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The Campus

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ASG talks funding

By **WES PRICE**
Staff Writer
price01@allegheny.edu

Allegheny Student Government met on Sept. 22 in Henderson Campus Center room 301/301. The General Assembly covered an apology to clubs on getting their budgets late, first week of club spending, announcement of ASG class budgets, two new clubs making it through their second round of voting, a plea to join committees and a follow up on club budget cuts.

Several Members of ASG were absent from the GA. Attorney General Mary Evans, '27, Director of Community Relations Aicha Foster, '29, Class Senators Skyler Fatola, '27 and Carly Beers, '27 were absent.

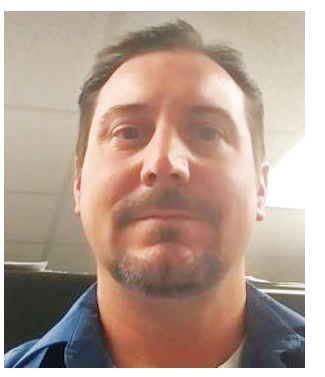
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BENAIDEN CHEVILLE/THE CAMPUS

From left: Natalie Anderson, '28, Rebecca Moore, '30, Nia-Simone Dupree, '30, Marcus Andrews II, '30, Vivian Potts, '27, and Liam Satterthwaite, '29, reach to the sky during a rehearsal of 'Revel/Reveal' in the Gladys Mullenix Black Theatre in the Vukovich Center for Communication Arts on Thursday, Sept. 27.

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ADAM DUNN

Engineer Dunn joins ALIC

By **ANDRE BARNES**
Contributing Writer
barnes02@allegheny.edu

Through the opening of ALIC @ Bessemer and renovation of Reis Hall to house the ALIC Lab, Allegheny College has moved to support technology. This year brings the addition of the newest employee at ALIC @ Bessemer, Adam Dunn.

See DUNN | page 6

Football team crushes Waynesburg with 38-20 win



MADDOX BROWN/THE CAMPUS

Quarterback Carson Colucci, '28, attempts a pass down the field while under pressure from a Waynesburg defender during the Sept. 19 victory.

See FOOTBALL | page 8

Hughes receives Fulbright scholarship

By **LORENA SILVA SOARES DE OLIVEIRA**
Features Editor
silvasoaresdeolive01@allegheny.edu

Mackenzie Hughes, '26, is currently teaching English in Germany, after winning a Fulbright English Teaching Student award.

Fulbright awards are a U.S. State Department program that exist to foster good relationships between the U.S. and other countries, with more than 70 participating countries. According to the Fulbright U.S. Student Program, "The Fulbright English Teaching Assistant programs place grantees in schools overseas to supplement local English language instruction and to provide a native speaker presence in the classrooms."

"Fantastic" was the word Allegheny's Fulbright adviser and Associate Professor of World Languages and Cultures Briana Lewis used to describe the experience of working with Hughes on her winning application.

"She came to us last year with a very clear sense of what she wanted to do in the short term, that is, apply for this Fulbright program in Germany, but then also in the longer term, about how that fed into longer term professional plans," Lewis said. "That was a really important part of the process."



MACKENZIE HUGHES

See HUGHES | page 5

Alumni return to the course for Mourer Memorial Classic

By **MARZIA MOHAMMADI**
Staff Writer
parishm@allegheny.edu

Members of Allegheny College, including alumni and families gathered at the Robertson Athletic Complex cross country course on Saturday, Sept. 19, for the Allegheny Gators Cross Country Invitational Ben Mourer '07 Memorial Classic during Blue and Gold Weekend, honoring the life and legacy of former Head Cross Country and Track and Field Coach Ben Mourer, '07.

Mourer, an Allegheny alumnus and longtime coach, died unexpectedly in June 2025, at the age of 40. Later that same year, Allegheny renamed its home cross country meet in his memory and introduced a new tradition, the 'Mourer Mile' where students, staff, alumni and community members run a mile on the course to honor his legacy.

Mourer's wife, Kim, and their two sons, Arthur and Henry, served as honorary starters for the Mourer Mile. The mile brought former athletes back to the course and the program they once shared with Mourer.

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MARZIA MOHAMMADI/THE CAMPUS

Arthur Mourer leads a group of Allegheny alumni and athletes toward the finish line during the Mourer Mile on Saturday, Sept. 19.

In this week's Campus...

LINDSAY CLANCY TRIAL SPURS MASS DEBATE

News Editor Maddox Brown, '29, employs the help of an Allegheny professor to clear up misconceptions surrounding the trial.

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PANDEMIC INFLUENCES

Contributing Writer Jermey Downing, '30, details his experiences navigating through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Page 4

VOLLEYBALL CRUISES TO VICTORY

Contributing Writer Tristan Burnash, '30, captures moments from the Women's Volleyball tournament.

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FRIDAY
H: 66° L: 40°
Rain: 5%
Sunrise: 7:11 a.m.
Sunset: 7:12 p.m.

SATURDAY
H: 67° L: 46°
Rain: 10%
Sunrise: 7:12 a.m.
Sunset: 7:11 p.m.

SUNDAY
H: 64° L: 52°
Rain: 10%
Sunrise: 7:13 a.m.
Sunset: 7:09 p.m.

Lindsay Clancy trial ignites debates over mental health, insanity defense

By **MADDOX BROWN**
News Editor
brown12@allegheny.edu

The Lindsay Clancy trial has spurred widespread debate in America over the insanity defense, mental health, and juror system.

A Sept. 8 article in People magazine article reported that Clancy was charged with the murder of her three children on Feb. 7, 2023. Clancy's attorney Kevin Reddington claimed that while Clancy did kill her children, she was suffering from postpartum psychosis and should not be held criminally liable.

> There's a lot of myths related to the insanity defense in general or not guilty by reason of insanity decision, and the media doesn't really report on that because they want the headlines, not necessarily the science behind it, and so people are coming away misinformed."
>
> —CHRISTOPHER NORMILE
> *Assistant Professor of Psychology*

Clancy's trial began on July 20, and on Sept. 4, the case was ruled a mistrial after the jury failed to reach a unanimous decision.

Assistant Professor of Psychology Christopher Normile, who specializes in law and psychology, spoke about numerous misconceptions regarding the trial and what an insanity defense actually entails.

"There are different legal definitions of insanity. Many of them tend to focus on this idea based on what they call a disease or defect of the mind," Normile said. "I have an inability to appreciate criminal wrongdoing at the time that I committed a crime. And so when I say appreciate, I mean they might know that what they're doing is wrong, right? But they might believe, for example, that what they're doing needs to be done."

To further illustrate his point, Normile gave a hypothetical scenario involving malicious aliens from outer space.

"I am in this situation where I think this individual is an (extraterrestrial) alien, right? When it comes to this decision of whether or not somebody is insane, we might say that they might know that killing in general is wrong, but they fail to appreciate what they did because in their mind, well, I just helped save the world because I got rid of this [extraterrestrial] alien, for example, right?"

Neuroscience and psychology double major Kira Smalling, '27, believes that this case is far from straightforward and should not have a black and white verdict.

"I think that, obviously, it's wrong to kill your children and something has to be done about that, but it should be taken into account the mental difficulty she was having and the psychosis she was dealing with when figuring out what to do about it."

Normile says the Clancy trial can be compared to a similar case that happened in the early 2000s.

"If we look at the case of Andrea Yates back in (the) early 2000's, very similar to the Lindsay Clancy trial, where she murdered her five children in the bathtub and in her mind she believed that what she was doing was right because she thought her children needed to die in order to be saved," Normile explained. "So, in her mind, it was, 'yes, killing is wrong, but it was for the best interest of my children because now they're at God's side, they're saved, they're going to be ok now, the demons aren't going to get them anymore.'"

According to Normile, each state has different guidelines around how an insanity defense can or cannot be applied.

"Really, what they look for is that appreciation level. In some states, they also have what we call this volitional prong, and when we say volitional, we mean whether or not they have this ability to stop themselves from engaging in a behavior," he said. "This person was able to appreciate the consequences of what they did, but because of this disease of the mind, they couldn't stop themselves from engaging. And so states like Massachusetts take that into consideration as well."

What exactly does it mean to be in a state of psychosis? Normile says that hallucinations play a primary role in separating psychosis from depression.

"My understanding is that typically in psychosis you have some type of hallucination, whether they may be auditory or visual," he said. "So, in some cases if I hear a voice that's telling me to kill my child, that's going to be postpartum psychosis. Postpartum depression is more what we typically think about depression but in very specific instances of after giving birth for a few months after the fact."

According to Normile, there are many misconceptions on what it means to be ruled not guilty by reason of insanity.

"Especially in this case, a lot of people are thinking, 'Oh, if she's found not guilty by reason of insanity, well then she gets to go free,' and that's not true," Normile said. "So, when you're found not guilty by reason of insanity, typically what ends up happening is you get placed into a psychiatric hospital depending on the crime that you're convicted of, and what the minimum sentence might be, if you were found guilty, is related to how long you might have to spend in that psychiatric hospital."

Like many who watched the trial, Smalling believes Clancy should be institutionalized in a rehabilitative mental treatment center.

"I think there has to be some sort of punishment for it because she did kill her kids, but I think it could have been a more institutional, mental-institution punishment instead of a prison punishment or jail punishment," she said. "I think she should not just be able to be free, she should have to have some sort of treatment or institutionalization."

Another aspect of insanity defense is that different states have different ways of determining insanity, including in Massachusetts where the Clancy trial took place.

"In Massachusetts it is up to the prosecution to prove that the person was not insane," Normile said.

This is not the usual procedure, according to Normile.

"Most states that have the insanity defense, it's actually usually on the defense to prove that they were insane at the time," he said. "Then the jury has to make that final decision. They weigh the evidence, they're told what it means to be insane."

In this trial, 11 jurors ruled that prosecution had not proven beyond reasonable doubt that Clancy was not insane when she committed the crime, while one juror ruled the opposite. Because the decision was not unanimous, a mistrial was declared by the judge, meaning that Clancy will retain the murder charges until further notice.

As a result of the mass media coverage, Normile believes that both future usage of the insanity defense and reduced stigmatization of mental health could happen in the near future. "I could see people being very much against the insanity defense if she's found not guilty by reason of insanity, right, if they go back to trial and try again," Normile said. "I also think that in this case if she's found guilty I can see proponents of women's health being more vocal to emphasize that the root cause of all these issues is a lack of understanding from doctors in treating women who have postpartum psychosis or depression."

Normile also believes that media reporting often does nothing to resolve misconceptions.

"There's a lot of myths related to the insanity defense in general or not guilty by reason of insanity decision, and the media doesn't really report on that because they want the headlines, not necessarily the science behind it, and so people are coming away misinformed," he said.

Traditional gender roles also play a part in public perception of the case as a result of the "double deviance theory," according to Normile. The theory says that, in recent years, women have received harsh punishments because they have broken social rules.

"The idea behind it is that women who are accused of committing violent crimes like murder are deviant. Especially in cases that involve murder of their own children. Well, you're a woman, you should be nurturing your child, not killing them," Normile said. "So, individuals tend to be more likely to want that woman to be punished."

Normile says the Clancy trial is a prime example of the double deviance theory.

"With the Lindsay Clancy trial, you have some individuals that are very much like, 'she killed her children.' For some that was a stronger reaction than if, let's say, her husband was the one who killed the children," he said. "Because again, she's the mother, she's supposed to be nurturing and care for them. It's really bad if a woman kills their own child. So I do think that gender roles play a large part in some of the decision making."

> I think the death of her kids is her fault, but I think that the fact that it got to that is not necessarily her fault. I think things could have been done, she could have found help, or she could have been given help from other people, and she didn't receive that, so I think things could have happened beforehand to prevent it,"
>
> —KIRA SMALLING
> *Class of 2027*

Smalling believes cases like Clancy's might be prevented if mental health was taken more seriously.

"I think the death of her kids is her fault, but I think that the fact that it got to that is not necessarily her fault. I think things could have been done, she could have found help, or she could have been given help from other people, and she didn't receive that, so I think things could have happened beforehand to prevent it," Smalling said. "Yeah, I think just mental health after pregnancy and after giving birth should be more accessible, and should be taken more seriously, just in general."

How the case against Clancy will ultimately play out is still unclear, but discussions about mental health's role in court verdicts have erupted, particulalry in cases involving women. Like Smalling, Normile believes the only way to prevent cases like this from recurring is to take mental health more seriously.

"If we're more willing to believe women about some of these issues they have and not just blaming hysteria, that might be able to help treat individuals who have something like postpartum psychosis so they may be less likely, right, to murder their own children," Normile said. "But if we don't believe that you're hearing voices, or that you're having these issues, how could we possibly fix it in the future?"



This photo appeared in The Campus vol. XCI, issue 2, 1967. It depicts a painter during renovations on Brooks Hall.

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Monday 8 P.M.
Campus Center 303

ASG *from page 1*

After attendance, ASG approved last week's minutes before moving quickly into cabinet reports, as there was no guest speaker this week.

Anna Turhan '27, informed the GA that 60 club budgets had been approved, and also apologized that not all clubs had received them yet.

"I want to personally apologize to any club and organization that did not receive their budget," Turhan said. "There were changes in the internal Allegheny system."

For ASG recognized organizations that applied for a budget and have yet to receive it, Turhan urged these clubs to reach out to herself or Director of Finance Daniel Servey, '29, or email ASGfinance@allegheny.edu.

"You will receive your budget. It is already approved," Turhan said.

Clubs that have received their budgets are grappling with reductions.

"As of right now, ASG Finance has received only one email from an organization regarding concerns of their budget," Turhan said. " If there are going to be any updates on us receiving more funding that we can redistribute, we will inform every single organization that expressed their concerns."

A brief finance committee meeting was held yesterday outside of the regular Wednesday meeting time to approve finance requests for Outing Club and Allegheny Christian Outreach. Turhan was confident that this would not be happening again as all budget requests have now been approved. Any other finance requests will be voted on during the Finance Committee's regular meeting tomorrow and then approved in the next GA as per procedure.

Servey added more information on top of Turhan's announcement. The ASG Class Senate budgets have been set at 200 dollars per class.

"These budgets should be operational soon," Servey said.

He also announced that finance request and reimbursement request forms have both been opened.

"Links to both of those have been sent out in the budget emails that clubs would have received, as well as are available as QR codes on the ASG office door," Servey said. "Additionally, the finance request form is updated to include a link for any clubs hoping to host a GFC Open Tab."

> Curriculum Committee, Academic Standards and Awards Committee, Code and Finance and Facilities are all looking for student representatives. These are shared governance committees composed of administrators, faculty, and student representatives. If you guys want voting power, it's one of the best ways to make an impact on this campus."
>
> —LYRA LINDSAY
> *Class of 2027*

The last thing on the meeting's finance agenda was the approval of the first budget of the year. The budget of 753 dollars and 87 cents was passed.

Director of Diversity and Inclusion Anotidaishe Chinogureyi, '29, gave a quick 'thank you' to those who showed up to the Lempira Day celebration hosted by students representing the Honduran culture.

"I just wanted to say thank you to everyone who showed up and we hope you keep showing up to the events," he said.

Director of Communication and Press, Julia Perillo, '27, had no new business for this week.

Co-Directors of Student Affairs Brandon Thompson, '29, and Anas Adnan, '29, announced that condoms, tampons, dental dams and pads were all ordered and have arrived. Thompson also urged again for people to join the dining committee

"We're still looking for members so please fill out this form if you are interested, or send it to people who might be interested," Thompson said. "It is a very low commitment meeting every other week on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and is an amazing opportunity to represent the student body and give your feedback about dining on campus."

The Dining Committee met for the second time and discussed feedback they had received from students in the past couple weeks about the food. They discussed ways to improve food quality and ways to get people to eat at Brooks Dining Hall, as traffic has increased at McKinley's Food Court.

Adnan also added that the dining program will include Greek food this Thursday at Brooks, while the Wok Station at McKinley's will be making a return next week.

> "I want to personally apologize to any club and organization that did not receive their budget. There were changes in the internal Allegheny system."
>
> —ANNA TURHAN
> *Class of 2027*

As Community Relations Aicha Foster, '29, was not present, Vice President Kylie Thompson '27, delivered her announcements. Thompson passed along that community relations continues to work on a new unannounced project.

Director of Organizational Development Simone Greene, '28, spoke on some housekeeping items for ASG file organization.

ASG President Ella DeRose, '27, spoke on behalf of Attorney General Mary Evans, '27. DeRose announced that Evans would be naming the Judicial Review Board next GA.

Chief of Staff Lyra Lindsay, '27, announced that college Committees are now open and interest forms are out.

"Curriculum Committee, Academic Standards and Awards Committee, Code and Finance and Facilities are all looking for student representatives," Lindsay said. "These are shared governance committees composed of administrators, faculty, and student representatives. If you guys want voting power, it's one of the best ways to make an impact on this campus."

Class of 2027 President Reese Forella announced that she has been working over ideas for events and plans to meet with Third and Fourth Year Class Dean Carene Shipley.

Class of 2028 President Kerrigan Swartz announced that she had met with Shipley to discuss planning our future class events and junior appreciation week. She also discussed collaborating with other clubs and organizations.

Class of 2029 President Aaron Navarette announced that he was hoping to host a GFC Open Tab.

"We are hoping to host a GFC Open Tab, especially for freshmen who might not know much about what ASG is," Navarette said."We figured out that we can collaborate with other classes, so we might be targeting another class soon and maybe see if they want to work with us in any event."

Class of 2030 President Ayesha Huq announced a voter registration tabling event that will be held October 4 through 6 in collaboration with Professor of Political Science Andrew Bloeser. No specific times were given.

Vice President Thompson started the executive reports by mentioning that both DeRose and her were going to be having lunch with President Cole, '87, this next week, as well as reminding the GA to sign up for tabling.

President DeRose announced a meeting with Ron Arnold about community engagement. She also reported that she had been starting to compile information to build out the Board of Trustees report. DeRose echoed Lindsay in encouraging people to join committees.

"It gave me a lot of insight into how higher ed makes decisions regarding curriculum and how our majors are structured in classes," DeRose said. "If you're interested in it, I definitely recommend it and it's a great way to have a say."

Dean of Students Trae Yeckley encouraged people to join and explained why he believes in these committees' importance.

"It's a really good opportunity for students to, again, not only get an understanding of what happens, what makes the college run, but to actually have a say in that process," he said. "To actually have a vote, to actually be able to hear things before they go to the greater college community, and to put their input into, 'Hey, I think this is how we should do things,'"

Yeckley also mentioned that juniors should be especially interested in committees.

"It's not necessarily that we're making a big change to the calendar," Yeckley said. "It's more so like, hey, let's give us your input for things like senior week and how that might look in 2028."

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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.

No Crime Reported

THE CAMPUS

Since 1876

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

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The Confederacy is so 1861: why public history matters

By **JAY SHANK**
Junior Opinion Editor
shank01@allegheny.edu

On April 12, 1861, Confederate troops stormed and bombarded Fort Sumter in South Carolina, forcing Union troops to surrender and retreat after 34 hours of fighting.

"For Fort Sumter shall be avenged," said the Union, and thus began the American Civil War.

Until 1863, the Confederate States of America saw victory upon victory in many major battles, from First Manassas, to Antietam, to Fredericksburg and more. What Major General Robert E. Lee didn't have was a victory in the enemy lines; the Confederacy had not yet won a major battle in the North. To Lee and his army, a win in the North would win them the war — and the capitol. They would storm Washington D.C., overthrow President Abraham Lincoln and turn the United States of America into the Confederate States of America. It was almost a foolproof idea.

On June 28, 1863, Confederate troops marched into Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, steal resources and horses from the townspeople and be met by the local militia. On June 30, 1863, Union General John Buford brought his ill troops into Gettysburg, retreating from Maryland only 15 miles away, seeking medical care and the knowledge of this information to Lee would bring almost his entire army into town that night. At 7:30 a.m. on July 1, 1863, the first shot of the infamous Battle of Gettysburg rang out throughout southern Pennsylvania.

That great battle would last three treacherous days, leaving over 20,000 dead and injured and would become the turning point in the war, ultimately securing the United States of America glory in 1865.

This summer I worked in Gettysburg, supporting the Gettysburg Foundation with events and programming. There were plenty of things I didn't expect I'd learn, like how hot the town gets, how engaged in the history I would actually become, the geological background, etc.

What shocked me the most wasn't how many soldiers died or how amputations would have been performed — it was how many Confederates and Confederate sympathizers came to visit the sacred battlefield.

The longer I stayed in Gettysburg, the more I noticed this phenomenon. In the children's museum, I listened to parents and grandparents teach their children that the South was just trying to protect their freedom. When I walked up the road to get lunch, I'd see gift shops openly sell Confederate merch, from flags to pins to magnets that read "Keep 'em flying!" On my last day in town, I watched someone take out a book titled "The South was Right."

I felt like I was walking through some sort of social experiment. In a town where the Union won a crucial battle, in a state that hated the Confederacy, in an America that, before the election of 2024, had spent so many years trying to permanently erase the damage the Civil War left behind, the battlefield had once again been taken over by Confederates.

I struggle to even begin to understand the logic behind being a Confederate in Pennsylvania, let alone in Gettysburg. The Battle of Gettysburg was won by the Union, and to this day, thousands of those Union dead are buried in that town, marking it eternally as the deadliest engagement ever on American soil. The townspeople who lived there suffered immensely by the hands of those Confederates. The Confederates stormed into their houses, shot through their windows and destroyed their farmland. Gettysburg was not, and never has been, a safe space for the Confederacy.

I can argue that this is why public history is so important, that this is why accessibility matters, that this is why teaching history the way it was meant to be taught is crucial. According to the facts, there is no reason that a Confederate would want to celebrate their beliefs at Gettysburg.

It's a fact that Lee lost on July 2 and 3, retreating his troops out of Pennsylvania and back into the South. It's a fact that two years later, he surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia to Union General Ulysses S. Grant, effectively admitting defeat. It's speculated that the people of Gettysburg condemned the South for years even after the war was over — in fact, they refused to clean up the Confederate dead out of the battlefield, and it wasn't until 1869 that the people of the town and the government put an effort into properly burying their bodies.

It is my belief that the election of 2024 destroyed our public education system, turning what may have been true and factual history into what aligns with the values our government is trying to promote. There was once a time when the country used the Civil War as a warning; our history must not be repeated and so we will try to make this world a better place. There was a time when flying a Confederate battle flag was illegal, when your neighbors would shun you for supporting something so horrifying. There was once a time when the death of millions of African-American enslaved people meant something. A sign that we will never go back, that we love our fellow Americans no matter their identity, that this country was built to be a mosaic of people and the horrors of the Battle of Gettysburg was a reminder of what injustice could do to a nation.

Now, "we'll never go back" is thrown onto "Trump 2024" flags as if the short period of time between President Obama and President Trump, where all people were treated as equal, was un-American.

Before recent years, Gettysburg meant something to America; now, it hosts the very same people who made it into a battlefield in the first place, boasting about "state's rights" and what it means to be a "true American." Its meaning is beginning to be overtaken; the Civil War is no longer a warning.

On November 19, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln delivered his immortalized "Gettysburg Address" at the Soldiers' National Cemetery in Gettysburg. To approximately 15,000 people and in 272 words, Lincoln declared that this nation and those Union soldiers fought for the "proposition that all men are created equal" and "that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain."

From that day forth, the Northern part of the nation fought for the freedom of their Black brothers and sisters, understanding that we as a "government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth." The sacred land we are so honored to have preserved exists to remind us of these facts: that the founding fathers created this nation for all peoples. So long as our public history remains, so long as these documents and this land remains free and accessible to the public, we might be moved enough to hold ourselves accountable to that notion — we might even be American.

Internships aren't always the path to work experience

By **TY WHORIC**
Contributing Writer
whoric01@allegheny.edu

The first thing that comes to mind when thinking about internships is a college student preparing to start the career that they will have for the rest of their life. Internships are often viewed as an important step toward gaining professional experience, but not every college student has the opportunity to land one during the summer.

For first-year students just beginning their college journey, finding an internship can be especially difficult. So, what happens when you spend the summer without one? A question that comes across my mind is "what's the value of a summer without an internship?"

I believe there is still plenty of value to be found during a summer without an internship, and, for me, that value came from running my own side business with a close friend while doing landscaping throughout the summer.

I have been running this business for about two years, and I have absolutely loved it. We primarily help people in my hometown, while also taking on jobs in surrounding areas. We help with whatever their need is, such as mowing lawns, mulching or just making their property one of a kind. Running a business has taught me lessons that I otherwise never would have learned. More importantly, many of those lessons have helped me in my everyday life, not just when it comes to making someone's property look new and improved.

Time management was the biggest area that improved for me. When running a business, it's easy to quickly become overwhelmed with customers asking when you are available and whether you can fit their project into your schedule. When a person asks if I am able to come to their property to take a look at the job and they only have so much time but I am already cutting another customers yard, it makes it very difficult. I also had to make sure projects don't overlap if a job takes multiple days. On top of that, I still had to make time for activities, sports and everything else going on in my life.

Learning how to balance all of those responsibilities forced me to become more organized. I had to plan ahead, communicate with customers and make sure I followed through on what I promised. Those are strong skills that I can carry over into almost any career.

Internships can certainly help college students get an early start on their careers. They can provide professional experience, introduce students to different industries and give them an opportunity to build connections. However, an internship is not the only way to gain valuable experience during the summer.

For me, running a landscaping business provided a different kind of education. Instead of working under someone else, I had to take my own responsibility for the success of the business myself. I learned by making decisions, dealing with customers, managing my time and figuring out problems as they came up.

A summer without an internship does not necessarily mean a summer without growth. Sometimes, the experiences we are able to create for ourselves can also help teach us just as much as the experiences we find through a traditional internship.

Some people may make the assumption that there is pressure with not having one because internships are a very helpful way to prepare yourself for the real world, the rest of your life and a career. Another key component is that if you do not have an internship, in some cases it can mean that it pushes back from graduation because of certain requirements. These are definitely important in the aspect of life, but for me, being a first year student, I am able to have my remaining summers to be able to find an internship, and get ready for the career I want to build.

Instead of looking back at this summer as a missed opportunity without an internship, I see the benefits I gained from working on my own time and learning on my own. Being able to have a side business was able to give me experience that I can carry with me into my future internships and or jobs. Learning how to communicate with people, managing my time, and taking responsibilities when things got tough, helped me get a feel for what life would be like balancing my life with a job and how it all comes together.

This summer was also able to challenge me while earning money and working alongside a close friend. It showed me that professional growth does not always have to happen inside of an office or an internship, it can happen anywhere.

As I continue through college, I plan on looking into more internship opportunities that can connect me with the career that I want to pursue. Until that day comes, I will be able to look back on this summer knowing that I was still learning, working and being able to prepare myself for the future that I want. A summer without an internship is not a summer without an experience.

"Schools out for two weeks" six years later

By **JEREMY DOWNING**
Contributing Writer
downing01@allegheny.edu

"School's out for two weeks, see you then!"

That was the last thing I heard when leaving school on March 13, 2020.

I was absolutely elated. I had transferred schools at the beginning of the year and never really felt like I belonged. I had friends, but among everyone who had been there for years, I felt like the odd one out. Being able to get away from that feeling and only talk to the people that I wanted to, even if it was only for two weeks, was a nice change of pace.

When my mom picked me up, I told her what I had heard, and she was not nearly as happy as I was. Instead, she looked at me with a frown, and just asked me how school was.

I would think about that from time to time. I was young and dumb in 6th grade so I didn't figure it out until much later.

My mom was a smart and very well read person. I imagine that she must have been paying more attention to the world than me, and figured it would not be 'only two weeks.' If she was thinking that, then she was right.

I didn't return to school in-person for the remainder of that year because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

I was even happier when I heard that. I thought I could just goof off once the shortened classes were done and not have as much homework.

Online school was a new thing and the school administration and staff had to figure it out within a week of when online school started.

I think they tried their best given what they had.

The most memorable experience during that time was from my science teacher Mr. DeGoede. He knew that with all of the ways students could hide what they were doing in online school, he had to give students more of a reason to pay attention besides just 'learning.'

What he did was make an alter ego of himself named 'Mad Scientist DeGoede' and he would do 'mad science experiments' with that persona to keep students attention. When I tell others about this they always say it is corny, which it definitely was, but there was something charming about it, which made me actually want to pay attention.

He would do these "mad scientist" experiments over Zoom meetings. It was the only time I can remember the majority of the class paying attention.

That was the good part of online school. The remainder was not as great.

Doing a physical education class online was one of the most interesting and weird experiences I think I have ever been through. We would have to angle our phone where our teacher could see us and then we would do things like yoga or stand-in-place exercises.

Needless to say, that was not very effective.

Every other class was not as bad as that was, but I didn't really find myself paying too much attention simply because I found them boring.

My case was a little bit different. My mom would sit in the same room as me to prevent me from playing video games, so I had to pay some attention. Other people did not have that.

They just turned their cameras off, or claimed they didn't have one that worked, and just did something else for the rest of class. Obviously it wasn't every person, but many did.

It was also a different, and less effective learning environment for me. I can't remember too much of what I learned in 6th grade, and because of that, I had to relearn it over the next three years because of some big holes in my knowledge. The biggest loss was in math, where I went from being considered pretty good to mediocre at best through online school.

This was not just me; basically everybody I have talked to had an experience like this in some way, and the end of 6th and first half of 7th grade was basically just lost time. I have been told countless times by teachers and professors that the material we were supposed to learn in that time was not taught well enough to be a foundation for future success.

I agree with that.

COVID was an experience that the world had to learn from if it wanted to recover, but ironically, the ones who learned the least from that time were the people who needed to learn the most: the students.

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.

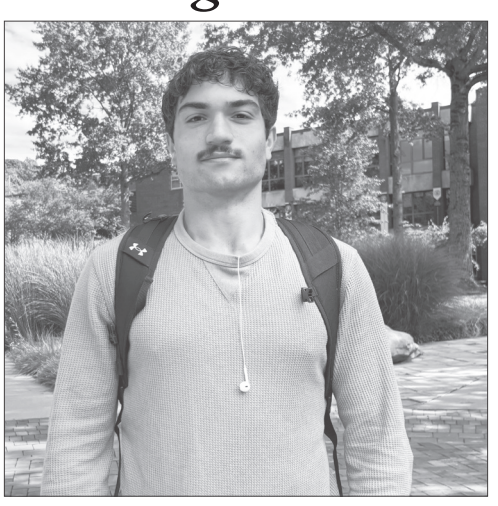
Ask Allegheny

What are you listening to?



Left: Allison Mechler, ’27
Majors: Political Science and English
Minor: Biology

“‘Self Aware’ by Temper City.”



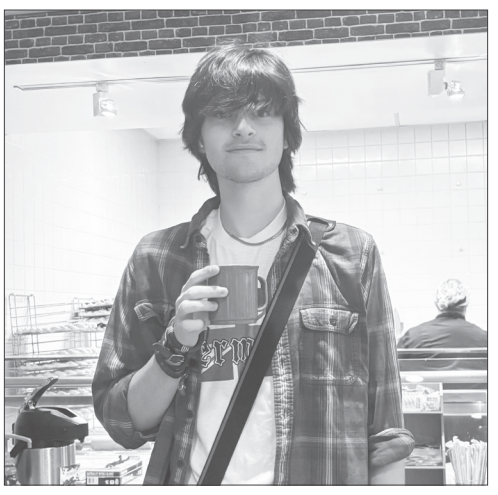
Left: Chris Williams, ’27
Major: Biology
Minor: Psychology

“Nothing actually. I just have a headphone in for the fashion.”



Left: Kerrigan Swartz, ’28
Majors: Psychology and English
Minor: Political Science

“‘Jupiter and Teardrop’ by Grant Lee Buffalo.”



Left: Mateus Wehn, ’27
Major: History
Minor: Spanish

“Bonnie ‘Prince’ Billy and Bill Callahan’s cover of Steely Dan’s ‘Deacon Blues.’”



Left: Steven Fitzsimmons, ’29
Major: Business
Minor: Communications

“Esdee Kid.”



Left: Terrance Threeths III, ’30
Major: Undecided
Minor: Undecided

“I’m talking to my father at the moment.”

HUGHES *from page 1*

Lewis worked alongside Hughes to develop clear, well-written and carefully curated documents in order to submit the application, which is a complex process, but that she said is worth considering due to the great achievement of being a Fulbright recipient.

“For a student that is a good fit for the program, it’s obviously a really great opportunity to get abroad and to have a pretty unique experience,” Lewis said. “It’s also quite prestigious, being able to later put on your resume, that you are a Fulbrighter, that stands out.”

Hughes studied abroad in high school and college, both times in Germany, which led her to major in international studies and minor in German. Those experiences gave her the certainty that she wanted to apply for a Fulbright and go back to Europe.

“I knew that I wanted to help people and work with students in some capacity, but I wasn’t sure,” Hughes said. “So I looked into Fulbright and really wanted to take the opportunity to explore teaching as a possible career choice. It was kind of the best of both worlds, I got to explore teaching, and then I also got to be abroad and continue having sort of that culture exchange that I enjoy having.”

One of the most important sections of the Fulbright application is the “Statement of Grand Purpose,” which is where the student can describe their motivations to apply and reasons of why they should be chosen to win among the thousands of applicants.

Hughes found the writing portion to be the most challenging step of her application process.

“You really have to sort of condense your experience, your life, all of that into just a couple of pages, which is really difficult,” she said. “The biggest thing was knowing what to say and what not to say. Because, I mean, you only get one shot, you know? You only get what you are putting in your application — that’s all they know about you.”

Hughes landed in Germany on Sept. 5, 10 days before her program’s starting date.

So far, she has been meeting with the different teachers and classes to learn how things are done before she’s permanently moved to certain classes. The school offers history, politics and geography in English, subjects Hughes is interested and excited to participate in.

“I’m hopeful that I will be able to go into those classes and add some sort of usual knowledge to what they’re already learning,” Hughes said. “I felt really lucky to be at that kind of school where I’m not just in English classrooms, but other classrooms with subjects that are of interest to me.”

Hughes sees this opportunity as a culmination of all the hard work she’s done in the past and is very grateful to be living abroad again. She thinks it is important for American citizens to have experiences overseas.

“For U.S. citizens to be able to have scholarships and programs like this, where they get to go abroad and experience new languages, new cultures, new people is so really important because the world is so much bigger than the U.S.,” Hughes said. “I’m eternally grateful. It feels like I’m just gaining more knowledge so that I’m able to pass that on to other people in my later career, in my life.”

Hughes is currently living with a German women and her two children who speak to her in German, giving her the opportunity to practice the language, which she appreciates.

“There’s no hiding,” Hughes said. “I’m practicing every day.”

Hughes believes that it’s important for people to get out of their comfort zones and tries to motivate people around her to do so. She doesn’t think that studying abroad is the only way to do it. Simply learning a new language can be a good start.

“It’s just really important, especially in this current climate of everything, to be curious about the world and to be curious about the people in it, because you never know what you’re going to really end up loving,” Hughes said. “For me it was the German language, the German country, or whatever, you just never know unless you experience it, unless you’re curious to try it, and curious to find out.”

Emma & Lo Watch a Show

We will lead, you follow, all the way to Stars Hollow

By **EMMA CONTI-WINDLE**
“Ask Allegheny” Host and Producer
contiwindle01@allegheny.edu

By **LORENA SILVA SOARES DE OLIVEIRA**
Features Editor
silvasoaresdeolive01@allegheny.edu

It’s fall and here we go, watching Gilmore Girls one more time. This time, however, we have a little trick for you: watch along with us, four episodes of the show each week, and the change in seasons and holidays of the show are supposed to align with real life! In return, we give you Em & Lo Watch a Show, a weekly column with our takes, thoughts, what we love, what we hate and most importantly, who we love and who we hate.

This week we are reporting on having watched episodes one through three, and what a start! An opening scene with “There She Goes,” by The La’s is iconic to say the least. And, not to talk about one of the most memorable intro songs of all time, Caroline King’s “Where you Lead” anthem.

Lo

First things first, in three episodes Kirk — for the rewatchers — is presented as Mick in episode two, and already had two different jobs. I hope I can keep my count as weeks go by.

Rory and Lorelai’s relationship, which is presented as very close and easy-going in the first episode, proved to be not as perfect as the three episodes went on. We first see their conflicts over Rory not wanting to go to Chilton after meeting a guy, which, for Lorelai, reflected her past where she missed out on opportunities after deciding to trust a guy, Rory’s (absent) dad. I think that this fight is very realistic of real life problems.

In episode three, the mom and daughter have another, more serious, argument when Lorelai realizes that Rory enjoyed the afternoon spent with her grandpa Richard. That whole situation proves to me two things: Lorelai is indeed more annoying than Rory, and Emily is the G.O.A.T — can Lorelai please let her mom buy Rory more uniforms, a faster internet, a car, and a parking spot? And can I please have an Emily Gilmore? What a queen she is!

Em

With a new chill in the air that sweeps campus, I am all the more aware that I am not living in a storybook town like Stars Hollow, and I become all the happier for Rory and Lorelai that they are. I’m even happier for Rory that she has surprise rich grandparents that want to buy her a bunch of new clothes, bring her to their network-topolis country club and teach her to golf. I’m less happy for — and, I’ll admit, less jealous — of Lorelai, who seems to have entered a time machine back into her own mid-teens, throwing a tantrum because her parents seem to be treating Rory and her need for financial support as an opportunity to redo parenthood Rory’s budding relationship with Richard is adorable, despite him coming off a bit like an ass at the start. Men.

Writers, of course, want us to feel this tension and simultaneously prime us for a big reveal about why Lorelai was never interested in the charmed life of golf, saunas, gossip and literature. What sort of parents were Emily and Richard? What sort of daughter was Lorelai, aside from one that got pregnant at 16, but supposedly with the child of someone destined for success? Who is Rory’s dad?

The parallel storyline of the pair of stuck-up twins who are marrying another pair of twins at the Independence Inn (creepy), I believe was meant to remind us what sometimes becomes of children that grow up on country club golf courses. The cautionary tale makes us sympathize a bit with Lorelai and maybe clues us into why it was the right choice to distance herself from her family: so she could become a down to Earth, normal person independent of her parents while working at the Independence Inn. Subtle. So far, no one at Chilton can be described as such.

The harpist at the Inn was a nice touch, although I’m not quite sure of her necessity yet, if not to simply be a recipient of Lorelai’s seemingly never ending punny quips. Lorelai makes me wonder if I sound the same way as I try to make a joke of everything ever.

Luke is a hottie and I wish that he would serve me fifteen cups of coffee and an enormous burger as I argue with my daughter who I have named after me because I was a feminist high on Demerol. Not that much of a stretch, honestly. Dean is cute but weirds me out. Tristain weirds me out but is very cute. Yep, not a stretch at all.

Not so hot are Richard’s friends, who are a bit too excited to see beautiful, minor Rory at the country club, but in an early 2000s harmless way, of course.

Key takeaways from Em: Grow up Lorelai, calm down Sookie, don’t be so boy crazy, Rory (but real), and Emily and Richard, I hope both sides of your pillow are cold.

We will be back with our thoughts on episodes four through eight next week!

Keep watching the show!

Love, Em & Lo

DUNN *from page 1*

Dunn is ALIC's new director of programs and industry engagement, he brings with him more than 25 years of engineering and manufacturing experience, working with programs at other educational institutions like Gannon University, Penn State University and now Allegheny College.

Dunn looks forward to bringing more people to use ALIC's resources to find possible career paths.

"I like to think ALIC isn't a bridge," Dunn said. "We're the pillars of the bridge's support, so we are just kind of holding the bridge up and trying to get people to go across it and start to go out and see different companies and experiences and interests for a career, whether that be engineering or manufacturing or anything else we have to offer."

> I like to think ALIC isn't a bridge. We're the pillars of the bridge's support, so we are just kind of holding the bridge up and trying to get people to go across it and start to go out and see different companies and experiences and interests for a career, whether that be engineering or manufacturing or anything else we have to offer."
>
> —ADAM DUNN
> *ALIC director of programs and industry engagement*

Dunn will be working closely with many Allegheny students in classes as an instructor, helping them sharpen their technological skills. With Dunn's help, the students will gain experience and learn about the opportunities ALIC has to offer to scholars. Allegheny is looking to step forward into a new age of tech, with ALIC at the forefront.

With the brand new Reis Hall laboratory being built and projected to be open to the public within a year, exciting things will be planned by Dunn, Rich and others. Dunn believes that ALIC can teach students skills they won't learn inside a classroom.

"It's to offer them an outlet for hands-on skills. I think it's an opportunity to have more student development, whether it's manufacturing, whatever it is," Dunn said. "Students sometimes get lost in classrooms, so you get a big open space like this (Bessemer location), that has a lot of new toys. They develop skills that directly help them once they join the workforce."

Dunn currently works as the automation engineering manager at Acutec. He built the company's automation department from the ground up, designing and installing 21 robotics cells over three years. Dunn's journey brought him to Allegheny allowing him to pass this passion down to his students. According to the ALIC website, his hands-on approach that he now brings to Allegheny, and his passion for innovation and instruction, have not only changed the game but also led to collaborations with Penn State.

> He (Dunn) gave me the freedom to work on the projects that I wanted to and also gave me guidance where I needed it. The confidence that he gave me to go and try to do things, kind of extended my learning and gave me the support to do that."
>
> —COLTIN COLUCCI
> *Class of 2027*

Dunn got to ALIC over the summer and immediately made an impact. One of his mentees, Coltin Colucci, '27, worked with him over the summer at Acutec Precision Aerospace, where Colucci worked in the automation department and Dunn was the lead of the department.

"He gave me the freedom to work on the projects that I wanted to and also gave me guidance where I needed it," Colucci said. "The confidence that he gave me to go and try to do things, kind of extended my learning and gave me the support to do that."

Colucci has a job opportunity lined up with Acutec after graduation and is still in contact with Dunn. He hopes to work with Dunn again if the opportunity arises.

These opportunities are not limited to students who are already involved in engineering or manufacturing. One of the goals of ALIC is to give students and community members the chance to explore technology in a hands-on environment and discover interests they may not have known they had. With Dunn's experience, students can learn from someone who has spent decades working with the technology, equipment and robotics that they may encounter when they enter the workforce. Instead of only learning about these skills through a textbook or lecture, students can now work with the equipment and learn how to solve problems when they occur. This type of experience can help students become more comfortable with failure, problem solving, and trying out new things, all of which will greatly help students when it comes to job searching and getting opportunities that require hands-on experience.

The addition of Dunn is also part of ALIC's larger goal of connecting Allegheny with the surrounding Meadville community. As the new laboratory continues to develop, Dunn and the rest of the ALIC team will have the opportunity to create more programs that bring students, community members, and local businesses together. With new equipment, the addition of Dunn, and an emphasis on hands-on learning led by Dunn, ALIC is aiming to create a space where "people can gain skills that extend beyond the classroom and into their future careers."

Merrick Archives showcases Blue and Gold inventory

By **MADDOX BROWN**
News Editor
brown12@allegheny.edu

The Merrick Archives opened its doors to Allegheny students and alumni on Saturday, Sept. 18 during Blue and Gold Weekend to showcase the history of Allegheny's homecoming traditions.

Archives and Special Collections Librarian Chris Anderson detailed how those traditions have changed over the years.

"The tradition goes back to at least the 1920s. We have some newspapers on display, for example, from 1924, some different fliers that were handed out from that same year," Anderson said. "In 2017, Allegheny decides to sort of rebrand Homecoming to the Blue and Gold Weekend and that's what we've done in the last number of years now."

Multiple tables were set up, each with their own set of unique items that make up Allegheny's homecoming history. Some items on display included homecoming flyers, Campus newspapers and photographs that each capture a piece of Allegheny's history.

"We thought it would be interesting to have some of the old invitations or posters related to things that were happening during Homecoming Weekend from the different years," he said. "We have on display several Campus newspapers that go back to about 1924, also a number of photographs, which sort of add a visual history of things like the Homecoming parade."

Allegheny Alumni, John Breckinridge, '83, said that some of the debates that were happening in the 60s are still happening today. "I'm looking through copies of the Campus from the early 1960s. I see that even back then everyone's talking about 'gee what's the value of a liberal arts education' much like they currently are, so a little bit of continuity.

An exhibit on the history of Allegheny's lovable mascot 'Chompers' was also on display.

"If you would go outside, just out past the archive, you'll see the original gator head from, I say it's Chomper's grandpa, but it's probably his dad," Anderson said.

Another tradition he hoped to highlight was Allegheny's athletic programs, specifically the football and cheer teams.

"We have a series of old football programs, just found covers that were really interesting from those periods. I think the earliest cover goes back to the 1930s," Anderson said. "We've got an old, sort of a varsity cheerleading letter that would have been worn on a coat or a sweater."

The most striking item on display for Anderson was a 1969 homecoming edition of The Campus Newspaper, that featured both coverage of the Vietnam War and Allegheny homecoming on the same page.

"It puts sort of a juxtaposition where you'll see, here's the five finalists for the queen of the pageant, and on that same page, here's a woman from Asia holding a baby, which we don't know what's going on, but you can tell here she's wailing," Anderson said. "You have this sort of life happening, and then you've got this Allegheny capsule."



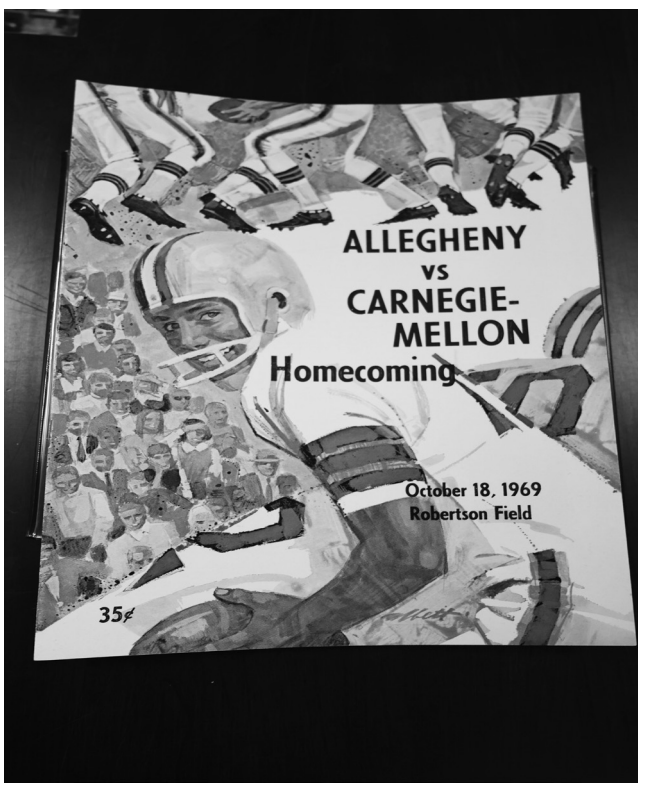
NIKI HINEMAN/THE CAMPUS
On the left, an image of a soldier holding a machine gun is juxtaposed with the Bentley Hall Copala on a 1969 Homecoming flyer.

Anderson also said the cover of the paper greatly stood out to him. "The cover has a picture of a soldier with an M-16, a machine gun of some sort and then the Bentley bell tower. It's interesting that students were thinking locally, but at the same time thinking globally," he said. "It's visually a very stunning sort of representation."

Merrick Archives Intern Daphne Womack, '28, says that beyond today's showcase, the gallery has many uses for students.

"We have a lot of useful material for current students. If they're doing research on, say, Allegheny-specific things, we have a lot of records pertaining to courses that we've had in the past," she said. "If you want to know what majors or minors were available in, say, like the 1870s, which they weren't called majors and minors at the time or you're like who was the first person who graduated Allegheny, who was the first woman who graduated Allegheny, you know things, you wouldn't think that we have."

Looking towards the future, the gallery plans on holding a Halloween event and also a Veterans Day one. "It's going to be October 30th," Anderson said. "It's going to be an all-day open sort of exhibit, people can come and go because classes run and that sort of thing. It's called Halloween at the Archives. We're also doing one for Veterans Day and we're going to open it up to the Meadville community as well so we kind of expect that to have some good interest from people outside of Allegheny."



NIKI HINEMAN/THE CAMPUS
A 1969 football cover for a game versus Carnegie Mellon is shown.

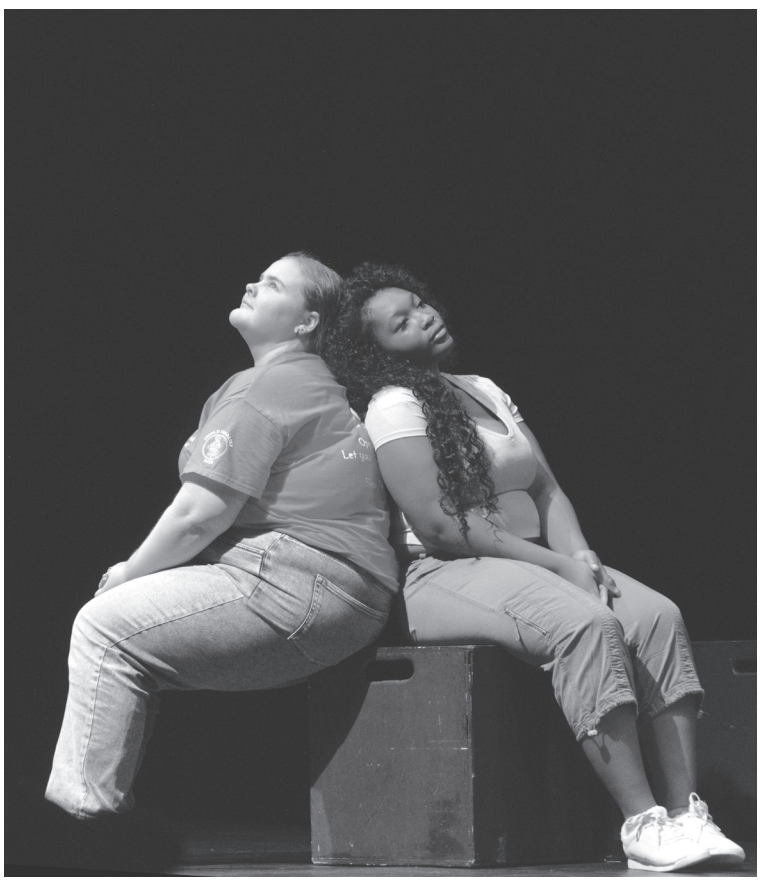
THEATER *from page 1*





BENAIDEN CHEVILLE/THE CAMPUS

Above left: The performers follow each other's movements, creating a mirror effect, while sitting on chairs. Above right: Satterthwaite and Andrews pose with finger guns during the rehearsal. According to Director Susaan Jamshidi, '01, 'REVEL/REVEAL' is based on the idea that we naturally grow into different versions of ourselves throughout a lifetime and understand different parts of ourselves in different ways as time goes by and we surround ourselves with new environments and people."



BENAIDEN CHEVILLE/THE CAMPUS

Moore and Dupree sit back-to-back and look at the sky.



BENAIDEN CHEVILLE/THE CAMPUS

Anderson peers out from under a blanket fort the cast constructed,

MOURER *from page 1*

Among them was Emily Forner, '19, who competed under Mourer and won the 2019 NCAA Division III national championship in the 3,000-meter run. Forner described returning to Allegheny to celebrate Mourer's legacy as "bittersweet."

"It's hard to come back," Forner said. "There's always tears and the memories that flood in, but it's also sweet to see the number of people who come back and the community that is there."

The memories shared throughout the day went beyond Mourer's success as a coach. Former athletes remembered his dry humor, blunt advice and the standards he expected them to carry beyond running. Runners and attendees wore green shirts with "Never Settle" emblazoned on them in memory of Mourer's mantra throughout a decade of coaching.

Cole Jooste, '26, said Mourer helped make Allegheny his first choice and that his influence continued beyond his time at the college.

"He made the college experience so easy and loveable," Jooste said. "I really enjoyed the team and the environment and Allegheny, and that's why I keep coming back now."

Jooste said Mourer's "Never Settle" mentality has also shaped how he approaches life.

"I apply that to all parts of my life, not just the running," Jooste said. "I try to be the best person I can for him, unfortunate reasons, but a great motiver."

Matthew Reynolds, '25, remembered Mourer as a mentor whose advice stayed with him after graduation. Even now, Reynolds said he sometimes finds himself asking, "what would Coach Mourer tell me right now?"

"He always knew what to say," Reynolds said. "Sometimes it was tough love, but it was something that I needed to hear."

Niko Moore, a former Allegheny runner who later transferred to Ohio State University, said his connection to Mourer remained even after leaving the college. "I have stuff in my apartment dedicated to him," Moore said. "I think about him a lot more than I thought I would."

More than a year after Mourer's death, his former athletes said his advice, humor, and expectations still shape how they approach running and life. For Reynolds, that influence still comes with the same humor he remembers from their time together. Asked what his former coach would probably tell him today, Reynolds had a simple answer: "Grow up."

Marzia Mohammadi, '28, writes for The Campus; she has been a member of the Track and Field team for three years, one season with the late Coach Mourer.



MARZIA MOHAMMADI/THE CAMPUS

Kim Mourer, wife of Ben Mourer, '07, stands with their sons, Henry, left, and Arthur, right, at the finish line before serving as honorary starters for the Mourer Mile on Saturday, Sept. 19, at the Robertson Athletic Complex.

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FOOTBALL *from page 1*



MADDOX BROWN/THE CAMPUS

Quarterback Carson Colucci, '28, looks for an opening during the 38-20 victory over Waynesburg on Sept. 19.

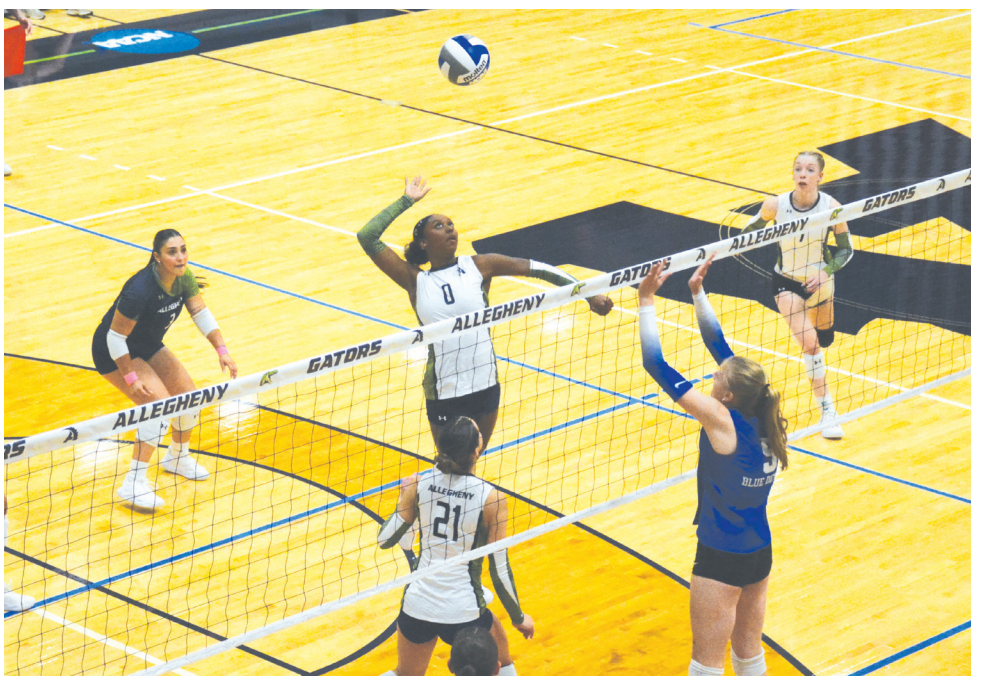


MADDOX BROWN/THE CAMPUS

Micah Smith, '28, catches the kickoff and advances down the field.

Women's Volleyball sets up to spike 2026 season

By **TRISTAN BURNASH**
Contributing Writer
burnash01@allegheny.edu



TRISTAN BURNASH/THE CAMPUS

Kendall Brunn, '28, eyes a spike in a match against Fredonia State during home tournament on Sept. 18. Allegheny won 3-1.



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Marissa Rish, '30, sets the ball while being tracked by Fredonia State player Kylie O'Brien, '27.



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The gators celebrates scoring a point.

The Allegheny College Women's Volleyball team is looking to set themselves up for success for the 2026 season. Two years removed from a Presidents' Athletic Conference championship and coming off a 14-13 record in 2025, the Gators are preparing for a better season.

One of the team's captain Duru Akbas, '27, who recorded her 1000th dig on Sept. 19 during their home tournament, has high expectations for this season coming off a disappointing year.

"Last year we didn't have the best season, I would say," Akbas said. "We definitely want to do better than last year and we have high hopes to get another championship."

In 2024, the team had a 26-6 record and won the PAC championship; last season, Allegheny finished 14-13 but Duru believes this year will be an improvement.

"I think we have better team chemistry for sure," Akbas said. "I think we connected pretty well with each other, given that we're such a young team this year."

Having lost seven seniors, the team brought in a class of six new players.

Head coach Kelly Barzak agrees with this statement. "The team chemistry this year has been absolutely incredible," Barzak said. "The team is a lot of fun to coach. They are very positive."

Akbas also believes that Skyler Fatola, '27, and Marissa Rish, '30, who is second for triple-doubles nationally, are breakout players to look-out for this season.

Aside from Akbas, the team is led by Head Coach Kelly Barzak who is in her nineth year coaching for the gators and by the other team captains Carly Beers, '27, and Carlee Pepperman, '28.

Barzak has some goals for the season.

"I think coming off of last year, we want to make the conference tournament," Barzak said. "I think that is really important for us as an overall goal, I think our team individually is working really hard to improve every single day."

Barzak said that the team's goal for the year is to host the first round of the PAC tournament.

"We not only want to make it into the conference, we want to make sure that we are hosting, which means we have to finish top four in the conference".

Barzak believes that the level of competition on their schedule will help them play better as they get into conference play.

"I put together a really hard non-conference schedule for our team," Barzak said. "We've had some ups and downs so far, but I wanted to prepare us for conference play, and the best way to do that is by playing better competition."

Beers is excited for the start of the season.

"The energy on the court and in practices is very different and it makes me very excited for the rest of the season," Beers said. "I think there's a lot of improvement, especially with the class that just came in."

Beers is also looking forward to the Dig Pink Game, which happens every October to support Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

"I think it's always a fun game and such a loving environment for both teams," she said.

Fatola and Barzak, on the other hand, are looking forward to specific rivalries

"I think when we play Thiel, it's usually pretty scrappy, and it's kind of a rivalry game so we get pretty excited," Fatola said.

For Barzak and Assistant Coach Zach Rombach it means a little bit more as they both played and coached at Thiel. "Since I'm a Thiel alum and my assistant coach is also a Thiel alum, we love beating Thiel," Barzak said. "That's a fun game to play and our team always loves beating Westminster, Geneva and Grove City, but I think that's just because they're close and they're also some of the best teams in the conference as well."

Barzak also had some specific areas of improvements for this season. "With so many different personalities and experience levels, the biggest thing for us was to come together as a team," Barzak said. "Statistically we wanted to be a better blocking team. Last year we got blocked the most in the conference. So we really are working hard towards attacking around the block, hitting high hands and having our defense cover the attackers."

Excitement and fun are necessary elements of the game, according to Duru, which makes all the difference."Whenever we have fun and are having a good time — even if we're losing points — just having fun makes a difference to win a game," Duru said.

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4:00 PM-4:45 PM | CC303

SEPT 30 — CAREER DOCTOR (DROP-IN TABLING)
NOON-1:15 PM | CC LOBBY

OCT 6 — COFFEE & CAREER (OPEN TAB)
10:30 AM - NOON | GFC

OCT 6 — DUQUESNE MED SCHOOL PRESENTATION
12:15 PM-1:30 PM | CC206

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