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News Briefs

Brightwater venturing into new territories

Kay King
 Senior Reporter

New courses and programs will come to NWACC's culinary school, Brightwater: A Center for the Study of Food in the fall of 2024. With a grant of \$650,000 received from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Brightwater will be able to offer an emphasis, concentration or minor in Associate of Applied Science in Food Studies: Artisanal Butchery.

Students can now earn an Artisanal Butchery Certificate, develop the technical skills and the business knowledge necessary to oversee operations ranging from free-for-service custom processing facilities to butcher shops or delis featuring their own products.

Cyndee Snodgrass, the Brightwater Academic Advisor-Recruiter, "Brightwater students can either enroll in this program



PHOTO BY KAY KING

Students prepare meat during Brightwater lab

as a stand-alone 16-credit hour Certificate of Proficiency or, students who are in the Culinary Arts or Artisanal Foods tracks can add the Artisanal Butchery as an additional semester to enhance their existing studies", Snodgrass said.

Snodgrass said there will be no course prerequisites, students can sign up to be part of the first cohort when fall registration opens later this spring.

Marshall Shafkowitz, executive director of Brightwater told the Eagle View, "It's really

focused in on the skills that someone will need to cut meat at a professional level and look towards either working in a boutique butchery or opening up their own butcher shop."

The new program couldn't come at a better time because

the ancient occupation is slowly dying. Existing butchers are becoming too old to continue to work and not enough younger people are stepping in to fill their roles. The limited number of butchers proved unable to keep up with consumer demand for locally grown meat products during COVID-19-related distributions. By educating and therefore expanding Arkansas' specialty workforce, the state will be able to have a more resilient food system that benefits producers, consumers and rural communities.

Shafkowitz said, "[we are] shrinking the supply chain. Instead of it being, [for example,] buying our cows from anywhere else in the United States, we're taking our cows from some place that you as the consumer can know where they are [coming from]."

Class size will be limited; the class is only open to about 16

Continued on page 2

Adult Education Made Easy: Learn English and Ace Your GED Exam

Vivian Mejia
 Reporter

Northwest Arkansas Community College's Adult Education Department is a program that is designed for all adults. Classes and courses are offered free of charge for those 18 years of age and older. Students can go on to earn their GED (General Educational Development), learn to speak English, and receive other support services that can help them improve their lives.

A GED is when adults who complete basic education can earn the equivalent of a high school diploma by taking the General Educational Development test.

Vicktoria Nelson, an Adult Secondary Education coordinator and Dakota Shelton, an ASE instructor, are both part of the GED program at NWACC. They point out that to get into the program you must take an adult basic education test and depending on

your score they will know where to start. To get your high school diploma you take four exams, each of which costs \$4, with no charge for the extra classes. The NWACC Foundation is a nonprofit organization that supports college programs and activities. If students cannot pay for the costs of the tests, the NWACC Foundation can cover it.

Nelson shared her thoughts on what this program has meant for her. "It's a way to give back to people," she said. "This program gives you a second chance to turn everything around and succeed."

Adult Education also has a program called English for Language Learners (ELL), which focuses primarily on adult students whose first language is not English; it is free of charge. It prepares the students to obtain their GED credential or to improve their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in English.

ELL is the largest adult education program in the state of Arkansas, with 6 levels, so any non-native

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Three students, Elyssa Hefley, Dustin Parker and Javiar Porras created a mural for the NWACC food pantry in the Student Center on the Bentonville campus. The mural was completed through a service learning project and was incunjntion with Victor Chalfant's Fall 2023 graphic design class.

PHOTO BY DELANEY REAVES

Residence halls looking promising

Delaney Reaves
 Editor-In-Chief

NorthWest Arkansas Community College is furthering their work into the anticipated residence halls on the Bentonville campus. The timing of this project coming to fruition is unknown at this time as it's in the early stages of planning and approval. This project, being driven by the

Housing Committee, has several possibilities for the future of the Bentonville campus.

The residence hall has been a recent conversation item on the Board of Trustees agenda. Amber Latimer, a trustee who is also on the Housing Committee, gave an update at the February meeting. Latimer said the Housing Committee has "the task of researching, determining and recommending residential options for NWACC Bentonville campus."

The units are expected to house 800-1,200 occupants, after discussions with local city planning officials and ground work, the number of units proposed is supported in findings. The residential housing is being looked at to build on the far northern side of the Bentonville campus on property already owned by NWACC. Before this can be determined, the college's Land Use Committee has to approve the proposal.

The general student body, international students, student athletes, short-term workforce students, short-term college

Continued on page 2

FEATURES



Fitzgibbon

Professor's book finds favor with Kirkus.

SPORTS



Athlete Transfer

Emmanuel Kipchirchir transfers to Virginia State University.

OPINION



Coffee for Study

5 coffee shops recommended to study in this semester and beyond!

New Sport Press Conference March 12

Brooke Brewer announced at the February Athletics Luncheon that on March 12, the athletic team and board of trustees will be present to announce the new sport that is coming to NWACC. This announcement will take place in the Walmart Auditorium in the Shewmaker Center for Workforce Technology. The press conference will include other announcements along with guest speakers and NWACC merchandise. The conference is officially being named a launch party and will be a premiere event for the NWACC Athletics program.

Graduation Deadline

NWACC will hold a graduation ceremony for spring 2024 graduates on May 13 at 11:30 a.m. at the Walmart AMP in Rogers. To receive a diploma, graduates have to go to Workday and apply for program completion under the academics tab. Even if you do not plan to attend the ceremony, the student must fill out this form in order to receive the diploma and officially graduate. The last day possible to sign up for the program completion is March 1 at midnight. Questions? Email graduation@nwacc.edu

NWACC Athletics Top Golf Tournament

The NWACC Eagles Top Golf tournament on March 14 at 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Rogers location near Pinnacle. Player registration expenses will be \$350 for a team of 6 players and individual registration will be \$60. Registration includes 3 hours of play time, food and nonalcoholic beverages. Sponsoring opportunities include Presenting Eagle: \$1,500, Eagle Spirit: \$1,000 and Friends of Eddie Eagle: \$500. For more information and to register contact athletics@nwacc.edu.

'The Spitfire Grill' Opens April 25

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To submit a news item or an event to the Eagle View, email a brief description of the event including the time, date, place and contact information to eagleview@nwacc.edu.

NWACC's music and theater departments are performing a musical titled "The Spitfire Grill" in April.

The music and book are by James Valq, and the lyrics and book are by Fred Alley. It's based on the film by Lee David Zlotoff. Performances will be April 25-28 in White Auditorium. This is the first time in approximately 10 years that the NWACC programs have staged a musical production.

New Chess Club Inviting Members

A new Chess Club at NWACC is organizing and offering people a chance to practice, learn and sharpen their chess skills in a friendly environment. The club welcomes all skill levels from beginners to grandmasters. No experience is necessary. Those with questions may text or email Corbett Martin, at 479-877-9687 or corbetoemailmartino@gmail.com.

Students Needed For Focus Group

The college is holding student focus groups to gather feedback on how NWACC can help you succeed. The focus group will be only 90 minutes long and the next one is at 4 p.m. March 6 in the Greenhouse conference room in Burns Hall 1444. Those interested in participating should email jswartout@nwacc.edu to sign up or for more information. Brightwater Mural
Last semester, there was a competition among students for the opportunity to design a mural for a wall on the Brightwater campus. The winner was picked at the end of last semester and they received a \$500 scholarship for winning the competition. The mural is going to be revealed as a part of Spring Arts and Culture Festival and is going to allow the student to have their impact and mark on the community for years after they have graduated from NWACC. The mural will be on a wall in the computer lab IT room in Brightwater, with the mural being approximately 12.5 feet by 4 feet.

Continued from Butchery

students per semester to achieve the hands-on personal experience the students will need while learning in the lab.

"That was done very intentionally because of safety," Shafkowitz said. "Then when you think about it from the learning side, if you have a class in a butcher shop with 50 students in it, not everybody is going to be able to learn that skill, and we want our students to understand how you hold a knife properly so you're not going to hurt yourself and you're also not going to lose money when you make that cut. Every miss-cut is a dollar," Shafkowitz said.

Shafkowitz said that the program makeup will be slightly different, the students will be at Brightwater four days a week, they attend one class Monday, Tuesday; they do another Wednesday, Thursday. The students will be with faculty five hours a day, ten hours a week in one class and 20 hours a week as a whole at Brightwater. In that 20 hours you begin to develop relationships, develop that strategy of 'who do I need to go to to ask this question?'

"We are going to give them the

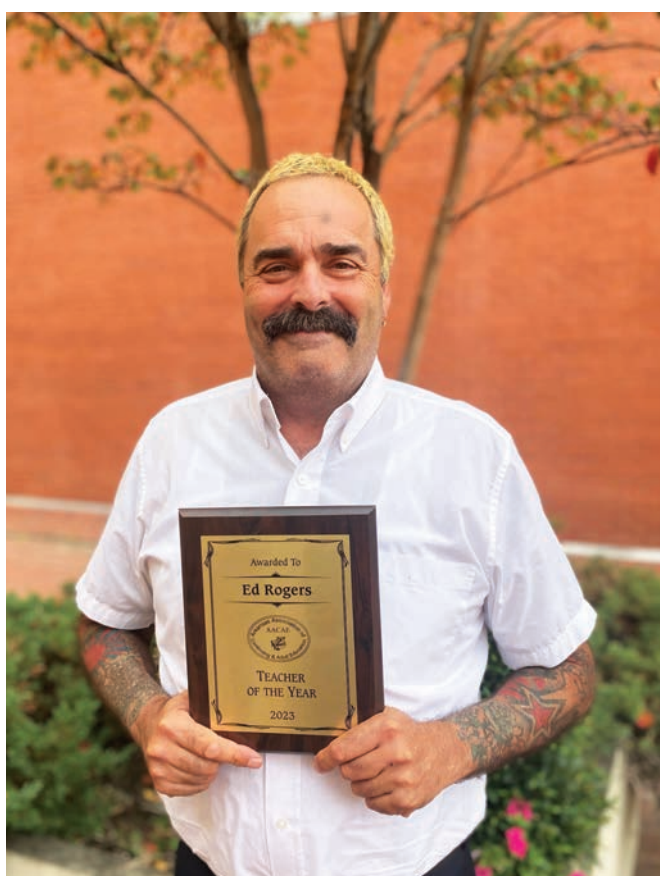
foundational skills, so should they want to become butchers and or open up a business or become that person within their organization that becomes the subject matter expert at butchery, or at fabrication as we like to call it, they'll be able to do that as long as they invest time, effort and energy into learning" Shafkowitz said.

Although the class size is limited, there are also only five other butchery programs running in the United States right now. With Brightwater becoming the sixth, the course hopes to become very competitive in the future.

The \$650,000 grant received from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture will be spread out into different categories to be used the most efficiently at Brightwater. The grant will go to support the development of the curriculum, development of the faculty, equipment purchases, labor, intellectual property development and then finally some food.

"Part of Brightwater's mission is to support the local food system, the proteins that we buy will still come from our local farmers," Shafkowitz said,

Continued from Adult Ed



Ed Rogers poses for picture with Teacher of the Year award.

English speakers who want to learn or improve their English can enter. Upon entry, you will be tested to see how well you know English and placed in the appropriate level.

Ben Aldama, the dean of Adult Education, has received a Principal of the Year award. In November, Ed Rogers, who is an ELL coordinator/teacher, was named the Arkansas Outstanding Adult Education Teacher for 2023 at the Arkansas

PHOTO PHOTO FROM NWACC FACEBOOK
Association for Continuing and Adult Education conference in Little Rock. Rogers has been an instructor for NWACC's Adult Education program since 2014.

"The fact that we have so many people that the state has been able to recognize is a reflection on the program and everyone who works here," Rogers said.

If you do not have a basic level of English, you can learn from level 1, and every 40 hours

of attendance, you must retake the exam and depending on your grade, you can move to the next level. Once you have completed level 6, you can graduate and get a job or go to college, they have flexible schedules with both morning and afternoon hours. Everyone in the program tries to create the best environment with flexible schedules, various levels, soft skills, peer learning. Everyone tries to create a community, creating a family.

Martha Cortes is a student advisor in the NWACC Adult Education Program. She is a former ELL student graduate and went on to continue her studies in college and is currently in charge of helping other students as much as possible either in classes or with her GED.

Cortes said her experience as an immigrant helps reassure others when she tells them "it's not easy but you can do it," Cortes said.

The program has students from countries such as Mexico, Venezuela, Guatemala, India, among others. Outside the classroom hangs a huge world map where teachers encourage their students to put a thumbtack on the country where they were born so that everyone can see it. Once graduated, adult students at the college are offered free tuition with a class to continue with their English. Rogers expressed how grateful and committed he felt to be working with the immigrant community. "I feel like I

When students take the program they will pay lab fees, a portion of those fees will go to purchasing the food that is used in classes. Another portion of the lab fees will go to supporting local businesses.

"Our goal is not to make money on the butcher shop; the money we make goes right back into the program so we don't have to charge exorbitant fees for a student to go into the program," Shafkowitz said.

The focus of the class is cutting meat for retail, it will not be diving into the genetics of the animal or how to make a better cow in the way other schools approach the topic. Brightwater has goals to work on how to take all the great work of genetically optimizing the animals, how to cut and sell to the consumer, how to price the product and operate a business based on all these factors. As the students progress through the program, they are learning the management skills needed and the financial responsibilities of owning or operating a successful business. Brightwater will offer these intricacies that would not otherwise not usually be taught in another butchery course.

am making a difference," he said, "and I really enjoy working with the immigrant community because I have lived such a privileged life, I feel the need to help them and allow them to navigate this country because it can be difficult at times. For me, it is a calling; it is what I am supposed to do, and I learn from them every day in class."

To motivate students to continue their studies, the adult education team tries to cultivate a sense of community. They also celebrate success with graduation ceremonies, honor society, potlucks, and other events. "Helping to realize that there are a lot of opportunities, a lot of support, it just makes us feel like we are helping to do something," Shelton said.

The team also gave advice for those who want to be or are part of the program. The most important, they agreed, is to seek realistic goals. Students will need perseverance, practice, and commitment, they agreed. Aldama also encourages each of his students to get to know their teachers so that a sense of trust can be built.

Those interested in the program or in any of the services offered can apply at <https://www.nwacc.edu/adulteducation/ourprograms/applicationapplication.aspx> or simply email or call Adult Education at 479-986-6911 for more information.

Continued from Housing

staff, faculty and recent alumni will be housed. Under the discussed plans, 75% of the occupancy would be held by students while the rest would be made up of faculty, staff, alumni and others.

There also is a possibility that the units could provide short-term housing for faculty and staff of Rogers and Bentonville school districts and modest wage workforce employees.

The committee's vision of this model reflects traditional neighborhoods with different style units that could include row houses, town homes, apartment style, and high density mixed use housing. Latimer said this would accommodate different occupant types living inclusively on campus.

Food services and amenities were recognized as essential in this project. Laundry services, study lab spaces, eating establishments and playgrounds also have been discussed. Integrating the bikes and trails into the project, access to public transportation as well as increased security on the campus was mentioned at the Feb. 12 meeting.

"With all of this research and information the committee unanimously recommended that this move forward," Latimer said in presenting the housing committee report.

Justin White, NWACC Vice President of Student Affairs, said he recognizes that there are not many options for affordable housing in the region.

"If housing does eventually get built on campus, the goal would be to offer options to students and others that would be below the monthly market rate for short-term rentals

while at the same time being good financial stewards for the college," White said.

The cost of living on the NWACC campus is not known at this time with being in the early stages of planning, White and Latimer both discussed the concern of affordable living and the need.

"More affordable housing is needed, so access to that is going to be more increasingly challenging," Latimer said.

White said that the Housing Committee has completed the research phase, finding the environment to be right for housing at this time. After these results were found, the Housing Committee fully supported the next phase of the project. Before any ground is broken, the project would have to be approved by the NWACC Finance Committee and also approved by the NWACC Board of Trustees.

"The financial model of how housing would be built and sustained has not been discussed at this point but is a major factor of the project actually coming to fruition," White said.

A potential idea that could come into fruition is an added "Alumni Village," a unit set aside for recent NWACC graduates up to one year after completing their education. This would allow space for graduates to gain extra financial security and housing as they began their post grad journey.

"This is something that is quite unique and a great potential benefit to our NWACC students and recent grads," White said.

White said that the proposal will include specific housing for faculty, staff and others in the workforce for a designated period of time. He said that NWACC has found that it is often difficult for not only students but

faculty, staff and others in the workforce to find affordable housing in the present time.

"Our hope is that this would allow for greater employee recruitment and retention for not only NWACC but the region as a whole.

Justin White

In spring 2017, a law lifting the ban placed on community colleges maintaining on campus housing was passed. Because this ban was lifted, community colleges in Arkansas have begun offering these services on campus.

A part of the research conducted by NWACC was visiting community colleges that have on campus housing, in Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. Arkansas community colleges like the University of Arkansas Community College Rich Mountain in Mena offer housing along with Ozarka College in Melbourne and National Park College in Hot Springs.



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Fitzgibbon Finds Favor with Kirkus

Stephanie Roat
Reporter

On Jan. 19, the literary magazine “The Kirkus Review” posted a rare, starred review for NWACC professor Sean Fitzgibbon’s nonfiction graphic novel “What Follows is True: The Crescent Hotel.” What started as a passion project has 15 years later been recognized by a premier literary source.

Fitzgibbon has been fascinated with Eureka Springs since he was a child. As an adult, he started to focus on the Crescent Hotel during the years when the hotel was owned by con-man Norman Baker. After Fitzgibbon finished graduate school in the early 2000’s, he started researching and interviewing people related to the Baker years. Fitzgibbon said that this research process was one of the main challenges in writing the book because, “[I]t’s nonfiction ... There’s certain guidelines ... you can’t just kind of make things up.” However, he also stated that, “It was a lot of fun.”

As an artist, Fitzgibbon is drawn to telling stories visually and he started his artistic process soon after his research. Fitzgibbon hand painted each image in his novel on watercolor paper then would digitally scale down the images into the

comic panels. On some pages this process was slightly altered; instead of painting on blank paper, he would first print out old news articles and letters onto watercolor paper. Then he would paint on the letters, giving them a “ghostly,” appearance. He combined traditional and modern artistic processes to help achieve his goals for the novel.

Fitzgibbon said “I kind of want the viewer to feel like they’re kind of you know right along... on the journey so to speak you know.” This seems to have worked, as in a comment from NWACC Communication and Arts Dean Sharon Fox, she said, “I really love the artwork for this book. It is haunting, and that’s not meant to be a pun.”

To be able to afford independently publishing and printing the books, Fitzgibbon started a campaign on Kickstarter, a community-based fundraising website. He raised over \$15,000 in one day, and by the end of October after the campaign began, it doubled to nearly \$30,000. Eventually, the Kickstarter campaign surpassed its goals, and “What Follows is True: The Crescent Hotel” was published on December 1, 2021.

Two years later, the book is on its third edition. This version was sent to Kirkus Reviews, a well-known literary magazine used by authors, libraries and publishers. Kirkus covers books

submitted by a publisher or by the author in the case of indies like Fitzgibbon’s novel. Unfortunately, for smaller publications, a review comes at a hefty price of \$450 (price listed on Kirkus’ website as of 2024), and in the words of Fox, they are “very picky.”

Not all Kirkus reviews are favorable. “It’s a gamble,” Fitzgibbon said. Luckily for him, Fitzgibbon received a coveted starred review from Kirkus. This kind of review, according to Fitzgibbon, is only given to 2% of independently published books. Fitzgibbon stated he was “thrilled” to receive such rare praise from the publication.

Fitzgibbon’s Kirkus review gives him hope for future projects. He is now working on two more books in the “What Follows is True” series. One regarding three other historical “haunted” places, and one about the plum bayou mounds in central Arkansas. Once these are done, Fitzgibbon will need a publisher, and he said that with the Kirkus review, “We shouldn’t have much trouble finding a publisher.” With his starred Kirkus review, Fitzgibbon will hopefully be able to, in the words of Fox, “Speed us backwards” again with new stories, and make his new passion projects into reality.



Fitzgibbon’s graphic novel that brought him his first Kirkus starred review.

PHOTO BY STEPHANIE ROAT

What’s a Third Place and has society lost it?

Delaney Reaves
Editor-In-Cheif

Ray Oldenburg, urban sociologist founded the concept of a “third place,” a space in which individuals or groups can go to find dissipation outside the home or workplace.

Within his book, Oldenburg describes the concept of a common place to gather, converse and be apart from your home and work life. Oldenburg has a few different books written about the term, which he coined in 1989.

“How many Americans having ‘surf’ all the channels and, bored by it all, wouldn’t like to slip on a jacket and walk down to the corner and have a cold one with the neighbors? Ah, but we’ve made sure there’s nothing on the corner but another private residence ... indeed, nothing at all within easy walking distance,” Oldenburg wrote.

The above statement is taken out of Oldenburg’s book, “The Great Good Place: Cafes, Coffee Shops, Bookstores, Bars, Hair Salons, and Other Hangouts at the Heart of a Community” originally published in 1989.

These are the places “where we gather apart from home and work in a spirit of camaraderie and joviality and we enjoy one another’s company,” Oldenburg stated in a video lecture from the University of West Florida.

Oldenburg did many interviews with various sources including the University of West Florida Libraries before his passing in 2022. In this very interview he addresses the key concepts of the Third Place, its functions and of its importance.

Oldenburg said that this concept of the Third Place is extremely simple; the first place: home, second place: the workplace and the third place: any place that we might gather on a regular basis.

Neither work or home, this space is a mutual aid society, a mix of occupations and educational levels in which you acquire different variations of knowledge and ability. Oldenburg said that the Third Place adds life to



PHOTO TAKEN FROM UNPLASH

the public domain and “brings people together in a wonderful mix.”

“It came about because of the industrial revolution which had the effect of widely separating a person’s home from the place he or she worked,” Oldenburg said.

Outside of the two abundant areas that make up a lot of our time; work and home, where the lives you lead there are separate, having to have a certain mindset in these spaces. The Third Place can commonly be cafes, bars, bookstores or hair salons – a space where community and conversations can arise.

Oldenburg argued that the functions of the Third Place include unifying the neighborhood, making friends by the set, release of the workplace, port of entry (acquainted with a new place) and generating social capital.

The Third Place is an intellectual form: being face to face you are able to learn more further from just speaking but interacting with each other. “There’s nothing like getting together face to face,” Oldenburg said, much of what you learn in a person is further from words but cues you pick up, getting to learn people more deeply in that personal interaction.

“The idea that you can replace the camaraderie and company

of a third place by sitting in a dark room staring at a computer is ludicrous,” Oldenburg said, arguing the idea of a virtual third place.

Yanick St. Jean, a sociology professor at NWACC, said she thinks of the Third Place being as a place where people can bond and can come together.

St. Jean said the home, workplace and the third place have merged, becoming some sort of an intersection, an intersectionality. It has become more difficult to define what a third place is as the home and workplace have come together within some occupations that offer work-from-home opportunities. Now you have access to the virtual world that comes together in our homes and workspace, the community we have face to face is important, St. Jean said.

Intersectionality is a sociological term; St. Jean describes this as a possible factor in the modern society and the Third Place existence today. The Oxford English Dictionary defines intersectionality as “the interconnected nature of social categorizations such as race, class, and gender, regarded as creating overlapping and interdependent systems.”

“Where you don’t know which one is more important or which one contributes more,” St. Jean said referring to the

intersectionality of home, work and the third place blending together in a virtual world.

This sociological concept is usually viewed within discrimination or disadvantages, “a theoretical approach based on such a premise”, the dictionary defines. St. Jean said finding your Third Place may come with battles of questioning, “Is this place I am coming to somewhere I am welcomed; is this a community?”

“It’s a very important topic given the increase in suicide rates,” St. Jean said. The concept of conversing and having a community is important.

Meagan Ruffing, Counseling and Wellness Center director, said she thinks that the virtual world has positive and negative impacts; it can help us detach but also stay connected in work and responsibilities.

“I think it becomes an essential place for our well-being and mental health because it gives us time to breathe. That third space can be a place for us where we don’t have any expectations of ourselves like we do when we’re home (cleaning, taking care of kids, etc.) or at work (always ‘on’ and producing),” Ruffing said.

Ruffing said the impact of always being “on” meaning attentive or feeling the need to always work, getting things

accomplished can be mentally exhausting and not sustainable.

“I think if we are not well balanced in our virtual versus real world, that can become yet another distraction from really being mindful and present in our lives. However, technology and the virtual world can be beneficial if we stay intentional about being in the here and now and using them as a form of entertainment without neglecting our need to be present,” Ruffing said.

A way to access this Third Place can be finding things you are interested in that can take you away from the demanding workplace or home life that is needing attention. This place could look different across the community and population.

“If it’s yoga, find a local yoga place and buy a class pack to hold yourself accountable for going more than just one time,” Ruffing said. “If it’s hiking, take some time to ask around for the best trails or look online for a list

of places to visit. Think about what interests you and go from there.”

Ruffing said there is a mental need for this Third Place concept within the general population and living the college experience.

“College can be extremely overwhelming at times – even for those who may seem like they have it all together. It’s important to experience life outside of the house and outside of college. The Third Place is where a lot of personal growth comes from as well as making space to work through any adverse life experiences,” Ruffing said.

SACF

Spring Arts & Culture Festival

This spring, SACF will explore the theme of translation. How do we convert meaning from one language, person or culture to another? Whether communicating between languages or translating texts, completing the biological process of translating information into RNA, or translating ourselves and our ideas to another in a way of shared religion and comprehension, the concept of translation surrounds us as we make meaning from our lives.

Available All Week

Translating Life into Educational Experience: Textbook Costs, Open Educational Resources, and Public Institutions on Display

Location: Burns Hall, Communication & Arts Wall

“Translation: A Collection of Works by NWACC Art Faculty” Exhibit

Location: Integrated Design Lab lobby

Monday, March 4

Temperature Grid Arts Installation & Performance

Location: Burns Hall 1106
Time: 9:00-3:00 p.m.

Civil Conversations Workshop

Location: Student Center 108
Time: 9:00-10:15 a.m.

Antisemitism in Modern Conspiracy Theories

Location: Burns Hall, White Auditorium
Time: 10:30-11:45 a.m.

Keynote: Man Made Monsters with Andrea Rogers (Reading /Q&A)

Location: Burns Hall, White Auditorium
Time: 12:00-1:15 p.m.

A Moving Lecture on Embodied Translation

Location: Student Center 108
Time: 1:30-2:45 p.m.

Translating the Complex and Technical to Language for the Rest of Us

Location: Student Center 108
Time: 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Keynote: Man Made Monsters with Andrea Rogers (Author Talk)

Location: Fayetteville Public Library, Event Center

Tuesday, March 5

Forgotten Culture: The New Generation

Location: Student Center 108
Time: 9:00-10:15 a.m.

Dorothy McFadden Hoover: Arkansas’ Hidden Figure

Location: Burns Hall, White Auditorium
Time: 10:30-11:45 a.m.

Translating Themes Across Genre

Location: Student Center 108
Time: 12:00-12:40 p.m.

Nelson Hackett and Rock Van Winkle: Important African Americans in the History of Northwest Arkansas

Location: Burns Hall, White Auditorium
Time: 1:30-2:45 p.m.

Translating Your Skills into a Career You Enjoy

Location: Student Center 108
Time: 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Brightwater Mural Reveal Reception

Location: Brightwater Campus
Time: 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 6

Language for the Living: Translating “Classics” for Contemporary Audiences

Location: Student Center 108
Time: 9:00-10:15 a.m.

TRANSLATE: A Poetry Reading

Location: Burns Hall, White Auditorium
Time: 10:45-11:45 a.m.

Translating Words into Wellness: A Yoga Nidra Workshop

Location: Student Center 108
Time: 12:00-1:15 p.m.

Home Cooked Chronicles: Student Explorations of Food Sociology

Location: Burns Hall, White Auditorium
Time: 1:30-2:45 p.m.

Resisting Translation: Notes on Transgender Bilingual Poetics

Location: Student Center 108
Time: 3:00-4:15 p.m.

LatinX Theatre Project presents Songs & Scenes from Raices|Roots

Location: Burns Hall, White Auditorium
Time: 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 7

Shop Talk: Comparing Translations of the Tain

Location: Student Center 108
Time: 9:00-10:15 a.m.

Building a Community of Makers

Location: Integrated Design Lab
Time: 10:30-11:45 a.m.

Shakespeare in Translation: The Bard in Portuguese, French & Spanish

Location: Burns Hall, White Auditorium
Time: 12:00-1:15 p.m.

NWACC Chamber Singers presents Five Hebrew Love Songs

Location: Burns Hall, White Auditorium
Time: 1:30-2:45 p.m.

Translating Hedonism into Civic Virtue: Honors Student Guerrilla Voting Campaign

Location: Student Center 108
Time: 3:00-4:15 p.m.

“Translation: A Collection of Works by NWACC Art Faculty” opening reception

Location: Integrated Design Lab Lobby
Time: 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Sitting Pretty: The View from My Ordinary Resilient Disabled Body by Rebekah Taussig with NWACC Book Club and Intro to Gender Studies

Location: Student Center 108
Time: 4:30-5:45 p.m.

True Crime Investigation: How DNA Caught the Golden State Killer

Location: Online Event. Register in advance
Time: 4:30-5:45 p.m.

Friday, March 8

Build a Bed

Location: Integrated Design Lab
Time: 2:00-5:00 p.m.

‘She Said,’ She is Heard



Jodi Kantor & Megan Twohey Speak at Crystal Bridges on December 8.

Samantha McClain
Managing Editor
– Online

Jodi Kantor and Megan Twohey, Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative journalists, talked about their experiences and challenges at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art with Lisa Corrigan, professor of communication at the University of Arkansas. On Dec. 8, Kantor and Twohey discussed their book, “She Said: Breaking the Sexual Harassment Story That Helped Ignite a Movement”.

In 2017, Kantor and Twohey started their investigation into the sexual harassment allegations by Harvey Weinstein, a Hollywood producer. During months of interviews with actresses, Weinstein employees, and other confidential sources, allegations and stories of secret payouts were brought to Kantor and Twohey. According to the book, they convinced some sources to go on the record after Weinstein hired lawyers, private investigators, and others who attempted to shut down the reporters’ investigation. After months of investigation, the story was published in The New York Times on Oct. 5, 2017.

The article is still on the website: <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/05/us/harvey-weinstein-harassment-allegations.html>.

The story and work of the journalists are more impactful than anticipated, Arshia Khan, a former photojournalist, said. Khan learned more about the story’s details and has a higher-level view of journalists.

Marissa Reyes, the chief learning and engagement officer at Crystal Bridges, said that it was an honor that Crystal Bridges could host a powerful conversation and, at the same time, celebrate the exhibition of photography by Annie Leibovitz, titled Annie Leibovitz. Reyes bought Twohey and Kantor’s book to sign for her 12-year-old daughter. Reyes hoped that when her daughter is older, they will be able to talk about sexual abuse at work and how to be aware of it.

Michelle Parks, director of communications at the Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design at the University of Arkansas, attended the Dec. 8 event. Parks, a former journalist, said she was thrilled to hear about the event from a friend. Parks enjoys book signings from reporters, and even though she has never done investigative reporting, she has written features. Parks felt connected to the journalists as Kantor and Twohey talked about their reporting experience.

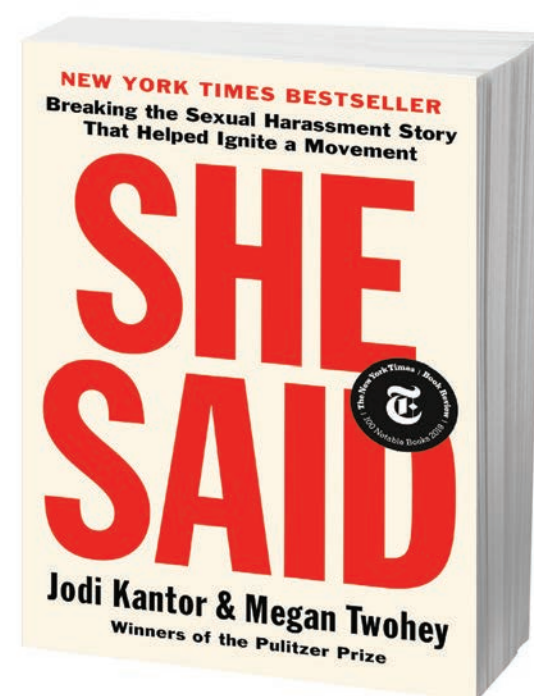
Kantor contributes to “CBS This Morning” and has done several kinds of reporting impacting the United States. She made reports on working mothers and breastfeeding and inspired two readers to create the first free-standing lactation suites for nursing mothers.

Twohey is a Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative reporter for The New York Times. Twohey is a contributor to NBC and MSNBC. She created a Reuters series titled “The Child Exchange,” which showed how the underground market for adopted children operated without government oversight, and the reporting became a finalist for the 2014 Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting.

The reporting surrounding Weinstein resulted in a 2018 Pulitzer Prize honor. The New York Times, for the reporting led by Kantor and Twohey, and The New Yorker, for reporting by Ronan Farrow, received the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service.

In the latter years of the 19th century, Joseph Pulitzer stood

out as the very embodiment of American journalism, according to pulitzer.org. In journalism, prizes were to be recognized with a gold medal worth \$500 with no monetary component or \$1,000 for an American newspaper’s most disinterested and meritorious public service during the preceding year, according to pulitzer.org. According to pulitzer.org, the best example of a reporter’s work during the year is tested by accuracy, terseness, and the accomplishment of some public good commanding public attention and respect.



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Making the Cut

A glimpse into NWACC's cross-country open tryouts

By Debbie Upson
Reporter

It wasn't much of a finish line. There was no finisher's tape, newly bristled paint or chalk dust marking the end of this mile sprint, but he was there. Josphat Boit, who grew up in western Kenya in the midst of running legends and Olympic champions, watched as each pair of sweaty feet lunged past him during open tryouts for NWACC's cross-country team on that steamy August afternoon in 2023.

Boit, Northwest Arkansas Community College's cross-country coach, didn't grow up in the States. On a plateau above the rising walls of the Rift Valley in Kenya sit towns like Iten, Eldoret and Kaptagat. They are unknown to most Americans, but in the running community, they are legendary. That's where Boit grew up, in Eldoret, a town that could easily hang a sign like the one hanging above a street in Iten, which inaudibly whispers its spirit and its heart: "Welcome to Iten. The home of champions." Boit said that in this area of Kenya, running is part of the culture. "It's like football. Everybody knows how to do



Joseph Ramirez (left), a member of NWACC's cross-country men's team, helps Josphat Boit (right) record race times at the finish line of NWACC's one-mile cross-country open tryouts on August 23, 2023.

it." Boit will tell you that when he was growing up as a young, ambitious kid, this kind of environment made you want to be like Eliud Kipchoge or like this elite runner or like that one. He said it makes you think, "If they can do it, why not me?"

Before becoming a collegiate athlete in the U.S., Boit trained in Kenya under the same coach as two-time Olympic

gold medalist Eliud Kipchoge. He then collected a pocket full of All-American designations, NCAA and SEC titles at Arkansas under the legendary John McDonnell. When he found himself back in Kenya during his 10-year professional career, Boit was invited to train with Kipchoge's training camp, Global Sports in Kaptagat. Now, you will find Boit standing among the spindly weeds alongside NWACC's cross-country track with a stopwatch in one hand and a smartphone in the other, training another generation of runners.

In August of each year, NWACC holds open tryouts for runners who want to grasp any unfilled spots on Boit's Flying Eagles cross-country team. And in 2024, team hopefuls will probably again stand under the inadequate shade of the Flying Eagle's easy up. These August tryouts are only a mile. However, in the meets, which usually fall in September, October and November, the women usually run 5K and the men 8K. To compete as a team, schools must

place five runners on the starting line. In regionals and nationals, teams can have seven runners, seven men and seven women. In many of the other meets, Boit said teams can run as many as 12. In the Chili Pepper Cross Country Festival at the University of Arkansas, teams can run as many as 15.

But, in many of the meets in 2023, Boit only ran five runners. He said he would have loved to run more, but "I ran five because that's all I had." He said that except in regionals and nationals, "We didn't sit out anyone who was ready to go at that moment." Despite open spots on the team, the Eagles are competitive, winning regionals and placing 14th and 23rd at nationals. In 2024, Boit said his goal is to have 10 runners on the men's side and 10 on the women's side. Boit will be looking for mile tryout times of about six minutes or less for the men and he said that just throwing a number out there "around eight minutes" for the women.

In the mile time trial in 2023, some students walked part of their mile. Some jogged. And some bolted down the track until they found themselves sprawled and panting in the weedy grass just past the orange construction cones that marked their run's end. Five of those runners made the team, two men and three women. Boit said that the two runners who made the men's team had a mile time of around 6:10. On the women's side, he was more flexible. Boit said that Stephanie Foster made the team with a mile time of "ten something," and he said she ended up being one of the main girls on the team. In some of the beginning meets, Boit told her, "If you have to walk on the hills, just walk fast." He said he thought they could still win something. In the end, Boit said

Foster "was running the whole thing averaging faster times than she ran on her time trial for all three miles. ... I was so proud."

Then there was India Owens. Boit said, "She ran like 9:30" in her mile time trial, but at the end, she was running with the third girl on the team. Owens ran about a 22-minute 5K when, at the beginning, she was averaging around 30 minutes. She cut her time by about 8 minutes. He said that is a huge improvement, one that takes commitment.

injuries where "someone went from I haven't run ever to I went and did a half marathon all in the span of about a week." Turley said that the benefit of having a training program starting now, in the spring and summer, is that it conditions your joints, your muscles, your tendons and your connective tissues. It reduces the risk of injury.

When Boit was asked if, in 2023, a female recreation runner, someone who is not necessarily chasing fast times or running



India Owens runs on NWACC's cross-country course on the second day of NWACC's cross-country open tryouts on August 25, 2023.

Coach Boit encourages any current or potential students, who might want to fill an empty spot on the 2024 team, to come by his office in Burns Hall or send him an email so they can start the training process and the development of accumulating miles now. Jeanette Turley, the Clinic Director and a physical therapist at RisePT in Rogers, said what she often sees in practice is a lot of overuse or overloading

could have made last year's team, he said she "could have." It may not be known until August if the Flying Eagles 2024 team will have as many available spots during open tryouts as in 2023. For runners who are willing to train during the off-season to make it past those orange cones with fast enough times to become NWACC Flying Eagles, it will not be the end of the race, but just the beginning.



Runners trying out for Northwest Arkansas Community College's cross-country team run a one-mile time trial on NWACC's cross-country course on August 23, 2023.

Emmanuel Kipchirchir Headlines First Luncheon Back for Spring Semester

Morgan Nunley
Managing Editor

During the January luncheon for the NWACC Athletic Department, the Athletic Director Brooke Brewer covered a variety of topics and news for the department for the upcoming semester and a tease for the years to come.

The main event of the day was the announcement of NWACC's first NCAA transfer as cross country athlete Emmanuel Kipchirchir announced his transfer to Virginia State University in Petersburg, Virginia.

Brewer noted how remarkable it is that NWACC has had a NCAA transfer in such a short amount of time since starting the athletic program and the cross-country team.

Kipchirchir, who is from Kenya and came to Northwest Arkansas to find his opportunity, was an elite level runner at the Junior college ranks and is taking his talents and abilities to test himself at Virginia State in the NCAA. He was a part of the team that this year, both the men's and women's sides, won Region 2 championships.

Kipchirchir was dedicated to his studies and his schoolwork as well as his time on the cross country team and coming to NWACC, according to Brewer, who had numerous chats and conversations with the athletes. Brewer even went as far as to praise Kipchirchir as a "student-coach" type of runner for the team, spending some of his time

helping and assisting his fellow runners.

Head Coach Josphat Boit would describe Emmanuel as a "hard-working kid" both in his studies and schoolwork as well as on the track in cross country. He praised Emmanuel as a person, runner, student, and friend. Boit also thanked the families that hosted Kipchirchir, the staff, Brightwater, and Brooke Brewer.

During his speech, which was recorded before he moved to Petersburg over winter break, Kipchirchir opened with sincere "gratitude" before giving a list of people and organizations that he wanted to thank for making this possible for him to achieve and helping him throughout the process.

He thanked NWACC for allowing him to be a part of the institution, and he also thanked those responsible for his scholarship that allowed him to not only attend NWACC and thrive, but also to have the time and ability to run cross country as well.

Kipchirchir gave a special "thank you" to the international office and their assistance for not only himself but all other international students coming to the United States for opportunity and education purposes. He mentioned his coaches and professors and thanked them for pushing him along his "academic journey."

Kipchirchir thanked his hosts who allowed him to stay with



Emmanuel Kipchirchir

them throughout his journey and time at NWACC and in Northwest Arkansas. He remarked on their "warmth and hospitality" and was very gracious to them for their time and effort spent making sure he was able to go to school.

Kipchirchir mentioned that Brightwater was helpful in making it this far, due to the fact they provided him a part-time job and allowed him to enhance his college experience.

Finally, Kipchirchir thanked his teammates for pushing him and giving him the opportunity to train and learn alongside them. He wrapped up the speech by thanking the NWACC family once more and then was off to Virginia State University, as

NWACC's first official student athlete to transfer to an NCAA institution.

Other notable events from the luncheon included the announcement of a cycling club coming to NWACC and the start of e-sports NJCAA competition.

Brewer also announced that the athletics program is starting a website that will act as a hub for the program and its representatives, as well as some social media with the program being names NWACC Athletics on all social media accounts. You can follow these accounts on X, formerly known as Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

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Cycling and biking to become routine club and event for NWACC

Morgan Nunley
Managing Editor

During the last athletic luncheon for the 2023-24 school year at NWACC, the major announcement mentioned by Athletic Director Brooke Brewer was the bringing about of cycling as the new club and sport at the community college.

Bentonville, Arkansas is known as the mountain biking capital of the world, so the fact that the local community college is diving into the sport head-first is a welcome sign and something that bikers in the area can look forward to, or even take part in at various points.

Brewer implied that the reason the committee and team picked cycling and biking is because of the entrenched nature that it has on the Northwest Arkansas community. The team was looking for a club sport that fits in with Bentonville and our “campus and community.”

Brewer stated that the last year or so has been spent coming up with how to integrate cycling into NWACC and ease the transition into that community and

culture on campus. She wanted to provide some uniqueness and some differences from shops and cultures around the area, while also “handshaking” with those people and opportunities. Brewer seeks to come together to make the culture of cycling in Northwest Arkansas better.

The new programs and events for the cycling club are meant to involve not just students but anyone in that realm and anyone that wants to come be a part of these get togethers and hangouts. The programs are meant to offer a wide range of expertise from professional and experienced to a newer and more of a novice biker.

Brewer announced that going forward that the club will have pavement and roadside biking in the spring semester and will encourage mountain biking and trail biking in the fall, starting this fall semester.

The fall semester is more geared toward the students and participants that are intermediate and above as far as both biking and mountain biking skill level. This is meant for the students

who are already “embedded in the cycling community in some way shape or form”, according to Brewer.

The spring semester is open to everyone and anyone and is mostly going to take place on pavement and asphalt, with some mentioning of gravel, and maybe even paths on the “greenway” for the more experiences of those bikers.

Brewer described the club and its attributes as fun, fast-paced, and inclusive. “All of our students, regardless of the level they are at today, can find a place to belong in that club.” Brewer compared the launching of the cycling club to that of the Esports beginning, and the fact that the athletic department are going to take similar steps in approaching this activity as well.

Brewer did also mention that the building blocks of getting the bike program to be competitive will almost certainly be slower than the Esports program and that it is going to take time to get the program ready and funded enough to compete at the NJCAA

level of biking and mountain biking.

The announcement of the club wasn’t the only thing that was related to cycling and biking around NWACC. Benjamin Glenn is the program director behind the Bike Tech Program on campus. Glenn announced that the program is in its third year at NWACC and that the program is a two semester program and takes students through the process of bicycles and how they are made. Glenn described the program as “robust.”

The program also gives students the opportunity to continue to grow in that particular field and become managers and leaders, as well as getting more experience in that work environment and with those types of people and machinery.

Glenn also mentioned that the program is expanding from just the day and morning times to now they have classes and programs from 4:30 in the afternoon all the way until 8:45 at night. Included in these classes are learning how to change a flat tire, or even change a chain on these bicycles. The instructors walk the students through these processes and make them much easier and understandable.

The program is meant to continue to build the community of cycling in the are and offer these people an opportunity to continue to learn about the bikes and make the thought of riding or working on a bike not as daunting as it initially sounds.

The final announcement related to cycling and the upcoming bike



Photo courtesy of Logan DeBorde - Unsplash

events around the community is that of the Bike Party. The Bike Party is a “casual ride” that everyone can be invited to where the participants are encouraged to bring lights and sounds for their bikes, as well as the music that will be playing for those in attendance.

The party was partially devised by Wendy Taylor, who wasn’t able to make it to the luncheon, but helped contribute to the idea and thought process behind this event.

The ride itself is going to take the participants through town, and onto the Bentonville Square. The ride will take place on a first Friday, so the square will have plenty of people there to encourage and cheer on the lively and lit up bikers.

The ride will also include multiple stops, and a few food trucks at some of the stops to encourage the participants to socialize and mingle with

the other people around them. Registration for the event is required and is recommended well in advance of the event. The registration is required as the participant must fill out a waiver.

The Bike Party is meant to continue on as a tradition every spring semester to start the pavement section of the biking club.

Other announcements at the luncheon included Esports starting their Tier 2 play and competition for the NJCAA. The team is also prepared to get some jerseys that they designed and are practicing for their competition and events that happen all the way until mid-April.

The final announcement is that there is an event being held on March 12th, during which NWACC will be announcing what sport is next for the Eagles to take on and start the process for, among other announcements and guest speakers to be present at the event.

What Would the Eagles Say?

NWACC wants to continue to expand its sports programs.

What sport would you most like to see

NWACC add to the lineup?

“To be honest I don’t really know. I don’t really care for sports ... I guess you could say if there are more improvements ... maybe golf...”

Stephanie McClain
Rogers
Dietician



“I would love to see like a tennis team, maybe have a swim team.”

Jackson Jogden
Little Rock
Fine Arts



“Football and basketball.”

Jonathan Hernandez Ponce
Springdale
Photography



“Definitely ping pong and it’s open to everyone.”

Isaiah Vining
Springdale & Montreal, Canada
Mechanical Engineering



“My favorite sport is basically ping pong. Of course, there also are other sports. It might be good to see more of that and include more general sports.”

Joshua Rudd
Bentonville
Veterinary Science



Students in Media Writing, including Alicia Acquistapace, Jasmine Banks, Hayden Bowen, Ixchel Perez and Yun Sanders, did the reporting, photography and videos for Eaglets.

E-sports Program Growing in Opportunities

By Jackson Floyd
Reporter

The e-sports program at NWACC is in a state of infancy, but quickly evolving into something that will give student gamers more competitive opportunities.

With the tenacity of student gamers and Brooke Brewer, athletics director at NWACC, and with the help of generous philanthropic donations, the e-sports team now has a trajectory aimed at greatness.

According to Forbes, Varsity esports teams are now available at 170 colleges nationally and offer around \$16 million in scholarships. Many of these schools’ e-sports programs are sanctioned by NJCAA or National Junior College Athletics Association including NWACC’s team, Brewer said.

Being a sport sanctioned by the same association as more traditional sports such as the NWACC cross country team itself shows just how far this emerging genre of extracurricular activities has come. Brewer discussed not only the association’s current ability to sanction the team but also its potential to improve its rules and regulations as the program continues to grow both in popularity and technology.

NWACC’s e-sports team holds a room in the previous cardio equipment room of the gym on the Bentonville campus. Brand new computers, gaming chairs and monitors have been set up and ready to go in late February, according to Brewer. This will give the team a solid space to meet and discuss strategies as well as practice together.

The majority of the team’s funds came directly from the student activity fee; however, a less expected revenue source has graced the team. Much of the equipment given to the NWACC e-sports team was generously donated by the popular



electronics company BestBuy.

Alejandro Diaz, previous captain of the esports team, said he’s currently looking for sponsors to upgrade their space to the next level, showcasing once more the trailblazing tenacity of students and staff involved in this program.

Experts say e-sports is a growing industry and with improving accessibility, technology and an increasing fan base, it’s projected to stick around. Many of the benefits of esports are similar

to that of “regular” sports and athletics, including improved confidence levels in participants, greater teamwork and leadership skills, community, time management, and perseverance.

According to FortuneBusinessInsights.com, “The esports market size was valued at USD 1.45 billion in 2022 and is projected to grow from USD 1.72 billion in 2023 to USD 6.75 billion by 2030.”

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5 coffee shops to study in this semester

Delaney Reaves
Editor-In-Chief

With the hustle of everyday culture, it's sometimes difficult to find a convenient space to study in locations outside of school buildings and libraries. Coffee shops have been a recent staple for the community as a go-to place to work and study in while reimagining the modern workspace.

Here's the top 5 best coffee shops locations to study at in no particular ranking. These are ranked by best atmosphere, drinks, and work space!

1. Kennedy Coffee Roasters

Kennedy Coffee located on 14th Street in Bentonville has a close proximity and convenience to NWACC's Bentonville campus. The open space gives a welcoming feel and calming atmosphere; it gets quite busy but also has its down times. Kennedy Coffee seems to be a great place for individuals or groups to meet up to study, work or talk. The pros of this coffee shop include the amazing drinks they offer with a variety of coffee picks, lemonades and teas. Alongside the bottle beverages they sell, food varieties ranging from bagels, kolaches and doughnuts are available in the shop. The only con for this shop is the sometimes spotty wifi that doesn't keep up well with certain computer programs. Overall, if you want some great coffee, positive interactions with



PHOTO BY DELANEY REAVES

the employees and welcoming atmosphere you should take your next study to Kennedy Coffee Roasters.

2. Heroes Coffee

Heroes Coffee offers different locations including 8th street in Bentonville, Pauline Whitaker Parkway and Dodson Road in Rogers. These locations have a unique setup with a variety of seating options including stacked table seating with ladder steps. This space is also a great place to meet up with others due to the variety of seating, open atmosphere and fast response time after ordering. The menu has somewhat limited options but customers are open to customize their drinks to fit their liking and accommodations. Heroes also sells a variety of small food options like scones, muffins, cookies, bread and more.

3. Reverie Coffee and Teahouse

Reverie is a small coffee shop and teahouse located on East Highway 12 in Rogers that offers a great amount of seating for groups and individuals. The shop offers coffee, smoothies, tea, superfood lattes and ice cream. In addition to the main room of the shop, Reverie has a basement seating area with several tables and includes a record player and unique lighting. This is a relaxing, quieter but welcoming environment for studying, group projects, hanging out or just grabbing a great coffee.

4. Summer Moon Coffee

With abundant locations in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, this company maintains a location in Fayetteville, Arkansas on N. College Avenue. It has a unique atmosphere while advertising their signature sweet cream "Moon Milk" that makes their name, Summer Moon. The environment is relaxing, offering

many options in drinks while also selling a variety of merchandise options including a bottle of their signature sweet cream. The Fayetteville location does not contain as much seating as the other coffee shops listed but has "moon" tables and decorations that tie into their name and brand quite well. Their coffee drinks have a positively different taste than a lot of other coffee shops in NWA and it is a great shop to try if you are looking for something new.

5. Iron Horse Coffee

Iron Horse located in Downtown Rogers has an assortment of coffee drinks and syrups to specialize your order including milk alternatives. The shop serves smoothies, teas, canned drinks, yogurts, muffins and many sandwich options. The bustling and different atmosphere ties in with the downtown area and is a spot for many high school students for two schools within walking distance. Iron Horse also does not contain much seating for the busy intake they gather throughout the day but has an upstairs area holding multiple tables and couches. A different piece that makes this shop stand out is the bookshelves and readings in the upstairs area that's welcoming whether you like to read or enjoy the aesthetic.

Delaney Reaves is the editor-in-chief of the NWACC Eagle View. She plans to graduate in May and pursue a dual major in journalism and political science for her bachelor's degree.



The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes

Delaney Reaves
Editor-In-Chief

The Hunger Games Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes released in theaters on Nov. 17, 2023 in the U.S. as a movie rendition of the book by Suzanne Collins. The movie is a prequel to the Hunger Games series following Katniss Everdeen played by Jennifer Lawrence and Peeta Mallark played by Josh Hutchinson.

This film depicts the backstory of Coriolanus Snow or President Snow in the future days following this movie's timeline. It follows Lucy Gray (Rachel Zegler) and Coriolanus Snow (Tom Blyth) as they are challenged within the 10th annual hunger games, an orchestrated arena fight between districts until the last standing man. Lucy Gray is mentored by Cornelius Snow, this the story is told through two perspectives, that of the aloof and autocratic Capitol and the downtrodden districts.

This movie captures the storyline in an amazing way through the imagery that is used which engulfs you into a world that viewers would deem unrealistic to our own world. But with the cinematography and the convincing acting, this film makes you feel like you are right there in it. The acting by Tom Blyth is an amazing performance that convinces you he is the character and he shows the emotion and roller coaster that the character goes on.

Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes is a film that keeps you on your toes, you think you know what's coming, you don't, this film does not play off the hopes of what the audience wants to see. The movie does not shy away from the harsh realities of desperation and war, which is not the good guys always winning and being saved at the last second. A disclaimer I will give is the movie is very violent, that comes with the nature of the games and the psychotic mindset the characters have to be in to cheer for this system.

Something viewers may appreciate about this film is the many references to the original Hunger Games books and movie series, an avid fan will easily catch glimpses of references. The music, dialogue, the scenes and imagery show that this world is the same as the one Katniss Everdeen faced in later times. With the references given throughout the movie, it ties the series and the new film together without being overboard and too intertwined. It gives the audience that grew up with the original series and who read the books

some excitement to watch these two worlds coming together.

Because of this film and how much is presented, packed in and illustrated through the screen, it deeply shows the backstory of President Snow. After seeing this film it gives more perspective and insight on how Snow became who he is and why he had such an obsession with Katniss Everdeen. Alongside that it shows how Snow became so invested in the game, gained his knowledge and how his true personality impacts the audience. One thing slightly disappointing is the differences from the book, some factors of the book help you realize who the characters really are. The internal monologue from the book gives you a look inside the mind of Snow to show you what others may not realize. Some of the factors not entirely shown in the movie can deeply change your perspective on the storyline, characters and the impact.

There's so much to be said about this film but most of it can't be said without spoilers being revealed which takes away from the shock of seeing the film for the first time. It is mind boggling and will leave you on the edge of your seat hoping for a next movie to release while giving a sense of closure. Though it doesn't completely top the nostalgic original Hunger Games movie series, this movie is hands down one of the better in the franchise as well as films I've personally watched.

Snub of the century: Why 'The Iron Claw' is the best movie from 2023

Morgan Nunley
Managing Editor

Over the course of the last few years many films have reshaped the craft and even reinvented some genres that needed a new take or a different story. We have seen superhero movies come and go, dramas and action films fade, and even some bio pics that have changed the way we think of certain artists.

None of those films and specifically bio pics over the last decade or so have impacted me, or other audiences quite like 2023's "The Iron Claw."

The film is directed and written by Sean Durkin in what is only his third feature film, and stars Zac Efron, Jeremy Allen White, Harris Dickinson, and Holt McCallany as members of the Von Erich family.

The Von Erichs were an American professional wrestling family, with the patriarch Fritz Von Erich (McCallany), training his boys Kevin (Efron), David, (Dickinson), and Kerry (White) both in the ring and out of the ring to bring the family the long eluded NWA World Championship. The family was most famous in the wrestling world for their bloody rivalry with the Fabulous Freebirds, and for the infamous Von Erich family "curse" that the film tells the story of.

The film goes through the true tale of what actually happened to the Von Erich family and how this "curse" infected the family

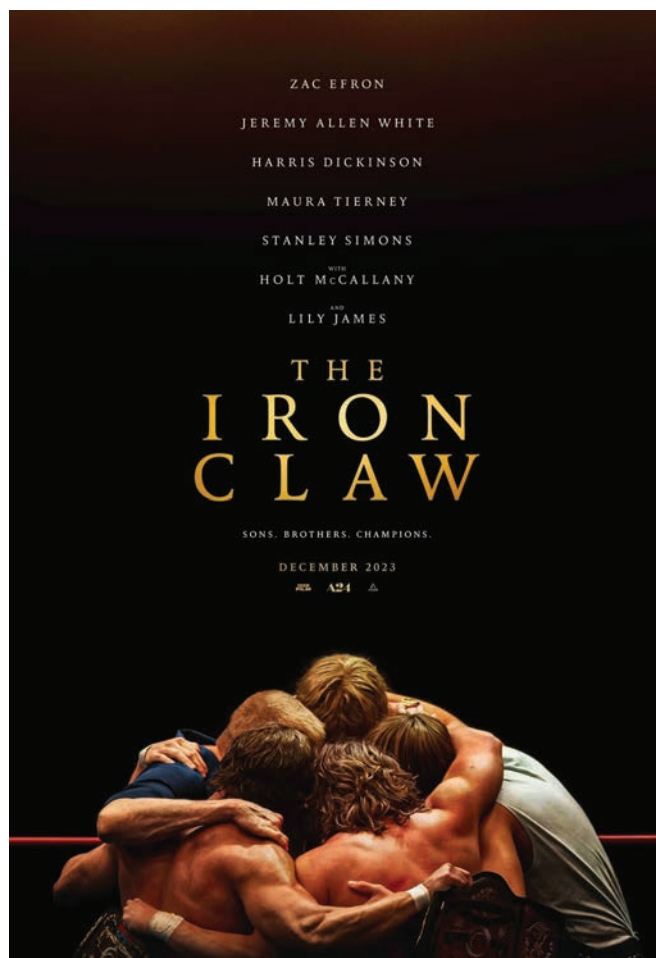
little by little, until eventually there was nothing left to be hurt or that could be hurt.

One of the instantly recognizable aspects of this film is that it is extremely well written and well edited. The script was beautifully written by Durkin and the film has moments of levity and triumph amid all the tragedy that surrounds this family and these characters.

The moments of darkness and despair are highlighted well throughout the film with each moment being given enough time to breathe and let the audience digest what they are watching, while also moving the story forward in the best way possible and continuing to explore the depth of heartbreak these men went through.

The editing, done by Matthew Hannam, was another key piece of the masterclass of filmmaking as there were some shots that were molded together to show multiple scenes happening at once that I thought was really effective in the spots that it was used. The moments of black and white were also edited as well and the film called for a different lighting and setting for those moments.

The true craftsmanship was done on set by Durkin and the actors, specifically McCallany, and for the infamous Von Erich family "curse" that the film tells the story of. The brotherhood and bond that these men share on screen is that of a real family and how they deal with the situations that come up are that of real-world decisions. The sheer heartbreak and



moments of despair and depression that this film gives not just the audience but the actors and crew it seemed, could not be overstated. The film is one of the most effective at making someone feel an emotion whether it be shedding a tear or cracking a smirk or even having a chuckle.

The actors themselves all deserve a mention, as each has at least one scene in particular that steals the show or has a performance in a particular scene that makes any film fan appreciate the dedication to the character and the story.

Efron in the lead role of Kevin Von Erich was the main character and protagonist to the film, while not being the central figure at all times. There are various points in the film where his perspective is used in the same vein as the audience's is, and that is great positioning and writing by Durkin and some excellent execution by Efron.

White was in the secondary protagonist role of Kerry Von Erich, and his perspective was often used as an alternative to his brother's and as a way of differentiating the brothers, their mannerisms, and tendencies.

The main "antagonist" or central "villain" of the story

is McCallany's version of the father Fritz, and his character is complex enough to where most audience members wouldn't see him as a villain and more of a misguided central opposing force against the brothers at times, while also having moments of being a tertiary protagonist on the side of the brothers.

The complexity and storytelling of his character can both be attributed to the brilliant job in directing and writing by Durkin and the phenomenal job of acting and performing by McCallany. Overall, I would recommend this film to any movie fan, sports fan, professional wrestling fan, and just anyone in general that has any interest in the film. It is an absolute must-watch for anybody that is looking to feel a wide range of emotions from joy to heartbreak to laughter and everything in between. The film is unquestionably, and undoubtedly, in my humble opinion, the best movie of 2023, and already a leading contender for one of, if not the best film of the decade.

Rating: 5/5

Morgan Nunley is an NWACC student and managing editor—news and sports for the Eagle View.

Sigma Kappa Delta, the English honor society for two-year colleges, hosted its second annual writing competition in February. The contest was open to faculty, staff and students. Submissions could be poems or letters focused on the theme of love. Three winners were chosen, and each winner received a box of chocolates.

A LETTER TO MY LOVE

By Maria De La Torre (2nd Place Winner)

My love,
I am writing to you hoping this letter finds you in good health. This cold weather brings back memories of when you were little. How you would play in the snow all day and would only come back inside with your dad chasing you in. You were a curious child, and I hope in your time away you haven't lost that wonder. Will you be coming for the holidays? Your Aunt asks every time she visits wondering if you eat right without my cooking. I know how busy life this time of year can be. I will be happy if I only get one night to see you.
Do you remember when you were a kid, and your dad took

you and your cousin out to the lake? I found a small statuette of a blue fish that reminds me of that. I keep it by a picture of your dad in the kitchen. Your dad was so proud of you. I'm so proud of you, and glad you put your stubbornness to good use. How much longer will you be away? I can never remember the dates you tell me. Oh, Madeline has also been asking about you I keep telling her that you're doing well and that you should be coming home soon. She asked if she could also start writing letters to you. I told her that I would ask you. I love this idea of yours. It reminds me of when I was a kid and my best friend, and I would write to each

other after she moved across town.
Any who I should finish this up before I use up my ink in my pen. Remember I love you and to be careful when going out. I know how distracted you can be sometimes. I guess you get that from me. Don't forget to take care of yourself and I will see you soon. Love you.
Lovingly,
Mom
P.S. One last thing where did you leave my camera?

LOVE, LOVE, OR LOVE?

By Gonzalo Flores (3rd Place Winner)

Dad, what is love?
Well, it's a strong emotion you feel.
Sometimes it's for people,
Sometimes it's for things or food.
Usually, it should be for people.
Do you love anyone?
Of course I do.
I love Mom and I love you.
Do you love anyone else?
Well, I guess you could say I love my friends too.
What else do you love?
Well, I guess I also love video games
I love talking with you, you little stinker.
I also love food,

Like Mom's rice and beans
And even Domino's pizza,
But don't tell her I said that, okay?
Okaaay! So... love is what I like?
Well, yes technically, but no. I guess there are different levels of love.
The love you should have for people closest to you,
That should be the highest.
Then your friends and teachers should come next.
And lastly, the things that you really enjoy.
So love, love, and love, all mean different things?
Yeah, I guess so.
So when do I know if someone loves me,
If love means so many different things?

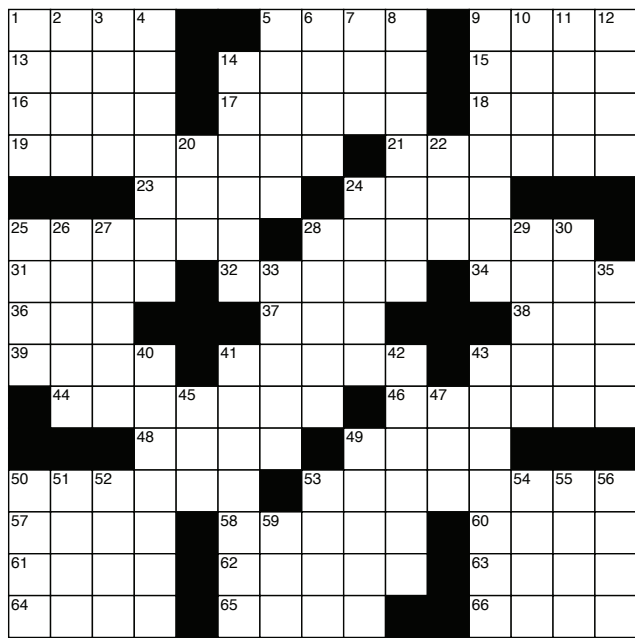
I guess that's part of its beauty. You never really know.
Well, I love you. The highest form of it.
I highest love you too.
Goodnight dad!
Goodnight sweetie.
I wanted to hold you right. But my grip was so that it squeezed life out of the same thing I fed to survive.
FATE.
"You know, the first usually isn't the one you stay with forever..."
Don't be mad You'll do better next spring.

LOVE, LOVE, LOVE... FATE

By B.G. (1st Place Winner)

Cheese, Corn, Cornball, Cheesehead, in OVER your head,
"You know, the first usually isn't the one you stay with forever..."
I don't care...
Lovebirds.
LOVE,
I'm so in love.
You know, when you first get to know someone, you just want to know everything, every, single, little, thing about them.
I'm so in over my head.
But I don't even care to be honest.
"I'd love you even if it was wrong."
I told her so many beautiful things. Too many rings.
Gave her so many treasures, So many memories.
Too many rings.
Gave her all my attention. In over your head
But I don't even care to be honest.
LOVE,
I gave my love like a sprint,
Like before spring,
It's cold, so damn cold, teeth gritting.
Bob wire stinging, metal scratch type of cold.
"Does that make sense?"
"Definitely, I hateee the cold."
"I know."
I know.
The beauty of snow, the sun, the bright white crystals shining above the sheet of clouds, soon drains into the soil,
Then, the flowers can bloom, Here! Then there! Then over there!
Next thing you know your covered in the bright green hue of the spring atmosphere... It's almost summer!
And we can spend all day together! Laying in the grass making grass angels, picking the flowers that just sprung, the grass feels soft.
"You know?"
That one wasn't their yesterday and
It's a new flower from last year.
"Is it though?"
"Look at this one doesn't it look just like the one next to it?"
"Doesn't it look just like the one from last year?"
LOVE...
It did.
Yet it's not the same one.
It's not the one I lost. It's not the one I was saving for you.
It's not the same one that I plucked off the ground just for you.
...
Why did I have to hold so tight.
To that flower that I thought looked so bright.
Shining on me
I wanted to hold you right. But my grip was so that it squeezed life out of the same thing I fed to survive.
FATE.
"You know, the first usually isn't the one you stay with forever..."
Don't be mad You'll do better next spring.

Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- 1 Cask
 - 5 Hold it there
 - 9 Gulp
 - 13 European monetary unit
 - 14 Ocean jewel
 - 15 Sugar plant
 - 16 Association (abbr.)
 - 17 Capital of Oregon
 - 18 Costa ___
 - 19 Declare anew
 - 21 Ideal person
 - 23 Musical composition
 - 24 Flake
 - 25 Bring in from the car
 - 28 Native American tribe
 - 31 Part of speech
 - 32 Christmas
 - 34 Incorporated (abbr.)
 - 37 Cation

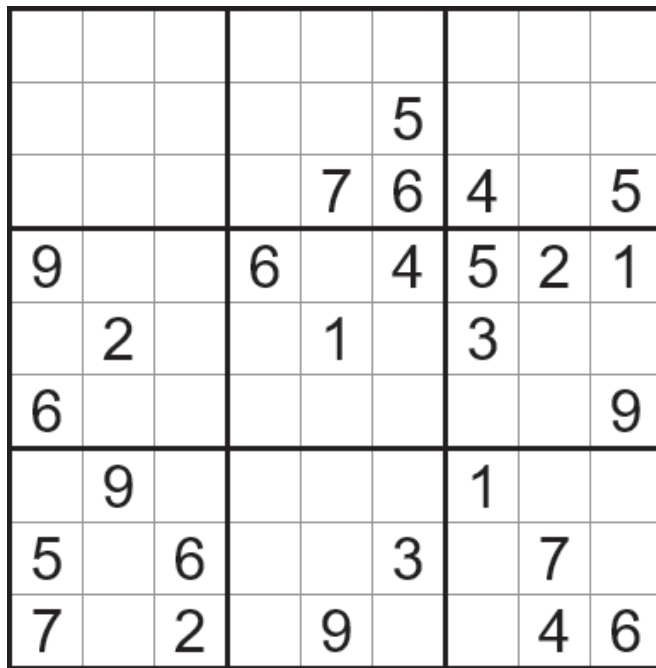
- 38 Fall behind
- 39 Wrongdoing
- 41 Double agents
- 43 Oppose
- 44 Earthshaking
- 46 Jobs
- 48 Zip
- 49 Pliers
- 50 Went astray, with "up"
- 53 Become free from impurities
- 57 Organization concerned with civil liberties (abbr.)
- 58 Heartache
- 60 Maintain
- 61 Formal "you"
- 62 Makes money
- 63 One of Columbus' ships
- 64 Turfs
- 65 Colors
- 66 Chances of winning

- DOWN**
- 1 First word of a letter
 - 2 Tactic
 - 3 ___ Major (Big Dipper)
 - 4 Seasonal Indian Ocean wind
 - 5 Puts on clothing
 - 6 Stop moving
 - 7 Unrefined metal
 - 8 ___ Almanac (yearly)
 - 9 Skinny
 - 10 Bide
 - 11 S.A. Indian
 - 12 Hiking equipment
 - 14 Feigned
 - 20 Hotel
 - 22 Pledge
 - 24 Reflect light
 - 25 Troop
 - 26 Taboos
 - 27 Loot
 - 28 Unemotional
 - 29 Swiss mathematician
 - 30 Thrill
 - 33 Lark
 - 35 Freudian selves
 - 40 Nose blow targets
 - 41 Blurred
 - 42 Gibes
 - 43 Etna
 - 45 That girl
 - 47 Garden tool
 - 49 Adolescents
 - 50 Welcome rugs
 - 51 Resound
 - 52 Sleigh
 - 53 Dreadful
 - 54 Eager
 - 55 Babysit
 - 56 Extremely long time periods
 - 59 Manta

Sudoku

Livewire Puzzles www.puzzles.ca

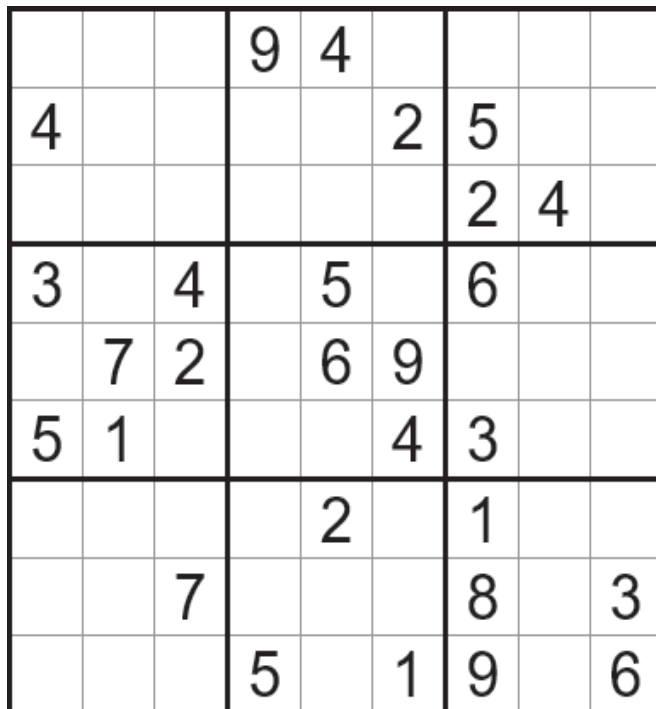
Difficulty: Medium



Solution for hard Sudoku Puzzle

6	2	1	9	4	5	7	3	8
4	3	9	8	7	2	5	6	1
7	8	5	6	1	3	2	4	9
3	9	4	1	5	7	6	8	2
8	7	2	3	6	9	4	1	5
5	1	6	2	8	4	3	9	7
9	6	3	7	2	8	1	5	4
1	5	7	4	9	6	8	2	3
2	4	8	5	3	1	9	7	6

Difficulty: Hard



Solution for medium Sudoku Puzzle

3	5	4	9	2	8	6	1	7
1	6	7	4	3	5	2	9	8
2	8	9	1	7	6	4	3	5
9	7	3	6	8	4	5	2	1
8	2	5	7	1	9	3	6	4
6	4	1	3	5	2	7	8	9
4	9	8	2	6	7	1	5	3
5	1	6	8	4	3	9	7	2
7	3	2	5	9	1	8	4	6