



OLD GOLD & BLACK

EST. 1915

March 10, 2026

WOFFORD COLLEGE

111TH EDITION ISSUE 8

Khalil plans to run 50 Miles for a good cause

Abby Taylor '27
Staff Writer

When Joe Khalil '27 told people that he wanted to run 50 miles in one day as a way to fundraise money, most people told him he was insane. Matt Myers '27, though, created a logo within 24 hours of Khalil telling him of this idea.

On April 18, Khalil is running 50 miles in 1 day, hopefully in under 12 hours, and is fundraising for the Spartanburg Soup Kitchen and Miracle Hill Ministries.

He chose these organizations because of how they intentionally spend their funds to feed people and directly meet the needs of people.

Khalil came up with this idea created during the leadership summit before the school year had started, at which point he hadn't even run a 5k.

Despite this, he had people who believed in him like Myers and Dr. Patrick Stanton and have helped him organize this event and support him through the training process.

"That is what I'm most impressed by: how committed and dedicated he is to it, because there's no days off," Myers said.

Khalil doesn't particularly enjoy

running funnily enough, but is now at the point in training where his easy runs are seven miles, and longer runs are in the 20 mile range.

What gets him through this training is the people that he is training for, since this 50 mile challenge is not for him, but to support those experiencing homelessness and food insecurity.

The event itself is happening on April 18, and Myers has helped to organize with Wofford for it to also be a day of service, with hygiene assembly stations, letter writing for veterans and those in hospitals as well as others, bag packing stations, campus cleanup project and a food drive.

"The best part about this is the community aspect. We had one video on social media take off over 19,000 views. A lot of people engaged with it, they want to know how to help," Khalil said.

The main goal of the fundraising is to have a sponsor for each of the 50 miles that Khalil runs, from big organizations, companies, generous donors, alumni, students, and students' families. There is also a general donation page on GoFundMe for those not sponsoring a mile.

Both Myers and Khalil are both very service oriented individuals, and are similar in many ways, though they also have their differences that help them balance each other out to make a perfect combo for creating this event.

They also hope that this event and the day of service is able to also impact those in the Wofford community to encourage them to do good.

"You come to Wofford to get a good education and to set yourself up better for the future, but I think one thing you can add to your Wofford experience is to learn how to serve others, and I think that this could really inspire people," Myers said.

Khalil believes that while much

of running 50 miles is endurance, it doesn't really feel like endurance. For him, true endurance is seen in the people who are on the receiving end of the fundraising through this day.

"When you have a why, the how does not matter," Khalil said.

If you are interested in learning more about this event or how to donate updates can be found on the instagram page @go_with_joe_.



photo by Lena Strauss

Joe Khalil '26 warms up for his long run on Wofford's walking track. His fundraising event, Go With Joe, is coming up next month.

Zeta Tau Alpha introduces new spring fundraising event

Nola Webb '26
Staff Writer

Greek organizations at Wofford all pride themselves on their dedication to their philanthropies.

Sororities and fraternities have engineered creative, fun and successful ways to meet their fundraising goals.

However, this commitment to service and philanthropy does not mean that these organizations are afraid to switch things up.

Fundraising for the women in Wofford's chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha has always consisted of two major events dedicated to raising money for their national philanthropy, breast cancer education and awareness with "Shagathon" in the fall and "Crown Classic" in the spring.

The key features of each event are similar, a ceremony honoring survivors and those who lost their fight to breast cancer, live music, picnic-style food and local vendors.

Despite the past success of Crown Classic, the sorority has funneled its

spring fundraising efforts towards a new event, "Big Man on Campus."

This event is an annual staple for Greek fundraising at other universities.

The Big Man on Campus event held in the fall by the Clemson's Zeta Tau Alpha chapter raised over \$200,000, making it the highest-earning philanthropy event for the sorority nationally. Considering this success, there is no question why the women of Zeta at Wofford are eager to give this event a try.

But what exactly does Big Man on Campus entail?

The event, much like Wofford's familiar and fiercely competitive Greek Week, is largely fueled by social media wars, points, and team-based donations.

The event was officially launched to the Wofford community on Feb. 24 via an Instagram account, @woffordztabigmanoncampus, which described it as an "all-male pageant," where contestants are nominated to represent their respective organiza-

tions across campus.

Finley Melvin '28, the philanthropy assistant for Wofford Zeta Tau Alpha, differentiated the event from the annual Mr. Wofford pageant by emphasizing the impact of the philanthropy goal and the longevity of the competition itself.

While the pageant itself may be similar to Mr. Wofford, Melvin added that only contestants who survive the weekly social media eliminations will be able to compete on stage.

Despite the success of Crown Classic in the past, the sensationalized and interactive nature of Big Man on Campus is arguably what makes it such an appealing and lucrative approach to fundraising.

Melvin added that alongside hopes of increased fundraising for the sorority's philanthropy, the chapter is looking forward to getting more of the campus involved and educated about their key cause.

"Specifically with this event, our goal is to bring awareness to more of the campus. We're hoping that the



photo by Hailey Hirter

Breast cancer survivors are accompanied by a Zeta sister at their annual Shagathon. Zeta Tau Alpha raises money for Breast Cancer Awareness as a part of their philanthropic efforts.

[philanthropy aspect] increases engagement even more," Melvin said.

It seems that for Wofford Zeta, Big Man on Campus will have some similarities to past philanthropy events, still featuring local vendors, food and a dedication to breast cancer survivors.

Additionally, as a nod to Crown Classic, the pageant itself will still feature a cornhole tournament

during its intermission.

The competition and other fundraising events, like a "color run," will take place throughout March and April, concluding with the official pageant at the Greek Village on April 16th. The form for participants to enter can be found on the fundraiser's Instagram account. The last day for contestants to enter is March 12.

ARTS & CULTURE

Quietly bold: The Arts Center museum exhibits

Lillian Galloway '29
Staff Writer

As we watch the closing of the excellent "Garden We Grow" exhibit made by Lyrical Dream Gist '26, the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for Arts turns its attention to its museum exhibitions.

Opening Feb. 3 and remaining open for the majority of this spring semester, these two exhibits both explore culture and how culture is remembered.

"Shaping Identity: Korean Print in Diaspora" and "Creating Hope & Memory: Mixed Media Works of Melanie A. Yazzie" are both a great culmination of an expansive number of artists' works.

"Creating Hope & Memory: Mixed Media Works of Melanie A. Yazzie" is a collection based on Yazzie's experience growing up visiting her grandparents' farm. Yazzie showcases in her collection inspiration from a passion with animals and Navajo prayers.

Her hope for this installation was that everyone from all walks of life can view her art and find a connection to her memories.

The details of her life growing up can be seen in the collection through her unique style and use of media.

Details noticed in a walk-through was Yazzie's use of printing specific

elements that tied her pieces together cohesively.

The most impressive display is located on the back wall titled, Prayers and Blessings. It's 30 pieces all tied together with clothespins attached, similar to that of a clothesline.

Each piece seems to be a collage, and Yazzie's use of color is the highlight.

Though extremely colorful and spectacular to look at, this display utilizes blocks of gray intentionally, like blocks in one's memory. Yazzie is honoring memory, specifically her own, in this collection.

Though mixed media can be a mess when done without intention, Yazzie's work is something worth to take a pause at and revel in her use of space.

The composition of her works are thought-provoking.

The positive message of her collection is a breath of relief, just as the "Garden We Grow" was.

The colors, the subject matter and the intent and rawness in those exhibits are needed in art at the moment.

"Shaping Identity: Korean Print in Diaspora" is to note because of the craftsmanship and detailed portrayal of identity.

This exhibit includes works from Tschang Yeul Kim, Kakyoung Lee, U-fan Lee, Jiha Moon, Yoonmi Nam,

Nam June Paik, Jean Shin, Joo Yeon Woo and Jayoung Yoon. Exhibit labels were produced by past students.

The entrance exhibit description states this collection has "themes of displacement, memory, cultural hybridity, and belonging."

We see a mix of traditional Korean art methods like calligraphy, folk patterns, and religious/philosophical motifs. It also blends Western pop culture and digital art.

To me, there are no stand-out pieces, separating itself from the rest.

Each piece tells its own story in the artist's respective style.

The mixed media of this exhibit is more exciting than the last due to the collaboration of different perspectives.

The pieces in this collection all vary in their history and date. Some pieces were donated, dating back farther than some of the more modern pieces.

Discussion between artists and cohesive visual dialogue is not apparent in this collection, but the themes in every piece are all a revelation that the audience can enjoy and think of for days after viewing.

Tradition and modernity are em-

braced by all artists, and if there is any exhibit to visit in your spare time, I urge you to visit this one.

Both exhibits are to be featured at respective evening celebrations and discussions with the artists.

Appreciating art, especially art with themes that hit close to home, is the perfect way to spend your time.



photo by Mark Olencki

"The Garden We Grow" exhibit in the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts (RSRCA).

February's celebrations: a recap as they continue into March

SK Saggu '26
Managing Editor

February served as a cultural and religious hotspot as Lunar New Year, Ramadan and Ash Wednesday occurred in the same week, Feb. 17 and Feb. 18 during Black History Month.

Many organizations and departments on campus took the initiative to conduct festivities honoring these religious events and heritage.

This year marked the 100th anniversary for Black History Month as it was first federally recognized in 1926.

To honor Black History Month, Dr. Dwain Pruitt invited Dr. Edda Fields-Black, 2025 winner of the Pulitzer Prize in history, to discuss her book, "Combee: Harriet Tubman, the Combahee River Raid and Black Freedom during the Civil War."

The book explores how Tubman led the largest slave rebellion and freed 756 people, highlighting the powerful role that Tubman played in fighting against slavery.

The Asian Studies Program and Chinese Program collaborated to host the Lunar New Year Celebration series for the month, starting with Asian Tea and New Year Card Writing to celebrate the Year of the Horse.

Boba tea and Chinese tea were served and the first 60 attendees received a Lunar New Year postcard from a historic post office in Shanghai, Qing Post Office.

Continuing the Lunar New Year Celebration series, Cooking Night for Rice Cakes took place on Feb. 24. Through this activity, students

and other attendees were able to make rice cakes and understand the importance of this delicacy as it signifies prosperity, growth and higher income in the coming year.

The concluding event to this series was the Asian Ink Painting collaboration with CREATE, where students were able to make art works using special brushes, ink and rice paper.

Ash Wednesday fell on Feb. 18 and Reverend Ron continued Wofford's traditional Ash Wednesday Imposition of Ashes.

Students, faculty and staff were able to join the ceremony with music and ashes, twice that day.

During the month of Lent, Lenten Prayers will be conducted each Wednesday at 12:30 p.m., offering a 10-12 minute contemplative Christian worship experience with communion.

While Ramadan has not widely been celebrated on campus, the Muslim Student Association is making efforts to celebrate the religious holiday with peers and faculty.

This year, Ramadan began on Feb. 18 and MSA is collaborating with Wofford Asian and Pacific Islander Club and Wofford's Interfaith Young Adults club to celebrate Iftar on March 11.

Iftar will begin at 6:15 p.m. that night where all students are welcome to enjoy Middle Eastern food. Those who are observing a fast will also have the opportunity to break their daily fast.

Arooj Zainab '26, a student who celebrates Ramadan, shares her perspective on celebrating this religious holiday on campus.

"Ramadan is something that is often touched upon briefly in normal classes so I think recognizing Ramadan outside of class is important," Zainab said. "When Ramadan is recognized on campus, it feels like my tradition is being seen and called within the Wofford community."

March marks Women's History Month, a time to honor the achievements and contributions of women from the past and present. There are many organizations on campus that recognize the women on campus and in the community.

One of these clubs, Wofford Women of Color, provides a space for women to connect with peers who share their heritage and background.

The religious festivities don't just end here. Holi, a Hindu holiday that celebrates the triumphs of good over evil, was on March 3 and will be celebrated by WAAP on April 4 as they partner with IFYA and the Religion Department.

There is always something to celebrate at Wofford and students, faculty and other members of the community have various opportunities

to participate in not only to practice their own faith and heritage, but also learn about the religions followed by the rest of their peers.

"I believe it's important that Wofford recognizes different religious and cultural traditions because the students learn about them. After college, we will be with people who are different from us so this gives us early exposure to that setting," Zainab said.



photo by Mark Olencki

Students cook and enjoy rice cakes in the food lab. Wofford's Chinese Department hosted a cooking night to celebrate the Chinese New Year.

CAMPUS

2026 Spring Recruitment adjustments ahead of Chi Omega

Madison Bush '27
Staff Writer

Wofford's formal recruitment for spring 2026 took place from Feb. 12 to Feb. 14, with bid day concluding the week on Feb. 15.

This sorority recruitment season was much like those in previous years, except for the anticipation of a new sorority next school year.

In the 2026-27 college year, Chi Omega will join Wofford College's campus.

In 2024, Wofford's National Panhellenic Council began discussions regarding the opportunity to add another organization, though no formal invitations to join the campus had been in talks at the time.

In Nov. 2025, Panhellenic and all National Panhellenic Council (NPC) chapters on campus approved the recommendation to invite Chi Omega.

This new addition was an exciting announcement for the College, as the Greek community continues to grow in size.

The addition of Chi O will allow for more intentional engagement in all chapters as well as a broader eligibility for students to join a Greek organization.

However, little is known publicly regarding how the preparation for Chi O in the Spring 2027 recruitment impacted this 2026 recruitment.

At the start of this recruitment, there were 157 girls and by bid day, there were only 115 bids given and 114 girls who ran home.

Throughout the recruitment process, each girl is assigned two Gamma Chis, who are women currently in a Greek organization that disaffiliate to help guide and assist the potential new members (PNMs)

through the recruitment process.

Returning Gamma Chi, Sara Strakhov '26, shares her perspective on this year's recruitment.

"There's not less spots. They accommodate based on how many PNMs are signed up for recruitment, then they allocate quota (for each NPC organization), assuming that some students will drop during the process," Strakhov said.

This quota is given to each organization on pref night after the PNMs have ranked and signed their MRA-BA.

This year, the quota was 29, meaning each house was allowed to give out 29 bids on bid day.

"Different chapters are now receiving different numbers of COBs to try to get us all at a median in preparation for Chi O, so that we get similar chapter sizes across all 4 chapters alike," Strakhov said.

In the past, the organization with the biggest chapter on bid day determined the size.

Hypothetically, if the largest chapter had 130 members, and a different chapter only had 110 members, that smaller chapter could give out 20 COBs (continuous open bids, bids given out after bid day to those who didn't run home) to get up to 130. If another chapter had 127, then they could give out three.

Another Gamma Chi in the Spring 2026 recruitment process, Ashley Renner '27, explained the changes to get a median size further.

"They average the size of two middle houses, and that number is the highest amount of people you can have in your chapter," Renner said. "Obviously, some of the houses are over because they just changed it, so those houses were not allowed to give out COBs because they were over."



photos by Hailey Hirter

(Top) New potential members run home to their sororities on Bid Day. Wofford Panhellenic held their annual Bid Day on Feb. 15, 2026. (Bottom) Kappa Delta welcomed their newest member class. Wofford Panhellenic held their annual Bid Day on Feb. 15, 2026.

This change was all in an effort to create a median chapter size across all four NPC organizations before the addition of Chi O.

With that said, even less is known publicly about what the integration and recruitment of a new organization will look like.

Many PNMs were curious about the new organization throughout the

recruitment process.

"We don't really know what that will look like. We were encouraging them to stay in the current recruitment process," Strakhov said.

Aside from Chi O, the most recent NPC organization to join Wofford College was Tri Delta in 2000.

Prior to that was Kappa Alpha Theta in 1989, Kappa Delta in 1979, and

the founding chapter for the Wofford Panhellenic Community, Zeta Tau Alpha in 1978.

It is safe to say the Wofford Panhellenic Community is due for an addition after more than a quarter-century of the same four organizations.

Wofford moves toward 'elite' status with new nutrition center

Brooke Meltcher '27
Staff Writer

There's a new energy building inside the athletic facilities at Wofford College, and this time, it's fueled by more than just reps in the weight room.

Wofford Athletics is set to unveil its brand-new, athlete-only Nutrition Center, a long-anticipated addition coming not too long after the renovations of the two new weight rooms on campus.

According to Wofford's strength and conditioning coach, Kevin Swift, it represents a cultural shift.

"We are now elite," Coach Swift said. "We have the resources, we got great coaching staff, we got a great strength and conditioning staff, so then in addition to this, it's just another part of our arsenal... anything less than first is no longer acceptable. There's no more excuses from anybody. It's full go now."

The new nutrition center has been in the works for years.

What began as a vision has slowly gained traction before becoming a reality.

"It's been a long time coming. It started out as a vision ... and now we

actually put the boots in the ground and made it happen," Swift said.

The addition comes alongside other athletic upgrades, with Jerry Richardson Indoor stadium receiving a new weight room, the Joe E Taylor center renovating their weight room and the new GPS tracking technology given to the athletes as well. Those updates alone elevated Wofford's athletic profile within the Southern Conference. The fueling station now completes the picture.

"It definitely enhances the facilities that we already have ... not only keeping up with the Joneses, but being the Joneses as far as the conference," Swift said.

The fueling station isn't solely about convenience however, it's about education and performance.

"It was needed across the board for every sport to address the need for our nutrition. In order to build up, you've gotta have proper nutrition," Swift said.

While protein often gets the spotlight in athletic training, he emphasized the importance of balanced fueling.

"There's always a lot of emphasis on protein, but protein is useless if you don't have the right amount of

carbs. Your body will use it for energy if you're not fueled properly," Swift said.

With the addition of a full-time nutritionist, Miss Hannah, nutritional education, recovery strategies and individualized fueling plans are becoming part of the everyday athlete experience.

"Nutritional education is going to be pivotal, not only for performance but for recovery. It's important as a department to meet our athletes where they are in order to achieve our goals," Swift said.

When it comes to recruiting, Wofford is no longer pitching potential, it's showcasing results. With the sweeping upgrades and investments across Wofford College Athletics, the Terriers are positioning themselves for sustained success, not just in the years ahead, but right now. From enhanced facilities to expanded resources, these advancements elevate the department's competitive standard and distinguish Wofford at the top of the conference.

Beyond performance benefits, the new space will feature a lounge area designed to bring teams together.

"There's going to be a lounge area ... it'll be very convenient for our

athletes to sit down and mingle. That's a big need from sport to sport, to become one big Terrier family," Swift said. "Once it's unveiled and opened up, I think everybody's going to be just how they were when the weight room opened up. It was just like, 'Wow, this is next level.'"

For Wofford Athletics, "next level"



photo by Caroline Parker

Plans for the Terrier Fuel station were displayed in Jerry Richardson Indoor Stadium. The station is under construction in the Joe E. Taylor Athletic Building.

FROM THE PUB ROOM

Do students attend campus events? Why not?

Darcy Phillips '27
Staff Writer

Every morning, while sipping my coffee and checking my inbox for new emails, I read the Wofford Daily Announcements. A routine I look forward to every day at roughly 9 a.m. These announcements are inundated with sporting events, talks, fundraisers, etc.

Sometimes it takes me half an hour to read through all the things happening on campus on a given day or week. Seeing all these events and opportunities, I wonder: Do Wofford students really spend their time attending these events?

Wofford College hosts a variety of events and activities daily. Renowned speakers including Pulitzer prize winning authors and doctors from prestigious universities come and share their work. Residence-life and the Wofford Activities Council plan community engagement events with food and fun. Yet student turnout at these events is minimal, potentially in decline.

When polled on how Wofford students spend their time outside of class, 55% of 47 respondents responded that they hang out with friends, 38% spend time doing

homework, 5% spend time going to events, and 2% spend time fulfilling Greek life commitments. These statistics lend the question: Why are students not attending these events with their peers?

For further evidence of this discrepancy, when Wofford students were asked about how often they attend campus events, 57% responded only sometimes, 30% responded often, and 13% responded rarely. Though "sometimes" is not very specific, with how many events that occur daily and weekly, I would assume this means attending once or twice a week, if not less.

What explains this low turnout? Is it the events themselves that do not interest Wofford students? Or is it that Wofford students care about other things?

When Wofford students were asked if the events on campus interested them, 69% responded sometimes interested, 26% responded often interested, and 5% responded rarely interested.

Though Wofford does offer a diverse range of events, presentations, etc., should the college take into consideration more specifically what students are interested in?

Though this may be logistically

challenging, it seems like the college would be getting the most out of the money they spend if they ask students what issues they want speakers to address or what events they actually find to be fun and exciting. Or is this an issue with Wofford students? Should Wofford students attend these events even if they don't necessarily realize the importance off the bat?

When Wofford students do attend these events, it is usually because of extra credit opportunities presented by professors.

With 45% of respondents sharing their motivations for attending events is due to extra credit, 42% attend because they are interested in the topic, and 13% attend because of career goals.

If the college wants higher turnout at events, should it require professors to offer more extra credit opportunities? Or should it rely on students to simply attend out of interest?

Out of all the types of events Wofford students could attend, 65% of respondents say they are most likely to attend Greek life events, 14% talks/presentations, 12% sporting events, and 9% other types of events. This may be due to the high percentage of Wofford students participat-

ing in Greek life and attendance at these events being mandatory.

What is the solution to this low turnout at events, specifically talks and presentations by highly qualified speakers?

Though I think collaboration between students and the college on what events to host on campus could be a good idea, overall, I believe a shift in student motivation could result in higher turnout.

Wofford students should attend these events for the sake of learning.

The opportunity to learn something new, be challenged in one's belief, or to meet new people should be the guiding principle in how Wofford students decide whether to attend on-campus events or not.

Unfortunately, this is not the case as evidenced above; students mainly seem to

be motivated by extra credit or their own specific interests to attend these events. Wofford students are missing out in many ways by not attending these events, and this culture must be changed in order to get the most out of our college experience.



photo by Susanna Woodward

Senior Spotlight: Kate Gillum '26

Ava Cox '27
Staff Writer

As spring begins its lively approach to Wofford's campus, much anticipation awaits as the countdown to graduation steadily wanes.

As their time on campus comes to an end, many seniors hope to leave their mark and excitedly await what the future holds.

Kate Gillum '26 is senior worthy of spotlighting, as she prepares to leave Wofford a better place in a multitude of different ways.

Within each organization, Gillum hopes to leave her legacy of great involvement behind.

Gillum is a captain of the dance team, president of the Psychology Society, co-chair of Wofford Activi-

ties Council, a Bell-ringer for admissions, huddle leader for Fellowship for Christian Athletes, Chaplain's Fellow and a member of Zeta Tau Alpha.

"You can be involved in lots of different things, and I want to set a precedent for that. You don't have to be in only one thing – you can be on the dance team, and you can be a leader of so many other organizations," Gillum said.

Gillum is a Religion and Psychology double major, and her plans after graduation marry her two studies in a unique way.

She will be headed to Charlottesville, V.A. to participate in a year-long program called the Trinity Fellowship.

In this leadership program, she will

receive psychology-focused employment, take theology classes and actively volunteer at Trinity Presbyterian Church.

Additionally, she will live with a host family and take various weekend retreats with the other 13 fellows participating.

Gillum emphasizes the bittersweetness of beginning this new chapter and shares just how meaningful the Wofford community has been to her.

"I'm really excited for work and for all the people I'm going to meet up there, but I've had such an amazing four years here. I'm going to be so sad to graduate, but Wofford has prepared me so well for my future endeavors," Gillum said.

Originally from Birmingham, A.L., Gillum reflects on how much she has

grown as an out-of-state student.

"Coming here from far away was a major leap of faith for me because I didn't know anyone. Wofford has given me so many different opportunities and such a strong community. I'll leave here with so many different best friends that I know I'll keep up with for the rest of my life," Gillum said.

As she plans to dive into new uncharted waters, Gillum has Wofford to thank for giving her the courage to swim.

While many will miss her physical presence on campus next year, her legacy is sure to persist.



photo provided by Kate Gillum

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