The Sunflower

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WICHITA STATE'S STUDENT NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1896 | **MONDAY, SEPT. 16, 2019** | VOL. 124 • ISSUE 10 /// THESUNFLOWER.COM

HARD-HITTING

Students ask mayoral candidates the tough questions at forum.

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FALL OPENING

The Ulrich Museum of Art features three new exhibits this fall.

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PAID TO PLAY?

Sunflower staffers debate the merits of paying student athletes.

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HOME LOSSES

Shocker volleyball went 0-3 in their first home matches over the weekend.

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App developers aim to help first-year students socialize

BY EDUARDO CASTILLO

A team of graduate and undergraduate students have developed a mobile application they hope will help students socialize at Wichita State.

The app, called Alonzie, first launched in August.

"We want to give students one centralized place to have access to events, because that's something that we didn't have coming in as first-year students," said Zeeshan Khan, one of the students on the development team.

The free app's main function is to allow users to create, view, and share events within a 30-mile radius. Users are also able to make events public or private, view who attends the event, live-stream, and book rides from Uber.

Other students who helped develop the app are James Meli, Billy Meli, and Emmanuel Daramola. James Meli first had a vision for the app in 2016.

"I would often see people posting flyers around campus, advertising on Snapchat, Instagram, and taking screenshots and reposting on their social media," he said. "I knew there had to be an easier way to do all this and make it streamlined."

The application is open for anyone to use. But it is ultimately geared towards registered student organizations (RSOs), fraternities, sororities and other student groups.

While groups use social media platforms like Facebook and Instagram to promote events, posts can get lost among the noise on users' feeds. Alonzie's developers say they hope to make it easier for users to be connected to activities and events in the community without having to follow multiple pages across various outlets.

The application has gained about 300 registered users since its launch. It is current only available for devices on iOS, which developers say was for cost efficiency.

"We wanted to perfect the application on one platform in case we ran into any glitches and bugs that we may run into, as well as receive user feedback," James Meli said. "We wanted to go above the threshold of the goal that we set."

The team says they hope to launch an android version of the app by the end of the year.

Alonzie developers are also currently mapping out how they can pitch their application to investors in order to get them on board.

EASTON THOMPSON/THESUNFLOWER

Senior musical theatre student Ari Chandler sings with her band Annie Up Wednesday at Wave. The group already has shows booked throughout the rest of 2019.

Musical theatre major finds second performing love as Annie Up frontwoman

BY ELLA DOMINGUEZ

Ari Chandler lives a double life. By day, she attends class and works a retail job like a typical college student. But by night, she's performing in front of sold-out crowds with some of the most acclaimed musicians in Wichita.

Chandler's love for performance began with VHS cassettes and the guidance of her grandmother, she said.

"I started singing with my Nana at church when I was really little," Chandler said. "I really put it back to her for starting that love of music and performing."

Through involvement with her community theatre, worship team, tap dancing classes, and show choir, Chandler's repertoire grew to be all-inclusive. Soon enough, she would land her first roles as the Queen of Hearts in her elementary school's rendition of "Alice in Wonderland Jr." and Lola in her high school's performance of "Damn Yankees."

"I just fell in love with it," she said.

Chandler bursts into giggles when asked how she balances school and work. As a senior studying musical theatre with two jobs outside of school, "balance" isn't commonplace in her life, she said.

Currently, Chandler is finishing up her last few classes before graduation. She works at Clifton Collective, sings in the worship band of her church every week, and has a continuous gig as a lead singer for Annie Up — a role she never even auditioned for.

When Chandler joined Annie Up a year and a half ago, the band was in a bind. One of their singers had just left and they needed to fill the spot — fast. One of Chandler's friends recommended her for the role and she was instantly booked. The first time Annie Up's manager heard Chandler sing was at her first show, after he already hired her.

> **"It's nice to find other avenues instead of just putting yourself into one little box."**
>
> *—Ari Chandler, musical theatre student and a frontwoman of Annie Up*

Joining Annie Up presented some challenges for Chandler, who was the youngest band member by 10 years. Most of the other members are over 30 and in radically different phases of their lives than her. Chandler, the only student, had to deal with the added difficulty of working around her classes and theatrical commitments.

"I couldn't just drop everything," she said.

Coming from a performance background, Chandler said she assumed memorizing the material for Annie Up was going to be a piece of cake. She was wrong.

"It was also a totally different experience. I don't know why memorizing 30 popular songs was so hard for me," Chandler said. "Lyrically, I thought I was going to go insane."

In addition to the challenges of memorizing the material, Chandler felt a tidal wave of performance anxiety she hadn't experienced in years.

"I don't normally get nervous when performing," she said. "The whole dynamic of the show was different. I was so nervous I was going to forget lyrics and look like an idiot on stage."

Now a band veteran, Chandler laughs at her earlier struggles.

"When they gave me the setlist, I was like [hyperventilating]. Now, it's just second nature. I don't even have to think about the words," she said.

A typical setlist for Annie Up includes "Brickhouse," "Manic Monday," "Livin' On a Prayer," and other hits from the late 70s to today. It's a culmination of music that depends on the dynamic of the performance. To simplify it, Annie Up plays "all those typical rock songs people like to scream and get drunk to," Chandler said.

Despite the age gap, Annie Up functions like a machine, she said.

"They're really great people — fun to be around, really good musicians. They take care of us. Our manger's awesome. He's a funny old guy," Chandler said.

Performances can range anywhere from two to five hours long. At first, Chandler said she worried her voice was going to give out, but it's actually grown stronger over time. While the schedule is rigorous, Chandler claims it has helped her grow as both a performer and a person.

SEE **ARI UP** PAGE 3

Honors College opens doors to renovated space in Shocker Hall

BY MATTHEW KELLY AND DANIEL CAUDILL

The Dorothy and Bill Cohen Honors College held an open house Friday to show off the college's expanded space in Shocker Hall to students, staff and community members.

The new space includes dedicated study areas, a seminar room — and a microwave.

"If you ask a student what a new, expanded space in Shocker Hall means to them, ... at least one of them will say, 'The microwave is one of the most essential things to life. I need ramen,'" Honors Dean Kimberly Engber said earlier this month at a weekly Wichita State news briefing.

"Maybe ramen is not the first thing that you think about when you think about an Honors College on campus, but this really speaks to the goal of the university to be student-centered and to create as many spaces on campus where students can be students."

Places create communities, Engber said.

"It gives them a space where they can just hang out. It gives them a space where they can work on complex math problems on whiteboards — we have a whole wall of whiteboards for them," Engber said.

This semester, the college instituted a flat $50 fee for honors students to fund the renovations. The Honors College Student Council voted to establish the fee last November.

Engber told The Sunflower in April that the college will submit a report in five years that shows how fees have been used and consults the council on whether or not the fee should be continued.

Cameron Holston, a freshman on the First Year Honors Advisory Board, said he never got the chance to see the old Honors College space. But he said he's happy to see the college receive a new home.

"I've probably come here with friends five times this week just to hang out," Holston said of the new space in Shocker Hall.

During the remodel, the Honors College found a temporary home in Hubbard Hall.

Engber said the college is opening its doors — literally and metaphorically.

"In 2017, it was actually students who said, 'We need a front door to the Honors College,'" she said. "And what they meant was, we need all students and faculty to realize that we are present on this campus and that we are here as a resource.

"All students can come to the Honors College for resources that can support them in undergraduate research and creative activities."

Created in 2013, the Honors College was named after benefactors Dorothy and Bill Cohen in 2015.

DANIEL CAUDILL/THE SUNFLOWER

The Dorothy and Bill Cohen Honors College held an open house for their renovated, expanded space in Shocker Hall last week.

THIS WEEK'S NEWS IN BRIEF

BY DANIEL CAUDILL AND MATTHEW KELLY

FIRE SPRINKLERS TO BE TESTED

WSU Fire and Safety will conduct quarterly flow tests this week on fire sprinklers in campus buildings.

The department will conduct the tests from 6 to 8 a.m. Monday through Friday in buildings across campus, according to a university release. Campus housing tests will be conducted after 10 a.m.

The release states fire alarms may sound for a few seconds multiple times. People are asked not to evacuate during the short alarms, unless they last for longer than 20 seconds.

Besides tests at campus housing, the release states any alarm after 8 a.m. is an actual fire alarm, and evacuation procedures must be followed.

CONSTITUTION DAY PANEL

The Wichita State Political Science Department will host a panel Tuesday in coordination with Constitution Day.

A panel of local experts will discuss requirements for running for office, specifically legislative positions.

Panelists are T. McGuire Johnson, former chair of the Sedgwick County Democratic Party; Dalton Glasscock, chair of the Sedgwick County Republican Party; and Neal Allen, chair of the political science department.

The free event will run from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Tuesday at 208 Hubbard Hall.

Constitution Day is a federal observance that recognizes the adoption of the U.S. Constitution and those who have become citizens in the U.S.

The holiday is typically celebrated on Sept. 17, when delegates to the Constitutional Convention signed the document in 1787.

LOTS OF BOARD MEETINGS THIS WEEK

The Kansas Board of Regents, Wichita State Board of Trustees, and Wichita State Innovation Alliance, are all holding public board meetings this week.

KBOR, the governing body that oversees state universities, meets at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday and Thursday in the Curtis State Office Building in Topeka.

The board of trustees meets at 8 a.m. Friday in Room 164 of the John Bardo Center (previously the Experiential Engineering Building).

WSIA, the nonprofit organization that manages public-private partnerships on Innovation Campus, will meet at 11 a.m. in the Bardo Center, immediately following the trustees meeting.

University will partner with WPD to identify ballistics at crime scenes

BY KYLIE CAMERON

The Wichita Police Department is partnering with Wichita State University to identify gun ballistics from crime scenes.

WPD received a $750,000 grant from the Department of Justice to house a certified firearms examiner, and software and technology for identifying ballistics at WSU. Grant money will be spread across three years.

Wichita Police Chief Gordon Ramsey said the new technology will also help the department build their Gun Crime Intelligence Center.

"In the cities that [Gun Crime Intelligence Centers] have started, [they] have had a significant decrease in gun violence," Ramsey said Thursday at a press conference.

The Wichita Eagle reports that the department currently has to send ballistics to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation in Topeka before they "are categorized in the system."

The new technology at WSU will expedite this process.

Ramsey said the university will "do the research" to see what impact the new technology will have on gun crime in the city. The university contributed $120,000 toward new equipment, which it plans to use for its criminal justice program. WPD covered the remainder of the equipment's $185,000 price tag.

Gun crime in Wichita has been on the rise since 2014, according to Ramsey, and aggravated assaults have nearly doubled since 2012. At the press conference on Thursday, Ramsey said violent crime is down this year compared to 2018.

The Sunflower reached out Friday morning to Andra Bannister, director of the school of criminal justice, for comment on how WSU plans on using the new technology. Bannister had not responded by press time Sunday.

MORGAN ANDERSON/THE SUNFLOWER

Kansas Rep. Brandon Whipple, left, and Mayor Jeff Longwell answer questions Sunday during a student-led forum held at the Advanced Learning Library. Whipple and Longwell are candidates for mayor of Wichita. The general election will be held Nov. 5.

Students ask the tough questions at municipal election forum

BY DANIEL CAUDILL

While many of them are not yet old enough to vote, a group of high school and college students made their voices heard to candidates at a forum for upcoming local elections.

Mayor Jeff Longwell and challenger Brandon Whipple answered questions at the forum, which was held Sunday at Wichita's Advanced Learning Library — a $38 million project that opened for business last year.

"The people who are running for election should have to answer questions from the people," said Durell Gilmore, lead advocate and community organizer for Kansas Appleseed, a nonprofit that helped organize the forum.

Candidates answered questions from a broad range of topics at the forum, some of which were not specifically addressed last week at the first debate of the general election. Those topics included affordable housing, food insecurity and racism.

Candidates seemed particularly caught off guard by a question about Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

"If elected, will you work on a city ordinance to declare that WPD (Wichita Police Department) will be [focused] on keeping everyone safe instead of working with ICE?" a student asked, reading an audience-submitted question.

Neither candidate answered the question directly, instead focusing on the safety aspect.

Partially because of the Law Enforcement Training Center at Wichita State, Longwell said, Wichita police officers are better equipped to handle daily issues. He said the length of their training has steadily increased over the years from nine weeks to nine months.

"It's a complicated process, and we want to make sure that we get them all of the right skills to ensure that we're going to be able to keep this community safe," Longwell said.

He also stressed the department's recent hiring of a Spanish-speaking public information officer.

Whipple, a state representative from District 96, responded to the question by discussing a proposal to send social workers along with police officers on cases involving people with mental health issues.

"[A social worker] who has more experience in these situations might be able to read the situation differently and come out with a better outcome for everyone," he said.

Sedgwick County and the City of Wichita already utilize a program similar to Whipple's proposal called the Integrated Care Team (ICT) that responds to 911 calls related to mental health. It features a law enforcement officer, a qualified mental health professional, and a paramedic.

Whipple also stressed the importance of community policing, a method which involves officers living in and getting involved with the community around them.

Gilmore, spokesperson for Kansas Appleseed, said difficult questions were part of the appeal in hosting a student-led forum.

"[The forum] came about because we want to make sure that they're also answering questions they're not always asked — questions that we seem to gloss over," he said.

Another question asked candidates what they plan to do to promote racial equality and combat white supremacy.

Whipple spoke in no uncertain terms.

"You combat white supremacy by calling it out and not accepting it," he said. "We have people in the political discourse that are trying to accept that this is the new norm — that we can have people who are white supremacists and that we should accept that viewpoint. And I don't think we should."

He also spoke in favor of bringing back the Wichita Civil Rights Commission and passing a citywide ordinance that outlaws discrimination based on identity.

Longwell, mayor since 2015, said it's important for the city government to represent the demographics of the larger community.

"When we look at our hiring practices, we're trying to be as very diverse as we possibly can be," Longwell said. "We have to develop boards, committees, and directors that look like our community."

The second half of the forum was reserved for candidates of the USD 259 Board of Education.

YOUTH INVOLVEMENT KEY TO EVENT

Jonathan Liu, a junior studying biology at Newman University, was one of the students who asked questions during the forum. He's also an art-large senator in the school's student government.

Despite traditionally low turnout, Liu said it's important for young people to be educated and involved in the local political system.

"I think that the political system is very, very complex, and it's very difficult for you to understand," Liu said. "I think it's important for young people to become knowledgeable at a lower playing field, so they can start to understand how things work at a local level."

Results from the Sedgwick County Election Office show that turnout in 2015 elections was just 16.3%, with 44,506 ballots cast. That was up from 12.8% in 2011.

The League of Women Voters, a civic organization formed after women gained suffrage in 1920, set up a table at the forum to help voters get registered.

Local nonprofit groups Progeny and Root the Power also helped organize the forum.

Both mayoral candidates praised students for their part in bringing the forum to fruition.

"It is inspiring to see young people coming out and taking part in our civic engagement process," Whipple said.

"I want to thank the youth for leading this — what a great opportunity," Longwell said, asking students in attendance to participate in the Mayor's Youth Council. "You can decide on the impact that you want to have."

The Sunflower, founded in 1896, is the student-run newspaper covering Wichita State University. The print edition is published Monday and Thursday during the fall and spring semesters and twice over the summer. The staff publishes daily online at www.thesunflower.com.

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 learnig experience for students, who will have the final authority over what is published.

LEGAL

One free copy of The Sunflower is available to members of the WSU community. Additional copies may be purchased for $1 in the newsroom, Elliott Hall 019. The Sunflower is private property and unlawful removal or use of papers is prosecutable. The Sunflower is funded by a combination of print and online advertisment sales and student fees allocated by the Student Government Association.

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The Sunflower is a member of Kansas Collegiate Media, the Associated Collegiate Press and College Media Association.

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Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of *religion*, or prohibiting the exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of *speech,* or of the *press*; or the right of the people peaceably to *assemble*, and to *petition* the Government for a redress of grievances.

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Corrections and clarifications will be printed in this space.

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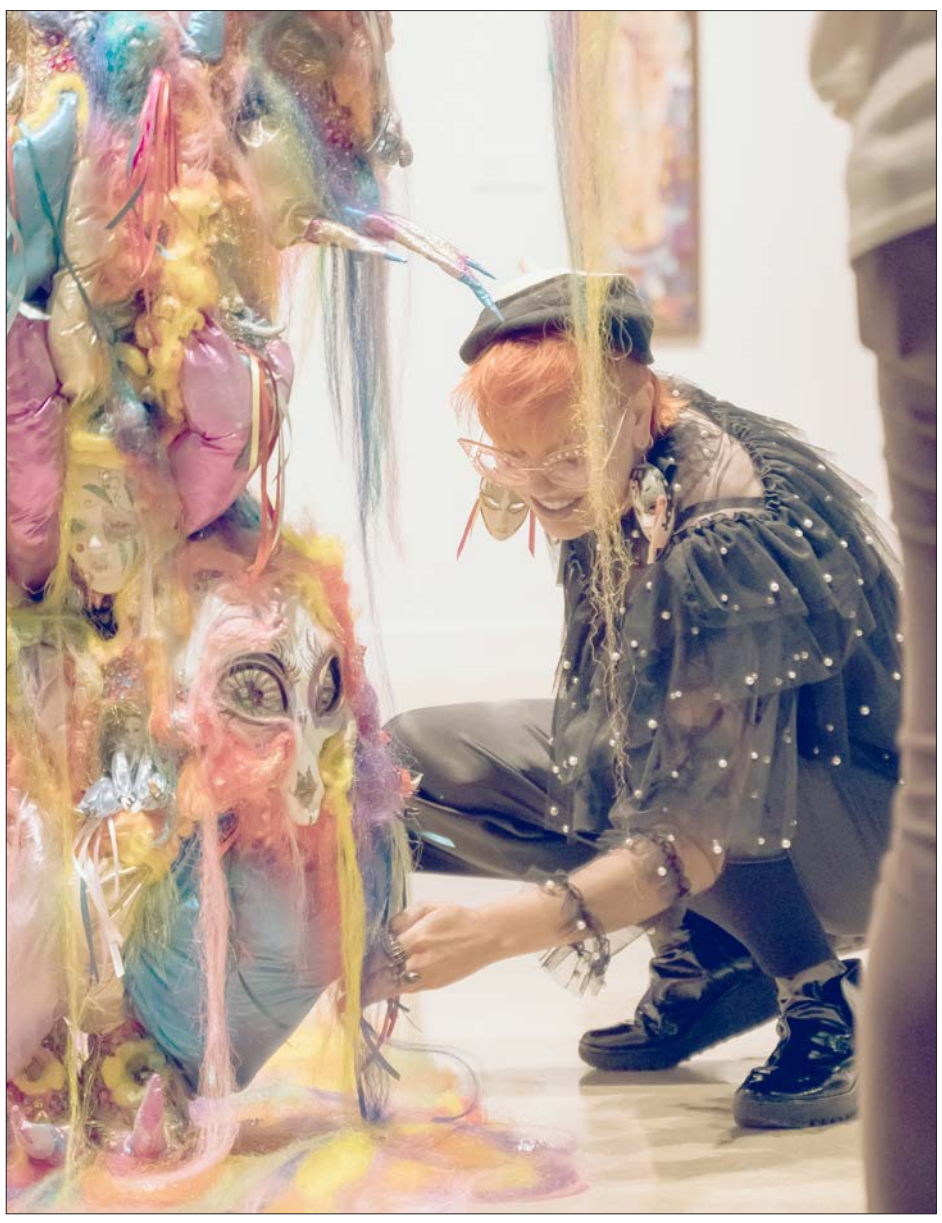
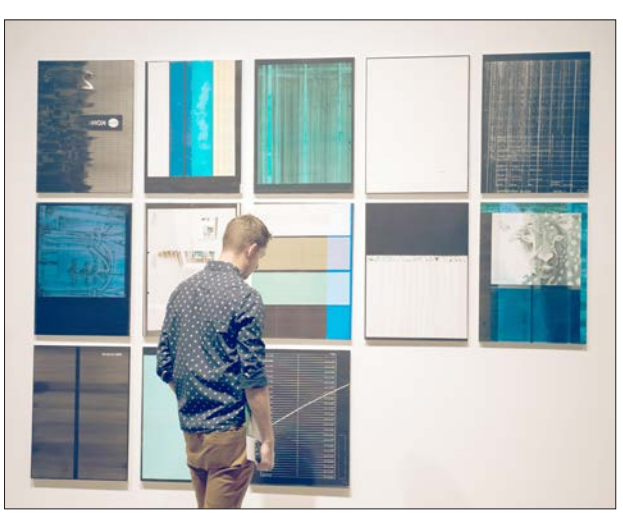




KHÁNH NGUYỄN/THE SUNFLOWER

Left, A spectator analyzes Hallie Linnebur's 3D art piece at the Ulrich Museum of Art's fall exhibiton opening on Thursday. Linnebur teaches 3D design at Wichita State. One fall exhibition features art made by members of the WSU faculty. Top right, The Fall exhibitions feature a variety of work, including ceramics, paintings, photography, and mixed media. Bottom right, Sean Heaton takes a look at "13 Follies" by Hungarian artist Levente Sulyok.

Ulrich welcomes new season with focus on accessibility, faculty contribution

BY BROGAN GILLMORE

Students, faculty, and fine art enthusiasts flooded into the Ulrich Museum of Art Thursday for their Fall Exhibition Opening.

As gallerygoers entered the Ulrich, they were greeted with the first exhibit of the new collection, "Solving for X = Accessibility." This exhibit is the second part of a series of exhibitions in collaboration with WSU scholars across all disciplines.

The installment focuses on spotlighting notable research on campus — as well as making fine arts accessible to people with disabilities. "Solving for X" features three-dimensional pieces that can be felt and experienced. They even include braille descriptions of the art itself.

Continuing their walk throughout the museum, visitors slowly found themselves ushered through a hallway until they hit the massive elevator that hauled crowd after crowd to the second floor — the home of two new exhibitions.

The second-floor gallery features "Clay Currents: The Wichita National Ceramics Invitational" and "Teachable Moments: The XXII Faculty Biennial"

With the help of ceramicists Ted Adler and Brenda Lichman, Ksenya Gurshtein, curator of modern and contemporary art, organized the two rooms that featured "Clay Currents."

"What we aimed for was to give as much breadth as possible about contemporary ceramics — what it is that artists do with clay today," Gurshtein said.

Ceramic pieces, taking the form of immaculate cloud-shaped vessels, brushed past a setting sun. Ceramic figures that ranged from the inhuman to the mundane lined the walls and crowded tables in the center of the room.

John Neely, a ceramicist and professor at Utah State University, displayed teapots so small they could fit in the palm of your hand.

"Teapots are kind of a popular subject for contemporary American ceramic artists that don't drink tea, and consequently, they become sculptures instead of functional — but those are functional pots," Neely said.

"Then having said that, that's a vehicle for me to explore the technology of ceramics. So, I'm trying new techniques and new materials to gratify my own kind of, we'll say, curiosity."

Since "Clay Currents" is an invitational, Neely and all the other artists were invited by the Ulrich to display their works. Neely said he knew the people who organized the show, as well as many of the other ceramicists invited.

In a larger gallery on the second floor is "Teachable Moments: The XXII Faculty Biennial"

This is the biennial's 44th year.

The biennial faculty art exhibition was started almost immediately after the museum was opened in 1974, according to Gurshtein. Every two years, faculty are invited to display their recent work as part of the long-standing tradition.

The faculty's work ranged from sculptures to photography — and even an installation that brings its audience directly into a horror movie. Most of the art was provocative — either making viewers think more in depth about a certain topic, or in more extreme cases, inducing a knee-jerk emotional reaction.

Larry Schwarm, former photography professor at Wichita State who retired last spring, had three of his photographs on full display.

One of Schwarm's photographs depicts a bird's oily smear left a window, paired with a poem by former WSU English Professor Albert Goldbarth.

"This is a very personal piece," Schwarm said. "My wife died very unexpectedly this summer, and the person I was just talking to, Albert Goldbarth, wrote that poem for her — for her service."

Schwarm said he took that photo some years ago, but at the time, it didn't match the rest of his work. However, today, he said it fits perfectly with Goldbarth's poem.

Visitors mingled with each other, discussing the art.

"It's really great to see so many students here," Gurshtein said. "I really, really appreciate that."

"Solving for X = Accessibility," "Clay Currents," and "Teachable Moments: The XXII Faculty Biennial" will be on display until Dec. 8. The Ulrich Museum of Art is open to the public Tuesday through Sunday. Admission is free for students with a WSU ID.

Autumn and Art triumphs in 10th year

JEROMIAH TAYLOR
COLUMNIST

Bradley Fair hosted the 10th annual Autumn and Art fair this weekend.

Artists from around the state and beyond gathered behind Bradley Fair to sell their creations.

Vendors displayed everything from blown glass to oil paintings as an active crowd of visitors ambled up and down the aisles.

Although Bradley Fair serves as the ultimate venue for the art fair, Autumn and Art is a city-wide effort.

"Wichita Festivals, the same organization that plans Riverfest, plans [Autumn and Art], and they partner with multiple arts organizations such as Mark Arts and the Wichita Art Museum," said Jayden Massey, a Wichita State student and Wichita Festivals volunteer.

Featuring dozens of artists, Autumn and Art was a resplendent success in its 10th year.

However, a lot more goes on behind the scenes to make Autumn and Art the dependable seasonal attraction it has become.

"Wichita Festivals is a non-profit organization," Massey said. "Part of that is that it runs on donations. There are people who volunteer their time. None of the volunteers get paid."a

As visitors strolled contentedly, admiring the art and engaging visiting artists in conversation, it was apparent that something else bolsters Autumn and Art's success — people like it.

Massey conveys the appeal of Autumn and Art succinctly: "It's a free event and it's fun to come look at art."

While the arts flourish in Wichita, Autumn and Art, a veteran staple of the Wichita art community, seems to be on steady footing as it journeys into the future.

ARI UP
FROM PAGE 1

"As a performer, you want to be able to get paid well for what you do, and I feel like that's really hard to find in Wichita," Chandler said.

Annie Up is the exception. The band is booked every single weekend for the next calendar year.

"Today, the State Fair, tomorrow at Botanica, and Sunday at the zoo. It's every weekend," Chandler said.

The name Annie Up is a play on words on the poker term, "ante up." When the band was first formed, they primarily played in casinos. Annie Up has been around for the better part of a decade with a rotating group of performers.

"It's more of a brand now, than a specific group of people, because of how many people that have cycled through," Chandler said.

While musical theatre will always be her first love, Chandler said she isn't set on just one type of performing. In fact, she's recently been booked for solo shows in Wichita.

"It's been cool to realize I like doing other stuff outside of [musical theatre]," she said. "It's nice to find other avenues instead of just putting yourself into one little box."

For Chandler, the most rewarding part of performing is the opportunity to tell someone else's story and escape reality for a moment, she said.

"The more empathy you have, the better of a performance you have."

For Chandler, performing isn't selfish, she said — it's selfless. She finds comfort and light in her ability to bring others joy through her storytelling and singing.

"It's the little things I didn't think of when I joined the band that actually mean the most compared to just singing," Chandler said said.

"Even the moments that haven't been the best have been a learning experience for me. I think the good and the bad was worth it. You can't learn if you don't try different things."

When Chandler graduates in December, she plans to keep singing with Annie Up as much as she can while also performing at the Wichita Forum Theatre.

"This is what I want to do," she said. "I get to sing every weekend, and I get paid well for it. I don't know how this happened to me, but I'm really excited about it."

EASTON THOMPSON/THESUNFLOWER

Senior musical theatre student Ari Chandler sings with other members of her band Annie Up Wednesday at Wave.

Rock music may not be dead, but it's got a bad knee

KEVIN BENAVIDES
OPINION EDITOR

The "Hella Mega" tour was recently announced, featuring bands Fall Out Boy, Weezer, and Green Day as the main acts.

Barring Foo Fighters, this is essentially a union of the biggest rock bands still currently playing. I think that's one reason why people like to say "rock is dead."

It may not be dead, but it's been hobbling for quite some time. While these three groups made significant names for themselves during their heyday, listening to their newer music can leave you pining for the '90s and early 2000s, when Weezer's "The Blue Album" and Green Day's "American Idiot" were dominating the rock mainstream.

In tandem with the tour, the three groups all released new singles at the same time, presumably to build hype. I will briefly go over each single in order from best to worst.

Surprisingly, Fall Out Boy's was the most aligned with the band's current sound, and a welcome addition. It is a high-energy track featuring Wyclef Jean, of all people. Normally, I think it's a bit pandering when rock bands feature a rapper. They usually don't fit well and overtake the song when it's their turn — but Wyclef fit right in.

The song is a message to someone's future self, with a chorus that is actually borrowed from another song, "Hands Up" by INNA. It's not a particularly special track besides that, but at least there's some interesting choices made for the song that I think work out fairly well.

Weezer's single, "The End of the Game," is a bit misleading. The cover, clearly referencing Van Halen — it features lots of lightning and "Van Weezer" as the only text — implies that either this song is going to be a Van Halen cover, or a Weezer original with direct Van Halen inspiration.

Well, it's no cover, and the Van Halen influence lasts for all of 20 seconds. There's a guitar riff reminiscent of the 80s metal days, but then the song breaks down into another typical Weezer song about wanting to be with a girl.

It's certainly commendable that Rivers Cuomo, the band's frontman, still sounds like he always has. His boyish voice still works when talking about love and heartbreak, but when he delivers lines like, "You got me cryin' like when Aslan died," referencing "The Chronicles of Narnia," it makes it a little weird to think that this man is 49 years old and still cranking out music that sounds like his stuff from 30 years ago.

Green Day's "Father of All..." is quite simply a confusing song. For any fans of really any Green Day music prior to this song, the departure from their usual punk rock sound is extremely noticeable. In fact, they seem to have abandoned their old sound for a style that has already been done many times before, but somehow comes off as even more generic than all the rest.

At first listen, I was waiting patiently for frontman Billie Joe Armstrong to start singing. I thought they had an unlisted guest verse until I heard the chorus. Yes, it was, in fact, Armstrong singing the entire time, but there are so many filters added to his falsetto that it was very hard to tell until after the chorus.

While there is still energy in this song and fun to be had with it, it is such a far cry from the old Green Day sound that, at this point, they should consider changing their name. I'm all for a band evolving their sound, but this felt like several steps back and onto a completely different path.

Now I don't believe that genres of music can or will "die." I think that the concept of genre itself will die before that happens. We can already see that slow transition with songs such as "Old Town Road" and many Post Malone songs, which feature elements of rock, R&B, and hip-hop that show the artist's influences — even featuring both Ozzy Osbourne and Travis Scott in a song on his new album, "Hollywood's Bleeding."

And, as any rock loyalist may say, there are still bands that are currently making rock music in the styles of the past. Bands like Greta Van Fleet take great influence from Led Zeppelin, and a particular favorite of mine, Car Seat Headrest, takes the familiar sound and adapts it to something punchy, energetic, and unique to them.

Rock music may not die, but it will continue to stumble and limp as long as hip-hop is the current musical zeitgeist.

Shockers After Dark

PHOTOS BY KHÁNH NGUYỄN

Top, Charles Christenbury dances during Shockers After Dark. The event was hosted by Student Affairs Friday evening at the RSC. Middle left, Activities at Shockers After Dark include BINGO, poker tournament, karaoke, and more. Middle right, students fill balloons to make a stressball. Bottom left, students roasted marshmallows for smores at Shockers After Dark. Bottom right, Spiritual engergy coach Genie Brazell does intuitive reading with a student.

MGC Quad looking for donors

BY ELLA DOMINGUEZ

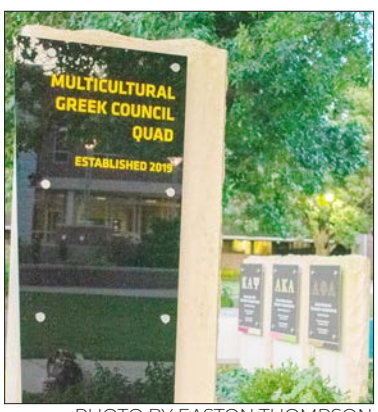


PHOTO BY EASTON THOMPSON

The Multicultural Greek Council Quad sign stands tall at the west entrance to the quad. The quad features cement pillars representing most of the MGC groups on campus. There are only a few newer chapters that have not received their pillars yet.

In honor of their 10th anniversary at Wichita State, the Multicultural Greek Council is hosting a fundraiser to help complete the MGC Quad that sits just east of the Rhatigan Student Center.

The quad, which was officially unveiled last April, started out as an idea more than seven years ago. Unlike Panhellenic and IFC chapters, Multicultural chapters do not have houses on campus — or designated meeting places. Many of them hold their meetings and events in the RSC or other popular places on campus.

The purpose of the MGC Quad is to give all MGC chapters a designated location on campus that they can claim as their own.

"The primary purpose of this space is for our chapters to feel like they have a voice, a spotlight, and most importantly, a home," said Alex Ibarra, who serves as the Greek Relations chairperson for the Multicultural Greek Council. "It will serve as a reminder to our chapters of the many phenomenal things we've accomplished."

Currently, the quad features cement pillars representing most of the MGC groups on campus. Two of the newer chapters, Lambda Pi Upsilon and Mu Delta Alpha, the first Muslim sorority in Kansas, have yet to receive pillars.

"FSL has strategically placed the pillars in national founding date," Ibarra said. "As we expand more, we will be moving the plates on the pillars — not the actual pillars — to coincide with national founding dates."

The quad also features lawn chairs and chalk for students to enjoy.

The fundraiser hopes to reach a goal of $8000 by Oct. 5 — giving them just under a month to raise all the money they need to complete the quad.

Money from the fundraiser will be used to create an entrance monument and add pillars for Lambda Pi Upsilon and Mu Delta Alpha, Ibarra said.

"This project was truly a cumulated effort of hard work, determination, and a desire to leave our legacy on Wichita State for generations to come," Ibarra said.

The fundraiser is being organized through an online portal. The link is also available on MGC's Instagram account, @wichitamgc.

Sports

HAVE A STORY IDEA?
contact The Sunflower's
sports editor, Marshall Sunner
sports@thesunflower.com

EASTON THOMPSON/THE SUNFLOWER
Schuyler Bailar speaks and laughs with listeners at Wichita State during his visit. Bailar was first given the chance to swim for the Harvard women's swim team but later decided to swim for their men's team under coach Kevin Tyrrell.

Schuyler Bailar discusses mental health, LGBTQ issues during campus speaking event

BY KAMILAH GUMBS

Schuyler Bailar, the first transgender athlete on an NCAA Division-I men's team, spoke at Wichita State last Thursday.

Bailar spoke about his life journey and LGBTQ and mental health issues.

He said that throughout middle school, he was bullied for showing masculine traits before he transitioned.

The summer before high school, Bailar made a vow to himself that he didn't want to be bullied anymore and decided that he was going to present himself fully feminine, he said. He moved onto the women's section and grew out his hair — anything to me more feminine.

"And even wore makeup and heels . . . Twice," he laughed.

The mood quickly became somber, however, when he highlighted the mental health struggles that he dealt with in high school. Despite achieving national records in swimming, having a high GPA, swimming offers from Ivy League schools, and a pretty decent social life, Bailar said he was miserable.

He thought that putting his focus on the pool and academics would make him feel better, but he ultimately ended up in a rehabilitation center to address his mental health before leaving for college.

It was there, Bailar said, that he realized he was transgender.

"I am a boy," Bailar said.

With this new revelation came decisions. He had a scholarship for the Harvard women's swimming team — not the mens.

Fortunately, Harvard Women's Swimming Coach Stephanie Wriede Morawski made sure that she kept in contact with Bailar throughout his gap year. Bailar eventually explained to Morawski that he was transgender.

Morawski struggled with what to do but while confiding in her friend, coach of the Harvard men's swimming team, Kevin Tyrell. Tyrell presented an option — "Well, he could swim for me."

Bailar originally declined the offer to swim on the men's team. Worried about how to navigate the space within the locker room and around the pool, he decided that he would stick with the women's team.

Morawski and Tyrell told him that the option to switch teams was still on the table.

Bailar didn't make the decision to swim for the men's team until after he visited Harvard and hung out with both the men's and women's teams.

After that weekend, Bailar found himself back in Morawski's office, as she was the one supporting him throughout his journey. She eventually told him something that inspired him to make up his mind.

"In reality, you are standing at the edge of the cliff, and you actually have a safety harness on you," Bailar remembered Morawski saying. "You just need to jump. You need to take that risk."

After that conversation, Bailar went home and deliberated with his friends and family before emailing both coaches, stating that he is going to join the men's team.

Bailar ended his speech on a powerful note: "Your identity doesn't stop your dreams."

IF YOU GO

UPCOMING SPORTING EVENTS

SATURDAY, SEPT. 21
Softball: WSU vs. Southern Nazarene (1 p.m.)
Wilkins Stadium

Baseball: WSU vs. Nebraska (2 p.m.)
Eck Stadium

SUNDAY, SEPT. 22
Softball: WSU vs. Arkansas Tech (1 p.m.)
Wilkins Stadium

SATURDAY, SEPT. 28
Softball: WSU vs. Central Oklahoma (1 p.m.)
Wilkins Stadium

SUNDAY, SEPT. 29
Volleyball: WSU vs. Cincinnati (1 p.m.)
Charles Koch Arena

Softball: WSU at Oklahoma State (3 p.m.)
Cowgirl Stadium, Stillwater, Oklahoma

SATURDAY, OCT. 5
Softball: WSU vs. Crowder (1 p.m.)
Wilkins Stadium

SUNDAY, OCT. 6
Softball: WSU vs. Emporia State (1 p.m.)
Wilkins Stadium

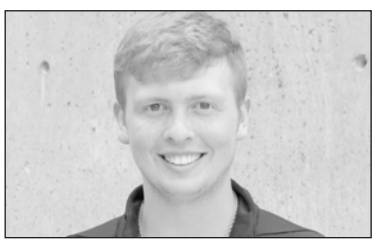
FRIDAY, OCT. 11
Volleyball: WSU vs. Houston (7 p.m.)
Charles Koch Arena

DID YOU KNOW?
All students get into Wichita State-sanctioned sporting events with a valid student ID.

DEBATE: Should student athletes get paid to play?

This month, California lawmakers proposed a bill that would allow NCAA student athletes in the state to maintain NCAA eligibility while making money off of their names and likenesses. The NCAA has called the proposal "unconstitutional," arguing that states lack the jurisdiction to grant student athletes these rights. The organization has also sent a letter to the state threatening that if the bill ends up being signed, then all 58 California NCAA-sanctioned schools will be disbarred from the NCAA. South Carolina lawmakers have now started talks about introducing a similar bill in the future. Here are the cases for and against letting athletes profit off their college careers.

I'M WITH TEBOW



MARSHALL SUNNER
SPORTS EDITOR

In all honesty, this bill is not the way to fix the issue. I believe student athletes are already getting paid enough with their incentives.

Student athletes have the life. If they are paying for college, it's not much compared to the normal student on campus. Heck, I'd love to be able to go to college for practically free because of the sport I'd be playing. But no, I'm taking out loans that I'll have to pay for throughout the future years — something these complaining athletes don't necessarily have to do.

Many of these kids are able to get a free education, but some still don't see that as advantage enough. In a sense, it's all about lack of passion these days. Remember Tim Tebow? Well, he's been in the news again, getting blasted for defending the NCAA's stance on this bill. This rebuke confuses me to the core.

I'm with Tebow on this one. He stated that we live in a "selfish culture" today, which I agree with. Passing this bill would ruin college athletics because it'd create unfair recruiting advantages. This "we" culture of college sports would immediately shift into an "I" culture.

Even though this bill doesn't imply the schools themselves, the most popular schools would be getting the better athletes because the bigger merchandising companies would want the bigger-name schools.

Do you want the same school's winning national titles every year? No, neither do I. Take the NFL or NBA for example — having the same teams appear in championships year after year takes away from the atmosphere of the game itself. And that statement is coming from a Patriots fan.

Lastly, this bill will inevitably spark up the gender equality debate again. Women deserve to be able to profit off of their names just as much as their male counterparts, but these companies will largely focus their endorsements on football and men's basketball, the NCAA's money-makers. Therefore the bill they call the "Fair Pay to Play Act" isn't actually all that fair at all.

In conclusion, greedy athletes in general need to appreciate what they have before they make a push for pay. Athletes already get so much more than the normal student — partial/full tuition (for non-walk-ons), free apparel, free room and board, free meal plans, free books, and so much more. Really appreciate what you have, because some of us other students would really like to be in your shoes.

I'M WITH THE ATHLETES

SEAN MARTY
SPORTS REPORTER

Although student athletes get a scholarship and money for housing, that doesn't equate to much, considering the profit they turn for the NCAA.

For example, athletes such as Zion Williamson and Trevor Lawerence are basically getting robbed. The fact that Williamson was unable to profit off his image or likeness is absurd, considering the amount of viewership he brought in not only to Duke, but the NCAA as a whole. Millions tuned in every game just to watch Williamson and his Blue Devil teammates. If the university or the NCAA can make a profit, why not the athlete?

With the amount of time and effort that Williamson puts in his schoolwork and practice time, he should be able to make some sort of profit as a student athlete. Because athletes have to put in so much time to make the university look good on the sporting end, they aren't allowed to have a full-time job like other students.

To be fair, I'm not saying every athlete should get paid — just the special ones. In recent years, players including Michael Porter Jr. and Darius Garland have suffered injuries that severely hurt their draft stock and the total money that they would have earned had they gone pro.

If both the NCAA and professional sporting leagues would agree that athletes could forego their college, it would guard against collegiate injuries and insure that athletes see at least some profit in their career.

This practice has been implemented before, including for Lebron James and Kevin Garnett, who entered the NBA right out of high school. Their careers might have ended up much differently if they were unable to skip college.

Now, some high schoolers are having to go overseas just because they will not be able to make a profit playing in the U.S.

Lastly, by paying these athletes, it would lessen the current investigations going into these universities that may be paying current student athletes anyways. The fact that these game-changing athletes are unable to make anything but a scholarship is ridiculous.

If I'm allowed to get paid to cover collegiate athletics, then the players that I am covering should be able to get paid as well.

Shocker Classic provides road bumps for Wichita State

WSU drops 3 straight matches, but head coach Chris Lamb looks for positive takeaways

BY MARSHALL SUNNER

Wichita State hosted the Shocker Volleyball Classic over the weekend, welcoming No. 3 Texas, No. 13 Brigham Young, and Virginia Commonwealth.

After defeating BYU in the first set on Thursday, the Shockers wouldn't win another set all weekend. WSU lost 3-1 to the Cougars, 3-0 to VCU on Friday, and 3-0 to Texas on Saturday.

After the match against the Rams on Friday, the frustration began to show. The players had "a lot" to say in the locker room, Head Coach Chris Lamb said. It was a match the team thought they could win, or at the least be competitive in.

"I don't know if I can prove this, but I feel like we were somewhat distracted," Lamb said after the match against the Rams. "I don't know — I feel like we are too young to take much for granted, but this makes me wonder."

Redshirt sophomore Megan Taflinger also discussed the team's frustrations on the weekend after the VCU match.

"We need to understand that there should not be a lower point in the season than this," Taflinger said. "But we also need to know what it's like to feel this [disappointment]."

As a team, the Shockers were outhit 158-88 on the weekend, and hit just .119 in total. On the setting side of things, WSU was out-assisted 148-63, another clear issue Lamb made sure to address.

"The coaches are desperately seeking consistency in the lineup. We've been all over the map with being hot and not being hot," Lamb said. "The setting carousel is getting really frustrating. We've yet to find anybody to really own it with three setters getting plenty of chances. That'll be pretty difficult. The setting and libero position will be under the microscope all year.

"It won't be just by us — every coach is going to recognise the limitations and are going to feed off of it, so we have to overcome it to get better."

Dissapointments aside, Lamb may have found his setter of the future in freshman Kayce Litzau. Litzau blossomed against the Longhorns, recording 10 assists. Lamb said he was most impressed with her ability to turn bad passes into good sets.

"She was gritty," Lamb said of the freshman. "I saw her on the run deliver some balls that were accurate. We're just hoping to be accurate when we can stand under the ball, and I saw her make some accurate sets in some crazy situations."

Another constant struggle for WSU over the weekend was hitting. Against BYU and VCU, the team recorded 18 hitting errors per match, and against Texas, the team tallied 14 more. WSU also tallied 16 total service errors through the three matches.

> **"We need to understand that there should not be a lower point in our season than this."**
>
> *— Megan Taflinger, sophomore*

"Our hitters have to do better," Lamb said. "You can't always put it on the hitters though. Errors ultimately come from attackers, but I'm not saying that setters don't make it more difficult at times, and that's been an issue in the early part of the season."

On defense, the Shockers allowed their opponents to hit .391 on the weekend. Ever since it was announced that All-Conference libero Giorgia Civita would miss the 2019 season, Lamb has been searching for a replacement.

This weekend, three players earned playing time as the team's defensive specialist: Kara Bown, Arianna Arjomand, and Lily Liekweg. After the match Saturday against the Longhorns, Lamb addressed the situation with the liberos.

"I've been calling our group a bunch of pretenders when it comes to pursuit since last year," Lamb said. "2018 was the last time I saw great defensive effort in our program. I need to see more urgency to defend. Our liberos are needing to give more.

"I've been logging each match, whether we won the setting, and libero battle and our record isn't good."

Even with it's disappointments, Lamb said he hopes this weekend will serve as a learning experience moving forward.

"We needed to walk out of here feeling like we got better," Lamb said after the tournament. "If you lose, so be it, but the real loss would be not learning something."

Up next, WSU travels to Nebraska for the Creighton Classic that runs Thursday through Friday. On Saturday, the Shockers will also travel to Lincoln, Nebraska, to take on the No. 2 Cornhuskers.

KHANH NGUYEN/THE SUNFLOWER

MARSHALL SUNNER/THE SUNFLOWER

MORGAN ANDERSON/THE SUNFLOWER

MORGAN ANDERSON/THE SUNFLOWER

Top, Wichita State freshman Sina Uluave digs a ball during the game against BYU on Thursday at Koch Arena. Second row left, Shocker freshman Arianna Arjomand bumps the ball during the team's match against Texas on Saturday. Second row right, freshman setter Kayce Litzau tries to save the ball in the Shockers' match against Virginia Commonwealth on Friday. Left, Wichita State freshman Nicole Anderson goes up for a kill during the team's match against VCU.

BY THE NUMBERS

Statistics from the Shocker Classic

WICHITA STATE	OPPONENTS
KILLS: 88	KILLS: 158
ASSISTS: 63	ASSISTS: 148
ATTACK ERRORS: 50	ATTACK ERRORS: 38
SERVICE ERRORS: 16	SERVICE ERRORS: 24
HIT PERCENTAGE: .119	HIT PERCENTAGE: .391

Awards and Leaders

Megan Taflinger - All-Tournament team
Sina Uluave - All-Tournament team

Kills: Taflinger, 22
Assists: Kayce Litzau, 18
Blocks: Emma Wright, 7
Hitting Percentage: Chinelo Ogogor, .214