

# Campus community celebrates the life of Coach Ben Mourer

By **ANNA WESTBROOK**  
Editor-in-Chief  
westbrook01@allegheny.edu

“Never settle.” This was the guiding ethos that Cross Country and Track and Field Coach Ben Mourer, ’07, brought to his work with Gator student-athletes for over a decade. And it is the ethos he will be remembered for by friends, families and colleagues for many years to come.

Mourer, 40, unexpectedly died on June 15, while chopping down a tree on his property, “a place where he found peace, purpose, and connection to nature,” according to the obituary published by Stephen P. Mizner Funeral Home & Cremation Services. He is survived by his wife, Kimberly Mourer, ’08, and their two children, Arthur and Henry.

During his time as a coach at Allegheny, Mourer helped lead the Gators to numerous titles in both the North Coast Athletic Conference and the Presidents’ Athletic Conference. In 2022-23, the women’s teams swept all three PAC championships in cross country and both indoor and outdoor track and field. In addition to these successes, Mourer inspired countless student-athletes who ran for him.

“He was always the kind of guy that

would make you want to work harder and be better, but keep it light and fun at the same time,” said Caleb Freeman, ’25, a captain of the men’s cross country team, in an interview with The Campus. “Every time that I was with him, he made me want to push myself, while keeping me lighthearted throughout the process.”

Director of Athletics and Recreation Bill Ross, a fellow coach and friend to Mourer, recalled that rather than forcing success, one of Mourer’s strengths as a coach was his ability to organically instill motivation within each of his athletes. As Mourer’s obituary puts it, “his passion for running and coaching wasn’t just about the sport — it was about building character, confidence, and community.”

“Under his leadership,” the obituary continues, “teams didn’t just win championships; they grew into families.”

Mourer’s deep commitment to “never settle” remains a guiding principle of the team, Freeman said. Mourer first explained the principle to him while Freeman was having a “tough” season.

“He was like, ‘If you’re having the race of your life, you know, you’re on pace to beat your PR (personal record) by whatever much, like a minute, don’t settle and take a minute PR,’” Freeman recounted.



COACH BEN MOURER

“Make it a minute-thirty. Don’t settle. Make a statement.”

“That idea,” Freeman continued, “that you can do more than you expect, makes us want to keep pushing ourselves all the time.”

For Mourer, that ethos extended beyond the track as well.

“That was always even kind of a theme in our relationship as well,” Kim Mourer said in an interview with The Campus. “‘Never settle’ followed him everywhere he went.”

See [MOURER](#) | page 2

# Pine Market reopens

By **AUBRYANNA SNYDER**  
Features Editor  
snyder02@allegheny.edu

After multiple investigations into student retail thefts and a decision to shut down in April of last semester, Pine Market in Brooks Dining Hall has reopened this year with significant changes in its operation.

The previously 24-hour convenience store for students now operates from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. with security cameras and an in-store cashier in order to mitigate theft. The changes come as a result of the multiple investigations last spring involving Parkhurst, Public Safety and Student Life after Pine Market lost thousands of dollars in product during April.

Pine Market opened initially in fall semester 2024 with a completely self-service model and didn’t have issues with significant theft until midway through the spring.

See [MARKET](#) | page 3

# Timelycare replaces 98point6

By **ANNA WESTBROOK**  
Editor-in-Chief  
westbrook01@allegheny.edu

Out with the old, in with the new. A new virtual healthcare service for students is entering its inaugural year at Allegheny. The new service, TimelyCare, is a virtual care provider specifically designed for higher education, according to its website.

“TimelyCare really embodied my values of trying to determine upstream solutions,” said Wellness and Life Design Case Manager Josh Guthrie, ’09. “It’s much less of a reactive support system than it is a proactive support system.”

After Allegheny’s previous virtual care provider, 98point6, abruptly notified the college in December 2024 that it would no longer be partnering with higher education institutions as of the following week, Guthrie led the search for a new provider. TimelyCare launched for the Allegheny student body in April 2025.

See [CARE](#) | page 2

# National Wildlife Federation grant funds campus sustainability projects



PHOTO PROVIDED BY KELLY BOULTON

Sunny Stout, ’26, works to spread out the soil that will house a pollinator garden in front of Pelletier Library.

By **JOSEPH KLEPEIS**  
Staff Writer  
klepeis01@allegheny.edu

Birds, bats and bees, oh my! The college was recently awarded an \$8,500 grant from the National Wildlife Federation’s 2025 Mutual of Omaha’s Wild Kingdom Grant Program, to support several sustainability initiatives according to an Aug. 7 press release from the college.

“This funding will support two ma-

jor campus sustainability and biodiversity initiatives: the installation of bird and bat boxes across campus and the creation of a native perennial pollinator garden in front of the Pelletier Library,” stated the press release.

The idea for the project came from Hazel Ammons, ’25, an environmental science and sustainability major, whose senior comprehensive project was the basis for the pollinator garden.

When the grant proposal entered the radar of Director of Sustainability Kelly Boulton, ’02, she decided to use Ammons’ work — which she described as “amazing.”

“Hazel’s approach was, ‘How do you not just put in a pollinator garden,’” Boulton said, “(But) how can we use perennial pollinator and wildlife-friendly plants in a way that also meets conventional landscaping aesthetic standards?”

See [GRANT](#) | page 2

## ADVICE FOR FIRST YEARS

The Campus staff shares unconventional advice for first year students.

## THE CAMPUS’ 150TH ANNIVERSARY

Read through stories where it all started in the 1870s, The Campus’ first decade of publication.

## CCPD STAFF CHANGES

News Editor Ben Stavnezer, ’27, explores the new and returning staff in the Center for Career and Professional Development.



# MOURER

from page 1

Mourer began his time with the Allegheny athletic community as a student athlete on the cross country team, where he eventually became captain. Ross recruited Mourer out of high school and immediately recognized that he was special.

“I knew right away his freshman year that he was destined to become a captain of the program at some point,” Ross said. “You know when you come across people who are natural leaders.”

Ross’ insight proved accurate. As captain, Mourer led the cross country team to its best-ever finish at the NCAA Championships in 2006, placing third nationally — an accomplishment Ross said no one else on the team except for Mourer saw coming.

“He was really inspiring to both the men’s and women’s cross country teams — definitely to me,” said Kim Mourer, who first met Mourer while also on the cross country team. “(He was) just easygoing, kind of silly, but very supportive of everybody. No matter what your skill level was, you were a teammate, and he treated everybody so greatly.”

As captain, Mourer used creative team-building tactics. Ross recalled one instance that involved scouring the streets for old Marlboro boxes on team runs, with the goal of finding enough coupons in the boxes to claim prizes from Marlboro headquarters. The fruit of Mourer’s efforts were a beloved cowboy hat that he continued to wear with pride later, even as a coach, at races and

practices — and a team that was motivated to stick together during grueling workouts.

Mourer returned to Allegheny in 2015 as head cross country coach and assistant track and field coach before being promoted to head track and field coach in 2022. Among his accomplishments were guiding Allegheny to several conference titles and receiving the North Coast Athletic Conference Coach of the Year award four times. Ross attributes a key part of Mourer’s success to his intimate knowledge of being a student-athlete at Allegheny himself.

“I would say (Mourer’s) greatest accomplishment was what he was able to establish as a leader of the program when he was a student-athlete here,” Ross said. “Knowing what it took to help lead a team to continue to improve every year. He was able to then utilize that in his coaching of the athletes.”

This firsthand experience, coupled with his unique sense of humor, led Mourer to establish deep connections with his athletes.

“His dry humor and some of the things that he did to motivate the team were things that once I found out about them, (I) would just shake my head,” Ross recalled with a chuckle.

Mourer’s dedication to hard work, ability to inspire and love for tradition showed up in the mundane as well.

Last year, Freeman’s schedule meant that he was alone for weekly morning exercises. Rather than let Freeman run alone, Mourer

always joined him on the track for the warmup and cooldown mile. This was characteristic of Mourer, Freeman recalled.

When Ross first heard the news about Mourer’s death on Father’s Day, he was in church listening to a sermon on fatherhood.

“I know that Ben really prided himself on being a really good father, and so the first thing that popped into my head was, ‘Oh, I can’t wait to share the sermon with Ben. He would like to hear this message,’” Ross said. “And a few minutes later, my phone rang.”

“**(He was) just easygoing, kind of silly, but very supportive of everybody. No matter what your skill level was, you were a teammate, and he treated everybody so greatly.**”

—KIM MOURER  
Class of 2008

Over the following days and weeks, Freeman said the alumni community was instrumental in helping the athletes through the tragedy.

“The community and the family that he’s built over the last years — I know alumni that ran for him and graduated when I was in middle school,” Freeman said. “They all came together so fast. And it was relieving to

# GRANT

from page 1

Sunny Stout, ’26, also an environmental science and sustainability major, is one of the students who has been working on the project.

“A lot of the species that Hazel chose for their comp aren’t native flower species that I’ve seen in the other native flower gardens on campus,” Stout said. “One of the goals that I think Hazel and Kelly were thinking about was making this garden look like a landscaped garden, but out of native flowers.”

The grant proposal is roughly split into three parts: \$1,400 for bat and bird boxes and signage, \$2,000 for the garden and \$5,000 for a student worker, according to Boulton.

The garden itself will consist of native perennials, prairie grasses, milkweeds and more.

“Hazel and I did kind of talk about plants, but it was Hazel driving the conversation, Hazel identifying what’s native, what’s going to work,” Boulton said. “I give Hazel full credit there.”

Stout has been working with Assistant Professor of Biology Jennifer Houtz for the last few years in labs, doing summer research and now installing the garden and bird boxes.

Stout’s research this summer involved

putting bird boxes in community members’ backyards in Meadville and Erie.

The bird boxes are meant to support cavity-nesting bird species, according to Stout. They are meant to operate as replacements for the lack of dead trees with hollows for the birds to live in.

“They hold species like house sparrows, which are invasive species,” Stout said, “For the noninvasive, it’s bluebirds, tree swallows, chickadees and house wrens are the most common. Tufted titmouse and nuthatches might go in them.”

The number of bird boxes will outweigh the number of bat boxes, due to the cost of building them and the fact that Houtz “has had like a hundred, I think, in her garage and office,” according to Stout.

He said the location of the bird boxes is yet to be determined, but the locations being considered are the Carr Hall Garden, the Prayer and Meditation House, Steffee Hall, Ravine Hall, Edwards Hall, the David V. Wise Center, the 454 House and near the Allegheny College sign at the intersection of North Main St. and Loomis St.

With winter on the horizon, work will inevitably slow, but Stout encouraged community members to whom he provided bird boxes during his summer research to use a paint scraper in October or November to



PHOTO PROVIDED BY KELLY BOULTON

An excavator digs up grass that formerly occupied the area where the pollinator garden will be established.

remove the old nesting material from the boxes in order to decrease the chance of parasites.

“There are a couple studies that say that it encourages more birds to nest there next year,” Stout said. “Sometimes they like clean boxes. Sometimes they want ones with old nesting material. It kind of depends on the bird.”

Though the boxes will likely be empty in

see my teammates be able to go to these people for help and just talk. And also just really good for me as a reminder of what he built.”

The June 19 visitation for Mourer drew alumni and colleagues from all over the country.

“The number of people who came to the viewing was really incredible to see,” Ross said. “I think it was really good for his family to see just how loved he was, even with people that they didn’t know.”

There will be a Celebration of Life for Mourer on Sept. 20, at the cross country team’s first home race of the season. Ross announced the annual race will be renamed the Ben Mourer Cross Country Classic, with the final mile of the men’s race dedicated as the Mourer Memorial Mile. Attendees are invited to run the final mile with the student-athletes. So far, over 150 alumni have told Ross they intend to return to campus for the event.

Mourer’s guiding philosophy will be memorialized on T-shirts that read, “Never settle. Mourer strong.”

Kim Mourer and her two sons will be the honorary starters of the race. Although the day will be “heavy,” Kim Mourer is thankful for the college’s efforts to celebrate Mourer’s life and believes it will be good to connect with old classmates.

“I would really like to extend my gratitude to the Allegheny community,” Kim said. “We are a family.”

# CARE

from page 1

Notably, in contrast to 98point6, TimelyCare does not provide medical or primary care services to students. Dean for Student Life Trae Yeckley said this shift was informed by 98point6 usage statistics, which indicated students overwhelmingly used the app for mental health support.

The resources TimelyCare offers stood out to Guthrie as being a good fit for Allegheny, all of which are available at no cost to students.

One resource is the TalkNow line, a 24/7 emotional support service staffed by mental health professionals equipped to assist students with topics like anxiety and depression, interpersonal relationships and academic and career-related issues.

“I think that’s an excellent resource because we all know that emotional concerns don’t just happen between the hours of nine and five,” Guthrie said regarding TalkNow.

Students also have free access to up to six therapy sessions with a licensed counselor, with the ability to browse counselors’ biographies and select to meet with the person they believe they will best connect with. The TimelyCare app contains an online peer

community, a moderated anonymous forum where students can connect with and support peers at other institutions who are experiencing similar mental health struggles. Additionally, dozens of asynchronous self-care lessons guide users through topics like stress management, communicating emotions and getting enough sleep.

“I highly encourage the self-care content not only for the individual,” Guthrie said, “but if student organizations or athletic teams are looking to promote well-being for themselves or for their organization or their cohort, I would invite students to partake in these activities together.”

The emphasis on preventative care is part of what drew Guthrie to TimelyCare.

“Oftentimes, when students think about utilizing these resources, they feel like they have to be unwell or not OK in order to be able to utilize these resources,” Guthrie said. “This resource kind of goes against that notion. You can be well and still be able to find benefit and increased wellness and support from engaging in the self-care content.”

TimelyCare’s national infrastructure allows it to administer care anywhere in the

continental U.S., which was not the case for 98point6.

In the case that a student’s needs are beyond what TimelyCare can provide, the organization has taken steps to prepare its staff with backup resources. In an effort to integrate its services with the local community, TimelyCare prompted Yeckley and Guthrie to provide information regarding things like where students typically fill prescriptions and where students should be directed (to visit) if experiencing an acute mental health crisis.

“TimelyCare has really shown and gone the extra mile to make sure that they can connect to accurate and current resources in our community,” Guthrie said.

The de-emphasis on primary care services and the increased focus on mental health support reflect the broader trend of students requiring more mental health support.

Yeckley, who used to work in the counseling center, said they have seen a “steady increase” over the past seven years in the percentage of students requesting mental health support. Yeckley said colleagues

at other institutions have experienced the same trend, especially coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Even before that, we were seeing an uptick,” Yeckley said, “but that just kind of really shot it up.”

Yeckley said a post-pandemic increase in social anxiety has made it difficult for students to reach out for support. They hope the TimelyCare app will break down that barrier.

“I think having the app on the phone is something that is incredibly helpful for students who maybe don’t know how or are too anxious to seek out in-person, or even ECPS (Edinboro Counseling and Psychological Services), on campus,” Yeckley said.

Since the end of last semester, student usage of the app is up 300%. Guthrie encouraged all students to download the app, even if they don’t expect to use it in the near future.

“You would be in a much better off position,” Guthrie said, “to register and have this available and not need it than you would be to need it and not have access to it.”

# MARKET

from page 1

Public Safety was asked to look at the Pine Market camera footage about halfway through the semester after Parkhurst employees noticed multiple occasions where there was a loss in inventory, according to Director of Public Safety Mark Weindorf.

Public Safety investigators went through hours of footage. According to Weindorf, once particular students were identified as committing the theft, the investigation then evolved into finding whether or not there were more incidents committed.

“More often than not, we would discover additional thefts,” Weindorf said.

Weindorf and Dean for Student Life Trae Yeckley declined to provide the exact amount Parkhurst lost due to theft, but said it was in the thousands of dollars. According to Yeckley, an estimated 15 to 20 students were identified in the thefts, though Yeckley assumes there were more.

Parkhurst Dining General Manager Maria Foxall said that Parkhurst had only looked at the month of April during the investigations, but the loss in April alone was a couple of thousand of dollars by her estimate.

“If we had looked month to month, if we had had that time, I can’t imagine how much the total amount would really be,” Foxall said.

Parkhurst, as the victim, had the decision



Like any retail establishment, you aren’t ever going to stop something 100%, but I think that will go a long way.”

—MARK WEINDORF  
Director of Public Safety

whether or not to pursue criminal charges.

They opted to leave discipline up to the student conduct office.

“To the best of our ability, we were able to identify the amount of each of the retail thefts, so part of the student conduct process would’ve been restitution to the victim and whatever other sanctions were put on by Student Life through the conduct procedure,” Weindorf said.

The procedure for student conduct varies by incident, though it most commonly happens by mutual agreement: A student meets with someone from the conduct office to reach a mutual agreement on sanctions. If an agreement cannot be reached, or if the issue is severe, the process moves to a board hearing, which entails a student representative and a faculty member or two staff members to review the incident.

The most notable impact of the thefts was the decision that Parkhurst made to shut down Pine Market permanently in the final weeks of the semester.

“We really wrestled with trying to weigh, ‘We know this is a struggling time for students, that they are up late, studying for finals, writing papers,’” Yeckley said. “However, when we realized how big of an issue it was, there was no way to get a handle on it without closing down.”

Ultimately, the decision to close Pine Market for the remaining weeks of the spring semester was made jointly by Allegheny and Parkhurst.

“It was a decision we made collectively with the school because we were losing hundreds of dollars of product every day, and security was combing through hours and hours of footage, so it wasn’t feasible for us anymore,” Foxall said.

Pine Market initially closed for a few days and reopened for a short time before finally closing down two weeks before the end of the spring semester.



If we had looked month to month, if we had had that time, I can’t imagine how much the total amount would really be.”

—MARIA FOXALL  
Parkhurst General Manager

Parkhurst did not receive any money for lost products. However, that did not stop Foxall’s and Parkhurst’s eagerness to reopen the market.

“I definitely wanted to reopen (Pine Market) because I am so proud of the place,” Foxall said. “I was the one who started Pine Market when we were here in the past, and during COVID, making it bigger and better all the time. So it was never a thought in my mind that we would not reopen it, it was just about how to reopen it to give you guys the best possible services, but at the same time us not losing on it.”

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the college did not have anything like Pine Market in the dining halls, so when the college contracted Parkhurst, having a convenience store was something highlighted because of popular demand with the student body, according to Yeckley.

There are some new benefits to having a person to staff the store; now, the market is able to serve hot foods and a wider variety of options.

“I don’t ever want to just take stuff away, we also want to add,” Foxall said.

This week, Parkhurst is working on get-

ting produce into the market, such as whole potatoes, carrots and rice, so students have the ability to cook for themselves in the dorms.

Foxall says service has been running smoothly, with the exception of the long lines during the rush hours of the market. To speed things along during the busier times, Foxall says that Parkhurst is working to get a self-checkout station set up alongside the cashier for a quicker checkout that can still be monitored.

Between having a staff member present and reduced hours, Yeckley and Weindorf both agree that it should be a large enough deterrent to minimize the issue.



When we realized how big of an issue it was, there was no way to get a handle on it without closing down.”

—TRAE YECKLEY  
Dean for Student Life

“Like any retail establishment, you aren’t ever going to stop something 100%, but I think that will go a long way,” Weindorf said.

“You like to have faith in the student body that everyone’s going to do the right thing, and the fact that it’s been brought to our attention and investigations have been done, students know that it’s being looked at.”

Weindorf recommends that students who will be up late studying plan accordingly.

“Hustle on over to the store before 11 p.m.,” Wendorf said. “Get your coffees and get your snacks for overnight.”

No investigations for theft remain open at this point.

# Ask Allegheny

What clubs did you join at the involvement fair?



**Left:** Zoe Williams, ’29  
**Major:** Political Science  
**Minor:** Undecided

“I joined the ghost club. And I have an interest in the EMT faction that we have going on and I decided to join the dancers too just to see what that was about.”



**Right:** Shahzaib Ellahi, ’28  
**Major:** Computer Science  
**Minor:** Economics

“I joined International Club, South Asian Student Society and Res Life.”

## CRIME BLOTTER

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

**June 9, 2025**  
**Act 64 (Drugs)**  
309 Loomis Street  
*Pending Investigation*

**August 27, 2025**  
**Theft**  
Schultz Hall  
*Pending Investigation*

**August 24, 2025**  
**Act 64 (Drugs)**  
Walker Hall  
*Referred to Dean*

# THE CAMPUS

Since 1876

### EDITORIAL STAFF

|                   |                          |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Anna Westbrook    | Editor-in-chief          |
| Ben Stavnezer     | News editor              |
| Aubryanna Snyder  | Features editor          |
| Milo Watson       | Opinion editor           |
| Jay Shank         | Staff writer             |
| Anton Hodge       | Staff writer             |
| Paige Kageni      | Staff writer             |
| Joseph Klepeis    | Staff writer             |
| Zaynab Jebur      | International writer     |
| Alexander Nash    | Sports writer            |
| Ben Stavnezer     | Layout editor            |
| Noell Fritz       | Layout editor            |
| Anna Westbrook    | Layout editor            |
| Ray Krishtul      | Social media manager     |
| Emma Conti-Windle | “Ask Allegheny” producer |
| Joseph Klepeis    | Copy editor              |
| Anna Westbrook    | Business manager         |
| Michael Crowley   | Faculty adviser          |

**Advertising** (814) 332-5386  
**Editors** newspaper@allegheny.edu  
**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.

# The best opinion? Sometimes, none at all

By **MILO WATSON**  
Opinion Editor  
watson03@allegheny.edu

The word “ammil” is a term from Devon, England which means “the thin film of ice that lacquers all leaves, twigs and grass blades when a freeze follows a partial thaw.” Landscape words like this one, which names something so precisely that it directs our attention towards a phenomenon we might otherwise overlook, thrilled the nature writer Robert Macfarlane so much that he began collecting them, compiling current and historical specimen-words used across the U.K. and Ireland into a nine-part glossary called “Landmarks.” For Macfarlane, learning these words changed the way he saw familiar landscapes. Referring to an English dialect word for “the gap in the base of a hedge made by the regular passage of a small animal,” he writes, “now that I know the word ‘smeuse,’ I notice these signs of creaturely commute more often.”

A similar impulse is on display in Ross Gay’s “Book of Delights,” which Gay wrote as a daily-ish exercise in identifying concepts, objects and experiences that brought him joy. “I decided that it might feel nice, even useful, to write a daily essay about something delightful,” he admits in the book’s introduction. “The more you study delight, the more delight there is to study.”

The more you study delight, the more delight there is to study. The more you study the word “smeuse,” the more round hollows there are to find in the forsythia.

On the flip side: the more you enjoy delight and precise words for the natural world, the more their absence stings. Macfarlane’s glossary of landscape words was compiled in reaction to the Oxford University Press removing words like “acorn,” “bluebell,” “heron” and “otter” from its “Oxford Junior Dictionary” and replacing them with “blog,” “celebrity” and “voice-mail.” Gay’s essay collection expresses the value of experiencing joy while being Black in an oppressive society by frequently contrasting a specific delightful experience (blowing off obligations, sitting outside a shop in the sun, having your patterned socks noticed in an airport TSA line) with its inverse (working hard till you die, being asked to leave, living under state surveillance).

Both writers’ works are supported by their authors’ opinions that these practices of archiving and stockpiling matter because the subjects of their efforts are under threat.

“The substitutions made in the ‘Oxford Junior Dictionary’ — the outdoor and the natural being displaced by the indoor and the virtual — are a small but significant symptom of the simulated screen life many of us live,” Macfarlane writes. “As we deplete

our ability to denote and figure particular aspects of our places, so our competence for understanding and imagining possible relationships with non-human nature is correspondingly depleted.” In other words, Macfarlane assembled the book not only because he enjoys landscape words, but also because he is bothered by how they’ve been artificially eradicated from developing vocabularies.

All opinions stand in opposition to something else.

That quality is what gives opinions their power to motivate, to persuade, to structure actions and to spark debate. It’s also what makes them vital to choose consciously. For every positive opinion you can hold, you also take on the mental weight of its opposite. You take on the capacity to experience loss, betrayal, discomfort and frustration.

I bring up Macfarlane and Gay because their books acknowledge that fact in plain language. They wrestle with it. They process the dimensions of layered meaning that it offers their love of words or their celebration of things that incite unrestrained delight. Most of our daily media intake fails to do so.

Online, opinions whirl. Researchers argue that social media in particular accelerates polarization by rewarding extreme messages with more attention, quietly incentivizing the formation of fissures between people that once found common ground like a river

transforming a valley into a canyon.  
That isn’t an accident. Social media companies profit from the time and energy users spend on their platforms, giving them a financial incentive to design algorithms that keep tensions high. These platforms’ hyper-engineered algorithms and ads push us to form intense opinions without giving thought to whether it’s worth our energy to care — and then, offline, we carry those opinions and drag their mental weight along, too.

I want to be clear that this extends beyond politics. I’m talking about the disparate factions of Taylor Swift superfans, memes that are mean for no reason, trend crazes built on material waste and teenagers getting doxxed over arguments on Call of Duty. At a certain point, appending more opinions to your worldview begins to foreclose avenues to connect with others. It becomes an exercise in loneliness and exhaustion.

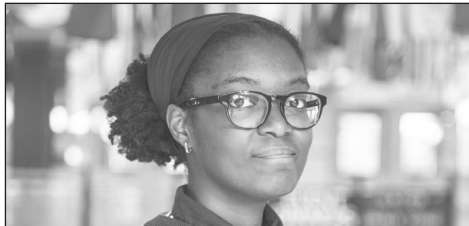
If there’s one divisive opinion I’d like to be known for holding, it’s that, in an ideal world, this issue would be eradicated with regulations that fundamentally change the way social media functions. I alone can’t magically make Congress do that for you, but I can offer you space in the pages of The Campus to participate in a forum for public discussion that — by design — aims to serve the Allegheny community, not subvert it.

## From the staff: Unconventional advice for first year students



JAY SHANK

**Staff Writer Jay Shank, ’28**  
Give up sometimes. It’s okay to settle for “just okay.” People will tell you college is all about being the best you can be, and you might feel like everything has to be perfect, but the truth is that sometimes “just okay” IS the best you can be. If you’re still editing an assignment you’ve already edited 20 times and it’s 11:50 p.m., just turn it in. There is no time for perfection when you’re 40 assignments deep into the sixth hour of your “homework day” and you haven’t eaten since breakfast yesterday. Be willing to give up sometimes and laugh about how crappy your assignment was later.



PAIGE KAGENI

**Staff Writer Paige Kageni, ’27**  
Take advantage of the free things and experiences on campus! As someone who doesn’t have immediate access to transportation, I very much do recommend going to events and happenings just to take my mind off schoolwork. It can get slow on the mountain we call a campus, and it can feel like there’s nothing to do when you compare Allegheny to other places. But, I assure you, there are many gatherings, celebrations, and even social causes that you can involve yourself with to make the days more lively. Check the events board in the Campus Center and strike up a conversation with an upperclassmen or staff member to find out what events are around the corner. You never know what you might find!



NOELL FRITZ

**Layout Editor Noell Fritz, ’27**  
Grow up. The most harsh and important advice in the book. Sometimes you literally just have to get over it. Learn from your mistakes, but don’t dwell on them. Be mature. Get a job and have purpose. Learn to care about more things than just yourself. No one ever wants to hear this advice but sometimes you literally just need to grow up.



EMMA CONTI-WINDLE

**Ask Allegheny” Producer and Host Emma Conti-Windle, ’27**  
Dance every day. There are many ways to go about this that do not actually involve joining a dance organization. I’m certainly not what you’d call a serious dancer. Although, if that is your thing, then definitely do! But if that is scary to you, dance elsewhere. Dance everywhere. Dance at the gym in between sets. Dance when something tastes good (I do this a lot). Dance in your room before you leave for class. Dance in the shower. Dance with others. Dance in class? (This is bold. I’m actually not sure about this one.) Dance in the car. Dance at parties! Dance to make other people laugh. Dance to make yourself laugh. Dance for exercise. Make your favorite people dance with you no matter how hard they try to stay still. Music is powerful, and just five minutes of movement for the sole purpose of joy can completely transform a day. “Woes are fleeting, blows are glancing, when you’re dancing through life.” — Wicked



MILO WATSON

**Opinion Editor Milo Watson, ’26**  
Keep a small stash of party supplies in your dorm room. No, not cheap beer and ping pong balls. I mean party hats, balloons and a small gift bag. Independence comes with plenty of responsibilities, but it also comes with the underrated freedom to decide which occasions are special. A short list of small milestones you may want to consider as justified grounds to gather a crowd for celebration: your friend’s first “D” or below on a college assignment, you retrieve your laundry right when the dryer cycle ends for the fifth time in a row, getting halfway through final exams, the coffee in Brooks turns out to be hot and strong at the same time, you and your roommate resolve a disagreement without inflicting hurt feelings, it starts snowing. Add your own ideas. All of these occasions tend to occur on such short notice that you won’t have time to plan festivities. Don’t miss out. Stay prepared. Throwing confetti on the reg isn’t just about shaping a rich and meaningful life for yourself—it’s also about being a good friend. Realize now that you haven’t yet learned your new friends’ birthdays.



BEN STAVNEZER

**News Editor Ben Stavnezer, ’27**  
Make peace with precipitation. Lake Erie does Meadville no favors whenever it rains or snows, so I say embrace the “bad” weather! Don’t forget that most of Allegheny’s students and staff walk everywhere on this small campus, so if it’s pouring rain, you definitely aren’t the only person with wet patches on your clothes. Every rainy day doesn’t have to be just another dreary waste. Making plans to stay in and watch a movie with friends on a rainy day is one of life’s greatest pleasures!



JOSEPH KLEPEIS

**Copy Editor Joe Klepeis, ’26**  
You’ve come from lands far and wide, and now you’re here. Welcome! I wish you all the best in your coming years here and encourage you to explore. While Meadville itself has far more going on that one might seem, it’s also a great home base for traveling. Have a car? Willing to take a Greyhound bus? Able to get to the Amtrak station in Erie? The options are endless. From Meadville you can comfortably spend a day or a weekend in Cleveland, Erie, Buffalo, Niagara Falls (New York and Ontario), Pittsburgh and more. Even the smaller towns of Ashtabula, Warren, Titusville, Linesville, Franklin and many more are well worth popping into. As Mark Twain said, “Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness,” so get out there and see the world around you!



ANNA WESTBROOK

**Editor-in-Chief Anna Westbrook, ’26**  
Join The Campus! Besides the thrill of seeing your name in print every week, the Campus staff are some of the funniest and most hard-working people I know. Writing for the newspaper has also given me the excuse to interview and get to know some of the most interesting faculty, staff and students on campus. If you like being in-the-know and want to serve the Allegheny community, stop by our Contributing Writers Meetings on Mondays in the Campus Center #303 at 8 p.m.

# Letter-from-the-editors: Introducing The Campus’ 150th Anniversary

Older than The Meadville Tribune, The Washington Post and The Wall Street Journal; founded when there were just 38 states in the United States of America; and printing its first issue just 11 years after the end of the Civil War, The Campus, Allegheny College’s student-run newspaper, is entering its 150th year of publication.

The Campus, established in 1876, has always been a newspaper made for and by the students of Allegheny College. During its 150 years of existence, the paper has never once stopped publishing. No matter if it was a World War (two of them, in fact) or a pandemic (also, two of them), The Campus has remained steadfastly dedicated to its duty to serve and inform the college community. The Campus is not just a club — it is a historic organization that has been upheld by countless student journalists who have a deep commitment to public service and integrity.

This year, The Campus’ 150th Anniversary will be celebrated both on and off the page.

In the paper, through the republishing of stories dating back to the very first issue, readers will see firsthand how The Campus

has evolved over its 150 years. These stories — at times funny or shocking, at others, sad or thoughtful — provide a glimpse into Allegheny’s past and the lives of the thousands of student journalists who have documented our college’s story over the past 150 years. Readers will gain insight into how the Allegheny community experienced some of the defining moments of Allegheny and U.S. history, while learning more about their favorite clubs and traditions along the way.

To date, The Campus has the second-largest alumni group of any registered student organization. Readers will hear firsthand from some of these alumni through written testimonials reminiscing on their time with the paper and reflecting on the sometimes surprising lessons they learned — many of which they have held onto for decades.

Readers will also hear about aspects of The Campus’ history that have not previously been reported on through new stories written by current Campus staff.

The 150th Anniversary Celebration will continue off the page as well.

Several events throughout the year — including panels, on-campus alumni visits and programs with the Merrick Archives —

will provide opportunities for the Allegheny community to engage with The Campus’ history. Several of these occasions will bring alumni into conversation with current students about the legacy of The Campus, as well as how our role as a local newspaper interacts with the overall state of journalism in the U.S. Though informative, these events are designed to be entertaining and open to everyone, no matter their level of familiarity with journalism. One virtual panel, for example, will feature editors-in-chief dating back to the 1960s, all of whom have countless stories and laughs to share.

The first of these on-campus events is a Newsroom Open House during Blue & Gold Weekend on Saturday, Sept. 20. Join current and former staff and friends in the newsroom, room 314 in the Henderson Campus Center, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. to page through old editions of the paper, reminisce about the biggest headlines of your college years, catch up on The Campus’ recent achievements and see where the action happens.

Additionally, there is already a small exhibit outside of the Merrick Archives on the third floor of the Lawrence Lee Pelletier

Library. Stop by to see key pieces from The Campus’ archives, and join us for the larger “Out of the Vault: The Campus” event scheduled for the spring. All of these events will be advertised in the paper and other college channels throughout the year.

Working with The Campus is not just for students in the journalism or English departments. Our staff members have come from a wide variety of backgrounds and gone on to countless career paths, most of which are not related to journalism. However, the one common thread among these alumni is that the skills they acquired during their time at The Campus helped them succeed in their careers. If you’re interested in working with or supporting The Campus, contact Editor-in-Chief Anna Westbrook, ’26.

The 150th Anniversary of The Campus is a milestone that we and the thousands of student journalists who came before us are deeply proud of. Thank you for joining us on this journey. Let’s get started.

— The Editors

## The first issue of The Campus

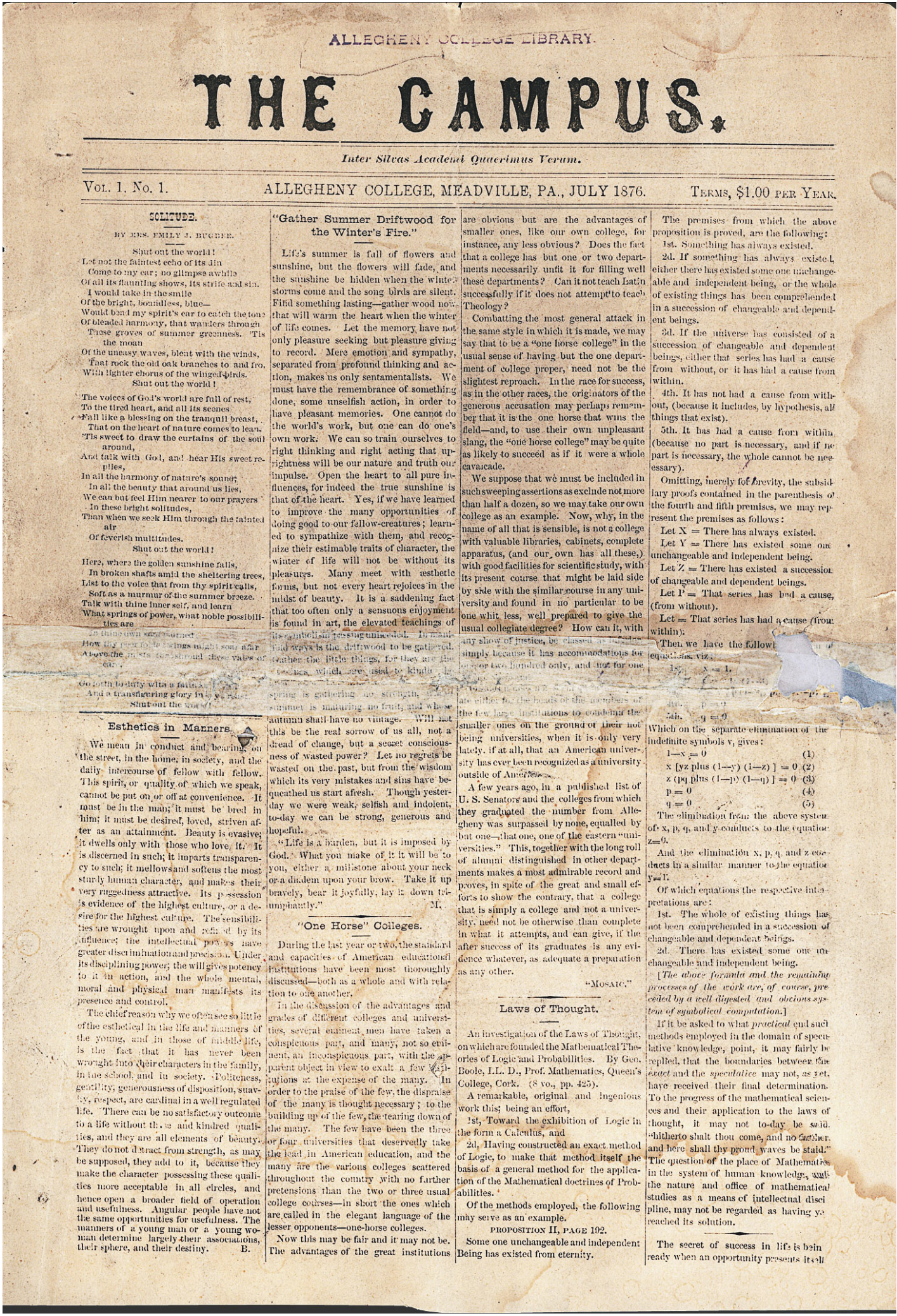


IMAGE COURTESY OF THE WAYNE AND SALLY MERRICK HISTORIC ARCHIVAL CENTER

The first issue of The Campus was published in July 1876. This image depicts the front page of the first issue of Volume I. The physical copy of the first issue collected in the Merrick Archives is water-stained and brittle. At some point during its 150 years of existence, it was repaired with tape in the hope of preserving its physical integrity.

## The Campus newspaper at 150

The Wayne and Sally Merrick Historic Archival Center has a small exhibit centered around The Campus’ 150th Anniversary outside their main entrance on the third floor of the Lawrence Lee Pelletier Library. The following, developed by Archives & Special Collections Librarian Chris Anderson, is the description of the exhibit on display for visitors.

The Allegheny College student newspaper is called The Campus. This year, we celebrate its 150th year of continuous publication. The Campus is distributed weekly at locations across the college and is also available online. The publication covers Allegheny College campus news, features, opinion pieces, and a wrap-up of college sports. The Campus is entirely student-run, with an editorial board charged with making all executive decisions for the publication.

During the 19th century, a series of disturbing underground newspapers were circulating across the Allegheny College campus. These publications were concerning to both trustees and faculty. As a result, three students with Phi Gamma Delta decided to create a new and professionally-produced college newspaper. The first issue of The Campus of Allegheny College was published in June 1876. College faculty initially paid for the costs of the publication and the lead editor and section heads received one or two academic credits for their work.

The Campus eventually became a news and literary magazine and the student editor who served as manager was expected to cover any financial losses. The student also received any profits made through subscriptions and advertisements. The faculty supervised the paper until 1880, when full responsibility passed to the student editor-in-chief. A stock company made up of students took control of The Campus in 1884, launching into a new era. A majority of stock shares were controlled by several college fraternities. These shares carried the right to vote for the editorial board.

The Campus gradually expanded in size and became a weekly in 1900. Today, according to its mission statement, The Campus is a nonprofit newspaper made for and by the students of Allegheny College in Meadville, Pennsylvania. The Campus seeks to serve and inform the college community by printing journalistic work that seeks the truth and reports honestly and accurately as it distributes high-quality content.

*THE CAMPUS.*

---

Published 1st of each month, Aug. and Sept. excepted.

---

MEADVILLE, PA., APRIL, 1878.

---

*EDITORIAL COMMITTEE.*

E. S. WHITE,

W. J. McCLINTOCK,                      A. E. COLEGROVE,

W. L. McCLURG,                        IDA M. TARBELL.

A. J. MAXWELL, *Business Manager.*

Address all communications to THE CAMPUS, Meadville, Pa.  
No anonymous communications will be noticed.  
Subscriptions received and copies for sale at the Book Stores  
of Ingham & Co., and Clarke & Chesbrough.  
Papers will be sent until ordered discontinued, and arrearages paid.

TERMS:

|              |         |
|--------------|---------|
| One year,    | \$1.00. |
| Single Copy, | 12c.    |

Volume II, issue VIII, 1878

EVERYONE had begun to feel anxious about Prof. Tingley and to wonder whether he had been overtaken by the dangers of the sea. But all fears suddenly gave way to rejoicing, when he again appeared among us. He comes back from his European trip, after a stormy voyage of eighteen days. Twice all hope was abandoned, but the vessel finally made its way through the storms. The Professor looks as though he had enjoyed the trip, as (with the exception of the rather vivid prospects of a submarine voyage) he says he has. He is welcomed gladly by all, and with feelings of gratitude that he has been spared to return. It is said, however, that some of the boys in his classes are troubled with misgivings about the future lessons.

Volume II, issue III, 1877

*EXCHANGES.*

We have been confabulating about our exchanges for a year, and now purpose giving them an opportunity to talk about us. We are gratified to see that they appreciate the CAMPUS, especially shown by the great number of paragraphs copied from it. and also by the 45 or 50 exchange notices this volume has received, nearly all of which have been complimentary. We copy a few of them at random, for the benefit of our subscribers who have no means of knowing the reputation the CAMPUS maintains in college journalism:

The Meadville CAMPUS is a good monthly paper. Some of the literary articles are tainted with senioric rhetoric; but the editorials are sensible, the educational notes, locals and personals quite creditable.—*Oberlin Review.*

We are glad to exchange with the CAMPUS. We like the style of the paper very much. The “Sword of Damocles,” an historical sketch, is instructive as well as interesting.—*Lasell Leaves.*

The article on “The Art of Criticism,” in the October CAMPUS, deserves especial praise. The thoughts expressed in the essay on “Unwise Co-operation” should be impressed on every college student in the land.—*Earlhamite.*

The most prominent feature of the CAMPUS is its literary department. The February number contains an excellent article entitled “Models Necessary for Culture.” \* \* \*

On the whole the CAMPUS is an honor to the institution whence it hails.—*Olio.*

The CAMPUS is a bright little monthly that hails from Meadville, Pa. \* \* \* \* \* Our impression is that improvement on the CAMPUS would be difficult.—*Oestrus,* (California University.)

The CAMPUS, from Allegheny College, is one of our best exchanges. It is full of interesting articles, newsy notes, and well-selected clippings.—*Kansas Collegiate.*

The CAMPUS is an exemplary college journal. The November number is on our table. It is well filled with readable, entertaining and instructive matter.—*Dickinson Liberal.*

We are always interested in the CAMPUS from Allegheny College on account of its name. The number before us contains some good thoughts on “Accurate Thinking.” \* \*

\* \* \* The CAMPUS is a model of neatness in every particular, and on the whole is an exceedingly attractive little sheet.—*Rochester Campus.*

The CAMPUS for November sends us a good number. The opening article, on “Distant Views,” is a fine literary production, and contains many excellent thoughts. The CAMPUS contains a wood cut on the second page, the significance of which we are unable to fathom. Wonder if it means to represent the mode of education in vogue at Allegheny College.—*Wittenberger.*

The CAMPUS is one of the best exchanges that we receive. Its form is attractive, its articles are all very fair, and, besides, it is evidently conducted by the students, and hence of course, it is doing a valuable work.—*Randolph Macon Monthly.*

The CAMPUS is a well edited sheet.—*Wabash.*

We are indebted to the CAMPUS and *Lafayette College Journal* for the greater part of the “College Items” in this issue.—*Dickinson Liberal.*

Volume III, issue X, 1879

# Stories from the 1870s

*THE MILITARY PROFESSORSHIP*  
—LIEUT. FRANK W. HESS—  
*A BRIEF SKETCH.*

It may not be known generally, that the War Department has detailed an officer from the Regular Army as “Professor of Military Science and Tactics” at Allegheny College. This detail is made under special order 25, according to sections 1225 and 1260 Revised Statutes (amended by the act of Congress, approved July 5, 1876). This officer was assigned Feb. 2d, and relieved from his present command Feb. 16th. He will carry out the spirit of the laws under which he is assigned, in his instructions in the college. He will instruct in military science, and tactics. The latter will be taught in drill and military movements, in accordance with the principles of military science. Arms will probably be furnished by the government, as they may be, in accordance with the same law granting the detail, and the proper authority has been applied to for such a grant. The interests of the country are served by this provision for instruction in some of our colleges, and as only thirty officers can be detailed as per conditions of the law above referred to in the whole country, Allegheny is especially fortunate in securing so able an officer and so deserving, as his record below will show. The advantages to the college are many. The presence of another Professor in our midst, who has had large experience in the thrilling scenes of our last great struggle for national existence, and who comes with extensive culture and observation to join the educational forces already here, and in operation, must be looked upon as a special advantage. Being a member of the regular army, and transferred from his command to this work, he receives the salary paid to men of his rank, from the War Department.

Volume I, issue VII, 1877

“THERE are no athletic sports at Allegheny this year,” says an exchange. This came very near being the case, but at the last moment some new enthusiasm seemed to break out so that without previous practice, and on short notice, a few field sports were indulged in. The Juniors and Sophs had a rope pull, in which, after a rather warm dispute and a hot pull, the Juniors enervated by hard study (?), magnanimously decided to give to the Sophs. The tug of war between the Freshmen and the third Preps was tremendous, and had not a foul been claimed by the Freshmen, they would probably be pulling yet. Barr won in the 100 yards dash, in 11 seconds; Hughes in the second, in 13 seconds. Decker exceeded all competitors by jumping 11 ft. 2 in. Newell won in the hurdle race. Now it is evident that something of this sort is needed in our college. There has been plenty of muscle lying around the campus under the spreading branches, all the spring, but it has been flabby and dormant. The great mass of our student have done little or nothing in the way of healthful exercise; as a consequence some have become enervated, others sluggish and lazy. But a healthy body is essential to successful study, and from this fact let enough of the college sports be introduced as will meet the wants of the students.

Volume IV, issue IV, 1879

**A \$5 Chromo**

is not offered by us, for we are not in the chromo business, nor can we afford it, but

**TO EVERY SUBSCRIBER**

We propose to give the worth of his money in reading matter. Let the friends of the College come forward to the support

**of The Campus,**

and help to establish it on a firm financial basis. We shall endeavor to make the paper worthy of patronage, and, that no one may complain at the price, we have put the subscription

**at \$1.00,**

which is lower than any paper of the kind we know of. Send your name and money to

THE CAMPUS, Meadville, Pa

Volume I, issue IV, 1876

The telephone is being brought nearer to perfection by steady and rapid improvements. The large box with a wide mouth-piece has been condensed into a small hand instrument, which can be readily applied to the ear. The resonantor and enunciator have been combined. Other parts have been made much smaller. The latest improvement, however, is a bell-signal, which operates without the need of a battery. The signal is given by simply turning a wheel which causes magnetic coils to revolve, setting up a current sufficient to move the hammer of a bell at the other end of the wire. This was a much needed attachment, and obviates a great difficulty in the use of this wonderful instrument.

Volume II, issue IV, 1877

**Ladies' Hall.**

[By one of the ladies.]

This place, which, when first proposed last spring, was considered by some as chimerical and impracticable, is now successfully in operation.

A pleasant house has been rented, situated on Highland Avenue, but a short distance from the College, and at considerable expense has been neatly and comfortably furnished for the accommodation of young ladies.

The Hall is under the very excellent direction and management of Prof. Hyde, to whom the care of it was committed by action of the Faculty. It was feared that if there were a Ladies' Home provided there would be no ladies to put into it, but this fear was groundless, for as soon as the home was organized the ladies came.

The need of such an institution has long been felt, and the want of it has doubtless kept many young ladies from attending College who otherwise would have done so.

Although the number of ladies in College this time is much larger than it has been for some years, we see no reason now why it may not be very greatly increased, and even equal the number of gentlemen.

Volume I, issue II, 1876

*MISCELLANEOUS.*

Attend the lectures.

The college reading room is *non est.*

The Ossolians are to have an elegant new Brussels carpet in their Hall.

Bad colds have been quite prevalent among the students for a week or two past.

The boys at “The Hall” will all be sorry to learn that the taxidermist has killed the owl.

Prof. in Philosophy Class—What is the ultimate end of love? Senior (blushing)—I do not know, sir.

On the morning of October 28, Governor Hartman, Senator Allison, and General Beaver visited Allegheny College.

Was it that their society might receive more funds that the ladies purchased single tickets on Saturday evening?

The reception given by the Senior class on the evening of October 3d, was a grand success in every particular.

It is predicted by the Butler Class that the millennial reign will begin long before the election of a Greenback President.

Dr. Bugbee remarked in Chapel that he placed but little confidence in a student who was addicted to the use of tobacco.

This is the season for the moneyed Preps. to frequent restaurants and feast themselves on the unostentatious *lamellibranchs.*

Subscribers of THE CAMPUS, when they change their place of residence, would confer a great favor on us by sending in their new address.

As a small, Democratic delegation was passing the college the day of their mass meeting, the college boys gave three rousing cheers for “Dick.”

After thoroughly discussing the question of admitting preparatory students into the societies, the Allegheny society voted to receive only members of the four college classes, while the Philo-Franklin decided to admit students attending both the college and preparatory school.

Volume III, issue III, 1878

*THE CAMPUS IS PRINTED*  
AT THE  
**Crawford Journal Printing Office,**  
MEADVILLE, PA.,

And is respectfully submitted as a specimen of the quality of the work we are doing on our new Campbell Book Press. Our facilities for executing Book and Pamphlet work are unsurpassed by any office in Western Pennsylvania. Estimates furnished upon application.

HEMPSTEAD & CO.

Volume II, issue IV, 1878

# Center for Career and Professional Development offers new opportunities and new staff

By **BEN STAVNEZER**  
News Editor  
stavnezer01@allegheny.edu

The Center for Career and Professional Development, located on the first floor of the Lawrence Lee Pelletier Library, entered the academic year with an assemblage of new faces on its staff, but the same goal: connecting Allegheny College students with opportunities to advance in their professional lives.

Erin O’Day Frye, the new executive director of the CCPD, has been at Allegheny since 2009 in positions ranging from civic engagement to dean for student success. Now, she is eager to work with students to find jobs and research opportunities that fit their interests.

“Over my professional career, I’ve hired, mentored and coached more than 200 individuals,” O’Day Frye said. “One of the things I do really well is mentor and coach young folks around their strengths and passions

“

This center is poised to be the best in class among higher ed centers for career and professional development.”

“This center is poised to be the best in class among higher ed centers for career and professional development,” O’Day Frye said. “We have all the right software systems that big institutions have. We have a really good number of staff, we have funding, we have a lot of endowed funding to help support students to do really cool things.”

Director of Employer and Corporate Relations Lucia Conti, ’00, is new to the CCPD but not to Allegheny.

“Coming back to campus feels like coming home a little bit,” Conti said. “It’s so comfortable.”

Her career after graduating from Allegheny has taken her from media relations to healthcare management and back to her alma mater, ready to connect businesses to the wide variety of talents Allegheny students can offer.

“It’s exciting to be meeting these business leaders who want our students — they want to be working with our students,” Conti said. “They’ve either worked with some in

want to be, right? Where we’re like, ‘Oh, this is what I dreamed of being for my whole life.’ I wanted to be on ‘Good Morning America’ when I was six years old,” Conti said. “It’s okay that you may think you’re going one direction. It’s ok to make that shift. You could still hold on to dreams and all those other things too and work toward them.”

Liza Schaeff, associate director of the CCPD, is a returning staff member. She began working at Allegheny in January after serving as the director of a career center at Thiel College in Greenville. Schaeff looks forward to elevating the CCPD team with her prior experience.

“I am really proud to be a part of a full, comprehensive team,” Schaeff said. “Each one of us is going to have responsibilities that are going to work to support students and alumni in unique ways, but in a team format to really put students first and to provide more opportunities for students now and in the near future.”

She hopes students know that the CCPD

is a free and available resource for anyone, from those who know what they want their career to look like to those who are starting from square one. Schaeff also emphasized that the CCPD welcomes student organi-

“

It’s exciting to be meeting these business leaders who want our students.”

—LUCIA CONTI  
*Director of Employer and Corporate Relations  
Class of 2000*

zations, athletic teams and fraternities and sororities to partner with the CCPD staff and that she is enthusiastic about future programming the center will host.

“As we are reimagining ourselves with new staff members and the new services that we can bring to students,” Schaeff said, “I think my message would be we’re looking to partner with students, faculty and other on-campus partners.”



**BEN STAVNEZER/THE CAMPUS**  
The Center for Career and Professional Development is located on the second floor of Pelletier Library.

# Comedy Corner: Mac DeMarco, Maine and the Veterans Association

By **JOSEPH KLEPEIS**  
Staff Writer  
klepeis01@allegheny.edu

The CBC reported on Aug. 25 about how Mac DeMarco went from an impish kid to an indie superstar.

“The first thing I did was make a deal with a local wizard in Edmonton,” DeMarco said. “I had to bring him the eye of a newt, scales from a dragon and a poisonous apple, and in return he transformed me from an imp to a human.”

The Edmonton Wizard was unavailable for comment as he was only able to be reached by magic messenger owl.

According to The Hill on Aug. 25, Snoop Dogg is “scared” to take his grandchildren to the cinema after watching Pixar’s “Light-year,” a 2022 film that featured two openly gay characters.

I’m not sure what’s more strange: Snoop worrying about a film that came out three years ago and is no longer in theaters, or that

a man who faced a murder charge is scared of LGBTQ+ representation in cinema.

California Governor Gavin Newsom, a Democrat, has been making headlines lately for his outspoken comments against the Trump administration and congressional Republicans, in a clear attempt to shore up support for a potential presidential run in 2028.

Surely he’s not also engaged in rhetoric that can be construed as anti-homeless and anti-trans, much like the Republicans he’s been attacking.

The Erie Times-News reported on Aug. 25 that Erie Public Schools students were greeted with a red carpet upon returning to school this year.

“They think they’re so fancy, but they don’t even know how fancy school can get,” said an Erie private school student. “All of our hallways at my private school are red carpet, and they are auto-rolling.”

Republican Sen. Susan Collins was confronted at a press conference and ribbon-cutting ceremony in Searsport, Maine, on Aug. 26, by a group of protestors who were loudly booing and chanting “shame,” according to The Daily Beast on Aug. 27.

“It was a great event,” Collins said. “The crowd was ‘oohing’ and yelling ‘Maine.’”

The Toronto Transit Commission is ramping up service as students head back to school, according to The Toronto Star on Aug. 28.

“This might be my greatest idea yet,” said the CEO of TTC, Mandeep Lali. “We’ve sped up the streetcars, allowing them to travel as fast as the underground subway, and we’ve installed ramps that will launch streetcars full of kids directly from their stop to their school, allowing them to save time getting to school.”

The BBC reported on Aug. 28 that more than 280,000 crimes went unrecorded last year, according to a police watchdog.

“Of course they went unrecorded,” the

dog said. “I don’t have thumbs and have never learned to type. How in the world was I expected to record anything?”

The Department of Veterans Affairs has moved nearly \$2 billion in funding for its health care system to pay for care from private providers, according to CNN on Aug. 28.

It’s not like last year VA hospitals outperformed non-VA hospitals, according to the Medicare & Medicaid Services Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems star ratings. It’s not like veteran trust in VA care was an all-time high of 92% last year, based on a VA survey of more than 440,000 veterans.

Clearly, the private health care system can solve the laundry list of issues above.

*Disclaimer: All quotes are fictitious unless otherwise noted. The Campus is not responsible for lack of laughter as a result of this column.*

# Former editor of The Campus honored in Erie ‘40 Under 40’ list

By **PAIGE KAGENI**  
Staff Writer  
kageni01@allegheny.edu

A former editor of The Campus was honored on the “40 Under 40” list published annually by The Erie Reader, a free monthly publication serving the Erie area.

Olivia Burgess, ’21, was recognized for her work as the director of collective giving with the Erie Community Foundation, a nonprofit that supports various funds and grants for local organizations by acting as a bridge between the nonprofit and philanthropic communities.

Prior to her work with the ECF, Burgess worked as features editor for The Campus and in the Office of the President as an assistant. Her time studying English at Allegheny



BURGESS

prepared her to meet challenging situations with creativity.

“One of the things that I realized as I was working my way through Allegheny surrounded by so many awesome community-minded people, and so much community-minded work that takes place on campus,” Burgess said, “was that if I didn’t know what work I wanted to do, I did at least want to do work that I believed in.”

Now, Burgess’ work with the ECF involves collaborating closely with nonprofits such as the Erie Women’s Fund, the LGBT Fund of The Erie Community and the Emerging Erie Fund. These organizations benefit from all donations, not just those from major donors, according to Burgess.

“It really can be the person who has \$100 to give or \$250 to give that year that they’re also willing to give their time and their energy that year,” she said. “And be really, really passionate about the cause that they’re coming together for.”

One way that the ECF has made a difference in the lives of many nonprofit organizations is through Erie Gives, a community-based fundraising event where individuals can support numerous causes for 24 hours. Checks and online gifts of \$25 or less, made by thousands of community

members, raised over \$11 million during the 2024 event in August. Burgess is especially proud of this initiative as it speaks to the collective giving she works so hard to encourage.

“That’s truly transformational,” Burgess said. “It’s been a great exercise in learning about how much fun you can have when you’re working with people who are stepping up because they believe in making their community better.”

Burgess’ ability to connect with different audiences and communities in the philanthropy field is a skill she relates back to her time at The Campus. Being able to tell the

I would have laughed in college if you told me that I would be doing this work.”  
—OLIVIA BURGESS  
Class of 2021

story of different organizations in an effective way is a key competency she gained from The Campus.

“I still love a good red pen,” the former copy editor said. “But, on a serious note, I really do think being a good writer and an effective communicator, someone who can translate information from an interview to

I can’t imagine any more exciting way to be connected to the community where I live now.”  
—OLIVIA BURGESS  
Class of 2021

an article, and write a piece that’s interesting, that’s a kind of skill (that) has served me well. And it can serve anybody well in the professional world.”

Burgess, like many other college students, found herself anxious about her future career and long-term goals when she was a student. Her advice for herself, and for others, echoes her previous sentiment: Be open to whatever the future holds for you, even when it may deviate from what you originally intended. Burgess didn’t always see herself working in philanthropy, but she enjoys the difference she makes in the Erie community.

She credits Allegheny with being the incubator that prepared her for any avenue she chose in her career.

“I would have laughed in college if you told me that I would be doing this work,” Burgess said. “I can’t imagine any more exciting way to be connected to the community where I live now.”

FRIDAY, SEPT. 5 – THURSDAY, SEPT. 11

## Allegheny Sports Schedule Home Games

|                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 09/06<br>SATURDAY | <b>Field Hockey:</b><br><b>Allegheny vs. Roanoke</b><br>ROBERTSON BLUE TURF, 11 A.M.<br>                  |
| 09/06<br>SATURDAY | <b>Football:</b><br><b>Allegheny vs. Denison</b><br>FRANK B. FUHRER FIELD, 2 P.M.<br>                     |
| 09/06<br>SATURDAY | <b>Men’s Soccer:</b><br><b>Allegheny vs. Baldwin Wallace</b><br>ROBERTSON ATHLETIC COMPLEX, 2:30 P.M.<br> |
| 09/06<br>SATURDAY | <b>Women’s Soccer:</b><br><b>Allegheny vs. Marietta</b><br>ROBERTSON BLUE TURF, 5 P.M.<br>                |