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Pennsylvania Superior Court visits Allegheny College



KAT POINTER/THE CAMPUS

Mary Murray (right), accompanied by Maria McLaughlin (left) and Megan McCarthy King, explains different types of appeals that come to the Superior Court.

See COURT | *page 2*

ASG ratifies new amendment

By **ANTON HODGE**
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Allegheny Student Government's meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 1, concluded with the ratification of a new club and passage of a constitutional amendment, as well as additional financial information.

Continuing Business

The proposed constitutional amendment was ratified this week, introducing new language about college committee's ASG integration.

The Hidden Opponent, a new club for mental health resources specialized toward student athletes, was also ratified to be ASG-recognized, allowing the club to seek ASG funding in the future.

Reports

Treasury Director Tyler Ziggas, '25, reported that five out of eight club budget requests had been approved. Last Wednesday, Ziggas attended the Faculty Finance Committee meeting, where he heard Chief Financial Officer Linda Wetsel give details on upcoming renovations: most notably, a $655,000 investment in updating and expanding the elevator in Brooks Hall, which dates back to 1921, as well as building a $300,000 concrete foundation on Allegheny Commons.

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Green clubs hold Climate Awareness Day

By PAIGE KAGENI
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Students gathered in front of Brooks Hall on Friday, Sept. 27, they were not there just because it was lunch time; rather, they were there to spread awareness about the climate crisis. Several environmental groups on campus, such as Food Recovery Network, Geology Club and Green Students of Color Society hosted the Day of Climate Awareness, an event to educate students on the importance of sustainability and conservation on campus. The event featured demonstrations of the Bike Share's smoothie bike, an array of stones from the Geology Club and a recycling sorting game from Green SOCS.

"Since Allegheny is a carbon neutral campus, I think this (Day of Climate Awareness) is an important part of that," said Food Recovery Network President Sofia Hassan, '25. "Just becoming aware of the climate and what you can do to keep it good, reduce consumption, things like that."

Hassan said FRN works to collect food that is not distributed at dining halls and delivers it to community partners. FRN also maintains the Food Resource Center for students facing food insecurity, located on the third floor of the Henderson Campus Center.

"There's so many things that go into climate, like riding a bike instead of taking a car," Hassan said. "I think events like these are important to get people thinking about how they can do their part in the green campus and being green in their daily lives."

Hydroponics and Leading Coordinator for FRN and Public Relations Chair for Green SOCS Lorna Becker, '27, also highlighted the importance of the event. Green SOCS' table at the Day of Climate Awareness had a sorting game, which sourced various recyclable items from inside of Brooks, and encouraged students to learn more about what materials are recyclable or not. Becker said it was the perfect analogy for why groups like Green SOCS exist on campus.

See CLIMATE | *page 2*

Hatch Hollow moves location

By REAGAN WHITE
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Meadville's downtown area will soon see some changes to its local businesses. Indigo Boutique and Botanica announced on Sept. 25 that it will be closing its physical storefront — on Market Street just south of Chestnut Street — and moving online starting on Oct. 5. Soon after, Hatch Hollow announced that it will relocate from its Chestnut Street location into Indigo's old building. Hatch Hollow also announced other renovations, including expanding its gallery and coworking space and adding more art supply options to the shelves.

Hatch Hollow owner Heather Fish, '15, is originally from Albuquerque, New Mexico, but after graduating from Allegheny College she chose the city of Meadville to make her home. Fish said she started Hatch Hollow in 2018 as a coworking space for individuals searching for a community to connect with outside of their home-work office. Fish herself often worked from home, and while she appreciated the remote workspace, she also expressed feeling isolated from her community. So, connecting her passion for the arts with her desire to join her community, she dreamed up Hatch Hollow.

The plan is to renovate the coworking space in Hatch Hollow's new storefront "to activate the space during the daytime hours, where we don't get as many walk-ins for the gallery."

Hatch Hollow will be making the move into Indigo's previous building shortly, which will provide more opportunities to display local art pieces.

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The Campus

The deadline to register to vote in Pennsylvania is Oct. 21.

Apply to vote or update voter registration in Pennsylvania.
www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/Pages/VoterRegistrationApplication.aspx

Request a Pennsylvania mail-in ballot.
www.pa.gov/en/agencies/vote/voter-support/mail-in-and-absentee-ballot.html

Find voting information about your state.
vote.gov

In this week's Campus...

VIOLENCE IN AMERICAN POLITICS
Contributing Writer Drew Hairston, '28, shares his thoughts on the politcal violence that America is fraught with during this election cycle and beyond.
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INTERNATIONAL CLUB PAINTS THEIR ROOTS
Allegheny's International Club hosted their first event of the semester with an open tab in Grounds For Change. Contributing Writer Jay Shank, '28, shares how the night went.
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ALLEGHENY ART GALLERY OPENING
Contributing Writer Kat Pointer, '25, reports on the Allegheny Art Galleries' first installation of the year, OPEN SOUND CONTROL: Distance and Mediation.
Page 5

FRIDAY H: 75° L: 50° Rain: 8% Sunrise: 7:21 a.m. Sunset: 6:56 p.m.

SATURDAY H: 70° L: 48° Rain: 8% Sunrise: 7:22 a.m. Sunset: 6:54 p.m.

SUNDAY H: 76° L: 51° Rain: 60% Sunrise: 7:23 a.m. Sunset: 6:52 p.m.

COURT

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By **KAT POINTER**

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Pennsylvania Superior Court Judges Mary Murray, Meghan McCarthy King and Maria McLaughlin heard oral arguments at Allegheny College's Vukovich Center for Communication Arts on Tuesday, Oct. 1. Students had the opportunity to attend two sessions of oral arguments and an evening lecture from the judges.

"We take our commitment to civic life very seriously at Allegheny College and we are incredibly fortunate to host the Superior Court on our campus," said Andrew Bloeser, assistant professor of political science and director of the Center for Political Participation. "It is an honor to help support the civic purpose of the court and to make the court's proceedings more accessible to our students and to the broader community. Not many students get this opportunity."

During oral arguments, the judges heard many cases ranging from divorce to child welfare to estate ownership and more. Most of the seats in the Gladys Mullenix Black Theatre were filled with students, faculty and community members at the first session.

The stage was set up with three seats for the judges and two tables, one for the appellant and one for the appellee. At the beginning of the first session, opening remarks were given and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by the Allegheny College Choir singing the "The Star-Spangled Banner."

The Pennsylvania court system has a hierarchy that begins at the bottom with special courts: Magisterial District Judges and the Pittsburgh Municipal Court both deal with civil, criminal and traffic cases.

Above those special courts are the Courts of Common Pleas, which is organized into 60 districts, each with a president judge and a court administrator. They deal with all types of cases from family law to election integrity, as well as hear appeals from the special courts.

Two intermediate appellate courts hear appeals from Courts of Common Pleas: Commonwealth Court and Superior Court. Commonwealth Court consists of nine judges and deals with matters involving state and local governments and election matters.

The Superior Court, established in 1895, is made up of 15 judges and handles criminal, civil and family cases appealed from the Courts of Common Pleas. Cases can also involve child custody, probation, parole and business disputes.

"While those cases can be reversed by the state Supreme Court, this rarely happens in practice," Bloeser said.

President Ron Cole, '87, extended an invitation to the Superior Court earlier this year to visit campus as part of Allegheny's commitment to promoting civic learning and engagement. The CPP partnered with Jill Hyatt, secondary gifted teacher from Meadville Area Senior High, allowing community students to come and witness the event.

Pennsylvania Superior Court travels around the state to hear cases and make legal services more accessible to the public. The court paid a similar visit to Mansfield University in 2021, though the court visit colleges very rarely. Proceedings like these usually take place at local courthouses. After convening at Allegheny on Tuesday, the court moved to the Crawford County Judicial Center in downtown Meadville on Wednesday.

"Crawford County has three Common Plea Court judges, and we are completely equal in terms of what we do in the courtroom," said President Judge John Spataro of the Crawford County Court of Common Pleas. "Imagine every conceivable type of legal matter that can arise, we address those."

The only distinction between Common Pleas court judges is that someone has to be the manager of the court system, and that falls to the president judge. Judges are elected for a 10-year term and then run for retention every decade.

This is the first time that the Superior Court proceedings were held in Meadville. Spataro was not involved with the Superior Court's visit to campus but provided perspective on the significance of the event in a phone interview Monday.

"[It is] very uncommon [on college campuses] which is why I think it is so special that the court would want to have a session at the college," Spataro said, "and that President Cole extended this opportunity to the Superior Court and our citizens."

Spataro also pointed out the significance of the court's composition.

"Notice that there are three women judges of the Superior Court attending," Spataro said. "My law school was 80% men and 20% women, with very few female judges in the Commonwealth when I began. It really goes to show how things have progressed properly so over the last 40 years."

The first female judge of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania, Judge Phyllis W. Beck, was elected in 1983.

The evening lecture was a more personal conversation with the three Superior Court judges. They took the time to explain how the Pennsylvania judicial system works, as well as create meaningful connections between students and faculty.

King stressed that while the Superior Court may be the busiest in Pennsylvania, the busy energy is precisely what she enjoys.

"Do a job you love," King said during the lecture. "It is a huge part of your life."

CLIMATE

from page 1

"Half of it was in the trash and half of it was in the recycling, which goes to show right there why we need a game like this," Becker said. "It's also kind of just to bring awareness to what we do as a club because we not only do this, but we do a lot of field trips, we have a lot of guest speakers, and we want kids to just know about it."

Green SOCS and Students for Environmental Action worked in tandem to bring the event to fruition. According to SEA President Elsa Waidelich, '25, it is a re-imagining from its previous form, which was known as "Climate Strike Day." This transition was to instill a clearer goal for the event and future events going forward, Waidelich said.

"It wasn't like a, 'we are protesting this,'" Waidelich said. "But it was more like a, 'We all know this is an issue. What are some things we can do about it on campus and on a local scale?'"

In addition to the Day of Climate Awareness, Waidelich still feels there is a lot more to be done. Many clubs are already aiming to make students more attentive to their usage of items. For example, SEA is currently working on new methods of effective recycling on campus and how to educate students on composting. However, there's also the hope for the future when these initiatives are successfully implemented. With events like the recent #SporkTheQuad hosted by the Office of Sustainability, students can get educated on the importance of reusable items and how they play a role in becoming more sustainable.

"The information that's presented is often the doom and gloom," Waidelich said. "Everything's terrible and it's gonna fall apart, which is partially true because a lot of things are kind of a mess. But, that's kind of counterproductive if that's your only message. So, I feel like part of what I wanted to see with this event was just like, 'Hey, there are things you can do.'"

There are plenty of ways students can become involved in environmental efforts. In the future, SEA plans to host more cleanup events around campus, as well as general meetings that any one can attend. Bike Share is always available for students who want a quick method of transportation. Food Recovery Network is also looking for anyone to help out with food conservation efforts.

"We have general meetings, which people don't always find the most interesting since it's on a Thursday night, and not that many people want to go to that," Waidelich said. "But, if we have people go to that, we can make more things happen. We have to have the planning meetings to get to the events."



PAIGE KAGENI/THE CAMPUS

The Allegheny Bike Share's smoothie bike awaits its next user in Brooks Circle on Saturday, Sept. 27.



PAIGE KAGENI/THE CAMPUS

The Students for Environmental Action put out a banner inviting students to share what gives them hope for the future of the environment on Saturday, Sept. 27.

DOWNTOWN

from page 1

The retail area from the original boutique will turn into a co-working space/gallery, and craft materials will be displayed where Indigo's apothecary is currently located. Other parts of the building will stay the same, with the first floor remaining as the storefront and the second continuing to house apartments.

There have been several pitches for what the third floor should occupy, but Fish is hoping for an event space. More specifically, Fish is interested in creating a ballroom that could be rented out for private use. She said she is crossing her fingers to utilize her interior design skills from prior jobs when doing renovations on the top floor.

Within the upcoming weeks, submissions will be accepted for display in an upcoming gallery titled "Mythical Manifestations." Further information about submission details are on the Hatch Hollow website. Along with that, Fish said a few events are on their way to be tested out at this new location. A salsa night might be one of them. Fish said Meadville residents should watch out for those "salsa-colored leaves" during the fall because they could stumble upon the event in Diamond Park. Dancing, a potluck and music are all waiting for the citizens of Meadville to enjoy.

Sara Degnan, '27, said the new Hatch Hollow location sparked her interest in the future of the business. Degnan loves the art supply store and the friendly employees.

"The first time I went into Hatch Hollow was on Second Saturday this year, and everybody there [was] just so sweet," Degnan said. "So I'm excited to go back as soon as I can."

Degnan is a loyal customer of Indigo and specifically admires their jewelry and trinkets. Degnan is sad to see the business transition to an online platform, but is confident that she will continue to shop there.

"I am because I'm a bad online shopper, because I'll buy everything," Degnan said.

Both Indigo and Hatch Hollow regularly interact with Allegheny, sometimes hosting events for students. Degnan missed past events hosted on campus from Indigo so she hopes to be involved in the next one. Leslie Flint, founder of Indigo Boutique and Botanica, said that the motivation to switch to an online platform is multifaceted. Flint said she has a lot on her plate, currently being a student along with running her shop. The dual commitments come with quite a bit of responsibility to Indigo, Flint said, and cause a lack of expansion in her personal life. Additionally, future businesses coming to the city like TJ Maxx and Five Below overlap with Indigo's sales of crystals, tarot cards, jewelry, metaphysical books and more. Competing with companies like these tends to be difficult with the difference in prices even though the product might not be sustainably sourced like the ones Flint provides.

Flint also partially attributed the transition online to her health. The workload of running the boutique seven days a week has collided with her health issues and aging, so an online platform seemed more suitable to her at the moment, Flint said.

"When you open a business, you think you have this permanent idea, right?" Flint said."I'm going to have this storefront at (945 Market St.) and this is going to be the cat's ass and I'm going to do this forever."

Flint said her attitude starting up Indigo ran its course and she welcomed all feelings of growth and improvement. Indigo will have its online presence and a few local huts for the foreseeable future but is subject to change.

Owning a valued small business takes tremendous work and Flint said she has given her all to provide a space like this to the city of Meadville.

Feeling blessed to be a part of the Meadville community, Flint loves her "Allegheny babies" and seeing them visit Indigo. She said it is not so much about the money as it is about giving students fun activities to engage with outside of your average on-campus events. Sound bath and reiki sessions may be in the works at Allegheny college in the future, according to Flint.

"Sometimes," she said, "you just need a cool, old hippy chick in the community to give you a hug and say 'Hey, how are you doing?'"

ASG

from page 1

Co-Directors of Student Affairs Ben Keefer, '27, and Kyra Jordan, '25, announced a "Meet your Student Representatives" open tab event in Grounds for Change on Oct. 23 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Attorney General Chezka Quinola, '27, mentioned that clubs that function under a separate national organization will need to follow a different club constitution format in the future.

Class Reports

Class of 2025 reported that it is attempting to recruit more seniors onto ASG, due to a lack of senators.

Class of 2026 has planned an open tab night on Oct. 17 from 6-8 p.m. However, it is currently waiting for financial approval.

Class of 2027 will be holding a tabling event in the Henderson Campus Center from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Oct. 4 for World Smile Day.

Class of 2028 swore in two new senators: Killian Radel and Prince Dwamena.

President's Report

The "In For Allegheny" campaign will kick off on Oct. 18, with a kickoff party from 4 to 8 p.m. on the Gator Quad and in the campus center.

ASG's next General Assembly is set for 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 7, in room 301/302 of the campus center.

Ask Allegheny

What song puts you in the mood for fall?



Left: Sofia Hassan, '25
Major: English

"Linus and Lucy theme song from the 'Peanuts'"



Right: Molly Suppo, '27
Major: Computer Science

"'Black Magic' by Little Mix"



Left: Marissa Harvey, '27
Major: Undeclared

"'We fell in love in october' by girl in red"



Right: Sarah Allison, '25
Major: English

"'Witches' by Alice Phoebe Lou"

CRIME BLOTTER

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

September 25, 2024
Act 64 (Drugs)
North Village I
Referred to Dean

September 21, 2024
Theft
Brooks Hall
Referred to Dean

September 27, 2024
Act 64 (Drugs)
Baldwin Hall
Referred to Dean

September 22, 2024
Theft
On Campus
Referred to Dean

September 28-30, 2024
Burglary
274 Loomis St.
Active Investigation

THE CAMPUS

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The broader implications of the 'Diddy List'

By WILLOW BOWEN
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TW: This story contains discussion of sexual assault.

Sean Combs — also known as "P. Diddy" — was arrested on Sept. 16, after a year-long and still ongoing investigation. The 54-year-old rap star also faces multiple lawsuits alleging rape and sexual abuse. Now, he is being linked to sex trafficking allegations involved in two of the lawsuits against him.

This investigation required raiding Combs' home, which led to the shocking discovery of nearly 1,000 bottles of baby oil and 784 male genitalia toys that were used for "freak offs." According to the Miami Herald, "freak offs" involved female sex workers and Combs' staff enduring violent sexual performances recorded by Combs. Combs said that he would give the victims drugs to keep them "obedient and compliant."

Since the discovery of this house of horrors, numerous victims claiming to have been abused by Combs have come forward with their stories. According to People Magazine, Combs fired back during the investigation with a statement in December 2023.

"ENOUGH IS ENOUGH. For the last couple of weeks, I have sat silently and watched people try to assassinate my character, destroy my reputation and my legacy," Combs said in the statement. "Sickening allegations have been made against me by individuals looking for a quick payday. Let me be absolutely clear: I did not do any of the awful things being alleged. I will fight for my name, my family and for the truth."

As more evidence unfolds, conspiracy theories have formed around celebrities with connections to Combs and their possible involvement in the scandalous affairs. What is called the "Diddy List" has been circulating in the media. TheTab reveals one list in particular for a $600,000 dollar party for Combs' birthday. Invitations for the party in the form of VHS tapes created by Combs were sent to Naomi Campbell, Martha Stewart, Mike Tyson, Mark Wahlberg, Kevin Costner, Mariah Carey, Chris Rock, Ben Stiller and Joan Rivers, among others. The video invitations starred numerous other big names including Ellen DeGeneres, Will Smith, Oprah and Donald Trump.

Big shocker that the guy convicted of 34 felonies and running for president would be a part of this list. Although he didn't shy away from Jeffery Epstein either. In a clip from 2012 on the television show "The Apprentice," Trump said "I love Diddy, you know he's a good friend of mine, he's a good guy!" Such comments make one wonder how many people in power were potentially involved in Combs' heinous crimes. I think comments like this from Trump are a huge reflection on who he is as a person. Someone allegedly connected to multiple sex rings should not be allowed to run for president, and I think it is very relevant to the topic of this story. If you wouldn't want Combs to be president, then how is Trump any better? They both have the same goal: to pleasure themselves.

> It does make me wonder though: How big was Combs' ring? Who were his workers and what strings were they pulling in Hollywood?"
>
> —WILLOW BOWEN
> *Class of 2028*

Two celebrities' names that have been brought up in the media the most are Beyonce and Jay-Z. Creators on TikTok have gone wild with the conspiracy theories that they are in on the deaths of various Hollywood stars, including Aaliyah, Lisa "Left Eye" Lopes, Michael Jackson, Brittany Murphy and Tupac Shakur. These theories lead people to believe that every time an artist bests Beyonce in an award ceremony, they must always thank her or give her work recognition. Examples of this pattern include Adele breaking her Grammy in half, or Lizzo praising Beyonce after a Grammy win. Some even speculate that Kanye West was protecting Taylor Swift, after stealing the mic from her to say, "I'm gonna let you finish, but Beyonce had one of the best videos of all time," at the 2009 VMAs. See Vox for a breakdown of the entire scandal of West's interruption (link online).

I think these theories could be a bit of a stretch aimed at attacking a successful woman of color. If Jay-Z does get dragged further into this case, Beyonce would never let that man ruin her or her kids' careers. It does make me wonder though: How big was Combs' ring? Who were his workers and what strings were they pulling in Hollywood?

Combs was an inspiration to many up-and-coming young artists of the '90s and early 2000s. When Usher was only 14, he was having setbacks with his record label and was sent to a "flavor camp," living with Combs in New York City. Usher was then exposed to the graphic sexual nature in the industry, according to MSN. In an interview with Howard Stern, he recalled, "There was always girls around. You'd open a door and see somebody doing it, or several people in a room having an orgy. You never knew what was going to happen."

Years later, when teen heartthrob Justin Bieber rose to fame, the same fate fell upon him. Usher led then 15-year-old Bieber into the jaws of Combs. Bieber would go on YouTube to upload a video called "JUSTIN BIEBER'S 48 HRS with DIDDY!!" in November 2009. These events suggest Combs took advantage of Bieber's innocence and brought women to the minor for sexual experience.

After Combs and Bieber had grown distant through the years, Bieber started to open up in a podcast about the dangers of the music industry — specifically about the popstar Billie Eilish. In a 2020 interview with Zane Lowe, Bieber became emotional, saying, "It was hard for me being that young and being in the industry and not knowing where to turn and everyone telling me they loved me, and turn their back on you in a second…I just want to protect her…I don't want her to go through anything I went through. I don't wish that upon anybody." I completely believe that this stems from the explicit experience Bieber had as a young star who was taken advantage of by a much older man for immoral reasons. Now that he's older, he has realized how sick the industry actually is.

For his actions, Rolling Stone reported that Combs will potentially be facing 15 years to life in prison. Bail has been denied twice due to repeated alleged witness tampering attempts. There is a very strong possibility that this case of Combs' exposure will be an extremely pivotal point in Hollywood with the evidence of all the participating celebrities that he could potentially drag down with him.

Politics in terms of violence

What's fueling this election season's multiple assassination attempts?

By DREW HAIRSTON
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As many have become familiar with nowadays, politics almost completely dominates all aspects of life and can be both a uniting and dividing force. Political affiliation as either a Democrat or Republican comes with specific preconceived notions and stereotypes.

Such differences of ideas have existed since the creation of the United States, but their divisive nature has become increasingly more noticeable and dangerous. One of the most blatant examples of this difference is political violence.

The reason for this type of violence directly results from the misdirected passion behind political parties. Important issues that revolve around society, equality, the economy and law call people to fight hard for what they believe in. There is nothing wrong with this passion in theory, but there can be if it is taken to a heightened level.

> By this characterization, we limit the broad spectrum of the human being and strip away our individuality."
>
> —DREW HAIRSTON
> *Class of 2028*

The first assassination attempt on former President Donald Trump, who was at his rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, is an example of the extreme level of violence that has been reached just this year. While Trump was speaking, a young gunman fired shots at him, wounding him in the ear, critically injuring two others and killing one audience member. The Secret Service shot and killed the shooter at the scene.

The way in which the Secret Service protected the former President was criticized and looked down upon. Acting Director of the Secret Service Ronald Rowe acknowledged failures by his team during the attempt.

Many assumed that the assassin was a Democrat, but he was actually a registered Republican. This took many by surprise but did not end the controversy. The Secret Service's questionable level of protection was seen as a possible conspiracy.

More recently, another attempted assassination on Trump at his golf club in Florida was stopped by Secret Service agents. This happened just nine weeks after the first attempt. While Trump was golfing, Secret Service agents were stationed a few holes ahead and noticed a gun poking out from the shrubbery. The men fired into the bushes, causing the gunman to drop his weapon and flee in an SUV. Later, the man was apprehended by law enforcement. No casualties resulted this time and everyone was kept safe.

On the other side of the political spectrum, an office in Arizona used by Kamala Harris' campaign was shot at about a week ago. Five bullets were found in the windows and the door. Luckily, no one was inside the building during this overnight shooting, but it is very concerning for those who work in the space.

In these instances, human life was threatened. The first shooting at the rally not only affected the Republican candidate, but it also caused great harm to multiple bystanders and an innocent life was taken.

This person who died did not deserve to be killed. They were honestly at the wrong place at the wrong time. Attending a political rally should be regarded in the same way as any ordinary activity. Would you expect to be shot and killed at the grocery store?

Some may disagree with my point of view. Those totally infused with politics in their entire being may regard someone's presence at the rally as doing something wrong. Just being in attendance to listen to Trump may be seen as morally or socially wrong to a large group of people.

I do believe that no one deserves to die. It can be easy to assume an all encompassing idea of a person based solely on their political affiliation. A lot of the time, those from opposing parties put one another into an over-simplified box or category defined by looks, beliefs, character, morality and reasons for their political affiliation.

By this characterization, we limit the broad spectrum of the human being and strip away our individuality. We are, at our core, very complex and unique beings. Most often, we have many different beliefs that may not all fall into a stereotypical political side.

These views, such as gun control or abortion rights, can even sometimes conflict with one another. The reason for this may be that we can believe in part of a belief or theory associated with one party, but not the whole of it. For example, some may identify as Catholic but believe in abortion rights for women, which goes against the traditional Church belief. They are still believers in the Catholic religion, despite having an opposing viewpoint. Using this logic, it makes sense that other values can also be a part of a person's life despite the supposed conflict with another idea on the surface level.

Realizing how different and layered we all are can lead to a deeper inspection and understanding of the reasons behind political affiliation. What you often think a person stands for based on the political party with which they identify, can be very different from what they actually represent. I encourage everyone to have a conversation with someone that has opposing political views from you. The conversation may surprise you, and you might learn something about the other person and their party.

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

Comedy Corner: Ghost Shark, Healthcare and Flip-Flops

By **JOSEPH KLEPEIS**
Staff Writer
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Former Republican National Committee Chair Michael Steele predicts that Vice President Kamala Harris will flip Florida and North Carolina, according to The Hill on Sept. 23.
"Sounds good to me," said a North Carolina resident. "I'm looking forward to having nicer weather year-round."

Folks in Florida were less receptive to the idea.
"I don't even own a pair of plain old pants," said a Florida resident. "How the hell am I supposed to live in the Applachians?"

A new species of Ghost Shark has been found off the coasts of Australia and New Zealand, according to NBC News on Sept. 24.
"These sharks are some of the most difficult to locate," said an Australian ghost hunter. "Thankfully we've got an advanced Psychokinetic Energy Meter we can deploy into the ocean to help find them."

The Meadville Tribune reported on Sept. 26 that the MASH band addressed the Crawford Central School Board.
The band leaders in attendance were Hawkeye Pierce and Maxwell Klinger.

Boxer Anthony Joshua has blamed his training regime for his speeding, according to the BBC on Sept. 25.
Joshua was caught moving 44 mph in a 30 mph zone.
"I take a lot of pre-workout before I train and the effects last quite some time," Joshua said. "I was just trying to get home. I didn't realize I was running that fast."

Pittsburgh Regional Transit has said the proposed bus route redesign will be a 'big jolt' to riders, according to the Pittsburgh Union Progress on Sept. 20.
"We are going to implement exposed wires on all the new bus routes," said a PRT spokesperson. "It will definitely be a jolt, but we're hoping for a shock."

USA Today reported on Sept. 25 that Alex Jones' Infowars set is to be auctioned off to help pay victims of the Sandy Hook defamation case.
The bill that Jones owes is roughly $1 billion.
"It's great to see some action being taken against Jones," an attorney for the victims said. "I just wish the set was worth a bit more. After selling it, the bill will sit at roughly $999,000,980."

Ryan Reynolds says there was one line in "Deadpool and Wolverine" that Disney CEO Bob Iger asked him to cut out, according to CNN on Sept. 19.
"I can't complain, it was only one line," Reynolds said. "How important to the film could it be if I said, "Sign up for FanDuel and bet $5 and get $200 in bonus bets if you win.'"

In a press conference delivered in front of Trump Tower, Donald Trump said he planned to meet Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Friday morning — and slammed Europe.
"I haven't seen Trump do something like this since Wrestlemania 23," said a Trump Tower employee. "He grabbed a reporter during the press conference and hit him with a Blue Thunder Bomb. It was insane."

The Meadville Central Fire Department has received a grant, according to The Meadville Tribune on Sept. 28.
"I'm happy to be here," said the new firefighter Grant. "I'm excited to get to know everybody."

The Seattle Times reported on Sept. 27 that monster road shutdowns were coming to the Seattle area.
"We're expecting a lot of kaijū activity countywide," said a King County officer. "So please beware as you hit the roads this weekend."

Two in three Americans — including majorities of both political parties — say healthcare is not receiving enough attention, according to Gallup on Sept. 30.
Unfortunately, the one in three who believe healthcare is receiving enough attention are those with the power to do anything about it.

Donald Trump is fighting his old policies in a series of flip-flops, according to Axios on Sept. 30.
"I've never seen him in flip-flops before," said a personal aide to Trump. "He's been talking policy with his dogs out and let me tell you, they are barking."

Police in Milan have arrested 19 people as part of an operation against hardcore "ultra" football fans, most of whom were accused of having links to the mafia, according to The Guardian on Sept. 30.
Among those arrested were Luca Lucci and Renato Bosetti, leaders of the AC Milan and Inter Milan ultras respectively.
"This is clearly a plot against the Milan teams," said a lawyer representing both leaders. "I would bet my mother's sauce recipe that the Juventus ultras had something to do with this."

Disclaimer: All quotes are fictitious unless otherwise noted. Any lack of joy as a result of this article is unintentional and we claim no responsibility.

An exploration of art through sound

By **KAT POINTER**
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Allegheny students, faculty, alumni and community members gathered on Sept. 26. from 5-7 p.m. for the opening of "OPEN SOUND CONTROL: Distance and Mediation," an Allegheny Art Gallery show located in the Doane Hall of Art. The event was organized by Emily Graber, assistant professor of Computer and Information Science at Allegheny College, who is also a researcher and interdisciplinary musician.

Refreshments, fruit and snacks were provided at the opening, and it was a lively event with around 50 people. Many connections were made between faculty and students, as well as the featured artists: Graber, Julie Zhu from the University of Michigan and John Granzow from the University of Michigan. Grace Needleman from Northwestern University also had featured art, but was not in attendance.

"OPEN SOUND CONTROL is a diverse collection of interactive installations and visual representations that explore the complex relationship between sound and control," read the event description at the front of the gallery. Through drawing, typing, crushing, waving, and breathing, the artists in this exhibit reexamine how sound can control and be controlled."

Graber explained that there were multiple reasons that she decided to go with the theme of sound control specifically.

"This wasn't stated in the actual description of the show," Graber said. "But actually, OPEN SOUND CONTROL is the name of a network protocol that helps transfer information between computers usually that are [working with] sound."

Graber has multiple pieces in the show including "Typewriter, 2024," which is an interactive exhibit where the audience can type on an Olympia typewriter that then creates brush strokes digitally through Python code, which was written by Alish Chhetri, '25, and Jaclyn Pham, '25.

"I wanted to try something that was analog and digital, and I wanted to work with tactile touch," Pham said.

Chhetri had a second piece he coded alongside Graber. The interactive exhibit featured a wooden version of a piano that is wired through a camera above it. When audience members wave their arms over the keys to create a shadow, the code responds with the tones of a piano, played above the exhibit on speakers.

"[This exhibit] is a lot of computer-vision stuff and a cool dynamic idea," Chhetri said. "I cannot play piano, so I wanted to create something similar, including digital elements."

Graber invited all three other artists to develop artwork for this exhibit after networking and creating connections in the small artist community. Zhu and Granzow both attended Stanford University, Graber's alma mater, and Zhu then invited Needleman, whose work fit well with the theme.

While Graber enjoyed all of the artists' pieces, one piece that stood out was "Ornithology, 2024," an interactive nature piece from Zhu. A prompt tells audience members to, "Draw the imaginary bird outside your window," on a large wooden board attached to the wall, and once an audience member's pencil touches the board, it emits a bird chirp.

"It ["Ornithology, 2024"] was nice because anyone comes up to it and draws, and they get a little thrill from hearing stuff — hearing what they draw come to life," Graber said.

The exhibits themselves took time to come together, though the bulk of the work happened a couple of days before the gallery opening. The installation period proved to be the hardest.

"One of the things hidden in art, and installation work especially, is that there is a lot of trial and error," Graber said. "What emerges may look really simple and be relatively simple, but the process of getting there is not straightforward."

Most of the work during the installation process involved tweaking the art to make sure everything was ready to go for opening night. The week before was extremely hectic getting everything in order and making sure that each interactive piece performed correctly, Graber said.

Graber said her personal favorite piece was "Shadow Piano, 2024" because of its simplicity and effectiveness.

"It's fun to take these 88 piano keys and reorder them into a unique composition, and just kind of have a constraint that forces some sort of creativity to emerge," Graber said.

Graber has multiple exhibits that are solely hers, including "Acoustic Piano, 2024" which is an interactive exhibit featuring a deconstructed grand piano. The piece includes 36 strings that run from a metal stand up and above the piano connecting to the wall. The strings above, which are tied to certain piano strings inside the instrument, create acoustic tones when pulling on two gently. Overall, this piece proved to be the hardest for Graber during installation.

"I had been playing with the grand piano and the thin black strings for a long time," Graber said.

Graber would like to continue to do similar work with interactive exhibits in the future, specifically involving music and sound.

"There is kind of a general community interest in it," Graber said. "Conferences are now looking for research papers as well as artistic contributions including installations and things like that."

An annual conference created specifically for these types of projects, New Interfaces for Musical Expression (NIME), creates a community for researchers and musicians from around the world to work with new musical interface designs.

"Things like that are definitely places that a lot of my colleagues go, and I would like to go as well," Graber said.

In the future, Graber would like to create and perform some kind of group exhibit with the Allegheny Art Galleries, though the time and date of this have not yet been determined.

OPEN SOUND CONTROL: Distance and Mediation is free and available to the public until Nov. 13, during gallery hours.

'An Afternoon of Crankies' coming to campus

By **JOSEPH KLEPEIS**
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The Allegheny Playshop Theatre will present "An Afternoon of Crankies" on Sunday, Oct. 6 at 2 p.m. in the Montgomery Performance Space.

Not a series of monologues about the passionate political beliefs of old men, the show foregrounds a little-known form of theatrical technology.

The performance is directed by and starring Beth Watkins, professor of communication arts/theatre. The cast of the show consists of family and friends of Watkins as well as numerous alumni.

This production of an "Afternoon of Crankies" is a spiritual successor to an "Evening of Crankies," which was produced last spring at Hatch Hollow in downtown Meadville.

This production contains an additional story and involves a Master of Ceremonies.

For those unfamiliar with crankies — "panoramic scrolls that are 'cranked' on the handles of a box that the scrolls wind through," according to a Playshop press release — Watkins expounded on them in a phone interview this week.

Crankies have become popular over the last 30 to 40 years as a means of storytelling, Watkins said.

She described the handmade qualities that the crankies have, with some being made of meat grinders, trunks and other household items that have cranks on them.

Watkins has been involved with crankies with since the pandemic.

"I first heard about them when I was taking online classes during lockdown at the Little Angel Theatre in London," Watkins said.

Crankies have been growing in popularity over the last ten years especially, with a crankie festival taking place in Pittsburgh in 2016 and several times since then.

In the Playshop performance, "an intergenerational troupe of local performers explores Crankie storytelling through visual images, music, songs and puppetry," according to the press release.

The age diversity of the troupe was a conscious decision, according to Watkins.

"We have people in their 70s, their 30s, 40s and 20s," Watkins said. "We also have a 13-year-old."

The majority of the troupe came together a few years ago to develop "Light in Odd Spaces," a production that focused on the history of Oddfellows Hall and that was also directed by Watkins.

A crankie that was utilized in that production will make a return in this upcoming performance.

The themes of the performance will vary from funny and entertaining to some that are more serious and somber.

"A couple of the crankies look at the loss of language and climate change," Watkins said. "There's some serious themes woven into some of them."

Ahmaya Andrews, '27, takes on a variety of roles in the show, playing a bodhran drum for one crankie, controls the crankie in another and helps with the set in a third vignette.

Andrews described the performances in a similar vein.

"We can expect to see a good variety of shows. Some of them are funny," Andrews said. "Some of them are sad."

Andrews described the production as multiple stories that run about five minutes on average.

Andrews has worked with Watkins since 2022, when Andrews appeared in "Light in Odd Spaces."

"She is excellent. I like her style of directing," Andrews said. "It's really about the process and having fun during the process."

Andrews spoke about the work that goes into producing a performance involving crankies.

"I hope that people just take away an appreciation for crankies, because it's not something that you really see that often but it's something that's really cool," Andrews said. "A lot of artistic effort goes into, not just making the scroll, but the crankie box and the song or the story that goes along with it."

Watkins hopes that people will not only be entertained but will also be able to take something away from the performance.

"It's a way of encouraging people to think about creativity," Watkins said. "There's a tremendous amount of creativity in this group of performers. Hopefully it will inspire other people to make a crankie."

Admission is pay-what-you-will for "An Afternoon of Crankies"; seating is unreserved. The performance runs about 65 minutes and is appropriate for all ages. For more information, please call the Playshop Theatre Box Office at (814) 332-3414.

‘The Golden Age’ and expanding outreach to students

By **AB SNYDER**
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Calling all dancers to the stage, it’s the season of Orchesis!

It’s that time of the fall semester when students who are a part of the Orchesis Dance Company are operating in full swing to prepare for the dance production at the end of the month.

Orchesis is an all inclusive, student run organization with the goal of putting together dance performances every fall.

This year, the performances will be based on the theme “Golden Age” inspired by 1960s old Hollywood.

Orchesis does not have a specific dance style, rather it is a collection of performances at a variety of levels.

“We do everything from beginner to intermediate to advanced levels of different styles of dance,” said Beth Ma, ’26, administrative secretary of Orchesis. “This year we have ballet, contemporary, lyrical, modern, hip hop, jazz and tap.”

The administrative secretary acts as the liaison between Allegheny’s campus and the board, with the goal of reaching out to both the campus and the community to advertise the shows.

“My job is to make sure they know what is going on, and I also create the program for the show so I reach out to family members for shoutouts for the dancers,” Ma said.

This is her first year on board, but her third year as a part of Orchesis.

Ma was voted in November last year after the show, and has served since, though the organization takes a back seat during the spring semester, since Orchesis is a fall show.

“We don’t really do much the first few months,” sMa said. “It’s mostly prep work in the spring.”

Elections take place every year during the show, as soon as curtains close votes get announced, Ma said. There are around 10-12 positions on the board, and once you are elected, you serve for the entire year afterwards.

Ma says her job is done when the show is done, and a new board is announced.

As for the show this year, there are a variety of shows under the theme of “Golden Age.”

“Think old Hollywood,” Ma said. “Lots of glitz and glam.”

The shows will include pieces such as an intermediate dance ballet piece, choreographed by Liv Pollice, ’26, to “Overture” from “Phantom of the Opera”; an advanced modern piece choreographed by Margo, to “Somebody I Used to Know” by Gotye; a ballet piece choreographed by Jayne Seth, ’26, to “Pure Imagination” from “Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory”, and an advanced tap dance choreographed by Liz Driscoll, ’25, to songs from the musical “Godspell.”

They are also performing a musical theater piece in which half the dancers will be doing tap, while the other half performs jazz. Ma said that this piece will allow for students who haven’t danced before, or who want to try dancing in new styles, to try them out.

“Musical theater lets them kind of combine those two [styles] in a more ‘chill’ introduction rather than going at a very advanced pace,” Ma said.

As a student run organization, the student who choreographs the piece is also responsible for holding practices for that dance. Each dance practice is one hour a week, and the practices span over eight weeks.

“I’m so excited to show off my piece,” said Sara Margo, ’26, choreographer for the advanced modern piece “Cut you off” to the song “Somebody that I used to know”. “I’ve had this vision for so long and I’m excited for everyone to see it so it’s not just in my brain anymore, it’s out there!”

Margo has been a part of Orchesis for all of her three years at Allegheny. She has quite a bit of experience choreographing throughout high school for musicals, and also was a part of her high school marching band as a majorette, and choreographed a lot of the routines there.

Once at Allegheny, Margo moved away from musical theater choreography and started to explore more modern dance.

“I really take inspiration from other pieces of media,” Margo said. “I have loved the music video [‘Somebody I Used to Know’] ever since it came out, so I’ve always wanted to do a piece surrounding that.”

Margo choreographed her piece to reflect the interactions of the man and woman’s duet in the song. She also ordered costumes that reflect her vision of the video.

“I always love Sarah’s choreography, it’s always super fun and funky because it’s modern,” said Orchesis President Sarah Allison, ’25.

Allison is in three dances this year, a hip hop piece choreographed by Olivia Colflesh, ’26; Margo’s modern piece and a lyrical/ballet piece choreographed by Lily Konz, ’25.

“I’m excited for all of them, they’re all wonderful choreographers, all different and unique in their own way which I admire,” said Allison.

Allison has been a part of Orchesis since her freshman year, when she was one of only two first-years to join the company.

“It’s cool to see the progress,” Allison said. “Now we have more freshmen, and this year I really tried to create a demographic where we could get more freshmen and make sure that people weren’t intimidated to come and try out because it’s supposed to be very inclusive, even if you have no dance experience.”

Extending outreach and bringing in more dancers is a main focus of the company this year. Allison said that both herself and the rest of the board are very passionate about the fact that Orchesis is open to anyone.

Likewise, as Administrative Secretary, Ma worked to make sure that information about Orchesis was marketed to first-year students, such as the no-cut policy.

Orchesis is one of the three main dance opportunities on campus: Orchesis, Jazz Dance Ensemble (JADE) and the Allegheny Dance Team.

Orchesis is meant to be the more introductory dance level experience compared to the others.

It is also all encompassing and does not specialize in one style of dance.

Students don’t perform all year, only the fall semester.

“That first semester for a lot of people is super busy, getting back into the swing of things, but it [Orchesis] really isn’t too big of a commitment,” Ma said. “You can always just do one dance and not three. I’m not doing three this year, it’s a lot of work.”

After auditions, a student might not get to do all the dances they sign up for, but they are guaranteed at least one dance.

“It’s low risk, high reward,” said Ma.

Auditions take place the first week of classes. This past August, the involvement fair was Thursday and the auditions took place the following Saturday and Sunday.

Sunday is for actual auditions and performances of the pieces in front of the choreographers, while Saturday is more so just watching and teaching.

“Saturday is very chill, you show up and learn some short excerpts of pieces, maybe 30 seconds of pieces in different styles,” Ma said.

However, students are not able to join the production late.

“There are so few practices,” Ma said. “They’re learning an entire dance in eight hours essentially, because it’s just one hour of practice a week.”

Ma explained that if students were to come in at hour four or five of practice, they would be at a disadvantage. They might not be in sync with the rest of the group, and it also places difficulty on the choreographers who would have to re-choreograph the formations to add an additional dancer.

Overall, that is another reason why members of Orchesis work to spread word about the company early on.

Allison said she wants more people to give Orchesis a try, as the hardwork and dedication that herself, the board, choreographers, technicians and stage crew put into the show are what builds community as a student run organization.

This year’s show will run from Oct. 31 until Nov. 2. Doors open a half hour before showtime at 7 p.m. in the Shafer Auditorium. Admission is free and all are welcomed.

International Club hosts their first open tab event

By **JAY SHANK**
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The smell of coffee beans lingered on the second floor of the Henderson Campus Center as students painted their home countries’ flags on pots and ordered free drinks at Grounds for Change on Wednesday, Sept. 25. Attendees of the event were dancing, singing and getting messy at the International Club’s first event of the semester: “Paint Your Roots.”

“Who doesn’t like a good drink in this rainy weather,” said International Club Public Relations Chair Chezka Quinola, ’27, who came to Allegheny from the Philippines. “Open tabs are really appealing. We want the international community to connect more with other students on campus, because a lot of international students get culture shock when they come (to America),”

Students from dozens of countries filled the space to unlock their creative senses and to get involved in a conversation. The plant pots they were painting were about the size of a teacup, but despite the size challenge students were able to paint the small details of flags like Mexico, even including the curvature of the bird.

Baristas yelled out drink orders, people sang and the paint got messy as more and more pots were reserved by students searching for commonality.

Brooke Biro, ’26, attended the event even though she is not an international student.

“A lot of my friends are internationally aligned so I like coming to the events,” Biro said. “I enjoy the social aspect of getting to know members of (the Allegheny) community and supporting my friends. Plus, I like free drinks and free plants.”

Members of the International Club board each host their own event per semester, and this event was pitched by Hemani Alaparthi, ’27, the recruitment chair of the organization and an international student from Malaysia.

“We want them (international students) to connect more with their roots,” Alaparthi said.

Vice President of the club, Lauren Schuch, ’26, who from South Korea, was really excited for Alaparthi to be hosting her first event.

“It’s always exciting when we get these individual events because it really shows what people want for the community,” Schuch said. “I hope people get a cute pot. But also just, you know, get our club out into the community.”

Attendees of the event weren’t limited to International Club members; in fact, everyone who came into GFC during the event got free coffee. Free coffee spiked people’s interest, and by the end of the night people from all over campus were painting their flags on little pots. As more and more people showed up, every table in the room was occupied. The line for coffee went around the tables, and some students were even left standing.

Anna Turhan, ’27, who is from Ukraine and serves as the International Club co-event manager, did not just enjoy the event for the International Club networking, but also just to relax after a long day of classes.

“Since we’re painting in the middle of the semester, it’s really important to remember we’re living our best years,” Turhan said. “Painting little cacti pots is a good way to get people involved and show people the theme of our cultures. Plus we can relax after a hard day, and people can get out of their rooms.”

International Club President, Ahn Nguyen, ’25, from Vietnam, was also excited to promote the club’s upcoming events.

“The club hosts one event a month,” Nguyen said. “In November we have a huge education week, so we try to keep energy and effort into that. We thought that the first event should be something people want to come to and something ‘international,’ so one of the officers came up with ‘Paint Your Roots.’ We want people to know about our big events as we open registration for the fashion show and the bazaar coming up.”

Walking past the space, students’ attention was drawn both audibly and visually. The board members had popular music playing, many people walked around with puddles of paint on paper plates and the sound of the espresso machine grinding the coffee beans filled the space.

“It’s such a great way to get to know each other,” Nguyen said. “I hope people just have a fun time painting their pots.”

In addition to “Paint Your Roots,” the club is hosting an International Education Week in November, as well as their biggest event of the semester: the International Bazaar.

“We really want people to come to the Bazaar,” Quinola said. “That’s part of why we’re doing this. We want to attract more people.”

Similarly, Nguyen was excited for the event to promote the club to freshmen.

“It’s such a great way to know each other,” Nguyen said. “It’s especially good for freshmen who don’t know anything about the club. I hope they get to know each other more.”

From a first-year point of view, Khanh Nguyen, ’28, from Vietnam, enjoyed being able to connect with other international students.

“I could see a lot of non-Americans there,” Nguyen said. “We may have had the same feelings about studying far from home, so we had the same topics to talk about. It was really fun.”

In general, the board members want foreign students on campus to feel connected to their communities.

“We’re really aiming to bring people together,” Turhan said. “As an international student, it’s important to retain relationships with people all around the world.”



JAY SHANK/THE CAMPUS
Chezka Quinola, ’27, (left) and Hemani Alaparthi, ’27, (right) cheers their free coffees to good vibes and conversations.



JAY SHANK/THE CAMPUS
Attendees gather around the table painting their pots while sipping on coffee.



JAY SHANK/THE CAMPUS
Students walk into Grounds for Change to get in line for free coffee and their flower pots.