THE DA

Eggs, bacon and alcohol: The way new liquors laws help local stores

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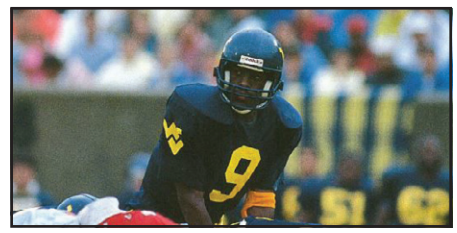
Four things you might not know about the Mountaineer mascot

p. 5



WVU legend Major Harris' No. 9 to be retired at Satr

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WVU's Independent Student Newspaper THURSDAY NOVEMBER 4, 2021 www.thedaonline.com

WVU eliminates 15 degree programs

BY DUNCAN SLADE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The WVU Board of Governors voted Friday to deactivate 15 degree programs — primarily in the College of Creative Arts — as a part of the University's ongoing "Academic Transformation" aimed at improving degree offerings.

The Provost's Office has been gathering data on academic programs since the spring, and preliminary recommendations were made earlier this fall.

Only two programs chose to appeal the preliminary results. The bachelor's in puppetry was granted a two year probationary period, but the appeal from the master's in Spanish was denied.

"In the end, we recommended a relatively small number of programs for outright discontinuation," Provost Maryanne Reed said. "And we gave an almost equal number of programs the opportunity to turn their programs around."

The 15 degree programs are primarily in the College of Creative Arts. Three bachelor's degree programs — ceramics, printmaking and sculpture — will be combined in a single new major.

The bachelor's degree program in Music Performance: Piano will become an area of emphasis in the broader Music Performance bachelor's program.

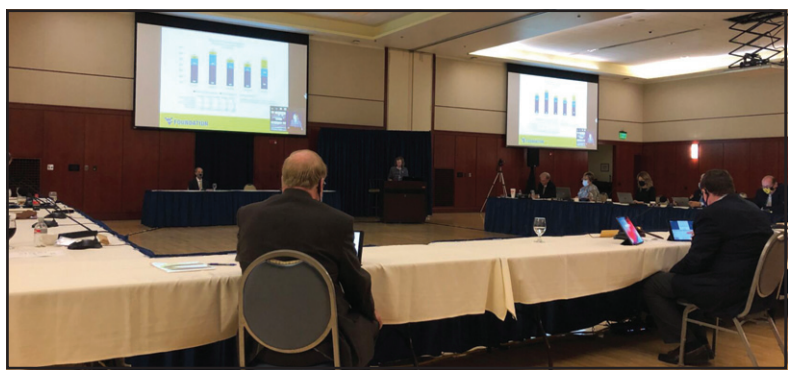

PHOTO BY DUNCAN SLADE

Members of the WVU Board of Governors listen to a presentation during their regular meeting on Friday, Sept. 17.

Bachelor's degrees in religious studies and contemporary and integrative musical performance will be discontinued outright. The master's programs in art history, Spanish and design and merchandising will also be deactivated.

Six master's art programs will be combined in a new single major. These programs are in ceramics, graphic design, intermedia and photography, painting, printmaking and sculpture.

Another 30 programs were identified as having the ability to grow enrollment, based on market research and current demand. These were named "Programs of Opportunity."

Programs from the College of Law and the Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resource were not considered as they are currently completing accreditation.

See **Programs** page 4

How to get a COVID booster shot in Morgantown

BY JULES OGDEN
CORRESPONDENT

COVID-19 booster shots are now available to WVU students and employees, as well as Morgantown residents, through WVU Medicine Student Health and their partnership with the Monongalia County Health Department.

Currently, the University will only be administering the Pfizer and Moderna booster shots. The Johnson & Johnson booster is not being offered at this time.

On Oct. 21, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) expanded eligibility for COVID-19 booster shots to include people that are over 18 who live in long-term care, have underlying medical conditions or work or live in "high-risk settings." Anyone 65 years or older is also eligible.

Some examples of high risk settings include working in the food service industry or teaching a class on campus.

What to know before you get your booster

When:
- **Moderna boosters available on Nov. 10 and 17 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment**
- **Pfizer booster available at the Rec Center on Mondays from 1-3 p.m. by walk-in**

Where: WVU Student Rec Center

Who:
- **Eligible WVU students and employees**
- **Eligible Morgantown residents**

Make sure to bring your vaccination card.

Who's eligible?

- **anyone 65 years or older**
- **anyone over 18 years who lives in long-term care, have underlying medical conditions or work in high-risk settings such as food service or education**

With this opening, the majority of the University's employees and students will now fall into one of these categories. However, many students may not realize that they are eligible, according to Dr. Carmen Burrell, medical director of WVU Student Health Services and Urgent Care.

"I think there are a lot of people who fall into high-risk situations or occupations or have some of these health conditions that are younger who do qualify and may not realize it," Burrell said.

For example, one of the eligibility criteria for those who are 18 and older with underlying health conditions is obesity or overweight, which is defined by a BMI of 25 or greater.

The 18 and older eligibility criteria has also expanded to include individuals with mental health conditions, such as depression and anxiety, according to the CDC.

Both the CDC and the Food and Drug Administration have approved the use of COVID-19 booster shots that do not match the individual's original vaccine, meaning someone that received the Moderna vaccine may get the Pfizer booster. This is also the case for recipients of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

It is recommended that those who received the Moderna or Pfizer vaccines for their initial doses wait six months before getting their booster. The Johnson & Johnson has a lower efficacy rate, so its recommended wait period is only two months after the initial dose.

Booster shots will be available at a number of pop-up clinics operated by WVU Medicine and the Monongalia County Health Department.

The University will offer the Moderna booster at the Student Rec Center on Nov. 3, 10 and 17 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment.

Walk-ins for the Pfizer booster will be offered at the Rec Center on Mondays from 1-3 p.m.

Although there are listed qualifications for the booster, the clinics are not requiring proof of eligibility. The only requirement is the vaccine card that documents initial doses.

"I think right now, since it is open to interpretation, no one has to supply job verification or medical information other than the proof of the initial two vaccines," Burrell said.

However, Burrell encourages all interested in receiving the booster to read about eligibility and discuss the matters with either their healthcare provider or Student Health.

The clinics are also open to almost anyone, regardless of association with the University.

"So even if you have friends or visitors or family and it's a little bit easier for them to get vaccinated here, or you know, sometimes it helps to have family or friends' support, then any of these patients can present to the clinic," Burrell said.

In addition to the weekly clinics, the Pfizer vaccine is available at Student Health during regular business hours.

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WEEKEND WEATHER FORECAST

FRIDAY 11/05
SUNNY
HIGH 50° - LOW 30°

SATURDAY 11/06
SUNNY
HIGH 57° - LOW 34°

SUNDAY 11/07
MOSTLY SUNNY
HIGH 58° - LOW 40°

CRIME REPORT

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

Nov. 01
11:35 a.m. | Resolved
University Place North
Fire Alarm.

Nov. 01
1:43 p.m. | Inactive
WVU Area 43
Auto Tampering.

Nov. 01
9:00 a.m. | Closed
Vandalia Hall Gold
Petit Larceny.

Nov. 01
4:39 p.m. | Warning
Spruce St
Traffic Stop.

Nov. 01
5:06 p.m. | Resolved
Stalnaker Hall
Harrassment.

Nov. 01
6:27 p.m. | Citation
Oakland St
Traffic Stop.

Nov. 01
7:21 p.m. | Warning
Stewart St
Traffic Stop.

Nov. 01
7:55 p.m. | Citation
Dadisman Hall
Drug Incident.

Nov. 01
9:30 p.m. | Resolved
Brooke Tower
Assist EMS Police.

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SOCIAL MEDIA MOMENTS

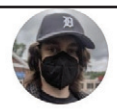
dailyathenaeum

Alex Love (she/her)
@aalexlovee

I like how each PRT car has its own little speed - from you're gonna be late to clss" to "you're gonna be early to meet god"

Drake
@Drakesterrrr

is it #WVU gameday yet?? asking for a friend



Typical Vahid
@vahid_arefi

I'm so glad that in our culture of overwork, burnout, with no paid sick leave, that our universities are asking us to track every hour we spend in a week, as if this were a healthy or normal thing to do.

The Daily Athenaeum @DailyAthena... · 2d

WVU President E. Gordon Gee announced the revival of Project 168, a program where students could enroll and track their progress in. The co-curricular program was initially announced in Gee's 2014 address but wasn't met with much...

THE DAILY ATHENAEUM
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Did you know the DA is editorially Independent from the University?

THE DA

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The two-month battle for a vaccine mandate

BY TRENTON STRAIGHT
NEWS EDITOR

Students and faculty at WVU spent roughly two months advocating for a vaccine mandate, following school administrators' decision not to require the shot upon full Food and Drug Administration approval near the beginning of the semester.

At one point, University faculty called a rare assembly of almost every faculty member and voted in favor of a vaccine requirement for all students and employees.

WVU administrators did not bend to the public pressure and repeatedly said they were confident in campus vaccination numbers.

The energy behind a vaccine mandate noticeably declined after the student vaccination rate passed the 80% goal set by administrators.

AUGUST **SEPTEMBER** **OCTOBER**

1 — **Emotions run high at SGA meeting on vaccine mandate resolution**
SGA introduced a resolution urging WVU to issue a vaccine mandate for students and employees.

3 — **WVU faculty vote overwhelmingly in favor of COVID vaccine mandate**
In a rare assembly, the WVU faculty voted in favor — 1094 in favor and 185 opposed — of a non-binding resolution urging the University to issue a vaccine mandate.

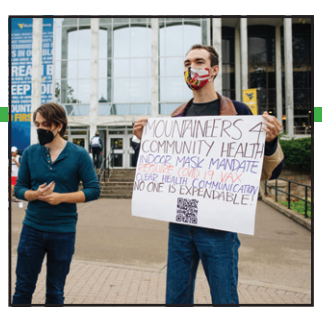
5 — **WVU employee vaccination rate reaches over 90%**

8 — **WVU SGA passes resolution in favor of COVID vaccine mandate**
SGA passed a resolution urging WVU to implement a vaccine mandate. The resolution passed by a vote of 20-7.

9 — **WVU Staff Council issues vaccine mandate survey**
The WVU Staff Council issued a survey asking students and staff for their opinions on a vaccine mandate.

12 — **WVU student vaccination rate reaches over 80%**

14 — **Marshall Faculty Senate supports vaccine mandate in joint resolution, WVU Faculty Senate expected to take up measure next week**
The Marshall University Faculty Senate passed by voice vote a joint non-binding resolution in favor of a COVID-19 vaccine mandate.



16 — **Vaccine mandate vote absent from WVU Board of Governors agenda**
The WVU Board of Governors didn't put the vaccine mandate on the agenda for their bi-monthly meeting.

WVU Staff Council 'strongly encourages' COVID vaccine, doesn't support mandate
The WVU Staff Council said they strongly encourage vaccination in a recent statement but did not give support for a mandate.

17 — **Board of Governors supports WVU decision to not mandate COVID vaccine**
The West Virginia University Board of Governors said they support the administration's decision to strongly encourage but not require vaccination.

18 — **Faculty Senate passes joint WVU-Marshall resolution for COVID vaccine mandate**
The WVU Faculty Senate passed a non-binding joint resolution with Marshall University's Faculty Senate in favor of vaccine mandates.

22 — **Graduate workers petition WVU for COVID vaccine mandate**
A group of WVU graduate student workers spoke out about their continued frustration with the COVID regulations on campus.

23 — **WVU: No vaccination requirement after full FDA approval**
West Virginia University stopped short of requiring vaccination, saying in a statement that it will continue to "strongly encourage" people to get the shot.

25 — **WVU president to unvaccinated: 'Get the damn shot'**
WVU President E. Gordon Gee shared direct words for people who have not yet gotten vaccinated against COVID-19.

WVU faculty to vote on vaccine mandate resolution
The Faculty Senate called a special meeting of all faculty to vote on a resolution in support of mandatory vaccinations.

30 — **SGA asks for student opinions on vaccine mandate**
The WVU Student Government Association issued a survey asking students for input on a possible vaccine mandate by the University.

PHOTOS COURTESY WVU AND MARSHALL UNIVERSITY. STAFF PHOTOGRAPHY BY DUNCAN SLADE. DESIGNED BY ANNIKA GODWIN.

Eggs, bacon and alcohol: The way new liquors laws help local stores

BY CAMREN GANDEE
CORRESPONDENT

West Virginia liquor stores have been busier than usual recently, as Sunday purchasing hours were moved to 6 a.m. following the Senate's approval in September.

The previous law prevented liquor sales prior to 1 p.m. on Sundays, though with the acceptance of Senate Bill 2020, liquor stores can now expect to see more business on that day of the week.

Brian Kummer, owner of BFS Liquor store in Morgantown, said though he hasn't seen a drastic changes in sales since September, it has helped his business.

"I think it has been helpful to business, and we're glad to be out there to serve them at that part of the day," Kummer said. "A lot of other states were already doing this, so I think it's a good thing."

In accordance with the West Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control Administration, the law was passed on June 24, 2021, and went into effect on the 90-day mark from that passing of the bill which landed Sept. 26.

There are still a number of exceptions to these new changes, such as Christmas Day and Easter Sunday, which will continue to prevent any early morning liquor sales.

Along with these preventions, alcohol dispensaries will not be allowed to sell liquor products from the hours of midnight to 6 a.m. Wine will still be available to purchase at those times and on such festive dates.

These changes have not only influenced liquor sales, but business hours as well. Popular outlets such as Ashebrooke Liquor Outlet on Beechurst Avenue changed their opening hour from 1 p.m. to 11 a.m. on Sundays, giving customers a two-hour headstart on their purchases.

For restaurants that hope to sell alcohol at an earlier time, they too are in luck. With the passage of Senate Bill 561, dubbed the Brunch Bill, patrons will be free to purchase alcohol at their favorite food spots.

Though these dining establishments were not granted the same 6 a.m. time frame as other alcoholic-friendly locations, they will be able to make alcohol sales as early as 10 a.m.

"Sundays are good days; a lot of people are usually off work," Kummer said. "There are people going out, they go to the lake, they're picnicking or golfing, there's a lot going on. Those are the people that like to buy beer and liquor so we are happy to oblige."

"We've always done pretty good on Sundays anyways, but this change definitely helps."

With these changes the Senate felt it only necessary to approve a number of other safety provisions.

Liquor sales that exceed the 10-gallon threshold are prohibited, unless expressly granted permission by the commissioner is given.

PHOTO BY GUS SCHLOMER

Storefront of the Ashbrooke Liquor Store on the corner of Beechurst and 3rd Street.

The exceptions to this limit include bars and clubs, as well as religious gatherings that require wine.

In addition, Senate Bill 561 reinforces a number of liquor licensing requirements, while also opening new avenues for festivals, hotels, golf courses and other venues to gain liquor licenses and event permits.

Information regarding all other time restrictions and liquor law updates can be found in the West Virginia Code.

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ENTRANCE

Programs

Continued from page 1

The board also voted to affirm the name for the college to be formed from the merger of the College of Education and Human Services and the College of Physical Activity and Sports Science.

The newly merged college will be known as the College of Applied Human Sciences.

"There's still a lot of work to be done," Reed said. "But I want to be sure to recognize the commitment and strong leadership of both Dean Tracy Morris and Dean Jack Watson, who have taken the reins and are truly moving mountains to launch this new college."

She said the Provost's Office had just contracted a firm to lead the national search for a new founding dean. The college is expected to launch under the new name and with new leadership in July.

There will be three schools housed within the college. They are the School of Education, School of Counseling and Well-being and the School of Sports Sciences.

The move comes as a part of ongoing academic transformation at the University that is being led by the Provost's Office. This includes a critical review of academic programs and majors with the goal of maximizing WVU's competitive advantage in the marketplace.

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Four things you might not know about the Mountaineer mascot

BY LARA BONATESTA
CULTURE EDITOR

PHOTO BY AVERY YEAROUT

Colson Glover, the 67th West Virginia University Mountaineer mascot

West Virginia University's Mountaineer mascot is incredibly meaningful to the school, the community and even the state.

"The Mountaineer, I think, is just one of the most beloved traditions that we have at West Virginia University because of the fact that we're all Mountaineers, we all embody that," said Sonja Wilson, co-chairperson of the Mountaineer Advisory Council.

Wilson explained that this tradition reflects the strength of current Mountaineers and also those of the past.

"I'm a Mountaineer. You're a Mountaineer. Mountaineer nation, we're all mountaineers. And it stands for kind of the strength and courage and all that West Virginians have you know? I think that's why the Mountaineer wears what he wears because that's what people wore back in the day."

In honor of Mountaineer Week, here are four things you might not know about the Mountaineer.

The Mountaineer mascot tradition started in 1927.

The first official Mountaineer was Lawson Hill, who was the mascot from 1934 to 1935. The tradition, however, began a few years prior with Clay Crouse in 1927.

In total, there have been 70 Mountaineers. The only year with no mascot was 1944 due to World War II.

The first female Mountaineer was Natalie Tennant in 1990. One other woman has had the job since.

A list of all past Mountaineers can be found on the Mountaineer website.

There is a Mountaineer Advisory Council.

Wilson became the Mountaineer's advisor when Brady Campbell was the mascot from 2006 to 2007. Before this, the Mountaineer had no advisor.

"The reason that came about was because the Mountaineer never really had anyone to work with and you know, they had to go to school," Wilson said.

The Mountaineer Advisory Council meets at least once a quarter.

"In the age when everybody got cell phones, it became a little bit more hectic for the Mountaineer. And then we got into the age of social media and Facebook and Instagram and all that and people message the Mountaineer and it's hard to keep up with all of it."

The Mountaineer has an appearance request form.

Did you know that the Mountaineer is invited to go to weddings all the time? According to Wilson, the Mountaineer is regularly asked to attend weddings, birthday parties and even funerals.

As cell phones and social media became more prevalent, more appearance requests began rolling in. To keep up, Wilson created the Mountaineer appearance request form and established some rules for appearances.

Because the Mountaineer is just one person, they can't go to everything. Therefore, the Mountaineer does not typically attend social functions.

"It's hard for the Mountaineer to say no to people because they're in this coveted role. And what we've done is, I'm the one that looks at all the appearances ahead of time, but, you know, the Mountaineer goes to school too. So we try not to do social functions because you can't do everything and you want to be fair to everyone," Wilson said.

The Mountaineer does about 250 appearances per year excluding athletic functions, Wilson said. This includes appearances in schools, hospitals, nursing homes, rotary clubs, parades, fairs, festivals etc.

The Mountaineer Mascot recently competed for entry into the National Mascot Hall of Fame.

This year, for the first time, the Mountaineer competed for admittance into the National Mascot Hall of Fame. The top 24 applicants made it to the first round of the competition.

"What is so cool about it is it's not just for college. I mean, there's pros, like mascots for pro basketball, and semi pro sports and all that. So it's really stiff competition. But we were just thrilled to be able to make it to the first round, which is the top 24," Wilson said.

After making it to the first round, the Mountaineer unfortunately did not receive enough votes to proceed.

Former WVU professor to give presentation about her reporting that helped lead to #MeToo

BY AUBREY BURKHARDT
CORRESPONDENT

COURTESY PHOTO

Former WVU professor Alison Bass

Alison Bass, a retired journalism professor, will be speaking about her new memoir on Nov. 4 at 7 p.m. in room 130 of Colson Hall at WVU. The memoir is titled, "Brassy Broad: How one journalist helped pave the way to the #MeToo movement."

Bass has a long history in investigative journalism. As one of the first journalists to write about the sexual abuse committed by powerful men, she paved a path for people to come forward with their stories.

Bass began her career at the Easton Express in Easton, Pennsylvania. Afterwards she worked at The Miami Herald, MIT's Technology Review and The Boston Globe.

At the Miami Herald, Bass wrote stories about local government corruption, bribery, sexual abuse of children by the staff in a residential treatment center and more. Bass described these stories as "low-hanging fruit."

Bass was not afraid to speak her mind. She describes herself as outspoken and assertive. This caused tension in the workplace.

After having a conversation with a colleague, she was told, "Alison, you have to understand, they see you as a brassy, northern broad."

This statement stuck with Bass for years to come.

At the Boston Globe, Bass did a series on the abuse of women seeking mental health treatment and their therapists. For this, she received a Pulitzer Prize nomination.

"It's hard to believe now, but back in the 1980s, journalists tended to take the word of health professionals over women who complained about sexual abuse, especially when those women had sought mental health treatment," she said.

Bass's interest in investigative journalism stemmed from childhood.

With a Jewish background, Bass's family faced religious discrimination in the inner city.

"My parents were looking to get out of the inner city and they couldn't find any place to sell to jews. This was in Fox County. That's when my father remembered reading about this international community," she said.

Brynn Gweled, a community in Pennsylvania, was founded by Quakers in 1940. Defying social norms, the community lived sustainably and embraced racial and religious diversity.

In her memoir, Bass discusses the strong impact that life in Brynn Gweled had on her.

"It probably taught me how to challenge the status quo. So that may explain why, some of my bent towards investigative reporting."

With The Boston Globe, Miami Herald and The Easton Express under her belt, Bass branched out to teaching part time and eventually found her way to WVU.

At the University, she taught and helped the next generation of journalists improve their investigative skills.

"I taught them investigative reporting to the extent where I got into a lot of trouble because some of the stories they wrote embarrassed the University," Bass said. "But the point was that I was teaching my students how to do investigative reporting. And they choose sometimes to do stories about WVU because that's what they knew."

In her retirement, Bass spends her time writing books. Her two previous publications are titled, "Getting Screwed, Sex Workers and the Law" and "Side Effects: A Prosecutor, a Whistleblower and a Bestselling Antidepressant on Trial."

She hopes her readers understand the importance of speaking the truth and standing up for the truth.

"The point is, I would say it's important to not be cowed by powerful institutions and powerful individuals, and particularly as a woman to speak up."

Three things to do in Morgantown this weekend

BY NICHOLAS ROBERTS
CORRESPONDENT

As the weather is beginning to cool down here in Morgantown, you may be looking for some new ways to have some fun. Here's three options as we head into the winter.

Mountain State Brewing:
Nestled near the heart of downtown, this establishment is one of four locations that can be found across West Virginia and Maryland. Open from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.. Mountain State Brewing functions as a microbrewery but also has a wide and affordable menu that makes it a cozy place to have a meal alongside the Monongahela River.

Mountainman Axe Throwing:
Whether you're a West Virginia native or not, Mountainman Axe Throwing is a great place to channel your inner West Virginian. This venue is an absolute blast of an experience to share with your family and friends. Located in Star City, this joint is about a 10 minute drive from downtown.

Pool at the Rec Center:
Another fun option to stay active during the Winter is swimming at the Rec Center. As you may know the Rec Center facilities are exceptional and if you haven't dabbled your way into the pool area you definitely should, as it is equipped with a volleyball net, slides and a very nice jacuzzi. The pool closes an hour before the Rec Center and the operating hours are as follows.

Pool Hours

Monday to Thursday: 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Friday: 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Saturday: 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Sunday: 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Note: Rec Center closes 2 hours before home football games kick-off.

Editor:
Katherine Lovelidge
kl00033@mix.wvu.edu

OPINION

President Gee ignores WVU's hardest workers with Project 168

BY THE DAILY ATHENAEUM STAFF

An editorial is an article by newspaper staff. While this article presents the current opinion of several members of The Daily Athenaeum staff, it does not necessarily represent the opinion of every member or the Daily Athenaeum as a whole.

PHOTO COURTESY WVU

Project 168 is a self-paced program that will offer students over 53 options to engage in areas outside the classroom.

In his State of the University Address last month, WVU President E. Gordon Gee reintroduced the Project 168 program around campus. It was first launched in 2014, but wasn't very successful.

"My question has always been: if you spent 18 hours in the classroom as a student, what are you doing with the other 150 hours in the week?" Gee said during the address. "Now I'm delighted to say that today we can answer that question."

Project 168 is a free co-curricular program that Gee says is intended to create a sense of purpose and an inclusive experience for students outside of the classroom that they can document and use to build their resume. As part of the program, students are granted recognition for their participation on their transcripts.

Students can choose from one of ten areas of concentration in this program but little detail has been published about what these areas actually include.

While Gee raves about this rather abstract idea, we recognize that both his question and subsequent solution are largely misguided.

It is frankly ridiculous to ask what students are doing with the other 150 hours of the week as if they just sit around, twiddling their thumbs.

This question is a slap in the face to students who find themselves working multiple jobs just to keep up with rent, gas, groceries or tuition to the very institution which lacks an understanding of its own student body.

When we're not in classes, we're at work, making money to support ourselves while also going to class and keeping up with a full workload.

Project 168 is designed for students who can make the University look good. It's a program orchestrated for students who have their college paid through scholarships, who have help from their parents to keep up with expenses and who have free time to participate in programs like this.

The extra line of ink on these students' transcripts is a small price to pay for the positive reflection that the seemingly "most involved" students shed on the University.

But at its core, the program neglects the student workers who allow the University to function in the first place and only perpetuates a socioeconomic divide among the student body. It will allow those with the luxury of time to have a leg up on paper.

If Gee spent a day in the life of a student worker, he'd understand.

While he is quick to post photos with prospective students, fraternity parties and his signature bowties, a photo with a student working 40 hours each week as a server is not to be found.

The low-wage work that many students do to pay rent and keep the lights on is much more grueling than smiling for photos.

And on their days off, you can find many of them supporting WVU at football games, cheering on the very University that fails to recognize their commitment to the school.

Even more ignorant is the fact that students who are already active in certain organizations will fail to receive any sort of recognition via Project 168.

Take for example students in the marching band, one of the most highly-respected and cherished organizations on campus.

Project 168 will exclude many of the hardest working students.

Though the program appears to be well-intended and student involvement may be an admirable goal, do not be fooled; this is not a step forward for the University. It is a step back.

Villeneuve's "Dune" is an epic in-progress

BY ZACH DELUCA
STREAMING CRITIC

MOVIE REVIEW

Acclaimed director Denise Villeneuve has always had a handle on large spectacles. Whether you look towards his neon-soaked masterpiece "Blade Runner 2049" or his meditative alien flick "Arrival," Villeneuve displays his worlds in all their ambitious beauty, without a fearful impulse to hide a single detail.

Even "Enemy", one his smaller scale films, features a haunting shot of a Godzilla-sized spider silently tiptoeing between skyscrapers in Toronto. And in terms of the grandiose, there isn't much more visually awe-inspiring in his catalog than "Dune".

Gargantuan sandworms dictate movement patterns, spaceships rip and roar like asteroids, characters speak in jargon you have to squint to keep up with, and each detail is so enveloping because of this inclination to show it all.

On a technical level, "Dune" is a feast that never stops feeding the senses.

However, that leaves the question of whether the story can match up to that scale and this is where the film gets more complicated.

Timothee Chalamet plays Paul, the heir to his father Duke Leto Atreides (Oscar Isacc). Paul possesses a supernatural gift referred to as "The Voice" taught to him by his mother Lady Jessica Atriedes (Rebecca Ferguson), and is seen as a messiah by the inhabitants of Arrakis, a harsh desert planet the family has just moved to to extract a precious resource called "spice."

However, things aren't as they seem as the Atriedes family and those who invited them have different plans in mind, and Paul continues to have visions of a future that frightens him.

"Dune" asks a lot of the audience in terms of digesting large amounts of exposition in a dense setting and simultaneously not a lot happens in the 155 minute runtime. So much of the story is spent setting up for the future that it's difficult to decipher how much is actually working on its own merits.

The cast is certainly game with many of the supporting players giving stellar performances, (Jason Mamoa and Stellan Skarsgård among the best) but I didn't feel the emotional connection I wanted with any of them, and that's my biggest concern with the idea of a part two.

All of Villeneuve's previous films have felt just as rich in human feelings as they did in towering visuals, and it's not missing in his latest out of lack of care but because part one feels like just the beginning of a much larger arch.

PHOTO CREDIT: WARNER BROS.

Timothee Chamalet as Paul Atriedes.

Most of the meandering that engrosses you in the atmosphere also glosses over the character development that would make the stakes feel just as large, and I hope that the establishment of the world proves a worthy sacrifice.

Only time will tell whether his vision will arrive somewhere as satisfying as his other films but a blockbuster this bold doesn't come around enough, especially one this detailed, and the craft on display is more than enough to ensure I'll be returning to find out.

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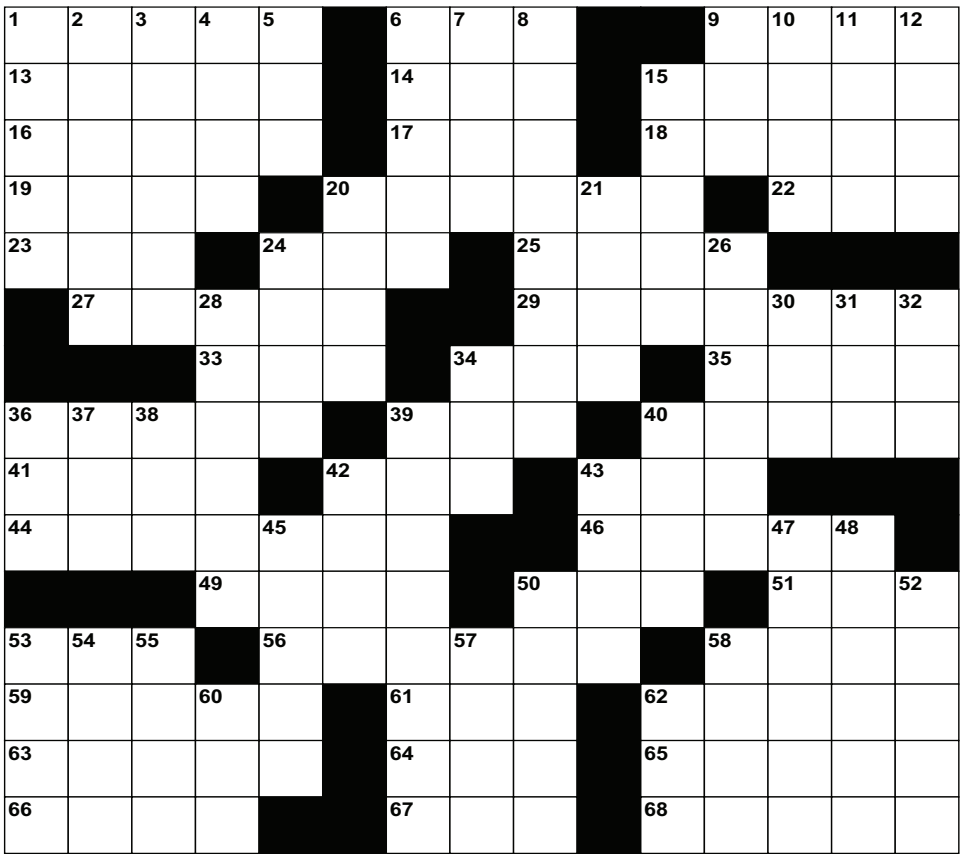

ACROSS
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9 Water (Sp.)
13 Remove pins from
14 Flying saucer
15 Untruthful
16 Disturbance
17 Football assoc.
18 Uncanny
19 Among
20 Indian drug
22 Type of partnership
23 Perch
24 Owned
25 Rest-Ice-Compresion-Elevation
27 Jell-o salad
29 Occupy
33 Bullfight cheer
34 North northeast
35 Floor covering
36 BB player Kareem __ Jabar
39 Stein
40 Christian scripture
41 College head
42 Drunkard
43 Licked
44 Summon (2 wds.)
46 Author Poe
49 Mellow
50 Copy
51 Microgram
53 Nervous system
56 Unfree
58 I Love __ (tv show)
59 Japanese poem
61 Lager
62 Fable writer
63 Brims
64 Course
65 Hand parts
66 Dracula's tooth
67 Congressional vote
68 Analyze quality

DOWN
1 Large cats
2 Blood disease
3 Time it takes to complete any defined distance
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5 Compass point
6 Changed the radio station
7 Fluky
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9 Yes
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12 Elderly
15 Animal doctor's used to use
20 Minutes per mile
21 Prong
24 Race or training area that builds leg strength
26 Dining
28 What dieters try to lose
30 Worn to identify runners
31 Unwell
32 Ball holder
34 Eccentric
36 Spots
37 Hive dweller
38 Newsman Rather
39 Morgue
40 Omen
42 Settee
43 Sobbed
45 Center
47 Entertains
48 Cola brand
50 Division of races for females only
52 Romany
53 Gourmet cook
54 Nix
55 Gemini
57 Cement
58 Dregs
60 Beer container
62 Expression of surprise

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PHOTO SUBMITTED BY MICHAEL TETI

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	6	7						
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SPORTS

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WVU legend Major Harris' No. 9 to be retired

BY CHARLES MONTGOMERY
SPORTS EDITOR

For the second time this year and just the fifth time ever, a former West Virginia football player is getting their number retired.

On Saturday during halftime between West Virginia and Oklahoma State, former quarterback Major Harris will have his No. 9 retired.

Harris played for the Mountaineers from 1987-89 and led them to the national championship game against No. 1 Notre Dame in 1989.

"I was shocked," Harris told WVNews about getting his number retired. "The way my career went, I really didn't have a pro career."

"A lot of times when you look at a situation where guys get their number retired, they're a five-time Pro Bowler or something like that," Harris added. "So, it was definitely a shock."

Harris is most remembered for his performance against the Penn State Nittany Lions in 1988 for his 26-yard touchdown run. The play is simply remembered as "the run", with Harris eluding seven Penn State tacklers to score the touchdown and lead WVU to the win, 51-30.

In his three-year career, Harris passed for 5,119 total yards, 41 touchdowns and 26 interceptions. He also rushed for 2,058 yards and 18 touchdowns.

"That was my introduction to West Virginia football," head coach Neal Brown said about Harris. "At the time, he was so unique. What a great honor for one of West Virginia's all-time greatest players."

The year that West Virginia faced Notre Dame for the national championship was also the first time it had completed a regular season undefeated along with no ties.

In 1988 and 1989, Harris was a finalist for the Heisman Trophy. In 1989, Harris finished third in the voting which is the highest any Mountaineer has ever finished. In 1988, Harris finished fifth in the voting.

Harris was named a First Team Kodak All-American in 1989 and he earned his second-straight Eastern College Athletic Conference Player of the Year award.

In the 1990 NFL Draft, Harris was picked in the 12th round by the Los Angeles Raiders with the 317th overall pick. Harris never saw playing time in the NFL and eventually made his way to the Canadian Football League to play for the BC Lions in 1990 and the Arena Football League.

Harris was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2009.

Harris joins Darryl Talley (No. 90), Sam Huff (No. 75), Ira "Rat" Rodgers (21) and Bruce Bosley (No. 77) as the only players in the history of West Virginia football to have their numbers retired.

The retirement ceremony will be conducted during halftime between West Virginia and No. 11 Oklahoma State at Milan Puskar Stadium on Saturday.

PHOTO COURTESY WVU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

West Virginia quarterback Major Harris under center at Milan Puskar Stadium in Morgantown, W.Va., on Sep. 17, 1988.

O'Laughlin, Fortune to miss rest of season with injuries

BY NICK KREMER
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

As the West Virginia football team enters the final third of the season, two key players will be unavailable for the remainder of the season.

"[Tight end] Mike O'Laughlin is going to miss the remainder of the season, he's out with a lower body injury and he won't return," head coach Neal Brown said on Tuesday. "[Defensive back] Nicktroy Fortune will miss the rest of the regular season as well."

O'Laughlin missed time early on this season and T.J. Banks was given the opportunity to replace him at tight end. O'Laughlin caught passes in just four games this season but has also played a key role in the running game for WVU.

O'Laughlin ranks seventh on the team in catches (11) and receiving yards (65).

The redshirt junior tight end was starting to turn the corner on his season with back-to-back solid performances against Texas Tech and TCU. O'Laughlin caught five passes for 35 yards against TTU and followed it up with a four-catch, 23-yard performance at TCU.

PHOTO BY GUS SCHLOMER

West Virginia tight end T.J. Banks (85) comes up just short of the endzone against Iowa State at Milan Puskar Stadium in Morgantown, W.Va., on Oct. 30, 2021.

Once again, Banks will fill in for O'Laughlin but this time, Brown is more confident in Banks' ability.

"His [Banks] approach is much more mature than when he had to play early when Mike was out with the other injury," Brown said. "He's always played really hard and the effort piece has never been an issue, it's been technique issues and ability to concentrate focus for an extended period of time."

While he has played in multiple games this season, Banks has not made much of an impact on stat sheets. Banks has registered just three catches totaling 34 yards, all of which came against Iowa State.

"Saturday was the first time he [Banks] combined high effort, which he always does, with really good concentration and technique," Brown said. "That was the best he's played. He's had two great weeks in a row from a practice standpoint."

On the defensive side, the loss of Fortune will also have a big impact on the Mountaineers. The junior cornerback is seventh on the team in total tackles while only playing seven games.

So far, Charles Woods has filled in for Fortune and has played well in the role. Woods played the entire game against TCU and had one of the best games for any WVU defensive back this season.

Woods tallied three solo tackles, two assisted tackles, one tackle for a loss, one fumble recovery and one interception against the Horned Frogs. The redshirt junior is tied for first on the team in fumble recoveries and interceptions and is sixth on the team in pass breakups with two.

West Virginia returns to action against No. 11 Oklahoma State on Saturday at 3:30 p.m. on ESPN.

How WVU can make a bowl game

BY CHARLES MONTGOMERY
SPORTS EDITOR

ANALYSIS

After back-to-back wins, West Virginia is back in the conversation for a bowl game after its start to the season nearly cemented its fate for bowl eligibility.

West Virginia (4-4, 2-3 Big 12) has rattled off a couple wins after having its worst start in Big 12 play since 2015 when it went 0-4 to begin its conference slate. Now, the Mountaineers are just two wins away from being bowl eligible with four games left to go.

Getting to bowl eligibility won't be easy, as the Mountaineers need to win at least two of their next four games.

To be bowl eligible, West Virginia has to go through Oklahoma State (Saturday), Kansas State (Nov. 13), Texas (Nov. 20) and Kansas (Nov. 27). Two of those games are at home, but West Virginia has yet to defeat Oklahoma State and Texas in Neal Brown's tenure.

Those final four teams have a combined record of 17-15. Texas has been on a downward spiral after starting 4-1 and has lost three-straight games. Kansas State has been up-and-down throughout the season, but has pieced together back-to-back wins to sit tied for fifth in the Big 12 standings.

Luckily for Brown, he is undefeated against Kansas State and Kansas since becoming head coach. The bad luck for Brown is that both of those games are on the road and he has only won one road game (TCU on Oct. 23) going back to last season.

Oklahoma State and Kansas State are ranked No. 2 and No. 4 in total defense in the Big 12, respectively. Texas ranks No. 3 in total offense in the Big 12 while Oklahoma State, Kansas State and Kansas rank No. 8, No. 9 and No. 10, respectively.

Since the bye week, West Virginia's offense has turned a corner. Through two wins, the Mountaineers are averaging 33.5 points per game and 489.5 yards per game.

According to ESPN's Kyle Bonagura and Mark Schlabach, West Virginia is predicted to play in the Lockheed Martin Armed Forces Bowl on Dec. 22 against Houston (Bonagura) or Maryland in the Guaranteed Rate Bowl on Dec. 28.

A rematch against Maryland could be in West Virginia's favor as the Mountaineers have seemingly turned a page since the season opener in College Park, Maryland. Against Houston, West Virginia would have the unique opportunity to face former head coach Dana Holgorsen who has the Cougars in first place in the American Athletic Conference at 7-1.

What seemed like a near impossible task in mid-October, now seems like a very real possibility for West Virginia to make a bowl game. That long trek begins this Saturday at home against No. 11 Oklahoma State at 3:30 p.m.

PHOTO BY GUS SCHLOMER

West Virginia wide receiver Bryce Ford-Wheaton (0) makes the touchdown grab against Iowa State at Milan Puskar Stadium in Morgantown, W.Va. on Oct. 30, 2021.

Massey and the Mountaineers trying to create change one game at a time

BY WESLEY SHOEMAKER
SPORTS WRITER

PHOTO BY GUS SCHLOMER

The West Virginia women's soccer lines up for the national anthem prior to a match against Oklahoma State on Oct. 28, 2021.

Making a difference and creating a change can be hard, but for junior goalkeeper Kayza Massey and the West Virginia women's soccer team, standing up for what they believe in has been one of the easiest decisions to make.

So far this season, Massey has been the backbone of this West Virginia squad. Massey finished the regular season, with three shutouts in her final four games, as well as finishing second in the Big 12, only allowing .63 goals per game.

Massey garnered national attention towards the end of the season, including being named the United Soccer Coaches Division I Player of the Week on Oct. 27.

Despite all the accolades and success, Massey knows her purpose is to use her platform to try and create change, while also playing the game she loves.

Following the killing of George Floyd in May 2020, Massey and the rest of her teammates decided to use their voices in order to try and create change.

"That kind of started after the whole George Floyd murder," Massey said on taking a knee. "We all felt like as a unit this was something that we needed to kind of speak up on and as university athletes we do have the ability to use our platforms to make a stand. So, taking a knee during the national anthem is something that I think people obviously know what it means."

"It signifies there needs to be change and we are not afraid to take a little bit of backlash to see that change happen," Massey added.

Not only does Massey kneel, but so does a majority of the West Virginia squad. In addition to the Mountaineers, it is common for players on the opposing team to also take a knee during the anthem.

Taking a stand for what you believe in can be challenging for many athletes. Massey expects criticism, but feels taking a knee is the only way some people will listen.

Her philosophy is in order to try and make change, you first have to get people's attention and the Mountaineers are certainly welcoming that attention.

"I think the important thing here is to understand what we are doing, what we are taking a stand for," Massey said. "It's not that we don't respect the flag or anything like that. It seems the only way to instigate true change is to get people's attention and kneeling during the national anthem is definitely something that does."

Massey is originally from Ottawa, Ontario. When she came to West Virginia in 2019, she was not sure what to expect, but wanted to make sure her outside opinions did not dictate her feelings towards Americans.

"Being Canadian I wanted to have an open mind coming to the U.S.," Massey said. "Obviously, one country's leader doesn't dictate every single person in this country and that is something I came in with at the forefront of my mind."

Even while being Canadian and being relatively new to America, Massey believes the most important thing is for people to understand their message.

And that message is simple — make this place better for everyone.

"[The message] more or less is please, please, please, have an open mind in regard to all of this," Massey said. "We do this because people are suffering here in America and we do this because there is not enough equity for all and that is something that we need. If you are someone viewing this from the outside, don't take it as an insult to the flag, take it as we all need to do something so this place is better for everybody."

Moving forward, Massey does not plan to stop. She knows more people are starting to pay attention. Whether it is fans, the other team, or the casual soccer fan, she knows the future is better and can see that through kneeling, their voices are going to be heard.

"If anything, I'm super appreciative and super proud of everyone that is taking a stand," Massey said. "It's not something that is easy to do because you are going to get a lot of criticism. It just goes to show there has been a lot of progression in terms of the ideologies that many people hold. And it just shows this next generation is going to lay down and listen to authority blindly, like we are definitely going to make sure our voices are heard."

Massey and the Mountaineers are going to still kneel, and are still going to fight for change. Until then, all they can do is continue to stick together and continue to play as one, until the things they are fighting for are recognized.

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