New Frontiers: The Most Pivotal Moments of the 1960s

By Raymond Arke

Most Duquesne students’ parents were only just born in the ’60s, but the turbulent, free-spirited decade forever changed the course of America. This week, The Duke throws it back to flower children, moon shots, battles for far-off jungles and a more perfect union.

United States Elects John F. Kennedy President (1960)

The decade began with hope as JFK became the first Catholic president and the youngest man ever to assume the office. Kennedy won a narrow election over former Vice President Richard Nixon, helped in part by his telegenic quality in the first-ever televised presidential debates. In his inaugural address, Kennedy inspired the youth of the country, spoke of greater public service and pledged to put America on a path of peace during the Cold War.

Berlin Wall Splits the City (1961)

Berlin, Germany had been divided since the end of World War II, with the Soviet Union controlling the Eastern half and America and Allies in the West. Relatively free travel was previously allowed between the two halves, but by 1961, thousands of East Berliners were fleeing to the West each month to escape growing authoritarian control. After escalating tensions between Kennedy and Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev, on the morning of Aug. 13, the border between the East and West was shut, and East German troops began building a wall. The Berlin Wall would stand until 1989.

Cuban Missile Crisis (1962)

After a failed CIA-backed invasion of Cuba at the Bay of Pigs in 1961, Khrushchev reached an agreement with Cuban leader and Soviet ally Fidel Castro to place nuclear missiles in the island. As Soviets and Cubans built missile sites, on Oct. 14, a CIA reconnaissance flight took photos of the constructions. The Kennedy administration debated how to respond over the next 13 days, with the military and some Cabinet officials advocating for military and/or nuclear strikes, which would create an all-out war. On Oct. 22, Kennedy said in a speech to the nation that the U.S. would be imposing a naval quarantine on Cuba until the removal of the missiles. Tense days followed as both sides prepared for possible military intervention. On Oct. 26, a secret deal was reached where the U.S. would remove missiles from Turkey, and the Soviets would remove the Cuban missiles. It was the closest the two powers would get to a nuclear war.

March on Washington (1963)

As the civil rights movement had turned out to create one of the largest protests in American history. The march was highlighted by the “I Have a Dream” speech by Martin Luther King Jr. The event, covered extensively in the press, increased public support of the movement and laid the groundwork for the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Kennedy Assassinated (1963)

During a reelection stop in Dallas on Nov. 22, Kennedy rode in a convertible through the city. As his motorcade drove through the streets, Lee Harvey Oswald, a former Marine and one-time defector to Russia, opened fire on Kennedy’s car. One bullet hit and wounded John Connally, the governor of Texas. The other two shots hit Kennedy, one fatally. Kennedy died at 1 p.m. shortly after undergoing surgery in a Dallas hospital. Vice President Lyndon Johnson was sworn in as president aboard Air Force One at 2:38 p.m. Oswald escaped from the scene and was arrested in a movie...
Police Briefs

It’s February, and the temperatures are reaching spring’s age territory — that’s right, the 70s. But even if the weather is nice, some of your actions certainly aren’t. I hope you SPRING into shape soon.

On Feb. 13, a female Duquesne student reported being harassed by a former Parkhurst employee with whom she had a relationship with. The case has been referred to the administration.

On Feb. 16, an underage student was found intoxicated in St. Martin and was issued a non-traffic citation. The student was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

On Feb. 17, a female student in St. Martin was found with a small amount of marijuana. The case was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

On Feb. 19, a person whom she had a relationship with was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Also on Feb. 17, an underage student was found intoxicated in the St. Martin parking lot. The case was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Grandpa PB. On Feb. 17, a person was found with a small amount of marijuana. The student was issued a non-traffic citation for disorderly conduct and she was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Bluff Briefs

Tough Healthcare Dilemmas to be Examined at Conference

The School of Nursing will be hosting the first-ever Carol Corp. Nursing and Healthcare Ethics Conference in Clearwater, Florida.

The chosen topic is “Advancing Ethical Practice: Exploring the Gray Areas.” Participants are set to look at the various challenges and ethical dilemmas that arise in modern healthcare.

Some of the speakers include Amy Haddad, director of the Center for Health Policy and Ethics at Creighton University and Robert Veatch, professor emeritus of medical ethics and senior research scholar at Georgetown University.

The conference will be held from Feb. 28 through March 2.

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.

Phy Kaps Welcome Bishop to Fish Fry

FISH — from page 1

FISH FRY — Phi Kappa Theta is hosting their annual Union Lenten fish fry. — COURTESY OF PHI KAPPA THETA FRATERNITY.

Annual Fish Fry

Students can get a cookie.

According to John Ryan, the scholarship chair of Phi Kappa Theta, all proceeds of the fish fry are donated to the CMN, which helps pay for treatment for alliling children.

The fraternity’s president, Jake Ivory, highlighted that an event such as this greatly aligns with the faith found both in the fraternity and on campus. “As a Catholic-based fraternity that is also at a Catholic university, we see a lot of students and faculty participating in not eating meat on Fridays during Lent and found it to be the perfect opportunity to help raise money for our national philanthropy,” Ivory said. “We also saw it as a way of contributing to the population at Duquesne by providing a tasty and Catholic-appropriate meal during Lent.”

Ivory also described how the fish fry relates to Phi Kappa Theta’s mission and values. “Our motto is ‘Give, expect nothing thereof,’ meaning one should offer up whatever they can, whenever they can, but do so without expecting anything in return,” Ivory said. “The fish fry is a great example of this, as we are trying to benefit both the CMN and Duquesne, without keeping any of the money we raise. Even when people tip us, we put that money into the donation.”

Phi Kappa Theta Secretary Chris Coo emphasized the importance of the fish fry, encouraging everyone to stop by. “For the price of just a fish sandwich, people can do their part to help out the kids and get a delicious full meal in doing so,” Coo said. “Also, if people cannot eat meat because of religious obligations, we are an easy stop on the third floor of the Union, so that they have more choices on campus of what they can eat during the timespan of Lent.”

The Director of Greek Life at Duquesne, Rebecca Mickler, praised the fraternity and their charitable efforts. “This is one of those annual philanthropies that bring people from all parts of campus to the Union for a Lenten fish sandwich for lunch,” Mickler said. “It’s even more special when Bishop Zubik stops by to help serve food alongside these men. Events like this is what makes our fraternal community so special and unique.”

The food is prepared by Parkhurst Dining, Duquesne’s dining service, then served to customers by the brothers of Phi Kappa Theta.

Customers can pay with cash or through the app, Venmo.

High School Walkouts Protest for Gun Control

AP — In a wave of demonstrations reaching from Arizona to Maine, students at dozens of U.S. high schools walked out of class Wednesday to protest gun violence and honor the victims of last week’s deadly shooting in Florida.

The protests spread from school to school as students shared plans for their demonstrations over social media. Many lasted 17 minutes in honor of the 17 people killed one week earlier at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland.

Hundreds of students from Maryland schools left class to rally at the U.S. Capitol. Hundreds more filed out of their schools in cities from Chicago to Pittsburgh to Austin, Texas, often at the lunch hour.

At the protest in Washington, students held a moment of silence in memory of those killed in Parkland and listened as the names of the dead were recited. Daniel Gelillo, a senior at Richard Montgomery High in Rockville, Maryland, who helped organize the protest, said students aimed to pressure lawmakers to act on gun control.

Up until now, he said, “nothing has quite fazed them.” The Orlando shooting, Las Vegas and now Parkland.Something has quite fazed them. The Orlando shooting, Las Vegas and now Parkland. Something has quite fazed them.

Up until now, he said, “nothing has quite fazed them.” The Orlando shooting, Las Vegas and now Parkland. Something has quite fazed them.

While some groups have worked to organize national demonstrations in the coming weeks, students say gatherings Wednesday were mostly impromptu and organized out of a sense of urgency to find solutions to gun violence.

Many of the protests were accompanied by chants of “Never again,” which has been a rallying cry since the Florida shooting.

“These gun deaths are happening every day, and we’re not doing anything to change it. It’s ridiculous,” said Rebecca Parch, a sophomore who organized a walkout at Lakewood High School, near Cleveland. “It’s just too many lives lost, and I think that teenagers are just done with it now.”

Students at her school and others called for limits on AR-15 rifles, the weapon authorities say 19-year-old Nikolas Cruz legally bought and used in the Florida attack. Teens at some schools called for a ban on the AR-15 and similar rifles among civilians, saying they should be reserved for military use.

Principals at some schools allowed the protests and promised not to punish students for leaving class. Parch said the administration at her school vowed to join students in similar demonstrations in the future. But some districts threatened to discipline those who joined the wave of walkouts.

Superintendent Curtis Rhodes of Texas’s Needville Independent School District said students who left class would be suspended for three days, even with permission from their parents.

“Life is all about choices and every choice has a consequence whether it be positive or negative,” Rhodes wrote in a letter to families and on social media. “We will discipline no matter if it is one, fifty or five hundred students involved.”

Similar walkouts are being planned, including on March 14, one month after the Florida shooting, and April 20, the anniversary of the Columbine High School massacre in Colorado.

While some students said their opinions have been belittled because they’re still teenagers, they counter that they’ll soon be voters and shouldn’t be taken lightly. Some said they’re taking a stand because lawmakers haven’t.
theater after fatally shooting a police officer. On Nov. 24, as Oswald was being transported from police headquarters to the county jail, Jack Ruby, a Dallas nightclub owner, shot and killed him. Kennedy’s killing was a national tragedy.

The Beatles Perform The Ed Sullivan Show (1964)

Already a massive hit in Britain, the U.S. had been involved in protests protecting the country from invasion by the Communist North and from the Viet Cong, Communist guerrillas. On Aug. 4, a U.S. warship was patrolling intelligence work off the coast of North Vietnam when it engaged in a skirmish with several North Vietnamese ships. On Aug. 4, an erroneous report was received that two U.S. destroyers had been attacked by the North Vietnamese again. No such event occurred. However, President Johnson gave a televised speech asking for greater military authority from Congress and ordered bombing strikes on North Vietnamese targets. Six days later, Congress passed the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, which gave Johnson the power to “take all necessary steps, including the use of armed force,” in Vietnam signaling the true beginning of the Vietnam War.

The Great Society/Civil Rights Act of 1964 (1964)

As president, Johnson would introduce a variety of new domestic programs that were designed to help create a more equal America. Some of the notable programs included Medicare and Medicaid, expanding food stamps and creating the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) and National Public Radio (NPR). The Civil Rights Act of 1964 banned segregation and job discrimination.

The “Summer of Love” (1967)

During the summer months of 1967, the hippie subculture that had been flourishing exploded as nearly 100,000 young people flooded the Haight-Ashbury neighborhood of San Francisco. Haight-Ashbury had become the center of the counterculture, with many hippies staying in the area after the Monterey Pop Festival. Psychedelic drug use was common. It would set the stage for the Woodstock Music Festival in 1969. The summer solidified San Francisco and California as the center of hippie culture.

The Tet Offensive (1968)

With the Vietnam War dragging on since 1964, the military and the Johnson Administration promised a “light at the end of the tunnel” in Vietnam. American troops had been increasing each year, and the public was assured America was winning. On Jan. 27, a seven-day truce was made with the North Vietnamese Army (NVA) to celebrate the Vietnamese New Year festival of Tet. However, on Jan. 30, the NVA and the Vietcong troops launched massive surprise attacks on more than 30 cities throughout South Vietnam, including the heavily fortified capital of Saigon. American and South Vietnamese soldiers were initially caught off guard by the vastness of attacks; yet, they recovered and took back the city by Feb. 28, marking a military failure for the Communists. The offensive was covered extensively on TV, and the American public saw that the war was far from over.

Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert Kennedy Assassinated (1968)

Leading Civil Rights activist and Nobel Peace Prize winner Martin Luther King Jr. was in Memphis in April 1968 to support the strike of African American sanitation workers. On April 4, a day after delivering his famous “I Have Been to the Mountaintop” speech, King was shot on the balcony of his motel and killed. The assassin was James Earl Ray, an18-year-old convicted felon. One of the attendees at King’s funeral was 1968 Democratic presidential candidate Robert Kennedy, brother of the slain president. Kennedy’s run for the Democratic nomination was based around ending the Vietnam War, extending civil rights and helping the poor. On June 5, Kennedy won the California primary and was shot and killed at the Ambassador Hotel, was fatally shot by dishwasher Sirhan Sirhan. The death of two national figures within months of each other shocked a fragile nation.

Humans Land on the Moon (1969)

On July 20, 1969, two American astronauts, the first humans, walked on the moon. The Apollo 11 spacecraft landed Buzz Aldrin and Neil Armstrong on the lunar surface, cementing American dominance in the Space Race against the Soviet Union. It was one of the most pivotal moments in world history: “A giant leap for mankind,” to quote Armstrong.

Prof Examines Lincoln’s Poetry

BY SARAHE ASLAM

“Abraham Lincoln / his hand and pen / he will be good but / god knows When” were the first words that Faith Barrett, an associate English professor at Duquesne University, saw on the Library of Congress website dedicated to the amateur poetry written by the man himself.

An editor had contacted Barrett, requesting that she contribute to a book, a collection of essays about Abraham Lincoln. When Barrett came across Abraham Lincoln’s relationship with poetry, she knew she had to write about it. As a professor of 19th century American literature and creative writing, with an emphasis on poetry, the topic was right up her alley. Barrett had already written and edited, two separate books about American Civil War poetry.

As she began her research, Barrett said she was “struck by how avid a reader of poetry he was and by the fact that he wrote poetry about him and sent it to him while he was serving [in the government].”

A large part of her fascination with Lincoln’s works was due to the fact that “scholars haven’t really looked at Lincoln’s poetry much in the past. They are much more interested in his political rhetoric, his speeches.”

But through his poetry, Barrett could trace the development and tendencies of the actual man behind the legend throughout various stages of life, from the “funny, quirky little poems” he wrote as a child, to the “charming, humorous, sex-oriented poetry he wrote in his young 20s” to the “beautiful, Romantic poetry” he wrote in his 30s when he visited Indiana and the graves of his close relatives who were buried there. Eventually, Lincoln even published poems anonymously to protect against possible political repercussions — though they have since been linked to him by historians on numerous occasions.

To Barrett, it was clear that Lincoln used poetry “to demonstrate to the world … that he has become literate, he has become a man of words, a man of education.”

Lincoln’s poetry is nothing extraordinary, she acknowledged, but his poetry and his writings do express some admirable qualities. Barrett admires “his versatility — he could talk equally well to the well-to-do and the working-class” and his ease as “a jokster comfortable with joking at his own expense.”

Barrett said that the project was “unexpectedly so absorbing and interesting … definitely one of my favorites.”

Next up, she will be studying the role of poetry in community building among African-Americans in the 19th century, with a special focus on George Moses Horton, a slave who lived and worked at the University of North Carolina and, on the side, wrote love poetry on behalf of white men who would pay him for help in wooing their love interests.

Assassinations, War and ‘Flower Power’ Dominate Decade

February 22, 2018

Duquesne DUKE

Water is the Theme for New Composition

WATER — from page 1

part of a larger piece — A Year in Penn’s Woods — a multimedia composition to educate on the ecology of Western Pennsylvania. However, “Watershed” was nonetheless quite an undertaking.

“It was more complex than anything I had ever written before,” Purse said. “I even spoke to a biologist professor about the ecology of river systems.”

Purse spoke with Associate Professor of the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences Brady Porter about a concept known as the River Continuum, a model for classifying and describing flowing water, which she employed to develop the rolling and falling themes of “Watershed.”

Purse used this concept to construct a piece centered on sound ecology.

“(Watershed) details those sounds that we interact with on a daily basis, but don’t necessarily appreciate or even notice,” she said.

“My conversations with Dr. Porter actually made a morphological difference in the way I shaped the imagery of the different aspects of a watershed,” Purse said.

The four movements of the piece are meant to chronicle the movement of water across the land and its subsequent effects upon the Pittsburgh ecosystem.

The diverse nature of Pittsburgh’s watersheds gave Purse an opportunity to utilize the full range of the cello’s range.

“The lower tones and soft timbre [tone] of the cello are often drowned out by the accompanying orchestra,” Purse said. “I wrote ‘Watershed’ with the goal of expressing the subtle and the arts of the cello and the ecosystem.”

To further create a diverse soundscape, Purse adapted the piece so that Adam Liu, who was born in Northern China, could play the second, quieter movement of the erhu, a traditional Chinese two-stringed instrument.

The erhu is so soft that it actually requires a microphone to be properly heard in most concert settings. Upon Liu’s request, Purse rewrote the movement for the erhu, adding a completely new style to the piece.

“Purse wants the listeners of the piece to be reminded of the delicate impact of watersheds upon our daily lives.”

Purse said. “The piece addresses discrete aspects of the environment are just as important as protecting well-known animals or habitats,” Purse said. “I want everyone who hears the piece can be reminded of the importance of any contribution they can make to defend the ecosystems within which they live.”
By Shivani Gosai

Hippies advocating for Peace

Through the devastation of war, it is time we consider the side of peace and love. As a society, we should agree to put down our weapons, open our mind and consider the side of the flower children. By standing alongside the flower children, also currently regarded as “hippies,” you support the end of the Vietnam War, and much more.

No matter your age, gender, sexual orientation or class, this group of people is advocating for worldwide peace and equality for all. They may have a love for the unconventional (rock and roll, folk music and mind-bending drugs), but ultimately their goal is to spread a message of love.

This movement is focused on free artistic expression and anti-corporalism. Because they stray from the norm, they are often shunned by society. The flower children hope to have the opposite effect in our efforts of peace and inclusivity.

It is not just hippies and college students who are fighting for peace, but it is also a lot of average American families and veterans themselves. Together we can work to take Washington by storm.

Too many young men have been deployed overseas. We should protest the crimes of President Lyndon B. Johnson by marching to the Pentagon. Let us demonstrate against the government who is willingly sending our children to die.

We are here to replace bullets with flowers, and to call for an end to the war. Society has become enveloped by evil, and it is time people begin to look for the good within themselves. By standing with the flower children, you can truly understand what love and peace is about.

This is a call to action for people everywhere. Let us stand in solidarity.

Friendship during this time is indispensable. Hippies are calling for everyone to join, what they consider, their large family.

I am joining the life of the hippies, because I am convinced the only way to fight hate is with peace. I urge you all to do the same.

We will continue to carry signs that say “Make Love, Not War,” until this destruction has ceased.

“Knowledge speaks, but wisdom listens”

Jim Hendrix

STUDENT RALLY – Participants in a “Students for a Democratic Society” sponsored demonstration hold signs protesting the war. -- Bettmann / Getty Images

ANTI-VIETNAM MARCH – A young woman outside the Pentagon during the 1967 anti-Vietnam march. -- Mark Rebec / Magnus Photos

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“Won’t you be my neighbor?”

Mr. Rogers would want you to be a good neighbor

It’s been a rough week. Really rough. And while we have many thoughts about the state of everything, we wanted to take a break this week and focus on something close to our Pittsburgh home: Mister Rogers.

This past Monday was the 50th Anniversary of Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood, and after such a turbulent few days, taking stock in some of the lessons our favorite neighbor imparted felt like the right thing to do.

But that turns out to be a tall order. The series ran for 31 seasons over 38 years, and, well, that’s a lot of ground to cover.

However, throughout each episode, the common refrain “Won’t you be my neighbor?” rang in the hearts and minds of children everywhere. So that’s where we want to begin. What does it mean to be someone’s neighbor?

It feels as though the least we can do is talk to someone, and not in that sappy, platitudinous way. Simply asking a friend how their day is going, and really listening to them, is a great place to start being a good neighbor. Truth be told, giving someone a bit of your attention does a surprising amount to brighten their day.

That listening part can be tricky, to be sure, so practice makes perfect. Try listening to your friends by actively participating with them. Repeat what they are saying back to them, ask questions or for explanations, do little things like that to show that you’re giving their day your time, and that you’re present.

If words aren’t your thing, small acts of kindness also do wonders for being a good neighbor. These don’t have to cost money, obviously, but preemptive measures help another show where your attention and values lie. Making copies of a memo for a coworker, for example, or cleaning up some of their busy work keeps people feeling motivated and validated.

Being kind isn’t just for friends and family, of course. Giving a smile and a heartfelt “Thank you,” to your cashier, or picking up someone else’s trash are all ways that can make a strangers’ days better.

And that’s what it’s all about. Whenever the world gets to be a little too much, remembering how to be kind seems to be the most fitting thing to do right now. In light of tragedy, kindness is a stable foundation to build understanding on.
American Astronauts Land on the Moon

By Alyse Kaminsky

The ratings indicate that 530 million people gathered around their television sets on July 20 to watch man land on the Moon. Those who tuned in heard the words from Neil Armstrong that could change the course of our history: “[O]ne small step for [a] man, one giant leap for mankind.” This great advancement in technology has the power to change everything in many different ways.

We are nearing the end of the 1960s, and what a decade it has turned out to be. Americans have seen it all in these past 10 years. Just six years ago an assassin shot President Kennedy. For years, the Civil Rights movement shook up the country. And, of course, the continuation of Cold War still instills fear into everyone each and every day. This past decade was a heavy test of our past decade was a heavy test of our history when one can feel that over 250,000 individuals felt on Aug. 28 when Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his iconic “I Have a Dream” speech during the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom on August 28, 1963. -- JULIAN WASSER/GETTY IMAGES

By Vince Gullo

There are certain moments in history when one can feel that they are in the presence of something great. The feeling cannot be explained or quantified, but when someone is in the moment of importance, they know it. That is how over 250,000 individuals felt on Aug. 28 when Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gave his speech at the March on Washington, an event organized by various minority rights groups looking to push for an end in racial discrimination. The march included speeches by multiple civil rights leaders and culminated with Dr. King’s speech. King’s speech, soon labeled the “I Have a Dream” speech, left an impact on all those that heard and saw it. Beginning with references to the Bible and Constitution, King climaxes his speech with the powerful words, “I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed … I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. I have a dream today.”

King appeals to the core of American values. The discrimination experienced by African Americans is obvious to all rationally-minded people, but when the reality of American society is compared to its constitutionally stipulated, the difference is striking. We’ve developed into an unnecessarily tribal nation — one that considers those who have a different skin color somehow less-American than we are, even though the vast majority of them have been in this country long before we have. The idea that some citizens are somehow lesser than others is fundamentally against what the Founding Fathers had intended when writing our country’s constitution. Considering fellow citizens as inferior and then creating restrictive legislation to justify those beliefs (such as the Jim Crow laws) would be the opposite of the American Ideal that so many people hypocritically push.

Between slavery, legal discrimination, unfair legal systems and countless other atrocities, the fact that the African American community has gone through the generational horrors that it has and still remains gracious enough to fight their fight through peaceful protest, is nothing short of incredible. As 250,000 supporters of the Civil Rights movement gathered together at the capital, one couldn’t help but feel riveted watching from afar.

The march, which was supported by the Kennedy Administration, will hopefully increase momentum for President Kennedy’s proposed Civil Rights Act, which would prohibit any discrimination based on race, and eventually lead to a fully integrated society. Although political action might be an eventual goal of the participants, the hope that was felt though the solidarity shared between the marchers, speakers and everyone else involved is what made the march a victory that transcended what any piece of legislation could do. No matter the odds, the people showed that they will not go down without a fight.

Even as a lowly, white student in Pittsburgh, there is still something to take from the march, and more specifically Dr. King’s speech. Whenever there is injustice, to you or to others, love is always the answer. There is a world where these injustices no longer exist, and we can make it happen through enacting the words of King in our everyday lives.

As writer James Baldwin so graphically said about King’s speech: “We stood on a height, and could see our inheritance; perhaps we could make the kingdom real.” The “kingdom” can be achieved by living lives of acceptance, understanding, and love as opposed to ones of ignorance and hate.

Martin Luther King Jr. Delivers inspiring Speech

Martin Luther King Jr. gave his speech on Aug. 28, 1963, an event organized by various leaders and culminated with Dr. King’s speech. King’s speech, soon labeled the “I Have a Dream” speech, left an impact on all those that heard and saw it. Beginning with references to the Bible and Constitution, King climaxes his speech with the powerful words, “I say to you today, my friends, that in spite of the difficulties and frustrations of the moment, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American Dream. I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed … I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. I have a dream today.”

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For so long, advancements, such as the men landing on the Moon, were strictly science fiction. Americans have gone to the cinema to see movies about space, and undoubtedly some thought these explorations would never happen. But just in this last week, fantasy became reality, and that means so much for technology.

The Apollo 11 mission proves the importance of technology in space alone. Just think: It is only 1969, and we have already stepped foot on the Moon (putting us ahead of the Russians). Who says we cannot go further into space in the future? Also, it is totally possible that further technological advancement could give insights into one of life’s most burning questions: Is there life on other planets? Maybe this is a question that will not be answered soon, but nonetheless, it is a question we can begin to answer now.

Also, it is not like Armstrong, Aldrin and Collins only went to the Moon and then packed up and left. The heroes also broadcasted a spectacular view of our planet. The three additionally experimented with the composition of solar wind, collected samples of materials of the lunar-surface and took photographs of the terrain on the Moon. This is a whole treasure trove of information, and the possibilities it opens up are innumerable.

It’s no wonder then why Americans should be ecstatic that the Apollo 11 mission proved successful.

However, while the mission to the Moon proves the importance of pushing the limits of technology outside of Earth, it also emphasizes the need to pay attention to planet-side issues. NASA spent millions of dollars on this mission (rightfully so), but there are also many issues on our own planet that need to be solved by technology. If Americans can leave the planet, break through the atmosphere and find themselves on the floating rock above us, then we surely should eventually be able to explain some of Earth’s mysteries. Maybe there is a cure for cancer, or maybe there is a way to determine where life came from. These questions, and others, also begs to the question of what is now within the realm of possibility.

The 60s really have been a rough decade. Americans have felt a weight on their shoulders all for the past 10 years. However, we seem to be ending on a more positive note. The years to come could be less about terror and more about human advancement in all walks of life.

Americans should feel like we are back on top. We should realize that we have gone beyond just being on top of the world.
A Look into the Roles of Duquesne Facilities Management

BY KRISTINA PRIMACK

Duquesne University is doubtlessly a beautiful and well-maintained campus, earning it a reputation as park-like and welcoming. We are all aware of keeping this campus as safe and as clean as it is involves consistent hard work, but has anyone ever wondered what that hard work really entails?

Unsurprisingly, Duquesne’s facilities management team functions as a well-oiled machine, and each member of the team fulfills their roles with dedication and attention to detail, all of which ensures every task is seen to efficiently and successfully.

Its responsibilities are divided into various areas of training and expertise, including: General mechanics, HVAC technicians, electricians, plumbers, carpenters, housekeepers and grounds maintenance. To further illustrate the roles and duties of facilities management and maintenance employees, Coleman Griffin — manager of grounds, sustainability and motor pool for Duquesne University — answered several questions to demonstrate exactly what’s involved with this branch of our facilities management department.

"As Griffin said, "One is managing and student sustainability activities." In addition to weather preparations, maintenance crews work to enable students to get to where they need to go. This task can be demanding as well."

"Another challenge is mobility on campus during snow events," Griffin said. "When we are trying to clear snow while everyone is moving around campus during their daily activities, it can be difficult and time consuming for the crew to get around."

The hard work doesn’t end when the snow melts away and the temperatures get more comfortable. As springtime approaches, the duties of maintaining the campus must adapt to the changing seasons. Griffin explained that there are numerous tasks that are necessary to perform when preparing for spring. Some examples include cleaning winter debris (such as leaves and downed branches), ordering and planning for spring flower planting, mulching planting beds, pruning trees and shrubs, pest control, mowing and other horticultural responsibilities.

Duquesne University’s facilities management team plays an integral role in keeping our campus clean, beautiful and safe, and as we have seen, doing so is no small feat. Noting that, let’s all remember to appreciate the hardworking individuals and to do our part in the process.

New Indian Restaurant Offers Traditional Flavor and Charm

BY SHIVANI GOSAI

Move over Chipotle. Indian barbeque is coming to take your place. Choolaah opened its doors Friday, Jan. 26, in East Liberty near Oakland.

Co-founders Raji Sankar and Randhir Sethi debuted an Indian eatery that prides itself on fresh, healthy food. Choolaah focuses on bringing a casual, fast approach to traditional Indian dishes, and that is exactly what they’ve done.

When you first enter Choolaah, the atmosphere is bright and energetic. It’s a very large, hip space with modern decor. Colorful graffiti-esque walls are paired with clean white fixtures. The restaurant is two floors, complete with multiple types of seating such as communal or traditional wooden tables. The kitchen is surrounded by a glass wall to allow customers to watch their food be made right in front of them. The star of the restaurant’s design has to be their giant, orange tandoor oven at the front of their kitchen.

The staff was extremely friendly and helpful during the ordering process. You order your food at one station and are given a buzzer to notify you when your food is ready.

The menu has something for everyone. Whether you are vegetarian or gluten-free, there is an option for you. Choolaah doesn’t skimp on showcasing traditional Indian food such as biryani, samosa chaat or chai tea. The rest of the menu allows you to build your own plate with options such as bowls, salads and wraps. Desserts such as mango kulfi and children’s plates such as naan pizza are also featured.

The chicken, lamb and salmon served is humanely raised and antibiotic-free. The paneer is made by the Ohio Amish using Choolaah’s classic recipe. The mangoes and spices are imported from India.

I decided to order the Choolaah bowl, which had a choice of white or brown rice, protein and masala. Masala is a term that can best be described here as the type of sauce, such as lentil deals. I chose brown rice, chicken and tikka masala. My food was prepared quickly, in less than five minutes.

The bowl was with tikka masala was made perfectly, with a flavorful and traditional taste. It paired wonderfully with the barbeque chicken. It was not spicy, but still maintained the flavor of the many spices used. I had ordered a mango lassi to drink, a classic Indian yogurt beverage, which was exactly as I hoped. The lassi was tangy and light and balanced the tikka masala bowl. The only disappointing part of my meal was the naan I ordered on the side. It was dry and thin, unlike the way traditional naan is made. This was the opposite of any naan I’ve ever had, it lacked the fluffy, buttery quality naan is loved for.

The menu is fairly priced. The bowls run from about $3 to $5, and the naan is $1.79 each. Each protein added to your dish is an additional $5 to $7. The most expensive item is the biryani, priced at $9.99. My entire meal was about $14. Choolaah is an inexpensive option for students that want food that is way more flavorful than Hogan.

Choolaah is undoubtedly the most exciting new restaurant in Pittsburgh. It is making Indian food approachable to those who may not be accustomed and gives a fun twist for those who are.

The interior of the restaurant may be modern, but the food is prepared with traditional taste. Beside the naan mishap, Choolaah did not disappoint and I will definitely be back to try the rest of the menu.
Swimming & diving team wins A-10 title

By Adam Lindner

It wasn’t easy, however, as the Dukes owned only a seven-point lead over seven-time defending champion Richmond heading into Saturday night’s final event — the 400-yard freestyle relay.

However, a relay team consisting of sophomores Carson Gross, senior Lexi Santer, sophomore Heather Svitsinsky and senior Michelle Heim managed to finish fifth in the event, just ahead of the six-place Spiders, to seal the deal for Duquesne, who benefitted from fielding a diving component for the first time in 16 seasons.

The Dukes ended the tournament with a program-record 567 points, which was enough to narrowly deny Richmond its sixteenth A-10 title in the past 17 years, as the Spiders finished with 558 points. George Washington finished third with 447.5 points.

The last school to dethrone Richmond was Fordham, who won the A-10 title in 2010.

17-year Duquesne head coach Dave Sheets was named Coach of the Year for the second time in the past four seasons, and incredible newcomer Emma Britton received Outstanding Rookie Performer following the tournament’s conclusion.

Sheets previously won the title in 2015.

The Dukes earned medals in 13 of the meet’s 20 events, including four gold medals, two silvers and five bronzes across the four-day tournament.

Brinton finished with a pair of gold medals in the 200-yard individual medley and the 400-yard individual medley, and was a part of Duquesne’s 400-yard medley relay team that medaled bronze.

The freshman set a new school record in the 200-yard individual medley, and a new A-10 Championship pool and Duquesne record in the 400-yard individual medley.

PREPARING FOR BATTLE — Sophomore midfielder Rilee Bradshaw, No. 3, and Duquesne defeat at the hands of the NEC’s Colonials. -- JUMPING FOR JOY -- Members of DUQ’s swimming and diving team celebrate its first-ever A-10 championship title in Geneva. -- Authors/Files

Women’s lacrosse team takes off season

By Adam Lindner

On a snowy Saturday afternoon on the Bluff, the Duquesne women’s lacrosse team opened its 2017-18 regular season campaign with a close 10-9 loss versus area foe Robert Morris on Feb. 17.

Knotted at 7-7 with just under eight minutes left to play, junior midfielder Sarah Kolhoff netted two straight Duquesne goals to give the Dukes a 9-7 lead with just over six minutes left in regulation.

However, Robert Morris responded with three unanswered goals to take the contest, 10-9.

Neither team led by more than two goals at any given point in the game.

For the Dukes, Kolhoff and senior attacker Jill Vacanti both recorded hat tricks, and freshman midfielder Carlee Braverman scored two goals in her collegiate debut.

Sophomore attacker Michaela Grossman had a pair of assists in her Duquesne debut as well.

Junior attacker Haley Mathai concluded regular action to round out the afternoon’s scoring for the Dukes.

Following the Robert Morris contest, Duquesne traveled to Pittsburgh on Feb. 21, where it fell to the No. 12 Nittany Lions, 19-8.

The Nittany Lions, who have made two straight NCAA Final Four appearances, were hot out of the gate, jumping to a quick 6-0 lead before the Dukes scored three of the game’s next four goals, rendering the score 7-3.

Penn State scored the game’s next four goals, however, eventually taking a 13-5 lead into the halftime break.

Duquesne allowed three consecutive Nittany Lion goals following halftime, but the teams played an even game from that point forward, ending in a 19-8 Penn State victory.

Sophomore midfielder Kirsten Barnes recorded her first career hat trick to go along with one assist, as fellow sophomore midfielder Maddie Hart contributed two goals of her own for the Dukes.

Sophomore goalkeeper Maddy Curtis made five saves and allowed two goals in 22 minutes of relief action to close out the game for Duquesne.

Next, Duquesne will face the MAAC’s Niagara Purple Eagles (1-0) in a non-conference contest on Sunday, Feb. 25 at 2 p.m. at Arthur J. Rooney Field.

The Dukes will hit the road again on Thursday, Mar. 1, when they face Saint Francis (Pa.).

BRADSHAW ON THE ATTACK -- Sophomore No. 3 Rilee Bradshaw brushes off a flurry of Robert Morris defenders in an attempt to score for the Dukes. -- Edward Sala}

A-10 MBB Standings — Top 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
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<th>Conf.</th>
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<th>Streak</th>
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This Week in Sports History

On Feb. 22, 1893, one of sports’ greatest rivalries began when Alabama and Auburn faced off in football for the first time. Auburn won the first-ever Iron Bowl 32-22. Since then, 81 more games have been played, with Alabama leading the all-time series 45-36-1.

Atlantic 10 Briefs

Atlantic 10-leading Rhode Island suffered its first conference loss of the season on Feb. 16 in Olean, New York, when the Rams fell to St. Bonaventure, 77-74. Rhode Island, then ranked No. 16 in the AP Poll, slid backwards two spots to No. 18 following its loss. The Rams beat La Salle in overtime on Feb. 20, 95-93, to move to 22-4 and 14-1 in conference.
Women's basketball drops another home contest

By DAVID BORNE

With a chance to clinch the second seed in the rapidly approaching Atlantic 10 Championship tournament, the Duquesne women's basketball team (22-6, 12-3 A-10) fell 51-43 to Fordham at the A.J. Palumbo Center on Wednesday night.

It was a game that started slowly scoring-wise for both sides, and neither really managed to find an offensive rhythm in the contest. The 43-point finish was a season low for both sides, and neither really managed to score enough to win.

The solid performance of Paultz helped lead St. John's to a halftime lead. However, Duquesne responded with a 22-0 run in the second stanza, outscoring its opponents that finished with double-digit scoring totals. Center Billy Paultz was especially impressive, as the big man scored 24 points and grabbed 12 rebounds.

Despite the loss, Duquesne’s offensive woes were certainly not enough to win. Thankfully, the Dukes got just what they needed to win tomorrow and move on. Just days earlier, the boys basketball team finished its season on a high note with a 75-72 victory over the Richmond Spiders. A victory in that game would have clinched the program's first NCAA Tournament berth.

Women's basketball drops another home contest

The loss made for a bitter ending to Duquesne’s postseason. Even so, it was still a successful year for the Dukes, who finished with an impressive 21-5 record.

Those 21 wins included several victories against ranked teams like St. Bonaventure, Villanova and St. John’s. Duquesne’s strong season earned it a No. 9 final ranking in the AP Poll, which ranks the best collegiate programs nationally.

This was also Duquesne’s first NCAA Tournament appearance since 1952, when it reached the Elite Eight. While they did not go as far as they had hoped, the team proved why so many are optimistic about the program’s future. With multiple core players returning next year, the Dukes should be able to make another run at the NCAA Tournament.

The current state of Duquesne basketball has many fans, especially current students, feeling good about the future. Just ask freshman David Heda. In his short time at Duquesne, he has quickly become one of the team’s biggest fans.

While he was disappointed with the way things ended, he said the basketball season was still the highlight of his year.

"Everyone’s excited, everyone goes to the games," Heda said. "It feels like the focus of the entire university." Heda is certainly not alone in his positive stance. As he pointed out, the Civic Arena, home of the Duquesne men, is regularly packed with fans.

Hopefully, this recent momentum acts as a stepping stone for the Dukes as they look to become a basketball powerhouse for years to come. The close loss to North Carolina was a true heartbreaker, but the consolation match against St. John’s reaffirmed the optimism of Duquesne fans.

While the season ended just a few days ago, the excitement is already building for next year.
Retro Review: **Night of the Living Dead**

**Horror Staple of PA**

**By Josiah Martin**

Very rarely does a work of art both create and perfect a genre at the same time. *Night of the Living Dead*, which celebrates its 50th anniversary later this year, arguably did just that.

Directed by George A. Romero and written by Romero and John Russo, *Night of the Living Dead* may not be the first film that comes to mind when you think “horror masterpiece.” In fact, it has all the trap-pings of a ’60s sci-fi B-movie: It was made on an extremely small budget, filmed in the middle of nowhere (Butler County, Pennsylvania), stars no-name actors, features over-the-top gore and was filmed in black and white despite being released in the late ’60s. However, *Night of the Living Dead* is saved from becoming midnight-movie camp by the pure talent of the people involved.

The gore in the film isn’t shocking in the traditional sense. Aside from one early exception, the audience isn’t hit with sudden, disgust-ing shots. Rather, the gore is even darker than that: It’s slow, detailed and deeply repulsive. Shots that carry intense emotional weight or are particularly visually disturbing are paired with pulsating, low, electronic soundtracks or a screeching hi-hat that make the gore all the more bothersome and hard to watch — but greatly compelling.

The film, like most great zombie-themed works, focuses on the people instead of the monsters. It is soaked in the attitudes of other films, TV series and video games. The most recent is *Star Trek: Discovery*, which aired in 2017. — **Courtesy of NBC**

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**Week’s Events**

**Cherry Pie Hike**

Feb. 24

Enjoy a walk through nature and some cherry pie at the Jennings Environmental Education Center. There are multiple hikes for nature lovers of all kinds. A $2 donation is requested. Register at: http://www.jenningsenvironmental.org/events.php.

**Escape From the Holocaust: Jewish Refugees and Aliyah Bet**

Feb. 25 at 7:00 p.m.

The Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh is hosting Esther Raizen for a presentation on the story of Aliyah Bet and how the movement helped to build present-day Israel.

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**Upcoming Releases**

**Game Night**

Feb. 23

Starring Jason Bateman and Rachel McAdams, *Game Night* takes the fun of a murder mystery party and turns it on its head when everything that is supposed to be fake turns out to be real.

**Annihilation**

Feb. 23

Annihilation follows Lena (Natalie Portman) as she tries to unearth what happened to her husband in Area 5. The world inside this area is mutated and threatens both Lena’s life and sanity.

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**Micro Review**

**By the Way, I Forgive You**

Brandi Carlile

Carlile’s sixth studio album is an emotional roller coaster that solidifies her as one of the premier singer-songwriters of our time. The lead single from the album, “The Joke,” is far and away one of, if not the, best songs of 2018 (even though it’s February). “The Joke” is incredibly moving, and Carlile uses the song to demonstrate the full power and range of her singing abili-ties.

— Raymond Arke

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**Retro Review: Star Trek: Voyages Uncharted Territory**

**By Neil Runge**

From 1966 to 1969, *Star Trek* was a classic science fiction show that ran on NBC. This series is about the crew of the spaceship the USS Enterprise. The ship and its crew set out to explore the unreached and untouched areas of space on a five-year mission, traveling beyond the Milky Way circa 2260. On the Enterprise, there are three areas of expertise: command and helm personnel that wear gold shirts; engineering, operations and security that wear red shirts; and medical and science personnel that wear blue shirts. The men’s uniforms include black pants and the women’s uniform is a short dress of the color of their expertise. Both uniforms are long-sleeved.

The captain of the Enterprise and one of the main characters, James “Jim” Kirk, dons a gold shirt. The rest of the regular cast consists of Spock, a member of the alien species called Vulcan and the second-in-command who works in science. Uhura, the ship’s translator, wears red. There’s Leonard “Bones” McCoy, the leader of the medical area of the Enterprise. Finally, there’s Scotty, the head of engineering and Sulu and Chekov, pilots who work on the bridge.

Throughout its run, *Star Trek* explored the ideas of what it means to learn about new cultures, meet new people, discovering species and still dealing with subjects such as sexism and racism. It tackled topics and problems that many shows, even more serious ones, don’t attempt to handle. *Star Trek* sent out a more liberal message in everything it does, from the topics to the costumes.

This show manages to bring depth to each character and every story. All the while, it’s appropriate for the whole family and can make anyone laugh. It almost feels like any other sitcom on TV, but set in a world of other sitcoms. The science and topics to the costumes. The show breaks new ground every episode, something new and exciting. One story is about the crew of the Enterprise visiting a planet that is stuck in the 1920s. Another one is about Spock’s history as a vulcan.

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— Raymond Arke
Early Man Presents Early Footballers

By Nicole Prieto

With big-name stars — from Fantastastic Beasts’ Eddie Redmayne to Game of Thrones’ Maisie Williams and Thor’s Tom Hiddleston — Early Man is a family film about a clash of the ages heavily geared toward sports fans young and old.

Set in the Edenic, prehistoric Manorchester, Dug (Redmayne) is just your average, ambitious caveman who dreams of hunting mammoths instead of rabbits. But his tribe’s compliant lifestyle crumbles around them when Bronze Age invaders suddenly force them out of the sanctuary of their valley. There is only one thing on the mind of the invaders’ leader, Lord Nooth (Hiddleston): the valley’s abundance of bronze ore just waiting for him to exploit.

But Dug is not one to cower from challenges bigger than himself. A few mistaken identity hijinks later, and he finds himself on the hallowed ground of the Bronze Age city’s sacred soccer stadium ("Football" in films, but for the sake of distinguishing from American football, it is mostly referred to as ‘soccer’ here.). Suffice to say, Dug challenges the Bronze Age invaders to a match to determine the fate of his tribe and their valley. With the help of the athletic city pan seller Goona (Williams), Dug scampers to get his family ready for the biggest (and first) game of their lives.

For international football/soccer fans — and particularly their little ones — this might be a cute enough movie to watch on a weekend. For everyone else, be prepared to be underwhelmed. The film is not exactly bad. The violence is suitable for children, the stop-motion animation is clean, and the humor, while not great, is not tasteless. But its big-screen worthiness is suspect. As with many children’s films, there is a moral to the story somewhere, but it is obfuscated by the plot’s direction.

While we get to see a training montage of the tribe members getting better at the game, we are not really shown why they are inherently better at working as a team than the opposing Team Bronzios. Supposedly, they are more of a family than the egotistical members of the Bronze Age superstars. But barring a few superficial quirky quirks, Dug’s fellow tribe members are not all that distinguishable from one another such that they give you that impression.

They seem to share a hive mind when it comes to learning how to play the game, and good luck to anyone trying to remember what any of their names are. Chief Bobnar (Timothy Spall), and his primary role is being the skeptical, overly paternalistic authority figure in Dug’s life. There is also Dug’s animal companion, Hognob (director Nick Park), who curiously acts more like a dog and less like a prehistoric bear.

The movie is ostensibly about following one’s dreams, but Dug’s biggest motivation at the start of the film is his desire to hunt bigger game. His serendipitous rediscovery of their ancestors’ ancient pastime is exactly that: something borne out of pure chance in the circumstances, not a desire he cultivated pre-invasion. Goona is the real soccer underdog among the cast, as she was excluded from any chance at playing for the Bronzios due to being a girl. Yet, even this plot thread is given superficial attention. The almost obligatory romance angle between Dug and Goona is there, too, but, whether curiously or thankfully, is also barely given screen time.

For protagonist Lord Nooth, his main vice is his obsession with bronze coins at the expense of sportsmanship. His slapstick dynamic with his primary role is being the skeptical, overly paternalistic authority figure in Dug’s life. His slapstick dynamic with Hiddleston — an entitled white man who values his opinion too much, and I am here to tell you that Black Panther is good. Really. Good. As gaudy as the phrase is, “believe the hype” perfectly encapsulates my feelings for this movie. One-part superstellar flick, one-part black film paradox, Black Panther knows exactly what it wants to be and executes its vision flawlessly.

Part of that vision includes the fantastic aesthetic of the film. Black Panther is stylish, full stop. Everything from the sets to the costumers to the cinematography pushes the line between mainstream cinema and indie arthouse. The costumers were especially fantastic, and if Black Panther doesn’t at least get an Oscar nod for the seamless wardrobes, that will be the crime of the century. I legitimately missed who was in a scene the first time I watched the film because I was so preoccupied with the outfits and makeup.

And that feeling embarrassing to say, but it is true. Mainstream cinema is so starved of African and Black styles that it was easy to fall in love with a world most people have not seen. Hopefully, with the massive success of Black Panther, studio heads will finally be convinced that black filmmakers are not “risks” or niche projects and put more thought into exploring a wonderful fantasy world. If there was one major criticism I could levy against the film, it would be that the scenes in the fictitious country don’t offer much in the way of a casual, pedestrian look at the empire. Sure, the throne room, Shuri’s lab, the mine and so on are all fantastically realized. But there are only two brief scenes on the streets of the capital, both of which look rather generic compared to the rest of the movie.

However, this is a minor criticism, as are my problems with pacing and narrative. There is a frankly bizarre exposition dump explaining the origins of Wakanda that opens the film, and its inclusion feels unnecessary even after two viewings. Nakia (Lupita Nyong’o) also feels pushed to the side a bit when she absolutely should not be. Undoubtedly the heart and soul of the movie, Nakia’s ambition and motivation forms the thesis of Black Panther, but the narrative and cinematography does not offer her many chances to occupy the moviegoer’s mind as much as she should. The biggest indicator of this mishap is the fact that most commentators and reviewers I’ve read compare the philosophies of T’Challa (Chadwick Boseman) and Erik Killmonger (Michael B. Jordan) and not T’Challa and Nakia. Black Panther, despite its name, is Nakia’s film, but most will lose the film believing otherwise.

Again, those are small complaints. All told, the reception Black Panther has received speaks better than any review of its quality. Definitely don’t miss this one, as I have a feeling we’ll be talking about Wakanda for years to come.

Black Panther Displays Excellence in Action, Narrative

BY ZACH LANDAU

Welcome to the most pointless review in the world. I’m your host, an entitled white man who values his opinion too much, and I am here to tell you that Black Panther is good. Really. Good. As gaudy as the phrase is, "believe the hype" perfectly encapsulates my feelings for this movie. One-part superstellar flick, one-part black film paradigm, Black Panther knows exactly what it wants to be and executes its vision flawlessly.

Part of that vision includes the fantastic aesthetic of the film. Black Panther is stylish, full stop. Everything from the sets to the costumers to the cinematography pushes the line between mainstream cinema and indie arthouse. The costumers were especially fantastic, and if Black Panther doesn’t at least get an Oscar nod for the seamless wardrobes, that will be the crime of the century. I legitimately missed who was in a scene the first time I watched the film because I was so preoccupied with the outfits and makeup.

And that feeling embarrassing to say, but it is true. Mainstream cinema is so starved of African and Black styles that it was easy to fall in love with a world most people have not seen. Hopefully, with the massive success of Black Panther, studio heads will finally be convinced that black filmmakers are not "risks" or niche projects and put more thought into exploring a wonderful fantasy world. If there was one major criticism I could levy against the film, it would be that the scenes in the fictitious country don’t offer much in the way of a casual, pedestrian look at the empire. Sure, the throne room, Shuri’s lab, the mine and so on are all fantastically realized. But there are only two brief scenes on the streets of the capital, both of which look rather generic compared to the rest of the movie.

However, this is a minor criticism, as are my problems with pacing and narrative. There is a frankly bizarre exposition dump explaining the origins of Wakanda that opens the film, and its inclusion feels unnecessary even after two viewings. Nakia (Lupita Nyong’o) also feels pushed to the side a bit when she absolutely should not be. Undoubtedly the heart and soul of the movie, Nakia’s ambition and motivation forms the thesis of Black Panther, but the narrative and cinematography does not offer her many chances to occupy the moviegoer’s mind as much as she should. The biggest indicator of this mishap is the fact that most commentators and reviewers I’ve read compare the philosophies of T’Challa (Chadwick Boseman) and Erik Killmonger (Michael B. Jordan) and not T’Challa and Nakia. Black Panther, despite its name, is Nakia’s film, but most will lose the film believing otherwise.

Again, those are small complaints. All told, the reception Black Panther has received speaks better than any review of its quality. Definitely don’t miss this one, as I have a feeling we’ll be talking about Wakanda for years to come.

If We Want Progress Stop Scapegoating Gaming

BY GRANT STONER

Last Wednesday, high school students and faculty members became the victims of yet another mass shooting, this time in Parkland, Florida. A 19-year-old gunman ended the lives of 17 innocent people with a modified AR-15 rifle. As is tradition in the wake of these tragedies, politicians and self-proclaimed denizens of social media began to search for solutions to the exhausting question of how this tragedy continues to occur.

"Is it mental illness? Or bullying?"

"You know what? I bet it was those violent video games!"

As a gamer, my favorite form of entertainment is constantly under scrutiny. We’ve been called antisocial, base-ment-dwellers and suffer virulent criticism whenever a tragedy occurs. If a gun was involved, you better believe we prefer believe video games will be blamed.

But, if we examine actual studies, rather than listen to obnoxious disciples from the self-righteous, it becomes evident that video games are nothing more than a scapegoat. For example, according to “The Good, the Bad and the Parly: A Meta-Analytic Review of Positive and Negative Effects of Violent Video Games,” found within the December 2007 issue of Psychiatric Quarterly, video game violence has no correlation with real-world events.

“Results indicated that publication bias was a problem for studies of both aggressive behavior and visuospatial cognition,” writes Christopher John Ferguson. “Once corrected for publication bias, studies of video game violence provided no support for the hypothesis that violent video game playing is associated with higher aggression.”

To further reinforce this statement, let’s examine the sales of one of the most popular games of all time. According to the fiscal second quarter sales for publisher Take-Two Interactive Software, Grand Theft Auto V, as of November 2017, has sold over 85 million units. For those who are not familiar, the Grand Theft Auto series allows players to kill police officers, sell drugs, steal vehicles, rob stores and fornicate with prostitutes. Essentially, gamers have the freedom to do whatever they please, with an emphasis on breaking the law.

Now, with over 85 million copies being distributed across the globe, have we seen an increase in crime by the gaming population? No, we have not.

In fact, video games can have a positive social effect. Most people can attest to meeting friends via online gaming (myself included), and few can deny the pleasure in losing yourself in exploring a wonderful fantasy world. Games create opportunities to socialize and explore new cultures and beliefs.

Which is why the fake accusations need to stop. Until video games cease to be a political straw man for mass shootings, no real progress can be made. Politicians, regardless of the political spectrum, know what to do but are too afraid to upset their constituents. With every innocent life lost, our news feeds are filled with an egregious amount of thoughts and prayers and witch hunts against incorrect perpetrators. It’s time to stop directing futile arguments toward an innocent form of entertainment.
County digs up the zombies

NIGHT — from page 9
during news broadcasts. Barbra and Johnny drive up the region’s trademark uneven terrain in the opening shots of the film. There is both a news helicopter and a button on the radio for recently-defunct AM radio station KQV.

As Pittsburgh becomes more of a film-industry-friendly city, it should remain proud that Night of the Living Dead is one of its more prominent cinematic exports. It is required viewing for all horror fans, or cinephiles in general, and thanks to a copyright filing error, is available free and legally on nearly any website that hosts video.

The film still holds up, and its social critiques still ring true after half a century. To paraphrase one of the film’s taglines, Night of the Living Dead “won’t stay dead” and will likely live on in film history for another 50 years.

Editor-in-Chief position available for The Duquesne Duke. Those interested should submit a cover letter and resume to bkerlik@flypittsburgh.com by March 2.

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