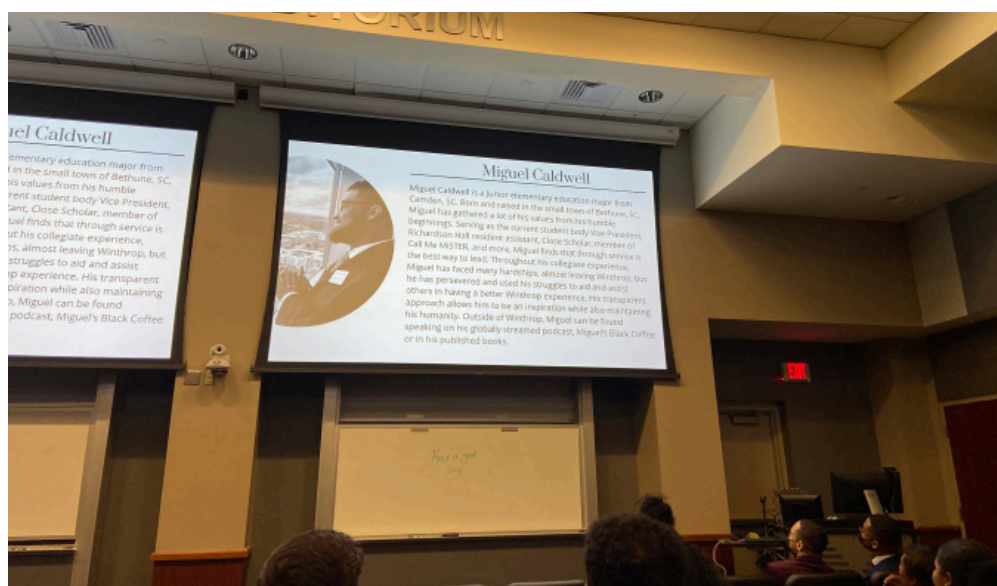
The sole running ticket answered questions from forum host and audience members on plans for future semesters if elected

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Council of Student Leaders presidential candidate and current vice president Miguel Caldwell alongside running mate Karl Vogl II answered questions about their cabinet goals at a public candidate forum.

The event was hosted as a part of the annual CSL election cycle and was attended by CSL members, students and faculty. Caldwell and Vogl spoke as the only ticket running at the time, introducing their campaign platform, “Engage, Enable, Empower.”

“Our platform, ‘Engage. Enable. Empower,’ was created with the uplifting of Winthrop students in mind,” Caldwell wrote in the ticket platform statement. “As student body president and vice president, we recognize that we cannot properly uplift students if we don’t take the necessary steps. Therefore, we want to engage students in the Winthrop experience, enable students to tackle leadership challenges, and empower them to leave



Chase Duncan/The Johnsonian

Photo taken from forum inside Whitton Auditorium in Carol Hall

Winthrop stronger than before they came.”

Caldwell also answered questions about leadership and CSL’s relationship with the student body and administrative leadership. He defined his relationship with leadership and service, calling his past work as CSL vice president and current election campaign “all about serving people.”

“Leadership is service. It’s service that you allow to fuel you to guide other people to some type of common goal. For me, that shows up in my volunteer work, that shows up in roles that I serve as a Resident Assistant,

as a Close Scholar, it’s all about serving people and letting people know that I’m here for you, to take you with me to this common goal,” Caldwell said.

Vogl primarily answered questions about supporting and communicating with student groups, particularly with groups that have already been chartered. He stated that the pair will aim to increase attendance from students and student groups at weekly CSL meetings and encourage the use of student allocations for student group activities.

“For me, one of my

main focuses, if elected as student body vice president, would be to ensure that organizations know that money is there to be spent, and also do anything we can to make sure organizations are getting the money they need and having the experiences they wanna have. The money is there, you just got to know how to go about getting it,” Vogl said.

More information on the running ticket and election schedule can be found online at winthrop.edu. An election rally for the ticket will be held on April 6.

Ex-police officer running for York County Council

Ex-cop accused of assaulting a Black man now running for York County Council

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Former Rock Hill police officer Jonathan Moreno announced his run for York County Council. Moreno was accused of assaulting and wrongfully arresting an African American man named Travis Price last summer.

The Rock Hill Police Department said that he made an illegal turn and also had drugs and an illegal firearm in the car. Moreno was allegedly unaware that Price was standing where he was told by other officers and confronted Price before pushing him to the ground.

Moreno was later let go from the police department and charged with misdemeanor assault and battery. He was found not guilty by a jury in January of 2022.

Moreno stated that he “didn’t want to focus on what happened but rather what he still brings to the table.”

“What I want people to know is that what

you see on the internet is not always necessarily the character and person that you know,” Moreno said in an interview with WCNC News.

Moreno is currently running against incumbent William “Bump” Roddey for the District 4 council seat.

The York County Democratic Party released a statement when Moreno’s filing was announced that said in part: “Running a man like Moreno up against a Black public servant in a district that is 48% African-American is a clown show, not a concerted effort to improve the quality of life in York County. If the York County GOP’s goal was to win the seat, they wouldn’t run someone as infamous as Jonathan Moreno. If their goal isn’t to win, we must ask: what is it?”

Moreno also said that his work in the law enforcement field would help him bridge the division that is currently found in Rock Hill.

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“We’ve had about 100 to 300 high schoolers go through the table, and anywhere from the teachers who are saying ‘Hey, how can I be a better ally in my classroom?’ ‘What can I have in my room to aid my students?’ [to] professors on this campus, and even RAs, asking, ‘Hey, can you come talk to us about safety training when we’re doing orientation for incoming students?’” Bartow said.

The week has also been positive for those involved, as it helped to foster a feeling of community among LGBTQ students at Winthrop.

“To come out of a situation feeling like almost wanting to go back in the closet, I really was really shameful of my identity,” Bartow said. “Two, three months later, I’ve probably spoken to about a couple hundred people openly about who I am and my identity as a gay trans man and being, like, the face for this and talking to everybody and going home and to my dorm and seeing you know, the trans flag everywhere and being like, ‘This is a place that

truly will accept me.”

On Monday, the table focused on education in “Trans101.” In addition, various pride flags were displayed, each with their associated identity and explanation, and pins with pronouns were handed out.

On Tuesday, trans creators were in the spotlight. The table featured art for sale, which Ray said made the artist “an extraordinary amount of money,” despite the artist thinking no one would buy their art.

On Wednesday, trans relationships were explored. Millett said it was their favorite day. “I identify as asexual. So for me, that was, you know, a very nice learning experience,” they said.

On Thursday, SAGE held a Q&A and promoted their cultural event, which took place that night.

The cultural event, held on Zoom, was led by Mel Constantine Miseo, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Sociology at the University of Missouri whose research focuses on gender, sexuality, transgender studies, culture, identity, youth

and families.

The presentation, titled “Gendered Mourning: Cisgender Parents Navigate Cisnormativity and Competing Gender Discourses,” discussed the struggles cisgender parents of transgender children go through after their children come out.



Bryn Eddy/The Johnsonian

Transgender and LGBTQ pride flags placed along Scholars Walk

On Friday, SAGE collaborated with the art department for a table on trans joy. In the afternoon, it hosted a social from 3 to 6 p.m. in Owens 102, where SAGE had games, pizza and unwound from the week.

“We had a social event on Friday, and ... I had multiple people talk to me about how there are very few

times they can even be out publicly. And that SAGE was one of the places that they’re able to feel that way,” Millett said.

The event planning began as far back as January, when SAGE leadership originally just planned to do an event on the interna-

of jockeyed around once it was already approved,” Ranallo-Benavidez said. “Like we printed all of the flyers at one point with a room approved for the cultural event tonight, and then that room was taken back retroactively, and so we had to move it to a Zoom. And so then we had to reprint all of the flyers.” With this event over,

success of the week to the committee approach.

However, even with all of the people working together, the process was still slow.

“[It was] about three months of just sitting down working really hard. And even then, we’ve had stuff get kind

SAGE is already looking to the future, but is mindful of the possibility of burnout.

Coalition building was a topic discussed as a goal for the future of the organization.

“As the faculty advisor, my dream — and I think all of us share this — is making Winthrop as a whole a more engaged activist-oriented university, and seeing those connections and those coalitions be built. And over time, building connections with, like, the anti-racism organizations on campus or the anti-ableism organizations on campus,” Ranallo-Benavidez said.

The model forged by SAGE for this organization could soon be used by others to encourage that activism Ranallo-Benavidez said he hopes to see.

“A lot of our members are members of other organizations, leaders, and others elsewhere,” Bartow said. “A lot of these organizations have asked us, ‘How are you doing this leadership? How did you guys get this committee started?’ They want to implement that in their own groups.”

Title IX ambassador initiative looks to get students involved

Sheppard hopes program will get student input on programs and change culture of campus around sexual misconduct

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The Title IX ambassador initiative, a program through which students are able to influence workshops, programs, training and the implementation of required Title IX regulations, is recruiting for the spring 2022 semester.

The program was announced in an email from Kevin Sheppard, Title IX coordinator and ADA compliance officer, on March 22. In addition to giving feedback on behalf of the campus community on trainings and the implementation of regulations, ambassadors will also be trained on Winthrop's policies and procedures about formal reporting and resources available on and off campus for sexual assault survivors.

"One thing that I believe is that the students want a greater voice in developing policy, in assisting and developing training and education, programming and support. And so this initiative

is to get that student engagement. We have to have some type of organization into what we're doing," Sheppard said.

bers to have "open and honest conversations." Sheppard said he is not looking for any particular number of people to be ambassadors.

gram developed by Santa Monica College, which Sheppard said is the standard for similar programs around the country.

provided ... better morale on their campus of actual student engagement in the process," he said.

Sheppard stressed that the program was not in response to the concerns students have had on campus but is a proactive step to get more students involved to mitigate future complaints and misunderstandings.

"I am pleading for student engagement, to come and talk to me, to come and meet with me and not make presumptions, but really give me a chance to hear their concerns, and at least try to do some of the things that they want to have done," he said.

Three film screenings with Q&As, sponsored by the Title IX office, are coming up on April 12, April 19 and April 21. Similar to the "The Hunting Ground" screening and Q&A, each film will relate to sexual misconduct. More details are coming in an email to all students soon, according to Sheppard.



Taylor Sallenger/The Johnsonian

Kevin Sheppard at the Title IX Garnet Table Talk in January

Ambassadors have no obligation to report sexual misconduct, allowing them to speak confidentially with those in the community without feeling a responsibility to report what they learn. Sheppard said he hopes this will allow ambassadors and community mem-

Rather, he wants to recruit diverse students to get a full picture of campus. Currently, 20 students have applied, but Sheppard said he wants at least 1% of the student population, or around 50 students, in the program.

The program is being modeled after a pro-

"From what I saw, and from the reviews and everyone that I spoke with that have had some interaction with that, from students, former students that went through the program, as well as the coordinator that put the program together, [they] stated that it

Police Blotter



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On March 25, the Reporting Officer (R/O) was called to the Courtyard parking lot regarding a car that smelled very strongly of marijuana. Once on scene, the R/O had WUPD dispatch contact the owner of the car and asked her to meet the R/O outside by her car.

Once the car's owner arrived, the R/O explained that he called her because of the odor of marijuana. The driver admitted that she had smoked the day before in her car. When asked if there was any marijuana inside the vehicle, she stated that she did not believe there was any.

The R/O was given consent to search the vehicle. During the search, a small rainbow bag containing marijuana was discovered. Officers also discovered items/equipment affiliated with marijuana use.

After completing the search of the vehicle, the R/O advised the owner that she would not receive a citation for VDL (Marijuana Possession). The R/O instead confiscated the discovered evidence and referred her to the dean of students.

On March 26, the R/O pulled over a vehicle that was driving without a working headlight and explained to the driver the reason for the stop.

The driver stated that she had already been pulled over earlier in the night and handed the R/O a citation written by RHPD for DUS 1st under DUI. The R/O noticed that there was a bottle of Jose Cuervo tequila on the floorboard.

When asked, the driver said that the bottle of liquor in the car was old. The R/O questioned her about the citation she had gotten earlier and informed her that she could not drive while she had a DUS charge.

The R/O placed the driver under arrest for DUS 1st, open container (liquor), possession of liquor under 21, and failing to use headlights when required. The vehicle was released per the driver to the passenger.

South Carolina brings back firing squads

The South Carolina Department of Corrections announced it is now able to carry out executions by firing squad

SPENCER HORTON
Staff Writer

The South Carolina Department of Corrections has announced it is now able to carry out an execution by firing squad.

In May 2021, Gov. Henry McMaster signed a bill that made the electric chair the default method of execution and made firing squads an alternative.

The last execution in South Carolina took place in 2011, as the state has had trouble receiving access to drugs needed for lethal injections.

Death row inmates can decide which method will be used for their execution. If lethal injection is unavailable, they must choose between electrocution or a firing squad.

With the lack of lethal injection drugs in the state, many see firing squads as the most humane option for execution.

"It's tragic that a civilized society should

eliminate anybody," said state Sen. Dick Harpootlian in an interview with the Death Penalty Information Center.

"But if you've got to do it, this is a better way."

"I don't have a problem with the firing squad," said Patricia

death penalty. I think it's more humane than electrocution, lethal injection, the gas chamber."

Hovis said there are other reasons why the firing squad may be chosen over other methods.

difficult for the executioner," she said. "Studies in our state show that they don't fare well after having to execute someone. But from an inmate perspective, I don't think the firing squad is inhumane."

To others, the move



Graphic Courtesy of SCDC

Hovis, criminal justice department chair at York Technical College.

"It doesn't mean that I always agree with the

"I think from a budgetary perspective it's probably the least expensive for the state. I do think that it is

is seen as archaic and a step in the wrong direction for the state.

Only three other states — Mississippi,



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Winthrop Team FTK and running club partner for 5K

All proceeds go toward research for finding a cure for pediatric cancer

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In an effort to raise money towards the fight against childhood cancer, Winthrop Team FTK and the Winthrop Running Club are hosting a 5K this Friday at the Winthrop Lake.

Check-in begins at 9:00 a.m. and the race, which costs \$10 to participate, starts at 9:30.

"This 5k has been in the works since last year because it was always something that I knew I wanted to do with this club," said Winthrop Team FTK president Kayley Ross.

Ross said Winthrop Team FTK has been working out the details

of the event with the Winthrop Running Club since early February. According to Winthrop Running Club president Eden Crain, both organizations have wanted to put on a 5K for some time, but realized working together would be best.

"Pooling energy and resources makes it a lot more capable to pull off a large event like that," Crain said.

Ross has also been in communication with Winthrop's chief of police to secure a Winthrop police officer for the event's course route.

Participants can park in the Terry Softball

Complex parking lot, which is near where the race will start. The course will proceed on the paved loop around the Winthrop Lake, circling three times.

Both the Winthrop Running Club and Winthrop FTK are fairly new organizations on Winthrop's campus.

"So we were kind of becoming a club in the midst of when COVID happened, so we're coming up to the full year of being a club," Crain said of the Winthrop Running Club.

Crain said the club began meeting for practices last spring, and now meets twice a week with at minimum four or five members at every practice.

Winthrop Team FTK (which stands for For The Kids) started at a similar time.

"When I came to Winthrop my freshman year,

I worked hard to create and charter the club during my first fall semester of 2020," Ross said. "After countless meetings, paperwork, and emails, the club became an official, active organization the following spring semester of 2021.

"However, this 2021-2022 academic year has been the first school year that we have been able to host in-person events and partner with businesses off-campus to put on different fundraisers," Ross said. For this particular

fundraiser, money raised will go to Four Diamonds.

"Four Diamonds is a non-profit organization that works to conquer childhood cancer by funding research to find a cure and providing children and their families with superior care, treatment, and support," Ross said.

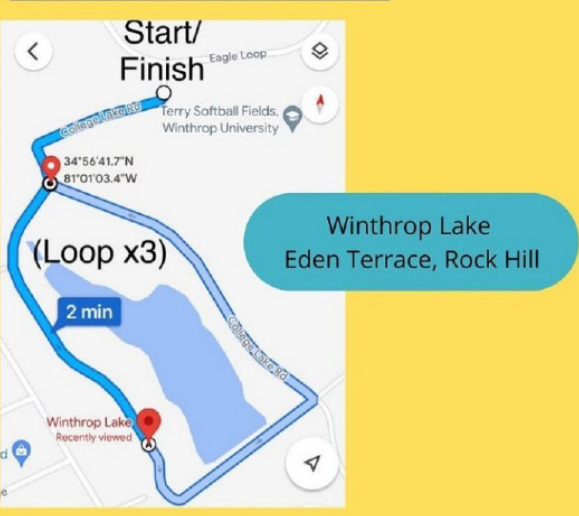
Friday's 5K is open for anyone to participate in, and it's up to participants as to how competitive they want it to be.

"It's a very low-pressure environment,"

Crain said. "We don't expect you to come and run the whole way if you don't want to. If you want to walk the whole way, the best thing about a 5K is that you should still be done in an hour or less."

Following the race, participants are invited to stay for free food and drinks, music and cornhole until noon. There will also be FTK and Four Diamonds merchandise for sale, including bracelets, pens, pins and stickers.

Where is the race?



Graphic courtesy of Winthrop Team FTK and Winthrop running club

The 5K course will include three laps around the Winthrop Lake



Olivia Esselman/The Johnsonian archive

The Winthrop Running Club offers Winthrop students an opportunity to run in a non-competitive environment

Eagle of the Week: Bailey Warren



Photo courtesy of Reema Patel

Warren has recorded 4 homeruns so far in 2022

SAM HYATT
staff writer

Bailey Warren, the catcher and utility player for Winthrop's softball team, has secured a spot as a power hitter on the team.

Warren began playing baseball in her hometown of Kennewick, Washington at the age of 3 and then later was officially introduced to softball at 6 years old.

"I grew up around the ball fields, so I fell in love with the game," Warren said. "From a young age I started

making a lot of sacrifices in my life to be able to be where I am at today. I knew at a young age I wanted to play college ball and it was a dream of mine."

Warren would travel to Seattle, Washington to take hitting lessons from Eve Gaw, a former pitcher at the University of Washington in 1996-1999. Gaw was known for breaking several pitching records.

"I think I fell in love with softball because of how difficult it is to actually play and how the

game is so much more than just skills but the mental toughness and the team aspect it has," Warren said.

Warren met current Winthrop softball head coach Windy Thees when she coached at Utah State. After seeing her recruiting in California and knowing Thees was coaching at Winthrop, Warren decided to email her to get more information about the Winthrop softball program.

"I wanted to go somewhere far from home where I could

experience new things in the world and Winthrop has given me that opportunity," Warren said. "Academically it worked out well as well. Now living in South Carolina has been a change from Washington but I am loving the adventure."

This season, Warren has excelled in performance in comparison to the 2020-2021 season.

"I have already doubled my homeruns and currently have the most home runs hit on the team," Warren said. "My job this season is to drive the ball to the

fence to score the runners. I've never been a big power hitter but after a dedicated summer of getting stronger I have fallen into that role."

Unfortunately, this season Warren is playing with a hip injury that happened in Utah during the preseason while she was catching.

Even though the season did not start the way the team expected, they are starting to come together as a team. Warren said the team has a close family environment and knows they all only want the best for each

other.

"We were tired of losing and playing the way we were, so we all came together and decided that we were going to work harder to be better because we love to play," Warren said.

As the season goes on, Warren looks forward to seeing the team fight as a team as they go through conference play and making memories as they play and travel together.

The Winthrop softball team will be playing at Terry Field against Charleston Southern University on April 9 and 10.



Photo courtesy of Reema Patel

Warren has started 25 of Winthrop's 35 games this season

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What you missed at WU Con

Winthrop University held its first-ever comic con on March 26

ALYSSA BROOKE photographer
& GABE CORBIN corbing@mytjnow.com



Some of the merch that was on sale at the con. Multiple manga and various action figures were sold all day



Students checking out WU Con. This event was popular, and hundreds of students showed up to see art, comics and panels



Some students cosplayed as Raven from the "Teen Titans" series. Tara Strong, who voiced the character, made a Zoom appearance at the event



Student creators got the opportunity to sell their work during the con



Other students got the opportunity to cosplay as some iconic characters like Pikachu



Students competed for the best cosplay of WU Con, announced at the end of the event

US PIRG releases report on the fixability of tech products

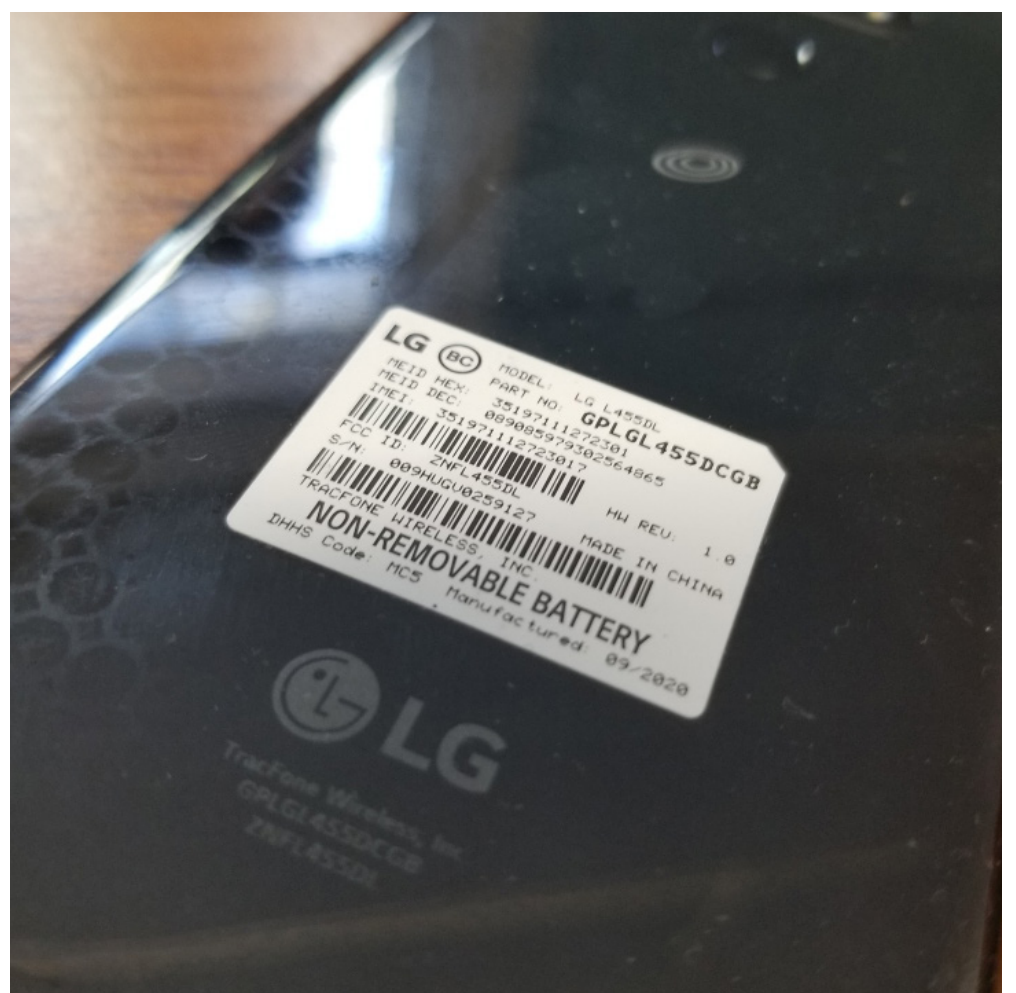
Companies use pernicious tactics to thwart consumers' right to repair and the environment

RYAN LUMBERT
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A recent report released by the U.S. Public Interest Research Group ranked several technology companies on the reparability of their products. Modeled after reports done by France under the European Union's Ecodesign Directive, the report seeks to inform consumers about how difficult it would be to repair a product purchased from a particular manufacturer. U.S. PIRG tested both laptops and mobile devices on the availability of repair documentation, ease of disassembly, availability of spare parts, affordability of spare parts and a device-specific category. None of the companies whose products were tested made above a score of eight out of 10. Coming in dead-last for both the laptop and mobile device categories was Apple, scoring 3.16 and 2.75, respectively. The

most repair-friendly laptop manufacturer was Dell, with a score of 7.82, and the most repair-friendly mobile device manufacturer was Motorola, with a score of 7.77. Device reparability has become one of the most contested areas of legal ground as companies such as Apple and Microsoft continue to lobby against consumers' right-to-repair laws in an attempt to curb the control people have over the devices they use. When interviewed, several students said that they did not think about how repairable their devices were — many of them simply upgraded or purchased new devices when their current devices failed. One reason tech giants have opposed right-to-repair laws is that they thwart their use of planned obsolescence: the intentional designing of a product with an artificially limited lifespan. Planned

obsolescence is used by companies to shorten the time between customer purchases by constructing purposely faulty devices. Right-to-repair laws would require that companies make repair materials for their devices more easily accessible so that consumers have the cheaper option to repair a faulty device rather than purchase a new one. Planned obsolescence leads to greater volumes of electronic waste. When devices are designed to fail, they are thrown out at greater rates. In 2021, 63.3 million tons of e-waste were produced worldwide, up from 59.1 million tons in 2019. Further opposition to right-to-repair laws is the repair-monopoly companies wish to have over their devices. By making it more difficult for consumers and third-party repair companies to repair their devices, companies like



Many phone manufacturers have started creating phones without removable batteries to inhibit reparability Ryan Lumbert/The Johnsonian

Apple and Microsoft pressure consumers into coming into their own official stores for repairs. "When we purchase a device, we should have

the ability to do with it as we wish," said Paul Wiegand, associate professor of computer science at Winthrop. "We are allowing these companies to create an

artificial monopoly on the resources available for consumers, which is antithetical to the idea that we own the things we purchase."



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Professor emeritus B. Michael Williams honored at memorial concert

A tribute concert held in McBryde Hall showcases the late B. Michael Williams' impact

JADA STRONG
staff writer

The late B. Michael Williams, professor emeritus of music and former percussion director at Winthrop University, was remembered with a memorial concert on April 2. He passed away in September of 2020.

Williams worked at Winthrop for over four decades. Over that time, he impacted many fellow faculty and students, including Doug Presley, professor of music, associate director of bands and percussion area coordinator.

Presley knew of Williams before he even met him when he attended Summerville High School.

"I knew of Dr. Williams from back when I was in high school from 1988-1991. I had heard of Doc's ensembles and his djembe transcriptions," Presley said.

"Doc was a scholar and master teacher, and he never stopped learning. To see those in action was very impactful when I started working at Winthrop. He was universally loved and respected by students and colleagues. His work with djembe transcriptions, mbira and frame drumming literally put Winthrop on the 'world map' of collegiate percussion studies."

Former student and current faculty member Anne Lewis Turner is the current percussion graduate assistant.

Turner also completed her undergraduate degree at Winthrop, where she was taught by Williams.

"I learned from Dr. Williams, all of his knowledge about African drums, and his time that he spent on sabbatical in Africa," Turner said. "So I can teach that now, which

is awesome."

Turner credits Williams for being a true mentor during her time when she was completing her bachelor's degree.

"It was a challenging time. For me personally, when I started finishing my undergrad, he was really there just as a huge support," Turner said. "He was always so kind and always had a gentle heart and an open ear to listen to anything that was going on and help every student in any way that he could."

Lorrie Crochet, associate dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts and director of bands, first met Williams when she started working at Winthrop in 2003.

"This was my first job teaching college. So, Dr. Williams was the director of percussion studies. And he was a senior professor.

And he was a mentor for me," Crochet said. "He answered so many questions and gave me encouragement and sound advice every time I went to him, and he would come to the concert. And it's not required that music faculty go to each other's performances. But I don't think he missed any band concerts. I think he came to every band concert and was very involved between his studio and the bands at Winthrop."

The concert, held in Williams' memory, included performances from the Winthrop University Wind Symphony, Percussion Ensemble, Alumni African Drum Ensemble, and Alumni Mbira Ensemble, and the premiere performance of a composition by one of Williams' dearest friends, Jack Stamp.

"Jack Stamp and Dr. Williams were close



Photo courtesy of Arts Winthrop

Williams

friends, and they went to school together at some point. And so, when Dr. Williams passed in 2020, Jack Stamp wrote a piece dedicated to him, called 'Cage Dance,'" Turner said. "The word cage implies John Cage, who is another music composer that Dr. Williams was very passionate about."

Along with the wind symphony, many former students of Williams performed as well.

"It's really special. It's a really good time just to have so many of his students come back together and perform pieces that he actually arranged and transposed," Turner said.

Review of Pixar's new film, 'Turning Red'

SAM HYATT
staff writer

Spoiler alert

Disney's new animated film, "Turning Red," is the studio's first film to be written and produced by women while smashing taboos many Disney viewers didn't foresee. As a result, the film's release has prompted various opinions due to the content that is discussed and shown.

In the film, the main character, Meilin "Mei" Lee, is a 13-year-old girl experiencing changes in her body as she enters puberty. One morning she wakes up and finds that she has transformed into a red panda. When her mom realizes what has happened, she brings her daughter an assortment of menstrual pads, a warm water bottle and ibuprofen.

From that point in the movie, Mei learns why she has transformed into the red panda and has to figure out how to navigate through life with this new aspect in her life. Throughout the movie, Mei's three friends are supportive and embrace the pandemonium that has arisen in their friend's life.

"The film tackled the growing pains of adolescence in a really

fun and relatable way," said Jasmin Peguero, a sophomore English major. "It's really important to have an idea of what a healthy experience with puberty looks like and I feel like 'Turning Red' does this."

With the film's release, many parents criticized scenes that hinted at young girls getting their period. According to USA Today, some parents were caught off guard by the scene of the mother bringing her daughter pads.

While these critics did not feel that this topic is something that should be shown or discussed in a children's film, there are many families who do not share adequate or useful information concerning periods with their children. Whereas some parents may believe this film is inappropriate for children, this film could be used as a tool to start a conversation.

"Considering how most schools don't talk about things such as menstrual cycles and sex ed as deeply as they should, I didn't see a problem with the movie," said Makayla Jenkins, a sophomore mass communication major. "I think having it tucked in little

segments of movies would really make not only younger children, but people as a whole become more comfortable with talking about things they should already be comfortable with."

At the end of the movie, Mei begins to accept her "red panda" despite the constant push from her family to keep it hidden from the world. This aspect of the film is empowering for the young audience, and even adults, as they see that the changes in the body are not a bad thing, even if that is what society is saying.

Overall, the film is one that addresses puberty and the changes of the body that children go through at some point in their adolescents and can be a great tool to start conversations between parents and their children.

The film works just as well even if younger children do not understand the deeper meaning of the message because it remains an entertaining film about a girl who transforms into a panda. The film not only gives insight into the body's changing, but it also encourages children to embrace their changes rather than feel ashamed of something that is natural.



Fan art by @ttorubie on Instagram



Fan art by @feyrah on Instagram



Fan art by @feyrah on Instagram



Fan art by @hamsterdads on Instagram

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The state of the Biden administration

Commentary on the recent State of the Union address from the Republican point of view

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Vice President of Winthrop University College Republicans

Many Americans watched the State of the Union address President Joe Biden delivered on March 1 to the sound of crickets and his own voice; the least-watched of any president's first State of the Union address in no less than 30 years, according to a New York Post article.

Americans did not watch, Republicans did not attend, and the Democrats who attended could only be pitied as they showed off their rehearsed applause and chants, acting more like attendees to a football game than American politicians.

If you did not watch the State of the Union, you missed out on a lot, including Senate Majority Leader Chuck

Schumer's "Applause Line" Pop n' Lock and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's "Missed My Cue" Mambo, as well as the most incoherent series of sentences ever to be connected: a speech so beyond parody that it could only come from a mind unable to tell left from right.

Anyone who watched the State of the Union surely became dizzy as Biden performed a FitnessGram PACER test between the moderate right and far left.

"Under my plan, nobody earning less than \$400,000 a year will pay an additional penny in new taxes. Nobody," Biden said immediately after condemning the tax cuts of the Trump administration and immediately before declaring that he will, in fact, raise taxes, specifically on

"corporations" and "the wealthiest Americans."

"By the end of this year, the deficit will be down to less than half what it was before I took office," Biden brazenly said before listing his myriad of costly policies, and especially the so-called Build Back Better plan, which is estimated to cost up to or over \$5 trillion over 10 years, adding no less than \$3 trillion to the deficit.

Without cutting costs, this money does not and cannot exist, especially with inflation on the rise, according to reporter Eric Boehm. But Biden will end inflation by simply instructing businesses to stop inflating, without realizing that inflation is not a creation of the market but a reaction. His increased taxes and the implementa-

tion of a \$15 national minimum wage would only drive prices up as businesses cope with the increased cost of providing their goods and services.

And let's not forget Biden's cries to "fund the police," where he pretends that the last two years of radical racial politics did not occur and that he and the vice president were not complicit in it, such as when Kamala Harris promoted bail funds for violent rioters in 2020.

But the most egregious was Biden's revisionist history regarding Ukraine, which could only be a deliberate lie. In early December, Texas Senator Ted Cruz warned Biden and the Democratic Party that their refusal to sanction the Nord Stream 2 oil pipeline would increase Russian

aggression, but Biden would not listen.

And though he and his administration spoke with great sound and fury about sanctions and consequences, it was revealed to signify nothing in late January, when Biden all but permitted a "minor incursion," according to an article from CNN.

Now, the presidents of both Ukraine and Finland have explicitly blamed Biden for the current conflict, and yet he has the gall to suggest that he has built a strong global coalition to prepare for this moment, when he has done nothing of the sort.

However, he has built a global coalition. All the world is now together in believing that the state of the union is weak: a consensus that

American leadership is inept and incapable of wielding the power they possess, and, in barely a year, have created a world safe for tyranny. Whether it be the failures in Afghanistan or Ukraine, Biden has revealed his Midas touch of rot and despair for all to see.

The State of the Biden administration is weak, and Americans know it, which is why he has one of the lowest approval ratings ever recorded, rivaling Trump's approval after Jan. 6. But he is right to say that we will be stronger next year because by then, there will be a Republican Congress to prevent even more disastrous policies from befalling the American people.

Rooomie Stooooories



Mariana Beltran/The Johnsonian