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WVU's Independent Student Newspaper

THURSDAY DECEMBER 2, 2021

www.thedaonline.com

Gee-Reed admin to face no-confidence vote

BY DUNCAN SLADE AND TRENTON STRAIGHT
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AND NEWS EDITOR

The West Virginia University Faculty Senate will hold a vote of no-confidence in the current academic administration of President E. Gordon Gee and Provost Maryanne Reed.

The vote will be held during a meeting on Monday at 3:15 p.m. over Zoom. The resolution was added to the agenda on Wednesday.

The resolution that faculty senators will be voting on lists reasons for the vote that include the lack of a campus COVID-19 vaccine mandate, hiring practices, lack of transparency in ongoing Academic Transformation and "a pattern of failing to respect shared governance."

If the vote of no-confidence passes, it would be a non-binding resolution where faculty sena-



tors formally announce that they no longer support the administration in power. The WVU Board of Governors, not the Faculty Senate, ultimately determines who leads the institution.

The Faculty Senate is a collection of over a hundred faculty members from across the University and in-



PHOTOS COURTESY WVU

cludes delegations from each college and school at WVU as well as divisional campuses in Keyser and Beckley.

On two separate occasions this fall, WVU faculty called on administrators to require the COVID vaccine for students and employees.

In early September, faculty mem-

bers called a rare assembly of almost every faculty member and voted overwhelmingly in favor of a campus-wide COVID-19 vaccine mandate. That same week, the WVU Student Government Association passed a non-binding resolution with similar demands.

Two months later, the WVU Faculty Senate passed a non-binding joint resolution with the Marshall University Faculty Senate asking for vaccine mandates on both campuses as state lawmakers passed a bill requiring broad religious and medical exemptions from any potential mandate.

University administrators repeatedly expressed confidence in vaccination rates as a reason not to mandate the vaccine and said that a mandate would not be most effective. Over 80% of students and 90% of employees at WVU's Morgantown campus have been vaccinated.

The resolution states that there

has been a lack of transparency in the administration's ongoing Academic Transformation initiative. This process has led to the combination of two colleges into one and the discontinuation of 15 degree programs — primarily in the arts.

"The Gee-Reed administration has refused to engage in open, inclusive, systematic practices for hiring qualified candidates for its senior administrative team, including in units and positions that are as crucial for ensuring safe, respectful, and inclusive workplaces as the Provost's Office, the Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and campus president," the statement reads.

The resolution also states that the Gee-Reed administration has "exhibited a pattern of failing to respect shared governance and working outside of professional norms" that has weakened the University's campus climate and reputation.

Sandwich U owner raised \$59K after Jan. 6 charges

BY DUNCAN SLADE AND TRENTON STRAIGHT
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AND NEWS EDITOR

George Tanios, owner of Sandwich University in Morgantown, has received tens of thousands of dollars from supporters on a Christian crowdfunding site as he faces charges related to the Jan. 6 riots at the U.S. Capitol.

The page was created by Amanda Plumey, Tanios' fiancée, shortly after his arrest in March. The page is on GiveSendGo, a site that markets itself as the "#1 Free Christian Crowdfunding Site."

While a total figure is no longer

listed on the site, as of Oct. 20, donors had given \$59,159 towards a stated goal of \$150,000. Most donations are anonymous and in amounts varying from as little as \$5 to as much as \$2,000.

Tanios faces 10 charges related to the Jan. 6 riots from assaulting police officers to obstruction of an official proceeding. He has pleaded not guilty to all charges and is out on bail awaiting trial.

In regular updates posted to the GiveSendGo page, Plumey and Tanios inform supporters about the status of his case and thank donors for their generosity. He refers to himself and others charged in connection with the Jan. 6 riots as "political

prisoners."

"I look forward to my day in court and clearing my name of these charges fabricated against me," Tanios wrote in a Nov. 13 post. "Life is all about the rebound. God is a Winner, I am a Winner, you all are Winners. That is why they hate us so much."

Prosecutors say Tanios and friend Julian Khater traveled to Washington with bear spray and pepper spray. At the riots, prosecutors say Tanios handed one of the sprays to Khater who used it on U.S. Capitol Police officers.



STAFF PHOTO

See Sandwich U page 4

George Tanios, owner of Sandwich University, has received tens of thousands of dollars from supporters since he was charged for his role in the Jan. 6 riots.

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HIGH 56° - LOW 48°






CRIME REPORT

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

Nov. 28 5:04 p.m. Unfounded Dadisman Hall Drug Incident.	Nov. 29 12:27 p.m. Report WVU Police Dept Lost Property.
Nov. 29 9:43 a.m. Warning College Ave Traffic Stop.	Nov. 29 2:55 p.m. Resolved North Spruce St Assist Fire Dept Police.
Nov. 29 11:30 a.m. Resolved Evansdale Crossing Assist EMS Police.	Nov. 29 3:52 p.m. Report WVU Art Museum Alarm Condition.
Nov. 29 11:37 a.m. Resolved Lincoln Hall Assist EMS Police.	Nov. 29 6:32 p.m. Report Lincoln Hall Assist EMS Police.
Nov. 29 12:11 p.m. Resolved	

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Turn the abandoned Panera into a Dunkin Donuts.

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Only at wvu can you walk from ~30 degree weather into a 90 degree classroom

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if everyone on campus sends me \$1 i'll turn the abandoned panera into a dunkin

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wvu holds 99% of the global short guy population

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WVU's INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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

Did you know the DA is editorially Independent from the University?



Morgantown allocates \$2 million to repair sewers near football stadium

BY SADAF NIKZAD
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The City of Morgantown and the Monongalia County Commission have each allocated \$1 million to the Morgantown Utility Board's (MUB) Upper Popenoe Run Stream Restoration and Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project to help prevent flooding in the area.

"We are looking at completing a stream restoration project and a sanitary sewer replacement project in the area from Willowdale Road to Stewart Street," said Ken Hacker, senior engineer at MUB and the Upper Popenoe Run project manager.

Hacker said the project will extend a little bit in both directions beyond those roadways,

but the majority of the project will be done in that area.

The Popenoe Run stream continues all the way down to Patteson Drive, where Morgantown has seen major flooding issues recently. The current project does not include Patteson Drive, but MUB has plans to begin a project there as well.

MUB is currently seeking firms to complete a flood control study on Morgantown's drainage system and will eventually hire a firm to look at more areas throughout the entire system to see where the problems are and what major projects can be done to prevent more flooding. This flood control study will include areas such as Patteson Drive.

"Currently, there is an existing sanitary sewer line that needs upgraded -- it's beyond

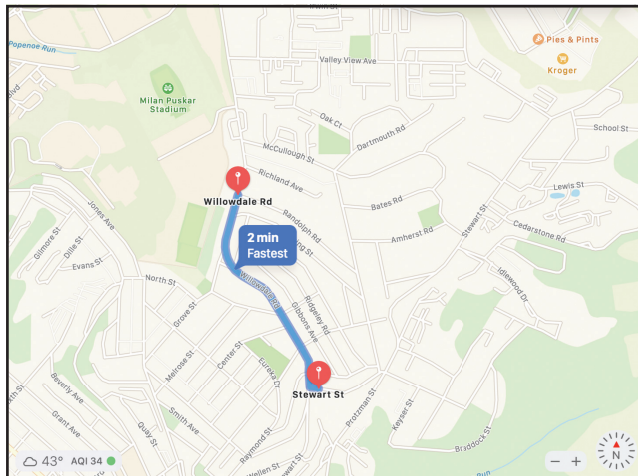


PHOTO BY TRENTON STRAIGHT

The Upper Popenoe Run Stream Restoration and Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project will take place from Willowdale Road to Stewart Street in Morgantown.

its life -- and the stream itself in that area that parallels the sanitary sewer line is also in pretty poor condition," Hacker said.

He said restoration needs to be done to the stream itself and the stream bank around it

to help with localized flooding and erosion.

MUB plans to upgrade approximately 3,000 feet of sanitary sewer main to help eliminate a large problem with groundwater infiltration due to the current material type of

the sanitary sewer main.

Hacker said this system was installed in the 1960s and needs to be upgraded to a more PVC type material that is more water tight and can hold a greater capacity.

"Alongside of that project, by restoring the stream, we would be protecting the new sanitary sewer line installed and aiming to reduce localized flooding in that area," Hacker said.

He added the Upper Popenoe Run project has been on MUB's radar for a long time, but funds haven't been made available.

The County Commission has verbally agreed to put up half of the money if the City of Morgantown does the same. At this point, Morgantown has allocated funds from the American Rescue Plan Act for

this project.

"We approached the County Commission and they agreed to put up half of the money, and we also approached the City of Morgantown to help out with some of the ARPA funds," Hacker said. "It's estimated at \$2 million."

Hacker has not yet been given the green light to begin the project but said it will be a year-long process to hire a firm, design a new system, get the proper permits and begin construction.

"Once we get the go ahead, it looks like it would be almost a year process to get the thing designed and permitted and bid for construction," Hacker said. "If we had the release to go ahead, it would probably be early 2023 before it was completed if we started it now."

Morgantown to provide community with housing resources this holiday season

BY LAYLA MCLEAN
CORRESPONDENT

With the holiday season approaching, members of the Martin Hall Agency presented the Humans of Morgantown (HoM) initiative at a city council meeting Tuesday.

There are currently more than 300 unsheltered residents in Morgantown, according to HoM.

"One of the most impactful ways you can make a difference is just by smiling and greeting your unsheltered neighbors the next time you see them," said Rachel Johnson, account service director at Martin Hall Agency, in a press release. "We're all neighbors in Morgantown, regardless of your housing situation."

HoM is a collaborative initiative between the Martin Hall Agency and the Morgantown Committee on Unsheltered Homelessness, a subcommittee of the City Council, and was created to shed light on homelessness

in the community.

"Our unsheltered neighbors celebrate the holidays in the same manner as most of the area does," said Colleen Lankford, director of Christian Help and member of the subcommittee.

Johnson said the initiative aims to shift the conversation to include people without shelter as part of our community, our neighbors, who are worthy of empathy as well as respect. They are trying to center people and their stories, with the belief that people should not be defined by housing status.

Some unsheltered residents have families to go to during the holidays. One of these residents, Luke, said he plans to visit his family in Shinnston, West Virginia.

"My whole family visits my parents in Shinnston every year. They're retired school teachers in their eighties," he said. "I have 22 siblings. When my family makes dinner, they make a little bit of everything."

Other people without housing have nowhere to go.

According to HoM, social services in Morgantown will offer several events for unsheltered residents this holiday season, "so that people experiencing houselessness have the opportunity to participate in holiday celebrations if they have complicated familial circumstances."

"They seek and celebrate community through meals, small tokens of appreciation and acknowledgment within their circles, and thankfulness for their blessings, whatever they may be," Lankford said in a press release.

The Salvation Army and the Bartlett House will host holiday meals in December, according to the Martin Hall Agency.

Martin Hall Agency conducted a series of interviews with local government officials, community influencers, business owners and members of the Morgantown unsheltered population. They found that most residents are sympathetic to the unsheltered people in Morgantown but are often hesitant to get involved.

Johnson said the easiest place to start is being more neighborly.

"When you see someone on the street, try making eye contact or even smiling at them because I know that we all have the power to make a better Morgantown for all of us," Johnson said.

HoM will host a Community Action event Thursday at 5:30 p.m. on the WVU Health Science Campus. In a poverty simulation, participants will be given an identity of a person going through homelessness or extreme poverty.

The simulation, which is about two hours long, takes people through two months of the life of someone in poverty, giving the community a chance to experience the realities that these individuals in our own community face.

On Facebook and Instagram, HoM shares the stories of some unsheltered residents in Morgantown.

"Unsheltered residents in Morgantown do not consider themselves to be homeless," Johnson said. "Their home is here."



PHOTO COURTESY HOM

Members of the Martin Hall Agency pose for a photo during a Humans of Morgantown pop-up event on Tuesday, Nov. 30.

Interview: WVU President Gee talks campus free speech, University of Austin advising

BY DUNCAN SLADE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Daily Athenaeum sat down with West Virginia University President E. Gordon Gee for an interview Thursday following the launch last week of the University of Austin, a new school that its founders say will combat a culture of censorship on college campus. Gee is not a Trustee at the school but is a member of its Board of Advisors.

His comments have been lightly edited for clarity and length.



PHOTO BY DUNCAN SLADE

WVU President E. Gordon Gee at a State of the University address on Monday, Oct. 18 at the College of Law Fitzsimmons Event Hall.

Daily Athenaeum: You said in your 2017 State of the University address: “Any attempt to deny free speech protections to others is a threat to our own freedom. It is a threat to education. And it is a threat to democracy itself.”

Why do you see the university system as so integral to defending free speech?

Gordon Gee: This is the place where all ideas should be welcome. Universities were established in the year 1200 as places in which people can gather together and create ideas.

You know, we don’t produce cars. We don’t produce widgets. We don’t produce electric vehicles. We produce ideas. And if ideas are not at the center of what we’re doing — all ideas, good ideas, bad ideas, irritating ideas, irrational ideas — then we have lost our ability, I think, to really call ourselves a university. And that by the way is my only

real enthusiastic part of the University of Austin, which is the fact that it is really a center of the road, all ideas are welcome kind of a place.

I think a couple of things. We are in real danger of not feeling comfortable talking about uncomfortable ideas. 62% of students in higher education right now are fearful of saying what they think. 71% of students who are left to center would rat on their faculty members or other students. I mean, I find that to be abhorrent. When Dave Chappelle, when Bill Maher, when Jerry Seinfeld refuse to come on to a university campus, because of the fact that they feel that we have a censorial approach, that shows that our institution is in danger.

DA: Do you think that the stifling of ideas, censorship, cancel culture, whatever term you...

Gee: I hate those kinds of terms.

DA: What do you call it then?

Gee: I just call it that we don’t have the kind of free thought and free speech that we should have.

DA: Do you think that happens here [at WVU]?

Gee: I think it happens less here, because I think we attract a unique kind of student, but it does happen here on occasion.

I remember Milo Yiannopoulos. People told me, “You can’t allow him to come on campus.” I had so many people say that. We allowed him to come on campus. But guess what, I exercised my free speech. He attacked a great friend of mine, Daniel Brewster. And I said, you know, the guy, I just don’t like what he had to say. But I exercised my free speech. And guess what? He came, he spoke, students appeared.

I had a student at the Mountainlair about two days ago. This kid came up to me — from West Virginia, from the southern part of the state. And she said, “Can I talk with you

for a second?” I said, “Yeah.” She said, “Well, you know, I’ve been reading a little bit about what you had to say. The truth of the matter is I do not feel comfortable. I feel like if I really spoke what I believe that I would be censored, that I would be ostracized.” One student believing that is one too many.

And now I have been to places — I would say that Brown being one example of, University of Colorado being another example — where there was a real political catchism. I don’t believe that so much here. But I do believe that we need to be fierce defenders of the ability for people to speak up and speak out.

DA: Do you think that stifling of free speech happens more on the conservative side here or on the liberal side?

Gee: No, I’ll tell you something. I think it happens on both sides. I think it happens from the wings. I’ll just use this as an example. Remember the Young Communist League? You know, someone over here is reporting them to the state legislature. I’ve had that happen, too.

If you’re talking about wokeness, wokeness comes from both the left and the right. In fact, David Brooks, a couple of years ago, wrote a wonderful piece in The New York Times, about the fact that wokeness is a danger to our country, but it comes from both ends of the spectrum. I’m just a believer in ideas, and I’m not afraid of ideas, and I’m not afraid to have the marketplace of ideas.

DA: At the University of Austin (UATX), did you know that your name was going to be used on the board of advisors?

Gee: Well, they had asked me to be on the board of advisors. I did not know that he [UATX Founding President Pano Kanelos] was going to come out with that statement. Of the other 45 people on it or so, there’s a lot of things that he said that people disagreed with, including me and I said that very clearly.

But I think that everyone on there no matter where they find themselves politically, you get a very wide spectrum. You get a Bari Weiss from New York Times here and you get a Niall Ferguson here, you get a David Mamet, a great playwright who’s gonna be in the center. I mean, you get them from all over.

And it’s a who’s who crowd. There’s no doubt about it. And I felt pretty damn privileged to be included among it. And I was the only public university president, and I guess the only sitting president. But my issue that I was helping them with is because I am a sitting president I know how to gain accreditation. And I worked very hard on that.

And then secondly, just the issue we talked about which is the free speech issue. And, and I think that anytime we can find any institution that stands up clearly, unequivocally for that, I think it’s important.

And you know what, I’ll tell you what really irritated me. I was asked a question and I answered, and in a very sharp way. But when someone says what do you tell your students of color, your LGBTQ students, the question was rhetorical. The question is, well, because you’re associated with this group, what do you say? I have 41 years of experience. This is the great thing about

being me, I say that, with all humility, the fact that I have a really extensive track record, but I just stand by my track record. And I don’t want anyone characterizing me as anything other than what I am.

DA: Do you think that there’s anything that people still don’t understand about your involvement in the University of Austin?

Gee: Absolutely. I think the issue of explaining something like that, you know, the problem that we have is people have an ability to be able to define anything you’re doing by almost immediate regurgitation on social media.

I’m certain there are a number of people who think that’s the craziest damn thing I’ve ever heard of. And some people who say that it’s wonderful. They’re from all over the gamut. I’ve got a lot of people that write to me. I get a lot of letters, as you can imagine.

It kind of divides itself this way: The people who are external to the University, about 80% say “you go right ahead there.” And then within the University, about 80% of them say “you’re a doofus.” But I figure I’m doing the right thing, if I’ve got enough of the beehive stirred up, you know.

DA: Do you think you could ever see yourself teaching at the University of Austin? Being the president there?

Gee: No, no, no, I’m devoted to this place. I came back here as an accident the second time around. I had no intent on staying and here I am. And I bought a home at the Greenbrier. This is my home. And I’m not hunting for another job. I’m just trying to finish the one I have right now.

Sandwich U

Continued from page 1

Brian Sicknick, one of the officers, died the next day and the medical examiner has ruled he died of natural causes.

Tanios was held for five months on pretrial detention

before being released in August on house arrest after multiple appeals.

“I just wanted to say thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who has donated and prayed for my family and the others caught up in this situation,” he wrote after his release. “Your support is felt and has really helped us through

this. Words can not express what it is like when you know God Fearing American Patriots are praying and donating hard earned money to help you out in a time of struggle. Real Tears.”

The conditions of his pretrial release were modified last month. He is now allowed out of the house and is working to

sell his Sandwich University business while he starts a new job at a local pizza store.

“It is bitter sweet knowing that many people are still languishing in prison and many others are being hunted down still,” Tanios wrote in September. “I pray the truth comes out and for their protection.”

The site also offers supporters the opportunity to let the campaign owner know that they are praying for them. Almost 500 people have said they’re praying for Tanios and his family.

“Thank you all again for your prayers and support,” Tanios wrote in October. “May God bless you and your families through these times.”

He closed the message with “Let’s Go Brandon!” which is a commonly used phrase in place of an obscene statement about President Joe Biden.

Tanios isn’t the only person charged in the riots who is using GiveSendGo as a means of raising money. Dozens of people charged for their role in the

Jan. 6 insurrection have collectively raised more than \$2 million, according to a CNN report from September.

A majority of these crowdfunding efforts were on GiveSendGo. Donors on the site also raised more than \$500,000 for Kyle Rittenhouse who was recently acquitted of all charges in the Kenosha shooting.

In an interview with CNN, Jacob Wells, co-founder GiveSendGo, said the platform intends to “not side with the right or the left, but point people back to Jesus.”

In some cases, crowdfunding has impacted the outcome of criminal cases being investigated by the Justice Department.

Joshua James, a Capitol rioter who earned approximately \$200,000 from crowdfunding, was denied a request to be released from home confinement.

A handful of other rioters earned over six figures in crowdfunding.

Quick Facts

- **George Tanios has owned Sandwich University for over 15 years.**
- **He faces 10 charges related to the Jan. 6 riots.**
- **He has pleaded not guilty to all charges.**

IMPORTANT STUDENT INSURANCE INFO

OPT-OUT DEADLINE FOR SPRING 2022: January 3rd

The Spring 2022 student health insurance waiver site is now open at studentinsurance.wvu.edu.

Complete a Spring 2022 waiver by **January 3** to opt out of student health insurance.

Spring waiver is not necessary if you already have an approved waiver for Fall 2021.



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Behind the scenes: The places only seen by facilities workers

BY LARA BONATESTA
CULTURE EDITOR

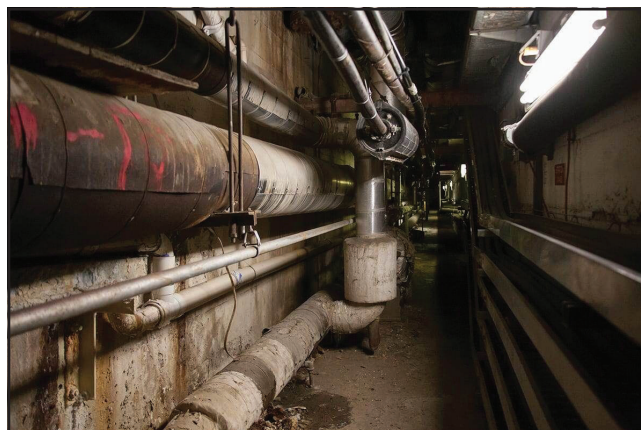
When Sam Miller, director of maintenance at West Virginia University attended a party hosted by one of the deans at his former facilities job he experienced, "One of those movie moments where you kind of zone out and you're just looking around, you don't really hear anything going on."

When asked what was wrong Miller said, "I'm not used to seeing everybody so happy."

Miller explained that this is part of life working in facilities and maintenance.

"Think about it. Most of the time when you call facilities. It's because something's wrong. Right?" Miller said. "Your lights are out, your power's out, you're too hot, you're too cold, water is leaking, the toilet doesn't work. It's all bad stuff."

But even while constantly dealing with the "bad stuff," Miller and his team also have the unique ability to see be-



PHOTOS COURTESY WVU FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

hind the scenes into the world behind the thermostat.

"The world I live in is not that pretty. We see everything that's under the floors, behind the walls, above the ceilings," Miller said.

Below the downtown campus of West Virginia University, there are about two miles worth of steam tunnels that are used to produce everything from heating buildings, to providing hot water, to even air conditioning.

This steam is used to heat the PRT track, heat downtown buildings, power

steamers in kitchens, sterilize hospital equipment and more.

Miller said the steam is also used for educational purposes, such as in engineering experiments.

West Virginia University contracts its steam from Morgantown Energy Associates (MEA), which is owned by Vicinity Energy.

Prior to MEA's switch to natural gas in 2020, the steam tunnels operated on gob coal and were also used to power electricity.

But with great (steam-gen-



erated) power comes great responsibility.

When something goes wrong with one of the tunnels, Miller and his team have to decide whether it is urgent enough to call an emergency shut down or if it can wait until the next time the University is on a break.

"If there was a slight leak, you could let that go until a break and shut it down. Because you don't want to, if you don't have to, you don't

want to shut down the heat to towers because now you're impacting thousands of people negatively."

But while balancing the severity of the problem with the potential inconvenience to the campus community, Miller also has to take into account waste.

"You've got the three R's. We can't do much with a lot of those. There's not much reuse, you can do, there is in steam," he said. "But we try to reduce any waste as much as we can."

Miller explained that in his field there is often little that can be done to conserve energy while still catering to the high energy demands of modern life.

"It's unfortunate sometimes, because I think that as facility people we get a bad rap for that kind of stuff because all the things we do use energy, right? So we seem like the bad guy, right? We're the energy users. But, you know, it's necessary energy, right, to keep everybody safe and warm and comfortable."

Three things to do this weekend in Morgantown

BY LADIMIR GARCIA
ASSISTANT CULTURE EDITOR

It's the end of the semester for a lot of WVU students and a moment to relax and do something fun is very much needed this weekend. Even if you aren't a WVU student, a moment for yourself will always be needed during this time of the year. From going out for some good Mexican food, to doing some small Christmas shopping, you can do it all in Morgantown.

1 Los Mariachis on Van Voorhis:

If you're feeling a little hungry this weekend, I recommend you take yourself over to Los Mariachis on Van Voorhis Rd. From their delicious chori pollo to their special tacos campechanos, they won't have anything you won't like. Los Mariachis also offers a vegetarian menu for those who would enjoy a healthier and cleaner option.

2 Plato's Closet:

We all need to do some Christmas shopping around this time of the year and Plato's Closet might be the place for you. Plato's Closet in Morgantown offers a wide variety of used clothing for both men and women. Also if you need to get rid of some of your own clothes, they might be able to take them off your hands.

3 Cavern, Boozewa, False Gods, Choke A.D., at 123 Pleasant St.:

If you're looking for some music this weekend, 123 Pleasant St might be the place to be. 123 Pleasant St will be hosting Cavern, Boozewa, False Gods, and Choke A.D. this Saturday at 8 p.m.. Tickets are \$10 per person and you have to be 18 and over for entry.

Campus read author reminds WVU students to channel their humanity:

'Violence does not organically grow in our deserts or at our borders'

BY SABRINA SIEGAN
CORRESPONDENT

Francisco Cantú, author of "The Line Becomes a River," WVU's 2021 campus read, presented for the Festival of Ideas on Nov. 16.

"The Line Becomes a River" is about the four years Cantú worked as a border patrol agent in Arizona, New Mexico and Texas.

As the grandson of a Mexican immigrant, Cantú believed, "That I would be able to act as a force for good within the agency, even while participating in the border's cruelest realities."

Cantú's story is full of human portrayals depicting the complexity of the U.S. immigration system from the border patrol agents to the walls and workers of immigration courts.

Despite being from Arizona and mainly writing about the U.S.-Mexico border, Cantú is no stranger to the mountain state.

"West Virginia is a place I have really fond memories of," recalled Cantú, "I attended college at American University in Washington, DC. And during those years West Virginia was always the place that I would go to escape."

"Each time that I crossed the border into West Virginia, and began snaking along its winding roads, through hills and valleys and mountains, I would slowly begin to recover a sense of calm, and I always feel a sort of enduring gratitude to the state for that."

Not only did Cantú find refuge from the bustling city in West Virginia, but he discovered that the state connects to his story.

"West Virginia is well, it's a place that in many ways con-

stituted one of America's first borderlands," said Cantú.

West Virginia sat along a border line created by the Proclamation of 1763 after the establishment of the 13 colonies. Cantú said this line ran down the Allegheny Mountains and forbade settlers from crossing into the "dangerous wild lands beyond America's frontier."

This border caused such an upset amongst the colonists that "one of the lesser-known pretexts for the American Revolution, in fact, was to abolish this border, and encourage settlement across the line," said Cantú.

Violence in borderlands like West Virginia is not uncommon.

"This kind of violence is rooted not only in the politics of the moment, but in a deep history of conquest, war, expansion and Empire," Cantú said.

Cantú noted that what happens at the U.S.-Mexico border is a bipartisan issue that only grows in grisly legislation from president to president.

"The U.S. detention system is the largest in the world, and one of the few that locks up migrants in criminal style prisons. The mass incarceration of migrants that has continued under the Biden administration cannot be blamed on Trump, or on Obama or even George W. Bush," said Cantú.

While many people forget what happens at the border these struggles are often closer than they appear, Cantú explained.

"No matter how distant someone might live from the Mexican border, they need not look far to find immigration courts, workplace raids, detention centers and families living with a daily fear of apprehension. In fact, right here in West Virginia, Immigration

and Customs Enforcement has contracts to detain migrants in at least seven different facilities," said Cantú.

According to Cantú, the easiest way to get involved is to learn the first hand stories of migrants.

In his time volunteering at a detention facility in southern Arizona, detainees often asked "for profoundly simple forms of support," said Cantú.

"What they wanted most, I realized now is to be heard, to know that their stories had registered with someone outside the vast, dispassionate system grinding away at them."

All these stories ask is that people listen.

"By grieving their deaths by speaking their names, and by choosing to see them and hear that and doing whatever we can to amplify their voices and stories so that others might likewise be moved to action," Cantú said.

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OPINION

Taylor Swift Review: Lessons from All Too Well

BY KATHERINE LOVELIDGE
OPINION EDITOR

10 minutes is a long time for a song, but Taylor Swift's 10 minute version of All Too Well wasn't a song—it was a story.

More importantly, the song was a lesson, illustrating Taylor Swift's unhealthy relationship, almost to warn her audience as much as to provide them with a relatable tune.

In late 2010, Taylor Swift, who was 20 at the time, began dating Jake Gyllenhaal, 29 at the time.

Their relationship lasted around three months and the Red album features details about its life.

Arguably most famous, at least in her re-release of the album, is All Too Well, a song that shook listeners the first time around, but kept true fans up until midnight on November 12, 2021 to hear an extended version.

With the original clocking in at 5 minutes and 26 seconds, a 10 minute and 10 second version painted a much more vivid picture of what went wrong.

Further, this story was accompanied with the release of a short film, featuring Sadie Sink as Taylor and Dylan O'Brien as Jake.

It was in this film that the story was brought to life and the song was exposed for being far deeper than a simple breakup anthem.

Perhaps the most evident foreshadowing occurred at the dinner scene, in which Taylor was next to Jake and both were surrounded by laughing and giggling characters as the words, "The first crack in the glass" were painted across the screen.

Taylor looks visibly uncomfortable, and Jake is oblivious, wine glass in hand. When he puts the glass down, Taylor reaches for his hand looking for reassurance, and he drops her fingers back on the table, rejecting her request.

Seems simple. Not a big deal. Right?

Wrong. This comes back to haunt him later.

In the next scene, the lyrics, "You were tossing me the car keys/Fuck the patriarchy," are recited as Jake becomes visibly angry, parks the car in the middle of a forested road, and proceeds to toss Taylor the keys to get back in the car as he yells at whoever is on the other end of the his cell phone.

The contrast between the beauty of the setting and what can only be described as the sheer ugliness of Jake's nature, create a dichotomy



PHOTO COURTESY SPOTIFY

Taylor Swift.

that embellishes the way that he used intimidation to manipulate her behaviour, almost disciplinarily.

Eventually, he hangs up the phone and gets back in the car, where he and Taylor

are seen, foreheads pressed together, sharing a moment of calm, as if tensions had not been high just minutes prior, as the music comes to a halt.

At this point, in the absence of music, Jake's be-

haviour at the dinner table is brought up after he accuses Taylor of acting "pissed off" while cleaning the dishes after the party. She expresses concerns about how he ignored her the entire time,

and did not make her feel comfortable.

It was in this moment that Jake said, "I don't think I'm making you feel that way, I think you're making yourself feel that way," after Taylor expressed to Jake that he was making her feel stupid, that we can clearly see the ignition of what some would consider gaslighting.

From skipping her 21st birthday to using affection and empty apologies to silence her concerns regarding his behaviour towards her, Jake displayed countless red flags, which all became much more visible following their breakup, in which Taylor quotes Jake with the line, "You said if we had been closer in age maybe it would have been fine."

And yet, after recovery, Taylor still came out on top and proceeded to tell her story.

Elegantly crafted and eloquently executed, All Too Well's newest identity was everything its audience needed from one of the most respected and credible names in music and its public eye.

A warning, lesson and message of hope, just like her relationship with Gyllenhaal, it will be remembered all too well.

Take your headphones off, turn your attention on

BY HALEY COCHRAN
CORRESPONDENT

Everyone has a pair of headphones that they use on a daily basis. They use them when walking to class, or just sitting in the Mountainlair watching Netflix on their laptop.

But we fail to recognize the effect that wearing headphones has on the community around us.

Have you ever wanted to say hello to someone walking past you, but stopped yourself when you realized that they were listening to music?

Headphones make people seem unapproachable, and hurt our sense of campus community.

This is especially neces-

sary when it comes to providing a comfortable environment for freshmen. As a senior, I am often stopped to be asked for directions or questions about tasks like ordering textbooks.

By wearing headphones, we no longer see our academic peers as friendly and helpful, so much as closed off and standoffish.

Lanie Sigmon, a sophomore here at WVU, agrees. She mentioned that she wished she could approach people more.

She says "When I walk around campus I see all these students with headphones in. I would love to approach them, but because they have headphones in, they aren't very approachable."

Sigmon also brings up an

additional point.

She talked about another major impact: vehicle accidents involving people listening to headphones.

If you wear headphones around campus, then you know you can't hear a thing.

People who wear headphones while crossing the street need to be more aware of their surroundings.

They need to make sure that they are looking both ways before crossing the street, instead of at their phone, trying to find the perfect song.

We all know how cars will push the gas pedal to the floor to get across University Ave. outside of the Mountainlair by scaring the pedestrians into hesitation.

It's easy to become obliv-



PHOTO BY RYLAN NEMESH

Whether in-person classes are going on or not, students are often walking around the Mountainlair Green.

ious to this threat when engaged in a good song.

An article from Live-science found that the death and injury rates have tripled

in the last six years, whereby those involved were pedestrians wearing headphones.

Headphones provide excellent benefits to users and

those around them, but they have a time and a place.

We need to be more cognizant of when and where we choose to use them.



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- Across**

1 Foot wear
5 Continent
9 Cut of beef
14 Pound
15 Protocol
16 Solitudinarian
17 Liberal
18 Aroma
19 Terra ___ (type of clay)
20 Conger
21 Race on skis
23 Stir
24 Runny
26 Abdominal muscles (abbr.)
28 Swipe
29 Make a duplicate
31 Ghost’s greeting
34 Nitro ___
37 Water retention
39 Clang
40 And so forth
41 Stink
42 ___ Lee (pie brand name)
44 Shuck (2 wds.)
47 Gall
48 Russia
50 Both
51 Heat unit
52 Chilli brand
- 56 Reduce (abbr.)
59 Very old age
63 Vane direction
64 Islam’s head
66 Molecule
67 Bread
68 Brutal
69 Decant
70 Gets older
71 Looped cloth
72 Scrape
73 Stimulate

DOWN

1 Cut with a saw
2 Orange yellow
3 Texas stew
4 Container
5 Eucharist
6 Carbonated drink
7 False god graven image
8 Air (prefix)
9 Tender loving care
10 Footwear
11 Upon
12 Fish catchers
13 Long time periods
21 ___ and span (very clean)
22 Chart of area or terrain
25 Animal kingdom division
- 27 Sayonara
29 Quoter
30 One time
31 Bar drink
32 Bode
33 Sturdy tree
34 Hiking equipment
35 Spree
36 Representatives
38 Amusing
39 Pounds per square inch
43 Small house
45 Portable gas light
46 Mud
49 Light in the sky
51 Thorny plant
53 “Gone With the Wind” actress
54 Sugar-free brand
55 Bread leavening
56 Account (abbr.)
57 Nude
58 Make unclear
60 Pixies
61 Cranny
62 Decorative needle case
65 Soar
67 Animal foot

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Leddie Brown, rushing offense prove to be game-changer for WVU football

BY CHARLES MONTGOMERY
SPORTS EDITOR

By the skin of its teeth, the West Virginia football team turned its season around after the bye week, going 4-2 to finish the year with six wins and bowl eligibility.

Here's how the team did it.

West Virginia entered its bye week after being dominated by the Baylor Bears, 45-20. At 2-4, things looked bleak for the Mountaineers with a difficult final six games staring them in the face.

Then, something changed when WVU hit the road against TCU. What was one of the biggest liability to the team halfway through the season became the sudden strength.

The West Virginia offense.

In its six losses, West Virginia averaged 62 rushing yards per game. In its six victories, WVU averaged 190 rushing yards per game.

The Mountaineers never lost a game when they rushed for at least 100 yards. That is not a theory, that is a fact.



PHOTO BY DUNCAN SLADE

West Virginia running back Leddie Brown scores a touchdown during the first half of the game between the West Virginia Mountaineers and the Maryland Terrapins at Capital One Field at Maryland Stadium in College Park, MD on Sept. 4, 2021.

Even after WVU won back-to-back games to start the second half of the season, it still had its issues. The season looked dark after a 34-17 loss to Kansas State that had head coach Neal Brown laying things out very plainly with no margin for error.

"Nobody is going to feel sorry for us," Neal Brown said after a loss to Kansas State. "They give out 12-game schedules. I don't feel sorry for us. They give you 12 games; we have a home game next week and we have to get our ass ready to play."

"It doesn't matter how many people we have hurt," Neal Brown added. "Texas comes to play and we better get ourselves ready to play... That's what I told them [the team] after the game, 'Nobody is feeling sorry for you.' The bottom line is as coaches

and as players, we didn't get the job done."

Neal Brown continuously mentioned down the stretch of the regular season that it wasn't too late to start playing quality football. In the final two games against Texas and Kansas, the Mountain-

ers played quality football.

Against Kansas, there were some self-imposed mistakes, but West Virginia overcame them to secure a crucial victory.

Not only did the rushing offense look revitalized in the final weeks, but quarterback Jarret Doege seemed to have turned a corner. Doege wasn't electrifying, but on many occasions, he looked like a new quarterback.

Statistically, Doege's best performance was against Texas, going 27-of-43 (63%) for 290 yards and three touchdowns.

Doege looked better, but the key to West Virginia's second half success this season was Leddie Brown and the rushing attack. Without Leddie Brown, the Mountaineers would've severely lacked in the backfield and things would've ended differently.

However, West Virginia does have Leddie Brown — who finished with 1,000 rushing yards for the second-straight season on Saturday — and is going to a bowl game.

Johnson and Curry filling their roles for WVU hoops

BY CHARLES MONTGOMERY
SPORTS EDITOR

For West Virginia, the point guard position has mainly been run by two players this season.

Guards Kedrian Johnson and Malik Curry have seen the majority of the playing time while Johnson has been starting in all seven games.

Johnson's role since he joined the WVU program has been focused on his defensive play. Offensively, Johnson only averages 4.9 points per game while earning nearly 18 minutes per contest this year.

To get offensive production from the point guard position, head coach Bob Huggins has looked to Curry. This season, Curry is the fourth-leading scorer on the team with eight points per game.

In the last three games, Curry has scored nine, 16 and nine points, respectively.

The offense has mainly run through Taz Sherman, but Huggins said that the team has relied on him too much so far

this season to score points.

"I think we're getting a little better defensively," Huggins said following a win over Bellarmine. "Offensively, we probably rely on Taz too much. I'm all for him getting 25-30 [points] a game, but we need some other guys to step up and score it a little bit for us as well. I think we're starting to get that, but we've got to continue to get better at that."

While Curry has gotten into a rhythm offensively and Johnson continues to contribute on defense, Huggins has clearly defined their roles on the team.

"With Taz and Sean [McNeil], we have to get them open more and do a better job of getting them open," Huggins said. "We have to deliver the ball better and more timely than what we have been doing. That is those two guys (Kedrian Johnson and Malik Curry) jobs. When Malik comes in, we expect him to score, and when Kedrian comes in, we rely on him to put pressure on the ball."

"It's not that Kedrian can't score or that Malik can't de-



PHOTO BY GUS SCHLOMER

West Virginia guard Kedrian Johnson (0) dribbles the ball up the court against Bellarmine at the WVU Coliseum in Morgantown, W.Va., on Nov. 30, 2021.

fend, they both can do both things," Huggins added. "When Malik is sitting there while Kedrian is in the game, he's thinking 'how can I create offensively, create for myself and create for my teammates'.

When Kedrian is sitting there looking at 'how can I affect the game offensively.' Both of them are seemingly very happy with their roles."

Despite the offensive success West Virginia is getting

with Curry recently, Huggins hasn't said that changes will be made to the starting lineup.

Huggins said that the team relies too much on Sherman for offense, recently in games, it looks Curry might become

one of the main offensive contributors off the bench for the Mountaineers. With Curry adding points off the bench, it may take the pressure off of Sherman and McNeil to propel the offense.

Sunahara finds first NCAA Tournament berth to be ‘rewarding’ for WVU volleyball

BY ZACH ANDERSON
SPORTS WRITER

The West Virginia volleyball team is prepped to make its NCAA Tournament debut Friday, facing the Illinois Fighting Illini at 5 p.m. in Lexington, Kentucky.

Head coach Reed Sunahara and his team were ecstatic following the announcement on Sunday, with this tournament berth feeling like a reward to him and his players’ hard work.

“It’s unbelievable and it’s a great feeling; it’s a great feeling to represent this unbelievable university,” Sunahara said. “All the hard work and the trust, and all that stuff paid off, so it’s rewarding for them, for me and for this athletic department.”

The Mountaineers (19-9, 8-8 Big 12) have found their stride late in the season, and Sunahara thinks his success recruiting high school athletes



Members of the West Virginia volleyball team celebrate scoring a point against Penn State at the WVU Coliseum in Morgantown, W.Va., on Sept. 17, 2021.

and valuable transfer athletes has all played a part in this success.

“Anytime you can win it’s going to help with recruiting, and once they get on campus,

they look at this university and see there’s a lot to offer,” Sunahara said. “Playing in the Big 12 has a lot of things these kids are looking for. There’s a good combination of things that we

PHOTO BY MALIA RICHARDSON

can sell to bring kids to West Virginia.”

Both West Virginia and Illinois will come into this match without a top-16 seed designation, but neither team should

be overlooked on the court.

West Virginia has been stellar offensively this season, with right side hitter Adrian Ell leading the team with 335 kills as well as adding on 263 digs and 83 blocks defensively.

Fourth-year setter Lacey Zerwas has been one of the Big 12’s best passers, with over 1,000 assists at 1,011, ranking her second in the Big 12. Zerwas also comes up second on the team in digs with 265.

Defensively, West Virginia thrives off of blocking hits with middle blocker Briana Lynch blocking 95 hits this year, along with middle blocker Emmy Ogogor amassing 54 blocks. Defensive specialist Alexa Hasting also has a big role, leading the team with 384 digs.

Illinois (20-11, 12-8 Big 10) also thrives off its offense, with many of its matches going to four and five sets this season.

The leading-scorer for the Fighting Illini is outside hitter Raina Terry with 391 kills and

54 service aces.

Setter Diana Brown leads the team in assists with 1186, ranking her fifth in the Big 10.

The defense will be a focal point for the Mountaineers to attack, with defensive specialist Taylor Kuper leading the back line with 518 digs, along with middle blockers Kennedy Collins and Kyla Swanson with 118 and 93 blocks, respectively.

Since West Virginia will be competing in its first ever-match against Illinois and in its first tournament appearance, Sunahara was quick to reassure his players and shift their focus back to what’s important, the competition.

“It’s no different than playing a match in the Big 12, it’s still a competition,” Sunahara said. “I’m sure they [WVU players] are going to walk into the arena at UK and have big eyes, but when the whistle blows let’s focus on how to win the next point.”

Huggins says WVU relies too much on Sherman for offense

BY CHARLES MONTGOMERY
SPORTS EDITOR

West Virginia earned its third-straight victory with a dominant 74-55 win over the Bellarmine Knights on Tuesday in Morgantown.

West Virginia (6-1) only led by seven at halftime, but extended its lead to double digits in the second half to secure the win. Head coach Bob Huggins credited the team’s passing for the second half success.

“I thought our ball movement got better in the second half,” Huggins said. “We were trying to dribble it too much. When they’re [Bellarmine] playing pack line [defense], which we’re going to end up playing against, you need to learn to pass the ball. I thought our passing, or at least our attempts to pass it, got better as the game went along.”

Late in the game, Huggins deployed players that haven’t seen the court very often this season. Freshman guard Seth Wilson and forwards Seny Ndiaye and Taj Thweatt earned minutes at the end of

the game, but Huggins wasn’t very pleased with what he saw.

“Honestly I didn’t see much value in it at all,” Huggins said about playing younger players late in the game. “I think they have to understand that in this program you earn playing time, you earn positions. You’re not handed them.”

“We had some guys that I thought were really getting better in practice and then their performance, to say disappointing was not strong enough,” Huggins added. “You get an opportunity; you want to make the most of your opportunity and we certainly didn’t do that.”

West Virginia has gradually improved throughout its first seven games. Huggins has seen improvement on defense, but believes the offense relies too heavily on guard Taz Sherman for points.

Once again, Sherman was the leading scorer with 18 points. Sean McNeil was the only other Mountaineer to score in double digits with 14.

“I think we’re getting a little better defensively,” Huggins said. “Offensively, we probably

rely on Taz too much. I’m all for him getting 25-30 [points] a game, but we need some other guys to step up and score it a little bit for us as well. I think we’re starting to get that, but we’ve got to continue to get better at that.”

One player that has yet to step up this season has been forward Isaiah Cottrell. Cottrell is in his second season with West Virginia, but last year, his season was cut short due to an Achilles injury.

So far this season, Cottrell has started all seven games and is averaging 5.1 points and 2.9 rebounds per game. Huggins said that Cottrell is still getting used to the pace of the game and that is why he has struggled early on.

“Quite frankly, he hasn’t rebounded the ball,” Huggins said. “He’s used to just being able to stand there and reach over top of people or rebound the ball without being sound fundamentally and keeping people on his back.”

Next up, West Virginia hosts Radford on Saturday at the WVU Coliseum.

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Stratford's past is leading WVU forward

BY WESLEY SHOEMAKER
SPORTS WRITER

As the No. 11 seed West Virginia men's soccer team readies for the Elite Eight on Saturday, the one thing that has shaped their head coach is time.

When West Virginia defeated No. 6 seed Tulsa 1-0 in double overtime on Saturday, they made history. For the first time since 2007, the Mountaineers were playing in a Sweet Sixteen, and with the victory, it was the first time since 1981 the Mountaineers had advanced to the NCAA Quarterfinals.

West Virginia head men's soccer coach Dan Stratford, the former Mountaineer, is using his past experience to prepare West Virginia for its biggest test yet.

On Saturday, West Virginia will try to make even more history and become the first WVU team to ever make the College Cup and advance to the national semifinals.

Stratford played in 2007 when West Virginia was vying for the kind of program-defining win that the team is



PHOTO BY MALIA RICHARDSON

West Virginia's Luke McCormick heads to the sideline against Ohio State in Morgantown, W.Va., on Sept. 10, 2021.

looking for this weekend.

"I think I probably hav-

en't allowed it to settle in or sink in terms of what we've

achieved up to this point because we don't feel like we're done," Stratford said. "We still feel like there's so much more to do. What an incredible opportunity ahead on Saturday against Georgetown to make an even greater inroads into those history books and be the first team to make a final four."

Stratford said he and his fellow coaches are proud of where this team is going and their goal is to show the passion they had when they were in school.

"If you show the passion and what it means to us, it [can] hopefully reflect in the players as well," Stratford said of his coaching staff's role.

Stratford added the fact that he and his assistants played at West Virginia and how it makes it mean even more to them than other coaching staffs.

"It means something more because we all played here as well," Stratford said. "With me, Nick (Noble), and Andy (Wright) on the staff, knowing that we've played in a Sweet Sixteen ourselves, knowing that we fell short at that moment, knowing that we feel like we didn't do ourselves justice as a team."

Falling short is the ex-

"I think I probably haven't allowed it to settle in or sink in terms of what we've achieved up to this point because we don't feel like we're done. We still feel like there's so much more to do."

-Dan Stratford, WVU head men's soccer coach

act opposite of what Stratford has done since coming back to West Virginia. In 2020 when Stratford was hired, his goal was to simply remake West Virginia soccer into the brand he helped create as a player.

Flash forward to now, Stratford has built his vision and has them on the cusp of being one of the top-four teams in the country. Stratford said he does not want to give himself too much credit, as he believes his players and staff have fully bought in.

"I have such intimate details of the program and the way it was operated previously, the potential of this program, and I've said it from day one," Stratford said. "This could be a top-10 team and it needs to stay there and for me, that's my perception of

not success, but where this program should be as a bare minimum."

With Stratford facing down the No. 3 seed Georgetown Hoyas, his focus for the program moving forward will not be defined by the result on Saturday, but by how his team continues to grow and create the culture he wants to create.

"While [success] may have come a little bit quicker than we expected, that's a compliment to the staff buying into the progress this program was looking to make and to the players," Stratford said. "You know, we've really made sure that when we've gone through that recruiting process, that from a cultural perspective, they're the right fit, the right type of players."

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All liner ads are included on thedaonline.com!

PERSONALS

PROFESSIONAL MASSEUSE WANTED Call (724) 223-0939 anytime.

HELP WANTED

CAREGIVER \$2,000 sign on bonus, \$13/hr. full/part-time, for pleasant disabled young person, 7p.m.-midnight/7p.m. - 7a.m., to provide adult daily living skills. Position will provide excellent experience for social science/medical field student. Call or text resume to 304-685-4736.

LPN(\$22/HR + BENEFITS) \$5,000 sign on bonus for those eligible. to care for pleasant disabled person in his home in Morgantown. 3-12-hour shifts/week. Text resume or call: 304-685-4736.

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NOW LEASING

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Text: 681-214-1460

info@benttreecourt.com

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December 9 is the last DA for 2021 call today 304-293-4141 to place your ad before break.

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RATES START AT \$340 PER PERSON

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WVU STUDENT MEDIA

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For over 134 years, the DA has been the independent student newspaper of WVU. Our newspaper, printed every Thursday during the Fall semester and Wednesday and Friday during the Spring semester, has a circulation of 12,700, placed across WVU's Morgantown campus and inserted in the Dominion Post to all of Monongalia and Preston counties. Our website also serves as a vital news source in and around WVU.



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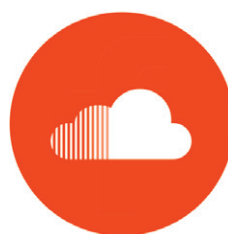
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OUR LOCATION

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