Fine Arts Building Improves Student Artwork Display

by Shelby Prusia

EWC’s renovations to the Fine Arts wing this summer reformed the aesthetic of the theater lobby and created new areas for the exhibition of student artwork.

John Cline, EWC’s art instructor and art club advisor, said the renovations are an improvement.

Cline said, “There’s a better place to display their art, which I think is really important to see their work properly framed up and presented in a good environment. It’s hard to get a sense of what your work looks like just sitting on your easel.”

The Fine Arts building was given a more modern look with a grey color scheme and abstract shapes. A scheme that Cline says can be: “visually somewhat overwhelming, [but that the] limited color scheme allows the artwork to shine.”

Cont. on page 5

The Journey of Aimless Drifters

by Morea Shipley

Michael Hurwitz’s face reveals the road worn experience of a man accustomed to hard work, hardship, and hard promises.

The steady rhythm of a bass, the gentle strumming of a vintage National guitar, and the experienced pickings of a steel pedal guitar washed over an intimate audience occupying thirty seats in EWC’s Fine Arts Auditorium on the night of September 9.

Cont. on page 4

Chris Wenzel Explains the Importance of Microbiomes

by Shelby Prusia

On the evening of Oct. 5 Christopher Wenzel, professor of biology and Division Chairperson of Mathematics and Sciences at Eastern Wyoming College, presented his talk “Microbiomes: Their Influence on our Health and on our Environment” as part of the Tandem Lecture Series hosted by EWC’s Speech and Debate Team.

Wenzel’s presentation explained the complexity of microbes in human and non-human environments, particularly focusing upon microbiomes. Microbiomes, Wenzel argued, function together to create unique relationships, forming what could be called ecosystems, even within the human body. Noting that the a person’s mouth “ten trillion human cells and hundred trillion microbial cells,” which as he explained means that there are more microbes in the human body than there are stars in the galaxy.

Cont. on page 2
Along with the environment, the human body possesses a great number of microbes, Wenzel described. He clarified a small percentage of microbes are bad and cause problems when they are in germ form. That is why the development of microbial medicines are so important.

Wenzel discussed why the study of microorganisms is significant to understanding the survival of all organisms and biodiversity. Microbes are found in more than the human body. He explained microbes are found in soil, oceans, the atmosphere, etc. and the research of microbes can give this earth a “new world.” For more than twenty years, Wenzel has taught and been involved with biological research and is currently researching the role of microbiomes in the lower North Platte River Basin, an area that can become a paradigm case for studying microbiomes in other environments.

“The importance is to gain a better understanding of the activity level, in the nitrogen cycle, and in particular, the denitrification,” said Wenzel, of his particular work regarding the North Platte River Basin.

Wenzel is also a member of the IDeA Networks for Biomedical Research Excellence and the recipient of a National Institutes of Health grant.

The Tandem Lecture series was an event that hosted a visiting scholar and a faculty scholar in related fields to present their research agendas. The first annual event, sponsored by the speech and debate team, featured Mr. Wenzel and Dr. Jake Morgan, research coordinator and economic epidemiologist at Boston Medical Center.

Where are they now?

– Nelson Kahler

by Shelbey Prusia

Australian, Nelson Kahler, an EWC basketball standout and communication major, who graduated in 2015, praised the Lancer basketball coaching staff for helping him to achieve his current success.

“The basketball program and coaches at EWC helped me transfer to Colorado State University-Pueblo where I played my remaining two years of basketball and graduated with a bachelor’s in mass communications in May of 2017,” Kahler said.

According to his Instagram posts, Kahler’s play earned him an invite to a Pre-NBA Draft workout with the Denver Nuggets during the summer. After that, there was no offseason for Kahler. He then went back to his home country of Australia to compete in high level basketball for the summer.

Though Kahler’s dream was to stay in the states to play professional basketball, he caught his big break when he signed his first professional contract to play basketball in Germany. Kahler commented, “I owe where I am at in life right now to EWC, and I am thankful for all of the friendships and experiences I had along the way!”

From Noosa, an eastern Australian coastal surf town, to the high plains of America, to the Colorado desert, all the way to a different country to live his dream as a professional basketball player, Kahler’s demonstrated it doesn’t matter where someone starts, dreams can still become a reality.
Armchair Copy Editor Contest

The Lancer Quarterly, a student publication, does not have the money to buy premade puzzles for our readers’ pleasures; instead, as students, our natural tendency to make mistakes creates our unique game and gives you a chance to win a prize each quarter.

The Game

As avid readers of periodicals ourselves, we delight in identifying the typographical and grammatical errors that writers, copyeditors, desk editors, and proofreaders leave lingering on the page. To our comrades in noting imperfection, we offer you the opportunity to profit from your editorial skills. Faculty, staff, administrators, students, and members of the community who enjoy spotting grammatical and mechanical mistakes can now put their eagle eyes to work to win a prize by finding what we missed.

The Process

Read a copy of The Lancer Quarterly. Find the errors. Then, type up those errors in a Word document or Google document. You need to:
1) note the article title;
2) correctly identify the type of error; i.e. comma splice, split infinitive, dangling participle, fused sentence, misplaced comma, misspelled word, etc.;
3) point out where the error occurred by identifying the title of the article as well as the page number on which and paragraph number in which the error appears. Then, attach the Word or Google document to an email and send that to LancerQuarterly@gmail.com. Please put “Armchair Copy Editor Contest Entry” in the subject line.

Here is a sample of what a single entry might look like:
In the article “Baccalaureate Speaker,” “Baccalaureate” was misspelled on page one in the headline.

The Rules

To win you must follow the proper submission format and correctly identify more errors in grammar, mechanics, or spelling than any other contestant. Significantly, if the armchair copy editor contestant misidentifies an error – believes something is incorrect that is not – the contestant’s entire entry will be voided, so be sure you are correct when you submit your work.

In the event two contestants correctly identify the same number of errors, the editorial board of The Lancer Quarterly will draw one of the names from a hat to break the tie. For the event to count there has to be at least one error in The Lancer Quarterly. (We do not anticipate a quarter the contest will not happen.)

Each person may only submit one entry and no entries with more than one name are permitted. Submissions are due November 18, and winners will be notified via email by December 1. Winners agree to have their names published in upcoming editions of The Lancer Quarterly.

Further, we appreciate comments that suggest improvements in style (changing passive to active construction, for instance) and any concerns you have with the accuracy of quotations or other data, but those observations will not count toward the prize. Instead, we rely upon your good will to send those issues along to us so that we can correct those practices in the future or print a retraction in the event of a discrepancy with information.

The Prize

In addition to the self-satisfaction of helping students to see their errors and to correct them in the future, along with bragging rights about your superior editorial skills, should you correctly identify the greatest number of mistakes in our publication, you will win a $50.00 gift card to use exclusively at the EWC bookstore or through the EWC bookstore online.
Morgan explained that a dependency on prescribed opioid drugs is what has created the problem, providing research to back the claim, which noted that 64,000 people died from opioid use in 2016 and further pointing out that for the first time in U.S. history the overall life-expectancy has declined, a fact singularly attributable to the opioid problem in America.

Bringing awareness to the opioid crisis was only a segment of Morgan’s speech. Immediate and long-term solutions were also addressed in the presentation. The most effective drug to combat opioid overdoses, according to physicians and first responders, Morgan noted, was Narcan, a drug that quickly reverses the effects of opioid overdose. This nasal spray is easily accessible, but somehow still unknown to most Americans.

Morgan noted, however, that Wyoming was in the vanguard of policy, allowing, as it does, for pharmacists, rather than physicians only, to prescribe Narcan. During his talk, Morgan reminded the audience that his work, which explores the intersection between policy and economics, should not be mistaken for medical advice. He repeatedly encouraged the audience that if they needed help or someone they knew should not be mistaken for medical advice. He repeatedly encouraged the audience that if they needed help or someone they knew needed help to see that from a medical professional.

Boston Policy Expert Discusses Opioid Policy Options at EWC
by Morea Shipley

The evening of October 4 Eastern Wyoming College hosted Dr. Jake Morgan, a visiting speaker from Boston Medical Center with a doctorate in public health with a focus on epidemiology, to share his research and knowledge of opioid use in the United States.

The presentation titled “Stop, Drop, and Treat: Using What We Know to Address the Opioid Crisis” revealed the prevalence of the opioid use in the U.S. and Wyoming specifically. Dr. Morgan defined opioids as natural or synthetic chemicals used to reduce pain or produce euphoria.

Morgan explained that a dependency on prescribed opioid drugs is what has created the problem, providing research to back the claim, which noted that 64,000 people died from opioid use in 2016 and further pointing out that for the first time in U.S. history the overall life-expectancy has declined, a fact singularly attributable to the opioid problem in America.

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The overwhelming nature of the design stems in part from the neon lighting that flanks three bare areas, which will house massive LCD display panels. Neon, while a nice touch for a club from the 1980s or a rerun of Miami Vice, is not as complimenting in the Fine Arts area.

“I think the neon lighting was overkill. It was already quite visually overwhelming. I think the neon lighting doesn’t fit even into the current design or the image of EWC,” says Cline.

Cline hopes with time that the college will invest more into renovations for the art program, such as better air conditioning and additional rooms for his classes. Cline says, “For the sake of the program, we really do need an additional room so we can have one room for 2D painting and drawing, and another room for sculpture and ceramics.”

EWC’s chapter of Phi Theta Kappa inducted twelve new members into its ranks this October.

Kelly Strampe, EWC’s English Instructor, delivered the keynote address and encouraged the new members to continue their studies, to apply themselves, and to seek excellence. The new members then took the PTK oath to maintain themselves according to the standards of the society’s goals and to provide service to their colleagues.

Phi Theta Kappa, an international honorary society for academically superb students enrolled in two year colleges, has millions of members and over 1000 chapters located in the U.S., Canada, and Germany.

Climbing to New Heights

by Shaniah Freeseman

With sweat dripping down my face and my feet aching from hiking miles up rocky terrain, I stopped to catch my breath, looking up to see the end of the long journey to the top of Medicine Bow Peak in the distance.

This past August I, along with the rest of Eastern Wyoming College’s volleyball team, embarked on a team-building camping trip to Snowy Range, guided by Kyle and Jess Rice. We arrived at Brooklyn Lake Campground on a Friday evening, welcomed by the cool air and woodsy atmosphere. Used to the 90-degree weather in Torrington, the 40 degree drop in temperature made us feel like fresh meat shoved into a storage locker.

We gathered around a campfire, shivering through multiple layers of sweatshirts and fuzzy blankets, sharing stories and roasting S’mores over a crackling flame.

As the fire faded and the night grew old, we made our way to a picnic table where a lonesome lantern attracted dozens of Millers (pesky little s.o.b.’s). There we sat around the picnic table for hours and strategically carved words into small copper pendants. Those words captured the term we felt described our assigned partner.

Once we finished the pendant project, we proceeded to perform jumping jacks to increase our body temperature before diving into our sleeping bags.

We were dropped off in the middle of the woods and assigned an obstacle course for the morning. Kyle split us into three different groups and our goal was to either follow the road or the creek to the other side of the lake, where our next obstacle was located. The road was a straight shot to the other side, but it was much longer than taking the creek. My group, being intelligent individuals, chose to take the shorter, more difficult route, because what could go wrong?

When Kyle said running along the creek was difficult, he wasn’t kidding. Alex and I led our group along the creek, sometimes in the creek, falling over trees and almost face planting multiple times into mysterious flora. After feeling like we ran a marathon, trying to catch our breath, we could see our destination in the distance, as well as another group approaching. Adrenalin kicked in as our groups as they intermingled alongside the lake.
EWC Students Elect New Student Senate Representatives

by Shaniah Freeseman

This fall Eastern Wyoming College announced the new Student Senate officers for the 2017-18 school year. Students elected Morea Shipley and Joseph Pieper, respectively as the female and male representative, and Cody Powell as the off-campus representative.

Shipley’s goals include helping the Student Senate put on additional school activities. For example, Shipley said, “I want to help put on more events like the homecoming dance.” She wanted the position because she thought it would be fun to be involved, and stated, “being a part of the Student Senate helps build leadership skills.”

Pieper had different motivations and ran for a representative because others saw potential in him and encouraged him to run. Being a member of a student council in high school also sparked Joseph’s interest in the Student Senate.

Like Shipley, Pieper also has great expectations for the Student Senate’s role in promoting additional activities. “I want to better inform the students about activities on campus,” Pieper said.

Powell’s incentive to run for off campus representative stemmed from his experience on the hospital board, which he felt gave him skills that would help him while on the Student Senate. Like his newly elected colleagues, Powell aspires to build better community involvement with sports activities. “I want to get more people to attend games and make sure the off-campus students are fully aware of all the events occurring on campus,” Powell said.

Tabletop Gaming Club Begins at EWC

by Lancer Quarterly Staff

Since the 1970s tabletop gaming, an expression that covers fantasy-role playing games, has received deep support from an often marginalized fan base.

Dungeons & Dragons, the first of its type of game offered the opportunity for participants to character build and develop plots using tropes from fantasy literature and a host of fantastic creatures: ogres, dwarves, and elves, to name but a few.

The game, to the layperson at least, remains a mystery partly because of its non-binary function. There are no winners, only players. Success depends more upon the journey than the destination, and a well-played game, one with a moving plot, strong engagement and interaction among competing forces, and strong interplay among characters, whether fighting, foraging, or spell-casting, forges the bond.

As of press time, EWC’s Student Senate is still processing a request for the organization to get recognition and hopefully some funding. The group has gathered and has a strong contingent of nine participants, with half-a-dozen more floating in-and-out on any given Friday night in TEB 131 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Members of the larger Torrington community have also made the trek, diving into the adventure, and working alongside EWC students.

Charles “Duncan” Pulliam, the group’s Grand Duke (president) said, “This is a great opportunity for people to gather and work on some critical thinking skills, build friendships, and have fun.”

Pulliam, who functions as the Dungeon Master (DM), holds together a group of players, regulates turns, and helps plot the trajectory of the adventure. More than managing the roll of a twenty-sided dice, Pulliam has to ensure people gather and are committed.

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1) Dress better than everyone else but don’t tell people about how well you dress. This is all about exuding your self-confidence, but when someone compliments you, always respond with something humble like, “Oh this old thing? I just found it in the back of my closet.” Or “I got this at the thrift store! It’s not really that nice.” Your humility will be palpable.

2) Talk about your accomplishments, but very offhandedly. Like, it’s no big deal that I nursed and orphan deer back to health or that I had lunch with a famous dancer. Embellish these events and accomplishments but as soon as someone says “That’s so cool”. Respond with something like “Oh not really, that’s just my average Tuesday.” You’re just like everyone else, just a little more exciting and a little bit better without being too obvious that you’re better.

3) Always out-do everyone around you, but then compliment and acknowledge the piss-poor performance of your peers. If you want to be noticed as humble, you have to be better, but tell those losers something like, “You did such a good job! You’ll get them next time!” You have to be the rising star get noticed for your efforts in humility and the only way to do that is to be literally better than everyone around you.

4) When someone asks who it is you look up to, chose a minor, but relatively well known celebrity. Avoid people like Mark Zuckerberg, Steve Jobs, Helen Keller or your parents. Those are arrogant people and will make you seem more arrogant. Shoot for lower brow figures that are much more humble like Joseph Stalin, Kim Kardashian, Napoleon Bonaparte, Paris Hilton (“That’s hot!”), or Genghis Khan. They are much more humble and will exude your humility by looking up to them.

5) Always use #nofilter with every post you make to Instagram. This will show that you’re humble enough to admit that you don’t filters. When someone comments and compliments you on your selfie, respond with something like, “This was just a fresh-faced picture, I was hardly trying!” Never accept a compliment. Only arrogant people will admit that they are perfect and take better pictures than their peers.

6) Come to the sad realization that no matter how much you works towards becoming humble with these instructions, you’ll never be as humble as I am. For it is I, that will always be the most humble person at EWC because I don’t brag about my latest selfie or how well I’m doing in school or all the scholarships offers I’m getting from prestigious universities in America. You’ll never hear me say things like this. The sheer fact that I shared my secrets to be more humble with you proves to the fact that I am the single most humble person on campus.

The humblest woman on Earth. Photo courtesy of selfie stick.

Daniel Kruse's interpretation of "A Certain Slant of Light." Photo by Lancer Staff

Wyoming in the Summer. Photo by Jaysie Thomas

Rayhill earning a 5th place regional standing in goat tying after her impressive run in Riverton, leading the Lancers with a 2nd place finish with a time of 7.9 seconds. Complementing the 2nd place finish in goat tying was her 4th place finish in the barrel racing, earning her 2nd place in the women’s all-around race. Rayhill also sits 7th regionally in team roping.

Thompson, the freshman out of Yoder, Wyoming, sits 2nd in the individual regional standings for goat tying, just ahead of Rayhill. Thompson says, “I practice every single day. From just ground practicing to practicing on my horses. When you practice you can’t just go through the motions you have to practice to perfect yourself and to get better. You and your horses have to be in tip top shape. You can’t just practice on your physical part of rodeo but your mental part as well. The mental game is a huge factor in the sport of rodeo or any sport at that. You have to be open to ideas as well. You can’t just me set in stone what you are going to do. Sometimes the littlest of things can make a huge difference,”

Along with standings from the women’s team, the men’s team had the sophomore duo of Braden Pirrung out of Hartford, South Dakota, and Riley Curuchet out of Kaycee, Wyoming, sitting 7th in the Rocky Mountain Regional standings for team roping.

Team of Pirrung and Curuchet earned 2nd in the average for team roping in Riverton. Sutton Adams, sophomore from Dell Rapids, South Dakota, accompanied by partner Cole Trainor of Central Wyoming College qualified for the short round in team roping, also.

The Lancer rodeo teams will finish up their year during the spring season.
9:00 in the morning. The actual adventure had yet to begin. We were rewarded with hot chocolate and a fire to sit by while our feet defrosted. Once every group completed the deadly spider web, we were touched, we had to start over. No section could be used twice. It sounded simple…so we thought. We were badly mistaken. It took my group all of the previous one. With just enough precision and teamwork, we succeeded in completing the section with ease. As we helped each other walk across the wire and around a tree, without falling off. Talk about a mean ab-workout.

Finally, the team made it to the last challenge, the spider web. The rules seemed simple. Each member was required to get through a section of the spider web, without touching the web. If any part of the web was touched, we had to start over. No section could be used twice. It sounded simple…so we thought. We were badly mistaken. It took my group almost an hour to complete this section of the course. We failed 25 times, most an hour to complete this section of the course. We failed 25 times, but with determination and teamwork, we succeeded in completing the section with ease. As we helped each other walk across the wire and around a tree, without falling off. Talk about a mean ab-workout.

At that point, we were using all four appendages to keep our balance in order to climb up the uneven ground.

After each switchback, I would gain a sense of hope that the end was near, only to find out we had made little distance since the previous switchback. It was the excruciating cramps in my feet and sharp pain in my back that pushed me to get to the top of the mountain where I could stop and relax.

After telling stories and singing cheesy songs up the mountain, time seemed to pass by a lot faster. With sweat dripping down my face and my feet aching from hiking miles up the rocky terrain; I stopped to catch my breath, looking up to see the end of the long journey to the top of Medicine Bow Peak in the distance. Cumulonimbus clouds grazed the mountaintops in the distance, slowly growing bigger in size and moving in our direction. We were on top of the world...literally.

Of course, I took longer.

If You’re Not First, You’re Definitely Last
by Shelby Prusia

There are thousands of studies on the social differences between first born children and the...others...the younger siblings. Professors, psychologists, and doctors use fancy terms like "variables," "derivatives," "environmental factors," "longitudinal," and "methodology." Really, those fifty-cent terms mean nothing when everyone knows the truth...the first-born child is the chosen one.

Maybe it is because I'm second born. I came in second in our families chronological race; likely I'll come in second, or third, or...yea...even fourth in every other race. Nick, my brother, the first born, the King of Sandy Court, the breaker of football records, the freer of A's from stingy teachers, the first of the Torrington House of Prusia, was ranked third in his graduating high school class (likely an oversight from some misguided administrators). I, the child who was lucky to get a participation ribbon at the science fair, was ranked fourth when I graduated. I was so close, yet so far away from matching his greatness. (As Ricky Bobby, my idol, might say, "If you're not first, you're last.")

Cont. on page 11

New Heights cont. from page 4

The first team to the next obstacle got to start first, so with the sound of water sloshing in my tennis shoes and tree bark stuck all over my body, I kicked it in gear. I crossed the finish line and began cheering my team on with gasped breaths as they struggled in shortly after me.

Our next challenge was to use two two-by-fours to get to the high wire which was about 100 feet away from us. We strategically placed a two-by-four on the ground, stepped onto it, and placed the next board in front of the previous one. With just enough precision and teamwork, we successfully made it to the high wire before the other groups. Our core and upper body strength was tested in this obstacle as we helped each other walk across the wire and around a tree, without falling off. Talk about a mean ab-workout.

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We were rewarded with hot chocolate and a fire to sit by while our feet defrosted. Once every group completed the deadly spider web, we were exhausted. Mentally and physically drained. Not to mention, it was only 9:00 in the morning. The actual adventure had yet to begin.

Satire

Cont'd.

Medicine Bow Peak, the next stop, promised a two-and-a-half-mile hike awaited us. The wind was starting to pick up and clouds were beginning to cover the sky. We began the trek up the mountain, not knowing what we were getting ourselves into.

The first ten minutes of the hike consisted of a gradual incline up a clear walking trail. The sun peeked behind the clouds every now and then, reflecting off of the glistening lake beside us. Breathing heavily, a few of us stopped for a water break as we leaned against the surrounding boulders. After catching our breath, we continued maneuvering around boulders and fallen trees until we got to the base of the steepest part of the mountain.

The hike consisted of several switchbacks that zig-zagged up the side of the mountain in order to get to the top. The higher we climbed, the warmer it got; and the more layers we began to shed. Beads of sweat ran down my face as the grain increased and the terrain became much more difficult. At one point, we were using all four appendages to keep our balance in order to climb up the uneven ground.

After each switchback, I would gain a sense of hope that the end was near, only to find out we had made little distance since the previous switchback. It was the excruciating cramps in my feet and sharp pain in my back that pushed me to get to the top of the mountain where I could stop and relax.

Cumulonimbus clouds grazed the mountaintops in the distance, slowly growing bigger in size and moving in our direction. We were on top of the world...literally.

Once everyone got to the top of the mountain, we exchanged pendants with one another. It was in this moment that I realized how truly fortunate I was to be a part of such a genuine and kind-hearted team. The emotions and memories we shared at the top of the mountain were truly heartfelt and irreplaceable.

Standing at the top of the world (at least for a Nebraska girl), it dawned on me that we could not have accomplished anything if we didn’t work as a team. Not only did we engage different team building skills in order to overcome each challenge, but we also grew stronger bonds between one another. It took trust, encouragement, and teamwork to successfully complete each task. Even when we were faced with adversity, we never gave up because of the determination and drive that we individually set forth.

In the end, we could proudly say that new heights were reached and we were ready to take on the 2017 volleyball season united as one, no matter what challenges we may encounter along the way.
EWC student Ryan Black's Alphonse Elric drawing.

Kyle Rice, EWC Residence Coordinator and Student Senate advisor, explained the Student Senate is important for the campus. He said, “[The Student Senate] allows students to be able to have a voice on campus; to be able to influence not only the culture but also the activities and events that take place on campus.”

Electing student representatives is the first step in making progress as a student government. “The student government teaches responsibility, leadership skills, taking initiative, intentional involvement, event coordination, and navigation of bureaucracy. I am currently in the process of hiring a new student life coordinator, and that’s something I am looking for.” Rice said.

Advisors, Rex Cogdill, Rice, and Julie Sherbeyn, strive to make steps forward in the Student Senate. In the past, the Student Senate lacked a clear leader, which resulted in struggles accomplishing anything or being productive. Rice said, “It takes one who has time and innovative spirit to develop the program.”

Rice stated the importance of getting others interested in the student government. In order to be successful in this aspect, money must be reallocated for the employees. The head of Disability Services was paid to part time cover student senate services. In June of 2016, the Reduction In Force (RIF) policy went into effect. They eliminated this particular individual and since then, there have been volunteers, including Rice, Sherbeyn, and Cogdill. The problem is that there was no clear leader. They did the best they could, but the Student Senate felt as though they weren’t accomplishing things to their potential. This is where the importance of getting students involved in the Senate becomes crucial to the future of EWC.

Rice commented on what things he expects the representatives to accomplish while in office. He said, “plan and organize an event that they have polled their peers about and make it a reality, take on active roles in committees, along with learn the basic parameters of student senate.” It takes someone willing to be involved in the student body in order for actions to be made in the student senate.

On October 3, EWC hosted Black and Gold Night, an exhibition of EWC’s men’s and women’s basketball teams in advance of the 2017-18 season.

After the Athletic Department plied the crowd with free T-shirts, popcorn, and pizza, representatives of the men’s and women’s team took the floor for a shoot around, with a single member from each team firing as many balls into the hoop from the outer-edge of the key as he or she could in a minute. Then, the next member of the team would take the floor and repeat the process. The contest remained close, but the men prevailed at the end of the session by two points.

Nick Holmes, a freshman guard from Denver, CO, expressed enthusiasm for the event, saying “It was fun and it gave us a good chance for the community to get a first look at the new team.”

Later, the Lady Lancers scrimmaged, driving the floor, blocking out, and controlling passing lanes as competitively as if they were facing a rival.
EWC Golfers

Again Dominate Region IX

by Helena Khouri

The Eastern Wyoming College Lancer Golf team striped a monster start for the 2017-18 season capturing four out of six tournament team titles and four individual tournament titles.

The Lancers opened the season with a dominant win at home. The squad caressed the Cottonwood Golf Course on Sept.7-8 with the group earning top honors and Malosi Togisala winning the tournament individually.

This win was mellowed only slightly by a second place finish at Riverton, Wyoming, competing at the regionally celebrated Riverton Country Club on September 14. Bad weather conditions led the Central Wyoming College Rustler’s, the tournament hosts, to conclude the event after only one day.

The Lancer golfers quickly recovered reeling off consecutive squad wins in Sterling, Colorado, and McCook, Nebraska.

At Northeast Junior College the Lancers captured the squad sweepstakes led by Trey Massey, a sophomore from Lander, Wyoming, who shot the low individual score of the tournament, a 144. George Elliott, a freshman from Salisbury, UK, finished second.

The team controlled the course from tee-to-green the next weekend in McCook, Nebraska at the Mid-Plains Community College hosted tournament. Individually, the EWC Lancers ended up with four athletes in the top four spots and won the tournament overall, with Gonzalo Fernandez taking the top individual honors, shooting a two-day total of 146.

Cont. on page 12

EWC currently boasts thirty-five members on campus and stays active in public service and fundraising initiatives.

“I think the most valuable role PTK plays at Eastern Wyoming College is to recognize students for academic achievement and provide leadership opportunities,” said Jennifer Minks, Business Instructor and PTK advisor.

Cody Alps, PTK President, notes that participation in the organization gives students unique experiences.

“You learn leadership opportunities on campus. You meet new people within the organization, and you grow as a person. Those are just the on campus benefits,” said Alps.

“Off-campus everything from lower auto-insurance rates to scholarship opportunities to [four-year] colleges are available, thanks to PTK membership.”

First Born Child cont. from page 10

Nick, being as precious as ever, was so thoughtful when it came to my graduation. He was generous enough to graduate from a four-year college in three years so our graduations wouldn’t be the same year. God forbid we have graduations the same year. We couldn’t have a combined graduation party, my mother would have had a cow (an actual Jersey, I suspect). The attention of the family can’t ever be on me when celebrating all of Nick’s glory or even mine for that matter.

Not even half a year later, he landed a job in upstate New York. Every weekend he enjoys being jetted to a city - Boston, most recently - or any place else his enormous heart desires. I know he attends every Yankees game sipping on champagne next to J-Lo and Alex Rodriguez laughing at each other’s low-life younger siblings.

My brother is the child sent from heaven. He never drank or partied until he was twenty-one, never brought home any girls, answered “Yes sir” and “Yes ma’am” to mommy and daddy, never back-talked, and earned more money during his summers than most forty-year-old men do in a year.

Here I am, with the bar set way too high for me. Did I mention I’m 5’5 and my brother is 6’2? He got the tall genes too.

When it comes down to it, I should just stop trying now. My brother will forever be greater than me. I will always be “Nick Prusia’s sister.”

Quotation of the Quarter:

"THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN STUPIDITY AND GENIUS IS THAT GENIUS HAS ITS LIMITS."

- ALBERT EINSTEIN

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“This is how these things come off the rails,” said Pulliam. Referencing an online article he had read on the subject, he added, “If people stop showing up, even one person, it not only undermines the adventure, but it sends a message other people don’t need to be committed.”

Commitment, however, appears to be far from the problem. On most Friday evenings, while students are watching Netflix or sipping a cool soda pop after a long week of classes, these nine EWC students prepare for combat, hone their characters, and most importantly, build friendships.

Partly, however, the game is a mystery, shunned by many, because the game conjures less attractive associations, tapping into American paranoia about loners and losers.

D&D falls under a fuge generated by a slew of press stories in the 1980s that proclaimed Dungeons and Dragons posed a threat to America’s youth. In 1984, The Omaha World Herald’s headline “Fantasy Game Link Considered Brothers’ Deaths May Be Suicides” fueled a national scare about the game’s power over teenagers. Another incident in Missouri the same year, involving the murder of a college student by two men linked to a Dungeons and Dragons fantasy group, fed the hysteria.

Hundreds of other articles and news reports dominated the headlines of the 1980s, charging D&D gaming as the source of American black sorcery, causing everything from violent deaths to just overall bad behavior and sinning. As The New York Times noted in its April 17, 2016 article “When Dungeons and Dragons Set Off a ‘Moral Panic,’” that concerns over the game were widespread, leading the Centers for Disease Control to do a study concluding “no causal link between the game and violence.”

The tide turned and to some limited degree the game has even been found to treat the very disorders it was accused of causing. Wayne D. Blackmon’s “Dungeons and Dragons: The Use of a Fantasy Game in the Psychotherapeutic Treatment of a Young Adult” in The American Journal of Psychotherapy argues against that notion. Blackmon discloses as case in which a 19 year old patient named Fred (a pseudonym) displayed schizophrenic symp-

Mark Jenkins: A Picture Is Worth a Thousand Words
by Morea Shipley

Silence filled the Eastern Wyoming College Fine Arts Auditorium as students and community members listened to Mark Jenkins’, a writer in residence at the University of Wyoming and an adventure writer for National Geographic, recount his experiences abroad.

Jenkins said he has spent his life traveling the world, climbing “unclimbable” mountains and sharing his journey with others. He focused his on Tibet and China, and he explained how much changes he has observed in his 30 years of traveling there. Using an array of photos, Jenkins displayed these changes, showing alterations in custom, technology, and dress.

China and Tibet, in his view, exemplify how much technology has impacted our world; China being the technological hub of the world, and Tibet’s culture filled with traditional Buddhists and monks. This dichotomy, in Jenkins’s view, offers a unique look into the globalization of the twentieth century that has extended to the twenty-first century. This difference in cultures, Jenkins argues, exacerbates the tensions between China and Tibet.

For Tibetans, Buddhist culture dictates their lives, and their biggest desire in being free from China is to have freedom of speech. They simply want to practice their religious beliefs in peace and they feel that the Chinese government precludes their full participation.

Tibet is located in Southwest China, and Jenkins explained why they would never have independence. Although Tibet differs so vastly from the high-tech culture in China, they serve as a geological barrier to multiple bordering countries.

 promise on the plains. Photo by Helena Khouri
That success as Togisala points out comes from the team’s camaraderie, a team that has dominated Region IX golf over the past several years. This season’s success is not unusual for the EWC Lancer’s Golf team, with the two-day score of 136 and Trey Massey again winning the tournament individually with a 72-score for the weekend.

As of press time, the Lancers 5-24 on the season will enter the regional tournament at Sheridan, Wyoming on Nov. 1. As of press time, the EWC men’s and women’s basketball opens at home against Casper College on November 1.

Going to high school club tournaments, typically held in and around Denver, gives Sherbeyn the best opportunity to see athletes compete. She also attends high school games around the area and meets up with trustworthy coaches. For the players she’s unable to see live, she relies on game footage and Skype calls with the potential Lancers.

When it comes to game footage, Sherbeyn prefers more than a highlight film. Sherbeyn wants a video of a whole game to seek out a player’s attitude and demeanor. “We [coaches] look for those intangibles. I look for how kids respond after they make a mistake, after defeat, I want to see their energy and how much they communicate,” said Sherbeyn.

Digging through this data and finding the right players presents difficulties. “Recruiting is tough. I think one of the big challenges with our institution is basically the head coach does everything. They’re the head recruiter,” Sherbeyn said.

EWC only hires part-time assistant coaches, according to Sherbeyn, which leaves her responsible for the bulk of recruiting.

Handpicked by Sherbeyn, this year’s squad continues to grow as a team and as individuals each game. With this season of Lancer volleyball is wrapping up quickly, Sherbeyn mentioned, “A personal goal and our team goal is to end the season with the realization of that potential.” The head coach however stresses on, at the end of the day, the job is to win.

As of press time, the Lancers 5-24 on the season will enter the regional tournament at Sheridan, Wyoming on Nov. 2 ranked fifth in Region IX South.

The protective barrier that Tibet provides China is a geographical one. They serve China as a land buffer, if there ever was to be an attack from the multiple neighboring countries. While Tibet remains under control of China, it will struggle to keep its traditional culture alive.

The debate of freedom is one that Jenkins has watched develop over time. He explained that he had visited their country multiple times in his life, and from an outsider’s perspective has watched China and Tibet grow very far apart.

His talk on the evening of September 22nd was sponsored by the Center for Global Studies and was aimed towards bringing awareness to global issues.

Once the scrimmage was over, the guys competed in a dunk contest, with sophomore Walker Korell emerging as the winner for the second consecutive year.

The men’s scrimmage reflected a team with an intensity greater than the overall performances from last year. They showed depth on the bench with a growing awareness in rebounding and passing that represented a promising season ahead.

“We are so close as a team. We have had so much success as a team, and the talent is incredible,” said Togisala.

Of course, as he also points out, that success, while the product of the player’s performances, is inspired and driven by exceptional coaching.

“One of my favorite parts of playing for EWC is having a great coach. Zach Smith is a great guy; he teaches us not just the fundamentals of golf but [also] teaches us how to be better [people].”

Smith’s approach continues to work, drawing an eclectic and talented core to the rural Wyoming plains. The team, again, outing both geographic and intellectual diversity features three international students and seven Americans from the western part of the country. Sophomores include Jared Plilking, Scottsbluff, NE and Trey Massey, Lander, WY. Freshman include Gonzalo Fernandez-Meras, Munguia, Spain, Dalton Bingham, Riverton, UT, George Elliott, Salisbury, UK, Canyon Hatfield, South Jordan, UT, Cameron Heath, Bolton, UK, Kash Kaufman, Torrington, WY, Hunter Robbins, Evanston, WY, Malosi Togisala, Ogden, UT.