

Friday, Dec. 9, 2022

MADISON, NEW JERSEY

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2022 Student Government Presidential Debate

NICOLE GIAO
ASSISTANT OPINIONS EDITOR

On Dec. 7, 2022, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., The Drew Acorn and WMNJ hosted the presidential debate for student government. Current student government president Nate Roark ('24) started off the event by expressing gratitude for his role as president. Roark gave special thanks to students who used their voices during his presidency; not only were they heard but acted upon. He stepped away saddened that his time was coming to an end but confident that Drew students will be left in great hands.

Next, Nicole Sydor ('25), Editor-in-Chief of The Drew Acorn, and Medina Purefoy-Craig ('24), general manager of WMNJ, discussed the format of the debate. Opening statements would begin with three minutes for each presidential candidate and one minute for each vice presidential candidate, followed by a series of predetermined questions with two-minute answer slots, one minute for the opposition to respond, and thirty seconds for the original candidates to rebuke. The debate would



IMAGE COURTESY OF ELIZABETH BLANK

Presidential and Vice Presidential Candidates and mediators at Presidential Debate

continue with questions from the audience and end with closing statements.

The debate started off with a coin toss. Presidential candidate Gabriel Benhaim-Killian ('23) began his opening statement by providing background information about himself and his mission. Benhaim-Killian explained that he transferred from American University because of the cold and competitive environment. He said, "Drew University welcomed me with a strong warm community as a commuter." If he is elected student government president, Benhaim-Killian plans to promote diversity and give

everyone a voice. Benhaim-Killian's vice presidential candidate, Alison Turner ('24), outlined that she is the co-president of the Sociology Club and third member of her family to attend Drew University. Turner emphasized that she wants to give a voice to queer people of color.

The other candidate for student government president is Ashley Kibel ('25), a commuter student from Wayne, NJ. Kibel began her opening statement by mentioning the various clubs she is involved in. Kibel emphasized that "the experience of any student is crucial." Her mission is to address

commuter concerns, dining concerns and students' mental health on campus. Kibel's vice presidential candidate is Jocelyn Freeman ('25). Freeman said, "I don't get to go home more than two times a year. I am determined to make this experience the best it can be. I am ready to make a change." All of the candidates were very enthusiastic and thanked audience members for joining via Zoom and in person.

After opening statements came to a close, both candidates answered sets of questions and elaborated on their goals.

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Senior Spotlight: Lauren Reduzzi

NICOLE SYDOR
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As this semester comes to a close, The Drew Acorn wanted to take a moment to highlight the work of Lauren Reduzzi ('23), a senior majoring in English: Writing and Communications and minoring in sociology.

Reduzzi first joined the newspaper her freshman year as a journalist, primarily covering student government meetings and events. During her sophomore year she became the Assistant News Editor, and half way through the year she earned the title of News Editor. Reduzzi has been in this position since she was appointed.

This is her last semester at Drew and her last semester with The Acorn. After four long years of commitment and dedication, we decided to interview Reduzzi about her experience in The Acorn and about her plans for the future.

What will you take away from your experience at The Acorn into your future?

"I think definitely not even the editorial experience, but just being able to work on a team and just the skills that I've learned, whether it be Adobe and working with Google applications. But also the skills of working on a team, organizational skills and being able to collaborate with others are my biggest takeaways."

What is your favorite Acorn memory?

"I really liked the Taylor Swift night, when we listened to her album because I am a really big Taylor Swift fan. We were all kind of stressed about school, dreading everything going on, but we were able to just push through and play her new album."

Is there any advice you would like to give to current students?

"Never sell yourself short. Just apply to anything that is interesting to you, whether it be a job or a new club. Just go for whatever is peaking your interest and see where it goes from there, because even with The Acorn, it was something I was interested in and I had a lot on my plate at the time, but I'm so happy I did it. I think it is important in life to just go for things. If you don't like it, you don't like it. If you do, so much can come out of it."

After Reduzzi graduates, she will continue her internship at Princeton University Press and hopes to find another position to work on simultaneously. The jobs she is interested in relate to publishing, journalistic writing and communications.

Lastly, we want to thank Lauren for all of the hard work she has put into this paper. Every late night, every InDesign disaster, every



IMAGE COURTESY OF LAUREN REDUZZI
EDITED BY ELIZABETH BLANK

Photo of Lauren Reduzzi ('23)

laugh and every set of tears, we were so grateful to have you with us at The Drew Acorn, Lauren. This paper would not be where it is without you, helping hold it together during and after COVID, guiding all of us both in the office, on the field and in life. There are great things ahead for you, and although we will miss you, you will always be a part of The Drew Acorn team. We love you Lauren, and best of luck!

GOT A NEWS TIP?

Email theacorn@drew.edu and let us know!

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

/// Never sell yourself short. ///

—Lauren Reduzzi ('23)

We're Nuts for our Website!
www.thedrewacorn.com

Student Government Meeting Recap Nov. 30

ROSALIE SAPPERSTEIN
STAFF WRITER

For their post-Thanks-giving break meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 30, Drew’s Student Government offered Morris-town Diner food to anyone who stopped by. The meeting was an opportunity for the council to wrap up some final items before their very last meeting of the semester on Wednesday, Dec. 7.

For the executive address, president Nate Roark (‘23) went over the results of Vice President Melina Christodoulou’s (‘24) survey that showed what hours responders favored for a “common hour,” which would be

an hour with no classes on campus. “This will allow for every member of the Drew University community to meet with clubs, host academic events, go to office hours, visit the athletic trainers office to check an injury, take a nap, eat lunch, etc,” the survey explains.

The vast majority of voters (153 out of 168) were in support of a common hour, and preference aligned with hours being between 12-1 p.m. on Wednesdays. These results have been reported to Dean Ryan Hinrichs.

In anticipation of students leaving Drew for the

upcoming winter break, there has been further progress made in the discussion of Drew-provided transport to the train station. President Roark and President Pro Tempore Jocelyn Freeman (‘25) have met with both the student associations from both graduate school and the theology school to talk about affordable shuttling options.

Time was also dedicated to discussing the presidential elections, which will be held from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 9. The elected president and their accompanying cabinet members will be sworn in on

Sunday, Dec. 11. Voters will receive an “I Voted” sticker, designed by the winner of the sticker designing contest, Amelia Tirey (‘25), for their voter participation.

Finally, the council proceeded to go over Senator and Committee Updates. Senator Chekwube Okunowo (‘24) expressed gratitude for the many responses to RJC’s Heritage Month initiative and let everyone know that RJC is working with Drew’s library and bookstore to order suggested books. February will see books highlighted for Black History Month, but Racial

Justice Committee is still open to suggestions for potential authors or works.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DREWSTUGOV ON FACEBOOK

Rosie Sapperstein is a junior double majoring in English literature and media and communications.

Flute Ensemble’s “A December to Remember”

EMILY PIECZYRAK
OPINIONS EDITOR

On Sunday, Dec. 4, 2022, Drew’s Flute Ensemble held their “A December to Remember” concert directed by Professor Diana Charos-Reilly. The ensemble consists of Drew students as well as Drew alumni and community members. The students in the ensemble are Christabella Fortna (‘23), Katie Carmichael (‘25) and Emily Pieczyrak (‘25). The age range and different levels of experience of the flutists create a unique group.

The ensemble performed seven pieces of music with the help of Piano Accompanist Professor David Ishkowitz. The concert began at 3:00 p.m. in the Dorothy Young Center Concert Hall and lasted for about an hour. It was also live streamed for the viewing convenience of people who could not make it physically. Each piece was introduced by a member of the ensemble, allowing the audience to understand a little background of the music before the ensemble

performed. The pieces played were composed by Kabalevsky, Bozza, McMichael, Molnar-Suhajda, Saint Saens, Behnke, Mozart and Pachelbel. The concert’s theme was meant to put the audience in a holiday spirit after not being able to perform a holiday concert since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. This meant that a few holiday songs such as the “Ukrainian Bell Carol,” “Oratorio de Noel” (The Christmas Oratorio) and “Canon” were played.

However, there were also pieces that were not holiday themed, such as “Jour D’ete A La Montagne” (A Summer Day on the Mountain), “Trillium,” and “The Impresario.” The recording of the

livestream is available on YouTube to rewatch or if you missed the live performance.

Emily Pieczyrak is a sophomore double majoring in French and English



IMAGE COURTESY OF PEXELS

Last Music @ Noon of the Semester

CHLOE GOCHER
STAFF WRITER, COPY EDITOR
AND WEBMASTER

On Friday, Dec. 2, Drew’s music department held their final Music at Noon event of the semester. While the Music @ Noon concerts are departmental events, they are a chance for

students in any field or level of study to perform for their peers. As such, these events often display a wide range of musical genres, styles and skills.

This event featured performances from Drew’s current Jill Spur Titus Ensemble; vocalists Amelia

Tirey (‘25), Brynn McCarthy (‘25) and Nicole Verga (‘23); pianist Maddie Ortiz (‘24) and The Automatics, a local band composed of Drew students Dean Graham (‘24), Matt Shermann (‘24) and Daniel Wu (‘24).

“I think there are a couple goals. One, give students the opportunity to perform for an audience, for their peers, for staff, for everyone. And also, I think presenting these concerts, we’re trying to track people who are interested in music but maybe aren’t aware of what we do here or think we only do classical music. That’s why, as much as possible, we try to attract as many students as we can with many different musical backgrounds to show that we are a music department and not a specific-genre-of-music department. But I think the most important thing is, if you’ve got talent, we want to

share it, and share what Drew has,” said Professor Trevor Weston, the head of Drew’s music department, about the importance of the Music @ Noon events.

Music @ Noon is a wonderful opportunity for Drew students to showcase their musical talents to an audience of peers and teachers alike. No affiliation with the music department is required to participate. The opportunity to perform on stage is a rare and valuable one indeed, and although many of the performers tend to be music students, the Music @ Noon events offer this opportunity to anyone with the courage to give it a whirl. This open spirit is greatly appreciated by both the performers and the Drew community.

“I really like that it’s very low-key and there’s not a lot of pressure when you perform at them,” said McCarthy, who performed

Joseph Hayden’s “The Mermaid Song,” about the relaxed and encouraging atmosphere of Music @ Noon. “It’s a nice space to get to perform your pieces that you usually wouldn’t get to perform anywhere else. And you get to see your growth as a student, and your teacher gets to sit there and watch you perform, and I think that’s always encouraging.”

If you’ve never attended—or, if you’re so inclined, performed—at a Music @ Noon, the events will be continuing next semester. They are a perfect opportunity to test the waters and get involved in music at Drew!



Chloe Gocher is a sophomore majoring in English and minoring in Spanish



IMAGE COURTESY OF DREW.EDU



Don't miss the architectural feats of the gingerbread contests!

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Students Have a Ball at Winter Ball in the EC

LAUREN MCAULLIFE
STAFF WRITER

Now that the holiday season is finally upon us, the time has now come to deck the halls with boughs of holly and make our festive wishes come true. For many, the holiday season means indulging in delicious dishes and humming along to their favorite tunes. Students had the opportunity to do both at Drew's Winter Ball.

The Winter Ball is a long-standing holiday tradition organized by the brilliant hosts from the Drew University's Student Engagement team. Known as the "Holiday Ball" prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Winter Ball made its premier appearance this year. The annual ball gathers a multitude of Drew students together in their best cocktail attire to enjoy the evening. As groups flocked to the doors of the EC, they were greeted with the scenes of a winter wonderland: white trees decorated The Space, and a massive holiday tree covered with lights, ornaments and roses drew crowds into the eatery which was transformed into a dance-floor. Music and laughter filled the air as peers rejoiced



Christian Tyson ('24) crowd-surfs at the Winter Ball.



Colorful lights immerse students on the dance floor.



Strobe lights highlight the crowd as music pulses.



Students begin to create a mosh pit in the middle of the dance floor.

in each other's company and danced the night away. Those not dancing indulged in the delicious apple cider, satisfied their sweet tooth at the chocolate fountains, decorated cookies in The Space

or simply captured the moment with a perfectly posed picture at the photo booth. There was truly entertainment for everyone. As yet another successful Winter Ball came to

a close, students headed home as late as 1 a.m., still reeling in their excitement. The Winter Ball provided students with an opportunity to decompress and enjoy a night out with friends,

and students are undoubtedly excited for next year's dance.

Lauren McAullife is a first-year planning to major in writing communications and minor in international relations.

Mental Health Resources to Combat Seasonal Stress

PHOEBE CHEN
STAFF WRITER

It's that time of year again! When it gets pitch black at 4:30 p.m. and the chilling dry air causes skin inflammation and naked vegetation. The sun has decided it will only work part-time, and it can be hard to function because of it.

It's always around this time where the cold and darkness lower my energy

and mood. I feel this cloud of sadness hanging over me, and there is no reason for it! In the past, I didn't want to be around anyone or do anything, and my state of mind took a toll on me, physically as well. I found myself glued to my bed, and the intense stress of finals did not help the situation. After doing a bit of research, I found out that I am not the only one who gets the blues from these dingy days.

According to the Mayo Clinic, seasonal affective disorder, or SAD, usually occurs in people at the end of fall leading into winter (though it can still occur in the summer and spring.) When people are exposed to less sunlight, it can cause depression, weight fluctuations, low energy, feelings of hopelessness and suicidal thoughts. This is not a rare occurrence either. A 2019 Boston University article by

Madeleine O'Keefe says, "around 10 million Americans suffer from SAD." For those who are suffering from this common physical and mental strain, Drew offers various resources that can help during this strange time of the year. The Mayo Clinic recommends seeking a therapist to help process harmful and/or negative thoughts in a better way to help eliminate them. The James A. McClintock Center for Counseling and Psychological Services offers mental health counseling and outreach programs to Drew University students.

Exercising regularly, even if it is only for five minutes each day, helps to create endorphins which boosts mood and energy. The Simon Forum & Athletic Center offers access to a pool, exercise equipment, an indoor track and ball courts.

Youtube offers a variety of guided meditations that can help to refocus an overwhelmed brain. Some options are even specified towards seasonal depression and SAD.

It is a process that can't just be fixed, which can be really frustrating. It takes a lot of work to get better from any kind of depression, but it's important to be aware of the effects of seasonal affective disorder and that there is hope and you are not alone.

If you are struggling during this darkened portion of the year you can reach out to Drew's Mental Health services at (973) 408-3398 or by emailing counseling@drew.edu

If someone you know is experiencing symptoms of Seasonal Affective Disorder, you can call the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration's Helpline: 1-800-662-HELP (4357).

Phoebe Chen is a senior majoring in English and minoring in creative writing.



IMAGE COURTESY OF PEXELS.COM



Red Blanket Singers Perform At Pow-wow

JOCELYN FREEMAN
STAFF WRITER

On Friday, Nov. 18, Drew Night Life, in partnership with Drew's Racial Justice Committee and DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) Programming Director, hosted a pow-wow in honor of Native American Heritage Month. The event was held in Crawford Hall and began at 8 p.m. The pow-wow featured the Red Blanket Singers, who performed traditional dances and songs that represent-

ed their Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape backgrounds. The group visits local colleges to help celebrate and offer education about Indigenous culture. "A lot of people don't know that there are tribal communities in New Jersey," said Alyssa Mosley, a member of the group. "It's important to go from college to college to talk about our month, although we live this year round."

The pow-wow began once students had arrived. Duncan Munson opened the pow-wow by performing the

fast-paced and high-energy Grass Dance. Then, Aiyanna Munson, the youngest performer, presented the Women's Traditional, a much smoother and slower style of dance. Next, Alania Herrera performed the Butterfly Dance. Herrera's regalia featured a shawl with bright colors that created a butterfly-like appearance with her movements. Following Herrera, Alyssa Mosley performed the Jingle Dance. Her regalia, the Jingle Dress, was covered in 365 bells to represent each day of the year. The group explained that the Jingle Dance holds a special significance as a healing dance in Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape. Lastly, Duncan Munson performed the Hoop Dance. Munson is an acclaimed Hoop Dancer and has performed around the world. The dancers and musicians of the Red Blanket Singers are amazingly talented and helped provide education to end the night.

After finishing the pow-wow, the group opened up the floor to allow attendees to ask questions. The attendees asked about how families carry on traditions, how regalia is created and cared for and how people not of native descent can be allies to



IMAGE COURTESY OF JOCELYN FREEMAN

Duncan Munson dances the Hoop Dance at the DNL pow-wow to celebrate Native American Heritage Month



IMAGE COURTESY OF JOCELYN FREEMAN

Alyssa Mosley shared the Jingle Dance wearing a dress with 365 bells.



IMAGE COURTESY OF JOCELYN FREEMAN

High school student Alania Herrera performs the Butterfly Dance in her colorful regalia.

Indigenous Americans. The group advocated for getting involved with Native issues on social media platforms, using your digital footprint to boost native voices and continuing to educate yourself and those around you.

Following the discussion, Student Government's Racial Justice Committee provided a presentation on land acknowledgements, followed by a Kahoot on the topic, complete with prizes from a Native-owned online business. The event illus-

trated the purpose of Native American Heritage Month by bringing students together to learn about, enjoy and better understand the beauty of Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape culture. After all, according to Mosley, "The best thing we can do is educate" ourselves in order to ensure that Native culture is not overlooked, and that Native narratives can continue to be celebrated on campus.

Jocelyn Freeman is a sophomore majoring in history, English and Chinese

'Tis the Season for Holiday Event in the EC

ELIZABETH BLANK
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On Dec. 5, 2022, a holiday party was hosted in the Ehinger Center. This returning Drew tradition got people into the holiday spirit and was co-hosted by CHOICE, Drew German Club, Black Student Union, InterVarsity, Hillel and BIPOC Peer Mentoring. The event included watching a movie, card making, a gingerbread house competition, snacks, making toys for children's hospitals and polaroid pictures beside the holiday tree.

The main attraction of the evening was the ginger-

bread house competition, which was hosted by the German Club and held between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. The club brought 18 gingerbread houses to the event and allowed teams of 3-6 people to assemble and decorate them however they wished for 2 hours. The judges of the competition were the children of Dr. Joshua Kavaloski, the German Club's advisor. The teams built all different types of houses, from Drew-themed houses to snow-themed houses. After careful consideration, the judges selected the winners of the competition:

Elizabeth Blank ('25), Liberty Jackson ('25), Jocelyn Freeman ('25), Jo Cavallaro ('25), Elisabeth Sauerman ('24) and V Pascarella ('23). This team designed a winter wonderland-themed gingerbread house.

Attendees also had the opportunity to enjoy a wide variety of other activities. The film "Ice Age" was shown in Crawford hall. Hillel Club served latkes with applesauce and sour cream. They also gave out dreidels to attendees. BIPOC Peer Mentoring publicized their ongoing raffle for a t-shirt and took polaroid pictures

of people in front of the EC's holiday tree. Attendees could also draw and color pictures to send to children's hospitals and complete crafts, such as ornament decorating and mug decorating. This event, including the gingerbread house decorating competition, was held for the first time post-COVID. The clubs are excited to hopefully host this event again next December.

Elizabeth Blank is a sophomore majoring in history and minoring in environmental studies & sustainability and teaching



IMAGE COURTESY OF ELIZABETH BLANK

Liberty Jackson ('25) decorates a gingerbread house.



IMAGE COURTESY OF AMELIA TIREY

Winners of the gingerbread competition pose in front of the holiday tree with their winterwonderland-themed gingerbread house.



IMAGE COURTESY OF ELIZABETH BLANK

Contestants put their imagination to use and attempt to construct the perfect gingerbread house for the judges.

Drew Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow: A Comprehensive History Of “Winter Ball”

JOCelyn FREEMAN
STAFF WRITER

Last weekend Drew Night Life hosted the annual Winter Ball, colloquially known as the “Ho Ball,” short for Holiday Ball, to the present-day students of Drew. Nearly 700 students attended the event that was hosted from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. This year’s bash was complete with a professional DJ, pasta dinner and chocolate fountain. But the Winter Ball hasn’t always looked the way it did last Friday. This week’s column will be dedicated to exploring the fun and flashy history of Drew’s Winter Ball, one of Drew’s longest-running traditions!

According to old editions of The Acorn and The Oak Leaves, the tradition began in the 1940s when social dances were popular events. Back then, the Winter Dance was typically referred to as the “Christmas Dance,” “Christmas Prom” or the “All Campus Christmas Party” and was co-hosted by a variety of campus organizations. Some of these organizations include the Men’s Dorms and the Social Committee. In 1943, women first attended the event as students and not just dates, and in the following years, the Drew Co-Eds (a club for the women on campus) helped to sponsor the dance. In the 1940s, like with most social dances, live music was provided as entertainment. In 1945, according to an ad found in the December edition of the paper, there was “dancing to a five-piece all-girl band until 1:00 A.M.” Obviously, the students of



IMAGE COURTESY OF THE 1944 OAK LEAVES
Students and Navy Men from the V-12 unit dance at the 1944 Holiday Dance.



IMAGE COURTESY OF THE 1966 OAK LEAVES
Students party through the night in the old University Center.



IMAGE COURTESY OF DEE COHEN
This year’s student enjoying the DJ at Holiday Ball 2022 held in the EC eatery.

Drew knew how to have a good time! During this era the dance was held as a celebration before “winter recess,” and students could attend without the stress of finals hanging over their heads, as tests were held after their break.

The dance continued to be a yearly tradition despite some name changes along the way. In 1956, an ad for the dance in the December edition of The Acorn referred to it as the “SnowFlake Dance.” In the same edition, it’s referred to

as the “Snow Ball.” Sadly, documentation of the dance in The Oak Leaves tapers off around this period. But the paper continued to advertise and cover the festivities. In 1961, a short history of the event was provided by writer Gerie Snell in the December edition of The Acorn. Snell’s work helped paint the picture of the dances in the past and inform readers that the Holiday Dance was “one of the favorite social events of the year.” They wrote about the different locations the dance has been held at, such

as the Bowne Gym (now the Shakespeare Theater of New Jersey), the Great Hall and off campus at the Morristown Women’s Club. But in the year of 1961, the dance was held in the University Center. By the end of the 60s, the dance no longer received such attention in the paper.

Throughout the 1970s and 80s, the dance picked up the name “Holiday Ball.” Sadly there are fewer reports of the dance during these years. This may be due to the fact that there was a change in the finals schedule which placed them before winter break, like they are now, so The Acorn, which typically refrains from publishing during final exams, may not have had time to cover the event. From photos found in The Oak Leaves, it can be seen that the dress code for the event became more casual. By this period, social dancing had mostly fallen out of fashion!

Despite the lack of coverage in The Acorn, the Winter Dance has continued to today. The event has gone through many name changes throughout its existence, but perhaps that’s a part of the tradition in its own right. Last year, the dance was held on a cruise down the Hudson River, which only allowed for around 300 students to attend. The event was praised by some and disliked by others, but it allowed for an event to be held in a manner where proof of vaccination was required in an attempt to keep students safe from the COVID-19 virus.

This year’s event was held in the EC and took amaz-

ing advantage of the space. The theme was “Enchanted Forest,” and decorations helped transport students into a magical night away from the stress of their upcoming exams, projects and papers. A light dinner was provided along with a huge spread of sweets. Students were able to take photos with their friends, decorate cookies and dance to their heart’s content. While the music wasn’t necessarily the kind of tunes that everyone likes to dance to, a majority of the students had a blast! Some attendees even stayed from 9 p.m. all the way to 1 a.m. to enjoy every minute of the festivities. Overall, it was the perfect night for those who enjoy a school dance!

Hopefully, the event will continue to be a tradition that is looked forward to by Drew Students despite the stress of the end of the year! Continuing to have the event in an accessible way is something important for future event planners to keep in mind.

I also wanted to take a few lines to say thank you very much for reading this new column. I have enjoyed exploring Drew’s social history and being able to share it with students who are interested in learning more about our school. I wish you the best of luck with all of your finals, and I will return in the Spring Semester with more history to share.

Jocelyn Freeman is a sophomore majoring in history, English and Chinese.

Calendar of Events

Student Exhibition 22

Opening Reception Fri. Dec. 9 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Korn Gallery

Drew Shark Tank

Fri. Dec. 9 from 6:15 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in Brother’s College

Drew Hillel for a Pre-Hanukkah/Pre-Finals Study Break

Sun. Dec. 11 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in 1867 Lounge

Finals Week Study Break

Wed. Dec. 14 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the EC Lobby

Insanity’s Horse Prose Contest Submissions Due

Tues. Dec. 20 by 11:59 p.m. to insanity@drew.edu

The Drew Review Submissions Due

Wed. Feb. 1 by 11:59 p.m. | Contact drewreview@drew.edu for more information

Dear Professors, One Final is More Than Enough

LEAD EDITORIAL

THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Finals season is finally upon us, and the endless stream of final papers, presentations, portfolios, lab reports and exams has been assigned. This may sound like a manageable list until one considers that a student may receive this workload from every single class to conclude the semester. More than one final exam or assignment for a single class is excessive.

Students taking five classes automatically have five finals to account for in varying forms. This may include two final papers, one final presentation and two final exams. Having one final per class already induces an inordinate amount of stress in college students. According to Georgetown University's website, this stress can manifest itself in impatience, frustration, disorganization, forgetfulness, indecisiveness, headaches, chronic fatigue, stomach problems, anxiety

or panic attacks and skipping meals. These symptoms not only impair quality of life, but make it significantly more difficult to focus on finals.

Ultimately, students can use various strategies to cope with the stress levels described above. However, if several courses have multiple final assignments, the stress from finals is multiplied threefold and becomes unmanageable. Let's say students must complete two papers and a final exam for one class. How can a professor expect a student to create quality work when they have to submit two five-page papers within the last week of classes and then study for a final exam the following week in addition to focusing on multiple finals for other classes? This is humanly impossible. Not only does this create an unhealthy amount of stress for students, but it creates piles upon piles of content for teachers to grade before final grades are due.

One assignment or final exam is enough. There are

countless ways to create a singular comprehensive final exam or assignment to test if students have achieved the learning objectives of the semester. Additionally, asking students to submit only one final assignment gives them the opportunity to produce their best work. Forcing students to divide their energy among three different assignments causes them to diminish the quality of their work to simply meet a deadline.

Finally, although some professors may argue that they give students ample time to complete multiple final assignments before the end of the semester, this does not diminish the workload that increases exponentially near the end of the semester.

So please, professors, assign one final paper or just a final exam. Spare yourself the grading time, save students the stress and allow them to submit a final assignment that represents their best work and of which they can be proud of.



IMAGE COURTESY OF COTTONBRO STUDIO ON PEXELS

NOTE: The Lead Editorial reflects the collective opinion of the Drew Acorn's editorial board. All other opinion pieces represent solely the opinions of their respective authors.

The Hurdles Impeding Sustainability on Campus

JADEN MEDA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

ELISABETH SAUERMAN
COPY EDITOR

When you think of the future, what world do you see? Do you see a world surrounded with green technology that works to meet the needs of an ever growing population while ensuring the vitality of the world around us? Or, do you see a world surrounded by smog and polluted water, with no trees in sight? What world do you want? What is stopping us from reaching a sustainable future?

We are the Co-Chairs of the College of Liberal Arts Student Government's Sustainability Committee on campus. Through our efforts within this organization, we have created a sustain-

ability workshop to educate the Drew community about sustainability initiatives on campus and proper recycling habits. These initiatives included looking into student concerns surrounding chemical waste, setting up a speaker series of environmental speakers to educate students about current issues and working to reinstate Drew it in the Dark, an energy saving competition in which Drew students compete to reduce the electrical usage of the residence halls. While working towards the completion of our sustainability goals and projects on campus, we have encountered various challenges with engaging the Drew Community in performing sustainable practices.

A main problem that we have identified as Co-Chairs

of the Sustainability Committee is that time is often the largest concern in terms of student engagement. Many Drew students have intense work loads and schedules, and many often stick with select extracurriculars chosen in their first year for their entire time at Drew. Because of this, it is difficult to engage students and draw them into leadership roles on the Committee. First-years are desperately needed to keep clubs and student organizations going, especially in regards to clubs such as the Drew Environmental Action League. Student retention due to time constraints is a massive concern that we continually wrestle with.

Although students are under constant time constraints, some refuse to engage with sustainability work and practices despite their access to so many resources. There are numerous campus organizations that students can be involved in that would enable them to interact with their environmental responsibility, such as the Sustainability Committee and the Drew Environmental Action League. As Co-Chairs of the Sustainability Committee and members of the environmental club, we have witnessed low student involvement in these organizations. Also, some students

refuse to educate themselves about proper recycling habits or composting practices that could benefit their local environment. Oftentimes, people feel as though their individual actions will not make a difference; however, this unanimous sentiment is what is impeding our movement towards a greener future.

Student leaders run into many issues externally, but there are also many internal issues. Burnout and mental health struggles are all too common for student leaders, especially when environmental activism is concerned. Eco-anxiety is inevitable; the environmental challenges we face seem insurmountable, and the solutions we engage in seem so insignificant. As Co-Chairs of the Sustainability Committee it has always been important to keep pushing and do what we can despite how hopeless we may feel at times.

There are also problems with pushing, though—we often feel like we can never take a break. It is difficult to “turn off” and relax. Feeling overburdened and overwhelmed is always a threat and can often lead to burnout. As student leaders, these struggles feel inevitable. It is difficult to feel completely supported in what we do, even though we have an

excellent support system. Sometimes, we feel alone and like our work may never pay off.

Although these obstacles may seem immutable, change is possible as long as individual mindsets are altered. Through engagement with environmental responsibility, it is possible to understand what needs to be done and what needs to change. However, if you remain dissociated from organizations and sustainable practices, you will never fully comprehend how your individual actions impact the planet and how the actions of others affect the world around us.

If you want to get involved with the Sustainability Committee or the Drew Environmental Action League, the environmental club meets next on Dec. 7 at 5:30 p.m. in the EC Lounge. Both student organizations have so much in the works currently, and any input or assistance is incredibly helpful.

Jaden is a sophomore double majoring in biology and environmental studies and sustainability.

Elisabeth is a junior majoring in public health and minoring in anthropology and environmental justice.



IMAGE COURTESY OF CREATIVEMARKET.COM

Ollie’s Opinions: Say “No” to Babies

OLLIE ARNOLD
COPY EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Some things should just be illegal. Fruit-at-the-bottom yogurt. Kraft Singles. Pens that don’t click. But the thing I want banned the most is the one thing I can never conceivably eliminate. I would like to outlaw human babies.

Babies are the root of all evil. They have horrible mind control powers that zap any adult in a 25-yard radius, sentencing them to indentured servitude to something that can’t even hold its head up. A human baby is a useless creature whose only purpose is to plague my waking hours with the screams of the damned and the fluids of doom.

According to healthline.com, babies are born with 300 bones. That’s almost 100 more bones than an adult’s 206. Where are they getting these bones from? My running theory is that they steal them from innocent elderly women. This explains both the ridiculous number of bones in a baby and the pervasive joint pain of the senior community.

My main problem with babies is how much everyone wants you to like them. Babies do not have a single good quality, yet people get incredibly offended if you express anything less than worship towards them. It’s like politely refusing a plate of mashed potatoes and then receiving a full lecture on the benefits of root vegetables. The worst argument people use is “You were a baby once!” To which I say, “So what?” If I saw myself as a baby, I would hate myself. I was the least fun baby ever born. I came out a full month after my due date looking like a pickled chipmunk and did nothing but cry incessantly until I was at least four months old.

Babies are not cute. Evolution and hormones are simply lying. If you gave me a picture of every baby animal in the world and told me to rank them by cuteness, I would put human infants solidly at the bottom. In a world where baby birds with chewed-up-wad-of-gum bodies exist, this is an impressive low. A kitten is infinitely cuter than a human baby, and it stays just as



IMAGE COURTESY OF ALEX TIM ON PEXELS

adorable when it grows up. Human babies are disgusting little gnome creatures who have the possibility to grow up to look like Boris Johnson.

The worst place to encounter a baby is on an airplane. There’s a 99% chance that it will cry the whole time, and it’s not considered socially acceptable to tell a baby to shut up. If dogs have to go in the cargo

hold, I think babies should too. There’s no real reason to bring a baby on a plane in the first place. In fact, I don’t think there’s a reason why babies should even be taken out of the house until they become slightly-less-annoying preschoolers.

If you’re considering becoming a parent, I can’t say I applaud you. The world doesn’t need more bodily fluids. If I were you, I’d

dedicate my time and money to a more worthy cause, like NFTs or a trip to the Sahara Desert. As my final statement, babies cause global warming. Don’t ask me how—they just do. And I simply can’t condone that kind of behavior.

Ollie is a sophomore majoring in mathematics.

“She Said” Movie Review: The Origins of #MeToo

ANNABELLE SMITH
STAFF WRITER, CARTOONIST AND WEBMASTER

For most, college is the On Oct. 5, 2017, investigative journalists Jodi Kantor and Megan Twohey changed the course of American history with their bombshell New York Times article “Harvey Weinstein Paid off Sexual Harassment Accusers for Decades.” The pages-long expose, containing multiple written statements of accusations, settlement evidence and legally fraught conversations, kickstarted the political movement known as “#MeToo,” a cultural zeitgeist of the tension-filled half decade following Donald Trump’s presidential election. But what came before the article, before the movement? What led to Kantor and Twohey hitting ‘publish’ on, arguably, one of the most recognizable and influential articles of the 21st century?

Maria Schrader’s 2022 psychological thriller “She Said” explores just that. Although the topic might appear dull to audiences at first—hours of conversation in boardrooms and irrelevant interviews; who wants to watch that?—the movie proves its worth fairly quickly. It is a thriller: Twohey and Kantor (portrayed by Zoe Kazan and Carey Mulligan, respectively) are both constantly pursued by threats to their lives and their families

as they delve deeper into the well-protected rabbit hole of Weinstein’s history of abuse. We follow them through conversations with high-profile actresses like Gwyneth Paltrow and the assistants at the bottom of the Hollywood pyramid, some of whom were so blacklisted from the business that they had gone into hiding after leaving Weinstein’s production company, Miramax.

It’s a difficult story to portray on film for multiple reasons, primarily because it is about a very recent Hollywood scandal. Aftershocks from the Weinstein bomb are still felt, and predators in the film industry are hardly extinct. Telling this story delicately, then, was a difficult task. I believe Schrader

and screenwriter Rebecca Lenkiewicz hit the mark in the only way they could. The movie focuses on the survivors, not the abusers, and I think that is its best quality. We watch survivors interact not only with Kantor and Twohey but also individually, deliberating about the mental and emotional toil that would come with having their names on the record as victims of Weinstein’s abuse.

We also watch Kantor and Twohey’s glamor-less struggles as they become catalysts to the biggest scandal of the 2000s. Kantor’s global search for survivors willing to be mentioned in the article leaves her separated from her husband and daughters. Twohey throws herself into work following

the birth of her first daughter and her subsequent postpartum depression. Although I wished “She Said” had focused more on Kantor and Twohey, specifically in the latter half of the film, I think it juggled the ensemble cast the best it could.

I absolutely think this movie is a necessary watch. However, it’s important to keep in mind your own level of emotional exhaustion before doing so—I know watching it drained me. It’s difficult to watch a story left unresolved. Although the film ends with the article’s publication, life continues for Weinstein, who has yet to be fully convicted, and sexual predators remain everywhere. “She Said” stays true to life in that there is

no happy ending, only ambiguity. However, is that really what audiences are searching for? In a world filled with endless things to be worried and upset about, sometimes it’s difficult to sit through a two-hour movie that encompasses all of these things and more.

As for me, I spent the train ride home wondering why I cried so little while watching “She Said.” I was prepared—I came in with a tissue box. But I’d only teared up at some moments, never a sob and not even a whimper from me. I realized that it was probably because, like most people, I am emotionally exhausted. When is it possible to run out of tears to cry? When did it stop being tears and start becoming this budding, dull anger deep in my chest? “She Said” makes me want to scream out of pure frustration and grief, but isn’t that what most things do today, anyway? Perhaps, the film is a good exercise in not only letting issues go but examining them through a healthier lens. As the world moves on and problems continue to arise, we should all consider how pieces of art like “She Said” can help keep ourselves going.

Annabelle is a first-year with a currently undecided major.



IMAGE COURTESY OF LUM3N ON PEXELS

A Guide to Surviving Final Exams

ABIGAIL GOLDMAN
COPY EDITOR AND STAFF WRITER

Monday, Dec. 12 marks the start of finals week. For many Drew students, this means high stress levels, 3 a.m. study sessions and the overwhelming ordeal of relearning a semester's worth of information the day before the exam. However, "The Drew Acorn" is here to help you survive finals week and maintain your sanity. Here are ten tips to ace your final exams:

1. Create a study schedule

The key to creating an effective study schedule is utilizing the spacing effect, a psychological principle that entails distributing several study sessions over an extended period of time. According to BrainFacts.org, "hundreds of studies demonstrate [that the spacing effect] enhances long-term learning and retention—and is far better than cramming the night before an exam." For example, in preparation for a calculus exam, you might spend one day on limits, one day on derivatives and another day on integrals. It's also important to vary the subjects studied each day to avoid boredom.

2. Create study guides

You can use study guides to consolidate the semester's material into manageable blocks. To create a study guide, identify the major topics of the semester and then create an outline for each one, listing the most important points. This strategy will help you gauge your understanding of both

overarching themes and their specifics. You can also color-code study guides to identify your strengths and weaknesses in the subject that can further guide your review sessions.

3. Complete review questions

This strategy takes advantage of the testing effect. According to the American Psychological Association, the testing effect is "the finding that taking a test on previously studied material leads to better retention than does restudying that material for an equivalent amount of time." In other words, you are more likely to remember information by quizzing yourself on it than by simply rereading it. To put the testing effect into practice, you can redo worksheets, solve textbook problems, create flashcards on Quizlet or design your own practice tests.

4. Prioritize

Maybe you have an A in Spanish, and you feel confident in your understanding of the material. On the other hand, maybe you have a B+ in chemistry, but a good grade on the final will earn you an A-. Therefore, while you shouldn't neglect studying for Spanish, it would make sense to prioritize chemistry. This principle also applies to individual subjects. Try to devote more time to areas you're not as strong in while briefly reviewing areas that you're confident in.

5. Go to office hours

If there's one person who knows what's on the final, it's your professor. No, your professor won't tell



IMAGE COURTESY OF COTTONBRO STUDIO ON PEXELS

you the answers, but going to office hours or a review session will enhance your understanding of the material and help you resolve problem spots. After all, the purpose of office hours is to help you succeed in the class. Plus, it will give you the opportunity to develop a stronger relationship with your professor, which can be a useful connection for your future.

6. Study in groups

Although group study sessions can sometimes go off topic, it is beneficial to listen to a peer explain a difficult concept, especially if that peer is also learning the material for the first time. Explaining a topic to someone allows you to assess your own understanding of the material. This is particularly important because many exams require you to explain or justify your answers.

7. Focus

Eliminating distractions is easier said than done, but it is essential for successful study sessions. To maximize your focus, try turning off your phone or keeping it in a drawer. You can also use website blockers to prevent yourself from inadvertently tumbling down an Internet rabbit hole. Finding a quiet study space is also important. The library offers plenty of tranquil places to study, such as the Kean Reading Room and the second-story

silent study area. A previous Acorn article also lists some unconventional study spots where you almost certainly won't be disturbed.

8. Take breaks

Yes, final exams are important, but that doesn't mean you should spend every minute of every day studying for them. In between study sessions, try taking walks, reading a book, listening to music or meditating to relieve some stress. You can also use the Pomodoro technique to ensure that you incorporate breaks into your study schedule. This method involves working on a single task for 25 minutes, taking a five-minute break and then taking a longer 15-30-minute break after four repetitions of this cycle.

9. Sleep

Although 3 a.m. study sessions seem productive, they are actually counterintuitive. In fact, research has shown that "sleep improves memory retention and recall by between 20 and 40 percent." Sleep also facilitates memory consolidation, the mechanism by which long-term memories form. Finally, sleep deprivation can wreak havoc on academic performance. This is exemplified by a study of MIT students that found that "there was essentially a straight-line relationship between the average amount of sleep a student got and their

grades on [assessments]." In other words, getting a good night's sleep—typically seven to nine hours for college students—will likely enhance final exam scores to a far greater extent than all-nighters will.

10. Eat healthy foods

Finally, it is important to avoid stress-induced cravings for sweets and comfort foods—or the urge to skip meals altogether—and follow a healthy diet. What we eat has a major effect on brain function. In fact, there is evidence of a link between a healthy diet and improved academic performance. Certain foods that benefit brain health include berries, citrus fruits, nuts, eggs, avocados and fish. Make sure to eat a healthy breakfast on the day of your final exams in order to maximize your performance and avoid fatigue.

Hopefully, these tips will help you survive finals week and emerge with a better understanding of your course material. You can also follow these tips to prepare for tests throughout your time at Drew and beyond.

I wish all Drew students the best of luck on finals!

Abigail is a first year majoring in biochemistry and molecular biology.



IMAGE COURTESY OF COTTONBRO STUDIO ON PEXELS

Winter Word Search

L U R S Y N C T P G D A R D S
G P E S V E S S P M T H I D B
J U I N L W T K A R D F F H U
K O N O W Y F K A T E F I T W
W L D W S E R M H M C S S V E
A Z E F F A O E A H H C E M I
N W E L U R S N N S R O B N I
Z D R A T S T O U N I O F D T
A Z R K X B Z R K O S K R W E
Z I T E B R A A K W T I O K G
J L Z O I E G H A M M E S G U
U F E E H D A K H A A B T L W
M B R D N I E N A N S B O A T
A I D W S Z O L I K H T M N Q
I U E D W T D O D E P P W X O

Christmas
New Years
Present
Beanie
Cookie

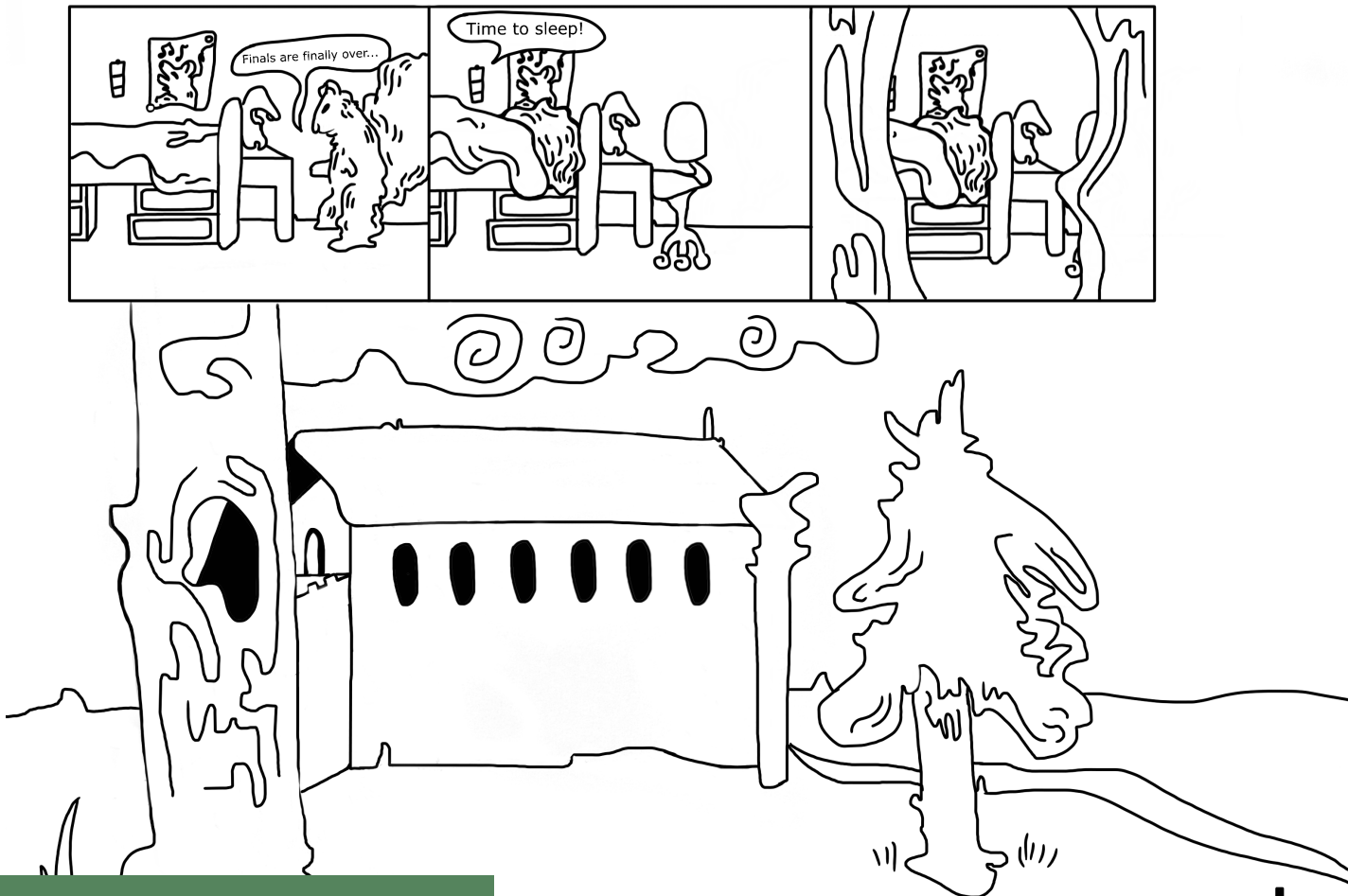
Hanukkah
Menorah
Snowman
Frost
Frost

Snowflake
Dreidel
Kwanza
Reindeer

Pip the Squirrel

GET FETURED:

If you are interested in contributing art (comics, illustrations or photography) for The Drew Acorn, please contact us at thedrewacorn@gmail.com



Cartoon by Annabelle Smith

SEE YOU NEXT SEMESTER...!
-PIP

Women’s Basketball Dismantle Brooklyn College in Deserved Win

BY ADAM SMITH
SPORTS SECTION EDITOR

On Tuesday, Dec. 6, the Drew Rangers faced off in what would prove to be an invigorating game against the Brooklyn College Bulldogs. The Rangers came into the game with sturdy momentum after seeing off the Juniata Eagles in their Landmark Conference season opener this past Saturday, Dec. 3. The Bulldogs took control of possession after the jump ball, but it was Drew who controlled possession for the remainder of the quarter. The Bulldogs had a shaky start to the game, allowing Drew to capitalize off of their opponents shortcomings. The Rangers gained more rebounds, both offensive and defensive, and found an energetic stride in their counter-attacks, punishing the Bulldogs’ lack of offensive creativity.

The Rangers themselves were punished for a series of unfortunate fouls which resulted in a few Bulldogs free throws, but the Bulldogs could not convert the chances given to them. At the end of the first quarter, Drew led the visitors 15-5.

Going into the second quarter, the home side continued their impressive display and were able to maintain a steady stream of points. The Rangers looked clinical in attack, with point-accurate passing, disciplined position-

ing and a hunger to keep the ball out of their opponents hands. Throughout the game, the Rangers’ Gwen Alberici (‘23) and Madelyn Morgan (‘26) showcased an incredible performance, linking up on numerous counter-attacks to sink point after point, with the Bulldogs defense struggling to contain their speed. Drew tallied a total of 22 points in the second quarter, propelling them into a comfortable lead over Brooklyn College going into half-time.

The Rangers opened the scoring in the second half, playing with composure and precision to quell any possible attempts at a comeback from the opposition. The Bulldogs, frustrated by Drew’s rigid playing style, started to make more mistakes in possession, frequently playing the ball into Rangers’ hands from intercepted cross-court passes and beginning to play with more physicality.

Drew conceded some poor fouls, giving Brooklyn unnec-

essary points. With a scoring rally, Brooklyn seemed to have a rejuvenated determination in defense; their players wrestled and fought for the ball and began to push back against the home side. In the fourth quarter, the Bulldogs made a late resurgence, racking up a tally of points against a tiring Rangers side. However, the Rangers held their ground and were able to find the gaps in an offense-heavy Bulldogs defense to score from some astounding team play. Overall, an incred-

ible performance from the Drew Rangers, who outplayed the Brooklyn College Bulldogs 74-53 in a well-deserved win.

Adam Smith is a Media & Communications major with minors in Spanish and film studies



Gwen Alberici in action for the Drew Rangers

IMAGE COURTESY OF CHRIS PEDOTA @DREWATHLETICS

How Mid-Season Breaks Affect Athletes’ Performances

BY CHARLOTTE WELLS
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

It is generally safe to assume that college students everywhere are counting down the days until the next school break, the moment when they can get away from campus and stop worrying about essays and projects for a few days. With Thanksgiving break just ending and the end of the semester right around the corner, Drew students are no exception to this universal excitement. However, while breaks offer a nice respite from classes, they can be problematic for students who participate in activities that may not occur during this time off. One prominent example is student athletes who are mid-season.

How do mid-season breaks affect athletes’ performance in their sport? For some, shorter breaks, like Thanksgiving break, have a minimal effect on training schedules because competitions continue as normal. For other athletes, there is no training or competition during the break at all. Hence, the athlete becomes solely responsible for ensuring that they find sufficient practice time during the break.

Each sport is unique and will have different schedules over mid-season breaks, but it is important to recognize how members of Drew’s student-athlete population may be

affected. Drew Women’s Basketball player Kyra Mann (‘23) and Men’s Swim & Dive team captain CJ Talerico (‘24) offered two different perspectives on the impact of mid-season breaks on athletic performance.

How do mid-season breaks for holidays and such affect your training?

Talerico: “Mid-season breaks are definitely difficult for me, mostly because I don’t have a coach or my teammates in the lanes next to me to motivate me while practicing on my own. I do make the effort to practice (swim and lift) while at home, but it’s absolutely more of a challenge without having people there to hold me accountable.”

Mann: “For Thanksgiving it doesn’t affect our training cause we only got two days off and I only got one day off. So I wish we had more of a break. Christmas break doesn’t affect us either, we need that week off.”

Is it hard mentally or physically to return from almost a week off and get back into a full training schedule again?

Talerico: “I would say it is more physically a challenge than mentally when returning after a break. Mentally, I’m usually in a great state after not having to worry about the stress that comes with managing between classes, practices and whatever else, but returning after not being kept on a strict practice schedule definitely

makes the return a challenge.”

Mann: “For me I don’t think it is, because basketball is a really long season, so a week off is a good refresher.”

Do you think having breaks from training in the middle of the season influences your performance, especially with competitions coming up right after the break?

Talerico: “I think that breaks right before a large competition may not be the best, because it may get in the way of the coach’s practice plan/taper; however, if incorporated into the schedule and players hold themselves accountable to work hard while not at home I don’t think it is always a negative and definitely can help.”

Mann: “No, having a break in the middle of the season from training doesn’t affect my performance.”

Charlotte Wells is a Junior majoring in French and English with a minor in Humanities



IMAGE COURTESY OF PEXELS.COM

COMING UP

Get live stats
@GoDrewRangers

Sat. 10th-- Men's Basket-
ball vs Haverford College,
Madison NJ

Sat. 10th-- Women's
Basketball vs Raritan
Valley, Madison NJ

Sat. 17th-- Men's Basketball
vs York College, Madison
NJ

Sat. 30th-- Women's Bas-
ketball vs Kean Univer-
sity, Madison NJ

SPORTS

EDITOR: ADAM SMITH ASMITH7@DREW.EDU
ASSISTANT EDITOR: CHARLOTTE WELLS CWELLS@DREW.EDU

INSIDE:

Women's Basketball Sees Out
Brooklyn College in Impressive
Win

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Drew Swimming Sweeps Ranger Invitational

BY CHARLOTTE WELLS
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Energy was high in the F.M. Kirby Pool this past weekend as Drew Swim hosted its annual Ranger Invitational. Having occurred across four different sessions on Dec. 2nd and Dec. 3rd, the swim meet offered a chance for the attending five teams (Drew, Elizabethtown, FDU-Florham, Moravian, and Ramapo) to showcase a series of impressive races. This mid-season invite was a momentous meet for the Rangers, serving as a preview to the Landmark Conference Championships that will take place in February.

The weekend was filled with nothing but exciting swims and Ranger successes as both the men's and women's swimming & diving teams took an overall first place finish. The men's team won with 277 points, with the Elizabethtown Blue Jays coming in second with 194 points. The men's strong finish marks the sixth straight Ranger Invitational title that they've secured. Winning by an even more impressive margin, the women's team finished with 327 points in front of Elizabethtown, who again placed second with 169 points. This is the seventh straight Ranger Invitational title for the women's team.

In addition to besting the visiting teams, Drew posted a number of personal successes throughout the meet. The Rangers collectively broke 10 team records, with the men's and women's teams taking home five apiece.

Leading the way for the men was Hayden Koh ('25), who broke individual school records and was a part of two record-breaking relay teams. In addition to breaking multiple school records, Koh finished the meet with three NCAA B-cuts and two Landmark Conference individual records, solidifying his reputation as one of Landmark's most formidable swimmers. The men won 14 out of the 19 events, including all five relay races, and were aided further by top performances from Yan Zheng

Lew ('25), Finn Armitt ('24), Marco Niro ('24) and Josh Roberts ('23).

On the women's side, Katie Cashin ('23) won all six of her races, contributing significantly to the team's overall success during the meet. Cashin was a valuable component in helping Drew establish three new team records, including one individual and two relay records. Also securing important wins for Drew was Amira Ahmad Hadri ('24) in the 100-backstroke, Sam Trodick in the 200-breaststroke ('25), and Ece Onatca in the 200-backstroke ('26).

These dramatic triumphs over their opponents not only proved the Rangers' prowess in the pool but showed the team that, through their astounding results, their tireless work

over the course of the season has paid off and catapulted the Rangers to the top of the conference rankings. Following this weekend's competition, both the men's and women's swim teams are ranked first in the Landmark Conference, with Catholic University trailing not far behind.

The Ranger Invitational was the last Rangers swim meet for the Fall 2022 semester. The teams are now off from competition until Jan. 21st when the men and women will take on Goucher College, heading to Landmark Conference Championships not long after.

Charlotte Wells is a Junior majoring in English and French with a minor in Humanities



IMAGE COURTESY OF BRENDAN BURKETT

MARCO NIRO ('24)



HAYDEN KOH ('25)



(TOP LEFT) GRACE ABOUSSLEMAN ('23) (TOP RIGHT) KATIE CASHIN ('23) (BOTTOM LEFT) AMIRA AHMAD HADRI ('24) (BOTTOM RIGHT) TORI NEWTON ('24)



KURT SUNDERLAND ('26)



COURTNEY CUSHMAN ('25)



KATIE CASHIN ('23)

IMAGES COURTESY OF BRENDAN BURKETT

Thank you for
reading.

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