



## Student Artists Empower Victims Through Artwork



OLIVIA DONIA / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

"Artistic Trauma: Empowerment through Mediums," was an event that featured student artists from local universities. Their art explores the psychological aftereffects of trauma on a person. It also is a way to challenge stigmas and empower survivors of sexual violence. This event was held April 9 in the Africa Room.

## Duquesne implements environmentally friendly strategies

**KELLEN STEPLER**

staff writer

Kermit the frog said, "It's not easy being green."

But for Duquesne University, it is.

According to the Princeton Review, Duquesne is "one of the country's most environmentally responsible colleges." The review does not rank schools overall from 1-399, however of 648 schools receiving green ratings, Duquesne is among the 399 schools classified in the 80th percentile or higher.

Neighboring school University of Pittsburgh also made the list.

Like Duquesne, Pitt has installed

water bottle refilling stations on campus. Differing from Duquesne, they also offers a bring your own bag program, which, according to Pitt's website, has reduced single-use plastic bags by 95%.

Overall, Duquesne received an 82 out of 99 total "green rating" from The Princeton Review for its commitment to sustainability.

A press release from Duquesne said that the "report [ranks] on everything from the schools' use of renewable energy, recycling and conservation programs, to the availability of environmental studies and career guidance for green jobs."



MEGAN KLINEFELTER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A building that models Duquesne's sustainability efforts is Des Places Residence Hall.

Des Places earned a Gold LEED certification. The building was designed and constructed with energy conservation in mind.

LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, and it is one of the most popular green building certification programs used worldwide. The program focuses primarily on new, commercial-building projects based on a points system.

LEED rates a building on nine

**see GREEN — page 2**

### Follow us on...



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### opinions

Mormon Church steps toward inclusion  
LDS lifts restrictions on LGBTQ+ members

PAGE 5

### features

Faces of Homelessness  
Stories of J and Elizabeth

PAGE 6

### sports

Duquesne loses Eric Williams Jr., others  
4 MBB players announce intent to transfer

PAGE 78

### a & e

Come from Away  
The Broadway musical comes to the Benedum

PAGE 10



## POLICE BRIEFS

Crime reports are down this week and Sister PB is pleased, even though it makes her job a bit boring.

On April 3, a Parkhurst employee reported that a coat belonging to him was taken from the men's locker room located on the second floor of the Hogan Dining hall kitchen area.

On April 6, a student in St. Ann's was found to be in the possession of THC "wax" and THC oil. They were referred to the Office of Student Conduct. They were then arrested by UPMC Mercy Police.

On April 8, a Gumberg Library employee reported eight books stolen from the scholastic Book Fair on the second floor of the Union.

Don't forget, no classes Thursday, Friday and Monday of the next weeks. Take all of your hooligan activities home with you for Easter break!

## JOKE CORNER!

**Q: Can February March?**  
**A: No, but April May!**

**Q: What does the Easter Bunny get for making a basket?**  
**A: Two points just like everybody.**

**Q: When do monkeys fall from the sky?**  
**A: During Ape-ril showers!**

## JOIN THE DUKE!

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**We want your input!**

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

## Duquesne ranks high on sustainability surveys

**GREEN — from page 1**

criteria: an integrative process, its location and transportation, sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, indoor environmental quality, innovation and regional priority.

Des Places, built in 2012, boasts many features to earn this rating. Carpeting, flooring and ceiling tiles are made from recycled materials. A light-colored roof covering slows heat buildup, and rooftop solar cells generate electricity. Water saving toilets are in each room, and high capacity washers that use half the water per load as a normal washer are on each floor.

The Genesius Theater, Duquesne's newest building on campus, has energy-efficient lighting, low-flow wa-

ter devices and an efficient heating and cooling system.

Additionally, the Power Center earned a silver LEED rating. The building houses event rooms and exercise facilities. An interior renovation of the Student Union also achieved a silver LEED rating.

Duquesne's Department of Facilities Management takes the main role in the university's efforts to maintain, enhance and expand the campus using green methods and technologies. The Energy Center on campus makes it possible to produce and consume clean power on campus.

David Chismar, supervisor of energy management and forecasting, facilities management, said, "All electricity on Duquesne's campus is either produced in the University's

efficient, natural gas-burning Cogeneration Plant or it is purchased from renewable energy providers."

"The Cogeneration Plant is a more efficient energy source than a standard electrical generating plant because the 'waste heat' produced by the electric generator's gas-fired turbine is used to produce steam required year-round by the campus," said Chismar.

Other campus buildings are implementing procedures to stay environmentally friendly.

"The university is also replacing lighting across campus with LEDs for more efficiency and better lighting. Significant or whole-building HVAC replacements include the School of Music, College Hall, the Union, Canevin Hall, A.J. Palumbo Center, Libermann Hall and Assumption Hall," said Chismar.

The sustainability report notes that Duquesne uses LED fixtures, which can reduce energy consumption by as much as 90%. More than 80% of Duquesne's cleaning products are environmentally friendly, and has recycling receptacles all over campus for paper, plastic, glass and metal.

Duquesne also offers programs for students passionate about learning and researching energy

conservation.

The School of Law created an energy and environmental law concentration, and joined with the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences to begin a joint J.D./M.S. in environmental science and management.

The Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences supports sustainability initiatives on campus, in Pittsburgh and worldwide. They partner with 3Rivers Quest, Allegheny Land Trust, Animal Rescue League and Pittsburgh Project's Urban Farming. Also, the Palumbo-Donahue School of Business created a Master in Business Administration Sustainability program.

Chismar also noted other things the Duquesne community can do to improve sustainability, like making sure that lights are turned off when areas are not being used, keeping thermostat temperatures in a range of 66 to 74, minimizing water use and following appropriate disposal guidelines.

"More people at the university are aware of and supportive of sustainability than ever before. Increasing that campus buy-in and participation would improve our efforts," Chismar said.



COURTESY OF LEED CERTIFICATION

Each color corresponds to a certain number of points that a building can earn.

## World War II POW shares story with DU students

**JOSIAH MARTIN**  
a&e editor

Duquesne students packed into the small second-floor lounge of Assumption Hall on April 9 to hear the story of Carmen Leffler, who was held as a prisoner of war in the Japanese-occupied Philippines during World War II.

Leffler, just 18 years old at the time of her internment, is now 95 — she was accompanied at the event by her daughter Michele, who shared the story of Carmen's experience from a long document, compiled over the years from her detailed memories of the incident.

In 1942, Carmen was living in the Philippines with her mother, Anna, and grandmother, Petra. Though of Spanish descent, Carmen was born in the U.S., and considered herself an American. She was the

only American-born student of the Good Shepherd convent school, where she stayed and studied.

"Carmen received a lot of special attention there. They considered her a 'holy terror,' and were determined to straighten her out," Michele said. "In many ways, they were the parents she never had."

When Carmen's mother Petra encouraged her to keep her American citizenship secret as Japanese forces took Manila in January 1942, Carmen reportedly replied, "Well, I am an American, and I don't care who knows it."

As Japanese soldiers took over the city, Gen. Douglas MacArthur, housed in a large mansion a short distance from Petra's home, was evacuated and escaped. Michelle recounted an incident where many of the remaining American citizens were marched down Dewey Boulevard.

"Japanese soldiers were always on hand to club them until they stood up again, or became lifeless and bloodied lumps on the street," Michele said. "Carmen saw Japanese soldiers bayonet fallen Americans."

This event had a profound effect on Carmen.

"At the Good Shepherd, she was taught to hate the devil — and on that day, on Dewey Boulevard, she thought she hated the Japanese more."

Though she evaded capture for a short while, Carmen refused to hide her American citizenship and was interned at Santo Tomas internment camp. This site was home to the University of Santo Tomas, and Carmen was kept in a classroom with five other roommates on the second floor of the school's main building.

"Carmen spent every night in that building, but she doesn't remember the names of her roommates, because the only thing she did in that room was sleep on a cot," Michele said.

In early 1944, the Imperial Japanese Army took over direct control of the camp, and conditions worsened.

"The new commandant made it clear from day one that they were all suspected resistance members and would be treated as such," Michele said.

The package line was shut down, most food was cut off and taken from the internees, the perimeter was patrolled by armed guards and harassment of the prisoners increased. One Japanese lieutenant forced prisoners to learn to bow to

him properly.

In September 1944, however, Carmen saw a sign that better days were on the way.

"As Japanese guards ran this way and that, [Carmen] looked up to see a single silver-bodied plane flying over Santo Tomas as it turned toward Manila harbor," Michele said. "[The wings] bore not the Japanese ... rising sun insignia, but the white star and circle of blue of the American Air Force."

Conditions did not, however, improve immediately. It was not until Feb. 3, 1945, that liberation finally arrived for the prisoners. U.S. forces successfully fought off the Japanese forces that controlled the camp that night. In the months following, Carmen was reunited with her mother, who survived, despite rumors to the contrary.

The story, as Michele told it, changed gears at this point, as Carmen befriended Sgt. Leroy Leffler, a U.S. soldier from Johnstown, PA. For the remainder of her time in the Philippines, and following Carmen's triumphant return to the U.S., Sgt. Leffler repeatedly asked Carmen to marry him. She refused consistently, eventually accepting his proposal while on her way back from finally reuniting with her biological father.

"Lee wasn't giving up — he knew what he wanted, and he wanted to marry Carmen, so he decided to take her window shopping in down-



CARISSA HASLAM / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**see POW — page 3**



# Huffman, 12 other parents to plead guilty in college scheme

(AP) — “Desperate Housewives” star Felicity Huffman and a dozen other prominent parents have agreed to plead guilty in the college admissions bribery scam that ensnared wealthy families and athletic coaches at some of the nation’s most selective universities, federal authorities said Monday.

The actress and the other parents were charged last month in the scheme, which authorities say involved rigging standardized test scores and bribing coaches at such prestigious schools as Yale and Georgetown.

Huffman, 56, was accused of paying a consultant \$15,000 disguised as a charitable donation to boost her daughter’s SAT score. Authorities say the actress also discussed going through with the same plan for her younger daughter but ultimately decided not to.

She will plead guilty to a single charge of conspiracy and fraud, according to court documents. Those charges are punishable by up to 20 years in prison, but the plea agreement indicates prosecutors will seek a sentence of four to 10 months.

Experts have said they expect some parents will avoid prison time if they quickly accept responsibility. All of the defendants will have to return to Boston to enter formal guilty pleas, but no new court dates were set.

Other parents charged in the scheme include prominent figures in law, finance, fashion, the food and beverage industry and other fields.

It’s the biggest college admissions case ever prosecuted by the Justice Department. The scandal embroiled elite universities across the country and laid bare the lengths to which status-seeking parents will go to secure their children a coveted spot.

The consultant, Rick Singer, met with Huffman and her husband, 69-year-old actor William H. Macy, at their Los Angeles home and explained to them that he “controlled” a testing center and could have somebody secretly change their

daughter’s answers, authorities said. Singer told investigators Huffman and her husband agreed to the plan.

Macy was not charged. Authorities have not said why.

In a statement offering her first public comments since her arrest, Huffman apologized, took responsibility for her actions and said she would accept the consequences.

“My daughter knew absolutely nothing about my actions, and in my misguided and profoundly wrong way, I have betrayed her. This transgression toward her and the public I will carry for the rest of my life. My desire to help my daughter is no excuse to break the law or engage in dishonesty,” she said.

The streaming service Netflix said Monday that the April 26 release date of a film starring Huffman, called “Otherhood,” will be moved with a new release date to be determined.

Michael Center, the former men’s tennis coach at the University of Texas at Austin, has also agreed to plead guilty, prosecutors said Monday. Center was accused of accepting nearly \$100,000 to help a non-tennis playing applicant get admitted as a recruit.

California real estate developer Bruce Isackson and his wife, Davina Isackson, who are pleading guilty to participating in both the athletic recruitment and exam rigging schemes, are cooperating with prosecutors for a chance at a lighter sentence.

“We have worked cooperatively with the prosecutors and will continue to do so as we take full responsibility for our bad judgment,” they said in a statement.

Actress Lori Loughlin, who played Aunt Becky on the sitcom “Full House,” and her fashion designer husband, Mosimmo Giannulli, are charged with paying \$500,000 in bribes to get their two daughters admitted to the University of Southern California as rowing recruits, even though neither participated in the sport. They were not among those who agreed to plead guilty, and they have not



COURTESY OF THE ASSOCIATE PRESS

publicly addressed the allegations.

Loughlin and Giannulli may be hoping they can get a better deal once the media attention dies down, said former prosecutor Adam Citron. They are also accused of paying much more than Huffman and some other parents, which would call for stiffer penalties under the sentencing guidelines.

Prosecutors “are likely trying to hold her out as an example, so I would assume the plea deal was not the same plea deal as the other defendants,” said Citron, an attorney at New York’s Davidoff Hutter & Citron LLP.

Singer, the consultant, pleaded guilty to charges including racketeering conspiracy on March 12, the same day the allegations against the parents and coaches were made public in the so-called Operations Varsity Blues investigation. Singer secretly recorded his conversations with the parents, helping to build the case against them, after agreeing to work with investigators in the hopes of getting a lesser sentence.

Several coaches have also been charged, including longtime tennis coach Gordon Ernst who’s accused of getting \$2.7 mil-

lion in bribes to designate at least 12 applicants as recruits to Georgetown. Ernst, who was also the personal tennis coach for former first lady Michelle Obama and her daughters, and other coaches have pleaded not guilty.

Former Yale University women’s soccer coach Rudy Meredith has pleaded guilty to accepting bribes to help students get admitted and has been cooperating with authorities. Stanford’s former sailing coach John Vandemoer also pleaded guilty to accepting \$270,000 in contributions to the program for agreeing to recommend two prospective students for admission.

Stanford University expelled a student who lied about her sailing credentials in her application, which was linked to the scandal. The university quietly announced it had rescinded the student’s admission in a short statement posted on its website April 2 after determining “some of the material in the student’s application is false.”

University officials previously said the student was admitted without the recommendation of Vandemoer.

## Annual event for the Rwandan Genocide

LUKE SCHRUM  
staff writer

Remembering history is important to avoid repeating mistakes. In order to remember and discuss history, Duquesne University and its Center for African Studies has hosted annual events each April to commemorate the anniversary of the Rwandan Genocide. This year’s event, on April 16, is called Law and Healing: Lessons from the Rwandan Genocide, is being hosted in conjunction with the School of Law to discuss the healing process from a societal perspective on the judicial process.

Gerald Boodoo, director of the Center for African Studies, described the origins of the annual event being hosted at Duquesne starting with an initiative by former university president, Charles Dougherty.

“About five years ago, President Dougherty started a special scholarship for Rwandan girls. There’s a school in Rwanda that goes around the world and gets them into universities, and President Dougherty agreed to host five,” Boodoo said.

Most of the girls have graduated or continued to pursue graduate

degrees, but the impact of a conversation they had with Boodoo has become the annual commemoration of the Rwandan Genocide.

“When I learned they were on campus, I called them together to chat. Out of it came the idea that Duquesne University should be part of the worldwide memorial of the genocide which happens every year in the first week of April,” Boodoo said.

The event focuses on a different subject regarding the genocide each year depending on the speaker or specific anniversaries.

“Every year we bring in a speaker. This year is the 25th anniversary of the genocide which is also a time when some people who were convicted will be released,” Boodoo said.

With this anniversary, the Center for African Studies and School of Law sought to hold a discussion about the intersection of law and the healing process.

“The question came up: How are they going to be accepted into society? Does that bring about some sort of healing? Can society actually accept the fact that they paid

for their actions?” Boodoo said.

While the Rwandan Genocide occurred 25 years ago, the recent Tree of Life shooting in Pittsburgh’s Squirrel Hill neighborhood brought tragedy closer to home.

“The other side was the [Tree of Life shooting] which demonstrated that stuff like this doesn’t only happen across the world: it happens here, too. It brought a consciousness and recognition here for how can you deal with that?” Boodoo said.

The legal process is set up in order to bring about justice, but questions and the need for discussion still exist.

“When someone is convicted and serves time, does it bring healing? Does the legal process and law allow for society and individuals to deal with the situation that has happened? That’s the context we wanted to host this talk in,” Boodoo said.

This year’s speaker is Hon. Maria Wilson, a judge of the Supreme Court of Trinidad and Tobago. The event looks to encourage conversation not only for the anniversary of the Rwandan Genocide, but how law affects healing on a larger scale.

## POW tells story to educate listeners

**POW — from page 2**

town Johnstown,” Michelle said, to laughter from those in attendance.

Taking her to a jeweler’s shop, Michelle shared Sgt. Lefler’s master plan — “Now I got you,” he said. “Either you’re going to pick out an engagement ring and say yes, or I’m going to cause a scene and embarrass the living daylight out of you.”

Carmen accepted. Michelle teared up while talking about Sgt. Lefler, her late father. Though Carmen herself was relatively silent during the presentation, she lit up at several points in the story — once while Michelle recounted the story of when Carmen

doused the dinner of an American MP with hot sauce. Carmen did this as revenge for the MP’s abuse of elderly passengers aboard the ship.

Carmen also smiled upon learning that an attendee spoke Spanish, in which Carmen is still fluent. The two briefly conversed in Spanish during and following the event.

Michelle shared Carmen’s philosophy in moving on from the tragic events in Manila, as Carmen carried resentment toward the Japanese soldiers for many years.

“The guilty generation is almost gone,” Michelle said. “The world has changed. The lifelong objects of her hatred have all but disappeared.”



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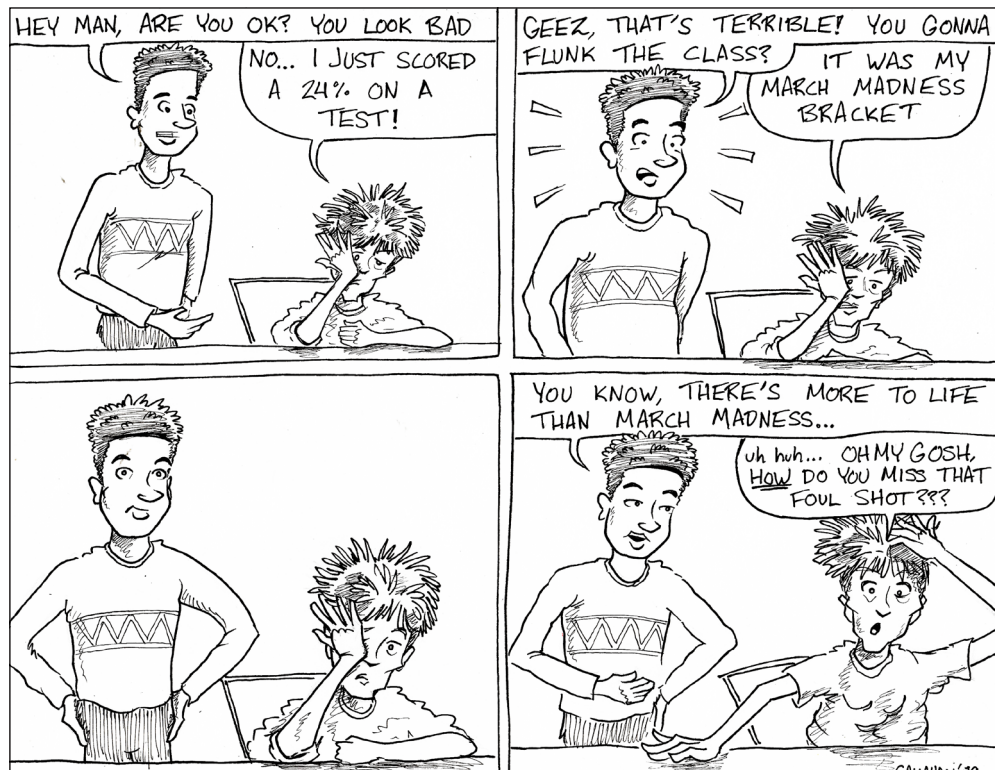
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CARTOON BY JORDAN CALLAHAN

in focus...

## Pittsburgh gun control legislation is a necessary step in preventing attacks

OLLIE GRATZINGER

opinions editor

On April 9, Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto signed into action legislation that would restrict the use of assault-style weapons, like the one used to kill 11 people at the Tree of Life Synagogue last October. We unfortunately live in a time in which every public event comes with the fear of horrible violence; this gun law is the first step in restoring a sense of safety that many haven't felt in a long while.

After a similar tragedy befell New Zealand and 50 Muslim worshippers lost their lives to a white supremacist, the country's parliament voted 119-1 in favor of banning assault weapons. Once the law receives approval from the governor general, the law will ban the majority of assault-style and semiautomatic guns throughout the whole of New Zealand.

This is the kind of common-sense gun control that we ought to implement throughout the U.S., and the kind that Pittsburgh lawmakers are attempting to create in our city. America has had more mass shootings than any other country in the world, with more than 300 incidents in 2018. In almost every case that resulted in numerous fatalities, the murder weapon was an assault-style rifle.

It isn't like the mayor is trying to take away all your guns,

despite the rhetoric being spat around by gun-rights activists. Handguns for self-defense are still protected. A rifle for hunting? No one at the lawmaking level has any real issue with that; they aren't the things that people are taking into crowds and killing people with.

The issue is semiautomatic and assault-type guns — weapons designed for the sole intention of killing as many

people as possible, as quickly as possible.

These are weapons of war, weapons that are only designed to hurt people en masse. This type of firearm, unfeasible to the Founding Fathers, was not what they had in mind when they crafted the Second Amendment. It took an average of 20 seconds to load and fire a musket. It's fair to say that today's assault rifles are a far cry from the technology of the Revolutionary War.

The government is not going to barge into your house and take your antique pistol. Legislation like what Peduto is trying to pass will keep our community safer by limiting access to weapons that no one outside of a warzone really needs.

The events of Oct. 27 changed Pittsburgh in ways that are subtle, but ample. At the entrance of major venues like the Benedum Center, there are lines of metal detectors and security guards searching bags. Memorials pop up with the names of the fallen 11, and signs in Squirrel Hill storefronts read, "Stron-

ger Than Hate" and "Love Thy Neighbor."

Outside of synagogues, guards stand at attention, opening the doors for service-goers. They're friendly enough, and they start to recognize the regulars with firm smiles and pleasant greetings, but that isn't the point. It's always easy to tell that they wish they didn't have to be there as much as we wish we didn't need them.

The week after the Tree of Life shooting, I sat inside of my synagogue with a class studying Torah, just like we did every Thursday night. It was quiet. No one really knew what to say. The rabbi seemed tired. We heard in the distance an indistinct voice shouting from somewhere on the upper floors of the temple. Our class was in the basement, and in retrospect, it was just spirited conversation echoing through the empty halls of a huge, stone building, seeming louder than it really was. But there was a moment of silent horror, of nameless fear, in which we all wondered the same thing: What do we do if the next sound we hear is gunfire? I had never wondered that before.

Banning assault-style weapons won't fix the larger systemic issue of hate and the crimes it births, but it's a start. It's a step in the right direction. In banning these guns, we're acknowledging that there's a problem, and we're doing something about it. It only took one tragedy for New Zealand to take action, with much less resistance than we're facing in Pittsburgh. Thoughts and prayers are nice and all, but they don't fix society when it breaks. Laws do that. Laws can change things, so long as we let them.

## STAFF EDITORIAL

### DU ranked fourth locally in student debt

Student loan debt and the mounting cost of higher education is often the source of self-deprecating jokes and existential woes that plague college students. Students here at Duquesne are no stranger to this phenomenon — as we have previously reported and the student body is painfully aware of, the university has increased tuition by about \$9,000 since 2013.

While this is an issue that all college students face, recent data published by Lend EDU in a report from the Pittsburgh Business Times revealed that Duquesne students have the fourth-highest debt of all local universities, ranked far above neighboring schools like Carnegie Mellon, University of Pittsburgh and Point Park. Additionally, Pennsylvania has one of the highest national averages of student debt.

According to data from the U.S. Federal Reserve, the collective American student debt currently clocks in at \$1.56 trillion dollars, with 44.7 million people contributing to that monster amount. In 2019, this is the highest rate of student loan debt in American history. As of 2017, the youngest sector of the population shoulders the largest amount of debt, with Americans 30 years old and younger owing a total of \$16.8 million. In a recent article about the mounting total of college debt, Forbes categorized this as a "crisis."

This systemic issue is only getting worse by the year, burying students with loans they cannot afford to pay back in a job market that is only increasing the obstacles for employment. Many entry-level jobs now require previous experience such as internships (many of which are unpaid) or a Master's degree. All of which present even more economic hardships placed in the way of moving ahead with a career in any capacity.

In raising tuition rates every year and often not adjusting student scholarships to reflect the inflation, universities are not providing their students with the tools to succeed as they boast to intend; instead, the high cost of college is placing barriers in front of students being able to move forward with the career they paid thousands of dollars to cultivate.

Though Duquesne's ranking probably should not come as a surprise, it is still a frightening feeling to know that the average debt a Duquesne student will leave the Bluff with is \$43,673 dollars, according to Lend EDU. The climbing annual rise in tuition has not helped, either. Though it is a private school, and students who choose to forgo the price of in-state public tuition to pursue a private degree should prepare for the added expense, nothing can prepare any student for the nation's student loan crisis that is, at this point, outrageously out of control.



# OPINIONS

## As semester stress piles up, rejection is not end of world

ALYSE KAMINSKI  
staff columnist

April has to be the most stressful month of the year. Finals are approaching and some students are figuring out summer internships or jobs. In the past two months I've dealt with two internship rejections and the to-do list for finals is piling up. Needless to say, I am very stressed, but I have been doing the best I can to find a silver lining in the midst of all this chaos.

My first internship rejection arrived in my email inbox the first day of February. Let's just say I did not handle it well, and I found myself crying in the bathroom of my boyfriend's apartment for an hour. Was I being dramatic? Maybe, but it was honestly the first time I had been told no. It was the first time I was told there were better writers out there than me. Of course I knew that, but hearing it from a company I respected and wanted to work for put a damper on my ego.

I realized in the next few weeks that I absolutely needed this rejection. I needed to reevaluate myself.

I know I am good at what I do, but being told no put a few things into perspective for me. There will always be other people who deserve a job as much as I do. Sometimes you just are not what a company is looking for, but that doesn't make you bad at your craft.

My second rejection arrived about two weeks ago. Again, I cried. I cried a lot. I felt really confident about this one, and I was sure I was going to get it. Disappointed would be an understatement, but again, I made it out alive and well.

So I learned that rejections are not few and far between. There will be plenty, I am sure, before I find an internship or major-related job that is right for me. This is going to happen to a lot of us. There are going to be people who seamlessly get the opportunities they want, but don't let that be a discouragement. The best thing I have learned through this experience is that comparison is not healthy. Focus on you and your worth. I promise that just because a company did not choose you, it doesn't necessarily mean that you are not good at what you do.

Finally, finals are coming up



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and that has been causing me just as much stress as my internship search.

If you're anything like me, you put a heavy amount of pressure on yourself when it comes to school. I always carry with me a desire to be perfect. In recent years, I've toned this down, but I still deal with it. However, I have found various strategies helpful in keeping a healthy mindset when things get tough at school.

First and foremost, take a break. Cramming or overworking yourself will not work. Rarely have I ever crammed for a test and done better than I would have if I would've

relaxed more about it. Take a study break and go for a walk. Hang out with friends or take a nap.

With that being said, try not to use "taking a break" as an excuse for procrastination. Set a schedule for specific tasks. Have days dedicated to studying and others set aside for writing papers or doing projects. Overloading on different tasks will make it easy to want to put it off.

Finally, be nice to yourself. When it comes down to it, grades are not everything. Yes, they are important, but your grades do not ever determine your worth. Remember that you could be a 4.0

student, but oftentimes what really matters is your heart and soul. Try practicing more mindfulness techniques this finals season. I know it can be difficult, but in the end it is totally worth it.

If you take away anything from this article, I hope it's the idea that things will not always go your way, but that doesn't make it a bad life. Employers will reject you and sometimes you will get a C on something you wanted an A on. When the day is done, what matters is not your grades or how many people want to hire you. I will always argue that is better to be a good person over anything.

## Mormon Church to reverse anti-LGBTQ+ policies, procedures

TIMOTHY RUSH  
staff columnist

April 4, 2019, is a day that will live on as a milestone in the hearts of the LGBTQ+ members of the the Latter-Day Saints (LDS) Church. On that day, the church made an announcement reversing their policies regarding their positions on homosexuals in the church.

Originally made in 2015, the policies labeled those with same-sex relations as apostates of the church, meaning that they were no longer accepted members. It also prohibited children of same-sex couples from being baptized and blessed by the church. This position resulted in many LGBTQ+ congregation members and their supporters being betrayed and ashamed, which led many to leave. This was an act that effectively removed a whole class of people and also punished their children for the identity of their parents.

On April 4, we saw a reversal of these policies. LDS members with same-sex relations are no longer labeled as apostates, and the Church has completely reversed its policies on the children of same-sex couples, citing continuing revelation. This doesn't mean that the LDS Church is now an affirming church, as homosexual behavior is still condemned, and same-sex marriage is still seen as a transgression within it.

While I do consider this a victory in the name of equality, I do not want to focus on just the LDS Church and how they haven't gone far enough. This is a problem with the entire Christian landscape, one that transcends denominations, and is one that I, as a Christian,

am very concerned about.

I identify as a Quaker who aligns with the liberal tradition of the movement. I am quite proud of the fact that we have been accepting of the LGBTQ+ community. In 2004, the Friends General Conference, one of three U.S. Quaker associations, issued a statement that our religious community was enriched by the presence its LGBTQ+ members in our meetings and conferences. Not only that, but we have a history of fighting against discrimination in the U.S., with the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) actively opposing the Federal Marriage Amendment in 2004.

However, the beliefs and experiences of the Quakers are far from representative of the religious landscape of the U.S. The Christian community across the U.S. has a long history of being the most outspoken opponents of equal rights for the LGBTQ+ community. What troubles me is not so much that there are groups that are rampantly prejudiced but how much self-awareness there is about being bigoted and how much they're trying cover it up.

I brought up the LDS Church because it has long tried to cover up its rampant discriminatory policies by saying it wasn't a matter of identity, it was a matter of the action. Gay LDS members are accepted if they reject their identity and force themselves into either chastity or heterosexual relationships, which we know isn't healthy for any individual. And while you can now be a member of the LDS Church and still have same-sex relations, it's still clear that your actions aren't going to be accepted by the church.

The Catholic Church has a very similar school

of thought. You can be Catholic and have same-sex attraction, but you must reject it all and be chaste. While Pope Francis and some church leaders talk about being more open to the LGBTQ+ community, the Catechism and church policy speak a little louder. Both of which say that one cannot have same-sex relations and that they must reject their identity to still be in good standing with the church.

In Protestant denominations, we still find the same exact homophobia. Among the evangelical traditions are where some of the most rampant homophobic movements come from. Notorious "Ex-Gay" organizations typically have strong ties to fundamentalist churches and denominations. And among all these groups comes this very key phrase "hate the sin, love the sinner." And here's the problem with that phrase: it's a distinction with no difference. It basically translates to "don't hate the person, just hate what the person is." Which still serves to justify the same exact homophobia that permeates across the churches.

The United Methodist Church (UMC) itself stands out as an example among the Protestant churches. After their recent conference that looks to split the church, we saw a massive double down on the policies of banning same-sex marriage and barring gay clergy. Despite this, individual churches came out reaffirming there is a place for the LGBTQ+ community in the church. Until that means that LGBTQ+ members of the UMC enjoy equality, the Methodist Church is itself still endorsing prejudice and not a place for the LGBTQ+ community.

And do note that this isn't an attack on Christianity, but rather the homophobic practices of



COURTESY OF GEORGE FREY/GETTY

all these churches. The Catholic Church's policies are homophobic, the LDS Church's policies are still homophobic, despite their recent milestone, and so on. There are many churches and denominations that have actively taken a stand against homophobia, some even going further to stand against transphobia. But the select few don't excuse the actions of those very large and influential groups that still actively endorse homophobia and prejudice.

Christian churches must make a stronger move towards equal treatment of all people, not make arbitrary distinctions to justify their prejudicial policies. And while we must certainly praise steps toward equality we must also understand that many of these churches have a long way to go. Christians must stand together against prejudice, and we must understand that it's not just about our individual denominations, but also how we stand as a universal Christian community. And until our community is actively fighting for an open and equal space for all, there is a lot of work to be done.



# Faces of Homelessness Double Feature

*Writers from The Duke went into the city to gather the stories and opinions of people without homes. Duquesne University is located between Uptown and Downtown, where there's a significant population of homeless individuals. This week, J and Elizabeth spent some time talking to us about their experiences and struggles of being homeless in Pittsburgh.*

## J: the flower seller

**GRACE ROSELLO**  
staff writer

I meet J on the steps of the Smithfield United Church of Christ where she is selling roses. J is a woman with soft green eyes and a circle of light brown around each black pupil. She has long gray hair streaked with white flyaways, a ruddy complexion and a quiet voice that is sometimes difficult to hear.

J has spent most of her life in Pittsburgh. Her father worked in stores. Her mom worked, too — the whole family worked. They were a family of love. They would spend time together at Kennywood, and other days, they would ride horses or go bowling. J was the class clown, and she liked sewing. She didn't finish high school, but she got her GED later in life.

Eventually, J was married at least twice. She had four sons, who are now in their forties with their own families. Over the years, she has worked a variety of jobs. Her first job was at a grocery store. She sold ice cream for three years and worked in a motel for four. Once, she worked in a greenhouse in "the outskirts."

***"I can't take one more night out."***

With her gentle demeanor and tanned face, I can imagine her in a plant nursery with a glass roof, lugging bags of soil and placing seeds into terracotta pots. She loves flowers. Now, she sells them every day to people on the street.

Each morning J wakes up and has to "get with it," even on the nights when she has not slept. She spends the day selling flowers. If she sells enough of them, she rents a motel room for the night. J chooses "any of them that are cheap."



GRACE ROSELLO / STAFF WRITER  
J sells flowers to be able to afford a place to stay for the night.

"I can't take one more night out," she admits, shaking her head.

She then explains her difficulty in finding more permanent housing. "Sometimes [the shelters] call me and say I don't make enough money and can't live there, same with the apartments."

A flash of a white bird flies through the alleyway across

the street. J points out how pretty it is.

J shares that she is "getting her life together." She doesn't see family much. According to J, her family "took [her] apartment, tore it up." She says that she doesn't have any hostile feelings toward them, and that, all in all, they "do the best [they] can together."

Previously, J was her ill sister's caretaker. Her sister, Rose, had "messed-up toenails" — in fact, she had no toenails. J cared for her sister for one year and seven months. She cooked for Rose, made her Jell-O drinks, cleaned for her. Eventually, Rose's toenails grew back. J encouraged her sister to lose weight too. Over time, their relationship diminished. J began spending a few days up to a full week away from her sister's needs, staying in motels.

J left Rose to move in with another sister. At this sister's house, J cleaned black mold, the deadly mold that comes from dampness and causes symptoms of coughing, sneezing, irritation in the eyes, fatigue and constant headaches. Their relationship ended in an argument concerning the care of the sister's dog. Frustrated, having "cleaned the whole house" just before, J left without a place to go.

"We still care about each other," J attests. "[I] don't let her know where I am." J once tried to talk to her, but wasn't able to make contact.

J brings flowers to acquaintances when she has made enough money during the day for a motel room. She brings roses to a bartender and sunflowers to a barefoot guy whom she met at a barbecue joint. She likes some people up in the Hill District for whom she works for once in a while. J would like a sewing machine and an acoustic guitar.

She hopes one day to return to selling ice cream.

## Elizabeth: "hanging in there" despite hardships

**ASHLEY NEWMAN**  
staff writer

On the warmest day since the start of the school year, people flocked outside to enjoy the weather. Every street in Pittsburgh was bustling as many people went to PNC Park to root for the Pirates in one of their first games of the season. Among the jubilant faces of people excited for the first signs of summer were quiet, unanimated people. Scattered along the Roberto Clemente bridge and the surrounding areas, part of Pittsburgh's homeless population sat, praying for the kindness of strangers going to and from the game to help them in any way.

Part of the crowd was Elizabeth, a middle-aged woman with graying hair, long and unkempt, and two prosthetic legs. She sat leaning against the bridge with PNC Park in the background. Her wide eyes and body language were like that of a deer in the headlights when we initiated conversation with her, and she did not relax throughout the exchange. She greeted us with normal pleasantries and said she was "hanging in there" when the banter was returned. Elizabeth was timid to share much with us, but graciously answered a few of our questions and told us a bit of her story.

Elizabeth became homeless when her husband left her, because she could no longer afford the house they had shared together. She did not hold a job while with her husband because she has trouble standing for long periods of time; when she was six years old, she lost both of



ASHLEY NEWMAN / STAFF WRITER  
Elizabeth rested on the railing of the Roberto Clemente Bridge.

her legs in a car accident. After her husband left, she was still unable to find work because of the pain and instability of her prosthetic legs.

After losing the house, Elizabeth had no family nearby to fall back on. She told us that she has no family in Pittsburgh at all; only an elderly mother in another part of Pennsylvania. She said that due to her mother's age, she would not be able to take her in. Because of this, Elizabeth has been entirely on her own ever since her husband left her with no one to help her during this difficult time.

Elizabeth usually sleeps in the South Side, under the Seventh Street Bridge. She, like many others in her situation, made her way to the Roberto Clemente Bridge because of the game.

Unfortunately, Elizabeth is not a unique case. On our walk back to campus, we passed at least a dozen other people in the same situation as her. One man sat under the shade of the building and drew pictures for people who would donate to him. Just a few steps further, an elderly man with a long white beard sat in a foldable chair on a corner. When my friend offered him three small bags of chips, he tried to give her one back, insisting that two was enough and she should keep the third for herself (he lost that battle).

There are many misconceptions about homelessness that are very hurtful to the community. They are not lazy people who just want to mooch off of strangers. The people we interacted with that day were kind and just needed a bit of help. If you're ever able to, I highly recommend giving anything you can to help someone. Even a small granola bar, a bottle of water or a meal swipe from Market can go a long way.

*These stories are part of the Duquesne Duke series titled "Faces of Homelessness," where Duke writers go into the community and ask people without homes about their stories. We aim to focus specifically on their opinions and perspectives on social and political issues, locally and nationally. We believe that every opinion matters, and that theirs should be told. We hope this series will impact the Duquesne and Pittsburgh communities positively, offering those without a home the chance to have their voices heard. Hopefully, we all will listen.*



# Four Duquesne men's basketball players to leave

JACOB HEBDA  
staff writer

A quartet of Duquesne men's basketball players have announced their intentions to transfer from the program.

Sophomore Eric Williams Jr., along with freshmen Brandon Wade, Gavin Bizeau and Dylan Swingle, entered their names in the NCAA transfer por-

tal this week.

Williams' departure figures to be the most significant loss, as he led the Dukes in scoring with 14 points per game and rebounding (7.6 per game) this past season. In the final three games of the 2018-19 season, he averaged 28 points per contest.

After a strong finish to the season, Williams' decision is somewhat surpris-

ing to the naked eye. He was an instrumental part of Dambrot's team during the coach's first two years at Duquesne.

It is worth being noted, however, that Dambrot did not start Williams in a handful of games earlier in the season. The exact reason was never disclosed.

With Wade, Bizeau and Swingle also planning to leave, Duquesne loses three members of its 2018 recruiting class.

Wade, a 6-foot-2 guard, averaged only 9.2 minutes per game and one point per game. He provided relief in the absence of the injured Sincere Carry, but never solidified his place in Dambrot's rotation.

The same can be said for the 6-foot-11 Bizeau. He had some promising moments — perhaps, most notably, his eight-point outing against VCU in January — but he struggled for most of the season. He averaged just 1.3 points per game and .7 rebounds per game.

Swingle never even reached the court, as he was redshirted for his freshman season.

While the Dukes are losing four players, there will be at least three roster additions for the upcoming season. Evan Buckley, a 6-foot point guard from Ashburn, Virginia, and Ashton Miller, a 6-foot-5 guard from West Orange, New Jersey, each committed to Duquesne on Monday. The duo joins Maceo Austin, the highly touted shooting guard from Kennedy Catholic, as members of the 2019 recruiting class.

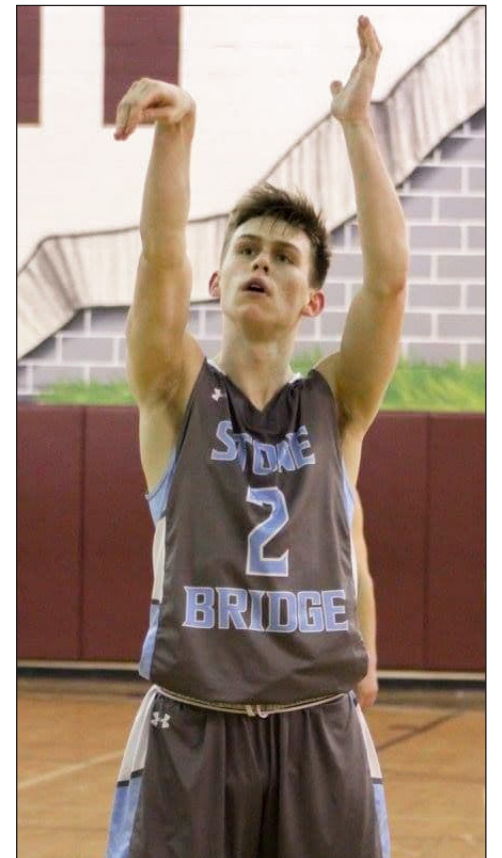
James Ellis, a 6-foot-11 freshman from

local Westinghouse High School, is also on track to join the roster following a year of ineligibility. His presence would make up for the height loss following the departures of Bizeau and Swingle.



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS

DU guard Eric Williams Jr., pictured dunking versus William & Mary on Nov. 10, will transfer from DU.



COURTESY OF WASHINGTON POST

Evan Buckley, a 6-foot guard from Ashburn, Virginia, committed to Duquesne on Monday.

# Bradshaw thriving in new position, system

DAVID BORNE  
staff writer

With a new coaching staff in charge, junior Rilee Bradshaw wasn't quite sure what adjustments would be made to her role on the lacrosse field.

Heading into the season, first-year head coach Corrine Desrosiers shifted Bradshaw from midfielder to an attacker's role. Through the first 12 games of the 2019 slate, it's fair to say that the change was one for the better.

"[Desrosiers] went into things with a new strategy," Bradshaw said. "I got moved to attack. I used to be midfield, so moving to attack has given me more scoring opportunities. I think the way our team plays together has created a lot more chemistry on the offensive side compared to last year."

In her first season up top, Bradshaw has already netted a team-high 40 goals. She sits second on the team in total points with 43, trailing only sophomore Michaela Connolly (45). Playing in the midfield last season, Bradshaw found the back of the net just 16 times.

The Middletown, Maryland native attributed her success to the new run-and-gun style offense the new coaching staff has employed. Duquesne has placed an emphasis on firing more shots at the

cage this season, and the change of pace has led to success for Bradshaw and her teammates.

"We're really focused on getting a lot of shots in the games, and in years past that wasn't really a high priority for us," Bradshaw said. "I think it's been a pretty smooth transition. The team is adjusting well. We really like [Desrosiers], and we're seeing better results than we have in previous years."

Duquesne (6-6, 1-5 Atlantic 10) has already surpassed its win total from last season, still with four games left to play.

While their record in conference play isn't quite where the Dukes would like it to be, the point can be made that it doesn't really reflect their recent level of play.

Their last two losses came against Massachusetts and George Mason, who currently occupy the first- and third-place spots in the Atlantic 10 standings, respectively. Duquesne dropped both games by just one goal, losing 16-15 to UMass and 14-13 to George Mason.

Bradshaw scored a combined 11 goals in those two games. She noted that while the results haven't been what Duquesne was hoping for, it is nice to see that they can hang with the A-10's best.

"Our game against UMass was great," she said. "We almost just went out there and played like we really had nothing to lose.

I think we were eighth or ninth in the conference at the time and they're the number one team. It was great to see how we played against them. Hopefully next time out we can pull out a 'W,'" Bradshaw continued.

With three conference games remaining, Duquesne still has a shot to sneak into the Atlantic 10 Championship Tournament. The conference's top six seeds will qualify, and Duquesne currently holds the eighth seed.

With important matchups on the horizon, Bradshaw and the Dukes continue to look to grow everyday in practice. She noted that while it's important to focus on the opposition, if Duquesne can tighten up their loose ends, they will be prepared for whoever they face down the stretch.

"We really try to put our focus on us," Bradshaw said. "We focus on the other team, but really, we try to control what we can do. It's like, if we had a bad game or are doing something wrong, we really take a look at ourselves and what we can do to fix that for the next game."

Duquesne will take the field again at 2 p.m. this Friday at George Washington. The Colonials are a strong defensive team, allowing an average of just under 12 goals per game this season.

It has yet to be seen if GW will be able to corral Bradshaw and the Dukes' high-octane offense.



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS

Duquesne junior attacker Rilee Bradshaw, above, leads the Dukes with 40 goals scored this season.



# Here's what we know, mere weeks into MLB year

**DREW WHITE**  
staff writer

As we reach the conclusion of the second week of the Major League Baseball season, we can start making opinions on teams. There is now enough of a sample size — granted, still a small sample — but enough of one to begin to formulate opinions. So here is a look at what we know — or, at least, what we think we know.

## AL East:

*The Tampa Bay Rays will make the postseason.*

The Rays were quietly one of the better teams in the MLB last season, winning 90 games yet still missing out on October baseball. They play in the American League East, which has what was thought to be the two best teams in baseball last season (Yankees and Red Sox), yet it's the Rays who look like the best team in the division right now. I said at the start of the season the Rays were my pick to win a Wild-Card spot in the AL, and I might have been wrong. Instead, they might win the division, as they currently sit at 10-3. With a full season of Tommy Pham in the outfield and Blake Snell on the mound, as well as a dominant and unconventional bullpen headed by Jose Alvarado, this team is set up for October baseball.

*The Red Sox and Yankees are in trouble.*

The Yankees currently sit at 5-7, but it isn't the record that is concerning: It's the massive and growing injury list. The Yanks will be without the whole left side of their infield until at least the All-Star Break when Didi Gregorius gets back, but Miguel Andujar will be on the shelf for the whole season after injuring his shoulder



AP PHOTO

Milwaukee Brewers outfielder Christian Yelich during an April 7, 2019 game versus the Cubs.

in the first weekend of the year. Meanwhile, the starting pitching is a mess, as well, with C.C. Sabathia and Luis Severino still yet to throw an inning this campaign. Add in the injury to slugger Giancarlo Stanton and the wounded Yankees might be better than the team they throw out on the field on a daily basis.

As for the defending champs, Boston had to start their season on an 11-game road trip and have not looked like the team that won the World Series last October. They currently sit at 3-9 with a negative-28 run differential. The starting pitching, which was believed to be one of the best in the majors, has been rocked thus far, and the star-studded lineup has not been able to keep up with its opponents.

*Chris Davis has one of the worst contracts in sports history, but you have to feel bad for the guy.*

Davis, the Baltimore Orioles' starting first baseman, hit 159 homers from 2012-2015, and was rewarded with a seven-year, \$161 million contract extension as a result in 2016. Since then, he has looked nothing like that player. He is a true two-outcome player: You can expect either a homer or a strikeout out of Davis, and he has seen a lot of Ks in his recent at-bats. He set an MLB record on Monday night, going 0-for-49 at the plate dating back to last season. No matter the numbers, no matter the money, you have to feel bad for the guy, and hope that he turns it around at some point. I mean, he has to, right?

## AL Central:

*85 wins might win this division.*

Talk about brutal. For the past couple of years, the Cleveland Indians have ruled this division. It is looking like they might win it again this season, but they look average at best. The Tribe has been struck by the injury bug, as well, as they lost MVP candidate Francisco Lindor to an ankle injury early on. They also let a few sluggers walk in the offseason in Yonder Alonso and Edwin Encarnacion. And, really outside of Jose Ramirez, the lineup is brutal. The pitching staff is still one of the best in the league, and that should carry them in a weak division that will be contested only by the Minnesota Twins. But, man, is this going to be a snooze-fest of division to watch all year.

## AL West:

*Mike Trout is the best player in the world and is playing on one of the worst teams in the league.*

I was a little shocked when Trout signed that big 12-year, \$430 million extension to stay with the Angels. We are talking about a guy who has been an All-Star his whole career, has won multiple MVP awards, has never advanced out of the ALDS and has only played postseason baseball once. This team is terrible, from the starting pitching to the lineup, but man, is Mike Trout good? He alone is worth the price

of admission — it's just a shame that his talent is being wasted in L.A.

*The Astros still own this division.*

Just like the Indians in the AL Central, this is still Houston's division to lose. Yes, the Mariners got out to a hot start and currently sit at 12-2, but that is unsustainable with their level of talent across 162 games. The 'Stros still have a lot of talent on both



AP PHOTO

Rays SS Willy Adames (right) and 2B Daniel Robertson turn a double-play against the Houston Astros.

sides of the ball and will walk away with this division. The starting pitching looks great again, and after an injury-ridden 2018, it looks like Carlos Correa is back to his old self.

## NL East:

*Bryce Harper has looked like he was worth all of his \$330 million so far.*

Personally, I was a little skeptical when I saw the Bryce Harper deal with the Phillies. Harper is no doubt a star, but his numbers regressed last season and he never really put up huge numbers. Nevertheless, thus far in Philadelphia, he has looked like an absolute steal for the price Philadelphia got him at, especially with the numbers he put up against his former team in the first two series against them. At Citizens Bank Park, there is a real chance he hits 60 homers multiple times in his career.

*The Nationals' bullpen is bad — like, really bad.*

This was supposed to be a strong suit for Washington. They were supposed to have a top-tier bullpen, but outside of closer Sean Doolittle, they are terrible. Trevor Rosenthal has made four appearances thus far and has an ERA of infinity — it looks like he has the worst case of the yips a la Rick Ankiel. Tony Sipp has been hit all around the park this year, as has Matt Grace. If the Nats want any chance to win this division, the most competitive one in the NL, then they need to figure something out quick.

## NL Central:

*Christian Yelich has showed 2018 was no fluke.*

After winning the NL MVP last season, many wondered if Yelich could keep his gaudy second-half numbers up this year. So far, so good. Yelich mashed homers in his first four games, and now has five (and it could have been six if it wasn't for Trout robbing one at the wall). He leads Milwaukee in every single offensive category and has shown no signs that last year was a fluke. This is a dangerous offense for the Brewers; they just need to shore up their

pitching a little bit. (Paging Craig Kimbrel and Dallas Keuchel, please).

*What happened to the Cubs?*

Chicago looked bad last year, losing Game 163 to the Brewers and then the Wild-Card Game to the Rockies, as well. This year, they look worse. The offense isn't clicking, the pitching has been spotty and that has led to a brutal 3-8 record to start the year in a division that includes both the always-dangerous Cardinals and the red-hot Brewers. If the Cubs want to win this division, they need more out of Kris Bryant and Anthony Rizzo, who are both hitting in the mid-.230s.

## NL West:

*The Dodgers once again will be contending for the World Series.*

Just like they have for the past 10 years or so, the Dodgers once again look like a legitimate contender. After reaching the World Series the past few years and falling short, we should expect nothing less, but this season, unlike a few in the past, it has been the bats getting the job done for L.A. Cody Bellinger has been leading the charge offensively, collecting 22 hits, including seven homers thus far, leading the majors. Not to mention the starting rotation has been outstanding thus far, and that is without Clayton Kershaw throwing a pitch.

## The Bottom Line:

A lot has changed since the start of the season as only a few of the divisions look how most experts would have thought they would look. Besides, who would have thought the Mariners would have the most wins by now? There is still a lot of baseball to be played, but this year will be exciting.



## Fosse/Verdon a masterpiece for theater nerds only

HALLIE LAUER  
news editor

**S**weet Charity. Chicago. Cabaret. These shows and many others have become impossible to separate from their esteemed choreographer Bob Fosse.

FX's newest miniseries, *Fosse/Verdon* dives into the life of Fosse (Sam Rockwell) and his wife Gwen Verdon (Michelle Williams), who was equally as famous in her own right.

Produced by big names like Lin Manuel-Miranda, writer of hit Broadway show *Hamilton*, Steven Levenson, writer of *Dear Evan Hansen* and many others, this show was bound to bring out all the stops.

Their daughter, Nicole Fosse, is listed in the credits as a co-producer, but as pointed out in a tweet by Miranda, she was heavily involved in every aspect of the show's filming.

Starting with the number "Hey Big Spender" from the film adaptation of *Sweet Charity* the audience is given a glimpse of the obsessiveness Fosse has over the numbers he choreographs - much to the dismay of the movie producers.

The couple's relationship was tumultuous, often times producers didn't want Fosse without Verdon, much to his displeasure. For a while,

while Fosse is filming *Cabaret* in Munich, he starts an affair with the translator, which the audience is given a hint that this isn't the first time things like this have happened, and Verdon knows it.

In one scene, Fosse calls her to come to Munich to help him with the film and she says, "am I going to be unhappy when I get there?" The scene cuts back to Fosse, sitting on the edge of his bed, with another woman laying next to him. He says, "of course not."

The show exists in alternating flashbacks, with title screens that say things like "Munich, 14 Years Left." At the end of the first episode, we are not sure what is "left" or what happens when we reach zero, but you can bet that they have hooked me enough to stick around and find out.

The audience is given a small insight into Fosse's life through flashbacks. One starts with Fosse a young boy in tap shoes, dancing for an instructor that puts Abby Lee Miller to shame. "I can replace you a hundred times over," he tells the young dancer. The audience is led to assume that this unnamed teacher is the reason Fosse became the perfectionist he is shown to be in other scenes.

Williams portrayal of Verdon is phenomenal. Her mannerisms, the



COURTESY OF FX VIA HANDOUT/TNS

Michelle Williams (left) and Sam Rockwell (right) star as Verdon and Fosse.

way she speaks and the way she dances all mimics that of the real Gwen Verdon to a T. Rockwell also does a great job with Fosse's character. Most impressively he manages to deliver all of his lines with a cigarette in the corner of his mouth, without any words ever sounding garbled.

I was entirely awestruck for the 60 minutes the first episode ran and I am anxiously awaiting next Tuesday night when I can see the next installment. Unfortunately, the show wasn't perfect.

I was in the show *Chicago* once. I knew who Fosse was, learned about him and even danced his numbers. However, I had never heard of Verdon and without my prior knowledge of Fosse, a few things in this show would've been lost on me.

Now, this was only one episode, so this could be something that is going to be remedied in the over the course of the miniseries. But right now, I would only recommend this show to my fellow theater nerds with prior knowledge.

## WEEK'S EVENTS

Des Places Easter Egg Hunt  
April 13 @ 7 p.m.

Hosted by Residence Life in the Towers Multi-Purpose Room, this Easter Egg Hunt will feature prizes such as \$75 in FLEX.

Coffee Seminar  
April 15 @ 9 p.m.

Duquesne Dining will once again be hosting this event in the Union Starbucks, offering free samples and a chance to discuss and learn about different types of coffee.

## UPCOMING RELEASES

Hellboy  
Friday, April 12

A reboot of the iconic comic book franchise, this film features *Stranger Things* alum David Harbour in the title role, previously held by Ron Perlman.

Social Cues  
Cage the Elephant  
Friday, April 19

The Kentucky-native rock band will release their fifth album, including the singles "Ready to Let Go" and "Night Running," which additionally features acclaimed alternative musician Beck.

## HOROSCOPES



### Aries

(March 21-April 19)

Seeing is not always believing! Strengthen your faith in the unseen by smashing your glasses.



### Taurus

(April 20-May 20)

Delete your account.



### Gemini

(May 21-June 20)

Disconnect from your cable, and reconnect with *your mother*.



### Cancer

(June 21-July 22)

You will find yourself accidentally wrapped up in a College Hall lawn hammock, like a cocoon, until autumn.



### Leo

(July 23-August 22)

April is a time to form strong bonds with new people. Handcuff yourself to a stranger.



### Virgo

(August 23-September 22)

The winds of change blow strong within your sails, or something like that. I don't know.



### Libra

(September 23-October 22)

Everything is fine. Aquari-uses are good, trustworthy people. You should listen to them. Why would they ever want to harm you?



### Scorpio

(October 23-November 22)

You will run into an old friend this week, but luckily, insurance will cover it.



### Sagittarius

(November 23-December 22)

A horrific miscommunication lands you in Greek Life, when what you wanted was a Greek wife.



### Capricorn

(December 22-January 19)

Relying on only meal swipes as your FLEX runs out forces you to eat three consistent meals a day for the first time in a decade.



### Aquarius

(January 20-February 18)

I've lured the Libras into a false sense of comfort. Phase One of the plan is complete. I'll keep you posted.



### Pisces

(February 19-March 20)

Ken Gormley is the only Pisces to serve as president of Duquesne. I hope this information guides you through this week, somehow.

## MICRO REVIEW

Joker  
Teaser Trailer

Chilling is the best word to describe our small peek into Joaquin Phoenix's portrayal of the classic Batman villain in this standalone film, a dark reimagining of the character's origin story. The film seems more tonally appropriate for the character than *Suicide Squad*, but will it fall into the DC trap of taking itself much too seriously? The trailer is promising, but only the film itself will tell.

-Josiah Martin



# 10

## THE DUQUESNE DUKE

# Santa Clarita Diet season 3 satisfying, worth a taste

TIMOTHY RUSH  
staff writer

Returning with gore and laughs to usher in April, the third season of *Santa Clarita Diet* delivers on many of its expectations.

In this horror-comedy, the audience follows the events following Sheila Hammond's (Drew Barrymore) transformation into an undead being with a hunger for human flesh. She must learn to cope and accept her new situation, as her husband, Joel (Timothy Olyphant), stands beside her to protect her from forces seeking to destroy her and hold on to what semblance of normalcy he has left. They must also contend with their eco-terrorist daughter Abby (Liv Hawson) who wants to embrace her new crazy world to make a difference, with the support of her accomplice Eric (Skyler Gisondo). All four must contend with an ancient order dedicated to the destruction of the undead, as well as the rising tide of undead (of an intelligent variety) in their own town of Santa Clarita.

Continuing what has transpired in the past two seasons, the third season inherited a host of subplots that it had to contend with. While it does do it's best, in the beginning, to adequately address each one, the season begins very slowly with them. Among them: a cult, an ancient order of knights, eco-terrorism, a realtor rivalry, a new enemy from Serbia, Sheila and Joel's marriage, Joel's prejudice against the undead and Eric and Abby's relationship (or lack thereof). Some of them are hits, some are misses, but there had to have been a degree of awareness as many of these subplots are finally tied together or tied up by the season's midpoint.

The characters are very strong all-around, though. Almost all characters bring on the laughs and drama when need be. Some characters, such as Anne Garcia (Natalie Morales), do come off as a bit flat, unfortunately. Several of the characters are based on a trope taken to

an extreme, but many of them still come across as people, however. Joel, for instance, is the everyman who wants a normal life with a normal marriage and normal child. Anne is the strongly religious deputy that sees God's influence in everything. The difference between them is that most of the characters are like Joel. His personality and layers are fleshed out, so that while the trope is still there, there is a character underneath with a strong amount of development and personality. Anne can be summed up in the simple phrase "lesbian religious deputy," because that's all she is. She exists more as a device for the show to present these themes and get laughs as opposed to doing anything with them.

As a horror-comedy, the real question is quite simple: Does it deliver on the horror and the comedy? The answer is yes, it does. There is plenty of comedy in this show that'll keep you laughing to the very end. On the horror element, the show has not ever really been about the horror, but more about the gore itself. This is not a show for people who faint at the sight of blood, because there is plenty of it. People get their throats ripped out by angry/hungry zombies on-screen and their arms torn off, and that's just some of the tamer scenes from *Santa Clarita*.

Much of the show's humor comes from an exaggeration of relatively common ideas that many people have heard and believe. Anne is so religious she believes Sheila being undead and eating people is divinely ordained, Joel is such an everyman that disposing a body is just on the list of things to do, Abby wants to do something meaningful with her life so she commits acts of eco-terrorism, and Eric just wants to be with a girl he likes that he tags along on all of this. Ever heard of the phrase "punch a Nazi?" Sheila goes a bit beyond that and targets and eats Nazis. In that way, the show is probably more of a satire of modern-day society with zombies thrown in.

But the show does deal with some very seri-



COURTESY OF NETFLIX

Drew Barrymore, left, plays Sheila Hammond, whose family struggles with her taste for human flesh.

ous subjects that I think many will relate to. For instance, what does immortality mean for things that all of us hold dear? What is love when the person you love is going to die while you can only sit by and watch? How does it feel that, as a parent, you have to learn to let go and entrust your child with their own future? What's more important, doing what's best for others or letting others make that choice for themselves? These are but a few of the dilemmas that the show's cast, and the audience, must contend with throughout the season. And it does these in a way that doesn't necessarily give you a firm and universal answer, but rather just shows you the result of the events that led to the characters arriving at their own conclusions. And that maybe there isn't one true answer, and while that may be scary or concerning, it's still okay.

A strong point for this season is the events of Abby, with this season acting as a coming-of-age story for her in the wake of her ac-

tions of previous seasons. She must learn to deal with serious consequences and how to cope with them, and what she must do for her future. That she must learn to be herself and fight for what she wants and accept what happens. And that her actions will have consequences on people she cares about, like her parents and Eric. In turn, Sheila, Abby's mom, must learn how she's going to handle such a strong-willed, independent, and seemingly troubled daughter. This whole subplot is a roller coaster that can bring audiences to tears, laughs and moments of heartfelt love that very few shows can do.

All-in-all, season 3 of *Santa Clarita Diet* is a great continuation of the seasons before it. It does its best with its weak points, but its strong points easily redeem them. While it begins a bit slow and with no discernible purpose, it molds itself into a strong and cohesive season that'll leave a lasting impression on any who watch it.

## Come From Away explores small-scale effects of 9/11

OLLIE GRATZINGER  
opinions editor

On April 9, the award-winning musical *Come From Away* came and landed in front of an almost sold-out crowd at Pittsburgh's own Benedum Center.

Set in the tiny town of Gander in Newfoundland, Canada, the musical takes place in the week following the terror attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. When planes full of passengers are rerouted around the newly closed U.S. airspace, Gander's population doubles overnight, and the town's residents jump into action to care for and accommodate thousands of frightened flyers as well as the airline crews and pilots.

Based on a true story, *Come From Away* tackles one of the most horrific tragedies in America's recent memory with sensitivity, compassion and stunning humanity. Despite the complicated subject matter of 9/11, there were one-liners that made the crowd erupt into laughter, and minutes later, a song with a haunting melody finished without a dry eye in the house.

The subtle humor didn't downplay



COURTESY OF MATTHEW MURPHY / PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

The cast of *Come From Away*, which started its tour of the US in October 2018.

the tragedy, but instead, it made the show all the more realistic. The duality, the range of emotion, the frank ridiculousness of 38 airplanes from around the world settling into one small town — it all came together to tell a full, human story, rife with highs and lows, losses and gains.

The townspeople of Gander welcomed the "plane people," as they

called them, with open-armed warmth that made them wary at first. But as they adjusted to the very Canadian kindness, it became clear to both the characters and the audience that this was not going to be about terrorist attacks and tragedy, but rather the humanity and fellowship that can rise up from the depths of despair. The musical's theme —

unity in the face of horror — remains relevant today, almost 20 years after the Twin Towers fell.

The show also addresses the new wave of Islamophobia that came to light after 9/11. One passenger, Ali, is an Egyptian Muslim, and he's constantly suspected of malintention. While everyone eventually warms up to him, he faces a series of prejudices that don't afflict the other passengers, including a humiliating strip search that violates not only his privacy, but also the terms of his religion.

For as fantastic as the show was thematically, it's music was just as astonishing. Taking a cue from Newfoundland's Irish roots, the melodies were comprised of an on-stage band with a violin, accordion, piccolo, guitar, drums, electric bass and a varied array of other instruments that gave the score a unique sound. It blended a more traditional vibe with modern amped-up rock, with haunting harmonies that carried in it the characters' feelings. From unease ("Darkness and Trees") to celebration ("In The Bar / Heave Away") to spirituality ("Prayer"), the audience was deeply involved in the way the characters were being impacted by their respec-

tive situations. There were cheers and claps and sniffles and a silence so tense an exhale felt too loud. The music, coupled with brilliant acting, brought the story to life.

Likewise, the actors on stage mastered the Newfie accent — a blend of the Irish-English and Canadian inflections. The accent gave Gander the quaintness that made it unique, and while it was often the butt of silly jokes, it gives *Come From Away* its personality. A lot of musicals feature British accents or Americanisms, but it's rare to hear a Canadian dialect.

The structure of the show was also a refreshing deviation from the typical plot. Instead of having one central character around whom the plot revolves, several storylines come together to unite characters whose only other common ground was the fact that their plane had been grounded in Gander.

American Airlines pilot Beverly Bass adores her craft, and she laments a loss of innocence after the attacks ("Me and the Sky"). Hannah, a New York native, sits by the phone

see AWAY— page 11



## Gander comes to Pittsburgh in *Come From Away*

AWAY — from page 10

waiting to hear from her son, a firefighter in the city ("I Am Here"). Bonnie, an animal lover and worker at the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), fights to care for the animals aboard the grounded planes, including a rare Bonobo monkey. A romance blossoms between two unlikely friends from different corners of the globe who wouldn't have met if 9/11 hadn't happened ("Stop the World"). Another relationship dissolves under the stress and strain. Separate lives create separate stories, but they're all united by something as simple as time and place.

After the "plane people" leave Gander, the town struggles to readjust to the new quiet, while the Americans return to a changed world ("Something's Missing"). The show ended with a well-deserved standing ovation from the audience while the band played on. It may not be as well-known as *Hamilton*, *Dear Evan Hanson* or other big names on Broadway, but *Come From Away* is a genuine, honest musical with a talented cast and a message that almost anyone can find meaning in.

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## THIS WEEK'S WEATHER

Thursday

71° Variable cloudiness

Friday

71° Rain and a t-storm; breezy

Saturday

71° Times of clouds and sun

Sunday

67° Rain and a thunder-storm

Monday

53° Cloudy; a little rain; cooler

Tuesday

64° Intervals of clouds and sun

Wednesday

74° Mostly cloudy

Courtesy of AccuWeather

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