



## You batter believe it's pancakes with the Pres



KATIA FAROUN / PHOTO EDITOR

The second annual Pancakes With the President took place on A-Walk on April 23. President Gormley was frying up some hot cakes and taking photos with students. There was also a DJ, free candy and coffee mugs as well as a photo booth and caricaturist.

## New traffic patterns for finals week

**HALLIE LAUER**  
news editor

As the end of the semester nears, students may find it a bit more difficult to move back home than it usually is.

Due to construction happening on the new UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse, some of the roads on and around campus will be closed or narrowed to one lane.

Beginning on May 1, the driving lane on Forbes Avenue, in front of the fieldhouse will be closed. The parking in front of the Life's Work building will be removed and turned into a driving lane, so that traffic will continue on two lanes east.

Also starting on May 1, Magee street will become a one-way traveling from 5th Avenue. to Forbes Avenue; along with that Gibbon Street will be closed at the intersection with Magee.

Later on, starting May 13, there will be other, on campus closure including Shingiss Street at the Forbes intersection and Locust from the intersection with

**see TRAFFIC — page 2**

## Liberal Arts College faculty faces changes in course loads

**KAILEY LOVE**  
editor-in-chief

Discontent amongst McAnulty College faculty is escalating following a decision to increase class loads. This decision comes following years of enrollment decline and budget cuts for the college.

According to sources with knowledge of the pending changes who wish to remain unnamed, all tenure-track Liberal Arts faculty will be moving to a mandatory six classes per year schedule. This means that research active faculty in PhD granting departments will move from a "manageable" course-load of two fall classes and three spring classes to a course schedule of three classes per semester.

While sources in Ph.D. granting departments claim that a 2-3 schedule has been the "standard load" for baseline teaching schedules, university officials maintain that this is not a change at all. Rather, "the long-standing expectation for all tenure-track faculty across the college is to teach a 3-3 load," according to Gabe Welsh, vice president for marketing and communications.

"There are no changes. That said, each year deans and department heads are asked to review requests for course releases for research, to do administrative work, or to otherwise help," Welsh said. "Because of that process, some faculty members may for a time teach a course load different



GRIFFIN SENDEK / FEATURES EDITOR

from 3-3. However, the standard and long-standing expectation is that all faculty in the College teach a 3-3."

One McAnulty college professor alleged that the 2-3 schedule was being "framed" as a one-course release, when an existing 3-3 schedule was never what described to them as "standard" upon their hiring.

Sources say that this decision was made by Provost David Dausey and communicated to liberal Arts department chairs over spring break.

According to the 2017 iteration of the Duquesne Faculty Handbook, a faculty workload committee is in place to fulfill three

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## POLICE BRIEFS

Due to the fact that everyone was on break this last week, there are no crimes to report. So just because you're back on campus doesn't mean you can go breaking the law.

## BLUFF BRIEFS

Just a reminder, the final day of classes is Tuesday April 30, Reading Day is May 1 and finals go from May 2 to May 8. The library will be open 24 hours starting Tuesday April 30.

## JOKE CORNER!

**My dog used to chase people on a bike a lot. It got so bad, finally I had to take his bike away**

**My friend says to me: "What rhymes with orange" I said: "No it doesn't"**

**Q: Want to hear a joke about paper?**

**A: Nevermind it's tearable.**

**Q: What did the grape do when he got stepped on?**

**A: He let out a little wine.**

**Knock, knock.  
Who's there?**

**Adore.**

**Adore who?**

**Adore is between us. Open up!**

## JOIN THE DUKE!

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

## 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](mailto:hallielauer18@gmail.com).

## Faculty research abilities may differ from prior years

## LIB ARTS — from page 1

primary functions: reviewing workload proposals from each college and making recommendations to the Provost, recommending University-wide principles to the Provost regarding faculty's allocated service efforts, and resolving workload policy disagreements.

While some sources maintain

**"THE LONG-STANDING EXPECTATION FOR ALL TENURE-TRACK FACULTY ACROSS THE COLLEGE IS TO TEACH A 3-3 LOAD"**

**— GABE WELSCH, VP FOR MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION**

that this decision was made "unilaterally" by the provost without regard to these procedures, others said that they were not.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, the average breakdown for research active faculty at private universities is 43.1% teaching, 34% research and scholarship and 22.8% outside activity.

The Duquesne Faculty Handbook is less clear - it outlines 30 to 60% time spent teaching, 0 to 40% for clinical activity, and 25 to 60% for scholarship for all tenure and tenure-track faculty. The only differing time requirement is that tenure-track faculty

must allocate 5 to 15% of time to service, while tenured faculty must devote 10 to 20%.

According to faculty that would be impacted by a 3-3 schedule, it would significantly hinder their ability to mentor Ph.D. students, let alone conduct and pursue their own research.

An email obtained by *The Duke* from outgoing Liberal Arts Dean James Swindal to the department chairs confirms the impact that such workload increases would have in PhD-granting departments.

"No releases for work with doctoral students will be approved. During AY [Academic Year] 2020 work will be done on determining what these could be for AY 2021 and beyond. No scholarly releases are planned to be approved for spring 2020. But it would be allowable to make requests if appropriate," Swindal said in the email. "I am working with the provost on the possibility of approvals from the hire requests I have received from you for AY 2020...Given our low fall enrollment numbers at this point, though, very few hires are likely to be approved."

In a comment to *The Duke*, Swindal said "We have been in conversation with the faculty in the college as we have considered our collective choices and practices. Our responsibility to one another is to engage in good faith for what is best for Duquesne and its students. We appreciate their input and their opinions, knowing our differences more often than not lead to useful discussion on how best to achieve our collective goals."

McAnulty sources said that falling liberal arts enrollment was cited by the administration as a reason for the increasing demands on liberal arts faculty.

According to the University Enrollment Overview, Liberal Arts enrollment has been on the decline for several years - the earliest available data in the overview lists the grand total of liberal arts

**"WE HAVE BEEN IN CONVERSATION WITH THE FACULTY IN THE COLLEGE AS WE HAVE CONSIDERED OUR COLLECTIVE CHOICES AND PRACTICES"**

**— DEAN SWINDAL**

students in the Fall 2014 semester as 2,290 (comprised of both undergraduate and graduate, part and full-time students). The current spring 2019 enrollment numbers sit at 1,725, dropping about 100 students per semester between 2014 and 2019.

"It becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy - they [the administration] complain about the lack of enrollment, and then they slash our budgets, complain about the lack of enrollment, slash our budget," one liberal arts professor said.

The other reasons cited by the administration, according to some sources in the liberal arts department, were that the university was "in some financial trouble" and wanted to "slash the budget for adjunct professors and use tenured faculty to take on the excess class load."

This follows the ongoing battle between the university and the National Labor Relations Board

(NLRB) regarding adjunct's ability to unionize. After six years of refusing to recognize a union of liberal arts adjunct faculty, the NLRB ruled against Duquesne and dictated to negotiate with the group in 2018.

While Duquesne has consistently asserted that it should be exempt due to being a religious institution, the NLRB has continually disagreed. In 2018, President Gormley notified the Duquesne community via email that the university would file a petition for review with the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington, D.C. as a challenge to the NLRB ruling.

"Things have been markedly worse since 2016 when the new president [Gormley] came in," one professor said. "He wants us to become a technical college with some Liberal Arts, and does not envision PhD granting programs as part of Duquesne Liberal Arts."

Another source with knowledge of the decision, however, said that the liberal arts college is only the first that will experience these changes, as the other schools will eventually follow.

A meeting of liberal arts department employees is planned for April 29, according to a memo obtained by *The Duke*, which was organized and will be led by McAnulty faculty. They plan to discuss budget cuts and the increase in course load, as well as "faculty lines eliminated, unfilled and displaced; changing support for faculty research; changes in graduate tuition credits/undergraduate and graduate financial aid; changes in policies; elimination of programs and/or departments" and several other topics.

They also will consider putting together a department wide faculty response regarding the changes.

## DU construction to alter traffic

## TRAFFIC — from page 1

Shingiss to the intersection with Boyd. Boyd Street will then become a one-way travelling north to Forbes.

In addition, the Rockwell Sky Bridge will also be closed for renovations until August 16.

According to an email sent to all Duquesne students on April 24, proper signage as well as fences and barricades will be installed for the duration of the projects.



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# Annual Run for Ryan returns to DU

KELLEN STEPLER  
staff writer

The 10th Annual Run for Ryan, a 5K race held on Duquesne's campus, will be held to pay tribute to Sgt. Ryan Lane. Lane, a fallen marine, was killed in 2009 on his second tour of duty in Afghanistan.

Army 1st Lt. Joseph Vitti and marine 1st Lt. Chris Cavanaugh co-founded the Run for Ryan after hearing of Lane's sacrifice. The event was to ensure that he



COURTESY DON ACCAMANDO  
From the 2018 Run for Ryan, people both involved with the military and not came out to participate

would never be forgotten.

Vitti and Cavanaugh, both former Duquesne students, heard about Lane's death walking back from ROTC practice one morning. The pair was walking back to their dorm room when a Duquesne maintenance worker, Lane's aunt, told them about his death.

Vitti recalls that hearing about Lane's death "hit hard," and helped him realize what "the ul-

timate sacrifice" really meant.

Lane's actions are "what a hero is," Vitti said.

While Lane did not attend Duquesne, he is a Pittsburgh native and graduated from Carrick High School. On July 22, 2002, he reported to Parris Island, South Carolina to start his career as a United States Marine.

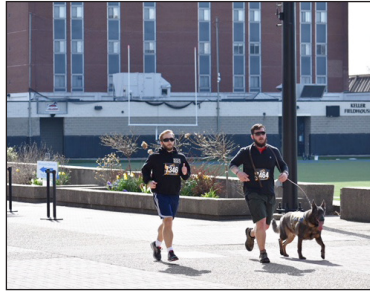
Jonathan Miller, president of the Sgt. Ryan Lane Platoon, hopes that the Run for Ryan will raise awareness for veterans in the Pittsburgh community, and will raise money for military personnel.

"Military personnel are not always given sufficient support and opportunities for their services that they provide for this country, so the Sgt. Ryan Platoon is designed to assist in both economic and public support," Miller said.

The Run for Ryan is in its tenth year, but the platoon also incorporated a new event, called the Combat Fitness Challenge, which is in its second year. That event's goal was to raise money and awareness for the Run for Ryan and a scholarship that the group oversees.

Miller told *The Duke* in October that the scholarship "supports student veterans from all branches of service and is awarded to a different student every year."

Miller also noted the type of person Lane was. While Lane was dedicated to the Marines, Miller says that his friends and



COURTESY DON ACCAMANDO

family came first, and that he enjoyed spending time with them. Lane spent his free time fishing, 4-wheeling and watching the Pens play.

"Ryan truly loved life and all it had to offer," said Miller.

"The Run for Ryan events connects to the Catholic ethic of the common good and the altruistic principles that is guided by religion," said Miller. "Duquesne University prides itself as a Catholic University, centering around the spiritual leadership and guidance for others who need it the most."

The event is also more than just trying to run a fast time.

"The event gathers people from the community together, symbolizing the unity and collective outreach efforts to rally ourselves to a great cause," said Miller.

The run will be held on April 27 outside of the Brottier Commons. Registration begins at 8 a.m., the run will start at 9:30 a.m. The race costs \$25 to participate.



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# U.S. measles cases hit the highest mark in 25 years

(AP) — Measles in the U.S. has climbed to its highest level in 25 years, closing in on 700 cases this year in a resurgence largely attributed to misinformation that is turning parents against vaccines.

Public health officials are worried, not just because measles can be dangerous in itself, but because its return could mean other diseases that were seemingly consigned to the past may be coming back, too.

Officials in hard-hit New York City on Wednesday reported 61 new cases since late last week, in what would make this the nation's worst year for measles since 1994, with eight months still to go. Other states are reporting more cases, too.

The official nationwide count will not be released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention until Monday.

CDC officials said they are reviewing the latest reports.

Roughly three-quarters of this year's illnesses in the U.S. have been in New York state, mainly in two ultra-Orthodox Jewish communities in Brooklyn and suburban Rockland County. Most of those cases have been in unvaccinated people.

The number of cases is likely to go even higher. Measles is highly contagious and can spread through the air when someone coughs or sneezes. And in recent days, Jewish families have been gathering for Passover meals. It can take 10 to 12 days for symptoms to develop.

The CDC recommends the vaccine for everyone over a year old, except for people who had the disease as children. Those who have had measles are immune.

The vaccine, which became available in the 1960s, is considered safe and highly effective, and because of it, measles was declared all but eliminated in the U.S. in 2000. But it has made comebacks since then, including 667 cases in 2014.

Public health experts say some U.S. communities have low vaccination rates because of the spread of bad information — especially the now-debunked notion that the measles-mumps-rubella vaccine is linked to autism — through social media, pamphlets, hotlines and other means.

"Many parents are afraid. And if you want to believe your kid doesn't need that many shots, there's plenty of places to find people who agree with you," said Dr. Jonathan Fielding, former head of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. "It's not so easy to discern what is real and what is not."

Measles in most people is not life-threatening. The most common symptoms include fever, runny nose, cough and a rash all over the body. However, a very small fraction of people can suffer complications such as pneumonia and a dangerous swelling of the brain.

According to the CDC, for every 1,000 children who get measles, one or two will die from it. No deaths have been recorded this year.

Measles' return may be an early warning sign of resurgences in other vaccine-preventable diseases such as German measles, chickenpox and bacterial meningitis, said Dr. William Schaffner, a Vanderbilt University vaccine expert.

"Measles is the signal that in these communities where there's profound under-

vaccination, they are susceptible to a whole menu of communicable diseases we thought were relegated to yesteryear," he said.

On Monday, the CDC put the nationwide count of measles cases at 626. The latest New York City illnesses would push the national tally past 680, according to an Associated Press review of state and national figures.

In 1994 there were 963 cases.

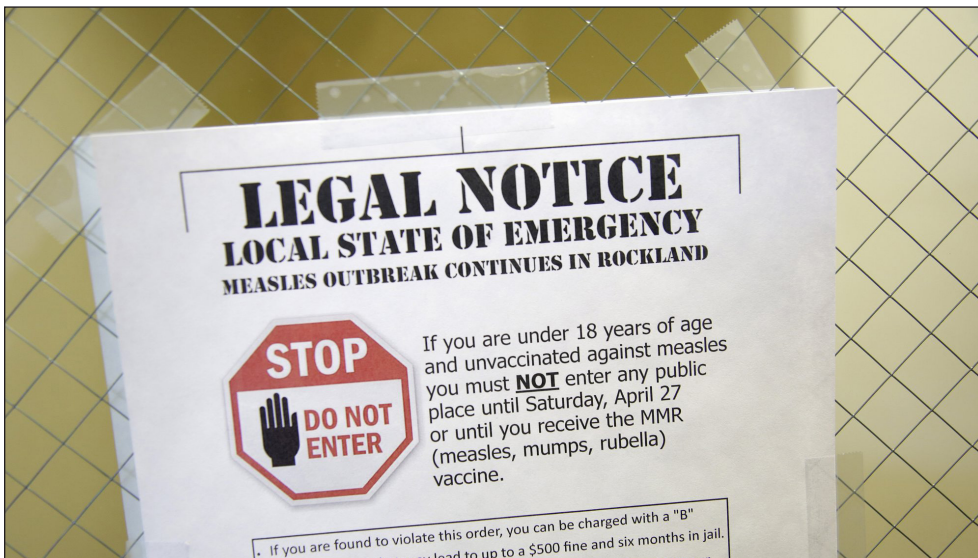
Up to now, the biggest single U.S. measles outbreak in recent years was in 2014, when 383 cases were reported in the Amish community in nine Ohio counties. But on Wednesday, New York City officials said the outbreak centered in some of Brooklyn's Jewish neighborhoods has accounted for 390 cases since October.

"These cases are stark reminders of why New Yorkers must get vaccinated against the measles as soon as possible," New York City Health Commissioner Dr. Oxiris Barbot said.

Ultra-Orthodox rabbis generally have no religious objections to vaccines and have urged their followers to get inoculated. But the "anti-vaxxer" movement has made inroads among the ultra-Orthodox, even though they have little exposure to the internet.

Earlier this month, city officials ordered mandatory vaccinations in four ZIP codes in Brooklyn and threatened fines of up to \$1,000 for noncompliance. City officials said 12 people have been issued summonses.

There have been three measles-related deaths reported in the U.S. since 2000, the last one in 2015. The worst year for measles in modern U.S. history was 1958, with more than 763,000 reported cases and 552 deaths.



COURTESY AP

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### Corrections/clarifications

Readers should report any story or photo error to *The Duke*. All legitimate errors will be corrected in print the following edition.

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CARTOON BY ROBERT GWIAZDA

in focus...

### SCOTUS to hear three landmark LGBTQ+ workers-rights cases in next term

OLLIE GRATZINGER

opinions editor

Searching for the right job is no walk in the park. College grads would be hard-pressed to name a bigger source of stress than answering the dreaded question, "What comes next?"

But for gay and transgender Americans, the job search is made all the more difficult by the fact that courts are split on whether or not it's illegal to fire or refuse to hire someone on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. On April 22, the Supreme Court announced that it'll take on a set of cases that could decide once and for all if LGBTQ+ folks are protected under anti-discrimination laws like the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

There are three cases that will be heard when the new term begins in October: *Altitude Express Inc. v. Zarda*, *Bostock v. Clayton County, Georgia* and *R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Homes v. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission*. In the first, a skydiving instructor alleged that he was fired after it became known that he was gay. He is now deceased, but his sister and life partner are carrying on with the suit on his behalf, according to USA Today. Likewise, in *Bostock v. Clayton County, Georgia*, Gerald Bostock claims he was fired from his position as a child welfare employee because he was gay. In the final case, Aimee Stephens, a transgender funeral home employee from Michigan, alleges that she was fired after coming out and transitioning.

If the Supreme Court rules in favor of the plaintiffs — the folks alleging that they were discriminated against — these cases could become landmarks in the community's fight for equal protections under federal law.

Most states don't outright ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. According to Vox, the states that protect both gay and transgender folks from prejudice in the workplace are as follows: Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, New York, Hawaii, Maryland, Washington D.C., Delaware, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine. Wisconsin offers protections on the basis of sexual orientation, but not gender identity. None of the remaining states offer any protections at all.

Note that Pennsylvania is not among the "safe" states for people who identify as LGBTQ+.

On the same note, only 14 states explicitly prohibit anti-LGBTQ+ discrimination in schools. Pennsylvania is not among those states, either.

Peace of mind for the LGBTQ+ community has been tested time and time again under the Trump administration. On April 12, the president's proposition to ban transgender folks from serving in the military went into effect. Now, the only way transgender soldiers are able to serve is if they were diagnosed with gender dysphoria before the ban took place. If they were unable to rush to a doctor's office to obtain a diagnosis, they could be discharged. This pushed some folks into coming out before they were ready, and pushed others out of their careers.

In 2020, the Naval Academy will ban transgender students from enlisting. According to USA Today, previous medical intervention, like hormone replacement therapy (HRT) or gender-affirming surgeries, could disqualify prospective students from applying.

Visiting the military organizations' websites yields flowered language. The Coast Guard's website reads, "The revised military transgender service policy is not a ban on transgender individuals. There are many transgender members serving today with honor and distinction in all of the Armed Services."

However, it later goes on to say that one cannot serve unless they are capable of serving in the sex they were assigned at birth. Thus, a history of transitional measures is disqualifying. The website continues to say that a diagnosis of gender dysphoria could be disqualifying unless "the service member is willing and able to adhere to all applicable standards, including the standards associated with his or her biological sex."

The military ban is only one example of hardships faced by the LGBTQ+ community that could be resolved, or at least improved, if the Supreme Court rules that gay and transgender people are protected under federal anti-discrimination laws. LGBTQ+ individuals want the same things as their heterosexual, cisgender counterparts: The right to exist freely, without fear of discrimination in their search for employment or housing or access to public accommodations. To provide for their families. To advance in their careers. To pursue their happiness. The government has no right to deny people these things on any basis, let alone the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.

If the Supreme Court rules in favor of the plaintiffs, the cases will live in fame alongside other landmarks, like *Obergefell v. Hodges* in 2015, in which gay marriage was legalized nationally, and *Lawrence v. Texas* in 2003, which decriminalized homosexuality and revoked sodomy laws throughout the entire country.

If the highest courts rule against the plaintiffs, the cruel Trumpian policies of discrimination will be validated, and the liberation movements of the LGBTQ+ community will be set back by decades.

## STAFF EDITORIAL

### We should care about Sri Lanka attack more than Notre Dame fire

Tragedy struck in Sri Lanka on Easter Sunday, when nine suicide bombers killed more than 300 people and injured hundreds more in coordinated attacks at churches and hotels throughout the country. According to USA Today, Sri Lanka's Defense Minister Ruwan Wijewardene has stated that the attacks, which targeted the nation's Christian minority, were in retaliation for the shootings at several mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand earlier this year. At this time, the perpetrators are thought to belong to a radical Islamic group, National Thowfeek Jamaath.

The attacks received international coverage, but overall, public outcry in the U.S. wasn't as extreme as it has been for other recent tragedies, namely the burning of Paris' Notre Dame cathedral. For the French church, several billionaires from around the world have pledged donations to help reconstruct the damaged parts of the building, but social influencers have been generally silent about what happened in Sri Lanka. At the very least, they haven't been tossing money around like they did when Notre Dame caught fire.

According to Google trends, the peak of internet searches for the Sri Lanka attacks was a fourth of the peak for the Notre Dame fire. In short, fewer people sought out information on Sri Lanka than Notre Dame. No one was even injured in France, and while it was surely sad to see history burning, it doesn't outweigh the value of human life, or eclipse the tragedy of its loss.

As the cathedral smoldered, Twitter and other social media sites were rife with travelers who had visited France and taken pictures of themselves posed before the church. Most of those people felt a personal connection to Paris because it was familiar to them, and if they were silent about Sri Lanka, it could be because they didn't feel that same connection. The problem, then, becomes that too many folks can only empathize with people, places and cultures that are known to them.

We as a society tend to pay more attention to disasters that happen in the West and dismiss Eastern tragedies. Maybe it's because the Eastern world feels far away, or because it's harder for some people to conceptualize a tragedy when they don't even know the exact location of the country it happened in. Maybe it's because of the way the media covers different events. Maybe it's because we're burned-out on tragedy and it's easier to focus on material loss than personal, human loss.

Regardless, the victims in Sri Lanka

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# OPINIONS

## We should not downplay the scale of Russian interference

**TIMOTHY RUSH**  
staff columnist

Patriotism is a word that has largely been associated with that of the military, a strong country and strength in leadership. Since its founding, America has largely existed on the idea that we are a nation born for greatness. Surrounding our republican heritage, ideas of American exceptionalism and Manifest Destiny has been at the forefront of American thought. And while this is far from horrible, the results of these ideas taken to the extreme have been and continue to be exceedingly so.

There is nothing wrong inherently with patriotism, but patriotism taken to a blind fervor has little difference from the nationalistic waves of the early 1900s. In the name of expanding democracy, we capitulated overseas territories and enforced our will upon the world. In the name of security, we punished those we feared both at home and abroad. In the name of purity, we marginalized and persecuted many to hold to American values and ideas of superiority. And out of all of these, the power of

leadership has been seen as sacrosanct to the point that no one dares question our leaders.

On April 23, White House Advisor Jared Kushner argued that the very investigation into Trump was more harmful to America than Russia's attempts to meddle in our elections. "When you look at Russia did, buying some Facebook ads and trying to sow dissent, it's a terrible thing... But I think the investigations and all the speculation that's happened for the last two years has a much harsher impact on our democracy than a couple Facebook ads" Kushner said at the Times 100 Summit, referring to Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigations into the Trump White House.

Ignoring the downplaying of the actual scale of Russia's meddling in the U.S. elections, the actual message that we see here can be summarized very simply as questioning our leaders is more dangerous to America than actual foreign interference in our democratic processes. Somehow questioning the President and investigating him is now seen as so negative that actual social engineering done by a foreign adversary of the U.S. is seen



COURTESY OF SHUTTERSTOCK

as not as bad.

I'm not writing this to say that Trump is literally Hitler, but rather that the way we as a society are treating our power structures and our culture is becoming eerily similar to the rabid nationalism that arose during the rise of fascism in Europe. To the rise of many horrible dictators throughout time. It's getting worryingly similar.

We as a society must remember what brought this nation out of the British Empire. It was the bravery of people willing to question absolute leaders, in the case of

the Founding Fathers a leader who had divine right to rule over them. And while the Founding Fathers were far from perfect, they knew that unless certain things were done, the fledgling U.S. would go the same way as the very empire they separated from. We have today the First Amendment of the Constitution that is meant to protect our people's rights to speak and publish about how the government is doing and to freely disseminate our grievances whether they be right or wrong.

What I'm getting at is very sim-

ply that our leaders are not beyond reproach. That our country is not beyond being tyrannical and authoritarian. The very essence of patriotism in America is following the legacy laid out by the American Revolutionaries, that being that no leader and no idea is beyond criticism and that everything should be questioned. Every leader and every decision that we as a country make should be questioned and not blindly followed.

Our president, whether or not you agree with him, should be investigated if there is any evidence to suggest that he might be working against the best interests of the United States. If there's any evidence that he's blatantly violating our laws and institutions, it should be our duty to support that investigation to find the truth, not shun it because it dares question the president.

So as more comes out about the Mueller Report and as we grapple as a country with its findings, let us remember what our real patriotic heritage is. We are a country founded on questioning and dissenting, and the president is not above the law or the will of the people.

## Climate Change and green energy will have impact on economy

**ALEXANDER WOLFE**  
staff columnist

I'm signing up to take a biology class, and it's not just because my best friend is a bio major and I want to understand her when she says mitochondria are more than the powerhouse of the cell. Rather than just taking astronomy or an easier natural science requirement, I've committed to gaining an elementary knowledge of how Earth works, because I know I'll need it to get hired. If it's acceptable to want a stable career by age 30, you have to have the skills that will be in demand by 2030 (11 years for all you math blasters out there). 2030 matters because it's the year that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has deemed the point of no return for climate change.

All dramatics aside, a new report released by the IPCC asserts humans must decrease our emissions by 45% in 2010 terms by 2030 and achieve a net zero emissions status by 2050. Essentially, the Mueller Report won't matter in 11 years because millions of people will have died or fallen into poverty via the impacts of the increasing global temperature. The culture surrounding climate change is due for a massive overhaul as corporations come to grips with the money they'll need to spend on air-conditioning in these hotter, longer summers. The renewable energy sector generates about \$228.3 billion in the U.S. as of 2018, and that will only increase as more and more people begin to listen to Al Gore and those communists at the U.N.

And like the actual communists, climate change doesn't care about your philanthropy or that one time you biked to work. It will impact everyone and everything around you, with the downside of not intending to provide a minimum standard of



COURTESY OF MASHABLE

living for the poorest among us.

We must be prepared to work in a world driven by the impacts of environmental destruction.

Let's say you're a business major who wants to follow the money. You won't need to worry about climate change because you're going to be an investment banker or a compliance officer focused on returns. That mentality may become a problem when investing in green energy startups becomes a largely profitable trading venture and, given the rise of the ethical investment industry, you find yourself working for a client who demands her return through investment in solar firms.

For you marketing majors out there, most advertising from Exxon and BP these days is focusing on their investment in renewables, so becoming familiar with the language of conserva-

tion and sustainability may be a necessary resume item. Humanities majors would do well to examine the impacts of climate change, as it affects everything from security to psychology.

Legally speaking, environmental law will only continue to grow in importance, as businesses will grapple with environmental regulations that forward-looking governments will continue to impose upon corporations. The market is waiting for an entrepreneur to make sustainable business practices profitable, and that niche is where the jobs will be.

If you're planning on entering the world of analytics, you'll need funding for your research, and as climate change begins to annoy billionaires more than the fires at historical landmarks, they'll devote their excess income toward climate research instead. Side note: There's already billions of dollars in climate research; look no fur-

ther than the million granted to one of our own professors for sustainability experiments in South Africa.

Until Duquesne adds a sustainability class to the UCOR curriculum, we bear responsibility for this knowledge, if for no other reason, to ensure our future wages. The day is fast approaching when your knowledge of conservation and sustainable practices will be just as important to your job prospects as interpersonal communication, second-language-speaking capabilities or coding prowess, and we must be prepared to adapt to this changing climate of hiring.

In a future America where politicians are forced to accept scientific fact (most likely when we pay them to accept it), it's not difficult to imagine corporations becoming climate-conscious. A well-funded green energy lobby could inspire bipartisan tax credits for businesses with net-zero emissions or households purchasing solar panels, electric cars and metal straws. Special discretionary spending may be allocated for renewable energy research, and the Pentagon could get serious about the national security threat posed by environmental degradation.

Even if you think climate change is a hoax, the industry surrounding that hoax is positioned to be one of the most lucrative sectors in the global economy, so why not learn about it to make money. For the rest of us who respect the hard work and scientific consensus of 99% of the world's scientific community, it's in our best interest to make the economics of climate change profitable.

I still believe in the power of a united American economy, and if that power is united in the premise of making money to benefit the planet, we can save ourselves from ourselves.

# Trendy spring fashion look book

COLLEEN HAMMOND  
staff writer

Beautiful flowers are blooming across the city and pollen is in the air. That can only mean one thing; spring has sprung and a new year of fashion is taking the world by storm. Time to shed those heavy coats and rock salt-stained boots and get ready for the season of sandals, short sleeves and sundresses.

While spring fashion is notorious for gentle pastels and flowing lines, this year the fashion industry has changed the game. Runways and city streets alike are sporting more neutral palettes with small, deliberate pops of vivid color this spring.

Models have been seen strutting about in beige pantsuits with fuchsia blouses.

The combination of neutrality and bold color is quintessential to the spring 2019 look for women. Luckily for the general population, this is one of the easiest trends to incorporate into your spring wardrobe.

Try pairing dark wash jeans with a brightly colored t-shirt or tank top. Be sure to add a top layer like a lightweight raincoat or your favorite denim jacket to combat those chilly spring mornings.

Another trend fashion gurus can look forward to this spring is

utility. This season the name of the game is practicality. To the utter joy and delight of thousands of women across the country, the fashion industry has finally realized that functionality is stylish.



GRIFFIN SENDEK / FEATURES EDITOR  
Spring is the time to bring out bold colors.

This spring, expect to see a welcomed wave of pockets in dresses and skirts. In addition to this surge of pockets, look out for shelves lined with crossbody

purses. This hands-free style is critical to the fun, relaxed and carefree aesthetic of spring.

In response to the popularity of crossbody bags this season, the fashion industry has done the unthinkable and brought back the fanny pack. To the shock of many, this homage to the '80s has been revived as a trendy alternative to traditional handbags.

While fanny packs are incredibly appealing for their apparent utility, this is a trend only the bravest fashionistas can pull off.

As for the men, it's time to abandon the standard polo, cargo shorts and boat shoes. This spring, men can expect a new relationship with prints. Simplistic, yet fun, printed button-downs are a must this season.

For a laid back, yet put together look, aim for complementary colors in your shorts and the prints on your shirt. This is the perfect way to blend the trend of neutrality and boldness. A neutral short or trouser and simple button-down with a basic, yet colorful pattern indicate charm and, if done well, sophistication even in the spring heat.

Lastly, the key to any spring look is that perfect pair of sunglasses. While trends come and go in the eyewear department, it is important to find a pair that looks good with your facial



GRIFFIN SENDEK / FEATURES EDITOR  
A simple patterned button-up goes a long way to make a casual, yet stylish outfit.

structure. Round faces should try wayfarers, rectangular frames, or rounded bottoms. Heart-shaped and rectangular faces will look best in traditional aviators, cat eye glasses or chunky, movie star-esque lenses. Those with oval faces should stick to rectangular or rounded frames with the occasional aviator. Find a pair that fits your face and matches your personality.

Because sunglasses are going to be worn with nearly every summer outfit in your wardrobe, look for neutral colored frames so they match or complement all your clothing.

This season is a promising one

of practicality and abolition of traditional spring styles. As the plants continue to sprout up and the city comes to life, it is important to remember the words of Duquesne fashion icon, Zach Reed, in the weeks to come.

"I guess my secret is a point between confidence and comfort. Wearing something that makes me feel good but also matches the weather. It can be tricky in fall and spring because the day will start off one way and then drastically switch."

Confidence is the key to any style. With the right mindset, you could even make a fanny pack look good this spring.

## Surviving Easter break stuck on Duquesne campus

GRIFFIN SENDEK  
features editor

Easter break is a wondrous time to be away from brain-numbing classes and spend time with family before returning to the unforgiving, unrelenting and ever-approaching tidal wave that is finals.

The five-day weekend is best celebrated surrounded by friends and family, but there are a few unlucky ones, myself included, who were stuck on the Bluff. Unlike Duquesne's other breaks, thankfully all of the dorm facilities remained open without a need to apply for break housing.

Just because the dorms remained open the entirety of break did not mean that the dining facilities would be available for students at decent hours, nor affordable.

If I was looking to eat at any point this break, the only option for food between Friday and Sunday was The Incline. Lunch was

available between the hours of 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. and dinner was served between the hours of 4:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Anyone that happened to be hungry after 6 o'clock, was forced to find food elsewhere.

For what I must assume is a completely logical and absolutely necessary reason, meal swipes were unavailable to be used for the entirety of break. Campus food could only be purchased with FLEX, PLUS or actual money from your bank account.

Being the end of the semester, my FLEX balance, unsurprisingly, was dangerously low. No matter how many times Duquesne attempts to convince me to purchase PLUS through its multitude of advertisements and reminder emails, I will be dead in the ground before even considering it once.

Suffice it to say, I did not consume any campus food over the break, electing instead to buy food off campus.

Over break campus basically shuts down. Thursday night it was nearly empty. Come the weekend, Duquesne was an utter ghost town.

My wing in Towers that is perpetually filled with the rowdy cacophony of college boys was dead silent.

If you find yourself in my situation, alone, as what feels like the only person still on campus, my biggest pieces of advice are: 1. Milano's Pizza is only good until the second day, any longer than that and it should be thrown away immediately. 2. Get out of the dorm as much as possible.

With the goal of avoiding cabin fever like the plague, blessed with absolutely beautiful weather, I found myself walking all across Pittsburgh. I did not wake up each morning with the goal of walking multiple miles everyday, it was just a situation I found myself in. At the culmination of Easter break, according to my activity app, I racked up a total of 61,314 steps.

I'm not saying the only way to stay sane while stuck on campus is to walk an obscene amount, but instead of lying in bed all day long scrolling through your Instagram feed, do the exact same thing, but lying on a blanket un-



GRIFFIN SENDEK / FEATURES EDITOR  
Duquesne campus Friday afternoon, without a single soul in sight.

derneath the shade of a tree.

Even if you are the biggest hermit, spending the entire break locked inside without the contact of a single other person would result in anyone going absolutely crazy. Going outside and catching some rays is crucial to surviving break alone. Netflix won't go anywhere, I promise.

This was the first time in my 19 years that I have ever spent the Easter holiday alone, which in many ways felt very strange, but

I don't regret my decision to stay.

Over the course of the break I was able to walk all across Pittsburgh, get a chance to read for fun and not for class, experiment with street photography, get over a bad case of writers block and watch a movie every single night. Basically everything I've been meaning to do but haven't had the chance.

I think everyone should one point in their college career spend a break on campus, it's one experience you can't get anywhere else.



GRIFFIN SENDEK / FEATURES EDITOR  
Meal swipes were unavailable over break, increasing the prices of food.

# Dukes add graduate transfer; Williams Jr. to Oregon

ADAM LINDNER  
sports editor

Baylee Steele, a 6-foot-11, 245-pound center who played last season for the Utah Valley University Wolverines, has signed a financial aid agreement with Duquesne. Steele, a graduate transfer, will be eligible to play for the Dukes in 2019-20.

Steele, a Norwalk, Iowa native, spent

his freshman season at Des Moines Area Community College, located in central Iowa. He then transferred to Division I Eastern Michigan, where he appeared in all 33 games for the Eagles, making 22 starts. Three of Steele's 33 appearances came versus the Akron Zips, then coached by Keith Dambrot.

Dambrot left Akron for Duquesne following the 2016-17 season.



COURTESY OF UTAH VALLEY MARKETING VIA DUQUESNE ATHLETICS

Baylee Steele, a 6-foot-11 center, will be eligible for the Duquesne basketball team this season.

Steele departed from Eastern Michigan following the 2016-17 season as well, transferring to Utah Valley.

Following a redshirt season in 2017-18, Steele started in 35 games for Utah Valley in 2018-19, averaging 20.1 minutes, 8.5 points and 7.2 rebounds for the Wolverines.

Utah Valley advanced to the second round of the College Basketball Invitational (CBI) before falling to South Florida. Wolverines Head Coach Mark Pope then left for the BYU position.

Steele told Pittsburgh Sports Now that he was extremely happy with his decision to come to Duquesne.

"The situation that I was looking for when I entered the transfer portal was exactly what Duquesne had to offer me," Steele told PSN. "Plus, when I was there, everything felt so real and so right."

Steele added that Dambrot's reputation for player development played a big role in his decision.

"He has such a long history of developing big men," Steele said.

Steele will be immediately eligible for Duquesne in 2019-20 as a graduate transfer. His arrival should bolster the Duquesne frontcourt, where he will join forces with the likes of Mike Hughes, Marcus Weathers, Austin Rotroff, Amari Kelly and James Ellis.

In other news concerning Duquesne basketball fans, DU's leading scorer and rebounder in 2018-19, Eric Williams Jr., has decided on a new home for his basketball and educational career.

On April 20, Williams Jr. announced on

Twitter that he would be transferring to play for the Oregon Ducks.

Williams Jr. will have to sit-out the 2019-20 season before being eligible as a redshirt junior in 2020-21.



COURTESY OF ERIC WILLIAMS JR. (TWITTER)

Eric Williams Jr., Duquesne's leading scorer and rebounder this past season, committed to Oregon.

# Damian Lillard puts Russell Westbrook in tough spot

ADAM LINDNER  
sports editor

On Tuesday night, Portland point guard Damian Lillard connected on a game-winning 3-point shot that surely rivals any NBA buzzer-beater in recent memory.

Tied at 115 each with around 20 seconds remaining in regulation, Thunder point guard Russell Westbrook missed a contested lay-up at the rim before the Blazers rebounded the ball. Lillard retrieved the rock from forward Al-Farouq Aminu before coolly striding up the court.

Dame arrived at half-court with around 13 seconds remaining, and as he dribbled near midcourt, guarded by Thunder forward Paul George, the Moda Center crowd rose to its feet.

The Blazers held a 3-1 series lead over their counterparts from Oklahoma City, victorious in each contest save for a Game 3 Thunder triumph. The series was one of the first round's most entertaining matchups, pitting Lillard against a personal rival in Westbrook.

With the Thunder on the brink of elimination, Lillard dribbled at the top of the key, waiting for the clock to trickle down.

Seconds later, Lillard reminded everyone what time it was: Lillard Time.

With a side-step 3-pointer from 37 feet out, Lillard ended the Thunder's season in

stunning fashion, relinquishing Oklahoma City into an offseason full of questions and uncertainty.

Following Kevin Durant's departure from Oklahoma City during the summer of 2016, the Thunder are 4-12 in the post-season, including three consecutive first-round exits. During that span, Russell Westbrook has averaged a triple-double in each regular season, winning the NBA's Most Valuable Player Award in 2016-17.

Paul George arrived in OKC during the summer of 2017 via trade, then decided to re-sign with the franchise last summer despite a belief that he wanted to play for his hometown Los Angeles Lakers. George's commitment to the franchise was a humongous victory for OKC, and it's scary to think about where the Thunder would be if George had skipped town after one year with Russ.

It's worth noting that OKC doesn't necessarily boast the most impressive supporting cast — and one that's severely lacking outside shooting — but that doesn't let Westbrook off the hook. Although Westbrook isn't known for his outside shooting whatsoever, his insistence upon shooting mid-range and outside shots is visibly hurting his team. In Game 5 alone, Westbrook shot 11-of-31 from the field.

In the months following Durant's departure, Westbrook famously posted a

video of himself on Instagram singing along to Lil Uzi Vert's lyrics, "now I do what I want."

Following three straight seasons of incredible personal statistics and accolades, perhaps it's time for Westbrook to take a step back and do some self-reflection.

Time isn't on Russ' side either, as he's now on the wrong side of 30-years-old.

It'd be wise for Westbrook to alter his play-style in the hopes of higher efficiency ratings.

To his credit, he would be much better off with shooters situated around him.



COURTESY OF WALL STREET JOURNAL

Portland Trail Blazers point guard Damian Lillard, right, shoots a deep 3-pointer as time expires over Oklahoma City Thunder small forward Paul George on Tuesday night. Lillard connected on the 37-foot jumper, giving himself 50 points on the night, as well as a decisive five-game series victory over the Thunder.

# Steelers extend Roethlisberger through 2021

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Pittsburgh Steelers have reiterated repeatedly during an eventful offseason that quarterback Ben Roethlisberger remains the team's unquestioned leader. They have handed him a new deal to prove it.

The Steelers and the two-time Super Bowl winner agreed to terms on a contract extension Wednesday that will keep Roethlisberger in Pittsburgh through the 2021 season. Roethlisberger had been set to enter the final year of a contract he signed in 2015. Financial terms were not disclosed, but Roethlisberger figures to get a significant pay bump over the \$12 million he was due (with a \$23 million cap hit) in 2019.

"It has always been a goal to play my entire career in Pittsburgh," Roethlisberger said in a statement. "This is home for me and my family, and we love this city. I am as excited to be a Steeler in Year 16 as I was when they drafted me. They will get my absolute best."

The deal gives Pittsburgh some stability going forward after the high-profile departures of wide receiver Antonio Brown and running back Le'Veon Bell. Brown pouted his way into a trade with the Oakland Raiders in March while Bell signed with the New York Jets as a free agent after sitting out all of 2018 when he opted not to sign his franchise tender.

Roethlisberger, who turned 37 last month, is coming off the finest statistical season of his 15-year career. His 5,129 yards passing led the NFL and his 34 touchdown passes broke his own franchise mark. Yet his once-solid relationship with Brown appeared to deteriorate during a

late slide that culminated in a 9-6-1 finish, a swoon that caused the Steelers to miss the playoffs for the first time since 2013.

Brown sat out a crucial Week 17 game against Cincinnati and in the aftermath lashed out on social media, blaming Roethlisberger for having an "owner mentality."

Steelers general manager Kevin Colbert went out of his way to defend the quarterback, saying that in a way, Roethlisberger was dealing with "52 kids" on the roster, a challenge for some of Roethlisberger's teammates to take on a greater role in the locker room. Not that Roethlisberger minds the responsibility. He has been unapologetic in his approach and unafraid to call out himself and others when the team fails to play to the standard it has set for itself during his largely successful tenure.

Roethlisberger flirted with retirement after the 2016 season but has found a renewed sense of energy in his mid-30s. Having an offensive line that has kept him upright has certainly helped. Roethlisberger has been sacked an average of 20½ times over the last four years — compared with an average of 42 times per season between 2006-13 — due in part to stellar play in front of him and an approach predicated on getting the ball out faster while shying away from the "Ben being Ben" stuff that led to a mix of big plays and big mistakes earlier in his career.

The announcement of the extension came on the 15th anniversary of the Steelers making Roethlisberger the seventh overall pick in the 2004 draft. After taking over the starting job in Week 2 of the 2004 season following an injury to veteran Tommy Maddox, Roethlisberger has led

the Steelers to three Super Bowls, along with seven AFC North titles and 10 total playoff berths.

"Ben is one of the most productive quarterbacks in NFL history, and he continued to climb the lists among the all-time passing leaders in the league last season," team president Art Rooney II said. "But I know Ben's focus is on only one goal — to bring another Lombardi trophy back to Pittsburgh."

Roethlisberger will lead an offense in the midst of a generational shift at other skill positions. JuJu Smith-Schuster replaces Brown as Pittsburgh's top receiver and the running back combination of James Conner and Jaylen Samuels combined to put up numbers in 2018 similar to Bell's at his peak. There is stability, however, along the offensive line. Four of five starters return,

and there are plenty of potential in-house replacements for right tackle Marcus Gilbert, who was traded to Arizona in March.

Pittsburgh has toyed with finding Roethlisberger's eventual successor, drafting Josh Dobbs in the fourth round in 2017 and Mason Rudolph in the third round last year. Dobbs won the backup job last summer over Rudolph and veteran Landry Jones, who was cut on the eve of the 2018 season. Having them in place means the Steelers are likely to avoid drafting a quarterback with one of their 10 selections in the draft that starts Thursday.

Inside linebacker, cornerback and wide receiver figure to be Pittsburgh's biggest needs early.

Quarterback, for the 15th straight year, will not. Not with Roethlisberger still very much in charge early into the next decade.



AP PHOTO

Roethlisberger celebrates a 2017 touchdown by running back Le'Veon Bell during a game in Baltimore.

## Women's lacrosse back to A-10's for first time since '16

DREW WHITE  
staff writer

The Duquesne Dukes women's lacrosse team has clinched a postseason berth for the first time since 2016. After a 9-7 season, including a 4-5 mark in Atlantic 10 play, the Dukes will travel to Fairfax, Va. to take on the Richmond Spiders in the first round of the A-10 Championships on Thursday afternoon.

A 19-11 victory over La Salle in the conference finale on Saturday secured the spot for the Dukes in what has turned into a great turn-around season under first-year head coach Corrine Desrosiers.

After a 4-12 season last year and a 2-15 record the year prior, the Dukes were picked to finish last in the Atlantic 10, but to the surprise of most outside of the program, the Dukes surpassed their pre-season projections to lock up the sixth and final spot in the tournament, hosted by George Mason.

After having their backs against the wall with a 1-5 conference record, the Dukes turned it on, winning their last three conference games to clinch their postseason spot.

The first year under Desrosiers has been an impressive one and has seen the emer-

gence of a few different players, as well as the development of others.

Junior Rilee Bradshaw has perhaps been one of the main reasons for the turn-around. The Maryland native, after recording just 12 goals in her sophomore season, has netted a career-high 54 goals, good for second in the conference.

Sydney Reed, who started all 16 games as a freshman last year, has cemented herself as one of the best defenders in not only the conference — where she was recently named all-conference first team — but also in the nation. Reed, a New York native, ranks sixth in the nation in caused turnovers with 2.56 per game.

Another Duke received a first team all-conference selection in Maddie Hart. Hart was fantastic in the midfield for the Dukes, ranking second on the team in goals with 44. The junior also finished first in the conference in draw controls, second in caused turnovers with 2.5 per game, narrowly trailing Reed and also putting her seventh in the country, and third in the A-10 in ground balls. Her 3.44 ground balls per game put her fifth in the country in that category, as well.

Much of the Dukes' success this year has stemmed from a change in coaching as previously mentioned. While the

Dukes preached patience offensively last season, this year's squad has shot the ball quickly into possessions and has also shot the ball often. The Dukes rank sixth in the nation in scoring offense with 16.38 goals per game, while also generating over 40 shots per game, which paces the country as a whole.

All of that is part of Desrosiers' coaching philosophy. "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," said Desrosiers after a 17-2 victory over St. Francis earlier this season.

The defensive pressure is also evident in every game as the Dukes rank second in the nation in caused turnovers per game with nearly 17, trailing only Liberty University.

Now, the Dukes will battle the Richmond Spiders with the winner taking on the host in George Mason. Earlier this season, the Dukes lost to the Spiders, who are the defending champions, 18-14.



COURTESY OF DAVID DeNOMA VIA DUQUESNE ATHLETICS

The DU women's lacrosse team advanced to the conference postseason under a first-year coach.

# *I Think You Should Leave* is hilarious, but needs to abandon gross-out humor

**JOSIAH MARTIN**  
a&e editor

Sketch comedy is hard. Tim Robinson knows this, but has the tools to pull it off — he was a featured player and writer on *Saturday Night Live*. He has pulled out all the stops for *I Think You Should Leave with Tim Robinson*, creating a sketch show that gets the laughs, but is often too vulgar or absurd for its own good.

The first sketch of the first episode sees Robinson — an actor whose strong suit is excruciating, calculated awkwardness — leave a job interview at a restaurant by accidentally pulling on a “push” door. His interviewer informs him of his mistake, and Robinson’s character chooses to double down to save face, painfully pulling the door past its frame and off its hinges to make his exit.

This opener captures the overarching theme of many of the show’s sketches. They are awkward situations, taken to extremes or met with severely out-of-proportion reactions. The title *I Think You Should Leave* encapsulates this mood. Nearly every skit fea-

tures one character making such an irredeemable fool of themselves that the comedy often lies in how unaware they are of it. Somehow, it works every time.

Unfortunately, the show has one major flaw. It relies on ludicrous profanity and toilet humor as a crutch that it does not need. The show is funny, and the ideas behind its sketches are hilarious and inventive. So, when the first episode contains two separate and lengthy discussions in which “mudpie” is used as a euphemism for feces, it catches the viewer off guard and distracts from what was actually comedic about the sketch.

When a skit about a co-worker severely overreacting to a whoopee cushion prank becomes a vile monologue that I can’t reproduce in this dear Spiritan university’s student newspaper, it leaves me wishing that I could reach into the screen and cut a minute and a half off of the end of the sketch. This phenomenon repeated several times, and I had to fast-forward. Some of these sketches are funny at their core, but rely on some “funny” gross phrase and beat a long-since-deceased horse for far too long.



COURTESY OF NETFLIX

Tim Robinson as an awkward interviewee in his series' opening sketch.

*I Think You Should Leave* is still worth watching, though. Even if the sketches can be a swing and a miss, the talent at the forefront — including Robinson and guest stars such as Cecily Strong, Steven Yeun, Will Forte and Vanessa Bayer — find the comedy in nearly every sketch, on some level. The series is guest star-packed, and by real, experienced comedy talent.

If *I Think You Should Leave* gets a second season, maybe it will strike a balance and be able to fully shine. All the elements are there, and maybe Robinson and company can realize that the strengths in their comedic writing are tonal and situational, and they don’t need shock value to carry 15 minutes worth of sketches. My hopes are high.

## WEEK'S EVENTS

Therapy Dogs  
April 28 @ 7 p.m.

The good boys are back in town! Hosted by the Pre-Vet and Animal Enthusiasts Club, the event is free and located in Mellon Hall.

Arts Festival  
April 29 @ 5 p.m.

The Pediatric Pharmacy Advocacy Group is hosting this event with free food, live music and a chance to win a painting by local artist and former Steeler, Baron Batch. The event is \$10 in the Union Ballroom.

## UPCOMING RELEASES

*Avengers: Endgame*  
Friday, April 26

This much-anticipated film concludes the *Avengers* arc in the Marvel Cinematic Universe, and serves as a follow-up to *Infinity War*, which saw the deaths of much of the main cast.

*In the End*  
The Cranberries  
Friday, April 26

Irish rock band The Cranberries are releasing their seventh and final album using surviving vocal demos by lead singer Dolores O'Riordan, who died in 2018.

## MICRO REVIEW

*Jesus Christ is Risen Today*  
14th Century Hymn

Uh-oh! Easter time is back, and you know what that means — time to hear this absolute banger of a song nearly every Sunday. This is “We are the Champions” for Catholics, folks. From reaching into my falsetto register to belt out the line “who did once upon the cross,” to singing “Alleluia” as a 10-syllable word, I’ve waited all year to belt this bad boy at mass and the day is finally here. Happy Easter.

-Josiah Martin

## HOROSCOPES



### Taurus

(April 20-May 20)

This week, buy some colorful suspenders, since you seem to want to act like an absolute clown.



### Gemini

(May 21-June 20)

The flowers are beginning to bloom! The sun is out! Stay inside and take a nap.



### Cancer

(June 21-July 22)

Live like a jack-in-the-box. As people put more and more pressure on you, just crouch low and sing “Pop Goes the Weasel.”



### Leo

(July 23-August 22)

Try finding joy in something greater than yourself. Literal garbage, for example.



### Virgo

(August 23-September 22)

The jig is up. He can’t run forever. Today’s the day you catch the Hamburglar.



### Libra

(September 23-October 22)

Sorry Libra, the stars hold no truth for you this week! Maybe next time!



### Scorpio

(October 23-November 22)

Easter ham and Easter cheese! I’m begging, daddy, please, please, please!



### Sagittarius

(November 23-December 22)

Good news! I know French, and buddy, your French final paper is *énorme coude!*



### Capricorn

(December 22-January 19)

Do you remember how Andy Dufresne broke out of Shawshank? That’s how your finals week is going to feel.



### Aquarius

(January 20-February 18)

A chance at true love, beauty and happiness rears its ugly head once again.



### Pisces

(February 19-March 20)

“Nothing to see here, folks,” you whisper to yourself in your dressing room mirror. The stage is set for your one-woman show, but the crowds have gone home. No applause. It’s over.



### Aries

(March 21-April 19)

Grab life by the handlebars and pop a wheelie into success!

# Tekkoshon comes back to Pittsburgh, packed with events

NEIL RUNGE  
staff writer

The 17th annual Tekkoshon came to Pittsburgh just before Easter break — and it was amazing.

It was a sea of people in costumes. The quality ranged from creations that involved moving parts that had months of work, to outfits like what I wore, which was some things I grabbed from my closet.

For a little background, Tekkoshon, usually just called Tekko, had its first appearance in 2003 by the Pittsburgh Japanese Culture Society. Tekko is an anime and general Japanese culture appreciation convention along with a fashion show.

It's not limited to just those things, though. This convention was the home to all things nerdy. I saw people dressed as comic book characters, people from podcasts and I swear I saw someone dressed as a car. Not a Transformer, just a plain car.

This year was my first attending; in my friend group there were those who had been a few times before. Even if I had gone there alone or in a ten-person group, the Tekko crew made the David L. Lawrence Convention Center easy to navigate. There were maps on the walls pointing me in the direction of everything I could need in a color-coded, organized way. There were also schedules that listed every event for

the whole four-day con.

There were so many events throughout the four days, there was no way any person could see everything, but that isn't a bad thing. It means that there's something for everyone, from Naruto-themed Dungeons and Dragons sessions to escape rooms, a tiny hat making panel and so much more.

One of my favorite events that I attended was the escape room. This year the room was robot-themed. It was me and four other people all tasked to solve a set of puzzles in 45 minutes. My group got out of there with 15 minutes to spare, which we told was the best time of the night.

The escape room was surprisingly calming. The pressure fostered an instant friendship with people I barely knew or just met, which was wonderful.

The other event that ranked up there with the escape room for me was the dance competition. I didn't compete, but cheering in the crowd was just as fun. There was a wide variety of performers, which included a group of about 10 people all dancing in perfect synchronization to hardcore Korean rap music, but also soloists dancing to beautiful ballads.

When I felt like relaxing or just wandering around, there was the dealer's room. This room was a giant part of the convention center dedicated solely to art. There were posters, figurines, enamel pins,



COURTESY OF TEAMTEKKO.US

The dealers' room features various vendors. Attendees are pictured in a wide variety of vibrant costumes.

stickers, plushies, pretty much anything you could want with your favorite anime character's face on it. This is where I spent most of my time and money. I walked out of that room once the four-day con was over with enough art to cover more than a few dorm rooms.

Kayce Boggess, a student at Duquesne University who introduced me to Tekko, went for her second time this year. "I think it's pretty neat how accepting the conven-

tion is to different body types, races, etc.," she told me. I agree, it was one of the most accepting environments I've been in.

Tekko is a good convention for beginners; it isn't as big New York City Comic Con and it isn't so small that there isn't anything fun to do. It also doesn't break the bank, which was a big concern for me. I only paid \$40 for a pass for the whole event. I'll absolutely be going back next year and I'll probably up my cosplay game.

# Shazam! balances action with humor, thanks to cast

NATALIE SCHROEDER  
staff writer

After its opening weekend, *Shazam!* earned its rightful place at the top of the box office with \$53.3 million. With 168 reviews, Rotten Tomatoes labeled this movie Certified Fresh. The movie was written by Henry Gayden and directed by David F. Sandberg with a cast that brought humor to the screen. This movie follows a young boy, Billy Batson (Asher Angel), as he struggles through foster care and finding his mother. After being placed in a new foster home, he gets in a fight with two older boys trying to save Freddy (Dylan Grazer), one of the kids in



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his foster home, and is summoned by the Wizard (Djimon Hounsou) to be named the "champion." *Shazam!* captivated my attention from the very beginning, as it started out with a flashback.

The movie starts out showing the boy, Thad (Mark Strong), that would grow up to be the villain. Thad is a young boy in the 1970s when he is given the opportunity to be given the Wizard's power, but his greed gets in the way. Since he cannot resist the Seven Deadly Sins, he is turned away by the Wizard. Thad then returns to his father and brother and grows up trying to find the Wizard and take the power of the Seven Deadly Sins for himself.

In a similar scene between the Wizard and Billy, Billy says the Wizard's name, Shazam, and he becomes a fully grown man with powers. While this movie is a superhero versus supervillain film, it also centers around a 14-year-old boy who still behaves as such, even when he is the fully grown Shazam (Zachary Levi). After his encounter with the Wizard, Billy and Freddy test his new powers. This montage of scenes add humor to the movie as Billy is able to do things as Shazam that he would not be able to do as his 14-year-old self. It's hilarious to see a full grown man buy beer only to spit it back out on the first drink, especially when Freddy does the same when he tastes beer for the first time as well.

Throughout filming the movie, Levi spent most of his time with the young actors to better play Shazam as Billy. This worked out in his favor, as I easily understood that Shazam was still Billy and his appearance was the only thing that changed. While it is the audience's first thought that Billy should use his powers



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Zachary Levi stars as Shazam, the titular hero and alter ego of 14-year-old Billy Batson.

to save people, it is also understandable that a teenage boy would want to have fun first. Freddy plays an important role in Billy's decision to save people from Thad and the Seven Deadly Sins, and it makes Billy think like a hero rather than a 14-year-old.

Overall, the movie was enjoyable and can make an audience laugh several times. The movie itself is sillier than other superhero movies an audience is used to, which separates this film from others. The actors

themselves add depth to characters, especially Zachary Levi and Asher Angel as they tackle different aspects of the same character. They way Shazam and Billy both interact with Freddy in the same way shows that Levi and Angel worked together closely to have cohesive scenes. This movie has action, comedic relief and family love at its heart. Should Shazam hit the big screen again, I will be rooting for him to succeed just like I did in this first installment.

## Attacks in Sri Lanka continues to go tragically unnoticed

STAFF ED — from page 4

deserve our attention, empathy and aid just as much as the victims of horrors that happen closer to home.

As reporters, we can't cherry-pick which tragedies get covered, nor can we differentiate between how we cover events that happen in the East versus the West. As citizens, we have to extend our empathy beyond our borders and allow it to cross oceans. Tragedy knows no homeland. If our hearts broke for Paris, they have to ache for Sri Lanka, as well.

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## THIS WEEK'S WEATHER

Thursday

67°  Mostly cloudy, a little rain

Friday

63°  Mostly cloudy, a little rain

Saturday

59°  Turning cloudy

Sunday

55°  Variable clouds, a shower

Monday

64°  A chance for showers

Tuesday

66°  Chance of a morning thunderstorm

Wednesday

77°  A shower possible; warmer

*Courtesy of AccuWeather*



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