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AI Task Force releases report

By **CHRISTIAN KEBEKUS**
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Allegheny's AI Task Force released its preliminary report to the college community via email on Sept. 25. The task force was created in June 2025 with the purpose of detailing the possibilities of artificial intelligence usage and its possible effects at the college.

Provost and Dean of Faculty Jennifer Dearden co-chaired the task force alongside Chief Information Officer Katrina Yeung. The goal of the report is to provide a framework that will be used to develop permanent AI policy for Allegheny.

"It's not just an academic concern, it's not just a financial concern, it's not just an environmental concern, it's everything," Dearden said of AI.

Dearden played a crucial role for the AI task force, working alongside other faculty members from a wide range of departments, as well as students, to represent the different voices of Allegheny.

Late last summer, the task force went on what Dearden described as a "roadshow." The group visited many different stakeholders, including the president's cabinet, faculty council, the Allegheny Student Government and other constituencies to garner input for the report.

The task force's report includes a summary of findings from this assessment phase, along with a list of prioritizable recommendations, a framework for evaluating and adopting AI policies and a timeline for implementation.

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Residence Life associate dean leaves abruptly

By **BEN STAVNEZER**
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Associate Dean for Residence Life Stacie Wolbert, who began working for the college in 2024, announced her resignation to Residence Life staff on Oct. 10. She planned to leave Nov. 7.

However, Residence Life staff were informed on Oct. 11 by Dean for Student Life & Title IX Coordinator Trae Yeckley that after discussions with human resources, Wolbert's last day at the college had been Oct.10.

Wolbert did not respond to multiple requests for comment.

Yeckley said that during Wolbert's time at the college, she was a key figure in rebuilding the resident advisor program after the effects of COVID-19, helping with RA hiring and the training process. Yeckley also said Wolbert brought a lot of enthusiasm to build a better community within Residence Life.

Wolbert's last email to Residence Life staff on Oct. 10 emphasized this community.

"I'll be here over the next few weeks," Wolbert wrote, according to a copy of the email viewed by The Campus. "I look forward to supporting you, celebrating your successes and making these last weeks together as positive as possible."

Wolbert's departure means that her duties fall to Yeckley and Residence Life Coordinator Mary Boepple, '25, and Operations & Conduct Coordinator Isaiah Romain, '24.

See DEAN | *page 2*

50 Years of 'The Rocky Horror Picture Show'



JAY SHANK/THE CAMPUS
Brayden Devinney, '26, and T Laplatney, '26, strike a pose during 'Rose Tint My World' at the shadowcast performance of 'The Rocky Horror Picture Show' in the Henderson Campus Center Lobby on Saturday, Oct. 19.

See ROCKY | *page 10*

ASG shares committee updates

By **ANTON HODGE**
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The Allegheny Student Government met on Tuesday to discuss the status of several events being planned and share outcomes from committee meetings.

Cabinet Reports

Director of Finance Dominic Juliana, '26, reported the total expenditure from budget requests last week was $4,334, with $2,390 going to the South Asian Student Society to host Diwali events. The week's budget expenditure was approved unanimously by the assembly.

Director of Communication and Press Jake Slater, '26, reported that the ASG Instagram page posted a survey to those who watched last week's meeting, which was posted as an hour-long video. Slater said while there were some responses, there were no suggestions from respondees for changes. Future meetings will continue to be posted on ASG's Instagram page, and Slater will continue to closely monitor viewership.

Co-Directors of Student Affairs Iris Styers, '26, and Lyra Lindsay, '27, reported there will be an open meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 29 from 12:20 p.m. to 1:20 p.m. in Carr Hall room 120 to solicit student feedback on the recently drafted external speaker policy. The policy was shared with students via email on Tuesday and is will be used to determine what external speakers clubs and organizations are permitted to host on campus.

See ASG | *page 2*

No Kings rally in Meadville draws hundreds

By **JOSEPH KLEPEIS**
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A crowd of nearly 500 people gathered in Diamond Park in Meadville on Saturday to attend the second No Kings Rally of the year. The first rally, held on June 14, was described by The Meadville Tribune as a protest against President Donald Trump and what attendees viewed as his authoritarian actions.

The rally had a wide range of participants, ranging from Allegheny College students and faculty, the American Civil Liberties Union, members of local government, local political party officers and community members.

"D.E.I., this is what it looks like," NAACP Political and Community Action Chair Arnold E. Johnson IV told the crowd at the conclusion of the rally.

The event was organized by the Meadville chapter of the NAACP and French Creek Indivisible, a local chapter of the national progressive movement Indivisible which aims to fight for democracy and oppose the Trump administration, according to The Erie Reader.



JOSEPH KLEPEIS/THE CAMPUS
Attendees of the No Kings rally on Saturday, Oct. 18, march around Diamond Park.

See NO KINGS | *page 7*

In this week's Campus...

AI POLICY PROBLEMS

Staff Writer Andy Germann, '26, discusses how artificial intelligence use is inappropriate, especially in the Biology Department.

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150 YEARS OF ALUMNI: IDA TARBELL

Editor-in-Chief Anna Westbrook, '26, explores the history of The Campus' most famous alumna and her impact on capitalism.

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WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE HOLDS READING

A visiting German scholar and three Allegheny students presented their work from a seven-week German creative writing course. Contributing Writer Lilly Larkin, '29, reports on the event.

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FRIDAY H: 48° L: 39° Rain: 84% Sunrise: 7:43 a.m. Sunset: 6:26 p.m.

SATURDAY H: 50° L: 37° Rain: 6% Sunrise: 7:44 a.m. Sunset: 6:25 p.m.

SUNDAY H: 56° L: 37° Rain: 3% Sunrise: 7:45 a.m. Sunset: 6:23 p.m.

ASG *from page 1*

The draft document was announced and made available to all students via Gatorhub on Tuesday.

Additionally, Styers and Lindsay said they plan to meet with Recovery is NWPA on Wednesday, Oct. 22 to look into gaining steady access to harm reduction supplies such as naloxone.

Director of Sustainability and Environmental Affairs Aidan McGrory, ’26, reported he will join the committee to help search for a new sustainability coordinator — the individual responsible for executing Allegheny’s commitments to carbon neutrality, efficiency and other environmental concerns — after former Sustainability Coordinator Kurt Hatcher, ’07, stepped down from the position. McGrory also announced that , Director of Sustainability Kelly Boulton, ’02, will be a guest speaker at the next General Assembly.

Chief of Staff Kenzie Hughes, ’26, is searching for a student representative for the Council on Diversity and Equity. If a student is interested, they can meet with Hughes after an upcoming GA.

The Student Enrichment Committee, led by Styers, heard from Dean for the Student Experience Ian Binnington and Chief Information Officer Katrina Yeung about a proposal for an artificial intelligence chatbot to be integrated into Allegheny’s Gatorhub service. Styers said an example of this integration could be linking the chatbot to Canvas and requesting for it create a study schedule. The next meeting of this committee will be from 12:20 to 1:20 p.m. on Oct. 29 in Carr 120.

Class Reports

Class of 2026 President Sydni Junker reported the class will continue Senior Week planning and that the group recently sent a shirt design to Marketing and Communications for approval.

All other classes reported there was no new business.

Executive Reports

Vice President Douglas Malcolm, ’26, reported that the process to install televisions in McKinley’s Food Court is progressing smoothly, with final approval for the project granted by Associate Dean of Student Life Gretchen Beck. All necessary components should be ordered by Tuesday.

President Chezka Quinola, ’27, reported she met with Associate Dean of Academic Support John Mangine to continue organizing an accessibility walk on campus to identify areas of improvement. Quinola also reported that her recent meeting with the Board of Trustees was successful.

ASG’s next GA will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 28, in room 301/302 of the Henderson Campus Center.

DEAN *from page 1*

Despite the increased workload, Yeckley expressed confidence that the temporary lack of an associate dean will not impact Allegheny students.

“I have the utmost faith in my staff,” Yeckley said. “Not just Mary and Isaiah, but the rest of my staff and our colleagues across campus. Students shouldn’t see any impact on their housing, their day-to-day, things like that.”

Wolbert’s departure from Allegheny marks the third Residence Life staff member to leave the college this year.

Residence Life Coordinator Gordon Truesdale announced to RAs on Aug. 4 that he would be resigning before the semester began.

Shortly after, Wolbert told college RAs on Sept. 12 that Marko Sadikovic’s role as director of Student Life operations had been eliminated as part of a reorganization effort by the college.

“Unfortunately, most of these RAs are used to this level of turnover,” Yeckley said. “There’s been a lot of turnover, not just this year, but in the past four years in Residence Life. The RAs that I’ve spoken to are sad. They appreciate the work that they’ve done with the folks that have come and gone out of the office. They also understand that this is higher education and that happens.”

While the turnover rate within the office may seem high to students, Yeckley explained that Residence Life’s turnover is common for smaller colleges.

“In higher ed, turnover, especially with small institutions, is not all that uncommon,” Yeckley said. “It’s something that we wish didn’t happen as much as it does, but we recognize that a lot of people kind of use smaller institutions as a way to kind of gain experience before moving on to sometimes larger institutions.”

According to Yeckley, the position of associate dean is responsible for the hiring and training of RAs, implementing the residence life curriculum, updating the office’s policies and procedures and working to ensure students have housing over breaks among other things.

Yeckley declined to speak about Wolbert’s, Truesdale’s and Sadikovic’s departures.

While the position of associate dean for Residence Life currently remains vacant, Yeckley confirmed that the job opening had been posted on the Human Resources website and will be checked daily for applications.

> “Unfortunately, most of these RAs are used to this level of turnover.”
>
> —TRAE YECKLEY
> *Dean for Student Life*

“We’re looking for someone,” Yeckley said, “who is energetic and has an ear to the students, that takes their feedback and can really work with them to create a vibrant residential community.”

Letter-from-the-editors: Why The Campus signed an amicus brief in Stanford Daily v. Rubio

By **EDITORIAL BOARD. THE CAMPUS.**

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The Campus signed an amicus brief on Oct. 15 in support of The Stanford Daily in Stanford Daily Publishing Corporation v. Rubio. The Campus joined 54 additional student media outlets and newsroom leaders nationwide. The lawsuit, filed by the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression on behalf of The Stanford Daily, challenges two federal immigration law provisions that Secretary of State Marco Rubio is using to revoke legal immigrants’ visas and deport them for speech protected by the First Amendment.

The decision to sign the amicus brief was voted on by members of The Campus Editorial Board, and it was not made lightly. We believe that the principles of diverse representation, dispersal of public information and civic discourse established in the amicus brief are the same defining principles that comprise the heart of independent journalism. We signed in solidarity with other student newspapers doing essential work around the country to record local news as it unfolds, provide a public forum for free speech and train future journalists in professional-level interviewing, editing, investigating and publishing.

The amicus brief — a “friend of the court” legal document filed by an entity with an interest in the case, but who is not a party in the case — was filed by the Student Press Law Center, the Associated Collegiate Press and the College Media Association, three national groups that support free press rights for student journalists. We believe the brief provides a compelling narrative of the extraordinary challenges that student newspapers have faced across the country since the beginning of the year, and that it serves an urgent purpose.

“The Student Press Amici accordingly submit this brief,” the document states, “to emphasize the importance of the work of a student press that reflects a diverse range of viewpoints and voices; to detail the real, persistent, and devastating chilling effect that the government’s attack on disfavored speech has had on student-led newsrooms like The Stanford Daily; and to explain the potential long-term harms that will flow from allowing the government to continue its unlawful, anti-constitutional campaign to stifle speech and speakers it dislikes.”

We signed onto the brief in our capacity as a nonprofit, editorially independent newspaper. Allegheny College is not a member of the Student Press Amici and did not otherwise participate in the Student Press Amici’s brief in support of the plaintiffs.

In its suit, The Stanford Daily alleges that deportation threats have impaired the publication’s ability to engage in journalistic activity. The Stanford Daily editor-in-chief explained that reporters have turned down assignments, requested the removal of articles and terminated their work for the newspaper “because they fear deportation for being associated with speaking on political topics, even in a journalistic capacity.” Additionally, “as a result of the administration’s actions,” The Stanford Daily witnessed a “dramatic” decrease in the number of international students willing to speak to its reporters.

The Campus has seen similar events play out in our own reporting. Since the beginning of the year, we have seen a chilling effect among writers who are hesitant to report on the impact of federal policies. We have received a request for the removal of a story from a student who feared it may adversely harm their visa status. Additionally, we have experienced difficulties in securing interviews on the record from those who fear being targeted due to recent changes in federal policy.

These experiences are hardly uncommon. In fact, situations similar to these across the country prompted the Student Press Law Center in April to issue its first-ever Student Media Alert, warning student newspapers about significant threats to student speech and recommending that student media leaders revisit key portions of their publications’ policies. The move came shortly after the detention of Rumeysa Ozturk, a Tufts University international student, for an op-ed she wrote in The Tufts Daily, which SPLC said led to a “flood” of takedown requests made to student newspapers across the country.

The amicus brief outlines the importance of ending the government’s retaliation against noncitizen students for their speech.

“Current and former student journalists — including those who work at The Stanford Daily and untold numbers of their peers, citizen and noncitizen alike, at student media outlets across the United States — have seen their work and the vital lessons they learn from it hampered for the better part of a year by the unconstitutional chilling effects of the government’s attack on disfavored political speech by noncitizen students,” the brief states.

Student journalists should be able to claim First Amendment freedoms with just as much authority as major national news outlets. Alongside the foundational freedoms of religion, speech, assembly and expression is the freedom of the press. The environment of fear that is created by the assault on this freedom is unacceptable and antithetical to the fundamental values and principles outlined in the First Amendment, which apply equally to citizens and noncitizens.

Signing this brief was not a political move. As The Stanford Daily wrote in its letter from the editors, “Journalism exists to hold those in power accountable, regardless of who is in power.”

The Campus remains committed to the mission we have upheld for 150 years: to serve and inform the college community by printing journalistic work that seeks the truth and reports honestly and accurately, as it distributes high-quality content. In order to fulfill that mission, students, both citizens and noncitizens, must be free to speak with and contribute to their student newspaper. The Campus is committed to ensuring this is the case.

The above editorial represents the majority opinion of The Campus newspaper editorial board. The editorial board consists of Editor-in-Chief Anna Westbrook, News Editor Ben Stavnezer, Features Editor Aubryanna Snyder and Opinion Editor Milo Watson.

REPORT *from page 1*

The report contains a glossary of relevant words and terms with definitions to assist readers in understanding the report.

Because these AIs are programs trained on datasets that are fed into the program, different generative AIs have different types of data that can make certain AI more specialized for certain tasks.

"(This year) we're going to pilot the hybrid model that we propose in this report," Dearden said. "It won't be part of our permanent structure, it won't be in our faculty handbook."

This pilot year will address many of the concerns raised about AI, including the place of AI in the honor code, ethical considerations and environmental concerns.

"It's important for us to reconcile how we are going to interact with AI," Dearden said. "The comprehensive nature of it and its evolving nature are really the hardest parts (to deal with)."

For instance, starting in 2018 with ChatGPT-1, there has been an exponential growth in releases of ChatGPT models, landing at the most recent release of ChatGPT-5 this summer. The models have also been growing better and better, now being able to provide answers to intricate questions or generate more complex essays. Such improvements have the potential to unethically create work that students should be doing themselves and assist students with questions or studying.

"The genie is out of the bottle," Yeung said. "I don't think there's a path where we prevent it or stop it, just because of its prevalence."

The main question is how AI will be harnessed appropriately for the benefit of all students at Allegheny rather than outright banning AIs, which Yeung says is possible.

"Could I ban a ChatGPT or a Gemini on the campus network?" Yeung said. "Yes, of course I could. But you can easily go home or on a non-campus network and access it or from your phone."

The report advocates for the adoption of "AI Assessment Scale (AIAS)" to describe how AI could be used in different scenarios. The scale ranges from no AI assistance to idea generation or assisted editing to full AI use.

Janyl Jumadinova, chair of the department of computer and information science, gave her expertise as a panelist in live discussions last semester for the report.

"I think when we have shiny new things, (people) forget about the implications," Jumadinova said. "Just understanding in general how these models work helps to use these technologies better."

> "The genie is out of the bottle. I don't think there's a path where we prevent it or stop it, just because of its prevalence."
>
> —KATRINA YEUNG
> *Chief Information Officer*

Understanding the implications of AI usage is similar to any other tool; having knowledge of the positives and negatives helps to learn when to utilize AI.

Even if people aren't learning in about the coding behind the technology, the terminology matters as well. "Everyone says AI when they mean a large language model, for example," Jumandinova said.

While not every student may have the interest in learning a lot about AI, it is seemingly here to stay.

"I think we are taking the right steps," Jumadinova said. "We all hopefully now understand that this technology is here to stay, and it's already adopt d in most of the industries."

This view that AI has already become widely accepted in industries after college is shared by Yeung as well.

"When students go out into the workforce," Yeung said, "(they're) going to need to know how to leverage that and make yourself as impactful to your future employers as possible."

Both Yeung and Dearden understand the challenges of keeping up with these rapidly developing technologies and invite students to share their thoughts on how Allegheny should handle its AI policy.

"Everyone can bring their own perspective into how we go forward as a college. That's going to be happening in November" said Dearden. "We have yet to set the formal agenda for that meeting, but in general, we will be focusing on what is the more permanent structure for governance of artificial intelligence on campus."

THE COLLEGE PRESS

William "Bill" Sanders was inaugurated as the 11th president of the Rochester Institute of Technology on Sept. 26. — Reporter Magazine, Sept. 27

Oberlin College stepped up its lobbying efforts amid the national endowment tax debate. — The Oberlin Review, Sept. 26

Oberlin College and Conservatory has been awarded a grant of up to $20,000 from Truth Initiative, a national nonprofit devoted to ending tobacco use, to strengthen its 100 percent tobacco- and vape-free campus policy. — The Oberlin Review, Sept. 26

About 100 people gathered on Sept. 20 to protest against the University of Pittsburgh's investment in Israeli companies, according to the Students for Justice in Palestine's Instagram account. This is the organization's first protest after a federal judge in August overturned their suspension by Pitt. — The Duquesne Duke, Sept. 25

Duquesne announced it will offer a new real estate major, minor and certificate beginning in the 2026–2027 academic year. — The Duquesne Duke, Sept. 25

Gannon University celebrates its centennial in 2025. — The Gannon Knight, Sept. 19

The University of Pittsburgh has accounted for about 40% of all hazing reports statewide since the 2017-18 academic year. — The Pitt News, Sept. 19

The Kenyon College Class of 2029 consists of 435 students, representing 40 states and 20 countries. Twenty-five percent of the first-year students are domestic students of color, and 10% of the class are international students. The class had an average high school GPA of 4.14. — The Kenyon Collegian, Sept. 18

On the morning of Sunday, Sept. 14, a sophomore at Pitt was killed in her Castle Shannon home when her father set the house on fire. — The Pitt News, Sept. 16

The University of Rochester dining services ended their contract with Aramark and its subsidiary, Harvest Table, in favor of a self-operation model. — Campus Times, Sept. 15

The Penn State Board of Trustees voted 34-1 on Friday to approve a new contract for President Neeli Bendapudi that increases her base salary, performance and retention bonuses and deferred compensation. Under the new agreement, Bendapudi's base salary will rise from $950,000 to $1.4 million, with annual 3.5% increases. Her deferred compensation — set aside for after her presidency — will increase from $555,000 to $650,000. — The Daily Collegian, Sept. 13

Oberlin launches Year of AI Exploration to study artificial intelligence's impact on learning, teaching and research. The findings may inform future policies and curricular developments. — The Oberlin Review, Sept. 12.

The Sustainability Office at the College of Wooster has released the institution's first-ever sustainability report. The report shows that the college's carbon footprint declined by 3.5% during the 2024-25 academic year. — The Wooster Voice, Sept. 11

CORRECTIONS

In the Oct. 3, 2025, edition of The Campus, an article regarding the Allegheny Student Government's consideration of a new club called Rhythm Nation incorrectly identified the club's president as Fatima Rabihi, '29. The club's president is Fatoumata Nimaga, '29.

CRIME BLOTTER

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

September 23, 2025
Tresspass
ALIC at Bessemer
Closed

October 2, 2025
Act 64 (Drugs)
Delta Tau Delta
Referred to Dean

October 2, 2025
Act 64 (Drugs)
Delta Tau Delta
Referred to Dean

October 2, 2025
Act 64 (Drugs)
Walker Hall
Referred to Dean

October 2, 2025
Receiving Stolen Property
Phi Kappa Psi
Referred to Dean

October 2, 2025
Receiving Stolen Property
Delta Tau Delta
Referred to Dean

October 3, 2025
Alcohol Violation
North Village B
Referred to Dean

October 3, 2025
Alcohol Violation
North Village C
Referred to Dean

October 3, 2025
Act 64 (Drugs)
Baldwin Hall
Referred to Dean

October 3, 2025
Act 64 (Drugs)
Ravine Hall
Referred to Dean

October 6, 2025
Alcohol Violation
312 Loomis Street
Referred to Dean

October 8, 2025
Theft
Upper Oddfellows Lot
Referred to Dean

October 13, 2025
Theft
Ravine Hall
Closed

October 13, 2025
Criminal Mischief
Baldwin Hall
Referred to Dean

October 19, 2025
Simple Assault
Delta Tau Delta
Referred to Meadville Police

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Since 1876

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The biology department lets me use AI on assignments. I wish it wouldn't.

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Generative artificial intelligence, such as ChatGPT, has become a thorn in the side of educational institutions recently. The rise of large language models and the ease of access to these LLMs has led to a massive uptick in students using them, primarily ChatGPT, to do their assignments for them. A Pew Research Center study performed in January of 2025 found that over a quarter of teens (defined as ages 13-17) use AI for their schoolwork, which is twice the rate of students admitting the same in 2023. Even then, that metric doesn't account for survey respondents who chose not to report their AI usage or those who never chose to take the survey in spite of their AI usage. This has forced educational institutions to grapple with what constitutes adopting a new technology and what constitutes cheating. I think the answer is pretty clear: by using an LLM to complete a school assignment, the student skips all the critical thinking and problem-solving skills that assignment aims to build. For that reason, I believe that using AI to do your assignment for you should qualify as cheating as it is equivalent to plagiarizing someone else's work.

To combat unwanted AI usage, institutions have begun implementing policies to govern student AI use, including what constitutes academic dishonesty. While AI policies vary depending on the institution, the policies commonly focus on ethical usage, plagiarism and disclosure. These policies are constantly evolving due to the ongoing development of AI, and how it is constantly changing and becoming harder to detect. Even just last year, it was easy to detect when a piece of writing was made using AI like ChatGPT because of how soulless the prose and diction were. But now professors and peer reviewers are struggling to identify when a piece was written using a LLM, causing educators at many institutions to be stuck reworking assignments and moving to physical copies to prevent students from using ChatGPT. Alternatively, at many institutions, including Allegheny, some educators have decided to just require sourcing when AI is used. At Allegheny, the method for citing generative AI is to disclose which LLM you used followed by the prompt you asked it, along with the date AI was used. While this method of sourcing at least has people disclose that AI was used, it provides no information on what the response was or how the response was integrated into the writing.

This semester, the Biology department has implemented a new policy on generative AI in an attempt to address the issue. Under this new policy, every assignment is labeled by the instructor on a scale from one to five, with each increasing level allowing for more use of AI. Level one states, "The assignment is to be completed entirely without AI assistance," while level five states, "AI should be used to creatively solve the task given by your instructor, potentially co-designing new approaches with your instructor." This new policy doesn't address any of the problems that AI creates, and instead attempts to teach students to use AI correctly.

> "But there is no correct way to use AI, because all usage of AI is inherently unethical."
>
> —ANDREW GERMANN
> *Class of 2026*

But there is no correct way to use AI, because all usage is inherently unethical. One major issue is the environmental effects of AI usage. AI servers are housed in massive data centers, which are large windowless buildings that do nothing but house thousands of servers for major websites and companies, and recently AI servers. These servers, like all computers, must be cooled to prevent overheating, so these data centers pump in tens of thousands to millions of gallons of freshwater every day to cool their servers. Data centers are typically built near small rural towns in dry or temperate regions, where the water demand for these centers often exceeds what the town normally uses. The high water consumption affects these towns, harming historically water stressed regions across the world. These data centers are causing countless issues for people living in communities adjacent to these centers by siphoning necessary drinking water from these already vulnerable communities. People are stuck being unable to drink the water in their houses or having to buy water to cook with or drink.

Another ethical consideration is the lack of data safety now that LLMs are becoming more popular. Fun fact: AI is not even artificial intelligence. LLMs are just chatbots that make educated guesses based on data trends and internet searches. To collect data for these chatbots, companies such as OpenAI, the creators of ChatGPT, will scrape data off the internet to train their LLMs. This data includes everything from scientific articles to social media to websites such as LinkedIn. One major cause for concern is the lack of consent for this data collection. Many websites have opted their users into data collection without their consent, causing major cybersecurity issues. This collection of data has caused a lot of backlash due to people's concerns over their internet privacy. This issue of privacy is affecting artists the most, as their works are being stolen and used to teach the same AIs that are taking their business away.

With professors now being responsible for how much, if any, AI is allowed on each assignment, there is now a huge discrepancy in AI usage between professors. Some professors do not allow AI to be used on most assignments, while other professors encourage AI to be used for most assignments. Using AI to do your schoolwork for you is a waste of your time and money, especially in the biology and chemistry disciplines. When asking a LLM to explain a topic and include sources, it tends to hallucinate and create fake sources and publishers using real scientists' names. These hallucinations tend to trip people up as they sound like real papers and the authors' names are real, but when attempting to use these sources, they are found to be nonexistent. To get a LLM like ChatGPT to give you real sources, you need to jump through endless hoops, and with the time sink, you might as well have just done the research yourself.

Additionally, while there are some merits to AI checking work, mainly in the computer science field, AI is wretched when it comes to biological and chemical processes. One hallmark of chemistry is that every rule has a million and one exceptions, and AI just doesn't understand that. Because of the nature of biology research and processes, I have never seen a completely correct response from a LLM when asked about a specific biological process. One major component of this is that there are many gaps in knowledge of how biological or chemical processes work. When asking an LLM about a process with a substantial gap in knowledge involved, it will often make up processes and sources in an attempt to bridge the gap. While I can try to understand the thought process behind encouraging students to use AI to create outlines or examine drafts, it is still not even close to a useful enough tool to excuse the effects it has on the environment. When an LLM scalps billions of statements without context from the internet, it gets even more wrong and meaningless.

While I can understand the arguments that using AI, even when it produces wrong information, can build students' critical thinking skills, I think those arguments are wrong. Stealing gallons of freshwater from vulnerable populations so you can correct wrong information you could have written yourself is not a sufficient argument in favor of AI in schools. While the development of critical problem-solving skills is important, there are so many better ways of developing those skills that don't rely on AI use. Building skills like these manually through assignments rather than taking an AI shortcut is much more effective and does not contribute to mass environmental devastation. In terms of biology, these skills can be built in a multitude of ways, such as examining a research paper and providing critiques alongside an analysis of the paper. Methods like that are so much more effective at developing those skills in students than correcting AI. Overall, I find the new policy the biology department has introduced to be very disappointing, and I want to see more policy adaptations in the future that aim to steer away from AI, rather than try to embrace it. If everyone just deals with AI's presence rather than resist it, it will continue to grow and destroy our planet. It is the job of educators and the younger generations to prevent AI from taking over our lives and our planet.

When voting isn't accessible, democracy isn't equal

By **MANDY SMITH**
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Did you know that a 2024 survey conducted by Rutgers University for the U.S. Election Assistance Commission found that 20% of disabled people find voting in person to be inaccessible? Advocates and lawmakers have been fighting to reduce this percentage by securing accommodations for the disabled community. One of the most successful accommodations is vote-by-mail, which, as shown in the survey, drops the number of people facing accessibility problems from 20% to 6%. Yet, in some political circles, we are seeing a call for mail-in voting to be cut, a threat that would disenfranchise millions of disabled people. We need to be aware of this threat so we can ensure the rights of ourselves, our neighbors, friends and family members with disabilities.

First, though, what is the threat? Recently, the president claimed that the Republican Party will do everything in its power to get rid of mail-in ballots because he sees the practice as fraudulent. "Mail-in ballots are corrupt. You can never have a real democracy with mail-in ballots," he stated in a video from NBC News. He added, "Vladimir Putin, smart guy, said you can't have an honest election with mail-in voting." Trump agrees, despite the fact that the Russian president is notorious for dishonest elections of his own. Even so, Trump's solution to the perceived issue of vote-by-mail is to sign an executive order that will cut mail-in ballots before the next mid-term election. But is this even legal?

Well, no. He cannot legally do this because it is states, not presidents, who set the rules for how elections are conducted, including how ballots are collected. It is true that Congress can override those rules, but the president has no such authority; his role is limited to enforcing laws that Congress passes. Beyond this, there are also federal protections, like the Americans with Disabilities Act. This act guarantees people with disabilities a "full and equal opportunity to vote" while ensuring their "independence" and "privacy." The Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act of 1984 echoes this, as it too requires states to provide alternatives when polling places are inaccessible to ensure equal voting. As seen in the intro to this piece, vote-by-mail answers both of these by giving disabled people a significantly more accessible way to vote independently, and because of this, these laws will also protect mail-in ballots.

However, even with these legal safeguards in place, Trump's threat is not empty. As seen in other realms of voting, threats can fuel distrust, pressure states to reduce voting opportunities and ultimately discourage voters. To fully understand what taking away mail-in voting or even limiting it would mean for disabled people, let us look at their experiences at polling places. After all, even non-disabled voters face barriers at these locations: long lines, limited polling sites and time constraints. Disabled people, including myself, face these on top of other concerns. For example, being blind, I cannot simply drive to a polling place. Thankfully, Allegheny College provided shuttles during the last election for its students, but this is not an option for most blind voters. Once I am at the polling place, there are other issues to consider. For one, if you do have a disability that restricts mobility, you have to hope for an accessible ramp, proper signage, or, in my case, a person willing to help me navigate. Without vision, I cannot see where lines begin, end, or where the accessible voting machine required by the ADA is located. After all that, I must hope that the screen reader on the machine is working properly and fully updated, because if it is not, I would have to ask for help, sacrificing my privacy and independence. All of this creates stress and potential inaccessibility to do something as simple as cast a vote. That is why I, and about two-fifths of disabled Americans, decided to go with mail-in ballots in 2024 and 2022, respectively.

Some may dismiss two-fifths as insignificant, but that's nearly 40% of disabled people. To put that in context, the CDC reports that disabled people make up 28.7% of the U.S. population. If we do the math, we find that this means roughly 27 million disabled Americans rely on mail-in ballots. 27 million people who, without mail-in options, will be forced to return to generally inaccessible polling locations. Many may even see the barriers of inaccessibility as too high and will decide not to vote. That means all their voices will go unheard.

So, we have seen the threat to mail-in voting, the constitutional limits on presidential power and the legal protections for people with disabilities. We have also seen the reality of voting in person with a disability and the massive number of Americans that will be impacted if vote-by-mail is cut. While the president is unlikely to actually ban it, we may still see indirect effects that will strike at the rights of disabled individuals, and thus, we need to take this threat seriously. After all, rights are not lost overnight; they are lost when we stop paying attention. This is why we must stay informed, speak out and defend mail-in ballots so all of us can vote.



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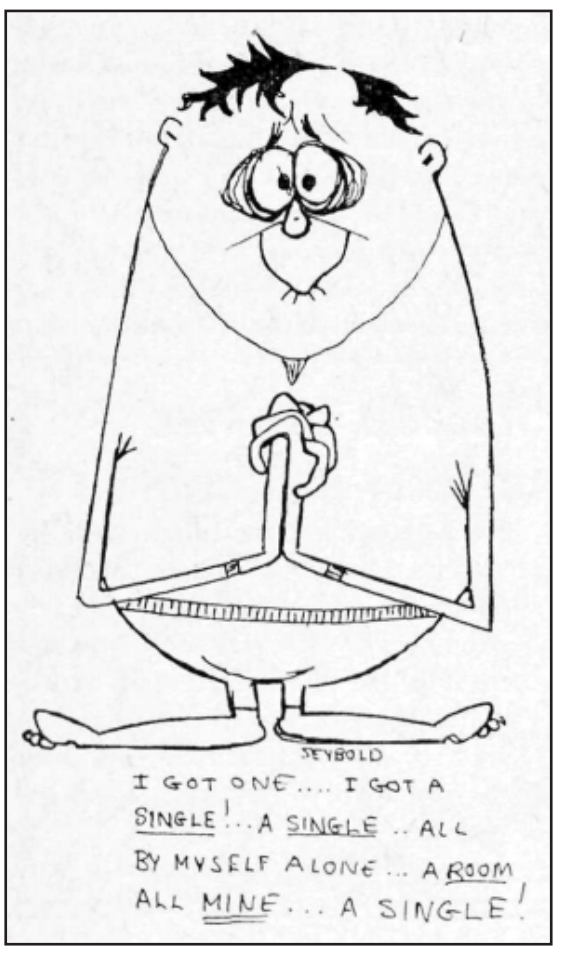
This photo appeared in The Campus vol. XCI, issue 2, 1967. It depicts a painter during renovations on Brooks Hall.

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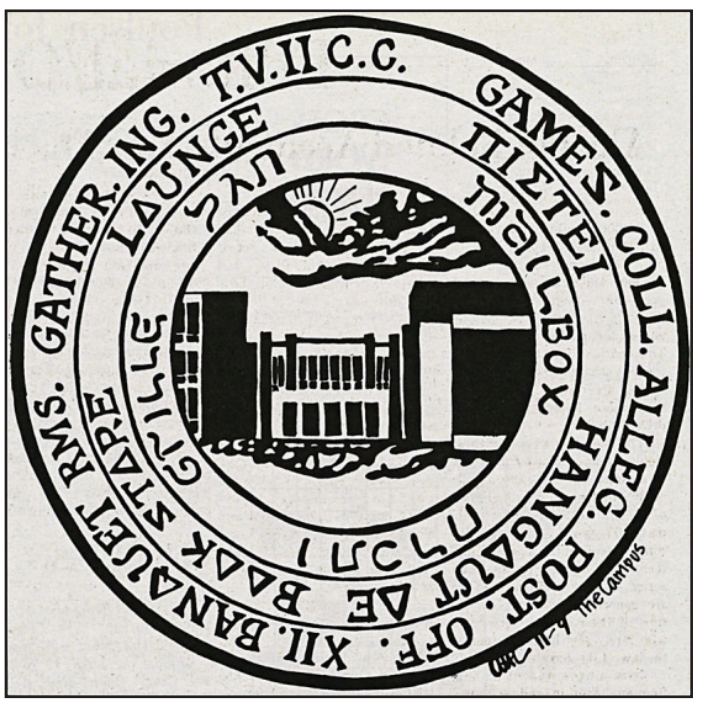
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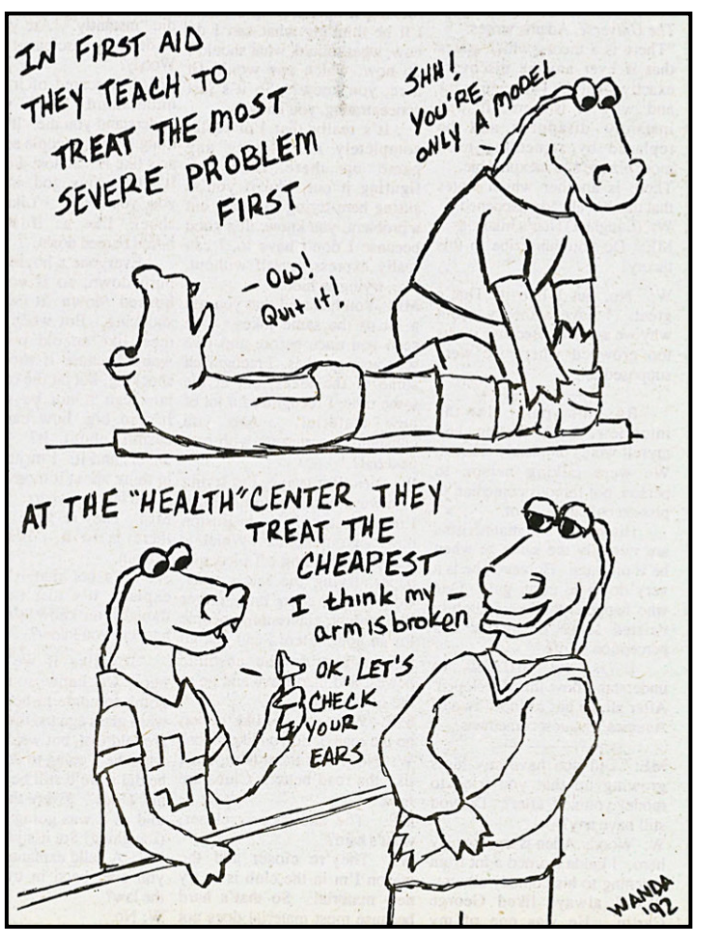


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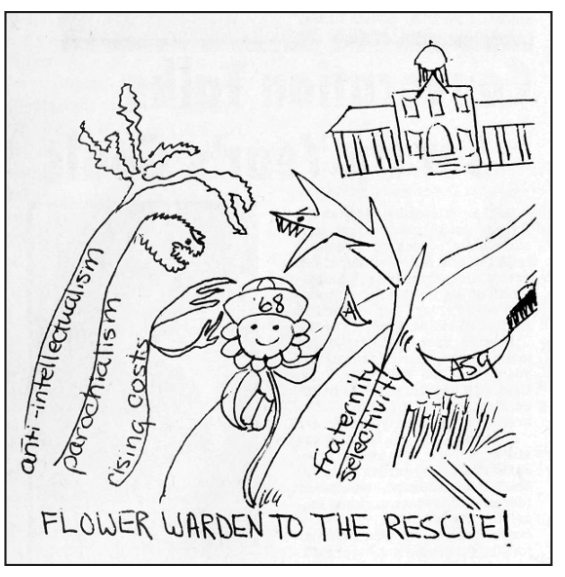


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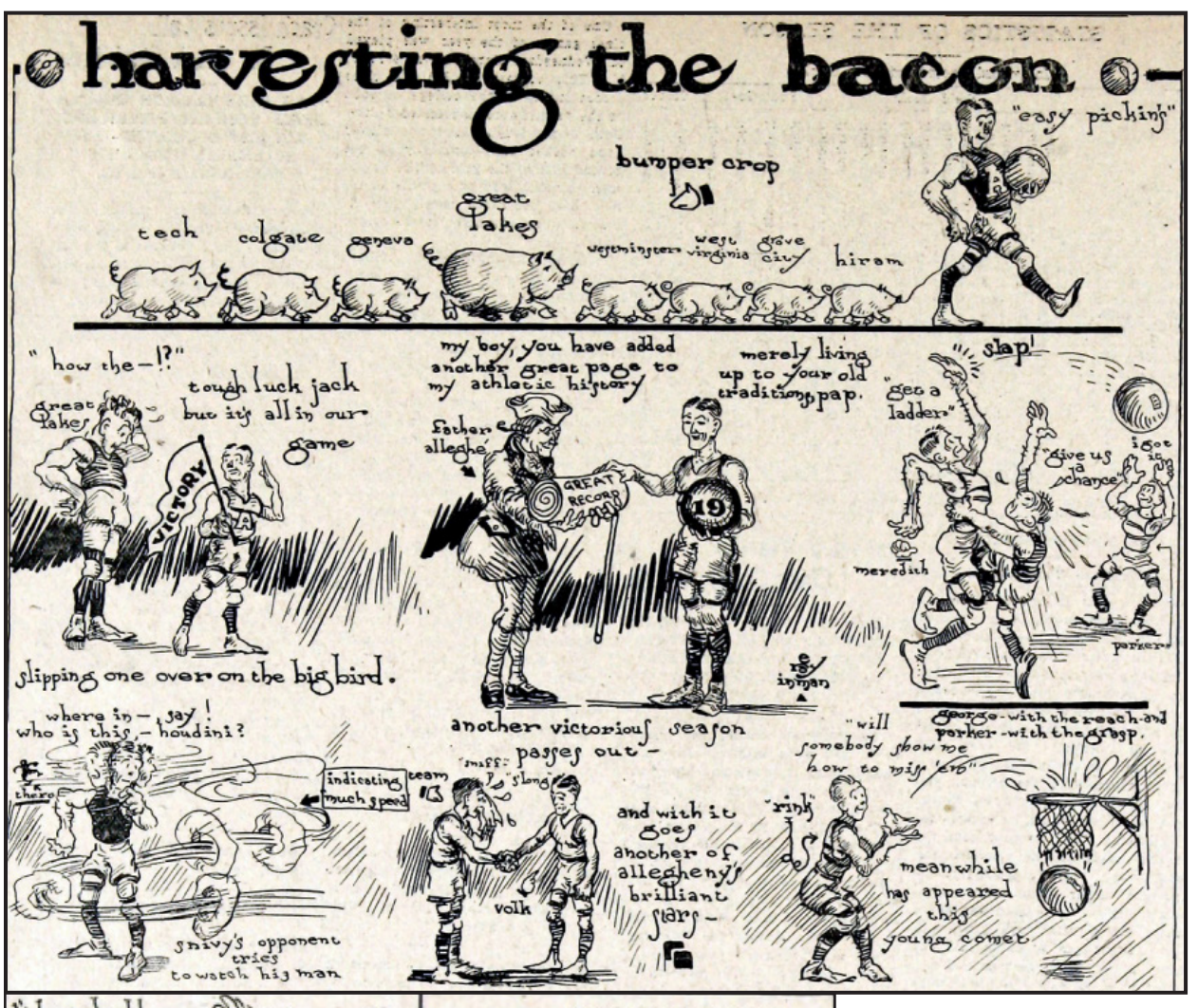
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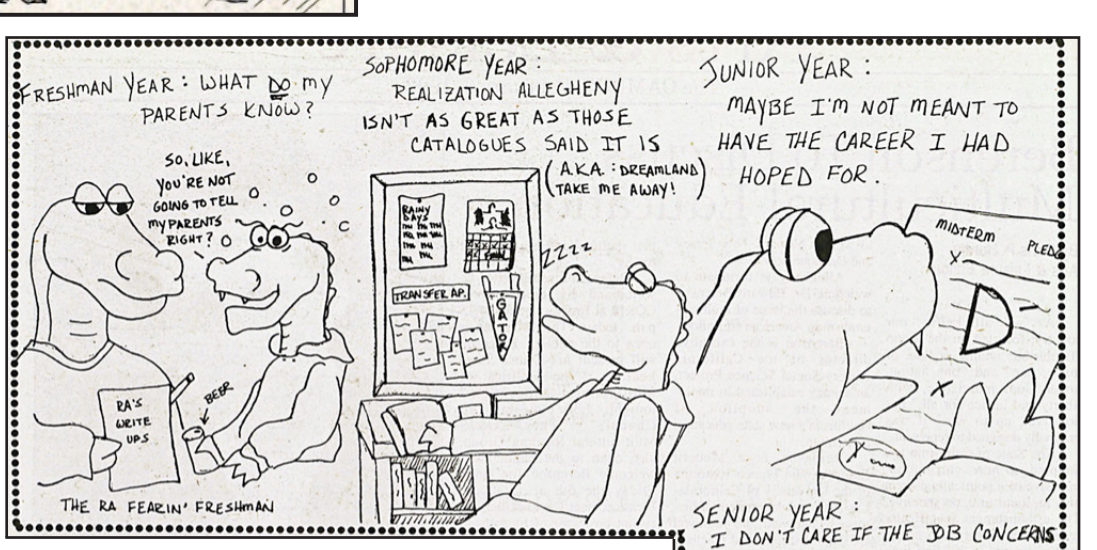
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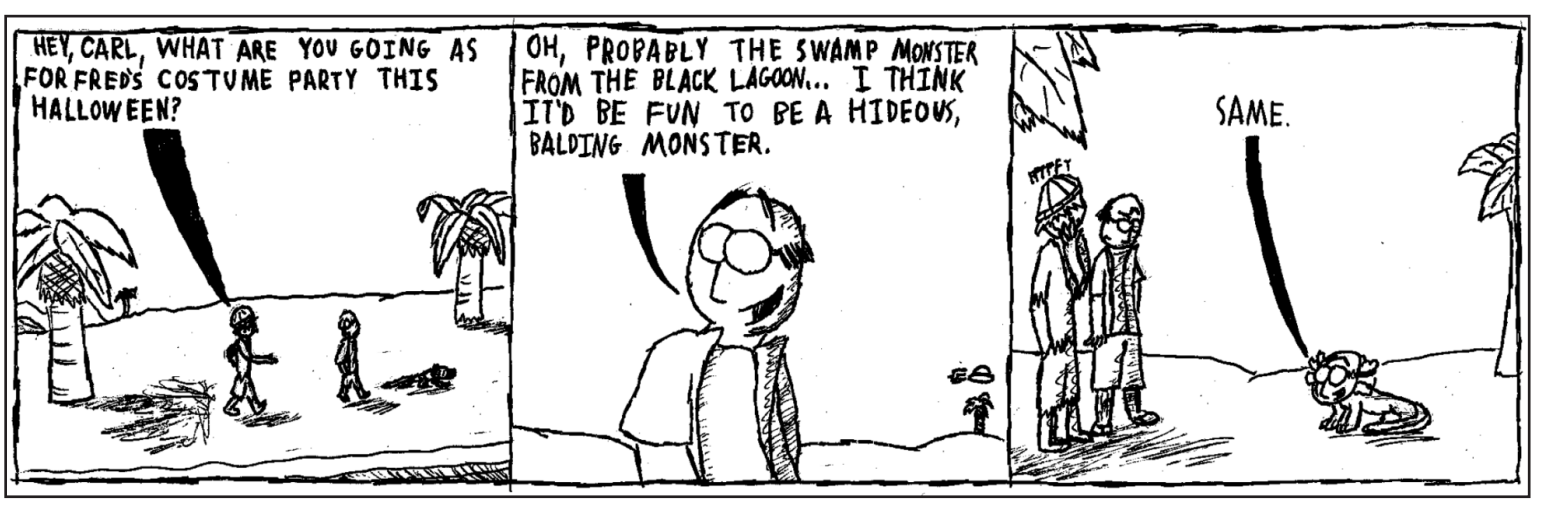
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Volume 115, issue 15, 1992



Volume 149, issue 5, 2024

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Wall Street Journal: Ida Tarbell one of six Americans who changed the course of capitalism





TARBELL

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

Allegheny has no shortage of notable alumni, but perhaps none are quite as remarkable as Ida Tarbell, class of 1880. The Wall Street Journal, on Sept. 7, named Tarbell as one of just six Americans who changed the course of capitalism.

Tarbell matriculated at Allegheny in 1876 as the only woman in her class. While at the college, she served on The Campus' editorial board. After graduating, she was a member of the Board of Trustees for more than 30 years.

Tarbell was a member of a group of journalists who helped establish the field of investigative journalism in the early 1900s. In a 1906 speech criticizing writers who focused on exposing corruption, President Theodore Roosevelt coined journalists like Tarbell as "muckrakers." The term comes from John Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress," which describes "the Man with the Muckrake [manure rake], the man who could look no way but downward, with the muck-rake in his hand," according to Roosevelt in the speech. However, after Roosevelt's usage of the term in reference to investigative journalists, it took on a new meaning.

The author of many works during her lifetime, Tarbell remained steadfastly dedicated to holding those in power accountable, homing in on the practices of business leaders and politicians. Tarbell's most well-known piece is "The History of the Standard Oil Company," published in 1904, about John D. Rockefeller's industrial empire. The book was "one of the most thorough accounts of the rise of a business monopoly and its use of unfair practices; her reporting contributed to the subsequent breakup of Standard Oil, which was found to be in violation of the Sherman Antitrust Act," according to Britannica. Works like "The History of the Standard Oil Company" played an integral role in mobilizing public support for the political and social reforms of the Progressive Era and continues to reverberate into the modern day.

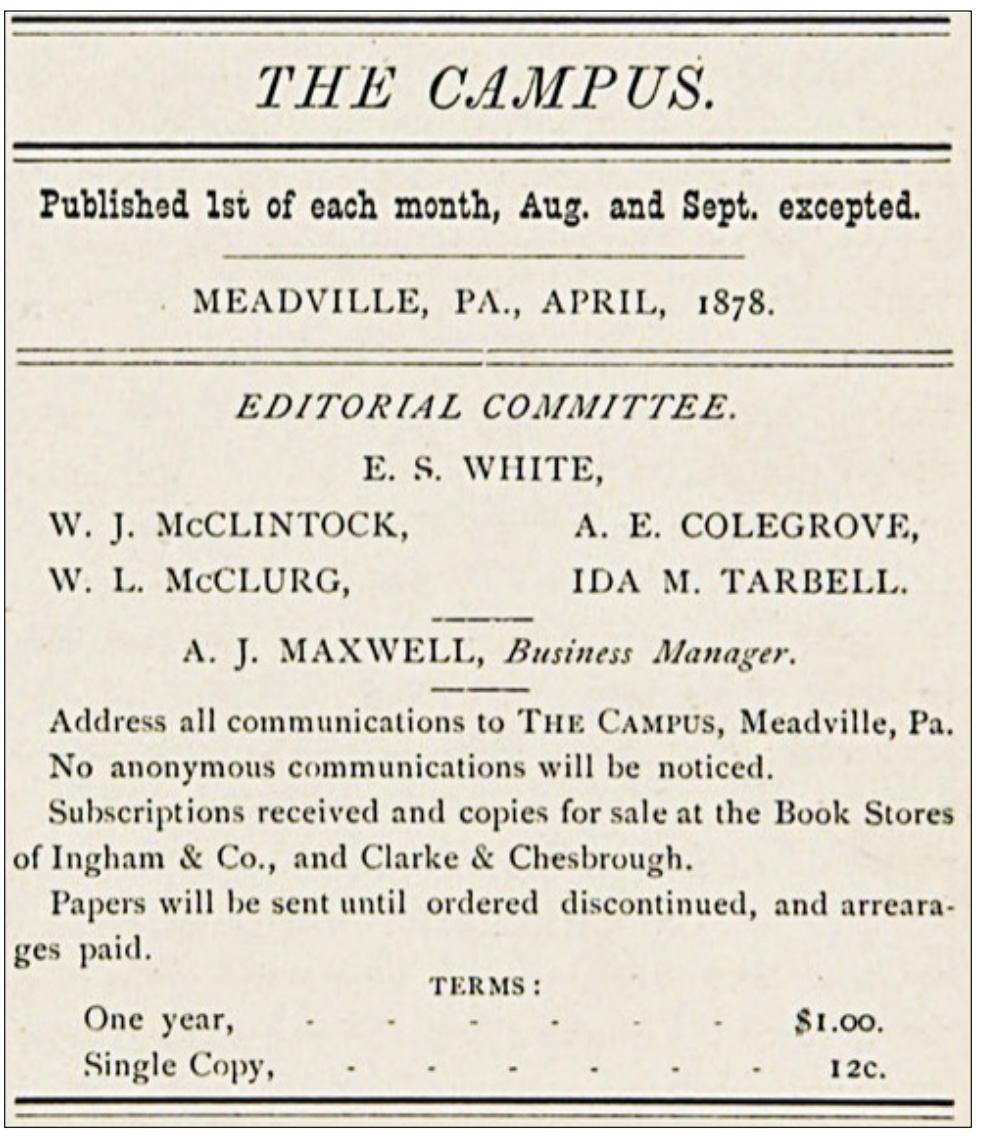
Alongside Tarbell on The Wall Street Journal list are Robert Morris, who was the "linchpin" in financing the Revolutionary War; John Jacob Astor, who established America's first monopoly, the American Fur Company; Henry Ford, who created mass production; Frances Perkins, who created safety-net and workplace-protection laws that hundreds of millions of Americans rely on today; and Sam Walton, who pioneered the big-box store.

The Wall Street Journal reported that the economic historian and vice chairman of S&P Global Daniel Yergin called Tarbell's book "the single most influential book on business ever published in the U.S."

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Six Americans Who Changed the Course of Capitalism

From the founding of the nation, individuals have had a profound impact on making the economic system what it is today



THE CAMPUS.

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Making headlines since 1876: Alumni reflect on their time with The Campus

How did The Campus shape your Allegheny experience, and what does The Campus mean to you now?

TIMOTHY TEMPLE, '86

Position: Sports Writer
Major/Minor: Biology
Career: Endodontist
Hometown: New Brighton, PA
Current home: Sanford, FL

Being old school from the '80s, The Campus was a very integral and important part of Allegheny College campus life. I still have many Campus issues even now from back then. The Campus gave us all the info and news we needed because, remember, this was WAY before email and social media. It was in some ways a simpler and better time, but we all progress.

VIRGINIA PERRINE SEBEK, '59

Position: Editor-in-Chief
Major/Minor: English
Career: Retired teacher
Hometown: Cochranton, PA
Current home: Chicago, IL

It defined my experience, as it made me an active part of the college experience from day one. It was my introduction into a world of information and cultures that I had not experienced before.

LISA ABRAHAM BROWN, '84

Position: Typesetter
Major/Minor: Biology
Career: Semi-retired
Hometown: Lancaster, NY
Current home: Jacksonville Beach, FL

I worked as a typesetter — something students now have no clue what that was! I had to decipher all the writers' handwriting and type it on paper in the appropriate column width. Those stories were then laid out to create the various pages of the newspaper. The job worked in my study schedule and everyone on The Campus staff was fun to work with. I had first preview of all the news!

PETER S. GOFF, '68

Position: Sports Editor
Major/Minor: Economics
Career: Retired
Hometown: Granby, CT
Current home: Granby, CT

I have always been a sports nut attending most Allegheny sports events. I also enjoyed Fraternity (SAE) intramural sports as well. The Campus afforded me the opportunity to develop my writing skills in an area… SPORTS…that I loved. Thanks for the opportunity!

SAM STEPHENSON, '15

Position: Editor-in-chief
Major/Minor: English (focus in journalism) / Economics
Career: Amazon Public Relations
Hometown: Portland, OR
Current home: Arlington, VA

The Campus was one of the biggest parts of my time at Allegheny. If I wasn't on the tennis court with the varsity tennis team, I was in the newsroom with my fellow editors getting ready for the week ahead. It was one of the most rewarding experiences of my life, and memories that I carry with me everyday. The Campus was a big part of my collegiate identity, and the work we did remains something I'm really proud of. The friendships and mentors that shaped my time as a staff writer, news editor and eventually co-lead of the paper are ones that will last a lifetime.

CAROL GLATZ, '88

Position: Sports Editor
Major/Minor: Political Science & Philosophy
Career: Journalist
Hometown: Albany, NY
Current home: Rome, Italy

I joined the staff as a favor to a friend who was desperate for the role to be filled. Because I ran track and cross-country all four years, I didn't pay much attention to the other sports. Needing to cover every sport meant I had to learn a lot of new lingo and become familiar with all the different athletes and coaches. It dragged me out of my runner-bubble and opened me up to the dedication and achievements of so many other Gators.

ALLEN (AJ) KATZ, '67

Position: Columnist ("Barb Wire")
Major/Minor: English
Career: Attorney
Hometown: Gaithersburg, MD
Current home: United States

It was nice to have to meet a deadline. Now, I wish I had done more with the paper. I had written for my high school newspaper, and I enjoyed the experience. I still read articles in The Campus online from time to time.

KENDRA STANTON LEE, '02

Position: News Editor
Major/Minor: Political Science & Communications / Medieval / Renaissance Studies
Career: High school English teacher
Hometown: Boston, MA
Current home: United States

I'm grateful for the investment that the college made in the newspaper, as it was the most important learning lab I experienced as a college student. I had come from a strict, all-girls Catholic high school where our newspaper and had no true blue experience with reporting. Rawda Awad's Newswriting class absolutely electrified me as a first-year student and funneled me into the role of News Editor. Junior year, I took off a semester to intern in D.C. at a political journalism agency. I was grateful to contribute in one way or another to The Campus during all four of my years, having made friends with people whose work I respect immensely.

NO KINGS *from page 1*

Signs were plentiful at the event, ranging from "I am Aunt Tifa" to "ICE is a terrorist organization" to "Bark 4 Voting Rights" that was displayed on an attendee's dog.

Not all members of the community who attended were in support of the rally.

During the event, Crawford County Republican Party volunteer John Quinn carried a large Trump-Vance sign past the Dexter A. Bulen Gazebo where the speakers were stationed. He was greeted with boos by the crowd.

A line of people marched with signs in support of the rally around the perimeter of the park drawing mixed reactions from those passing by in their vehicles. Nearly a dozen cars honked in support, while some honked in protest and did burn outs. Some gave the finger as well.

"We must learn to live together as brothers and/or perish together as fools," Johnson said, echoing the words of Martin Luther King Jr. "Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that. Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. Come on. Let's get radical for the right thing."

Johnson, who operated as the emcee of the event, introduced Dan Walk, secretary of the Crawford County Democrats and a teacher at Erie's Public Schools, who gave a talk on public education.

"One of the reasons I do love being an educator is because of my union," Walk said. "My love for unionism is about organizing and working together. Much of what we do with our union, it's not just beneficial to educators, it's also helping the students, the families and just the community in general. Simply put, for the betterment of our nation we need more unions."

Much of Walk's speech focused on a new federal school voucher–style program that will take effect in 2027.

This program will operate as a "tax-credit program where individuals can receive up to $1,700 in credits for donating to nonprofit scholarship-granting organizations. These groups can then distribute scholarships for private school tuition, tutoring, transportation or even special education services. Families earning up to 300% of their area's median income are eligible, and states must opt in, giving governors control over implementation," according to The Harvard Edcast.

"I believe there's one big issue that maybe isn't talked enough about when it comes to vouchers: Federal school vouchers as they are will slowly destroy our nation's public school system," Walk said. "They're eventually going to lead us to the ultimate goal of the proponents and what they want vouchers to be — the privatization of our nation's education system."

Walk then described the potential pitfalls of a private education system.

"If the nation's education model is private, the number one concern will be profit rather than educating our youth," Walk said. "Education will go from a public good, as it has been intended for centuries, to a business model."

He finished his speech by describing the issues he sees in his day-to-day life as a teacher.

"Life is hard. I see it in the students' faces," Walk said. "This administration is making life harder for the poor and middle classes, and all the while, billionaires are just trying to benefit off our struggles."

The next speaker was Lindsey Scott, the chair of Crawford County Democrats, who spoke about political violence and veterans' issues.

"On Sept. 10, I put my words online, very explicitly saying violence against politicians is bad," Scott said, referring to the day Charlie Kirk was killed. "Then I received approximately 500 hate and death threats on five different social media platforms. And in the last two months total my property was broken into twice. My car and my garage."

Scott acknowledged that the break-ins could have been unrelated and then moved into issues affecting veterans.

"Our military is good at one thing, and that's killing," Scott said. "During the global War on Terror, the conservative number of civilian violent deaths is 400,000."

Scott, who is a veteran, spoke of the lucrative offers that the military makes to youth in order to recruit them.

"We can't blame those young people for wanting to do what media tells them is right and getting a paycheck for it," Scott said. "But the thing is, they're going to enact and perpetrate violence in communities at their home, where they live in this country. And by the age of 40, I promise you, some of them will be staring down the bottle or staring down the barrel of their own gun."

Rev Starkie Kreuder, a high school student from Erie, was one of the attendees marching in the line around the park and spoke about why they came to the event.

"I'm queer, so it's infringing on my personal rights," Kreuder said of the Trump administration. "Of course, everyone is being affected, but especially for me, it's really personal."

Bannie Webster, another high school student from Erie, marched with Kreuder.

"I'm queer too," Webster said. "But I also came out here because I don't want to be the guy that sits on their ass while everyone else is suffering."

Glenn Tuttle, chair of the Libertarian Party of Crawford County, was at the rally, walking around with a large "Don't tread on me" sign.

"This is a Democratic Party rally, but we can agree on this," Tuttle said. "I don't like authoritarianism from either side. Their protest is just as valid as when the right does it."

Tariffs were the main reason that Tuttle went to the rally.

"He's assassinating American trade," Tuttle said of President Trump. "He's as bad as any liberal. He's just Bernie Sanders of the right."



JOSEPH KLEPEIS/THE CAMPUS

Two protestors pose with someone dressed in an inflatable frog suit at the "No Kings" protest on Saturday, Oct. 18. Costumes like the inflatable frog have become common at protests across the U.S., but especially in Portland at gatherings protesting the Trump administration's immigration policies.



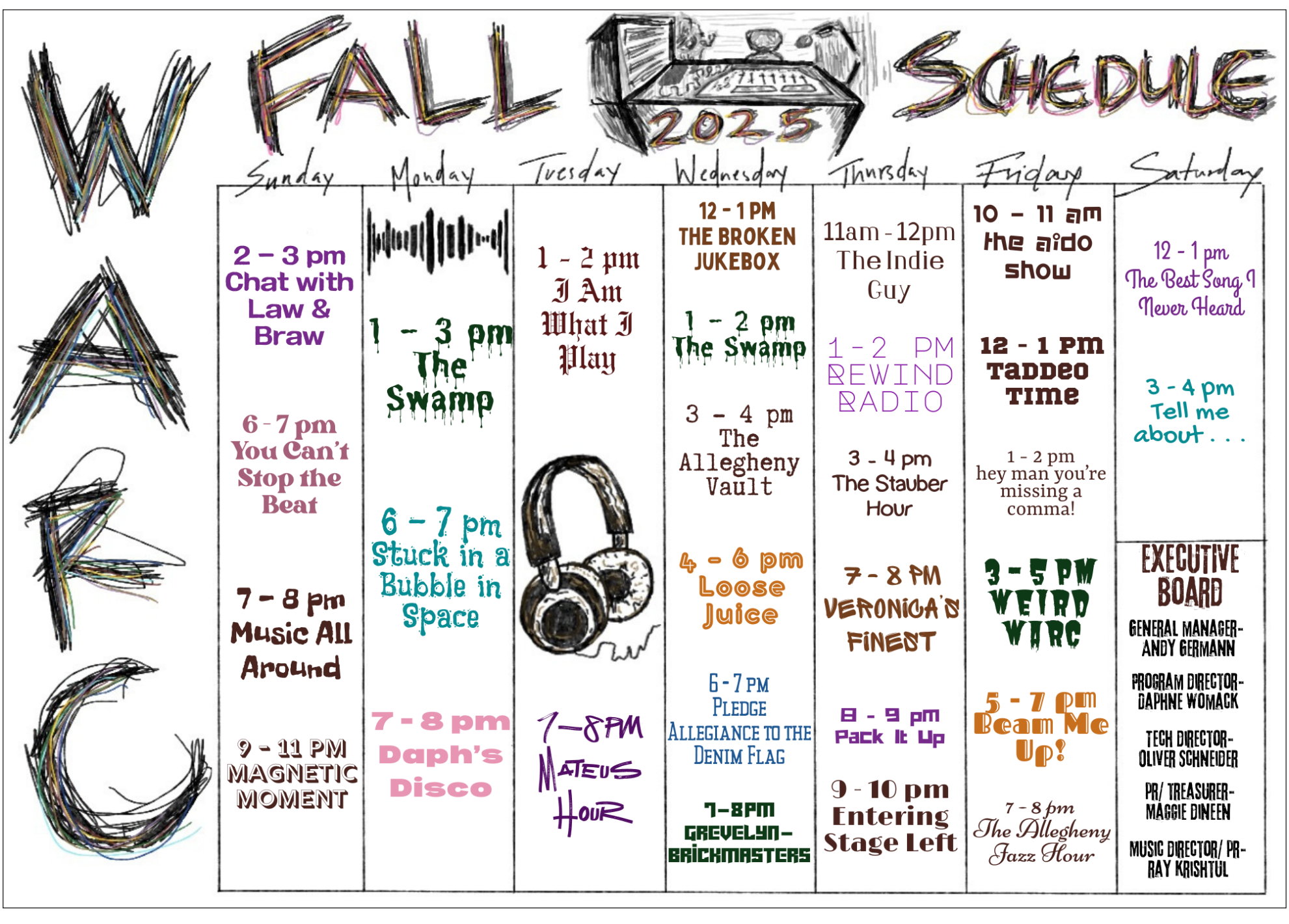
JOSEPH KLEPEIS/THE CAMPUS

A woman sits on a rock in Diamond Park with a "Pro-America Anti-Trump" sign. Behind her, a woman flies an American flag upside down, a symbol of "dire distress" in cases of "extreme danger to life or property," according to the U.S. Flag Code.



JOSEPH KLEPEIS/THE CAMPUS

Several Allegheny students walk with a woman wearing a Pikachu onesie who is holding a sign that says, "When cruelty becomes normal, compassion looks radical."



Alex's Corner: Shohei Ohtani

The unicorn of baseball

By **ALEXANDER NASH**
Sports Writer
nash02@allegheny.edu

Shohei Ohtani is a baseball player who is doing things that nobody has ever done on a baseball field. The Japanese star is the first player since Babe Ruth who has both hit and pitched simultaneously. That is an outrageous feat in its own right, but it doesn't even begin to scratch the surface of what the man aptly nicknamed "The Unicorn" has accomplished in his eight seasons as a major leaguer.

Ohtani was an object of sports media coverage from a young age while playing high school baseball at Hanamaki Higashi High School in Iwate, Japan. During the largest high school sports tournament in the world, the Summer Koshien, a 17-year-old Ohtani routinely threw pitches that exceeded 97 mph. His fastest pitch, which was the fastest pitch ever recorded by a high school player at the time, came in at 99 mph. In the same game he also hit a home run off of future fellow big leaguer Shintaro Fujinami, who was considered the best pitcher in Japanese high school baseball at the time.

After graduating high school, baseball players who are lucky enough to make it to the next level choose whether they want to pitch or play a position. It is simply unsustainable to both pitch and hit beyond high school, unless your name is Shohei Ohtani. He was the first overall pick in the 2012 draft in the Nippon Professional Baseball League, which is Japan's top league, and the second most competitive professional baseball league on the planet. He would not choose between hitting and pitching, as the team whom he was drafted by, the Hokkaido Nippon Ham Fighters, was intrigued by his potential as a two-way player. The team would not be disappointed by the results, as Ohtani would dominate the NPB as both a hitter and a pitcher up until 2017, which was his final season with the Fighters.

After the 2017 season, the 22-year-old Ohtani announced that he was a free agent available to be signed by teams in Major League Baseball. The Los Angeles Angels would win the Ohtani sweepstakes and ink him to a six year deal worth an approximate $10 million. There were many skeptics who said that Ohtani had no chance to both pitch and hit in the major leagues, and early on, they looked to be correct. In 2018 spring training, Ohtani struggled both hitting and pitching, but when the regular season began, everything changed. Ohtani would dominate as a 23-year-old rookie to a triple slash of .285/.361/.564 while clubbing 22 home runs and driving in 61 runs. On the mound, he would throw 52.1 innings to an earned run average of 3.31 before being shut down as both a pitcher and a hitter after 104 games due to a torn ulnar collateral ligament in his elbow that would require Tommy John surgery. In 2019, while still healing from elbow surgery and not being able to pitch that season, Ohtani would deliver another stellar campaign at the plate. In 106 games, he would slash .286/.343/.505 with 18 homers and 62 runs batted in.

Ohtani would have a rough 2020 season, as most star players would, due to the COVID-19 restrictions and the shortened 60-game season. In 2021, however, Ohtani would take his play to a level that the sport had never seen. He would return to the mound for the first time since his rookie season and would absolutely dominate both there and with the bat. His slash line as a hitter was .257/.372/.592 with 46 home runs, 100 runs batted in and 26 stolen bases to boot. As a pitcher, Ohtani threw 130.1 innings with a 3.18 earned run average and 156 strikeouts. He would claim his first MVP trophy that season, winning nearly unanimously over runner-up Vladimir Guerrero Jr.

In 2022, Ohtani posted another monster season, specifically on the mound, where he would post a 2.40 earned run average with 219 strikeouts in 166 innings. His numbers as a hitter were once again elite with a triple slash of .273/.356/.519 with 34 home runs and 95 runs batted in. He would, unfortunately, lose out on the MVP to Aaron Judge and his record-breaking 62 home run season.

The following year was the year that pushed Ohtani from potential Hall of Fame conversations to conversations about the greatest baseball player we have ever seen. His 2023 season was his best yet, and one of the best single seasons that the game has ever seen. His triple slash was a ridiculous .304/.412/.654 with an American League-leading 44 home runs and 95 runs batted in. On the mound, he was just as dominant, posting a 3.14 earned run average and 167 strikeouts in 132 innings. The craziest part of Ohtani's 2023 season was that he managed to put up those otherworldly numbers in just 135 games due to a season-ending injury that would cause him to once again undergo Tommy John surgery. He would use that unreal season to capture his second American League MVP.

In the offseason after 2023, Ohtani was a free agent. The fear for many teams who would most definitely have to give him a record-breaking deal to acquire his services was that he had just undergone his second Tommy John surgery in five years. Was Ohtani a great hitter? Absolutely, and he would be worth a record-breaking deal regardless of whether he ever pitched again. But the question was, if he were to pitch again, what kind of contract would he be given?

On Dec.9, 2023, we had our answer. The team across town, the Los Angeles Dodgers, signed Ohtani to a 10-year contract worth an unfathomable $700 million. Would Ohtani live up to that contract if he couldn't pitch anymore? And even if he could, how could any athlete live up to a contract worth almost three-quarters of a billion dollars?

Ohtani would once again quiet any doubt in his first season with the Dodgers. He somehow became an even more feared hitter and would do something no player had ever done before. As a designated hitter, coming off of his second Tommy John surgery, Ohtani would post a triple slash of .310/.390/.646 and would become the first player in the history of baseball to hit 50 home runs and steal 50 bases in a season. His 54 home runs, 130 runs batted in, and 59 stolen bases would earn him his 3rd MVP trophy, making him the first primary designated hitter to win the award and just the 12th player to win it three times. He was also a key piece in a Dodgers team that would win the World Series in dominant fashion over the New York Yankees.

This year, Ohtani did typical Ohtani things, slashing .282/.392/.622 with a career high 55 home runs to go along with 102 runs batted in and 20 stolen bases. He should win his fourth MVP, which would make him just the second player to win it four or more times alongside Barry Bonds.

This postseason, Ohtani has slashed .220/.333/.634 en route to the Dodgers returning to the World Series. In game four of the National League Championship Series, with a chance to sweep the Milwaukee Brewers and return to the World Series, Ohtani had what many would call the greatest game of all time. On the mound, which he returned to in limited capacity during the 2025 regular season, he would toss 6 scoreless innings with 10 strikeouts, and at the plate, he would club 3 homers to singlehandedly clinch the National League pennant for the Dodgers. Shohei Ohtani has done things that no player has ever done, and he will continue to rewrite the history of baseball in his image in the coming years. For my money, Shohei Ohtani is the greatest baseball player of all time.

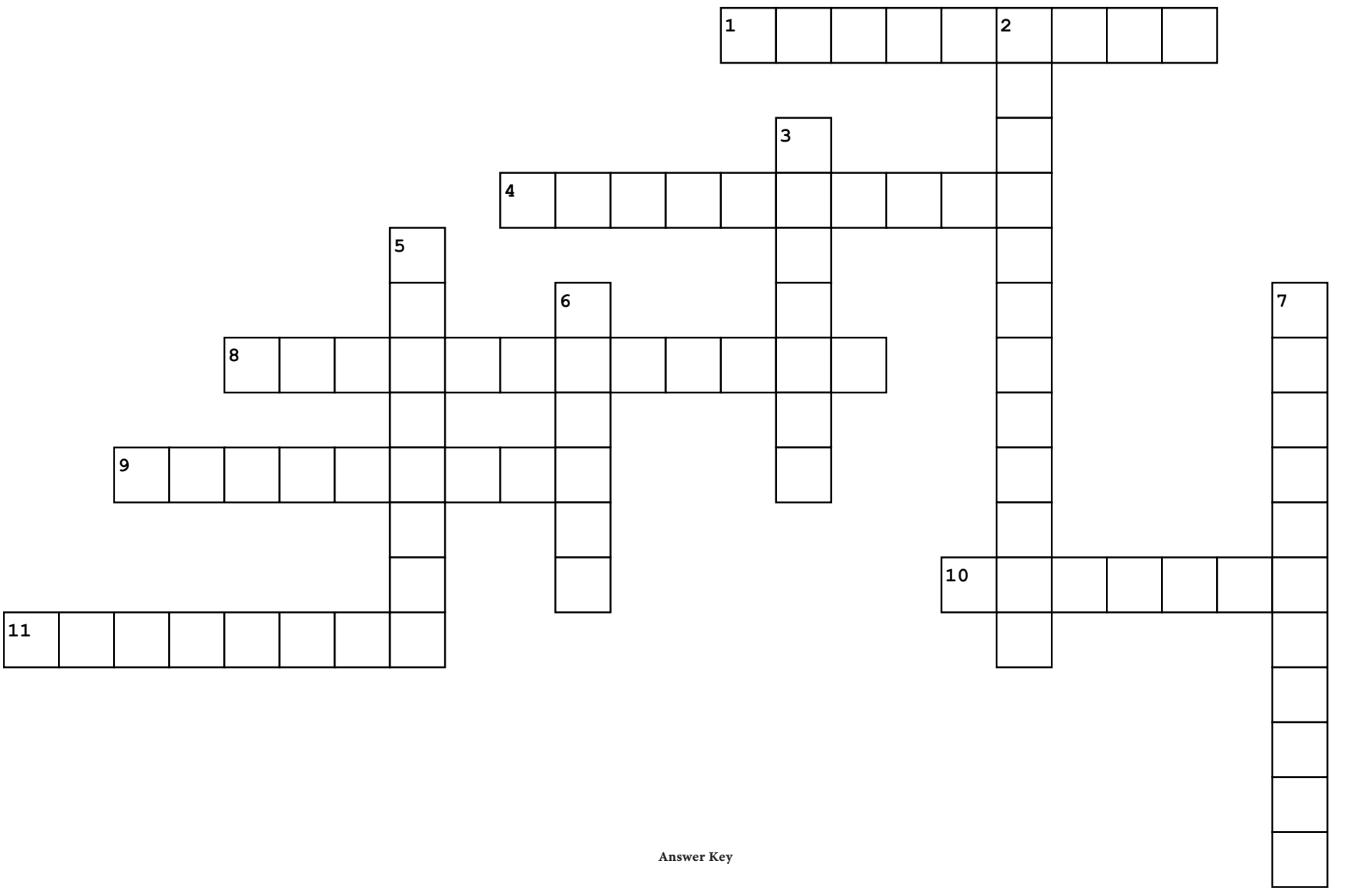
This story is an editorial and does not necessarily reflect the views of The Campus.

The celebrated return of The Campus Crossword

By **ANDY GERMANN**
Games Editor
germann01@allegheny.edu

Across
1. ___ amount of student newspapers that have signed The Stanford Daily's amicus brief (two words)
4. Stacie Wolbert's last day on the Residence Life staff was ___ (two words)
8. ___ type of AI addressed in biology departments policy (two words)
9. Hailsham served for two terms as ___
10. ___ is the Co-leader of the AI task force
11. ___ is Meatloaf's lover

Down
2. ___ is the biggest transexual Transylvanian (three words)
3. ___ is the last name of your new favorite Campus staff member
5. ___ is the first name of the Max Kade German Writer-in-Residence
6. ___ controls how elections are conducted (hint: not the president)
7. ___ is the location of the No Kings rally on Oct. 18 (two words)



Answer Key

Across
1. Fifty five 4. October Ten 8. Generative AI 9. President 10. Dearden 11. Columbia

Down
2. FrankNFurter 3. Germann 5. Theodora 6. States 7. Diamond Park

Writer-in-residence and students present German creative writing works

By **LILLY LARKIN**
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Students, faculty and community members enjoyed an evening of cultural immersion and creative expression at the annual German writer-in-residence reading on Wednesday, Oct. 15.

The scent of herb and cheese-stuffed mushrooms filled the lobby of the Max Kade International House as attendees eagerly waited for the event to begin. In the front row sat Theodora Bauer, the current writer-in-residence, who taught a seven-week-long creative writing course in German, along with her students, Lauren Schuch, '26, Mikko Horsley, '26, and Kenzie Hughes, '26.

Julia Ludewig, associate professor of German, greeted the busy room.

"Thank you for being here," Ludewig said. "This is the annual highlight for the German program."

Each year, the Max Kade Foundation — which "supports initiatives which promote international understanding by sponsoring exchange programs between Germany, Austria and the United States," according to Max Kade Foundation, Inc. — sponsors a German-speaking writer to stay at Allegheny and teach a half-semester course, culminating in a final presentation of both the students' and author's work.

Ludewig described this opportunity as a way to "enable cultural exchange between northern America and German-speaking countries." She believes that Bauer, a writer and presenter from Vienna, Austria, represents a diversity that helps students further engage with different German-speaking cultures.

The seven-week class focused on utilizing the German language to craft pieces of creative writing. Bauer, who taught a similar course at Bowling Green State University Ohio in 2022, emphasized students' determination of what solid writing is composed of and how they could then produce it.

"We really focused a lot on what kind of texts there are, what we think constitutes a good text, and what kind of texts we ourselves would like to read as an audience," Bauer said. "Then we try to write those texts, right, texts that we ourselves would find interesting or compelling."

Schuch, Horsley and Hughes developed their pieces from simple ideas to expanded, long-form works, a process that Bauer appreciates the students for being "very open to going through."

"It's a discussion more than a class, and it's really nice to practice German," said Schuch about her experience in Bauer's course. "It's hard, but it's very rewarding, I'd say."

Schuch, a German minor, first found the class through a need to fill her minor requirements and saw an opportunity to expand on her current knowledge of the language in a new way.

"It's in a language I've been studying for a while, and I don't really practice writing in another language," Schuch said. "It sounded interesting."

Students presented their final stories to the community, one by one, reading their works in German with an English translation projected behind them.

Nadia Lowen-Webb, '26, an attendee and friend of Schuch, found the reading to be extremely enveloping, even for non-German speakers.

"I thought it was really cool to listen to the German but be able to read in English so I could follow along," Lowen-Webb said. "I think even if you don't know the language, it's still really cool to immerse yourself and experience another culture."

Once the student readings concluded, Bauer was called to the front to introduce herself and her work, but first made sure to acknowledge the work of Schuch, Horsley and Hughes.

"I'm proud of you guys for going out of your comfort zones," she said.

Describing the reading as "the crown jewel of (her) stay," Bauer thanked the audience for their attendance and read an excerpt from her novel, "Glühen," or "Glowing," following the same pattern of German voice and English print translation. After the reading, attendees were welcomed to German hors d'oeuvres and a chance to ask Bauer questions about her work.

"Glühen" was written during the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown and was "a reaction to feeling very isolated and in solitude," questioning the shared reality of humans during the unprecedented time, Bauer said. She also tied in themes of climate change and women's representation in literature.

Bauer has been writing professionally for over ten years, with her first novel debuting in 2014. Throughout this time, she has learned the importance of giving productive feedback and handling criticism, something that she wanted to emphasize through the course.

"What I really hope that people can take away from it…is how to give and receive feedback," she said. "So much about growing professionally and personally is about handling criticism."

Through only half of a semester, Bauer was able to fully dive into the writing process with her students and give them the opportunity to explore a new creative outlet.

"I enjoyed this course, I'm very happy it went as I had planned," Bauer said. "I had hoped that people were wanting to come out of their shell and do some creative writing, and I'm very happy that that happened."

Allegheny alumnus promoted to executive director of Pennsylvania Democratic Party

By **PAIGE KAGENI**
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Larry K. Hailsham, '15, has been appointed to the position of executive director of the Pennsylvania Democratic Party, as announced on Oct. 1. Hailsham previously worked as the senior director of Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro's 2022 gubernatorial race, as well as the Pennsylvania political director for the 2020 Biden for President campaign.

Hailsham, who majored in political science during his time at Allegheny, said he was optimistic about the future of the Democratic Party in a recent statement posted to PADems.org. The statement also included testimony from Shapiro and Pennsylvania Democratic Party Chairman Eugene DePasquale speaking to Hailsham's experience and commitment to the issues facing Pennsylvania today.

"I am honored to step into this role and continue working to build up our party and elect Democrats up and down the ballot in order to keep Pennsylvania moving forward," Hailsham said in the statement. "In this moment our Commonwealth and our country are facing, it is critically important that we show up, fight for our values, and win — and for us to get the job done."

While at Allegheny, Hailsham was heavily involved with extracurricular activities. He was a Bonner Scholar and worked with nonprofit organizations in Crawford County, teaching him the importance of being of service to the community he found himself in. He was also the Allegheny Student Government president for two terms and worked to bring the voices and concerns of students to the college administration. In addition, he served as the Delta Tau Delta philanthropy and recruitment chair, and was an intern with Teach For America and an intern at the White House under the Obama administration.

"I would say that all of my activities in aggregate were so integral in me understanding my place to impact our community in a positive way," Hailsham said. "I can't think of one specific thing that I can credit to everything; I think the beauty of Allegheny is, if you approach it with an open mind, there are so many different opportunities."

Hailsham was also involved with the Center of Political Participation, which advocates for nonpartisan civic engagement, education and research on campus. The CPP has a variety of different programs and opportunities for students to become politically involved in terms of research, learning experiences, and community partnerships for voter registration and fostering dialogue. Expanding his worldview and connecting him with these opportunities were some of the ways Hailsham was able to envision his future in politics and serving the people around him.

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>
> —LARRY HAILSHAM
> *Class of 2015*

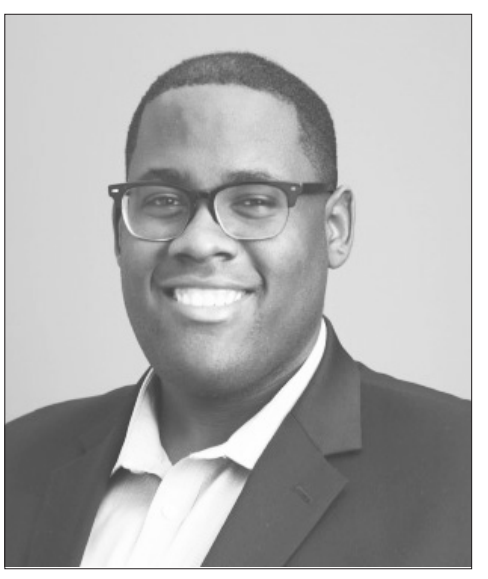
During Blue & Gold Weekend, Hailsham visited campus and spoke on a panel curated for political science students.

"I think that spaces like that are so important for us to be able to discuss not only our issues but how we move forward and different perspectives on how to move forward," Hailsham said, referencing the panel. "I enjoyed coming back to campus to talk to students about my work."

Associate Professor of Political Science Andrew Bloeser, who is also the director of the CPP, remembered Hailsham as being heavily involved with community service and being a strong voice for the student population.

"He held the office of student government for two consecutive years, and he's been the only student in my time here who's done that." Bloeser said. "When I remember meeting Larry in my first few years on campus, I had occasion to be in rooms where Larry was present, where senior-level college administrators were present, where faculty were present, and when it came to the business that Larry was doing as the president of student government, he came very well prepared, very well organized. He was someone who was very thoughtful."

Bloeser recognized that some students may feel intimidated or doubtful of their own capabilities when meeting with faculty or administrators. He points to Hailsham as an example of how to carry yourself as a student in a professional environment.



HAILSHAM

"He was someone who, when he was in those rooms, even though when he was still a student here, he had credibility that is rare for students to achieve during their time here," Bloeser said.

Hailsham is excited about not only what his future will bring him as the new executive director of the Pennsylvania Democratic Party, but also about furthering his commitment to public service. He continues to carry the lessons he learned from Allegheny in the classrooms he's been in, during the internships he's been a part of and the conversations he helped shape to educate himself and the people around him.

"I had so many different opportunities to think about how I can be of service to others, and I think that that is the Allegheny spirit," Hailsham said. "That is something I take in my day-to-day, every single opportunity to do that."

ROCKY

from page 1

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Don't dream it, be it.

The Student Experimental Theater, in affiliation with Gator Activities Programming, donned fishnets and corsets to put on an exuberant performance of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" on Friday, Oct. 17, and Saturday, Oct. 18. The shadowcast production — a format where actors perform in front of a screening of the movie, lip-syncing rather than talking or singing — drew over 100 students across the two nights.

This production of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" coincided with the 50th anniversary of the film's release in 1975. Over the years, the film has become an iconic piece of LGBTQ+ performance art.

"The Rocky Horror Picture Show" was one of the first examples of mass queer media, according to Visiting Assistant Professor of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies Jo Giardini. The groundwork for its public reception was laid by dozens of activist organizations in the 70s that combatted homophobia by engaging in legislative work, demanding better media representation, challenging several scientific bodies' categorization of homosexuality as an illness and confronting discriminatory business practices.

"The Rocky Horror Picture Show" is a cult-classic musical film that follows a straightlaced young couple, Brad and Janet — in Allegheny's production played by Brayden Devinney, '26, and T Laplatney, '26, respectively — whose car breaks down on a dark, stormy night. They seek shelter in a mysterious castle inhabited by the eccentric and flamboyant Dr. Frank-N-Furter, a self-proclaimed "sweet transvestite from Transsexual, Transylvania," played in this production by Rae Robison, '26. Frank-N-Furter and his bizarre entourage of servants and scientists are all preparing for the unveiling of Frank-N-Furter's newest creation: a muscular, handsome man named Rocky — played by Iris Styers, '26, — built to be the perfect lover.

During the 70s, the film was primarily screened in the midnight movie market, an alternative market for films that Giardini, in an interview with The Campus, said set the tone for venues to more openly cater to and include LGBTQ+ clientele, for movie-goers to be more comfortable sitting alongside LGBTQ+ audience members and for a more public embrace of an aesthetic that was commonly referred to during the 60s and 70s as "camp."

This aesthetic is evident as the plot of the movie unfolds. After meeting Frank-N-Furter, Brad and Janet are drawn into a world of outrageous costumes, rock 'n' roll, sexual liberation and unapologetic rebellion against social norms, experiencing a surreal blend of horror, comedy and glam spectacle that celebrates freedom of expression, challenges conventional ideas of gender and sexuality and ultimately transforms their perception of themselves and the world around them.

"Camp," Giardini said, is an aesthetic that "Rocky Horror" "delightfully participates in," but is a "slippery" term to define because "it's as much an attitude toward a work as it is a quality of an aesthetic work in and of itself."

Many LGBTQ+ writers have attempted their own definitions of the word over the years. Giardini likes the definition in Bruce Rodgers' 1972 book, "The Queen's Vernacular: A Gay Lexicon," a dictionary of terms circulating in LGBTQ+ communities in the 60s and 70s. The definition of "camp" extends for three pages, so Giardini referenced just the first paragraph.

"'What is camp?'" Giardini read. "'Camp is burlesque, fun, an ability to poke a jocular finger at one's own frustrations and guffaw at the struggle of other pathetics, homosexuals or famous, influential people. A bit actor who works in commercials is camp. A politician who tries too hard is also camp. Camp personalities are sometimes loved because they are unpretentious, real. They make no excuses for their actions or words. The fun thing about a camp is that the more seriously he or she takes himself, the campier he becomes.'"

"'Items are also camp if they are so ostentatious, they're considered good taste,'" Giardini continued. "'So bad they're good. Some, such as pop posters, were once camp, but here comes the rub: as soon as an object is advertised as such, it is no longer camp. Camp is discovering the worthiness in something seemingly without value; finding the genius in something that flopped once upon a time; beauty in the grotesque.'"

The aesthetic of "Rocky Horror" and the high-energy environment can make participating in the shadowcast both a fun and fast-paced experience.

"My favorite part of the production was getting to be with the actors and production team," said tech crew member McKenna Gray, '29. "I loved getting to know all of them and getting to see how they individually impacted the show."

As a tech crew member, Gray helped keep things organized backstage and helped the cast members with costume changes.

Co-director and ensemble member Natalie Anderson, '28, similarly enjoyed the community environment.

"My favorite aspect of working on this production was getting to know everyone in the cast and making new and stronger connections with other people on campus," Anderson said. "I also loved the experience I gained from working on the show and hearing all the positive feedback and excitement for the show from the community."

That excitement partially takes the form of callouts, words and phrases the audience yells in response to scenes in the film. The callouts began when "Rocky Horror" was first released, when individual audience members yelled out responses to scenes to make those around them laugh. Now, after 50 years, the callouts have solidified into a script of sorts, though there were still plenty of spontaneous callouts from the audience on Friday and Saturday as well.

Allegheny's "Rocky Horror" performance is entirely student-led.

"I think it's ("The Rocky Horror Picture Show") also a good way for those who would like to do more performance-based activities but don't have the time or know where to start with doing other performances, such as Playshop productions or acting classes," Anderson said. "It's also a lower-stakes show since a lot of the draw is how crazy things can get in the show, and people don't have to memorize lines and know how to sing in order to be a part of it."

The production team consisted of Anderson, Jude Gotschall, '26, Sam Ault, '26, and Ainslee Plesko, '28, with Ault, Anderson, Plesko, Gray and Pressley Stevens, '29, serving on the tech crew.

Additional cast members included Daniel Servey, '29, as Riff Raff, Veronica McNeece, '27, as Magenta, Violet Rignani, '28, as Columbia, Nic Ingerson, '25, as Dr. Scott and Zoe Williams, '29, as Eddie. The ensemble also included Anderson, Plesko, Alyssa Gent, '27, Megan Kromer, '28, Styers and Ingerson.

Giardini sees the continuation of the "Rocky Horror" tradition as an important one.

"I'm a big believer — and I think Rocky Horror is important for this reason — that the material remnants of queer culture really deserve being valued," Giardini said. "Like, thinking not just about queer culture in the abstract, but really zooming in on what queer people made and how they loved it, matters."

The tradition of a "Rocky Horror" shadowcast performance will continue at Allegheny in the years to come.

"The Rocky Horror Picture Show was a totally invigorating and unique experience," Gray said. "I would love to do it all over again."



JAY SHANK/THE CAMPUS
Jude Gotschall, '26, dances to the 'Time Warp' on Friday, Oct. 19. Gotschall played the criminologist who narrates 'The Rocky Horror Picture Show.'



JAY SHANK/THE CAMPUS
The cast of Rocky Horror gathers on stage during the last song, 'I'm Going Home.'



JAY SHANK/THE CAMPUS
Iris Styers, '26, Natalie Anderson, '28, and Alyssa Gent, '27, play Transylvanians dancing on stage to 'Time Warp' in the first half of the show.



JAY SHANK/THE CAMPUS
Brayden Devinney, '26, as Brad and Rae Robison, '26, as Frank-N-Furter give the audience a brief peek behind a white sheet that had been obstructing the audience's view.



JAY SHANK/THE CAMPUS
Veronica McNeece, '27, Robison and Violet Rignani, '28, raise Rocky from behind the flag, which acts as the vat he was created in.