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Roads present challenge to local business



MEGHAN HAYMAN/THE CAMPUS

The intersection of N. Main Street and North Street remains closed as construction crews continue to work on repaving efforts.

PennDOT promises completed construction by summer of 2015

By NIA SHULER
Contributing Writer
shulern@allegheny.edu

The recent increase in road work within the Meadville community, specifically on the intersection of N. Main Street and North Street, has been an ongoing occurrence for almost two years throughout the community.

According to Kent Turk, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) construction manager, the project to undertake road

construction was led by the state of Pennsylvania and PennDOT.

“As the project started they did a sanitary silver line replacement the length of the construction corridor and then we’re doing a complete replacement,” Turk said. “We removed all the existing pavement and we’re building a completely new pavement structure.”

Turk goes on to promise new traffic signals, curbs and decorative lighting in addition to the completed roads.

When asked when the project would finally be finished, Turk said the construction would continue into 2015, hopefully ending around July.

Currently, the intersection at N. Main Street and North Street is completely blocked off in all directions. The only way cars are able to get between the two streets, is by crossing the Country Fair parking lot. Road access is not

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AMASA SMITH/THE CAMPUS

New roads, traffic signals, curbs and decorative lights are to be expected in Meadville following the completion of the construction, according to Kent Turk, PennDOT construction manager.

Allegheny ranks top 20 in contributing teachers *Teach for America accepts 10 alumni to the 2014 teaching corps*

By JOSEPH TINGLEY
Contributing Writer
tingleyj@allegheny.edu

This year Allegheny College ranked in the top 20 contributors to the Teach for America Program, among schools of the same size. According to Sarah Hernandez, a recruitment manager for Teach for America who works with Allegheny College, Allegheny contributed one student to the program in 2013. This year they have ten.

Susan Slote, English professor and advisor to the Pre-Education Club, talked about Teach for America in high regards, emphasizing the goals the program pursues. Slote made it clear that she never encourages her student to pursue one path over another, but stated that Allegheny students just seem to be drawn to the program given their strong sense of community service.

“Teach for America is a logical connection for Allegh-

“

I want to teach,
and I want to
teach now.

”

Jessica
Stickel
Class of 2015

eny Students,” Slote said.

She also noted that the number of participants in the program has been going up every year for the last ten years.

Jessica Stickel, '15, explains her desire to inspire children who live without a role model and to show them that someone cares and will believe in them.

“I want to make a difference in as many students' lives as possible,” she said.

The Teach for America

program has been placing young teachers in schools with at-risk students since 1989. Teachers are often recruited directly out of college to serve two years in rural and urban school districts across the country. Many of these communities are below the poverty line.

Stickel explained that her desire to participate arose in part due to her experiences working in Meadville and the education inequality that she observed there.

Stickel is currently in the process of applying to the program and like many who do she is eager to begin a teaching career.

“I want to teach, and I want to teach now,” she said.

The application process, as Hernandez noted, is a fairly rigorous one.

Hernandez explained that the process is broken up into three distinctive steps. The

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first is the initial application which includes a series of short response questions and the submission of a résumé. Those who advance to the next step receive a phone interview and a chance to elaborate on their responses to the questions. The final step is an in-person interview and a sample lesson to teach.

Once accepted, participants are assigned to one of more than fifty regions throughout the United States. Hernandez explains that you are given a chance to voice your preferences but getting your first choice is far from a guarantee.

Hernandez explained that the qualities that are looked for by the program are very broad. She said that one of the overriding concerns is finding prospective teachers who want to make a difference in the issue of education inequality. Hernandez explained they want teachers who are aware of the issues in education and are passionate about it.

The other qualities that Hernandez stressed as important for prospective teachers included individuals who had shown leadership. This could be in student government or working multiple jobs while attending school. Candidates

should also possess a belief in a child's ability to succeed she said.

The challenge of the program and the opportunity to truly make a difference may draw many to the program, but there are other incentives as well.

Hernandez explained that in addition to their wages, ranging from \$24,000 to \$51,000 a year according to the Teach for America website, teachers also receive other benefits and opportunities. These include special loan rates, waived fees from graduate schools and, through a partnership with

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It's the best thing I have ever done and the hardest thing I have ever done.

”

Sarah Hernandez
Teach for America
recruitment
manager

AmeriCorps, an opportunity for educational grants.

The challenge is not something to be taken lightly, though. Hernandez is grateful for her opportunity and also stressed the hard work that went into the job.

“It's the best thing I have ever done and the hardest thing I have ever done,” she said.

Hernandez related how when she first arrived at her assigned school in Ohio that none of her students had ever received a formal education in writing. She also realized that many of her students were only getting two meals

a day, the two that the school provided.

“I began to see how complicated the issue was,” said Hernandez.

Coming into the school year, only 18 percent of her class passed the diagnostic test that they would need to pass in order to graduate. But with Hernandez's help, just a year later, 95 percent made the grade.

Stickel, despite being in only the early stages of her application to Teach for America, will receive a decision by Oct. 30.

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the only difficulty during this construction. Businesses are also experiencing the effects of continuous road work.

The work has formed a ditch in the middle of the intersection that cuts street access to the surrounding small businesses and establishments. Kit Martin, office manager at Meadville Chiropractic, located at 808 N. Main St., talked about the annoyances construction brings to a working establishment.

“It's very inconvenient for our patients,” said Martin. “People have to reroute, and almost daily, it changes and it's been going on forever.”

Martin goes on to say that while thankfully the patients are not there long enough to reap the negative effects of the dust kicked up from the machinery, it may very well be negatively affecting her health. Additionally, the noise is reportedly getting worse.

“It's that continuous noise pollution. We live with constant banging and pounding and dust. You leave here with a headache, not realizing that it's really affecting you,” said Martin.

To provide an example of just how long this road work has been going on, Max Berk-

stresser, director of marketing at Pennsylvania Sandwich Company (PSC) and senior at Edinboro University, said the roads have been the same since the business opened in 2013 on 342 North St. While many of the Meadville establishments in the area are inconvenienced by the major road work occurring, PSC is unable to use the entire front of the building that houses their shop, forcing them to run their business from the kitchen.

“It's taking away business, definitely. Anytime you lose your storefront, you've got problems,” said Mark Brode, PSC owner.

Despite losing the storefront to ongoing construction, the workers at PSC have decided to take a more positive view of the matter.

“It's a pain in the butt...it's taking away accessibility, but in the end it's definitely going to be worth it because the roads are going to be really nice,” said Berkstresser.

Berkstresser mentions how PSC has made the most of the construction work, using it to the store's advantage through advertisements and social media.

“We've done cool things,

like ‘order two subs and you get free delivery,’ because of the road out there. We use our Facebook a lot more to get people's attention. We introduce new subs, and I guess it's kind of nice because you can park out front,” said Berkstresser referring to North Street, which is parallel to PSC and blockaded at the intersection.

While there appears to be mixed feelings concerning the construction, some institutions, like the St. John Missionary Full Gospel Baptist Church do not consider themselves too affected by the roadwork.

“Ultimately it makes it harder, but our members are faithful and they make a way,” said Terri Chimiak, trustee at St. John. “Services continue as normal. I mean, we may have to clean a little more but it's nothing major.”

The intersection of N. Main Street and North Street is still unearthed and not drivable, but progress is expected to pick up soon. Currently, the construction has extended farther down the intersecting streets.



MEGHAN HAYMAN/THE CAMPUS
Road crews leave the N. Main Street and North Street intersection site at a standstill as they take a break from construction.

Roads are expected to be complete in July 2015, in addition to new aesthetic features.

Security signs agreement with Meadville police

College officers gain more responsibility on Allegheny campus

By ARIANNA O'CONNELL
Contributing Writer
oconnella@allegheny.edu

The City of Meadville and Allegheny College signed a Cooperative Agreement on Aug. 1, allotting more authority and responsibility to campus security.

Within the first weeks of school, students have noticed a change in the interaction between themselves and the combined forces of the Meadville City Police Department (MCPD) and Campus Security.

Josh Perez, '17, heard that more Meadville police officers had been added to the force who are expected to bring extra security to the Meadville, including the Allegheny campus.

“There are more sirens than last semester,” said Perez, noticing the upped police presence.

But when it comes to knowledge about the relationship between the college students and the residents of Meadville, Perez and many students were in the dark.

“[Safety and Security] have the authority to exercise powers of a police officer,” read the Cooperative Agreement. Campus security can investigate, make arrests and file charges for criminal conduct on Allegheny's campus.

Despite these additions to the agreement, Safety and Security is required to call on the MCPD for certain matters. When conducting an investigation or apprehending suspects in matters of simple assault, felony violation, violations involving drugs and drug paraphernalia and suspected hostile persons or hostile acts on campus, Security is required to request help from Meadville police according to the Cooperative Agreement.

Campus Security employs four sergeants responsible for responding to non-traffic violations (underage drinking, public drunkenness and disorderly conduct), thefts less than \$2,000 and harassment. This has forced more reliance on the MCPD, although according to Ashleigh Lawton, '18, it does make students feel safer.

It is understood, therefore,

that although campus security does not have all the means of forgoing an investigation or manning a major event, the new and cordial relationship between themselves and the MCPD will allow those cases

“

We want [students] to understand that they live within a neighborhood and they will be accountable... It's a little common courtesy

”

Eric Young
Meadville City
chief of police

to be handled with proper resources and technology.

These resources include three new police officers. According to Allegheny College Director of Safety and Security Jeff Schneider, these young, eager police officers want to do their job and will be more aggressive than the older officers in upholding the law.

“And while our guys will only do it if they have to... When they see someone staggering out of a bar, they will be arrested,” said Schneider.

Both Chief of Police Eric Young and Schneider stressed that their goal is not to rid the campus of all alcohol but to create a safe environment for students and the neighbors of the college itself. They hope to foster positive relations among the Meadville community as a whole.

Because of the fact that the college has stood in the center of a residential area since it was founded, the safety and comfort of both students and residents has remained essential. Both campus security and the MCPD have taken steps toward creating a positive relationship between stu-

dents and residents.

In addition to controlling the extent of distribution of alcohol on and off campus, the college has also taken steps toward curbing sexual violence.

The college and the city have done extensive work as of late to follow the state's new Title IX of 1972, which protects women from discrimination in education systems, and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act regulations which ensures that police respond to crisis calls and advocate for victims.

The college has hired a new Title IX coordinator, Catherine Pope, who will ensure that the college and the MCPD respond to cases of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking and sexual violence.

According to Schneider, much of these new advancements in sexual assault are in response to the Sandusky trial at Pennsylvania State, which exposed the lack of reporting safety violations within schools.

The ordinance itself has been set forth since 2004, and

continues to grow in order to provide safety to students and maintain a peaceful relationship between the college and the greater residential community.

Schneider mentioned that his goal is creating safety and a living, learning environment. The Safety and Security office hopes to create a relationship of mutual respect between students and Security officers in order to prepare them for the world beyond.

“We want [students] to understand that they live within a neighborhood and they will be accountable... It's a little common courtesy,” Young said.

Schneider mentioned that the campus security officers' are striving for peace of mind across all fronts.

“We want everyone to be happy as an end result,” Schneider said.

Everyone, including local citizens and Allegheny students.

THE CAMPUS

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AMANDA SPADARO Co-Editor-in-Chief/Business Manager
SAM STEPHENSON Co-Editor-in-Chief
editor@alleghenycampus.com

CHRISTINA BRYSON News Editor
news@alleghenycampus.com

CLAIRE TEAGUE Features Editor
features@alleghenycampus.com

ALEX HOLMES Sports Editor
CHLOE KEDZIORA Junior Sports Editor
sports@alleghenycampus.com

ANGELA MAURONI Science Editor
editor@alleghenycampus.com

REBECCA FOX Opinion Editor
opinion@alleghenycampus.com

MEGHAN HAYMAN Photo Editor
AMASA SMITH Photo Editor
photo@alleghenycampus.com

ELLIOTT BARTELS Web Manager
editor@alleghenycampus.com

CHERYL HATCH Faculty Adviser
chatch@allegheny.edu

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

Advertising:(814)332-5386
Box 12, Allegheny College
520 N. Main St.
Meadville, PA 16335

EVENTS CALENDAR

Open Improvisation Sessions in Dance and Music
Friday, September 19, 4 to 4:30 p.m., Montgomery Performance Space
Sessions take place regularly on Fridays throughout the semester. No experience is necessary, but bring your own instrument or come to dance.

Culminating Performance in SET’s 24 Hour Theatre Fest
Saturday, September 20, 7 p.m., Arter Little Theatre
A performance will feature all of the new plays that groups of students wrote and directed in 24 hours.

Chapel Service
Sunday, September 21, 11 a.m., Ford Chapel
Guest preacher Kazi Joshua will give the sermon “Hands up! Don’t Shoot: From Gaza to Ferguson.” Join the Communion service, and stay for lunch to thank Kazi for what he has meant to the Allegheny community.

Jeff Smith: “Mr. Smith Goes to Prison: Lessons from the Front Lines of our Nation’s Experiment with Mass Incarceration” (Year of Voting Rights Event)
Monday, September 22, 7 p.m., Tillotson Room of the Tippie Alumni Center
Assistant professor of politics and advocacy at the New School for Public Engagement, Jeff Smith served in the Missouri Senate from 2006 to 2009, representing inner-city St. Louis. His youth-powered grass-roots congressional campaign was chronicled in the documentary “Can Mr. Smith Get to Washington Anymore?”

Carrden Market
Wednesday, Sept. 24, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Campus Center
Purchase organically grown produce from Allegheny’s own Carrden.

Community Contra Dance
Wednesday, September 24, 7:30 to 9 p.m., Montgomery Gym
No partner is needed, and all dances are taught (with extra instruction 30 minutes prior to the dance). Live Irish dance music is by TOPPISH. Inside shoes only. The Dance and Movement Studies Program presents this student/community dance collaboration.

Fall Leadership Series: “Making the Connection,” with Jim Fitch
Thursday, September 25, 12:30 p.m., Campus Center 206
Space is limited and lunch will be provided. Sign up by emailing mpeters@allegheny.edu.

Single Voice Reading Series: Joanna Luloff and Leslie Anne Mcilroy
Thursday, September 25, 7 p.m., Tillotson Room of the Tippie Alumni Center
Joanna Luloff’s short story collection “The Beach at Galle Road” was a Barnes and Noble Discover Great New Writers selection and was published by Algonquin Books in 2012. Leslie Anne Mcilroy won the 1997 Slipstream Poetry Chapbook Prize for “Gravel” and the 2001 Word Press Poetry Prize for “Rare Space.”

CRIME BLOTTER

Sept. 12, 2014
Baldwin Hall
Student being investigated for underage drinking and being in violation of having alcohol in his room. Other students involved are being investigated for supplying alcoholic beverages to minors.

Sept. 12, 2014
Baldwin Hall
One student being investigated for underage drinking and two other students involved in false IDs.

Sept. 13, 2014
College owned house
One student being investigated for underage drinking.

ASG UPDATES

ASG approved student representatives for all College Committees this past Tuesday.

The search for a new provost is underway and ASG will be looking to poll student interest in either an external or internal search.

The October Energy Challenge is coming up!

All ASG senators have been sworn in.

ASG cabinet meetings have been set for Sundays at 8 p.m. and are open to the public.

A message regarding new textbook charge policies went out in response to student voice and concerns. Past policies have been restored.

ASG has not yet received the list of email addresses of all current students to begin Direct Representation process for the year but this will resume shortly.

Due to underenrollment the ASG budget is under strain and all clubs and organizations receiving ASG funding will need to be mindful of this when requesting money from the General and Surplus fund.

WRITE

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PHOTOGRAPH

INVESTIGATE

Campus Meetings every Monday at 8 p.m. in Campus Center room 306.

Active Minds Recommends you talk it out

LEAH RUDGE
Contributing Writer
rudgele@allegheny.edu

A common mental health myth is that talking about something will make the situation worse or give the person ideas. This is not the case, talking to a friend in need can reassure them that there is someone who cares for them and may be the first step to getting help. Mental health problems can affect relationships, academics, and overall well-being. Mental health, just like physical health, needs to be monitored. It is not abnormal to have a problem, and mental health problems are just as real as a physical illness like a cold or a heart problem. Like a cold or a heart problem, some mental illness may be more easily managed than others.

According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, one in four adults, or about 61.5 million Americans, experience mental illness each year. Mental illness is something that affects many people on our campus, and chances are you or one of your friends has experienced mental health problems throughout your life. In 2010, a nationwide survey of college students found that thirty percent of students felt “so depressed that it was difficult to function” at some time in the past year (American College Health Association). Sixty four percent of young adults who are no longer in college stopped attending because of a mental health related reason. There are many resources available in the hopes to avoid this; however, many students who need help with any mental health problems do not receive it. NAMI states that fifty percent of them did not access mental health services and support systems when they needed it. This may be because of the stigma surrounding mental health and counseling, or maybe even something as simple as not knowing what their resources are or where they are located. Active Minds wants to ensure that our peers know how and where to get help when they need it.

Counseling Center Contact Info:

Director:
Dr. Yvonne Eaton-Stull
Reis Hall 304

Visit their website:
sites.allegheny.edu/counseling

Mental Health Crisis Contact info:

Campus:
Monday-Friday
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.:
(814) 332-4368

Here at Allegheny we have a great counseling center located upstairs in Reis Hall 304. After entering the build-

ing, go up the stairs on your left, then walk to the right side of the balcony and the office is right there. It is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and a counselor can always be contacted by security after hours in case of emergency. There are many resources available in the office like pamphlets, books you can read or borrow and of course someone to listen. The counseling center can help with issues concerning all aspects of life, including school life, personal life, home life, future life choices, or anything else you could possibly need to talk about. They can also refer you to a local professional. Anything you say to the counselors is confidential, and you don't have to have a mental illness to go and talk. You can also anonymously refer a friend to the counseling center and they will reach out to them. All of the resources the counseling center supplies are free! This is important to note because many students, fifty seven percent nationwide, who don't seek support for their mental health problems do not do so because they are afraid they will be charged and not be able to afford it (NAMI).

Never be afraid or ashamed to get help from a friend, from a professor, or from a counselor because taking care of yourself is never something to be ashamed of. If you are interesting in breaking down the stigma surrounding mental health or want to learn more about it, come to Active Minds meetings on Mondays at 9 p.m. in CC 206.

Just the Tips: How to spot and help abusive relationships

JANELLE CARSON
Contributing Writer
carsonj@allegheny.edu

Disclaimer: This article may be triggering to some. Please be aware of this before reading further.

Domestic violence and abuse do not have to follow a strict, specific model. It can happen in any type of relationship. It can happen in hetero or homosexual relationships, both males and females can be the abuser, and it can also affect relationships between people of varying ages, races, ethnicities, and socioeconomic statuses. However, despite its widespread presence, domestic violence unfortunately can be hard to spot in many situations. This is where Reprodction Coaltion comes in this week, to help you and loved ones spot it. This is extremely important, because acknowledging that you are in an abusive relationship is the first step to getting help and getting out.

First off, abuse can manifest itself in two

major forms: emotional and physical. Hollywood would like you to believe that abusive relationships are purely drunken, burly men in wife beaters that smack their poor helpless wives around. This, however, is not the defining model of domestic violence, because there are far too many overlapping types of abusive relationships. Emotional abuse, for instance, can potentially be far more damaging than physical abuse. One can send you to the hospital and may lead to more fatal consequences, but emotional abuse can lead to many of the same consequences with a more long-term effect. Survivors of emotional abuse tend to suffer from depression and severe anxiety among other psychological issues.

Examples of emotional abuse include: yelling, shaming, isolating you from friends or family, controlling behavior (needing to know where you are, who you're with, going through your possessions),

extreme possessiveness and jealousy. They also may seem charming in public but turn aggressive in private or blame you for their problem.

I cannot stress enough that this list is not exhaustive. These are just the most common occurrences of emotional abuse, and are sure-fire ways to tell if you or a friend is in an abusive relationship.

Examples of physical abuse encompass any use of physical force that damages or endangers a partner in a relationship. It is crucial to understand that sexual abuse is also physical abuse. Just because you are in a committed relationship with someone does not mean that you are consenting to sex every time. If your partner does not respect your right to say “no”, then you are certainly facing a form of physical abuse.

Determining if someone you know is in an abusive relationship or not is important because this could save their life. Warning signs include, but are not limited to:

isolation
anxiousness when their partner is brought up, absences from work without explanation and personality changes.

Once you have gone through this overwhelming process of acknowledging that you or a loved one is in an abusive relationship, what do you do now? Here are a few preliminary steps to follow:

If you are the victim:

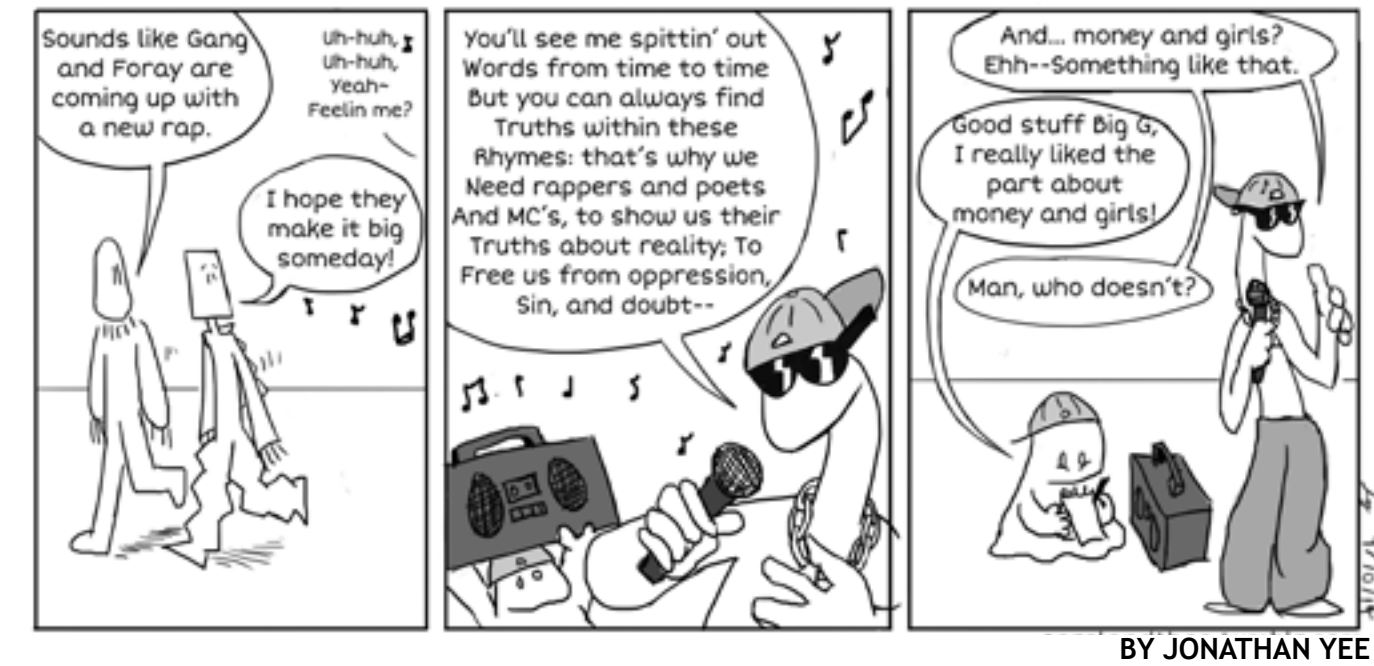
- Let a trusted friend or family member know your situation
- Understand that the abuse is not your fault
- Prepare a plan for when you leave your partner

If a loved one is a victim:

- Express concern
- Let them know they are safe with you
- Listen and respect what they have to say
- Be a support system and help them reach out to appropriate services
- Contact your local women's shelter:

Meadville's Women's Services 24-hour hotline: 814-333-9766

THE SIMPLE THINGS



Just how wack is the Yik Yak app?

LUCAS PROPER
Contributing Writer
properl@allegheny.edu

This new social networking application for iPhone and Android users, released on February 20, 2014, is now sweeping across campus and becoming a part of almost every student's life. Yik Yak is designed for users to be able to post Twitter-like posts anonymously. Users are also able to vote on a yak by giving an upvote or a downvote, being able to reply to a yak as well. With the anonymous factor, it is no wonder as to why this has become very popular not only at Allegheny, but at many colleges across the nation. However, besides all of the obvious abilities of this app, it does seem to have the ability to create negativity.

Even though people post anonymously, it is quite easy to direct some yaks towards

others knowingly. This would be a form of bullying and Yik Yak does not condone it, which is why they will suspend users if their yaks are continuing to be downvoted. Also, in their rules they state in reference to their users,

“1. You do not bully or specifically target other yakkers. 2. You DO NOT bully or specifically target other yakkers.”

Adding much emphasis on this rule by capitalizing and repeating it for a second time.

Yik Yak, LLC encourages their yakkers to downvote and flag the yaks that display this type of behavior. Regardless though, bullying through Yik Yak is a possibility.

“I've heard rumors about cyber bullying on Yik Yak this past week,” Jonathan Alcantara, '18.

My friends immediately

report the posts and they are then taken down immediately.

Yik Yak, LLC also asks that their users don't clutter the feeds with “useless or offensive yaks.” Which, from my experience, happens quite often.

When I open Yik Yak, I see plenty of funny, sarcastic and creative yaks. This aspect is great and enjoyed by many students, such as Josh Patton, '18.

“I personally find Yik Yak hilarious as I can appreciate the scathing and bitter sar-

casm that is usually posted,” said Patton.

However, scathing posts can become a problem. That problem would be the fact that people become ignorant and they don't think about the negativity surrounding their posts.

Lucas Proper

disgustingly flirting, talking about men and women in a demeaning light and basically using vulgarity as humor. This is why those, on the outside looking in, can begin to see our college in a poor light.

“It makes us seem like

a huge party school,” Lizzy Mann, '18.

People in the Meadville area who have Yik Yak are able to see the posts that our college makes. This will not leave a good impression at all.

“It would portray our school in a negative light,” Patton said.

On the other hand though, there are many things here that involve the Meadville community, many things keep students on their feet with clubs and many things where our students are doing good for one another. Sure, we have parties, but there are so many other colleges that party too.

“I think it just portrays that we're a normal student body: our Yik Yak isn't unique,” said Liliana Carbone, '18.

Users on Yik Yak have the ability to view other popular college Yaks, and after view-

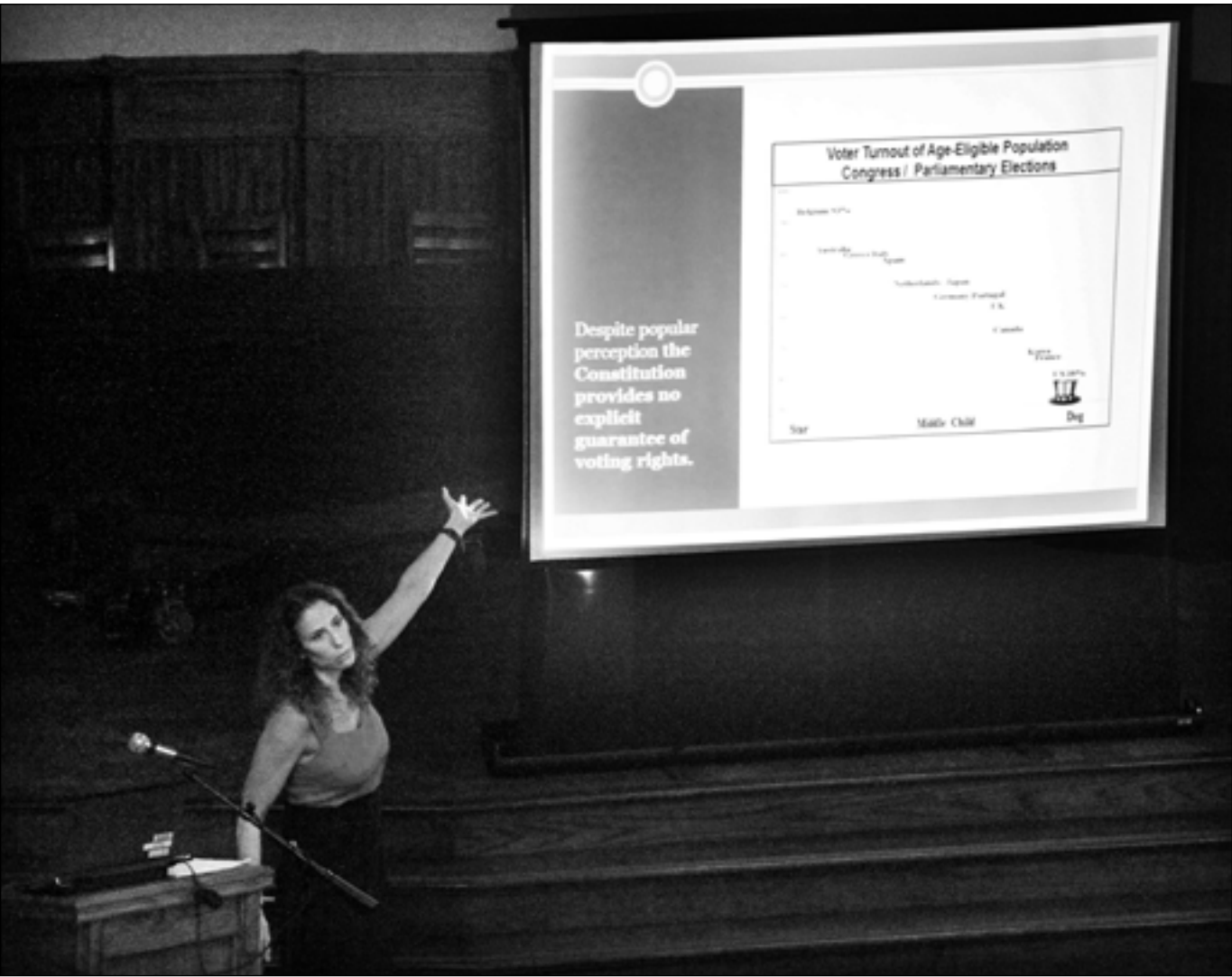
ing them, they are not much different than our own. If Yik Yak portrays anything, it should be that the students are “ungrateful” because of all of the complaining done. But the complaining shouldn't matter that much because it is the kind of lazy, teenager-complaining that happens all of the time.

All in all, Yik Yak is a great app. I know what you are thinking: how can he say that after talking about this bad stuff? I think the funny, sarcastic, and entertainment-based side of Yik Yak outweighs the demeaning side. The point of this article is to bring to light that bullying, the act of demeaning people and falsely portraying Allegheny is possible.

In the end, I encourage users to think before yaking.

Tova Wang visits Allegheny’s campus

Discusses the right to vote and the politics of voter suppression



MEGHAN HAYMAN/THE CAMPUS

Tova Wang gestures to her powerpoint slide during her presentation on voting rights in Ford Chapel.

By KAITLYN CAMPBELL
Contributing Editor
campbellk2@allegheny.edu

Author Tova Wang kicked off Allegheny College’s “Year of Voting Rights and Democratic Participation” themed bicentennial celebration Wednesday night speaking to over one-hundred audience members gathered in Ford Chapel.

“The Politics of Voter Suppression: Defending and Expanding Americans’ Right to Vote” author started her lecture with one question: “How

many people have already voted in an election before?”

About half of the crowd raised their hands. When asked if audience members plan to vote this upcoming term, about two-thirds of the audience members’ hands rose. With this, Wang informed the audience that students can register and vote through Allegheny College in order to promote youth voting throughout the College. Registrations will be held until Oct. 6.

Giving out statistics from Universal Voter Registration,

fairvote.com, Wang told the audience that the Constitution of the United States does not state that citizens have the right to vote. It does, however, state that the citizens cannot be denied the right to vote based on race, gender, or economic standing.

With this, Wang includes that voting is even more difficult than it used to be. This is where most of Wang’s focus for “The Politics of Voter Suppression: Defending and Expanding Americans’ Right to Vote” is concentrated.

An easier way for vot-

ers to register, according to Wang, is same-day registration. By allowing citizens to register the day of elections would increase participation by 47 percent in youth voters. However, this is only available in some states, such as North Dakota.

According to the Brennan Center, 13 states passed more restrictive voter ID laws and 10 passed laws making it harder for citizens to register to vote between 2011 and 2014 as well as eight states passed laws eliminating or shortening early voting.

Due to these changes, fewer citizens voted in the 2012 election, according to Wang. These numbers don’t include the 10.4 percent of the voting population was denied the right to vote due to felony disenfranchisement.

According to Wang, this is the action of excluding citizens eligible to vote from voting due to a criminal offense conviction. Actions such as parole or probation interfere with voter registration due to state law variations. When the citizens do not know if they can vote, they usually decide not to.

In Wang’s presentation, she included that “the biggest barrier appears to be the registration process. When registered, non-college youth vote almost as much as other age groups”. Wang backs up her statement by bringing to the audience’s attention voter ID dilemmas.

One of Wang’s concentrations revolves around the voter ID dilemmas. At Allegheny College, students can use their student IDs in order to vote. However, at other schools, this is not the case. Some establishments require a valid signature on file for the Department for Motor Vehicles, which means the citizen needs a valid driver’s license along with a current address.

Since young voters were on Wang’s mind that evening, she brought up the fact that college students living on and off campus would have an issue with this regulation. The students’ driver’s licenses would have their home addresses but not their college addresses.

Where, then, can students vote?

According to Wang, there are three options for college students. First, the students

can travel countless miles back to their home-towns to vote. Second, the student can check with their institution whether or not it is acceptable to vote in the establishment’s district. Or third, the student decides the hassle is far too great and does not vote at all.

Wang stated that some institutions such as Drexel University near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have used tactics in the past to scare students away from voting. Some students would get emails or text messages warning that if the student votes a certain direction, scholarship money would be taken away.

Students would also get notifications that Democrats would vote on the first day and Republicans would vote on the second, or vice versa. These tactics would intimidate the students before the election even began and cause them to decide against voting, according to Wang.

After her hour long speech at Ford Chapel, Wang finished her presentation citing the history and current actions concerning voting rights in the United States.

She offered the audience her websites, www.demos.org and www.votingrightstoday.org, and her email address, twang@demos.org, for further questions on the topic.

Wang’s last question to the audience lingered in the air; “Why aren’t students protesting the way they used to in the 60s?”



Nick Schake, ’16, concentrates on decorating his cactus he picked out during GAP’s event last Saturday, Sept. 13.



GAP gives 350 cacti to students

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
MEGHAN HAYMAN
Photo Editor
haymanm@allegheny.edu



This cactus was renamed Copious by Ally Bartlett, ’16, because of its many needles.



Students lined up to pick out their favorite cactus that will become a new pal.

A line weaved throughout the Campus Center lobby as students waited for their very own baby cactus last Saturday, Sept. 13.

Gator Activities Programming sponsored the late night event, providing 350 cactus plants to students who wanted to bring a little more green life to their rooms but required little care.

“It was a great turn out,” said Autumn Parker, ’16, vice president of special events. “They got a plant that was theirs to take care of. Everyone goes crazy over mini things.”

Before students were able to pick a cactus with large spikes or small bristles, Alex Neal, ’15, GAP president, and Quintin Peacock, ’17, late night event coordinator, advised students to be careful when handling the plants.

After students picked out the cactus that caught their fancy, they either continued on with their night or stayed to decorate.

“They said it only needed to be water once a month,” said Sierra Hall, ’17, who was excited to own her first cactus plant. “It has lots of sparkles and I put stickers on mine.”

Ally Bartlett, ’16, remembers running into the line, which almost to the front doors of the Campus center, 15 minutes before the event officially started. She searched for the one with the largest, sharpest spikes.

“I already repotted my cacti and named them,” Bartlett said. “I love them.”

The next late night event, salsa making, will be hosted by Edible Allegheny this Friday, Sept. 19 in the Campus Center lobby from 10 to 11 p.m.



MARKET GROWTH



Members of improvisation group from the Playshop Theatre and Student Experimental Theatre of Allegheny College, from left, Chris Schuchert, '16, Luke Davis, '16, Sean Gannon, '16, and Annie Utterback, '16, perform on the garden-themed stage decorated by children, on the Second Saturday Community Market at the Meadville Market House on Sept. 13, 2014.

Students contribute to Second Saturday Community Market

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
RACHEL WANG
Contributing Photographer

“Thinking about the pros and cons of living in a place, the Market House to me is one of the best parts living in Meadville,” said Michael Mehler, associate professor of communication arts department at Allegheny College.

Located right in the middle of downtown Meadville, the Market House is a historical building selling local products including food and locally made products. It hosts the Second Saturday Community Market every month from May to September on the second Saturday, where the community gathers to enjoy fresh local food, art crafts and live music. And for the first time on Sept. 13, students of Allegheny College played a big role in the Second Saturday Community Market with an improv show by the Playshop Theatre and Student Experimental Theatre.

As the production manager for the Playshop Theatre in Allegheny College, Mehler lead the effort in creating a sustainable theatrical production that fits in the theme and the space of Second Saturday Community Market.

“In September, we always try to do a show that is something new that has never been

on stage before, and this one is especially looking at ways of creating a stage that is not typically scenery,” said Mehler.

This idea has been developing in his mind ever since he started looking at ways of doing theatre more sustainably, such as changing ways of using materials that are less impactful on the environment and more efficient, and looking at new ways of approaching lighting.

Mehler was on a conference panel two and a half years ago, meeting with artist Tanja Beer, who grew a stage set out of food bearing plants in Melbourne, Australia. She was then brought to Allegheny’s campus a year and a half ago to create a stage alongside the Environmental Science Department.

Talking about where the plants on the stage came from, Mehler said that he has been thinking about making positive environmental and social impacts. Therefore, in April he started working with the Healthy Kids Day at the YMCA downtown and started a project of planting seedlings in simple ways that would get kids excited about growing food. Combining art and food, he gave each of the kids a little cardboard tube from a roll of toilet paper, shoveled a little dirt in there, seeded, and painted the tubes with organic paints that are

soy or milk based.

He later brought this project to the Second Saturday Market with portable planting boxes. While families were shopping for food or looking at the artwork, the kids came up and do seedlings and decorations.

Before Mehler was able to do a project at the Second Saturday Community Market, he had been working with the program for several years. Last summer, he volunteered and helped organize the market where he tried to get to know the community better.

“It has been really eye-opening and satisfying,” said Mehler. “I would be lying to say that it felt like work in the moment, but on reflection it is a lot of work.”

Students from the Playshop Theatre and SET are excited about getting downtown and performing to a different kind of audience. The improv group performed a food based farm story that was appropriate for children, and the unique stage made the rural setting even more vivid.

Luke Davis, '17, didn't have any outdoor improv performance experience before the event. He really enjoyed working at the outdoor space on this untraditional, garden-themed stage at the Market House.

“The ideals of improv very much go with the natural en-

vironment and stage, because the improv is the natural reaction of the performers to the audience”, Davis said. “The ‘Market Growth’ project is really successful bringing people from the college down into the broader community that supports and invests the college.”

Following the show was a cooking competition between Pete Zimmer, the chief of Voodoo Brewery, and the challenger David Dowson, a local who once worked in a local restaurant. They pre-

pared food with materials they got from the market on that day, and had kids help them out to make dishes.

“I really enjoy cooking a lot, and I am always looking for opportunities to cook for others. I want to focus on food that would be easy to assemble, flavorful and colorful, fun to eat and to look at,” said Dawson, after the cooking competition.

The Second Saturday Market attracted a large number of the community and received high praise from citizens.

Becky Pineo, an organizer of Second Saturday Market last year, served as the advisor to this year's event. She thought the playshop and the cooking competition were great additions to the market. Liz Shade and her husband Jason Shade, who was one of the judges for the cooking competition, said, “This [cooking competition] is awesome. I wish they would do this every time.”



Katherine McGerr, visiting assistant professor of communication arts department at Allegheny College, and Mark Conson, right, associate professor of communication arts department, watch challenger David Dawson, left, preparing food during cooking competition at the Second Saturday Market.

Prize winning organist Christian Lane visits campus Ford Chapel opens doors to students and Meadville community

By MIMI LAM
Contributing Writer
lamm@allegheny.edu

Music is coming from the Ford Chapel, but it is not the church bells but rather the sweet, in-tune organ melody played by Christian Lane.

Brought to Allegheny College by alumnus Edward Hodgson Jr., PhD, on Sept. 13, Lane visited Meadville for the first time in order to play in front of the Meadville and Allegheny community.

“It’s a beautiful space,” said Lane, about Ford Chapel. “But every organ in every space is different and the organ is only as good as the room it plays into.”

Playing the piano since he was five, Lane has had tremendous experience musically, eventually winning the 2011 Canadian International Organ Competition and holding the title of vice president within the American Guild of Organists.



Christian Lane

“My dad was a pastor so I always had an instrument which I could try out my little piano pieces,” said Lane. “I was exposed to it pretty early, but I wasn’t very serious about it.”

Lane initially planned on becoming a musical theater conductor, leading him to receive a music degree. Because of this track, he got into piano and the organ, which he found more interesting.

“The organ is a great thing because we can’t take our in-

struments with us,” said Lane. “Every instrument we sit down with is completely new, so we have to essentially start from scratch. The way that I play here today is different from the way I play tomorrow even though I’ll play some of the same music.”

Alternating from fast to slow pieces, Lane equalized his pieces with variations of all types of music instead of sticking to one consistent theme. Grace Connelly, '18, attended the performance in light of her own musical experiences.

“I do try to lean towards the faster pace songs just because they’re really interesting,” said Connelly. “There were several parts where he was coming to the climax of the song and then the sun would come out and shine on him.”

Rebecca Borthwick-Aiken, a part-time faculty organ instructor, recommended Lane some pieces as well as sug-

gested him to play the Star Spangled Banner in honor of the song’s 200th anniversary.

“I was quite happy to take the direction that she [Borthwick-Aiken] gave and

“Every instrument we sit down with is completely new, so we have to essentially start from scratch.

Christian Lane

then filling the rest in a way that I hope has a sense of balance, trying to balance the program as one might balance a meal,” Lane said. “You don’t want to eat all red meat for the meal. You need a little bit of dessert in there as well.”

The captivating performance itself filled the room with its rich sounds, combin-

ing familiar music as well as obscure ones. As soon as Lane smoothly flowed onto the bench, silence captured the audience while the organ resonated throughout the room.

“Even this organ here, which is digital, the sounding board is the room you’re playing into,” said Lane. “There are some rooms which are much bigger that have a lot of acoustics and some rooms that are much smaller and don’t have any acoustics whatsoever. This was kind of in the middle.”

Spectating the performance, Alex Marrero, '18, attended because of his love for music and his experiences playing the piano.

“I love to study how other people play music and I love the organ,” said Marrero. “I understand the dedication and commitment it takes to actually make it into the music society.”

Overall, the audience

awarded Lane with a round of applause along with a standing ovation to conclude his stay in Meadville. Community members, students, and faculty were granted the opportunity to chat with Lane as well as enjoy some refreshments.

“Every performance is unique and there’s always things that go really well and things you wish would go better,” said Lane. “But hopefully, it was enjoyable to listen to and authentic in some way. The goal is not to be 100 percent perfect even though that’s what we aspire to in some level, but to be able to speak to people through the playing, hopefully I accomplished that.”

With one final bow, Lane left Allegheny College and a ring in everyone’s ear. There is no indication yet whether he will perform once again in the future, but to the attendees, he has them with gratitude and satisfaction.



AMASA SMITH/THE CAMPUS
Faith Robinson, '15, attempts a goal against Mount Union players Katie Baker (26) and goalie Maria Favorite (42) on Saturday, Sept. 13. Robinson had three shots on the goal and made one. Allegheny won the game 4-1 for their fifth straight win this season. The women's soccer team will play Oneonta at home tomorrow Sept. 20 at 4 p.m.

Women's Soccer on winning streak

By EYLIE BUEHLER
Staff Writer
buehlere@allegheny.edu

The Allegheny women's soccer team started the season strong and currently holds a record of 5-2-0 as they move further into their season. Last year, the team won conference playoffs and would like to make it to playoffs again.

Coach Michael Webber, the women's soccer coach of ten years, said this season will continue to increase in difficulty but the team has a good chance of going the distance if they maintain their mindset and keep improving.

"We'd like to finish in the top four in our conference, although our focus is on one game at a time... We're headed in the right direction," Webber said.

Jessie Thiessen, '17, said the team has put in a lot of hard work so far and their goals are more than attainable if they keep improving.

Thiessen mentioned what sets the team apart of other women's teams in the conference is their closeness and

sense of family.

"Our team is a lot more physically in shape than the other teams I think," Thiessen said. "We also are very united as a team. We know that we can't win games without everyone, from the field to the bench, being physically and mentally ready. We work together very well and are always positive and encouraging to one another. Every single person on our team has an impact on the game. Everyone has to have their heads in the game and excited to play."

The relationship of the team on the field seemed just as important as the team's relationship off the field to Sam Brooks, '18. Brooks said her experience so far at Allegheny would not be the same if she had not met the girls that she did through the soccer team.

"We are all pretty close outside of soccer too and I think that shows on the field," Brooks said.

Webber agreed that team chemistry is important to how the game is played. He said

the women he has coached have a great sense of family and making the team feel like one.

"The upperclassmen pass down expectations and they set good examples and have huge ownership of the team," Webber said. "They bring in the freshmen and show them the high expectations we have; not only the expectations of the coaches but of the players, which I think is really important. It's the team leading the way."

The support from other team members that most players attribute to their success comes from their team mottos.

According to Webber before each season it is the seniors' job to come up with a saying the team uses while playing to keep one another motivated. They call the saying a mistake ritual, which they can tell another player after a mistake mid-game or practice.

"On the field we have a mistake ritual that we say to each other when we make

a mistake or feel like we are playing bad," Thiessen said. "The saying is 'Chin up', it is to help keep us positive and not get down on ourselves."

The team also has a motto every year. This year's motto is 'make it count.'

According to Brooks the motto is to remind the team that everything they do should be to the best of their ability.

The obstacles this season will begin to come up more the further the season continues, Webber said. He believes the hardest part of the season is always when players begin to take on heavier workloads in their classes and start to get sick of the same old thing.

"We just need to find a mid season balance and try to keep it fun with practice and games and school," Webber said.

While their season is just beginning, the women's soccer team has high hopes for their future.

The next women's soccer home game will take place on Sept. 20 at 1 p.m.

Taylor Samuel named NCAC Player of the Week

By ALEX HOLMES
Sports Editor
holmesa2@allegheny.edu



Taylor Samuel

- 1. What are the requirements to be chosen as NCAC Player of the Week?**
I'm not really sure. I racked up 60 kills, four kills per set, which was the most on our team. I was also the key hitting member of our team.
- 2. How does it feel to have been nominated as NCAC Player of the Week?**
It's really cool. I haven't gotten an award like that. It shows that my hard work since the beginning has paid off and I've improved.
- 3. What would you say to the people who nominated you?**
Thank you for the prestigious honor early in the season. I hope I can continue to excel.
- 4. What's next after such an honor?**
Continue working hard at practice and better myself.
- 5. What is your favorite part of playing volleyball?**
On the court, the excitement and intensity of playing with the team. And it's fun!
- 6. How do you prepare for each game?**
I start with a good night's sleep the night before. For breakfast, I eat my egg whites and fruit. Then during warm up, no matter how hard the opposing team may be, I mentally prepare myself to play my game.
- 7. Why did you pick to play volleyball at Allegheny?**
I actually didn't at first. My dad sent my tapes from high school to the coach, who then got back to me and I love playing. I came here for the academics and I get to play my favorite sport also.

- 8. How long have you been playing volleyball?**
Since my junior year of high school so three years.
- 9. What do you think good coaches have in common?**
They have to be passionate about the sport and have to understand their players to know how to deal with situations. Each player handles criticisms differently and yelling at some players won't help them. They also have to come up with difficult drills that simulate a game atmosphere.
- 10. What are you looking forward to in the rest of the season?**
Strengthening my friendships with the team and having a successful record.
- 11. How do your teammates support you?**
Even if I miss a hit or a serve, they tell me "it's okay", "you got this", "next time". When I feel down, they are there to cheer me up. And I'm friends with them outside the court so I can go to them with anything.
- 12. What are the struggles of being a student athlete?**
I do not do well on buses, I can't do homework on the bus or I get bus sick. So I have to email my professors in advance and do the assignments before we leave each week-end.

Allegheny club sports for students

By MEAGHAN WILBY
Staff Writer
wilbym@allegheny.edu

The Campus will be featuring four club sports in each of the next four issues.

"Club sports give folks another opportunity to be physically active," said Portia Hoeg, Director of Athletics. "It's a wonderful outlet for people who can't commit to a varsity sport."

There are 21 registered clubs at Allegheny College; however, only 16 of them are currently active.

The clubs are entirely student run and based on student interest. Each club has a faculty adviser and a student president.

Unlike varsity sports, the competitions that each club competes in varies. Some clubs belong to leagues, for others, their games depend on whatever they are able to organize. Often teams will compete against schools in the Western PA area and are not limited by NCAA defined classifications.

Cheerleading
The Cheerleading club is

about supporting the school and its sports teams according to club captain, Emily Eikey. They currently cheer at football games and the men's and women's basketball matches.

The squad is made up of about 20 girls with all kinds of experience levels. Anyone can join and they hold a number of tryouts throughout the year: often two in the fall (one at the beginning of the football and then basketball season) and one in the spring.

There is no competitive aspect to the club; their sole purpose is to support the school and its sports teams.

It is a relatively inexpensive commitment financially: there are two lots of dues that have to be paid plus shoes and some personal items for the uniform. Joining the squad requires a commitment to two two-hour practices a week as well as any games.

Equestrian
The equestrian club is divided into two divisions. The club is open to anyone of any experience level who wants to try equestrian and a 14-member competitive team.

The competitive team is required to ride at least eight

times a semester. They are coached by Halli Bidwell and compete in horse shows at various different schools in the western PA area. The members compete in different classes depending on their skill level.

Tournaments are a large time commitment; however, there is little financial cost associated with them. The only financial commitment, for both club and team members are lessons; however, the club receives a discounted price.

Lessons are held at Brenric Barn and scheduled weekly at various times. They are available for both competitive and noncompetitive members.

Fencing
The fencing club requires no previous experience or any specific time commitment. There is a lot of inexperience within the club said president Patrick Payne.

The club runs over both semesters and they have practices twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays. From 6-7 p.m., people with previous experience can come, and at 7 p.m. each week, Professor Tomas Nonnenmacher runs lessons for newcomers.

"People are welcome to go along to practice anytime. There are no hard feelings if you try it and don't come back," Payne said.

Club members can compete in tournaments if they would like to, however it is not a requirement. The club attends 1-2 tournaments a semester, and although they have not hosted one at Allegheny in a while, they are hoping to host one this year.

Men's Ice Hockey
The Men's Ice Hockey club practices twice a week and play on Friday nights. They are coached by Kyle Jones and have recently joined a new league which has helped to reduce travel times.

They play over both semesters and will take anyone who wants to play, however, you have to be able to provide your own equipment.

This makes it a large financial commitment if one has never played before. To get all the necessary equipment can cost around \$1,000 on top of the \$300 cost to play that all members are required to pay.

The club has a current roster of 16 people, most of whom have played in high school.

Gator Updater:
WOMEN's VOLLEYBALL

9/20 at Ohio Wesleyan University

9/24 at Pitt-Bradford