



# THE DUQUESNE DUKE

PROUDLY SERVING OUR CAMPUS SINCE 1925

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## Mass to honor late chemistry professor

**BRANDON ADDEO**  
news editor

A longtime Duquesne science professor passed away unexpectedly earlier this week.

Jeffrey Madura, who taught chemistry and biochemistry in the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences for nearly 20 years, died March 14. He was 59.

"Please join me in expressing sympathy to his family, friends, colleagues and students," Duquesne Provost Timothy Austin said in a mass email to campus March 14. "The entire Duquesne University community mourns the loss of our colleague and friend. May he rest in peace."

Madura will be remembered at a Mass March 16 at noon in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit. University

**see MADURA — page 3**

## Ferry out as basketball coach



DUKE ARCHIVE PHOTO

Duquesne men's basketball coach Jim Ferry addresses the media following a 108-99 loss to the University of Massachusetts in this Feb. 14, 2016, archive photo. Ferry was fired March 13 after five seasons with the team. **See the full story on page 7.**

## Memorial service scheduled for James



COURTESY OF PITTSBURGH POLICE

Duquesne graduate student Dakota James was found dead March 6 in the Ohio River in Robinson. He was 23.

**BRANDON ADDEO**  
news editor

A memorial service is scheduled for Dakota James, a Duquesne graduate student who was found dead March 6.

The service will be March 18 at 11 a.m. at the Calvary United Methodist Church on 971 Beech Avenue in Pittsburgh.

James, who was pursuing a Master's in Business Administration, had been missing for 40 days when his body was discovered by a passerby in the Ohio River in Robinson Township.

"My son is now in the arms of God and those family members who have passed before us and I know he is being well taken care of and is no longer in pain," said Dakota's mother Pamela James in a March 6 Facebook post. "Thank you to all who have helped by searching, praying, hugging, sending condolences and even laughing during this very difficult time."

Police have not yet confirmed James' cause of death, pending toxicology results from the Allegheny County Medical Examiner.

**see DAKOTA — page 3**

## County votes to ban vapes in indoor public spaces

**RAYMOND ARKE**  
asst. news editor

Allegheny County Council voted 8-5 on March 7 to ban the use of electronic cigarettes and vaporizers in indoor public places where smoking is forbidden.

However, Duquesne's campus had already acted ahead of the county. E-cigarettes have long been banned from indoor use on campus. Dan Cangilla, Assistant Director of Duquesne's Office of Residence Life, said that it has always been Duquesne's policy.

"In accordance with University policy, we do not allow any type of smoking in the Living Learning Centers, including e-cigarettes and vaporizers," he said. "The ruling in Allegheny County has not changed this policy."

The Student Handbook states that "the term 'smoking' shall include the use of all tobacco based products as well as electronic



COURTESY OF LINDSAY FOX/FICKR

Allegheny County Council voted March 7 to ban e-cigarettes and personal vaporizer devices in indoor public places where smoking has already been forbidden.

smoking devices."

Rich Fitzgerald, Allegheny County Executive, celebrated council's decision in a press release.

"I am proud that Allegheny

County continues to focus on protecting our public health and ensuring that our community is one where quality of life is important," he said.

The ban originated within the Allegheny County Board of Health. Dr. Karen Hacker, the director of the Allegheny County Health Department, said that the ban was necessary because of the numerous risks e-cigarettes and vapes pose.

"It's true e-cigs are less harmful than cigarettes, however they are not harmless," she said.

Hacker said the chemicals in the flavors and smoke of e-cigarettes are often unknown to the users and are loosely regulated.

"There's no consistency. You don't know what you're getting. Scientific evidence shows toxic chemicals coming out," Hacker said.

According to the Health Department's E-cig and Vaping Health Risks fact sheet, chemicals contained in different e-liquids include toxics and carcinogens like toluene and heavy metals like lead and nickel which

**see VAPE — page 11**

## Follow us on...



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## BLUFF BRIEFS

## Bayer school dean to be featured in PBS episode

A Duquesne professor will be coming to TV screens near you.

Philip Reeder, dean of the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences, will be featured in a PBS broadcast of their show NOVA.

The episode, "Holocaust Escape Tunnel," discusses the work Reeder and an international team of archaeologists, geophysicists, and scientists are doing to uncover an escape tunnel dug out of a Nazi execution camp outside Vilnius, Lithuania. Vilnius had been called the "Jerusalem of the North," but was decimated by the Nazis who killed 95 percent of the Jewish population.

A screening of the episode will be held on March 19 at 7:05 p.m. at the Omni William Penn Hotel in the Allegheny Room. A panel after the screening will include Reeder; Harry Jol, a geology professor at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and an excavation team member; Vadim Altskan, project director of international archival programs at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and Melanie Wallace, a senior series producer for NOVA. The panel is moderated by Iris Sampson, a contributing producer for WQED, Pittsburgh's PBS affiliate.

The episode will run on PBS on April 19 at 9 p.m.

More information on the special presentation can be found by contacting the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences at (412) 396-4900.

## POLICE BRIEFS

Cousin PB is pretty happy, y'all kept campus pretty darn quiet over break. Let's hope y'all keep up this improvement.

Last Tuesday, a Duquesne employee said he found scratches on his car.

On Friday, a student found that his bike had been stolen from the Vickroy bike rack. So I guess there's someone out there who's fast and another who's furious.

## 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).

## Guest lecturer questions ethics of drone strikes

BRANDON ADDEO  
news editor

Does the use of armed aerial drones for targeted killings of suspected terrorists comply with law and ethics?

That was the topic of discussion at "Law, Ethics and the New Technology of War," which took place March 15 in the Power Center Ballroom. The featured speaker was Mary Ellen O'Connell, a law professor at the University of Notre Dame.

Duquesne President Ken Gormley introduced the speaker as well as the topic at hand.

"When you think about it, it's startling ple no longer have to engage on the field of battle," Gormley said. "Missiles and drones can be controlled remotely from hundreds of miles away."

O'Connell, who has researched the use of force in international law, said "a certain amount of passivity has crept in" for both the military and civilian populations on the use of drone strikes. She criticized the use of drones.

"With the use of the drone and high-tech spinoffs, we have reached a point of true moral nadir," she said.

O'Connell cited the recent raid in Yemen by U.S. and allied forces as an example of unethical military practice.



JORDAN MILLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Notre Dame law professor Mary Ellen O'Connell speaks at the lecture in the Power Center Ballroom March 15. She outlined ethical and moral concerns with drones.

The Jan. 28 nighttime raid by Navy SEALs and soldiers from the United Arab Emirates left several dozen dead, including one American soldier, according to Reuters. The U.S. military acknowledged that there were "likely" Yemeni civilians among the casualties.

O'Connell also pointed to instances of targeted killings via drone strike undertaken by the administrations of Presidents Bush and Obama. While there are no exact statistics, O'Connell said that since drone strikes began under President Bush, over 5,000 people have been killed in-

cluding close to 200 children. It is not known how many of those killed were enemy combatants, but according to estimates by the New America Foundation, a U.S. non-partisan think tank, 20 percent of people killed by drone strikes between 2004 and 2011 were civilians.

"We just accept it — the new normal," O'Connell said.

She argued that theologians and ethicists have been "sidelined" in the past decade in regard to drone strikes. She added Christian doctrine only condones violence in cases of self-defense.

Robert George, a professor and Catholic legal scholar at Princeton University, argued against drone strikes in a 2013 article in the Catholic News Agency.

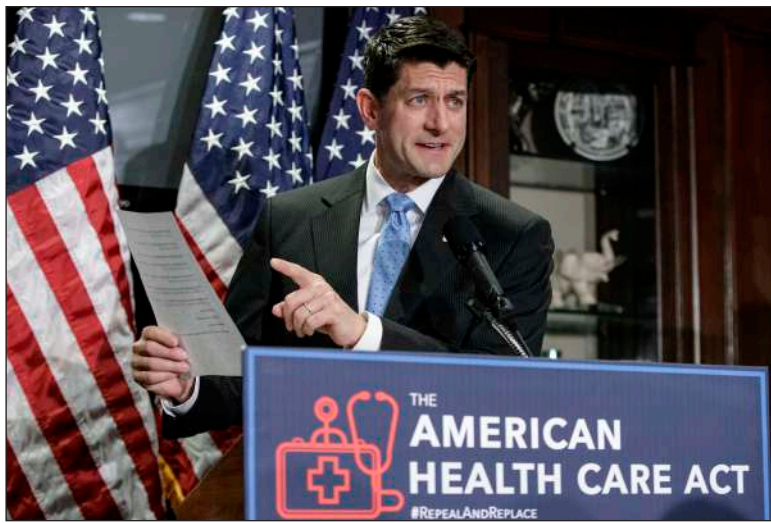
"The wholesale and indiscriminate use of drones cannot be justified, and should be criticized," he added. "This is something that Catholic intellectuals across the spectrum ought, it seems to me, to agree about."

Supporters of the use of drone strikes cite the safety benefits of being able to attack from afar without endangering ground troops.

O'Connell offered an alternate view: the military must "re-establish the battlefield" and adhere to human rights law.

*Liza Zulick contributed reporting.*

## 12 mil. signed up for 'Obamacare' this year, report says



AP PHOTO

House Speaker Paul Ryan addresses a news conference on Capitol Hill March 8. The report comes as the GOP replacement to 'Obamacare,' the American Health Care Act, looks to pass in the House — despite opposition from some Republicans.

AP — The government says more than 12 million people have signed up for coverage this year under former President Barack Obama's health care law, even as the Republican-led Congress debates its repeal.

The official national figure of 12.2 million does not include an additional 765,000 people signed up under an option in the Obama-era law called the Basic Health Plan, which is used by two states, New York and Minnesota.

Traditionally, that figure has been reported separately because of differences in the type of health plan provided. But counting those enrollees as well, sign-ups approach 13

million people.

"This report is a reminder that while there's a big debate in Washington about the future of the Affordable Care Act, the law remains in place for now and is covering millions of people," said Larry Levitt of the non-partisan Kaiser Family Foundation. The report was issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, which also administers the ACA's insurance markets.

Meanwhile, House Speaker Paul Ryan was stressing that President Donald Trump helped congressional Republicans write their beleaguered health care bill. His comments came as GOP leaders struggled to stem

defections from conservatives and moderates just a week before he hopes to push the measure through the House, and days after congressional budget analysts said it would lead to 24 million more uninsured people in a decade.

The GOP bill — the American Health Care Act — would repeal major elements of Obama's law, cap future federal spending on Medicaid for low-income people, and reverse tax increases on wealthy Americans used to finance coverage expansion.

Conservatives say the bill is an inadequately weak repeal of "Obamacare." Party moderates say it will push too many constituents off coverage, including Obama's expansion of Medicaid for more low-earning people and others who've bought insurance — often with federal subsidies — on government-run online marketplaces.

The latest government numbers on sign-ups fell short of the Obama administration's target of 13.8 million for 2017. Moreover, they represent initial enrollment, and there's usually significant attrition over the course of a year. Nonetheless, experts said the report undercuts Republican assertions that the health law's insurance markets are teetering on the verge of collapse.

The market "remains fairly stable in 2017 compared to previous years," said Caroline Pearson of the consulting firm Avalere Health.

The report also underscored the importance of the ACA's financial

assistance, a combination of tax credits to help pay premiums and reduced cost sharing for people with low incomes.

Even though list price premiums for a standard "silver" plan went up by more than 20 percent this year, the average premium paid by HealthCare.gov customers after receiving their tax credit only went up by \$1 this year, the report said. HealthCare.gov is the federal online insurance market serving 39 states; the remaining states run their own websites.

Nationally, more than 8 in 10 enrollees were eligible for income-based tax credits to help pay their premiums, and nearly 6 in 10 were eligible for additional assistance with out-of-pocket costs like deductibles and co-payments, the report said.

Although the Republican bill would also provide tax credits, they would not be designed to keep pace with rising premiums. And the GOP would eliminate the extra help for out-of-pocket costs, but states would be able to set up such programs of their own.

"The markets continue to be dominated by enrollees receiving subsidies," said Pearson. "Without those subsidies, most enrollees are likely to drop out of the market, since they would not be able to afford coverage."

The enrollment numbers land in the middle of a legislative debate already roiled by a Congressional Budget Office report that forecast coverage losses and rising premiums for older adults.



# Northeast faces icy mess as plunging temps follow storm

AP — Plunging temperatures ushered in by the storm that plastered the Northeast turned the snow and sleet into rock-solid ice, leaving roads and sidewalks treacherous Wednesday and making shoveling seem like hard labor.

Tuesday's powerful nor'easter paralyzed much of the Washington-to-Boston corridor, but fell short of the predicted snowfall totals in New York, Boston and Philadelphia.

The storm, which followed a stretch of unusually mild winter weather, dumped 1 to 2 feet in many places, grounded more than 1,000 flights Wednesday after 6,200 flights were canceled a day earlier. It also knocked out power to nearly a quarter-million customers from Virginia northward. By the time it reached Massachusetts, it had turned into a blizzard, with near hurricane-force winds gusting to over 70 mph along the coast. Boston ended up with 6.6 inches of snow, far less than what was predicted.

Boston canceled school for a second day Wednesday to allow time for cleanup efforts. Mayor Marty Walsh said he made the call out of "an abundance of caution."

The storm was easily the biggest in an otherwise merciful winter that had mostly spared the region. Many, like retired gumball machine technician Don Zimmerman, of Lemoyne, Pennsylvania,



AP PHOTO

A woman shovels snow off her car March 15 in Portland, Maine, the morning after a powerful nor'easter buffeted much of the Northeast with blizzard conditions.

weren't happy.

"It's horrible," Zimmerman said, using a snowblower to clear the sidewalk along his block. "I thought winter was out of here. ... It's a real kick in the rear."

While most people heeded the warnings to stay off the roads, police said a 16-year-old girl was killed when she lost control of her car on a snowy road and crashed into a tree in Gilford, New Hampshire.

In East Hartford, Connecticut, an elderly man died after being struck by a snow plow truck. And,

in Longmeadow, Massachusetts, a public works employee was killed after the snow plow he was driving was hit by an Amtrak plow train clearing tracks.

The storm closed schools in cities big and small, Amtrak suspended service and the post office halted mail delivery. The number of flight cancellations reached more than 3,000 in the New York City area alone, stranding hundreds of passengers.

The storm was on track to be one of the biggest on record for

Burlington, Vermont, which got 25.6 inches of snow as of Wednesday morning, with another 2 to 5 inches due by the end of the day. About 70 miles to the northeast, Jay led the way with 34 inches. Philadelphia and New York City got anywhere from a few inches of snow to around half a foot before it switched over to sleet. Forecasters had predicted a foot or more. In New Jersey, which saw rain or just a little snow, Gov. Chris Christie called the storm an "underperformer."

Inland areas, meanwhile, got hit hard. Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and Worcester, Massachusetts, received a foot or more of snow. The Binghamton, New York, area got over 2 feet, while Vernon, New Jersey, had at least 19 inches.

The storm came just days after the region saw temperatures climb into the 60s, and less than a week before the official start of spring.

In the nation's capital, non-essential federal employees were given the option of reporting three hours late, taking the day off or working from home. The city got less than 2 inches of snow. A few days ago, workers on Washington's National Mall were making plans to turn on the fountains.

"Obviously all that has to come to an abrupt stop until we get all the snow cleared," said Jeff Gowen, the acting facility manager

for the National Mall and Memorial Parks. "The cherry blossoms, they're right on the cusp of going into bloom here. I had a feeling this was going to happen."

As the storm closed in, the National Weather Service used terms like "life-threatening" and urged people to "shelter in place," language that has come to be associated with mass shootings. In the end, the line between snow and rain shifted slightly to the west, sparing some of the Northeast's big cities.

Government meteorologists realized by late Monday afternoon that there was a good chance the storm wasn't going to produce the giant big-city snow totals predicted. But they didn't change their forecast for fear people would mistakenly think the storm was no longer dangerous, said Greg Carbin, chief of forecast operations at the Weather Prediction Center.

In Narragansett, Rhode Island, high winds buckled a state-owned wind turbine. In New York City, two homes under construction collapsed near the waterfront in Far Rockaway. No injuries were reported.

And two ponies broke out of their stables and roamed the snowy streets of Staten Island until an off-duty police officer wrangled them with straps normally used to tow cars and tied them to a lamp-post. They were taken back to the stables.

## Thurs. mass at DU to remember Madura

**MADURA — from page 1**

Chaplain Rev. Dan Walsh invited the Duquesne community to attend and "pray for him and the consolation of his family."

Madura started working at the Bayer school in 1998. He also served as the chair of the chemistry and biochemistry departments from 2000 to 2010.

"Jeff Madura was a talented teacher, mentor and scholar, and—first and foremost—a consummate professional in every sense of the word," said Philip Reeder, dean of the Bayer school. "He will be deeply missed, but his legacy will live on through his students."

Madura was awarded more than \$10 million in external research funding during his career. Madura's research, in part, focused on designing chemical compounds that can eliminate pain associated with conditions like Parkinson's Disease, Huntington's Disease and types of addiction.

He was also elected to a fellowship with the American Chemical Society in 2011, according to Duquesne spokeswoman Rose Ravasio.

Madura also led an interdisciplinary chemical research group, called the JDM Group, through Duquesne's Center for Computational Sciences. The group collaborates with faculty from the University of Pittsburgh, Chatham University and Washington and Jefferson College.



COURTESY OF THE OFFICE OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Jeffrey Madura, a chemistry and biochemistry professor at Duquesne, died March 14 at age 59. He will be remembered at a mass at Duquesne's chapel March 16.

Former Duquesne science students recalled their experiences with Madura. Jimmy Branch, a 2011 graduate, said Madura helped him as his academic advisor.

"I switched majors from pharmacy halfway through, so having Madura as an advisor really helped me navigate the chaos of trying to get everything done in 2 years," Branch said.

Kim Daley, a 2012 graduate, also praised Madura.

"He was a great mentor and he was one of the folks that encouraged me to go to grad school,"

Daley said.

Ellen Gawalt, chair of chemistry and biochemistry at Duquesne, said Madura was someone who "worked tirelessly" and ensured students "received the best education possible."

"Jeff was a beloved colleague, innovative teacher, dedicated mentor and brilliant researcher," Gawalt said. "The department is deeply saddened and our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, sons, mother and his students."

Madura is survived by his wife, Colleen, and two sons, Peyton and Brandon.

## Body of missing DU student James found

**DAKOTA — from page 1**

James was last seen near the Cultural District's Katz Plaza at 11:49 p.m. on Jan. 25 walking toward Fort Duquesne Boulevard, according to police. Surveillance images did not show which direction Dakota James turned on Fort Duquesne Boulevard, and cameras on bridges leading to the North Shore — where Dakota James lived — did not pick up images of the missing student.

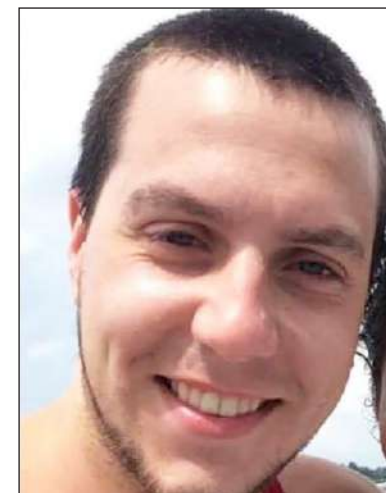
Members of Duquesne's campus and the larger Pittsburgh community expressed grief for Dakota James' death.

Duquesne President Ken Gormley said in a statement he was "saddened" by the news.

"I extend my deepest sympathy to Dakota's family and friends on behalf of the entire Duquesne University community," Gormley said.

Karen Donovan, associate dean of graduate programs in Duquesne's Palumbo-Donahue School of Business, said the business school was sad to learn of "the loss of one of [their] own."

"For those of us who knew Dakota, his absence will be profoundly felt," Donovan said. "Our thoughts and prayers remain with his family and friends during this terrible time."



COURTESY OF PITTSBURGH POLICE

A memorial service for James will be held this Saturday, March 18 at 11 a.m. at the Calvary United Methodist Church on 971 Beech Avenue in Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto thanked Pittsburgh Police for their efforts despite it not being the "outcome we had hoped for." "My heart goes out to the family of Mr. James and the entire Duquesne University community," Peduto said. "I cannot begin to imagine what it is like to lose a young loved one like Dakota."

The James family has scheduled a funeral for March 25 in their hometown of Frederick, Maryland.



## THE DUKESNE DUKE

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## EDITORIAL POLICY

*The Dukesne 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.

### Letters policy

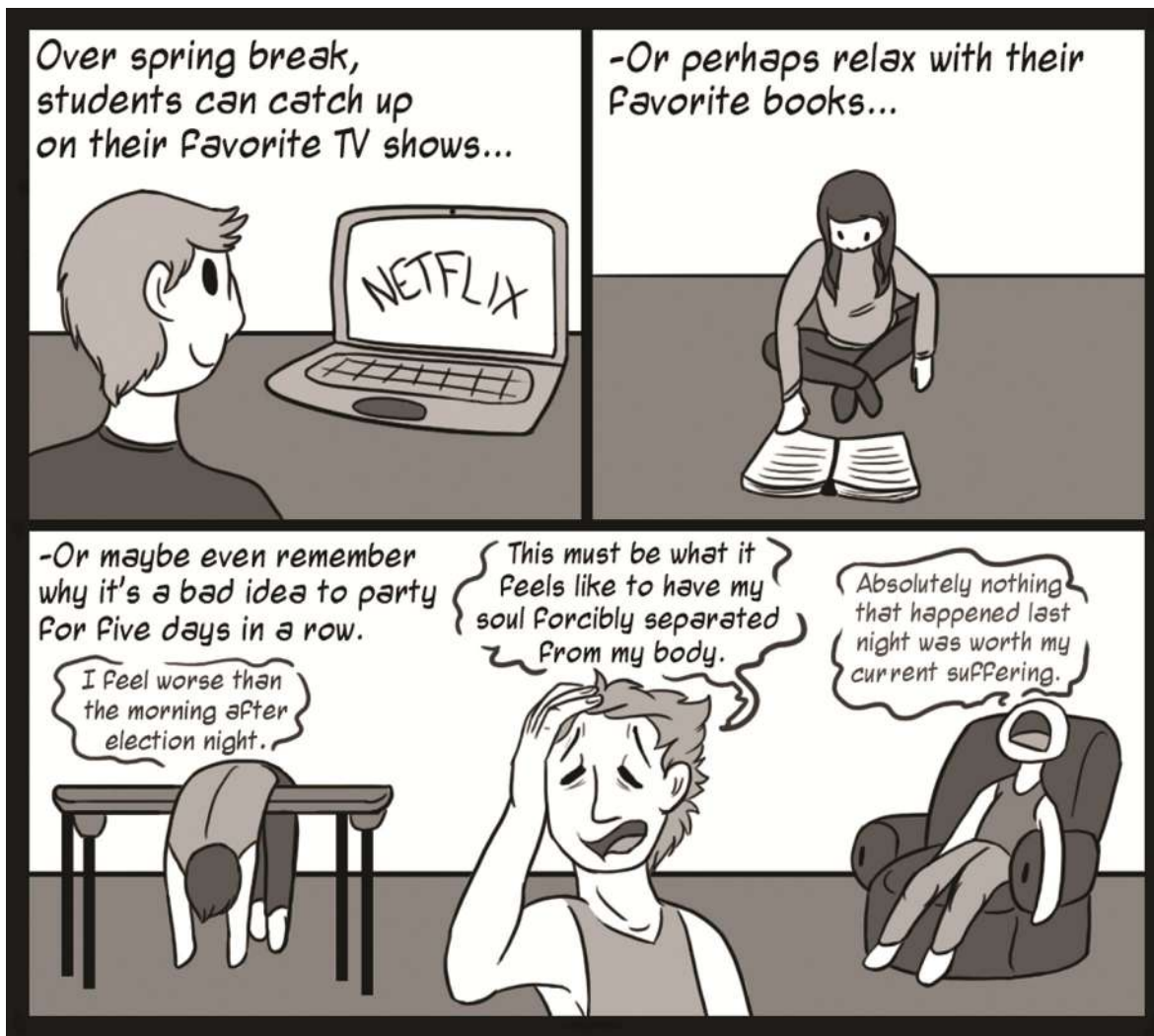
Letters to the editor must be typed, double-spaced and include the writer's name, school/department and phone number for verification. Letters should be no longer than 300 words and should be delivered to *The Duke* office at 113 College Hall or e-mailed to theduquduke@gmail.com by 5 p.m. Tuesday. The editors reserve the right to edit any and all submitted copies. All letters must be verified before being published.

### 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 SHELBY WASIL

if i do say so myself...

## Allegheny County right to ban public vaping

For anyone who is tired of wading through vape smoke at concerts and sports game, you can add a tally to the win column.

On March 7, the Allegheny County City Council voted to ban e-cigarettes, the popular mechanism used for vaping, at all places where regular cigarettes are currently banned. According to the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, this includes indoor workplaces, sports stadiums, schools, restaurants, theaters, public transportation stations and more. The ruling was 8-5 in favor of the ban.

The city council's decision, detailed in Article XXII, defines an e-cigarette as "any electronic oral device ... which provides a vapor of nicotine or any other substances and the use of inhalation of which simulates smoking."

While Allegheny County is only the second county in Pennsylvania to make this decision, the rest of the state – and the country – should follow suit. Just like no one wants a face full of cigarette smoke from a puffing stranger while they're walking through the mall, no one also wants a cloud of tutti-frutti vapor hanging over their heads while they're out to dinner. Sure, it might smell better, but it doesn't make it any less invasive, dangerous or annoying.

Vaping has grown in considerable popularity over the past five years. According to a 2015 poll conducted by Reuters, one in 10 Americans

said that they regularly vaped. This figure was used to estimate that roughly 10 percent of the general United States population and 15 percent of the population under the age of 40 uses e-cigarettes or other variations. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released information in 2015 which approximated e-cigarette use for nearly nine million adults.

Market researchers estimate that the e-cigarette industry will explode to over \$50 billion by 2025, with a yearly growth rate averaging around 23 percent.

While popular belief might state otherwise, vaping is not necessarily safer than smoking.

According to the American Lung Association, e-cigarettes contain nicotine, even if the liquids used for vaping claim that they do not. They are also unregulated by the FDA, and many contain harmful chemicals, including agents found in antifreeze and even formaldehyde. The secondhand smoke from these e-cigarettes contains carcinogens.

Despite the obvious health risks, vaping still remains all-the-rage for several reasons. For starters, opting for a vape pen and flavored vapors is considerably less expensive than the traditional route. The Quit Smoking Movement states that smokers spend around \$2,250 annually on purchasing cigarettes, whereas e-liquids could cost as low as \$1,100 yearly.

Most also consider the use of e-

cigarettes to be somewhat safer than smoking normal cigarettes, and many view it as a means to quitting regular tobacco. The same 2015 Reuters poll also revealed that 80 percent of those surveyed believe vaping to be a "good way to help people quit smoking." However, 75 percent of those polled who said they vape regularly, also said they still continue to use normal tobacco products, such as traditional cigarettes.

This ban on using e-cigarettes where regular cigarettes are prohibited will also hopefully quell the number of youths partaking in the trendy-but-hazardous activity, especially since they are now forbidden in schools. In a separate 2015 study by the CDC, over three million middle school and high school aged children actively vaped. The figure for high schoolers rose dramatically, from just 1.5 percent in 2011 to 16 percent in 2015.

Not only are those statistics scary given the health implications of vaping on adults let alone children, but it's also illegal in most states for anyone under the age of 18 to purchase an e-cigarette. In California, anyone wanting to do so must be 21.

E-cigarettes and their countless counterparts are essentially just cancer sticks like regular cigarettes, only they're marketed to be fun and fruit-flavored. Allegheny County's decision to ban them at indoor public spaces is the perfect move in the right direction to help decrease their popularity.

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

## STAFF EDITORIAL

### Millions to lose healthcare without Obamacare

Remember in high school when a trip to the nurse for a headache led to TUMS and pretzels? Or how sometimes "healthcare" in college only consists of DayQuil and sleeping through your 9:25 a.m. class? Well, if the Republican administration's new health care act is passed, entering the real world will only make finding proper medical treatment even harder.

The new bill – called the American Healthcare Act and nicknamed by some as "Trumpcare" or "Repubicare" – will attempt to replace the Affordable Healthcare Act in order to cover more individuals at a lower cost, or so its proponents claim. According to the Congressional Budget Office, as well as a leaked analysis from the White House, Republicare will actually lead to anywhere between 24 to 26 million Americans being totally uninsured by 2027.

This will make the total number of uninsured individuals in the nation 54 million by the end of the decade, the White House report revealed, twice the number projected under the current health care law. In sum, the spike will come from decreased subsidies that eventually raise insurance prices too high for low-income, sick and old customers to purchase.

One of the only good things for young people about Republicare is that parents can still claim their kids until the age of 26. So Duquesne students and recent graduates might be safe – unless their parents lose their insurance, of course.

This is a legitimate worry since most college students have parents reaching the upper end of their middle-ages. A lot of them have already retired and are getting more and more susceptible to ailments each year. So their need for insurance is increasing, and their only option to keep it might be to buy their insurance out of pocket or get it from a government program.

Because of this, older individuals are very likely to lose their insurance under the new health care act, which means that many college students and new workers will also lose their insurance, if being claimed.

That could leave many young people stranded, especially since, under the proposed AHA, insurance costs will be so high that most Americans in their early 20s will be unable to afford it if it's not provided by an employer.

For example, an analysis by the Wall Street Journal found that a 62-year-old in Nebraska who makes \$18,000 and pays \$760 for insurance per year will suddenly have to pay \$20,000 under Republicare. Just imagine how things will be for a student making \$10,000 or a recent graduate making \$30,000.

The answer is *bad*.

So be wary of the dangers of the new plan, for it will also affect you. And when you're in need of future medical attention, you'll certainly want to be able to afford more treatment than just pretzels and TUMS.



# Italian band deported before music festival

CHARLES MEGGINSON  
staff columnist

Since Donald Trump's inauguration on Jan. 20, the liberal media has seized every opportunity to plague his administration with scandal. Throughout the past four months, the American people have been lambasted with clickbait article after clickbait article, demonizing Trump's every move. One music group is hoping to take advantage of this anti-Trump sentiment by blaming the President for its deportation – a move that landed them on nearly every major news network in the country, earning the little-known band some relished publicity.

Last week, Italian indie-rock band, Soviet Soviet, attempted to enter the country after obtaining a visa waiver, a form of documentation that exempts individuals and groups from the requirement of obtaining visas so long as they are in the country for less than 90 days.

A condition of the visa waiver program, however, is that neither the group nor individuals within the group may profit from any work or activity while in the United States. While Soviet Soviet didn't intend to garner profit from their shows, the venues at which they were to perform would have charged entrance fees. For this reason, Soviet Soviet's plans would have constituted a violation of the law, regardless of intent.

After determining that Soviet Soviet was using the incorrect trav-

el permit, the band was rightfully detained and deported.

The music group was invited to showcase their talent at the South by Southwest Festival in Austin, Texas. Because the festival doesn't compensate their performers, individuals and groups can perform while visiting the United States on visa waivers. But Soviet Soviet didn't intend to exclusively perform at South by Southwest, even though their contract with the festival stipulates that "accepting and performing at unofficial events may result in immediate deportation, revoked passport and denied entry by U.S. Customs and Border Protection at U.S. ports of entry." In a breach of their contract and immigration law, the band planned a series of shows at commercial venues outside of the South by Southwest Festival.

While these laws may seem unfair at first consideration, they protect the value associated with the ability to work in the United States. For immigration officials to allow the band to enter the country would be a violation of the laws that have protected the interests of American and legal-immigrant workers since 1965.

While Trump's rhetoric on the issue has cemented immigration's status as one of the most contentious issues of our era, the application of our visa laws with regard to Soviet Soviet's deportation would have taken place under any previous administration.

According to the U.S. Department of State, had the band wanted to per-

form at the festival, as well as outside venues, they would have been required to apply for either a business visa or performer visa. A business visa applies to "foreign travelers coming to the United States to conduct temporary business, for example business meetings and consultations, attending conventions and conferences, or negotiating contracts." A performers visa applies to groups that have achieved international acclaim. The Department of State grants performers visas to individuals and groups that "are coming to the United States temporarily to perform as [members] of an entertainment group that has been recognized internationally as outstanding in the discipline for a sustained and substantial period of time."

These visa classifications have been law since 1965 – long before Trump – when they were outlined in the Hart-Celler Immigration and Nationality Act.

That didn't stop the International Business Times from publishing an article entitled "Band Soviet Soviet arrested, jailed and deported from U.S. under Trump travel order." Nor did it stop thousands of anti-Trump Americans from apologizing to the band, blaming the new administration for their deportation.

Our laws must be applied equally. To allow Soviet Soviet a pass only because their intentions are good threatens the institution of law and order in this country, and it sets a precedent that our laws are flexible,



AP PHOTO

Despite what many may believe, Soviet Soviet's deportation would've taken place under other presidents and not just Donald Trump.

subjective or even noncompulsory.

On their Facebook page, the band wrote, "We became three illegal immigrants and were treated like criminals." While one can be sympathetic to their plight, our laws are applied indiscriminately without regard for emotions like sympathy. The fact is this: Whether or not they were acting intentionally, from the moment they attempted to enter the United States using the incorrect visa, they were committing a crime. They were criminals.

English philosopher John Locke, who was one of the most influential figures in the foundation of our republic, famously wrote, "Wherever the law ends, tyranny begins." It was upon this guidance that our founders cre-

ated the framework for America's legal system. Our nation is one of many laws; laws to keep us safe, defend our property and protect our freedoms. The law is not compassionate; nor should it be. The law is to be applied equally to every person, whether that person have malicious intentions or inadvertently violated the law.

Their story proved successful in garnering attention for the band, earning them over 40,000 likes on their Facebook page. That's likely a lot more than they would have received at their poorly-attended gigs.

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## Women's march not failure for smaller turnout



AP PHOTO

International Women's Day and "A Day Without a Woman" was celebrated last week throughout the U.S.

SHIVANI GOSAI  
asst. opinions editor

All around the globe, women have been protesting the recent inauguration of Presi-

dent Donald J. Trump.

Once again, citizens gathered in New York City on March 8 for "A Day Without a Woman" to protest against his administration and gender discrimination. The rally called for women to take the day off from work, wear

red and avoid spending money (with the exceptions of buying from small women- or minority-owned businesses).

The purpose of the movement is declared in the name itself: A Day Without a Woman. What would it be like if there were no women for a day? How would society react? Would we learn an important lesson from our disappearance?

The protest was created in the same spirit of liberation that inspired the Women's March. Its goal was to recognize the value that women bring to our socio-economic system and bring to light certain injustices that women experience in and out of the workplace. Inequality that ranges from pay wage, sexual harassment, job insecurity and other types of discrimination. The movement also wanted to recognize the heightened levels of social discrimination that transgender or gender-nonconforming people will – and do – face.

In an effort to get a response from the Trump Administration, speakers at the rally touched on subjects ranging from the fight over access to reproductive healthcare, violence against women, education and the deportation of women immigrants.

The protest received criticism on calling women to skip work, saying that it's irresponsible or lazy to do. However, that is the point. We can't expect women to fix everything, and we can't take them and their work for granted.

"The object for us isn't that we hope to shut the whole economy down," said Linda Sarsour, a co-chairwoman of the event in an interview with The New York Times. "We see this as an opportunity to introduce women to different tactics of activism. Our goal is not to have the same

numbers as the march."

Yes, there are certain problems with this implementation: Some women can't afford to skip work and protest. Women who work low-wage jobs are unable to take the day off. Sarsour said that is why they deliberately offered a menu of ways to participate if women could not strike, such as wearing red or refraining from spending money.

Though less people participated in this movement than the Women's March, it still did its duty to gender justice. A movement is not a headcount; it is something that safely allows citizens to express concern. The Women's March was one of the largest and most significant protests in recent history. It cannot be replicated every month. The Day Without a Woman march formulates new activism.

Four of the organizers of the march, Tamika Mallory, Linda Sarsour, Carmen Perez and Bob Bland, were arrested during the protest in New York for blocking traffic. All four were released later that evening.

The idea behind the protest is solid and genuine, and it resides in the Unity Principles created by the Women's March on Washington. We march to end violence against women, for reproductive rights, LGBTQ+ rights, workers' rights and immigrants' rights. The Day Without a Woman march was to demonstrate anger and frustration, a way to disseminate information and build hope.

If every woman was able to march, then maybe we wouldn't be marching at all.

*Shivani Gosai is a junior journalism major and can be reached at gosais@duq.edu.*



# St. Patrick's Day evolution: Celebrations then and now

**MADLINE BARTOS**  
staff writer

St. Patrick wasn't Irish, his name wasn't even Patrick and the original color associated with St. Patrick's Day was blue. So how did a holiday honoring a British guy named Maewyn Succat explode into a global celebration of Irish culture?

Maewyn Succat was born as a nobleman in fifth century Britain to Christian parents. Succat himself was an atheist until he was kidnapped by Irish pirates. Philip Freeman, author of "St. Patrick of Ireland: A Biography," explained in an interview with National Geographic that during Succat's 17 years with the pirates, he converted to Christianity to help him survive the hardships of captivity.

After escaping, he decided to return to Ireland to become a priest. He changed his name to Patricius, or Patrick, which is a Latin term for "father figure." Marion Casey, an assistant professor of Irish Studies at New York University, said in an interview with Time that while St. Patrick was in Ireland, he had so much luck converting the Irish from Druid culture to Christianity that, after his death, he was named Ireland's patron saint. After his death in 1631, a holiday in St. Patrick's Day was started as a feast during Lent, allowing Christians a break from abstinence.

When the holiday celebrations started to get out of hand in the 1720s, the Church tried to bring the meaning of the holiday back to St. Patrick by assigning him a botanical item — the shamrock. Legend says that St. Patrick



AP PHOTO

A participant in Munich's St. Patrick's Day parade. The holiday is celebrated all over the world.

used the three leaves of the shamrock to explain the Christian Holy Trinity.

According to Casey, until the 1798 Irish Rebellion, the color associated with St. Patrick's Day was blue. During that conflict, the British wore red, so the Irish chose to wear green while singing the song "While Wearing Green."

While the holiday was originally a feast, the excessive consumption of Irish alcohol didn't begin until the late twentieth century,

when a law closing pubs down for St. Patrick's Day was repealed. The parades began in 1726, when British soldiers fighting in the American Revolutionary War led a procession through New York City to celebrate their Irish roots.

Duquesne has its own Irish roots planted in Dublin, where one of the university's study abroad campuses is located. The campus staff are no strangers to St. Patrick Day celebrations in both Pittsburgh and Dublin.

"I think in the U.S., and especially in Pittsburgh, people love to celebrate St. Patrick's Day because so many in our area have Irish roots," said Kelsey Sobecki, assistant director of Duquesne's Dublin campus. "The holiday is a chance to celebrate national pride and culture."

The parades might have begun in America, but it didn't take long for Ireland to capitalize on the popularity of the holiday. As a way to boost tourism, Ireland adopted the tomfoolery in a way the 1720s church may have thought is a little over the top.

"Here in Dublin, the parade and the celebration is just on a much larger scale," said Alyssa Smith, another assistant director for Duquesne in Dublin. "St. Patrick's Day here, to Irish, is like Thanksgiving to Americans, in a way. St. Patrick's Day is always a day off in Ireland, so the parade and celebration will always be on March 17, not on the weekend before or after."

To celebrate, Dublin hosts a four-day St. Patrick's Day festival, which according to their site, aims "to offer a national festival that ranks amongst all of the greatest celebration in the world." Despite Dublin hosting arguably the grandest celebration in the world, people around the globe celebrate quite a bit, too.

It is a day to feel pride in being Irish whether you are a native, you have ancestors from the island, or you are just Irish for the day," Sobecki said.

Duquesne in Dublin students will be on

**see ST. PATRICK — page 11**

## New diversity club aims to address multicultural concerns

**OLLIE GRATZINGER**  
asst. features editor

While Duquesne's campus can take pride in many things, from its convenient downtown location to its hundreds of almost-all-encompassing organizations, diversity has always been something that the university could work to improve upon. College Factual estimates that out of all undergraduate students at Duquesne, an overwhelming 83 percent are white. However, there's a brand-new club on campus that hopes to ensure success among all students, focusing especially on those belonging to minority groups.

New to the Bluff, and fronted by President Michael Oladosu and Social Chair Colette Miranda, is the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences Multicultural STEM Group, MSG for short. According to Oladosu, its aim is to "help students reach their professional goals," no matter what those goals might be.

It may at first seem to be a simple enough objective, but academic, professional and social development often feel like a see-three-pick-two kind of deal for freshman. MSG, though, strives to provide all of the above.

The organization was started in the fall by the assistant dean of the Bayer School, Dr. Phillip Palmer, and it places a heavy emphasis on the inclusion of all students from all backgrounds to ensure that everyone can thrive at Duquesne.

"[Our main goal is] to help people succeed, really," Miranda said. "One of the things we really wanted from this group was that if people needed help with subjects or something, we're all pretty much in the Bayer school at this point, so we all tutor each other."

Additionally, MSG hopes to be a resource for next year's incoming freshman class.

"We have plans on doing a student mentorship program, which will be run by people in the organization for incoming freshman," Oladosu added. "Just to help with that freshman gap between high school and college and to help



PHOTOS BY OLLIE GRATZINGER/ASST. FEATURES EDITOR

(Left) Colette Miranda, social chair of the BSNE Multicultural STEM Group. (Right) Michael Oladosu, president of the new club.

that transition."

Beyond the promotion of academic excellence, though, MSG strives to address the voices of minority students and bring attention to concerns that often go unheard.

"Multiple students of color had come to [Dr. Palmer] before about concerns in the past," Oladosu said. "He saw that as an overarching theme and he saw the necessity for an organization like this, where students of color or students of different backgrounds can come together and talk about their concerns and figure out how to improve them."

Even though the club is based out of the Bayer School and emphasizes multiculturalism, Oladosu also said that it's, "really all-inclusive," and that no one would be turned away.

"We have a lot of different people who come in and help us," Miranda said. "Everyone has something different about them that they can contribute."

Any and all are encouraged to join if a strong support system is something that they think would be a benefit. MSG seems to offer a little bit of everything, so even if you'd rather keel over than take organic chemistry or cal-

culus, there's surely something in it for you.

But if science is your forte, MSG has a variety of special treats to offer up.

In addition to the up-and-coming student mentorship program and the already-in-place tutoring options, there are plans for presenting research that look ahead to next school year and the students who will be joining the Duquesne community. The goal is to encourage students to conduct their own research in fields that are of a personal or professional interest to them, and in presenting their findings to urge their peers to do the same.

According to Miranda, the organization is all about connecting its members to those who can help them succeed.

"It's a good networking thing," she said. "If you're doing stuff over the summer and I'm doing stuff over the summer, we can set each other up with our mentors. You know people who know people."

If you're interested, clear your calendars for March 28 and come on down to the NiteSpot from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., when MSU will be hosting an event complete with free food, information and outreach.



Clock keeps ticking on Dukes' tourney drought

ANDREW HOLMAN  
sports editor

It's time for a good old-fashioned reality check — the Duquesne men's basketball program is a dumpster fire.

Duquesne men's basketball over the last 40 years has been a disgrace to the university, and after Jim Ferry's firing last week, the program finds itself in yet another position to rebuild as it has too many times during this four-decade drought.

There are mixed opinions from fans of the program on whether or not Ferry should have been fired following an underwhelming 10-22 campaign this past season that included just three A-10 wins. Either way, Ferry deserves very little blame for the current state of the program. The truth is the program is not much worse off now than it was when Ferry inherited it.

The Dukes have missed every NCAA tournament since 1977, and have had just two 20-win seasons since former coach Red Manning left the program in 1974.

Duquesne is the lone current member of the Atlantic 10 Conference that has not tasted the Big Dance in the past 40 years. It is also tied with George Mason and La Salle for the fewest NIT bids in that same time span. Duquesne has five fewer combined postseason tournament appearances than any other school in the league.

It is laughable that a program in a major conference has only one 20-win season since 2000, the second fewest among the 14 A-10 teams.

The longer this losing culture glooms over the men's basketball program, the less and less any coach with an even semi-reputable résumé will want to take on the challenge of rebuilding it.

Right now, the pressure lies squarely on the shoulders of University President Ken Gormley and Athletics Director Dave Harper. Harper has the right idea. He has opened up the discussion of venue improvements to the A.J. Palumbo Center and it seems he is willing to invest more money into bettering the program. Coming over from Dayton, Harper knows what it takes to build a big-time

men's basketball powerhouse at a small, mid-major university.

Hiring the right coach will not fix the problem alone, but is still a key piece to the bigger picture.

But let's not crowd the discussion swirling around the Duquesne coaching vacancy with washed-up, proven losers. The last thing this program needs is an old coach with waning passion, who is out of touch with recruits and on the downswing of his career.

It's time to give a young, energized coach a chance to take over a program and see if he can run with the opportunity.

Fans hoping to land an up-and-coming head coach from a smaller Division I program are likely a bit too optimistic. Phenom coaches like Gregg Marshall (Wichita State) and Dan Muller (Illinois State) aren't coming to the Bluff, and even Pat Kelsey (Winthrop) might be a long shot.

Duquesne might be a step up conference-wise for these coaches, but they are already at more attractive places than Duquesne, so why leave?

Secondly, there is no sense in risking the positive hype and credibility they have generated around each of their names by taking a stab at rebuilding Duquesne. They would flee for Illinois or NC State before ever considering the mess that is Duquesne men's basketball.

Duquesne's best chance at landing a coach who can successfully resurrect the program will be by hiring a top tier assistant coach with a proven recruiting track record.

Here's a name: Travis Steele.

Steele is the associate head coach at Xavier University under Chris Mack. In his nine years with the Musketeers, Steele has been a part of eight NCAA tournament teams, which have reached the Sweet 16 four times during that span. He has worked under a pair of elite coaches in Mack and Sean Miller (Arizona) and alongside other notable assistants including Kelsey and Luke Murray.

In the past few seasons alone, Steele has brought in big-time recruits like Edmond Sumner and Trevon Bluiett, both of whom will almost certainly be playing in the NBA in the near future. He also recruited and



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS  
Mike Lewis II (front right), Isiaha Mike (back right), Emile Blackman Jr. (front center) and Tarin Smith (back left) huddle up and look on in disappointment as they watched a double-digit lead slip away against SJU.

signed the No. 6 point guard in the country, Paul Scruggs, as part of an impressive 2017 recruiting class for the X-men. Working alongside Mack and Murray, Xavier's incoming class was ranked No. 6 in the country by ESPN and Rivals.com.

So what can he do to change the culture at Duquesne? Well first and foremost, he can recruit. With proven recruiting success in basketball factories like Ohio and Indiana, Steele has the recruiting prowess to convince incoming recruits like Jamari Wheeler to stand by his commitment and to join the solid cast already in place with Mike Lewis II, Isiaha Mike, Tarin Smith and Nakye Sanders.

Of course Duquesne doesn't have the frenzied basketball atmosphere or the facilities that Xavier has to offer recruits, but otherwise the schools are relatively similar. Both are small-to-medium sized private schools located in major cities, which provide a quality education.

If Steele can recruit four-star, ESPN Top 100 recruits at Xavier then surely over time he could bring in an impressive class full of three and four star recruits to Duquesne.

He has also coached under highly-re-

spected mentors, who have perceivably groomed him into a fine young coach schematically. His name has been brought up in head coach search conversations over the past few years for destinations such as Western Kentucky, Northern Kentucky and Wright State.

With a promise for a long-term contract as well as facility upgrades and continued commitment to the basketball program from Harper, a guy like Travis Steele might just be willing to accept the offer. And if Duquesne can stumble into a Steele or Kelsey type hire, they should not be afraid to take the chance.

Remember though, this is going to be a long process. Give Ferry's replacement, whoever he may be, a fair shake and give him time to get this train back on the right track. And also, a message to the students, fans and alumni, this young team and new head coach need your support. It's about time the Palumbo Center starts getting some butts in its seats once again.

It is only with a perfect mixture of coaching, recruits, administrative backing and fan support that the Duquesne men's basketball program can FINALLY dance once again.

A Look Back at Atlantic 10 Program Successes

KEY: Both the NCAA and NIT statistics are for the past 40 years (since 1977). The 20-win seasons are since 2000.  
\*Note: Not all 14 schools have been members for the full 40 seasons included in the chart.

	Davidson	Dayton	Duquesne	Fordham	G. Mason	G. Washington	La Salle	Rhode Island	Richmond	Saint Joe's	Saint Louis	St. Bonaventure	UMASS	VCU
NCAA Bids	9	11	0	1	6	9	7	7	9	10	7	3	8	16
NIT Bids	6	12	4	8	4	6	4	11	9	12	6	8	7	5
20-win Seasons	11	13	1	0	8	6	2	8	8	8	5	3	5	13



# Tennis teams travel to Florida for Spring Break



COURTESY OF KYLIE ISAACS

Duquesne tennis poses for a team photo at the USTA National Campus, where they will fight for an A-10 title.

**ANDREW WHITE**  
staff writer

Members of the men's and women's tennis programs spent their Spring Break down in Orlando, Florida as both teams played multiple matches in the Sunshine State last week.

During that time the women's team played two matches while the men's team played three. Both teams also practiced at the facility throughout the week. Most of the matches and practices were held at the new USTA National Campus, which will also host the Atlantic 10 championship this Spring.

"One of the main reasons we went down [to Orlando] was to get a feel for the court, check out the facility, and see where we would be

competing this April," said Director of Tennis, Vanessa Steiner.

The women's team swept its two matches on the trip. The Dukes opened up the week by defeating Norfolk State by a score of 7-0 on March 8. The team followed up its victory with another impressive win over South Dakota on March 10. The Dukes won the latter 5-2.

Sophomore Julianne Herman, a native of Philadelphia, helped the Dukes in both victories by winning both her singles matches and doubles matches to finish 4-0 on the week. Herman won both singles matches in straight sets.

Herman was named Atlantic 10 Player of the Week for her nearly flawless week.

"It's an amazing feeling," Herman said. "It means a lot to me, I don't think about it as a

personal title, I think of it for our team because it helps us win the match."

The men went 1-2 in Orlando, beating Norfolk State 7-0, and dropping matches to Furman and Valparaiso 4-3 and 7-0, respectively.

The Dukes opened up the week with a loss against Furman on March 7. The team split the six singles matches 3-3, but failed to win the doubles point.

Duquesne rebounded the next day though, beating Norfolk State 7-0. They finished the trip with a 7-0 loss to Valparaiso on March 10.

Off the tennis court, however, was where most of memories and team bonding occurred though. The team stayed in two separate houses while they were down in Orlando.

"We did a lot of cooking and cleaning while we were down there," Atkins said, accompanied by a laugh.

In their down time the team also took advantage of the pool and hot tub located nearby the resort where the house in which they were staying. They closed out their trip with a visit to Universal Orlando resort and theme park on Saturday.

Both Atkins and Herman agreed that the day at Universal was the highlight of the trip.

"It was a nice fun day in the middle of the season to checkout and enjoy spending time together in an atmosphere like that," Atkins said.

"It was such a cool experience," Herman said. "Going there together solidified the feeling that we are a family."

After the trip, both teams look to continue their momentum as they resume conference play. The men's team travels up to Olean, New York for a match against St. Bonaventure on March 19, while the women's team has off until they face George Mason in Fairfax, Virginia on March 24.

## March Madness Bracket Boost



Andrew Holman | Sports Editor

**Champion:** Villanova

**Final Four:** Villanova, Arizona, Purdue, North Carolina

**Upset Watch:** No. 14 FGCU over No. 3 Florida State, No. 13 ETSU over No. 4 Florida, No. 12 MTSU over No. 5 Minnesota, No. 11 Xavier over No. 6 Maryland.

**Best First Round Matchup:** No. 7 Dayton vs. No. 10 Wichita State.

**First No. 1 Seed Out:** Kansas

**Cinderella Team:** Winthrop

**Favorite Team:** Xavier

**Best Mascot:** The Shockers of Wichita State.

**Player to Watch:** Kris Jenkins. Can he be the tourney hero two years in a row?

Adam Lindner | Assistant

**Champion:** UNC

**Final Four:** Duke, Gonzaga, Michigan, UNC

**Upset Watch:** No. 11 Xavier over No. 6 Maryland, No. 11 URI over No. 6 Creighton.

**Best First Round Matchup:** No. 7 Michigan vs. No. 10 OK State.

**First No. 1 Seed Out:** Kansas

**Cinderella Team:** URI Rams

**Favorite Team:** Wake Forest

**Best Mascot:** Jackrabbits of S. Dakota State.

**Player to Watch:** Lonzo Ball. Can he continue to shine on the national stage in March?

For a full March Madness preview, visit [duqsm.com](http://duqsm.com).

## Dukes WBB hopes to make memorable WNIT run

**DAVID BORNE**  
staff writer

After a season full of ups and downs, the Duquesne Dukes women's basketball team received a WNIT bid on Monday night and will play at Drexel in the tournament's opening round.

The season featured big out-of-conference wins over teams like St. John's and crosstown rival Pittsburgh. Duquesne also took down top Atlantic 10 talents like Saint Louis, George Washington and La Salle, but the Dukes struggled to find any sort of consistency during the regular season. In between those big wins came disappointing losses against teams at the bottom of the conference such as St. Bonaventure, UMass and Rhode Island.

However, once A-10 postseason play started, Duquesne caught fire and proved they are capable of performing like many expected them to when they were selected to finish tied for second in the conference in preseason polls.

The Dukes upset defending champion George Washington in the quarterfinal and breezed past No. 3 Saint Joseph's in the semifinal with a 78-63 victory.

Duquesne finished the season with an 18-15 record, and won four out of their last five. Their only defeat came in the A-10 Championship, a 70-56 defeat to a very good Dayton team.

Dayton's size created problems on both sides of the court for Duquesne, and the Flyers held the Dukes to just 5-19 shooting performance from three point range. Coach Dan Burt expects his team to get back to their normal shooting ways against Drexel.

"I think we'll be fresh," Burt said. "Playing three games in three days was a lot. Everybody had to do it to win the championship, but you



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS

The Dukes huddle up at center court in the Richmond Coliseum as they took on the Saint Joseph's Hawks in the Atlantic 10 semifinals. The Dukes defeated the Hawks 78-63 on March 4 to advance to the tournament final.

can attribute a bit of that 5-19 to tired legs."

Drexel (21-10) enters the contest losing four of its last five, but found success against some of Duquesne's A-10 competitors earlier this season. The Dragons registered wins over Saint Joseph's, George Mason and UMass. They also managed to take down No. 11 Syracuse at home in their biggest win of the season.

Games in March always come with a whole lot of pressure, and that pressure can often be difficult for young teams like Duquesne to deal with, but after their run in the Atlantic 10 tournament, the Dukes have plenty of experience with "do or die" situations. Burt's team has yet to show any signs of nerves, but he expects

them to be extra motivated for their seniors Amadea Szamosi and Brianna Thomas.

"The kids are certainly going to give their very best effort," Burt said. "They do every time they're on the floor, but I think the focus will be much greater because they understand that a bad outing will be their last opportunity to put on a uniform."

The WNIT bid marks the ninth straight postseason appearance for Duquesne. It will also be the first ever meeting between the two teams. The Dukes will look to use any momentum they built in the A-10 Tournament, and hope to prolong not only their season, but their senior's basketball careers at the university.



# Switch does not account for disabled gamers

GRANT STONER  
staff writer

My gaming career began on a Super Nintendo Entertainment System. As I've grown, so too has my collection of Nintendo consoles and handhelds. Despite my physical limitations, particularly concerning the strength of my hands, I have always been able to play the vast amount of Nintendo franchises, and yes, that even includes titles on the movement-based Nintendo Wii. So, naturally, a console featuring three controller configurations should be beneficial for physically disabled gamers, right?

Not exactly.

For the first time in gaming history, the Nintendo Switch successfully merges the entertainment of a console with the portability of a handheld system. Through the utilization of the Switch tablet, players can seamlessly transition between the television set and a device which resembles a larger version of the Nintendo 3DS XL. As a disabled gamer, the portability is certainly beneficial for my gaming needs. However, the new Joy-Con controllers pose a unique problem that I have yet to encounter with any piece of Nintendo hardware, even with the movement-control based Nintendo Wii.

While the Switch tablet is placed within its dock, gamers can remove the Joy-Con controllers from the system, holding them in a similar fashion to that of Nintendo Wii remotes. With this configuration, I found myself constantly needing to readjust my hand placement, ensuring that I would be able to



COURTESY OF NINTENDO

One of the prime selling points of the Switch has been its multiple controller configurations. Unfortunately, none are friendly to disabled gamers.

successfully press various buttons, as well as preventing me from dropping the devices. Unfortunately for the Switch — and my physically impaired hands — the Joy-Con controllers are egregiously small, meaning that it is near impossible for me to even perform basic movement functions within any game, much less high levels of play.

If players find that the individual Joy-Cons are too uncomfortable, the Switch is packaged with a Joy-Con Grip controller. This device resembles a smaller, more rectangular version of a traditional console gamepad. Yet once again, I found myself being unable to properly hold the controller due to its reduced size. It's too small to be placed comfortably on my lap, and since I lack the strength to hold it within my hands, this configuration is simply not a feasible option for me for any extended period of time.

With only a single arrangement left, the Nintendo Switch has the capability to play every title from the tablet screen. Players simply slide each Joy-Con onto the sides of the tablet, and the entire system becomes a handheld. Thankfully, I had the most success with the system while playing with this configuration. The tablet rested comfortably on my lap, and I rarely struggled to reach the specific buttons. However, the "+" and "-" buttons are placed at an awkward angle, forcing me to contort my hands in uncomfortable positions whenever I needed to pause the game when it should only take a second.

I want to be excited for the Nintendo Switch. For able-bodied gamers, I cannot recommend the system enough. The ability to seamlessly transition between the television and tablet is a unique and exciting experience. However, for those with physical disabilities, the Nintendo Switch is unapologetically inaccessible. With each controller configuration, I found myself becoming more frustrated, forcing me to come to terms with my physical impairments, as well as the fact that I spent upwards of \$300 for nothing more than a paperweight. In an age where gaming accessibility is becoming the norm, it baffles me to think that Nintendo could ostracize a significant portion of the community. A system update featuring reconfigurable controls, or even redesigning the Joy-Con remotes would surely benefit disabled gamers. Yet, if these options never come to fruition, the Nintendo Switch should not be purchased by those with physical limitations if they do not wish to waste their money.

The Nintendo Switch launched on March 3 at \$300 for the basic model.

# 'Logan' delivers great performances, poor script

SEAN RAY  
a&e editor

The "X-Men" films have always existed in a weird sort of flux. Never quite reaching the quality of the Marvel Cinematic Universe, but never becoming as bad as the DC Expanded Universe, the series has been without much of a clear direction since "X-Men: The Last Stand."

At the middle of all this has been Hugh Jackman, who has played the ever-popular character, Wolverine, since the very beginning 17 years ago, making him, perhaps, the most dedicated superhero actor ever.

That has come to an end.

"Logan" is the third "X-Men" movie to focus on the clawed mutant, and according to the man himself, will be the last time Jackman plays the character. Based off of the comic storyline "Old Man Logan," the film is an acting tour-de-force which, unfortunately, does not have a script adequate enough to keep up.

The movie takes place in the not-too-distant future of 2029. Due to unknown reasons, no new mutants have been born in 25 years, and the X-Men team are nowhere to be seen. Logan has been hiding out close to the U.S.-Mexican border, his powers starting to fail due to poisoning from his adamantium skeleton. He is joined by a senile Professor X (Patrick Stewart) and an albino mutant with tracking powers by the name Caliban (Stephan Merchant).

Things are shaken up when Logan is approached by a nurse and a young mutant named Laura (Dafne Keen) with powers similar to him. They need escort to the Canadian border, offering a money award. Low on cash, Logan accepts the assignment, and so begins a grand road trip



COURTESY OF 20TH CENTURY FOX

"Logan" has grossed over \$400 million world wide at time of publication, according to boxofficemojo.com. The film makes the premiere of X-23, also known as Laura, a fan favorite character from the comics.

across the US as the group is pursued by a corrupt company keen on getting Laura back.

What really makes this film stand out from others in the genre are the performances. Jackman gives it his all in this swan-song to the character, adding even more depth to an already emotionally-complex character. Patrick Stewart similarly adds his experience with Shakespeare to elevate the film into a full-on tragedy at times. And Keen manages her best with what little she is given.

However, these incredible performances are held back by a very weak script. The plot of Logan is predictable to a fault. With plot-elements foreshadowed and played up so much, they have no impact when they come into play. Every twist, turn and even the ending are easily guessed from the start of the film.

Furthermore, the film fails to adequately balance its dramatic moments. The first half of the movie is entirely given over to the Professor X-Logan relationship, with Laura having nothing to do

(she doesn't even speak until late into the movie).

As a personal fan of Laura's comic book version, one of the strongest parts of her character is her constantly developing and touching relationship with Wolverine. Their father-daughter bond is what really makes the character work.

Unfortunately, these aspects are not touched on until the movie barely has any time left, which is saying something given its two-hour run time.

The action scenes are sadly average, attempting to use gore to make up for uninteresting fights. Mutant powers are used in boring ways, and most of them are very plain.

The film is good, despite these problems, and worth a watch. It is definitely one of the best "X-Men" films, but the movie's intense amount of critical hype seems to just be from people sick of normal super hero formulas, and desperate for anything outside of it.

Give "Logan" a watch, but lower your expectations to make for a better experience. It is great, but far from perfection.

## WEEK'S EVENTS

4th Annual Graduate Student Research Symposium  
March 17, 8:30 a.m.

Graduate students show off their research and field questions from peers and faculty at the GSRS. The event is being held in the Charles J. Dougherty Ballroom and will last until 3:30 p.m.

Movie Night—DUQ Reads  
March 22, 5:30 p.m.

The DUQ Reads program continues with a showing of "Farewell to Manzanar." This film is based on the memoir of Jeanne Wakatsuki and her time at the Manzanar concentration camp. Event will be held in the NiteSpot, and pizza and drinks will be provided.

## UPCOMING RELEASES

"Spirit"  
March 17

Product of English electronic-music band Depeche Mode, "Spirit" is the group's fourteenth outing together. The album's release is preceded by its first single, "Where's the Revolution," which released on Feb. 3.

"Mass Effect Andromeda"  
March 21

The newest entry in the acclaimed "Mass Effect" series, "Andromeda" takes players away from the events of the original trilogy to tell the tale of the passengers on the titular spaceship. The game will place a larger emphasis on exploration, including some open-world elements, as well as overhauling the morality system from previous entries. The \$60 game will be released on PC, Xbox One and PS4.

## MICRO REVIEW

"Kong: Skull Island"

"If the idea of 'Apocalypse Now' with a giant gorilla excites you, don't miss this adventurous reboot of the classic film. Strong performances by the star-studded cast really elevate this blockbuster to kaiju-perfection. Just be prepared for it to be a lot darker than you might expect. Also, make sure to watch through the credits"

-Sean Ray



# ‘Breath of the Wild’ delivers ennui and malaise in empty space

ZACHARY LANDAU  
asst. a&e editor

I would not be the man I am today if it was not for “The Legend of Zelda.” I don’t say that in some sort of sappy, wholesome way. I mean this in the “this is the series that gave rise to the cynicism and bitterness that binds me to this mortal coil” way.

In those younger, more vulnerable years, I was burnt on “Skyward Sword.” What was meant to be the 25th-anniversary celebration turned out to be a mourning that crushed my “Zelda”-filled heart.

In the midst of my despair, I thought “The Legend of Zelda” would be better off as a full, roleplaying game. I eventually abandoned this thought, however, not only because I grew as a person, but because an RPG “Zelda” game would, in essence, not really be a “Zelda” game anymore.

It was that thought that stirred in my head while playing “Breath of the Wild.” While traversing the open plains of Hyrule, I could not help but think that I really was not playing a “Zelda” game, but instead an amalgamation of open-world games with a bit of Nintendo magic sprinkled here and there.

To be certain, all of the “Zelda” trappings are here: Link, Zelda and Ganon all take their respective positions of Hero, Princess and World-Ending Evil, and races and locales from past games make cameos and appearances as well. And if one were to follow the main quest, the overworld-dungeon-repeat cycle is still present, with the dungeons being, in my opinion, the best in the entire series.

What is different is everything else. The overworld dwarfs other games in the series (and most games in general), but feels very much alive and, to use the trite phrase, lived-in. At any moment, players can come across Bokoblins ambushing travelers or a dragon weaving in and out of mountain tops. Every NPC and enemy is crafted with enough detail to be impressive on their own.

Traveling this world, unfortunately, can frequently drag and bore. Horses, which are the fastest form of transportation after teleporting, frustrate players with their controls and frequently freak out when even grazing the occasional hanging tree branch. Not only that, their usefulness remains questionable even after 50+ hours, as most points of interest are hidden within mountains and cliffs where horses cannot explore.

Traversing the many ranges of Hyrule is also made a huge pain by the hateful, spiteful return of the stamina meter as well. Nearly every action Link does requires Stamina: running, climbing, gliding, charging attacks and even swimming. The amount of Stamina given to players at the start of the game is pathetic; Link can only run about 30 meters before exhausting himself. After a few hours into the game, players can grab their first upgrade for the Stamina Meter, but even then, the upgrade is so minimal that it was not until I reached the 25 hour mark that I felt like I could cover some significant distance in one bound. While there are a lot of interesting things to explore in the overworld, constantly monitoring stamina discourages exploration for most of the game.

Unfortunately, the main quest can be



COURTESY OF NINTENDO

This promotional art mimics the same art used for the original “The Legend of Zelda” on the Nintendo Entertainment System. Both games are praised for their hands-off approach to gameplay.

rather unexciting at times and a hassle to complete. While dotted with the occasional interesting or funny character interactions, the mini-plots within the different chapters are rather trite and cliché. What emotional depth there is could not drown a mouse and almost parodies itself in how ridiculously stoic the characters are. At one point, Link tells a guy his daughter died (yes, that actually happens), and he reacts the same way you might if someone ate your lunch in the break fridge.

That’s not to say emotionally charged moments do not occur in “Breath of the Wild.” The unlockable Memories are fantastically

directed cutscenes that add real characterization for an otherwise forgettable cast. They also effectively motivate the player by egging them into restoring Link’s power by demonstrating his skills and prowess. What particularly caught my attention was how most of this characterization is implied: Sure, Zelda may occasionally comment on how much Link is growing, but rarely in Memories do characters blatantly describe each other and themselves. Instead, the game is comfortable showing the duo walking calmly away from piled up corpses of recently felled enemies

see ZELDA — page 12

# Rust belt blues brought to life with ‘Night in the Woods’

NICOLE PRIETO  
staff writer

Anthropomorphic cat Mae Borowski is 20 years old and just dropped out of college. She returns home to the fictional Possum Springs in late October, a once thriving mining town now going through hard times. But she soon finds that the town has changed since she first left. Bizarre disappearances, a mysteriously severed limb and troubling visions wrack Mae and her home, where she and her friends find themselves in the middle of a mystery that might just lead to the end of the world.

Created by Alec Holowka and Pennsylvanians Scott Benson and Bethany Hockenberry, “Night in the Woods” is a side-scrolling indie game that highlights life in the Rust Belt. Do not be fooled by the array of cute animals and cartoonish packaging. From mental illness to sexual assault, homelessness to drug addiction and ghosts to Elder-God-esque beings, the writing embraces difficult, painful topics alongside the supernatural. The game proffers a satisfying, cathartic experience for players willing to dive into Possum Springs’ darker corners.

Despite its serious elements, however, the game maintains a playful atmosphere. Notably, gamers can perform a variety of unrealistic, “Super-Mario”-style acrobatics. Mae’s preferred mode of travel involves copious amounts of running and hopping across rooftops, mailboxes, trees, railings, trash cans and power lines — whether awake or in her dreams. Players can break into buildings, break things in general, play in a band and party the night away with Mae’s ex-best friend (Bea), current best friend (Gregg) and Gregg’s boyfriend (Angus). And sometimes a guy named Germ.

The graphics play fine on a non-gaming PC laptop without much lag, though overheating could be a problem. For a side-scroller, the controls are surprisingly difficult to manage on a technical level. The biggest obstacle is getting Mae onto a surface she should otherwise be able to reach. Near the be-



COURTESY OF INFINITE FALL

“Night in the Woods” was funded via the popular crowdfunding platform, Kickstarter. The game received 400 percent of its \$50,000 goal. The developer has also released two supplementary games, titled “Longest Night” and “Lost Constellation.”

ginning, I was stuck in one area slamming the spacebar and leaping in every direction before I could finally get Mae on an object. Interactive surfaces are seamlessly integrated with the background and foreground; while stylistically attractive, this can make early playthroughs frustrating.

Against a backdrop of light cartoon chaos, the game invites players to soak in the rich, screenshot-able scenery and chill soundtrack. Sit in abandoned buildings and cause chaos in

a dying mall. Interact with townspeople to reveal their own depths and backstories — and take some time to talk with Mae’s parents every day when they are at home. While its mechanics are to be desired, the game’s narrative and character development are its greatest strengths.

Choosing who to spend time with affects how you

see NIGHT — page 12



## Allegheny county council bans vapes

**VAPE — from page 1**

all can cause bodily damage.

Hacker said the indoor vaping ban will keep people safe from secondhand vapor, much like secondhand smoke.

Hacker said vaping can act as a “precursor” to getting addicted to regular cigarettes.

“The tobacco industry is heavily investing in e-cigs,” which Hacker said is a way to catch people young and lure them to regular cigarette use.

Hacker acknowledges that e-cigs and vapes may be useful for those who are trying to quit cigarettes, but warns that the FDA does not approve of these as quitting methods.

Hacker discouraged people who are thinking of starting vaping.

“If you’re not a smoker at all, why are you putting this stuff in your lungs?” she asked.

“If you’re not smoking, don’t start. If you’re not vaping, don’t start.”

Gabrielle Williams is the owner of Vape Inn Carson, a vape shop located on the South Side. She feels that the county overreached with their ban.

“As vape owners, we thought it should be up to business owners [whether or not to allowing vaping] ... What are they going to regulate next?” Williams said.

She said that concerns over the side effects of vaping are overblown.

“There’s nothing to be exposed to but vapor. There’s no chemicals, no carcinogens — nothing to be concerned of,” Williams said.

People that are skeptical should just stop by, Williams said.

“They should go into any local vape and talk to the people behind the counter. We can give them so much knowledge,” she said.

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## Exploration of St. Patrick’s day history

**PADDYS— from page 6**

spring break during St. Patrick’s Day, but that won’t shut down celebrations on campus.

“We don’t have anything specific planned on the day itself, as we are in spring break and some students are traveling or have friends or family visiting,” said Nora McBurney, director of Duquesne in Dublin, “But on Thursday night we are inviting students to listen to some traditional Irish music and then do a walking tour of Dublin to see some of the city’s most iconic

buildings lit up in green for St. Patrick’s Day.”

With a little Irish pride, folklore and Guinness, the past 16 centuries have evolved St. Patrick’s Day from a break in the middle of Lent into a global celebration.

“I love seeing all of the streets crowded on St. Patrick’s Day,” Smith said. “It seems like everybody is out of their apartments or houses to celebrate. Also, there are different celebrations all across Ireland and it is fun to see the next day how each city celebrated.”



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Leah Devorak at  
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# Zelda game riddled with small problems

**ZELDA**—from page 10

how much Link is growing, but rarely in Memories do characters blatantly describe each other and themselves. Instead, the game is comfortable showing the duo walking calmly away from piled up corpses of recently felled enemies without commenting on the devastation they just caused.

This subtlety is lost in the main cut scenes, however, and characters tend to talk in very plain, simple language and extrapolate on the entire plot in long, tiresome monologues. I have a suspicion that two different teams dealt with optional and required content, as the optional content is far better than the required.

This quality is reflected in the aforementioned dungeons, which, as previously mentioned, are the best in the series. Despite their smaller size (the smallest dungeons in other “Zelda” games are bigger than any of the four in “Breath of

the Wild”), these dungeons tightly pack spatial puzzles that present the perfect level of challenge to make players question and ponder without having to resort to outside help. The boss fights leading up to the dungeons are truly epic and thrill in their grand scale and speed. The only disappointing parts about dungeons are the bosses at the end of them and their optional nature, meaning some players may miss them entirely. And a “Zelda” game without dungeons really isn’t a “Zelda” game, is it?

This is why I feel rather confused about “Breath of the Wild.” The parts that more closely resemble the franchise it hails from are without a doubt the best. However, the extra stuff, while exciting for some, only bothered me in how obtuse it made the game. I do not regret my time spent with “Breath of the Wild,” but I also do not imagine myself returning to the game anytime soon.

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# Night delivers fraught interaction

**NIGHT**—from page 10

experience the overarching story. I focussed on Bea’s backstory for my first playthrough (achievement or story completionists will need to go through the game more than once). In contrast to Mae’s unbridled, jobless freedom, Bea runs her family’s business and supports her dejected father. Her resentment at Mae getting to go to college and dropping out is no secret, and it is easy to see why Bea is billed as Mae’s former best friend. If you choose to hang out with her every night, the pair alternate between getting along and fighting.

Nevertheless, whether you hang with Bea, Gregg or local oddball Germ, where the story is headed is a foregone conclusion. Your choices primarily determine the entries that appear in Mae’s journal and what relationships she fosters or neglects.

With respect to Mae, the paranormal goings-on in Possum Springs do not seem as pressing for her as her ominous dreams and adventures would lead gamers to believe. She is reasonably freaked out at finding someone’s arm on a sidewalk, for instance, but that does

not stop her from sleeping in past noon every day and contemplating how to kill time until the evening rolls in. In this respect, the game does a good job of juxtaposing the extraordinary with the down-to-earth. Mae is not your traditional “chosen hero.” She is a 20-something who only wants to eat pizza, catch up with friends... and dodge questions about her future.

Still, she is definitely not a character to write off. For being the protagonist, Mae’s motivations are the most subtly presented. The slow-paced revelations about why she dropped out of college and returned home give the game enormous depth. Her personal story inspires some soul-searching and forces players to examine the assumptions we make about others.

“Night in the Woods” is clearly a labor of love with a universal message about moving forward with hope, no matter how out of control everything may seem. It is a post-coming-of-age story meant to hit close to home, and it does not proselytize clean solutions to the awful things that happen in life. Give it a try, and see where the denizens of Possum Springs take you.



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