



# THE DUQUESNE DUKE PRESENTS 2018 MIDTERM MANIA



your guide to a historic election in a divided nation.

**PENNSYLVANIA ELECTION RESULTS**  
redistricting proves pivotal

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**BLUE WAVE HITS U.S. HOUSE**  
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# Dems make gains in state house

RAYMOND ARKE  
editor-in-chief

While much of the country watched national races for U.S. House and Senate seats, Pennsylvania Democrats and Republicans battled it out for control of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and the state Senate in Harrisburg. While Republicans held both houses, Democrats made gains in each.

For the Pennsylvania House, there were 203 races across the commonwealth on Nov. 6. Before the election, Republicans held a 121 to 82 person advantage in the chamber. That lead shrunk by the morning of Nov. 7, as Democrats picked up 11 seats, with the possibility of adding more.

“We could add two more depending on some recounts,” said Frank Burdell, political director of the Pennsylvania House Democratic Campaign Committee.

One of the recounts he mentioned, Pennsylvania House District 49 is in the Pittsburgh region. Located just north of Uniontown and encompassing California, the district has been held by Representative Bud Cook (R) since 2017. According to unofficial returns from the Pennsylvania Department of State, Cook holds a lead of just 109 votes over his opponent, Matthew Toprani (D).

Burdell said he was happy with the 11 seat pick-up, growing the number of Democrats in the state house to 93, and that it “met expectations,” without there being any big surprises.

“We’re extremely proud of our new [Democratic] class,” he said. “We’re simply so pleased with the outcome.”

A Duquesne graduate, Brandon Markosek (D) won handily in his race to replace his father’s state House seat in Pennsylvania House District 25. According to the Pennsylvania Department of State’s unofficial returns, Markosek won with 57.6 percent of the vote. The district contains Monroeville, East McKeesport, East Pittsburgh and parts of other nearby localities.

Much of the immediate Pittsburgh area consisted of solidly Democratic seats, some of which had no Republican challengers.

Duquesne’s campus is part of Pennsylvania House District 19. Representative Jake Wheatley (D) was re-elected to represent the 19th in an uncontested election. Other local races were similarly uncontested, according to the unofficial returns. In District 20, which includes the Strip District and sections of the North Hills, Adam Ravenstahl (D) was re-elected with no opponent.

Sara Innamorato (D), a self-described democratic socialist, won uncontested in District 21, which contains Bloom-

field, Reserve Township, parts of Ross Township and other neighboring locations. Innamorato had won a surprising primary victory over long-time incumbent Dom Costa (D). Like Innamorato, Summer Lee (D), also a self-described democratic socialist, won her uncontested election in District 34, according to the unofficial returns.

Unofficial returns showed that Edward Gainey (D) also won his reelection uncontested in District 24, made up of Highland Park and Wilksburg. Mount Washington, McKees Rocks and other municipalities that make up District 27 will continue to be represented by Daniel Deasy (D), who had an uncontested victory. In Pennsylvania House District 23, made up of much of Oakland and Squirrel Hill, incumbent Dan Frankel (D) beat Green Party challenger Jay Walker by capturing 90 percent of the vote, according to the unofficial returns.

One of the few local Republican-held districts, District 28, is home to Speaker of the House Mike Turzai (R). Turzai was comfortably re-elected with 54 percent of the vote over Democratic challenger Emily Skopov, according to the unofficial returns. Another Republican victory occurred south of Pittsburgh in District 39, which had formerly been represented by Rick Saccone before his unsuccessful race against Conor Lamb (D) for a U.S. House seat. Michael Puskaric (R) captured 55 percent of the vote, defeating Robert Rhoderick (D) in the 39th, according to unofficial returns.

On the state Senate side, there were considerably fewer elections with just 25 races across the commonwealth. There are 50 total seats, with half being up for election every four years, according to Ballotpedia.

One of the closest and most-watched races occurred in the Pittsburgh region. State Senate District 38, consisting of Ross Township, McCandless Township, Fox Chapel and other parts of other local areas, was decided in the early morning of Nov. 7. Lindsey Williams (D) narrowly beat her Republican opponent Jeremy Shaffer by just over 500 votes, according to unofficial returns.

Pennsylvania Sen. Wayne Fontana (D), who represents Pittsburgh, and Duquesne’s campus, was uncontested in his re-election for state Senate District 42. One of the only other local state Senate races was for District 46 in parts of Butler, Greene and Washington counties and was a victory for Republicans. Camera Bartolotta (R) won the 42nd handily with 58.9 percent of the vote, according to unofficial returns. Bartolotta will replace Guy Reschenthaler (R), who had left his state seat to successfully seek election to the U.S. House in Congressional District 14.

## Lamb beats Rothfus

KAILEY LOVE  
managing editor

In the nation’s only rare incumbent versus incumbent race for Pennsylvania’s new 17th Congressional District, Democrat Rep. Conor Lamb claimed an easy victory over Republican Rep. Keith Rothfus with 56.1 percent of the vote.

Lamb, a 34 year-old former Marine and U.S. District Attorney, gained national recognition earlier this year after his narrow win over Republican candidate Rick Saccone in the special election to replace Rep. Tim Murphy in the former 18th District.

Rothfus, who held the former 12th District seat (which encompasses much of the new 17th District) for four terms, was identified by many pollsters as an early vulnerability in the Democrats’ quest to flip the U.S. House of Representatives. The National Republican Congressional Committee (NRCC) pulled advertising funding that was allocated to Rothfus’ campaign in mid-September as many early polls, including the Cook Political Report and Monmouth University, favored a Lamb win. The final Monmouth poll before the election showed Lamb up by double digits, and the race was rated “likely” or “solid” Democrat by election day by several national outlets including RealClearPolitics and FiveThirtyEight.

“We did it again. You did it again,” Rep. Lamb tweeted the morning after election day. “This is your government. Now it’s time to make it work for you again.”

## Casey fends off Barletta

RAYMOND ARKE  
editor-in-chief

HALLIE LAUER  
features editor

Pennsylvania turned out to be one of the few Democratic strongholds in the 2018 Senate races.

Bob Casey Jr. (D) was re-elected to the U.S. senate for his third term with 55.6 percent of the votes against Lou Barletta (R) 42.8 percent. Also running were Dale Kerns (L) and Neil Gale (G).

Casey was first elected to the U.S. Senate in 2006, and his win this midterm cycle was announced early in the evening, carrying the support from his previous term. Casey focused his campaign on his support of preserving the Affordable Care Act and protecting immigrants. He also breaks typical Democratic policy by being pro-life.

Barletta, who was backed by and campaigned with President Trump, ran on a platform very similar to Trump’s 2016 election. Barletta had been a controversial mayor of Hazleton from 1999 to 2007, where he pursued strict anti-immigration policies, which were challenged by the ACLU and ruled unconstitutional in U.S. District Court.

## PA Gov. Wolf easily re-elected

RAYMOND ARKE  
editor-in-chief

On Tuesday, Pennsylvania went to the polls to decide on the commonwealth’s chief executive. The race between incumbent Gov. Tom Wolf (D) and Scott Wagner (R), a state senator and former garbage collection magnate, ended in a massive re-election victory for Wolf.

Wolf, who was first elected in 2014, captured 57.6 percent of the vote and carried Allegheny County, according to the New York Times.

Wagner, who had been endorsed by and campaigned with President Donald Trump, failed to gain much traction throughout the race. Wagner had received a lot of negative attention after he posted an Oct. 12 video in which he threatened to “stomp all over [Tom Wolf’s] face with golf spikes.”

Wolf ran his campaign focusing on his record as governor, particularly his efforts to expand Medicaid, combat opioid abuse and caring for

seniors. Wagner centered his pitch on reducing taxes and reforming the education system and how it is funded.

Wolf’s running mate as lieutenant governor was John Fetterman, the now former mayor of Braddock, PA. Fetterman has gained international attention for his efforts to revitalize Braddock and had unsuccessfully sought the Democratic nomination for U.S. Senate in 2016.

The defeated Republican candidate for lieutenant governor was Jeffrey Bartos. Bartos, a businessman, had been the president and CEO of the Mark Group, “a leading provider of energy efficiency analysis and upgrades for residential, multi-family, institutional and commercial property owners,” according to a biography on the Kimmel Center for Performing Arts website where Bartos is on the board.

Wolf’s re-election was a Democratic hold in a state that had voted for Donald Trump in the 2016 presidential election.



## Pennsylvania redistricting plays role in House flips

RAYMOND ARKE  
editor-in-chief

A new congressional district map led to big changes in Pennsylvania's delegation to the U.S. House of Representatives in the 2018 midterms.

In March, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled that the old map, drawn by Republican legislators in 2012, was unconstitutionally gerrymandered. After Pennsylvania's legislature couldn't draw a new map within the court-ordered time frame, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court redrew the boundaries, creating districts that divided counties less and removed large, sprawling districts — some of which had

attracted national infamy (see: "Goofy kicking Donald Duck"). The new map, in place for yesterday's midterm elections, produced a pick-up of four seats for Democrats, along with many more close races. After the Nov. 6 election, the Pennsylvanians headed to the U.S. House are composed of nine Democrats and nine Republicans.

In Western Pennsylvania, the map created a new District 17, composed of Pittsburgh suburbs. Conor Lamb (D-17), an incumbent who had won a March special election in the old map's District 18, was placed in the 17th to face Keith Rothfus (R-17), who was the incumbent of the old map's District 12. Lamb produced

a commanding win on Nov. 6, defeating Rothfus 56.1 percent to 43.9 percent, according to the New York Times.

The other Democratic pickups in the new map came in suburban Philadelphia and Allentown. Outside of Philadelphia, the newly redrawn District 6 and District 5 saw the victories of Chrissy Houlahan (D-06) and Mary Gay Scanlon (D-05). District 7, which included Allentown in northeastern Pennsylvania, also became a Democratic flip with the victory of Susan Wild (D-07). The three women, along with Madeline Dean (D-04), who won in a safe Democratic district, set a record for the number of women in Pennsylvania's delegation to the U.S. House. Previously,

Pennsylvania had never elected more than two.

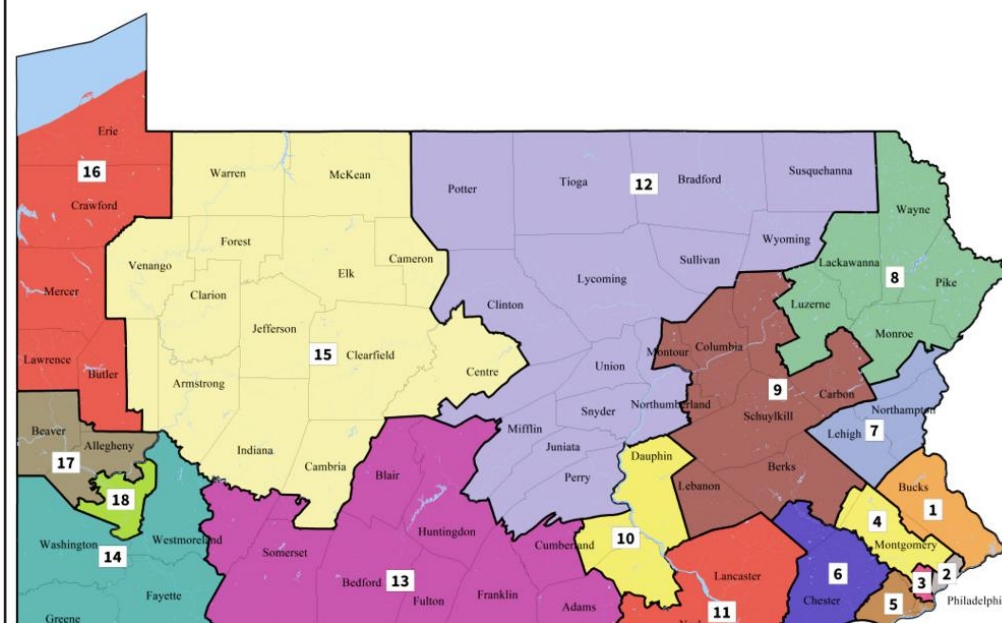
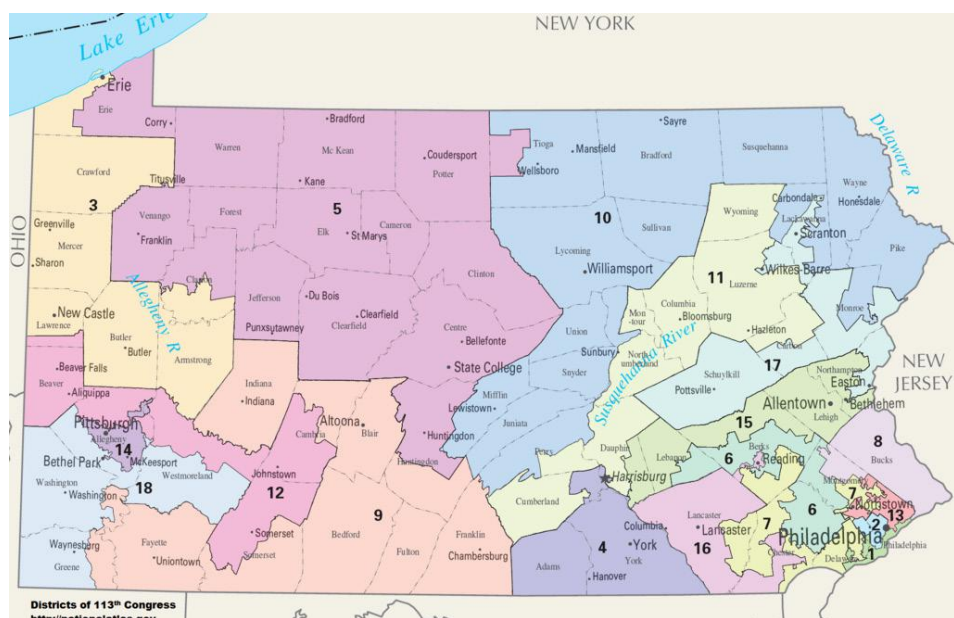
The map also produced a Republican flip in southwestern Pennsylvania. Guy Reschenthaler (R-14), a former state senator, won a race for an open seat in the newly drawn District 14 over Democrat Bibiana Boerio. The old District 14 had been represented by Rep. Michael Doyle (D-18), who was placed in a different district under the new lines.

The redistricting also produced close races in several of the other districts between Republican incumbents and Democratic challengers. In PA-10, which includes Harrisburg, incumbent Scott Perry (R-10) narrowly held off a challenge from George Scott, a

moderate Democrat. Perry prevailed with little over 2 percent of the vote, according to the New York Times. In northwestern Pennsylvania, another Republican incumbent, Mike Kelly (R-16), produced a close victory over Ron DiNicola (D) in District 16. Back out in eastern Pennsylvania, incumbent Republican Brian Fitzpatrick (R-01) prevailed over Scott Wallace (D) with 2 percent of the vote, according to the New York Times.

Going forward, it appears that Pennsylvania's congressional districts will continue with a Democratic lean until the next redistricting process.

### Old District Map



### New District Map

COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA

## Nation votes on important issues in ballot referenda

JOSIAH MARTIN  
a&e editor

As the whole nation focused unprecedented attention on House and Senate candidates during these midterm elections, people intently watching maps and needles on Tuesday night may have missed some of the state and local referenda that made major impacts in smaller areas.

In Allegheny County, voters rejected a referendum to amend the Allegheny County Home Rule charter. The amendment would have added a \$25 tax on every \$100,000 of a property's value, which would have amounted to an \$18 million Allegheny County Children's Fund. The fund

would have provided money for "services for early childhood learning, after school programs, and nutritious meals," according to the text of the amendment provided by the Allegheny County Children's Fund Initiative.

As for state measures, two states voted for gradual increases to the minimum wage. Missouri will see the minimum wage reach \$12 by 2023, and Arkansas will see it reach \$11 by 2021.

Several states voted on measures regarding the legalization of cannabis for recreational and medical use. Michigan voted to legalize and tax marijuana for recreational use by people over the age of 21. North Dakota rejected

a similar measure that would have included an expunge process for people serving convictions for legalized substances.

Missouri voted to approve a similar amendment, with an added stipulation that spent a portion of the 4 percent tax "for health and care services for military veterans by the Missouri Veterans Commission." Missouri voted against two similar referenda. One would have included a larger 15 percent tax, funding a "state research institute to conduct research with the purpose of developing cures and treatments for cancer and other incurable diseases or medical conditions." The other would have seen a smaller 2 percent

tax distributed toward "veterans' services, drug treatment, early childhood education, and for public safety in cities with a medical marijuana facility."

Oklahoma voted to legalize the cultivation and use of marijuana for medical purposes, and Utah voted on a similar measure, with 53.2 percent of voters approving the measure, with 77 percent of precincts reporting at the time of print.

Alabama and West Virginia voted to add language to their state constitutions that specifically clarify that neither state's constitutions guarantee the right to an abortion. Oregon, on the other hand, voted to reject a measure that would have banned the use of

public funding for abortions.

On issues of elections themselves, Colorado, Michigan and Utah voted to move redistricting into the hands of independent commissions. Florida, notably, voted to approve an amendment that restores felons' right to vote after they have served the entirety of their sentence, with the exception of "those convicted of murder or sexual offenses, who would continue to be permanently barred from voting unless the Governor and Cabinet vote to restore their voting rights on a case by case basis."

Massachusetts voted to maintain its current law banning discrimination against people based on their gender identity.



# Mix of Democratic, Republican success across U.S.

**KAILEY LOVE**  
managing editor

A “Blue Wave” in the House. GOP gains in the Senate. Over 100 women elected across all national positions. The first openly gay governor ever elected in the U.S.

Welcome to the 2018 midterm elections.

The long anticipated general election saw record numbers of voter turnout nationwide, up significantly from the 2014 midterm election cycle. According to the U.S. Election Project, the forecast for turnout was the highest since 1970 based on early voting at an estimated 47 percent. While the early predictions from pollsters held true — that the Democrats would take control of the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Republicans would overtake Senate seats in states that Trump won in 2016 — there were still surprises and upsets to be had across the country.

Keeping up with the results of every race nationwide on election night and digging through news coverage the morning after can be overwhelming, so here is an in-depth snapshot of the results.

## Dems Flip the House

Setting their sights on the House early on in the election cycle, the Democrats needed to flip 23 seats on Nov. 6 to gain back the majority. By the day before the election, the Cook Political Report rated 30 races as “toss-ups,” providing a wide margin in which the left would only need to take seven of these contested matches in order to make it to the 218 seats needed for control.

As it stands at time of print, Democrats won 10 seats in the toss-up races and are projected to win six more. They also won in two unexpected races where the Republican candidate was favored in the polls in New York District 11 and South Carolina District 1, and claimed victory in all races where the Democrat was projected to win easily or narrowly.

At the time of print, Democrats now hold 223 out of the 435 seats in the House of Representatives, with 15 races (mainly in West Coast states such as California and Washington due to large numbers of mail-in ballots) still outstand-

ing, according to the New York Times. All together, Democrats flipped 28 seats total, subject to change. Across the board, the incoming Congress will be younger and more diverse, with historic wins for minority candidates and women nationwide.

Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), the current House Minority Leader, is expected to take back the gavel come January. Pelosi has been a member of the Congressional leadership since 2002, when she was Minority Whip, and was the first female Speaker of the House, elected in 2007. Though there have been outcries for a change in leadership, it appears that Pelosi will re-assume her role as Speaker without any major opposition.

## GOP Expands their Majority in the Senate

While the Democrats celebrated victory in the House, they faced several significant losses in the Senate. Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-Mo.), Sen. Joe Donnelly (D-Ind.) and Heidi Heitkamp (D-N.D.) all lost their seats to Republican challengers. This did not come as a surprise to most pollsters — North Dakota was rated as Republican leaning at the outset by FiveThirtyEight, while Missouri was rated a toss up — as the Democrats tried to defend seats in deep red states. If it weren't for Democrat Jacky Rosen unseating Republican Sen. Dean Heller in Nevada, Republicans would have flipped three seats. Other endangered Democrats in states that Trump declared 2016 victory Sen. Joe Manchin (D-W. Va.) and Sen. Jon Tester (D-Mont.) were able to hold onto their seats.

At the time of print, two races still remain too close to call — Florida and Arizona.

In Florida, defending Democrat Sen. Bill Nelson has already called for a recount, stating that his Republican opponent, current Florida Gov. Rick Scott, prematurely declared his victory. With 99 percent of precincts reporting, Gov. Scott holds a 50.2 percent lead. Various national outlets, including the New York Times and CNN, have not yet called the race, and the initial vote count will not be finalized until Saturday. In Florida, an automatic recount is triggered

when the candidates are separated by .5 percent, not by candidate requests. However, according to a CNN projection, Scott's lead was within that margin as Nelson sits not far behind in the polls at 49.8 percent.

The campaign for retiring Republican Sen. Jeff Flake's seat in Arizona is also currently inconclusive, as Republican candidate Martha McSally and Democrat Krysten Sinema are locked in a close race of 49.3 percent to 48.4 percent, respectively. Also with 99 precincts reporting, both ABC and NBC report that the race may not be called until early next week due to about 1 million early voting ballots that still need to be counted. Regardless of how this race ends up, Arizona will still send its first female senator to Washington, D.C., come January.

The race that the nation had its eyes on all night, however, was the plight of Democrat Rep. Beto O'Rourke and his attempt to unseat Republican Sen. Ted Cruz in Texas. A former candidate for president of the U.S., Cruz has held his seat since 2013, and the idea of a viable challenge from the left to a Republican in Texas was initially viewed as laughable. After all, the last Democratic Senator from Texas was Lloyd Bentsen in 1988. O'Rourke, however, gave Cruz a literal run for his money with his maverick campaign.

Since he announced his candidacy in March 2017, O'Rourke visited all 254 counties in Texas, and also raised a whopping \$70 million, a number that set Senate fundraising records. Running on an ambitiously progressive platform in a generally red state, O'Rourke captured the attention of not only Texans, but the whole nation. Several celebrities — including Beyonce, a Texas native — publicly endorsed O'Rourke, as did eight of the major Texas news outlets.

Despite the widespread support for this political underdog, come election day Ted Cruz still managed to narrowly defeat his challenging opponent with 50.9 percent of the vote. However, many believe that this won't be the last of O'Rourke. On social media, political commentators and spectators alike are already predicting a 2020 O'Rourke bid for the presidency.

## Dem Gubernatorial Gains

With only 14 governors not up for re-election (seven on each side of the aisle), a large portion of the country was up for grabs in the gubernatorial races. The Democrats flipped a total of seven governorships in Nevada, New Mexico, Kansas, Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan and Maine, while Republicans regained Alaska.

Campaigns in Florida and Georgia garnered a great deal of national attention as historic firsts were at stake. Democrats Andrew Gillum (Mayor of Tallahassee, Florida) and Stacey Abrams (former Minority Leader in the Georgia House of Repre-

sentatives) were vying to be the first black governor of Florida and first black female governor of Georgia, respectively.

Gillum, campaigning as a progressive Democrat in the mold of Sen. Bernie Sanders (D-Vt.), was favored in pre-election day polls, with Quinnipiac projecting that Gillum would have a seven point lead over his Republican opponent Rep. Rob DeSantis. However, the final polling results gave DeSantis a narrow win (49.7 percent over Gillum's 49.1 percent, falling outside Florida's automatic recount trigger margin) and Gillum conceded later that night.

In Georgia, on the other hand, Abrams has announced that she is refusing to concede to her Republican opponent, Georgia Secretary of State Brian Kemp. Controversy swirled around this race during the lead-up to election day, as Kemp was accused of attempting to suppress the votes of thousands of Georgians in his secretary of state position.

Last month, the Associated Press reported that Kemp's office was holding up 53,000 voter registration applications for review, 70 percent of which came from African Americans. The Brennan Center for Justice reported since Kemp took office, the state of Georgia “purged twice as many voters — 1.5 million — between the 2012 and 2016 elections as it did between 2008 and 2016.”

The race in Georgia has yet to be called for either candidate at the time of print, though Kemp holds a 50.3 percent lead.



AP PHOTO

## A Flurry of Firsts

- Youngest Women Elected to Congress — Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-N.Y.) and Abby Finkenauer (D-Iowa) at age 29
- First Muslim Women Elected to Congress — Rashida Tlaib (D-Mich.) and Ilhan Omar (D-Minn.)
- First Native American Women Elected to Congress — Deb Haaland (D-N.M.) and Sharice Davids (D-Kan.)
- First Openly Gay Governor — Jared Polis (D-Colo.)
- First Black Women from Massachusetts and Connecticut Elected to Congress — Ayanna Pressley (D-Mass.) and Jahana Hayes (D-Conn.)
- First Female Senator from Tennessee — Marsha Blackburn (R)
- First Female Governors from Maine and South Dakota — Janet Mills (D-Maine) and Kristi Noem (R-S.D.)

- First Women Elected to Congress from Iowa — Cindy Axne (D) and Abby Finkenauer (D)
- First Latina Women Elected to Congress from Texas — Veronica Escobar (D) and Sylvia Garcia (D).

## Year of the Women, Round 2?

Following the 1991 Senate Judiciary Committee Testimony of Anita Hill, a young woman who had come forward with accusations against then-nominee for Supreme Court Clarence Thomas, the 1992 general election produced a historic win for women. Inspired by the lack of women in the Senate (specifically, the lack of women on the Senate Judiciary Committee), four women successfully won Senate seats, expanding the number in the chamber from two to six and setting a new record. These unprecedented victories lead to the dubbing of 1992 as “The Year of the Woman.”

And, as the age-old saying goes, history is destined to repeat itself.

Following the controversial hearings for Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh — in which an almost identical situation to the Thomas hearings played out when Christine Blasey Ford, a psychologist from California, came forward with allegations of sexual assault against Kavanaugh — a record number of women claimed victories in elections at every level of government.

As it stood prior to Kavanaugh's nomination, a historic number of women (227 running in congressional, senatorial and gubernatorial races) were already running for office. As it currently stands, 118 of them have won their race. As of the morning after election day, CNN has projected that 96 women won House races (31 new members and 65 incumbents), breaking the previous record of 85 according to the Congressional Research Service. 13 women were elected to Senate seats, bringing the total of women in the Senate to 23.

## Trump's Response

Following the loss of his party's majority in the House, President Trump held the longest press conference of his presidency thus far on the morning of Nov. 7 to address the election results. Trump began talking about bipartisanship, even endorsing Nancy Pelosi for Speaker of the House, but the conference spiraled from there. The president sparred with reporters — including one especially heated exchange with CNN's Jim Acosta, which later ended up with Acosta's White House press credentials being revoked — and also pointed out the losses of Republican candidates that did not embrace his support or policy positions, stating that “we saw the candidates I supported achieve tremendous success last night ... we picked up a lot.”



AP PHOTO





## Students organize walk-out

HALLIE LAUER

features editor

&

JOSIAH MARTIN

a&e editor

Duquesne student Marquis Jaylen “JB” Brown died after jumping from a 16th-floor window in Brottier Hall, according to Pittsburgh police, on Oct. 5, 2018. Exactly one month later, members of the student body held a “walk-out” on Art Rooney Field to demand answers for the Brown family.

“I’m disappointed in Duquesne,” said international relations major Essence Criswell. “I understand on both sides too, that Duquesne is still part of the investigation ... being a Catholic campus, founded on the Spiritan fathers who look out for the community, [Duquesne] has not done anything. I am heartbroken.”

Organized by Nakya Thomas, head of the Duquesne chapter of the NAACP, the walk-out began at noon on Nov. 5. The students came armed with a set of demands

**see WALK-OUT — page 3**

## Midterm voter turnout exceeds expectations



KATIA FAROUN/PHOTO EDITOR

Throngs of individuals crowded the Epiphany Church polling place on Tuesday, Nov. 6, setting record lengths of lines and wait times for voters. Overall voter turnout significantly increased this year, with numbers soaring above previous years.

## Duquesne community supports Tree of Life

KELLEN STEPLER

staff writer

It has been a little over a week since the Tree of Life shooting in Squirrel Hill, but support from the Pittsburgh community – and beyond – has been abundant.

Groups and organizations on Duquesne’s campus are supporting the Tree of Life synagogue after the shooting in any way they can. The Mary Pappert School of Music donated proceeds from a concert to the synagogue, Duquesne sorority Alpha Sigma Tau (AST) donated leftover budget funds and Duquesne fraternities Phi Kappa Theta and Sigma Nu are selling Pittsburgh Strong bracelets to support the synagogue.

On Friday, Nov. 2, ticket sales from the concert, The Music of Billy Strayhorn, were donated to the synagogue. The concert featured the Duquesne Jazz Ensemble, directed by Mike Tomaro; Jazz Workshop, directed by Jeff Bush and Vocal Jazz Ensemble,

**see SUPPORT — page 2**

## Becoming American series explores immigration challenges

OLIVIA DONIA

staff writer

In light of recent events both locally and nationally, Duquesne’s Liberal Arts department, in conjunction with the Gumberg Library and the Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh, held screenings of *Becoming American*, a film program in six parts focusing on the challenges and impacts of immigration to the U.S.

On Oct. 29, two days after the tragic mass shooting at the Tree of Life synagogue in Squirrel Hill, Melissa Hiller, director of the American Jewish Museum at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh, stood before a crowd in 104 College Hall. The audience, a mix of Duquesne students, faculty and other members of the community, had come for the fourth of six programs on *Becoming American*, subtitled “Help Wanted?



KAITLYN HOLTZ/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Emad Mirmotahari, a Duquesne professor in the English department, hails from Iran. His personal experiences, in addition to his extensive knowledge on matters of immigration and its challenges, shaped discussion during particular sessions of the series.

Immigration and Work.” This screening and the two remaining sessions following it would be held in College Hall. Previous sessions were held at the Jewish Community Center, only blocks from the Tree of Life synagogue, which seemed to weigh heavily on both the speakers and the audience.

The program, after all, is an exploration of the immigrant experience in America — all of the different successes, stereotypes and setbacks that have come with it — and was organized by the Gumberg Library and Jewish Community Center, with the assistance of a grant from the National Endowment of the Humanities. The decision to hold the first three installments of the program at the Jewish Community Center in Squirrel Hill was originally made so that the series could be more accessible to the Pittsburgh community at large. Now, it leans

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## Follow us on...



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Federal holiday would make voting more accessible

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Two DU employees celebrate each other and almost 100 years of service

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Dukes host W&M 5 p.m. on Saturday

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## POLICE BRIEFS

With the end of Daylight Savings time, the sun sets earlier ... allowing for more mischief to take place! No need to worry, though, PB&J is here to keep you in the know about all of the delectable details that occur around campus.

On Nov. 1, a student was found to be intoxicated along upper Magee St. near Vickroy St. He was issued a non-traffic citation and shall be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Also on Nov. 1, a student in Towers was observed to have trouble walking due to the influence of alcohol. The student was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

On Nov. 2, a resident director on duty discovered a student to be in possession of a small amount of marijuana and related paraphernalia during an administrative search in St. Martin Hall. DUPO responded to the situation to retrieve the found items. The student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Also on Nov. 2, a non-affiliated male was soliciting money from students on Magee St. The male was identified and sent on his way.

Also on Nov. 2, a non-affiliate was stopped for driving the wrong way down Seitz St. The driver, Ashley R. Formato, 126 S Church St., Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania, was arrested and will be charged with §3802(a) Driving Under the Influence, §3308(b) Driving on One-Way Roadway, §3703(a) Driving Upon a Sidewalk, §4302(a)(1) Periods for Required Lighting and §1301(a) Registration Required. The case is still active. She seemed to have gotten her just desserts!

On Nov. 3, an Uber driver reported a student to be intoxicated and asleep in her vehicle. The student was under the age of 21, and was issued a non-traffic citation. The case will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Also on Nov. 3, several Des Places residents were found to be in possession of marijuana. A citation was issued.

On Nov. 4, two students and a non-affiliate were found with drug paraphernalia in Towers. The students were referred to the Office of Student Conduct. The non-affiliate was issued a defiant trespass warning.

Also on Nov. 4, an intoxicated student was found in Towers by the on-duty resident director. The student was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Also on Nov. 4, marijuana was found in a Towers resident's room. Two students will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

# Campus organizations donate funds to synagogue

SUPPORT — from page 1

directed by Kelley Krepin DeFede.

Jane Cubbison, office manager of the school of music, and Steve Groves, manager of musical events, came up with the idea to make the concert a benefit for the synagogue.

Billy Strayhorn, one of "Pittsburgh's greatest musical icons" according to Tomaro, was raised in Braddock and then Homewood from the age of five.

Seth Beckman, dean of the Mary Pappert School of Music, thought making the previously-scheduled concert a benefit for the synagogue was "a wonderful idea, especially considering that Billy Strayhorn — an internationally prominent musician who had a tremendous impact on his (and future) generations — was a native Pittsburgher known for bringing people together through his artistry."

Beckman hoped that the concert could be a place for our community

to come together and celebrate life through music.

Music is considered a universal language that, regardless of one's own background, has the power to convey what words alone cannot do in any language.

"We hope that our musical offerings lift the spirits of those who have been directly or indirectly affected by this tragedy," Beckman said.

"It is a proven fact the music has healing powers and so our concert seemed to be a great way to assist in this process," Tomaro said.

Additionally, Duquesne Greek Life took action to support the Tree of Life synagogue and those affected by the shooting.

AST announced its efforts to help during its annual Miss Duquesne Pageant on Saturday, Nov. 3, which benefits the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

"Even though our philanthropy is Make-A-Wish, we did not feel right ignoring a cause that was so close to



TAYLOR CARR/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
From left to right, Jake Nowark of Phi Kappa Theta, Greg Falvo of Sigma Nu and Nick Vottero of Phi Kappa Theta helped sell Pittsburgh Strong bracelets in the Student Union.



OLIVIA HIGGINS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
The Duquesne Jazz Ensemble performed during the concert, The Music of Billy Strayhorn, on Friday, Nov. 2, which donated its proceeds to the Tree of Life synagogue.

home. Many girls thought that we should contribute in some way to the Tree of Life synagogue to help this community," said Kacie Flannigan, AST director of philanthropy and co-chair of the Miss Duquesne Pageant. "Bringing light to these victims is very important because this is our city, and we wanted to help in any way we could."

Fraternalities Phi Kappa Theta and Sigma Nu began selling black-and-yellow Pittsburgh Strong bracelets from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 2, and will continue to do so through Friday, Nov. 9 on the third floor of the Union. The bracelets cost two dollars.

In addition to these dates, the bracelets will be sold on Nov. 10, during the men's football and basketball game and on Nov. 12 at the men's and women's basketball doubleheader.

Jake Nowark, philanthropy chair of Phi Kappa Theta, and his room-

mate, Zach Laros of Sigma Nu, came together with the idea to create a joint effort between the two fraternities.

Nicolas Jozefczyk, president of Phi Kappa Theta and A&E writer for *The Duke*, said, "The idea to raise money after this tragedy seemed only natural."

Nowark said that the goal of the fundraiser is "to raise money and awareness for this tragedy among Duquesne's campus, and it has turned into something more than we ever thought it would."

"We hope to raise over \$300 as a tangible goal, but more than that we hope to aid in creating a culture of brother and sisterhood to the point where people know that there is always someone to help them in their time of need," Alex Burns, president of Sigma Nu, said.

A larger event is in the works for the future. David DeFelice, president of Phi Kappa Theta, and his room-

see SUPPORT — page 3

## Professor brings geocaching to campus for research

KELLEN STEPLER  
staff writer

How many times have we heard the phrase, "Get off your phone and go out and play?" Chances are, a lot. However, an activity new to Duquesne's campus called geocaching, an outdoor treasure hunting game, requires users to have a GPS-enabled device or smartphone. Players then try to navigate and find the geocache, or container, hidden at a certain location.

David Delmonico, a professor of counselor education at Duquesne University, is researching if geocaching can improve student wellness and academic performance.

For the study, Delmonico and his team have hidden geocaching containers and "treasures" around the university's campus, many of which will be labeled with the word "geocaching." Duquesne's Department of Public Safety is aware of the study and the locations of the geocache containers, and asks anyone who finds a geocache container to leave it in the same location in which it was found.

The current project is Delmonico's third geocache research-based project. The first was a survey of how geocaching improved various facets of wellness, and the results are

being presented at the Pennsylvania Counseling Association Conference in Pittsburgh. The second project trained non-geocachers on how to geocache, and tested if wellness was a benefit of the activity.

"The current project targets individuals with disabilities to see if they experience wellness benefits as a result of their participation," Delmonico said.

Temple Lovelace, an associate professor of special education at Duquesne, is also researching geocaching.

"Geocaching brings people from multiple cultural backgrounds together for a common social activity that can also have the added benefit of physical, spiritual and emotional wellness," Lovelace said.

Many believe that health and wellness is important for all, but Lovelace considers investigating if geocaching can improve student wellness and academic performance to be just as significant.

"It's the best of both worlds in that geocaching can get students out of the classroom, get them active and provide another way for teachers to support learning," Lovelace said.

The project was funded by Dick and Lisa Teets, Duquesne alumni who wanted to see more research and creative activities done to help individuals who have intellectual and



MEGAN KLINEFELTER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
DU professor David Delmonico and his team hid geocaches around campus for a study.

developmental disabilities.

"Their gift has allowed for faculty and students across the counselor education and special education programs to collaborate," Delmonico said.

As a result, Delmonico invited members of the St. Anthony School Programs, a Catholic-based inclusive educational environment for children with intellectual disabilities between the ages of 5 and 21, to participate in the study.

Lisa Hendrickson, the high school and post-secondary supervisor of the St. Anthony School programs, is also excited for the project, citing teamwork, geography skills, physical

activity and exploring the campus as benefits of the project.

"Further benefits are the future collaborations this may lead to within the education department that can enhance our students' educational programming and enhance their skills," Hendrickson said.

Lovelace hopes the project inspires the Duquesne community to begin geocaching.

"We want for the Duquesne community to learn more about the benefits of geocaching, both as a way to increase physical activity, and also as a way to connect with people across the university, region and perhaps even around the world," Lovelace said.



# DU students held walk-out, demand justice for Marquis

## WALK-OUT — from page 1

for the university, including “full transparency, a surplus of grief counseling for friends and teammates of JB and that the university should host a forum addressing the incident and discussing what the steps going forward are to prevent tragedies of this nature,” according to prepared remarks by Bella Guzzi, elementary education junior and one of the event’s main speakers.

According to the GoFundMe page created under the name of Brown’s mother Danielle Brown, “she [Danielle] has not been given the name of a university official or university officers who were present at the time of the incident, his cell phone, the clothes that he was wearing, the preliminary autopsy, incident report, case status update or any other answers that will explain why he fell some 16 stories to his death.”

Citing the ongoing nature of the investigation, the Pittsburgh police said they could not comment.

The majority of the emphasis from the walk-out was not that

students themselves were searching for answers, but that they wanted answers for the Brown family, specifically his mother.

“JB’s mom is the most incredible, kind, selfless woman. Duquesne is an amazing university, Duquesne has offered us a lot, but in this situation, they dropped the ball,” said Gabriella Meyers, a music therapy major and friend of Brown.

While the students in attendance are asking the university to be more transparent, it is unclear whether Duquesne has any knowledge of the incident that has not already been made public.

Before the walk-out, Doug Frizzell, the vice president for student life, sent a campus-wide email stating, “We know that you are anxious to understand the details of this heartbreaking incident. The university is equally anxious to learn what led to the loss of this wonderful student ... It is difficult to be patient in situations such as this, however, we also understand that we must allow the authorities the time they need to do their work thoroughly in order to provide meaningful answers.”

“[The university has] acted in a reactive way, rather than a proactive way,” said Lauren Petrillo, one of many in attendance who were dissatisfied with Frizzell’s email.

“I think they missed the point. The point is to get information for his mom. It’s not really about us. We understand that results are going to take time but there are things that his mom should know: incident reports, case updates,” Guzzi said.

Some students disagree with this sentiment. In a comment on Guzzi’s Facebook post announcing the walk-out, student Jess Chan said, “the poster is ‘demanding full transparency’ because everyone’s ‘kept in the dark.’ The investigation is ongoing, thus there are no solid answers yet, not even to the family. That’s just how investigations work, they take time. Also, counseling has been made available, and numerous emails were sent out about it. (Which was another point on your flyer). So I’m confused as to what you’re really protesting here.”

Between 70 and 80 Duquesne students turned out on Rooney Field in search of answers, many of them



HALLIE LAUER/FEATURES EDITOR

From left to right Sarah Gethers, Nakya Thomas and Bella Guzzi spoke to students on Rooney Field about what they wished to receive from DU in regard to Brown’s death.

feeling that Duquesne had not done enough to support students during this tragedy.

“I feel like the most support I got from Duquesne was from the student body. I feel like Duquesne didn’t talk about it. Professors didn’t talk about it. Someone I was friends with died, and no one cared,” Criswell said.

“The counseling staff has worked valiantly and selflessly to meet these demands, in addition to meeting the needs of our existing clients, and

we will continue to do so,” said Ian Edwards assistant vice president for student wellbeing and director of counseling services. “Based on student feedback, we are bringing in counselors from outside of the University to help supplement the additional need at this time.”

“I think way too many people are hurting. We need to start creating a culture where we feel speaking up

**see WALKOUT — page 12**

## Film series on DU campus discusses immigrant hardship

### SERIES — from page 1

to the event’s particular sense of importance.

This fact was not lost on Hiller as she addressed the crowd in College Hall. The evening’s program was given in memory of the 11 victims of the shooting. In her introduction to the program, Hiller called awareness to the way we speak and the impact language can have.

“Have an absolute awareness that language matters,” Hiller said. “You do not have to accept words that don’t seem right to you.”

As the national discussion surrounding immigration becomes increasingly more heated, the *Becoming American* program feels ever more pertinent. Run by Duquesne professors Jennie Schulze and Emad Mirmotahari of the political science and English departments, respectively, each installment of the series features an hour-long film focusing on a specific aspect of American immigration followed by a presentation given by Schulze or Mirmotahari.

The series handles, among other things, topics such as the history of immigration, prejudices faced by immigrants, issues of identity and acculturation, economics and work, family and community and immigration in popular culture.

“The idea for this program came about, in general, from Duquesne’s historic commitment to social justice and community outreach,” Mirmotahari said. “But it also came about because of the shifts in mood and discourse in this country over the last two years or so, especially where race and immigration are concerned.”

Sara Baron and Terra Merkey were behind the initiative and authored the grant along with Schulze, according to Schulze.

“The importance of this project is

not only in disseminating knowledge on a number of topics surrounding immigration, but in generating public discussion and dialogue on those topics, in creating a welcoming space where people can come together and feel comfortable asking questions,” Schulze said.

The Oct. 29 program, which focused on economic reasons for immigration and the restrictions placed upon it, featured a discussion led by Mirmotahari on the language used to discuss immigrants. His presentation particularly highlighted the parallels between the language used to characterize the southern and eastern European immigrants of the early 1900s and contemporary rhetoric surrounding Hispanic and Middle Eastern immigrants.

“There’s a kind of mass amnesia happening right now where immigration is concerned. This amnesia is a cycle that targets newer immigrants. We’ve been experiencing it since before the founding of the country,” Mirmotahari said. “The film series is only a small step in generating insightful discussion about immigration and wrestling that discussion away from the hate, the hysteria and the soundbites that are dominating the news, social media and political gatherings.”

Schulze stressed the importance of discussion surrounding the topic. Her Nov. 5 program, “Family and Community,” invited audience members to participate in discussions of topics such as transnationalism, integration and culture.

“These discussions are important to have both out in the community, as well as at Duquesne,” Schulze said. “While we often have these discussions inside classrooms, the benefit of this program for Duquesne students is in hearing the voices of the larger community. The



KAITLYN HOLTZ/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Political science professor Jennie Schulze led some of the *Becoming American* film screenings, which discussed many of the challenges faced by immigrants.

exposure to a broader diversity of narratives and perspectives provides an opportunity for a richer learning experience.”

Schulze also made a point to mention how the *Becoming American* series introduces the “human face” of immigration to audiences who might otherwise not have much contact with immigrants. She hopes that this program will cause students and community members to confront the realities of immigration along with their own perspectives of it, and she wishes the series will help foster valuable discussion among friends, families and communities.

“There are many ‘myths’ surrounding immigration,” Schulze said, “that are perpetuated and need to be addressed through meaningful dialogue and discussion ... The hope of the project is that these Monday evening discussions are just a starting point and that people who attend them will continue those discussions within their own social circles.”

For Mirmotahari, the project is especially important because of America’s long and complicated history with immigration.

“It’s important to see these films because they are a reminder that everybody who lives in this country has some sort of relationship to immigration and the immigrant experience — if not themselves personally, then in their family histories,” Mirmotahari said.

The series ultimately serves as a forum to discuss what is a very hot-button issue in a thoughtful and respectful manner. The goal of the series is, ultimately, to try and foster an educated and understanding environment in the Duquesne community and Pittsburgh as a whole.

“This project is also about building community, discussing immigration issues with our neighbors, having people share their own stories and connect those stories to the larger ‘Becoming Americans’ project, connecting immigration challenges in Pittsburgh to the broader challenges we discuss in this series and brainstorming solutions together,” Schulze said.

The final installment in the *Becoming American* series is titled Immigration and Popular Culture with Mirmotahari. It will be shown on Nov. 12 at 6:30 p.m. in College Hall 104.

## Synagogue receives help from DU

### SUPPORT — from page 2

of Duquesne’s Jewish Student Organization (JSO), is currently planning an event tentatively set for March 18, 2019, that will tackle the issue of anti-Semitism and the First Amendment.

“We will ask questions like, what is hate speech? What can be censored? And what can we do to stop anti-Semitism, while maintaining free speech?” DeFelice said. “We will have representatives from the ADL, Jewish Federation and a few academics on constitutional law.”

DeFelice adds that while the Jewish community in Pittsburgh is already rather close-knit, he thinks that this event will bring them even closer.

“Our Duquesne community will continue to rely on one another and help the larger community heal in any way we can,” DeFelice said.

The Jewish Law Students Association and the JSO co-hosted a candle-light vigil in remembrance of the victims on Wednesday, Nov. 7, on A-Walk, followed by a dinner in the campus ministry.

Supporting others through events like this is just another part of Duquesne’s mission.

“Our institution and Spiritan Fathers have always valued community and community engagement. This is as true today as it was when our institution was founded,” Beckman said. “Our new university strategic plan reinforces this fact as well, detailing an imperative that stresses the significance of deepening authentic alliances throughout our community — including other faith-based entities.”



## THE DUKESNE DUKE

113 College Hall  
600 Forbes Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15282

## editorial staff

editor-in-chief Raymond Arke  
managing editor Kailey Love  
news editor Gabriella DiPietro  
opinions editor Ollie Gratzinger  
features editor Hallie Lauer  
a&e editor Josiah Martin  
sports editor Adam Lindner  
layout editor Madison Pastrick  
photo editor Katia Faroun

## administrative staff

adviser Paula Reed Ward  
ad manager Madison Pastrick  
email us: theduqueduke@gmail.com

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CARTOON BY JORDAN CALLAHAN

in focus...

## Election recap 2018: Midterms bring blue wave, diversity

**OLLIE GRATZINGER**  
opinions editor

On a chilly fall morning, lines began to form outside of polling locations all around the U.S. Following a series of massive social media movements aimed at encouraging all who could — mainly America's young people — to vote, Telegraph estimates that about 113 million people participated in the 2018 midterms on Nov. 6. Compared to approximately 83.3 million in the 2014 midterms, this year's turnout was historic, with 49 percent of registered voters taking part. That might not seem like much, but it's a high figure for a non-presidential election, and it was certainly enough to make a difference.

Here in Pennsylvania, Democratic incumbent Bob Casey took the Senate, beating out Republican Lou Barletta, Libertarian Dale Kerns and Green Party's Neal Gale. Democrat Conor Lamb became the representative for the 17th Congressional District (Pittsburgh), and Democratic incumbent Tom Wolf won the governor's race.

Democrats gained a clear majority in the House of Representatives, earning 223 seats as opposed to the 197 won by Republicans at time of print. The New York Times reports that 313 districts around the country swung to the left. Even though the blue wave was smaller than that of 2006 — the last time Democrats

flipped the House — the average district shifted 10 points to the left, according to the NYT.

Republicans, though, had more luck than expected in the Senate, making up about 51 percent of the seats.

Some of the South's most liberal democratic candidates took an unfortunate loss: Texas' Beto O'Rourke in the

Senate race, Florida's Andrew Gillum in the governor's race and potentially Stacey Abrams in the Georgia governor's race. But self-described democratic socialist Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez won New York and, at only 29, became the youngest woman ever elected to Congress, according to USA Today.

Nationally, this week's midterms were a resounding win for marginalized communities all around the country, many of whom may finally see themselves represented in federal office.

According to CNN, other historical record-setters include Sharice Davids of Kansas, a lesbian and Native American, who became the first LGBTQ+ Kansan and one of the first two Native American women elected to Congress, along with New Mexico's Debra Haaland. Michigan Democrat Rashida Tlaib and Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party's Ilhan Omar became the first Muslim women in Congress. Omar, who came to America two decades ago as a refugee, is also the first Somali-American in Congress.

Texas sent its first few Hispanic women in Congress as well, with Veronica Escobar and State Sen. Sylvia Garcia projected to win districts near El Paso and Houston, respectively. Arizona will send Democratic Rep. Kyrstin Sinema to Congress as its first female senator, and South Dakota elected Republican Kristi Noem as its first female governor.

CNN also reports that Colorado Democratic Rep. Jared Polis' bid for governor "will be successful," making him the first openly gay man elected to Congress. Likewise, Republican Kim Davis, a Kentucky clerk who received national attention in 2015 after serving jail time for refusing to issue marriage licenses to homosexual couples, lost her bid for a second term. Though one of her adversaries was David Er mold, one of the men denied a marriage license in 2015, he failed to win the nomination, and Democrat Elwood Caudill Jr. took over Davis' position instead.

A deeply polarized U.S. could contribute to the radical changes we've seen with this midterm election. NBC News is calling it a suburban revolt against Trump; Most of the districts that flipped entirely from Republican to Democrat were located in America's eastern and mid-western suburbs. It's possible — even probable — that citizens concerned about the rising tide of right-wing nationalism, white supremacy and the upward trend in anti-Semitic, homophobic and anti-immigrant sentiments were inspired to take to the polls to bring about the change they feel the nation needs.

Additionally, the students who survived the Parkland shooting earlier in the year came of age in time for

## STAFF EDITORIAL

### Now is not the time for conspiracy theories

Just a few short weeks ago, we used this space to address Pittsburgh media and ask that they cover the death of Marquis Jaylen "JB" Brown with tact and courtesy. We wanted to put a stop to wild, irresponsible speculation and conspiracy-weaving that was making the rounds. Now, with over 70 Duquesne students attending a protest about Brown's death, it is time to make the same plea to our student body.

The "walk-out" protest on Nov. 5 was organized to demand "full transparency, a surplus of grief counseling for friends and teammates of Brown and that the university should host a forum addressing the incident and discussing what the steps going forward are to prevent tragedies of this nature," according to the protest's main speaker Bella Guzzi.

However, that premise involves a huge misconception: Duquesne isn't leading the police investigation; the Pittsburgh Police are. Duquesne administration officials know as much about what happened as anyone else on campus. When there is an active investigation, police rarely make any kind of public statement or provide updates. They don't return evidence they collected from the crime scene, such as Brown's clothing and phone. The toxicology report, which often takes six to eight weeks to be conducted, is not public record and will not be shared unless the police decide it should be.

Police investigations are detailed procedures and often take a long time. It may be quite a while before anything definitive is known. Until then, it is unhelpful to continue to act as if a massive web of conspiracy is taking place to silence the truth. It's just too early to tell.

What the real focus of these efforts should be is to provide more resources for grief counseling. This is a worthy and noble cause. Students shouldn't have to wait possibly months to meet with a counselor in an understaffed, underfunded office in the aftermath of two local tragedies. We definitely agree with that position, more should be done.

However, this noble cause is drowned out when paired with the other demands. We recognize this is a hard and confusing time for the student body, but asking university officials for information they do not have is unproductive. So is depicting them as being uncooperative with Brown's grieving mother, who, as some at the protest pointed out, is the only person involved who truly needs to know what led her son to his death that evening.

Misplaced anger and distrust often lead to only negative outcomes. When more information is made available, we hope to be the ones to share it with all of you. Until then, patience.



# OPINIONS

## Felon disenfranchisement a form of voter suppression

**TIMOTHY RUSH**  
staff columnist

Voting is a staple of modern American democracy, one that is held sacrosanct among the American populace. As the midterm season wraps up, and many of us exercise our right to vote, there needs to be the acknowledgement of those who are still unable to vote in our democracy.

Across the U.S., there is a silenced group of citizens who are unable to vote in the very election touted as one of the most important of our time. The Sentencing Project, an organization for research and reform of the criminal justice system, estimates that 6.1 million people are barred from voting. This group has been brought to heel by the widespread use of felony disenfranchisement, the policy of removing the right to vote due to being convicted of a felony.

Excluding Maine and Vermont, all states of the U.S. employ felon disenfranchisement in some form. Including Pennsylvania, 14 states bar felons from voting while serving their sentence. Going further, four states bar into parole, and 18 bar until the end of prison time, parole and probation. We are left with 12 states that continue to withhold the right to vote after

felons serve their sentence, meaning that even after they serve their time for their crime, they can be indefinitely barred from voting depending on the circumstance of that state. In Alabama, disenfranchisement is indefinite for those who have committed a felony that is of "moral turpitude," while states like Florida required felons to petition to have their rights restored.

Now, this may not sound so bad; people who commit crimes get punished. That is the argument often used by those in favor of these laws, and while this argument works for states that limit disenfranchisement to prison or parole, it fails for states with indefinite disenfranchisement. Serving your sentence is meant to be the punishment for your crime, and after your sentence is done, you're supposed to be free. But for many, that's not true.

Of those affected by felony disenfranchisement, more than 50 percent have already served their sentence, paid their fines and gone through the parole and probation process, as reported by the Sentencing Project. Despite this they are kept from voting by these laws that say they're not entitled to a right to vote, even if they're reformed. And no, petition states do not help. Florida allowed felons to

petition for their rights, and more than 10 percent of Florida's population was barred from voting entirely, the highest in the country.

And yes, the fact that African Americans are also disproportionately convicted does mean that they are disproportionately affected by these policies. While we like to teach in our schools that African Americans won the right to vote and won the fight against Jim Crow, 21 percent of African Americans in Florida could not vote because of these laws. Kentucky manages to be worse, with 26 percent of the African American population being indefinitely disenfranchised, as reported by the Sentencing Project. And those are just the higher ones.

When you combine disproportionate conviction of minorities with felon disenfranchisement, we arrive right back where we started decades ago with minorities still being pushed out of the polling place and keeping American democracy segregated.

And again, you may be sitting there saying, "Well, they're felons, they're the worst of the worst." But that's not true. A felony can range anywhere from murder to copyright infringement. Drug use, depending on your state, is still classified as a felony, and yes, there are non-



COURTESY OF THE WASHINGTON POST

Florida voted in favor of Amendment Four, which would give felons back the right to vote, as long as their crimes were not related to murder or sexual violence.

violent drug users who only used marijuana but are still classified as felons and are still barred from voting by these archaic laws. For a good majority of these people, we're not talking about violent criminals. We're talking about people who got in trouble with the law and have served their time for it.

This issue is also not unknown to those in Washington. During the 2008 election, Barack Obama himself said that he supported restoring the rights of ex-offenders. His opponent, John McCain did not answer the questionnaire. And that makes sense. States that have high rates of felony disenfranchisement tend to be states that lean Republican. Overturning these laws would introduce a whole new voting population and potentially

shake up elections that could lose the Republicans some states.

Thankfully, there is hope. In recent years, this matter has received more attention. In this year's midterm's elections, Florida had an amendment on the ballot to eliminate its petition-based system. Thankfully, it has been passed, reforming Florida's system to where felons are enfranchised upon serving their sentence, with the exception of crimes such as murder and child molestation. Steps have been taken in several states to loosen the restrictions under pressure from civil rights groups.

But the fight cannot end at the ballot box. Get informed about your representatives' views on the

**see FELON— page 11**

**To the editor:**

**I was gratified to see that, in the major renovation of the Palumbo Center, community access to the track is slated to continue. At most universities, the upgraded facility would be strictly limited to athletes. President Gormley credits Athletic Director Dave Harper for this decision and undoubtedly he deserves the lion share of the credit.**

**But the truth is that sensitivity to the needs of others has always been a core value at Duquesne.**

**At a time of intense national division, we should remind ourselves how lucky we are to be part of such a community.**

**-Bruce Ledewitz, Duquesne Professor of Law**

## Election Day should be holiday

**HALLIE LAUER**  
features editor

In 1845, Congress decided that Election Day would be on the first Tuesday of November. This decision was made largely because it was a full day's ride with horse-drawn buggies to the local polling place, and in order to prevent disruption to the sabbath, or market days which were traditionally Wednesday, Tuesday was chosen. November was chosen because fall harvest would have been finished, but the worst of winter storms would not have yet hit.

If that sentiment sounds a little silly, it's because 173 years later, things have changed just a bit. For example, we no longer travel by horse and buggy and polling stations are scattered throughout every district, making it more convenient for voters.

In 2015, agriculture made up 5.5 percent of the U.S. GDP according to the department of agriculture. Our economy is no longer agrarian, so why continue to follow a standard set over a century ago that no longer applies to our country? This idea is an antiquated one and desperately needs amended.

Since the ways of the country have changed, so should Election Day. The idea of having it on the same day for every election cycle is a smart one, but making Election Day a national holiday should be considered. So keep it the first Tuesday of November, but also give workers that day off so that they can exercise their civic right.

One of the more popular excuses for not voting is because of work related conflicts. If Congress were to make Election Day a national holiday, that removes one more obstacle for voters.

If more obstacles are removed, voter turnout will inevitably increase. While these midterms yielded a massive increase in voter turnout, that number could still be increased by making the day a national holiday.

While the creation of a new national holiday could be a burden on employers, consider replacing an already existing federal holiday, like Columbus Day. It is incredibly problematic to celebrate Christopher Columbus in the way that this nation does, but that's an opinion for another piece. We could solve two problems at once by revoking the federal holiday status of Columbus Day and replacing it with Election Day, still falling on the first Tuesday of November.

The irony of it is that Americans love to boast their nationality until it comes time to actually exercise their duty to the country. By creating a national holiday, not only does it become easier for citizens to vote, but it also can foster a more communal sense of participating in democracy, rather than just being a bystander.

We are in a pivotal time in American history. Voting is how real change happens, and it is an opportunity for voices to be heard. Having Election Day as a national holiday seems only logical, so that the largest number of voices possible can be heard.



# Cinco Cantina and DU legends celebrate birthdays

MADELINE BARTOS  
staff writer

**H**elen Bohr and Jane Ann Byerly — the always-smiling ladies at Cinco Cantina — have worked at Duquesne for a combined total of nearly a century. “Every year we’re going to retire, but then every year we stay,” Jane Ann said with a laugh.

When asked what’s the best part of working at Duquesne for almost 50 years each, they both said without hesitation “The students.” They have their favorites, too. “There are people who leave an impression on you, you remember them,” Jane Ann said.

Helen, who turns 85 on Nov. 9, and Jane Ann, who turns 84 on Nov. 8, both came to Duquesne months apart from each other in 1969. When Helen heard about a job opening in Duquesne’s food services, she went for the position and got the job right away. Jane Ann started her job at Duquesne as a waitress and a floater making \$2.89 an hour. The food service ladies were called the “Pink Ladies” because of their pink dresses and white aprons, shoes and stockings. At one point, Jane Ann even worked as a bartender down at Incline — which she and Helen both still call the Ratskeller — and served drinks to professors

during happy hour.

Before the fifth floor of the Union was Cinco Cantina and Chick-Fil-A, it was Options, and before that — well, Helen and Jane Ann can’t remember if it was ever anything else. For years, they each worked around 40 hours a week, each. The fifth floor of the Union has begun to close earlier on Fridays, so now they work about 30 hours a week, standing the whole time.

“I think we’ve done our job,” Jane Ann said. “We never got in trouble,” Helen added.

After Helen gets off work on Fridays, she always goes country dancing, where she can move her legs after a week of standing. “When you get old, the first thing that goes are your legs,” she said.

On the weekends and over school breaks, Jane Ann plays bingo and cards; she said she loves to gamble.

The pair both admit that while names aren’t their strong suit, they never forget faces. “It’s funny if you’re out, and you’re in the grocery store or you’re at a game or something,” Jane Ann said. “The students won’t remember our name, but they yell ‘Duquesne!’ And I don’t remember their names, but I look at their faces and I know them.”

“I tell the students, ‘don’t tell me your name,’” Helen said. “I never remember it.”

Each of them has almost fifty years of stories to tell about Duquesne, but they’ve only ever gone on strike once. It was during one of those classic Western Pennsylvania snow storms that infamously arrive mid-April that the food service employees found themselves outside, drinking coffee the police officers would bring them, and stopping delivery trucks.

One brave soul tried to illegally stop a mail truck and Helen, mistaken for the employee, was blamed for the incident. The strike didn’t last much longer until Father Nesti, the president of the university at the time, put an end to it. “He said to the food service, ‘get them women off the streets and back to work,’ and that’s how it was settled,” Jane Ann said.

Jane Ann also told the story of how she was held at gunpoint one night on Halloween. She was working on the sixth floor of the Union when she opened the stairwell door and found a man wearing a ski mask. Jane Ann thought the man was trick or treating, until he pointed a gun at her and told her to get into the freezer.

“I said ‘oh no, no I’ll die,’” Jane Ann recalled, and instead offered to put herself in the cupboard, and stayed there until he left. The bur-



MADELINE BARTOS / STAFF WRITER  
Helen (left) and Jane Ann (right) turn 85 and 84 respectively this week.

glar didn’t take any money with him, though. Jane Ann doesn’t know why — maybe he expected the floor to be empty and she surprised him — but she said it had to be an inside job, since all the doors were locked off to the public.

Helen and Jane Ann seen four different food service companies at Duquesne, five decades of graduating classes and countless changes on campus. But there are some things that haven’t changed since 1969. Helen and Jane Ann still work together in food services and they still love their jobs, the students and each other. “We’re like sisters,” Helen said. “We

fight, but we get over it,” Jane Ann agreed.

Jane Ann lost her husband when she was 49. Her daughter, Debbie, works at Duquesne as well, over in Hogan, and Jane Ann’s daughter-in-law, also Debbie, is the supervisor at Cinco Cantina. “This job kept me going. Thank God I had this job,” Jane Ann said. “Keeps us busy,” said Helen.

Parkhurst’s contract is up in 2019, but Helen and Jane Ann, who are on the top of the Union’s seniority list, hopefully won’t be going anywhere. As Jane Ann said: “They come and they go, and we’re still here.”

## Horoscopes



### Virgo

(August 23-September 22)

Mamma Mia! You will be haunted by the ghosts of ABBA.



### Libra

(September 23 - October 22)

You cheered the Blue Wave. That was before you owned beachfront property.

### Scorpio

(October 23-November 22)

Call your mom and apologize for your potty mouth!



### Sagittarius

(November 23-December 22)

Video didn’t kill the radio star. It was you. You’re under arrest



### Capricorn

(December 22-January 19)

You’ll attribute your future business success to that bag of Funyuns you just finished.

### Aquarius

(January 20-February 18)



Welcome to Paintown. Population: You.

### Pisces

(February 19-March 20)



You wanted to be the Steve Jobs of basement renovation. Unfortunately, you are now the Clay Aiken of bike rentals



### Aries

(March 21-April 19)

The good news is, you’ll love the nickname “Patient Zero.”

### Taurus

(April 20-May 20)



You can feel it coming in the air tonight — Phil Collins is approaching. Fast.



### Gemini

(May 21-June 20)

Dance like nobody’s watching, except Zalthor, the omnipotent.

### Cancer

(June 21-July 22)



Your Christian restaurant, Garden of Eatin’, is booed off Shark Tank.

### Leo

(July 23-August 22)



Hot Stock Tip: Invest in hog futures!



# Blue bloods heavily stocked as hoops begin

*The 2018-19 college basketball season has finally arrived, and already, some of the game's brightest newcomers are making strong first impressions. Don't be fooled, though — March Madness is a long way's away*

JACOB HEBDA &  
ADAM LINDNER  
the duquesne duke

College basketball was welcomed back on Nov. 6 in the form of several high-profile matchups, with the annual Champion's Classic pitting No. 10 Michigan State against No. 1 Kansas and No. 4 Duke, coached by Mike Krzyzewski, against John Calipari's No. 2 Kentucky Wildcats. The results (a ton of eye-popping Duke highlights) leave college hoops fans ecstatic for what the new season may bring. Luckily for them, *The Duke* briefly summarized each team ranked in the AP Preseason Top 25 Poll below, just in time for basketball binge-watching season.



COURTESY OF ANDY LYONS/GETTY IMAGES

Stud freshman Zion Williamson dribbles the ball up the court against No. 2 Kentucky at Bankers Life Fieldhouse in Indianapolis on Nov. 6, 2018. Duke won, 118-84.

## 1. Kansas —

One would think that the top overall team would have the best incoming recruiting class, or perhaps a plethora of returning starters from a prior championship team. That's not the case for the Jayhawks.

Sure, freshmen Quentin Grimes and Devon Dotson should be great. It also helps that Lagerald Vick and Udoka Azubuike are back. However, what sets Kansas apart are their three incoming transfers, headlined by former

Memphis forward Dedric Lawson. This is a unique compilation of talent and experience that could ultimately earn Kansas its first national title since 2008.

## 2. Kentucky —

In addition to another one of John Calipari's trademark recruiting classes, Kentucky has some solid returning players and transfer Reid Travis on board. Calipari's teams are always packed with talent, but generally need a little time to gel as a unit. Coach Cal is starting to feel some pressure from Big Blue Nation, whose favorite team hasn't made it to the Final Four since 2015. That may not seem like that long, but the Kentucky faithful expects greatness. This may be one of those years.

## 3. Gonzaga —

After silencing critics with a championship run in 2017, the Zags were eliminated from the 2018 tourney in familiar fashion. Gonzaga, a three-seed, was defeated by nine-seed Florida State in the Sweet 16. It was a disappointing exit for a program with a history of underperforming come March. With the likes of Josh Perkins and Rui Hachimura back and additional support arriving via a couple transfers, don't be surprised if the Zags find their way back to the game's

biggest and brightest stage.

## 4. Duke —

Zion Williamson, one of the most-hyped prospects in recent memory, is a Duke Blue Devil. I'm usually not one for cliché sayings, but if you didn't know that by now, you've probably been living under a rock. Scarier than a Zion dunk is the realization that he will be playing alongside R.J. Barrett and Cam Reddish, ESPN's No. 1 and 3 recruits for 2018, respectively. Duke has the talent, but with no returning starters, there will certainly be some kinks to work out. These Blue Devils could be special.

## 5. Virginia —

Lost in the shock following No. 1-seeded Virginia's loss to 16-seed UMBC is that this team could be among the nation's best this season. They return three starters and some core players from last year's team. As with past Cavalier squads, scoring is an area of concern. Virginia will be a contender again, and its zone defense will probably be as dominant as ever, but Tony Bennett and company will face an uphill battle as they look to prove skeptics wrong.

## 6. Tennessee —

It isn't very often that Tennessee fans are more excited about basketball than football at this time of year, but this Volunteer team has shifted that narrative. Kentucky has won the last four SEC Tournaments, but Tennessee could break that streak. Grant Williams, the 2018 SEC Player of the Year, will be back on the court for the Volunteers. He'll have an experienced supporting cast, featuring the likes of Admiral Schofield and Jordan Bowden, around him. The expectations are high, but don't be shocked if the Vols meet, and maybe even exceed, them.

## 7. Nevada —

After grabbing a No. 7 seed in the tourney's South Region last season, Nevada enters 2018-19 ranked seventh in all of college basketball. That's what happens



COURTESY OF AP

Florida and Florida State showed off on Nov. 6 in Tallahassee, resulting in an 81-60 Seminoles victory. Above, FSU guard PJ Savoy is defended by the Gators' KeVaughn Allen.

when three big stars like Caleb Martin, Cody Martin and Jordan Caroline bypass an early exit to the pros in favor of another year in school. In the "one-and-done" era, a trio of seniors with this much talent is not just unlikely, but possibly a formula for a national championship.

## 8. North Carolina —

UNC's favorite Tobacco Road neighbor, Duke, snagged the nation's top three recruits in the class of 2018, and will most likely garner much more national attention than the Tar Heels will this season. Nevertheless, Carolina will be a tough out this season, as veterans Luke Maye, Kenny Williams and Cam Johnson join forces with an impressive class of freshmen, including No. 6 recruit Nassir Little.

## 9. Villanova —

Any time a team loses four players to the NBA draft, as the Wildcats did this past offseason, concern is inevitable. Don't worry too much about the reigning NCAA champions, though. Seniors Phil Booth and Eric Paschall lead a roster more inexperienced than Jay Wright is

**see HOOPS — page 8**

## Duquesne women's basketball team falls in opener

The Duquesne women's basketball squad came out of the gate slowly in its 2018-19 opener Tuesday, and never really managed to find their groove.

Taking on TCU down in Fort Worth, Texas, the Dukes opened up the contest missing their first nine shots. The Horned Frogs took an early 11-0 lead, and Coach Dan Burt's team struggled to battle back from there.

Duquesne eventually dropped the season opener by a score of 61-48.

The usual shooting barrage from Duquesne was nowhere to be found in the opener, and the Dukes finished shooting just over 30 percent from the field. Duquesne's four seniors — Chassidy Omogrosso, Connor Richardson, Julijana Vojinovic and Kadri-Ann Lass — finished a combined 4-29 from the field on the afternoon.

TCU center Jordan Moore bullied Duquesne all day long in the post. The senior finished with 22 points, knocking down 11 of her 12 shots. Amy Okonkwo, another post presence, added 16 points of her own.

While the result was not ideal, positives did come out of the loss to the Horned Frogs.

Redshirt sophomore guard Nina Aho looked sharp in her first game back from injury. Aho managed to find holes in TCU's zone defense, and scored 10 points despite coming off the bench.

Sophomore guard Amanda Kalin impressed as well, contributing on both sides of the floor. Kalin finished with five points, four rebounds and three assists. Additionally, she added two steals to her statline.

The second half of Duquesne's road trip to Texas won't be any easier, as they take on the No. 8 ranked Texas Longhorns on Nov. 8. Tip-off is set for 8 p.m. EST.

If Duquesne can put together a more consistent shooting effort, they should be able to give a loaded Texas team a run for its money.

— David Borne

## Fact of the Week

Ahead of Nov. 10's season opener, Duquesne junior guard Mike Lewis II needs only 88 points to become DU's 39th 1,000-point scorer.

## NCAA CFP Rankings — Week 11

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall	Streak	Next
1.	Alabama	6-0	9-0	W9	11/10 vs. 16 Miss. State
2.	Clemson	6-0	9-0	W9	11/10 @ 17 Boston Coll.
3.	Notre Dame	N/A	9-0	W9	11/10 vs. Florida State
4.	Michigan	6-0	8-1	W8	11/10 @ Rutgers
5.	Georgia	6-1	8-1	W2	11/10 vs. 24 Auburn
6.	Oklahoma	5-1	8-1	W3	11/10 vs. Oklahoma State
7.	LSU	4-2	7-2	L1	11/10 @ Arkansas
8.	Washington St.	5-1	8-1	W5	11/10 @ Colorado
9.	West Virginia	5-1	7-1	W2	11/10 vs. TCU
10.	Ohio State	5-1	8-1	W1	11/10 @ 18 Mich. State

## NCAA FCS NEC Standings — Week 11

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall	Streak	Next
1.	Sacred Heart	4-0	6-3	W3	11/10 @ Duquesne
2.	<b>Duquesne</b>	3-1	6-3	W3	11/10 vs. Sacred Heart
3.	Cen. Conn. St.	3-1	5-4	W1	11/10 @ Saint Francis U
4.	Saint Francis U	2-2	4-5	W2	11/10 vs. Cen. Conn. St.
5.	Bryant	2-3	5-4	L2	11/10 vs. Wagner
6.	Wagner	1-3	2-7	L2	11/10 @ Bryant
7.	Robert Morris	0-5	2-7	L2	11/10 @ Eastern Kentucky



# Men's basketball team kicks off '18-19 versus W&M

ADAM LINDNER  
sports editor

To a man, a lot can change over the course of a year.

Within the realm of college basketball, almost everything about a team can change within just one offseason.

Just ask Keith Dambrot.

In Dambrot's inaugural season as the head coach at Duquesne in 2017, the Dukes returned only six scholarship players from the prior year. This past offseason, Dambrot saw even more aggressive turnover, as eight of the team's 11 eligible scholarship players from 2017-18 departed from the program.

Now, for the second time in as many years, Dambrot is practically starting over, but this time, he's got the talent he needs to do something special.

If only he had a little more experience. "That's probably the newest thing for me ... I've never had a newer team. This is the second newest team in the country behind Detroit," Dambrot said post-practice on Wednesday before assembled

media at the A.J. Palumbo Center.

Dambrot went on to directly compare this season's team to last year's.

"When you analyze last year's team, it was an old team. It wasn't a very deep team, but it was old," Dambrot said. "This team has more skill, but no experience."

Mike Lewis II, the team's longest tenured player alongside forward Kellon Taylor, echoed similar sentiments regarding his team, saying he's aiming to lead by example for his younger teammates this season.

"I really want to see everybody play hard every game. If we do that, we're going to be in games, and it's all about executing after that," Lewis said.

The Dukes are going to have to do exactly that in their season-opening date with the William & Mary Tribe on Nov. 10 if they hope to begin the year 1-0.

Dambrot acknowledged the tall task that his team has ahead of them in Nathan Knight & Co.

"No, I'm not too excited," Dambrot said of facing Knight on Nov. 10. "I'm not excited to see them at all, really. It's really

poor scheduling on my part.

"Talk about an experienced coach, experienced team, one of the best shooting teams in the country and a tough system," Dambrot continued. "We've spent a lot of time getting ready for them. It's a hard prep. But by that same token, if we want to be where we want to be in the A-10, we have to beat William & Mary, UIC, Radford — you know, we have to beat those type of teams to get where we want to get."

Indeed, topping the CAA's Tribe would absolutely be a step in the right direction for Duquesne. A year removed from becoming the first team in the history of college basketball to finish a season shooting 50 percent from the field, 40 percent from 3-point land and 80 percent from the foul line, William & Mary will stand as a tall order for the youthful Dukes.

Particularly, the 6-foot-10 Knight will. Considered by some as a fringe NBA prospect, Knight averaged 18.5 points per game on .575 percent shooting in 2017-18, and was named to the CAA's Preseason All-Conference Second Team prior to this season.

Following the Dukes' season-opener against the Tribe, Duquesne will face UIC Nov. 12, and Radford in Akron, Ohio Nov. 17.



COURTESY OF RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH (VA.)  
William & Mary's Nathan Knight dunks the ball against the George Mason Patriots on Dec. 6, 2017. Knight, now a junior, scored 27 points that evening to down the A-10's Patriots, 77-70.

## College basketball's top teams ready to do battle

### HOOPS — from page 7

probably used to. Even so, with an incoming recruiting class ranked ninth overall (according to 247Sports), Villanova will surely be in the mix for another title.

#### 10. Michigan State —

Losing top picks Jaren Jackson Jr. and Miles Bridges to the NBA will hurt the Spartans, but Tom Izzo's squad should be just fine anyways in 2018-19. The Spartans return Cassius Winston and Joshua Langford in the backcourt, as well as junior forward Nick Ward. Three top-100 recruits will join them in East Lansing.

#### 11. Auburn —

Bruce Pearl may be a controversial coach, but his success with the Tigers cannot be disputed. Auburn won the SEC regular season last year for the first time since 1999. It was also the program's first NCAA Tournament appearance since 2003. With Kentucky and Tennessee both fielding strong squads this year, competition at the top of the SEC could be tight. Even so, Auburn has the tools necessary to win another conference championship.

#### 12. Kansas State —

Kansas State is riding high coming off an Elite Eight appearance this past March. Granted, outside of an impressive victory over Kentucky, that run included wins over softer opponents Creighton and UMBC. Even so, with star forward Dean Wade back from a foot injury, things are looking up for the Wildcats. Building on that March success will be challenging, but KSU has the experience and skill to hang with the best.

#### 13. West Virginia —

With Jevon Carter and Daxter Miles leaving Morgantown, it's easy to assume 2018-19 will be a down year for the Mountaineers. However, given the return of defensive beast Sagaba Konate and an influx of talented freshmen, WVU could be among the nation's best yet again.

Bob Huggins could be facing one of his

more challenging seasons as a coach, but he always seems to field a competitive team. Don't sleep on the Mountaineers.

#### 14. Oregon —

With just about everyone jumping on the Zion Williamson bandwagon, 7-foot stud freshman Bol Bol has been a relative afterthought. When you watch him on the court though, you'll be mesmerized. He's one of the most uniquely talented players in recent memory. Oh, and fellow five-star freshman Louis King will be joining the Ducks, too. Coach Dana Altman has to put all the pieces together first, but Oregon could be lethal.

#### 15. Virginia Tech —

After falling out of favor at Marquette, Buzz Williams has established himself in Blacksburg by turning around a historically irrelevant Virginia Tech program. With most of last season's top scorers and rebounders returning, the Hokies find themselves vying for a third-straight tourney berth. The only factor hindering a potential ACC Championship run is a crowd of elite programs at the top. Virginia Tech probably isn't at the level of Duke, UNC or Virginia just yet, but Williams surely has the team trending in that direction.

#### 16. Syracuse —

A year after averaging 39.0 minutes per game, junior Orange guard Tyus Battle returns for Head Coach Jim Boenheim. Franklin Howard returns, too, as does budding ACC star Oshae Brissett, who averaged 14.9 points per game last season as a freshman.

Losing no major contributors a year after falling to Duke in the Sweet 16, the Cuse may be poised for even more this season.

#### 17. Florida State —

The Seminoles stunned Gonzaga last year before falling just a few points short of a Final Four appearance. They lost a few key role players this offseason, but the solid trio of Phil Cofer, Trent Forest and Terance Mann is back. FSU has a high ceiling, but it will be up to longtime head coach Leon

ard Hamilton to make the most of the talent present in Tallahassee.

#### 18. Mississippi State —

Mississippi State hasn't made the NCAA tournament since 2009, but Ben Howland's current Bulldogs outfit has the look of a group ready to end that dry spell.

The Bulldogs lose no major contributors from last season's 25-12 team as all five starters return in 2018-19. McDonald's All-American Reggie Perry should add to Mississippi State's attack immediately.

#### 19. Michigan —

Moritz Wagner led the Wolverines to the NCAA title game last year, but Wagner's now a Los Angeles Laker, and Michigan finds itself back at square one.

Not all hope is lost on Wolverines fans, though, as several key contributors from last season's team return in 2018-19. Sophomore guard Jordan Poole should be a fun player to continue to watch develop.

#### 20. TCU —

In his second season in Fort Worth, Jamie Dixon and the Horned Frogs took a massive leap forward by qualifying for the NCAA Tournament for the first time in 20 years. He has been impressive so far, but as Pittsburgh fans know, Dixon has struggled to find much success come March. TCU will be looking to change that narrative this year.

#### 21. UCLA —

With Lonzo in the NBA, LiAngelo possibly headed to the G League and LaMelo's future professional plans yet to be determined, it looks like UCLA has moved on from the Ball family. For as talented as the Ball brothers are, Steve Alford must be relieved he no longer has to worry about the headache that is their father, LaVar. Now, with no more distractions and another highly touted incoming class of freshmen, Alford needs to win. If this program has another down year, Alford very well could be shown the door.

#### 22. Clemson —

The jury is still out on the Tigers. Despite their Sweet 16 appearance this past March, there are plenty of questions about whether they can improve upon that success. Their freshman class has some interesting prospects, but they aren't likely to make a drastic impact immediately. Coach Brad Brownell will be tasked with getting the most he can from what projects to be a high-floor, low-ceiling group.

#### 23. LSU —

Baton Rouge will be home to one of the best recruiting classes of the 2018-19 season, but questions still abound for LSU. Second-year coach Will Wade is looking to take the Tigers dancing come March, but standing in his way will be some surprisingly strong SEC competition. LSU is moving in the right direction under Wade, but with three freshmen projected to start, LSU may need some time to put all the pieces together.

#### 24. Purdue —

Disappointment and frustration are just a couple of the adjectives that could be used to describe Purdue's 2018 tournament. The Boilermakers had legitimate Final Four aspirations before bigman Isaac Haas suffered a season-ending injury in the first round. After losing four total starters, Purdue won't reach the levels seen over the past few years. Even so, with star guard Carsen Edwards at the helm, the Boilermakers could make some noise this season.

#### 25. Washington —

The Washington program has struggled to find its footing in recent years. Even with future NBA draft top pick Markelle Fultz, the Huskies were abysmal in 2016-17. That led to a coaching change, with former Syracuse assistant Mike Hopkins taking the reins last season and leading his squad to an NIT appearance. Despite such improvement, with a mostly senior core, the goal of this season's Huskies team will be qualifying for their first NCAA Tournament since 2011.



## FM! uses radio motif to tackle real-life issues

SEAN ARMSTRONG  
staff writer

Vince Staples' latest work *FM!* is a surrealist interpretation of gang violence, pop culture and the glorification of rappers. As impressive and daunting as this selection of topics is, Staples really shines in the cohesiveness and flow of the concepts on this album.

In the opening track "Feels Like Summer," a sound bite from Big Boi's radio show *Neighborhood* creates a stereotypical image of summer with references to chilling out and taking life more easily. Then, the first verse drops and Staples ruins the mood he previously tried to cultivate with the line, "Summertime in the LB wild / We gon party 'til the sun or the guns come out."

This theme of pop culture clashing with the reality of the situation — which, in this case, is gun violence occurring more often in the summer when many Americans are relaxing — continues throughout the album.

However, the third crucial theme to the album — the glorification of rappers — does not enter the equation until the third track, "Don't Get Chipped." The first line of the song, "Can't wait till I'm rich / I'm finna buy a whole crate of guns," discusses how rappers flaunt their street cred throughout their music even

after they've become famous and have enough money to renounce that lifestyle.

After being introduced, these themes are then juggled throughout the album as a type of dialogue happens from song to song. Every track after the first three features Staples rapping about riches and gun violence with only short intermissions created in guest verse format.

Earl Sweatshirt breaks Staples' flow on the fifth track of the album after a brief radio reference on the previous song calling for the listener to dial in to receive free Kehlani tickets. This echoes the commercialization of the news cycle that often breaks up heartbreaking stories of gun violence.

Later in the album, Tyga has a guest verse for the ninth track. He enters after a brief introduction by a radio jockey before talking about prolific rappers living the high life.

The track right before the finale, "(562) 453-9382 (skit)" has a fictional caller dial in to a radio show game to win the previously-alluded-to free Kehlani tickets. The caller, comedically, fails to name more than one famous person with a name starting with V (Staples wasn't mentioned) and what follows is the radio host joking that he must be "tweaking."

Once again, this illustrates the divide between pop culture casually referencing drug

addiction in a careless manner, when the reality is that many people suffer from various forms of drug addiction that are not considered comical.

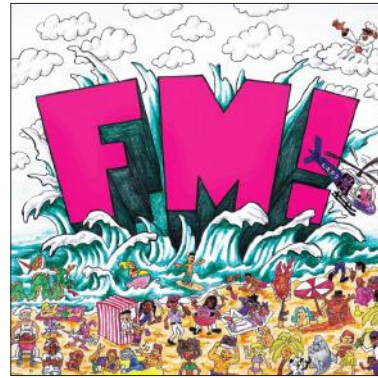
Finally, "Tweakin'" is a song featuring Buddy and Kehlani which brings together all three themes. Buddy touches on gun violence in the intro before Staples takes over in the first verse by discussing the friends he has lost to gang violence.

Then Kehlani adds to the previously built-on gun violence topic by singing the pre-chorus, "We just lost somebody else this weekend, no no / Think that I am jumping off the deep end, yeah yeah." She follows this up by talking about drug addiction in the chorus.

Finally, Staples brings up the final themes by addressing his prominence as a rapper before Buddy once again discusses gun violence.

The three artists oscillate between the glorification of rappers, gun violence and the newly introduced topic of drug addiction before the conclusion sweeps all of their ideas away with a radio style closing for a commercial break.

The ending suggests that all of these topics will continue to get attention in the media and pop culture circles, but the reality of the situation won't change. In this sense, life goes on, but not in the



COURTESY OF DEF JAM RECORDINGS

usual kumbaya associated with that phrase.

*FM!* is a rare take on the relationship between gang and gun violence, the glorification of rappers and pop culture that deserves more attention than it has gotten.

I realize that saying these topics deserve more attention is a concession on both Staples' part and mine. This album calls out pop culture for raising awareness without action while also raising awareness without any call for action or explanation on how to act. This is perhaps Staples' biggest flaw in the creation of *FM!*

Still, I can't help but believe that this album has somehow addressed these topics in a nuanced manner worthy of being called out. I don't think the majority of Americans realize the extent of the situation and in all honesty, if Staples is correct, how could they?

## WEEK'S EVENTS

DPC DUNite -  
12 Crafts of Christmas  
Friday, Nov. 9 @ 9 p.m.

Duquesne Program Council continues their DUNite series with the 12 Crafts of Christmas, a DIY-decorations night with free food and drink for attendees.

Gallery of Gifts: Holiday Craft & Vendor Show  
Nov. 14 @ 9:30 a.m.

Hosted by Duquesne University Womens Guild, this event will serve as a chance to start your holiday shopping and enter a raffle for a Christmas tree with "gift cards, lottery tickets and cash."

## UPCOMING RELEASES

*The Grinch*  
Friday, Nov. 9

Benedict Cumberbatch plays the titular Grinch in this computer-animated adaptation of Dr. Seuss' holiday classic, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. This film comes from Illumination Entertainment, the studio perhaps best known for the *Despicable Me* franchise.

*The Capitol Studios Sessions*  
Jeff Goldblum  
Friday, Nov. 9

Pittsburgh native and renowned actor Jeff Goldblum has been playing jazz piano live for years. This release serves as his debut album.

## MICRO REVIEW

"Train"  
Neyla Pekarek

Pekarek, best known for being the cellist for indie stars The Lumineers, has left that band to pursue a solo career. "Train" is her first single off her upcoming concept album which tells the story of real-life American heroine, Rattlesnake Kate. "Train" is a fun song, one that sounds straight out of the 19th century. The lyrics celebrate setting out on a new path — something Pekarek is succeeding in with this release.

— Raymond Arke

## Legend delivers an early Christmas gift

SALENA MORAN  
& EVAN PENROD  
staff writers

Although Halloween has barely passed, John Legend wasted no time releasing his first Christmas album, *A Legendary Christmas* at the end of October. With six original tunes and eight traditional classics, Legend adds his own personal touch to the release while remaining perfectly nostalgic to the season.

Perhaps the album cover itself fostered a sense of déjà vu, as it appears very reminiscent of Bing Crosby's *Merry Christmas* album. Legend's face stands out against a white background as he dons a Santa hat and black bowtie. Legend and his wife, Chrissy Teigen, teased various options for the cover, and the one they chose paid perfect homage to Crosby's Christmas influence in music and movies.

While listening to the song content, Legend's staple relaxed groove appears in all of the songs. For example, smooth jazz with R&B blends into the more traditional Christmas songs such as "Silver Bells" and "Merry Christmas Baby/Give Love on Christmas." These variations bring a lively and festive quality that does not feel recycled.

The unique adaptations of Christmas classics such as "What Christmas Means to Me," "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" and "Silver Bells" almost transform these songs into new renditions that sound timeless and nostalgic in their own right. Legend discovered the key to changing these tunes to sound fresh and new to even veteran Christmas music lovers by changing aspects such as pacing and lyric progression.

The album also boasts new Christmas songs, including "By Christmas Eve," which is a rather sorrowful and theatrical song that highlights Legend's vocal range. Another original tune, "Bring Me Love," provides a more upbeat sound on the album. Although Legend composed these new hits, it is unsure whether they have enough spark to make it onto the Top 40 charts.

An overarching aspect of the songs on this album take a more slow and methodical look on traditional classics. If listeners love jazz Christmas songs in the style of Nat King Cole and Bing Crosby, this album will surely be a delight.

While the pacing may not be as fast or flourishing as Michael Buble's *Christmas* (2011) or Mariah Carey's *Merry Christmas* (1994), it serves an entirely different mood and purpose.



COURTESY OF COLUMBIA RECORDS

The album cover for *A Legendary Christmas* pays homage to Bing Crosby.

*A Legendary Christmas* almost feels like the ideal background music for a Christmas dinner setting in front of a roaring fireplace because it balances a mix of jam and groove to smooth, crooning lyricism.

Interestingly, John Legend was not the only oddly-timed Christmas album release on Oct. 26, as Ingrid Michaelson released her own medley, *Songs for the Season*. While

Michaelson roots herself in all the traditional Christmas classics, it seems that Legend is the more avant garde and stylistically different artist.

Whether an adaptation of traditional Christmas favorites or an original composition, the staying power and overall polish on Legend's Christmas album shows a new twist to the holiday theme that may soon evolve into a pop classic of its own.



# Tragedy postpones TV's *Heathers* for a third time

GRIFFIN SENDEK  
staff writer

The 2018 TV reboot of *Heathers* recently had two episodes pulled from the air following the Squirrel Hill Synagogue shooting, marking the third time a mass shooting has interrupted the show from airing.

In the current age of constant remakes, reboots and reimaginings, there are some movies that should just be left alone and never touched again. *Heathers* is one of those movies; It should have been left on the shelf to simply be enjoyed as a piece of its time.

For those who are unaware, the story of the original *Heathers* follows characters Veronica Sawyer (Winona Ryder) and her new boyfriend JD's (Christian Slater) plot to kill all the cool and popular kids, among them none other than the three infamous Heathers; Heather Duke (Shannen Doherty), Heather McNamara (Lisane Falk) and the leader of the pack, Heather Chandler (Kim Walker). Together, they are the most popular girls in school, but also the most vicious and feared.

Nonetheless, the Viacom-owned Paramount Network decided to remake the 1988 cult classic in a modern setting. After the initial trailer was released, it was met with immediate backlash for this new dark and edgy take. Fans commonly get up in arms over even the smallest changes in their beloved movies. After watching the first trailer, it was apparent that nearly every aspect of the original story had been forcibly shaped and bent to fit the new setting.

Watching the 1988 *Heathers* today leaves you wondering how this movie was ever made in the first place. It boggles my mind that someone thought to give a modern twist to a story about violently murdering high schoolers and covering them up as plea for help or suicides was in any way a good idea.

One of the most contentious decisions is the show's use of representation. In this



COURTESY OF PARAMOUNT NETWORK

The diversification of the cast of *Heathers* (2018) proves more problematic than progressive.

remake, Heather Chandler is plus-sized, Heather Duke is genderqueer and Heather McNamara is a biracial lesbian. At first glance, this choice is an interesting subversion and brings some much-needed diversity to the forefront on television.

However, its implementation and execution into a story such as *Heathers* is ultimately shallow and uninformed.

The idea was that times have changed and that in today's day and age, anyone can be popular and anyone can be the bully. But inserting that ideal into this story that the victims of violence are now minorities does far more harm than good. This superficial attempt at progressiveness falls flat on its face. If the only on-screen representation these demographics are going to receive is demonization and promptly being killed off, they would be better off not being included. Just because *Heathers* (2018) is diverse does not mean it in any way provides good representation.

Getting *Heathers* (2018) on the air has

been a hectic and controversial process to say the least. It was initially slated for a March 7, 2018 release, but the show was pushed back in the wake of the Parkland high school shooting.

In an official statement, a Viacom spokesperson said "while we stand firmly behind the show, in light of the recent tragic events in Florida and out of respect for the victims, their families and loved ones, we feel the right thing to do is delay the premiere until later this year."

If a mass shooting being fresh in the minds of audiences makes the entirety of a show too controversial to air, that should have been a glaring red flag that this show was not a good idea. The reality is that depicting the murder and suicides of high schoolers is not going to become any less controversial or problematic no matter how much time has passed since the latest mass shooting.

The July premiere date was bumped yet again after the events of the Santa Fe High School shooting, and it was announced in

June that the show would not play on the Paramount Network.

If the first time a school shooting interrupted the premiere wasn't evidence enough that this show should never make it past critic screenings, the second time a shooting interrupted *Heathers* (2018)'s airdate should have been the final straw.

After the initial cancellation, Paramount Network attempted to sell *Heathers* (2018) to other networks but to no avail, Netflix and Freeform being among those who refused the offer.

Paramount was not willing to give up on *Heathers* (2018) so quickly, for it would eventually be brought back in the network's third attempt for a weeklong release in October. This time successfully making it onto the air, albeit not without a few caveats. After several cut scenes and extensive reshoots, the show was ready to be aired. One of the most extreme changes was the two-part series finale being compacted into a single episode, completely cutting the sequence in which the school is blown up by an explosive device, leaving the show with an unresolved and ambiguous cliffhanger.

The Tree of Life synagogue was attacked by an armed assailant on Saturday, Oct. 27, 2018, leaving 11 dead. This tragedy coincided with the weeklong release of *Heathers* (2018). Episodes seven and eight, scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 28, which featured an active shooter drill were pulled from the air but still made available to watch on the Paramount Network website.

This marks the third time in *Heathers* (2018)'s turbulent history that a shooting has caused episodes to be pulled, the third time the show was deemed too controversial too insensitive to be placed on live TV. The way I see it, three strikes and you're out. *Heathers* (2018) should have never made it off the cutting room floor, let alone be broadcast on live television. By no means should this show be allowed to continue into future seasons.

## Davidson and Grande drama continues post-breakup

KEVIN SHEPPARD  
staff writer

Let's hope we all have a spare pair of Versace sunglasses in our purse or purse (hey, we don't judge) because honey, we have some shade.

Ariana Grande and Pete Davidson have captured the attention of pop culture queens worldwide with their sudden breakup. Many people suspect the breakup was related to the unfortunate passing of Mac Miller back in September. Miller previously dated Grande — his passing could have very well been a major reason for the split between Pete and Ariana. In all honesty, can we really blame them? Losing someone who you shared a great deal of time and love with is painful, even when that individual was not present in their everyday lives. It's been a rough few years for Grande, who has now experienced a death of a dear friend and a tragic terrorist attack during one of her concerts in Manchester, England, which happened back in May of 2017.

However, that did not stop Davidson from making fun of their recent breakup during a skit on *SNL*. Pete, honey, what



COURTESY OF KEVIN MAZUR / WIREIMAGE

Pete Davidson and Ariana Grande at the Video Music Awards in August, before their shocking breakup.

are you doing?

Davidson appeared in a promo where he jokingly proposed to musical guest Maggie Rogers, obviously alluding to his previous engagement to Grande. Shocker, Grande was not amused. She called out Pete in a tweet that said, "For somebody who claims to hate relevancy u sure love clinging to it huh."

Honestly, can we be with Grande on this one? Petty Pete Davidson much? But wait darlings, Pete made another major controversial monologue on *SNL* when he made fun of Republican congressional candidate Dan Crenshaw. Pete was poking fun at the fact that Crenshaw has an eye wound from his service in Afghanistan. Goodbye Pete, goodbye.

We hate a judgemental sister, but is it safe to say that the ruling is for Pete Davidson to find his chill? Not everything is a joke, good God.

Ariana got the last laugh when she released a short but bittersweet song about her past relationships. The song is cleverly named, "Thank U, Next." Wow, can we get some sweetener for that tea? (Did you see what I did there?) We love a sister who can make a connection or two.

Pete and Ariana just need to take some time off and spare some time for themselves. They should just treat themselves. Go on a Netflix binge, order pizza, let those taste buds thrive. Travel; go to Prague, Paris, London or Pittsburgh (oh God, yes please). Get some wine and listen to some Adele, I can personally vouch for that one. Whatever they do, let's just hope that the drama is over. Ariana could possibly do a collaboration with Post Malone... please? Pete could go on a divine exploration to locate the Holy Book of what to say and what not to say for comedy.

Despite all this drama, it is sad to see Pete and Ariana split up like this. On the bright, Justin Bieber and Hailey Baldwin are still engaged. Maybe married, possibly? Honestly, who knows.



## Midterms bring hope, but not enough

**MIDTERMS** — from page 4

among youth — Taylor Swift, for example — urged millions of social media users to do their civic duty.

Hopefully an engaged and empathetic citizenry is enough to combat the rise of the alt-right, and enough to preserve democracy in the wake of a rising authoritarian threat. Even though the blue wave wasn't the left-leaning tsunami that some had hoped for, the election still helped to craft a more representative Congress. And that's a good start.

## Despite Florida vote, felons still face ballot obstacles

**FELON** — from page 5

stance and vote accordingly, but we must also carry on the fight for equal rights every year. Get involved with organizations fighting to end felon disenfranchisement, such as the Sentencing Project. Talk about this issue with friends and neighbors. Make sure this issue does not fade from public consciousness.

It is our responsibility as citizens to ensure that we live in a country that ensures life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Felon disenfranchisement has deprived millions of people of their liberty, silencing them in perpetuity. Its existence is our failure to ensure the liberty of our fellow people, and thus it is our responsibility to bring it down.

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## THIS WEEK'S WEATHER

Thursday

48 ° Partly sunny

Friday

47 ° Occasional rain; chilly

Saturday

37 ° A couple of morning flurries

Sunday

41 ° Partly sunny; cold

Monday

47 ° Cloudy; a shower in the afternoon

Tuesday

38 ° Cloudy; 1 chance of rain

Wednesday

39 ° A couple of flurries; windy

*Courtesy of AccuWeather*



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## Students hold protest in honor of JB

*WALKOUT — from page 3*

and out about things we find wrong. Obviously we all care, that's why we're here. Obviously we're all bothered," said Sarah Gethers, senior corporate communications major.

Guzzi also mentioned that if the list of demands was not met, they would meet again on Nov. 27 at 7 p.m. in the Towers Multi-Purpose Room.

The Counseling and Wellbeing Center can be reached at 412.396.6204 and Spiritan Campus Ministry at 412.396.6020. Additionally, students are encouraged to share their feedback about the university's counseling services by emailing Ian Edwards at [edwards181@duq.edu](mailto:edwards181@duq.edu).



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