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Ford-Wheaton looks to improve running after the catch

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WVU's Independent Student Newspaper

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

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TikTok man at football game: I have COVID

BY DUNCAN SLADE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Not smart, Justin.

In a viral TikTok video, a person is seen standing in the packed stands during the WVU football game against Virginia Tech. The man shows himself briefly before turning the camera and panning across the crowd.

The caption on the video posted by user @justinrobinson_2 reads: "Is it to[o] late to tell everyone I got COVID two days ago."

After a five-second clip from the game, Michael, a Florida-based filmmaker who goes by the social media handle @TizzyEnt, cuts into the video.

"Well yeah Justin it is, it is too late," he says. "It's too late to do the right thing which is not go to an event where there are thousands of people when you know you have COVID and you're taking zero precautions."

"It's too late to do the smart thing and not advertise to the world that you went to that event while being COVID positive."

The video has been shared across social media platforms and has over half a million views.

The person in the stands is not a WVU student, said Executive Director of Communication April Kaula in an email.

On TikTok, the official WVU social media account wrote under the video: "WVU has confirmed that this person is not a student, however we continue to take this situation seriously and have shared this video with officials who can further investigate."

Kaula said the University is working with the athletics department to gather more information about the ticket holder and to "pursue any and all appropriate action."

Senior Associate Athletics Director for Communication Michael Fragale said in an email that he cannot discuss specific cases but did share language from the back of a WVU ticket.

"WVU may revoke the license, eject or refuse entry to [the ticket] holder, and/or take further action for failure to comply with the terms and conditions, WVU or venue policies and procedures, illegal activity, or to refuse entry or eject [ticket] holders that have come in contact with or test positive for COVID-19 or is otherwise suspected to have been infected," the back of the WVU ticket states.

Michael, the Florida-based filmmaker, had advice for not only Justin but also people who attended the game.

"If you have exhibited symptoms of COVID or have become COVID positive, you may have Justin to thank for that," Michael said to people who were in the stands.

He encouraged his audience to message Justin on his TikTok or Instagram account.

The original video and the account with the handle @justinrobinson_2 that originally posted the video have both been deleted.



TIKTOK

A screenshot from the viral TikTok posted by @justinrobinson_2.

There are way fewer student workers this year, WVU data shows

BY CAMREN GANDEE
CORRESPONDENT

Around campus, there are a lot of empty storefronts.

Faced with a shortage of student workers, WVU has scaled back a number of dining operations. New data shows the extent of the problem.

Last year, WVU Dining Services employed 560 student workers. According to University numbers shared with the Daily Athenaeum earlier this month, there are now 361 student workers employed by Dining Services, almost 200 fewer than last year.

As students return to classrooms at full capacity and more people are

on campus, WVU employs 700 fewer student workers than last year. This is a 12% decrease from 2020.

Among staff employees — separate from student workers — the total number of workers is close to pre-pandemic levels around 3,500.

The effects of the staffing shortage have been felt around campus, particularly at dining locations.

Some popular grub spots, such as Tres Habaneros, Taziki's Mediterranean Cafe and Let's Go... Tacos have been closed or operating under modified schedules since August.

A full list of the impacted dining venues can be found at the WVU Dining website.

Sodexo, the University's outside contractor for dining services, has also seen an employment decrease

over the pandemic.

In 2019, there were 134 Sodexo employees on the Morgantown campus. As of this month, Sodexo employs 117 people.

"This is definitely a unique hiring environment that has its own challenges," said Sodexo Human Relations Manager Tiffany Peden. "A shortage of available labor in the local food service industry, and many people still not comfortable working in busy environments due to the pandemic."

WVU officials have implemented a number of hiring benefits and incentives including job fairs, hiring bonuses and refer-a-friend bonuses. They have also increased the maximum weekly work hours to 28 for students.

Junior accounting student Liam McCarthy was one of many WVU students at a job fair hosted at the Rec Center last week.

"I think it has been hard for a lot of students with COVID-19 and everything, to really settle into jobs," said McCarthy. "But when I heard about the job fair going on today, I thought it would be a good chance for me to get employment a little quicker."

The Rec Center adjusted hours earlier this month, saying in a press release that the decision was "due to a lack of applications for employment."

Corrine Pruett, campus recreation coordinator for Member Services, suggested that the staffing shortage wasn't necessarily a shortage at all, rather the byproduct of

delayed on-boarding and training processes.

"Every student who we hire has to be processed by Shared Services with the University, first. Not that it's necessarily their fault, it's just a long process to get them through the payroll and everything," Pruett said. "We also saw an increase in the people that resigned because they couldn't go through the on-boarding process, so they just weren't as invested as those who did."

Pruett also said the Rec Center faces some unique hiring challenges.

"It's a little more difficult [at the Rec Center] as well, because a majority of our positions require some sort of training or licensing to qualify. So that's just another hoop they have to go through."



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FRIDAY 10/01

SUNNY

HIGH 72° - LOW 46°



SATURDAY 10/02

MOSTLY SUNNY

HIGH 79° - LOW 59°



SUNDAY 10/03

SHOWERS

HIGH 74° - LOW 64°



CRIME REPORT

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Sept. 27

1:14 a.m. | Resolved

WVU Area 72

Unsecure Building.

Sept. 27

5:50 a.m. | Investigation

Mountainlair Parking Lot

Destruction of Property.

Sept. 27

9:31 a.m. | Resolved

Student Health Building

Assist EMS Police.

Sept. 27

10:09 a.m. | Impounded

WVU Short Term Lot 2

Back Ticket Tow.

Sept. 27

12:42 p.m. | Closed

Oakland Hall iHOP

Trespassing.

Sept. 27

4:25 p.m. | Investigation

Alpha Phi Sorority

Harrassment.

Sept. 27

8:56 p.m. | Unfounded

Vandalia Hall Gold

Fire Alarm.

Sept. 27

9:26 p.m. | Unfounded

Stalnakar Hall

Drug Incident.

Sept. 27

3:31 p.m. | Resolved

Metro Towers

Welfare Check.

The DA is student-run and editorially independent from West Virginia University. All content decisions in the DA are made by students without prior review by the University.



dailyathenaeum

HOMECOMING SCHEDULE

THURSDAY:

5-7 p.m. — Greek Games, *Lair Green*

FRIDAY:

2-4 p.m. -- Greek Hall of Fame Induction, *Ericksen Alumni Center*

5:30-8 p.m. — Homecoming Parade on High Street where WVU Alumni Association Homecoming and Alumni services award winners will be honored.

SATURDAY PREGAME:

12 p.m. — Tailgate hosted by the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Student Government Association at the University Park Courtyard

12:30 p.m. — Tailgate for members of Hail WV at the Erickson Alumni Center

1 p.m. — Homecoming tailgate sponsored by the Center for Black Culture and Research at the the Coca Cola Hospitality Village Tent City

SATURDAY GAME:

3:30 p.m. — Homecoming game against Texas Tech at Milan Puskar Stadium on ESPN2

Halftime — Homecoming Royalty announced



WVU's INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

NEWS

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The Daily Athenaeum strives for accuracy and fairness in the reporting of news. If a report is wrong or misleading a request for a correction or a clarification may be made.

Clery Act Report shows more burglaries, less overall crime at WVU over last year

BY DUNCAN SLADE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

WVU released the legally-required annual Clery Report on Wednesday with statistics about campus crime and fire safety.

The report shows an overall decrease in reported crime on and around campus over the 2020 year when many students were not in Morgantown due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Specifically, the number of reported sexual assaults, domestic violence incidents and alcohol-related crimes went down.

"This reporting cycle brought with it some anomalies largely due to the number of students who were not attending in-person classes," Phil Scott, interim chief for University Police, said in a press release that accompanied the report. "As we all know, it was a different kind of year and some of the areas with increases may reflect that."

While most crimes went down, there was a rise of re-



PHOTO BY MALIA RICHARDSON

WVU students on the Evansdale campus on Friday Sept. 3rd 2021.

ported burglaries last year.

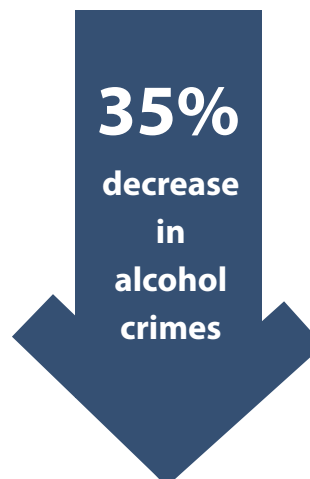
In 2020, there were 26 reported burglaries. In each 2019 and 2018, there were

just 18.

Scott said that there are now more surveillance cameras in certain areas, such as

the College Park apartment complex.

"We urge people to continue to lock their doors —



both home and vehicle — check their vehicles regularly and report any suspicious behavior," he said.

There was one murder at WVU last year, after two years without a reported murder. Eric Smith, 21, was murdered at College Park Apartments in February.

Both men involved have been convicted of murder.

Liquor law violations, both arrests and referrals for discipline, decreased significantly in 2020.

In 2019, there were 1,682

referrals and arrests for alcohol-related crimes. In 2020 there were 1,080 of these crimes.

This is a 35% decrease in alcohol-related crimes.

In 2020, there were five fires in on-campus student housing.

In February, burnt waffles in a toaster oven in Brooke Tower caught on fire and caused less than \$100 in damages.

At University Park Apartments and Seneca Hall, there were three fires where a cooking stove top caught on fire.

A gas power heater caught on fire at Sigma Nu fraternity in June.

The Clery Report is mandated by law to be released by Oct. 1 of each year. It documents the number of certain types of crimes that are reported to police.

It does not represent the outcome of investigations by the University Police Department.

The report includes crimes occurred within student housing or public property adjacent to campus.

English professor makes eCampus more accessible

BY JORDAN HOWES
CORRESPONDENT

Students and professors faced many challenges throughout the pandemic, particularly the transition to and from an online learning environment.

Associate Professor Lisa Weihman found each learning platform comes with its own accessibility challenges for students.

"I think accessibility is always key for anyone's learning," Weihman said. "If you have a barrier to accessibility, you are always only going to get part of the message of the class."

Weihman, who holds a doctorate in English, was one of seven instructors to receive the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) grant offered by the WVU Teaching and Learning Commons and the Office of Accessibility Services this summer. The grant includes a \$3,500 stipend to further develop course content.

UDL provides professors



PHOTO COURTESY WVU

Lisa Weihman, associate professor in the department of English.

with a framework to make learning accessible to all students.

Professors who are awarded the grant collaborate with instructional designers from the Teaching and Learning Commons and work with accessibility services to create audio and video captions.

Like many professors at WVU, Weihman has spent more than a year teaching in an online, in-person and hybrid format. She spent this



PHOTO BY MALIA RICHARDSON

Two students study on the Evansdale campus on Friday, Sept. 3, 2021.

time adjusting her teaching style to match her students' accessibility needs.

"Offering choice in a class allows students to work toward their strengths. I think about this a lot in teaching in terms of how the material reaches students, that there isn't simply one way that students are going to hear something and learn it or see something and learn it," said Weihman.

Weihman applied for the

UDL Grant in the spring of 2021. After receiving the grant, she worked alongside Amanda Tracey, an instructional designer with the Teaching and Learning Commons, to restructure one of her English classes on eCampus.

They found new students often had trouble adjusting to the platform.

"I have had several students who are, in particular, first-year students, who just

did not understand eCampus at all," Weihman said. "And I think that faculty, including myself, often assume that eCampus is really easily accessible and apparent to new students and that they just know how to use it."

As part of Weihman's eCampus restructure, students now have multiple options for submitting assignments. Essay assignments can be turned in as traditional written documents or as au-

dio recordings of students reading their essays aloud.

Weihman said she hopes the University will consider increasing learning accessibility for all classes.

"I do think that being forced to adapt to new circumstances has increased the possibility that some of us are going to change in ways that will help students," she said. "I think that hasn't been universal at WVU through the pandemic, but a lot of faculty are trying very hard to meet students where they are and to meet the circumstances."

Weihman's experience with the UDL Grant and eCampus restructure is still ongoing. She said she is eager to see how this semester concludes and hopes for success with her new class model that will hopefully be incorporated into her future courses.

"For me, it was about opening up the idea of accessibility to go beyond the idea of disability and more to the idea of learning differences and learning preferences and how that could be incorporated into the class," Weihman said.

Harm reduction coalition launches in response to new restrictive state laws, distributes Narcan

BY CHRISTINA RUFO
STAFF WRITER

The Mountain State Harm Reduction (MSHR) coalition launched Saturday in a direct response to recent state laws that restrict harm reduction in West Virginia.

In April, Gov. Jim Justice signed SB 334, which requires all new and current harm reduction programs offering needle exchanges to be licensed within the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources.

This new process makes it more difficult for harm reduction programs such as MSHR to provide service to those within the community.

The group set up a booth at the Morgantown Farmers Market to kickstart their program and gain local support and recognition.

According to Laura Jones, executive director at Milan Puskar Health Right, this initial event is phase one of the coalition's plan.

"Our goal is to launch the beginning of a new group that will really focus on listening to the voices of people

who use drugs and help decrease the stigma, which we hope works to improve the environment for harm reduction and harm reduction services in West Virginia," Jones said.

MSHR works with the Milan Puskar community supported free clinic, Health Right, which helps provide additional tools and resources for those impacted by HIV and opioid related issues.

By definition, harm reduction refers to a range of public health policies designed to lessen the negative social and physical consequences associated with drug use, in this case, opioid drug abuse.

The booth offered a variety of informational pamphlets to educate community members on the importance of harm reduction. Organizers also offered resources like Narcan distribution training, free Narcan two-pack nasal sprays, CPR face shields and more.

Caitlan Sussman, local Morgantown social worker and member of MSHR helped train individuals on how to use the Naloxone spray in

real time at the event.

"No one wants to have to think about using Narcan on someone," Sussman said. "It's scary to think about, but it's amazing how many people will rise to the occasion."

Naloxone, known by common brand name Narcan, is a medication designed to reverse the harmful effects of opioid overdose. Narcan can be used to counteract opioids like heroin, hydrocodone, morphine, oxycodone and fentanyl, among others.

Following the launch at the farmers market, MSHR held a listening session focus group with fellow community members, allowing others to share their stories of drug use and help give better insight and perspective into the statewide crisis.

Jones said the group will continue to hold listening sessions and focus groups in other communities across the state to help raise awareness on the current opioid crisis in the state.

In 2020, West Virginia experienced 1,275 overdose deaths (a 45% increase from 2019), according to the WVDHHR.



PHOTO BY CHRISTINA RUFO

Members of Mountain State Harm Reduction (MSHR) gather at the Morgantown Farmers Market on Sept. 25, 2021.

The coalition has been meeting since June. In its first year, it will focus on direct services for drug users, lobbying lawmakers at all levels to support those services

and holding strategy meetings across the state.

"We're here today because there are a lot of issues that we feel need to be advocated for, and we believe all lives

are valuable and want to do as much as possible to save lives here in West Virginia," Sussman said.

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WVU Medicine

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WVU Greek Life to promote CPR training for members

BY JULES OGDEN
CORRESPONDENT

In response to wide-scale student interest, the Center for Fraternal Values and Leadership is working on a new initiative to provide CPR training and certification for members of Greek Life at West Virginia University.

The initiative was kick-started due to extensive expressed interest in becoming proactive bystanders by students involved in Greek Life, said Matthew Richardson, director of the Center for Fraternal Values and Leadership.

"Because there is such an outpour of students that say, 'We want this; help us get it,' we are doing our job to facilitate how we can get as many students trained and remove as many barriers as possible to get them trained," Richardson said.

Greek Life has partnered with the University to make the training easily accessible to students in fraternities and sororities. Richardson said this may include bringing the training straight to fraternity and sorority houses.

The Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Association, Professional Greek Council and



PHOTO COURTESY WVU

Matthew Richardson, director of the Center for Fraternal Values and Leadership and member of Delta Chi Fraternity National Pan-Hellenic Council are the organizations involved.

The councils also plan to offer financial support by covering or waiving the cost of the trainings to remove any barriers that students may face in obtaining the certification.

Though the CPR initiative is still in development, Richardson said it likely will begin in the coming weeks.

The CPR initiative follows other efforts to raise awareness and educate students during the University's inaugural Medical Amnesty Awareness Week.

Additional training and resources available during the campaign included naloxone training, provided by the West Virginia Drug Intervention In-

stitute, and drug and alcohol training.

Richardson said the goal with these programs was to educate students on how to report hazing or other problems, as well as connect them to resources they may need.

Greek Life also created several outreach programs over the last few years to increase inclusivity and to educate their students. They have provided training and programs in LGBTQ+ allyship, recovery, sexual assault prevention, medical amnesty and mental health awareness, among others.

According to Richardson, there has been a decrease in reported hazing and disciplinary events on campus as a result of these strides.

"I think education is a part of that, but it doesn't eradicate the act completely," he said. "A lot of that is students that are living it, being able to know how to report it and where to go for help."

Richardson also believes the death of Nolan Burch in 2014 made students realize how crucial hazing prevention and medical amnesty is to the survival of students.

"His story and his death have been a reminder that it could have been avoided," Richardson said.

Pair of local musicians make history as first hip hop musicians in the U.S. Army Field Band

BY CAMERON PATTERSON
CORRESPONDENT

When both Lamar Riddick and Nicholas Feemster found themselves auditioning for the United States Army's Field Band as the first hip hop musicians ever, they were in awe of the opportunity.

It was a "surreal moment," Feemster said, excitement in his voice. "We're excited for this opportunity to be pioneers, not just for the genre, but for the nation, for our culture."

Feemster said there are "so many barriers that will be broken."

Both musicians will go to basic training starting in January and, beforehand, they plan on participating in several speaking engagements at WVU.

Riddick and Feemster are determined musicians and businessmen that mesh as performers at venues like Hip Hop on High Street and strive to walk together in their faith, which Feemster described as, "Still something I'm searching for on my own."

Both musicians emphasized the responsibility to "just

be honest" and trust God's plan.

"Because God gave me this gift, I have no choice but to be humble," Riddick said, describing how he and Feemster signed over 30 personal thank you notes to contributors who attended their show the night before. "Rap is a team sport; success is a team result. As long as you're putting people before yourself, you're doing good."

However, things weren't always on the up-and-coming. Riddick and Feemster both described the need to accept failure in their careers in order to appreciate their success.

It's hard to imagine embracing a sense of unapologetic optimism, but that's a quality of these men you can't forget. It only takes a single listen of Riddick's hit "Nothing to Prove," to know that these musicians embody what they preach.

Riddick produced "Nothing to Prove" in response to losing another competition. He was coming from a place of frustration, ready to "put out some heat." Yet, despite these feelings, he emphasized that anger is never a tool one can use to succeed.

"The biggest hindrances in life are our perceptions of what people think of us," Riddick said. He has "nothing to prove" to them.

Riddick continued, "Likes don't equal value. The quicker you understand that you have nothing to prove but to God, man, you just live free."

While both men have experienced loss, their success was no fluke, Riddick said. "My work ethic surpasses many. That's credited to a lot of losses. What's going to make you work harder than losing?"

Despite their busy schedules, Riddick and Feemster's musical ambitions are still in full swing.

Feemster is currently working on his second studio album, entitled "PTSD." Riddick is working on an upcoming release entitled "Nightlight."

"It's talking about being a light in the darkness everywhere you go," Riddick said, describing the upcoming EP.

The musicians also gave their advice to aspiring artists.

"Broaden yourself and be an entrepreneur. Don't give up. That is my biggest advice. Don't have a timeline for yourself. Your talent will make room for you," Riddick said.



Lamar Riddick and Nicholas Feemster.

COURTESY LAMAR RIDDICK

Hops on the Mon returns

BY JARRET FOX
CORRESPONDENT

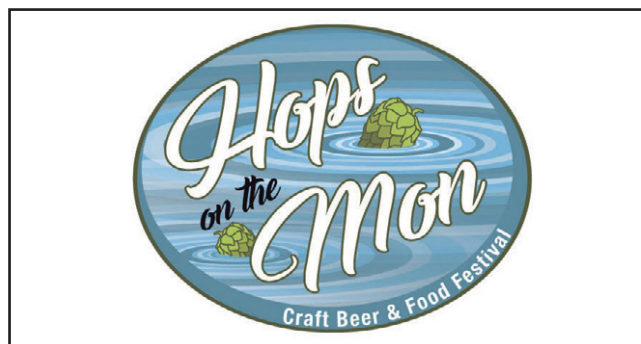
The 4th annual Hops on the Mon Craft Beer and Food Festival is set to take place on Oct. 16 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. on High Street between Pleasant and Walnut as students return back from fall break.

This festival will bring in the fall season for people in Morgantown that enjoy a drink or two.

This year's festival will feature all sorts of fun activities including beer sampling from breweries all over the world, a food competition between local restaurants and live music from local rock band Goodwolf and alt-country singer William Matheny.

According to Hops on the Mons website, organizers are looking to feature well over 50 different beers for festival goers to sample, stemming all the way from local beers from West Virginia and the U.S. all the way to Europe.

Along with beer and music, this year's food competition will be a "Slider Shootout" featuring seven of West Virginia's best local restaurants where



GRAPHIC COURTESY GRACE HUTCHENS

the winner will be decided by a vote of festival attendees.

"I'm super glad to see festivals such as Hops on the Mon begin to get back to normal in the state of West Virginia. I've never been before but I have always heard about it and I'm for sure going to look into grabbing a ticket this time," said Trevor Gnagey, a senior student at WVU.

Only a limited number of tickets will be available for the festival which will be available for purchase on hopsonthemon.com

General admission tickets this year will be set at \$30 and come with access to test all the festival's beer as well as a sou-

venir cup, you can also purchase a \$10 designated driver ticket if you just want to enjoy the food and live music at the festival.

"My family has always really enjoyed the Hops on the Mon festival and now that I'm 21 I think maybe me and some friends might be planning on heading downtown and checking it out," said Jackson Flowers, a junior student at WVU.

Hops on the Mon is also looking for any volunteers who are able to help run the festival and in return is offering free admission and a free t-shirt to all those that can help lend a hand.

WVU theater comes back into focus with melodic production 35mm: A Musical Exhibition

BY SABRINA SIEGAN
CORRESPONDENT

35mm: A Musical Exhibition will have its first showing Thursday, Sept. 30 in the Museum Education Center ballroom. The dates for the show are Sept. 30 at 7:30 p.m., Oct. 1 at 7:30 p.m. and Oct. 3 at 2:00 p.m.

This will be the first time since spring 2020 that the School of Theatre and Dance is putting on a live, in-person and fully indoor show.

"Just, in general, to come see the show is exciting, just because we haven't been able to be in person for so long," said Becca Hyde, co-director and co-choreographer for the show. "And there's something about theater, like movies and books we read, and we watch all of these things because we like seeing and telling stories as human beings and we like connecting with other human beings."

Last year, most shows were

online. If shows did have audiences, confines were set so that only family and friends could attend.

Sunny Rawlinson, the stage manager for 35mm, described how the show is put together.

"It's kind of a weird show, not something super traditional. It's a song cycle, so all of the songs are based on a different 35-millimeter photograph," said Rawlinson.

Each photograph has its own song and story. The only thing connecting these pictures is the idea that a photograph has the ability to stop time.

"They all show you how you can stop time by taking a photograph and experience a moment and not what happens after that moment," Rawlinson said.

Despite each photograph and story being unique, there is some flow among them. Certain choreography is used more than once and lines may seem familiar. Hyde explained that the audience will be able

to recognize "little remnants" as various elements return throughout the show.

Each show will have an audience member limit of 70 people. Out of respect for WVU's indoor mandate as well as the students and performers of the School of Theatre and Dance, masks are required.

"We will be getting tested three times a week which then allows us to be in the space without masks for the performance," said Rawlinson. They explained this will help the overall experience of the performance by preventing issues like "muddled voices."

When they are not on stage the members of this ensemble will sit masked in the crowd.

Tickets for 35 mm: A Musical Exhibition are available in the box office at the Creative Arts Center or online at : <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/35mm-a-musical-exhibition-tickets-171411354977>.

Editor:
Katherine Lovelidge
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OPINION

Dean of Students Corey Farris says have fun, be safe during Homecoming festivities

SUBMITTED BY G. COREY FARRIS

Homecoming 2021 is your chance to celebrate Mountaineer traditions and show your spirit during this year's in-person events. There will be traditional activities – some with a new twist – for you to enjoy with friends, families and returning alumni. Be sure to check them out.

New this year is Mountaineer Friday; stop by Mountaineer Plaza on Friday beginning at noon for games, music and giveaways. Coach Neal Brown will be stopping by – plus you can shop for official WVU gear from noon to 3 p.m. at the WVU bookstore pop-up shop.

The Pride of West Virginia Mountaineer Marching Band will be the finale in



STAFF PHOTO

The Pride of West Virginia marching band performs at the end of the homecoming parade on Sept. 30, 2016 on High Street, Morgantown, W. Va.

the Homecoming Parade as floats, local marching bands and more wind their way through the streets of downtown Morgantown on Friday beginning at 6:30 p.m.

On Friday at 7 p.m., the 12th ranked WVU Women's

Soccer team takes on Oklahoma at Dick Dlesk Soccer Stadium, plus, it's Mental Health Awareness Night.

Saturday, all are welcome to attend a special Homecoming Tailgate with the Center for Black Culture and



STAFF PHOTO

The WVU Alumni Band has been performing during Homecoming week for the last 49 seasons.

Research and The Student Lot. The two have teamed up to provide live music and food at the Coca-Cola Hospitality Tent City, Rosenbaum House Parking Lot beginning at 12:30 p.m. And the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and SGA will join

forces to host a tailgate from noon to 3 p.m. in the Oakland Hall/University Park Courtyard with fun activities to promote sexual assault awareness while you can also enjoy food and music.

Cheer on the Mountaineers against Texas Tech –

don't forget, it's a "Stripe the Stadium" game. And at half-time, WVU will begin a new tradition by naming two students "Homecoming Royalty." The game kicks off at 3:30 p.m.

And we ask as you celebrate, be safe, be kind and be courteous. Welcome our returning alumni and the visiting Texas Tech Red Raiders. If you see someone who needs medical assistance, please help them. WVU's Medical Amnesty means that you can call 911, ask for help and be eligible for amnesty. Visit safety.wvu.edu to learn about resources available to you.

Enjoy the weekend, and a big Mountaineer victory over the Red Raiders!

Let's go!

Corey Farris is the Dean of Students at West Virginia University

Is this idea the catch of the day? *Why we should have a WVU Aquarium*

SUBMITTED BY WILLIAM IRWIN

Declines in mental health. A need for public space. A desire for more research opportunities. What is one way to help ease this all? I argue that a campus aquarium is what we need.

The idea came to me when I was thinking of the many times I have been to aquariums and how great the experiences were. Seeing the fish swim around is therapeutic and relaxing. You can read signs to expand your knowledge on what is in the

water, or you can grab a seat to let your mind be soothed by the rhythmic movements of the fish. In these unprecedented times, I think we all need something like that right now.

I think back to an earlier Daily Athenaeum piece concerning a lack of spaces that have a sense of place. I think an aquarium can be a solution to this issue. I can already hear students saying "Hey, have you been to the aquarium? Let's go have lunch at the aquarium!" An aquarium would be among other places around campus to take a moment to relax with nature, like the Core Ar-

boretum or the Natural History Museum.

Where could this aquarium go? The most logical place would be in Evansdale. First, it makes sense to put an aquarium close to where many Davis College students are. If we are to use an aquarium for research opportunities, many Fisheries and Wildlife faculty and students should be within walking distance.

Second, there are many spots in Evansdale that are being looked at for possible refurbishments or new additions. Recently, there were surveys posted on the walls of the Agricultural Sciences

Annex asking about what additions could make the building a favorable space to spend time outside of class. An aquarium would surely do the trick!

That is not the contender, however. Perhaps Floors 2, 3, or 4 of Evansdale Crossing could house an aquarium. Maybe a portion of Percival Hall could be renovated, giving it both the Natural History Museum as well as an aquarium. Even Towers could have an aquarium in the lower levels!

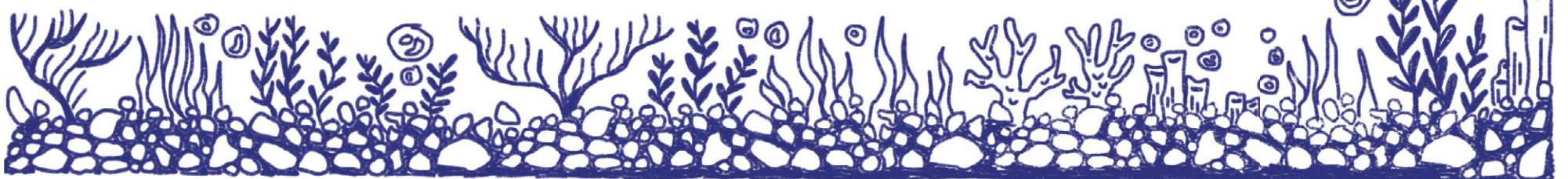
Final points to note include the fact that putting together an aquarium is beneficial in offering jobs, both to

build and maintain, and allows us to engage with our off-campus neighbors in Morgantown. I can think of all the families of our area having a great day observing the sights of an aquarium.

Despite whether or not you think this idea is worth pursuing, I think we can all agree that it would be quite fun to have an aquarium on campus.

William Irwin is a third-year student at West Virginia University and a second-year student in the Landscape Architecture program at the Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design.

GRAPHICS BY CAROLINE MURPHY





Safer Drinking Tip:

When choosing to drink, eat a balanced meal before consuming alcohol. Food in your digestive tract slows down the absorption of alcohol.



PET OF THE DAY



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY ASHLEY HARRIS

Meet Zeus! Zeus is their owner’s first pet, which they got from their Greek Mythology professor at Potomac State College. Zeus loves to sit in an armchair and get brushed, and frequently tries to get in the toilet to play with the water. For tricks, Zeus can catch flies in mid-air by slapping his paws together, and his favorite treat is Feline Temptations cat treats.

Submit your favorite pet photo at danewsroom@mail.wvu.edu

CROSSWORD

1	2	3			4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	
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70					71						72			
73					74							75		

- Across**

 - 1 Caustic substance
 - 4 Widely known
 - 9 Peanut butter brand
 - 12 Austin novel
 - 14 “Gone With the Wind” actress
 - 15 Antelope
 - 16 Bad rain
 - 17 Boldness while facing danger
 - 18 Smell
 - 19 Mocking actor
 - 21 Register
 - 23 Usage
 - 24 East northeast
 - 25 Make small talk
 - 28 Newsman Rather
 - 31 Western Athletic Conferences
 - 34 Like hippie’s clothing
 - 36 Kisser’s need
 - 38 The other half of Jima
 - 40 Chances of winning
 - 41 Adjust
 - 43 Eager
 - 44 Electroencephalograph (abbr.)
 - 45 Gnawer
 - 46 Have as a goal
 - 48 Studied a book
 - 51 Possessive pronoun
 - 53 Scream
 - 54 Fold-up bed
- Down**

 - 1 Jump
 - 2 Young Men’s Christian Association
 - 3 Ruler
 - 4 Rock and Roll “King”
 - 5 Stopped
 - 6 Swing
 - 7 Gone by
 - 8 Trio
 - 9 Jujitsu
 - 10 Teen hero
 - 11 Roll
 - 13 Hubbub
 - 15 Asian nation
 - 20 Moral obligation
 - 22 Compass point
- 25 Beverage
 - 26 Avoid
 - 27 Spots
 - 29 Having wings
 - 30 Clip
 - 32 Nonmilitary
 - 33 Eddy
 - 34 Foot extension
 - 35 Hearing part
 - 37 School group
 - 39 Poem
 - 42 Morse code “T”
 - 43 Baboon
 - 47 Monetary unit
 - 49 Blemished
 - 50 Deer
 - 52 Tube projected into the air by gas
 - 55 March
 - 57 Objects
 - 58 Baby’s “ball”
 - 59 Like a wing
 - 60 Not any
 - 61 Helps
 - 62 Value-added tax
 - 63 Chilled
 - 64 Central Thai
 - 65 Bark in pain
 - 68 Water closet

For answers, visit thedaonline.com

SUDOKU


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

Sudoku puzzle brought to you by Jim Bumgardner at krazydad.com

For answers, visit thedaonline.com

7		6					1	
	9			4		5		
	2				9	6		
6				3				7
1				5				8
		9	1				5	
		5		7			4	
	1					2		3

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Ford-Wheaton looks to improve running after the catch

BY NICK KREMER
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

So far this season, the West Virginia passing game has struggled and against then-No. 4 Oklahoma, it put up its worst game of the season. The team passed for just 179 yards against the Sooners and wide receiver Bryce Ford-Wheaton accounted for more than half (93 yards).

With eight receptions against Oklahoma, Ford-Wheaton set a new career-high in catches. The redshirt junior also leads the team in receiving yards this season (219) and is second in receptions (15) only trailing Winston Wright Jr.

Prior to playing Oklahoma, Ford-Wheaton had just seven catches and 126 yards in three games this season.

The West Virginia offense has struggled with passing the ball this season, the team ranks fifth in the Big 12 in passing yards per game. While the team is middle of the pack in terms of passing yards per game, it is ninth in the conference in yards per attempt (7.5).

The team will need even more from Ford-Wheaton who currently ranks eighth in

the Big 12 in receiving yards. Ford-Wheaton knows that he must get better at accumulating yards after catch to be a better weapon going forward.

"I have to work on some running after the catch and making people miss," Ford-Wheaton said. "To take the next step I have to try to be elite at breaking tackles and making big plays."

Following the game, head coach Neal Brown stated that his team failed to break tackles and gain yards after the catch. Brown also emphasized that the team ran a lot of slant routes and that they were successful but in order to be better, wide receivers need to make plays with the ball already in their hands.

Against Oklahoma, Ford-Wheaton found success when running a cross route which gave his large frame an advantage over the defense.

"It is one of our go to plays (cross routes) and our offensive coordinator did a good job calling it when the defense was in a certain coverage, it was just open," Ford-Wheaton said.

Ford-Wheaton's big performance was not a shock to offensive coordinator Gerad Parker. Parker credited the game to Ford-Wheaton's

weekly preparation.

"You prepare every week and the ball found him, we found a good matchup and he was prepared for it," Parker said. "That is how we want to prepare our guys, you do not know when that game will be or when the moment will be."

Although it seemed like the offense was targeting Ford-Wheaton from the beginning, it was not necessarily the team's plan going into the game.

"I did not go out and say, 'Bryce Wheaton is going to have nine catches today, I feel it,'" Parker said.

Going forward, the Mountaineers will need Ford-Wheaton to replicate the production he had against Oklahoma. Currently West Virginia attempts the second most passes in the conference but has some of the lowest production from it.

Ford-Wheaton and the passing game should see an uptick in production this week as it takes on Texas Tech.

Texas Tech has given up the second most passing yards per game in the Big 12 this season. Last week, Texas passed for 303 yards and five touchdowns against the Red Raiders.



PHOTO BY BRYNN FORREST

Bryce Ford-Wheaton makes a touchdown grab against Long Island University on Sept. 11, 2021.

WVU to retire linebacker Darryl Talley's jersey

BY CHARLES MONTGOMERY
SPORTS EDITOR

Only three numbers have been retired in the history of West Virginia football.

On Saturday, Darryl Talley's No. 90 will make it four. The former consensus first team All-American linebacker's number will join Sam Huff (75), Ira Errett Rodgers (21) and Bruce Bosley (77) to be the only players with their numbers retired at West Virginia.

Talley played for the Mountaineers from 1978-1982 where he totaled 282 unassisted tackles, 202 assisted tackles, 28 tackles for loss and 19 sacks. Following an exceptional collegiate career, Talley was drafted in the second round at No. 39 overall by the Buffalo Bills in the 1983 NFL Draft.

Talley was surprised when he received the call especially with the honor of being just the fourth Mountaineer to have their number retired.

"It knocks your socks off when you think about it,"



WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY/1982 MONTICOLA

Darryl Talley and Oliver Luck hold up the Peach Bowl trophy after beating Florida 26-6 in 1981.

Talley said to WVNews. "You think about all the guys that have played there, and there are only three guys whose

names are up there. I'll be the fourth. That's a huge, huge honor."

In the NFL, Talley became

a staple of the Buffalo defense for 12 years. During that span, Talley earned All-Pro honors twice and was named to two

Pro Bowls while being a part of four Super Bowl teams.

In those 12 years with the Bills, Talley never missed a game while becoming the all-time leading tackler for Buffalo with 1,137. Talley amassed 38.5 sacks, 12 interceptions, 14 fumble recoveries and three touchdowns in his time with the Bills.

Talley also played one year with the Atlanta Falcons (1995) and the Minnesota Vikings (1996).

During his career, Talley focused on leaving everything on the field and building his legacy.

"I just figured I was going to play as hard as I could play for as long as I could play," Talley said to WVNews. "I was going to leave my legacy on the field. I wasn't going to talk a whole lot; I was just going to do a lot."

"You take your hard hat and your lunch bucket, and you go to work," Talley added. "You try to outwork everybody on the field, and you hold everybody on your team to that same standard. That's the way I played."

Talley was inducted into

the WVU Sports Hall of Fame in 1996, the College Football Hall of Fame in 2011 and he is a part of the Buffalo Bills' Wall of Fame.

Right now, sophomore defensive lineman Akheem Mesidor wears No. 90. Mesidor will wear the number until his career concludes at WVU.

"I think it's important to note that Darryl Talley is getting his number retired," head coach Neal Brown said on Tuesday. "I've enjoyed getting to know him over the last two years. As good of a defensive player that's ever played here."

"I think it's fitting too that a guy that's playing at an extremely high level will be the last one to wear 90 here," Brown added. "Akheem is wearing it now and he'll continue to wear it as he finishes up his career. I think Darryl would be pretty proud of how Akheem has played in that number so far this year."

Former West Virginia quarterback Major Harris will have his number (No. 9) retired on Nov. 6 when the Mountaineers host Oklahoma State.

WVU's rushing struggles by the numbers

BY CHARLES MONTGOMERY
SPORTS EDITOR

After four weeks of games, it's been obvious that the West Virginia offense has struggled to score points and provide enough cushion for a defense that is currently ranked No. 36 in total defense in NCAA Division I FBS football.

Prior to the 2021 season kicking off, West Virginia head coach Neal Brown put the offensive load on senior running back Leddie Brown. Neal Brown said he expected to "run the offense" through his tailback after amassing 1,010 rushing yards the year prior.

"Leddie Brown, we're going to run our offense through him," Neal Brown said in August. "I think he's the one guy that has really proven that he can go out and win games."

Since that statement, the Mountaineers have played four games and are 2-2. In the two losses to Maryland and Oklahoma, West Virginia has rushed for 48 and 47 yards, respectively.

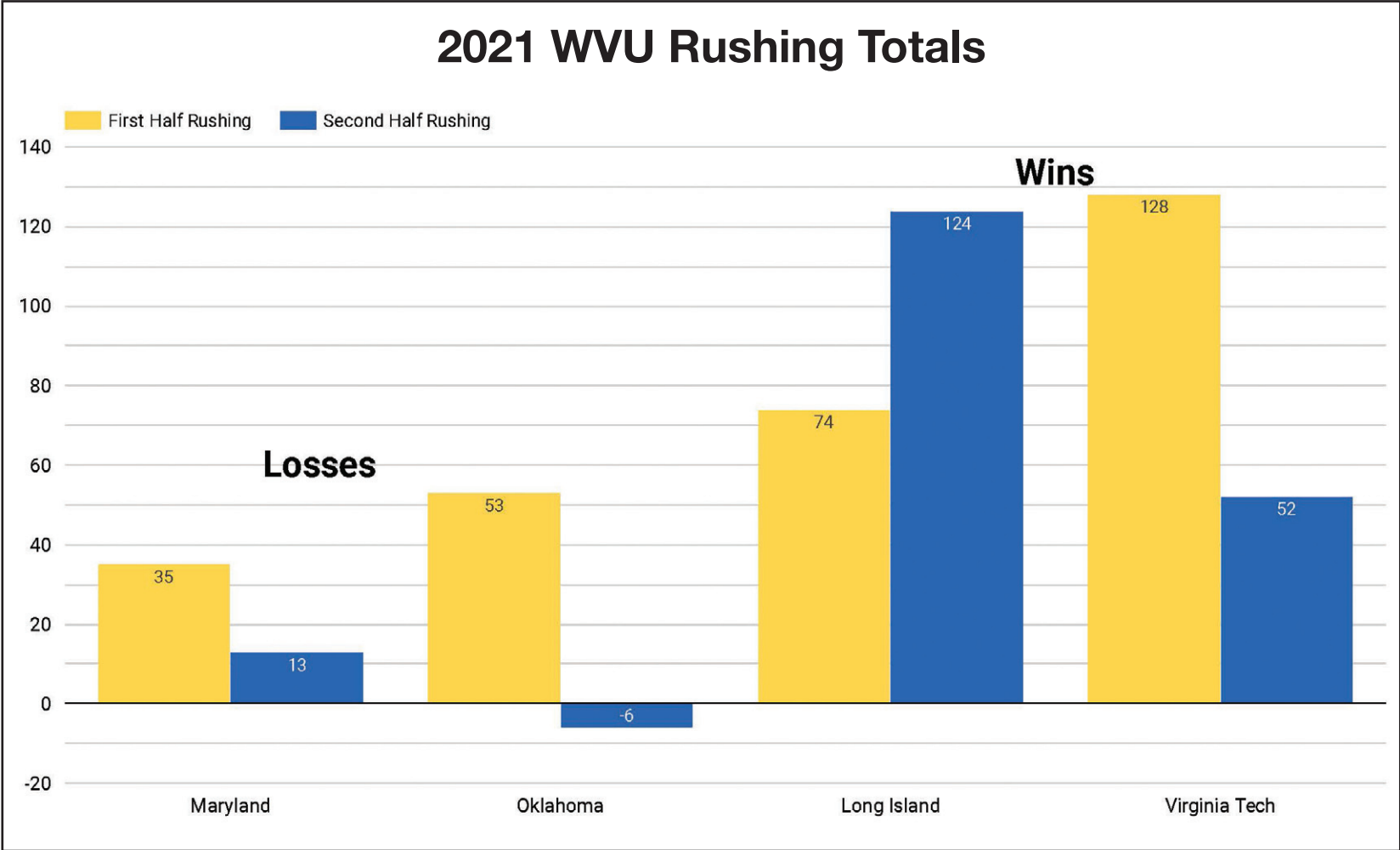
On his own, Leddie Brown has 66 total carries for 321 yards and five touchdowns. He also has 11 receptions for 88 yards.

In four games, Leddie Brown is averaging around 19 total touches per game — rushing attempts and catches combined. That may seem like a small number for a player that the offense was going to run through, but to Neal Brown, it's enough.

"We have to get a number two guy at that position," Neal Brown said on finding a running back to help Leddie Brown. "I think that he's getting enough touches, but I think he's having to play too many snaps. I don't think he's as fresh late as he needs to be."

The WVU rushing attack has taken a hit in the second half when it comes to gaining yardage. In three games, WVU has gained less than 55 yards on the ground in the second half. In its most recent game against the Sooners, West Virginia finished the second half with negative six yards rushing in the half.

West Virginia's co-offensive coordinator Gerad Parker said there is a deeper understanding to why the running game has struggled in the second half which includes the strength of the



GRAPH BY CHARLES MONTGOMERY

This season, West Virginia has struggled to find consistency in the rushing attack between the first and second halves. In losses, the Mountaineers have rushed for less than 20 yards in the second half while in wins, they have rushed for at least 50 yards both times.

opponent.

"Like anything, stats are stats and you have to look at the truth of them all and find out what's up and fix them," Parker said. "Honest answer, we played a formidable opponent [Oklahoma] that was a good football team and created a lot of havoc up front. Obviously, a major loss in rush yardage at the end of the game excuses some things."

"What happened on the ground really doesn't look as bad as you would think to be quite honest," Parker added. "If you evaluate it fairly, you would say we played very physical and handled a lot of movement."

Parker is eluding to a snap miscommunication that happened in West Virginia's final offensive drive against the Sooners that lost 21 yards on the play. That mistake ultimately ended the drive and set up the game-winning drive by Oklahoma.

Neal Brown wants a second option at running back to take the pressure off Leddie Brown, but there hasn't been anyone so far this season to fill that role. The second-leading rusher on the team is quarterback Garrett Greene while the running back that was tabbed to be

the No. 2 man, Tony Mathis, has just 25 yards on nine carries.

Mathis suffered an ankle injury at the end of fall camp that slowed his progression that he built since early in the offseason. Mathis has made some appearances, but none that have been substantial enough to help Leddie Brown.

Neal Brown isn't putting all the pressure on his other running backs to carry the load as he puts the task on himself and the staff to utilize Leddie Brown more in the passing game and in the second half.

"I think in the first half we've done a pretty good job of keeping free hitters off of him and he's done a good job of not necessarily making people miss, but getting positive yards after contact," Neal Brown said. "I think we have to do a better job of getting him the ball in the pass game. We're having to use him in protection more, which he's done a great job, but we've had to use him in protection."

"The touches are fine, but it's on us as much as it is him," Neal Brown added. "We have to be more productive in the second half with him."



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Burchell embracing 'super-sub' title for men's soccer

BY DANNY KUHN
SPORTS WRITER

For senior midfielder Adam Burchell, being a perennial mainstay in the starting 11 isn't his cup of tea. The player dubbed "super-sub" continues to be an integral part of WVU men's soccer's success.

A common theme throughout the young season has been depth. WVU head coach Dan Stratford has emphasized time and time again that the depth his squad has is integral to the successes of the team up to this point.

Prior to coaching the Mountaineers, Stratford was the head coach at the University of Charleston from 2017-2019. In his final year of coaching the Golden Eagles, he won the 2019 NCAA Division II National Championship. One of the players on Stratford's championship-winning squad was Burchell.

Burchell, a Hertfordshire, England resident, grew up playing soccer from a young age, playing soccer in high school at Brampton College, while also playing club soccer for the London Lions.

He was a two-time young player of the year in 2016 and



PHOTO BY WVU ATHLETICS

West Virginia senior forward Adam Burchell drives the ball for the Mountaineers.

2017, while also winning the 16-17 treble award which is given to players of a club that win three major trophies in the same season.

"I think the style of play that we play is similar to back home," Burchell said. "The intensity of it, you're working constantly while playing

in college over here, you've always got to be 100% focused."

Before playing for the Mountaineers, Burchell saw five starts and 23 appearances during the 2019 season, tallying six goals. Following Stratford's departure from Charleston, he played for the Golden Eagles one season (2020), where he was the team's leading scorer, finding the back of the net eight times while also recording four assists.

He was named All-Mountain East Conference First Team for his efforts during the COVID-19 shortened spring season, and graduated from UC that same spring. With two years of eligibility left, his decision was simple: leave Charleston and reunite with his old coach in Morgantown.

"I had a lot of coaches back home, but he (Stratford) is probably the best coach I have ever worked under," said Burchell. "So when that opportunity came for me to work under him again, it was quite an easy decision."

Transferring to a new program after spending multiple years with the same coach and teammates can be difficult for most players. Despite only being in Morgantown since this summer, the culture and camaraderie that the Mountaineers team has, made it feel like Burchell had been there for years.

"In 2019, we played a different system; the style of play was a bit different," said Burchell. "What he (Stratford) expects of you, it definitely made the transition easier, but the boys welcomed

me with open arms. I didn't struggle to fit in."

In a team that emphasizes depth, Burchell is a centerpiece and regular face to come off the bench. Through his first eight games as a Mountaineer, Burchell has not been featured in the starting 11. But, the forward has seen more minutes than any other player off the bench with 213.

Early in the season, the depth of the Mountaineers was tested against rival Pittsburgh, who at the time were ranked No. 3 in the country. With the game level at 1-1 in the 79th minute, Burchell scored a pivotal goal that set the tone for the rest of the season. WVU won that game 2-1 and hasn't looked back since.

"Super-sub! He (Burchell) developed that nickname at Charleston," said Stratford following the Pitt win. "He scored and then he got dragged (subbed) straight away, but he still has a smile on his face. Everyone knows that they play an important part on this team every night."

Burchell doesn't mind coming off the bench as he has embraced that role for the Mountaineers.

"It's the same role for everyone, when you're on the pitch, when you get the opportunity to give it 100%," said Burchell. "Put everything on the line for the team, everyone's gonna buy into the same philosophy that the coaching staff have put there for us. You've got to fulfill that when you get on the pitch."

Men's Soccer MAC Schedule

Sept. 30- vs. Akron

Oct. 9- @ Northern Illinois

Oct. 16- @ Western Michigan

Oct. 28- vs. Georgia State

Oct. 31- @ Georgia Southern

Nov. 4- vs. Bowling Green

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