



OLD GOLD & BLACK

EST. 1915

October 25, 2022

WOFFORD COLLEGE

108th EDITION ISSUE 3

IFC and Panhellenic host Special Olympics event



Photo courtesy of Jeremy Powers

Students congratulate one of the participants for an award. The Special Olympics took place on Oct. 11.

The Special Olympics is one of the most recognized and largest sporting events in the world, incorporating those with intellectual and physical disabilities. It began in Chicago in 1968 with a little over a thousand

participants and today boasts over 5 million participants in over 172 countries.

Special Olympic events happen every day throughout the country, and recently Wofford Panhellenic, as

well as the Interfraternity Council, hosted their very own games in the Stewart H. Johnson Greek Village.

Local athletes in Spartanburg County special olympics came over for events put on by all Greek organizations on campus.

The current IFC President Camp Williams '23 and President of Panhellenic Anna Brown '23 alongside Ashley Owen, assistant dean of students for leadership programs and fraternity and sorority life and dean of the senior class, are credited for this event.

"We were thrilled to be able to re-establish our connection with the Special Olympics of the Upstate and welcome 200 athletes from Spartanburg, Cherokee and Union counties to host the fall carnival," Owen said. "It was such a beautiful day to be able to enjoy the fall weather and connect with these fun and enthusiastic (students). It's always a treat when we are able to bring the (Greek) community together for a shared service oppor-

tunity. This has truly been the highlight of the year so far.

"I'm not sure who had more fun, our selfless organization members or the incredible students!"

"I thought the turnout was great. It was awesome to see all of our Panhellenic and IFC organizations come together and work towards a common goal of giving a good time to the middle school athletes who participated," Williams said.

"I heard from many teachers at the event that the athletes were having such a great time," Brown said. "My favorite part was seeing my classmates have so much fun with the students. It made me so proud to be a part of Greek Life at Wofford.

"This event is so meaningful to Wofford, and it is a good way for students to get involved with our community. Hopefully, bringing the Special Olympics back to campus is the start of more community-based philanthropies for FSL."

Vice president of Sigma Alpha Ep-

silon Heyward McPhail '23 was in charge of the event planning on their behalf.

"I found that our brothers really enjoyed the Special Olympics," McPhail said. "It was great because we had people who had never done volunteer work like this before and some who had, which allowed for this experience to be even more meaningful.

"It was engaging for all of us, and all of us came together with the one goal of making sure the kids had a good time by competing. Our event was the ring toss, which they excelled at."

As for the athletes, many had a fantastic time participating, and they all had smiles on their faces for the whole afternoon.

Woods Wooten, staff writer

With election season coming up, no level of politics can be forgotten



Graphic by Brandi Wylie

The 2022 Midterm elections are happening this November, with many of the major elections taking most of the attention.

While many may focus on the elections for the United States House and Senate and the Governors' races, it is important to take time to also focus on the localized elections, such as council members.

What follows will be the elections that impact the residential areas surrounding Wofford College, in which

many commuter or local students have the ability to vote.

At the Spartanburg County council level, three of the seven seats are currently up for election.

In the northeast region of the county, District 2 has incumbent Jack Marby running, while in the northwest of the county incumbent Bob Walker is running for District 5. In the center of the county, incumbent Jessica Coker is running.

All three of these candidates won

their Republican primaries in June of this year.

The Spartanburg County government building is located across from Wofford College on North Church Street. The county government also includes 29 boards and committees on a range of issues, some of which county council members are also members of.

There are a few other uncontested elections, including all state house districts within Spartanburg County, with Districts 31 through 38 having incumbent candidates except for District 37, where Rob Harris defeated the current incumbent in the June primaries.

For party affiliation, District 31's candidate, Rosalyn Henderson-Myers is a Democratic party candidate while all the other seven are running with the Republican party.

Beyond just elections, the city of Spartanburg has 14 boards and commissions ranging from three- to six-year appointment terms.

Of these 14, six boards and commissions currently have one or two vacancies.

The City Council also formed an ad-hoc Morgan Square Redevelop-

ment Committee this July with 13 members whose goal is to create recommendations for enhancements for Morgan Square. This has strong potential of affecting Wofford students because of the likelihood of students to congregate in this area, especially on the weekends.

On a larger scale, South Carolina has three major elections coming up this November. South Carolina's 4th United States House of Representatives district has a Republican incumbent running against Michael Chandler of the Constitution Party and Lee Turner running as an independent write-in candidate.

For US Senate elections, Republican incumbent Tim Scott is running against three other candidates. Krystle Matthews is running for the Democratic party after winning the Democratic run-off in June. Jesse Harper is running with the Independent American Party and Larry Adams Jr. is running independently.

For the gubernatorial election, Republican Governor Henry McMaster and Lieutenant Governor Pamela Evette are up for reelection. Joe Cunningham and Tally Parham Casey are running with the demo-

cratic party after Cunningham won a five-way primary in June.

Morgan Bruce Reeves is the only third-party candidate and is running with the Libertarian Party.

Though most elections in the state of South Carolina have historically rarely shifted party lines outside of major party shifts, many of the non-incumbent candidates running for these races hope to be able to redefine South Carolina politics.

Though the South Carolina State House and Senate are going to maintain their current party makeup, the future of how many issues such as marijuana criminalization, gun reform, climate change and others are handled by South Carolina.

Wofford College is approaching political issues through a series of guest speakers on campus, assisting students in finding their own political stance.

Joe Cunningham visited campus on Oct. 19 as a part of his college tours, hosted by Wofford Democrats. Mike Pence visited campus on Oct. 18 as a part of the Hipp lecture series as well.

Cameron Carsten, staff writer

Boeshaar uses his time with The Hubble and NASA to encourage students



Photo courtesy of Wikipedia.org
Messier 74, Boeshaar's favorite photo captured by the Hubble. Boeshaar, now a physics professor at Wofford, worked on the Hubble telescope.

Nearly 350 miles above the surface of the Earth orbits a 27,000 pound Cassegrain reflector telescope. Better known as The Hubble, this world-class piece of technology is renowned as the most significant advancement in astronomy since Galileo's telescope.

Meanwhile, in the bottom floor of the Milliken Science Center on the Wofford College campus, sits the office of the former assistant manager of the Hubble, Gregg Boeshaar, professor of physics.

Boeshaar, known by his students as "Dr. B," was working as a teacher and researcher in Seattle in 1980 when a colleague called to ask if he'd

be interested in working on a space telescope recently subcontracted for Ohio State University to build.

"(I thought) I could continue doing the research I'm doing, advancing in little bits and pieces, or I could look at the lessons of history and make a much bigger impact in astronomy by helping the next generation telescope get online, and that is going to make a big difference," Boeshaar said.

He then packed up his office and his home and moved his life back to Ohio State, where he received his PhD.

"It was one of those opportunities that comes along in life every now and then where, if you can take it, you absolutely should," he said. "It was the most fun I've ever had while being paid."

Boeshaar became responsible for overseeing a large portion of The Hubble's development, which included overseeing the process of testing, budgeting and its general construction.

Life working for NASA was very busy, as Boeshaar was typically pushing himself out the door around 4:30 a.m., only to bring home documentation to continue analyzing after work. He also spent an unappealing, yet impressive, amount of time traveling the country to attend various Hubble meetings.

Contrary to the serious nature one might expect from a NASA veteran, Boeshaar spoke about his work with soft buoyancy in a way someone would describe a casual hobby he enjoys rather than a revolutionary piece of technology.

"I never thought of it as being tense or hard work," Boeshaar said "I just thought it was fun."

Just because he enjoyed his job doesn't mean he ever overlooked the magnitude of the work.

Boeshaar explained that, by looking at the history of science, one could safely assume The Hubble's impact would be monumental.

"Science, particularly astronomy, always advances when there's new instrument capability," Boeshaar said. "If you look at history around 1900, when the first large telescope came online, you'll find that we suddenly knew immeasurably more about the universe."

He went on to describe how Edwin Hubble, an observer of astronomy in the 1920's, was able to realize the expansion of the universe, a ground-breaking discovery, with a mere 100-inch telescope, so Boeshaar knew The Hubble wouldn't be something to overlook.

"We were actually able to see how stars form, proof of black holes, how galaxies interact on a large scale and what the universe was like at dis-

tances that went back 12.5 billion years for a system that had apparently started at 13 billion years," he said. "It made buckets of difference in every possible aspect."

As Boeshaar talked about his past days at NASA, he was reminded of how grateful he is to have taken the leap and accepted the job.

"Sometimes if you make odd choices, it pays off. Never look at your degree as the only thing you're going to do in life," Boeshaar said. "If I had, I'd still be teaching without ever having this experience."

"I had computer software skills, not just astronomy skills. If you have a breadth of things you can do, there are a lot of opportunities you can fit yourself into, and I was never particularly shy about taking those opportunities. Life will occasionally open its doors for you."

Aside from Hubble's legacy, Boeshaar also experienced other significant astronomical technologies, such as up-and-coming spacecrafts, infrastructure building in communication satellites and even the Challenger space shuttle at the time of its explosion, recalling the event as "grim for all sorts of reasons."

One of his coworkers let him know something happened to the Challenger shuttle. Boeshaar then called his wife, asking her to turn on the TV, so he and his coworkers could

gain clarity on the situation. He recalled telling her that it doesn't matter what channel she turned on if what he had heard was the case.

According to Boeshaar, The Hubble was exceptionally close to launching at the time, and the accident put the brakes on the project for about three years. He worked with the project until 1987.

"If I, in 1960, was asked to anticipate Hubble or Webb, I wouldn't have. There was nobody who could have anticipated what we'd be doing; technology takes us in its own turns," Boeshaar said. "Space evolves technology, and technology is, in many ways, a survival key."

He encourages students to not overlook the importance of NASA's work, as they also provide infrastructure that allows communities to buy and sell food, do laundry, receive financial advice and much more.

In class, his main concern is getting his students engaged, and encouraging them to pursue their curiosities. He reminds us all to be humble, yet fearless.

"I never spent any time worrying about the future," Boeshaar said. "That never got me anywhere."

Kayla Southwood, contributing writer

Aeschylus in the house: Wofford theatre presents "AGAMEMNON"



Photo courtesy of Mark Olencki
Audrey Buffington '24 as Clytemnestra. Wofford theatre's production of Agamemnon will run from Nov. 3-5 and 9-12 in the Jerome Johnson Richardson theater.

"AGAMEMNON," a play by ancient Greek tragedian Aeschylus, is the first play in the trilogy of the Oresteia.

The play is the story of a Greek soldier and ruler over a city ten years after the Trojan War who finds that his wife, Clytemnestra, and cousin, Aegisthus, are plotting to kill him and take over the throne.

This production of the play, adapted and directed by Associate Professor of Theatre Daniel Day, will feature multiple first-years involved in their first college play.

These first-years include stage manager Annela Brannon '26 and assistant stage manager Kimi Crouch '26, as well as cast members Erin Adams '26, Cole Geyer '26, Josie Thillet '26

and Jack Tope '26. Geyer will play title character Agamemnon.

"Since I plan to major in theatre, I think it'll be good to go into the deep end, so everything past this point feels (easier)," Geyer said. "I'm kind of hopping in the fire and hoping I'll learn from it."

"I did theatre at community theaters in high school," Tope, who will play Essential Worker, said. "I've definitely had to shift the way I think about it (since getting to college). It's been challenging, but a lot of fun."

"I did theatre only my senior year of high school," Geyer said. "It was a great experience. (However,) it's nice to see college theatre taken more seriously and professionally."

The department began rehearsals at the beginning of the school year, formally announcing the play on its Instagram account, @woffordtheatre, in late September. Preparation for the performance sometimes includes drastic changes in appearance, such as Geyer receiving a radically different haircut.

"Each of the professors has their own approach to theatre," Geyer said. "I'm in the living-learning community with Day and (Mark) Ferguson."

Geyer also provided a preview of

some events that take place in the play.

"Agamemnon was a soldier who helped start the Trojan war by sacrificing his daughter, Iphigenia, but he did not get any great achievements like Achilles or Odysseus," Geyer said. "This is the story of a man who murdered his daughter to go to war, coming back to the city he ruled."

During the play, Agamemnon returns from the war with his legs rendered useless and with a Trojan princess named Cassandra, who will be played by Rachel Johnson '24.

Ryan Poole '24 has participated in two Pulp Theatre interim plays at Wofford, including last year's "Fairytale Lives of Russian Women," and will play Aegisthus in "AGAMEMNON."

This will be his first college semester-long rehearsal process, which has proved to have many differences from his experience in high school productions.

"Instead of working in the span of not even a month, I'll be working for two or three months, so I'll have a lot more time," Poole said. "I don't also have to help construct the stage or work in other aspects, I purely focus on my character and my role."

Poole has also had to practice cer-

tain actions and techniques to prepare for his role as a co-conspirator for Agamemnon's murder.

"Some silly little things that I've done to prepare include having a certain walk, like a predatory catwalk," Poole said. "I also looked up things about psychopathy and narcissistic personality disorders, because he's had a lot of traumatic things happen when he was really young."

The play will also contain references to modern things to make it more relatable to today's audience. An example of this is Day's incorporation of technology.

"There's a lot about how technology affects us," Poole said. "A lot of themes and motifs you're going to see are about technology. There's a lot about how power is expressed through technology like social media, and how people can control others through media consumption."

The play will run in the Jerome Johnson Richardson theater, located on the second floor of the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson arts building, on Nov. 3-5 and 9-12.

Madeline Brewer, managing editor

HEALTH

Jess Luzier discusses evidence-based treatment for eating disorders with the psychology department



Photo by Addie Porter

Jess Luzier describes her research and advocates for evidence-based treatment for eating disorders and the impact families can have on their loved ones in the process of uncovering mental health problems.

The National Eating Disorder Association reports that 10-20% of female college students and 4-10% of male college students have an eating disorder.

With this alarming statistic, Wofford brought Jess Luzier, board-certified clinical psychologist and clinical director for eating disorders at the Charleston campus of West Virginia University, to Wofford's cam-

pus to discuss evidence-based care and treatment for eating disorders.

Luzier has published numerous peer-reviewed journal articles and made several national conference appearances as well as being named a fellow of the American Psychological Association.

Assistant Professor of Psychology Dane Hilton invited Luzier to Wofford to give the talk to students and profes-

sors. Dane worked under her during his time pursuing a pre-doctoral internship at WVU's School of Medicine in Charleston, WV.

"We also started working together back in 2017, and at that time on research examining ways to improve intervention of families of children with ADHD," Hilton said.

The two are currently working on the development of a smartphone app that will hopefully increase the benefit families get from family therapies, a topic in which Luzier went into great detail on during her lecture.

During her time pursuing an undergraduate degree at Hiram College, Luzier had the opportunity to go abroad to Tanzania for a semester.

For twelve weeks, she and her colleagues ate very little as they accompanied a family from Tanzania during their homestay.

"Whatever food was not eaten at dinner was scraped onto a plate where the children in the home would eat from after us," Luzier said.

This brief exposure to hunger shocked Luzier and her peers as they arrived back in the United States, and this experience jump-started her career in treating eating disorders for years to come.

She highlighted the importance of

filtered evidence in treating eating disorders, as well as encouraging patients to understand their treatment options as they receive psychoeducation while getting treated for their specific disorders.

Many people who suffer from bulimia nervosa in Luzier's clinic go through a thorough practice in exposure therapy to eliminate the intimidation or fear of certain foods and stimuli. Some of the clinicians even eat with the patients during their treatment to comfort them.

The practice is kept lighthearted when treating kids due to helping them be more aware of their disorder, but they are allowed to name it in order to talk about it in another context that does not harm their own personal identities.

"Some of the children picked names for their eating disorders such as E.D., Annie, etc.," Luzier said.

For more young adult patients at Luzier's clinic, Cognitive Based Therapies are available in order to meet the first requirement in regular pattern eating to treat various eating disorders.

"We need to be aware of the evidence and advocate for the best possible care for ourselves and those we love," Hilton said.

If action is not taken early in a per-

son's life, whether it be for an adolescent or young adult, their eating disorder can be chronic and dealt with later in life. Getting treatment as early as possible is necessary for recovery.

Bella Wallace '26 was in attendance at the talk along with many other psychology students, staff, and others.

"I think it is important to highlight the fact that the college age is a risk factor for eating disorders," Wallace said.

Luzier mentioned many other risk factors such as dieting, exercise, age, gender, etc.

"If you are experiencing symptoms, there are online quizzes and articles on the National Eating Disorders Association's website, and if you have concerns about a friend there is also a hotline as well, but it is needed to take action while you can," Luzier said.

There are also resources on campus which can be found at the Wofford Wellness Center, temporarily located in the Kilgo-Clinkscales house, while the Hugh R. Black building undergoes renovation.

Gabby Gecan, staff writer

Morgan's Message moves into Wofford: How the national campaign for mental health is benefitting Wofford's student athletes



Photo by Addie Porter

Morgan's Message held their first meeting recently. The organization will focus on mental health of athletes.

This year, Wofford saw the addition of a new on-campus organization, Morgan's Message. The national program spreads awareness and support for the mental health of student-athletes, but what does this mean for Wofford's own student-athlete community?

"Our goal for the chapter is to create a student-led platform where we encourage athletes to be open about their mental health struggles, provide resources and support, partake in activities that reinforce mindfulness and well-being and create an inclusive and safe environment where

we can feel seen and understood," said Shadan Bankston '24, a student ambassador for Wofford's chapter of Morgan's Message and member of the Women's Lacrosse team.

On a national scale, the organization operates through the leadership of volunteer ambassadors, like Bankston, who work to eliminate the stigma surrounding mental health in athletics by creating places which encourage its open discussion.

Perry Henson, director of counseling and accessibility services at Wofford, concurs that the establishment of the campus' chapter of Morgan's

Message was student-initiated, and the program is primarily student-led.

"Any time students organize for a specific cause, it is really powerful, particularly for mental health," Henson said.

Henson added that the organization enhances mental health access which can often become obscured by the busy on-campus clinic.

She complemented two of the program's main pillars, awareness and advocacy. Henson credits the additional layer of responsibility shouldered by many of Wofford's athletes as a reason for the need of intentional support systems like Morgan's Message.

"My experience feels different to other college students because of the time that training takes up, meaning I have less time to do homework, and classes or exams can get on top of me more," said Chloe Elliot '26, a member of Wofford's women's tennis team. "The stress of having to perform in tournaments and training can also worsen mental health, particularly when you can't play due to injury."

The organization itself began to directly address the often silent struggles that couple the demanding schedules and responsibilities of collegiate athletics. Morgan's Mes-

sage started as an homage to the late Morgan Rodgers, a Duke University lacrosse player, after she lost her battle with mental health in 2019, and has since become present on over 700 high school and college campuses across North America.

"Student athletes everywhere really deal with a lack of resources and a lack of space to talk about this stuff," said Caitlin Beacom '23, a Wofford Lacrosse player and club president. "Specifically at Wofford, there is no space here to talk about this. We are the first organization that does what we do. What's missing is just space and resources, so we decided to try to fill what's missing."

On many campuses, including Wofford, those involved hold educational workshops dedicated to spreading the values of Morgan's Message.

As a newer on-campus organization, the group is currently working to build an athlete-led platform where student athletes can be vulnerable, something Beacom mentions can be difficult in an environment where being "tough" is the standard.

While Morgan's Message as a whole is not shy about sharing available mental health resources and crisis centers, the organization's main initiatives are more interested in foster-

ing an open environment for diverse dialogue, as shame and stigma can hold many back from seeking help.

Instead of allowing athletes and others to suffer in silence, Morgan's Message encourages those who may be experiencing struggles with mental health to seek help, almost acting as a middleman between athletes and their available resources.

"I like to think that (students) engage with what we are trying to do by simply prioritizing their mental health and having difficult conversations about this topic with their teammates and friends," Beacom said.

A common theme in the recent rise of the movement for mental health advocacy for all demographics has been an emphasis on peer-based discussion, a tactic which is intended to lessen the feelings of isolation which are often associated with such struggles.

In part, the significance of Morgan's Message at Wofford lies not only in the awareness and access it provides, but also in its community formed upon similar interests and experiences.

Nola Webb, contributing writer

FROM THE PUB ROOM

OG&B meets Smalls, Melvin, Pence and Cunningham



Photos courtesy of Mark Olencki and Joe Cunningham Event Attendees

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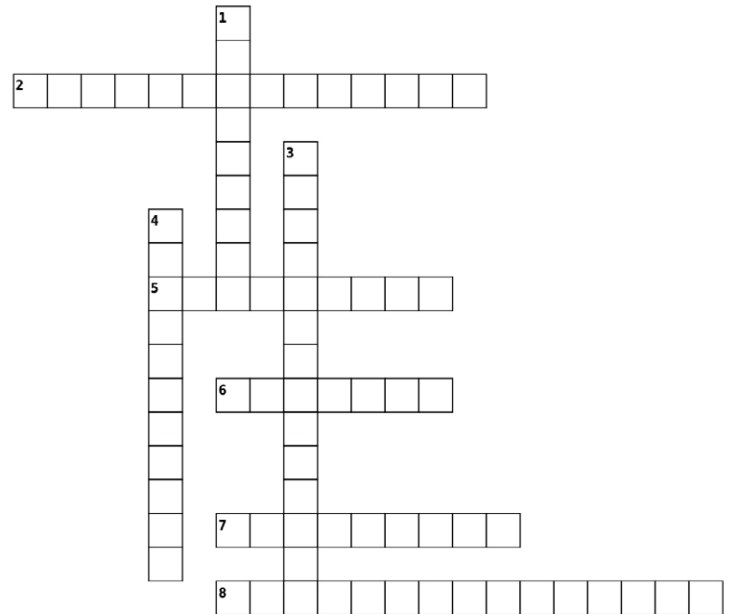
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Old Gold & Black crossword



Across

- 2. What is the name of the ballot that most Wofford students will have to use this election season?
- 5. Smalls
- 6. Which gender is more likely to develop an eating disorder in college
- 7. Name of the fall theatre production
- 8. FSL service event

Down

- 1. What telescope did Dr. Boeshaar work on?
- 3. Organization that promotes mental health for athletes
- 4. Which today show anchor did The Old Gold & Black get to meet?



SCAN ME

Check out our online material for exclusive video interviews with Craig Melvin '01 and Alexander Smalls '74!

“Traditionally, Untraditional”

The *Old Gold & Black* is published by Wofford students for Wofford students, continuing a tradition dating back to 1915.

Unsigned editorials reflect the opinions of the editorial board, unless otherwise noted. Opinions do not necessarily reflect the views of the administration, the faculty or the students of Wofford College. Letters to the editor should be emailed to the editors at (woffordoldgoldandblack@gmail.com) and should not exceed 300 words.

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