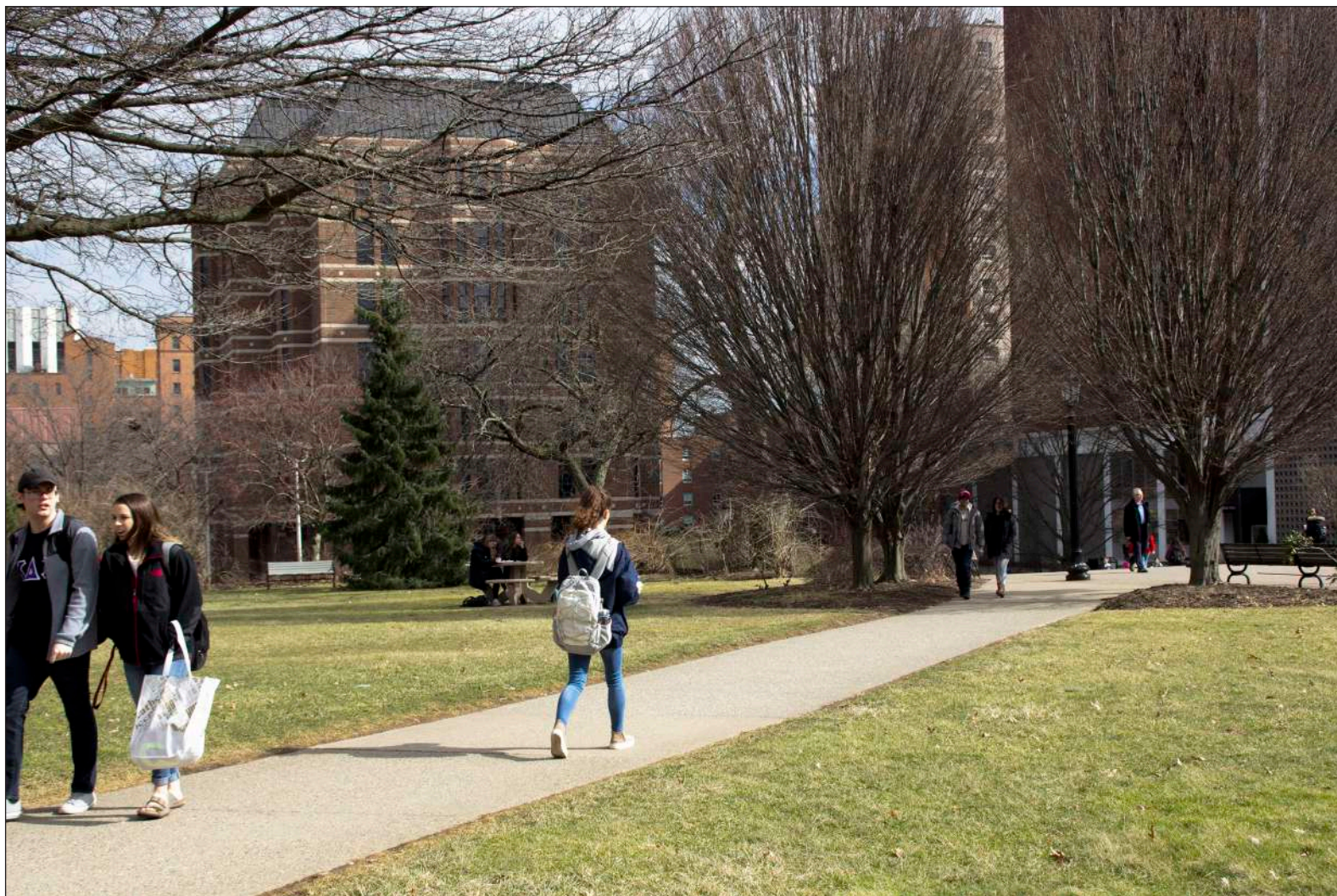




Spring has almost sprung on the Bluff



KATIA FAROUN / PHOTO EDITOR

With Spring Break quickly approaching, the weather is beginning to feel more and more like spring. Although it doesn't actually start until March 20, students were out and about enjoying the sunshine after being nearly swept away by torrential winds over the weekend.

Housing lottery has students prepping

ALY HUTH

staff contributor

Duquesne University's annual housing lottery takes place March 14, and students are preparing to select their rooms for the 2019-2020 school year.

The first things students should do to prepare for the lottery is to make their room deposit on DORI and keep the deposit receipt said Daniel Cangilla, Director of Residence Life.

"That's going to make the process from Feb. 27 through March 14 so much easier."

After making the deposit, students who don't have a roommate for the upcoming year can attend a program on March 12 that helps students meet other people who are also looking for roommates.

"I recommend going to that program because it's a chance for students to meet some new people and find somebody they'd like to live with," Cangilla said.

see HOUSING — page 3

New Student Government president elected, changes to come

HALLIE LAUER

news editor

After running unopposed, junior political science and philosophy major Charlie Megginson has won the SGA Presidential election which was held on Feb. 20 on CampusLink. He will succeed current SGA President Eric Chatterjee as part of the 48th Senate.

"I'm humbled to have been elected to serve as the 48th president of the Student Government Association," Megginson said. "My team and I have spent the past two months developing a robust and ambitious agenda and we're excited to work with

the newly elected Senate to get it implemented," Megginson said. "I admire all he's [Chatterjee's] been able to accomplish as the 47th President, and I am immensely grateful for his year of service to our university. Put simply: I have some big shoes to fill."

So begins the transitional period between the 47th and 48th SGA presidents. Through the month of March, Chatterjee and Megginson will be meeting with student leaders and administrators alike to ease the transition.

"SGA President Charlie Megginson is prepared to assume the duties of the office. He has measured judgment, as well as the



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ability to see situations from all angles and use that well-rounded perspective to cast out a vision for the future that people are invested in and inspired by," Chatterjee said. "He is one of the most versatile members of our Duquesne community."

Megginson's platform focuses mainly on student involvement and representation within SGA. He hopes to create some type of forum that can incorporate a representative from every student organization on campus.

"Only once we ensure every student knows they have a voice at this university will the Student

see SGA — page 3

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POLICE BRIEFS

It seems like the student body - and just people in general, really need Spring Break so that they can blow off some steam! We have a full week of crimes to report to y'all!

On Feb. 19, a female student was reported missing by her father and that there was concern over her welfare. An investigation was conducted and the student was found and is safe.

Also on Feb. 19, a student reported that unknown actor(s) broke into the front driver's side window of her vehicle and took a miscellaneous amount of coins (small amount of value) from her center console, as well as her DU parking permit swipe card. I knew parking permits were expensive but I didn't think it had gotten that bad!

On Feb. 20 it was reported that an employee in Rockwell Hall was receiving harassing emails.

On Feb. 22, a Duquesne student reported unauthorized charges on her debit card.

Also on Feb. 22, an underage male resident was found to be intoxicated. He was also in possession of a false identification card that represented him to be over 21 years old. The student was issued two citations and was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

On Feb. 23, a resident student was transported to Mercy ER because she was displaying symptoms of a concussion after becoming intoxicated, falling and hitting her age. The student was under the age of 21 and was referred to the Office of Student Conduct for underage drinking.

Also on Feb. 23 two males were issued defiant trespass warnings.

On Feb. 25, there was an unattended black backpack in Clock Plaza. When checked, the backpack contained drug paraphernalia and a knife were found inside. The student was contacted and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

EMAIL TIPS

We want your input!

The Duke's news section would love to hear from you about stories that you want to see in print. 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.

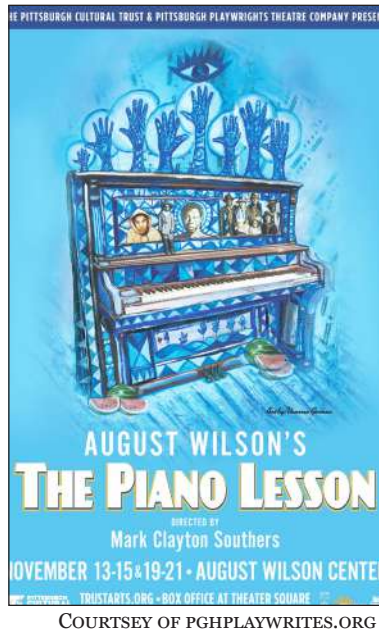
August Wilson Panel discusses black history

LIZA ZULICK
staff writer

In celebration of Black History Month, Duquesne University hosted the panel discussion, "August Wilson's Pittsburgh: Work and Life," on Feb. 26. Hosted by the Gumberg Library, panelists Paul Ellis, Betina Jones and John Hadlock presented on the topic of August Wilson, his plays and how they tell the history of Pittsburgh's Hill District.

The panel was introduced by Theodore Bergfelt, a Humanities Librarian at Gumberg Library. Bergfelt spoke of the exhibit currently on display, "August Wilson's Pittsburgh Plays." This display shows the lives of African Americans and their experiences in the 20th century. This display will be open to the public at the until Feb. 28.

The first speaker to begin the discussion was Jones, adjunct instructor in Duquesne's Department of English and author of the dissertation *This is Me Right Here: August Wilson and Pittsburgh's Hill District*. Jones introduced the idea of how Wilson's plays represented the history of the Hill District. Some of Wilson's plays discussed included *The Piano Lesson*, *Two Trains Running*, *King Hedley II*, *Jitney*



and *Gem of the Ocean*.

"Most people would say the Civil Rights movement is defined by Rosa Parks, who was too tired to move. It starts with her and either ends with Martin Luther King's birthday being named a holiday or Obama becoming president. Somehow this doesn't include the activism and the change," Jones said.

Jones argued that the main

historical movement displayed throughout Wilson's plays was the redevelopment of the Hill District. The Urban Renewal process, which took place between the 1950's and the 1960's in Pittsburgh areas like the Hill and East Liberty, are topics in *Two Trains Running*, *King Hedley II* and *Radio Golf*. This is a large part of Pittsburgh's own black history due to how many African-American families were displaced during this reconstruction.

"Please don't call him someone who gave a voice to the Hill District. The voice was already there," Jones said.

The next panelist, John Hadlock, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of English who has presented on Wilson's works at local conferences, discussed in depth Wilson's play *The Piano Lesson*.

Hadlock discussed the importance of African-American history as seen through this play by looking at the piano as a symbol of ancestral history. The piano in the play is carved by an ancestor of the characters. The main storyline of the play is whether or not to sell the piano. This brings about the argument of familial history and the importance of African-American history in America.

To conclude the panel discussion, attorney Paul Ellis, executive director of the August Wilson House and August Wilson's nephew, spoke of what it was like growing up with Wilson and the role the August Wilson House plays with Duquesne University.

"When I was a teenager, we didn't really know what my uncle was doing. He was always buzzing around, traveling and writing but no one really knew what a playwright was. People weren't even using that word back then," said Ellis.

Ellis reflected on the time he first attended his uncle's Broadway show and how he never anticipated being able to have that experience so many times.

"I developed this deep appreciation for arts and culture. I watched it change people," said Ellis.

This idea to purchase the August Wilson House came from a conversation he had with his uncle. Since his uncle was now famous and this was the house he had grown up in, Ellis thought it was important to keep that in the family. In February of 2005, the bank foreclosed on house and



DUKE ARCHIVES

This mural shows a combination of the ten August Wilson plays that are featured in the Pittsburgh Cycle. The mural is located on Center Ave in the Hill District.

the man currently living there. This gave Ellis the opportunity to purchase the property before it ever hit the market.

Although August Wilson died before the organization was able to be developed, Ellis and Wilson had once agreed that the house was not going to be a museum, but rather something more active within the community.

In December 2008, Ellis was able to name the August Wilson House as a nonprofit. It was also

named as an official historical landmark. Since then, the organization has been involved with communities in the Pittsburgh area, including the Duquesne community.

Every spring since 2012, Duquesne has a class that is involved with working with the nonprofit. Students from the Duquesne community continue to volunteer their time with the organization.



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JOKE CORNER!

Q: What is the clumsiest insect?

A: The bumbling bee.

Q: What kind of pillar can't hold up a building?

A: A caterpillar.

California towns isolated by floods, only accessible by boats

(AP) — Two communities in Northern California's wine country were accessible only by boat Wednesday after a rain-swollen river overflowed its banks following a relentless downpour across an already waterlogged region.

The small city of Guerneville north of San Francisco "is officially an island," with the overflowing Russian River forecast to hit its highest level in about 25 years, the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office said in a statement.

"Nobody is coming or going from the Guerneville area at this time," said sheriff's Sgt. Spencer Crum. The nearby town of Monte Rio was also isolated by floodwaters and all roads leading to it were swamped.

The still rising Russian River

was engorged by days of rain from western U.S. storms that have also dumped heavy snow in the Sierra Nevada, throughout the Pacific Northwest and into Montana, where Gov. Steve Bullock signed an emergency order to help keep up the supply of heating fuel amid frigid temperatures.

Snow from the storms closed roads and schools and toppled trucks and trees from Oregon to Montana and an avalanche in the Sierra prompted Amtrak to suspend rail service between Sacramento and Reno, Nevada.

The Russian River topped 42 feet (13 meters) Wednesday afternoon, when television helicopter footage showed homes underwater and cars submerged. It could crest at more

than 46 feet (14 meters) by Wednesday night, officials said. About 4,000 residents in two dozen river communities were ordered to evacuate Tuesday evening but officials estimate only about half heeded the orders, Crum said.

Jeff Bridges, co-owner of the R3 Hotel in Guerneville, said he and others who stayed behind were well prepared to ride out the storm. He and employees spent most of the night moving computers, business records and furniture to second-floor room. Reached by telephone, Bridges said there was about 7 feet (2 meters) of water at his two-story home in Guerneville Wednesday but was not worried.

"As long as everybody is safe, dry and warm, it's all fine. You just ride it out," said Bridges, noting that this flood was the fourth he's experienced in 33 years.

He added: "People in Florida have hurricanes, people in Maine have blizzards; we have floods," he said. "It's the price we have to pay to live in paradise."

Several areas in California set record-high rainfall totals, including nearby Santa Rosa, which had nearly 8 inches (20 centimeters) of rain in one day. The often-waterlogged Venado weather station 5 miles (8 kilometers) from Guerneville recorded more than 20 inches (50 centimeters) of rain in 48 hours.

In the Sierra Nevada, which has already seen a month of heavy snow, two Amtrak trains together carrying nearly 300 passengers

stopped and reversed directions because of an avalanche that closed railroad tracks. Service on Amtrak's California Zephyr between Reno and Sacramento, California, has been suspended until weather conditions improve, Amtrak spokeswoman Kimberly Woods said.

California officials were also concerned about potential mudslides in saturated wine country hillsides and in areas scarred by wildfires in 2017.

A mudslide Tuesday near Monte Rio trapped a man and a woman before they were rescued, messy but unharmed.

"I fell into the mud when the tree fell over the top of me. It happened so fast you don't even know," Kear Koch told KGO-TV.

Elsewhere in the area, several people had to be rescued from cars stranded while motorists tried to

drive through flooded roads. Nina Sheehan, who is visiting from North Carolina, had to abandon her rental SUV after it got stuck in a flooded hotel parking lot.

"We made a decision to take the rental car through the waist-high water and we got two thirds of the way and then the car stalled," she said. "Do not try to go through any water over a foot high because you never know what you're going to find."

Firefighters in Monte Rio worked through the night pulling people out of cars stuck in flooded roadways and getting people out of their homes as water approached, Fire Chief Steve Baxman told the Press-Democrat newspaper of Santa Rosa.

"We took 17 people out of cars and houses during the night. Too many people are driving into water," he said.



COURTESY OF AP

SGA looks to include more student organizations

SGA— from page 1

Government truly achieve its potential," Megginson said.

Megginson noted that the ideas for his platform came from discussion with peers and listening to their ideas and concerns, as well as from the year he spent away from the SGA, observing their operations from the outside looking in. Megginson had spent the majority of the 47th Senate as non-member in order to focus on his role as President of the Delta Chi fraternity on campus.

Every position in this election was unopposed, which Megginson noted in a previous conversation with *The Duke* was "a real problem." He hopes to increase student involvement within the SGA and between student organizations.

Megginson also hopes to remove the legislation that requires a 15 week (or one semester) membership to run for an SGA executive office. That would mean the only qualifications for a student to run would be good academic and behavioral standing and that the student is a full-time student (taking 12 or more credits).

"I want to start a conversation that includes the entire university community, not the slim margin of students who join the Student Government," Megginson said.

He also wants to work to help strengthen the Diversity Committee which operates as part of the SGA. He wants to be sure the SGA reaches out to "previously unheard communities on this campus to ensure that every student has a voice."

In addition to adding a forum that gives each student organization a representative, the 48th

Senate will also be working to develop a platform for students to share ideas that could better the university.

"When I find a cause that has significant student support, I'm going to see what we can do about it, through our own organization or with support from the administration," Megginson said.

While Megginson spoke of the highlights of the last year for SGA, such as expanding the book loan program, including students in academic review as well as establishing the career closet and food pantry, he hinted that not everything was running as it should be.

"The Student Government requires some serious structural and cultural change. The SGA that exists today is not the SGA that our student body deserves," Megginson said. "I'm going to work with my administration and our colleagues in the Senate to change that. The behavior of some of our members has cast a dark shadow on our body, tainting and minimizing the great work we do."

As part of his platform, Megginson noted that there needed to be "a complete culture change within the SGA."

"Under my leadership, there will be no place in the SGA for intolerance or bigotry," Megginson said. "There will be no place for public displays of animosity toward fellow student leaders. There will be no place for disrespect for our important and professional student press, or for our devoted advisors."

The first meeting with the new Senate will be held Sunday, March 17 at 7 p.m. in Room 203 of the Law School, and Megginson urges students to attend.

Room selection quickly approaches

HOUSING — from page 1

While some buildings, such as Towers, can assign random roommates, suites in Vickroy and Des Places must be filled when chosen during the lottery.

From Feb. 27 through March 1 and March 11 through March 14, students can select their lottery numbers in the Towers Multi-Purpose Room. In order to select a lottery number, students will need to provide their rooming deposit receipt and fill out paperwork. After all their paperwork is completed, students will be able to select a random scratch-off lottery number based on their rising class status, according to Cangilla.

On March 14, students will gather in the Union Ballroom to make their room selections. Sophomores and juniors will report at 3 p.m. and freshmen will report at 5 p.m.

"The lottery is very crowded and very stressful," said sophomore Physical Therapy major, MacKenzi Bowman. "Make sure you know what you want to do before you go into the lottery because it can be overwhelming if you don't have a backup. Be prepared for the worst and don't get your hopes up that you'll get the best-case scenario."

As the day goes on, students can expect buildings to be called out as they are filled, so they can



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start considering other options.

"Have a plan B and plan C so that if the room they really want isn't available, they know exactly where they want to go after," Cangilla said.

When a student's number is called, they fill out paperwork and choose from room layouts of each building, according to current sophomore journalism major, Bri Allison. She and her roommates, sophomore English and secondary education major Jillian Malcolm and sophomore business major, Anna Demarco, recommend that students do research and ask questions ahead of time in order to figure out the best plan for their rooming situation.

"Stay open minded and don't

just be dead set on one building," Malcolm said. "Have a backup plan, because you don't want to be stranded at the last minute."

If students cannot be at the lottery at their designated time, they can fill out proxy forms to designate their roommate, another student or Residence Life to choose their room for them. Forms can be found online or picked up during lottery number selection.

Cangilla continues to encourage students to call the Office of Residence Life or stop by their office if they have any questions regarding rooming.

"Our goal is to try to make this process as easy for students as possible," Cangilla said.

THE DUKESNE DUKE

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CARTOON BY ROBERT GWIAZDA

in focus...

Jussie Smollett allegedly lied about attack; set back work of activists

OLLIE GRATZINGER

opinions editor

In the early morning hours of Jan. 29, Empire star Jussie Smollett was walking through the streets of Chicago when a pair of masked men allegedly attacked him. Smollett claimed that the two assaulted him with racial and homophobic slurs, placed a noose around his neck and roughed him up, all while making references to Trump's "MAGA country." All decent people, both public figures and private citizens, condemned the alleged attack as proof of a rising hate-crime epidemic in the U.S. Democratic senators and presidential candidates Kamala Harris (D-CA) and Cory Booker (D-NJ) described the incident as a "modern-day lynching," tweeting out support for Smollett.



Nearly a month later, on Feb. 20, Smollett was charged with a class four felony for filing a false police report. Allegedly, he'd faked the whole thing.

It's worth noting that the Chicago Police Department has been riddled with scandals, controversy and brutality claims over the years. It has a long reputation of producing corrupt cops who unjustly target minority groups within the community, and for this reason, a lot of folks are skeptical about the veracity of Smollett's charges.

But assuming the evidence is valid and Smollett did stage the attack, his actions could have a

devastating ripple effect.

Supporters of homophobic and racist movements are always looking for a way to make the victims of their vitriol look less like victims and more like aggressors in some way, shape or form. There seems to exist an entire Internet culture structured around doubting survivors. Now, if an African-American is actually targeted by a white supremacist in the streets and hurt, bigots are going to be able to say, "Maybe they're lying, just like Jussie Smollett." Now, if a gay person is sent threatening letters, bigots are going to be able to say, "Maybe they sent it to themselves, just like Jussie Smollett."

No matter how you look at it, Smollett's actions have made it all the easier for racists and homophobes to distrust the claims of black and gay folks. These people barely need a reason to refute claims of hate crimes, but now, they have one.

While Smollett's motives remain somewhat unclear, some are speculating that he allegedly lied to either increase his salary or gain credibility as some sort of "gay hero." But if the claims of the Chicago Police are true, Smollett's actions represent only crude selfishness and an insensitivity to the historical struggles faced by marginalized groups.

A few weeks ago, I wrote a column voicing both my support of Smollett and the disturbance I

felt at what seems to be a larger social trend of bigotry and hate speech. One of those things still rings true to me. Yes, Chicago Police claim that Smollett lied. But even if Smollett filed a false report, it doesn't mean that hate crimes never truly happen. In fact, numbers show that the opposite is true.

According to the FBI, more than 7,000 hate crimes took place in 2017, up from about 6,100 in 2016. The data doesn't seem to be out yet for 2018, but according to the Southern Poverty Law Center, more than 1,000 hate groups are currently active in the U.S. This statistic is up by 30 percent since 2014. This year alone, as of Feb. 17, the New York Times also published that 55 hate crimes have been reported in New York — a 72 percent increase from the same time last year. Online services are giving platforms to bigoted individuals, and hate speech has the nasty habit of turning into hate crime.

We shouldn't let the potential selfishness and lack of foresight on the part of Smollett distract us from the fact that real offenses are being committed against real people at an alarming rate. One lie neither dismisses nor counteracts countless dismal truths.

This will, without a doubt, be Smollett's downfall; he was already removed from the last two episodes of *Empire*'s fifth season. He may face jail time. It'll be difficult for him to find work, because at least for a while, he'll be known as the guy who lied. He has fallen from grace in a very, very public way. It's important that we don't let that publicity overshadow the narratives of actual victims and survivors.

STAFF
EDITORIAL

Green Book not worthy of Oscar award

This past Oscars season yielded a slew of exciting winners; Rami Malek took home the award for Best Actor in a Leading Role for his portrayal of Queen frontman Freddie Mercury in *Bohemian Rhapsody*. *Black Panther*'s Ludwig Goransson, Hannah Beachler and Ruth Carter won Best Original Score, Production Design and Costume Design respectively. For his work on *BlackKkKlansman*, Spike Lee took home a long-awaited trophy for Best Adapted Screenplay. However, not all wins sat well with the masses.

When *Green Book* beat out films like *BlackKkKlansman*, *Roma* and *Black Panther* to take home the coveted award Best Picture, Spike Lee walked out, Chadwick Boseman and Michael B. Jordan shared a cryptic, unhappy glance and the Internet revolted.

Green Book attempted to capture the life and times of Jamaican-American pianist Don Shirley (Mahershala Ali) and his white driver Frank Anthony "Tony Lip" Vallelonga (Viggo Mortensen) as they embarked on an eight-week tour through the segregated southern U.S. Despite receiving several accolades, the film came under scrutiny when Shirley's family spoke out to condemn it. Shirley's brother Maurice accused the film of lying, engaging in stereotypes and misrepresenting Shirley's experiences and relationship with his family.

As if that isn't bad enough, Mortensen used the n-word at a panel discussion for the film, and even though he apologized, words cannot be so easily undone. Director Peter Farrelly allegedly used to flash his penis at crowds as a prank back in the 90s, and in 2015, screenwriter Nick Vallelonga tweeted his support for Trump's false claim that Muslims cheered on 9/11.

Green Book was up against so many other films that better told the stories of the marginalized. *BlackKkKlansman* demonstrated the courage of a black man in the face of historical hatred, transcending society's expectations of him. *Roma* was praised for its moving emotionalism. *Black Panther* is full of lovable characters, staying true to Marvel's grace while also tackling issues of poverty and violence. *Bohemian Rhapsody* told the tale of a bisexual immigrant from Zanzibar who rocked the world. In what way does it seem right that *Green Book*, with all its controversy and the outrage it provoked from its protagonist's family, come out on top?

Green Book feeds into a larger narrative that aims to rewrite black history in a way that's softer and more comfortable for a white audience. It perpetuates a white savior complex and misses the mark in its aim to tell an authentic story.

OPINIONS

Vatican must be accountable in light of sexual assault claims

TIMOTHY RUSH
staff columnist

On Feb. 22, the Vatican began a four-day meeting of 190 church leaders to address the ongoing issue of sexual abuse within the Church. The meeting was called “The Protection of Minors in the Church,” with an emphasis on listening to abuse victims and tackling the issue head-on — something that many church officials had hoped for, especially following the Pennsylvania grand jury report last year.

Preparations began for the meeting on Feb. 18. Church officials spoke at a news conference at the Vatican, with prelates (high-ranking members of the clergy) speaking on how the Church must hold bishops accountable for addressing sexual abuse and further emphasizing that homosexuality was not a cause for the sexual abuse amongst church officials.

Cardinal Blase Cupich of Chicago expressed his hope “that people see this as a turning point,” and that it would be a moment to rally for bishops. In another massive shift toward transparency, the meeting had segments streamed despite it being closed-doors.

In a previous article that I wrote, I went so far as to call out Pope Francis for the inaction that seems to be pervasive throughout the Church, indicting the Catholic Church and calling for people to hold it accountable.

Whether it be from pressure from people inside and outside the Church, or Church leaders finally moved by the pervasive suffering and abuse, they have finally begun to address the matter with the seriousness that it deserves. This is a sentiment echoed by Archbishop Charles Scicluna of Malta, who thanked investigative reporters and the media for bringing the topic “where it belongs” — in the public eye.

Archbishop Scicluna’s words came as a sigh of relief, especially when pressed on the secrecy of the Church. He went so far as to say that “silence is a no-go,” and that complicity, silence and denial would not be tolerated. His position was revealed in his statement “confronting the facts will set us free,” tying a Biblical mission by mirroring John 8:32: “And you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” A good sentiment and one that I certainly agree with.

And it gets better. When Vatican spokesperson Alessandro Gisotti declined to answer if Joseph Punderson, another man credibly accused of assault on a minor, remained in the Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura by the media, Archbishop Scicluna pressed the question by saying, “The question is a legitimate question and people need to know that what Rome asks of the local churches, it also is ready to apply to Rome.”

Pope Francis himself made headway when he expelled McCarrick over allegations against him, in what is believed to be the first time a cardinal was expelled from



OLLIE GRATZINGER / OPINIONS EDITOR

the priesthood for sexual abuse. Cardinal Cupich further insisted that Pope Francis calling the meeting was to send a message that sexual abuse in the Church is a top priority for the Pontiff, and that “each one of them has to claim ownership of this problem.” Archbishop Scicluna stated that “[Pope Francis] is ready to say ‘I got that wrong, we’re not going to do it again, or we are going to do it right.’”

There was also mention of sexual abuse of women in the Church, particularly nuns. The prelates in charge of organizing the meeting stated that by addressing the abuse of minors, they would be in a better position to address abuse and protect vulnerable adults in the Church. This was to highlight nuns who had been abused by priests, a massive problem that was only just recently brought to light.

The cries of the abused seem to be ready to be heard. While certainly a better-late-than-never-moment, the issue was finally being addressed in a way that treats it with the seriousness it deserves. This does not mean that we should let up on criticism, however.

I’ll give credit where credit is due, and I will critique and condemn when called for. The Catholic Church is beyond the point of permission; it must make the commitment to fight this. While it looks like it is ready to make that commitment now, it is up to everyone to ensure that it holds itself to that commitment.

When the Church makes mistakes, the people must still be there to call it out.

Priests must be ready to confront their colleagues in the Church, and officials must be ready to speak out when mistakes occur. We can see just how Archbishop Scicluna had to urge the Vatican spokesman to answer. Let that be an example to all members of the Church on how to act.

The meeting finished on Sunday, and what should have been a call for change was more of what many have come to expect from the Church: words, with very little substance to back it up, and promises, with very little to show how the Church will live up to these promises.

Pope Francis himself was very abrasive towards abusive priests and the acts of abuse in churches throughout the world. He compared the acts of abuse as “sacrificing human beings, frequently children, in Pagan rites,” and called the priests responsible “tools of the devil.”

Strong words, but it’s nothing we haven’t heard before. We know it’s evil to abuse children, vulnerable women, and anyone else. Pope Francis has already spoken against these, so his harsh words are not really reassuring.

So what was the meeting for if not to take active steps in attacking the problem? It was apparently to help educate bishops and church officials on the seriousness of the problem. That’s good, I suppose. It’s a very serious issue and given the lack of proper responses from church officials, perhaps education on the matter was certainly necessary. There was talk of a handbook to describe the duties of bish-

ops when cases of abuse come up, with an organization of task forces to help them in handling them.

This was done as leaders of the church felt that change within the Church must come from the local bishops themselves. Archbishop Eamon Martin from Ireland made note that the obligation of protecting children must be in the hands of the bishops and that the meeting sent a strong message on what is expected of them in the matter. He stated that as a result of the meeting, the Church is moving closer to adopting a zero tolerance of abuse within churches. His belief in the wide change amongst bishops is shared among many others who were in attendance, and this appears to have been the intended outcome. Cardinal Scicluna himself made note that, “At the end of the day it is the change of heart that is important.”

Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, stated he was satisfied with the meeting. He said, “Now you have the bishops all saying it’s ubiquitous.” While there is little action coming from Rome, Cardinal DiNardo wants to make more headway at home, as the Pope desires. He wants to make resources available to dioceses to aid in ongoing reforms. A noble effort though I would like a more proactive approach.

But the thing is that reform takes time. Time that the Church may not have. As time goes on, more and more cases come out. As reforms are made there is still enough leeway for abuse in the Church to go unnoticed or unreported. It is ubiquitous, and while the Pope wants to optimistically leave it in the hands of the now educated bishops, it may be too late to take on such a slow and nebulous approach.

While I hope that the words of various bishops are not empty and that the words of the Pope are not just more words with no substance, the history of this has left me skeptical. When scandals occur, many church leaders are quick to condemn and talk about how change must happen, but very little is actually done. And when the scandal begins to fade from public consciousness, so too do the condemnations and calls to action from leaders in the Church.

Radical change needs to happen, and it needs to be an ongoing change made publicly. A Nigerian nun spoke at the meeting, condemning church officials for their lack of transparency and silence. While we can say the silence has been broken now with the meeting there must be consistent work done to address this pervasive issue.

And if this is just another case of big talk with no action, then we must be ready to reeducate the bishops. We must never let this problem fade until real change is made, and it is up to all of us to make that happen. It is up to all of us to force them to keep going and to hold them accountable. They’re making promises now and now we must hold them to that.

New project shares context for local communities

SEAN ARMSTRONG
staff writer

According to the 2017 U.S. Census, 22 percent of Pittsburgh residents live below the poverty line. That means nearly 1 in 5 people on the streets of Pittsburgh are living in poverty, compared to the national average of 14.6 percent.

In recent months, there has been plenty of coverage about the unity of the people of Pittsburgh and how the community is so resilient. We recovered from the steel mills closing to become a technology and education hub. People came out in droves to honor the late Mac Miller. Even more recently we moved past the Pittsburgh synagogue shooting by rallying around that community. Yet, 1 in 5 people still deal with daily obstacles not to thrive, but to survive.

Due to this clear inequitable



COURTESY OF THE PITTSBURGH NEIGHBORHOOD PROJECT
Cotter took photos of the neighborhoods as he made his way through the streets

just data or anecdotal evidence, but a combination of both.

This is where the Pittsburgh Neighborhood Project comes in. The goal of the project is to educate people on the 90 commu-

you get to live there. And we have some really poor neighborhoods that never change, and it's really bad if you get to live there," Cotter said.

This is where the poverty problem in Pittsburgh stems from. Neighborhoods like Squirrel Hill have historically had a wealthier population of individuals, and thus the wealth has been concentrated there.

Meanwhile, neighborhoods in the Hilltop like St. Clair Village have historically been less fortunate. St. Clair, for instance, has not been able to catch a break since the 1940s to early 1950s housing boom that has, according to the Hilltop Homes and

changing at a pace where we are seeing involuntary displacement or we are about to see involuntary displacement," said Cotter.

However, he does not want to disregard displacement as an issue. For instance, Lawrenceville is a hotbed of social change that he thinks deserves more focus.

"Over the past probably 10 to 15 years, we've seen actually a different kind of gentrification and displacement which is not among low-income black renters," said Cotter. "But, actually in Lawrenceville, it is a lot of low-income and fixed-income white homeowners who couldn't keep up with the property taxes because those values are spiking like crazy."

This rent spike happened after landlords stopped accepting housing vouchers, which is something Cotter urges people to look at as a potential link to displacement. Cotter also touches on unique cases like Manchester, where higher income white residents seem to be moving into the area, which means that lower-income residents have likely been moved out.

Overall, Cotter just wants to access the neighborhoods on a case-by-case basis to raise awareness of the problems in each of these communities, pushing an understanding of the problems people face to the forefront of our minds.

"This project is a much more intimate portrayal in just talk-



COURTESY OF THE PITTSBURGH NEIGHBORHOOD PROJECT
Cotter compares homes within different neighborhoods to one another.

distribution of wealth in the city of Pittsburgh, Nicholas Cotter created the Pittsburgh Neighborhood Project to give insight and foster empathy for those from low-income backgrounds in these impoverished neighborhoods.

Cotter, a Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) graduate in social policy, can tell you poverty presents unique obstacles that can set people back from being successful. Cotter grew up primarily in Brookline and Carrick, but graduated from Brentwood High School after missing 114 days of school without a single visit from a social worker.

Luckily, after graduating from high school, Cotter was able to boost his GPA at the Pittsburgh Art Institute and got into Wheeling Jesuit University for his undergrad. This allowed him to pursue a graduate degree at CMU. Not everyone in those circumstances is as lucky as Cotter, though.

This history has led Cotter to study how social policy impacts individuals and how to best mitigate poverty through policy. However, this education cannot come from

nities that comprise the city of bridges through interviews with residents, photos of the locations Cotter travels to, an explanation of census data for each area and a historical write-up to explain how these neighborhoods have formed and changed.

At first, that sounds like a daunting task, not only for Cotter, but for those interested in following along with his findings.

"The goal there is to really do a snapshot and in some sense a deeper dive with those neighborhoods. So, each neighborhood will get a neighborhood profile," Cotter said.

By breaking the larger narrative of Pittsburgh's poverty into bite-size and easily digestible content, Cotter hopes to create a more holistic understanding of what each community is like. Through understanding the conditions that create poverty, the hope is to destigmatize low-income stereotypes so that policy, as well as the status quo, can change.

"We have some really wealthy neighborhoods that never change, and that's really good if



COURTESY OF THE PITTSBURGH NEIGHBORHOOD PROJECT
Levels of poverty within communities can be witnessed by the type of homes present.

Operating Plan, seen 80 percent of residents leave with no one to replace them.

Neighborhoods like St. Clair Village are the reason Cotter sees a need to bring more attention to these communities that seem to be stagnant. Meanwhile the areas that are now dealing with displacement problems, such as East Liberty, get more attention despite an equal need for recognition.

"In Pittsburgh, there are probably only a handful that are

ing to stakeholders," said Cotter. "Again, street-by-street exploration, my observations which are biased and talking to residents and then supplementing all of this with long-term and short-term data."

For a closer look at the project and to see Cotter's analysis of neighborhoods that interest you check out the Pittsburgh Neighborhood Project at:

www.pittsburghneighborhoodproject.blog

HOROSCOPES

Scorpio



(October 23-November 22)

The constellations may hold answers for you. Buy a big spoon, or perhaps a bear



Sagittarius

(November 23-December 22)

Do not go gently into that Arby's. Rage, Rage against the having of the meats.

Capricorn



(December 22-January 19)

Just learn to love yourself. These don't all have to be funny.



Aquarius

(January 20-February 18)

Your soulmate is near! Plot 346A, Washington Fields cemetery.

Pisces



(February 19-March 20)

Brighter days are ahead! Our sun will explode in 5 billion years.



Aries

(March 21-April 19)

Set the bar high. That makes it easier to limbo underneath.



Taurus

(April 20-May 20)

Cut the toxic people out of your life. I certainly did.
Brian.

Gemini



(May 21-June 20)

Go to Jail. Go directly to Jail. Do not pass "Go," do not collect \$200.



Cancer

(June 21-July 22)

At this time of transition, you must ask yourself the immortal question: "do you feel lucky, punk?"

Leo



(July 23-August 22)

You will find that you are only sad when Levin's furniture is having a sale.



Virgo

(August 23-September 22)

Just a reminder that your dog doesn't know why you left for college.

Libra



(September 23 - October 22)

The stars predict that you will become the nameless horoscope writer at a college newspaper.

Dual-sport Taylor relinquishes one dream for another

ADAM LINDNER
sports editor

Kellon Taylor arrived at Duquesne in 2016 tasked with the sports-lover’s ultimate fantasy: Compete dually for separate NCAA Division I athletic teams.

Instead of heading to a FBS-level institution on a football-only scholarship, or giving up football for basketball altogether somewhere else, Taylor opted for the Bluff, where it was agreed that he could continue both ventures concurrently.

A wide receiver for DU’s football team and a power forward for the Dukes’ basketball outfit, Taylor played sparingly for both teams during his freshman year. The DeMatha product recorded 37 receiving yards and one touchdown in 2016 before joining the basketball team, where he saw action in 12 games off the bench.

As a sophomore, Taylor contributed meaningfully for Coach Jerry Schmitt’s

football team, posting 276 receiving yards and three touchdowns on 20 catches. After the Dukes’ season ended following a loss to Bryant on Nov. 18, 2017, Taylor immediately re-enthralled himself with the basketball team, suiting up for DU’s game versus Robert Morris the very next day, Nov. 19.

Taylor went on to appear in 29 consecutive games for the basketball team in Keith Dambrot’s first season in 2017-18, playing an average 19.4 minutes per game.

After truly establishing himself on both the gridiron and the hardwood as a sophomore, Taylor saw himself become a pre-eminent part of Schmitt’s receiving corps during the 2018 season. Paired alongside speedy senior Nehari Crawford, Taylor became an ideal option for quarterback Daniel Parr in his first year at the helm of Duquesne’s offense.

Parr picked right back up where Tommy Stuart left off in 2017, making way to an impressive first year on the Bluff for the

Florida Atlantic transfer. Taylor was a big part of that, securing 44 passes in 2018 for 576 yards and two scores.



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS
Duquesne wide receiver Kellon Taylor races past a Hawaii defender on Sept. 22.

That included a near 100-yard receiving day on Dec. 1, which is well into the college basketball season. That came in the second round of the FCS playoffs at South Dakota State, compliments of the fact that Taylor and Duquesne advanced further into the postseason in 2018 than the program ever had before. The Dukes won their first-ever FCS playoff game against Towson on Nov. 24, then finished the season nationally ranked in both major FCS polls (No. 21 in STATS FCS Top 25; No. 24 in AFCA Coaches’ Poll).

Afterward, Taylor returned to the Duquesne basketball team, but not for long. After receiving high praise from Dambrot as a leader for the young team, Taylor announced he’d be focusing solely on football in January. He returned for the St. Bonaventure game on Feb. 6, but only for a lack of depth for Duquesne.

see TAYLOR — page 11

DU lacrosse rolls to win over SFU, improves to 3-0

DREW WHITE
staff writer

On Wednesday afternoon, Duquesne had the chance to open its season 3-0 for the first time since 1999, and it certainly didn’t squander the opportunity to do so. The Dukes dominated Saint Francis (Pa.) from start to finish at Arthur J. Rooney Field, taking the contest 17-2.

The Dukes continued their impressive play over the first month of the season as they followed up their road win at Butler Feb. 14 with an impressive performance over the Red Flash (0-3).

The hiatus in between games was because inclement weather last week forced a Feb. 20 game against No. 10-ranked Penn State to be postponed. However, the long break certainly didn’t seem to faze the Dukes as they shook off the cobwebs and got on the board early.

The Dukes opened up the game’s scoring just 1:26 in as Haley Matthai netted the first of her three goals. Then, Megan Buettner got on the board, followed by Matthai’s second, forcing the Red Flash to use a time-

out just 4:20 into the opening half, already down 3-0.

After nearly five minutes of offensive firepower, the Dukes once again beat starting goalkeeper Ashley Stoessel and the floodgates opened. After the media timeout following the fourth goal of the game, the Dukes scored six more, including two from Rilee Bradshaw who had a game-high five goals on the day. Matthai’s hat-trick goal, before the second media timeout of the half and with 9:51 remaining, helped the Dukes to a 10-0 lead.

The Dukes closed out the half up 14-0 leaving first-year head coach Corinne Desrosiers pleased with the performance.

“The first half especially, we played with a lot of cohesion and that really carried us through,” said Desrosiers. “It was really great during that first half, and we lost it a bit in the second half as we started to sub more players in.”

The pressure from the Dukes, especially in the first half, was something that was evident to the naked eye and also showed in the box score. The Dukes held the Red Flash without a shot in the first half while

recording 23 shots on goal of their own, putting 14 in the back of the net and forcing two changes in between the pipes.

“Early in the season we are focusing on ourselves,” Desrosiers said. “We want to get our feet under us, we want to get a shot off in 11 seconds or less, we are looking to get on their hands on defense and apply a lot of pressure out there.”

The defensive pressure was there all game as the Dukes forced 17 turnovers and the Red Flash turned the ball over a total



ADAM LINDNER / SPORTS EDITOR
Midfielder Courtney Battles fights for possession.

of 40 times, including an abysmal 12-for-26 clear success rate.

The second half was much closer for the Red Flash as they found some stability in net with freshman Elyssa Enrique, who recorded nine saves on 12 shots in the last 30 minutes of the game.

Perhaps the nicest goal of the game also occurred in the second half as Duquesne’s Maddie Hart was able to beat Enrique with a backhand shovel shot as she was turned with her back toward the goal to put the Dukes up 15-0.

The Red Flash were able to tack on two goals in the second half by Livia Baker and Autumn McHenry, but it wasn’t close to enough as the Dukes were able to hold them in check.

The two goals allowed were the fewest DU has conceded since it topped Saint Francis 19-2 on March 11, 2015.

Bradshaw had five goals for the Dukes, while Matthai, Buettner and Hart each recorded three.

The Dukes now shift their focus toward Detroit Mercy, who DU will host this Sunday at noon at Arthur J. Rooney Field.

Men’s Basketball A-10 Standings

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall	Streak	Next
1.	VCU	13-2	22-6	W9	3/2 @ Richmond
2.	Davidson	11-4	20-8	L1	3/2 vs. Fordham
3.	Dayton	11-4	19-9	W3	3/1 vs. Rhode Island
4.	George Mason	10-5	16-12	W1	3/2 @ Saint Louis
5.	St. Bonaventure	10-5	14-14	W5	3/2 @ G. Washington
6.	Duquesne	9-6	18-10	L1	3/2 vs. UMass
7.	Saint Louis	8-7	17-11	L2	3/2 vs. George Mason
8.	La Salle	7-8	9-18	W1	3/2 @ Saint Joseph’s
9.	Richmond	6-9	12-16	L1	3/2 vs. VCU
10.	Rhode Island	6-9	13-14	W1	3/1 @ Dayton
11.	Saint Joseph’s	5-10	12-16	W1	3/2 vs. La Salle
12.	G. Washington	4-11	8-20	L2	3/2 vs. St. Bonaventure
13.	UMass	3-12	10-18	L1	3/2 @ Duquesne
14.	Fordham	2-13	11-17	L3	3/2 @ Davidson

Women’s Basketball A-10 Standings

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall	Streak	Next
1.	VCU	12-3	20-8	L1	3/2 vs. Davidson
2.	Fordham	12-3	21-8	W8	3/2 @ Saint Joseph’s
3.	Davidson	10-5	16-12	L1	3/2 @ VCU
4.	Duquesne	10-5	16-12	W4	3/2 vs. St. Bonaventure
5.	Dayton	9-6	14-12	L2	3/2 vs. Saint Louis
6.	Saint Louis	9-6	14-14	L1	3/2 @ Dayton
7.	George Mason	8-7	16-12	W3	3/2 @ La Salle
8.	Saint Joseph’s	7-8	11-17	L1	3/2 vs. Fordham
9.	G. Washington	7-8	10-18	L1	3/2 @ Richmond
10.	UMass	6-9	14-15	W1	3/2 @ Rhode Island
11.	Richmond	5-10	8-20	L1	3/2 vs. G. Washington
12.	St. Bonaventure	5-10	8-20	L2	3/2 @ Duquesne
13.	Rhode Island	3-12	8-19	W1	3/2 vs. UMass
14.	La Salle	2-13	5-24	W1	3/2 vs. George Mason

Duquesne swim & dive team wins A-10 championship

JACOB HEBDA
staff writer

Following last year's victory in the Atlantic 10 Championships, the Duquesne women's swimming & diving team returned to the SPIRE Institute in Geneva, Ohio, to defend its title. Despite some stiff competition, the Dukes are now Atlantic 10 champions for the second season in a row.

The George Washington Colonials proved to be a tough contender, closely trailing Duquesne ahead of the final day of competition. However, the reigning champions came up big in the final events.

The Dukes were propelled by 11 medal-winning performances. Three of those medals came on the last day of competition, making for some clutch timing.

Abigail Stauffer was golden in the 200-yard breaststroke, grabbing first and setting a school record of 2:13.57.

Emma Brinton grabbed second-place in the 200-yard backstroke. Her finishing time of 1:57.67 is a school record for the event.

In the 200-yard butterfly, Morgan Smith came in third (2:01.82).

Complementing these crucial performances were a variety of other top-three results earlier in the week, many of which were record-breaking.

The 800-yard freestyle relay team of Brinton, Hanna Everhart, Lauren Devorace and Carson Gross posted a school-record time of 7:18.71 en route to a gold medal. The 200-yard medley relay team of Stauffer, Audrey Steen, Kristen McKnight and Emily Thirion came in third (1:41.39).

Brinton and Stauffer finished first and third, respectively, in the 200-yard individual medley (1:58.90; 2:01.07). Brinton's time broke the school record she set last year. Lauren Devorace captured bronze in the 500-yard freestyle relay (4:51.77).

On day three, three university records fell. Brinton finished first in the 400-yard individual medley (4:13.68), also breaking the A-10 Championship and pool records. Steen finished second in the 100-yard backstroke (54.64). Brinton, Stauffer, Steen and Everhart won the 400-yard individual medley relay (3:41.74).

Duquesne also earned its first diving points since 1998. Following a two-decade hiatus

for the program, Adrienne White and Sawyer Weitzel provided necessary contributions.

Steen, a freshman from San Pedro, California, became the second-consecutive Duke to earn Most Outstanding Rookie honors. Her big week included a first-place finish in the 400-yard medley relay.

Brinton, who took home that distinction last year, grabbed five total medals, nearly half her team's amount.

Head Coach Dave Sheets was named A-10 Coach of the Year for the second con-

secutive season. It is his third such award in his seventeen years coaching Duquesne.

It was an impressive overall performance by the defending champions. After breaking the school scoring record in last year's title with 567 points, the Dukes did it again, this time posting a total of 580.5 points.

After Richmond dominated the A-10 for nearly twenty years, winning fifteen championships since the turn of the century, Duquesne has begun to put together a streak of its own.



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS

The Duquesne swimming & diving teams pose after winning the 2019 A-10 Championship.

Misbehaving owners hardly unheard of in pro sports

(AP) — Misbehaving owners of sports teams have drawn headlines pretty much since sports have been around.

Now, New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft faces misdemeanor charges of soliciting a prostitute after police said he was twice videotaped paying for a sex act at a massage parlor in Florida amid a crackdown on sex trafficking.

He joins a list of current and former NFL owners accused of crimes or social misconduct.

Last year, Carolina Panthers owner Jerry Richardson sold the team after allegations surfaced of sexual and racial misconduct in the workplace. Following a six-month investigation by the league, he was fined \$2.7 million. Richardson, the team's founder, then sold the franchise to David Tepper for \$2.2 billion.

Cleveland Browns owner Jim Haslam had legal troubles while CEO of Pilot Flying J, one of the nation's largest truck-stop chains. Company executives either pleaded guilty or were convicted in a fraud scheme worth more than \$50 million. Haslam claimed he didn't know about the scheme in which customers were underpaid on promised rebates for fuel purchases, and he was not charged.

Haslam bought the Browns in October 2012, six months before the FBI and IRS raided company headquarters. The NFL never disciplined him.

Jim Irsay, whose Indianapolis Colts won a Super Bowl for the 2006 season under his leadership, had acknowledged having a painkiller addiction in 2002 and sought treatment. The DEA investigated the case, but local prosecutors did not file charges.

Then, in March 2014, Irsay was arrested near his home in suburban Carmel and was held overnight after he failed sobriety tests

and police found prescription medications in his car. The police said the drugs in Irsay's vehicle were not associated with any of the prescription bottles found inside. He was charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated, along with four felony counts of possession of a controlled substance; police also found \$29,009 in cash.

He again sought treatment and in September 2014 pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor count of driving while intoxicated, agreeing to undergo drug testing for a year. Irsay also admitted he was under the influence of the painkillers oxycodone and hydrocodone when he was arrested.

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell suspended Irsay for six games and fined him \$500,000.

Ed DeBartolo Jr., who built the San Francisco 49ers' 1980s-90s dynasty with Bill Walsh as coach, was involved in one of the biggest owners' scandals in the sport's history. In 1998, he pleaded guilty to failing to report a felony when he paid \$400,000 to former Louisiana Gov. Edwin Edwards in exchange for a riverboat gambling license.

DeBartolo was suspended from the NFL for one year in 1999 for his role in the gambling fraud scandal. He also handed over control of the team to his sister, Denise DeBartolo York, and never returned to the 49ers.

Former Philadelphia Eagles owner Leonard Tose had to sell the team in 1985 to pay off more than \$25 million in debts to Atlantic City casinos.

Football hardly stands alone in the owners' misbehavior market.

Cincinnati Reds owner Marge Schott was sued by former employees during the days of the Big Red Machine for being a racist and, at one point, was quoted in The

New York Times as saying Adolf Hitler initially was good for Germany; that her use of racially inappropriate words was in jest; and that she didn't understand why certain ethnically insulting words were offensive.

In 1993, Schott was suspended for one year by Major League Baseball and fined \$25,000 for language that MLB's executive council deemed "racially and ethnically offensive."

Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling was fined \$2.5 million and banned from the NBA for life in 2014 for racist comments he made to a friend. Sterling scolded her for posting pictures on Instagram in which she was accompanied by Basketball Hall of Famer Magic Johnson and Los Angeles Dodgers outfielder Matt Kemp, both black.

"Why are you taking pictures with minorities, why?" Sterling was recorded as saying. "Don't put him on an Instagram for



AP PHOTO

New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft, pictured above, is now facing charges of soliciting a prostitute amid a sex trafficking sting.

the world to have to see so they have to call me. And don't bring him to my games, OK? ... Yeah, it bothers me a lot that you want to promo, broadcast that you're associating with black people. Do you have to?"

The Rigas family owned the NHL's Buffalo Sabres in the late 1990s and early 2000s. It was forced to relinquish control of the team after indictments on bank and security fraud charges for raiding the coffers of their cable company, Adelphia. The Sabres played the 2003-04 season under NHL operation before being purchased out of bankruptcy by Thomas Golisano.

Last year, NASCAR's Brian France, whose family owns the stock car racing circuit and many of the tracks where it competes, was arrested in New York on charges of aggravated driving while intoxicated and criminal possession of a controlled substance. He immediately took a leave of absence and his uncle, Jim France, stepped in as chairman and CEO.

Perhaps the most documented misbehavior by a franchise owner occurred with George Steinbrenner of the New York Yankees.

A 15-count indictment was handed up in 1974 in Cleveland federal court for violations of election laws. Steinbrenner pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to make illegal campaign contributions, then was suspended by Commissioner Bowie Kuhn for two years. That suspension was lifted after 15 months for good behavior.

Steinbrenner frequently was fined for publicly criticizing umpires and for tampering. He was forced to resign as the team's managing general partner in 1990 for dealings with and a \$40,000 payment to self-described gambler Howard Spira. Steinbrenner returned to his position on March 1, 1993.

The Office's Leslie David Baker visits Duquesne

CLAIRE NEIBERG
staff writer

On Feb. 22, Leslie David Baker filled the Duquesne University Union Ballroom with laughter and insight.

Baker is best known for his role as Stanley Hudson on NBC's *The Office*, but has performed in many other sitcoms. While he is famous for his notoriously grumpy outlook on the show, off the screen he brought positive and exciting energy.

The night was set up as a general Q&A session



COURTESY OF @DUQ_DPC ON INSTAGRAM
Baker on stage with DU student Emily Krieger.

and gave students the opportunity to ask Baker whatever they wanted.

One of the first questions asked was how Baker got into acting.

"I was 5 years old, I did the kindergarten play," Baker said. However, Baker's career escalated after college, as he realized he did not want to work in the STEM field he was studying. Acting was his calling, so Baker took every opportunity he was given, starting with community theater and commercials.

Later, he was asked what advice he would give to future actors.

"Do everything," Baker said, stressing that no job is too small and building a résumé is the most important step in becoming a successful actor.

A fact about the show that Baker uncovered was that 90 percent of the ideas came from the script writers and hardly any of it was improv. Many students imagined the wit from the show coming up naturally, but in reality, it was all part of the script.

An insightful question asked was what it was like to be one of the only people of color in the main cast of a predominately white show. Baker answered that it was just like "going to work" as we live in a world where white people are more prevalent in the workforce.

Many of the questions that Baker answered had to do with his relationships with the cast of *The Office*. To the audience's relief, Baker and his co-star, Phyllis Smith, who portrayed sales team member Phyllis Vance, are still close friends. While they sat across from each other in their office for many years, Baker revealed that in the beginning of filming, "[they] would online shop a lot."

In regard to his cast, Baker said, "We saw people get married, divorced, have babies, bury parents."



COURTESY OF NBCUNIVERSAL
Baker in his role as Stanley Hudson on *The Office*.

Nine seasons later, the cast was a family, and much to the students' delight, Baker revealed that the entire cast of *The Office* was recently together for brunch. He did not disclose whether a possible televised reunion was discussed at that gathering.

WEEK'S EVENTS

TRUTHSayers: Karamo Brown
March 1 @ 7 p.m.

Co-host of *Queer Eye* on Netflix Karamo Brown will be appearing at the August Wilson Cultural Center to deliver his talk entitled *Know Thyself: Using Your Uniqueness to Create Success*.

Spiked: The Unpublished Political Cartoons of Rob Rogers
March 1 @ 5 p.m.

Former Pittsburgh Post-Gazette cartoonist Rob Rogers will be showing a gallery of his work and signing copies of his book *Enemy of the People* at Point Park University's Center for Media Innovation.

UPCOMING RELEASES

Black Album
By Weezer
Friday, March 1

Following on the heels of the band's successful covers project *Teal Album* in January, this 13th album by the legendary pop-rock band will feature darker material in contrast to 2016's *White Album*.

Captain Marvel
Friday, March 8

This 21st Marvel Cinematic Universe film, set in 1995, will follow Brie Larson as Air Force pilot Carol Danvers, who becomes the titular hero.

MICRO REVIEW

Drip or Drown 2
Gunna

For hip-hop fans in need of new material, Gunna's *Drip or Drown 2* couldn't have come at a better time. While the project does sound reminiscent of what we've come to expect from the rapper, it also features some of Gunna's best solo snippets, including "Baby Birkin" and "On A Mountain." As always, fellow Atlanta-area native Lil Baby appeared on the mixtape, as did Young Thug and Playboi Carti. It's worth the listen if you've enjoyed Gunna's sound in the past, guitar riff-laden instrumentals and all.

—Adam Lindner

How To Train Your Dragon trilogy finishes strong

NATALIE SCHROEDER
staff writer

Toothless, Hiccup and Astrid appeared on the big screen for a third time last weekend in *How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World*. The movie earned a "certified fresh" status from Rotten Tomatoes. In this third installment, Toothless and Hiccup go up against a villain much more intimidating than the villain in the second movie, Drago.

This movie has beautiful scenery, humorous characters and a plot that will melt your heart. It follows the unbreakable bond between Toothless and Hiccup as they face Grimmel, a new type of threat to Hiccup, Toothless and all dragons. As a villain, Grimmel stands alone because he doesn't want to control the dragons, he wants to kill Toothless. On his quest to find a solution, Hiccup flies through beautiful skies and colorful lands.

Continuing the approach from the previous movies, Toothless is as lovable as ever. The movie introduces a "light fury" that Toothless begins to attempt to woo. These scenes were easily some of the best throughout the movie as they gave comic relief to the overarching obstacle. The score



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How To Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World opened at no. 1 in the box office, grossing over \$55 million on its opening weekend.

throughout his attempts helps the audience empathize with a character that never talks.

While the movie has multiple call backs to the previous movies, there is one that tugs at your heartstrings more than others. The familiar score and interaction between Hiccup and Toothless at the end of this movie remind the audience how the two met and began their journey together. The movie subtly prepares the audience for what is to come without ruining the plot.

Since this is an animated movie, the actors have to put more emotion in their voices than if they were on

screen. Jay Baruchel (Hiccup) and America Ferrera (Astrid) add depth to their characters yet again in this third and final installment. Baruchel allows you to connect more with his emotions regarding Toothless and his fellow Berkians. He adjusts his speaking voice to match the interaction; he speaks respectfully to Astrid and like a best friend to Toothless. Ferrera does the same; she changes her voice when she speaks to Hiccup privately rather than her natural speaking tone in a public setting.

The creators of this movie pay great attention to detail that make the dragons and the Isle of Berk

come to life. Because the audience has the first two movies to develop the characters and explain the nature of these dragons, it is easier for the creators to focus on the visuals and continue the theme of the previous installments.

Another thing this movie does is provide the right amount of conflict and humor. While they face the challenges that Grimmel brings the Berkians, the characters add humor to the movie that evokes laughter in the theater consistently. Since the death of his father made Hiccup the Chief of Berk, he continuously has the survival of Berkians and dragons as his top priority. Throughout the movie, his plans induce at least one comical scene of things not quite going as planned. This allows the audience to see him as the Hiccup they remember rather than an experienced chief.

This movie followed the relationship between Hiccup and Toothless with ease, showing the development from the second movie. It also realistically shows the relationship between Hiccup and Astrid as they move forward together. This movie is heartwarming, stunning and bitter-sweet. While people can be skeptical of sequels, this trilogy was done right.

10 Moonchild brings California R&B vibes to Pittsburgh

THE DUQUESNE DUKE

JOEY MUESER
staff contributor

Who: Moonchild
Where: Trust Arts Education Center
When: Feb. 23, 2019

From its old-tinged sound to its new jazzy flare, Moonchild is bound to impress and provide a great show. Having seen them live twice now and watched far too many videos on Moonchild's live performances, I can confidently say that their talents certainly don't stop in the studio.

High musical acclaim shouldn't come as a surprise to Moonchild since it's been making great music since its origin.

Its previous albums have been successful in evolving the way many groups strive to. Even listening to their first album, *Be Free*, parts



COURTESY OF THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC ART
The Trust Arts Education Center in Pittsburgh.

of their sound that are still very much alive were harnessed in their first releases. But, while keeping their music fairly consistent, Moonchild has still managed to grow and mature in their own style, while staying true to their roots. *Voyager*, released five years after their debut in 2012, has bits of what their original sound started as, but ventures further into the neo-soul sound Moonchild so effortlessly seems to fold into.

It's been over a year since I saw Moonchild play at Mr. Smalls with Kamasi Washington, but in the meantime, they've been busy to say the least. They've played a full European tour, landed gigs in Asia, had two full American tours and played in a variety of music festivals. And it hasn't been with bad company either. Moonchild played with the likes of musical groups The Internet, Elise Trouw, Oddisee and many others over a vast year of touring.

While the groove is fairly laid back, the energy on stage is quite the opposite. Lead vocalist, flautist and saxophonist, Amber Navran led the charge with her smooth voice, yet had the discipline to pull on the reigns a little to let each song fit right into its pocket.

Something that sets Moonchild apart as an interesting group is its members' multi-instrumental ability. Andris Mattson, (keyboard (bass), trumpet) and Max Byrk (keyboard (lead), tenor saxophone, clarinet), had much to add to the atmospheric sound that filled the space. Mattson held the group down with a mighty left hand with steady accompaniment from the likes of Efa Etoroma on drums.

Breaking a group down into their band



COURTESY OF MOONCHILD
Soul trio Moonchild met at the University of Southern California, and are signed to UK label Tru-Thoughts.

members is my way of paying homage or respect to the individual musicians, but really what Moonchild does best, and what can't truly be captured analytically, is groove. Moonchild had everyone moving on a gloomy Friday night in Pittsburgh, and apparently this isn't new to them.

In its native city of Los Angeles, Moonchild will play sets to a crowd of head-nodders. In other cities, the band's sound is destined to inspire dance. But, according to an interview I had with the trio of multi-instrumentalists, "at times during the European tour, it felt like people

were moshing to Moonchild."

One of the biggest takeaways from talking with the band before their show was their continual search for the next best thing. Whether it's Navran knowing she needs to warm up a little bit more before the next show or finding new artists to draw inspiration from, Moonchild seems to be heading in the right direction.

Recently, with its latest release of "Get to Know It," Moonchild has been getting its audience excited for its fourth full length album release, which is still in production and expected to drop by the end of 2019.

Watsky and strong opening acts impress at Mr. Smalls

GRIFFIN SENDEK
features editor

My introduction to Watsky's music was roughly two years ago. After playing a single song I was immediately entranced. I subsequently spent the next few weeks listening to the entirety of Watsky's discography, and he quickly took the spot of one of my favorite artists. The moment I heard he was coming to Pittsburgh, I purchased tickets almost instantly.

On the 11th stop of the *Complaint* Album Tour, Watsky performed at Mr. Smalls Theater on Feb. 25. I was surprised he wasn't going to be performing at a larger venue, but the smaller, more intimate space best suited the kind of performance that Watsky gives.

The concert had two openers, Feed the Birds and Grieves, both of which I had never heard of before and had no preconceived notion of what to expect. I was more than happy to have gone in blind because Feed the Birds' two-person act with Camila Recchio on vocals and Kush Mody on the bass completely blew me away. It was a short performance of three or four songs, including the beautiful "She Came." Recchio was very engaged with the audience, taking breaks between each of her songs to speak to and crack jokes with the audience.

Feed the Birds got the concert started on a strong note before Grieves entered the stage getting the whole room hyped up for an excellent night. Fans of Watsky will most likely be fans of Grieves as well, they both have similar styles of rap and methods of conveying their emotions through music.

I had never heard a single song by Grieves

before, but the moment the he started rapping I was was dancing along to the thumping beat like there was no tomorrow. From the band's name alone, I was expecting some remarkably edgy music, but I was pleasantly surprised to find rapper Benjamin Laub performed songs with an unconventional interpretation of love and relationships.

Grieves wrapped up and exited the stage with a roaring applause from the crowd. Grieves' performance was fantastic and would have been well worth the price of admission alone. But a good concert was just about to become great one, Watsky was up next.

The lights went dark before exploding into an array of colors as Watsky made his entrance. Everyone in the audience was screaming in utter delight, as Watsky kicked off his performance with "Brand New World."

Watsky is not a performer that simply stands still holding the mic and sings his songs, he was moving his body at every possible moment. He used every inch of space that he had possibly had, whether it be dancing to his heart's content, jumping up and down, balancing on a beam on the edge of the stage, crowd surfing, Watsky did it all, and never missed a beat.

Watsky is killing two birds with one stone on this tour, having Camila Recchio of Feed the Birds sing all the background vocals. A big portion of Watsky's songs have a female vocal backing, and Recchio's beautiful voice fit each and every song perfectly. I would go as far to say that I want to see an entire album of Watsky songs recorded with her. I desperately hope that they have more chances to collab in the future.

I was delighted to find that even though this was the *Complaint* Album Tour, Watsky

sang a good selection of his older songs as well. "Pink Lemonade" from 2016's *x Infinity* was extremely fun to see performed. "Hey A-----e" from 2013's *Cardboard Castles* has always been one of my favorites, and seeing it live paired with Recchio's excellent vocals, was absolutely phenomenal. Watsky and Recchio sat down gave an enchanting, mellowed rendition of "Sloppy Seconds" from *Cardboard Castles*. This different take on the song was an unexpected but welcome change.

On the initial release of *Complaint*, I was not

the biggest fan compared to his previous work, but being able to witness the tracks live gave me a new found appreciation for the album.

For an encore, Watsky sang Whitecaps from *Complaint* and gave a grand finale of "Woah Woah Woah" from 2014's *All You Can Do*.

This was without a doubt the best concert I have ever been to in my life. My appreciation for Watsky has shot through the roof. I hope he returns to the Pittsburgh area sometime in the near future, because I know for a fact I will be the first one in line.



GRIFFIN SENDEK | FEATURES EDITOR
Watsky performed at Mr.Smalls Theater with Camilla Recchio on background vocals and Kush Mody on bass.

DU athlete Taylor to focus strictly on football

TAYLOR — from page 7

From now on, the Landover, Maryland, native won't play basketball for Duquesne, but you'll still see him on the bench at team home games.

Taylor said that, in what was surely an agonizing decision, he leaned on his mother for support.

"We just talked about it, talked about what's best for my future, and then what's best for me leading into my senior season in football and what I wanna do after school," he said.

What does Taylor want to do after school, you ask?

"My main goal, of course, is just to make it to the NFL," he said. "So, I felt as though the best way to do that is to focus on football throughout my whole offseason.

"I need to be more with the team in football, so I decided I should be here, and do all the offseason workouts, and create better team chemistry with my team so we can be the best team possible next year."

That doesn't mean Taylor won't miss basketball.

"I miss it a lot. Of course you miss the games, the atmosphere, playing in the A-10 and going on away games and things like that," Taylor said. "I'm gonna miss it, but at the same time, I'm proud of my decision. I feel like I made the correct decision for me, based on what I wanna do with my future — I feel like this is the best thing for me."

One part of Taylor's reasoning is rooted in the football program's historic success last season — and the potential for more in 2019.

"I'm ready. We had a great season this year — it kind of set the standard that Duquesne is going to be a presence. You know, we're going to be a top FCS school," Taylor said. "I think a lot of the team's confidence is up, and we're working extremely hard to get back and go even further than where we were last year."

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The Duke is currently looking for a new Editor-in-Chief starting in the Fall 2019 semester. This is a paid position that is open to any full-time Duquesne student, but candidates with journalism experience are preferred. For those looking to apply, resumes and cover letters should be sent to **theduqduke@gmail.com** by **March 11**.

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