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NORTHWEST

NW students react to new NW05 building

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Three months after the opening of the NW05 building on NW campus, students have taken notice that the building has access limits, as well as space.

NW student Leander D'Costa and member of NW Intercultural Network is happy with the way the

building has turned out, but he believes it lacks ADA accessibility.

The only accessible door for someone in a wheelchair is the main door facing the North parking lot, he said. Paired with electrical outages and elevator malfunction that have previously occurred, he worries someone with a wheelchair will not be able to get past the first floor.

"Basically, if you're in a wheelchair, you're confined to the

lowest floor on the ground floor, because you can't come up here unless you use the elevators right in the back," he said. "But to get there, someone in a wheelchair would have to need assistance from another student to open the doors for them."

On the first day of classes, one of the main NW05 elevators went out of order sometime in the day, NW student Kennedie Watkins said.

"The only reason I know about

it is because my friend and I went to go get food, and we came back and tried to use the elevator and it wouldn't work," she said.

She has heard, however, that other faculty have been working on addressing some accessibility problems by noting where ADA improvements need to be addressed.

"While it might be a process, and it's not widespread yet, there are people who are talking about it, and who are trying to take steps

to make sure that we manage that problem and get it fixed. So, I do appreciate that," she said.

Bill Lace, a former Vice Chancellor who is working on public relations for the college, recalled a meeting early this summer about an ADA access concern from a student who was unable to use the ADA button to the main door on the south side.

"They reported that [the com
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DISTRICT

Discomfort due to AP Psychology state ban

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AP psychology is now banned in the state of Florida under House Bill 1557 named "Parental Rights in Education." It is more colloquially known as the "Don't Say Gay Bill."

This bill previously impacted the teaching of sexual orientation and sexual identity only from kindergarten through the third grade. It has recently expanded to the 12th grade, making AP Psychology a course that is illegal to teach.

This ban is not effective in Texas, however, William Brown, South chair of behavioral sciences and professor of psychology, believes it may translate to this state.

"I've lived in Florida for 11 years, and I'm certainly an advocate for diversity," he said. "So, the idea that they would not want to teach the course for that reason certainly is an issue for me."

Brown believes it's ineffective to remove courses that discuss sexual orientation and identity because even though it won't be taught, people will be exposed to it naturally.

"Learning about it is what educational institutions should be about," he said. "So that should be a place where the hearsay, the misinformation, the bias and the marginalization within the educational environment should get undermined. Where people get the actual facts and get the opportunity to discuss these things critically, but in a well-informed way."

Brown said a minority of very loud voices are advocating for certain restrictions, whether it be these gender identity issues or issues of race and ethnicity.

"When that [diversity] is removed, it hampers education," he said. "You want a well-informed citizenry. You certainly don't want
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DISTRICT



Alex Hoben/The Collegian

A Barbie figure gets her hair combed and styled. The "Barbie" movie starring Margot Robbie premiered July 21.

It's a Barbie World

Students weigh in on the cultural impact of Barbie

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In July, the theaters turned pink. The pink preparation for the "Barbie" movie, however, happened months before that. The colossal response after swept the world under its feet in a strong gust of sparkle and tears.

In fact, the movie topped \$1 billion at the box office. In comparison, Oppenheimer made \$718

million. It is no secret that it did overwhelmingly well.

What pulled the world into Barbie's plastic life? Some students at TCC believe the success comes from the fact that it spoke to people in a way that movies had yet to do in a long time.

For TR student Sunny Whidden, the marketing for the movie was "crazy." With big names like Dua Lipa, Ryan Gosling or Margot Robbie, she said the household names helped push the

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DISTRICT

TCC instructors support Hollywood strike, understanding of struggles

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Due to ongoing labor disputes in the entertainment industry, numerous writers and actors have gone on strike in hopes of receiving better treatment.

The Writers Guild of America union and the Screen Actors Guild - American Federation of Television and Radio Artists union went

on strike on July 13 to advocate for stronger compensation after negotiations with studios/employers fell through.

"We have not reached an agreement with the studios and streamers," Writers Guild of America's website posted. "Companies' business practices have slashed our compensation and residuals and undermined our working conditions. We are determined to achieve a new contract with fair pay that reflects the value of our contribution to

company success and includes protections to ensure that writing survives as a sustainable profession."

The size of the strikes has only increased as the months have gone on. According to The New York Times, as of Aug. 23, the "major entertainment studios took the unusual step on Tuesday night of publicly releasing details of their most recent proposal to the union that represents 11,500 striking television and movie writers."

This strike has left many peo-

ple in the writing and acting field concerned for their livelihoods, as well as the future of the entertainment industry at large.

"The villain in my opinion is the studios," NE Campus associate Drama professor Jackie Cabe said. "They're not giving worth and value to the changing marketplace which has made them insane amounts of money and not adjusted that scale for the writers and the actors."

Cabe further explained why he

felt the actions of the studios were a negative for entertainers but shared his optimism for the strike and its potential impact.

"The fact that the studios and producers' guild would think they can hold money away from those who create, write, cast and put content together while they just say yes to deals and have no hand in the artistic work that gets done is pretty deplorable," Cabe said. "I believe this strike is going to take a while

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Elon Musk continually fails us with new Twitter inhabitation
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DISTRICT

TCC weighs in on helpful studying habits

Students, faculty share their own tips, tricks to be successful in class

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From procrastination to motivation, students either struggle or succeed because of their study habits. Making or breaking their educational journeys, studying is something students and faculty develop for success.

Assistant professor of biology Kari Eamma, shared the preciseness of revisiting her notes in her educational journey. Majoring in biology and going to graduate school before coming to TCC, she established a steady routine.

“I always had a study group, and I wrote everything the professor said,” she said. “I always had a big pile of messy notes that I re-wrote into a good notebook. Every time I had an exam, I’d try to fit it into two pages, so I could read over it.”

Eamma understands that rewriting notes takes up a lot of time that students today might not have.

“If you’re working 35 hours, it’s like you have two full-time jobs,” she said. “It’s really hard, especially if you have a family.”

Setting aside time for studying is something she recommends doing, regardless of how large a course load a student may have.

“I tell my students that at the beginning of the semester, they need to sit down to look at all the things they’re committed to,” she said. “They need to sit down and go ‘Oh, what are all my priorities? I know I want to



Ariel DeSantiago/The Collegian

NE student Anthony Guerrero studies in the lower level of NLIB at the individual desks offered to students. The desks are a way for students to study unbothered.

allot this much time to study.’ Don’t try and set it up two-thirds of the way through the semester.”

She emphasized the usage of supplemental instruction, a free resource provided by TCC as it teaches students how to organize their notes and create activities to help retain information such as games.

“For students that attend SI sessions, they have the data to support that students do a half to a whole letter grade better,” she said. “Part of it is making sure that you have time for studying, but the college really supports that with SI for large enrollment classes and the science learning center (SLC) that has microscopes and other things.”

William Sumner, former professor and current radio/TV student who has been with the college since 1971 said his education has helped him beyond TCC.

“I have a business, and it requires a lot of computer work, so I went back to school to learn how to use Microsoft Office suite,” he said. “I went into programming and found out about the radio TV program.”

Sumner considers himself a student for life and explains his approach to studying.

“I do most of my studying at my office at the house,” he said. “If I prefer to not do it or to do something else, I pray about it, look at the assignment again and look at where I’m going with it.”

NE student Jonathan Sasy said he denotes a lot of precise time to studying.

“I study an hour a day and write notes online,” he said. “I usually have a Google Doc open and type the notes given. When I’m done, I usually reread it and make sure everything is right.”

As a student, these habits can be tedious and overwhelming to establish. However, Sasy keeps his end goal in mind to overcome those feelings.

“The hardest part is not procrastinating. There’s just a lot of things on my mind,” he said. “My end goal is to always have a simple understanding, so I don’t go into an exam or quiz not knowing anything.”

For more studying resources, visit Canvas and click on the learning commons tab or search for TCCD learning commons.

NW05 *(continued from page 1)*

plaint, and the guy said that had been taken care of,” he said.

Some students, like SGA president Celeste Pensado, worry that NW05 is becoming too full. NW05 houses three other buildings under construction: WSTU, WTLO and WFAB.

The library is currently in an NW05 “swing space,” or temporary quarter. Pensado said she was disappointed that the selection of books there was smaller, and she had trouble finding specific books. It is important to Watkins that the administration is listening to students when concerns are brought up, because in experience she has seen how hard it is to access help from higher administration.

Lace explained that right now the state of the building is like moving chess pieces.

With construction plans taking place, classrooms and offices like admissions and the bookstore are being shifted around to coordinate with the changing campus.

“It’s tight,” he said.

Recently, NW SGA has had more opportunities to meet with vice president of student affairs Jan Clayton, and Watkins said it is something she feels is going to be helpful.

“It is definitely nice that the faculty and everybody is trying to make themselves more accessible to the students,” she said.



Ariel DeSantiago/The Collegian

Students and faculty sit at the tables in the first floor hang out space in NW05. The building was opened earlier this year in May. The building serves as a swing space for both college and Early Collegiate High School students.

Psychology *(continued from page 1)*

people that can be blindsided because they don’t understand. Again, education should be playing that role at that level, as well as higher education.”

Ron DeSantis, Governor of Florida addressed this issue and said that he won’t let the “woke ideology” infiltrate public education systems.

“Gender ideology has no place in our school system, and we’ve made that very very clear,” he said. “It is wrong for a teacher to tell a student that they may have been born in the wrong body or that their gender is a choice.”

DeSantis also believes it is harmful to teach children about sexual identity and sexual orientation to students.

“It is wrong to sexualize children, it’s wrong to put it in your programming and it’s wrong to try to force that into our schools,” he said. “And that we will never back down.”

As a queer person, south student Layla Eke feels that it is a course that should be accredited. They are surprised at how bold Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has been.

“It actually makes me very uncomfortable to know that one single man has that type of influence and can grasp that sort of power and control it in such a way,” they said. “It shouldn’t be because one single man in Florida, six states away, decided that he wants to make it out like some indoctrination from the woke left that he’s decided are the ultimate villains.”

Eke recommended that there be a warning on the AP Psychology coursework detailing its contents, but it shouldn’t be an excuse to ban it.

“They’re trying to go back to that nuclear family unit,” they said. “A hard, middle class working America - that is the prime goal. There was a lot of fantasizing and a lot

of romanticization of that era, and I think it’s not the thing to be striving for. It’s just a big way of saying ‘We don’t want you here.’”

“It actually makes me very uncomfortable to know that one single man has that type of influence and can grasp that sort of power

Layla Eke
South student

One staff member who is part of queer community believes limiting any education

is a bad idea and that there are ways to teach sexuality and gender identity at certain levels.

“It’s so when students go off on to college, they have that knowledge with them already,” they said. “If they’re going into the medical or counseling field, that’s something that they need to know before they get to university.”

They said they were afraid for family members who live in Florida, being that they believe their educational freedom is being challenged.

“It’s not governing, it is taking people’s choice away,” they said. “It makes us very afraid to go to Florida, it’s not a great thing to be scared of being who you are.”

Other sources including multiple religious organizations and opposing views have chosen not to respond.

Strike *(continued from page 1)*



Alex Hoben/The Collegian

NE student Isabel Price preparing to present the news on the TCC Newsfeed.

to reach an agreement. I support my fellow union members 100%. We deserve better.”

Other entertainers have mirrored similar sentiments regarding the negative perception of studios and producers.

“For far too long, producers have reaped all the financial benefits of successful productions,” CN Campus adjunct Drama instructor Susan Polster said. “Yes, they assume the most financial risk upfront in investing in a production, (be it film, television or stage), but they wouldn’t have a product without the actors or writers – who are almost universally undercompensated.”

One of the leading causes behind this undercompensation is the advent of AI integration into recent or upcoming productions.

“So, I am all for renegotiation of contracts for higher recognition and compensation,” Polster said. “But with the advent of Generative AI, writers and actors for screen face yet another alarming reality.”

Cabe said he is worried the average person may be unaware of the gravity of the strikes, and even provided his experiences regarding under compensation in the entertainment business.

“I worry the general public thinks it’s the really rich actors and writers just being bratty wanting even more money – it’s not,” Cabe said. “It is the every day actors like myself who get residuals for television programs, films, etc. that they’ve done and not been adjusted for years to make sense with things like streaming.”

Hi Barbie!

Barbie

(continued from page 1)

movie forward.

The movie had an energy around it that felt like it gave women a place to dress up together. An experience with a movie that, to Whidden, had not been touched on.

As a transgender woman, Whidden said what hit the hardest was when Barbie's creator told her, "You don't have to ask me to be human."

Along with that, she noticed Doctor Barbie, who is played by Hari Neff, a transgender actress, was not made as a Barbie whose character was about her gender identity.

"It was phenomenal in the sense that it wasn't like, 'This Barbie is transgender!' right? She was still a doctor," she said. "They didn't even mention it, which was really good."

TR student Reese Tydlaska thinks the movie did well in relating to both men and women.

"I think it spoke to the struggles of both men and women in such an intricate way, but it did it in a fun, upbeat way as well," she said.

She thought that all the negative attention "Barbie" received came from those who did not understand that Ken was not a villain.

Tydlaska explained that like Ken, men are also put down by the structures in place with a patriarchy.

NE student Cassie Kerley explained that she didn't expect it to go the way that it went.

Like Whidden, she agreed that the marketing was the driving force for the movie. When she first walked into the theater to watch the movie, she said she knew immediately who was going to see the movie because of all the people dressed in pink.

However, she didn't expect the movie to take a musical turn. For Kurley, it was a different experience.

She appreciated that the movie didn't portray Barbie simply as a doll. She noticed how it addressed Barbie's place before as an oppressive symbol that turned into a representation of all women.

However, Whidden thinks that because of the success, people will get the wrong idea and try to capitalize on Barbie.

"I think it's kind of like when 'Everything Everywhere All At Once' came out. Everyone's like, 'Oh! We need to make a movie about the multiverse,' and have multiple universes and stuff," she said. "But in reality, what made that movie good was the message and the acting."



Photos and Design by Alex Hoben/The Collegian

Three Barbie figures stand next to each other on a table. The first Barbie doll was introduced on Mar. 9, 1959 as Barbara Millicent Rogers and she sported a striped bathing suit, painted red lips and a long blonde ponytail.



A Barbie doll reaches out to the viewer. The "Barbie" movie featured Barbie hopping between "Barbieland" and the real world in search of a little girl.



A Barbie doll poses for the camera. Since the first Barbie, 50 categories of Barbie merchandise have been added, including food.

MOVIE REVIEW

'Red, White & Royal Blue' to the rainbow

Introducing a tale of Texan and British love, inspiring the masses

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The colors red, white and royal blue have never looked as good as they do in Taylor Perez and Nicholas Glitzine's movie, giving us both a British and Texan prince. The best part: They fall in love.

Introduced as an adaptation of the book "Red, White and Royal Blue" by Casey McQuiston, this movie features the son of the president, Alex Claremont-Diaz, and Prince Henry of Britain. These two highly publicized figures fall helplessly in love but feel that they have to hide it from the public's eye due to the royal family's fear of "tainting" their image.

Obviously, this is because of heteronormativity and the fact that the family wants to remain relevant. Henry realizes this is because his grandfather wants to please the public and would much rather have Henry feel happy.

Alex's family is the complete opposite. They are highly supportive of their bisexual son and are only concerned with the fact that their son is dating the prince of England whom he previously abhorred.

Alex and Henry met at a party where Alex thought the prince was looking at him disgustingly. He then heard Henry say, "Get me out of here." What Alex didn't know was Henry had recently lost his father, was grieving his death and was forced to be there.

Years later, they meet again at Henry's brother's wedding and have an argument about the comments he made. They were standing beside a cake and accidentally tipped it over, causing them to be smothered by it.

This causes a national spectacle that both Britain and the U.S. families have to cover up since the public gets wind that they don't like each other.

Eventually they set up a series of photo shoots and interviews to convince the public that they're close friends, allowing some quality time together in the process.

Low and behold they become real friends and Henry explains his side of the



Photo Courtesy of Amazon Prime Video

After the \$75,000 cake tipped and smothered them and the royal wedding's reception floor, Alex and Henry struggle to get up, facing the humiliation of the wedding guest's eyes.

story from when they first met.

Eventually they went from enemies to lovers. Despite this adorable trope, it is not what encapsulates the movie. It's the fact that Henry is struggling because he can't express his love for Alex.

Oftentimes, movies, shows and entertainment in general don't capture how it can be a struggle to come out, but this movie did an excellent job with that.

It showed Henry was scared of disappointing his family and the British people just by being queer. It showed how it affected Alex in that he was starting to fall in love

with Henry but couldn't show it. It showed the fact that when people love someone or are proud of something, they want to show it off and should strive to be happy.

Regardless, some don't have the luxury of doing so. While some have very supportive families that love them regardless of their sexuality, others don't have families that love them unconditionally.

Most importantly, it opened a discussion about how some people have the privilege of expressing who they are and some simply do not. Whether it be because of familial pressure, religious beliefs or otherwise, people's

circumstances dictate who can and cannot live and love how they want.

It also sheds light how queer people acquire the right to come out or keep their sexuality private.

"Red, White and Royal Blue" may have portrayed the lives of famous people but it encapsulated the experiences of many in a red, white and royal blue genius of a film.



MOVIE REVIEW

"Puppy Love": They should've stuck to the dogs

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Since the dawn of time, I have had a crush on Grant Gustin. And by the dawn of time, I mean when the pilot episode of "The Flash" aired on TV for the first time.

Not only am I a long time fan of Gustin, but also of Lucy Hale. She starred in a movie called "A Cinderella Story: Once Upon a Song," which is probably the 500th retelling of Cinderella, but my personal favorite. Since then, I have watched her shows "Life Sentence" and "Katy Keene," a "Riverdale spin-off.

So if you could imagine the pure excitement I felt when I heard Gustin was starring in a romcom opposite Hale. I was ecstatic.

"Puppy Love" is a romantic comedy which follows the story of Max, played by Gustin, and Nicole, played by Hale. Unlike other romance movies, we also see the love story between their two dogs.

Max is a 30 something year old man riddled with social anxiety and has musical aspirations. Nicole is the complete opposite. She embraces risk and spontaneity but has a hard time opening up to others after the death of her dad.

After a first date which leads to Nicole's dog impregnating Max's dog, they decide to never talk to one another. However, the dogs' love for one another reunites them, and they decide to keep the dogs together. For the kids of course.

One eviction note later, Nicole ends up at Max's house and we enter the forced proxim-



Photo Courtesy of Amazon Prime Video

Max and Nicole attempt to get their dogs to recreate the "Lady and the Tramp" spaghetti scene. "Puppy Love" premiered Aug. 18.

ity trope. Shenanigans and clashing personalities ensue and the two have conflict, but ultimately come back in the end and become an adorable couple.

For a straight to streaming service romcom, it wasn't awful. My only qualm with the movie was Nicole.

As someone who is Max adjacent in personality, Nicole is up there in what I would consider to be a bad partner.

She committed three major red flags in the movie which I would absolutely consider grounds for breaking up.

One, after Max invited Nicole to stay at his apartment after her eviction while she finds a place to stay, she dumps all her things in his living room. At this point, Nicole is aware that messes make Max anxious, and also it's just house guest 101 that you don't dump your stuff everywhere.

Two, after Max is vulnerable and opens up about his desire to play music, he asks her about her art, to which she is immediately dismissive and rude about.

And three, and the worst one by far, was when Nicole brought home a guy to hookup with at Max's apartment after the two got into a fight. The guy she brought to hookup with then left the door open, leaving Chloe to run away.

Max on the other hand must have the patience of a kindergarten teacher because I would've been out on strike one. Somehow after the third offense they reconciled and moved in together.

Don't get me wrong, being vulnerable especially after a traumatic event like Nicole went through is extremely difficult and takes work. Her art is a sore spot as she quit to care for her dad prior to his passing. However, her standoffish-ness comes to the detriment of everyone around her.

Her inability to communicate her feelings to Max ultimately led to the argument and her bringing a guy over, which she knew would hurt Max. Emotional immaturity can be somewhat excusable when you're a teenager grappling hormones, but as a 30 year old woman, it becomes destructive not only to yourself, but others around you.

If you enjoy miscommunication and jokes about female dogs, "Puppy Love" is the movie for you.



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EDITORIAL

Twitter is become X – destroyer of reason

Since its acquisition, the social media platform “Twitter” has changed forever. But what does it mean?

Billionaire businessperson and founder of SpaceX, Elon Musk, purchased and rebranded “Twitter” to “X” and has begun to roll out a variety of changes to alter the app’s functionality as well as its appearance and overall mission statement.

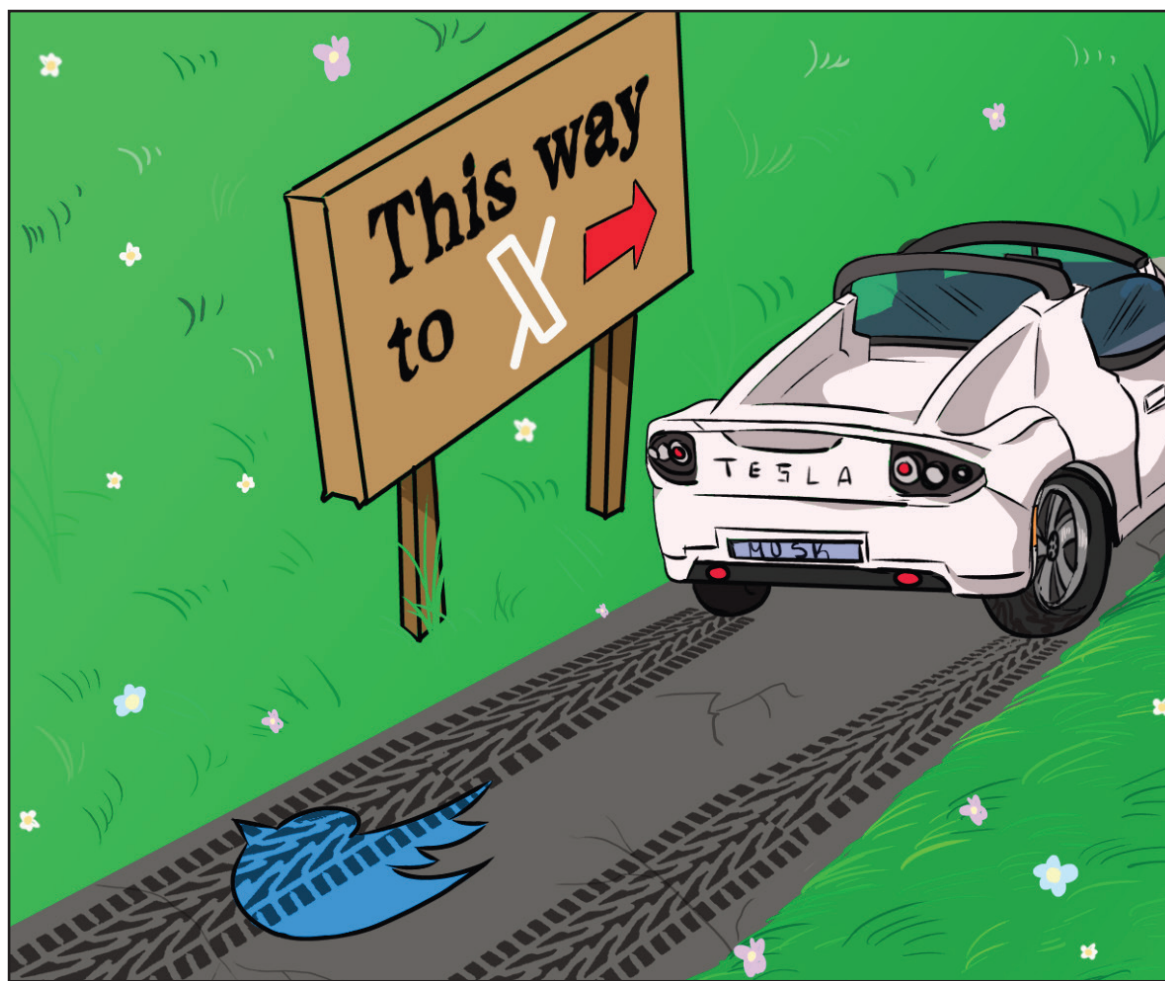
“Twitter was acquired by X Corp. both to ensure freedom of speech and as an accelerant for X, the ‘everything app,’” Musk posted on X. “This is not simply a company renaming itself but doing the same thing. The Twitter name made sense when it was just 140-character messages going back and forth...but now you can post almost anything, including several hours of video.”

It is an ambitious prospect given what Twitter was used for prior to its X rebranding, but it has yet to inspire much confidence. It could be because of Elon Musk’s less-than-stellar reputation, or it could simply be because the changes seem unnecessary.

To be fair, there are potential up-sides to an “everything app,” like not having to create countless logins and whatnot, but there are still numerous negatives to consider if the recent changes are anything to go by.

One superfluous changes have been implemented like non-X users being unable to view content without a login, which Twitter permitted.

But then there are some petty changes being made, like how a sys-



Markus Meneses/The Collegian

tem has been put in place to ensure that users will get banned upon mentioned or promoting other apps on X.

And then there are the bigger, more insensitive changes, like how X has gone out of its way to inte-

grate systems that prohibit users from blocking people. With Twitter, blocking people was useful in case someone was mercilessly being harassed by a flock of angry Twitter users, but with this new change, now nobody

is safe from social media harassment and dog piling.

Linda Yaccarino, CEO of X, posted on her X account that the platform “is the future state of unlimited interactivity – centered in audio,

video, messaging, payments/banking – creating a global marketplace for ideas, goods, services and opportunities. Powered by AI, X will connect us all in ways we are just beginning to imagine.”

Again, while its ambitious, it seems naïve, and if the current changes are anything to go by, it may only incite stronger vitriol. Somehow even more than what Twitter already managed. Somehow.

On top of all that, X could potentially prove to become an even greater headache since, if Musk implements all the changes he wants, tons of people’s personal information and accounts would become accessible from a single, central, concentrated platform.

Security issues, login errors and privacy concerns would arise now more than ever. All this information would be entrusted in the problematic hands of Musk and his team.

With that being said, X has been taking its time with the roll out of its changes, so for those who want to jump the X ship, now would be a suitable time.

Elon’s determination to create a super “everything app” has led to Twitter getting needlessly updated and tinkered with, mostly to people’s dismay. Hopefully, Musk gets X together soon, to prevent both the collapse and erasure of what used to be Twitter and change all that he wants to before his ambition comes back to bite him.

VIEWPOINTS

Unpaid internships are lame to expect from people



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Interns matter. Their work matters. As different aspects of workplace culture shift, treating interns as people who have something amazing to offer by ensuring their being compensated for their work, has to become a normity. While many of us may already feel this way, it officially needs to exist in our past.

Telling those who may be deciding whether to accept an unpaid internship that the experience will somehow make up for the lack of pay, is ridiculous.

Experience is a great teacher, and yes, I think that networking and collaborating with others in your future desired work space is invaluable.

However, interns should be paid for their time, effort, and contribution to a company or organization. Like their colleagues, they are deserving of compensation.

Unpaid internships serve those who are financially able to work without pay. Many college and university students aren’t able to essentially work for free. It’s a system that benefits those who are able to build career changing relationships without having to stress over receiving a paycheck.

I recently read an opinion piece in The New York Times about internships that eloquently put my thoughts and feelings into

words. The author, Darren Walker, said, “talent is equally distributed, but opportunity is not.” Those who don’t have a head start on building connections due to the relationships their parents have forged are at a disadvantage.

Prior to me having my first internship last summer, I more so saw it as a bummer to potentially not get paid. I felt like if I had the opportunity to gain experience doing my dream job, I’d be happy. Sure - I may also have to work another job, maybe in the food or retail industry in order to bring in some money, but overall I didn’t see it as a red flag.

During my paid internship I remember being in the car with some colleagues at the time who were kind enough to share a little about their journeys in different work environments, and how they got their start.

In that car I was told that my work and time are valuable, and should always be treated as such. They made sure I understood that while experience is great, it’s not unreasonable to want to be paid as an intern. It’s not asking for too much.

It was so important for me to hear that. I felt like because of my lack of experience I should be grateful for an internship. I viewed pay as a bonus.

I just wanted to be doing what I loved in a professional space where I could be supported by people I could look up to. While I was grateful, that conversation broadened my horizons.

The thing is – internships do that. They open up doors and cultivate new ways of thinking and approaching issues. They not only can teach you things that will help you succeed in your career, but also in your personal life. My internship gave me the opportunity to, right out of high school, practice work-life balance, and develop confidence in my abilities.

There is value in depending on a community for support



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Life begins surrounded by community and we end it like that. No matter how self-sufficient or sustainable society becomes, and the country keeps on with American self-reliance and independence, we are nothing without the community we are surrounded by.

This is all to say that the idea of someone being completely sustained by themselves is flawed because humans are, as every sociology teacher will tell you, social creatures. Humans cannot help it.

In my limited existence, I can say that life is made up of all the experiences someone has had with, by, or for others. Think back on the lessons you have learned, how did you learn it? How many had someone else involved?

Because we exist in a large network of threads connecting someone to another, hyper-independent mindsets can’t thrive without completely severing ties. And some people may think they can do it, but this effort doesn’t go without living a lonely life.

I think this also plays into self-improvement tactics encouraging you to drop all of the people in your life to hide away and make “improvements” on yourself.

It doesn’t make sense – unless these people are horrible and your life would

improve without them – to sever connections with others so you can become a better person. Who will you go back to once it’s all over? As an ever changing human being, will you have a relentless cycle of pushing and pulling people away on your journey to self discovery?

This way of living can deteriorate mental and social development. In sociology terms, children are socialized for a reason. This probably has something to do with John Locke who described the human mind as a blank slate. This statement appears to still be true 300 years later when we look at how society has gained success off of the failures of another.

The truth is, you cannot do this alone. Without getting too “Friendship is Magic,” there isn’t enough emphasis on community these days.

We often see in storylines how any girl moving to the city leaves her small town that was holding her back and keeping her down. She yearns for a world that is big and wild, and the message remains that the small town was going to snuff her out.

As a former very small town kid from dusty west Nevada in the armpit of the desert, I have enough backing to say this only discourages the community mindset.

Between the beating sun and the windy days, I didn’t love it there, but I was never on a street I didn’t at least know someone.

Community provides a net of safety for a growing child. In a perfect world, that community will share their knowledge of the world and of life, and the child will grow into a human with deep connecting knowledge to pass on. There is nothing wrong with wanting friends, family, or a life full of people.

Loneliness is consuming. Don’t choose it for yourself.

Correction: On the Aug. 23 issue, page 1 in the Intercultural Network story, Janjura Williams is an academic success coordinator, not success sitter. The NE Intercultural Network is located in NSTU 1625.

Letter Policy



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SUMMER CINEMA



1. Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse

The art style, sound track and character development of “Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse” was phenomenal. The story line gives much for the viewers to think about and theorize on until the next part is released. With music artists like Metro Boomin’ and James Blake, to name a few, it gave a great sound track to listen to after the fact. Along with bringing in new characters, like Miguel O’Hara and Malala Windsor, it all tied together in a wonderfully executed movie.



2 Barbie

Barbie had a great representation that encompassed multiple groups of people. The aesthetic was amazing, with pretty set design and wardrobe, it had an upbeat feel that kept you watching for more. Thematically, it was everything you would think a “Barbie” movie would be, while also sparking a lot of debate and opened conversations about society today. Allan, of course, was one of the highlights.

Oppenheimer 3

Oppenheimer had very interesting cinematography, like immersive shots of testing the first bomb where everyone was silent before it all came rushing at you. The scientific explanation between fission and fusion was informational, as well. The style of the movie was tasteful and looked into the politics surrounding the atomic bomb. And it had Tony Goldwin.



4 The Little Mermaid

“The Little Mermaid” added to the story. It expanded on Ariel and Eric’s relationship in a way that made it clear there was an equal power dynamic. The sound track was fun and upbeat, and very obviously a Lin-Manuel Miranda sound track. Halle Bailey’s interpretation of “Part of your world” was very emotional and vulnerable, which enriched the movie overall.

