

The Defiler

April 1, 2024

The Voice of Foolishness

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Ryan Gosling to Perform at AU's Annual Spring Concert

BY LIZZ PANCHYK

Did you catch Ryan Gosling's performance of "I'm Just Ken" at the Oscars? Well, he's decided to perform at Adelphi this spring, bringing his Ken posse with him!

The praise for his initial performance was so high that multiple schools offered him a spot in their spring concerts. It finally came down to the big decision, and Garden City's Adelphi campus was chosen as the next spot for Gosling's iconic performance. He will be our next performer at our annual spring concert—it was far too exciting of an offer to resist!

As in years past, the performance will take place in the gym at the Center for Recreation and Sports (CRS). Fol-

lowing Gosling's show, Dua Lipa will be performing "Dance the Night" with Margot Robbie. Then, the night will end with a special performance from Billie Eilish and Finneas with "What Was I Made For?" Get ready for a night of Barbie—the era continues!

Get ready for a night of Barbie—the era continues!

Students are very excited for this night. Who could possibly have imagined Ryan Gosling coming to Long Island? Senior Beth Ceriello said, "To have Ryan Gosling come to our school



Students are super excited to have actor Ryan Gosling, AKA Ken, perform at Adelphi.

is truly amazing. What an amazing way to celebrate the end of senior year!"

It's not everyday that we get so many celebrities on our campus at once, so take advantage of this opportunity while you still can. Tickets are on universitytickets.net selling for only \$21 each. Adelphi students are only allotted one ticket each, and guest tickets are \$31 a person. The concert is on Friday, April 26 at 8 pm. There are only 179 spots so buy them before it's too late. Plus, the first 53 guests to enter the CRS will be given a free pink "I'm Just Ken" T-shirt and a free pair of sunglasses.

Don't plan on leaving early, because Billie Eilish and Finneas will be hosting a meet-and-greet in the lounge following the concert. Be there or be square! 🐾

University's Newest Program: Social Media Influencing

BY JUSTIN KRESSE

For a long time now, Adelphi's diverse selection of majors and minors spanning eight colleges and schools has been lacking in one specific area: social media influence. For years, the number one most requested change by currently enrolled students and alumni has been that they add such a program, so the Adelphi community will certainly be excited to learn that is exactly what is happening for the 2024-2025 academic school year.

Within the College of Arts and Sciences, a new social media influencer program has been created to teach students how to gain popularity and influence on platforms such as TikTok, Instagram, YouTube, X (formerly Twitter) and even Facebook.

Of course with a new program there must also come new faculty to assist with the instruction of these specialized areas of expertise, and Adelphi has spared no expense. It is now official that influencers Charli D'Amelio and Spencer Polanco Knight (otherwise known as Spencer X) will be brought into the Panther family as full-time faculty. Professor D'Amelio will be teaching a course called "The Art of TikTok Dancing," based on her experience as both a competitive dancer and subsequently creating viral dances

on the TikTok platform. Professor Spencer X will be teaching "Viral Music Production and Promotion," based on his experience on platforms like TikTok and YouTube mak-



Charli D'Amelio, 19, will be the youngest full-time faculty member in the fall. Photo from Wikipedia

ing beatboxing and music tracks. Current Adelphi faculty will also be teaching some classes for the major, such as "Economics of Rapid Growth and Virality," which will be taught by current economics professors.

For those still looking to graduate with a more traditional major, there is

the opportunity to minor in social media influencing, which will give you that edge over competitors who will also be looking to enter your field without such experience. And the university is also looking into implementing some of the courses into the general education requirements in coming years to better round out each Adelphi student's educational experience.

As part of the major and minor programs, students will learn about becoming popular on current platforms. But generalized strategies and techniques will also be taught that could be applicable to any social media platform that becomes popular in the future, allowing students to continue their success well into the future despite the constant changes and advancements in the social media sector.

However, some students are not happy about the new program—mainly just the seniors graduating this year who are disappointed they won't get the chance to take part in this exciting new major. Senior computer science major Jacob Frey said, "I've never been more disappointed in my entire life that the social media major is only being introduced now. I've been asking the Adelphi faculty for this major for four years now. Unfortunately, it's too late for me."

Though seniors like Frey might be saddened, for the rest of Adelphi students, this is certainly an exciting time. Even though many universities have been forced



Professor Spencer Polanco Knight is a TikTok and YouTube influencer who will be bringing his expertise to the AU classroom next semester.

Photo from LinkedIn

to make tough decisions recently, Adelphi certainly is positioning itself as a forward-thinking institution that will set up graduates to truly succeed in the future. 🐾

Club Caught: Celebrity Alumni Are Revealed to be Paid Actors

BY JOSEPH D'ANDREA

At the start of the spring semester, Adelphi students were ecstatic when they showed up to campus to be greeted by actor Brad Pitt in the University Center. How often is it that such a big-name celebrity is right where you're getting your lunch? Or was he?

Students rushed to get autographs. That's when they learned that it was all just a joke. Rather than Brad Pitt, he was a paid actor posing for promotional materials for the little known, student-led club, the Student Commencement Organization.

Other students started to protest. This led to an exposé done by a local paper that

left the club in the spotlight. Apparently they were planning to claim famous alumni had attended the university in attempts to boost their popularity as an institution.

Real Adelphi alumni over the years have included Public Enemy frontman Chuck D and Jonathan Larson, the playwright of "Rent" and "Tick, Tick... Boom!" However,

as revealed last month by a sweeping amount of headlines, there are some faux Panthers that the new club has been caught promoting as Adelphi graduates. Many students have expressed their disappointment, but also confusion in retrospect, asking themselves how did they not realize these falsehoods

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A Word from the Editor

Hello readers! What's that? It's finally April? Could've fooled me! Like we do every year, here's our *Defiler*, an issue of totally-completely-true-not-at-all-silly-made-up articles! It's been an annual tradition at *The Delphian* for most of its history.

I know you're all excited to hear about all the different goings-on on campus, such as Kennie's plans as class president, the spring concert, and the new social media classes starting next academic year. We're getting past the halfway point of the semester, so this is all very important and very real information to know. Especially considering the new pickleball team. What a great new sport to join!

When you're done with that, feel free to explore the word search! Not only will you find spring words all around (in hopes that after that awful rainstorm we can have some nice weather), but a super special secret message awaits you all!

Ta-ta for now and April Fools! Hope we got you good with some of these fun articles. If not, you must read them again. Just kidding! Sort of. But please stay tuned for our next ACTUAL April issue, which will be out soon.

Thank you to our editors for helping with this always fun issue and for all your creative ideas and contributions. To everyone, have a great April Fool's day and a great start to a hopefully warmer month. See you in the next one!

Lizz Panchyk '24
Editor-not-in-Chief 🐾



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Earle Hall Media Center
One South Avenue
Garden City, NY 11530

HOW TO REACH US
Main Office: 516-877-6935
E-mail: delphian@adelphi.edu

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Adele Takes Over As Tour Guide for Incoming Students

BY LIZZ PANCHYK

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is taking the world by storm, as you all may have already experienced—and most certainly have read about. Something else you may have experienced as the weather is getting warmer is stepping around the constant tours on campus that are guiding high school students and their parents, all grasping their yellow folders. Because these tours are so frequent, Admissions has announced that they will now be completely A.I. run.

Now what does this mean? The tours will look self-guided, but the A.I. will be attached to Adelphi's chatbot, Adele, who will help to navigate them throughout the campus. All directions will be given through Adele's campus map guider, and all questions will be answered by Adele as well. Throughout each building's visit, Adele will give historical and fun facts about the place through text. The navigation is quite simple as it will circle around the campus, starting outside the UC, circling completely around the campus's entirety and ending inside the

UC. Phones will have limited access during the tour session, meaning that the only other app that can be used during the tour is the camera app. This is so that each group can stay on the right track and won't get lost throughout the tour.

Because the tour is A.I. guided, parents and students will be allowed to take their time in each building to take in all the goings on. They can even join classes to see what they're like. After each building is completed, Adele will send back stars, which at the end of the tour, will add up for each person to get a free drink

or snack at Starbucks, or one merch item per family from the Adelphi bookstore.

When the tour is completed, Adele will call each tour member and ask to rate their experience. They are only required to give simple responses, such as "yes," "no," "I'm not sure," "good" or "bad."

After this necessary phone call, Adele will send out one last message, a survey to ask what should be improved and what was done well, so that the tour can be adjusted for the future if need be. 🐾

Celebrity Alumni Revealed to be Paid Actors

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until the controversy hit the news cycle?

Charles Day, a senior studying aerospace engineering at Adelphi, felt personally let down by the college and spoke on the situation.

"When I was in my junior year of high school," Day said, "I came across a page on Adelphi's website and was greeted with a picture of none other than Apollo 11 astronaut Michael Collins receiving his diploma in front of a big banner that read: 'Class of 1969.' Having read countless interviews given by an American of such notoriety, I looked more into Adelphi's programs and applied. But as I came to learn more about the current controversy, I realized that not only was I tricked, but somehow didn't realize that Collins was most likely circling the moon while the ceremony was taking place. I guess by choosing the least known of the Apollo 11 astronauts, these students in charge of the club thought they'd get away with it.

And apparently they did for over 50 years."

It's suspected that the Student Commencement Organization even dipped into the bucket of fictional characters when promoting themselves. One student reported that he received an email in 2022 that depicted a board member shaking hands with none other than Professor Charles Xavier of the comic book series "X-Men."

Beyond these photoshopped images, a recent audit of the Student Commencement Organization financial records showed that the club spent roughly \$45,000 on services from the Long Island Celebrity Impersonation Company, a business that often sends actors to birthday parties and other celebrations. A look back at past yearbooks reveals several photos in which figures ranging from Abraham Lincoln to Elvis Presley handed diplomas to students, confirming what these expenses were used for.

It is also suspected that at these graduation ceremonies, speeches were even



Impersonators portrayed celebrities like Academy Award Winner Brad Pitt and suspicions rose as word got around campus. Photo from Wikimedia Commons

given by the imitation alumni. However, few recorded samples exist. A transcript from the 1999 graduation ceremony reads: "My fellow Panthers, today is a day you will remember for the rest of your lives. It's the end of your college career, but the beginning of your professional one. If I were alive to see all your young faces, I'd wish you the best of luck, and encourage you to follow the advice I gave to the American people all those years ago: Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country."

The error of not acknowledging the phony speaker of this John F. Kennedy speech in particular has been called "embarrassing" by many Adelphi students over the past week.

Neither the Student Commencement Organization nor the university itself has yet to issue a formal response to these allegations. 🐾

A Lasting Legacy From Your 2024 Class President

BY KENNIE DIONISIO

Panthers, serving as your Class of 2024 president has been an honor. With less than two months until graduation, it's still not too late to make our mark on Adelphi University. As the dreaded COVID class, we've been through enough. Am I right? A couple of minor tweaks to Adelphi can't hurt if it means we get to spend the next few weeks relaxing. Lucky enough for you, there's still a good amount of money left in our budget. Why not spend it all?

Say Goodbye to your Tuesday/Thursday Classes!

If your senioritis hasn't kicked in yet, I want your work ethic. There's nothing that I loathe more than my Tuesday and Thursday classes, especially since they're my only classes.

For me, a typical Tuesday looks like waking up at 8 am, presenting my capstone project, going to my Computer Networks class, and then fiddling around with Adobe Premiere Pro for two-and-a-half hours. Seriously, what college kid isn't exhausted?

"My Tuesday classes are very exhausting because I am here from 9 am to almost 6 pm," said senior communications major Angelina Vella. "I have two consecutive two-and-a-half classes so I barely have a break."

If you're in the same rut, don't fret. I've convinced every professor who teaches on Tuesdays and Thursdays to go on a one-month, all-expenses paid

trip to Fiji. While your professor is on the beach drinking out of a coconut, you can catch up on sleep or go out to brunch with your friends. And hopefully, your professors will be relaxed enough to put a shiny A+ on your final transcript.

A Taste of Korea in the Dining Hall

Those booths in the lower level of the UC? Yeah, they take up way too much space. I swear I'm tripping over chairs and tables every time I want to get a can of Celsius from The Market.

And we've been eating the same food for four years now. As much as I love Asian Fusion, I'm starting to grow tired of eating the same chicken lo mein and egg rolls. It's never too late for new culinary options.

Let's rip out all of those cluttered seating areas against the wall and replace them with Korean BBQ stations. Each station will be fully equipped with a variety of meats, mushrooms and sauces, as well as a refillable basket of lettuce wraps and rice.

Many seniors like computer science major Jordan Rivas were eager to chow down after hearing this plan.

"Give me a plate of pork belly and some beef bulgogi, and I'll be eating in the UC for hours," Rivas said.

Mandated Friday Rooftop Parties at Nexus

The weather is starting to warm up, and the wait until Senior Formal is just too long. College kids just want to have fun and party.

It's a shame that some Adel-

phi students haven't seen the rooftop on the Nexus Building. You get a view of the Flagpole Lawn and South Avenue adorning a beautiful azure sky. Although the area is small, it's the perfect place for a rooftop party.



The statue of Kennie will be built over this summer so that incoming students of the 2024-'25 school year are able to admire it in full.

Imagine a night with your Panther friends, complete with a DJ, disco lights, an all-you-can-eat pizza buffet and even an open bar for those who are 21 or above. Dancing the night away with your fellow classmates is a fantastic way to commemorate the class of 2024.

Come on down every Friday

at 7 pm. It's only around the corner when you take the elevator to the third floor. Admission is only \$5 on University tickets. (And yes, I'll be making every senior come at least once.)

Canine Friends on the Flagpole Lawn

I remember in my junior year before final exams, there were therapy dogs in the Swirbul Library. Quite frankly, I haven't felt that level of serotonin in a while. I'd love to spread that happiness with all of you. It's time to bring your dogs onto the Flagpole Lawn. Me and my committee would love to pet them all and give them treats. When the sun is out, your furry friends can also socialize with the bunnies and frisbee players. Doesn't all of that sound adorable?

A Statue of Yours Truly

I mean, I have to do at least one narcissistic thing with this money. It's no secret that I do a lot here on campus. Some of our class members have dubbed me "Adelphi's unofficial mascot." Besides, I'm on a majority of Adelphi's social media, magazines and brochures. A statue shouldn't be any different.

As you pass by the Center for Recreation and Sports for a morning workout or to pick up your smoothie, you'll see my body carved in the finest of stone. My strong stature complements the Panther's beautifully. Bold, confident and unbowed. It takes a president like myself to represent our senior class. I hope these propositions can make our school a better place. 🐾

Spring Puzzle

First find all the words in the list. Words can go in any direction and share letters as well as cross over each other. Once you find all the words, copy the unused letters starting in the top left corner into the blanks to reveal the hidden message.

Word search grid containing letters for finding words.

Word list including bloom, blossoms, breezy, butterfly, Flower, garden, lizard, outdoors, rabbit, rain, spring, sunshine.

This puzzle is a word search puzzle that has a hidden message in it.

Goodbye to Paws, Hello to Pico: Introducing Adelphi's New Mascot

BY KURANA DOOBAY

Paws has been around for as long as most of you can remember, but recently, after a women's basketball game in the Center for Recreation and Sports (CRS), he delivered a moving speech in which he announced that he will be stepping down from his position as Adelphi's school mascot.

He said, "It's been a pleasure serving as Adelphi's mascot for as long as I have. Nothing has made me happier than seeing all of your smiling faces around campus, at every sports game and at events from Welcome Weekend to Commencement ceremonies. We have been through a lot together and I will never forget my time spent here at Adelphi."

Towards the end of his speech, Paws even started tearing up, moving students and faculty to do the same.

Before he ended, Paws added, "Don't you all worry. I leave you in four great paws. Your next mascot, a dear friend of mine, will take you to greater places than I ever could."

And with those words, a small, golden-eyed, beautifully black-and-brown striped tabby strutted across the stage

adorned with a brown-and-gold collar with a small bell that jingled with each step. His name tag read "Pico."

"Everyone, I would like you to put your hands together for Pico de Gallo Masci, your next school mascot," Paws announced.



Follow Pico's Instagram account @picospixs where he is a part-time model and full-time friend!

When he took the podium, Pico made a statement of his own. "MEOW, MEOW, MEOW, MEOW, MEOW," after which he took a big stretch. Students gasped in excitement and adoration. Following was a long moment of silence, which Pico broke with an intense,

"MEOWWWW," after which students loudly clapped and cheered, chanting "Pico! Pico! Pico!" He responded, "MEOW!"

You might have seen Pico strolling around campus before, as he has been Jenna Masci's emotional support pet living on campus with her since September 2022. Jenna Masci, Pico's mom and a senior criminal justice major, said she's "incredibly proud" of Pico's accomplishment.

"He has done nothing but be good to me. I just know he will do so much more for Adelphi's campus. Every day with him feels like the best day ever, and I know that he will make every student here feel the same way!" She continued, "He is not just a regular cat; he is a cat for the people."

Pico is only around two years old, making him a teenager in human years, but he is surely wise beyond his years. When asked about how he feels about his incredible new responsibility, he responded with a powerful, "MEOW!"

Pico takes a much more hands-on approach than Paws—often visiting classrooms, participating in student club meetings, roaming around on the quad and the

flagpole lawn and even getting lunch with his mom and her friends at the University Center. As a result of his involvement, students are overjoyed by the change.

Jake Frey, a senior computer science major, said, "I've wanted this change since the second I met Pico."

Marva Dudley-Adams, a graduate student studying adolescents with disabilities who works in Admissions, said, "I just know Pico will attract so many more new students! I'll need to ask Jenna if I can bring him on my tours. He is such a fun little guy, and represents everything Adelphi needs!"

The next step Adelphi will be taking is constructing a statue in Pico's honor adjacent to that of Paws in front of the CRS, but there has been no word from staff on when that will begin. In the meantime, be sure to carry some cat treats around, just in case you happen to see him roaming the halls of whichever building you're in.

Paws made sure to let students know that he will still be around. He said, "If ever you do need me, stand in front of the mirrors in the fitness center, in the dark, and say, 'Go Panthers' three times, and I'll appear.'" 🐾

University Athletics Announces Formation of Pickleball Team

BY ANDREW SMITH

Pickleball has taken the sports world by storm. Across the globe, pickleball is becoming more than just a trend; it's now a lifestyle. People of all ages gather at their local recreation park to play pickleball or have created courts in their own backyards.

A number of high-profile NBA superstars like Kevin Durant and LeBron James and even celebrities such as Drake have invested a portion of their finances into pickleball teams, which has been a catalyst in the growth of popularity of the sport.

Adelphi Athletics is the next entity to become involved with this emerging sport.

The Panthers and other local universities and colleges will form their own

division that is associated with the NCAA, which in return will allow the entire student body to participate in the activity. Each university will have several teams allowing as many students to participate as possible such as an A team, B team, etc.

Adelphi University will be in a division with fellow neighboring universities like Hofstra University, Molloy University, Stony Brook University and Saint Joseph's College, just to name a few.

Adelphi has expressed their commitment and desire to make this sport available to all students interested. This will be an amazing opportunity to not only compete against other schools but also have the ability to meet new friends in a live game setting.

Taryn Moerler, a senior communica-

tions major, expressed her excitement when she first heard the announcement. "If Adelphi announced a pickleball team with open tryouts I would certainly be the first person to try



Pickleball has been taking the sports world by storm and will soon be found all over our Garden City Campus.

Photo provided by Flickr

out. Pickleball is a pastime passion of mine that I have had since I was five years old."

She continued, "Recently, I have gotten my friends into it, and they certainly enjoy it. It allows us to get outside while moving around and makes us feel like we have worked out after we play."

As trends change, Adelphi tries to match that to cater to different students. "I definitely think that it would come as a shock to a lot of people at Adelphi because a lot of other schools do not have pickleball, but it is a step in the right direction to highlight some new sports," Moerler stated.

Practice and tryout schedules will be announced in the coming weeks and will take place over the first week of April. Stay tuned for updates. 🐾

Campus a Hot Campaign Spot As Trump, Biden Aim for Your Vote

BY HUSSEIN ALI RIFATH

Adelphi's Garden City campus has been swept by campaign slogans amid presidential election season fervor as both Trump and Biden target first-time college voters and the youth vote. With New York's primary day scheduled for tomorrow, April 2, it's becoming increasingly difficult for Panthers to get to class, activities or meals without campaign staffers for both parties stopping to tell them why they should vote for their candidate.

Volunteers for the pro-Trump super PAC MAGA, Inc. were seen at the University Center Friday distributing red "Make America Great Again" hats and other campaign paraphernalia. This comes as the Trump campaign aims to make inroads in New York state.

Much of their focus has been on Garden City, intending to win over the youth vote with the promise of jobs. "Crooked Joe Biden and the Democrats have done nothing but let down the hardworking students of Adelphi Univer-

sity," said Trump campaign spokesman Steven Cheung. "We are witnessing, in real-time, the last rites of a campaign on its deathbed. President Trump is ready to win Garden City and the rest of New York in a landslide and enact policies that will rescue students' jobs from the unprecedented flow of migrants invading through our southern border."

Democrats, meanwhile, are keen to prevent another red wave in New York. On Saturday, the Biden campaign made a stop at the Performing Arts Center (PAC) aiming to win over Adelphi's undecided young voters. The event, which was initially supposed to be held at Motamed Field, was forced to relocate after the Trump campaign purchased over 90% of the front-row seating to keep it empty. Upon arrival, Biden's presidential motorcade was met by both protestors and supporters. The President was quickly whisked into the building by campaign staff and the Secret Service.

The scene inside the PAC was much more calm. Adelphi students, faculty and

alumni were invited to participate; tickets were awarded by draw. The room filled in a quick but orderly fashion, and the President spoke candidly with members of the Adelphi community.

When asked by one student about his position on student loan forgiveness, he smiled. "The former president and his party disagree plenty with my intention to cancel student debt. I get it, I get it," said President Biden. "But look, today millions of working-class American families are struggling to keep up with their bills. Nobody, and I mean nobody, in the United States of America should have to decide between paying off their loans or putting food on the table. We all deserve a fighting chance to succeed. Come on, folks. Come on. Let's do the right thing. Let's bring it home." This was followed by a round of applause.

Though due to New York's closed primary Independent candidate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. can't be on the primary day

ballot, he did receive a ticket to attend the Biden event as a gift from an anonymous Adelphi alum. While waiting to get into the PAC, he said: "I was hoping to be able to have a conversation with the President. We're not a country where elected officials sit above accountability, and he needs to show the American people that he can handle another term in office." The 70-year-old then removed his shirt and began doing push-ups in what was likely a jab at Biden's age.

Meanwhile, while campaigning outside Swirbul, Trump told students on their way to study: "Your campus is in terrible shape. I mean really, just take a good look at all the potholes in the parking lots. They're like polka-dots! And you drive right over them and your car goes up and down. It's like a roller coaster, let me tell you... What they've done out there is just horrific. To the great students of Hofstra University: we love Hofstra. I'll take such good care of you, you won't even believe it," said Trump. 🐾