1876 THE CAMPUS 2019

VOLUME 144, ISSUE 2 – FRIDAY, *AUGUST 30, 2019* – WWW.ALLEGHENYCAMPUS.COM

Innovation, imagination, involvement



THE CAMPUS PHOTO STAFF

Students gather and discuss different college clubs and organzations for the annual Allegheny College Involvement Fair on Friday, Aug. 29, 2019 by the Gator Quad.

Bringing Allegheny, Meadville together

By **SARA HOLTHOUSE**
News Editor
holthouses@allegheny.edu

The beginning of every academic year brings a new start not only to classes, but to clubs and organizations across campus. One campus organization adjusting to these new year changes is Allegheny Student Government.

ASG represents students at Allegheny College in certain issues involving the administration, along with presiding over the creation of clubs and other student organizations. ASG also helps create and organize relationships throughout the college community.

The organization is run by a cabinet made up of 12 students with a variety of responsibilities. At the end of each year, one of the preparations ASG has to make for the following academic year is elect a new cabinet. Chief of Staff Jared McHale, '20, one of this year's new ASG cabinet members, said he felt he would be a good fit for the position because of previous experience on the Curriculum Committee. This committee is one under the College Committees Council, where students and administrators come together to discuss college curriculum, including new courses or course changes.

> "I think it is important that the campus community feels that ASG really supports them and includes them, so that's really what I want to focus on in my role this year."
>
> —GENESIS PENA
> Class of 2022

"I've served on the Curriculum Committee, which is one of the committees that the chief of staff is in charge of in the College Committees Council, for two years now," McHale said. "So I thought it would be a good fit, and that I would be able to help the students on that committee from my own experience."

McHale explained that his main job as ASG's chief of staff was running the College Committees Council, which includes holding bi-weekly meetings with students on the committees and reporting any gathered information to the rest of ASG.

"(The College Committees Council) appoints students and student representatives to six different com-

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Experiential learning trip travels to Belize, studies cacao

By **WILLY WALKER**
Science/International Editor
walkerw@allegheny.edu



Contributed by LYDIA ECKSTEIN

The students of the Belize Experiential Learning Seminar hike through the rainforest in May 2019.

With an increase in sugars and fillers in everyday foods, many wonder if the food in grocery stores is the same as food not found in grocery stores. For example, is the chocolate that line the racks of Giant Eagle and Tops Friendly Markets the same chocolate growing in the rainforest? This topic is one of many that Allegheny College students explored during an Experiential Learning trip to Belize this past summer.

Led by Beth Choate, associate professor of environmental science and sustainability, and Lydia Eckstein, associate professor of psychology, students journeyed to southern Belize from May 12 until May 26 to study how the local community grew cacao and interacted with the ecosystem around them.

"We had scheduled things that everyone was doing together — we had our little siesta in the middle of the day, and then we generally were having lectures, or talking to people who were visiting the lab, or talking to the people that worked there or students were off doing their own projects," Choate said. "At the end, we got to snorkel, birdwatch and hang out at the beach."

This was the first experiential learning trip Eckstein had lead in her time at Allegheny.

"I was approached by Beth Choate about 10 days before departure to see if I could be an additional faculty member to come on the trip, because it was clear that it might be helpful to have another faculty member go," Eckstein said. "We wanted to make sure that the EL could still happen."

A native of Berlin, Eckstein said the only time she had seen snakes, tarantulas and scorpions were in a zoo — and, she added, she had to face her own discomfort during the trip.

Where she saw discomforting creatures, Eckstein also saw familiar scenery. She pointed out that an episode of "Naked and Afraid" was filmed there.

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IN THIS WEEK'S CAMPUS



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Friday		H 74° L 53° Rain: 20% Sunset: 7:57 p.m.		Saturday		H 73° L 58° Rain: 10% Sunrise: 6:45 p.m. Sunset: 7:55 p.m.		Sunday		H 71° L 58° Rain: 40% Sunrise: 6:46 a.m. Sunset: 7:54 p.m.





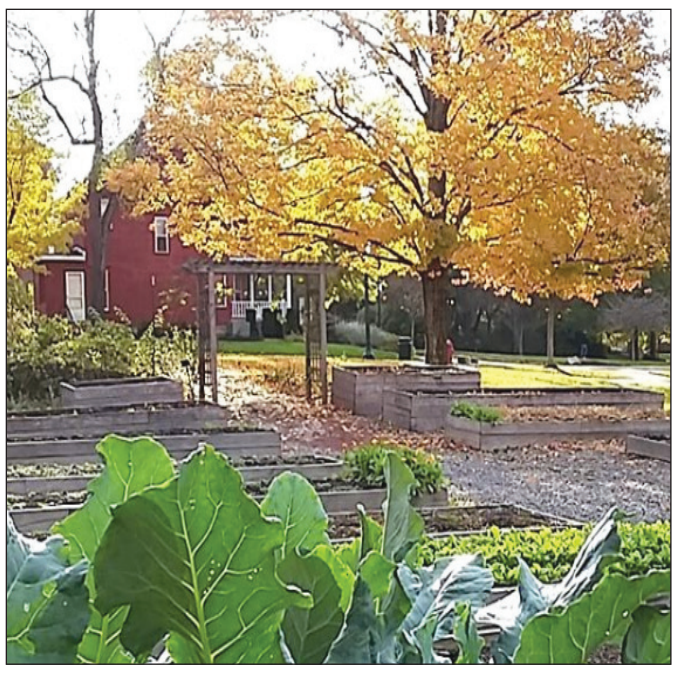



Photo contributed by ALLEGHENY COLLEGE INSTAGRAM

What is growing on in the Carrden?

Allegheny's Carrden becomes Certified Naturally Grown

The produce grown in Allegheny's very own Carrden is now certified naturally grown, meaning that all produce grown is pestiide-free and meets organic agricultural standards.

The Carrden was established in 2013 as both a teaching tool and a way to provide fresh, locally grown produce to Allegheny's campus and the Meadville community.

Since its establishment, the Carrden has strived to employ sustainable growing practices and is committed to continuing and improving these practices, according to Kerstin Ams, the garden manager for the Carrden.

Over the summer, the Carrden was surveyed by a local Saegertown farmer and officially received certified naturally grown status for the national organization Certified Naturally Grown (CNG) in June.

The Carrden will continue to grow and stay committed to sustainable growing practices over the upcoming years. Ams and Kelly Boulton, sustainability coordinator, announced that they are looking to receive the administration's approval to bring a colony of bees and half a dozen chickens into the Carrden to expand its offerings.

Looking forward to the fall

Harris makes move from Los Angeles to Meadville

By **HANNAH SCHAFFER**
News Editor
schafferh@allegheny.edu

Deciding to move thousands of miles across the United States for a new position is not an easy one to make.

However, Jessica Harris, visiting assistant professor of history, accepted a position at Allegheny not only share her love for history and learning with others, but also to experience an East Coast fall.

"I'm looking forward to fall," Harris said. "Seeing how the leaves on the trees change will be extraordinary, especially coming from Los Angeles, where it is just one season more or less."

Harris completed her bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees at the University of California, Los Angeles.

"I spent quite a bit of time at UCLA," Harris said.

Although Harris cannot pinpoint a single experience that inspired her to become a teacher, she attributes her desire to teach, to her own teachers.

"I always enjoyed learning about history," Harris said. "I had really good, fantastic history teachers — and that was something I aspired to be."

While Harris is excited to experience a Meadville fall, it was not the sole reason she decided to accept a position teaching for Allegheny.

"(Allegheny) is a beautiful campus," Harris said. "That is the thing that struck me the most when I came here for my campus visit, coming from L.A. where things are not very old."

Besides the beautiful campus, Harris is also excited to get to know her students and fellow faculty members.



HARRIS

"I came to Allegheny because of the great interest the institution takes in its students and the relationships that it builds with the students between students and faculty," Harris said. "That is what attracted me the most."

Harris will be teaching two courses in the history department during the fall semester. The first course is focused on the history of the United States prior to 1865, and the second is Harris' research specialty, which will be exploring American consumerism.

"I'm looking forward to seeing how the students react," Harris said. "I love learning so much that I want to share what I have learned with others."

> I'm looking forward to fall. Seeing how the leaves on the trees change will be extraordinary, especially coming from Los Angeles where it is just one season more or less."
>
> —JESSICA HARRIS
> Visiting Assistant Professor of History, Allegheny College

New position, familiar face

Coffman starts with promotion, prepares for season

By **ETHAN WOODFILL**
News Editor
woodfille@allegheny.edu

The Allegheny College men's and women's tennis teams welcomed a new, yet familiar, face to its coaching staff this season.

Taylor Coffman, former assistant coach, was promoted to head coach this month following the announcement that former head coach Jared Luteran would serve as director of recreation and facilities.

Coffman, a Texas native, played in NCAA Division II at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas. While at Midwestern State University, she totaled 100 career combined wins, making her only one of six to ever do so for the Mustangs.

As a two-year captain, Coffman was a three-time All-Lone Star Conference honoree, including two for doubles and one for singles. In 2014, Coffman and teammate Kayla Casey ranked 20th in the ITA Division II national doubles during her junior year and placed 17th in her senior year. Coffman and the Mustangs earned two Lone Star Conference titles, three consecutive South Central regional championships, and three trips to the NCAA Division II national tournament.

Between Coffman's sophomore and senior seasons, the Mustangs earned a combined record of 59-18. In 2015, Coffman led the team to its first ever Elite Eight appearance.

She served as an assistant coach for the Mustang's women's team while finishing her degree in mass communications in 2016.

"Prior to arriving at Allegheny, I worked in sports information," Coffman said, "(which was) a different career choice (than coaching), but I definitely wanted to get back into coaching because of the connections you make with the athletes and (the ability) to mentor them, not only on the tennis court, but explaining how tennis can relate to life — that's my favorite part of it all."

Last year, Coffman served as an assistant coach at Allegheny — focusing on the women's team while also assisting with the men's team.

This year, Coffman hopes to build upon Luteran's legacy with her new perspective and ideas.

"Coach Luteran (has done) a great job with the teams the last 16 years," Coffman said. "It was great to work underneath him and learn from him. I hope that I can continue to contribute to the legacy of Allegheny tennis that he's left here. He put a tradition of winning and pride in the programs, and I'm hoping that I can continue to contribute to that and provide a fresh voice for the team."

Coffman said her main goals for this year are to be competitive, both regionally and nationally.

"We play in one of the toughest conferences in Division III," Coffman said. "I feel (as though) a lot of people don't realize that. The (North Coast Athletic Conference) is very good at tennis. If we can stay competitive in our conference, we can be competitive nationally."

Coffman recognized that her first year as head coach will bring challenges, but that from these challenges will come many learning opportunities.

"The team is very supportive; they're ready to go," Coffman said. "Any challenges that I may face will be administrative and not on the court because that is where I am most comfortable."

Coffman is currently working on completing her master's degree in sports administration, which she hopes to finish by the end of the year.

"I'm really excited that I get to make decisions (for the teams)," Coffman said. "I got to work with them last year, so I'm even more excited to continue working with them because they're a great group of athletes."

ASG *from page 1*

mittees that work with faculty and administration on different areas of the college campus," McHale said. "There's also internal team building where we try to help each other out on different committees."

Along with the College Committees Council meetings, McHale said he has weekly meetings with the president, vice president, and adviser of ASG.

McHale said his biggest plans for the year are to expand and focus more on the team building aspects of the committees and communication work across all of the committees.

"I think sometimes it is hard to work on those committees when you're working with faculty and administration, so I kind of want to work on that and better help students to voice their opinions," McHale said.

McHale said he would also like to make sure that the committees are fully staffed throughout this coming year — similar to when the position was held by current ASG President Jason Ferrante, '20, who "worked on (filling the committees) a lot and did a very good job," McHale said.

Ferrante said he felt both excited and nervous for his new role as president along with the new cabinet.

"We have a mix of people, both new and older members," Ferrante said. "It's nice to have some experienced members because that way we can do a quick turnover, and we have some people who won't need to catch up and that way we can get a bit of a head start."

In addition to leading ASG with Vice President Elyse Cinquino, '20, and adviser Gretchen Beck, Ferrante described his job as president, which includes being a liaison between the administration, board of trustees, and the students.

"I might have an idea from time to time, but my job is not to be hands off, but to focus on the big picture," Ferrante said.

According to Ferrante, one of the most important goals for ASG is reaching the sustainability goal.

"This is a really big thing, and we're going to do our best to meet it," Ferrante said.

> "I think it is important that the campus community feels that ASG really supports them and includes them, so that's really what I want to focus on in my role this year."
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> Class of 2022

Along with McHale, Director of Communications and Press David Roach, '21, hopes to continue a lot of the work he began last year.

"Last year, the new website was really the centerpoint, so I would like to continue everything with that, along with focusing on a rebrand of student government (on campus)," Roach said.

Roach detailed the main aspects of his job, which includes advertising for ASG, creating and maintaining the ASG website and creating the bi-weekly email ASG sends out, along with social media posts and the Facebook live stream of the meetings.

Additionally, Roach said he would like to focus on increasing engagement with ASG across campus, along with getting ASG's new "high-res" logo onto more materials and social media posts.

"I would like to be able to get more information to all the clubs across campus and really work on communications there, too," Roach said. "I hope that with the new logo, we will be able to have a more visible brand and more concise posts on social media."

Roach also hopes to be able to update ASG's Twitter account to make it more conversational and to be able to "use Twitter right," he said.

ASG's cabinet includes co-directors of student affairs, who work together to cultivate the student experience on campus through events and activities, along with putting out the student voice, according to Genesis Pena, '22, one of the co-directors.

Pena added that she is incredibly passionate about student outreach, which is what drew her to the position.

"I think it is important that the campus community feels that ASG really supports them and includes them, so that's really what I want to focus on in my role this year," Pena said.

Additionally, Pena said another goal that she has for the year is to make ASG more inclusive and supportive around campus, and to be able to bring students together through this inclusivity.

"I think ASG does kind of have that intimidating stance — that, 'oh I don't know if I should go to a meeting,' so as a co-director, that's really what I want to see more of this year, ... is that people are comfortable enough to come to meetings and (tell us) what they need help doing," Pena said.

Pena added that she is excited to be a part of ASG this year and "to be able to contribute to Allegheny's campus."

This year's ASG cabinet has also added an entirely new position — Director of Community Relations, held by Gabby Miller, '20.

"It's super vague and flexible," Miller said. "My job is directly influenced by what people want. It's not that I'm coming in and telling people what they should do, it develops as people's perceptions of Meadville develop."

Miller said another part of her job was to arrange communication and a sustaining connection between Allegheny and the Meadville community.

Miller added that she hoped to be able to plug ASG into existing organizations in Meadville, and collaborate with them instead of the Allegheny and Meadville organizations working separately.

Likewise, Miller hopes to be able to set up town halls between the two communities and have open conversations, but said she realized that has the potential for unintended consequences.

"I do hope to be able to create some sort of open conversation between Allegheny and Meadville, maybe in October or something," Miller said. "I do see it potentially going bad if residents of either community want to just trash the other, so I do have to be really cognizant of that possibility."

Miller said she hopes Allegheny would be able to collaborate with My Meadville, an organization that works to create conversations amongst Meadville residents, and that the cabinet would meet with them to see how the two organizations could empower each other. Miller said she also wants to create an event that would pull students into town.

"I'm just super excited for this position," Miller said. "I don't fully know what it entails, but I'm ready for it."

Overall, Ferrante said that while it is not possible to make everybody happy all the time, ASG plans on continuing to be open and try its best to help with any problem a student might have.

"We have been around since the 1800s, and we still have a lot to learn," Ferrante said. "But there is no idea too big or too small. We're here to work for what people want, but for that to happen we really need people to reach out to us. We need people to tell us their concerns, come to our meetings, contact us through social media or our website. We're very open to hear students' concerns."





THE CAMPUS PHOTO STAFF

Above: Allegheny Student Government cabinet and senate members recruit new members on Aug. 29, 2019 at the Involvement Fair.
Below: David Roach, '21, and Brandon Zabo, '22, hand out information and candy to students interested in joining Allegheny Student Government on Aug. 29, 2019.

Help Wanted!

Anyone interested in working with the Allegheny College and Meadville community is invited to apply to the Business Manager position at The Campus!

The Business Maanger handles financial relationships between Meadville organizations and the newspaper. The position offers flexible hours.

If interested, please contact Matthew Steinberg at steinbergm@allegheny.edu or Lauren Trimber at trimberl@allegheny.edu.

Thank you!

THE CAMPUS

since 1876

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Advertising (412) 865-7758
Box 12, Allegeny College
520 North Main St. Meadville, Pennsylvania 16335

The Campus is printed every Friday during the academic year, except during breaks and exam periods.

Make Americans understanding again

The importance of morality in a time of great divide in the US

By **TAYLOR RENK**
Opinion Editor
renkt@allegheny.edu

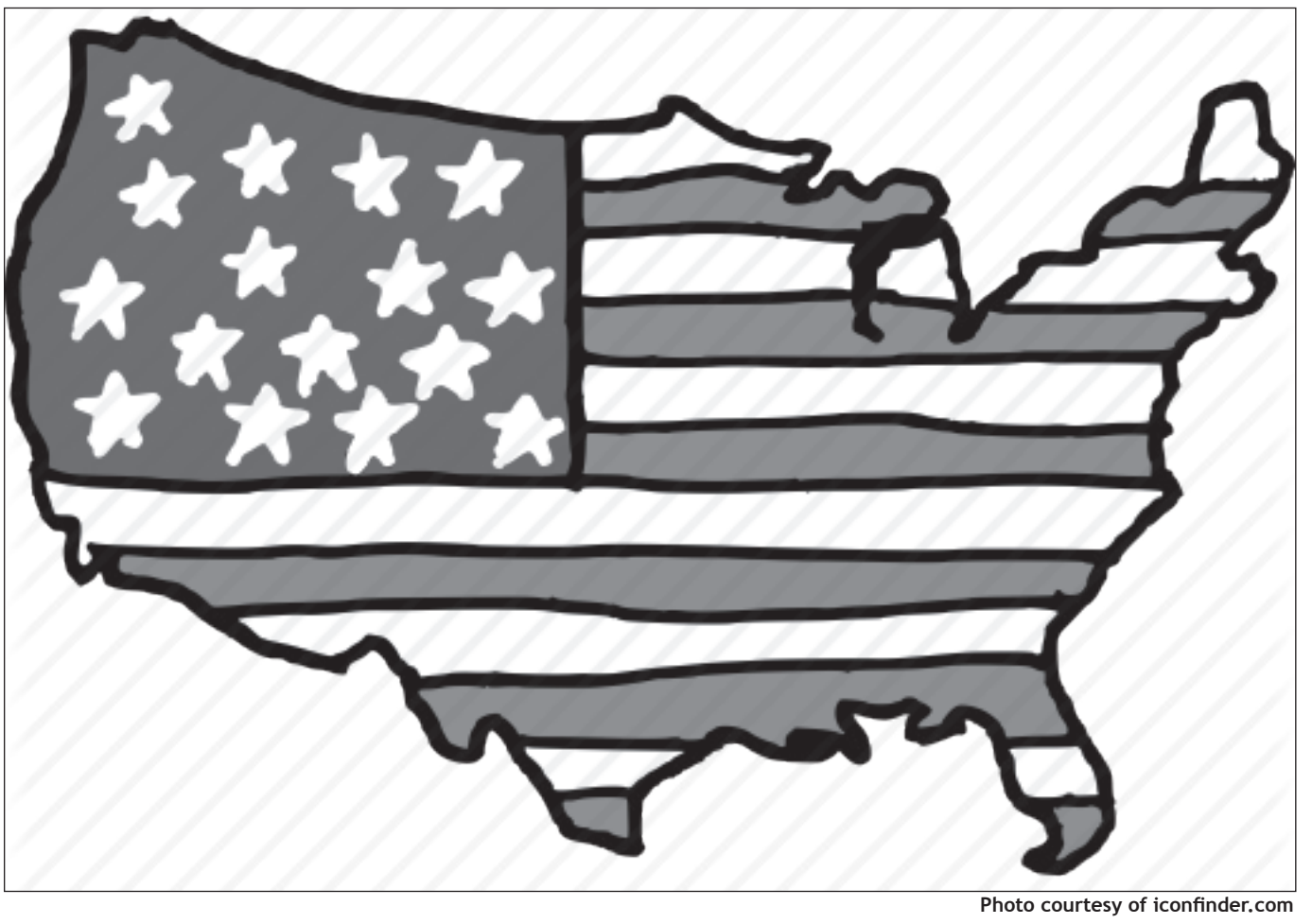

Photo courtesy of iconfinder.com

With tension within U.S. politics boiling over, a controversial president tweeting out messages by the minute and dozens of democratic candidates throwing each other under the bus every day, the mainstream media has lost control of what really matters — the moral compass of this country.

Mainstream media on both sides of the political spectrum are so focused on proving their point or swaying audiences that they often misconstrue the news itself, or they create even more polarization in the political climate of the U.S. than what already exists. I guarantee if you were to scroll through Fox News and CNN, you would be able to find the same exact story told from a completely different perspective, creating a completely different narrative. And yet, these stories include enough to technically be accurate.

But is it really the fault of national media organizations that this country is so divided, or is it the fault of each and every one of the citizens of the U.S. that often place blame on others before they look in the mirror? I vote the latter.

The two-party system in the U.S., for the most part, has allowed this country to run smoothly, giving people the opportunity to align themselves with the political party that best suits their particular ideology. But, in recent years, this system has been hijacked by extremists, both conservative and liberal, causing tension between those who do not align on particular issues.

One of the most hot-button topics in modern politics is any perspective around the Second Amendment. With mass shootings on the rise, both conservatives and liberals have stated their opinions on the right to bear arms — the left wing for the majority vote for increased gun control, and the right wing for the right to carry — two very different stances on one individual topic, yet most people seem to miss the most important part: mass violence is wrong and it should be morally unacceptable. However, our leaders and political extremists immediately turn to polarizing solutions instead of inciting national unity in this time of great sorrow.

Yes, it is important to work toward solutions to these horrific events, but I strongly believe it is even more important to work toward a nation filled with empathetic, understanding people who aren't always so quick to give judgment, rather than those who point fingers at others who they believe to be at fault.

President Donald Trump has been vocal on many controversial issues in the U.S. political environment, but specifically, he has honed in on the topic of immigration — or in his eyes, the lack of legal immigration. He has been quite outspoken with his "America First" campaign, which is meant to protect American workers and industries, by focusing on six specific areas — a border wall on the U.S.-Mexican southern border, the deportation of undocumented immigrants, restrictions on travel and work visas given to Mexican immigrants, increased screening of refugees, review of the H-1B visa program and the curbing of legal immigration.

Naturally, with his controversial demeanor, he attracted critics, but the nation nearly erupted after stories and videos of families being separated from their loved ones because of undocumented immigration surfaced. Children were separated from their parents with no foreseeable reunion in the near future, forcing young immigrants into the U.S. foster care system. Now, what part of this sounds appealing whatsoever? None of it.

People immigrate to the U.S. with the hope of a better and brighter future, whether they come to this country legally or not. The left believes we should have open borders, and the right believes in tightening them — so how do we find a common ground? How do we, for once, stop bickering with each other and look for beneficial and productive answers?

The answer is morals and heart. No matter religious beliefs, or lack thereof, the U.S. as a nation needs to work toward being decent, loving and understanding citizens. We as citizens need to find a place deep down inside of us that says treating human beings like they are the dirt we walk on is intrinsically wrong.

Once we find our grounding, we can then work together, one nation filled with multiple different perspectives and ideologies, toward a brighter future.

The United States is the land of the free, the home of the brave and a place with opportunities that you cannot find anywhere else. For decades we have stood proud with dignity and pride in the place we call home. It is time we unite as citizens and work toward a safer and more productive future so that our children and grandchildren can once again be proud to be an American.

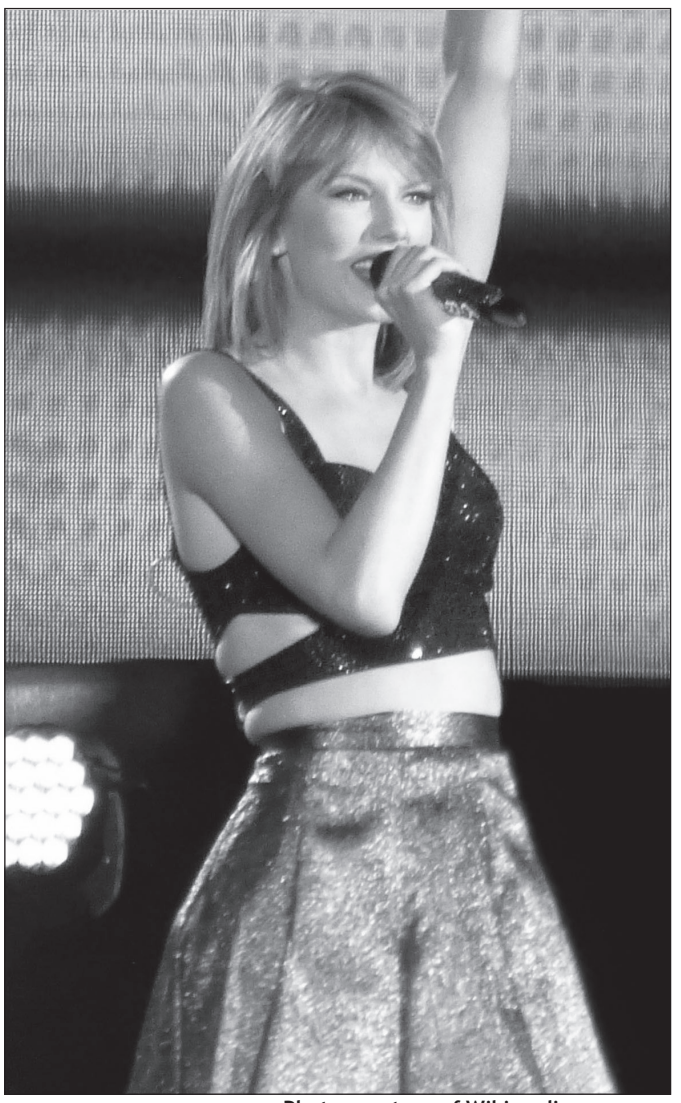

Photo courtesy of Wikimedia commons

Swift soars with new album 'Lover'

By **KELSEY EVANS**
Staff Photographer
evansk@allegheny.edu

You could call me a "Lover" of Taylor Swift's new album, released on Aug. 23, 2019. Once again, Swift has curated an amazing album after her surprising, yet successful, release and tour for her previous album "Reputation" in 2017.

Unlike most fans and critics who were disappointed with "Lover" singles, I enjoyed "ME!" and "You Need to Calm Down." I followed the countdown to the album's full release and was excited for what the full album would bring.

Swift's new album is reminiscent of her work previous to "Reputation," which was a never before seen edgy version of Swift. "Lover" returns Swift to her sweetheart days of "Sparks Fly" and the studio albums "Red" and "1989," with many upbeat pop hits and a few country-esque ballads.

The pastel album cover reflects this change from the harsh white, black and red cover of "Reputation." Fans of Swift, or "Swifties," like myself, began to notice the change starting in early February with Swift's new colorful Instagram aesthetic that led to her eventual album announcement in June.

According to a Billboard article by Jason Lipshutz, Swift said this album is an attempt to be "'defined by the things that I love — not the things that I hate, not the things I'm afraid of.'" I think she achieves this goal through the marketing of the album with its cover art, title and the numerous feel-good songs about love and past love, opposed to the "Reputation" focus on revenge.

While "Lover" was a return to Swift's image as a girl next door, her musical evolution in "Reputation" was not forgotten. Her inclusion of electronic dance music that has become popular in today's

> "Once again, Swift has curated an amazing album..."
>
> —KELSEY EVANS
> Class of 2020

music, and first appeared on "Reputation," is included in many of the songs on this new album.

"Lover" contains two collaborations: "Soon You'll Get Better" with the Dixie Chicks and "ME!" with Panic! at the Disco's Brendon Urie. These two songs and their collaborators demonstrate Swift's both past and present, as Swift has fully made the transition from country to pop singer.

Two of the songs on the album reflect Swift's recent efforts in supporting the Equality Act. In "You Need to Calm Down" and "The Man," Swift comments on the political climate surrounding LGBTQ+ and women's rights. While some critique Swift for being vocal about her political opinions as a celebrity, it's easy to be a fan of both of these songs, as they are enjoyable and upbeat.

My personal favorites are "Paper Rings," "I Forgot That You Existed," and "I Think He Knows." They are catchy songs that are refreshing to hear after the dark and twisty hits of "Reputation."

The beauty of Swift's newest album is its ability to merge both of her new and old styles of music, leaving everyone with something to like, while still providing a new phase of the Swift evolution.

While I enjoyed "Reputation," it was good to hear Swift return to her roots. I thoroughly enjoyed all 18 tracks of "Lover" and am impatiently waiting Swift's likely soon-to-be announced "Lover" tour.

Embracing and transforming with the college struggle

By **TAYLOR RENK**
Opinion Editor
renkt@allegheny.edu

With another semester of college just beginning, I've seen anxious but excited new faces fill Baldwin Hall, each person looking forward to the next four years.

When you're a first-year, many tears are shed with many goodbyes, yet an abundance of love and affection is shown when meeting the people who will become a big part of your life for the duration of your time here at Allegheny. The feeling of freedom and independence shoots through your veins for the first time in your young, 18-year-old life. You feel like you could take on the world. You feel like you have made it. You may not know it at the time, but when you move in as a first-year, your journey has just begun.

In the next four years, you will probably be faced with heartbreak, stress, anxiety and an extreme amount of confusion, but all of that will shape you into a stronger individual who will be ready to face the real world. Your teachers will probably be hard on you, but do not worry — they are always looking out for your best interest, even if it does not seem like it at the time.

Your parents will probably push you to your wits' end with constant discussions about keeping your grade point average up, being involved with as many campus activities as possible, and of course, finding a career path, or, as I like to call it, the most dreaded conversation. Always remember: they love you, and they only want you to succeed. At the end of the day, you will figure it out, and whatever collegiate path you choose, it was meant to happen. Do not doubt yourself, and always stay positive. Always work hard. Life will work out for you once this four-year experience as come to a close.

Lastly, take the time to find your people. Find those around you who lift you up before they would ever tear you down. It is hard to come into college and find your place right away, so do not get discouraged. You absolutely will find your place, and it will make your college experience that much better.

Above all, do not lose yourself in the madness of college. Embrace the struggle and let it transform you into a strong, independent and radiant young adult. College offers so many opportunities to grow. From day one, take advantage of them.

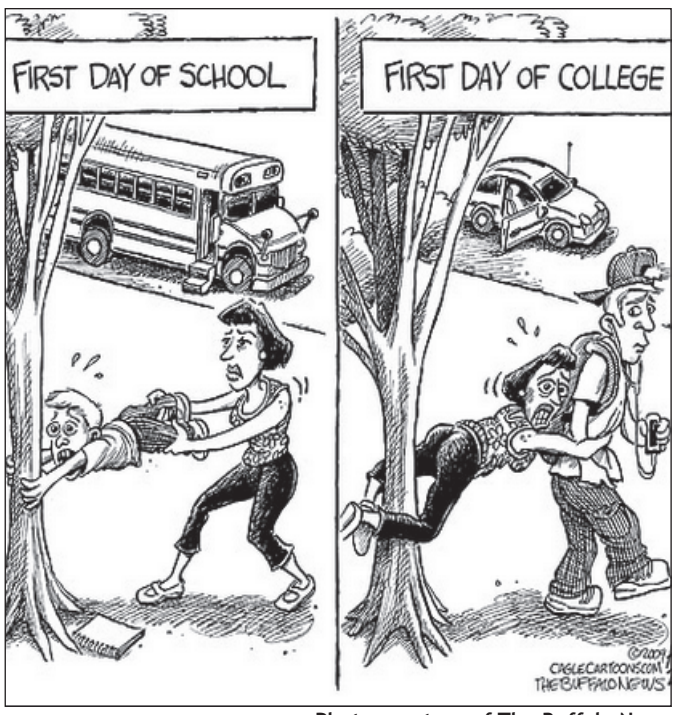

Photo courtesy of The Buffalo News

Birds, chocolate, adventure

BELIZE *from page 1*

"You can watch exactly where in Belize we were by pulling up 'Naked and Afraid,' and the episode is called 'Eye of the Storm,'" Eckstein said.

The first of the 10-day trip was spent at a local Maya education center. Following that, the students traveled to the reservation they completed their research at. Throughout the trip, the group spent its mornings together, learning about the process of harvesting cacao before actually harvesting it.

"We spent most of our mornings either hiking or harvesting cacao," Choate said. "We did everything from harvest the cacao, ferment it, dry it, husk it and make it into actual chocolate."

Because it was the hottest part of the day, the afternoons were often spent swimming. Afterward, students worked on group research projects.

"(The research projects) varied from looking at bird diversity in the agroforest and the natural forest," Choate said. "We had some students do some (geographic information systems) work, mapping out where the cacao trees were. We had several students who did work with the Hickatee turtles. There were lots of cool research projects."

Some group projects even revolved around insects. Rebecca Montgomery, '20, an environmental science and biology double major, did a richness, diversity and abundance index of the local insects.

"We set out little cups that the insects fell into, then we picked through them, and I identified them by order," Montgomery said.

Montgomery said her goals included not only research, but contribution to the community through her work. Other students, such as Sydney Holler, '19, an environmental science major and geology minor, studied the critically endangered Hickatee turtle.

"Our group wanted to do something that would try to make a difference ... so our project was on the basking behavior of juvenile Hickatee turtles and how the air and water temperature affects whether or not they were basking," Holler said. "We wanted to do something that would help them, more or less."

Adult Hickatee turtles do not typically bask, since they are a primarily aquatic species and very rarely come up to the surface of the water to breathe, according to Holler. However, a majority of baby turtles came up to the surface to breathe, which perplexed many of the researchers.

Other species of turtles need to bask, Holler said, because they cannot raise their body temperature internally. Since they cannot raise their internal body temperature on their own, turtles use sunlight. Conversely, Hickatee turtles can raise their body temperatures internally, so the species has never needed to bask before. Holler's goal was to learn why baby Hickatee turtles had been seen basking.

"The day before we left, … we got to go up and see a Hickatee turtle hatch," Holler said. "They're critically endangered, and that's one of the few places that they have them, and it's just so surreal to see that."

Several students emphasized how well the trip was organized by the professors. Biology and environmental science double major Jared Jordan, '21, praised Choate and Eckstein.

"They had an agenda that they were easily able to rearrange to accommodate for different things, and there were a lot of fun activities as well," Jordan said. "I learned quite a bit, and there was a chance for (the professors) to integrate the education into the EL, too."

Jordan commented on the interesting relationship between the indingenous people and the land use, as well as sustainable agriculture and farming practices that contribute to environmental protection.

Most attending students said they greatly enjoyed the food. In particular, Montgomery described the freshly cut pineapple as being the greatest thing she has ever tasted.

"The woman who was the lead chef at the field station, her dream was to open up her own restaurant, so the food was so good," Montgomery said. "They put cacao in everything — there were cacao pancakes, cacao juice, cacao jelly, hot chocolate drinks. It was so good."

> "The other piece I like to think about is sustainable development and how do we not destroy the environment, feed the people and also make sure that they have an income."
>
> —BETH CHOATE
> Assistant professor of Environmental Science & Sustainability, Allegheny College

Along with food, the diverse area for field work drew environmental science major and global health studies minor Margo Beck, '21, who has never done actual field work before and thought it would be good to experience field work in a diverse area.

"I think the trip was good in helping me figure out, 'do I like doing field work or not?'" Beck said. "What I did was more of an observational study, and I kind of realized field work is not for me, so I know that when I'm preparing to do my (Senior Comprehensive Project), I don't want to do a project that's just sitting around."

Beck said her favorite part of the trip was talking to the Maya people about their views of the United States, and their perceptions of life outside of Belize.

"I was talking to two of the women who worked in the cacao nursery, and they're like, 'what, you don't have Howler monkeys in your backyard screaming every day? You don't have iguanas and lizards everywhere?'" Beck said. "They just thought everywhere was like where they lived."

Sticking to the itinerary, the trip went according to plan without incident, until the very end.

"It hit the day we were coming back home, and I thought it was because we ended up taking a 10-seater flight from southern Belize to northern Belize to catch our flight back home," Beck said. "I thought it was just a little flight that made my stomach feel weird, but it ended up being Salmonella."



Contributed by **LYDIA ECKSTEIN**

Above: Students attending the Belize experiential learning trip listen to a community member on a beach.
Below: Margo Beck, '21, waves at the camera while hiking through the Belize rainforest during the Belize trip in May.



Beck was one of two students on the trip to catch Salmonella. In addition to the Salmonella contraction, the group almost missed their flight due to a lack of preparedness from the staff in charge of transporting them to the airport.

"On the way back we had a little bit of a hiccup," Eckstein said. "The bus wasn't there on time, so we may have missed our plane, so we had to take some puddle jumpers to get to the actual airport. So that was an adventure on top of the big adventure."

Overall, the trip was well received by all who attended. Some of Montgomery's favorite moments were being able to see Howler monkeys, the loudest terrestrial animal in the world, as well as snorkeling in the Belize Barrier Reef, the second largest barrier reef in the world.

"I thought it was awesome," Montgomery said. "I met a lot of new people and bonded. It was really fun. I think they're trying to do (a Belize EL) again, so I'd definitely recommend interested people to apply. I learned a lot, and had a lot of new experiences."

Jordan echoed Montgomery's statement, describing Belize as a wonderful country and highly recommends any students interested try to attend if the trip is offered again.

After returning to the U.S., Beck remained interested in the Maya workers who were employed on a reservation. They got paid "about 25 to 35 dollars a day," had to live on the reservation during the week and had to hike 6 miles on the weekends if they wanted to see their families.

Holler said she had never been out of the U.S. before, and had never had an experience like this, which became a deciding factor to attend.

"I was thinking, 'I'm going to be graduating soon and I'm probably going to be working until I die, so if I'm going to do something I better do it now,'" Holler said.

The students felt that the trip was successful and several noted that they will use what they learned in Belize in their everyday lives. From a professor's viewpoint, Eckstein noticed the parallels of research methodology between environmental science and psychology, which is her field of study.

"Students didn't have internet access, so that made a big difference for our cohesion as a group but also well-being in general to be disconnected," Eckstein said.

Additionally, Eckstein learned a great deal about how chocolate is made and has a new appreciation for chocolate and cacao. She said she now consumes less commercially available chocolate, which is just sugar and fillers. She also learned more about consumption and the use of natural resources.

Using rain showers and outhouses every day made Eckstein think of how much water is used just by going to the bathroom.

"I'm not saying we shouldn't go to the bathroom anymore, I'm just saying that it encouraged me to think about the many resources we take for granted in our day-to-day lives," Eckstein said.

Eckstein's teaching relates to social justice and violence, which she saw greatly during the trip.

"We talked a lot to community members who were working on the property and talked and thought about labor conditions, exploitation of cacao workers, huge plantations and generally, seeing how students process their experience of being abroad and seeing (that) the comforts we have are not available to everyone," Eckstein said.

Choate also saw parallels to her teaching, specifically with the Environmental Science and Sustainability 110 course she frequently teaches.

"The other piece I like to think about is sustainable development, and how do we not destroy the environment, feed the people and also make sure that they have an income," Choate said. "That is something that was happening right in front of us."

The locals are trying to conserve the Hickatee turtle, which has been almost hunted to extinction. However, it is a food source for a lot of the locals in the area, according to Choate.

"How do you conserve this species?" Choate said. "You can't just go out and tell people not to do it, so how do you find this balance? Every story that we got into was complicated and required understanding not only the natural environment, but the social aspects as well."



Contributed by **LYDIA ECKSTEIN**

Students work with cacao at reservation in May during the experiential learning trip to Belize.

SLIPKNOT

Album 'We Are Not Your Kind' tops the chart

By **CODY BAUMEISTER**
Features Editor
baumeisterc@allegheny.edu



Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

A new album jumped through the Billboard 200 to the first slot in August. Slipknot's "We Are Not Your Kind," released Aug. 9, caught attention from the public and became the band's third consecutive No. 1 album in the Billboard 200 to date. The album beat albums from other popular artists like Rick Ross, Trippie Redd, Billie Eilish and Ed Sheeran for the top spot, making it the first time a hard rock or heavy metal album has debuted at the top since the Foo Fighters' "Concrete and Gold" in 2017.

After listening to the album, I realized how distinct it is from Slipknot's earlier work within the first few songs. "Insert Coin" and "Death Because of Death" start off the album by conveying melancholy instead of the normal heavy pounding aggressiveness that is typical of Slipknot.

"Insert Coin" begins the album with various electronic elements that mix together to create a spacey feel of what is to come, which is almost confirmed by the only lyrics in the song— "I am counting all the killers" — which are sung at the end.

"Death Because of Death" creates a creepy vibe with static as the introduction, accompanied by a piano and the words "death because of, death because of you." The added effect of a repeating bass drum is almost like a ritualistic chanting. Though the song is only one minute and 21 seconds long, its tone is scary enough to be memorable.

One of the most interesting songs on the album is "Spiders." This song really brings out the creepiness the band is able to portray in their music, giving off a feel reminiscent of horror movie musical themes. As the song continues, it goes into a psychedelic tone, which is taken further with distortions added to the track, which go well with the singing that is in the song.

Songs like "Nero Forte," "Red Flag," "A Liar's Funeral," "Critical Darling" and "Orphan" give fans of Slipknot a reminder of how heavy and brutal the band can truly be. The beginning of Slipknot was characterized by heavy growls, punishing drum beats, and swift riffs, with the added sound of secondary percussionists using snares and even hitting kegs with bats.

"Nero Forte" starts with heavy guitar riffs and aggressive drum beats that are quickly accompanied by lead vocalist and lyricist, Corey Taylor's, harsh vocals. The band added a choir aspect into the chorus, which creates the melancholic feel the first songs put into place, that is accompanied by Taylor's well-known ability to be able to quickly sing lyrics while screaming.

Continuing the aggression heard in "Nero Forte," "Red Flag" is full of the speed that was seen when Slipknot released their "Iowa" album. It really brings in the massive clashing of drums along with periodic electronic elements that really sold "Iowa" to the Slipknot fans. The quick pace of all of the instruments combined with the heavy growls and screams almost makes it seems as if the song could have been on the "All Hope Is Lost" album.

The mood of the album veers sharply into a tone of doom and sadness with the song "A Liar's Funeral." Taylor's soft singing matched with an acoustic guitar changes repeatedly through the song to slow, pounding beats and low growls. This deep, chugging rhythm changes as the song progresses and the band starts to pick up the tempo by increasing the intensity, giving the song the complete feel of one produced by Slipknot.

Taylor's vocals on the album alone show the different styles he is able to sing depending on the song. "Critical Darling" is one of the songs on the album that shows the range Taylor can do with the intense growling followed by a chorus that truly shows off his ability to sing. The lead vocals of Slipknot has always been a driving point of emotion for the band, and for this song, Taylor does an excellent job keeping the listener focused and tuned in.

"Orphan" brings a whole new level of heaviness to the album by giving drummer Jay Weinberg a chance to really display his talent, especially after replacing former lead drummer Joey Jordison, who left the band in 2013. The quick double pedal bass drums paired with the secondary percussionists give a hard pounding sound that really draws from the early albums.

Ending the album is the song "Solway Firth," which gives Slipknot fans a heavy finish to enjoy. As one of the heaviest songs on the album, the band proves they are still capable of being a heavy metal icon even though they have been making music since 1999. Taylor returns with some of his heaviest growls, while the band matches him with all the intensity that is Slipknot. Having this song at the end of the album ties it all together, leaving fans wanting more.

The album contains a vast array of sounding metal experiences that listeners can appreciate. However, as a whole, it is hard to compare it to past Slipknot albums. The different experimental techniques the band used for this album changes from their traditional albums like "Iowa" and "Vol. 3: The Subliminal Verses," which might make it hard for Slipknot fans who enjoy the more raw version of the band during older albums. At the same time, the album also gives enough variation to captivate new listeners of the band.

The album gave songs like "Unsainted," "Nero Forte" and "Critical Darling," which are the second, third and fourth most listened to songs on Slipknot's Spotify page. For a band that has produced six studio albums, two live albums, one demo album, and 22 singles — to have their newest album to have three songs that top Slipknot's most listened to chart on Spotify alone shows how impressive this album is.

This album alone offers so much variation and talent, that it is hard to not enjoy it. Slipknot is definitely showing that they are not ready to give up the reigns as one of the most well known heavy metal bands today, and this album gives hope to fans who are waiting for the next one to debut.

8/10

Ready or not, the in-laws come

A fresh horror-comedy film for a tired genre

By **LAUREN TRIMBER**
Editor-in-Chief
trimberl@allegheny.edu

The best part of a wedding night? Surviving bloody-thirsty, cultish in-laws, obviously.

At least, that's the highlight of Grace Le Domas' wedding night in directors Matt Bettinelli-Olpin and Tyler Gillett's film "Ready or Not." The film centers on a young bride, played by Samara Weaving, as she first prepares for, then tries to survive, her wedding. In the opening scene, two young boys race through the halls of a mansion with antique decor, both panting, both terrified. The older of the two shoves the other boy into a wardrobe and then spins around, only to come face-to-face with a man in a tuxedo, blood spilling between his fingers. As the man begs for his life, the boy calls out to a group of adults wearing masks, and the dying man is dragged from the frame, where he presumably is sacrificed by his bride.

And the film only gets stranger.

As the audience is taken into present-day, they're introduced to Grace, dressed in a simply gorgeous wedding gown, on her the morning of her wedding. She talks to herself — a character quirk quickly making her both relatable and adorable — in front of an ornate mirror, while her soon-to-be husband Alex Le Domas, played by Mark O'Brien, watches her from the doorway. At first, the couple's interactions are awkward, with too-long pauses and lingering looks, but the characters settle into the rhythm of talking to each other. By the second scene the couple shares, the quiet pauses between the two shred the awkwardness in favor of quiet, sweet affection.

Through the rest of the wedding, the audience is introduced to a memorable cast of supporting characters — Alex's large family is impossibly wealthy and holds a powerful position in the board gaming industry. Alex's older brother Daniel, played by Adrian Brody, shines as a drunkard weighed down with a family secret, and the film reveals early that Alex and Daniel were the children in the opening scene. In the decades since the boys were forced to play the twisted version of hide-and-seek, Daniel has never recovered from revealing the location of the now-dead groom while protecting his younger brother.

With the wedding over, Grace is asked by her new family to play one game that a mysterious box chooses. Every time someone new joins the family, Alex's father explains, they play a game on the wedding night. Confused but desperate to please her in-laws, Grace picks up a card from the box, revealing that she is to play hide-and-seek.

Immediately, the film's tone shifts. Although dark humor permeates the entirety of "Ready or Not," the plot seems to be suddenly yanked into the movie, sending Grace on a desperate fight that will last the whole night. As she wanders the halls of the mansion, still believing she is playing a simple game of hide-and-seek, the Le Domas family readies several different weapons, ranging from crossbows to rifles, to find and kill Grace. Alex, meanwhile, immediately begins planning a way to break through the electronically locked doors of the mansion to help Grace escape.

Once Alex's sister, who has taken too many drugs to fully understand who everyone is, accidentally kills a maid, Grace realizes the danger she's in, and spends the rest of the night running between rooms, across the lawn, through fences and even through the surrounding forest in an attempt to find help. Gradually, she realizes the Le Domas family's ancestor made a pact with the devil — in return for a powerful gaming empire, the Le Domas family must kill any new addition to the family before dawn, during a game of hide-and-seek.

While Grace fights to survive, still maintaining that quirk of talking to herself in any situation, the supporting characters are killed in a chaotic, borderline-hilarious fashion.

"Ready or Not" dips easily between thriller and comedy, and it doesn't shy away from gore. While the humor makes the Le Domas family memorable and, surprisingly, easy to root for, the gore grounds the game's danger and Grace's fear. From the beginning of the film, the camera work is beautiful, with long tracking shots and expertly maneuvered angles. The set design complements the camera work in an impressive way, and the gorgeous, Victorian-style setting makes every scene, suspenseful or calm, eye-catching.

The one place the film strays is in its main characters. While the supporting cast is full of life, and memorable lines, Alex's characterization varies considerably. He changes from strong in his convictions to leave his cultish family to an angry, child-like version of himself, ready to betray Grace. The change in character is absolutely compelling and could have served as a wonderful twist to a unique story, but the change happened too suddenly to be satisfying. The beginning of the film spent so much time building character in a slow, drawn-out manner, but it didn't seem to leave enough room for the end.

Despite the flaws in the ending, "Ready or Not" is a fresh take on a tired genre. The movie never strays too far into comedy, electing instead to embed the humorous moments after the most suspenseful scenes, and Grace thrives as a quirky protagonist caught in an unlikely situation.

8.5/10

Allegheny Campus Asks

What advice would you give a first year student?

As another semester starts, a new class is welcomed to the Allegheny College community. To help the new students acclimate to college life, The Campus conducted a Campus Asks to find out what advice students would give to the first year student body.

Brian Hennings, '20

"At Allegheny, you have to find a balance between your social life and school work. The professors are there to help you learn and want to watch you succeed. Make sure to ask them about opportunities and follow the things that interest you. In your first year, you have lots of wiggle room to learn and exolore, so have fun."

Francesca Balest, '21

"Appreciate your FS (class) more. You learn a lot of useful things that will help you later on your college career."

Colin Quigley, '21

"Grades are important, but your mental health should be your top priority."

Britani Ditch, '20

"Don't worry if you can't decide what you want to do or want to be; everything falls into place eventually."





THE CAMPUS PHOTO STAFF

Above: A perfomer wearing stilts and bright colors spreads her wings in front of the Allegheny gator statue during the Involvement Fair on Thursday, Aug. 29, 2019.
Right: Allegheny student students meet at the Involvement Fair to sign up for clubs and organizations on Thursday, Aug. 29, 2019.

Involvement Fair *Celebration*

Allegheny College held its annual Involvement Fair on the Gator Quad. This year, with the addition of newly-elected President Hilary Link, Allegheny added a colorful touch to the Involvement Fair, welcoming its students and new president with bright colors, performers and clubs.







THE CAMPUS PHOTO STAFF

Above: A performer walks on stilts across the Allegheny Gator Quad during the Involvement Fair and Celebration on Thursday, Aug. 29, 2019.
Right top: A perfomer suspends herself above the Gator Quad during the Involvement Fair, on Thursday, Aug. 29, 2019.
Right bottom: Students lining the Gator Quad represent their clubs and organzations during the Involvement Fair on Thursday, Aug. 29, 2019.





Allegheny club sports, organizations gather for annual college Involvement Fair



THE CAMPUS PHOTO STAFF

Top left: Men's rugby upperclass members prepare to greet prospective members at Involvement Fair on Aug. 29, 2019.
Bottom left: The hockey club gathers trophies for the Involvement Fair on Aug. 29, 2019.



THE CAMPUS PHOTO STAFF

Top right: The cheer team gets ready at the Involvement Fair on Aug. 29, 2019.
Bottom left: Men's rugby members gather together for their table at the Involvement Fair on Aug. 29, 2019.

Conversations with cross country: Spiro and Lucas look ahead to 2019 season

Cross country athletes discuss past season, talk hopes for this fall

By **MATTHEW STEINBERG**
Editor-in-Chief
steinbergm@allegheny.edu

Allegheny Cross Country closed its 2018 season with national honors — Emily Forner, '19, and Sarah Hevener, '19, finished eighth and 39th respectively, at the 2018 NCAA Division-III Championships on Nov. 17, 2018. They both earned All-American honors for their performances.

Now, members of the men and women's cross country teams are racing into the 2019 season on Saturday at Case Western Reserve University, to compete against the Spartans. On the dawn of their new season, The Campus asked four members of Allegheny Cross Country about their goals for the upcoming season.

Alex Spiro, '20:

The Campus: How long have you been on the Allegheny Cross Country team?

Spiro: This is my fourth season on the cross country team. I ran four years of high school cross country, and two of middle school cross country.

How has your experience been with cross country at Allegheny?

I'd say it's been great. It's been a really interesting experience. I think it was definitely really important for me, and really introduced me, socially, to college, and it's really great to have such good teammates. It's great to be on such a committed team and such a historically (successful) team as well.

So you feel like you guys have built on that successful history over your time at Allegheny?

I'd say so, yes. At least on the guys' side, we haven't seen quite as much success since my freshman year, but we're hoping to get back to (a successful season) this year. But we're still consistently placing first or second in the conference every year, so it's really great to just be a part of that.



SPIRO

For the 2019 season, … what are you most looking forward to, would you say?

I'm definitely just looking forward to seeing the team evolve, and seeing how we do at each meet and eventually bring our 'A' game for conferences, because I think that the conference right now is wide open and we could definitely win first place if we have a committed team. … I think we have a very good freshman class coming in — on the guys and girls side. Our upperclassmen are coming back better than we ever had before, and we have a really good grouping of runners right now, so there's not much difference between our No. 1 guy (based on running time), and our No. 7 guy, which is very important in cross country, because you try to get everybody around the same time.



LUCAS

Do you have any personal goals for this year?

I would really like to be All-Conference, which is placing in the top 21 runners in the conference, and we'll see if I can be All-Region, too, if my season goes very well.

Sarah Lucas, '21:

The Campus: How long have you been on the (Allegheny) Cross Country team?

It's been my whole college career, so it's my third year.

So what's your experience been like on the cross country team?

It's been really awesome — yeah, I'm there to run and improve on myself, but (the cross country team is) one giant family, and it's nice to have (the team members) to go to. And then to be running out on the course with them, and just knowing that you have deeper support from all of them.

Coming into this year, the 2019 season, what are you excited about?

I'm excited because we had 10 ladies come in this year — so we have 10 first-years, which is really awesome. We have a lot of talent there, we have a lot of healthy competitiveness amongst teammates. … It'll be cool to see if we can all push each other to just drop a minute together.

Spiro said that between the first best time and the seventh best time, there really isn't that much of a difference.

Yes, which is the goal in the sport of cross country — you want a small spread of time between your first and fifth runner.

Do you have any personal goals for this year?

I'm actually hoping to make first team All-Conference, and then I was just off of being All-Region last year, so hopefully I will actually get All-Region instead of being like five places off of it. … I was second team All-Conference last year, which means I was in the eighth to 14th place; so hopefully this year I'll be within the top seven.