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Malori Brown aims for 2024 Olympic Games

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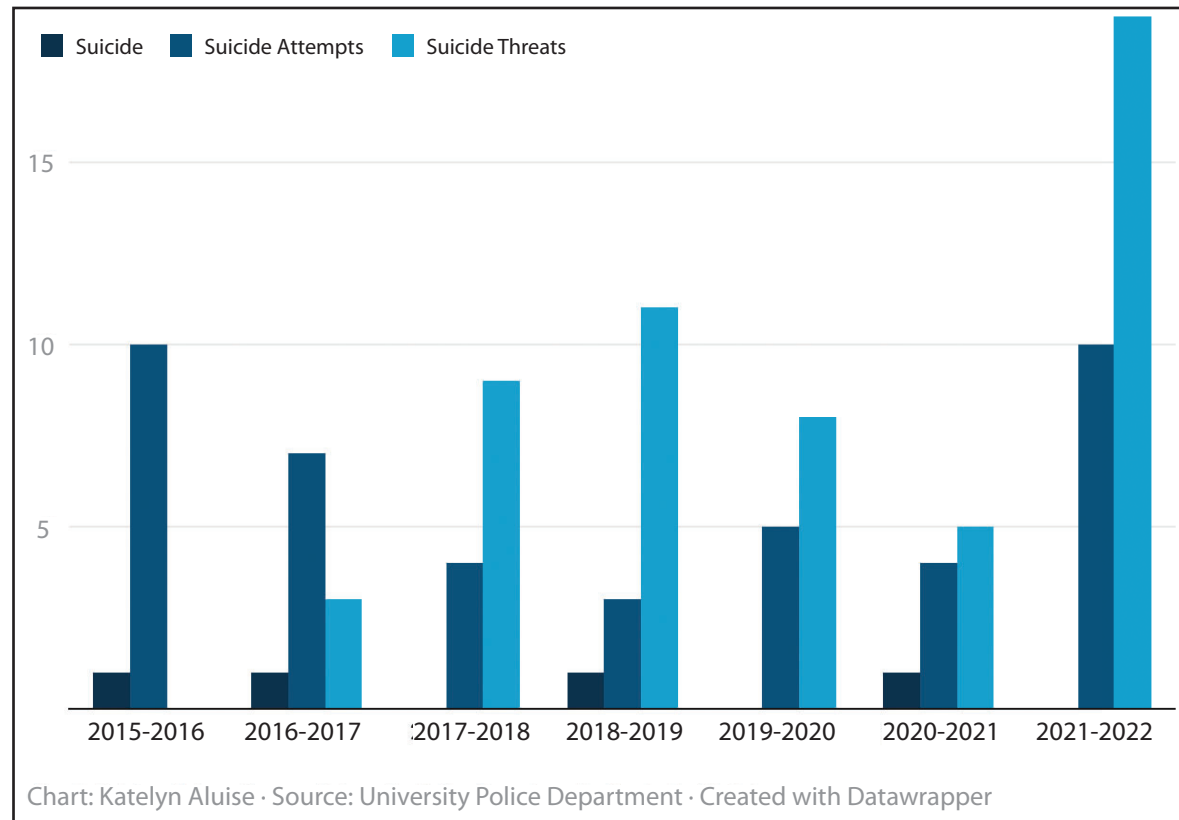
WVU's Independent Student Newspaper

WEDNESDAY MARCH 1, 2023

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As mental health crisis grows, University expands resources

Reported suicide attempts and threats on campus



Last school year, reported suicide attempts and threats at West Virginia University topped pre-pandemic levels.

BY KATELYN ALUISE
INVESTIGATIONS EDITOR

CONTENT WARNING: This article includes content about suicide and may be triggering to some readers.

Reports of attempted suicides, suicide threats and welfare checks at West Virginia University were the highest they have been in nearly a decade during the 2021-22 academic

year.

According to University Police Chief Sherry St. Clair, these numbers may be higher for many reasons. For example, she said students may be more comfortable reporting themselves or others than they were before, especially since UPD has been encouraging welfare calls.

"If you think someone needs help, make sure you call," she said in an interview with The Daily Athenaeum.

Depending on the needs of the student, welfare checks may range from a simple knock on the door to getting connected with a counselor on the spot. Anyone can submit a welfare check for a student, whether it's a concerned parent or friend.

St. Clair said, these days, more people are coming forward.

Data from UPD shows welfare

See Health page 4

ChatGPT task force forms amid cheating concerns

BY SAVANNAH JONES
CORRESPONDENT

A new artificial intelligence software called ChatGPT is causing an uproar in higher education institutions across the country. Now, West Virginia University officials are forming a task force to combat this uncharted territory.

ChatGPT, a software that has been known to write essays, poems, code and song lyrics, has been deemed the start of an "intellectual revolution" by the Wall Street Journal. Others, however, see it as a threat to academic integrity on college campuses.

Accessing this software is easy. After creating an account, users can type in an essay prompt and a well-written response appears in mere minutes.

While there is a "Plus" version that costs \$20 a month, the free version is still showing success for students.

"If you say write a three or five paragraph essay on this topic, like the type you would write on the SAT, it writes a great essay. It really does," Associate Provost of Undergraduate Education Evan Widders said. "But if I asked it 'write me five paragraphs on why Athens should have won the Peloponnesian War,' it's much less good about answering a question like that."

Widders said that classes which specifically test with traditional essay prompts will have to change their formats to adjust to this emerging technology.

"If you sort of get a sense for the type of questions that it likes to answer and the type of questions it doesn't like to answer, we're hoping we can really craft papers and things that don't really facilitate ChatGPT writing very good answers to it," Widders said.

ders said.

That is exactly what the ChatGPT task force, introduced by Provost Maryanne Reed at the Faculty Senate meeting last month, was formed to do.

Reed said the goal is to "come up with potential solutions that can be shared as best practices across the web community."

While there has only been one academic integrity report made at WVU in relation to ChatGPT thus far, Widders said concerns about the software are still high.

According to Director of Academic Integrity, Paul Heddings, the AI software makes it more difficult for WVU's plagiarism-catching software, Turnitin.com, to flag unoriginal work because it is not traditional plagiarism.

"There's a concern that there's a potential that not every type of artificial intelligence-use can be caught, but we are confident in our ability to detect when students are turning in work that's not original," Heddings said.

Widders and Heddings are both members of the task force and share hope that ChatGPT will be manageable under the care of the task force.

"This maybe is going to be a huge problem for our faculty or staff or for our students, and I think this goes beyond just the issue of potential academic dishonesty," Heddings said. "I think the task force is aimed not only at combating that and making changes to the Policy on Student Academic Integrity but also finding ways to help integrate artificial intelligence into academia in a positive way."

Heddings said that he is confident in the University's ability to keep academic integrity violations to a mini-

See ChatGPT page 3



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THURSDAY 03/02

MOSTLY CLOUDY
HIGH 57° - LOW 39°



FRIDAY 03/03

RAIN
HIGH 49° - LOW 41°



SATURDAY 03/04

SHOWERS IN MORNING
HIGH 45° - LOW 34°



CRIME REPORT

POLICE LINE • DO NOT CROSS • POLICE LINE • DO NOT CROSS • POLICE LINE • DO NOT CROSS • POLICE LINE

Feb. 27
10:44 P.M. | Resolved
Lambda Chi Alpha
Fire Alarm.

Feb. 27
9:24 P.M. | Resolved
Boreman South
Welfare Check.

Feb. 27
8:20 P.M. | Resolved
Art Museum of WVU
Alarm Condition.

Feb. 27
5:10 P.M. | Resolved
College Park
Alarm Condition.

Feb. 27
3:21 P.M. | Warning

North High St.
Traffic Stop.

Feb. 27
2:38 P.M. | Unfounded
Bennet Tower
Drug Incident.

Feb. 27
1:25 P.M. | Resolved
College Park
Back Ticket Tow.

Feb. 27
12:36 P.M. | Active
WVU Police Department
Assist Agency.

Feb. 27
12:09 | Resolved
Brooks Hall
Elevator Rescue.

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SOCIAL MEDIA MOMENTS



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these house prices here in morgantown... lmao
y'all need your heads examined



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SOMEBODY IS PLAYING INTERSTELLAR
THEME SONG IN MOUNTAINLAIR



GIF ALT



john flowers @jflow41 · 2h
It ain't a Waffle House if it ain't DIRTY AS SHIT
lol it's part of the experience.

1 1 5 1,226



Mgtnquasar @mgtnquasar

I don't understand why we still don't have one
up here, but man, half those restaurants smell
like the dish rack in the Mountainlair Dining Hall
😂

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STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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Student creates new social media app to connect campus

BY DEVIN ANDERSON
CORRESPONDENT

Last fall, Andrew Shephard, a senior computer science and industrial engineering student, launched a new social media app called “Stingray” to help WVU students connect with each other.

The premise of the app is for students to interact with other students’ profiles that they find funny or interesting. If a student likes a particular profile, they can vote for that profile to be a “Stingray,” and the four profiles with the most votes will become “Stingrays” for a week.

A Stingray’s posts or “waves” are featured for everyone on the app to see for a week. The other users, or “Minnows,” can interact with the Stingrays for that week by upvoting and commenting on their posts.

Some of the app’s other features include an anonymous chat room called ‘The Bay,’ reels and private messaging stories. There is also a Tinder-like feature that allows users to swipe on profiles, not to get matches or go on dates but to make friends and talk to people with similar interests.

Users can also customize their profiles with pictures, any student organizations they are a part of, favorite going out spots in Morgantown, what dorm you stayed in and more.

“Profiles are honestly the second biggest feature. The complexity you can go into profiles, it really gives you an idea of who you are talking to,” Shephard said.

Shephard has been working on the app for more than a year and said it was a grueling, ground-up process to get it on the App Store. To get an app approved for sale, he said you must send it to Apple or Google for approval from a review board.

“It was a good six weeks of nothing but me sending it in and them sending it back with three things that are wrong with it. You fix those and send it back and then fine-tune more things,” Shephard said.

“I remember the day I got it approved. I was in a computer science class, and my phone buzzed, and I was like, ‘Alright what got rejected this time?’ And it said, ‘Congratulations, your app got approved in the App Store.’ I almost screamed in class.”

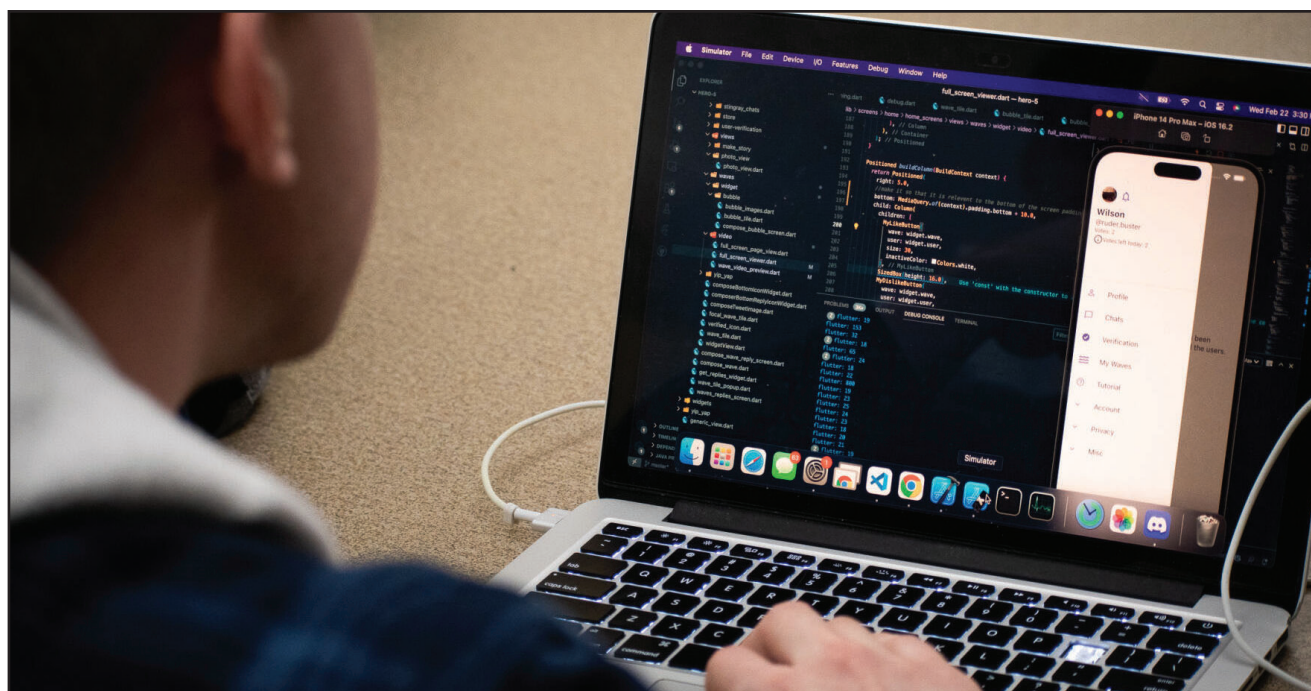


PHOTO BY TRENTON STRAIGHT

Andrew Shepard develops code for his social media app, Stingray WV, in WVU’s downtown library on Feb. 21, 2023.

“I remember the day I got it approved. I was in a computer science class, and my phone buzzed, and I was like, ‘Alright, what got rejected this time?’ And it says, ‘Congratulations, your app got approved in the app store.’ I almost screamed in class.”

-Andrew Shephard, WVU senior and founder of Stingray WV

Since the app’s approval, Stingray has had 100 total installs, around 60 creative profiles made and about 20 active users per day. Shephard said the next step for Stingray is to get more people on the app to engage with one another.

Shephard worked with the WVU LaunchLab during Stingray’s development and approval process.

LaunchLab, an innovation center that supports student entrepreneurs at WVU, helped Shephard with the app’s design and the paperwork on the business side of things.

“I think it’s also going to be really good for college students because it’s very interactive. Right now, and what I mean is, the more people are using it, the more he’s able to change the function, see what works and doesn’t,” Anne Jones, WVU LaunchLab’s business advisor, said.

Jones said one of the main parts of LaunchLab’s mission is to fail forward. Shephard said that he deals with failing on a daily basis because there are more problems than solutions with developing and maintaining an app.



PHOTO BY TRENTON STRAIGHT

Shephard is an industrial engineering major in the Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources.

Shephard updates the app frequently and has spent hours coding Stingray using Visual Studio Code from his MacBook.

“Andrew’s a really smart guy, and he’s great to work with, so I think no matter what, he’s gonna find a way to make it successful,” Shaun Wilson, a multimedia designer for LaunchLab, said. Shaun designed Stingray’s logo.

“It’s fun, the more people we have on here the more fun it gets,” Shephard said.

ChatGPT

Continued from page 1

mum, especially when it comes to ChatGPT.

“You know, just because it isn’t convenient for the University to have this [ChatGPT] available, doesn’t mean it’s not going to be available,” Widders said.

However, some faculty on campus see the new technology as a unique opportunity.

Thaddeus Herman, a professor in multidisciplinary studies at WVU, said that ChatGPT is a topic that cannot and should not be avoided. In the syllabus for all his classes at the University, Herman even included an AI statement that allows students to use software such as ChatGPT as long as it is cited.

“I think the issue comes when students use the technology or any technology then try to pass off the work as their own,” Herman said. “The larger question is not necessarily about how the technology may be used or abused — it’s more about, well, what do you have to do to inculcate or engender, create the desire within an individual to actually be honest?”

Herman considers ChatGPT to be a tool for peer reviewing initial drafts of a work in undergraduate education.

“Once you give your paper, or whatever you want to edit, to somebody else, then it comes back with changes, you can say, ‘It’s not really my writing anymore. It’s a product of this collaboration,’” Herman said. “What’s the difference between giving it to a couple peers or giving it to a piece of technology that does the same thing?”

Additionally, Herman was part of a ChatGPT panel where a large group of faculty members came together to share ideas about the software.

“I would like to see a place in the cloud or some sort of digital space where faculty and instructors can share ideas about how they’ve either used the technology in designing their courses or incorporate it into their courses,” Herman said.

As ChatGPT continues to grow both negatively and positively, the task force will continue to find new ways to integrate it into WVU’s learning environment.

“Like Wikipedia, like Google, like calculators or computers, I think [ChatGPT] will be a huge tool to help learning once we get used to it,” Widders said.

**Students can
download Stingray
WV here:**



SGA pushes for more accessible shuttle stops

BY SARAH RANSOM
CORRESPONDENT

Last week, WVU's Student Government Association proposed a resolution to place benches and coverings at shuttle stops around campus for students with mobility impairments.

WVU Transportation and the Office of Accessibility Services have created stops around campus to shuttle students with mobility impairments to their classes. However, there are no benches at these spots for students to sit at while they wait to be picked up by the buses.

If the resolution is passed, SGA will provide funding to put benches and coverings at OAS stops in order to give students with permanent and temporary mobility impairment a protected place to wait for the shuttles.

There are currently more than 50 OAS stops on campus, with locations at nearly every campus building and residence hall, as well as the Coliseum and the Student Recreation Center.

ation Center.

"I think Morgantown can be really rough accessibility-wise," Madison Santmyer, SGA Senator-at-Large and member of the SGA's Bureau of Finance committee, said. "[A student] had to lean against the wall for 20 minutes while waiting for the bus, so I saw the need there."

According to SGA, roughly 32% of adults in West Virginia have a disability, and roughly 16% of West Virginians have mobility disabilities. At WVU, 11% of the student population is registered with OAS.

According to Santmyer, it has not yet been decided where the first benches and coverings will be placed.

She worked with Reed College Senators Emma Schwartzmiller and Brogan Dozier to write the resolution before contacting other WVU offices.

"It's a big issue for a large portion of our campus," Santmyer said. "We worked with OAS and the ADA coordinator, and they were really helpful and really excited about the idea."



PHOTO COURTESY WVU

WVU Transportation provides shuttle services for students with temporary and permanent mobility impairments who register with OAS.

She added there has been a lot of support from everyone involved in the making of this resolution.

"We have a good amount of

sponsors that we've reached out to from different people on the assembly," Santmyer said. "I'm really excited about it."

Senators Raafay Uqaily,

Sandrik Tabidze, Emily Whalen, Brooke Jones and Matthew Hudson have sponsored the bill thus far.

The University is currently

considering SGA's resolution, according to WVU's Director of News Communications Shauna Johnson.

"As part of our commitment to creating a welcoming and inclusive campus for everyone, we are always looking for ways to enhance the services and support we provide to ensure we are meeting the needs of our entire campus community," Johnson said. "We welcome feedback from students, faculty, staff and parents on these kinds of opportunities."

The second reading of the resolution will take place on March 8. If passed, SGA will continue to work with OAS and ADA about furthering the process.

According to Santmyer, it will be up to the ADA Office to decide how long it will take before the benches are placed at the shuttle stops.

"We appreciate the SGA's feedback in the form of this proposal, and we are looking into their recommendations for those van pickup locations where overhead coverage may not currently be available."

Health

Continued from page 1

checks at WVU more than doubled last year compared to before the pandemic with reported suicide threats increasing by 72% and reported attempted suicides more than tripling.

But Director of the Carruth Center T. Anne Hawkins said this trend is far from new.

"This isn't new to universities and college counseling centers. We saw increases in depression and anxiety long before the pandemic. Now, since the pandemic, we're absolutely seeing increases in anxiety and stress and depression," Hawkins said.

Hawkins said she be-

lieves the increase in reports and students seeking care could be a combination of increased comfortability in finding counseling and a need for counseling.

She feels students are becoming more isolated, not just from the pandemic, but also with the increase in technology use, social media and remoteness.

"Some people have written about that, in terms of describing this, this generation is the loneliest generation," she said. "I think there's something to that because I think that we're very hard-wired to seek social connection. We want to be heard and seen. And I think that students don't have that connection. They can really struggle."

Last year's budget for Student Mental Health increased by 25% from 2021, according to data provided by WVU Director of News Communications Shauna Johnson.

While this increase can be attributed to many things, Dean of Students G. Corey Farris said the University has expanded many programs targeting mental health for students and faculty.

In addition to hiring more counselors, Farris said the University has also established programs through the Student Recreation Center to improve mental health and foster connections, as well as a new course for students to recognize good mental health practices.

Healthy Minds University

also launched this year, along with the Crisis Text Line and the CARE (Collaboration, Assessment, Response and Engagement) Team, which assesses CARE reports, a document that any student or faculty can fill out to connect them with mental health or financial resources.

"As we continue to hear about the mental health of our students and the mental health crisis across the country, we're just keenly aware and making sure that we're putting the right resources in the right place ... Just adding a whole bunch of counselors is not the best solution," Farris said.

Hawkins said the Carruth Center is also changing its approach to connecting with students through more active outreach rather than waiting for them to seek help.

"It's also been strategic in that we've involved students in the discussion about sort of what their needs are. We've been very, very mindful of creating a Mental Health and Wellness Advisory Board so that we can solicit student input so they can tell us what their needs are and what will be most effective," she said.

According to Hawkins, the Carruth Center is more preventative than it was in the past. She said counselors are now reaching out directly to students by embedding themselves into the campus community and showing up where students are.

The Carruth Center now has several "satellite centers,"

including one in the Health Sciences building, in the Coliseum and Football facility and the Law School. It also holds outreach prevention workshops across campus to address multiple aspects of mental health.

"You may see us in an English course talking about resiliency, or you may go to something at the Rec Center, and we're there talking about meditation, or you may see us in a panel, or you may see us in the Mountainlair doing an outreach, sitting at a table, talking with students or doing a depression screening day," Hawkins said.

Since the pandemic, the Carruth Center has also implemented several remote options like Telehealth, virtual counseling like Talkspace and the 24/7 Crisis Text Line for students who may be less comfortable with physically going to the Center for help.

The Urgent Crisis Clinic was also created recently and has counselors available every day from 8:15 a.m. to 5 p.m. for crisis help and risk assessment.

The Carruth Center has worked to diversify its resources and ability to cater to students of all backgrounds by adding more counselors and tailoring plans to fit individual students.

Data from the Carruth Center shows that the number of non-white students seen at the Center has increased since before the pandemic.

"It's harder in your late teens and your early twenties to navigate stressors and dis-

appointments," Hawkins said about college students' mental health. "There's a higher rate of impulsivity in college age students ... There's a tremendous amount of transition and pressure associated with being a college student. And it's a time of sort of a great growth. So it makes sense that students would struggle."

Hawkins and Farris said that, in addition to reaching out to students directly, the introduction of recreational activities has been the most helpful in improving campus mental health so far.

These activities can range from arts and crafts to adventure trips with the goal of establishing connections.

"Fifty-minute hours are not going to fix it. What I think is going to support our students is when we provide opportunities for them to connect with one another, and to learn new skills, and to identify mentoring resources and to establish a sense of purpose and connection. I think those are the kinds of activities that are going to be the most helpful," she said.

"And if we sit in our offices and wait for you to come to us, I think we're going to be missing the boat."

If you or someone you know could be at risk for suicide, call or text 988 to connect with the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

To reach a live, trained counselor, call the Carruth Center's 24/7 Crisis Line at (304) 293-4431 or text WVU to 741741.

Best Bar Bracket Contest

The DA is looking for the best bars in the Morgantown area for our upcoming Best Bar Bracket contest. Enter up to five of your favorite watering holes located in and around the Morgantown area. Entries must be a bar, nightclub, or restaurant that serves alcohol.

THE DA

Enter at thedaonline.com/contests

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Dancing with our Mountaineer Stars raises money for student food pantry

BY SARAH RANSOM
CORRESPONDENT

Students, faculty and staff gathered over the weekend for the 10th annual Dancing with our Mountaineer Stars, an event that collects nonperishable items for WVU's student food pantry, The Rack.

"It's a nice way to get together as a community and to bring more awareness to The Rack," Marra Sigler, event specialist for WVU, said.

The Rack, located at Morgan House on High Street, is open to all enrolled WVU students and provides food and programs to those struggling with food insecurity.

"I saw the direct impact The Rack had," Sigler said. "We've all been there as a college student, and it's just nice to be able to have that access as a student."

Dancing with our Mountaineer Stars is an annual dance competition where students compete with each other

while also donating nonperishable food items. Contestants were encouraged to donate in order to gain points towards their overall score.

This year, the competition had nine couples participating from all campuses and all different majors with varying degrees of dance experience.

"I love to entertain people," Mary Roush, WVU's 68th Mountaineer and sophomore public relations student, said.

Roush got first runner up in competition with her partner Matthew Hudson, a senior immunology and medical microbiology student.

The nine couples danced in front of a panel of judges which consisted of WVU faculty. Each couple chose their own routine and danced to their own music.

"It was very important to be able to bring the culture to this stage, being of African descent," said Sonia Ndifon, a senior biomedical engineering student and president of the



PHOTO COURTESY WVU PHOTO/DAVID MALECKI

Brycen Kuenzel, left, and partner Madison Bowers compete in the 10th annual Dancing with Our Mountaineer Stars at the Mountainlair Ballrooms on Feb. 25, 2023.

African Students Association. Ndifon got second runner up with her partner Paola Perez.

After the competition, the audience was allowed to vote on whose performance they liked the most.

Madison Bowers, a student

in the integrated marketing communications program, and Brycen Kuenzel, a current master and higher education student, won the competition and were awarded trophies for their dance.

Bowers is a graduate assistant for WVU Extension, and

Kuenzel is a graduate assistant for University Relations and Enrollment Management.

"WVU is all about traditions to me," Bowers said. "It's important for us to not let these traditions die. This was the 10th one. It's a great honor."

Dancing with our Mountaineer Stars, like many WVU events, created a chance for the student body to come together for a fun cause while also giving them an opportunity to meet others.

"It does two things," Kuenzel said about university events. "It helps students know they can get involved and I think it's a really good way to make connections."

Collectively, the dancers donated more than 2,000 nonperishable items to The Rack.

The Rack is open from 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Monday through Friday. Anyone can donate at any time, and the pantry's Amazon wishlist can be found on its website.

Three things to do in Morgantown this weekend

BY LARA BONATESTA
CULTURE EDITOR

As midterms arrive, this weekend is the perfect time for a study break or post-exam celebration.

This weekend, The Daily Athenaeum recommends a meditation session, a fashion class and a poetry workshop.

1 Meditation at Serenity place

The middle of the semester can be a stressful time. If you're looking to destress and find some peace in your day consider visiting Serenity Place at Arnold House.

This Friday, a meditation session will be held from 1 to 2 p.m., for more information or more dates and times visit <https://cal.wvu.edu/event/meditation>.

2 WVU Impact Challenge

If you have a half-semester course that is ending, now might be the perfect time to dive into something new.

This weekend students can have the opportunity to earn 1 credit hour in just three days by doing the Fashion Impact Challenge.

This project will run from March 3 to March 5, and will involve working with high school students.

For more information, visit https://cal.wvu.edu/event/wvu_impact_challenge.

3 Poetry Night

This Friday the Morgantown Art Bar will host a Poetry Night beginning at 5 p.m.

The event will start with an hour-long workshop that will cost \$5, followed by an open mic period from 6 to 7 p.m.

For more information, head to the Morgantown Art Bar Facebook page.

New hip-hop course brings diversity in movement

BY SHRINIDHI VENKATESHWARAPRABU
STAFF WRITER

For the first time this semester, WVU's School of Theater and Dance is offering a hip-hop dance class for students.

This allows students to explore learning different dance forms in addition to already existing classes like ballet, jazz and modern. The class focuses on the art and skills of dancing hip-hop.

"Students will be learning techniques when they learn a full dance form, so they will perform it at the end of the semester in a studio," WVU dance professor Gretchen Hurd said.

According to Hurd, learning hip-hop opens up students to more diverse career paths.

"The dancers coming out of the department are more aware of the movement styles and study the movement styles," Hurd said, "So when they go out there, they are more educated to pass on the traditions and the history of the dance styles is super important."

She also mentioned her teaching is structured in a way that allows the students to take on the dance form earnestly.



PHOTO BY TOLU OLASOJI

WVU dance students complete their warm up during their hip hop class on Friday, Feb. 24, 2023.

Hip-hop originated in the 1970s but has constantly been evolving ever since. Hurd said the emergence of social media, in particular, has led to a greater call for the dance form.

"The lines of hip-hop are getting blurred, just like modern dance or jazz dance has over the last ten years," she said.

Hurd believes this makes hip-hop entrustable and less intimidating for students to approach and learn.

Cady Potter is vice president-elect of the Student

Dance Association. She majors in dance and exercise physiology with an emphasis on dance science.

"She [Hurd] is really good at instilling confidence in the dancers," Potter said when asked about the unique quality of the class. "Sometimes it is daunting to break out of your comfort zone even if you have been dancing for years. She is great at making everybody feel comfortable and welcome in the class."

She added that the class allows students to learn from

their mistakes.

"The mistakes are something to learn about and not feel about because that is how we learn."

The hip-hop style is known for its energy and rhythm.

"Hip-hop is a really fun and athletic outlet to have. It is great exercise and a lot of fun," Potter said.

The traditions of the modern dance form are used as a basis while teaching hip-hop. Hurd said this is important in order to understand the language of the dance form in

itself.

"Understanding that there is a language to it. It is really fun. It is coming out of the pop culture," Hurd said.

Potter, who had studied with Hurd prior to this semester, is new to learning hip-hop. She said she wanted to take this class to explore different art forms and appreciates Hurd's old-school approach to the style.

"She [Hurd] teaches more of classic or old school hip-hop which is not as modern as today which is really nice because it is a little bit different," Potter said. "It is really cool to go back to basics to what the hip-hop dance form is really rooted in."

Potter said she is looking forward to learning to choreograph hip-hop in the class.

"We are going to be learning choreography throughout the semester. And then probably showing it at the end of the semester. That is really exciting."

Hurd plans to teach another hip-hop class at WVU next semester. The course is Dance 493A and is named Hip-Hop.

"I would definitely continue taking classes. Ideally, if I could be in hip-hop pieces in the student shows that would be awesome," Potter said.

Editor:
Luke Morgan
lim00002@mix.wvu.edu

OPINION

WVU hockey deserves more support

OP-ED SUBMITTED BY
WYATT MURPHY

West Virginia University is a place I consider home.

Like many of my teammates, I came to this school for more than just hockey. I came here for the education, the family, the experiences and the chance to score a few goals.

WVU has some of the most passionate fans in the country, and many of them are just now discovering ice hockey, a sport they previously haven't had any experience with.

Despite WVU hockey's successes in recent years, we still lack the resources and name-recognition afforded to other sports.

A question I get asked a lot is, "Do we really have a hockey team here at WVU?" And my answer is always the same: "Yes, we do."

We have four teams, including men's Division I, II and III and women's Division II.

But the biggest misconception is that we are an NCAA team.

All of our hockey teams play

in the American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA). This offers an opportunity for college hockey programs that struggle with large budgets and Title IX issues and serves as an alternative to the NCAA financial structure.

The ACHA comprises more than 500 men's and women's teams from across three divisions and offers a high level of competition for athletes looking to continue playing hockey at the college level. Don't be fooled though, the ACHA is not as far from the NCAA as fans who are new to the sport may think.

All ACHA games follow the same rules and regulations as the NCAA Division, which is unique across any club sport in the country. This structure means that ACHA and NCAA teams can play against each other, and many schools take advantage of that.

On Jan. 7, the WVU Men's ACHA Division I team played against Chatham University's NCAA Division III and has plans to play again next year. Other teams in the ACHA, like Liberty University and the University of Nevada Las Vegas, play against multiple NCAA Division I teams, in-



PHOTO COURTESY OF WYATT MURPHY

A West Virginia hockey player moves towards the net with the puck.

cluding Denver University, who won the Men's NCAA Division I National Championship last year.

Both ACHA and NCAA teams recruit from pools of high school and junior hockey players across North America

and Europe.

The biggest difference between our ACHA teams and an NCAA team is the funding from the school. None of our athletes receive any form of scholarship funds from the University.

We schedule our own buses, book our own hotels, hire our own social media/production team and buy our own equipment. The only money we make for the team is from merchandise or ticket sales. But just like all other sports at WVU, they are free with a valid Student ID.

The hockey teams bring more to Morgantown than just hockey with more than 110 non-scholarship athletes, some of which are international students. On the Men's Division I team alone, we have six students representing Canada, Slovakia and France.

The hockey season lasts from August through March, playing one or two games a weekend while having either on-ice or off-ice practice every day during the week. All of our athletes are full-time students and are studying a range of disciplines from Aerospace Engineering to Health and Well-being.

There has actually been a hockey team at WVU since the creation of the ACHA in 1991. The men's Division I team most recently went to the ACHA National Tournament in the 2013-2014 season.

The men's Division II team just won its first-ever ACCHL Championship last weekend and the men's Division I and III teams are having their best seasons in the past six years.

The WVU women's team is also having its best season and hopes to punch its first-ever ticket to the ACHA National Tournament since its creation in 2019.

As the sport continues to grow in popularity, in West Virginia, the University should consider further supporting the teams or transitioning the program to become an NCAA-affiliated organization.

We have proven we can win, and the building blocks are there, including a steady fanbase and a new ice arena in Morgantown coming within the next two years. I believe that WVU making the move to dedicate more resources to the team is the obvious next step.

Editor's Note: Wyatt Murphy is a first-year MBA student with an undergraduate degree in Industrial Engineering. He is from Little Canada, Minnesota. Murphy is the captain of the men's Hockey Division I team.

FOOD REVIEW | Monarca-Taqueria tackles midnight tacos

BY MADELINE HARRIS
FOOD CRITIC

During the winter months each year, thousands of monarch butterflies migrate up to 2,500 miles away from the U.S. and Canada, where they breed, to hibernate in the forests of central Mexico.

Coincidentally, this migration inspired a new family-owned restaurant in downtown Morgantown.

Welcome to Monarca-Taqueria, a new traditional Mexican restaurant located at 236 Walnut St.

The establishment celebrated its grand opening on Feb. 9 and, according to its owners, is West Virginia's first taqueria-style restaurant.

Monarca-Taqueria is owned and operated by Irlanda Huff and her family, making the restaurant feel just like home. A tight knit staff cooking meals they love makes the meal taste so much better.

The restaurant offers traditional dishes from Mexico including street style tacos, burritos, gorditas, fajitas and more.

Plus, having late-night hours is music to the ears of

college students. This flexibility allows customers to get to the restaurant at whatever time is most convenient for them.

I'm very fond of Mexican food, so I had very high hopes when I traveled to the restaurant last week. The building itself is hard to see from the street, so I recommend looking for the purple butterfly in the window.

This was definitely the cutest restaurant I have seen in Morgantown. The tops of the walls are pink and purple with black tables and black textured panels lining the floor.

The tables were decorated for Valentine's day as well, which was a nice touch.

I ultimately decided on their specialty burritos, which includes a warm flour tortilla filled with seasoned rice, fresh pico de gallo, cheese, beans smothered in rich sauce and a choice of meat for an additional charge.

I went with the ground beef in my burrito and a side of chips and salsa with a Mexican coke.

The atmosphere of the restaurant was so comforting, filled with lots of chatter and laughs between custom-

ers and staff. The Mexican music in the background added a fun vibe for the wait.

Even with the long wait to order, it only took about five minutes to get my food once I ordered. At Monarca, you pick your own table, and the cooks call your name once your order is ready.

The burrito was huge; I had no idea how I was going to eat it. I recommend a fork and knife to help you tackle that beast of a meal.

The first thing I noticed about the burrito was how proportionate the ingredients were. Usually one or two ingredients prevail over the others, but that was not the case here. Every bite tasted the same as the last, and the flavors combined wonderfully.

The cheese was my favorite part: so creamy and unlike any other cheese I have had in a Mexican dish. The beef and the beans partnered perfectly, and the lettuce added just the right amount of crunch without overpowering each bite.

The chips were just the right amount of salty, and the salsa was spicy and chunky, with just a hint of cilantro. I believe every Mexican meal is only complete with a good side of

chips and salsa, and this meal was perfect in my book.

I will definitely be a frequent customer of Monarca-Taqueria. I fully enjoyed every part of this experience. That burrito fed me for almost three meals, at a price of less than 10 dollars.

With their flexible hours, anyone can get a great Mexican meal for a reasonable price at Monarca-Taqueria. I encourage everyone to go out and support this new restaurant as they continue to grow their business.

If you go:

Location:

236 Walnut Street,
Morgantown, WV

Hours:

- Monday to Wednesday - 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- Thursday to Saturday - 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 a.m.
- Sunday - Closed



PHOTO BY MADELINE HARRIS

Beef burrito with chips and salsa from Monarca-Taqueria.

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 - 27 Coffeehouse
 - 29 Revive again
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 - 33 Measuring instrument
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 - 5 Canoe propeller
 - 6 Dickens' Tiny ___
 - 7 Female tavern owner
 - 8 Negative (prefix)
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 - 10 Move away
 - 11 Birds "thumb"
 - 15 Dash
 - 17 Hand outs
 - 19 Chick holder
 - 22 Abridged (abbr.)
- 25 Prays
 - 26 Citizen
 - 27 Tip
 - 28 Stake
 - 29 Leaf gathering tools
 - 30 Make corrections to
 - 31 Flank
 - 33 Strong high wind
 - 35 To, send forth
 - 36 Charts
 - 37 Charity
 - 39 Whirl
 - 40 Pit noise
 - 42 Able to produce abundant
 - 45 Central Intelligence Agency
 - 46 Diver
 - 47 Request
 - 48 Spring
 - 49 Barbecued stick
 - 51 Stupid
 - 53 Show
 - 54 Together
 - 56 Gas burner
 - 57 Colors
 - 59 North American country
 - 61 Goose egg
 - 62 Distress call

For answers, visit thedaonline.com



Pet of the Week



PHOTO BY EMMA RIGGS

Meet Penny. Penny is a Boston Terrier that loves to snuggle up with you on the couch and take long walks in the park. She knows how to roll over, paw, sit and speak. Her favorite treat is goldfish crackers.

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Complete the grid so each row, column and 3x3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9.

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Malori Brown aims for 2024 Olympic Games

BY RACHEL LIBERT
STAFF WRITER

Malori Brown started shooting when she was twelve years old. Now, the senior from China Springs, Texas, has qualified for the USA National Smallbore Team and has her sights set on the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris.

Qualifying for the USA National Team has been a goal of Brown's since becoming a Mountaineer. The senior has spent all four years at West Virginia, and knew Morgantown was her home the moment she stepped on campus.

"Everybody just made me feel so welcome, and I just felt like I was part of the West Virginia University family. This team is like a family to me, and I knew this is the place that I needed to be," she said. "This is where I'm meant to be."

Rifle head coach Jon Hammond recruited Brown out of high school to join West Virginia's program. As early as her freshman year, Brown had the goal of making the national team.

"I finally, finally got there this year," she said. "It's been

a long time coming."

The USA National Smallbore team is made up of the top shooters in the country. To qualify, Brown earned a high rank throughout five qualifying matches – the final match being on her home turf in Morgantown.

Earning a spot on the national team means an athlete is guaranteed the opportunity to play at a World Cup. If a shooter makes the developmental team, they are next in line for a World Cup in the instance the national team does not have enough shooters.

This March, Brown will be attending the World Cup in India.

This year brings many firsts for Brown: her first time competing nationally, her first World Cup and her first time making the national team.

Brown's teammate, junior Matt Sanchez, also had a historic season as he qualified for the USA National Development Air Rifle Team following his 2022-23 success.

Sanchez and Brown have been competing together as Mountaineers since 2020. Brown describes Sanchez as "the brother she never had."

"Matt and I are on the same wavelength on a lot of things, like how we want to compete, how we want to train and the goals we have in life," Brown said.

As far as training, Brown and Sanchez practice for a minimum of three hours a day, five days a week. While long training sessions have prepared Brown for competition, the shooter says that enhancing her mental game has been an important contributor to her recent success.

"I'm more focused on the mental side of it," she said. "Like, 'How do I recover from a bad shot or a shot I'm not proud of?'"

Confident in her shooting skills, Brown says she has been working on maintaining mental focus.

"There's 60 shots you shoot in a competition, and you can't get to the 60th shot until you've shot the 59 that come before it," she said. "Taking it one shot at a time, taking it one day at a time until the competition happens, is going to be beneficial."

By continuing to improve her physical skill and mental game, Brown is preparing for



PHOTO BY TYLER PRUSINA

WVU's Malori Brown adjusts her rifle at the GARC Championship on Feb. 25, 2023.

the 2024 Summer Olympics. Brown was an alternate for the 2020 Olympic Games, and in the coming year, Brown is on a mission to make the team.

While the Olympics is

Brown's goal, she takes her competitions one at a time. For now, she is focusing on the upcoming NCAA Championships, followed by the World Cup in India.

"The end goal is to get that minimum qualifying score to make the Olympic team," Brown said. "But right now, it's just about experience and trying to live for the moment."

Swim and dive compete at Big 12 Championships

BY TRENT LEWIS
STAFF WRITER

The West Virginia University men's and women's swim and dive teams competed in the Big 12 Championships this last week in Austin, Texas.

The event ran through Feb. 22-25 at the Lee & Joe Jamail Texas Swimming Center. Preliminary action began on Wednesday morning, while final events started on Thursday evening.

The men's team finished in third place in the final standings with 755 total points, while the women's team finished in fourth place with 540 points. In total, the Mountaineers claimed 16 medals during the championships.

Many Mountaineers earned podium finishes on Wednesday evening. In the women's 200 medley relay event, senior Jacqueline McCutchan, freshman Mia Cheatwood, senior Harna Minezawa and freshman Ada Szwabinska finished in third place with a final time of 1:39.43.

The men's team also earned third place in its 200 medley relay, as junior Justin Heimes,

sophomore Danny Berlitz, senior David Snider and sophomore Conner McBeth finished with a 1:26.42 final time.

West Virginia claimed its first silver medal in the women's 800 free relay event. Junior Abby Reardon, freshman Gabriela Martin, sophomore Miranda Kirtley and sophomore Morgan Burton completed the race in 7:15.56 to grab second place.

Junior Roanoke Shirk and freshmen swimmers Max Nielsen, Jamin Harlan and William Mullen completed the men's 800 free relay race in 6:31.10 to earn third place and close out night one for the Mountaineers.

Reardon and Kirtley both placed within the top 10 of the women's 500 free event to kick off day two of the championships. Reardon finished in sixth place after a 4:50.31 final time, while Kirtley placed eighth with a final time of 4:53.01.

Both sides of the team earned bronze in the 400-relay event. McClutchan, Cheatwood, Minezawa and Szwabinska finished in 3:39.10, while Heimes, Berlitz, Snider



PHOTO BY TOLU OLASOJI

WVU men's swimmer races against Villanova on Jan. 28, 2023.

and McBeth finished the race in 3:11.67.

The highlight of the championships for WVU came on Friday evening, as McCutchan earned gold in the women's

100 back final. McCutchan finished in 54.14 to grab the first and only gold medal for the Mountaineers.

West Virginia also claimed two silver medals on Friday

evening in the women's and men's 200-free relay events. Cheatwood, McCutchan, Minezawa and Szwabinska completed the event in 1:30.94 to earn second place. Sopho-

more Braden Osborn joined Berlitz, Shirk and McBeth as they finished with a final time of 1:18.83.

In the men's 200 back event, Heimes earned the bronze medal after finishing with a 1:43.84 final time. Soon after, Mullen earned silver in the 1650-yard freestyle event. Mullen completed the event in 15:20.04.

On the final day of the meet, sophomore Mia Walters grabbed another bronze medal for the Mountaineers in the women's 200 butterfly race. Walters finished with a final time of 2:00.82 to claim third place.

Berlitz, Osborn, Shirk and McBeth closed out the championships for West Virginia with a silver medal in the men's 400 freestyle relay. The group finished with a 2:54.77 final time.

Texas once again dominated on both sides of the championship. Its men's team scored 1060 total points and the women's team claimed 1105 points. The victory marked the 11th straight sweep for Texas at the Big 12 Championships.

WVU rifle finishes first in GARC Championships, claims 15th title

BY RACHEL LIBERT
STAFF WRITER

The West Virginia rifle team took a first-place finish in the Great America Rifle Conference Championship in two days of competition at the WVU Shell Building in Morgantown this weekend.

The Mountaineers hosted seven rifle teams in the weekend competition, including Akron, Army, Kentucky, Memphis, Navy, North Carolina State and Ole Miss.

Day one of competition featured two smallbore relays followed by a smallbore final.

Junior Tal Engler led the first smallbore relay for the Mountaineers with 590 points followed by senior Akihito Shimizu with 587 points.

Senior Mary Tucker led the second relay for West Virginia with 586 points in smallbore.

At the conclusion of the second relay, Engler and Shimizu qualified for the smallbore finals, featuring the top eight competitors from the first two relays.

At the end of regulation, Engler held a tying score of 405.8 with Navy's Parker Haydin, sending the match into a shoot-off for the gold medal.

Engler beat Haydin 17-15 in the smallbore shoot-off, earning a gold medal and becoming the GARC smallbore champion.

Navy's Haydin placed second and Memphis' Gabriella Zych finished third. Shimizu finished seventh.

At the end of day one of competition, West Virginia led with a total of 2,345 points, followed by Ole Miss with 2,336 points. Kentucky shot 2,335 to rank third, while Akron placed fourth with 2,330 points and Navy finished fifth with 2,525.

Day two of the match featured the air rifle competition.

Tucker led the Mountaineers in the relays with 599 air rifle points. Tucker's performance put her in first place following the first relays, qualifying her for the finals.

Tucker placed second in the air rifle individual standings and led West Virginia to a first-place finish, earning the



PHOTO BY TYLER PRUSINA

Senior Calista Smoyer (Left) and sophomore Natalie Perrin (Right) compete in air rifle on the first day of the GARC Championship on Feb. 25 in Morgantown.

GARC Championship title.

Following Tucker in air rifle was Kentucky's Sofia Caccarello and Navy's Haydin.

In the overall individual standings, Tucker earned 1,185 aggregate points for a third-place finish. Engler finished in sixth with an aggregate of 1,183 points, and junior

Molly McGhin earned the No. 10 spot with 1,179 points.

In the overall team standings, West Virginia finished with 4,722 points. 2,345 points came from the smallbore competition while 2,377 came from air rifle.

The win marks West Virginia's 15th GARC Championship

title.

With the successful weekend coming to a close, the Mountaineers now have their sights on the NCAA Championships. The event is set for March 10-11 in Akron, Ohio, and times are to be announced.



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Track and field concludes Big 12 Championships

BY MATT ROSS
STAFF WRITER

The West Virginia University track and field team concluded the Big 12 Conference Championships Saturday in Lubbock, Texas.

"This is as many women as we have ever had competing on the final day of competition," WVU track and field head coach Sean Cleary said. "Qualifying five for the finals on the track along with a slew of women in the 3,000 and the high jump makes for an exciting day."

Junior Charlie Wood and senior Mikaela Lucki competed in the one mile and advanced to day two of the conference championships. On day one, their times were 4:48.09 for Wood and 4:51.50 for Lucki.

Lucki finished in fourth place with a time of 4:46.67 on day two, while Wood placed eighth with a time of 4:48.54.

Senior Mikaela Lucki, senior Tessa Constantine along with sophomores Cassandra Williamson and Ceile McCabe earned second place for WVU



PHOTO COURTESY WVU ATHLETICS

WVU's Charlotte Wood competes at Big 12 Championship.

in the medley relay final with a time score of 11:23.76.

In the 800-meter final, Williamson placed fourth in the final with a time of 2:07.17. Her qualifying round was a time of 2:08.22.

On day one, junior Mikenna Vanderheyden and senior Hayley Jackson qualified for the second day of events.

Both runners finished in the top three in the 1000-meter race. Jackson came in first with a time of 2:48.47, and Vanderheyden finished with a time of 2:49.23.

On the final day of competition, Vanderheyden finished in fifth with a time of 2:47.95. Following her was Jackson with a time of 2:48.47 to take

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WVU gymnastics bounces back with season-high against Texas Woman's

BY TOLU OLASOJI
CORRESPONDENT

West Virginia gymnastics (9-7, 1-2 Big 12) ended its double weekend on the road positively, scoring a season-high team total to dispatch Texas Woman's 196.625 -195.375 inside the Kitty Magee Arena at Denton on Sunday afternoon.

Two days earlier, the Mountaineers succumbed to No. 1 Oklahoma, even though they posted a record road score of 195.675. But they followed that performance up with their season's high score against the Pioneers.

WVU came top in every event but beam, where it tied with the host. Jason Butts' team posted 49.0 or higher across four events for the first time this year, and the team scored its highest since March 19, 2022.

This was also the 12th-best team score in program history. Additionally, amassing 49.0s on every event in a single meet only came last over a year ago.

Opening on the bar, the team scored 49.0 for the first

time this season. Sophomore Brooke Alban put the squad to a great start with a 9.825. The trio of senior Emily Holmes-Hackerd, sophomore Anna Leigh and freshman Miranda Smith hit 9.8s, with senior Kianna Yancey finishing off with a 9.775.

On vault, the squad scored a season-best 49.275, with senior Abbie Pierson and freshman Emma Wehry earning 9.9 season-bests and a career-high matching for junior Kiana Lewis (9.875).

West Virginia equaled its second-best floor score in 2023 with 49.375. Pierson and Emily Holmes-Hackerd scored 9.9s. And on beam, career bests for senior Kendra Combs (9.9) and Wehry (9.8) helped the team to a second-highest score in the event this season (49.025), a score tied by the hosts.

The Mountaineers return to Morgantown after impressive performances in Oklahoma and Denton. They face Central Michigan and Pitt in the final regular-season home meet of the season on Sunday afternoon on March 5, a day that doubles as Senior Day.



PHOTO BY TOLU OLASOJI

WVU gymnastics competes against Bowling Green at the Coliseum on Feb. 19, 2023.

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- ✓ Drink lots of water.
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Mountaineer baseball falls to Arizona in series finale

BY JONATHAN HAMILTON
STAFF WRITER

The Arizona Wildcats walloped the West Virginia Mountaineers 15-5 Sunday in the third and final game of the series at Hi Corbett Field in Tucson, Arizona.

The game marked the Mountaineers' (4-3) first loss since Feb. 18 against Georgia Southern, snapping a four game winning streak.

The Wildcats (4-3) lost the first two games of the series to WVU, but they were able to take something positive out of their first series at home this season.

Both teams scored in the first inning, with West Virginia getting a solo home run from sophomore second baseman J.J. Wetherholt, going opposite field.

UA would respond with three runs, as Grant Siegel batted in Arizona's first run; freshman third baseman Mason White would score on the balk. Following, junior center fielder Matt Bingham stroked a two-run homer, scoring himself and senior shortstop Nik

McCaughtry. After one inning, Arizona led 3-1.

The Wildcats would strike again in the bottom of the second. White ripped a double to center, bringing in senior designated hitter Tyler Casagrande. Bingham then snuck a double down the third base line to bring home White.

West Virginia would get back on the board again in the top of the fourth with freshman Ellis Garcia singling. The single would bring home freshman outfielder Sam White.

The Wildcats would neutralize WVU's fourth-inning run by scoring a run of their own. Junior first baseman Kiko Romero doubled, bringing home Bingham.

Sophomore first baseman would open a two-run fifth inning for West Virginia with a solo home run to center field. Later in the inning White would single, bringing in Wetherholt to score.

Arizona would open the floodgates at the bottom of the fifth. It started with a McCaughtry single to left in which he would be thrown out trying to advance to second.

The single brought home freshman right fielder Brendan Summerhill and sophomore second baseman Garen Caulfield.

Following, Bingham would clear the bases with a three-run bomb to left, scoring himself, Casagrande and junior Chase Davis.

UA would tack on one more run with Splaine singling and plating Romero a few plays later in the inning.

In the sixth, Bingham would continue his huge day with a 2-run sacrifice fly, bringing home McCaughtry and Casagrande.

WVU scored a run in the ninth, when sophomore outfielder Tyler Cox made a pinch-hit appearance and grounded into a fielder's choice, with freshman catcher Zack Rampen, who came into the game off the bench, scoring the final run of the game.

For its next regular season game, WVU will travel to Virginia to take on William and Mary on Friday, March 3. First pitch is scheduled for 3 p.m. at Plumeri Park in Williamsburg, Virginia.





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This is DubV 411- West Virginia University's very own weekly update podcast. Every week, Maddie Harris and Lauren Taylor will fill you in on the buzz happening in the coming week on campus and around Morgantown.

WVU is such a big school with so many opportunities that there's always something fun and interesting to do. So tune in every Friday wherever you listen to your podcasts and get inspired to go out and try something new!



Monday in Morgantown- Monday in Morgantown is a weekly news podcast aimed at keeping you caught up on all the events on campus at West Virginia University. Each Monday, a new episode detailing all the news you might've missed will be released.



Women in Science and Medicine Podcast- The Women in Science and Medicine podcast features discussions with female scientists within West Virginia University and other institutions. In this series, we'll share the achievements and insights from some of the country's top female scientists and learn from their experiences to understand how they came to be passionate about science and overcame any obstacles in their paths. This podcast is offered by West Virginia University's Office of Research and Graduate Education.



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Time Out is a podcast focused on issues in sport leadership, performance and health with a wide range of experts and industry leaders. This podcast is offered by WVU's College of Applied Human Sciences School of Sport Sciences graduate online programs.



GradLife 601 podcast series, we'll share the achievements and insights of West Virginia University graduate students and faculty. We'll discuss their experiences and how they came to be passionate about their research. We'll also talk about life beyond the lab and academy. GradLife 601: Research and Beyond is sponsored by the WVU Provost's Office of Graduate Education and Life and hosted by Dr. Nancy Caronia, a Teaching Associate Professor in the Department of English at West Virginia University.



Every Wednesday, Wellbeing Wednesdays is a weekly podcast exploring what wellbeing means at West Virginia University. Listen to get to know more about the folks doing work on the ground at the university in addition to some light-hearted fun as we take a look at wellbeing in popular culture.

Do you have an idea for a podcast, Prospect and Price Creative can help you make it happen. Call 304-293-4141 or email info@prospectandpricecreative.com



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Let's go!



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MARCH 22, 2023

dayofgiving.wvu.edu

[#WVU Day of Giving](https://twitter.com/WVUFoundation)

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