Many of us come to college with hopes of a new experience and dreams of a better life. The expectation for us is a new experience of independence and discovery both in ourselves and of the world. This dream that many students had has quickly turned into a nightmare of financial burden and stress with Winona State University tuition increasing along with costs on food, utilities, and housing.

A survey of 481 students done by the WSU Financial Aid found 59.5% consider financial worries as “sometimes stressful” while 21.1% found them as “often stressful.” A 2023 Boynton survey conducted at WSU found out of 619 students 22.5% reported some level of credit card debt with 20.7% of them reporting a debt of $3000 or more. The Consumer Price Index has increased 3.24% since the 2021-2022 school year and the public story they [students who have financial concerns] want is that “It’s not a good fit” “I think I like this school closer to home.” Kotsovich said. Despite the numerous resources for struggling students one major issue seems to be consistent among them all, a lack of funding. Too much use of the resources could lead to a strain as they attempt to take a small resource to many who need it. Osgood has acknowledged this saying, “We don’t have enough food to feed everyone...I will work my butt off to make sure that doesn’t happen.” Osgood’s passion for assisting the students is shared by her colleague Karen Stotz a Trio Advisor and Basic Needs Coordinator for Winona State. Stotz works to help students receive support for any basic need. This can include food, housing, mental health and more. One example is a student who was left unable to transport to Winona State due to financial troubles. After 24 hours Stotz was able to provide them with the necessary transport so they could pursue their education. She made a point to provide several resources for students.

“If you go to winona.edu and you just type in basic needs. We have one for the Winona campus and one for the Rochester campus.” She spoke. Continued on Page 2
The Winona Basic Needs site is separated into several categories for a student’s respective needs and includes contact to United Way 2-1-1 and organizations that provide basic needs to people across Minnesota. Stotz final thoughts were a response to the hesitancy of the students on campus, “We really want to see our warriors succeed and we welcome you with open arms.” Everyone has provided their input on how to resolve the growing struggles of finances. Though some possible solutions like higher investment in education and a higher minimum wage are outside of a student’s control, a student can budget carefully, live off campus, and avoid multiple changes in their major. Above all else they are encouraged to see their time at university through as the cost of an education is greatly outweighed by the benefits of pursuing their dreams and achieving employment with a degree.

Link to the Basic Needs Page: https://www.winona.edu/current-students/basic-needs-winona/

The Poll

Are you a feminist?
1) Doesn’t know what that means. 2) Maybe since it can take on different meanings.

I am pro equal rights for certain things, but I do not believe other things are unequal.

No, it means women empowerment.

Yes, Women and men getting treated equally in the workplace, social settings, or wherever it may be.

Yes, caring for those around you and making sacrifices. Even those who are not women should be feminists.

Yes, it means women empowerment.

Yes, it is the belief that women should be treated equally.

Yes, being for women and making sure they have the same rights that men do.

Yes, Feminism is supporting all women, regardless of race, sexuality, etc. Women Support Women mentality, equality.

Yes

Women Empowerment
Lucy Severson
Second City Theatre Troupe Show - Coming soon to WSU!

A News Reporter

Ron Wilkins said. “We believe that this will appeal to a certain audience because comedy’s a good opportunity to kind of get some stress relief and have fun outside of class.”

The Second City show will take place during Winona State’s annual family weekend. The Network’s advisor, George Micalone, spoke on how they adjust to the guests they could have in attendance. “It’s family weekend, so we’re trying to appeal to families,” Micalone said. “If the audience isn’t engaging with the bit because they might be younger or older than anticipated, Second City is good at adapting on the fly. So, we do believe that this will appeal to a wider range of ages which we will certainly get at this show.”

There are also many other family friendly events taking place throughout the weekend. On Friday, Saturday, or Sunday, families can enjoy a cruise on Winona State’s Cat Frenling. There’s bingo on Friday, as well as the Warrior Gameday Experience on Saturday. If students are interested in getting involved with the Warrior Entertainment Network, all are welcome.

“All and Winona State students can get involved in the network by coming to our meetings which take place every Thursday at 5pm in the Kryzsko Solarium,” Wilkins said. “Applications for board positions will also be opening in October for those interested in leadership opportunities.”

Micalone highlighted the importance of the Warrior Entertainment Network’s role on campus. “I think these types of events help students find opportunities to engage outside the classroom. We can attend with friends, make new friends, and I think it’s important because comedy’s a good opportunity to kind of get some stress relief and have fun outside of class.”

Country Star Luke Bryan Donates to Students at Winona State University

LUCY SEVORSEN
News Reporter
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The concert tickets were an added bonus on top of being given the scholarship and both students were equally grateful for the scholarship and the tickets to see the show. “I am excited, I guess you could say, and I’m especially thankful to Luke Bryan,” Klegstad said. That day, Klegstad and Nelson didn’t just leave with tickets to a concert, they left with funds for their future plans—with one student about to reach the end of their time at WSU to one who is just starting it.

The “Main Stage” director for the Warrior Entertainment Network, Marly Wilkins, told students what to look forward to with the upcoming event. “Students should expect to see comedy portrayed as an improv sketch in a fun, immersive environment,” Wilkins said. “We believe it is important to host events like this because it brings a variety of fun activities to campus. Second City, specifically, is a way to bring a different version of comedy into our school instead of just hiring stand-up comedians every time.”

The Second City show will also be opening in October for those interested in leadership opportunities.

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The money that Bryan donated has been divided into two $4,000 scholarships that have been awarded to two students this past week. Both fourth-year Klegstad and first-year Nelson were given not only the scholarship but were also surprised with two tickets each for Bryan’s upcoming tour. It was absolutely shocking to both students receiving the scholarship as they originally came to the office under the assumption that they needed to fix something with their meal plan. Instead of being greeted with the stress of trying to fix their meal plans, they received excitement and shock due to the scholarship announcement. “This guy was recording me,” Nelson said. “I literally just stood there, ‘You sure that’s right? That’s my name?’”

Due to the fact there was no application process, it was very surprising for the students when they found out about the award. With the random selection of deserving students, as well as being called upon regarding a completely different issue, it left both students with so many questions. “I was pretty confused at first so I had no clue that the scholarship existed,” Nelson said. “But I was definitely super grateful to be selected, and I was pretty stoked about the tickets as well.”

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Casey Kruger
WSU's new printing system - FollowMe Print
get more into it, you have hopes worth it.
like others, took lots of time and which he claimed as the 'jazz capi school, he headed to New York, really loud."
music was easy, and he started piano lessons when I was in third instruments as a child, but then took a hard turn when he sought Marck's journey to jazz started Marck and the quartet and even live concerts helps drive passion, but he advised that every career does, too. passion, and be willing to work at your own journey into jazz and learn a few tips from them.

As much as he enjoys playing, Marck mentioned that he considers these visits as a vacation. it, you can certainly come up to the old system, but if one doesn’t feed off the energy of that, it’s truly magical."

Following the performance, Marck mentioned that he considers these visits as a vacation.

Chris Reed
photographer
chris.reed@go.winona.edu

An image of the new system and the directions on how to get it properly set up.
AIAAA

The realization that you may be transgender is difficult for anyone to grasp; everyone’s coming-out story looks different, but the process of coming-out to family and friends is not only very anxiety-inducing but sometimes a matter of safety for the person coming out. Bailar stated that the process of transitioning brought about many difficulties in everyday life, including which bathrooms to use, feeling like an outcast in both boys and girls groups and correcting perspectives event of the year. On Tuesday, Sept. 12, Bailar turned thirteen and was ranked in the top 20 15-year-old breaststroke swimmers in the United States just two years later. “I just never saw myself being like the other boys,” Bailar stated in a 2017 interview. “But then I had this sort of wall that was like ‘I’m not but. I can’t be. But when I grow up, I’m going to have to be a woman’; and I was right.” Throughout these years and into his late teens, Bailar struggled with issues regarding his gender identity, body image insecurities, self-harm and disordered eating. Due to these struggles, Bailar decided to take a gap year between his high-school graduation and his freshman year at Harvard University. “Doing this gap year, Bailar went to an inpatient rehabilitation facility for five months. His time in therapy led him to the realization that the stem of all of his mental health struggles was regarding his gender identity; after years of feeling like something was “off” and that the label of “girl” didn’t fit, Bailar realized he was transgender. When he called his Harvard swim coach to tell her that he is transgender, he was presented with two options: continue to swim on the women’s swim team, the team he had been training for his whole career, or swim on the men’s team, where he could be his true self. “I [had] been working for years, and 131 days in the treatment center to be myself, to be honest, to be authentic, and to be happy, most importantly, but that’s a huge risk,” Bailar said. “It’s a huge risk to be happy, or even take a step that might make you happy.”

Schuyler Bailar became the first openly transgender man to compete on a men’s team in any sport. In 2015, after finishing in the top 13% in breaststroke and in the top 15% in butterfly in his four years at Harvard, Bailar began to use his platform to discuss and confront anti-trans legislation seeking to ban transgender individuals from competing on sports teams. One of the biggest pieces of advice Bailar gave to the audience is the idea that transphobia is not the transgender person’s fault, but the transphobic person’s issue. For example, when Bailar found himself in a situation with someone who, without one with transphobic opinions, he blamed himself for her negative feelings towards him. This ideology can be applied to any type of phobia or -ism – for example, homophobia, racism, transphobia, etc. Being discriminated against is not the minority’s or the victim’s fault; it is the other person’s prejudice coming through. Josie Sinata, a term 4 nursing major who attended the event, reflected on the positive impact of Bailar through his story and subsequent reflection on today’s political environment regarding the debate...

Unsafe swimming but has a transphobic coach; the story follows his worries about proving himself to be “man-enough.”

“This is for all the trans kids out there wondering if you belong. You do. You absolutely do.” Bailar stated in his Instagram post announcing the release of the novel. Schuyler Bailar is a wonderful example of perseverance, strength and acceptance. From being the first openly transgender man on a NCAA Division I swimming team to coming out to his catholic immigrant grandparents, Bailar exemplifies what it means to be true to yourself despite the world telling you not to. “I really want people to know that they can be who they are and do what they love at the same time,” Bailar said.
Decriminalization is the action of making something that was previously illegal permissible by law. To me, decriminalization means that people are not just treated more humanely. It means that we can invest in making our society better and not just a place to keep criminals. It means that we can have a more humane approach to dealing with drug-related issues in our society. To learn more about the legalization of recreational cannabis, look back at one of my previous articles.

Decriminalization: What does it mean? What does it do?

I believe the best thing to come from decriminalization has to be how much it improves our country's mass incarceration problem," Como said.

So what does decriminalization do? Decriminalization usually involves treating drug use and possession as a public health issue rather than a criminal issue. It shifts the focus to public health rather than punishment. This also helps reduce mass incarceration, encourages harm reduction and also helps save resources.

Decriminalization can lead to cost savings for the government by redirecting resources away from incarceration toward public health and treatment. These resources can be used for education, prevention and rehabilitation programs. This makes the focus to public health rather than punishment. This also helps reduce mass incarceration, encourages harm reduction and also helps save resources.

Decriminalization is a step to the future of our country's drug laws. It can lead to racial deviance in arrest rates and convictions. Decriminalization can lead to cost savings for the government by redirecting resources away from incarceration toward public health and treatment. These resources can be used for education, prevention and rehabilitation programs. This makes the focus to public health rather than punishment. This also helps reduce mass incarceration, encourages harm reduction and also helps save resources.

But this is not where the film starts. We open on a black-and-white image in a square aspect ratio. Bryan Cranston introduces us to playwright Conrad Euclid (Edward Norton), who is writing a play called “Asteroid City.” You may be thinking “This is not what I saw in the trailer!” That is correct, but the story progresses, “Asteroid City” (the film) has a bit of a Russian nesting doll plot. It’s a television program about a playwright, then it’s about the director of the stage play, then it’s a film recreation of said play. Are you with me yet? The meta layers of Anderson’s latest film are certainly part of its charm, but the rest of them involves treating drug use and possession as a public health issue rather than a criminal issue. It shifts the focus to public health rather than punishment. This also helps reduce mass incarceration, encourages harm reduction and also helps save resources.

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Men’s Soccer Club: A New Era for the WSU Athletics

PRONOR KUMAR
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Winona State University’s Men’s Soccer Club was formed by a group of male students who loved soccer. The club made their official team this year with 35 players.

The club initially started with ten students with the initiative taken by the club president Michael Speltz. After starting the club, they organized practice matches for members, though word about the new club had already spread around the campus, so participation was often minimal.

Speltz was raised in Winona County. He always wanted to study at Winona State and play soccer but the impediments were like others, so he found some friends who also enjoyed the sport.

This is how the club started.

Speltz said that the main motivation for the team was done at the club fair, though most students didn’t even know that there was a club for men’s soccer.

At the beginning of the academic year, the committee members of the club planned to join the leagues as it is the only way to recognize as a certified athletic team. They also planned to have an official team jersey.

After sending more than 30 emails and reaching out to different leagues and coordinators, they managed to join a newly growing league called the Upper Pacific Midwest League. In this league, there are teams from Nebraska, Iowa, and Minnesota.

While making the team jersey they had financial issues. Speltz, club vice-president Caleb Deleuw, and club co-president Austin Moser provided funding out of their own pockets to solve the issues, and now the full team has jerseys.

The team is growing so fast that now they are thinking of tryouts. They are looking for more dedicated players who will continue their everyday training.

“I think we would have to do tryouts; we don’t want people to Men’s Soccer Club Team Photo

just be watching,” Deleuw said. “So, I think tryouts would be good and then make it more competitive, which is always good for a team.”

This club does not only have its old players but is also good at recruiting new first-year students. The team’s center attacking midfielder Chase Harder is a freshman.

“There are a couple of players who are freshmen, and some are sophomores,” Harder said. “So, I always feel like I am with my friends. For practice, the club does not have any regular coaches as yet but they do get help from the Corner High School coach.

Hayley Niewohner
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Kristine Pelky is playing a bigger role than before. In fact, it is often considered one of the most strenuous jobs in the workforce, and yet, when around the right people, the weight of being a mother can feel as though it has been lifted from your shoulders.

Kristine Pelky, the assistant coach of Winona State University’s Women’s Volleyball Team, has found just that while working among the Warriors.

Pelky, originally from Cheyenne, Wyo., began her career at the University of Sioux Falls, where she played middle blocker throughout her four-year attendance while obtaining her degree in education.

She would also act as the Cougars’ graduate assistant coach for two years while earning her Master of Business Administration degree.

She then landed in Madison, Wis., for a fleeting time where she worked as a middle school teacher and coached volleyball. After an exchange of couple years spent getting her bearings and recharging up, Pelky would choose Winona State as her next step.

She is now in her fifth year working as the assistant volleyball coach and has now settled into the Winona community with her husband, Drew Pelky, and their two children, Michael and Natalie.

“After playing and coaching in the conference for years, I was excited to get back into the most competitive conference in DI volleyball,” she said, “Winona is also obviously in a beautiful area and has been a great place for us to start our family.”

Pelky is playing a bigger role than

when it comes to success in her job.

Overall, her abilities on the court have exceeded Warrior expectations, and the impacts that she has made by combining her career and her household life has certainly created memories that both her children and the student athletes will remember for years to come.

The Winona State soccer club will be playing against the University of Minnesota’s Gold Team on Sept. 23rd. It will be their third match of the season.

For practice, the club does not have any regular coaches as yet but they do get help from the Corner High School coach.

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Pelky is on the road so often while competing or recruiting, her husband’s support is necessary to make the job work.

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Warrior fans gathered at the McCown Gymnasium on Sept. 14 to watch as the Winona State University Women’s Volleyball team secured a three-to-one victory against the University of Sioux Falls (USF) in their Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) opener. Winona started off strong with a two-set lead, serving up ace after ace to score 25-22 on the first set and 25-17 on the second set. On the third set, the girls fell seven points short of a win, but pulled through with a winning fourth set of 25-19.

When asked about the outcome of the game, one fan stated, “It’s so impressive, they are all impressive athletes for sure.” Throughout the night, Gianna Vollrath was an unstoppable spiking machine, racking up 14 kills — more than any other player on the court. Kylie Welch got the most aces of the night (three) and Taylor Pagel made like a brick wall and got the most blocks of the night (eight).

Pagel scored sixteen points, making her the highest scorer during the game, followed closely by Jaci Winchell in second with a whopping 44 assists and 15 digs throughout the game.

According to player Sydney Paulson, this success was evidence of effective planning off the court. “I think that we executed everything we talked about before the game,” she said.

Both head coach Joe Getzin and assistant coach Kris Fisch also affirmed such thoughts. “I feel great, I’m proud of our girls on pulling through,” she said. “They did a great job.”

Match scores were not the only way that the games scored big.

On Thursday, 443 people attended the game to support the two teams. That is 61 more people than the attendance of the WSU vs. USF game on Nov. 4, 2022, where USF beat Winona 3-0.

The crowd also showed up with team support in their minds.

Getzin commented on the importance of their fans in an interview after the game. “It means a lot to have fans support,” he said. “The team really responds to it well.”

If the team’s stellar performance is any indication, it looks like the volleyball team really did respond well to all the fans’ enthusiastic support throughout the night. Two players, Lydia Lange, a front row outside hitter and Paulson, were interviewed after the game on Thursday.

“The key to success in volleyball is the serve and the pass,” Lange said. “You can have all these other things in volleyball, but those two are what wins a game.” Paulson, Lange’s front row outside hitter counterpart on the right side, agreed, noting that a strong serve is a key to winning a game.

In the game on Thursday, the numbers showed that the girls focused on both their serves and passes, which certainly contributed to their win.

Throughout the rest of the season, both Getzin and Fisch reported plans for improvement.

Winona State Snags Their First Win in the NSIC at Home

Second-Year Gianna Vollrath from Fall Creek, Wis. goes for a tip.