Students express their gratitude for PB&J Thursday

By Lexi White
Features Editor

Students expressed their gratitude at the Programs Council's, ProCon, PB&J Thursday event. In exchange for signing in with their ID number, students can grab lunch, snacks and drinks every week in the Engleman Rotunda.

Nursing major Maddie Elmo, a sophomore, helped to host the event with ProCon on Feb. 20. Elmo said she feels honored to support students through the event.

"Many students have come up to us and said, 'this is a life saver' because I have enough snacks now to get me through my next class," Elmo said. "A lot of people have busy classes on Thursdays and all their classes are kind of stacked."

Elmo said this resource is important for students to utilize and she is happy to help.

"Knowing that I can give back to students with free food makes me feel good because there are people who actually need something like this," Elmo said.

Early education major Wendy Bryan, a senior, said she comes to this event every week to grab snacks for her five kids.

"It feels great knowing that I can put these snacks into their lunch boxes and know they will be set for the day," Bryan said.

Bryan said this event helps her stay motivated between classes since she is a commuter and does not have a meal plan.

"It's wonderful that they have this here every week," Bryan said. "Some people can't afford a meal plan, so this helps us commuters out a lot."

Another commuter student who said he feels grateful for the resources ProCon provided was political science major John Medina, a freshman.

"I came to the event today because I truly appreciate what ProCon is doing," Medina said. "I feel so appreciated as a student here because of this."

Another member of ProCon who helped to host the event was social work major Tara Malcolm, a junior. She said she loves helping the students who need it the most.

"I love hosting this event because it's nice knowing that you're doing something and giving back to the community" Malcolm said. "Students pay so much money for tuition, so they might as well get something for free while being here."

Medina said this event helps him save time and money while he is in between classes.

"This is so important to me because I don't have to waste time during my break waiting in long lines and pay out of my own pocket for food," Medina said. "Grabbing something quick from here helps me stay energized to keep going throughout my day."

Psychology major Heysel Moscoso, a senior, said she attended ProCon's event because she wanted a free snack while waiting for her third class of the day to start.

"The free food they offer is so beneficial for students," Moscoso said. "I come here every week because I love it so much."



PHOTOS | LEXI WHITE
Social work major Tara Malcolm, a junior, with the table she set up for the event.



Psychology major Heysel Moscoso, a senior, grabbing snacks at ProCon's event.

BAPE continues to influence the fashion world

By Jay'Mi Vazquez
Managing Editor

A BATHING APE, better known as BAPE, is one of the best and most influential clothing brands of all time.

Founded in 1993 by Japanese designer Nigo, the brand has grown from a small store in Tokyo's Harajuku district into one of the most influential and recognizable names in streetwear. Its influence spans to not just fashion, but music, pop culture and global trends.

One of the key factors that set BAPE apart from other brands is its ability to blend luxury with street culture, creating a unique intersection that was previously unexplored.

Early on, BAPE introduced designs that merged high fashion aesthetics with elements of hip-hop, punk and Japanese street style. The iconic camo print, bold graphics and the instantly recognizable ape logo quickly became synonymous with both exclusivity and rebelliousness.

In the late 1990s and early 2000s, the brand gained a cult following, largely due to its strong ties to the hip-hop community. Artists like Pharrell Williams, Kanye West and Jay-Z were seen sporting BAPE pieces, making it a symbol of status and taste in the music world.

Nigo's collaboration with these music icons helped catapult BAPE from a niche Japanese streetwear brand to a global sensation.

The brand's iconic sneakers, particularly the BAPE STA, became the footwear of choice for celebrities and sneakerheads alike, sparking a new wave of hype around limited edition releases.

The exclusivity of BAPE also played a pivotal role in cementing its status as one of the most influential brands.

Limited releases, high prices, and collaborations with top designers and companies, such as Supreme, Coca-Cola and even Star Wars, kept fans eager for the next drop.

This sense of scarcity created a buzz that no other brand was able to replicate at the time, setting the stage for today's booming resale market. The concept of "hype" was born with BAPE, and other brands would later latch onto the model to replicate its success.

However, what truly sets BAPE apart from its contemporaries is its consistency in staying relevant.

As trends come and go, BAPE has managed to remain a pillar of the streetwear scene, continuously adapting and evolving while staying true to its roots.

Nigo's vision has been carried forward by the brand, and even after his departure, BAPE continues to dominate the global fashion conversation, with designers and influencers from every corner of the globe turning to the brand for inspiration.

BAPE's impact on fashion is undeniable. It was one of the first brands to bring street culture into the luxury fashion world, paving the way for the rise of modern streetwear giants like Off-White, YEEZY, and Fear of God.

The brand's evolution from a small Tokyo boutique to a globally recognized icon is a testament to its unmatched ability to influence not just fashion, but entire cultural movements.

BAPE has firmly established itself as a symbol of coolness and creativity, securing its place as one of the most influential brands in the history of fashion.

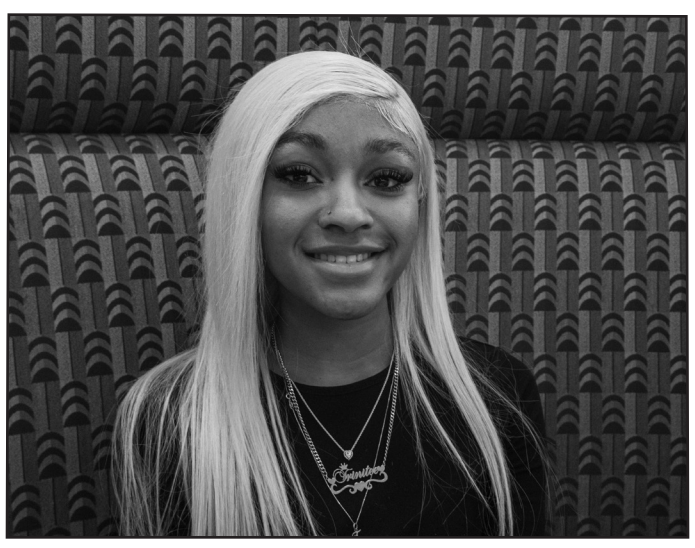
Owls Decide: What is the best song off Drake & PARTYNEXTDOOR's album?

By Lexi White
Features Editor



PHOTOS | CARLY RUSSELL
"My favorite song is 'SPIDER-MAN SUPERMAN' because I was vibing with it."
-Sociology major La'Nya Prescott, a freshman

"Probably 'DIE TRYING' because it's something different, but it still sounds good."
-Computer science major Peter Chinga, a freshman



"'SOMEBODY LOVES ME' because it's the only good sounding song on the album."
-Music major Trinitee Garvey, a junior



"My favorite song from the album is 'NOKIA' because my name is in it."
-Public health major Daniella Davis, a junior



"My favorite is 'RAINING IN HOUSTON' because it spoke to me."
-Physics major Judi Bien, a junior



"My favorite song is 'DEEPER' because it fit the vibe of the album."
-Tourism, hospitality and event management major Maurice Fountain, a sophomore