THIS TEACHER HAS HAD ENOUGH
EDITOR’S LETTER
Picture: CSU’s One Arsenal building on RiverPark campus.

Thanks, everyone, for taking a couple minutes out of your day to pick up this issue of The Saber. As always, we appreciate your time and consideration. Allow me to ramble for a moment.

As a student, I vehemently despise this time of year – deadlines are looming and the weight of projects is piling up; it’s starting to get hot, and the humidity is insufferable; there’s pollen on everything, and I can’t breathe; and summer is close, but not close enough. Nevertheless, the silver lining that is the summer break does tend to ease my worried conscience a little. As Columbus continues to grow, so does the focus on entertainment, and I find that I don’t have to leave town for things to do. If you’re looking for things to do around town, check out our new “Upcoming” section on page 5 – it contains both local and CSU events to explore.

For those of you who have summer classes to attend, yours may be a different sentiment. Summer classes for me were bittersweet – they were rigorously challenging, but seemed to be over as soon as they began. I strongly recommend that you take them if you have a good work ethic and strong sense of organization. The workload may be gruasome, but the payoff is sweet.

Anyways, we have a nice spread of content for you to enjoy this month, so take your time to explore the issue. We comprised a great feature about the March for Our Lives after a few of our reporters took to the streets in Atlanta to walk amongst the 70,000 or so protesters, we covered the Diversity Forum, and we even gathered student opinions on Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos in the wake of her brutal “60 Minutes” interview. There’s plenty more in addition to that. Please remember to reach out to us if you find something or someone deserving of attention. There’s always a story out there, and perhaps the next one belongs to you.
CAMPUS NEWS

WAYNE W. VAN ELLIS RESIGNS AS REGISTRAR. WHO IS NEXT?

For two and a half years, Wayne Van Ellis served the CSU community as registrar by maintaining student records and class enrollment, but on March 2, Ellis resigned effective immediately with a brief statement that outlined the reason for his departure. A mass email was sent to the entire faculty by the new Registrar, Dr. Meagan Ellsworth, who is unavailable to comment on the condition of his leave citing a need to seek counsel, thanked many at CSU for their commitment and hard work. “I especially would like to thank the Deans, Assistant Deans, Chairs and Faculty.”

RIVER PARK AREA TO POSSIBLY ADOPT OPEN CONTAINER LAW BY COLUMBUS LAWMAKERS

Columbus lawmakers have long-held that it should be unlawful to walk the streets with an open alcoholic beverage, but city councillors have drafted an ordinance to be voted on which would allow citizens to carry alcoholic beverages in special containers in the RiverPark area. The proposed ordinance was recommended by Uptown Columbus, Inc., a non-profit organization that hosts events downtown and helps vitalize the RiverPark area if the ordinance passes this session, the alcohol will be allowed in a designated area from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. The law would allow bottles or cans, but not beverages to be consumed in shatterproof cups no larger than 16 ounces, and each cup would require a sticker provided by Uptown Columbus, Inc., which may be found at businesses that will sell the beverages. Individuals should note other stipulations in the proposed law before participating, as the drafted ordinance will be highly specific to the downtown area – as will be the consumption rules.

CSU STUDENT-ATHLETES TO HOST 3RD ANNUAL 5K BENEFITING MAKE-A-WISH

The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee at Columbus State University will host a 5K race Saturday, April 14 that will benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation. The race is set to begin at 9 a.m. from Coupe Court between the Lumpkin Center and the front field at CSU’s main campus. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that arranges “wishes” for children with life-threatening medical condition through 62 chapters across the United States. Individuals may register online at runsignup.com, and results will be presented to the top three male and top three female runners. Registration for the event is $30.

CSU CONDUCTS MULTI-AGENCY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT EXERCISE ON RIVER PARK CAMPUS

On Thursday, April 5 at 10 a.m., Campus Police, in conjunction with public safety, city, county, and state entities, conducted an emergency management exercise on the RiverPark Campus at the intersection of Broadway and 12th street in front of Frank Brown Hall. The simulation was designed to assess emergency response capabilities during a mass casualty event, a section of Broadway in front of Frank Brown Hall was temporarily closed for the event. “This exercise is part of CSU’s ongoing emergency management initiative and further our partnerships with other first responders when developing all-hazards emergency plans for our campuses,” said Police Chief Mark Lott. The simulation involved a scenario in which a fictitious car drove through a crowd at a concert and responders utilized Frank Brown Hall as an emergency medical facility. The event included nursing students both as actors and first responders, and students were made-up and simulated the medical injuries.

EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCES RECEIVES MINI-GRANTS

Kim Shaw, Ph.D., a professor in physics, received a STEM mini-grant of $2,850 to fund her proposal “Math Intervention Development to Promote Student Success in Physics Courses.” Online tutorials will be developed with help of a student assistant and will be topic specific to address those math concepts physics students find most challenging. Austin Caughey, Chance Seeklinger, Coral Torres, and Jasmine Truitt – students from Earth and Space Sciences – also received mini grants of $225, awarded by the Office of the Provost. The funds will be used to offset costs incurred for research projects.

SUMMARIES CONTINUED

CSU FACULTY OFFICE BUILDING RENAMED SHANNON HALL

Columbus State has announced that effective May 1, 2018, the Faculty Office Building on Main Campus, also known colloquially as “The FOH” will be renamed Shannon Hall, to allow for the up-and-coming building. The name is derived from the name of the building in which Columbus College was founded 60 years ago – the Tillman Building. This mill that used to stand on the property that is now home to Shannon Hall is located on Talbotton Road. New signage, catalog changes, and changes in Shannon will be in effect by May 1. The University asks that individuals adjust their records accordingly.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES RESPONDS TO STUDENT COMPLAINTS

Bus Operations Manager Chipper Alexander acknowledged in a statement his department’s intent to find solutions to student issues with buses that were raised during the last three weeks of the quarter, especially with shuttle times and vehicle cleanliness. “As the transportation services responds to student complaints.”

ART ALUMNA WINS KENNEDY CENTER FIRST PRIZE

Victoria Dagger, who earned her B.F.A. from CSU in 2016 won First Prize in the (Re)Invention exhibition at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. The exhibition was a part of the USA Emerging Young Artists Program, a Jean Kennedy Smith Arts and Disability Program. Fifty young artists with disabilities are provided the opportunity to showcase their work in the year-long national touring exhibition as part of the national art competition. Dagger’s piece “Soft Machine II” made with encaustic, nylon, and brick. Dagger described her work as “questioning the perceived ideals of beauty and masculinity.” Dagger accepted a position with the High Museum in Atlanta.

THREE SCHWOB STUDENTS WIN NATIONAL AWARDS

First Place in the Young Artist String Division went to Natalya Klevarevskaya, violist student of Prof Soga Schwantes. On April 29, she will be a soloist with the Schwob Philharmonic, playing the Shostakovich Violin Concerto. For the Junior Piano Duet Division, First Place went to Tatyana Sotomayor and her partner Yarne Tan. A Woodruff Scholar, T os is the student of Prof. Tatiana Iwamoto. Second Place went to Cameron Bryant for the Young Artist Division. Bryant is a sophomore horn student of Natalie Higgins, Ph.D.

CAMPUS NEWS

NEWS FLASH

PADDLE SOUTH FREESTYLE KAYAK COMPETITION

This celebration of the best paddling location in the south returns to Columbus at the Eagle & Phenix water tower. This two day event consists of the 2018 USA Freestyle Kayak National Championships, and the Ocmulgee Paddle Paddy in the Power House overlooking the Chattahoochee River.

CSU SAAC 5K

SPRINGER OPERA HOUSE / EVERY FRIDAY, 10:30 P.M.

COCA-COLA SPACE SCIENCE CENTER / APRIL 17, 5 P.M.

RIVERWALK ISLAND / APRIL 14 & 15, 1 P.M.

LUMPKIN CENTER / APRIL 14, 9 A.M. - 11 A.M.

RIVERFEST & WORLD PADDLEBOARD CHAMPIONSHIP

UPTOWN AREA / MAY 4, 6:30 P.M. & MAY 5, 8 A.M.

POLITICAL FORUMS AND DATABASES

UNIVERSITY HALL / MAY 1, 7 P.M.

The Schwob School of Music continues with its Music Under the Dome series with a concert on April 17. Wine and cheese will be served and admission is FREE.

CARSON MULLIGANS LITERARY FESTIVAL

TO DARRETT CENTER / APRIL 29, 7:30 P.M. & APRIL 30, 12 P.M.

CSU'S RIVERSIDE THEATRE / APRIL 13, 14, 20, 21, 7:30 P.M.

SPECIAL EVENT: MUSIC UNDER THE DOME

CARSON MULLIGANS LITERARY FESTIVAL

To kick off the 2018 Columbus Whitewater season, Uptown Columbus, Inc. is hosting RiverFest, which will include a concert evening with food & fun for all ages. Admission is FREE. all weekend.

Every Friday evening, The Springer puts on No Shame Theatre – an uncensored evening of original performance that allows anyone to participate. Sign-up begins at 10 p.m., and fifteen five-minute performance slots are available each week. Admission costs $5, and adult beverages area available.

A groundbreaking rock musical about adolescent love, this show captures the trials of beauty and the friendship that young people build in the face of an uncomprehending world. General admission is $17 per adult.

GIVE ME A BREAK: A HIGH SCHOOL DANCE CO-FOUNDED BY A SABER

The Saber
While students and faculty were out for a week spending time with family, de-stressing, and catching up on assignments, CSU’s Support Services took advantage of spring break by completing a myriad of projects spread over both campuses. The additional week provided staff with time to prepare both campuses for returning faculty and students. The projects they managed during the break comprised of two types: recurring and non-recurring.

According to Stephen Morse, senior director of campus services, recurring projects are those that the University Support Services staff “track and repeat on a schedule.” These projects can include carpet, elevator, and furniture cleaning, tile scrubbing and waxing, and slat dusting. “These are not the only recurring projects that we do during spring break,” Morse said. “During each break, we go into each building, check all common areas, and make sure the building is ready for students, faculty, and staff to return.”

Despite the hitches, the staff of University Support Services were able to accomplish a considerable amount of work over the course of the break. “University Support Services takes pride in providing a clean, safe, and comfortable environment for students, faculty, and staff,” Morse said. “Their needs are a priority, and our pursuit of quality in all that we do mirrors the University Support Services mission.”

Spring break included a combination of both usual recurring projects and any non-recurring projects from previous walkthroughs. “As you can see, spring break is a crucial time for our department,” Morse said. “Our department is definitely a hub of activity throughout Spring Break, and we take advantage of the time to complete maintenance so that the campus is fresh and organized when classes resume after the break.” Even with that said, Support Services still encountered a few setbacks and obstacles.

There are a few complications that occur with Support Services’ work, but the two main ones are having to postpone projects and working around any faculty, staff, or school events that are present on campus. Some tasks must be pushed to a later date for reasons such as weather conditions. One that had to be rescheduled to a later date in spring this year was a window cleaning project that would take place over the break. Both Morse and Director of Custodial Services Carolyn Rockeymore decided that it would be best to wait until the pollen lessened over spring. Also, events that must be worked around include Discovery Day, the Transition Fair for Students with Disabilities, and the Georgia First Robotics/Technology competition.

Despite the hitches, the staff of University Support Services were able to accomplish a considerable amount of work over the course of the break. “University Support Services takes pride in providing a clean, safe, and comfortable environment for students, faculty, and staff,” Morse said. “Their needs are a priority, and our pursuit of quality in all that we do mirrors the Cougar pride evident across campus.”

The second type of projects that Support Services is in charge of is non-recurring projects. These arise from campus walkthroughs that custodial, grounds, and logistics staff, as well as Morse, lead during which they survey the campuses to record and photograph areas or objects that require attention. They then address problems that demand immediate action or fill out work orders and set aside the less pressing concerns. “An example of such projects would be finding damaged furniture that we were unaware of or stains in carpets not already scheduled for routine cleaning,” Morse said. “This enables us to add to our list of projects for breaks.”

Renowned Artists Visit for Diversity Forum
Award-winning poet Carlos Andrés Gómez and Grammy winner Chrïsette Michele open dialogue on tough topics

By taking this phrase and making it the title of his book, he is throwing the toxic masculinity back in society’s face. Gómez originally wanted to be a civil rights lawyer. He soon found that he liked to work in many different mediums. He doesn’t want to prohibit curiosity. He wants students to know that the most revolutionary work is living your life on your own terms. Michele spoke about curious figures and natural hair. According to BET, Michele once said “The truth is an artist like me who doesn’t get the type of promotion we see more commercial artists receive, and especially in this climate of the music business, you have to be creative about how you promote yourself.”

She went on to speak about her truth during her breakout session, when she spoke about her upbringing and how she got started in music. She recounted having people question the legitimacy of her brother because he had “bright red hair and freckles.”

During her first radio interview, the first question Wendy Williams asked was “Are those your real breasts?” As a young woman fresh out of college at the time, Michele didn’t know how to respond. She wasn’t trained by her team about how to answer such questions. She just wanted to talk about her talent, knowledge, and entrepreneurship. She also mentioned how this seemed to only be an American ideal. In other countries, her interviews would consist of questions about beats, hooks and melodies. She soon learned that curvy was a nice way to say fat. Throughout her session, Michele got a chance to have a dialogue with some people around the room about the treatment that they’ve received in certain situations based on physical features. One woman spoke about how people are scared to ask or acknowledge her pregnancy because they are afraid that she just may be overweight. The talk went on with others coming up about how skin color and even age can hinder your growth in the workplace. Speakers covered other topics, including staying engaged in society and not getting closed off in personal problems, and speaking your truth.

Carlos Gómez
Photo: Kayen Ray

AWARD-WINNING POET CARLOS ANDRÉS GÓMEZ AND GRAMMY WINNER CHRISETTE MICHELE OPEN DIALOGUE ON TOUGH TOPICS

He held at the Cunningham Center on Thursday, March 15, this year’s Columbus State University Diversity Forum and Legacy Banquet as part of the 2018 Legacy Celebration for the event’s seventh anniversary and featured award-winning Latino poet, actor, and speaker Carlos Andrés Gómez, as well as Grammy winner, R&B singer and songwriter Chrïsette Michele.

Created to engage the Columbus community in dialogue about difficult and serious subjects regarding diversity, inequality, and poverty, the first conference was held in 2012 as a partnership with the Mayor’s Commission on Unity, Diversity, and Prosperity. Past speakers have included Bernice King, daughter of Martin Luther King Jr. (2012), journalist, filmmaker, and immigration rights activist José Vargas (2015), and TV personality judge Glenda A. Hatchett (2017).

Gómez, who wrote his memoir “Man Up: Reimagining Modern Manhood,” is also star of HBO’s “Def Poetry Jam,” TV One’s “Verses and Flow,” and director Spike Lee’s movie “Inside Man” with Denzel Washington. He said that his biggest inspiration came from poet Martin Espada. He felt a cultural connection to him from reading his poetry.

Raised by a white, Southern, Protestant mother and Catholic Colombian immigrant father, the number one thing that stuck with him from his childhood is that it’s healthy to question. Growing up in a country that wants to be “black and white” makes it difficult for self-identification.

“Don’t wait for someone to stand up for you,” said Gómez, “Challenge and define the world. If something feels wrong, get out and change it!” He did this with the the title of his memoir “Man Up”–his way to reclaim the term and try to change the world. “Don’t wait for someone to stand up for you,” said Gómez, “Challenge and define the world. If something feels wrong, get out and change it!” He did this with the the title of his memoir “Man Up”–his way to reclaim the term and try to change the world.

“Don’t wait for someone to stand up for you,” said Gómez, “Challenge and define the world. If something feels wrong, get out and change it!” He did this with the the title of his memoir “Man Up”–his way to reclaim the term and try to change the world.
High school students and their team-built robots took over Columbus State University’s Lumpkin Center March 23-24 for the Georgia FIRST Robotics competition. The event, created by the nonprofit Georgia FIRST organization, is designed to challenge students interested in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, programs by encouraging them to participate. All high school students and two teachers from schools in Harris County, Muscogee County, Fort Benning and Phenix City were invited to attend the Columbus FIRST Robotics District Competition.

Participating in the robotics competition is no easy task. All participants must form a group to raise funds for their team and robot. With one adult sponsor, the students design, build, program, and name their own robot. The robots are industrial-size, fully-programmed machines designed to perform basic operations. The robots are often remote-controlled and must carry out missions on an immense, packed playing field loaded with obstacles. Ramps, walls, and blocks are all present on the field, making the robot and students’ job more difficult. One obstacle besides physical that teams must face is one that is out of their hands—wireless technology. While the teams are competing, everyone in the building must have all Bluetooth devices off, as they have been proven to interfere with the robots’ programming and can cause them to stop working properly.

For two days, spectators gathered in the stands to watch students battle it out. On the floor around the course, students rushed around each other to and from their booths. Many of them quickly making repairs, testing their robots programming, and rolling their bots to the playing field. Besides winning, all of these motivated students have goals in mind that set them apart from their competitors.

A group of homeschooled students, sponsored by an afterschool program, said that their goal for participating in the FIRST Robotics Competition was to eliminate the stereotype around black students not being interested in STEM programs. Chippy, the robot they built and programmed, took around nine weeks to finish. Although all of them were proud of how well the robot had been programmed, one student admitted that they were excited to show off “how pretty” the robot’s design turned out in the end. The team collectively agreed that the challenges of building a robot were mainly “mechanical,” as they had to reconfigure the bot’s gear box after competing.

Students from Terrell County High in Dawson, Ga., were also puzzled in the beginning, stating that, “Coming up with the right design was difficult [at first].” Their robot, Shocky, took about six weeks to complete. The team hustled and added an extra piece to their robot before going out to compete again.

East Cobb Robotics and Walton Robotics from Marietta, and W.A. Robotics from College Park were named the District Event winners. The East Cobb Robotics team also won the Excellence in Engineering Award which is sponsored by Delphi Technologies, a major automotive emissions provider. CSU proudly hosted this competition and hopes to do so again in the future.
The untitled piece was a collaboration between the art students and the faculty. Hannah Israel, an associate art professor and gallery director at CSU, had several pieces from her collection on display, and said that the exhibition was about more than just showcasing artwork. “It is important for teachers to exhibit because it shows how we are teaching also—the methodology and the application,” said Israel. “We hope that this exhibition reflects rigor and understanding.”

Some students attending the event expressed similar sentiments. “I came because I wanted to see the works of my professors,” said John Richmond, a junior art major studying sculpture. “We only get to be taught, and this experience allows us to see some of the methodology in teaching come to life. I feel closer to my teachers now because of this.”

In addition to art professors and students, other members of the CSU community were in attendance. Professor Carey Scott Wilkerson, an assistant professor of creative writing, was drawn to an abstract collection of oil paintings on panels by Professor Orson Wertz. “There is something political about these works,” said Wilkerson. “I am drawn to the primal beauty of it. There is a rigorous tactility here.”

“Kites” will be on display in Illges Gallery from March 1 until April 14. A new exhibition titled “Senior Thesis” will replace “Kites” beginning April 24. The reception for the new exhibition will be held Saturday, May 1.

“KITES IN A HURRICANE”
Professors in the art department showcase their work

A rt students at CSU and visiting artists regularly exhibit their work in galleries across RiverPark campus, but this March, eight faculty members of the art department displayed their own artwork on the high, white walls of Illges Gallery inside the Corn Center.

The faculty art exhibition “Kites in a Hurricane” reception was held this March for a mixed group of students, faculty, staff, and art patrons from the Columbus community. More than thirty people attended the two-hour event catered by Aramark. The focus of the exhibition was to explore the distinctiveness of each artist according to the curators Tad Mike and Jonathan Richmond.

“Kites in a Hurricane brings together a disparate body of work by artists all struggling to maintain an honest voice in pursuing their respective work, uninterrupted by the commercial banner of the world,” Mike and Richmond wrote in their exhibition statement. “From poetic brushwork on paper to serenely poetic poems, from smart vinyl graphics to images of quiet urban realities. It is in these spaces ‘in between’ where one can discover a profound beauty.”

The range of artistic styles and mediums used in the exhibition was wide and included everything from small ceramic sculptures and oil on canvas to large photographic prints. The centerpiece of the exhibition was a gigantic metal sculpture composed of wood, metal, canvas, and various plastics suspended by wire near the middle of the gallery. The untitled piece was a collaboration between the art students and the faculty.

“From poetic brushwork on paper to serenely poetic poems, from smart vinyl graphics to images of quiet urban realities. It is in these spaces ‘in between’ where one can discover a profound beauty.”

The extensive range of artistic styles and mediums used in the exhibition was wide and included everything from small ceramic sculptures and oil on canvas to large photographic prints. The centerpiece of the exhibition was a gigantic metal sculpture composed of wood, metal, canvas, and various plastics suspended by wire near the middle of the gallery. The untitled piece was a collaboration between the art students and the faculty. Hannah Israel, an associate art professor and gallery director at CSU, had several pieces from her collection on display, and said that the exhibition was about more than just showcasing artwork.

“It is important for teachers to exhibit because it shows how we are teaching also—the methodology and the application,” said Israel. “We hope that this exhibition reflects rigor and understanding.”

Some students attending the event expressed similar sentiments. “I came because I wanted to see the works of my professors,” said John Richmond, a junior art major studying sculpture. “We only get to be taught, and this experience allows us to see some of the methodology in teaching come to life. I feel closer to my teachers now because of this.”

In addition to art professors and students, other members of the CSU community were in attendance. Professor Carey Scott Wilkerson, an assistant professor of creative writing, was drawn to an abstract collection of oil paintings on panels by Professor Orson Wertz. “There is something political about these works,” said Wilkerson. “I am drawn to the primal beauty of it. There is a rigorous tactility here.”

“Kites” will be on display in Illges Gallery from March 1 until April 14. A new exhibition titled “Senior Thesis” will replace “Kites” beginning April 24. The reception for the new exhibition will be held Saturday, May 1.

“The work replicates the natural course of the river from north to south as each of the six sculptural elements span from the northern courtyard, through the building and spill out into the southern courtyard,” says a plaque near the sculptures outside of the building. “While each of the elements will vary in scale, height and chromatic complexity, they are all unified by a simple, horizontal blue band representing the flow of the water over the Fall Line.”

The impactful presence of artwork like the Fall Line sculptures is evidenced by the reactions of students who frequent the downtown area. “The artwork downtown has immensely contributed to its beautification and also helps to inspire myself and many other students,” said sophomore and art major Joshua Richmond. “The new addition of the Fall Line sculptures at Frank Brown Hall is a wonderful addition to the art downtown and I’m excited for more to come!” Jordan Kent, a freshman majoring in art, also commented on the effects of the artwork. “Having art downtown is pretty great. It involves students in the community and shows the community the artists that reside here. Also it makes the streets more interesting. I like the modern look [of the Fall Line sculptures].”

Another art project that has spurred the beautification of Columbus—Phenix City—is titled “My River Valley” and was inspired by the poetry of Northside High School theater teacher Ishiah M. Harper. “My River Valley” is a series of murals painted by local artists Garry Found, Najee Dorsey, Butch Anthony, Sally Bradley, and R.C. Hagans. Although no specific locations have been named yet, the works of Bradley, Found, and Dorsey can be found in Columbus, and the work by Anthony and Hagans can be found in Phenix City.
Perspective: March for Our Lives

From 300 to 70,000, a look at the Protest from Columbus to Atlanta

By Toni Stauffer & Sydnee Williams

Photos by Raylyn Ray

Columbus is not considered to be a hotbed of activism by most, but there have been times when citizens have taken to the streets. Saturday, March 24, became such a day when people across the nation participated in the “March for Our Lives” protest. Columbus, a little-big riverside city of about 200,000 residents, had somewhere around 300 in attendance at an uptown march and earned a blurb in The Washington Post to show how even small city residents were speaking out, Atlanta, an hour-and-half to the northeast, had approximately 70,000 protesters. The “March for Our Lives” movement began after the tragic shooting at a high school in Parkland, Florida that took the lives of 17 people—14 students and three teachers, one in what many consider to be an epidemic of gun violence. The survivors have come together with growing support from their community and many in the nation in an attempt to persuade the government to change and strengthen federal and state gun laws.

Prior to arriving at the March for Our Lives Protest, I was excited and slightly scared—I’d never been to a protest or a march before. The march in Atlanta started with speakers from the Parkland shooting and local government leaders. The most compelling speech for me was given by Congressman John Lewis. I had heard of his legacy in years past, and the fact that I was in the same vicinity as him was surreal.

The march started in Centennial Olympic Parks and ended in front of the Atlanta Capital building in Liberty Plaza. There were chants going on during the March that included “Whose streets? Our streets! Whose schools? Our schools!” and “Vote them out!” Many students were calling for change in legislation and for their fellow 18 year-olds to register to vote and begin change now. While I was there, I took a voter registration card and got registered myself—real activism is when you hit the polls. Now I can truly say that I was part of something bigger than myself.

Sydnee Williams

Quotes:

“I think the laws right now are way too lenient,” gun owner and Florida resident Michael said. “You should not be able to buy an assault rifle at 18. Everything should be at least 21. I’m pro guns, but I’m also pro stricter gun laws.”

“I’m a retired educator and I don’t want my fellow educators to have to carry guns,” District 12 Senate candidate Lillian Bumman said. “I think Georgia needs to improve the medical care, the infrastructure, and the water quality. We need some new people at the assembly.”
Tour de Chow: Wasabi

When you enter Wasabi Sushi and Thai restaurant, take a moment to appreciate the clean, modern decor, complete with neon, color-changing lighting. The dark-brown, almost black-stained, wooden tables, stylish stone walls, fancy bar, and modern light fixtures are countered by Japanese-style statues that sit above almost every table. The restaurant looks almost like a club, but the ambient lighting and soft music give it a comfortable, easy atmosphere. Located at 1639 Bradley Park Drive, Wasabi Sushi and Thai serves up Japanese and Thai cuisines and sushi for lunch from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and reopens for dinner from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. Takeout is available.

The lunch menu has prices ranging from $7-19 and consists of choices from reliable pad Thai to squid curry. The dinner menu prices are a little higher, but with generous portion sizes. Hibachi ranges from $13-35 depending on whether or not you want lobster and scallops or chicken. Entrees average around $13.

The most impressively priced area of the menu, though, is the sushi menu. With over 56 rolls to choose from, you are sure to find something to suit your taste, even as a vegetarian. If you are just starting to branch out to sushi, try something classic and simple like the Alaskan roll, which has mild flavor, but a good mix of textures from the contrast of the creamy rice and soft fish. For a dish specific to Wasabi, the “Amazing Curry” is the restaurant’s most notable meal. It consists of their famous peanut curry sauce and a generous portion of choice meat over a bed of spinach with steamed broccoli, and topped with chopped peanuts. The Amazing Curry definitely is worth ordering if you enjoy various curries, but watch out if you are not a fan of peanuts! The dish is loaded with the flavor of peanuts!

Overall, Wasabi is definitely one of the best Japanese cuisine restaurants in Columbus to get more bang for your buck, making it an especially good choice for date night. The nice decor, polite and prompt service, and large serving sizes make it an excellent restaurant.

FROM COLUMBUS TO ENGLAND: PROFESSOR GOES ON TOUR

Michelle Folta prepares to take 60 choir students abroad

BY BRIANIA WILLIAMS

This summer, Columbus’s quickly growing chorus will be heading to Europe. The Voices of the Valley chorus will travel Europe to perform in cathedrals in Norwich and London over their 10-day tour. The director of the chorus is CSU’s Michelle Herren-Folta, Ph.D.

Folta said it would be too expensive, “My mother would do it again in a heartbeat.” Rivera said. “It is so hard to dream in Honduras. As soon as I came here, it made it easier to accomplish my aspirations.”

While he attended high school in the mornings, Rivera attended night classes at the Escuela de Música Victoriano López in San Pedro, Honduras. It was in San Pedro where he fell in love with the oboe, and he eventually discovered Tomkiewicz by researching Schwob while he was still living in Honduras and attending high school. His music teacher saw me pick up the oboe and told me it would be too expensive, “My mother would do it again in a heartbeat.” Rivera said. “It is so hard to dream in Honduras. As soon as I came here, it made it easier to accomplish my aspirations.”

Rivera discovered Tomkiewicz by researching Schwob while he was still living in Honduras and attending high school. His music teacher saw me pick up the oboe and told me it would be too expensive, “My mother would do it again in a heartbeat.” Rivera said. “It is so hard to dream in Honduras. As soon as I came here, it made it easier to accomplish my aspirations.”

Rivera discovered Tomkiewicz by researching Schwob while he was still living in Honduras and attending high school. His music teacher saw me pick up the oboe and told me it would be too expensive, “My mother would do it again in a heartbeat.” Rivera said. “It is so hard to dream in Honduras. As soon as I came here, it made it easier to accomplish my aspirations.”

Rivera discovered Tomkiewicz by researching Schwob while he was still living in Honduras and attending high school. His music teacher saw me pick up the oboe and told me it would be too expensive, “My mother would do it again in a heartbeat.” Rivera said. “It is so hard to dream in Honduras. As soon as I came here, it made it easier to accomplish my aspirations.”

Rivera discovered Tomkiewicz by researching Schwob while he was still living in Honduras and attending high school. His music teacher saw me pick up the oboe and told me it would be too expensive, “My mother would do it again in a heartbeat.” Rivera said. “It is so hard to dream in Honduras. As soon as I came here, it made it easier to accomplish my aspirations.”

Rivera discovered Tomkiewicz by researching Schwob while he was still living in Honduras and attending high school. His music teacher saw me pick up the oboe and told me it would be too expensive, “My mother would do it again in a heartbeat.” Rivera said. “It is so hard to dream in Honduras. As soon as I came here, it made it easier to accomplish my aspirations.”

Rivera discovered Tomkiewicz by researching Schwob while he was still living in Honduras and attending high school. His music teacher saw me pick up the oboe and told me it would be too expensive, “My mother would do it again in a heartbeat.” Rivera said. “It is so hard to dream in Honduras. As soon as I came here, it made it easier to accomplish my aspirations.”

Rivera discovered Tomkiewicz by researching Schwob while he was still living in Honduras and attending high school. His music teacher saw me pick up the oboe and told me it would be too expensive, “My mother would do it again in a heartbeat.” Rivera said. “It is so hard to dream in Honduras. As soon as I came here, it made it easier to accomplish my aspirations.”

Rivera discovered Tomkiewicz by researching Schwob while he was still living in Honduras and attending high school. His music teacher saw me pick up the oboe and told me it would be too expensive, “My mother would do it again in a heartbeat.” Rivera said. “It is so hard to dream in Honduras. As soon as I came here, it made it easier to accomplish my aspirations.”

Rivera discovered Tomkiewicz by researching Schwob while he was still living in Honduras and attending high school. His music teacher saw me pick up the oboe and told me it would be too expensive, “My mother would do it again in a heartbeat.” Rivera said. “It is so hard to dream in Honduras. As soon as I came here, it made it easier to accomplish my aspirations.”

Rivera discovered Tomkiewicz by researching Schwob while he was still living in Honduras and attending high school. His music teacher saw me pick up the oboe and told me it would be too expensive, “My mother would do it again in a heartbeat.” Rivera said. “It is so hard to dream in Honduras. As soon as I came here, it made it easier to accomplish my aspirations.”

Rivera discovered Tomkiewicz by researching Schwob while he was still living in Honduras and attending high school. His music teacher saw me pick up the oboe and told me it would be too expensive, “My mother would do it again in a heartbeat.” Rivera said. “It is so hard to dream in Honduras. As soon as I came here, it made it easier to accomplish my aspirations.”

Rivera discovered Tomkiewicz by researching Schwob while he was still living in Honduras and attending high school. His music teacher saw me pick up the oboe and told me it would be too expensive, “My mother would do it again in a heartbeat.” Rivera said. “It is so hard to dream in Honduras. As soon as I came here, it made it easier to accomplish my aspirations.”

Rivera discovered Tomkiewicz by researching Schwob while he was still living in Honduras and attending high school. His music teacher saw me pick up the oboe and told me it would be too expensive, “My mother would do it again in a heartbeat.” Rivera said. “It is so hard to dream in Honduras. As soon as I came here, it made it easier to accomplish my aspirations.”

Rivera discovered Tomkiewicz by researching Schwob while he was still living in Honduras and attending high school. His music teacher saw me pick up the oboe and told me it would be too expensive, “My mother would do it again in a heartbeat.” Rivera said. “It is so hard to dream in Honduras. As soon as I came here, it made it easier to accomplish my aspirations.”

Rivera discovered Tomkiewicz by researching Schwob while he was still living in Honduras and attending high school. His music teacher saw me pick up the oboe and told me it would be too expensive, “My mother would do it again in a heartbeat.” Rivera said. “It is so hard to dream in Honduras. As soon as I came here, it made it easier to accomplish my aspirations.”

Rivera discovered Tomkiewicz by researching Schwob while he was still living in Honduras and attending high school. His music teacher saw me pick up the oboe and told me it would be too expensive, “My mother would do it again in a heartbeat.” Rivera said. “It is so hard to dream in Honduras. As soon as I came here, it made it easier to accomplish my aspirations.”
SECRETARY OF EDUCATION BETSY DEVOS has been criticized from the very beginning of her appointment due to her lack of a background and experience in education among other reasons. Recently, DeVos came under fire on social media for her shocking responses on a “60 Minutes” interview with host Lesley Stahl. When asked if she had seen the “really bad schools” in her home state of Michigan to try to figure out what they are doing, DeVos admitted she had not, but said that maybe she should. Several CSU students were shown a short clip from the interview and asked their opinion. A link to the full video can be found at cbsnews.com.

**JANELLE WILLIAMS**

**JUNIOR | MAJOR: BIOLOGY**

“I have family in Michigan, and I think it’s crazy, because the public schools are not doing well… the violence there and the gangs, the public schools need the help. She just thinks that private schools are better than public schools.”

**PARIS WARNER**

**SOPHOMORE | MAJOR: NURSING**

“I don’t really agree that you should take funding away from schools that are doing [bad] because from what I believe, the schools that aren’t doing well probably consist of kids that are probably struggling financially in their families or minorities. I don’t think taking the money from the school would necessarily make it better. They probably wouldn’t [do better]. I don’t really agree though. I feel like taking funding away would [not] make the struggling schools improve.”

**ANDRE BURKS**

**SENIOR | MAJOR: CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

“It’s obvious that she’s lying. She doesn’t know what in the world she’s talking about. She was appointed by President Donald Trump; she was definitely unqualified to take that position, and she just needs to do a lot more research because she knows nothing. She doesn’t have any knowledge about the school system, what works and what doesn’t work, [or] the institutions of higher learning. Taking away funding from regular general public schools and putting [the funding] in private schools is a bad idea. There are a lot of students that still go here, we need the funding for a million and one different reasons: computers, books, more buildings, better teachers, food, and housing—you know, everything. But she wants to take [the funding] and send it to private schools. Why?... She was appointed by the President, and God bless him—he is our commander in chief, but he made a bad move by appointing her [as the Secretary of Education].”

**TED FRYAR, IV**

**“SUPER” SENIOR | MAJOR: EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCES ENVIS**

“I don’t think that you should break it all down in such a segmented view point to where you can’t focus on what the issue is. So, taking funding away from [public] schools and giving [funding] toward private schools, and saying that it’s going to help the public schools... I don’t understand what the thought process behind take ‘money away—they’ll get better,’ like it seems really counterintuitive and I don’t think she knows what she’s doing.”

**JASMINE WALLACE**

**SOPHOMORE | MAJOR: BIOLOGY**

“It just makes no sense… like you don’t take money from a public school because that’s where all the kids go that can’t afford a private school. So, why would you make it harder for kids to get an education? I went to private school until like third grade, and I mean I didn’t really like it because they had fundraisers and stuff, but me and my brother, one time we didn’t raise enough money in our fundraiser so my parents had to pay extra to get in. I mean like if you had the money as a child to get that it would be okay, but I feel like there is no difference in a public and private school other than you have to pay for one.”

**VERBATIM SUBJECT: BETSY DEVOS**

Betsy DeVos, Secretary of Education appointed by President Trump, is the subject of heavy debate and was interviewed on “60 Minutes” this March.
How’s Your Game?

Stay in style this spring with some helpful fashion tips

BY MARIAH JACKSON
PHOTOS BY AMBRIA MORRIS
OUT OF THE CLOSET AND INTO THE WORLD

Why Tyler Parks collects ‘coming out’ stories

Senior Tyler Parks is a Diversity Peer Educator with the Columbus State University Diversity Office. Pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre with a focus on design/tech, Parks began his training to be a Diversity Peer Educator his freshman year and joined the diversity team his sophomore year. Parks began collecting and printing “coming out” stories from the CSU community during his first year with the office.

Q How do you identify and what pronouns do you use? I am a black, queer, cis-male. The pronouns that I identify with are he/him.

Q Why do you want coming out stories? I am asking for coming out stories from my campus in order to make a community feel accepted. I want to use their stories to make others feel like they are not alone.

Q What are you going to do with the stories? Every year since I started as a Diversity Peer Educator I have asked the community of Columbus State for their coming out stories and a smiling photo of themselves. I take those two elements, connect them together and then print them. Once they are printed on the first day of Pride Week every year the amazing people that felt so inclined to share their powerful stories are revealed. I do this to prove that even though someone’s coming out story may not be the best or most uplifting, they still made it through. They can smile today and be able to tell their story to someone else who is now reading their story. That person reading may need to hear that story in order to give them courage or whatever they may need. I just want to provide that opportunity for attendants of Columbus State to feel not so alone in a world that can get very lonely at times for LGBTQIA+ individuals.

Q If you have had to come out, how was your experience? As any LBGTQIA+ person can tell you, once you “come out,” you never stop. As a human that has emotions and feelings, I have found that I heavily relate to Shrek because my personality is like an onion. You have to peel back my layers in order to learn more about me. Just like a heterosexual person may feel the urge to keep what goes on in their bedroom behind closed doors to themselves, I feel the same way. I believe that am not obligated to share anything about my personality with anyone that I don’t want to (which today’s society makes it very hard to do). And quite frankly, if someone is not trying to knock boots with me, why would they need to know or be concerned about my sexuality? This is one thing that makes LGBTQIA+ discrimination so hateful. Being a human in today’s society, everyone has something that they can “come out” about. We all have skeletons, and we all are on a journey through life. If I ever feel like I want to share more about my life with someone else, I will do so with only those that I trust. My sexuality is not a secret, but it is also not something that can be exploited for negativity.

Q What else does Diversity Services have planned for the LGBTQIA+ community this school year? Be on the look for our upcoming pride week events. The week starts on April 23 and will be featuring many events highlighting the LGBTQIA+ community. On the 24th, we will have “Behind the Drag,” where we will be teaching everyone how to beat a mean mug (Columbus Room 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.). On the 26th, come out and Tie-Dye “with a twist” with your Diversity Peer Educators (11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Main Campus on the front lawn / 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. at the Rankin Livery). April 27 from 12 p.m. - 2 p.m., stop by the Caf to learn about Day of Silence!
Modern Dating in College

The evolution of dating and relationships in college

By Hayley Maine Illustration by Terrance Harris

College is the place where we "find" ourselves. We figure out what career we actually like, what group of people we like to be around. We form friendships, connections, build bridges and tear them down. We get important connections and memories that stick with us for the rest of our lives. In college, we make our mistakes and learn to celebrate our successes. We also date. A lot.

Traditionally, dating consisted of carefully formed dates that usually meant meeting at restaurants, cinemas, or some other fun place. A man and a woman would meet at a predetermined location, the man would pay, and they'd stay in public and enjoy their time together for a few short hours. If the whole debacle went well the first time, a second date would ensue, then a third, until a long-term commitment formed.

Modern dating has a completely different face. No longer is it so cut and dry, where going on dates in low-lit places with someone who looks and acts the way you do is expected to happen. Rather, modern dating covers a much broader, diverse set of situations. Dating outside your race, gender, and religious preferences has become more common. Advancements in technology have made it possible to date outside your state, or even country. Sometimes entire relationships are formed and lived out online without ever having an in-person interaction. People want to learn more about the cultures of others and get involved intimately with them. Modern dating is less like the long-term goal in traditional dating, and instead has turned into quickly-formed unions that endure for a few short hours. If the experience is enjoyable, a second date might be scheduled.

How would you define dating, and do you think you fit within the traditional or modern spectrum?

"The concept of "dating" to me is very versatile. Dating typically means going on actual dates. Now and days, it is a lot more relaxed, and a lot more "casual"," Emory exclaimed. "I would not say we fit on the traditional spectrum, especially being of different races from one another... intercultural couples are accepted a lot more now than in the past."

"Dates for us can be long rides talking or anything that engages us by the river. Anything that engages us and looks nice houses or walking through local neighborhoods... Dating typically well be a date... Also truthfully if there is a bond present, " Holman added. "I don't necessarily connect with them without constantly looking at your phone or seeming absent, but connect with them as it "looks good," then that is all people may be pleasantly surprised."

"Dating is a beautiful thing as long as we don't focus on building genuine relationships and bonds, and face-to-face interactions! Social media is also a huge deal now, so long as it "looks good," then that is all people are also a lot more accepted, such as some gender/interracial relations."

Do you have any other opinions on dating you'd like to share?

"We definitely feel like you should be able to engage with the individual you are dating without constantly looking at your phone or seeming absent, but connect with them if there is a bond present," Holman answered. "Dates don't always need to have a certain price tag to be a date. Also truthfully allow yourself to be open instead of going down some checklist of perfection. You may be pleasantly surprised!"

"Dating is a beautiful thing as long as we focus on building genuine relationships and bonds, and face-to-face interactions! Limit social media and texting as much as possible!" Emory exclaimed.

Whether traditional or modern, dating is a unique experience that offers learning and understanding on an intimate level between two people. Remember to enjoy the experience as you enjoy each other.
We are a full-service student copy center dedicated to meeting the printing needs of students and student organizations at affordable prices. Our staff is committed to providing excellent customer service and are ready to assist you. Whether big or small, come see us for your next project!

BLACK & COLOR COPIES • FAXES • LAMINATION
SCANNING • BUSINESS CARDS • POSTERS
BANNERS • RESUMES • BROCHURES • INVITES
ANNOUNCEMENTS • THESIS PRINTING
FLYERS • HANDOUTS • TICKETS
ADDRESSING • PROGRAMS • AND MORE!

WWW.COLUMBUSSTATE.EDU/PRINTSHOP
Follow us on Facebook and Twitter!