

EDUCATED & ENGAGED

Community celebrates midterm election night

By MATTHEW STEINBERG
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On election night, piñatas were not the only thing being “busted” in the Vukovich Center for Communication Arts. Voting myths and misconceptions were busted as part of the inaugural Voter Fest.

Breanna Lizette, ’20, strung up multiple patriotic piñatas outside of the Lee and Sue O’Connor Idleman Production Wing. As part of the inaugural event, students gathered to bust open these pieces of papier-mâché — representative of inaccuracies surrounding voting.

The “myths” were busted, along with plenty of food and music, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesday Nov. 6. Lizette, along with Brian Hill, ’19 and Sam Ianiro, ’19, organized Voter Fest to celebrate the civic duty.

Different myths about voting were taped to four candy-filled piñatas. One read, “my vote doesn’t count.”

“We want to bust the myths out, get them out of America,” Lizette said. “Voting is important, and I think that the number one myth out there about voting is that your vote doesn’t matter, and that just makes no sense to me because the people who are voting are getting what they want in office. So if you care about who’s in office, you should vote for who you want.”

Another myth: College students have to vote where their parents live.

“A lot of the myths that we placed on the (piñatas) were things that we felt, as young people, were statements and ideas that are truths in our minds, but aren’t truths in reality,” Hill said. “Just by going out there and physically whacking the thing and knocking it down was just our metaphorical way of saying,



MATTHEW STEINBERG/THE CAMPUS

Karol Vargas, ’19, busts the myth, “I can’t talk about political issues or encourage others to vote,” on Tuesday, Nov. 6 2018 outside of the Vukovich Center.

‘shatter the myths, your vote does matter. Your voice matters.’”

Ianiro was unable to attend the event, but Hill said organizing Voter Fest was a group effort between the three communication arts majors, a project they became invested in after starting a group assignment in their Video Activism class.

They were first assigned make a video about the upcoming election and then organized an out of class event, according to Lizette. She said the three classmates were passionate about the subject of youth voting and decided to arrange an event that was open to the entire Allegheny community.

The video, which was posted on Facebook and screened at the end of Voter Fest, featured Lizette, Hill and Ianiro having a discussion about the importance of voting, and what could be done to better encourage the younger generation to head to the polls.

They focused on transforming the civic duty into a more social act. Voting should be fun, talked about across party lines and something people look forward too. As Lizette said in the video: “Make voting lit again.”

“(Voting) should be something that you’re actually proud about,” Lizette said. “We really cared about making voting social again, which is why we had (Voter Fest).”

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Students stay up 'til dawn

By ELLIS GIACOMELLI
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By moonrise Nov. 1, at 12:47 a.m., teams of fundraisers for the annual St. Jude Up ’til Dawn at Allegheny College had raised \$32,801 — almost 94 percent of its \$35,000 goal.

By Friday, Nov. 2, Allegheny had surpassed its \$35,000 goal, and at press time, had raised \$37,371 for St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital.

The Hospital opened on Feb. 4, 1962, in Memphis, Tennessee, after comedian and entertainer Danny Thomas “envisioned a hospital that would treat children regardless of race, color, creed or their family’s ability to pay,” the St. Jude website states.

At its inception, St. Jude was one of the first integrated hospitals in the southern United States, according to its website, where black children and white children were treated together. Since the 1960s, St. Jude has become a long-term care facility for pediatric patients with critical diagnoses, as well as a renowned research institution that studies cancers and other diseases.

“It gives families hope when they need it the most,” Allie Pope, ’19, said of St. Jude.

Pope serves as the events and logistics director for Allegheny Up ’til Dawn, a national program in which college students commit to months of fundraising each year for St. Jude. The fundraising culminates in the Up ’til Dawn event, a celebration of the fundraising — and hopefully, a goal that has been reached.

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Knupsky, Caballero receive grant for academic work

By STEVEN HEINE
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Two professors received a grant for their work exploring whether a student’s Allegheny College education is too one-dimensional.

Soledad Caballero, associate professor of English, and Aimee Knupsky, associate professor of psychology, won a Humanities Connections Planning grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to explore ways to expand interdisciplinary teaching at Allegheny.

The grant connects to a six-year interdisciplinary teaching and research partnership Caballero and Knupsky have developed with the



CABALLERO



KNUPSKY

aid of two other grants. Caballero and Knupsky have developed their partnership through a shared interest in the Age of Wonder, which occurred from late 1700s into the 1800s, and which Knupsky said was characterized by significant overlap between humanistic and scientific disciplines.

“You had poets who were going to medical classes, watching lectures on anatomy, and using that information to inform the kinds of imagery they used in their poems,” Knupsky said. “And then you had philosophers, aka scientists, who were studying things like laughing gas, and inviting their poet and artist friends to join them for these experiments, maybe sometimes even the

philosopher or the scientist writing poems in their lab books.”

Yet Knupsky said she and Caballero thought liberal arts institutions such as Allegheny, which have historically found pride in maintaining such overlap among disciplines, had hardened distinctions between aspects such as the humanities and natural sciences. Students became increasingly focused on their majors, and less frequently explored a truly interdisciplinary education.

“When we think about liberal arts, we think about exposing students to lots of different ways of knowing, so not just through a scientific lens, but through a humanistic lens, and there are lots of ways to ask questions about the world,” Knupsky said.

Thus, Caballero and Knupsky applied for their first grant, from the Great Lakes Colleges Association, a



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—AIMEE KNUPSKY
Associate professor of psychology,
Allegheny College

group of 13 liberal arts colleges of which Allegheny is a member.

Caballero and Knupsky first focused their interdisciplinary efforts on the topic of emotions. Knupsky was leading research focused on how emotions impacted reception and processing of stimuli, while Caballero was studying emotions in literature.

“We spent a summer researching

it together, learning about it together, so Professor Caballero was reading neuroscience and psychological articles about it with me, and I was reading poems and plays and novels with her, and so we were kind of teaching each other about emotion through our different areas of expertise,” Knupsky said.

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IN THIS WEEK’S CAMPUS



ASG WELCOMES HALL TO MEETING
Hall attends ASG’s weekly general assembly meeting.

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ARTISTIC TALENT & PASSION
Allegheny student turns her passion into a reality through art and social media.

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REFLECTIONS & BONDING
Allegheny men and women’s soccer teams reflect on their past 2018 season.

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The organizers turned election night into a celebration — providing attendees with pizza, sparkling cider, cornhole. The Vuk production wing was transformed with red, white and blue balloons, streamers and American flags for all.

As the night progressed, the group encouraged attendees to head into the edit bay and watch the election results. A camera was also set up so students could record and share what voting means to them.

“(Voter Fest) really was unique,” said David Perez, ’19, who attended the event. “Millennials really have to get out there if we want to make a difference, and I think we’re the generation to do it.”

Karol Vargas, ’19, reiterated the uniqueness of Voter Fest and said there was plenty of fun and productive conversation amongst the students.

“This is something that we

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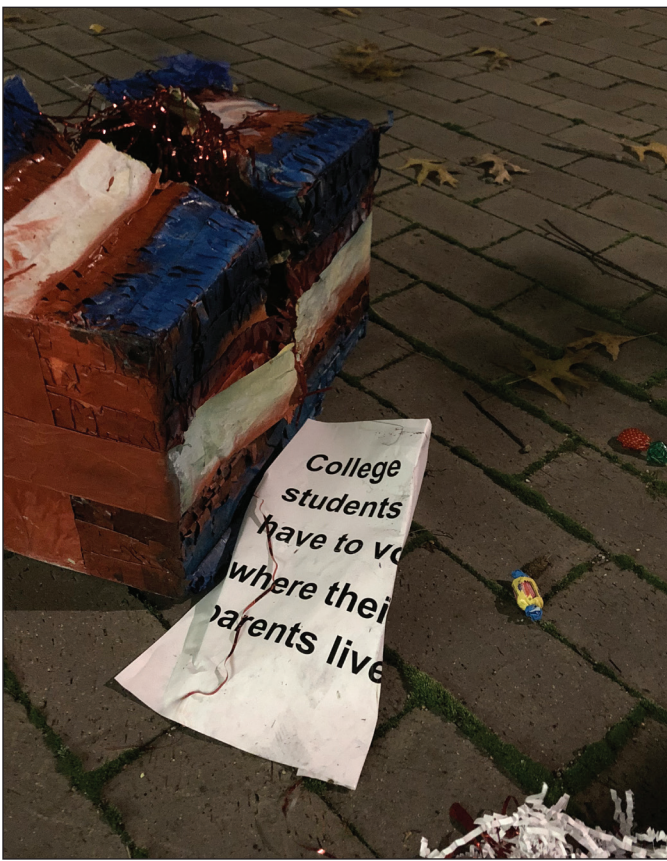
Millennials really have to get out there if we want to make a difference, and I think we’re the generation to do it.”

—DAVID PEREZ
Class of 2019,
Allegheny College

hope will continue on after this year,” Hill said. “We’re really pleased with the turnout, but for the coming years, we’d love to see (Voter Fest) get a lot larger, to see more people get involved, and for more people to actually go out and not only get involved with their party but to participate in politics in the most basic form of voting.”



At Voter Fest, patriotic themed piñatas donned “Voter Myths” that were then busted by attendees on Tuesday, Nov. 6, 2018.



PHOTOS BY MATTHEW STEINBERG/THE CAMPUS

ASG cabinet strives to inform students about its role

Members unite committee work with student government as a whole

By JAKE WAMSLEY
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“

I think one of the flaws that we have had internally is that we believe that what we do is pretty self-explanatory, and it’s not always that way.”

—CAMILA GOMEZ
ASG president,
Allegheny College, Class of 2019

ASG aims to clear up ambiguity about its cabinet’s functioning and introduce students to each Cabinet member’s role in representing the student body in order to beget transparency and give students easier access to finding assistance for their needs.

According to ASG President Camila Gomez, ’19, students often have trouble understanding who to contact when seeking guidance or other services provided by ASG, adding hassle to the process of obtaining results on both ends.

“We definitely want to sort of demystify that process for people,” said Gomez.

Gomez said that, during ASG’s most recent meeting, the body discussed developing a flowchart that would help simplify and streamline the communication process between students and Cabinet members. The chart would lay out the duties of Cabinet members and describe who would be best suited to an-

swer specific questions so that students will know who they need to talk to.

“I think one of the flaws that we have had internally is that we believe that what we do is pretty self-explanatory and it’s not always that way,” Gomez said. “Ultimately I think that sort of transparency is important.”

The Cabinet is comprised of 12 members — the president, vice president, chief of staff, attorney general, director of finance, director of diversity and inclusion, co-directors of student affairs, director of communications and press, director of sustainability and environmental affairs, director of organizational development, and first year liaison — who each have both

specific and general leadership roles in ASG.

Each cabinet member takes on their own initiatives relevant to their position’s duties and also plays a part in some of the bigger picture goals that ASG strives toward. “There’s kind of a duplicitous sort of job there, where maybe half of the projects that (Cabinet members) do are specific to the individual and half of them are bigger picture issues,” Gomez said.

Director of Diversity and Inclusion Faith Simms, ’19, discussed efforts she and her committee are taking to assist student leaders involved with the recently-held demonstrations over racial bias incidents on campus.

“So right now we have a

great opportunity to work with administrators and lead interested organizers to go over bias policy and how the school handles bias incidents, possibly curriculum, and maybe some faculty training,” Simms said. “The school goes over our policies every three years and this year is one of them, so it kind of works out that we’re working to make all these changes because they had to be made anyways.”

Simms also mentioned that her committee is trying to establish a “Rep Your Flag” party at the end of the semester to celebrate students’ differences and integrate them on campus. The party would encourage students to represent their home country, state or other cultural backgrounds they feel embodies who they are and represents where they come from. Simms said that more information regarding this event will be forthcoming.

The focus of Simms’s committee on diverse cultural groups and its specified knowledge of them provides valuable insight that also carries over to more generalized

goals of the ASG Cabinet such as connecting ASG with students of all backgrounds and interests.

“We are student representatives, so there needs to be a bridge between ASG and students,” Simms said. “I think that’s what we’re really trying to focus on this year, how to get students to think of ASG not as a separate entity but as one of their own.”

When Cabinet members collaborate they discuss matters in a manner that considers the multiple different insights provided by their positions and what their work within them involves.

“Because we all sit on very different kinds of committees, we all have different opinions about how things should be done,” said ASG Attorney General, Monessha Jayabalan, ’19. “Our opinions are influenced by our committees, but in Cabinet ... it’s more of what you think in regards to your constituents or the roles that you hold on campus and other places.”

Beyond discussion, Cabinet members occasionally find themselves with an op-

portunity to help out with other ASG projects that do not pertain to their usual duties, according to Jayabalan. She described that she helped out with the planning for homecoming even though it does not involve her usual duties with rules and club constitutions.

This specified, yet collaborative dynamic of the Cabinet helps reconcile multiple different perspectives and interests when it comes to ASG’s decision-making and helps provide for a more effective and smooth-running operation.

“It really should be a holistic process, I don’t think that I could make a good decision without asking the Cabinet,” Gomez said. “It’s about adding that thoughtfulness and intentionality of making sure that we’re addressing a spectrum of issues ... because as much as I offer my insight when possible, I think that the best thing I could do for the organization and the community at large is to make sure I seek out their input too.”

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One result of this partnership has been the class Interdisciplinary Studies 415 - Exploring Emotion, which Caballero and Knupsky plan to offer in the fall of 2019.

“This is a place where we are both in a classroom together teaching,” Knupsky said. “We design the readings together, the syllabus together, we grade together. And we ask students to try to do the same thing.”

Their second grant, also from the GLCA, was called an Expanding Collaborations grant, and required its recipient to develop a project spanning multiple GLCA schools. Caballero and Knupsky worked with faculty at Denison University, Kenyon College and Ohio Wesleyan University to enhance the selection of interdisciplinary courses offered at each institution. This partnership resulted in 10 interdisciplinary courses being taught among the three

other partner schools.

Each course included student and faculty assessments designed to understand the perceptions of the participants about interdisciplinary learning throughout different stages of the course.

“We looked at how students defined interdisciplinary learning at the beginning of the semester, at the middle of the semester, at the end of the semester and six months later,” Knupsky said.

For the third grant, Caballero and Knupsky decided to focus specifically on how Allegheny approached interdisciplinary scholarship.

“It’s a big commitment for the institution, because it means instead of professor Caballero and I both teaching two different classes, we’re only teaching one class, so it takes away what we’re able to offer the institution,” Knupsky said.

The two professors plan to

use the third grant to explore current interdisciplinary efforts at Allegheny and have developed a steering committee comprised of faculty members from around the college to assist in this stage.

“We are 12 folks, 12 faculty and staff, from all of the range from biology to global health, to women’s gender sexuality, to English, to religious studies. And then a representative from the Gateway,” Caballero said.

One steering committee initiative Knupsky highlighted was a plan to make it easier for students with double majors to combine their majors in their senior project.

“Right now, you kind of have to figure it out on your own with your faculty readers, it can be a different experience for different students, depending on who you’re working with and what departments it is,” Knupsky said. “We want to see if we can do

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—AIMEE KNUPSKY
Associate professor of psychology,
Allegheny College

anything to help standardize that a little bit.”

The steering committee also plans to assist academic advisers in helping students find courses outside their field which would make the student a better candidate for the student’s next job.

“If I’m a biologist, how can my faculty member help me think about humanities classes that might make me a better candidate for what I want to do after Allegheny?” Knupsky asked. “If I’m an Econ major, how might my faculty member help me

think of some humanities classes that might make me a little more competitive when I go out in the job market?”

Knupsky highlighted the prestige of the grant, saying roughly 10 to 11 percent of applicants for such grants receive them.

“Even though monetarily, it’s just \$35,000, so that’s not as much as other grants Allegheny has gotten, but it’s special in terms of it’s an opportunity to work with the National Endowment for the Humanities,” Knupsky said. “We want the community to know that

we’re doing this work. The goal at the end of the year is if it looks like there’s interest for the kinds of things we’re exploring, we would apply for what’s called the Implementation Grant.”

Becky Dawson, assistant professor of biology and global health, was interested in joining the steering committee after she taught an interdisciplinary class with Barbara Shaw, associate professor of women’s, gender and sexuality studies. The course, called Sex and Health, discussed the concept of sex from both a scientific and a humanistic standpoint.

“I love spending time thinking and teaching and researching with someone who doesn’t think and teach and research the same way ... so I love hearing what she does and hearing how she views my field,” Dawson said. “I love seeing the new space that we’re creating together.”

Public safety candidate talks cameras, community on visit

By ALEX WEINDENHOF
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Since August 2015, Allegheny College’s Office of Public Safety has had two permanent and three interim directors. Wednesday, Nov. 7, marked the final stages of the search for a new permanent director.

Jeff Schneider left the position in November 2015, and was replaced by interim director Sean Kennedy. In July 2016, then-permanent director Ali Awadi took over. After Awadi left in the fall of 2017, the role was filled by Sgt. Robert Wright, who retired in June 2018 and was supplanted by Sgt. Doug Merchbaker.

Matt Platz, one of two final candidates to be the office’s permanent director, shared his views for the future of the department with the campus community in a Wednesday, Nov. 7, presentation in Quigley Hall’s Henderson Auditorium.

Faculty, staff and students, including Title IX Coordinator Gilly Ford, Merchbaker and Associate Dean of Students for Wellness Education Gretchen Beck, attended Platz’s 30-minute presentation titled “Safety and Security in the Campus Community,” which began at 3 p.m.

Among many issues Platz identified in the Office of Public Safety, stability in its director role was among the highest.

“What I know ... is that this is a community where people like to come and work,” Platz said, noting that members of the search committee for the

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Looking around campus, there are areas for improvement.”

—MATT PLATZ

position have been at Allegheny for decades. “I saw what felt like an opportunity ... where I could feel part of the community, not just be here a year and leave.”

One factor about Platz that may make him predisposed to staying at Allegheny for a longer period of time, he said, is that he is from northwestern Pennsylvania.

Platz attended Edinboro University as an undergraduate, studying speech communication, and Mercyhurst University as a master’s student in organizational leadership. He currently attends Gannon University as a doctoral student in organizational learning and leadership.

Prior to holding his current role as Mercyhurst University’s director of athletic finance and ice rink operations, Platz worked for that university’s safety department as a dispatcher, officer, corporal and lieutenant from 2003 to 2015.

While at Mercyhurst, Platz said, the candidate made connections with agencies that would be able and willing to help train Allegheny’s safety officers.

“I made those connections up in Erie, and I’m sure we can bring them down here,”

Platz said, adding that it would likely come at little to no cost to the college.

Another issue Platz said he identified at Allegheny was the lack of campus security cameras and lighting.

“Looking around campus, there are areas for improvement,” Platz said.

LED lighting, Platz said, would help some darker areas of the college as “less crime happens in well-lighted areas.”

These lights, too, would help with any future implementation of security cameras if the college were interested.

“It’s been my experience in 12 years of campus law enforcement that video surveillance can do a lot to help prevent some issues and help with others,” Platz said.

Former Director of Public Safety Ali Awadi began researching the potential implementation of campus security cameras in 2017, though it is not clear if any proposals came of his research. At the time, Awadi and former Dean of Students Kimberly Scott said their interest in cameras stemmed from vandalism in the Henderson Campus Center and the Steffee Hall of Life Sciences.

Yet Platz noted infrastructure alone will not increase the safety of Allegheny College. When asked about his view of enforcement and the ability of the Office of Public Safety to form connections with minority students who may be less willing to speak with officers, Platz outlined his vision of how public safety



EMILY RICE/THE CAMPUS

Matt Platz, candidate for director of Allegheny College’s Office of Public Safety, during his presentation Wednesday, Nov. 7, 2018.

officers would engage while working.

“It’s important for the officers to step out of the vehicle,” Platz said.

The candidate also discussed the possibility of assigning officers to buildings, as he has seen at other campuses, to increase accessibility and students’ comfort around the officers.

“At certain parts of their shifts, they go up to those buildings and they’re accessible,” he said.

Platz’s stated view of campus law enforcement is similar to Dean of Students April Thompson’s, who told The Campus in September that she views the office’s duty as “community policing.”

“It’s about officers who get to know and engage with the

community,” she said. “And policing is less about patrolling and more about engaging students.”

As a doctoral candidate in organizational leadership and learning, Platz said he has a certain view of his desired role of the director of public safety. Platz said he want to develop each officer in public safety into a leader.

“It lets them know they can make decisions and be a member of the community themselves,” he said.

In addition to letting officers know they can make their own decisions, Platz said, his view of the office as part of the community extends to communication with other offices and students.

A large duty for the Office of Public Safety is ensur-

ing compliance with federal guidelines and regulations, including the Clery Act, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Violence Against Women Act and the SaVe Act.

“We need to communicate well with the Title IX office, and that is something a lot of campuses have issues with,” Platz said. “The public safety department plays a large role in those requirements, but we can’t do it alone.”

Following his presentation, which ended with a brief question and answer session, Platz said he looks forward to the results of the search and hopes to be selected as the new director.

“I’m not looking to leave any time soon, as long as you’ll have me,” he said.

ASG, Hall discuss student conduct

By SARA HOLTHOUSE
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Continuing its discussion and planning after the September student protests, Allegheny Student Government welcomed Joe Hall to its general assembly meeting.

ASG invited Hall, assistant dean of student conduct, to give a presentation on last year’s student conduct report and hopes for this year. It also invited student representatives who helped lead the protests that occurred on Sept. 17 into the meeting.

Hall presented a power point filled with information and graphs explaining the amount of honor code violations during the 2017-18 academic year, along with the statistic differences between 2017-18 and previous years and among each class year.

“Our numbers were down in terms of we had 33 students go through the (honor code violation) process last year,” Hall said. “(This is) compared to 39 in the previous year and that includes those who go through the fast track process and those who go through a disciplinary hearing.”

Hall discussed the differences between the people on campus who report incidents — the highest amount of reports of non academic incidents being from public safety — and a lower amount from faculty and students. He also explained the new policy change being worked on for non academic incidents. In years before for non academic incidents, students were not eligible to take the fast track option, and the new policy change should help fix that according to Hall.

“In the past if a student had

a non academic violation in their file whether accused or (the student) took responsibility, that case was not available to be considered on the fast track (to get their case handled quickly),” Hall said. “Now if the non-academic history is at the warning level they’re still eligible for the fast track (option).”

After Hall’s presentation, ASG moved onto cabinet reports, which included a discussion of mental health services available to students, and candidates for Public Safety Director which continue to come in. ASG President Camila Gomez, ’19, gave a report on a follow up email she received from Ron Cole, provost and dean of the college, after his visit at the last meeting.

Cole’s email gave answers to questions that senators asked during his visit at the last meeting, which included problems first-year students are having with not being given an advisor that works for the department that they want to major in. Questions from the meeting also included the problem with transfer students who come to Allegheny al-

ready having earned associate degrees through their high school.

“We’ve asked admissions counselors to update students more on policies so they have realistic expectations for when they come,” Gomez said.

The rest of the meeting involved the normal adviser report from ASG adviser and Associate Dean of Students for Wellness Education, Gretchen Beck. Beck gave ASG an update on the campus master plan for continuing updates of buildings around campus and to continue to make things more sustainable. She also mentioned the shuttle transportation for over Thanksgiving Break, and encouraged students to sign up soon if they were in need of that. Most of the general assembly meeting focused on a discussion with some students that helped to lead the student protests back in September. These protests were due to students believing that they needed more information from administration when it came to reporting bias incidents. The students came to discuss how they felt about the responses they received afterwards and to ask for feed-

back from ASG. Discussion included the creation of a bias code like the honor code, and adding student voices to the current bias response team.

“So when we receive a bias report it goes to members of the bias response team,” Beck said. The current bias response team includes justin adkins, associate dean of students, April Thompson, dean of students, and Kristin Dukes, dean for institutional diversity. Senators in the room agreed it would be beneficial to add student voices to this committee. They also agreed there were still problems and processes that needed to be talked through and changed, and that it was important for ASG to be a part of that process.

“We do talk a lot about being more open and accessible, and ask students to meet us halfway,” Gomez said. “Students are reaching out to us, let’s make sure that we reach back. It’s our duty and the opportunity that we’ve been waiting for. So let’s make sure we use this opportunity and actually are a part of this process.”

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 Thursday before publication.

Oct. 31, 2018
Sidewalk near College Court
Criminal mischief.

Nov. 2, 2018
Delta Tau Delta
Criminal mischief.

Nov. 5, 2018
Unknown Residence Hall
Rape.

Nov. 5, 2018
Robertson Field
Theft.

Nov. 6, 2018
Unknown Residence Hall
Rape.

Nov. 6, 2018
Schultz Hall
Rape.

Nov. 6, 2018
Delta Tau Delta
Rape.

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Native American Heritage Month: A celebration of cultures hiding in the shadows of Thanksgiving

By **JEN RODRIGUEZ**
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President George H. W. Bush approved a resolution designating the month of November as National American Indian Heritage Month on Aug. 3, 1990. A few years later, more proclamations under the names Native American Heritage Month and National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month would be added.

“The month is a time to celebrate rich and diverse cultures, traditions and histories and to acknowledge the important contributions of native people.” The National Congress of American Indians website reads. “Heritage Month is also an opportune time to educate the general public about tribes, to raise a general awareness about the unique challenges Native people have faced both historically and in the present and the ways in which tribal citizens have worked to conquer these challenges.”

I never knew November was Native American Heritage Month until a friend started tweeting about Native Americans in North America. These tweets have included information like suicide rates among Native Americans and the historically accurate, but horrifying facts of Native Americans and their history in the United States and Canada. For example, residential schools, schools made to eradicate

Native cultures and languages within Native American children under the guise of assimilation into “civilized society,” were not officially closed until the 1990s.

“

We need to generate awareness about Native American history, educate those who do not know a lot of the history and prompt discussion on Native American culture and heritage in today’s society...”

—JEN RODRIGUEZ
Senior opinion editor

Native American Heritage Month seems to have been swept under the rug, just like the United States did with these horrific residential and boarding schools, and other action taken against natives. Has anyone ever truly looked at these events in history? We do hear of these things but we do not usually comprehend just how destructive they have been. They are a footnote to our full history, the centuries of decimation reduced to a few sentences.

I am not here to say we are awful human beings for not giving Native American Heritage Month and the people it honors deserve more recognition. We need to generate awareness about Native

American history, educate those who do not know a lot of the history and prompt discussion on Native American culture and heritage in today’s society — especially since this heritage celebration shares a month with the controversial holiday of Thanksgiving.

Beyond horrifying things of our country’s past is the interesting and complex history and cultures of Native Americans. It should be celebrated, and we, as a collective, should listen to Native American voices.

Letting native voices be heard is essential, especially with the 2018 midterm elections in mind. As we should know, Native Americans were not considered legal citizens until 1924, a few years after white women were legally allowed to vote. The Indian Citizenship Act of 1924 ensured all Native Americans born within the United States citizenship, but some native peoples were still not allowed to vote until 1957, as states had legally barred them from doing so. But even today, Native Americans are still fighting for their right to vote.

With the past midterm elections on Nov. 6, there was a surge of people making sure they are registered to vote and are voting, whether early or on election day. For Native Americans, registering to vote comes with obstacles. In North Dakota, for instance, the week of Oct. 13, NPR reported “the Supreme Court declined to overturn

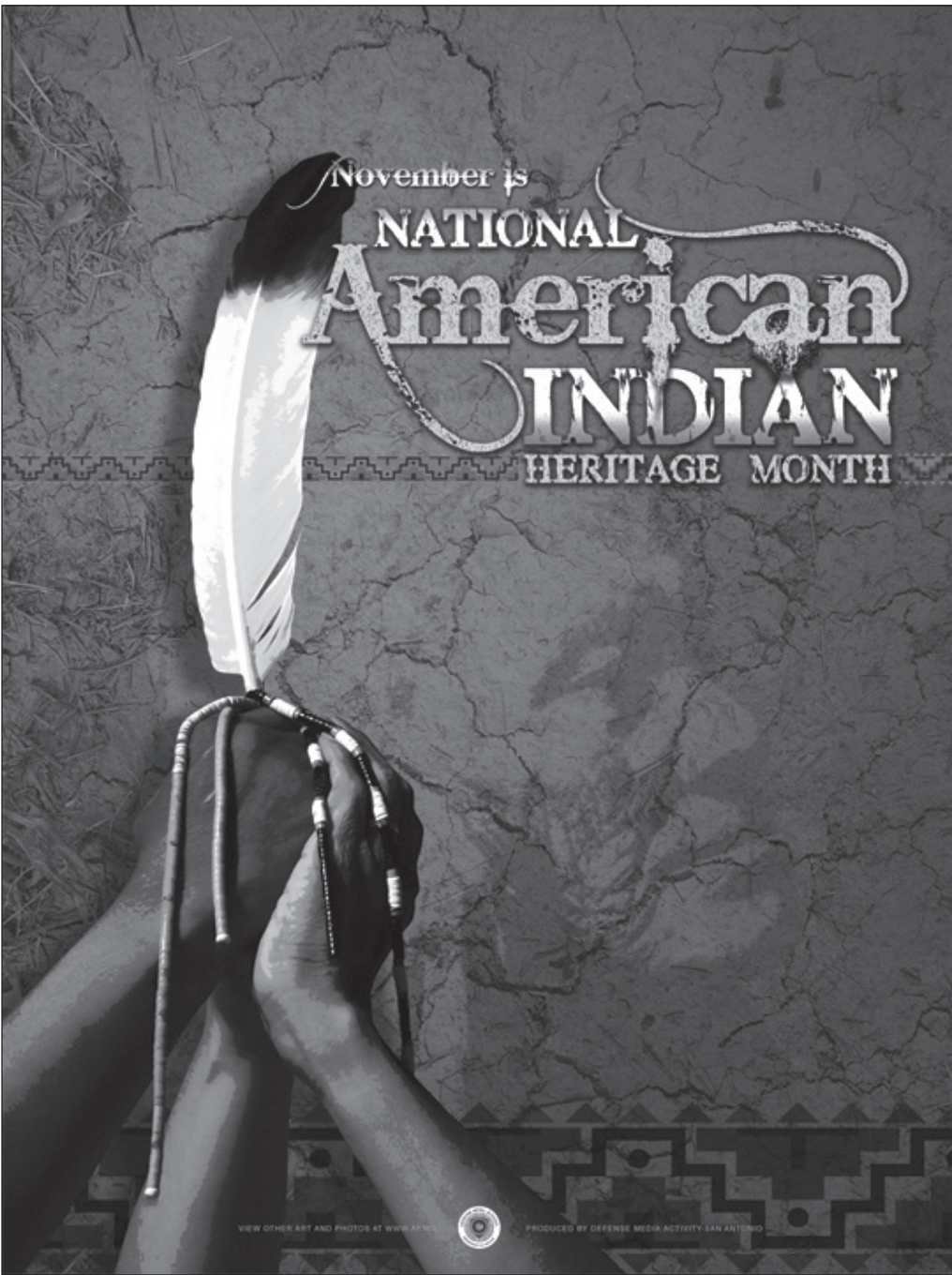


Photo contributed by [jbsa.mil](https://www.jbsa.mil) opponent and governor candidate, Stacey Abrams.

North Dakota’s controversial voter ID law, which requires residents to show identification with a current street address.” Voting laws in North Dakota require a voter to present identification that displays a street address, as P.O. boxes are not accepted.

This severely affects Native Americans in particular. Any Native American who lives on a reservation may not be eligible to vote, as many reservations do not have street addresses, and instead, make use of P.O. boxes.

The mere idea that even in 2018, Native Americans are still being suppressed in voting is ridiculous. But at the same time, it is not that surprising either. Our country is apparently known to suppress and purge voters even today. Look to the New York Times examination of the Georgia midterm election, where it is said Georgia’s Secretary of State Brian Kemp attempted to purge and prevent voters, primarily African-Americans, from voting in the midterms to get ahead of his Democratic

All of this voter suppression happened this year, and more than likely years before. It is sickening to know that this is what our country is like, but at the same time I am glad that we know now. Now, hopefully, we can break this cycle of suppression and injustice.

Take time this month, or any month of the year to learn something new about Native Americans and their history and culture in the United States.

Low voter turnout is reflective of archaic electoral system

By **SHANE OSTROM**
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Election Day is arguably the most important day of the year for American citizens to exercise their right to vote and make their voices heard to determine the path the country takes. Voting is at the heart of democracy, and yet, we allow our politics to be determined by a relatively low percentage of eligible-voter turnout.

In the presidential election of 2012, for example, just over 51 percent of the eligible population voted, though more than 80 percent of the population was registered. Voter turnout in America’s 2012 election was only higher than the Japanese, Chilean and Swiss elections, and lower than at least 30 other countries that held their elections during or around the same year, according to Pew Research Center calculations. American midterms have historically had significantly lower turnouts, with the 2014 elections being decided by only 36.3 percent of eligible voters, the lowest turnout in 72 years.

There are several reasons that contribute to low voter turnout, but it unfortunately seems that this low turnout benefits groups in power. Efforts to gerrymander districts to distribute low voter turnouts across strategic districts have been blasted in recent political debate. Perhaps even more telling is the disenfranchisement of minority voters across racial and socioeconomic divides. These efforts have recently become more blatant, highlighting America as a partisan battlefield for control.

In Georgia, Secretary of State Brian Kemp who is running for governor this year, stalled 53,000 voter applications with disproportionately high numbers of black voters. The New York Times reports, the state uses a controversial “exact match” method that will purge voters for even trivial details that do not match government records such as entry errors or dropped hyphens.

“

State voter regulation help shape the political battlefield, sometimes by encouraging participation, and unfortunately, sometimes by barring participation.”

—SHANE OSTROM
Junior opinion editor

Voter ID laws also run rampant in Georgia and other states that require photo IDs to be presented before voting. This also disproportionately hurts black voters, as a far smaller percentage of them have driver’s licenses and the inconvenient hours of operations for identification centers add more obstacles to casting a ballot, generally helping secure Republican victories, the Washington Post reports.

State voter regulations help shape the political battlefield, sometimes by encouraging participation, and unfortunately, sometimes by barring participation. But national

voting protocols do little to encourage widespread participation.

Election Day was established as the first Tuesday of November for a Christian agrarian society after telegraph technology allowed for instant communication. Having a single established day for elections would prevent results from states influencing the results of other states that had not yet voted. Nov. 1 is All Saints Day, so this rule ensured that Election Day would not interfere and having it on Tuesday allowed voters to begin traveling by horseback on Monday if need be, without interfering with the Sabbath on Sunday. Having elections in November was also convenient because it was well after the harvest was over.

Certainly the initial establishment of Election Day made sense at the time, but is now archaic in today’s modern society that revolves around the eight-hour-a-day work week. Many states began addressing this by implementing mail ballots and early voting, but many states including Oklahoma, Missouri, Mississippi, Alabama, South Carolina, Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Virginia, Kentucky and New Hampshire have no such options. This means that depending on one’s geographical location in the country, eligible voters may be required to endure long lines to cast their ballot in person at a specific location within a given time window.

For many Americans, this is impossible. Those without means of transportation may



Photo contributed by commons.wikimedia.org

not be able to vote. Those without the ability to take time off work on a Tuesday may not be able to vote. And of course in some places, those without valid photo IDs will not be able to vote either.

All of these factors point to a disenfranchisement of working-class and poor eligible voters who are at the discretion of bosses and state laws. This naturally intersects across racial lines, as black and hispanic populations are systematically disadvantaged and disproportionately under the poverty line.

The good news is this particular issue could hypothetically be addressed with relative ease. If Election Day was deemed a national holiday as Columbus Day is, significantly more people would have the

opportunity to vote without risking their jobs. Or perhaps America could follow suit to Belgium and the several other countries that adopted compulsory voting, making voting a civil duty rather than a civil right with possible penalties for failing to vote or formally declining to do so. Many states have begun implementing automatic voter registration as well, ensuring that less people fail to vote simply because they missed the deadline for registration or did not know how to do so. Even simply moving the official day of elections to a Saturday could begin to address the modern day inconveniences of voting. So why haven’t we?

Simply put, it is beneficial to those in power to make voting inconvenient. Low voter

turnout that excludes a large portion of minority citizens is much more manageable than the population at large when it comes to gerrymandering them to encourage an election result. If all citizens were to vote, might our politics look different today? With such a larger base of voters to win over, campaigns might be a little more civil, thriving to address the concerns of the population at large rather than playing into the identity politics that come with non-descript political labels.

Ironically, the only way to face this issue head on is to implement new political policies, so it is crucial that absolutely everyone who is able to vote confronts all these obstacles head on to cast their ballot for the future.

Día de los Muertos

Students honor loved ones through Day of the Dead traditions

BY HANNAH SCHAFFER
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There is a common misconception that Día de los Muertos is the Mexican version of Halloween. However, the Mexican holiday is actually a colorful two-day celebration of life. The holiday is celebrated from Oct. 31 to Nov. 2 each year.

Day of the Dead is a demonstration of respect for deceased loved ones.

Celebrations include altars, sugar skulls, decorative paper and food. All of which, Union Latinx brought to Grounds for Change for its Día de los Muertos on Friday, Nov. 2nd.

“(Union Latinx) are celebrating Día de los Muertos today. Día de los Muertos is a traditional Mexican holiday. It translates to Day of the Dead,” Miguel Guillen, ’19, said.

Allegheny Student Leadership and Involvement states that the purpose of Union Latinx is to increase intellectual, cultural and social interactions between Latino students and the rest of the Allegheny campus. Guillen is the current president of Union Latinx.

The members of Union Latinx gathered in Grounds for Change and set up an altar, or ofrenda, to honor their deceased loved ones. The altar was covered with brightly colored papers, sugar skulls, pan de los muertos and images of their loved ones.

“In Mexican culture, this day is a day that our dead ancestors are suppose to return from the spirit world and we lay out some of their favorite foods, some of their favorite drinks and their photo in remembrance of them,” said Guillen. “The thought is that when they come back and visit that altars on the Day of the Dead that they are able to take these things with them.”

Grounds for Change was filled with students gathering to celebrate Day of the Dead.

“Basically, you put out things that the de-



HANNAH SCHAFFER/THE CAMPUS

Union Latinx decorated an altar in Grounds for Change and displayed photos to honor their loved ones on Dia de los Muertos on Nov. 2.

ceased people loved,” said Jesus Robledo, ’21. “It is just remembering the people you loved.”

Union Latinx encouraged students to bring pictures of their deceased loved ones to place on the altar.

“Everyone is very welcome to go ahead and put their photo up there and to be a part of this

altar,” Guillen said.

Day of the Dead originated with the Aztec, Toltec and Nahua people who believed that mourning the dead was disrespectful. National Geographic reports that in pre-Hispanic cultures, death was a natural phase in the continuum of life.

“

In Mexican culture, this day is a day that our dead ancestors are suppose to return from the spirit world, and we lay out some of their favorite foods, some of their favorite drinks and their photo in remembrance of them.”

—MIGUEL GUILLEN
Class of 2019,
Allegheny College

Día de los Muertos is a two-day celebration because each day is for different group of loved ones. Nov.1 is known as Día de los Inocentes. The first day is dedicated to children who have passed away. The second day, November 2, is Día de los Muertos, when the departed adults return.

Día de los Muertos is not the same thing as the Mexican version of Halloween, but over the years, the celebrations have adopted a few aspects of American Halloween. For example, children dress up in costumes and go trick-or-treating. However, instead of asking for candy, children go out to pedir Muertos, or ask for the dead. Instead of handing out candy, families usually give the children an item from their altar in remembrance of their loved ones.

Day of the Dead is also becoming common to celebrate Day of the Dead in the United States. Cities such as San Antonio, Los Angeles, Chicago and San Diego all held Día de los Muertos celebrations.

German writer-in-residence concludes short course

Weyhe presents two graphic novels as she finishes time at Allegheny College

BY HANNAH SCHAFFER
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German writer-in-residence, Birgit Weyhe, concluded her short course by showcasing two of her own works.

On Wednesday, Oct. 17, Weyhe presented two of her graphic novels to conclude the seven-week short course she taught at Allegheny. Weyhe presented her work in both German and English in the lobby of the Max Kade International Wing on North Village I.

Weyhe was born in Munich in 1969 before moving to Africa where she spent her childhood in Kenya and Uganda. At age 19, Weyhe returned to Germany to complete a degree in German literature and history.

Currently, Weyhe resides in Hamburg and works as a lecturer at Hamburg University of Applied Sciences.

In 2018, Weyhe was named the Allegheny German writer-in-residence by the Max Kade Gesellschaft and the Department of Modern and Classical Languages. The Max Kade Gesellschaft is a foundation that promotes Germanic studies.

As the German writer-in-residence, Weyhe taught a seven week course in German graphic novels.

“

(The course) taught me a lot about how to tell a story not only in German but also in English”

—FLANNERY PILLION-GARNER
Class of 2021,
Allegheny College

“(The course) taught me a lot about how to tell a story not only in German but also in English,” Flannery Pillion-Gardner, ’21, said.

The students did a number of activities such as drawing spirals for multiple minutes to help they recall their earliest memories.

“As soon as we were done, (Weyhe) was like name cars you can remember from your life,” said Pillion-Gardner. “It was weird, but a lot of memories came back to me that I did not know I still remembered.”

Weyhe worked with the students over the span of the course to help each student create their own German graphic novels.

Pillion-Gardner used the graphic novel to

tell the story of an alcoholic sewing teacher she worked with as a child.

As a conclusion to the seven-week short course Weyhe presented two of her graphic novels to students. Weyhe began with the graphic novel, “PHARAOH,” in German.

“I will start in German, which is much easier for me,” Weyhe said. Weyhe explained that it is challenging for her to translate her graphic novels to English because they were written and meant to be read in German.

“PHARAOH” is a story about Weyhe’s childhood in East Africa. As a child, Weyhe and a few of her friends found a corpse behind their school building. One of her friends studied mummies and declared that the corpse was a pharaoh.

Weyhe hosted the second part of her presentation in English.

“It is a little bit like speaking with an egg in mouth, but I will try,” Weyhe said.

Weyhe translated one of her most famous stories, “Madgermanes,” to English for her students.

“Madgermanes,” won both the 2015 comic book prize of the Berthold Leibinger Stiftung and the 2016 Max & Moritz prize for best German language comic.

Weyhe wrote “Madgermanes” after a visit to

Mozambique. Weyhe was no stranger to moving. She had moved from Germany to Uganda to Kenya. However, Weyhe explained she found her home in Mozambique.

“I had never been to Mozambique before, but it felt so familiar to me,” Weyhe said.

“Madgermanes” explores the definition of home and belonging. While visiting Mozambique, Weyhe conducted a number of interviews which she then funneled into three main characters for the graphic novel: Antonio, Basilio and Anabella.

“(Weyhe) was very open about her experiences and how she got to where she is now,” Pillion-Gardner said.

The three main characters are young adults who flee from Mozambique to East Germany to work in steel, construction, manufacturing and textile industries. But East Germany is not the escape that was promised. Instead, the workers are met with abusive labor practices and xenophobia.

The graphic novel follows the three characters as they establish their lives as students in East Germany and define home.

“(Weyhe’s) final presentation actually blew me away because the stories were very powerful and she is amazing at illustrations,” Pillion-Gardner said.

Snapshots from abroad

Elyse Cinquino is studying abroad in Querétaro, México, which is in the central part of México. Elyse is at Tecnológico de Monterrey, Campus Querétaro. She is taking all of her classes in Spanish. Her favorite class she is currently enrolled in is international affairs in Mexico.

“It is very interesting learning about foreign policy from a different perspective than the U.S.,” Cinquino, ’20, said. Cinquino is staying with a host family, which has allowed her to actively practice her Spanish and learn more about Mexican culture.

“I’ve really enjoyed my experience studying abroad, but can’t wait to be back at Allegheny in the spring,” Cinquino said.



Elyse Cinquino, ’21, explores various sites in Mexico during her time abroad.

- (From Left to Right):
1. San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato
 2. San Lorenzo Albarradas, Oaxaca
 3. Teotihuacán, El Estado de México
 4. Bernal, Querétaro



from page 1

‘Staying up for good’ with Allegheny Up ’til Dawn

College exceeds fundraising goal for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital

Pixabay

Fundraisers can register as early as June each year, according to Kala Mahen, '19, executive director of Allegheny Up 'til Dawn. Teams of fundraisers then set goals that contribute to the overall total, and Mahen said over 250 people registered to raise money this year.

Last year, the college's goal was \$30,000, and Mahen said she hopes to see that goal continue to increase.

“We’ve had a continuous gain of funds raised in the past couple of years, and I hope to see that number be \$40,000 next year,” she said. “Our small campus community really comes together, and it’s amazing to see.”

Up 'til Dawn leaders began setting up for the celebration around 4:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 2. They organized tables and games, hooked up a sound system and hung St. Jude banners in the David V. Wise Center Blue Courts.

Students who fundraised

slowly trickled into the Wise Center at 10 p.m. and stopped at a table to sign in and pick up T-shirts. By 10:45, the first blue court was alive with students representing all class years, several sports teams, clubs and different team fundraising goals.

Once most teams had filed onto the first blue court, Mahen made some opening remarks. As the executive director of Allegheny Up 'til Dawn, Mahen oversees the organization and its other directors and committees, which coordinate events and logistics, public relations, fundraising and recruitment.

Pope said the combined efforts of the Up 'til Dawn organizers make the evening possible, an evening with a spooky Coney Island theme this year. Carnival games, Halloween-inspired relay races, a guest hypnotist and amusement park cuisine gave the fundraisers an opportunity to “stay up for good,” which is St. Jude’s man-

tra for the event.

Following her remarks, Mahen played a video clip with a message from St. Jude and reminded participants of the mission of St. Jude and Up 'til Dawn.

“Some of these kids are in the hospital 12 months out of the year, so tonight, we stay up in honor of them, in honor of their families who have stayed up countless nights wondering if their children were going to make it to see the next day,” Mahen said. “As we have a great time tonight, we really need to think about our mission, and why we raised all of this money.”

Sitting on the court together, the participants applauded as they listened to Mahen finish her remarks. Then the scheduled activities began and lasted until around 3 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 3.

Teams had 25 minutes to paint a message on a pumpkin, a message that needed to incorporate St. Jude, Hallow-

een or Coney Island, or some combination of the three. Organizers of the evening judged the pumpkins before quickly ushering teams to the fourth blue court where they completed their second activity — a relay race.

Teams designated one team member as a mummy, who was wrapped in one whole roll of toilet paper and left lying on the ground while other team members continued the race. The final part of the race involved running to the lower floor of the Wise Center, onto the main court, through a complicated web of strings that spanned the entire width of the gymnasium, and back upstairs to the blue court to awaken the mummies.

After the excitement, teams were led back to the first blue court for pizza, refreshments and a quick break before racing again — this time hopping across the third blue court in burlap sacks.

As teams settled down from the races, Jason Christopher, a comedy hypnotist, was just getting set up. Time check: 1 a.m.

Christopher invited student volunteers to sit in chairs and created scenarios in which the volunteers participated. He created one scenario in which he described the volunteers as musicians for the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. He told the volunteers to choose an instrument and imagine they were playing it in the orchestra.

When he said “play,” the volunteers began playing imaginary instruments, and when he said “play faster” or “play slower,” volunteers responded accordingly.

Fundraising Director Lizzie Schumacher, '20, was a volunteer for Christopher and said she felt “pretty conscious the whole time.”

“

Some of these kids are in the hospital 12 months out of the year, so tonight, we stay up in honor of them, in honor of their families who have stayed up countless nights wondering if their children were going to make it to see the next day.”

—KALA MAHEN
Class of 2019,
Allegheny College

“There was something in me that wanted to do what he said,” Schumacher said. “It was weird because I didn’t forget anything ... I remember everything, but I wanted to do what he was saying.”

Christopher’s show brought Up 'til Dawn to about 2:15 a.m., and the event began to wind down.

Carafes of coffee sat in the Wise Center lobby as vents gently blew the St. Jude banners that hung from the upper floor track. Among the banners were 26 smaller signs displaying the ABCs of Cancer. The concept is a tradition brought to life at St. Jude in Memphis, and Schumacher said each sign represents a letter of the alphabet and stands for a word or phrase kids from the hospital create.

“We’re mimicking that at our event, via sponsors,” Schumacher said. “Somebody would pay \$100, they get a letter and we would display it here.”

The first sign read “A is for Alive.”

Events throughout the fall semester and contributions like the ABCs of Cancer, according to Pope, can make a big difference in terms of the overall fundraising goal.

The Sept. 25 and 26 na-

tional recruitment days helped maintain fundraising momentum, and the Oct. 22 two-hour jailbreak event in the Henderson Campus Center lobby raised \$1,500. People could donate money to “bail” Allegheny President James Mullen and Brooks Greeter Yvonne Longstreth out of a makeshift jail, Pope said.

Pope and Mahen had the opportunity to visit St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital this summer, and Mahen said the experience was “hard to describe.”

Mahen recalled hearing from a young girl, about 10 years old, during their visit. She said the child’s right leg had been amputated after a form of leukemia had affected her bone marrow.

Sitting on a stage with her mother, the girl sported a prosthetic leg, decorated with flamingos. Mahen remembered the girl explaining that “Flamingos are like me: They stand on one leg.”

“These little kids have to go through so much at such a young age, and they have such a positive outlook on everything,” Mahen said. “I feel like we can learn so much from them.”



ELLIS GIACOMELLI/THE CAMPUS

Teams of students cheer as Allegheny Up ’til Dawn organizers judge their pumpkins at the annual Up ,til Dawn fundraising celebration Friday, Nov. 2, 2018, in the David V. Wise Center. The teams were given 25 minutes to paint pumpkins and were instructed to keep the event’s themes in mind: St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, Halloween and Coney Island. Pumpkin painting kicked off five hours of activities for the fundraisers, who have spent months raising money for St. Jude.

'BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY' rocks in unexpected way

By ALANA SABOL
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“Bohemian Rhapsody” is for the people who only know “We Will Rock You,” and for the die-hard Queen fans too, it’s an enjoyable film regardless of familiarity with the band or not (or for fans of Rami Malek).

Though it lacks some of the raunchier details of Freddie Mercury’s life and pulls the audience through certain scenes with quick montages, Malek’s strong performance and the energizing ending is what really pulls the film together.

The beginning of the film is logical, establishing Mercury’s attitude early on before it plunges into the creation of Queen after a spot opens up in Mercury’s favorite local band. Though this part of the movie is interesting, the audience is left with fragments of performances and little about how Queen progressed as a young band after its formation.

This is where an otherwise great film falters. Director Bryan Singer seemed to attempt to mirror the feeling of living in the fast lane with montages and time jumps. However, these quick scene progressions register as unsatisfying, showing less of the band and, even more notably, less of Mercury’s evolution as a performer.

Another aspect the film could have focused on more is Mercury’s sexuality and personal life. The rockstar’s persona is slightly sanitized at times, and his important relationship with

his long-term lover Jim Hutton, who appears in few scenes, is barely touched on. In a Vanity Fair interview, Malek commented on aspects of Mercury’s personality that were anything but tame.

“The fact of the matter, that he would freely admit, was that one of Freddie Mercury’s hobbies was sex,” Malek said to Vanity Fair. “He was very promiscuous.”

Since the film does not include some of the more “promiscuous” sides of Mercury, it does not fulfill its potential in terms of telling an in-depth and accurate story of his life.

In an interview with the Huffington Post, Malek also criticized the choice not to expand on Mercury’s relationship with Hutton.

“Believe me: There were conversations left and right about how to incorporate more of that story into this film,” Malek said. “It was something I pushed for, to be quite honest, as much as possible and repeatedly brought to the attention of producers and directors and everyone who would listen.”

Aside from the failure to explore Mercury’s romantic relationships fully, the performances from actors who played the members of Queen were exceptional. It is obvious the actors put in an immense amount of work to do justice to their roles as the rock ‘n’ roll legends.

From Gwilym Lee’s convincing performance as the mediating and talented guitarist Brian May, to Malek’s performance as the flamboyant and confident Mercury, it’s no wonder that I felt as if I was watching the icons themselves.

On The Late Show with Stephen Colbert, Malek explained his experience with not only preparing to act in the film, but also preparing to show his singing abilities to the members of Queen themselves.

It is clear that acting in the film required a great deal of preparation, not to mention that the actors had to get approval from the former members as well.

See **MERCURY** | page 7

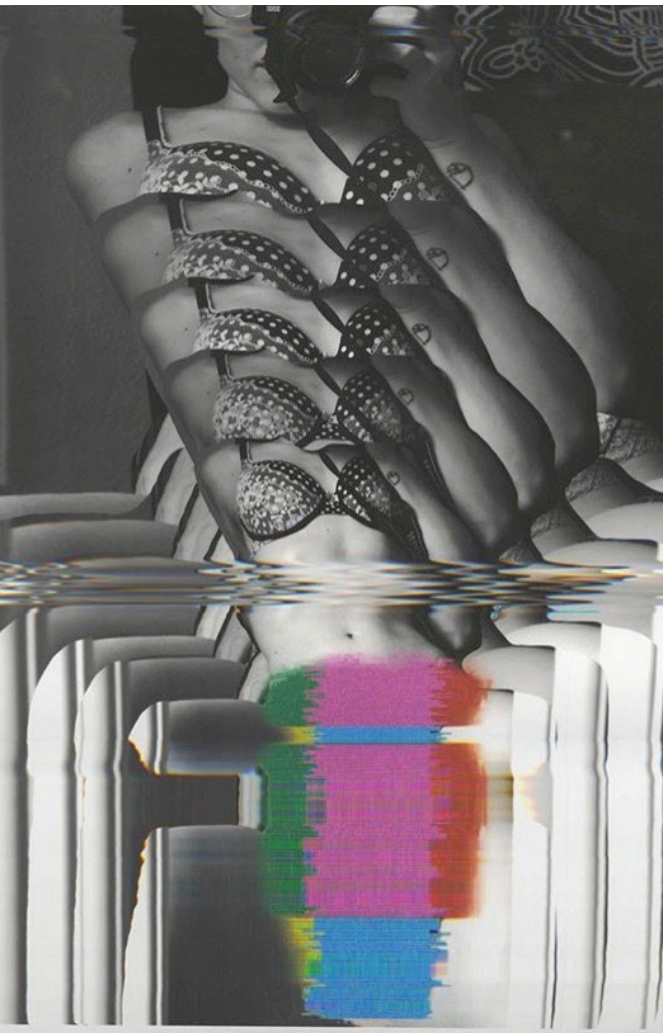


Freddie Mercury in 1977.



Twentieth Century Fox

Rami Malek as Freddie Mercury performs at the 1985 Live Aid concert at London’s Wembley Stadium in “Bohemian Rhapsody,” which opened in theaters Nov. 2, 2018.



Art contributed by Josie Freeman/Instagram.com/studio.josie
Josie Freeman, '20, created the three pieces above, which are all featured on the Instagram account she set up for her artwork.

By **LAUREN TRIMBER**
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“I strongly suggest you cover more skin.”

The phrase is repeated throughout Josie Freeman’s, ’20, artwork and is part of an overarching narrative that uses an Instagram page to weave together the ideas of social media use, modern attention spans and perceived sexuality. It appears within captions of digitally altered photographs depicting Freeman in various outfits, all specifically picked to enrich the story she is trying to tell.

Yet, before she created her Instagram for art under the handle studio.josie, before she filled her page with pieces using an array of media and before she began working on the long-term social media project to share her thoughts, Freeman feared she would not be able to turn art into a career — until she found inspiration Allegheny College.

“I never thought I’d want to do (art) as a career, or I really never thought that I could,” Freeman said. “I also definitely have gotten a lot of inspiration from my professors and just more (of an) understanding in the fact that art just doesn’t have to be beautiful, but it also should really contain some sort of core value you believe in.”

When Freeman began her college education, she knew one thing for sure — she loved art. Not sure if she could turn her passion into a career, Freeman considered majoring in neuroscience, but the time she spent in Allegheny’s art department convinced her to declare as an art and technology major.

From a young age, Freeman knew she was passionate about art and she said people

would often comment on how talented she was. Her mother encouraged and praised her talent.

“I was always invested in art,” Freeman said. “I always did it, (but) I never thought I would end up going into it as a career.”

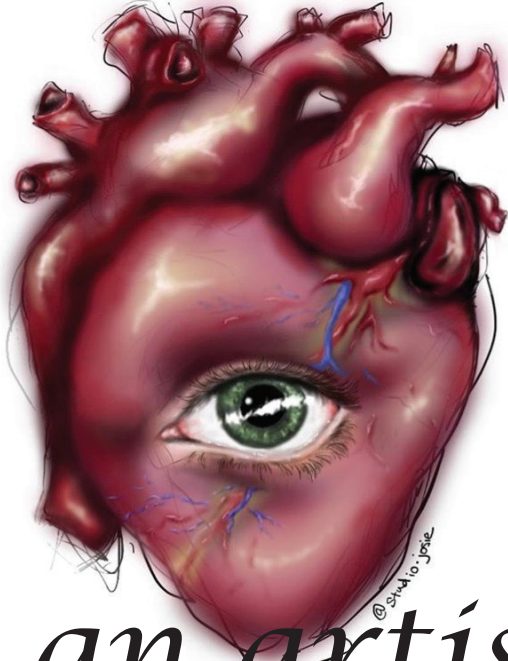
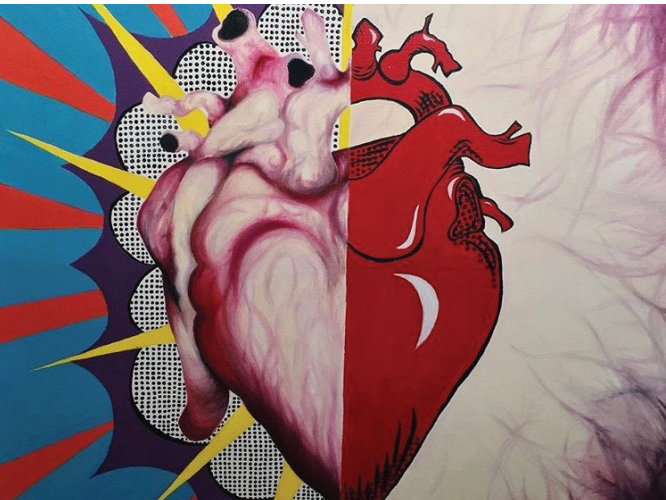
Even though she has been interested in art since she was a child, Freeman said her professors and the tools provided by Allegheny’s art department played a part in convincing her to pursue her talent.

On her first visit to Allegheny, Freeman was given a tour of the art department by her future advisor Byron Rich, assistant professor of digital art and painting. The art department caught her attention because of the value Allegheny placed on art, compared with the underfunded program she had seen in her high school, Freeman said.

“I had never seen anything like it,” Freeman said. “My high school art department was so underfunded (and) undervalued. So, coming here — seeing a professional artist like Byron giving me a tour of the facility, which had so many different tools that I could utilize that I had never ... known about — that was pretty inspiring.”

Rich, who asked Freeman and Gene Frank, ’20, to be his research assistants over the summer of 2018, said he has seen Freeman’s technical talent and has watched her ability to use different media grow since he first met her on her tour of the college.

“Together, (Freeman and Frank) worked on a big project of mine, and I saw Josie really grow in terms of her ability to do graphic design work and develop logos and really practical things,” Rich said.



Get to know an artist

||||||| Josie Freeman |||||

Along with finding encouragement from Allegheny to pursue art, Freeman said she draws inspiration from a few pieces of artwork. While she was in high school, she created a piece that depicted a heart split in two and designed in two different styles of art.

“It was the first piece that I remember doing that I just loved,” Freeman said. “I thought, ‘Wow, this could actually be something that maybe people would be interested in seeing.’”

Freeman’s interest extends beyond her personal work to the assignments she has been given throughout her college career. During her sophomore year, Freeman took a photography course, where she did a series of scan and glitch art. She worked on the series by taking photographs with a digital camera then scanning them onto a computer to toy digitally with the image, according to Freeman.

“They turned out really cool,” Freeman said. “That got me started and set me out wanting to do more and more digital things.”

Photography editing is one of Freeman’s favorite art media, though she said she will always love and painting.

“Oil paints are my absolute favorite thing,” Freeman said. “It just relaxes me, and that’s something that I like to do or work with when I’m really stressed out.”

For new media, Freeman said she struggles in introductory classes, where she has to learn the fundamentals instead of learning how to use the new art form in a more informal, hands-on approach. The fundamental classes are important, though, in fully understanding the medium, an idea which Freeman said she believes is applicable to any art medium.

“They all have their own challenges,” Freeman said. “I think most of the problems with medium arise when you don’t understand it enough. I think everyone’s probably heard the term, ‘The medium is the message.’ You have to be able to know what

you’re doing enough to fully integrate your concept to the medium that you’re using.”

Freeman has recently started using photography and social media in a long-term project she may turn into her Senior Comprehensive Project. The project explores the modern portrayal of sexuality in tandem with people’s attention spans.

“(The project) is sexualized, and it’s of me ... but it kind of really is focusing on what people expect to see,” Freeman said. “It’s kind of about that sexual frustration about the fact that you’re looking at this image but you’re not really seeing everything, and that there’s something visually impeding what people are expecting from it. So I’m kind of talking about that instant gratification that we all have right now, especially with media such as Snapchat (and) Instagram.”

Since the project is designed for social media consumption, the perception of the images may be different on a phone or computer screen than if they were viewed in person, according to Freeman.

Angie Bucci, ’20, has been friends with Freeman since their first year at Allegheny and has followed her transformation in art. Bucci said she is in complete support of Freeman’s decision to create a separate Instagram for her art, which both gives her a unique brand and a platform through which she can create a narrative around her work.

“I do think, as she’s trying to become a professional in the field, she should have that established realm of her life, where she has her personal life, but she’s also Josie the artist,” Bucci said. “She is a really creative person in general. I think she is trying to make her mark in the field ... and Instagram has become a beneficial platform for people just starting up in the industry.”

With Freeman’s Instagram artwork using photography, digital arts and traditional painting methods, her page showcases both her older and newer skills. One piece

Bucci said she is particularly interested in is a photograph of Freeman that she digitally altered to move when the viewer clicks on it.

“The interesting perspective about her art is that she does bleed the line between photography and technology,” Bucci said as she watched the movement in the photograph Freeman posted to her Instagram. “(This) has graphic design movement in it, making it more than just a stagnant piece of artwork, which is very unique. I haven’t seen other people do that from Allegheny.”

One of Freeman’s greatest problems is conveying her ideas properly, especially when using a newer tool like social media, she said. Since using social media as a representation of instant gratification and tying the idea to sexuality is unique, Freeman said the idea came into her head last year and she could not stop thinking about it.

“I think, in art, it’s a big thing to take more of a neutral stance (on issues),” Freeman said. “(But) I know that people who enjoy art and want to explore the deeper meanings (behind the project) will see something else that’s in there, because there’s definitely a point to what I’m doing with it, and I know that it’s not going to be obvious to everyone, but I don’t really mind that.”

Freeman said she has found inspiration from various artists, including Leah Schrager, who works under the persona OnaArtist and uses social media as a platform for her art. Watching her progress on the project, Rich said he has encouraged Freeman to expand the long-term project into her Senior Comprehensive Project because of the potential the idea holds.

“I think there’s an interesting history that she’s tapping into,” Rich said. “There’s an artist named Leah Schrager ... and kind of unintentionally, Josie started doing work really similar to this artist. It’s all about social media, female bodies, short attention spans and instant

gratification. ... I think (Josie is) really onto to something with this, by using herself as the model, but in a really conscientious and intelligent way. I think a lot of people would just look at it as being overtly sexual, but when you really pay attention to it, it’s not at all (like that). What she’s doing so smartly is eliminating that. ... She’s really using it as a tool of empowerment, and I think that’s pretty compelling.”

Freeman said she takes pride in both her art and internship work. Through her internship with Rich, Freeman acted as a research assistant, helping to design a company logo with a project called Epicurean Endocrinology. Freeman traveled with Frank and Rich to a science conference called Genedis, where Rich said he gave a lecture and gave Freeman and Frank the chance to answer questions concerning their work on the weekend of Oct. 26-28, 2018. The art Freeman helped to create is housed at the University of Toronto, according to Rich.

“I’m really proud of some of the internship work I’ve done,” Freeman said. “It’s really different than my art, but it was challenging in the fact that it was different from anything that I’ve done (before). It was graphic design and advertising work, so that was a new field that I hadn’t explored.”

The show, which opened Oct. 15, 2018, will run until Jan. 1, 2019. With her art included in an international show, Freeman insisted people with strong ideas and determination can create art.

“I think so many people have such strong ideas and they should have an opportunity to get them out there,” Freeman said. “When people say that they’re not good at art, I have a tendency to argue with them, because I think that if you have strong ideas, then there’s a way for you to (turn them into art). Even if it’s not what you expect — even if you have an idea for a great painting or something like that — there’s probably a way for you to pull it off. You just have to really try.”

MERCURY *from page 6*



Twentieth Century Fox

Even with such high stakes, the actors not only succeed in doing the icons justice, but they are one of the strongest aspects of the film.

Another aspect of the film that really shines is the ending. The re-creation of the 1985 “Live Aid” performance is spectacular, visually and emotionally. With the energy radiating from the stage, the actors doing an incredible job. I almost felt like I was there at the festival. The performance does not just capture Mercury’s drive and love for music, but it is a perfect contrast to the previous

melancholy scenes where he is overwhelmed by loneliness and the realization that he had contracted HIV.

Arguably, it is a perfect scene to end on. It ties in to the larger themes of Mercury’s ambition and Queen’s greatness as a whole and avoids dwelling on his death.

Overall, “Bohemian Rhapsody” succeeds in creating a cut-and-dry type of journey through the life of Freddie Mercury and Queen. It is an enjoyable movie with strong performances, beautiful concert scenes and an ending that unexpectedly made me happy

and inspired rather than sad as I had expected.

The film does what it set out to do, which was to create a movie that highlighted Mercury’s life and celebrated him as the authentic and revolutionary person he was. Though it could have dared to include more in-depth scenes and details about the icon’s life, and spared the audience from a whirlwind of montages, the movie still fares pretty well.

Allegheny gets outside: Outing Club continues 90-year legacy

By **ELLIS GIACOMELLI**
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Crunched leaves rest along a trail of bootprints as steady breathing becomes visible in the cool, fall air. Birds high in the trees sing to the hikers, who have Allegheny Outing Club emblems printed on their shirts.

AOC formed 90 years ago in 1928 from the Tingley Biology Club and a women's Hiking Club, and AOC began as a women's club, according to the proceedings of the 2001 International Conference on Outdoor Recreation and Education.

The proceedings, which provide some history on outdoor clubs, indicate that by 1935, the Allegheny club served both women and men, and students began trekking through Bousson Woods, purchased by the college that year.

Bousson is situated along Oil Creek Road east of Meadville and has since been named Bousson Environmental Research Reserve as it serves the college as a site for faculty and students to explore soils, woodland and aquatic habitats, stream ecology and forestry.

Before AOC existed, outing clubs emerged from New Hampshire's Dartmouth College in 1909 when Dartmouth student Fred Harris founded a club that offered skiing, snowshoeing and other winter recreation, according to the Dartmouth outdoor programming website.

Following Dartmouth's example, several other colleges created outing clubs of their own, and by 1932, the Inter-collegiate Outing Club Association was formed, of which AOC is now a member.

Today, Allegheny students interested in participating in AOC outings may experience something similar to the following scenario: Monday night and your watch reads 8:56 p.m. You have four minutes to log onto your computer to make it on the list.

Sunday evenings during the academic year, AOC trip



Contributed by **ALLEGHENY OUTING CLUB**

Allegheny Outing Club participants, led here by Vicky Bajek, '21, walk through the Holden Arboretum in Kirtland, Ohio, on Oct. 20, 2018.

leaders meet to plan trips for the following weekend. Once plans are made, an email is sent to the Outing Club mailing list describing the upcoming trips. The next day at 9 p.m. sharp, the sign-up emails are sent.

"Some of the more exciting, really demanded trips, those will go in a minute, maybe 40 seconds sometimes," said Freddy Smith, '20, AOC trip leader. "The leaders that are on those trips will have their computers up and will have their connected Google documents up, and they'll be watching live for when people sign up."

Smith is taking a break from his studies at Allegheny for the 2018-19 school year to be an intern with the National Aviary's Ambassador Animal Program in Pittsburgh, which provides training in bird care and education.

Because of his interest in birds, Smith said he hopes AOC can plan a future trip focused on bird identification, possibly in collaboration with Ben Haywood, assistant professor of environmental science and sustainability, whose academic interests include a heavy focus on bird ecology.

Smith has led several day hikes as an AOC trip leader, including to McConnells Mill State Park in Portersville,

Pennsylvania, and the Allegheny National Forest.

"When you get a chance to share something in the outdoors that you think is really exciting with somebody who's never gotten a chance to do it before, and you see that eye-light-up moment, it just gives me goosebumps," Smith said. "I love it so much."

Before taking the National Aviary internship, Smith was elected vice president of AOC last spring, and once he decided to take a year off, Lindsey Blum, '21, stepped into the role.

Blum became involved in AOC after being encouraged by Haley Urben, '18, to go on a rock climbing trip last year. Blum, who is "not the biggest fan of heights," said she wanted to push herself and was glad she did.

"It was one of the most amazing things I've ever done," she said.

One of Blum's favorite trips she has led with AOC was this semester's first-year student trip — kayaking on the Pymatuning Reservoir at Pymatuning State Park.

Blum spent the summer working in Alaska as a sea kayaking guide and learned valuable lessons from her supervisor, a trained kayaking instructor. That experience, Blum said, gave her confi-

dence in her outdoor skills, confidence she brought to the first-year kayaking trip in September, co-lead by AOC President Gabriel Curtisbrown, '19.

As AOC president, Curtisbrown is responsible for the general management of the club and oversees the trip leaders and executive board, which consists of Blum, Treasurer Ray Marszalek, '21, Secretary Emma Norton, '21, and Gear Manager Tom Lubinsky, '20.

"Through our equipment rental, we allow a lot of kids to take trips and have adventures they otherwise wouldn't be able to have," Lubinsky said.

Gear available to rent includes basic camping equipment — tents, sleeping bags, sleeping pads, backpacks — along with canoes, cross country skis and snowshoes, Lubinsky said.

Rentals are free for Allegheny students, Lubinsky said, and more popular items tend to be canoes and camping equipment, and students who wish to rent gear should contact Lubinsky or an AOC trip leader. In addition to gear inventory, Lubinsky is responsible for maintenance, cleaning and repairs from general "wear and tear," he said.

Smaller repairs and re-

placement costs are typically covered by AOC's budget, and larger needs are addressed by approaching Allegheny Student Government and requesting funds from the ASG Surplus Fund, Lubinsky explained.

A participant in trips since his first year at Allegheny and a trip leader since last fall, Lubinsky said AOC brings in new members and leaders each year.

Ivy Ryan participated in trips as a first-year student and has been a trip leader since last semester. Ryan said she has led two trips in her time as an AOC leader so far — a short hike to Erie's Presque Isle State Park in March and an apple-picking trip to Meadville's Heagy's Orchard in October.

An environmental science major and studio art minor, Ryan said she is interested in relationships between science and art and that her senior comprehensive project focuses on "changing complex biological processes into something that's digestible for the public."

"Being an outing club leader is kind of on the same level as that in a way, because you're taking people that may have never experienced hiking, biking, whatever it is, horseback riding, and giving

them a little glimpse of what they can experience in the outdoors, in a safe environment," Ryan said.

Participant experience and skill levels vary, according to Curtisbrown, so the club tries to offer a variety of trips. More popular trips include outings to Pentagon Paintball in Fairview and white water rafting at Ohiopyle State Park. Perhaps less action-packed but equally exciting, Curtisbrown said, are day hikes and camping trips.

"We try to balance the big popular trips with the more relaxed ones to give people options," he said.

The cost of trips vary, depending on the activity and location, and some trips are free. A few years ago, after AOC noticed some patterns of students signing up and backing out, the club started requiring a deposit to officially reserve a spot, Smith said.

"To add a little bit of gravity to it, even on free trips, we started asking for a \$5 deposit to put down during their pre-trip meeting that would then get returned to them when they show up to go on the trip that morning," he said.

AOC's 90-year legacy continues through its current leaders, who share a love and appreciation for the outdoors. But the club's mission extends beyond that love and appreciation, according to Curtisbrown.

"It provides students an opportunity to get off campus for the weekend, which is tremendously helpful, not only for their actual enjoyment, but it's also good for mental health," Curtisbrown said. "It's more than just, yeah we're teaching people to make campfires, and yeah we're going canoeing down French Creek. It's part of an effort to make this school less stressful and increase retention."

Allegheny soccer reflects on season, improvements

Bonding betters women

New mindset yields improved results for men

By **WILLY WALKER**
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The Allegheny College Women's Soccer team has grown as a team and as friends this semester.

Through the work of the captains and the large amount of underclassmen players, the team has become closer which in turn has helped boost its performance.

"We were more together as a team than in the years past," Bryanna Urso, '21, said. "We haven't been together as a unit in the past, but this year we bonded really well. We came together and worked really hard as a team on and off of the field."

Urso said the captains wanted everyone to be close this year. They did team activities at houses or got team lunches and dinners, and she pointed out how most of the team remains friends in the offseason.

"We thought if we were close then we would have better results on the field, which we did see," Urso said.

Of the 21 women on the team, only five are upperclassmen. These numbers have also allowed them to bond since they are of similar ages.

"It was nice because the majority of people are either my age or just one year older," first-year Riley Sawyer, '22, said. "But it also means that competing for spots is a lot harder."

Surprisingly, the lack of upperclassmen has brought more competition for starting spots, since almost all of the women are of similar ages and skill levels.

"It's much more competitive because we're all pretty much the same age," Sawyer said. "If you had seniors starting you're like 'okay I'm not going to play' but when a lot of them are sophomores or first-years there's definitely a lot of battling that goes on."

That competition does not get in the way of their friendships.

"Basically all of my friends here so far are either on the men's team or the women's team and everyone is just really cool and really nice," Sawyer said.

Urso says she holds these bonding experiences in a special place in her heart.

"My favorite part is just being with the girls and creating such a strong bond with everyone and being able to have so many friendships on the team," Urso said.

By **WILLY WALKER**
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The Allegheny College Men's Soccer team has gained a new level of focus over the past season.

In an attempt to better themselves and the team, the leadership has shifted its practices and workouts to be more focused and serious.

The captains of the team made the practices more serious and made sure that everyone was working their best so it would translate into the games. In response, McKersie said, the team had a more serious mindset that showed during workouts, practices and games.

Team captain Liam McKersie, '19, has helped mold the team into what it has become. "We had a strict list of team rules and team goals that we posted in the locker room that we were trying to follow throughout the year," McKersie said.

McKersie also described how there has been a newfound focus, although there were still some growing pains this past season.

"It still was the most wins



Contributed by **LIAM MCKERSIE**

Team captain Liam McKersie, '19, grins mid-game. McKersie plays defense.

we've had in my time here," McKersie said. "As far as the program is concerned it's one step at a time in the positive direction."

Coach Brendon Hall was also a contributor to the shape of the new team.

"The new piece was less standout players and more team bonding and unity in the way that we play the game," Hall said.

Hall also said the focus was definitely higher than he has seen in the last couple of

years.

"I felt that there was a strong integrity in the team in a way that was pushing for the best from each player, and each player trying to push each other," Hall said.

Jorge Olan, '20, agreed the team was looking the better playing the game than in past years.

"I think we looked a lot better this year within our own team," Olan said. "We got more wins than last year, so that's a stat that just proves

we were working harder this year and really working on ourselves instead of worrying so much about other teams."

This new focus will helpfully propel the team in the future, and allow it to win more games.

"Looking back on it now that my soccer career is over, it's sad but it's hard to be to sad because it's been such a special memory and something I will always be so fond of," McKersie said.