Student Artists Empower Victims Through Artwork

“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 offer 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.”

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

Megan Kleinrefelter / Staff Photographer

see GREEN — page 2
Duquesne ranks high on sustainability surveys

GREEN — from page 1

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 4, a student in St. Anne’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 Thursdays, Friday and Monday of the next weeks. Take all of your belongings 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 every- body.

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

Join the Duke

If you’re interested, email Editor-in-Chief Kailey Love at lovek@duq.edu or stop by our newsroom located in the basement of College Hall (Room 115).

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? Something on campus that just doesn’t make sense? You can send your tips and story ideas to News Editor Hallie Lauer at hallie.lauer18@gmail.com.

World War II POW shares story with DU students

Joshua Martin

Duke 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 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 bloodyed 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 developed a fear 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 he expected total and absolute resis- tance members and would be treated as such,” Michele said.

The package line was used to shut down, making food cut off and taken from the internees, the perimeter was patrolled by armed guards and hopelessness 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] locked up to see a single silver-bodied plane flying over Santo Tomas as it turned to the north. [Carmen] looked up to see the [wings] bore not the Japanese rising sun insignia, but the white star and circle of blue of the American flag,” Michele said. ([The wings] bore not the Japanese rising sun insignia, but the white star and circle of blue of the American flag).

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 fol- lowing, Carmen was reunited with her mother, who survived, despite rumors to the contrary.

In early 1946, Carmen began 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., she continued to tell her story, even finally accepting her 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- town Pittsburgh. Later, they married, and had two children.”

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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 scandal 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 a 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 pleas in court.

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 and other fields.

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"Change is the essential process of all existence."

—Spock

You just read | Now tweet our thoughts | us yours.

@TheDuquesneDuke

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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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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 99% since 1990.

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 one report 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. 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, burdening 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 putting many 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

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 14 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 horrific 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 worshipers 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 lawmaker 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, unfriendly 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 where people are taking into crowds and killing people will nev...
As semester stress piles up, rejection is not end of world

Alyse Kaminski  
staff columnist

April 4, 2019, is a day that will live on as a milestone in the hearts of the LGTQ+ 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 parents from being baptized and blessed by the church. This position resulted in many LGTQ+ congregation members and their supporters being betrayed and ashamed, which led many to leave. This was an act that effectively left those who were LGTQ+ in the church. Until that meant that LGTQ+ identities are still condoned, and same-sex marriage is still seen as a transgression within it.

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 I am not the best person I could be. I do not want to work for a company I respected and hire 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 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 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 in life. We get good at what we do at the end. 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.
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 months 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, slogging 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 hard feelings toward that, 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 barbeque 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.

Ashley Newman / Staff writer

O n 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, unemotional 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 gray 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 harrier 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 her husband because she has trouble standing for long periods of time; when she was six years old, she lost both of 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.

Elizabeth rested on the railing of the Roberto Clemente Bridge.

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.
Bradshaw thriving in new position, system

Jacob Herda
staff writer

A quartet of Duquesne's 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 portal this week.

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

With three conference games remaining, Duquesne's men's basketball program is 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.

David Borne
staff writer

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 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.

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 one point, 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.

Four Duquesne men's basketball players to leave

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

James Ellis, a 6-foot-11 freshman from local Westinghouse High School, is 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 7.7 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.

Sophomore Eric Williams Jr., along with freshmen Brandon Wade, Gavin Bizeau and Dylan Swingle, entered their names in the NCAA transfer portal. The Colonial's are a strong defensive team, allowing an average of just under 64 points per game. The Dukes, in previous years, weren't quite where the Dukes would like it to be.

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 Mas- sachusetts and George Mason, who currently occupy the first- and third-place spots in the Atlantic 10 standings, respectively. Duquesne dropped both games by one point, 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 out 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.

Four Duquesne men’s basketball players to leave

A quartet of Duquesne's 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 portal this week.

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. 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.

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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 Rays 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.

**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 quickly.

**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 has that 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 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.

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

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

**AP Photo**

— Drew White

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

**AP Photo**

Christian Yelich has showed 2018 was no fluke.

— Drew White

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 quickly.

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**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, much to the dismay of the audience.

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 choreographed - 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 way she speaks and the way she wears 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 series. But right now, I would only recommend this show to my fellow theater nerds with prior knowledge.

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**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.

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**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

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**MICRO REVIEW**

**Chilling**
Teaser Trailer

Chilling is the best word to describe our small peak 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.

-Joshua Martin
Santa Clarita Diet season 3 satisfying, worth a taste

Timothy Rush
staff writer

Returning with gore and laughs tousher 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 with the 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 normality he has left. They must also contend with their eco-terrorist daughter Abby (Liv Hawson) who wants to embrace her new crazy normalcy he has left. They must also contend 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 inspired in the past two seasons, the third season inherited a host of subplots that it had to contend with. While it does do its 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 rebel 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 dropped by the season’s end.

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 as “Prayer,” the audience was deeply unsettled by 9/11. One passenger, Ali, is an Egyptian Muslim, and he’s constantly suspected of malintention. 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.

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 came together to unite characters whose only common ground was the fact that their plane had been grounded. The musical’s theme was 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 as “Prayer,” the audience was deeply unsettled by 9/11. One passenger, Ali, is an Egyptian Muslim, and he’s constantly suspected of malintention. 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.

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 strength throughout. 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 the tragedy, but instead, it made the show all the more realistic. The dualities, the range of emotion, the frank ridiculousness of 38 airplanes from around the world settling into one small town — it all came together genuinely to story, rhythm and melody. 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 modernamped-up rock, with haunting harmonies that carried in the characters’ feelings. From uneasy (“Darkness and Trees”) to celebration (“In the Bar / Heaven Away”) to spirituality (“Prayer”), the audience was deeply involved in the way the characters were being impacted by their respective situations. There were cheers and claps and snuffles 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 Newfoundland 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 came together to unite characters whose only common ground was the fact that their plane had been grounded in Gander.
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 Hansen* 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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