



## EXPLORING THE FORGOTTEN AND UN-FORGOTTEN SPANISH FLU WITH DR. GUY BEINER

JANNETTE EMMERICK

Feature Editor

On Sept. 14, Dr. Guy Beiner, a professor of history and chair of Irish Studies at Boston College, visited UWG to deliver his talk titled “Remembering the Forgotten Pandemic: The Spanish Flu and What It Tells Us about COVID.”

“[The talk] relates to a book which I edited recently which came out a few months ago, and it’s called ‘Pandemic Re-Awakenings: The Forgotten and Unforgotten ‘Spanish’ Flu of 1918-1919,’” said Beiner. “It brings together a remarkable collaboration of researchers from around the globe to look at this phenomena of not just the Spanish Flu, which has become a topic of interest in recent years but more specifically, it’s the first book which actually addresses systematically around the world how it was remembered, forgotten and rediscovered over a century.”

Even before the worldwide shutdowns in March 2020, Beiner had been studying the Spanish Flu and specifically why the event was so widely forgotten despite its imprint.

“This great flu pandemic was the biggest catastrophe in a similar timeframe in the whole history of civilization,” said Beiner. “[Spanish Flu] killed more than any other event in history: more than WWI, WWII, more than the gulags of Communism, more than any of the events we can think of.”

The Spanish Flu, also called H1N1, took over 50 million lives and infected over half the world’s population but held little attention or historiography, which is historical written records.

“The 20th century was known for its catastrophes, yet this was bigger than all of them,” said Beiner. “It’s a big puzzle. Because when you look at history books of the 20th century, it was barely mentioned up until recently. If it was mentioned, it was in a couple of sentences, maybe a couple paragraphs or brief references.”

Beiner studies and observes how society remembers or chooses to forget certain events, and how they choose to memorialize events. Essentially, Beiner’s academic work sprouted from the Memory Boom in the 1980s and 1990s even before he was a student.

“People are interested in why we’re so obsessed with memory: Memory of the past,” said Beiner. “[Mem-

## PANDEMIC RE-AWAKENINGS

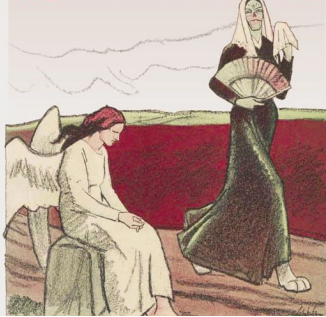


Image courtesy of Dr. Guy Beiner

ory is] a huge field. Often used under the word ‘collective memory.’ But I don’t really like the term. I use ‘social memory,’ sometimes ‘cultural memory,’ but this has been a huge field throughout the humanities and social sciences.

“For years before [the pandemic] I would go around campuses and say ‘Do you know anything about the Spanish Flu?’ [They would be] blank,” continued Beiner. “I ask, ‘what is the biggest killer of the 20th century?’ Hitler. Stalin. Not a virus. So we’ve changed our perception after Covid. Now we have a new historical consciousness. An awareness of the impact of pandemics.”

Beiner initially pitched “Pandemic Re-Awakenings” before 2020 but received pushback from his publicist considering the low demand and near non-existent audience for the subject. However, with the Covid’s grand entrance, the book became a necessity in the scholarly realm.

“What changed our perception was of course the outbreak of Covid,” said Beiner. “Since Google began taking statistics of 2004— I had been looking at this for years since I was a student—and what we see most of the time, hardly anyone searched the words Spanish Flu. A small group of people. Very very little. But the date that the world turned to look for Spanish Flu was exactly March 2020. All countries around the world.”

The influenza outbreak waned into the 1920s with lesser social prominence. Much like today’s age, pandemic fatigue set in two years after the pandemic which leads Beiner to question and speculate how Covid will be remembered similarly.

“Are we going to be obsessed with Covid now?” said Beiner. “We’re already trying to move on, nobody wants to wear a mask, we want to move on. People died in Covid but we move on.”

The 1918 pandemic’s re-discovery in the mainstream memory helped in some way to cope with the 2020 pandemic.

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## HEALTH AND SAFETY WEEK BRINGS HEALTHY BEHAVIORS TO UWG

ALANNA KING

Contributing Writer

UWG is ensuring that all students have everything they need to make healthy decisions this semester. Last week, University Recreation teamed up with Health Education on campus for Health and Safety week. This offered students a week’s worth of activities designed to promote health and wellness in areas that college students are known to struggle in the most.

“In health education, our goal is to have our students adopt healthy behaviors centered around multiple areas of wellness,” said Ron King, assistant director of health education on campus. He’s been working in health education for 26 years, 16 of those being at UWG. “We focus on a lot of the physical, mental, social, emotional, and intellectual health.”

Each day of last week offered a different, targeted experience for students.

“[Monday] we had a Polished Person campaign to show solidarity with victims of sexual assault,” said King. “We were painting one nail and going over the reasons

why we were there and who a polished person is and how you were supporting victims and survivors.”

On Tuesday, UWG provided a much-needed service that students would regularly pay for out of pocket at the doctor’s office. The Georgia Department of Public Health visited campus and performed HIV tests in front of the UCC, free of charge to students.

“Wednesday we are gonna have [a] health and fitness day,” said King. “It’s gonna be a day of just talking with our personal trainers and instructors from UREC in our fitness and wellness realm about how to be physically, mentally and emotionally healthy through exercise.”

The Newnan campus also got to experience Health and Safety week with a Balance West event on Wednesday and Thursday, which taught students about balancing their lives and health.

“On the main campus, we’re gonna do something called Caught Red Handed,” said King. “We’re going to go around with red hands and spot students adopting healthy behaviors and we’re gonna say, we caught you red handed eating an apple instead of a bag of chips. Or we caught you being nice to someone. Just anything students are doing in a positive light, we are gonna go around and see if we can capture that moment.”

King says that Health Education works heavily within the

student body to learn the best ways to benefit life on campus.

“We get together with graduate students and our student workers and let them be a voice,” said King. “It’s nothing to do with me. It’s all to do with them with what we decide we need to spread awareness of, whether that’s alcohol awareness, drug awareness, safer sex, sexual assault, personal wellness, or nutrition. They decide and we come up with ideas [for events] and put together a game plan for that.”

King wants students to know that they are here for students in any way that can benefit any area of their health.

“We’re here to be a resource for all students with any needs or concerns they have,” said King.



Photo courtesy of Ron King



# FOOD

## BROWN DOG EATERY FOOD REVIEW

DOUGLAS SALTER

Contributing Writer

Brown Dog Eatery is an upscale bar and grill located in downtown Carrollton. Brown Dog Eatery’s upscale reputation comes from its unique food items that you will not find outside of the Atlanta area.

I ventured to Brown Dog Eatery last Thursday to enjoy their high end eats. I began the night with some poutine fries. Poutine is a staple in Canada and has become quite popular in the United States. The poutine fries come with hand cut fries, topped with veal gravy and white cheese curds. By themselves let alone, the fries were golden and crispy. The veal gravy was immaculate. It was so juicy and flavorful, because of that it will not be the last time I have some of that delicious gravy. The cheese curds melted amazingly over the fries and gravy. Overall, the appetizer melted in my mouth.

The menu is so extensive, it took me a while to decide. I narrowed

it down to three sandwiches: The Bam Bam Chicken, The Short Rib Grilled Cheese and The Macintosh. Ultimately, because of the delicious veal gravy I went with the Macintosh. The Macintosh features a short rib, mac and cheese, bacon, cheerwine BBQ sauce, smoked bourbon onion aioli, and of course that immaculate veal gravy on a baguette.

The flavors were tied together perfectly. The short rib was cooked to perfection. In my opinion the most underrated thing to put on a sandwich of any kind is mac and cheese. So of course, I loved the rare but delectable addition. The veal gravy made the sandwich mouth watering. I savored every bite because of the gravy that was dripping across the sandwich. The BBQ sauce was very sweet, so it compacted well with the smokiness of the short rib. Sometimes aioli can get lost in a sandwich, but not in this case the aioli is what seasoned the sandwich and was the metaphorical cherry on top. To me the bread is the most important part of a sandwich and the toasted baguette held everything together tremendously.

For my side I went with mac and cheese. The mac and cheese was great on the sandwich, but by itself it was able



Photo courtesy of Brown Dog Eatery

to express its beautiful flavors. It was creamy, cheesy and incredibly well seasoned. I was scooping it so fast, wanting more and more during each bite. I even added some to my sandwich because you can never have enough of it.

Brown Dog’s upscale taste provided exquisite options that resulted in basically everything being perfect. The menu is a little pricey but it is indeed worth it because you will not find a menu with great options and taste anywhere around the area. Overall I give Brown Dog Eatery a 10/10, it is certainly the best restaurant in Carrollton and I will certainly be coming back for more.



Photo Courtesy of Columbia Records

## THE LADY OF R&B: THE RETURN OF QUEEN B

BRIANNA WELCH

Contributing Writer

Beyoncé ended the summer with her lively and riveting latest studio album *Renaissance*. This album has the perfect tempo for a club or festival and it is a gift that keeps on giving to her loyal fans.

She incorporates both the LGBTQ and African American cultures in her album by sampling clips of both mainstream and lesser known African American drag queen songs such as Moi Renee’s “Miss Honey” and Kevin Aviance’s “Cunty.” Other iconic black artists she samples include Grace Jones, Donna Summer, Lyn Collins, The Clark Sisters and many others.

Additionally, she went out-

side of her usual music style with this album. She utilized various genres of African American music from both the 20th and 21st centuries and remixed it to suit the rhythmic sound of the album; most of the genres used were R&B, soul and pop. Though this album is for everyone, it is a love letter to the African American community since it is full of their culture and it brings a sense of comfort and nostalgia for them.

The album contains messages of freedom, stability, self-love and euphoria in each of the songs. Though all the songs display this, “Summer Renaissance,” “Alien Superstar,” “Pure/Honey,” “Cozy” and “Break My Soul” exhibit pure happiness and self-indulgence the most.

In her song “Cozy,” the lyrics “Comfortable in my skin. Cozy with who I am. Comfortable in my skin,” really capture the carefree and self-loving nature of the album.

Though I found it hard to choose just one favorite song, I would have to say that I find myself relistening to “Summer Renaissance,” “Cuff It” and “Plastic Off the

Sofa” since the rhythm and lyrics of all three are soothing to me. Two run-ner ups would be “Virgo’s Groove” and “Alien Superstar.” It is an ideal album to listen to as a therapeutic tool for when I am feeling dispirited. I love the serotonin I receive every time I stream this while driving or while doing chores around the house.

Her courageous step out of her comfort zone grants her audience a new and refreshing sound

to break from the standard pop music the public is typically given. This is a great step in the music industry since it could open doors for other artists to follow suit with exploring innovative sounds.

Her fans will be excited to know that *Renaissance* was Act I of an upcoming saga and she will follow it up with at least two more acts sometime in the near future. Though she is no stranger to creating short films, this news comes as a surprise since she has never produced a trilogy project. Considering her impressive background, it is safe to assume her fans are in for a treat and I cannot wait to see what she has up her sleeve.



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# ENTERTAINMENT

## ISSA RAE’S RAP SH!T WRAPS UP ITS FIRST SEASON

**SAMIRA BARNETT**  
*Contributing Writer*

Rap Sh!t, an eight-episode comedy season directed by Issa Rae, has been picked up by HBO Max. After her previous hit show Insecure, which also aired on HBO, ended after five seasons last year, there were high hopes for this new comedy series. The pilot episode of Rap Sh!t premiered on HBO on July 21 and the final episode premiered on Sept. 1.

Rae is well-known for her writing and stars in her own show. She was nominated for two Golden Globes for Best Actress in a Television Series as well as two Emmy Awards for outstanding lead actress in a comedy series.

Rap Sh!t was inspired by Insecure. It follows two old high school friends who form a rap group in Miami, Fl. Shawna (Aida Osman) is a hotel receptionist and Mia (Kamilla Miller) is a single mother and makeup artist.

Shawna also is a rapper with a message. In the past, she did her rap videos in face masks before their group went viral in a drunken video called “Seduce and Scheme.” She felt that her message was more important than her appearance.

Mia on the other hand was



Image courtesy of IMDb

a hustler, working two jobs. In addition to her makeup artist duties, she maintained an OnlyFans page.

After a run-in at Shawna’s job, the two reconnected and decided to form what was soon to be an aspiring hot rap group in Miami.

This series heavily relies on social media; the show uses apps such as Facebook, Instagram live, stories and comments to assist in the narrative of the show. This strategy seemed questionable at first. After a few episodes, however, this tied in well with societal norms, making the show feel more at home for Gen Z individuals.

The social media aspect of the episodes gives the show an authenticity that many other shows lack. Being famous nowadays, just like in the show, is determined by how much you network yourself. Some prime examples are Megan Thee Stallion and Cardi B.

This series also aims to assist young women in navigating the challenges of black womanhood. Similar to Insecure, the show features black women attempting to find their place in society. It adheres to society norms and tells a meaningful story about two black women navigating daily struggles. The only difference between the two is that the characters in the new show are younger and on a different career path.

The first season ended on a cliffhanger, with Mia considering a new relationship and Shawna being summoned by the police after operating a credit card scam throughout the season.

All of this happens as the group was on the verge of breaking up with Mia and Shawna ending their friendship just before they go on tour.

HBO Max announced the renewal of Rap Sh!t for a second season on Sept. 12.

## PAINTING NIGHT BRINGS STUDENTS TOGETHER FOR HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

**ALANNA KING**  
*News Editor*

National Hispanic Heritage month started out strong on UWG’s campus. On Sept. 15, Center for Student Involvement, Latino Cultural Society, Hispanic-Latino Ambassadors, Lambda Theta Alpha Sorority Inc. and Lambda Theta Phi Fraternity Inc. came together to throw a Latinx Painting party to celebrate.

“We’re all collaborating to bring everyone together and have a good night,” said student Pedro Vega, President of the Hispanic-Latino Ambassadors club. “We’re gonna paint, have fun, dance to music and eat free food. It’s the beginning of Hispanic Heritage Month, so it’s a big deal for us and we want to express and show off our culture and backgrounds and differences.”

The event was a success. Students from all backgrounds came to eat delicious nachos while listening to upbeat Latin music. The event provided miniature canvases to paint and pre-drawn coloring pages. Students had the opportunity to learn about the history surrounding the Hispanic-Latinx community including important figures, cultural symbols and traditions for the group.

Hispanic Heritage Month began as a week-long celebration in 1968, according to the US department of Education. It was expanded to a month long in 1988 and annually runs from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15. This nationally recognized month provides a space for those of Hispanic heritage to celebrate their ancestors, culture and history.

Vega represents one of the clubs on campus that provides agency to students of Hispanic heritage. He is proud to be a part of an or-

ganization that supports his community and is a place where he can feel at home.

“We host a lot of events throughout the semester so we can get students from different cultures or backgrounds to get involved on campus and get to make new friends,” said Vega. “On the admissions side, we help out with any questions or concerns they have, like FASFA, financial aid, housing, scholarships.

“I’m a first-generation college attendee, and I did have a hard time filling out the application,” continued Vega. “[I didn’t] know what a scholarship was or even what a major was. So, we started this organization to help target the community and help them grow and have a better understanding of the university system.”

National Hispanic Heritage Month started Sept. 15 and continues until Oct. 15. UWG’s calendar is filled with events to help students celebrate.

# ENTERTAINMENT

## QUEST COMIC SHOP UNPACKS THE FOUNDATION OF COMIC MEDIA

CHRISTIAN JAMES-LATTORE  
Contributing Writer

The demand for comic-based media has skyrocketed but the foundation of where these comic books were initially discovered still remains prevalent to this day. Quest Comic Shop is a comic store based in Carrollton, Ga. The founder, Greg Gowens, has been in business for 35 years and the shop has seen the landscape of the comic world change.

Comic books have been an art of storytelling for decades. In today's time, comics are accessible digitally and have become more prevalent. This has made it easier and faster to obtain comic books. With that being said, instant access does not always mean great quality.

"Most of our customers prefer copies that they can hold," said Virgil Gowens, Quest Comic Shop's Social Media Director. "I also find it is easier to read comics where you can look at the full page rather than having to scroll on a phone or a computer screen."

When a comic is on a digital device the content itself is the same but the layout can be altered from the original. Web-comics can change the reading experience of the comic and how the reader digests the sto-

ry. Segueing away from the traditional format of handheld comics does not always work in the comic world but it can sometimes lead to other positive outcomes.

Companies like Disney and Warner Brothers have pushed comic book properties to the forefront of media. From cohesively building movies, games and cartoons these two companies have introduced timeless characters and the worlds in which they exist but have also introduced characters that never became widely known. The consistent elevation of comic book properties has not only retained loyal customers but has also attracted newbies who share the same comic book passion.

"Some people get into comics through the movies and they want to know the origins behind their favorite characters," said Virgil. "Some of the unpopular characters as well."

In the early days of comics, physical handheld copies were the

only way a reader could learn about their favorite characters and their world. These inquisitive fans seek out comic book stores such as Quest Comic Shop to dig deep into the origins and lore of their favorite character. The Quest Comic Shop is reliable because of its preservation of traditional hard copy comic books. These same comics give the reader a breakdown of the characters and provide a blueprint likely to be used in upcoming productions.

"We have had people walk in and say, 'hey do you guys have this series from 20 years ago?'" said Virgil. "All we do is point them to the book on the shelf."

Though we exist in the age of technology, there's a remnant and new era of comic readers who seek to connect with their favorite characters by tangible means. Quest Comic Shop continues to be the pillar and provides the comic community a space in time to experience the timeless.

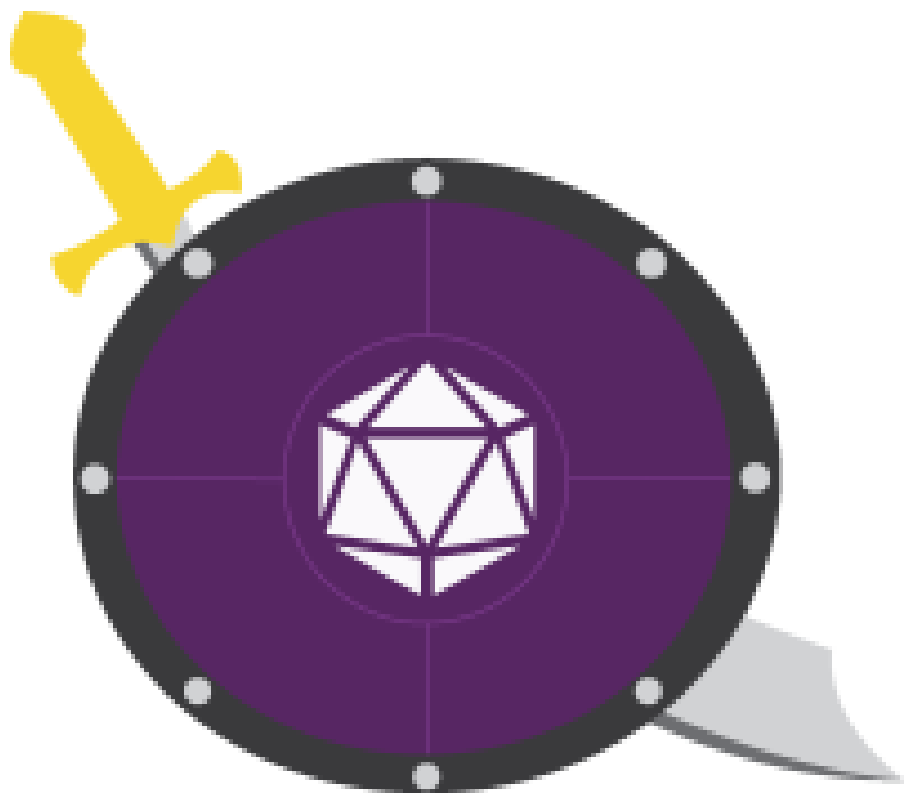


Image courtesy of Quest Comic Shop