



## Grant delays stall refund checks for students

Rachel Ross  
Features/A&E Co-Editor

Delays in PA State Grant disbursement are preventing college students from receiving refund checks from their private loan servicers after procedure changes cause statewide disruption.

While Pennsylvania universities wait for the grant, estimated refunds designated for school-certified expenses are being withheld from students as their account balances remain outstanding.

"I was curious about it because we're already a while in [the se-

mester] and I was expecting some kind of cash back and I never got that email so I was a little bit confused," Matt Crane a sophomore said.

The Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA), who is responsible for determining eligibility and dispersing the grants, sent out a memorandum to Pennsylvania universities on Sept. 17 addressing the delay and upcoming steps for deployment.

The memo, which was sent by PHEAA's Vice President of Program Development, Management

and Operations Margaret Keithley, said that the delay was largely caused by procedure changes within the organization.

"After months of continued development, the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency is ready to announce the next deployment of functionality within our new PA State Grant System," Keithley said. "This next release of functionality was deployed today and supports our continued efforts for determining eligibility and calculating student awards for the PA State Grant Program for the 2024-25 academic

year."

The document outlines the relevant organizational changes, as well as when universities can expect to receive the grants.

"The process of screening new and renewal student records is estimated to be completed over the next 2 weeks," Keithley said. "This time estimate may change, however, due to institutional changes made to student records, as they will take priority in the order of screening."

The memo notes that stu-

DELAYS page 3

## Pioneer Vision 2030 begins renovations

Michelangelo Pellis  
Co-News Editor

Gavin Petrone  
Co-News Editor

The Welcome Center, University Advising Center and Registrar Office are all due to be moved by next summer, according to Marlin Collingwood, vice president of enrollment management and marketing.

The Registrar Office, currently on the ninth floor of Thayer Hall, will be moved to the first floor in the space previously occupied by the Graduate Admissions office.

The move is scheduled to be finished by the start of the Spring 2025 Semester. It is currently unknown what will fill the space left after the Registrar Office is gone.

Collingwood said the University Advising Center will also be moved from the fifth floor of West Penn to

the first floor of Thayer to create a "help center."

The two offices will be moved to be closer to the Financial Aid office.

"We're calling it a one-stop shop," Collingwood said. "The idea was, how do we take our existing space and make it more student friendly? How do we take the existing infrastructure we have and make it more conducive to students getting done what they need done?"

Collingwood added that by moving the offices in closer proximity to one another he hopes it will streamline the paperwork process for both staff and students.

The Online Education building will also receive several renovations.

The Welcome Center, which currently sits to the left of Conestoga Hall's lob-

## CBS Debate watch party in CMI



Cassandra Harris | The Globe

(Left to right) Delaney Pittman, Zoe Cybulski, Madigan Balfe, Kyle MacLaughlin and Dillion Peterson.

## Students discuss vice-presidential debate

Carson Folio  
Editor-Elect

Members of the Point Park Political Science Association (PPP-SA) and the University's BridgeUSA chapter held a vice-presidential debate watch party for students to discuss the first and only debate between Senator JD Vance (R) and Governor Tim Walz (D).

Discussions after the debate lasted close to half an hour, with students bringing up subjects such as what they had hoped to see and hear, the fairness of

both debate moderators and what the debate may mean for the Nov. 5 election. According to BridgeUSA's website, the organization describes itself as a "multi-partisan student movement that champions viewpoint diversity, responsible discourse, and a solution-oriented political culture."

Topics in the vice-presidential debate included climate change, immigration and reproductive rights. The two vice-presidential hopefuls rarely interrupted each other or the moderators. Both candidates had their

microphones muted when tensions arose after a moderator fact-checked a comment made by Vance regarding the legal status of Haitian migrants in Springfield, Ohio.

Both candidates continued to speak, while Margaret Brennan, one of the moderators, explained to Vance and Walz that "the audience can't hear you because your mics are cut."

Student opinions on the debate were mixed, ranging from disappointment over a lack of drama

DEBATE page 2

## TRUMP REVISITS FAIRGROUND WHERE HE WAS NEARLY KILLED



Caleb McCartney | The Globe

The field in Butler where Former President Donald Trump's attempted assassination took place, taken on Oct. 5. Read the full rally recap online and of how our writers were kicked out. Photos continued on page 3.

## SGA approves new club and committee

Peyton Martin  
SGA Beat Writer

During the meeting's first open floor, first-year senators Zarrick Plizga and Madison Pickett presented a new idea for a Student Government Association (SGA) Health and Safety committee.

They presented the idea after students gained concern when The Globe printed a story titled "Mold in the Dining Hall," and Triblive published their follow-up story "Health department cites violations at Point Park Dining Hall after student newspaper report" on Friday, Oct. 4.

"For me personally, my



A graphic of SGA's seal.

priority is keeping every student on campus safe with both mental and physical health," Plizga said.

The committee not only intends to work towards better food for students but it also wants to work towards a safer campus for students in general.

"It's understandable that

SGA page 3

RENOVATIONS page 2



Gavin Petrone | The Globe

The former Grad Admissions Office and future site of the Registrar Office.

# Two political clubs host post-debate discussion

From DEBATE page 1

to relief that both candidates were respecting each other.

Carsen Brunn, president of the Point Park chapter of BrigeUSA, said that he noticed side conversations happening during the debate because it was “not as entertaining as the previous debate.”

Andres Alaniz, a first-year screenwriting major in attendance, said that he loved the mutual respect both candidates had for each other.

“They had concepts and topics that they had alignment with and had common ideas with, so I’m glad it was a more respectful debate, very clear of what they both thought,” Alaniz said.

He also said that he does not think the debate would change the minds of people who are undecided on who to vote for, but he appreciated how both candidates were firm on their talking points.

Sienna Wraith, a first-year history major who is a member of PPPSA, said that she was not as impressed with either candidate’s performance and hoped to hear more on topics such as student loan forgiveness, the recent rockets fired towards Israel from Lebanon and LGBTQ+ issues especially.

Wraith, who says she was undecided on picking a democratic candidate or a third-party candidate for the presidential election, said that the debate did not do much to help those who are already firm on the candidate of their choice.

“As someone who was very unsure about voting for Kamala Harris over a third-party vote, I don’t think it did a lot to sway people who were very set on Kamala or

very set on Vance,” Wraith said. “I think it probably did more to help bring on more undecided who may be more leaning right or leaning left, it might have helped them iron out things, but other than that, I don’t think it really helped anyone.”

During the discussion hosted by two political clubs on campus, the topic of fact-checking or the lack thereof generated debate over whether it was effective. The presidential debate had live fact-checking, while the vice-presidential debate broadcast had a QR code on the screen that took those who scanned it to a fact-checking page on what both candidates said.

Kyle MacLaughlin, president of SGA, said that he thought the live fact-checking during the presidential debate was effective.

“I understand some of the concerns because it can kind of cut into some of what they’re saying, but I thought last time it was effective, and making sure there was less of an opportunity to say things that were probably untrue,” MacLaughlin said. “I think some of the controversies about that are interesting, like why would you not want some sort of live-in-the-moment chance for the moderator to say if someone is not saying the truth?”

Riley Mahon, a sophomore political science major who is involved with the Green Party of Allegheny County, says that it is not always possible to do an unbiased fact check.

“There’s an idea that you have to fact-check both sides equally, and that’s only true if both sides are wrong equally, and they’re usually not,” Mahon said. “I was reading an article from CNN where Kamala Harris made one false claim in the debate, and I don’t



Carson Folio | The Globe

The Inside of the CMI where the vice-presidential debate watch party was held.



Cassandra Harris | The Globe

Andres Alaniz, a first-year student, who attended the debate to stay in the know.

remember if they fact-checked her on it, but also Donald Trump, that article says something like 20 or 30 false claims in that debate.”

Mahon also used climate change as an example where he says that there can only be one factually correct answer, where there is no such thing as two equal sides to no argument.

Dillion Peterson, vice president of SGA, said that doing both a live fact check along with the given

QR code would be best for a political debate.

WTAE also covered the debate watch party. A newscast that included the package with the watch party piece played during the discussion, prompting reactions from students who saw peers that they recognized.

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Carson Folio | The Globe

The BridgeUSA table where students signed in and they passed out debate bingo cards.

## Correction: Dining Hall

In Issue 6, we ran a piece about the Dining Hall that, in print, stated that Kristy Weiss, the head of CulinArt at the University, declined request for an interview for the article. This is not correct; the staff writer was instructed to send an email with their questions to Weiss’s email address ending

in culinart.com, but instead sent the request to an email address with a domain ending in pointpark.edu. The writer’s questions were sent to the incorrect email address. Because of this, the email was sent to an invalid domain that could not allow Weiss a chance to read the message. Since the domain was

invalid, the incorrect email sent an automated message back to the writer saying that the email address was, in fact, invalid. Saying that this is Weiss declining a request for interview is not accurate - the issue of reaching out to Weiss’s wrong email in the past has been an issue in previous Dining Hall articles.

# Refund checks still not in student’s accounts

From GRANTS page 1

The memo notes that students do not currently have access to their grant eligibility on the PHEAA website and cannot initiate or respond to eligibility review. The only action that can be taken at this time is to complete any outstanding grant application requirements.

While the PHEAA website is still largely under renovation, some user access has been reinstated for organizational users, such as the ability to update student records or enrollment information. PHEAA has also provided organizations with an estimation tool to help financial aid departments anticipate the amount awarded to each eligible student.

Sandra Cronin, senior associate director of financial aid, continues to go through documents and awards sent through PHEAA. “We are being proactive with the screening process currently,” Cronin said. “As the records come through that process, we verify the award amounts and/or add Pennsylvania state grants to students that were not previously awarded so the grant can show on the billing statement as anticipated aid,” Cronin said.

Some universities have instat-

ed plans for students who demonstrate pressing financial need as a result of the delay, such as Slippery Rock University in Butler County.

Alyssa A. Dobson, the Director of Financial Aid and Scholarships at Slippery Rock, said a “robust plan” has been instated for emergency situations, such as if a student cannot pay their rent or purchase class books as a result of the delay. Through this system, the anticipated funds would be advanced to the student.

“We are hoping that PHEAA can deliver state grants soon and bring us closer to normal timing and processes so we can move forward in a positive direction,” Dobson said.

The PHEAA website states that the delay is also due, in part, to complications caused by the 2023-2024 Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or (FAFSA), which was widely criticized earlier this year for its poor roll out and website functionality. This caused causing hurdles nationwide for students and institutions.

“This FAFSA cycle has been impactful in many ways this year,” Dobson said.

In an attempt to streamline the application process for students, the Department of Education lowered the number of educa-



Carson Folio | The Globe

The doors that lead to the student financial services office inside floor one of Thayer Hall.

bility questions from over 100 to 18, requiring a relaunch that was delayed by several months. After the application was rolled out, the large influx of applicants and continued technical difficulties caused significant complications in processing and information transferring.

The Department of Education is currently rolling out beta testing for the 2025-2026 FAFSA application, before an official release in December. Approximately 1,000 students from select schools have been given invitational access to the new form to test its functionality.

A section of the Federal Student Aid website has been devot-

ed to the new FAFSA, explaining when it will be available and the purpose behind the beta tests.

“Adopting this practice will enable us to find and resolve the kinds of errors that could derail the FAFSA completion process for students and their families,” the website says.

While students wait for the new form to become available, the Department of Education encourages them to prepare necessary materials and stay updated through email and social media.

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# Zine event to provide a more “radical way” to educate

From SGA page 1

that since we live in the city things are going to happen, but it's every week now we are seeing stories in the paper of students getting attacked or harassed," Pickett said.

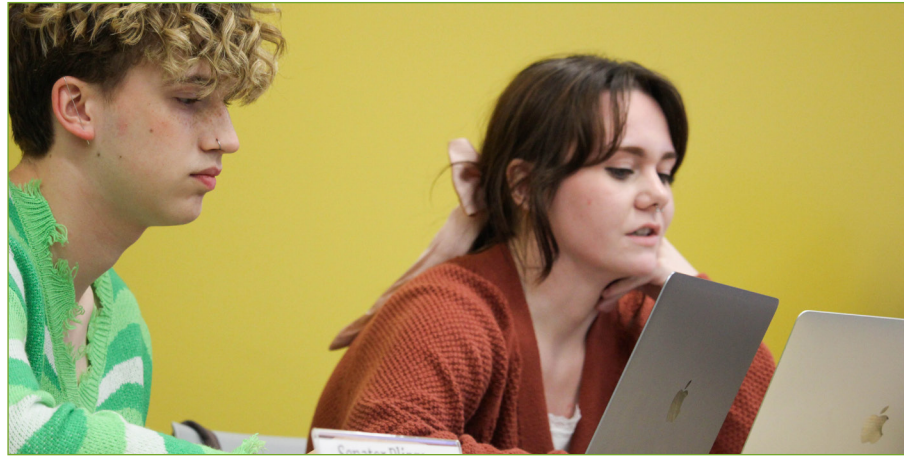
The committee will discuss ways to achieve these goals in the future.

### Constitution Approval

In the meeting, the constitution for the club "The Fix" was also voted on. The Fix is a digital media that allows for different media majors to collaborate. It's a magazine to showcase student's work that is being revitalized for this year.

The Fix Constitution was approved by a vote of thirteen.

The senators that are new to their positions will soon undergo training. The training consists of



(left to right) First-year students, Zarrick Plizga and Madison Pickette.

going over the bylaws and expectations for office hours.

The new senators will also be taught about who administrators are on campus so they know who to talk to do their jobs. The session will also simply give the senators an overall understanding of

all the SGA processes, SGA President Kyle Maclaughlin said.

At the meeting, the senators discussed an event that SGA hopes to host in the future called Zine. The goal of the new event is to provide students with a cool and edgy environment that also teach-

es important subjects.

"I had the idea because I want to give an opportunity for a school event that is a little more radical," Maclaughlin said. "I think Zine is a fun way to do that."

Zine gives clubs like It's On Us, which spreads awareness about sexual assault on campus, a chance to talk where it doesn't feel so campus approved and calmed down Maclaughlin said.

Zine will most likely happen in the parking lot behind West Penn near where the new community garden is since it's one of few Point Park public spaces.

SGA holds their meetings every Monday at 3:15 p.m. on the basement floor of the Student Center.

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# TRUMP RETURNS TO BUTLER OCT. 5.



Sherry Sral, a 57 year old Trump supporter from Altoona voting for issues on the boarder.



In his return to Butler, Donald Trump opened his speech with the words, "as I was saying." At the same time, displays to his left and right showed the same immigration chart that made him turn his head during his last visit that allegedly saved his life.

In the hours leading up to his presentation, speakers such as Eric and Laura Trump spoke, marine soldiers, two of Trump's best friends, Steve Witkoff and John Paulson, and a speed painter Scott LoBaido who honored the killed firefighter Corey Comperatore, presented.

The rally gates opened at 10 a.m., Trump spoke at 6 p.m. Some supporters stood for eight hours before he spoke. While water was continually passed out at the rally, at least three called for medical emergencies, one confirmed as dehydration.

J D Vance also presented at the rally and Elon Musk appeared after Trump, recommending the crowd to register and go to vote.

**Photos By Caleb McCartney**



Hopty Anderson, 47, a first time voter and felon who didn't know he was allowed to vote before his wife Heather, 50, registered him, poses in front of his teal-Trump truck that won the People's Choice award.



# CAB HOSTS FALL FESTIVE WREATH MAKING



Executive board members greeting students who visited the 'Autumn Wreaths Coffeehouse' with flyers and information.



Morgan Bakos, Pioneer Series Coordinator, holds her wreath.



Students participating in a make-your-own turkey table during the "Autumn Wreaths Coffeehouse," gluing decorations on.

This month, the Campus Activities Board themed its monthly Coffeehouse event around an, "Autumn Wreaths Coffeehouse." The event took place last Friday in the Lawrence Hall Lobby. The event was a DIY-wreath making activity, where individuals could make their own wreaths with provided decorations. Some of the decorations included different types of colorful ribbon, leaves, string and much more. There were also fall-themed snacks and beverages that students could also enjoy. Pioneer Records brought two live artists to perform throughout the night. This event was one of three events for this month put together by Pioneer Series Coordinator, Morgan Bakos.

**Photos by Robert Fornataro**



## 'Burgh Bites

# Burgh Bites: Pair Charcuterie has tasty cheese

**Rating:** 🌍🌍🌍🌍

Cassandra Harris  
Editor-in-Chief

Located on the corner of Boulevard of the Allies and Smithfield Street, Pair Charcuterie opened in May. Both a coffee shop, seller of cheeses and meats, sandwiches and new soups, the store popped up as a result of the Greenwood Plan.

One day, after walking back from Arepitta's, The Globe's business manager and I noticed that the previously vacant storefront that once held Gloria Jeans coffee was filled, and someone was mopping inside.

The person we saw and met that day was Leshia Nicole, the business consultant for Pair Charcuterie.

The Greenwood Plan placed Pair, the woman-owned business, on the corner and purchased the Pitt Building. The Plan's goal is to place black businesses into the area and re-direct the region's resources into "Greenwood Smithfield and its tenants," according to its website.

Upon entering as a patron, Nicole greeted me and recommended the best treats. From their grab-

and-go cooler, I purchased banana pudding for \$5, Deviled eggs for \$5 and was given a \$5 bottle of raspberry hibiscus lemonade.

Point Park students, staff and faculty receive a 10% discount at Pair, so the listed prices are to be taken without the discount.

The banana pudding was sweet. The pudding had multiple layers, topped with white cream and some soft graham crackers. It was good, but at the same time wasn't anything special. I would recommend trying it, if you're looking for a treat. The Deviled eggs had a red spice sprinkled onto the top to give them a nice visual effect. To be honest I don't know much about Deviled eggs, but it was creamy – tasting on the milkier side – and there were a variety of flavors in the cream that kept it from tasting plain.

As for the lemonade, all of the syrups used to flavor every drink were house made. Like everything else I tried, the lemonade was unique. While I wouldn't purchase a bottle of this for \$5, the 12-oz cup for \$3.75 is a little more affordable.

The fastest item that came out was the \$5 iced



Cassandra Harris | The Globe

Italian sandwich, deviled eggs, pudding and charcuterie on a table from Pair Charcuterie in Downtown.

caramel latte. Although I'm no Jake Dabkowski coffee reviewer, I can say that it was both nutty, tasty and not too sweet. Once it was watered down, I didn't like it, but that's a fault of my own. This coffee shop could very well replace the caffeine many are missing from the new Point Park model.

The Grilled Cheese was \$8. It took a long time to finish. I wouldn't recommend the sandwiches if you are in a rush. It was tasty because the cheese was gourmet, and the bread was buttery.

The Italian Sandwich for \$10 came with salami, prosciutto with oregano, mayo, arugula and cheese, according to their menu. At first, I thought that it was going to be like a regular hoagie, but the spiciness of the meat mixed with everything else was really good, especially because everything made at Pair comes fresh.

Similar to the grilled

cheese, this sandwich was also grilled but took less time. If you want to drop the money, I would recommend the sandwich. The marks the grill made on both the sandwiches also added a nice texture that is to be sought after.

To pair with the sandwiches, they had a \$5 tomato soup that came in its coffee-to-go-cup. I thought it was a smart and cute way to sell the soup. Ieshia said that they always used the cups for to-go-orders.

It was sweeter than other tomato soups I've tried but seasoned very well. I would recommend it with one of the sandwiches.

The last thing I tried on the menu was their signature charcuterie cup for \$12. This thing was fancier than I knew what to do with. The cup was wrapped in plastic that allowed a display for three skewers consisting of cheese, meats, fresh fruit,

two pickles, a grape and an olive. There was also a pack of really good crackers.

The meat and cheeses were fresh, and the fruit was both sweet and sour. The nuts at the bottom came with small chocolate balls mixed in and a variety of different kinds that I didn't bother trying. The only thing I was disappointed with was the logistics of trying to eat a nut at the bottom before finishing each skewer of fruit, cheese and meat.

Since it's a block away from campus, I would recommend giving Pair a try. Since it's a coffee shop, it does have the prices of one. Yet everything, including the soup, is home-made, and everything is kept fresh from day to day.



Cassandra Harris | The Globe

The entrance to Pair Charcuterie, located at 201 Smithfield St.

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Melissa Garlock | The Globe

## Olympic Gymnasts and alumni visit Pittsburgh

Melissa Garlock  
Staff Writer

The Gold Over America Tour made a stop to Pittsburgh on Oct. 2 at the PPG Paints Arena.

Tickets were reduced to only \$19 for all dance majors in the Conservatory of Performing Arts. This deal was offered by the executive producer of the tour, Mark Swanhart, a Point Park dance alumnus. Swanhart, also known as “Swany,” has had a successful career since graduating from Point Park.

Swanhart may have started working as a performer, but his career has since taken off in all aspects of the entertainment industry. He has been able to choreograph, write, direct and produce for stage, film and television. Swanhart has worked with music icons such as Celine Dion and The Rolling Stones, as well as various tours, some of which include “The Bachelor Live on Stage 2020,” “Dancing With

The Stars Live Tour 2020” and “America’s Got Talent Tour.” Aside from writing and producing for traveling shows, he has also worked on creating Super Bowl performances, notably with Snoop Dog, Pitbull and Kelly Clarkson. Additionally, he has contributed to pieces by Cirque du Soleil and Disney.

Swanhart was unable to comment due to the show’s rigorous travel schedule, but he was able to fit in a Q&A session with upperclassmen dance majors in the GRW on Oct. 1. Fortunately for the listeners, Swanhart brought in Olympic gymnast Jade Carey, who talked about her career. More specifically, she discussed her experience working on the Gold Over America Tour.

The tour features impressive routines and high-energy choreography. It runs similarly to a concert, with “back-up” dancers performing popular moves. The gymnasts dance with

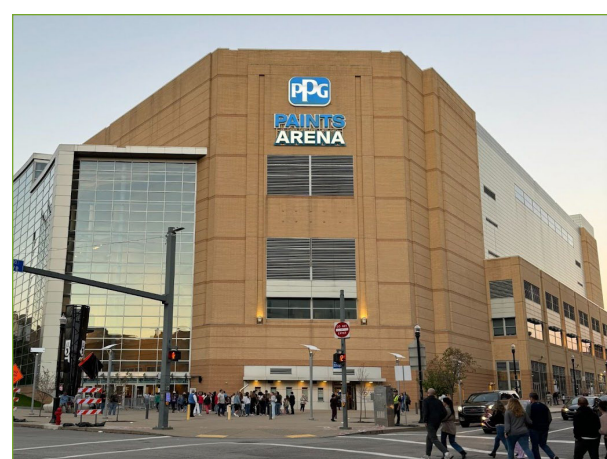
the ensemble and will then complete routines to themed music. The flips, tricks and twirls left the audience erupting in applause.

The show features Simon Biles, known as the most decorated Olympic gymnast of all time. By her side is Jade Carey, Jordan Chiles, Hezly Rivera, Paul Juda, Brody Malone, Fred Richard, Joscelyn Roberson, Shane Wiskus and Yul Moldauer, all of which compete for Team USA. In this show, they individually perform their highest-scoring events. The women gymnasts perform on the uneven bars and the balance beam, while the men showcase their skills on the pommel horse, uneven bars and parallel bars. Both identifications also demonstrate their floor event.

Alongside the Olympic gymnasts who performed, there were many renowned college-level gymnasts. In total, the cast involved fourteen men and women.

To students in attendance, the staging and script of the performance represented what it meant to work both as a performer and as a member of a creative team. This illustrated the meaning behind being a true artist.

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Melissa Garlock | The Globe

United States Olympic team performing at PPG Paints Arena.

## Alum ‘Boo’s Halloween House Party’ at Play-

Melissa Garlock  
Staff Writer

Robert Fornataro  
Feats/A&E Co-Editor

The Pittsburgh Playhouse at Point Park will present the first ever “Fall Fest,” consisting of various seasonal activities and entertainment. The festivities go on from Oct. 17-27.

“Boos Halloween House Party,” a Halloween-themed musical written and directed by Point Park Alum Ahmad Simmons and co-written by Lazlo Graves, is the main event of the fall fest.

This show is jam-packed with not only an interesting plot, but visually appealing choreography and staging. The special touch to this production is director Ahmad Simmons. Simmons graduated from Point Park’s Conservatory of Performing Arts in 2010 and has since gone on to pursue a successful theater career.

Simmons has performed in the casts of various Broadway shows. These include “Hadestown,” “Carousel” and “Cats.” Most recently, he starred in the original cast of the Tony Award-winning musical, “Illinois.” Aside from Broadway shows, he has performed in many off-broadway productions. Simmons also has a large film and TV resume, including “Maestro,” “Better Nate Than Ever” and playing Ben Vereen in “Fosse/Verdon.” Additionally, Simmons has worked with Parsons Dance Company, River North Dance Chicago and Eisenhower Dance.

While Simmons continues to work as an active artist in the industry, he is also passionate about pursuing “theater making” and producing. The process of working on “Boos Halloween House Party” has been experimental for both the cast and Simmons. By directing and writing the show, Simmons has created an ever-adapting story subject to change.

“The piece is so heavily affected by what the cast, the designers, and the crew bring to the room,” Simmons said. “I wanna give [the cast] my best because they’re meeting me at such a high standard.”

Point Park students involved in this production of “Boos Halloween House Party” are honored to work with director Simmons. Jackie Trinh-Juarez, a sophomore musical theater major, is grateful to be a part of Simmons’s creative process. She is working closely with him by

playing “Vera,” the lead character in the show.

“It has been extremely collaborative, fast-paced, and supportive, as the show is constantly changing,” Trinh-Juarez said. “The energy of the room is electric because everyone brings different things to the table, and everyone is larger than life, including the brilliant director.”

Since the running time of “Boos Halloween House Party” is about 45 minutes, director Simmons wanted two casts to perform the show and maximize the amount of performances. Throughout the festival, the casts will alternate for the shows running throughout each day. These are separated through the identification of a “ghouls cast” and “goblins cast.”

“Boos Halloween House Party,” has a family-friendly feel. It follows the story of a Halloween house party hosted by Girl Vera. The party is attended by her dear friend Boo, who can’t scare, as they have lost their ability to “BOO.” Vera and her vampire husband Vald bring in all their creepy friends in an attempt to get Boo’s “BOO” back. Each spooky friend is explored through characterizing songs, accompanied by fast-paced choreography. Despite the scare factor, this show is full of laughter and excitement. The show eventually wraps up with a feel-good lesson on acceptance and friendship.

With many moving set pieces, decorative props and exciting costumes, this show will keep the audience engaged in visual effects alone. Aubrey Gleason, a freshman theater production and stage management major, is enjoying her time working on “Boos Halloween House Party.”

“I think people should come see the show because it’s only 45 minutes, is interactive, and why not watch some impressive singing and dancing,” Gleason said. “The acting and singing speaks for itself aside from the stage design.”

The quick performances are full of Halloween-themed magic meant for audiences of all ages. Opportunities to see this show will be during the Fall Fest, Oct. 17-27.

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## ‘The Trees’ soon to hit the Pittsburgh Playhouse

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Feats/A&E Co-Editor

The upcoming production of “The Trees” at the Pittsburgh Playhouse is almost here and promises to be a unique and thought-provoking experience. Written by Agnes Borinsky and under the direction of Adil Mansoor, the play follows two siblings whose feet are mysteriously rooted in the ground. This forces them to reflect on their identity and connections as the world moves on around them.

For Cecilla Staggers, a sophomore acting major who is also making her Playhouse debut with this production, the experience has been a deeply rewarding one.

“It’s been a very enjoyable process,” Staggers said. “It’s a lot of hard work, but now that we’re approaching opening night, it’s coming all together. I’m very grateful that this has been my first show with the Playhouse, it’s been an all-around great experience.” While this is her first time performing at the Playhouse, she shared that the process has been both challenging and fulfilling.

Staggers went on to explain that the cast began rehearsals by closely analyzing the play and their characters before moving into any physical rehearsals.

“The rehearsal process has been very methodical,” she said. “We started with reading through the play and making note of important details, either for our characters or for the story

in general. Then, we worked on staging the scenes and worked up to where we were comfortable before entering tech week.”

Now, what makes “The Trees” particularly challenging for the cast is its unconventional structure. The play does not follow a typical story progression, forcing the actors to approach their roles in a nontraditional way. This unique structure, though difficult, has allowed the cast to push themselves creatively.

“This play is an interesting challenge for everyone because it doesn’t flow the way other plays do,” Staggers explained.

Stella Frazer, a junior theatre production major, also played a crucial role in creating this show as she was the Scenic Designer. Although this is her first time leading a design project for the Playhouse, Frazer is no stranger to production design.

“While this is my first lead design position on a Playhouse show, I’ve previously been able to work as an assistant designer on shows like “The Mystery of Edwin Drood,” Frazer said.

Frazer further explained that the design process has not been easy, spending countless hours preparing this show since early June.

She said, “There were hundreds of versions of “The Trees” before we finally settled on this specific iteration of a concept.”

Although it has been a lot of work, Frazer explained that this show is very personal.

“This show is very personal



Courtesy of the Pittsburgh Playhouse website

to me, and the creative team, I feel, truly embodies what it is all about,” Frazer said, “We’re this island of queer misfit toys searching for belonging in this crazy world, navigating isolation and fear.”

Now, for anyone interested in seeing the show, performances of “The Trees” will take place at the Rauh Theatre, located on the third floor of the Pittsburgh Playhouse. Tickets are available through the

Playhouse’s website or box office, with students able to claim tickets for free using their student IDs.

Audiences will also have the opportunity to engage in discussion with the playwright and the director on Sunday, Oct. 13, following the matinee showing.

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# Bodily autonomy applies to everything, not just abortions

August Stephens  
Co-Opinions Editor

*Content Warning: This article includes mentions of sexual assault and abuse.*

The right to bodily autonomy has been the subject of arduous debates that lasted decades. The 2024 Presidential and Vice Presidential election cycle discussions focused on access to in vitro fertilization treatments, or IVF treatments. These discussions have been lit on fire during this election cycle.

According to The NPR Politics Podcast, the language around abortion access and IVF care is shifting from conservative and Republican counterparts. A previous predominantly Democratic slogan, "Safe, Legal and Rare," is now being adapted to Republican campaigns due to a consistent loss in the polls with anti-abortion stances.

The right to a person's own body is not a political concept. For someone, the education they receive on and exposure to the concept of bodily autonomy may impact their perspectives and personal viewpoints, however, this should never actively or indirectly harm another person.

The maternal mortality rate in a world after the overturning of Roe v. Wade is demoralizing.

According to the National Library of Medicine, "Legal-abortion mortality between 1979 and 1985 was 0.6 death per 100,000 procedures, more than 10 times lower than the 9.1 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births between the years

1979 and 1986."

All individuals should have access to a healthy and safe environment for the termination of a pregnancy, whether that be a surgical or pill-based approach. White, cisgender people are not the only people at risk for discrimination and violence against their own bodies. People from various racial and ethnic backgrounds are more likely to be assaulted, from the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence.

**"All individuals should have access to a healthy and safe environment."**

August Stephens  
Co-Opinions Editor

According to The Office for Victims of Crime, 1 in 2 transgender people are sexually assaulted at some point in their lives.

Testosterone, additionally, does not solely act as a birth control method. This means that gender-expansive individuals can become pregnant and may potentially need access to an abortion after being abused or assaulted in their life.

A person's past experiences with abuse, or their infertility, does not determine the rest of their life.

A person has the right to heal without the risk of discrimination, medical trauma or medical malpractice resulting

in a cause of death. A person's bodily autonomy starts at the right to exercise control and draw boundaries about their own body.

The idea of fear being a normality for as long as, and after, a person menstruates is monstrous. If a person does not have a uterus, they should never have input on another person's decisions for their own body.

The misogynistic and invasive discourse around abortion and IVF is not the only problem. The passive acceptance of rape culture and the sexual health crisis in the United States eats away at our society. Individuals need to moderate and participate in genuine discussions around bodily autonomy, according to the United Nations Population Fund.

It is a human right to receive inclusive and respectful healthcare. Point Park students deserve equitable access to healthcare resources. The university does offer access to student organizations, mental/physical healthcare and external resources to local organizations and outlets.

As we move through The Red Zone, listen to every one who trusts enough to share their story. The conversation around bodily autonomy is not just one which applies to political party candidates and wealthier individuals who have the privilege of receiving fast and reliable healthcare, but to everyone who is here and surviving. We, as a whole community, see you.

August Stephens  
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# THE GLOBE'S POINT

## Thank your local paper, celebrate newspaper week

Starting on the first Sunday of October and running through Oct. 6-12 is the 84th national newspaper week, a promotion of the newspaper industry that celebrates the efforts of journalists and newspapers in both the U.S as well as Canada.

Existing since the 1940s, national newspaper week is supported and sponsored by the Newspaper Association Managers (NAM). According to their website, NAM is "a professional organization of executives of state, regional, national and international newspaper associations headquartered in the United States and Canada."

What does celebrating national newspaper week look like for us Pioneers? For one, you can always continue to pick up our paper issues and send the online versions of our articles to your friends outside the university.

Celebrating can extend beyond just reading our content too - for instance, remembering what The Globe has reported on and possibly change for the better indirectly.

Think about the Dining Hall piece that was published last week. Not only did a first-time writer get a chance to cover an issue that is relevant and timely to our campus community, but their reporting was able to create change.

The town halls with CulinArt are in direct response to our reporting, there is no doubt about that.

But there is an important distinction that needs

to be made about newspapers, and it is that they exist to report on the facts. Sure, positive change may happen because of our reporting and our newsroom realizes the importance of our work, but that's not the end goal of being a journalist.

Extending beyond bragging about our own reporting, we as students should look at what other papers around the Pittsburgh region are covering as well. Read the Pittsburgh City Paper, read the Tribune-Review, and read all the niche, specific publications that get your attention.

What if you're not from this area? Read your local papers too. While social media posts can quickly get information across to large audiences, they often don't have the word counts to cover all the necessary facts.

The reality is, it is newspaper journalists who are willing to sit through the boring meetings, go to the protests front and center, and show up to tell the stories that need to be told.

The national newspaper week website asks journalists to reflect on what brought them to the path of news. Each of The Globe's staff writers and editors have vastly different backgrounds and individual stories as to what brought them to the paper. Some of us had journalistic training in high school, others did not. What's your story, student writers?

The Globe  
globe@pointpark.edu

# Ranking the best drinking fountains to stay hydrated on campus

Carson Folio  
Editor-Elect

Whenever you're heading to class with all your learning essentials - laptop, pen, textbooks, and anything else you throw in your bookbag, don't ever forget your water bottle. Hydrating during class and outside your learning time is paramount to staying healthy.

But what good is trying to stay hydrated if you don't know which ones have the best tasting, coldest water? You might also think that all water tastes exactly the

same - this is just not true. Each drinking fountain is connected with different pipes, and comparing two different water fountains is like comparing a motel to the William Penn.

Thankfully, there are not many drinking fountains on campus that are legitimately bad - you will not get lead poisoning from any of the options.

However, some do not dispense the ice cold, tasty water you may be expecting.

Unless you love the taste of warm water that does not hydrate you like it should,

then the drinking fountain outside the Mailroom in Lawrence Hall should be your last resort. This editor prefers his water to be ice cold, though.

This may be a hot - or cold - take, but the Elkay LZS8WSLK drinking fountain in the Boulevard Apartments lobby has to take the cake for the best drinking water option on campus.

For one, the water it dispenses is ice cold. You will never have to worry about lukewarm, nasty water that makes you want to wash out your water bottle, as this

drinking fountain delivers every single time.

The best feature is not the fact that the fountain automatically dispenses water when you place your bottle on it, but the water never stops dispensing until you move your bottle away from the sensor.

Why is this important? Most drinking fountains stop dispensing when they decide you have enough water to fill up a bottle. However, if yours is 40oz or larger, you'll have to move the water bottle away, then put it back just to fill up the bottle

all the way. With the drinking fountain in Boulevard, this is not an issue - you put it down once, wait about ten seconds, and you're done.

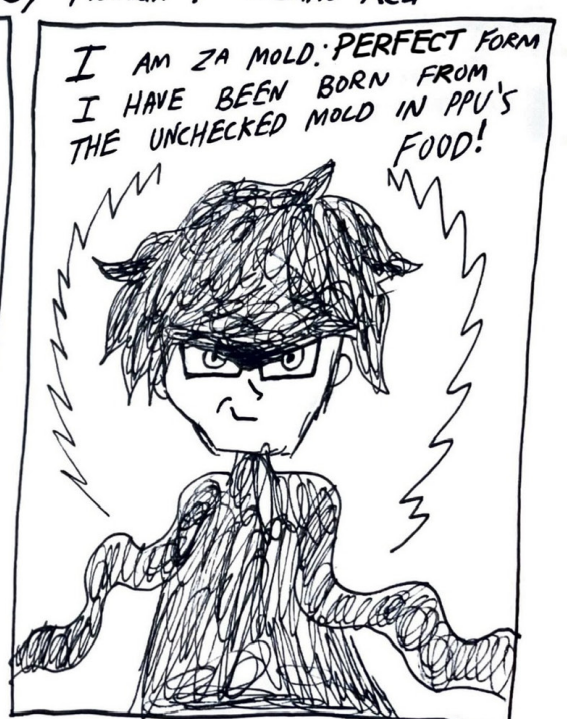
If that fountain is unavailable, then the drinking fountain on the second floor of Academic Hall is a close second. It is old, basic, and harder to fill your bottle, but that water is crisp.

Carson Folio  
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### POINTGIRL



by Adrian Y Lozano-Rea



TO BE CONTINUED!?! NAH PROBABLY NOT

Adrian Y Lozano-Rea

## THE GLOBE SINCE 1967

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Scan to read more online!

# Women's soccer ties match with late goal

Brynn Rees  
Sports Editor

The Point Park women's soccer team pulled off a 2-2 draw after a last minute goal against the Glenville State Pioneers on Sunday, Oct. 6, in Glenville, West Virginia.

Point Park came off a crucial conference win against Davis & Elkins, as Point Park searched for its second Mountain East Conference (MEC) win.

Point Park entered the final five minutes of the game trailing Glenville State 2-1, when Vanessa Vasquez scored off a dime from Madison Spencer. This decided the match as a draw.

"Playing on the road is tough, but I can tell you, our players, our women, they never put their head down," coach Raddar said. "They kept fighting."

Glenville State scored its first goal in the 67th minute after a costly error from Point Park. Defensive midfielder Maggie Oduor tripped while in possession, allowing a Glenville State striker to storm down the field for the goal.

Four minutes later, Glenville's Sophia Calkins scored the leading goal after a failed recovery from Point Park defender Orsi Tatai.

"I think now we have a better understanding with any team that we play, from the moment the whis-

tle blows, what the level is going to be [and] what the speed is going to be," Raddar said.

Point Park combined for four shots on target – two in each half. The team entered the second period leading 1-0 after an unassisted goal from Martina Cardemil.

"[Glenville State] played a very good, disciplined side, and they played a very good game," Raddar said. "We controlled most of that game yesterday, which is very, very encouraging, because we needed to be going into October."

The team faced two major absences from its starting lineup due to injury and illness. Defender Cara Spry, who contributed two goals this season, and defender Tatum Lucero both sat out on Sunday, but will make their return this week. Lucero has not played since Point Park's first game of the season on Sept. 9.

The Pioneers improved to a 1-3-2 conference record, remaining in last place in the MEC North. Raddar shared that it took a couple of weeks for the team to adapt to a new conference.

"Some of the level of play, that was kind of shock to our system, the system of the team," Raddar said. "I think we're acclimating very well to that now. I think that plays a huge role in not only the team hitting its stride, but also now the expectation is there."

Point Park went 2-1-2 in



Antonio Bastolla | For The Globe

Vanessa Vasquez keeps the ball away from the West Liberty Hilltoppers on Sept. 21 at Highmark Stadium.

its last five games. The team earned its first two wins of the season during this time, combining for six goals, 52 shots and 16 saves.

"We're beginning to have better control of those games and begin to kind of dictate the pace a little bit," Raddar said. "So that's very encouraging, and I hope that's going to serve us well to finish out the season amazing."

Raddar stated that, although the team made several adjustments to earn their first victories, there is one component that needs serious improvement.

"We have to minimize our mistakes," Raddar said. "We've come a long way.

We've got a better understanding of what to expect."

The Pioneers played in the NAIA River States Conference (RSC) last year. They finished 7-1-2 in the RSC and entered the post-season as the No. 2 seed, losing in the semi-final round.

Point Park joined NCAA Division II over the summer, and the women's soccer began MEC matchups this fall.

"When you're playing good teams, one mistake could be one mistake too many, because these good teams will punish you for any mistake that you make," Raddar said.

The conclusion of Sun-

day's game marked the halfway point of the regular season. Point Park has nine games remaining, and Raddar shared how minimizing mistakes is the focal point for the team.

"I think if we clean up our act a little bit more and go to zero, potentially, in the number of mistakes that we made in critical areas, I think that's going to be a huge point for us to finish this season," Raddar said.

The women's team travels to West Virginia on Wednesday, Oct. 9, to face MEC opponent West Virginia State at 6 p.m.

Brynn Rees  
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We want to hear from you!

Meet the CulinArt Managers!

Coffee & Conversation



October 14th, 21st, and 28th  
Residential Dining Hall  
1-2 and 6:30-7:30

Enjoy coffee, festive snacks and great conversations!

# Men's soccer shuts out Davis & Elkins

Megan Lukitsch  
Staff Writer

In the Pioneers' match against the Davis & Elkins Senators, tight defense was the name of the game for the majority of the first half.

Point Park soccer returned to conference play on Wednesday night at Highmark Stadium in their first ever meeting with Davis & Elkins College.

Heading into Wednesday's match, the Senators sat at a 4-0 record on the road and 4-2-1 overall on the season.

The Pioneers were coming off of a bounce back victory over Salem on Sept. 29 with a score of 4-3, and entered Wednesday's contest with a 4-3-1 record.

During the first half, the Pioneers were held without a shot on goal. The Senators had two, both of which were stopped by Point Park goal-

keeper David Ali.

With nearly two minutes remaining in the half, Point Park defenseman Alejandro Perez kicked the ball from the right side of the field towards the left side of the net, where team co-captain Mortiz Sarfert was waiting to head it in for his first goal of the season. This gave the Pioneers a 1-0 lead.

As time was winding down in the half, something was said possibly by a Point Park assistant coach atone of the referees, resulting in a yellow card being awarded to the Point Park bench.

Both teams had more scoring opportunities throughout the second half. Point Park had a total of six shots, and Davis & Elkins had 11, but the score continued to remain at 1-0.

The Pioneers were able to capitalize once more with just fourteen seconds remaining when Nils Ben-

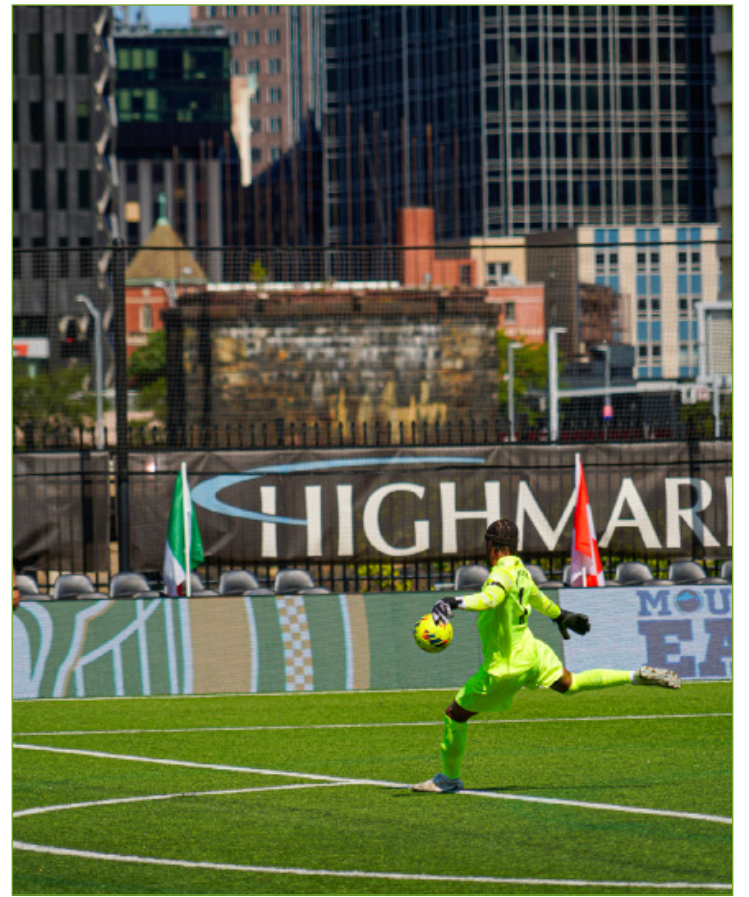
ning went one-on-one with the Senators goalkeeper and snuck it past him to seal the victory at 2-0 for Point Park.

Benning was given a yellow card shortly after the goal due to his celebration, in which he took his jersey off in the midst of his excitement.

Benning, a sophomore midfielder, currently leads the team with five goals and 11 points through the seven games he has played.

The Pioneers sit at fourth place in the Mountain East Conference standings as of Sunday morning, with 10 points and a 3-3-1 conference record.

Point Park travels to West Liberty, West Virginia to play the West Liberty University Hilltoppers on Wednesday at 6 p.m.



Jordan Kullen | For The Globe

David Ali kicks the ball after a save against Concord in September.



Jordan Kullen | For The Globe

Senior Alexis Lamontagne kicks the ball versus Concord in September.



Jordan Kullen | For The Globe

Cheroky Briard and Ruben Kuypers huddle before their matchup against Concord on Sept. 8.

# Volleyball swept in first conference loss

Edmee Idalis  
Staff Writer

The Point Park Pioneers volleyball team faced their first conference loss against the Wheeling University Cardinals on Friday, Oct. 4 in the Alma Grace McDonough Center. The Cardinals won 3-0 on their home turf.

The Pioneers lost all three sets with the scores 25-9, 25-12 and 25-11. Point Park left West Virginia with an overall record of 3-9 and a conference record of 2-1; Wheeling left with 9-7 and 2-1.

"When you play away from home, your concentration and motivation to win the game must be even higher than usual," Pioneer Rachele Tessari said. "I am often motivated by the crowd of the other team, their energy against us fuels me and increases my adrenaline."

The Point Park game leaders were Eden McElhaney, with five kills and 11 digs, and Ana Baruh Krstic, with five kills and one service ace.

"Wheeling was a good opponent that showed us where our weaknesses are and what we need to work on going forward," Krstic said. The Pioneers were off to a rough start in the first set, with the Cardinals climbing to nine kills as the Pioneers got their third kill. The Cardinals' momentum continued until the end of the set, with the final score being 25-9.

As the Pioneers headed into the second set, they lost their momentum on their third point. By



Luka Strickland | The Globe

Ana Baruh Krstic serves against Washington & Jefferson on Sept. 10.

their fourth kill, the Cardinals were at 11 points. Point Park made a valiant effort to catch up, scoring six points close together. This placed Point Park at 10 points, with Wheeling at 14. However, the Pioneers lost their stride, and the set ended with the score at 25-12.

"As a team, we are aware that we have to work harder and improve many things in terms of our game, such as faster type of game," Tessari said.

The third set went much like the first did for Point Park, at their third kill Wheeling had made it to six points. The Pioneers were left with an extensive gap for the rest of this set with the final score at 25-12.

"The speed [Wheeling]

played the game with, is something that we can work on and implement on our side of the net," Krstic said.

Point Park's next match will be away and against conference teams, West Liberty on Tuesday, Oct. 8, and Fairmont State on Friday, Oct. 11.

"We are approaching the crucial part of the conference, against the top teams," Tessari said. "It is time to study new game strategies...and above all be mentally ready for any type of situation we will find ourselves in when we are away, in terms of gym, crowd and the other team itself."

Edmee Idalis  
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## Point Park '24 ATHLETIC SCHEDULE

### Women's Soccer

WEDNESDAY 6PM  
AT WEST VIRGINIA ST.



### Men's Soccer

WEDNESDAY 6:00PM  
AT WEST LIBERTY



### Volleyball

FRIDAY 7PM  
AT FAIRMONT ST.



### Cross Country

SATURDAY 10AM (SCHENLEY PARK)  
AT CARNEGIE MELLON INVITATIONAL



### Women's Soccer

SUNDAY 12PM  
VS. WEST VA. WESLEYAN



### Men's Soccer

SUNDAY 1PM  
AT WEST VA. WESLEYAN

