



# THE DUQUESNE DUKE

PROUDLY SERVING OUR CAMPUS SINCE 1925

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## Gormley signs DACA letter

CRAIG TAYLOR  
staff writer

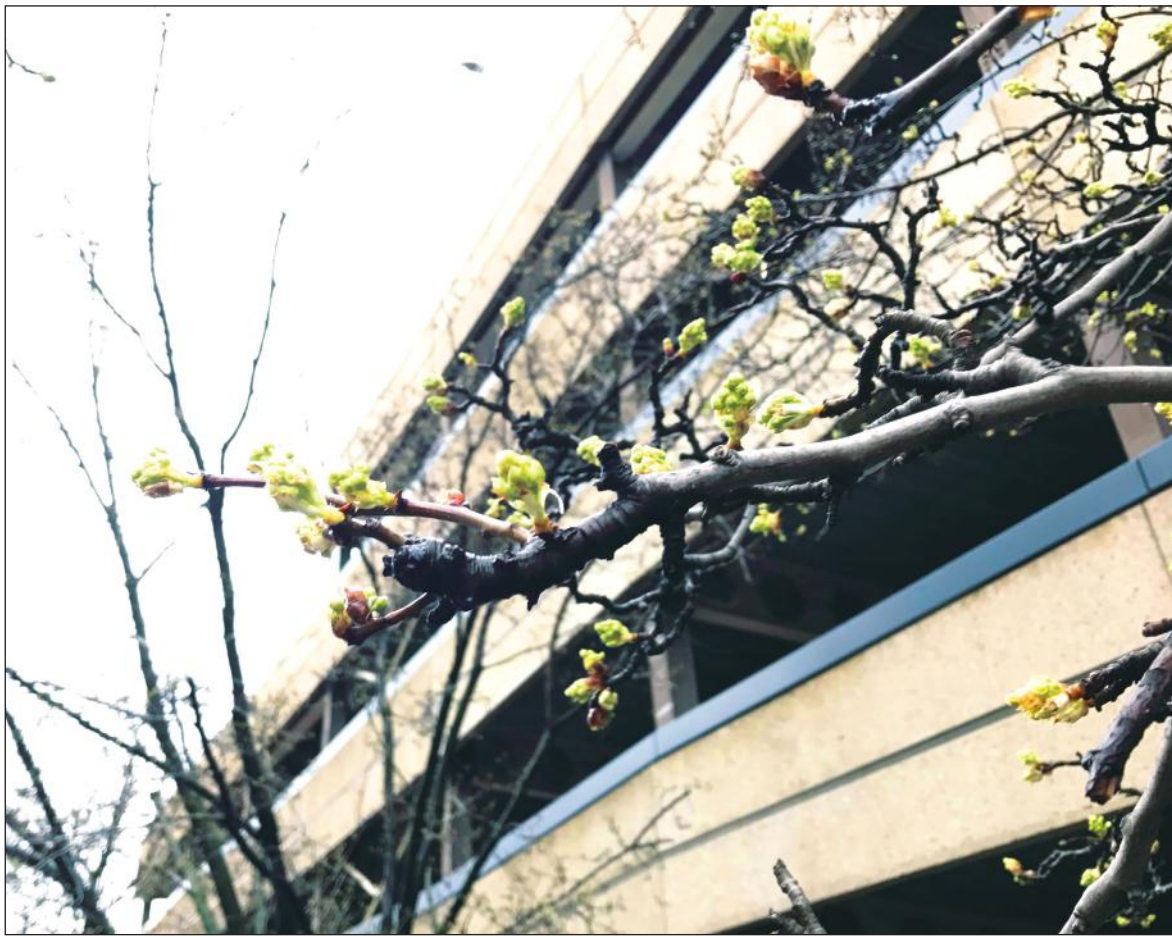
Duquesne President Ken Gormley signed a statement in support of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) act earlier this week.

After first refusing to take a political stance that could jeopardize the university's federal funding, Gormley agreed to sign on after speaking with Spiritan priests, faculty and members of student government.

Gormley is one of 600 other university presidents to sign the letter, which stands behind the 2012 immigration law enacted by former president Barack Obama. The act allows illegal immigrants who arrived in the United States under the age of 16 to receive a

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## Hanging out with all your buds



LEAH DEVORAK/PHOTO EDITOR

Trees sport their blooms early on campus as Pittsburgh experienced near-record high temperatures over the past weekend.

## Search for James continues to stall



COURTESY OF PITTSBURGH POLICE

Dakota James, 23, of the North Side, was last seen at 11:49 p.m. on Jan. 25 at Scott Place. He has now been missing 36 days.

BRANDON ADDEO  
news editor

Pittsburgh Police are encouraging additional witnesses to come forward with information on Duquesne student Dakota James, who has now been missing for 36 days.

In a press briefing Feb. 28, police said video shows the 23-year-old walking down Scott Place in the Cultural District Jan. 25 — the night he disappeared — at 11:49 p.m. Scott Place borders Katz Plaza, where James was seen in a surveillance image minutes earlier at 11:46 p.m. released to the public Feb. 7.

Pittsburgh Police Sgt. Matthew Redpath said James was walking down Scott Place toward Fort Duquesne Boulevard, but the video did not show which direction James turned on Fort Duquesne Boulevard.

Redpath added James did not appear in any Jan. 25 surveillance footage from nearby bridges to the North Shore, where James lives. Redpath added that since James went missing there has been no activity on his bank account.

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## Pgh. man paralyzed by police speaks at Duquesne

RAYMOND ARKE  
asst. news editor

A drive to his grandmother's house ended in five bullets on that November 2012 night.

On Feb. 23, Duquesne hosted Leon Ford, a Pittsburgh resident, who gave a speech encouraging optimism and positivity, though he remains paralyzed from the waist down after his encounter with the police.

On Nov. 11, 2012 Ford was pulled over by Pittsburgh Police for rolling through a stop sign. What happened next is still disputed, but police mistook Ford for a wanted criminal with a similar name and attempted to apprehend him. Ford refused to leave the car.

An officer then struggled to remove Ford from the vehicle and another hopped in the passenger seat. Police allege Ford started to drive away. Ford testified the car was put in gear during the scuf-

fle. As the car drove away, the officer in the car with Ford shot him, according to The Pittsburgh City Paper.

Ford, who is now in a wheelchair, began the presentation with a pledge he had the audience stand up and repeat.

"We must give up to go up. We must give up to grow up. We must give up on the way up. And give up even more to stay up. I can not teach what I do not know. I can not lead where I will not go. I am because we are. We are because I am. I am my brother's keeper. I am my sister's keeper. I am destined for greatness because I attract what I am," he said.

He remains upbeat and with a smile even though he will never be able to walk again. People often ask him what it feels like to be shot.

"It hurts. Not only physically ... it hurts because I was shot by people I thought were in place to protect me," he said.

The incident provided Ford time



BRANDON ADDEO/NEWS EDITOR

Leon Ford, a Pittsburgh resident who was shot and paralyzed by Pittsburgh Police in 2012, gave a speech at the Power Center Ballroom on Feb. 23 about optimism.

to do soul searching. Before he was shot, he describes himself as "the life of the party," and he wondered how it all went wrong.

"I didn't understand why I was

shot five times. I questioned God. I was a good person," Ford said.

The whole experience taught

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## POLICE BRIEFS

Well folks, boy howdy! Y'all haven't been listening to this here column and went out and committed a doozy of rule-breakings this week. Let's hope y'all get it together before you head to Cancun for spring break.

Last Tuesday, offensive graffiti was found in the first floor men's room of the Music School. I'd advise keeping that stuff on those newfangled Internet chat boards you kiddies use.

Last Wednesday, lab instruments were reported missing from a lab in Mellon. Must be some real MAD scientists out there.

An old-fashioned fender-bender happened last Thursday in Forbes Garage. The offending driver left a note that had all the necessary information.

On Friday, Campus Police found a lost Duquesne student's wallet outside the Palumbo Center. Inside, they found a fake ID. The student was referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Also that day, an administrative search of Assumption Hall found a student with a small amount of marijuana and paraphernalia. The student was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Looks like Friday was quite the rip-roaring night of crime. In St. Ann's on Friday, a student was found in possession of a small amount of marijuana and was intoxicated. This student was sent on over to the Office of Student Conduct.

On Sunday, a resident director found two intoxicated males — a non-affiliated male and a Duquesne student — in Towers. Campus police responding to the scene removed an unaffiliated male from the building and issued him two state citations and a defiant trespass warning. The Duquesne student was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Cousin PB will warn y'all again to hang on to them credit cards. On Monday, a Duquesne student reported that unknown person used her debit card in Maryland and the Washington D.C. area and overdrew her account. Watch out for them hackers. Also on Monday, a student in Des Places was found to have paraphernalia inside the dorm. The student was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

And to finish over this wild and wacky column, on Tuesday an employee reported a woman on the Rockwell Skywalk acting "strange."

## EMAIL TIPS

We want your input!

The Duke's 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 Addeo at [addeob@duq.edu](mailto:addeob@duq.edu).

## JMA to launch new Sports Information major

LIZA ZULICK

staff writer

Duquesne's Journalism and Multimedia Arts (JMA) department is launching a new Sports Information and Media major, minor and certificate for the Fall 2017 semester. Available to current and future students, the new major uses all of the same university cores as JMA and adds new, required sports media classes.

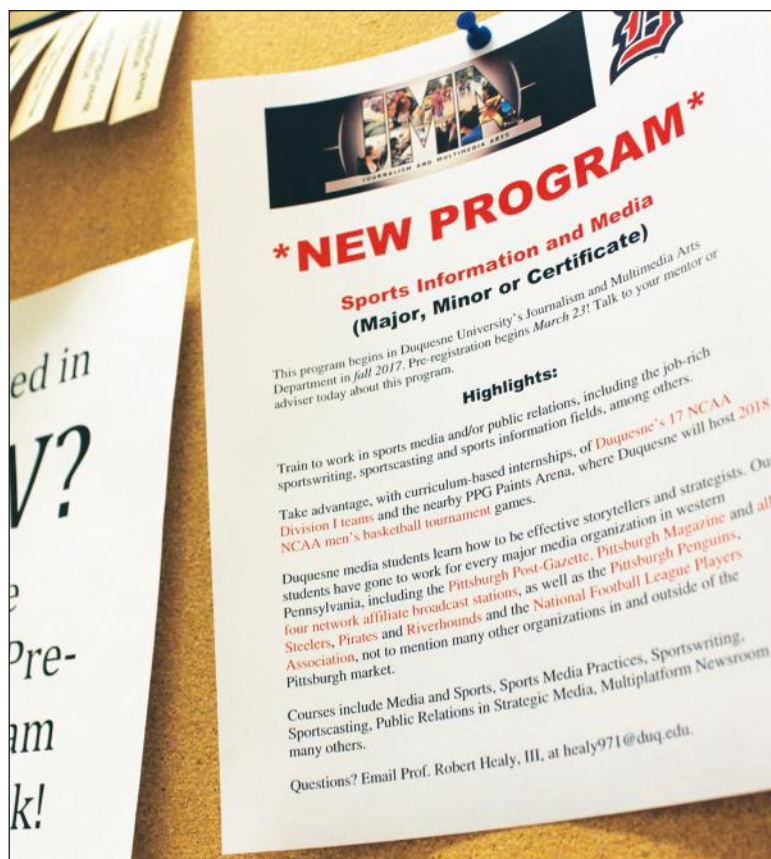
JMA professors Robert Healy and Robert Bellamy created this new major from courses that are already offered on campus. All of the university core classes are the same as the JMA classes, and other sports media classes will be required.

Sports journalism, sports public relations and a wide variety of careers could come from this new major.

"This undergraduate program within the Journalism and Multimedia Arts Department prepares students for careers in sports media and/or public relations, including the sportswriting, sportscasting and job-rich 'sports information' fields, among others," Healy said.

So far, the program has been approved by James Swindal, dean of the McNulty School of Liberal Arts, but has not yet been presented to the college council yet, which will happen in early March.

The major is unique — if ap-



OLIVIA HIGGINS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A flyer for the new JMA major hangs on a corkboard in College Hall. The Sports Information and Media major is projected to launch starting in the Fall 2017 semester.

proved, it will be the first program in the area.

"We always want to go where the media is going and where the media jobs are going. This de-

partment is always active because the media changes quickly," said Mike Dillon, chair of the JMA department. "We're in a sports-mad town and no one else in the area is

offering a program like this."

Courses taken from Journalism Multimedia Arts and Public Relations will also be required for Sports Information and Media. Media Literacy, New Media Production, Media Ethics and Media Law and Regulation will remain the university core classes all students must take.

To major in this program, nine other classes will be required, such as Multiplatform Newsroom, Sports Reporting I: Sportscasting, Sports Reporting II: Sports Writing and Sports Media Practices.

"This is an intensive program. With the students who go through it and really commit to it, we feel confident of [their] employment opportunities," Bellamy said. "A lot of students lack these basic concepts once they step into the door, but [the new major will] focus on real life job practices."

Internships will also be a big part of the program, according to Healy and Bellamy. With internships right on campus for Duquesne's Division I athletic programs, as well as with professional sports such as the Pirates, Steelers and Penguins, Healy said there are many opportunities for students in the major.

"It is such a job-rich field and we have the courses that [will] result in real world portfolio pieces that would make those students very attractive in public relations and sports journalism," Healy said.

## President Gormley changes stance, signs DACA letter



DUKE ARCHIVE PHOTO

Duquesne University President Ken Gormley reversed his previous decision and signed the statement supporting the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Feb. 23.

## DACA — from page 1

renewable two-year period of deferred action and apply for a work permit.

Gormley said that although Duquesne does not enroll any students that could be directly affected by a potential DACA repeal, he was convinced the university might one day receive applicants who do fall under DACA.

"This is directly linked to supporting immigrants to receive educational opportunities, which is directly linked to Duquesne's Spiritan identity," Gormley told The Duke. "[Duquesne] was cre-

ated to do exactly that."

To arrive at the decision, Gormley talked to Rev. Raymond French, members of the faculty Social Justice Association (SJA) and Student Government Association (SGA) members James Daher and Carly Koza.

Daher, who is the current SGA president, said the signing is an effective, non-partisan stance in support of those potentially affected by President Donald Trump's immigration policies.

"I think it's the most he could do to show support for people who feel unwelcome," he said. "DACA is already a law so he can

make a statement about that and it's a non-partisan issue."

Both Daher and Koza agreed on the issue of supporting the DACA, and were eager to convince Gormley to sign.

"I have a hard time seeing the con to that," Daher said.

Gormley's initial refusal to sign the DACA statement came after a letter signed by the Faculty Social Justice Association, which requested that he sign the statement supporting the DACA.

Duquesne professor and member of the SJA Dan Selcer is pleased with Gormley's choice.

"I personally think President Gormley's decision to sign the DACA statement is very positive for Duquesne University," Selcer said. "I hope this is an early step toward expanding the concrete protections Duquesne offers to vulnerable members of the campus community affected by the unfolding governmental assault on immigrants."

He added that he believes the signatures from over 600 university presidents supporting the law is part of the reason the Trump administration hasn't went after it.

"I suspect that the very large number of presidents from the wide array of very different universities publicly uniting behind the DACA Statement has contributed to the fact that DACA

has not yet been targeted by an executive order, despite the now-President's many campaign promises to do away with it immediately," he said.

The SJA letter also asked that Gormley explicitly say that Duquesne will not cooperate with immigration officials unless legally compelled to by a court order. Gormley said doing so would be jeopardizing the university for no real benefit.

"I do not believe those steps are prudent and are not in the best interest of Duquesne," Gormley said. "Those kind of steps are frocked with ... legal problems."

He added that students' information is already protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which was one of the SJA requests.

The signing also came after the Civil Discourse Event on Feb. 13, which Gormley considers a success. The Civil Discourse Event, which featured a panel discussion on black and Muslim social issues, is something that the university president said he is particularly proud of.

He wanted to meet with SGA as soon as possible following the event, which is when Koza and Daher ultimately convinced him.

"What is in the best interest of the entire Duquesne university and family is what I [base my decisions on]," Gormley said.



# Duquesne professor, students attend Pgh. transgender rally

RAYMOND ARKE AND  
ZACHARY LANDAU  
the duquesne duke

On Feb. 22, President Donald Trump rolled back protections for transgender students in public schools, which advised school administrators that transgender students' rights to use the restrooms and locker rooms corresponding with their gender identity were protected under Title IX. In response, many civil rights activists across the country staged rallies, marches and protests against the decision — including one recently in Pittsburgh.

On Feb. 24, LGBT activists staged a rally and march in Downtown Pittsburgh at the City-County Building, protesting the removal of the measures with some Duquesne students in attendance.

The Departments of Justice and Education reversed transgender protections Feb. 22, however, claiming that the advisements publicized by the Obama administration do not “contain extensive legal analysis or explain how the position is consistent with the express language of Title IX, nor did they undergo any formal public process,” according to NPR.

Judy Suh, an English professor at Duquesne, emphasized the im-

portance of coming to the rally to support students.

“I’m here for my students, my trans and gay students,” she said. “There’s a lot of fear amongst young people, especially.”

Grace Cochran and Rebecca Pratt, both Duquesne students, showed up in support of the rally. Cochran, a junior digital media arts major, decided to attend the rally to show support for transgender people.

“[We came out] just to be allies ... and at least say we were standing up for something that we thought was just,” she said.

Pratt, a junior integrated marketing communications major, echoed this sentiment, claiming that showing solidarity is “important.”

The rally featured a variety of speakers, including several prominent politicians. Jordan Ball, a staff member for U.S. Senator Bob Casey (D-PA), represented the senator’s office at the event and called Casey an “ally” of the transgender community.

Ball delivered a message from Casey: “[Transgender youths] are beautiful. There is a place for you in America.”

Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto also spoke at the event in front of tri-colored transgender flags flying behind him. Peduto announced this was the first time that the transgender pride flag

had flown at City Hall.

“The fight to be able to end discrimination and bigotry will continue,” he said. “It was never about the water fountains and it’s not about the bathrooms.”

Peduto praised Pittsburgh residents for their acceptance and for attending the rally.

“[Pittsburgh is] a city with a heart,” Peduto said. “We protect all of our neighbors.”

Pittsburgh Councilman Daniel Gilman of the Eighth District gave a speech supporting to the protestors.

“Gender discrimination is not a state right,” he said.

Gilman encouraged continued advocacy.

“We will not stand quietly. All of us need to know we could be next,” he warned.

Other speakers included transgender activists such as Jezebel Bebbington D’Opulence, a transgender woman who grew up in Pittsburgh.

D’Opulence was encouraged by the crowd that showed up in support.

“We are rising up for the [transgender] youth of America. We got your back right here in Pittsburgh,” she said.

In an interview with *The Duke*, after her speech, she said transgender activists are not asking for much.

“We want equal rights,” she said. “We don’t want any special



ZACHARY LANDAU/ASST. A&E EDITOR

Protestors gathered in front of the City-County Building in Downtown Pittsburgh Feb. 22 to voice support for the transgender community and transgender youth.

treatment.”

D’Opulence also advised people on how they can help be an advocate and ally.

“Definitely volunteer. Come

out and educate yourself,” she said. “Find out what it’s all about before you make a horrible judgment. People fear what they don’t know.”

## Leon Ford lecture at DU focuses on staying positive

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him valuable lessons that he wants to share with others.

“I learned patience. I learned the significance of not speaking from a place of anger. [I learned] why it’s important to lead from a place of love,” Ford said.

For the first couple weeks recovering in the hospital, Ford was unable to see his family, he recounted. When they finally could, he found out that he was still being held under arrest by the police for aggravated assault, among other charges. His mother was not allowed by the police in the room to kiss or touch him.

“[They] were treating me like I was some type of animal,” Ford said.

This does not mean that Ford hates police — in fact, he advocates for dialogue and understanding between the community and officers.

“I encourage young people to be police officers. This is what healing is all about. Sometimes we have to put personal feelings aside for the betterment of the community,” he said.

Of the police officers that paralyzed him, he said, “I understand they are a bad product of a broken system. I have compassion for them.”

Ford wants to set an example for other young African-American men to follow.

“I’m going to be positive. I’m going to be a symbol of hope,” he said.

At the end of the program, Ford

took a variety of questions from the audience, including from a group of African-American boys who said they have also had experiences with the police.

One member of the audience asked if Ford has ever heard anything from the officers who shot him, he said he has heard nothing.

“[They] never apologized. I never received an apology from anyone in the city of Pittsburgh. It’s not something I’m gonna hold my breath for,” Ford answered.

Ford’s father was in attendance and gave a moving testament to the strength of his son. He recounted how as a young boy, Ford would say his dad was his hero. Now, his dad said of Ford, “You [are] my hero now.”

Jeff Mallory, the director of Duquesne’s Office of Diversity and Inclusion, helped set up the event. He is a close friend of Ford’s and said Ford often stops by the office.

“Leon’s been a really strong supporter of our students. He’s an enrolled student here at Duquesne, and he’s always looking to give back,” Mallory said.

Mallory admires Ford’s ability to be such a strong, positive presence after all he’s been through.

“There’s qualities in him we should exhibit. [Positivity] radiates from him,” he said.

William Generett, president and CEO of Urban Innovation21, “an



BRANDON ADDEO/NEWS EDITOR

Leon Ford addresses a crowd in the Power Center Ballroom Feb. 23 before a photo of himself in a hospital bed after he had been shot by Pittsburgh Police in Nov. 2012.

economic development organization,” who cohosted the event.

Generett said Duquesne was one of the founding members of the organization and participates with the University of Pittsburgh and other local universities in intern-

ship programs for their students.

Leon is a great example for people to follow, Generett said.

“Leon is the type of leader our region must support if our region is going to become a better place for more people,” he said.

## James still missing 36 days later

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“We remain hopeful we will find him,” Lt. Victor Joseph said. “We have not given up.”

Redpath confirmed James and a female co-worker visited three bars the night he disappeared, adding the co-worker “is not suspected of any wrongdoing.”

Police Chief Scott Schubert said police “don’t have any evidence” that suggests foul play.

“This is an ongoing missing persons investigation,” Schubert said. “We’re going to continue to search ... We want to find Dakota for his family.”

Police said James texted his father around the time of the 11:46 p.m. video, but declined to comment on the content of the message.

All calls to James’ cellphone have gone straight to voicemail, according to police.

Police also said there is no indication of a feud between James and anybody else. Joseph added Pittsburgh Police do not have any evidence to suggest an abduction.



## THE DUKESNE DUKE

113 College Hall  
600 Forbes Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15282

## editorial staff

editor-in-chief Kaye Burnet  
news editor Brandon Addeo  
asst. news editor Raymond Arke  
opinions editor Rebekah Devorak  
asst. opinions editor Shivani Gosai  
features editor Seth Culp-Ressler  
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## administrative staff

adviser Bobby Kerlik  
ad manager Madison Pastrick  
email us: theduquduke@gmail.com

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*The Duquesne Duke* is the student-written, student-managed newspaper of Duquesne University. It is published every Thursday during the academic year except during semester breaks and holidays, and prior to final exams. The Staff Editorial is based upon the opinions of the editors of *The Duke* and does not necessarily reflect the views of the students, faculty, administration, student government or the University publications board. Op-ed columns do not reflect the opinions of *The Duke*, but rather are the sole opinions of the columnists themselves.

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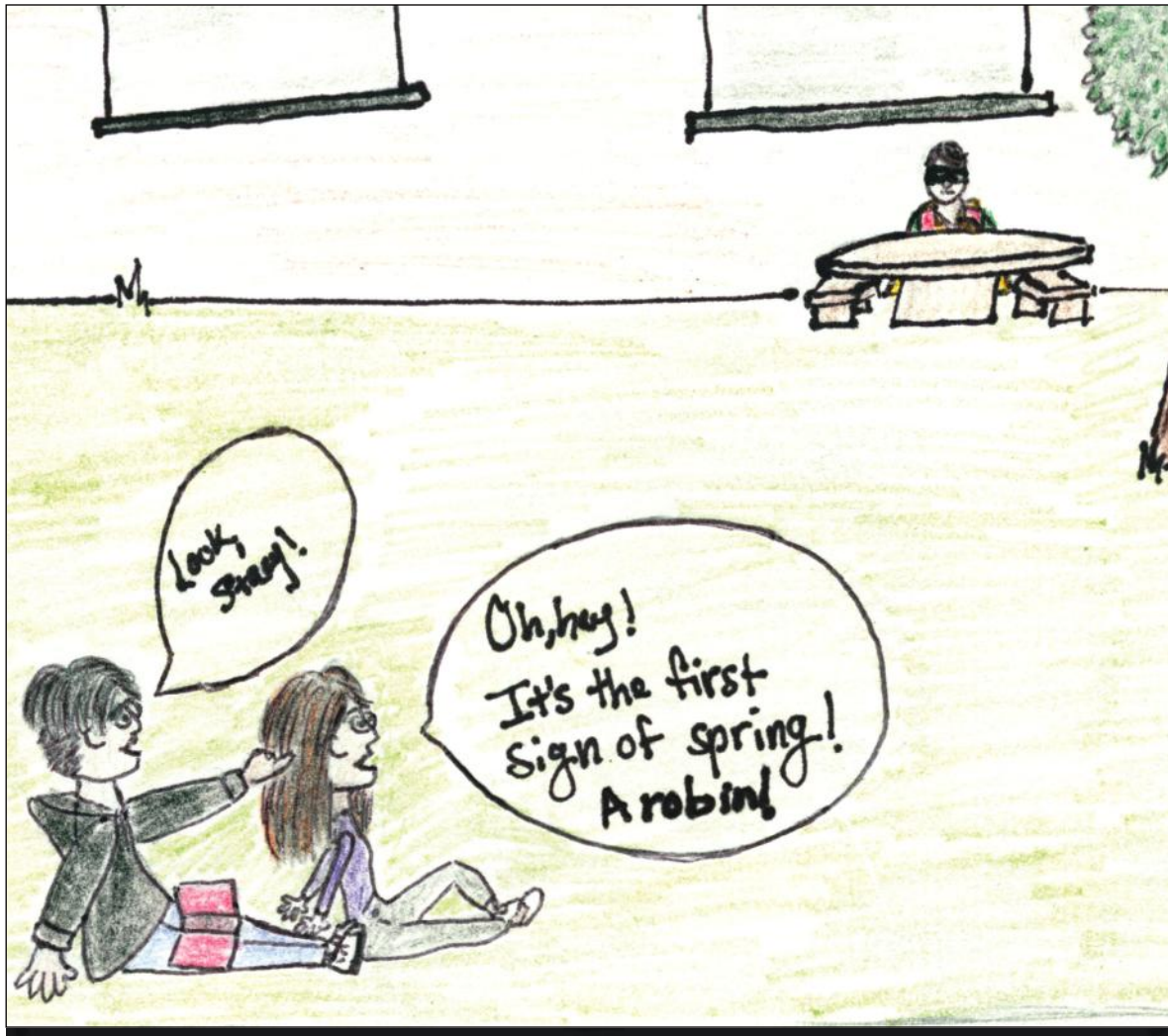
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### Corrections/clarifications

Readers should report any story or photo error to *The Duke*. All legitimate errors will be corrected in print the following edition.

### Contact

email theduquduke@gmail.com



CARTOON BY LEAH DEVORAK

if i do say so myself...

## Transgender students' battle on bathroom

On Feb. 22, President Donald Trump rescinded protections that allowed transgender students to use the bathroom that best fit with their gender identity. Several civil rights officers from the Justice Department and Education Department invalidated former President Barack Obama's idea that nondiscriminatory laws were the basis for freedom of bathroom choice in schools.

The Obama administrations stated that all public schools were to follow that line of action. However, President Trump's mandate said the issue should be decided at state and local levels, leading conservative states such as Texas to ramp back transgender rights for people to use their preferred bathroom.

Texas filed "Senate Bill 6" last month, according to CNN. Dubbed the "Privacy Protection Act," this bill would ban transgender people from using the bathroom of their identified gender in all public schools and government buildings. According to CNN, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick announced the bill and said that Texas is on the "right side of history" with the decision.

It is heartbreaking and embarrassing that, in 2017, a bumbling reality television star can be elected to the highest position of power in this nation – and arguably the world – but a large group of people are being banned from using the

bathroom they feel most comfortable with in the name of "privacy protection." These people must fear over a basic human function.

According to the Williams Institute, it is estimated that there are about 1.4 million adults in the United States that are transgender. Put another way, that's approximately every single person in Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Nashville combined not knowing which restroom they are allowed to use to relieve themselves in. And that estimate doesn't even include children.

It's ridiculous to have so much fuss and law-making over articulating what bathroom a person can and cannot use. To claim that it is

for privacy's sake is absurd. No one has a problem when a mom brings her 8-year-old son into the ladies' room to go to the bathroom. No one blinks an eye at the dad who takes his daughter into the men's room. Nor do people give much thought on a Friday night in South Side to the girl who uses the men's restroom because the line at the ladies' is too long.

So why can't a person who identifies as a woman use the ladies' room? She's not going to barge into stalls as other people are using them and Instagram pictures of whoever is in there.

She's not going to attack anyone trying to do their business. Public bathrooms will remain just as private as they were before.

If someone feels more comfortable – and safer – using one bathroom over the other, then it shouldn't even be a question that they should use that bathroom. It's common sense.

This isn't nuclear war that we are talking about. This isn't international trade relations. This is a bathroom. A toilet and a sink and maybe some paper towels if everyone else didn't use them already. President Trump should be focusing his presidential efforts on North Korea launching missiles instead of whether Jim uses the ladies' or men's room after a cup of coffee.

And most of these laws will directly affect children – the mandate is for public schools. Being a kid and a teenager is hard enough as it is. Growing up and trying to figure out who you are is hard enough as it is. These kids don't need the added stress of going to the bathroom where they feel they don't belong. Is it fair to invalidate who a child believes they are by telling them they are banned from going to the bathroom they feel safest in?

At the end of the day, a bathroom is just a bathroom. It shouldn't be an emotional and anxiety-inducing battleground for 1.4 million people.

*Rebekah Devorak is a senior journalism and advertising major and can be reached at devorakr@duq.edu.*

## STAFF EDITORIAL

### What to give up for Lent this year

There is a tradition in the Catholic faith of marking the time before Easter, called Lent, by making Lenten resolutions. Lenten resolutions run the gamut from giving up eating sweets to donating more time to charitable causes. For Catholics, the resolutions are reminders to prepare for their celebration of Jesus Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday. For non-Catholics, this tradition can just be a nice opportunity for kindness to others or self-improvement.

In keeping with this custom, *The Duke* would like to offer some Lenten resolutions for those members of the Duquesne community who have not selected any yet:

**Stop wearing the same clothes as every other student on campus.** Look at yourselves. Look at your matching leggings, your identical haircuts, your oh-so-trendy workout outfits. Don't they look like the clothes on every other student on campus? Would it kill you to express an iota of individuality? This Lent, resolve to stop being a fashion lemming.

**Don't you dare take that elevator up just one floor.** Just don't. We see you, and it needs to stop. Unless you have a genuine medical condition that prevents you from walking up stairs, leave those elevators open for those of us visiting the 8th floor of Rockwell.

**Volunteer your time for a good cause.** Did you know that Duquesne has a homeless ministry that meets every Sunday at 7:30 p.m. outside Laval House to serve hot meals and administer toiletry bags to some of Pittsburgh's most vulnerable people? You can sign up on the Spiritan Campus Ministry page on Duquesne's Website.

**Listen to a viewpoint that you don't agree with.** Maybe you have a "bleeding heart liberal" friend or a vehement Trump-supporting aunt with whom you get into Facebook fights. Maybe you're quick to accuse someone of being hateful when they're really just scared. This Lent, go beyond tolerance – really listen. You might not be persuaded, but you will definitely learn something.

**Stop walking four abreast on the sidewalks.** You aren't the British Army during the American Revolution – there is absolutely no need to march in formation when other people are trying to get past you. We get it. You have lots of friends and you want to walk next to them all. But please try to corral your herd to one side of the sidewalk, so those of use with long legs and places to be can scurry past you without jumping in front of cars.

If you already follow these resolutions, you're a champion. Keep up the good work. For the rest of us, Catholics and non-Catholics alike, let this list be a starting point for your own self-reflection.



# Rise in anti-Semitism should not quiet Jews

DAVID DEFELICE  
contributor

During the past few weeks, I have seen a multitude of news reports in the media about growing anti-Semitism in the United States.

I distinctly remember the first time I personally experienced anti-Semitism. I was at a hookah bar, and the subject of geopolitics came up between the person on the couch across from me and my friends. After an hour or so of heated conversation, the person whom I was in discussion with gave me their opinion of Jews.

They described all Jews as terrorists, greedy and oppressive people. I left hurt and saddened at this portrayal of Jewish people, of me. I started thinking the next day about that conversation, and the underlying theme I picked up on was the state of Israel. This person was actively portraying the state of Israel, the Jewish homeland, as an oppressive regime aimed at terrorism, along with other derogatory caricatures.

On the contrary, the state of Israel was established in order to fight against anti-Semitism. In re-establishing a sovereign nation in our ancestral homeland, the Jewish people have, through Israel, only wanted to live out our national destiny as other people have, free of the laws and limitations imposed on us in our long

diaspora. This past winter I had the opportunity to visit Israel on birthright, and not only was it the most culturally-enriching 10 days of my life, but I established my identity as a Jew.

As I went to the Kotel, the Western Wall, a man welcomed me as I was about to pray, and upon my exiting, asked where I was from. I replied that I was from the United States, and he looked at me and uttered the words, "Welcome home." Those words made me proud to be Jewish in a country that felt peaceful to me, even though the Middle East is far from peaceful. My experience in Israel showed me the complexity of the conflict and the struggles for security. The friendships I made with Israeli members of the Israeli Defense Forces gave me insight on how personal the struggle is for peace and why they fight so hard.

Their stories showed me that I should never apologize for being Jewish, I should not shy away from talking about Israel and, most importantly, that I should be proud of who I am.

As I see hatred for Jewish people flourish once again in the United States, I can't help but feel the same pain I felt that night at the hookah bar. The bomb threats at Jewish Community Centers and vandalism at Jewish cemeteries brings about fear in the Jewish community. I have started to ask

myself questions like, "Is it safe to go to synagogue?" or, "Can I wear my kippah out in public?" When people think anti-Semitism, they think the Holocaust (Shoah), but anti-Semitism has always existed. Hate for the Jewish people has been around since the beginning of time, from slavery in Egypt to pogroms in the Middle Ages. Prejudice against Jews has taken on many forms in our world.

As a Duquesne community what can we do? For one, Jewish students need to know that just because we are a Catholic institution there is still a population of Jews on campus and all are welcome to join the Jewish Students Organization.

Second, engaging in a dialogue with people who are different in race, ethnicity and religion will deepen anyone's understanding of the world around them.

Third, no one can shy away from difficult conversations. On so many college campuses, pro-Palestine groups protest supporters of Israel and vice-versa. When one's viewpoint is challenged, it is necessary to hear the other side out. Not just letting one side talk and then you speak, but actually listening to what the other person has to say.

Finally, understanding where other people are coming from needs to be a priority for all. Something I think the person at the hookah bar really missed was what the Jewish people are



AP PHOTO  
Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, right, meets New South Wales state Premier Gladys Berejiklian in Sydney. Anti-Semitism is on the rise in the U.S.

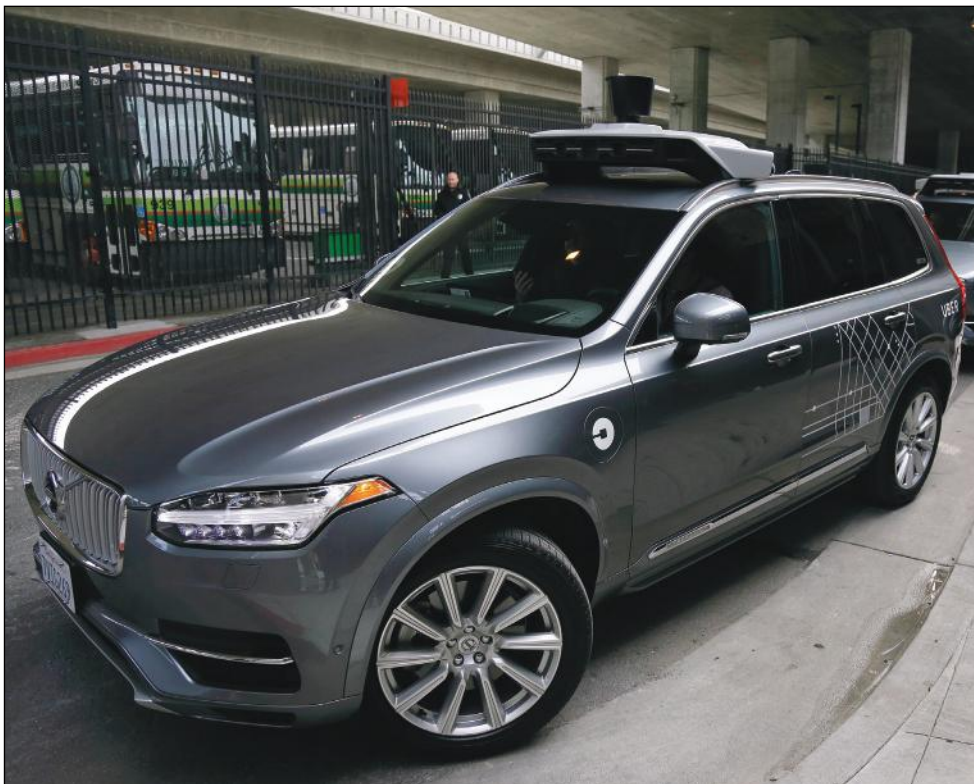
all about. Breaking the bonds of slavery is a central theme to our narrative, engaging in discussions where everyone disagrees is really just a typical conversation amongst Jews and repairing the world (tikkun olam) is what many Jews strive for in life. While in Israel, I heard the stories of sacrifice and agony, of lost loved ones and anguish. But through it all, I saw some of the proudest people I have ever seen, and I made it my goal to go home and be the proudest Jew I could be.

Anti-Semitism aims at terrorizing Jews and making us feel ashamed for who we are, but we can't let these bad actors have that pleasure. I am a proud Jew, and I will not apologize for it.

As Ivanka Trump said in a tweet last week, "America is a nation built on the principle of religious tolerance. We must protect our houses of worship and religious centers."

David DeFelice is a sophomore political science major and can be reached at [defelic2@duq.edu](mailto:defelic2@duq.edu).

## Ford brings more jobs with new self-driving car



AP PHOTO

Uber's current autonomous car in Pittsburgh will be joined by Ford's own self-driving project in 2021.

SHIVANI GOSAI  
asst. opinions editor

Pretty soon, there will be another self-driving car in Pittsburgh.

Alongside Uber's current project on autonomous cars, the major car brand Ford is planning on investing \$1 billion into

Pittsburgh for its own autonomous car technology.

Ford announced on Feb. 10 that it is investing the \$1 billion over the next five years into Argo AI, which is a Pittsburgh-based startup that was founded late last year. The founders of the company, Bryan Salesky and Peter Rander, formerly worked for the self-driving car technology

gies at Uber and Google and are alumni of the Carnegie Mellon National Robotics Engineering Center. Argo AI will be developing a virtual driver system for an autonomous car that the company hopes to launch with Ford in 2021.

This news is important and incredibly thrilling because it escalates Pittsburgh as a central hub of autonomous technology, really putting the city on the map for this field. Other research groups and companies have been working here for some time already; Uber has been testing its self-driving cars here for a few months, and Carnegie Mellon has been working on this technology for three decades. Recently, the U.S. Department of Transportation selected Pittsburgh as one of the top 10 "proving grounds" for autonomous technology in the country.

Pittsburgh is really making strides in this growing industry, which will definitely lead to more jobs. In an interview with the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald said Ford's investment could translate into more than 1,000 jobs as Argo's research progresses.

Argo AI announced on Feb. 23 that it will open its offices in the Strip District.

"It's where Pete and I will be based, and we'll be employing a number of engineers and scientists from the region," Salesky said in an interview with the Tribune-Review. He also spoke about how Pittsburgh is well-suited for testing this technology because of its challenging topography and irregular street grid.

Although the idea of self-driving cars may

make some people uneasy, Argo AI promises that self-driving cars have "the potential to improve road safety, reduce congestion and offer mobility to all."

On Sunday, U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao said she was reviewing self-driving vehicles and their safety and is urging companies to explain the benefits to the public. Saying self-driving cars could drastically improve our safety on the road, she noted research that 94 percent of traffic crashes were due to human error.

"There's a lot at stake in getting this technology right," Chao said.

It's no surprise that more and more tech companies are looking to work in Pittsburgh. We can anticipate to continue to experience growth in this field, especially because of our major universities and hospitals. Argo AI and Ford are sure to create hundreds of jobs in Pittsburgh as the companies' researching grows, and with that, we welcome them. Looking to the future of safe and efficient self-driving cars is exciting, and having it being done in Pittsburgh is even more exciting. This city has always been an epicenter for innovation, filled with talented and hard-working people to push that innovation forward. We can predict Pittsburgh to continue to play a major role in automation of the automotive industry, and broaden from there. We look forward to having Argo AI and Ford here to continue to help Pittsburgh's strive toward autonomous tech innovation.

Shivani Gosai is a junior journalism major and can be reached at [gosaish@duq.edu](mailto:gosaish@duq.edu).



# FRENCH ROAST AND FELINES

## *Colony Cafe brings coffee, baked goods and adoption-ready cats to the Strip District*

JAMIE CROW  
staff writer

When Colony Cafe opened on Penn Avenue in the Strip District two weeks ago, people were anxiously awaiting their chance to visit. While the opening of another coffee shop in Pittsburgh doesn't sound like breaking news, the Colony Cafe earned its hype. See, the Colony Cafe offers one special *purr-k*: cats.

Cat cafes have made their way across the world pretty quickly, with the first ones opening in various countries across Asia. The cafes offer the opportunity to enjoy a cup of coffee and the comfort of having a furry friend nearby.

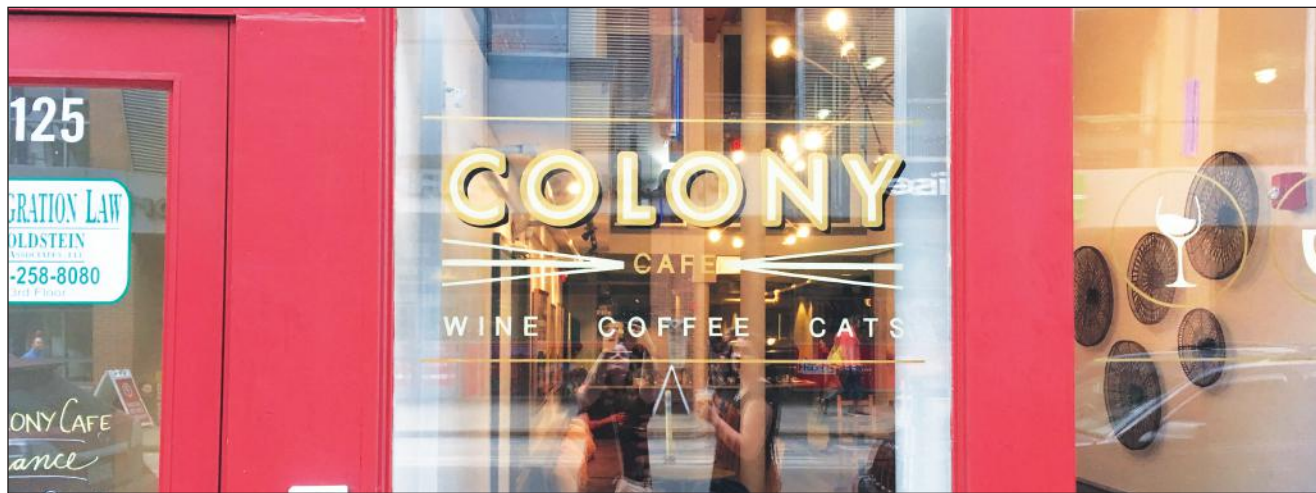
Let's talk about the logistics of Colony Cafe. The business separates its cats from the dining area. The cafe is downstairs and the cats are housed upstairs in the "Cat Loft." Their loft has scratching posts, towers and plenty of toys for the felines to entertain themselves with. When the cats get tired, they can take a nap on the chairs, couches and bean bags surrounding the loft. They have a bathroom area with litter boxes that is separate from the public loft, so when the cats want some privacy from all of the attention, there is somewhere for them to go to get away.

In order to go upstairs to the Cat Loft, you need to make a reservation. Each reservation gets a one hour slot to be with the cats. A maximum of ten people can be upstairs at one time so as not to overwhelm the animals.

Reservations can be made online and are \$8 in advance of your visit. If you think \$8 is a steep price to pay to simply hang out with some animals for an hour, the money directly benefits the cats as it is used to buy them food, toys and other necessities. If you can't get a reservation, though, you can see the cats from the cafe area through several windows.

All of the cats come from Animal Friends, and they're all available for adoption. The cats that are chosen to go to the Colony Cafe live in the loft until they are adopted, which is a pretty sweet gig. The business opened with 12 cats available for adoption and, as of my visit, four of the 12 were already adopted — and that's after they had only been open for six days. The cafe is in the process of getting more cats for the loft, as they are trying to maintain a group of 12 cats to maximize the opportunities for adoption.

Downstairs in the cafe area, there are various coffee drinks available, as well as espresso, soda and water. Pastries and light lunch options, including sandwiches, are



JAMIE CROW/STAFF WRITER

Colony Cafe has been open on Penn Avenue in the Strip District for about two weeks, and some cats have already been adopted.

also offered. Perhaps more exciting, though, are the varieties of wine that Colony Cafe offers. The wine selection makes the shop even more unique and inviting to guests, as it offers a comfortable space to enjoy a drink. All of the beverages and pastries are prepared in an area separate from the cats. However, the treats can be taken upstairs to be enjoyed with them.

On my visit, I walked into the building, and I was immediately greeted by the smell of coffee. I then noticed the decor: hardwood floors and gray furniture with pops of yellow. Along the walls were various art pieces, but particularly interesting were the art prints depicting famous areas of Pittsburgh, including PPG Place. The building is long and narrow, but the decor really drew me in and made me want to explore every aspect of the business.

I ordered a vanilla iced coffee and a chocolate chip cookie from the cafe. The coffee was good and the chocolate chip cookie tasted great, but it was almost too hard to bite into, which made eating it more of a process than an enjoyable experience. I ended up dipping it into my coffee to soften it up, which made it much better.

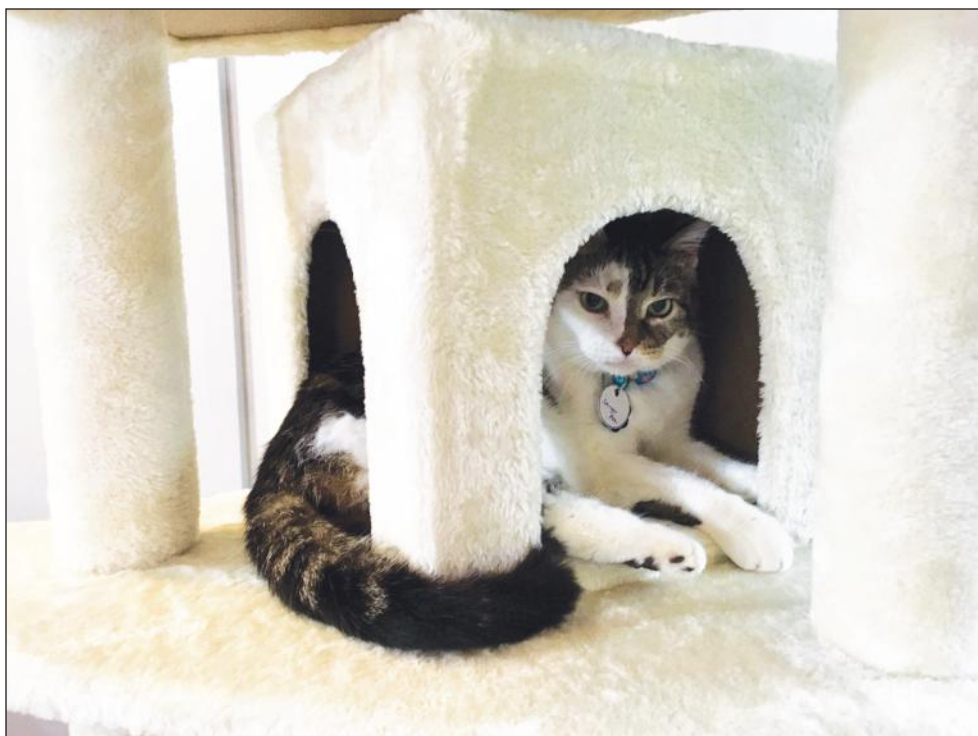
One of the owners of Colony Cafe, Sue Hendrickson, was at the counter to ask about my reservation, and she was very kind and welcoming. She seemed excited to have me there and excited about the business that she and her husband opened.

I went upstairs and was greeted by eight cats, most of

which were sleeping. The excitement grew when I saw Pickles, a black kitten who was really playful. He utilized every toy to entertain himself, and he was so small that he drew a lot of attention from visitors. Then I met Fizzy, a relaxed gray kitten who didn't move from her chair the whole time that I was there. She did fall asleep on my hand, though, which prompted a phone call to my mom to see if I could adopt her. My mom said no.

The eight cats ranged in ages from a few months old to 15 years old, and their tempers ranged from playful to downright sassy. Guaranteeing the personalities of up to 12 cats is definitely a challenge, but most seemed willing to let you pet and interact with them. The cats do get a break from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. every day for a rest and for feeding, so they can relax in between rounds of visits.

All in all, Colony Cafe is a great place to go. The cats offer a unique experience in a coffee shop, and it's all benefiting a great cause. The welcoming staff makes the visit that much more positive. While reservations to go up to the loft are booked up for a while, even just going to the cafe would be a great experience to get a peek at some adoptable cats. As college students, we don't really get to interact with animals on campus, and Colony Cafe offers a great opportunity to relax in the comfort of cats. I definitely recommend going, although I'm sure getting people to go to Colony Cafe wouldn't require much *purr-suasion*.



PHOTOS BY JAMIE CROW/STAFF WRITER

(Left) Colony Cafe's goal is to always have a group of twelve adoption-ready cats in residence. (Right) Visitors can book an hour with the cats in the upstairs loft for \$8. Food from the cafe is allowed.



# Dukes fall to John Carroll in semis, conclude season

ADAM LINDNER  
asst. sports editor

On Saturday night at the Robert Morris University Island Sports Center, Duquesne's club ice hockey team played the last game of its 2016-17 campaign as it fell in the semi-finals of the College Hockey Mid-America (CHMA) playoffs to John Carroll University, 8-2. Though a six-goal defeat is surely

a tough way to end the year, Duquesne head coach Conrad Waite insisted that the progress the team made this season isn't negated just because of a poor final outing.

"I told them that any one game doesn't define our season," said Waite. "You know, everything we do doesn't get erased away because of one game [and] doesn't get validated if we win. I've never been prouder of a team, and we had a heck of a year."



ADAM LINDNER/ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

Senior defensemen Zak Kindy and Michael Iannello along with junior forward Thomas Diffendal take the ice for the semifinal matchup against the John Carroll Blue Streaks on Saturday Feb. 25 at RMU's facility.

The game on Saturday night, which dropped the Dukes to 18-11 on the year, was for a spot in the CHMA conference championship game against the University of Pittsburgh. The .621 winning percentage was the Dukes' best in eight seasons and just the second time they've reached 18 wins since the 2008-09 season.

John Carroll went on to claim the trophy the next day in a 4-2 defeat of Pitt in the CHMA title game. However, the Panthers won the regular season title and therefore claimed a spot in the ACHA national tournament that's set to begin on March 9 in Columbus, Ohio.

Being that Duquesne was in the top half of its conference standings at the season's conclusion and boasted a 4-0 season sweep over both perennial rivals and quality opponents Pitt and Robert Morris, Saturday's loss was a bit of an aberration for a Duquesne team accustomed to winning. Even the Dukes' previous meetings with John Carroll were particularly competitive: a 4-3 Blue Streak win on Oct. 29 and a 3-2 Duquesne win on Dec. 3.

After the game, Waite attributed the lopsided loss to, simply, rough luck.

"Honestly, it was something where John Carroll just took advantage of their chances," Waite said. "You know, I thought for large stretches it was a very even game. They get one bounce, we don't... They get one call, we don't. You know, and it just kind of ended up going downhill. We had a stretch in the second where we kind of lost our fo-

cus because it wasn't going our way, but I thought we did a really good job of bouncing back and playing to the end."

After JCU built a 2-0 lead heading into the first intermission, the Dukes responded quickly as Jason Bechtel scored a power play goal 1:17 into the second period. John Carroll then turned the competitive, seesaw game into an offensive clinic by tallying six unanswered goals. Duquesne's Mitchell Eisenberg scored on a breakaway goal with 2:08 remaining in the game to render the score 8-2.

Heading into the offseason, Waite seemed confident in his team's talent but wary of his team's loss of leadership.

"I think the mindset is there for our team. I think a good offseason program, working off the ice and all of that kind of stuff [will be important] so we can come back better," Waite remarked. "I'm losing a lot of leadership... I'm losing three defensemen that are the heart and soul of our team, so a lot of guys are going to have to step up as individuals next year [in] that way, even more than on-ice play."

Losing four forwards and three defensemen to graduation, others will have to assume much more prominent roles within the locker room if the 2017-18 Duquesne team hopes to repeat this year's success.

"This year has been special, [and] we exceeded a lot of expectations," senior defenseman Michael Iannello said. "It's definitely hard walking away from hockey, but I'm glad I got to finish my career with this team."

# Duquesne WBB playing for another tomorrow

ANDREW HOLMAN  
sports editor

"Do or die."

Head coach Dan Burt began his press conferences with these words after the Dukes (16-14, 9-8) solidified a trip to Richmond, Virginia and secured a spot in the Atlantic 10 Championship Quarterfinals with a 66-55 win over the George Mason Patriots (13-17, 6-10) at the A.J. Palumbo Center on Saturday afternoon. Midway through the third quarter, Duquesne took over the game and went on a commanding 26-6 run to put away the Patriots for good.

Senior Amadea Szamosi led the Dukes with 14 points and collected six rebounds. Sophomore Angela Staffileno tied her season-best with 12 points off the bench. It was balance that really won the game for Duquesne, though, as six players scored at least seven points in the victory.

The win was part of yet another winning season for Burt, — a feat he has accomplished in each of the four seasons he has spent on the Bluff. But no matter what happens against the No. 2 George Washington Colonials in the quarterfinals, this season will go down as the worst with Burt at the helm.

That goes to show the success that the Duquesne women's basketball program has found over the past four years. A 16-win season with a relatively young team is nothing for which to be ashamed.

Burt lost 49 percent (35.3 points per game) of his team's scoring from last season with the departures of April Robinson, Deva'Nyar Workman and Emilie Gronas. He coupled that with a regrettably difficult nonconference slate that featured the likes

of current No. 4 University of Maryland, No. 9 the Ohio State University and a trio of teams currently with 18 wins: Ohio University, the University of California and St. John's University.

That combination was very tough on a young team, and it showed with a shaky 7-6 start to the season. However, the emergence of sophomore guard Julijana Vojinovic helped to solidify a solid core to go along with fellow sophomore Chassidy Omogrosso and Szamosi. This triumvirate of scorers paired with increased production from role players as the season went on, leading to a successful 16-win campaign.

For Szamosi and Brianna Thomas, they have competed on the Palumbo Center court for the final time, but there is no question that they hope to prolong their collegiate careers as much as they can. That will require a run in the Atlantic 10 tournament.

"Her second half was outstanding," Burt said of Thomas' performance against George Mason. "I am really happy that as a senior, she gets to leave her come court with a win."

Burt progressed to talk about his other senior, Szamosi, and the leadership they will miss when she graduates from the program at the conclusion of the season.

"I love her. She is a great kid," Burt said. "While we were waiting for George Mason to finish their press conference, she went up and got a lifting session in. So after playing 29 minutes, she went up to the weight room and did a weight lifting session. That's Amadea."

However, there is a chance Burt's team and his senior class may be far from done.

A mere 33 days after Duquesne picked

up a double-digit victory over the George Washington Colonials on the road, the two teams will clash once again in a rematch of last year's Atlantic 10 Championship game in which the Colonials edged out the Dukes 63-60.

In last year's matchup in the tournament final, both teams were headed to the NCAA tournament no matter the outcome. This year the NCAA tournament is an unrealistic expectation for Duquesne with a loss, and even the Women's National Invitational Tournament (WNIT) would be a stretch. It's a must-win and truly, "do or die" time, as Burt has been stressing of late.

If the Dukes can pick up a win over George Washington, there is a good shot they could find themselves back in the Atlantic 10 Final. The Dukes will have their leading scorer Omogrosso back in uniform for the quarterfinal tilt, and that will inevitably give them the huge boost that they lacked in the first half against George Mason.

With a core of sophomores in Omogrosso, Vojinovic, Conor Richardson and Kadri-Ann Lass, the future for the Duquesne women's basketball program is undoubtedly bright under Burt. But coming this Friday, the Dukes will be battling each night for another tomorrow. It's time to see what this young team is truly made of.



BRY MCDERMOTT/ASST. PHOTO EDITOR

Duquesne sophomore guard Conor Richardson goes up for a layup against George Mason in the first round of the 2017 Atlantic 10 Women's Basketball tournament at the A.J. Palumbo Center.



# Antonio Brown extended, hopes to be Steeler for life

BRYANNA McDERMOTT

asst. photo editor

Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver Antonio Brown signed a four-year contract extension worth \$68 million on Monday, making the 29-year-old the highest paid receiver in the National Football League.

However, with the big price tag comes some big questions for the Steelers on how to manage Brown's off-field antics and a salary cap that just got a whole lot tighter.

It was only a month and a half ago that Brown was fined \$10,000 by the Steelers for sharing a 17-minute long Facebook Live video of the team celebrating in the locker room after defeating the Kansas City Chiefs in the divisional round of playoffs.

The video not only violated the NFL's social media policy, which prohibits players from posting online before addressing the media, but also included nude players and a profanity-riddled speech by head coach Mike Tomlin.

Coincidentally, Tomlin told players to "keep a low profile" during the video, with an unidentifiable voice chiming in to say, "keep cool on social media."

Brown's live-video fiasco has since been deleted from his Facebook page, which has close to 669,000 likes, but it shows the lack of respect he has for his fellow teammates and coaching staff.

Tomlin went as far as to call Brown "foolish," "selfish" and "inconsiderate" for the ordeal, adding that these situations can often lead to players moving on to other teams.

But not in this situation.

Instead, Brown was given a slap on the wrist and then rewarded with an obscenely large contract extension.

Unfortunately for morale's sake, he's worth every dollar of that extension.

Brown has risen from a sixth-round draft pick in 2010 to one of the best receivers in the NFL in seven seasons. He has been selected for the Pro Bowl five times, named First-Team

All-Pro three times, led the league in receptions in both 2014 and 2015 and led the NFL in receiving yards in 2014.

In 2016, Brown ended the season with 106 catches for 1,284 yards and 12 touchdowns in just 15 games.

The extension will carry Brown through the 2021 season, since 2017 will be the final year of his previous five-year, \$42 million contract. This could possibly keep the Florida-native in Pittsburgh for the duration of his career, as Brown will be 33 at the end of his contract, and the average retirement age for the NFL is just 30 years old, according to ESPN: The Magazine.

However, the contract proposes a possible salary cap issue for the Steelers.

On Monday, the team announced it gave running back Le'Veon Bell its franchise tag, meaning that he is not allowed to negotiate with any team except the Steelers. Pittsburgh has until July 15 to strike a long-term deal with Bell, or the 25-year-old will be signed to a one-year contract worth roughly \$12 million, according to CBS Sports.

The Steelers entered into Monday with about \$36 million in space for a growing salary cap estimated to be between \$166 million and \$170 million. After the Brown deal and tagging Bell, that number has shrunk to a miniscule \$8.5 million, giving Pittsburgh little room to do much else in the offseason.

Additionally, the Steelers re-signed linebacker James Harrison to a 2-year contract, which will lower the cap room even more. Harrison was a valuable leader for the defense last season and the Steelers will hope he can keep playing well even at his age.

These moves are smart by the Steelers. Both Bell and Brown could garner much larger contracts if they were to hit free agency, as bidding wars would most likely break out amongst interested teams.

It's hard to tell just how much Pittsburgh will be willing to dish out to Bell, or if the team can reel in Brown's shenanigans, but one thing is for sure: It's going to be an interesting five years for the Steelers.



AP PHOTO

Steelers wide receiver Antonio Brown speaking at his press conference after receiving a contract extension on Monday, Feb. 27.

## Stadium Series showcases beauty of Pittsburgh sports

ANDREW WHITE

staff writer

When the NHL announced the Pittsburgh Penguins and Philadelphia Flyers rivalry was being brought outside as part of the 2017 Coors Light NHL Stadium Series this past March, excitement and anticipation flooded through the city. Hockey fans were thrilled that a big-time event like this was coming back to Heinz Field, and many were looking to attend.

To some, a game like this may not mean much, but to true hockey fans, it means a whole lot. It brings back the good, old-time hockey feel and tradition. To many, including the players, it also brings back the memories of playing outside on the pond as a kid.

Going to an outdoor game means more than going to just any regular season game. It doesn't matter if you are a fan of either team, in fact, there were a decent amount of fans attending who weren't. What really matters in these games for the fans is the experience of witnessing a spectacle like this.

When tickets went on sale, the prices soared way above the price most broke college kids would be willing to spend, no matter the level of fandom. Then the student rush tickets came, sending students racing to their computers to secure their discounted rate.

The announced attendance at the game was 67,318 fans. The number secured the game as one of the five-highest attended outdoor games in NHL history. According to the Penguins Twitter account on the night of Feb. 25, the high turnout now gives the Penguins organization and its fans three



ANDREW WHITE/STAFF WRITER

A Pittsburgh Penguins fan waves a Terrible Towel from the upper deck at Heinz Field for the Stadium Series rivalry game between the Penguins and the Philadelphia Flyers on Saturday, Feb. 25.

of the top five highest attended outdoor games. That's a tribute to Pittsburgh as not just a sports town but more specifically a hockey town.

When Saturday came, the city was buzzing. The T was packed heading into Heinz Field and the parking lots were raucous. Located at Stage AE, just across the street from the stadium, was the pregame tail-

gate party where fans were entertained by live music and the NHL Centennial Fan Arena. Inside the Fan Arena is an interactive traveling experience honoring a century's worth of extraordinary players, teams, remarkable plays and unforgettable moments.

Leading up to the game, there was a concern that surrounding rainstorms would

impact the contest and that the recent high temperatures would impact the ice. All turned out okay, though; as the rain passed with no effect and the temperature was perfect for hockey, sitting in the mid to low 30s for most of the night.

The fans who braved the wind and the cold, especially in the upper deck where student rush ticket buyers were located, were treated to a 4-2 win by the hometown Penguins. The place was electric for most of the rivalry matchup and especially when the home team sounded the horn.

The beloved Sidney Crosby opened up the scoring in the first period, and the Penguins led the rest of the way. Goaltender Matt Murray made 36 saves on the night to keep the Flyers at bay.

Recently, the NHL has made a push to move the game outdoors to its roots, drawing mixed emotions from fans and analysts alike. Some believe that the outdoor games ruin the play due to slower conditions. Some also believe that the recent influx of outdoor games has taken away the magic of it, creating the demand for the games and the buzz they create to go down.

Others believe that the outdoor games bring the fans and the players together and create a better overall atmosphere that can't be reached inside of an arena, which was on display this past weekend.

Overall the night was a win for all parties involved — minus the Flyers, of course. The NHL put on a great show and got everyone, including the fans involved. The Penguins won on the ice. The city of Pittsburgh was the center of attention across the sports world. And of course, the fans won by being able to experience an event like this.



## 89th Oscars marred by Best Picture mistake

SALENA MORAN AND EVAN  
PENROD  
staff writers

The 89th annual Oscar Awards highlighted Hollywood stars and those behind the scenes of many diverse and influential movies from 2016. This year showcased a unique variety of films ranging from musicals to science fiction to drama as well as many others.

Justin Timberlake opened the show with his own upbeat Oscar nominated song, “CAN’T STOP THE FEELING!” from the animated movie “Trolls.”

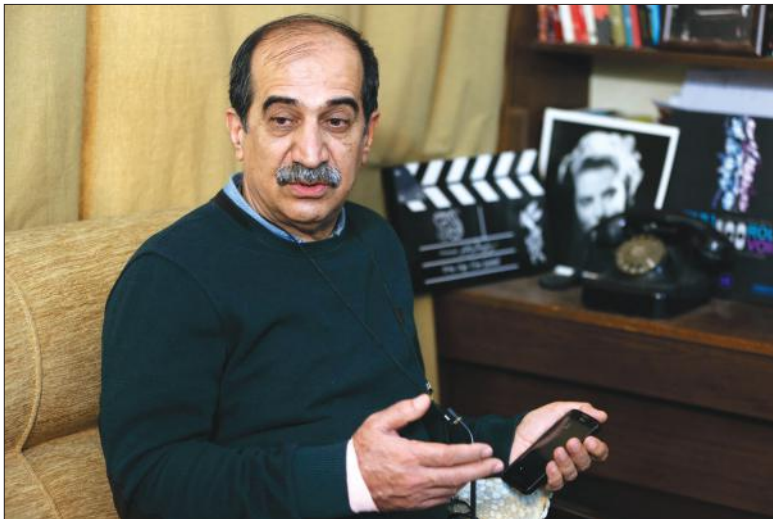
Host Jimmy Kimmel then kicked off the ceremony with a monologue that included everything from poking fun at Hollywood’s finest to political banter about Donald Trump.

Despite the long beginning and introductions, the ceremony finally got to the awards, musical performances, tributes and discussion on film that audiences have patiently awaited.

### Awards

The highly-coveted awards were saved until the very end. However, there were many other shocking moments of the night.

“Suicide Squad,” a movie panned by critics and viewers alike, surprisingly still received an award for



AP PHOTO

Iranian director Asghar Farhadi won the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film. However, he did not attend, protesting Trump’s immigration ban.

Achievement in Makeup and Hair Styling. This, however, was the movie’s only nomination.

Disney also sealed three awards this year for Visual Effects, also getting Best Animated Feature for “Zootopia” and Best Animated Short for “Piper.”

One of the main films that grabbed many awards was the highly acclaimed “La La Land.” The film won awards in six categories out of 14 total nominations, including Cinematography, Best Score, Best Original Song,

Best Director and Best Actress in a Leading role.

The highly anticipated Best Picture award went to “Moonlight.” This picture previously won two other awards that night, including Best Supporting Actor and Best Adapted Screenplay.

### Best Speech

Perhaps the best and most heart wrenching speech of the evening was from Viola Davis for her win as Best Supporting Actress for her role in “Fences.”

In maintaining the utmost compo-

sure, Davis began, “You know there’s one place that all the people with the greatest potential are gathered. One place. And that’s the graveyard.”

Davis stressed the importance of individuals who have passed and how ordinary people and their lives have inspired many throughout the film industry.

In continuing her speech, Davis held back tears while delivering passionate, tearful thank yous to everyone who has helped lay the groundwork for her achievement.

Mahershala Ali gave another inspiring speech in his win for Best Actor in a Supporting Role in “Moonlight.” Ali humbly thanked all of his professors, teachers and everyone that has ever guided him.

### Tribute/Features

As with every Oscar celebration, there is always a memorial for directors, producers, actors and others who have passed away.

Singer Sara Bareilles sang live over the video montage of some of the most beloved actors. This last year alone, the film industry said goodbye to greats such as Debbie Reynolds, Carrie Fisher, Gene Wilder and Prince.

### Ending Snafu

The shocker came at the end of the

see AWARD — page 11

## WEEK’S EVENTS

Wu-Tang Clan  
March 2, 7 p.m.

Rapper GZA of the famed group the Wu-Tang Clan will be performing at the Rex Theater on the South Side. Tickets start at \$25. For more information on this 18 and over event, please visit [duskyentertainment.com](http://duskyentertainment.com).

The Fidelio Trio  
March 4, 8 p.m.

UK contemporary piano trio, The Fidelio Trio, performs at the Andy Warhol Museum this Saturday. Nominated for the 2016 Royal Philharmonic Society Music Awards, the group aims to perform a diverse pool of piano pieces. Tickets are \$20, \$15 for students.

## UPCOMING RELEASES

“Kong: Skull Island”  
March 10

This remake of the 1933 classic monster movie stars Tom Hiddleston, Samuel Jackson, John Goodman and Brie Larson as adventurers who become trapped on an island filled with giant mutants. The film will tie into Legendary Picture’s 2014 remake “Godzilla” and marks the second film in their cinematic universe.

“The Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild”  
March 3

The latest entry in one of the most acclaimed video game series of all time, “Breath of the Wild” looks to overhaul the typical “Zelda” formula by leaning on its massive and open overworld. Players can purchase their copy for \$60 for either Wii U or Switch.

## MICRO REVIEW

“Sushi King”- Niki & The Dove

“I want to love this song since Niki & The Dove are one of the best callbacks to the ‘70s and ‘80s pop and R&B. ‘Sushi King,’ however, combines every terrible stereotype of music from that age and mashes them together in a cacophony of loud, abrasive autotune and synths. Upon my first listen, I honestly thought my computer’s battery was dying, it is that bad. Avoid.”  
-Zach Landau

## Lawsuit against famed video game critic resolves

ZACHARY LANDAU  
asst. a&e editor

Last Tuesday Feb. 21, a year-long lawsuit against video game journalist Jim Sterling finally ended. Romine v. Stanton was dismissed with prejudice after both parties agreed to not continue with the case.

As a brief primer, Stanton, better known as Jim Sterling, covered one of Romine’s games back in 2014 by producing a first impressions video for his YouTube channel. This game, “The Slaughtering Grounds,” failed to impress Sterling, who lambasted it for poor controls, bugs and terrible visuals, among other things.

In response, Romine, acting under his company’s name, Digital Homicide Studios, filed a copyright claim on Sterling’s video a week after the studio began making remarks against Sterling and his review. Copyright claims are more advanced than typical content-ID claims that occur automatically on YouTube. Not only do such claims take down a video, but they partially shut down a person’s control over his or her channel. According to YouTube’s support page on the matter, this “may affect [the person’s] ability to monetize.”

Sterling decided to pursue a counter notification, and the takedown lifted after the time for Digital Homicide to take legal action ended.

Animosity between Sterling and

DHS grew throughout the following year with Sterling continuing to cover the studio and DHS speaking out on social media. The two parties also occasionally had private, one-to-one contact, including a phone call and a conversation that both agreed to publish online.

This hostility between Romine and Stanton reached a fevered pitch last year when Romine filed a lawsuit against Sterling/Stanton in federal court in the District of Arizona, claiming that what Stanton wrote and said constituted “assault, libel, and slander.” Romine launched a crowdfunding campaign in order to raise money to afford an attorney, but that effort was quickly abandoned. Romine instead represented himself as a “pro se litigant.”

Not only were Romine’s initial filings riddled with common grammar and format errors (YouTube occasionally appears uncanceled, for instance), but the basic thrust of Romine’s argument had a crucial flaw: He did not have one.

At least, that was the claim Stanton and his legal team made. Their stance, since the initial filing, was to move to dismiss on the grounds that Sterling’s comments were either opinion, and thus not subject to libel laws, or were true, verifiable statements — and that he never availed himself to Arizona, as he does not operate out of the state, nor was he subject to the state’s long-arm statutes. Sterling in fact lives and works in Jackson, Missis-



COURTESY OF JIM STERLING

“The Jimquisition” is a video-essay series that Jim Sterling produces ad-free due to his crowdfunding efforts. The tone Sterling strikes is pro-consumerist.

issippi, and he uses the crowdfunding platform Patreon as a form of income.

Since filing the suit, Romine moved to amend his original claim twice. However, on Jan. 13, Judge John J. Tuchi ordered for Romine to appear in court as Digital Homicide with an attorney, or the case would be dismissed.

This stipulation was never met, as the lawyer representing Sterling, Bradley Hartman reached out to Romine and explained how Romine would not win the case.

As such, on Feb. 21, Romine v. Stanton was dismissed with prejudice, with both parties agreeing to cover their own legal costs. This type of decision is based on the merits of the case; “with prejudice” means that the same case cannot be filed by Romine against Sterling again.

Duquesne Journalism and Mul-

timedia Arts Professor Jim Vota, who teaches Media Law for the department, emphasized that the claims levied against Sterling are unsubstantiated, considering the basis of libel claims.

“The question of libel is when you are making any false and defamatory statement,” Vota said. “And one of the rules of a defamatory statement is that they got to be based on some underlying fact. So if there are no underlying facts, what are you arguing?”

If this case were to actually find its way into court, it could potentially lead other journalists (and, frankly, all persons) to have to defend their opinions in court, according to Vota.

“Journalists voicing opinions would have to go into lower courts

see LAWSUIT — page 11



# 'Cure for Wellness' cannot cure script, pacing problems

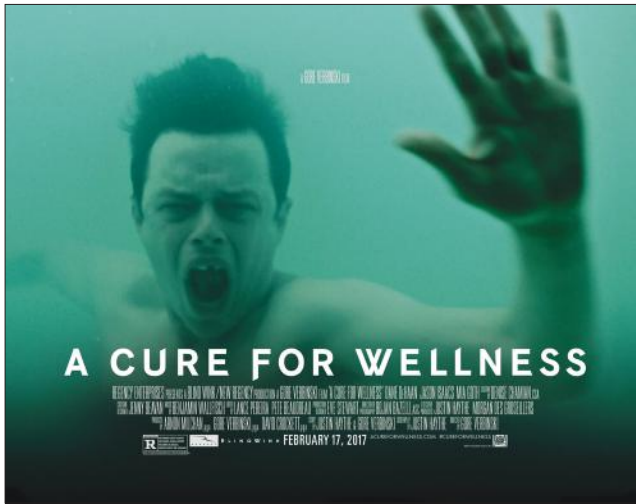
SEAN RAY  
a&e editor

Starring Dane DeHaan and Jason Isaacs, "A Cure for Wellness" is a psychological... actually, the second part of that is a bit difficult to describe. It's not scary enough to be a horror movie. It doesn't quite have the non-stop excitement needed to be a thriller. It lacks the usual trappings of a mystery to be one. So let's just keep it to psychological for now.

"A Cure for Wellness" is a psychological film following a business executive named Lockhart (DeHaan,) who is sent to a remote health-resort in the Swedish Alps to retrieve the company's CEO, who vanished at the resort after sending a strange letter. However, not is all that it seems: The resort holds a dark past, and many strange procedures are being performed on the patients there. Lockhart will need to battle both medical staff and his own sanity to find out the truth.

What perhaps will disappoint most people seeing "A Cure for Wellness" is how simple many of its aspects turn out to be. While the film has many stunning visuals and set pieces, it is not quite as mind-bending as the trailers make it out to be. It certainly comes nowhere close to films such as "Jacob's Ladder" or "Eraserhead."

Despite this, "Cure for Wellness" did keep me enthralled. Its plot takes plenty of twists and turns to keep viewers guessing, and the acting from the two leads is strong. Isaacs absolutely nails his role as Dr. Heinrich Volmer, the head of the resort. Never before has a seemingly calm and nice individual come across as so evil. And oh boy, does he do a lot of evil things.



COURTESY OF REGENCY ENTERPRISES

Water plays an important part in the film. The resort is built over an aquifer famed for having "healing" water, and many of the film's scariest moments take place under or near water.

The many tortures Lockhart undergoes simultaneously disgust and draw in audiences. Scenes where, normally, the director would cut away from to spare the audience are shown in full, painful view. A word of warning: Do not watch this movie if you're afraid of dentists, and especially if you have a fear of eels.

"Cure for Wellness" does attempt to bring up points about the modern day plight. Lockhart has climbed the corporate ladder by sacrificing sleep, connections with family and has even broken the law. Many of the other patients there are much the same: business leaders who

find themselves without true happiness. The resort is an idyllic escape, free of stress or work. While this does fall apart when the conspiracy behind everything is made evident, this message will strike a chord with many over-worked Duquesne students.

What really holds the film back is its failure to commit. "Cure for Wellness" falls out of conventional genre labeling. Its feels, at times, like the film had three different directors with three different visions, and it does not do a good job at balancing those visions out. The mood swings from moment-to-moment, plot lines pop up and pass without much meaning and seemingly important characters vanish for long stretches of the film for no adequately good reason.

This results in a movie that just meanders around for much of its run time, going from set-piece to set-piece with only some loose strings to pull audiences long. While it manages to be entertaining, it does not leave a good taste in the mouth by the time it ends, so to say. I may have enjoyed my time with "A Cure for Wellness," but I doubt I would watch it again, especially given its egregious run time of two hours and 20 minutes. It's not helped by a scene that makes it seem like the movie was going to end there, but instead kept going.

Still, there is a bit of novelty to watching a combination of "Frankenstein" and "Shutter Island," which is basically what "A Cure for Wellness" is. The film falls into a kind of middle ground for quality, neither really good or bad, just kind of average, with the only stand out being the visuals. Give it a watch if the trailers really intrigue you, though it might be better to wait for the cheaper DVD rental or inevitable appearance on Netflix. Otherwise, it's safe to skip.

# Future's double outing surprising yet thought-provoking

SEAN ARMSTRONG  
staff writer

The prolific rapper Future has released two albums in the past two weeks. The first, titled "FUTURE," came out on Feb. 17 and the other, "HNDRIX," on Feb. 24. Both are nothing short of phenomenal works of art, with a powerful message lying underneath their lyrics and form.

The two albums really synthesize into one album when carefully examined by the listener. Both albums are references to different halves of the rapper's life. Future Hendrix, the rapper's pseudonym is incorporated into the album names for a purpose, which is to show the strict contrast between the artist's two lives.

He is referring to the appearance of his life in the lime-light as the rapper Future on "FUTURE", and then his true self which he keeps masked on "HNDRIX". Still, it is when the albums are put together, that the listener can understand the entire picture of what the artist's vision truly is and what he is trying to say.

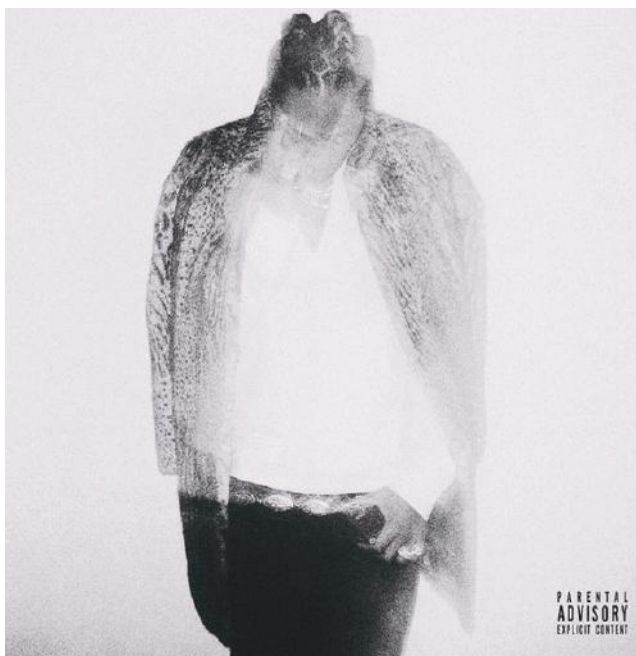
"FUTURE" is an album that focuses on the lifestyle that many popular rappers espouse in their music. Future recalls how life was difficult on the streets and how he worked hard to get to where he is right now, a topic many rappers make reference to in their music. The subject matter is coupled with an almost traditional high hat combo that is found in many rap songs.

This album, is something that fans and general listeners alike have come to expect from Future. It is more of the same in many ways, but the underlying message derived from the pairing of these two albums is the true artistic expression he is aiming for with this back to back release schedule.

The core message of his self titled album "FUTURE" is that he is having this struggle between the Future that everyone sees in the media and who he really is as an individual.

Songs like "Mask Off" and "When I Was Broke" echo the core message of his self-titled album.

"Mask Off" explains the aspect of the street where everyone feels this need to put a metaphorical "mask" on in



COURTESY OF A1 RECORDINGS

Pictured is the cover art for the second half of the dual releases, "HNDRIX." The album features Rihanna and The Weeknd and was released a week after his self-titled album, "FUTURE."

order to protect themselves.

The mask he references in this situation is meant to be a double entendre because even though he escaped the streets, he still has to wear a mask. He has to pretend to be someone he is not while in the limelight; he can't reveal his true self. However, halfway through the album, this false, larger-than-life mentality begins to break apart and problems begin to surface.

"When I Was Broke," a nostalgic song about how a girl stuck by him before he had the money he does now, is both a tribute to the girl and a reminder of how his life used to be. She ends up leaving him, even though he has all this money now — which he can't understand. There is an implication that he was a better person before he got his wealth. She likes the real him, not the "mask" he puts on.

"HNDRIX" picks up where "FUTURE" leaves off. During an interview with Josh Brasted on billboard.com, Future said, "This is me opening up and letting it all out so I can just move past it and certain things don't have to speak on it again."

"HNDRIX" is where he takes the "mask" off, and that is emphasized by the second track on the album titled "Comin Out Strong" featuring The Weeknd. Towards the beginning of the song, the lyrics are: "They told me, 'Boy I think the money's startin' to change you.'"

Future really drives home the point that he accepts who he is as a person, and that he no longer wants to wear the mask in the third to last track "Selfish," which features Rihanna.

This track is also a deviation from the pack. It is a deviation in that vocals play a predominant role in the track and the music in the background is upbeat. This is to show that once the mask is taken off and the freedom to be yourself is available life is so much better.

The lyrics "We gettin' more popular/ Wrong is right/ When it comes to us" emphasize that idea that Future just wants to be himself; he wants to be selfish.

As is a popular trend many will jump around listening to whatever songs their friends say are good, not taking into account the purpose behind the track listing is something that the artist specifically planned out. The listing is intentional and the ordering is that his change in personality isn't monumental, it's a simple change that anyone could make.

That is why Future says, "This album is more personal." That is also why this album is a masterpiece in disguise. To many listeners the album may appear to be lackadaisical and boring, possibly even white noise. This is in part due to the fact that Future fails to make an outstanding difference between tracks. But if the listener examines the album critically, they will find there's value to be had underneath a seemingly boring exterior that delves in the typical and dull.

At the very least, this album deserves a listen. While the music is similar from track to track, from album to album, it is the substance Future creates, the dialogue he opens up with subtle music and his lyrics that make this a worthwhile listen.



## Moonlight nabs highest Oscar award

**AWARD — from page 9**

awards with the highly anticipated Best Picture Award. Nominees included “La La Land,” “Moonlight,” “Lion,” “Hacksaw Ridge,” “Arrival,” “Hell or High Water,” “Hidden Figures” and “Manchester by the Sea.”

The room was silent as Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway paused as they opened the signature red envelope holding the award winner for Best Picture of 2016. After a few seconds of confused looks, the winner was announced as “La La Land.”

The cast and crew happily flooded the stage and began thanking their families, friends, and anyone involved in the movie. That was until a sound hand rushed on stage and a “La La

Land” producer announced that there was actually a mistake when reading the card.

The actual winner of Best Picture was “Moonlight.” Beatty and Dunaway misread the card. They read the card for Best Actress in a leading role which had already been announced about 10 minutes prior. The Oscars auditing firm, PricewaterhouseCoopers, apologized for the error and claimed they were looking into the situation.

Despite the media craze over the mishap, the Oscar Awards, once more, delivered a show that acknowledged the brilliant minds behind the art of film and reminded us why movies are one of the most beloved forms of entertainment.

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to become a  
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## Sterling avoids lawsuit

**LAWSUIT — from page 9**

... to at least answer [to the] opinions they gave as if there is a possibility to do that,” Vota said. “What it would simply mean is that if somebody voiced their opinion and somebody didn’t like it, they would potentially be called into a court outside of their own jurisdiction ... to defend the comment.”



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- 1776 Americans begin shelling British troops in Boston
- 1789 Pennsylvania ends prohibition of theatrical performances
- 1807 US Congress bans the slave trade within the US, effective January 1, 1808
- 1819 US passed its 1st immigration law
- 1836 Texas declared its independence from Mexico
- 1861 The U.S. Congress created the Territory of Nevada
- 1867 Jesse James gang robs bank in Savannah Missouri, 1 dead
- 1874 Baseball batter's box is officially adopted
- 1897 U.S. President Cleveland vetoed legislation that would have required a literacy test for immigrants entering the country.
- 1901 The first telegraph company in Hawaii opened
- 1927 Babe Ruth becomes highest paid baseball player (\$70,000 per year)
- 1939 The Massachusetts legislature voted to ratify the Bill of Rights to the U.S. Constitution. These first ten amendments had gone into effect 147 years before.
- 1956 Morocco tears up the Treaty of Fez, declares independence from France
- 1965 One of the most popular musical films of all time, "The Sound of Music", starring Julie Andrews and Christopher Plummer, is released (Best Picture 1966)
- 1972 NASA launches its Pioneer 10 space probe to Jupiter
- 1977 1st time Jay Leno appears on Tonight Show
- 1985 The U.S. government approved a screening test for AIDS that detected antibodies to the virus that allowed possibly contaminated blood to be kept out of the blood supply.
- 1987 The U.S. government reported that the median price for a new home had gone over \$100,000 for the first time
- 2004 Voters in the U.S. state of Georgia vote on a referendum concerning its Confederacy-derived flag.
- 2011 Steve Jobs unveiled Apple's iPad 2
- 2016 Longest non-stop scheduled commercial flight by distance, Emirates A380 flies 14,200km (8,824 miles) Dubai to Auckland in 17 hours, 15 minutes



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