



TRUMP IS BACK

Key swing states flip Red

Cassandra Harris
Editor-in-Chief

Out of all the 67 counties in Pennsylvania, eight turned blue on Tuesday, signifying that voters for President-Elect Donald Trump flipped the swing state red.

Pennsylvania is one of a few swing states that helped Trump land his victory to become the 47th president of the United States Tuesday. When the count ended at 2 a.m., he landed 277 electoral votes.

Fox News was the first to call Trump's victory after it was announced that he was projected to win Georgia and its 16 electoral votes. Fox News also called Pennsylvania for Trump first when the state had counted 90% of votes.

In his acceptance speech at West Palm Beach Florida, Trump thanked his supporters.

"Frankly I believe that this is the greatest political movement of all time," Trump said. "We overcame obstacles that nobody thought possible. It looks like we've achieved the most impossi-

ble political things."

Trump will be the second president in history to be elected to a second term after a four year gap. The first to be elected after a gap was Grover Cleveland who initially served as the 22nd president after the 1884 election and then served as the 24th president after the 1892 election.

Trump recognized his five kids and wife Melania Trump who were on stage with him that night along with Elon Musk. He said that Musk was also campaigning across the state of Pennsylvania before election day and credited him for providing aid to North Carolina, including a communications system called Starlink, a portable communications device.

"I'll never be doing another rally again, can you believe it?" Trump said. He also claimed that he did a total of 901 rallies.

In a penultimate rally at PPG Paints Arena Downtown, Trump took the stage in Pittsburgh at 7:30 p.m., competing with the Harris campaign that also held an event with Harris at Carrie Blast Furnac-

es until 10 p.m.

Carl Weekley, a 65-year-old registered Democrat attended Trump's penultimate rally, the last of its kind, at PPG place on Monday. It was the first Trump rally he ever attended.

At the time, he hadn't yet voted but planned to because he thinks that Trump will bring jobs back to the United States, lower prices and change the direction of the country.

Noah Carr, 24, was also at the rally because "Trump is his president," he said. Carr said that since 2021, the price of insulin, a valuable drug he needs to live, has increased. He believes that Trump will lower those costs.



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Caleb McCartney | The Globe Archives



Cassandra Harris | The Globe

Jill Stein stands inside her office on Forbes Avenue during an interview.

EXCLUSIVE: Jill Stein wins 588,375 votes 'not a spoiler'

Gavin Petrone
News Editor

On Halloween, six days before the 2024 election, Green Party nominee Jill Stein visited her office on Forbes Avenue in Oakland for a brief meet-and-greet and rally.

Stein was muddled in controversy since Hillary

Clinton's loss to Trump in 2016, where she was largely blamed for taking crucial votes away from Democrats in key swing states.

Pennsylvania was one of those states where Trump won by roughly 50,000 votes, the same amount Stein ran away

STEIN page 2

Building inspection reveals facility issues

Carson Folio
Editor-Elect

Pittsburgh's Agency-Counter, a portal that allows people to view planning applications, building permits, enforcement cases and other documents processed by Pittsburgh officials, shows that nearly all buildings on campus have had new building permits and at least one build-

ing inspection violation in the past four years.

Most of these problems are minor or do not affect students. One problem that does, however, is the lack of headlines on the Center for Media Innovation (CMI)'s news ticker. This is due to troubles with the Zoning Board.

A "Use Variance" re-

PERMIT page 2

Fire alarm malfunction caused by breaker failure

Carson Folio
Editor-Elect

A faulty breaker caused the fire alarm system in Lawrence Hall to play a loud alert tone around 3 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 3.

Chris Hill, Vice President of Physical Plant Operations, said that the fire alarm system was still fully operational even during the malfunction.

A replacement breaker was installed "the following morning," Hill said.

The fire alarm at Lawrence Hall was

first activated around 11:07 p.m. because of smoke coming from The Nook, which is a community kitchen located outside the Point Cafe. According to Pittsburgh Fire dispatchers, the activation was confirmed false and the fire alarm system was reset by Point Park Police.

Smoke was around the Nook when the fire department showed up, but it was not enough to warrant a major response or a need to extinguish any fires. Hill confirmed that the smoke by the Nook was

BREAKER page 3

Harris holds election eve rally in Pittsburgh with musicians

Gavin Petrone
News Editor

Kamala Harris' campaign made its penultimate stop in Rankin at the Carrie Furnaces on Monday, Nov. 4, with musical features from Andra Day and Katy Perry.

15,000 people were in attendance, according to a campaign representative.

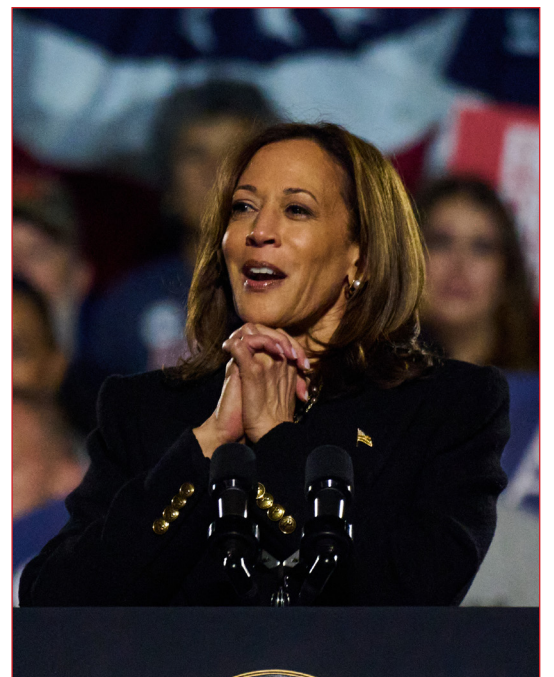
Pittsburgh's Mayor Ed Gainey, Democratic Attorney General candidate Eugene DePasquale, Lt. Gov. Austin Davis and Senator John Fetterman preceded Harris in appearance.

Gainey was the first figure to begin Harris's now famous rally chant, "We're not going back," firing up the crowd and defaming former President Donald Trump's campaign as self-interested and stuck in the past.

He was immediately followed by DePasquale, who called Trump an "orange monster" and said he was excited to work with Harris—former Attorney General of California—as president.

Both Davis and Fetterman expressed intense confidence that Harris would secure the support of Pennsylvania to achieve presidential victory.

Excitement then lulled as Harris made her way to the stage from Allentown. Attendants were preoccupied by DJ sets and footage from VP candidate Tim Walz's most recent rally in Wisconsin.



Caleb McCartney | The Globe

Kamala Harris speaks at the Carrie Blast Furnace.

After the video concluded at 9:03 p.m., Harris walked out to her campaign anthem: Beyoncé's "Freedom."

Harris didn't cover much in terms of policy besides doubling down on her defense of abortion rights.

"Ours is not a fight against something, it is a fight for something," Harris said.

Roughly five minutes into her speech,

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Fire suppression failures highlighted in inspections

From PERMIT page 1

request for the ticker labeling use of the ticker as “non-advertising sign use,” was accepted in July 2023. Unlike the old CMI, which stayed in part of the former YWCA building on Wood Street, the location in West Penn Hall requires a “Use Variance” because it is in a different zoning district.

Running the ticker without this variance would cause a zoning violation, which can incur summary charges in court. This almost happened because of an unapproved sign in the CMI, but the charge was dropped in June. It is unclear if the unapproved sign is the inactive news ticker or one of the color screens that play video related to the School of Communications and CMI.

The ticker is supposed to show news headlines 24/7, but instead shows nothing at all.

Beyond the CMI, West Penn Hall’s building per-

mit records are not nearly as drawn out, showing fire alarm permits, facade maintenance and ductwork reports.

At Conestoga Hall, an enforcement action was requested on Oct. 30 for a utility cut, which, according to the School of Professional Engineering, is when part of the road or concrete has to be cut open to access utility lines such as gas lines or sewer pipes. No additional details are available beyond this request.

Out of all the buildings on campus, Conestoga Hall has the most violations. Nearly all of the violations reference the fire suppression system, which span back to 2017. In April 2024, an investigation revealed that the building’s sprinkler system had “component failure.”

While the reason for this failure is not specified, sprinkler system problems are usually caused by human error, according to fire alarm servicing com-

pany Quick Response Fire Supply. The initial investigation by building inspectors started in February, with inspection reports for the fire alarm and pump systems not being provided until months after they were requested.

Regarding the late inspection reports, 7 Conestoga Associates LLC, the owner of the building, was charged with two summary offenses of “Record Not Provided – Required record of maintenance test” and “Materials and Strength.” Both charges relate to reports not being given to building inspectors. The last update on the case is from May 9, 2024, with the court awaiting a plea. The case is currently listed as inactive.

In terms of Lawrence Hall, the most recent documentation available on AgencyCounter is from January 2022, regarding new wiring for “fan coils” in the kitchen of the Dining Hall.

The Boulevard Apartments’ only recent report or citation is from August 2023, which relates to a broken sidewalk that was fixed by the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA). A broken sidewalk report is also the last available report for the Online Education building at 101 Wood St. However, this report is from 2017.

At Academic and Thayer Hall, the newest available report is from 2018. The report is related to a lack of professional engineer inspection for the building’s “structural soundness of facade, decorative features, overhang extensions, and chimneys & towers.” This has since been corrected.

The addition of the Professional Career Readiness Center (PCRC) in the Student Center basement is reflected by building permits for a space dedicated to “multi-purpose assembly and business use.” Besides permits to modify the sprinkler system in

the Student Center to accommodate the PCRC, the most recent report relates to the basement’s occupancy permit being changed in March 2024.

Building permits reveal that a building addition and alteration permit for the Student Center renovations was submitted on Dec. 22, 2021. The permit was not approved until Feb. 7, 2022.

Lastly, the University Center and Pittsburgh Playhouse have the largest number of building records out of all buildings on campus. However, most are over five years old and relate to construction and occupancy permits for the Playhouse.

The most recent documentation for both spaces is an illegal dumping violation on Jun. 11, 2024. The only listed action taken was a referral to “social services.”

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Jill Stein wins 588,375 total votes in election

From STEIN page 1

with that critics argue would have gone to Democrats if she hadn’t run.

Today she faces the same criticisms. She originally planned on stepping down as the Green Party’s nominee after 2016, but after potential Green Party nominee Cornel West dropped out to form his campaign as an independent, Stein was forced to take up the mantle.

During her brief visit to the Green’s Oakland office, Stein gave an exclusive interview to The Globe.

Stein’s campaign has focused largely on foreign policy, namely looking toward an arms embargo on Israel. Her campaign also has plans to mediate other conflicts, like the War in Ukraine.

Stein said she would emphasize diplomacy in mediating and concluding the almost 10-year conflict between Russia and Ukraine. She added that the U.S.’s current policy of dominant military and economic aggression should be stopped.

“This is a disastrous policy,” Stein said. “This policy has been part of the expansion of NATO right up to the border of Russia, which basically contradicts



Gavin Petrone | The Globe

Buttons, flyers and signs in support of Jill Stein sit on a table.

a promise that was made by [NATO] at the time that the Soviet Union broke that we would not be coming to the border.

“Ukraine should not pour any more blood into a conflict they are not going to win. We should establish neutrality, ensure the integrity of Ukraine and Russia, and stop wasting Ukrainian and Russian lives,” Stein said.

She added that the effort to “bleed down Russia” would not work.

In 2015, Stein came under fire for sitting at a table with Russian President Vladimir Putin during a dinner celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Russian TV network RT. Her ties with Russia have since been a constant point of speculation from critics.

Stein’s status as a spoiler candidate was also a topic of discussion. She called criticism claiming that she reduced Harris’s chance at victory “self-serving propaganda”

of an “endless war machine.”

“Politicians have to earn your votes, they don’t own your votes,” Stein said. “Right now, Kamala Harris could win back many votes. She lost those votes, and the question is are those voters going to support Donald Trump—which some of them are—or are they going to support an actual people-powered campaign.”

The Green Party’s platform promises to end student debt, make public higher education free, provide healthcare as a human right, implement rent control, provide 15 million units of free housing nationwide and prioritize sustainable climate policy.

Another major point of argument against Stein’s bid for president is her and the Green Party’s connection to Republicans, particularly Trump-affiliated lawyers who helped the Green Party get on the ballot in Wisconsin and Nevada.

“If they happen to be campaigning for us, that’s their doing. This is nothing that we have ever sanctioned or allowed,” Stein said. “One attorney, that was not even hired by us, was part of a pro-bono effort, which was multi-partisan, to enable Nevada to

have a choice.

“This was not a partisan issue, this was an issue of plain basic democracy,” Stein said.

Stein then briefly spoke to supporters gathered around the office, where she criticized Democrats for blocking Green efforts to appear on the ballot and for continuing to send military aid to Israel.

After this, Stein and Green Party members traveled a few blocks down to Schenley Plaza where they held a small rally. Supporters were given the opportunity to speak and hold vigil for civilians in the Gaza strip killed in the Israel-Hamas War.

Some held a banner and signs promoting the Green Party. Others held mock political signs that read, “Abandon Harris.”

Stein left shortly after for an interview with KDKA’s politics editor, John Delano.

After the polls closed, Stein pulled about 0.5% of the vote in Pennsylvania, with 3,567 votes in Allegheny County. In the rest of the country, 613,793 votes were cast for Stein, which is about 0.4% of the vote.

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Donald Trump returns to the White House in election

From TRUMP page 1

insulin, a valuable drug he needs to live, has increased. He believes that Trump will lower those costs.

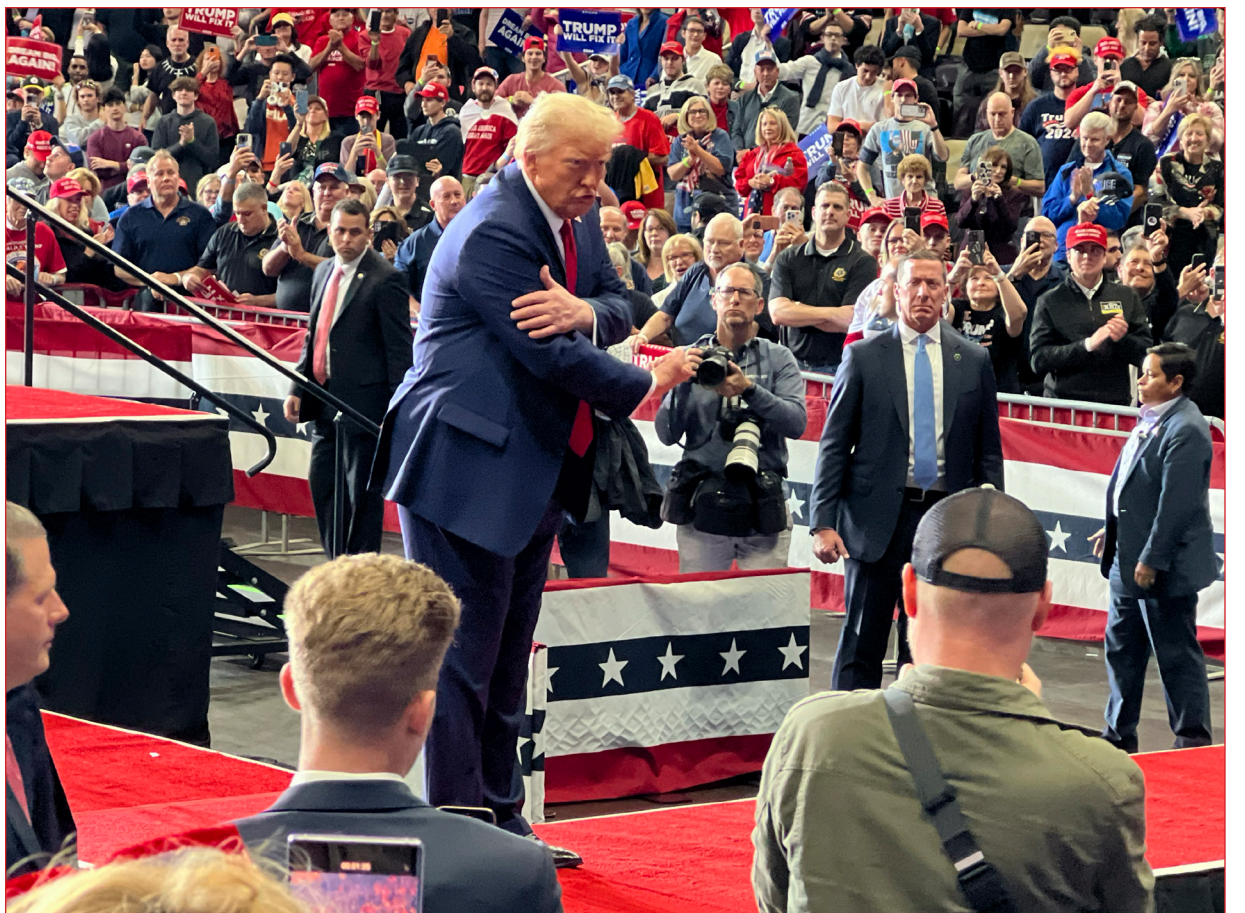
The second most urgent issue for Carr is to close the southern border. He saw the Trump Rally in Butler and City View and didn’t want to miss the Pittsburgh rally.

Katie Strobel, 24 and from Butler, wore a “Women for Trump” hat while in line at the PPG Place rally before the doors opened around 3:30 p.m.

At the time of the assassination attempt on Trump’s life in her hometown on July 13, she was at a wedding and her husband was at the Butler rally.

“At this wedding, they were pretty liberal based, they were shouting, hollering; why did they miss?” Strobel said. “They were pretty excited about it, it was pretty disturbing.”

It was her first time attending a rally, she said. She voted for Trump to improve the economy and taxes, and because she said that she believes abortion is murder.



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President-Elect Donald Trump strikes a pose while supporters cheer him on in the PPG Paints Arena.



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Breaker failure causes fire alarm malfunction



Carson Folio | The Globe

A fire alarm speaker strobe sits unactivated in a Lawrence Hall hallway.

From BREAKER page 1

caused by a student burning food on the grille.

Approximately three hours later, the fire alarm began audibly malfunctioning. When this was happening, no fire engines showed up at Lawrence Hall because the system did not send any alerts to the fire department while it was erroneously playing the alert tone.

This tone could be heard on every floor of Lawrence Hall, with fire alarms with a strobe light attached flashing during the late-night malfunction.

The alert tone did not stop for several minutes. Normally, the tone only plays for a few seconds

and is then followed by a pre-recorded voice message telling people to evacuate the building.

Instead of hearing the voice evacuation message, the fire alarm only played the same tone the entire time.

Several videos of the malfunction were posted on the community Snapchat story groups.

It is unclear how long this breaker has been faulty or if it is regularly bypassed whenever the system is reset.

Also unclear is whether or not a faulty breaker has caused fire alarm malfunctions at Lawrence Hall in previous years.

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SCARLETT JOHANSSON CANVASING FOR HARRIS



Actress Scarlett Johansson and Second Lady of Pennsylvania Blayne Holmes Davis joined Pittsburgh in a canvas launch for Vice President Kamala Harris Sunday afternoon at the Harris Walz Campaign's East Liberty Headquarters just two days before the election. Johansson, along with several other A-list celebrities, also endorsed Harris in a last-ditch effort to try to secure a Pennsylvania win for the presidential candidate.

Photos by Caleb McCartney

DONALD TRUMP VISITS PPG PAINTS ARENA

In his last rally just one day before Election Day, republican presidential candidate Donald Trump made a stop in Pittsburgh at PPG Paints Arena. Supporters were congregated inside and outside the stadium, showing their hopes for the candidate to win. At the same time, democratic candidate Kamala Harris made a stop at the Carrie Blast Furnance in Rankin, which is a few miles outside of Pittsburgh.

Photos by Grant Clarke



Kamala Harris stops at the Carrie Blast Furnace

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two separate chants in support of Gaza began toward the back left and right of the crowd. Harris did not acknowledge either. They eventually stopped after Harris supporters drowned them out with cheers.

Afterward, she left for a final rally in Philadelphia. Katy Perry began performing as Harris and rallygoers shuffled out of the venue.

The rally was initially slated to be held at Point State Park, but was moved due to safety concerns found by the Secret Service.

Rallygoers were let in a little before 3 p.m., where they processed into a large courtyard facing the hulking Carrie Blast Furnace with Harris's stage set in front. A DJ amped up the crowd throughout the wait, playing a roughly four-hour set before Gainey came on at 7 p.m.

Dual American flags were hung from cranes, reminiscent of those seen at Trump's rallies over the course of his campaign.

Guests were played hits of past and present generations, from Kendrick Lamar's "Not Like Us," to Michael Jackson's "Rock With You." The latter being a tribute to the late Quincy Jones.

As the time drew closer to 5 p.m., pockets of cheering could be heard from supporters caught in panning cameras that recorded campaign footage.

The Point Park President's Office announced by email Monday morning that all classes after 12 p.m. would be canceled "to accommodate the impact" of Harris and Trump holding rallies in such close proximity to each other. Many Point Park students then had free time to make their way over to the Harris rally.

Marley Parker, a doc-

toral student at Point Park, said it was her first-ever political rally.

"I'm excited," Parker said. "I feel like the vibes here are awesome, everyone here is really cool so I'm feeling good."

With recent polling approximating Trump and Harris hurtled toward a very close race in Pennsylvania—both poll about 48%--Parker said "delusion" keeps her motivated.

"I keep telling myself it's gonna be a blue landslide after the Iowa polls," Parker said. "Texas is blue, Florida is blue; I'm just thinking as delusionally as possible right now."

Parker is voting in person on the morning of Election Day.

When asked about their preferred Harris policy, a majority of Point Park students cited her defense of abortion rights as a main driver of their support.

"I think it's insane that my rights are being taken away every second and that my grandmother had more rights than I do now," Miranda Powell, a first-year dance major, said. "I'm trying to be as optimistic as possible because the lives of our future are on the line."

Powell voted remotely with a mail-in ballot.

"I believe a woman should choose what happens with her body and not the government," Gabby Somppi, a first-year dance education major, said.

Somppi is voting in-person on the morning of Election Day.

Jackson Durham, a sophomore criminal justice major, said he favors Harris's effort to enact a federal legalization of recreational marijuana.

"I'm tired of people being locked up for smoking weed," Durham said. "It's just a plant. If alcohol is legal and so much more dangerous, why isn't weed legal?"

LGBTQ rights were another commonly favored policy. Lai Dunn, a first-year acting major, said he thinks Harris stands more for human and LGBTQ rights than Trump.

"I've looked through her policies," Dunn said, "and I have not entirely looked through Trump's, because I already know I'm not gonna vote for Trump. That's a given."

Dunn said that Trump's aggressive and vengeful rhetoric was a stark and glaring contrast to Harris's pledge to fight "for the people."

"The fact that half of the state is in favor of Donald Trump after everything that's been said by him, what's been said about his former campaign staff and his former White House staff about him saying that he would like generals like Hitler's, it just concerns me how there's still 48% of people that still say that's okay," Dunn said.

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Mayor Ed Gainey speaks at Harris' rally.

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FORMER PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON SPEAKS IN GREENSBURG

Former President Bill Clinton returned to the campaign trail to stump for the Harris-Walz campaign at the University of Pittsburgh's Greensburg branch campus on Oct. 29. Clinton spent much of his time talking about Israel and the events occurring in the Gaza strip. Clinton was interrupted by one pro-Gaza protester during the rally.

Photos by Caleb McCartney



GOVERNOR JOSH SHAPIRO TALKS 'OPPORTUNITY ECONOMY'



Local leaders and supporters joined Governor Josh Shapiro at an opportunity economy event for Vice President Harris and PA Democrats at Duolingo Headquarters.

Photos by Caleb McCartney



'Burgh Bites

Burgher Bites: Obama was right about Pamela's Diner

Rating:

Cassandra Harris
Editor-in-Chief

At a former President Barack Obama rally in the Fitzgerald Fieldhouse, he opened his speech by immediately endorsing "Pamela's Pancakes" in the Strip District as a must-visit, tasty place to get pancakes. I was reporting at the event when I realized what he had done was put a golden feather in my lap for an election-themed Burgh Bites.

Located in the Strip District, Pamela's Diner does not take reservations but is first come first serve. My partner and I waited in line for around 30 minutes before being seated at a small white table with blue chairs and pink decor.

According to our waiter, when Obama visited he ordered the strawberry hotcakes for a reasonable \$10.50. When the hotcakes came out, they looked buttery and fluffy and were layered in a way that did not make them taste doughy.

With the first bite, the strawberries were sweet and warm, and the cream that filled the inside of the pancakes did not have a strong presence. This is because the cream was absorbed into the pancake dough, making it delectably sweet and moist on the inside.

The only words that came to mind were that Obama was right. These are quite tasty, and came with plastic beer mugs full of water to wash it all down.

To gauge the variety of taste at the restaurant, we also tried the croissant french toast for \$11. I didn't know what to expect. It came out as three flakey, chewy circle-squares. It was difficult to determine if the bread was cut up or a compressed croissant while it was



(Left to right) The broccoli and cheddar omelet, croissant french toast, corned beef hash and strawberry hotcakes sit on a table at the diner.

drenched in a sweet caramel sauce and covered with chopped walnuts.

The texture of the french toast was unmatched from the chewy nuts, layers of croissant dough and sticky sweetness of the sauce. It was very sweet but not painful or overwhelming.

The most tasteless item on the menu we ordered was a broccoli and cheddar omelet for \$11. Ours came with a side of potatoes and two slices of italian toast.

It was disappointing that the bread had been buttered so it was not crispy, but chewy rather/ The outside edges crunched a little too much, though.

As for the potatoes, they were not overly salty or covered in fat. They tasted excellent between the soft and crispier chunks.

The omelet itself was not seasoned to any degree. The most likely reason is probably so a customer can salt or pepper it as they would like. On the inside, the Broccoli was steamed tender-soft, the watery juices flavoring it well.

It was basic, but done well.

Last but not least, we also ordered a side of corned beef hash for \$7.75. The overall texture was partly crispy and partly soft, leaving a savory and meaty flavor in the mouth. It was not overly greasy.

I wouldn't recommend getting it as solely a meal itself for the flavor and price. The portion is large though, so only order it if you plan to share it with someone else.

Overall, the prices here are super reasonable and eating here was a fun experience. The wait wasn't all that long - just make sure you are prepared when they call your name. As my partner and I waited, a table of 10 did not show up, which allowed us to be seated 15 minutes early.

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Health Center hosts sexual health trick or treat

Melissa Garlock
Staff Writer

The Student Health Center never fails to organize spooktacular events throughout the fall semester. In honor of Halloween week, the "Sexual Health Trick or Treat" occurred in the Lawrence Hall Ballroom on Tuesday, Oct 29. With various activities, this event treated students to information on the many tricks of sexual health.

As a tradition, Sexual Health Trick or Treat started just a few years ago. Initially, it was a small-scale resident educator (RE) event sponsored by Nurse Rebecca Harper. Now funded through the Student Health Center "It's On Us" Grant, each year the event serves as an environment for students to explore resources on sexual health and violence.

For the Sexual Health Trick or Treat, the Lawrence Hall Ballroom was themed with glow-in-the-dark decor. From blow-up witches, ghosts and pumpkins to multi-colored disco lights, the room transformed into a party. Halloween hits blared over the speakers. There was even a photo booth for students.

Upon entrance, students participated in various activities, such as the "cash cube" where students attempt to grab as many floating "dollars" as possible. This was just one of the opportunities to get tickets. These tickets counted towards a raffle for various items such as water bottles, plushies, blankets and adult toys. Other prize opportunities included guessing games such as "Guess How Many Condoms," the winning prize being "Peter the Penis."

This event had many different collaborators. The adult toys were sponsored by "Belleza Boutique." More prizes sponsored by "Belleza Boutique" will be featured in the upcoming Condom Carnival. Coupons for purchasable items by the

company are also available in the Health Center.

Nurse Harper said she believes that it is imperative to offer items such as adult toys. While seen by many as taboo, conversing about and having these items available helps remove this stigma. One specific goal of this event was for students to better understand their sexuality and preferences. Harper hopes students will feel comfortable asking questions involving these topics.

The Sexual Health Trick or Treat was able to bring smiles to many participants' faces. The experience discussed important and potentially serious topics. By bringing light to sexual health in a safe environment, students are willing to become more educated.

Abby Polling, a freshman business major, said that she had a wonderful time attending this event.

"This is a good opportunity for students to get educated and feel like they're in a safe and welcome space where we can discuss these things," Polling said.

Multiple tables at the event represented different resources on campus. Specifically, the Gender & Sexuality Spectrum Alliance or Allies club offered information on all things queer sexual health and advertised for upcoming events. Representatives from Title IX were available to talk about what sexual violence is, in terms of identification and reporting. The It's On Us table enlightened listeners on resources for help and consent. Lastly, the Student Health Center table provided students with physical protection and advice to create healthy sexual relationships.

This event is helping to create a more sex-positive community within Point Park University. The goal of events like this is to make sure students can feel more comfortable seeking help and advice.

"Really the key takeaway is to



Melissa Garlock | The Globe



Melissa Garlock | The Globe

Students take candy and hang around during Sexual Health Trick or Treat in Lawrence Hall. bring some awareness to sexual assault and sexual violence, but also your general sexual health, and that it doesn't have to be scary, it can be fun," Harper said. "It's a nice space to enjoy Halloween, but to stay safe with all our resources on sexual health and violence prevention."

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McKenna returns to roots in independent label

Rachel Ross
Features/A&E Editor

The Indie King is going indie - Declan McKenna may be the king of Indie music, but this is straight from the horse's mouth; or rather, the pony's.

On Oct. 17, popular alternative singer Declan McKenna announced on Instagram that he was leaving his major record label and starting his own independent company by the name of Miniature Ponies.

The tongue-in-cheek post featured McKenna reading a fake newspaper with a headline that read "Indie King' goes indie," along with a report style blurb announcing his new venture.

"I agreed to make three albums with the label and so I made three albums," McKenna said in the blurb.

The next day, McKenna announced that he would be releasing his first two songs under his independent label on Oct. 25.

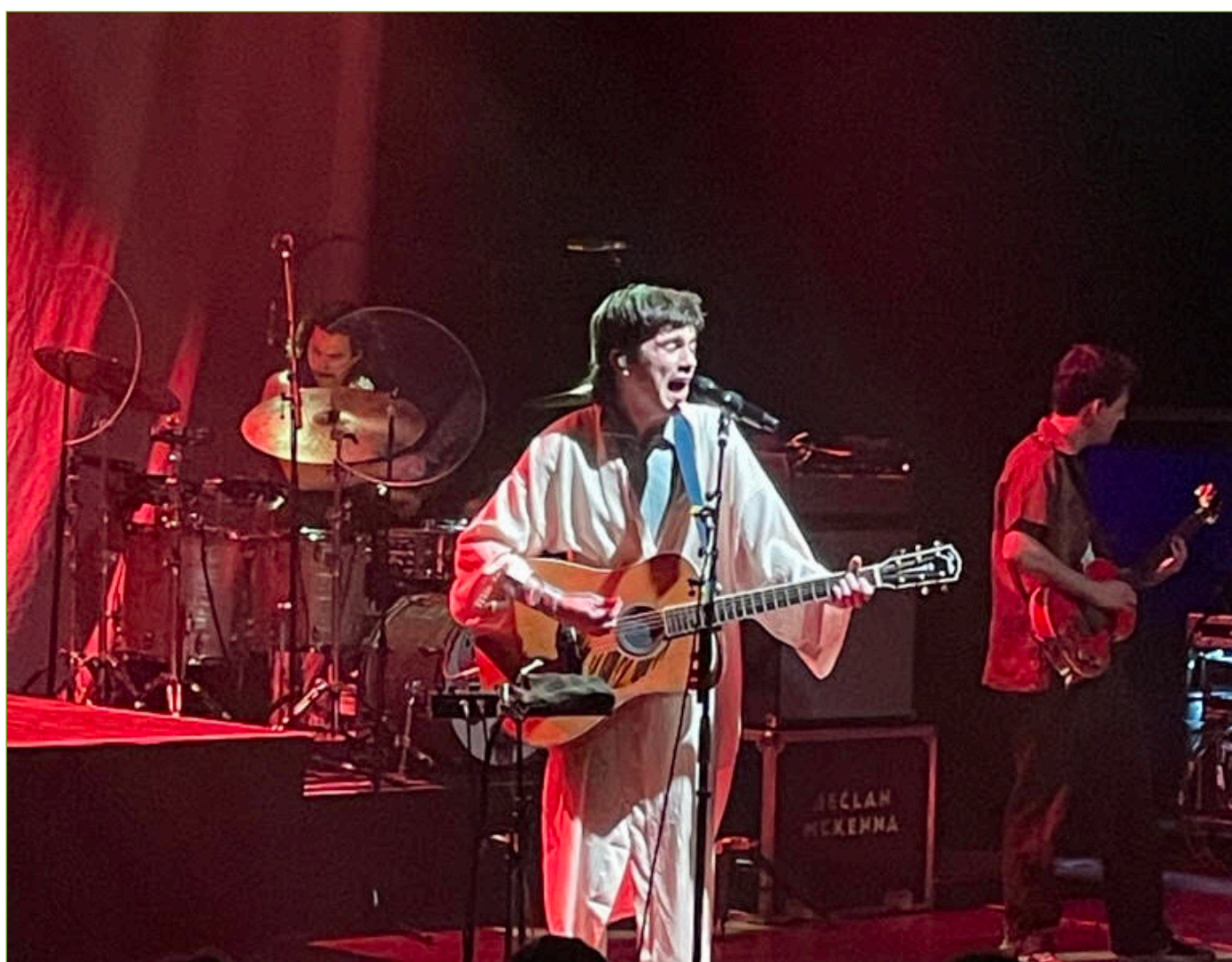
The product, singles titled "Champagne" and "That's Life" walk an intriguing line between sustaining the sound from his most recent studio album, "What Happened to the Beach?" and returning to McKenna's roots.

Though its mix of thumping synth and toy piano are certainly a far cry from McKenna's debut single "Brazil," the composition of "Champagne" has a somewhat reminiscent quality about it. Both tracks establish a catchy centerpiece that carries the majority of the songs' backings; with "Champagne" it's the synth and toy piano, and with "Brazil" it's the punchy guitar riff.

Especially compared to "Beach," McKenna's most experimental album to date, this single feels much more simple and stripped back, much like his earlier releases, while maintaining the maturity he's developed since then.

"That's Life" follows suit, tethered by a syncopated snapping beat. With additional vocal and guitar tracks layered intermittently, this song is stripped back even further in favor of the central vocals and lyrics. Though the backing starts to increasingly fill out as the song progresses, the vocals remain at the forefront.

The mixing between vocals and backings is really what stands out most on these two tracks. Compared to earlier entries, where the simplicity of the instrumentals occasionally left tracks feeling hollow here, McKenna has found the equilibrium with backings that



Rachel Ross | The Globe

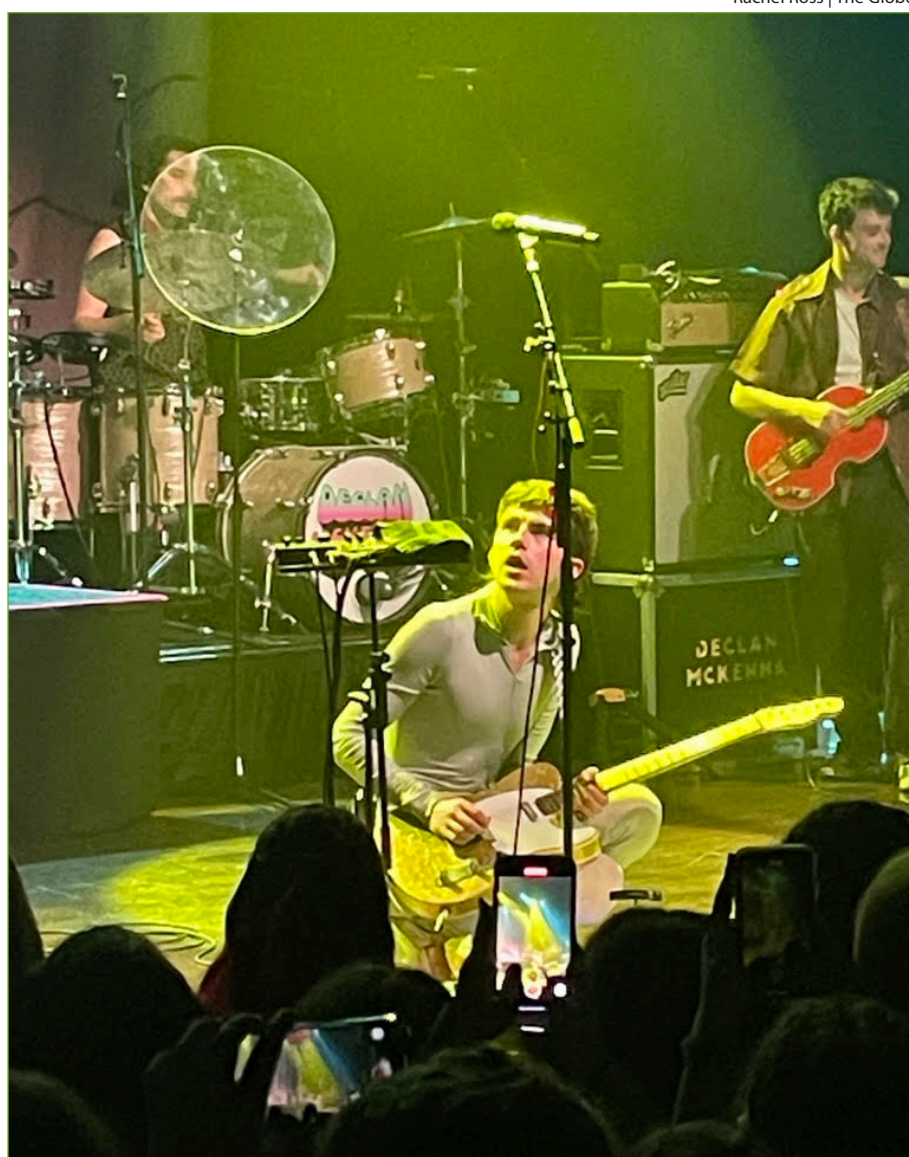
feel stripped back yet full at the same time.

Though impressive and enjoyable in their own right regardless of familiarity with McKenna's music, for a long-time fan such as myself, these songs demonstrate a rich blend of the experience the singer has gained throughout his time with Columbia Records and the sound that initially garnered him attention back in 2017.

Perhaps it's a placebo, but there does seem to be a discernible deviation between these new tracks and those on "Beach." It will be interesting to see what the future holds with McKenna producing his music independently.

Though similar in some of their qualities, "Champagne" and "That's Life" offer a look at two different sides of McKenna, one more playful and the other more serious, offering a satisfying sample of what's to come in the future.

McKenna is currently touring with Sabrina Carpenter as an opening act on her Short n' Sweet tour.



Rachel Ross | The Globe

Declan McKenna performing at the Town Ballroom in Buffalo, New York

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'Throne of Glass' by Sara J. Maas is worth the read

Peyton Martin
Staff Writer

Last week, I wrote a review on the "A Court of Thorns and Roses" book series by Sara J. Maas, so this week I decided to tackle another one of Maas' popular series.

"Throne of Glass" is the first book that Sara J. Maas began writing at 16 years old. Maas was 26 years old when "Throne of Glass" was officially published.

The series follows a young female assassin who is released from slavery to earn her freedom and become the king's champion. As she competes, she learns the biggest evil isn't the king she's fighting to serve, but it is something much more sinister.

The young assassin is faced with trials and an ominous prophecy that looms over her head as she fights to save the continent.

The book series has multiple orders and ways that you can read it, so I'll be reviewing it in the order that I chose to read it.

"Throne of Glass" is the first book I read. It grabbed my attention from the very beginning, especially with how the main character was introduced. The book itself also did a great job with world building. It was easy to feel completely immersed in the world and the characters. However, for those that don't typically read fantasy it can be a little daunting at first, but it is worth it.

"Crown of Midnight" is the next book. "Crown of Midnight" continued to build the world and the characters as well as introduce new ones. "Crown of Midnight" felt a bit slower paced than "Throne of Glass," but was still easy to adore. The ending of the book made me want to read the next one right away.

The next one I read was "Assassin's Blade". This book chronologically happens before the events of "Throne of Glass", but it is recommended to read it after "Crown of Midnight".

It is completely agreeable with other opinions to not read it first. If I read it first, I don't think "Assassin's Blade" would have made me interested in the rest of the series. "Assassin's Blade" allows more insight into the main character's past while also giving foreshadowing to events that occur later on in the series.

The book that picks up where "Crown of Midnight" left off is "Heir of Fire". "Heir of Fire" was a hard read for me. "Heir of Fire" introduced more consistent switching of point of view from character to character.

The point of view changes made it hard to get into the book because it was easy to get invested in one plot line just for the book to focus on another part of the story. Additionally, it was a rough read because of the emotional healing the main character went through. It pulled on my heart strings You

simply have to be in the right state of mind to read it.

"Queen of Shadows" is the next book that follows "Heir of Fire". I read "Queen of Shadows" fast because I missed a character that didn't show up till about 250 pages in. Also, the plot progressed fast which made it incredibly hard to put down. Even though it wasn't my favorite book in the series it had some of my favorite moments.

"Empire of Storms" is the next book. This book had so many big twists and turns that it kept me on the edge of my seat till the very end. It also brought back many characters from earlier in the series that didn't make an appearance until this book. It really brought a lot of little plot lines that would've normally felt insignificant and made them into something incredibly important as a whole.

"Tower of Dawn" takes place during the same time as "Empire of Storms" which is why many do a tandem read of the two books. I decided not to do the tandem read. I'm glad I didn't honestly.

The books have two different vibes which could be overshadowed if they are read at the same time. While "Empire of Storms" is an action pact tale, "Tower of Dawn" is a story centered around healing both physically and mentally. Because of the cliff hanger at the end of "Empire of Storms" it was easy to look forward to finishing "Tower of Dawn" to read "Kingdom of Ash" next.

I went into this "Tower of Dawn" with a hatred for it because it was about a character in the series I incredibly disliked, but no book has changed my mind like "Tower of Dawn". This book broke my heart and put it back together all in one go. Plus, the theme of hate, especially for yourself, is a parasite is so incredibly impactful. If I had done the tandem read, the book would have had the same impact.

Lastly, "Kingdom of Ash" is the last book in the series. When I started "Kingdom of Ash" it felt extremely intimidating because of how long it was. "Kingdom of Ash" has nearly 1,000 pages, and I couldn't imagine it being any less than that.

The tension, the love, the sadness, and the joy this book allowed me to experience was absolutely incredible. "Kingdom of Ash" was an amazing way to end this series. It was truly unforgettable. The plot was filled with not only emotions, but just so many twists and turns. Sara J Maas is an incredible writer, and this book does a great job showing that.

Overall, this world and characters are something I will not soon forget.

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Be patient with yourself and others post-election

August Stephens
Opinions Editor

The presidential election cycles, at least in my lifetime, often come with an overhaul of emotions which feels like a sense of grieving. The 2024 election in particular, magnified by the fact that we are university in the strong swing state Pennsylvania, is full of charged and tense feelings.

While it is upsetting that a lack of respect is normalized in friendships or relationships, such as “canceling out a person’s vote,” people should take care of themselves after an all-consuming and scary election cycle. After weeks of being inundated with endless campaign information and propaganda, we all need to remember to take a breath.

Individuals should act with responsibility moving forward, and accept the results of the election. This does not mean that people cannot be angry, upset, or any array of emotions— but people’s actions should not be a repeat of January 6. It is incredibly arrogant and shameful that a certain

population of conservative people are so enamored with the power they feel that they threaten the lives of others.

I have said this before, but I do need to say this again. If you are a marginalized or oppressed person, there is a real and valid sense of fear for this election. Any amount of planning to move out of or stay in the United States depending on the election results should be honored.

We are in a circumstance where the Weather Service, Department of Education, abortion rights, and healthcare access are under threat. No candidates are perfect and they should not be placed on a pedestal, but there is a clear line between human rights and politics during this election.

Your vote does make a difference. With margins as close to percentage points in certain areas and states, every person getting out to vote or sending in their mail-in ballot does matter.

Depending on whether Kamala Harris or Donald Trump wins, that will dictate much of the policy which shifts going into the

new year. We should allow ourselves a reprieve from stressing about the future of our colleagues, friends, and family members even if for five minutes throughout the day.

We all need to protect ourselves emotionally to not be further consumed by the news and social media. The concepts which people often speak about are about real people. People on either side need to relearn the idea that you need to take what you say to people and say it back to yourself to let the reality of your language sink into your own humanity. Anyone volunteering, whether through organizations on the street or as poll workers, need to be guaranteed safety.

Thank you to the poll workers who are putting themselves at risk to volunteer their time to guarantee a safe time for all voters at the polls. We have a secure election because of you. As a reminder, Pioneers, we all need to coexist. Tell the people in your life you love them.

August Stephens
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THE GLOBE'S POINT

Be proud for sharing your voice this election

This point could have been about why it’s important to accept the election results no matter what. But let’s be honest – we’ve run that point into the ground.

Sure, it is true that you should accept the election results no matter what. But do we really need to keep repeating ourselves?

Instead, we want to take the time to celebrate everyone that voted.

If you have your voter registration set somewhere in Downtown, consider yourself lucky. Not only were you able to vote close to campus at the Human Services Building but you likely did not have to wait long either.

Despite how easy this sounds, we still want to thank those that had to camp outside their polling place out of fear that they wouldn’t make it to class in time if they went later.

While those not from Pittsburgh may not care very much what happens on the local level of government, chances are that the person who holds top office does matter to you.

As we always say, The Globe does not endorse political candidates. However, Donald Trump is the projected winner of Pennsylvania and likely will win

the 2024 presidential election.

If this fact goes along with the results you were hoping for, then we’re happy for you. If this fact is a disappointment for you, then we feel for you. Regardless, it is important that we accept these results and do not scream and rage about a fair election. These processes are upheld for a reason – the system is not broken just because your candidate of choice didn’t win.

We would like to thank every person who voted this Tuesday. Thank you for showing up to your polling places whether they were a bus ride away or hours away. Thank you for applying for an absentee ballot and getting it sent away on time. Thank you for having faith in the process.

Some people may not think that elections can change much or that the results are pre-determined before the first vote is even counted. We can say with confidence that this is not the truth.

Have faith in democracy. Continue to do your part.

The Globe
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Ranking the worst to best vending machines on campus

Michael Klug
Photo/Website Editor

You might have a love-hate relationship with the vending machines on campus. How do they stack up?

10. West Penn Beverage Vending Machine

The beverage vending machine in West Penn is by far the worst vending machine on campus. Expect your money to be taken without giving you your desired drink.

9. Student Center Beverage Vending Machine

If you use this machine, expect your money to be taken and to not get it back. Also, what’s with the fallen drinks on the bottom of the machine?

8. Student Center Snack Vending Machine

The snack vending machine on the first floor of the student center is also not great. While it does usually give you what you ordered, the selection is subpar.

7. West Penn Snack Vending Machine

The only reason that this is not rated lower is because it has a certain bag of chips that you cannot find anywhere else on campus: Zapp’s Mesquite Bar-B-Que Potato Chips.

6. Boulevard Apartments Beverage Vending Machines

The beverage vending machines in this building do have a great selection of items but the card reader rarely works. This means you’ll have to use cash, but the cash collector sometimes doesn’t work either.

When that happens, you’re out of luck. This is a recurring issue with both machines in the building.

5. Boulevard Apartments Snack Vending Machine

The snack vending machine is being paired with the two drink machines because it has the same issues. However, it does have a great selection of snack items.

4. Academic Hall First Floor Beverage Vending Machine

The vending machine on the first floor of Academic Hall is a “hidden gem” of Academic Hall. This machine has a great selection of beverages including several flavors of Mountain Dew and even Grape Crush. Plus, it can be quickly accessed by anyone

with a class in the building or Lawrence Hall

3. Academic Hall Second Floor Vending Machines

All the vending machines on the second floor of Academic Hall are good choices. They each have a great selection of items and are great in a rush. The snack machine is especially good because of the touchscreen interface and ability to get up to three snacks in one transaction.

2. University Center Beverage Vending Machine

The beverage vending machine in the University Center is great primarily because of its unique selection.

1. University Center Snack Vending Machine

This vending machine

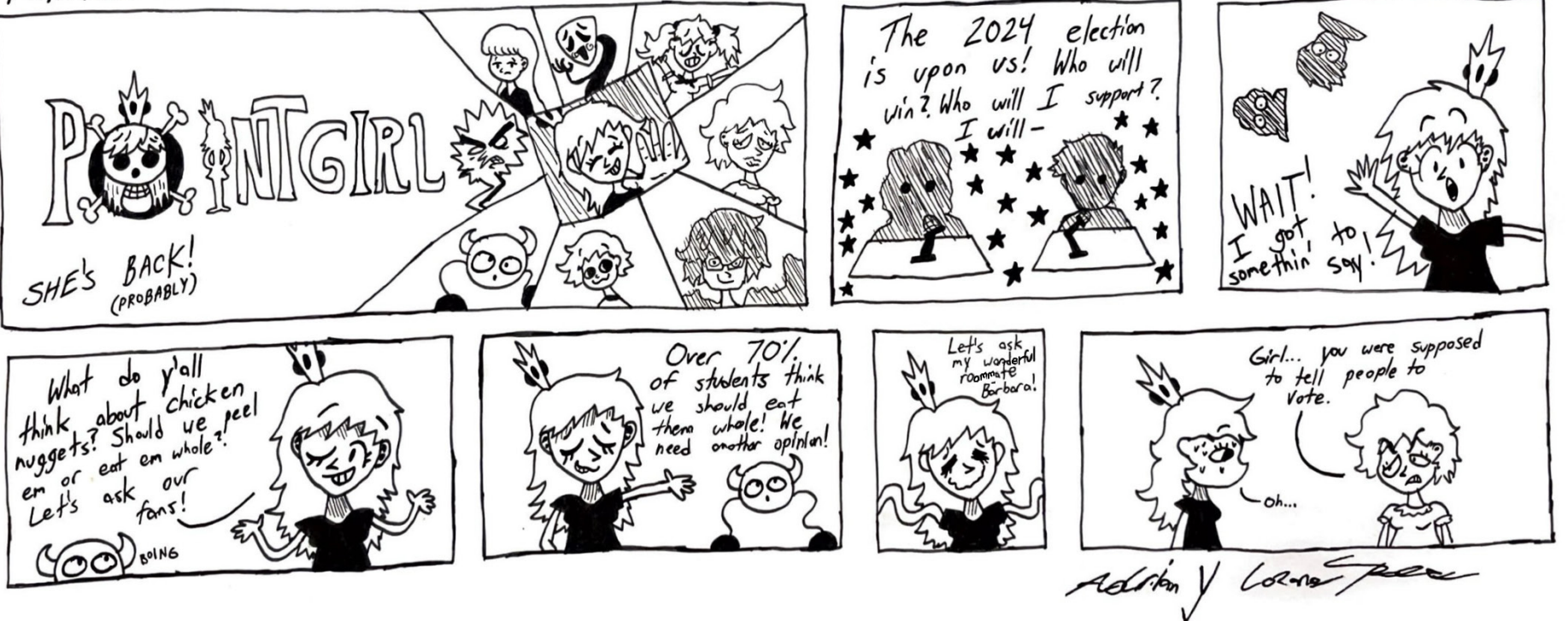
is the all-time best one. It has LED lights that surround the outside of the machine and the snacks inside have bigger bags than the other machines. It also has a unique selection, with some of the items only being available in this machine.

Despite these ratings, students should not try to not go out of their way for a specific vending machine just because of contents. Instead, students should attempt to see which vending machines they like more on their own accord.

Each machine, despite their flaws, are equally useful in providing a relief to hunger or thirst.

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POINTGIRL



by Adrian Y Lozano-Rea

Adrian Y Lozano-Rea

THE GLOBE

SINCE 1967

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Women's soccer loses MEC finale

Brynn Rees
Sports Editor

Point Park women's soccer suffered a 3-1 loss on the road against Fairmont State on Sunday, Nov. 3 in the Pioneers' final Mountain East Conference (MEC) matchup.

Although the Pioneers knew they were eliminated from playoff contention entering the game, coach Kelly Raddar shared how the players fought hard for a win nonetheless.

"Even though we knew winning wasn't going to impact our trajectory upwards in the playoffs, they never gave up," Raddar said. "They played with a lot of heart... contended until the last whistle blow."

Point Park entered the second half down 2-0, when junior Jurnee Durrett-Finney scored an unassisted

goal 30 seconds into the period to cut the Pioneers' deficit in half. With over 44 minutes remaining, the Pioneers had a chance to make a comeback.

But before the Pioneers could attempt any more shots, the Falcons delivered yet another ball into the back of the net to score the final goal of the game. Fairmont State's Valentina Gianinetto scored her second goal of the game in the 53rd minute off an assist from Serenity Thomas.

Gianinetto and Thomas led the offense for the Falcons, scoring both first-half goals on top of the joint effort to score the final goal of the game.

Thomas put the Falcons on the board in the first half, scoring her 10th goal of the season in the 28th minute. Gianinetto increased Fair-



The Pioneers huddle before their game versus Frostburg State on Oct. 26 at Highmark Stadium. Brynn Rees | The Globe



Tatum Lucero kicks the ball against Frostburg State in October. Brynn Rees | The Globe

mont State's lead in the first half with a successful penalty kick in the 37th minute, triggered by a foul from Point Park defender Jamie Spurrell.

Both teams each recorded five shots on goal, leaving it to the goalkeepers to ultimately decide the game. Fairmont State's Olivia Johnson managed four saves and allowed only one goal. Point Park's Nicole Kuchinski recorded two saves and allowed three goals.

Going into Wednesday's game, three of Point Park's goalkeepers suffered injury or illness, including frequent starters Maggie Pappas and Frederieke Rijlaarsdam. This awarded sophomore Kuchinski her first

collegiate start.

Point Park's Gillianne Stewardson contributed three shots on frame and senior Vanessa Vazquez recorded one.

Fairmont State earned its fifth straight win to improve to a 9-4 conference record. The Falcons in second place in the MEC North division and only one win behind division leader Frostburg State – who they face in their final game of the season on Wednesday, Nov. 6.

The Pioneers conclude conference play with a 1-9-4 conference record and a 2-10-5 record overall, putting them in last place in the MEC North.

"This group of women that we have on this team

are very competitive, and now that they can see firsthand what the expectations are and what the challenges are they'll put in the work to overcome that," Raddar said.

Point Park closes the 2024 season against Salem in a non-conference matchup on Wednesday, Nov. 6 at Highmark Stadium. Kickoff is at 5 p.m.

"The girls are fired up," Raddar said. "They're excited. The season hasn't gone as planned. But in all fairness, we've played a lot of very good teams – but we've competed very well with a lot of good teams."

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Volleyball suffers fourth straight conference loss

Edmee Idalis
Staff Writer

Point Park travelled to Buckhannon, WV, to play in Rockefeller Center against West Virginia Wesleyan on Friday, Nov. 1. The Pioneers lost 3-0. This match marked the Pioneers' fourth straight Mountain East Conference (MEC) loss.

"As a team, we try and encourage each other on the court, and we try to keep our heads high even after one of us makes a mistake," Pioneer Ana Baruh Krstic said.

The Bobcats took all three sets, with scores of 25-10, 26-24 and 25-18. Point Park left the match with an overall record of 5-18 and conference record of 3-8. Wesleyan left with an overall 13-12 record and 3-8 in the conference.

Point Park's game leaders were Ana Baruh Krstic with eight kills and one ace, Sara Faith with four blocks, Elise Wallace with 10 assists and Rachele Tessari with seven digs.

The Pioneers got off to a rough start in the first set, with the Bobcats climbing to 12 kills and Point Park still at three. The Pioneers were unable to make a grand comeback, as the Bobcats maintained their momentum. This resulted in a dominating win of 25-10.

Point Park headed into the second set hungry for a win, but Wesleyan managed to get to 6-0 at the start of the set with errors and three consecutive aces. The Pioneers fought to stay alive throughout the remainder of the set, managing to keep pace with the Bobcats and eventually forcing the set to a deuce. Two straight kills from Wesleyan quickly put the deuce to an end, leading



Mariah Perez prepares for a rally against West Virginia State on Oct. 26. Luka Strickland | The Globe

the set to result in a score of 26-24.

After the sore loss of the second set, Point Park went into the third set strong with two points right off the bat. That small lead was quickly shut down by the Bobcats, who scored eight points while the Pioneers remained on their fourth. Wesleyan gained momentum throughout the rest of the set, leading to a 25-18 win.

"The advantages of playing a team like Wesleyan is that we get to work on the things we saw needed improvement; the disadvantage I see right now is that we lost," Krstic said. "We can learn something from each opponent."

Point Park played against West Liberty on Monday, Nov. 4, and is set to play against Wheeling University on Friday, Nov. 8, at home.

"We hope to work on finishing the season strong," Krstic said. "We still have hopes of making the tournament."

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Point Park '24 ATHLETIC SCHEDULE

- Women's Soccer**
 WEDNESDAY 5PM
 VS SALEM
- Women's Basketball**
 WEDNESDAY 7PM
 AT ROBERT MORRIS
- Men's Soccer**
 WEDNESDAY 7:30PM
 VS SALEM
- Volleyball**
 FRIDAY 7PM
 VS WHEELING
- Cross Country**
 SATURDAY 2PM
 AT SAINT FRANCIS RED FLASH RALLY