



DU plans for an important review

SAIRAH ASLAM
staff writer

Duquesne is preparing for an important event: its reaccreditation.

In the United States, accreditation — the ability of higher education institutions to distribute degrees — is determined not by the government but by independent commissions. All higher education institutions in each region of the United States are overseen by that region's own organization. Duquesne University is overseen by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE).

The commission is required, according to Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Timothy Austin, "to visit every school [in its jurisdiction], at minimum, every eight years. They check everything: our buildings, classes, faculty, students ... Then they determine whether the university is still qualified [to offer degrees]."

see STATES — page 2

Happy 139th birthday to DU



OLIVIA HIGGINS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Duquesne celebrated its birthday on October 10 with a variety of outdoor activities and games. Food was also available.

Career Closet opens on campus

GABRIELLA DiPIETRO
staff writer

College students have a lot on their plate, whether it's homework, student organizations, athletics, you name it. Many students may be stressed over upcoming job interviews, along with the added stress of finding something appropriate and professional to wear. Duquesne is helping alleviate some of this anxiety with its new Career Closet initiative.

The Career Closet can be found in the Spiritan Campus Ministry Center in Towers Living Learning Center. Students can meet with a campus consultant to discuss needed items and pick out professional outfits. Appointments can be made by email at career-closet@duq.edu.

The initiative will provide students, faculty and alumni with free formal wear for interviews and other professional activities. Jeff Mallory is the director of the Duquesne's Office of Diversity and Inclusion. He is in charge of donations and is proud to be a part of this initiative.

"The closet is moderately stocked at this point. We have a nice number of shoes and dress shirts in particular, and we are still receiving a lot of donations," Mallory said. "The crowdfunding campaign has generated close to \$1,000 in financial support to date. For donations of clothes, we are responding to emails daily."

Mallory explained that the initiative fits with Duquesne's mission and all that it stands for, as well as tying in nicely with being diverse and inclusive.

"Regardless of your standing in the community, everyone has the ability to participate in this drive. We feel it's a choice of participating at this point," Mallory included. "As a university community, our job is to prepare our students for future success - this

see CLOSET — page 3

DU grad student joins 100 mile veteran march

RAYMOND ARKE
news editor

The drive from Pittsburgh to Erie is a long one, but imagine walking it. For a small group of veterans, including one Duquesne student, this is what they plan to do next weekend. Anthony Powell, a veteran and graduate student at Duquesne, will be participating in the 40th Annual March for Diabetes which stretches 100 miles from Erie to Pittsburgh and raises money and awareness for diabetes research.

Powell retired from the Army after 22 years and is pursuing a Master's degree in teaching English as a second language. He has participated in the march for the past few years and had originally heard about the walk second hand.

"I heard some people talking about it at a local VFW, and I got interested in the challenge and interested in helping and supporting the veterans as much as



COURTESY OF ANTHONY POWELL

Last year's group of walkers pose with a VFW honor guard at the march's finish line.

I possibly can," he said.

Powell said the veterans that participate in the event are "good people."

"You're with a really good group of guys, a really select group who

would sacrifice themselves to do something like [the walk]. You really get to know them the three days," Powell said.

The organizer of the four-decade-long tradition is Bob Made-

ra, a resident of McCandless, Pennsylvania, and a Vietnam War veteran, where he served as a helicopter repairman. Madera was inspired to start the event after his daughter was diagnosed with diabetes at age five.

"I thought we got to get some money in here if we're going to find a cure," he said.

Since he participated in the March for Dimes charity walks, Madera thought about doing something bigger.

"I wondered if we could put a long walk together," he said, finally deciding a route from Erie to Pittsburgh because he remembered how long of a ride that felt as a child growing up.

Madera explained that usually six or seven veterans do the walk each year. The number is small, so as to keep the cost of hotel rooms and food along the route low. It is also a long way to walk,

see MARCH — page 3

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opinions

Saudi Women Can Drive

SA is the last country to allow women drivers ...

PAGE 4

features

Fall into Fall Fashion

See the latest men's trends and styles ...

PAGE 6

sports

Dukes Victorious

Football tops D-II team with ease in home opener ...

PAGE 7

a & e

'American Made' a Blockbuster

Tom Cruise has best work in years with new movie ...

PAGE 9

CORRECTIONS

In the Sept. 28 edition, an article on John Stolz incorrectly stated he attended the Washington versions of the March for Science and the People's Climate March.

He actually attended the Pittsburgh-based marches.

POLICE BRIEFS

Another week, another full Police Briefs column.

On Sept. 13, a suspicious male was found in the St. Martin's parking lot. He was issued a Defiant Trespass warning and was found to be related to the theft of a delivery truck at the Towers loading dock.

Also on Sept. 13, as reported online, a female student in Brottier reported that she had been sexually assaulted by known males. The Pittsburgh Police Sexual Assault Unit is investigating.

Last Wednesday, Sept. 13, was certainly a busy day for the coppers. A St. Ann student was found with suspected marijuana paraphernalia. The person was sent to the Office of Student Conduct.

Duquesne doesn't have a boxing team for a reason. On Sept. 28, a Duquesne student filed a harassment report against another student. A citation was issued.

On Sept. 28, a commuter student reported that his car had been broken into in the Forbes Surface Lot. The window to his soft top Jeep had been slashed open, but nothing was taken from the car. And people say being hard headed is a bad thing?

Last Friday, Sept. 29, the Pittsburgh Police responded to an intoxicated female Duquesne student behind the Power Center. Duquesne Police responded as backup. A male student arrived and became disorderly. The female was taken to Mercy Hospital and both were referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

St. Martin Hall was a bit of a speakeasy on Saturday, Sept. 30. One student was transported to Mercy to detoxify. Two other students were caught underage drinking as well. Everyone was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Also on Sept. 30, someone felt like an Olympian. A student damaged Locust Garage Exit Gate #2 after attempting to hurdle it and failed to report the damage. The Team USA-wannabe was sent not to training, but to the Office of Student Conduct. Grandpa PB was a real-life hurdler back in his high school days and does not understand why anyone would want to try it.

Here's a weird one from Monday. DUPO responded to a report of an unresponsive male lying on a couch in the women's restroom in College Hall. The subject was actually a woman, who was found to have marijuana. Can't make this stuff up, folks.

Duquesne lauded for campus sustainability

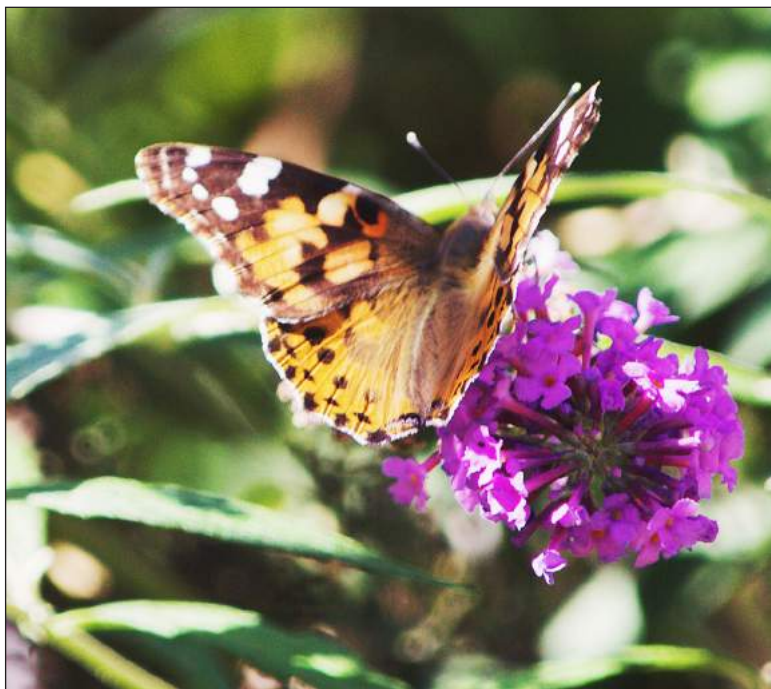
MICHAEL MARAFINO
staff writer

As of Sept. 27, Duquesne University is recognized by The Princeton Review for its grand efforts toward environmental sustainability. It was recognized in the article Guide to 375 Green Colleges. Duquesne was commended for its policies on campus, environmental goals and career options in environmental science, environmental management and ecology.

According to The Princeton Review's website, the rankings are based on whether students have quality living on campus that is healthy, how the school prepares students to work in a green economy, and how environmentally-friendly the policies at the school are. Duquesne received a score of 82 out of 99 possible points.

"We strongly recommend Duquesne University and the other fine colleges in this guide to the many environmentally minded students who seek to live at green colleges" Robert Franek, senior vice president-publisher at The Princeton Review said to the Duquesne Times.

"Among more than 10,000 teens and parents who participated in our 2017 College Hopes and Worries Survey, 64 percent told us that having information about a school's



KATIA FAROUN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A butterfly lands on one of campus' many flowers. Duquesne was recently recognized as being one of the top green colleges in the nation by The Princeton Review. The guide scored Duquesne an 82 out of 99 for its environmentally friendly policies.

commitment to the environment would influence their decision to apply to or attend the college," he said.

Duquesne students display their care for environmental sustainability through many organizations. For instance, the student club Evergreen promotes environmental sustainability on-campus and off-campus

throughout Pittsburgh, according to their page on the Duquesne University website. The club is commended for its activities with Facilities Management to encourage those on campus to recycle, and they educate people on the sustainable additions to campus life.

The Evergreen club won the Col-

lege and University Green Power Challenge for the Atlantic 10 Conference in 2015, according to the Duquesne University website. The club even holds bi-weekly clean-up groups which go to Uptown Pittsburgh and throughout campus picking up litter in order to better the state of living in the area.

The University attributes its goals toward environmental sustainability to the faith-based community. The Sustainability section of Duquesne's website describes the university's dedication to being eco-friendly.

"Achieving the goals of sustainability ... is one of the principal ways that we have been able to transform respect for the integrity of creation into action, and honor our Catholic founding in the Spiritan tradition."

The website notes that Duquesne takes on environmental sustainability as a responsibility for protecting the earth and all creation in order to subdue environmental issues and climate change. It is a part of Duquesne's Spiritan heritage to care for the environment through lessening consumption of natural resources and promoting sustainability, according to the site.

"Being included on the Princeton Review's Guide to Green Colleges

see ENVIRO — page 11

Important Middle States accreditation process begins

STATES— from page 1

A tremendously significant process, reaccreditation — though mostly conducted behind the scenes — affects every member of the Duquesne community. Though the chance of the MSCHE withdrawing the university's accreditation is as unlikely as to be negligible, the commission can still deem a department or division of the school as lacking in competency and may prescribe another review to take place a few years down the road.

"In the best case scenario... the MSCHE will hopefully hand us a clean bill of health for the next eight years," explained Austin.

The first phase consists of a comprehensive self-study, in which the university evaluates its own capability to carry out its goals and mission statement.

Linda Kinnahan, a Duquesne English professor and one of the self-study co-chairs, explained the process.

"Duquesne is part of a group of universities and colleges undergoing the accreditation process following these seven new streamlined but comprehensive standards that deal with the following areas: 1.) Mission; 2.) Ethics and Integrity; 3.) Design and Delivery of the Student Learning Experience; 4.) Support of the Student Experience; 5.) Educational Effectiveness Report; 6.) Planning, Resources, and Institutional Improvement and 7.) Governance, Leadership and Administration," she said.

For each standard, a working group



KAILEY LOVE/PHOTO EDITOR

Old Main is home to many of Duquesne's administrative offices. The university has begun its preparations for the reaccreditation process which occurs every few years. Passing this review allows for Duquesne to continue to hand out degrees to grads.

comprised of 10-15 members focuses on demonstrating Duquesne's competence and accomplishments regarding that standard in a written report, using statistics collected by, for example, the Office of Institutional Review, among other resources to prove the university's competency in adhering the standard.

A working group is also assigned to work on the Requirements of Affiliation, a provision separate from the above standards. Once all of the reports have been completed, the working groups submit them to the co-chairs of the self-study, who then merge, streamline and fact-check the reports.

In total, Kinnahan said, "The development of the formal self-study will involve two years of focused research and writing (from January 2016 to January 2018), followed by

several months of continued review."

The second phase of reaccreditation consists of the preliminary (to take place in November) and formal review (to take place in the coming March) of the university by a team of 8-12 individuals assigned by the MSCHE to review Duquesne University's competency in and adherence to carrying out its mission statement.

Considering the challenges of the task, it may come as a surprise that none of the working group members receive incentives to work on the reports. Yet, there is a benefit to contributing to the reaccreditation process, said Austin.

"Most of us live in fairly small silos. We know about our sport, our residence hall, our major, but we actually don't know much about anything else," Austin said. "You might

wonder about the benefit of your piece if you work on the report, because not many people are actually going to read it. But by the end, you really learn an enormous amount about Duquesne as you write."

Students, faculty, alumni, staff and board members are all contributors to the reaccreditation process and ensuring Duquesne can continue to serve its community, both as members in the working groups and as eligible commentators of the self-study report.

Kinnahan said that responses can be submitted online to middlestates-feedback@duq.edu.

Two forums open to the Duquesne community are scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 10 from 2-4 p.m. and Wednesday, Oct. 11 from 9-11 a.m. Both sessions are in the Africa Room in the Student Union.

Closet provides free dress clothes

CLOSET— from page 1

drive directly does that.”

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Career Services, Spiritan Campus Ministry, the Student Government Association, the Women’s Guild and the Faculty Senate have joined forces in order to create this initiative to better serve and support Duquesne’s students.

Olivia Erickson, president of the Student Government Association, believes that the initiative is a wonderful program and is glad to have been a part of the efforts made to make this idea into a reality.

“[The SGA is] happy to be involved because it is an important aspect of achieving success at Duquesne,” she said. “Students are able to make a good first impression without having to add financial strain to their situation.”

Jody Iannelli, the administrative assistant of the Spiritan Campus Ministry, has seen the Career Closet firsthand, and she loves what is in there.

“I think it is such a wonderful idea that has taken place for the students to have available to them. College in itself can be such a financial worry and stressful time for so many students,” Iannelli said.



DEJAH BRAGGS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Career Closet offers students the chance to pick out dress clothes they need.

Iannelli fully endorses the Career Closet, saying that the initiative provides a great opportunity and resource for Duquesne’s students.

“When it’s time to begin interviews, many do not have the funds to shop for the proper attire that is needed, but this wonderful project gives students an alternative place to go to find a great interview outfit for free,” she said.

Mallory described the collective hope for the program.

“We hope to provide students with the appropriate attire they need as

they transition into the professional world. This program allows us to directly show our students that we not only want to see them do well, but will physically provide the opportunity to help them through such an initiative,” he said.

The program is in its kickoff phase, but it already has a variety of options for anyone wishing to use the initiative.

To support the program and donate, visit the Spiritan Campus Ministry between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., or donate to the Crowdfunding Campaign at www.spirit.duq.edu/project/7652.

Annual report shows campus crime

ALEX WOLFE
staff writer

This week, Duquesne released its annual fire and safety report for 2016, which outlined a notable increase in liquor- and drug-related arrests.

The report details a dramatic increase in Drug Law Arrests, which increased by 650 percent (4 to 26) between 2015 and 2016, and a continued increase in Drug Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action, which increased by about 11 percent (188 to 208) in the same time.

Liquor Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action increased from 695 to 832 (19.7 percent), but Liquor Law Arrests decreased from 22 to 13 (41.1 percent).

Other crimes occurred in smaller numbers. For example, incidences of dating violence occurred eight times in 2016, which is an increase from three violations in 2015. Domestic violence increased from two incidences to six. Across the same time period, forced sexual offenses (such as rape) increased from five to eight, and counts of confirmed

stalking on campus increased from one to three.

Additionally, three fires occurred in 2016, which didn’t cause as much damage as the two that occurred in 2015. Taking place in Brottier, Towers, and Des Places, the three fires only caused a combined \$150 of damage to residential halls.

Finally, members of Assumption Hall were awoken on the morning of Aug. 26 to a dorm-wide smoke alarm due to the sensitivity of the alarms and the new showers which were installed over the summer.

Jack Connolly, a freshman and residence hall fire marshal, believes that in 2016, “Duquesne students got off easily,” because the costs of fire damage were less than the year before, even though there was one more fire reported.

“There were a record number of fire marshals recruited this year,” he said. “Hopefully, this means more students are better equipped to become first responders to the poor decisions of others.”

Tom Hart, Chief of Police and Director of Public Safety at

see CRIME— page 11

DU signs on to further city’s Promise

HALLIE LAUER
layout editor

Duquesne has become one of 19 institutes of higher education in Pennsylvania that has partnered with the Pittsburgh Promise program to cover the cost of room and board for the recipients of the program.

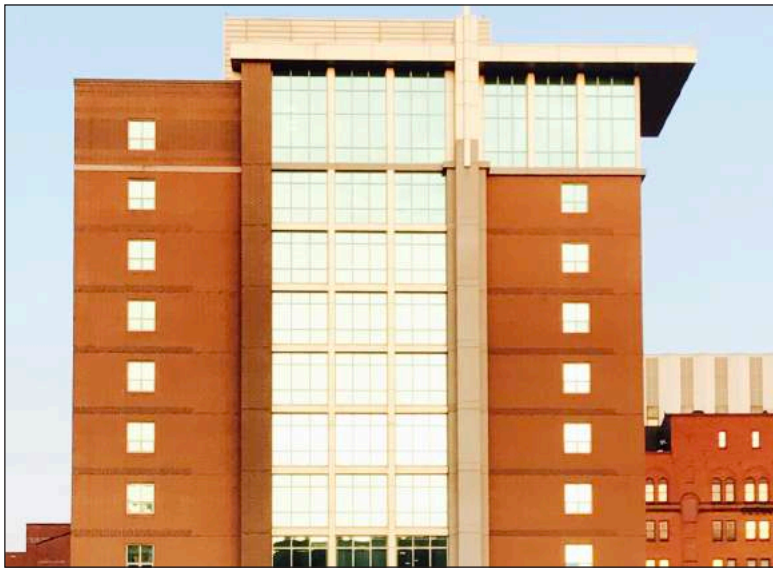
The Pittsburgh Promise is an organization dedicated to helping improve enrollment and graduation rates in Pittsburgh Public Schools (PPS) while helping urban students become prepared to enter college or the workforce.

Part of its vision is to also create “a city at the core of a strong region whose neighborhoods are vibrant, inclusive and attractive to young and senior people, as well as businesses small and large,” according to its website.

This program has helped to raise the graduation rates in Pittsburgh Public Schools from 63 percent to 74 percent. The number of those graduates that enroll in postsecondary education in two years since their graduation has also risen from 58 percent to 68 percent. They do this by receiving donations from corporations, individuals and foundations, as well as partnering with schools such as Duquesne.

The Pittsburgh Promise has a subdivision of its organization called the Preferred College Program. This program helps students get into colleges they would not otherwise be able to afford.

“This Preferred College Partners Program is a more formal recognition of the value of the academic support



MEGAN KLINEFLETER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Des Places Hall and other residence halls will be home to PGH Promise recipients.

services that we provide all of our students already,” said Paul-James Cukanna, the vice president for enrollment management at Duquesne. “When we met recently with Promise representatives, they indicated that they were impressed by Duquesne’s level of support and services.”

The vision that the Pittsburgh Promise has to better the community aligns well with Duquesne’s mission, according to Cukanna.

“Duquesne is a part of the city of Pittsburgh, and this is a way to support city residents and Pittsburgh Public Schools,” said Cukanna. “Since its inception, more than 90 percent of The Pittsburgh Promise students supported in this program have been from low- or moderate-income families.”

According to Pittsburgh Promise’s website, since its beginning they have helped over 7,000 students from the Pittsburgh area graduate high school and move onto higher education. They have also given over \$103 million in scholarships. Pittsburgh Promise has a goal of raising \$250 million dollars to help students; through donations and partnerships so far it has raised \$196 million.

Duquesne is ranked in the top ten of schools who accept students who are recipients of the Pittsburgh Promise.

“As the program evolves, we too evolve in order to support the increasing number of PPS students who take advantage of the program,” Cukanna said.

Veteran and student walks for charity

MARCH— from page 1

something that participants have to be prepared for. Not everyone can make it all 100 miles.

“[The walkers] keep a pretty fast pace ... You got to be ready,” Madera said.

The event has been successful in the past, raising nearly \$40,000 last year.

According to Madera, diabetes is a struggle that many veterans face. He is the Chairman for diabetes for the Pennsylvania branch of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

“Twenty-five percent of veterans have diabetes ... It’s starting to hit home that a lot of [veterans] have it,” he said.

The walk has had its fair share of heart-warming moments. Madera recounted a story from one of the walks, where a grandfather had brought his 14-month grandson who had been diagnosed with diabetes to the finish. The grandfather handed his grandson over to Madera to carry across the end line. Madera said the grandson is now 30 and doing well.

He also had good things to say about Powell, who Madera said has participated in four walks and has done a lot of work promoting the event.

“He’s really been a great guy,” Madera said.

Don Accamando is the director of Duquesne’s Office of Military and Veteran Students. He had

heard about the march before, mostly from working with Powell.

“Anthony worked with the Office of Military and Veteran Students for several years as a VA Work Study candidate while working on his undergraduate degree. He would share his experiences of past walks with me,” Accamando said.

Accamando explained how important the awareness of the diabetes problem is.

“When you’re in the military you have just about every need taken care of because, guess what, you’re focusing on one thing, that is the mission. Now when you’re out you struggle to find ways to take care of yourself,” he said.

He said that he’s inspired by the different service activities veterans continue to do.

“I continue to marvel at the outpouring of support offered by veterans who having served their country in the armed services, and continue to serve their communities in other meaningful ways,” Accamando said.

He said that Tony is a great example of how veterans always look to serve.

“They continue to serve after they left the service and [Tony] is the epitome of that. This guy continues to give back,” Accamando said.

According to Accamando, there are 209 veterans registered at Duquesne this semester.

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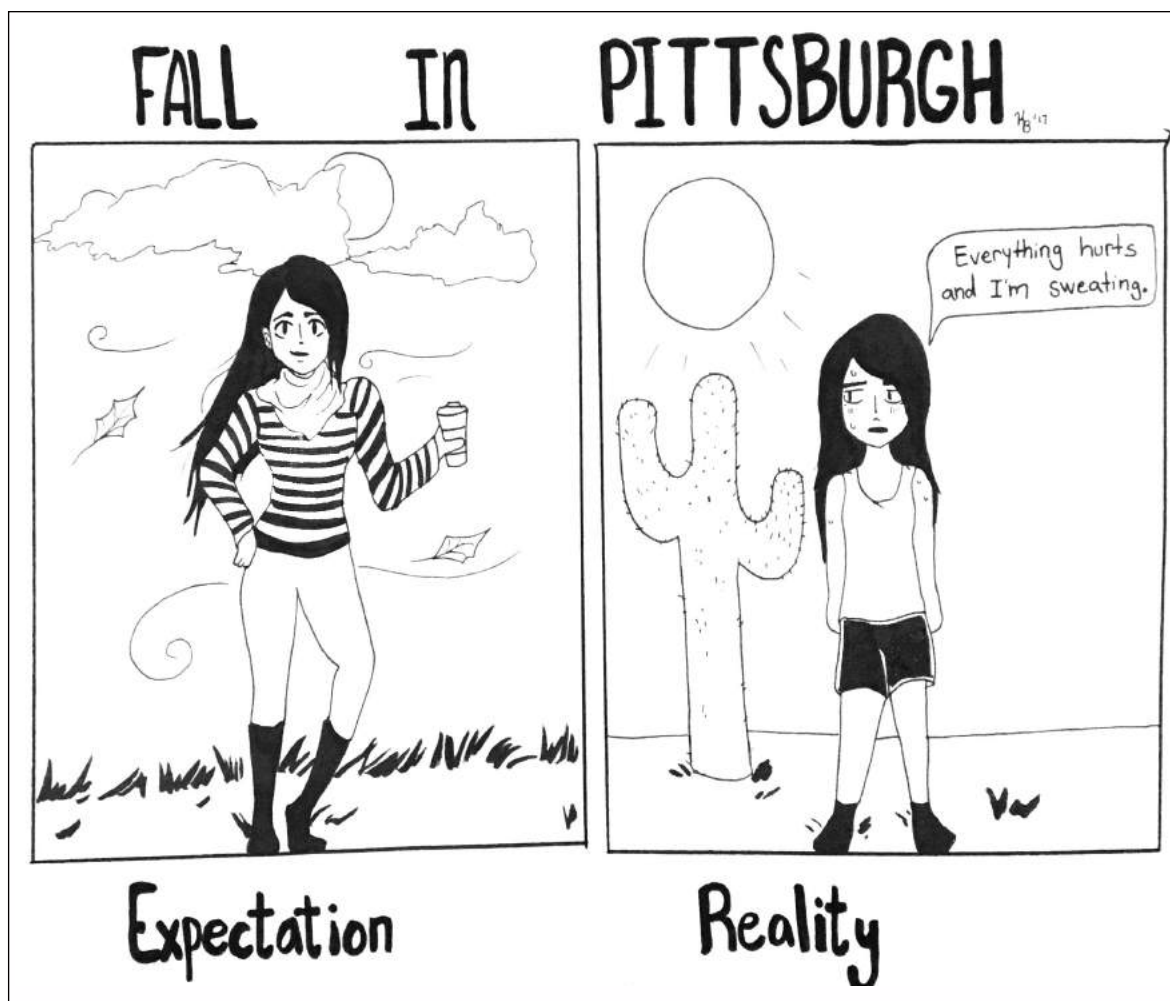
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CARTOON BY KELSEY BURTNER

the viewpoint

Women of Saudi Arabia are driving toward equality

Many women around the globe celebrated the seemingly small but significant victory announced on Tuesday: Women in Saudi Arabia have finally been allowed the right to drive.

After a 30-year campaign, women in the predominately Islamic country will be allowed to drive cars starting next June. The exact rules and regulations have not yet been announced.

Saudi Arabia was the only country in the world where women were forbidden to get behind the wheel. Lifting the ban is one of many steps for Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to modernize the kingdom. The decision to finally let women drive is an important sign that Saudi Arabia is slowly but surely changing their conservative culture after decades of very traditional Islamic policies.

The decision has unfortunately received a lot of backlash from conservative male Wahhabi clerics who believe that, if women drive, it will make their wives infertile or turn them into sex maniacs or lesbians. These extremists believe that lifting the driving ban will lead to the degradation of Islamic values and traditional Saudi society.

While these views may seem ludicrous to most of us, prejudice is a harsh reality for the women

of Saudi Arabia. Although they have finally won the right to drive independently, there is still a lot that needs to change if they are rooting for complete equality. For instance, Saudi women just received the right to vote and run as candidates in municipal elections in 2015. This isn't

something we have to think about in America since women have been driving here since the late 1800s. We've never had to ask for a ride to avoid jail time, let alone ask for permission to go somewhere the way Saudi women have to.

There are plenty of examples of Saudi law imprisoning women for getting behind the wheel of a car. Manal al-

Sharif, the most famous activist of the driving movement, was arrested and jailed for nine days in 2011. She lost her job as well as custody of her 6-year-old son.

Controlled by a patriarchal system, the lives of Saudi women are restricted to the convictions of men. Today, women there are not allowed to obtain passports or leave the country without their guardian's permission (their "guardian" is either a husband or male family member). They are also unable

to open bank accounts or open businesses. They are not allowed to decide when to marry or divorce without the permission of a male relative, and if they do get divorced, they are unable to have custody of their children. The list of injustices goes on.

Granting women the right to drive is empowering Saudi women for both the future and the workforce.

Lina Al Maeena, a member of the Shura Council, said the law will be "increasing women's participation in the workforce from 22 per cent to 30 per cent," in an interview with *The National*.

We should all be celebrating Saudi Arabia's efforts for equality, but there is still a lot more that needs to be done. Saudi women need our support and our voices to continue to push the government for a less conservative and patriarchal society. Their lives and rights are considered subordinate to those of men, and that is not something anyone should tolerate.

Aziza Youssef, one of Saudi Arabia's most vocal women's rights activists, believes the lifting of the driving ban was "A good step forward for women's rights," she said to the Associated Press.

"It's the first step in 1,000 miles to go."

So, congrats to Saudi Arabia for finally recognizing women as adults, who can now drive their own destiny.

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

STAFF
EDITORIAL

Citizens must stay positive in midst of global tragedies

"Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping."

This quote from one of Pittsburgh's greatest legends, Mr. Rogers, refers to what his mother would tell him when he was a boy seeing the many "scary things" happening in the news.

The world today is unfortunately no better, with disturbing things occurring on every inch of the Earth every single day. The latest of such incidents, the mass shooting in Las Vegas, happened this past Sunday night and is now the deadliest shooting in American history, killing 59 and injuring 527 more who were attending a country music festival.

As Mr. Rogers alluded to, it's very easy to get caught up in all the horror and heartbreak happening every day. However, it's incredibly important to resist the urge to focus on the negative and instead pay attention to the many positives coming out of these disturbing times.

Take, for example, the thousands of people in Las Vegas who have been donating blood since the morning after the shooting, including both area locals as well as those visiting from places as far as Venezuela, Switzerland and China, according to Reuters. They have taken the situation and turned it into a chance to benefit the world by helping many of their peers live to see another day.

There is also the fundraiser started by a government official from Las Vegas that raised over \$2 million for the tragedy's victims in just 12 hours. Its original goal of \$2.5 million has been raised to \$10 million and is already about complete, with almost \$9 million being raised by roughly 70,000 people just two days after it first launched on GoFundMe.

But the Vegas shooting is not the only disaster of late that people are trying to help. The Roberto Clemente Museum on Penn Ave will be hosting another fundraiser event on Oct. 8 to raise donations to help aid disaster relief in Puerto Rico, the home country of the museum's namesake. This is an incredibly touching move in light of the U.S.'s general ignoring of the humanitarian crisis that the island's 3.4 million people currently face.

As the above cases are showing, in this great time of need, it is vital to not only look for the helpers but to also become a helper. Terrible events happen all the time, but sitting around and feeling sad will do nothing to solve them — and neither will sending thoughts and prayers to those in need via social media posts.

Turn to national news organizations such as NPR and the NYT to stay informed at all times. Do a little bit of research to find charities that are active and on the ground helping people, especially those in minority communities. Give them your money, any supplies they need or even your own time. Because now is not the time to be immobilized into inaction but to make moves toward action.

OPINIONS

Allegheny County fighting the opioid epidemic

VINCE GULLO
staff columnist

Imagine living in a world where 9/11 happened every three weeks. It'd be almost inconceivable. What if I told you that we are living in that world right now? In the world of the opioid epidemic, 142 people die in America every day from overdoses. That's the equivalent to the 9/11 death toll happening every three weeks. What's even more tragic than this is the reality that most do not even know this fact exists, and that it is specifically a problem in our own county.

America is sick. Not from Taco Bell Quesaritos or pictures of Kylie Jenner pre-plastic surgery, but by something much more serious. Opioid addiction has become a nation-wide crisis. Over-prescription of opioid-based pain medicine in recent years has caused people to become hooked more than ever. According to a recent study done by Blue Cross Blue Shield, the number of people diagnosed with opioid addiction (both legal and illegal) has increased 493 percent since 2010. And when they can no longer afford their addiction, they often move on to the cheaper, much more effective heroin. The opioid epidemic is interesting because, unlike previous drug crises, this problem knows no demographic boundaries. Everyone from the homeless in Uptown to the rich and famous are impacted by the opioid epidemic. I would strongly make the case that

everyone in America knows someone directly impacted by opioid addiction.

The numbers are staggering, and the effects can be seen closer than you may realize. Last year, Allegheny County police officers joined paramedics in becoming equipped with Narcan, the primary drug used to combat opioid overdoses, on their person when on duty. This year, paramedics and police have already almost met the amount of Narcan administered last year, and there's still three more months to go. One officer has administered Narcan so many times in the Market Square area that he's referred to as "Market Square Jesus." Almost 400 people have already died this year in Allegheny County from opioid overdoses. At the current rate, EMS in Allegheny County is projected to respond to almost 3,000 overdose calls. To put the drug crisis in Allegheny County in perspective, in the United States 1 in every 6,183 people die of a drug overdose, but in Allegheny County, that same statistic is 1 in every 1,846. There's a reason it's referred to as a "crisis."

Last year, President Obama proposed a \$1.1 billion dollar increase in funding to fight the opioid epidemic. Communities are scrambling to find solutions. Because they often begin as legitimate prescriptions, opioids are often hard to control, and because of their low price, volume and volatility ranging from product to product, controlling heroin is equally as difficult.

Pharmacy giant CVS is looking to slow down the addiction rates by limiting painkiller prescriptions to only a week for some conditions. This will hopefully be an affective defense against the ridiculous over prescription from doctors in recent years. Since 1999, sales in opioid-based painkillers have quadrupled, despite no studies showing that Americans are experiencing more pain.

Personally, I remember when my dentist looked to prescribe 15-year-old me a month's worth of Vicodin for the pain I may experience after my wisdom teeth surgery. I didn't need Vicodin, much less a whole month's supply. Besides for an excruciating infection I got from eating chinese food four hours after my surgery, my story of overprescription is not unique. I very easily could have become hooked like millions of other normal Americans who may have a disposition to addiction. The road from post-surgery to post-mortem is getting shorter and shorter.

America has slowly learned to accept mental illness more and more, and addiction is no exception. (Although it is obviously a disease of the body, acceptance of addiction as a mental illness is relatively recent.) With this progress, we can continue to have open conversations about ways in which to eradicate this disease that's plaguing America. Addicts, especially those addicted to "dirty drugs" such as heroin or opioids, have



COURTESY OF BIOEDGE

According to a 2015 National Survey on drug use and health, 2.1 million people mis-used prescription opioids for the first time.

traditionally been looked down upon and often brushed under the rug by American society. Take the 1980s crack epidemic for example, where millions of primarily poor African Americans suffered generations of abuse due to the cheap and addictive drug crack and the obnoxious prison sentences that went along with selling or using the drug. In the time of the epidemic, American mainstream society looked down on those addicted to and affected by the drug, and proactive change wasn't made until years later. It's unfortunate that cases of more prominent members of society becoming addicted to opioids is what really sparked the conversation about addiction. Although that is a sad reality, these cases definitely portray the nature of addiction. It can affect

anyone anywhere. It is only through this realization and compassion that we can truly begin to solve this issue. These people aren't just "junkies;" they are someone's son, daughter or parent. Although they may be the victims of their own life choices, these people are still sick and should be treated as such.

We don't have to wait for the politicians to pass legislation to see change come about. Anyone can be certified to administer Narcan, anyone can help volunteer at clinics that help those with addiction and, easiest of all, we all can be positive forces in each other's lives that are proactive in preventing addiction in our peers. Through a strong, compassionate stance, we can defeat this disease that's sickening our country and our county.

Gun control necessary to prevent next mass shooting



COURTESY OF NBC

On Sunday, 58 people were killed and over 500 were injured at a country music concert in Las Vegas.

HALLIE LAUER
layout editor

So far in 2017, over 300 people have been killed in mass shootings, and, on average, there has been one major mass shooting every two months since 2010.

These numbers could end with Las Vegas. Our government has the capability to make this the last mass shooting in the United States and put a halt to these terrible statistics, but it won't — not without persistence from the people.

How many memorial services, flags at half-staff and innocent lives lost will it

take until something concrete is finally done? After all of the previously mentioned events, the ability to prevent any further shootings was there. Yet, we as a nation have not done anything substantial to prevent it happening again in the future.

The Onion ran an article after the tragedy with the headline "No Way to Prevent this' Says Only Nation Where This Regularly Happens," and that headline, which makes readers want to laugh because it is true, also drives home a hard truth to accept. The United States is the only country with mass civilian shootings on such a wide scale and frequent level. The Onion has also

published this very same article after every mass shooting for the past five years.

The Las Vegas Police Sheriff, Joseph Lombardo told CNN, "I don't know how it could have been prevented."

To me, the answer seems obvious: gun control.

People only call for gun control directly after an incident, but as the crime fades from the headlines, so does the people's cry for change. They only take up their cry again when the next mass shooting happens.

I grew up in a rural town where almost everyone I knew owned some sort of gun for hunting. I am not against the Second Amendment. I am a big fan of the Constitution, and I will stand behind it. But we could do better. People have the right to bear arms, but we need to do better in terms of who can buy what and how they obtain those arms.

Germany, for example, is a country with one of the highest number of guns per capita, yet it's most recent mass shooting was in 2009. America's was four days ago.

The difference is that Germany is the only country that requires a psychiatric screening for anyone under the age of 25 attempting to buy a firearm. It also continues to tweak it's gun control laws anytime there is an incident so that repeat offenses are nearly impossible.

Germany also doesn't let its citizens own automatic weapons, and for good reason. I cannot fathom a logical explanation for why an everyday civilian needs any type of automatic firearm. Those are not guns someone uses to hunt deer. Automatic weapons are used to kill people.

Not only does the U.S. have loose gun control laws, we also aren't learning anything from all these deaths. According to an online article done by Slate, since 1996, the U.S. has had a ban on federally funded research on injuries caused by firearms.

"Research on the epidemiology of who, why and how people die as a result of gun injuries in America has virtually vanished," says the article. So, in essence, we aren't preventing or learning from these terrible tragedies.

It has become so ingrained into our lives that we as Americans don't even flinch when innocent people are gunned down. Sure, we post on Facebook about how our thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their families. But in reality, we have become desensitized to it. We watch the videos and say, "This is horrible," but we say it as if we are describing a scene from a fictional movie. This is not a good thing.

"If you aren't outraged, then you just aren't paying attention," a quote by author Lisa Borden was brought into the mainstream media by Heather Heyer before she was killed in the Charlottesville riots. It fits perfectly in consideration to the deadly shooting in Las Vegas.

So pay attention, because we have the capability to make sure this never happens again. Hold your representatives accountable for the lives of the people that elected them into office. In the 20 years I have been alive, I have seen the headline "The Most Deadly Shooting In U.S. History" three times, but we have the power to make this the last.

LEAH DEVORAK
editor-in-chief

The weather is finally starting to turn cold, which means it's also finally time to figure out your fall wardrobe.

Fall fashion can be ridiculously hard, not only because the temperature fluctuates until around late November but also because the options of what to wear get very tiresome very quickly. Plaid and jeans, sweater and

trousers, T-shirt and jacket — men certainly don't have as many options this time of year as ladies do. But don't let that discourage you; designers are trying hard to make this autumn the best men have seen, with a plethora of options and unique style changes for every taste on the market. Here are just a few that publications like *Vogue* and *GQ* are predicting to be the most popular in the upcoming months.

As always, lightweight sweaters are the shirt of choice this fall. However,

designers like Gucci are sending the classic garment back onto the market with a twist: oversized proportions and graphic designs. Yes, these two features have finally made their way out of the T-shirt department and into knitwear, ranging in size from baggy to knee-length and featuring anything from abstract images to political statements. Try pairing them with skinny fit pants for a sleek yet cool look, and be sure to choose one in cashmere or cotton to avoid any bothersome itch.

Shirts with high necks — like the increasingly common roll neck — have been popular during the fall and winter for a few years now. This season is no different, with not only the roll neck returning in shows like Louis Vuitton and Versace but also the classic turtleneck making its comeback. Found on shirts, sweaters and sweatshirts alike, touting a high neck is the perfect option for men of all styles.

Enough with the old, though. A new trend starting to catch fire is the silken pajama shirt. Yes, we're talking about those Ricky Ricardo, honey-I-need-a-smoke collared shirts that have been slowly emerging onto the market with help from brands like Gucci. They're recommended highly by *British GQ*, and they're starting to become fairly easy to find in stores. So if you want a fresh spin on the classic button down, try a pajama-style shirt this season. When tucked into a pair of fitted trousers, you'll look nothing but classic cool.

With chilly air quickly coming, it's always important to have the perfect jacket

to throw on anytime it's needed. Designers like Dries Van Noten and Topman are spicing up the cuts and styles popular of late by adding quilted textures reminiscent of those found on grandma's old blanket. But don't think that donning one will make you look like you rolled out of bed and straight into your quilt. This bit of texture simply takes what otherwise would have been a very boring garment and turns it into a unique statement that will instantly transform your outfit.

Anything reminiscent of the '80's and '90's is also a huge trend this fall. From pleated, wide leg trousers to red, white and blue, oversized quarter zips. If it looks straight out of *The Fresh Prince*, it's exactly the thing to wear.

As for accessories, according to *Vogue*, neckties are making a huge return, with shows like Prada, Dior Homme and Alexander McQueen pairing them with almost every outfit on the runway. Also, designers like Kenzo and Undercover are taking the traditional concept of outerwear accessories and throwing it out the window, instead using oversized hoods and ski masks that cover almost the entire face, mouth and neck to provide extra warmth.

Finally, try to buy everything listed here in classic fall colors like orange, camel and moss green, as they have been the most popular among designers this season, with Givenchy, Etro, Fendi, Missoni, Valentino, MSGM and Moschino just being a few. However, keep in mind that the '80's and '90's are also hugely in, so the bright, funky colors associated with those eras are also more than acceptable choices.



LEAH DEVORAK | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Nicolas Jozefczyk models a plaid flannel in moss green, a classic fall color. Other popular colors this season are blue, orange, red and yellow. Oversized sweaters with graphic prints are also a hit.

Homecoming celebrations welcome students old and new

CLAUDIA HARDY
staff writer

Whether your "story has just begun" or your "story began here," many would agree that Duquesne has left a significant impact on our college experience.

Thanks to the Advancement Department of Communications, all generations of alumni, students, families

and friends can gather together for a nostalgic weekend filled with exciting activities geared toward celebrating the university's legacy.

Duquesne has been bringing Dukes together to celebrate all of their memories for more than 50 years. Events range from alumni campus tours, to workshops, meet and greets, receptions, breakfast and luncheons, The Red Masquers' *Orphie and the Book of Heroes* and more.

Homecoming has been a successful event throughout the years due to all of the hard work and contributions from each department.

Monica Cooney, assistant director of advancement communications, describes the process as lengthy but rewarding.

"Planning usually takes place during at least 10 months of the year," Cooney said. "From defining the theme in January to tracking event attendance and evaluating attendee feedback through the end of October."

Planning an event like this requires all hands on deck.

"Each alumni engagement staff member is assigned a reunion group to work with in coordinating their event," Cooney said. "Staff across the university advancement department help with registration in the Union and making sure that each event runs smoothly."

Last year's Homecoming had a turnout of more than 1,200 alumni participating in the different events. In order to have a successful Homecoming, the departments work towards communicating effectively with any and all potential guests.

"We have sent over 40 emails to alumni this year, most of which have been targeted to class years cel-



COURTESY OF MONICA COONEY

The Advancement Communications Department is responsible for planning the celebrations and ensuring that all runs smoothly.

brating reunion," Cooney said. "Our social media promotion kicks off in July once registration opens. Posts are created at least once a week and, as the weekend draws closer, once per day."

In relation to potential guests, each year the university honors very accomplished alumni with The



OLLIE GRATZINGER/FEATURES EDITOR

This year's theme for the Homecoming is "Your Story Begins Here." Events and activities will take place along A-Walk all week.

Men's soccer struggling but remains optimistic

DAVID BORNE
staff writer

After getting off to a slow start in non-conference play, the Duquesne men's soccer team is trying to find their groove in Atlantic 10 action. Coming off a 3-1 win in their conference opener against La Salle on Sept. 30, the Dukes looked to keep up their success against A-10 counterpart Saint Louis on Wednesday night.

The Billikens, however, dominated much of the match and came out with a 3-0 win over Duquesne on Wednesday night.

The contest started out slow offensively, as neither team was able to find any rhythm in the opening half. Duquesne (3-7-1, 1-1-0) was held without a shot on goal, and though the Billikens recorded 11 first half shots, just one was on target.

For Duquesne, the pace of play remained slow following the break. Conversely, things began to click for Saint Louis in the second half. In the 60th minute, red-shirt freshman Keaton Schieffer was able to beat Duquesne keeper Robbie McKelvey, scoring match's first tally for the Billikens.

Things only went downhill from there for the Dukes, as Saint Louis added another in the 80th minute after Lennart Hein was fouled in the box by Duquesne defenseman Jack Bessey, result-

ing in an awarded penalty kick opportunity. Hein, the leading goal scorer for Saint Louis, fired a shot by a diving McKelvey, extended the lead to two.

Six minutes later, senior Duncan Corbett caught the Dukes off guard by ripping a shot from just inside the box over McKelvey and into the top corner of the cage. McKelvey recorded four saves in the 3-0 loss.

Saint Louis (3-5-1, 1-1-0) was selected to finish second in the Atlantic 10 preseason poll. The Billikens played a strong non-conference schedule in the season's opening month, and even recorded a win over No. 5 Stanford.

The Saint Louis back line held Duquesne to just eight shots overall, and the Dukes were without a shot for the first 81 minutes of the contest. Despite the final score, coach Chase Brooks was able to commend the way his team played the first 45 minutes against a strong Saint Louis team.

"We've continued to show that we can defend against the top teams. You have to tip your hat for two of their goals, they were both very good strikes. The other goal, the PK; maybe, maybe not. It's the ref's decision and that's fine," Brooks said.

"We just have to continue to learn. As we've said, it's a team that has played one of the tough-



BRYANNA McDERMOTT/ASST. PHOTO EDITOR

Duquesne's men's soccer team lines up for the national anthem prior to a match.

est Division I schedules in the nation in SLU. They're a well-battled and tested team. We just have to learn from this one and move on," he added.

Duquesne will have a few days to make adjustments following the loss before they head to Amherst to take on another tough conference foe in UMass. The Minutemen sit with a record of 7-2-2, and defeated Saint Louis in their A-10 opener.

While Duquesne has stumbled out of the gate, there's still plenty of time left in the season for the Red & Blue to get back on the right page and make some noise in conference play.

However, they will be faced with challenges. Four of their remaining six games will come on the road. Road games have plagued the Dukes all season, as they are currently 0-4-1 in

matches away from Rooney Field.

A big factor in Duquesne's success will be how much their offense is able to produce. A team needs goals to win, and the Dukes have been held to one goal or less in seven matches this season. Sophomores Jallah Acqui and Zach Hall, as well as senior Jason Twum, lead the Dukes with three goals each this season.

Though the trio has already played a big role in the Dukes' few wins this year, they will need to continue to produce in order to win some conference games. With a team that has struggled to score, the Dukes can't afford to have any of those three struggle to score in the latter half of the season if they're to right this proverbial ship.

Production from other spots wouldn't hurt the Dukes' prospects going forward, either.

Duquesne football takes lopsided home opener

ZACHARY GRACE
staff writer

On Sept. 30, Duquesne's football team won their home opener vs. DII West Virginia Wesleyan, 38-13.

The win was the program's 100th win at Arthur J. Rooney Athletic Field, where the team has played its home contests since the 1993 season.

Without top running backs A.J. Hines and P.J. Fulmore, the Dukes struggled early on offensively, but with about six minutes to play in the second quarter, quarterback Tommy Stuart got Duquesne on the board, finding wide receiver Nehari Crawford for a four-yard touchdown pass.

With 1:32 left in the second quarter, Stuart hit wide receiver Kareem Coles for a nine-yard touchdown pass, stretching the Duquesne lead to 14-0. The drive was set up by a West Virginia Wesleyan fumble, which was recovered by linebacker Nathan Stone at the Duquesne 37-yard line.

Stone finished the night with eight tackles, 2.5 sacks, one pass deflected and a recovered fumble for Duquesne.

On the ensuing West Virginia Wesleyan possession, Bobcats wide receiver Tra Jackson fumbled on his own 31-yard line, providing Duquesne with ideal field position. Stuart hit Coles for another touchdown with :37 remaining in the first half, padding the Dukes' lead to 21.

Having preserved all three of its first half timeouts, Duquesne

forced the Bobcats to punt on their next drive, resulting in a quickly completed pass to Dukes receiver Chavas Rawlins, who made it out-of-bounds following an 11-yard gain, stopping the clock.

Duquesne's quality time management skills setup redshirt freshman kicker Jacob Gill for a 41-yard field goal attempt, who connected on his first career try to give the Dukes a 24-0 lead heading into halftime.

Following the halftime break, with 2:15 left to play in the third quarter, Stuart found Crawford from 29 yards away, pushing the Dukes' lead to 31-0.

Several Duquesne backup players entered the game for Duquesne as the game became out-of-reach for the opposition.

The second-team offense looked smooth in its time on the field for coach Jerry Schmitt, as quarter-

back Brett Brumbaugh found wide receiver Thomas Lucas downfield for a 32-yard completion on one play in the fourth quarter.

Running back Ricky Mellick capped the drive with a four-yard touchdown run. The score was Mellick's first career tally.

As the game's final minutes dwindled down, West Virginia Wesleyan capitalized on several Duquesne penalties to move the ball, and ended up scoring its first touchdown of the game, which came on a 22-yard pass for the Bobcats. The Dukes' special teams unit punctuated the tone of the night's game, blocking the ensuing extra point attempt.

West Virginia Wesleyan scored again following a Duquesne turnover to make the count 38-13 in the game's closing moments.

Quarterback Tommy Stuart finished 24-29 for 226 yards

and four touchdowns, and Nehari Crawford led all wideouts with 70 receiving yards and two scores. Freshman back DeWayne Murray III led Duquesne with 83 yards rushing on 14 carries in his collegiate debut.

Stone led the defense with eight tackles, followed by safety Abner Roberts and linebacker Carter Henderson, who accounted for seven tackles apiece. Defensive end Andy Struttman added five tackles and 1.5 sacks.

Duquesne will begin conference play on Saturday, Oct. 7 vs. Wagner at 1 p.m. on Rooney Field as a part of the university's Homecoming festivities.

Wagner is 2-3 (0-1 NEC) on the season, with a 31-6 conference loss at NEC rival St. Francis on Sept. 9. In their last outing, the Seahawks won a home contest against Lehigh, 37-20.

Following the Dukes' victory on Saturday evening, Duquesne senior linebacker Carter Henderson said, "It was good to come back home, finally, [and] get a big win here. There was a big crowd [on Saturday night]," Henderson said of returning home to Rooney Field.

"This week, we're looking to start fast and stay on top of them all game," Henderson said, acknowledging that Duquesne can't get off to such a slow start against a stronger and faster opponent, like the one that it will face in Northeast Conference foe Wagner this weekend.

Duquesne beat Wagner, 28-20, at Wagner on Nov. 5 last year.



EDWARD MAJOR II/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Junior linebacker Jalen Booker warms up before the Dukes' home opener vs. West Virginia Wesleyan. Duquesne won 38-13 against the visiting Bobcats.

Upcoming Schedule

Women's Soccer (7-3-2, 3-1) vs. GMU (5-7-1, 2-1-1) at Rooney Field on Thu. Oct. 5 at 6:30 p.m.

Women's Tennis: Buffalo Invite Fri. Oct. 6 - Sun. Oct. 8

Volleyball (7-11, 2-2) at VCU (17-2, 3-0) on Fri. Oct. 6 at 7 p.m.

M/W Cross Country: Carnegie Mellon Invitational Sat. Oct. 7 at 11 a.m.

Men's Soccer (3-7-1, 1-1-0) at UMass (7-2-2, 1-0-0) on Sat. Sept. 30 at 3 p.m.

Football (3-1) vs. Wagner (2-3) at Rooney Field on Sat. Oct. 7 at 1 p.m.

Volleyball at Davidson (8-8, 1-2) on Sun. Oct. 8 at 1 p.m.

Women's Soccer at Davidson (2-11-0, 0-4-0) on Sun. Oct. 8 at 2 p.m.

Men's Soccer at Davidson (5-4-1, 0-2-0) on Wed. Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.

DU's Past Week

Women's Soccer: 1-0 OT WIN vs. VCU (5-3-2, 1-1-1) on Sept. 28

Men's Tennis: Rocket Invite (Toledo) Fri. Sept. 29 - Sun. Oct. 1

Volleyball: 3-1 LOSS vs. Dayton (10-6, 2-0) on Sept. 29

M/W Cross Country: M/W both placed 2nd at George Mason Invitational on Sept. 30

Men's Soccer: 3-1 WIN vs. La Salle (4-5-1, 0-1-0) on Sept. 30

Football: 38-13 WIN vs. WV Wesleyan (2-3; D-II)

Women's Soccer: 1-0 WIN at Fordham (5-5-3, 2-2-0) on Oct. 1

Volleyball: 3-2 LOSS at Saint Louis (5-11, 2-1) on Oct. 1

Men's Soccer: 3-0 LOSS vs. Saint Louis (3-5-1, 1-1-0) on Oct. 1

National Headlines

The Yankees beat the Twins, 8-4, on Oct. 3 in the AL Wild Card Game. The Yankees now move on to the ALDS, where they will face the Indians beginning on Oct. 5.

On Oct. 4, the Diamondbacks beat the Rockies, 11-8, in the NL Wild Card Game. They will now face the Dodgers in the NLDS, beginning on Oct. 6.

NHL PREVIEW: INSTALLMENT 2 OF 2

While the NHL welcomes Vegas in its inaugural season, all eyes will be on the Penguins' play this year as they look to three-peat

ADAM LINDNER
sports editor

This is the second of two installments previewing the NHL season. The previous installment can be found in the Sept. 28 edition.

Metropolitan Division —

1. Columbus Blue Jackets — The addition of a proven scorer like Artemi Panarin is huge for Columbus, a team that improved a lot last season behind the strong play of goalie Sergei Bobrovsky. If Goalie Bob can regain mid-season form early on and sustain a high level of play throughout the year, expect for the young Jackets to continue to climb the Metro's ranks as numerous top teams find their rosters depreciating.

2. Pittsburgh Penguins — In 2016, on the heels of a Stanley Cup victory over the San Jose Sharks, the Penguins returned with a nearly identical roster to that of their previous season's championship team. This year, following another Stanley Cup title for Sidney Crosby & Co., the team's mounting fatigue and the repercussions of much higher offseason roster turnover may begin to resonate. Some wonder whether or not Matt Murray can sustain a high level of play throughout the course of a full season without Marc-Andre Fleury backing him up, and if and when Jim Rutherford will acquire a center to man the third-line.

3. Washington Capitals — Many believed last year to be Washington's time to finally break through its proverbial playoff struggles and, at the very least, reach the Eastern Conference Finals. While Alex Ovechkin still hasn't reached the pinnacle of the NHL's postseason (or really even gotten near it), watch out for a sneaky, veteran Capitals squad this year to potentially make some noise in the playoffs. Losing Kevin Shattenkirk, Karl Alzner, Justin Williams and Marcus Johansson, among others, will severely damage Washington's depth, but Braden Holtby is a fine goalie, and the Caps still have numerous top-level scorers on their team in Ovechkin, T.J. Oshie and Evgeny Kuznetsov. Don't count them out just yet, as Ovechkin's motivation this year will be augmented by the NHL's absence from the Olympics and by the idea of a closing championship window in D.C.

4. New York Rangers — As the end of 35-year-old Henrik Lundqvist's reign in the Big Apple draws nearer, Rangers fans should rejoice in Kevin Shattenkirk's arrival, as the former Capital blueliner will bolster New

York's defensive corps and power play. This past offseason, the Rangers made a concerted effort to deal several seasoned veterans in the interest of allowing younger players with more opportunities on the ice, dealing center Derek Stepan and backup goalie Antti Raanta to Arizona and defenseman Dan Girardi to Tampa Bay. While Shattenkirk's arrival comes at a peculiar time as most of the Rangers' other major offseason moves included key departures, New York will again play a major role in the Eastern Conference this year.

5. Carolina Hurricanes — Overshadowed in last year's stacked Metropolitan Division, the Hurricanes quietly remained in the playoff hunt toward the end of the season. Having acquired longtime Blackhawks' No. 2 man Scott Darling to man the net over the summer, expect the Hurricanes' upward trajectory to continue as the vast majority of a young roster returns this season. Adding veteran Justin Williams, a former fan favorite from the team's Stanley Cup run in 2006, will be beneficial, as he can mentor players half his age as well as help to garner local intrigue for the Hurricanes. Watch for Sebastian Aho to eclipse the 30-goal mark this season.

6. Philadelphia Flyers — The Flyers landed Nolan Patrick with the No. 2 overall pick in June's draft, who will have a good opportunity to contribute in his first year in the NHL with a competitive team. A pedestrian collection of goalies will impede the Flyers' playoff quest this year, as they'll likely miss the postseason for a second consecutive year. Star center Claude Giroux, who only tallied 14 goals last season, may continue to regress.

7. New York Islanders — The Islanders will likely remain in the headlines throughout this coming season due to John Tavares' impending free agency. With one of the worst defensive units in the NHL, a lot of pressure will be placed on the shoulders of goalies Jaroslav Halak and Thomas Greiss, and the Islanders will likely struggle to keep the puck out of their own net in what could be the end of Tavares' tenure in New York.

8. New Jersey Devils — New Jersey's future looks bright as the team made 18-year-old Nico Hischier the first Swiss-born player to be selected first overall in the NHL Entry Draft, who's said to have locked down a spot among the Devils' top-six forwards as the new season opens. Adding forward Marcus Johansson, who is fresh off of a 24-goal season with Washington, will help the Devils' scoring offense, but New Jersey's abysmal blueline will lead to another losing season in Newark.

Central Division —

1. Nashville Predators — Coming off of a Stanley Cup Final loss to the Penguins, the upstart Predators should begin this season with plenty of swagger, as the excitement generated in Nashville during last year's Cup run should have some positive carry-over effects. Nashville lost James Neal to the expansion draft but signed former Penguin Nick Bonino, a strong two-way center who figures to fit right in with Nashville's puck-moving philosophy. Alexei Emelin's addition helps to make up for the hole that Ryan Ellis, who is out until January due to a knee injury, will leave on the Preds blueline.

2. Chicago Blackhawks — Nashville dumbfounded the hockey world last spring,



COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

Pittsburgh center Evgeni Malkin battles St. Louis captain Alex Pietrangolo for the puck on Oct. 4 at PPG Paints Arena. The Blues defeated the Penguins 5-4 in overtime, following Pittsburgh's Stanley Cup championship banner-raising ceremony on Wednesday evening.

sweeping Chicago in the first round of the playoffs on their way to a Stanley Cup Final. Chicago now returns a bulk of last season's squad that's now looking to salvage what's left of this iteration of the Blackhawks. Losing scorer Artemi Panarin really hurts Chicago, whose offense will also suffer from the absence of Marian Hossa, who is sidelined for a year as he deals with a progressive skin disorder. The 'Hawks will welcome back former players Brandon Saad and Patrick Sharp, who will look to recapture the magic of the early-2010's alongside staples Jonathan Toews, Patrick Kane, Duncan Keith and Corey Crawford.

3. Dallas Stars — After missing the post-season last year, the Stars made plenty of moves in the offseason that improved their roster dramatically; namely, the addition of Ben Bishop in net mercifully ends the Kari Lehtonen-Antti Niemi era in Dallas. Ken Hitchcock, longtime St. Louis coach who led the Stars to the 1999 Stanley Cup, takes the Dallas job over from Lindy Ruff, and Alexander Radulov, following a 54-point effort in Montreal last season, will join a top forward line also featuring Jamie Benn and Tyler Seguin. Marc Methot will add experience and talent atop Dallas' back end, and Martin Hanzal's arrival will inspire increased production from the third line.

4. Minnesota Wild — The Wild return largely the same cast that earned a 49-25-8 record last season, only to choke in the playoffs against the Blues, losing in five games. Their lack of performance in the playoffs should motivate the team this year, as the acquisition of Matt Cullen from Pittsburgh will help on the ice and in the locker room. Devan Dubnyk must have another outstanding year if the Wild are to advance beyond last year's pinnacle.

5. Winnipeg Jets — Last year, Patrik Laine and the Jets had no problem scoring, but allowed the fourth-most goals in the league last season. Winnipeg faithful hope that this year will be different, as Steve Mason signed a two-year, \$8.2 million deal with the Jets over the summer. Dmitry Kulikov solidifies Winnipeg's defense, one that needs to improve and stay healthy if the team as a whole hopes to make the playoffs this year.

6. St. Louis Blues — St. Louis sacrificed a large amount of their future in acquiring Brayden Schenn from Philadelphia over the summer as the franchise forfeited two first-round picks (one in 2017 and a conditional one in 2018) to the Flyers. Beyond that, the Blues return a similar roster to the one that bowed out in second round of the playoffs last season, but coach Ken Hitchcock was replaced with former Wild assistant Mike Yeo, who is a defensive guru. St. Louis has a standout core, but if their veterans struggle to remain healthy and produce, the Blues could fall in the Central this year.

7. Colorado Avalanche — There's not much to say here, other than Colorado's front office refrained from making many moves during the offseason following a 22-56-4 showing last season. Matt Duchene remains in Colorado for the time being, but trade talks could reignite as the season kicks back into full gear this week.

Pacific Division —

1. Edmonton Oilers — Coming off of his first full NHL season, Connor McDavid hopes to supplement last year's successes with a deeper run into the postseason this year. Last season's Edmonton team finished 47-26-9 before faltering against Anaheim in the second round last year, and after a summer of rest, reflection and maturation, expect for the Oilers to look even scarier in the West this season. The addition of veteran Jussi Jokinen could turn out to benefit the Oilers once the playoffs come around once again this coming spring.

2. Anaheim Ducks — While Anaheim is likely the deepest team in the Pacific, an aging roster like Anaheim's in a fast, young league may have difficulty competing with some of the West's best teams come post-season time. Health may be an issue, as Ryan Kesler will be sidelined until Christmas, and two of the Ducks' top defensemen are

see NHL — page 12



COURTESY OF THE LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL
Vegas goalie Marc-Andre Fleury stretches before a preseason game. The Knights' first-ever regular season game is Oct. 6 in Dallas.

'FIFA 18' is series' best, even if by default

SEAN ARMSTRONG
staff writer

F*I*FA 18 is like Cristiano Ronaldo. Both are currently the best the world has to offer, yet people perpetually claim that another player or another version is better. Last year's *FIFA 17* came with sweeping changes and — since it was also an EA product — massive issues. Fortunately, this time around, *FIFA 18* is everything its predecessor tried to be and then some.

Part of these improvements begins with The Journey, a game mode introduced in 17 that allows players to immerse themselves in the life of Alex Hunter, a fictional soccer entity. Players not only see Hunter's story unfold, but they get to control what he says and does, as well.

Despite a wide array of choices on offer, however, none of them truly matter. There is a standard list of objectives in every soccer match for Hunter to accomplish, and the choices that are available cannot be described as particularly significant. If Hunter plays so horribly the manager subs him out of the game early, nothing happens. If Hunter scores a hat trick every single game, nothing happens.

While this mode is more in-depth



FIFA 18 marks the first time that Real Madrid star Cristiano Ronaldo features on the game's cover. Marco Reus covered last year's version of *FIFA*.

than what 17 has to offer, it fails to be anything other than a good story. That is all well and good, but *FIFA 18* doesn't advertise itself that way. It's marketed as a choice-fueled narrative — which is true, unless anyone assumes that those choices actually matter.

The FIFA Ultimate Team mode also returns and finally offers a somewhat decent way to let someone who isn't looking to spend their entire paycheck on pay-to-play currency actually compete. This has been a gradual change for the series, but it probably should not have taken five years for EA to finally make a version of Ultimate Team that is fair and balanced

for those who do not want to indulge in microtransactions.

In the past, players funneled money into buying packs so that they could corner the market on the best players (such as Cristiano Ronaldo, Lionel Messi and Neymar). However, the game mode has now added player icons from past generations to balance the competitive landscape out. The developers have also made it so that those who have played past versions of the game get special bonuses upon entering the game mode, like loan players. Overall, Ultimate Team is now more about who can play the game and not about who is willing

to spend the most money on a game that many only play for a year.

Finally, the mechanics of the game no longer favor speed above all else. In the past, the player with the fastest team would always win by kicking the ball down the field and outrunning their opponent's team.

Helping keep the game fun and fair is ball guarding. This feature — which Ronaldo himself helped bring to life — makes it possible to retain possession for more than a few seconds. Now, rather than having a high-quality defender just ram another player to steal the ball back, ball guarding allows the player to make more dynamic and quicker actions to avoid the defender stripping the player of the ball.

Overall, *FIFA 18* is likely the best iteration the franchise has ever produced. Not many will agree with that, but those people confuse emotional attachment from playing *FIFA* as a kid or playing *FIFA* in a year their favorite team was good with the quality of actual game content. As far as that content goes, there are more women's teams than in the past; there is a longer, deeper story mode and many of the issues that hallmark the series have been managed. So, I can't see any reason why this isn't the best version to date.

WEEK'S EVENTS

Homecoming 2017's Trivia Night
Oct. 6, 7-9 p.m.

The Duquesne Program Council will be hosting a Trivia Night event at The Red Ring Bar and Grille on Forbes Ave. Groups planning to attend can receive a voucher for free food by visiting the Center for Student Involvement in the Union.

Dug N' Roll: Battle of the Bands
Oct. 7, 8 p.m.

Sponsored by the Duquesne Program Council, this event will showcase the talents of a variety of musical groups consisting of Duquesne students. Attendees will vote for the best band at the event. Free tickets are available at the Union Information Desk, and the event will take place in the Union Ballroom.

UPCOMING RELEASES

Blade Runner 2049
Oct. 6

This long-awaited sequel to 1982's science fiction classic *Blade Runner* stars Ryan Gosling as Officer K, alongside Harrison Ford reprising his role as Rick Deckard. In the film, Officer K unearths an eye-opening secret regarding the synthetic humans, known as replicants.

Heaven Upside Down
Oct. 6

The tenth record from metal band Marilyn Manson, led by its famously controversial eponymous lead vocalist. The album was originally teased on the 2016 election day and promises to be a lyrically political album, as well as touching upon the death of Manson's father during the album's production.

MICRO REVIEW

Gathering

Josh Ritter's ninth album adds to the convincing case that he is one of the best singer-songwriters alive today. *Gathering* is a beautiful album with songs that paint vivid, dreamy pictures supplemented with folksy guitar. "Myra Loy" and "Dreams" have Ritter murmuring his way through otherworldly stories, while "Oh Lord Part 3" is a rocking, folk smash.

If you haven't listened to Ritter before, you should. It's the perfect music for a rainy day dinner party.
— Raymond Arke

Cruise, others nail roles in 'American Made'

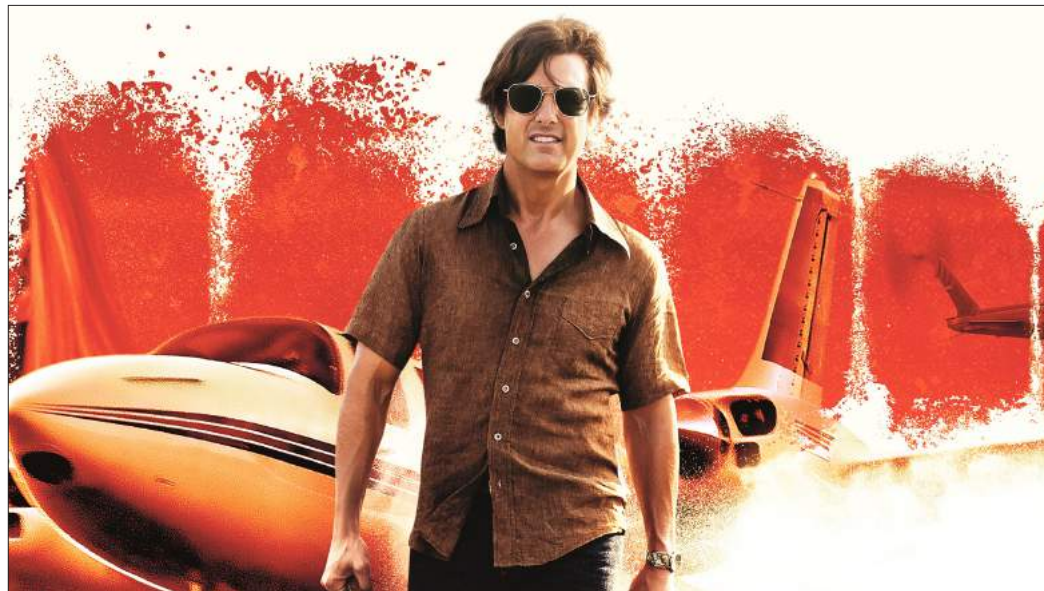
NICOLAS LUCENTE
staff writer

Tom Cruise. Tom Cruise! TOM CRUISE! That man has done it again. *American Made*, released on Sept. 28, is turning critics' and audiences' heads, and for good reason. The film is a biopic about a pilot named Barry Seal, played by Cruise, who has quit his average job of piloting for Trans World Airlines to join the CIA. However, he feels that the CIA does not pay him enough for his services, so he decides to go make some new friends in Columbia. There, he makes boatloads (or should I say planeloads) of cash illegally trafficking cocaine into the United States.

Cruise plays his role with a lot of energy, and the audience can feel it taking the movie up a notch. There's just something about Cruise being in a cockpit that is just really special. The way he carries himself, or rather the way he portrays Seal, feels genuine and real.

Speaking of real, we know that the movie itself is not completely accurate when it comes to Barry Seal. He was not a considerate guy and never came close to mimicking his movie counterpart. If historical accuracy is the reason you go to the movies, then you will have a problem with this film. But that's why they say "based on a true story" and not "every detail is historically accurate," right?

That being said, the movie is easy-to-watch fun. Plus, the additions made to Seal's character throw a nice wrinkle into the film. Instead of just focusing on his own financial success, he demonstrates concern over his family as well. Without this slight twist to the story, the movie would not be as riveting and would not have the same amount of emotion. Overall, the film is solid, probably one of Cruise's best per-



COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Despite positive buzz, *American Made* was beaten out of the box office this past weekend by both *Kingsman: The Golden Circle* and *It*. Despite coming in third, *American Made* netted \$16.758 million.

formances in years, and that alone elevates the movie to another level.

The supporting actors are phenomenal as well. Domhnall Gleeson plays CIA agent Monty Schafer, Seal's advisor. He may have even fulfilled his role better than Cruise. He's friendly at times to reel Seal in and make him feel wanted and appreciated before pivoting quickly to bring the hammer down on him when his cooperation is slacking. Gleeson's role seemed difficult, but he knocked it straight out of the park.

As for supporting actresses, Sarah Wright plays Seal's wife, Lucy Seal, tremendously. Tasked with raising their children and bottling up Barry's secrets, Lucy entertains audiences as her char-

acter develops over the course of the movie. She goes from content with her life, to angry with her husband, to supportive of him, to eventually reaching the point where she is proud of Barry, backing him no matter what. Watching this arc is interesting and makes Wright's performance that much more compelling to watch.

If you are on the fence about going to see this one, hop off that fence fast and go see *American Made* immediately. It is not just another historical movie. We have heard them all before. This is about Barry Seal and his thrilling adrenaline-packed life as a CIA pilot. If nothing else, go see it for Tom Cruise; his performance in *American Made* should not go unnoticed, and it would be a travesty if it goes underappreciated.

Season finale mixed bag for 'Rick and Morty'

ZACH LANDAU
a&e editor

So, *Rick and Morty*. Rick. And Morty. Together. 100 times forever *Rick and Morty*.

Truth be told, I don't know what to say about the third season of what is undoubtedly the strangest, most fantastical show on TV now. What can be best described as part *Futurama* spin-off, part *Back to the Future* parody, part crash course on existential philosophy and theoretical physics, *Rick and Morty* has always coddled next to the weird and unpredictable.

Each episode includes its own cosmic gimmick, and adventures for the titular heroes revolve around solving fantastic problems with equally fantastic, even bizarre solutions. Anatomy theme parks. An interplanetary talent show. Psychic parasites. All types of strange, wonderful elements come together to form a miasma of comedy and tragedy. Sure, it's funny to watch dogs gain sentience and take over the world, but what separates *Rick and Morty* is its commitment to seeing the joke through to its twisted end.

Dogs may take over the world, sure, but they also keep Morty as a pet and demonstrate a level of sophistication that is beyond that of even humans. It's trite, in truth. However, while most other shows may stop at "dogs take over" or try to parody the trope, *Rick and Morty* commits to the idea with full sincerity, making the ending where the dogs leave to another dimension all the more surreal and funny.



COURTESY OF ADULT SWIM

The third season of *Rick and Morty* actually premiered as an unannounced April Fool's joke. The season did not begin in earnest until July 30 with the episode "Rickmancing the Stone."

It's a refreshing take on animated comedy to have something so sincere and yet so nihilistic. The commitment to form allows the writers to pack in tons of jokes, but it also allows for the show's darker elements to shine through.

The futility of human life, for example, is a recurring motif throughout the series. To someone as smart as Rick, the only life that matters is his own. Death, destruction and bedlam are the costs of science, and his indifference to the wider implications of his actions makes Rick the most dangerous agent in his universe.

That unfettered chaos does have consequences, however, and that's where Season 3 comes in.

In the past, the show happily leaves trauma and grief as ancillary to the main plot. This season, though, brings those elements to the forefront. These extra details add texture and nuance to an already dense show. Anyone can watch an episode and appreciate it for its basic comedic value, but for those who commit themselves to analyzing a bit further, there's an extra bit of ethos to consume and examine.

There's so much that goes into one episode, but no individual part stands out as abnormal or noteworthy. That is, until Season 3, where most episodes make their purpose and elements clear from the onset. The

open and tacit nature of this outing removes much of the charm and excitement that made the series such a joy to watch. *Rick and Morty* is still as anarchic as before, but this season more than others brings its subtext to the forefront.

In the second episode of the season, for example, Rick, Morty and Summer all find their methods of coping with Jerry and Beth's divorce in a *Mad Max*-esque world. Right from the start, all the pieces are carefully put into place for character arcs that telegraph themselves the moment the opening credits end. And this pattern repeats itself throughout the season, so much so that the writers even mock the idea in episode five when Rick breaks the fourth wall, screaming, "It's a Rick and Jerry adventure! Rick and Jerry episode!"

And that's lazy. I hate to say it, but it is kind of lazy to mock the fact that each episode feels the same and to act like that's OK. Because it's not. Pointing out a problem with one's work does not mean that problem goes away, and we expect better from the show's writers.

That's the reason it's hard to attribute this bizarre instance to laziness. There is a lot of effort put into this season. The writing is still top-notch, there's rarely a joke that doesn't land and the animation has even had a clear step up since Season 1. The bits of character growth are also stellar, and the therapist's monologue at the end of "Pickle Rick" will be forever remembered for its excellent delivery and razor-sharp writing.

see **SMALLS** — page 11

'Kingsman' beats expectations again in sequel

LEAH DEVORAK
editor-in-chief

God save the queen. *Kingsman* is brilliant.

After keeping fans waiting for three years, the second film in the beloved series, *Kingsman: The Golden Circle*, picks up with a bang as Eggsy, played by Taron Egerton; Roxy, played by Sophie Cook; Merlin, played by Mark Strong and the whole rest of the first film's agents head off into the same world-saving antics that captured audiences everywhere the last time around.

Well, sort of.

While the action of this film is full-on classic *Kingsman* from the get go, the character list very quickly and very drastically changes as the agency's headquarters is destroyed, calling for a new protocol and a trip to America in order to figure out just what the heck is going on.

But while that initial twist in the plot is a fantastic move, one that's even even grander is something revealed long before the film's release by its various posters: Harry — played by the legendary Colin Firth and thought to be killed in the first movie — is actually alive. Yes, freaking Harry is freaking alive, and given the problems the Kingsman agency faces in this film, it's one of the most brilliant choices the writers could have made.

But they didn't just bring Harry back and have everything be la di da. Nope, as a parody to the spy genre, *Kingsman* knows much better than to be as stereotypical as that. So while Harry is alive, he isn't necessarily fully there, and getting him to be 100 percent again turns out to be one of the funniest, saddest and most touching parts of the whole film, adding much needed emotion into an otherwise sterile series.

The great emotion doesn't just stop there, though. The whole two hours are sprinkled with gut wrenching scenes that force the audience to become invested in both the characters and the movie in a way they never had to before. And that's probably what sets *The Golden Circle* so far apart from its predecessor; because of the various emotional touches,



COURTESY OF 20TH CENTURY FOX

Originally slated for June of this year, *Kingsman: The Golden Circle* was pushed back to an October release date. It was again rescheduled for late September for US and UK releases. Despite the sporadic release, the movie has grossed \$194.1 million worldwide.

viewers are finally able to care about their favorite characters on a deeper level, a very satisfying and refreshing addition to what could have otherwise been a film too crude and gory for most folks to watch.

But while this is all great, the icing on the cake is the movie's fantastically executed humor. Every joke made from start to finish is classic *Kingsman*, mixing quick wit with dramatic irony in order to create beautiful, natural and far from cheesy dialogue. This type of banter is the perfect way to keep audiences interested in the plot even during its more dry parts — something not too many films do successfully.

The fact that most of the humor utilized is of the stereotypical, classic British sort only further amplifies the film due to its juxtaposition with the snark of the Americans the Kingsman agents come in contact with, especially when they first meet. Drawing a lot on well-known history for these moments, the writers make sure that audiences everywhere are able to understand the groups' funny conflicts, taking this film up a level as compared to others in the same genre right now.

The only bit that seemed a little odd was the fact that the rendezvous between Eggsy and Princess Tilde of Sweden at the end of the last movie — his reward for saving the world — was turned into a full-fledged, very serious relationship. It definitely did not seem right at first, but with a lot of appeals to the true love the two somehow managed to find, after about 10 minutes, the weirdness starts to fade.

Speaking of weirdness, one can't forget to mention the stellar performance by Julianne Moore as the film's villain, Poppy. From her secret world in the jungle to the gruesome way she executes her foes (hamburger, anyone?), Moore adds a sense of fear and suspense that very unconventionally keeps the viewer on edge the whole entire time.

All in all, *Kingsman: The Golden Circle* is a fantastically executed film that blows the first one out of the water — if that is even possible. If not opposed to a bit of blood, gore and slightly inappropriate jokes, then definitely be sure to check this movie out.

Crime and fire stats released

CRIME — from page 3

Duquesne University, noticed some of these statistics as well. He believes, “the recent decriminalization of marijuana in some states has contributed to the general acceptance of its use, even while it remains a violation in Pennsylvania.”

While most of the Drug Law Arrests were for marijuana, the numbers are still “relatively low for a student population of approximately 10,000,” Hart said.

In order to combat this, the Office of Residence Life and DU CARES will continue to educate students, and the Office of Residence Life has introduced a program to help RAs identify drugs and drug symptoms to help reduce the number of Duquesne students entering the justice system.

“The Fire and Safety Report confirms that Duquesne University’s commitment to providing a safe and successful environment for students and staff,” Hart said.

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The crowdfunding website is open and active until 11:59 p.m. on Oct. 28. Any and all donations are welcome!



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Campus named to green list

ENVIRO — from page 2

recognizes our upholding the University’s mission to serve God by serving students,” David Chismar, supervisor of energy management and forecasting for the Department of Facilities Management, said.

Chismar commented on the dedication of the facilities staff.

“Facilities management staff work hard every day to be responsible stewards of the resources provided to us in a way that demonstrates to our Duquesne family that it is possible to be sustainable — even on an urban campus,” he said. “We are grateful to be recognized for our efforts, and we will continue to find ways to be more sustainable and to educate the next generation so that they can take the lessons and examples of Duquesne out into the world.”



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Rick and Morty still strong after Season 3

SMALLS — from page 10

That being said, watching *Rick and Morty* does get boring when what was a cool detail that rewarded fans for digging deeper becomes the main vehicle for seven episodes in a 10-episode season. Individual character’s motives, their personal struggles, them as people instead of archetypes, marks a bizarre switch from the simple caricatures that they once were. References to internal struggles were typically resolved at the end of episodes, and the notion that there was a continuity of emotional depth was more or less a foreign element in the series.

This is all to say that *Rick and Morty* is still really good, perhaps even a paragon in its genre. How-

ever, the re-emphasis on longer character arcs instead of immediate, gratifying comedy drags down what would have been an exceptional season. Perhaps if these episodes were spaced out more (most development-heavy ones occur toward the beginning of the season), then there would be a more natural flow. The front-loading gives the impression that there will be a massive season culmination where all these elements come together, but that never arrives. As is, Season 3 of *Rick and Morty* left me rather cold, as I greeted each new episode with the worry that we would never move past the quagmire of its opening. Here’s to hoping for a return to form in, I don’t know, a year and a half.

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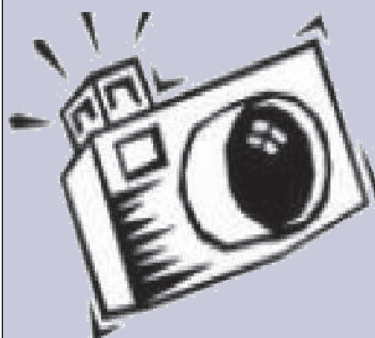
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Alumni to return for homecoming week

DUKES — from page 6

university honors accomplished alumni with The Century Club awards. This year, one of the honorees is Len Komoroski, A'82, the CEO of the Cleveland Cavaliers/Quicken Loans Arena. Students and alumni have the opportunity to attend his speech, to be given on Saturday, Oct. 7.

Although Homecoming is primarily a time for alumni members to reunite and celebrate their past, there are a variety of ways students can get involved with these events, as well. Nicole Carfang, assistant director of alumni engagement, discusses how students can do this.

"Students can join the homecoming committee or partici-

pate in events throughout the week by signing up on Campus-Link," Carfang said. "Groups (organizations and friends) can sign up to participate in events during the week and earn points to win prizes."

The purpose of Homecoming is simple: It reunites the entire university, past and present.

"It's exciting to work with various campus departments and seeing our alumni, both young and old come back to the Bluff to see how it has changed," Carfang said. "It is always rewarding to meet those who still love coming back to campus."

To keep up with the latest Homecoming events happening this weekend, follow "@duq-alumni" on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.



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Second installment NHL preview

NHL — from page 8

recovering from offseason shoulder work in Hampus Lindholm and Sami Vatanen. Ryan Miller signed in the offseason and will backup John Gibson this year for Anaheim. Patrick Eaves' return is huge for the Ducks.

3. Calgary Flames — Mike Smith's arrival is a ginormous relief for Calgary, who has not had a pronounced presence in net since the days of Miikka Kiprusoff. Eddie Lack, who played in Carolina last season, arrives, as well, fortifying the Flames' situation between the pipes. It doesn't hurt that Smith and Lack will play behind a blue-line supplemented by the arrival of former Islander Travis Hamonic, who joins a defensive staff already considered among the best in the league. While it's unfortunate timing for Flames fans being that their provincial rival Edmonton sports Connor McDavid & Co. on its roster, Calgary could be a major darkhouse this spring if they can translate regular season success into the playoffs.

4. San Jose Sharks — For the first time since many Duquesne students have even been alive, Patrick Marleau will not be a member of the San Jose Sharks this season, as the 19-year veteran forward signed with Toronto in the offseason. Otherwise, the Sharks are largely the same team that reached the Stanley Cup Final just two seasons ago, as Joe Thornton, Joe Pavelski and Brent Burns are all still intact out west. One of the more accomplished groups in the whole league, the Sharks have a closing window, and will need younger players like Tomas Hertl and Joonas Donskoi to contribute greatly if San Jose is to return for the postseason once again.

5. Los Angeles Kings — Following major changes in the front office and behind the bench, the Kings' roster remains similar to last year's team, save for the addition of Mike Cammalleri, who arrives back in Los Angeles fresh off of a career-worst 10-goal season in New Jersey. With the return of a healthy Jonathan Quick, Los Angeles should be able to return to form if other key cogs, like Drew Doughty and Anze

Kopitar, can return to form.

6. Arizona Coyotes — The Coyotes saw a large amount of roster turnover this past summer, with longtime captain Shane Doan among the most notable departures. Former Ranger Derek Stepan will now center the top forward line for Arizona, a team that's under new leadership in coach Rick Tocchet, a former assistant coach with the Penguins. Former Rangers backup goaltender Antti Raanta will man the pipes for Tocchet's new team, a job made easier by the addition of the tandem of Niklas Hjalmarsson and Jason Demers to the Coyotes' backline. Arizona's young roster should benefit from the infusion of experienced talent that joins their lineup.

7. Vegas Golden Knights — In Vegas' first season in the league, backstopper Marc-Andre Fleury will see his fair share of action, as the Golden Knights' roster is comprised of players who were only familiar to each other as opponents six months ago. Thus, Vegas' mission this year is simple: Win enough to preserve the excitement that's sure to abound within T-Mobile Arena this year, and to familiarize itself with its new surroundings and the league. For an expansion roster, this team could look much worse, but don't expect too much out of the newly-formed Knights this season. Two players to pay attention to are Marc-Andre Fleury, the Stanley Cup champion goaltender, and 30-year-old Vadim Shipachyov, who makes his NHL debut this year with the Knights after nine seasons in the KHL, where he recorded 412 points in 445 games played with Severstal and SKA Saint Petersburg.

8. Vancouver Canucks — The Canucks finished 29th in the league in scoring last season, with much of that output coming from the Sedin twins, who both have just turned 37. Additionally, the goalie situation is murky, with Jacob Markstrom and Anders Nilsson responsible for keeping pucks out of the net for Vancouver. The additions of veterans Sam Gagner, Thomas Vanek and Michael Del Zotto will help out, even if their contributions may be minimal.

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