

The Campus

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‘JUSTICE FOR GEORGE FLOYD’ IDEAS Center hosts vigil for Floyd after Chauvin verdict

By **SAMI MIRZA**
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On Friday, April 23, the Intercultural Advocates of the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access and Social Justice Center hosted a “Vigil for George Floyd,” for students to remember Floyd and all victims of police brutality. It followed a series of student vigils for Breonna Taylor and the victims of the spa shooting in Atlanta, who were primarily Asian-American and Pacific Islanders.

The event was the most recent of three hosted following the April 20 conviction of Derek Chauvin for the 2020

murder of George Floyd. On April 21, the Schultz East Alcove hosted a “Healing Space” for community members to share their post-trial feelings. The following day, April 22, the advocates held a “Candid Conversation” in the Tillotson Room of the Tippie Alumni Center between the administration and students.

Unlike previous vigils, the event did not open with the organizers addressing the crowd. Instead, Intercultural Advocate Maya Francisco, ’24, thanked people for attending and left the microphone open for anyone to express their feelings following the trial.

“We wanted to honor the lives (of victims of police brutality) and give a space for us to come together to share support and acknowledge current events,” Francisco said to the crowd.

At the beginning of the event, that crowd numbered no more than two dozen and stood mostly in silence, but after music began to play things began to loosen up.

“Initially, it was pretty standstill, I’d like to say, but like I said we wanted this to be a space for students to come and get to know each other and as the music started playing and people started talking it created this atmosphere that made people more comfortable to

talk,” said Intercultural Advocate Aaliyah Coleman, ’21. “I don’t try to harp on numbers a lot because I know that if I reach one person, that one person can go communicate with somebody else, and then that train keeps on going with hopefully the same message that started it.”

Coleman stressed the importance of having professors attend vigils like this one, to help educate the educators.

“If we have a professor here, they may go and talk to their class about it on Monday and talk about what they learned and the environment there,” Coleman said. “We need more professors here in order to reach more stu-

dents.”

Another Intercultural Advocate, Rosslin Watson, ’21, sees the work of the advocates as focused on intra-institutional connections.

“Our biggest thing is trying to build those bridges between students, faculty and the administration,” Watson said.

The last of the three groups Watson mentioned — the administration — was well-represented at the vigil, unlike previous events. A vigil held last semester for Breonna Taylor lacked any administrative presence, and students found the overall administrative response lacking.

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Associate professor of economics to retire after 30 years

By **ROMAN HLADIO**
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Associate Professor of Economics John Golden’s office is rather bland from his laptop’s perspective — a filing cabinet and bookshelf the only things covering white walls. With no defining features, it could have been anybody’s office, which is why it was not surprising when Golden made it immediately clear that he, as the subject of the interview, would delay talking about himself as long as possible.

Golden will retire at the end of the semester after spending most of his 30-

year career at Allegheny College.

“John’s give-a-hoot meter’s off the charts,” said Entrepreneur in Residence Chris Allison, ’83.

Allison came to Allegheny to expand the amount and variety of entrepreneurship classes in 2006, when Golden was the sole entrepreneurship teacher, and the two have been teaching together ever since. Allison has since come to refer to Golden as “the hardest working man in showbusiness” — a reference to funk artist and singer James Brown and acknowledgement of Golden’s intense work ethic.

“I mean, he just really cares,” Allison said. “He gets so invested in the success or the lack of success with his students that he gets very emotional. He just wants them to do well, and he makes a big effort to keep in touch with our students. He remembers all of them.”

According to Allison, Golden takes the blame when any of his students are not doing well, and credits their hard work when they excel.

“The joke is that you walk by his office at 10 p.m. and he’s sitting in there working with students,” Allison said.

Professor and Department Chair of Economics Steve Onyeiwu echoed Allison’s sentiment.

“Occasionally, when I step into the building during the late hours, I will see John in a classroom around 9 p.m. teaching three or four students, trying to tutor them or help them out,” Onyeiwu said. “His office is open virtually 24 hours. I mean it, I’m not kidding.”

Although he has taught at Allegheny for almost 30 years, Golden was never tenured according to Allison.

“John acts like he’s a first year faculty member really trying to prove himself is his value, and he’s done that for ever

since he’s been there,” Allison said. “He just is really focused on delivering value to the school.”

Allison said he is impressed by Golden’s wide breadth of knowledge — especially of economics — and suggested that not only should Golden be on Jeopardy, but should host it.

“John lives, eats and breathes economics,” Allison said. “I always joke with him, I could wake him up at three o’clock in the morning with a phone call and ask him what GDP growth was from 1968 to 69 and he could probably tell you.”

See **GOLDEN** page 2

In this week’s Campus...

CHICKEN WINGS ... OR NUGGETS?

Contributing writer Jake Fleming, ’22, discusses whether Late Night Kins’ chicken is worthy of its name.

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COMP SEASON

Seniors discuss their senior comprehensive project topics and what it’s like comping during the pandemic.

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SUCCESS ON THE BALL FIELDS

Recaps of Gators baseball and softball.

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FRIDAY



H: 50° L: 34°
Rain: 52%
Sunrise: 6:18 a.m.
Sunset: 8:17 p.m.

SATURDAY



H: 61° L: 52°
Rain: 6%
Sunrise: 6:16 a.m.
Sunset: 8:18 p.m.

SUNDAY



H: 78° L: 59°
Rain: 14%
Sunrise: 6:15 a.m.
Sunset: 8:20 p.m.

GOLDEN

from page 1



Photo courtesy of SARAH HOLT/THE CAMPUS
Members of Omicron Delta Epsilon Economics International Honor Society at the 2018 banquet. Front L to R sitting: Trevor Day ’20, Troy Elphinstone ’19, Johnathan Miller ’19, John Golden. Back L to R standing: Joe Wesolowski ’18, Adam Deitrick ’19, Carlos Sanchez ’20.

Onyeiwu expressed similar amazement by Golden’s attention to history, economics, finance and other fields. “You run into John Golden, the first thing he tells you is whether the market is down,” Onyeiwu said. “So you say, ‘Hi, John,’ and it’s all, ‘The Dow Jones fell by this number of points.’ And then later in the afternoon, he updates you. He’ll say, ‘The market, came back again. It’s doing well.’ He will tell you all the major stock market crashes in the US and what caused them. He saw the crash of 1987, the crash of the 1930s.”

Golden attributed his expansive knowledge to the unique variety of courses he had the opportunity to teach, in addition to the unique student body. “Each class brings new experiences, new backgrounds, new ways of thinking — it brings a whole different set of questions that get raised,” Golden said. “Often the college will say ‘we have interesting combinations’ and we certainly do. I’ve taught intro macro and micro economics, and intermediate level also. I’ve taught economic history, I’ve taught a history course in (the) LGBT minor we had some years back, which is an unusual option for somebody in an economics program.”

Golden explained that part of what have you,” Golden said.

his need to help students whenever Although Golden said his signing stemmed from his time as a teaching assistant at the University of Connecticut. activities, Allison suggested otherwise.

“We were told that one has to think about one’s students, and you have to remember you’ve got an obligation to your students,” Golden said. “We’d gotten lost coming back from Cape Cod. We didn’t have cell phones at the time, and I was late for a review — I had like 35 signatures saying ‘we were here a half hour for you’ or whatever. And ever since that experience, I never wanted that to happen again.”

One of the best parts about working in the classroom is the spontaneity it brings according to Golden, though he said he tries to keep scheduled classes more on-track. Students who attend his late-night study sessions on the other hand are presented the opportunity to discover more unique aspects of his personality.

“I try to do the things I enjoy, and I used to think I did a pretty good Elvis — an elder Elvis who forgets lyrics and

“John’ll go into class and he’ll just sing songs and everything,” Allison said. “He likes singing Frank Sinatra. But let me put it this way, Frank Sinatra’s place in society is not in trouble. I think Frank’s going to be okay.”

Such an outpouring of gratitude has come out for Golden that it is physically incapable of fitting within the confines of this article.

Allison reminisced on the times Golden left milkbones and rare coins — Golden is a coin collector — in his faculty mailbox for his dogs and wife — who is also a coin collector — respectfully.

Onyeuwi chuckled while explaining that the Quigley vending machine will probably go out of business without Golden around to buy Coca-Cola.

Mary Nagel, ’15, explained that Golden was the only professor to have taught herself and her three siblings,

“He gets so invested in the success or the lack of success with his students that he gets very emotional.”

—CHRIS ALLISON, ’83, Entrepreneur in Residence, Allegheny College

and is grateful for his support through competitions she took part in at Allegheny.

Shivanthi Gunasekera, ’93, said her introduction to Starburst in Golden’s study sessions has turned into a lifelong addiction, and that his teaching was inspiring to her 25 years ago and to her nephew, a 2019 alumnus.

Golden explained that retiring now provided him the opportunity to “lock in a few good years,” but said Allegheny was so attractive that he would probably continue teaching a few courses.

“That’s the kind of guy he is: extremely valuable, extremely friendly, a very, very kind person, a nice human being,” Onyeiwu said. “And so he’s going to be. Missed by students, by faculty, by staff.”

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Editor wins PNMA award

By ROMAN HLADIO
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Editor-in-Chief of The Campus Newspaper Ethan Woodfill, ’22, recently won an honorable mention in the column category for the Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association’s Student Keystone Media Awards.

“It’s an honor to be recognized by the Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association,” Woodfill said. “I think it more broadly speaks to the quality of work we do at The Campus.”

Woodfill joined staff in the spring of 2019, serving as a news editor and later an opinion editor before assuming the role of Editor-in-Chief in the fall of 2020.

“(Woodfill) has been a really consistent and steady presence in the newsroom,” said Assistant Professor of English and Advisor to The Campus Mike Crowley. “He’s not the most outspoken member of The Campus’ staff, but he is unrelenting in his drive and in his demand that everyone

upholds the paper’s standards.”

The award required the submission of three separate bylined columns by the same author. Woodfill’s three stories included A day in the life of a college student in the age of coronavirus, Australian fires are just the beginning and Safety improvements needed for N. Main St.

“These columns respond to important issues at both the local and global level and they do so in a style that’s entertaining and thoughtful,” Crowley said.

“Ethan’s take on the beginning of the pandemic especially stands out to me. Published just after Allegheny students learned they would spend the rest of spring semester learning from home, it offers an insightful and ultimately reassuring look at how he was adapting.”

Crowley attributed part of Woodfill’s success to The Campus staff’s drive to provide a high-quality public service to their community.

“It would be easy to imagine unpaid college journalists confronted with a pandemic,

remote attendance and the challenges of reporting on campus events without being able to be there in person just phoning it in or even taking a break from reporting for a semester,” Crowley said. “Ethan’s leadership has been a huge factor in The Campus not only continuing to do its job, but consistently informing the Allegheny community and pursuing important stories.”

Through the recognition of his accomplishments, Woodfill hopes to inspire other Allegheny community members to come forward and strive to share in the same way he did.

“Student voices are so important, and I hope that more students see The Campus as a platform to voice their experiences, especially for marginalized students who have different experiences than us,” Woodfill said. “The Campus makes a big impact on our community. Important figures read and respect The Campus, and all students deserve to have their voices heard.”

ASG approves cabinet for upcoming academic year

By HASSAN JAVED
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The Allegheny Student Government’s eighth meeting of module two involved the voting-in of cabinet members for the upcoming academic year and provided updates regarding the student code of conduct amendments.

With Dean of Students April Thompson as guest speaker, ASG’s general assembly commenced with cabinet reports at 7:06 p.m. on Tuesday, April 27, via Zoom.

Chief of Staff Emma Godel, ’21, started off her report by talking about the upcoming senate elections.

“I’m very pleased to be receiving materials from so many interested candidates,” Godel said. “I have also been receiving a lot of incomplete applications that do not have the required 25 signatures from their class.”

According to Godel, she and Attorney General Jack Parker, ’22, have decided to extend the materials deadline to Friday, April 30.

“If you feel truly really confident in your candidacy, you now have more time to organize your materials and the rest of your application,” Godel said.

Godel also stated that should anyone face any issues with the senate application process they should contact her immediately.

The focus then shifted to the upcoming Pennsylvania municipal elections on May 18.

“In November, we had a record-breaking voter turnout for the presidential election,” Godel said. “We now have to keep those numbers up for the upcoming election.”

Godel stated that the registration to vote in the election is open until May 3. She also mentioned that a mail-in ballot can be requested.

“A mail-in ballot is not the same as an absentee ballot because it simply allows you to vote without having to visit polling stations and expose yourself to (COVID-19).”

Parker commenced his report by stating that he has been working on drafting an amendment for the role of parliamentarian.

“The parliamentarian will essentially be the gatekeeper of ASG and will work hand-in-hand with me in drafting legislations,” Parker said.

Director of Finance and President-elect Noah Tart, ’22, has been working alongside him to draft the amendment over the last fortnight, according to Parker.

Director of Communication and Press Bree Gray, ’23, followed with her report, talking about her work with ‘Why Not Us?’ to update the Title IX section on the ASG website.

“There are going to be some changes with the terminology and a couple of

more resources are going to be added,” Gray said.

Gray also mentioned that she had been working to make the website more mobile-friendly.

“I’m putting the final touches on the mobile version of the ASG website, it should be functional very soon.”

Tart commenced his report by commenting on the April 29 deadline for the club budget applications. He also mentioned that the budget reviews will be held between April 30 and May 2.

Thompson then commenced her address by opening discussion on the student code of conduct. She started off by offering an explanation on how the changes to the code of conduct are determined.

“Annually, we review the code of conduct,” Thompson said. “Any material changes to the code have to be voted on by a majority vote from the faculty and ASG. It is important for us to recognize that most, if not all, changes to the code of conduct come about because something has happened and there is clearly a void in the existing policies.”

Thompson said that changes have been made to more clearly state the rights of employees or victims. She also mentioned that the opportunity to appeal has been expanded for all those who are victims of violence.

“Previously, for cases not in the Title IX category, only the accused could ap-

peal, but we now expanded the policy so that those who are victims of violence may also appeal,” Thompson said. Thompson stated that the appeal board has been given the opportunity to adjust sanctions in context with specific cases.

Thompson then talked about how the deadline to appeal will be reduced from 14 days to five days.

“We have received a lot of complaints from students that the appeal process drags on too long so we’ve decided to shorten the appeal time to mend this,” Thompson said.

Thompson mentioned that the appeal board will now serve as the final appeal decision in all cases and circumstances.

“We want every layer of our process to include students, faculty and staff to act as community representatives to make a decision instead of just some one person doing so,” Thompson said.

Thompson then reinforced that Title IX policies will be changed in order to reflect the new national standards. She also mentioned that Title IX will be made simpler so that students are better able to understand it.

“Currently there are a lot of pages to read when it comes to Title IX and this can confuse a lot of people, so we’re looking to simplify things for everyone,” Thompson said.

Thompson continued her address by talking about updates to the definition

of the word “harassment.” “We are making changes to the definition of this word because we have received a lot of complaints over the last year about behaviors that constitute harassment but are not necessarily discriminatory in nature,” Thompson said. Sophie Adams, ’22, followed with the transition report by presenting the parliamentarian cabinet position amendment.

A motion was called to approve the amendment and passed unanimously.

Adams then announced the upcoming academic year’s selected cabinet and each candidate was voted in individually by the GA.

Parker will continue as Attorney General. Gena Pena, ’22, will serve as Chief of Staff. Rachel Harris, ’23, will serve as Parliamentarian. Lucas Biniewski, ’23, will serve as Director of the Treasury. Jennifer Peralta, ’22, will serve as Director of Diversity and Inclusion. Ryder Sullivan, ’22, will serve as Director of Communication and Press. Elizabeth Graham, ’22, will serve as Director of Student Affairs. Andi Reiser, ’23, will serve as Director of Sustainability and Environmental Affairs. Kyrie Doniz, ’23, will serve as Director of Community Relations. Crystal Hernandez, ’23, will serve as Director of Organizational Development.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

VIGIL *from page 1*

The Intercultural Advocates themselves were key in setting up the series of events, their first this semester. The group, a self-described “extension of the IDEAS Center,” was launched at the beginning of this academic year as a response team for incidents of bias or discrimination against the college’s marginalized communities.

“We’re in the fundamental stages, but for us to put something together so quickly, I was just really proud of the work that the Intercultural Advocates put in just this week alone,” Coleman said.

Beyond the vigil, Sydnie Patton-Johnson, ’23, said that the previous two events hosted Intercultural Advocates helped add to the safety of the community.



Ultimately, you can bring as many Black people here as you want, but if you don’t have the resources to support them, you’re just setting them up to fail.”

— AALIYAH COLEMAN
CLASS OF 2021

“I saw (the events) from afar and I just thought that it was just nice because it’s showing how Allegheny is trying to be socially-aware, which I feel like not a lot of campuses do,” Patton-Johnson said.

Watson sees the support of the community as vital, but that action is still needed for fundamental change.

“I think (the attendance) speaks volumes,” Watson said. “We invited President Link, and she took time out of her day to come. I think it says a lot that people are actually making time to show up to these events, but now it’s time for the action that comes in behind it.”

Coleman noted that though the Black community has grown since her arrival as a first-year student, simply having more people of color does not solve the fundamental problems.

“Ultimately, you can bring as many Black people here as you want, but if you don’t have the resources to support them, you’re just setting them up to fail,” Coleman said. “It’s important for the institution itself to, for one, hire more professors of color, so students of color can see themselves in their professors (and) feel comfortable addressing their professors. I feel like that’s important because at the end of the day we are still students trying to obtain an education.”

Despite the conviction of Chauvin, Patton-Johnson said the process of justice is far from over, and still has concerns about him escaping his verdict.

“I am nervous about what goes along with the case, because even though he was convicted and guilty of all charges, we don’t know how long he’s actually going to be in prison,” Patton-Johnson said. “There could be a chance that he could be on probation early, this is (his) first case (and the judge is more lenient), and they might consider it a mistrial because of all the bad things that people are saying about him so he didn’t necessarily get a ‘fair trial.’”

Even if Chauvin’s verdict stands and he receives a heavy sentence, Watson noted the systemic issues remain.

“Yes, George Floyd was the face of this large enhancement of the Black Lives Matter movement, but there are many other people who have been victims of police brutality and we wanted to shed light on that,” Watson said. “There’s more than just one Black man who was a victim.”

Still, Watson believes that the vigil and its surrounding events served their purpose in giving the community a place to heal.

“I do hope that this space has allowed some students and faculty who have shown up — I hope it gave them something, some insight to know that you don’t have to go through this alone,” Watson said.

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 Thursday before publication.

April 24, 2021
Criminal Mischief
Wise Center

April 26, 2021
Act 64
Wooded area near Robertson complex

April 25, 2021
Harassment
Wise Center

April 26, 2021
Trespassing
Wooded area near Robertson complex

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The ultimate debate: chicken wing or chicken nugget?

By JACOB FLEMING

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Boneless wing specials, whether at McKinley’s or Brooks Dining Hall, are a favorite among many students. They are so loved that students eagerly fill Kins on Saturday evenings waiting in line for upwards of a half-hour just to enjoy the renowned “late night special.” Flavors typically include buffalo, barbeque or even teriyaki, and servings normally contain around eight boneless wings.

A few weeks ago I went to Kins for their late night special because boneless buffalo chicken “wings” were on the menu. As I waited in line with my friends, a thought crossed my mind: isn’t a boneless chicken wing technically a chicken nugget?

Asking a few of my friends this question later that night, I found there were mixed feelings; some said it is a chicken wing, others felt it is a chicken nugget, while some simply rolled their eyes and asked if we were actually having this discussion. Hey, at least it was not about a polar-

izing topic pertaining to politics.

I am a chicken wing aficionado, so I feel compelled and qualified to write this piece.

I have been to many chicken wing vendors throughout the United States including Anchor Bar, the birthplace of the chicken wing in Buffalo, New York. I have also attempted to eat a triple atomic wing at Quaker Steak and Lube, where you have to sign a consent waiver acknowledging you assume the risk before eating one of the hottest chicken wings in the world.

I have eaten a diverse type and innumerable amount of chicken wings over the duration of my short life. I have also enjoyed chicken nuggets, whether Tyson brand or even dinosaur-shaped.

As for boneless chicken wings, I really only started eating these my first year at Allegheny during “Midweek Madness” at Brooks or at the Late Night Kins specials. I never questioned if I was truly eating chicken nuggets or an actual “chicken wing” until the second semester of my junior year. Better late than never, I suppose.

Most often, chicken wings can be boiled down into two categories: drums or drumettes and flats or wingettes. Drums have one bone and resemble a chicken leg, while flats have two bones and are derived from the flat part of the chicken’s wing.

I firmly stand by the belief that in order for something to be considered a “wing,” a critical component is whether such food has a literal bone inside. A true chicken wing, sauce and seasoning included, requires the presence of a bone inside. Period.

True chicken wings, with a bone inside, are also deep-fried in some sort of oil to produce the crispy exterior of the final product. Some people also cook chicken wings in the oven, but I prefer the deep-frying method because of the crispy texture it creates. After deep-frying is complete, the wing is then basted with flavors ranging from buffalo to honey mustard. The craziest flavor I once tried was peanut butter and jelly, which was actually quite tasty even though it is such an unconventional idea for a chicken wing.

This all may seem like well-known information, but let’s apply this same background knowledge to the so-called “boneless chicken wings.”

Boneless chicken wings are typically made from the breast meat of a chicken, which is then cut into wing-sized pieces, cooked in an oven, basted with various sauces and then served to students or customers. To my knowledge, a chicken nugget is made under almost the exact same conditions, but it is not shaped in the form of a chicken wing. Therefore, isn’t a boneless chicken wing really just a chicken nugget with sauce added to it?

To add to this puzzling issue, let’s consider some other questions. First, why are chicken nuggets not called boneless chicken nuggets? Why do we call something that clearly does not contain a wing bone a boneless “wing?”

I cannot answer these questions because I cannot think for everyone, nor am I an expert on food or chicken nuggets. However, I feel obligated to offer suggestions in order to lessen

confusion and hopefully put a close to this chicken nugget or chicken wing debate.

What if we rename boneless chicken wings to “wet tenders” or even “wet nuggets”? Let me be clear; I am not calling upon the college or dining halls to implement such drastic changes anytime soon, but let’s just consider those names.

Even though these names sound somewhat humorous or odd, does it not make more sense, from a literal and technical standpoint, to call a food that resembles a chicken nugget and is basted with sauce “wet?” It is not a wing, but rather a chicken nugget or even a chicken tender with sauce added. Thus, “boneless wings” can be placed broadly into a category of “wet nuggets.”

We could also even go as far as renaming boneless chicken wings to buffalo or honey mustard nuggets, but that is just another suggestion.

Regardless of which alternative name is adopted, continuing to call a food clearly without a wing does a grave disservice to chicken wing lovers like myself. I

“It is not a wing, but rather a chicken nugget or even a chicken tender with sauce added. Thus, ‘boneless wings’ can be placed broadly into a category of ‘wet nuggets.’ ”

—JACOB FLEMING
CLASS OF 2022

strongly believe that if boneless chicken wings were renamed, this could help alleviate and correct the anger and frustrations that chicken wing lovers have toward boneless chicken wings.

I am passionate about chicken wings as well as getting the facts right. The fact of the matter is that boneless chicken wings are chicken nuggets with sauce added. Let’s stop calling something without a bone inside it a wing, and instead rename it to something less misleading and contentious.

I rest my case, but certainly I am open to hearing dissenting opinions.

Fun with animal abuse: beating a dead horse

The virtue of using cliches in everyday spoken communications

By PEYTON BRITT

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Both in writing and in speech, the use of cliches is often discouraged. Aphorisms such as “love is blind” are an oversimplification of the multifaceted nuances of love as an abstract concept.

To call someone “smart as a whip” makes a clear analogy between the movement of a whip and one’s intelligence in a manner than may aptly represent only one type of intelligence — quick, on-your-feet wit — at the expense of forms of intelligence that are slower and more reflective but no less valuable. The adage “there is no ‘I’ in ‘team’” is meant to assert the importance of thinking of the whole group and their collective aspiration or capability, but fails to reflect the importance of the individual’s personal role and responsibility as a member of that team.

All of the above cliches are moralistic claims that speak to common-sense ethical values, but cliché descriptions, which have little moral bearing, demand attention as well. Many poets have spoken of how the wind whispers through the trees, how the horizon is set ablaze at sunset, how a calm ocean spar-

kles, how the night’s inky darkness can be like an abyss, how an astute observer can seem to have eyes on the back of their head.

These expressions are all certainly overused and perhaps hackneyed; using them may impede a written work’s creativity and originality, rendering it lackluster and ultimately unimpressive. As someone who writes and reads as a hobby, I will not argue against the claim that cliches should generally be avoided in favor of more unique and imaginative ways of translating one’s thoughts into ink on paper.

Written communication differs functionally from verbal communication, however, in ways that I believe reopen the possibility for the redemption of the use of cliches. Colloquial speech is less formal than written word, and for good reason: talking to others need not adhere to strict grammatical rules in order to convey its intent. Simple expressions, common abbreviations and other spoken shortcuts often get the job done just fine.

Cliches are all of the above: common, simple and shortcuts. This, to me, not only justifies their use, but also indicates something really beautiful about them — they are forms of figurative language that can flavor

the literal in a way most people would understand.

Further, I personally loathe the idea that overusing an expression detracts from its meaning. I think people should think what they want, say what they think, and mean what they say, regardless of what exactly that looks like in words. If you see someone with eyes like diamonds, whose silky hair cascades down their back like a waterfall, who gives you butterflies in your stomach, someone who could be the apple of your eye, I do not see a single thing wrong with expressing the infatuation in precisely the terms you think it, cliches and all — why would any of the above descriptions be less flattering simply because they have been thought and said before? How lovely it is that so many people have shared similar visceral experiences, maybe even found themselves so taken aback at the many wonders of being alive that, were it not for the trusty cliché, they would have been at a loss for words.

This is only one example, of course, and a positive one at that. Cliches do important work in negative situations too — take grief, for example. The passing of a loved one is difficult to process, and it can be difficult to find words to describe what you

are going through, how you are feeling or what you need, even if you sincerely want to talk it out. Here, again, the trusty cliché is here for you: you may feel like a light in your life has gone out, or that your world has been turned upside down, or that you have lost a piece of yourself, or any other of the number of cliché expressions that could let you express your feelings without having to bear the burden of finding the right words.

Cliches can help us understand ourselves. You might be walking on eggshells in a horrendous unhealthy relationship and not realize it until you encounter the expression — the image of the fragile eggshell under your foot as you hopelessly try not to crack it speaks volumes to what it feels like to be held to an unreasonable expectation, the violation of which will mean incurring some undeserved, angry, wrath.

Cliches are also cultural products — different languages have their own cliché expressions, and the content of those cliches tells us something about the culture that invented them. One example is the Spanish expression “se formó tremendo arroz con mango,” which translates to something like “this turned into a serious bowl of rice with

mango.” This is a phrase that likely would not have come to be in the United States, simply because rice and mango are not staple foods in American culture. To say that someone’s “got a kangaroo loose in the top paddock” is so strongly Australian, you probably would have known where the expression came from even if I had not explicitly stated its origin. The French expression “j’ai des rossignols” literally translates to “I’ve got nightingales,” a bird not native to North America. It is used to refer to unexplained noises coming from your car — how useful is that?

All these examples also show that what we consider cliché is relative; expressions we’ve run ragged in English are probably pretty interesting to people who are not native English speakers, and cliches in other languages are pretty interesting when translated into English.

Further, there are a lot of reasons a person may struggle with understanding metaphors, idioms and the likes in conversation; people whose first language is not English or neurodivergent people are two examples, I would speculate, of groups who may find it difficult to interpret non literal expressions, by no means because of personal fault.

Cliches are tried and true, basically universally understood, and in this sense, they seem to be a great starting point from which to build an understanding of figurative language. Beating a dead horse, for example, is a jarring and graphic expression, but it does concisely convey the futility of pouring time and energy into something that is already a lost cause, perhaps exactly because it is more violent than explicitly necessary. It both describes a certain sort of event and makes a judgment about an individual’s actions within the circumstances, all in four little words.

Cliches may not make for great writing, but in everyday conversations, they are our friends. Colloquial communication is not fettered by the same laws and expectations of perfect grammar, or distinctive creativity in one’s style of expression. Saying what you mean can be accomplished quite easily, and arguably eloquently, through the use of cliché, trite phrases that you can reasonably expect others to understand. Anyway, figurative language is fun! There is no harm in piggybacking on the metaphors and idioms others have invoked to get a feeling across in fewer words.

Plans for European Super League fail to materialize

By **GABRIELLA BRADY**
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In 2018, documents outlining plans for another European Soccer League were uncovered by Football Leaks, and the news of this discovery was recently addressed by the German newspaper Der Spiegel.

Typically, each soccer team would take part in a competition on the national level, in which they only played teams in the same country, and if they finished near the top of the leaderboard, they would be given the opportunity to participate in the Champions League, a club soccer competition created by the Union of European Football Associations meant for the top 32 European teams.

When these documents were first discovered, it was said that a 16-team tournament comprising the strongest and biggest clubs in Europe would begin as early as 2021.

Within these documents, numerous football club names — Barcelona, Real Madrid, Arsenal, Chelsea, Liverpool, Manchester City, Manchester United,

Juventus, AC Milan, Paris Saint-Germain and Bayern Munich — were listed as the founding members of the league.

Not only were the founding teams listed, but those who would be guests to the tournament — Atletico Madrid, Borussia Dortmund, Inter Milan, Marseille and Roma — had also been listed in these documents.

Just like in the Champions League, the involvement of these teams in the Super League was expected to change, as the leaderboards of La Liga, the Bundesliga and Ligue 1 changed each season.

While this was originally seen as a way of increasing the revenue for the teams involved, recent backlash from the public and the managers of the six Premier League teams have decreased the likelihood of its establishment.

Soon after the news of the league was announced publicly, the English teams — Manchester City and Chelsea — were the first to announce their withdrawal from the Super League.

In response to the news that Manchester City would

be one of the teams guaranteed a spot in the European Super League, the manager of the English side, Pep Guardiola stated, “It is not a sport when it doesn’t matter where you lose.”

According to The Athletic, “Chelsea’s decision to leave the Super League was taken by owner Roman Abramovich and the club’s board after witnessing the extremely negative global reaction.”

Some of these negative comments came directly from some extremely devoted Chelsea fans, who believed that Chelsea’s involvement in the Super League was “the ultimate betrayal.”

In fact, since withdrawing from the competition, the London side has expressed deep regret from deciding to join the Super League in the first place.

Shortly after Chelsea and Manchester City withdrew from the ESL, all six of the other English participants also withdrew from the competition.

Following the withdrawal of the Premier League teams from the ESL, the British Prime Minister, Boris Johnson announced that the sport’s authorities

would have the “full backing” from his government to take action against the Super League plans.

Bundesliga side Bayern Munich and Ligue 1 side Paris Saint-Germain also rejected their spots in the Super League following the announcement that all six premier league sides had withdrawn from the competition.

Not only have the teams involved stepped up to criticize the ESL, but the streaming networks Amazon, BT Sport and Sky Sports have all released a statement expressing their concerns for the league.

“Amazon Prime Video understands and shares the concerns raised by football fans regarding a breakaway Super League,” Amazon wrote in a statement. “We believe that part of the drama and beauty of European football comes from the ability of any club to achieve success through their performance on the pitch.”

Despite the harsh criticism from both the teams involved and streaming networks all around the world, Real Madrid, Barcelona and Juventus have yet to an-

nounce whether or not they will follow suit and leave the ESL.

In response to the unraveling of the Super League, Real Madrid president, Florentino Perez, was quick to lay blame on Manchester City, as they were the first team to formally announce their decision not to take part in the Super League.

“The one from Manchester saw that campaign saying this will kill the leagues, that it won’t allow (sporting) merit, that it was the end of football,” said Florentino Perez, Real Madrid President and head of the European Super League. “There are people who have privileges and don’t want to lose them, even if it ruins football. When the English called me (on Tuesday), we met to see what we could do. They tried, but said: ‘Look, we’re

The one from Manchester City saw that campaign saying this will kill the leagues, that it won’t allow (sporting) merit, that it was the end of football.”

not going to do this.” Following this statement, all of the teams who were originally involved in the breakaway, except for Barcelona and Juventus, have turned against Florentino Perez.

Even though these teams have selected to leave the European Super League and have fully turned against Florentino Perez, UEFA president Aleksander Ceferin stated that these 12 teams will still face consequences for originally deciding to join the European Super League.

Despite the possible consequences, the plans for the Champions League semi-finals between Chelsea and Real Madrid and Manchester City and Paris Saint-Germain are still expected to be played as originally planned.

—Florentino Perez
President,
Real Madrid

United States-Russia diplomatic relations face strain

Issues on many fronts present challenges and tensions

By **GEORGE ACKERMAN**
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Earlier this year, large protests occurred across Russia in response to the jailing of opposition activist Alexei Navalny.

Since then, Navalny has been convicted of parole violations and sent to prison where Navalny undertook a hunger strike, leaving him in critical medical condition. Most recently, Russian authorities moved to suspend the political activities of Navalny’s offices.

This suspension is seen as a preemptive move, as a court ruling is expected to outlaw the opposition movement associated with Navalny, label the movement as “extremist” and enable arrests of supporters, according to the Guardian.

The suspension included a ban on protesting and publishing articles associated with Navalny’s political organization.

Navalny has since ended his hunger strike, according to NPR.

The hunger strike originated on March 31 because Navalny claimed he was be-

ing refused medical care to treat leg and back pain. The decision to stop the hunger strike came after a doctor said that Navalny could die soon if it continued.

According to NPR, international leaders, including U.S. President Joseph Biden, expressed concern for Navalny’s life, and public pressure helped allow Navalny to see doctors recently.

Additionally, this occurred against the backdrop of a buildup of Russian troops on its border with Ukraine, but have since been dispersed according to The Guardian.

The military exercises were met with concern due to Russia’s annexation of the Ukrainian territory of Crimea and increased tensions surrounding the conflicts between Russian-backed separatists in Eastern Ukraine, according to the Associated Press.

The Polish Foreign Minister Radek Sikorski expressed concern in an interview with CNN.

“Remember that back in 2014, the Russians were very close to carrying out Operation Novorossiia, which

would have been taking over half of Ukraine and cutting it off of the Black Sea,” Sikorski said. “And I think those plans are still being considered.”

Operation Novorossiia refers to an envisioned new Russian territory in southern Ukraine which would connect two different separatist groups currently under Ukrainian control, according to the Washington Post. The idea was abandoned in 2015.

Russian President Vladimir Putin’s recent state of the nation address also made news due to the foreign policy vision which was laid out.

“I hope that no one dares to cross the red line in respect to Russia, and we will determine where it is in each specific case,” Putin said, according to the Associated Press. “Those who organize any provocations threatening our core security interests will regret their deeds more than they regretted anything for a long time.”

In addition to the harsh treatment of Navalny and the increased military tensions with Ukraine, Russia is also facing condemnation due to a cyber attack on several government departments and large companies in the United States.

According to NPR, this hack occurred through a routine software update, and the affected parties include the Departments of Defense, Energy, Treasury and Justice as well as Microsoft,



Photo Courtesy of Mikhail Tereshchenko / TASS

A protester is detained by Russian police during widespread demonstrations against the treatment of Alexi Navalny.

Intel and Cisco among other companies and governmental agencies.

This cyber attack, known as the SolarWinds cyber attack, enabled the hackers to look at emails, and potentially plant something for a more destructive purpose moving forward. The hackers had access to the affected computer networks for nine months, according to NPR.

In response, President Biden signed an executive order to sanction Russian financial institutions, technology companies and individuals associated with harmful foreign activities, according to Vox.

In a press release, the White House advocated for a stable and predictable relationship between the U.S. and Russia, but emphasized willingness to defend the national interests of the United

States.

“This (Executive Order) sends a signal that the United States will impose costs in a strategic and economically impactful manner on Russia if it continues or escalates its destabilizing international actions,” the press release states.

The report goes on to list the particular behaviors that lead to the sanctions, including meddling in elections, undermining American democracy, Russia’s cyber activities, foster transnational corruption to influence foreign governments, the targeting of dissidents and journalists and undermining security in regions important to the United States, among other accusations.

In response, Russia levied similar sanctions against the United States including sending back diplomats and banning several high ranking government officials from entering Russia, according to TASS.

Despite the escalations through sanctions, cyber attacks and military posturing, there remains commitment to attempt lessening the tensions between the U.S. and Russia.

According to U.S. News & World Report, Putin and Biden are planning a summit in a European country sometime in the summer. Biden also has recently called for cooler heads to prevail.

“Now is the time to de-escalate,” Biden said, according to NBC News. “The way forward is through thoughtful dialogue and diplomatic process.”

I hope no one dares to cross the red line in respect to Russia, and we will determine where it is in each specific case.”

—Vladmir Putin
President,
The Russian Federation

Comedy Column: Run it back

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A North Carolina couple was hiss-terically attacked by a ra-bid bobcat in their driveway. In a video caught on home se-curity cameras, the husband fur-tunately grabbed the big cat, throwing it across their lawn. Surprisingly, it didn't land on its feet. Talk about claw-enforcement. #Cat-as-trophyAvoided

A New Hampshire couple's gender reveal party caused a small scale earthquake last week, the effects of which were felt miles away. The fa-ther in question used tan-nerite, an over-the-counter explosive, and colored chalk to essentially create a gen-der reveal bomb. Although he was arrested, the man claims he shouldn't be held at "fault." Attendees called it a "ground-breaking shakesperi-ence." #BabyBoomer

Fox News host John Rob-

erts recently apologized for falsely claiming that the Biden climate action plan would limit red meat consump-tion by 90% — allowing only four pounds of red meat per American per year. You heard it here first: Fox hosts are ob-sessed with what Biden will do to their meat #stillinthe-closet

On the private Isle of Budelli, an 81-year old Italian man is being evicted from his private life by local officials to be made an active part of La Maddalena Park. The man, unlike the rest of the world, now has to go out and engage with society. His complaints are hard to take seriously. #so-cialdistancingwhat

In Lincoln, Nebraska, Josh Swain organized a battle royale for hundreds of his fel-low "Joshes" to fight it out for rights to be the one true Josh, all the while raising mon-ey for Children's Hospital & Medical Center Foundation of Nebraska. "The Joshening" brought 50 joshes and thou-sands of attendees together, with 4-year old Joshua Vin-son Jr. ultimately crowned the victor of the pool noodle duel. It's never too early to start prepping for college. #ASG

With spring sports start-ing up, many fans have be-gun questioning the safety of attending "the big game." Dr. Anthony Fauci suggests that once vaccinated, masked at-tendees shouldn't be worried about outdoor events. He says he, "would not hesitate to go to an outdoor baseball game." This however, fails to warn of the dangers of baseball-in-duced boredom; a silent killer. #threesneezesyoureout

Material scientist Aravind Vijayaraghavan (pronounced "vuh-jahy-nuh," or "via-a-gruh" for those over 65) has been working with grants from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to make condoms out of "the world's thinnest, lightest, strongest and best heat conductive material." The condoms are made of graphene — an ultrathin carbon atom compound — and are only an atom thick and a few micrometers wide. Given it's been in develop-ment for 8 years, Vijayaragha-van's start-up got Gates' tap long before they had time to wrap. #Phallicyornah?

In a recent development, Amazon Prime has created a grocery delivery system, where subscribers can order

groceries online from Am-azon Fresh Stores or Whole Foods and get their groceries delivered directly to their gar-ages. The system was tested in US cities starting in No-vember 2020 and is now being made available to over 5,000 US cities and towns. Lots of fantastic enterprises were founded in garages: Apple, Google, my lack of self-con-trol... #GETINMYBELLY

A recent NASA study has been exploring the at-mospheres of nearby plan-ets. Using the spectrometer Gemini telescope, research-ers discovered that the planet Uranus's clouds appear to be made up of hydrogen sulfide. Though suffocation would kill any visitors long before they could take in the stench, the hydrogen sulfide smell would be world-wide. NASA con-firmed: Uranus smells like rotten eggs. #StinkyLikeUra-nus

A Miami private school is refusing teachers who have received the COVID Vaccine from seeing their students. "Health freedom advocate" administrators and parents were fearful of potential un-known side effects that would cause infertility or harm to

Hangout Review: Pampered Palete



KRISTEN CADHAM/THE CAMPUS

Pampered Palette, located at 1043 Park Ave. in Mead-ville

By KRISTEN CADHAM

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Pampered Palate on Park Ave is the place to go to for sand-wiches, soups, and anything in-between.

With plants throughout the interior, it gives a vibrant feeling to the food and atmo-sphere. The light coloring of the wooded chairs and tables creates a balance in the design.

To really make the restaurant stand out, it is painted green both on the interior and ex-terior. On a normal day, there are at least a few customers milling about, typing away on their computers or grabbing a bite to eat.

The menu has an assort-ment of food items like break-fast pastries, sandwiches, soups, and salads. They even have specials that can only be found at certain times of year. Pampered Palate also has an array of drinks such as smoothies, milkshakes, iced tea, lemonade and many dif-ferent coffees.

For example, customers can order breakfast pastries like a cream cheese danish. Pampered Palate also has a breakfast sandwich filled with egg, cheese, sausage and ba-con. These breakfast foods go wonderfully with their unique drinks such as their frozen explosions coffees which have peanut butter, double choc-olate and caramel nut mixed into it for an extra boost. In addition to their many other drinks, they also have drinks such as iced tea or lemonade for hot days.

These drinks pair well with their signature sand-wiches. An employee, Kelsey Cole, has been working at the restaurant since the summer of 2020.

"Our two most popular sandwiches would be the Thanksgiving Club and Pesto Chicken."

To make it better, they also have items like "Our Ultimate Cheese" which is "twice butter grilled sourdough [bread that has] feathered white cheddar, swiss, and gruyere cheeses." With so much effort being put into a sandwich only made of cheese, it shows the quality that will be worth the price.

Satori Chin, '22, has visit-ed there at the suggestion of a teammate.

"When I (went) the food was good," Chin said. "It was a little expensive, but it was tasty."

Just like their refreshing green designs, the food is like that as well. Chin had one of their signature sandwiches as well as one of their specials.

"I ordered an egg and av-ocado sandwich with one of the specials because I like get-ting the specials when they're available since they might not be there the next time I go," Chin said.

One of the limited specials Chin is speaking of would be the "It's a Wrap" wraps that has chicken caesar, Asian veg-etable and turkey lurkey.

They also offer fresh gar-den salads, including the "Chef's Palate," which has "smoked ham, roast turkey, swiss and cheddar (cheese), fresh tomato, cucumber, black olives and egg, (while) topped with pan seared pancetta." They also offer ranch, Korean BBQ, sundried tomato, Ital-ian, and balsamic dressings.

Pampered Palate's busi-est days are the weekends. During these busy weekends, employees meet a variety of customers, some of whom are very friendly as the Cole ex-pressed.

"Just the other day we were really busy and it was just me and Grace ... this guy came through the drive through ... and gave us a \$10 tip. That was really great," Cole said.

"We've been open in this location for around two years," Cole said. " We used to be around where E-Street Eat-ery was, and then they closed the actual eat-in part so we just became a catering place and now we're back open for in-person dining and cater-ing."

This expanding business is so popular that they also have a location in Grove City.

Visiting there would be an excellent opportunity to get to experience something unique and create opinions of what people personally like. A four-minute drive and 20-minute walk would be worth the tasty breakfast pastries and delicious sandwiches Pampered Palate has to offer.

Volunteering in a pandemic

By KRISTEN CADHAM
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With over 25,000 hours of community service commit-ted annually, Allegheny Col-lege students spend a lot of time aiding in the Meadville community. Although the pandemic has affected where and how students are able to volunteer, opportunities are still available to them.

Aside from regular volun-teer opportunities, organi-zations such as the Bonners Leadership Program creates opportunities for student vol-unteering.

"I heard about the Bon-ner's Program through an email," said Bonner student Juliana James, '24. "I guess

I was selected to receive the email to apply. I applied for it because I thought that it was a good opportunity."

Because of Allegheny's Civic Engagement depart-ment, students can reach out to ask to volunteer, yet stu-dents are less likely to par-ticipate since it is more work than just finding an event and showing up.

"That's really good that op-portunities, [such as Bonner programs, are] publicized to the whole campus, but I think the other volunteering experi-ences should also be shared," James said. "Then the whole campus could interact instead of a select group of students."

Yet, even if volunteering should be broadcasted to the

entire student body, it is still nice to become a member of those clubs so people can vol-unteer in activities that they feel passionate about. Allegh-eny Service organizations in-volve everything from food, to youth groups, to housing. Every year, new volunteer clubs are created that have not been put on the website yet so checking it or My Allegheny often is necessary.

Then there is also non-tra-ditional volunteering like working at the Grounds for Change coffee place at the Campus Center or organiz-ing fun events at the Gator Activities Program. Likewise, a new group called Allegh-eny Donuts spends hours a day walking around campus

to give students free donuts. Students can volunteer for it as little or much as they want. Energy spent contributing to something amazing is just as good as traditional volunteer-ing. Likewise, people could also reach out to various orga-nizations and unofficially help out. For instance, Allegheny Student Government allows the public to attend meetings so they are able to know what is happening at the adminis-trational level. Citizen par-ticipation in government is volunteering in its own form.

This shows that if students feel like they want to help, but do not have the time to be a member, more than likely there will be a way to compro-

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How seniors are 'chomping' the comp

By JORDAN GREYNOLDS
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The senior comprehensive project is a staple of an AL-legheny education. Students dedicate a large portion of their senior year to various types of independent projects based on their areas of study.

The result of this work is a defense of it at year's end and a piece of published work that students will take with them as they leave college for the workforce or graduate school.

While the premise of the senior project can be sum-marized briefly, the array of student topics are much more complex.

"I'm looking at pseudo-suchians, which are ancient crocodiles and alligators from the Mesozoic era when the

dinosaurs were alive," geolo-gy major Shannon McGuinn, '21, said. "I'm looking at their feeding ecology and seeing if it affected where they lived during that time. It's been so much fun and I love it."

When it comes to studying prehistoric life while located in Meadville, PA, research re-lies heavily on online resourc-es.

"I use this database called the Paleobiology Database and I typed in pseudosuchians and downloaded all their data onto a spreadsheet from the Mesozoic era," McGuinn said. "I found that continental movements during that time affected their migration."

While some comping se-niors have their eyes on da-tabases, others have their fingerprints all over their project.

"My project was a little non-traditional; most stu-dents on campus do research but I chose not to," phys-ics major Austin Shaw, '21, said. "My goal was to get to a research standpoint but I'm more of a hands-on person. I focused on improving the ra-dio telescope outside of Carr Hall because it wasn't really reliable and we were getting inconsistent results from it."

The project proved to have its difficulties as no one in the area worked with the type of cable wire that Shaw was us-ing. Ultimately, challenges ended up turning to successes beyond simply fixing the tele-scope.

"I actually found out the reason why the telescope didn't completely work be-fore," Shaw said. "It was be-cause the wire type that we were using wasn't set up prop-erly which was why we were getting inconsistent results sometimes."

While seniors dealt with their projects, the world was dealing with COVID-19. This added an extra wrinkle due to certain restrictions.

"In the fall semester I feel like I could have dedicated more time to my project," Shaw said. "The only time I could work on it in the lab was during the class day since the academic buildings weren't open on weekends or after hours because of the pandem-ic so that was very difficult."

With or without COVID-19, challenges are bound to take shape in many different forms for each senior project. While some students are in search of expertize re-

garding certain cable wires or open academic buildings, others seek out help to deal with entirely different barriers.

"I'm working with an in-ternational region in Jakarta, Indonesia, so I think the big-gest challenge is the language barrier," global health major Mari Casale, '21, said. "A lot of times the data or papers I'm looking at are written in Indonesian which I obviously don't speak so translating that is tough and translations ar-en't always perfect."

Beyond language, Casa-le has been faced with other challenges that come along with researching a foreign re-gion.

"The professors here don't do work in Indonesian so they aren't very knowledge-able about that region which makes acquiring my data kind of difficult. I had to reach out to a lot of people who worked in that area and sometimes people didn't get back to me so I'd have to re-adjust."

Despite facing some chal-lenges that professors were unable to quell, Casale re-ceived vital help from her comp advisor.

"Just having that one-on-one time with someone who's solely focusing on you and gives you good feedback is really nice to hear because a lot of the time I'll be writing something and don't think it's good," Casale said. "It really is an independent research project and it's just based on you. It can be tough because you don't really have anything to compare it to or go off of so

See **COMP** page 7



Photos courtesy of Allegheny Athletics
Counterclockwise from top-left: Shannon McGuinn, '21, Austin Shaw, '21, and Mari Casale, '21

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“Just having that one-on-one time with someone who’s solely focusing on you and gives you good feedback is really nice to hear because a lot of the time I’ll be writing something and don’t think it’s good,” Casale said. “It really is an independent research project and it’s just based on you. It can be tough because you don’t really have anything to compare it to or go off of “Having friends nearby just to help mentally even though they couldn’t help me with the project really helped to ease the stress,” Shaw said. “In my case, just taking a break and walking away for awhile when I had pent up anger and frustration helped me come back with a fresh mind.”

Shaw explained that the stresses that often need relieved while comping, there are plentifully of rewarding experiences along the way to counteract the challenges and stress which come with comping.

“If you’ve found something that you’re really interested in and motivated about and that’s your topic for your senior project then you’ll be successful and find that it’s a rewarding process,” Shaw said. “I want to go into electrical engineering and so even when I was frustrated on some days, I found myself being content with the project not being done because I wanted to be back there again and again spend as much time as I could on the project once I got to the point where I was doing electrical stuff. It made me realize I wanted to

learn more than what I used in the project because it was basic electrical stuff, but I really want to get into the nitty gritty of it later.” Though seniors dedicate much of their time to their comps, they still have other academic responsibilities. The way in which seniors are able to manage their time as they juggle their comp with classes has a lot to do with their class workload.

“My comp was two semesters and six credits but you could pick if you wanted to do two then four or four then two,” McGuinn said. “I picked to do two then four. Since I only needed 12 credits this semester I only had two other classes and that made my workload really manageable.”

However, others are faced with less ideal class schedule situations based on their major department’s policies.

“This is where I might have some backlash about the physics department,” Shaw said. “From what I’ve heard, (economics) and environmental studies comps go shorter than us or just as long in the spring but they get eight credits total. We get six credits total and it’s broken up as three and three so one of the semesters you have to add a two credit class to make up for those last two credits which is kind of difficult throwing into the mix.”

Managing class schedules is very important for comping seniors but there are also other factors that are

equally important to manage as well.

“I think managing your expectations that this is an undergraduate level thesis is important because there’s always going to be more work you could put in to make it better, but you don’t have the time or money or resources to do that,” Casale said.”

Just as the topics, research and class workloads all vary for comping seniors, so do their experiences with the project.

“I had a really good experience with my comp advisor, but I have some friends who wouldn’t say the same,” McGuinn said. “I think more organization would be very helpful for the students because you’re kind of on your own for the whole thing and if you have good guidance it’s not that bad, but figuring it all out on your own is a lot harder to do.”

In light of the ups and downs that come with the senior project, Allegheny students benefit are benefited with from an important resume feature and piece of published work.

“I’ve been looking at jobs and grad school and stuff and just having this piece of research has set me apart from other applicants,” name said.. “It’s been annoying at some points where I really don’t want to comp and want it off of my plate, but none of my other friends I graduated from high school with have done something like this so it’s cool.”

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VOLUNTEER

mise. Volunteering makes a positive impact on the world which means creating thank you cards for Allegheny employees would count due to the time and care put into the activity. Even spending time picking up trash from Allegheny’s overflowing trash cans would be helpful. Receiving credit may feel good, but people do not need to know about every time someone does a good deed. Doing little things that bring smiles to people’s faces are sometimes better than the big ideas that provide fame.

Additionally, protecting others by wearing masks and going above and beyond in safety procedures are more little ways that make a huge difference. A Grounds for Change volunteer, Becca Winton, ’23, described how they are keeping campus safe by working in pods.

“We just opened up into the green phase [which is why] you [have been able to] sit these past few weeks,” Winton said. “We work together for every shift, but then we also have a teammate, who is a close contact for us, that works the shift before us. If one of us can’t make it, we’re supposed to look to our podmates to fill in so that we aren’t cross-contaminating people. It’s less contact-tracing.”

When volunteering, people should social distance from their pod, but they should mostly focus on

keeping distance from other volunteer groups. Moreover, they should also keep in mind that involving a lot of people may not actually be beneficial due to crowds.

This also means to be aware that leaving campus to volunteer could put others at-risk. However, these organizations allow people to choose their comfort level by giving donating options as well as in-person ones. Nevertheless, staying outdoors whenever possible and washing one’s hands is still important. What is equally relevant is checking on personal health a couple days after volunteering. If people feel sick, they should make sure to report it to the school as soon as possible.

To minimize risks even further, wearing gloves when handing items to others and in general. This may not need to be said, but wearing masks off campus is a must. Research shows that putting two masks on will protect people even more. Volunteering is about making the community better rather than worse. After all, safety comes first.

When volunteering in a pandemic, it is important to remember that everyone’s priority should be to keep themselves and others safe. Knowing that, if people choose to volunteer, then following pandemic safety guidelines is key to success.

Zingale Big Idea Competition returns virtually

By SAMI MIRZA
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On May 8, the Bruce R. Thompson Center for Business and Economics will be hosting the finals for the Zingale Big Idea competition. The roughly seven-hour competition will take place virtually for the first time in its 14-year history, after the 2020 competition was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Described as “Shark Tank with a heart,” the program trains students to produce a business plan and pitch it to investors — in this case, a panel of judges that evaluate their proposal and provide feedback. Overall, \$20,000 in prize money is given every year, and the 2019 winner Christian “Dubs” Walker went on to turn his idea into a fully functional business.

Chris Allison, entrepreneur-in-residence and co-director of the Thompson Center, said that unlike Shark Tank and other traditional business shows, for-profit businesses are not the only ones competing for funding.

“We open it up to not only for-profit businesses — regular entrepreneurship — but social purpose ventures, non-profit ventures and activism and awareness programs can compete in the competition,” Allison said. “Many of our winners were not business students. For example, the last time we held the competition one of our winners was a studio art major, and she developed an iPad application for people with memory impairment illnesses such as Alzheimers and dementia.”

The competition is loosely tied to the ECON 380 course, “Entrepreneurship II”, which focuses on financing a small business. Jordan Wilson, ’21, a computer science ma-

lor, said that this class helped set him up to compete.

“This class (Entrepreneurship II) helped a lot with how I should look at things from a business standpoint,” Wilson said.

Wilson’s project involves creating cybersecurity platforms for small businesses.

“Security is important involving any sort of business,” Wilson said. “If your customers can’t trust giving their information to you, then you essentially don’t have a business. Smaller companies are also at a disadvantage because they don’t have the money or resources to actually put in place security protocols.”

Allison has also set up an alternative path for students who are interested in competing but are not taking ECON 380.

“Participation in this competition is one of the class requirements for our Entrepreneurship II class, but students across campus compete to prepare them,” Allison said. “I hold a series of workshops where I teach them how to identify a problem and a business idea — how you develop it and how you present it.”

That is one reason Christian Lussier, ’21, is enjoying the competition.

“It’s like an independent study in a way because he gives you all the information you need to come up with a good idea, and then you actually have to take that idea and run with it,” Lussier said. “You have to develop it on your own a lot. It’s been good in terms of working on my critical thinking skills and that sort of thing.”

Though the project has taken a lot of work, Atlas Besenfelder, ’21, Lussier’s partner in the project, used it as a way to relax after working on schoolwork and his senior composition.

“I’ve been comping this semester just like every other senior, so for me it’s been an escape,” Besenfelder said. “This is something where we’ll come work for a couple hours in a session and it’ll be nice to think about something that isn’t your comp. For me, I’m very low-stress when it comes to this, because it’s really whatever we make of it.”

Besenfelder and Lussier’s project was born out of Besenfelder’s work at a local beer distributor.

“Every single week, I had to turn multiple people away who’d either be drinking while driving or obviously impaired while pulling up to the beer distributor,” Besenfelder said. “That just made me think: I’m only getting a small sample size of the general population of people doing that within the area, so that made me start thinking — when alcohol delivery came up — maybe this can really start to reduce impaired drivers and become a benefit for public safety.”

Beyond the program, Besenfelder and Lussier hope to use what they’ve learned to actually create the business itself.

“Hopefully we do well in the competition, but even if we don’t win the thing we are still interested in pursuing this idea after (graduation),” Lussier said. “We already thought it was a good idea and it seems even more viable now.”

Wilson, too, has been working on his project after graduation as one option on the table.

“My comp is also centered around this kind of idea so it’s definitely possible,” Wilson said. “It’s a possibility.”

That sort of imminent practicality is what Allison said the judges are looking for.

“They want to know, can you actually do it?” Allison said. “In some cases they’ve had prototypes ... We had one student that had a delivery business for Allegheny students where you could send him a text message and he would bring over a snack bag ... He was actually making money on that, and when he won (the competition) he said to the judges, ‘I apologize if I look bleary-eyed but I was making deliveries until 2 a.m. last night.’”

The 2019 winner, Christian Walker, created a brand of anime-inspired street apparel called “ani-matr,” designed to redefine societal expectations of the genre. His brand is still operating to this day as a fully functional business, and has a 19-and-a-half thousand strong following on Instagram.

“Especially when I was in high school, they had anime clothing

and anime aesthetics, but it was a bit loud and not minimalistic,” Walker said. “What I did was I found a way to create anime-aesthetic designs that all audiences could appreciate regardless of if you know what anime is or not.”

Walker said that the brand helped him weather the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Because of COVID, unfortunately, I lost the job that I originally was going to have — I was going to be doing digital marketing,” Walker said. “It was a blessing in disguise, because I ended up staying home and I got to stay at home and spend more time with my family and it allowed me to really focus on my brand and push it to the point where if I want to move to New York or Pittsburgh and then just work on my brand, I can afford to do that.”

Walker competed for three years in the Zingale Big Idea competition, winning it in his last outing as a junior. His first year, he created a cybersecurity platform with a friend, and lost in the finals. The second year, he entered with the ani-matr brand but lost again.

“It left a bad taste in my mouth,” Walker said.

Instead of focusing on winning the competition for the competition’s sake, Walker decided to use it to prove to himself that he had built a successful business. By his junior year, he had increased the brand’s following sevenfold and won with the partnership of Natalie Buzchek’s and Christopher Miller’s ‘Aid Memoir.’

“The Zingale Big Idea Competition is a fruit of the labor and time you put into your business or endeavor,” Walker wrote in an email. “The competition shows how you respond to criticism and make effective adjustments. If you don’t win the competition, then that’s fine as long as you put your best foot forward. The validation of your endeavor

should come from the growth you’ve made with it and how you learned as a person. The validation should come from finishing the business plan, or PowerPoint and being proud that you’ve accomplished that.”

One of the reasons, Allison thinks, for such a broad array of winning majors is Allegheny’s nature as a liberal arts school.

“My mom used to say if you can read, you can cook, (because) you can get a recipe,” Allison said. “If you look at the skills of a liberal arts student it’s the ability to assimilate a lot of information, to analyze, to communicate and give presentations. I absolutely believe that studying English helped me as a business person because in my view, studying literary fiction is looking for patterns and motivations. New product discovery and understanding customers’ wants and needs, it’s the same thing.”

Besenfelder attributes the program’s success to the professor who teaches it all: Allison himself.

“Even after having just one class with Professor Allison, you can realize just how bright of a person he is and how good of a person he is,” Besenfelder said. “It was just good to take a class in my last semester with someone like that and then when I found out Christian was taking the course as well, for me it was a no brainer. It was the first thing I registered for.”

Allison, for his part, credited John Golden, who will be retiring from Allegheny at the end of the semester after spending 30 years at the college. Though Golden will no longer be teaching, he will still remain a judge for the competition.

“He and I were basically the entrepreneurship team in the department,” Allison said. “He’s a great guy and everyone loves him and all the students (love) Professor Golden. It’s a really special competition now because it’s going to be his last one as a professor.”



SAMI MIRZA/THE CAMPUS

Professor Chris Allison teaches his ECON 380 class, “Entrepreneurship II.” Competing in the competition is required for the class



Gators’ success contributed by breakout stars and comradery

By ADAM COHEN
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The Allegheny Gators baseball team entered the 2021 season trying to build off last year’s success. Although every sports team was forced to end their season early last March because of the pandemic, the Gators were in the midst of a five-game winning streak before being sent home. Many senior student athletes such as ace Sean Kealey, ’20, and speedy centerfielder Bret Kelly, ’20, were an instrumental part of the team’s success. They were unable to finish their swan song on what appeared to be a guaranteed playoff run.

Of course, senior players leave, first-year players start their careers and the team readjusts every year at the collegiate level. Yet the 2021 Gators rely significantly on their underclassmen, more so than other Division III colleges, as 25 of the 38 players on the roster are first-year and second-year student athletes.

D3 baseball teams play around 40 games a season, and Allegheny only competed in seven games last year. First-years on any sports teams need to prove themselves at the collegiate level and typically earn more playing time as the season progresses. This year, underclassmen were forced to step up with limited collegiate experience.

The Gators have made a near seamless transition to the shortened 2021 season, currently

sporting a 12-7 record overall, and are 6-4 in conference play. Many second-year players and several first-year players have become regular contributors to an already talented roster.

One of these players, Conor Deasy, ’23, is a Pittsburgh native who has solidified himself as the new ace of the rotation. He became the first Allegheny pitcher in nearly five years to throw a seven-inning shutout after earning a complete game victory against Hiram on April 15. Deasy then followed up with yet another seven-inning shutout against Kenyon on April 22, which earned him NCAC Pitcher of the Week honors.

Head Coach Brandon Crum envisioned Deasy becoming the ace of the rotation, but did not expect how much he would improve upon his first-year campaign.

“I didn’t know Deasy would make the jump he made,” Crum said. “Last year he threw in the low-mid 80s, and now he throws in the upper 80s and lower 90s. He’s got a repaired shoulder and he plays through some bumps and bruises, but his ability to pitch has really impressed me.”

Deasy missed the opportunity to start the Gators opening game against Penn State Behrend because of back discomfort. Since then, Deasy has been healthy on the mound and credits the team’s defense for backing him up and aiding the team throughout the season.

“It took a while to get it sorted out, but I am finally feeling

really good now,” Deasy said. “Last game, I didn’t have many strikeouts, but the defense was making plays, doing a great job, and our success would not be possible without them.”

Indeed, the Gators’ defense has been phenomenal. Last year, the Gators compiled a .962 fielding percentage, the best in Allegheny baseball history. This season, they are on pace to shatter that record as they currently have a .973 fielding percentage.

One of the players that has contributed to the Gators’ impenetrable defense is Ryan Dougherty, ’24. Dougherty has not committed any errors in his first year with the team, and made a near flawless transition to centerfield after being a middle infielder and corner outfielder in high school. Dougherty is also the only first-year position player to be rewarded with consistent playing time, as he has started in 17 of the 19 games the Gators have played this season.

Crum remarked on Dougherty’s offensive capabilities as well as his resolve to grow as a baseball player.

“We knew he could hit,” Crum said. “He’s a threat on the basepaths, he can really run. What I like about (Dougherty) and what keeps him going is that he is a learner. He will have at-bats where he flies out or grounds out, but the third time around he knows what that pitcher is doing. He is going to be a player we build the program around.”

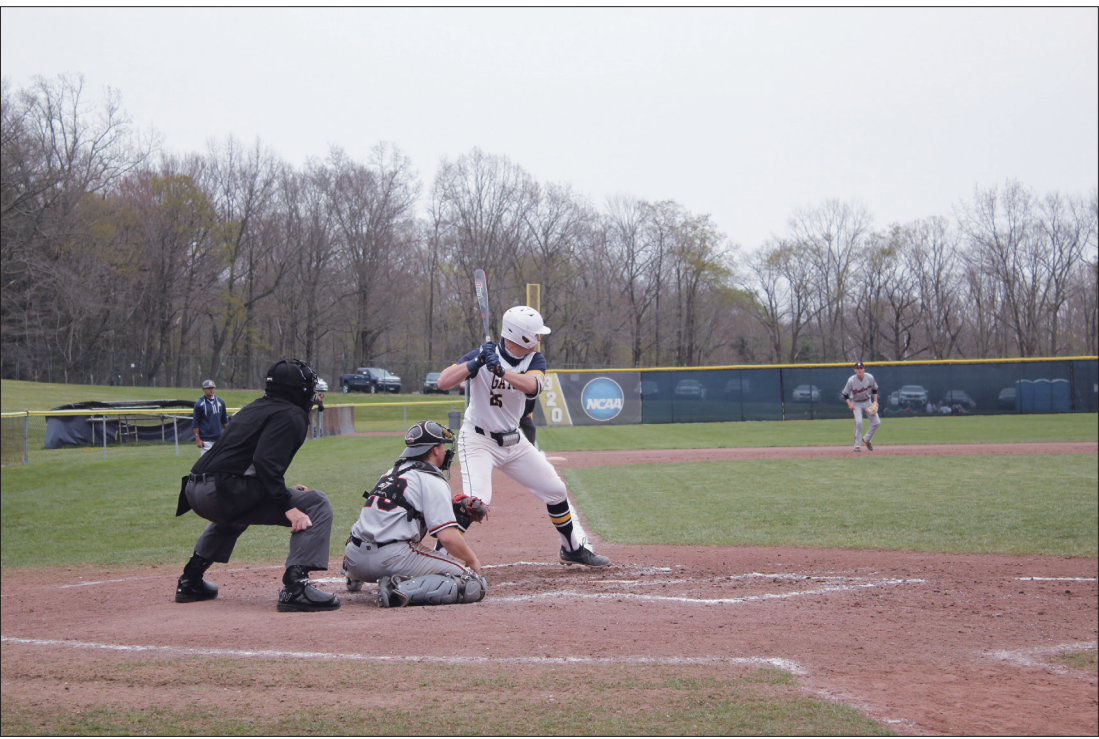


Photo by EMILY RICE/THE CAMPUS

Tyler Hettich, ’22, preparing to bat.

Dougherty continues to improve offensively for the Gators. This past week, the Gators went 3-3 against Hiram and Ohio Wesleyan. Despite the offense being somewhat lackluster, Dougherty crushed his first two homers in a Gators uniform. Dougherty feels grateful that he is a part of a powerful Allegheny lineup.

“Hitting with people like Brett Heckert (’22), and Luke Chutko (’21) is an honor,” Dougherty said. “Those two are really holding it down in our lineup and it feels really good being a part of that.”

Looking toward upperclassmen for inspiration and advice is a common occurrence in Al-

legheny’s baseball program. For example, Nolan Thompson, ’22, has taken Brent Herrmann, ’24, under his wing. The two pitchers are the only southpaws on the team.

“It’s been a fun experience playing with Brent,” Thompson said. “He really wants to learn and gives a lot of effort, so it’s been fun trying to bring him along and teach him the ropes.”

Thompson has excelled as the Gators number two starter in 2021. In only 90 pitches, he tossed a 7-inning complete game victory for Allegheny in the second game of the April 22 doubleheader against Kenyon. Thompson’s performance against Kenyon as well as his

breakout season is thanks to his refined command of the strike zone.

“Nolan has made some significant adjustments in the last couple years,” Crum said. “If you gave Nolan the ball for three innings, he’ll do well but he will throw everyone four to six pitches. Now he gets hitters out in three pitches or less.”

Conor Deasy and Nolan Thompson are expected to start the two games on the road against Wooster tomorrow at 1 p.m. The Gators hope to wrap up their final ten games of the season on a high note en route to their third consecutive winning season.

Gators finish doubleheader sweep of Kenyon on senior day

By JAKE PETTI
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The Allegheny softball team capped off a four game series sweep of Kenyon with a 5-4 win in the nightcap of their doubleheader last Saturday, April 24. The Gators also held their senior day ceremonies after their first game of the day to honor the five seniors on the team. The first game of the doubleheader took place the day prior as Ken-

yon hosted Allegheny.

In game one of the four game set, Tori Vradenburg, ’21, threw a complete game for Allegheny, picking up 11 strikeouts and the 2-1 win as she allowed just one run on six hits. NCAC Player of the Week, right fielder Kelly Lafferty, ’21, went two for three with a double and a walk as well as scoring on a throwing error, while center fielder Paige Zigas, ’22, went one for three plating the only RBI for the Gators in the victory.

Game two of the series proved to be an offensive battle as the Gators narrowly squeaked by with the win, 18-16. Ashley Vitiello, ’23, got the win as she went 6.2 innings and Vradenburg picked up the save, getting one out after a two out seventh inning rally by Kenyon. Lafferty went four for five, plating four RBIs in the process and Kyleigh Cason, ’21, delivered a two-run homerun to give the Gators their first runs of the game.

“I think our hitting looks a lot better in those games and we’ve been working a lot on our offense,” Lafferty said. “I think our pitching looked very well these last four games and because of that we were able to keep up with the team offensively.”

At home on Saturday, the Gators won game three 9-4 behind a strong pitching performance from Vradenburg, where she threw a complete game with 10 strikeouts while only allowing four hits. Offensively, third baseman Cason and second baseman/pinch hitter Isabelle Wakefield, ’24 provided a spark for Allegheny, combining for three of the Gators seven RBIs as well as five of their 13 hits. Cason also went three for three with a solo homerun in the bottom of the sixth — the final run of the ballgame and Cason’s second home run of the weekend and season.

Allegheny plated eight runs in the second inning and Kenyon could not come back after two late home runs. After the big win and senior day in between games, the Gators looked to carry their momentum into the second game of the day.

Vitiello started the game for the Gators on the mound and threw four innings, giving up four runs on five hits with a strikeout. Lafferty tallied a double and an RBI in a three for four effort. Meanwhile, Wakefield got the start in game two at second base and went three for three. Vradenburg closed the game and picked up the win for Allegheny, hurling the last three frames and allowing just one hit.

“It was special to get those two wins on senior day, but I think it was just great to go out and play,” Vradenburg said. “Definitely, the emotions were very high that day from the beginning and I think we were starting to play for more than just winning.”

Coming off of the series sweep, the Gators softball team suggested that they are looking forward to their final four-game series of the year against The College of Wooster, as they look to test themselves against an opponent they played earlier in the season. Although the first four games against the Fighting Scots ended in losses for the Gators, the team is confident in their preparation for their last matchup.

“The team has been more cohesive than we were before we played Kenyon,” Vradenburg said. “I think we are more confident going into the next week, especially going into playing Wooster again, we are more sure of ourselves as a team and know what we’re capable of.”

Beyond testing themselves in their final series of the year against a conference opponent, the team is also looking to see just how far the momentum from this sweep of Kenyon can take them as they look towards next season. More underclassmen have been able to get opportunities because of the recent success of the Gators, and this will likely continue for the final series as they look for key contributors for next season’s team.

“I think we’re riding high right now, we’re all very positive and ready to finish out this season,” Lafferty said. “Coming off of those wins I think will help us going into this week.”

The Gators will face off against the Fighting Scots this weekend for their final four games of the season. The series begins on the road at 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 1.



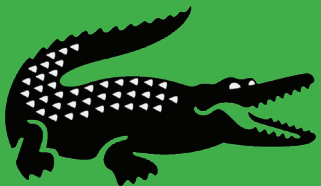
Photo by EMILY RICE/THE CAMPUS

First-year Isabelle Wakefield catches a pop fly in shallow right field.

THIS WEEKEND IN SPORTS

Men’s and Women’s Track
Friday, April 30 at Denison

Men’s and Women’s Tennis
Friday, April 30 at Oberlin
at 5 p.m.
Saturday, May 1 at Kenyon
at 11 a.m.



Men’s Baseball
Saturday, May 1 doubleheader at 12 p.m. at Wooster
Sunday, May 2 doubleheader at 12 p.m. vs. Wooster

Women’s Softball
Saturday, May 1 doubleheader at 1 p.m. at Wooster
Sunday, May 2 doubleheader at 1 p.m. vs. Wooster

Men’s Lacrosse
Saturday, May 1 doubleheader at 4 p.m. at Wooster

Men’s and Women’s Golf
Saturday, May 1
NCAC Championships Round 2

Most games are available online.
Go to alleghenygators.com, search the team, click on schedule, and click watch for the game of your choosing.

GO GATORS!