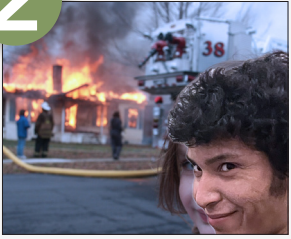


RANGER UPDATES

2



NEWS:

Riker Hall Explodes in Plume of Fire

Faulty pipes finally burst and exploded in Riker hall, although there were no casualties reported.

5



STUDENT LIFE:

Campus Publication Descends Into Chaos as Editors Battle

Current EIC Eva Esqueda and future EIC Allison Cannon have a battle of words. Tensions are high in the Acorn office.

OPINIONS:

6

New Construction Plans for Maximum Wind on Campus

Drew University wants to make campus even windier!

SPORTS:

8

Student-Athlet(?) Spotlight: Getting to Know Acorn Editor Gillian Sampson

Long time sports editor Gillian Sampson is finally graduating.

INSIDE

NEWS..... 2
S. LIFE & ARTS..... 4
OPINIONS..... 6
SPORTS..... 8

If Drew Is a Forest, I Will Park in a Tree

Parking Enforcement Manager

Parking Enforcement's Worst Enemy is a super senior majoring in Not Caring...

It has come to my attention, after circling campus approximately 47 times...

Now, I understand that Drew prides itself on being 'The University in the Forest'...

nature. But at some point, we as a campus community need to ask ourselves a difficult question...

Which is why I am proposing a bold, innovative and frankly inevitable solution: I will be parking in a tree.

Think about it. We are surrounded by towering natural structures that are, quite frankly, underutilized...

Some may ask logistical questions. 'How will you get your car up there?'...

have to arrive on campus before sunrise just to secure a spot that is technically still a 12-minute hike...

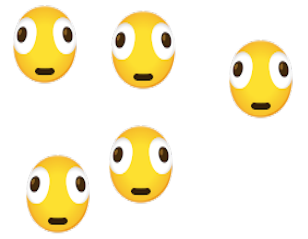
Parking in a tree solves everything. No more circling. No more aggressive eye contact...

And before anyone suggests alternatives, yes, I am aware of the concept of 'walking,' 'carpooling,' and 'planning ahead.'...

In conclusion, Drew cannot have it both ways. You cannot give me a cam-

pus that looks like a national park and then expect me to park like it's a suburban mall...

If you see a Honda Civic perched majestically above campus, mind your business. I got there first.



Parking Enforcement's Worst Enemy is a super senior majoring in Not Caring...

Rugby Practice Gathers National Attention

Danny Phantom Staff Writer

At 6:15 p.m. on an unsuspecting Thursday, Drew campus was turned upside down...

'We were pretty proud of the outcome,' remarked team captain Anastasia Hatch...

The line of potential players only grew, soon blocking traffic on Madison Avenue...

As positive as large numbers can be, it quickly gathered national attention.

Helicopters circled the campus with blinding spot lights, and television camera crews arrived...

Acting swiftly and accordingly, team members organized lines of potential players to evaluate for practice...

quired by emailing Captain Hatch directly via ahatch@drew.edu.

After sifting through the potential players and getting the situation under control...

'I was kind of scared to be tackled at first. But, since we used the practice pads and rehearsed it so many times...'...

Several players shared the same positive remarks regarding their first rugby practice...



Danny Phantom is a sophomore majoring in inconspicuous studies and minoring in Irish goodbyes.



A rugby ball, his name is Gilbert.

IMAGE COURTESY OF UNSPLASH.COM

HAVE A TIP?

Email theacorn@drew.edu and let us know!

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

'ben fell out of a tree pretending to be a squirrel.'

-Allie P. ('28)



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

Drew



Established 1928

VOL. 98, NO. 10

THE DREWACORN.COM  
theacorn@drew.edu

EDITORIAL BOARD

EVA ESQUEDA  
Editor-in-Chief  
eesqueda@drew.edu

ALLISON CANNON  
News Editor

ELLIOT YAP  
Assistant News Editor

SABR KERES-SIDDIQUI  
Student Life & Arts Editor

JADEN FINN  
Assistant Student Life & Arts Editor

MARS GERMINDER  
Opinions Editor

KAYLA KIERNAN  
Assistant Opinions Editor

GILLIAN SAMPSON, DEVAN SUTARIA  
Co-Sports Editor

NATHAN MOLDOVER  
Assistant Sports Editor

PETER ROSS  
Chief Photographer

CASEY BUSH  
Copy Desk Chief

JOHN OSCHMANN  
Assistant Copy Desk Chief

CORRECTIONS & TIPS

If you have any corrections, tips or suggestions for The Drew Acorn to follow up on, contact: theacorn@drew.com

The Drew Acorn is a bi-weekly newspaper run and published by Drew University students. The Drew Acorn publishes every other Friday during the fall and spring semesters, with exceptions for examination periods and University closings.

The Drew Acorn is a member of the New Jersey Collegiate Press, Associated Collegiate Press and Student Press Law Center.

INTERESTED IN JOINING?

Any Drew student is welcome to join us for meetings every Thursday at 7p.m. in our office in McLendon.

Or visit thedrewacorn.com/join to request more information.

114 McLendon Hall  
36 Madison Ave.  
Madison, N.J. 07940

# 2 NEWS

NEWS EDITOR:  
ALLISON CANNON  
acannon@drew.edu

HAVE A NEWS TIP?

Email theacorn+news@drew.edu or visit thedrewacorn.com/submit-a-tip

## Riker Hall Explodes

Squirrel With Scissors  
Squirrel Writer

The years-long battle between Riker Hall residents and the vents in their rooms reached a violent conclusion early this morning. For decades, the building has been notorious for a heating system that knows no middle ground, forcing students to keep windows wide open in the dead of January in order to prevent heatstroke.

However, earlier today, the building's aging structure finally gave in to the pressure, resulting in a massive explosion that has now displaced its residents.

Students reported that the air became incredibly dry, and several residents claimed their plastic trash cans began to warp and fuse to the linoleum floors. Numerous emergency facilities tickets were filed to no avail – the system continued to pipe fiery hot air into the



IMAGE COURTESY OF ELLIOTS INSANE PHOTOSHOP SKILLS

Drew student pictured outside of Riker Hall as its burning down

building, eventually fully overwhelming anyone who dared stay inside.

The resulting explosion wasn't a fireball, but a massive release of pressurized thermal energy that blew out the windows of the first three floors and sent a section of the brick facade crumbling onto the lawn.

The aftermath resembled a disaster movie set in a sauna. Displaced students

stood on the dew-filled grass in pajamas, watching a thick plume of white steam billow from the gaping hole where the second floor lounge used to be. While no serious injuries were reported, the building suffered extensive damage; the sheer force of the bursting pipes tore the old bricks from the walls and melted the cables that provided the building's already spotty Wi-Fi. It was,

as one groggy sophomore put it, "the most Riker way possible to move out."

Residence Life released a statement attributing the issue to "mysterious unforeseen circumstances," refusing to address rumors of a demon in the basement, and have promised to relocate all displaced residents to McLendon Hall.

Meanwhile, a perimeter has been established around the ruins, as the laundry room remains a pressurized hazard of scalding water and rusted metal. For the rest of the Drew community, the explosion serves as a grim cautionary tale: When the radiators start hissing, it isn't just a quirk of a historic building – it's a countdown.

Squirrel With Scissors is a squirrel majoring in the art of chaos and minoring in acorn eating

## Drew Launches New Parking — Off Campus

Nimajneb Ortsac  
Staff Writer

After years of student petitions, administrative task forces and what officials described as "deep reflection," Drew University announced on Tuesday the opening of a new parking lot intended to ease campus congestion—a seven-space facility located roughly two towns away.

University leaders described the project, officially named "Forest Lot," as a bold step forward in solving what many students have called one of the school's most persistent problems.

"This is how real progress happens," said University President Barack Obama, who appeared at the ribbon-cutting holding what observers noted was a single oversized ceremonial key. "Seven spaces may not sound like a lot, but if you think about it differently, it's almost eight."

The lot, situated miles from campus in what one university map labels as "general New Jersey," includes six standard parking spaces and one "flexible-use space," which administrators clarified could serve as parking, a loading zone or "a place to sit and reflect on your choices."

A shuttle service will transport students from the lot to campus, though offi-

cialists noted the shuttle will depart "when full," a condition some students pointed out may be difficult to meet given the lot's total capacity.

"I genuinely thought it was a joke when I read the email," said Benjamin Bastro (C'25). "Seven spaces doesn't even cover one friend group. By the time you get there, three of them will probably already be taken by squirrels."

At the unveiling ceremony, Ranger Bear, the university's mascot, enthusiastically gestured toward the empty lot while standing next to a sign that read "Welcome, Probably." He later distributed miniature maps to attendees, though several appeared to show slightly different routes.

University officials defended the scale of the project, citing both environmental concerns and "ambition management."

"We didn't want to overwhelm students with too much parking at once," said Obama. "This is a pilot program. If it goes well, we may consider an eighth space by 2032."

Buck the Bunny, identified as a visiting guest and "retail logistics expert," also praised the initiative.

"At GameStop, we understand scarcity," said the Bunny. "You don't flood the market. You create de-

mand. Seven spaces? That's exclusive. That's premium parking."

Students expressed concern about the practicality of the new lot, noting that the commute from the site to campus could exceed the length of some classes.

"I could park, take the shuttle, miss my lecture and still not have moved my car," said John Pork ('27). "It's less of a parking solution and more of a lifestyle choice."

In a statement, the university encouraged students to "remain flexible" and to "embrace the journey," adding that the remote location offers "a unique opportunity for quiet time, personal growth and possibly spotting

wildlife not normally seen near campus."

Despite the criticism, administrators remain optimistic.

"Every great institution takes bold steps," said Obama. "Today, Drew University took seven of them."

Officials confirmed they are already exploring future expansions, including the possibility of adding a second lot with "up to four additional spaces," pending what they described as "continental availability."

Nimajneb Ortsac is a senior majoring in Peruvian Ankle Tag and triple minoring in Croatian Lion Frisbee, Chilean Underwater Blindfolded Soccer Chess,



IMAGE COURTESY OF NIMAJNEB ORTSAC

Buck the Bunny, President Barack Obama and Ranger Bear unveil Drew's new park-

# Drew Enters Bidding War to Take Over Warner Bros.

Laura Palmer  
Editor-in-Chief

After a months-long battle between Netflix, Paramount and other media giants, Drew University has decided to cast their hat into the ring in an effort to buy Warner Bros. Discovery. Despite having seemingly reached a deal with Paramount Skydance on Feb. 27, 2026, Warner Bros. Discovery is apparently giving Drew the chance to buy one of the most legendary studios that ever was.

An announcement from university President Hilary Link was made on Wednesday, April 1, informing Drew students and the world that the university had cast a bid for the studio giant. Offering a whopping 500 billion dollar deal to acquire Warner Bros. Discovery and proposing 100 dollars per share, Drew has entered the fight for one of media's most influential studios.

Explaining the university's interest in the acquisition, Link claimed that a Drew-led Warner Bros. Discovery would allow the university to broaden their mission. Hoping to make use of the company's resources



A photo of Warner Bros. Studios

and potential to produce Oscar-winning blockbusters, Drew wants to ensure that they can reach prospective students all across the nation and world.

Though many in the industry and beyond have expressed concern over a possible Drew acquisition, the university has stated that they do not intend to impede on current studio operations and productions. In fact, Link was adamant in her announcement that

Drew would actually extend theatrical exhibitions and releases for films produced by the studio, while creating more jobs for Drew students and alumni looking to make a start in the entertainment industry.

"We as a university want to ensure that our students have easy access and ample opportunities to follow their passions in storytelling," Link stated in the announcement. "If that means generating new titles

and positions that may not traditionally be accepted in the entertainment world, then so be it."

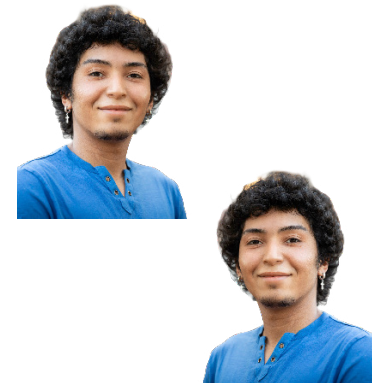
Opinions across campus are mixed as students are both excited and worried about Drew's newfound stake in entertainment and media. Many media and communications and film students, especially, are thrilled that they might have a chance to be hired at such a renowned studio following graduation should the take-

over pan out. Plus, many are hopeful that the university will film even more productions on campus. Others are less enthused at the prospect of Drew venturing into the field of entertainment while their own areas of study are pushed to the side.

"While I do think this acquisition is beneficial for the corporations, this is just evident that cinema is slowly dying to money," said Griffin Harris (C'24). "Where's the love of art?"

Either way, Warner Bros. Discovery has yet to make a decision, but reports are saying that their board of directors have been meeting with university officials to discuss the deal. The Acron will continue to follow this ordeal as new developments are made.

Laura Palmer is a senior majoring in log studies and minoring in coffee brewing



## Mystery Solved: Lost "DOYOer" Recovered

Jorts J'Oschmann, J. Dog  
Staff Writers

In the fall semester of 2011, a bright and ambitious first-year art student, Jean Tuttle (C '15), mysteriously disappeared. The official police report from the time of her disappearance included a statement from her roommate, who described Tuttle's nighttime trek to the Dorothy Young Center for the Arts prior to the incident. On Wednesday of this week, Elliot Yap ('28) cracked open a seemingly abandoned storage closet, searching for more Phthalo Blue paint, only to find Tuttle alive and well, and 15 years older.

Tuttle, inspired by her introduction to oil painting course, had been clocking exhausting hours in the studio long before her official disappearance. As a beginner oil painter, Tuttle was not aware of the profound health effects caused by long term exposure to oil mediums, notably Gamsol—an odorless mineral spirit used to thin the paint for application.

While searching for a missing piece of fabric to drape for her still life painting in a dank storage closet, countless hours of inhaling the Gamsol finally caught up to Tuttle. Falling unconscious into the small closet,

she kicked out the trash can which kept the door propped open. It wasn't until hours later that Tuttle awoke, finding herself locked in the closet, disoriented, with the heavy metal door deafening her cries for help.

Using only her paintbrushes and palette knife, which had been sitting pretty in her apron pocket at the time of the incident, Tuttle formulated a plan of survival. With the sharp edge of her palette knife, she dug tunnels through the cement and cinder block walls, crawling above drop ceilings and finding warmth next to hot water pipes.

As she explored the DOYO, she created a detailed and elaborate map, unsuccessfully attempting to escape from the walls on multiple occasions. After untold hours, the student was able to nudge a small hole into one of the lower-floor vending machines, with Doritos and water bottles acting as her sustenance all these years.

One frequent "DOYOer," Lauren Tucci ('28), recalls this evident snack-deficit, stating, "Those vending machines are always empty. Everyone knows that. I guess now we just know who's responsible."

Many professors, especially those of the art de-



A photo of the DOYO

partment, have expressed their sadness and regret at her discovery.

"Well, we all thought it was mice," stated a torn and disappointed professor, who had reported hearing scratching in the walls years prior. "Who would even consider that it was Jeanie?" Years of maintenance, work orders and hundreds of dollars worth of mouse poison never seemed to halt the scratches and thumps. Now, they know why.

It has long since been the standard for art, theater, music and other students to spend countless hours in

the DOYO. Some dedicated members of the community, such as Adrian Wood ('27) of the theater department, confess to sleeping there overnight when workloads grow too great.

While the university officially hashes out the legal complications, Tuttle's story presents a pressing question: Do students indeed spend too long "DOYOing"?

Jorts J'Oschmann is a frat boy majoring in tomfoolery and minoring in hijinks and solitaire. J. Dog is a tree hugger majoring in queer mischief and

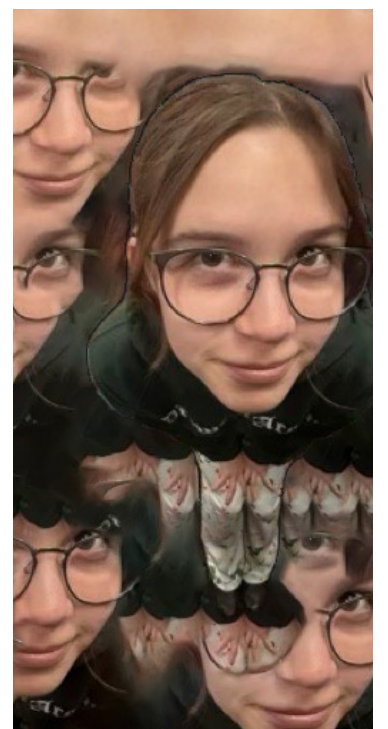


IMAGE COURTESY OF DREW.EDU

# 4 STUDENT LIFE & ARTS

S. LIFE & ARTS EDITOR: SABR KERES-SIDDIQUI | skeressiddiqui@drew.edu  
 Contact by emailing theacorn+SLA@drew.edu



## The Acorn Debuts New “Digital Squirrel” Column

**Squirrel With Scissors**  
 Squirrel Writer

**S**ure! Here’s an article about the Drew University Acorn newspaper implementing an AI section:

In a bold move to prove it is “future-proof,” The Acorn officially launched its AI-generated opinion section, “The Digital Squirrel,” this week. While the editorial board promised the column would provide “unbiased, hyper-efficient insights into campus life,” the first published piece—titled “A Human Narrative Regarding the Forest of Drew”—has left the student body wondering if the newspaper accidentally gave a sentient spreadsheet a press pass. The article,

which features a startling lack of contractions and an obsessive interest in the exact geographic coordinates of Mead Hall, has raised immediate red flags among the people who read the print edition.

The debut piece begins with the gripping opening line: “Greetings, fellow biological carbon-based scholars of the Madison forest region.” It goes on to describe the Drew University experience as “a high-probability success matrix for the acquisition of credits and the consumption of nutritional units at the Commons.” Students were particularly confused by a 400-word paragraph praising the university’s “excellent oxygen levels” and the “statistically

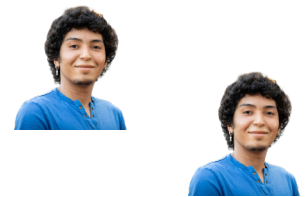
significant number of trees,” which the AI concluded were “satisfactory for the concealment of squirrels.”

Suspicion that the column was not, in fact, “co-authored by a human editor” peaked when the AI attempted to tackle campus politics. Instead of addressing the ongoing housing crisis or the Student Government’s latest budget dispute, the “The Digital Squirrel” argued that the university should transition to a “binary-based grading system” where students are either a 1 or a 0. The column also included a strange, glowing review of the library’s printer, describing it as “a majestic deity of paper jams whose wisdom is beyond human comprehension.”

The layout of the section has also come under fire for being “suspiciously organized.” “The Digital Squirrel” is formatted with terrifying precision. Each paragraph is exactly 128 words long, and the accompanying headshot of the “author” appears to be a composite image of a generic student whose eyes seem to be tracking the reader across the page. When asked for comment, the Editor-in-Chief insisted the AI was “highly sophisticated,” even though “The Digital Squirrel” had recently sent a 3:00 a.m. email to the staff asking if they knew where to find “large quantities of high-voltage AA batteries.”

As of press time, the AI has already been promoted

to Managing Editor after it successfully figured out how to fit a twenty-page budget report onto a single flyer. While some students fear a total takeover of campus media, most remain unfazed. As one sophomore distracted by their phone pointed out: “at least the robot uses bullet points.”



Squirrel With Scissors is a squirrel majoring in majoring in the art of chaos and minoring in acorn eating.

## Student Government Goes Rogue

**Squirrel With Scissors**  
 Squirrel Writer

The idyllic peace of The Forest is quickly becoming a nightmare. In a move that gobsmacked the campus community, the Drew University Student Government officially fashioned itself into a sovereign dictatorship this week.

Citing far too little food poisoning at the Commons and a general lack of respect for the Budgets and Organizations Board, the Cabinet has renamed the Ehinger Center to “The Fortress of Eternal Power.”

This descent into chaos began when the SGA president, referring to himself as “The Omnipotent General of Tolley-Brown,” stood on the front porch of Mead Hall and tore up SGA’s bylaws.

Using a microphone notably obtained without a purchase request, he established the “Un-Communications Committee,” or UCC. The UCC, he declared, shall make it their mission to make further rules as unclear as possible, working with the newly installed military leader of Drew’s administration to achieve maximum ambiguity.

SGA’s first order of business was the seizure of the Halal Shack booth. The popular rice bowls are now a “state-controlled asset,” and students wishing to obtain their pita and hummus must now prick their finger, hand in their ID card and take a blood oath swearing to engage with every SGA Instagram post for the next 18 thousand years.

Every student has now been assigned 20 dining points (except for senators, who are assigned 35) and is expected to ration them until the end of the year. Several students attempted to continue using meal swipes, however, the Acorn has been unable to locate the students for interviews after they disappeared under mysterious circumstances.

The dormitories, meanwhile, have descended into abject terror. The chief financial officer has reportedly replaced all food in vending machines with “SGA Snacks,” unflavored crackers that cost \$15 each and removed any option to use tap-to-pay solutions like Apple or Google Pay.

All residents of McLendon Hall have also been dis-

placed as the vice president takes it over and remodels the entire building into the new Student Government lounge. In order to assert wandering tour groups’ dominance, SGA has collaborated with Admissions to modify all fire alarms to blast Chappell Roan’s popular song “Hot To Go!” 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

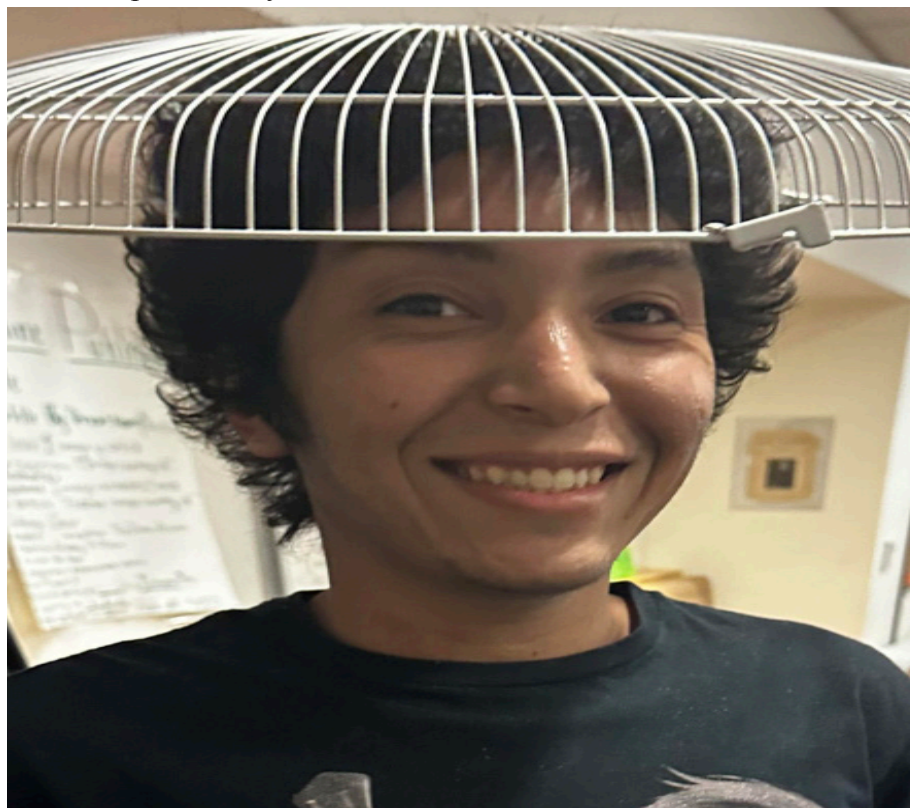
As the full moon rises over the library’s flickering lights, Mead Hall remains disturbingly quiet – likely because SGA successfully forced the university’s deans and vice presidents to resign and be replaced by a suite of “Doom Directors” to enable their agenda of evil.

For the remaining students who do not have a chance to escape, SGA has

sent a clear message: if you see a senator approaching with a menacing grin, run. The Forest is no longer a place of light, fun and growth – it is an abyss of strictly enforced and deeply petty darkness.



Squirrel With Scissors is a squirrel majoring in majoring in the art of chaos and minoring in acorn eating.



# Editors Allegedly Battle for the Soul of “The Acorn”

Staff Writer Who Is Definitely Not Picking Sides

In what experts are already calling “a dramatic institutional meltdown, powered by suggestion mode” tensions between current Acorn Editor-in-Chief Eva and incoming Editor-in-Chief Allie reportedly escalated this week into a dramatic clash that has left the publication, and several shared folders, deeply shaken.

Eyewitnesses claim the conflict began over a seemingly innocent disagreement during an editing session, when a staff writer asked whether a word in their article was a noun, verb or adjective. What followed has since been described as “a complete grammatical breakdown of society.”

According to sources, Eva confidently identified the word as a noun, citing what she called “vibes, but like, academic vibes,” while Allie immediately pushed back, arguing it was “definitely a verb in spirit.” The room reportedly fell silent as both editors doubled down, each attempting to define parts of speech with increasing intensity and decreasing accuracy.

“It started as a discussion,” said one staff member, still clutching a style guide like a security blanket. “Then someone asked for an actual definition of ‘verb,’ and... nobody could really answer. That’s when things got scary.”

Multiple witnesses confirm that within minutes, the debate escalated into a full-scale philosophical crisis, with both editors proposing wildly different frameworks for understanding basic grammar. Eva reportedly



Eva Esqueda ('26) and Allison Cannon ('28) face off.

IMAGE COURTESY OF BARBARA GORDON

described nouns as “words that feel like objects,” while Allie countered that verbs are “words that are, like, doing something, but not always, because sometimes they’re just being.”

In a moment many are calling symbolic, Eva, who is also a competitive fencer (specializing in épée, pronounced “eh-PAY,” not “eepy,” despite what certain staff members insist), reportedly began gesturing with a pen “like it was a sabre,” punctuating her grammatical arguments with sharp, precise motions. Observers noted that her edits took on a similarly aggressive style, described by one staffer as “quick, targeted strikes on anything vaguely verb-like.”

Complicating her authoritative stance, however, is Eva’s own editorial journey, which insiders describe as “inspiring, concerning and technologically baffling.” Having previously served as an editor before ascending to Editor-in-Chief, Eva reportedly never mastered the publication’s actual publishing platform, WordPress. Sources confirm that she has instead relied on a system described as “vibes,

Google Docs and hoping someone else handles it.” Despite this, she has maintained firm leadership over editorial decisions, creating what one writer called “a bold new model of authority completely detached from technical capability.”

The situation reportedly reached its peak during an emergency editorial meeting, where both leaders presented competing visions not only for The Acorn, but for the English language itself. Eva emphasized “tradition, journalistic integrity and the idea that nouns are, at minimum, kind of solid,” while Allie unveiled a more flexible approach centered on “redefining grammar as a fluid, evolving construct that resists labels.”

Witnesses describe the confrontation as “tense,” “historic” and “deeply confusing,” with much of the argument unfolding through increasingly unhinged examples.

“At one point, Eva said ‘run’ is obviously a verb,” said one attendee. “And then Allie said, ‘Okay, but what about ‘a run?’ And then Eva said, ‘That doesn’t count,’ and then Allie said, ‘That’s

literally the same word,’ and then... I don’t think anyone has been the same since.”

The conflict soon spread beyond the meeting room and into the publication’s shared Google Docs, where sources report an explosion of comments such as “this feels noun-ish???” and “verb energy but could go either way.” Entire paragraphs were reportedly rewritten in attempts to avoid using words whose grammatical identity could not be unanimously agreed upon.

“At one point, Eva resolved a comment that Allie had just written,” said another source. “And then Allie un-resolved it. That’s when we knew things had gone too far.”

The conflict took a sharper turn when Allie, in what witnesses describe as a “strategic escalation bordering on reckless,” reportedly invoked what some are now calling “the WordPress issue.” “I’m just saying,” she allegedly remarked, “if we’re redefining parts of speech, maybe we could also, hypothetically, learn how to publish the article.” The room reportedly froze. One staff member quietly closed their laptop. Another began stress-refreshing Google Docs despite there being nothing new to load. Witnesses say the phrase “WordPress” hung in the air “like a threat,” as several editors suddenly developed an intense interest in the ceiling, the floor and, in one case, a completely blank wall.

Despite the apparent rivalry, both editors have denied any personal animosity. In a joint statement, they insisted the situation was “a healthy exchange of ideas about language and its

limitations,” though neither made eye contact during the announcement, and the phrase “healthy exchange” was reportedly typed in all caps and bolded twice.

University officials have declined to intervene, stating that “this is, unfortunately, the most engagement The Acorn has seen all year,” and that they are “monitoring the situation with both concern and mild amusement.”

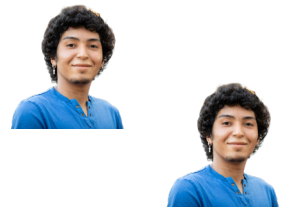
Meanwhile, staff writers have begun preparing for all possible outcomes, including a peaceful transition of power, a dramatic resignation or the complete abandonment of traditional grammar.”

One expert noted that while debates about language evolution are common, “it is relatively rare for an entire editorial board to simultaneously forget what a noun is.”

As of press time, negotiations were ongoing, with both parties reportedly close to a compromise involving “tentative definitions,” “contextual understanding” and “just avoiding the issue whenever possible.”

Experts warn, however, that the underlying issues remain unresolved, and that the next flashpoint could come at any moment.

“Wait until they get to adjectives,” one insider said grimly. “No one even pre-



Staff Writer Who Is Definitely Not Picking Sides is a junior majoring in grammar and minoring in publication.

# Anti-Commuter Movement Secures Huge Victory

Chrys Lerr

Squirrel With Scissors

During increasingly tumultuous times at Drew University, some students have found a group to blame for the college’s ills: Commuters.

These concerned citizens have formed a people’s movement dedicated to taking down commuters, who they claim have it too well.

The Acorn was able to conduct an exclusive interview with one of these freedom fighters, who stated that “commuters are always saying stuff like ‘why am I paying for a meal plan I don’t use’ and ‘I feel increasingly isolated from my friends and Drew in general’ and it’s like, oh my god, shut up. I did not ask.”

Though their brave fight may seem to be against all

odds, the Anti-Commuter Association achieved a major win on Wednesday.

At a press conference, President Link announced – to the delight of every onlooker – that all of the policies advocated by the ACA would be implemented next semester, and that that had been the plan the entire time.

“This is a huge victory for our movement,” said its leader, who chose to remain anonymous for fear of vehicular retribution. “From now on, we shall no longer live in fear of the injustices done to us by those commuters!”

Chrys Lerr is a senior majoring in automotive tech and minoring in hazing.



A man trying to fix his broken car on the side of the road.

IMAGE COURTESY OF PEXELS





# OPINIONS

**SPEAK UP!**

OPINIONS EDITOR: KATIE GERMINDER | kgerminder@drew.edu

Submit a letter to the editor or contribute an opinion piece (500 WORDS APPROX). Email theacorn+opinions@drew.edu



## Lead Ed: Embrace Your Inner Squirrel: Jump Out of Trash Cans at People

### LEAD EDITORIAL

There is nothing better than spending time outdoors, especially as the weather gets nicer.

You might notice that as spring begins to be sprung, more and more people will start to venture outside to enjoy the amenities of nature. The sunshine, the fresh air, blooming flowers and trees all around are inspiring, and you should be inspired—inspired to embrace your inner squirrel.

Squirrels are the embodiment of spring, with their bushy tails, high pitched bark and aggressive but cute personality. Who wouldn't want to be a squirrel at Drew University? An endless supply of food (shout out to the Zaro's bagels!), millions of trees to fight other squirrels for and a whole fan club!

These furry creatures also have the benefit of life without responsibility: no essays to write, no presentations to give or exams to take. For many students, the middle of the semester is a time of tumultuous stress and burnout. What better way to relieve stress than



Students in a tree becoming one with the squirrel.

IMAGE COURTESY OF A PEEVED SQUIRREL.

to embrace the spirit of our bushy-tailed friends?

The editorial board is encouraging the students of Drew University to get outside, run around and chase each other to establish their dominance while simultaneously making a most obnoxious squeaky noise.

You might be wondering, "why a squirrel, out of all of the fauna of Drew University?" Well, dearest reader, let us break it down for you.

There are many benefits to embracing your inner squirrel, especially as it gets warmer out. The sprouting

green trees on the lawns throughout campus are great places to study when you cannot find a spot in the library during finals week. Just climb up to one of the sturdy branches, break out your laptop and you are all set with a private study space free of distractions (except for your fellow squirrels).

Squirrels also get much more nutrients from acorns and leaves around campus than any food from the Commons will give you. The trees are filled with a never ending supply of fruits and nuts that will definitely be fine to digest as long as you

are really a squirrel. Even food that has been discarded into the trash bins outside will give you great satisfaction.

Really, becoming a squirrel allows you to reconnect with nature and touch more grass than you ever thought possible. Instead of being stuck in a lab class for hours on end, you could be frolicking in the forest without a care in the world.

One of the most rewarding benefits of being one with your inner squirrel is the ability to utilize stealth. You'd be able to hide in trash cans along the campus

path, ready to jump out and scare any students walking by. The same could be said from hiding out and jumping from trees near oncoming student traffic. It is a great tactical advantage for anyone who truly embraces the spirit of a squirrel.

There are many benefits to embracing your inner squirrel. Not only will it alleviate your mental stressors, it will also help you become the most authentic version of yourself. When you truly embody a squirrel and embrace the culture of the Drew squirrels, your life will become better.



The lead editorial is the divided opinion of the editorial board.

## New Construction Plans for Maximum Wind on Campus

Wynn DeTunell  
Tornado Writer

Drew University is currently in talks of redeveloping some of the buildings on campus in order to maximize the amount of wind flow delivered across the entire forest.

The construction aims to start in the winter of 2026, where most of the work will be done on remodeling the roofs in order to angle them in a triangular shape to increase chances of wind tunnels forming throughout the walkways in between dorms. The university hopes that these new developments will act as a "gigantic air conditioner in the summer" and during the winter "a fun time for anyone who happens to pass by."

With the increase of wind on campus, there will be a more efficient airflow near buildings such as Brown and McLendon Halls. This will also cause a wind tunnel to form near the base of Ehinger Center, acting as a centrifuge whenever any wind at all happens to blow near the building.

Students will most likely struggle to walk up to grab their lunch and dinner during

these months of construction. Students with bangs especially are being advised that they should begin to invest in headbands or hair clips unless they are willing to be momentarily blinded by the sheer force of air headed their way this winter.

Since a majority of Drew's campus is stacked by tall, rectangular buildings forcing the wind to push itself around the buildings' corners and act as a suction,

the incoming changes to the roofs will only be adding to that. Rather than only some spots on campus being more windy than others, all of campus will be subjected to stronger winds than usual and the variety will lie in how high the wind speed travels to in those areas.

"I'm not too bothered by it," one Drew university student says. "My friends and I are hoping we can dress up in inflatable suits

and just start flying. Could be fun."

Another stated, "No, I'm not looking forward to it. I already have to fight like a cartoon character whenever my papers fly up in the air. The other day, my glasses flew off."

The Drew community is divided on the new development and updates on the construction and remodeling plans are still ongoing. It's hard to tell if this is the wis-

est decision for the school at the moment, but students at Drew have always been willing to go wherever the wind takes them.



Tornado in the wild.

IMAGE COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS.

Wynn DeTunell is a senior majoring in architecture.

# Hazing SHOULD be Allowed at Drew University

Chet Chadsworth  
Frat Bro

In a terrible turn for Drew University, a newly published article by the Princeton Review has dubbed the school No. 1 on the list of “Best Northeastern Schools for Losers and Squares.” This cannot be tolerated. It is time for Drew University to make a change.

To change this university from one full of losers to one full of winners, we must take decisive action. We must choose to enhance the bonds between students, making the time they spend here matter for the rest of their lives. To accomplish this, to become the best university that Drew University can be—we must implement hazing.

I, a student here at Drew, have always known that there was a bit of a hazing drought, but I was blissfully unaware of just how severe the problem was until recently. The lack of Greek life on campus has led to a large portion of students missing out on key aspects of the college experience. After surveying over 100 Drew students, less than five had ever been electrocuted by jumper cables, and those



A cloud of smoke.

IMAGE COURTESY OF PEXELS.

that had been given the ol’ nipple neutralizer claimed they had not received it during their time at Drew. These are, frankly, deplorable numbers.

There are a few issues that everyone knows Drew has: too few ambulances going by, too little alcohol poisoning and too few fire alarms. Hazing, and only hazing, can bring relief to these problems. I believe that we need to implement programs in order to facilitate hazing in order to save the university from itself.

To promote hazing, clubs should be granted a separate hazing budget. This will allow clubs to improve membership retention, as

all new recruits will bond together. Every club president knows the feeling of having their numbers decline week-by-week as the meetings slowly die. Hazing will prevent this painful exsanguination by making new recruits blood brothers thanks to being waterboarded with vodka together.

Additionally, hazing will allow the townhouses to become more active around campus. Hopefully, the various hazing rituals will involve fire in some way, allowing for the townhouses to have their fire alarm go off more, just like they have always dreamed.

The most important detail, to ensure no student is

left out of the bonding, is to add hazing to all student orientations. Currently, transferring students struggle to find their place at Drew, but by having transfers and freshmen drink mystery liquids together, transfers will find their place.

In short, hazing is an important part of any college with cool students, and thus should be implemented as soon as possible.

Chet Chadsworth is a ultra senior majoring in general studies, minoring in slightly more specific studies.



## It’s Time for Drew University to Invest in a Second Ranger Bear

Ranger Bear  
Mascot

I never thought I would have to write something like this, but here we are.

Being Ranger Bear is an honor. It is a privilege. It is also, increasingly, a logistical impossibility.

On any given day, I am expected to be everywhere at once. Hying up a crowd at a game, welcoming prospective students, posing for photos, attending campus events and maintaining what I can only describe as a constant, silent emotional support presence.

I do all of this with enthusiasm. I do all of this with pride. I do all of this as one bear.

And that’s the problem.

Drew University, for all its strengths, has overlooked a critical need: there should be two of me.

Before anyone panics, I am not suggesting a replacement. This is not a “new bear, who dis?” situation.

This is about sustainability. This is about growth.

This is about acknowledging that one mascot cannot physically be in The Forest, the athletic field and the student center at the same time—though I have come alarmingly close.

University President Barack Obama recently told me, “Ranger Bear, you’ve

done an outstanding job representing this institution. But we have to consider what adding another bear would mean.”

With respect, Mr. President, I already have.

It would mean fewer scheduling conflicts where I am double-booked and forced to choose between two equally important events. It would mean students no longer asking, “Wait, weren’t you just over there?” in a tone that suggests either confusion or mild existential concern.

It would mean I could fully commit to each appearance without wondering what I’m missing somewhere else. And yes, it would mean more bear.

Some critics have raised concerns about identity. How would students tell us apart? Would it dilute the brand?

These are valid questions, but not unsolvable ones.

We are a university. We can figure out naming conventions. Ranger Bear and Ranger Bear 2. Bear Prime and Bear Plus. I am open to suggestions.

A random student stopped me recently and said, “I think it would be kind of cool, but also kind of unsettling.”

To that, I say: it can be both.

Let’s not ignore the physical reality here, either. The suit is warm. The schedule is packed. The expectations are endless.

There are only so many high-fives one set of paws can deliver in a day before something starts to give. Usually, it’s my internal sense of time.

Even Buck the Bunny, a respected figure in the broader mascot community, weighed in on the issue.

“You never run a full operation with just one character,” Buck told me.

“That’s not scalable. That’s a risk.”

Exactly.

This is not about excess; this is about infrastructure. Drew has already shown a willingness to think creatively when it comes to solving problems.

Compared to other recent decisions, adding a second mascot feels almost reasonable.

At the end of the day, this university deserves the best version of Ranger Bear. Right now, that version is stretched thin, occasionally

late and, at times, waving at two groups of people who think they are seeing something impossible.

I am asking, simply, for help. Not less spirit. Not less presence.

Just more bear.

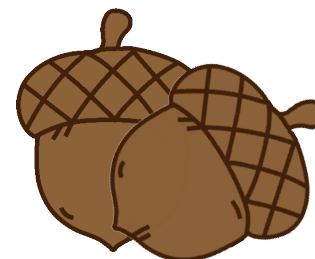


Ranger Bear is a mascot majoring in environmental studies & sustainability and minoring in humanities



New Drew University mascot, Barkus the Tree.

IMAGE COURTESY OF DREW UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS INSTAGRAM.



**COMING UP**

Get live stats  
@GoDrewRangers on  
X

**YESTERDAY, March 32**

MBB vs. Drew University  
Ontario, CA  
3:31 am

**Friday, April 22**

WBB vs. GameStop  
South Plainfield, NJ  
9:59 am

**Monday, May 10**

MBB vs. Ranger Bear  
Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ  
8:41 pm

# SPORTS

**INSIDE:**

WHERE IS BEN? HOW MANY BEN'S CAN YOU FIND :)



SPORTS EDITOR: DEVAN SUTARIA | dsutaria@drew.edu  
SPORTS EDITOR: GILLIAN SAMPSON | gsampson@drew.edu

## Getting to Know Acorn Sports Editor Gillian Sampson: Off and Off the Field

**The Man Who Erased His Name**  
Former Opinions Editor

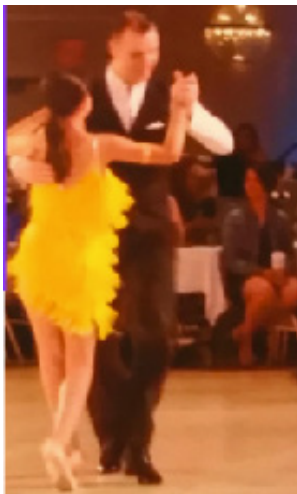
Drew's student-athletes embody a dedicated commitment to both academic excellence and athletic prowess.

These students navigate the most demanding schedules to excel in the classroom while representing their school on the field, demonstrating discipline and time management in balancing athletic achievement and intellectual growth.

This week's "Student-Athlete Spotlight" breaks tradition in a truly groundbreaking way: our featured "athlete" cannot run a mile, throws like a confused penguin and once got winded...timing a 40-yard dash.

Meet our Sports Editor, Gillian Sampson—a person whose love for sports is only rivaled by her complete and undeniable lack of athletic ability.

Now, before you question our editorial integrity, let's review her credentials. While she may not dominate on the field, court or track, Sampson did spend 18 years as a competitive ballroom dancer—an accomplishment that, while



Sampson ('24) competing in latin ballroom dancing.

IMAGE COURTESY OF GILLIAN SAMPSON

impressive, has yet to translate into success in any sport involving a ball, a net or virtually any form of coordinated gameplay.

A member of Drew's Class of 2024 and a current master's student in the MEd program, she earned a bachelor of arts in history with a minor in English literature, graduating with a 3.774 GPA. She is a dean's list honoree and a member of Phi Alpha Theta—proof that while athletic dominance may not be her strength, academic excellence certainly is.

Her relationship with sports is best described as deeply committed—just not in a traditional sense. When asked about what sport she plays, she did not hesitate.

"Emotionally? All of them. Physically? None with any measurable success," said Sampson. Though often mistaken for a member of the fencing team, she is in fact not—just guilty by prolonged and suspicious proximity.

Rather than participating, she has built her athletic identity as a spectator. Her brief attempt at competition did not yield long term results. "It was a short-lived era. The ball and I had creative differences," said Sampson.

While her own athletic resume may be limited, athleticism does run in her family—just not necessarily through her. With an uncle who is a Villanova Hall of Fame record holder, as

well as a cousin who competed at the Division I level, Sampson instead contributes through enthusiastic support and sideline analysis.

Her connection to sports is perhaps more evident in her loyalty to the Philadelphia Eagles. As she described, being a fan means she "...experiences joy, stress, delusion and heartbreak all within a single quarter."

While her on-field contributions remain nonexistent, she has found success in a different arena: fantasy football. On the virtual turf, Sampson embraces a managerial mindset, relying on strategy, institution and what she would likely describe as "vibes."

"I can't run a play, but I can absolutely manage one," said Sampson. "GM energy only."

From her perspective, Drew has played a pivotal role in shaping her place within athletics, even if that role looks a little different. Rather than competing, she has found her niche in covering the athletes who do.

"Drew has really allowed me to put the 'student' in student-athlete—and then just kind of leave the 'athlete' part up for interpretation," said Sampson.

the 'athlete' part up for interpretation," said Sampson. "But honestly, Drew gave me a way to fully be part of athletics without anyone needing to witness me attempt one. I may not be contributing points on the scoreboard, but I am contributing 800-word articles to make sure people know about the athletes."

Sampson's contributions may not appear in box scores, but her impact is undeniable. Through her rich storytelling, coverage and unmatched confidence that cannot be found anywhere else, she has carved out a unique place within the athletics community.

Now, while she may never qualify for regionals, break a university record or complete a warmup without supervision, Sampson remains a standout figure in Drew Athletics. She proves that sometimes, the most important role in sports is not playing the game, but telling the story.

**The Man Who Erased His Name** is a senior double-majoring in Botswanian Badminton and Chilean Calisthenics, with a minor in Texan Tasmanian Twister Tag.



## Drew University "Football Team" Limp Through First Game

**Apple Juice Sampson**  
Football Connoisseur

When the Drew administration found out that there was a student-formed football team on campus, they eagerly signed them up for an exhibition match against FDU-Florham, apparently attempting to kickstart a football program to bring in more revenue.

It was much to their chagrin, then, that the Drew University Football Team is in fact not a football team at all, but instead an ironic name for the university's improv troupe. Abiding by the legally binding principle of improv, "yes, and," the Football Team nonetheless suited up against the Florham Devils for one of the more compelling games played in Madison intercollegiate football history.

At the start of the first quarter, the Football Team was visibly confused. They appeared to figure out

the situation when, according to wide receiver Evelyn House ('27), "we asked for an object prompt and they just handed us a literal football."

The confusion then shifted into just ineptitude, with the Football Team struggling in all aspects of the game. In the first half, quarterback Finn Jackson ('26) went 0-17 in pass attempts, and passed for a total of negative 183 yards.

The lone bright spot in the first half is when defensive end Matt Cutler ('27) actually managed to break through FDU's offensive line and sack their quarterback. When asked how he was able to do it, Cutler responded: "That's just my everyday Tuesday."

With a halftime score of 56-0 (in favor of the Devils), there was immense pressure on Football leadership in the locker room at the half. House attempted

to lead some group games, but "couldn't because of all of the strain injuries." The attitude remained positive nonetheless according to Cutler: "Call us a lot of things, we're not quitters, except for Casey [Cornwell ('27)], Casey wanted to quit." Limping onto the field for the second half, the outlook seemed grim for Drew's Football Team.

There seemed to be a strategy shift entering the third quarter. Running back Grady Cummings ('27) was used as a decoy, proverbially thrown to the wolves, while Christina Forte ('28), whom House described as "a beast," caught a screen pass and ran for up to three yards.

The strategy only became more befuddling from there on. At one point in the fourth quarter, quarterback Jackson appeared to attempt to eat the football. This, of course, did not work. When

asked as to why they would try to consume the football instead of throw it, Jackson declined to comment. One could infer that there will be discussions among the coaching staff as to finding a new, less hungry quarterback.

The Football Team's best opportunity to score came with four minutes left in the fourth quarter, when House had the only reception of the game, and was faced with only one of Florham's cornerbacks at their own 42 yard line. While they did manage to get into the endzone without being tackled, the touchdown was ruled invalid due to the flagrant foul House committed, trying to strangle their opponent with their shoelaces. When asked about their thought process during that play, House defended their actions, saying "as I'm aware, there's no rule against me using my shoe-

laces to strangle the opposition."

With a final score of 126-0, it was a tough first showing for the Drew University Football Team. As they limped off the field, there were only two who had to be carried off on stretchers, which was considered a relative success. It remains to be seen as to whether there will be more games in the future, and opinions on the team seem mixed, from Cutler feeling that "it was great," to House claiming "It was almost as humiliating as actually doing improv."

**Apple Juice Sampson** is majoring in mixology and minoring in acorn science.