

OPENS DOWNTOWN PG. 3

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OPINION & EDITORIAL

Matthew Harvey

News Editor

The West Georgian will be introducing a new section, known as Wolf Pack Woes, in which student written opinions will have an opportunity to be published in our weekly edition.

Wolf Pack Woes will be used for students to voice their opinions on various topics through a public platform. Topics will change weekly according to what is relevant at the time and may be controversial. We are hoping this will get students more involved and excited about what we are doing at The West Georgian. We ask that you keep your word count under 400 words, refrain from the use of obscenity and excessive profanity and that all submissions be sent as a Microsoft Word document to uwgwolfpackwoes@gmail.com.

In order to protect those who submit their opinions we will attach only your first and last initials to the section should your submission be chosen.

We will be tweeting out the topic for this coming week on Monday, Sept. 17.

Erin Grady

Webmaster

In America, lightness is often associated as being pure, gentle, and soft, but darkness is associated with fear, evil, and negativity. An example of this would be how in movies and television, the hero usually wears white and the villain often wears dark or black clothing. This mindset is prevalent in Western media, such as television, film, and music. Colorism plays a large role in media and it leads to people who are of darker skin tones having a harder time to become successful in media. Colorism even effects dark skin people in Black media, they either have limited representation or they are not represented at all. An example of this mindset is present in the beloved 90's sitcom, Martin. In Martin, the titular character's girlfriend, Gina, has light skin, portrayed as beautiful, nice, and smart. Gina's best friend, Pam, who is of a darker complexion, is portrayed as loud, obnoxious, and belligerent. In media, Black people who are of a darker skin complexion are not represented fairly and an example of this is in the shows Black-ish and Grown-ish. Colorism is the prejudice or discrimination against individuals with dark skin tones, typically among people of the same ethnic or racial group. Colorism is extremely prevalent in Western society and there has been backlash both in and out of the black community. Inside the Black community, there is dark skin vs. light skin "wars." Lighter skinned people often receive better treatment and representation than darker skinned people. Black people in media often adhere and have to conform to Eurocentric

beauty standards to be able to work in media. Lighter skinned actors and actresses such as Will Smith, Rashida Jones, Jesse Williams, and Halle Berry, often find more work because they fit Eurocentric beauty standards. Darker skinned actors such as Gabourey Sidibe, Gabrielle Union and Don Cheadle, often do not get as much work or if they do get a role, they play stereotypical and offensive roles.

In recent years, there has been an increase of dark skin Black people having leading roles in media. The 2018 blockbuster, Black *Panther*, had a cast of mostly dark skin Black people. Viola Davis, who is a dark skin actress, plays the leading role on the hit show How to Get Away with Murder. These couple of examples are far and few between. For the most part, when a Black person is given a lead role in television or film, they usually pass the brown paper bag test. The brown paper bag test was a test that was practiced in the African American community during the Civil Rights era that compared an individual's skin tone to a brown paper bag. If a person's skin was the color of the bag or lighter, they were permitted access to clubs, churches, or fraternities, and if a person's skin was darker than the bag, they were restricted from coming in. Black people who are not slim, light-skinned, and do not fit Eurocentric beauty standards, often face a harder time with accessing roles in television and film. Popular dark skin Black actors in media, like Lupita Nyong'o, often have "traditional" facial features such as smaller noses and thinner lips. If they do not fit these standards, then they may not get a role.

Two popular shows that address many issues in the black community is Black-ish and Grown-ish. Black-ish stars Anthony Anderson, who is a light skinned man, and Tracee Ellis Ross, who is mixed race, as Andre and Rainbow Johnson. The show is praised for its discussion of sensitive subjects that African American people often face. The show's main cast is all lighter skinned Black people and the darkest person in the main cast is they youngest daughter Diane, who is played by Marsai Martin. Martin is of a medium brown skin complexion and is the only person of that color on the main cast. Black-ish always covers topics that Black people have to face living in

COLORISM IN MEDIA

Shahidi, goes to college. When the show's cast was announced, it faced almost immediate backlash for the lack of dark skin people in it. The show praised itself on its diversity, having Indian, Jewish, bisexual and Latino characters. There was one thing that the show's cast did not have, and that was a person that was darker than a brown paper bag. The biggest offense that the show had was the episode,"It's Hard out Here for a Pimp." In the episode, the characters discussed dating in college. In the episode, the characters Jaz and Sky, who are played by sisters Chloe and Halle Bailey, calls out the various men of color on campus for being only attracted to lighter skinned skin girls that fit Eurocentric beauty standards. This would have been very progressive and informational, but the characters that led the discussion were as light as the people they were calling out. This led to many people side eyeing the show and taking the shows message with a grain of salt. The problem of dark skin people not being represented in media has become a widely discussed topic. Even though there have been many discussions, little to nothing has been done to confront the issue. Dark skin people still have limited to no access to roles. The problem can be easily helped by casting people of darker complexions in television and film, but this issue is rooted in colorism and racism. There has been advancements in the issue with more and more dark skin people getting major roles in film and television but there is still more to be done for equal representation

PG. 2

America, but it has yet to discuss colorism and how it affects the African American community.

On the rare occasion that darker skinned Black actors appear on the show, they often play questionable or stereotypical roles. An example of this would be when Regina Hall, who is of a darker complexion, made a guest appearance. Hall played the family's maid and nanny and is often referred to as "Black Nanny" by the main cast mockingly. Another example of this would be when Faizon Love, who is of a very dark complexion made an appearance as Anthony Anderson's childhood friend, Sha. Love's character was depicted as being very lazy, having bad hygiene, and terrible manners. In a show that praises itself on its representation of Black issues, the portrayal of darker skinned Black people is problematic.

In the show's spin off *Grown-ish*, the Johnson family's eldest daughter, Zoey, played by Yara

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All letters must be signed and include a phone number and mailing address for verification purposes. Letters should not exceed 350 words and should be submitted by 5 p.m. the Friday prior to publication. Editors reserve the right to edit for style, content and length.

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PG. 3

LIVING WEST

UWG Police Launches LiveSafe App for Campus Safety

Andy Hendricks

Contributing Writer

UWG Police launched a new app, LiveSafe, this semester to improve emergency communications and enable students to utilize updated safety features.

LiveSafe allows students to call University Police or 911 with the simple press of button, rather than dialing the number or scrolling through a list of contacts. Police dispatch will be able to track students with GPS once they contact the police in an emergency.

LiveSafe also offers text message communication with police dispatch and GPS tracking through text messaging. So, if a student is in a situation where it is unsafe to publicly call campus police, they can instead discreetly contact campus police through text messaging.

LiveSafe also introduces an updated system of emergency alerts and response to emergency situations.

Previously UWG students who downloaded the old campus safety app, Wolf Guardian, were not necessarily enrolled in the campus police emergency notification list. So, several students were missing emergency alerts via text and email.

With LiveSafe, students that download the app and login are automatically enrolled in the campus police emergency notification system. LiveSafe also addresses some drawbacks of text message emergency

alerts.

"During a true emergency, cell phone towers get jammed up because there are so many calls going back and forth, so text messages don't traditionally get out," said UWG Chief of Police, Tom Saccenti. "With "We can also use LiveSafe to do an emergency alert check in," said Saccenti. "So, let's say we had a shooter in a building on campus. We could geofence the building and send an emergency alert to only the people in the building, with only two buttons:

> okay or not okay. If you say you're not okay it sends us your GPS location."

> Students can also take campus safety features into their own hands, with a feature on the LiveSafe app called SafeWalk. SafeWalk allows students to have their location monitored by campus police or by other students if they are walking alone or walking in an area where they feel unsafe. Campus police can be notified immediately if something happens to the student before they reach their destination. According to UWG Police, over 160 students have already used SafeWalk this semester. "SafeWalk is a great

the LiveSafe app you'll get a text message and an email alert, but you'll also get a popup message. An advantage of that is that the popup message uses the data network instead of the cellular network, which traditionally doesn't get bogged down during emergencies."

The app has a hand in emergency response as well, taking efforts a step further than alerting the campus. feature of LiveSafe," said Saccenti. "I think a lot of students are hesitant to contact campus police or ask for a ride. SafeWalk allows them to take that responsibility on their own and still have some protection, but also not have to go to the extreme."

Students can download LiveSafe from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store.



I SPY: HRL CRACKS DOWN ON CRIME

Sahmir Short

Contributing Writer

With the possibility of sexual assault and other crimes happening to students, UWG Housing and Residence Life has increased their surveillance on campus by adding more cameras around their residence halls.

The campus only had around 45 cameras before the additions. Now, over 100 cameras have been added and are covering more areas within the hallways of buildings such as the Oaks, Center Pointe, and Bowdon hall.

Although they are unsure whether most residents know about the cameras, HRL made it very clear that their intentions are not to infringe on personal space, but to ensure the best safety for its residents.

Some might see the hallways of a residence hall as personal space. UWG Director of Housing, Stephen Whitlock, guarantees that the practice is legal and not infringing on any student's rights.

HRL does confirm that cameras in the hallways have been vetted by UPD and other legal authorities. It is considered a public space, and it aligns with practices like police officers walking the hallways and knocking on doors to check on student safety. Though officers can walk the halls, they cannot unlawfully enter the rooms. UWG understands that rooms are private and Whitlock guarantees that cameras will never invade that privacy.

Whitlock has expressed that crimes like petty theft can affect the perception of safety on campus. Cameras in the hallway make it easier for the department to investigate the actions that threaten the community's common privacy and sense of safety.

"It's not someone breaking into the residence halls, it's your next-door neighbor who knows your pattern," said Whitlock. "It is those things that leaves the perception of not being safe living on campus. With the cameras now, we are able to see that activity, identify those individuals and bring them to justice so to speak."

It is unknown whether crimes like petty

theft have decreased within the past year, however HRL is more confident that they can catch offenders and see that they are properly dealt with through the school's legal system.

While there have been around 100 cameras installed, Whitlock admits that most of their efforts have been aimed at first-year residence halls. HRL wants to make sure that new college students feel safe.

"We have focused on our incoming student halls where the majority of first year students are," said Whitlock. "It is that first year where you are the most impressionable and unaware of what's around you. So, I put them in the areas where we have previously had the most instances."

While HRL is focusing on those areas more, Whitlock says that he does plan on making sure that cameras are at entrance and exit doors of every residence hall on campus.



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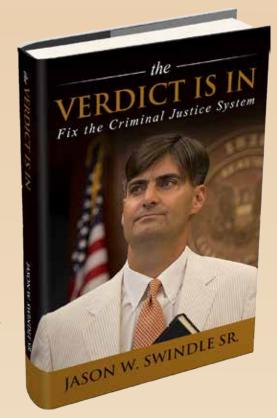
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PG. 5

NEWS

Members Only: Speakeasy Opens Downtown

Anne Holmes

Contributing Writer

The Vault, a new bar on Adamson Square, offers exclusive membership for those who would like to experience a speakeasy atmosphere in downtown Carrollton. Its secretive nature and private entry separates the bar from all others in the area.

John McCurdy, Director of Operations and co-owner of The Vault, came up with the idea for the bar with the help of his brother Michael McCurdy and co-owners Chandler Liner and Daniel Aldrich.

"We sell annual memberships. We take applications for those interested and see the character of the person, who they know, 'are they our type of people?,' and our board approves those based on that merit," said McCurdy. "On our website, you can see the different tiers of membership that we offer, and you can apply there as well, or you can get in touch with one of the owners."

The application process allows for a wide variety of bar-

goers to be admitted. With a current demographic range of 21-year-olds to people in their sixties, the range of people you'll see at The Vault is endless.

"Anybody from local business owners to young professionals join," said McCurdy. "We don't target a specific demographic, either. If you act civilly and like to have a good time, watch a live band, see a magician... we would love to have you."

The original intentions for The Vault were far from the establishment that it is today, as it was planned to be a much more mundane service for Carrollton Alive.

"The Vault started out as a place to host our events. We were going to have our office there for Carrollton Alive, and it started growing into an idea for a speakeasy," said McCurdy. "We thought it'd be kind of cool to have something different here in Carrollton. There are a lot of bars, but there's nothing quite like The Vault. It's members-only."

Although The Vault welcomes new members, it remains a

private bar as only members and prospective members can enter the door.

"It is a private establishment. We don't host events that are open to the public, but if you wanted to come the night of an event, you could join that night, hang out, and take advantage of the various benefits of being a member," said McCurdy. "We do tours, too. If you walked up to the door and wanted to see what was going on, we would show you around and you could join right then."

> The Vault could also become a trendy place for Greek Life formals and similar gatherings as McCurdy is in the works with West Georgia campus organizations to make the bar an available space for private events.

"We have talked to some of the fraternities and sororities, and they really like the place," said McCurdy. "We're still talking to some of them about their formal events. We love to have college students come through."



Maintaining Security and Safety: Carrollton GreenBelt

Jordan England

Contributing Writer

The GreenBelt remains safe and secure thanks to the Carrollton Police Department's officers who have maintained active bike and ATV patrol.

CPD officers closely monitor the 16.3-mile trail on bikes and ATV's, taking preemptive measures that ensure the community's safety. Officers patrol the GreenBelt and its surroundings four to five days a week during daylight hours.

The officers then pass along any daily information in regard to the day shift to the night shift officers, who continue steady surveillance of the area. Cameras are installed at pavilions and at trailheads to maintain steady surveillance. CPD officers make well known their duties each day revolve around serving, preventing and protecting the community.

"We make multiple rounds each day and night," said Sergeant Kurt Catudal. "We are highly visible, and want the community to know we are out and about patrolling."

Catudal has been part of CPD since May 7, 1990. He was given the opportunity to start the bike patrol program in 1994, which to this day remains a vital patrol surveillance method for the Carrollton community. Bike and ATV patrol has allowed officers like Catudal and others to have more approachable, one-onone contact with the Carrollton community. The GreenBelt's security has benefited greatly from bike and ATV units.

"We can see and hear things more easily than in our patrol vehicles," said Catudal.

Catudal, as well as the rest of CPD, cannot voice enough the importance of being responsible and to always use the "buddy system" when enjoying the GreenBelt. The overall goal in regard to safety and security for the GreenBelt is to, "Make sure nothing happens, and to make it as safe and pleasurable for everyone to enjoy and have good experiences," said Catudal.

Whether it's jogging, bicycling or walking, stout safety measures should always be followed in order to not put yourself in any kind of danger or uncomfortable circumstance.

"Wear bright colors, and do not have earbuds in both ears



where you cannot hear your surroundings," Catudal said.

Catudal explains that one of the most important things to remember, whether it is on the GreenBelt or anywhere else, is to not put yourself out there as a potential victim. Safety measures should always be taken to get the most out of any activity on the GreenBelt.

"Always let someone know where you are, where you're going and what time you plan to be home," Catudal said.

There is extreme significance in being "proactive" when it comes to one's surroundings, and to always keep your phone readily available for use. CPD officers make well known the expectations of how the public should use the GreenBelt for enjoyment and exercise.

The presence of CPD's bike units and ATV's among the GreenBelt and its surroundings help preserve safety in the community. Along with a dedicated police presence, the Carrollton GreenBelt strives to maintain its safe and enjoyable reputation for many more years to come.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT PG. 6

Things Change: American Aquarium Keeps Kickin'

Robert Moody

Editor-in-Chief

On Sept. 10 roughly 50 fans stepped through the doors of Songbirds near downtown Chattanooga, TN to see altcountry outfit American Aquarium on the final leg of their *Things Change* tour.

To any random passerby the show may have seemed a small, if not sad, showing of a handful of locals who had come to hear a relatively unknown band play a small venue on a Monday night. This however was not the case for the band. This was a reunion, a return of sorts and a celebration of the ways that people, places and things have changed for the group over the years.

A lot has changed over the years for American Aquarium.

Since its establishment in 2006 the group based in Raleigh, NC has utilized the talents of 36 different members on seven studio albums. Of these ever changing lineups the only constant has been and remains to be frontman and lead singer BJ Barham. A bright kid from a rural North Carolina town, Barham has shown some serious grit and determination over the past decade to keep his dream of writing songs and performing for fans alive, while also working to improve himself and his craft.

Over the past few years Barham has experienced many life changes that have presented themselves in his writing; and many of them are well documented in the songs recorded for *Things Change*. For the most part these changes have been positive for him as well. This year alone he celebrated another year of sobriety following years of alcoholism and substance abuse, welcomed his first child into the world and recorded one of the best reviewed Americana albums of the year.

For a moment in early 2017, things did not seem so great for BJ and American Aquarium.

Following the conclusion of an extensive tour all five members of American Aquarium approached Barham and informed him that they wanted out and were no longer going to stay with the band. For the next few weeks he wrestled with doubts and fears about the future of the band, but eventually picked his chin up and set his sights on rebuilding after his wife told him that he could 'either bitch or do something about it.' Not long after he grit his teeth, he took to the road on a solo tour and recruited a new group of friends to feed into the band and keep the dream alive.

From the stage in Chattanooga, Barham and the band laughed the night away with stories of overcoming hardships and seeing struggles through while giving 100

percent to an audience that took up only half a barroom on a "school night". Yet, amongst it all, there was a clear focus on cherished memories with old friends and a sheer appreciation of new memories with complete strangers.

The audience danced, raised cheap beer in the air and sang to everything from new releases to deep cuts dating back to the the band's 2006 debut album. Things particularly hit a high point with the fans near the end of the set when the venue erupted to the band's popular southern break-up anthem "I Hope He Breaks Your Heart" as nearly all in attendance yelled along to the chorus wishing a former love everything but an easy road ahead.

After an hour and a half on stage the band went back to leave Barham to commemorate his former bandmates with an acoustic performance of "When We Were Younger Men" before coming back out to close the show with "Rockingham" before the band began loading equipment and Barham went to meet fans and thank them for supporting independent music as he has always made a habit to do so.

American Aquarium is set to end its *Things Change* tour on Sept. 23 in Charlotte, NC after spending months on the road promoting their new music and spending time with their fans all across the nation.







PG. 7 ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Tiffany Maynard

Contributing Writer

Moshpit Marketing with Survival Kit



Andrew Lynn wakes up in the morning, slips into his button down shirt and heads for the office. The only difference between Lynn and most marketing graduates is, Lynn's button down is only buttoned halfway and paired with a captain's hat, and his office is his van, which he has been living out of since January 2018.

Lynn graduated from UWG in 2015 with a Bachelor's Degree in Marketing. Like many graduates, Lynn spent a few years searching for a job within his field, trying out different companies and positions to get his foot in the door to the business world. Today, Lynn has a job in marketing, but it is not like anything he would have imagined.

Lynn made this decision after getting serious about saving money so he could tour with his pop-punk band, Survival Kit, this past summer. The band followed the 2018 Vans Warped Tour, a traveling rock festival that has been touring the country every summer for the past 24 years.

Before the band left for tour, Lynn spent time researching different strategies that other bands have used to "make it big", so they could make the most out of the trip. "When I graduated with my marketing degree, I had done a lot research on social media," said Lynn. "I did a lot of examination on different artists and how they were making their stuff accessible to a crowd."

Lynn's application of his research led him to the realization that they needed to have more than just a social

media presence.

"The only way I can get [our image] across to fans without meeting them in person is to interact on social media," said Lynn. "I want them to see us and think 'I don't just love them for their music, but I love them for their personalities."

Lynn, along with other members, Travis Blake and Bryson Davis, let their personalities shine throughout the summer as they followed Warped Tour. The trio's social media profiles have a plethora of photos of the band donning crop tops and the captain's hat, as well as meeting performers in popular rock bands.

"[The captain's hat] was, at first, meant for the person that was driving," said Lynn. "Since it was my vehicle, I was driving most of the time... I ended up having to wear it every single day because that's the way people recognized me, and it helped us make connections in a fun way."

More-so than anything else, Survival Kit loves their fans.

"We love interacting with people," said Lynn. "There were so many bands

busy selling CDs and promoting their shows, they forgot to be friends with their fans. As important as it is to have strong relationships in sales, it's just as important in music. You want them to come back over and over and over again, and they're not going to come back if you keep asking them for their money. Once we realized that, it was no longer just about the music and songs, it was about the relationships we built."

Lynn's approach to marketing his band benefited them in a huge way in July; the band was able to perform their first set during the tour.

"It was a pretty wild experience," said Lynn. "We made some pretty positive relationships and they definitely helped us get there."

Survival Kit went on to perform 11 more sets between the Nashville and Jacksonville Warped Tour shows, and are now back in Atlanta planning some exciting moves for 2019. Lynn says fans should look out for show dates in Atlanta and the surrounding areas, as well as miniature tour dates in November 2018 through March 2019.

"As of April, we plan on doing a national tour," said Lynn. "All the places we hit on Warped Tour, we plan on going back and touching base with those we reached out to."

Survival Kit got to live the lastminute punk teen's dream of touring with Warped Tour. Lynn's marketing background allowed the group to connect with people and build a fanbase that could take the band even further than music festivals.

SPORTS

UWG VOLLEYBALL DROPS HOME OPENER TO LEE

Justin Hodges

Sports Editor

The UWG Volleyball team lost their home opener against Lee University, getting swept 3-0 at the Coliseum. The Wolves were pummeled by Silvia Sartori and Alex Reuter, whose 28 points combined matched UWG's

amount for the game, as well as Hanna Matthews who had a whopping 37 assists.

"We got off to a bad start," said said UWG Volleyball Head Coach Jon Moseley. "I think the girls were really nervous about playing the first home match and we played poorly."

The first set of Tuesday's match will likely be the worst from UWG all season. Lee won the set 25-9, with 15 kills to the Wolves' five. Perhaps the craziest part is the fact that UWG had a hitting percentage of -7.4%, meaning that they had more errors (7) than kills (5). Lee's, in retrospect, was 54.2%.

"We'd won the first set in all 7 matches of the season so far; for whatever reason we played overly tense and tight," said Moseley. "It's hard to play well when you're uptight like that and not relaxed. We talked about it and it got a little better, but it's just one of those nights where we weren't able to play the way we typically play."

Those numbers would fall back to earth by the end of the 2nd set, however the score would not. The final talley was 25/9, 25/19, 25/18. UWG was outscored 57 to 28 in points, 43-22 in kills, and their leading scorer for the game, McKenna Wharton (6), was three points behind Lee's 4th highest scorer for the game. Tuesday was simply a day the Wolves very



much want to forget.

"We just weren't aggressive enough," said Moseley. "We didn't do anything to knock Lee off the net and get them offbalance at all. We let them play their game and do their thing. We played well for stretches where we got them out of their game for a little bit, but it wasn't nearly enough to make the game harder for Lee; so it was gonna be hard for us." Rushin Savings. Jor Savings.

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