Duquesne students join Women’s March

CRAIG TAYLOR
staff writer

WASHINGTON, D.C. — At 4:15 a.m. on Jan. 21, Duquesne speech pathology graduate students Sarah Leech and Jessica Arruda loaded a charter bus headed on a four-hour trip to Washington, D.C. for the Women’s March on Washington.

“I just think it was something that I think I’ll never forget and I hope that one day I get to tell my kids about it or my grandkids about how I went,” Arruda said.

The Women’s March on Washington was organized to bring light to social issues surrounding gender, race and religion in the United States. Held the day after Donald Trump’s presidential inauguration, nearly 500,000 protesters surrounded the National Mall by that afternoon, according to The New York Times.

Leech and Arruda joined the thousands of others in the streets of D.C. heading to a rally, which would be followed by the march itself. Many wore pink knitted “pussyhats,” while others held picket signs criticizing President Trump.

Event to discuss current Pa. legislation on police body cameras

BRANDON ADDIE
news editor

An event at Duquesne this Friday will discuss the balance between protecting privacy and protecting police investigations.

The Cyril H. Wecht Institute of Forensic Science and Law is hosting “Balancing Safety, Justice and Privacy: Body-Worn Cameras, Forensic Evidence and the Right to Know” Jan. 27 from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Power Center Ballroom.

The talk will cover the history of how police record encounters with suspects, current legislation regarding body-camera use and the competing interests of public safety, privacy and the right to know, according to Ben Wecht, program administrator for the Cyril H. Wecht Institute.

Speakers at the event include Pittsburgh Police Cmdr. Clarence Trapp; Erik Arneson, executive director of Pennsylvania’s Office of Open Records and Duquesne Associate Law Professor John Rago, who helped draft a bill on body-worn cameras (BWCs) currently in the state legislature.

Pennsylvania Senate Bill 976, first introduced in 2015, seeks to change wording in the Wiretap Act — which makes recording an individual’s voice without their consent a third-degree felony — to protect police officers who capture audio in a private residence.

“Currently, the Wiretap Act does not permit officers to enter a private residence,” he said. “If passed, it is expected that this bill would create greater accountability by law enforcement agencies, more trust in policing and government by private citizens and the media and more solid evidence in the adjudication of criminal and civil complaints,” he said.

SB 976 passed the state Senate 45-5 on Oct. 19, and is now being considered by the House of Representatives. The state House is also considering objections to the proposed bill from members of the media and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), who took issue with the “current near-impossibility” for members of the public to access audio and video from body-worn cameras, according to Wecht.

According to the bill, citizens will not be able to access audio and video recordings under Pennsylvania’s Right to Know Law. Instead, a requestor must make a written request to the police department in order to access the information.

DU law profs. reject AG nominee

RAYMOND ARKE
asst. news editor

A new president means a new administration. Sometimes, however, appointees can draw plenty of controversy.

Sen. Jeff Sessions of Alabama, the nominee for Attorney General, has garnered significant scrutiny since he was picked for the job. On Jan. 10 and 11, he faced in his hearing a national letter of over 1,000 law school professors opposing his nomination — two of whom are from Duquesne.

Tiffany Sizemore-Thompson is an assistant clinical professor and supervises several law clinics at Duquesne. She decided to sign the letter opposing Sessions because of his stances on civil rights and to support other professors who shared her opinion.
'Split' criticized for portrayal of mental illness

D.C. March attracts close to 500,000 demonstrators

MARCH — from page 1

At the site of the rally, the two encountered a dense mob of bodies. Some protesters climbed trees, as seemingly every corner of the rally was filled with a sea of pink and rainbow.

“I see a lot of nasty women out there,” said one speaker, referring to Trump’s comments regarding Hillary Clinton. She was met with a roar of cheers.

Speakers included feminist icon Gloria Steinem, women’s activist Angela Davis and singer Alicia Keys. Arruda described the atmosphere as “contagious,” “overwhelming” and “full of pride.”

While the crowd was loud and tightly packed, Arruda and Leech agreed the vibe of the event was predominantly positive.

“At that march I never felt unsafe, and there were half a million people there,” Leech said. After the rally, the march was scheduled to begin at 1:15 p.m., but by that point, the entire parade route was filled with protesters, so there was nowhere to go. After an hour, the crowd overflowed onto the streets beside the rally and defected into rouges marches. Even still, demonstrations remained peaceful, and D.C. police reported no arrests resulting from the event.

“AT THAT MARCH I NEVER FELT UNSAFE, AND THERE WERE HALF A MILLION PEOPLE THERE.”

—SARAH LEECH
DUQUESNE SPEECH PATHOLOGY MAJOR

Despite the inclusivity of the march, anti-abortion groups say they were not invited to join the event. Students for Life of America report being “harassed and spat upon” by opposing protesters when they showed up. In a Facebook Live video which circulated online during the protest, SFLA were met with boos after unfurling a banner which read “Abortion Betrays Women.”

Republican presidential candidate Carly Fiorina told Fox News on Saturday that although she was aligned with those held by other protesters, she says she was unable to participate.

“I certainly have been public in my criticism of some of the things that Donald Trump has said in the past,” she said. “Sadly, pro-life women were not welcome at this march. I’m pro-life,” Fiorina said.

Despite several opposing advocacy groups not being invited to the nationwide Women’s March events, the projected turnout was one of the largest for a protest in U.S. history.

Adding together the D.C. event and the sister marches from around the country, Yahoo News reports between 1.7 and 4.6 million protesters nationwide participated in demonstrations in the name of equality. If accurate, it means one in 100 Americans were involved in a women’s march that day.

“It kind of restored my faith in humanity,” Leech said. “Because before this I believed that my vote all-out and I don’t get easily. There was like a fire that was infused [in me], but I feel like now it’s a little more on the positive side, being more ready.

“I’m just very proud to be on the right side of history and it gives me more hope and inspiration to keep fighting for future generations.”

We want your input!

The Duke news section would love to hear from you about stories that you want to see in print. Know a talented professor or accomplished student? See something on campus that just doesn’t make sense? You can send your tips and story ideas to News Editor Brandon Addo at addeob@duq.edu.

January 26, 2017
Trump becomes 45th U.S. President

On Jan. 20, Donald Trump was inaugurated as the 45th President of the United States. Trump’s inaugural address focused on his long running themes of jobs and crime. He promised to “bring back our jobs … and get people back to work rebuilding our country.” He also said he would stop the “American carnage” of crime and gangs. President Trump promised that Americans “will never be ignored.” Extended caption by Raymond Aare/Asst. News Editor.

Workshops promote teaching changes

On Jan. 23 and 24, Duquesne teachers participated in 30-minute workshops to discover better teaching strategies to make it easier for their students to learn.

The workshops, created by Duquesne’s Center for Teaching Excellence, are designed to help teachers change their teaching methods to allow students to learn more easily. Steven Hansen, associate director for faculty development of the Center for Teaching Excellence, designed the short workshops to make it easier to fit into teachers’ schedules.

“The thirty-minute workshops are a way to engage faculty without being a drain on their time or schedules,” Hansen said.

The workshops are designed to make small adjustments to teaching methods to help in making big connections to students learning, according to Hansen. This idea is based off of the book “Small Teaching: Everyday Lessons from the Science of Learning,” by James Lang, director of the Center for Teaching Excellence at Assumption College in Worcester, Massachusetts.

The micro workshops touch on major topics of teaching such as the transparent assignment design, which is what the workshops on Jan.

Trump’s Attorney General pick Sessions denounced by law profs.

SESSIONS — from page 1

“The record of Senator Sessions suggests that he would roll back the progress by the Obama administration that many lawyers and advocates have spent their entire careers trying to enact,” Sizemore-Thompson said.

The other professor to sign the letter was Tracey McCants Lewis, an assistant clinical professor who also teaches at Duquesne’s Civil Rights Clinic and Unemployment Compensation Clinic.

Sessions had been a U.S. district attorney, Alabama’s attorney general and a U.S. senator for 20 years before his recent appointment, according to Geoffrey Skelly, a political analyst at the University of Virginia Center for Politics.

Skelly explained why Sessions has been a polarizing nominee. “The controversy stems from incidents in Sessions’ past that have led to claims that he’s racist or at the very least racially insensitive,” he said. “In 1986, for example, his nomination for a federal judgehip was shot down after testimony about past racially prejudiced comments came to light.”

According to CNN, some of these past comments included Sessions saying he thought the Ku Klux Klan was “OK until I heard they smoked pot,” something he insists was intended as a joke. Sessions had also been quoted as calling the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People the American Civil Liberties Union “un-American” and “communist-inspired.”

Even though Sessions has a cloud over him, Skelly predicts the Republican majority in the Senate will have no problem confirming him. The Senate Judiciary Committee will vote on him on Jan. 30, and then the vote will move to the entire Senate.

Sessions routinely denied charges of racism during the hearing, according to a variety of news sources.

Part of Sizemore-Thompson’s opposition to Sessions comes from his time as attorney general of Alabama in the 1990s.

“He supported pushing juveniles who had multiple juvenile court appearances into adult court,” she said. “He also wanted to move funding from the Department of Corrections to make more space in jails for children and create more boot camps for them.”

His support for trying children as adults was something that Sizemore-Thompson couldn’t stand for.

“I strongly oppose charging children in criminal court and placing them in adult prisons,” she said, adding that there is “overwhelming neuroscience and social science research that suggests it’s both a legally and morally wrong decision to try and sentence children as adults.”

Some of Sessions’ recent actions also concerned Sizemore-Thompson. She said she didn’t like his opposition to The Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act, a bill supported by prominent Republicans, which would have gotten rid of mandatory minimum sentencing.

“Mandatory minimums are truly an outdated mode of sentencing that many judges dislike because it removes discretion to look at the lives and circumstances of individual people coming before the court,” she said. Sizemore-Thompson is worried about his appointment would mean for reform.

“Too deeply concerned that Senator Sessions’ record—both past and present—around criminal justice issues suggests that he would be an Attorney General who is not responsive to progressive, humane, evidence-based reform efforts of a system that shows itself to be deeply broken on a daily basis,” she said.

It’s important that people pay attention to the decisions of power holders, Sizemore-Thompson believes.

“The Attorney General is an extremely powerful member of the federal government that sets the civil rights and criminal justice priorities for our nation. He or she decides what voices will be heard and which will be silenced around critical issues like discrimination and justice,” she said.

Sizemore-Thompson said that Sessions would make decisions that could “have great potential to affect our everyday lives.”

McCants Lewis had concerns over Session’s stances on civil rights, especially on police misconduct and voting rights.

“My primary concern was related to Senator Sessions’ position on voter fraud. Voter fraud is a myth that has been disproven time and time again, yet Senator Sessions continues to purport that voter fraud and illegal voting is a major concern across the United States,” McCants Lewis said.

She cited a case from his time as a U.S. district attorney in Alabama as something she disagreed with.

“Senator Sessions was the first US Attorney to charge civil-rights activists with voter fraud since the Voting Rights Act became law in 1965. Those persons charged were acquitted by a jury of all charges,” McCants Lewis said.

McCants Lewis hopes the questions around Sessions will spark interest in examining all presidential nominees.

“I hope the letter brings awareness to the citizens to look at the qualifications of our leaders,” she said. “An informed electorate is a smart electorate.”
If you want to conquer fear, don’t sit home and think about it. Go out and get busy.  
Dale Carnegie

You just read | Now tweet our thoughts | us yours.
@TheDuquesneDuke

OPINIONS

"The Power Center Presents: Race to Anyplace"...

"Log your distance jogged, biked, or traveled. The person with the most distance logged wins prizes!"

"Between January 22nd and March 30th..."

Cartoon by Shelby Wasiil

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Pittsburgh's most notorious dance instructor is at it again, but this time, she’s trying to two-step around a federal prison sentence. Abby Lee Miller, the star of the reality television dance show “Dance Moms,” is trying to convince U.S. District Judge Joy Flowers Conti that she should receive probation instead of federal prison time, according to the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. Miller was indicted on charges of bankruptcy fraud, concealment of bankruptcy assets and false bankruptcy declarations in 2015. She had earlier declared bankruptcy after the financial health of her original Penn Hills dance studio was failing. She entered a guilty plea on the charges in 2016.

According to the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Miller brought nearly $120,000 in cash back into America from dance trips to Australia, concealing the money in plastic bags in her suitcases. She also tried to hide over $750,000 from the bankruptcy trustee. Despite federal prosecutors saying that these circumstances do not allow for a probation sentence, Miller still believes that she shouldn’t face going to prison. It is difficult to have much — or any — sympathy for the situation that the reality television dance mogul finds herself in. Miller’s attorney describes her decision to find loopholes around the law — instead of, you know, paying back her debts like any other regular American citizen without a million dollar show to help bolster funds — as “foolish.” Her attorney also went on to say that she was “simply ill-equipped to manage her good fortune.” That statement might be more acceptable if Miller was a 16-year-old girl with no prior business experience. But that isn’t the case. She’s a 50-year-old full-grown woman who has been running her own competitive dance companies in one form or another since she was 14. That’s over 36 years of dealing with finances and the general practices of what it takes to have a successful business.

If Miller was truly “ill-equipped,” her companies should’ve failed a long time ago. But they didn’t, and the statement is merely an excuse disguised as regret, trying to persuade judges — who have far better things to do with their time — to let her off easy because she’s a Hollywood star. The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette states that she used a vulgar term in an email to her accountant when referencing her bankruptcy judge. The fact that she is from Pittsburgh and is representing the city with this type of behavior is shameful and humiliating. Miller can fill all the eyelashes she wants, but at the end of the day, she deserves federal prison.

Rebekah Devorak is a senior journalist and advertising major and can be reached at devorakr@duq.edu.
Earth hits hottest temps, breaks records for 2016

According to NASA reports, 2016 was the hottest year recorded for the third year in a row, sparking climate change concerns from many experts.

How do we use our voices to affect change? How do we direct actions toward a positive influence?

For one thing, we can recycle. In one step, we are doing something to combat the effects of climate change.

How can we use our voices to impact the world?

For one thing, we can recycle. In one step, we are doing something to combat the effects of climate change.

According to NASA news conference that took place on Jan. 18, 2016 was the hottest year since record keeping began in 1880. This past year was the third year in a row to break the record, and this marks the first time that three consecutive years have broken the record. NASA’s news conference also showed that Arctic and Antarctic sea ice are continuing to steadily melt.

It goes without saying that this is horrific news. All of this information is clearly saying that we, our environment and our entire species are in danger. But what is more disconcerting is the overwhelming evidence that we are playing a huge role in the drastic effects of climate change.

In an article in the New York Times, Dr. Michael Mann of Penn State University said the argument could be made that 75 percent of the record-breaking warmth was caused by human impact. The burning of fossil fuels has played a huge role in our planet’s warming trend because large amounts of carbon dioxide are being released into our atmosphere. Basically, the way we get our energy is destroying our atmosphere’s integrity and upsetting the natural balance of our world. But profitable energy is not right, great, right?

Wrong. Oh, so wrong. While the way we get our energy may seem profitable and easily-accessible, it’s actually doing more harm than good. Sure, industry has flourished with the burning of fossil fuels, but is that really worth sacrificing our atmosphere?

Steps have been taken to reduce the human impact on climate change, with the most recent being the Paris Agreement, which went into effect on Nov. 4, 2016. The agreement seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and work on adapting to adverse impacts of climate change.

Then-President Barack Obama made the United States a part of the agreement, which was a big step towards influencing change. Current President Donald Trump, however, is a staunch defender of human impact. The United States also has one of the largest greenhouse gas emissions of the countries that are a part of the agreement, so if we withdrew, the amount of change that could be made would be significantly decreased.

It’s disconcerting to see potential progress be swept away with such ease. The facts of climate change don’t lie either, and the continuing negative effects of climate change don’t lie either. The number of endangered and vulnerable species is heartbreakingly high, with favorites like the blue whale and the polar bear at risk of extinction. Their habitats are being destroyed, and it’s largely our fault.

At a time like this, it can seem as if we are helpless in affecting change. We attribute all of the power to our senators, our congress and our government as a whole. The reality of the situation, though, is that we do have a voice in the matter.

Take Leonardo DiCaprio as an example. Beyond his career as an actor, DiCaprio has been breaking the boundaries of power and using his voice to talk about climate change. He’s spoken at the United Nations twice regarding climate change, and he recently took part in the National Geographic documentary “Before the Flood.” During his Oscar acceptance speech, he spoke out about climate change and urged everyone to fight against it.

DiCaprio’s voice has had a greater impact because he’s a star. That’s undeniable. But what is inspiring about his words and his actions is that it proves how much power words and actions have during a time like this. While we may not all be well-known actors, we have a voice and a say in the matter of all issues, including climate change.

Where do we go from here?

Duquesne student found in Towers deserves punishment

Several freshman girls on the floor said they were scared and confused by his behavior.

“I, personally, feel sympathy for him. Yes, he made poor decisions by consuming illegal substances but, he had his whole life ahead of him, and it is very sad how this will impact him. He did not hurt anyone, just alarmed us,” said Jamie Smith, a freshman who encountered McCauley in Towers.

McCauley’s behavior is shameful and unacceptable. The safety of multiple girls was compromised in what is considered a safe living environment due to the use of drugs. No matter how under the influence you are, you should not put others in danger.

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Declassified CIA docs reveal connections to Duquesne

Madeline Bartos
staff writer

More than 12 million classified CIA documents — formerly available only by physically going to the National Archives in College Park, Maryland — are now available with a mere click of the mouse.

Every year, the CIA releases what it deems as “nonexempt historical records” — 25 years or older to the public. As of last Tuesday, the database is online, meaning you can seek the truth on anything from UFOs to the Cold War. This starts at around 10:30 p.m. and continues until, say, 2:30 or 3 a.m. Now, let me be clear, while I’d love to have some peace and quiet on the weekends, I’m not an unreasonable grump. I live in an urban location filled with a vibrant nightlife — some boisterous passersby are a reality of life. Instead, I bring the topic up to make an important point when living off-campus is concerned: Location matters.

Yes, the oft-used real estate adage of “location, location, location!” is quite important when choosing your living arrangement. And, after being in my current place for five and a bit months, I’ve gotten to know what works about my geographic positioning and what doesn’t. Hopefully, the findings are enlightening. It might be easy to guess from my previous anecdotes that I’m not exactly your typical purveyor of the South Side. My nightlife typically involves a computer, some Oreos and my bed. Judge that admission however you see fit.

Nevertheless, that doesn’t mean I lack appreciation for the wide variety of businesses the area offers. It’s undoubtedly the double-edged sword that is living in this kind of neighborhood. Being in amongst things to do means some noise at night, sure, but it also provides me with easy access to those very noise-producing businesses.

I can have virtually any type of food I could ever imagine, just blocks away. If I decide last-second to go see a concert on a Monday night I can — and at a location five minutes from my front door, no less. Should I want to make my bank account unhappy, Pittsburgh Guitars is right around the corner. I can get a haircut at a good four or five places, all short walks from home. A key aspect of location I’ve picked up on during my time here is, however, that of proximity to common destinations. The flats are a big place, and there is a significant difference between living on 11th and living on 29th. I was lucky enough to just about split the difference between my two major trips: Duquesne’s campus and the grocery store.

It’s a valuable lesson, I think. A living choice is more than just what’s inside the four walls of the house or building. It’s also an equation of compromise and contest — zoom out Google Maps a click or two farther to really take in the whole situation (and see if there are bars close to your front stoop). All things considered, I do genuinely enjoy living in the South Side. It often gets a reputation for being a miserable place full of drunk college kids — and, sure, that’s some of it. Crucially, though, the flats are a much more colorful place than such a simple characterization can convey.

On nice days I like to grab my camera and wander around the back streets, exploring the nooks and crannies of the area. Old brick houses about ramshackle apartments which border striking modern architecture. I always find something wonderful to do, interesting and new.

Now if only I could get some sleep on the weekends.
The Panthers took a 2-0 lead 7:47 into the second period, but the Dukes managed to score four unanswered goals to take away with the win. Sophomore forward Ryan Sweeney, sophomore center Tim Freed, sophomore forward Martin Hubert and junior forward Thomas Diffendall all found the back of the net for Duquesne. The forward, Diffendall, also finished the night with two assists.

First year head coach Conrad Waite believes that his team’s never-quit mentality and ability to bounce back will hopefully lead them to further success this season.

“The number one thing about this team is we’re resilient,” Waite said. “If we go down in a game we come back. If we’ve lost a couple games we find a way to come back. You can’t put us down. I’ve never been prouder of a team that I’ve coached in that manner. Now we’ve got five non-league games in a row, so finding that same heart we found in such a rivalry game tonight and being able to get up for those games is going to be a lot for where we end up at the end of the year.”

Goaltender Alex Taylor recognized that while beating a team like Pitt is a great feeling, it’s important for the team to not lose focus and keep playing hard.

“We have to take things one game at a time,” Taylor said. “We can’t look too far ahead and can’t look back at what we’ve done in the past.”

Taylor had 29 saves and improved his record to 11-6 on the season with the win against Pitt.

Following Friday night’s win over their crosstown rivals, the Pittsburgh Panthers, the Dukes improved their conference record to 9-4 on the season. They followed that up with the win over Canisius College to push them to 13-8 overall with 7 matches left on their regular season slate. Even with all their success, the Dukes club ice hockey squad flies under the radar on campus.

“It’s kind of crazy,” Kindya said. “Almost no one on campus even knows this exists.”

The Dukes are a member of the American Collegiate Hockey Association. The ACHA is the premier league for college club hockey teams.

This year the ACHA National Tournament will take place in Columbus, Ohio from March 9-19. Currently Duquesne’s odds to reach Nationals look decent, but they will need some help from other teams in their conference. The Dukes need Pittsburgh to lose two games against conference opponents in order to clinch a spot in the tournament. Even if the team fails to qualify for Nationals, they will still be able to compete in the playoffs.

Next up, the Red & Blue will take trips to the Philadelphia area over back-to-back weekends to take on Lehigh University, Villanova University, Temple University and Rowan University.

The next few weeks will give the Dukes some time to prepare for postseason play, and even though their chance to play in the National Tournament currently remains up in the air, the team will remained focused on putting itself in the best possible position by continuing to win against quality opponents.
Lack of effort on display as Dukes routed by URI

Bry McDermott
asst. photo editor

Thursday, January 26, 2017

Pittsburgh has only made the conference combined 101-61.

THE DUQUESNE DUKE

Brady and Belichick further Patriots winning legacy

Bry McDermott
asst. photo editor

After a 36-17 pummeling of the Pittsburgh Steelers on Sunday in the AFC Championship, the New England Patriots are heading to Super Bowl LI with quarterback Tom Brady leading the way ever again.

Love them or hate them, the ‘Pats have an extremely talented lineup that already de

Courtesy of Duquesne Athletics

Sophomore forward Natye Sanders drives to the basket in a blowout loss to the URI Rams on Jan. 21 at the A.J. Palumbo Center.

Adam Lindner
asst. sports editor

Saturday afternoon at the A.J. Palumbo Center was a chance for the Duquesne men’s basketball team to secure either a redemptive, marquee win over a quality A-10 opponent, or possibly falter in another bitterly narrow loss at the hands of a conference foe.

And of course, it ended in the worst-case scenario for the Dukes as they instead suffered a blowout loss. More specifically, a 21-point drubbing that saw the Dukes outscored 50-26 in the paint by the Rams of the University of Rhode Island.

“Anything that had to do with toughness today, we got destroyed,” head coach Jim Ferry said after his team’s 90-69 defeat. “They beat us to every 50/50 ball, they crushed us on the glass … Start of the second half, I thought our guys had that glazed look on their face, and I was just playing guys who were going to compete.”

With the game out of reach early into the second half, Ferry did just that, giving little-used freshman Kellen Taylor an opportunity to provide the sort of energy the team had been lacking with a large majority of the game still left to play.

Taylor took advantage of the extra minutes, scoring a career-high eight points on 3-5 shooting along with two rebounds in 13 minutes of action. Taylor got to the rim numerous times and played inspired. Though his contributions to the game were mostly cosmetic, the effort Taylor exerted was noteworthy.

Coming off of a tight 65-63 road loss to conference opponent George Washington University, it can be conceived that Duquesne was a bit disheartened. Having lost their fair share of close games this year, perhaps it has started to dampen the spirits of the one-optimistic Dukes.

With close losses to Canisius (78-77), Tennessee-Martin (66-63), Robert Morris (64-60) and numerous other competitive defeats, the lack of resounding victories may have finally culminated into dulled enthusiasm and a negative mindset.

Whatever the lack of energy and resolve is attributed to doesn’t really matter. Being outscored in the paint at home by a 50-26 margin and allowing 10 offensive rebounds to an extremely talented lineup that already demands a team’s best effort is unacceptable.

The blame must start at the top and work its way down. While Ferry is certainly correct in saying that his team exerted minimal effort and lacked toughness, these Dukes are still a product of his coaching staff and are too talented to be embarrassed on their home floor in this fashion. That being said, coaching adjustments may need to be made.

On the floor, the lack of defensive proficiency starts on the inside and continues out to the three-point arc. Securing defensive boards is the first step in eliminating second-chance opportunities for the opposition. Additionally, getting out on the break and capitalizing with transition baskets is an easy way to score for a team that sometimes becomes stagnant in a half-court offense.

On the offensive end, the lack of a true playmaker is painstakingly obvious. Too often, the ball isn’t moved fluidly around the court, and the Dukes often find themselves settling for contested jump shots as the shot clock counts down.

All of these same issues plagued the Red & Blue in the first half of their contest at Davidson College where they trailed the Wildcats 39-16 at the break. It was a sold-out crowd at the John M. Belk Arena as the school honored their most famous basketball alumnus and current NBA superstar, Stephen Curry. While this could have also contributed to a sloppy first half for Duquesne, it was another unacceptable display of basketball.

On the other hand, the Dukes made quite a surge in the second half as they cut a once 23-point deficit all the way down to six and remained in the game until the game’s final moments. Although they eventually fell by a final score of 74-60, the second half performance at Davidson showed the potential of this team when they play motivated, focused basketball, but it is time to quit with the excuses and begin a way to play a full 40 minutes of quality A-10 basketball.

This team is far too talented to sit at 9-12 overall, 2-6 in conference, and lose games in the manner in which it did at home to Rhode Island. With ten games remaining on their schedule, the Dukes still have an opportunity to salvage their record, season, respect, etc., in an attempt to put themselves in a good position for the A-10 Tournament that will come to FPG Paints Arena early this March.

THE Duquesne DUKE

November 15, 2015

Once a 36-17 pummeling of the Pittsburgh Steelers on Sunday in the AFC Championship, the New England Patriots are heading to Super Bowl LI with quarterback Tom Brady leading the way ever again.

Love them or hate them, the ‘Pats have an extremely talented lineup that already de

The Patriots have accomplished more than eight. One of Brady’s most notable traits is his ability to spread the ball around the field. In the opening drive of last Sunday’s AFC Championship game, Brady connected with four different receivers (Martellus Bennett, Julian Edelman, Malcolm Mitchell and Danny Amendola) in a 64-yard push that ended in a field goal for the Patriots.

Nine separate receivers made catches by the end of the game, from all over the field utilizing both short and long routes. It was the third time Brady connected with at least nine receivers in a playoff game.

Patriots’ wide receiver Chris Hogan posted 180 receiving yards in Sunday’s game, becoming the eighth different receiver to have had at least 100-yard receiving game with Brady as the quarterback, according to profootballreference.com.

But, a metaphorical asterisk will hang over Brady’s legacy and the Patriots’ success under Belichick. The acts of Spy Gate and Deflate Gate will not, and should not, be forgotten.

These two scandals showed major flaws in the league and questioned the intentions of those in power, but they should not take away from the incredible tandem that Brady and Belichick have been for over a decade.

No matter which team you root for, everyone should acknowledge the generational play Brady is as he enters his seventh Super Bowl looking to make history.

From a Los Angeles Chargers fan devoted to Philip Rivers, I tip my cap to the greatness that is the career of Tom Brady.
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Tyler Perry inspires at People's Choice Awards

LOREN SMITH
staff writer

T he most fan-centered award show on television made its 43rd appearance last Wednesday, when CBS broadcast the People’s Choice Awards live from Los Angeles. Hosted by comedian and actor Joel McHale, the annual broadcast produced numerous upsets and honors as it announced winners for over 60 categories, spanning the areas of film, television, music and digital media.

This year’s winners, ranging from “Finding Dory” to “The Walking Dead,” were chosen through online balloting. The show also came with a strange duo of performers: Fifth Harmony and Blake Shelton. The four-member girl group emanated energy during their hit song “Work From Home,” while the country singer countered with his newest single, “Every Time I Hear That Song.”

The two performers also took home several awards, with Fifth Harmony winning Favorite Group and Shelton receiving the awards for Favorite Male Country Artist and Favorite Album for his 2016 release, “If I’m Honest.” Other notable winners include Justin Timberlake for Favorite Male Artist and Britney Spears, who won both Favorite Female Artist and Favorite Pop Artist, along with her win in the digital category for Favorite Social Media Celebrity.

Movies were, as always, the highlight of the night. Ryan Reynolds, Robert Downey Jr., Melissa McCarthy and Tom Hanks were among just some of the A-listers to receive awards in various acting categories. “Finding Dory” dominated movies for the year, winning Favorite Family Movie, Favorite Animated Movie Voice for Ellen DeGeneres and even Favorite Movie. DeGeneres was honored during the show after she also received the award for Favorite Daytime TV Host and Favorite Comedic Collaboration, becoming the most decorated People’s Choice Awards winner with an astonishing total of 20 wins.

The television categories were kind to many notable actors and actresses as well, including Dwayne Johnson, who won Favorite Premium Series Actor for his role in “Ballers” and Jennifer Lopez, whose show, “Shades of Blue,” earned her the Favorite TV Crime Drama Actress award. “Outlander” won the award for both Favorite TV Show and Favorite Premium Sci-Fi/Fantasy Series, succeeding against the many other popular shows in these categories.

Receiving the Favorite Humanitarian award for his volunteer work, Tyler Perry described his actions as being a metaphor for the importance of remaining kind and hopeful in light of everything going on in the world. His speech was a refreshment break from all of the glitz and glamour of the night, as he focused on more important matters and reminded people that they must refrain from becoming cynical.

“As I look at the state of the world and the state of our country and everything that is going on, it is so important that we know that no matter how dark it gets, we all have to be light for each other,” said Perry during his speech.

To close out the night, Johnny Depp was presented with the Favorite Movie Icon award, giving a heartfelt acceptance speech during which he talked about his difficult year and the gratitude he felt for being given

Editorial: TV’s favorite family faces cancellation

JOSIAH MARTIN
staff writer

A fter 28 years, “The Simpsons” has become a mainstay of American television. However, as of late, it has relied on cheap tricks for ratings instead of its once-praised sitcom plot style. As a result, Viewership for the 27th season was down to 9.5 million viewers in its premiere, 3.5 million below the “normal” level of 13 million for the season. The series has been reduced to the top becomes an issue. “The Simpsons” has done exactly that.

After 28 years, “The Simpsons” is beginning to see a drastic drop in its ratings despite promos like the million viewers. There are just numbers, but they point at a larger trend. In the opinion of many critics and long-time fans, the show’s quality has been declining. Unfortunately for the producers of the show itself, the viewers know this, and these constant attempts at grabbing attention for new episodes of the series suggests that Fox knows this. In the first few seasons of “The Simpsons,” the series operated basically as an animated version of the classic idea of the television sitcom. The plots were centered on the characters and very rarely departed from settings as simple as the house, the school or Homer’s place of work. Of course, there’s only so much you can do within these constraints, and the show quickly grew out of this format.

There’s nothing wrong with long specials and experimenting with the format of the animated sitcom. However, when you lose touch with the original intention and spirit of the show, with its focus on the dynamics of the Simpson family and heartfelt plots, that’s when constantly going over the top becomes an issue. “The Simpsons” has done exactly that.

So what are some possible solutions to this issue? Is it too late to return to form for “The Simpsons” again? Maybe. If celebrity guest stars and hour-long specials can’t excite viewers, promising episodes full of “familial love and life lessons” will almost certainly put them to sleep. It seems that, as far as weekly interesting plots go, “The Simpsons” is nearly out of ideas. Perhaps, if the series stepped back from its
A
fter a four year break, ’90s punk alternative band
Fire Inside (AFI) returns with their tenth studio
album, entitled “AFI: The Blood Album.”

The band has been promoting their new work since
October 2016 and even debuted early releases of singles,
including “Snow Cats,” “White Offerings” and “Aurelia.”
The band comprised of Davey Havok (lead vocals),
Jade Puget (guitar), Hunter Burgan (bass) and Adam
Carson (drums) attempts to please fans by reverting to
its older sound of albums like “Sing the Sorrow” and “De-
cemberunderground,” while trying to create something
more modern. However, they fail to satisfy. The album is
like a roller coaster that is just about to reach the climax
and instead, falls short and rolls backward.

Lyrics/Vocals

The lyrics seem to lack the depth and angsty feel of their
prior albums. The drive and incentives behind the words
themselves did not leave as great an impression as their 2013
album, “Burials,” which was based on the lead singer’s hard
breakup.

Davey Havok’s vocal abilities, however, still show his in-
credible range in the ability to belt loud, harsh songs while
singing softly for others. He appropriately adjusts his vocals
to the type of song he is singing and even throws in some
more digital sound effects and enhancements to heighten the
sound quality giving off a vibe reminiscent of The Cure.

Instrumentation

AFI continues to show off their hard rocking guitars, heavy
drumming and complementary bass sounds that fans have grown
acclimated to over the years. However, the use of the synthesiz-
er and electronic/digital enhancements is the newest addition to
the group, which has yet to be heard in any of AFI’s older tracks.
The overall composition of music however feels neutral and
sub par. It appears as though the band members didn’t sit down
and work out songs to grab listeners’ attention but simply started
playing music and decided that it was good enough before mov-
ing onto the next song.

AFI should have better harnessed their instrumental abilities
that would take hours to figure out the meaning of them
and the sound, while varied, seems oddly similar from
one track to the next.

The Flaming Lips diverges from past with newest album

The Flaming Lips, a band that has been almost wor-
shipped by its cult following once again makes a
quiet splash with the release of its new album

The band, which formed in 1983, has undergone plenty of
artistic exploration and sound evolution. Each album is
a unique journey that synthesizes various philosophi-
cal elements with styles of rock music.

For example, “Yoshimi Battles the Pink Robots,” one
of their early 2000s albums, coupled philosophically ab-
surdist themes with a classic rock sound. Similarly their
2009 album, “Embryonic,” combines religious overtones with
harsh noise to create a jarring experience.

“Oczy Mlody,” while keeping with band mainstays like
bizarre lyrics and an enveloping sound, diverged as all
their albums have from previous endeavors.

The experience of listening to their latest work can best
be summed up as psychedelic. While not unusual for The
Flaming Lips, this tone is meant to paint a picture for
the listener of the simple beauty of the world, specifically
natural beauty.

The overall theme is best understood in the album’s
opening track of the same name. The track starts out
slow with a unique rhythm and gradually develops into
a larger more complicated sound. This opens the listener
up to the idea of beauty being simplistic.

This message is prevalent throughout the album, with songs like “Sunrise (Eyes of the Young)” exemplifying the
idea of beauty. For example, “Oh, sun/ I see you happy” is a simplistic line that highlights their lyrical prowess.

The strength of the album is that of a seamless transition.
If the listener starts “Oczy Mlody” and ends on “We a Family” as intended, then the album feels like one song
stretched into a 58 minute album.

While concept albums seem to be a hot commodity
as of late, The Flaming Lips lyrically do not have a cen-
tral theme. Their music has a similar sound from song
to song, but lyrically each song focuses on a different sub-
ject, from science fiction to fantasy.

Overall, the lyrics do not build off one another, com-
pletely failing to work towards a message. This album is
musically a concept album, but lyrically dissonant.

Compared to their previous work, “Oczy Mlody” sounds
like it lacks a purpose to the madness. While prior work
is similarly chaotic, this album lacks a clear direction and
suffers because of that.

However, there are problems with this format. The album
lacks any real diversity, the lyrics are so abstract
into creating songs that were more varied and memorable for the
listener.

Organization/ Structure

Albums usually contain songs with a certain flow or memo-
ral quality that tells a story, i.e. My Chemical Romance’s “Black
Parade” or Pink Floyd’s “The Wall.”

This album doesn’t seem to have any flow at all, which is not
necessarily important; however, bands producing as long as AFI
are expected to have some sort of organization.

The first six songs were practically identical to one another
while the next eight songs seem to have a nice flow and variety.
Perhaps the order of the songs should have been rearranged so
that the entire album could avoid such a slow, monotonous start.

Overall Review of the Album

AFI: The Blood Album seems to touch upon all of the
band’s older sounds, but unfortunately has no lasting im-
pact left on the listener. The group attempts to reincarnate
the sounds similar to their earlier ’90s releases such as
All Hallowes EP and Black Sails in the Sunset or even their
2000s releases such as Sing the Sorrow or Crash Love.

The band tried too hard to touch base with all of their
older material in hopes of creating a sound everyone
would like, but this album almost seems too rushed and
out of place for many fans to even get into it extensively.

On a positive note, the vocals and instrumental qualities
remain well established. In future albums, these aspects
should remain constant and well developed.

AFI still needs to find that balance between holding true
to their older material while not losing their identity in
trying to vary their musical sound. Without either, they’ll
alienate their old fans, while at the same time not draw in
any new ones to replace them.

The Flaming Lips diverges from past with newest album

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14 solo albums, as well as 5 collaborative ones. Their last album
was “The Terror,” released on April 1, 2013.

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lacks any real diversity, the lyrics are so abstract
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and the sound, while varied, seems oddly similar from
one track to the next.

The heaviest criticism of the album I have would be the
lyrics. In the past, the Flaming Lips operated somewhere
between stupidly entertaining and existentially dreadful.
In “Oczy Mlody,” their lyrics operate in the area of stu-
pidly dreadful.

The song that demonstrates this point the most is
“There Should Be Unicorns.” Which has a beautiful back-
ground, but the song’s lyrics mar the music the band cre-
ates. The most repeated line is “Yeah, there should be
unicorns/The ones with the purple eyes.” which is great,
but why purple eyes?

This point is never made significant, it is just argued
that unicorns with purple eyes are the ones desired, not
unicorns with green eyes. A point that is never made clear
to why, The song is devoid of a rhyming structure, the
syllable counts per line range anywhere from four syl-
lables to fifteen, so as far as a lyrical structure the song
makes little sense.

It can be argued that the lyrics are meant to be simple
to aid in the theme of simplistic beauty. However, the lyr-
ics sparingly mention nature or scenery and instead opt
focus on repetition of a phrase with little emphasis on
why that phrase matters. Which while the repetition of
lyrics is simple, it is not effective.

The Flaming Lips are difficult to describe with words.
The feeling that their music gives the listener is some-
thing that must be heard to be understood. It’s almost
impossible to describe the details of their albums because
they truly are an experience. The best way to explain
these feelings is through metaphors, but even then that
falls short of capturing the full scope of their work.

Overall, if the listener disregards the lyrics, this album
is certainly worth a listen. However, whether or not it is
worth buying is questionable. It isn’t up to scratch with
previous works by The Flaming Lips, but it provides won-
derful background music for unwinding after a stressful
day of work.
Body cameras subject of Duquesne event Friday

CAMERAS — from page 1

possession of the recordings for access to footage. If police deny the request, the individual can petition a common pleas court for access.

In a request, the person requesting footage must prove it is not part of an ongoing investigation, the footage would be available under Right to Know Law standards and the public’s interest in disclosure outweigh the government’s reasons for nondisclosure.

Andy Hoover, legislative director of the ACLU of Pennsylvania, said this process is flawed.

“Video data that documents incidents that are legitimately in the public interest such as arrests, use of force by an officer, or disputes between an officer and a resident will be nearly impossible to obtain, even if the requester is in the video,” Hoover wrote in an Oct. 18 memorandum to the state Senate.

Pittsburgh Police use about 100 body cameras currently, according to spokeswoman Emily Schaffer.

“We do have plans to increase the use of BWCs in the future,” Schaffer said. “Contingent on changes in the state law, we plan on adding 400 to 500 more.”

DeGeneres honored at Choice Awards

CHOICE — from page 9

this honor.

This year’s show certainly made for a memorable one, with its shift from political jokes to spreading kindness creating a far different vibe from that which most of the other award shows took on this season. Johnson perhaps best summed up the entire mood of the night during his acceptance speech when he said, “It’s nice to be important, but it’s more important to be nice.”

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2017 - 6:00 P.M.

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY, FISHER HALL ROOM 725

The true story of Italian Jews returning home from Auschwitz during WWII.

Based on Primo Levi’s memoir and directed by the award-winning Francesco Rosi.

The event is FREE to the public. Donations and proceeds from raffle tickets will support the current earthquake relief efforts of the Italian Red Cross.
CIA — from page 6

the file suggested answers to give when Bongo asked again. They were round about answers in the same vein of “that sounds great we’ll definitely get back to you on that,” which probably meant they wouldn’t.

The last document of note is a newspaper clipping from The Washington Post, filed away by the CIA. It tells the story of Dr. Cyril Wecht, the coroner of Pittsburgh

and a professor of law and forensic medicine at Duquesne.

In 1973 Wecht attended a conference sponsored by the House Select Committee on Assassinations, a congressional group that looked into political assassinations of the past. While the committee discussed the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. and American Nazi leader George Lincoln Rockwell, the main focus was on former President John F. Kennedy’s assassination.

Wecht believed that the single bullet, or magic bullet theory, was not possible. He claimed that the angle of the shot, combined with the “loss of substance” from the bullet passing through Kennedy and former Gov. John Connally destroyed the single bullet theory as well as the conclusion that Oswald was the lone assassin. It’s unclear why the CIA filed this article away, but their decision to do so made an interesting addition to the dump of declassified documents.