BLACK WVU LEADERS SAY MORE WORK NEEDED TO FOSTER COMMUNITY FOR STUDENTS OF COLOR

BY KATELYN ALUISE
CORRESPONDENT

As a first generation college student at a small liberal arts school in southern West Virginia, Akeya Carter-Bozman felt uncomfortable as a minority student.

Carter attended honors courses during her time at Concord University, but it made her upset that she could not in classes where more people looked like her. She said she felt like she could not talk to faculty about her frustrations, and that office hours were less welcoming than they could have been.

Now, Carter works in the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at West Virginia University as a prevention specialist. She is also an adjunct professor and said she

“We crave a place to belong, and we crave a space to live in and to thrive in — and we deserve it.”

-Amaya Jernigan, president of the WVU Student Government Association

“Especially with our students of color, we have to create a culture and a narrative where they can feel comfortable coming and unpacking the things they’re going through,” Carter said.

Carter shared this story at the virtual panel, a Black Love Day Celebration, held by Rise WVU on Saturday, Feb. 12. The panelists discussed the difficulties of Black life in higher education and the importance of fostering a sense of community among Black students.

The event was hosted by Nathan Lawson, president of Rise WVU, an organization focused on the success of students of color and other underrepresented groups. Carter said that without communication, people in higher education are “preaching” student success without setting students up for it.

Amaya Jernigan, president of the WVU Student Government Association, said that colleges are advertising that they want a more diverse student body, but they are not creating communities and planning for the lives these students will have at school.

She said this puts extra pressure on minority students.

“I am working a full time job, and then my classes are a full time job. And then I’m finding myself having to fill in these gaps or these holes that the University had not thought about before bringing me here and having to build up my community,” Jernigan said.

See Community page 3

ANNEX NIGHTCLUB REOPENS AFTER TWO-YEAR CLOSURE

BY JORDAN HOWES
STAFF WRITER

Annex, a basement nightclub on Morgantown’s High Street popular with WVU students, has triumphantly returned after being closed for the past two years due to the pandemic.

“And just like that…we’re open,” the club wrote in a Twitter post on Thursday. The venue is notorious for its metal poles and cages around the dance floor.

WVU student Chrissy Byers said that she’s ready to get back to Annex after waiting almost two years.

“It was like the staple of our freshman year and then it was closed, so it was kind of sad,” Byers said about the reopening. “But now we’re excited to go back and make new memories.”

Byers isn’t the only student excited and the venue is welcoming them back.

“For you seniors and junior(s) who have remained faithful…The rumors ARE true,” Annex said in a tweet earlier this week.

After the announcement, many students took to Twitter to express their excitement for the club’s reopening.

“This is the happiest I’ve been since I started graduate school,” wrote one Twitter user.

“My dreams are coming true,” wrote another.

Annex initially closed down on March 16, 2020, due to health and safety concerns expressed by its management, according to its Twitter.

The COVID-19 pandemic was declared a national emergency just three days earlier.

The Daily Athenaeum reached out to Annex via Twitter, and its management declined to comment on the reopening.

After it closed, it was unknown when the club would return as it was navigating local health and safety standards. Some wondered if it would ever return.

The club’s Twitter page remained active throughout the pandemic and responded to several health and safety articles regarding local regulations and public responses.

As WVU students returned to campus in fall 2020, Annex announced it would remain closed.

“Dear Faithful, Management has decided to remain closed for the time being. We cannot keep you safe & provide the same ‘atmosphere’ that you have come to love here. We know you don’t wear condoms let alone masks…see you soon, maybe with a few upgrades,” Annex said in a tweet on Sept. 1, 2020.

Annex’s entrance is currently accessible through Almost Heaven Bar & Grill located at 374 High Street. Patrons are instructed to enter through the building’s main entrance and proceed through the patio to the club in the basement.

The club will be open Thursday through Sunday from 4 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.

According to its Twitter, Annex will be operating on a “21+ limited VIP capacity” until August.

“Everybody there was just there to dance and have a good time,” Byers said. “Where other places, some people were just wanting to stand around, but everyone in Annex was always just having so much fun. So we love to go there ‘cause we knew it was going to be a good night.”
CRIME REPORT

FEB. 9
7:22 p.m. | Citation
North High Street
Traffic Stop.

FEB. 9
7:28 p.m. | Resolved
WVU University Park
Drug Incident.

FEB. 9
11:28 p.m. | Citation
Prospect Street
ABCC Violation.

FEB. 9
11:46 p.m. | Citation
North Spruce Street
Traffic Stop.

FEB. 9
11:38 p.m. | Citation
Evansdale Drive
Traffic Stop.

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

SOCIAL MEDIA MOMENTS

dailyathenaeum

Pls someone help me I can’t stop crocheting tiny hats for my up all night bear

16h • <1mi 3 comments

if you hear me breathing loud asf after going up lsb stairs, no you don’t

5h • <1mi 0 comments

I rather get back with my ex then watch WVU lose another game...

19h • <1mi 0 comments

If you’re not going to wear deodorant respectfully stay off the prt

4h • <1mi 1 comments

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THE DA is independent from the University
**WVU administrators concerned by ‘anti-racism’ bill**

**BY JULES OGDEN**

West Virginia University administrators are concerned about the newest anti-racism bill moving through the state legislature.

West Virginia Senate Bill 498, the Anti-Racism Act of 2022, was introduced to the Senate by Senator Patricia Rucker on Jan. 28 before being sent to its current home, the Education Committee.

SB 498 would restrict both K-12 public schools and institutions of higher education from “providing instruction in, requiring instruction in, making a part of a course, or requiring a statement or affirmation by an employee of certain specified concepts.”

Some of these specified concepts include one race, ethnicity or group being superior to another; discrimination or aversive treatment towards individuals based on their race, ethnicity or biological sex; individuals having to bear responsibility for the actions of other members of their race, ethnic group or biological sex; and individuals, by virtue of their own race, ethnic group or biological sex, being inherently racist, sexist or oppressive whether unconsciously or consciously.

The bill also allows any student or employee that is aggrieved by a violation of this act to sue. They could sue a school district, public charter schools, the state Board of Education, the state Department of Education or employees.

According to Rob Alsop, vice president for Strategic Initiatives, President E. Gordon Gee recently expressed some concerns with Senator Rucker regarding how the bill could affect free speech at the University.

“We do not indoctrinate. We believe in the First Amendment, but we also believe in challenging our students to think critically about this,” Alsop said in a Faculty Senate meeting on Monday.

Alsop added that the University fears SB 498 would limit the ability for “robust debate.”

“We just reiterated that it’s our faculty’s job to challenge our students, not to tell them how to think but teach them how to think to reach their own conclusions,” he said.

In addition, Alsop indicated that the University told Rucker that they did not believe legislation was necessary in addressing the alleged problem because WVU employees and students aren’t being taught or forced to think in any certain way about their race or ethnicity.

In a response to a faculty member’s question in the meeting on Monday, Gee said he believes the University’s position should be to protect both higher and public education.

“We do want to be a very positive force to protect the interests of public education throughout this debate,” Gee said. “You know, these debates come and go.”

Last week, the Daily Athenaeum published a guest editorial by Joshua Stuart voicing similar concerns regarding the bill. Stuart said they opposed the bill because it puts educators in the state at risk.

“This bill would restrict educators from speaking freely about our history and instead would instill fear that anything they said about our history could be held against them — being subject to legal action from students,” Stuart said.

Stuart also discussed the potential risks of limiting educators in terms of the declining population of the state.

Rucker told Alsop that her concerns for sponsoring the bill may not be occurring at WVU; she has seen them occur in other places, according to Alsop.

Alonso mentioned that Rucker will consider the University’s concerns if the bill moves forward through the legislature.

WVU plans to follow up with Rucker and continue monitoring the bill as it progresses.

**46% of WVU students, 66% of employees have received their COVID booster shot**

**BY JULES OGDEN**

While most WVU students and employees have their primary series of the COVID-19 vaccine, many have yet to receive their booster shots.

Just over 46% of students have received a booster shot as of Feb. 1. 66% of faculty and staff have received their booster, according to the WVU COVID dashboard. Numbers are updated every other week.

For comparison, 82% of students and 93% of faculty and staff have completed their initial vaccination series of the two-dose Moderna or Pfizer vaccine or the one-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

An additional 7% of students and 2% of employees have received their initial doses but are not yet eligible for their booster.

In total, 68% of employees and 54% of students are considered up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations by WVU.

The University redefined the criteria to be considered fully vaccinated in a campus-wide email on Jan. 4. To be considered fully vaccinated against COVID-19, students and employees must now receive both their primary and booster doses of the vaccine.

Individuals are eligible for their booster dose at least six months after their primary series of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines or at least two months after a single dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Currently, just over 92% of employees and 83% of students have received their primary series of the COVID-19 vaccine — two doses of either Pfizer or Moderna or one dose of Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

However, only 68.12% of faculty and 53.68% of students are up to date with their vaccinations and are considered fully vaccinated by the University.

Vaccines will continue to be available for students, faculty and staff as well as the Morgantown community at the Student Recreation Center every Wednesday by appointment only.

Additional information on where to get vaccinated on campus can be found on WVU’s return to campus webpage.

**Community**

**Continued from page 1**

Jernigan said that Black students on campus have a burden to pick up “slacks” where the university has failed to celebrate diversity and find ways for these students to connect with each other. She said that Black students have become natural activists.

“We create a place to belong, and we create a space to live in and to thrive in — and we deserve it.”

Gregory Epps, program coordinator for the Health Sciences Center, said that Black students have been called to leadership and activism and that the only way things will change is if they stay focused, plan and do what they are called to do.

He added that doing the same thing over and over, having talks, is not enough.

“Now is the time where the fire is hot, and if you want to make things happen, now’s the time to do it,” Epps said.

Murphy said that he, too, experienced challenges as a minority college student that he had to overcome.

“I know everywhere I go, there I am, and I know that I will bring strength to the table. I know I will bring protest to the table. I know I will bring civil unrest to the table, if necessary,” he said.

Murphy said that it is the administration’s responsibility to ensure that students have the communal support and the ability to create civil discord.

Epps said that a way that the school could give minority students this support is by creating a space where these students can come together. He said this space should include resources like tutoring and mentoring and information about scholarships and internships, but overall, it should be a space that these students can call their own.

But Carter said helping students is a “two-way street.” She said that in order for faculty to help students, students need to show up and use these resources. Carter said there is more that faculty can do to support students, but they need to be willing to be involved.

“When you come to campus and we are having these welcome mixers and events and things like that, just don’t sit in your room, come to those,” Carter said.

She said the first steps students need to take to create change is having trust.
WVU SGA applauds Manchin, Capito cosponsorship of domestic violence bill

BY JULES OGDEN
BREAKING NEWS EDITOR


“We are excited to hear that Senator Manchin and Senator Capito have announced they will cosponsor the bipartisan piece of legislation to modernize and reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act,” SGA President Pro Tempore Olivia Dowler and Government Relations Chair Azeem Khan said in a statement.

On Jan. 19, the Student Government Association unanimously passed a proclamation to encourage Manchin and Capito to support this legislation.

The Violence Against Women Act was cosponsored initially in 1994 by West Virginia members of Congress.

“This critical legislation makes necessary changes to the law that will protect our sisters, daughters and neighbors from abuse, domestic violence, sexual assault and a host of other issues that impact women across the globe,” said Manchin in a press release. “I am proud my colleagues on both sides of the aisle were able to come together to find a bipartisan path forward on this important bill”

Capito and Manchin introduced the legislation with other senators at a press conference with actor Angelina Jolie.

“Ending domestic violence has long been a priority of mine,” Capito said. “I have consistently supported the Violence Against Women Act, and voted to reauthorize this critical legislation twice as a member of the House of Representatives. In conversations with local leaders in West Virginia, they have conveyed that the funding and support VAWA provides to local organizations working to combat domestic violence in our state is a ‘lifeline’ to the work they do.”

SGA promised to continue making the University a safer and more supportive place for survivors.

“Stalking, domestic violence, sexual harassment, and sexual assault are some of the most serious issues at West Virginia University,” Dowler and Khan said in the press release Thursday. “We will continue to fight to ensure that survivors receive the help that they need.”

West Virginia Senate bill would strengthen state mental health services, offset increase in suicide hotline calls

BY SHRINIDHI VENKATESHWARAPRABU
CORRESPONDENT

West Virginia Senate Bill 181 was recently introduced to support the expansion of mental health and suicide prevention services throughout the state, as initially established by the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020.

In effort to handle the significant rise in calls for assistance, the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act 2020 was enacted by the U.S. Congress, naming 988 as the universal number to reach the mental health crisis hotline system. 988 will become active in July 2022 to provide assistance in suicide crises or to anyone experiencing mental distress.

Calls to the suicide hotline increased by 63% in West Virginia between 2018 and 2021, According to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

Despite the rise in calls, there hasn’t been an imminent increase in suicide rates due to the availability of the crisis counselors on the line, according to Lata Menon, CEO of First Choice Services. She predicts this to change moving forward as an increase in calls could create longer wait times.

As supported by SB 181, a universal three-digit hotline number that is easilyrecallable for use could reduce barriers for those seeking support and ensure quicker assistance.

According to the legislative text, the bill will make the federally enacted universal number easier to access for state residents by creating hotline centers, funding for the service and aid for those referred to long-term care. In addition, it could help to prevent crime driven by mental illness.

According to a report from the office of research and public affairs, between one-quarter and half of all fatal law enforcement encounters occur with individuals that suffer from a serious mental illness.

Services offered through 988 could be helpful in supplying support to those impacted by the pandemic as well.

Vibrant Emotional Health, the administrator for the national hotline, has estimated that this could increase the rate of individuals reaching out to the lifeline in West Virginia by 30,000 annually.

Many states have already passed legislation to express that they are prepared to handle the increased need for mental health support.

Centers created by SB 181 will also be able to connect to other crisis centers in the region when wait times are too long in-state to ensure the quickest assistance possible.

“When you or your loved one is in crisis, instead of calling the police or going to an emergency room, you should be able to immediately reach a crisis counselor who has the training to provide needed support and referral. Senate Bill 181 will ensure that West Virginia’s Crisis Call Center is prepared to answer the need in our state,” Menon said.
West Virginia woodworking business brings reclaimed wooden stories to Morgantown

BY KIAN MCMCHESNEY
CORRESPONDENT

A small woodworking business has recently become one of Morgantown’s newest attractions. Bear Wood Company reclaims West Virginia’s heritage by converting old barn wood into heirloom-quality furnishings. Originally starting in Hurricane, West Virginia, Bear Wood Company’s Matt and Angela Snyder established the business after he left his job as the news director of a local news station.

The risk has led to an expansion beyond Hurricane and last November a gallery opened up on 333 High Street, here in Morgantown.

In the store, customers can see rustic state, bourbon barrels, coasters and live edge wood tables handmade from the Hurricane workshop.

Bear Wood Company is certified to sell officially licensed pride plaques with West Virginia University’s logo on it.

Everything in the store, from the coasters engraved with Mothman to the WVU wall mounted bottle openers, will remind people of this state.

Bear Wood Company’s commitment to their motto, “always home” means each piece is made with pride.

“The idea behind the saying ‘always home’ is that a lot of people are from West Virginia, but move out of state,” said Noah Miller, the store manager. “You’ll always have a piece of home if you buy something here.”

Once a past builder for the Hurricane site, Miller now oversees the Morgantown store. He no longer makes the products, but is forever grateful to his boss, Snyder, for the opportunity to learn wood making under him.

Not only do the designs come from West Virginia, but the wood is also sourced locally from places like Huntington and Teays Valley. Reclaimed wood can come from a variety of places including barns, flooring from gyms and homes.

Instead of burning an old structure or tearing it down for the landfill, Bear Wood Company comes in with chainsaws and crowbars to take apart the sidings.

Since most of the wood is reclaimed and not bought at bulk, each handmade wood piece has a story behind it.

Their most popular items, rustic states, are cutouts of West Virginia that have the wood’s origin written on the back so the history is known.

This means each coaster or wall decor you buy from Bear Wood Company is one of a kind and personal.

On the company’s website, there is a section dedicated to salvaging wood.

If you know of wooden buildings planned for demolition or have wood that can be picked up, they want to know.

Give wood a new purpose by becoming a supporter for Bear Wood Company’s future projects by emailing them at info@bearwoodcompany.com

Know before you go:
Location: 333 High Street
Hours: Wednesday-Friday: 11 a.m -6 p.m.
Saturday : Noon-5 p.m.

PHOTO BY LARA BONATESTA

Three things to do this weekend in Morgantown

BY CONNOR GIBBONS
CORRESPONDENT

If you’re heading into President’s Day weekend and have nothing to do, look no further. The city has a variety of local businesses, restaurants, and events happening this weekend and there’s something for everyone. Take some time this weekend to unwind, enjoy yourself, and check out what Morgantown has to offer. Here are our recommendations for a few things you can do this weekend.

1 Dead of Winter Beer Festival
This Saturday, Feb. 19 from 1 to 10 p.m. Morgantown Brewing Company is hosting their annual Dead of Winter Beer Festival. The event will feature guest beers on tap from other West Virginia breweries, local vendors, live music at 6:30 p.m. and a raffle. Admission is free and a 10% discount is offered to all medical and military personnel.

Their food menu has a focus on burgers and even features a burger of the week. If you’re hungry, the kitchen closes at 9 p.m., so be sure to have your order in by then. The beer menu hosts a variety of beers they brew in town and offers them to go as well. Morgantown Brewing Co. is located at 1291 University Ave, Morgantown, WV and is open from noon to 10 p.m. on Saturday.

2 Live Music at 123
Ashbury Park, New Jersey’s own jazz-rock band “Dead In A Pile” will make their debut on the 123 Pleasant Street stage this Friday night, Feb. 18. The show, which starts at 8 p.m., will feature three bands. Tickets are $10 and can be purchased online or at the door.

On Saturday night, the West Virginia native “DaVisher Brothers Band” will take the stage at 123 Pleasant Street with special guest Landon McFadden. The show starts at 8 p.m. and tickets are $25.

3 Some Good Food
If you find yourself near Evansdale this weekend Saigon Pho Kitchen is a delicious and affordable place for a Vietnamese meal. The menu features an array of soups and sandwiches at various levels of spice, as well as a selection of sides and even boba tea. For a little more than $10 a fresh, hot meal with last position is waiting for you. Saigon Pho Kitchen is located at 3109 University Ave, Morgantown, WV and is open from 11:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. this weekend.

West Virginia says ‘I love you’ more than any other state

BY LADIMIR GARCIA
ASSISTANT CULTURE EDITOR

Instagram published a map showing what states say, “I love you” the most and West Virginia was at the top of the list. Instagram based the map around text included in regular posts and IG stories, with West Virginia coming in first and New York last.

Savannah Hochberg, a junior music education major, says that West Virginians say “I love you” the most due to their pride.

“West Virginia in my opinion probably says I love you more just because West Virginians are very proud of their community and the people around them and they seem very family oriented,” Hochberg said.

Mckenna Lee, a first year masters student in percussion performance, says that the nature of hospitality is probably one of the reasons for West Virginia’s ranking.

“I actually just moved here from Chicago and I think I’ve really noticed a sense of like hospitality and friendship here. Even when I’m just like walking down the street you know, by my apartment complex people will wave as they drive by,” Lee said.

Some people even took their excitement to Twitter, with one user highlighting how West Virginians say “I love you” in different ways.

“And we say it all kinds of ways! Watch for deer. There’s biscuits and gravy on the stove. I love you.”

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PHOTO BY LARA BONATESTA

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Repair hooks in the Mountainlair bathrooms

BY DEREK NASTASI
STAFF WRITER

Public restrooms can be one of the scariest places that people visit on a daily basis. There are many opportunities for awkward encounters. It is not controversial that bathrooms can be extremely dirty places.

In a common area like the Mountainlair (or any other public place), students cannot set their belongings like backpacks, coats or binders down because they may be stolen. So what options are available to students? They may carry their belongings into the stall to hang them on a hook. However, the issue is that the majority of the hooks in the Mountainlair bathrooms have been ripped off of the inside of the stall doors. This situation causes many people to rush to the stalls with hooks so they do not have to put their belongings onto the bathroom floor. Meanwhile, everyone else must set their things on the sticky, dirty floor once the stalls with hooks are occupied. The worst part is that the difficulties do not end when students leave the bathroom. After leaving the bathroom, students may set their binders, coats or backpacks onto the tables at the Mountainlair. Many students use the Mountainlair for activities such as completing some homework, eating meals or hanging out with friends. Germs from students' belongings could be spread from the bathroom to tables where students eat for example. These germs can linger for an extended period of time, and students are none the wiser.

There are a number of solutions to this problem. The main solution would be to simply install hooks inside all the bathroom stalls. A little bit of maintenance work can go a long way inside the restrooms. This option would be extremely inexpensive, quick and cheap. Students who are concerned with germs from public bathrooms can also take other precautions. Wearing a mask, wiping down tables and washing hands before eating cut down on the spread of all diseases, not just germs from students' belongings.

River Birch Café: An artisan coffee shop with character

BY ABBY CICON
FOOD CRITIC

River Birch Café is the ultimate chill café with great vibes. This place has been the best decorated establishment I have visited so far. The café’s décor is extremely comforting. The workers were very friendly and attentive. Everyone in the café had smiles on their faces.

River Birch also had an art table filled with items from local artisans, which fit the atmosphere so well. They also had a lot of seating for a small café which was very nice. This café felt very open and inviting. For a place like this in Morgantown, I was surprised that it was not more crowded. The café was busy but not overwhelmed by customers.

One downside is the café’s location. Located across from Table 9, the café is honestly in an awkward spot where the parking is awful. The whole place only has two designated parking spots. The rest of the parking options are meters, which is very impractical. Especially for a Sunday morning, I was almost ready to leave and go somewhere else.

The menu was rather small, having around 30 items—especially small since most of it is based on smoothies and smoothie bowls. Despite this shorter menu, River Birch Café is one of the only big smoothie bowl places here in Morgantown besides GETFIT.

The bowls looked very intriguing, having many different flavors and a variety of topping options. I was more in the savory mood even though this place excels in making sweet foods. River Birch also had a dessert case that looked very delicious. Compared to the other parts of the menu that included bowls, salads and sandwiches, there were not as many breakfast options as I would have preferred.

I got smoked salmon on an everything bagel, paired with a basic iced coffee. The coffee was also not strong enough for my tastes. For a small coffee shop, I would expect a stronger brew. I was not overly impressed by any of the food. Overall, my meal was very mediocre. The food overall was not extremely good nor bad.

One aspect that I loved was the prices. The River Birch Café is certainly affordable, even for college students. I was not upset with mediocre food because it was not an expensive meal. Maybe I should have ordered one of the specialty smoothies or bowls. I definitely would not be opposed to going back and giving it another chance. Next time, I want to try one of the sweet options instead.

The food experience itself was not the best, but I will be going back since the overall time was good. I particularly enjoyed the artistic character of the River Birch Café. I definitely want to try more of their unique menu. The café gave me great vibes and a great experience. This would be a good quick brunch to go to if you are bringing friends to town and want a calming atmosphere in this artisan café.
CROSSWORD

Across
1 Dance 6 Lyre 10 Sego lily’s bulb 14 Ills 15 Vessel 16 What a bald man is missing 17 Rest 18 Praise enthusiastically 19 Giant 20 Gratis 21 Chinese sauce 22 Lives in 24 Cereal ingredient 26 Prejudices 27 Associated 30 Smaller than a goose 31 Sea inlet surround by cliffs 32 Type of glue 33 Unpaired 36 Eat away 37 Middle 38 Lowest point 40 Livid 41 Black 43 Tusk 44 Montana (abbr.) 45 Traps 46 Keenly

49 Nativity scene piece 50 Tranquilizers’ opposites 51 Zag’s partner 52 Bunches 56 Nickel 57 Adolescent 59 Shred (2 wds.) 60 Brazen 61 Flightless birds 62 Stupid 63 Handout 64 Biscuit 65 Eyed

Down
1 Your person 2 Declare 3 Small amount 4 Small song bird with blue plumage 5 Viper 6 Wading bird with long legs, neck and bill also a Great Lake 7 Hence 8 Reverend (abbr.) 9 State beforehand 10 Feet wear 11 American symbol and bird of prayer 12 Gals 13 Mined metals 21 Blue 23 Arousing 25 Saver 26 Shake 27 Some (2 wds.) 28 Italian currency 29 Crazy bird 30 Scare 32 Fake 33 Scent 34 Desperate 35 Removes the water 39 Helping 40 Livid 42 Support 45 Droop 46 Bobbin 47 Narcotic 48 Tears 49 Capital of Byelorussia 50 Ca. University 51 Head god 53 Opaque gem 54 Adjust 55 Hurried 56 Nickel 57 Adolescent 59 Shred (2 wds.)

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

SUDOKU

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

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

For answers, visit thedaonline.com

see upcoming events for the Center for Black Culture & Research at cbc.wvu.edu/events

For answers, visit thedaonline.com
Mazey, WVU baseball set to take diamond for 2022 season opener

BY CAMREN GANDEE
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The WVU baseball team kicks off their season this Friday, as they travel to Conaway, S.C. for opening day against the Central Michigan Chippewa.

The Mountaineers are coming off an up and down 2021 campaign, as they went 25-27 overall and 8-16 in Big 12 play. They had their share of success when playing at home, going 15-12 at Wagener Field last year. The real struggles came on the road, with the squad going just 6-13 in away games.

As head coach Randy Mazey enters his 10th season with the WVU baseball squad, he is looking forward to the challenge of managing a roster full of new talented faces.

“You know, it’s always a moving target in baseball, trying to form a new team,” Mazey said. “Roster management is no stranger to the world of college baseball. You’re no longer trying to build a program, you just have to build a team.”

The Mountaineers are 263-208 (.558) in Mazey’s tenure. He is the fourth-most winningest coach in the program’s 129-year history. As they get set for the season opener, one key factor for WVU will be the speed they showcase on the base paths. Mazey said he looks forward to giving his guys the green light on the bags, as steals have become a pivotal part of the Mountaineers scrappy offense.

“I like to let guys run and give them the freedom to do things,” Mazey said. “I want people to hate to play us in baseball because every guy that gets on base has an opportunity to run and make some things happen.”

One name fans should keep an eye on as the Mountaineers get set to take the diamond is incoming freshman Grant Hussey. The first baseman had a chance to develop in the MLB Draft League with the West Virginia Black Bears last summer before joining WVU.

“Grant had some pretty good success in the Draft League last summer. I would take his production this spring that he did last summer,” Mazey said. “The jump from West Virginia high school baseball to the Big 12 takes a long time, but Grant having played three or four months and making that transition before he got here is phenomenal for his progress.”

The Mountaineers pitching staff had their share of struggles in 2021, posting a combined 5.45 ERA with a 1.62 WHIP. With names like Jackson Wolf, the team’s leader in starts a year ago, now gone, Mazey will have to look elsewhere for production on the mound.

“To have a good season you have to have a pitcher that can win 10 games for you,” Mazey said. “That’s going to be the whole key to this season. Do we have any pitchers that are capable of winning 10 games, and I think that has yet to be determined.”

While the season gets underway this Friday, Feb. 18, the Mountaineers will have to wait before playing on their home turf. They host the Canisius College Golden Griffins on Tuesday, March 1 for the home opener at the Monongalia County Ballpark.

They have seven games until then, starting with Central Michigan at the Mountaineers will have to have a pitcher that can win 10 games for you, Mazey said. “That’s going to be the whole key to this season. Do we have any pitchers that are capable of winning 10 games, and I think that has yet to be determined.”

JJ Quinerly becoming electric shot creator in expanded role

BY LIAM BELAN
SPORTS WRITER

An unfortunate turn for the West Virginia women’s basketball team has afforded an increased role for a future cornerstone of the program in freshman JJ Quinerly, and she has not disappointed.

Quinerly, a guard, has been thrust into the starting lineup for head coach Mike Carey since leading scorer KK Deans sustained a season-ending knee injury against Baylor on Jan. 29. The Norfolk, Va. native has made a massive first impression while showing flashes as a potential leader of the program moving forward.

“(Quinerly) understands the game,” Carey said. “She is going to continue to grow as a player, and it has been good to push her a bit with more minutes.”

Since entering a starting role, Quinerly has posted her career high of 22 points against Kansas while averaging 13.5 points over the four game span. Quinerly’s role was not minimal before she joined the starting five though, as she has only failed to reach double digit totals in minutes twice this season.

There have been times throughout this season that Quinerly has acted as a spark plug for the Mountaineers. Such as her 13 points in 14 minutes in their home win against TCU or 11 points off the bench in a win against Texas Tech. Despite the losing result against Kansas, that performance against the Jayhawks exemplified everything right about what Quinerly has done for West Virginia.

“(Quinerly) is the one that can take it off the dribble and pull up,” Carey said after the Kansas defeat. “She is the one that got two steals and layups. Everyone else was sitting back and not getting in the lanes. It’s amazing when you get up the lanes, good things happen.”

These sorts of performances were expected from Carey and the coaching staff from the second that they discovered the player from Lake Taylor High School. It quickly became clear that Quinerly could become a potential difference maker in this Mountaineer squad, and she is already starting to turn heads in the Big 12 as the recipient of the Freshman of the Week Award for the week of Feb. 7.

Carey explained that he knew how valuable Quinerly was throughout the recruiting process as a guard that could use her athleticism to put the ball on the floor and create open looks for herself.

“We knew that she could take it off the dribble and get a shot at any time,” Carey said. “She’s got a quick first step, she’s got quick hands, and she really does a great job. She can get downhill; she’s one of the players we have that can take it off the dribble and get a shot, and that’s what we need.”

Not only is Quinerly using this opportunity to showcase her scoring, but she has shown serious acumen as a guard that can handle the ball and succeed in off ball situations. She rebounds well for a guard, and her impact has truly been felt for this West Virginia squad.

In her first season, it seems like there is great potential for Quinerly. However, she will continue to take things one game at a time and go from there.
Constant practice and individual coaching fuel WVU rifle team’s national dominance

BY JAKE HOWARD
SPORTS WRITER

In sports, spectators only see what goes on in the matches. While the play on the field gets the most attention, there is much more that goes on behind the scenes to make it all possible.

Rifle head coach Jon Hammond has been pivotal in the program’s success since taking over in 2006. Hammond said, “It’s not likevolleyball or soccer where everything is what sets WVU rifle apart otherwise be practicing, which typically happens in the afternoon. “We almost end up coaching them a little bit individually,” Hammond said. He added that he and the coaching staff develop weekly game plans for each of the athletes, giving them personalized critiques to help further improve their performances.

This past semester the Mountaineers have been able to have more practice sessions, doing drills and challenges with the whole team in an attempt to simulate match situations. They also often take what happened in the previous week’s matches and look at what they need to practice.

Often the older players will approach the coaches with ideas on what to work on, while younger players will more often rely on advice. Usually, they will work on fundamentals at the beginning of the season, but work more on match-related things as the season unfolds. This in depth preparation is what sets WVU rifle apart, according to Hammond.

The rifle squad typically gets five days of practice time per week, with competitions take place exclusively on weekends. Rifle has a unique practice situation, as Hammond put it, “It’s not like volleyball or soccer where everybody has to be there.”

This allows rifle to be flexible if a player has academic commitments that coincide with when they might otherwise be practicing, which typically happens in the afternoon.

Despite the stretch of poor shooting, the Mountaineers are still shooting, as they are now just 1-9 in their last 10 games.

The Mountaineers collapse late, blow double-digit lead in crushing loss to Kansas State

BY CAMREN GANDEE
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

It was a tale of two halves for the WVU men’s hoops on Monday, as they blew a 10-point lead late in the second half to lose 78-73 on the road to Kansas State.

WVU (14-11, 3-9 Big 12) split with the Wildcats in their two meetings this season. The loss further buries the Mountaineers in the Big 12 standings, as they are now just 1-9 in their last 10 games.

The Mountaineers seemed to have a rhythm in the opening period, shooting 14-of-32 (43.8%) from the field to help build a 42-35 lead going into the halftime.

Though the Wildcats stormed back in the second half, stampeding the Mountaineers on a 19-2 run to jump ahead 62-56. WVU went 0-10 from the field in a nearly 10-minute span.

Despite the stretch of poor play WVU was able to make things interesting late, bringing the score to within one on WVU offense with 23 points on 7-of-15 (46.7%) shooting from the field and 1-of-5 (20%) from three-point range. Edrick Johnson led the team with four assists while Jalen Bridges collected a team-high 10 rebounds.

Isaiah Cottrell also had a career night despite the loss, putting up a personal-best 13 points on 5-of-14 (35.7%) shooting.

The win puts the Wildcats at 14-11 overall, and 6-7 in Big 12 play as they split the season matchup with WVU, 1-1. Markquis Nowell led the Wildcats with 23 points on 7-of-11 (63.6%) from the field and 4-of-6 (66.6%) from three-point range.

Kansas State will return to action this Saturday, Feb. 19 as they go on the road to face the Oklahoma State Cowboys.

The Mountaineers are also back on the court this Saturday, Feb. 19 as they play host to the No. 6 Kansas Jayhawks. Tip-off at the Coliseum is set for 8 p.m.
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Hosted by Sydney Wentz and Chloe Snodgrass, the "Are You Still Watching?" podcast discusses TV shows, past and present, the impact they've had on pop culture and the mark they've left on our society. New episodes are available every Friday! This podcast is a product of the Daily Athenaeum, West Virginia University's Independent Student Newspaper, and produced by WVU Student Media.

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

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