



## DU law student to join Navy's JAG Corps

RAYMOND ARKE

news editor

While "jag-off" is a common Western Pennsylvania insult, one Duquesne law student is pursuing a career where JAG would be her title, a joke she hears quite often.

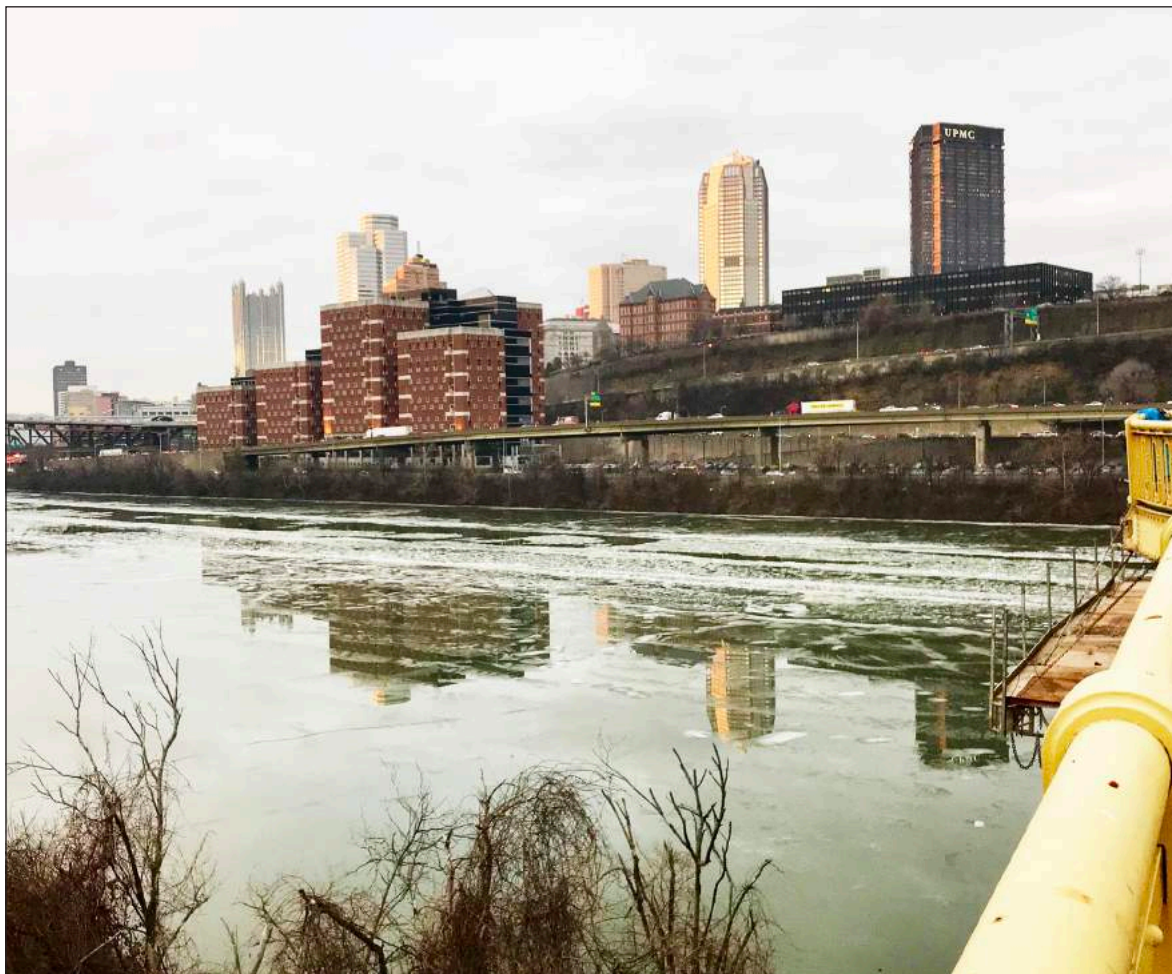
Amanda Perry, a fourth-year Duquesne law evening student, was recently accepted into the Navy Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corps.

Each branch of the military has its own JAG Corps, with the officers handling any legal issues that occur within that branch. This type of law isn't always the same as in the civilian world, Perry explained.

"Military law is separate from civilian law. The JAG Corps exclusively practices under the Uni-

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## Watching winter's waters roll



KAILEY LOVE/PHOTO EDITOR

The Monongahela River, still carrying ice, flows under the 10th Street Bridge on Jan. 10. Warmer weather is forecasted.

## Biomed students shoot for the stars

MICHAEL MARAFINO

staff writer

Space, the final frontier, has much left to be explored, and a team of Duquesne University's Biomedical Engineering Program students are working to help scientists examine the heavens. The team has been chosen to participate in the NASA Micro-g Neutral Buoyancy Experiment Design Teams competition (Micro-g NExT).

The Duquesne students involved include freshmen Clare Flanagan, Tori Kocsis and Nicholas Rallo and sophomores Garrett Craig, Madeline Douglas, Madelyn Hoying and Jacob Salvatore, according to Duquesne University's Facebook page. The 2018 Micro-g NExT cohort consists of

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## House education bill may cause big changes for college students

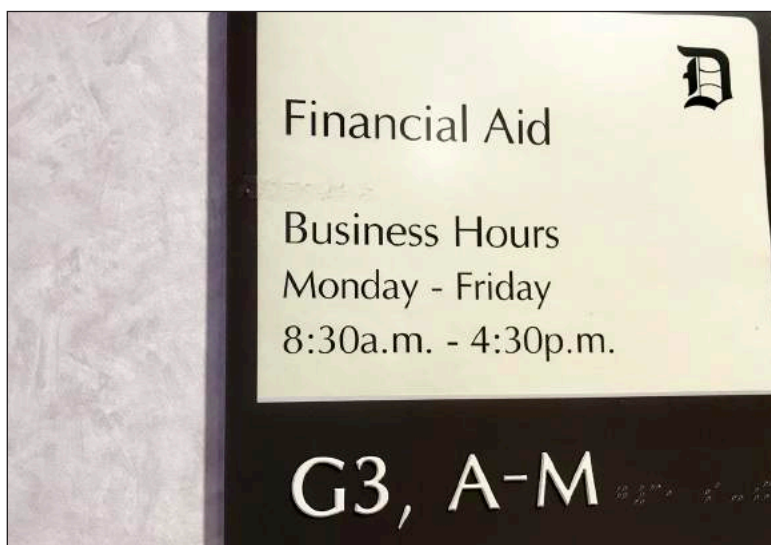
KAILEY LOVE

photo editor

Shortly before Christmas on Capitol Hill, several House Republicans compiled a 542-page bill that would significantly change how Duquesne students, and students nationwide, fund their education.

On Dec. 1, 2017, House Republicans proposed an overhaul of the Higher Education Act of 1965 — a law that determines the entire federal aid system — in an attempt to minimize the role of government in education. As dictated in this act, reauthorization should occur every five years.

This proposal, coined Promoting Real Opportunity, Success, and Prosperity through Education Reform Act (or, the PROSPER Act) is the first significant legislative move toward reauthorization in the past 10 years, having already moved through committee on Dec. 12 and advancing



KAILEY LOVE/PHOTO EDITOR

A GOP-sponsored House education bill could lead to changes for college financial aid.

to the House floor for a full vote.

In her opening statements when introducing the bill, Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC), chairwoman of the House Education and Workforce Committee,

stated, "Lifelong learning is the root of all innovation, which, in this country, has always been the foundation for real prosperity."

"No bill is perfect when it begins its course through the leg-

islative process, and we can all agree that no bill is perfect when it reaches the end of the legislative process," she said. "But we are here today because we cannot allow the status quo to continue."

The speed in which this bill is advancing through Congress has drawn criticism and concern from Democrats and the American Council on Education (ACE).

The organization feels that the markup process in which the bill underwent a 14-hour debate period in the House Education and Workforce Committee (moving forward after a vote of 23-17 along party lines) was too fast to assess the full impact that the bill would have on students and their families.

In a letter to Chairwoman Rep. Foxx, Chairman Rep. Brett Guthrie (R-KY) and ranking members Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA) and Rep. Susan Davis (D-CA), ACE, along with 36 other organizations voiced their concerns about

the bill's momentum.

"Despite the fact that reauthorization is already several years behind schedule, this bill is suddenly being rushed through committee," they said.

"This expedited time frame limits the ability to analyze the bill and consult with affected parties, leaving the committee in the position of asking its members and the public to support legislation before knowing its full impact. We urge you to delay marking up the bill to allow for more input."

Amongst the proposed changes in the bill, there are a few amendments that have received bipartisan praise. The elimination of student loan fees, raising the Pell Grant award for students taking more than 15 credits per semester, simplification of the application process for financial assistance, incentivizing four-year graduation

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## POLICE BRIEFS

Welcome back from your holiday break. Grandpa PB's resolution this year is to continue to keep an ever watching eye on all yinz shenanigans. So, not much changes. A new year, but we have to go over these old crimes.

On Dec. 5, a female Duquesne student reported receiving unwanted texts from an ex-boyfriend.

Also on Dec. 5, a student was assaulted by another student outside the Duquesne Union. The assaulting student was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

On Dec. 7, a student's lost wallet was found in the Wharton Square Giant Eagle. The wallet contained two fake IDs. A non-traffic citation was issued and the student was referred to the Office of Student Conduct. As Bob Dylan said, "If you want to live outside the law, you must be honest."

On Dec. 8, a student's parked car was struck in the Locust Garage.

Also on Dec. 8, Duquesne Police responded to a call about an intoxicated student in St. Ann's. The underage student was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Dec. 9 was a busy day for crimes. Six students in St. Ann's were found together in a room, smoking marijuana. They were all referred to the Office of Student Conduct. When it comes to holiday greenery, stick to pine trees and mistletoe.

Someone must have broken out the champagne a bit too early. On Dec. 9, a female student in Towers was intoxicated and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Also on Dec. 9, two students in St. Ann's were found drinking alcohol and smoking marijuana. The police report said that they will be charged accordingly. I guess this is "crossfading," something Grandpa PB thought was a haircut.

Finally on Dec. 9, a student's car was damaged while parked on Locust Street.

On Dec. 27, a janitor in the Barnes & Noble Bookstore found his jacket had been stolen.

On Jan. 3, a Duquesne Police officer observed a vehicle driving the wrong way down Fifth Avenue. The officer made contact with the non-affiliate driver and smelled a strong odor of alcohol. The driver was arrested under suspicion of a DUI and is facing charges. The offending driver is Michelle Haver of 158 Locust St. Emsworth, PA.

## EMAIL TIPS

We want your input!

The Duke's news section would love to hear from you about stories that you want to see in print. You can send your tips and story ideas to News Editor Raymond Arke at [arker@duq.edu](mailto:arker@duq.edu).

# Doctoral candidate explores learning disabilities

ZACH LANDAU  
editor-in-chief

Children with behavioral or emotional disorders often struggle in school, and with diagnoses like Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) on the rise, meeting these students' needs is becoming more urgent for teachers.

That's where Siddiq Ahmed, a third-year doctoral candidate at Duquesne, steps in. He has focused his work on students with developmental disabilities and positive behavior support. Ahmed has co-authored two papers, including one on social narrative strategies that can help children with ASD develop their social skills.

Now, among other projects, Ahmed is exploring how peer tutoring can improve struggling students' performances in the classroom.

"One part of my research is a peer-tutoring strategy with students with Autism Spectrum Disorder and how we can improve their writing skills," Ahmed said.

Before students begin working together, Ahmed observes where mistakes — such as grammatical and spelling errors — are being made. After specific criteria are defined, and students are given training on how to critique their classmates' papers, the peer review begins.

"Then we give [the students with ASD] a task, and see,"



COURTESY OF SIDDIQ AHMED

Ahmed is studying how to improve the performance in school of struggling students.

Ahmed explained, "if the intervention works or not."

Improvements are measured by a system that Ahmed developed where students are assessed before and after peer tutoring.

Ahmed started his research on this method of intervention in September 2017.

Peer tutoring offers opportunities for students to exercise and develop many different skills. Ashley Zehner, another doctoral candidate in the Duquesne School of Education, who concentrates on special education with a focus in behavior and autism, explained that having students work together allows for use of the classroom "effectively."

"One of the main benefits is that you have a student who is typi-

cally developing and is succeeding in an area where another student may not be," Zehner said. "You're having them work together, and you can look at [the benefits] from many different aspects, such as bullying. Instead of putting someone down, they're working with them to lift them up."

Zehner touted the reciprocal benefits of peer tutoring, saying, "There's so many pros that are from different aspects of development — social, interpersonal, intrapersonal — on top of academic, and that allows students to grow, which is very important."

Students with special needs sometimes require different methods and structures in order to learn the same material as their classmates. As more students are diagnosed with

disabilities, classroom teachers find themselves underprepared to meet some of their learning needs.

"Those children require special education programs, as well as qualified teachers with special training," explained Khlood Salman, associate professor in the Duquesne School of Nursing and advisor to the Muslim Student Association and Saudi Student Association at Duquesne. "Research is very important in this area to explore the learning needs of these children."

That research will hopefully help students transition and flourish successfully after graduation.

"[Students with special needs] need more attention, more intervention, to be independent in the future," Ahmed said. "There are many success stories of individuals with autism ... and they were successful. They became professors, they became engineers ... I think intervention played a critical role with them."

Ahmed is conducting his research at the Universal Academy of Pittsburgh, an Islamic private school whose mission, according to its website, is "to provide students with the opportunities to grow intellectually, socially and spiritually." The school's website states that it has a target enrollment of 130 students and teaches preschool

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## Fourth-year law student plans to serve as a JAG officer

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formed Code of Military Justice (UCMJ)," she said.

Perry described the UCMJ as "a combination of criminal law and ... how to be a better soldier. [Offenses] in the civilian world where you're like, 'That's a crime?' But in the military world, it's a big deal."

She has always been interested in doing public interest-based law that doesn't involve working for a firm. This desire was inspired by some of her previous work.

"I spent a year up in the public defender's office in Lawrence County [Pennsylvania]. There's a sense of community and teamwork that you don't get in private practice. It's a very different world and a very different feeling," Perry said.

The idea to specifically pursue public interest work by joining the JAG Corps was inspired by someone close to Perry.

"My district attorney in Lawrence County ... I have known him my whole life," she said. "He was a former Navy JAG, and he has been telling me since my third day of law school, 'You should look into the JAG. You would really love it.'"

Initially, Perry wasn't convinced it was the right path.

"I always kind of laughed him off because I'm always a kind of headstrong girl. Taking orders does not seem like something that would go over well with me," she said.

By her third year of law school,



COURTESY OF AMANDA PERRY

Amanda Perry is headed into the Navy JAG Corps after she graduates from Duquesne's law school. The JAG Corps handles all legal matters for Navy sailors.

she started to seriously consider the JAG program.

"The more research I did and the more people I talked to, the more I thought this might be what I'm looking for," Perry explained.

She decided to apply for the Navy JAG summer internship program and was selected as one of four interns. It convinced her that this was the right path.

"[I] loved absolutely every second of it. [I thought] 'this is what I want, these are my people.' It's a different kind of atmosphere you don't get anywhere else," Perry said.

She applied to the JAG program in each of the three branches, but Navy was always her first choice. Perry will be sent to Officer Development School sometime between Aug. and

Oct. and then will take the bar exam in July. After that, she will go to Naval Justice School in Jan. 2019. Her dream is to be attached to a Navy SEAL unit as their JAG officer.

One professor, Daniel Kunz, an adjunct in the School of Law and co-director of the Veterans Clinic, worked alongside Perry. The Veterans Clinic lets students assist in various veterans' legal affairs.

"[The clinic] provides legal representation to justice-involved veterans, assisting the veterans to avoid the unnecessary criminalization of mental illness and extended incarceration," Kunz said.

Through the clinic, Perry was able to represent veterans in court and create meaningful relationships with the clients, skills that would help for

her future representing current service members.

Kunz explained that the Veterans Clinic experience provided useful lessons that would be helpful in a career like JAG.

"The Veterans Clinic gives the clinical students invaluable experience at being a lawyer representing clients who have significant mental issues coupled with their legal troubles," he said. "The students have to learn the delicate balance between keeping the clients informed and communicating their circumstance to them, while also attempting to keep them calm and diffuse any escalating anxiety."

Kunz is impressed with Perry's work while at Duquesne.

"Based upon my interaction with Ms. Perry, she has demonstrated leadership and the ability to grasp both substantive and procedural aspects of the Veterans Court mechanics," he said. "In particular, Ms. Perry has been able to interact with the veteran clients on a very personal level, which seemed to put many of the veterans at ease during a very stressful time."

He also said that he hopes other law students can follow the example that Perry has set and "choose to emulate [her] activity."

Perry hopes that other law students look past the reaction some have to the idea of military service and join JAG Corps.

"It's such an amazing program. It's not often you get to combine your professional skill of being a lawyer with serving your country," she said.



# PROSPER Act could mean end of some federal student loans

LOANS— from page 1

periods and an addition of work study opportunities have been cited as positive potential changes for federal aid law.

The proposed legislation would also raise the borrowing cap for undergraduates from \$31,000 to \$39,000, however it would cap the previously unlimited borrowing for graduate students (which would be capped at \$150,000) and parents (capped at \$56,250).

Despite these measures, there is still much concern surrounding the amendments in the bill that would limit loan forgiveness and reduce the number of loan repayment plans from eight to two (one standard ten-year plan, and an income based plan).

This bill would also end the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG), which is a \$732 million dollar grant reserved for students with the greatest financial need. According to the Department of Education, 1.6 million students received aid from this program in the 2014-2015 academic year.

In their analysis, ACE estimated that at least six million students would be affected by this bill in its current state. Without the subsidized loans, their analy-



RAYMOND ARKE/NEWS EDITOR

The Capitol Building will be the scene of a partisan fight over the PROSPER Act.

sis found that for a standard four year program in which an undergraduate would borrow \$19,000, the cost of the loan would increase by 44 percent, even with all the payments made on time.

"The primary goal of any reauthorization should be improving federal programs that support students. However, by any metric, this bill is worse for students. If enacted, students would need to borrow more, pay more to borrow and pay still more to repay their loans," ACE stated in their letter.

John Falleroni, senior associ-

ate director of financial aid at Duquesne, weighed in on the impacts of the PROSPER Act, saying he believes it "may be three steps back and only a step forward."

"I have been very fortunate to sit on government relations committees and a financial aid policy team," he said. "I have gone to Washington to discuss financial aid issues with legislators and staff for the past six years. My sources from those committees seem to think that reauthorization will probably not occur until late 2018 at best."

Falleroni cited the elimination

of origination fees, increase of the Stafford loan and the introduction of the "Super Pell" as advantages in the bill, stating that "these are things that have been brought up by the financial aid community, and these are good changes."

However, he listed the end of subsidized loans for undergraduates, the introduction of caps on borrowing for parents and the elimination of the SEOG, public service loan forgiveness and PLUS loans for graduate students as concerns.

"On one hand, it is very early in the process. However, I am still very concerned," he said. "The PROSPER has been rushed through with very little bipartisan support. It is extremely bold ... if this version did pass the House and Senate, the impact would be huge."

Due to the partisan attitude that has prevailed on the hill as of late, Falleroni said that "the [political] climate may not allow it to go forward" and "bipartisan just generates better ideas."

Additionally, last minute provisions added late in the markup process invoked widespread criticism as well, such as preventing schools from taking punitive actions against members of fraternities, sororities and other "single-gender" organiza-

tions, and adding language that would counteract certain parts of Title IX and limit student's free speech on campus.

Under the PROSPER Act, school counselors or designated employees would not be required to report any incident involving sexual assault to campus administration as dictated under Title IX's reporting requirement and any disciplinary measures that could be placed on offenders by the college could be postponed while law enforcement conducts their own investigation.

If passed, this provision could lead to a potential underreporting of sexual assault. When asked about this provision, Falleroni said that it struck him as "odd" or "strange."

"For something that is supposedly ten years in the making ... it's hard to digest all of that, and it is hard to react to all of it. That's the thing that concerns the financial aid community most. You need time for these things," he said as an overarching statement on the bill. "Because it has gone through so quickly, we can't decide where we'll be at with all of these things going on."

Rep. Fox declined to comment and referred to her previous statements.

## English doctoral student wins nat'l award

SAIRAH ASLAM  
staff writer

Pursuing a doctoral degree can be difficult, and sometimes the students that go above and beyond receive national attention. Alexandra Reznik, a doctoral candidate in Duquesne University's English Department, recently received the K. Patricia Cross Future Leaders Award.

According to the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU), which distributes the award, Reznik's achievement distinguishes her "exemplary promise as [a] future leader of higher education ... who demonstrate[s] a commitment to developing academic and civic responsibility" in herself and in others.

The K. Patricia Cross Award was created in honor of the professor of the same name, who served as an administrator for several highly regarded universities such as Cornell and Harvard.

The award is open to doctoral-level graduate students nominated by a faculty member or administrator. In 2018, more than 200 individuals from 119 institutions submitted applications.

Reznik first studied at Chatham University, then acquired her master's degree from Duquesne in English Literature. She has taught courses at both institutions, as well as in various Pittsburgh organizations. Now, she is the coordinator of the Women's and Gender Studies program at Duquesne and collaborates with an organization called Girls'



COURTESY OF THE INCLINE

Alexandra Reznik was recently honored with a national leadership award by the AACU.

Right, which hosts workshops to help empower young women.

"I am really invested in empowering others. The way I do this ... is by exploring the way identities play roles in power systems," she said. "If you're able to understand what privileges and problems help define your identity, if people understood their individual roles within systems, fruitful change could really happen ... I really try to break down walls and bring the world into the classroom."

English Department Chair Greg Barnhisel said that Reznik is "one of the most outstanding students we've had in my 15 years at Duquesne. Allie excels as a student, teacher, colleague and community activist, and her accomplishments attest to her extraordinary character, leadership and integrity."

He suggested that Reznik be nominated, and dissertation director Kathy Glass did so. The two, as well as Center for Teaching Excellence Program Manager and former winner of the K. Patricia Cross Award Erin Rentschler, also assisted Reznik with application materials.

From Jan. 22 to 24, Reznik and the other six winners will travel to a special conference in Washington, D.C. and talk as a panel entitled "Faculty of the Future: Voices from the Next Generation."

Reznik appreciates that all expenses will be covered by the AACU.

"I can really just focus on networking with university presidents, professors and administrators focused on making innovative improvements and doing meaningful work," she said.

## DU team competes in NASA contest

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25 student teams representing 22 schools in 17 states.

The competition has a clear mission to help students further their knowledge in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

"Micro-g Neutral Buoyancy Experiment Design Teams challenges undergraduate students to design, build and test a tool or device that addresses an authentic, current space exploration challenge," according to the competition's website. This experience exposes students to a hands-on approach to engineering, public inclusion and test operations.

The overall goal of the project is for teams to develop a prototype of an original tool that can be used by NASA engineers in space exploration. Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory, a training facility that simulates microgravity, where divers will test the prototypes and will be instructed by students in the Test Conductor Room.

Trinesha M. Dixon, the manager of Micro-g NExT, explained that the competition focuses on real-world applications.

"The 2018 Micro-g NExT challenges posed to students address challenges possible in International Space Station (ISS) spacewalk scenarios and sampling missions on planetary bodies," Dixon said.

Students applying to the program

include those enrolled in an accredited United States institution of higher education, such as a university, college, junior college or community college. They must also be United States citizens, at least 16 years of age, have a supervising faculty member and attend events during test week. The events include Orientation and Test Readiness Review.

The project the Duquesne University team will be working on is developing a small system that will allow the cutting and storage of zip ties in microgravity. Their design will be tested in May at the Neutral Buoyancy lab at NASA's Johnson Space Center.

The program states the importance of these tools on its website by saying, "Zip ties are commonly used on payloads and hardware outside of the International Space Station (ISS). Often times they need to be removed during a spacewalk, or Extravehicular Activity (EVA), to complete a maintenance task or another EVA objective."

The zip ties could be located in several places on the payload, including small spaces that can be challenging to access. Since this occurs in microgravity, the zip tie must be captured once removed to prevent it from floating away and damaging the space station or any other type of hardware.

Other projects include developing systems to explore ice-covered surfaces on "Ocean Worlds" and making handrails on the exterior of the station more durable.



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“For last year’s words belong to last year’s language. And next year’s words await another voice.”

T.S. Eliot

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

@TheDuquesneDuke

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### Corrections/clarifications

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# OPINIONS

## Time’s Up powerful first step for sexual assault victims

### STAFF EDITORIAL

The 75th Golden Globes was this past Sunday, and perhaps more stunning than the glitz and glam of the event was the undoubtedly powerful display of solidarity among much of the entertainment elite. Between the pointed interviews, brazen accusations and passionate speeches, the effects of the massive wave of allegations of sexual misconduct in Hollywood were self-evident. The platforming of social activists — particularly people of color — capped off the night of wonderful pageantry.

This impressive display of unity was due in no small part to the Time’s Up movement, a politically-motivated call to action to fight against rampant sexual harassment in all industries. In the letter outlining their mission, hundreds of women announced their commitment to take active, impactful steps in order to create positive change for those previously relegated to silence.

Without a doubt, we at *The Duke* agree wholeheartedly with the mission of Time’s Up. Many of us can attest to instances in our personal lives where we witnessed not only criminal activity, but felt the weight and pressures put on the victims meant to coerce and silence them. And journalism, as an industry, is not excused from the same allegations of injustice and inequality. Just

this last week, editor Carrie Gracie left her job at the BBC because of gender-based discrepancy in pay.

However, what we find to be particularly worth celebrating about Time’s Up is its specific goals — or, rather, the fact it has them. Granted, the overall mission of the movement is nothing new: ending workplace harassment and the culture of sexual violence has been the rallying cry of activists for decades.

Where Time’s Up differentiates itself from most other movements, however, is its legal defense fund. Housed at and administered by the National Women’s Law Center, this more-than \$16 million fund aims to facilitate connecting victims of sexual assault — no matter their occupation — with lawyers. Best of all, the signatories of Time’s Up acknowledge that this fund is “a first step,” indicating, hopefully, there will be more active steps to come.

Continued action is the only way that the goals of Time’s Up will be achieved, and well-defined steps present one of the best ways of eliminating injustice and inequality. This begs the question, then, of what some of those steps are.

Advocating legal changes and voting into office those who prioritize sexual assault victims are great places to start. On a smaller scale, not being part of the problem is also a good next step. This seems pretty obvious, but not sexually harassing or assaulting another definitely curbs both issues effectively. Calling out that behavior and standing in defense for victims are also crucial.



COURTESY OF REUTERS

Men wore Time’s Up pins on their lapels to the award show in support for women who have experienced sexual harassment and abuse in their industry, including those that are not in the public eye.

Calling out problematic behavior is also necessary, and boy, was there a lot of it this past Sunday as well. While many women spoke eloquently about sexual misconduct in their industry, men were quiet about the subject. And by quiet, we mean almost completely silent.

Fellas, we need to do better. A lot better. If you believe in equality and justice, then at the very least you can do is actually say so. Male-actors’ commitments to wearing black (which, like, were you going to wear anything else?) and insipid pins were pathetic compared to the thrashing that some women gave, on-air no less.

Change is coming, thankfully, and all people — especially men — need to promise to do more and not let the momentum die. Steps, no matter how small, are absolutely needed to see the vision of movements like Time’s Up fulfilled.

### the viewpoint

## What to expect from the Trump administration in 2018

The new year may bring a load of changes, some good and bad. November of 2016 began a landslide of outrageous events following the inauguration of President Donald Trump. Countless ups and downs have led to a dizzying year, with plenty more to come. I think most of us can agree that we’re a bit skeptical about the future of our country.

Before we get to the impending future of our government, here is a brief recap of some of Trump’s most memorable moments during his first year in office:

Following the Charlottesville rally in August, Trump called neo-nazis “very fine people.”

Tried to ban transgender troops from the military.

Demonized the press and threatened to jeopardize the first amendment.

Threatened nuclear war during his first U.N. speech.

Threatened nuclear war on Twitter.

Endorsed a child molester.

Attacked the FBI for not personally supporting him.

Threw out environmental regulations implemented under the Obama administration to fight climate change.

What a year it has been. To add to the fun, here are some things to expect this upcoming year:

Mueller’s Trump-Russia investigation is still being conducted. The former White House National Security Adviser Michael Flynn and former Trump campaign policy adviser George Papadopoulos have plead guilty to lying to the FBI. According to the NY

Times, Robert S. Mueller III, told President Trump’s lawyers last month that they are working to interview the president soon.

The upcoming Midterm elections in November are also something to look forward to.

Democrats need only 24 seats to flip the House and two to take the Senate. Previously being mainly Republican-run, this party flip could really shake things up. Trump tweeted on Dec. 22 he’d be willing to work with Democrats in 2018, “for the good of the country,” so fingers crossed he will stick to his words.

On Jan. 30, Trump will address Congress during his first official State of the Union. The address is a time for presidents to discuss their accomplishments and future goals. Prepare to hear about his success as a “very stable genius.”

The address may very well be coopted into a fight against sexual misconduct, with multiple

news organizations reporting that female lawmakers are planning to wear black as a way to show solidarity with women who have faced sexual assault.

Congress was given 60 days to make decisions regarding the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), an international pact to keep Iran’s nuclear program under control, after Trump refused to heed any leadership. The deadline to reimpose sanctions is at the end of January.

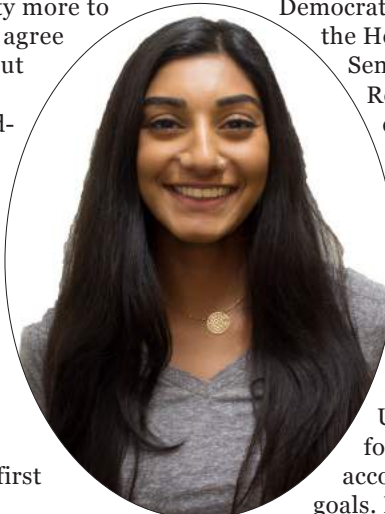
One of the biggest situations this year that has yet to be resolved is the impending government shutdown. Congress has until Jan.

19 to pass a spending bill that will either fund the government for a few months or till the next year. The main issue is that Congress needs to come to resolutions on matters such as spending limits, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (DACA), disaster aid for hurricanes and wildfires, the Children’s Health Insurance program (CHIP), and the ridiculous wall Trump would like to build between Mexico and the United States. Coming to an agreement on these topics is difficult for both parties, and with the deadline coming up so quickly we may have to endure a government shutdown.

However bad things may seem (or have been), I still have hope for the future. It’s hope that powers volunteers and advocates. They are strengthened by hope to speak out for what they believe in, or what they disagree with. Change will be made in the future, for better or worse, but that won’t stop the American people from working toward what is right. Let’s continue to make a better 2018 for all citizens, and push for our government to do the same.

I hope in 2018 that Trump will get a reign on his leadership skills, continuous lying and his unexplainable want to push the nuclear war button on his desk. I also hope that someone in the White House will finally decide that it is in everyone’s best interest to delete Trump’s Twitter account. 2017 was quite the whirlwind, so whatever may happen in 2018 may hardly be a shock. Will Trump be impeached? Will the world engage in nuclear warfare resulting in apocalyptic ruin? Will America finally become great again? Stay tuned, citizens!

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



SHIVANI GOSAI  
opinions editor



## Spring 2018: Events and activities to expect this semester

OLLIE GRATZINGER  
features editor

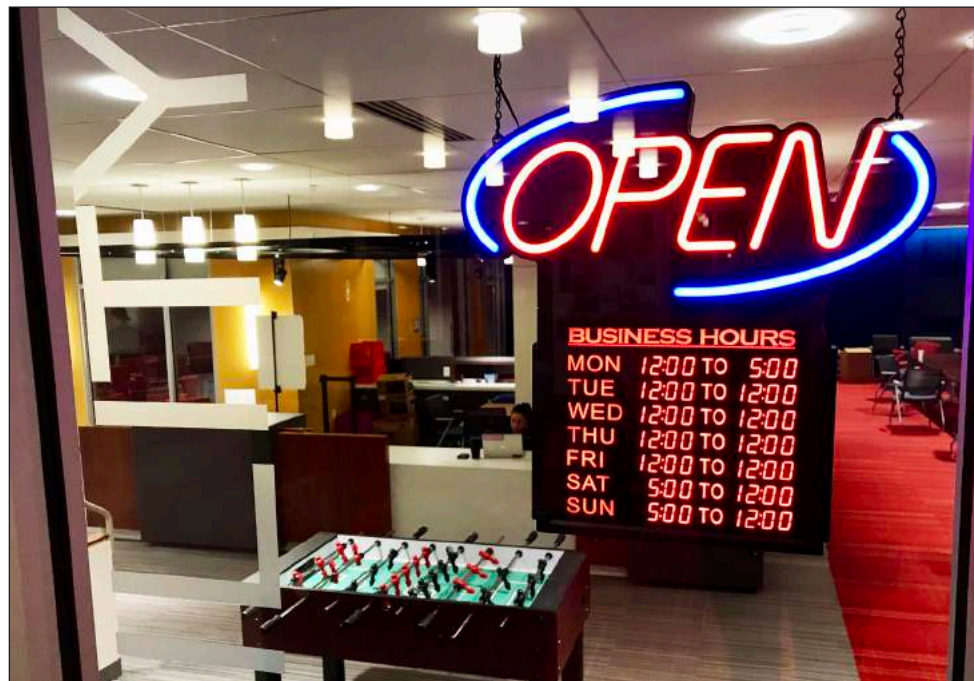
Welcome back to the Bluff! With winter break now a thing of the past, the time has come to pack away your sugarplum dreams, bundle up and brave the new year. But worry not! When stress levels call for an intermission in studying and you find yourself seeking refuge from all things academic, a plethora of events can be found both on campus and beyond, and there's sure to be something out there that appeals to you.

### NiteSpot, Masquers and More!

Kick off the spring semester with Welcome Back Bingo on Wednesday, Jan. 17 at 9 p.m. in the Union NiteSpot. With a little luck, you could walk out with a gift card in your pocket.

Besides Bingo, the NiteSpot is almost always buzzing with something new to do. If entertainment is your thing, head down there at 9 p.m. on Jan. 24 for a game of Werewolf, in which players work together to pinpoint the "werewolves" in the group and save their town before it's too late.

Every Thursday, the NiteSpot offers a tamer alternative to the classic "Thirsty Thursday," providing drinks such as Root Beer Floats or Hot Chocolate, and Service Sundays offer students an opportunity to help out their community in a few different ways. On Jan. 21 at 9 p.m., stop by to make blankets for babies born prematurely in the NICU. Also at 9 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 22, you can bring



KAILEY LOVE/PHOTO EDITOR

The NiteSpot is a hub of student activities. From studying to playing pool to attending an event hosted by your favorite organization, something to do can always be found.

your old (clean) T-shirts to the NiteSpot to rework them into quilts that will help keep Pittsburgh's homeless community warm during cold winter nights.

Every Friday hosts DUNite at 9 p.m., sponsored by the Duquesne Program Council (DPC) and offering up new and interesting activities each week. On Feb. 2, unwind with DIY Spa Night, and a week later on Feb. 9, channel your inner child and make your own furry friend through Build-A-Bear workshop. Other DUNite activities

coming up this semester include succulent planting on March 23, Pottery Painting on April 6 and much more!

Catch up on the year's newest and most popular films with the DPC Film Series in the NiteSpot, Friday and Saturday nights at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. respectively throughout the semester. Coming up on Jan. 19, you can catch *Spiderman: Homecoming*, and in the approaching weeks, brush up on titles such as *Daddy's Home 2*, *Wonder*, *Justice League*, *Thor: Ragnarok* and *Coco*.

Maybe you like movies, but you've already seen 2017's biggest hits. If that's the case, don't miss the Human Rights Film Series hosted by the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures. Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. in 105 College Hall, you can watch relevant and eye-opening films that focus on real issues going on around the globe. Starting on Jan. 17, filmmaker Ava DuVernay's *13th* "explores the history of racial inequality in the United States, focusing on the face that the nation's prisons are disproportionately filled with African-Americans," according to the film's synopsis. Also included in the series will be *An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power*, which explores humanity's proximity to an energy revolution and the truths of international climate policy, and *Constructing the Terrorist Threat*, addressing how Muslim individuals have unfairly become the new face of terrorism in the wake of rising Islamophobic sentiment.

Keeping up with the theme of current events, April 26 will bring the Spread the Word to End the Word Concert in the Union Ballroom at 6 p.m. With performers, raffle baskets, speeches and dancing, the event aims to bring students together for a common cause: eradicating the derogatory "R" word from everyday vocabulary. Instead of tickets, admission is a T-shirt, which can be purchased for \$10 during the days leading up to the event.

Jumping from screen to stage, the Red Masquers are back at it again with *Macbeth*, starting on Feb. 17 and

see EVENTS—page 8

## New restaurant promises flavor, soul, lacks organization

SHIVANI GOSAI  
opinions editor

The Strip District's newest addition, Preeti's Pitt, is sure to become a local hotspot. Serving up classic American and soul food dishes makes this lounge a step above the rest. However, if they truly want to expand their reach, the owners will have to implement some serious organizational skills.

My first impression wasn't a great one. It took a few days for me to actually get to try the food, since their kitchen was never open during the times they claimed to be. It also doesn't help that their hours are not posted anywhere other than their door, so you have to resort to calling them or simply winging your arrival.

I was pleasantly surprised by the interior of Preeti's Pitt. The restaurant has a unique layout with a bar and stage, a lounge area and an open kitchen lined by counter seating. The environment was clean and we were greeted right

away. My friend and I sat on the counter in front of the kitchen, and made friendly conversation with the cook and owner. Although they treated us like family right away, they didn't offer us menus or anything to eat until we asked. Their priorities didn't seem to be the (only) customers sitting right in front of them, which was odd.

Its menu featured items such as wings, fried lobster (\$25), burgers (\$20), various seafood and cheese steaks (\$14). They also offer sides such as linguine, mac 'n' cheese, corn and green beans. We decided to order the fried shrimp, which was eight pieces, and fried chicken sandwich. Both orders came with fries. The eight piece shrimp was \$27 and the chicken sandwich was \$14.

It was really cool to see the food cooked right in front of you. The shrimp and chicken were hand-breaded and served to us in a matter of minutes. Imagine hibachi, but for soul food.

The chicken sandwiches are made to order, meaning you can get anything such as jalapeños or pickles on it, as well as pick what type of cheese you'd like. You get a whole chicken breast, so it's a proper sized sandwich. The breading on the chicken was not too thick, and it had a generous amount of cheese on it. The bun itself was pretty average, but it didn't take away from the chicken. Out of 10, the sandwich rates at 7 1/2. The shrimp was by far the best out of everything. They were jumbo shrimp breaded and fried, which sounds simple but somehow, it turned out to be extremely flavorful. The shrimp were not overly breaded; they tasted fresh and had the perfect amount of seasoning. Out of 10, the shrimp is rated at an 8.

The fries were pretty spectacular, too. They were thick-cut and resembled Pittsburgh's favorite fries from Potato Patch at Kennywood Park. I would give 8 out of 10 for the fries as well.

Preeti's Pitt offers a great late-night hangout for students, although some of the items are pricey. The restaurant does, however, have discount days such as Soul Food Sunday and 60-cent wing night on Mondays. Be on the lookout for DJs and bands that are set to perform in the



SHIVANI GOSAI/OPINIONS EDITOR

The food at Preeti's Pitt combines the American soul food with a convenient location and a sports bar-like atmosphere.

future as well. The "sports bar" type ambiance is great for a late-night bite or to hang out and watch the game. The food is delicious, but the organization needs some serious work. If you'd like more customers, make yourself available to them! Make yourself, and your hours of operation, known online. Preeti's food is too good to suffer from such a lack of managerial effort. I hope to try Preeti's Pitt again soon when they've really straightened out all the kinks that come with opening a new restaurant.



SHIVANI GOSAI/OPINIONS EDITOR

Located at 2701 Penn Avenue in the heart of the Strip District, Preeti's Pitt first opened its doors mid-December.



# Remembering sports' biggest stories from 2017

DREW WHITE  
staff writer

Failures and successes. The end of some eras, and the beginnings of others. Comebacks and collapses. Streaks, both ending and beginning. And, of course, controversy. These are just a few words and ways to describe the most recent year in sports.

On the Bluff, Duquesne certainly saw its fair share of highs and lows. Both the men's and women's basketball teams suffered through disappointment in the 2016-17 season as the men's team finished 10-22 and at the bottom of the Atlantic 10. The women's team, who was projected to finish near the top of the Atlantic 10, finished with a mediocre record of 18-16 and in the middle of the pack in the conference.

After the season, Duquesne parted with former men's head coach Jim Ferry, hiring former Akron men's coach Keith Dambrot to be take his place.

Miraculously, Dambrot seems to have found immediate success. After a 76-64 loss to Pitt at PPG Paints Arena on Dec. 1, the Dukes have won 10 of 12 and won their first three games in the A-10.

Likewise, the women's team has started strongly, currently boasting a 13-3 record overall and a 3-0 conference record.

On the football field, the Dukes looked strong all season, but a missed field goal against Central Connecticut State kept them out of the FCS playoffs and away from an NEC title. The team, led by a strong defense, graduate transfer quarterback Tommy Stuart, and running back A.J. Hines, finished with a 7-4 record. The missed field goal left many Dukes fans wondering what could have been in an otherwise tremendous season.

Nationally, 2017 college football fans saw Clemson redeem itself from a loss to Alabama in the 2016 title game with a victory over the Crimson Tide in a title game rematch. Led by now-Houston Texans quarterback Deshaun Watson, the Tigers defeated Alabama 35-31 on a last-second touchdown.

Also on the gridiron, the world saw one of the greatest comebacks in sports history come to fruition



COURTESY OF ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

UCLA product Lonzo Ball (right) was one of the most scrutinized — and televised — sports figures of the year, largely thanks to his father's boisterous personality.

when James White punched in the game-winning touchdown against the Atlanta Falcons in overtime at Super Bowl LI. The score capped an incredible comeback effort that saw New England overcome a 25-point third quarter deficit to put itself at the top of the sport for the fifth time in the Tom Brady era.

The on-the-field display, however, was perhaps only the background to the main storyline in football this past year. Former San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick became one of the year's biggest developments, as he began to protest against racial inequality and police brutality by kneeling during the playing of the national anthem. Kaepernick's protest reached every corner of the world in 2017, becoming one of the year's biggest storylines.

On the hardwood, the North Carolina Tar Heels defeated the Gonzaga Bulldogs 71-65 to cap an exhilarating March Madness tournament.

Professionally, the Cleveland Cavaliers and Golden State Warriors both rolled through their conferences and, as many analysts predicted, met in the Finals for a third straight year. After splitting the first two series, the Warriors rolled to a 4-1 game victory in 2017 in their first year with Kevin Durant.

Many analysts predict Part Four of the series to commence this summer, even after Cleveland dealt star guard Kyrie Irving to Boston on Aug. 22. Among other assets, Cleveland received Isaiah Thomas and Jae Crowder from the Celtics, who have helped the Cavaliers remain the East's favorite.

On the ice, the city of Pittsburgh saw another victory parade as the Penguins brought home their second-straight Stanley Cup as they defeated the Nashville Predators in a six game series. Patric Hornqvist played hero this time as his goal in the final minutes of Game Six lifted the team to victory.

2017 also saw the newest addition of a Big Four North American professional sports franchise to Las Vegas as the Golden Knights became the 31st National Hockey League team and began play in Sin City. The team is currently off to the best start in NHL expansion history, leading the West in points with 60 at press time.

Months after Hurricane Harvey wreaked havoc on Houston, the Astros won their first World Series in franchise history as a few late season trades, most notably the

acquisition of Justin Verlander, paid dividends for the American League champions as they defeated the Los Angeles Dodgers in a thrilling seven-game series.

Perhaps one of the biggest stories of the baseball season, though, was the 22-game win streak the Cleveland Indians enjoyed from Aug. 24 to Sept. 15. The streak is the longest in American League history and second-longest in MLB history; however, some consider it the longest because the 1916 New York Giants 26-game win streak included a tie.

Speaking of streaks, another one was finally broken this season, this one coming on the gridiron. Buffalo Bills fans finally saw their 18-year playoff drought come to an end, as an Andy Dalton-to-Tyler Boyd Week 17 miracle touchdown led the Cincinnati Bengals past the Baltimore Ravens, who needed to lose for the Bills to reach the postseason.

And who could forget the mega fight at T-Mobile Arena in late August between Floyd Mayweather and Conor McGregor? Mayweather defeated McGregor, a UFC fighter, in 10 rounds via TKO. The fight was billed as the most-hyped fight of all-time, and while McGregor did surpass many skeptic's expectations, Mayweather ultimately prevailed.

On the international stage, the United States saw the highest of highs and the lowest of lows. In March, the US won the World Baseball Classic title over Puerto Rico, the first-ever title in the

**see SPORTS — page 8**



COURTESY OF DENVER POST

Members of the New England Patriots celebrate their Super Bowl LI victory on Feb. 5, 2017, at NRG Stadium in Houston, Texas. NFC champion Atlanta famously held a 28-3 lead in the third quarter, but lost in overtime to the Patriots, making for one of 2017's most memorable sporting contests.

## A-10 Standings — Men's Basketball

Team	Conf. Record	Overall	Streak	Next
Rhode Island	4-0	12-3	W7	Jan. 13 vs. St. Bona. (11 a.m.)
VCU	3-1	11-6	W2	Jan. 12 at Dayton (7 p.m.)
Duquesne	3-1	12-5	L1	Jan. 13 vs. La Salle (12:30 p.m.)
Saint Joseph's	2-1	7-7	W2	Jan. 10 at GMU (after press)
Davidson	2-1	7-7	W2	Jan. 10 vs. GWU (after press)
Dayton	2-2	8-8	W1	Jan. 12 vs. VCU (7 p.m.)
St. Bonaventure	1-2	11-4	L2	Jan. 10 vs. Fordham (after press)
George Mason	1-2	7-9	L1	Jan. 10 vs. SJU (after press)
G. Washington	1-2	8-8	L2	Jan. 10 at Davidson (after press)
UMass	1-2	8-8	W1	Jan. 10 vs. La Salle (after press)
La Salle	1-2	7-9	L2	Jan. 10 at UMass (after press)
Fordham	1-2	6-9	L1	Jan. 10 at St. Bona. (after press)
Saint Louis	1-3	8-9	L1	Jan. 13 at GMU (2:30 p.m.)
Richmond	1-3	3-13	L3	Jan. 13 vs. GWU (4:30 p.m.)

## A-10 Standings — Women's Basketball

Team	Conf. Record	Overall	Streak	Next
Fordham	4-0	13-4	W6	Jan. 14 at VCU (1 p.m.)
Duquesne	3-0	13-3	W3	Jan. 13 at GWU (12 p.m.)
Dayton	3-0	10-4	W4	Jan. 10 vs. St. Bona. (after press)
Saint Joseph's	3-1	8-8	W1	Jan. 13 at UMass (2 p.m.)
G. Washington	2-1	7-8	W2	Jan. 13 vs. Duquesne (12 p.m.)
George Mason	2-1	13-4	L1	Jan. 14 at URI (2 p.m.)
Saint Louis	2-1	8-8	L1	Jan. 14 at Dayton (2 p.m.)
Richmond	2-2	7-10	L1	Jan. 14 vs. Davidson (2 p.m.)
St. Bonaventure	1-2	6-10	W1	Jan. 10 at Dayton (after press)
Davidson	1-3	6-11	L1	Jan. 14 at Richmond (2 p.m.)
La Salle	0-3	5-11	L5	Jan. 13 vs. St. Bona (1 p.m.)
UMass	0-3	8-8	L4	Jan. 13 vs. SJU (2 p.m.)
VCU	0-3	3-12	L3	Jan. 10 at URI (after press)
Rhode Island	0-3	2-14	L6	Jan. 10 vs. VCU (after press)

## Duquesne News

— After beginning Atlantic 10 play with three straight wins, Keith Dambrot's squad fell in Richmond, Virginia, on Jan. 9 to VCU, 78-67, following a second-half surge. *Mike Lewis* led the Dukes (12-5, 3-1) with 23 points against the Rams, who outscored Duquesne 21-6 from the free throw line. After trailing 36-28 at halftime, VCU scored 50 points in the second half against Duquesne, which is the most points allowed in one half all season by the Dukes. Duquesne's next game is Jan. 13 vs. La Salle (7-9, 1-2) at Palumbo Center. Tip-off is set for 12:30 p.m.

— At VCU on Jan. 7, junior women's basketball guard *Chassidy Omogrosso* scored her 1,000th career point in a 70-51 Duquesne victory. Omogrosso finished the contest with 13 points for Duquesne, (13-3, 3-0) who will travel to Washington, D.C. on Jan. 13 to face George Washington (7-8, 2-1).

— After averaging 15.0 points and 10.0 rebounds in wins over George Washington and Fordham, freshman *Eric Williams Jr.* was named Atlantic 10 Rookie of the Week for a conference-high third time. Following Duquesne's win over Fordham, the Dukes moved to 3-0 in the A-10 for the first time since 2011-12.

— Women's track & field returns to indoor action on Jan. 13 at the Marshall Thundering Herd Invitational in Huntington, West Virginia. The Dukes haven't competed since the Youngstown State Icebreaker on Dec. 1.

— Women's swimming & diving will return to Towers Pool on Jan. 13 for a competition against Ohio and Xavier. More recently, on Jan. 3, the swimming & diving team defeated South Dakota 284-164 at the Orange Bowl Swim Classic in Key Largo, Florida.

## Pittsburgh Briefs

— Following a first-round bye, the Steelers are preparing for an AFC Divisional Round matchup against the Jacksonville Jaguars, who defeated the Buffalo Bills 10-3 on Jan. 7 in Jacksonville. Star Steelers wide receiver Antonio Brown returned to team practice on Wednesday, and impressed teammates with his performance. "It looks like he hasn't missed time," Le'Veon Bell told reporters, "at all."

## On This Day...

— On Jan. 12, 1993, NHL legend and Penguins owner Mario Lemieux announced that he had been diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma.



# Overwatch League could squander casual experience

GRANT STONER  
staff writer

In Nov. 2016, Blizzard Entertainment announced that its months-old objective-based shooter, *Overwatch*, would enter into the esports scene. Dubbed the Overwatch League, 12 teams from across the world will compete in a series of matches, hoping to secure a win in the championship.

*Overwatch*'s admittance into esports will almost certainly boost its overall popularity. According to an analyst report from Newzoo, approximately 221 million gamers will view varying events, with esports projected to earn roughly \$922 million in 2018. With the creation of the League, *Overwatch* may soon find itself being able to compete with titles such as *League of Legends*, *Dota 2* and *Counter-Strike: Global Offensive*.

Yet, the League has been marred by negative instances, even before its inaugural match on Jan. 10.

For example, it should be noted that nine of the 12 teams competing this month are from the US. *Overwatch* touted its venture into esports as a global affair. So then, why is the vast majority of Europe — or Asia for that matter — not competing? Gamers eagerly searching for their nation's representation will surely be disappointed.

Aside from the lack of diverse teams, one key player from the Dallas Fuel team, Félix "xQc" Lengyel, was suspended twice over a period of two months for inappropriate game behavior. According to articles from Kotaku, Lengyel's first suspension in November, which lasted for 72 hours, was a direct result of abusing the in-game reporting mechanic. His most recent run-in with *Overwatch* authorities occurred due to the player intentionally throwing games. For those unaware, throwing a game results in a player purposefully performing poorly so that their team ultimately loses.

While these incidents were specific to Lengyel, they demonstrate a greater problem within the League. Officials need to be strict about these outbursts, because gamers are consistently forced to defend themselves to ignorant audiences. They are



COURTESY OF BLIZZARD ENTERTAINMENT

Stage 1 of the Overwatch League began on Jan. 10, and will continue until Feb. 10. Nine of the 12 teams are from the United States.

viewed as losers, social outcasts and immature individuals who are unable to handle even mild stress or criticism. By giving players like Lengyel a massive platform, his actions are going to be viewed by millions. To the uneducated eye, Lengyel represents the gaming population. League moderators should not have toxic individuals be present on the world stage.

Finally, *Overwatch*'s obsession with competitive gaming has directly impacted the development of certain characters. In a September forum post, Game Director Jeff Kaplan outwardly ad-

mitted that professional players directly influence specific changes regarding game balance. For example, a support hero named Mercy was completely reworked in order to make her playable at the pro-level. Over the course of several months, the character went from an easy entry for players new to the genre to an increasingly-fraught pick, and continuing changes make her more and more inaccessible to all except the handful of elites.

see LEAGUE — page 8

# Washington and Moonchild invigorate rhythmic genre

JOEY MUESER  
staff writer

WHO: KAMASI WASHINGTON AND MOONCHILD  
WHERE: MR. SMALLS THEATRE  
DATE OF REVIEW: NOV. 27, 2017

Jazz is a completely different art form all together, and it's beautifully stuck in this constant state of improvement, which redefines exactly what jazz music is. The genre is at a point where it is not at its end; rather, the history of jazz sets aspiring musicians precariously on a springboard, providing them opportunities to thrive in an exciting genre. As technology continues to evolve into an overpowering force, it allows more jazz musicians to express themselves in original ways. Like all great artists, Kamasi Washington's band put their own spin on jazz. Incorporating some newer sounds with traditional jazz basics, Washington's group operates like clockwork with a unique voice.

Now, if clockwork is nine people playing their independent parts which are so carefully interwoven into one another, then, yes, they jived like clockwork. Washington's band is comprised of two saxophone players, a bassist, a guitarist, a groovy man on the keys, a vocalist, a trombonist (who played despite having the flu) and two drummers.

Washington accomplished quite a bit on his own, and over the past decade, he has grown in popularity impressively, and for good reason.

What distinguishes Washington from other sax players — and makes him a reformist — are the new ideas he brings to the table. His melodies are nothing shy of brilliant. His solos are nearly obstreperous in their inability to be tamed. But, song after song on both his albums and live, Washington delivers exciting solos that somehow come back to the theme of the chart. It's not far-reaching



JOEY MUESER/STAFF WRITER

to call Washington a genius.

He knows his tenor saxophone so well that when he plays, it seems to become just a pure extension of his musical thoughts. Whatever he thinks to play can be brought to life instantly — bringing his most genuine interpretation of his music to the table.

The excitement of Washington's group doesn't just stop at its headman either. Their whole band is extremely well-versed in jazz backgrounds. Take the man on the keyboard for example, Brandon Coleman. Coleman played with Jamie Foxx, Stevie Wonder and Earth, Wind & Fire, just to name a few. Now, playing with artists who are notably popular doesn't necessarily make him good. Coleman had to work to get to where he is today, and it shows in the melodies he chooses. I've never heard anything like his style, and Washington likes Coleman so much that Washington nicknamed Coleman "Professor Boogie."

Coleman's approach to the keyboards was unforgettable, but there is still more to appreciate in respect to the

rest of the band. The ill trombonist, despite having a cold sweat, came out for a few songs wearing a scarf and hat, incredibly still playing at an elite level.

Among the performers was also surprise guest Rickey Washington, Kamasi's father. Rickey, a long time soprano sax musician, previously played with Diana Ross and the Supremes, as well as the Temptations.

The two drummers, Ronald Bruner, Jr. and Tony Austin, played together unimaginably well. The time keeping duo communicated with each other for the whole show and complimented the other's style seemingly effortlessly. Towards the latter half of the band's performance, Bruner and Austin shared a solo in which they traded fours, a solo type that allows two (or more) musicians to go back and forth, and having a battle of whose rhythmic ideas are better.

Ideally, I would be able to give full descriptions of everyone who played with Kamasi. However, in order to fulfill those aspirations, I would need a medium sized textbook to fill with the accomplishments and the proper acknowledgements that each of the members of Kamasi Washington's band deserve.

Despite how wonderful Kamasi's band is, it still didn't shadow the technicality and brilliance of Moonchild, the opening act. The jazz/neo-soul group produces groovy lines lead by keys and synthesizers, but is balanced with the smooth vocals of Amber Narvan. Notable from their performance was a jazz trio from the song "Don't Wake Me," which is only done in their live renditions of the song. The melodies danced with syncopated lines that can be traced back to early inspirations of big band jazz solis. The trio in the song can be found on YouTube as well as other works from the great and rising group that is Moonchild.

In closing, lead man Kamasi Washington really is driving the train for jazz reformation with his previous music that lies in his wake and everything that is to be aspired in his future works. After all, he's only 36, and he will be in his prime for a long time to come.



## Doctoral student works on his research

**AHMED— from page 2**

through eighth grade.

The Academy provides an excellent place to implement research, according to Ahmed, because of its dedication to its students and the diversity it exhibits.

"They have students that are relevant to my studies — such as [those exhibiting] challenging behavior and students with autism — so we can help them be successful in their life," Ahmed said.

Zehner echoed Ahmed's opinions about the school, both having previously conducted research together at UAP.

"It was wonderful to see such an environment of diversity and inclu-

sion," Zehner said. "It was so nice to see the students be accepted for who they are and what they believed, but also, from there, be able to build on academically. They feel safe, they feel accepted, so now they can learn."

Ahmed commends UAP for being receptive to researchers and faculty.

"I would like to thank the Universal Academy of Pittsburgh for offering our students in our program these opportunities," Ahmed said. "And special thanks to the principal [Ahmed Abdelwahab] who always accommodates our practicum hours and our research. They welcome us every time."

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## Reviewing the best of 2017 sports

**SPORTS— from page 6**

event for the Americans as the beat the Puerto Ricans 8-0 in the championship game.

Then, in November, shock was felt across the nation as the men's national soccer team failed to qualify for the World Cup for the first time since 1986 after a stunning 2-1 loss at Trinidad and Tobago.

While 2017 was a great year for sports, it will be interesting to see what happens in 2018. Two big events upcoming to keep an eye on are the Super Bowl and the 2018 Winter Olympics, which should kick off another good year in sports.

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## COMIC ARTIST

Those interested can contact opinions editor Shivani Gosai at [shivani96@gmail.com](mailto:shivani96@gmail.com) with a sample of their work by Jan. 31.



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## Duquesne events preview: Spring 2018

**EVENTS— from page 5**

running until Feb. 25. Later in the spring, on April 28 and April 29, they'll be hosting *Equus*, a 1973 play that tells the story of an existentially-dissatisfied psychiatrist's attempts at treating a young man after his compulsive, religious preoccupation with horses has led him to blind six steeds.

### Beyond the Bluff

Pittsburgh may be known to some as The City That Always Sleeps, but make no mistake: There's a little something for everyone if you know just where to look. The Andy Warhol Museum, an easy 20-minute walk from campus, is offering Free Good Fridays for the month of January. Between 5-10 p.m., you can check out the local legend's artwork free of charge while enjoying some music and a cash bar. For the rest of the year, admission to the museum will be half-priced on Friday evenings.

In addition to the Warhol Museum, Oakland's two Carnegie museums also have some good stuff to offer. A quick bus ride or Lyft from Duquesne, the Carnegie Museum of Art and the Carnegie Museum of Natural History will be free to enter on the third Sunday of each

month throughout 2018.

The Duquesne Program Council will also be sponsoring discounted tickets to a few shows around the city. First up is *Wicked the Musical* at the Benedum Center on Saturday, Feb. 3 at 8 p.m., and you can grab a ticket for \$25. Considering the fact that a quick check of the Benedum's website shows that the lowest available ticket price is \$44, the DPC has really come through on this one. Tickets are limited, though, and only available to students with a Duquesne ID. They become available on Jan. 22, so be sure to pick yours up ASAP!

Also sponsored by the Duquesne Program Council, discount tickets to *RENT the Musical* will be available for \$15 starting on March 12. The show itself is at Heinz Hall on March 28 at 7:30 p.m. The lowest available ticket price is twice that being asked by the DPC, at \$30.

Of course, there's always other events and activities popping up over the course of the semester. Be sure to scope out the Spring Organization Expo on Jan. 22, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Union Atrium, to see what goings on student clubs have planned for 2018.

Mark your calendars with things that pique your interest, and don't be afraid to try something new!

## New league revamps old meta

**LEAGUE— from page 7**

For casual players, who make up 99 percent of *Overwatch's* population, their favorite characters are being destroyed by the literal 1 percent. Gamers should not be fearful of losing their heroes simply because *Overwatch's* developers are too busy catering toward a small crowd.

*Overwatch* was initially designed as a game which could support both an esports platform as well as a large casual community. Yet, when given the opportunity, officials are behaving like bumbling idiots. It should not be this complicated for the two player basis to coexist. Instead, gamers are forced to watch as one of the best shooters of 2016 is turned into a farce, as it tries to establish itself on the world stage.



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WDSR/**

## For Hire

Join KEYS Service Corps, AmeriCorps this January. Mentor, tutor, and inspire local youth. Full and part-time paid positions with Education Award. Perfect for December grads! Possible internship credit. Apply at [www.keys-servicecorps.org](http://www.keys-servicecorps.org) or call 412-350-2739.

## For Hire

Accepting Applications for New General Manager  
Are you interested in music? Talk radio? Media management? A more connected campus at Duquesne? WDSR Student Radio is now accepting applications for the position of General Manager! We are seeking qualified and driven individuals who are enthusiastic for the opportunity to lead the student radio station here at Duquesne starting next semester. If interested, email your resume to faculty advisor Jordan Mroziak at [jordanmroziak@gmail.com](mailto:jordanmroziak@gmail.com) to get a chance at this great opportunity!



Enjoy photography? Writing?  
Graphic Design?  
Having fun?

JOIN

**THE DUKE!**

Come to our  
**OPEN HOUSE**  
and see how  
you can join!

Thursday, Jan. 25  
7:30 p.m.  
113 College Hall

There will also be free hot chocolate  
for anyone in attendance.

