



The West Georgian

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REVIEW OF MUSIC FACULTY CONCERT

Allison Lee

Contributing Writer

The Annual Music Faculty Concert occurred at the Townsend Center on Sep. 19, 2019 at 8:15 p.m. which gave the UWG music faculty a chance to show their own talent. There were eight performances by 13 members of the music faculty. The pieces performed were mostly classical and they varied in styles. Many of the performers were accompanied by their students which aided in their performances.

The concert began with tuba player, Cale Self and pianist, Joseph Snipes. They played, "Concerto for Bass Tuba" by Ralph Vaughan Williams. This piece was mainly centered around the Tuba player and Self got a Solo Tuba part during their song. Although, later on during the song the tuba and piano synced up to blend better with each other. The second piece was performed by violinist Christopher Mosley and pianist Carol Gingerich. They played, "Ballade in C minor. op. 73" by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor. This music was sort of slow and somber for most of the song. This piece was one of the longest pieces performed during the program.

Next up for the third piece, a tenor named John Elson Williams was singing with a pianist named Wayne Gilreath. They performed, "Zueignung" by Richard Strauss. This piece was in German and was a warm, powerful piece. The music program provided a translation for the audience thankfully. The fourth performance had only one performer named Christopher Mothersole on his clarinet. He played, "Chromatic Fantasy" by Johann Sebastian Bach. This piece was quick and precise even though it was an extremely complex musical arrangement. Once this performance was over, the talent of the music faculty at UWG shines through.

The fifth performance was from Katie Byrd and Josh Byrd

playing percussion. They played, "Faded Lines" by Andrea Venet. This piece was exciting because they both used two drums on stage and it was a complex piece. There were two snare drums and one bass drum that they used. The sixth performance was of saxophonist, John Bleuel and pianist, Linda Li-Bleul. They played two sections of "Strophes" by Lucie Robert which were section IV. Lent and section V. Prestissimo energico. The first section was meant to be ominous and the saxophone sounded as if it was screaming at one point intentionally. The second section was lively and energetic because of the pianist, but also the saxophonist.

The concert wrapped up with soprano singer, Dawn Neely and pianist, Wayne Gilreath kicking off the seventh piece of music. They performed, "Song to the Moon" by Antonín Dvorák (from Rusalka the opera). This song was sweet and melodic because it was meant to be a love song in the opera Rusalka. The last piece to be played was called, "Reminiscing" by Ben Geyer. This piece was a special performance because the song was written and performed by Ben Geyer. His performance was brilliant and he captured that nostalgic feeling with his music. Overall, the performances were high class and well worth the experience.

Students have many opportunities for performance here at UWG, but just as the students are important, so are faculty members. That is why they had the opportunity to showcase their accomplishments at The Annual Music Faculty Concert.

The next upcoming event for the UWG Department of Music is the Wind Ensemble Concert on Sep. 27, 2019 at 7:00 pm. Come support these hard-working individuals in their pursuit of music.

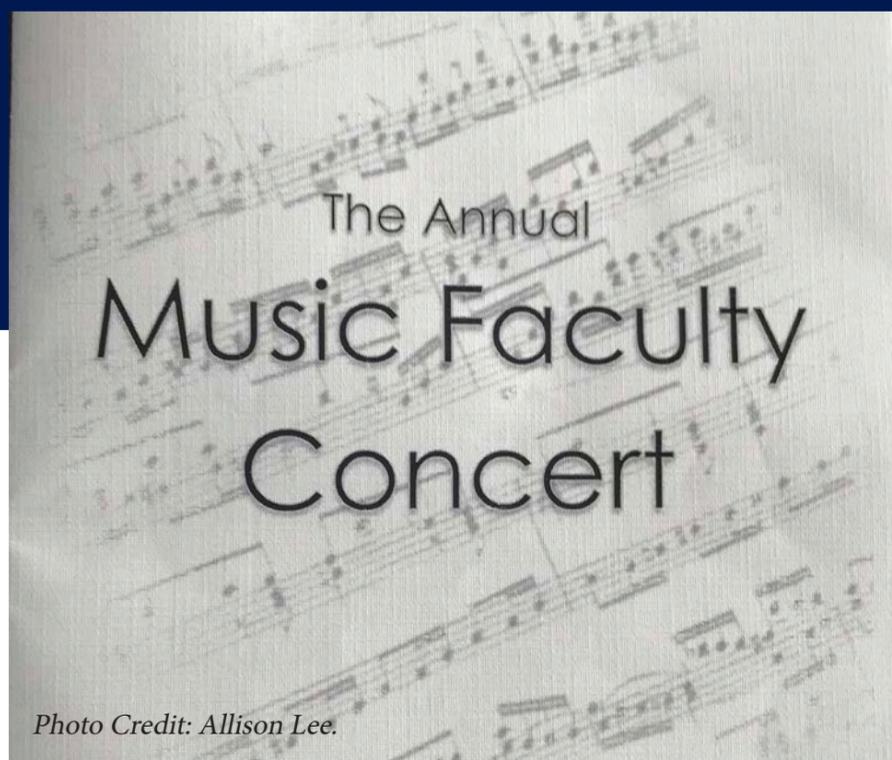


Photo Credit: Allison Lee.



STUDY ABROAD, SEE THE WORLD

Emily Conklin
Contributing Writer

The study abroad program at UWG has plenty of options for those who crave travel but still want to complete school at the same time.

Caroline Phelps is a Wolves peer advisor at UWG, who is majoring in Spanish. Phelps has had the opportunity to study abroad multiple times, including once in Costa Rica. "I've studied abroad three times and now I am a semester ahead," said Phelps. "It definitely keeps students on track, but most of the time it pushes them forward."

When studying abroad, there are not many requirements for those students who wish to apply. This allows for many students the opportunity to study abroad if they wish to do so.

"Generally, the main requirement is that you have completed your first fall and spring semesters of your freshman year," said Phelps. "You cannot study abroad until your first summer semester, as you will need to complete some of your basic classes."

Along with students being afraid of falling behind when studying abroad, many are also discouraged that it will be too costly for what they can afford. Luckily for students, UWG has many scholarships set in place so that students can afford to explore the world.

"Every student who studies abroad with West Georgia is guaranteed at least one scholarship from our office. It is the general Office of Education Abroad (OEA) scholarship," said Phelps. "That application and scholarship are built into every study

abroad application that students fill out, which ensures that every student will obtain at least one scholarship."

The programs that are offered through the UWG are also superior to others in the fact that they are usually all inclusive. The only thing that differs is for those who decide to be exchange students and go away for an entire semester or a year rather than just for a couple of months or weeks.

"It always covers that roundtrip airfare, housing in the country, most of your meals, transportation in the country, travel and medical insurance," said Phelps. "A lot of times, especially for the summer semesters, it will cover the school supplies for that class."

Some students are also hesitant to study abroad as they are fearful that they will not make any friends and not know anyone. Students stray away from studying abroad as they will not have the ability to see their family members often as they do now, but they do not have to fear that as they will not be alone.

"For the summer programs, you always go with students and professors. There are usually two professors that go on each trip," said Phelps. "As for living with a host family, that depends on the program. Some countries and programs do offer a host family stay, others you stay in an apartment or a hotel, but it is usually a hotel if it is a 1 or a 2-week program."



Photo Credit: Dept of Education.

LIVING WEST

HOMECOMING WEEK IS ABOUT TO BE OUT OF THIS WORLD

Cameron Lynch
Contributing Writer

Homecoming week is always one of the most anticipated weeks of fall semester, and for good reason. The entire week leading up to the Homecoming football game is packed with events, activities, and giveaways hosted by various groups on campus. Clubs and Organizations also set up tables around campus during homecoming week. It's a good idea to leave for class a little early and learn more about all that UWG has to offer.

This year the homecoming game falls on Oct. 19, but the festivities start on Wednesday October 9th. The theme for this year is "Out of This World", and many events exhibit that. Make sure to mark your calendars so you don't miss out on any of the fun!

Wednesday October 16
Wear Red Get Fed
Rolling into Orbit - Glow Skate Event

Friday October 18
Build-a-Wolfie
Nursing Reception and Alumni Panel
Blast Off! - Presidential 5K Race
A Dazzling Display - Bonfire, Pep-Rally, and Fireworks

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Saturday October 19 -
HOMECOMING GAME DAY
The Game Starts at 2:00 p.m against the West Florida Argonauts, but many students start tailgating much earlier.

Photo Credit: UWG Community Engagement.



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THE MOST INTERESTING HOBBY IN THE WORLD



Bailey Oliveira and her Azilian decor. Photo Credit: Bailey Oliveira.

Justin Hodges

Editor-In-Chief

Hobbies serve the purpose of preventing people from reaching the point of insanity. They provide a source of drive and determination, an escape from the inevitable tortures of everyday life. Collecting quarters, playing catch, writing novels, mountain gliding, automation, macaroni doodling, life requires distractions that bring happiness. Some hobbies can be simple activities that can be done with a group, others belong only to their founders.

Bailey Oliveira, a UWG Anthropology student, creates art from roadside carrion. She uses the decomposed remains of former house pets to make beauty from life's most terrifying epidemic. She crafts jewelry the old fashioned way, going back to how Azilian culture cultivated necklaces and beads from bird bones and snake vertebrae.

"I swear it's not a serial killer type thing," said Oliveira. "It's just so sad to see such a waste of life on the side of the road. I would walk my dog past this dead opossum and I'd watch it decompose and I found it really interesting to watch so when it finally turned all skeleton I dried it out and picked out which bones I wanted."

Earrings made of raccoon ribs and crows feet, opossum carcass charms, vertebrae necklaces, Bailey's pieces are elegantly crafted. The beauty she adds takes nothing away from the peculiarity of the material, a magnificent blending of fashion and oddity that is rare to come across.

"I typically always go for the ribs, spine, always the face and whatever I can get of the skulls. Spines are fun! A lot of times the spine is still inside the corpse and it's just a little strip of tendon I can use," said Oliveira.

Oliveira gets contributions from her brothers, who will often bring her variations of corpses to experiment with, however she owes graces to the vampire chickens that clean our roads.

"Vultures are like my spirit animal," said Oliveira. "Every time I see one I know something's dead and that makes me feel better because they make it easier for me since they pick the meat off."

Bailey's art is as unique as can be, but she's not the only one of her kind. Her inspiration comes from a Georgia artist known for her naturalistic style.

"There's this artist I'm really inspired by named Gogo Ferguson over in the Cumberland Islands, she has an exhibit where she guilds bones," said Oliveira. "The one I remember the most is a gold-plated raccoon pecker."

If this article inspires anyone to follow in Bailey's footsteps in the art of bone crafting, fear not. All you need is bleach, toothbrushes and the most resilient of stomachs.

"The process just depends on how I find the animal," said Oliveira. "Sometimes I have to scrape the brain out of the head cavity or cut an eyeball out, one time my brother brought me a deer and I had to overcook it to get the tongue out and it wound up coming out with the esophagus attached and the boiling pretty much killed the bone."

"If vultures and coyotes have already picked it apart I'll just throw the bones I need in a trash bag and put them in bleach, scrub the nasty chunks off with a toothbrush. Bleach will take apart the calcium and ruin the bone but I'll let them soak if it's a really strong bone, it's gross but you just gotta get in there," Oliveira continued.

Rotting animal carcasses aren't the most accessible thing in the world, especially with predatory competition like foxes dragging them around. Bailey always makes the most out of what she can get her hands on.

"Deer vertebrae are good because they're so big, I made a ring once out of opossum vertebrae, small things like raccoons and cats work really well, even though dead cats make me really sad," said Oliveira. "I really wanna make earrings out of vole skulls, but I can't find two voles because they're so tiny."

No matter how obscure your hobbies may seem, the most natural art can be derived from the strangest of places.

KEEP CARROLL BEAUTIFUL AND GET INVOLVED - UPCOMING ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

Cameron Lynch

Contributing Writer

Southwire LLC and Keep Carroll Beautiful are teaming up with sponsors to host an electronics recycling event on Saturday, Oct. 5. The event will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be drop off locations in both Carrollton and Villa Rica, so all of Carroll County can participate. Accepted items include laptops, printers, car batteries, and more.

Carrollton electronics drop off location: Southwire's Corporate Parking lot. Villa Rica electronics drop off location: Midway Church (off of Old Hwy 61).

It is common to throw old electronics in junk drawers and forget about them. Luckily the "Giving Back: Electronics Recycling" event simplifies the process of ridding unused electronics while being eco-friendly. Volunteers are present to accept the donated electronics and to educate on the prevalence and hazards of electronic waste. This event is a great opportunity to do some decluttering while getting involved in the community, and helping the environment.

Electronic Waste, or E-waste, is now the fastest-growing waste stream in the world, with an estimated waste stream of 48.5 million tons as of 2018," says Rubicon Global representative.

This sounds extreme but became more plausible after some research on the topic. Apple alone has released

20 different iPhone models in the past decade, for example. On average that is two upgraded phones per year, and that is not even accounting for other common electronics such as laptops, TVs and speakers. Electronics are constantly improving, and consumers are constantly upgrading. This creates tons of unwanted electronic waste.

E-waste is not only the fastest growing in landfills, but also the most dangerous. It is known that materials such as plastic and paper can fill up landfills, but the long term effects of electronics in these landfills can be much more threatening. This is especially true because electronics in general are relatively new, so the long term effects of electronic waste on the environment are unknown.

"Electronic scrap components, such as CPUs, contain potentially harmful components such as lead, cadmium, beryllium or brominated flame retardants," as per the Electronics Takeback Coalition.

Keep Carroll Beautiful is Carrollton's own environmental initiative and an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful. Visit <https://www.keepcarrollbeautiful.org> for a list of all sponsors and accepted items for this event, or to learn more about all that Keep Carroll Beautiful does in the community. They are always looking for volunteers and ideas for how we can all "keep Carrollton beautiful".

LIVING WEST

DISCOUNTS OFFERED TO COLLEGE STUDENTS IN CARROLLTON



Regal Cinemas serves up savings. Photo Credit: regal Cinemas.

Katelynn Johnson

Contributing Writer

Everyone loves discounts, it saves you money, is pleasing and leaves a little extra for other necessities. Most college students are unable to work full time due to their class schedule, so finding local discounts can be relieving.

American Pie is a big supporter of UWG students. They offer 10% off to all current students with their ID, and they also offer fundraising events for many clubs.

"College kids love pizza," said Catherine Westcott, an employee of American Pie. "Having a discount just makes the purchase better."

Other local food businesses that offer discounts to UWG students include Burger King, who give 10% off with a student ID. Some participating Subways offer various discounts such as 10% off purchases with a student ID.

Tropical Joe's Smoothies in Carrollton and Krystal also offer a discount to students. La Salsa and Mustard Seed Cafe, both located less than a mile from campus, also offer discounts to current UWG students.

"The Mustard Seed is very student-friendly," said Michael Perkins, Director of Mustard Seed Café. "We encourage students to come have lunch and receive 10% off their purchase, and maybe do a little homework while they are here." Food businesses are not the only ones who take part in offering discounts to current college students.

Change offers discounts for oil changes to college students who show their ID. Regal Cinemas also offers a discount on ticket purchases to current college students.

"Going to the movies is one of the few things to do in Carrollton," said Ashley Wilson, a student at UWG. "It's nice to know businesses realize we do not have a lot of money and offer us discounts."

Beyond Carrollton, there are a few more discount options available. Apple stores offer discount pricing for students, this includes Apple Music, which can be purchased monthly by college students for \$4.99. Norton Anti-Virus offers up to 50% off purchases on software. FedEx offers up to 30% off on documents and 20% off on shipping and packages.

State Farm offers a Good Grades discount until a student is 25. They need only to submit an official transcript.

"I just asked," said Wilson. "That's how I found out about the movie theatre offering a discount." College discounts are great and help hard-working students save a little cash. Not all businesses freely advertise what discounts they may offer, but it never hurts to ask what they can provide.

ON OR OFF CAMPUS? DECISIONS, DECISIONS...

Kimberly Wooten*Contributing Writer*

Whether students are first setting foot on college or a returning student, one of the big decisions students usually have to make at some point in their college career is whether to live on or off-campus. While it seems that underclassmen tend to stay on campus and upperclassmen may be more inclined to get off, it's undoubtedly an important decision for everyone.

This is especially important to underclassmen, who are adapting to an independent lifestyle, so living right where classes are taken can be a huge help. Proximity also makes it easier to be involved with clubs, sports and everything else that goes on campus.

"I like that everything is close and information and events are known faster," said student Aja Bauer. "Possibility of long lasting relationships or life long lesson."

Living with a diverse group of people also expands students' social knowledge outside of the classroom. Students have a chance to get to know students from all over the world and people with incredible and varied life experiences. It sounds cliché, but hanging out in a dorm can definitely broaden horizons.

Living on campus there is no need to worry about all the maintenance, bills and worrying that often comes with living off campus. On campus, it's all taken care of for students. On top of that, people sometimes forget to factor in the cost of utilities, internet access, etc. to their off-campus costs.

When students are surrounded by each other they have the opportunity to collaborate and learn from each other, no matter how informally. Many of the people students dorm with may be in the same class or have taken them before. Friends can be a tremendous academic resource and being able to pop into the room next door to ask a question is unrivaled. When people come to fellow students, explaining something they have mastered is rewarding as well as helpful to those who need it (and teaching things actually helps fellow students understand them better).

Dormitories are set up with safety as a priority. There are typically security phones on campus and surveillance is provided with video cameras and campus security. There may also be night shuttles to dorms or escorts upon request.

Dormitory access also requires special key-card access in addition to the door key. The Resident Assistant monitors the dormitory as well. Campus security is on call and patrolling our campus 24/7, every day of the year.

"Campus security is way better on campus," said student Cheirth Moore.

Studies have shown that students that live on campus tend to complete more credit hours and have higher grade point averages. They have expressed how they have had a greater undergraduate experience. Lastly, show greater gains in student development and interpersonal self-esteem.

LIVING WEST

THE CARROLLTON FALL FAIR

*Photo Credit: City of Carrollton.***Logan Landers***Contributing Writer*

Picture this, a cool brisk autumn evening, the smell of freshly popped popcorn and mouth-watering funnel cake aroma in the air. A stream of magical lights with the sounds of laughter, music, and excitement surrounding all around the atmosphere. After taking in the view and the excitement is at its peak the ticket window is in plain sight and at this moment it finally sets in that you're at the Carrollton Fall Fair.

The best tactic to use when visiting the fair is to walk around the entire venue in order to make sure to take in everything before plotting the course of what to ride, what to eat, what games to play and what other attractions they have.

The Ferris Wheel has always been the common staple favorite for everyone and of course, the lights on it at night are mesmerizing. Whether it's overcoming a fear of heights with friends or having a date night with a significant other, the Ferris Wheel will always be the most memorable ride at the fair. Judging by the smell of fried food and sweet treats the next step is trying to figure out what to eat. Between the cotton candy, snow cones, candy apples and corn dogs it tends to be the toughest decision of the night.

Then comes the fun, yet challenging part of the games the fair has to offer. This is where adults

turn into kids again. It can be as simple as the duck pond or the popular ring toss. It doesn't seem to matter the strategy used. We all tend to overspend to prove we can still win. Every year the fair brings extra attractions to heighten everyone's excitement. This year included the Aguiar Family Thrill Show, with amazing stunts as well as the Eudora Farms Petting Zoo with exotic animals of all shapes and sizes.

A portion of the Fall Fair this year benefitted "Keep Carroll Beautiful" which helps offer a better place to live, work and play. The Fair also offered multiple types of Deal Days which reduced entry prices. One of the deals most students took advantage of was the UWG / College Night, which also included West Georgia Technical College, which took place on Sep. 23.

All students had to do was wear UWG apparel or present a valid UWG Student ID to get in for \$5 instead of \$8. Another one of the deals was the 2 Dollar Tuesday which made the ticket price into the fair drop to \$2 by simply bringing dog food or toys and benefited the Carroll County Humane Society.

The breathtaking rides, fun games, and endless food choices give guests a nostalgic experience. The Carrollton Fall Fair was an amazing experience and a fun night to be a kid again.

MENTAL HEALTH: SUICIDE PREVENTION AT UWG

Nicole Kirkman

Contributing Writer

In light of Suicide Prevention Day this month, the University of West Georgia Counseling Center has put out information for students looking for help when things start to seem hopeless. The Counseling Center at UWG has listed the different programs students can participate in to promote healthy mentality among the campus. The UWG's clinical coordinator, Jeff Davis, believes good things are coming from the counseling department from the university.

"The counseling center has a variety of programs like PREVENT UWG to address students' personal and emotional needs. It's important to realize that for the person experiencing suicidal thoughts, suicide is never the answer. There is some other problem that is causing great suffering and typically a loss of hope that things will get better," said Davis.

A huge story involves Jarrid Wilson, a Megachurch pastor who tragically took his life two weeks ago due to his long battle with depression and anxiety. Wilson left behind a wife and two young sons and many people have asked if there were any signs which his wife believes she did not see. Stories like these are why suicide prevention is so important.

Jarrid was in his early thirties but struggled with suicidal thoughts when he was in college a lot. He devoted his life to telling people about his testimony and why it's okay to ask for help.

Students all over the University saw these headlines through social media posts on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook and have talked about it a lot on the UWG campus. Students at the University genuinely want to know their options as midterms weigh in heavily on their minds they can find themselves battling just like Jarrid but want to know that there is hope.

"Our counselors are all trained to help students address a wide variety of difficulties including relationship difficulties, family problems, substance abuse, anxiety,

depression, adjustment to college, and many more. We offer group counseling and individual counseling to help students develop capacities to address these and other challenges," said Davis.

Suicide is at the top of the list of ways college students are dying as of recent studies and UWG wants to help students realize that they are cared for and heard when they reach out for mental support.

"Most people who act on suicidal thoughts, do show some signs of it during the weeks or days before. These signs can be direct or indirect but are often indirect until they know that they won't be judged or shamed for having the thoughts. Some indirect clues might be saying things like, 'I wish I could just go to sleep and never wake up,' or 'my family would be better off without me,'" said Davis.

It is important as college students to be aware of small clues because, if caught early, it can help peers and change the way someone values their life. The UWG Counseling Center also provides students with hotlines in case of any intense situations to ensure help is always there no matter what.

"If it is outside of our business hours, crisis services are available by calling our office at 678-839-6428

and following the directions to reach the on-call counselor. Students can also use the National Suicide Hotline: 1-800-273-8255 or text HELLO to 741-741 to access the crisis text line. UWG also provides a web-based method to report concerns about a member of our community, by going to westga.edu/UWGCares and completing a report," said Davis.

Suicidal thoughts happen, mental instability and depression and anxiety happen, but the counseling center wants nothing more than to help students get to the best version of themselves.

"We want every student to know that help and support are available at all times, and that none of us have to struggle with suicidal thoughts or urges alone," said Davis.



Photo Credit: UWG Counseling

TASTE OF CARROLLTON NEWS

ROSIE'S CAFE IN CARROLLTON

Sam Okodua

Contributing Writer

Rosie's Coffee Cafe is best known in Atlanta for their fantastic breakfast. Celebrities such as Tiny & Toya, Deontay Wilder, Yung Joc and Kevin Garnet have raved about Rosie's menu and customer service.

Rosie's recently decided to add a new Carrollton location along with the two they already have in Atlanta. The new restaurant, located on Bankhead Highway next door to a Citgo.

At first glance, the restaurant seemed quaint and peaceful with a patio area for guests to eat outside on a beautiful day — a good place to catch brunch with your friends and drink mimosas on a Sunday afternoon.

As my party and I walked into the restaurant, we were embraced by the friendly staff and peaceful jazz music playing in the background. We were then escorted to our table where there were fresh cut roses in a vase at the center of our table.

After looking over the menu, I ordered the Perch Po'Boy while my group ordered the Chicken & Waffles, Mama's Shrimp & Grits and Rosie's Fish & Grits.

After waiting 45 minutes the food arrived at the table, everyone's except for mine which came out ten

minutes after everyone else's. My first bite of of the Po'Boy was dissatisfying, the bun was rock hard and was inedible.

After getting my order re-made, the bun was soft and buttery with a light crisp. The fish was crispy, but dry. The seasoning of the fish was good and it was not too

spicy or salty. Also, after waiting all that time, the fries were cold. While I did not have the best experience at Rosie's, my group was enjoying their meals and did not have a single complaint. "The Pollock was near perfect," said Travion Moore, one of the groupmates. "The grits were amazing. They were rightly seasoned with a perfect thick

texture."

Moore ordered Rosie's Fish & Grits, which came with lightly breaded ocean pollock, bed or buttered grits with your choice of bread.

My experience at Rosie's was not a memorable one. On the other hand, my friends had a great experience and could not stop talking about the restaurant for the rest of the day. While taking the comments made by my friends into consideration, I decided to give Rosie's a 4 out of 5. I want to give them another chance because of how well my friends enjoyed their meal.



WOLVES FALL TO ALBANY STATE'S GOLDEN RAMS AT THE HOME OPENER

Brittany Shivers

Feature Editor

The crowd was roaring, the bands were playing and the cheerleaders were pumping up the fans Saturday evening as the UWG Wolves took to Ra-Lin field for the first time this season on Sept. 21. Despite all the excitement surrounding the home opener and a strong first quarter, UWG failed to secure their first home win and fell to the Albany State Golden Rams 26-14.

"I told our team they [Albany State] wanted it more than we did on this night, and it showed, and we just never could get over the hump," said Football Head Coach David Dean.

The Wolves scored a touchdown in the first quarter because they were able to move down the field offensively, which led running back Chauncey Williams to get a 2-yard run into the endzone. Omar Cervantes kicked to snag the extra point.

Unfortunately, this 7-0 lead for the Wolves would be the last time they held the lead for the rest of the game.

Albany State was able to score a touchdown and kicked a 44-yard field goal, which made the score 10-7 for the Golden Rams by the end of the second quarter.

"I think a big kick to us was the drive that we had right before the half that was a great drive for us," said Coach Dean. "We took the ball in the 12-yard line after a penalty on the kickoff and went down to the 3-yard line then threw the interception on the last play of the half, and I think that was a big momentum swing. We just never recovered from that."

The Wolves also lost one major player at the start of the second half, senior wide receiver John Hurst, due to a shoulder

injury.

"If you lose that type caliber player early in the second quarter it's going to affect you because he's been our big-play guy for the first two ball games," said Coach Dean. "Losing him hurt, and we've just been devastated by injuries on the offensive side of the ball, still that's no excuse, but proud to see some of our young guys step up and make plays, but the one thing that Albany State was sort of able to do was exploit some of our youth."

UWG was able to make another touchdown in the last quarter of the game with wide receiver Tay Huff receiving a 4-yard pass from quarterback Willie Candler, but it was too late. Albany State had a strong kicking team, with Gabriel Ballinas kicking six field goals, which ultimately secured the win for the Rams.

The Wolves will try to learn from this first loss in order to play Florida Tech and other teams in the conference more competitively this season.



"We can't let that loss carry over. The thing that we have to realize is that we haven't even gotten into conference yet," said Coach Dean. "We could still have an opportunity to win the conference if we can play well, and it starts in Melbourne, Fla. against Florida Tech, so we're going to put this one behind us."

The 2017 version it was a solid movie altogether. Despite the long run time, this is a good horror movie that is sure to scare during this upcoming Halloween season.

NEWS

INTERNATIONAL ENROLLMENT DECLINE: ARE FOREIGN STUDENTS TURNING THEIR BACKS ON THE U.S.?

Akachukwu Nwosu

Contributing Writer

While the United States has remained a top study destination for international students worldwide, a recent decline in enrollment figures has caused for alarm.

According to quarterly data on student visa holders recently published by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the total number of international students at undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral levels declined by 2.7 percent from March 2018 to March 2019.

Although there isn't a precise reason behind the nationwide application and enrollment decrease, the country's recent political climate may play a key role. President Donald Trump's famously initiated travel ban, which barred people from entering the United States from multiple Muslim-majority countries, sparked fear amongst students coming to America to study. U.S. graduate school applications from Iran, for example, fell 27% between fall 2017 and fall 2018.

A reduction in student visa issuance may also tie into the reason why foreign students are foregoing the United States altogether. According to data from the State Department, the number of student visas issued annually for education in the United States fell from 677,928 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 to 389,579 in FY 2018—a decline of 42.5%. New and onerous screening procedures have elongated the visa-issuance process, causing students to miss months and even semesters worth of school.

The delay doesn't just stop at student visas. This year, many international students across the country witnessed severe delays while trying to obtain post-graduation work authorization under the Optional Practical Training program. In previous

years, processing times for OPT applications usually took no more than 90 days. This year, they're stretching to a whopping 120.

An U.S.C.I.S. official said the agency, "recently experienced a surge in employment authorization requests related to Optional Practical Training. As a result, there is a small backlog of cases that are pending beyond the standard 90-day processing time. U.S.C.I.S. has implemented a plan to address this and return to standard processing times soon."

The official said processing for OPT employment authorization documents can currently take from four weeks to five months.

While the United States regresses in yearly international student enrollments, other countries like the United Kingdom are taking strides to increase theirs. The nation's Home Office recently announced on Sept. 11 that international students will be offered a two-year UK visa after graduation, with or without a job. UK Chancellor Sajid Javid celebrated the news via Twitter, stating that, "Britain should always be open to the best talent from across the world."

International students contribute greatly to the United States economy. According to NAFSA's latest analysis, the 1,094,792 international students studying at U.S. colleges and universities contributed \$39 billion to the U.S. economy during the 2017-2018 academic year. Foreign students also help foster a diverse student body, while enriching the learning environment with fresh cultural perspectives.

With new administrative hurdles coming into effect every now and again, the future of international students in the United States remains indeterminate.



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