No arrest following assault report

Brandon Addeo  
News Editor

No arrests have been made in an investigation into a reported sexual assault at Duquesne Feb. 5, according to a Pittsburgh Police spokeswoman.

Duquesne Police said the alleged assault happened around 3:30 a.m. on the fifth floor of the Towers Living Learning Center.

The suspect is another Duquesne student, according to Duquesne spokeswoman Bridget Fare.

Duquesne's TAP No. 31 policy on sexual misconduct defines sexual assault as "attempted or actual sexual contact performed without the active, verbal consent of another individual."

According to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network, out of every 1,000 rapes, only 57 reports lead to an arrest.

Spring ahead in the job market

A sign for Career Service's 2017 Job and Internship fair. It will be held Wednesday, Feb. 15 in the Student Union Ballroom.

DU students react to Trump immigration order

Raymond Arke  
Assistant News Editor

As President Trump's executive order on immigration faces legal questions in federal court, uncertainty abounds in Muslim populations on college campuses, including Duquesne's.

Duquesne is home to six international students from Yemen, Egypt, Sudan, Somalia, Iran, Syria and Iraq — the seven Muslim-majority countries affected by the new immigration rules.

Joseph DeCrosta, director of Duquesne's Office of International Programs, is tasked with overseeing international students on campus, including the six that are affected by the executive order.

When the executive order was initially announced, DeCrosta sent an email to all enrolled international students informing them of the situation and "advising them on how to think about the process."

Since the legality of the immigration order is being debated in the U.S. Ninth Circuit of Appeals, the effects have been put on hold. DeCrosta describes this as putting everything in a "waiting pattern."

"Right now we are proceeding as normal," he said.

However, they have been advising the six students not to travel anywhere out of the country and have enlisted the help of a Duquesne-provided lawyer.

If the executive order does get upheld, DeCrosta warns that it would have a damaging effect on international students.

"It closes the door to them completely ... [The order] sends a message to our counterparts that students may not be welcomed here," he said.

To combat this, DeCrosta said that if the office is launching a campaign, spearheaded by Temple University, that lets students know that they are always welcome here.

Fayezeh Haji Hassan, a third-year law student at Duquesne and an Iranian immigrant, expressed criticism of the executive order.

She is not one of the six students under advisement from the Office of International Programs.

Although she was born in Iran, she is not one of the six students.
Daley elected president of director’s association

Duquesne’s own Caron Daley of the Mary Pappert School of Music has been elected the President-Elect Designate for the Pennsylvania American Choral Directors Association (PA-ACDA.)

Daley is the director of choral activities and an assistant professor in the music school. She also conducts three university ensembles, the Voices of Spirit, Women’s Pappert Choral and the University Singers.

PA-ACDA is a nonprofit music education organization, whose directive is to “promote lifelong singing,” according to Daley.

“I love taking on leadership roles. I’ve been involved for the past 10 years in leadership with various service organizations,” Daley said. “It’s something I really enjoy doing. I was always hopeful something like this would come along.

Daley was surprised at how quickly she landed this leadership role, having been a member for only three years.

She was elected in January, and will become the President-Elect on July 1. As the President-Elect, it becomes her duty to plan the Summer and Fall Conferences for the PA-ACDA.

[The conference] is about bringing in guest clinicians and identifying leaders in our field that can really inspire our membership in the state,” Daley said.

Choirs from middle school, high school, collegiate and professional levels are all eligible to compete and be invited to the conference.

In Sept. 2016, Duquesne started its own student-run chapter of the ACDA. Daley is hopeful that the knowledge and experiences she can bring back will help to grow the chapter.

“We’ve got some really strong student interest [and] our chapter is growing. So as President-Elect I will be really plugged into what’s happening in the state,” Daley said. “I think that will really support the growth of our choral programs here at Duquesne and our ACDA campus.”

Daley has already been recognized at being able to efficiently share her knowledge with her students in order to improve their studies.

“She really knows how to pinpoint areas a student has difficulty in and then offer specific ideas for improvement. I never guess what she wants,” said Brady Collins, a senior vocal performance major. “She also uses her knowledge of the voice to shape her conducting gesture and imparts that knowledge to her students.”

Currently, the Duquesne chapter of ACDA is having monthly meetings and doing volunteer work, but Daley is hopeful that they soon will be hosting different events “that might be of wider appeal to either the community or too many more students across campus.”

Her accomplishments have also been recognized across campus, by faculty and students alike.

“The election to serve as the President-Elect of the Pennsylvania Chapter of ACDA is a distinguished accomplishment and a recognition by your peers of high achievement within the profession and of your expertise as a conductor, musician, and leader,” said Assistant Dean of the Mary Pappert School of Music, Stephen Benham.

New footage emerges of missing student James

Security camera footage shows James at the Cultural District’s Katz Plaza at 11:46 p.m. on Jan. 25. It shows him walking with his cell phone, wearing a dark hoodie.

Police are looking for the 14-year-old James, who went missing at 4 a.m. on Jan. 26 and has not been heard from since.

Police believe James, who went missing near the Conlen Bridge, may have been headed toward a friend’s home in the Point neighborhood.

Whenever James was last seen, he was wearing a dark-colored hoodie and blue jeans. He has a 5-foot, 1 inch height and weighs 110 pounds.

He was last seen at about 3:30 a.m. on Jan. 26 walking on East Carson Street near the Point Breeze neighborhood.

He was last seen on Jan. 25 at about 11:46 p.m. near Katz Plaza in the Cultural District.

If you have any information regarding this case contact the Pittsburgh Police at 412-992-3300.

Black History Month celebrated at Duquesne

A series of Duquesne events are being held to celebrate Black History Month this February.

Sponsored by Duquesne’s Office of Diversity and Inclusion, events on tap include a Black Love Day Dinner, a bone marrow drive and a lecture from Leon Ford, a black man who was shot and paralyzed by Pittsburgh Police officers in 2012 in a case of mistaken identity.

To kick-off the celebration, Sto-Rox Elementary School students were invited to Duquesne on Feb. 4 to teach the youth in the community about black history. The Black Student Union is hosting a Black Love Day dinner Feb. 16 to recog-nize many students and faculty on campus, and to honor them for their accomplishments and acts of inclusivity. Frankie A. Soto, National Poetry Awards 2016 Multicultural Spoken Word Poet of the Year, will be featured at this event.

On Feb. 7, Amber Epps, who goes by her stage name, Hollyhood, held a presentation on gender and hip-hop. Epps is a rapper from the Pittsburgh area who has a Doctor of Science in Information Systems and Communications from Robert Morris University.

She began her talk by presenting a quote by Ava Duvernay, an Academy Award-nominated director: “To be a woman who loves hip hop...
McAulilty to launch Jewish studies minor

Brandon Addo
news editor

Duquesne's McAulilty School of Liberal Arts and Sciences will launch a Jewish Studies minor next semester. The 15-credit minor will be comprised of five courses, which cover topics like Jewish history, theology, anti-Semitism and current events in Israel. The minor also features a course currently taught by Duquesne Psychology Chair LeWIN Lauber — titled "Science, Psychology and the Holocaust" — which takes a Spring Break. Away trip to Simshun Fried's former home in Vienna, Austria, and to the Auschwitz concentration camps in Poland.

Duquesne Associate Psychology Professor Daniel Burston, who was born in Israel, led efforts to create the new minor, which he said was originally proposed four years ago and only approved recently by the Provost's office.

Burston said there are common misconceptions about Jewish history.

"A lot of people have this misconception that the Holocaust was just this weird aberration that sort of came out of nowhere," he said. "It's the end result of many centuries of Semitic persecution."

Marie Baird, an associate professor of theology and director of the Jewish Studies minor, said they created the minor to make sure "the historical record is set straight" on Jewish history.

"There's a lot of untruth out there, there's a lot of lies circulating out there," Baird said, citing Holocaust deniers as one example.

She described anti-Semitism as the "oldest hatred" in human history. "You think [anti-Semitism] wanes, and it comes back up again," Baird said. "I want our students to be sensitive to that.

Burston said that many young people brought up in Christian households are not aware of the impacts of anti-Semitism on Jewish people and hopes the minor will "fill in some of those blanks," along with identifying "similarities and differences" between Christianity, Judaism and Islam.

"They're all kindled faiths," he said. She said the minor will be a collaboration between Duquesne's theology, psychology, sociology and modern languages departments, and faculty from those four departments will teach courses that are a part of the minor.

see MINOR — page 11

ORDER — from page 1

her family had to flee when she was younger.

"My father was an activist in Iran. He was often detained [and] interrogated about every month," she said. Hassan's family decided to move to Afghanistan, where her family has lived since. While there, she worked with the U.N. when she lived in Afghanistan, Hassan helped run a school for girls out of their family home. They did this for two years and although they only taught the girls basic math and the alphabet, Hassan still described it as "playing with your life."

"The Taliban was going around shutting down high schools," she said. Hassan came to America on a scholarship to Middlebury College in Vermont and then came to Duquesne for law school.

She is strongly against the immigration efforts of the Trump administration.

"There is no basis for the executive order," Hassan said.

What to call the order has elicited controversy, however. In his order, Trump describes it as a Muslim ban, based on Trump's claim that the ban on Muslims would help "prevent entry of tourists who pose a threat to the national security."

"Evil men have taken control of this administration," she said. Hassan said that the ban on Muslims exists in shades of grey. "This political move by the current administration is a black-and-white solution to a problem that has always existed in shades of grey," Drexler said.

No citizens from the seven countries on the list have been involved in a terrorist attack on American soil since 9/11, Drexler pointed out.

"I think part of us sending it out so widely is to say to our fellow faculty and students that we support those members of our student body and faculty who are immigrants and we welcome them," he said.

"I'm going to fight," she said. Hassan says that the people from the affected countries she knows are ones that would benefit society.

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You might have watched the Super Bowl for the game, the commercials, the halftime performance or maybe even simply for the lavish amounts of pizza and buffalo chicken digitized out on the table in front of you.

Quite honestly, it doesn’t matter. What matters is that you watch it.

For one night people from every state, every city and every walk of life sat down in front of their televisions and were united. That is the Super Bowl.

That is the power of sports.


Just listen to the words of Nobel Peace Prize winner, Nelson Mandela — a man who united the once racially-divided country of South Africa through the power of sport.

“Sports has the power to change the world,” Mandela said. “It has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does. It speaks to youth in a language they understand. Sport can create hope where once there was only despair. It is more powerful than government in breaking down racial barriers.”

Now more than ever, we the people of the United States of America need sports. It might be the only hope for a country seemingly in a state of constant unrest.

That is the American dream. Every person has a voice and every person has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite the country drowning in division. That is the power of sports.

The Super Bowl is more than just another football game.
Almost all the foods we consume fall under the umbrella of slow foods. Any food that needs to be harvested — like many of our fruits, vegetables, meats and grains — are what activists for the slow food movement are trying to promote for natural growth.

With this type of movement, it is hard to ignore the pros and cons of this argument. It is good to be more aware of where your foods are coming from, but, essentially, this movement is trying downsize the amount of fast foods that seem to be on every street corner.

This movement sparked in Italy. Being that I am currently on Duquesne’s Italian campus, I understand the concern many Italians had when McDonald’s invaded a corner by the Spanish Steps in 1966. However, I don’t see the slow food movement ever taking much head over the industrial food industry.

I feel the movement is misguided by the at-
tractiveness of the positives it shows, and it disregards the majority of the American popu-
lation and their current living conditions. There are less people willing or able to pay the higher price for the slow foods.

Fast foods are hazardous to our health, but I don’t foresee the industry declining anytime soon. Next time you pull up to the window of McDonald’s, will you actually think twice about the food you are purchasing? I don’t foresee the industry declining anytime soon. Next time you pull up to the window of McDonald’s, will you actually think twice about the food you are purchasing?
FEATURES

Underground Railroad has roots at DU

Elza Buehler
staff writer

If you were a slave traveling through Pitts-
burgh via the Underground Railroad in the
mid-1800s, one of your stops may have
been at a safe house that once stood on
Duquesne’s campus. This February, in the spirit
of Black History Month, it seems appropriate
to take a look at the history of the land beneath
a Duquesne hallmark: Old Main.

Thomas White, Duquesne’s own architect, ad-
jacent to the historic Old Main, and shares
information about the history of the site.

The second location of Dr. Walter’s hospital, now
where the Bayer Learning Center calls its home.

The Old Main administration building stands today.
According to White, Walter studied surgery in
Europe and began practicing revolutionary pro-
cedures that were well ahead of his time, but lat-
er became standardized. Because his techniques
were modern, he clashed with other local physi-
cians. Ultimately, he opened his hospital on the
Bluff, then known as Boyd’s Hill, as well as a pri-
ate office downtown.

Walter was not only an unusual medical hero,
but an abolitionist as well, White said. Oral
tradition claims that Walter conveniently em-
ployed his hospital as a “station” on the Under-
ground Railroad, taking in and hiding runaway
slaves who were headed north in hopes of free-
dom. Because harboring slaves at that time was,
off course, illegal, no records were kept of the
slaves that he sheltered. However, it’s generally
thought that he aided at least dozens of slaves
over the years.

Walter’s hospital was only one of many safe
places in the area, according to White. At the
time, Pittsburgh was a place where many slaves
passed through, arriving via the Monongahela
River Valley and seeking passage to the Cana-
dian border.

White also said that Walter continued to run
his hospital until his death in 1876. Several
years later, in 1886, the Holy Ghost Fathers
purchased the property and used it to construct
Old Main, the building where they hoped their
school, then called Pittsburgh Catholic College,
could successfully take root. In addition, they
purchased the lot across the street and added a
floor to the building already there, which then
served as the new hospital. This building was
originally known as St. John’s Hall and then,
later, St. Mary’s Hall, when it became a resi-
dence hall for Duquesne students. White said it
was eventually demolished in 1971.

Though little evidence of Walter’s influence
remains, several buildings on both the old hospital
and the new location, now Bayer Learning Center,
have survived on campus.

White said one such oral account tells of an
escaped slave who had traveled from the head-
waters of the Monongahela River on a rickety,
makeshift raft, ending up on a sandbar near
the point, where the three rivers of Pittsburgh
meet. The bedraggled slave still wore part of his
shackles on his arm and an iron collar around
his neck. By the time he had arrived he was al-
ready badly beaten and very near death; though
Dr. Walter tried his best, the slave died of his
injuries later that night in the hospital.

A few years after this, Walter began taking in
several wounded Confederate prisoners, some
of whom he was unable to save. This was com-
mon of the time and in the area, White said.
From these two fact-based accounts has
emerged a claim that on stormy nights, the es-
caped slave’s ghost can be heard fighting with
the ghost of a dead Confederate soldier, White

I love you!

Just add scissors! Date not included.
Duquesne women’s tennis falls to Pitt, defeats Saint Joe’s

David Borne
staff writer

The Duquesne University men’s tennis team snapped a four match skid with a 5-2 victory over local Division III foe Carnegie Mellon University on Friday, Feb. 3 at the Alpha Tennis and Fitness Center.

The win was the Dukes’ first of the season. Even though Carnegie Mellon plays at the Division III level they are not a team to be taken lightly. The Tartans are currently ranked No. 2 at their level.

“CMU is always a strong team; we struggled with them in the fall and they always give us a tough match. This was a good way to step up and show that we improved,” Director of Tennis Vanessa Steiner said.

Duquesne was led by a strong singles showing, winning five out of the six matches. Four of the wins came in straight sets by Adam Blasinsky, Andrew Ong, Jared Isaacs and Dane Bendel.

The Dukes’ two losses came on a singles loss by Dimitris Stavropoulos, and a team doubles loss where they fell 6-4, 6-2, 4-6.

Duquesne kept its momentum rolling on Sunday when they opened up conference play with a 5-2 home win over local Division III team, look to build off of their two-win weekend when they face off against Mercyhurst at the Alpha Tennis and Fitness Center on Feb. 12 at 1 p.m.

Steiner went on to mention that even though her team was narrowly edged out by the Panthers, the support and passion shown by the team was something to be admired.

“For the Pitt match one of the things that stood out was the team unity,” Steiner said. “The team is so supportive of one another, and that isn’t something that we practice, or I harp on them about, it just comes naturally. Every win means the same to the person on the court or off the court, and that is important.”

Duquesne had to shift its focus the next day to the Saint Joseph’s Hawks. The Dukes shook off the loss to Pittsburgh the night before and dominated SJU by a score of 7-0. Kylie Isaacs, a junior and the team’s No. 1 singles player, was thrilled with the wins over the Hawks.

“It was huge,” Isaacs said. “They’re always one above us or below us in the A-10 standings so that was huge to shut them out. That was a really great way to start our conference season. We were really excited to get our first win in the conference.”

With two additional important matches coming up this weekend, Isaacs added that if the team can start off strong and lock down the doubles point, there’s a good chance they will end up on the right side of the scoreboard at the end of the match.

“The doubles point is so huge,” Isaacs said. “We start with the doubles matches, so if we can get that first point going into the singles you have that momentum and you’re already up a point on the board. Mentally that puts us a little bit ahead going into the singles. So if we can come out really strong on the doubles, and just go beast-mode and attack, that would be huge.”

Duquesne will travel to St. Bonaventure on Saturday for their second conference match, and then will return home to face Carnegie Mellon on Sunday.

The Dukes shutout St. Bonaventure 7-0 and defeated CMU 4-3 last season.

Men’s tennis sweeps weekend to get back in win column

Andrew White
staff writer

This past weekend was a big one for the Duquesne Dukes women’s tennis team, as it featured a match against the rival Pittsburgh Panthers along with its first Atlantic 10 match of the season against the Saint Joseph Hawks.

The Red & Blue began the weekend with Pittsburgh at the Alpha Tennis and Fitness Center, a building that both teams call home court. Duquesne saw wins from sophomore Julianne Herman, junior Ally Miller and freshman Laurel Shlymansky, in the singles competition. However the Dukes were unable to grab a win in any of the three doubles matches. Therefore, the Panthers won the doubles point and the match by a score of 4-5.

First year head coach Vanessa Steiner mentioned just how much the match against Pittsburgh means to her team.

“We train at the same facility, so we see them every single day,” Steiner said. “It’s our City Game, and the players get really excited about it. It’s an intense match, and it’s always competitive. It’s our rivalry, so we always get hyped up about it.”

On top of being a match with city bragging rights at stake, it also serves as great preparation for Duquesne’s A-10 matches.

“It gives them a practice match for that intensity,” Steiner said. “Some of the other matches, they’re non-conference and while they’re still intense because the girls team takes every match very seriously, it’s a little added pressure. Especially since we are both playing on our home courts every time we play them. That little bit of added pressure will make the conference matches a bit easier.”

Steiner went on to mention that even though her team was narrowly edged out by the Panthers, the support and passion shown by the team was something to be admired.

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The Dukes shutout St. Bonaventure 7-0 and defeated CMU 4-3 last season.
There are only two months left until the NHL’s top 16 teams begin the battle for the oldest, most coveted trophy in all of sports—the Stanley Cup. As things start to heat up in the quest for a chance to lift Lord Stanley, let’s look back at what the first half of the 2016-17 season has brought so far.

**Eastern Conference**

**Teams to beat: Metropolitan Division**

It’s hard to pick just one team from the Eastern Conference that can really make a run for the Cup in the final months of the season, especially when it features a Metropolitan Division which saw an epic battle between the Washington Capitals, Columbus Blue Jackets, and Pittsburgh Penguins for first place in the division. While the Caps currently hold that title as of Feb. 7, the division is up for grabs by any of the teams mentioned above. Washington also leads the NHL, and for good reason. The Capitals are firing on all cylinders, putting up strong defensive efforts with goalies Braden Holtby as the No. 1 and Philipp Grubauer as the No. 2. The Penguins are a favorite to repeat as Stanley Cup champions. Pittsburgh lost two games in a row in regulation in a game on Jan. 12, ending its streak which spanned 90 consecutive regular-season games without back-to-back losses, dating back to Dec. 14-19, 2015. However, the Pens still post a league-best 182 goals and goals against average of 2.6. With a red-hot Sidney Crosby and a spectacular one-two punch with goalies Matt Murray and Marc-Andre Fleury, the Pens are set for another long playoff push.

**Standout Player:** Sidney Crosby

Eleven years after entering the league, ’Sid the Kid’ has proved he hasn’t skipped a beat. The 29-year-old missed the first three games of the 2016-17 season due to a concussion, but returned to light the lamp in every way possible, producing a highlight-reel goal to add to an already impeccable career. Crosby currently leads the league in goals (30), despite playing eight less games than the Kings’ Jeff Carter, who sits in second with 22. The reigning Conn Smythe winner also ranks second in points (59), behind Edmonton superstar Connor McDavid (60), who has played 10 more games than Crosby.

**Western Conference**

**Team to beat: Minnesota Wild**

The Western Conference seems to have fallen into the upside down world of Stranger Things. While the San Jose Sharks and Chicago Blackhawks continue their usual strides toward the playoffs, underdog teams like the Wild and Anaheim Ducks have been making waves.

Minnesota in particular had an impressive first half of the season, which included a 12-game win streak that was ended by the Blue Jackets on Dec. 31. The Wild lead the Western Conference, primarily thanks to some incredible goaltending by Devan Dubnyk. The 30-year-old netminder went 22-7-3 in 32 starts with a 1.940 save percentage while posting five shutouts. Forwards Jason Zucker and Eric Staal are also leading the charge with a combined 32 goals and 70 points in 51 games played.

**Standout Player:** Connor McDavid

McDavid was predicted to be the next Sidney Crosby when the Edmonton Oilers drafted him first overall in 2015, and he’s making a case for that title. In his second NHL season, McDavid currently sits one point ahead of Crosby in points to lead the league.

The truth is, McDavid raises the level of play for the Oilers. Edmonton sits in third place in the Western Conference, bidding for its first playoff appearance in 10 years. The 20-year-old plays an average of 21:16 for his team, and he’s put his production on display, including in the 2016-17 season when he was drafted first overall in 2015, and he’s making a case for that title. In his second NHL season, McDavid currently sits one point ahead of Crosby in points to lead the league.

The race to the Stanley Cup Playoffs is officially taking off as the NHL’s season winds down. As things start to heat up in the quest for a chance to lift Lord Stanley, let’s look back at what the first half of the 2016-17 season has brought so far.

**The Documentary:**

In the latest installment of ESPN’s “30 for 30” documentary series, film director Adam Lindener takes a look back at perhaps the biggest blunder in the history of professional sports. The now-defunct XFL, created to provide football fans with an alternative to the traditionally conservative and hypocritical NFL, didn’t lack publicity and controversy of its own. Co-founder Vince McMahon infamously docketed it the “Xtra Fun League,” a comical contrast to the moniker given to the NFL, the “No Fun League.”

Following the 1997 season, the NFL’s television contract with NBC had just expired. With the NFL now demanding a contract that would cost NBC $500 million per season for the rights to the AFC conference’s games, NFC projected an annual loss of $100 million plus. Unable to reach a deal, the NFL signed a contract with CBS, which still owns the television rights to AFC games to this day, which in turn left NBC without football to show on Sunday afternoons.

With NBC’s sports division slowly declining in ratings, NBC Sports President Dick Ebersol took it personally and launched a brand-new football league, Ebersol contacted McMahon, the owner of the WWF at the time, and soon a partnership was struck between NBC and the newly-formed XFL.

Set to kick off in March of 2001 following the end of the NFL’s season, and with no teams, owners, stadiums, or players in the beginning stages, the XFL’s first steps were focused on marketing the image that they wished to project of hard-hitting, smash mouth football, partnered with extremely risqué cheerleaders.

To gain more intrigue and to differentiate itself from the NFL, the XFL announced the banning of the traditional coin toss in favor of a race between two opposing players for possession to begin the game. The fair catch rule was negated as well, welcoming nasty, physical hits on punt returns.

In addition to fundamental rule changes, the XFL allowed its players to create their own nicknames to have written on the backs of their jerseys. Among the most distinguished was Las Vegas Outlaws’ running back Rod Smith, as well as more commonly known, “He Hate Me.”

The documentary did a fine job of explaining the business-side of the sport venture, while also focusing on what made the XFL so enthralling, even to this day. With key figures like Dick Ebersol, Vince McMahon, XFL announcer Matt Vasgersian, NBC figurehead Bob Costas, and XFL player Tommy Maddox, who would later go on to play quarterback for the Pittsburgh Steelers, providing exclusive insight and authentic, personal recounts of the rise and fall of the XFL, each viewer will walk away impressed.

Not only was I entertained, but I learned a lot about the growth of the XFL can be largely attributed to Dick Ebersol’s brilliance, the popularity of wrestling because of the innovative Vince McMahon in the ’90s, the NFL’s television dealings, the friendship and business partnership between Ebersol and McMahon, an intriguing expansion football league that tanked after only one season, and more.

As is precedent, ESPN’s “30 for 30” documentary series delivered again with this film, highlighting the rise and fall of the XFL. Though a colossal failure, the venture didn’t tarnish the relationship between Ebersol and McMahon at all, as both remain great friends. I’d recommend the film to any sports fan interested in such a racy, outlandish attempt of a league.
Lady Gaga scores big with Super Bowl halftime

SALENA MORAN and EVAN PERNOD
staff writers

Whether fans were watching Super Bowl LI for the commercials or the game itself, pop performer Lady Gaga was arguably one of the most memorable events of the Pepsi Zero Sugar Halftime Show.

Fresh off the release of her new album, “Joanne,” Gaga’s ever-evolving style and social views have raised questions as to how the singer would approach an event as grand as the Super Bowl.

While the mega-popstar has been quite vocal about her political stance (even protesting outside Trump Towers after the 2016 presidential election), she delivered a very tasteful and enjoyable performance. She did not preach about the country’s political status, but instead began with a basic act of patriotism in her rendition of “America the Beautiful” and “This Land Is Your Land.” She followed up with lines from the Pledge of Allegiance when a multitude of Intel drones coalesced into a red, white and blue formation of the American flag.

As social media was abuzz and already making memes of Gaga’s jump from the NRG Stadium’s roof in Houston, Texas, fans at the event claim the opening scene was pre-recorded and timed just perfectly to create an optical illusion. Just as Gaga leapt from the stadium’s roof in the video, a spotlight showed her descending onto a platform on the stage as if she really did jump. This was a unique experience that has not graced the NFL in years.

With several costume and makeup changes throughout her 13-minute performance, Lady Gaga maintained a dignity that can only be found in the utmost talented and classy musicians. From a silver-studded jumpsuit and bold red lips to a white crop-top shoulder-pads ensemble, Gaga really focused on the game of football itself, having her backup dancers wear football helmets and even dancing in the formation of a football.

It was clear that Lady Gaga was not using any pre-recorded track or lip-syncing (as has been seen in the past) but was singing with her own fantastic voice. At certain points, audiences could see and hear that she was out of breath, but with all of the acrobatics and dancing, who wouldn’t be? The quality of her performance did not waver, and she managed to take steady control of her voice until the very end.

Lady Gaga sang hit after hit, spanning the full length of her career featuring songs from her first album “The Fame,” all leading up to her most recent album “Joanne.” She performed her entire setlist while holding a microphone, a surprising addition seeing as she was dancing, moving and playing instruments for the entirety of the act.

Even the surrounding audience got a chance to participate as well, with each of the surrounding members having a sort of glowing baton that changed colors and traveled through the crowd making different effects (i.e. stars and waves).

Gaga said that she was there to “make you feel good” and simply provide an entertaining escape for football fans and viewers at home. However, her performance did not go without some sort of inspirational message. Along with her patriotic and unifying opening song, Gaga embraced her diverse array of dancers ranging in different ages, races and genders during her hit “Born This Way.” In this way, she sent across a message of togetherness, peace and acceptance without preaching politics to the crowd or bashing elected officials.

In her ending number, Lady Gaga concluded with an epic microphone drop, caught a football and jumped off a set of stairs. She really succeeded in staying true to pure entertainment and the All-American... see GAGA — page 12

Trump’s ban sends waves through game industry

GRANT STÖYER
staff writer

On Jan. 29, President Trump signed an executive order temporarily banning the citizens of seven Muslim-majority nations from entering the country. In conjunction with the ban, owners of visas for these countries found their endorsements revoked, essentially forcing them to abandon their livelihoods and return to their respective home countries. However, after mere hours of protesting the country’s policy and public outcry, the ban was temporarily nullified, allowing residents to continue traveling.

Yet the repeal, although a victory for immigration, is nothing more than a provisional fix.

If reinstated, the ban has the potential to drastically impact the development of current and future video games.

Iranian native and video game director Navid Khonsari shares these concerns.

In an interview published by video game website Kotaku, Khonsari outlined his fears with the ban, saying his worries about the future of the industry would surely hinder the creative development of popular titles such as “Grand Theft Auto: Vice City,” “Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas” and, most recently, “Fire Emblem: Heroes.”

Khonsari worries about the future of not only his career, but for his family as well.

“I’m married,” writes Kotaku editor Nathan Penrod, “I have two children, and I want to make sure that my career, but for my family as well.

“I’m married,” writes Kotaku editor Nathan Penrod, “I have two children, and I want to make sure that if I go abroad that I can also be able to come back to my home and to my family and not be locked out.”

Video games are one of the largest forms of media in the world. Developers have a unique opportunity to tell incredible stories, whether based on personal experiences, ancient myths or even wild and imaginative fairy tales. When gamers enter these exotic landscapes, we are witnessing the creativity brought to life by these individuals. Without the artistic visions of people like Khonsari, the development of popular video games would suffer. The vibrant and lore-intensive worlds rely on the ideas of these directors, producers and designers.

Thankfully, Khonsari is not alone in the struggle.

According to a report published by USA Today, 127 businesses associated with technology filed a suit against the ban, hoping to successfully place a continuous hold on the executive order. On Monday, companies including Facebook, Microsoft, Apple and Netflix argued that the ban was unconstitutional, and the loss of immigrant workers would “seriously hinder the creative developments of these companies. Furthermore, the tech giants believe that the restriction placed on travel would negatively impact deals between companies and the respective nations.”

With such a large and diverse group of people protesting the executive order, it’s hard to see BAN — page 12

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

WEEK’S EVENTS

“Fire Emblem: Heroes”

“About as pedestrian as you can get, ‘Heroes’ fails to remain interesting past the novelty of a full-Nintendo game on a phone. And why am I talking orders from a 13-year-old?”

— Zach Landau

To see the full review, please visit duguqm.com.

UPCOMING RELEASES

“John Wick Chronicles”
Feb. 9
Based on the movie series “John Wick,” “Chronicles” is a first-person shooter that tasks players with assassinating targets in the Continental Hotel from the first film. The game requires the use of a VR headset, and will be released exclusively on Microsoft Windows for $19.99.

“For Honor”
Feb. 14
This multiplayer melee fight game sees gamers play as either knights, samurais or vikings in a battle for supremacy. Each faction has four different classes to choose from, with different weapons and combat styles.

The game will be available on Microsoft Windows, Xbox One and PlayStation 4 for $59.99.
Escape Room Pittsburgh lets people puzzle to freedom

Craig Taylor
staff writer

Duquesne graduate Joe Deasy is the co-owner of one of Pittsburgh’s premiere escape room companies, Escape Room Pittsburgh. A 2012 graduate of Duquesne’s J Mara program, Deasy uses his degree in digital media arts to handle the graphic design, video and sound editing of his rooms.

“A lot of the stuff I learned at Duquesne I’m using at my full-time job here at the escape room now,” Deasy said.

The attractions lock participants in a room and ask them to escape by searching for clues and solving puzzles. They’re usually themed around a scenario, like breaking out of a jail cell or finding a humanity-saving cure in a laboratory.

After playing an escape room in Buda, Deasy was inspired to bring the idea over to Pittsburgh.

“Immediately I loved the concept. I fell in love with it, and I thought it was the coolest thing I’d ever done,” he said. “And I thought, ‘You know, I could do this, I could make this into a business.’”

Along with his cousin, Joey opened Escape Room Pittsburgh’s first location in Greenfield and has since expanded to the Waterfront.

In researching this article, I had the opportunity to try one of Deasy’s puzzle rooms at his Homestead location, along with other members of The Duke staff. Their latest puzzle, Carnegie’s Millions, has teams breaking into a bank vault owned by Andrew Carnegie. Tasked with retrieving the Stone of Destiny, participants have one hour to break into each level of Carnegie’s vault, lest the stone fall into the hands of the Illuminati.

Inside the room is an elaborate, multi-part puzzle that leads teams from Carnegie’s study, to the bank vault and finally, inside his treasury to reclaim the stone. Many of the props are real, including the bank vault which Deasy built the escape room around.

Deasy and his cousin build all the puzzles themselves, something that separates them from similar attractions.

“A lot of the other escape rooms are franchises, trends or buy rooms. We build and design everything,” Deasy said.

“We’re inspired by a lot of movies. Any action movie you see, the escape room,” he said.

“Room,” he said.

“We always prefer to call it a ‘different room,” he said.

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“We were inspired by a lot of movies. Any action movie you see, the escape room,” he said.

“I always prefer to call it a ‘different night out.’ If your normal routine is just going out to a movie or going out to grab food, why not do something different?”

Joe Deasy graduated from Duquesne in 2012 with a degree in digital media. He currently maintains two Escape Room Pittsburgh locations: one in Homestead, and his first one in Greenfield.

‘Rings’ produces more laughter than screams of fright

Sean Ray
ace editor

The latest entry in the “Ring/Ringu” series, “Rings,” is messy, unfocused, but definitely more serviceable and entertaining than most modern horror-schlock.

Largely divorced from the events of the previous film, “Rings” follows Julia (Matilda Lutz) whose long-time boyfriend Holt (Alex Rose) is moving away to college. When communication between the two starts becoming sparse and Julia receives a strange Skype call from someone else using Holt’s laptop, Julia investigates, discovering her significant other has become involved in a group studying the ghost Samara Morgan (Bonnie Morgan) and her cursed video tape.

As an admitted fan of the original “The Ring,” I went into “Rings” with a certain level of excitement. “Ring 2” failed to entertain, largely due to following the same characters from the first film. “Rings” promised to bring some fresh ideas to the table.

What I got, instead, was an utter abandonment of what made the original film so good in the first place. All subtlety or nuance is thrown out the window when the movie opens with Samara crashing a plane into a city. Not exactly the nuanced and tense sequences involving Samara and her supernatural shenanigans are some of the best in the franchise’s history. The water flowing upwards effect from “Ring 2” is recreated masterfully, the staticy nature of Samara is played up and a particularly cool shot early on involving a large window really caught my interest.

Bizarrely, more about Samara’s past is revealed, all of it serving to make her sad backstory even more depressing. At this point, the killer ghost girl is the most sympathetic and likeable character in the franchise, especially in this film, and one really gets the impression everything could be fixed if someone just gave the poor kid a hug.

While “Rings” does not manage to be anywhere near as good as the first film, it does succeed in being at least entertaining, which is more than anyone can say for “Ring 2.” For fans of Samara, the movie can be an absolute delight at times, with an awesome final reveal making the character seem even more cunning and brilliant. To anyone else, go in with low expectations, and there is fun to be had with “Rings,” just not in the engaging or intelligent sense.

That is not to say that “Rings” lacks any good qualities. The sequences involving Samara and her supernatural shenanigans are some of the best in the franchise’s history. The water flowing upwards effect from “Ring 2” is recreated masterfully, the staticy nature of Samara is played up and a particularly cool shot early on involving a large window really caught my interest.

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February 9, 2017 ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
Dear Editor,

Many faculty in the Psychology Department greeted the announcement that Duquesne University Press is shutting down with sadness and dismay. We and our alumni have a long and productive publication record with the press spanning six decades. Indeed, twenty-five of our faculty (past and present) and more than a dozen alumni have published articles and books on existential, phenomenological, hermeneutic, and psychoanalytic approaches to psychology and qualitative research methods with the press. If Duquesne University Press goes out of business, many of our publications will go out of print and/or lack a genuine “home.” The same can be said of many “classics” that have become touchstones in our field, like van den Berg’s book “A Different Existence” and the English translation of Levinas’ book “Totality and Infinity,” not to mention the late Al Labriola’s books on Milton and Donne and many, many others.

In other words, what is at stake is our heritage, and for those of us still teaching, our legacy to future students and researchers. Shutting down the press now would make it more difficult to all of us to maintain a desirable continuum between our past, present and future.

That being so, I respectfully suggest that the university administration reconsider this decision, and consult the chairs of Psychology, English, Philosophy and Communications on ways to re-imagine, re-focus and re-brand the press so that it becomes more profitable in years to come. And if by chance those efforts fail, I would urge the administration to consult with faculty about how to ensure the continuing availability of the titles and publications of those that are indisputably of lasting value. All stakeholders in this enterprise should be consulted, regardless of the eventual outcome.

Sincerely,

Daniel Burston
Associate Professor
Psychology Department

Events at Duquesne celebrate black history

HISTORY— from page 2

at times is to be in love with your abuser. Because the music was and is that. And yet the culture is ours.”

Throughout her presentation, Epps focused on key parts of this generation’s hip hop. Epps said that most hip hop artists focus on degrading women, seeing them only as gold diggers, decorations, and meant to serve to boost the male ego.

Epps named examples of this behavior occurring in music by artists like Jay-Z, Kanye West, Drake and Nicki Minaj. She also pointed out throughout this music genre, men seem to be able to decide which women are worth respecting and which women are not.

“If you don’t like something, it’s up to you to make a statement,” Epps said.

Other Black History events were planned by the Black Student Union. However, the club does not believe these events should be celebrated only during the month of February.

“It was my family that took the time to teach me about all of the great things that black people have done in this country,” said Hope Wallace, president of the Black Student Union. “So yes, I do believe that Black History Month is a necessity, but if it is not taken seriously, then what’s the point is having it? Black History should be taught all year round, not just when February rolls around.”

Topics such as slavery, Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks are often taught during elementary school, but days such as Black Love Day are often overlooked.

“Black History Month is one of those things that people really don’t prioritize like they should,” said Darwin Reynolds, vice president of the Black Student Union. “Our black ancestors have contributed so much to this world and for their recognition to be limited to only one month is kind of crazy.”

The celebration concludes on Feb. 27 with “Diversity and Inclusion Conversation: Intersection Between Laws & Reality.” During this program, attorney Ronald Wilson, chief diversity officer and director of social equity at Edinboro University will give a presentation to the public.

Jewish minor to debut

MINOR— from page 3

Two current theology courses — Theology 212: Intro to Sacred Scriptures and Theology 289: Judaism, Christianity and Islam — will be crosslisted with the new Jewish Studies minor as JWST 212 and JWST 289.

Backlash for protests at UC Berkeley

BERKELEY— from page 5

hypocritical. What’s most ironic is that the same people who were violently protesting advocate tolerance and love. I just hope with all the vitriol and hatred coming from these extremists, our country can become unified again.”

Unfortunately, so long as these agitators seek to silence their opposition and achieve social change by anarchic means, unification is unlikely.

The officials at UC Berkeley acted in the interest of their students in cancelling the event featuring Yianopoulos. Nevertheless, Yianopoulos’ rights and the rights of his audience were violated by the lawless protesters. Further, the agitators prevented any dialogue between the peaceful audience at the Yiannopoulos presentation and the peaceful protesters outside. President Trump also acted rashly in threatening the university without first understanding the totality of the situation which forced officials to cancel the event.

Should it be determined, however, that UC Berkeley, or any other institution which receives federal funds, is preventing the practice of the First Amendment, it is within the President’s unilateral authority to withhold certain funds. President Obama set this precedent in 2012 and reaffirmed it in 2015. Finally, it should be noted and respected that conservative students exist on college and university campuses across America, and if we value diversity and tolerance, those virtues should also be applied to alternative opinions and ideologies.

Charlie Megginson is a freshman political science major and can be reached at megginsonc@duq.edu.
ignore the political unrest felt across the nation. Much like a video game, America’s foundation was the result of an amalgamation of different ideals and perspectives. By removing a portion of these communities, we are effectively creating an unpolished piece of work.

An unopened door leading to a temple full of riches remains sealed, the final track of the latest racing title becomes unavailable and the horrifying behemoth is only able to attack with a single, highly-predictable swing of his club. Without immigrants, our latest adventures will feel shallow. Without immigrants, our video games will never be complete.

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