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WVU's Independent Student Newspaper

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2023

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PHOTO BY TRENTON STRAIGHT

Tiara Rowe, a senior political science student, speaks out against SB 10 during an event hosted by the Appalachian Advocacy Network on Feb. 13, 2023.

Students speak on campus carry

University org holds press conference on SB 10

BY DEVIN ANDERSON

CORRESPONDENT

During her four years at WVU, Tiara Rowe remembers several instances of mental health crises on campus.

Now a senior, she said she fears the possible effects campus carry could have on the mental health of the campus community.

"I believe that West Virginia should recognize mental health first before allowing a campus full of 30,000 students to carry a gun," Rowe said.

In recent years, there has been a

growing mental health crisis at West Virginia University, including an increase in reported and attempted suicides.

Research has shown that suicide is a leading cause of death among college and university students, and it accounts for more than half of gun-related deaths in the U.S. each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

"As students, I believe that we have a right to speak out on these things, especially when we feel like our lives can be put at danger, whether it'd be ourselves or our friends or family members, we have a right to speak on this issue," Rowe said.

Rowe was one of several students who gathered outside the Mountainlair on Monday for a press conference in protest of Senate Bill 10, or the "Campus Self-Defense Act."

The bill would allow people with concealed carry permits to carry firearms in many areas on college and university campuses, including but not limited to classrooms, residence halls and other recreational areas.

In addition to Monday's press conference, students gathered and discussed their concerns on Zoom last

See Carry page 3

WVU admin navigate multimillion-dollar deficit

BY KATELYN ALUISE AND WILLIAM ARNETT

INVESTIGATIONS EDITOR AND STAFF REPORTER

West Virginia University administrators are navigating ongoing financial challenges, which they attribute to inflation, the pandemic and declining student enrollment.

As a result, the University has implemented a series of budget cuts and a hiring freeze for all full-time and temporary positions.

"To be successful in a challenging financial period, prioritization of our goals will be critical, as well as being mindful where we choose to spend," Chief Financial Officer Paula Congelio said in an email to campus leaders in January.

Congelio said a hiring freeze and limited overtime pay has been implemented system-wide. Spending for supplies, contracts and "other items" are suspended.

All purchases other than hospitality and travel greater than \$5,000 must be approved by the vice presidents and/or the deans of the colleges/schools, although student-focused events remain. Non-grant funded travel has been limited to mission-critical travel only.

Several other exemptions, cuts and temporary policy changes involving spending for personnel, hospitality, travel and other expenses were outlined in an email to University leadership, deans and budget officers.

According to Congelio, a revised projection of expenses and revenues for 2023 shows that the University is facing a several million-dollar deficit, though the total amount has not yet been shared

WVU Vice President for Strategic

Initiatives Rob Alsop said the information for this would be provided sometime this week.

In a Faculty Senate meeting Monday, some faculty members expressed concerns over how much extensive budget cuts are affecting their classes.

"Have you looked at where spending is occurring? Because I think as faculty, when we get those messages, I think we've been operating really on bare bones. And now we're being told, 'Don't make copies. Don't buy pencils.' I needed new ink for a printer the other day and I had to put it on 'grant activity," associate professor Emily Murphy said.

Congelio was unable to provide specific areas for spending that are contributing to budget tightening.

"It really is across the University," she said.

Provost Maryanne Reed said that one reason for the current budget decline is the drop in overall enrollment and retention, despite a increase in first-time freshmen this fall.

According to Congelio, the University over-anticipated enrollment for this academic year, causing it to fall short of the predicted revenue for the budget.

WVU's enrollment fell almost 2.9% between fall 2021 and fall 2022 and has fallen almost 16.5% since 2012, according to data provided by Director of News for University Relations April Kaull.

Kaull said some of this decline may be attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic, but overall, less enrollment means less resources for the University.

But Reed said this trend may be changing.

See **Budget** page 4



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HIGH 70° - LOW 49°



THURSDAY 2/16

HIGH 62° - LOW 33°



FRIDAY 2/17

CLOUDY HIGH 37° - LOW 22°



Feb. 8 1:21 A.M. | Citation Oakland Hall-East Domestic Dispute.

Feb. 8 4:21 P.M. | Lack Leads University Ave. Hit and Run.

Feb. 9 12:45 A.M. | Resolved Oakland Haİl Welfare Check.

Feb. 9 9:18 A.M. | Resolved Mountainlair Panic Alarm.

10:07 A.M. | Lack Leads

University Park Apts. Petit Larceny, STPL.

Feb. 9 12:12 P.M. | Resolved Elmer Price Dr. Fraud

Feb. 9 12:49 P.M. | Resolved Kappa Alpha Fraternity Assist Fire Dept. Police.

Feb. 9 9:57 P.M. | Warning Dadisman Hall Drug Incident.

Feb. 9 11:51 P.M. | Resolved Vandalia Blue Hall Welfare Check.

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Texas Tech fans why they find out Patrick Mahomes never beat WVU.





West Virginia fans when they find out "Country Roads" is actually about the western part of Virginia





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Why Sodexo is investing \$7 million in a new dining club

BY NICHOLAS JOHNSON

CORRESPONDENT

Designs for Sodexo's newest dining club are almost finished, and school officials say construction may start later this spring in time for next year's basketball season.

According to Executive Senior Associate Athletics Director and Business Operations CFO Simon Dover, the Sodexo Coliseum Apron Club will sit outside the Coliseum just north of the Gold Gate. The club will be accessible from the parking lot, although it will not have a view of the court.

"It's an old building. It doesn't have any premium spaces that are fundraising," Dover said. "So it's kind of like, okay, how can we make the place that we're in better because we're not going to get a new building anytime soon?"

The new club, priced at \$7 million, was part of the consent agenda during the Dec. 16 meeting of the WVU Board of Governors.

WVU Athletics, in partner-

ship with Sodexo, hopes to open the club to serve as a training table for student-athletes, club space for premium seat holders and donors and a banquet space for external users.

The idea for the club was brought up in response to the lack of revenue coming from the Coliseum, Dover said. After the football training table was created, Dover had meetings with Sodexo to discuss different opportunities for revenue.

"They [Sodexo] said, 'Hey, what do you think about this?' And we started brainstorming about another investment," said Dover. "That's where we get the \$7 million and what it would take to get that investment, how long the deal would have to be extended, what we would have to do with the pricing within the deal."

Although the project is expensive, money will be raised through football and basketball concessions, banquets, suite sales, student athlete meals, events and more.

Dover said the \$7 million



PHOTO BY TRENTON STRAIGHT

The WVU Coliseum is located at 3450 Monongahela Blvd in Morgantown near the Evansdale campus.

will serve as an initial investment for the University, while all proceeds made from the club will go to Sodexo. The hope is that creating premium spaces for donors will help secure revenue for the University in the future. "When trying to grow a budget, more overall revenue is needed. An area in which we are lacking are premium spaces for donors and ticket holders. Amenities such as premium spaces add value to the experience as well as pro-

vide an opportunity to engage our donors and ticket holders," he said in an email to the Daily Athenaeum. "By enhancing the experience, we help protect our current revenue streams as well as give ourselves the potential to grow

others."

Even though Sodexo will fund and build the club, the facility will belong to WVU Athletics. According to Dover, Sodexo will control meals for events held at the club, and the WVU Athletics facilities will manage the schedule of events.

Dover claims that the new club is the largest investment Sodexo has made with WVU Athletics. Still, the final budget for the project may vary according to WVU's needs.

Due to the size of the investment, it will take some time to pay off, but WVU Athletics hopes that the space will be used as much as possible.

"At the end of the day, we're trying to make the Coliseum better and give our season ticket holders, donors and the people of this community entertainment options and other things to do," Dover said.

To learn more information, visit Sodexo/Dining Hall Coverage on the Daily Athenaeum website.

Carry

Continued from page 1

week for a town hall in opposition of the bill's passage.

"Shootings have happened on or around WVU's campus several times in the past eight or nine months, and the most recent being two or three weeks ago. And it did involve a student, and there was an injury," Keeley Wildman, a graduate student and member of the Appalachian Advocacy Network, said.

"Luckily it was not critical and no deaths resulted from that shooting, but imagine if there were more guns in that scenario and how it could have turned out."

Wildman helped organize both the town hall and the press conference, working closely with the Campaign to Keep Guns Off Campus and students from other state institutions.

The Daily Athenaeum also spoke to dozens of students on campus last week. Several emphasized wanting to feel safe when walking on campus.

"I don't want to worry about if my classmate has a gun with them," Harper Lawrence, a freshman women and gender studies major, said.

Some students said they feel like carrying weapons is unnecessary and would make them feel less safe on campus.

"It would be like if I felt like I was in danger or uncom-



PHOTO BY TRENTON STRAIGHT

Graduate student Keeley Wildman speaks out against SB 10 during an event hosted by WV Advocates and the Appalachian Advocacy Network on Feb. 13, 2023.

fortable, so I started walking around with a lion just to make myself feel better, even though it was making people around me uncomfortable," Fiona Smith, a sophomore accounting major, said.

Still, proponents of the bill argue that campus carry, if done correctly, will help increase the safety of students on campus.

Nathaniel Acord, a current student and veteran, said many opposers of the bill are people who don't use firearms.

"This is one of those scenarios where people who do not exercise a right don't care about it and are more than willing to take it away from others. All rights involve risks. There will be risks," Acord said.

He also referenced recent violent crimes in the areas surrounding campus where it is legal to carry without a permit. "As far as the SB 10 bill, it may not actually go far enough because it still requires that you go through and get a conceal carry permit versus the rest of the state of West Virginia, which is constitutional carry, so nobody requires a permit for any of that," Acord said.

West Virginia is a constitutional carry state, meaning that anyone 21 or older can carry a concealed handgun without a permit, excluding places like college campuses.

"The way the bill is set up, it's not going to be like constitutional carry like it is in the rest of West Virginia where anyone 21 and older can just carry a pistol without a permit," Steve Brown, a sophomore who has a concealed carry license, said.

Brown also said that being able to conceal-carry would



PHOTO BY TRENTON STRAIGHT

Members of WV Advocates and the Appalachian Advocacy Network gather for an event in opposition to SB 10.

make him feel safer in light of recent violent crimes in the surrounding areas of campus.

Many students said that campus carry is something that should be regulated by institutions rather than a state mandate.

"I do not like the idea of the state overriding the local control that we have, the student body, the board of governors and the President in charge of the University. And I just worry about that stripping of local control on our own rules and regulations here in Morgantown," Belle Irwin, a fourth-year student, said.

"It is something that is

not necessary to have on our campus. Having the presence of deadly weapons on campus increases the risk of having incidents relating to gun violence."

Both WVU President E. Gordon Gee and Marshall University President Brad D. Smith issued a letter to the state Senate Judiciary in opposition of campus carry on Jan. 18, noting specific concerns over the bill's possible effect on retention and the public health of the campus communities.

SGA also passed a proclamation in opposition of the bill the same day with similar concerns.

However, two SGA senators voted against the proclamation.

"Many students at West Virginia University support the measure and believe the freedom to exercise our Second Amendment rights is vital—even on college campuses. So, again, thank you for introducing this bill; we look forward to its complete passage," SGA Sen. Tommy Azinger and Christian Miller, said in an email to state lawmakers.

The House Judiciary Committee is expected to take up the bill Wednesday afternoon, following a public hearing at 9 a.m. in the House Chamber.

4 | NEWS WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2023

Muslim Students Association shares culture through clothing

BY ANNA GOLDIZEN

CORRESPONDENT

WVU's Muslim Students Association hosted a "try on a hijab" booth in the Mountainlair on Thursday to celebrate World Hijab Day.

While World Hijab Day was officially on Feb. 1, MSA held the event at a later time due to shipping delays of materials.

Shahd Hanif, MSA's president, said the event's main objective was to educate students on the hijab and why it is worn.

"The whole idea behind it is to educate people about why Muslim women wear the hijab, what it is, it's not just covering your hair, and allowing them to step in our shoes, to see how it feels if you put it on and what it looks like," Hanif said.

At the booth, students were invited to pick a fabric color of their choice and have an MSA member put a hijab on them.

The booth offered brochures containing information on the hijab and its significance. Various snacks were also available to students.

Additionally, students could try on a thobe, a gar-

ment typically worn by Muslim men.

Gina Reeves, a sports and adventure media student, was one of many students who decided to try on a hijab.

"It felt really comfortable. Slightly out of place, obviously, but I liked it a lot, actually. I didn't think I'd like it that much," Reeves said.

Nada Mikky, MSA's public relations chair, said having events like the hijab booth is important because it increases awareness of Muslim culture across campus.

"As a hijabi, it would be more comfortable for me for people to know what this means, what hijab means, so that they don't judge me by the way I am dressing without understanding why I am dressing this way, or just for any hijabi that we are surrounded with," Mikky said. "It's really important for them, so that people know the purpose behind this. It's not oppression. It's just religious. And most of the time, it's girls' choice."

To learn more about MSA, visit their Instagram, @ msawvu, or their Facebook. To get involved in the organization, visit their WVU Engage site.

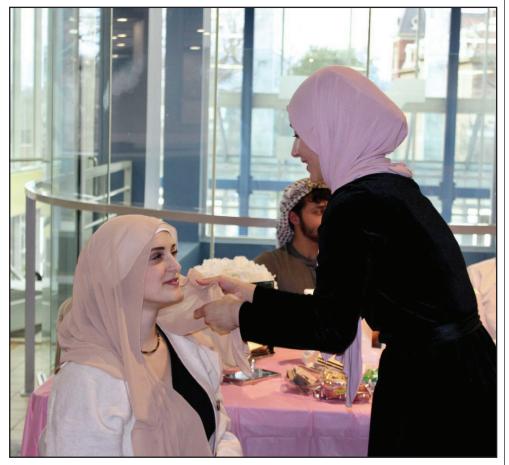


PHOTO BY JANINE LECHIEN

Members of the Muslim Students Association hosted an event to educate other students about hijabs.

'Ladies Lift': WVU Student Rec Center offers all-women weightlifting classes

BY ASHLEY CUMPSTON

STAFF WRITER

Ladies Lift, a program exclusively offered to women-identifying students, has started for the spring semester and welcomes those interested in weightlifting at any level.

The five-week program, hosted by WVU's Campus Rec-

reation, invites participants to meet every week to learn how to navigate the weight room at the Student Rec Center.

"Our current highest attendance [in the weight room] is usually by men, and we don't see a lot of women in our lower fitness area which has a lot of the free weights, benches, and squat racks," Brittany Brandt, fitness and wellbeing coordinator for Campus Recre-

ation, said. "We wanted to give women the opportunity to learn how to use the equipment and feel comfortable being in the weight room as well."

Brandt said Ladies Lift, which began in spring 2022, is based on personal trainers' schedules making times vary each semester.

"I would say the first time we ran it, we had a solid group of about 15 that stayed through the whole program," Brandt said. "Then, the last I saw we had a ton of interest, and I think about 20 people ended up taking the program and being consistent with it."

Each week, certified personal trainers show participants around the weight room and explain how to use the equipment. Some of these trainers are students as well.

She added that the program attracts people with varied experiences, including those who have never worked out before and gym regulars. Trainers also help people develop and follow routines.

"There's no pressure. You don't have to do anything," Brandt said. "If you just want to sit and watch and learn from the trainers, and then work in with other people, that's totally up to you as a participant."

Ladies Lift gives women an opportunity to learn more about weightlifting and the equipment that the Student Rec Center has to offer.

"I think that it's really em-

powering for women to be able to come into a space that is mostly male-dominated. If you come into the Rec anytime between 4-8 p.m., that's most of the people you see on the fitness floor," Brandt said.

There are many health benefits to weightlifting, and participants are not expected to lift heavy if they don't want to. Ladies Lift guides participants so that they can exercise safely.

"Weightlifting is really important, especially for women as we age. We are at higher risk of osteoporosis, and so strength training does help prevent having bone density loss," Brant said.

"Everybody belongs in the weight room no matter what gender or how they identify," Brandt said.

Students can register for fitness classes on the Campus Recreation website under the Group Fitness Schedule.

Ladies Lift classes will be offered every Tuesday from 4-8 p.m. through Feb. 28.

Budget

Continued from page 1

"We've seen small declines in retention and persistence post-COVID. But the big thing is we've been graduating larger classes," Reed said. "But the good news is that our fall 2023 first-time freshmen enrollment is on an uptick, and our fall to spring retention is the highest it's been in five years at 92.4%."

Still, Congelio said the cost of business for the University has risen "significantly" due to inflation and higher interest rates, higher wages and the increase of goods and services. She said the COVID-19 pandemic caused delays in some commitments and investments by the University that has increased financial pressures.

State funding for higher education has also dropped repeatedly in the last decade. Congelio said this year will be the first the institution has not seen significant governmental subsidies from the federal government and the state of West Virginia.

President E. Gordon Gee said the million dollar gift, courtesy of the Mayor Foundation, may help at reducing the number of students leaving campus and support new retention and grant completion programs that provide financial assistance to students at risk of leaving the University in their final year of study.

"This program, by the way, has shown up to an 87% success rate of helping students," Gee said.

Reed said the University will be piloting a program in fall 2023 that will provide support to students at risk of not staying at the University, Pell Grant-eligible students, minority students and others who may need "a little bit of extra support."

"We can't take our foot off the pedal just yet. And over the next few months, we will need to do everything we can to bring in a robust fall freshman class and to retain the students who are already here," Reed said. "And I will say that enrollment will continue to be a challenge for us in the years ahead."

According to Congelio, there will be updates in late April if the outlined budget restrictions will stay in place.

"This is something that we feel like we can tackle. We need to become more efficient. We have a lot of work to do," she said.

Read more university coverage on thedaonline.com.



CENTER FOR BLACK CULTURE AND RESEARCH

Stop! Hammer Time at the Evansdale Library

BY CONNOR GIBBONS

STAFF WRITER

Just past the main entrance of the Evansdale Library, a series of displays showcase more than 50 hammers from across the globe.

From the classic ball-peen hammer to wooden gavels and a cigar hammer — measuring just over 4 inches — the collection is quite diverse.

Hammers on display date as far back as the colonial period of America, and the youngest comes from the mid-twentieth century.

The exhibit, located on the main floor, includes a brief history of the hammer, a few art pieces that feature hammers and a variety of research related to the tool.

One of the smaller pieces featured in the displays is an original See's Candy Company toffee hammer which features the name of the company stamped on the handle.

Frankie Tack, clinical associate professor in counseling and well-being, has been working on this collection of hammers for roughly

"My father in-law passed away in the mid 2010s and he was a farmer. He worked in textiles and he had a lot of tools," Tack said. "We were cleaning out things and we came across his tools."

While cleaning, Tack also found tools belonging to her wife's grandfather which were the very tools that built his

"To me, they're very evocative," Tack said. "They built America, they were right at the heart of the Industrial Revolution, and the housing boom of the 50's. And each one has a story, and you don't know what the story is, but you can see that there is a story."

Through small details on hammers like engraved names, company stamps and even dates, Tack can gain some insight on the tool's history.

"There is a cigar hammer up there that I did a lot of re-search on the family," Tack said. "I also like to do genealogy. I happened to find this family and the guy was an immigrant and he lived in Pitts-



PHOTO BY CONNOR GIBBONS

A variety of hammers collected by Frankie Tack are on display at the Evansdale Library.

burgh and his company I think was then in Ohio."

The acquisition of this extensive collection hasn't been an easy task for Tack as it took a lot of hunting.

"I've gotten pieces from junk stores, antique stores, I do a lot of looking at estate

sales online, you'd be surprised, I'm not the only person that does this," Tack said.

This vast and unique collection of hammers, the most common tool in the world, will remain on display in the main floor of the Evansdale Library

Three things to do in Morgantown this weekend

BY CULTURE STAFF

For those that missed Valentine's Day, there are still plenty of ways to celebrate this weekend. Whether you're looking for a gift for that special someone, a night out or a fun craft to pass the time, it's all possible within a short drive of campus.

This weekend, The Daily Athenaeum recommends a vintage market, a latin dance night and a glass fusing class.

Old Cheat Vintage Market Grand

OpeningThe Old Cheat Vintage Market will hold a grand opening Sat-urday at 11 a.m. at 66 Old Cheat Rd in Morgantown.

Featuring a variety of artisans and vendors, this event is the perfect place to pick up a belated Valentine's Day gift. Visitors can shop a variety of vintage furniture, lighting, home decor, gifts, handcrafted items, salvage,

paint and DIY accessories.

For more information head to the event's Facebook page.

Latin Dance

Night Head to the Morgantown Art Bar this Saturday for Latin Dance Night. The event will begin

at 10 p.m. and will have a \$5 cover. Dance styles will include

salsa, bachata, cumbia, reggaeton, merengue, mambo and more. To find out more. visit the Morgantown Art Bar's Facebook page.

> Glass Fusing **Class**

Join The Wow Factory to create a poppies plaque during a glass fusing class.

The event will take place Saturday from 6 to 8 p.m. The cost of class is \$30 with all supplies included, colors and design are up to the individual!

Those interested can sign up until noon the day of class at The Wow! Factory's

Center for Black Culture and Research to host second annual Black Film Festival

BY AUBREY BURKHARDT

STAFF WRITER

This year, WVU's Center for Black Culture and Research will be hosting its second annual Black Film Festival.

The festival will take place from March 31 to April 1 in the Mountainlair Ballroom and Gluck Theater, both located in the Mountainlair on the downtown campus.

This year, the festival's headlining film will be "Black Panther: Wakanda Forever" with a panel discussion following after. It will also feature a red carpet experience, networking opportunities and receptions during lunch and dinner.

Eric Jordan, program coordinator at the center, said he believes the panel discussion is the most interesting part of the festival.

"We shoot high and try to go for directors," he said. "Then based on people's availability

we just go down the line. We just try to find someone who was connected with the film to come and talk."

Jordan said the Center's research trip to the Martha's Vineyard African American Film Festival inspired him and Marjorie Fuller, the center's director, to host their own Black Film Festival.

"It was just a great experience, red carpet experience," he said. "Just being together to mingle with celebrities and just experience Martha's Vineyard. But that's when we got the idea to do our own Black Film Festival between our, me and Miss Fuller's love of movies."

Students and community members are encouraged to submit their films by Feb. 28.

Jordan said the films should feature Black artists or artists of color and can be WVU specific.

"We are open to all films

but do try to look for films in the Black arts or have a Black theme." Jordan said.

He said that when looking through the submissions, it is the cinematography and themes that are most appealing.

Jordan added that the center wants to be a part of helping Black artists and directors showcase their art.

"Coming to a predominantly white institution can be overwhelming. It's hard to find things that you can identify with," he said. "So this is why we do this kind of niche event about Black filmmakers, Black film directors and Black artists.'

Jordan added that the festival is a way of letting students know that there's opportunities for them.

For more information on the Black Film Festival and where to submit films check out the center's website



PHOTO COURTESY CENTER FOR BLACK CULTURE AND RESEARCH

Rebekah Henderson (independent filmmaker), Dejuan Galloway (producer for BET), Roger Turner (WVU Alumni filmmaker), Garry Murray (WVU Alumni filmmaker) pose for a photo at the 2022 Black Film Festival.

OPINION

State lawmakers ignore real issues, fuel culture war

BY LUKE MORGAN

OPINION EDITOR

A culture war is waging across the country, and Republican lawmakers in West Virginia have used their gains in the House of Delegates and State Senate to push their own legislative priorities.

This initiative is part of a larger national movement, as GOP-led state governments put economic issues that normally centered their campaigns on the backburner, now favoring inflammatory and divisive attacks on social issues such as abortion, LGBTQ rights and Critical Race Theory.

The ACLU has identified 299 anti-LGBTQ laws introduced in state legislatures across the country. All nine laws in West Virginia that are currently being tracked are set to advance, being referred to committee.

One of the most notable bills that would prohibit gender-affirming care is HB 2007, which passed the House of Delegates on a mostly party-line vote. The bill passed 84-10, and Del. Elliot Pritt (D-Fayette) was the only Democrat to vote in favor.

Despite the fact that 79 of 81 speakers — composed of medical professionals, activists and concerned West Virginians

— opposed the bill during a public hearing, the bill passed overwhelmingly.

According to the Trevor Project, 45% of transgender and non-binary youth have seriously considered suicide in the past year. Medical professionals recommend gender-affirming treatments to improve quality of life and mental health in patients.

HB 2007 would ban "gender reassignment surgery" and, most importantly, "gender-altering medication" for minors.

While gender-affirming surgeries are already not performed on minors at the recommendation of organizations such as the American Academy of Pediatrics, reversible puberty blockers and hormone therapy are effective and medically approved treatments that should not be banned over fictitious fear-mongering.

Many trans and gender-nonconforming people do not medically transition; however, those that wish to do so should have the opportunity.

Ironically, Del. Kayla Young (D-Kanawha) offered an amendment to the bill that would also ban "any non-medically necessary elective surgery done for cosmetic purposes not associated with correcting a birth defect, physical injury or deformity" for



PHOTO COURTESY WV LEGISLATIVE PHOTO/PERRY BENNETT

Concerned citizens attend a public hearing on HB 2007.

minors.

Despite all the alarmism about mutilating children's bodies from legislators, the amendment was voted down.

These bills are not about protecting children. They are about demonizing gender-diverse West Virginians.

Additionally, the law proves to be a slippery slope. A number of states have proposed bills that would ban gender-affirming care even for adolescents who are legally adults, possibly up to 25 or 26 years old.

The passage of any anti-LGBTQ legislation normalizes the exclusionary process and makes it easier to pass more discriminatory laws in the future.

However, in contrast to their representatives, it seems that many West Virginians lack the same appetite for culture war issues.

A poll from the West Virginia Coalition for Truth in

History found that 76% of respondents were concerned about Republican legislative social priorities like restricting abortion rights, limiting freedom of speech in the classroom and anti-LGBTO bills.

Meanwhile, 71% identify as politically moderate or conservative.

Importantly, these regressive laws and policy proposals are pushing many people out of the state. Half of respondents between the ages of 18

and 34 are considering leaving West Virginia in the next five years.

The social priorities of the West Virginia GOP do not foster an environment in which people want to raise their families or move their businesses.

This is reflected by the fact that the main reasons for leaving were for greater economic opportunities and the legislature's agenda.

And for LGBTQ individuals, the matter is more personal. With more anti-LGBTQ laws sure to be proposed in the future, why would I want to live in a state that constantly demonizes my existence? This is especially applicable to LGBTQ West Virginians with college degrees who can find better jobs in more progressive states.

While I may disagree politically with an income tax decrease for example, I would prefer that these conservative economic policies were prioritized over the culture war that has come to dominate state legislatures across the country.

The West Virginia legislature can remedy both of these primary reasons that drive young people out by focusing on economic policies rather than social issues.

FOOD REVIEW | Nutrition Lounge offers healthy take on sweet treats

BY MADELINE HARRIS

FOOD CRITIC

Every year, many people make resolutions to have a healthier lifestyle. Whether that includes working out or eating healthier, they attempt to make better choices in these early months.

College students may find it difficult to find healthy meals that also taste good. However, one restaurant on High Street has perfected the craft of combining sweet and healthy all in one.

Welcome to the Nutrition Lounge, located at 320 High St., just a five minute walk from our Mountainlair. The establishment first opened in September 2022, making it one of the newer locations in the area.

The Nutrition Lounge takes pride in providing healthy onthe-go meals for its customers, providing a filling meal in the form of a sweet dessert. Its menu provides healthier options compared to other downtown restaurants.

This establishment specializes in shakes and energy teas,

which are packed full of protein and various vitamins. Its "Healthy Shakes" are blended together with 21 vitamins, zero cholesterol/trans fat and 25 grams of protein, making it the perfect nutritious meal for the go.

Customers can also add in different wellness shots if they wish.

The restaurant also serves "Healthy Loaded Teas" which have no added sugar. This includes a variety of goods such as aloe, collagen and protein, as well as additional add-ons such as an immunity shot.

With 22 different flavors to choose from, there is something for everyone.

Customers can also order breakfast-style meals, such as waffles loaded with protein powder and drizzled with your choice of topping, and their Power Oatmeal, which includes 30 grams of protein.

I brought two friends along with me on Monday afternoon to check out the Nutrition Lounge; none of us had ever been down there before. The interior of the restaurant was very modern, with wood paneling and white backsplash,

along with a variety of artwork.

Upon entering the establishment we met a lovely man named Bob, who happens to be a frequent customer of the Nutrition Lounge. He insisted we tried their protein waffles and told us how much he enjoyed all the establishment has to offer, which was a pretty good sign for us.

Taking his advice, we each ordered half of a 25-gram protein waffle and got them drizzled with chocolate, peanut butter and maple syrup. We also tried three different shakes.

My friends were intrigued by the Strawberry Cheesecake and the Cinnamon Roll shakes, while I gravitated towards the Froot Loops shake to fit the breakfast theme.

The waffles and shakes combined took about five to 10 minutes to be prepared, which is great for those looking for a meal on the go, such as college students grabbing a quick snack between classes.

Topped with whipped cream and sprinkled with cereal, the Froot Loops shake has got to be one of the cutest shakes I have ever seen, with



PHOTO BY MADELINE HARRIS

A protein waffle from the Nutrition Lounge.

its creamy orange shade. This shake is definitely aimed at those with a sweet tooth.

I could not finish this shake in one sitting due to how filling it was, but I enjoyed it nonetheless.

Next came the protein waffles, which looked delectable. They were much darker in color than the waffles I am used to and were perfectly drizzled with chocolate, peanut butter and syrup.

The flavors complement each other very well, but as my friends and I noticed, the waffles happened to be rather

dry for our liking. I would have loved more maple syrup on them, but the flavors worked great together.

This was an overall great experience for my friends and me. The modern feel of the establishment gave us a little escape from reality, and the sweet yet healthy meals were a great choice for our college student lifestyle.

I would encourage anyone looking for a fast, nutritious meal on the go to stop and visit the Nutrition Lounge. I can assure you that you will not be disappointed.



PHOTO BY MADELINE HARRIS
A "Froot Loops shake" from the Nutri-

tion Lounge.

If you go:

Location:

320 High St, Morgantown, WV 26505

Hours:

- Monday Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
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CROSSWORD

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Across

- 1 File
- 5 National capital
- 10 Father 14 Band instrument
- 15 Spin around
- 16 Ocean Spray's drink starters
- 17 Alack's partner
- 18 Kinglike
- 19 Opp. of glossy
- 20 Dethrone
- 22 Used to sweep water from glass
- 24 Small piece of absorbent cotton 26 Wrath
- 27 Short-term memory
- 30 Ruler
- 32 Incites
- 37 Sign of the zodiac 38 Written material
- 40 Land unit
- 41 Devour (2 wds.)
- 43 Poem of praise 44 Remaining one
- 45 Economics abrv.
- 46 Appointed
- 48 Scrap or fragment of cloth
- 49 Crowd
- 52 Rive 53 Stretch to make do

- 54 Clod
- 56 African river
- 58 Enron and Arthur
- 63 Mineral 67 Seed
- 68 Device for sweeping 70 S.A. Indian
- 71 Bone
- 72 Ancient Greek marketplace
- 73 Visit
- 74 Meditation
- 75 Chromosome components
- 76 Lovers quarrel

Down

- 1 What cars travel on
- 2 Competent
- 3 Treated fat bar
- 4 Spanish coins
- 5 Brooks
- 6 To be in debt
- 7 Fruit in cookies 8 Iranian's neighbor
- 9 Tempt
- 10 Apex
- 11 Gloat
- 12 Reduce
- 13 Wager 21 Brush with a broom

- 23 Elver
- 25 Buffalo
- 27 Partly frozen rain
 - 28 Train
 - 29 Engine
 - 31 Radio detection and ranging
 - 33 Wooden club
 - 34 Orange yellow

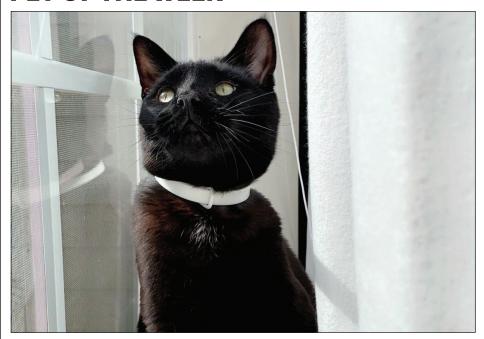
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 - 55 Sculpt 57 Sagas
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 - 59 Roman emperor 60 Lug

 - 61 Austin novel 62 Midday

 - 64 Take a picture
 - 65 Ca. University
 - 66 Shake 69 Unrefined metal
 - For answers, visit thedaonline.com

PET OF THE WEEK



Meet Colson! Colson is a fun loving boy who loves to eat. Throw him some chicken, and he will be on the scene eating that delicacy. He was the runt of his litter, but he has grown into a chunk. His hobbies include sleeping in weird places, chattering at birds and soaking his catnip toys in his water dish. His favorite treat is roasted chicken Greenies.

Submit your favorite pet photo at da-classifieds@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

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SPORTS

Co-Sports Editor: Emma Scott ers00019@mix.wvu.edu

Love letters to the DA's favorite WVU athletes

In honor of Valentine's Day, The Daily Athenaeum sports staff highlighted its favorite Mountaineer student athletes and why they hold a special place in the hearts of fans.

Peyton Hall Wrestling

BY MATT ROSS

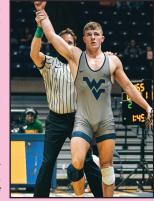
STAFF WRITER

Peyton Hall is currently a junior on the West Virginia University wrestling team at 165 pounds. So far this season, Hall has a record of 20-3 and is currently ranked eighth in the country.

Even as a junior, Hall has one of the best accolades from a Mountaineer in recent history. Last season, he was the first wrestler in WVU history to be an All-American at 165 pounds. He placed eighth in last year's National Championships with an overall record of 28-6 with nine ranked opponent wins. Hall also had a great freshman year as he was able to qualify for the National Championships at 165

I chose Peyton Hall for this piece because of what he has accomplished for the Mountaineers in his career already. Hall is one of the many reasons why the team has had success this year and why the team has improved so much over the last couple of

He brings excitement as well as leadership every time Junior Peyton Hall finished eighth at he steps onto the mat as a Mountaineer.



the 2021-22 season.

James Okonkwo Men's Basketball

BY LUKE BLAIN

CO-SPORTS EDITOR

Sophomore forward James Okonkwo is a player that has quickly become a fan-favorite for the Mountaineer basketball team.

I love shot-blockers in basketball, so I was a huge fan of Sagaba Konate when he was on WVU's roster. Okonkwo has had some similar high-flying rejections in recent games and leads the team in blocks per game with 0.8.

He has become a consistent part of the rotation, averaging 14.9 minutes per game in the last seven games with an average of 8.5 before that. Even though he isn't a big-time scorer, Okonkwo is a key role-player and spark-plug for the team.



PHOTO BY EMILY KENNEL Sophomore forward James Okonkwo goes up to score against No. 7 Texas at the Coliseum on Jan. 21, 2023.

Ting-Pei Chang Tennis the NCAA Division I Championships in season and debuted this BY TRENT LEWIS

STAFF WRITER

Ting-Pei Chang is a true senior on the West Virginia University tennis team. Since transferring to WVU from Iowa State in 2021, Chang has been an essential member of the Mountaineers.

During her first season as a Mountaineer, she, alongside Camilla Bossi, made five consecutive appearances on the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) doubles rankings. The two were the first doubles tandem in school history to be ranked.

Chang and Bossi found themselves at a peak No. 42 ranking in the 2021-2022 season at No. 37. Chang also became one of five Mountaineers to have 20+ wins in a single season for the tennis team.

So far this season, Chang has earned five victories, two in singles and three in doubles. One of her singles wins came in a thrilling match against Penn State where she defeated her opponent 4-6, 6-1, 7-5 after being down 0-40 in the final game.

Chang is my pick because she produced the most entertaining tennis match I have ever witnessed when she won against Penn State. It was my first time watching the Mountaineer tennis team and it certainly did not disappoint. Chang's contri-



PHOTO BY JAKE TAYLOR

West Virginia's Ting-Pei Chang prepares for a set against Oklahoma State on April 8, 2022 at Summit Tennis Academy in Morgantown,

butions to the WVU tennis team deserve our love on this holiday.

Dayne Leonard Baseball

BY JONATHAN HAMILTON

STAFF WRITER

My valentine this year has to be WVU baseball player Davne Leonard. The redshirt senior, who serves as the team's catcher and third baseman, had a great 2022 campaign in his first season for the Mountaineers. Leonard transferred from Virginia Tech before the 2022 season began.

In 48 appearances throughout the season, Leonard led the team in batting average at .331, was fourth on the team in on-base plus slugging, seventh in slugging, and was first among qualified players in on-base percentage at .426.



PHOTO BY WVU ATHLETICS/ELLMAN PHOTOGRAPHY

WVU catcher Dayne Leonard.

The WVU backstop also had a great ending to his 2022 season with an 11-game hitting streak.

On May 9, Leonard was named co-Big 12 Newcomer of the week, along with German Fajardo of Kansas State, and Ivan Melendez of Texas.

Leonard also hit three home runs, drove in 23 runs and scored 23 runs.

Ceili McCabe Track & Field/Cross Country

BY TOLU OLASOJI

CORRESPONDENT

When it comes to running in WVU, you can hardly miss the name Ceili McCabe. She's either winning races, breaking and setting new records at various levels or bettering her laudable feats. The Vancouver native is one of the most decorated athletes on campus and a top cross-country runner in the nation.

This past season, McCabe won every race she competed in, and was the first Mountaineer to cross the finish line at the 2022 NCAA Cross Country Championships to finish with another All-American nod.

She was named a Big 12 Cross Country Women's Runner of the year for a second straight year, becoming the first Mountaineer to repeat the feat. The WVU Sports Media major and Team Canada runner was named Mid-Atlantic Region of the Year for the second consecutive season.

She has been a force of nature for the school's athletics and deserves all the love she's been getting and more.



PHOTO BY WVU ATHLETICS West Virginia runner Ceili McCabe competes in a cross country meet in October 2020 for the Mountaineers.

JJ Quinerly Women's Basketball

BY RACHEL LIBERT

STAFF WRITER

Just a sophomore, guard JJ Quinerly has been a dominant force for the West Virginia women's basketball team and its success this season. The guard leads the team in points per game, blocks and steals. Quinerly averages 14.7 points per game and is the eighth leading scorer in the Big 12. The sophomore has totaled 50 steals this season with nine blocks.

On a New Years Eve matchup against Oklahoma, Quinerly put up her season high of 28 points. Her double-digit point outings have helped head coach Dawn Plitzuweit's team achieve a 15-8 record so far this season, already earning as many wins in the entirety of the 2021-22 season.

Quinerly has been contributing to the Mountaineers' offense since her freshman year, where she had a career high 22 points and averaged 8.8 points per game.

As a sophomore, Quinerly hasn't even reached the halfway point of collegiate career, and Mountaineer fans can expect the guard to continue to be an impact player for Plitzuweit's squad.



PHOTO COURTESY ALL PRO PHOTOGRAPHY/DALE SPARKS

JJ Quinerly shoots a three.

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2023 SPORTS | 9

Women's hoops to host Kansas Jayhawks

BY JONATHAN HAMILTON

STAFF WRITER

The WVU women's basketball team will attempt to defend home court for the second straight game when the Kansas Jayhawks come to Morgantown this Wednesday.

West Virginia (15-8, 6-6 Big 12) enters Wednesday in another important game, as they look to continue their chances of getting a high seed in the Big 12 tournament and improve their chances of getting a bid into the NCAA Tournament.

Last time out against Kansas (16-7, 6-6 Big 12), WVU led the Jayhawks through three quarters, but collapsed in the fourth, giving KU a victory in Lawrence.

Offensively, West Virginia has 67.1 points per game this season, and has been led by sophomore guard J.J. Quinerly and senior guard Madisen Smith. The two together have been the heart and soul of WVU's offensive attack, as well as on defense.

Senior guard Jayla Hemingway has stepped up for the Mountaineers in some parts of the season as well.

Hemingway has the team

lead for rebounds, with 5.8. Redshirt sophomore Isis Beh and Quinerly are tied with 0.4 blocks per game.

Kansas' Tayianna Jackson poses a threat on offense for KU, and will be someone WVU has to be weary of while on defense. The East Chicago, Indiana native is averaging 15.7 points per game this year, and is the leader of the Jayhawks offense.

KU has split its last four games, losing to Baylor and Texas, but defeating TCU and Texas Tech. With a win over West Virginia on Wednesday, the Jayhawks would be on a three-game winning streak.

WVU is coming off a win against Iowa State, a game it won in Morgantown, 73-60.

"I thought our young ladies showed a lot of toughness," said head coach Dawn Plitzuweit, referring to the win against the Cyclones on Saturday night. "We were fortunate to come out on top, and we had a great crowd."

Plitzuweit also talked about how her team got better in the second half defensively, and how defense can be a difference maker.

"We did a better job defending, honestly [in the sec-

Next Up:

Where

• WVU Coliseum

When:

• Feb. 15, 7 p.m.

Watch:

• ESPN+

Listen

U92 the Moose,91.7 FM

ond half]. We've had stretches where we don't score as efficiently, but the reality is that those are stretches where your defense has to carry," Plitzuweit said.

The Mountaineers' win against Iowa State snapped a three-game losing streak. WVU lost to Texas, Oklahoma, and Oklahoma State during



PHOTO BY COLE HUNT

Isis Beh huddles with her teammates against Iowa State on Feb. 11, 2023.

that span, losing all of the games by double digits. They lost to Texas by 13 points, Oklahoma by 25, and to Oklahoma State by 11.

WVU and Kansas will do battle on Wednesday, February 15. Tip-off is scheduled for 7 p.m. and the game will be played at the WVU Coliseum in Morgantown. The game will be streamed on ESPN+.



- Many falls occur as people are getting out of their vehicles.
- Walk on plowed or treated sidewalks. Injuries often occur because people take short cuts that aren't safe.
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10 | SPORTS WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2023

Mountaineer track and field members set new personal bests at Marshall Invite

BY TRENT LEWIS

STAFF WRITER

The WVU track and field team competed in the Marshall Invite and the Boston University Valentine Invitational. Both competitions began on Friday and came to a conclusion on Saturday evening.

Numerous Mountaineers set new personal records this weekend at the Marshall Invite in Huntington, which started with field events on Friday.

In the women's pole vault, sophomore Katelyn Caccamo finished in fifth place after a 3.40-meter final result.

Senior Sada Wright earned third place in the weight throw event after a 17.83-meter throw. The impressive performance landed Wright in second place on WVU's all time weight throw list.

In the women's high jump, sophomore Abigale Mullings finished in second place with a 1.68-meter jump. Freshman Olivia Cress earned sixth place with a 1.58-meter final jump, while sophomore Eden Williams placed eighth with a 1.48-meter jump.

On the track, sophomore Megan Weaver, freshman Maya Fuller, sophomore Zara Zervos and freshman Alex Fleck placed fifth in the women's distance relay, finishing with a time of 13:09.59.

WVU continued competition at the Marshall Invite on Saturday as redshirt freshman Emily Bryce set a new personal best in the one mile event. Bryce finished the race in 5:06.67 to earn second place.

Sophomore Tazanna Epps earned 17th in the 800m event after a 2:29.78 final time. This achievement set a new personal best for Epps in the 800m.

In the 200m dash, senior Tessa Constantine broke her personal record with a 25.35 final time, earning eighth place in the process.

Cress and sophomore Ghamani Hogue also set personal bests in the 200m dash. Cress finished in 25.97 to earn 15th place, while Hogue finished in 27.25 to end in 27th.

The team as a whole finished in sixth place at the Marshall Invite, totaling 36 points.

At the BU Valentine Invitational, sophomores Cassandra Williamson and Jo-Lauren Keane competed in the women's 800m event, placing 32nd and 41st respectively.

In the women's 1000m, junior Mikenna Vanderheyden earned 11th place with a 2:49.75 final time.

Seniors Mikaela Lucki and Hayley Jackson competed in the women's one mile event, finishing 41st and 54th respectively. Luck ended with a 4:40.94 time, while Jackson crossed the line at 4:45.01 to conclude the action at BU.

The track and field team will compete again at the Penn State Tune Up on Friday, Feb. 17.



PHOTO BY IAKE TAYLOR

West Virginia's Ghamani Hogue runs hurdles in the Mountaineer Classic on April, 1, 2022, at Mylan Park in Morgantown, West Virginia



HIRING FOR SUMMER AND 2023 - 2024

Editor-in-chief - Handshake Job #7476825

Application deadline 02-26-23

The editor-in-chief is the highest-ranking member of the newspaper and is ultimately responsible for the staff, newsroom budget and content of The Daily Athenaeum. Their role is to oversee the production of accurate and ethical journalism, to create an environment that provides the staff opportunities to gain skills needed in the workplace and to lead a supportive and inclusive community. The editor-in-chief reports directly to the Director of Student Media.



Summer editor-in-chief - Handshake Job #7491199

Application deadline 03-19-23

Gain valuable experience and get on the fast track to being a full-time staff editor by interning as the editor-inchief for The Daily Athenaeum during the summer of 2023. The summer editor-in-chief is the highest-ranking member of the newspaper and is ultimately responsible for the staff, newsroom budget and content of The Daily Athenaeum. Their role is to oversee the production of accurate and ethical journalism, to create an environment that provides the staff opportunities to gain skills needed in the workplace and to lead a supportive and inclusive community.



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Gain valuable experience and get on the fast track to being a full-time staff editor by interning as the digital managing editor for The Daily Athenaeum during the summer of 2023. The summer digital managing editor is responsible for making sure the staff is meeting daily and weekly digital deadlines. They will work closely with the editor-in-chief in providing overall leadership and direction of The Daily Athenaeum, as well as overseeing and motivating staff.



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For duties of each job, apply and more information go to https://app.joinhandshake.com

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WVU gymnastics falls against No. 8 Denver

BY TOLU OLASOJI

CORRESPONDENT

Despite posting its second-highest team score of the season, West Virginia University gymnastics suffered a second straight loss on the road against Denver inside Magness Arena on Sunday.

The Mountaineers (7-6, 1-1 Big 12) trailed with an overall score of 195.575, against the Pioneers' 197.125 in the dual meet. The hosts topped every event but the floor, with both teams tied at 49.15 team totals.

WVU started Sunday's competition with a new season-best on the uneven bars for the second consecutive week after a score of 48.925. Senior Kianna Yancey led the charge with 9.85, with fifth-year senior Kendra Combs (9.8), sophomores Brooke Alban, Anna Leigh (both 9.775) and senior Emily Holmes-Hackered (9.725) completing the lineup. Yancey finished third in the event.

On vault, 9.75s from senior Abbie Pierson and junior Kiana Lewis, a career-best 9.725 from debutant Junior Ellen Collins and a pair of 9.7s from Yancey and freshman Brooke Irwin helped Jason Butts' ladies to a 48.625 team score.

WVU tied Denver on the floor with both teams scoring 49.15; WVU's only 49.0+ of the competition. Scores of

9.85 from Lewis, Pierson and Combs helped the team's cause and were enough for an overall second-place finish for the trio (tied with Denver's Momoko Iwai).

Holmes-Hackerd was penalized 0.10 for stepping out of bounds and settled for 9.825, with Leigh scoring 9.775.

The Mountaineers scored 48.875 to round off on the balance beam. Yancey led the team's scoring at 9.825 and Leigh was behind with a career-best 9.8.

Yancey, the only Mountaineer to compete in the allaround, finishing the competition as third-best with an overall score of 39.1 from all four events.

After two weeks on the road, the Mountaineers return to the WVU Coliseum on Sunday, Feb. 19, playing host to Bowling Green in a dual meet.

Next Up:

Where:

• WVU Coliseum

When:

- Feb. 19, 1 p.m. Watch:
- ESPN+

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2023 CLASSIFIEDS | 11



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Women in Science and Medicine Podcast- The Women in Science and Medicine podcast features discussions with female scientists within West Virginia University and other institutions. In this series, we'll share the achievements and insights from some of the country's top female scientists and learn from their experiences to understand how

they came to be passionate about science and overcame any obstacles in their paths. This podcast is offered by West Virginia University's Office of Research and Graduate Education.



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Learn more about the online programs and tools offered by WVU Online. We'll talk registration, resources, courses, benefits and more.



Time Out is a podcast focused on issues in sport leadership, performance and health with a wide range of experts and industry leaders. This podcast is offered by WVU's College of Applied Human Sciences School of Sport Sciences graduate online programs.



GradLife 601 podcast series, we'll share the achievements and insights of West Virginia University 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. GradLife 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.



Every Wednesday, Wellbeing Wednesdays is a weekly podcast exploring what wellbeing means at West Virginia University. Listen to get to know more about the folks doing work on the ground at the university in addition to some light-hearted fun as we take a look at wellbeing in popular culture.

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