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WVU's Independent Student Newspaper THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2019 www.thedaonline.com

Joe Mama's facing a dogfight in Best College Bar elite eight

BY CODY NESPOR
CULTURE EDITOR

After cruising through the first three rounds of Barstool's Best College Bar bracket, Morgantown's Joe Mama's is now in the fight of its life in the elite eight.

Up against Rutger University's Scarlet Pub, Joe Mama's has been trailing for much of the voting period. A recent push for Joe Mama's has made the voting closer, but as of 11:23 p.m. on Wednesday, Joe Mama's is still trailing the Scarlet Pub by four percentage points with more than 59,000 votes cast.

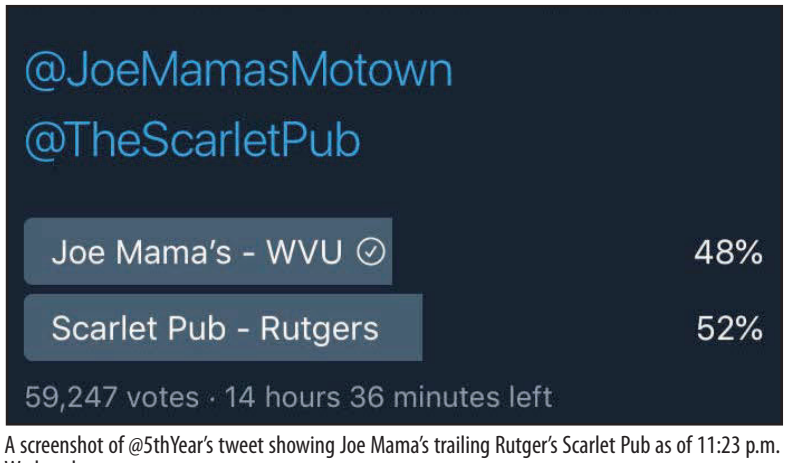
Rutgers University is a Big 10 school located in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

College culture website "The Tab" named the Scarlet Pub the best bar for Rutgers students in 2017 and described it like this: "Inside, it's home to aggressively loud EDM and a lot of frat bros from Long Island, but also to jolly rancher and BJ shots. Is one worth the other? Well, that's up to you."

The Scarlet Pub also reportedly chooses one woman to be their WCW every Wednesday and then picks up her and her friends' tab that Thursday. The owner, Naji, also appears to be a big hit among Rutgers students, reportedly making friends with anyone that walks through the door.

Whichever bar advances into the final four will likely be matched up against Sup Dogs from East Carolina University, who leads the University of Georgia's Bar South.

Voting for the elite eight is scheduled to end at noon today. 5thYear said it will work with whichever bar wins the whole bracket to put on a "big blowout party" with a bar tab, trophy, banner and merchandise.



A screenshot of @5thYear's tweet showing Joe Mama's trailing Rutger's Scarlet Pub as of 11:23 p.m. Wednesday.

WVU Online to increase online course fees for Fall 2019

BY GABRIELLA BROWN
STAFF WRITER

WVU Online will begin charging an additional support fee for online courses starting in the Fall 2019 semester.

The fee is $25 per credit hour, but caps at $75 per online course. Therefore, students taking a course worth more than three credit hours online will only have to pay $75, but students who take multiple online courses will have to pay for each individually.

According to the WVU Online website, the new Online Learning Student Support Fee was implemented due to the ease of enrolling in online courses. The website says the convenience of these online courses come with additional expenses to the University.

"We may be able to provide additional sections of certain courses as a result of being able to fund more instructors to teach courses."

-Keith Bailey, Dean of WVU Online

Keith Bailey, Dean of WVU Online, said beyond the convenience of online courses, the fee is meant to ensure they are accessible and offer the same resources that on-campus classes do. Bailey said although it is ultimately the choice of the faculty member teaching the course, additional resources may eventually be offered.

"We may be able to provide additional sections of certain courses as a result of being able to fund more instructors to teach courses," Bailey said. "Things like tutoring could become more available, and certain courses could do proctoring."

However, there are exceptions to the additional fee. Bailey said if an on-campus student has a required course that is only offered online, the fee will not apply to them. High School Access courses, study abroad courses, summer graduate remedial medicine courses, professional development and other tuition-waived courses are also exempt from this fee, according to the WVU Online website.

Other variations that come with the fee depend on if the student is full-time online or an on-campus students taking online courses. These variations depend on the program the student is enrolled in.

The WVU Online website states students in the general business undergraduate program, as well as the business cybersecurity, business data analytics, data marketing communications and the integrated marketing communications graduate programs may have contrasting fees.

With so many exceptions, Bailey said WVU Online is doing all it can to ensure the fee is only instated where necessary.

"We have scrubbed each one of the courses to make sure this is being applied to the right locations and being removed from in the correct locations as well," Bailey said.

Bailey said many other Big 12 schools charge a similar fee, but WVU's fee is nominal compared to what other schools are charging.

The WVU Online website lists multiple schools that charge a similar fee, including Texas Tech University, which charges $35 per online credit hour, Oklahoma State, which charges a $95 to $100 per online credit hour and Texas Christian University, which charges $125 per online credit hour.

"A lot of these courses are offered as an option for students to take extra credits or enhance their experience throughout the academic year," Bailey said. "We understand the importance of providing this as an option so people get through their degrees in a timely manner, but we do need to make sure we are able to offer those courses and are able to support those courses."

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A note from the DA:

Recently it has come to our attention that the article titled "WVU to give $10 million to Nigerian prince" in the April Fools' Edition of the DA could have been perceived as insensitive to the Nigerian community. This was never our intention. Since the article has been published, the DA editorial staff has sat down with representatives from the African Student Association (ASA) to have an intellectual conversation on the topic. Although this article was intended to be satire, as all articles in the April Fools' edition were, we did not carefully consider the damaging effects it could have imposed, and did impose, according to the ASA. Moving forward, we, as an editorial board, have agreed to be more culturally aware and hope to continue to foster a positive relationship with the ASA.

CRIME REPORT

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

April 1
9:41 A.M. | CLOSED
WVU Short Term 4
Back ticket tow.

April 1
10:39 A.M. | INACTIVE
Health Science Center
Petit larceny.

April 1
12:19 P.M. | INACTIVE
Boreman North
Assist EMS/police.

April 1
12:46 P.M. | NOT IMPOUNDED
WVU Area 40
Back ticket tow.

April 1
1:23 P.M. | NOT IMPOUNDED
WVU Area 40
Back ticket tow.

April 1
2:47 P.M. | CLOSED
WVU Suncrest Center
Hang up call.

April 1
4:44 P.M. | INACTIVE
Law School
Harassment.

April 1
6:03 P.M. | CLEAR
University Ave.
Traffic stop.

April 1
5:54 P.M. | CLOSED
WVU Short Term 6
Vehicle accident.

April 1
6:35 P.M. | CLEAR
University Ave.
Traffic stop.

April 1
10:34 P.M. | INACTIVE
Evansdale Crossing
Lost property.

WV ARCHIVES
PICTURE HISTORY

The Strother Family Clock

David Hunter Strother was a journalist, artist, general, innkeeper and politician.

Before and after the Civil War, West Virginian David Hunter Strother was a popular and well-known magazine illustrator and writer, known across the country by his pseudonym, "Porte Crayon" (pencil or crayon holder). Prior to the war, he helped his father operate the 400-room Berkeley Springs Hotel which was the only spa accessible by rail in the mid-Atlantic states. During the war, his knowledge of the region (in 1853 he hiked a 500-mile loop through the Blue Ridge and Appalachian Mountains) earned him the commission of topographer for the Union Army during a number of conflicts including the Second Battle of Manassas. At Antietam, Strother was assigned the hazardous mission of delivering messages from General George McClellan to other Union commanders. Though he was involved in 30 battles, Strother was never injured and ended the war as brevet brigadier general. In 1878, Strother was appointed by President Rutherford B. Hayes as the General Counsel to Mexico. He served in the role for seven years before returning home to West Virginia.

The Strother family acquired this clock in 1803 from a Swiss clockmaker. And while the furnishings of their hotel in Berkeley Springs were damaged by Rebel raiders during the war, the clock was safe in the family home in Martinsburg. The clock was donated to West Virginia in 2013 by David Hunter Strother IV.

For additional photos and more, visit www.thedaonine.com/artifacts

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Speakers discuss WVU's research into physics, water and more

BY ALAYNA FULLER
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Two speakers discussed the importance of WVU's R1 research status and finding new clean energy solutions at the WVU Academic Media Day for Climate Change on Monday.

Fred King, vice president for research at WVU, began by discussing the University's status as the only R1 university in the state.

"Every day [WVU President E. Gordon Gee] reminds us that the purpose of our existence is to serve the state of West Virginia," King said.

WVU's flagship research comes in the form of work in the humanities, creative activity and in the lab," King said.

WVU has 263 degree programs and conducts 87 percent of university-based research in West Virginia. Annually, $117 million is given to WVU from external support for the University's research activities, and over 3,500 faculty, staff and student researchers are employed in research, with a payroll of $89 million in 2018.

Some advantages of being an R1 university include an enhanced institutional profile, access to private foundation opportunities, increased investments and an attraction for higher quality students and faculty to the University.

"Having an R1 university is also important to the state from an economic perspective," King said.

King also discussed the research focus areas at WVU, which include energy, water stewardship, STEM education K-16, gravitational wave astrophysics and addressing health needs in the state and Appalachia.

"There's a collaboration between WVU, Pittsburgh Carnegie Mellon [University], Shell and NETL [National Energy Technology Laboratory] rounding the area of how we take natural gas, shale gas and convert it into other products," King said.

Within the partnership, natural gas is being converted to hydrogen and carbon fibers. The work from that partnership has attracted the Chinese Energy Investment Corporation, and today the University is working in partnership with the company to develop technologies for natural gas conversion.

PHOTO BY MADISON GREER

WVU's Robert Duval presents a photo of a man finding the tusk of a woolly mammoth in the Siberian Tundra.

In WVU's research into water stewardship, or keeping the state's water supply clean, the University works with the Appalachian Freshwater Initiative, which seeks to understand the impact of contaminants on rivers and streams. The University is also working with the US Department of Energy funded effort to extract rare earth elements from acid mine drainage.

"This is a really big deal because they take what is a pretty nasty waste and they determine a way they could extract from that, an extremely valuable mineral," King said. "So that's a way, perhaps, we could take the acid mine drainage [and] the waste we have and turn it into an economic benefit."

WVU also seeks to improve the state's STEM education. WVU founded the Center for Excellence in STEM Education which seeks to get students interested in finding STEM careers. The University is also involved in CodeWV and WVUTeach.

"We know the importance of STEM and having a workforce very well prepared with great math skills so that we can bring engineers and scientists to colleges, [which] is something that's of central importance to the state," King said.

WVU is in partnership with the National Science Foundation's Physics Frontier Center – for Astrophysics research– at the Green Bank Observatory in Pocahontas County. He said there are only 10 such NSF frontier centers in the United States.

PHOTO VIA WVU

Members of the WVU research team who worked to detect gravitational waves. Front row from right to left: Zach Etienne and Sean McWilliams. Back from left to right: Tyler Knowles, Amber Lenon and Belinda Cheeseboro

"A large part of what we've been focused on is how to protect that asset and keep that national lab going," King said.

WVU works with the Pulsar Search Collaboratory, a training program that bridges the work between gravitational wave astrophysics in collaboration with Green Bank. Through the program, high school students are trained to analyze data, while developing skills in data science and analytics and looking for signatures of pulsars, King said.

WVU is also focused on solving health problems in the state. It partners with West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute's Extension to educate physicians on non-opioid treatments for pain.

"The Center for Translational Science is really working on community health [by] working with individual providers, helping community physicians in small towns and educating them about the risks of prescribing opioids by helping them understand what are the alternative treatments that are available, so they don't have to prescribe opioids," King said.

"People do not realize the high level of research that goes on at WVU," he added. "The research that we do here, the quality of what we do is sometimes under-appreciated. We need to do a better job of telling our story, so people realize the great things we have going on at the University."

SEE RESEARCH CONTINUED ON P. 4

WVU research programs quick facts:

- *WVU conducts 87 percent of university-based research in West Virginia*
- *WVU has 263 total degree programs*
- *WVU receives around $117 million annually in external support (donations, grants, foundations) for research activities*
- *More than 3,500 faculty, staff and students are employed at research at WVU*
- *The total payroll for WVU researchers is around $89 million*

WVU's R1 research status:

- *To achieve R1 status, a university must award doctoral degrees in at least 20 different areas amass at least $43.8 million in total research expenditures, as reported through a National Science Foundation survey*
- *WVU is one of 130 R1 institutions in the United States*
- *WVU first achieved R1 status in 2015, then maintained the ranking in 2018*
- *Some advantages of being an R1 university include an enhanced institutional profile, access to private foundation opportunities, increased investments and an attraction for higher quality students and faculty to the university.*

WVU's involvement in the 2017 Nobel Prize for Physics:

- *Sean McWilliams, an astrophysicist and professor in the WVU physics department, worked on a research team that won the 2017 Nobel Prize in Physics*
- *McWilliams was joined by a team of WVU researchers: Zach Etienne, Tyler Knowles, Amber Lenon and Belinda Cheeseboro*

-McWilliams and an international team of scientists and mathematicians that for the first time detected gravitational waves in space

- *Scientists now have an unprecedented opportunity to probe a collision of two neutron stars*

Climate change, public health research discussed at Academic Media Day

BY MADISON GREER
STAFF WRITER

WVU hosted Academic Media Day on Monday at the Erickson Alumni Center, with multiple presentations focusing on climate change and its impact on people and environment.

Academic Media Day is held to start WVU's inaugural Research Week. Eight experts on climate change, health and energy came together to give presentations to a room of West Virginia media members discussing the many facets of climate change.

WVU is the state's only R1 research institution. The event on Monday was meant to showcase the research that was conducted around the questions: Is climate change happening before our eyes? What can we do about this?

John Bolt, senior executive director of the WVU Office of Communications, opened the day with the agenda and a welcome speech. From there, each expert came up one by one with their presentations.

Robert Duval, a professor at the WVU School of Public Health, presented the fundamental concerns for public health caused by climate change. His list included food security and food access, clean water, zoonotic diseases such as Ebola and Malaria and extreme precipitation events. He spoke passionately about the subject and explained that he's been teaching this matter to his students for years.

PHOTO VIA UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Robert Duval, professor at the School of Public Health, discusses the importance of water and other points of public health in a changing climate during Academic Media Day at the Erickson Alumni Center. The event brought together several WVU experts on climate to discuss with members of the media who attended the series hosted by University Relations.

"Climate change is going to erode our way of life. I've been watching this for a long time, and I've become less optimistic — The question is, how far will our problems go?" Duval said.

Halfway through his presentation, he shared a photo of a man standing with a wooly mammoth tusk sticking up from the ground. He joked that the man was happy; he was now rich.

"This to me," Duval said, "is one of the scariest pictures in existence; the Siberian Tundra is thawing."

Richard Thomas, chair of the biology department at WVU, showcased the research his lab is currently working on: dendroecology, or using tree-ring analysis to study ecological questions.

"West Virginia has over 15 million acres of forest," Thomas said. "So, my lab is looking at types of environmental and pollution effects on our trees."

By using the science and patterns behind each tree's unique rings, Thomas and his lab are able to understand environmental impacts on ecological processes. Thomas explained the process was similar to counting rings in trees to determine their age, but on a much more complicated scale.

The remainder of this week is filled with events from WVU's Research Week calendar. Thursday offers a Research Support Showcase in the Advanced Research Building from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m, where all are welcomed to enjoy lunch and presentations from different research-supporting organizations and individuals on campus.

Friday also will be the host to events from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The full schedule can be found online .

PHOTO VIA UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Nicolas Zegre talks with a journalist after his presentation at the Academic Media Day, which was hosted by University Relations at the Erickson Alumni Center April 1, 2019.

PHOTO VIA UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Fred King, vice president for WVU Research, discusses the importance of research at WVU during the Academic Media Day hosted by University Relations. The event kicked off the inaugural Research Week at WVU.

Research cont. from p. 3

Interim director of the WVU Energy Institute, James Wood, primarily discussed the work that the energy institute does and the value it adds to WVU's research programs in terms of accelerating intellectual property of commercialization of clean energy solutions.

"The energy institute supports research in resource extraction such as innovative techniques for the injection of carbon dioxide to produce oil," Wood said.

Wood said that for several years, the energy institute has been part of a program that studies the action of underground formations and fracking. The research has produced results suggesting the amount of natural gas leakage from a well pad can be reduced to near zero.

He said the institute wants to transition away from coal and toward natural gas in West Virginia.

"Replacing a typical 600-megawatt coal-fired generator with a 600-megawatt natural gas generator would produce the same amount of electricity with about 2.2 billion tons per year less carbon emissions," Wood said.

Wood also discussed steam methane reforming, or creating fuel from the methane in natural gas, that the institute does in collaboration with the WVU Center for Innovation in Gas Research and Utilization. In partnership with the WVU Water Research Institute, the energy institute is working on mine reclamation, water management treatment and recovery in oil, gas and rare earths as well.

"[The WVU Energy Institute's] more geared to help guide outcomes based on research that has commercial potential and can be commercialized in West Virginia for the benefit of West Virginia citizens," Wood said.

Martin Hall Agency makes its comeback on campus

BY OLIVIA GIANETTINO
STAFF WRITER

The Martin Hall Agency has launched and is already reaching clients in Morgantown.

MHA is an organization that offers advertising and public relations services for local companies and businesses performed by students.

"Martin Hall Agency works with businesses and organizations located in and around Morgantown and strives to meet the specific needs of each individual client," Cassidy Lego, a junior copywriter for MHA, said.

The organization creates advertisements through many different types of media, like brochures and television ads. The organization even offers social media services.

"Our public relations services include newsletters and media releases," Lego said.

PHOTO VIA HANNAH WILLIAMS

Students from the Martin Hall Agency pose with members from Morgantown's BOPARC after pitching their ideas to them.

So far, MHA's clients include the Morgantown Board of Parks and Recreation, Black Bear Burritos and Habitat For Humanity.

The organization is also creating content for its own brand as it builds back up. Not only is this service being put to use in the community, but is also aiding media students in gaining experience. The MHA is comprised of roles including a social media specialist, a director of advertising, a director of public relations and a branding specialist, and they are all fulfilled by students.

Lego expressed her excitement about the relaunch of the organization.

"I think MHA benefits students by giving us the feel of a real professional agency, as it's completely student-run with a variety of positions, projects, clients and opportunities," Lego said.

According to the Reed College of Media, MHA was first established in 2011.

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Some of students' favorite apps pulled some actually good April Fools' jokes

BY SEAN TANSKI
STAFF WRITER

April Fools' Day has come and gone, and that means you can now trust what companies post on social media. As always, some companies get crafty in their pranks. Here's a few of them.

Spotify

Each week Spotify does a "Discover Weekly" playlist that compiles songs from various genres and pulls them into one playlist. Spotify decided to throw a curveball and give us a "Discover Weekly," all disco all the time. It definitely was a welcome surprise to listen to.

Duolingo

Duolingo is an app that helps its users learn new languages by sending push notifications. For April Fools' Day, the app decided to take that a step further by introducing its logo to "follow you" around all day to remind you to practice. It also doesn't help that the bird has three different moods — encouraging, disappointed and passive aggressive — that you wouldn't want to see from a giant bird that follows you around all day.

PHOTO VIA TWITTER

Duolingo joked about introducing Duolingo Push.

Tinder

The company teased a new feature of adding a badge that would commemorate people by listing their actual height. Tinder said, "We're expecting to see a huge decline in the 80 percent of males on Tinder who are claiming that they are well over 6 feet. That's fine by us — as long as we're all living our truths."

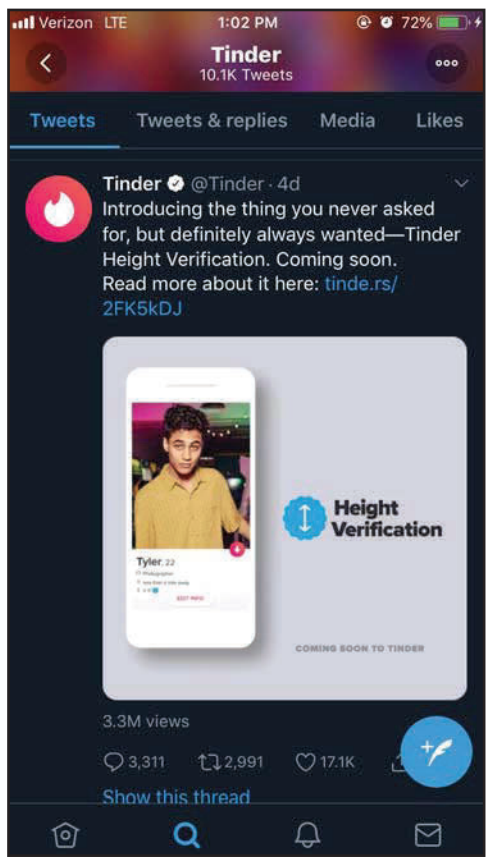


PHOTO VIA TWITTER

Tinder claiming to verify heights of prospective matches

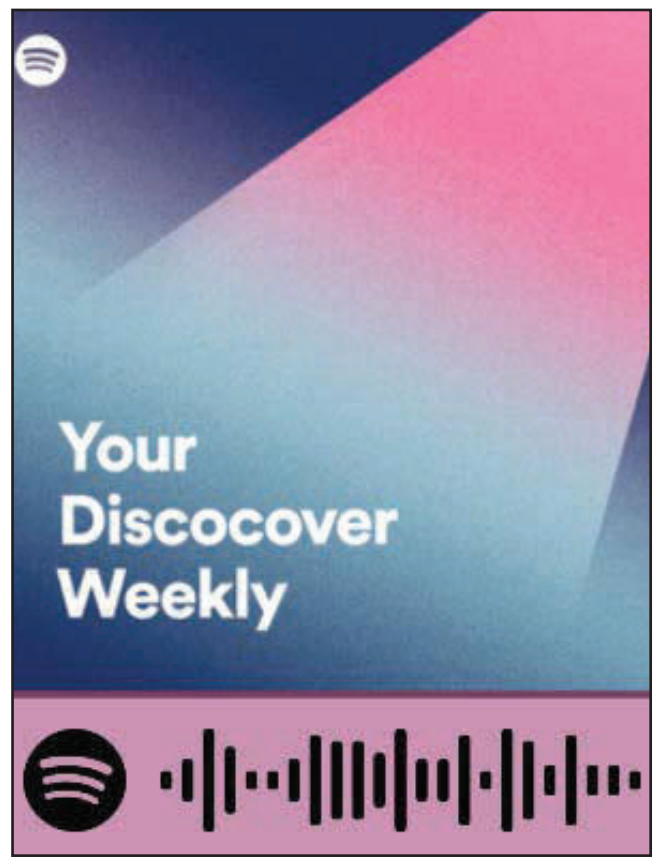


PHOTO VIA SPOTIFY

Spotify curated a disco themed playlist for their users.

April showers bring life-saving organ donations

BY RACHEL JOHNSON
ASSISTANT CULTURE EDITOR

The whole month of April is dedicated to making people aware of organ donation.

Donate Life Month is an initiative started by Donate Life America in 2003. It is an entire month to encourage Americans to sign to be organ donors. The theme for Donate Life Month 2019 is "Life is a beautiful ride."

According to Donate Life's website, "For the 2019 National Donate Life Month theme, Donate Life America was inspired by bicycles and the phrase 'Life is a beautiful ride.' Like the donation and transplantation journey, a bicycle serves as a symbol of progress, renewal and the moving circle of life."

Donate Life America is a nonprofit organization that works to motivate people to register as organ donors as well as increase the number of organ, eye and tissue donations. Currently, 114,00 people are waiting to receive an organ transplant and every 10 minutes someone else is added to that list.

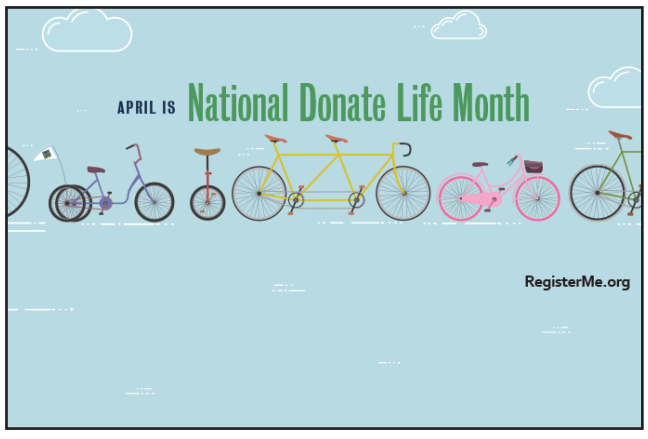


PHOTO VIA DONATE LIFE'S WEBSITE

The bicycle serves as inspiration to "keep moving."

One person has the potential to save eight lives through organ donation by donating their kidneys, heart, lungs, liver, small bowel and pancreas. A person can also enhance the lives of up to 75 people through tissue donation, and sight can be restored to two people through cornea donation.

As a part of National Donate Life Month, WVU's Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) will be hosting an event in the Mountainlair on April 18 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to promote organ and tissue donation, and to encourage students to become registered donors if they aren't already. The theme of the event will be "Saying yes to giving more birthdays," because by registering to be an organ donor, you are helping to create more birthdays in the world.

Early summer blockbusters: What to look out for in theaters this April

BY SETH MITCHELL
STAFF WRITER

Movies always tend to increase in release with the coming of summer. Students are getting out of school and people generally find themselves with more free time to do things. There's a reason why the term "summer blockbuster" exists. It seems this year's products were early bloomers because April is absolutely crammed full of releases. With so much to choose from, it might be a little daunting to decide upon one, so here is a list of five of them to keep track of.

1. "Avengers: Endgame:"

Perhaps the most obvious to make this list, "Endgame" follows in the direct aftermath of groundbreaking "Avengers: Infinity War" and will serve as the conclusion for the vast majority of the Marvel Cinematic Universe up to this point. Having recently made headlines by breaking ticket sale records and ticket sale websites, you might have some trouble getting into this one on its opening day of April 26.

2. "Hellboy:"

A reboot to the film adaptations of the popular graphic novels by Mike Mignola, "Hellboy" sees the titular anti-hero played this time by actor David Harbour. Viewed by many fans as being an adaptation more faithful to its source material than the original two films, "Hellboy" is set to release on April 12.

3. "Shazam!:"

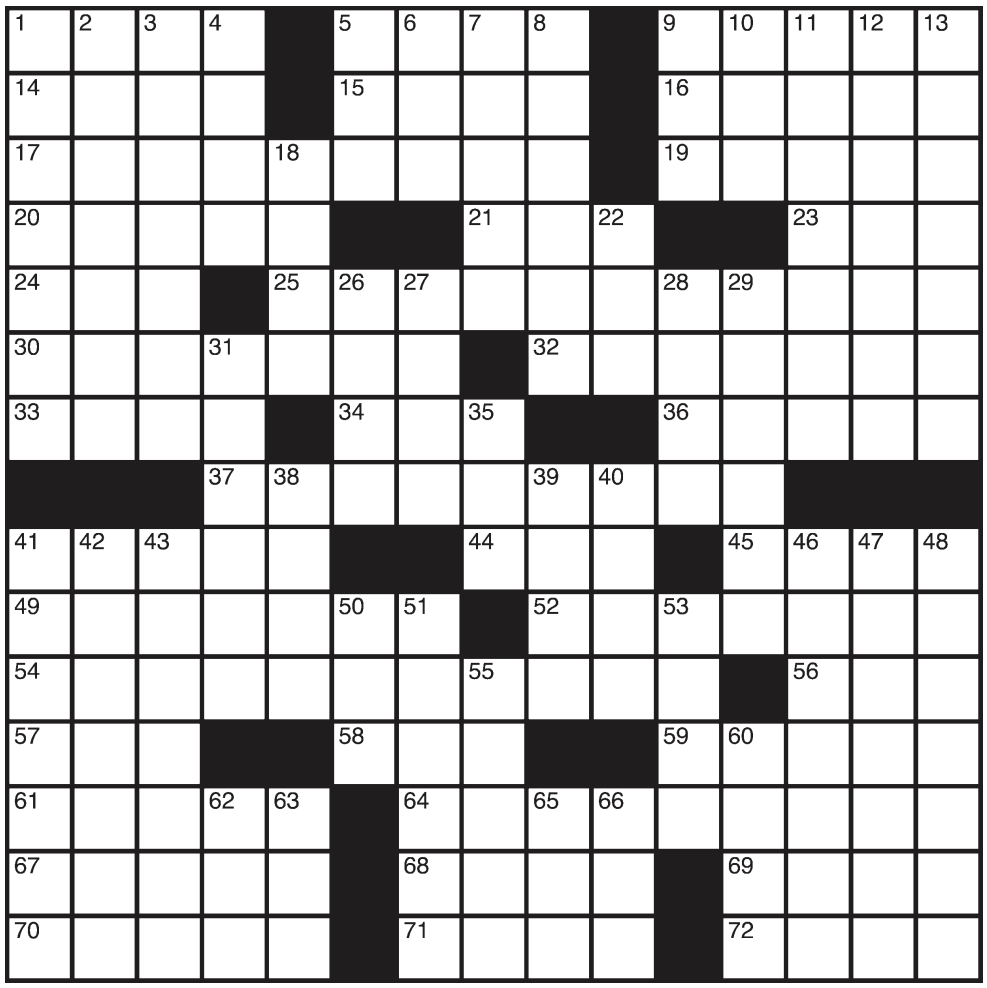
Releasing tomorrow on April 5, "Shazam!" is a new entry into the DC Cinematic Universe that seems to be taking a wide step away from the gritty, dark tones that received heavy criticism from comic book fans in favor a comedic and light-hearted mood. "Shazam!" might be what DC needs to break its record of middling to poorly-received superhero movies.

4. "Pet Sematary:"

A new take on the Stephen King horror novel of the same name, "Pet Sematary" explores a story about the consequences of messing with the dead, and the dead promptly messing with you. With the original film from the 1980s being remembered as a cult classic, be prepared to be scared on April 5.

5. "The Best of Enemies:"

A dramatic film centering upon the life of Ann Atwater, an American civil rights activist. Playing heavily with her relationship with high-ranking Ku Klux Klan member C.P. Ellis, "The Best of Enemies" seems like a chance to explore a moment in civil rights history that is scarcely covered in most classrooms.



Across

1 Half a fluid oz.
5 Ancient Peruvian
9 Jalopies
14 "I'm __ here!": "Adios!"
15 "North by Northwest" actor Grant
16 Grownup
17 Unpredictable leg joint problem
19 Coffee sweetener
20 Be on the same page
21 Butter square
23 Old AT&T rival
24 Camera largely replaced by its digital version, for short
25 Beef named for a bone
30 Golfer's booking
32 Diplomatic accord
33 Ancient Icelandic text
34 __ McMuffin
36 "The Deep" director Peter
37 Sally, to Charlie Brown
41 Poe's one-word bird
44 Stars are seen in it
45 Bars on candy bars, e.g.: Abbr.
49 Disparaging word
52 "Let me say this again ... "
54 "Love, Simon" co-star
56 Lawyer's gp.
57 Inventor Whitney
58 $200 Monopoly props.
59 Fable writer
61 Hooves-on-cobblestone sounds
64 Cry for today, and a hint to the starts of 17-, 25-, 37- and 54-Across
67 Lone Ranger's pal
68 Con job
69 Blend by melting
70 Actress Spacek
71 Locking device
72 Went really fast

Down

1 How food may be salted
2 Broke into and stole from
3 Mixed with a spoon
4 Walk nervously to and fro
5 "Eww!"
6 Indian bread
7 French pancake
8 "Yes, captain"
9 Is suffering from, as a cold
10 College address suffix
11 Make larger
12 Appease
13 Bowling x's
18 "Felicity" star Russell
22 Bowling pin count
26 Chatted with online, briefly
27 Pleads
28 Lid inflammation
29 Rip to shreds
31 Opposite of giveth
35 USO show audience
38 Broadcast with greater image resolution, as TV shows
39 Fat-free milk
40 Spare in a Brit's boot
41 Turns down
42 Ill-fated 1967 moon mission
43 "__ of sugar-plums danced in their heads": Moore
46 Green bowlful
47 Last train car
48 Attached using a Swingline
50 U.K.'s continent
51 Defeat decisively
53 Airline to Tel Aviv
55 Pet adoption org.
60 Letters before gees
62 Halves of qts.
63 Tofu source
65 Dorm VIPs
66 Mischief-maker

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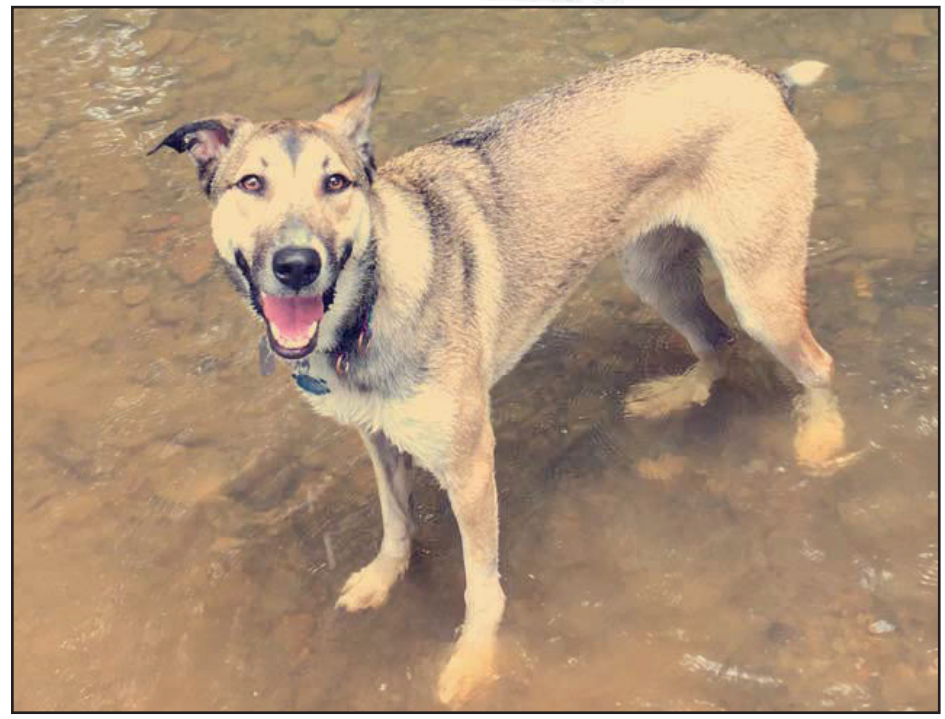

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Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit ***www.sudoku.org.uk***

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Level 1 2 3 4

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

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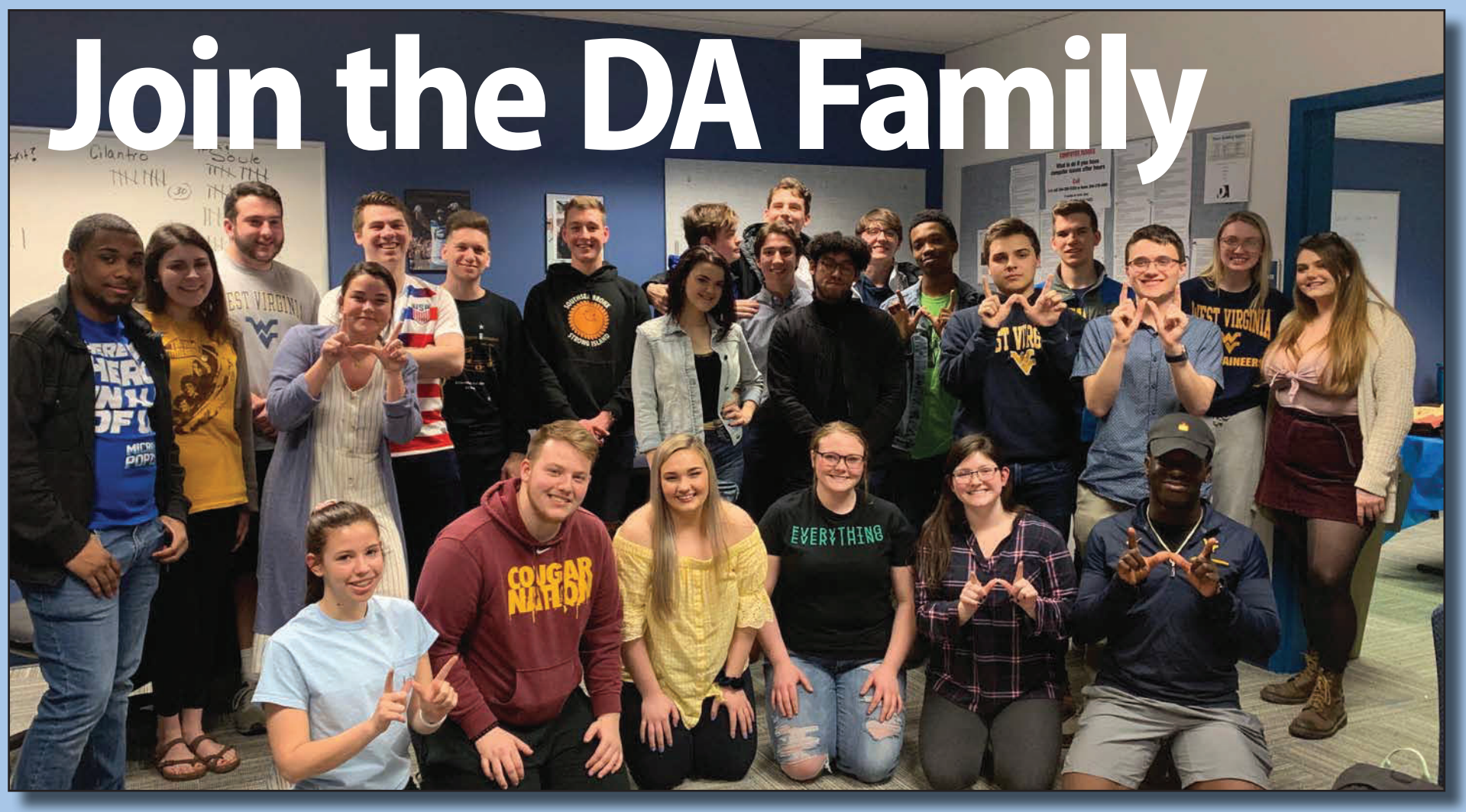

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-Jared Serre, Assistant Sports Editor

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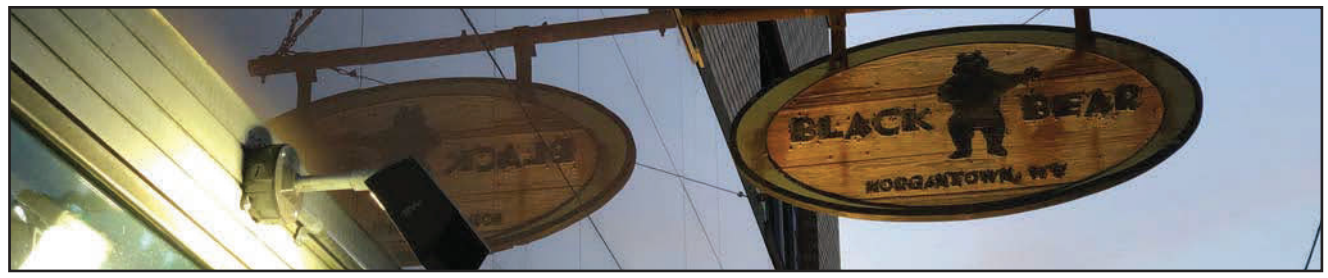

PHOTO BY MEGAN SLAVICH

The DA Eats goes live with the WVU Big Band at Black Bear

BY RYAN MAIDEN
FOOD CRITIC

The WVU Big Band, which plays jazz music took to Black Bear Burritos' stage this past Tuesday to perform a menagerie of jazz music, ranging from modern arrangements to the swinging 1930s sounds that you may be familiar with.

The Big Band showed off with 17 of their talented WVU student musicians, led by Jared Sims, director of jazz at the University. From trumpeters to bassists, the band orchestrated applause and entertainment as easily as they played hits like "Cherokee" and "Cotton Tail."

"We perform on a regular monthly basis at Black Bear and just did a gig last Saturday," Grant Adams, a junior trombone performance student at WVU and trombonist in the Big Band, said. "I just performed in a concert last week, one in March and in January."

Apart from their regular performances at Black Bear's Evansdale location, the band performs at Morgantown Brewing Company as well.

The WVU Big Band will be performing alongside other members of the jazz program in a concert next Thursday, April 11 at the Clay Theatre in the WVU Creative Arts Center at 7:30 p.m.

ALL PHOTOS BY RYAN MAIDEN

The WVU Big Band performs for a crowd at Black Bear.

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SPORTS

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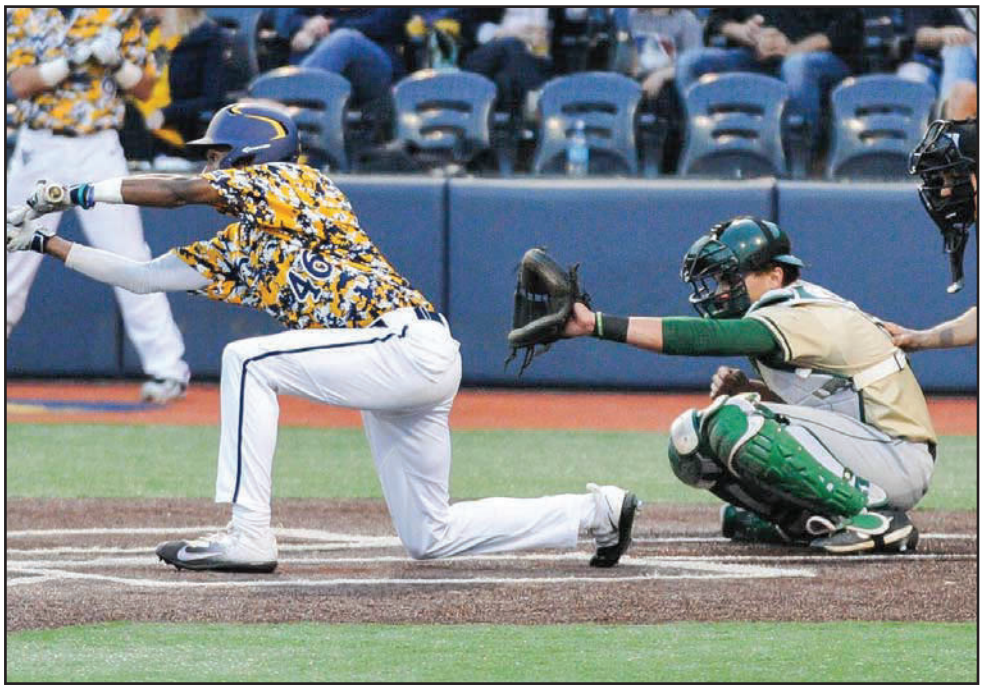
Jared Serre

Inconsistent Mountaineers heading to Oklahoma State for weekend series

BY QUINN BURKITT
STAFF WRITER



STAFF PHOTO

Brandon White gets low to hit a bunt, helping his teammate get to second base.

PHOTO BY COLIN TRACY

Braden Zarbnisky talks to his coach after being called out at first base during a win against Penn State at PNC Park in Pittsburgh.

BASEBALL

The West Virginia baseball team came out victorious in 14 of their 21 non-conference matchups. Then the Mountaineers dropped three straight games at Baylor and another one at home against Oklahoma.

Following that blunder, WVU head coach Randy Mazey led his club to a dominant pair of wins while outscoring the Sooners, 17-5, last Saturday and Sunday.

It's been an inconsistent season for the Mountaineers through 28 games this season to say the least.

It's evident that Mazey has found his trio of consistent starting pitchers in right handers Kade Strowd and Alek Manoah, as well as left hander Jackson Wolf. Manoah takes the crown so far this season as the junior holds three wins and a 2.89 ERA through seven starts.

"He makes great pitches when he has to and if he could just eliminate the walks, it's not rocket science… you've got to grind," explained Mazey on Strowd following Sunday's win.

The only other pair of Mountaineers that have begun the day on the mound for West Virginia this season include right hander Brock Helverson's lone start and left-hander Nick Snyder's five starts.

At the plate, first baseman Marques Inman led West Virginia to their series win against Oklahoma last weekend with his second inning three run homer. Inman is batting .236 this season with a team ranked second place, five home runs.

"We've got to take every Big 12 series like we're playing the No. 1 team in the nation every weekend, so no matter whether it's Kansas or anyone it doesn't matter," Inman said on his approach against Big 12 opponents.

Second baseman Tyler Doranes is leading the Mountaineers with a .311 batting average and 33 hits in 106 at bats through 28 games played. Outfielder Darius Hill strolls into Stillwater hitting .288 with a trio of home runs and catcher Paul McIntosh leads West Virginia with seven homers and a .525 slugging percentage.

Since conference action began on Mar. 22, West Virginia came up with their most dominant performance in a 12-4 outing over Oklahoma last Saturday. Right-hander Tristen Hudson earned the victory for the Mountaineers in relief and Wolf tossed five innings while allowing only six hits and one earned run.

"We want to try and win our series at home and get a win on the road in a three-game series, and if you win a series on the road that's just icing on the cake… you've just got to think one game at a time," said Mazey following the victory over Oklahoma on Sunday.

McIntosh came through with a bomb in the fourth inning and an eighth run eighth inning sparked a monster day for the West Virginia bats.

The Cowboys are coming off a defeat to Central Arkansas, 8-4 on Tuesday in which left hander Mitchell Stone served up seven earned runs and seven hits in two innings of work.

Right-handed Joe Leinhard leads the Cowboys starting pitchers with a 2.67 ERA and a 2-1 mark in three starts. Right-handed Jensen Elliott has also been impressive this season, tossing for a 3-1 record and a 2.67 ERA in seven starts on the mound.

At the plate, Oklahoma State ranks fourth in the Big 12 with a .282 team batting average and seventh in the conference with 243 hits in 861 at bats.

Infielder Alix Garcia leads the middle of the pack offensive unit with a .349 batting average and 15 hits in 43 at bats. Infielder Andrew Navigato has cracked a team-high seven home runs in 100 at bats and outfielder Carson McCusker leads the Cowboys with a thrashing .615 slugging percentage.

First pitch between West Virginia and Oklahoma State is set for 7 p.m. on Friday, 3 p.m. on Saturday and 1 p.m. on Sunday.

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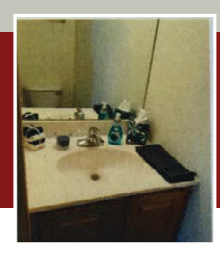

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Although string of injuries, Mountaineers spring football season full of positive energy

BY QUINN BURKITT
STAFF WRITER

FOOTBALL

The spring football season for new head coach Neal Brown's Mountaineers has seen a few big scares for various players' health and status. However, he continues to push positive energy and excitement around the building.

Right guard Josh Sills was forced off the field after his left leg was rolled up by a teammate in a practice last week. Sills has been walking around in a leg brace for the past week or so, but Brown explained that it's possible the right guard could see the practice field again in a week.

"Sills has been playing some guard and some tackle, so I would love for him to be getting reps... more than anything just from a leadership perspective. We've got Colton on the left side and Sills on the other, and their communication is so different just because they've played. It's good Briason [Mays]'s getting reps, but I'd rather Sills be out there too," explained Brown on his offensive line depth.

Another missing piece of the West Virginia squad is linebacker VanDarius Cowan who finds himself on the injured list with a hamstring issue.

The junior who was dismissed from the Alabama football program for a violation of team rules in July 2018 didn't see any playing time in the fall as part of NCAA transfer rules. The linebacker hopes to play a critical role in the fall of 2019 and Brown expects him to be back by the end of spring practices.

Perhaps the biggest concern of spring practice so far is senior wide receiver Marcus Simms who was absent at Saturday's practice as Brown explained that he is "dealing with a personal issue." Simms has previously been limited with a minor injury.

It is unexpected when Simms could see the practice field again but, in the meantime, redshirt freshmen Sam James and Bryce Wheaton are receiving more practice reps while the senior remains out.

Although multiple injuries and early scares, Brown continues to push for positive energy and exuberance in all the team does throughout the spring.

PHOTO BY TEMITAYO ADESOKAN
Running back Leddie Brown practicing a hand off from West Virginia quarterback Jack Allison.

"I tell the kids all the time, they need to enjoy this journey," Brown explained, "and it's an honor for me to help connect them to the next point in whatever they're doing. We are going to work hard, so why not have fun when you work hard? And if they see that in me, hopefully it will transfer to them."

A lot of that excitement begins with new outside linebackers coach, Al Pogue — a departure of Troy with Brown in early January. Pogue served as Troy's cornerbacks coach as well as serving as a teacher for 12 years prior to his coaching days.

"I used to be a teacher... I love working with kids. [I was a] special ed teacher, I love working with kids and just having the opportunity to get out there and be around the game and still have some involvement in it," Pogue said.

PHOTO BY TEMITAYO ADESOKAN
Martell Pettaway getting ready to head to team huddle.

Ground game not developing amidst injuries, position changes

BY COLE MCCLANAHAN
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

FOOTBALL

PHOTO BY TEMITAYO ADESOKAN
Kennedy McCoy waiting for the next instruction.

PHOTO BY TEMITAYO ADESOKAN
Will Grier under offensive line during the game against Texas on Nov. 13, 2018.

Individually, delayed development can be expected along an offensive line when an entirely new coaching staff is brought in. It can also be expected when a team is faced with replacing three starters along its front.

West Virginia has to deal with both of those problems this spring.

Matt Moore, the Mountaineers' new co-offensive coordinator and offensive line coach, is tasked with fixing the issues, but his group hasn't improved as he hoped they would so far.

"The o-line is always the last thing to come around because it is five guys that have to communicate and make sure they are on the right page," Moore said. "That's my job as a coach, making sure that they get there. All I know to do when things go bad is to just go to work."

The Mountaineers are struggling after replacing three starters from last season in Yodny Cajuste, Matt Jones and Isaiah Hardy, which has led to position changes and setbacks for the new group.

Colton McKivitz has moved from right to left tackle to replace Cajuste, Chase Behrndt has moved from guard to center to replace Jones and Jacob Buccigrossi and Josh Sills were both expected to make an impact at guard before injuries forced them to the sideline.

The influx of change has led the offensive line to not progress as expected, and it's affecting other position groups as well, the running backs especially.

"There were times when they were getting hit behind the line of scrimmage, which that is completely our fault," Moore said. "There were some times where we blocked it up pretty good, and I think those guys understand, but I completely understand the frustration. It's frustrating for my guys, it's frustrating for the running backs, but like I said, we're going to keep working."

West Virginia held its first scrimmage of the spring on Saturday, and Moore left disappointed in the performance of the Mountaineer rushing attack, but was sure to note it was the play of the offensive line that caused the frustration.

"It's the o-line," Moore said. "We have to get it right. We can't allow run throughs. We can't allow negative plays. It's like I told my group the other day, 'If we can keep people from running through, our running backs are good enough where they are going to get yards. They are going to get what they need. We just have to do our job.'"

The Mountaineers have three running backs — Kennedy McKoy, Martell Pettaway and Leddie Brown — who have shown their ability in the past when given the opportunity, but for it happen again this season, the WVU offensive line has to work through the problems it's experiencing now for the offense to reach its full potential this fall.

"The growing pains early are tough, with all the moving they do, but we are going to continue to work on it and continue to try different things to get things moving in the direction we want it to go," Moore said.

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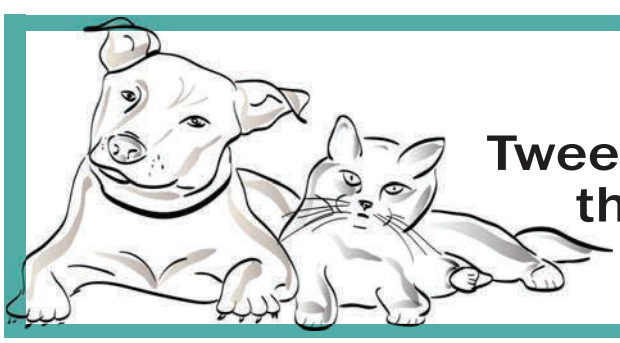

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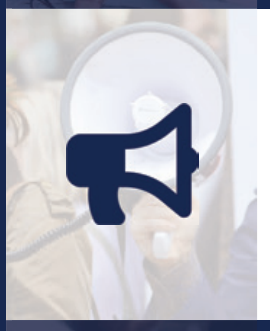

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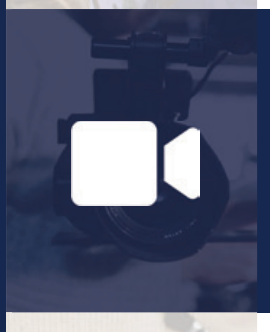

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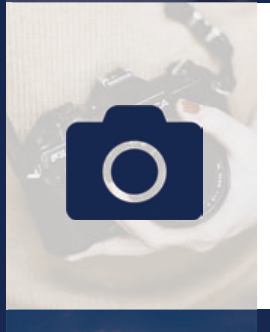

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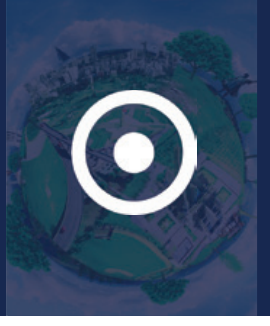

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