1876 2021

The Campus

Volume 146, Issue 9
Friday, October 22, 2021

Meadville, Pennsylvania
www.alleghenycampus.com

Bentley rededicated after more than three years of work

By **SAMI MIRZA**
News Editor
mirza01@allegheny.edu

On the rainy Saturday afternoon of Oct. 16, three tents packed with people bustled across Brooks Walk from Bentley Hall. They had come to celebrate the rededication of Bentley Hall, Allegheny's first permanent building, after three years of renovations that began in 2018.

"We now have a safe, beautiful Bentley," said Patricia Bush Tippie, '56, in an address to attendees.

Tippie, along with her husband Henry B. Tippie, challenged the college and its donors to match their $7 million gift to renovate Bentley after a tour of the building revealed its flaws to the couple.

The building was emptied in early-September 2018 with an expected completion of August 2020, but the COVID-19 pandemic — and the havoc it wreaked on global supply chains — delayed completion more than a year.

The event began with a short program of speakers, including Tippie and college President Hilary Link, who acknowledged how good it felt to move into the building for her first time as college president.

"For those of us working in Bentley, it is truly an honor and a joy to come to work every day," Link said.

Tippie spoke last, and celebrated not just the building but the other donors who matched the initial $7 million challenge.

"Not only did your gifts restore Bentley, but we now have a $1 million endowment fund that guarantees that Bentley will be taken care of for years to come," Tippie said.

Donors who gave more than $1,000 were honored by name with a pair of plaques in the lobby of Bentley, while the five donors who gave $1 million were honored by individual plaques across the building.

After the conclusion of the speeches, Link honored some college employees who had contributed specifically to the project, including alumnus Jonathan "Jed" Miller, '69, who decorated the interior of the building, and Willis, who oversaw the project and was also honored with a plaque in Bentley.

"I've done a lot of (construction) projects and they were just 'projects,'" Willis said after the event, tearing up. "For the first time, this is my project."

Following the ceremony, which concluded with a singing of the alma mater, attendees were given tours of Bentley in pre-assigned groups. The first tour, led by Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement Phil Foxman, '90, and Willis himself, consisted primarily of the Tippie family.

Tour groups entered through the western entrance, which is classified as accessible as per the Americans with Disabilities Act. Immediately upon entering the building, the open stone walls serve as a "Window to the Past."

These windows dot the building's structure, and include open spaces in the walls and ceiling for visitors to see what the building originally looked like in that specific spot. For example, what is now the president's office was the president's residence when the college was wholly contained in Bentley. The original wall demarcating that line is visible today through a small rectangle outside the office.



SAMI MIRZA/THE CAMPUS

The catering tent (R) and main event tent erected on Brooks Lawn for the rededication. Not visible to the left was the check-in tent where attendees who RSVP'd recieved their nametags and tour group assignments.

Another historic element of the building's interior design was the paint color.

"We know every color that's been used in the history of Bentley," Willis said, citing the extensive paint samples taken during the renovation.

Though much of the building has stone or wood flooring, custom-made carpets were also extensively used. These carpets, ordered from the United Kingdom, were procured from the same firm that produces rugs for the Queen of England.

See **BENTLEY** | *page 2*

Making a difference, rain or shine

Allegheny students join Meadville community to volunteer

By **SOFIA HASSAN**
Contributing Writer
hassan01@allegheny.edu

Rainy weather was not enough to stop a turnout of volunteers on Saturday, Oct. 16, in Diamond Park for Allegheny College's annual Make a Difference Day.

Volunteer groups and individual volunteers alike met in the park for a light breakfast, checked in at the gazebo, and received the supplies they would need for their specific site, including a volunteer t-shirt.

Make a Difference Day is not just a local event, as a similar day of service has taken place across the nation on the fourth Saturday in October every year since 1992.The premise, however, is still the same — to get out in the community and help out however possible.

Were it not for the COVID-19 pandemic, this would have been the college's 28th annual Make a Difference Day. The event is a partnership with the United Way of Western Crawford County and is spearheaded by the Office of Civic Engagement, which also heads the monthly Service Saturday. In past years, efforts on Meadville's Make a Difference Day have led to a fresh paint job at the Meadville Children's Center and the installation of a new ramp at a Meadville resident's home.



Photo contributed by Sofia Hassan

Members of the greater Meadville community gather under and around the gazebo in Diamond Park on Oct. 16 prior to volunteering.

Community members and Allegheny students got up early to work together on over 100 service projects around the county, doing everything from yard maintenance at the Emmanuel United Church to ramp repair at the Crawford County Housing Coalition Emergency Shelter to yard cleanup for a local senior. Allegheny students lending a helping hand included members of the women's lacrosse team, Phi Delta Theta, the sophomore honor society Lambda Sigma and Allegheny Student Government.

At the emergency shelter, both students and community members sanded wood planks for the ramp and placed these planks where they needed to go on the ramp. Other volunteers could be found raking the parking lot and weeding around the shelter to clean up the space.

See **DAY** | *page 2*

Confusion grows over cuts

Students voice concern for faculty

By **MO MANSOUR**
Features Editor
mansour01@allegheny.edu

All across campus a quiet buzz can be heard; chalk lettering on every corner of campus, questions and queries pushed around from student to student. The questions vary in tone and diction but the denotation is always the same: why are staff cuts happening, how are they taking place and most importantly, who are the staff cuts affecting? Students worry not just for their professors and mentors but also for themselves to an extent, while faculty keeps tight lipped for fear of repercussions. With the college's apparent reorganization happening at the beginning of 2022, the buzz grows louder as the time moves on.

"I've been really discouraged by some of the interactions I've heard," Provost Ron Cole, '87 said on the topic of misinformation surrounding the situation.

Despite the magnitude of the situation, it seems that the campus community is largely in the dark about the ins and outs of what is happening with the college's restructuring process. Information coming from students, faculty and administration is conflicting and contradictory, with professors declining to even comment on the process in most cases. Cole attempted to provide more information by giving a presentation to ASG on the staff cuts, the process behind them and the reason they were taking place. He explained that due to the declining number of high school graduates and the declining number of high school graduates that are pursuing higher education, the college will have less students and therefore less revenue. This decrease in people who are willing to pay for schooling in turn means that the college will have a lesser need for teachers and professors and less revenue to pay them. However, that presentation and the administration's general stance has left some students with more questions than answers.

"(The college's) endowment has grown significantly (from 2019 to 2021)," Aubrey Hall, '22, said. "So part of my confusion, as a student, is if this endowment is growing why is the college saying that they're in a financial position where they have to make faculty layoffs?"

Students themselves are taking action to fight back against the staff cuts. They have organized in various capacities to raise awareness about the staff cuts and spreading information on the situation. Across campus in various spots, white chalk asks students to "unite to oppose staff cuts" by messaging @acunite to 81010.

See **CUTS** | *page 7*

In this week's Campus...

UNCOMPLICATING AND ENJOYING LIFE

Opinion Editor Peyton Britt, '22, muses on the simple pleasures of creative works - and the weight we give to the moral standing of their creators.

Page 4

ROCK THE QUAD

"Rocktoberfest" brings German music and food to Allegheny students.

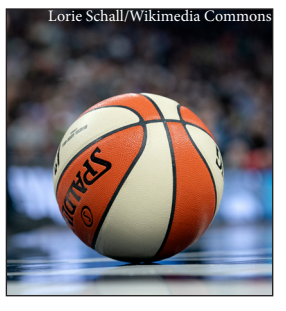
Page 5



CHICAGO SKY CLAIM FIRST TITLE

Sky win three of five games over the Phoenix Mercury to win 24th WNBA Finals.

Page 8


Lorie Schall/Wikimedia Commons

FRIDAY
H: 51° L: 43°
Rain: 40%
Sunrise: 7:40 a.m.
Sunset: 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY
H: 52° L: 40°
Rain: 46%
Sunrise: 7:41 a.m.
Sunset: 6:28 p.m.

SUNDAY
H: 55° L:47°
Rain: 54%
Sunrise: 7:42 a.m.
Sunset: 6:27 p.m.

DAY *from page 1*

"We've known the ramp needed fixed for a little while now," said Ashlyne Lawrence, '20, who helped supervise this site. "We house homeless families and individuals, and they stay in here until they can find permanent housing. At the top we have affordable units that we rent out to (Crawford County Mental Health Awareness Program) for people who have mental health disorders."

Another service project going on was gardening in DeArment Park. Danuta Majchrowicz, former director of International Programs and Services at Allegheny and one of the three current master gardeners, provided a rundown of the various activities taking place at this site.

"Underneath the plants and underneath the mulch, there's a layer of plastic to stop the weeds, so we need to pull that plastic together so the mulch gets dumped in the middle," Majchrowicz said. "(Irrigation lines) have to be lifted up and cut and tied off at the water manifolds. We leave the grasses in the winter."

According to Majchrowicz, there are four main entities involved in the garden: the master gardeners, who put in and take out the plants; the city of Meadville, which provides mowing, water and tree care; Channellock, which supplies the money for the plants; and Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, which provides the plants themselves.

Linda Gleeson, a community member volunteer at the park, detailed a special purpose she and other Meadville residents have for the celosias.

"I take these (celosias) home and dry them," Gleeson said. "I hang them all in my barn ...We use other dried things — pinecone, milkweed pods — and some of these things we spray paint, some we leave natural."

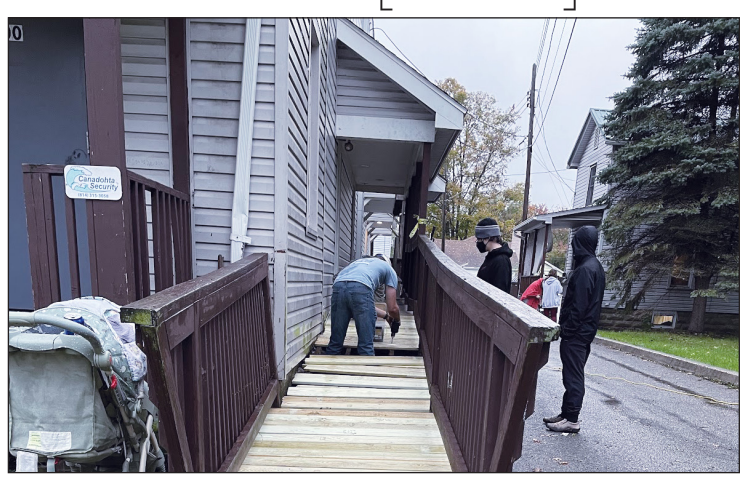


Photo contributed by Sofia Hassan

Allegheny students watch a member of the community work on the ramp of the Crawford County Emergency Shelter on Main St. in Meadville.

In the wintertime, the celosias will join plastic bulbs and these other dried items on live Christmas trees to be displayed at such events as Light-Up Night. Gleeson hopes that these Christmas trees will inspire Allegheny students to take more frequent trips into Meadville and become more engaged with the greater community.

Those overseeing the sites are appreciative of the students and community members who volunteer their time, pointing to them as the reason that this day has been known to be a success.

"They walk on water, according to us," Majchrowicz said.

AXO honors victims of domestic violence

Speakers discuss personal experiences, ways to help

By **EVELYN ZAVALA**
News Editor
zavala01@allegheny.edu

Alpha Chi Omega's Delta chapter brought back the annual Candlelight Vigil to honor survivors of domestic violence and raise awareness. The event was open to anyone who wanted to attend and required formal attire and masks.

The 15th annual vigil was hosted on Oct. 16 at 7 p.m. in Ford Chapel.

Vice President of Philanthropy for Alpha Chi Omega Heather Amancio, '23, explained the vigil's importance to the sorority's philanthropy and to the community.

"The Delta chapter has gathered here for the past 14 Octobers excluding the extraordinary circumstances last year." Amancio said. "We acknowledge that domestic violence can happen to anyone at any time, regardless of race, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation and socioeconomic status."

Executive Director at Women's Services, Inc. Bruce Harlan shared stories of people he has met in his 40 years of working with survivors of domestic violence.

"It's indescribable the inhumanity that people who say they love you are doing to their loved ones and we hear these stories everyday," Harlan said. "It's occurring in Meadville, it's occurring in Crawford County. When I look out in this audience and look into your eyes, I know there are stories there as well and hopefully these are resilient stories that are recovering and healing."

Harlan explained how the cycle of abuse functions in domestically abusive relationships.



EVELYN ZAVALA/THE CAMPUS

Attendees honor victims of domestic violence with candles during a vigil at the Ford Chapel on Oct. 16.

"There's a tension building phase, then there is the incident, then the apology and things go back to normal," Harlan said. "In the beginning, it's an angry outburst and it's verbal but as the years went on it became a slap, it became a push, it became a shove, it became a kick. Over the years the interval decreased to become more frequent with the violence escalating."

After Harlan and a few women shared their stories, the audience participated in a moment of silence to honor the speakers and survivors among the audience.

Many of the students who attended felt that the event empowered the speakers as well as the audience in that they were able to build a safe space for everyone. After the event, everyone gathered into two rows and lit candles to put in white paper bags that had different messages on them.

Katie Nichols, '22, shared her thoughts about how the event affected the speakers who came to share their experiences.

"I feel like it was very empowering for them to be able to share their stories," Nichols said. "I think it helped build community and just increased my and everyone else's awareness of the problem."

Hallie Reiger, '23, expressed how the event affected her and her takeaways from the event as it was her first time attending the vigil.

"It's really emotional and motivational hearing my sisters speak about their experiences and I think it really touched all of us," Reiger said. "I was very moved by the three girls that spoke. I think that there's a lot of stigma around domestic violence awareness so I think they really brought to light how it doesn't have to be a rape or a beating. It can be little things that build up over time."

Amancio, as the main organizer of the event, outlined the purpose of the event as a platform for survivors to speak about their experiences. She hoped the speakers found solace and validation from their stories being heard and honored.

"The purpose of the event was to acknowledge Domestic Violence Awareness Month and to give anybody who wanted to share their story for whatever reason the platform to speak, heal and acknowledge how prominent domestic violence is," Amancio said. "This is not an issue that only exists in the media. This is right here and right now."

Attendees were urged to reach out to someone if they are currently going through a bad situation or need help healing. They were also encouraged to reach out to people they believe may need someone to talk to about an experience.

"I would encourage you all, at some point, to share your story with someone, someone you trust, someone who will hear your story and treat it with respect and the dignity that it deserves," Harlan said. "If you suspect someone has been through something and you think you're the person to talk to them, don't ask what's wrong with them, ask them what has happened to you."

BENTLEY *from page 1*

The windows also had to be ordered as custom-made, because age and structural stresses had warped the frames to the point where the window sizes were no longer standard across the structure. The windows have almost all been returned to the original 6x6 format, though they are now updated with modern insulation technology.

The third floor also contains a student-oriented space: a seminar room for classes. One end of the seminar room is decorated with chalk drawings and signatures from students, a tradition that began in 1964 when the third floor of Bentley was closed to classes because it was not up to fire code. Students would go and sign their names to "leave a mark," and in 2015 the chalk room was closed to preserve the original signatures. Though only one wall remains, the remaining three have been preserved and will be added back to the seminar room and adjacent lobby as the space is fully finished.

Bentley's completion comes in Allegheny's 206th year, as the school faces down the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic and the financial deficit it created. But Willis is not concerned.

"I think we have a president who's decisive, who understands what's needed to do, and she's able to make tough decisions," Willis said. "It's a challenge now for almost all institutions of higher education, but particularly small liberal arts colleges that don't have state support or federal support. We're relying on the commitment of the (alumni) and the donors, and Bentley is a living example of what happens (with that support)."

Bentley was Willis' last project as director of major capital projects , and he is proud of where the building stands.

"I could not have imagined a better way to finish my career, nor a better place to do it," Willis said.

CORRECTIONS

In the Oct. 15 edition of "The Campus," the headline "College to replace Wi-Fi infrastructure" may be misleading, and has been updated for clarity online to, "College to replace some Wi-Fi infrastructure."

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.

October 9, 2021
Fondling
Theta Chi

ASG hears from Career Education

By **EVELYN ZAVALA**
News Editor
zavala01@allegheny.edu

The Allegheny Student Government General Assembly began with a presentation by Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement Phil Foxman and Director of Career Education Jim Fitch.

ASG commenced this week's General Assembly at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 20, in room 301/302 of the Henderson Campus Center.

Foxman explained the role alumni connections have in the opportunities available to current students and a way students can reach out to alumni. Gator2Gator is a platform where students can choose to reach out to alumni and build their network.

"80 to 85 percent of opportunities are filled through connections and we know sometimes it's hard to make connections," Foxman said. "Gator2Gator is designed to help you connect Allegheny alumni. The only reason alumni are on this platform is to help you."

The platform is meant to be only for Allegheny College students and Alumni. Foxman emphasized that students are not searchable on the website, so only they can reach out to alumni. Handshake and Gator2Gator are connected.

"The jobs that our alumni connect with on Handshake are fed directly to Gator2Gator," Fitch said. "We have employers that reach out to us every week and ask us to approve them to post jobs on campus. They have to have a certain trust score before we allow them to post."

After the presentation, ASG began their cabinet reports for the week.

Director of Finance Lucas Biniewski, '23, announced that the club budget applications are up before reporting spending for the week.

"From the general fund we have $1,876.87 which is encompassed of Up Til' Dawn prizes for Orchesis, the 5k, hockey transportation to Wooster, a movie night for Comics Club and the ASG '25 class event in GFC this Friday," Biniewski said. "From the surplus fund, it was $572.67 for the cheer pink uniforms for breast cancer and a pumpkin patch event."

Director of Sustainability and Environmental Affairs Andi Reiser, '23, updated ASG on her current work

"I am continuing to work on the water bottle refill stations and a couple other projects I will announce later on," Reiser said. "Keep working on reducing your energy usage."

President Noah Tart, '22, announced that all the wired and wireless ports will be replaced on campus in an effort to make the internet faster.

"In the spring, new fibers will be coming that will hopefully make the internet faster," Tart said. "The last time they were updated was in the 1990's which is a huge advancement."

ASG voted in favor of a fire-pit for the NVI lawn after a five minute discussion.

The assembly was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

THE CAMPUS

Since 1876

EDITORIAL STAFF

Ethan Woodfill	Editor-in-Chief
Roman Hladio	Editor-in-Chief
Hassan Javed	News editor
Sami Mirza	News editor
Evelyn Zavala	News editor
Mo Mansour	Features editor
Jordan Greynolds	Features editor
Gabriella Brady	Science/International editor
Peyton Britt	Opinion editor
Kaleigh White	Opinion editor
Adam Cohen	Sports editor
Jake Petti	Sports writer
Kaleigh White	Photographer
Sydney Emerson	Photographer
Sami Mirza	Photographer/Videographer
Roman Hladio	Copy editor
Annaliese Stone	Graphic designer
Ethan Woodfill	Business manager
Abigail Estrada-Hernandez	Social media manager
Michael Crowley	Faculty adviser

Advertising (814) 332-5386
Box 12, Allegheny College
520 North Main St. Meadville, Pennsylvania 16335

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

ADVERTISEMENT

ALLEGHENY COLLEGE

BRUCE R. THOMPSON
CENTER FOR BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

Want To Learn How To Start A Business AND Win $10,000 While You're At It?

This Spring Semester, The Business & Economics Department Offers Two Entrepreneurship Courses That Will Help You Win The Zingale Big Idea Competition!



BIG IDEA

Econ 281 – Social Entrepreneurship & Nonprofit Management
4 Credits
Tuesdays & Thursdays
1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

In Econ 280, you will learn how to start a non-profit company that helps society and also learn how to work in an existing non-profit company. All students compete in the Zingale Big Idea Competition. There are no exams. You work on your "Big Idea" all semester.

Econ 190 – Entrepreneurial Finance
2 Credits
Thursdays
3:00 p.m.

In Econ 190, you will learn how to raise money and manage the finances of a start-up business. All students compete in the Zingale Big Idea Competition. There are no exams. You work on your "Big Idea" all semester.

If interested, contact Chris Allison at callison@allegheny.edu or text 412-389-8888.

Social media is destroying lives

Facebook memo admits worsening teen body image issues

By **SYDNEY EMERSON**
Features Editor
emersons@allegheny.edu

In episode two of The Wall Street Journal's investigative podcast, "The Facebook Files," it was reported that, written in bold on an internal research report from Facebook, was the phrase "We make body image issues worse for one in three teen girls." I am not the least bit surprised.

Instagram, which is owned by Facebook, is a particularly glamorous platform full of flimflammery disguised as mirror selfies. The influencer was invented and continues to flourish there. Photoshop, plastic surgery and posing tricks abound to transform human bodies into superhuman sculptures. Add in a bunch of still-developing frontal lobes, a pinch of capitalism, stir and suddenly you've got a massive mental health crisis on your hands.

This is not to say that anybody who has fallen prey to the league of evil influencers is foolish. Social media is an easy trap to fall into. It will trick you — period. What's more, it will trick you well. Everybody you see there will suddenly become vastly more interesting, well-traveled, happy and beautiful than you will ever be.

As someone situated at the tail-end of the cusp generation, I am one of the last to claim a relatively analog childhood. My early memories are not of YouTube and Snapchat but rather trips to the library and playing outside until dark. I got a flip phone in seventh grade and my first smartphone came in high school.

> I can offer a warning: there is no truly healthy way to navigate social media — even if you're smart, even if you're careful, even if you think it makes you happy and you like seeing what your friends are up to. "
>
> —SYDNEY EMERSON
> Class of 2023

I am not going to mount my high horse and denounce kids these days with their cell phones. For one thing, I am not a saint. I signed up for a slew of social media platforms when I turned 13, just like the majority of Gen Z. For a long time, as I scrolled, I repeated the cliché that most people my age regurgitate: this is what's keeping me sane, I cannot give it up. Maybe I believed that, too — I do not know.

What I do know is that every second that I wasted on these apps served only to worsen my mental health and yet I could not stop. I thought that I was immune, and I see this same sense of invincibility poisoning my friends, too. Any time one of them insists to me that their poor self-image has nothing to do with their social media consumption, I feel like I am talking to an alcoholic who believes having vodka in the house does not exacerbate their condition.

That is how deeply social media can fool you — it makes you believe that you cannot live without it and burrows itself so far in your subconscious that you believe you have beat it, all the while destroying you from the inside.

That Instagram has its tenterhooks in Gen Z's brains is no accident. The New York Times recently published part of a 2020 internal strategy memo from Instagram that read, "If we lose the teen foothold in the U.S. we lose the pipeline." This same memo detailed a strategy focused on keeping children aged 13-15 on the app for at least three to four hours a day, with the possibility of the marketing trickling down to children as young as 11.

This demographic was born between 2006 and 2010. They have never known a world without Facebook. I know how hard it was for me to remove myself from these spaces which are so detrimental to my well-being — how hard will it be for those who have never known a different world? Why aren't we protecting them?

I refuse to believe that Instagram/Facebook has anything less than nefarious, greedy and predatory intentions toward young people. They know full well what they are doing and stay the path regardless. Even if the research is shaky, as an op-ed in The New York Times suggested, I believe the statistic that Instagram makes body image issues worse for 33% of girls because I am one of them.

Social media optimists may say that things are looking up. In light of "The Facebook Files," Instagram put plans on hold for Instagram Kids — their planned children's social media platform — and supposedly started discussions about safety features and parental controls for minors' accounts. I have a hard time imagining these discussions as anything less than a shallow PR move before a return to strategy in a year.

Perhaps I am wrong. Perhaps Instagram Kids, a space populated exclusively by the under-13 crowd, would not be poisoned by the toxicity that permeates Instagram. Perhaps parental controls and safety features will steer teens away from unregulated internet time and toward life in the real world. Perhaps Facebook will save the children, influencers will go the way of the lamplighter and we will live in the best of all possible worlds.

I'm dubious. Safety features only go so far and parental controls often push adolescents further away. Furthermore, the idea of an app where young children can post or say whatever they want — and these posts become part of the permanent record of the internet, mind you — seems like it can only end badly.

I am sure there are those out there who think that the headline for this article might as well read "Old Man Yells At Cloud." Though certain platforms come and go, social media operates in an ever-replenishing cycle that seems like it is here to stay until the grid goes down. There is very little that one fed-up college student can do to stop Facebook, save for praying that one day the servers go offline and never come back.

I can offer a warning: there is no truly healthy way to navigate social media — even if you're smart, even if you are careful, even if you think it makes you happy and you like seeing what your friends are up to. We ought to be incredibly wary of the internet. While it is a brilliant tool, it can also be our undoing.

Time to be honest

My struggles with mental health

By **ADITYA BHANDARI**
Contributing Writer
bhandari01@allegheny.edu

For those of you who do not know or forget me. My name is Aditya Bhandari. I am from Pittsburgh, PA, graduated from North Allegheny High School, and am currently a sophomore. I am 20 years old andwas born on 9/11/2001 — yes, that exact date — and am undecided on my major and minor. Supposedly, some of my "hobbies" are watching movies, watching television, reading comics, playing video games, listening to music, working out, and you know, the "usual." While I am undecided on major or minor, the subjects I tend to be known for being "interested" in are psychology, media, philosophy and writing.

After "graduating," (cause 2020), from North Allegheny, I felt like I was a free bird — no more waking up at 7 a.m. with no true friends or not being involved in any activities, no more feeling lonely and unable to connect with a graduating class of 538 people, no more worrying about being bullied or ridiculed as I often was, and no more taking classes I knew for sure that I was unmotivated about. I really did not like or fit in really well at North Allegheny, and so I was beyond happy when my time there was up.

I looked at Allegheny College as a way to start fresh, and for a while if you observed me from the outside, things were looking like they would go right for once. I pledged to a fraternity (Phi Gamma Delta), became vice president of the school's Comics Club and started a radio show, trying to get involved in campus life. I had an exceptional Navigator last year, along with many supportive advisors and mentors, and I even found specific friends, who have the ideal traits, qualities and characteristics that I have been searching for the last 20 years but could never find. I felt that Allegheny's close-knit community, with its solid variety of people of many similar and different backgrounds and interests, would be the place I found my home, finally. Even now, I feelblessed to be on a campus that is mostly vaccinated and slowly returning to some sense of normalcy after a very restricted and abnormal first year.

Do not get me wrong, I do think Allegheny has a lot to offer; I love it here and care for the Gator community. That being said, I have not found my place in belonging and feel like a failure already more than halfway past this semester with the clock constantly ticking, because I did not take into the account a lot of the mental health issues and inner demons I have dealt with from childhood through graduation, such as being picked on and bullied in all sorts of ways from all sorts of people,(from elementary, middle, and high which lead to many unresolved conflicts), through dealing with loneliness, depression, anxiety, overthinking, perfectionism, anger, numbness, low self-esteem and most notably of all, being diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder, which is now just considered Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder when I was 10 years old.

Only as of recently, I have realized that ADHD has not only been linked to my primary mental health issues, but also that the symptoms have caused a lot of other problems that have been leading me to many downward spirals, both last year and especially this semester. Since high school, I have been going down this rabbit hole of literally losing certainty who I am both internally and externally and in big and small ways. I struggle to connect to the people around me, even over common interests and along with my socially awkward behavior and considering how tainted my perception of people is, I have just ended up self-isolating myself .

Feeling chronically behind everybody else physically, mentally and academically, I do not feel like I belong anywhere. I feel hopeless and trapped as I am unable to make any consistent or effective decisions to change my current situation. It honestly feels like I am literally stuck in The Matrix — thank you, philosophy — with no way out as no matter what I do, the universe will find a way to place me back into the same cycle of insanity. I cannot take control over my own life and the same stimulus's repeat every single time no matter what I do.

Enjoying things without moral conflict: easier than you think

By **PEYTON BRITT**
Opinion Editor
brittp@allegheny.edu

Life is filled to the brim with creativity. An innumerable number of things are created on a daily basis; these are creations. People are creators. I am of the belief that these three things — creativity, creations and creators — are a fact of human existence. People create simply because they are people; this is a natural inclination that I believe we all experience, although the ways in which we people express creativity are enormously varied.

Enjoying the many different products of human creativity is one of my favorite aspects of being alive. I love to read books, listen to stories or music and see others' art, for example. I think most people feel the same: we like it when people make things. Creativity adds a richness and depth to daily life that is beyond invaluable, to the extent that many would die in the name of creation, creative expression, freedom to create or whatever else you would like to call it.

In our modern time, we have more access to creators than perhaps ever before. For example, although I do not think it is likely, I could tag Rihanna in a tweet and she could reply. Increased digital connection has closed the gap between celebrities and fans, between creators and the audience.

This proximity to creators certainly has its upsides; if Rihanna did actually reply to one of my tweets, I would feel that my life had become significantly more interesting. Of course, there are also downsides, as the expectation of digital access to celebrities and others more broadly has allowed for the invasion of one's private life, and there is a sort of social pressure that arises from the possibility of communication.

Thus we have come to a point in society where it is quite common to discuss creations and their creators as though the two are synonymous. There has long been discourse regarding the possibility of separating the art from the artist.

For the sake of avoiding difficult questions regarding the nature or definition of art, I will use the terms creations and creators. That aside, I offer my insight into the matter: the two are absolutely and fundamentally separate, although knowledge of one can certainly inform one's understanding of the other.

Creation is a noun; creations are things that each one of us can experience, analyze and interpret however we please. Although some interpretations will not hold up to critical analysis, at least as far as they fail to be coherent to the actual creative work in question, they are nonetheless reflections of an individual's subjective experiences and therefore cannot be reduced to concepts of truth or falsity, nor to the objective characteristics of the work itself.

Creators, on the other hand, are people. I will not try to provide an account of what human nature is; that is something we may seem to understand intuitively yet cannot definitively define. I could not pretend to understand people in general, nor could I explain why people do the things they do.

Even more elusive is the connection between the ideas in the mind of a creator and their creations. I write poetry and often feel as though I do not know where my words come from, what exactly they mean or how I came to select those words in particular; I just chalk it up to the fickle muse of inspiration and move on with my life. The ambiguity of this connection is one reason I find it senseless to view creations as inseparable from their creators.

It is common to go on social media and discover that some musician, actor or whoever else has been "canceled," and this leads to the social pressure for that person's fans to recant, abandon the artist and stop enjoying their work.

A huge problem with this mentality is that knowledge of someone's moral shortcomings does not magically erase the sensory pleasure one derives from their work. If I like a song, and then I find out that the artist is a horrid person, I still like the song. I would be lying to myself to say otherwise.

Whether or not individuals are morally at fault if they continue to support the creator in question financially, through streaming their music and thus allowing them to profit off of the royalties for example, is a separate question. All I am saying is that when I am appreciating something a person has created, I do not think about the person who created it, their moral status, their responsibility as a human to not treat other humans terribly, or anything else not related to the creation — I simply experience.

As far as I am concerned, I can coherently say that feminist literature pairs well with misogynistic rap. I do not think this is a contradiction or indicative of cognitive dissonance on my part, but rather that people are complex beings who can simultaneously enjoy multiple things.

Music is made up of sounds, and some combinations of sounds just are pleasing to me. Reading a book involves interacting with language and the ideas it conveys. I can let my ears receive auditory stimulation I find pleasurable while my mind chews on ideas that are entirely contradictory to the song's lyrics, since my mind is too busy reading to consider their content.

Similarly, I can enjoy the sensory stimulus I derive from a creative work and still genuinely hold the belief that the one who created it is a rotten stain on the fabric of society. The idea that enjoying things means endorsing the moral conduct of the person who created them is asinine, insofar as individuals have no power over the immediate visceral reaction they have to the creation.

The greater debate underlying my argument is far more broad and complex than what I have covered here. We might ask ourselves whether we, as consumers of creative content, have the power to reclaim works made under the guidance of morally vapid values by means of interpretation and analysis, ignoring whatever harmful thing it was that the creator intended to convey and disperse through their chosen creative medium.

> The idea that enjoying things means endorsing the moral conduct of the person who created them is asinine, insofar as individuals have no power over the immediate visceral reaction they have to the creation."
>
> —PEYTON BRITT
> Class of 2022

One might argue that once a creator invites the public to scrutinize their creation, they no longer hold authority over its meaning.

One might also argue that, at least for certain creative works, there is no sense in interpretation or analysis at all; a song is just a collection of sounds, a book is just a long string of words and so on.

Although I do believe that there is great value in the interpretation of creative works insofar as they provide us an additional channel for communication, can manipulate our emotions, act as stimuli for the production of further creative works and add a unique depth and richness to life and its supposed meaning, I also believe that the aforementioned argument holds water. Despite how thinking deeply about creative works can lend a sense of significance to human existence and bring us happiness or purpose, they are ultimately just assortments of their constituent elements.

Missionaries abducted in Haiti

Gangs continue string of violence

By **GABRIELLA BRADY**

Science/International Editor

bradyg@allegheny.edu

Earlier this month, 17 missionaries from both the United States and Canada, some of whom were minors, were abducted by a gang in Haiti, according to CNN.

As they were being abducted, an unknown individual sent a cry for help on the messaging app, WhatsApp.

"Please pray for us!!, the message stated. "We are being held hostage, they kidnapped our driver. Pray pray pray. We don't know where they are taking us."

Those abducted were members of Christian Aid Ministries, a ministry group based out of Ohio that was founded by Amish and Mennonites that have long worked in the Caribbean.

Following the abduction, the organization spoke up about the events.

"The group of sixteen US citizens and one Canadian citizen includes five men, seven women and five children," the organization stated.

At the time of their abduction, the missionaries were traveling to the city of Titanyen, which is located north of the capital Port-au-Prince, following a trip to an orphanage in the Croix des Bouquets.

Authorities involved in the investigation have linked 400 Mawozo, a local gang, to the abduction, according to The New York Times.

The gang is responsible for abducting these individuals in a nation that has neared lawlessness as a result of natural disaster, corruption and political assassination.

According to the Washington Post, 400 Mawozo is responsible for abducting members of religious groups, and controlling parts of Ganthier.

The members of this gang are known to abduct groups of people as they ride buses or walk the streets, which is what makes these abductions so concerning is that they happen when the individuals are in a large group, which used to keep people safe from circumstances such as these.

Pierre Espérance, the director of Haiti's National Human Rights Defense Network, spoke with the Washington Post about the increasing danger of the gangs in Haiti.

> This shows us that no matter who you are, or where you are in Haiti, you are never safe."
>
> —PIERRE ESPÉRANCE
> Director,
> Haitian National Human
> Rights Defense Network

"This shows us that no matter who you are, or where you are in Haiti, you are never safe," Espérance said.

A 42-year-old unnamed businessman who was abducted back in February of this year spoke up about the circumstances that the nation of Haiti is currently facing in an interview with the New York Times.

The man requested to be left unnamed, or referred to only as Norman, to prevent retribution.

"It's maddening — you try to work for the country, to build something, provide jobs, and they do this to you," the man said. "Where is this going? Where is this country going? It's a total mess."

After 12 days of capture, the man was released for a ransom price of $70,000 — much less than the original $5 million that they originally requested.

One lawmaker, Representative Adam Kinzinger (R-IL) and a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, commented on the matter in an interview with CNN.

"We need to track down where they are and see if negotiations without paying ransom are possible or to do whatever we need to on the military front or police front," Kinzinger said.

The search for these missionaries might not be easy, due to the ongoing problems that Haiti as a nation is facing.

According to the New York Times, the security in Haiti is worsening as a result of the disintegration of the country's politics and the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse that occurred back in July.

Earlier this month, gangs in Port-au-Prince shot at a school bus, injuring at least five people, and hijacked a public bus.

Luis Henry Mars, an individual who works on peace building projects in Haiti spoke about the violence in an interview with The Guardian.

"There are areas where the police will not go, where it's a war zone like Vietnam or Afghanistan," Mars said.

The Center for Analysis and Research for Human Rights, an organization based out of Port-au-Prince, reported that 628 individuals were abducted, including 29 foreigners.

The executive director of the CARDH, Gèdèon Jean spoke on what might be behind the surge in gang-related crimes.

> We need to track down where they are and see if negotiations without paying ransom are possible or to do whatever we need to on the military front or police front."
>
> —ADAM KINZINGER (R-IL)
> Foreign Affairs Committee,
> US House of Representatives

"The motive behind the surge in kidnappings for us is a financial one," Jean said. "The gangs need money to buy ammunition, to get weapons, to be able to function."

Hopeful that those abducted will be found, Christian Aid Ministries released a wishful prayer, as reported by NPR.

"We are seeking God's direction for a resolution, and authorities are seeking ways to help," stated Christian Aid Ministries. "Join us in praying for those who are being held hostage, the kidnappers, and the families, friends, and churches of those affected. Pray for those who are seeking God's direction and making decisions regarding this matter."

'Rocktoberfest' rolls onto the quad

Event brings German culture to Allegheny students

By **PEYTON BRITT**

Opinion Editor

brittp@allegheny.edu

The Department of Languages and World Cultures held Allegheny's first-ever Rocktoberfest on Oct. 14 in the Gator Quad.

The event — modeled after a German rock festival — offered students the opportunity to learn about German culture and enjoy German foods, activities and, of course, music.

The event was inspired by the popular Bavarian tradition Oktoberfest, combined with elements of German culture as a way of giving students the chance to experience a culture different from their own.

"It's a good idea to spread culture and arts for people to get in touch with cultures they maybe never meet because they are only at home or on campus, so that you can connect with people from all over the world," German TA and event organizer Tobias Teckhaus said.

The event sought to bridge the gap between Allegheny students and German culture.

"In Germany, we have so much awesome music that nobody knows, of course because of the language," Teckhaus said. "We wanted to make a fest where we could show all the hip music we have in Germany: German hip-hop, rock music."

Teckhaus also remarked that international events like Rocktoberfest improve cross-cultural understanding and give students a better perspective of other cultures, which can help with mitigating culturally-ingrained biases and stereotypes.

"Through getting to know cultures, you'll open yourself up to people from all over the world," Teckhaus said.

Aside from the music, the festival also attracted a number of students with food.

"I came for the bread and stayed for the pretzels, " Destiny Perkins, '24 said.

Perkins also noted how events like this are important to the campus community and culture because they provide students with an opportunity to learn about other cultures.

Enyche Valier, the French TA, echoed Perkins' sentiment regarding the sense of community building that events like Rocktoberfest create.

"Discovering other peoples' culture and spending a nice time together is really nice for the community and helping people grow, and not only on their American view of the world," Valier said.

Julia Ludewig, assistant professor of German, expressed her appreciation for the event's lively turnout. She described Rocktoberfest as the department of language and world cultures' main event of the semester.

"It's really an event that speaks to people," Ludewig said.

According to Ludewig, the event drew in a surprising number of students across many departments, allowing her to interact with students she had never seen before.

Ludewig said that this widespread appeal of the event was her favorite part of the experience.

"This is the face of the campus community when it is not inside the classroom," Ludewig said. "This is what we are about. We are a residential liberal arts campus precisely because we have these kinds of events. I think that really glues us together and gives us the hopefully welcoming identity that we want to project."

Kaleigh White contributed to the reporting of this story.



KALEIGH WHITE/THE CAMPUS

Students fill the Gator Quad for inaugural Rocktoberfest on Oct. 14. Trivia, depicted here, was one of the many activities attendees had the chance to participate in.

ADVERTISEMENT

ARE YOU READY

FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION?



YOU CAN FIND OUT BY ENTERING THE

2021 CBE FINANCIAL LITERACY CHALLENGE

The CBE Financial Literacy Challenge is a personal financial budget and investing plan competition open to all Allegheny students.

Winners will compete for a prize pool of

$5,000!

Plans will be judged according to the Certified Financial Analyst (CFA®) criteria for excellence in financial planning. Plans are due by November 16. Finalists present to our judges on Zoom on December 4.

To learn more about the competition, sign up for our workshop in Quigley Hall Auditorium on October 28 at 12:30 pm and visit the Bruce R. Thompson Center for Business & Economics (CBE) website where you'll find instructions and handy templates to get you started.

For more information or to register for these workshops email Entrepreneur in Residence, Chris Allison (callison@allegheny.edu or Quigley Hall Coordinator, Sarah Holt (sholt@allegheny.edu)

ALLEGHENY COLLEGE

BRUCE R. THOMPSON
CENTER FOR BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

CUTS *from page 1*

By texting @acunite to 81010 brings one to a two-page document, composed of bullet points that outline what the creators of the document believe they know about the situation. The Campus has not verified the claims made in this document.

"Allegheny College's financial woes being used to justify these decisions are greatly overstated," a portion of the document reads. "The college has been, and is currently, in the process of costly capital projects such as refurbishing Bentley, and hiring new deans. … As it is not a matter of financial necessity, but of reacclimatizing the school's priorities to other capital projects. The college has had insufficient time to gather data that gauges the success of these administrative investments."

Students are putting a lot of emphasis on this part of the staff cuts, that the school has enough money to avoid laying off staff but instead is directing that money elsewhere.

> "Allegheny's making claims about enrollment and financial difficulties. That's kind of contradicted by the fact that they've created new administrative positions."
>
> —AUBREY HALL
> Class of 2022

"Allegheny's making claims about enrollment and financial difficulties," Hall said. "That's kind of contradicted by the fact that they've created new administrative positions. So part of that corporate restructuring is doing exactly that; it's like, moving these shared governance decisions, away from something that's looks a little bit more democratic, involves more faculty, and more toward something that's oriented toward administrative decisionmaking and the role that administrators play as decision makers, and part of that is that one of the recommendations that Inside Higher Ed makes for the kind of tasks force that right now, one task force is overseeing part of this or making recommendations to administration would be for those task force members are elected to that body, from my understanding, the people who are currently operating on that task force were appointed by the administration they were not elected."



MO MANSOUR/THE CAMPUS
This chalk message advocating against faculty layoffs sits outside Steffee Hall of Life Sciences.

The task force is meant to finish its work by December and provide a report of its findings to the Provost, President and faculty council. The Provost will be tasked with creating a faculty staffing plan which will go to the President and the Board of Trustees by February, according to Cole.

Despite the discrepancies between what the administration's perspective and the point of view of most students, the thing that it seems everyone can agree on is that this is not an Allegheny only phenomenon. Other colleges around the country are doing the same sort of review process, especially after the financial crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, and it seems that it's going the same way elsewhere as it is here at Allegheny, like St. Joseph's College in New York.

Several faculty members declined to comment to The Campus.

In a cloud of conjecture, with the campus community so distrustful of the intentions of the upper echelons of the college it can be hard to get at the facts of the matter. The most important fact is this: the review process is currently happening, now, and no official decisions have been made yet.

'Rocky Horror Picture Show' produced by SET, GAP

By **JORDAN GREYNOLDS**
Features Editor
greynolds@allegheny.edu

On Wednesday, Oct. 20, each member of The Rocky Horror Picture Show gathered in room 203 of the Vukovich Center for their final dress rehearsal.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show is a classic among its cultish audience and is very popular around Halloween time each year. Hosted by Student Experimental Theatre and Gator Activity Planning, is a shadowcast of the 1975 film, meaning that the cast acts it out as it plays in the background.

As the room began to fill up, fellow cast members gasped, pointed and raved about each other's costumes as they saw them for the first time.

"You look decrepit and sexy," a cast member yelled.

"I look like a Presbyterian minister's worst nightmare," Sarah Brammell, '23, replied.

The buzz in the room only let up once the movie began to play on the projector and the cast took their places. Some stood in front of the screen where the movie played and others seated themselves at the spaced out tables to mimic the audience who would play a key role in the show.

"Rocky Horror is a raunchy and kind of cultish movie," Sydnie Patton-Neil, '23, said. "It's one of those things where you need audience participation to watch it because if you just watch it by itself it's a terrible movie, not going to lie. What actually makes the movie is the production because there's a lot of audience participation, dancing and call backs."

If you are looking for a meaning or deeper message to the movie, you are not likely to find it. The chaos that surrounds the movie's plot and the audience's antics create an unmistakable atmosphere.



JORDAN GREYNOLDS/THE CAMPUS
The cast of the Rocky Horror Picture Show shadow-cast practice audience participation at their last dress rehearsal on Oct. 20.

"There is absolutely no plot and it's very inappropriate and crazy," Mycah Quevillon, '25, said. "It's kind of a gathering point for queer people so the show is in that vain of embracing what other people would call absurd. It's an excuse to let loose and only focus on making the show as good and uncomfortable as possible. If you aren't uncomfortable then you aren't doing it right."

While the cast has fun with their performance, it took a lot of hard work to bring the whole thing together.

"The atmosphere at rehearsal is chaotic but a lot of fun," Rachael Pieto, '23, said. "They're also three hours long though so it kind of gets tiring. We aren't cranky by the end but we're ready to go. We have so much fun doing it though that I don't even mind."

There are also many people who work behind the scenes in order to make the show a reality.

"I do rehearsal reports, so I'm typing up what we did and things we still need to get like props and costumes," Patton-Neil said. "Making sure everything is in place is important so everyone isn't running around like a chicken with their head cut off."

Although it may seem tedious, Patton-Neil said she is not put off by the requirements of her position.

"This is going to sound dorky but I really like organization," Patton-Neil said. "I like to make sure everything is where it's supposed to be because when that's the case it makes for a better show."

GAP president, Victoria Smith, '23, who is helping put on the show through her club, thinks that the show has been guided in the right direction.

"I think the whole show is bordering between decrepit and sexy and we found the sweet spot," Smith said.

The cast is set to perform in the lobby of the Henderson Campus Center at 10 p.m. on Oct. 22 and 23. Those who attend and have not been to a live call back show before should expect an initiation before participating in a raunchy, crazy and fun production.



JORDAN GREYNOLDS/THE CAMPUS
The casts sings along to "Over At The Frankenstein Place/There's a Light," during their dress rehearsal.

Chicago Sky win first championship in team history

By **JAKE PETTI**
Sports Writer
pettij@allegheny.edu

The Chicago Sky became the 24th WNBA champions on Sunday, Oct. 17, after defeating the Phoenix Mercury 80-74 at home in the fourth game of their five game finals series. This title is the first for the Chicago Sky in the 15 year history as a franchise.

As the higher seed, the series began in Phoenix with a 91-77 victory for the eventual champions. Game one for the Sky was led by series MVP Kahleah Copper as she earned a double-double, scoring 21 points and bringing down 10 rebounds. Thirteen-year veteran Candace Parker was also impressive, scoring 16 points in the win while shooting 70 percent from the field.

> It seemed like both teams had to fight their way to get to where they were at and the best team won at the end of the day."
>
> —BRIAN ROBERTS JR.
> Class of 2022

Game two of the series proved to be closer than the lopsided first game, as the Mercury squeaked out an overtime win, 91-86. Brittany Griner led the way for the Mercury, scoring 29 points and collecting nine rebounds. In overtime, Diana Taurasi shined, scoring eight of her 20 points in overtime, as well as making a crucial steal with 36 seconds left to set up the game sealing layup from Skylar Diggins-Smith.

"The second game was definitely the most exciting game that I watched in this series," Nate Stover, '23, said. "It was just a good back and forth game and the Mercury really had to grind out their win."

The third game saw the Sky match their point total from the game before, however their defense shined in the 86-50 blowout win. The Mercury shot just 25 percent from the field as the Sky cruised to victory without forfeiting the lead in the contest. Offensively, Cooper continued her frequent scoring, turning in 22 points on the night, while Parker contributed with 13 points of her own.

In game four, after trailing for three quarters, the Sky outscored the Mercury by 15 in the final 10 minutes of the series to secure the victory. With just under two minutes to go, Candace Parker tied the game for the first time in the fourth quarter with a three-pointer, followed by a Stefanie Dolson layup seconds later that would keep the Sky on top for the remainder of the championship game.

Griner was the leading scorer of the game turning in 28 points as well as seven rebounds. However a strong defensive performance from Parker, who had 4 steals and 13 rebounds, kept the rest of the Mercury players out of the mix. Offensively, the Sky were led in scoring by guard Allie Quigley, who turned in 26 points in the win.

Basketball fan Brian Roberts Jr., '22, remarked on the series win for the Chicago Sky.

"It seemed like both teams had to fight their way to get to where they were at and the best team won at the end of the day," Roberts said.

Both the sixth seed Sky and the fifth seed Mercury entered the WNBA championship series unexpectedly as neither team entered the playoffs with a bye round. Because of the format of the WNBA playoffs, this meant their paths to the finals were the most difficult as they each had to win more games than higher seeded teams.



Photo source: Paul K./FLICKR

A view of game four of the WNBA finals between the Chicago Sky and Phoenix Mercury on Oct. 17 at Wintrust Arena.

This year's finals marked the first time since the 2007 season that the number one-seed was not present, as well as the first time that either a fifth or sixth seed team has ever competed in the finals. Furthermore, the Sky became the lowest-seeded WNBA champions in the history of the league.

Roberts commented on the uniqueness of two lower-seeded teams doing so well in the WNBA playoffs.

"I thought it was a crazy finals considering neither of the teams were a top seed in their conference or division," Roberts said. "So to see two underdogs playing each other was sort of cool to see."

The series also saw players on each team break records and achieve important WNBA milestones. Sky Guard Courtney Vandersloot improved her all-time postseason assist record as well as becoming the first player in WNBA history to record double-digit assists in four consecutive finals games. For the Mercury, Griner became just the second player in WNBA history to record 100 postseason blocks.

While important to the Chicago Sky franchise, this championship win holds a special place for Chicago-native Parker, after she signed a two-year contract to join her hometown team at the beginning of the season. This decision to return close to home was one that paid off for Parker, who wanted nothing more than to bring a championship to her hometown.

Parker reflected on the reality of achieving a dream of hers in her postgame interview.

"It feels amazing, my high school coach is here, we got the whole city here, and it's just amazing how Chicago supports us," Parker said. "I mean, we are champions for life now."

Students react to the NBA's 75th anniversary

By **ADAM COHEN**
Sports Editor
cohena@allegheny.edu

The National Basketball Association officially celebrated its 75th anniversary and began the 2021-22 season on Tuesday, Oct. 19.

According to history.com, the NBA originally started out as the Basketball Association of America in 1946, but later merged with the already established National Basketball League to form the modern NBA fans know today.

Looking back at the organization's history, Allegheny students responded to the festivities for the NBA's 75th season and what it is like to be a fan of one of the longest organized sports in the United States. They also discussed the greatest generation and the greatest dynasties in the league's history, the best and worst changes in basketball and what additions the NBA should incorporate by its 100th anniversary.

Tully Taylor, '22, highlighted a couple of the celebrations occurring in the NBA this season.

"(The NBA) announced that there is a 75th anniversary team and they are going to do 25 (players) a day starting on (Oct. 19 to 21). That will be interesting to see. I also saw that they are changing the game ball (with the NBA 75 logo), which is different."

Overall, Taylor feels honored that she is a fan of a league consisting of so much history during its first 75 years.

"Speaking of the (Cleveland Cavaliers), I got to see the Cavs play in four different playoffs and I got to see them win a championship," Taylor said. "That's just crazy to be a part of that and to be able to have LeBron James on our team for that period of time, watching one of the all-time greats play out of 75 years."

Due to the influx of basketball talent, Lamar Todd, '21, believes that NBA fans are currently witnessing the greatest generation play today.

"If you ask anybody, they would probably say the 90s, but I would say the greatest generation is right now," Todd said. "I feel like the game, talent wise, has always gotten better. People are getting better since time has gone on."

As for the greatest dynasty, Todd had a differing opinion, who all thought the 1990s Chicago Bulls with Michael Jordan were the greatest teams to play in history.

"My favorite dynasty is the Lakers; the Lakers with Shaq and Kobe," Todd said.

As the players and teams have changed throughout the course of NBA history, so have the rules. Trey Williams, '24, explained why the best change to occur in the NBA was hand-checking.

> If you ask anybody, they would probably say the 90s, but I would say the greatest generation is right now. I feel like the game, talent wise, has always gotten better. People are getting better as time has gone on."
>
> —LAMAR TODD
> Class of 2021

"When the (NBA) changed hand-checking, they really made it more accessible for players to, especially in the current NBA, make good moves," Williams said. "You can see guys now not being worried about being held off the ball or during the play. (The players) are more worried about what move to make to go around them."

Meanwhile, Williams discussed the worst addition to the NBA has been the new draft lottery.

"Being a Cavs fan when Zion (Williamson) was being drafted, I thought okay the Cavs were the second worst team in the league, we might have a chance at getting the first overall pick," Williams said. "We ended up with the fifth pick that year."

According to NBA.com, from 1947-1989 the worst team in the league was guaranteed to have the fourth highest pick of the draft. However, since 1990, the draft has used a weighted system. In other words, the lowest ranking teams have a higher chance of receiving a higher overall pick, but teams with better records still have a chance to receive one of the first picks of the draft.

Williamson, who was one of the most sought after prospects in NBA history, has emerged as one of the newest stars in the NBA. He was drafted first overall in 2019 by the New Orleans Pelicans, when the Pelicans had the tenth lowest winning percentage that year at .432. Per sportingnews, the Cavs had a 14% chance of selecting the first draftee that year, while the Pelicans had only a 6.8% chance.

One of the reasons why the NBA changed the lottery was to prevent rebuilding teams from tanking — a term used for teams that know they are out of playoff contention to lose as many games as possible to hopefully receive the first pick.

Although there has been debates about how much the new lottery system makes a difference in teams avoiding the cellar, it still has not stopped franchises from building super teams.

These super teams come from richer NBA teams and generally consist of at least some of the highest players in the league. For example, the Golden State Warriors went to four straight NBA championships from 2015-18. For that reason, Gabby Culotta, '23 elaborated on why she is not a fan of super teams.

"The idea of super teams sometimes can be frustrating because it is so stacked in that regard," Culotta said. "It's fun when it's your team, and when you are able to cheer them on. But, at the same time it's very frustrating. At that point it's not basketball, it's the super team against the other team."

Although there are a few grievances towards the NBA today, Todd is looking forward to a possible implementation to the sport by its 100th anniversary in 2046.

"I would probably say a four-point line," Todd said. "Steph Curry, with him coming along and (basketball players) trying to be like him, people are shooting from farther and farther."

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ALLEGHENY

Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving
Saturday, October 23
vs. Grove City @ 1 PM

Women's Field Hockey
Tuesday, October 26
vs. Wooster @ 7 PM

Women's Soccer
Tuesday, October 26
vs. Wooster @ 4 PM

Men's Soccer
Wednesday, October 27
vs. Wooster @ 4 PM

Football
Saturday, October 23
vs. Depauw @ 1 PM

Women's Volleyball
Saturday, October 23
vs. Denison @ 1 PM