



## Students help out refugees for class

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asst. news editor

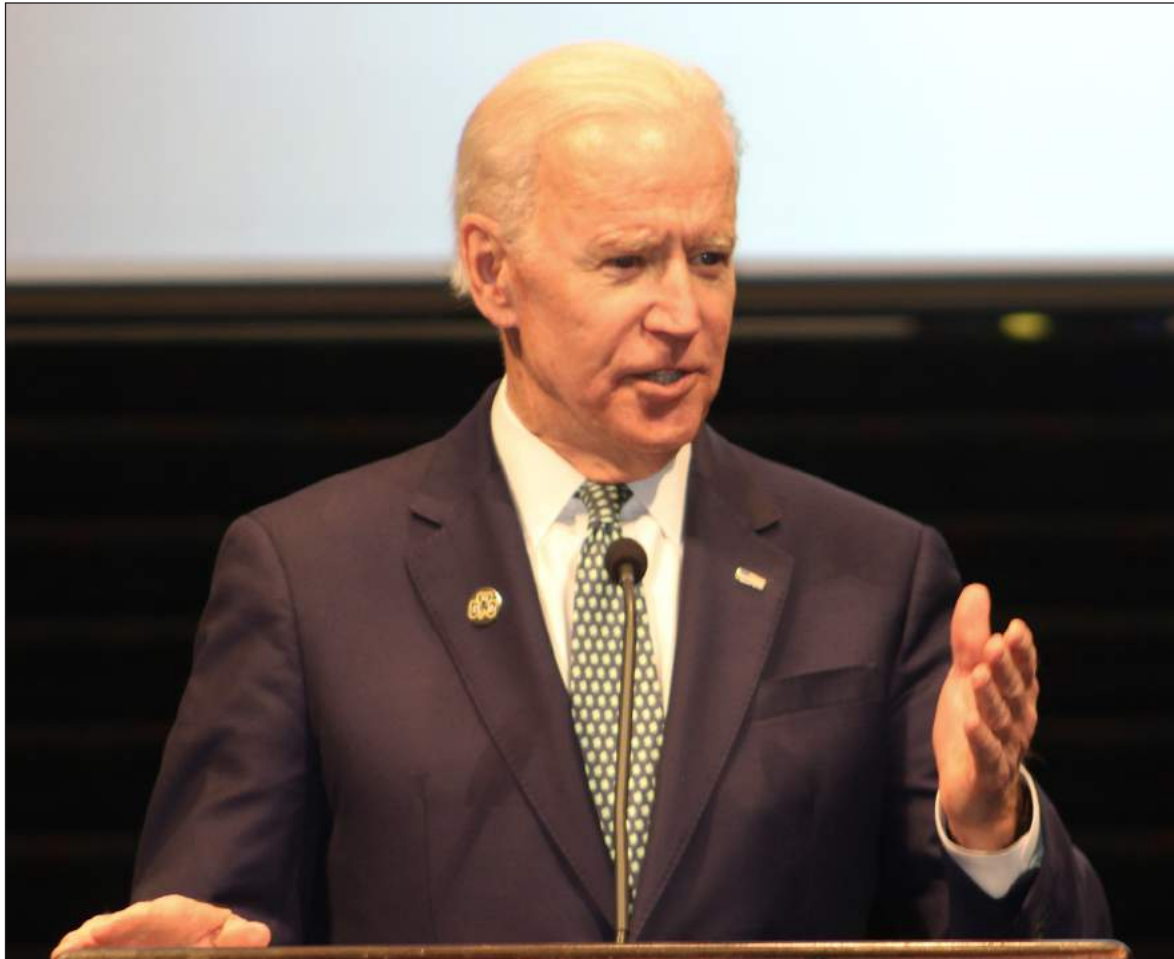
Many college-level students are expected to complete assignments and readings outside of class, but Duquesne's Politics of Immigration course has taken out-of-class work to the next level by branching out into the community.

In this class, community engagement activities are integrated into the curriculum, where students volunteer at an after-school program organized by two community partners, including Jewish Family and Community Services (JFCS) and Alliance for Refugee Youth Support and Education (ARYSE).

The program, located at the Pittsburgh Gifted Center in Crafton Heights, works to assist Pittsburgh's refugee youth in grades K-12 with homework completion,

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## Biden: Rooney was “always about hope”



KAILEY LOVE/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Former Vice President Joe Biden spoke of Rooney's humility and faith as part of a symposium honoring the DU grad.

RAYMOND ARKE  
news editor

“I can't help but think Dan would insist we were making too much of a fuss.” This line, delivered by former Vice President Joe Biden, was one of many that honored the memory of Dan Rooney at “Sláinte! A Symposium Celebrating the Life and Legacy of Daniel M. Rooney” on March 16.

Rooney was a 1955 Duquesne graduate and would go on to become the president and chairman of the Pittsburgh Steelers. He also was involved in philanthropic work for Ireland and was appointed the U.S. Ambassador to Ireland from 2009 to 2012.

The symposium attracted a large crowd and featured panels of Steelers players, sports journalists and Irish members of Rooney's Ireland Fund organization, among others.

The keynote speech was delivered by Biden, who was vice president when Rooney was ambassador. The former vice president was welcomed to the Union Ballroom with two standing ovations. He first spoke to Patricia Rooney, Dan's wife.

“Pat, they love you in Ireland,” he said and quoted George Bernard Shaw, “Your husband's imagination was as big as his heart.”

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## DU Campus Ministry sponsors trip to support migrants

SAIRAH ASLAM  
staff writer

For years, Duquesne students have participated in a tradition of service and advocacy. Included in this tradition is the continued support for the Coalition of Immokalee Workers and their rights for the past 30 years.

In 1993, farmworkers created the Coalition of Immokalee Workers as a grassroots advocacy organization and began campaigning for fair wages and working conditions for farmworkers.

The group also designed the Fair Food Program, which outlines logistical regulations to ensure farmworkers' higher wages, access to water and shade, greater job security and protection from, as well as redress for, physical and sexual abuse in the fields.

Duquesne became involved in the CIW's movement thanks to Rev. Don McEachin, a Spiritan, who heard about the workers' plights; he decided to take a small group of students and priests to Immokalee in order



COURTESY OF JOE RATAY

Students from Duquesne annually go to Florida over Spring Break to help migrant workers in the region. They assist the CIW advocacy organization in fighting for better working conditions.

to express their support and offer a helping hand. In fact, McEachin and the rest of the group ultimately assisted the workers picking in the fields.

Since then, Duquesne's Spiritan Campus Ministry has sponsored a Cross-Cultural Mis-

sion Trip to Immokalee every spring break, offering the students and staff a chance to be a part of the CIW's movement.

This past spring break, those who participated in the trip helped prepare artwork and supplies for the CIW's use as it rallied against

Wendy's in New York last week.

Joe Ratay, a graduate assistant at Duquesne that took part in this past trip to Immokalee, praised the work the CIW has accomplished.

“The CIW's model is already being used around the world to make more ethical labor practice,” Ratay said. “The more that we learn about the model, the [better] we can use it in other countries and other industries.”

At first, the CIW struggled to gain leverage with which to advocate for their rights. After a series of hit-and-miss tactics, the Coalition rallied with college students in 2000 to push Taco Bell off their campuses until it signed onto the program.

Campus Minister Kate Lecci, who leads a group of Duquesne students to serve in Immokalee each spring break, explained the importance of farmworkers' plights to the average American consumer.

“At some point, you have eaten food that these farmworkers have picked, and you

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## POLICE BRIEFS

Move over Grandpa PB! There's a new PB in town: PB&J! I'll tell you all there is to know about the juicy details of the delinquent behavior on campus!

On March 13, an administrative search of Towers yielded some marijuana. Three residents were referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

On March 15, a theft occurred at the Barnes and Noble Bookstore. All stolen items were recovered.

On March 16, a 20-year-old Duquesne student was found to be under the influence of alcohol. He was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

On March 17, a highly-intoxicated student was transported to Mercy Hospital after being found on Stevenson Street. He was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Also on March 17, a female student's night turned bitter after being found intoxicated and transported to Mercy ER for evaluation and treatment. She was found to be in possession of a false ID, given a citation and referred to the Office of Student Conduct. That's one heck of a weekend.

On March 19, a theft was reported. Apparently, two pairs of men's basketball shoes went missing from the men's basketball locker room. The case is active. Somebody must have a thirst for stinky shoes that needs to be quenched.

## BLUFF BRIEFS

Professional MBA program and law school get boost

In the U.S. News and World Report's newly released 2019 Best Graduate School rankings, the Professional MBA program in the Palumbo-Donahue School of Business increased its ranking by 41 spots, now being considered as No. 125 out of 213 programs in the Part-Time MBA category.

Additionally, the School of Law experienced an eight-spot increase from last year to being ranked as No. 119 overall. The legal writing program was ranked No. 22, and the part-time law program was ranked No. 46.

Other schools and graduate programs were also ranked by U.S. News this year, including the School of Nursing's master's program as No. 72.

## 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).

## Poli sci class supports refugee children

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improving their English skills and emotional well-being, all while having fun doing so.

The course challenges students to complete readings about migration policies in the U.S., keep reflection and field journals, participate in class discussions and attend at least four sessions of the after-school program.

Jennie Schulze, a professor in the political science department who teaches the Politics of Immigration course, explained the expectations that students enrolled in course face.

"The class is designed to be a comparative course that exposes students to the challenges of migration in both the European and U.S. contexts from perspectives of migrants, policymakers and community organizers," Schulze said. "I expect that students can discuss those challenges in comparative context, with case study examples, and can use theory to explain why various groups migrate and what factors facilitate their integration."

Politics of Immigration is an elective course offered every one to one-and-a-half years within the political science and international relations concentrations, though students from other majors and schools are welcome to take the course as well.

Joy Padolf, a sophomore majoring in political science and international



COURTESY OF JFCS

A volunteer assists a refugee child with her schoolwork during a JFCS program.

relations, is enrolled in the class and values how she has been able to help the surrounding community.

"Often college classes feel self-absorbed, in a way of 'what can I get out of this class,' but in Politics of Immigration, it is more focused on what we can do as a class to help," Padolf said.

Schulze also noted the importance of her class and how this course's content can impact a student's ability going forward.

"It is important that upper level political science majors recognize the importance of learning from and triangulating between scholarship, community partners and the populations our policies are intended to serve," Schulze said. "We need to learn from all three if our policies are going to be both efficient and ef-

fective. It is also difficult to develop civic values and civic empathy toward those populations, particularly immigrants and refugees, without coming into contact with them ... For this reason, community engagement is an important aspect of the course."

Andrew Van Treeck, the refugee and immigrant volunteer coordinator at JFCS, described how the students' volunteerism not only impacts refugee children, but the students as well.

"This class is important because it is providing American mentorship and engagement to the refugee families, which they often lack due to their low level of English proficiency," Van Treeck said. "It is also educating Dr. Schulze's students by providing real-life examples of the

information they are learning in her class, and it is providing career development opportunities through internships for some of her students."

In addition to volunteering at the after-school program, students are working together to plan and fundraise for a Family Fun Event that will take place at the end of the semester in order to commemorate the work and success demonstrated by both the Duquesne and refugee students.

Another student in the class, Sydney McCabe, a junior international relations and women's gender studies major, described the event.

"Although we have guidance from our professor and community sponsors, whether or not this event happens and is successful really depends on the students. Though it is a big responsibility, it will also be unbelievably rewarding when we pull it off," McCabe said. "This is not a theoretical project. You actually get to see the results of your hard work in the real world."

According to Schulze, the course links to the Duquesne's mission and Spiritan values of walking alongside the most marginalized, and it encourages students to become more active and engaged citizens in both the community and the world.

To learn more about the course and ways to get involved in the after-school program or the Family Fun Event, email Schulze at [schulzej@duq.edu](mailto:schulzej@duq.edu).

## For worker advocacy group, Wendy's still a sticking point

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would not have been able to eat that food had they not picked it," Lecci said. "You are connected to them because you are reliant on their labor."

College students agreed. After four years of student boycotts and public pressure, Taco Bell signed, followed by McDonald's, Walmart and many other leading fast food giants and food retail companies. Now, the most significant holdout is Wendy's, something the students hope to change.

Bella Guzzi, a sophomore who embarked on the trip, said that the CIW "breathes hope and justice in the work of the people."

Alyssa Lukoch, who also worked with the CIW in Immokalee, agreed.

She said, "As residents of Pittsburgh, we also have a responsibility to stand by the farmworkers showing that our community supports fair trade and our city advocates for justice."

The struggle for independence and rights has a long history in Immokalee. When settlers first flooded into southern Florida in the early 1800s, they asked the native Seminoles what

they called the land on which they stood. They responded, "I-Muglé, I-Muglé." The white men, taking that word to mean "my home" in their language, named the town founded soon after "Immokalee." But, according to Silvia Giagnoni in *Fields of Resistance*, the Seminoles were actually crying out "My prison, my prison."

According to the *Harvest of Shame* documentary by journalist Edward Murrow, thousands of migrant farmworkers in the tomato fields of Florida have lived in modern-day slavery since the 1900s. Employers used debt bondage to hobble farmworkers' autonomy, and crew leaders often "forgot" to pay pickers. If they were paid, their earnings fell far below minimum wage.

Farmworkers were often forced to work up to 15 hours a day, and they were not hired consistently. They were not allowed water, shade or rest. They faced rampant physical and sexual abuse, and they had no redress for grievances.

For more information about Duquesne's partnering with the CIW and how to get involved, contact Kate Lecci at [leccik@duq.edu](mailto:leccik@duq.edu).

Gabriella DiPietro contributed reporting.

## Gormley's panel tackles media and discourse

ALEX WOLFE  
staff writer

This past Tuesday, President Ken Gormley hosted a discussion in the Power Center Ballroom to discuss the ever-present topic of technological discourse. The event, "Technology, Social Media and Civil Discourse," consisted of two panels.

The first, titled "Your Brain and Technology: How Online Space Impacts Relationships, Empathy and Civility" and moderated by President Gormley, featured Sara Konrath of Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis, Reynol Junco, a fellow at Harvard University's Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society and Jeffrey Hall of the University of Kansas. Each presenter gave a 10-minute speech to introduce their ideas to the audience and then sat for a round of questions from Gormley.

The university president inquired in a series of questions about the impact social media and digital communication has upon our capacity for empathy, and the discussion evolved into a commentary about the future of social media. Each panelist made sure to address

the dangers of social media and the harm it can cause, but they were mostly concerned with the social place of technology in our lives.

Hall in particular seemed to focus on the role which smartphones play in our lives. "The social norms haven't been established to meet the times," he said. "Society agreed to type emails very formally, similar to the form for writing letters, but we have no idea about how to collectively text. Is it ok to use emojis with someone you've only just met? Should conversations be formal with punctuation?"

Each panelist seemed to agree with what the others were saying, and the discussion was largely academic in form, as each speaker would offer new information for every question from their own research or the research of others.

The second panel, by contrast, was largely descriptive, rather than academic. Moderated by Beth Benson, publisher and vice president of Pittsburgh Magazine, "Modern Media & Civil Discourse: A View from the Trenches" consisted of KDKA-TV News Anchor and Legal Editor

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# Dan Rooney's legacy celebrated by a wide range of celebrity guests

**Rooney — from page 1**

Biden said Rooney reminded him of his own father, a man who “abhorred the abuse of power.”

“My father said the cardinal sin of all sins was for a man to raise a hand against a woman ... [He believed] everyone is entitled to be treated with dignity” ideals that Rooney shared, Biden said.

Biden also commented on Rooney's humility.

“[Rooney] was the kind of guy who stood in line at the stadium to buy a hot dog, even though he owned the whole damn team,” he said. “He's not a guy to ever brag about his accomplishments.”

Biden recounted his personal interactions with the Rooneys, which involved the 1972 car accident that killed Biden's first wife and daughter and injured his two sons. While his sons were in a Wilmington, Delaware, hospital, Biden left for the first time for two hours to get a plastic Christmas tree. And when he returned, something was different.

“[My sons] were smiling for the first time. They had footballs on their chests, and the whole Steel Curtain had signed them,” Biden said. “The first glimmer of hope I had.”

Biden was surprised to hear Art Rooney, Dan's father, had dropped by to deliver the balls and then quickly left with no publicity.

He said that Dan Rooney exemplified the city of Pittsburgh as it went through the end of steel.

“He was always about hope, about getting back up,” Biden said. “He pursued the future he hoped to see.”

Biden also recounted the efforts Rooney made to bring peace to Ireland, both as ambassador and prior to the appointment.

“Dan was an ambassador long before President Obama, and I asked him to do it,” Biden said. “He threw himself into it with great enthusiasm.”

Finally, Biden made one last connection to Ireland that summed up Rooney's approach to the world.

“We Irish are the only people in the world who are nostalgic about the future,” he said.



KAILEY LOVE/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Former Steelers players, Charlie Batch (left), Mike Wagner (center) and Franco Harris (right), attended the event.

The symposium had opened that morning with remarks from Duquesne President Ken Gormley, who said Rooney was “one of my personal heroes.”

“[Rooney] reflected his deep love and respect for his alma mater,” Gormley said.

The first panel was titled “Dan Rooney: Faith, Family and Pittsburgh” and featured Andrew Masich, President and CEO of the Sen. John Heinz History Center, as the moderator. The panel consisted of John Canning, a local historian known as “the dean of North Side history;” Patricia Rooney Gerrero, daughter of Dan; David Halaas, a historian who co-wrote Rooney's autobiography; Gen. Michael Hayden, the former director of the NSA and CIA and a longtime North Side resident; and Reverend Paul Taylor, executive vice president of St. Vincent College where the Steelers hold training camp.

Patricia Rooney recalled her father as “amazing” growing up.

“[He] had tons of energy ... more than us,” she said.

She recalled when the Steelers had training camp in Rhode Island. As the smallest child, she would be stuck riding in between footballs and helmets in the minivan her father drove. The trips were “a wonderful, fun thing,” she said.

Taylor recalled Rooney's insistence on wearing his black priest habit

when Taylor would visit the Steelers' training camp.

“I'd like you to wear your habit ... [The fans] see these great players talking to a priest, and then it's ok to be religious. It's ok to talk to a priest,” Taylor recalled Rooney telling him.

Hayden grew up on the North Side and, as a boy, played for a football team Rooney coached.

“Dan was a powerful influence on my life ... I was one of his long string of successful quarterbacks,” he joked.

He kept in touch with Rooney over the years and would receive calls from him when Hayden dealt with controversies as the CIA director.

“Every now and then when these things were in the newspaper, he'd give me a phone call, looking after my well-being,” Hayden said.

The second panel looked at Rooney's deep connection to Ireland and his long work with bringing peace to the island. The panel was moderated by Mike Cronin, one of the Duquesne in Dublin professors, and featured Katie Keogh, director of special projects for the American Chamber of Commerce Ireland; Jim Lamb, President of the Ireland Institute of Pittsburgh; Kieran McLoughlin, worldwide president and CEO of The Ireland Funds; and Ted Smyth, advisory board chair for the University College Dublin Clinton Institute.

Keogh was on the American Embassy staff in Ireland when Rooney

took over as ambassador.

“The time when he came ... the vision he brought was exactly what Ireland needed,” she said. “Infected in all of us a sense of confidence.”

One of Rooney's biggest accomplishments as ambassador was becoming the first U.S. Ambassador to visit all 32

land needed an example of peace and reconciliation,” he said.

The third panel, which followed Biden's speech, shifted the event to Rooney's impact on the Steelers and the NFL. This panel consisted of Rob Ruck, professor of sport history at the University of Pittsburgh; John Clayton, a Duquesne graduate and senior writer at ESPN.com; Jim Rooney, son of Dan; Jeff Pash, executive vice president and general counsel for the NFL; and Mike Tomlin, head coach for the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Ruck said that Rooney “was the catalyst that made the [Steelers] the best ever in the 1970s.”

Tomlin fondly remembered the man who hired him to be head coach.

“His ability to recognize how sensitive time is without being a slave to it was awe-inspiring to me,” he said. “When you had his attention, you had his attention.”

Pash said that, as an owner, Rooney was a crucial part of the NFL.

“He was a confidant for three commissioners. He has been instrumental in selecting leaders for the NFL,” he said.

The panel also discussed the groundbreaking “Rooney Rule,”



KAILEY LOVE/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Patricia Rooney, Dan's daughter, fondly recalled trips to Steelers training camp.

of Ireland's counties, Keogh said.

Lamb said he met Rooney in 1992 and was impressed with Rooney's constant willingness to help.

“When he said, ‘Call me any time,’ he meant any time,” Lamb said.

McLoughlin recalled Rooney's dedication to bringing both Protestant and Catholic Irish people together, which was crucial to ending the sectarian conflict that raged throughout the 1970s and '80s.

“Dan and [Anthony J.F. O'Reilly] were there for 20 years, and their dialogue prefaced the Good Friday Agreement,” he said.

McLoughlin also praised Rooney's work as ambassador.

“Never has there been an Irish Ambassador who was so loved,” he said. “[Rooney] made America a more warm, welcoming place.”

Smyth also spoke of Rooney's dedication to peace.

“He just reached out to the other side. He respected everyone. Ire-

land requires NFL team owners to interview at least one minority candidate for coaching positions and was created and forced through by Dan.

The final panel of the day was made up of former Steelers who played under Rooney's leadership: Charlie Batch, Franco Harris, Mike Wagner and, by video, Rocky Bleier. It was moderated by Gene Collier, a longtime sports journalist for The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

“He was one of the rare people who knew what he wanted to do and how to do it,” Collier said. “An incredible, incredible person.”

Harris also praised Rooney's leadership.

“I felt comfortable with the culture of the team,” he said. “Dan was bigger than football.”

The symposium closed with words from Arthur Rooney II, Dan's eldest child and current owner of the Steelers; Bill Cowher, former Steelers head coach; and Gormley.



KAILEY LOVE/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Gen. Michael Hayden, a former North Side resident, discusses his memories of Dan Rooney as part of the first panel.



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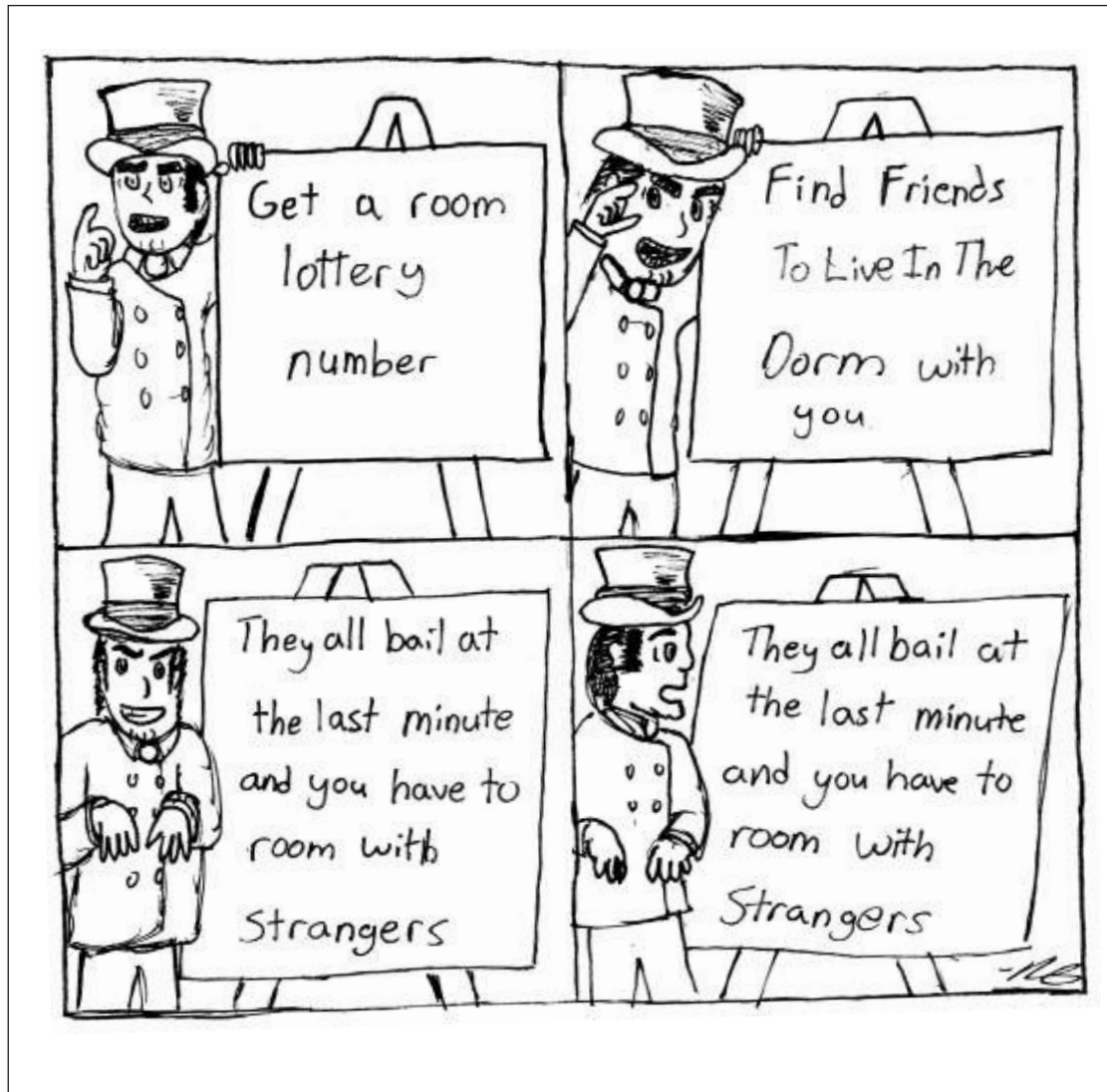
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CARTOON BY ROBERT GWIAZDA

## Stop blaming millennials for the problems you caused

We've all heard it: the vague, huffy and ample complaints of older generations, directed toward their young, Starbucks-sipping, college debt-paying counterparts.

For as long as any generational gap has existed, those to come before have always had a few (often unkind) words to say about the youths inheriting their broad world, but the level of venom being spat at millennials is frankly unprecedented.

It also feels mostly misdirected. Most of the folks complaining about millennials probably don't know who exactly they're complaining about. The generation encompasses anyone born after 1980, according to the Pew Research Center, up until 1996. Millennials, then, fall between the ages of 22 and 37. Not 14-year-olds on the internet, or even 19-year-olds writing angry columns in their student publications, but rather full-blown adults, grown-up and graduated.

Nevertheless, there still exists a common complaint: Millennials are snowflakes that don't know how to deal because they were pampered growing up. But to those griping about participation trophies and other nonsensical woes: Who did the pampering? Who gave kids the dumb awards in the first place? It wasn't other children. It wasn't

other millennials. It was their baby boomer parents, coaches and teachers who couldn't bear the thought of their perfect baby, their gifted thinker or their future Olympian, losing.

This represents one of many tired, lazy arguments against millennials that's really little more than a thinly-veiled shift of blame. Boomers love to complain that millennials are killing industry x or corporation y, all while whining that nobody buys houses or gets married anymore. Yet, those same individuals never stop to really *think*. Sure, maybe millennials killed Sears with the rising popularity of online shopping, but boomers killed the whole economy.

According to the Washington Post, boomers burnt up fossil fuels, coated the atmosphere in the greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change and racked up a lot of the federal debt that America's youth will be forced to somehow repay. Born in the afterglow of World War II's victory, boomers inherited a thriving economy where jobs were ample, houses were affordable and education cost a fraction of what it does today, even taking into account the overall inflation of the U.S. dollar.

Millennials might eat up a lot of avocado toast and down Star-

bucks lattes at an alarming rate, but when you think about it, shelling out \$2.00 for lunch and \$4.00 for a cup of joe to keep you kicking doesn't quite compare to the cost of unaffordable living in a country with a national debt upward of \$21 trillion. The average cost of rent in America now is \$1,200 per month, compared to \$415 in 1970, or \$481 in 1980, according to census.gov.

I'd wager that if you pulled aside a 20-something-year-old student in 1980 and asked them to describe their ideal living arrangement, within reason, they'd say a house, with a driveway to park their shiny new Ford and a lawn out front *and* out back. But now, I've overheard so many students talk about just wanting a small apartment with a window and an oven and a furnace that works in the winter. Forget about lawns and driveways and new cars all together.

The bar is so, so low for many young people today. We're crushed under the weight of not only our own inescapable debt — with college costs often exceeding a family's annual income — but the debt handcrafted by the same older folks who look down on us for taking joy in simple, inexpensive pleasures like coffee and pseudo-fancy snacks.

Before you complain about how Millennials killed Toys “R” Us, take a good, hard look at the argument you're making, and why you're making it at all.

## STAFF EDITORIAL

### Facebook comes under fire for selling identities

Online privacy may be a new oxymoron. News broke this week about Facebook's involvement with the far-right Cambridge Analytica data firm that showed the world that social media sites don't much care about your privacy. A user, to Zuckerberg or any other data analyst, is just some point that can be packaged and then sold or shared. It's a social network run by someone without social skills. For profit.

The scandal began with a British public relations firm: Strategic Communication Laboratories (SCL) Group. In 2013, the ever-plotting Steve Bannon became interested in SCL Group and connected them with his friends, the puppeteering Robert and Rebekah Mercer, who's notorious for funnelling money into ideologically far-right projects.

SCL Group told the Mercers that they had been able to create political messaging technology that could model people's personalities and target them with specific ads. The Mercers paid \$15 million to set up their own data firm, Cambridge Analytica, which contracted its work through SCL Group. Cambridge Analytica would go on to be hired by the Trump presidential campaign in 2016.

Now, here's where Zuckerberg and his dorm room invention get involved. To greatly simplify a radically complicated series of events, Facebook allowed a professor associated with Cambridge Analytica to gain access to data from 50 million profiles, most without permission, through one of those personality quiz apps your high school classmates and elderly aunts take. According to reporting by the New York Times, the data collected included each users' likes, their identities and their friend networks. The professor took the data and gave it to Cambridge Analytica, which goes against Facebook's rules about user information. However, Facebook found out in 2015, but it did not notify its users of the violation.

Look, we know no one reads the user agreements when you sign up for anything; certainly none of us here did. But, we should reconsider. We have to realize that, like it or not, our personal data is being monetized and shared around the globe to organizations you don't know about.

Facebook, Twitter and Snapchat are all publicly-held companies looking to boost their bottom line and satisfy their stockholders. All you are to them is money signs — a product to be sold to advertisers, Russians or dark money Republicans.

The quickest solution is to stop, as hard as that sounds. Delete your account and log off. However, we realize that social media is so ingrained in everyday life and is often a crucial tool for people. It may be a part of their work, as it is with *The Duke*, or



# OPINIONS

## Dog killed on United Airlines flight sparks outcry

RACHEL PIERCE  
staff columnist



COURTESY OF TRIPADVISOR

In 2017, Dr. David Dao was beaten and dragged off of a United Airlines flight. The airline continues to generate controversy with several recent incidents involving animal care and pet cargo.

Many of us remember the images of the bloodied Dr. David Dao, who was dragged from a United Airlines flight last year. This time, it's not humans United Airlines put in danger. The victims are furry with four paws.

Catalina Robledo boarded her flight on March 12 with her daughter and 10-month-old French Bulldog, Kokito. When she landed, Kokito was dead. According to Robledo and the New York Daily News, his case was blocking the aisle, and she was asked to move it to overhead storage.

"I asked them, 'How am I going to put my puppy in the overhead?'" Robledo recalled to the New York Times. "He's going to suffocate!" Witnesses report that the dog was barking before take off and until his last moments. Of course, there are always two sides to one story.

A spokeswoman for United Airlines claims the flight attendant did not hear Robledo say that her dog was inside the case. "As we stated, we take full responsibility and are deeply sorry for this tragic accident," she said.

As recorded in United Airlines policies, animals are not to be kept in overhead storage. Following the incident, United Airlines announced that brightly colored tags would be issued to travelers with animals.

If only these measures were enacted before Kokito's flight. The New York Daily News

turns the story to Robledo's 11-year-old daughter, Sophia Ceballos.

"I just think about him everyday at school, and I can't concentrate," she said. "I cry every night for him because it feels really bad without him."

Though Kokito did not have a voice in his life, it seems he has one now.

A protest, or "dog-in," was orchestrated at Terminal A at LaGuardia Airport. Kokito's family was joined by other families and their dogs, as well as the SPCA and democratic New York Senator Marisol Alcantara. Along with a protest, legal action is in swing. New legislation has been proposed called "Kokito's

Law." Senators John Kennedy (R-Louisiana) and Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nevada) proposed a bill on Thursday called "WOOFF" (Welfare of our Furry Friends) Act. This new law would prohibit flight attendants from stashing animals in overhead storage.

There has also been action against the flight attendant. Robledo's attorney, Evan Oshan, says the flight attendant should be criminally charged. But before we grab our torches, Chris Matyszczyk of Business Insider considers a different perspective.

Matyszczyk spoke to a handful of United Airlines flight attendants anonymously about the conditions which they must work under.

While I would be the first person to criticize a flight attendant for killing a dog, this perspective made me stop to think. There seems to be different factors enforced by United Airlines that have created a panicked, on-edge environment for flight attendants. Perhaps this is a bigger issue than just this one flight attendant on Kokito's plane.

United Airlines pressures their flight attendants to board all passengers as soon as possible. If the plane pushes off the gate just one minute late, flight attendants must explain why to their supervisor. To turn up the pressure, flight attendants are not paid until the flight pushes back from the gate. Bad morale and understaffing was also cited as an added stressor.

"I think everyone is just shocked and saddened by the incident," said one employee. "Pets don't belong in overhead bins, and we all know that ... This should not have happened. We know better."

It seems that through policy, the higher-ups of United Airlines have created a stressful environment. This does not justify putting a dog in overhead storage. Yet this perspective offers another lens into United Airlines. The airline has faced controversy after controversy, unlike competing airlines. There may be a bigger problem at United Airlines than just Kokito's death.

If so, United Airlines must create a different atmosphere for its employees. Boarding is

see UNITED — page 11

## Arming teachers wrongly misconstrued

VINCENT GULLO  
staff columnist



COURTESY OF WBUR

There have been 17 gun-related massacres in 2018, according to CNN. Among them was the Parkland Shooting, which killed 17 students and injured 14 others.

to go about solving the mass shooting problem in the United States.

It seems that, whether due to the media's general abhorrence for anything that President Trump utters or simply his lack of effectively conveying ideas, the idea of arming teachers has gotten misconstrued. Although there have been proposals to begin arming and training teachers, there have also been those that simply allow teachers with previous conceal-carry permits to be able to carry on school grounds. If a teacher is legally able to conceal carry for the use of defending themselves and those around them outside school property, why couldn't they on school property also? Whether it be using a conceal carry to defend a student in McDonald's or math class, the location is arbitrary if the intentions are the same. The law currently restricting this is the Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994, which prohibits

firearms on school grounds, especially among students. A simple exception to this law, allowing qualified teachers with concealed-carry permits to carry on campus, would act as another deterrent for possible shooters. Also, by simply amending a law as opposed to writing entirely new legislation, this proposition can become reality much sooner than entirely new laws.

Jim Krohn, a social studies teacher at Clarksville Junior High School in Arkansas, which allows teachers to be armed, shared similar sentiments. In a report done by CNN, Krohn is quoted saying, "If we didn't do this and somebody came into this building or any of our school buildings and harmed children, it would be hard to go to sleep that night thinking what else could I have done, and at least we've done what we think is the best thing to protect the children of Clarksville school district." Those who wish to help are certainly interested, and although it is by no means a definite fix for such a complicated issue, I don't think it could possibly do more harm than good.

Like anything proposed in this modern political environment, and perhaps rightfully so, the proposal has brought up many criticisms. People look to impracticality of training teachers, the level of effectiveness, potential dangers and opposition of the idea of making a school a "fortress." These concerns, although understandable, are missing the point of what the proposal was attempting to get at. To consider this an end-all solution would be ignorant, but the idea that erratic teachers will start shooting students that act out, or the notion that teachers will get into OK Corral-esque shootouts with

see FIREARMS — page 11

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

#### Congratulations to Our Adjunct Colleagues at Duquesne:

The Duquesne Faculty and Staff Social Justice Association (SJA) wishes to congratulate the Duquesne Adjunct Union on the National Labor Relations Board decision in favor of your union bargaining rights with the University. You are our colleagues, and we appreciate the teaching, research and other duties you carry out at Duquesne. We feel that the decision by the NLRB is congruent with the ethical values of the SJA, the campus and national AAUP and Duquesne's mission statement as well as with the best labor-related values of contemporary Catholicism. We also note that at least two other Catholic Universities, Georgetown and Fordham, have welcomed as bargaining partners the official unions formed by their adjunct faculty.

- The undersigned members of the SJA:

James P. Bailey, Jennifer Bates, Faith Barrett, Robert Bellamy, Daniel Burston, Patrick Cooper, Fred Evans, Tom Eysers, John Fried, Erik Garrett, Marco Gemignani, Anna Gibson, Patrick Cooper, Linda Kinnahan, Christie Kliever, Edith H. Krause, Stuart M. Kurland, Jay Lampert, Daniel Lieberfeld, Moni McIntyre, Patrick Lee Miller, Sarah Alison Miller, Emad Mirmotahari, Jaime Muñoz, Angelle D. Pryor, Lanei Rodemeyer, Danielle St. Hilaire, Anna Floerke Scheid, Daniel P. Scheid, Dan Selcer, Eva Simms, Judy Suh, Elisabeth T. Vasko, Paul Zipfel



# Ex-New York Post journalist recounts 9/11

RAYMOND ARKE  
news editor

March 20 marked the 15th anniversary of the Iraq War. American troops still patrol Baghdad streets long after the capture and overthrow of Saddam Hussein. While not directly related, the war in Iraq will forever be framed by the events of 9/11. Now, years later, one New York journalist recalled covering the terror attacks and his experiences witnessing one of the young millennium's biggest and most horrific events.

Clemente Lisi can still remember practically every detail of the day, down to the weather. At the College Media Association annual conference in New York City, Lisi, a former journalist for the New York Post, shared with me and a small group of fellow student journalists his experiences covering the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

What Lisi calls a "generation-defining event" started out as any other day for him. He was 26 and had been working his self-described "dream job" as a reporter for the New York Post for about three years.

"From fires to murders, I had covered nearly every corner of the city," he said. "It was hard work, but I loved it."

Sept. 11 was set to be a pretty uneventful news day, the biggest story being primary day for the mayor's race. He had called

the Post's office looking for an assignment and was told to come into their Times Square office. He got in the subway to head to the office at exactly 8 a.m.

"The world changed in the hour-long train ride from my home on Manhattan's Upper East Side to the office," Lisi recalled.

He remembered getting into the office shortly after the first plane had hit the North Tower of the World Trade Center at 8:46 a.m. Reporters and editors in the newsroom were gathered around the TV, confused.

"I had been underground for nearly an hour. I had no idea what was taking place. It turns out neither did anyone else," Lisi said.

He remembered that most of the Post's staff had thought it must have been a small plane that had crashed by accident. To find out what was happening, Lisi said "my instincts as a reporter kicked in," and he got on another subway to get to the World Trade Center.

"I had covered many accidents in the past. My goal was to get to the scene, interview witnesses and officials gathered there," he said. "It was, in my mind, just another story, just another day."

Once again going underground meant that Lisi was cut off from the events happening above on the streets. He was unaware and moving along New York's vast subway system

when at 9:03 a.m. a second hijacked airliner was driven into the South Tower. As the attacks reverberated throughout the country, Lisi remembers his train moving slowly as a chain-reaction of delays and cancellations hit. He exited the subway several blocks early at Washington Square Park, emerging to "chaos that had overtaken the streets."

"A giant cloud of smoke could be seen on the horizon. I was still nearly two miles away. People were standing around confused," Lisi remembered.

He talked about how people were gathering around stopped cars, listening to the radio. He tried using his new cell phone, bought the day before, but all the lines were jammed. Lisi was still in the dark and determined to get downtown.

"I was on my own, laser-focused on getting downtown to cover, unbeknownst to me at the time, the biggest story of my life," he said.

As Lisi worked his way through the city streets, he remembered being too far away to realize the South Tower collapsed at 9:59 a.m.

"All I could see was giant clouds of smoke covering the sky," he said. "From my viewpoint, both towers were still standing, and only one plane had hit one of the buildings."

Lisi was 10 blocks away from the towers when he looked up and saw something he could



RAYMOND ARKE/NEWS EDITOR

The names of every person killed in the 2001 and 1993 terror attacks are inscribed around the two reflecting pools that sit where the towers stood.

never forget. He watched as the North Tower crumbled.

"The sight of the building falling on itself amid a backdrop of people on the street screaming and wailing is the one thing I remember most from that awful day," he recalled, choking up. "I will never forget the loud, crunching sound those steel beams made as the building came crashing down."

He described the sadness he felt in his heart not only as a New Yorker, but as an American. Still, he pressed on as a journalist trying to get nearer to the scene.

"I got closer, only to be faced with several police officers and office workers covered in thick gray ash running away in the opposite direction," Lisi said. "I got as close as the New York Stock Exchange at that point, but no one was around."

Lisi could hardly process what he was seeing around him in what looked like a war zone.

"The streets and buildings were covered in ash, something that looked like images of a nuclear winter scene from a sci-fi movie," he described. "It didn't

see *LISI*—page 12

## A look into the meaning of Duquesne's crucifixes

KRYSTINA PRIMACK  
staff writer

As Easter approaches, we are reminded that this time of year provides an opportunity to consider how Duquesne University, a Catholic institution, welcomes and serves students from different faiths

and cultural backgrounds. This includes the role that religious iconography plays in producing meaning in the lives of students who may or may not be Catholic.

The most prominent icon here at Duquesne are the crucifixes, which is important in Catholicism as it focuses adherents' attention on Jesus Christ's

ultimate sacrifice.

Through interviews with students and other members of our university community, this three-part series will explore the meanings of the crucifixes at Duquesne. This series will also focus on a variety of representations of crucifixes here, including Jose Pirkner's lovingly-nicknamed "Scary Jesus" interpretation in the courtyard between Rangos Health Science Building and Rockwell Hall, as well as other notable crucifixes throughout the campus.

Duquesne University was founded by members of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit, or the Spiritans, but it has grown to foster a student body composed of people from diverse backgrounds. Although Catholic iconography factors largely into the landscape of our campus, it is also notable that Duquesne's mission statement emphasizes that this is an ecumenical institution and therefore welcomes and represents a wide variety of religions beyond Catholicism.

In fact, part of the mission statement asserts that the university is "sustained through a

partnership of laity and religious. Duquesne serves God by serving students through ... [maintaining] an ecumenical atmosphere open to diversity."

From one student's point of view, the prominence of the crucifix is very much a part of Duquesne's identity. When asked what she thinks about religious iconography displayed here, Lindy Nebiolo, a freshman international relations and history major said, "I think seeing as we're a Spiritan Catholic college, it's pretty reasonable that there's a lot of iconography throughout the campus as a whole. However, Duquesne has done a good job at allowing diversity, such as the prayer room in Fisher for people of differing beliefs, not to mention the diverse religious groups represented as clubs on campus. I myself don't hold a particular view positive or negative. For me, it's just another aspect of our campus culture."

Another student shares much of the same sentiment. Claire Novak, a senior English major said, "The appearance of religious symbols does seem to contribute to a unique atmosphere

on campus that is characteristically 'Duquesne,' and they certainly draw attention to the university's history and its mission statement."

Duquesne's diversity statement highlights this idea by saying, "[Our] commitment to inclusive excellence encompasses every aspect of personhood — including age, citizenship, disability, ethnicity, gender, race, religion and sexual orientation."

Novak also said, "Brought up in a Christian family, I definitely don't experience any discomfort seeing crucifixes in our classrooms and across campus," said Novak. "It is imperative, however, that we also acknowledge that there are many [students, faculty and staff] with different backgrounds who share those spaces, and that their comfort is just as important."

She continued by noting, "You do find a lot of Catholic students on campus ... but you also find students with countless other unique backgrounds. So although I do believe there is a greater concentration

see *CROSSES*—page 12



KAILEY LOVE/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Nicknamed "Creepy-Jesus" or "Scary-Jesus," this statue was purchased in 1958 for \$6,000 and created in 1959 by Jose Pirkner in his studio Holland.



# A Tale of Two Pittsburgh Basketball Programs

JACOB HEBDA  
staff writer

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair."

If you didn't know any better, you might think that the above excerpt from Charles Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities* was really about the current state of collegiate basketball's two most prominent programs in Pittsburgh.

OK, so maybe that's a little dramatic. Nevertheless, it's more than fair to say that both Pitt and Duquesne's men's programs are headed in concretely opposite directions.



COURTESY OF USA TODAY SPORTS

Dukes guard Mike Lewis II, pictured on Jan. 27 at Rhode Island, averaged 14.4 points in 2017-18, only slightly edging his freshman scoring average of 14.1, set in 2016. While Lewis's play plateaued toward the end of the 2017 season, the guard's return to Duquesne is a large reason for the team's recent success.

The Dukes, for the first time in a long time, aren't looking up to the Panthers. After spending the last 40 or so years as an afterthought in the minds of Pittsburgh hoops followers, Duquesne is finally ready to take center stage.

If a few years ago you heard someone talking about a team with under-the-radar players and a defensive-minded coach in a competitive conference situated along the East Coast, you'd probably think that they were talking about Pitt and Jamie Dixon in the glorious Big East Conference.

However, these days, that description seems to be more fitting for Duquesne than it does for its crosstown rivals. Coach Keith Dambrot, whose squad is anchored by surprise stars Eric Williams Jr. and Mike Lewis II, seemingly has his program back on track and ready to compete atop the Atlantic 10 Conference.

It's hard to think that a calendar year ago, Duquesne was in the midst of yet another coaching frenzy. After firing Jim Ferry,



COURTESY OF PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

Former Pitt Head Coach Kevin Stallings certainly isn't faultless in the position that the program currently finds itself in, but it's pretty fair to say that he wasn't given a fair draw in Oakland. Received coldly by Pitt fans directly after his hiring in 2015, Stallings saw a large conglomerate of Panthers either graduate or transfer following the 2016 season, and then failed to win an ACC game in 2017.

who was extremely underwhelming in his five years spent on the Bluff, the program appeared completely and utterly dreadful to the naked eye.

Multiple coaches rejected offers to become the next head coach. Simultaneously, Lewis, one of the only bright spots on a bad 2016-17 Dukes team, announced he was considering transferring to another school.

After decades of different coaches and directionless seasons, it looked like more of the same was in store for Duquesne.

However, in a surprising turn of events, the Dukes managed to lure Dambrot to Pittsburgh. After turning down an offer from Duquesne in 2012, he decided to leave Akron to take the helm at his father's alma mater in 2017, signing a seven-year, \$7 million contract.

A year later, after an inspiring 16-16 season, Duquesne has hope, momentum and talent. With a talented veteran core, five promising incoming recruits, five eager transfers and, of course, a steady coach, the Dukes should continue to climb the A-10's ranks again next year.

Meanwhile, just a couple miles up Forbes Ave., the once-proud Pitt men's team has lost all identity. Once known for its tenacious defense and practically annual trips to the Big Dance, Pitt's halcyon days are long gone.

Shortly after being hired in 2015, it was clear that new athletic director Scott Barnes was not fond of Jamie Dixon, despite Dixon owning the highest winning percentage of any coach in the program's history.

While he had tremendous regular season success, Dixon never managed to get to the Final Four, perhaps college basketball's biggest measuring stick of success. The program's repeated tournament shortcomings led to increasing frustration amongst fans and administrators alike.

Back in 2013, Pitt joined the Atlantic Coast Conference. As a new member of one of the premier basketball conferences in

the nation, the team was closer to mediocrity than the greatness it once displayed in the Big East.

Following a loss to Wisconsin in the First Round of the NCAA Tournament in 2016, Dixon felt the growing pressure from his boss and a frustrated fanbase. He knew his time in Oakland was running out.

Shortly after the season, Dixon chose to return to coach his alma mater, Texas Christian University (TCU) of the Big 12 Conference.

In came Kevin Stallings, the longtime Vanderbilt coach who was on the cusp of being fired himself before taking over with the Panthers. It was an immensely unpopular hire among Pitt fans, and after two troublesome years, that anger is now completely justified.

Stallings was swiftly shown the door after a winless season in ACC play this past season, and now Pitt finds itself back at ground zero.

Unlike the team Dixon left behind following his exit, this roster is almost entirely vacant. Nine players have requested permission to transfer, and well-regarded 4-star commit Bryce Golden plans on reopening his recruitment. As of right now, the only players committed to spending next season in a Panthers uniform are little-used Samson George and Peace Ilegomah.

Pitt is still searching for a replacement for Stallings, and while there are some exciting potential candidates, it's not certain that it will be able to score a big name like ex-Ohio State Head Coach Thad Matta or a hot up-and-comer like Rhode Island headman Dan Hurley.

Meanwhile, Dixon led TCU to the NCAA Tournament this season for the first time since 1998. The sixth-seeded Horned Frogs did fall to No. 11 Syracuse in the First Round, but a close defeat at the hands of a Jim Boheim-coached team in the NCAA Tournament is a far cry from Pitt's current predicament.

So, here we are at one of the most stunning junctures in recent Pittsburgh college sports

history. For the first time in several decades, Duquesne might be fielding an objectively better team than Pitt next season.

With that being said, there is still plenty of uncertainty in the near future. Dambrot, despite his strong initial showing, admittedly has a long way to go in rebuilding this program. His goal? To qualify for the NCAA Tournament.

It's hard to believe that Pitt, who pushed Dixon out the door because of stagnated postseason progress, is currently just looking to win a conference game.

I'm sure if Pitt could have a word with its past self, it would probably entail something along the lines of another *Two Cities* quote: "Keep where you are because, if I should make a mistake, it could never be set right in your lifetime."

OK, so it shouldn't take Pitt a "lifetime" to figure this mess out, but it sure feels that way right now. With the right coach, though, everything could change.

Then again, Dixon might have been the right guy after all. Most think he wasn't, but it was quite obvious Stallings wasn't the man for the job, either. Now, whoever accepts the job next will inherit a dumpster fire.

Duquesne, meanwhile, has plenty of reason to believe that it has the right guy in Dambrot — And, unlike Pitt, it boasts tons of positive momentum to boot.

Although Pitt is a national brand in one of the country's most prominent conferences, that also means that Pitt has much further to climb to regain its footing.

With the nucleus that Duquesne currently has, it's only a matter of time until the program becomes solidified as a mid-major power within the A-10.



COURTESY OF COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

Guard Frankie Hughes, pictured with Missouri in a 2016 game at SEC rival Florida, is one of five transfer players eligible for Duquesne in 2018. Hughes averaged 19.3 minutes per game in his lone season as a Tiger.

## Women's basketball team advances to face St. John's in 3rd Round of WNIT

The Duquesne women's basketball team was victorious in Head Coach Dan Burt's return to the sideline on March 19, beating Georgetown 69-66 in Washington, D.C., in the Second Round of the Women's National Invitational Tournament. Burt, who returned to the sidelines on Monday evening following a one-game suspension handed down by the A-10 as a result of the coach's open criticism of officials following a March 2 loss to Saint Louis in the conference tournament, watched junior guard Chassidy Omogrosso lead the Dukes past the Hoyas with 22 points on 8-of-15 shooting and five assists in the team's second round matchup. Junior guard Julijana Vojinovic contributed 19 points and four assists, and junior Kadri-Ann Lass added 14 points for the Dukes while scoring her 1,000th career point in the process. The win counted as the program's 500th Division I victory, as well, a feat that Burt told the school's website postgame was "great to see" his team accomplish alongside a 25-win season and a deep run in the WNIT. 25 wins marks Duquesne's second-highest single-season win total in program history.

Duquesne's third round contest tips off at 7 p.m. on Thursday evening at Carlesecca Arena in Queens, New York. Duquesne is 2-0 all-time against the Red Storm, with wins in both 2015 and 2016. The Dukes have won four straight games against Big East schools, and 10 of their last 13.

The winner of Thursday's game will play the winner of West Virginia and James Madison in the quarterfinal round.

— Adam Lindner

## This Week in Sports History...

— On **March 23, 1994**, Los Angeles Kings centerman Wayne Gretzky scored his 802nd career NHL goal, breaking his childhood idol Gordie Howe's record for most goals scored in a career.

— On **March 24, 1976**, all-time great NFL quarterback Peyton Manning was born in New Orleans, Louisiana. Manning retired on March 7, 2016, with two Super Bowl titles.

— On **March 26, 1973**, the UCLA men's basketball team won its seventh-straight NCAA Championship, and its ninth title in 10 years.



# What we learned from the NCAA tourney's chaotic start

ADAM LINDNER

sports editor

It largely goes without saying that one of the most futile exercises in all of human existence, let alone sports, is attempting to forecast the NCAA Tournament's many outcomes.

However, some of March's most memorable upsets aren't as mind boggling as they may



EDWARD MAJOR II / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Freshman 6-foot-11 Duke forward Marvin Bagley (No. 35) ascends as the Blue Devils' game versus No. 15 Iona begins on March 15.

seem. Mid-American Conference champion Buffalo, seeded No. 13 in the South Region, topping fourth-seeded Arizona was unforeseen, but Buffalo was one of the nation's stronger mid-major teams all season long. A 15-3 record in the MAC, partnered with a resume boasting zero non-conference losses to non-NCAA Tournament teams, is outstanding, and it would have been a shame if the Bulls had fallen in the MAC Tournament to a team less deserving of an NCAA bid.

The same can be said for the Loyola-Chicago Ramblers, who won the Missouri Valley Conference this season following Wichita State's move to the American Athletic Conference. A solid yet under-the-radar non-league slate did nothing to raise eyebrows for the Ramblers this season, but they entered the tournament as a popular upset selection as a No. 11 seed in the South Region nonetheless. Most lukewarm hoops fans probably aren't exactly experts when it comes to the MVC, but most weren't completely stupefied when a solid mid-major program topped a talented-yet-streaky Miami team 64-62 on March 17.

But a 63-62 win over No. 3 seed Tennessee in the second round two days later, thanks to a last-second jump shot to advance to the Sweet 16? Wow, OK. Getting out of the tournament's first weekend is sometimes all it takes to be remembered as a Cinderella for years, and the Ramblers have done just that.

Regardless, now facing a Sweet 16 matchup with seventh-seeded Nevada on Thursday night, the Ramblers surely aren't satisfied. "We've reached no finish line," senior forward Aundre Jackson told reporters after his team's win over third-seeded Tennessee.

But No. 16 UMBC over the tournament's No. 1 overall seed in Virginia? What? My mind sim-

ply can't register that.

Even in its first game without NBA prospect De'Andre Hunter, who broke his wrist prior to Virginia's first tournament game, I simply could not understand why Virginia suddenly just couldn't contain Lyles and K.J. Maura.

Mind you, UMBC went 12-4 in one of the game's worst conferences in the America East, and lost 83-39 at Albany on Jan. 21. The Retrievers' best non-conference win was a 76-75 victory over Northern Kentucky on Dec. 17.

But without a go-to scorer, the Cavaliers began to look more and more defeated as the second half wore on, and with about five minutes to go in regulation, it became apparent that UMBC was seriously going to top Virginia.

So where does that leave the field as it enters the Sweet 16? The Retrievers fell in their next game to No. 9 seed Kansas State, but UMBC's mark on the tournament had already been resoundingly made.

For one, it leaves Kentucky looking like a serious Final Four threat from the South Region. For the first time in the tournament's history, an entire region saw a top-four seed fail to advance to at least the region's semifinals, with No. 5 Kentucky, No. 7 Nevada, No. 9 Kansas State and No. 11 Loyola-Chicago representing the South in the Sweet 16.

Elsewhere, Villanova, Kansas and Duke look like easy picks as the eventual National Champion. Specifically, Villanova and Duke made noticeably light work of its earlier matchups.

The West Region appears to be a complete guessing game, with Michigan entering the Sweet 16 as the region's highest seed at No. 3.

But, with all of that being said, we simply still don't know much of anything. Last year, seventh-seeded South Carolina reached the Final Four, and if I remember correctly, I thought No.



COURTESY OF COURIER-JOURNAL (LOUISVILLE)

UK now has a solid shot at a Final Four showing after several contenders fell in its region.

10 Marquette would top the bleak Gamecocks in the first round, anyways.

What the 2018 NCAA Tournament's first few rounds have reinforced is this: No top-seeded team is as invincible as it may seem, and college basketball may have much more parity that it is given credit for.

UMBC's upset win over Virginia is a concrete aberration, as the Retrievers would probably struggle to simply register 35 points against the Cavaliers on most occasions if the game was played at John Paul Jones Arena in Charlottesville.

But, when considering other, more sensible upsets that have happened, a lesson to be taken from this year's tournament thus far is meant almost exclusively for the tournament's

**see NCAA — page 12**

## Pittsburgh's NCAA Tournament games treat spectators

DAVID BORNE

staff writer

The first two rounds of NCAA Tournament competition are in the books, and Pittsburgh was lucky enough to play host to six of those games. It was a weekend packed with talent, including a number of future NBA Draft lottery selections. There was a lot to be impressed with this weekend, but a few players and teams stood out in particular.

### Best Single-Game Performance:

Coming into the matchup between eighth-seeded Virginia Tech and No. 9 Alabama, it was common knowledge that Alabama



EDWARD MAJOR II / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Oklahoma guard Trae Young (No. 11) is defended by Rams freshman Fatts Russell on March 15 at PPG Paints Arena.

would only go as far as Collin Sexton took it. Sure enough, his 25-point performance against the Hokies in a winning effort ended up being the weekend's best.

The freshman point guard initially got into quick foul trouble, and was forced to spend a good portion of the first half on the bench as a result. Virginia Tech limited Sexton to just three points in the first half.

Sexton returned from the halftime break well-rested and with a head of steam, and proceeded to put on a clinic. The NBA prospect finished with a game-high 26 points and added six assists. Sexton was one of the main attractions heading into the weekend and certainly lived up to the hype. The combination of his individual effort, difficulty against a tough Hokies team and the fact that his team won was enough to deem Sexton's March 15 performance the most impressive of the weekend.

### Most Tightly-Contested Game:

The tournament's festivities kicked off with No. 7 Rhode Island taking on tenth-seeded Oklahoma on Thursday afternoon, and sure enough, that ended up being the most exciting game played at PPG Paints Arena. While many fans in attendance originally had their eyes glued to future NBA talent Trae Young, Rhode Island's impressive cast of guards maintained the viewer's attention for large portions of the contest as the two teams went back and forth all afternoon.

While senior E.C. Matthews led the Rams in scoring with 16, it was a different Rhode

Island guard that stole the show. Freshman Fatts Russell put up 15 points off the bench, 13 of which came in the second half. It was a definitive battle-of-the-guards as the combination of Russell and Matthews duked it out with Trae Young. Young finished with a game-high 28 points.

40 minutes was not enough to determine a winner, and the game was decided in overtime. Rhode Island pulled away in the additional period, but it was an impressive effort from both sides in what we know now to be Young's final collegiate game, being that he declared for the NBA Draft days after his team's loss.

### Best Overall Weekend:

Marvin Bagley has been in the discussion as the top player in this year's draft since he announced that he would reclassify to the 2017 recruiting class in August. He again proved why this weekend. Bagley dominated the Iona frontcourt in Duke's first game on Thursday, finishing 10-14 from the field with 22 points. Additionally, he pulled down seven rebounds.

Bagley continued to excel against Rhode Island. The Rams were loaded with talented guards this season, but the Rams were not nearly as equipped below the basket. Bagley feasted in the paint and put out another 22-point game with nine total rebounds on Saturday, leading his cruising Blue Devils team to a Sweet 16 berth.

The freshman managed to display his ability to stretch the floor in Pittsburgh, as well, hitting a 3 in both games.

With top prospect DeAndre Ayton already eliminated from the tournament following Arizona's upset at the hands of Buffalo on March 15, Bagley is without a doubt the best big man remaining. Syracuse stands a tall task in containing Bagley in the Sweet 16, as well as fellow freshman Wendell Carter Jr. Should Duke top the Orange, it will play the winner of No. 1 Kansas and fifth-seeded Clemson in the Elite Eight.

### Team Looking the Most Dangerous:

When this top-seeded Villanova team gets into a rhythm, it seemingly just doesn't miss shots. It's as simple as that. The Wildcats coasted by No. 16 Radford and ninth-seeded Alabama in Pittsburgh, and their ability to shoot the long ball was a true beauty to watch. The 'Cats scored 51 points off of long-range shots in their win over Alabama. Meanwhile, the Crimson Tide scored just 58 points overall.

Villanova's core of Jalen Brunson, Mikal Bridges and Phil Booth already boasts plenty of tournament experience under its belt, and this Wildcats team looks beyond comfortable playing with each other. Jay Wright's squad has the experience, star power and depth needed to bring home a second National Championship in three years.

While a majority of the weekend's games finished with some pretty lopsided scores, it was still an unbelievable weekend to be a part of. The city of Pittsburgh and Duquesne University did a phenomenal job of hosting the event once again.



## Love, Simon propels the gay community mainstage

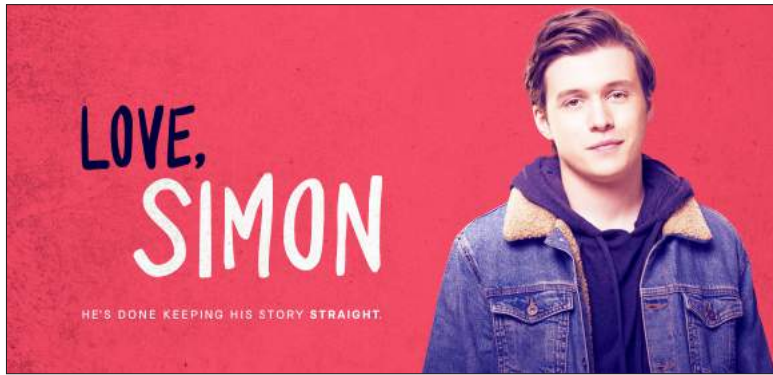
NATALIE SCHROEDER  
staff writer

Opening last weekend with an impressive rating from critics and an important story to be told, *Love, Simon* is a narrative that people are excited to hear.

With a rating of 92 percent on Rotten Tomatoes, *Love, Simon* opened at a solid \$11.5 million. The movie has a stacked cast starring Nick Robinson, Katherine Langford, Jennifer Garner and Josh Duhamel. The movie centers around a high school senior named Simon Spier (Robinson) and the secret he has carried with him for years. While Garner and Duhamel are not on screen as much as Robinson, their pivotal roles in the story allow Simon to be himself in the end.

When a closeted gay student at Simon's high school posts his secret anonymously, the two start an email relationship. With the fake names they have given themselves, they discuss the secret they both have and their fear of coming out to the world. While this has greatly impacted Simon's life, he is met with an ultimate obstacle when a fellow student, Martin, sees his emails and blackmails him.

This movie is full of happiness, laughter, sadness



COURTESY OF 20TH CENTURY FOX

The movie is based on Becky Albertalli's book, *Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda*.

and, ultimately, relief.

When Martin is made the laughing stock at school, he exposes Simon's emails and his secret. Young adults watching this movie can relate to the lonely feeling of being humiliated and wanting someone else in the spotlight. While the general feeling of losing people in your life as a teenager is something everyone can relate to, this story is a bit more complicated.

Simon's story is told in a way that allows viewers to understand the viewpoint of both Simon and his loved ones. Seeing a movie that was not outlandish in its portrayal of how cruel high school can be was refreshing. The immediate support that Simon receives from the faculty of his high school provided a relief know-

ing that Simon would not be entirely alone after he was outed.

The movie ended on a joyous note. After the relief of being accepted by family and friends, Simon is able to be himself. In a conversation with his mother, they discuss his sexual identity for the first time since he has come out. "You get to exhale now, Simon," she says in the scene, adding: "You get to be more you than you've been in a very long time." She goes on to tell him that he deserves everything he wants. This statement is supported when Simon finds out who his mysterious email penpal was at the end of the movie with the support of his friends and other members of his graduating class.

*Love, Simon* shows people all over the world an idealized version of a

young adult coming out to the world. The raw emotion that Robinson is capable of expressing adds relatability to the story. After keeping his secret for four years, Simon is accepted by his family. An acceptance with compassion is something everyone from the LGBTQ+ community desires but unfortunately is something not everyone gets.

Placing the movie into the romantic comedy genre was not ill-advised. While there are sad and heart-wrenching scenes, the funnier, light-hearted moments do not get lost or forgotten. A movie for young adults that shows all the ups and downs of life, especially in high school, is important, even more so when it tells viewers that their sexual orientation doesn't change who they are. This movie also tells viewers that they deserve a great love story, no matter what.

This is a movie that shines a light on letting people have their own coming out moment on their own terms while also showing that everyone deserves decency and love. This movie warrants four stars for its creative storyline, authentic characters and positive message for its viewers. Even though this movie is about a high school student, there are many things both older and younger people can learn from this movie, making its exposure necessary.

## Bible of Love drones on with tedious gospel

JOSIAH MARTIN  
asst. a&e editor

Snoop Dogg is a talented and multifaceted artist — an interesting figure in the world of music. His 16th studio album *Snoop Dogg Presents Bible of Love* is, to say the least, an uninteresting project.

Before saying anything else about this release musically, it must be stated that this album is long. Grudgingly, unnecessarily long. At two hours and 14 minutes, *Bible of Love* surpasses the length of any other double album worth naming. The Beatles' self-titled record is a measly hour and 33 minutes. The Notorious B.I.G.'s *Life After Death* is a quick hour and 49 minutes.

Creating an album of such astounding length is fine so long as the music contained within it is interesting, dynamic and capable of holding the listener's attention for the entirety of the runtime. Unfortunately for Snoop Dogg, and very unfortunately for his listeners, *Bible of Love* is slow, homogenous and overall unenjoyable.

*Bible of Love* is primarily a gospel album, produced by Snoop Dogg and featuring music written and performed by a variety of gospel artists. Snoop Dogg himself only ap-



COURTESY OF BET

Snoop Dogg's newest album *Bible of Love* is an astonishing 134 minutes long and has 32 tracks separated on two disks.

pears on nine of the 32 tracks.

Gospel is a compelling and beautiful genre of music, so the tracks should be able to stand on their own, especially with features like gospel superstars The Clark Sisters and vocal legend Patti LaBelle.

With a few exceptions, however, most of the songs are run-of-the-mill gospel music, reminiscent of the type of flat organ-and-choir stock music you'd expect to hear in a shopping mall candle store.

The anomalies, however, are notably enjoyable and worth mentioning by name. "Defeated" features a stand-out lead vocal by pastor and gospel musician John P. Kee. "Sunshine Feel Good," "You" and especially "Chizzle" have a more tangible Snoop Dogg influence on their

production, and balance his funk-inspired style of hip-hop production with gospel music in a very effective way. "My God" features a passionate and memorable lead vocal by James Wright and the best of Snoop Dogg's few raps on the album.

Lyricaly, the album explores religious themes in a fairly predictable and traditional gospel way. Snoop Dogg's verses do come off as earnest and not as forced in their subject matter as one might expect going in to the album. It seems that Snoop Dogg did intend to do an honestly religious album, and his lyrics feel genuinely heartfelt. Possible accusations that he chose to create a gospel album simply to sell records are easily refuted by the fact that this album appeals to nobody.

The issue with *Bible of Love* is that it should have something for everyone, with its unique blend of styles. On the contrary, it has nothing for anyone. Gospel fans aren't going to pick up a Snoop Dogg album, and hip-hop fans aren't going to pick up a gospel album. The only types of people who will listen to the entirety of this album are hardcore Snoop Dogg fans and masochistic Arts & Entertainment writers.

*Bible of Love* is not worth the listen. If it were a third of its length, and branded as simply a gospel compilation album, it might be a pleasant treat for fans of the genre. This project was clearly well-intentioned, but Snoop Dogg did not do all that he could to help this album reach its full potential.

## WEEK'S EVENTS

The Dinner Detective  
Saturdays, March 24 to May 26

Taking place at the Omni William Penn Hotel, The Dinner Detective is an interactive murder mystery dinner show in which guests eat while trying to solve a classic whodone-it case. Tickets are \$61.95.

Sound Series: The Low Anthem  
March 23 at 8 p.m.

Created and hosted by The Andy Warhol Museum, the Sound Series is an event that features artists from around the world performing inside the museum's theater. The Low Anthem is the next concert for the series. Tickets are \$12.

## UPCOMING RELEASES

Sherlock Gnomes  
March 21

A sequel to *Gnomeo & Juliet*, *Sherlock Gnomes* follows Gnomeo, Juliet and Sherlock Gnomes as they explore the mysterious disappearance of other garden ornaments.

Pacific Rim: Uprising  
March 21

Universal Pictures' *Pacific Rim: Uprising* revives the giant-robot-versus-monster plot that was explored in the original *Pacific Rim*. Seeking justice for their fallen brethren, the Jaeger pilots must fight off the Kaiju once again.

## MICRO REVIEW

"Found/Tonight"

The newest mashup by Lin-Manuel Miranda and Ben Platt seamlessly blends together "Story of Tonight" from *Hamilton* and "You Will Be Found" from *Dear Evan Hansen*. The pair's voices compliment each other nicely and the orchestral accompaniment creates a determined yet beautiful sound behind them.

— Hallie Lauer



# Tomb Raider mediocre, but visually pleasing

GRIFFIN SENDEK  
staff writer

After 15 years, Lara Croft made her return to the big screen on March 16 with the enjoyable, albeit imperfect, *Tomb Raider*.

The box office bomb of *Lara Croft: Tomb Raider - The Cradle of Life* in 2003, starring Angelina Jolie, made it look as if the series would never find its way to theaters again. Basing this rendition off the 2013 video game of the same name, director Roar Uthaug takes his stab at the franchise, and filling Angelina Jolie's shoes is Alicia Vikander, portraying a much younger and very different Croft.

The film opens with Lara (Vikander) struggling to scrape by in London while being pressured to sign the death certificate of her father Richard Croft, (Simon West) who has been missing for seven years. Signing brings a transfer of the Croft Family fortune, but Lara refuses, believing her father is still alive. After discovering a clue concerning his last location, she sets off to the island where he went missing.

The opening sequence sets out to introduce the audience to the character of Lara and to give some background on the relationship with her father. This is effective to an extent, but the movie certainly drags at this point. A bike race early in the film, for example, while somewhat entertaining,



COURTESY OF WARNER BROS.

Alicia Vikander stars as Lara Croft in *Tomb Raider*, which earned \$23.5 million in its opening week.

seemed ultimately unnecessary. The movie really starts to pick up when Lara meets with the ship captain Lu Ren (Daniel Wu) and sets out for the island.

Vikander's performance is undeniably the best, and though the Oscar-winning actress won't be carrying home another award, she certainly carries the film. While her portrayal of Lara will likely be debated amongst fans of the game series for years to come, Vikander makes the transition from game to film as smooth as possible.

The villain, however, is one of the weakest links of the film. Walton Goggins' performance, while not awful, is ultimately lackluster and leaves the audience wanting more. This is mainly due to the writing portraying him as a jaded man that does what

he has to do to make it back to his family. Goggins is not given enough characterization and screen time to effectively show this. He is a good actor, but he is simply not given enough to work with. In the end, it creates an unconvincing villain.

The cinematography of *Tomb Raider* might not be award-winning, but scattered throughout are a handful of shots that are very beautiful and show the skill and potential of those who worked behind the camera. There was one moment in particular that captures Vikander's performance almost perfectly, creating an emotional and moving scene. It is obvious that care was put into this film, and *Tomb Raider* was not treated as just another throwaway video game movie.

The movie is an effective action-adventure film, and for those who have played the video games, it adds another layer of enjoyment to the experience. *Tomb Raider* wears its influence on its sleeve, and while the story ends up unfolding very differently, it does not try to hide the heavy influence from the 2013 video game. The costume designers looked at the outfit Lara wore in the game and replicated the attire almost exactly. Several action set pieces — and even some of the injuries Lara suffers — are taken directly from the source material. The director did not just make a live action version of the game, though. Uthaug used the game as a basis but made his own film.

For a fan of the franchise, it is these many references to the games throughout that transform this film from a good enough action-adventure film to a quite enjoyable one. Being in the theatre and watching a scene unfold that I have strong memories of playing truly brought a smile to my face. Audiences have been burned many times with bad video game movies, but this is not one of those times. *Tomb Raider* does not hit every mark, but aided by Vikander's performance, the film does not miss every shot it takes. The end of the movie sets up a sequel and potentially the start of a series. I'm hopeful for this movie to succeed and to see Vikander return as the role of Lara Croft. I want to see *Tomb Raider* be the stepping stone for a more ambitious and superior sequel.

# Oscar-winning movie uses sci-fi to exhibit compassion

SALENA MORAN & EVAN PENROD  
staff writers

Oscar season has officially come to a close with the honor of best picture awarded to Guillermo del Toro's *The Shape of Water*.

This film pairs a nautical man-creature with a mute custodian in a bizarre romance. While the film presents an original concept among today's many sequels and reboots, *The Shape of Water* had strong competition in its category against the films *Darkest Hour*, *Dunkirk*, *Get Out*, *Call Me By Your Name*, *Phantom Thread*, *The Post*, *Lady Bird* and *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri*.

*The Shape of Water* is a science fiction fantasy movie set in a Cold War stricken America in 1962. In a top secret government laboratory, two custodians, Elisa Esposito (Sally Hawkins) and Zelda Fuller (Octavia Spencer), discover a classified experiment. Elisa soon develops a relationship with the experiment, leading to conflict with her boss, Richard Strickland (Michael Shannon). This prompts Elisa to concoct a daring plan for the creature's escape.

Perhaps the most striking aspect of *The Shape of Water* is its aesthetic features, like makeup and set design. The half-man, half-sea creature's makeup looks phenomenal. It sold the piece as more believable because the experiment was indeed a real actor in a suit. The design and attention to detail



COURTESY OF 20TH CENTURY FOX

Guillermo del Toro's film, *The Shape of Water*, grossed \$173.2 million as of March 19, 2018.

showed true artistry and skill as opposed to using computer generated imagery.

Furthermore, the cinematography beautifully captures the actors and set and the blue, green and earth-toned lighting. The dark and almost shadowy setting makes the film feel as though it takes place underwater. Moreover, a red costume or light that disrupts the blues and greens of the design signals the audience to crucial plot and character developments. Ultimately, the set design exhibits a stylized world that flows and makes sense.

Another excellent aspect of film is the diverse cast. Each character possesses a strong and necessary purpose. Sometimes in films, there are characters that just seem to be present for either comedic effect or as an op-

position to the protagonist. This film, however, makes each individual feel relevant to the grand story and takes the time to reveal the characters' lives more personally.

Among the two main characters, the absence of dialogue was an amazingly beautiful concept. These characters relied so heavily on their gestures and mannerisms that it made up for their failure to speak. This showed immense difficulty on the actors' part of conveying an emotion through purely visual means.

Furthermore, a plot is only as strong as its villain, and Michael Shannon is scarily fantastic. His character Richard appears evil and sadistic. He has a distinct mission and justification for carrying out his rage on the creature that make him all the more serious

and malicious.

Another strength lies in the rapid pace of the plot. In movies like *Darkest Hour*, there are aspects that are drawn out for what felt like longer than necessary. Throughout *The Shape of Water*, the appropriate pacing allows for adequate character establishment while pushing the story forward to more interesting sequences that hastened the climax.

While the movie superbly tackled makeup, design, acting and cinematography, some scenes were mildly uncomfortable. For instance, the film implies a sexual relationship between the woman and this *Creature from the Black Lagoon*-esque figure. Further, certain scenes reveal graphic imagery and include gory scenes of missing appendages and cringeworthy gunshot wounds.

The Oscars praised this eccentric movie because it applauds filmmaking and the art of the craft. As a clear homage to past sci-fi and horror movies of the early '60s, *The Shape of Water* presents an original take on the traditional woman meets beast/creature story while making a social statement about the power among a mute woman, an African American woman and a closeted homosexual man with limited rights at that time period.

Ultimately, Guillermo del Toro successfully differentiated his work from the other Oscar nominees in that he portrayed a fictional scenario that brought the audience a pleasurable escape, while teaching real world lessons about empathy and compassion.



## Solutions shouldn't be dismissed right away

**FIREARMS — from page 5**  
deranged shooters is equally as foolish.

There are certainly things that could go wrong, as there are with any piece of legislation. The issue here is, if the problem is as dire as the high school walkouts, marches and other protests make it seem, why are we just disregarding such a low-effort solution? Even though it was not formally Trump's idea, the proposition is now stigmatized by some because of his endorsement, even attributing the idea to him entirely. Articles such as "What If

Trump's Serious About Arming Teachers?" by Bloomberg and the Washington Post's: "Trump's solution for school shootings: Arm teachers" give impressions that this is a lazy, Trumpian fix-all for school shootings. It isn't, and it was never intended to be. As a political culture I think it's important not to dismiss ideas because we have an issue with where the ideas come from. Even if it isn't the most perfect idea, it still deserves to go under the same scrutiny that would an idea coming from a person you like or respect.

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**Correction from the Feb 15 issue. It was stated that incoming transfer defensive back Reid Harrison-Ducros started 10 games as a true freshman in 2016 at Boise State. Rather, Harrison-Ducros played in 10 games while starting none during the 2016 season. He started 2017's first four games, but lost his starting position after leaving Boise State's Sept. 22 game with a minor injury.**

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## UA pet policy harmful?

**UNITED— from page 5**

already a stressful time. Due to the multiple incidents within the past year, it seems that there is a bigger problem. Are flight attendants under so much pressure they forget or become out of touch of what is the right thing to do? Are they so stressed about their paycheck since it is not guaranteed? Reprimanding the one flight attendant does not seem like enough if the entire company's atmosphere is unhealthy.

If there is a problem of morale, United Airlines is due for intensive training on how to handle situations correctly. Last week, United Airlines accidentally sent a Kansas bound dog to Japan. Beyond that, they killed one.

## Social media sells identities

**STAFF ED— from page 4**

it might be their only connection to other marginalized groups.

So until the day we can move off these platforms entirely, just be aware. Look into what you're signing up for and keep track of the policies of the sites you go on. Be a smart on-line consumer and protect what's left of your privacy.

And please stop sharing those stupid quizzes.

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# Reporter looks back on the story of a lifetime

LISI — from page 6

seem real.”

He decided to head toward safety and finally made phone contact with the Post’s newsroom to share the notes he had taken.

“The person on the other side of my phone, my friend Eric, greeted me with these harrowing words: ‘Oh, thank God. You’re alive.’ My office didn’t know what had happened to me — and the other many reporters and photographers sent downtown that morning,” he said.

Lisi went to the NYU Downtown Hospital by the Brooklyn Bridge, expecting to be able to interview survivors as they came in for treatment.

“But hope turned to dread as the hours went by ... no one was coming. There were no injured people, just dead ones,” Lisi recalled. The only person to come in the entire day was a woman in labor.

Covering the tragic events took an emotional toll on Lisi.

“A few days later when a colleague asked me what I had seen ... It remains the first — and only time — I have ever cried in a newsroom,” he said. “Memories of that day haunted me for years.”

Now, 17 years later, Lisi wants to use his story to help educate young journalists, many of whom don’t remember the day.

“It’s part of our history and we should care,” he said.

Lisi added that in the incredibly changed media environment, covering an event like 9/11 today would be much more difficult.

“Social media would have ruined 9/11,” he said. “The false information ... would have added to the danger. It may have been more hurtful.”

When journalists covering breaking events, Lisi advises that they “stay safe and do your job.” It’s also important to remember what you’re there for.

“Journalists are journalists first, and people second,” he said.

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# Early NCAA upsets leave field uncertain

NCAA — from page 8

selection committee: Impressive mid-major programs who fail to win its conference tournament championship are more deserving than mid-dling power conference teams.

Yes, Syracuse snuck into the field as a No. 11 seed with a play-in game and now finds itself in the Sweet 16. It did the same thing in 2016, when it entered as a No. 10 seed before rattling off consecutive victories all the way to the Final Four, where it fell to North Carolina.

But those who understand that game will tell you that there’s just something about Syracuse’s sleep-inducing zone defense that somehow equates to success in March.

Buffalo and Loyola-Chicago’s up-

set victories only make the snubbing of the West Coast Conference’s 30-5 Saint Mary’s team, who was ranked in the AP Poll late in the regular season, even more wrong.

The supposed gap between decent power conference teams and sturdy mid-major squads is certainly not as wide as the selection committee seems to think it is.

I doubt that the point can be made, with a plain facial expression, that Oklahoma deserved to be in the tournament more than Saint Mary’s did.

Otherwise, the tournament reminded us all of this succinct notion: March truly is mad. Prophesying about the tournament’s various outcomes is fruitless, and March is vastly more enjoyable when one’s sole objective is to lucidly take it all in.

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# Panel discusses social media’s impact on life

PANEL — from page 2

Julie Grant and Duquesne alumna Julian Routh, a Pittsburgh Post-Gazette digital news reporter and the former editor-in-chief of *The Duquesne Duke*.

Benson’s discussion was geared toward interactions in social media forums themselves. Both Benson and Grant offered testimonies of their professional experiences using social media, but both emphasized the negative effects of their personal experiences as public figures on social media. Grant offered a catchy mnemonic, which she attributed to the Allegheny County District Attorney’s Office: “You can’t replace cyberspace!”

For his part, Routh agreed with what both Benson and Grant were saying, but offered a political twist, sharing his stories covering the 2016 election for the Wall Street Journal. He said, “Before I, the

reporter on the ground, could get a lead, it would have been already tweeted by thousands of people, perhaps including the president of the United States.”

At which point, Grant pulled out her pocket Constitution, and both Routh and Grant entered into a conversation about the dangerous nature of the evolving echo chamber that social media sites have become.

Routh said, “I think it’s pretty clear that sites like Facebook and Twitter present a person with what they want to see. It’s become socially acceptable to make fun of a particular political party online, which can give you an idea of how social media can distort our politics.”

Gormley ended the event with an allusion to a forum to discuss next year’s hot-button topic, and that hosting these types of events were one of his main goals as president of Duquesne University.

## OPEN HOUSE

MARCH 22 @ 7:00 P.M.

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ALL STUDENT PUBLICATIONS WILL BE THERE AND FOD WILL BE PROVIDED



# Despite the many crosses, DU still inclusive

CROSSES — from page 6

of Catholic students than you would find at other universities of our size, we aren’t strikingly lacking in diversity either.”

To that end, we see that other religions are represented by their respective organizations, including the Hillel Jewish Students Organization and Chabad at Duquesne, the Muslim Students Association, as well as other such organizations for various Christian denominations, such as the Orthodox Christian Fellowship, Crossroads Christian Fellowship and Circle K International.

Beyond providing community and support for students, these organizations greatly contribute to the Duquesne’s welcoming and supportive atmosphere. For example, the Campus Link page for Hillel Jewish Students Organization says, “The purpose of [this organization] is to provide Duquesne students with social action, educational, social, cul-

tural and interfaith activities at Duquesne University.” The Muslim Student Association’s Campus Link page publicizes a similar sentiment and commitment.

When considering these examples of acceptance, diversity and student interpretations alongside the crucifixes itself, we can see that it represents all students on campus, but in many different forms.

For adherents of Catholicism, it takes on a deeply personal meaning. For other students, it remains a symbol and reflection of the unique history and Spiritan traditions of Duquesne University.

Now that we understand this aspect of our institution’s relationship with the crucifixes, we can apply that context to the second part of this series, which will highlight Jos Pirkner’s statue. Then, to conclude, we will explore the importance of other notable crucifixes on campus, and what they mean to others in the community.

YOUR AD  
HERE



The 2018-2019 academic year will see one of the largest shifts in heads of student publications in Duquesne history. Five out of the six publications will see a change in leadership. Below we have listed the new students and their roles at each publication.

<u>Publication</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Major</u>
DSTV	Michela Hall	Sports Media and Information
;lexicon	Victoria Wilson	English
<i>The Duke</i> (fall)	Raymond Arke	Political Science
<i>The Duke</i> (spring)	Kailey Love	Journalism and IR
WDSR	Megan Rogers	Nursing
D. U. Quark	Meredith Bennett	Environmental Science