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HAVE A TIP?

Email theacorn@drew.edu and let us know!

Drew University Agrees to Sell the Forest

Sierra Walker
Editor-in-Chief

The Borough of Madison and Drew University reached an agreement to preserve Drew Forest and Zuck Arboretum, Drew University President Hillary Link announced Friday afternoon.

In an email to students and faculty, Link said the university signed a nonbinding term sheet that outlines the sale of the Drew Forest to the Borough of Madison for over \$65 million.

Link said that the agreement and land sale are a part of the university's "continued progress toward a sustainable financial future for the University and the preservation of The Forest."

The Drew Forest Preserve boasts 51 acres of ecologically important resources, including mature trees and glacial ponds. The preserve also provides benefits to many surrounding municipalities, including acres of public trails, unique carbon sequestration and regional opportunities for education.

"The long-term preservation of the Drew Forest as an environmental, educational, and recreational resource for our community, along with ensuring the future of the University, are solidified in reaching this nonbinding agreement with the Borough," said Link.

Mayor Robert Conley also expressed the importance of the land sale to the surrounding community.

"This agreement is a testament to what can be achieved when we work together toward a common goal. We are thrilled to have reached this major milestone and grateful that the Drew Forest will remain a treasure for our community and region," he said.

The agreement also outlines the transfer of ownership of frontage along Madison Avenue, including Madison House, to the borough. Madison House currently serves as offices for Drew's Human Resources, Finance and Student Employment Departments.

"Going forward, Drew University and the Borough



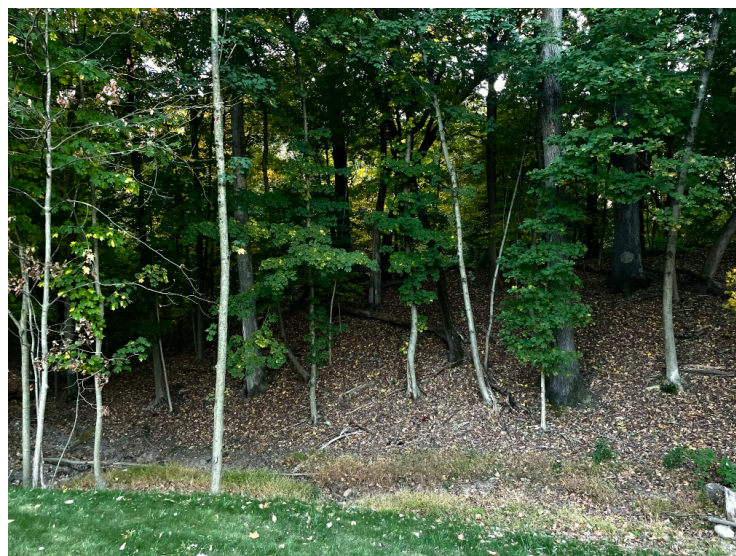
The large pond in the Drew Forest.

IMAGE COURTESY OF DEE COHEN



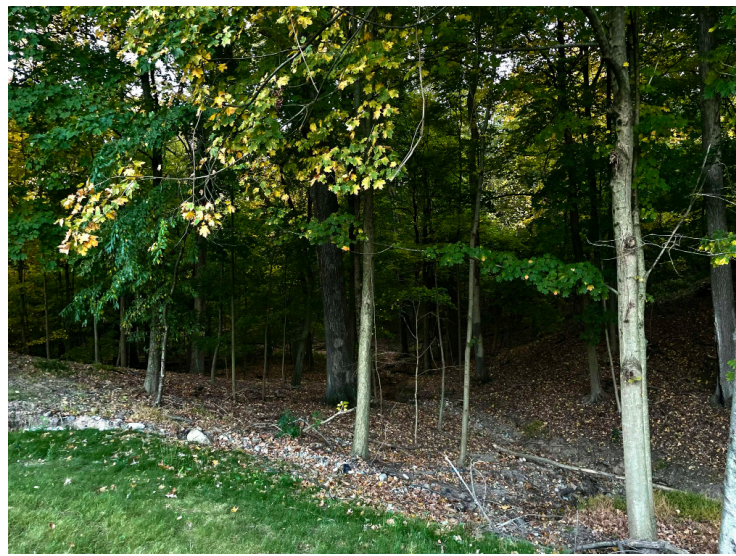
Sunlight hitting the canopy of the Forest.

IMAGE COURTESY OF DEE COHEN



Tall, thin trees growing in the Forest.

IMAGE COURTESY OF DEE COHEN



The edge of the Drew Forest.

IMAGE COURTESY OF DEE COHEN

of Madison will work together toward the closing of the Drew Forest acquisition, and the rezoning and subdivision of two other parcels of university property, with an anticipated closing in the second quarter of 2025," the borough and university said in a joint statement.

In response to the statement, students and faculty speculate that the additional parcels of land include Sitterly House and the Sitterly Parking Lot.

Sitterly houses the English department and The Other End, a historic café that students are working to revitalize. The Sitterly Parking Lot is commonly known as "the Commuter Lot" and is the closest parking lot to Brother's College, the Hall of Sciences and many faculty offices.

"The language of the email is vague enough that students without the proper background knowledge may overlook the impact that this decision will have on the student experience," said current student Gillian Sampson (C'24, G'26).

Students who are impacted by the additional land sale said they feel upset by the implications it has.

"It's such an inconvenience and slap to the face that they don't care about us or faculty," said Dee Cohen ('26).

Students are also expressing concern that the sale and rezoning of this land would add to the current issues students have with parking.

"I'm not even a commuter or have a car here and even I know there's already a parking crisis, this is gonna make it 10 times worse," said Sabr Keres-Siddqui ('27).

The borough and university said they would keep the community updated as the sale proceeds. In their statement, they said, "Further details about the agreement and next steps in the preservation and development process, will be shared as they become available. The public will have the opportunity to provide comments and feedback on the redevelopment plan as it progresses through the Planning Board."

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

While I appreciate the necessity of the land sale, I'm crushed to lose this beautiful space.
—Professor Courtney Zoffness

SEE LEAD ED, PG 8

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2 NEWS

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The Commuters Lounge Finally Reopens!

Benjamin Castro
Staff Writer

After months of anticipation by the commuter student community, Drew University has officially reopened the Commuters Lounge in the Ehinger Center.

During the recent summer break, a storm caused unexpected damage to the Ehinger Center and surrounding areas. When the damage was assessed, it was learned that the CommuterLounge sustained some heavy damage. Facilities has been working tirelessly throughout the semester to restore the lounge to full functionality.

"We are thrilled to welcome commuter students back into the Commuter Lounge! In student life, we understand how essential this space is to commuter life, and we truly appreciate how kind and understanding all commuter students have been regarding the renovation timeline for the lounge. We are excited for commuters to enjoy this space again!" said Michelle Brisson, Dean of Student Life.

The lounge was designed for commuter students to store items in the fridge and lockers, study, do homework and relax between classes. For many, it is more than a room; it is a supportive envi-



IMAGE COURTESY OF BENJAMIN CASTRO

Commuter students hanging out in the newly reopened

ronment the university offers which caters to their unique needs and experiences.

"Having a space such as this is super important because it provides a sense of escape," said Alexa Santillán ('26). "It's like a VIP-only space and I think sometimes it's necessary to just get away from the noise because, let's be honest, locking yourself in a private room in the library or just being somewhere else does not provide the same sense of comfort that one can feel just hanging out in the lounge."

Many commuters have formed lasting friendships in the lounge, finding common ground in their shared experiences. With the lounge reopening, the new crop of commuters will now have the opportunity to experi-

ence what previous students have enjoyed.

The College of Liberal Arts Student Government played a key role in enhancing the lounge by securing a new, larger refrigerator. This addition, which replaces the previous mini-fridge, gives commuters more storage space for food and refreshments during the day.

"I am grateful that the administration was able to fulfill this request for me at the direction of the commuter student body," said Maks Coven ('27), Commuter Senator of the CLA Student Government. "I hope the fridge finds good use!"

Other new additions include a foosball table and new carpeting, which gives the space a fresh and inviting look. The microwave, coffee

machine and other essentials remain.

During the repair period, the university encouraged commuters to use the lounge space located in Brothers College, but it could not replicate the atmosphere and familiarity of the Commuter Lounge. While commuters on campus made use of the alternative spaces on campus, several expressed how much they missed the lounge.

"These spots were public spaces and they just didn't feel the same. There was no sense of privacy like the lounge offered, and it just wasn't comfortable at the end of the day," said Zakai Brown ('27).

Senate members in Student Government and the executive board of Commuters Association were excited to see the lounge return to full functionality. Throughout the semester, the two organizations received numerous inquiries from commuters about when the lounge would return to full functionality.

With the new updates, the lounge stands ready to continue serving as a supportive hub for commuter students, providing a sense of community and connection as they navigate campus life.

Benjamin Castro is a senior majoring in Marketing and Business and minoring in History.

Stress Down Day: Therapy Dogs at the Ehinger Center

Allison Cannon
Contributing Writer

There's no better way to start off your academic day than with a cuddle from some therapy dogs. Students flocked to the Ehinger Center to play with some very happy therapy dogs on Tuesday, Nov. 12, as a part of the Stress Down event held in partnership with the Drew Counseling Center. Greeted with happy smiles and wagging tails, the therapy dogs Pepper, Lulu, Gracie, Glitter and Raven created a welcoming atmosphere.

In light of recent events, these therapy dogs brought laughter and excited energy back into the Ehinger Center.

Pepper, a nine-year-old black lab mix, had enough energy for everyone at the event. Excited to see everyone, Pepper and her handler went to every single person to spread some love.

Echo, an eight-year-old black lab, matched Pepper's

energy and went around to every dog and person, wandering away from her handler. Almost getting in trouble for how happy she was to see everyone, Echo had to be reined in and calmed down by various people.

Raven, the third black lab of the day, was just as excited as Pepper to see everyone. If Echo was going to get in trouble, Raven took the chance away from her. Raven was more excited to see the other dogs than the people at first. She had to be brought to her own corner to calm down before interacting with the other dogs.

Lulu, a golden retriever, was the calmer of the dogs. Lying peacefully, she offered anyone who needed a calm space the chance to sit down and relax. Lulu created a demure and prim environment.

Gracie, a Coton de Tulear, and Glitter, a Havanese, brought the little dog representation to the mix. The two are reaching in age,

both in the double digits, but that didn't stop them from coming out of their shells for the students and bringing cuddles to whoever got down on their level.

Despite the excitement coming from our canine friends, this stress-down

event was successful. The laughter emanating from every student who attended was produced by their mutual love for dogs.

Samantha DeFalco is a first-year majoring in Psychology and Studio Art and minoring in



IMAGE COURTESY OF ALLISON CANNON

Felicity Schmitt ('26) and Gabrielle Moran ('28) with

Last Fall Writers@Drew Featuring Kannan Mahadevan

Samantha DeFalco
Contributing Writer

The last Writers@Drew event for the semester was hosted by one of Drew's very own professors, Wednesday, Nov. 13. Kannan Mahadevan, an English professor best known for his Short Fiction workshop class, took a new turn on the event.

Writers@Drew is normally a space where established authors read a chapter, or selection of poems, from their published work and then answer questions the student body may have. This time around, Professor Mahadevan hosted a workshop. The purpose was to show students how to take an idea and turn it into a larger piece of work with shape and substance.

He started with his own example of a "scrap." He told the audience a story of when he went to a jazz club. With everything that was happening around



English professor Kannan Mahadevan speaking at Writers@Drew.

IMAGE COURTESY OF SAMANTHA DEFALCO

him, he noticed that every saxophone player wore a wedding ring on their finger. This was an interesting idea that he knew he wanted to implement into his writing because it seemed to mean so much more.

The first exercise he gave the audience involved having them list "I remember..." statements. These

were to get the ideas onto the page about an experience. After all, artists draw from real life.

After the audience shared, he showed excerpts of "But Beautiful" by Geoff Dyer (1991), a published work that touches upon different jazz musicians who have been labeled as legends in the genre. This is a unique

work because it implements both fiction and nonfiction. The stories Geoff Dyer tells are about real people and real events; however, they are fictionalized to fit a narrative structure.

Before reading an excerpt of Dyer's take on an incident involving the jazz artist Thelonious Monk, Mahadevan had the audience read a

more factual piece on the events that occurred. This, in contrast with the more fictional work, demonstrated how there is a difference between saying what happened versus telling a story. Dyer's piece involved literary techniques and description as if the author were there. Nothing in the work is an accurate transcription of real events. He used this to give examples of dynamic writing that students should strive to produce.

In closing remarks, Mahadevan said the purpose of this exercise was to "embellish the scrap," "make a scene out of it," and "bring it to vivid life." Before ending the event he said that the license to invent something is "within your power."



Samantha DeFalco is a junior majoring in English and minoring in Italian.

Drew Hosts Inaugural Tri-Alpha Induction Ceremony

Benjamin Castro
Staff Writer

Drew University marked a historic moment with the inaugural induction ceremony of the Theta Mu Chapter of Tri-Alpha Honors Society, the evening of Nov. 7.

Held in Crawford Hall, the ceremony recognized 37 inductees who have overcome the unique challenges of being the first in their families to attend college.

"Being inducted into an honors society that recognizes first-generation students means being represented among my classmates as someone who has excelled navigating in a system that was not necessarily built for me," said Jose Barahona ('25). "I am beyond proud of how much I, and my fellow first-gen classmates, have achieved and I believe being inducted into Tri-Alpha celebrates our hard work and recognizes the unwavering

emotional support received from loved ones."

Founded in March 2018, Tri-Alpha is an honor society dedicated to celebrating the academic achievements of first-generation college students. In the earlier weeks of the semester, students received an email outlining the criteria for applying to Tri-Alpha, which included a minimum GPA of 3.2 and at least 56 completed credits.

The establishment of Tri-Alpha was led by a ded-

icated working group of faculty, staff and alumni who worked together for nearly a year to create a resonating experience for inductees and the larger university community.

"It was an amazing feeling to watch months of work become a reality and to officially welcome the chapter, Theta Mu, to Drew's campus. It was rewarding to see students, families, friends, faculty and staff celebrate first-gen students," said Johulin Zuluaga (C'11), a member of the working group and a Student Success Advisor at Drew.

During the ceremony, the inaugural officers for the honors society were announced. These student leaders will guide the society in the coming years alongside advisors and help foster a supportive community for first-generation students on campus.

One of the evening's most significant moments was the honorary induction of Dr. Angelina Brown (C'89), a Drew alum and passionate advocate for first-gen students. Prior to the induction of the students, Dr. Brown delivered an inspiring and resonating speech where she shared her personal experiences as a first-generation student at Drew and encouraged students to take advantage of available resources, explore opportunities and to build connections.

"All of these experiences will add up and help you build success here at Drew. Don't wait for opportunities

to come to you, seek them out as well. This is how Tri-Alpha came to be a reality at Drew, intentionally seeking opportunities for first-generation students," said Zuluaga.

DrewFIRST, the student-led club representing first-generation students on campus, supported the ceremony by sharing snacks and distributing flyers promoting campus resources and their upcoming alumni speaker event, which was scheduled for the following day in honor of National First-Generation Student Day.

Zuluaga and the Tri-Alpha working group envision future ceremonies involving the broader Drew community. This includes celebrations in the Concert Hall, additional involvement from first-gen alumni and the possibility of inducting students from the Caspersen School of Graduate Studies and the Theological School.

This induction ceremony marks the beginning of a new chapter for first-generation students at Drew, one that promises to be a beacon of success and support.



Benjamin Castro is a senior majoring in Marketing and Business and minoring in History.



The inaugural class of Drew's chapter of Tri-Alpha at the induction ceremony.

IMAGE COURTESY OF JOHULIN ZULUAGA



Happy Thanksgiving from The Acorn!!
Check out the photo story to see Thanksgiving dinner served in The Commons.

Serving Supper with a Side of Environmental Activism

Annabelle Smith
Managing Editor, Webmaster

There is a misconception that combating climate change requires some act of extreme eco-passion: tie yourself to a tree marked for demolition or spend a summer planting thousands to reverse rising carbon emissions. This brand of action certainly furthers the movement, but sometimes the most impactful leaps forward are the small steps individuals can make. Working to heal the Earth on a local level is how healthy community and conversation sustains. No matter how far removed from the effects of climate change one might feel, the forest fires of last month and the continued statewide fire restrictions are impacting campus on a direct, daily basis. The list of ecological infractions will not stop growing. Instead of pessimistic defeat, however, students have been turning inward and reconsidering their interactions with the environment.

The Drew Environmental Action League were the hosts of an inter-collegial dinner that served both as a delicious meal and a great example of what solidar-



Students enjoying sustainable food in

ity on the environmental front looks like. The Drew community gathered for an engaging lesson in local sustainable agricultural efforts, Tuesday, Nov. 12. Farmer Shaun Ananko, who is the director of agriculture and education for Grow It Green in Morristown, was brought in to give a presentation on various regenerative approaches he has employed on his farm. Grow It Green is a multisite organization with 15 years of providing quality ingredients and education to the area under its belt. Ananko has been there for 12 years, making him a pillar of the local agricultural community.

Other feature speakers hailed from even closer.

Takundan Ashe Chinogwenya, who is currently obtaining a Masters in Divinity from the Drew Theological School, came representing the university food pantry and Transforming Environmental and Religious Resources for Action. Often underappreciated, her speech highlighted the food pantry as an essential dietary resource on campus. Albaraka Wakili, also a student of the Theological School and a co-chair of TERRA, discussed his experience as steward for the Theological School Community Garden. The garden, located just past the Carriage House, has mobilized many Drew students to access organic fruits and vegetables.

All three were emblematic of the impact homegrown initiatives can have on a local ecosystem. By engaging in their environment and turning that education outward, the strides Drew has made as a campus toward ecological awareness are resounding.

DEAL did not only provide a space for intellectual engagement, however. Following the presentations, the 1867 Lounge was turned into a community kitchen. Tables of event attendees eagerly lined up to take up slicing and dicing the array of locally-grown vegetables. Rice paper was dipped in provided hot water, then spread thin on freshly-washed plates and ready to wrap up deliciousness. Nguyen Tuong Vy Doan, attending as a representative of the Asian Student Union, explained to participants the meaning that veggie spring rolls hold in Vietnamese culture. Armed with knowledge and eager to assist in feeding the masses, students were able to enjoy a meal both home-cooked and homegrown.

DEAL President Annabeth Lee ('25) explained the passion behind DEAL's consistent efforts to environmentally invigorate the Drew community. She writes, "Throughout the past

year, DEAL has intentionally worked to foster interdisciplinary community spaces for the sake of environmentalism. As individuals, one of the best things we can do for the environment is to connect closely and locally to discuss possibilities for greener living. I feel that it is DEAL's responsibility to create those localized connections, so shifting to make Sustainable Food Fest a zero-waste, collaborative, cross-campus event this year was essential to us."

The greatest gift food security brings a community is agency. DEAL has once again proven themselves as a vital enabler of environmental engagement and an indispensable resource for climate change education. People may think the future is darkened by uncertainty over Earth's continued survival, but with students like these leading the conversation on sustainable action and engagement, the path to survival seems brighter and brighter each day.

Or, maybe that is just the expertly-seasoned tofu talking.

Annabelle Smith is a junior majoring in studio art and media & communications and minoring in creative writing

Comfort Food and Lively Music During Rhythm of Nations



IMAGES COURTESY OF DEE COHEN

DYTT: How The Pub Came To Be

Jocelyn Freeman
Staff Writer

The University Pub, like all of the best social spaces, both past and present, is the product of Drewids' commitment to crafting the campus culture they want to see. Today, the Pub is a staple for upperclassmen looking to unwind after a long week with an Angry Orchard, a game of cards or a live set from one of Drew's musically inclined students. The Pub, with its low lighting and lively buzz of energy, is an important third space where students meet up outside of their classes and dorm rooms. Today, the Pub is one of the last remaining third spaces crafted by the Drewids of previous decades. This week's article will dive into the Pub that found its seat in the center of campus and how students rallied behind the importance of shared social spaces.

In 1972, a vacant space in the University Center (which once occupied the space where the Ehinger Center is today) sparked excitement among the student body about the potential for an on-campus pub. The space, which once contained the campus dining hall, sat empty following the construction of the Commons. Because this space featured a kitchen, the area was suited for serving food and beverages. An idea for a "coffee-house pub" quickly cropped up. The proposal for the space included a small stage for entertainment, a way to screen films for the social committee and a game room complete with pinball machines. The Coffee House Steering Committee also proposed the idea of serving alcoholic beverages, since there was a demand for a pub circulating campus. However, the obstacle of acquiring a "club license," which allows for an establishment to serve beer and wine, suspended the dream of serving booze in limbo.

The students also faced another obstacle—University President Robert Oxnam's opposition to an on-campus pub. Oxnam's approval was necessary to begin the process of gaining the license needed to serve alcohol on campus. Unfortunately, Oxnam harbored several aversions to an on-campus pub.

As reported in an Oct. 6, 1972 Acorn article, Oxnam argued that "it would discriminate against two-thirds of the student body," since the legal drinking age in New Jersey was 21. Less than a year after conversations about the coffee house pub started, a new law came



Drew students get the pub ready for its October open-

IMAGE COURTESY OF THE ACORN APRIL 13, 1974

into effect on Jan. 1, 1973 which lowered the drinking age to 18. In the face of the change, a call for an on-campus pub was stronger than ever.

Oxnam's arguments against the pub continued. In November of 1972, the Acorn published an article titled "Oxnam: No Pub," which outlined a meeting between representatives from all three of the schools on campus and President Oxnam. The representatives pled their case, even getting a lawyer involved, but Oxnam held his position. Since the license would "require approval from Madison Borough," Oxnam feared it would "face opposition from the town's people." He feared the "resulting public attention would not be in the best interests of the University in its present stage of development."

In spite of the opposition, students continued to sound off in support of making the Pub a reality. In the Nov. 17, 1972 edition of the Acorn the student body spoke up about the issue. One article titled "The Pub Problem" provides a short case study of Rider University and Seton Hall, which both opened campus pubs in the early 1970s. The article laid out various arguments for on-campus pubs, citing the safety of partaking in drinking within a controlled environment. Importantly, the article pointed out that at both of the schools examined, "the president and the Board of Trustees came out strongly in favor of pubs on campus." Students at Drew weren't so lucky. The author specifically called out the way Oxnam "turned a deaf ear to students' wishes" in the name of avoiding controversy and maintaining financial security. The author reminded his readers that "students are the ones who foot most of the operating costs," and that students were more likely to pay the four years' worth of tuition if they could enjoy themselves on campus.

The conversations about the pub continued through the end of 1972. According

to the Dec. 14, 1972 edition of The Acorn, a round table discussion between administration and the student body representatives took up the issue of the pub. This time Oxnam "stated that his main concern for the university lies in possible consequences outside the actual boundaries," since "Drew is within 200 feet of a Methodist church." Again, he feared bad publicity. The students fired back, claiming that "the trail of Drew students on Friday afternoons walking up Route 24 carrying cases of beer" didn't help publicity either. The students advocated for the admission to truly consider the club license, and finally, they listened. This first success proved as the author of the article writes, "The pub will result only through cooperation and a unified effort among the Drew Community."

The collaboration began. Nearly a year later, in 1973, with a new 18-year-old drinking age in place and the administration's support, the legal battle for a club license began. Student Government alongside University Center employee Richard Morgan and a newly formed Pub Steering Committee took up the heavy lifting and legal work. The club licensee presented a new set of obstacles with a lengthy set of stipulations. Those interested in tackling the issue sought out creative solutions.

In 1974, the process officially began. Student Government put the pub issue to a referendum. It passed. In April, students established The Center Pub Association and started soliciting members. In order to be considered for the license, the

Association needed at least 60 paid members. Memberships cost \$1 annually. Students, staff, faculty and alumni had the opportunity to buy in. In August, the Madison Council approved the Association's by-laws. Then the waiting game began, approval of the club license from the Alcoholic Beverage Commission. In anticipation of successfully securing the license, plans were laid for the upcoming fall semester. Recent graduate Martin Duus (C '74) took on the full-time position of pub manager and financial arrangements for profits were made.

By the end of September, after a three-year wait, the Pub had the club license and set an opening date for early Oct. 1974. Campus buzzed with anticipation. According to one account from the Oct. 4, 1974 edition of The Acorn, "after all the talk about apathy on this campus... something has finally united the student body." Students made opening night plans and alumni pledged to support the pub by frequenting the establishment. On Oct. 8 at 4:30 p.m., the Drew Pub opened its doors for business.

The Pub, open Tuesday through Saturday from 4:30 p.m. to midnight (with special late hours on Fridays and Saturdays!), promised to keep the prices of beer and wine low and the environment lively. Shortly, the Pub revised their hours due to low late-afternoon patronage. A new opening time of 8 p.m. prevailed. The pub became a social space for everyone on campus. Students, alumni, faculty and staff looking to lay back, chat,

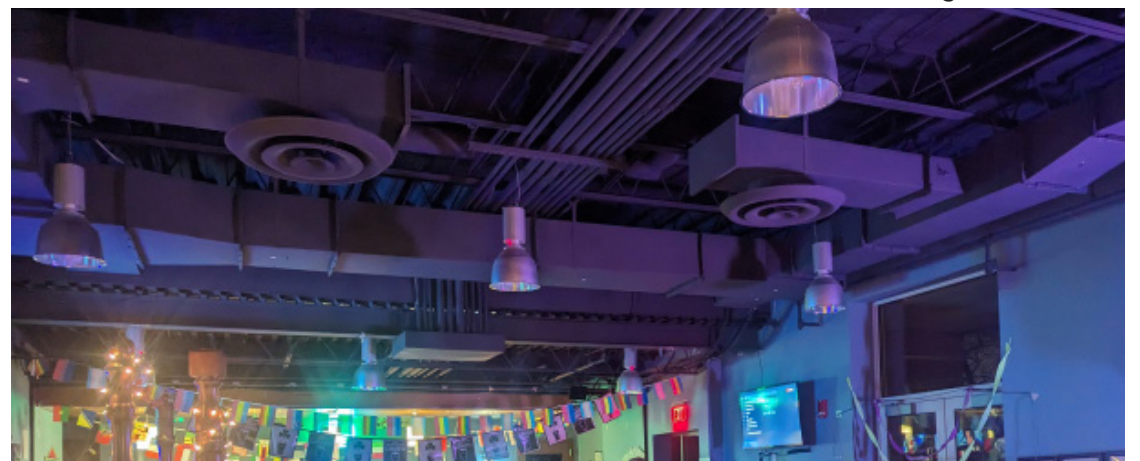
have a drink or listen to live music were welcome. Years of community collaboration driven by excitement finally resulted in a pub at the center of campus.

Today, the pub looks a little different. A new location, three days of operation a week and only patrons over 21 years old. Still, students sit at the original wooden bar, which was moved with the Pub over a decade ago. Make sure to ask the bartenders about the secret hidden detail!

Sadly, this semester's Pub attendance is low. "There are days where it's busy, but there's no pattern anymore," says Luiza Vaskys Lima ('25), a pub manager who has worked at the Pub since the early months of 2022. There's an unpredictability to running the place. To combat low attendance and bring people into the pub, special events such as bingo, trivia and karaoke are held regularly. "We're always open to collaboration from other parts of the Drew community and we're always open to people approaching us," says Natalia Rakviashvili ('26). The efforts continue to make the pub a lively and vibrant community space—the only thing missing is student buy-in. Still, three nights a week, the committed bartenders staff the pub from 6 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Yet, drinks are cheap and the occasional live music events are worth stopping in (or sitting in the hallway to listen in if you aren't yet 21). Last Friday, in a brief interview, the bartenders put together a short wish list for the pub's future. In the spirit of Drew Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow here is what the bartenders dream about—

"More student engagement," "Cocktails," "More live music," "Dance Parties," "expansion to the patio space outside," "a disco ball" and "higher wages." So stop by the pub, show your face, drag your friends along, dance a little, sign up to play a set and don't forget to leave the lovely committed bartenders a generous tip!

Jocelyn Freeman is a senior majoring in history and English and minoring in Chinese.



The Class of '80 Pub circa 2024!

IMAGE COURTESY OF JOCELYN FREEMAN

SGA Holds Post-Election Discussion & Support Group

Sabr Keres-Siddiqui
Staff Writer

Drew's Sexuality and Gender Alliance collaborated with campus asexual community group, The Ace Space, to hold a "Post-Election Talk & Support Group" discussion on Monday, Oct. 11, in the Rose Library's Kean Room. Snacks were provided, and event organizers had scattered many sheets of paper on the table that contained various queer and trans focused mental health hotlines, as well as hotlines for other diverse communities. Participants started the event around 7:30 p.m.

As the discussion began, participants highlighted a general feeling of extreme exhaustion. Community members were tense, and many questioned whether it might stay feasible for people who may identify as LGBTQ+ to stay in the U.S. at all. They expressed extreme fear, saying that they were not sure whether civil liberties might be taken from them at a moment's notice on the whim of political leadership.

As the transition of power between Democratic and Republican parties scheduled to take place in January becomes increasingly more imminent and draws ever closer, it still remains to be seen what policies the new Trump administration will launch with its inevitable

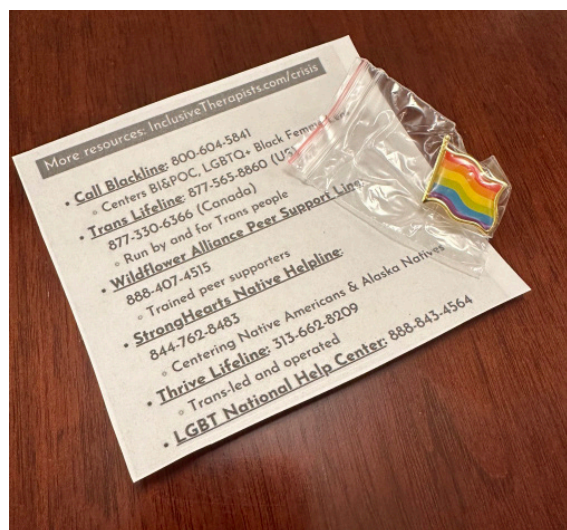


IMAGE COURTESY OF SABR KERES-SIDDIQUI
Mental health resources sheet from the event.

renewed attack on LGBTQ+ and trans rights in the United States. Many states that are already conservative, especially in the South and the Midwest, have already been launching severe attacks against vulnerable minorities in their state at a government level.

The discussion was eventually steered towards Project 2025, a recent conservative movement that has put many in the LGBTQ+ community on edge, and what it may mean for vulnerable minorities across the United States.

The danger that Project 2025 poses to the community as a whole was emphasized during the event. Project 2025 is a conservative think tank movement that aligns with much of Trump's agenda for his second term. It aims to fundamentally curb minority rights within the U.S. — such as restricting

access to abortion and gender affirming care — as well as increased militarization of the U.S.' Southern border. It also promises to replace the Department of Health and Homeland Security with a "Department of Life" and eliminate the Department of Education completely, leaving education largely up to the states' discretion as to curriculums and what is incorporated into an education.

The new Trump administration could have massive, disastrous and potentially fatal consequences for many queer and trans youth. One participant, Alice Holway ('25), also added that the administration has repeatedly pushed for trans visibility and trans people to be classified as "pornographic material" and then to make such material illegal — Holway emphasized that this could put trans people in danger of

being "thrown in jail simply for existing."

The discussion also turned to the topic of the recent contention in the U.S. over what are being termed "book bans," or the effective censorship of books and material that the local government deems inappropriate. This measure has all too often lately been used to target LGBTQ+ representation and minority writing, with one member of the discussion expressing that those advocating for book bans want to keep the population uneducated, and "take away... [their] knowledge."

Eme Brennan ('25) and Victoria Vermilye ('25), two of the main organizers of the event, said that they held it because they think it's important not to isolate, or to be afraid of each other when when the community already has so much in the rest of the world to be afraid

of. They highlighted the importance of "power in numbers" and that it's important to retain hope no matter how dire the situation may seem. If we give up, they feel, we allow extremism to win.

Brennan ('25) and Vermilye ('25) also highlighted some of the positive changes made in Congress this election cycle, emphasizing the election of multiple new queer and trans senators and representatives. Among the many talked about was Sarah McBride (D-Delaware), a 34-year-old trans woman who was recently elected to represent Delaware in the House of Representatives. She is the first trans woman to be elected to the House, and interned for Barack Obama as well as served as a State Senator for the First State Senate District.

If you are struggling with mental health this month, you are not alone. Drew's Counseling Department offers free sessions which can be scheduled by contacting counseling@drew.edu. If you are having thoughts of self-harm or suicidal ideation, please contact the National Suicide & Crisis Hotline at 988. You can also contact Trans Lifeline at (877) 565-8860, Blackline at (800) 604-5841 or the LGBT National Help Center at (888) 843-4564, among others.

Sabr Keres-Siddiqui is a sophomore majoring in sociology and minoring in journalism/journalistic



IMAGE COURTESY OF SAGA EMAIL
Event info poster.

A Classic Thanksgiving Celebration Held in the Commons



IMAGES COURTESY OF DEE COHEN

Campus Accessibility Sucks: Doors that Barely Function

Emma Joyce
Contributing Writer

Imagine you are locked out of a building and cannot get inside because the key never fits in the lock.

That is how I feel being one of the only wheelchair users at Drew.

This article is about parts of the campus that claim to be accessible even though they really are not. In this article, I am going to focus on the three buildings that I mainly go to as a first-semester first-year. Those three buildings are Brothers College, Seminary Hall, and the library.

Before I go into more detail, I just want to make a disclaimer—I'm not stupid, I knew that going to an older school in the middle of the woods was going to be challenging for me sometimes, but that is not the point of this piece of writing. The point of this opinion piece is to say that, from my point of view as a person with a disability, when something is meant to be accessible it should be properly functional. The point of me writing

this for The Acorn is to help bring awareness to the issues so that they might be noticed and fixed soon.

With that being said, here is a list of the problems I have with Drew's campus and why I think they should be addressed.

In Brothers College, there is a button outside the door which is supposed to make it open automatically. The problem with this is that the button doesn't work. This is probably because the door's automatic system has to be battery-powered and doesn't seem to get charged enough. It also does not help that the button is placed on the left side of the door and I am right-handed. Ultimately, the door loudly slams shut and other people have to open it for me.

Oh Seminary, Oh Seminary, how I hate the door to Seminary. What can I say about my time spent at Seminary Hall? Six words: love the classes, hate the building.

Two of my English classes were moved to Seminary Hall at the beginning of the semester. However, if the reason for the location

is because of accessibility, I just have to say that someone completely missed the mark on that. Do you want to know why?

There are four reasons that I can think of off the top of my head. 1) The "automatic door" button to open the door from outside did not work for a month. 2) The button to open the door inside the building *still* does not work. 3) The elevator in Seminary is really small and really slow. 4) In the bathroom, the handicap stall is way too small (excuse the accidental rhyme, but seriously it is really hard to fit a wheelchair in that space).

Last on my list of difficulties with Drew University (for now) is the library. I think the library is honestly the worst of them all. Not only do both doors in the library open simultaneously, they also open for a maximum of literally two seconds before they start to close again. A few weeks ago, I got stuck in the middle of the doorway on my way out of the library when the door closed halfway and banged into my wheelchair. Once again, I had to wait for some-



IMAGE COURTESY OF GEORGE MORINA ON PEXELS

"Automatic door" sign.

one to open the door the whole way so I could leave.

"Why is there a whole article about accessibility? Why should I care about that?" That is what you might be thinking as you read this, and I am going to tell you.

"Why?" Because accessibility does not just affect me. I am sure there have been, and there will continue

to be injured student athletes at Drew, and if they need to use a wheelchair or crutches then they will need campus to be accessible.

"Why?" Because the people who work with school facilities should know that some people care about the accessibility at Drew.

Emma is a freshman majoring in English.

Blow Them Away? I Don't Know Them in that Way!

Allison Cannon
Contributing Writer

Katie Germinder
Webmaster

We like trees! We Drew students have our very own forest in our backyard, so why are we disrupting this natural environment? Leaf blowing is an everyday offense on our campus life—disrupts not only our lives as students, but also our environment.

Trees provide many benefits such as clean air and habitats for wildlife, and fallen leaves are the primary source of much of that. Fallen leaves are littered all around our campus and provide homes for little critters such as chipmunks and earthworms.

We love our little guys that populate Drew and want them to have a safe home on our woody campus. Without leaf litter, the natural life cycle of many organisms is disrupted. While chatting with Dr. Jessica McQuigg of the Drew University Biology Department, I, Katie Germinder, learned about the many different benefits of leaf litter.

One of the main benefits is that leaf litter allows for nutrients sequestered in leaves such as nitrogen, phospho-

rus and carbon to become integrated into the food web through decomposers.

Leaf litter also provides a natural habitat and food resource for many invertebrates and small amphibians. Most of the amphibians such as lungless salamanders find their homes in the Drew Forest, which is not touched by any of the general campus maintenance.

Unfortunately, several invertebrates such as caterpillars and moths are harmed by the lawn maintenance around our campus. These

critters lay their eggs on leaves before they fall. So after the leaves do fall, they still dwell on the leaves on the ground.

Nonetheless, we must consider the fact that our campus is filled with recreational lawns that will die if they are covered in damp leaf litter. There is a way we can create a compromise with all of these perspectives.

Not only do leaf blowers disturb natural life, but they also create air pollution that directly affects the residents of Drew. The California

Resources Board completed a study that showed that the amount of pollution emitted from an hour of gas-powered leaf blowing is the same amount of smog-forming pollution that comes from driving a Toyota Camry from Los Angeles to Denver due to the type of engine used in these small, but powerful machines.

"I believe that leaf blowing should be stopped because it is harmful for the environment due to the amount of pollution as well as the noise it creates," said Holly Fischer ('28) when asked about her concern about the leaf blowing.

A study done by Dr. Jamie L. Banks and Robert McConnell showed that gas-powered leaf blowers mix oil and gasoline and spit out as much as a third of that fuel as unburned aerosol, which added to a quarter of all emissions of cancer-causing benzene in 2011. If young children and older folks are warned to not breathe in these fumes, no one should be breathing them.

After considering all of the pros and cons of leaf blowing around our campus, it is clear that we need to think of a solution that benefits everyone involved.

Chopping up leaf litter allows for lawns to still grow and prosper and provide natural fertilizer instead of having to resort to other fertilizers. This process would still unfortunately harm most invertebrates, yet would be the best solution. Discussing all of this with Dr. McQuigg truly allowed me to see both sides of the issue at hand around our campus.

Leaf blowing should also be done during times where students are not roaming around and can be accidentally attacked by the leaf dust the blowers create, so mainly during the midafternoon on the weekdays or the weekends.

We understand that blowing and chopping leaves up is essential to keeping Drew University's campus alive and flourishing; but we believe that there is a better way to go about it without disturbing campus life, and Drew should respond accordingly.

Allison is a freshman majoring in psychology and studio art and minoring in Spanish.

Katie is a sophomore majoring in environmental studies and sustainability.



IMAGE COURTESY OF JAY BRAND ON PEXELS

A squirrel on a tree surrounded by leaf litter.

Drew's Land Sale: Drew Sees "The Forest" for the Trees

LEAD EDITORIAL

You probably have heard at this point that a settlement has been reached to sell the Drew Forest to the Township of Madison; what you may not know is that this land sale will include selling Sitterly, Lewis House, Madison House and the commuter lot.

An ecosystem cannot survive without reliance on all its parts, and the Drew ecosystem has taken a major blow. Madison Borough's recent front-page acquisition of land known as "The Forest" at first appears to be the Jaws of Life desperately necessary to save a university from drowning in backlogged debt. However, the tentative agreement includes more than environmental preservation and predicts a drastic cultural shift in how the entire Drew community functions.

Granting Madison custody for 50 acres worth of forest is a symptom of an internal bleeding Drew has consistently struggled to contain. The overhead costs that come from keeping the university afloat created new obstacles that Drew, decades prior, could more easily run around. This \$65 million deal is intended to replenish the endowment that took a serious blow as a result of recent campus improvements, such as the construction of McLendon Hall. All parties continue reassuring students about proposed preservation efforts, but the uncertainty remains.

Within the joint press statement sent to students last Friday, concerning language crops up somewhat buried beneath fine print. The briefly mentioned "re-zoning and subdivision of two other parcels of university property," while easily overlooked, is a proposal that will arguably impact Drew students more than any shift in "Forest" titling.



Drew Forest sale press release graphic.

IMAGE COURTESY OF DREW UNIVERSITY AND THE BOROUGH OF MADISON

Although Drew might not own its "Forest" past 2025, the land preserved has been saved from the threat of demolition. These "parcels of university property" are not so fortunate. Coming off a semester of complications caused by overpopulation, the Drew campus continues to shrink.

In response to the anticipated loss of Sitterly House, English professor Courtney Zoffness said, "Sitterly House, with its spacious offices and natural light and popular common room, has been a perk of working at Drew. It's a gathering place for students – one that strengthens our academic community. While I appreciate the necessity of a land sale, I'm crushed to lose this beautiful space." Other faculty have remarked that after having been there for years, Sitterly has become a "home" to them.

Sitterly is also home to The Other End, a joint café and performance space that was opened in 1986, but has since closed down.

In an Acorn article on The Other End published on Oct. 4, 2024, Jocelyn Freeman ('25) writes, "The Other End was ushered into existence by the chairman of the Theater Department, Buzz McLaughlin. McLaughlin wanted to create a 'real hangout' spot for the students of Drew. The brainchild first appeared in print in a Sept. 27 edition of The Acorn. McLaughlin was inspired by the coffee house art scene of The Village in nearby New York City and wanted to bring 'a mellow, Greenwich Village-type place' to campus. The vision included a cozy space for live music and stand-up comedy served up alongside cappuccinos."

Tearing down Sitterly would mean losing this historical space, which holds so many happy memories for Drew alumni. On a Facebook post announcing the land sale agreement, Alumni Mary R. Michael writes, "[I don't know] if TOE is still

in the basement of Sitterly, but my husband and I split many milkshakes there back in the day. [Rest in Peace] Sitterly!"

Moreover, Drew student Emily Cookson ('26) is currently campaigning to reopen this space, which would drastically improve student life on campus. Beloved in the past, and perfectly geared toward current Drew students who thrive on nostalgia, the loss of The Other End would be devastating.

Madison House, located at the corner of Vinal Place and Madison Avenue, is a less familiar building to students but equally as important to the Drew community. Housed within the walls of this structure are the Human Resources, Finance and Student Employment departments, as well as other behind-the-scenes work that keeps the school running.

Selling it would displace the staff to another location on campus that is unknown

at this time. Not only is this future move inconvenient for the staff, but requires the transportation of secure files and documents which can get lost in the shuffle.

Additionally, faculty and students already have issues locating these departments as Madison House is not part of the main campus. While moving these departments into another campus building may not seem inconvenient, it is likely that the change will add further confusion when newly hired faculty and student workers are trying to access essential personnel.

Selling these houses also puts forward the problem of faculty office relocation. Rumors have it that the Madison House staff will be relocated to Pepin, the current mail reception and campus security building. We may wonder, however, if this already small building has the room to accommodate any more staff.

The relocation of faculty in Sitterly and Lewis House poses an even greater issue. Sitterly currently serves as the office building for 24 professors across the disciplines of English, film and gender studies, and Lewis House houses the entire economics department. There are simply not enough available offices on campus to accommodate this demand.

Rather than replace the commuter parking lot, as there is no space on campus for another lot to be built, Drew will encourage commuters and residents to park in town.

Parking in town is not only significantly more expensive and would necessitate long daily walks, but its availability is unreliable. Madison's parking lots do not have enough supply to accommodate the demand that losing this lot would create.

So what would become of our commuter students?



Students gathered in T.O.E.

IMAGE COURTESY OF THE DREW MAGAZINE.



Sitterly House.

IMAGE COURTESY OF DEE COHEN

Our guess is that Drew can anticipate a serious loss in commuter applicants in the future, which comprises a large part of the current student body.

Commuter student Benjamin Castro ('25) said, "The sale of the commuter lot is a disservice to our commuter students who rely on accessible parking. This decision completely disregards a vital student population!"

The Drew Forest is anticipated to be sold in the fall of 2025. As for the redevelopment of Sitterly, Lewis House, the commuter lot and Madison House, the timeline is less certain. Before redevelopment can begin, the area needs to be rezoned and go through the planning commission and the city. The city's plan for this parcel of land is to build high-density housing and to convert it into taxable land.

Dee Cohen ('26) stated,

"The lack of communication and disregard for our needs is why so many students have trouble trusting and are discontent with the administration ... They're always working on something – meaningless construction or aesthetic grass – that nobody was concerned about. They do nothing to fix the heating problem in Riker or the mold in Tolley-Brown that actually affects the lives and comfortability of the student body."

Drew is marketing the sale of the forest for preservation as a good thing, and we agree; however, there has not been open communication between the administration and the students and public regarding the sale of these "other parcels of university property."

Although it is necessary for the administration to replenish the depleted endowment, we ask if selling

this "peripheral land" is absolutely necessary, or if there may be other means of acquiring this money.

As students, we should take action by starting fundraisers, spreading awareness and reaching out to Drew alumni for monetary support. Ways to reach alumni include Facebook, Planet Alumni and LinkedIn. If like us you value these spaces, join in on making some noise to help save our campus.



The Lead Editorial is a reflection of the collective opinion of the editorial board.

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Riker 3 Residents Witness Horrifying Pumpkin Massacre

Dee Cohen
Lead Photo Editor

The Ehinger Center being In the dead of night, unbeknownst to the Riker Hall residents, there was a massacre. On the morning of Oct. 21, the scent of pumpkin filled the hallway and pieces lay scattered on the ground. Riker 3 residents awoke to pumpkin carnage.

The students turned to the Riker GroupMe for answers.

Although no culprit was found, the victims were identified as Gabriel Gutierrez's ('27) two beloved pumpkins, one of which

was a gift to his roommate. This revelation added new layers to the mystery. Now a robbery was involved.

After the loss of his pumpkins, Gutierrez declared, "Whoever did this should know that they have a pumpkin-shaped target on their back."

This follows a string of instances of a general lack of consideration for fellow residents in Riker. For instance, constant smells waft throughout the building like burnt popcorn, cigarettes and cannabis. This is particularly inconsiderate because all of the air vents are connected in Riker, so

if someone wants to enjoy burnt popcorn in their room, everyone has to enjoy it with them.

There have been multiple emails, GroupMe messages and signs posted around the building to remind students not to smoke indoors. Evidently, these reminders fall on deaf ears.

The burnt smell was so horrible one night that fire trucks arrived in Baldwin Circle to investigate a fire. Many residents feared their dorm was in jeopardy.

Resident Christina Dillon ('26) said, "I heard the fire alarm from a distant room. We were confused so we went outside, thinking something was wrong. We didn't know if there was a fire or if it was just burnt popcorn. You could even smell it outside."

Furthermore, there have been multiple instances where loud music was played and people have been heard yelling inside and outside the building past

quiet hours. Loud noises and odd smells are one thing, but the recent pumpkin incident takes things to another level. Rather than small disturbances, someone has turned to thievery and property destruction.

The aftermath was messy and the smell and remains of the pumpkins will undoubtedly attract a multitude of insects and critters that will invade the Riker 3 hallway and dorms. Not only does this affect the owner of the pumpkins and other residents, but also the cleaning staff that has to deal with the aftermath.

"Damaging others' belongings and leaving a mess for someone else to clean up is incredibly inconsiderate; Our cleaning staff already has a challenging job," says Faith Jackson ('25), CA of Riker 0 and 1.

This is not just a Riker problem, but a campus-wide issue. Many students leave messes simply because they know someone else

will clean it up. However, this is not always the case. Sometimes messes don't get cleaned for days if no one reports them. While the cleaning staff are compensated for their work, it is important to recognize that they are not responsible for students' personal messes. As adults, students should treat the staff with respect and take responsibility for maintaining a clean living environment.

While searching for a culprit, Riker residents speculated that an outsider was allowed in the building and pulled off this incident, possibly hoping that one of their fellows would not stoop so low.

Jackson explained that non-residents can only access the building if let in by a Riker resident. Therefore, if someone brings an outsider in, they are responsible for their actions.

It is anyone's guess who the real culprit is and if they acted alone, but someone needs to be held responsible. Many students were outraged by the new guest policies enacted this semester, but following this incident, they may not seem so bad.

Although to some, this incident is humorous, the reality and aftermath are not. This is a wake-up call for students to care about one another and the Drew faculty. This serves as a reminder that actions have consequences and can impact other people. Let this be a turning point for students to prioritize kindness and compassion. Let this be the final pumpkin sacrifice.



IMAGE COURTESY OF ALIKHAN AZHENOV

Riker 3 the morning after the massacre.



IMAGE COURTESY OF DEE COHEN

Survivor of the pumpkin massacre protected by bodyguards.

Dee is a junior majoring in English and French.

10 DIVERSIONS

HAVE IDEAS?

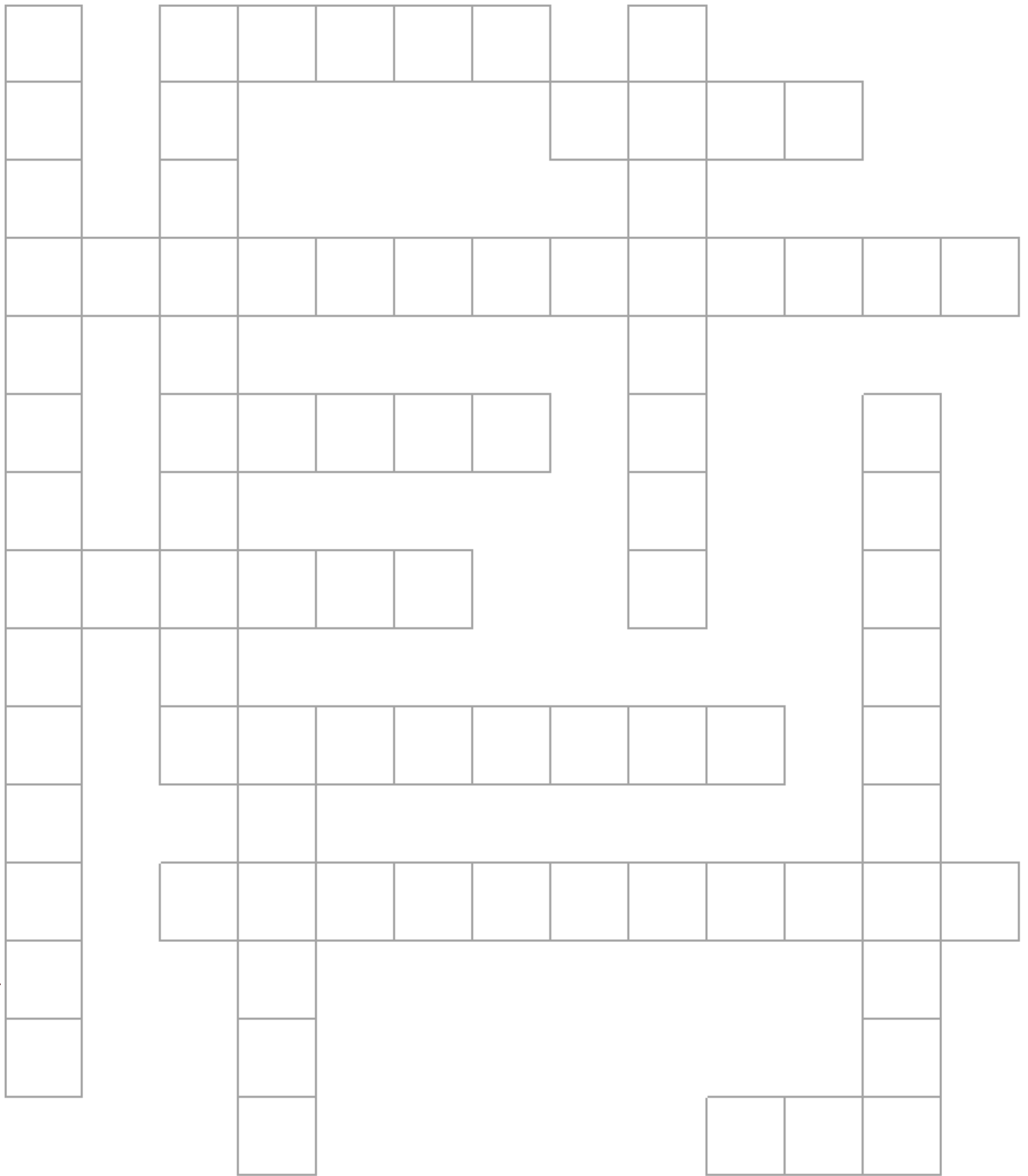
Submit your art, photography and more by emailing theacorn@drew.edu or visit join the Acorn by visiting thedrewacorn.com/join

Thanksgiving Meal Criss-Cross Word Puzzle

Test your skills by placing the words in the correct location in the puzzle!

Word Bank

- Bread
- Brussel sprouts
- Corn
- Cranberries
- Gravy
- Green beans
- Mac n Cheese
- Pie
- Potatoes
- Stuffing
- Squash
- Sweet potatoes
- Turkey



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*By "doing it" we mean practicing journalistic integrity while wearing some sweet merch

Recapping Women's Soccer Season following Playoff Heartbreak in Semifinals

Gillian Sampson
Staff Writer

The women's soccer season came to an end in their semi-final Landmark Conference Championship game against No. 14 ranked Scranton on Nov. 7. The loss came after the team was able to host the quarter-final game against Catholic two days prior. The Rangers finished their season with a 9-7-4 record, ranking fourth in the Landmark Conference.

"We've definitely had some ups and downs this season," said defender Georgia Cross ('27), who was out this season due to an unexpected ACL tear in the spring. Indeed, the team be-

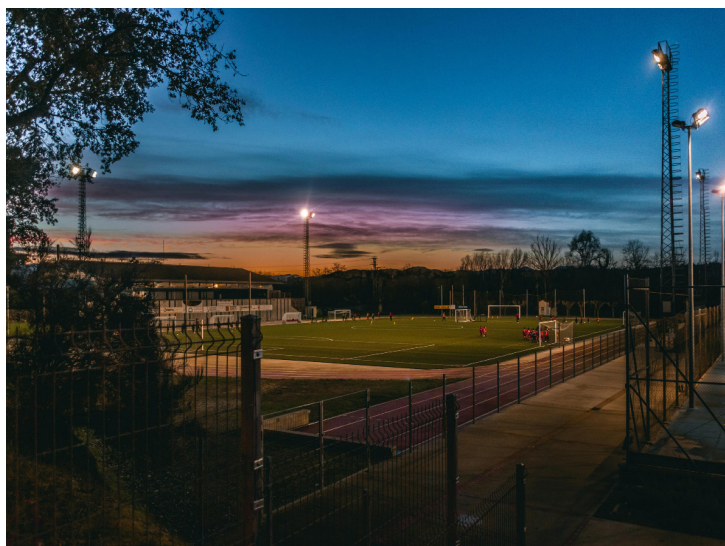


IMAGE COURTESY OF PEXELS.COM

WSOC finished their first season under new coach Brendan Michael at 9-7-4

gan their season somewhat uncertain, with an initial win followed by a string of ties and losses. They were able to find good footing by the end of September, and sta-

tistically perform up to the standards of their previous years. "I'm proud of us for making it far and getting to the semis, that's something hard to do." Cross said. The Ranger's win against Catholic sent them to the semifinals for their third consecutive year. It took a cohesive effort and continuance of victories throughout October to achieve the feat.

The team did not improve significantly in ranking compared to previous seasons, falling short of the third Conference ranking they snagged last year. Positive highlights include their 2-1

win over Catholic, a comeback victory in the second half against Susquehanna in their regular season finale game, their first Landmark Conference win over Catholic on Oct. 12 and their opening season win against Manhattanville at the beginning of the semester. The season-opener was a debut win for the team's new coach, Brendan Michael (C'11).

A team never knows what they are in for when beginning the year with a new coach, and along with 11 new freshman faces, the girls were in for a fresh slate. Midfielder Rebecca Racine (C '24 G '25), voiced these sentiments when she said, "I was coming back to a new coach and young squad so I knew I was about to experience a different season than my previous years." The returning Ranger decided to come back and play a final season after her first year was compromised by the pandemic. "I couldn't be prouder of this team and how our season played out," said Racine. "The future is bright for this program and it will continue to be [led] by a great group of girls

next year." Racine was also named to the All-Landmark Conference Women's Soccer Team, along with Alexa Krause ('25). Both players have received this recognition four times previously.

The team's future is on many minds, with Cross looking to the spring off-season and training. "I think we have a great group of girls to build on," she said, ready to get back on the field after the long recovery process. "There will be a lot of opportunities in the spring for leadership roles and a better team mentality and I'm excited to be a part of it!" Cross sees a hopeful future for the team, noting the importance of off-season time to build the team's dynamic and continue to grow familiar and strong with their new leadership, whether that be their head coach or new positions for the players. Hopefully, it will be a period to establish team cohesion and prepare for an amazing 2025 season.

Gillian Sampson is a graduate student in the Masters of Education program.



IMAGE COURTESY OF PEXELS.COM

The Women's Soccer team fell to Scranton in a 5-0 loss to close their 2024

Promising Start to WBB Season

Gillian Sampson
Staff Writer

Coming off a 10-16 record last season, the women's basketball team looked to make a statement coming into their 2024 campaign, highlighted by their 62-55 victory over local rival Saint Elizabeth University on Nov. 12.

Forward Gianna Pica ('26) posted a career-high 21 points and secured 10 rebounds to record her first collegiate double-double. Guard Maddie Beyer ('26) contributed 10 points, a career-high eight rebounds and four steals. The contributions of Beyer and Pica keyed the Rangers to a late lead in what proved to be a close contest.

With seven minutes remaining and the Rangers leading 48-45 Beyer secured two successful free throws to stretch the lead to five. Following a clutch defensive stand Miabella Diaz ('27) followed with two more at the stripe to provide the Rangers with enough breathing room at 52-45. Beyer's breakaway lay-up gave Drew a 54-45 advantage with five minutes left, capping off a 6-0 run in the final stretch.

A steal and lay-up from Amy Rachilla ('27) secured Drew's win, as Saint Elizabeth was never able to catch up. The teamwork on the court allowed the women's

basketball team to succeed, working together to quickly put points on the board.

Four days later, the Rangers took on the Montclair State Redhawks, falling 49-68 in a competitive effort.

Pica posted 18 points for the Rangers while Rachilla recorded 13 points and four assists. Forward Gracie Hezel (C'24 G'25) and guard Alice Altomare ('27) each contributed three steals.

With a 1-1 start to the season, the Rangers show great promise. The Rangers return to action on Nov. 23 as they host Goucher College at 2 p.m. and Dec. 1 when they host Raritan Valley Community College at 2 p.m.

Gillian Sampson is a graduate student in the Masters of Education Program



HIGHLIGHT REEL

NOVEMBER 8 TO NOVEMBER 22

ALL-LANDMARK CONFERENCE SPORTSMANSHIP

Lauren Cagliostro ('25) • Field Hockey

David Hoyt ('25) • Men's Soccer

Teeya Desgoutte ('26) • Women's Volleyball

Kate Rice ('26) • Women's Cross Country

Thomas Edwards ('27) • Men's Cross Country

Bianca Anghelache ('27) • Women's Soccer

SOCCKER END-OF-SEASON AWARDS

Tino Puentes ('25) • All-Landmark Conference Team

Alexa Krause ('25) • All-Landmark Conference First Team

Rebecca Racine ('25) • All-Landmark Conference First Time

Bianca Angelache ('27) • CSC Academic All-District Team

Sarah Crowley ('27) • CSC Academic All-District Team

Rebecca Racine ('25) • CSC Academic All-District Team

Maggie Speckhart ('25) • CSC Academic All-District Team

Kat Kugler ('25) • CSC Academic All-District Team

James Cahill ('26) • CSC Academic All-District Team

Gabe Di Pierro ('26) • CSC Academic All-District Team

David Hoyt ('25) • CSC Academic All-District Team

Thomas Zurkowski ('25) • CSC Academic All-District Team

Have an athlete you want to highlight? Submit their name, class year and accomplishment by emailing sports.theacorn@drew.edu or visiting thedrewacorn.com/submit-a-tip

COMING UP

Get live stats
@GoDrewRangers on X

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23
MBB vs. Goucher College
Madison, NJ
4:00 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1
WBB vs. Raritan Valley CC
Madison, NJ
2:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4
WBB vs. Scranton University
Madison, NJ
7:00 PM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6
SWIM vs. Ranger Invitational
Madison, NJ
10:00 PM

SPORTS

SPORTS EDITOR: DEVAN SUTARIA | dsutaria@drew.edu
Contact by emailing theacorn+sports@drew.edu

INSIDE:

Recapping Successful Women's Soccer Season Following Semifinal Defeat

12

Record-Breaking Start to the Season for Men's Basketball

Gillian Sampson
Staff Writer

The Drew men's basketball team opened its 2024-2025 season in the FDU-Florham Tournament, emerging 1-1 with two outstanding and record-breaking offensive performances.

The first game, Drew's first of the season, took place at FDU-Florham on Nov. 8. Posting 100 total points, the highest point total in a season opener since 2010, the Rangers held FDU to a 30-point deficit.

Josh Kline ('25) contributed 17 points while Matthew Zenker ('27) tallied 15 points for the Rangers, landing them a spot in the championship game against TCNJ the following Saturday.

Pat Higgins ('25) scored a career-high 3-point record, sinking five out of the seven shots taken. Rocco Checchetto ('27), Ben Kipnis ('28), Reid Chauhan ('28), Benjamin Manns ('28), Andre De Los Reyes ('28) and Kevin Cotton ('28) all saw



Drew fires up a three point shot in their season opener vs. FDU
IMAGE COURTESY OF GILLIAN SAMPSON

their first minutes as Rangers. Checchetto earned his first career points as well, contributing five points in the Rangers victory against the Devils.

Advancing onto the championship game against TCNJ, the Rangers again scored in the triple digits, losing in overtime 103-102 against the Lions in a thrilling finish in which the Rangers fell just short after

mounting a 23-point comeback in the second half.

David Musial ('26) pushed the Rangers into the overtime period with a pair of free throws, earning a career-high 28 points and going 16 for 16 at the free-throw line overall. This performance earned Musial a spot in the record books as he tied the Landmark Conference record for free-throw percentage in a game,

a record that was established in 2007. Musial also scored the second most free throws in team history, the most scored since 1992.

Despite the championship loss, the Rangers have already made an impactful and impressive start in just their first two games. Conference play is set to begin in late November, as the Rangers take on Goucher on Nov. 23 and the University of Scranton on Dec. 4 in the Baldwin Gymnasium.

Gillian Sampson is a graduate student in the Masters of Education Program



Sophomore Matthew Zenker skies for a rebound
IMAGE COURTESY OF SIERRA WALKER



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