

Greek life recruitment begins



Taylor Carr/ Staff Photographer

Spring Formal Recruitment began on Tuesday Jan. 22. The theme for this year's Panhellenic Recruitment was "Written in The Stars." At the end of the recruitment process, on bid night, all members rushing a Greek Life organization find out which sorority or fraternity they are in.

ODI recognized for award

Olivia Donia
staff writer

Assistant Vice President of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion (ODI) Jeff Mallory has been selected for the New Pittsburgh Courier's Men of Excellence Award. The New Pittsburgh Courier, one of the country's oldest nationwide black newspapers, awards the Men of Excellence Award every year to a "local African-American man who inspires others through their vision, leadership, and dedication to the community." The honor is typically awarded to men who are role models for the next generation. To be counted among their number is an honor and a privilege, said Mallory. "This year's class is peers and colleagues I really look up to," he said. As the Assistant Vice President of the ODI, Mallory works closely with Duquesne students to help

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Renovations in Palumbo create little change in Power Center

Luke Schrum
staff writer

Duquesne University's A.J. Palumbo Center is set to undergo a comprehensive renovation project to modernize the athletic complex, which is home to Duquesne's student-athlete training facilities, administrative offices for the athletic department and is host to Dukes basketball and volleyball games. Originally opened in 1988, the Palumbo Center has received periodic updates and renovations in the decades since. Those who frequent the upper floors of the Power Center will notice changes as the facility becomes home to daily operations of the athletic department over the next 18 months. Student-athlete equipment has been moved



Olivia Higgins/ Staff Photographer

into the building to accommodate training while the Palumbo Center is unavailable, causing a few changes in the setup of the Power Center according to Assistant Director of Recreation Services, Amber Lasure. "All of the equipment and two weight rooms on our fourth floor have been moved down to the third floor. On the third floor we had two HIIT studios and a yoga studio that have been moved down to the second floor," Lasure said. Through interdepartmental planning and shuffling of group-fitness class schedules, students should notice few changes to the available equipment and classes at the Power Center. "We alternate group-fitness class times ... in the past we

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POLICE BRIEFS

Well, well, well kiddos — another week of classes, another week of crime. You'd think that now that silly week is over y'all would give sister PB a break but nope, here is your list of indiscretions for the week.

On Jan. 15, a vehicle parked on Gibbon Street near the stairway to the Locust Garage was damaged. A report was made.

On Jan. 15, Guanxian Chen, of 1655 5th Ave., Apt. 415, Pittsburgh, was arrested after entering Vickroy Hall without permission and removed \$274 from a private room. Charges of burglary, theft by unlawful taking and criminal trespass are being filed.

On Jan. 16, a staff member found an uncapped syringe and two medicine vials in the 6th floor women's restroom of Fisher Hall.

On Jan. 16, a student was found in the possession of marijuana paraphernalia, they were referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

On Jan. 17, a student reported damage to her vehicle while it was parked in the Locust Garage.

On Jan. 17, an RD in St. Ann's Hall turned over a small amount of marijuana and paraphernalia.

On Jan. 18, more marijuana paraphernalia was found in the St. Ann's men's restroom — a student was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

On Jan. 20, an underage student was found intoxicated and vomiting, they were referred the office of student conduct.

On Jan. 20, marijuana, alcohol and paraphernalia were found by Res Life in an unoccupied student's room. The residents were referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

How about next week we try to lay off the marijuana?

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If you're interested, email Editor-in-Chief Kailey Love at lovek@duq.edu or stop by our newsroom located in the basement of College Hall (Room 113).

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We want your input!

The Duke's news section would love to hear from you about stories that you want to see in print. Know a talented professor or accomplished student? See something on campus that just doesn't make sense? You can send your tips and story ideas to News Editor Hallie Lauer at hallielauer18@gmail.com.

Parkhurst Dining attempts to discourage wastefulness in dining centers

KELLEN STEPLER
staff writer

As said by Oscar the Grouch: "I love trash."

However, the Hogan Dining Center would disagree.

On Thursday, Jan. 17, the Hogan Dining Center weighed food waste between 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. According to the Waste-O-Meter posted outside the conveyor belt, there was a total of 123 pounds of waste, which equals 1.89 ounces per person.

The dining hall has previously measured the amount of waste on Aug. 29, 2017, Nov. 28, 2017, April 24, 2018, and Dec. 6, 2018. Results from these dates are also posted on the wall by the conveyor belt and dish washers.

The data from Thursday continued a downward trend for waste production at Hogan. Since the weigh-in on Nov. 28, 2017, the total number of wasted pounds dropped from 183 to 123.

Moreover, the total waste-per-person has fluctuated since. These numbers were at a high at the November weigh-in, where it was 2.41 ounces of waste per person,

and Apr. 24, 2018, where each person accumulated 2.38 pounds of waste. Thursday's results stack up well, ranking fourth out of five in terms of least amount of waste per person.

Most of the waste is accumulated in between the hours of 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. On Thursday, 29 pounds of waste were weighed in at 6 p.m., and 31 pounds of waste were weighed in at 7 p.m., the highest total throughout the night. This trend is continued throughout all nights waste was recorded.

The most waste ever recorded at a weigh-in was 45 pounds at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 28, 2017, where both the waste total and waste-per-person were at their highest.

Weighing waste can be an eye-opening study that informs the public how much food we are not using. A 2016 study compiled by The International Food Information Council (IFIC) Foundation found that 30 percent of Americans say that "they don't create any food waste."

Additionally, the IFIC Foundation estimates that "40 percent of food produced for our consumption



OLIVIA HIGGINS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

never reaches a human stomach."

The U.S. Department of Agriculture notes that Americans waste enough food every day to fill a 90,000-seat football stadium. With a seating capacity of 2,200, that's enough to fill about 41 Rooney Fields.

Additionally, the positives of reducing wasted food are immense, especially from an environmental standpoint.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,

the benefits of reducing wasted food are that it reduces methane emissions from landfills and lowers your carbon footprint, and that it conserves energy and resources, preventing pollution involved with the growing, transporting, manufacturing and selling of food.

With all the benefits there are of reducing waste, Parkhurst dining makes campus diners aware of how much food is being unused.

Enjoy photography? Writing? Graphic Design? Having fun?

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Funeral details for DU student finalized

KAILEY LOVE
editor-in-chief

Following the death of junior Duquesne nursing student Columbia Dyson early last week, funeral arrangements have been finalized, and details have been released to the Duquesne student body.

According to an email sent to students and faculty on Jan. 22., Duquesne will be providing busing to the funeral on Jan. 25, which will be held at 11 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church in Ellicott City, Maryland. The bus will depart at 6 a.m., and students can expect to return at 5 p.m., and both breakfast and lunch

will be provided on the way to the service.

Additionally, calling hours will be held on Jan. 24 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Donaldson Funeral Home in Clarksville, Maryland.

The email also stated that in lieu of sending flowers, those looking to honor her memory should make donations to Variety — The Children's Charity of Pittsburgh, which was the local charity of Dyson's sorority, Alpha Omicron Pi, and "near and dear to Columbia's heart."

Cause and manner of Dyson's death are still yet to be determined.

Closure at the Palumbo Center have little effect on day-to-day operations at the Power Center

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would have [three classes] during our peak times, we now alternate the times and days to accommodate studio availability. We put a lot of planning into the process so that when the changes took effect they would be as seamless as possible," Lasure said.

Students have noticed the differences in the overall availability of some facilities at the Power Center already.

"I've found that most of the yoga studios have been filled with equipment which has impacted my ability to workout as I had in the past," said freshman physics major Alyssa Gadsby.

While availability of facilities has been affected, other students haven't noticed much change in the attendance at the Power Center.

"To be honest I haven't noticed many more students at the Power Center, and the changes haven't inconvenienced me yet," said freshman nursing major Kirsia Danis.

Director of Recreation Services Dan McCarthy confirmed atten-

dance at the Power Center has not increased dramatically despite the changes.

"Yesterday we had 1,600 students come down, historically we're on par with where we usually are in January," McCarthy said.

McCarthy also confirmed that other Power Center and Recreation Services events and clubs have not been affected.

"Intramurals have been status quo on the third and fourth floor as well as club sports that need a little more space," McCarthy said.

The changes at the Power Center will continue to evolve to accommodate new ideas and to better serve student needs as feedback begins to come in about how to improve the facility.

"We make a lot of our decisions through student focus-groups and surveys ... it's how we make our changes to serve student needs" Lasure said.

The Palumbo Center, which will be the UPMC Chuck Cooper Fieldhouse when it reopens, is set to open sometime in 2021, upon which the Power Center will return to previous operations.

Men of Excellence award given to DU faculty

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them achieve their goals both on and off the Bluff.

“We’re looking for success inside and outside the classroom,” Mallory said, “but we also want students to be successful when they graduate.”

Winning the award is a particular honor for Mallory because it means that his work as a mentor and resource has helped Duquesne students.

“This award aligns with what I try to do every day as an administrator at Duquesne,” Mallory said.

Mallory was nominated for the award by Valerie Harper, the registrar at the Duquesne University School of Law. While it is an honor to be nominated and chosen for this award, Mallory said the greatest reward is getting to work so closely with Duquesne students.

“When a student lets you into their world ... and follows your advice,” Mallory said, “I don’t know if there’s a higher honor you can have.”

Coming from a family of educators, Mallory said that it was always a priority in his household to give back. Throughout his career, he had many important mentors and role models to guide him.

Winning this award has given Mallory and his family the opportunity to stop and look back at how mentors and leaders impacted their own lives. And now, working in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Mallory has the opportunity to be that role model for Duquesne students.

He believes good role models are especially important for students and young people, since, in his words, “there’s so much going



CARLEE EVANS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion is located on the first floor of the Union. Their goal is to help “develop a diverse student population.”

on at that age.”

The Men of Excellence Award serves to highlight the good work Mallory and the ODI do.

Mallory said, “This award really gives us the energy we need to keep helping students and the community.”

Mallory has called winning the award a privilege, but he has also described it as humbling. He said being recognized for the work he does for the community is both an opportunity and an honor to reflect on the impact a person can have on the surrounding community.

His office, which is located on the first floor of the union, is always open to help students with whatever they need, and there is nothing that they won’t tackle, Mallory said. And he is always looking forward to working with students.

“I’m always touched by something a student does,” Mallory said. “And it’s really a testament to them.”

Former DU professor named archbishop of the diocese in Ghana

MEREDITH BLAKELY

staff writer

Despite the 13-hour plane ride it would take to get from Pittsburgh to Ghana, the Duquesne story is intertwined with the people and history of the country.

On Jan. 2, a former Duquesne assistant professor of theology, the Rev. John Bonaventure Kwofie, was recently named Ghanaian Metropolitan Archbishop of the Catholic Archdiocese of Accra by Pope Francis.

Kwofie is set to take canonical possession of the archdioceses in Accra, the capital of Ghana, within the next two months.

He was first ordained a priest in 1988 as a member of the Spiritan Congregation. He did pastoral work throughout Ghana following his ordination. However, in 2013 he began his journey at Duquesne as an assistant professor of theology. Kwofie taught a course on biblical and historical perspectives to undergraduate students, which explored topics relevant to today.

In 2014, he left Duquesne to take the position of bishop of Sekondi-Takoradi, and now has been renamed as Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Accra. Kwofie has been chosen to replace the Rev. Charles Gabriel Palmer-Buckle, who is now the Archbishop of Cape Coast in the Central Region, according to the Ghana News Agency.

Two current professors of theology at Duquesne, the Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Abbey-Quaye and Daniel Adjei, both share similar feelings towards the election of Kwofie.

“Archbishop elect, Bonaventure J Kwofie’s election personally came with a mixed feeling. As a Duke, it was an exciting and proud moment to tell people that a son

of Duquesne university has again lifted the banner of glory in the history of the church in Ghana. As a priest from his diocese, I looked back at the positive changes and swift developments his leadership has brought into the diocese and asked myself who can step into his shoes,” said Adjei, a priest from Kwofie’s diocese in Ghana. “He is a true shepherd who cares not only for his priests’ welfare but the faithful of God. His display of faith, belief in providence and action made him work extremely hard, visiting every corner (even the remotest part) of the diocese of Sekondi-Takoradi.”

The Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Abbey-Quaye is a current professor of theology who was encouraged by Kwofie in 2016 to study Systematic Theology at Duquesne.

“Since becoming bishop of Sekondi-Takoradi from September 2014 till now, he [Kwofie] has been hailed as a visionary leader and a great administrator who has brought tremendous transformation to his diocese in terms of a pastoral plan, development projects and training of personnel,” Abbey-Quaye said.

The Spiritans have sustained a missionary presence in Ghana for over 150 years. Duquesne created plans for maintaining and growing its relationships with Africa. Duquesne is the only Spiritan university in America, and their mission encourages serving of the poor and suffering while establishing understanding and justice.

“I remain optimistic that he is going to be a good ambassador of our university in his new position,” Abbey-Quaye said.

This work is done throughout the world, but recently Duquesne has stressed the importance of



COURTESY OF GHANA NEWS

growing and maintaining relationships in Ghana. One of the goals listed in the 2018-2023 Strategic Plan is to “solidify our rich existing relationships in Africa.”

“I think that his appointment is good news of great joy for us here at Duquesne University in the sense that one of our own has been elevated to such a high position in the Church as an archbishop,” said Abbey-Quaye. “We need to be proud of him and of ourselves and continue to pray for him to be a good leader and a humble servant in the Lord’s vineyard. Congratulations to him once again and we wish him the best of God’s blessings in his new episcopal ministry.”

“[Kwofie] has made me proud to be a Duke and a priest from his diocese,” Adjei said. “His good works will follow him and we wish him well in his future episcopacy.”

Duquesne each year also has a Maymester study abroad trip to a different region in Africa. Last year the trip went to Tanzania, and this year the trip will be going to Ghana.

LA teachers return to work after new contract negotiations

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Los Angeles teachers returned to work Wednesday after contentious negotiations ended with a new contract and a commitment by the union and the district to work together to get more state money for schools in part by pushing to overhaul California’s property tax system.

Teachers greeted students with smiles, hugs and high-fives after voting the night before to ratify the deal that includes a 6 percent pay hike for educators and a commitment by the district to reduce class sizes. The return followed six days of picketing and a marathon bargaining session brokered by Mayor Eric Garcetti.

Third-grade teacher Van Morales said it was a joy to go back to her students. “It’s missed time that we need to make up,” she said.

LA Unified School District Su-

perintendent Austin Beutner said financial challenges remain despite the hard-fought deal with United Teachers Los Angeles. The district is projecting a half-billion-dollar deficit this budget year and has billions obligated for pension payments and health coverage for retired teachers.

“The issue has always been how do we pay for it?” Beutner said. “We can’t solve 40 years of underinvestment in public education in just one week or just one contract.”

To that end, Beutner, union head Alex Caputo-Pearl and Garcetti agreed to “jointly advocate for increased county and state funding” for public education, according to a summary of the agreement released by UTLA.

As part of that team effort, the mayor will endorse California’s Schools and Communities First bal-

lot initiative and work with LAUSD and UTLA for its passage next year, the union statement said. Garcetti said he hopes to “build on the momentum we gained over the last week, and bring the same energy and spirit we saw in the streets” to push for education resources.

The initiative, which has qualified for the 2020 ballot, would hike property taxes on California businesses and generate revenue for local and state governments that would filter to public education. It would change a key provision of Proposition 13, the landmark 1978 initiative that capped property taxes, slashing state revenue and saddling school districts with shrinking budgets.

Supporters of the new initiative estimate that more than \$11 billion per year would be restored for public schools, community col-

leges, health clinics and other vital services.

Opponents say increasing property taxes on business would drive jobs out of state and make it more expensive to live in California.

“We just negotiated raises for teachers,” said David Kline, a vice president for the advocacy group California Taxpayers Association. “The last thing they need is to wipe out that benefit by increasing the cost of living.”

Kline suggested Beutner and Caputo-Pearl could find a sympathetic ear when they travel to Sacramento to ask Gov. Gavin Newsom for money. State government has controlled the allocation of money for schools since Prop. 13 was passed.

The new governor’s budget proposal includes a \$3 billion one-time payment to California’s teach-

er pension fund. Newsom said he wants to help districts that are seeing more of their budgets eaten up by pension obligations.

Newsom also wants to invest \$500 million in infrastructure to provide more childcare and \$750 million for kindergarten programs. His predecessor, Gov. Jerry Brown, presided over an escalation of financing for schools.

“Increases in state funding are already translating into real progress for kids and classrooms, including investments in community schools,” Newsom said in a statement Tuesday.

Los Angeles teachers headed back to work a day after Denver teachers voted to go on strike after more than a year of negotiations. Colorado teachers have the right to strike, but state officials could delay the walkout by up to 180 days.

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— MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

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PROOF THAT COLLEGE STUDENTS DO INDEED LEARN HOW TO COOK



CARTOON BY JORDAN CALLAHAN

in focus...

Government shutdown continues at expense of working class

OLLIE GRATZINGER

opinions editor

The duration of the nation's longest government shutdown has surpassed the one-month mark, and as the crisis comes to a boil, almost everyone is starting to feel the heat.

Federal workers, either furloughed or working without pay, are struggling to make ends meet. With rent or mortgage bills, car payments, medical fees, child-care costs and a long list of other expenses and no income to allocate out to all life's necessities, countless workers are left wondering where even their next meal will be coming from.

It's an unsettling social shortcoming that there aren't governmental fail safes in place to protect those who are furloughed from loss and financial desolation. Employees working without pay are unable to file for unemployment benefits because they're still technically employed. While furloughed employees can collect unemployment, they'll have to repay any unemployment money collected once the government reopens and they receive their back pay. Plus, the program varies from state to state, and many folks attempting to file are faced with wait times up to or surpassing a month. Or, worse yet, they're being denied because there isn't anyone in government to verify their employ-

ment, according to CBS News.

Now This News released a short informative video on Jan. 19, highlighting the difficulties faced by a few individuals impacted most directly by the shutdown. Among them, a tearful woman facing eviction, a mother who is struggling to buy groceries for her children and a father forced to pull his daughter out of cheerleading because he could no longer pay for her to be part of the organization.

It isn't even the president's disregard for the plight of his country's working class that stands out as most disturbing. Rather, it's his willingness to use them as a shameless bargaining chip, a means to attaining his own political ends. Cast into sudden and indefinite poverty, many will go without food. Many will go without medication. Many could even lose their homes or apartments, and with it, their very way of life.

At this point, the crisis has surpassed partisan debate. It has quickly become a human rights issue. Trump is so focused on building a wall to supposedly protect the country that he's failing to realize he and his party have become the most direct and explicit threat to the working class.

As the shutdown drags on, it isn't only impacting federal workers and contractors. Those who benefit from government assistance such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance

Program (SNAP) may find themselves without food stamps, should the shutdown continue. February benefits have been sent out early, by Jan. 20, rather than on their usual date, Feb. 1, in order to "ensure that the money is available," according to Business Insider.

But as for March, it is unlikely that the money will be there to fund the program if the government doesn't reopen by then. With that being said, SNAP recipients will likely not receive a payment after this week's until the shutdown ends.

Likewise, schools around the country are faced with the prospect of running out of food for school lunches. Even though school lunch programs are funded quarterly, and therefore will be paid for through March, Trump's willingness to let the shutdown continue for "months or even years" has cast many schools into conservation mode. Students will no longer receive fresh produce, with the exception of elementary schools that are part of the Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program (FFVP). Being federally assisted as well, the FFVP will decrease to two days per week. Bottled water and juice will only be offered until the current inventory runs out.

It seems almost unthinkable that in a developed country like the U.S., impoverished school districts would be forced to ration food supplies to hungry children, many of whom may face worsened food insecurity at home due to the uncertain future of SNAP. But the unthinkable has happened. Is this the "greatness" that Trump had in mind when he promised to "Make America Great Again?"

STAFF EDITORIAL

SCOTUS rules in favor of anti-transgender military ban

Earlier this week, President Trump scored another judicial victory in his attempt to once again undo any important social progress made by previous administrations in the lead up to his presidency.

In a 5-4 ruling, with the court's conservative wing all voting in the majority, the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) granted the Trump administration temporary permission to move forward with its proposed policy to bar transgender individuals from joining the U.S. military.

Originally proposed via tweet (since that's how we create life-altering government policies in America these days) in 2017, and then revised by Pentagon officials under the direction of Jim Mattis, the ban seeks to reverse the 2016 Obama era policy that initially opened the military for people who have undergone gender transition.

Following this week's SCOTUS ruling and the Pentagon's policy review that occurred last year, the policy will prohibit anyone transgender from enlisting in the military, with protections in place for those already openly serving. There is also a provision that would allow any transgender individuals to enlist if they are willing to serve "in their biological sex."

Though this ruling only temporarily lifts the injunction on the policy until a ruling is issued from the current litigation in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, it does not create a sense of optimism for the rulings that will follow, even though the Trump administration's argument has no logical reasoning behind it.

"There is no harm — much less immediate harm — to the military from allowing the service of transgender individuals who satisfy the demanding standards to which all service members are subject ... The government has presented no evidence that their doing so harms military readiness, effectiveness, or lethality," lawyers said in the SCOTUS opposition brief, presenting the argument that activists and a large portion of the American people have been stating for the past year and a half.

Without any actual proof to justify this irrational policy, the Trump administration's true intentions are on full display — bigotry for bigotry's sake. The ban is wildly unfair and completely unnecessary, created only to satisfy the whims of the president's ever-shrinking base. There is no science behind it. Transgender individuals place no unbearable financial burden on the military; Forbes reports that a miniscule .017 percent of the military's grossly over-the-top budget is spent on the needs of transgender service members.

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OPINIONS

Seeing and believing: We must curb spread of misinformation

RACHEL KROTSENG
staff columnist

A goldfish's short term memory is three seconds long. Daddy Long Legs are the most poisonous spiders in the world, but they're so small that they can't bite you. Calculations show that a bumblebee should not be able to fly. All of the dinosaurs died when the meteor hit.

At least, these are the things we learn and believe.

Actually, a goldfish has a short term memory of up to five months. Daddy Long Legs can pierce your skin, and the venom they release is only enough to sting for a couple of seconds. Calculations really show that a bumblebee's ability of flight makes perfect sense. The dinosaurs that birds evolved from didn't die from the meteor.

Even though we have countless ways to look things up and confirm if facts are true or not, people tend to believe everything they hear, especially when they hear it on the internet.

People, especially baby boomers, mock others when they hear that they read something on the Internet without remembering that half an hour earlier, they were scrolling through Facebook believing every single silly clickbait article on their timeline. The combination of laziness and confirmation bias means that people read the titles of articles and take them



COURTESY OF BUSINESS INSIDER

A startup called Ambrosia charges thousands of dollars for blood transfusions done with blood donated by young people. This has started a rumor that the "elite" are drinking the blood of the youth.

at face value. They don't bother to read the article itself to see what the author had to say.

It is easy to go to a news site or an app and look at only the headlines, and I admit that I do this too. If you don't have time to read all of the 700 words the author wrote, the title is perfectly fine. But this does not mean that by just reading the title, you are getting all of the facts. Sometimes, titles can be shortened for the link and longer for the article. Sometimes, titles can

be twisted and worded certain ways to mean things that people want you to believe.

The most recent example of this was when I saw an article, read it, didn't look into it and believed every word, but the whole time I was really reading about faked information with underlying antisemitic tones that you don't see unless you know.

What I read was an article, posted by the phony news website News Punch, claiming

CBS reported that "elites are lining up to ingest the blood of children." In this day and age, I didn't think it was fake. With all of the craziness in the world, I thought that this was something that definitely could be happening. I read the article, got grossed out, and left the site. Two days later, I saw a fact-check article rehashing the issue and explaining what was faked. Let's unpack all of that.

The first article claimed that the "elites" were ingesting the blood, which are the first two fake-outs. The use of the word "elite" is the first red flag. Maybe not for some people nowadays, and not for me, but the naming of anonymous elites is a direct tie to the theory that a group of secret elite Jews is running the world.

Delve even deeper into this antisemitic hell-hole and find that consuming the blood of children is an age-old theory from the Middle Ages that Christian children were going missing because the Jews were kidnapping them to make their Passover meals with youthful blood. What gets me the most about this one is the News Punch article actually cites the CBS article that they are quoting, and the wording of the CBS article title is extremely different.

The CBS article is titled "Controversial Treatment Transfuses Patients With 'Young Blood' From Teenagers To Reverse Aging Pro-

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Gillette commercial tackles toxic masculinity, sparks debate

SEAN ARMSTRONG
staff columnist

The Gillette commercial is just the latest social justice scandal to divide Americans on the left and right of the political spectrum. Personally, I agree with the message in the commercial, but much of the discussion that has occurred in reaction to this ad is unhelpful at best and damaging at worst.

Now, with the primer out of the way, back to the Gillette Commercial. The "We Believe: The Best Men Can Be" ad was about toxic-masculinity, hyper-masculinity or whatever synonym you want to choose.

The ad opens with a man standing in the mirror using his Gillette razor, when suddenly the slogan "The Best a Man Can Get" pops into his head, which prompts a reflection about the truth of that statement — not only of the razor, but of men generally.

The ad then shows scenes of a boy being chased by a pack of bullies, where the presumption is that he is in some way different than them. The ad also features men catcalling women, groping them and worshiping them in music videos and on TV as sex objects with no personality.

Then the commercial makes a point where a man assumed to be her colleague in some form corrects a female coworker on her point and the woman's face shows blatant offense, but everyone ignores that and continues to listen to his re-explanation. All in all, the ad depicts the many subtle and blatant ways in which the sexes negatively relate to one another with a particular focus on the male aspect of the dichotomy.

Is it wrong to beat people up you disagree with?

If you value freedom of speech then the answer is yes. Is it wrong to treat women like objects? Think about what being an object means for men, because if women are objects then men are by default the providers only worthy of attention if they are rich, successful and socially connected.

Lastly, is it wrong to correct women because you see them as inferior? It never feels good to be minimized simply because of prejudice held by the person in power, and that is what is happening when the man corrects his colleague.

If you answered yes to even one of these questions, then you agreed with the commercial on some level.

Now, if any of these points seem rational to people on both sides of the political aisles, then why is there so much disagreement? Well, that is because masculinity is not the problem, but the symptom of the real problem.

The overarching issue is the patriarchy, or the system in which the power is centered around the eldest male figure. This imbalance of power has given rise to polarizing levels of masculinity and femininity. When men are automatically chosen to be the leaders regardless of aptitude, desire or practicality, problems arise. This sets up a situation where those who should not be in charge end up in leadership positions.

This leads to traits like assertiveness being defined as male. Not all men are assertive, but those who are not assertive on a certain level may be seen by some as less manly than those that are very assertive due to the societal structure of the patriarchy.

This also presents a new problem: If a society is conditioned to accept one sex as the defacto leader, when anyone tries to switch leadership to



COURTESY OF GILLETTE

a merit-based model, there is going to be some resistance.

The Gillette commercial attacked a fundamental principle of not only what masculinity has come to be known as, but the patriarchy. That does not mean Gillette was wrong to promote this agenda or that all of the points were bad to bring up, but this is addressing the symptoms rather than the root of the issue. The central issue is that women find themselves in inferior positions of power despite not being inferior.

If more women are put in positions of power, an air of legitimacy will naturally occur. With this newfound legitimacy, the assertiveness trait will no longer be entwined with the idea of being male. The main issue in this situation is then how to solve this: by debunking assertiveness as a primarily male characteristic or by promoting

women as leaders? It's a very chicken or the egg scenario.

Right now, we have an unprecedented number of female political leaders. Nancy Pelosi is the first female Speaker of the House, taking the gavel for the second time. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Tulsi Gabbard, and Elizabeth Warren are just a few women who are in the political spotlight at the moment. However, in business, this is still sorely lacking, and that is where more of the focus should be: on making the private sector more gender-inclusive. The public sector seems to be sorting itself out in that women are now being elected more frequently than in the past. That is not to say the work is over on that

see GILLETTE— page 11

Guide to Gallery Crawl in the Cultural District

Griffin Sendek
features editor

The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust Gallery Crawl returns to the Cultural District Friday, Jan. 25, and as always is showcasing a tremendous amount of art galleries, performances and events from Pittsburgh based artists. Per the usual, it is also completely free to attend.

The gallery crawl only comes around a few times a year, and is never the same twice. If you happen to miss it this Friday, it won't be coming back around until late April, so now is the time to bear the cold and witness some of the best art this city has to offer.

Almost 30 different events are scheduled for Friday evening, and while it would be amazing to be able to witness them all, not everyone will have either the time or energy to do so. Therefore, I have taken the liberty of sifting through the events listed on the website and picked out the top few, hopefully helping to make 2019's first gallery crawl a little less daunting and more fun for you and your friends.

Refik Anadol — Wood Street Galleries

I have never once walked out of Wood Street Galleries disappointed. Every single artist Wood Street puts on display has always showcased spectacular work that stretches the conceptions of what art really is. Refik Anadol's featured work embeds media into architecture, seeking to be some of the most transformative contemporary art ever seen.



COURTESY OF PITTSBURGH CULTURAL TRUST
Refik Anadol's new art exhibit will be open at the Wood Street Galleries from Jan. 25 to Feb. 7.

Glow Gallery — Trust Arts Education Center

Black lights make everything better right? Stop on the third floor of the Trust Arts Education Center to witness mesmerizing black light art. Your unrealized potential as a graffiti artist is calling! Come to add your very own tag to the glowing graffiti wall.

Cell Phone Disco — Tito Way

Not to be confused with the silent disco, the cell phone disco combines science and art by capturing electromagnetic fields given off by mobile phones and visualizing them onto a 16 by 16 foot LED light screen.

Silent Disco — SPACE Gallery

Ever been to a club and not like the DJ's song choice? Do you love to dance but cannot stand when the music is ridiculously loud? Do you absolutely love the idea of wearing dope light-up headphones? If you listed yes to any and all of the above, the silent disco is just the thing for you! If you have been living under a rock and are not in the know about silent discos, they are just the same as any other disco, except the music comes out of sync-up headphones passed out to each patron.

Water Cube — Penn & 8th

All this jaw-dropping art leaving you thirsty? Have no fear, for the U.S.'s first public sparkling water fountain is located on Penn & 8th. Don't let the bubbles scare you away, the water cube also caters to those who prefer still water.

10 Futures — 937 Liberty

The future is all around us. Come see it fully realized with collection from ten different artists in a variety of mediums. Artists create their own world with every piece they create; visit the first floor of 937 Liberty Avenue to witness 10 unique artistic takes of what the 21st century might hold.

Emmanuel Panagiotakis — Emmanuel Fine Art Photography Gallery

Photographers and fans of the photographic medium shouldn't miss Emmanuel Panagiotakis' fine art gallery exploring the beauty of the architecture and landscape from his native country of Greece all the way to Pittsburgh.

Culinary artist chef Nicolas Saxon — Braddock's American Brasserie

Do not think that this celebration left out the oh so crucial culinary arts. Culinary artist Nicolas Saxon is showcasing cooking demos as you enjoy live music and drink samples from Mixologist Mike Marts. It is really something to sink your teeth into.

The gallery crawl takes place from 5:30 to 10:00 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 25. Do not let the weather slow you down, grab your hat, scarf and gloves and take part in one of Pittsburgh's best art events.

Horoscopes

<p>Virgo (August 23-September 22)</p> <p>Buy some shirt stays, they will change your life</p>	<p>Libra (September 23 - October 22)</p> <p>Be aware of hot vats of gravy</p>	<p>Scorpio (October 23-November 22)</p> <p>Current semester status: DEFCON 1</p>	<p>Sagittarius (November 23-December 22)</p> <p>Watch out! your roommate could be a narc</p>
<p>Capricorn (December 22-January 19)</p> <p>Don't forget to set booby traps for Res Life</p>	<p>Aquarius (January 20-February 18)</p> <p>Yes, mom will like that belly button piercing</p>	<p>Pisces (February 19-March 20)</p> <p>The Kool-aid man is your new idol! You have no choice in the matter</p>	<p>Aries (March 21-April 19)</p> <p>You will meet the love of your life at Father Sean Hogan Dining center</p>
<p>Taurus (April 20-May 20)</p> <p>Maybe studying abroad is a personality trait</p>	<p>Gemini (May 21-June 20)</p> <p>Live life one meal swipe at a time</p>	<p>Cancer (June 21-July 22)</p> <p>Shoot your shot. Aim for the hull! ARRRRGG!</p>	<p>Leo (July 23-August 22)</p> <p>Nothing has been the same since the super wolf blood moon</p>

Dukes top A-10 leader SLU in electric contest

JACOB HEBDA
staff writer

With the buzzer sounding and the backboard lights beaming bright red, Duquesne guard Tavian Dunn-Martin strode toward the basket in a moment that perfectly encapsulated the Dukes' big win Wednesday evening.

Time had expired, but that didn't keep Dunn-Martin from winding up for a monster dunk.

His attempt slammed off the rim, but that did nothing to suppress the wide smile on his face. That meaningless individual effort may have failed, but his team's collective work against Saint Louis surely hadn't.

With a 77-73 win over the Billikens, the A-10's top team, Duquesne may have just captured the most signature victory of the Keith Dambrot Era on the Bluff thus far.

Like Dunn-Martin's missed dunk, the Dukes were far from perfect. However, like that missed dunk, Duquesne displayed a great deal of energy and excitement in its biggest matchup of the season thus far.

Despite being outrebounded 54-31, outscored on second-chance points 29-15 and shooting just over 20 percent from behind the arc, Dambrot's team put together a convincing performance.



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS
Duquesne guard Sincere Carry, right, handles the ball against Davidson guard Carter Collins on Jan. 5. The Wildcats toppled the Dukes, 65-61.

Forward Marcus Weathers posted a career-high 19 points. With nine rebounds, he fell just one short of a double-double.

Swingman Eric Williams Jr. didn't shoot very well outside of the paint, but still managed a double-double with 16 points and 12 rebounds.

Point guard Sincere Carry, who as a freshman has already become one of Dambrot's go-to guys, overcame some early turnovers to finish with 10 points and seven assists.

Defensively, the Dukes held Saint Louis to 38.8 percent shooting and allowed only two made 3-pointers.

Making the effort all the more impressive was the poise Duquesne showed in spite of some obvious challenges.

For starters, the Billikens were picked to finish atop the Atlantic 10 in the preseason, while Duquesne was predicted to finish eleventh. After a 5-0 start to conference play, Saint Louis looked every bit the team they were thought to be.

Saint Louis also started three seniors against this underclassmen-laden Dukes team. In Dambrot's words, "that's an old team... we played against a very mature, solid group."

The obstacles facing the Dukes were not limited to these factors,

however. In-game adversity presented itself when big man Austin Rotroff injured his knee almost immediately after coming off the bench early on.

Furthermore, Duquesne also struggled grabbing boards and fifty-fifty balls in the game's first half.

None of these challenges fazed the Dukes, who looked confident and composed throughout the game in spite of the underestimations, intangible adversity and on-court struggles.

By no means was it a perfect performance, but it was incredibly encouraging nonetheless.

After a bit of a sloppy first half, Duquesne took control in the second half and eventually pulled away from the Billikens.

There is still progress to be made for this young squad, but right now the Dukes are keeping pace with the best teams in the A-10. Since a loss to Davidson, they have won five consecutive conference games.

It has been a great stretch, and the Duquesne fanbase, which has endured years of bad basketball, is beginning to acknowledge the far-improved play of their team.

A few days after Dambrot called for Duquesne fans to fill the seats against Saint Louis, the A.J. Palumbo Center crowd made its presence known. With 3,011 fans in attendance, it was a raucous environment.

Dambrot stated that "the crowd was terrific," although he wasn't fully content.

Referencing his "perfectionist" nature, the Dukes' coach said, "I'm not gonna be satisfied with three thousand people in the building, but by the same token, why should they come at this point until we prove we can win?"

With the bulk of A-10 play still remaining, the Dukes still have plenty to prove. However, one thing this team no longer has to prove is that it's moving in the



COURTESY OF PITTSBURGH SPORTS NOW
Dukes guard Tavian Dunn-Martin guards a UIC ball-handler on Nov. 12. Dunn-Martin, a sophomore transfer from Akron, has added speed and quickness to DU's backcourt.

right direction.

There was plenty of discussion about the potential of this team entering the year, but now it's beginning to provide tangible evidence. A 14-5 start is the program's best since 2011, and with the way this group has been playing lately, the expectations and excitement may only continue to swell.



COURTESY: RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH
VCU guard De'Riante Jenkins, one of VCU's top performers, visits Duquesne Jan. 26. The Rams enter at 13-6 (4-2).

Former DU football recruit facing a minimum of one decade in prison

A former Duquesne football recruit is facing a minimum of 10 years in Florida state prison.

Jake Collins, who was arrested in April for burglary with a firearm among other charges, pleaded guilty last week to four charges, each carrying a 10-year term. However, it's possible that the judge could combine the four counts.

According to The Palm Beach Post (Florida), Circuit Judge John Kastrenakes approved Collins' pleas of one count of burglary with a firearm, two counts of dealing in stolen property and one for pawning stolen goods. A fifth count, grand theft, was dropped.

Collins' sentencing is set for March 28.

According to The Post, Duquesne officials said Friday that the school rescinded Collins' offer in May, one month after gathering details pertaining to Collins' legal situation.

A Lake Worth, Florida, native, Collins was a 3-star recruit hailing from Park Vista Community High School. A 6-foot-1, 190-pound defensive back, Collins committed to Duquesne after originally committing to FBS member South Florida. According to 247 Sports, he also fielded offers from FBS schools Appalachian State and Northern Illinois, among others.

— Adam Lindner

Men's Basketball A-10 Standings

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall	Streak	Next
1.	George Mason	6-1	12-8	W4	1/26 vs. G. Washington
2.	Davidson	5-1	14-5	W2	1/26 @ Saint Louis
3.	Duquesne	5-1	14-5	W5	1/26 vs. VCU
4.	Saint Louis	5-1	14-5	L1	1/26 vs. Davidson
5.	VCU	4-2	13-6	L1	1/26 @ Duquesne
6.	Dayton	4-2	12-7	L1	1/26 @ Fordham
7.	Rhode Island	4-2	11-7	W3	1/27 @ UMass
8.	St. Bonaventure	3-3	7-12	W1	1/26 @ Richmond
9.	G. Washington	2-4	6-13	L2	1/26 @ George Mason
10.	La Salle	2-4	4-14	W1	1/30 vs. UMass
11.	Saint Joseph's	2-5	9-10	W1	1/26 @ Pennsylvania
12.	Richmond	1-5	7-12	L3	1/26 vs. St. Bonaventure
13.	Fordham	0-6	9-10	L7	1/26 vs. Dayton
14.	UMass	0-6	7-12	L7	1/27 vs. Rhode Island

Women's Basketball A-10 Standings

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall	Streak	Next
1.	Duquesne	5-1	11-8	W4	1/27 vs. G. Washington
2.	VCU	5-1	13-6	L1	1/27 vs. Saint Louis
3.	Davidson	4-1	10-8	L1	1/27 @ Fordham
4.	Dayton	4-2	9-8	L1	1/27 vs. Saint Joseph's
5.	G. Washington	4-2	7-12	W1	1/27 @ Duquesne
6.	Fordham	3-2	12-7	L2	1/24 @ Rhode Island
7.	UMass	3-2	11-8	W1	1/26 vs. St. Bonaventure
8.	Saint Louis	3-3	8-11	W2	1/27 @ VCU
9.	Rhode Island	2-3	7-10	L1	1/24 vs. Fordham
10.	George Mason	2-3	10-8	W2	1/27 vs. Rhode Island
11.	Saint Joseph's	2-4	6-13	L1	1/27 @ Dayton
12.	St. Bonaventure	1-4	4-14	L3	1/26 @ UMass
13.	Richmond	1-5	4-15	W1	1/26 @ La Salle
14.	La Salle	0-6	3-17	L8	1/26 vs. Richmond

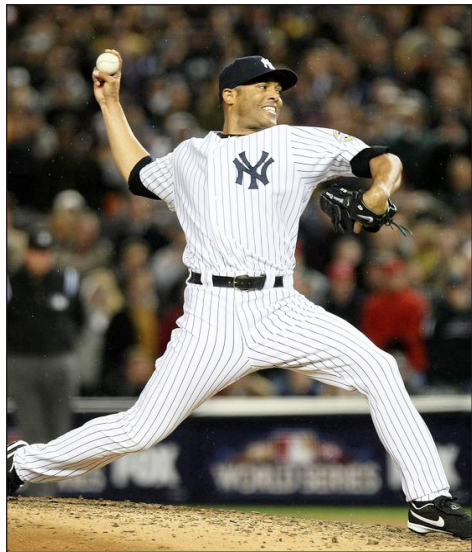
Rivera 1st unanimous HOF pick; Doc, Edgar, Mussina also in

NEW YORK (AP) — This honor was saved for the one and only Mariano Rivera.

Not Babe Ruth. Not Hank Aaron. Not Cy Young.

Not until “The Sandman” could everyone agree.

Rivera became baseball’s first unanimous Hall of Fame selection, elected Tuesday along with Edgar Martinez, Mike Mussina and the late Roy Halladay. Rivera received all 425 votes in balloting announced by the Baseball Writers’ Association of America. Ken Griffey Jr. held the mark for top per-



COURTESY OF BLOOMBERG

Pitcher Mariano Rivera, pictured in 2009 with the New York Yankees, was unanimously selected for the Hall of Fame on Tuesday.

centage at 99.32 when he was on 437 of 440 ballots two years ago.

“Beyond my imagination,” Rivera said.

The quartet will be enshrined in Cooperstown along with Today’s Game Era Committee selections Harold Baines and Lee Smith on July 21.

Rivera is baseball’s career saves leader with 652. With a steady demeanor and a fearsome cut fastball, he won five World Series over 19 seasons with the New York Yankees. He was always at his best in October, getting 42 saves with a 0.70 ERA over

16 postseasons, including 11 saves in the World Series.

Halladay, an ace with the Toronto Blue Jays and Philadelphia Phillies, got 85.4 percent and will be the first posthumous inductee since Deacon White in 2013 and Ron Santo in 2012. Halladay died in November 2017 at 40 years old when an airplane he was flying crashed into the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Florida.

Martinez was a .312 hitter over 18 seasons with Seattle. He got 85.4 percent in his 10th and final try on the writers’ ballot. He and Baines will join 2014 inductee Frank Thomas as the only Hall of Famers to play the majority of their games at designated hitter. David Ortiz will be eligible in 2022.

“I think the fact that Harold Baines and me got in this year is going to help the future of the DH for years to come,” Martinez said.

Mussina was a steady right-hander for the Yankees and Baltimore Orioles who went 270-153 with 2,813 strikeouts over 18 seasons. He received 76.7 percent, getting seven more votes than the 319 required for election.

Barry Bonds and Roger Clemens made gains but again fell short in their seventh times on the ballot. Bonds got 59.1 percent and Clemens 59.5, their cases muddled by steroid accusations.

Rivera grew up in Panama the son of a fisherman. He signed with New York in 1990, debuted in the majors as a 25-year-old in 1995 and a year later emerged as one of the game’s best relievers. Part of a core that included Derek Jeter, Andy Pettitte and Jorge Posada, Rivera helped the Yankees win four World Series from 1996-2000 and another in 2009.

“The scouting report was the same every time,” Jeter wrote at The Players’ Tribune.

“Mo knew he was going to throw that cutter. The guy at the plate knew he was going to throw that cutter. Fifty thousand plus at Yankee Stadium knew he was going to throw that cutter. And it wouldn’t matter.”

The Yankees didn’t even wait until Rivera’s final game to retire his No. 42 — he

was the last player in the major leagues to wear that number, grandfathered to him when No. 42 was retired in honor of Jackie Robinson in 1997.

“Wearing No. 42, representing Jackie Robinson, I assume he was the first No. 42 elected,” Rivera said. “To be the last No. 42 elected to the Hall of Fame, and unanimously, is amazing.”

Though his music taste skews more Christian rock than heavy metal, Rivera toed the Yankee Stadium rubber to Metallica’s “Enter Sandman” for much of his career. “The Sandman” became synonymous with the song’s foreboding guitar riff, and the Rock & Roll Hall of Famers performed it live at Yankee Stadium in 2013 before one of Rivera’s final home games.

Like all the bats he sawed off with that dastardly cutter, Rivera shattered an 83-year-old standard with his selection. Ruth, Young and the game’s other early stars fell short of unanimous election in the first ballot in 1936 because of a backlog of worthy candidates. With the bar set so high, some writers began leaving worthy first-year players off their ballots.

Bill Ballou of The Telegram & Gazette in Worcester, Mass., wrote in November that he wouldn’t vote for Rivera because he didn’t think closers belonged in the Hall. Instead of robbing Rivera of unanimous status, though, Ballou planned to not send a ballot at all. Ballou announced Tuesday he had changed his mind and sent a ballot that included Rivera.

Rivera and Smith will be the seventh and eighth relievers in the Hall, joining Hoyt Wilhelm (1985), Rollie Fingers (1992), Dennis Eckersley (2004), Bruce Sutter (2006), Rich Gossage (2008) and Trevor Hoffman (2018).

Halladay won two Cy Young Awards, one each with Toronto and Philadelphia, before ending his career in 2013 at 36 years old due to back injuries.

The right-hander was a first-round draft pick by Toronto in 1995, debuted in the majors in 1998 and struggled terribly until being demoted to the minor leagues in 2001.

With the help of sports psychologist Harvey Dorfman, Halladay reinvented himself and became an All-Star in 2002, then won 22 games and an AL Cy Young in 2003.

Halladay’s best season came in 2010, his first following a blockbuster trade to Philadelphia. Halladay pitched a perfect game against the Florida Marlins in May, then delivered a no-hitter against Cincinnati in the opener of the NL Division Series. It was just the second no-hitter in postseason history after the Yankees’ Don Larsen pitched a perfect game against Brooklyn in the 1956 World Series.

In an era marked by pitch counts and early hooks, Halladay was a workhorse. Since 2000, Halladay’s 65 complete games are by far the most in the majors — Livan Hernandez is second at 39.

Halladay pitched 12 seasons with Toronto and four with the Phillies, making it likely his Hall plaque will have a Blue Jays logo.

The only other player elected on the first ballot posthumously was Christy Mathewson in 1936. Roberto Clemente was chosen in a special election in 1973 after dying in a plane crash on Dec. 31, 1972.

Martinez was among the game’s steadyest hitters throughout the 1990s and early 2000s, winning two batting titles and hitting 309 homers.

A late bloomer from Puerto Rico, Martinez never played more than 100 games in the majors until he was 27. He broke in as a third baseman before becoming a full-time DH at 32, a role he held until retiring at 41 in 2004. MLB’s yearly award for the top DH is named in his honor.

Martinez’s classmates certainly couldn’t get him out. The slugger was 11 for 19 (.579) lifetime against Rivera, 23 for 75 (.307) with five homers against Mussina and 8 for 18 (.444) against Halladay.

“Especially early in my career, I got two strikes on Edgar, and the third one never showed up,” Rivera said.

Martinez got just 36.2 percent of the vote

see HALL — page 12

DU offering \$1,000 scholarship, custom LeBron’s... for what?

ADAM LINDNER

sports editor

On Jan. 22, the Duquesne Athletics Twitter page posted an open offer to all students: Attend two Duquesne basketball games — Jan. 23 versus Saint Louis and Jan. 26 against VCU — and be entered to win a \$1,000 scholarship for the 2019-2020 academic term. Additionally, the student who “shows the most spirit and wears the most red will win a pair of custom Duquesne LeBron’s.”

Are you serious?

I couldn’t believe my eyes.

I didn’t even know such a promotion could exist.

I knew about fast food coupons, free T-shirts and a variety of other things, but never substantial scholarship money or custom Nike shoes.

Alas, this is where Duquesne finds itself one-and-a-half seasons into the Keith Dambrot Era. 13-5 overall and 4-1 in the Atlantic

10, yet coming up with new ways to bribe its student body into the A.J. Palumbo Center.

It’s pathetic, but it isn’t necessarily the program’s fault. Rather, it’s a systematic issue that’s been plaguing the school since long before I’ve been attending.

Frankly, there’s little that Dambrot & Co. can do to quickly wake Duquesne’s sleepy students up. The only thing that’ll change student attendance is winning — and winning consistently. Moreover, winning in an entertaining fashion. That takes time, and it takes even more time for people to finally take notice.

On top of one of the longest NCAA tournament droughts in modern Division I history, Duquesne has the odds stacked against it in terms of student interest in other ways, too. It’s positioned in a beautiful city, and the Palumbo Center is only a stone’s throw away from the NHL’s Pittsburgh Penguins. There are countless other things to do in Pittsburgh, whereas other mid-major programs may be located in more desolate areas.

These factors have plagued Duquesne for years, and it won’t be an easy fix.

Duquesne students simply do not go



COURTESY OF DAVID HAGUE/PSN

Duquesne guard Lamar Norman Jr., sporting LeBron’s, guards UIC junior Tarkus Ferguson on Nov. 12 at the A.J. Palumbo Center.

to games.

Everything concerning the basketball program itself has been encouraging as of late, and I’m honestly surprised more students haven’t taken a special liking to Sincere Carry’s energetic play yet. I have.

Sadly, a 1-9 shooting performance from Carry against Pitt this season probably didn’t help. It’s an open secret that Duquesne students generally come out in droves for the City Game, but can’t be found anywhere near the Palumbo Center on other game nights. So is life at Duquesne (at least, for the time being).

Fringe interest in the program is now evident on campus, which is something that was certainly not evident here two years ago.

Half-interested students are aware of Dambrot and what he’s capable of, and the idea that the program is being overhauled for the better.

Now, it’s a matter of getting those half-

see PROMO — page 12

Maggie Rogers' new album meets expectations

JOSIAH MARTIN

a&e editor

Maggie Rogers' rise to mainstream fame has been swift and well-deserved. A well-known indie pop artist with a reputation for heartfelt dreamy-but-danceable tracks, her transition to major-label success seemed inevitable from the start.

Heard it in a Past Life feels like just that — a transition. While a promising album, Rogers may need to diversify and develop her style further if she hopes to continue climbing to the pop-legend status her audience has come to expect from her.

The album opens with "Give a Little," a track with more energy and bounce than I have come to expect from Rogers. The following track, "Overnight," features a fast, rhythmic, almost rap-like vocal delivery in the verses — a refreshing change of pace.

With her move to Capitol Records, and with the whole world now watching, one would expect Rogers to often try out new experiments like these. Unfortunately, she opts to "play it safe" with most of the album. With the exception of a few more stimulating tracks like "Say It," her music melds together. Few tracks stand out as distinct from

their surroundings, let alone stand out as memorable.

This isn't necessarily a bad thing, of course. Rogers' style is distinctly atmospheric, and a coherent, mellow flow between songs certainly reflects this style. Take this too far, though, and an album can end up being boring. Rogers' comes dangerously close.

Luckily, the album is saved by its standout tracks, which are primarily ones that fans have already heard — "Alaska," "On + Off" and "Fallingwater" are some of the best songs of Rogers' career up to this point. Capitol Records should consider offering a cash reward to any listener that can resist the temptation to sway along to these songs. It's near impossible.

As with any album, it has its low point — the "leave the album running while you get up to get a snack" track. For *Heard it in a Past Life*, unfortunately, it's the title track, "Past Life." Rogers' trademark gentle approach to vocals works very well for synth folk-pop inspired tracks, but not here, backed only by piano. Perhaps the producers of the album were trying to make the song sound like an intimate one-on-one performance. Instead, it sounds like a half-baked demo to a song.

Again, this whole album is a transition — Rogers has enjoyed near-universal acclaim in the much more forgiving and



COURTESY OF CAPITOL RECORDS

Heard it in a Past Life is Rogers' first LP since 2014's independent *Blood Ballet*.

supportive spheres of indie and folk pop. This album is the sound of Rogers stepping carefully and gently into the high-demand world of mainstream success. It's a good first step, but doesn't say much about her talents that she hadn't already made clear.

Make no mistake — *Heard it in a Past Life* is a very good album. However, with her first major LP,

one would expect Rogers to prove that she has so much more to offer as an artist, and this album doesn't accomplish that. What it does prove, luckily, is that Rogers is a consistent artist who will stick true to her roots. She will not abandon what made her successful in the first place, and is capable of maintaining the quality that her fans have known her for.

Music City Downtown unites live music venues

JOSIAH MARTIN

a&e editor

The Downtown Community Development Corporation (CDC) recently announced Music City Downtown, a new initiative to make live music in Downtown Pittsburgh more common and accessible.

At a press conference at the August Wilson Center on Jan. 16, John Valentine, the executive director of the Downtown CDC, explained that the organization "felt that there was a need for music Downtown."

The organization currently has plans to use nine Downtown Pittsburgh locations as music venues. Many will additionally serve as restaurants and bars, such as Molinaro's, which will take the place of the Greek restaurant Poros in PPG Place, and the changing-theme Pop-Up Bar in the former location of Pizzuvio on Forbes.

Another facet of the plan is to make the new venues available to female artists in the city, a plan which Valentine calls the "Female Revolution."

"We had the opportunity to

talk to a lot of female singers, who still felt like there wasn't great opportunities for them to perform. So, that bothered me," Valentine said. "We're gonna promote, big-time, female singer-songwriters."

Kevin Saftner, owner of the former James Street Gastropub, spoke about the importance of music in community development.

"I saw firsthand on the Northside, at James Street, we opened up in 2011, and when we closed in 2017, it was a very, very different place ... part of that was absolutely music," Saftner said. "Music is something that is accessible by anybody. All you have to have is the desire to play or attend, and that's it."

Gina Vensel, founder of LiveMusicPGH.com, spoke on the purpose of her website in the world of local music.

"I envisioned a community website where visitors can search for their favorite music by genre, find upcoming shows, and connect with local talent," Vensel said.

Speaking on the importance of fostering a local music scene, Vensel added, "We are music city, and we have incredible



COURTESY OF DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Downtown Community Development Corporation hosted the press conference.

talent here, but the musicians should not have to move out of Pittsburgh in order to make a name for themselves."

Those musicians include local students. Wolfie's Pub, at the former location of Pirata on Forbes, will primarily target and feature Point Park University students.

"We'll be booking a lot of student acts with Point Park University's Pioneer Records," Valentine said. Pioneer Records is a student-run record label.

Bobby Wolfinger, Wolfie's Pub's namesake, said that he will be working "to bring many

of the student's that maybe don't have a place to go play, [to Wolfie's Pub.] My intention is to have music there five to seven days a week, and I don't think there's many places that do that Downtown right now."

Valentine also discussed plans to distribute maps of the venues to visitors to the city, inspired by his trip to New Orleans. He said that through this effort, Pittsburgh "can start the process of becoming a music Mecca. So our domain is Downtown, and that's what we're gonna concentrate on."

WEEK'S EVENTS

Grilled Cheese Please
Jan. 25 @ 12 a.m.

Residence Life is selling grilled cheese in the Towers lobby. All proceeds will go toward Autism Connection of Pittsburgh. One gourmet grilled cheese will cost \$3, two grilled cheeses will cost \$5.

Hockey is Stronger than Hate
Jan. 26 @ 7 p.m.

Proceeds from this hockey game between Duquesne Club Hockey and the Israel National Select Team will benefit the Jewish University Center. It will be held at the Alpha Ice Complex at 66 W Alpha Drive, Pittsburgh PA.

UPCOMING RELEASES

Stan & Ollie
Friday, Jan. 25

A biographical film looking at the later years of the careers of Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy, the classic vaudeville and silent film duo.

Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt
Friday, Jan. 25

The final seven episodes of this Netflix comedy series, starring Ellie Kemper as the title character, readjusting to society after years of seclusion in a cult, will be made available on the streaming service.

MICRO REVIEW

"Land of the Free"
The Killers

Alternative rock band *The Killers* released this single, laced with melancholic piano ballads and a gospel choir, much unlike their usual guitar riff- and synth-ridden melodies. The stories of this song illuminate the different perspectives and lives of whites and blacks in the United States, emphasizing the need for political change in this land of the free.

— Katia Faroun

Shyamalan ends superhero trilogy with drab, dry *Glass*

SALENA MORAN
& EVAN PENROD
staff writers

In director M. Night Shyamalan's crossover movie nearly 20 years in the making, *Glass* continues the story of his previous films *Unbreakable* (2000) and *Split* (2016). *Glass* stars James McAvoy, Samuel L. Jackson and Bruce Willis reprising their original roles alongside other characters from their respective movies in a disappointing and drab collaboration.

David Dunn (Bruce Willis), a man with incredible strength and resistance from injury, officially comes face to face with Kevin Wendall Crumb (James McAvoy), an individual living with Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID) and Elijah Price or "Mr. Glass" (Samuel L. Jackson), a man with brittle bone disease who possesses incredible intelligence. Reunited at Raven Hill Medical Hospital under the guidance of Dr. Ellie Staple (Sarah Paulson), the

trio receives therapy to convince them that their "superhero" abilities are a delusion of grandeur. At the brink of believing their abilities are nonexistent, Mr. Glass convinces his counterparts to escape and reveal their powers to the world.

This film ultimately requires viewers to have knowledge of the trilogy's first two films, *Unbreakable* and *Split*, to fully understand various plot points and character traits. Perhaps this movie begins on a bad foot, as the uninformed individual cannot walk into this movie and expect to fully grasp any concepts, such as several flashbacks and scenes that draw heavily from *Unbreakable*.

The introduction and character reveals are really strong, making the first third of the movie fantastic. However, the portion where all three main characters are entered into the psych ward forces the movie to slow to a screeching halt. There seems to be an excessive amount of dialogue in each scene and very little action, which would not

be a problem if the dialogue progressed the viewer's interest instead of just rehashing previous information.

James McAvoy's character is subsequently the character with the most screen time, but at some points, it works against him. Showing off his dynamic range as a character with DID, he steals the show, as his varied and different personalities come to light under various circumstances. Unfortunately, this overstays its welcome on some scenes.

In traditional M. Night Shyamalan fashion, he usually takes something ordinarily simple and twists it into something appealing and intriguing. After all, who else could make a horror movie about old people? For example, what makes the concept of *Unbreakable* interesting is that it does not abide by the normal conventions of a superhero movie in the sense that viewers think of them today. Shyamalan almost paints the scene as more



COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL PICTURES
Glass caps off Shyamalan's *Eastrail 177* trilogy with an all-star returning cast.

of a psychological drama, as the characters feel real and so does the danger and intensity of some of the scenes.

In anticipating the twist ending, many were expecting a payoff worthy of waiting 19 years. Ultimately, the ending is a severe

let down to everything Shyamalan was seemingly working toward. In a movie that attempts to portray superheroes as regular people and almost preaches an anti-superhero vibe, the ending climax does not justify all that has transpired in the previous films.

New series takes unconvincing look at Dakota James case

GRIFFIN SENDEK
features editor

If you turn on the TV and flip through the channels, chances are you are quickly going to find some program retelling the story of some murder or unexplained death. These dime-a-dozen made-for-TV specials draw in a wide audience and are good for a captivating hour of entertainment.

What these shows don't prepare you for is when the death they are depicting hits very close to home.

The first episode of a six-part limited series event, *Smiley Face Killers: The Hunt for Justice*, aired Saturday, Jan. 19, on Oxygen.

The first episode of the first season was titled plainly, "Dakota James."

For those who are unaware, Dakota James was a 23-year-old Duquesne University graduate student who was last spotted in Downtown Pittsburgh on Jan. 25, 2017. On Mar. 6, 2017, his body was discovered in the Ohio River. The Allegheny County Medical Examiner's office ruled James' death an accidental drowning.

Dakota's parents, Pamela and Jeff James, were in disbelief upon hearing the ruling, firmly believing there was foul play and that Dakota's death was no accident.

"I knew 100 percent in my heart that someone did something to Dakota", Pamela James said.

Following the verdict, the James family hired forensic pathologist and former Allegheny County coroner Dr. Cyril Wecht to review the evidence of the case independently.

The television series follows retired NYPD detectives Kevin Gannon, Anthony Duarte and Mike Donovan, as well as criminologist D. Lee Gilbertson, as they investigate the circumstances of several young men whose bodies were found in rivers. The detectives believe that these young men did not die of accidental causes, but rather were victims of a series of murders committed

by the "Smiley Face Killers." The predominant link between all the young men's deaths was a smiley face graffitied nearby where the bodies were discovered.

The Smiley Face theory goes that there is a "well-structured, organized gang with cells in major cities across the United States," Gannon told Oxygen, "who drug, abduct, hold the victims for a period of time before they murder them and place them in the water."

This episode does not focus heavily upon the Smiley Face Killer theory, but instead deals primarily with investigating James' death. The retired NYPD detectives, with the support of James' parents, had a singular goal in mind: Find substantial evidence to reclassify his death from accidental to homicide, subsequently reopening the investigation for Pittsburgh authorities.

Almost the entirety of the episode is spent seeking hard evidence to prove one thing — that James' body was in far too good a condition when he was found for him to have been in the water for 40 days. The state of the body seemed to be the only lead they had to go on, for it was investigated from multiple sources and reiterated to the point that it became repetitive upon viewing.

A significant portion of the investigation involves Dakota James' parents. Multiple moments throughout the episode, we see the very raw emotional reactions of the parents. The documentary makes it clear that Dakota was not just another dead body, but an important part of a loving family and community.

The investigation was at a halt until the medical examiner released the autopsy photos to Pamela James, and at her own discretion decided to share the photos with the former NYPD detectives and Wecht.

Upon review of the photos — specifically, a photo of the back of James' neck — forensic pathologist Wecht concluded that James was victim to ligature strangulation. Furthermore,



COURTESY OF OXYGEN
Smiley Face Killers: The Hunt for Justice will look into several of the proposed killers' possible victims.

according to Wecht the photos displaying marks on the third and fourth fingers were characteristic of someone fighting to loosen a binding around one's neck.

With this newly found evidence, the family, along with Wecht and the retired NYPD detectives, held a press conference announcing their findings to the public as an attempt to sway the opinion of the medical examiner to reclassify James' death as a homicide.

This is where the episode ends, with a final note that to this day, James' death is still classified as an accidental drowning.

Had the episode been primarily focused on attempting to prove the Smiley Face Killers at fault for James' death, it would have left a decisively sour taste in my mouth. Having only been two years since James' disappearance, he is still fresh in the minds of the family and Duquesne and Pittsburgh communities. The retired detectives played their cards right by keeping the conspiracy in the background, and pushing what they consider proof of

homicide to the forefront.

I cannot dispute the findings of the retired NYPD detectives and Wecht. They did as thorough an investigation as they possibly could. The evidence put on display was immensely convincing and difficult to argue against. Yet, it does not like feel my place to put my own verdict on whether or not I believe James was murdered.

There is not enough evidence present, however, to make me honestly believe that James' death was at the hands of the Smiley Face Killers. A short scene revealing that a smiley face was present at a nearby structure to where James' body was found was in no way sufficient affirmation that James' death was the handiwork of the Smiley Face Killers. The retired detectives were never able to find an exact location in which James' body would have been dropped, therefore the presence of a smiley face is merely coincidental. I do not subscribe to conspiracy theories, and the Smiley Face Killers are nothing but that, a theory.

Don't believe everything on Internet

FAKE NEWS — from page 5

Blood' From Teenagers To Reverse Aging Process." Notice the lack of the words "elite" and "consume." Words that, when you look into them, ultimately have a double meaning.

Now, I'm not exactly suggesting that you do this much research when you read one article or when you learn one new fact, but the fact that words can be twisted so menacingly is a little disconcerting. Words almost always have more than one meaning, and those meanings aren't always apparent.

It scares me that as a nation, we see "elite" ingesting children's blood as a believable thing, but I suppose fear and twisted words have always been a part of our world. We create monsters of out the things we don't like, and we don't ask for sources.

With the new technologies we have, like photo editing and marketing strategies that make ads online hit a little too close to home, people have to be conscious of the fact that the news we see is dependent on both the platform we view it on and what we have previously viewed. We have to fact check the things we hear and read, or else who knows how much of what we read is twisted or false.

Trump's trans policy harmful

STAFF ED — from page 4

that five times as much is spent on Viagra than medical care for transgender troops. Let that sink it.

What the president does not seem to take into consideration or concern himself with, however, is that this policy and others — the travel ban and the reversal of the DACA program, for example — directly hinder the social progress America had started to make as a country, taking our society back in time in terms of civil rights. The administration has already made the move to roll back federal protections for transgender Americans, suggesting that the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which bans discrimination based on sex, religion, race and ethnicity, does not apply to the transgender community.

The government's systemic attacks on transgender Americans need to be called what they are: acts of hatred, fueled by ignorance. No government that excludes even the smallest proportion of its citizenry from the same privileges and rights as the majority can claim it is "for the people." We can't allow this to become the norm, the dangerous guessing game of whose rights will be taken away next. Lawmakers and presidents can be voted out of office, but judicial rulings are much more permanent and damaging. For our future's sake, this can't become the new normal.

Commercial sparks controversy

GILLETTE — from page 5

Still, by all means, call out sexist people and do as Gillette suggests: Step up when people do things that many would consider abusive or potentially damaging to others. This is especially important to do with children. Just understand that simply addressing hyper-masculinity is not the cure-all solution to the problem.

We cannot agree on a single thing, from gun control to the definition of words like gender. Regardless of where you stand on any of those previously mentioned issues, it does not help to

assert your opinion rigidly to the other side.

If America is a country that would like to be less divided, then obviously there is a ton of work to be done on both sides of the political spectrum, but that begins by addressing the roots of issues rather than the symptoms. There will be plenty of pushback, regardless of how those wanting a more just society go about their goal. Whether the war of attrition will be won is a matter of how problems are addressed rather than who asserts more points.



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THIS WEEK'S WEATHER

Thursday

36 °  A little snow in the morning

Friday

23 °  A snow shower in the morning

Saturday

27 °  Cloudy; a bit of snow; cold

Sunday

31 °  Cloudy; a bit of snow

Monday

32 °  Considerable cloudiness

Tuesday

39 °  Cloudy; snow showers possible

Wednesday

21 °  Cloudy; a couple of flurries

Courtesy of AccuWeather

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at

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Rivera, Martinez, Mussina and Halladay elected to Hall of Fame

HALL — from page 8

in his first ballot appearance in 2010 and fell as low as 25.2 percent in 2014 — the cutoff for induction is 75 percent. With a push from the sport’s analytics community and a hearty social media campaign, Martinez made major progress in recent votes, including 70.4 percent in 2018.

“Some of the sabermetrics really helped,” Martinez said.

Mussina and his nasty knuckle curveball also got a push from the advanced numbers. He felt lucky to get 20.3 percent in his first ballot in 2014 but steadily gained support.

Mussina’s 3.68 ERA will be the third highest in Cooperstown behind Jack Morris (3.90) and Red Ruffing (3.80), but writers gave him a break for pitching in the slugger-heavy AL East, with its cozy ballparks.

“You know they’re small or hitter friendly, it’s just how it was,” Mussina said. “I just kept trying to make adjustments.”

Mussina fell short of 300 wins and 3,000 strikeouts, but those traditional markers haven’t been as crucial to modern voters.

This proved more relevant: His 83 wins above replacement, per Baseball-Reference, rank 58th all-time. That’s just ahead of first-ballot Hall of Fame pitchers Nolan Ryan and Tom Glavine.

Mussina spent 10 seasons in Baltimore

and eight in New York. He said he was unsure which hat would be on his Cooperstown plaque — the Hall makes the final call.

“Certainly by July, we’ll have something worked out,” he said.

It was only the fifth time the writers voted in four players in one class — it also happened last year, in 2015, 1955 and 1947. The largest group selected by writers was the inaugural five-member class of Ty Cobb, Honus Wagner, Ruth, Mathewson and Walter Johnson in 1936. The writers and Today’s Game Era Committee have combined to elect 31 people since 2014.

Curt Schilling got 60.9 percent in his seventh time on the ballot. An outspoken conservative, he also got a late endorsement from President Donald Trump via Twitter on Sunday, though voting had already concluded.

Larry Walker came in at 54.6 percent, and nobody else appeared on more than half the ballots. Walker made the biggest jump in the balloting, up 20 percent over last year.

Bonds, Clemens and Schilling may get their best shot at the Hall in 2021, when no first-time candidates are odds-on favorites. Jeter heads the newcomers on the 2020 ballot.

New promotions telling of student involvement

PROMO — from page 8

interested fans into seats during games consistently, in turn transforming the culture of Duquesne basketball.

Others will follow. In time, it will happen.

There’s one problem: Duquesne needs fans now.

Dambrot knows that, and so does the school. That’s evidenced by the \$1,000 being given away.

My guess is that, for the time being, Dambrot is happy with getting people into Palumbo under any means necessary. Besides, it appears this team may have a legitimate shot in the Atlantic 10 this season.

In the long run, though, he knows what he’s got to do:

Build the program.

After a raucous crowd helped Davidson to a 65-61 win over Duquesne on Jan. 5, Dambrot had this to say about Belk Arena’s atmosphere.

“You’re talking about a program that’s been built over 30 years. They don’t lose many in this building,” Dambrot said. “The biggest lesson to be learned is that that fanbase helps you. That’s where we have to get to in order to have a really great program.

“You have to have that fanbase that, when you’re struggling, they can rally you.”

SUDOKU MEDIUM LEVEL

*Answers will be posted in next week's edition

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Courtesy of The Guardian

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