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'SEE YOU LATER GATORS'

Yvonne Longstreth retires after 45 years at Allegheny



BEN STAVNEZER/THE CAMPUS

Yvonne Longstreth holds a vase of flowers in McKinley's Food Court on her last day of work Friday, Aug. 28.

See YVONNE | *page 8*

Residence Life enters year with new, full staff

By **LORENA SILVA SOARES DE OLIVEIERA**
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Incredibly energetic, outgoing and friendly are some of the qualities listed by the Dean of Students & Title IX Coordinator Trae Yeckley to describe the new Director of Housing and Residence Life, William Turner.

Turner, who moved from Florida to Pennsylvania, is excited to be at Allegheny. He shared some of the goals and expectations the Residence Life team is aiming to achieve this academic year.

"For me personally it's really working with Trae, and just making sure our Res Halls and the experience that our students get it's just next level," Turner said.

Over the summer, Residence Life was able to fill its open positions, director of Housing and Residence Life and Residence Life coordinators. Lynne Koslofsky and Priscilla Ntiamoah were hired as new coordinators alongside Turner.

The past two years have seen a series of changes in the Residence Life staff, according to Yeckley.

"Residence Life is a position that has a lot of turnover because there's a lot of entry level into this with the coordinators. It's individuals generally fresh out of undergrad or graduate school and this is their first kind of taste of higher education in a professional role," Yeckley said. "And so we usually see quite a bit of turnover after a couple of years with coordinators as they kind of grow out of their jobs and go on to pursue bigger and better things. Which is great, it's exactly what we want."



WILL TURNER

See RES LIFE | *page 2*

Bassette breaks school records



PHOTO PROVIDED BY ED MAILLIARD

Gabrielle Bassette returns a serve during the semi-finals of the championship tournament against Washington & Jefferson College on Oct. 16, 2025.

See BASSETTE | *page 6*

"In for Allegheny" reaches 88% of its funding goal

By **NATHAN GEORGE**
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This summer, Allegheny College updated the community on its "In for Allegheny: Our Pathway Forward" fundraising and engagement campaign, a five-year effort to grow student enrollment, mobilize the College's alumni network and secure $250 million in financial contributions.

A press release posted to Allegheny's website July 29 states the College has raised $220 million since the campaign's launch in 2022, marking 88% of its initial fundraising goal. "Core to the campaign's growth," the release stated, "is a bid for the broader institutional community to 'Invite, Inspire, and Invest' in future Gators through volunteerism and monetary gifts." The In For Allegheny website shows that over 11,600 members of the Allegheny community have contributed to the campaign in some capacity over the past four years.

See FUNDS | *page 7*

Brooks to close on weekends

By **AUBRYANNA SNYDER**
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Long lines wrap almost around the Henderson Campus Center lobby, nearly every booth and seat is full, there's a hum of chatter and the buzz of energy can be heard from the lobby. McKinley's Food Court is open for business, and it's busier than ever.

Allegheny students received an email from the Office of the Dean of Students on Wednesday, Aug. 12, notifying them of changes to the dining halls for the 2026 fall semester. Most notably, the email informed students of the decision to close Brooks Dining Hall on the weekends and instead shift resources to McKinley's seven days a week.

Chloe Snyder, '27, was concerned about the potential effects of the change.

"I don't know why you would ever reduce the amount of food available on campus," Snyder said. "That seems strange to me."

The decision came after Parkhurst Dining General Manager Maria Foxall reviewed data of students' meals and resources and determined that the lackluster number of students dining at Brooks on the weekends despite full operating hours and a full staff signaled it was time to consider changes.

Dean of Students & Title IX Coordinator Trae Yeckley said that the changes made to dining were intended to increase efficiency in particular.

"We continuously look at our dining usage," Yeckley said. "How many students are using which dining halls at which times so that we can make sure we have the right hours, that we're not overextending in certain areas that aren't being utilized."

Discussions between Yeckley, Parkhurst Dining, Chief Financial Officer Debra L. Fitzsimons and Allegheny Student Government took place in order to address this "over-extending" and find a way to remain dedicated to the student dining experience while also staying sustainable.

See DINING | *page 3*

Allegheny Athletics appoints new Peak Performance program coaches

By **MADDOX BROWN**
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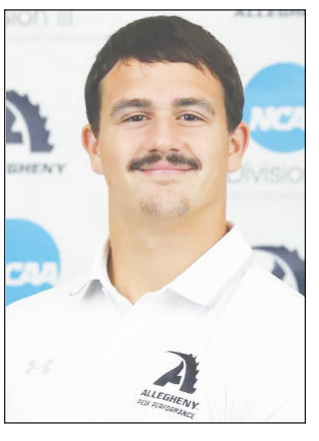
Allegheny varsity athletes will now be working under the supervision of Toby Cline, who was recently elevated to the role of Head Peak Performance Coach. This elevation comes after Cline served the previous year as Assistant Peak Performance Coach, during which he built up a strong reputation among athletes and staff alike.

Student athlete Bella Wilson, '28, described her initial experiences with Cline.

"I met Coach Toby last year, and he just provides great energy, so I kind of clicked with that immediately," Wilson said. "He's just very supportive of all the teammates and very involved with all the sports here on campus."



TOBY CLINE



ZACH WEAKLAND

See COACHES | *page 7*

In this week's Campus...

E-MAIL SCAM TARGETS STUDENTS

Over the summer, suspicious emails were sent to Allegheny students, designed to trick the recipients into clicking links. Staff Writer Marzia Mohammadi, '28, explores the situation and the technical details behind phishing.

Page 2

ADVICE TO FIRST YEARS

Feeling lost, down or need a hand during your first few weeks on campus? The upperclassmen staff of *The Campus* share the best advice they have for first year students.

Page 4

HASSENPLUG RETURNS AS COACH

Staff Writer Paige Kageni, '27, shares the story of Carter Hassenplug, '25, following his passion for golf from his grandfather's golf course to a conference title and now to the position of Head Golf Coach.

Page 5

FRIDAY H: 76° L: 63° Rain: 75% Sunrise: 6:50 a.m. Sunset: 7:49 p.m.

SATURDAY H: 75° L: 55° Rain: 15% Sunrise: 6:51 a.m. Sunset: 7:47 p.m.

SUNDAY H: 75° L: 54° Rain: 5% Sunrise: 6:52 a.m. Sunset: 7:45 p.m.

RES LIFE *from page 1*

Because of short turnovers, Yeckley explained that one of the things Turner and his team have been workin on inside the Residence Life office is standardizing their processes.

"So even if we do have turnover, we can keep the same processes going forward year after year," he said.

Yeckley mentioned that a goal assigned to Turner was to showcase how amazing living on campus can be.

"I want this to be a place where you get to live on campus for four years, not that you have to live on campus for four years," Yeckley said.

Yeckley emphasized that sometimes it's not possible to meet every student's concerns, but that communication with the student body is a high priority for Residence Life.

"The important thing is that we communicate with the students what we are able to do and what we aren't able to do, and validate them with their concerns," Yeckley said. "Making sure that they feel heard and get their needs met to the best ability that we can."

Turner agrees with Yeckley.

"There's things that we can do as Residence Life, and there's things that genuinely, when we get asked, we obviously have to hand it over to another department," Turner said. "A big part of our specific push, as Res Life, and Trae knows this, is being extremely communicative, and making sure all departments are in the same loop on that."

Student experience is something that Turner wants to focus on.

"My goal is at the end of this year for people to have a great experience," Turner said. "I want them to look back at this year, and for every year moving forward, 'Wow, that was the best year,' like you cannot discern between the years, every year is the best year, and that's what I want."

Besides Turner, Yeckley and the other staff, Residence Life also works with student interns who can bring the student perspectives to work everyday.

Nathan Meyers, '27, is one of the interns. He sees his role as the middleman between the students and Residence Life.

"It's definitely interesting because being an intern we work in the office, but I'm also a student on campus as well," Meyers said. "I think that's good, and I think that the pro staff understands that too, that we're also students and that we're also around our friends that are just students that aren't working in Res Life. We can hear what they think about the pro staff and what they think about Res Life in general and what they would like to see change."

> "I want this to be a place where you get to live on campus for four years, not that you have to live on campus for four years."
>
> —TRAE YECKLEY
> *Dean of Students & Title IX Coodinator*

Meyers has been working for Residence Life since the fall of his sophomore year. He has served as an RA, HRA, and now an intern. Over his time in Residence Life, he has seen a lot of staff transitions and feels that the current group is supportive and flexible.

"We've been going through different changes from the pro staff pretty much each year, sometimes by semester, so it's been different," Meyers said. "But it's just getting used to adapting to different supervisors and bosses and just staying flexible between the different people, getting to know everyone's different style of how they want to run Res Life and just being there for them, supporting all the RAs and then the whole goal is to support the students first. That's everyone's main goal."

Turner believes that having the student's perspective is vital for Residence Life. As a result, he is always asking the interns questions and trying to listen to as many opinions as possible.

"If the table doesn't have enough chairs, add the chairs, extend the table and make sure people's voices are being heard in those conversations," Turner said.

Allegheny students affected by scam emails

By **MARZIA MOHAMMADI**
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While campus was quiet over the summer, cyber scammers stayed busy, sending Allegheny students phishing emails designed to trick recipients into clicking links or sharing information, disguised as "party invitations" and documents to sign.

Cyber "phishing" is an attempt to trick users into opening a document, clicking on a link or providing private information by posing as a trusted source.

The phishing email compromised a "handful" of individual student email accounts after students clicked on links in the emails that appeared to come from other students or familiar Allegheny contacts, according to Katrina Yeung, Allegheny's chief information officer.

Allegheny uses a layered cybersecurity model, with Google controls and other security measures in place to detect and respond to suspicious activity. According to Yeung, the system is designed to provide multiple levels of protection if one security measure fails. It was through those security measures that the college was able to detect the unusual activity during the summer. The campaign began when a student clicked on a link, compromising the student's email account. The compromised account then sent similar phishing emails to other Allegheny accounts.

"We noticed that a mass amount of emails were being sent," Yeung said. "Passwords were quickly locked down and changed." A campus-wide email was sent to raise awareness about the phishing attempts.

The attempts targeting Allegheny used several different types of emails, including "party invitations and requests to sign documents through DocuSign," Yeung said. She added that the emails could appear legitimate, making it important for students to verify any unexpected emails before responding to them.

Grace Moon, '28, stated that she received at least two false party invitations over the summer, appearing to come from other student's compromised accounts. Moon said she was suspicious after receiving multiple invitations and later noticed that one of the emails had disappeared from her inbox. Moon mentioned she had initially kept the email thinking "maybe I should keep this one here, and then it evaporated."

> If you had all sensed that little spidey sense that maybe something might be off, don't forward it to anybody, stop and verify it via an alternative communication."
>
> —KATRINA YEUNG
> *Chief Information Officer*

Moon had also been checking her Allegheny email more frequently over the summer because she had been applying to study abroad programs. A similar message during the school year might have seemed more believable because students regularly receive emails about housing, organization work and other college-related matters. "If it happened during the school year, I probably would have been like, oh yeah, this makes sense," Moon said. "I need to sign something for, I don't know, the Outing Club board, or my housing paperwork, who knows?"

Katelyn Ebbert, '29, received an email she believed to be from a student she worked with in an organization on campus. The email asked her to review and sign a document and initially it appeared legitimate to Ebbert because she had been in contact with the student recently. The request to sign a document did not immediately seem suspicious to her. "Of course I have a document to sign," Ebbert recalled thinking.

The phishing attempts also raised concerns among students about the security of their Allegheny accounts. Moon mentioned that she had experience with scams in the past. "I have worked in public libraries and I've done anti-scam training," Moon said. "Even with the warnings and the training, it's so hard sometimes to tell because sometimes it says @allegheny.edu, and then @gmail comes after it, and you don't look twice. Or if it's coming from somebody who you know, it's hard to tell."

The college found no evidence that other campus systems or student data were accessed according to Young. The incident remained limited to individual email accounts. "We see no evidence of bad actors in any systems," Yeung said.

Yeung explained that scammers often rely on information that can make an email seem familiar or trustworthy. She encouraged students to pay attention to who they are communicating with and to verify unexpected requests through another form of communication before responding. "When in doubt, really stop," Yeung said. "Don't click."

Anas Adnan, '29, had a different experience. He has received scam emails twice, including one during the summer before his first year and another this summer. Both emails appeared to use the name of an Allegheny professor and offered him a paid research opportunity.

Adnan said the email appeared to have been sent by Associate Professor of Mathematics Brent Carswell and offered him about $300 per week for a research project. The email address used the professor's name and Allegheny's ".edu" domain before ending in "@gmail.com," which alerted Adnan that it was not valid. "I knew it was fake," Adnan said. "Because it happened to me before."

Michael Burlingham, '30, mentioned that he received an email from Allegheny warning students about the scam. He said the warning email gave him a "mental checklist" of things to look for when dealing with suspicious emails.

"I do feel like it prepared me to be able to tell when someone's trying to scam me," Burlingham said.

Even with the college's cybersecurity measures, Yeung emphasized the importance of staying alert. "Our strongest cyber controls are well-informed users," she said.

She also encouraged students to be cautious with unexpected emails, even when they appear to come from someone they know. "If you had all sensed that little spidey sense that maybe something might be off, don't forward it to anybody, stop and verify it via an alternative communication." Yeung said. Her advice to students is to "Be a little wary."

Class of 2030 largest since COVID-19

By **WES PRICE**
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Allegheny enrollment is up 20% over last year, making the class of 2030 the largest since before COVID-19. To celebrate the increased enrollment numbers, the Office of the President released a statement titled "Welcome with Momentum" on Wednesday, Aug. 26. The letter from President Ron Cole, '87, marked this year as a huge year of growth for Allegheny.

"I think you need to go back to the work that the trustees, alumni and campus community did with the Strategic Pathway," said Vice President for Enrollment Management Jenn Winge, '96. "Three years ago the college took time to concentrate its focus on assessing its own identity as well as its strengths."

The Strategic Pathway outlines the five goals of academic excellence and strong outcomes, vibrant and inclusive community, broad academic offerings, community and economic development and operational and financial stability. These guiding principles and goals were set in 2023 when enrollment had dropped from roughly 2,100 students in 2011 to approximately 1,300.

The college has ushered in more and more students every year since COVID-19, and initiatives such as the "In for Allegheny" capital campaign have found success.

"From an enrollment and recruitment strategy perspective, being in the midst of a capital campaign is a good story," Winge said. "Especially with the unexpected amount of engagement of alumni with this effort."

Winge believes enrollment has grown so significantly over the course of three years in part because of the increased involvement of the alumni network.

"Alumni are attending college fairs, not only in our backyard, but across the country," Winge said. "It is a wonderful thing not only for the alumni to reconnect to their alma mater, but they get to share their perspective with potential students."

This has had a dramatic effect on the number of early decision commitments Allegheny has received in the last two years. According to the admissions office enrollment numbers, the college went from 29 early decision commitments for the class of 2028, to 60 for the class of 2029 and 66 for the class of 2030.

Sam Roque, '27, has noticed the uptick in the student football population.

"I haven't noticed the larger student population on campus generally, but definitely through football. We have like 50 freshmen on the football team," Roque said. The Allegheny Athletics website puts that number at 52 freshmen on the football team as compared to the 36 freshmen on the 2025-26 roster, representing about a 44 percent increase.

While the student body has not grown by the same amount as the football team, the growth is still being felt.

"The biggest difference I have seen this year is that the dining halls are a little more crowded, and in my intro classes almost every seat is filled," Catie Weiss, '29 said.

> "I think our ideal size as an institution, based on strategies put in place before the pandemic, is between 1,500 and 1,600 total students."
>
> —JENN WINGE
> *Vice President for Enrollment Management*

While spaces around campus might seem crowded as compared to years prior, the college remains confident that it has the capacity to continue this growth.

"This institution in terms of its physical resources — the facilities, the housing, the classrooms, the number of faculty and staff — we have the capacity to grow," Winge said. "We are not in a situation where if we grow we are creating challenges when it comes to servicing and providing the best experience for our students. I want to make that ultra clear."

Right now, the college's website places the student body at 1,300 students, which, compared to the 2,100 students at Allegheny in 2011, is 800 students less. For the administrators of the college, getting back to those 2,000-plus enrollment numbers is no longer the target.

"I think our ideal size as an institution, based on strategies put in place before the pandemic, is between 1,500 and 1,600 total students," Winge said.

Allegheny is on the road to approaching that ideal range, one that administrators believe is sustainable and leads to a brighter future for the college.

Students also feel that their prospects here remain steadfast. "I want to go into the medical field. I believe that my Allegheny degree will be really helpful — both my mom and dad went here. My mom is a physician assistant and wouldn't have gotten there without having gone through here first," Sydney Nichols, '29, said. For students, college is an opportunity to further their lives; if alumni are succeeding, prospective Allegheny Gators will see the school as the opportunity they want to take.

"We are seeing more and more alumni share their stories and where they landed immediately after graduation than ever before," Winge said. "It is so great that they are confident in where they are, and that they are actually moving towards a career that aligns with what they studied."

ASG holds first GA, welcomes Turner as Co-Advisor

By **ANTON HODGE**
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On Aug. 1 in Henderson Campus Center room 301 and 302, the Allegheny Student Government met for the first General Assembly of the year. The meetings agenda consisted of swearing in the senatorial classes, introducing a new Co-Advisor, and beginning the year.

The GA kicked off with two guest speakers: Dean of Students & Title IX Coordinator and ASG Advisor Trae Yeckley alongside Director of housing and Residence Life and newly appointed ASG Co-Advisor Will Turner.

Turner will be taking over much of the day-to-day duties of advising ASG, such as meetings with individual class senators and cabinet members, while Yeckley will remain in communication with ASG leadership and in attendance of General Assemblies as they take a step back due to increased positional responsibilities.

Yeckley introduced Turner as a "big ideas guy," with Turner expressing an enthusiasm for ambition and his excitement to be engaged with ASG as a member of Residence Life. Yeckley added it will fall to him to say, "We don't actually have to do all of that".

Cabinet reports for the first week were limited, as many roles are required to organize committees before taking actions. Director of Finance Daniel Servey, '29, reported an ASG budget expenditure of zero for the week, and Co-Director of Student Affairs Brandon Thompson, '29, announced that a weekly dining committee meeting has been organized for 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, in collaboration with Parkhurst.

ASG President Ella DeRose, '27, announced the first meeting with Allegheny College President Ron Cole this Friday.

ASG Vice President Kylie Thompson, '27, announced that ASG tabling in the Henderson Campus Center lobby will begin this week, and ASG is looking for students interested in taking on the director of sustainability and environmental affairs position.

A vote to approve Anas Adnan, '29, to the position of co-director of student affairs was unanimously approved. This is the first of two votes required to assume the role.

Turner described some of the things he was looking forward to achieving this year.

"Getting ASG to a better place by the end of the year, just seeing how this executive committee wants to force the campus, and how our students, to strive more than they already are," Turner said. "However they want to do that, supporting them and being there as their assistance."

DeRose explained how ASG had gotten a headstart on the year.

"The biggest thing we worked on this summer was stabilizing our finance committee. I think that has been the more forward-facing part of ASG for many students because so many students are involved in club leadership and student involvement. They all want to have their events as soon as we come back and so we've worked really hard to get those budgets sorted, especially as the budget shrinks a little bit, we've been figuring out 'how do we still maintain a vibrant campus life and campus involvement?' using this smaller budget. "

DeRose also spoke about the work members of ASG have been doing in order to work around potential budget issues, as well as changes to campus dining.

"Daniel (Servey), and Anna (Turhan '27), and Kylie (Thompson) and I have been talking a lot with the college's administration, especially (Chief Financial Officer for Allegheny College) Debra Fitzsimmons, obviously Trae Yeckley, trying to sort this out," DeRose said. "We were also part of conversations on the collegiate level regarding dining. I wouldn't say those worked out in my personal favor, with closing Brooks on weekends, but we were heavily involved in those conversations, just trying to represent the student voice this summer in these larger conversations."

DINING *from page 1*

"When we reviewed this data we saw that there was not enough student usage on the weekends to keep both dining halls fully open and fully functional," Yeckley said. "This was a conversation that we were having all summer with Parkhurst dining and we finalized the decision in August."

After reaching the decision to consolidate resources to one dining hall, the Office of Student Life and Parkhurst consulted with ASG to decide which dining hall to choose to remain open, ultimately deciding with McKinley's.

"That wasn't an easy decision," Yeckley said. "We know that students like the atmosphere at Brooks on the weekends, but we also know that students like how central McKinley's is."

Part of the decision to serve out of McKinley's stemmed from a desire for the Campus Center to remain "vibrant" on weekends.

"Looking at if we were to close McKinley's, then that leaves a hole in the Campus Center on the weekends and that makes everyone have to go across campus," Yeckley said.

Yeckley explained that the Campus Center is meant to act as the main "hub" on campus; choosing to serve food solely from its dining hall was a way to cut down wasted resources from Brooks while utilizing its central location and prioritizing its energy.

"If we ended up closing McKinley's on the weekends, then the Campus Center wouldn't be as lively as we'd like it to be," Yeckley said. "You know, we want students going to GFC, we want students going to the game room; we want students in the art department and music wing. We wanted to make sure that this stayed lively; we also wanted it to be equally accessible, more or less, to all students on campus."

Yeckley acknowledged the distance of McKinley's from students living in the Brooks and Walker residence halls, but stressed that overall, because McKinley's is located in the center of campus it would be more accessible.

For Foxall, the numbers were the determining factor. In just one day during the first week of the fall semester, Parkhurst served 600 meals out of Brooks the entire day, compared to 2,300 meals out of McKinley's, according to Foxall. "It's a big difference, so it makes more sense to serve meals out of McKinley's," Foxall said.

She explained that when looking at the numbers, keeping every food station open in Brooks as well as keeping it fully staffed was too great a waste.

McKinley's staff worker Lewis Smith reflected on the difference of the two dining halls after having worked in both over his three years with Allegheny.

"Compared to when I moved up to Kins from Brooks, Kins has been so much more busy," Smith said. "There were sometimes on the weekends in Brooks we didn't see nobody."

> "We want to provide food that everybody wants to eat, and a wonderful environment. We strive for that."
>
> —MARIA FOXALL
> *Parkhurst Dining General Manager*

"Honestly, I think a supervisor could've run it [Brooks] by themselves," Smith continued. "It'd be dead."

After the first week of class with all students officially back on campus, students and workers saw firsthand the influx of students to feed from just one dining hall over the weekend.

"It's been really busy," Smith said. "It helps the days go by faster sometimes, but when you look at the clock and only 15 minutes has gone away when you think it should be an hour and a half, that's depressing."

According to Smith, McKinley's staff had fed three or four sports teams in one morning alone; the Saturday morning McKinley's debuted its weekend hours, they fed around 200 people of the football team, said Smith. On Sunday, they had the football team come in an hour early so that the dining staff would have a short window to reset and prepare before opening up to the general student body. "That gave us time to get caught up, which was great," Smith stressed.

A common complaint has been that despite the quantity of students in McKinley's, it has a lack of capacity to seat a high number of students, unlike Brooks.

"As a student, I find it really inconvenient because then Kins is flooded with people, and it doesn't have the volume to support it," Snyder said.

Snyder mentioned that she would intentionally try to be strategic about the time to visit the space to avoid the large rushes.

"We continue to take everyone's feedback and do the best we can to provide out of that space," Foxall said. "Of course there's seating in the campus center lobby, and there's seating outside– people just have to take a green box. We've made such great progress using our real plates and real china, so we definitely don't want to go back on that either."

"It's just widely inconvenient," Snyder said. "And also, Brooks had really good brunch options on the weekends."

For Yeckley, a big part of the discussion to close Brooks was how to maintain the brunch atmosphere beloved by so many students. According to Yeckley, Parkhurst plans to have a brunch style buffet in McKinley's meant to mimic the brunch buffet from brooks or other pop-ups with a variety of options. Additionally, Cinco has transitioned to an "inspired eats" station behind the counter.

Inspired Eats is the station in Brooks where all food is prepared without the nine major allergens:

milk, eggs, peanuts, tree nuts, fish, crustacean shellfish, wheat, soybeans, and sesame. In bringing this station to McKinley's, Foxall hopes to quell concerns from students with allergens or those looking for gluten free options. "Everybody is going to be able to eat," Foxall said.

Most importantly, Foxall stressed that Parkhurst wants everybody to have a good dining experience.

"We want to provide food that everybody wants to eat, and a wonderful environment," Foxall said. "We strive for that."

In order to work toward an ideal dining experience, both Yeckley and Foxall have stated that staff is receptive to student feedback. According to Foxall, they will meet with ASG at some point midway through the semester to assess student feedback and determine if changes should be made for the spring semester.

"Brooks or McKinley's, it doesn't make a big difference," Foxall said. "What matters is we can serve the student body on the weekends out of one area."

CRIME BLOTTER

Editor's Note: The weekly Crime Blotter is compiled using the Daily Crime Log available on the Office of Public Safety's web page. Crimes reported may still be under investigation. Crimes listed below are collected the Wednesday before publication.

July 16, 2026
Burglary
209 Loomis St
Referred to MCPD

August 18, 2026
Theft
David V. Wise Center
Unfounded

August 21, 2026
Theft
606 N. Main St
Closed

August 21, 2026
Theft
292 Loomis St
Closed

August 28, 2026
Alcohol Violation
Hall
Referred to Dean

THE CAMPUS
Since 1876

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From the staff: Advice for first year students

Don't be afraid to go places. Go outside. Go by yourself. Put yourself out there! You might want to hole up in your dorm room forever but there's a lot to see on campus and you'll miss out. The experience is only what you make of it.

—AUBRYANNA SNYDER
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Calm down, dress up, party hard.

—EMMA CONTI-WINDLE
"Ask Allegheny" Producer & Host

First years, don't forget to look at your distribution requirements, because when you realize, two years will have gone by and you will be a desperate junior like me, taking SWS 205 because you forgot to take it sophomore year. But most importantly, my biggest advice for you is to not look at your professors as a mere authority figure, but as mentors. They have a lot to teach you outside of the classroom. Go to office hours, chit-chat with them every once in a while, tell them about your big plans for the future or about how much you hate the Baldwin bathrooms. You will be surprised at how lighthearted they can be. Shout-out Professor Keeley.

—LORENA SILVA SOARES DE OLIVEIRA
Features Editor

Mess up. Make mistakes. Do things you told yourself you were never going to do when you graduated high school. What they don't tell you about college is that you're going to become a whole new human being, like you're starting all over again. This isn't a bad thing! If I repeated my first year, I wouldn't redo a single thing. I needed to mess up; if I didn't, I wouldn't be the same Jay Shank that I am right now. And I think I'm pretty cool!

—JAY SHANK
Staff Writer

Always seek out and embrace the possibility of developing a meaningful connection—with classmates, faculty, staff, residents, buildings, commons, and other shared spaces. Meadville is a pretty tight-knit community, as is Allegheny College. Every new face you see is one you will likely see again (most likely more than once). If you can cherish each first encounter as the potential start of a long, rewarding relationship, a strong support system and a newfound sense of belonging will follow.

—NATHAN GEORGE
Staff Writer

Make friends with someone who owns a car.

—MARZIA MOHAMMADI
Staff Writer

Keep your head up high, and know that things will get better. During my first year at multiple points I entered my darkest hour and wanted to drop out. However, my will to keep going kept me from total desolution and the people who will always be there for you lifted me up and out of a dark hole. So when things seem bad, just know that you are never alone and that you are loved, never give up because things will get better, and you don't need a permanent solution to a temporary problem.

—BENAIDEN CHEVILLE
Staff Photographer

Engage with Meadville. It's very easy to think of Allegheny College and Meadville as separate entities, but each needs to support the other and you play a larger role in that than you think. So head down the hill every now and then! Meadville businesses are great places to shop, work, and escape campus life for a bit. Even if you don't spend money on your trip into town, just your presence there as a college student means more than you can imagine to Meadville residents.

—BEN STAVNEZER
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Go out to eat every once in a while. There comes a point in the semester where Kins' food just doesn't hit anymore. You can't just get your chicken tenders for the 10th time in a row and you are just begging for something to add a little spice in between your classes, sport practices, and club activity filled days. I recommend going to Yamato, a local Japanese steakhouse that has the most phenomenal sushi selection I have ever been acquainted with.

—MADDOX BROWN
News Editor

My advice to first-year students at Allegheny College is to resist the urge to define your college experience too quickly. Your first year is less about having everything figured out and more about developing the intellectual curiosity to question what you think you know. Take classes outside your comfort zone, engage seriously with people who challenge your perspective, and do not be afraid to change your mind. Success in college isn't measured by grades, but by how much you grow in your ability to think and craft ideas. Be intentional with your time, but remain open to unexpected opportunities. Thank you!

—RANSOM PERKINS
Staff Writer

It's tempting to join the same clubs that you were a part of in high school but take advantage of Allegheny's wide variety of clubs and explore interests that you never had the chance to! If there isn't a club for an interest that you want to pursue, find an adviser and make your own! College is a time to explore your interests. Like Ms. Frizzle says: "Take chances, make mistakes, and get messy!"

—KESSLER POTTER
Staff Writer

College will be a life-altering experience, but what that means for you depends solely on what you put in. Give this place your time, your effort, and some of your comfort. Take that risk, and I promise it will pay dividends in your future.

—WES PRICE
Staff Writer

Try everything once—If it sucks, hit the bricks.

—ANTON HODGE
Staff Writer

Make sure to leave your room! There's lots of opportunities waiting for you just beyond your door. Events, clubs, friends, places with great food, too. All you've got to do is open it and move your feet!

—PAIGE KAGENI
Staff Writer

Remembering Dolly Parton

By **EMMA CONTI-WINDLE**
"Ask Allegheny" Producer and Host
contiwindle01@allegheny.edu

A few weeks ago, I visited my grandmother in the apartment complex my family just moved her into. It was odd, it smelled weird, it was frustrating and the sense that I was losing her was more oppressive than it normally is when I'm walking around this campus ignoring all of the sadder parts of life and focusing on campus crushes and nights out with my friends. This time, I couldn't ignore it. She was sitting right in front of me, and she couldn't remember much of what we'd spoken about just days and minutes prior.

I gently hugged her, careful not to disturb her newly operated on shoulder and I smelled her perfume, the same one that used to irritate my nose as a kid. I looked at her again; she was frustrated with herself, unable to move, unable to remember and I told her I loved her, and that everything would be alright. She didn't believe me about the second part.

The smell of her perfume followed me back to school a few days later when I moved into my apartment at Allegheny. My sister, the luckiest duck, I know, got my grandmother's car passed down to her once my grandmother stopped driving That smell will never leave those seats or that Bugs Bunny steering wheel cover.

Now, every time I run to Walmart with my sister, I am reminded of the trips to the beach, the zoo and the playground that we would take with her, and most importantly, the CDs we would play on our drives. There was one that had more finger prints and scratches than any other: Ultimate Dolly Parton, a 2003 re-release of the greatest hits of Parton's career, and to us, the soundtrack to a perfect summer day with our grandmother.

Last Tuesday was the first day of my senior year of college. It was very surreal, kind of sad and kind of bleak to realize that in 9 months, I'll be forced to go out into what all of my friends are referring to with disdain and eyerolls as "this economy," and work a job and be an adult, all without the promise of living down the street from all of my friends.

As I sat at my internship pondering how exactly I was going to execute the next four years of my life without any of the structure I'd come to know, I opened Instagram and learned that Dolly Parton, an icon, an angel and a fixture in my memories with my grandmother, had died.

My heart sank, and my eyes filled with tears. I truly wasn't expecting to be as sad as I was. But there I was, sad and devastated. As I write this, I feel obligated to mention that of course, I didn't know Parton personally, and as a scholar of communication and media, I criticize parasocial relationships fairly often. I know my love for her is parasocial. But more often lately than ever – I'm not sure if it's my grandmother, my growing up or the joy I find in being a 21-year-old that loves to buy second-hand clothes and style them like I'm going to the club, when I'm really going to the college bar – that love feels real. For all it represents – the impending loss of my grandmother, the loss of my childhood and what seems to be the dwindling of the light, warm simplicity that Parton's music brought to my life – her death breaks my heart.

Dolly Parton represented unashamed self love and acceptance, and the ability to create a fabulous life out of a humble dream. She was beautiful, loud, shiny and loved. She created spaces for oppressed voices and stood by what she believed in. And whether you knew her or not, it hurts to lose a person like that. But we have not and will never lose the love and joy that Dolly left here.

Since the first time my grandmother slipped that disc into the CD player of her 2006 Pontiac Vibe, "Jolene," "Why'd You Come in Here Looking Like That," "Here You Come Again," "9 to 5" and others have been the regular soundtrack of every minute spent getting ready for a school dance, getting over a breakup, going for a run and driving to and from work in the summertime. Just about every sparkly and sequined article of clothing I've since found in a thrift store has been purchased. And I would never take offense to being called a "dumb blonde," again. Parton was at the helm of a significant switch in my young adult mind that still brings me self confidence, love, and connection with my family members to this day.

One of my grandmother's favorite songs of Parton's was "Coat of Many Colors," a song she'd written about a humble childhood in a two-room log cabin in the mountains of Tennessee, where she lived with her parents and 11 siblings. She sang about a coat of rags her mother made for her, leading to bullying at school, and the pride Parton felt in her coat anyway because it was made with the love of her mother. It was only when I'd gotten older had I realized how much that song meant to my grandmother, who grew up as one of 11 children in a poor family with little education.

My grandmother has had a difficult life and Dolly Parton made her feel happy and seen. She shared that happiness with us and that sharing, I believe, is worth more than anything.

Because of Parton, I will always remember singing in my grandmother's car and will continue to do the same now with my sister. I will cherish the time I have left with my grandmother. I will remember not to take myself too seriously, to sing, to dance, to raise my hair and heels up one more inch, to add just a little bit more make up and to maybe get a boob job down the road if that's what I want to do. Because Dolly Parton would have wanted us to be ourselves and do the things that make us happiest.

And so, while the panic of getting older, graduating and losing loved ones will probably loom large into the near future, I feel braver to face it because of Dolly Parton.

Dolly, your music has brought me and those I care about so much courage, joy and love. Thank you. I will always love you.

The views reflected in Opinion articles are those of the individual writers and do not necessarily represent the view of The Campus newspaper editorial board.

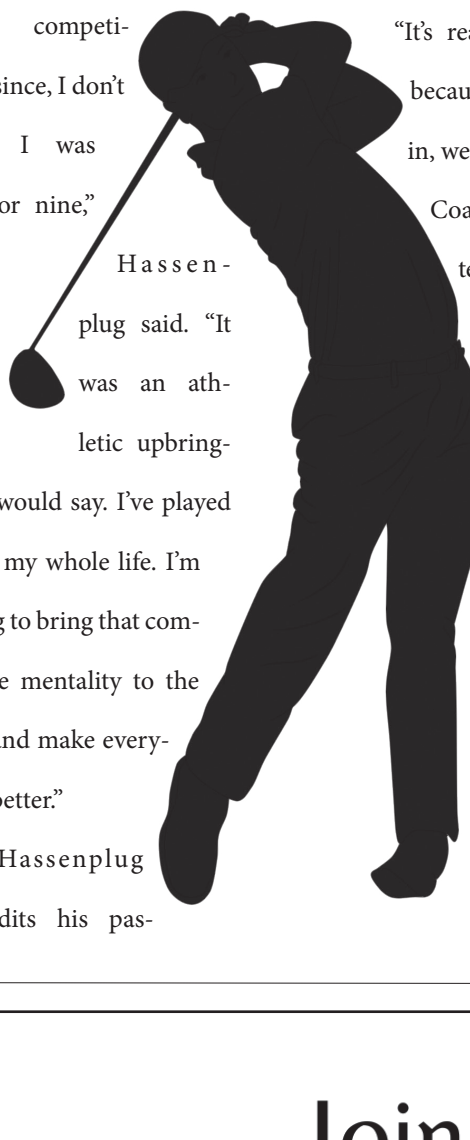
Allegheny star golfer returns to coach

By **PAIGE KAGENI**
Staff Writer
kageni01@allegheny.edu

In a press release released in July 2026, Carter Hassenplug, '25, was named the new Head Golf Coach for Allegheny's Men's and Women's Golf Teams Allegheny College Director of Athletics Bill Ross announced the decorated player's ascension to the role after the retirement of former Golf Coach, Jeff Groff, after over 40 years. Named the Presidents' Athletic Conference Player of the Year, Hassenplug returns to Allegheny after winning a conference title and three consecutive championships, among numerous further awards and records.

Hassenplug spoke about why he decided to come back to support the team he played for. He began with his golfing origins in his youth, reminiscing on days spent on his grandfather's golf course.

"I've been around the game my entire life. I've played competitively since, I don't know, I was eight or nine," Hassenplug said. "It was an athletic upbringing, I would say. I've played sports my whole life. I'm hoping to bring that competitive mentality to the team and make everybody better."



Hassenplug credits his passion for the sport for invigorating him to return to lead Allegheny's golf teams. He mentioned how he felt supported enough to succeed and excel because of the support he had received from his coach and golf program. Coaching the teams is his way of paying forward what he was given by his own coaches during his undergraduate years.

"Hopefully, having an impact on all the students and athletes that come through the program, and the school, in general," Hassenplug said. "Just be able to help them as much as possible to make sure they enjoy their experience here and set themselves up for success in the future. I think that's the whole point."

Payton Essman, '28, is a member of the golf team. She remembers Hassenplug assisting former Coach Groff during the 2025-2026 year and is looking forward to him leading them through the upcoming tournament on Sept. 5.

"It's really cool because, going in, we all knew Coach Carter [Hassenplug], except for the freshmen," Essman said. "So, it was really cool to have somebody who knows the team dynamics, knows how the team works, and understands Allegheny golf as a whole. He recognized how all of us played our game, so that was really special."

As a former player himself, Hassenplug understands the importance of regulating one's emotions. It's one of the many things he had to keep tabs on when attending practices and championships. Now, as a coach, there's many more moving parts, more operations behind the scenes even at the beginning of the season. Hassenplug mentioned how he realized there are many more things he must be monitoring in his new role.

"Players don't really have to worry about much behind the scenes. They just have to show up on time and put forth their best effort," Hassenplug said. "Coaches not only have to do that, but then they have to take care of everything on the back end of things, with their assistants and all the volunteer help that they get, to make sure just operations run smoothly."

As a four-time Distinguished Alden Scholar, he also stressed the importance of "student" in "student athlete." He believes checking in with players and ensuring their wellbeing is key to making sure they have a good college experience as well as an athletic one.

"Making sure that everybody's doing okay on the course, in the classroom, personally, socially," Hassenplug said. "Players are there for other teammates, but I feel like it's the coach's responsibility to make sure everyone's on the right track."

Nathan Meyers, '27, who also plays for the golf team, was excited to hear his former teammate was coming back to coach him in his final year at Allegheny. In addition to having a familiar face around to keep him on the right track, Meyers is optimistic about the season because of the ways Hassenplug works to ensure the team's progress.

"A big thing we're doing this year, which I love, is Carter [Hassenplug] wants us to track our stats, so, that way, we can see and practice what we should be working on throughout the year," Meyers said. "I think it was really cool to watch, and then to be able to know that he has that experience on the golf side of things. And he knows how all the players think because we're already so close to him."

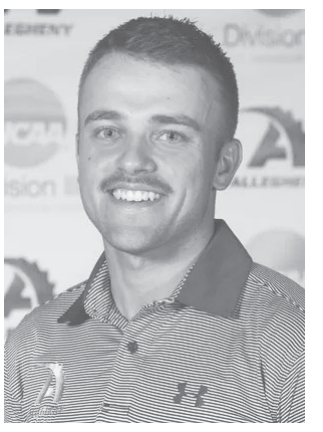
Mastering the game of golf comes with mastering confidence, according to Hassenplug. His recommendation to players is to keep their mental preparation simple before games, as golf can be a mentally taxing sport. Every athlete misses a shot, a goal or a swing. However, Hassenplug recommends putting forth your best effort and keeping a level head no matter the outcome.

"If you're doubting yourself, that's just not the spot you need to be in, especially in a mentally heavy game such as golf," Hassenplug said. "So, a lot of confidence before the round, doing as much preparation as possible for whatever may happen. During the round, it's simply one shot at a time."

> So, a lot of confidence before the round, doing as much preparation as possible for whatever may happen. During the round, it's simply one shot at a time."
>
> —CARTER HASSENPLUG
> *Class of 2025*

Ada Cote, '28, plays golf and is the treasurer of The Hidden Opponent, a campus organization focusing on supporting athletes and their mental health. Having also previously played with Coach Hassenplug, she noted his personalized approach to coaching and his strong relationship with players.

"I'm looking forward to playing tournaments because I know that he's very hands on," Cote said. "In a tournament, I know I can rely on him to ask him, like, 'Hey, I have this X, Y, Z yardage, what shot should I hit?' And he'll tell you, and it's usually the right answer."



CARTER HASSENPLUG

There's a particular way of measuring success when you're in the business of playing golf. Some may assume it's counted by how many championships and tournaments are won, which is still nice to have. Hassenplug doesn't like to use exterior metrics when deciding whether or not his team has accomplished their goals. As a mathematics major, he prefers to look at metrics he knows best; numbers and percentages.

"I majored in math here, so I like numbers, so keeping track of that stuff, it's good on the numeric side of things," Hassenplug said "But, ultimately as a team, we can't worry about how other people judge our success. I think we got to focus on it ourselves.As long as you come here and you work to get better, like 1% every day, that's what I'm looking for. That's how I want to judge success."

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BASSETTE *from page 1*

By **KESSLER POTTER**
Staff Writer
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"She's a warrior," said Nadine Khalil, assistant coach of the Allegheny women's tennis team. "You won't see her struggle in her facial expressions, she's always lighthearted, she's always giggling on the court, she always has a smile on her face, but she's also super serious. She has that great balance of, I believe, that polarity, that seriousness and that love for the sport. Just making it lighthearted, that balance, is key and she definitely strikes that."

That sentiment is echoed among the teammates of Gabrielle Bassette, '29. She has been described as "humble," "inspiring" and "resilient;" all character traits that give the sophomore captain an advantage on and off the court.

Bassette, who has been playing tennis since she was five, did not enter her freshman season planning on winning over 40 of her matches this season and breaking the school record for most doubles wins. The records she set (a combined 42 wins in both singles and doubles with 22 doubles wins) led her to be named the PAC Conference Newcomer of the Year and the PAC Conference Player of the Year as well as being recognized as a first team All-PAC Conference Player for both singles and doubles. However, Bassette did not start her first season as a collegiate tennis player hoping to break school records and set new ones.

"I was just playing to play," Bassette said. "I don't like losing, of course, but I didn't even know that there was a record to break."

Bassette found out about her record-breaking season from her mom and her sister over the phone.

"My mom actually texted me," Bassette said. "She said, 'look at you, you're doing so well. I'm so proud of you' and I was like, 'oh, what?' Then my sister called me as well and she was screaming on my phone. I had just woken up, so I was very confused."

Hearing the news from her family is a full-circle moment for Bassette, who started playing tennis because her older sister also played.

"She got into it before me," Bassette said. "We have a park ten minutes away from our home and we pass by it all the time. My sister was interested in it but it took me a couple of tries for me to get into it as well, but obviously it is something I love now and I'm happy I got into it."

Bassette, who played as the top-seeded player on the team during her first year, credits her success to her flexible playing style and willingness to be coached, something that is supported by Khalil and her head coach, Dave Hayden. This adaptability aided her in having a strong season. Hayden references her showing at the National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament last season as being particularly emblematic of Bassette's qualities as a key player on the team. The team was pitted against Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, which was ranked 60th out of all NCAA Division III teams.

"Gaby knew she was going to have a battle," Hayden said. "She ended up playing their number one player who was nationally ranked. Gaby beat her in the first set and was up in the second set. I've always seen her, all year, locked in and this was just another level."

The women's tennis team is entering the 2026-27 season ranked first in the PAC preseason coach's poll for the fifth year in a row. In addition, the team has won three out of the last four championships. For Bassette, who was awarded the co-captaincy as a sophomore, this is an opportunity that she is eager to take. However, she does not plan on drastically changing the team's approach to the season.

"I want to keep the same mindset as last year," Bassette said. "We do have seven new freshmen, but they are all goal-oriented and want the team to do better. I feel like we all mesh well, so I don't think it will be a problem for our title. We just need to stay focused and don't let all of our wins take over, don't get too cocky, because you never know what the other teams have."

This belief is reiterated by Hayden, who emphasizes staying in the present.

"You know the old saying 'be present where your feet are,'" Hayden said. "What we did last year really is irrelevant, as is what we will do six months from now. We just have to stay current, stay day-to-day, get better every day we step on the court."

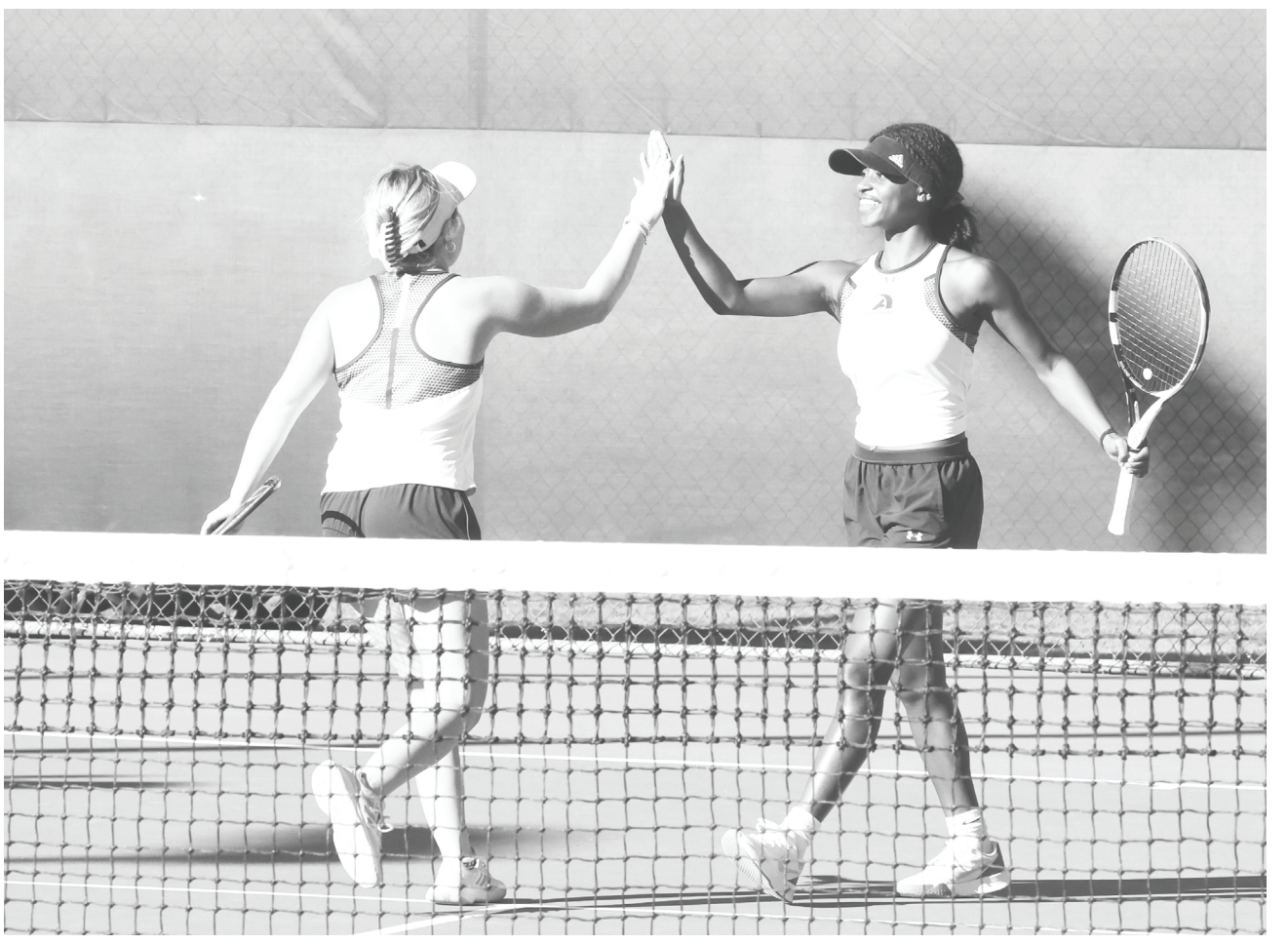


PHOTO COURTESY OF ED MALLIARD
Bassette celebrates with teammate Maria Lounder, '26, after scoring a point in their double match against Washington & Jefferson College.

> "I don't like losing, of course, but I didn't even know that there was a record to break."
>
> —GABRIELLE BASSETTE
> *Class of 2029*

This goal is something that is at the forefront of Bassette's mind as she assumed the co-captaincy position for the upcoming season. Although she is a sophomore captaining a team that includes several upperclassmen, Bassette isn't nervous about any power struggles.

"There was no pushback on a sophomore being captain," Bassette said. "It's just a respect thing, but I think that we are all close enough that the title doesn't even matter, honestly. Once I got captain, I didn't feel any different, I didn't feel like I had authority over them. I was just telling them what Coach tells me."

This sentiment is supported by Bassette's teammates, including her co-captain, Adriana Navarro, '28.

"Gaby is a really approachable captain," Navarro said. "I feel like you could talk to her about so many things and she is very easy to go talk to, which makes her a really good captain. She is always going to try to find a way to make you laugh if you are having a hard day or if you didn't have the best practice, which makes her a really good captain."

Teammates Jillian Clark, '27, and Madison McDunn, '29, agreed with these opinions.

"She's a very good teammate, a good role model," Clark said. "She's a great tennis player, always very supportive, she's super fun to be around, will always make you laugh on and off the court."

For McDunn, Bassette's easy-going, uplifting attitude can make it challenging to remember that she is a record-holding player.

"She is a very humble person," McDunn said. "So the fact that she's broken all these records and everything is honestly surprising. She's not very outgoing about how good she is, she's very reserved and just a great person to be around."

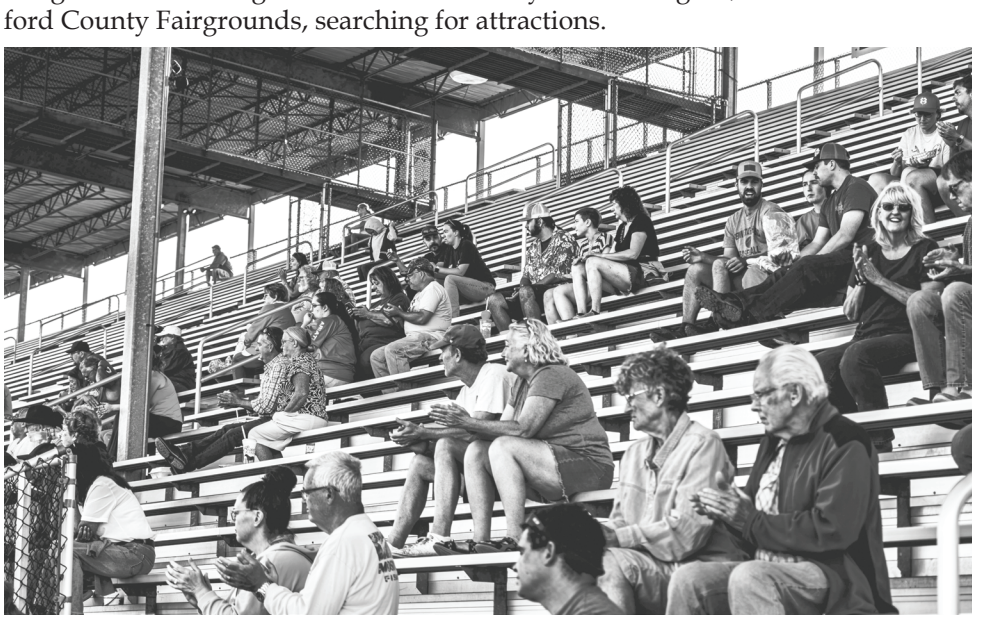
Bassette shrugs off this praise and the effort it takes to achieve her accomplishments easily. For her, tennis is a fun game, an enjoyable outlet. Everything else is just a hard-earned bonus.

"I'm really happy," Bassette said. "I do what I love and I get rewarded for it."

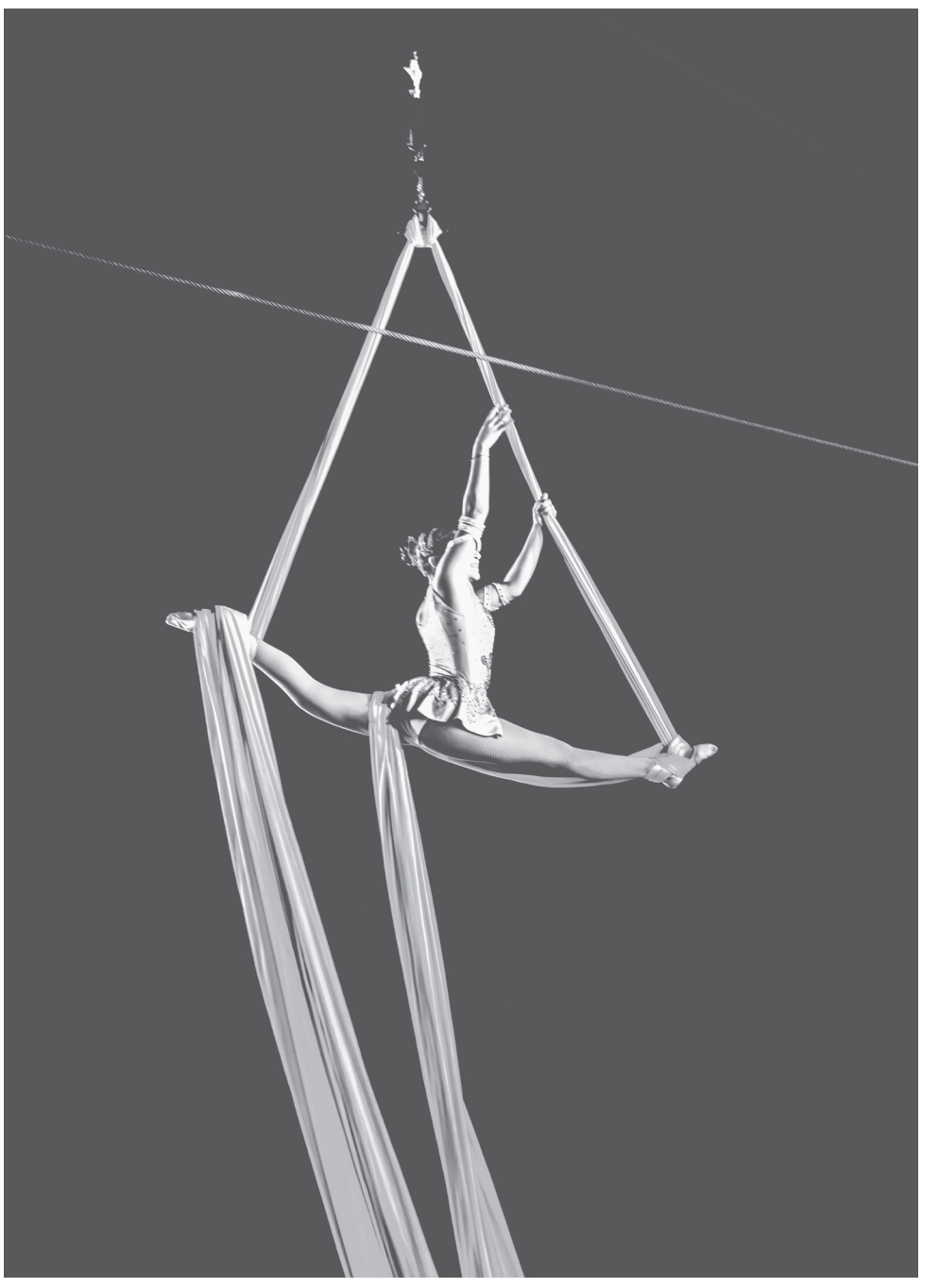
At the circus: Crawford County hosts annual fair



BENAIDEN CHEVILLE/THE CAMPUS
Fairgoers walk through the Crawford County Fair on Aug. 26, 2026 at the Crawford County Fairgrounds, searching for attractions.



BENAIDEN CHEVILLE/THE CAMPUS
Spectators watch the draft pull event at the fair. In the draft pull, teams of horses compete to pull the heaviest weights.



BENAIDEN CHEVILLE/THE CAMPUS
A corde lisse circus aerialist performs an aerobatic act, balancing on a hanging rope attached to the ceiling.

COACHES *from page 1*

Prior to his time at Allegheny, Cline worked at Division I Mercyhurst University and at the Erie Sports Now Fitness and Performance Center in similar performance roles, according to a press release posted to the Allegheny College Athletics website August 17. He is also an accomplished collegiate athlete and former captain of the PennWest Edinboro football team. During that time, he earned a bachelor's degree in exercise science.

Wilson says that Cline's own athletic experience makes him more relatable to student athletes. "I think it provides more trust within the weightroom," Wilson said. "We know his success and we know what he's done and as athletes, we can kind of trust him on that."

Cline pointed to his time at Mercyhurst as being particularly beneficial, where he was able to gain experience working with large groups at a time. "Being able to control the weightroom whether it's 60 to 100 guys prepared me for this role where I'm working with 500 athletes now," said Cline.

The Head Peak Performance Coach role comes with many responsibilities, including the oversight of every varsity athlete as well as the Assistant Peak Performance Coach.

"We pretty much split all of the teams, so that way we can work through it, there's always going to be a strength coach in the weightroom managing nutrition, implementing workouts as well as injury prevention by working closely with our athletic training [staff]," Cline said. "Just making sure our student athletes get the best experience they can in the varsity athletic weightroom."

The changes to Cline's title and responsibilities have not affected his signature leadership style according to Wilson.

"In terms of energy, he's always consistent," Wilson said. "He's always been a very high energy, very intense coach. Obviously he has a lot more responsibilities now, but he's just always been a very intense coach, which I think everyone appreciates in every sport."

Wilson also commended Cline's ability to motivate his athletes. "We could come in one day being kind of down, but be immediately picked up by our coaches and then we are able to pick each other up in that way, and I think he just provides that consistency that the weight room needs," Wilson said.

Cline's energy carries on beyond the weightroom as well. "For basketball we do this annual free throw competition where we shoot collectively with a partner 100 free throws, and we raise money for that. It was just a lot of fun with him. It was like seeing a different side of him outside the weight room, and he's still just very supportive of our entire team," Wilson said.

Cline doesn't plan on making sweeping changes to the program, instead praising the existing culture. "I think the past couple of years there has been a great standard and culture built here, whether it's how we treat the weightroom, warm up, practice and things like that," Cline said. "Obviously I have some different standards and disciplinary acts, but for the most part just building off of what was already built, whether it's the culture, the winning mindset, and just making sure our athletes have the best experience possible."

> They're just so similar in so many ways, you could talk to one and think you're talking to the other, it's just very fun in our weightroom as well having both of them."
>
> —BELLA WILSON
> *Class of 2028*

One new change to the program is the addition of Assistant Peak Performance Coach Zach Weakland. Weakland has already made a strong impression on Cline and many student athletes.

"He's been great, obviously short turnaround, he got hired about the week football came back, so he pretty much hit the ground running," Cline said. "He's been doing a great job with our student athletes, they're listening to him and following along."

Wilson gave similar praise and likened Weakland's personality to Cline's. "I think of him to be just like Toby. They work very well together," Wilson said. She believes their leadership styles compliment each other well.

"They both have the exact same intensity and exact same energy, so it all meshes well," Wilson said. "They're just so similar in so many ways, you could talk to one and think you're talking to the other, it's just very fun in our weightroom as well having both of them. He's just a great coach in himself, he's also had a lot of success and knows what he's talking about, so we can trust him as much as we trust Coach Toby."

As Allegheny's Fall varsity athletic teams begin to kick off their seasons, it will be all hands on deck for Cline and Weakland. Despite the workload, Cline pointed to the Allegheny community as a source of support.

"Whether it's from the coaching staff, the student athletes, the professors, I've had professors reaching out, it's really nice to have the support whether it's the community, the school, the athletes, everything," Cline said. "I'm super grateful for all the support and gratitude from the Allegheny community. I think we're gonna have a great year as a Peak Performance staff."

FUNDS *from page 1*

President Ron Cole, '87, reflected on the campaign's progress.

"I am thrilled with the campaign's traction and impressive results, including significant investments in our academic, residential and athletic facilities," Cole said.

The update arrives amid several construction projects on campus, including renovations to Reis Hall, Quigley Hall and the Robertson Athletic Complex.

According to Cole, gifts and donations to the campaign are expanding financial opportunities for students. "Even more impressive is our overachievement in fundraising for both endowed scholarships and scholarships that are immediately available for current and future Gators," Cole said in the July 29 release.

Scholarship money for students is drawn from what Vice President for Institutional Advancement Matt Stinson calls the endowment and unrestricted fund "buckets." He divided the campaign's $250 million goal into various categories, each illustrated on a whiteboard fixed to his office wall.

According to Stinson, out of the 70% ($185 million) of funds Allegheny set out to raise, $50 million was intended for the College's endowment and $30 million was planned to go towards other unrestricted funds available for immediate use. As of June 30, the campaign has raised over $50 million for the endowment 'bucket' and $33 million for the unrestricted "bucket."

"If we have to overachieve in a couple of areas, I love that we're overachieving in those two because that has the most impact on our students' ability to come and stay and graduate at Allegheny," Stinson said. "If you walk around campus and ask people about their financial aid packages, if they've taken the time to look at it, there are zero people here on campus that pay sticker price."

Stinson credited Vice President for Enrollment Management Jenn Winge and her office, Allegheny's athletic coaches, and the College's faculty for their work connecting with current and prospective students and donors. "I'm super excited about the dollar amount and the transformative things that it will do for our students and for our campus," Stinson said. "I'm just as excited about how our alumni, family and friends are helping in non-financial ways as well."

Beyond investing through gifts and donations, members of the Allegheny community can invite prospective students by representing Allegheny at college admissions fairs and by qualifying applicants for a $1,000 annual referral scholarship upon their acceptance. Allegheny's website claims that of 546 referred applicants, 174 students have received the scholarship.

Alumni have also inspired Allegheny students by connecting current students to the professional workforce, either in person or through virtual networking platforms like Handshake and LinkedIn. A series of statistics posted to the College's website claim that "169 alumni have shared their personal story to help tell Allegheny's story," and that "461 times alumni have returned to campus or participated virtually to speak to classrooms about career pathways."

According to Assistant Vice President for Institutional Advancement Sara Pineo, the campaign's three-pillared approach is largely about unleashing the long-standing enthusiasm of Allegheny alumni.

"Historically our alumni have always wanted to help, but through the campaign, we have been able to give them real, tangible ways that they can do it," Pineo said. "And that's been very helpful."

The In for Allegheny campaign update comes at a moment of change and uncertainty surrounding the size of the College's student enrollment.



NATHAN GEORGE/THE CAMPUS

Vice President for Institutional Advancement Matt Stinson by the whiteboard in his office at the Tippie Alumni Center. Columns below the "250" indicate how the college aimed to raise $250 million through the "In for Allegheny" campaign.

For years, Allegheny has seen a steady decline in student enrollment. A page on Allegheny's website titled "10-Year Detailed Enrollment History" shows that from Fall 2016 to Spring 2026, the College's student population has fallen from 1,972 to 1,117.

In addition, reporting by the US Department of Education forecasts an "enrollment cliff" arriving in the mid-2020s, a significant nationwide dropoff in the number of students applying for higher-learning institutions due predominantly to shifting age demographics.

Student enrollment is a significant determinant of recurring revenue for most colleges and an area of particular concern for Allegheny according to a February 2024 report published by the major credit-rating agency Moody's.

"With weak demographics and elevated student market competition, both pricing power and revenue growth will remain suppressed," Moody's analyst Chris Collins wrote in the report.

Although historical trends and demographic shifts paint a dismal picture, Allegheny's future may be more complicated. According to the release, student enrollment actually increased this year, rising 20% from last fall. The figure marks the first instance of enrollment growth since the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition to student enrollment, Stinson claims campaign funds will support important infrastructural changes on campus, including the introduction of an elevator and air conditioning to Brooks Dining Hall.

However, the campus community still has yet to see some of the campaign's effects. "Even though the bricks and mortar are exciting," Stinson said, "I think the connections, the experiences for our students and, ultimately, successful outcomes of meaningful lives and successful careers, that's what you're going to see even more of."

YVONNE *from page 1*



BEN STAVNEZER/THE CAMPUS
Longstreth walks out of McKinley's, on Friday, Aug. 28, sporting a shirt reading, "See You Later Gators."



BEN STAVNEZER/THE CAMPUS
John and Yvonne Longstreth pose for a photo holding a bouquet of flowers that he gifted her.



BEN STAVENZER/THE CAMPUS
Longstreth and Lucas Bradley, '27, exchange a hug.



BEN STAVNEZER/THE CAMPUS
Longstreth and students group together for a photo after Longstreth's final shift.

2026 Fall Involvement Fair



BENAIDEN CHEVILLE/THE CAMPUS
Students crowd the Gator Quad on Aug. 29, 2026 at the fall involvement fair, searching for new opportunities and clubs.



BENAIDEN CHEVILLE/THE CAMPUS
President Ron Cole, '87, chats with a student as they view a club's table.

Friday, Sept. 4 - Thursday, Sept. 10

Allegheny Sports Home Games

9/4 Friday	**Women's Tennis** Robertson Tennis Courts
9/5 Saturday	**Men's Soccer** *Vs Buffalo State* Robertson Athletic Complex, 1 P.M.
9/6 Sunday	**Women's Tennis** Robertson Tennis Courts
	Women's Soccer *Vs RIT* Robertson Blue Turf, 1 P.M.
9/7 Wednesday	**Women's Soccer** *Vs Penn State Behrend* Robertson Blue Turf, 1 P.M.



BENAIDEN CHEVILLE/THE CAMPUS
The Queer Student Union explains their club to interested students as others sign up for their email list.