1876 2026

The Campus

Volume 151, Issue 5
Friday, October 2, 2026

Meadville, Pennsylvania
www.alleghenycampus.com

Country club clubhouse burns down



AUBRYANNA SNYDER/THE CAMPUS

Firefighters and first responders rush to the Meadville Country Club on the afternoon of Friday, Sept. 25, after a smoking HVAC unit escalated into a large structure fire resulting in the clubhouse burning down.

See FIRE | page 3

PennDOT meeting discusses roundabout

By **XENIATOR KAMARA**
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Chris Thomas, a born and raised Meadville resident, called the attention of attendees present at the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation open house that took place on Thursday, Sept. 24 in room 301/302 of the Henderson Campus Center.

PennDOT holds open houses to inform residents on the projects they'll be taking on, as well as what effect they will have. Thomas lives a quarter mile north of the proposed roundabout site at the intersection adjunct to Oddfellows Hall.

"A roundabout would be unattractive, unnecessary and expensive," Thomas said. "I propose a trial of four-way stops."

In a comparison matrix he created, Thomas challenged the existing graphic put on the PennDOT website.

"A roundabout replaces the skews (of the current alignment) with an equally complicated geometry–still requiring attention in all directions," Thomas said.

PennDOT project manager Christine Boyer-Krantz believes that this type of open house involvement is crucial. "We host these events to get people involved early," Boyer-Krantz said.

Initial design of the roundabout would require the demolition of a portion of Lot 10, located off Limber Road.

"The main thing that drove this design was the angle of the intersection," Boyer-Krantz said, referring to where Limber Road meets North Main Street. "We needed to shift it slightly."

See PENNDOT | page 3

Allegheny places highly in national college rankings

By **AUBRYANNA SNYDER**
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In the span of one week, Allegheny College received favorable rankings from both U.S. News & World Report and The Princeton Review. The former released its annual rankings for colleges and universities on Sept. 22, with Allegheny ranking in categories for innovation, best values and writing across disciplines. Most notably, Allegheny ranked 10th in the nation for senior capstone experience. Seven days later, The Princeton Review recognized the college as a Best Value College and ranked second in the nation for "making an impact."

Allegheny College President Ron Cole, '87, reflected on the ranking.

"I am proud and not surprised," Cole said. "Our faculty, for example, have historically been forward thinking about the curriculum. Our students show up with passion about what they want to learn and pursue."

According to the Sept. 22 press release, Allegheny's U.S. news ranking was found on lists that included institutions from both the "national liberal arts colleges" and "national universities" categories, placing in the top ten colleges for senior capstone projects, first-year experiences (No. 24), writing in the disciplines (No. 25), undergraduate research/creative projects (No. 29) and best undergraduate economics programs (No. 213).

"writing in the disciplines" is a new category in this year's report. Cole expressed his pride in that particular regard: "Right out the gate, we're in the top 25," he said.

The "senior capstone project" category refers to Allegheny's senior comprehensive project, which all students are required to complete prior to graduation. U.S News defines a senior capstone as a significant project that helps a student to show how they synthesize the education and information that they've acquired over their four-year study.

See RANKING | page 2

Women's Tennis serves Westminster a shutout loss



NIKI HINEMAN/THE CAMPUS

A cheerful moment after gaining a point, Emiliia Grydnieva, '27 and Gabrielle Bassette, '29, high five each other before getting ready for their next set.

ASG discusses Judicial Review Board, 'Spotlight' initiative

By **ANTON HODGE**
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Allegheny Student Government held its weekly General Assembly in Henderson Campus Center room 301/302 and discussed matters regarding the Judicial Review Board and its candidates, who were voted on this week. Announcements were made in regard to club finances, and call for people to fill out college committees. The only absence this week was Co-Director of Student Affairs Brandon Thompson, '29.

Cabinet reports started with Director of the Treasury Anna Turhan, '27, who began by reporting that multiple clubs had reached out to the Finance Committee about the budget allocations.

"Since our last meeting, we have received four additional emails concerning the amount of funding allocated for individual organizations. As of right now, unfortunately, we cannot guarantee any additional funds," she said.

Turhan made it clear she wants organizations to reach out in case funding becomes available.

See ASG | page 2

Allegheny adapts to CPT standard changes

By **AUBRYANNA SNYDER**
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Colleges and universities are now reevaluating qualifications for internships and work opportunities for international students after a U.S. Government decision in August that changed the standard for Curriculum Practical Training.

The new standard mandates that internships can only be approved as part of a degree requirement for all students, foreign or domestic.

The college received two emails from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security detailing the CPT changes and the consequences for noncompliance

Associate Provost for Student Success Ian Binnington said that while the college often receives DHS emails that are "trivial" in nature, the two that were sent on Aug. 12, and Aug. 24 were unexpected.

The Aug. 12 email, titled "Reminder of Liability for DSOs Regarding CPT Authorization," highlighted the standards that apply to CPT and the threat of perjury for institutions that do not comply, which Binnington found to be an unusual email at the time.

"We started to think about what, so are we in compliance with those, that new guidance?" Binnington said. "We hadn't got so far as making any changes when a second email came on Aug. 24 that was much clearer."

See CPT | page 3

In this week's Campus...

IT'S TIME TO HAVE 'REAL TALK CONVERSATIONS'

The Center for Career and Professional Development has launched a new initiative for upperclassmen. Staff Writer Paige Kageni, '27, shares their goals.

Page 3

TRACKERS, COOKIES, AND DATA COLLECTERS, OH MY!

Contributing Vivian Potts. '27, shares her perspective on data collection in today's information- and internet-based society.

Page 4

'KICKING IT' IN THE FIRST DAYS OF FALL

Allegheny Recreation hosted a kickball game on Sunday, Sept 27. Jeremy Downing, '30, covered the sportsmanship and scores.

Page 6

FRIDAY H: 65° L: 45°
Rain: 70%
Sunrise: 7:19 a.m.
Sunset: 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY H: 64° L: 44°
Rain: 0%
Sunrise: 7:16 a.m.
Sunset: 7:04 p.m.

SUNDAY H: 66° L: 48°
Rain: 5%
Sunrise: 7:21 a.m.
Sunset: 6:57 p.m.

White House bans three media outlets

A timeline of events from Sept. 18 to the present

By **KESSLER POTTER**
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President Donald Trump posted on his Truth Social account that he was banning three major news outlets from The White House press pool for the foreseeable future on Friday, Sept. 18.

"I am proud to announce that, effective immediately, I am banning Fake News CNN, MSNOW (who recently changed their name from MSNBC due to lack of viewership and credibility!), and Politico (The recipients of an illegal and ridiculous $8 Million Dollar subscription, an All Time Record, directly from the United States Government, under Crooked Joe Biden, in order to keep them "alive." Seems like corruption to me!), from The White House as a result of their constant 'reporting' FAKE NEWS!" wrote Trump. "Media Outlets shouldn't be able to constantly write or report FICTION and LIES when they're covering the President of the United States, the Trump Administration, or the United States of America. Other Fake News Media Outlets to follow. Thank you for your attention to this matter!"

Timeline

The next day, reporters from the three outlets named in Trump's post were banned from entering The White House. According to an article from the Associated Press, these reporters were all turned away and either had their press badges deactivated or taken away.

Two days after the reporters were turned away from The White House door, the three news outlets filed a court case suing Trump over what they claimed was a "blatant violation" of their first amendment rights.

Also on Monday, the first direct effects of the president's ban were felt. CNN, one of the networks banned by Trump, is a perennial member of The White House Press Pool. The Press pool, which is a collection of national networks, covers the president's movements and press conferences. On Monday, CNN was scheduled to cover the president's trip to New York City to attend the United Nations General Assembly meeting. Since they were banned from attending the presidential press conference, there was limited news coverage of this event, due mainly to two factors. First, the other members of the core of the press pool (ABC, CBS, NBC, and FOX) banded together with CNN to refuse to cover White House events. This drastically limited the national news outlets that covered the conference. Additionally, the press pool is responsible for bringing the bouquet of microphones that usually adorn the president's podium. As the major networks in the pool were not attending the conference, Trump had no microphone to speak into. This greatly reduced the clarity of his speech and heavily limited the people that had any chance of hearing and understanding him. Also in solidarity, the AP, Washington Post and New York Times vowed not to release any photos of the president on Monday.

By Tuesday, the stakes had risen even higher. On Monday evening, the banned press outlets decided to sue The White House, the WH Chief of Staff, and others.

The media ban continued until Wednesday, when the remaining members of the press pool arrived at Xi Jinping's return to China.

The information contained in this story was last updated on Wednesday, Sept. 30, and might not accurately reflect developments that take place after that day.

RANKING *from page 1*

Allegheny's senior project is a perfect match for that type of capstone project, according to Vice President for Enrollment Management Jenn Winge, '96. She said that in many ways, the capstone experience at Allegheny has been modeled by other schools to mirror how closely students work with faculty, express and articulate the skills and knowledge they gain and use that experience moving forward, whether it be graduate school or a profession.

"I love that when you run into Allegheny alumni, whether it's in the airport or here back on campus during Blue & Gold, they can always tell you what they did for the comp," Winge said. "It's a memorable and meaningful experience."

Despite being a small liberal arts institution, Allegheny is evaluated in the national category for the report as opposed to the regional category that ranks local liberal arts institutions such as Mercyhurst University.

Winge acknowledged that while the national rankings speak to the college's recognition for great achievement, she appreciates the evaluation the college has received through the report's secondary categories.

In these categories, the rankings are based in part from reviews of Allegheny's peers, meaning that when Presidents and Deans from other institutions are asked to attribute characteristics of the college experience, Allegheny comes to mind.

> "Our faculty, for example, have historically been forward thinking about the curriculum. Our students show up with passion about what they want to learn and pursue."
>
> —RON COLE
> *Allegheny College President, Class of 1987*

"I love even more that our peers are saying Allegheny is doing some really interesting things, and doing those things very well," Winge said.

In the Princeton Review's rankings, Allegheny's standing improved from No. 5 to No. 2 in the "making an impact category," according to the Sept. 29 press release. In addition, Allegheny scored 86 out of 99 for return on investment.

As well as receiving national recognition, Allegheny also has several current campaigns aimed at achieving college and student success such as the Allegheny Tuition Promise for Ohio & Pennsylvania residents capping tuition prices at $20,000 for household incomes under $75,000; as well as the "In for Allegheny" campaign with the Strategic Pathway goals targeting enrollment and financial sustainability for the institution.

As Allegheny continues these initiatives, administrators such as Winge and President Cole say that providing the best experience and education for students is the main focus of the college.

"As you focus on making sure you have the best teaching, and you have the best technology, and you're providing meaningful experiences outside of the classroom, that should result in improved rankings, because that's just how it works," Winge said. "It's more about making sure we're providing the best experience for our students in preparing them for next steps."

CCPD to hold 'Preparing to Launch' mini-conference

By **AVRI DELAUTER**
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Allegheny's Center for Career and Professional Development will host a mini-conference in Cussewago Square from Oct. 7-8 for third and fourth year students.

The CCPD has hosted many different activities and events, providing Allegheny students with ample opportunities to get a full understanding of what jobs and internships look like post-graduation. In the past two years they have hosted career fairs, including one during this year's Blue and Gold Weekend.

"This is our pilot program of what we are calling 'Preparing to Launch,'" said Liza Schaef, associate director in the career education department. This is the first in the series that the CCPD is going to be hosting.

The event is designed as a 'mini-conference,' specifically tailored for juniors and seniors, Schaef said. It will run on a two-day schedule at the beginning of fall break, starting on Wednesday, Oct. 7, from 5:30 p.m. and then finishing off on Thursday, Oct. 8, 2 p.m.

The deadline to register is Oct. 4 at 11:59 p.m. through Handshake, to ensure that there are enough seats and space, Schaef said.

Schaef and other staff strongly encourage students to get involved.

"We're looking to get it launched. We're targeting about 50 students," Schaef said.

She expects the weekend itself will keep students busy by giving them plenty of opportunities to get involved and gain professional and public speaking experience.

"We're really excited to say that Wednesday evening, we are hosting a mocktail reception, followed by a sit down buffet style dinner and a keynote speaker," Schaef said.

The second day of the retreat will be hosted in Cussewago Square at Cup n' Spoon. Cup n' Spoon is a local frozen yogurt and coffee shop, and according to Schaef, each student attending will receive both a free frozen yogurt and a free coffee.

Schaef explained the CCPD's ultimate goal from this event is to give Allegheny students the opportunity to fully experience professional life, and more specifically, experiencing a professional conference filled with keynote speakers and chances to network.

"We're driving them forward, allowing them to ask questions, meet people, alumni and business owners across a variety of settings that might have some expertise in different fields, allowing them the opportunity to connect networks and ask questions," Schaef said.

Lucia Conti, '00, director of employer and corporate relations within CCPD, shared the same sentiments as Schaef with regard to her own expectations and excitement about the upcoming event.

"This allows the students to step back and into a space that is concentrated on this topic, and to allow them to absorb what is being said," Conti said.

While this event is mainly concentrated on allowing Allegheny students to explore traditional workplace events and environments, both Conti and Schaef made a clear distinction that there are two pathways for students depending on what they want to explore.

"We have the workforce track, and then we have the continuing education track whether that be grad school or med school or law school," Conti said.

Conti also made it clear that there shouldn't be any pressure when registering for this event.

"The students don't have to be stuck in those tracks, and we're letting them choose their own adventure for the day," she said.

Conti also stressed the importance of students attending this event to get the experience and learn from the keynote speakers that will be in attendance as well.

"We're kicking off the Wednesday evening with an Allegheny alum who has an awesome story to tell about how her business has been able to show students how the college and the community are tied together," she said.

One of the main underlying focuses from Conti, Schaef and the CCPD as a whole is for Allegheny students to determine what they want to do after college. "Make it what you want it to be to make it feel real," Conti said.

ASG *from page 1*

"Reaching out to us and meeting with us during the Finance Committee weekly meetings, which happen every Wednesday, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the ASG room, which is in the campus center on the third floor," she said.

Turhan also said that her office is working with Director of Finance Daniel Servey, '29, on a possible workshop for organizational funding.

The Finance Office followed with Servey announcing a clarification of policy for student organizations, that the 65% of remaining budget available to fundraisers directs clubs not to spend more than that percentage of their available budget on a fundraiser.

"This is a way so in case the fundraising doesn't meet its goals, the club amount isn't completely drained on the fundraising event," Servey said. "As far as the amount of money a club can actually raise during a fundraising event, there is no limit to that."

The first regular weekly ASG expenditure budget requests totalled $6,002.31 dollars, $4,216.20 of which was attributed to single-time charge from the Orchesis Dance Company.

Co-Director of Student Affairs Anas Adnan, '29, reported an effort to coordinate tabling with harm reduction supplies to distribute them on Halloween weekend.

Chief of Staff Lyra Lindsay, '27, reiterated that students who are interested in joining committees should do so.

"The most valuable part of sitting on a college committee as a student is twofold. I would say one, getting an inside look at the way higher education works from an administration and a faculty perspective. You learn a lot about what your professors are doing outside of teaching and grading," she said in a follow-up. "You also get to have the most voice I've had at this school because you're talking to staff directly. You're talking to the board of trustees, you're talking to the Dean of students, you're talking to the provost and Dean of the Faculty. You're talking to the people who have much more sway than you could imagine as a student."

Following the committee announcement Lindsay started off the first round of college committee reports this year; President Ella DeRose, '27, reported progress with the Finance and Facilities Committee, with the main item being a 2.8% increase in fees from 2027-2028. According to DeRose, comparable colleges are increasing by five to seven percent.

Executive reports started with Vice President Kylie Thompson, '27, who mostly spoke about programming and an upcoming meeting with Dean of Students and Title IX Coordinator Trae Yeckley.

DeRose had some exciting announcements for the GA. ASG has created a new initiative called ASG Spotlight, used to help inform students as well help students get in touch with events going on around campus.

"We want to push out events on our social media, basically live events the same way the Student Life TV shows things, the same way GatorHub does," DeRose said. "Showcase the events that people are putting effort into, the things that students are attending, encourage people to connect across clubs and across groups and meet new people."

> We want to push out events on our social media, basically live events the same way the Student Life TV shows things, the same way GatorHub does."
>
> —ELLA DEROSE
> *Class of 2027*

The new business of the evening was the introduction of the Judicial Review Board. Comprising three students, each confirmed by two rounds of voting, the Judicial Review Board is comprised of three students that are not otherwise members of ASG. These three students form the body which reviews cases of constitutional infractions by members of ASG, including playing a key role in the potential of impeachment for members of ASG. Each year this body is composed of three new students, confirmed by supermajority vote.

In this first round of voting, three candidates were proposed, and voting progressed by secret ballot for each individual candidate. Two of the three candidates were approved through the first of two necessary rounds of voting. The third candidate was not approved, largely due to conflict of interest concerns raised by the ASG cabinet.

"It would go against the whole idea to have someone with pre-conceived notions [on the JRB]," said Carl Cogan, '30, during discussions before voting. The decision to utilize the secret ballot was made with respect to possible bias in public voting.

Grace Kegel, '27, was approved by ASG as a non-ASG representative to the Curriculum Committee by unanimous vote.

ASG Faculty Co-Advisor Will Turner had a few announcements regarding sports events and staying healthy as a virus makes its way around campus.

"We've been on a 4-0 winning streak (football team), the football next home game will be in about two weeks. Please come out for that home game. You want to have as many students there as possible," Turner said. "Keep yourself hydrated, make sure you wash your hands. I know that there's a little bit of a virus going around as well, so please just make sure you wash your hands, doing all this stuff to help keep your health."

CCPD holds upperclassmen 'Real Talk Conversations'

By **PAIGE KAGENI**
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The Center for Career and Professional Development has unveiled a series of events for upperclassmen aimed at discussing anxieties and the intricacies of post-graduate life. The meetings are the creation of Liza Schaef, associate director of the CCPD, and Carene Shipley, third and fourth year class dean, and hosted every third Wednesday of the month in room 301/302 of the Henderson Campus Center. A GatorHub announcement for the Real Talk Conversations describes itself as being "low-stress, informal hangouts for juniors and seniors to candidly discuss life after college, process career anxieties, and share hopes for the future."

The CCPD works to assist students in their career aspirations, ensuring they have a strong foundation for whatever road they choose. However, students may also feel certain fears pertaining to life stressors. Economic planning, processing emotions and other circumstances that cause worries can also affect a student's day-to-day life. Schaef said inspiration came considering these challenges, thinking particularly about what students would benefit from.

"For me, it started with ideas specific to career," Schaef said. "And then, when I connected with Carene, and said, 'I have this idea, what do you think about it?' we thought it might be nice to broaden the conversation a little bit more."

Shipley wants students to realize they aren't alone in the chaotic process of securing work or managing arduous tasks in their lives. The meetings have a drop-in schedule to allow students to stop by and chat whenever they need to. The purpose of the Real Talk Conversations is to meet students where they are, bringing their troubles with them and making the journey slightly more manageable.

"I think, in part, helping students to not feel as isolated in this process, especially with social media," Shipley said. "It can be very easy to feel like everybody else has it together and you're the oddball out. So, helping to make those connections, like, 'Oh, I truly am not alone in this. Other people are going through the exact same thing.'"

> "It can be very easy to feel like everybody else has it together and you're the oddball out. So, helping to make those connections, like, 'Oh, I truly am not alone in this. Other people are going through the exact same thing.'"
>
> —LIZA SCHAEF
> *Center for Career and Professional Development Associate Director*

Schaef says another major point of the talks is the support from fellow students. Facilitating a space for a back-and-forth dialogue where participants can offer each other encouraging words and community is one of the many reasons why the CCPD believes in the potential impact of Real Talk Conversations.

"Because it's unstructured, it's kind of like, 'Ok, thank you for being here to take the time to be in the space today,'" Schaef said. "Whatever that anxiety or stressor is, it's not just us giving them feedback. If their peer is in the room, it's sharing that idea back and forth, that idea of peer support, 'I'm not in this alone.'"

Although the initiative is still in its early stages, Schaef and Shipley plan to utilize the feedback from participants to shape what the future talk will look like. Additionally, future promotion through platforms like GatorHub and campus-wide emails will further amplify the talks.

Recognizing commonalities between what students are facing in their daily lives allows the CCPD to ask what they can do best to help. Schaef believes hearing what students have to say directly will not only help upperclassmen, but all students at Allegheny.

"If it's impacting several students, that might be an indication of more the student body as a whole or juniors and seniors as a whole," Schaef said. "And is there something we can do with our other campus partners to maybe support that in a different kind of way."

The next Real Talk Conversations will be held on Wed. Oct. 18.

CPT *from page 1*

After consultations with the college's immigration counsel and peer institutions, Binnington said that the college took the "unfortunate" and "regrettable" decision that in most cases, international students would not get approved for CPT.

Allegheny College President Ron Cole, '87, spoke about the impacts on students facing these changes.

"Whenever there's changes in federal policy that affect higher education, we need to stay on top of it," Cole said. "We need to understand how those changes in policy might influence or change our ability to be in compliance, and ultimately, we need to best support our students and their learning experience, including their access to federal aid when needed. That's the balance we have to strike."

Binnington made the distinction of the CPT changes being a "pause" rather than a cancellation, meaning that it could be possible for the college to get back into compliance with the revised federal guidance.

The new guidance from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security did not formally update any law or regulation, rather it changed its interpretation of the word "integral" in the existing statute; for Binnington, this essentially means the changes to CPT are "hanging on the government's interpretation of one word."

As a former international student who immigrated to the U.S., Binnington is particularly conscious of the impact the changes could have on the students at Allegheny.

"Our students, along with students at other campuses, were doing nothing wrong," Binnington said. "They were following all of the rules, they were complying with all of the existing regulations, and then the government decided they were going to change them."

Allegheny College has a population of around 85 international students according to Binnington. Not only are those students denied the professional experience by internships, there are also potential financial effects by removing the opportunity for paid internships.

"That's a big impact principally on their ability to have the same sort of experience that domestic students take for granted," Binnington said. "Internships can be very powerful on resumes. They can be either themselves or as an experience, gateways to future opportunities."

Binnington and the college's Provost's office are working to make sure that international students are supported in lieu of the sudden changes. Meetings have occurred with the students to keep them informed, with the college bringing in its immigration attorney to answer questions. Both President Cole and Binnington stressed that the Gator Success Grant is always available for any students facing unexpected emergency situations.

Binnington also explained that the college is reviewing potential ways to amend certain departments' curricula to include the completion of internships as a graduation requirement.

"We also don't want to penalize domestic students, vice versa, but there are departments where almost everybody's doing an internship anyway," Binnington said. "So making that a graduation requirement in that department doesn't penalize anybody."

Cole explained that the work the Provost Office is doing to support students and address concerns is in collaboration across governance systems at the college, such that the Academic Standards and Awards Committee, Student Life and other departments are all working to provide opportunities for international students while remaining in compliance with the new standard.

The college receives regular updates from national organizations that track changes to federal policy, such as the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities. Cole said that Allegheny receives weekly, if not more frequent, updates on federal policy that might affect higher education.

As the college receives updates its legal team works to stay in compliance in order to receive federal funding for student aid.

"We have to stay within compliance, but we also need to find ways to support our students with the education that we want them to have," Cole said. "That includes experiences outside of the classroom."

PENNDOT *from page 1*

PennDOT clarified that they have spoken with Allegheny College and plans could include construction of a parking lot adjacent to the location of Oddfellows Hall. PennDOT Roadway Lead Jordan Wilcox, has worked on several roundabouts in the area and believes that construction will follow the proposed 2028-2029 timeline as most projects typically have. Allegheny's plans to demolish certain buildings, such as Oddfellows Hall, won't have an impact on the projected timeline.

On one project slide presented at the open house, PennDOT showed that a roundabout only has about eight conflict points, or potential collision points, as opposed to a typical intersection's 32. The result is a safer crossing for pedestrians as cars queue up, reducing vehicle speed and congestion.

However, another slide clarified that the proposed roundabout would also cross onto a few private properties. The affected property owners received a letter detailing the intersection's "substandard geometry" and the proposed solution of a roundabout. The letter invited the residents, referred to as 'stakeholders,' to the open house. Alumna Brenda Costa, '94, voiced her concern for the safety of pedestrians, such as Allegheny students. "I'm just concerned about any traffic diverted," Costa said, "because those brick streets don't have sidewalks."

While some were directly opposed or in support, there were also those that attended the open house simply for more clarity. The owner of the Green Shoppe, Julie McClymonds, believes in the potential of the project, hoping that "traffic will move better," an opinion also shared by Costa. "But the overall residential appeal isn't great," McClymonds added.

Generally, the PennDOT team and Meadville locals agree that an improved traffic flow would be best; the discussion centered around whether a four-way stop or roundabout would be more beneficial, with both slowing traffic at the interestion, but having different construction and cost implications.

PennDOT's presentation also detailed concerns about the outdated infrastructure of the current intersection and how those needs would not be met by a four way stop. Currently, the American Disabilities Act accommodations are out of date and, 2023, vulnerable road user safety assessment ranks the North Main Street project area as "high risk."

CRIME BLOTTER

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

September 27, 2026
Harassment
Tippie
Open

September 28, 2026
Act 64
McKinley's
Closed

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

Your data is unimportant because you are unimportant

By **VIVIAN POTTS**
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Cookies. Trackers. Pings. Data collection comes in many different forms in this age. Social media and algorithms know you almost just as well as your family does. Data collectors know even more, like where you live, where you spent your last Saturday or if you're taking a gap year. I've heard people ask "why should I care? My life is unimportant — what could they possibly do by knowing I want to buy a new Chanel bag?"

Maybe they're right. Maybe your data is meaningless because you are meaningless. You most likely don't hold a position in the government, potentially don't have a full-time job and certainly don't have the launch codes to missiles. However, you'd be surprised about what all this "meaningless data" is used for. Many people outside of the field of computer science aren't well versed in the interconnections of the internet and companies and how the passage of data and information is incredibly valuable.

I believe your data is important because your lives are important, even when it seems like they are not. The digital age has put every individual online though, health records, online banking, social media, etc. Virtually you are everywhere, and everyone wants to know everything about you.

I was assigned a reading in my data science class talking about trackers and data collection. This got me into researching trackers, which are the digital equivalent of a stalker that lurks outside your window. They don't ever contact you but they always seem to linger a little too close. Sometimes they leave you flowers on your doorstep with no note. How did they know that lilies were your favorite flower? It's the uneasiness in knowing someone knows something about you that they shouldn't.

Trackers are no different. According to the Non-Human Identity Management Group, they can follow aspects of your activity across websites and collect information about what you search, click and view. They watch you search up that weird bump on your leg and suddenly there is an ad for a special cream to help with mysterious rashes. Maybe that's fine for you — it is nice to have things tailored to your experiences, until it becomes a security risk, until you are a person of color looking for work and certain sites and applications don't show up without you ever knowing, until you are drowning in loans and suddenly find yourself surrounded by advertisements for high-interest payday loans, until websites raise prices of items they know you'd be willing to buy. The worst of all is the feeling that you agreed to it. You pressed "accept" on a cookie notification on a website you visited just one time, possibly without even thinking about what you were agreeing to.

Cookies can allow websites to remember your activity, preferences and interactions, and some third-party cookies can be used to track your activity across different websites for advertising purposes. You may have agreed to something without ever realizing how much information could be collected or how that information could be used. Even if you clicked "no," not all forms of online tracking necessarily disappear. It's like a sense of false security of acting to lock your door when it's still wide open, waiting and hoping no one notices.

> The internet can be a beautiful place, but it operates by many of the same rules as the real world; information creates power, and knowing how that information is collected makes you less vulnerable to its misuse. Protect your data and protect your privacy. "
>
> —VIVIAN POTTS
> *Class of 2027*

That is all online though. There is no real man looking through my window watching me as I go through my day-to-day life. While that is true, there is no limit to the location data being collected. The companies you and I use on a daily basis are constantly collecting data on who goes where at what time and for how long. In hindsight, it shouldn't feel scary to know that someone knows I went to Taco Bell for the third time this week. But who does know?

In a Dec. 2019 article, the New York Times tested how difficult it is to take a location-data point and connect it to a physically identifiable person. If you are wondering — no, it is not very difficult.They were able to track more than 50 billion location pings from the phones of more than 12 million Americans. Of course, it's less of a concern to you and I than it is to someone like a senior official at the Department of Defense. Considering how easy it is to connect the data from location tracking or purchases to an individual person, you'd at least expect there to be safeguards to prevent this. Spoiler alert: there aren't. The problem isn't only that companies can experience data leaks. We also lack sufficient laws and restrictions preventing the sale and misuse of our personal location data. Motherboard, VICE's technology publication, investigated how cellphone location data was being sold through a network of telecommunications companies, data brokers and other intermediaries. In one investigation, Motherboard paid a bounty hunter $300 and received a Google Maps screenshot showing the real-time location of a phone. A bounty hunter is a private professional who tracks down and captures fugitives or criminals in exchange for money. Further investigation suggested that roughly 250 bounty hunters and related businesses had access to location data from AT&T, T-Mobile and Sprint. This is a real and important example to look at, given that any one of us could be targeted. Who is held accountable for the actions of those with information they should hypothetically not have? Who is responsible for your safety if you cannot guarantee it yourself?

Artificial intelligence has drastically changed the game. After becoming widely accessible in 2022, it has changed schools, workplaces and homes can operate. Regardless of how you feel about AI, you should know your data is potentially used to train their large language models. LLMs are AI systems that are able to produce and understand human language by processing large amounts of textual data. GPT-4o, Llama-3, Mistral-7B and Claude 3.5 are all popularized LLM models currently used in AI chatbots that many people have used. In May, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada published a joint investigation into concerns about OpenAI and ChatGPT. A major concern of the investigation was whether or not users actually understood that their conversations could be used to train and improve AI models. Regulators found that OpenAI had not obtained valid consent for certain uses of personal information while developing its GPT-3.5 and GPT-4 models, raising concerns about consent, transparency and the handling of sensitive information. As the investigation claims, simply having information in the privacy policy does not directly warrant meaningful consent, especially if users do not understand what is happening with their data. Even if the data is only being used to train AI models, the collection and use of people's personal conversations can still create security and privacy risks, much like the risks that exist when any company collects large amounts of personal information.

A false sense of security here is that you might feel as though none of this is happening to you. No one has stolen your identity, no one is tracking your whereabouts. Of course though, that is not true. That is the reason I am writing this article. To open eyes, the things spoken about when talking about the risk of privacy online are in fact, happening to you.

In a 2018 survey done by the American Association of Retired Persons, more than one in seven U.S. adults reported being victims of identity theft. Everyone who has ever had financial and personal data on the web is at risk — but you don't even know who has your data. While not directly watching you, location data collectors send your information to companies and they study you and others to put eye catching billboards or ads in areas they know will draw people in. It's all one big "Truman Show" delusion where you believe you have free will when really you are being guided into certain jobs, capitalist notions and sometimes beliefs. You are being fine tuned into a person who is OK with that.

I don't want to fear monger. I don't want my friends to be scared to use the internet. However, I'd like to establish why it's good to be vigilant on the internet and why protecting and speaking about internet safety is just as concerning as any other major issue in the world. Hackers and data collectors may not target you directly but they may influence advertisements, opportunities, political news/adverts, identity theft, contribute to discriminatory outcomes and disproportionately target vulnerable individuals. The internet can be a beautiful place, but it operates by many of the same rules as the real world; access to information creates power, and knowing how that information is collected makes you less vulnerable to its misuse. Protect your data and protect your privacy. If we can't set these standards in a virtual world, how can we do so in real life?

Get involved with a new club, you might like it

By **TRISTAN BURNASH**
Contributing Writer
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Coming to Allegheny College, there were only two things I knew were for certain: I was here to play football and get an education.

Little did I know, I would get involved in something I hadn't really thought about, the college newspaper.

I think everyone should get involved with something on campus. The benefits of participating in a sport or a club are immense.

As I started out the year, I was purely focused on adjusting to not only college football and its challenges, but also general college life.

Coming from Florida, football has always been a huge part of my life. Having just graduated high school being a senior leader and being one of the better players on my team, it was very hard adjusting to being a freshman again and essentially starting over when it came to my place on the team.

In terms of college life, I had done dual enrollment which allows us to take classes at a nearby community college while still in high school, so I was used to college work. However, adjusting to somehow having a lot of free time and no free time at the same time was very tough.

Having to balance going to class, studying and playing sports was very difficult, but as the semester has progressed, I feel like I've entered a flow and schedule that works.

I hadn't participated in any clubs or extracurricular activities besides sports in high school, so coming to Allegheny, I hadn't really considered joining anything.

I have always admired things like commentating and analyzing, especially about sports, but I had forgotten about sports journalism.

Starting at Allegheny, I planned to major in business and minor in communications. When I looked at my class schedule and saw a journalism class on my calendar, I was a bit surprised.

> I feel people going out of their comfort zone and trying something new, especially in college when there isn't really any downside, is essential to growth and helps ease mental stress."
>
> —TRISTAN BURNASH
> *Class of 2030*

Initially, I wasn't really interested in the class. As some weeks passed by and I went to the weekly contributing writers meetings, I became motivated enough to give writing a story a try.

For the first time in a while, I tried something out of my comfort zone. I wrote my first story, which was a season preview of Allegheny's Women's Volleyball team.

Scheduling interviews, taking pictures, writing down questions and having genuine conversations made me feel like a professional and felt very satisfying.

When my story was done and I had seen both it and my pictures in the paper, I felt a great sense of accomplishment.

I feel people going out of their comfort zone and trying something new, especially in college when there isn't really any downside, is essential to growth and helps ease mental stress.

Having something stress-free to do where you aren't necessarily shutting your brain off really helps not only pass time but also gives you something to focus on when you are having a tough time.

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

Em & Lo Watch a Show
Episodes four through eight of *Gilmore Girls*

By **EMMA CONTI-WINDLE**
"Ask Allegheny" Host and Producer
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By **LORENA SILVA SOARES DE OLIVEIRA**
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Hey guys! Em here. Confession: This is my first time watching Gilmore Girls, which for how much of a TV watcher, romance lover, regular lover, laugher and blower up of all reasonable small matters, is shocking. But honestly, I feel blessed to be going through it for the first time with my dear friend Lo, who is watching for the third time. This way, she can tell me when I'm wrong, and I can argue with her and we can have fun.

Em

It was a truly riveting slew of episodes complete with a deer attack, a crash out attack, a Shakespeare attack, a party attack, a kiss attack and a mommy-daughter-daughter's crush movie night, which felt certainly like guess an attack on us all. But alas, Rory survived. Even though it was a tough watch, I sort of like that the headmaster of Chilton decided to be a hard ass and not let Rory retake the test. There is something about TV feeling like real life that is oh so satisfying and all too rare. My high school principal would have done the same thing. And since we are still in Stars Hollow la-la land, I am positive that Rory will end up just fine because what character crashes and burns so bad and then doesn't recover on Episode 4? Characters don't do that. Only I do that. Also very similar to my high school, a hot mom would certainly start dating the dreamy Shakespeare teacher, but I am proud of the fight that Lorelai put up against it.

It says a lot about Lorelai also, although she has been annoying me lately, that she straight up forgot about her date with hot Mr. Max out of sheer concern for the neighbor's dead cat, Cinnamon. Not just a girls' girl, a town's girl, and I love that. Rory has also been annoying me because she keeps running away from Dean who has officially graduated from cutie to hottie and I love that too. Rory, grow up! There is a hottie standing two feet taller than you and all you can do is run away. My sweet, sweet Lo did remind me, however, that she is young and has never talked to a boy before, and it's truly unheard of to have the first boy to show interest in you to be a dime piece like Dean. So I forgive you, Rory, for being so, so awkward.

Shout out to Dean though for continuing to pursue Rory in a way that is somehow not read as creepy. If this happened in real life, say on Allegheny's campus, Dean would probably lose interest, get upset and mean, or come off immediately creepy and fall into the margins of obscurity. If there's one thing I do know, it's that Stars Hollow is not Allegheny College, and Deans do not exist. I'm sure he'll end up pissing me off soon anyway.

Also, is it sort of weird that Dean apparently looks like Rory's dad? Like did we need that? Can't we make the point that Lorelai is seeing herself and her own past in her daughter's budding love, causing her to freak out in an episode of manic prayer that Rory does not end up with a teen pregnancy like she did, without being so Freudian? Would be great, thanks.

Currently pissing me off is Tristin who can shut his pie hole any day now. A Tristin would and very much does exist in real life. The fact that Emily brought the experience of Tristin onto Rory by holding a birthday party full of opps puts her a bit lower in the ranks for me to say the least. Richard is now a bit lower too because in classic patriarch fashion, he was completely aloof and uninvolved the entire time. I understand what the two were trying to do, but like in most sitcoms, all good intentions were immediately nullified by an absolutely moronic and frivolous lack of communication. I must give props to Emily for calling out the sexual tension between Luke and Lorelai, although, writers, please give Luke a more in depth storyline than just being a crotchety diner worker who hates fall decor. Like what?

I'm glad that Emily and Richard showed up to the second, warmer, homier, better, and Rori-er birthday party, that Sookie got to have her day in the sun, and that Lorelai got to brag about the Independence Inn and how independent she is.

Congrats, Rory on an adorable first kiss. Good aisle. I too have said "thank you" after such a thing and there is truly nothing wrong with that. And congrats on a fabulous second kiss while your mother was being the wing woman of the century in the kitchen reading a magazine! Not weird, not weird at all.

Closing thoughts: I love that Dean hung out with Rory and Lorelai. The perfect way to test a relationship, especially in early stages is to bring him around family and see how he fairs and he faired well. Lorelai was too much in that mama bear moment, but it tracks, and so I'm accepting it. I'm glad that Dean gave the attitude back. It showed how serious he was. Cute, but unrealistic. I hate that it is snowing. Not necessary.

Hoping for more kisses, birthday parties and junk food soon!

Lo

Sometimes it's hard for me to connect with Rory. Some of her experiences are quite unique. I was never hit by a deer while driving my car on my way to school, how could I? I still don't have a drivers licence or a car. However, at other times, I can relate to that 16-year-old girl with a young mom who is her best friend. My mom would also have 100% invited Dean to a movie night, and I would also have 100% crashed out on her. Despite Lorelai's awkward way of helping out her daughter spend time with the guy she likes, the "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" watch party was a success in my opinion; Dean was cute and confident, Rory, cute and genuine and Lorelai kept her distance when she was supposed to. But, unfortunately, we are starting to see Lorelai's most irritating trait of all time: hating on every single one of Rory's love interests. Like oh my god, why? Was that pep talk with Dean really necessary? The guy hasn't even done anything wrong, yet.

I do love the beginning of Rory's and Dean's relationship. He is bold and gets her out of her comfort zone, which is exactly what an inexperienced teen girl needs from her first crush. I am a fan of the unexpected way he first kissed her, in the grocery store on aisle three where the ant sprays are.

On the matter of boyfriends, I was so excited to see Lorelai and Max…Medina, Max Medina finally getting together. His sense of humor fits perfectly with her craziness. I love their "accidental" coffee encounter and love even more their real accidental first date. Way to end the night with Lane waking in on them, standing there like an annoying statue, couldn't she just sneak back into Rory's bedroom? Anyways, excited for more Lorelai and hot teacher Max.

By the way, Kirk, now actually known as Kirk, is on his third job, at the grocery store.

I can't believe it started snowing in Stars Hollow — I have never been so disappointed at a TikTok theory. Shame! Just when Richard declared himself as an Autumn person the seasons changed. Something funny to me is how Lorelai was so happy about the first snowfall, because I, on the other hand, tend to cry when that day comes. And guess who was also freaking out about the weather switch? My queen, Emily Gilmore.

As I am writing this, one day away from October, I am looking through my window and seeing the leaves turning orange and slowly fall to the ground. Already missing summer but fearing more the winter, I hope and believe we have a bit more time to enjoy the fall than the Gilmores did.

We will be back with our thoughts on episodes nine through 12 next week!

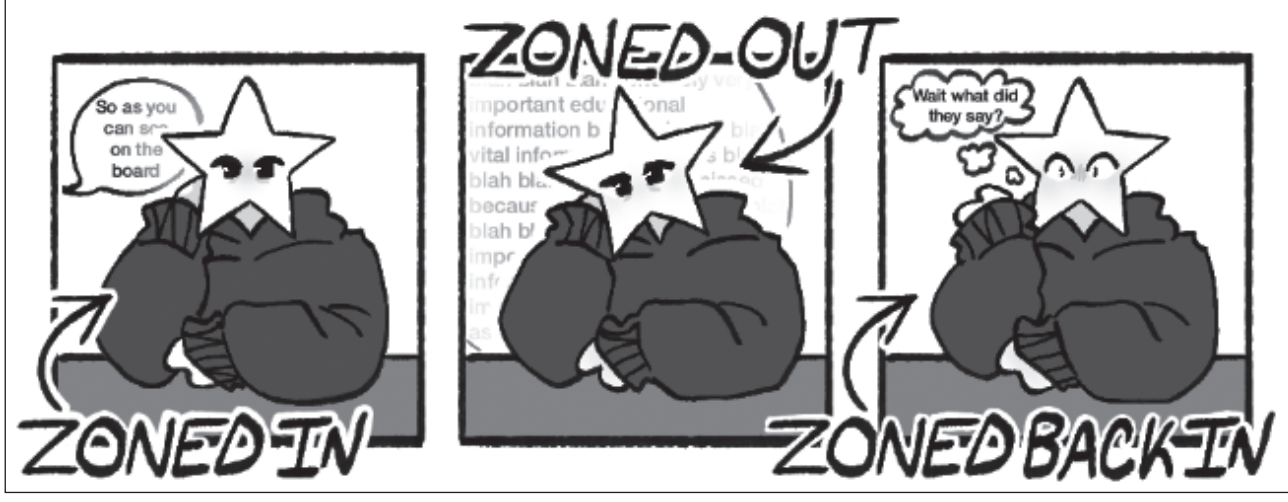
Keep watching the show!

Love, Em & Lo

COMIC CORNER

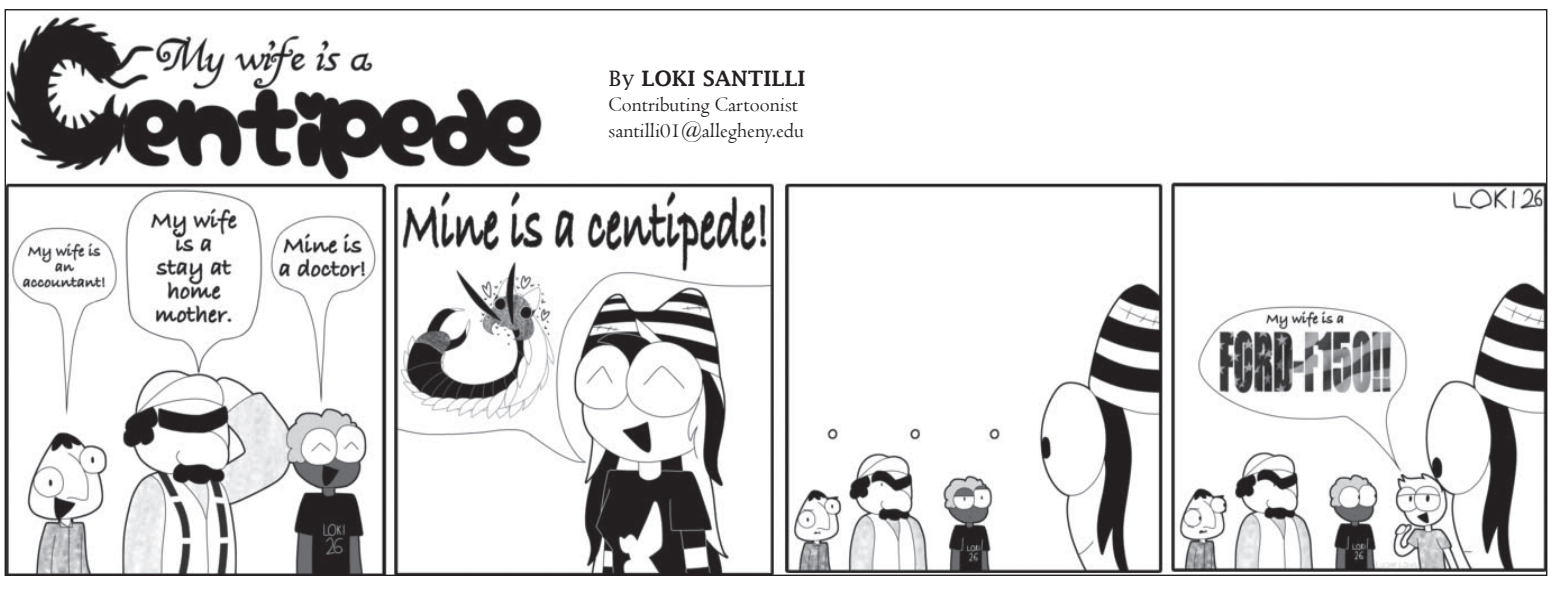
Staria

By **ALLYSON TUTAK**
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My wife is a Centipede

By **LOKI SANTILLI**
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Campus kickball game invites friendly competition

By **JEREMY DOWNING**
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> It's so important to get off the screens and out of the dorm rooms for some healthy recreation"
>
> —JARED LUTERAN
> *Associate Athletics Director for Recreation and Wise Center Operations*

Two teams of Allegheny students faced off on the Crawford field in a kickball game on Sunday, Sept. 27. The five students on each side took their positions on the field and the opening team's kicker prepared to strike the ball. Head Women's Flag Football Coach Abby Haynie called "play ball" and the open-to-all kickball game became a mix of flyballs, infield balls, aggressive baserunning and chaos on the defense.

Teammates cheered as the two teams — named Team One and Team Two — battled through four full innings, eventually ending with a 10-8 victory for Team One.

The event was organized as a fun recreational game by Allegheny Recreation as a way to give students an opportunity to get involved, be active and meet new people. While it was competitive, participants said that the atmosphere and chance to connect with students was great.

Associate Athletics Director for Recreation and Wise Center Operations Jared Luteran stressed the importance of physical activity for students.

"It's so important to get off the screens and out of the dorm rooms for some healthy recreation," Luteran said. "It's also a great way to meet new people. This event is laid back, students getting outside, laughing and just being kids for a bit."

The first three innings were anything but "laid back," as the game's score went back and forth, with strong competition on both sides. By the end of the third inning, the game was tied 7-7.

At the top of the fourth inning, Team One scored three runs. When Team Two came up to the plate, their leadoff kicker made it on base. Team Two captain Michael Burlingham, '30, had a chance to drive in that run with a hard kick out to center field. The runner on first scored but Burlingham was caught stealing at home plate after a ball thrown by the pitcher bounced off of Team One captain Cullen Doyle, '28, and into Burlingham.

"I like running, so I kind of tunnel visioned," Burlingham said. "I thought it was pretty cool though, I've never saw anything like that."

Doyle offered a different perspective.

"I'm very slippery," Doyle said, describing the play. "There's no friction there."

The next kicker made it onto first, but the next ball was shot into the air and cleanly caught by the first baseman. In the resulting confusion, the runner who had already left first base tried to run to second and was called out in a game-ending double play.

Despite being on the losing team, Burlingham said the game was about more than the final score.

"I like kickball," Burlingham said, "It's pretty fun, it's a great sport and I love being active."

Doyle said that he would encourage students to attend future events..

"More people for kickball [is] definitely better," Doyle said. "If it's a tournament, there'd be multiple different games running over the course of time."

According to Luteran, this kickball event was the first one in a few years. Allegheny Recreation tries to add different events to the schedule each year to give students more chances to participate.

"We try to do all kinds of different events that cater to different people," Luteran said. "Our events are inclusive and hopefully they build a better sense of community on campus."

Haynie said that the atmosphere at the game helped accomplish that goal.

"You got good music, got snacks, and drinks, and a good group, and everyone's getting along and I love that," Haynie said.

She also emphasized the importance of student connections as a bonus for this type of event.

"Everyone's connecting and everything and that's why we do this."

Luteran said another goal of these events is to give students a chance to try something new.

"I love to see students trying things for the first time, and being brave enough to sign up for things on their own when they might not know who else is going," Luteran said.

The next scheduled event is a bus trip to Port Farms, which will include activities such as giant slides, corn mazes, pumpkin patches and hay rides.

In addition, students who attend four of these events during their time at Allegheny Recreation can pick up a free shirt.

The schedule for upcoming events can be found online on the Allegheny Gators website under recreation events and info.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ALLEGHENY RECREATION
Xeniator Kamara, '30, punts the ball at the kickball game on Crawford field hosted by Allegheny Recreation on Sunday, Sept. 27.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ALLEGHENY RECREATION
Coach Abby Haynie talks to students present at the tournament.

Ask Allegheny

This week, President Ron Cole took over Emma Conti-Windle's 'Ask Allegheny,' asking:
"Once Emma graduates, who should take over 'Ask Allegheny?'



Willow Bowen, '28
Major: Communication & Media Studies
Minor: Dance & Movement Studies

"I think I personally would be a really great candidate."



Far left: Chezka Quinola, '27
Major: Software Engineering and Industrial Design

Middle left: Shayan Colabawalla, '27
Majors: Economics
Minor: Data Science

Far right: Hemani Alaparthi, '27
Majors: Computer Science and Economics

"We think it should be the person behind the camera."



Teag Cloonan, '28
Majors: Data Science and Writing

"Ron Cole. "

TENNIS *from page 1*





NIKI HINEMAN/THE CAMPUS

Above left: Extending her racket and leaping up to hit the ball, Gabrielle Bassette, ‘29, returns the ball to Westminster. Above middle: With a powerful hit Adriana Navarro, ‘28, returns the ball back to the opposing team. Above right: Emiliia Grydnieva, ’27, reaches to serve a ball. Allegheny Women’s Tennis Won with a 7-0 score on Monday, September 28th.





NIKI HINEMAN/THE CAMPUS

Above left: Keeping their eyes on the opposing team, Evie Ellenberger, ‘28, and Adriana Navarro, ‘28, stay focused as they prepare for the next shot. Above middle: Emiliia Grydnieva, ’27, returns the ball with a forehand. Above right: Navarro serves a ball.

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FIRE *from page 1*



AUBRYANNA SNYDER/THE CAMPUS

Firefighters work to extinguish a fire that engulfed the Meaville Crountry Club on Sept. 26.

By **AUBRYANNA SNYDER**
Co-Edior-In-Chief
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Even from 10 miles away, the sight of the ominous, growing dark cloud signaled to residents across the meadville area that a serious fire was taking place in the area. On the afternoon of Sept. 25, The Country of Meadville clubhouse caught fire shortly after an alleged HVAC unit began smoking around 3:20 p.m.

First responders rushed to the scene, but by the early evening it was clear the fire was not slowing and little of the clubhouse would remain standing.

Bartender Raven Sprague clocked in around 3:15 p.m. that afternoon and recalled that club members had complained about the burnt smell they believed to be coming from the popcorn machine. Sprague, who joined the club staff about two months ago, also volunteers with Vernon Central. Sprague had the help of visiting workers lift her into the ceiling of the country club through the golf simulator room, where the initial smell originated from. After being hoisted, Sprague found the HVAC unit with a "cloud of black smoke" coming from inside of it. General Manager Michael Ferry alerted 911 shortly after, and the eight to 10 people inside at the time according to Sprague's estimate, fled to safety outside the building.

"I just felt a rush of adrenaline," Sprague said. "Then that was that. I then saw 33 (Meadville Central Fire Department) come in, then the thought of me losing my job hit me officially at that moment."

Brian Staudenmaier, a medic for Meadville ambulance for two years, arrived on scene shortly after firefighters from West Mead. According to Staudenmaier, West Mead 2 was first on scene after reports came in about a small fire on the roof of the left side of the building.

Staff and members of the Club were eventually joined by a crowd of onlookers as the fire raged on through the hour. Members expressed their shock, while staff were visibly emotional as they faced the reality of the extensive damage to the building.



AUBRYANNA SNYDER/THE CAMPUS

Firefighters from Vernon Central Hose Co. use a ladder truck to spray water on the fire from above.



AUBRYANNA SNYDER/THE CAMPUS

Firefighters examine the damage from the side entrance to the bar lounge. Firefighters examine the damage from the side entrance to the bar lounge.



AUBRYANNA SNYDER/THE CAMPUS

The fire countinues to grow over the men's and women's locker rooms in the Clubhouse. Firefighters broke the windows to control the fire.



AUBRYANNA SNYDER/THE CAMPUS

Firefighters examine the damage from the side entrance to the bar lounge.

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CENTER FOR CAREER & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCT 6	COFFEE & CAREER (OPEN TAB) 10:30 AM - NOON | GFC
OCT 6	DUQUESNE MED SCHOOL PRESENTATION 12:15 PM-1:30 PM | CC206
OCT 7-8	PREPARING2LAUNCH REGISTER ON HANDSHAKE BY 10/4 @11:59 PM
OCT 14	CAREER DOCTOR (DROP-INS) NOON-1:15 PM | CC LOBBY
OCT 15	U PITTSBURGH NURSING DETAILS TO COME
OCT 19	BEAT THE BOTS: PART 1 (JOB DESCRIPTIONS) 12:15 PM - 1:00PM | CC206

CCPD SPOTLIGHT

Preparing2Launch Mini-Conference

Wednesday, Oct 7 @6:000pm - 8:00pm
(Tippie Alumni Center)
Thursday, Oct 8 @9:00am - 2:00pm
(Cup and Spoon - Cussewago Square)

Are you a junior or senior getting ready for what comes next? Join the Center for Career and Professional Development (CCPD) for Preparing2Launch, an exclusive two-day mini conference designed specifically to help upperclass students think intentionally about their future plans after graduation.

Register in Handshake by 11:59 pm on Sunday, October 4

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career@allegheny.edu