

Herald Grammy superlatives

Best Performance: **Doechii**



PHOTO COURTESY OF GRAMMY.COM

Doechii's Grammy performance was hands-down the best of the night! The way she commands the stage is unmatched. After seeing her kill it at NPR's Tiny Desk and Stephen Colbert's late night show, I had high expectations – and she delivered!

Best Speech: **Chappell Roan**



PHOTO COURTESY OF GRAMMY.COM

Chappell Roan's acceptance speech was incredible to hear – her advocacy for supporting and defending developing artists was admirable. Her commitment to justice is truly inspiring and as a long time fan, I'm so happy for her "Best New Artist" win.

Most Unexpected: **Kendrick Lamar**



PHOTO COURTESY OF GRAMMY.COM

Kendrick Lamar's victory of "Best Rap," "Best Song of the Year" and "Best Record of the Year" was anticipated, but seeing him sweep in all five of his nominated categories, made it a night to remember.

Most Deserving: **Beyonce wins AOTY**



PHOTO COURTESY OF GRAMMY.COM

It's about time! After 25 years, Beyonce has finally received Album of the Year! Cowboy Carter was an amazing body of work, with incredible vocals, moving lyrics and clever production – her win was 100 percent deserved.

Reviews by Laila Casiano | Opinion Editor

"The Brutalist" lives up to hype

ELIJAH TEMPLETON

LIFE EDITOR

"The Brutalist" is the newest A24 production to hit the big screen and is set up to be one of the most awarded and highly praised films ever put forth by the studio.

The film is a decades sprawling epic that follows the tremendous Adrien Brody's László Tóth, a gifted Jewish-Hungarian architect and Holocaust survivor, who leaves Europe in the chaotic aftermath of World War II.

The film opens with Tóth's arrival on Ellis Island, amidst a distorted shot of the Statue of Liberty, symbolizing the complicated journey that he is set to embark upon as he struggles to find his way forward in a new world.

"The Brutalist" is both an American saga and a period piece, attempting to tell a massive story with even bigger, universal ideas that can be found in many films about the immigrant experience.

Tóth's journey to America is not one of hope for a better life, but rather a last resort for a broken man who has had his entire life stolen from him. His wife is separated from him, feared dead and his life's work, the buildings he has created, will likely never be seen again.

He arrives in Philadelphia to meet his cousin, Attila, and his new American wife Audrey. Attila has converted to catholicism and adopted a more appropriate name for his furniture store; Miller and Sons,

because in his words; "The folks here love a family business."

Attila has assimilated into American society with relative ease, able to abandon all traces of his Jewish heritage, but Tóth is not so eager to abandon his identity.

Tóth's past as a highly respected architect is revealed gradually over the course of the film, fully revealed when interacting with Harrison Lee Van Buren, a wealthy industrialist, played by Guy Pearce in a career defining performance.

Van Buren tasks Tóth with designing and building a new community center in their small town to serve as a memorial to his mother.

The rest of the film sees Tóth struggle both professionally and personally as he struggles to adjust to his new life and his place in a new country that seemingly

does not want him there. Brody truly anchors the film, appearing in almost every scene, capturing the despair, hope and anguish that Tóth experiences throughout his time in the states.

Pearce is terrific as well, giving the film a monstrous representation of unchecked greed and the worst of American society in equal measure. The film is quite long, but a 15-minute intermission is built into the runtime, separating the film into two equal parts and the film benefits greatly from it.

I greatly enjoyed it, but can understand how its appeal may be lost on those who cannot quite get into a period piece with heavy topics and lots of dialogue.

All the same, I hope everyone sees it at least once, if for nothing else than to see what all the hype was about and come to their own conclusions.



COURTESY OF IMDB

Alessandro Nivola and Adrien Brody in "The Brutalist."

THIS WEEK'S POP PICK

ELIJAH TEMPLETON | LIFE EDITOR

"HURRY UP TOMORROW" THE WEEKND



COURTESY OF GENIUS

"Hurry Up Tomorrow" is the latest and confirmed last studio album for The Weeknd, the long time stage persona of Abel Tesfaye.

In what will be the final release of an iconic persona, the expectations for this project were immense and the album certainly delivers across the board.

The album will accompany a psychological thriller feature film of the same name set for release on May 16 of this year that will see Tesfaye star alongside actors Jenna Ortega and Barry Keoghan.

"Hurry Up Tomorrow" is the third installation of a trilogy of albums following 2020's "After Hours" and 2022's "Dawn FM."

"After Hours" saw The Weeknd, as a character, over-indulging in all the excess that comes with the life of a superstar artist, full of self-loathing and dread.

"Dawn FM," as described by Tesfaye, serves as a state of purgatory following the dark depths of fame and 'death' of the character in the aforementioned "After Hours."

"Hurry Up Tomorrow" sees The Weeknd persona given an opulent and grandiose farewell. After spending all of "Dawn FM" on a literal drive through purgatory, hoping for a light at the end of the tunnel to reveal itself, he is right back where he started, in the dark, waiting for another night of indulgence to begin.

The album includes an all-star cast of features with the likes of Travis Scott, Future and Lana Del Rey all playing significant roles throughout the albums near hour and a half run-time.

While the feature tracks are particular stand-outs, this album is by no means carried by them. Tesfaye's solo tracks serve to push forward the overarching narrative of the project that is found in the previous two installations of the trilogy and more than carry their own weight.

The narrative is best enjoyed when having listened to the trilogies' previous installments, but "Hurry Up Tomorrow" is very much good enough to enjoy on its own.

The album is great and it is a fitting send-off for a generation defining artist like The Weeknd, I can only hope that Tesfaye continues to create, because the music industry is definitely better with him in it.

Official Score: 8/10

CAMPUS RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT: A-STATE FOOD PANTRY

SHAILEY WOOLDRIDGE
NEWS EDITOR

The A-State Food Pantry has started several new initiatives offering assistance to students, faculty and staff without income requirements.

Ten years after the creation of the A-State Food pantry was approved through a Student Government Association resolution, the pantry recently made room for a thrift store and began a food recovery program with plans to expand efforts to make the pantry more accessible.

Located at 2907 E. Johnson Ave., the food pantry is run by students and is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Anyone with an A-State ID number can receive supplies.

"We're basically in charge of providing food products, hygiene products and food recovery," Elizabeth England, food pantry operations director, said. "It basically serves as a food supplement source, so if they are in need of soup or critical supplies for cooking. We hope to provide that to them for free."

Those interested in getting food from the pantry can receive one protein, vegetable, fruit, grain, personal hygiene product and miscellaneous snack every week. They

can also get two items per week from the thrift store.

"There's right under 100 food pantries in all of Northeast Arkansas, most of them are monthly and a couple of them are bi weekly. So being able to come every week to a food pantry in this area is kind of rare. So it's really good that we do have that for A-State people," Mary-Keaton Render, director of the food pantry communications, said.

England, a senior political science major from Piedmont, Missouri, said the food pantry recently updated their infrastructure and installed PantrySoft, a software they received from grants to keep track of inventory and allow online orders.

Render said the pantry is working on a delivery system for PantrySoft orders for students who live on or close to campus.

"A big population of our people that come to the food pantry are international students and most of them don't have a car, so most of them walk at least a mile, sometimes a mile and a half, to come to the food pantry," Render said. "We really, really want to be able to serve those students in a way where they don't have to do that."

Online orders can be placed by accessing the link in

the food pantries Instagram bio (@redwolfpantry), emailing Foodpantry@astate.edu or using the QR code scanner at the pantry.

Render, a senior social work major from Pine Bluff, Arkansas, said some donations of canned food comes from the sorority Lambda Chi's 'Cream of the crop', a Greek life canned food drive competition that occurs every year to help fight hunger in the area.

"The past two years, we've actually collabed with them and they've let us take like 9000 pounds of food. So we've been super stocked on corn and green beans," Render said

Food recovery

Allison Webber, a sophomore nursing major from Highland, Arkansas, is the director of food recovery for the pantry. She said the food they recover for the pantry is from the Acansa Dining Hall.

"It's untouched and we will pack it up into storage bins, take it to the food pantry, and they can come and pick up however much they want," Webber said. "So it's basically like a fresh meal for them compared to a can of food, which is just as good, but we try to offer a variety."

England said this a great resource that also reduces

waste, because the food would be thrown out by the dining hall if it was not recovered.

Webber said she is trying to get in contact with other parts of A-State's dining system, like Chick-fil-A, Starbucks and Einstein Bros. Bagels to be able to recover food from those places as well, but has not heard back yet.

She said this is the pantry's second year doing food recovery and it is still a work in progress that she'd like to see grow.

"I'm only going to be in it for another semester,

but whoever takes over for me next semester, I hope to communicate with constantly and get it to grow even more, because I don't want it to just stay stagnant," Webber said.

Thrift store

Over Christmas break the pantry has transitioned the coat closet of the pantry into the A-State Thrift Store, arranging it like a boutique with clothing racks.

"It's more appealing to look through and you feel like, 'Oh, I'm like really thrifting

something' instead of 'okay, these are the coats we have in your size,'" Render said.

Render said there is a laundry basket in the pantry for clothing donations and they have plans to put donation spots in dorm halls.

Render said there are 100 to 150 people who volunteer each week on a set schedule. The ways the pantry could still use help is through outreach and getting the word out about the services they offer.

Read the full story online at astatetheherald.com



Photo Illustration by Shailey Wooldridge

(Left) Jenna Brown, a junior pre-professional biology major from Des Arc, Arkansas, packing an order with Amanda Taylor, a first-year radiological sciences major from Memphis and Faren Dumbase, a junior nursing major from Bellevue, Nebraska.

Grief lessons from "The Lion King"

BENJAMIN MCDOWELL
STAFF WRITER

The Wilson Counseling Center hosted "Move Through the Winter Blahs" Grief-Lessons from Lions. This event explained what Disney's "The Lion King" teaches about unhealthy and healthy ways of dealing with grief and depression.

This event was offered in person and virtually, and aimed to educate students on how to deal with grief and depression. The characters in "The Lion King" were used to illustrate how these difficult emotions can be handled more effectively.

Patricia Glascock, associate director of the Wilson Counseling Center, said grief can come in many forms. "Grief has to do with any type of loss: students who've lost scholarships, people who've lost pets and especially students who've lost friends or family members," Glascock said.

A way of simplifying the magnitude of talking about something as serious as depression and grief was Glascock's ultimate goal. "We often avoid talking about depression; we often avoid talking about grief, so this helps to get the information out there, and using the slides that I do from 'The Lion King' movie, it's an interesting way," Glascock said. "It's a different way than just presenting information." Glascock said she used slides

that were created by Chaplain Greg Adams at Arkansas Children's Hospital years ago when he wanted a way to talk about grief with children. When the original "The Lion King" came out, Adams received permission from Disney to use the slides.

Amber Long Martin, Director of Wilson Counseling Center, said grief and depression are not things meant to be experienced alone.

"We're not meant to go through life and the circumstances that life can give us by ourselves. We all need support, and having a situation or an event like this allows us to find connections with others, community and that experience," Martin said.

Devin Nelson, associate counselor for the Wilson Counseling Center, said grief and depression is a bigger and more complicated topic than people might think.

"Complex is the first word that comes to mind. Grief and depression is never an easy topic, and it looks so different individually for everybody. You can be depressed without grieving, or they can happen at the same time, there's no right or wrong way to experience either one of those things," Nelson said.

Glascock said Simba was the main character in "The Lion King" who displayed grief and depression.

"What does he do? He doesn't run back to those who love him. He doesn't run back

to his pride. He runs away. So his first mistake in dealing with this loss, this grief, the death of his father, is he runs away. Instead of going somewhere where he can get support," Glascock said.

Martin said "The Lion King" was a great format to explore grief and depression, commending Glascock's idea.

"It's nice to see something that's relatable," Martin said. "We think of Simba and he's got this big journey that he has to overcome, but I don't know that we ever really sit and think about his grief of the loss of his father."



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF ARCHILDREN'S ORG

Arkansas Children's Hospital story and slides for grief presentation promotional poster.

MTG club sees increase in membership

JUSTIN COATS
SPECIAL TO THE HERALD

The Magic: The Gathering club remains popular with students as plans develop to drive engagement and attract new members.

Chase Gallentine and Aiden George, club president and vice president, respectively, organize MTG club meetings once a week.

The Magic: The Gathering (MTG) club received a steady rise in membership over the last semester as interest in the card game increased. Gallentine and George said these new members are regarded as one of the club's great successes in recent history.

"I didn't know how many people were interested in this card game," George, a sophomore political science major from Walnut Ridge, Arkansas, said. "So many people from the community and from A-State show up to our nights and play and have fun with other people."

Noah Anselmi, a sophomore general studies major from Bradford, Arkansas, said he was introduced to the game through friends affiliated with the MTG club.

"I was just in the cafeteria one day and I was sitting with Chase and he was talking about it," Anselmi said. "I said 'you know what, I want to build a deck, just for fun' and since that day I've just been playing."

George said the MTG club has found members mainly through word of mouth. Gallentine, a sophomore creative media major from Hoxie, Arkansas, said the club has recently branched into social media, such as Instagram. The club also occasionally tables in the student union.

As a part of driving engagement, the MTG club routinely hosts tournaments in which players compete against each other. Gallentine said these tournaments attract both seasoned players and newcomers.

"So far we've only had three tournaments," Gallentine said. "But last semester, we had like 30 or 40 people show up for a tournament. It was the most because our first tournament, I think only 10 people showed up to."

George said many members

of the club also attend an independently organized event called "Magic at the Museum." The event is hosted monthly at the Bradbury Art Museum by BAM registrar Juan Montes-Guantes. George said he endorses "Magic at the Museum," even though the MTG club does not organize it.

George said roles in the club have shifted frequently. The club is training a new treasurer since the previous one graduated and George plans to assume the role of president next semester.

Gallentine said the MTG club is looking to host more events throughout the semester and hopes to host another tournament in May.

Schedules, meeting times and other updates can be found at the MTG club Instagram at [@astate_mtg_club](https://www.instagram.com/astate_mtg_club).



Photo by Justin Coats | Special to The Herald

Sophomores Ben Morris, Chase Gallentine and Aiden George play Magic: The Gathering before the club meeting. Morris is a creative media production major from Brookland, Gallentine is a creative media production major from Hoxie, Arkansas and George is a political science major from Walnut Ridge, Arkansas.