Driverless Ubers to start in the ‘Burgh

RAYMOND ABEK
staff writer

A city steeped in industrial history is becoming part of the technological revolution.

Ride-sharing service Uber will debut self-driving cars in Pittsburgh by the end of August, according to financial news magazine Bloomberg. Users of Uber’s mobile phone app will have a random chance of summoning a driverless car.

Uber has not let much slip about the launch yet. Uber spokesman Craig Ewer said more information is on its way soon.

“We’re excited about Pittsburgh and will have more information to share in the coming weeks,” Ewer said.

Currently, Uber is testing self-driving hybrid Ford Fusions on Pittsburgh roads, which feature a human riding in the driver’s seat. Uber’s website says the test cars feature an array of radars, sensors, lasers and cameras, which are used to map the city.

Uber struck a partnership with automaker Volvo earlier this year to develop driverless cars to add to the Pittsburgh fleet.

According to Bloomberg, there will be 100 such cars — Volvo’s XC90 SUVs — in Pittsburgh by the end of the year.

After a man died several weeks ago in a driverless car accident in Florida, Duquesne students have mixed opinions on Uber’s plan.

Justice Perry, a sophomore history major, is skeptical of riding in an automated car.

“I want to see how it works before I try it, because machines glitch,” Perry said. “I feel better with a person there … a person can manually take the wheel.”

Conor Skilton, a sophomore pharmaceutical student, is intrigued by the idea.

“Most accidents are human error,” he said. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

see UBER — page 2

 Sending blessings for the new year

Pittsburgh Bishop David Zubik speaks before a congregation of about 3,000 Duquesne students and parents at the Mass of the Holy Spirit on Sunday, August 21.

Gunshot residue subject of DU research

CAROLYN Conte
staff writer

When a shooter fires a gun, a puff of particle residue leaves the weapon’s muzzle and blankets the person who pulled the trigger. The presence of gunshot residue can be potentially damning evidence in a criminal case — and Duquesne researchers are making sure that evidence isn’t used to mistakenly convict innocents.

Gunshot residue (GSR) can be used as evidence against suspects in police investigations. However, there are uninvestigated variables which is still being processed, Wetzel’s research found that an individual cannot pick up enough GSR from a surface to argue that a firearm was discharged. Thus, GSR is unlikely to lead to a false prosecution.

“This research contributes to the scientific knowledge of GSR and potentially will improve scientific testimony in the courtroom,” Wetzel said.

Wetzel and her students’ findings will be published in the September edition of the Journal of Forensic Science.

The story of Wetzel’s research begins many years ago.

In 2009, graduate assistant Holly Castellano was assigned a project in class to study a forensic investigation topic. Her professor, retired Pittsburgh Police Commander Ronald Freeman, suggested she analyze the stations and cars for GSR, and so she took the homework to the next level.

“It had been suggested that people were wrongly convicted for firearm crimes they did not commit,” Castellano said.

One example of the controversy was an article in Forensic Science Journal from 2007 which argued the possibility that suspects can be wrongfully accused, though rarely, of murder because of gunshot residue they had picked up from being...
BLUFF BRIEFS

Pharmacy school takes on FDA project

Students and faculty in Duquesne’s Mylan School of Pharmacy recently received a grant to enhance the way the pharmacy industry researches and produces new drugs and therefore improve the quality of pharmaceuticals on the market. Professors Mark Buckner and Peter Wilflid will work with senior students to use the $257,000 grant from the National Institute for Pharmaceutical Technology and Education. The grant builds on a previous grant from 2015 to bring the total project budget to $474,000.

POLICE BRIEFS

Howdy, y’all! Auntie PB had to skip town and left me, Cousin PB, in charge of the Duquesne police briefs for this school year. I’m looking forward to telling y’all about all the no-good tomfoolery that’s going on around campus.

A couple freshmen couldn’t even wait until the end of move-in day to start mucking things up.

Two residents of St. Ann’s Hall were caught with marijuana and paraphernalia last Tuesday, and were referred to the Office of Student Conduct. The pot party seemed to extend to other dorms as well.

Last Saturday, a student in St. Martins had drug paraphernalia seized by Residence Life. The student was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

The next day, on Sunday morning, Duquesne Police received a call about an intoxicated student in De Pauw Hall. The student was reported to be conscious and alert, and the RD allowed the student to return to his room for the night. They didn’t escape a date with the Office of Student Conduct, however.

Later that night, a Parkhurst catering employee reported that his backpack had been stolen from the fifth floor kitchen in the Pener Center.

Cousin PB is glad to be with y’all for these here coming months. Now, I’d better not hear about all of y’all being up to no good.

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 addeo@duq.edu.

-- Brandon Addo

REV. WALSH CELEBRATES 25 YEARS AS A PRIEST

Rev. Daniel Walsh celebrated his 25th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood with a mass and reception on August 14.

Walsh, who was ordained under Walsh, praised his humility in his line of work.

“He’s the most humble person I know,” he said. “I see how humble he is, having a conversation with Fr. Dan is an experience of humility itself.”

While the celebration might have been a simple affair, Walsh’s life has been anything but simple.

He was born in Jacksonville, NC, where his father, a marine, was stationed at Camp Lejeune. After Walsh was born, his father left the Marines for a new job in Pittsburgh, and his family moved there.

That job saw Walsh and his family move around the country, from Crafton, PA, to Syracuse, to San Jose and then to Philadelphia. Moving around during his childhood wasn’t easy for Walsh.

“We were always the ‘new person,’” he said. “When we moved to California, kids thought we talked funny.”

In one instance, a woman in California mistook his mother for a foreigner when she heard her accent. Walsh recounted with a laugh.

Family was important to Walsh in his childhood years, and he had to defend his siblings during school.

“As a little boy, I got into a lot of fights,” he said. “There were kids picking on [me], picking on my brother and sister, so I was kind of starting the fights.”

Walsh first became interested in joining the priesthood when he went to a Philadelphia high school run by the Christian Brothers, a religious organization, though he decided then it wasn’t for him.

“I gave thought to becoming a Christian Brother, but I always had a hundred friends and a thousand things to do and the thought would pass,” Walsh said.

After graduating high school, he came to Duquesne, where his father and grandfather were both alumni. Again, the thought of joining the priesthood crossed Walsh’s mind, but he decided against it.

He took a job at a Mesa, AZ bank when he graduated from Duquesne. It was here, when he didn’t have his “buddies to loaf around with,” when Walsh felt more drawn to becoming a priest.

“I found myself going to mass every day,” he said.

He still had his doubts about the priesthood, though.

“I was thinking, I liked to play sports and, you know, I probably didn’t have what it takes to be a priest,” Walsh said.

After consulting with a priest close to his family, Walsh decided to join the Christian Brothers seminary in Houston. His first assignment was a mission to serve a small village in the Brazilian Amazon forest called Tefe.

In 1984, Walsh decided to return to Duquesne to join the Spiritian order of priests. He said the Spiritans had left an impression on him during his undergraduate years.

“There was just a humanity about the Spiritians,” Walsh said. “They were good [role] models but they could also be your friend.”

Spiritian Campus Ministry Assistant Director Fr. Bill Christy said one of Walsh’s best qualities is his flexibility as a minister.

“I think what comes to mind is his adaptability and his willingness to receive the call from the Spiritian ministry of whatever they need him to do,” Christy said.

Walsh’s career in the priesthood has also seen him work in a Portuguese parish, at campus ministries in Texas and as a chaplain for the poor in San Diego.

GUNSHOT RESIDUE DOESN’T TRANSFER

Gunshot residue doesn’t transfer to skin.

Castellano pursued the topic further for her Master’s in Forensic Science and Law thesis, with the help of Wetzell for her chemistry expertise, and other students who have joined in the project.

In one of their experiments, Castellano had her peers arrested — so to speak.

She recruited about six students to stage mock arrests at the Ross Township Police Department. Castellano played the part of the lead detective in this experiment. With stainless steel stabs and double-sided adhesive carbon tape, she collected samples on the students’ hands before and after arrest. She also used saliva, blood and fingerprints in interrogation room, where an arrestee would be taken upon arrival to a police station, she said.

In the nearly five hours with the police on this test, and a total of one and a half years to manually analyze the samples.
AP — Rescue crews using bulldozers and their bare hands raced to dig out survivors from a strong earthquake that reduced three central Italian towns to rubble Wednesday. The death toll stood at 159, but the number of dead and missing was uncertain given the thousands of vacationers in the area for summer’s final days.

Residents wakened before dawn by the temblor emerged from their crumbled homes to find what they described as apocalyptic scenes “like Dante’s Inferno,” with entire blocks of buildings turned into piles of sand and rock, thick dust choking the air and a putrid smell of gas.

“The town isn’t there anymore,” said Sergio Pirozzi, the mayor of the hardest-hit town, Amatrice. “I believe the town will rise.”

The magnitude 6.2 quake struck at 3:36 a.m. and was felt across a broad swath of central Italy, including Rome, where residents woke to a long swaying followed by aftershocks. The temblor shook the Lazio region and Umbria and Le Marche in the Adriatic coast, a highly seismic area that has witnessed major quakes in the past.

Dozens of people were pulled out alive by rescue teams and volunteers that poured in from around Italy.

In the evening, about 17 hours after the quake struck, firefighters pulled a 10-year-old girl alive from the rubble in Pescara del Tronto.

“You can hear something under there. Quiet, quiet,” one rescue worker said, before soon urging her on: “Come on, Giulia, come on, Giulia. Watch your head.”

Cheers broke out when she was pulled out.

And there were wails when bodies emerged.

“Unfortunately, 90 percent we pull out are dead, but some make it, that’s why we are here,” said Christian Bianchetti, a volunteer from Rieti who was working in devastated Amatrice where flood lights were set up so the rescue could continue through the night.

Premier Matteo Renzi visited the zone Wednesday, greeting rescue teams and survivors, and pledged that “No family, no city, no hamlet will be left behind.” Italy’s civil protection agency reported the death toll had risen to 159 by late Wednesday; at least 308 others were injured.

Worst affected were the tiny towns of Amatrice and Accumoli near Rieti, some 100 kilometers (60 miles) northeast of Rome, and Pescara del Tronto, some 25 kilometers further east. Italy’s civil protection agency set up tent cities around each hamlet to accommodate the thousands of homeless.

Italy’s health minister, Beatrice Lorenzin, visiting the devastated towns of Italy and now there’s nothing left,” she said.

Man who killed Dallas officers possibly had PTSD

AP — The Army reservist who killed five Dallas police officers last month showed symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder after returning home from Afghanistan in 2014, but doctors concluded that he presented no serious risk to himself or others, according to newly released documents from the Veterans Health Administration.

Micah Johnson had sought treatment for anxiety, depression and the nightmares that followed him after a tour in Afghanistan, but doctors concluded that he presented no serious risk to himself or others, according to newly released documents from the Veterans Health Administration.

Johnson was formally diagnosed with PTSD.

This photo posted on Facebook shows Micah Johnson, who was a suspect in the slayings of five law enforcement officers, in Dallas, July 7, 2016.

Records from the Aug. 15 visit stated that Johnson described his childhood as "stressful." His responses to a section of the form titled "Sexual/Physical/Emotional Abuse History" were redacted. Johnson was also advised to talk with a health care worker about anger dysfunctions.

Johnson was prescribed a muscle relaxant, an antidepressant and anti-anxiety and sleep medication, and a nurse offered him tips on managing anger, records show.

AP Photo

THE DUQUESNE DUKE

Quake strikes three Italian towns, killing hundreds
OPINIONS

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The most important thing is to enjoy your life, to be happy, it's all that matters.
Audrey Hepburn

Now that the 2016 Rio Olympics are officially over, it’s safe to say that the United States dominated in two specific areas. The first area is the sports themselves. Hundreds of U.S. athletes came away with a total of 121 medals, 53 more than second-place China in the overall count. According to Team USA’s official website, that’s the most medals won since the 1984 Olympics, where the U.S. earned 74.

But all of that gold, silver and bronze is looking a little tarnished from the second area for which this country has a knack: causing embarrassing, unacceptable international scandals.

On Aug. 14, U.S. swimmer Ryan Lochte claimed that he and three other swimmers — Gunnar Bentz, Jack Conger and Jimmy Feigen — were robbed at gunpoint in Rio de Janeiro. Lochte confirmed that assailants posing as police had stopped their taxi en route back to the Olympic Village from the France house early that morning with TODAY’S Billy Bush, after members of the International Olympic Committee denied that such an event took place.

As it turns out, the IOC was right.

Brazilian police began investigating Lochte’s claims early last week. They found that rather than being robbed of his money with a pistol to his forehead — a detail that one would think he could never fabricate because of its severity and seriousness — he was involved in vandalizing property at a gas station. According to an interview with NBC’s Matt Lauer that aired during the primetime Olympics, security guards pulled a gun on Lochte and the other swimmers, who were intoxicated, after they destroyed a restroom and demanded that the swimmers pay for damages before leaving.

Lochte’s actions here will forever be a dark smudge on the 2016 Olympics. In 20 years, people will think back and remember the immaturity actions of a 32-year-old swimmer and the chaos he caused rather than the games themselves. Fabricating this kind of story is an incredibly selfish move by Lochte made because he either was too inebriated to clearly remember the events of the night or was too scared to claim responsibility for his actions.

Either way, the U.S. Olympic athletes who competed in these games at such a high level, won medals and behaved appropriately — such as Allyson Felix, whose only “Scandal” was that she visited the set of the Olivia Pope show — will always be partially eclipsed by Lochte’s poor decision making. And that’s certainly not fair.

Perhaps even worse beyond that is Lochte’s response to the mess.

The most embarrassing thing in his interview with Lauer, the heavily decorated Olympic swimmer still had a difficult time owning up to what he did.

When asked why he used the word “victims” in a previous interview when the police were referring to the swimmers as vandals, Lochte responded with, “It’s how you want to make it look like. Whether you call it a robbery, whether you call it extortion or us paying just for the damages, like, we don’t know. All we know is that there was a gun pointed in our direction, and we were demanded to give money.”

This quote came after Lochte admitted he “over-exaggerated” having a gun pointed to his forehead and flat-out told Lauer, “That didn’t happen.”

Considering that the youngest swimmer of the group is 20, which legally does not qualify him as a “kid,” and considering that the group not only embarrassed the United States and its athletes but also Brazil, its people and its police, I’d say that Andrade is incorrect. A genuine apology beyond a sheepish interview is the least that Lochte can do.

If I do say so myself...

Rebekah Devorak
opinions editor

Duquesne police should consider body cameras

Earlier this month, Point Park University began mandating that its campus police officers wear body cameras while on patrol. This makes Point Park the first college in Pennsylvania to adopt such a policy.

In the official announcement of this change, the university cited several reasons for the change, including people acting less aggressive when recorded, a greater degree of accuracy in reports and improved protection for the campus police officers from wrongful misconduct accusations.

With tensions between police and the general public that are at an all-time high, this change is a welcome one. Protests — and even riots — have broken out over vague stories of police confrontations, such as those in Baltimore after the death of Freddie Gray last year, and it has become increasingly difficult to tell which side is speaking the truth.

Along with this, cameras can help diffusie situations all on their own. A Point Park officer was able to stop a fight from breaking out merely by telling the participants that his camera was recording them, Police Chief Jeff Besong in an interview with WESA.

But should Duquesne Police follow suit? After all, our quaint little campus so very rarely encounters major violent crime, and the police mostly deal with drunken students more than anything serious. It would be easy to write this off as a waste of money that could be better spent elsewhere.

That is, until something does happen. While it might be hard to imagine a scenario where accusations of excessive force are thrown at Duquesne Police, whether true or false, it could only serve as an excuse for the Duquesne police to spend elsewhere.

Beyond accountability, body cameras keep our own officers safe. Being told they are being recorded could discourage many would-be criminals.

While police body cameras are not cheap, coming in at around $500 million, the financial worthiness of the money students give to Duquesne, one that will keep both them and their officers safe for years to come.

The world of law enforcement is evolving, and this is a great chance for our campus to get ahead of the curve and embrace the future.

Until then, we are just waiting for something to happen for which we could have been prepared.

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

Cartoon by Leah Devorak

THE STAFF EDITORIAL
Duquesne police should consider body cameras

OPINIONS
Self-driving cars won’t ruin driving experience

Leah Devorak
layout editor

1 commute. Do you?

Chances are, you do. After all, according to Duquesne’s Office of Commuter Affairs, commuters still make up the campus’ largest population of students. And the trend doesn’t stop here.

All across the nation, more and more students are choosing to live at home or off campus and commute to class each day rather than settling into traditional residence halls with easy access to campus life.

A 2011 report from the U.S. Department of Education found that 75 percent of all college students are commuters. In 2013, U.S. News and World Report found that of them, 19 percent are incoming freshmen.

It furthered its report in 2015 when it found 100 schools in the nation with 86 to 100 percent of their entire student populations commuting. Those schools weren’t just cyber institutions and community colleges either. They ranged from small, private universities, like Calumet College of St. Joseph, to branches of the largest public universities in the nation, such as the City University of New York.

With all this data, it’s obvious that college is rapidly changing. But why has the new decade also launched a new movement? For many, forging college room and board has a lot to do with forgoing college room and board costs, which averaged $9,999 during the 2014-15 school year, U.S. News reported.

That said, is this new move by Uber fundamentally changing the way we think about driving? Here’s our take.

Seth Culp-Ressler
features editor

For as long as I can remember, I’ve been fascinated with cars — to the point of obsession. As the story goes, my first word (or at least one of the earliest) was “truck,” a toddler’s approximation of the name for all those awesome big rigs I saw on the highway. My collection of Hot Wheels numbers well into the hundreds, and I can see four of them from the desk I currently sit at.

On a daily basis, hours on end reading all manner of news, features and writings dedicated to the cult of the automobile. For whatever reason, that good ol’ American love of the car has engulfed my life, thoughts and dreams.


Uber will unleash a series of self-driving Volvo XC90 SUVs onto Pittsburgh roadways by the end of August. This photograph is a depiction of what these brand new driverless cars will look like.

The company’s largest city application of driverless cars in the country.

According to Duquesne’s website, this year’s room and board ranges from $10,300 to $14,300, not including fraternity apartments.

Plain and simple, living on campus is expensive, so it’s no wonder students are trying their hardest to avoid it. Even doing so for one semester can lessen debt by two months’ worth of a future starting salary.

But aside from cost, there’s also the fact that the world is modernizing more rapidly than ever. Every day, new technology develops that makes taking online classes or completing school work at home much easier than moving to a college campus.

Maybe if the campus was still the main source of scholarly knowledge, traditional college housing wouldn’t be on such a decline. After all, if a student knows he’s going to need to check out library books and consult his professors three times per assignment, then he’s going to want to stay on campus.

But since all the world’s knowledge is now at everyone’s fingertips, well, the physical college institution simply isn’t necessary. A student can learn the same things about African elephants by doing a simple Google search as he/she would have by reading a book. The only difference is that a Google search can be done anywhere, anytime. But checking out something from the library? Not so much.

Increased commuting is also due to urbanization and population increases resulting in still more places, U.S. News reported. There simply isn’t any room for some institutions to set up housing, leaving commuting as the only option.

So the sudden increase in commuting students can be easily explained by the changes in the world occurring every day. But is such an increase beneficial?

Feelings on this are mixed. Complete College America, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing quality secondary education to all Americans, stated in its study “Time is the Enemy” that increased commuting can cause higher retention rates thanks to opening up avenues for students to try not to juggle too much alongside their academics.

Others against commuting say that young people need the college experience in order to fully become adults. NBC News claims that, having a roommate, making friends, taking impromptu naps and trying to do assignments despite noise all help shape young adults into their future selves.

Living off campus, however, makes most of this impossible, which could stunt social growth.

I know that when I decided to commute, free housing, my own bed, home-cooked meals and thousands of saved dollars trumped any want of a “real” college experience. This was probably because I knew that I would end up joining clubs and making friends no matter where I lived, so “social stunting” was never a thought.

The opportunity to have a job outside of the university also added to my desire to commute, never once becoming too much to handle with my workload. It simply gave me a little extra money — and thus a little extra freedom — to go ahead and do the things that I wanted.

But everyone is different, which is why no one consensus can be had on the subject. I know I like that increased commuting is teaching me to be a bit more responsible, but I know I'd have to be busy yet balanced, hopefully preparing them even more for the real world they'll face once their studies end.

However, for some, commuting can be too much, so at the end of the day, every student has to do what feels right. If that means breaking free from the new trend, so be it.

To find out more about commuting at Duquesne, visit the Office of Commuter Affairs in Student Union room 115.
Five ice cream shops that should be your ice cream stops

Jessica Goldstein
staff writer

Like an ice cream cone melting away in the sweltering sun, summer disappeared as quickly as it arrived. Just because the season is coming to a close doesn’t mean the exploration and discovery of ice cream parlors has to end. Here are five options around the city that will have you scrambling for ice cream like summer sweet tooth. Here are five options found around the city.

Pittsburgh Ice Cream Company is one of the best choices for those in search of more eclectic ice cream flavors suited to the seasons. As serving Pittsburgh’s communities. Ice cream just got a little sweeter, knowing you’re getting a tasty treat and helping someone’s dream come true. Make sure to stop in to this sweet little shop on Liberty and 35th.

Klaxon’s Authentic 1920’s Ice Cream Parlor

Dream Cream Ice Cream has one of the most distinctive missions of Pittsburgh’s ice cream shops (aside from serving delicious ice cream). The people who “work” at this parlor are actually volunteers and are raising money for a worthy cause that the Dream Cream team approved. They will allow anyone with a valid cause for fundraising to give a portion of the money they make to a warranted charity. They scoop out dreams and ice cream. The goal is to sell ice cream and raise money for great foundations or charities, usually around the Pittsburgh area. They serve more than a dozen “dream” flavors like birthday bash and coffee, as well as serving Pittsburgh’s communities. Ice cream just got a little sweeter, knowing you’re getting a tasty treat and helping someone’s dream come true. Make sure to stop in to this sweet little shop on Liberty and 35th.

Klaxon’s Authentic 1920’s Ice Cream Parlor has everything you could want in an ice cream parlor, plus so much more. Not only are there unique and fun ice cream flavors, floats, sundaes, milkshakes, and drinks, they also serve paninis and soups. Why not make a meal out of your trip to Klaxon’s Authentic 1920’s Ice Cream Parlor! It’s a great publication known as The Duquesne Duke. The date was set, like it or not. I found myself cooling off in that seat a few hours and a few hundred miles away from where I woke up that morning, in my hometown of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Five hours of tunnels, endless straightaways and winding mountain passes on the PA Turnpike — made tolerable by a constant stream of podcasts — led me to the crowded and cramped streets of the South Side Flats.

Three days earlier I received word from U-Haul that the 10-foot truck I had requested wasn’t going to be available for me to use. As it turns out, the beginning of the academic year is a high-volume time for renting moving trucks. In retrospect, that isn’t too surprising. After all, I can’t be the only one moving, right? We’re all just trying to get where we’re going.

So, instead of a reasonable-for-my-amount-of-stuff 10-foot truck, I was gifted a 15-foot monster. Now, to be fair, the name isn’t quite representative of the size (the 15-foot image is only half of the battle. A U-Haul is great for its efficiency in moving all your junk — isn’t too surprising. After all, I can’t be the only one moving, right? We’re all just trying to get where we’re going. Stick to the right lane. Check your mirrors. Rinse. Repeat.

Chapter One: The Move

I’m sitting in the passenger seat of the moving truck, engine on, door open, face shoved as close as possible to the air conditioning vent. As it turns out, moving into a third floor walkup in the middle of a heatwave isn’t the most enjoyable thing in the world.

In my defense, I didn’t have much of a choice in the matter. I had to be back in Pittsburgh to start the year’s work for this fine publication known as The Duquesne Duke. The date was set, like it or not.

And yes, I know that this whole moving thing isn’t exactly everyone’s idea of a fun adventure. For the veterans of apartment life, August 13, 2016 was the day I would die.

Yet, as evidenced by these very words, that fate (somehow) didn’t happen. We managed to get all my belongings inside, and my reservations about fitting a bulky couch up the narrow staircases were even proven wrong. By 1:30 a.m. I was unpacked, organized and beyond tired. Against all odds, my Great Moving Nightmare was done. I was relieved as my head hit the pillow. That is, until I realized that I still had to figure out how to survive in this alien-to-me life of complete independence. That, however, is a story for another time.
A change at the top for Duquesne women's lacrosse

COACHED BY LISA SCERBO
For Evans, 2017 will mark her first year as a head coach at the collegiate level. She spent four years as an assistant coach at nearby Robert Morris University prior to becoming an assistant coach and the offensive coordinator for the Dukes for seven years.

"I was really excited," Evans said. "Obviously a little bit nervous, but it's that nervous ball of energy that drives you and forces you to do something that you might not think you are ready for, but in the long run, it's the right move and it's the next step in my career. I'm just ready to get to work."

Evans will have quite the legacy to carry on following in the path of Scharbo, who finished his career on "the Bluff" with a 109-82 record — securing his place as the winningest coach in the history of Duquesne lacrosse.

Additionally, the Dukes’ are currently amidst a streak of six-straight appearances in the A-10 tournament. Last year they entered as the conference’s No. 3 seed before getting upset by the No. 6 seeded Richmond Spiders in the opening round.

"I hope to pick up right where we left off," Evans said. "The goal was making it to the A-10 tournament championship game and I think the whole team is upset with the way we ended last year so early. So right now with me and the senior class, the thought is to pick up right where we left off and make it to the next game and then to the finals."

Due to the fact that she has been a part of the program for the past seven years, Evans explained that many things within the program would stay the same, but she would also add her own coaching elements to the mix.

Some of the things Evans plans to implement with her new team include an increase in individual stick work and player development. She hopes to really break down the game for her players, so that they are ready to go when they play against the highest level of competition.

In the end, Evans is extremely grateful for the time she spent coaching under Scharbo.

"Working with him has been incredibly inspiring," Evans said. "He has taught me so much about the game," Evans said. "But everything that Mike has taught me, I can't really put it into words. He's a great mentor. He's a good friend. He helped me not just on the field, but with things outside of lacrosse and life decisions. I couldn't have asked for a better mentor."

For Scharbo, the decision to move on was centered around family. He and his wife, Jessica, have two young kids, one six and three years old.

"Mike has been an outstanding coach for us, and now we look forward to him shifting to the administrative team," said Harper. "He is a man of unquestioned integrity and character. Mike will be a tremendous asset to our compliance efforts and also will be able to assist with a smooth transition for our lacrosse program."

Scharbo expresses a similar excitement about beginning his new job and having the ability to impact all 400-plus student athletes on campus.

"I think it's an opportunity to do something different and have a broader impact on the athletic department as a whole," Scharbo said. "The opportunity to work with Dave Harper and Rick Christensen in compliance and learn and grow as a professional in athletic administration is something that I can't wait to get started."

ROBINSON DEEMED A-10 SCHOLAR ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

"April gave her greatest effort every day and her success is the product of that work ethic."

— Women’s basketball coach Dan Burt

Former Duquesne point guard April Robinson sets up the offense in the First Round of the 2016 NCAA Tournament at the University of Connecticut. Robinson was recently recognized by the A-10.

Asst. sports editor
Lisa Evans, who has spent the last seven seasons as an assistant in the program, was named the third head lacrosse coach in Duquesne history by athletic director Dave Harper on August 22.

After 11 seasons as the head coach of Duquesne’s women’s lacrosse team, Mike Scharbo stepped away from coaching and accepted a job as the assistant athletic director for compliance.

"I couldn’t be more proud of having Lisa as my successor," Scharbo said. "Having put 11 years of my life into this program and building it up to where it is, I know it’s going to be in great hands. Lisa is a quality individual, a great coach and has a lot of energy to bring to these kids."

For Evans, 2017 will mark her first year as a head coach at the collegiate level. She spent four years as an assistant coach at nearby Robert Morris University prior to becoming an assistant coach and the offensive coordinator for the Dukes for seven years.

"I was really excited," Evans said. "Obviously a little bit nervous, but it's that nervous ball of energy that drives you and forces you to do something that you might not think you are ready for, but in the long run, it's the right move and it's the next step in my career. I'm just ready as a student. Her work in the classroom, on the court and in the community, has left a lasting impression on her teammates and coaches.

"April is the definition of student athlete," Burt said. "She is one of the finest women’s basketball guards Duquesne University has ever had, and she is one of the finest female student-athletes the A-10 has ever seen."

"We are thrilled to have her back in the A-10," said A-10 commissioner Val Ackerman. "April is one of the best players in the A-10 and she has shown incredible dedication to her studies. She is a true student-athlete and we are proud to have her represent the A-10 in her final season."
The best storylines from the 2016 Rio Olympics

BYANNA MCDERMOTT
asst. photo editor

On Sunday, Aug. 21, the world said goodbye to the 2016 Rio Summer Olympics through a colorful closing ceremony which included carnival dancers, Brazilian baloo music and torrential downpours. Before we start looking toward the 2020 Tokyo games, let’s look back on some of the top stories from Rio.

Bolt Strikes Again
Usain Bolt, a Jamaican sprinter, celebrated his last Olympics by winning gold in all three events in which he competed. The world’s fastest man placed first in the 100- and 200-meter. He won the 4 x 100-meter relay, along with the individual gold medals.

The world’s fastest man placed first in the 200-meter individual medley.

Phelps Reigns Supreme
Michael Phelps, a swimmer for Team USA, became the most decorated Olympian in history while in Rio.

The 31-year-old won five more medals in his fifth and last Olympic Games, bringing his total to 28 medals, with 23 being gold. Phelps also broke a 2,000-year-old record when he earned his 13th individual gold medal. Previously, Leonidas of Rhodes, a runner who competed from 164 to 152 BCE, held the record with 12 individual gold medals.

No woman has ever won an Olympic medal for Iran. Until now.

Kimia Alizadeh Zenooin defeated Sweden’s Nikita Glasnostic 5-1 for bronze in the taekwondo under 57kg division.

“I am so happy for Iranian girls because it is the first medal and I hope at the next Olympics we will get a gold,” the 18-year-old said after falling to the ground and kissing the mat.

Michael Phelps celebrates winning the gold medal in the men’s 200-meter individual medley.

America’s Golden Girl
American gymnast Simone Biles, is a typical 19-year-old girl. She’s heading off to college, obsessed with Zac Efron and she’s won five Olympic medals. OK, maybe not so typical.

Biles won four gold medals at her first Olympic appearance, taking first in the individual all around competition.

Simone Biles and Aly Raisman take gold and silver respectively, in the all-around competition.

Zenooein Makes History
No woman has ever won an Olympic medal for Iran. Until now.

Kimia Alizadeh Zenooin defeated Sweden’s Nikita Glasnostic 5-1 for bronze in the taekwondo under 57kg division.

“The 2016 Rio Olympics showcased some all-time Olympic performances that put the world in awe. Rio had the storylines and it had the big names, but most of all, it united the globe for a few short weeks. It inspired kids to chase their dreams just as the Olympians were fulfilling theirs. Few short weeks. It inspired kids to chase their dreams just as the Olympians were fulfilling theirs. Few short weeks. It inspired kids to chase their dreams just as the Olympians were fulfilling theirs.

The pair did not win gold, silver or bronze, but they did receive an even more prestigious medal. Hamblin and D’Agostino received the Pierre de Coubertin Medal, or the International Fair Play Committee Award, which is given to athletes who exemplify the Olympic spirit. The medal has only been awarded 17 times in Olympic history.

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I t’s rare that a video game is despised upon announcement, but “Metroid Prime: Federation Force” was the target of massive fan backlash. After the controversial last entry in the series, “Metroid: Other M,” most gamers were likely expecting a more traditional, back-to-form game. What they got was a multiplayer first-person shooter, lacking the exploration and isolated atmosphere of the previous games promoted. Perhaps the biggest blasphemy was the fact that the main character of the game would not be long-time series protagonist Samus Aran, but instead a faceless, generic space marine. However, now that the game is finally out, is it as bad as fans are making it out to be? Eh… kind of.

Taking place at an indeterminate point in the “Metroid Prime” trilogy, “Federation Force” follows a squad of Federation marines as they combat the insidious Space Pirates using experimental mechs known as Galactic Federation space marine. Similar to “Metroid Prime 3,” the game’s story spans multiple planets, each with their own environmental hazards and enemies. And this is where the similarities end. Instead of going in alone, the game encourages players to team up with three friends to tackle the game’s missions, which are small, objective-oriented and a far cry from the open world exploration of “Metroid.”

Instead, there is a boring stream of passive mods that just do not have the wow factor of upgrades like the Screw Attack or Ice Beam and overly intrusive cut scenes that explain every facet of the story that the game possibly can, leaving nothing up to the imagination. This is invariably going to disappoint the legions of “Metroid” fans out there. But to the casual gamer, or someone new to the series, there is a good deal of fun to be had.

To Nintendo’s credit, they did a great job converting the first-person shooter game style to the 3DS. The use of a lock-on helps alleviate the difficulties of only having one control stick, while the handheld’s gyroscope can be used to aim at angles.

The only major complaints I had was that tilting the console to get difficult shots often made the 3D screens hard to see, resulting in a bad case of double vision. Further, tapping the fire button always seemed to mess up my aim when my 3DS was tilted, as the handheld rocked in my hand with each button press. The game does heavily encourage playing with more than one person. There is an option to play by yourself, with the game giving you increased armor and fire power to compensate, but this did little to alleviate the difficulties. Often you’ll find yourself facing too many enemies, or the bosses will have so much health that battles are overwhelming and overly long. Bottom line: find a friend.

All of this leads to one conclusion: “Federation Force” is NOT a game for core “Metroid” fans. It is a spin-off, with only surface-level similarities to the “Metroid Prime” games. Regrettably this means it could not have come out at a worse time.

While it is okay for the “Mario” and “Zelda” franchises to have spin-offs, those series have frequent entries in the core game line. It has been six years since the last

see METROID — page 12

‘No Man’s Sky’ ruined by hype culture

On Dec. 9, 2013, Hello Games’ Sean Murray unveiled to the world an expansive universe for players to discover. At long last, “No Man’s Sky” was no longer confined to short snippets at yearly events. Naturally, with a game receiving such massive praise and expectations, one would expect it to get perfect scores across the board, right?

Not exactly. Critics for “No Man’s Sky” were divided at best with the average score resting at 71 of 100 on metacritic.com. That number is impressive compared to the user scores, which currently reside at 4.5/10 and 53 percent for metacritic.com and Steam respectively. These should pose an important question for many consumers: how could this have possibly happened?

First announced in 2013, “No Man’s Sky” promised a near-infinite universe for players to discover. Unfortunately, many gamers were underwhelmed with the final product, leading to low user reviews. From its first reveal, Hello Games’ creation was essentially doomed to fail. While the game itself may be graphically stunning, or even technically entertaining, the ridiculous amount of hype surrounding this title meant that it could never meet the expectations of critics and gamers. Promised features became nothing more than gross exaggerations created by the community, and to an extent, Murray himself.

Noticing the false assumptions about his title, Murray attempted to confirm the assets of his game. However, the damage was already done. Features within “No Man’s Sky” could no longer exist as an actuality. What began as a space simulator crafted for fans of the genre, suddenly turned into a space simulator crafted by fans of the genre.

Unfortunately, when gamers began traversing across planets, the sheer lack of supposed content became present. There is no base building, there are no massive monsters carving paths on different worlds and space battles are nothing more than quick excursions between small groups of fighters.

“So Man’s Sky” is not the only title to be marred by insane amounts of hype. Bungie’s massively multiplayer online shooter “Destiny” promised rich worlds full of lore and procedurally generated events. Trailers shown during conferences highlighted some of these interactions, showcasing an ever-evolving story. However, when the game released on Sept. 9, 2014, none of these elements were present. While the

see HYPE — page 11

WEEKLY EVENTS

Kublai Khan
Aug. 29 5:30 p.m.
Praised as having one of the best albums of 2014 by Alternative Press, the metal band will be performing at the Smiling Moose bar on the South Side. Tickets start at $12. For more information to this event, visit druskyentertainment.com.

UPCOMING RELEASES

“To the Stars” Aug. 25
A reboot of the classic 4X strategy game, “Conquer the Stars” will feature 10 playable races and a star-studded voice cast, including Mark Hamill, Robert Englund and Troy Baker. The game will be released exclusively for PC and will cost $49.99.

“No Man's Sky” Aug. 30
The genre-defying entry in the famous survival-horror franchise will be re-released for a new generation of consoles. Experience the first step “Resident Evil” took into the third-person shooter genre all over again. The game will be released for Xbox One and PlayStation 4. It will cost $19.99.

MICRO REVIEW

“The Paper Magician”
Charlie N. Holmberg
“Origins birds that actually fly. Paper airplanes that can carry passengers. At times light-hearted fun, at other times dark, “The Paper Magician” is always engaging. The book follows the adventures of young paper magic apprentice Ceony Twill as she struggles to find her way in Holmberg’s imaginative and magical 19th century London.”

— Kaye Burnet
‘Fear the Walking Dead’ offers introspective view

Nicole Pritto  staff writer

Summer break has come and gone, but “Fear the Walking Dead” is just getting started with its second midseason premiere. Emerging from the ashes of an explosive finale, the latter half of this season promises more character introspection and a host of new threats.

Last May saw the group’s latest safe zone going up in flames, Strand mercy-killing his lover and Madison presumably murdering Celia. In the ensuing chaos, the group splits in three — with Daniel apparently dead after incinerating Celia’s imprisoned horde. The show now focuses on Nick as he journeys into the unknown, with only outlaws and the undead to keep him company. Here is a spoiler-heavy rundown of Episode 8, “Grotesque.”

The Good

Atmosphere remains one of FTWD’s top strengths. With Nick, a blazing sun overhead, disorienting heatwaves across long stretches of road, a low-key soundtrack and minimal dialogue, the episode maintains a disquieting mood. The open desert does not hide much visually, but that ironically invites a sense of uncertainty for Nick’s travels.

The survivalist scenes peppered throughout are nice touches that add to the episode’s believability. Dehydrated and desperate, Nick resorts to eating a cactus and drinking his own urine. He steals the belt off of a walker to tie up a bleeding leg, pain-fully dragging it behind him as he struggles to move forward.

The audience can almost vicariously experience the way he succumbs to heat exhaustion; drenched in blood and sweat after several scenes walking and running in the oppressive sun, Nick convincingly staggers and collapses backward in the middle of the road. His vulnerability is enough to make us wonder if he will really make it to his destination.

Relatively, Nick’s hallucinatory scene while amidst a walker herd is surprisingly well-done, given how absurd the situation is. Covered in guts to mask his scent, he travels with the uncomely group for safety. He then starts to imagine that they are calling out to him, promising to take him home. The scene provides some foundation for his growing obsession with the living dead, but it also reinforces an underlying complex for Nick as a character: that he feels perpetually displaced from the world around him.

The OK

Flashbacks are considerably better handled in FTWD than in “The Walking Dead,” which made odd usage of black-and-white sequences in season 6. Comparatively, FTWD’s transitions are seamless.

The episode attempts to explain how Nick’s personal problems have a lot to do with his absentee father. However, not once do we actually see his portrait in the series. While this helps reinforce his blatant absence, it also makes it hard to sympathize with Nick’s complicated relationship with his parent before his death.

This narrative move is in stark contrast to Madison’s attempts to reach out to Nick in earlier episodes. Given that we have known of his father’s death since the start of the series, the flashbacks seem like asides. The series will have to do more in later episodes to convince the audience that the relationship carried any real weight on Nick’s character development.

The Ugly

It would not be a “Walking Dead” episode if someone did not die for inane reasons that could have been easily avoided. Nick encounters a group of drive-by gunmen twice, and their second meeting comes off as a writing snafu. The gunmen stop their vehicle at a comfortable distance from Nick’s walker herd as they get out to shoot at them. One gunman recognizes Nick, but in his eagerness to shoot, he drops his bullets. Instead of heading back to the car, he clumsily reaches down and reloads before getting overwhelmed by the sluggish group. A second gunman, standing farther off, suffers a similar fate.

While on the subject of grisly killings, it should be noted that this is not an episode for diehard animal lovers. Nick gets attacked by a pair of feral dogs and later watches them get torn apart by walkers. Cue fake, half-devoured dog carcasses. On a shock-value scale, the scene registers low to moderate. The moment is about as literally ugly as it gets in the episode, which is a good note for a franchise plagued by overly gruesome, and laughably dramatic death scenes.

The End

After meeting a group of survivors, Nick ends his long journey as a guest at another safe zone — again inhabited by people with a deep respect for the undead. The camera pans out to reveal the modest compound bathed in sunlight. The moment is clearly a happy one for Nick, who finally seems to have found his way “home.” But the optimism comes at a dangerous price. As his delusions are further enabled, Nick’s family may very well lose him entirely. The unsettling end of this premiere signals a dire new chapter for the divided group, and it remains to be seen whether they will reunite by season’s end. Episode 9, “Los Muertos” airs on Sunday at 9 p.m.

‘The Little Prince’ offers a valiant, but failed effort

Zachary Landau  staff writer

Effort can count for a lot in a film, and “The Little Prince” certainly has a lot of effort put into it. The 2015 movie, directed by Mark Osborne, is the most ambitious attempt to adapt the well-known and beloved story by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, but that does not make it necessarily good. Rather, “The Little Prince” is perhaps the most exceptionally tired. The last act especially feels like it was pulled from some sort of template, and follows every single trite technique you can imagine sans a song-and-dance number. “The Little Prince” excels at telling its story, but the quality of boring and used tropes can only be so high. As such, the film can only be exceptionally good, but never unparalled masterpiece.

The animation is worth mentioning, however, if only because of how interesting it is. While mostly done with CGI, the story of the Prince is told using stop-motion techniques, a style you may very well lose him entirely. The un-settling end of this premiere signals a dire new chapter for the divided group, and it remains to be seen whether they will re-united by season’s end. Episode 9, “Los Muertos” airs on Sunday at 9 p.m.

‘The Little Prince’ makes a valiant, but failed effort

Based on the 1943 novel of the same name, “The Little Prince” saw release in France last year to critical and commercial success.
Smokers Wanted
For paid research study

The University of Pittsburgh’s Alcohol and Smoking Research Laboratory is looking for people to participate in a three-part research project. To participate, you must:

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Ice cream worth the walk

ICE CREAM — from page 6

learned the art from Penn State Creamery ice cream courses. Travel back in time to the roaring '20s when you visit this quirky ice cream parlour.

Pittsburgh Ice Cream Company approaches their business with inimitable fun and creativity. Every season, they have different flavors to accompany the theme of the season. In the summer, they present flavors like whiskey peach and strawberry balsamic. For the fall, they give you flavors such as apple pie and pumpkin. Winter time is full of flavors like fresh ground eggnog and juniper cranberry. Lastly, you can spring into spring with flavors like rhubarb and lemon basil chevre. With this different approach, the flavors you may be getting bored of in the summer melt away into the entertaining flavors of the fall.

If you’re searching for an interesting new location to gratify your ice cream cravings, look no further than Market Street and 5th, right next to Market Square.

“Little Prince” underwhelms

PRINCE — from page 10

that is stunningly gorgeous. Every little detail is lovingly put together, with the Prince’s scarf being absolutely spectacular. The CGI, while less impressive, is still good, but feels rather run-of-the-mill at this point. The character models themselves feel a bit boring, lacking any compelling details or quirks to maintain attention. However, characters do move naturally in their space, and both styles of animation mix together seamlessly.

Overall, it is hard to say whether or not “The Little Prince” is a good film. On the one hand, its animation and storytelling is top-tier material, second only to true titans of the film industry. However, the actual elements of its story are so overdone at this point that much of the effort put into this film feels wasted. It is really hard not to like “The Little Prince” considering the obvious effort put into it, but it is also really hard to love it.

Nintendo misses mark with “Federation Force”

METROID — from page 9

“Metroid” game, and that one was almost universally despised. If Nintendo had waited until after a real “Metroid” game came out, I have no doubt “Federation Force” would have been better received.

As it stands, I can only recommend the game to those unfamiliar with the series, or to those who are not so heavily invested in the franchise. For fans, there is a bright side. The game’s end did leave off with a hook that promises a true “Metroid” sequel. Let’s just hope it doesn’t take too long to come out.


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