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NWACC Eagle View

News Briefs

Service Learning Women's Project

Donation boxes will be set up in the lobby area of each NWACC building and campus from Nov. 6 to Dec. 7 to collect feminine hygiene products for those in need. This project is being done in conjunction with a service learning project involving students. Money and donations will provide for local women's shelters, NWACC pantry, high schools and families. To donate money, Venmo @Ari-Annamalai. For more information regarding the project contact Ari Annamalai aannamalai@nwacc.edu.

NWACC Athletics Top Golf Tournament

NWACC Eagles Top Golf tournament on March 14 at 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Rogers location near Pinnacle. Player registration expenses will be \$350 for a team of 6 players and individual registration will be \$60. Registration includes 3 hours of play time, food and nonalcoholic beverages. Sponsoring opportunities include Presenting Eagle: \$1500, Eagle Spirit: \$1,000 and Friends of Eddie Eagle: \$500. For more information and to register contact athletics@nwacc.edu.

See NEWS BRIEFS on Page 2

College's student journalists reap what they sow at Pinnacles Eagle View wins national awards

Delaney Reaves
Editor-in-Chief

The Northwest Arkansas Community College's student newspaper won three awards at the national level in October at the College Media Association's national conference hosted in Atlanta, Georgia.

The Pinnacles award ceremony for individual reporting honors took place on Oct. 31 in the Hyatt Regency Hotel where the conference was held Oct. 29 through Nov. 2 in Atlanta. Over 4,000 entries were submitted into the CMA awards contest, which includes each division based on school size and each medium and category.

The Eagle View won first place in Best Breaking News for special election coverage, done Nov. 7 to Nov. 9, 2022, which was published across multiple platforms and combined within a special two-page edition posted on the nwacc.edu website. The special coverage was written and produced by several staff members and contributors, including Delaney Reaves,

Ken Jeffries, Samantha McClain, Alivia Ogle, Chris Davis, Patty Rodgers, Halle Roberts, Lilly Orum, and Preston Dean.

The breaking news story "Former governor announces presidential run" by Delaney Reaves and Gillian Bunting won second place. The story was published online on April 26, 2023, within 24 hours of former Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson's announcement that he was running for the Republican nomination for president. An updated and expanded version was included a few days later in the Eagle View's final print edition of the spring semester.

Third place winnings for Best News Package were achieved through special coverage of Spring Arts & Culture Festival covered in Spring 2023. The contributing writers, photographers, and staff include Samantha McClain, Delaney Reaves, Ken Jeffries, Francisco Jasso, Keith Edwards, Bryce Watson, and Adam Bannister.

All of The Eagle View's obtained winnings fall into the two-year college division, which is separate from larger university competitors.



Hillary Warren, an officer with the College Media Association, presided over the awards ceremony on Oct. 31.

This was the first year that a separate contest division was open to two-year colleges.

Samantha McClain, managing editor for the Eagle View, said that she hopes the newspaper can continue down the path it is going and win even more awards during the next year. She said that she's happy to see the staff participating in competitions

to gain experience and have the opportunity to show off their talents.

"As a leader, I am happy for my reporters and staff of Eagle View to achieve three awards nationally. I can see the effort the people put into their work, and seeing the work get awards is beautiful," McClain said.

The student-run media at

NWACC has had the opportunity to compete in three different award competitions: Arkansas Press Women, Arkansas College Media Association and College Media Association. The staff members have been able to attend conferences with ACMA, CMA and Society of Professional Journalists during

See Awards on page 2

Last athletic luncheon of semester gives updates, hints at spring semester

Morgan Nunley
Online Editor

The NWACC athletic department hosted its last luncheon of the semester, and the luncheon provided some updates on current sports that are in place at NWACC and gave some indications on what next year's athletic endeavors will look like for the Eagles.

The luncheon was centrally focused on the success of the cross country team, led by head coach Josphat Boit, with the later portions of the discussion surrounding esports updates, and some spring semester plans that are in place, as of now.

The cross-country team was dominant early, winning

the regionals and advancing to the national championships, which took place in Huntsville, Alabama. The team flew to Huntsville and back, which Coach Boit described as "pretty intense."

Throughout the course of the season, both the men's and women's cross-country teams showed significant improvement and resilience. Every member of the team was a freshman, so the expectations of the team had to be realistic. The team continued to build upon the success of last year, though, despite the fresh faces, and relative youth.

The women's team started the year unranked, and by the end of nationals, the team as a unit ranked #23 in the NJCAA, with one runner finishing as an All-American. Both

Boit and athletic director Brooke Brewer touched on her performance during the program update.

The men's team was ranked at various points throughout the season, but their peak came at the end of nationals, when the team was ranked #14 after previously being #16. The men's highest placing runner ended up finishing 54th of the near 300 student athletes who ran in Huntsville.

Coach Boit and Brewer emphasized the perseverance from his team as one of the runners became ill right before the competition and was well enough to both travel and perform for the team, her teammates, school, and most importantly herself. One of the men battled an injury,

See Luncheon on page 6

NWACC mural art competition gives students chance for compensation

Morgan Nunley
Online Editor

The Northwest Arkansas Community College Art Department is partnering with Brightwater, a culinary, food and beverage preparation department of NWACC to bring students a chance to win \$500.

The Art department and Brightwater are looking for submissions for a mural competition that will be installed on one of the walls of Brightwater. The submissions for this competition are due on Nov. 13.

In their statement, the two departments explained all the details of the competition and

some important information for the artists looking to submit any piece to know. They also encouraged the students who are participating to make a trip to Brightwater and look at the wall that the mural will be on. A wall that is currently black.

Marshall Shafkowitz is an Executive Director at Brightwater and was part of the team at Brightwater that got the project off of the ground. He pointed out that Brightwater is not only just a school, but an art gallery as well, to be filled with the hard work of not just international artists, but also galleries dedicated to the "local and up and coming artists". Shafkowitz credits conversa-

See Mural on page 2

FEATURES



Fiber Fest

Festival in Washington County brings fiber to locals in Northwest Arkansas.

SPORTS



Flag Football

SGA hosted flag football tournament early Nov with players from NWACC and general public.

OPINION



CMA Experience

Insight on Eagle View's experience attending the CMA national conference in Atlanta.

News Briefs

Continued from page 1

College Success Workshops

Free How To College 101 workshops are being offered to students on Jan. 12 at 7-8 p.m. and Jan. 19 at 11 a.m.- noon held virtually through Microsoft Teams. The workshop will focus on improving academic skills and preparation for the upcoming semesters at NWACC. The event will provide time management strategies, studying and class participation tips, resources available through the college and more information valuable to the students. The workshop will hold a drawing for a gift card during the events happening. For more information contact the director of Student Success, Sheri Groesbeck at sgroesbeck@nwacc.edu.

New heights for media classes

A new journalism class is being offered in the Spring 2024 semester on Monday and Wednesday at 3-4:15 p.m. in Burns Hall building. The News Reporting class will blaze new trails in online media and students will learn how to cover various topics including the solar eclipse and Springs Arts and Culture Festival. For more information, contact Erin Hughes, ehughes4@nwacc.edu or Debbie Miller, dmiller13@nwacc.edu.

Finals Comfort Food Fundraiser

NWACC Chamber Singers will be hosting a fundraiser for the Chamber Singers NYC trip coming up in 2024. The sale will be held during finals week on Dec. 12 and 13 at 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. outside the Commons area in Burns Hall on the Bentonville campus. Donate \$5 and grab a doughnut, coffee or tea to help fundraise the Chamber Singers trip.

Snow Place Like NWACC

Sweets and Treats will be handed out to the NWACC campus on Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.. The event will take place in room 108 located in the Student Center on the Bentonville campus, and boxes will be delivered to the Brightwater building in Bentonville. The Washington County event will take place on Dec. 6 at 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the lobby.

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

MURAL

Continued from page 1
tions had with local artists for being the groundwork for the competition.

Shafkowitz emphasized the importance of inspiration when speaking of the importance of the piece to the department and to Brightwater. "Our goal is that the piece that is chosen becomes a piece that inspires someone...to think differently or outside of the box."

The students are also encouraged to speak to some of the folks at Brightwater, including potentially Shafkowitz, about what their vision for the mural is. Brightwaters hours are Monday - Thursday from 7 AM to 7 PM and on Friday from 7 AM to 3:30 PM.

The mural is supposed to be food related to tie into the other artworks around the building. Students would benefit from also looking at the other pieces of art to get an understanding for what they can do for this particular mural. The departments also emphasized that the piece should be in full color, and not in black and white.

The mural will be painted on the wall in the IT room inside the computer lab at Brightwater. The mural size is



Photo by Kyndal Kohl

12.5 feet by 4 feet. The competition is juried and will feature two judges from the NWACC Art Department, one judge from Brightwater, and one outside artist that will be brought in to judge the submissions.

The submissions are to be emailed to art@nwacc.edu by Nov. 13, with the subject line, "Brightwater Mural Competition 2024". The submitters may also email that same email address with any questions or concerns.

The submissions are to be

a single pdf document that also includes a digital image mock-up of the artwork, a document listing the artist(s) name(s), artwork title, artist(s) statement explaining the mural concept, and an itemized budget supply list.

As mentioned previously, the winner will receive a \$500 scholarship. Artists can choose to work in teams if they want to, however the money will be split between all the team members if that team wins.

According to Mary Tidy-Coyle, a member of the art fac-

ulty at NWACC, the winning mural has already been selected and will be announced on Dec. 4 through email. The installation will take place at the start of the spring semester, and will be completed by Mar. 4, 2024, to line up the reveal of the mural with the NWACC Spring Arts & Culture Festival. There will also be a reception for the mural at Brightwater on Mar. 5 from 4 PM to 6 PM, hosted by Brightwater and the NWACC Art Club.

AWARDS

Continued from page 1

2023 to network, learn and compete.

Ken Jeffries, former NWACC student and Eagle View managing editor, said that winning this award on a national level came as a complete surprise to him.

"I am honored and humbled, and grateful to be chosen as part of our EV team winners," Jeffries said, "I am grateful for the job we did, and grateful for all of the recognition it has garnered."

Jeffries was involved with in the election coverage work

done Nov 2022 which was coverage of the election ballot questions; this coverage was reviewed by staff members awaiting results. The results were reported within 24 hours and considered breaking news.

"Mainly, it feels really good to know that the work we did was worthy of national consideration, and of course, I am elated that we won at that higher level," Jeffries said.

Debbie Miller, instructor and newspaper adviser at NWACC said that she was pleased that the work

from the student journalists caught national recognition. She said the faculty and staff of NWACC knew there was great work being done by the student media team and now others know it too.

"We don't do what we do to win awards, but these honors are an affirmation of this fact: NWACC's Eagle View team delivers exceptional service and solid journalism to our college community," Miller said.

The Eagle View has won various local awards under different leadership, advisors and staff members through-

out the years. The staff members have cycled and most that won these national awards have graduated from the school, some currently working toward journalism careers.

"The journey has been challenging for Eagle View, but we are slowing processing from print to digital, state to national competition and developing resources for the future Eagle View staff. I can't wait to see Eagle View flourish and thrive as a community college newspaper," McClain said.

The Dreamers' Challenge to Succeed

DACA Provides Help for Students Seeking an Education

Mayleen Monterroso
Contributing Writer

DACA has been a huge part of our society, but it is seldom talked about, perhaps because no one wants to say anything, and perhaps because some do not understand its importance. DACA stands for Deferred Action of Childhood Arrivals for students who are undocumented and want to have an education. NWACC provides resources for students who have a DACA status, and the college helps any students who need information to help them have a better future. One staff member is in charge of administering the DACA program at NWACC: Director of Hispanic and Latino Outreach Juanita Franklin.

Franklin talked about her experience, what DACA is, and what helps students so that undocumented students can have the privilege to earn an education. DACA was an executive action by President Obama in 2012. At the time, Congress was considering passage of the DREAM Act, which was aimed at help-

ing people who are undocumented. The first version of the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act was introduced in 2001. In part because of the publicity around that bill, young undocumented immigrants have been referred to as "Dreamers," according to an explanation on the American Immigration Council's website: <https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/research/dream-act-overview>.

According to the website, during the last 20 years, at least 11 versions of the Dream Act have been introduced in Congress. While the various versions of the bill have contained some key differences, they all would have provided a pathway to legal status for undocumented people who came to this country as children. Some versions have garnered as many as 48 co-sponsors in the U.S. Senate and 152 in the House of Representatives.

The website article notes that, "Despite bipartisan support for each iteration of the bill, none have become law. To date, the 2010 bill came closest to full passage when it passed the House but fell

just five votes short of the 60 needed to proceed in the Senate."

Obama's executive order implementing DACA came about after Congress did not pass the DREAM Act. DACA has several requirements for eligibility. Since its beginning in 2012, DACA has enabled roughly 833,000 eligible young adults to work lawfully, attend school and plan their lives without the constant threat of deportation, according to the Immigration Council's website.

The availability of DACA status has affected people like Zessna Osborn. Osborn said she preferred to be called "DACAmended." She recently talked about what DACA means in her own words: "A two-year reprieve allowing me to work and allowing me to have peace of mind." Osborn continued talking about her story as a DACAmended student and what she had to go through. When she was 3 years old, she came to the United States and has been here her whole life. In 2012 when DACA was implemented, she did not initially apply because she wasn't sure about it. Then she was told she was eligible to apply for

it. She did so every two years.

Osborn started off going to Arkansas Tech University in Russellville but didn't like it because it was too far away and so she came to NWACC. She was able to have in-state tuition for only a semester. The governor at the time said, "If you don't have any social security or proof of in-state residence you can't have in-state tuition." She was able to have enough credits to transfer to U of A and paid for the tuition there out of pocket.

At the time she wasn't eligible to apply for a scholarship because of her status. She also had to deal with challenges such as not having a driver's license and having to take the bus to get to school.

There are many staff who support DACA students and are willing to help. Franklin has mentioned there now are scholarships out there for anyone who has a DACA status. More information is available on the NWACC website. NWACC has given many opportunities for DREAMers to succeed in life and for them to have a bright future.



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MISSION STATEMENT

The NorthWest Arkansas Community College Eagle View student newspaper shall provide students with a public forum for responsible news reporting and commentary and shall reflect commitment to integrity, truth and excellence.

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CORRECTIONS

Corrections shall be made in print and online in the event of an error of fact. No content should be amended without the knowledge of the editor-in-chief after it has been published. Eagle View does not remove content from www.nwacc.edu/academicdivisions/commart/studentnewspaper/default.aspx at the behest of a source under any circumstances.

In the case of factual error in a print story, a correction will be run in the next issue after the error is discovered. Any corrections to facts in an online story will be made immediately, with an editor's note marking the date and the nature of the correction. Small grammatical errors may be updated without an editor's note.

Cooking demonstration spices up education week

Chelsea Castillo
Managing Editor

International Education Week at NWACC was hosted from Nov. 15 through 17 with events that helped students connect with many kinds of international and multicultural education on campus.

Programs and activities included The Global Impact of the Holocaust, Walking Nachos, Exploring the Conflict-Israel's War in Gaza, and many other presentations. A cooking demonstration on Mediterranean cuisine was one event hosted during the week at Brightwater: A Center for the Study of Food. Chef Yaniv Cohen, known as "The Spice Detective," demonstrated preparation of his famous recipe for Shawarma and shared his story of becoming a chef and what cooking means to him.

Cohen opened his cooking demonstration with background information about his life. He explained that his love and knowledge of cooking and many spices came from his mother and grandmother as he was growing up in Israel. His website, thespicedetective.com, describes him as a passionate believer in the power of spices and herbs. "My love of food began at early age, helping my mother cook and set the table," states the About section of the Spice

Detective site. "Growing up in a Sephardic Jewish Family, with North African and Middle-Eastern roots, food was and still is a passion, a way of life."

He said every dish he makes is filled with love, and he added, "I don't add just salt." There's not a single dish that he makes that isn't beautifully spiced up, he noted, and he encouraged his audience with this advice: "Don't be afraid to experiment."

Sharing his passion for food is one of the things that he loves most. Cohen has a cooking book "My Spice Kitchen" with each chapter dedicated to a particular spice and recipes that include that spice.

Students attending had individual takeaways from Cohen's cooking style and his background and passion for food. Brightwater student Destani Ramirez said, "He really shows his passion for food by explaining what each dish means to him and how his grandmother and mother taught him about the benefits each spice gives you." Cohen mentioned that he was shocked when he first figured out turmeric can help with wounds. He explained that when he growing up he had an accident while playing with friends outside; that accident caused him to have an open gash on his hand. One

of the ladies from his town was watching the whole accident and rushed over to him and placed a spoonful of turmeric on his wound. He was so intrigued by how something he grew up only knowing its purpose in food could also help stop the bleeding in his gash. Since that day Cohen was so inspired to learn the benefits of many spices and how they can help other than pleasing one's tastebuds.

Another Brightwater student, Jessica Solorza, said, "I liked Yaniv's Shawarma dish; it's very different to what I usually eat, and I'm very glad we got the chance to make a Shawarma seasoning out of today's demonstration to use for any other dish I'll make."

International Education Week at NWACC provided many opportunities for students, staff, and faculty to come together and learn more about international students and a variety of programs on campus. The events showcased the distinct cultures on campus and how there are opportunities to take a chance to learn something new with any culture. For Cohen, it was about sharing through cuisine. During his presentation at Brightwater, the "spice detective" told his audience, "You can present yourself and your personality in a dish."



A cooking demonstration by Yaniv Cohen shows the process for his Shawarma Chicken Thigh recipe. During his demonstration, he went step by step and explained little details he likes to add to this specific dish. Cohen, known as "The Spice Detective," presented his program on Mediterranean cooking as part of NorthWest Arkansas Community College's International Education Week activities.

Photo by Chelsea Castillo

The Holocaust Narrative

Samantha McClain
Managing Editor

Jennifer Hoyer, associate professor of German and director of Jewish studies, hosted a panel called The Global Impact of the Holocaust on Nov. 12 as part of International Education Week activities at NWACC. This is the sixth event based on the Holocaust to spread awareness of the Holocaust, Matt Evans, political science professor, said.

The Global Impact of the Holocaust panel is one of the community event series with Northwest Arkansas Holocaust Awareness Project (NAHAP). The series started in 2019 but Hoyer's event is the first one to be held in person whereas the past ones had been virtual, Evans said.

NAHAP has three goals to raise awareness about the genocide of the European

Jewish community during World War II, the ecological, ethical, historical, psychological, and other components of the genocide, and the relation of the genocide to other historical and contemporary example, according to nwacc.edu.

According to NWACC, NAHAP achieves the three goals by: community event series that brings out the best research utilizing different media, activities, academic disciplines and subject positions and interdisciplinary conversation at the college and in the community.

Hoyer joined the U of A German section in the fall semester of 2007 and founded the U of A Jewish Studies program in 2015. Hoyer teaches courses in poetry, cinema, medieval and early modern literature, modernism, and Holocaust writing at the University of Arkansas. Hoyer wrote several journals and a book titled "Space of

Words: Diaspora and Exile in the Work of Nelly Sachs."

The Jewish studies program started with Jacob Adler teaching Hebrew, and over time, more faculty became interested in teaching Jewish literature, languages, history, culture, etc, according to fulbright.uark.edu.

According to fulbright.uark.edu, the U of A area of study is Arkansas's only Jewish Studies program.

There is a long prehistory of the Holocaust, Hoyer said. The events in real-time were intimately connected to numerous other world events, and it is not limited to war, Hoyer said.

The Jewish Studies program has a website called [How did the Holocaust affect...?](http://howdidtheholocaustaffect.uark.edu) at howdidtheholocaustaffect.uark.edu. The discussion of Holocaust awareness began in late 2020 to create a seminar that could help develop public knowledge of the Holocaust, ac-

ording to howdidtheholocaustaffect.uark.edu.

In the fall of 2021, the program brought a small group of speakers interested in contributing an overview or case study for the initial trial run. An archive of lectures since October 2021 is listed on the website.

Student research projects and Holocaust research resources were listed along with the website. One research by a student is how much it would be to be running a gas chamber, Hoyer said.

"What was surprising was how cheap it was to set a gas chamber that killed millions of people," Evans said, referring to getting the poison and the materials for the gas chambers was under \$10.

Hoyer was engaging and was seeing a humanistic aspect and values that makes people think about the Holocaust, Evans said.



Jennifer Hoyer, University of Arkansas associate professor of German and director of Jewish studies, talks about literature written about the Holocaust and how it has affected standard Holocaust narrative poems.

Photo by Samantha McClain

Veterans Day ceremony salutes American heroes

Morgan Nunley
Online Editor

The annual NWACC White Table remembrance ceremony for Veterans Day took place this year on Friday, Nov. 10, the day before Veterans Day and was a celebration of the soldiers who have given their lives for the country that they loved.

The ceremony and Veterans Day commemoration featured several guest speakers and included an orchestra and a saxophone soloist for the proceedings. The people in attendance for the event were welcomed by Judd Harbin, the dean of Students at NWACC.

Interviewed after the ceremony, Harbin was able to explain the importance of the ceremony and why it is so special to NWACC. "This is a way for us to take a moment and pause, express appreciation, show our gratitude, and honor the men and women

who have served this country."

The "blank check" that these men and women of the armed forces right for our freedom involves anything from amputation, PTSD, and even life itself. Harbin emphasized the importance of that blank check that includes everything "up to and including their life to make sure we have what we have today."

The ceremony then moved onto the National Anthem, which was performed by the NWACC Orchestra, and then an introduction and greeting from Justin White, the Vice President of Student Services at NWACC. White introduced the guest speaker, Erica Gamboa, a former veteran and a member of the University of Arkansas System.

Gamboa talked about her experience in the military and how she has built her career and life outside of the armed forces. After she was finished with her speech, she turned the mic back over to Harbin, who introduced another speaker, John Stewart,

a former U.S. Army veteran and the NWACC VA Student Assistant.

Stewart went through a Cliff-notes version of his time in the military and his overall life both before and after his time in the army. He explained his overall desire to continue to help young adults and veterans with their schooling and education.

The event continued with a performance of "America the Beautiful" by saxophone soloist, Austin McFarland, and the White Table Ceremony commenced, with Greg Workman, the director of Veteran Resources conducting the ceremony.

Workman remembered the lives of the fallen and those soldiers and families who have been greatly impacted by the wars of the past and those who couldn't be here to see the future. The ceremony concluded with a closing performance of "God Bless America" by the soloist McFarland.

The ceremony was a way to honor and cherish the men

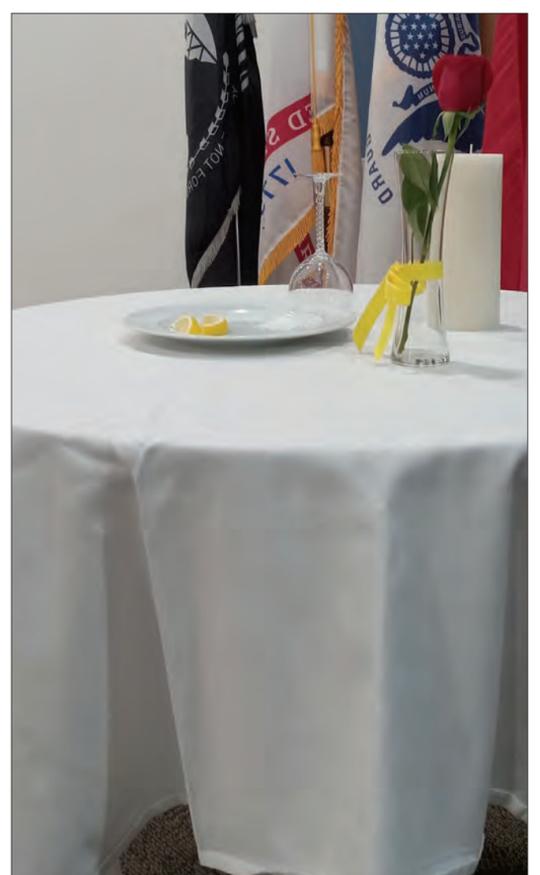
and women who have continued to act selflessly on behalf of this country and its citizens. The event took the time to prop up who that couldn't make it off the battlefield and sympathize with those that mentally remained on the battlefield long after they left.

Veterans Day

Veterans Day originated as "Armistice Day" on Nov. 11, 1919, the first anniversary of the end of World War I. Congress passed a resolution in 1926 making it an annual observance, and it became a national holiday in 1938.

Source: census.gov

Photo by Morgan Nunley



NWACC Student Exhibition of 2023

Samantha McClain
Managing Editor

NWACC Art Club hosted its student art exhibition Fall 2023 at the Integrated Design Lab and hosted an opening reception on Nov. 6, 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Tidy-Coyle said that the Best in Show winner receives the title 'Best in Show' and a prize valued at around \$50 that Student Life has donated.

When artworks have been submitted to Tidy-Coyle, the first round of judgment hap-

pens, and then the final round of submissions goes to the students of the Art Club. Artworks submitted to the Art Club are anonymous, so the votes are based on the artwork itself, Tidy-Coyle said.

Artworks are also submitted to Eric Smith, who then sends the artwork to the President's Advisory Council on Art (PACA). PACA was established in 2008 and oversees the presence and function of all visual artworks on campus, according to the Call for Artwork document.

The council builds upon the college's permanent art-

work through purchases, donations, and commissions. The PACA Student Purchase Award includes biannual selections that are acquired and framed. According to the Call for Artwork document, the award becomes a permanent part of the President's Student Gallery on the third floor of Burns Hall.

The student artwork exhibition will happen again in Spring 2024, featuring an NWACC Art Faculty Exhibition during the Spring Arts and Culture Festival, Tidy-Coyle, Said.



Denise Lor, who won best in the show, was rewarded an Esrich paint set of 60 by the NWACC Art Club.

Photos by Samantha McClain



Jacqueline Jones, takes pictures of Yuselly Escobar, who did a digital Flower Camera drawing.

Get Fibers at the Fiber Festival

Samantha McClain
Managing Editor

Fiber Fest originated to meet the request for high-quality fiber and arts to be accessible in the Northwest Arkansas area, according to nwafiberfest.com.

Fiber Fest took place at Washington County Fairgrounds, 2537 N McConnel Avenue, Fayetteville on Nov. 17-18 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

The founders serve on the Washington County 4-H Foundation board, and the proceeds from this event support 4-H youth development through camps, workshops, scholarships, and others, according to nwafiberfest.com.

People who don't have access to high quality yarn, can visit the Fiber Fest to obtain it, Sue Wilkins, owner of Prairie Bag Works, said. Wilkins had a demonstration to customers how to use her rope yarn bowls that can

collapse to fit into bags and a buttonhole feature to pull yarn through.

Several vendors were at the event including Yarn Adventure Truck, Oddbowlz Ceramics, Panda Paw Creations, Ozark Highland Wool, Yarn Dragon Fibers, Kiss Looms, Homestead Fibers, Prairie Bag Works, Yorkieslave Artworks, The Whimsical Ewe, Knitting Notions, Noti Yarns, Kristy's Fiber Arts, Cypress Mill Shetland Wool, and more.

Some vendors raise sheep and use the wool and create their own yarn. Dana Caton, one of the owners for Oxark Highlands Wool, raised a mix breed of sheep in Harrison to get fiber that is next to soft skin, Caton said.

Three food trucks were present at the event to offer a variety of food: Java Dudes, Ellies Sugar Shack, and Taqueria El Chuck truck.

The next NWA Fiber Festival will take place on Nov. 8 and 9 of 2024.



Natalia Calderon, looks at a pin of a sewing machine with Juliette Calderon. The pins were inside the yarn truck, Yarn Adventure. According to yarn-adventure-LLC, the yarn truck is a mobile shop that goes to different places and specialized in fiber centric good that are indie made.



Kate Lowder, owner of Lowder Colours Farm, weighs unprocessed wool for two customers who wants to make a needlefelt sheep.



Natalia Calderon and Sabrina Calderon looks at the socks made from yarn and yarn kits to make socks from the Yarn Adventure truck.



A closer look of yarn, called Kaleidoscope, is made by Yarn Dragon Fibers that reacts to black light.

Photos by Samantha McClain

Empowering single parents through education

Brooklyn Meek
Contributor

Education is often seen as a path to success, the Single Parent Scholarship Fund of Northwest Arkansas is playing a major role in making that dream a reality for many single parents. Founded in 1990, this organization has been offering support to single parents, helping them overcome financial barriers.

The Single Parent Scholarship Fund of Northwest Arkansas, a non-profit organization, has a mission to empower single parents through education, helping them to attain economic self-sufficiency. To date, Single Parent Scholarship Fund has awarded over 8,000 scholarships, transforming the lives of many single parents and their families.

“Our focus is not just on providing financial assistance for education but creating a support system that single parents can rely on,” said Krystle Goodwin, public relations and diversity director. Single Parent Scholarship Fund offers scholarships that cover not only tuition but also

textbooks, childcare, and other associated expenses, ensuring that single parents can focus on their studies without undue financial stress.

Goodwin also noted the ripple effect that education has on single parents and their children. “When a single parent goes back to school, the impact extends to their family as well. Education breaks the cycle of poverty, and children often see their parents as role models, motivating them to pursue higher education as well.”

SPSF NWA’s scholarships are available to single parents pursuing many types of post-secondary education including technical training, community college, and four-year degrees. The organization collaborates with local institutions to provide a diverse range of opportunities for single parents, giving them the ability to choose the best path for their education and career goals.

One of the unique aspects of the Single Parent Scholarship Fund is the personalized support and mentorship provided to the recipients. “We believe in not just providing financial support but also walking the journey with our recipients. We offer mentor-

ship and guidance, helping single parents overcome obstacles and stay on track to success.” Goodwin said.

Single Parent Scholarship Fund alumni, Rosey Salinas, spoke on her experience with the organization in an interview on YouTube. As Rosey became a mother at 23 years old, she was unemployed with no higher level of education. Her sister mentioned SPSNWA and she applied for the scholarship. “Being a single parent and trying to achieve getting your education is hard but, when you have an organization doing their part you know you have to work as hard as they are. When you put those two things together and you build great success.” Salinas said. She went on to get her degree in education and is now a teacher.

The organization works closely with local businesses and community partners to create employment opportunities for their recipients. This ensures that once single parents complete their education, they are not only armed with a degree but also have a pathway to a stable career.

Over the years, Single Parent Scholarship Fund has garnered support from vari-



Photo by Guillaume de Germain from Unsplash

ous individuals and organizations. Their annual fundraising events, such as the Sip and Savor Gala and the Spring Basket Auction, help generate the funds necessary to continue their vital work. The Jingle Mingle is their winter event, happening December 7th, 2023.

Goodwin shared her optimism for the future of Single Parent Scholarship Fund. “Our organization’s impact extends beyond education. We are changing lives and empowering single parents to achieve their dreams. With the continued support of our

community and partners, we believe we can do even more in the years to come.”

The Single Parent Scholarship Fund of Northwest Arkansas is an inspiring example of an organization that recognizes the power of education in transforming lives. By providing scholarships and support to single parents, they are helping to build a stronger, more educated, and more prosperous community in Northwest Arkansas. In a world where education is a key to success, the Single Parent Scholarship Fund of Northwest Arkansas is light-

ing the way for single parents and their families.

Donation Information

The Single Parent Scholarship Fund of Northwest Arkansas accepts cash donations on their website and office, as well as personal items (deodorant, toothpaste, food items, etc.) through their office. You can also become a recurring donor and donate yearly, sponsor or donate to events, and send an annual gift. These are all accessible through their website <https://spsfnwa.org>.

Students Find Extra Challenges in Commuting Life

Kay King
Contributor

School itself is already a stressful endeavor, but if that’s not already enough trouble, the actual commute to get an education can be just as stressful. A student’s commute to NorthWest Arkansas Community College can easily involve dodging semis, having to speed just to stay with the flow of traffic, and then suddenly having to hit the brakes to be certain not to miss the exit.

To put into perspective the average travel time, distance and costs of the student body, data recorded in 2022 show that out of the approximate 7,593 academic-credit students attending NWACC in fall 2022 about 4,273 students came from the inside of Benton County. That is about 56% of the school with an average travel time of about 40 minutes or less to the Bentonville location. Approximately 2,576 or 34% of students come from Washington County, with an average travel time to the Bentonville campus of between 45 minutes from southern Washington County and 20 minutes from the northern part of the county, with neither time taking into account precise times

of traffic. About 398 or 5% are from other Arkansas counties and finally 346 or 5% come from out of the state to attend classes at NWACC. The 2022-23 NWACC Fact Book notes that 646 students attended classes at the Washington County Center, at the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville or the Regional Technology Center in fall 2022.

The NWACC student commuters join a reported 74.5 percent of the region’s workforce who spend 30 minutes or less on their daily commutes. That 2022 statistic is from the Northwest Arkansas Council’s annual State of the Region report for 2023. The report also noted that the percent of workers who used alternative modes of transportation, including biking, walking, and using transportation, to get to work increased from 2.2% in 2020 to 2.6% in 2022.

Students interviewed talked about their daily commutes and the struggles that commuting. Haley Flowers of Washington County said that getting to school takes about 30 minutes whereas the drive back home sometimes takes longer. She estimated that the cost of gas was about \$15 per trip. Zoe Hardin, another student traveling from Washington County, said that her

commute takes about 20 minutes and that she would have to buy a full tank of gas about every two weeks.

However, just looking at statistics does not exactly put everything into perspective. Both the students interviewed said that their commutes affected their attendance. Going to school some days didn’t feel like it was worth fighting the traffic, they explained. “Gas is just so expensive, and I work so it’s not that big of a problem, but it means I have to work in order to pay for myself to even get to school,” Flowers said. Many students feel the same way, and when asked why they didn’t do full online classes both Flowers and Hardin expressed that while online would indeed be easier, neither of them thought it would be the best option for them to succeed.

“I love school!” Hardin said. “I love learning and I love seeing my classmates, but actually getting there makes me dread the thought.”

Although there may not actually be a solution to this problem, it is still relevant to discuss to show others that the struggle is real. A student can love going to school without loving going to school.

Academic Advising Help, Web Links Ease Path for Transfers

Nolan Demory
Copy Editor

Every year there are countless students looking to further their academic career via the transfer route, and the population of students looking to transfer doubles in community colleges and other two-year institutions. According to Forbes around 2.1 million students transferred in the 2020-2021 academic year, and that was a low year. Compare that to the 16 million students who enrolled in college in 2023, and one can see that the student population actively participating in the transfer process is extensive.

When discussing student transfers in relation to NorthWest Arkansas Community College one might have many questions; where should one start? Who should one talk to? What options are there? Tackling the first question is quite easy; the NWACC website lays out the process very clearly. The college site gives a list of steps that include meeting with a divisional advisor, planning a course schedule, attending transfer events, research transfer programs, and finally selecting the college and, according to their advice, going on a tour to said college. These steps look clean and simple laid out on a page, but in practice the process can get confusing.

To make the first step clearer, the Associate Director, Transfer & Degree Completion, Meredith Autrey, has this advice, “Students need to be meeting regularly with the academic divisional advisor for their intended transfer major and be in contact with the admissions office at the transfer school. Transfer conversations need to be taking place at their advising appointments.”

When asked about how he fared during his time transferring, UARK student Caleb Zschau had this to say, “It was complicated at first for sure, but after talking with the advisor and doing some



Photo by Kimberly Farmer from Unsplash

research it became a lot easier finding which classes I needed to take.”

Concerning transfer events, these opportunities can be very beneficial for a confused student, and although many of the events have already taken place, there are still many on the way hosted by a number of universities and colleges including: Arkansas State, Arkansas Tech, Columbia College, and more; all hosted in the student center lobby. One can find more info on times and dates on the NWACC website, <https://www.nwacc.edu/transferservices/transferevents.aspx>.

The NWACC website makes the fourth step, researching transfer programs, quite easy. One of the biggest headaches for students looking to transfer is the fear that the credits they have earned will not be transferable, but with assistance with the website one can quickly find if the classes they have taken or are currently taking will be able to transfer with the college of their choice. For example, when looking into transfer course equivalency for let’s say the U of A, there just so happens to be a fully dedicated list on their webpage, <https://courseequivalency.uark.edu/>. Zschau’s comments on the Arkansas course equivalency page show how much guidance it gives to students and how much easier it can make the whole muddy

process of transferring: “After looking at the equivalency page I pretty much knew what I needed to take and what credits I already had that would be transferable. It really took a lot of the stress out of the process.”

Students looking to transfer should not procrastinate and should start researching their options as soon as possible, Autrey noted. She has this very helpful advice for student transfers, “I find things go more smoothly if students do not wait until the last minute to meet with their academic divisional advisor for semester planning and transfer discussions. I recommend students schedule their advising appointments starting in September for spring and February for summer and fall course recommendations and transfer advising. Certain programs may have a separate application and may require specific courses, so even if you have been accepted into the school, you may fall short of the courses you need for that program. Plan early.”

Transferring can be quite a stress, but it doesn’t have to be. NWACC has made the steps for students to achieve their academic dream all laid out and very concise, with the transfer section of the college’s website one can find all the tools needed to achieve and grasp the future of their education.



Photo by Element5 Digital from Unsplash

Don't Tackle Me!

Student Government Association hosts flag football



"Whoa there's too much tackle in this nontackle football,"- Kelly Sommers. Here the Hotdoggers and Dark Knights get a little too invested in their flag football game. People pictured from left to right: Graphic design major Elyssa Hefley, comp sci major Elliot Villatoro, community member Brandon Coil, SGA VP Jarred Chieng (ref in the back), information systems major Nicolai Lawson, comp sci major Joshua Corderro, and business major Marian Alvarez.



The Hotdoggers team at the SGA flag football game.



Parents of graphic design major and flag football player Elyssa Hefley watch the SGA flag football tournament. Thanks for the support Charles and Melissa Hefley.



Nicolai Lawson, information systems major, gets ready for the upcoming SGA flag football tournament.



Members of the 479rs (business admin major Brian Gomez, business major Megan Anglea, and FHS student Brody Long) chase after community member Jake Mithcell who has the football.

Photos by Stephanie Roat

LUNCHEON

Continued from page 1

and that being the only thing preventing the entire team from setting a personal record time on the track during the event.

The All-American runner for the women's side of the team was Maria Hurtado, who finished 34th of the 276 student athletes who showed up to Huntsville and ran, an astounding achievement for a freshman in her first national event.

"Running feels like I can do better to improve and I can do what I want to," Hurtado said. Hurtado is usually quite but became more open when she signs up for the NWACC Cross Country teams, Hurtado said.

When Hurtado came in at 34th place, she was mind blown and felt joy, she said. "I am glad I can achieve my goals," Hurtado said.

India Owens, a freshman for the NWACC Cross Country team, is athletic but has a love / hate relationship with running, she said. However, she likes to meet people in the region and because she was originally from Fort Smith, she has been able to connect with people, Owen said.

Both Hurtado and Owens plan to compete again in the spring of 2024.

After the wrap-up of the 2023 cross country season, the meeting moved onto the updates for the new esports team at NWACC. Brewer

turned the floor over to the new esports coach, Carlos Merino.

Merino encouraged the continued involvement of the esports program, explaining that it is one of the most "inclusive" sports in terms of accessibility and the fact that almost anyone can become a great esports player.

Merino said that the sport does have a "niche" value to it. It is a very intriguing and opportunistic sport to have at NWACC and unique to have it so readily available to the students and staff.

Merino explained that the teams now have some captains to see how the students handle that particular responsibility. He also explained that the team is currently in the Tier 3 category of competition, which is mostly exhibition and not exactly as competition and performance driven as the top two tiers are.

The club is made up of 10 main teams, totaling 52 players, exceeding the expectations for the team when the team was proposed. The main three teams include the Overwatch team, the Madden team, and the Super Smash Bros. team.

Merino also hinted as to what one of the big announcements was for the 2024 spring semester, and then turned the floor back over to Brewer for the final update and message.

The first announcement

was that the esports team will be moving into tier 2 in the spring semester and will be competing with the NJCAAP in February, with the post-season being in April of next year.

The team is also working to continue to build on the lab that they will compete out of in the fitness center in Burns Hall on the Bentonville campus. The lab will include nine gaming stations, which have all been paid for through sponsorship, according to Brewer, and the NWACC

giving day proposal is going to provide the chairs for the lab as well.

Brewer emphasized the importance of sponsorship for the new lab, saying that "the more sponsorship we get, and truly every little bit helps, the better we are going to be able to make that lab."

The growth of the program is continued through the social media posts, school announcements, and bulletin. The program is continuing to grow, and Brewer expected the dedication to be the driv-

ing force for recruitment and recognition of this program.

Brewer also included other announcements such as the beginning of off-season training for the cross-country team will begin in the spring, and announcing that the luncheons will continue in January and February, with the athletic department hosting a banquet in April for the student athletes to celebrate their year at the end of the spring semester.

The department will also launch its athletic website

and will start to have athletic signings at various points in the spring semester.

A Top Golf fundraising tournament also is planned, with entry fees for an individual being \$60, but the team entry of 6 being \$350.

The luncheon concluded after the announcements with an Eagle call and an acknowledgement to the supporters and sponsors of the department.

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CMA experience through an editor's eyes

Delaney Reaves
Editor-in-Chief

The Fall National College Media Convention, a journalism conference hosted in Atlanta, Georgia inside the Hyatt Regency Hotel on Oct. 29-Nov. 2 brought the like minded together. The conference offered more than 400 sessions, discussions, and presentations over various topics, featured nationally known speakers, and brought national networking for students, award ceremonies and work critiques.

The four-day event was sponsored by Associated Collegiate Press and the College Media Association to bring the largest gathering of college journalists and advisors in the nation according to the convention's website.

Students from all around the country attended the conference including sessions alongside peers and connected with other individuals who share the same passion; journalism and truth telling. Advisors from around the country also attended and had the chance to connect with other schools and participate in sessions geared towards advising.

Brooke Manuel, editor in chief of the Sul Ross Skyline student newspaper in Alpine, Texas was one of the attend-

ees at the College Media convention. Manuel said that attending the conference was an amazing experience, and she hopes to be able to come back for the next national event.

Manuel was a student attendee as well as a speaker during the event. "Attending the conference as both a student and speaker was an amazing experience," she said. "I loved getting to meet my colleagues from across the country and learning about how different student journalists run their newsrooms," Manuel said.

In the main registration area, a media zone was set up to showcase newspapers and magazines from attending colleges at the conference. This space gave students the chance to talk with others about their designs, stories, and processes and to showcase their accomplishments.

National networking opportunities were given to attendees with several institutions and groups who interacted with students, answered questions and gave out information. Some of these included Gray Television, World Journalism Institute, Student Press Freedom Initiative and Live 365.

The conference attendees left with pages of notes taken during sessions, recollections of talking with other student journalists about their proto-

cols and the opportunity to review other student newspaper issues. I was excited to be able to bring all of the information I have soaked in and documented back to NWACC's student newsroom to apply strategies and ideas.

With this experience, I have been able to gain knowledge that will spring further into my college opportunities working at the student newspaper and a professional career in media that I am working to obtain. It equipped me with opportunities to connect and network with those in the world of journalism, professionals in the field, students and advisors.

I have come back to my home in Arkansas with gained friendships, inspiration and a drive to continue onward in the world of media. I'm glad to now share with others what I experienced and inspire others who also want to lead on this path. It also gave me various ways to learn about the craft, to further my knowledge and apply practices to my work and the work in the newsroom at NWACC.

Sessions I was able to attend included "Mapping the Newsroom of your Dreams" which encouraged breakout groups to brainstorm ways student newsrooms can improve their practices. In this session the groups looked at newsroom operations, revenue, products, policies and



Students from Spelman college interview New York times columnist Charles M. Blow.

Photo by Delaney Reaves

promotion/marketing to encourage students to share ideas that can be brought to newsrooms.

"Multimedia Journalism: A Day in the Life" session offered a glimpse into a career focused in multimedia storytelling and provided tips to get started. In this session students were able to see how the process of the career will look and how to get started now to develop the craft.

Aubree Curran, student attendee, holds the position of managing editor for the Foghorn news at Del Mar College, a public community college located in Corpus Christi, Texas.

"It was very interesting to not only meet people in my field at my level, in a colle-

giate level across the nation but also network myself on a national level," Curran said.

Curran said one of her biggest takeaways from the sessions was that confidence is key and the importance of asking questions is valuable. She said that in the media industry networking is very important and that it is key in the field she works in.

"It's a really amazing thing being able to see everyone else's work across the US," Curran said, noting that the conference helped her connect with others. "Overall, I thought it was a really great opportunity to just meet everyone else and kinda see what is going on."

A tour of Georgia Tech's student media center was

offered to students; the tour brought several different college students together to talk and roam through how Georgia Tech media runs. The media center hosts a radio show, prints magazines and newspapers, and maintains an online presence.

The biggest takeaway from this event is the massive learning impact it has had, the opportunity to learn from not only the speakers who attended but the students who shared their expertise and practices within their work.

Overall, the experience at the CMA was amazing to be a part of and I extend my gratitude to those who helped to give students like myself this opportunity to attend, learn and connect.

How to survive finals week

Madison De Lia
Reporter

As a college student, I have had my fair share of 'finals weeks'. You have them in high school, you have them in college, but you've also probably had them in grade school, they just weren't taking them as seriously. But now they are, and it's time to start buckling down on studying. There are many ways to study, but not all of them work for everyone. "I am more of a hearing person, whereas some people are more hands on or visual learners, but I like to listen. I like to listen but also work with my hands. It helps me remember more and retain more information," said Dylan Head, a student at NWACC.

Personally, my favorite ways to study are by taking very neat notes with different colored pens or by gathering all my assignments, tests, and quizzes and using them to create my own colorful, neat study guide. Some people might listen to music, some might have a show on in the background, it really is different for everyone. Here are some of the best ways to study:

Start studying early. Allowing yourself enough time to prepare for your final exam and understand all of the material is key. You may have a lot to study for, as you don't know how much of or what material will be on the final exam. The more that you learn over a longer period of time, the more likely you are to remember it.

Take notes during lectures. You can always get the information to study from your earlier assignments, and you should, but notes are probably the most important. This also gives you something to refer to later if you're confused. Notes are also helpful if you need to memorize something because you can read it as many times as you need to. It will also help clarify material.

Ask questions in class. If you're confused about something, someone else prob-



Graphic by Emily Smith

ably is too. You don't want to leave class having doubts about the material because if you don't fully understand it, that will show on your final exam.

Make your own study guide/plan. You know yourself best. What works for you, works for you. If that means listening to music while you study, do it. If that means taking very neat and colorful notes, do it. If that means doing all these things, do it. Something else that may work is making a checklist. Write down everything you need to study and break it up into sections and study them one-by-one until you are comfortable with it, then move on to the next section.

Study the information in multiple ways. Take notes and study them. Create online quizzes and take them. Make flash cards and use them. Have a parent or a friend help you or quiz you. Also, you can draw concept maps or watch videos on the subject you are trying to learn. Having someone else explain it to you from an unfamiliar perspective may just be what you need.

Take breaks. It is important to take frequent breaks when studying. If you sit in one spot and force your brain to learn something for an extended period, you are unlikely to keep most of the information. If you take frequent breaks, allowing your brain to rest in between each study session, you are more likely to remember what it is

that you learned.

Sleep enough. It is important to sleep a lot and have a good sleep schedule. You don't want to have scattered sleeping patterns if you can help it, that will contribute to one having a harder time focusing and remembering things that they are trying to learn.

Eat well. It is important to eat enough but also to keep a balanced diet. If you are eating healthy, then that means you have a healthy gut and if you have a healthy gut, that means your brain is healthy, which is important when you are studying for something big like a final exam.

Study where you are comfortable. Having a safe and quiet place is crucial to studying. You don't want to be somewhere loud where it's hard to focus but maybe you also don't want to be somewhere where it's super quiet. Find a balance that works for you. Try studying outside, or in your room, maybe listen to music or have something playing in the background. Even studying in a coffee shop or a bookstore may work, it isn't super loud or quiet but trying new environments can always be good.

There is no one best way to study, it is just what works best for you. You want to make sure you have enough time for preparation, it will only cause you more stress to have to cram everything in. "My tips for studying for finals would be start prepping for your finals now, taking

Balancing Books and Baby Bottles

Brooklyn Meek
Contributor

In the morning most people wake up to their alarm clocks or phones, I wake up to the sweet sound of my 7-month-old son's cries. If he could express himself in words, he'd say 5:30a.m. is the perfect time to get up. Most college kids press snooze, but my alarm clock is a mixture of giggles, crying, and silly baby noises. As I stumble out of bed into his nursery, I find him eagerly waiting. The routine starts with a bottle and a change of diapers, followed by a selection of the day's outfit for him.

Once the baby is settled, reality hits hard. Looking into the sink you'll find yesterday's bottles in desperate need of attention. The bottles need washing, sterilizing, and organizing, a repetitive but necessary task. While the baby is still occupied playing, and the days still young, it's time to attempt catching up on schoolwork. The pages of notes mixed with teething toys creates a scene that describes the balancing act I perform daily. As I hear my son giggle it's a reminder that even amid my academics, the joy of motherhood persists.

I give my son another bottle, and the clock strikes the hour to go to school. I gather my textbooks, give him a kiss, and off to campus. This is the most struggling time because even though I know he is in good hands my heart still aches to have him in mine. As I sit through lectures and quizzes, I think about how my education will set a good standard for him.

Returning home marks the transition from student to mother once again. The baby is eager for attention and playtime. I sit and play with him to relax a little before the nightly duties begin. Once he is in a calm state it's time to hit the books once again. During this time homework takes precedence, as I strive to meet deadlines, my sons babbling is the background



Photo by Jeshoots

noise.

I start my evening to-do list with his bath. After a nice warm bath, I get him ready for bed as I go through his nighttime routine: new set of pajamas, reading his favorite book, and feeding and cleaning. Now that he is content once again, I can finally start on dinner and eat. Once we are both fed it is time to put him down for the night. A combination of shushing and rocking and about 40 minutes later, he is finally peacefully sleeping.

As the night deepens, the tasks persist. The dirty dishes are piled up in the sink waiting to be conquered, the laundry needs to be ran, and it's my only time to clean up the house. I tackle these tasks reluctantly. After the housework is done, I can jump into one final study session before I go to sleep. If I'm lucky and have none I use this time to relax and take some time for myself, as a mother these times are few and far between.

The clock says midnight and exhaustion becomes a companion. As I finally crawl into bed, I reflect on the day's challenges. The weight of my responsibilities lingers into the quiet of the night. Although the path I'm on may not be the easiest, motherhood has been the most rewarding thing in my life. Being a student and mother, I hope for a brighter future for both me and my child. Tomorrow will bring its own set of challenges, but I embrace them knowing who I'm doing it for.

