



WOLVES DON'T WASTE PROVIDES FOOD 24/7 FOR UWG STUDENTS

KESHAWN ALLEN
Contributing Writer

With over twelve thousand students enrolled at the University of West Georgia, 21% live on campus in one of the residential halls. This is because the university is in charge of providing students with housing and food.

Housing is not typically an issue regarding on-campus living since the housing department here at the University of West Georgia works hard to ensure that each resident has a room with working appliances and furniture.

Given that everyone needs to eat at some time of the day, relying on swipes and business hours for the dining hall doesn't always work for every student attending UWG. To ensure that every student has a chance to get food at any time of the day, the university has provided a service called "Wolves Don't Waste" that helps take care of the issues relating to food here at UWG.

Wolves Don't Waste is a student-led organization that works alongside Dine West here at UWG to provide food for anyone and everyone who attends the university. They accomplish this goal by taking some of the food from the dining halls that were never served or touched by anyone and packaging it in take-out containers for students to pick up and eat. Students can find these containers in one of the Wolves Don't Waste refrigerators.

The best part of this is that students do not have to have a meal plan to be able to use it, and it is not just reserved for students.

Professors and faculty staff working around campus can pick up a try if they need food throughout the day. Other universities across the state of Georgia have similar programs, such as the Wolves Don't Waste organization here at UWG. Still, the thing that makes the program here is the accessibility for anyone who needs food.

"We added a fridge in the Coliseum for those who have classes in there," said Emmanuel Orusa, the organization's president.

Wolves Don't Waste is introducing things current and new students can look forward to when it comes to the 2024-2025 school year if they are interested in joining the club.

"Next semester, to help students feel more involved, we will start memberships that'll last the entire time they are here at UWG," said Orusa. "They'll be able to vote on who they want in the E-Board positions. They'll also get exclusive shirts, amongst other things. The plan next semester is to strike a plan with Dine West that'll allow us to recover to both Chick-Fil-A and La Luna."

Not only does Wolves Don't Waste provide for students by offering them food they can access at any time of day, but they also allow students to build their resumes and help other on-campus organizations. How the club gets the food from on-campus dining halls such as East and West Commons requires participants to go into the kitchen and package the food into to-go containers. This allows other organizations and students to

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gain volunteer hours to boost their community service hours. Many hours can be gained from either joining or volunteering for this organization, from packaging the food, bringing it to the fridges and helping out with the events they put on feeding people experiencing homelessness.

The refrigerators that store the Wolves Don't Waste food containers can be located in the Campus Center and The Colosseum and operate during building hours. The refrigerators get restocked every Tuesday and Thursday night with fresh food to be taken by anyone. If anyone would like to volunteer or become a part of the executive board for this club, you can contact the current president via the organization's Instagram @wdw_westgeorgia.



Photo courtesy of Reginald Palmer

CENTER FOR STUDENT INVOLVEMENT AND INCLUSION CELEBRATES ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE

ABBIE KLEIN
Contributing Writer

Every year the Center for Student Involvement and Inclusion at UWG hosts a number of events to enrich students and others in the community in new cultures and traditions. Most recently on April 10, CSII hosted their Lantern Festival event, an early celebration of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage month. Students that attended this event had the opportunity to enjoy new food, customs, and participate in craft activities to celebrate Asian culture.

“May is traditionally the month we celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month,” said Director of Inclusion Samantha Dennis. “Many students will be gone for the summer, so the Center for Student Involvement and Inclusion is partnering with the Student Activities Council to celebrate in April.”

UWG has always planned events like these to celebrate different heritage months with students on campus. CSII planned a multitude of events for things like Hispanic/Latinx Heritage month in September and Black History Month in February. Not wanting to miss out on the opportunity to

celebrate AAPI, CSII has moved the festivities up a little early.

“I am happy to share that events, like the Lantern Festival, were created because students voiced they wanted to know more about themselves and others”, said Dennis “I was able to provide an experience that integrates activities, education and culture.”

While the Lantern Festival is typically a Chinese celebration of Lunar New Year, CSII integrated several Southeast Asian and Pacific Islander cultures including traditions from Thailand, Japan, Vietnam and Hawaii.

Upon entering the event, students were given Hawaiian leis. A traditional garment made from flowers or leaves that is worn around the neck during celebrations like graduations, birthdays and weddings. In addition to the leis, Dine West served small portions of poke for students to try. Poke is a traditional Hawaiian dish made of chopped fish served on rice. It can be eaten with different toppings such as cucumber, onion, seaweed and soy sauce, just to name a few. Dine West also offered a traditional drink from Thailand made with black tea and condensed milk to

enjoy with the poke bowls.

Outside of Campus Center Mr. Banh Mi, a Vietnamese food truck offered a selection of Vietnamese food like soup dumplings, fried rice, Vietnamese chicken wings and Banh Mi Thit for students to try as well.

Chinese and Japanese traditions were spotlighted at the many activity tables set up in the Campus Center Ballroom including fan decorating and origami, both important staples of Japanese and Chinese culture.

“Students will also be able to decorate a vase for live bamboo to take home and create their own lanterns,” said Dennis.

Similar to a real Chinese Lantern Festival, students were able to decorate their own traditional lanterns while learning about the significance of lantern color and decoration. Like the lanterns, bamboo has spiritual and cultural significance in Chinese values. The plant is a symbol of harmony between nature and humans due to its hard but flexible structure. After choosing their own lantern and bamboo plant students were able to take these home as a souvenir from the event.

CSII had planned to have larger-than-life lanterns in the form of hot air balloons at the event but due to extreme weather this part of the event has been rescheduled to be a part of the Spring Fling event on April 24.

With AAPI Heritage month approaching, CSII hopes students can take a little bit of what they learned from the event to celebrate with other Asian Americans this summer.

THE BIG EVENT PROMOTES COMMUNITY AND INVOLVEMENT

BREANNA TILLIE
Contributing Writer

Life gets busy as a college student. There are exams to study for, assignments that need to be completed, jobs that need to be worked, relationships that need to be nurtured, not to mention the seeking out of career opportunities for the day when that hard-earned degree is finally official. Needless to say, it's necessary for college students to slow down every so often.

Slowing down could potentially mean putting on a movie and having a night in. However, stepping back out of a busy schedule could also be serving the community but may offer more productivity and social interaction.

The BIG Event will take place on April 12 in the campus center front gym from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. so students may have an opportunity to sign up for different community service projects.

“We do a lot of service events to keep our members involved. Not

just our members but also students who might need service hours,” said Reginald Palmer, a member of Circle K International and Volunteer Ambassadors, both organizations involved in The BIG Event. “I think it really influences people to get out there and give back to the community.”

The organizers of The BIG Event firmly believe that being involved in community service projects will benefit students personally and professionally.

“I think two huge benefits of doing community service are the way it grows your leadership skills and your fellowship skills. I feel like service goes hand in with those two no matter what. If you're someone who is willing to partake in service then you are showing those leadership skills,” said Palmer. “And obviously during community service you have to demonstrate fellowship skills. And even if you

don't have those, you can grow and enhance those while you're out there getting to know others.”

Members of service-oriented clubs also say that involvement in community service projects also opens the door to new friendships and bonds.

“Knowing that you're both there for the same reason kind of lifts the spirits and brings in that inclusive feeling,” said Palmer. “You're able to bond and feel closer with one another because you know you're there to do the same thing. And being in the club adds that repetition to it. If you keep showing up, that's how those bonds are formed.”

But members say the ultimate benefit is the inward satisfaction and personal sense of duty and fulfillment that comes with serving the community.

“Personally I've been doing community service for quite some time, even before I got to college. I've been doing it for over three years now. It's an ongoing thing that I do in life,” said Palmer. “It gives me kind of a euphoric feeling to know I'm one of those people who little by little is making a small difference in the world to make it a better place.”

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ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

AMAZON PRIME RELEASES A NEW SPIN ON THE WELL-KNOWN FILM "ROAD HOUSE"

EMMA SWALES
Editor-in-Chief

On March 8, Amazon Prime released a modern twist on the 80's cult classic film "Road House." The action-packed thriller featured Jake Gyllenhaal and UFC legend Conor McGregor as they added new life to a critically acclaimed fan-favorite.

The film is an Amazon Original directed by Doug Linman. The story follows an ex-UFC fighter Elwood Dalton, portrayed by Jake Gyllenhaal, as he finds himself acquiring a job as a bouncer for Road House, a rowdy bar in the Florida Keys. Once he arrives in the small town of Glass Key, he starts to notice strange activity.

The story begins when Road House bar owner Frankie, played by Jessica Williams, enters a fight club to find Dalton and recruit him to move to South Florida and become the bouncer for the Road House and keep out unwanted delinquents. Dalton was hesitant at first but eventually agreed when Frankie offered him 20,000 dollars a 20,000-a-month salary.

Once he arrives in Glass Key, he is confused about the large amounts of violence and thugs that the Road House attracts. He decides to do some research on the town and befriends a local nurse named Ellie. She tells him about the corrupt local police force, and how drugs and shady families are the foundation of the small town.

Dalton realizes someone in particular is targeting him as well as the Road House. Ben Brandt, a well-known local villain who terrorizes the people of Glass Key. He wanted to burn the Road House down and claim the land as his own. Throughout the movie, Dalton deals with countless bad guys and hundreds of fistfights. Brandt realizes that Dalton will not be easy to get rid of, so he calls in some help from Knox, a crazed fighter played by Conor McGregor.

The movie is fast-paced and packed full of bar fights and intense action scenes. The movie does a good job of holding to the original 1989 Road House, while also adding new updated details to appeal to the newer generation of watchers.

The movies had comparable storylines, but the 2024 adaptation switched up some of the original factors throughout

the movie. For example, the original bar was named Double Deuce whereas the remake named the bar Road House after the film title. The ending scenes also differed greatly. The 1989 "Road House" had a much longer, dramatic fight scene and ended the movie with more suspense. The 2024 adaptation had a shorter fight scene, and concluded with Dalton simply walking away and leaving Glass Key forever.

Although the remake was an enjoyable watch, it does not compare to the 80's cult classic. The new elements that were added to the recent film made it seem corny and overdone. The 1989

"Road House" starred the legend Patrick Swayze who embodied his role and created a more realistic and gritty element that could not be topped. The original felt real and made me think that the storyline could be possible in the real world. It contained more exciting and creative fight scenes, while the 2024 version presented very fast and UFC-style fights.

Altogether, The Amazon Prime remake of "Road House" was an exciting thriller that any action lover should watch and contains some scenes that will leave the audience on the edge of their seats. This movie has received mostly positive reviews, but if you are a fan of the classic "Road House," be prepared for some new twists and tweaks. Jake Gyllenhaal did an overall good job at playing Dalton and bringing the character a new feel, but in my opinion, Patrick Swayze will always be the best and the 1989 "Road House" remains undefeated.

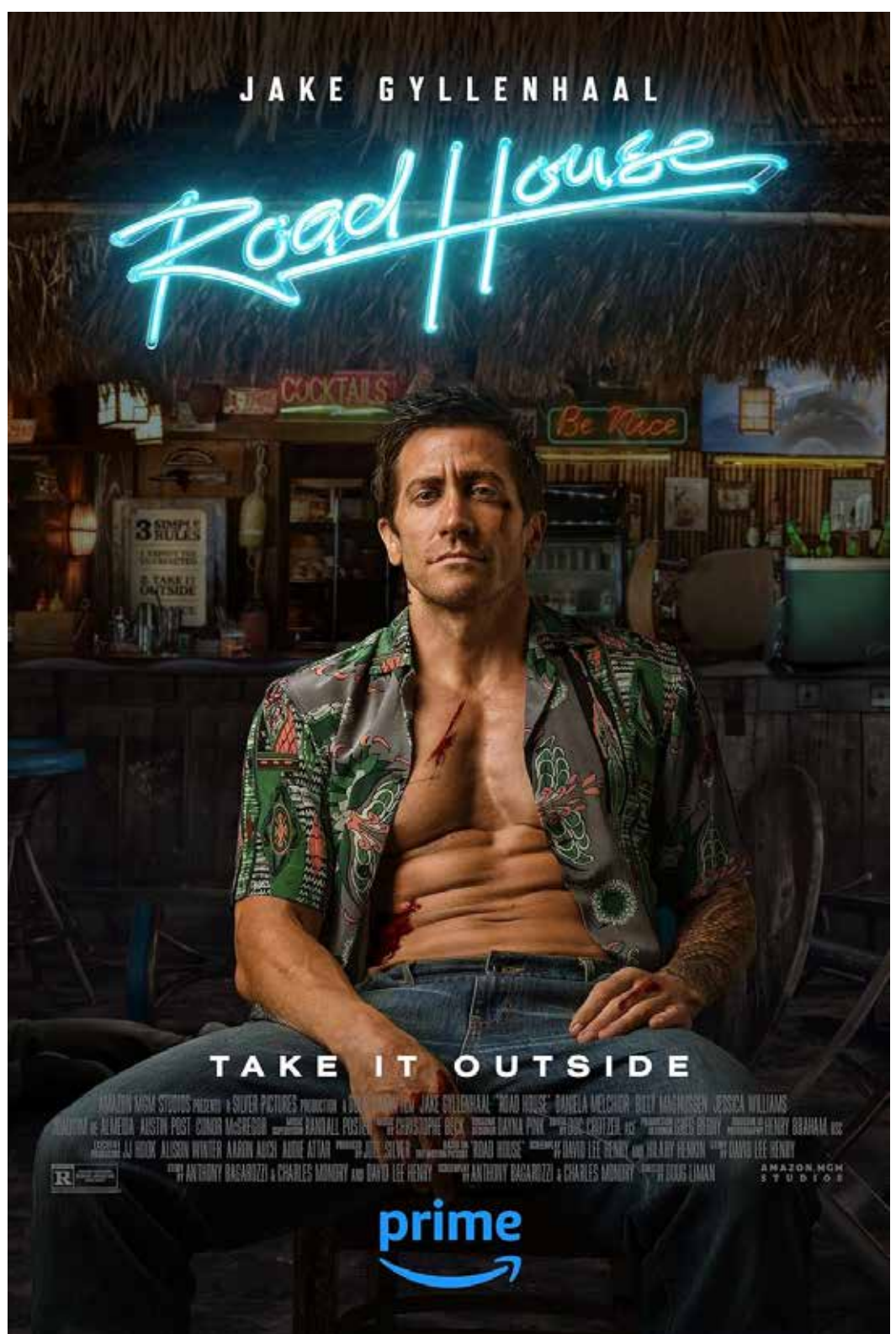


Photo courtesy of Amazon Prime

LIL YACHTY'S CONCRETE BOYS SHAKE UP THE HIP-HOP GENRE WITH UNIQUE BEATS

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In an era where hip-hop is being dominated by ephemeral trends and the same manufactured personas, Lil Yachty's Concrete Boys have recently emerged as a refreshing breath of authenticity. The group (consisting of artists Karrahbooo, Draft Day, Dc2Trill, Camo! and of course Lil Yachty) has expressed a new sound with the release of their highly anticipated debut compilation album on April 5, "It's Us Vol. 1."

This unique collection of songs is not only a showcase of the group's musical virtuosity, but it also serves as a testament to their unwavering commitment to stay true to themselves, aiming to lay the foundation for an exciting new era in the rap game.

One of this project's most noteworthy features is perhaps its unique sound. Led by Lil Yachty, the 16-song album blends music's more classic soulful features with the sound and energy from contemporary trap music. The Concrete Boys are seemingly able to comfortably navigate their way through numerous genres, blending elements of hip-hop, jazz, rock, funk, soul and R&B to craft a sound they can call their own. The production throughout the project is a masterpiece,

with every beat sounding like a carefully crafted piece of art.

From the moment the first notes off the opening track "POINT ME TO IT" are played, listeners can tell they are in for a quality sonic experience. The song (by Yachty and Camo!) samples "Need 2" by Pinegrove, and while it may catch some listeners off guard, it works beautifully. The laid-back track compliments the deliveries and flow of Yachty, Camo! and other Concrete members, blending well with the rest of the album, setting the tone for what is to come.

The standout songs from the album include "WHERE YO DADDY?" by Karrahbooo, who raps about her success over a graceful beat with her signature nonchalant flow, as well as the "ON THE RADAR CONCRETE CYPHER" has an exquisite jazz instrumental which accompanies the rappers very nicely. Everyone's verse on the cypher was solid and they all flowed well. Because the Cypher was released for On The Radar Radio's YouTube channel a couple of months before the album dropped. The Cypher is the only song with all members on a single track.

This is something I wish Yachty had done on other songs, and something I hope is included more in future volumes as having each member of the group included more may make future projects feel less like a random compilation of tracks and more like a fully developed album with a story to tell.

Another gripe I had is Draft Day's performances in his songs and verses throughout the project. As the Cypher was released before the rest of the project, we get to hear Draft Day's regular voice and delivery, which was smooth and fit well with the vibe of the group. On all the other songs he raps on however, he has switched to this crazy delivery which honestly just sounds like he's doing a bad impersonation of Young Thug with a raspy voice.

The project closes with "PINK AND BLUE," and while Draft Day's vocals make for an interesting performance, they also quickly get annoying as he yells with this weird raspy voice. I assume the change was made so Draft Day could distinguish himself from Camo! and Dc2Trill who he does sound similar to, however, his original sound was way better than whatever he was trying to do on this project.

Overall, the experience I had as a listener of "It's Us Vol. 1" was pleasant. With its infectious sound, smooth deliveries, flows (except Draft Day), and elegant beats, the Concrete Boys look set to leave a lasting impression on listeners and redefine the rap game. With Lil Yachty at the helm, they are sure to secure their place as one of the most exciting new acts in contemporary music over the next year.



Photo courtesy of Amazon Prime