SGA approves special election

Brandon Addo
news editor

The Student Government Association announced a special election to fill the position of Executive Vice President for Student Life after the former incoming candidate Kevin Stalker abdicated the position on March 24. The SGA Senate agreed at their March 26 meeting to schedule the election for April 18 on the CampusLink website.

Since Stalker ran unopposed, there is no opposition candidate who can step in to fill the position and a new election must be held, SGA Election Board Chair Tyler McCordell said at the meeting.

McCardell proposed temporarily changing the signature requirement to get onto the SGA election ballot from 576 signatures to 200.

see ELECTION — page 2

Chick-fil-A Express among new dining additions at Duquesne

Liza Zulick
staff writer

Major changes are coming to Duquesne's dining options in the fall. New additions include a Chick-fil-A Express and an improved Mexican food kiosk in the Options Food Court and a complete remodeling of the Student Union's Starbucks.

Construction will begin on the new dining projects after commencement in May. According to Scott Richards, Duquesne's executive director of auxiliary services, student feedback, surveys and recent purchasing patterns have all led to the changes in dining options.

Purchases from the upcoming dining projects will still be available through meal swipes, flex, plus, cash or credit card — including the Chick-fil-A Express, which will take meal swipes of $5.90 for lunch and $6.00 for dinner.

The new Chick-fil-A Express will feature nearly everything from its original menu. According to a Duquesne press release, in addition to its signature chicken sandwich, Chick-fil-A's menu features "made with fresh vegetables and fruits that are hand-chopped throughout the day." Hand-spun milkshakes are also available in addition to homemade lemonade.

Duquesne University is now one of over 245 schools to have include Chick-fil-A among its dining options.

"I'm so excited for the new Chick-fil-A," undeclared freshman Erin Fulton said. "I finally will be able to have some delicious lemonade on campus."

The Mexican food kiosk at the Options Dining Hall will soon feature made-to-order burritos, bowls, tacos, salads and salsas and quesos. The meal swipe of two tacos, chips, quesos and a drink will still also be available.

"I can't wait to have fresh, made-to-order burritos," said Freshman undecided business student Joseph Halahurich.

There are also many other changes coming to Options. According to Duquesne's press release, the salad, deli and Cobani bar that are currently available in Options will be taken out and replaced. An on-the-go program will be available including deli sandwiches, bistro boxes, salads, sushi, yogurt parfaits and more. These items will also be available at The Incline, Campus Market and Campus Market Express.

In 2016, Duquesne was named one of the top 80 Best Colleges for Food in America. With these changes to dining, Duquesne University stays with their goal of offering students a variety of sustainable and healthy food options.

"The university explores possibilities with vendors in a number of areas (not just dining) on a regular basis. However, confidentiality prevents us from disclosing those details and vendors who are not selected," Duquesne spokesperson Bridget Fare said.

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sports
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Dukes linebacker Christian Kuntz takes aim at NFL...

a & e
'The Onion' comes to PGH
Satirists pay visit to the Steel City...

PAGE 5
PAGE 6
PAGE 7
PAGE 9
Report: Pittsburgh facing population decline

BLUFF BRIEFS

Raymond Arke
asst. news editor

On March 28, the Department of Journalism and Multimedia Arts hosted their annual Celebration of Excellence and named a new name change. The department announced that the name will be changed to the Department of Media.

By changing our name to Media, we’re making it clear where students can find majors in media within the McAnulty College. We’re excited to be launching the new name at this year’s Celebration of Excellence,” Mark Dillon, chair of the department, said in a statement to the DU Times.

The event was in the Power Center Dougherty Ballroom and featured a variety of student and faculty work. Tables were there representing student publications like The Bluff and The Duke, along with other organizations.

Students from high school, such as Oakland Catholic, were also in attendance. They participated mini-workshops.

A panel presentation on how to get a job in the media industry ended the event.

POLICE BRIEFS

Well it’s that time of the week for your Cousin PB to enlighten y’all on the police briefs. PB does want to say that he’s happier than a free-range bison that y’all have been behaved well this past week. I hope y’all keep it up with the weather getting warmer.

Last Thursday, Duquesne Police looked into a case of vandalism when newspapers were removed from the Fisher Skywalk. PB might not know much, but one thing he does know is to respect the First Amendment.

On Sunday, a graduate assistant was ticketed by the Pittsburgh Police for public intoxication. The GA is being referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Some of you youngins’ misbehaved. On Tuesday, two students in St. Martins were referred to Office of Student Conduct for possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia. A citation was also issued.

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 Addo at adeob@duq.edu.

The DUQUESNEDUKE

Senator chairs work on Russia probe

AP — Pledging cooperation, the top Republican and Democrat on the Senate intelligence committee said Wednesday they would steer clear of politics in their panel’s probe of Russian interference in last year’s election.

They made a point of putting themselves at arm’s length from the House investigation marked by partisan infighting.

“Mark and I work hand in hand on this. … We’re partners to see that we keep choosing to live here?” Warner said. “I can assure you, they didn’t do it because it was in the vested interest of the American people.”

The mobile workforce has left,” Brien said.

One of the ways the population drain can be countered is if the trend continues of college graduates staying in the area. The Pew Charitable Trusts found that the amount of graduates living in Pittsburgh grew from 10 percent of the population to nearly 17 percent over a 14-year span.

According to “The Young and Restless and the Nation’s Cities” report by The City Observatory, found that Pittsburgh was one of three cities that had overall population loss, but had nearly a 30 percent increase in the demographic group of 25 to 34 year olds with a bachelor’s degree.

In a survey of the 2013-2014 Duquesne graduating class, it was found that nearly 65 percent of the class lives in Pennsylvania and of those, 46 percent live within the Pittsburgh metro region.

As of February 2017, there are over 10,000 Duquesne alumni living in Pittsburgh out of the 56,000 that live in Pennsylvania, according to the Office of Alumni Relations.

The trend of graduating college students staying local could be important for reversing the city’s losses, Brien pointed out. But will they keep choosing to live here?

“That’s the question, if they’re staying for the long run,” he said.

SGA VP election to be held in April

ELECTION — from page 1

as candidates will only have two weeks to fill out election packets until an April 10 deadline. Candidates for SGA election typically have two months to fill out election packets.

The SGA unanimously approved the suggested changes.

Anyone on campus can run for the office, and candidates who run for either SGA executive board positions in February will be also eligible to run in the spring.

The special election comes after the prior candidate, Kevin Stalker, was arrested March 11 on charges of theft, robbery and escaping police custody. Stalker had a preliminary hearing scheduled by a judge to April 27.

The new SGA executive board served in their official capacity for the first time at the March 26 meeting.

Raymond Arke contributed reporting.
Student group leaders concerned about DU Chick-fil-A

**ZACHARY LANDAU**

**Assistant A&E Editor**

At the March 26 Student Government Association meeting, Senator at Large Niko Martini proposed that the SGA pass a resolution asking the university to reconsider the inclusion of Chick-fil-A as a dining option for students. Martini is on the Lambda executive board. He clarified that he made the proposal on his own behalf and not Lambda’s.

“Chick-fil-A has a questionable history on civil rights and human rights,” he said in a statement to *The Duke*. “I think it’s imperative the university chooses to do business with organizations that coincide with the university’s mission and expectations they give students regarding diversity and inclusion.”

Lambda Senate did not pass any resolution but agreed to consider an alternative resolution to veto the Chick-fil-A Express, which senators tabled for the April 9 SGA meeting to allow time to research the concerns.

“Lambda’s leadership met recently with Auxiliary Services to share their concerns regarding Chick-Fil-A’s corporate position on LGBTQA+ issues,” said Alia Pustorino-Clevenger, director for student life assessment and co-curricular community engagement, and also Lambda’s faculty advisor. “They will continue to have meetings in the upcoming weeks with Auxiliary Services and Parkhurst to address this matter further.”

Lambda President Rachel Coury personally said she worries the safety provided by Gay-Straight Alliance might be in jeopardy. “I’ve tried very hard within the last semester and a half to promote this safe environment for the LGTQ+ community,” Coury said. “So I fear that with the Chick-fil-A being in Options that maybe people will feel that safe place is at risk.”

Duquesne announced March 20 the addition of the Chick-fil-A Express to the Options Food Court beginning in the upcoming fall semester. The decision to add a Chick-fil-A was a response to student feedback, according to Duquesne spokeswoman Bridget Fare.

“The decision was announced as soon as the due diligence activities, including working with the City on permitting for the renovations, were undertaken and approved,” Fare said.

Chick-fil-A has faced controversy in the past for financially backing organizations that are accused of supporting anti-LGBT rhetoric. Coury expressed concerns over the company’s history of supporting organizations that are specifically anti-gay organizations.

Fare said that the fast food company “has assured [Duquesne] that they do not discriminate.” She also said that “Chick-Fil-A informed the University that they ceased giving to Focus on the Family and Exodus International several years ago and have eliminated corporate donations and established a foundation that focuses on youth and education.”

In a statement provided by Chick-fil-A Manager of External Communications Amanda Hannah said that the Chick-fil-A Foundation, the company’s philanthropic arm, focuses on youth and education.

“Only organizations directly aligned with that mission are funded,” Hannah said. “Programs with social or political agendas are not included in that giving.”

The leaders of the DU Lambda Gay Straight Alliance expressed concerns about the addition of a Chick-fil-A on DU’s campus. They will feel that safe place is at risk.”

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THE DUQUESNE DUKE

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UK’s submits letter to begin process of formally leaving the EU

AP — Britain filed for divorce from the European Union on Wednesday, with fond words and promises of friendship that could not disguise the historic nature of the schism — or the years of argument and hard-nosed bargaining ahead as the U.K. leaves the bloc that has grown up in the EU and voted to leave the bloc that has grown up in the EU and voted to remain a member — worried about the costs of travel will be more expensive.

The British flag waves in front of the Elizabeth Tower at Houses of Parliament containing the bell known as ‘Big Ben,’ as Parliament begins the ‘Brexit’ procedure.

We will take care of that.”

Britons voted 52 percent to 48 percent in favor of leaving the bloc in a referendum nine months ago, and they remain deeply divided over Brexit.

In the pro-Brexit heartland of Dover on England’s south coast — whose white cliffs face toward France — some were jubilant as May pulled the trigger.

“I’m a local church minister, and I told my wife, ‘All I want to do before I die is see my country free from the shackles of Europe,’ said 70-year-old Mike Piper, laying a copy of the Sun tabloid with the front-page headline “Dover and Out.”

Former UKIP leader Nigel Farage, who campaigned for years to take Britain from a fringe cause to a reality, said Britain had passed “a moment of no return.”

“I can still, to be honest with you, scarcely believe today has come,” he said.

But many young Britons — who have grown up in the EU and voted overwhelmingly for Britain to remain a member — worried about how much they would lose.

“I’m really anxious about it. It was a bad idea,” said Elaine Morrison, 29 to finalize their platform. Talks start in the second half of May.

But there was a hint of steel in May’s assertion that without a deal it is possible the bloc will need to stick together.

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European Parliament Brexit coordinator Guy Verhofstadt responded diplomatically: “I cannot, as a gentleman, even imagine that a lady as Mrs. May is using black-mail, is thinking of blackmail.”

Tusk said he would respond by Friday with draft negotiating guidelines for the remaining six months. The U.K. is seeking to remain a full member state to consider. They’ll meet April 29 to finalize their platform. Talks start in the second half of May.

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Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful.

ALBERT SCHWEITZER

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

@TheDuquesneDuke

OPINIONS

With March Madness going on, I started to wonder who on campus would be most likely to win a competition. Introducing: THE DUQUESNE CAMPUS SHOWDOWN

This isn’t just basketball. This is a beauty pageant, a battle of wits, a clash of skills, a battle of brute force, all in one showdown. This is the bracket I would put my money on!

if i do say so myself...

It is 2017, and rape is still not being taken seriously, even by people in the highest positions of power within the United States.

On March 21, White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer used a rape case at a Maryland high school to show why undocumented illegal immigrants are a major problem in the United States. A 14-year-old girl was allegedly raped on March 16 at Rockville High School by two students. One of these students, Henry E. Alexander, is a native of Guatemala, and he was living in the United States illegally.

According to The New York Times, Spicer said, “I think part of the reason the president has made illegal immigration and crackdown such a big deal is because of tragedies like this. Immigration pays its toll on our people if it’s done wrong. This is another example, and it’s why the president is so passionate about this.”

Spicer went on to call the entire act “horrendous and horrible and disgusting.”

People who rape, sexually assault or otherwise take advantage of another human being, are indeed, horrendous and horrible and disgusting. But that sentiment is about the only thing that Spicer got right in this scenario.

By making this kind of ridiculous statement about needing to stop illegal immigration to curtail rapes, the White House press secretary not only completely undermines this girl’s appalling, distressing experience, but he also labels all illegal immigrants as monstrous rapists who can’t help but attack the first person they see as soon as they cross the border.

Rape and sexual assault are obviously topics that should not be taken lightly. According to the Rape Abuse & Incest National Network, every 98 seconds, an American is sexually assaulted. One in every six American women has been the victim of an attempted rape or completed rape in her lifetime.

Sexual assault is also not an issue that only affects women; one out of every 10 rape victims is male.

Clearly, rape and sexual assault are problems on a much larger scale than what Spicer makes them out to be. With this kind of statement about what happened at Rockville High School, Spicer essentially says that rapes are only coming from people who are not native to this country. That is an entirely false story to say or assume.

These attacks are not coming exclusively, or even in majority, from illegal immigrants; the Rape Abuse & Incest National Network states that three of four rapes or sexual assaults occur from someone who is known to the victim. Only seven percent of rapes or sexual assaults come from someone unknown to the victim.

These are not happening by sur-
prise from unknown Hispanic illegal immigrants, as much as Spicer would like you to believe. In fact, 57 percent of rapes come from those who classify themselves as white.

Further, the American Immigration Policy Council states that between 1990 and 2013, the foreign-born U.S. population grew from 7.9 percent to 13.1 percent. Illegal immigrants went from 5.5 million to 11.2 million. In the same time frame, FBI data showed that the violent crime rate, which includes rape, declined 48 percent.

This is not the first time that the problem of rape has been morphed into something other than what it is. Take a look at any rape or sexual assault on a college campus. The issue is rarely the rape or assault itself; instead, the focus is on how much the victim drank, what the victim wore or how the reputation of the attacker will be affected by his or her actions.

And now, once again, rather than condemning these men because they did a horrific thing to a poor girl, Spicer takes the chance to point them out only because they are illegal immigrants and not because they did something that lacks human decency and respect in every sense of the words.

This is unacceptable behavior from the White House press secretary and the Trump administration. These words will negatively affect rape or sexual assault victims and immigrants – illegal or otherwise – for a long time.

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

STAFF EDITORIAL

Congress passes bill to sell Internet information

Last Tuesday, Congress voted to overturn several protections and regulations the Federal Communications Commission created during the Obama administration. Amongst them is a requirement that internet service providers get permission from users before collecting and selling their data.

The move has sparked outrage on both sides of the political aisle, and rightfully so. This violation of internet privacy represents Congress choosing businesses that want to find an easier way to make a profit over the well-being of the American people.

As college students in 2017, the internet is an ever-present feature of our lives. Phones, laptops, entertainment devices and even our watches are now connected to the internet. With how ingrained it has become, a violation of our internet privacy such as this might as well be the equivalent of letting someone legally go through your house and watch what you are doing.

What is worse, this law could set a precedent for further attacks on our internet access. Last year, the FCC came out in support of net neutrality, a concept that states that service providers cannot charge websites more for faster speeds. Congress, if it follows along this path, could easily overstep the protection as well.

To put this into context, if Verizon was to charge websites more for faster connections, and Netflix, among others, decided to pay that charge, then all Verizon’s users would experience slow load times when using Netflix. Anti-consumerism at its finest.

These draconian rules are just the latest in a long string of anti-internet bills Congress has tried to pass. The Stop Online Piracy Act, the Online Protection and Enforcement of Digital Trade Act and many more have all shown Congress’s clear bias against its voters when it comes to the web.

The Duke urges all students to do anything they can to oppose this measure. The bill has not yet passed, and there is still time. Congress may have already betrayed the American people, but President Trump still has a chance to use his veto.

For a more subversive form of protest, a crowdfund campaign has been launched on gofundme.com to purchase the search history of all representatives who support the measure, as well as President Donald Trump’s if he does not veto.

While the needed goal of $500 million dollars may seem impossible, our voices need to be heard by any means possible. Any step, even a small one, will help.
Black pedestrians more likely to be hit crossing

ALISON CARACCTOLO staff columnist

What does it actually mean to love someone?

A.J. Ali, a filmmaker of the documentary “Walking While Black: L.O.V.E is the Answer,” creates a meaning for each letter in the word “love.” “L” stands for learning about your community and its people, “O” means to open your heart, “V” is for volunteering yourself and “E” stands for empowerment.

“Walking While Black” is a phenomenon where racial profiling has been taking our society by storm. Many of us may not even be conscious that we are racially profiling someone due to our implicit bias.

A new study has offered more evidence that drivers are biased against braking for black pedestrians trying to cross the street.

The Ohio State University Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity defines implicit bias “as attitudes or stereotypes that hinder our understanding, actions and decisions in an unconscious manner.”

In a way, society has embedded in our mind that a black man is less educated, more dangerous and more of a threat to society than the average white male. It is like saying all Europeans are eager to pick your pocket. I’m currently studying abroad in Italy. As I walked the streets of Rome for the first time, I noticed my grip on my purse to be tighter than normal, and whenever someone entered my personal space, I was mentally preparing myself to fend for my purse.

I was profiling.

We are unable to turn off our implicit bias. For instance, even unbiased judges have a subconscious mentality that is already making notions they are unaware of about a situation or the person.

We shouldn’t even be conducting studies about the likelihood of someone not stopping for a black person crossing the crosswalk, but unfortunately, it is the reality in which we live.

The reality being an unequal society, where gender and skin color affect the way people act toward one another.

According to the Washington Post, Researches at the University of Nevada Las Vegas even found more of an imbalance when the pedestrian is trying to cross the street depending on a high- or low-income neighborhood. The average number of cars to pass a black pedestrian in a crosswalk is seven times greater compared to a white pedestrian crossing the street in a wealthy neighborhood.

However, outlying factors need to be considered before making any type of conclusion. The study on several occasions had no actual support for the claim that people are less likely to brake for a black person.

The Washington Post points out that during three different scenarios, motorists didn’t have a particular reaction to pedestrians skin color. In addition, in one of those scenarios vehicles passed by more white pedestrians than black in a high income neighborhood.

To make a bold assumption that vehicles are less likely to brake for black pedestrians is asking to stir up unnecessary controversy.

In a perfect world, I’d like to assume that we would not only stop for any pedestrian trying to cross the street. However, it’s not a perfect world, and some state laws do not make it mandatory to stop completely for pedestrians at the crosswalk.

In Nevada, if there is a crosswalk there is no traffic light, cars are obliged to stop if it is necessary but do not have to brake to a sudden stop. It should be common knowledge for drivers to take caution to all pedestrians on or near the roadway.

According to the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, over 4,700 people were killed in traffic crashes in 2015. The amount of black or Latino killed was significantly higher than that of a white person.

According to Jean-Jacques Rousseau, a philosopher, the main problem of the present civilization is the constant advancement of society, which contributes to the increasing inequality among people. Humans are more unequal and unhappy than ever before due to our current society, where our culture has emphasized.

In Rousseau’s book, “Discourse on the Origin of Inequality,” he brings up the idea of a state of nature, where society was more “equal.”

According to a new study, black pedestrians are seven times more likely to be hit by cars when they are crossing the street as compared to white pedestrians.

The state of nature, to my understanding, is a pointless theory of a hypothetical state, even pre-moral, that contains products of inequality that just grew in complexity as civilization advanced.

Humans are always trying to figure out new and more efficient ways to go about daily life, and will ultimately continue to enhance inequality among society.

Essentially, what this study is ultimately trying to showcase is the many ways that our modern society will forever be faced with inequality and prejudice towards the different ethnicities. We can’t control our implicit bias, and the more our society advances the more inequality will become present.

We make strides towards a more acceptable society, and while we have made substantial success in this aspect, the modern world will never be completely understanding of diversity among one another.

It’s unsettling that Walking While Black is making headlines as a phenomenon.

To simply put it, just be a courteous driver and brake for all pedestrians trying to cross the roadway, not just some.

Alison Caracctolo is a sophomore public relations major and can be reached at her email, alisonmoraru@gmail.com.

Students excited about Chick-fil-A, Mexican food

Alison Caracctolo staff columnist

THE DUQUESNE DUKE

March 30, 2017

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

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University announces sweeping changes, effective April 1

South Side Steps to be Replaced With Escalator

In a plan that’s being lauded by many students as “brave,” “long overdue” and “please don’t use this comment on the record,” Duquesne University recently unveiled a plan to replace the South Side steps with a fully functional escalator.

“We’re hoping the change will lessen the number of students being admitted to Health Services due to heat exhaustion and dehydration,” said a university spokesman, half-way up the steps, already looking worn for being.

When asked if architects had considered the effects of inclement weather on the machinery needed to run an escalator, the spokesman responded with approximately twenty seconds of long, unbroken silence. It’s unclear if shortness of breath, a common side effect of scaling the stairs, was the reason for the response.

Students will be forced to find an alternate route to campus while the escalator is under construction, which is slated to take “a decade, at the very least.”

DuPo Purchases Fully Functional Armored Tank

Citing a need to effectively combat an increasingly liberal student population, a spokesperson announced that Duquesne University Police will be purchasing a fully operational M1 Abrams battle tank from U.S. military surplus.

Duquesne Police spokesperson said that in preparation for the move, they will be carefully monitoring campus for anything that looks remotely Russian, an anonymous DuPo officer said.

Students are incredibly excited about the announcement. Sophomore Jake Whatchifaced told The Duke, “This news couldn’t have come at a better time. I was really worried I would be saddled with millions in student loans for at least the next twenty years, and I already sold one kidney. You can’t sell both, right?”

New MBB Coach Revealed to be Just Three Toddlers Stacked on Top of Each Other

In a startling revelation, The Duke recently learned that incoming Duquesne men’s basketball coach Keith Dambrot is really just three incredibly coordinated toddlers stacked on top of each other.

“I mean, it kinda makes sense,” said Duquesne alum and basketball fan Ima Disappointed. “Who else but a toddler would want to saddle their reputation to a smoldering garbage fire like the Duquesne basketball program? It would either take incredibly poor judgement or a lot of money, and with recent tuition decreases being announced, we know it can’t be the money.”

Duquesne athletics director Dave Harper was surprisingly accepting of Dambrot’s revelation, saying, “Well, at this point, the toddlers have my support. We can’t do much worse than we did this year. Maybe they’ll mix things up in a good way.”

Citing Possible Future Expansion, Duquesne to Purchase I-376

In conjunction with other recent land purchases, Duquesne University just went public with a deal to purchase the entirety of U.S. Interstate 376.

“Our goal is to future-proof Duquesne’s always-expanding campus,” a spokesman said as he gazed over the vast concrete ribbon of road. “We’ve already bought many buildings inland, so we decided moving Bluffside was the next logical step.”

A press release explained that buying the entire length of the highway will allow Duquesne to maximize construction of inch-by-inch taller Living Learning Centers.

It’s unclear how the move will affect Pittsburgh traffic, but the spokesman was adamant in the assertion that gridlock in and around the city “really isn’t that bad, especially when you drive a tank.”

Hilllary Clinton announces candidacy for open SGA seat

In a shocking turn of events, former Secretary of State and 2016 Democratic nominee for president Hillary Clinton, said she will be running in the special election for SGA Vice President of Student Life.

“I believe that I can bring my decades of experience in the highest levels of American government to Duquesne’s campus,” Clinton said in a triumphant announcement speech.

“There’s no one who understands how young folks live better than me. Students can follow me on Facesnap and Tweetgram,” she added, while taking a selfie.

Clinton, who is a former First Lady, U.S. Senator, 2008 Democratic presidential candidate and first female presidential nominee from a major party, said she was excited to start campaigning once she determines where the university is located.

A Duquesne Police spokesperson said that in preparation for Clinton’s arrival, special precautions will take place.

“Look, we’ll be carefully monitoring campus for anything that looks remotely Russian,” an anonymous DuPo officer said.

Clinton is expected to easily win the election with polls forecasting a nearly 70 percent chance.

“Please Lord, I want to win something so bad. This one has to be easy, right?” Clinton was heard mumbling as she exited her announcement stage with “Fight Song” blaring.

President Gormley Announces Plans to Steal U.S. Constitution for Book Research

Planning a sequel to his 2016 book “The Presidents and the Constitution: A Living History,” Duquesne President Ken Gormley announced his intentions to steal the U.S. Constitution for research purposes.

“I’ve watched ‘National Treasure’ enough times that I know I can do this,” said Gormley as he rappelled down the front of Towers.

With the theft scheduled for April 1, the 13th President of Duquesne will undergo intense training, including the dodging of lasers, knocking-out of guards and advanced stealth tactics.

“Some may question my right to steal the most important document in American history,” acknowledged Gormley as he backflipped over a spinning saw blade. “But as Duquesne’s president, it is my responsibility to serve campus, and only by the writing of this book can I bring honor to our school.”

“Plus, I hear there is a treasure map on the back,” he added, humming the “Mission Impossible” theme while applying lemon juice to a piece of paper in order to reveal invisible ink.

Duquesne Archivist Thomas White said that having the foundation upon which the most powerful country in the world has been built in Gumberg’s collection would be “kind of neat.”

Happy April Fools Day, Duquesne!
Dambrot hire means tourney drought is coming to a close

ANDREW HOLMAN  
sports editor

The Duquesne men’s basketball coaching search served as a metaphor for the last 40 years of the program — a complete trainwreck.

The names of King Rice (Monmouth), Dane Fife (Michigan State) and James Whitford (Ball State) were all rumored to be in advanced talks with Duquesne to take over the program. All three of those discussions fell through.

To make matters worse, the Dukes’ top two players, Mike Lewis II and Isaiah Mike, both asked permission to contact other schools in regard to transferring. Sophomore forward Nakey Sanders also asked for his release. Additionally, the day of Ferry’s firing, top recruit Jaranti Wheeler announced via Twitter that he is re-opening his commitment.

In a few weeks time, the Duquesne basketball program went from bad, to very bad, to rock bottom. Nobody wanted to fill the coaching vacancy, recruits were looking elsewhere and current players set their minds on transferring.

And then splash — athletics director, Dave Harper, and university president, Ken Gormley, announce Akron’s Keith Dambrot as the 17th head coach in the history of the Duquesne men’s basketball program.

There literally could not have been a happier ending to a rather messy coaching search. Duquesne receives a coach who in 13 seasons at Akron, reached the NCAA tournament three times, boasted 12 20-win seasons and advanced his team to the semifinal round of the Mid-American Conference (MAC) tournament for 12 consecutive years.

Just let this sink in: Dambrot has 12 20-win seasons dating back to 2005. Duquesne has 413 wins to his name. He has the passion and the commitment to turn this program around.

The night he was hired to Duquesne, he hit the recruiting trail right away and offered a number of scholarships to recruits the very same night. His freshman point guard at Akron, Tavian Dunn-Martin, also verbally committed to play for the Red & Blue on Monday when he was hired.

He has already compiled an impressive recruiting history, and in one night, was able to make Duquesne faithful that he is committed to doing the same on the Bluff.

He has four double-digit scorers in 2016-17 at Akron with three of those players coming from Ohio and the other coming from Texas. In fact, 12 out of 16 players on the Zips roster hailed from one of these two states meaning Dambrot and his staff have some serious recruiting pull in these two states, which are packed full of high-level prospects.

His toughest recruiting challenge will be hanging onto Lewis and Mike. If he can keep those two guys then the rebuilding process becomes significantly easier.

The pair played very well together on the court this season and foreshadowed a bright future for the Dukes. Dambrot has to get them to buy into finishing what they started under his new leadership. It might sound funny, but this is where LeBron James comes into the picture.

It is doubtful that James will make the same commitment to Duquesne that he did to the University of Akron, since Akron is his hometown. However, he has continuously pledged his support to Dambrot and he could serve as a recruiting tool for his high school coach.

But just as Dambrot has immediately shown a commitment to Duquesne, Harper and the athletics department have shown a similar commitment to him. He was reportedly given a 7-year, roughly $7 million contract, according to ESPN.

This shows that Harper trusts Dambrot to be the right guy for the job and that the university will give him ample time to turn this program around.

Look, it won’t happen next year. The 2018-19 season probably won’t be anything to brag about either. But give Dambrot 3-4 years to make this program his own and the strides his teams will have made will be very evident.

It’s tough to say why on earth Dambrot decided to take such a risky job. Maybe he took it because his dad played collegiately for the Dukes, maybe it was because of the stability of the 7-year contract, maybe it was due to the $1 million per year that he will earn, or maybe it was a combination of all of those things.

No matter what the reasoning was though, it was a remarkable win for the Harper & Gormley era and it will be the turning point of the Duquesne men’s basketball program.

Dambrot will end the drought. Just be back, be patient and enjoy the ride.

Christian Kuntz takes aim at making leap from NEC to NFL

LINEBACKER Christian Kuntz is up for the challenge.

“It is what it is, you just have to make the most of every opportunity,” Kuntz said. “There’s not really much we can do about the publicity aspect of it, so I don’t even let that bother me at all. Once you get there, nobody cares where you came from.”

Kuntz was a three year starter during his time at Duquesne. After being sidelined for the entire 2014 season due to a knee injury he was granted a medical redshirt and returned as a redshirt junior the following season. Kuntz received AP All-American Second Team honors in 2015 and 2016, and was named NEC Defensive Player of the Year in both of those seasons. He finished his time at Duquesne with 30.5 sacks.

Preparation for the draft began immediately after the season for Kuntz. He went up to Minnesota to work out with former Pittsburgh Steelers safety, now defensive back coach, Tyrone Carter. Kuntz then spent about two and a half months with strength and speed coach Jim Kielbaso. Kielbaso has worked with a long list of NFL players and prospects, including Seahawks defensive end Cliff Avril.

The Pittsburgh native returned to the Bluff for Duquesne’s Pro Day on March 22. Scouts from at least 18 different NFL teams showed up on a freezing cold Wednesday morning to get a good look at Kuntz and 12 of his teammates.

“There was a handful of scouts there which was great to see,” Kuntz said. “We did talk to a couple of them after, and I know the weather wasn’t the greatest at Pro Day so a couple of them mentioned they want to come back to work us out or have us out to their facilities. It was great getting out there in front of them and showcasing our talents.”

Some of Kuntz’s former teammates dealt with this exact situation this time last year. Wideout Chris King and guard Dan Buchholz both went undrafted but were invited to join NFL teams in training camp. Kuntz has had the opportunity to talk with both of them about what to expect in the next month or two.

“It’s cool to get some advice and insight on what to expect for the next couple weeks,” Kuntz said. “I know the draft isn’t for four more weeks or so, so it’s kind of a boring period and you get antsy. They’ve been really good with giving advice. It was nice to have them since they’ve been in that situation before and can be helpful to me.”

In a deep defensive class, Kuntz believes certain aspects of his game will help him stand out from the rest of the pack.

“I definitely think it’s my short burst speed and ability to make impactful plays in the back field,” Kuntz said. “Just letting my instincts take over and being a smart football player is what I think separates me from others.”

Kuntz will continue to prepare and try to impress scouts before the NFL Draft takes place in Philadelphia from April 27-29. He’ll be sure to stay close to his phone around the time, waiting to get the phone call he has worked toward for his entire life.
Unexpected Final Four hints at unpredictable ending

Andrew Holman
sports editor

One year down for Duquesne women’s bowling and a lot to be proud of.

As we inch toward the last weekend of the college basketball season, we can look back and marvel at what’s been a fabulously in-triguing year thus far. While it’s bittersweet that the college basketball season is about to be wrapping up once again, the Final Four is what college hoops enthusiasts everywhere have been waiting for since the beginning of the season. With yet another unexpected team to conclude in Phoenix this Monday, definitely try and make an effort to savor this limited amount of college basketball that we have left to enjoy this season.

Throughout the course of the NCAA tournament, we’ve seen some top seeds fall early, some underdogs prevail and some moderately surprising upsets, but for the most part, the chalk reigned supreme this year.

Among the tournament’s few surprises were two-seeds Duke and Louisville both falling remarkably early in the Round of 32, and the 11th-seeded Xavier Musketeers knocking off 3rd-seeded Florida State and title-contender Arizona en route to making the Sweet 16. The Tar Heels will be making their 20th appearance, with their most recent appearance coming in 2010 and 2011 teams, VCU’s 2011 squad and Florida Gulf Coast’s 2013 team all qualified as bona fide Cinderellas, as none of these schools were heralded coming into the tournament, is shooting an asinine 65 percent from three-point range over the past four games. Accompanied by dominant forwards Dillon Brooks and Jordan Bell, Ducks guard Tyler Dorsey, averaging 24.5 points per game during the NCAA tournament, is shooting an asinine 65 percent.

UNC, meanwhile, is a clear-cut aberration. The Tar Heels will be making their 20th appearance, with their most recent appearance being last year. North Carolina will be looking to avenge last year’s heartbreak, as they fell to Villanova in a wild National title game. There’s an advantage (for North Carolina) with the whole process,” Gonzaga coach Mark Few said Monday per release. “The general distraction meter is going to go out the roof. Obviously, the Carolina kids have dealt with that and managed it great.”

While Carolina will be looking to right last season’s wrongs with a title, besting semifinal opponents Gonzaga, Oregon and North Carolina. While this field’s teams are certainly credible, what makes this field so unprecedented is the lack of Final Four experience that these teams have. South Carolina will be supporting Hackbart as she focuses in on nationals before they look ahead to an even better year in their second go-around.

The Duquesne bowling community will be supporting Hackbart as she focuses in on nationals before they look ahead to an even better year in their second go-around.

Adam Lindner
asst. sports editor

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The Onion brings news satire to Pittsburgh

RAYMOND ARKE
asst. news editor

I n a world where real news seems surreal, the Onion, one of the best known satirical news sites, would like to tell you it is still on the cutting edge of funny. On March 24, two writers from (self-proclaimed) “America’s finest news source” gave a talk at the Byham Theater describing how the Onion works.

The two writers were Seena Vali, sports editor and senior writer, and Matt Spina, staff writer. To start off their presentation, they took the audience through the mythological origin story of the newspaper, starting in 1976 (it didn’t) and highlighting a variety of headlines that lampooned various historical events, like the sinking of the Titanic and the moon landing.

Vali and Spina also made sure to include that the Onion boasts strong coverage of the Pittsburgh area with their imaginary “4.3 million reporters” in the city. They presented a few Pittsburgh sports-centric headlines the Onion had run, such as “Steelers Wear Patch to Honor Victims of Rothschild-er,” which left the audience howling in laughter.

The presentation then moved into a humorous, but real look into the working of an article. “It’s a no-ego environment,” Spina said. “[Headlines] are the first thing people see. It’s where everything is.”

Of all the ideas that get floated, only a few actually make it onto the site. Vali said that around 1500 headlines are pitched a week and only about two percent get made into articles.

Once an idea makes it past the headline stage, the entire writing process is extremely collaborative, the two writers explained. The story is assigned to one writer, but then goes through two reviewed drafts before it heads off to the editor-in-chief.

“Since so many contribute to any given article, the Onion has never attributed its content to any one writer. It’s a no-ego environment,” Spina said.

The presentation also addressed reader feedback, both the real and fictional. Some articles, like one describing the fictional Westminister Dog Fighting Show, received 1,300 emails, many complaining about the humor.

Even though the Onion is well known, “a depressing amount” of people still get fooled, Spina said.

One of the Onion’s more famous complaints came from a 2013 article they posted. Titled “When You’re Feeling Low, Just Remember I’ll Be Dead in About 15 or 20 Years,” the fictional opinion piece was attributed to Donald Trump. For their efforts, Spina and Vali recount how the Onion received a letter from Trump’s legal counselor demanding the article be taken down, saying it “goes beyond defamation.” It is still online.

Other famous examples of the Onion being taken seriously was in 2012, when a North Korean news source ran the Onion article that proclaimed Kim Jong Un the sexist man alive. Both writers noted they still go re-read it to cheer themselves up.

The presentation ended with a question-and-answer session, where the two writers shared more insider tips.

When asked about how the Onion comes up with the fake names for their people, Spina answered with a smile. “Threads” was more of a love story.

For Junior Economics student Evan W. Saunders, theater has always been a huge part of his life. Now, in the middle of writing his first full-length play, “All in the Numbers,” Saunders is hoping to polish his latest work with a seated reading on Saturday April 1, 3 p.m. in the Genesius Theatre. Saunders shared his experience writing “All in the Numbers,” including his inspiration and considerations throughout the process.

Question: What’s it like to shift from a one-act to a full-length play?

Saunders: “It’s really a gradual process for almost all playwrights. No one really sits down and writes a full-length play or novel to start. There’s an old saying, ‘How do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time.’ So eventually you get used to taking bites of the elephant until you realize you ate a whole elephant.”

So what was your inspiration for “All in the Numbers?”

Saunders: “I’m not sure. Some strange day... just spat out this thought off the top of his head, “Man, I’ve always really wondered at the end of my life, I really hope I get just a list of all the times I... washed my hands, or how many times I went to the bathroom, how much time I spent doing that, how much food I ate. So

I spun that off to just wonder what happens if after you died you got a list of all the quantifiable information that can be extracted from your life. And to up the ante a little bit, what if you could look at all of the quantifiable information from everyone’s life? I know a lot of people I talked to pull out of it that isn’t there at face value. So I thought I just don’t want to sit by the onion with it. I want to get behind a computer and see if I can find more meaning in this. That’s where the idea came from.”

“All in the Numbers” is a no-ego environment, a cyborg, as she uncovers a conspiracy of human augmentation and artificial intelligence. The source material spearheaded what would become the “cyber-punk” genre.

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After 13 years, ‘Samurai Jack’ makes successful return

SEAN RAY
a&e editor

More than a decade after it originally ended, the critically acclaimed animated series ‘Samurai Jack’ has made a triumphant return to the world of television. A classic from Cartoon Network’s lineup in the early 2000s, the series is now airing a fifth and supposedly final season on Adult Swim, and it’s a welcome return for a show that was beloved by many.

Season 5 takes place a further 50 years into the future. Due to his time displacement, Jack has aged to age. However, what seems like a boon becomes more of a curse, as Aku has successfully destroyed all of the portals back in time, while Jack has lost his sword, the only weapon capable of harming his foe. Without purpose and mentally broken, Jack wanders aimlessly, pursued by the Daughters of Aku, a cult seeking the samurai’s death, and a mysterious specter.

‘Samurai Jack’ was always a gathering of the best pieces of fiction. Its episodes combined mythology, folklore, manga, comic books, films and many more sources into one concise package. Each episode was radically different from the one before it, jumping between comedy to seriousness at the drop of a hat.

Season 5 continues this tradition, but on a micro-scale. For example, the second episode of the season had me laughing my sides off at the beginning, incredibly depressed in the middle and sitting on the edge of my seat for the end. Such a roller-coaster of tone might have failed in other shows, but series creator Genndy Tartakovsky makes it all flow seamlessly.

Speaking of which, the fact that much of the original cast and creative teams returned a major plus. While Mako Iwamatsu, the original voice of Aku who tragically passed away in 2006, can never be truly replaced, Greg Baldwin does a decent take on the character.

A major boost comes in the art department, with many scenes coming across as jaw-droppingly gorgeous. Negative space is used incredibly effectively, as well as cinematic camera angles in dramatic moments. Film aficionados will even find a famous scene from “The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly” lovingly referenced.

The jump to a more mature programming block invariably means that some of the restrained the original series had have been relaxed. Blood shows up, and yes, people do die. But what is most surprising is how restrained and natural it feels. Deaths are not over-the-top, nor is gore shown, and the blood itself seems to take on a beauty of its own in some moments.

In a very refreshing viewpoint in this modern world, the show avoids moralizing killing as would be expected. While Jack does regret having to take a human life for the first time, it does not utterly bring him down, reasoning that his opponent’s choices in life were as much to blame for their demise as his choice to kill them. It’s an alternative take in this world where no-killing superheroes seem to control 90 percent of entertainment.

The only real negative that can be found is the rather staggering number of animation errors which seem to crop up in each episode. Admittedly these were only noticed on second or third viewings, but they’re quite bad. The seven Daughters of Aku become eight in one scene, weapons vanish and reappear at will and even character positions alter without a sign they were supposed to.

But despite all that, it takes nothing away from the experience. Honestly, this season has astounded me with its quality. After watching that the first episode was essentially perfect, I was shocked when the next episode utterly blew it away, only for the third episode to do the very same thing.

Whether you’re a fan of the original or not, ‘Samurai Jack’ Season 5 is a must-see for everyone. It’s funny, it’s touching and it is easily the best thing on TV right now. The bar has been set for quality animated programming, and it is going to be a tough act to follow.

‘Samurai Jack’ Season 5 airs every Saturday at 11 p.m. Be sure to catch up before the next episode airs.

POWER RANGERS’ fails to morph into anything worthwhile

JOSEPH MARTIN
staff writer

It tasked to choose the quintessential ‘90s children’s television show, many would undoubtedly name “Mighty Morphin’ Power Rangers.” It has the over-the-top action and styling of series such as “G.I. Joe” and “Transformers,” but added the corny high school drama of “Saved By The Bell.” Updating “Mighty Morphin’ Power Rangers” for a modern audience means either reviving the clichés that made it memorable in the first place or adjusting it to fit the themes and tropes of modern cinema and television. “Power Rangers,” the new film based on this series, does the latter and, unfortunately, may have taken the concept a bit too far.

The first few minutes of the film set up the atmosphere fairly effectively and demonstrate the excessive application of the aforementioned modern motifs instantly. There’s a school athlete whose dad simply doesn’t understand him, there’s a school prank gone wrong, there’s a needlessly gritty single-shot action scene and there’s a gray and dreary high school with bullies and mean cheerleaders. One of the biggest problems with “Power Rangers” is making itself clever. Instead of embracing the quirksiness of its source material, it tries too hard to be a 2017 high school drama film. The cast does their best to combat this, but fail.

Jason Lee Scott (Dacre Montgomery) serves as the main protagonist of the film, the leader of the team, the Red Ranger. Jason serves as the stereotypical star athlete, but Montgomery gives him enough humanity to keep him interesting character. The same applies to Naomi Scott’s Kimberly Hart, Pink Ranger, who stands out as the most likable of the group’s many edgy-outcast roles. Yellow Ranger Trini Kwan and Black Ranger Zach Taylor, portrayed by Becky G and Ludi Lin respectively, both come across as a bit overemotional and dark, mostly due to the fact that these two characters in particular have almost no time to explain their personal motives and little information is given to their backstories other than “They are sad.”

The only character in the film who is given time to develop and explain himself is RJ Cyler’s beautiful portrayal of Billy Cranston. Billy is notably the first Power Ranger with autism spectrum disorder, which, alongside the death of his father, serves as the internal explanation for his loyalty to the group. Cyler nails this role, and every scene that features him is either hilarious or heart-wrenching. These likable traits make his participation in the groups’ final victory in a battle all the more satisfying.

The high school setting and motifs raise another interesting question about “Power Rangers.” Namely, who is this film intended for? The target demographic of the current television series of “Power Rangers” is well under high school age. Meanwhile, the demographic that watched the specific
Lambda opposes new Chick-fil-A

LAMBDA— from page 3

computer science student, said that she thinks the new addition is “a good thing.”

“I think it gives us another option, and it’s more food choices that make us comparable to other colleges that have a lot more chain restaurants on their campus, which is something I think we lack,” Seffrin said.

When asked about Chick-fil-A’s association with non-profits that expose homophobic rhetoric, Seffrin said that she does not “necessarily” agree with “some of those aspects,” but does think they are “a relatively stand-up company.”

She said she is bound to have some differences of opinion with the company’s policies.

“When they close on a Sunday will also support some of the things that I support,” Seffrin said.

Similar sentiments were expressed by Alex Slater, a freshman economics student.

“I enjoy Chick-fil-A food, and I eat there [in my hometown],” Slater said.

Slater had heard of the controversy surrounding the chain and disapproves of their connections to anti-LGBT groups.

“Onion’ layers revealed

ONION— from page 9

in the stories, the writers said that each person had their own method. The Editor-in-Chief, for instance, goes to the IMDB page for “Top Gun” and mixes-and-matches names from the production team list.

For anyone that’d be interested in writing satire, Spina and Vali said that any type of person can do it.

“There’s no one path that brings you to the Onion ... Our editor-in-chief used to work at the Federal Reserve in Boston” said Vali, who graduated with a math degree. Spina has a degree in history.

The talk was part of the Pittsburgh Humanities Festival which ran from March 24-26.
‘Power Rangers’ misses original vibes

seasons of the show that serve as the basis for this film are much too old for a high school film. The language and more realistic violence would overwhelm young viewers, but the overall feel of the film is too juvenile for many older audiences.

Luckily for more mature viewers, the cast somehow makes the trite dialogue sound mature and appropriate.

The final battle of the film brings the only real action scene, aside from an early training montage. The fight comes across as too short and too messy. For what should be the climax of the film, it is decidedly uninteresting, and the film receives very little in the way of denouement. This in itself is the main issue with this film: Much of the film builds-up for events that never occur or events that disappoint. A “Power Rangers” film should be exciting from beginning to end. “Power Rangers” fails to meet that standard, and thus could only be enjoyed by hardcore fans of the series who come to see their favorite characters. If they filmmakers had tried harder to fight the urge to make a cliche picture about teenagers, “Power Rangers” had the potential to be a fantastic film.

Playwright looking for audience help

S: I’ve tried to be a prose writer. I’m okay at it, but I guess I just think more situationally. So dialogue comes very naturally to me. I like the kineticism of plays, it feels much more alive and so much more visceral to me. I grew up watching plays and acting in them, so it’s a medium I guess I developed some instincts for. I understand it without knowing I understand it.

You also do a lot of work with the Red Masquers. Is there a way that your experience with them helped this play in particular?

S: Definitely. A lot of times — and you don’t want to have to think this way, but you do — is that putting on shows cost money. And a lot of times, what theater companies don’t have is money. So it helps if you can find a way to be creative while thinking economically. I always joke that I’ll know I’ve made it when I can say I want ten igloos and an elephant seal on-stage and they’ll get it for me. But the idea of how can I tell a story with just three people, a desk, a laptop, and a ficus plant, is having that experience of knowing what it takes to put on a show and knowing what you can and can’t do. It helps you be more creative to accept limitations and finding a way to work around them.

Is there a producer for this play or have you only just written it?

S: I’ve just written it. What’s happening this Saturday is a seated reading. I have some actors, and they’re reading the script aloud for an audience. It’s like a test viewing for movies, which let’s me hear what works, what doesn’t. There’s a feedback session afterwards, so the audience can say, Hey, I liked this, or, Man, this sucked, or, Where are you going with this? And I may not answer any of those, but I will take them into account and figure out how to revise it. So you could say for this reading I’m self-producing.

Going back to what you said earlier about working with constraints, is there any time where you start from the constraints first and work from there? Or do you try to meet in the middle between inspiration and reality?

S: I would say always try to meet in the middle with a slight lean towards the creative side. I read about someone once who talked about having the writer on one shoulder and the producer on the other shoulder, and the writer saying, “I want to do this!” and the producer saying, “But can you really do that?” So you never want to start with, I can’t do this, I can’t do this. You always let the idea come first, let it figure out what it needs to do, and then have the insight and the maturity to step back and say, okay, how can we do that?