

TWINDEMIC

Health experts recommend getting the flu vaccination during the pandemic.



FALL WORLD SERIES

WSU baseball returns for the fall season with its first scrimmage.

NEW GALLERY

Multicultural artwork highlighted in new Wichita Gallery.

The Sunflower

WICHITA STATE'S STUDENT NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1896

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Marshall under investigation for misconduct

BY SEAN MARTY

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Wichita State is conducting an investigation into coach Gregg Marshall's behavior, according to multiple reports released Thursday.

In Stadium's report, there were allegations that Marshall reportedly punched former Shocker center Shaq Morris center during a practice in 2015. Stadium also reported that Marshall choked former assistant coach Kyle Lindsted during the 2016-17 season.

Other allegations include verbal abuse and racially charged insults among others.

The report was published by Stadium's Jeff Goodman who

has previously worked for ESPN, FOXSports and CBS Sports.

More than 30 former and current members of the program participated in the report, including eight of the 10 transfers from the last two seasons. Only former players Shaq Morris and Ty Taylor II were willing to put their names on the reports.

"I'm aware the university conducted interviews and I fully participated in the process," Marshall stated in a text message to the Athletic. "I look forward to having it wrapped up as I continue to focus my energy on our team."

Wichita State Athletic Director Darron Boatright didn't comment and instead directed The Sunflower to WSU's Strategic

Communications department. Gregg Marshall did not immediately respond for comment through email.

The Sunflower reached out to the president's office who declined comment.

This past offseason saw a mass exodus from the program with a total of eight players entering the transfer portal. Morris Udeze returned to WSU after initially entering the transfer portal, but seven players ultimately left the program.

In the past two seasons, 10 players have transferred from WSU including the seven players who transferred this offseason. In

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FILE PHOTO: MORGAN ANDERSON/THE SUNFLOWER

Head Coach Gregg Marshall yells to his team during the second half of the game against VCU on Saturday, Dec. 21.

Delayed Gradification



PHOTOS BY KHANH NGUYEN/THE SUNFLOWER

Left Top: Juan Yanez Jr sits during the graduation commencement ceremony on Saturday, Oct. 10 inside Charles Koch Arena. The Spring 2020 Commencement was held on Oct. 10, 2020 after the initial event was cancelled due to COVID-19. Left Bottom: Lilian Tay, Bachelor of Fine Arts, walks to receive her diploma during the commencement ceremony. Above: Emilee Bozarth and Emma Keller of Delta Gamma move their tassel to the left during the ceremony.

Student leaders voice concerns after homeless man arrested on campus

BY LINDSAY SMITH AND MORGAN ANDERSON

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The Wichita State police department arrested a homeless man for trespassing Wednesday.

The Chief of WSU police Rodney Clark said that the man was served a no trespass order in the past but failed to comply, which was the reason he got arrested.

"Originally the person was reported up in the RSC, pulling on doors, kind of looking into rooms and things like that," Clark said. "[He] claimed he was up there to watch TV or whatnot."

Student Senator John Kirk said he saw the man prior to being arrested walking through the Rhatigan Student Center moments before officers questioned students in the office.

"There was a gentleman who passed us, we didn't think much about it," Kirk said. "I mean, I saw him, that was the end of it so I went upstairs."

Kirk said moments after, WSU police officers came to the Student Government office to question them about the individual.

"They asked us if we saw a homeless man walking through the RSC," Kirk said. "They described an African American man with a beard and I said, 'Well, yeah he passed us, why?' And then the student advocate and us just asked, 'What else do you want?'"

SGA's Student Advocate Caitlyn Hammack said that the officers advised the students to not approach the man.

"The officers then proceeded to tell us that if we saw this man that they were looking for we should not approach him or speak to him as he may be dangerous," Hammack said in an email to The Sunflower. "They talked about the man negatively and said that they had arrested him and taken him into custody

Spring grads finally recognized after five month delay

BY JULIA NIGHTENGALE

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After a long five month delay, Wichita State's Spring 2020 graduates finally had the opportunity to be celebrated during Saturday's commencement celebration.

But just like the class of 2020, the graduation was nothing short of unique. Each graduate was given only two tickets to three chairs apart to follow social distancing.

Former Student Body President Kitrina Miller spoke at the ceremony. She said that even though the commencement doesn't feel the same as it would have in May, she hopes they can indulge in their

achievements and celebrate their success.

"We are all trying to figure out what comes next ... All I know is that in order to begin our adventure as we originally intended is that we must show compassion to ourselves and others," Miller said. "We must lean into the discomfort of our reality with empathy to learn and grow from the stories we hear ... We must support one another to navigate this long, winding road, we call our adventure."

Rick Muma, acting president of WSU said that the graduation marks the end of a life-long journey of learning, even in light of the delays that COVID-19 caused.

"While you may no longer be on

campus, you will always be part of the Shocker's family," Muma said.

Many graduates said that the commencement was a great experience.

"I believe it's an unique experience getting to walk across the stage," Fernando Roel Rodriguez, an aerospace engineering graduate, said. "I worked really hard these past couple of years to get this degree."

"I think [WSU] handled it like they needed to," Social work graduate Taren Patterson said. "I've graduated from here before, so I know how packed it is so making us susceptible to all of those things wouldn't have been the responsible thing to do."

Lizeth Ortega, a graduate with a bachelor's in political science and international studies, said that as a first generation student graduation is extra special for her.

"I think it's really important to make an example to my younger siblings because I want them to follow my path so it's a really proud moment for us and this ceremony means a lot," Ortega said.

Industrial engineering graduate Thanushika Karunaratne said that as an international student, she was disappointed with how his graduation had to happen.

"My parents were supposed to come here for the initial

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once before for trespassing.”

Later, Hammack asked what the course of action would be if they found the man.

“He answered that they would arrest him,” Hammack said. “He said that they had given him a warning and then arrested him once before for trespassing. I was confused as to how this was the case because I was under the impression that since Wichita State University is a public institution anyone is welcome on campus.”

Clark said that while WSU is a public university, individuals are not allowed to do certain activities that could cause disruptions to students or staff.

“It is a public university as far as most outside spaces, but not just

anybody’s necessarily allowed to go into rooms in the RSC and just hang out and watch TV,” Clark said. “That can sometimes be disruptive to students and activities going on.”

Kirk said that they went on to question the officers to see if they would do anything to help him find shelter.

“We asked [the officer] if there is anything that they do to help,” Kirk said. “They kind of just danced around the question, saying ‘Well, we do everything we can to do what we can for the individual we don’t just arrest them on sight.’”

Clark said that in this specific incident, he is unaware of what the officers did to help the individual.

While there is no policy stating that officers need to direct homeless individuals to shelters, Clark said that it is not an uncommon practice.

“In general, we try to direct people to [a shelter],” Clark said. “It will not be uncommon for a police officer to say, ‘Hey, if you’re in need of a place to stay there’s a shelter.’ ... That would just be general advice.”

Kirk said that he believes arresting him wouldn’t make any change.

“Arresting him isn’t going to do anything,” Kirk said. “He’s just going to come back and he obviously doesn’t have food or anything and it’s starting to get cold outside.”

Kirk later witnessed the arrest.

“I was coming out of the west side of [Duerksen] and I was walking to the parking lot and I saw the police car and the individual that I saw earlier being put into the car,” Kirk said.

Hammack said the situation left her with some questions.



FILE PHOTO: DANIEL CAUDILL/THE SUNFLOWER

A line of Wichita State University Police Department patrol cars line department’s parking lot off Perimeter Road.

“This leaves me with questions about how these types of situations are dealt with on all levels and how the general society views people of

lower socioeconomic status, specifically people who are without a home,” she said.



SCREENSHOT

New Title IX changes were discussed during a virtual town hall held Tuesday morning.

New Title IX regulation changes discussed in virtual town hall

BY HANNAH HOLLIDAY
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Long anticipated Title IX regulation changes were discussed during a virtual town hall Tuesday.

Rija Khan, student body president, and Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn, faculty senate president, moderated a discussion with Sarah Zafar, Title IX coordinator, on Tuesday morning. The discussion focused on the new Title IX regulations and the changes to university policy on sexual harassment and discrimination.

According to Zafar, the changes to Title IX policy have been anticipated for years.

“In May of this year, May 6, the Department of Education

released new, long awaited, Title IX regulations,” Zafar said. “They proposed these regulations back in November of 2018 and they opened it up for public comment then got upwards of 120,000 public comments.”

Zafar and her team addressed the new regulations by rewriting and combining the policies for students, staff, and visitors into one, further defining the role of advisors, and changing the language of many of the policies.

Zafar also explained the new formal grievance process. The new process adds required live hearing.

“The live hearing is going to be conducted by outside hearing officers,” Zafar said. “The hearing officers are going to be from

outside the university and they are going to be completely impartial to anything related to the university and so they would hear all the evidence and there would be some cross-examination by advisors.”

Those hearing officers determine if a policy was violated. Zafar also emphasized that there is an alternative to having a live hearing.

“There is the option for what we call informal resolutions and an informal resolution can happen anytime between the notice of investigation and allegation, the actual formal complaint, all the way up until the day of the hearing,” Zafar said. “And that can look like mediation, that can look like a facilitated discussion, that can be a

written agreement, both sides have to agree to it and both sides have to be on board for it to happen but there are a number of situations in which people may not want to go through the hearing process.”

For anyone undergoing a hearing, the Title IX office has trained a number of staff members to be advisors for them and speak during the hearing. They are also in the process of contracting more advisors.

Students can also have the support of the campus victim advocate, Meredith Osborne with Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center (WASAC).

Additionally, Zafar discussed privacy vs. confidentiality, policies for mandatory reporters, training

for anyone to become an advisor, and more details on what the Title IX case process looks like.

“We are the ones who receive all reports of discrimination and harassment,” Zafar said. “Title IX receives discrimination and harassment based on sex and gender and that includes sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, sexual exploitation.”

The office also handles accommodations for pregnant and parenting students and gender equity.

Zafar encourages anyone interested in learning more about policy changes or submitting a report to read the Title IX section of the online WSU Policies and Procedures Manual or email her at sarah.zafar@wichita.edu.

The Sunflower

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MISSION

The Sunflower — both in print and online — will be a timely resource of information about the Wichita State University community. It will report on news, issues, activities, academics and athletics, in addition to offering a forum for discussion, reviews and commentary. It will also be an effective learning experience for students, who will have the final authority over what is published.

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Corrections

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WSU adds COVID-19 reporting form

BY LINDSAY SMITH

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Wichita State added a new COVID-19 reporting form that was sent out with Shocker Blast Wednesday morning.

The form is for students to report information about testing positive for COVID-19, quarantine and isolation requirements and for them to ask general questions regarding the virus.

“As members of the Wichita State community, it is everyone’s responsibility to bring attention to anything that may be concerning,” WSU’s website states. “This could be about yourself or others that you feel is connected to the Wichita State University experience.”

Information collected through the form will be used for “the purpose of initiating protocols for assisting with student support.”

The form also has a section for students to provide documentation of their positive test result, if needed. The section can also be used for any documentation that the student feels is relevant to provide.

“You may submit documentation of your positive COVID-19/coronavirus test at this time, communication you have received from the Sedgwick County Health Department, or any other information you feel is relevant,” the form reads.

March for RBG celebrates life and legacy of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

BY AUDREY KORTE

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Kansans came together to honor the late Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg during the March for RBG on Saturday, Sept. 27. Nine speakers presented calls to action and reflections on Ginsburg’s life and legacy, including speakers who are members of the Wichita State community.

Commissioner for the 4th District of Sedgwick County and WSU alumnus Lacey Cruse said the March for RBG organizers chose nine speakers so people would remember the nine seats on the Supreme Court. The March for RBG was streamed live online because of concerns about safety and the spread of COVID-19.

The first speaker, Title IX Coordinator at Wichita State University, Sara Zafar, recalled meeting Ginsburg in Istanbul, Turkey.

“I was amazed at how human she was,” Zafar said.

She said that though Ginsburg was small in stature, she made others feel tall.

“Justice Ginsburg made it her life’s work to lift up the underrepresented and oppressed to make us all feel taller,” Zafar said. “She dedicated her work toward leveling the playing field for everyone creating avenues for equal access and eliminating disparities.”

Zafar said it was essential to honor Ginsburg’s memory by continuing her work, especially in this election year. She encouraged people to take the time to learn

which political candidates were lifting up Ginsburg’s work.

Danielle Johnson, Assistant Director Office Diversity Inclusion, said she was there not only to speak to the importance and the memorialization of the “Notorious RBG” but about the importance of showing up and walking our talk.

“In the words of the Notorious RBG, women’s rights are an essential part of the overall human rights agenda trained on the equal dignity and ability to live in freedom. And people should enjoy that,” Johnson said. “We are filling the shoes of giants, folks. We have experienced losses this year both in our personal walks and lives, our own networks, to some of the greats. And we have a responsibility to show up and show out. That is our call. Walk our talk.”

Amanda Myers, the executive director at the Wichita family crisis center, spoke about Ginsburg as a Jewish woman.

“She was raised as a Jewish woman. One of the paramount tenants of Judaism, which is Tikkun Olam, is our obligation to repair the world,” Myers said.

Myers said as the daughter of a Jewish mom, the wife of a Jewish husband, and a woman raising two Jewish men, she recognized the importance of Tikkun Olam. Ginsburg had a patient quality, a long term strategy and boundless imagination for a just world, she said.

“Her genius quality dissents were not crafted to tell her fellow



COURTESY OF SUPREMECOURT.GOV

justices that they were wrong, but rather to teach us as the next generation how to get it right. How did she do that? She cobbled together small victories palatable to the public and palatable to the court. And then she built on them over time,” Myers said.

Community Services Representative for the City of Wichita, Ana Lopez, spoke about Ginsburg’s legacy for immigrants.

“Ruth Bader Ginsburg repeatedly pointed out that more than 20 million current citizens were born in other countries. I am one of those citizens,” Lopez said. “I come from humble beginnings. I was born in Mexico and raised here in Wichita, Kansas.”

Lopez said she’s been blessed to be able to shape and create spaces for residents, especially for those in the Latinx community. She said a record 32 million

Latinos are eligible to vote, and she wants them to register to vote.

“We have to fight for the things that we truly care about,” she said. “I do have a call of action for everyone, whether you speak English or Spanish, and that is to register to vote. You have until October 13,” she said. “It’s important that we elect the proper candidates to represent us.”

Lopez said she hoped people wouldn’t vote on single-issue politics. Single-issue politics involves political campaigning or political support based on one essential policy area or idea.

“It’s very important that we elect those who represent us, as minorities, as women, as residents of this country. We need to make sure that we are electing the proper candidates to represent us and in all of the aspects that affect us,” Lopez said.



GRAPHIC BY MORGAN ANDERSON/THE SUNFLOWER

Getting a flu shot this year could be crucial in preventing a ‘twindemic’, experts say

BY ELENA KUCKELMAN

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Health experts are asserting the importance of getting a flu vaccine now more than ever.

Some of these concerns stem from the possibility of a “twindemic” in which America would be suffering from an outbreak of both COVID-19 and the flu.

If that were to happen, hospitals would be at an extreme risk for overcrowding and, even worse, the death rate would skyrocket.

Cindy Walker, a Nurse Practitioner for WSU’s Student Health Services, recommends that everyone six months of age or older receive a flu vaccine and believes the vaccine will play a key role in preventing illness.

“The CDC recommends getting a flu shot anytime between

September and October,” Walker said. “But it’s important to remember that flu season can stretch clear into May.”

Unfortunately, the signs of the flu can often look similar to that of COVID-19.

“Some of the same symptoms we see for the flu, we can see for COVID.”

That’s where the vaccine comes in, experts say. They have found it not only lessens the chance of contracting the flu, it lowers the severity of its symptoms, making it easier to differentiate between the two viruses.

The flu shot could also play a large role in reducing hospital’s overcrowding issue.

“Getting the vaccine can decrease your risk of needing to be hospitalized,” Walker said.

Although getting a flu shot is no

“The number one prevention, of course, is to get the flu vaccine. But you still have to do those prevention steps even with the vaccine”

CINDY WALKER

Nurse Practitioner for WSU’s Student Health Services

guarantee that someone will not contract it, public health officials believe the benefits outweigh the doubts.

“I would say [the flu vaccine] is worth it,” stated Walker. “Some people would say ‘I still got the flu and I took the vaccine.’ It would be

nice if we had a vaccine that was 100% effective. But the vaccine does decrease the risk of hospitalization and causes milder symptoms.

“It’s especially important for people at a higher risk of sickness—people with diabetes, high blood-pressure or things like this.”

The Student Health Center is offering a limited supply of flu shots for students this fall.

“Student Health Services are open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. We recommend you get there no later than 4:30 or 4:45 because there is some paperwork you’ll have to fill out. The cost [of the flu shot] for students is \$20. If you have insurance, it can be billed to your insurance. If not, then it will be charged to your student account.”

In addition to the Health Center only providing a limited supply of influenza vaccines, health officials

expect a shortage for hospitals due to the high demand this year.

Luckily, many other options for receiving a shot are possible.

“Other places in town that are offering flu shots are Dillons, the health department, and health clinics.”

If students are still unable to get a vaccine, Walker says that there are several crucial preventative measures that should be taken.

“Some other things we need to do: wearing face coverings has definitely helped. If you’re sick, stay home. Keep practicing social distancing and good hand washing techniques. All the things we say for COVID also apply here.”

“The number one prevention, of course, is to get the flu vaccine. But you still have to do those prevention steps even with the vaccine,” Walker said.



KHANH NGUYEN/THE SUNFLOWER

Health Administration grad Tammy Dorsey walks off stage after getting recognized at the Spring 2020 Commencement.

GRADUATION FROM PAGE 1

commencement and they had flights booked and everything so they had to cancel those," Karunaratne said. "I was a little sad, but it's ok because they are able to watch the livestream."

Some students believed that the university could have done a better job celebrating their graduates.

"I know it's a scary time, but we're doing now what we would've done back then so I feel like we should've just kept on with it," Graduate Cheyenne McGuffey said. "We could've worn masks back then and had it when we were supposed to."

Journalism graduate Kaisha Batman said that while she

believes the university did what they had to do to keep students safe, she was still disappointed in the circumstances.

"I'd looked forward to it since I was a freshman in college and not being able to walk at the normal time was really disappointing," Batman said. "And even now that I'm here and ready to walk it doesn't feel the same for sure."

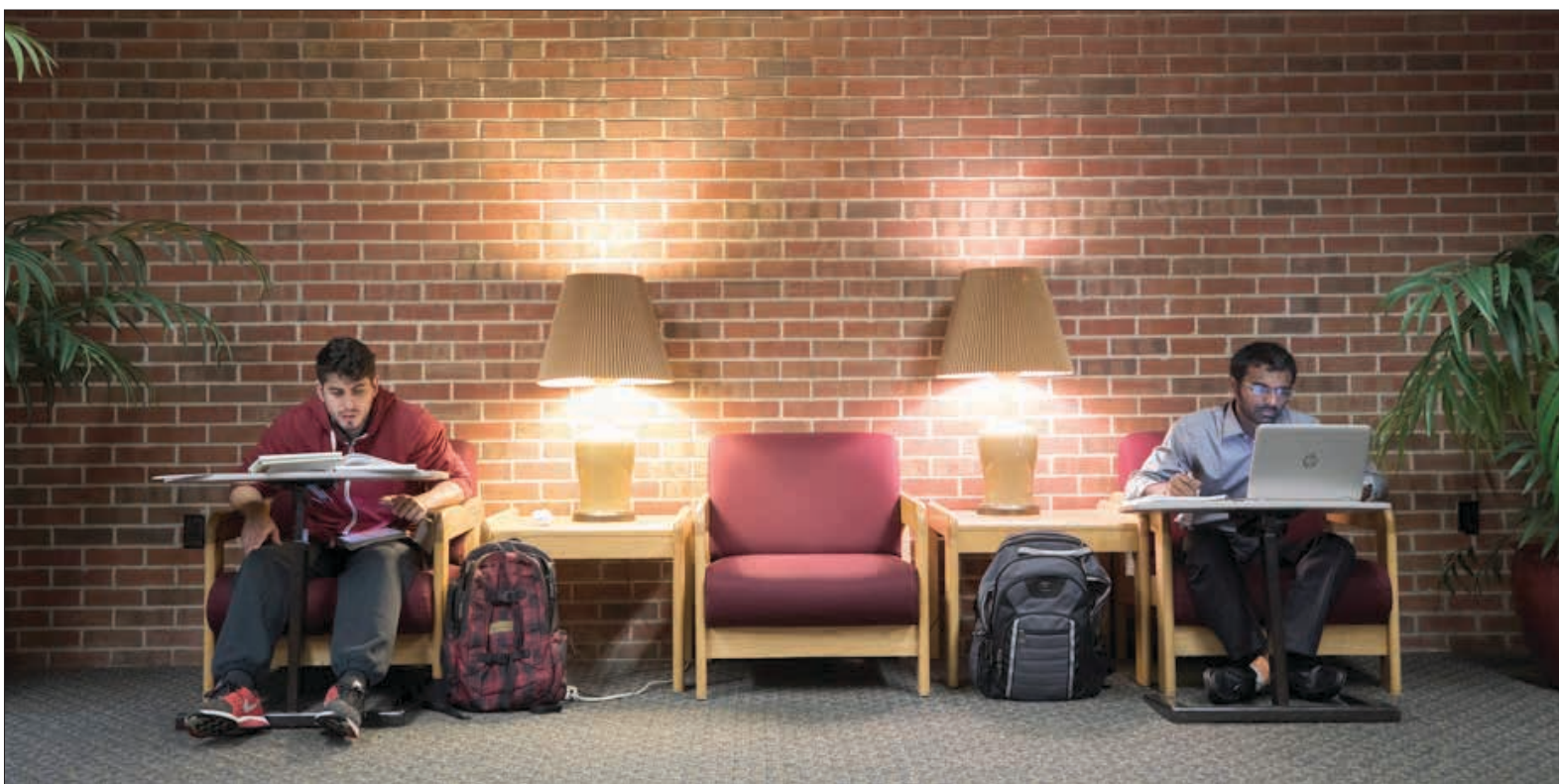
Juan Yanez Jr., a graduate with a masters in special education, said that he believes he deserves to be recognized for his achievements.

"It was very disheartening and disappointing at the time but I know we are going through some changes with COVID-19 and we have had to make sacrifices," Yanez said. "I believe that I've made enough sacrifices and I deserve to be here."



KHANH NGUYEN/THE SUNFLOWER

Science grad Taylor Fugitt greets her family after the ceremony ended.



FILE PHOTO: BRIAN HAYES/THE SUNFLOWER

Alan Cedeno, left, and Venkat Navin, right, study in Ablah Library on Wednesday, Sept. 27, 2017.

MEDIA DEPARTMENTS REFLECT ON THE DIFFICULTIES THEY FACED TRANSITIONING ONLINE

BY CALEN MOORE
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It's been a little over six months since media departments across the country had to race to transition all classes online. With little time to prepare, those departments had to move quickly and efficiently to provide for students.

The pandemic shifted life to online in a matter of weeks. There were a lot of aspects to consider when moving classes online. Many of these things began with media resources and the Information Technology Services (ITS) department, among others.

The Media Resources department was responsible for moving classes online, providing resources for both students and instructors. The ITS department focused on providing the devices and technology needed to students and faculty.

"Credit goes to our team. When they asked our department, will we be able to adapt and make this transition, we thankfully had been preparing for a couple weeks with materials we could build off

of when we transitioned to online classes," John Jones, Director of Media Resources said.

To aid instructors, video services were provided to record lectures in a socially distanced environment to provide better quality.

"If a member of faculty felt uncomfortable or wanted better quality we wanted to make sure that was available," John Jones, Director of Media Resources said.

It only took two days for Carolyn Speer, manager of Instructional Design and Access, to realize that going online was inevitable.

Speer was speaking to a class back in early March. During the first session, she warned classes to prepare for the possibility of online classes. Two days later during the second session she told classes that going completely online was not just an option anymore.

"It's all about how we can solve tomorrow's problems today," Speers said. "It has been hurdles all the way downhill."

In the spring, the transition to

online was quick and left a lot of looming questions. Students were quick to express concerns about lab classes, hands-on classes and classes that seemed impossible to do online. The Media Resources department had to come up with solutions to these concerns and come up with a plan to adapt to the fall semester.

The instructional design department was responsible for offering professors workshops on how to conduct a class online and maneuver through online lessons. Templates were made for professors to use to build their classes online on blackboard as well.

"We felt it was very important the professors still felt ownership over their class. If the professors were confident and still having fun despite everything, that would translate to the students as well," Speers said.

Campus media services were unable to manage much in the spring and summer but have been able to provide more support transitioning into the fall semester. The campus media services

have maintained zoom licensing for security protection in online classrooms.

"I think if I could go back and do things differently I would have sought out more people to see what they were doing, Jessica Walles, Business manager in ITS said. "Keeping track of the devices we were providing held us back, like, things needed to be labeled and inventory needed to take place for everything."

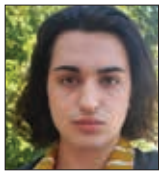
The ITS department's priority during the transition to online was providing loaner devices for those who needed it. They had to contact vendors to figure out the logistics of providing Chromebooks or some kind of technology device to students and faculty that did not have one.

"What I really learned from all of this is how dedicated the tech staff is, when we are thrown into a situation like this, how we are able to adapt and keep the campus up and running," Shadi Tafaraji, director of Client Services said.

Opinion

HAVE AN OPINION?
contact The Sunflower's
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The war over American democracy takes place on the battlefield of language



Jeromiah Taylor
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In the self-perpetuating world of American political discourse, it seems that words can mean anything.

Of course language is a subjective thing, but when plain lies are told, and daily sensations are forgotten in favor of the next lucrative soundbite, one can say that language has undergone a cheapening, a cheapening that has been accelerated by the Trump administration's blatant dishonesty and rapid-fire violations of political norms.

The commonplace occurrence of dishonesty and the short shelf

life of modern indignation causes the general public to adapt to an ever-worsening erosion of American democracy.

A gradual acclimation to absurdity, the expression of which is summed up in African American Vernacular English by the insightful comedian Wanda Sykes as "that's just what we doin' now."

At the functional level, this phenomenon is driven by the intentionally crude language of what Georgetown History Professor John McNeil calls the Trump administration's "semi-fascism." Once again, as has been seen throughout the 20th century, rhetoric, inflammatory and simplistic, is the favorite tool of those, in the words of Stephen Hawking, "demagogues who appeal to the lowest common denominator."

The language characteristic of this semi-fascism is flattened and inarticulate. Little more than soundbites strung together with provocation. The only antidote is nuance.

This is why Trump's semi-fascism is so closely allied with populism - those with a command of language, who are, in the culture wars, often painted with the broad brush of "elite," have the tools to dismantle what sounds good, what has been carefully designed to manipulate the anxieties of the disaffected. This is why Trump, as evidenced by the New England Journal of Medicine's statement that the federal government has "undercut trust in science and in government...instead of relying on expertise," perpetuates anti-intellectualism under the guise of

anti-elitism.

Biden, in actuality the ultimate political insider, attempts to co-opt this tactic for the liberal cause with his brief though not concise essay in brute strength "will you shut up man."

Harris, in the articulate tradition, uses plain good manners - "Mr. Vice President" - and plain common sense - "I am speaking" when she is in fact speaking - to obliterate the crass dishonesty of fascist rhetoric. Though she had the luxury of sparring with the Trump regime's more polished mouthpiece as opposed to the blustering figurehead himself whom one suspects is incapable of being admonished, particularly by a woman.

Language is simultaneously the linchpin of Trump's semi-fascism

and the safeguard of democracy. Culturally language is our greatest medicine, it is, in the words of Toni Morrison, "how civilizations heal."

Moving forward, language is the battleground.

The foes being the systematic world of articulacy where language is utilized to elucidate ambiguity and the chaotic world of inarticulacy where language is utilized to exploit vagueness.

We are facing an era of rapid political entropy where both the poison and the antidote are language. Fascism accrues momentum via the perversion of language and the alternative, what I will call freedom tempered with responsibility, depends on the rigorous application of language to assert its merit and maintain its standards.

From the editor: This year isn't over yet.



Lindsay Smith
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If 2020 taught me anything, it's to not make plans.

I hate to bring up more 2020 complaints, but we all know that it's been a heck of a year. Especially for us student journalists. Specifically the ones who cover Wichita State.

Let's break this all down.

In March, the COVID-19 pandemic swept the world causing colleges from across the nation to close their doors to any in-person activities. I remember that day vividly — freshman reporter Lindsay running around the Rhatigan Student Center trying to get as many student voices as she could.

If I'm being completely honest with you, I thought that the pandemic and everyone sitting at home might lighten the load on any breaking news from the university for a while at least. But alas, it continued on.

In June, I was back at it again covering breaking news when donors called to fire Jay Golden over the Ivanka Trump Fiasco. I spent a chunk of my day in front of Charles Koch Arena covering a student-held rally for Golden. After roughly only six months on the job, the calls to fire him disappointed many students which led to unrest for many WSU students.

But that wasn't even the start of the breaking news for The Sunflower team.

On Sept. 25, President Jay Golden resigned from his position without a word.

Instead of hearing from him, his resignation was announced via a statement from the Kansas Board of Regents. Trying to cover a presidential resignation when you can't talk to the president is definitely a challenge.

And then the ball dropped again when it was announced that head Basketball Coach Gregg Marshall was under investigation by the university for misconduct allegations.

With all that being said, allow me to introduce myself.

My name is Lindsay Smith and I am the editor in chief for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year. It's a crazy year to be named editor, for sure.

But among all the craziness, we're still doing the work.

We know you have a lot of questions. We know the pandemic is causing a lot of unneeded stress among students and you just want to know what's going on.

Through it all, we're working on telling the stories that matter. We're working on getting your opinions, as the student body, so the administration can hear what you think.

We don't want you to be left in the dark. You have a right to know what's going on.

At The Sunflower, we have the guts to ask the tough questions. We have the resources to inform the community about the important things.

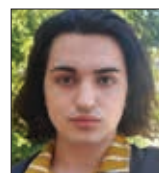
If you have any concerns or questions, feel free to reach out to me at editor@thesunflower.com. I would love to hear any opinions or concerns you have about this semester as it progresses.

We're all in this together.



FILE PHOTO: MORGAN ANDERSON/THE SUNFLOWER
Trinity the Tuck performs her opening dance routine during the 10th Annual Drag Show on Friday, Nov. 15 in the CAC Theatre.

Get those respectability politics away from my drag



Jeromiah Taylor
Opinion Editor
opinion@thesunflower.com

One of the more memorable moments to come out of RuPaul's Drag Race is when beloved drag queen Latrice Royal, acting in a prison sketch, says with impeccable timing and total commitment, "get those nuts away from my face."

I harbor similar feelings towards the respectability politics that have infiltrated drag.

It frustrates me that the mention of that show seems to preclude any discussion of drag as an artform yet it has amassed a majority share of what could be called drag's market value. It is unavoidable.

Rupaul's Drag Race, Rupaul himself, and the swarm of celebrity queens the show has proliferated embody what I want to talk about: a version of drag that is oxymoronic and antithetical to drag in its indispensable form.

Drag that is ahistorical in the sense that it does not honor its transgressive roots in ballroom culture or the trans women of color who gave drag its lifeblood, but rather panders to the assimilationist goals of the Gay Rights

movement. Drag that is artistically worthless in that it sanitizes itself, simultaneously taking itself too seriously and not seriously enough. Betraying its value as camp and failing to achieve legitimacy in any other aesthetic sensibility.

At the heart of drag is an audacious claim to dignity on the part of those denied dignity - gender non-conforming people assigned male at birth. Drag is about those people who are patriarchy's favorite laughing stock - feminine "men" - insisting on taking themselves seriously and by communicating that seriousness by way of the equally ridiculed aesthetics of popular culture. Drag is not good art. Yet in its combination of vulgarity and earnest self-esteem, even thematic ambition, it is a major addition to the canon of camp, and more importantly, an intangible cultural heritage belonging entirely to the queer imagination.

Deviance, that reviled state of being a man that acts like a woman, is at the heart of drag as a concept and is the historical foundation of drag as a practice.

Drag is only a satisfying art form when done in earnest, in which case it constitutes a substantive contribution to camp aesthetics. When done ironically,

by which I mean in a mainstream context devoid of its inherent deviance, drag is a hollow and pretentious undertaking.

Any incarnation of drag divorced from deviance, that has as its goal assimilation, ceases to be drag. Drag must be in opposition to the world of cisheteropatriarchy.

Thus drag's ultimate aspiration is its own irrelevance. The queering of the broader culture into a place where dressing up and lip synching is not a prerequisite for self-asserted dignity, but a natural result of inalienable dignity. Where cross dressing is an impossibility in a broader culture that does not instill gender presentation with the false dilemma of an irreconcilable binary.

Subsequently, the moment a drag queen becomes a celebrity she ceases to be a drag queen but has become an agent of assimilation whose only hope of sustained celebrity is a mercenary pandering to respectability.

The very definition of queerness necessitates a way of being that is outside respectability. So what it is to be queer will change with time, but every society will designate some way of being as queer.

The future of drag is there - on the frontier of respectability.

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Opinion

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters should concentrate on issues, not personalities, and must be fewer than 400 words. Letters may be edited for accuracy, clarity and length. Please include your name, WSU affiliation and a phone number for verification purposes. To submit letters, email opinion@thesunflower.com or submit at www.thesunflower.com.

The opinions expressed in The Sunflower editorials, columns, guest columns, reviews, advertisements, letters and editorial cartoons are not necessarily those of the staff, publications board, student body or the university. The Sunflower reserves the right to edit or reject any submission. We also reserve the right to edit or reject any advertisement.

THE SUNFLOWER'S HOT TAKES

The Sunflower staff gives their one-sentence takes.

Lindsay Smith: Mouse traps don't work.

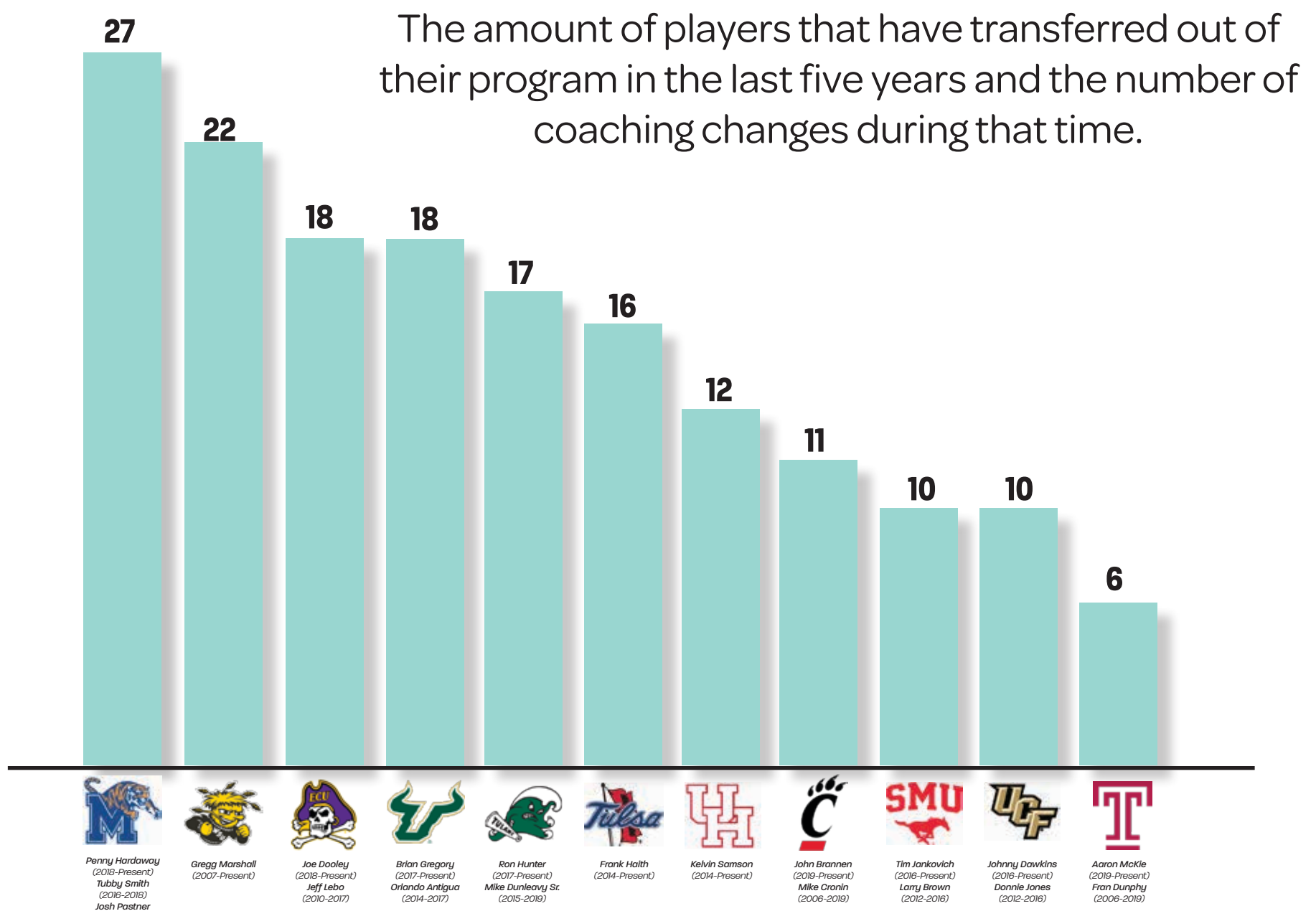
Morgan Anderson: It's time to normalize women being men's basketball head coaches.

Sean Marty: Carolina blue is the greatest color of all time.

Julia Nightengale: Everytime I drive in Wichita, I fear for my life.

Elena Kuckelman: McDonald's has the best Coca-Cola.

A look into AAC transfers since 2015



The impact of transfers on the WSU basketball program

BY SEAN MARTY

sports@thesunflower.com / @TheSeanMarty

Wichita State's roster was greatly affected this past season by transfers after seven players transferred out of the program, including six scholarship players.

Teams throughout the American Athletic Conference have also been impacted by transfers but not quite to the point that WSU has. The closest transfer number to WSU's was Tulsa University who had four players transfer out of the program.

After the recent news of the investigation in Gregg Marshall's alleged misconduct, the number of transfers in recent history from WSU has stood out. The Shockers

have had 22 players transfer out of the program since 2015 which is the second-most in the American Athletic Conference, only behind the University of Memphis.

Memphis has had three different head coaches since 2015 including Josh Pastner and Tubby Smith before hiring Penny Hardaway back in 2018. Meanwhile, WSU has been consistent with Marshall at the helm since he was hired as head coach back in 2007.

Of the AAC schools that have had only one head coach since 2015, the Shockers have had the most transfers among the three programs. Tulsa and Houston have had 16 and 12 transfers since 2015 respectively.

Throughout recent years, the

number of Division-I transfers had plateaued before another increase in this offseason. In 2020, there was a total of 1,033 transfers which was an increase from 994 transfers last year.

Another big factor in transfers this summer has been the amount that received hardship waivers. Typically some type of circumstance including family-related issues can result in a hardship waiver to allow them to play right without having to sit out a season.

Of the five WSU transfers who went to other Division-I schools, four have received waivers to be able to play immediately. Erik Stevenson is the lone former Shocker to not receive a waiver. His waiver request is currently pending.

With only seven transfer waiver requests denied, there has been a high amount of waivers granted by the NCAA in 2020. In total, 127 transfer waivers have been approved while 107 waiver requests are currently pending. Currently, of all the transfer waiver requests 52.7% have been approved while only 0.03% of all requests have been denied.

Given the uncertainty surrounding Marshall's standing with the program, there are many variables contract-wise if WSU decides to terminate his contract. Marshall is currently signed through 2021 and is making a salary of \$3.5 million each year.

If WSU decides to terminate

Marshall's contract it must fit within the best interests of the program and the university. The termination must also fit under "good cause". According to Marshall's contract, this includes his refusal to perform his duties as head coach, failure to supervise his coaching staff and provide oversight, convicted of a felony, insubordination and as determined by the University President an act of dishonesty and discreditable conduct.

If Marshall is terminated and it is not determined to be in "good cause", the university must pay Marshall either \$15 million or the remaining amount left on his contract.

MARSHALL FROM PAGE 1

two seasons prior, only four scholarship players had transferred out of the program.

Marshall has met with media only once this school year and had praised the chemistry improvements from a year ago.

"I've had multiple players, newcomers and returners tell me how different this is and how much better it is," Marshall said on Sept. 22. "I didn't see any problems at this time last year."

On Friday, the university released a statement acknowledging the allegations and is in the process of the investigation being conducted by Tueth Keeney, a St. Louis-based law firm.

"The investigation is being completed in an expeditious and deliberate manner," the release stated. "We have received full cooperation from university staff, coaches, and current student-athletes, and Coach Gregg Marshall and support any individual who chooses to participate in order to conduct a fair, impartial and thorough investigation."

A few hours later, Marshall released a statement that his playing style isn't for everyone and that he cares for all the players that he has coached over the course of his career.

"What I am not is demeaning or abusive," Marshall stated. "I have deep respect for all my players. I believe unequivocally in their value as athletes, as students, and as people. Any portrayal of me to the contrary is wrong."

Marshall was hired as WSU's head coach back in 2007, before leading the Shockers to a Final Four appearance back in 2013. Marshall helped lead the program to five Missouri Valley Conference championships including a 34-0 start during the 2013-14 season.

The past two seasons, the Shockers had been rebuilding the program before ultimately finishing last season with a 23-8 record and on the cusp of a return to the NCAA Tournament prior to the cancellation of the

Behind the scenes of Stadium's investigation into Gregg Marshall

BY SEAN MARTY

sports@thesunflower.com / @TheSeanMarty

This summer, Stadium's Jeff Goodman started a sixth month long investigation into Gregg Marshall after eight players entered the transfer portal.

Goodman has tracked transfers across the country for the past 20 years. Goodman most recently worked with ESPN before joining Stadium, a multi-platform sports network. He said that at one point WSU had the most transfers in the country, which was strange considering that the program was on the cusp of returning to the NCAA Tournament.

As Goodman started getting in contact with former players, he learned stories about what had been going on inside the basketball program. Despite having more than 36 players at one point come to him in off the record interviews, he didn't feel comfortable with publishing the story without someone going on the record.

Goodman said the story was the result of his six month long investigation.

"I just took my time on it, didn't rush it and then ultimately had everybody in place and the one thing I didn't have was somebody to go on the record," Goodman said.

Goodman said that former center Shaq Morris approached Goodman

and told him he would be willing to go on the record for an interview. Over a six week period, Goodman checked in with Morris weekly before he finally decided to go on the record.

"I just felt that this is such a big story and I've done stories of this nature before that you want to make sure that you've got it as airtight as you can," Goodman said. "You don't want to potentially ruin somebody's career without having as much information and talking to as many people and making sure. That's what I did."

One of the major allegations against Marshall was that he punched Morris during a 2015 practice. Goodman was able to have seven players from the practice to confirm the allegations brought forward. Both Morris and Ty Taylor II went on the record for the story.

Goodman said that some of the players were less willing to go on the record because of the possible backlash they could face.

"[Players] talked to me but were scared to go on the record because, let's face it, a lot of them are fearful of what the Wichita State fan base and community is potentially going to say and do to them— especially if Gregg Marshall keeps his job," he said.

Throughout the process, Goodman said that he remained focused on doing his job to the best of his ability.

"I don't have any vendetta against anybody," Goodman said. "I'm just doing my job. I try to be honest and forthright, try to do my job the best that I can. Everyone says that you're biased. I'm not biased at all."

"Yeah, I don't like coaches that treat people like shit. Period."

Some of Marshall's former players have come out in support of him on social media but all were there prior to the 2015 season. Goodman said that he has respect for Marshall as a coach but that he should change his coaching methods.

"I'm not saying he's not a good x's and o's coach and he didn't do well in developing some players," Goodman said. "I'm just saying there are a lot of people that I talked to, a lot of players question his methods and question whether it was personal. Do you have to be that way? I would say no."

WSU released a statement Friday to address the articles published about the investigation. WSU confirmed that an investigation was taking place and acknowledging the allegations brought forward.

Goodman said that many of the players he interviewed for the story have not taken part in the university's investigation and felt the investigation couldn't be trusted.

Read the rest on thesunflower.com



PHOTOS BY KAYLEE STOUT AND LENA ALHALLAQ/THE SUNFLOWER

Above: Junior Ross Cadena runs back to home base during the baseball scrimmage at Eck Stadium on Oct. 10. Right: Wichita State freshman Konner Lewis pitches the ball during the Fall World Series.



Baseball returns to the field with Fall World Series

BY SEAN MARTY

sports@thesunflower.com / @TheSeanMarty

The baseball program returned to Eck Stadium for the first time in a competitive fashion with the Fall World Series on Saturday.

WSU's 2020 season was cut short but not before starting out the season with a 13-2 record including a 13-game winning streak prior to the cancellation of spring sports due to COVID-19.

On Saturday, the black team was able to pick up the victory 10-3 and head coach Eric Wedge was pleased with the performance in the first game of the five-game series.

"It was a good day, guys have been working hard," Wedge said. "I like the competition factor, these guys competing against one

another."

Given the circumstances, this will be the only competitive action for the program as typical fall scrimmages against other programs will not take place. Wedge said that he likes this event to finish off the fall season before the team rejoins later on.

"I want it to be very competitive and I fully expect it will be. But also it's a chance for these guys to be together for the last time in a while."

In game one of the Fall World Series, Wedge said that he was pleased with the performance of starting pitchers Liam Eddy and Konnor Lewis as both combined to allow only one earned run amongst the two pitchers.

"I think when your starting pitching gives you the chance to win the ballgame, that's all you can ask for," Wedge said. "We had a couple of relievers get beat up a little bit but they'll be back on there."

Wedge said that being able to find new ways to evaluate his players this fall has been tougher but still feels confident in creating competitive opportunities for his team.

"We try to create an atmosphere with that type of competitiveness, that type of nature. Obviously, it's always better to play against a different uniform but we've been able to do our fair share of evaluating this fall."

Coming into his second year

at the helm, Wedge feels that he's getting more comfortable with the program especially due to the premature ending from last season.

"I would've liked to get into conference play last year but I haven't even managed a conference game yet," Wedge said. "We're comfortable here at Wichita State, obviously with the players. We have people coming in every year so it's always going to be an adjustment."

In the scrimmage, freshmen Noah Griese and Cooper Harris were able to drive in two runs each for the black. Senior Corrigan Bartlett, who transferred from Saint Louis, was able to put the game out of reach late with a three-run home run in the bottom of the sixth inning.

Wedge said that similar to last year, the energy has been very good while the newcomers have been able to fit into the group as well to this point.

"There was a lot of energy and there's a lot of energy this year," Wedge said. "We've got more leadership this year, they're holding each other accountable. Freshmen for the most part are doing a good job so it's a lot of good things that have happened this last year."

The Shockers will continue the Fall World Series this week with games two through four being closed to the public. Game five will be open to the first 2,000 fans on Oct. 17 with the first pitch at 1 p.m.



FILE PHOTO: MORGAN ANDERSON/THE SUNFLOWER

The Wichita State student section wraps their arms around each other and sings the university Alma Mater before the exhibition game on Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2019 inside Charles Koch Arena.

Charles Koch Arena narrows down capacity for upcoming basketball season

BY SEAN MARTY

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As the 2020-21 basketball season nears, Wichita State is narrowing on the amount of fans that will be allowed to attend games this upcoming winter.

Although WSU has not been allowed to host any competition between a different school, the university has been able to hold Black and Yellow Scrimmages for volleyball inside Charles Koch Arena. To this point, only 2,000 fans have been allowed to attend with masks required for all who attend.

After the city and county commissioner approved 40% capacity for games, it is expected the total attendance will grow for basketball games.

"So, that doesn't necessarily mean we'll sell out at that capacity, we'll probably start out lower than that and get our protocols sorted out and try to educate our fan base and students who attend the games then add to it as the season progresses," WSU Director of Athletics Darron Boatright said. "How the testing is going in our market and in the community."

If WSU decides to be at that

40% capacity, around 4,200 fans will be allowed to attend games. Currently, which fans being allowed to attend will be determined based on a point system while student tickets are still being decided on how they will be distributed.

"For fans, we have a priority point system that's been put in place for several years that rewards giving as well as longevity and you accumulate points over the years," Boatright said. "So, we'll utilize those systems and for students, we'll probably do some type of lottery or do separate pick up times like we have in the past for different games and ensure that the students that pick them up are utilizing them."

Just like the rest of the arena, the student section will also be at 40% capacity as they look for ways to socially distance those who attends the games.

Although certain safety guidelines are not set in stone, Boatright said that certain policies and guidelines will be changing as more changes are made in the health and safety aspects.

"Well, it's a little early because they're always changing," Boatright said. "There was a time when we

were going to take temperatures and now that has proven to be not as effective as everyone initially thought. Currently, every other row will be marked off and inaccessible. Masks will be required and we'll try to social distance those that are not in the same household as well."

On Oct. 7, the American Athletic Conference announced their scheduling plans for the upcoming basketball season. This upcoming season will increase the amount of conference games while also having certain windows for the games.

Boatright said having these windows has been helpful especially when it comes to finalizing a non-conference schedule for this winter after the NCAA announced Nov. 25 as the new start date last month.

"Well, it's helpful because it identifies all the parameters that we all have to stay within," Boatright said. "So, we can finalize contracts with non-conference games. We'll have four of those in addition to the tournament that will be played in South Dakota. And then we'll play a 20-game American Athletic Conference schedule."

AAC announces scheduling plans for 2020-21 Basketball Season

BY SEAN MARTY

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The American Athletic Conference announced on Wednesday the scheduling format and timelines for the conference in the upcoming 2020-21 men's and women's basketball seasons.

Conference play will consist of a 20-game double round-robin format for both men's and women's basketball seasons. Previously, the conference utilized an 18-game conference schedule in men's basketball and 16-game conference schedule in women's basketball.

"This format provides a sensible and fair path for all of our men's and women's basketball teams in what will be a challenging upcoming season," AAC commissioner Mike Aresco said in a release. "It allows each of our teams to play a consistent number of conference games and will ensure that they are competing against teams that are utilizing our strong health and safety protocols."

The men's basketball conference play will begin with three windows for games in December including Dec. 14-17, Dec. 21-23 and Dec. 28-31. Women's

basketball will begin with four windows in December including Dec. 14-17, Dec. 18-20, Dec. 21-23 and Dec. 28-31.

The AAC men's and women's basketball championships will still be held in Fort Worth, Texas which will be the first time both are held at the same location. The women's basketball championship will take place from March 8-11 while the men's basketball championship will run March 11-14.

So far, no schedules have been released for either program but they will be announced at a later date. WSU Director of Athletics Darron Boatright said that they are in the process of finalizing the schedules.

With the introduction of these windows for conference play, Boatright feels they will be helpful in finalizing the contracts for these games.

"Well, it's helpful because it identifies all the parameters that we all have to stay within," Boatright said. "So, we can finalize contracts with non-conference games. We'll have four of those in addition to the tournament that will be played in South Dakota. And then we'll play a 20-game American Athletic Conference schedule."



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PODCAST

Black-run art gallery highlighting multicultural artwork to open by end of year

BY KAREN GALINDO
arts@thesunflower.com

Community members are hoping to open a Black-run art gallery which focuses on multicultural artwork by the end of the year.

According to the gallery's GoFundMe, Mulberry Art Gallery is a "non-profit immersive art gallery in Wichita, Kansas...where guests will learn to engage with art through audiovisual and tactile stimulation."

Owner Anthony Joiner says the goal of the gallery is to give local artists of color a more consistent space to show their work.

"When we go into different galleries, you see a lot of artwork there, but not a lot of it is cultured artwork...and a lot of artists get excluded because of that, especially artists of color," Joiner said. "So the goal of this gallery is to give our artists [an opportunity]...to create something bigger than art-on-canvas and canvas-on wall. It's to help the work expand beyond the canvas."

The gallery will feature all forms of art, including, but not limited to, poetry, dance, paintings, video and sculptures.

"I love the galleries we have [in Wichita], but I feel like a lot of the time...they're kind of trying to cater to a specific audience where they hang up artwork that can't be offensive, there's not a whole lot of color, it's not cultural.... What we're aiming to do is actually put people in a position where they can actually feel the artist....That's gonna come in several different ways," Joiner said.

Joiner is planning on hosting themed art shows at Mulberry Art Gallery, where artists submit work that follows a certain theme.

"We are gonna have themed art shows where we come up with a particular thing like hair," Joiner said. "Hair is actually a really big thing around the United States, actually around the world, right now. People of color are finally being able to have their own natural hair in a way that comes naturally from their head...women

are finally coming to terms that they can shave their heads and still be women."

He says that the purpose of the gallery is for it to be an immersive space where people can engage with the artist's thoughts.

"[We want it] so that people can walk in and actually engage in that thought," Joiner said. "Some people [will] disagree with some of it; it's perfectly fine. What art is there for is to open that conversation."

The gallery will also feature a solo exhibition room where there will be a small roster of "more established artists" that will get that solo space for a certain period of time in which they have full artistic freedom to create whatever they want.

"If they want to paint the wall, if they want to make a sculpture that sticks out from the walls— whatever they want to do," Joiner said. "When you walk into that room, you are submerged by that artist's world."

Joiner works closely with local

artists and on local art shows, including the shows hosted by the Art That Touches your Heart foundation during the month of February that takes place on Wichita State's campus.

He ended up meeting sophomore Kynneddy Moore at one of the shows at the Rhatigan Student Center.

"Kynneddy stood out because she was a hustler," Joiner said. "... She was working on a website when she was there with so many different extraordinary pieces. When I started building this, I thought about how her art is one of the primary reasons why I'm building this. For artists like her to have their art on the wall."

Moore, a sophomore majoring in Entrepreneurship, created the GoFundMe account that is circulating around social media.

"My goal is to make my mark on Wichita. I'm not here just to go to school. Anywhere that I go, you're gonna remember me," Moore said. "This [gallery] is really big, not only because it's for artistry and

for recognizing different ways to express students' art, but it's for people like me, and you don't really see that around Wichita at all. So to be able to be a part of something like that is really amazing."

From a students perspective, Moore sees this gallery as an opportunity to be authentically herself.

"With this space it's my full expression, regardless if you like it, what you think of it, if you know about it or if you don't," Moore said. "It gives people an opportunity to be, 'Okay, I see this piece of art. I may not understand it, but maybe I want to learn about it.'"

Currently, \$913 has been raised through the gallery's GoFundMe account, which has a goal of \$75,000. Joiner plans to speak with other local organizations and corporations to discuss sponsorships. If you're interested in donating, please visit gf.me/u/y3s2pb

The gallery is located on Central and Volutsia.

Joiner also hopes to turn the gallery space into a networking opportunity for local artists.

The Boys Season 2 finishes with a heartbreaking, head-popping finale

TV CRITIC



Wyman Wheeler

Reporter
wywheeler@shockers.wichita.edu

After a month of weekly releases, the sophomore season of "The Boys" has finally wrapped up; the end result was another great season of television.

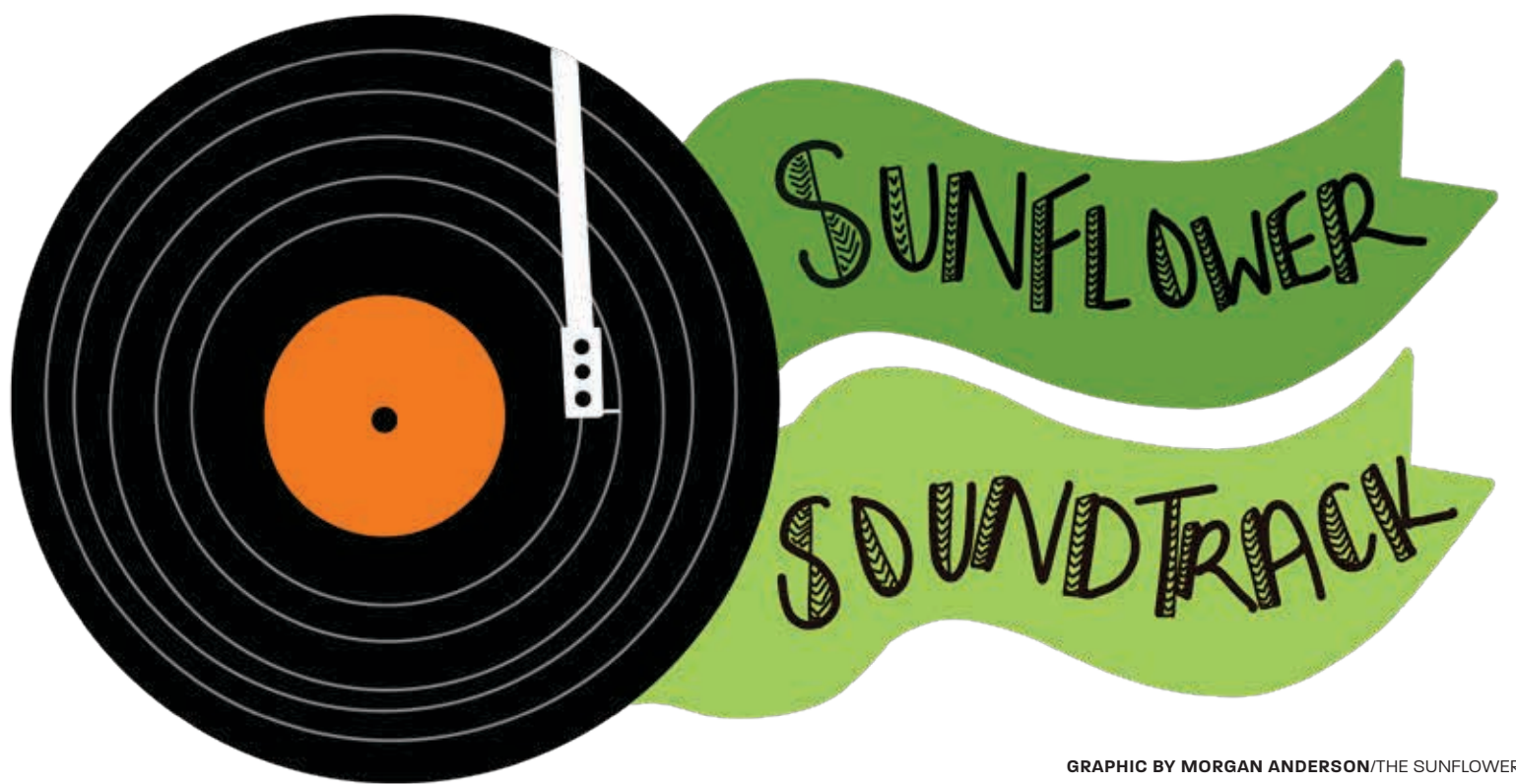
Developed by Eric Kripke, "The Boys" is an Amazon original series based on the comic book of the same name.

"The Boys" picked up right where they left off. After a riveting three episode debut which included exploding heads, punctured whales, and a super-racist, the series hit a bit of a lull. By the end of the finale most of the storylines were resolved well, except for one. The entire subplot involving the Deep and the Church of the Collective felt like a waste of time. Other than that exception, the story ended up resolving in a natural and satisfactory way by the end of the finale.

The highlight of the season is the character arc given to Karl Urban's Billy Butcher. Butcher's motives are driven by hatred and trauma. Throughout the season his goals are compromised because of his aggressive anger towards superheroes. In the finale, Butcher is faced with a decision that if made with Butcher's ideology could cause the audience to question whether or not he is a good person. The integrity of Butcher's character was on the line and it was fascinating to watch Karl Urban navigate those nuances expertly.

The rest of the cast also brought their A-game. Fan favorite, Homelander, is once again pitch perfect thanks to Antony Starr's haunting performance and new addition, Stormfront was a compelling addition to the Seven. Jack Quaid and Erin Moriarty also bring an adorkable romance that provides levity to a show with a bleak premise.

The show tackles many hot button topics such as immigration, manipulation of the media, and dangers of capitalism. While the second season of "The Boys" never reaches the greatness of the first season, it keeps the story moving and keeps the audience wanting more from the Amazon original series.



GRAPHIC BY MORGAN ANDERSON/THE SUNFLOWER



KAREN GALINDO
A&E Editor

I put a spell on you by Bette Midler (Hocus Pocus 1993)

I specifically chose this cover because 'Hocus Pocus' is the most iconic Halloween movie of all time and I will debate that until the day I die. Like, who doesn't want to be the Sanderson sisters? They're flawless! Evil? Eh, maybe. But, flawless! Just look at their dramatic entrances, magical capabilities, singing skills, and incredible quotes! The "SISTAHHHS" are here to conquer Halloween.

Rocky Horror soundtrack

"Rocky Horror" has the making of a perfect Halloween movie: murder, sex, and the breaking of social norms. Plus, its soundtrack is amazing! It gives off risky, spooky, and mysterious vibes all while being hilarious. I recommend the musical, movie, and soundtrack to anybody who wants something different from the normal. Put on your best fishnet tights and strut around town in stilettos with your head held high.

Ghostbusters by Ray Parker Jr.

This song brings back vivid memories of me stealing my sisters iPod in elementary school and constantly replaying "Ghostbusters", because for some reason, nine year old Karen was obsessed with it. This is a must-add to any great Halloween playlist.



JULIA NIGHTENGALE
Copy Editor

Psycho Killer by Talking Heads

This song is perfect to jam out to during a Halloween party with all your friends. It has a spooky vibe while also being a really good song that I listen to all-year round. I can picture myself singing this song word for word with my sister and dancing around the kitchen all through October. If you haven't listened to this song before, now is the perfect time to give it a try.

This is Halloween by The Citizens of Halloween

"The Nightmare Before Christmas" is arguably one of the best Halloween movies out there, so it's only fitting to add this song to your soundtrack. If you are struggling to get in the Halloween mood, I guarantee listening to this song will give you all of the spooky feels. This song is beautifully composed and will make you feel like a kid again in the best way.

Devil in Disguise by Elvis Presley

This song might be a bit of a reach, but as a huge Elvis fan, I think it is a necessary addition to a Halloween soundtrack. It's a song that everyone has heard at least once and I can't help but start tapping my feet when it starts playing. Grab your favorite dance partner and hit the dance floor for a Halloween celebration you won't forget!



KAYLEE STOUT
Assistant Photo Editor

Spooky, Scary Skeletons by Andrew Gold (Undead Tombstone Remix)

If you have a TikTok, then you have probably heard this song because it is all over the app. This is a whimsical song that always gets stuck in my head, and that is what makes it so great. If I could choose a song to get stuck in my head for the month of October, it would be this one.

Cannibal by Kesha

This song is definitely a throwback to junior high, and with that being said, I know every word. I still remember the first time I saw Kesha's Tik Tok music video where she had gold sparkly nail polish, so naturally I had to paint my nails with gold sparkly nail polish. In my opinion, she was definitely an icon through my preteen years. This song is great for getting into that rebellious mood for the month of October.

Skeleton Sam by LVCRFT

What first caught my attention was the beginning of the song, because it screams Halloween. There are not a lot of pop Halloween theme songs out there, but I think this one might be for you if you are a pop genre lover.



MORGAN ANDERSON
Managing Editor

Little Shop of Horrors soundtrack

A man-eating plant, a psycho dentist, and Skid Row is the best spooky musical to get you in the Halloween mood. This musical combines both a tragic love story and horrifying supernatural species. So whether you're dying to belt "Suddenly Seymour" in your car, or you're channeling Orin Scrivello's morbid demeanor in "Dentist!", this musical is for you. Just remember, don't feed the plants!

Calling All the Monsters by China Anne McClain

As a life-long Disney Channel fan, this song is one of the greatest. I can't go a single Halloween season without blasting this song at full volume with a few of my friends in my car, or watching the music video at least 100 times. China Anne McClain served us a masterpiece.

Monster Mash by Bobby Pickett

Okay, I know this song is cliché but nonetheless, still a classic. The spooky sounds mixed with Bobby Pickett's deep vocals makes "Monster Mash" a truly perfect Halloween song. No matter how many times we've heard it, it's still hard not to sing along. You may call it "overplayed", but I call it iconic. So do the mash...