

Credit card companies may be unwelcome guests on Allegheny campus

By JENNIFER M. NAGEL
News Editor

Candy bars. T-shirts. Sports bottles. Calculators.

Many Allegheny students en route to their mailboxes can recall pushing past credit card solicitors and their tables of freebies in Cochran Hall. These companies are some of many credit card solicitors participating in a national trend of bringing their services to college campuses.

Recent articles in *USA Today* and *The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* have expressed an increasing concern regarding this trend and the financial debts that many credit-carrying college students have accrued. These articles also described a growing debate of whether campuses are the place for credit card solicitors.

Despite these companies' occasional appearances in Cochran Hall, *The Campus* was unable to locate an office or student organization that claimed responsibility for sponsoring credit card solicitors on Allegheny's campus.

Credit card companies, like other businesses, cannot solicit on Allegheny's campus without the consent of the Office of Business and Personnel or the Campus Center Office, according to recently retired

"Seven or eight years ago, we had Sears-Roebuck card representatives actually grabbing students..."

Business Manager and Director of Purchasing Jack Machesky.

Deb Baker, director of the Campus Center, explained that her office only approves solicitations in the Campus Center and does not allow credit card companies to solicit there. The Office of Business and Personnel is responsible for other areas on campus, such as the Cochran Hall lobby.

Machesky said that his office does not sponsor credit card company solicitations, as part of a College policy which does not allow his office to permit any outside businesses to solicit on campus. "The

only exceptions we've made are for the Meadville Blood Bank, some local banks and telephone companies before we got STS (Student Telephone Services)," he said.

This policy was adopted to protect students, Machesky explained. "Seven or eight years ago, we had Sears-Roebuck card representatives actually grabbing students. I had to go over and personally ask them to leave. That's when we changed our policy."

The Campus also contacted Auxiliary Services, the Dean of Students

Office and the Office of Public Affairs. Representatives from all of these offices said they do not sponsor credit card solicitors and rec-

"I was surprised to get one of these cards because it came with a \$15,000 credit limit..."

ommended contacting the Office of Business and Personnel.

Machesky said, "The only way [credit card companies] could get in

here was if they were sponsored by student organizations. I know that I've told our policy to ten or 12 companies over the past five years. I used to tell them to call Allegheny Student Government."

However, according to Johnny Six, last year's ASG vice-president, ASG did not sponsor any credit card companies during his administration. Furthermore, Dianna Snyder, who served as ASG's Secretary of Education last year and as a senator the two years before, said, "I feel

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College students slip into credit card debt

By JENNIFER M. NAGEL
News Editor

"Being a Citibank Gold customer means life is easier and saving money is simple," a credit card brochure claims.

For many college students, this statement is a temptation. However, many of these people may soon realize that the opposite seems true.

Take Christine*, an Allegheny senior, for example. Like many college students, Christine applied for a credit card with an application she received in her bookstore bag. "All my friends had them. At first I made the excuse that I'd need it for

emergencies but I really just wanted to be able to buy things," she said.

Christine started her summer working an unpaid internship. She also started her summer with a \$700 credit card debt. "I had a second job," Christine said, "but I didn't make a lot of money and I couldn't work very many hours because I was still interning." Most of this money ended up financing a bus pass and groceries since she was living away from home.

By summer's end, Christine had built a debt of \$1,500. A major portion of this debt was interest and finance charges because she was unable to pay her balance in full each

month. Eventually, she had no choice but to tell her parents.

"My parents were pretty upset. We ended up cashing in some savings bonds early and the agreement was that I gave my credit cards to my parents," Christine said. Earlier this week, she sent in a check for her final credit card bill. Now, she says, "I feel like this huge weight has been lifted off my shoulders."

Christine knows that she is lucky because her parents bought her the savings bonds which were able to cover her debt. According to a recent article in *USA Today*, many credit companies do not consider

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Science facilities attract students

By HEATHER MITCHELTREE
Assistant News Editor

Members of the class of 2000 came to Allegheny for many reasons—the facilities, size, national reputation and others. During tours for the prospective students last year, they may not have been shown the whole campus during their visits.

Freshman chemistry major Loren Zadecky decided on Allegheny because of the small campus and better student/professor relations, though facilities played a role when she was given a tour. "They're known for getting people into med school, and they also have the new bio-chem building," Zadecky said.

Freshman Nate Groff, who is undecided about his major, has been leaning toward neuroscience. "The school is very up-to-date," Groff said, in reference to the science departments' facilities and equipment.

Freshmen were not shown all the campus facilities during group tours and individual visits. For instance, Cochran Hall, housing the post office and the English department, is often excluded from the tour.

"Campus tours usually last about an hour," said Megan Murphy, senior associate director of Admissions. This is not enough time to tour all buildings on campus, so

some facilities are only highlighted during the tour.

"I don't think we take the students to Cochran, especially during summer tours," Murphy said, "because there isn't much going on there. There aren't any facilities there that a prospective student would need to see."

"I think it would be a real mistake to condemn any department, but it doesn't help the college when we have facilities that we're embarrassed by," said Ben Slote, assistant professor of English, in reference to the condition of Cochran Hall. "We're not looking for glitzy stuff; just the basics," he said, referring to renovations.

Slote noted the carpet peeling up from the office and hall floors, and the former radio station in its state of disaster.

"It smelled so bad, my eyes would literally be tearing," said David Miller, associate professor of English, in reference to the odor in his office this summer. "I think it's high time to put some money into the humanities," he said.

Assistant Professor of Environmental Science and Biology James Palmer feels it is time to improve other facilities on campus. He is happy, though, with the equipment

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Hey pumpkin



Flowers bloom and pumpkins ripen in the organic vegetable garden, which is located by the Hall of Advanced Biology. The environmental science department sponsors several internship opportunities in the garden throughout the year.

—photo by Ben Wyrick

I do not agree with a word you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it.—Voltaire

NEWS BRIEFS

George Cook, the father of Allegheny President Richard Cook, died Tuesday, Sept. 10. A memorial service will be held Saturday, Sept. 14 at the Hubbard Lake Methodist Church in Hubbard Lake, Mich., the church that the family has attended for four generations. President Cook would like to plant a red oak tree on campus in memory of his father. Contributions can be made to the College's Memorial Arbor Fund; donations should be sent to Michael Hyde, vice-president for development and alumni affairs, Box 40.

- Peer educator training sessions on the topic of sexual assault will be offered this semester by Residence Life and the Counseling Center. People interested in this training are invited to sign up by calling or visiting the Counseling Center (x4368) by Friday, Sept. 13. The initial session will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 18 at 7:30 p.m. in Brooks Plaid Lounge. For details, contact Area Coordinator Chris Bollinger or Counselors Jacquie Kondrot, Judd Kulas or Linda Reid.

- WARC, the student-run radio station, will hold an informational meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 10 at 7 p.m. in the games room. Students interested in disc jockey or newscaster positions should attend the meeting to fill out an application. Individual shows and newscasting slots will be allocated on the basis of availability and experience.

- The Allegheny Creative Writing Group, also known as Golem, is a workshop designed for the reading and critique of student works, as well as semesterly publication of a literary journal. The group meets on Sundays from 1-3 p.m. in the Campus Center Conference Room. For more information, contact Steve Goodsell at Box 1263 or send e-mail to golem.

- The first practice MCAT test will be held on Saturday, Sept. 21 in Schultz Dining Hall. The test begins at 8 a.m. and will last most of the day. It is intended as a diagnos-

tic test for all juniors who plan to take the MCAT in the spring. Students who wish to take the test must notify the Health Professions Office at x4358 or e-mail *sackerman*. Students who plan to take other exams (OAT, DAT, GRE) may bring their own practice tests if they wish to take them under simulated test conditions.

- The Annual Fund Office needs students to contact alumni during the fall phonathon. Students who have strong communication skills, want to build their resume and are professional are encouraged to apply. Paid training and bonuses are offered. Interested students should contact the Annual Fund Office at x3853 by Friday, Sept. 13. Non-work-study and work-study posi-

tions are available.

- Assistant Professor of Psychology Joshua Searle-White will initiate the 1996-97 Humanities Lecture Series on Tuesday, Sept. 17 at 7:30 p.m. His lecture is titled "On Being a Professor in the 1990's; or, What do we Profess?" Searle-White will address the role professors play with regard to students and society at a time when the values of higher education are being challenged.

- The dance troupe "Extravaganza" will begin celebration of Latino Heritage Month on Monday, Sept. 16 at 7 p.m. in the Campus Center Lobby. The folkloric dance troupe from Cleveland will present such traditional dances as the Brazilian Lambada, the Ar-

gentinean Tango, the Spanish Flamenco and the Dominican Merengue.

- The 14th annual Wares Fair will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 18 from 6-8 p.m. in the Campus Center Lobby. The merchants of Meadville will display many of the goods and services offered in the community. All are invited to browse, enjoy free samples and register to win one of many prizes.

- A5 (Association for Asian and Asian-American Awareness) would like to remind the Allegheny community that Sunday, Sept. 15 is Respect for the Elderly Day in Japan. For more information, contact Melissa Light at x3222.

Initial ASG meeting introduces agenda

By GAIL GIEWONT
News Reporter

The first meeting of Allegheny Student Government, an informal gathering lasting roughly 15 minutes, took place on Tuesday, Sept. 10. The meeting served mainly to organize the seating of members and to survey the various topics on which ASG will focus in the coming month. Vice-president Ryan Yoder presided over the gathering.

First, members were briefed on the creation of the student directory. Ideas discussed for the improvement of the directory included the addition

of yellow pages. Faculty members, campus organizations and the hours of dining halls and other facilities will also be listed.

President Gary Pennell revealed plans for an ASG community service activity that will take place the weekend of September 21. Although an exact sight for the event has not been set, suggestions included visiting the nursing home, cleaning French Creek and helping Habitat for Humanity.

Pennell proposed that, following further discussion, legislation be passed to enforce an attendance policy that would enforce penalties on

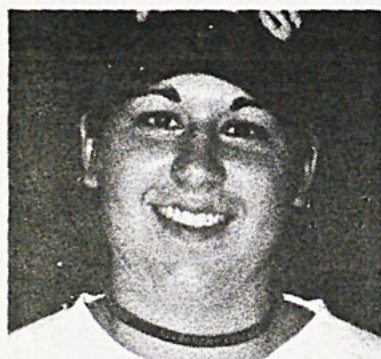
those members of ASG who missed a certain number of meetings without legitimate reason. Pennell hoped the legislation would be enacted within the next two months. Members were asked to consider volunteering for the McKinley's advisory board, which will address the address the Snapple controversy.

Following adjournment, Pennell commented that the meeting went "about as well as we'd expected." While hesitant to discuss many plans for fear of having to renege on his word, Pennell did comment that ASG would attempt to initiate a coffeehouse.

The Campus Asks...

Why do you think college students have problems with their credit cards?

compiled by Ben Wyrick



I think we have problems with credit cards because it seems like free money. I have a VISA and have vowed not to use it unless it is an emergency because I am scared that I will start and won't be able to stop, let alone pay it off on time.

Lucia Conti
Class of '00



Students spend money they don't have and expect to get money from their parents

Mark Meadowcroft
Class of '99



I don't know. I prefer to pay by check instead of credit cards, so I don't have to worry about the bills piling up later. For that reason, I use credit cards only as a last resort.

Jen McGouldrick
class of '97



Most college students (at Allegheny) come from privileged backgrounds and are used to getting what they want, when they want it. Credit cards are wonderful vehicles for the irresponsible attainment of material objects—exactly what college kids lust over.

J. Zachary Prenatt
Class of '99



Perhaps because they buy things they don't have the money to cover. I never use them unless I have the money in my account to cover the full balance on the first period.

Christa Starr
Class of '97

Community responds to Iraq attack

By ADAM VAN HO
News Reporter

Two Navy ships and two B-52 bombers launched 27 cruise missiles at Targets in Southern Iraq last Tuesday. In a response to Iraq's military attack on Irbil, a Kurdish town in northern Iraq, President Clinton ordered missile attacks against Saddam Hussein. Since then, Americans all over have been responding to the President's actions, including students and faculty here at Allegheny. Two navy ships and two B-52 bombers launched 27 cruise missiles at targets in Southern Iraq last Tuesday.

While most students and faculty support the attack on Hussein, some are questioning Clinton's motives for the bombing.

Mark Luellen, a freshman, believes "the actions were just another way to boost Clinton's campaign hopes."

While Luellen believes the attacks were justified, "We had no reason to get involved. That's a matter for the United Nations, not the United States."

Luellen's views are shared by many others, including Professor of English James Bulman. Bulman said that while he believes Hussein's actions were "reprehensible," he also questions Clinton's motives.

"I think Clinton's actions were largely motivated by the politics of the election, and I'm not sure that he considered all the options as well as he might have before acting. Americans, after all, like muscle-flex."

Sophomore Daniel Joice said, "Clinton did it to boost his election chances, but it backfired on him because he didn't consult his allies in the Mid-East. His foreign policy is failing miserably."

But not everyone agrees that the attacks were intended to boost the President's campaign hopes. Freshman Melissa Jackson said Clinton "seems pretty level headed."

"Saddam Hussein is insane. He's not predictable, and you never know, if we give him an inch, what he will take. I think it's good that we told him, before he started getting out of control, that he couldn't be a dictator in the Middle East." Jackson added.

Bruce Clayton, Harry A. Logan, Sr. Professor of American History, agrees that the attack was not motivated by politics. "The office of the presidency elevates people, and the people who say that (the attacks were politically based) are, by my way of thinking, clearly partisan," he said.

Clayton believes that the United States' role is to "tame" Hussein, and that "probably, we need a mild Saddam Hussein to be a buffer to Iran. It's too simplistic to say 'let's get rid of Saddam' and everything will be O.K.. The risk is that you might get someone worse than Saddam."

"I don't think we want Iraq so weak that it can't be a counter-balance to Iran and other Islamic forces in that part of the world," he added.

At a Pentagon news conference, Defense Secretary William Perry said Hussein poses a "clear and present danger" to stability and all production in the Middle East.

Junior Anthony Wilmarth believes the attacks were politically motivated, and that "we should have finished the job when we were there. Doing it now is a little ass-backwards, but, I think it's something that still needs to be done."

Wilmarth also points to Iraq's potential nuclear capabilities as a cause of concern, stating that "with a lunatic like Saddam Hussein in charge, I don't think that we're safe with someone with that capability."

"Even though Saddam Hussein is a nutcase, he knows that, in a situation where there is an election year, if he goes to war with Bill Clinton, Clinton will do everything in his power to make it a complete and total victory and make sure there is no chance of this ever happening again."

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Saturday, Oct. 5, 1996

Part of the Presidential Inaugural Week Observations

Administration, Faculty, Staff and Students

Sign up in the Office of Community Service by Friday, Sept. 20.

Help bring the Meadville community together with a day of community service.

The Campus of Allegheny College

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BEWARE MR. BUBBLE!—Dark stains accumulate near a bathtub drain in the Jacob C. Cafflish Memorial Hall. Many residents believe stains like these are caused by sediments in Meadville water. —photo by Ben Wyrick

Water Authority clarifies water quality concerns

By AMANDA ARETZ
News Reporter

Many Allegheny students and Meadville residents living on North Main street have noticed a brown residue in their water for the past two weeks. The Meadville Municipal Water Authority is investigating the problem, but has not pinpointed the source. A representative who wished to remain anonymous emphasized that the water is safe to drink.

The Water Authority reported that they have not found leaks or water line breaks and Meadville residents reported no water laying in areas. This ensures the safety of the water. There can be no contamination if nothing enters the water from the outside.

Mandated by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, the Water Authority is required to add chlorine to the water.

Chlorine kills any bacteria that are present. The lowest percentage allowed is used to guarantee a high quality drinking water.

To remedy the problem, the Water Authority has opened fire hydrants to flush the water through quickly.

There are many other possible causes for the discoloration. Allegheny filled the pool in Mellon Recreation building at the end of August. Simultaneously employees at Golf View Manor were filling its pool, causing more water to be flushed through the system than normal.

Another probable cause could be the season. During the fall many leaves cover the bottom of the reservoir. This build up eventually causes gas bubbles to rise and dislodge sediment in the reservoir.

Physical Plant was first made aware of the problem when students called to complain. Jennifer Tomon, a sophomore resident advisor in Baldwin Hall, received complaints from residents. "A lot of people were coming up to me and complaining about the water, but I didn't have any answers. I wasn't even sure if the water was safe to drink." Calling the city to report the problem, Physical Plant received no answers.

"We first called the Municipal Authority. Anything is possible, with older pipes. As of last Friday, they hadn't narrowed down the problem. Now, the water seems to be clearing up," said Robert Egmond, director of physical plant.

Physical Plant and Meadville Municipal Water Authority discovered that the water was only brown in the buildings along North Main Street. Meadville has a high mineral content in its water. These deposits build up on valves and in the pipes. Anytime there is an increase in pressure the sediments are upset. With the new school year begin-

ning, the influx of student water usage is the probable cause. Physical Plant has spent two days fixing leaks and cleaning the pipes. They've also flushed the plumbing and unclogged toilets.

Marriott Food Services was not notified of the brown water. After receiving a call from The Campus, Marriott called Physical Plant to investigate. They have continued to use the water in their food and for fountain drinks because the water was not affected on Park Avenue.

Bottled water is not an option for Marriott. The cost is too high for the amount of water used in preparing food and in the steamers. Still, some students are drinking bottled water. "I just don't like the taste of the water. I don't care what color it is," said sophomore Emily Quandt.

The same question of water quality was raised last January when students returned from winter break. The water authority is trying to find a correlation between Allegheny College and the discolored water.

Shoe march silently protests nationwide gun violence

AP—Leon Pickett of Delray Beach, Fla., was killed in a supermarket robbery attempt, felled by a stranger's bullet as two of his daughters watched in helpless horror.

Now, months later, his worn shoes are helping his grieving family pay tribute to his memory.

Pickett's black loafers are among an estimated 40,000 pairs of shoes being collected across the country for the Silent March, a national grass-roots protest against gun violence Sept. 30 in the nation's capital.

These are the shoes of men, women and children whose lives were wiped out with the squeeze of a trigger. These are the loafers, sneakers, heels, sandals that sit in homes as an empty echo of a senseless loss.

The footwear will line the Reflecting Pool in Washington, D.C., as a grim reminder of the 40,000 people gunned down in America in 1993—the last year statistics are available.

Tina Johnston of Staten Island, N.Y., was one of the founders of the march.

Her husband, David, was killed as he walked from dinner to his hotel room during a business trip to San Francisco. He was shot in the

back by a teen-age mugger.

"It opened my eyes to gun violence," says Johnston, mother of three. "It doesn't happen in any other civilized country. Some 40,000 people wiped out in one year—that's the size of a town."

The protest is intended to dramatize the need for federal gun-control laws, she says. The weapon used to shoot her husband in California was manufactured in Massachusetts and sold in Florida.

Besides hoping for a national registry for guns, she would like to see a gun-control advocacy group develop one day.

The march, she says, is not just about shoes.

"It's people voicing grief," she says, Americans voicing protest. "The shoes represent deaths. But it doesn't touch the surface for injury or intimidation."

Venderee Pickett of Pompano Beach, Fla., is donating her stepson's shoes.

"People just can't stay quiet any longer," she says. "This affects everybody. We've got to open our hearts, minds and our mouths."

"People are going to have to look out for one another. The days of 'I don't want to get involved' are over. And until everybody gets involved this is going to continue."

Pickett, 44-year-old father of five and grandfather to seven, was an assistant manager of a Publix Super Market in Delray Beach when three men pulled up in a car on pay day just before Christmas as he closed the store.

Pickett's daughters, ages 19 and 20, drove up just in time to see their father shot. Detectives think the bandits intended to force Pickett back into the store but the plan was botched. The trio is awaiting trial on murder charges.

Mrs. Pickett says her stepson was a family leader. "He is missed so," she says. "He was a jolly fat guy. Always had a smile." He was the one to organize a yearly family reunion that attracted 250 people.

"The Silent March is a way for us to mobilize, to put faces to the numbers and recognize for every person shot hundreds can be affected," says Debi Bara, Florida's march coordinator.

She expects to collect 2,292 pairs of shoes from Florida.

"We got involved because we see so many children come through dying from gunshot wounds," says Bara, manager of child health and advocacy for Tampa Children's Hospital at St. Joseph's Hospital. "Nearly 2,300 deaths in one year is overwhelming and so many are in-

nocent victims. People are outraged."

She also views the situation as a public health crisis, to be addressed through education and also through legislation by Congress.

Shirley Wright of Zephyrhills, Fla., lost her 16-year-old son Jason Palm in January. The youth was in a pickup truck with three other teens when a stranger—enraged with someone else—jumped from bushes near a convenience store clutching a rifle and opened fired.

Jason was struck in the head. It was a life-ending bullet meant for someone else.

The tragedy shook the quiet community 35 miles northeast of Tampa. More than 1,100 people—young and old—jammed Jason's funeral. They remembered a smiling young man who was active in school, sports and community life, held a job, was liked by his peers, and used his day off as a willing baby sitter for young single moms.

"He was not only my son; he was my best friend," says his 40-year-old mother, who spends her spare time working diligently on scrapbooks, treasuring every memento she can find.

"This is her form of therapy," says her husband Bill, who has been trying to hold it together for her and her three other children from a previous marriage. "I keep saying, 'We'll get through it—one day at a time.'"

The teen charged in the slaying awaits trial in November.

The Wrights have stapled a portrait of Jason to the laces of one of his blue suede Air Nike high tops. A poem adorns the other shoe.

"All I have left is a picture of

him," sobs Mrs. Wright. She wants to participate in the Silent March. "I don't want my son to be just another number."

In Jacksonville, Fla., Debra Lewis was shot in the ear, a victim of a drive-by shooting on Interstate 295 in July 1992. Her car careened off an overpass. Co-workers found her the next morning. She suffered partial hearing loss, damaged vocal cords, broken vertebrae, a shattered ear bone and facial nerve damage.

Seven months later her 15-year-old son, Norman "J.J." Lewis Jr. was accidentally shot and killed by a friend showing him what he thought was a toy gun. The weapon discharged, hitting "J.J." in the stomach. The bullet went through to the aorta.

The shooter was put on probation. The victim's mother went to bat for him, telling the judge he suffered enough. She said she wanted him to have to talk to peers about violence and the danger of weapons.

"God was the only way I survived," she says. "Prayers were given to me. I knew I was left alive for a reason. After my son was killed I knew what it was."

She is donating her son's tennis shoes to the march.

Such is the case with Caroline Kaba, a Walk Disney World worker who left Miami a year ago after being held hostage at gunpoint for five hours during a robbery in affluent Coral Gables.

She managed to flee, but in the process trashed her expensive Chanel shoes. "I have not been able to get rid of these high heels," she said from Vero Beach where she lives now. "I paid so much for them."

College Students Swallow Credit Card Debt

(continued from page 1)

college students to be a financial risk because their parents can bail them out when debts get out of hand. However, this is not the case for all students.

A press release from National Credit Counseling Services tells the story of Andrea Poore, a former student at Salisbury State University in Maryland. Poore, who carried 11 credit cards at one time, acquired an \$8,000 debt during her first two years of school. Her parents alone did not have the resources to pay her mounting bills.

Poore said, "I had to quit school

to pay the bills. I borrowed money from relatives, but I couldn't make it work. Even with three jobs, there was too much to handle."

Six years later, Poore still is paying off her bills. She will not be finished for another three years.

National Credit Counseling Services, a non-profit credit counseling organization, reports that personal bankruptcies will have reached their highest ever—over 1 million—by the end of this year. The organization believes that many of these bankruptcies will be claimed by recent college graduates with poorly managed credit.

In response to an increasing need for credit management services, NCCS' services have grown at an annual rate of nearly 300 percent. In addition to credit management counseling, the organization provides mortgage services and educational programs for consumers.

Anne*, a sophomore at Allegheny, owns credit cards from Discover, Mastercard, VisaGold, Lerner's and Victoria's Secret. If she totaled the bills from her five credit cards, the sum would be approximately \$1,500. Her credit history began the day a pre-approved Mastercard showed up in her mailbox. "That was the downfall of my existence," she says.

Recently, Anne consolidated two of her credit cards to receive a lower interest rate. Though her balance is still high, Anne says that she is not worried about it. "I have the money in my account." While she calls herself a "shopaholic," Anne says that she thinks she could stop using

her credit cards if she could not fund the bills.

A recent article in *The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* described credit card solicitations at the University of Pittsburgh which occur regularly. According to Bankcard Holders of America, an organization interviewed for the article, credit card companies are in a constant battle to make their card a student's first. Statistics show that most students stay most loyal to their first credit card.

Jane*, an Allegheny senior, said, "The first card I received was a Citibank Visa. I've received better credit card offers, but I still keep my Citibank. They gave me a card when no one else would."

Despite criticisms from parents and consumer advocates, credit card companies continue to cash in at the expense of many college students. Many college students, however, are quick to defend credit card usage.

Said Christine, "I think credit cards are good—if you spend only what you can pay off. But too many people my age think it's like free money and I had to learn the hard way that it's not."

Dave*, an Allegheny sophomore who saves all of his receipts from credit card purchases, said "I see no problem with credit card companies soliciting students or with students carrying their cards. If you spend more that you can pay off, then it's your own fault for not being responsible."

*Names in this article have been changed to protect the identities of those interviewed.

Facilities may affect admissions

(continued from page 1)

and adequate space in the Doane Hall of Chemistry and the Advanced Hall of Biology and students' response.

"It fosters the sort of collegiality that is at the heart of learning from each other," he said, in reference to student group projects and senior comp projects.

He agrees, however, that the status of facilities on campus are not equal. "It's definitely not balanced, but you can't do everything at once," he said. "The science department is well off now, and I believe there is a lot of support on campus to get the improvements the humanities need," Palmer said.

Miller said that these improvements are not just the concerns of that department, but of all departments.

"The 21st century is not about strict science, but about a connection between science and liberal studies," Miller said. "This is a concern for all of us."

Despite changes in tours and condition of facilities, several freshmen said the tours did not have a great impact on their decision to attend

Allegheny. Freshman Andrew Clark said, "The campus is beautiful, and I talked with the professors about the programs here," the English major said.

Freshman chemistry major Jeff Rimer became interested when he heard of the school's "small size and excellent academic program." Rimer said, "The professors had a reputation of taking time out to make sure you really understand."

Freshmen Amanda Freeman and Kara Bailey, both undecided in their majors, remembered their tours consisting of a walk around campus and a tour inside the newer biology and chemistry building.

Concerning freshmen decisions and facility conditions, Miller noted these factors may not really affect students until they are here. "It does, however, have an effect on morale among faculty and students in general," Miller stated.

This article is part one of a two-part series on investigating the humanities facilities. Part two will be published in next week's issue of *The Campus*.

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Perspectives

EDITORIAL

"I Hate Sabbaticals"

The number of times we hear this from students looking at course listings for the upcoming semester testifies to the great teaching at Allegheny College.

No one likes to find out that their favorite professor will be gone next semester, but routine sabbaticals are an essential supplement to classroom performance. Every seven years tenured faculty are entitled to a semester free of courses in order to pursue research in their fields. Although Allegheny is a "teaching" school, rather than a research university, these leaves are justifiable as rejuvenating opportunities for professors to catch up with recent advancements in their fields. As a result, they become better teachers.

However, apart from these routine sabbatical leaves, the college offers endowed positions to some professors who have established a long-standing reputation for excellence within their department. Ironically, these positions reward Allegheny's finest teachers by reducing their course loads, many of them for the remainder of that professor's career.

While the sabbatical system which is coupled with the tenure process assures that each faculty member remains at the forefront of his or her field, we no longer need this type of assurance from the proven faculty members who receive merit-based course reductions accompanying endowed positions. Each current occupant of an endowed chair has served a minimum of 22 years at Allegheny.

The Editorial Board recognizes that some of these faculty members prefer this course-load reduction in order to continue publishing. But some faculty would prefer to stay in the classroom full-time. We believe that at this point in a professor's career, she should have the option to teach a full course-load, and receive extra financial compensation instead of time off, while continuing to be responsible for staying current in her field.

No, Allegheny does not have money to burn, not even in the interests of its best faculty, which is why the Editorial Board encourages alumni to provide funding specifically for faculty compensation. Many of the endowed chairs listed in the 1996-97 catalogue currently are not held because they are functional in title only; they have run out of money. Some departments already rotate their endowed positions so that more than one worthy candidate may benefit from them. This is a good temporary solution until funds may be raised to more adequately maintain excellence in teaching by rewarding Allegheny's most talented and dedicated professors.

All editorials represent the majority opinion of the Editorial Board.

The Campus welcomes all reader response. We reserve the right to reject all letters of a purely promotional nature, as well as letters which do not meet our standards of integrity, accuracy and decency. We also reserve the right to edit pieces for space and grammar. Opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor, editorial columns and editorial cartoons do not necessarily represent the viewpoint of The Campus. The deadline for letters is 5 p.m. the Monday before publication. Letters must be typewritten, double-spaced and signed, with a phone number included for verification. Any letter that cannot be verified will not be printed.

All questions concerning the above policy should be directed to the Editor-in-Chief.



Letters to the Editor

Mein comp at Stalag 13

Welcome to Stalag 13—where you must sign in and out of every building you enter. We know you are in there, we have your name. But, Will, you say, Colonel Klink never made them sign into buildings. I know the rules were not as strict on *Hogan's Heroes*, but it is the closest analogy I could make.

Question: Is the surplus of people needing a work-study job so great that we must station students at every entrance of every building on

campus? If so, why can't they referee intramural soccer games for me instead? If they are going to act the part, though, at least give them cool helmets like Sergeant Shultz (that loveable fat-guy from *Hogan's Heroes* for those that do not get any of my references).

Will Shensky

Question: Why can't these people referee intramural soccer for me? Another question, do we give the ole "Heil Hitler" when we walk in and greet these nice people?

I know that the college has all

this nice computer equipment, and the college has the money budgeted out for work-study, but let's be reasonable here. If you want to send these people on rounds and check the labs to see if there is anything missing, great, I am all for it.

If they take their rounds regularly enough, then the person running down the hall with the keyboard under his jacket with the cords hanging out won't be too hard to catch.

One last question: Why can't they referee intramural soccer games for me?

Will Shensky is a member of the class of '98.

A small step forward, a large leap back

For every step forward in the gay rights battle, there seems to be another step back. Earlier this year, there was a giant step forward. In the past three months there has been a giant leap back.

Mike Matott

In a 6-3 decision, the United States Supreme Court on May 20 struck down Amendment 2 of the Colorado state constitution. This voter-initiated amendment would have repealed existing laws that prohibited discrimination based on sexual orientation, while preventing future passage of anti-discrimination laws intended to protect gays.

The measure was initially passed in November 1992. It was struck down in the Colorado state supreme court and then appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. The decision in the case stated that the amendment violated equal protection under the law as guaranteed by the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

When the decision was announced, I celebrated. This was a tremendous step forward for gay civil rights. The following month I was enraged.

Over the summer I watched as

anti-gay sentiment swung to the issue of marriage. In Hawaii, the state supreme court is currently trying a case in which a same-sex couple was denied a marriage license. If the state supreme court rules that a marriage license cannot be denied because the applicants are of the same gender, then the fear is that other states will have to recognize this fact.

The fear of this possible decision has resulted in the Defense of Marriage Act (DMA), which would define marriage in federal terms as a bond between a man and a woman.

It would defer responsibility for determining the legality of same-sex marriages to the states. States would choose whether or not gay marriages were legal in their state and whether or not to recognize gay marriages legalized in other states.

As of August, fifteen states had enacted laws banning same-sex marriages. Legislation is pending in Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey to define marriage as solely a heterosexual institution.

I find it ironic that the right wing which is in favor of "family values" wants to deny a segment of the population the right to form a stable family structure. Arguably, denying gays the right to legally marry encourages a lifestyle without

commitment—a lifestyle that many would label as high risk for AIDS.

A common argument of grassroots conservative groups that promote anti-gay legislation is gay people are seeking special rights.

In a way gays are seeking special rights—rights currently given exclusively to heterosexuals. There are certain economic conveniences to marriage in which gay couples can't usually share. Benefits include health care benefits, shared mortgages on houses, titles to cars, joint bank accounts and joint income tax returns.

If the problem with gay marriages is a religious one, then the federal government has no business legislating this point. There is a separation of church and state granted by another amendment—the First.

This did not stop many senators from using the Christian Bible as a testament to the tradition of marriage.

Yet the Bible does not allow for divorce. Marriage is meant to last a lifetime. Bob Dole is currently in his second marriage.

Supposing the public cannot accept the use of the word "marriage" then why not try "domestic partnership"?

The Supreme Court decision (continued on page 7)

Waiting is the hardest part

Recently, my housemates and I learned never to question the adage that if you want something done, you are better off doing it yourself.

But we were believers in the system; we felt certain that the minor details of campus-owned houses would be taken care of by the powers that be. Fools. We were silly, trusting fools.

Kara Erdodi

It wasn't as though we were asking for much. We didn't request crystal chandeliers or a spiral staircase or gold-plated faucets in the bathroom. We didn't want silk curtains in the windows or a ceiling fan. We didn't even care that the basement shelters some kind of Neanderthal being who hides in the shadows, subsists on the cobwebs and stinks of mildew. We just wanted one thing—one tiny little detail that makes life so much more convenient—call waiting.

I know it seems trite, such an insignificant thing to complain about. But math majors, help me out here. One phone line to be shared among six females—that makes twelve parents, six boyfriends, countless friends, sorority sisters, classmates and even the occasional stalker. We just could not afford to miss a single one of these opportunities for communication with the outside world.

So we called an office here on campus, hoping that someone would have the mercy to help us out of our dilemma. Our call was volleyed from office to office—one would have thought we were a tennis ball at Wimbledon. Finally, a voice came over the line promising aid and results. We were happy at last.

However, the results never came, and with sad consequences. One

caller was actually driven to the brink because of the harsh, grating busy signal that echoed constantly in his ear. Rumor has it that he now resides in a lovely state-funded institution.

Repeated calls to the office that had promised our coveted call waiting yielded nothing but promises that a work order had been filed with the telephone company.

We tried to relax and be patient, but after twelve days without call waiting, we were timing each other's conversations. It got to be ridiculous—to the point where if anyone said more than "Hello? Hi, how are you? Okay, bye....," she said too much.

The phone was wrested from her hand and thrust back on the receiver, where it would immediately emit its piercing shriek and the whole scenario would again begin. Imagine how difficult it was to accomplish anything in a day when our primary concern was wrestling the phone from a housemate.

Finally, we realized that we were wasting our time. One call to the phone company saw to it that our call waiting was fully operational within 45 minutes. Apparently, the work order filed had been written in Gaelic, or confiscated by the Gestapo, or somehow just never found its way into the hands of the Meadville phone company.

Perhaps it will never be known where it went or how it disappeared.

The story does have a happy ending. Now we can annoy our callers by constantly putting them on hold and flipping over to the other line. It may irritate some friends and family, but at least I will know if my stalker called again. Now, if we could only find a way to get some Snapple....

Kara Erdodi is a columnist for The Campus.



Voting defensively: lefties must revive liberalism

I'm a big fan of Republicans. I simply love them—the bumbling Dan Quayle, the icy Bob Dole, the scary fundamentalism of Pat Buchanan, the frightening geekiness of Steve Forbes.

James Weaver

I adore these traits—they are the source of my laughter and amusement and especially my anger. I could never subscribe to any of the views these men espouse; they've simply never appealed to me in the least. Nevertheless, I'm a big fan.

Democrats, on the other hand...well, I *am* one. That's not to say I'm no longer a fan.

Jesse Jackson's powerful orations and Minnesota Sen. Paul Wellstone's lonely stand against the recently passed welfare reform bill are immensely inspiring. It's just not too inspiring to watch as your party drifts away from the liberalism you think it should (and must) embrace.

So, with the Republican and Democratic National Conventions now faint memories and the presidential election a mere two months away, persons left of center face a dilemma: Do we vote for the candidate who best expresses our views or do we use our votes to prevent a Dole-Gingrich-Christian Coalition

presidency that threatens this nation?

Neither major candidate really appeals to me, but my decision this Nov. 5 was determined a long time ago. Contrary to what the Rush Limbaughs of the world would want us to believe, Bill Clinton is by far no bastion of liberalism.

He has been reluctant to nominate progressive judges to federal court positions and has supported such ludicrous legislation as the Defense of Marriage Act and the aforementioned welfare reform bill.

However, when placed beside the (frightening) possibility of the rejuvenated Reaganomics tandem of the war hero and the football star, Clinton becomes the last bastion of hope for future liberalism.

Sure, the GOP's touting itself as the inclusionary party of action. They want to force women to have unwanted children by banning abortion, reinstate the possibility of execution for rapists, close down the Education Department and use constitutionally-questionable school vouchers, force everyone to use English as our official language and keep women and homosexuals effectively out of the military.

Now that's action! Now that's inclusion! And that's only the beginning of it!

I'm admittedly not thrilled with Clinton, either, but the third party options are empty votes. Ross Perot's novelty has worn off (as if

ever there were any) and Green Party candidate Ralph Nader has reportedly made both homophobic and anti-Semitic remarks in the past. The Libertarians have a nice enough sounding name, but their paranoia, militia tendencies and general wackiness are more than enough to turn me off.

Furthermore, there is no third party candidate capable of winning the presidency for the left. Any votes for a more liberal candidate inevitably will take away votes from Clinton and improve the Republicans' chances.

So do we vote our conscience or vote defensively?

My sister abandoned Clinton after he came out in support of Wisconsin Gov. Tommy Thompson's welfare reform plan. You wouldn't vote for Mussolini just because he's better than Hitler, she said.

I can't say I blame her for ditching the president—I know I would like to as well. But knowing the threat Bob Dole poses to civil liberties, the economy and the poor (to name only a few), I can only say that I know Bill Clinton is no Mussolini.

I'm no big fan, but he's got my vote. And hopefully he'll finally give those of us on the left something to be fans about.

James Weaver is Perspectives Editor for The Campus.

The unholy trinity: Dole, Newt and the Christian Coalition catch the spirit

Constant change has been a facet of society since its very conception. Without change, society would not have evolved (if that's appropriate) into what it is today. The technology upon which so many depend is one of the physical manifestations of the constant evolution of man.

Robert Hartman

Change is by no means limited to the technologically impressive gadgets by which we are surrounded. Change also occurs in people themselves. Beliefs and customs change over the centuries. There are many who would find it humorous to see people attempting to solve modern problems with out-of-date technology.

Imagine the horror of seeing a service technician arrive to fix your brand new computer armed with a hammer and a saw. Yet when it comes to religion, such unyielding rigidity is seen not only as proper, but any attempt to change the doctrine is seen as the work of the devil.

The issue of religion has manifested itself in almost every issue addressed by the legislatures of national and state assemblies. When the Computer Decency Act was being contested in the Senate, religion reared its head. Freedom of speech was lost in the shuffle, replaced rights such as decency, respectability and family values.

Family values and religion seem to have melded into one. Newt, Dole and the Christian Coalition, today's Holy Trinity, automatically assume that the preservation of values insinuates a return to the 'old way,' a veritable regres-

sion. Surely one cannot expect to raise a child in a healthy manner without the guidance of a supreme being?

The problem with assuming that family values and a strong religious background are one in the same is that a family without religion is not a family. To Mr. Dole and Mr. Gingrich, a childhood stressing the importance of God and the Bible may be the way to insure development. But when the aforementioned gentlemen insist it is the way in which all children should be reared, they are not only assuming that there is only one way to live life, they are also infringing on the civil rights of those who believe differently.

Suppose that a highly religious family wishes to raise their child in the religious heritage in which they themselves were raised. Ideally their pride and joy would be able to learn

his faith in school as well as at home. Prayer in school would be an excellent way to instruct the young child in his religious growth.

But since the god this child was taught to revere is Allah, the Christian Coalition insists that this child's god is no god at all. They maintain that he has no right to worship this idol. Is this the preservation of family values, or the preservation of the religious status quo? Or is it a selfish desire on the part of the church to return to the position of eminence that it once enjoyed at the sides of tyrannical kings, spreading death and suffering in the name of the lord?

Such rigidity of standards, far from a manifestation of religious freedom, is in actuality a symbol of repression no less harsh than 250 of slavery or nearly 300 years of women being treated as second class citizens.

The religious homogeneity that the Republican party envisions as saving the United States would not save us from the imagined perils of Satan, computers and teenagers. A nation led by Dole, with the full backing of Newt and the Christian Coalition would be the effective end of the democracy founded by the Constitution.

The triumvirate, if completed by the election of Dole in November, would declare themselves the protectors of the American faith and the American people. But who are the American people? And what is the American faith?

Robert Hartman is Assistant Perspectives Editor for The Campus.

Bam, part 2PAC—The Think Tank mobilizes again to preserve gangstaism

Steelers fans of the world unite! No, wait, that was last year's cry for vengeance.

Gangsta rappers of the world unite! Yeah, that's better.

James Weaver

First they got Bam Morris, and the Free Bam Morris Think Tank jumped into action to rescue the oppressed and framed ex-Steeler running back. Hell, we even got the blessing of John Olerud of the Toronto Blue Jays.

David Lee Roth has rejoined Van Halen—a sure sign of the apocalypse.

But now, dear Alleghenians, they have taken Tupac Shakur. Shakur, the San Francisco rapper known for his multiple run-ins with the law, was shot three times in the chest last week in Las Vegas while cruising the strip. He had previously been shot in the head in New York City last year outside of the famed Runway 69 near Times Square.

Reportedly Biggie Smalls, the rapper known as The Notorious B.I.G., put out the original hit on Tupac.

You ask, "Why rally around a man who has been charged with

sodomy, who is a blatant misogynist, and who has been troubled by drug use and violence?"

Well, my friends, it is simple: He is the victim of a grievous plan, conceived by no other than Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones. First he took out Bam because he knew too much; now he has taken Tupac out because he espoused "California Love."

Tupac's song with Dr. Dre was the anthem of a budding movement among west coast states to rise up and take over the country before Jones could do the job himself.

Dre's "Keep Their Heads Ringin'" was his proclamation of his desire to kick Jerry Jones to the curb. Dre is from Los Angeles, and the L.A. Lakers are sponsored by Pepsi now that Shaq is there. The only football team sponsored by Pepsi is none other than the Dallas Cowboys. See the connections yet? I know I sure as hell don't.

Biggie Smalls is no doubt a tool of Jones' wicked scheme at world domination. Why do you think they call him "Big Poppa?" He is no doubt going to be one of Jones' hand-picked bunch of fearless men who will ruthlessly reign over America once the Cowboys successfully establish their manly empire. Note B.I.G.'s song "One More Chance" on his debut album—it is

doubtlessly about Jerry Jones' yearning for just one more Super Bowl ring.

And the album title? "Ready to Die" is quite openly his pledge of allegiance to the Jones camp.

Tupac lies in a sterile hospital bed while his shooter remains at large—and boy do I mean large. I ask of you, Alleghenians, are we going to stand by idly while a man is persecuted?

I say "NO!" I proclaim: We shall gather our forces and march down to Dallas-Ft. Worth, straight into their unholy stadium, and demand of Deion Sanders that he switch sides once again.

Sure, I hate Deion, but if we can recruit him, we'll be two-ninths of the way to a damned good baseball team. And baseball is America's sport!!

We shall be unified through the phallic extensions of baseball bats and the male bonding of leather gloves.

Deion finished out his baseball career in San Francisco and starred in MC Hammer's video "2 Legit 2 Quit." Hammer grew up around Oakland Coliseum and is a huge baseball fan. Thus it follows: Deion was in a Nike commercial with Denis Leary, who was in "Demolition Man" with Wesley Snipes, who now plays a San

Francisco ballplayer in "The Fan."

Snipes was also in "Major League" with Charlie Sheen, but was replaced by Omar Epps for the sequel. By the way, Charlie's father Martin once breezed through my hometown to get gas and grab some grub at the Dutch Pantry.

Epps was in "Higher Learning" with Busta Rhyme and Ice Cube. Rhyme and Digital Underground (Tupac's former rap group) were both featured in "Who's the Man?" with Ed Lover and the plumper, jollier Dr. Dre. And, once upon a time, I hugged Ed Lover. Now can't you see how I am an authority on matters such as these?

Okay, yeah, I think I'm starting to see this.

Tupac Shakur shall be saved, Jerry Jones' evil plan thwarted and gangsta rap preserved for the ages. Join us, now, as we march toward our freedom from the evil grasp of the Cowboys, the so-called "America's Team."

It will be America's sport versus America's team, and we'll pummel them for what they've done to Bam and Tupac. And we'll eat second-rate beef hot dogs whilst we do it!

I pray to Easy-E that we shall win. Otherwise, both Bam and Tupac will be lost forever to the absolute evil of an annoying Texan.

Join me, Allegheny. Join the

Free Bam Morris Think Tank as we embark on perhaps our most important task to date. Tupac shall be freed; he shall be avenged!

John Olerud will be there, will you?

**This column was written with the aid of Will Shensky and Mike Pritchard.*

James Weaver is Perspectives Editor for The Campus and founder of the Free Bam Morris Think Tank.

Moving backwards

(continued from page 5)

stated it was unconstitutional to deny gays equal protection under the law. If this is so, then why are heterosexual couples given a privileged status under the law?

I would have liked for Congress to take a step forward instead of a leap back, but that didn't happen. DMA appears to be heading to law. Tuesday, the Senate passed it 85-14. The House approved DMA in July 342-67. All that remains is for the bill to be sent to President Clinton, who has already promised to sign it.

In this election year, though, politicians should watch where they step. They don't know who they might fall on.

Mike Matott is a columnist for The Campus.

My name is John, and I'm an American

It is Friday afternoon and the traffic gods whizzing overhead in helicopters are warning of the bumper to bumper, creep and beep, weekend exodus. I am crawling over the city line when a young man in an old Toyota cuts in front of me and, in the style for which Boston drivers have become famous, throws me the finger.

Thank you and have a nice day.

Ellen Goodman

I am somewhere near the New Hampshire border doing penance for my early escape from the office by listening to talk radio. John from Boise is making his feelings about gay marriage as explicit as you can without using expletives. Paul from Bismarck or is it Carl from Potsdam is talking about the president and first lady in ways that do not reflect well on his upbringing.

So kind of you to call.

Halfway up the seacoast, my Thank God It's Friday Mood has darkened considerably. As I cross the Maine Border, I push Patti Smith into my tape deck. But my internal track is playing a second tape entitled: What on Earth is Wrong With People?

Last night, exploring the vast mansion of the Internet, I wandered into several unfamiliar chat rooms. Some of the visitors were people

who change nicknames more often than they change socks. These are people who checked their courtesy along with their identity at the door. A main method of communication in these chambers seems to be flaming.

What they have in common with the digit-wagging driver, with the talk-show callers is not just their aerobic exercise of the "freedom of speech" -- a freedom which leaves even this First Amendment junkie grimacing. They belong, rather, to the growing uncommunity of people who now act with the protection of anonymity.

Would that driver have expressed his opinion if he thought I knew his mother or his boss? Is the man from Bismarck equally nasty at his local market? Have any of the flamethrowers singled someone under their own name?

The rap on America is that we live today in a disunited state where, in the near-cliché phrase of Robert Putnam, we even "bowl alone." There are fewer communities to which we belong these days, fewer places where we are known.

At the same time, there are far more opportunities for being anonymous. We have become as unaccountable to each other for what we say, as unnamed sources.

A few weeks ago, there was an uproar when Joe Klein was revealed as the anonymous author of a scathing satirical novel. His colleagues brutalized him for lying to them. But not a word was said

about his cowardice for flaming the president without facing him.

These thoughts follow me onto the ferry to one of the islands that dot this Maine coast. This floating community hall, where islanders check on the cork bulletin board and on each other's children, traverses the short haul and long psychic distance to a place where people wave to each other along the country roads. Not just because it is an island custom but because we know each other.

If I have learned anything in my 15 years here as a summer person, it's the delicate ecology of island life where people are both away and together. It's the sense of community that comes from independence and mutual dependence.

I have learned that civility--not always intimacy and rarely hostility--sustains a community. That civility only rules when people understand that they must abide each other and abide together.

As a nation we suffer more from a lack of cohesion than a lack of independence. If the center isn't holding, it's because there simply aren't enough stakeholders. So, on a late summer weekend, I look back at the coast of America. From here, it seems as if the contentious, fractured story of this country is now being written by Americans Anonymous.

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Credit card companies solicit college campuses nationwide

(continued from page 1)

confident to say that in the past three years, ASG hasn't sponsored any credit card companies. If something like that came up, I'm sure the whole senate would have voted on it."

But many students can easily remember seeing such companies in Cochran Hall's lobby as recently as last year. "One lady was yelling at me to sign up and I didn't want to," said junior Nicci Micco, "so I filled out an application anyway to get a package of Twizzlers, but I used a different name and told her I didn't have an I.D. with me."

Sophomore Alanna Garrison, who received a metal Slinky when she signed up for a Mastercard last year, did not know if she would actually use the card. "But once it was in my possession, I figured I might as well," she said.

The Campus also contacted other large student organizations to determine if these groups recently sponsored credit card companies to solicit on campus. Carrie Barras, president of Panhellenic Council, said, "We sponsor Going Greek sweatshirt sales and that is all we sponsor." Homer Schrekengost, president of Interfraternity Council,

said the same was true for his organization.

Gator Activities Programming President Susan Jewell and Advancement of Black Culture President Karris Williams also said that their organizations do not sponsor credit card solicitors.

The mystery remains as to how credit card companies gain permission to legally solicit on Allegheny's campus. Even without these solicitations, however, these companies have made their presence known at Allegheny and other campuses nationwide. Bulletin boards in academic and recreational buildings are strewn with brochures and applications. Many students regularly receive credit card offers in the mail.

One senior, who already carries a First USA Gold Mastercard, unexpectedly received her first Platinum card in the mail to replace it last week. "I was surprised to get one of these cards because it came with a \$15,000 credit limit. I didn't even deserve to carry a gold card. I don't have that kind of money," she said. "It's a good thing I'm not stupid because I could go out and buy a car and be in debt for the rest of my life."

Junior Jane Popelka, received a

pre-approved credit card in the mail. Since she did not want it, she cut it in half and threw it away. One year later, Popelka was surprised to receive a bill for her credit card annual fee. "I called and told them I wouldn't be paying it. They said they'd close my account," she said, "but they didn't answer any of my questions."

Students at Allegheny cannot buy textbooks without receiving credit cards offers in the form of flyers in their bags. Shirley Cronin, bookstore merchandiser, said "We buy our bags stuffed with flyers because if you order them unstuffed, it costs \$100 more per order and those bags are already a quarter a piece." She also stated that the bookstore does not solicit credit card companies.

Cronin assumes that credit card companies pay bag companies to insert their flyers. Because the bag company has already received money from the credit card company, it can charge bookstores lower prices for stuffed bags.

Industry study statistics reported in a Pittsburgh Post-Gazette article show that over 64 percent of college students own a credit card, compared with 43 percent of the general

population. The article cites Mastercard as experiencing a 20 percent increase in the number of students using its cards in the past two years.

National Credit Services cites that 20 percent of college students have four or more credit cards.

USA Today reports that 32 percent of people under age 30 own

five to nine different credit cards and 62 percent of these people, who use credit cards more this year than last, say they are motivated to spend by the awards offered by credit card companies.

Good or bad, invited or not, credit card companies are mining a rich market in college communities.

St. Lawrence to inaugurate Sullivan

CANTON—A variety of academic, social and ceremonial events have been planned to celebrate the inauguration of Daniel F. Sullivan as St. Lawrence University's 17th president.

The installation ceremony will take place on Saturday, Sept. 21, at 11 a.m. on the Owen D. Young Library Quadrangle.

On Friday, Sept. 20, a concert will be held in Gulick Theater at 7:30 p.m. Allegheny Professor of Music and Artist-in-Residence Alec Chien will perform a Beethoven piano sonata and will join the Alexander String Quartet in a Brahms Piano Quintet performance.

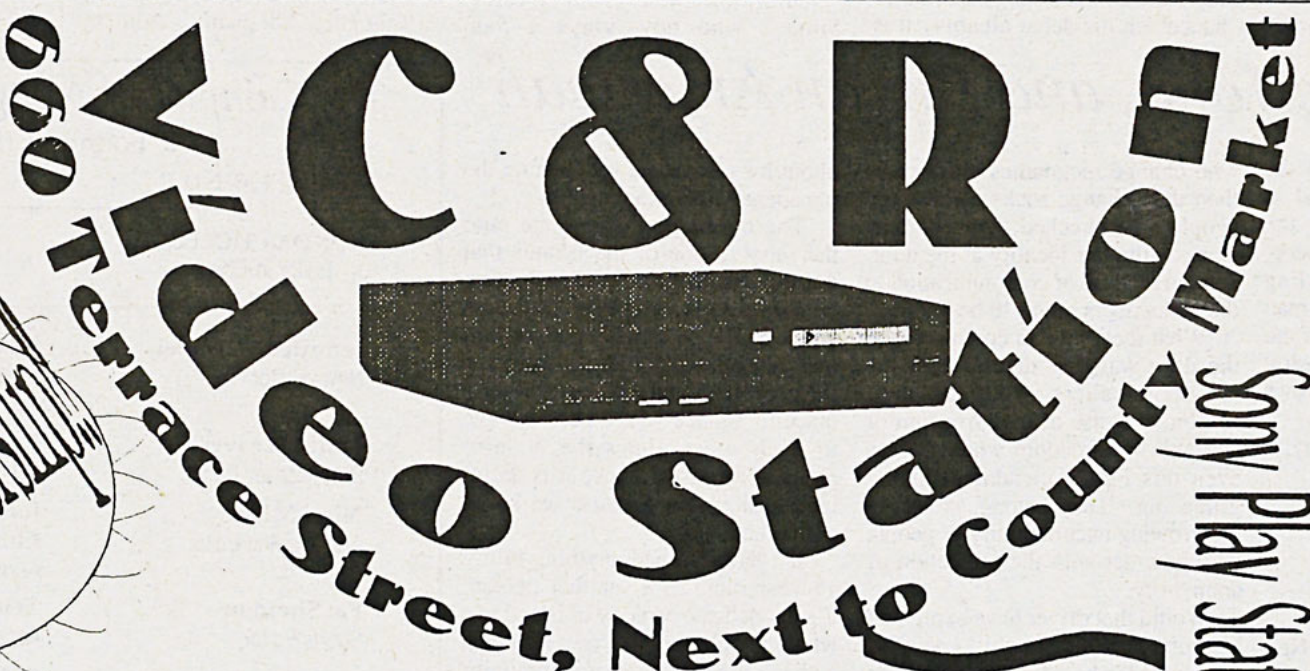
The Alexander String Quartet

will return to the stage to debut a work composed for the inauguration by St. Lawrence Professor of Music Norman Hessert, and featuring a text by Piskor Professor of English Albert Glover and vocal performance by Lynn Sarf, senior development officer.

Other events to which the community is invited include a home football game against SUNY Albany.

There is no charge for the football game, in keeping with the Sullivan's wish to include the community in the weekend's festivities.

Article courtesy of St Lawrence University Office of Public Affairs



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Arts & Living

WARC moves to CC Station to air Monday

By NICCI MICCO
Arts & Living Editor

"It's time to move on from Rusted Root."

In one sentence, Matt Morocco, co-director of alternative music for Allegheny's WARC summarized the radio station's agenda to provide small new bands exposure and to leave the established ones on commercial air.

Hundreds of other campus stations echoed these same sentiments at the *College Music Journal's* annual Music Fest, held at Fordham University last week.

Four members of WARC's Executive Board—co-general managers Kevin Culm and Anthony Smith, and alternative music co-directors, Morocco and Andrew Nash—travelled to what Morocco calls "the mecca of college radio" to establish contacts and to have a good time.

They accomplished all of and returned to Meadville Sunday night with a bag full of promo CDs, phone numbers of band members they "chilled" with, an autograph of Dave Groll of the Foo Fighters, and optimism for the future of WARC.

They smiled as they recounted staying in the same hotel as Snoop Dogg, Dr. Dre and L.L. Cool J. They spoke excitedly about rubbing elbows with staff members of *Spin* and *Interview* magazines. They said they felt lucky to have attended the same conference which broke such bands as REM and 10,000 Maniacs in past years.

They seemed most excited, however, about coming back to Allegheny to spread their enthusiasm to the rest of the WARC staff.

To ensure that WARC DJs promote emerging bands, the Executive Board will instate a policy which requires alternative DJs to play five to ten CDs an hour from a play list rotation, designed by Nash and Morocco.

Because WARC subscribes to *College Music Journal*, record labels bombard the station with almost 50 promo CDs about every other day, explained Culm.

To encourage DJs to play these emerging bands instead of already commercially-played groups, Culm and Nash have catalogued the station's entire music collection and will be holding regular music library hours, hoping that DJs will come and give some of these new albums a "spin."

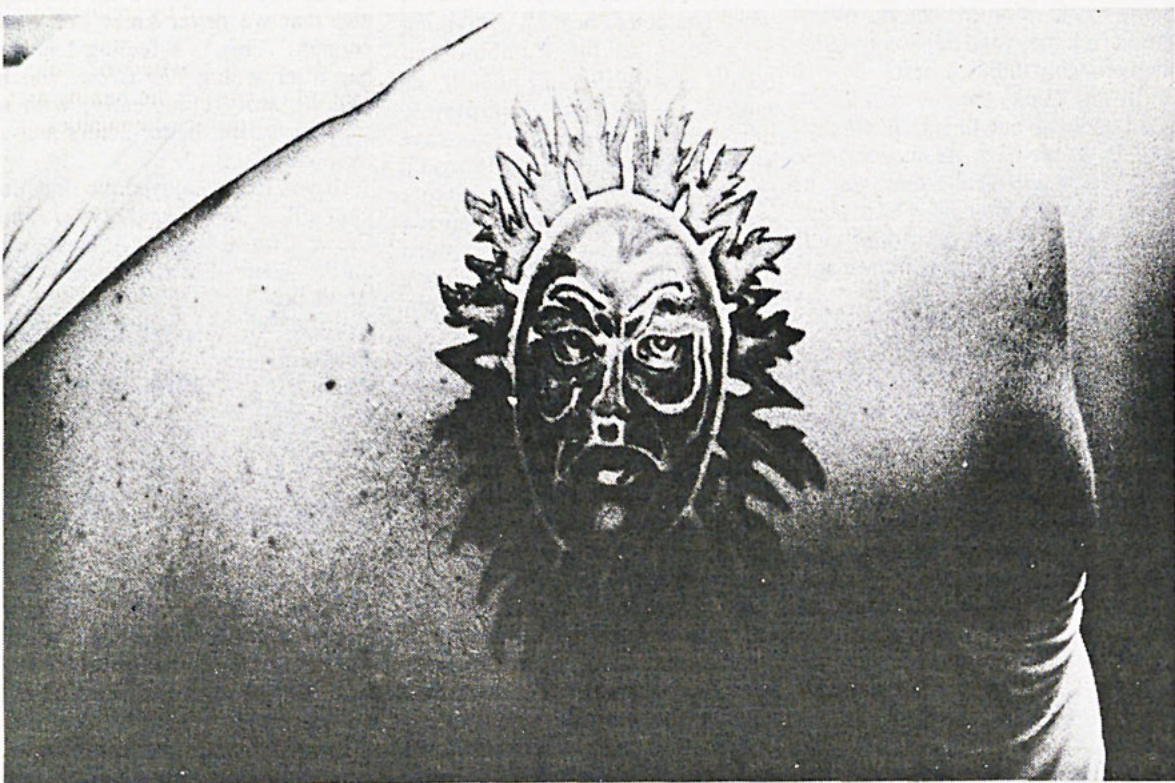
Breaking new bands benefits not only the musicians, but also the stations who play them, explained Nash.

Nash said that each week, WARC reports its twenty most frequently-aired songs to *College Music Journal*.

"If record labels see bands like Pearl Jam and Oasis on our lists, they are going to stop sending us new stuff," said Nash.

"We'd like to inform listeners about up and coming bands," said Culm, who hopes that GAP and ASG will use the station to learn more about new bands when looking

(continued on page 10)



ANGRY SUN—Tattoos, like Ian Baum's Aztec sun, and body piercings appear to be a "hot trend" on many college campuses, including Allegheny. Baum also sports a yin-yang on his stomach, six earrings, a septum ring and two tongue piercings.

—photo by Robin Marjoram

New fad brands Alleghenians

By WILLIE BERKOVITZ
Arts & Living Writer

Tattoos and body piercing have become so big that Rachel getting a tattoo was a subplot on *Friends*.

Buddha's Body Art, a tattoo and piercing parlor in Erie, reported a marked increase in business over the last few years. They attributed much of this increase to the patronage of college students, who account for 50% of Buddha's customers.

So many college students go to Buddha's that the artists call the first week that students are back on college campuses "hell week," because so many freshmen decide they want to be tattooed or pierced.

Many Alleghenians reflect the growing trend of tattooing and piercing among college students.

Ian Baum, a sophomore who has nine piercings and two tattoos, says of the body art experience, "It's a rush. I like the rush."

Baum currently has six earrings in his right ear, one ring in the septum of his nose and two piercings in his tongue. Even though his belly button got infected, and his body rejected the piercing he had in his eyebrow, Baum said he wants to get more body parts pierced.

He also may get more tattoos, in addition to the yin-yang on his stomach and the Aztec sun on his back.

Baum said that, overall, he has gotten a good reaction from people, but his parents hate his "body art".

Not all tattoos and piercings are apparent. Sarah McCulloch, a junior, and Corey Bellaney, a sophomore, chose less-conspicuous locations to place their body art.

McCulloch displays eight earrings—five in one ear, three in the other. She said she chose earrings instead of nose rings or tongue rings because if she wears her hair down, nobody will notice them.

McCulloch got her first set of earrings when she was three. She said, "I kept bothering my parents for them until they let me get them." McCulloch got her eighth earring on her eighteenth birthday as a kind of "rite of passage." "That one hurt," she said. "It's in the cartilage in my ear so it was more painful than the rest."

McCulloch did some of the piercings herself. She said she hasn't had any problems. She is careful about avoiding earrings with nickel because she is allergic to it.

McCulloch doesn't plan on keeping all of the holes forever. "Maybe I'll let some of them grow in someday," she said.

Bellaney, like McCulloch, didn't really want his tattoo to be noticeable, so he got a bulldog tattoo on his upper arm, "where my shirt usually covers it." Bellaney is pragmatic in his reasons for wanting to be tattooed: "I've got so many scars, already," he said. "Why not have one that's decorative?"

He shows some school pride, as well, when he says that he plans to get another tattoo of a gator on his

calf before he graduates.

Some get a piercing because it's "different," says Darcy Brandel, a sophomore. "It's something that some people still frown upon, even though it's become more mainstream." Over the summer, Brandel had her nose pierced, which brought her total of piercings to six.

Brandel got her first set of earrings when she was seven or eight. She said that, at the time, she just wanted to fit in.

Now, "it looks cool," she says about her nose ring. She reports that a lot of her friends and family are still wondering why she did it, though. "They think that it's too different."

None of those interviewed have had any problems with their "body art." However, a certain risk is associated with tattooing and piercing.

Staff members of Winslow Health Center say that they see a lot of after-effects of tattoos and piercings. Often students come to the center with infections or allergic reactions to the metal used in the process.

They say that most infections occur with the belly button rings, and like McCulloch, a lot of people are allergic to nickel.

According to the artists at Buddha's, problems can be avoided by choosing a reputable parlor.

To work at Buddha's one must have had at least a two-year medical apprenticeship and medical training. Also, to avoid the spread of AIDS,

(continued on page 11)

Pay your sleep debt

By NICCI MICCO
Arts & Living Editor

If you find yourself nodding off in class or falling asleep everytime you open a book, you may be suffering from "sleep debt," a common affliction among college students.

The average college-aged person needs between seven and eight hours of sleep a night, explained Alec Dale, Professor of Psychology. When one does not allow sufficient time for shut-eye, the body builds up a "sleep debt."

"Nodding-off," which is so often attributed to boredom, actually is one mechanism that the body employs to try to reduce this debt.

Excessive dreaming also indicates that a person may have a sleep debt.

Sophomore Brandon Daley, who

averages six hours of sleep a night, said that normally he will remember having two or three dreams during his 45-minute morning naps.

Dale explained that REM sleep, the restful phase of sleep during which dreaming occurs, is most important. So while the REM phase of sleep normally constitutes the last hour, one who has a sleep debt will enter these stages much earlier, sometimes immediately. This compensatory process explains why you dream even during those power naps between classes.

Classwork was the most commonly cited reason for skimping on sleep.

"Unfortunately, when I have too little time, the first thing I sacrifice is my sleep—that is not healthy," explained Kim Retetagos, a sophomore.

(continued on page 11)

Crow flies around in circles... then plummets

By LUKE BOGER
Arts & Living Writer

When *The Crow* came out in 1994, there were several reasons for people to see it. It had the dark cloud of Brandon Lee's mysterious death hanging over it; it had a stylish look to it; it was based on a series of comics. It also had an interesting idea: sometimes, when someone is wrongfully killed, a crow will come and deliver the victim back to the world of the living in order to avenge their death and the deaths of loved ones.

Film Review

What they failed to mention in the first film was that every time a crow brought someone back, essentially the same thing happened. Of course, if most of us had known that from the start, we wouldn't have gone to see the sequel, *The Crow: City of Angels*.

Vincent Perez is Ashe Corven, a man who watches as his young son is killed by gang members, and then is murdered himself. Perez is accompanied by Mia Kirshner, who plays Sarah, the young girl from the first film, who has now grown up.

After having dreams about Ashe, she follows a crow to a dock where Ashe Proceeds to rise from the water. That's how they are introduced.

The gang/drug ring/cult that is responsible for Ashe and his son's deaths is lead by Judah, the ever-shirtless evil drug lord with a flair

for the occult and S & M, played by Richard Brooks.

Iggy Pop also stars as Curve, one of Judah's henchmen. The members of the gang are baffled by Ashe's seeming invincibility as he kills off their members one by one. They soon learn, in a way almost identical to the first film, through a woman with magical powers, that if they kill the crow, Ashe will become vulnerable.

So, basically, if you've seen *The Crow*, you already know the main plot for *City of Angels*. The only real difference is the presence of the adult Sarah, and the subplot, if it can even be called that, concerning her. One of the many problems with *City Of Angels* is the fact that it can't decide whether the story is about Ashe or about Sarah. It would be much more interesting if it were centered solely around Sarah, who was the only character that I cared about or thought could be real (other than Gabrielle the cat, also from the first film).

Mia Kirshner is also the only actor who I thought actually put in a noteworthy performance, although her constant sad, quiet looks did wear thin eventually.

Perez, despite his many previous acting achievements, including *American Ninja 5* (yes, really), must have been chosen more for his resemblance to the late Brandon Lee than his acting ability, which is another bad copy of the original film.

Richard Brooks overacts the Judah character, coming across as half Candyman, half Don Corleone. The first time we see Iggy Pop on screen, he is simply swaying around

in the background. It's not even good swaying. It's all downhill from there. Of course, maybe I'm being too hard on the actors. With the script they had to work with, they probably did their best.

In *The Crow*, there were a lot of good quotable one liners. In *City of Angels*, all we have are cheesy ones like, "Hush little baby don't say a word. Daddy's gonna buy you a big black bird." Ashe says that, and then continues to throw someone out a window.

The simple truth of the matter is that *City of Angels* takes almost every convention from its predecessor and cheapens it. Though I normally don't like to blatantly compare a se-

quel to the film which precluded it, it is unavoidable in this case.

From the manic acting in scenes when characters beat up everything in a room to the Rambo-esque quality of Ashe dressing himself, the movie is almost completely derivative. Even the excessive violence is ineffective. It would appear that this movie is simply capitalizing on the fact that there are a lot of people out there who loved the first film who are willing to pay to see a sequel. Don't waste your money.

Unfortunately, this sequel is detrimental to the original film's storyline. I was very unhappy with

the way they dealt with and concluded the story of Sarah, and felt as if there were a lot missing and that we never knew her well enough. This is a feeling I never had after seeing *The Crow*, which told its story completely, with a superior script, better actors and a fresh idea.

If you really enjoyed the first, do yourself a favor and avoid *The Crow: City of Angels*. At least wait for the video. *The Crow* was better left alone.

Minuses: Story, script, acting, overall unoriginality

Pluses: Mia Kirshner, visuals, soundtrack

Buzzcocks All Set to waste time

By IAN BAUM
Arts & Living Writer

Artist: Buzzcocks
Album: *All Set*
Overall Grade: C-ID+

If you're looking for something fresh and original, then look somewhere else: these guys aren't it. Everything on the Buzzcocks new album has been done before—many times.

Music Review

This album is standard pop album. It could be anyone. These guys may have been good in their prime, but now are capable of turning out only a mediocre album.

The album opens with "Totally From the Heart." The singer sounds like a little kid whose mom won't buy him any candy ... except he's whining about a girl. The song does nothing new musically or lyrically.

The rest of the album follows suit with screeching power chords and a drum beat and the oldest theme in rock 'n roll—women. Every song on the album is about a girl and Pete Shelley's whiny voice might give me nightmares.

They do, however, move away from this format for the last song. I have to admit, "Back With You" is a halfway-decent song. Featuring some acoustic guitar and strings, it would have all the kids slow-danc-

ing at a junior high dance. The bass line actually strays from the guitars in some parts. Pete Shelley's voice isn't set at the normal screech. He has a pretty good voice when he really tries.

Overall, I would say not to waste your money on this album. It's repetitive and boring. The lyrics aren't great, and the music is pretty simple. These guys should have called it quits long ago when they could have done a reunion tour with the Sex Pistols. They would have been revered as the pioneers of the punk movement. Instead, they stuck it out, and now they're releasing cheesy pop albums.

Radio station defines agenda

(continued from page 9)

for Springfest and Winter Carnival acts.

He added that if students recognize new bands when GAP and ASG are planning such events, they will be more supportive when names are tossed around for public opinion.

In addition to costing fewer dollars than more-established groups, smaller bands can help a school to build a good reputation in the music industry.

Nash said, "If a band plays here and gets a good reception, then other bands will want to come too."

WARC not only has a new outlook, but a new look and some new equipment. The station, now located on the third floor of the Campus Center, purchased a new transmitter and antenna. Their wattage is up, so when WARC goes on the air next Monday, one can tune in to WARC, 90.3 outside of Meadville.

Allegheny Art Department Announces Richard Kleeman Research Fund

The art department announces the availability of funds to support significant work in studio art and art history. Monies are available through The Richard Kleeman Research Fund, an endowment created in 1992 to recognize Professor Kleeman's 39 years of dedicated teaching at Allegheny.

Any current student interested in applying for the funds must submit a written proposal to George Roland, chairperson of the art department, A206, Doane Hall of Art.

Further information and applications may be obtained from department faculty or in the art department office located in the gallery. Proposals are due by noon on Friday, September 20 for funding during the fall semester. Requests should not exceed \$300.00. Awards will be determined by the art faculty. Recipients will be notified by September 27.

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Spotlight—Tessie talks

By ALISA BRUGNOLI
Arts & Living Writer

Tessie Bird prefers the food at Schultz Dining Hall and says it is better than Brooks or McKinley's. She greets anyone who walks into Schultz dining hall with a cheery hello and a quick run down of what is good on the menu. She recommends the french onion soup or the homemade bread.

Tessie has been swiping cards and greeting Allegheny students at meals for ten years. She has even turned down other job offers because she prefers Allegheny.

A native of Meadville, she has two children of whom she speaks proudly. Many students have seen the photos of her daughter, Valerie, 25, who models for such corporations as Anheiser-Busch and Mattel Barbie in California.

Tessie's thirty-one year old son, James, lives in Hanover, Pa. and works as an environmental educator at Corderus State Park. Her one wish is to have her family living in one area again.

Tessie enjoys country-line dancing at the Italian Civic Club and walking along the Woodcock Dam. She belongs to the Italian Civic Club Auxiliary and the St. Mary

Rosary Society. The most exciting times in her life occur when she is traveling. She's visited California, Florida, Washington, Kentucky, New York and New Jersey.

Much to the students' dismay, Tessie was not on campus for the first week of school due to surgery for carpal tunnel syndrome. However, she does not plan on leaving again in the near future. That spells out good news for Allegheny students, who look forward to seeing the sunny smile and hearing a warm hello from Tessie Bird, the "lunch lady."

Body art...

(continued from page 9)

tuberculosis, or hepatitis, Buddha's sterilizes all tools with an autoclave.

One artist at Buddha's said that students underestimate the danger of contracting hepatitis because they received hepatitis B shots before coming to college school. She said that the shot is a preventative measure which doesn't always work, and she recommended thoroughly investigating the sterilization techniques of a parlor before getting a tattoo or piercing.

Fall for Orchesis



EXPRESS YOURSELF—Some of over one hundred dancers who auditioned for the fall Orchesis performanceshow junior choreographer June Kim's piece Tuesday evening. This evening's sessions (7:30-9 p.m. and 9-10:30 p.m.) will be the final chances for dancers to audition for the show to be held in November.

—photo by Robin Marjoram

Students reveal unhealthy sleep habits

(continued from page 9)

"I am usually pretty good about not waiting until the last minute," said senior Pat Coyne, "but sometimes your schedule is so rigorous that on top of routine studying, it is necessary to pull an all-nighter."

Students admit to using highly-caffeinated drinks like coffee, Mountain Dew and Jolt so that they

can stay awake to study.

"If I have to stay up to do work late at night, I usually rely on caffeine," said Jessica Butts, a senior.

Consumed in moderation (one to two cups per day) caffeine can help one to stay focused and alert, as it increases brainwaves and heart rate. However, too much caffeine produces negative effects and actually makes it more difficult to concentrate.

Also, explained Dale, one can develop a tolerance to caffeine.

"Coffee doesn't really help me anymore," said sophomore Andy Chapin. "If I really need to stay awake, I will resort to Vivarin."

Even those who keep regular sleep schedules need to be aware of the risks of sleep debt, as one all-nighter will affect sleep habits and

alertness until that resting time is "made up," according to Dale.

Too little sleep by individuals surfaces as irritability, headaches, weakened immune responses and potential cardiovascular damage.

Sleep deficiency affects individuals differently. Chapin, Coyne and Daley all reported "getting the shakes" when they didn't get enough sleep. Senior Maria Fire said that she "gets edgy."

Most of the students questioned said that they believed themselves to practice unhealthy sleeping habits.

Senior Fred Hemminger, who meets his goal of sleeping six hours a night only three to five days of the week, said of his sleeping patterns, "Drinking caffeine so you can stay up all night definitely is not healthy."

Personals

C—
Thanks for housing me for lunch!
—T

Wish Andy Nesbitt Happy 22nd Birthday!

Hey Andy—
Go out and celebrate your birthday since you don't have any classes on Friday!
—Candace & Jill

Lori—
Weemoway!

Personals

Casie B.—
8:30!!!
R, L, & N—
How about a field trip to the Safari. I hear they have big game hunts.

Please take this ugly painting off our hands!

Tracy—
Pina Colada!
—C

Personals

C—
Dang in Da Hizouse!!
Look at the size of that extremity
Fred—
You have to come to Ed. Board to eat the pizza!

Hey, "Lips on Fire"—
You're soaring off the charts!

Do you want to write something witty, stupid, or intellectual for all of Allegheny to see? Send your personal to *The Campus*, Box 12 by Tuesday, noon.

Classifieds

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Meditation House opens doors

By DAVID VESCHI
Arts & Living Writer

Junior Anastasia Kovscek refers to a quote from the *College Student Journal* to describe the benefits of meditation as, "positively correlated with learning ability, attention span, physical health, mental stability and personality."

Kovscek lives with juniors Cheryl Janowsky and Sarah Hall and senior Jennifer Eden Smith in the new Meditation and Mindfulness House, a college-sponsored special interest house.

Over two dozen visitors from the Allegheny and Meadville communities visited an open house held on Tuesday to provide an opportunity to participate in guided meditation.

Associate Professor of English Sonya Jones serves as advisor to the house. Jones, who has 20 years of experience with the art of meditation, feels that it provides a "great opportunity for college students."

Jones practiced Siddha Yoga, native to India, at the open house.

Regardless of experience and religious background, the house will allow anyone interested to "gain inner-peace without pressure," says Kovscek.

The purpose of the house is to "educate people and provide a place open to anyone of any

belief."

On Saturday, Sept. 21, there will be a workshop on meditation from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

In addition there will be weekly guided meditation on Tuesday nights at 8 p.m. throughout the semester.

Remaining true to the house's mission, meditation from all backgrounds will be practiced. Among those to be explored include transcendental meditation, Zen Buddhism, Christian, Native American and Tibetan.

The house is located on 558 Highland Ave.

Public radio to air Chien on Sunday

Two performances by acclaimed pianist and Professor of Music Alec Chien will be featured on WQED-FM radio's program, "Performance in Pittsburgh," on Sunday, Sept. 15 from 5 to 7 p.m. A repeat of the program will be broadcast on Thursday, Sept. 19 from 10 p.m. to midnight.

The program, which broadcasts recordings of live musical performances that have taken place in Pittsburgh and the surrounding region, will feature two recent Chien performances. They are his Oct. 7, 1995, performance with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra at Allegheny, Alexander Post conducting and his June 26, 1996, performance

with the Alexander String Quartet as part of the Max Emerman Recital Series at Rodef Shalom Temple in Pittsburgh. Chien will be heard performing the Beethoven *Piano Concerto No. 3 in c minor* with the orchestra and Brahms' *Piano Quintet in f minor, Op. 34* with the quartet. WQED's frequency is 89.3 FM.

For five years, the quartet has come to Allegheny College for a week-long residency, and also holds residences at Baruch College of the City University of New York and the Highlands Chamber Music Festival in North Carolina.

The Pittsburgh Symphony long has been regarded as one of the world's great orchestras and celebrated its 100th anniversary last season. The orchestra has performed throughout the United States, including three Carnegie Hall concerts. Since 1982, the orchestra has reached millions of listeners throughout the world, first over National Public Radio and currently over Public Radio International.

The orchestra, with former maestro Lorin Maazel and Yo-Yo Ma as cello soloist, won a 1992 Grammy award for a recording featuring works by Prokofiev and Tchaikovsky.

For more information, contact WQED radio at (412) 622-1436 or the Office of Public Affairs at 332-6755.

*Courtesy of the Office of Public Affairs

life support Tuesday. The singer's right lung was removed in one of two surgeries Sunday.

Police want to question the driver of the car in which Shakur was riding, former UNLV football player Marion "Suge" Knight, who is now chairman of Los Angeles-based Death Row Records.

Knight suffered a head wound in Saturday night's shooting, possibly from a bullet fragment. He was released from UMC on Sunday.

McCurdy said Knight was supposed to talk to homicide detectives on Monday, then his attorney, David Kenner, agreed to bring him in for a meeting on Tuesday.

Metro spokesman Phil Roland said the meeting had not taken place as of Tuesday afternoon.

Police planned to look at security surveillance tapes at the MGM Grand Hotel in an effort to clarify conflicting reports as to whether Shakur had been involved in a fight at the resort earlier Saturday night, McCurdy said.

Shakur and his entourage had attended the Mike Tyson-Bruce Seldon heavyweight championship fight at the hotel, then went to Knight's home in an exclusive section of southeast Las Vegas, before returning to the Strip.

Both Tyson and entertainer Wayne Newton live in the same area.

Knight's BMW was leading a procession described as five to 15 vehicles when the shooting occurred on busy Flamingo Road, a block east of the Strip. A car believed to be a late model white Cadillac pulled next to the passenger side and opened fire on Shakur.

"It amazes me when they have professional bodyguards that they can't even give us an accurate description of the vehicle," Metro Police Sgt. Kevin Manning said Monday. "No one is telling us anything."

Police in New York experienced a similar problem.

Shakur was shot five times during a November 1994 robbery in the lobby of a midtown Manhattan recording studio.

The investigation into that shooting has been stymied by a complete lack of cooperation by the rapper and his entourage, New York City police said Tuesday.

Some investigators now suspect Shakur may have accidentally shot himself in the groin while trying to pull out a pistol in self-defense, said a police source, who spoke on condition of anonymity. But Shakur, who wasn't armed when police arrived, has refused to answer questions, the source said.

Last week at the MTV awards, officers had to break up a confrontation pitting Shakur and his entourage against six other men outside Radio City Music Hall.

Shakur has also been arrested at least a half-dozen times in the past three years. He was released last year after serving eight months in a New York prison for sex abuse.

The rapper, who starred opposite Janet Jackson in the movie *Poetic Justice*, is working on another film, *Gridlock*. His latest album, "All Eyez On Me," has sold at least 5 million copies.

the show's executive producer, Larry Charles, said in the Sept. 6 issue of *Entertainment Weekly*. Charles says Hunt will get plenty of support from her co-stars during her pretend pregnancy.

"The whole cast is reading 'What to Expect When You're Expecting,'" he said.

NEW YORK (AP)—Helen Hunt will be sporting a new look this season on the popular sitcom "Mad About You"—mommy chic.

Her character Jamie is pregnant. "We're doing prosthetic stomachs for Helen in stages with a first, second and third trimester,"

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Bulletproof entertains mindlessly

By LUKE BOGER
Arts & Living Writer

Following in the footsteps of overall better films such as *Lethal Weapon* and *Midnight Run*, *Bulletproof* combines action and comedy, and contains everything you might expect it to contain.

Film Review

The action isn't bad, and I often found myself laughing out loud, so I guess that makes it a fun movie. People go to see films like this for that reason—to have fun. Leave your brain at the door and just have a good time. In that respect, *Bulletproof* delivers, thanks to the talents of Adam Sandler and Damon Wayans, who, not surprisingly, make a good combination.

Sandler is Archie Moses, a car thief in L.A. who trusts no one but his best friend and partner in crime, Rock Keats (Wayans).

When Moses gets wind of a huge drug heist going down, he risks his own life and lets Keats in on it out of pure trust. Of course, when Keats is discovered to be an undercover cop on the trail of drug lord Frank Colton (James Caan), bullets fly, with cops busting in and shooting up the place, and getting shot themselves.

In the confusion, Moses, who feels betrayed by Keats, acci-

dentally shoots him in the head. Moses runs from the police, and also from Colton, who now wants him dead for bringing a cop into all of this.

After full rehabilitation with the help of beautiful physical therapist (and later love interest) Traci Flynn, played by Kristen Wilson, Keats discovers that Moses has agreed to testify against Colton, but only if Keats brings him in. Of course, Keats isn't hot on the idea, since he now feels betrayed by Moses because he shot him in the head. He goes reluctantly.

As Keats escorts Moses to the airplane which is to take them back, they are ambushed by Colton's men. From there, they run. Trying to find their way back while avoiding Colton's men, Keats and Moses sort out the betrayal that they each feel.

That is the basic premise. No it's not the first time you've ever seen anything like this, and there are a lot of other things you've seen before, too. There's a gruff captain of the police, a femme fatale and a big huge guy that is Colton's right hand, but that doesn't mean the film can't be fun.

Sandler and Wayans know how to have a good time. I do like both of them, though many do not, and their interaction with one another has a natural feeling to it, and is done well. It you don't like either of their styles of humor, then just don't see the film.

Sandler gives us everything we expect of him, with his Operaman

voice singing "I Will Always Love You," his goofy screaming and contorted faces and his other trademarks.

He succeeds in some dramatic acting, as well, although sometimes it is hard to view him seriously.

As for Wayans, this is probably the best role I've seen him in. He, also, is very funny.

I wasn't sure how I'd react to the believability of their characters before I saw this film, but I was pleasantly surprised. They pull it off quite well. They make you care about their characters, and you never side completely with either one when they argue, which makes them a good team.

I'm sure people will be repeating several lines from this movie in the near future, and if you want guns and blood, or a little excessive vulgarity, *Bulletproof* has those, too.

If you like action/comedies, and you appreciate the talents of Wayans and Sandler, go check this out at a matinee or a bargain night.

More formalist critics may pan *Bulletproof*, but I enjoyed myself. It's a good time, and don't be surprised if you see these two together again on the silver screen in the near future. I'd watch them again.

Pluses: Wayans and Sandler; a mindless good time

Minuses: not really a new idea (but sometimes that doesn't matter too much, depending on the way you look at it)

Front Row Fools snore through Bulletproof

By JON CANTWELL &
FRED HEMMINGER
Arts & Living Writers

Welcome to the second edition of our *Campus* column. This week, there were many differences in our trip to Tinseltown. We ventured up Route 19, instead of the ever-so-popular I-79, for instance.

Front Row Fools

We learned that north of Meadville, it is customary for drivers to go ten to 20 miles per hour below the speed limit. This allowed us to gaze at the countryside a little, where we thought we saw Sharon Stone. You may think that Sharon would be somewhere in Hollywood, socializing with the stars, but after *The Last Dance*, she probably was evicted.

If you've never heard of *The Last Dance*, do not worry, only about five people saw it. Due to our leisurely pace, we almost missed our movie, *Bulletproof*. If only one more cow had fallen asleep on the road, we may have avoided the painful experience.

Once we reached the theater and

cozied into those wonderful Tinseltown seats we remembered that at Tinseltown it is required to laugh at the serious parts, because like *A Time to Kill* last week, these people laughed at the movie's attempt for serious drama and smothered what little humor there was.

Bulletproof is an action comedy about two crooks that participate in a grand theft auto scheme until one of them, Adam Sandler (*Happy Gilmore*), discovers that his partner Damon Wayans (*The Last Boycott*), is an undercover cop.

After being revealed, Wayans (Detective Jack Keats) chases down Sander (Arch Moses) and attempts to arrest him. Keats then is shot accidentally in the forehead by Moses.

While Moses is on the run, we watch as our hero Keats rehabilitates himself back to the police force (we might add that this scene was so bad that Fred almost left the theater to wretch). Keats then must bring Moses to Los Angeles so Moses can testify against a world-renowned drug dealer/car salesman that has ties across the country.

The real adventure starts in the trip to L.A., unfortunately the comedy did not. Sandler continually tries to gain Wayans' forgiveness for shooting him and tries to

bring back their friendship.

Jon's Pick—Wait until this one comes out on video. If I were the titling this film, it would not be *Bulletproof*, but rather *Humorproof*.

After seeing this film, I had to check the newspaper and remind myself this was a comedy. Adam Sandler was his same twisted self—watching porno films, talking of orgies, telling us of his marijuana-smoking mother and sharing his dream of being a bull fighter.

Damon Wayans was not quite as funny as the characteristically loud-mouthed Sandler.

He demonstrated his inability to deliver either a serious or a humorous line. Too many scenes ended with him not delivering a punchline.

The plot of this movie was actually written well, but not for these two. This was so bad that we even heard some in the section next to us snoring. On a Snapple scale of one to ten, I give *Bulletproof*, three Snapples ... not even my dinner equivalency (sorry ... ex-dinner equivalency!)

Fred's Pick—I usually complain about actors who always play one role over and over (i.e. Clint Eastwood) but this movie made me want to beg Damon Wayans to go back to his old comedy.

He delivered lines that some-

Showing this weekend at

MEADVILLE CINEMAS...

Jack (PG-13) 2:00, 4:25, 7:05, 9:25

The Island of Dr. Moreau (PG-13) 2:15, 7:15

The Crow II: City of Angels (R) 4:30, 9:20

*Maximum Risk (R) 2:05, 4:15, 7:25, 9:30

Bulletproof (R) 2:20, 4:20, 7:20, 9:30

*premiering this weekend

Afternoon times for Saturday and Sunday only

Matinee—\$3

Evening Shows—\$5

Latino film scholar to speak

Latin American film scholar Laura Podalsky will present a lecture on Wednesday, Sept. 18, titled "On Both Sides of the Camera: Women and the Latin American Film Industry." The lecture, which will take place at 7 p.m. in the Campus Center Walker Room, will be featured as part of the College's celebration of Latino Heritage Month.

Podalsky is an assistant professor in the department of romance languages at Bowling Green State University.

After completing her undergraduate education at Yale University, Podalsky earned her master's and doctoral degrees in Latin American studies at Tulane University.

She has done extensive research on Latin American films and has published numerous essays including "Negotiating Differences: Na-

tional Cinemas and Co-productions in Prerevolutionary Cuba" in *The Velvet Light Trap* (1994) and "Disjointed Frames: Melodrama, Nationalism, and Representation in 1940's Mexico" in *Studies in Latin American Popular Culture* (1993).

Recent review articles include "Film-Brazil" and "Film-South America," to be published in the *Encyclopedia of Latin American Literature* this year and "Consuming Passions: Popular Urban Culture in Mexico," also to be published this year in *Studies in Latin American Popular Culture*.

For more information on this lecture and other Latino Heritage Month events, contact the Office of Multicultural Affairs at (814) 332-3332.

*Courtesy of the Office of Public Affairs

Allegheny will celebrate Latino heritage in September and October. Following is a listing of next weeks activities:

Monday, Sept. 16—7 p.m., Campus Center Lobby
"Extravaganza" folkloric dance group will present traditional dances such as the Brazilian Lambada and the Spanish Flamenco.

Wednesday, Sept. 18—7 p.m., Campus Center Walker Room
Laura Podalsky's lecture (see above article)

Thursday, Sept. 19—7 p.m.
And the Earth Did Not Swallow Him, a Mexican film, will screen in Shafer Auditorium

Rape 101.

If you think rape can't happen to you, you're in for a real education. Because statistics show that rape happens more to women in your age group than any other. In fact, this year, one out of six college women will be the victim of rape or attempted rape. Very often by someone she knows. A fellow student. Even a date. And that's a crime. Because any time a woman is forced to have sex against her will it's a felony. Rape. It's a subject no one should take lightly.

Men's soccer downs Lycoming

By TIM BAUMGARTNER
Sports Reporter

The Allegheny men's soccer team split two games this past week, losing on the road to Grove City, but regrouping at home on Saturday to defeat Lycoming College.

At Grove City the Gator offense never got into full gear due to a lack of support from midfielders.

Allegheny did manage to muster up one unassisted goal from senior co-captain John Reid at the 12:00 mark in the first half. Grove City was quick to retaliate, scoring at 36:00 in the first half.

The game remained tied to the end of regulation. Once in overtime Grove City took advantage of a ricochet goal off of a Gator defender, sealing the win.

For the game Allegheny had a total of 13 shots on goal to Grove City's 19. Junior goalkeeper Ken Cohen came up with 11 saves for the Gators.

The game was not all the Gators lost at Grove City. Their entire afternoon was marred by bad luck as two starters, sophomore Josh Nichols and junior Hugo Gutierrez, both went down with shoulder in-

juries and are out indefinitely.

At home on Saturday the Gators fought through the constant downpour and slow pace of the game to come out on top 2-1.

Both Gator goals were set up when sophomore John Zdaniewski was fouled in the box. Reid knocked in the resulting penalty kicks at 13:00 and 20:00 of the first half.

Lycoming's only goal came at the 18:00 mark of the first half.

The game was a defensive battle as Lycoming managed just nine shots on goal compared to the Gators' 19. Of those nine shots, Cohen registered seven saves. The Gators moved to 1-3 overall on the season with the win.

On the year Reid is the top scorer for the Gators with six points, all coming off of his three goals total. Cohen has been solid in goal. He has a 2.00 goals against average.

The Gators took on Mount Union last night in the first game of a three game home stand, but results were not available at press time.

The next game is Sunday at 3 p.m. against Slippery Rock University.

Gator offense should remain strong

(continued from page 16)

Conrad hauled in 40 receptions, four of which were touchdowns, last year and gained 671 yards.

Six caught 21 passes in his freshman season, gaining 301 yards and scoring four times.

Seniors Jason Brazen and Mark O'Loughlin and junior Sam Rado return to start on the offensive line, but the loss of Anson Park and Brian Adams, both of whom were All-Americans, will be felt.

Sophomore Jake Merski, a second team All-NCAC pick last year, is back to handle the placekicking duties. Sophomore Kevin Bowser may handle kickoffs.

Several youngsters will be asked to step up and help overcome the Gators' losses this season. Without their help it could be a bumpy road as the team attempts to get back to the playoffs for the fifth time this decade.

The Gators' biggest game of the season comes early, as they take on Wittenberg in the second game of the season. The game is once again expected to decide the conference championship, and a loss, as the Gators learned last season, will likely mean missing the playoffs.

The season begins this Saturday at Robertson Athletic Field when the Gators take on the Thiel College Tomcats at 1:30 p.m.

Women's tennis combines youth and experience

By JEN RATTI
Sports Reporter

The Allegheny women's tennis team has been training for two weeks in preparation for the 1996 fall season. With long, strenuous practices the Gators are now ready to take on their opponents in the North Coast Athletic Conference.

Last year the Gators finished in sixth place in the NCAC with a 16-7 record. Although the team's head coach, Mark Fleming, was very pleased with last year's record, he has higher expectations for this year's team. Fleming and new assis-

tant coach Tyler Thomson are very optimistic about the upcoming season.

Although the team has a lot of newcomers, the experienced veterans will provide an even balance. Seniors Amy Grillo and Michelle Maronian are both back and will serve as co-captains. Other returnees from last year are seniors Deanne Boland and Jennifer Bogo, junior Whitney Burke and sophomores Mary Bowman, Gina Duffin and Stephanie Stonemetz.

While the Gators are looking to improve their record from last sea-

son, the key to their success rests with a group of inexperienced freshmen. "The team looks very strong and we have a lot of talented freshmen who will help us tremendously," said Thomson.

The crop of freshmen newcomers includes Adrienne Aul, Sarah Braid, Erin Higgins, Jenny Keegan, Amber Wichowsky, Caroline Wilson and Katie Zielinski.

Due to the incomplete construction of the new tennis courts, the Gators will be forced to play the majority of their matches on the road.

Women's soccer continues strong play

By TENNILLE JENKINS
Assistant Sports Editor

Allegheny women's soccer is off to a good start this season with a 3-1-1 record.

The Gator's finished last year 7-12-1 overall and 4-4 in the North Coast Athletic Conference. One year later, the Gators are looking to improve last year's record.

New Assistant Coach Carrie Lysek has provided a very pleasant addition to the team. "She is helping a lot," said sophomore Lisa Hollis. "She has a lot of energy and new ideas."

In their Sept. 4 match against Fredonia State, the Gators won with a score of 4-1. Sophomore Alexis Emrick turned in two goals to lead the Gators. Freshman Suzanne Plano and senior Jodie Evans each knocked in a goal to help the cause. Evans' goal was her first of the season.

This past weekend at the Allegheny Classic, the Gators defeated Mount Union 2-1 in overtime of the tournament's first round. Plano scored a goal in regulation time, and Emrick scored the game winning goal in overtime. Plano and Emrick are currently tied for the

team lead in goals (three) and points (seven).

In the championship game, Allegheny fell for the first time this season losing 3-1 to national power Heidelberg. "We went into the game with the wrong attitude and that hurt the team," Hollis said. Junior Tana McKasson scored her first goal of the year in this match.

Despite their loss in the tournament, the Gators have not lost their confidence in meeting their overall team goals.

This week, Allegheny will host a pair of non-conference games against Carnegie Mellon and Charleston.

Men's tennis wins season opener against Edinboro

By TENNILLE JENKINS
Assistant Sports Editor

Allegheny men's tennis opened their season Sept. 9 with a 4-3 final score victory over Edinboro.

This victory came as no surprise to many returning players despite the loss of three players. Last year the Gators broke the Allegheny record with 21 wins for the season and they are looking to play just as well this season.

"Our goal is to be just as successful or better than last year," said junior Ricardo Cortes. "We have faith that we can do it."

This year's starters include senior Bartek Moskwa, juniors Matthew Paat and Mike Walker, sophomores Peter Vande Kappelle and Ryan Zelling and freshman David Howell.

Vande Kappelle, Zelling, Moskwa and Walker all turned in singles victories. Howell and Walker paired up to capture a doubles victory.

The Gators' win came down to Zelling. Being the last man on the court he had to defeat his competition 6-2 and 7-6. "Monday's match wasn't hard, but acts as an indication of the level of performance needed for the season," said Cortes.

This year's Gators have taken on a whole new attitude towards teamwork. "We're gelling together more as a team than we have in years past," said junior Andrew Trzcinski. "We're all very focused on our goals."

Because the tennis courts are still under construction, the Gators will be playing the majority of their games on the road. However, "once we have the new tennis courts, we expect everyone to be there," joked Trzcinski.

The Gators have a match today against Carnegie Mellon and play Sept. 17 against Gannon.



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Volleyball ups win total to four

By PAT SHELTON
Sports Editor

The Allegheny volleyball season moved into full swing last week as the Gators played three different matches.

On Sept. 4 Allegheny took on Clarion University.

The Gators started the match slowly, dropping the first two games 15-3 and 15-13.

With their backs against the wall the team scrapped their way out, winning the next two games 15-12 and 15-13, evening the match at two games a piece. This set up a fifth and deciding game.

The Gators prevailed 17-15 in overtime of a final game that proved to be as competitive as the rest of the match, completing the comeback.

Saturday the Gators played two matches.

The first match paired Allegheny and Grove City. Allegheny dropped the first game 15-8, but bounced back and took a 2-1 lead in the match with 15-3, 15-9 wins.

The Gators' luck ran out in the fourth and fifth games as they fell 15-3 and 15-6.

Leading the Gators against Grove City was senior setter and captain Amy Bryson. Bryson tallied nine

kills, 22 digs and 35 assists in the match.

Junior Molly McCoy led the Gators in kills with 18, while senior Missy Rau added 13 kills to the Gator attack. Freshman Wendy Turkovich gutted out 37 digs, also aiding the Gator effort.

In the second match on Saturday Allegheny took on Chatham College.

The Gators cruised to a 3-1 win in the match, with individual game scores of 15-4, 15-5, 12-15 and 15-3.

Bryson was again a major player in the match for the Gators. She finished the match with 21 assists and nine digs.

McCoy and Rau also played a key role in the win with 15 and eight kills respectively.

For the season Bryson leads the team in assists with 190 and digs with 103. Rau and Turkovich have each recorded 86 digs a piece to this point in the season.

McCoy leads the Gators in kills with 88, and Rau is second on the team with 79 kills.

The Gators now have a record of 4-3 on the season. They host the Allegheny Invitational on Friday and Saturday with Franklin and Marshall, Fredonia State, Geneseo State and Muskingum.

LOOSE BALL



Sophomore Allison Pyewell is looking to steal the ball while her opponent dashes towards it. The Gators hosted the Allegheny Classic this weekend and finished in second place. See the related story on page 14.

-Jamie Eckel photo

This Week in Gator Athletics

Sept. 13 Volleyball Allegheny Invitational; Cross Country Allegheny Classic

Sept. 14 Volleyball Allegheny Invitational; Football vs. Thiel;

Women's Soccer vs. Charleston

Sept. 15 Men's Soccer vs. Slippery Rock

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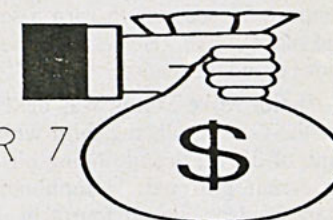
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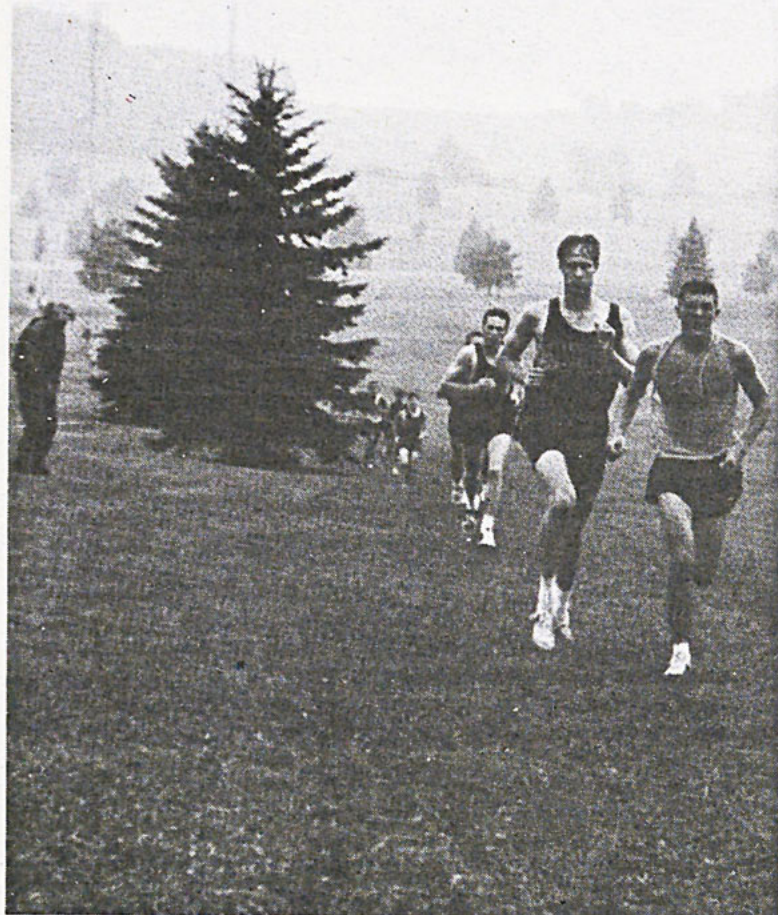
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The Campus Sports



GATORS IN THE MIST—Juniors Kurt Krause (foreground) and Mike Matott run across the wet turf at the Clarion Invitational. —Wyrick photo

Cross country runs well at Clarion

By PAT SHELDON
Sports Editor

Last weekend the Allegheny men's and women's cross country teams kicked off their seasons at the Clarion Invitational.

The men's team got several strong performances from individual runners on their way to winning the men's team title. The Gators finished first with a team total of 33 points while Clarion finished second with 56 points.

Junior Kurt Krause was the top finisher for Allegheny. Krause finished the five-mile course in 29 minutes, 51 seconds to earn a second place finish. He was nine seconds behind the leader.

Junior Mike Matott was next in for the Gators, placing third with a time of 30:19, despite being hit by an errant golf cart. Sophomore Mark Hudson placed fourth in the

event with a time of 30:21, while sophomore Ben Wyrick (30:39) finished sixth and junior Kevin Anthony came in seventh in a time of 30:41.

The women's team was also very successful. They finished second in the team event with 40 points, three behind champion Clarion's 37.

Senior Maggie Rehm was the top finisher for the Gators as well as the meet's individual champion, running the 3.1-mile course in a time of 21:50.

Rehm's teammate, sophomore Amy Schuckert, was the next runner in with a time of 22:05.

The third and fourth best finishers for the Gators were both freshmen. Erin Stefancin placed ninth in the field with a time of 23:39. Shannon Orr finished tenth in a time of 23:53.

This Friday both teams are in action again as they host the annual Allegheny Classic.

Gator football squad ready to tackle new season

By PAT SHELDON
Sports Editor

Last season the Allegheny football team was handed only its second NCAC loss of the 1990s by a tough Wittenberg team. With that loss came the harsh reality of sitting out the NCAA Division III playoffs. Sixteen starters return this year in the hopes that their experience can help lead the Gators back to the NCAA playoffs.

Highlighting the returnees are two All-American defensive linemen. Senior Nick Reiser is back for his fourth and final year as a starter. Since his freshman year he has played in 32 consecutive games, recording 189 career tackles and 21 sacks. He has won first team All-NCAC honors every year here at Allegheny.

The second returning All-American is senior defensive tackle Bob Tatsch. Last season Tatsch set a school record for sacks in a season with 11 and a half.

Returning to start on the defensive line with Reiser and Tatsch are seniors Mike Kuder and Mike Ciocca.

Kuder finished last season third on the team in sacks with five and

fifth in tackles with 49, 33 of which were solo. Ciocca was named second team All-NCAC at the end of last season.

The lone returning starter at linebacker is junior Mike Leonard. He started six games last season and played in all ten, recording 32 tackles and a sack.

Defensive backs returning who started last season are senior Jason Kleps and junior Willie Green. They are joined by Antione Morris who started in 1994 but took last season off.

Kleps finished fourth on the team in tackles last season with 53, recovered three fumbles and intercepted one pass.

Green was named to the first team All-NCAC in his first season as a starter. He had 34 tackles, two interceptions and four pass breakups on the season.

Morris was a starter in 1994 when he was named first team All-NCAC and tied for the conference lead in interceptions with six. He also had 35 tackles that season.

Junior Vince Coley returns at punter. Last season he averaged 35.5 yards a punt, third best in the NCAC.

Offensively the Gators should once again be strong. Starters return at all skill positions and the only question appears to be on the line.

Junior Kyle Adamson returns to lead the offense from his quarterback position. Adamson finished fourth in the nation in passing efficiency. He set a school record with a completion percentage of .679 and threw for 2,039 yards and 17 touchdowns.

Senior Kyle Smesko and junior Jim Mormino are back to join Adamson in the backfield.

Smesko led the NCAC in rushing last season with 1,068 yards. He was also tops in the NCAC in rushing touchdowns with 16.

Mormino was named to the second team All-NCAC at the end of last season. He gained 606 total yards and reached the end zone six times.

The receiving corps should also be explosive once again as seniors Ronnie Anderson and Chris Conrad return at wide receiver and sophomore Nathan Six returns to start at tight end.

Last season Anderson led the NCAC in both receptions (53) and receiving yards (771). He also had six catches for scores.

(continued on page 14)

SPORTS COLUMN

The NFL's best of the best at running back

Who is the NFL's best running back?

It seems as if this question has been a topic of heated debate in recent years. It has grown into such a large argument that NBC created the "Run For Daylight" competition, which uses a series of drills to determine who the "best back" is.

Pat Sheldon

The most recent contest was aired on television Saturday. The competition's results proved nothing.

First of all, Barry Sanders of the Detroit Lions was not even represented in the competition. Sanders has been at the center of the running back debate since his rookie season, and because of his absence, NBC was robbed of the little bit of credibility their event had to begin with.

Secondly, drills have little value in settling this argument. Certain things can be determined with drills, but the true worth of a running back, that inner element that separates the good running backs from the great ones, cannot be measured by standing in a circle and catching passes from three different JUGS machines.

Lastly, the early season results have done nothing to back up the competition's results. This year's winner, Curtis Martin of the New England Patriots, has failed to surpass 100 yards in his first two games combined. Hmm, I think there might be a few backs who have done better.

Looking at the facts it is clear that the debate over the NFL's best running back has not been solved. Having said this I feel the need to throw in my two-cents-worth.

The way I see it only two running backs legitimately belong in this argument, Barry Sanders and Emmitt Smith. Both backs have their strengths and both are unquestionably bound for the Hall of Fame, but in my opinion Smith is the better of the two backs.

The stats certainly speak in favor of Smith, but I frankly don't care about that. A football player's stats are as much a product of his surroundings as his own skill. To argue that Smith is a better back simply because of superior stats would be to say that the Cowboys and Lions have seen similar success as teams. Last time I checked the Super Bowl ring tally in the 1990s was Dallas-three, Detroit-zero. It doesn't look too even to me.

My sole reason for saying Smith

is the better of the two backs comes down to one word—toughness.

Football is historically a game of tough guys. From players (Jack Lambert, Dick Butkus) to coaches (Vince Lombardi, George Halas) all of the great ones have displayed some degree of toughness. No one in the NFL today (except maybe Brett Favre on pain killers) displays this toughness better than Smith.

There have already been two examples of Smith's desire to play overcoming his personal pain this season.

In week one he started against the Bears despite injuring his knee two weeks earlier and being told by doctors he would miss four weeks.

At the end of that game Smith was carried off of the field on a cervical board with his neck stabilized. Despite showing movement in all of his extremities it was assumed he would miss at least a week. Wrong. Smith practiced two days later and ran for over 90 yards just six days later against the Giants. There are none tougher among today's professional football players.

So for all of Sanders' moves, for all of his broken tackles and eye dazzling runs, he cannot overcome the toughness and desire of Smith. Of course, what the hell do I know about running backs? I'm a Bengals fan.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE OF SPORTS

Page 15—Volleyball results

Page 14—Men's and Women's

Soccer results

Everywhere—All sorts of cool sports type stuff