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# Gender Neutral Fashion Show impeded by university



COURTESY OF GENDER FORUM

This was the flyer used last year as promotional material for the Gender Neutral Fashion Show. The university allegedly received complaints about the image displayed on the poster. As of Sept. 25 the WGS department was informed that there were issues with the terminology used, primarily the phrase "gender neutral."

OLLIE GRATZINGER
editor-in-chief

Last year's poster for the Gender Neutral Fashion Show, cohosted by the Gender Forum and Department of Women and Gender Studies (WGS), featured a malepresenting runway model sporting a dress.

The event was well attended and favorably received, according to Gender Forum President Emma Shirey.

It wasn't until 11 months later — and while the organization was preparing for this year's event — that higher administration officials in the university reported that due to complaints they had received about the 2018 posters, they would require that this year's show refrain from using gender neutral language and photographs like the one on last year's flyer. WGS faculty members and Gender Forum participants alike fear this will render the show's message moot.

"It blindsided all of us," Shirey said. "No one had said anything about it being problematic."

The club was, however, aware of several posters that had been taken down or damaged by students in the weeks leading up to the event last year.

Nevertheless, Laura Engel, a professor in the department and who spoke at the academic panel which preceded the fashion show, said it was the best-attended WGS event she'd been to.

"It was really lovely," she said. The issue of Duquesne's Catholic mission was raised in an official statement signed by Kristine Blair, dean of McAnulty College, and Darlene Weaver, associate provost for academic affairs, sent in response to *Duke* inquiries.

"No matter what group seeks to use university resources for programming, Duquesne University has consistently required that it show respect for the Catholic religious identity of the institution," the statement said. "Faculty, staff and students share in Duquesne University's Catholic and Spiritan mission, and therefore have a common responsibility to develop programs and events that foster academic rigor and align with our core values."

The statement went on to say that "the posters advertising the event generated numerous complaints from a variety of students, faculty and alumni."

As of press time, the university did not respond to inquiries regarding the character of the complaints or how many were received, but Greg Barnhisel said he'd heard from well-informed sources that they came from the top.

"I heard that some of these complaints originated from outside the university, even with the office of the bishop and Bishop Zubick himself. Also with donors," said Barnhisel, who has been the chair of the English department at Duquesne for the last six years, and the director of freshman writing for 10 years before that. "It is not appropriate for the office of the diocese and donors to have any say in what is fundamentally an academic program."

Multiple sources corroborated this statement off the record, but the Diocese of Pittsburgh did not respond to requests for comment by press time.

Barnhisel said there was a lot of discussion about the event in higher administration, though none of it was conveyed to faculty members. The Gender Forum was not notified of any issues with this year's fashion show until a month before it was set to happen either, according to Shirey. When they were informed in early September, they were not given a reason why. Barnhisel said that faculty members, too, were initially left in the dark.

Engel, a professor of 18thcentury literature, theatre and gender studies, said she was confused when she heard from her colleagues that the event was facing so much backlash.

"The runway walk was people wearing clothes that you would see people wearing every day. This was not a costume show; this was a show about people just walking and saying hello and being appreciated for how they wanted to present themselves," she said. "It was really one of those special moments at Duquesne."

Engel explained that gender

see GENDER — page 3



opinions	features	sports	a & e
Sino-African relations skyrocket	Katie Westbrook 5k and dog walk	Women's Soccer and Football grab	Cambodian Rock Band
China initiates new-wave colonialism	The 18th year of a memorial race	Wins Fall sports teams off to hot start	Play explores tragedy through music
PAGE 4	PAGE 6	PAGE 7	PAGE 9

### **POLICE BRIEFS**

It's the first week of fall, and the crimes didn't end with summer.

On Sept. 18, Duquesne Police were contacted to report damage to a vehicle that was parked in the Locust Garage extension.

On Sept. 19, a report was made concerning damage to an unattended vehicle in Forbes Ga-

Also on Sept. 19, while RAs in St. Ann Hall were doing rounds, the odor of marijuana was detected. An administrative search was conducted and several valves of marijuana vape oils were discovered.

On Sept. 21, a Duquesne student was found to be intoxicated and in possession of a fake ID. They received a non-traffic citation for the false identification and were also referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

#### **JOKE CORNER!**

Q: What did the cannibal's wife do when her husband came home an hour late for dinner?

A: She gave him the cold shoulder.

#### **JOINTHE DUKE!**

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# SGA releases budget, strategic plan to The Duke

HALLIE LAUER news editor

Duquesne's Student Government Association (SGA) released their fiscal year 2020 budget and strategic plan to The Duke.

This budget compares last year's budget in all areas of SGA spending.

Organizations at the university have seen an overall budget cut. For fiscal year 2020, the SGA's total budget is \$63.658, which is down 13.9% from last year according to SGA President Charlie Megginson. The budget pitch for this year was titled "Doing More With Less," as a nod to the cuts, but also a promise to the students.

"This cut is significant to us, because we have one of the smaller budgets on campus," Megginson said. "We had to figure out where we could effectively spend what we had left on students. I'm really excited about this budget because we can engage with students and do just as good a job or better with less money."

Megginson along with SGA Executive Vice President of Finance Josh Rodes, looked at the budget from the last five years "to see where money could be better spent," said Megginson.

To do that, SGA voted to cut areas of spending that did not directly influence the student body. In 2019, SGA had budgeted \$1,350 for the Faculty Appreciation breakfast. This year, they budgeted zero.

appreciate them," Megginson said. "I couldn't justify spending [the money] not on students.'

They also cut back on areas like Contingency. These areas are money budgeted for the Exec board and

Areas where they increased spending are tabling events and town hall meetings, both of which are designed for student engage-

"Night of Lights is our biggest philanthropic event," Megginson said. "We want to go big with that."

In 2019, SGA budgeted about \$2,500 for the event; this year they raised that to \$4,500 -an

However, the biggest part of the SGA budget still goes to the Loop Bus.

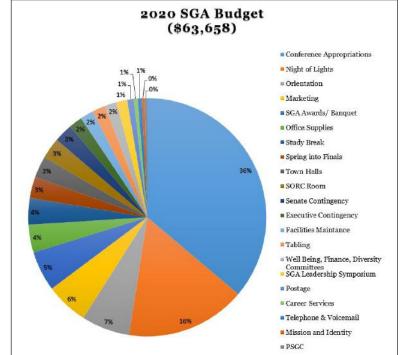
"Previously, that was budgeted incorrectly. They budgeted \$30,000 and then reported going

"Obviously the faculty knows we

Executive Contingency and Senate the Senate to spend without prior authorization.

ment, as well as the Night of Lights.

80% increase.



INFORMATION COURTESY OF SGA

Some items have been consolidated on the graph for clarity.

\$6,000 over budget. This year we accurately budgeted for that expense," Megginson said as an explanation for the \$6,000 increase in the Loop Bus price.

SGA pays only one-third of the

price of the Loop Bus, while the Office of Student Life pays the other two-thirds.

The idea of "doing more with

see SGA - page 3

# Mary Pappert School launches new program

KELLEN STEPLER staff writer

To be the best, you have to learn from the best.

And now, Duquesne's Mary Pappert School of Music has launched a new program to provide students with valuable resources and handson experiences to learn more about the music industry.

The Institute of Entertainment, Music and Media Arts (IEMMA) program is designed to promote students' skill sets to better prepare them in the constantly evolving entertainment field. IEMMA (pronounced I'm a) offers real world situations and the opportunity to work alongside industry leaders in areas like composing, recording, performance, engineering and production.

Duquesne professor and IEM-MA director Tom Kikta describes IEMMA as students applying their skill sets in real world situations through seminars, clinics and projects. The first phase of IEMMA is a public lecture and seminar series that will run through the 2019-2020 academic year.

The IEMMA Experience began Friday, Sept. 20, with voice actor Jeff Bergman. Bergman, one of the voices of Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck and the original Gus the Groundhog, shared his experiences in the School of Music's PNC Recital Hall. Not only is IEMMA an initiative for school of music students, but also for law and business students as well. Kikta said that Duquesne's Red Masquers attended the Jeff Bergman event.

Additionally, IEMMA benefits law students through a course with music law, and business students learning about music agents, negotiation and contracts.

The next lecture, titled "Hybrid Mixing with Solid State Logic and Sweetwater Music," will be Tuesday, Oct. 22 at 7 p.m. A three day interactive seminar for audio engineers and producers, the Oct. 22 date is free and open to the public at the Dr. Thomas D. Pappert Center for Performance and Innovation.

Other events scheduled include "Composing for Film," with Hollywood composer Michael Andreas, a gaming creation seminar and more.

In the "Composing for Film" event, Andreas will mentor student composers' skills to make their works more effective. Once that stage is done, it will go to audio engineering students to create Foley and dialogue audio.

According to Duquesne's IEM-MA webpage, IEMMA will "help each student develop an entrepreneurial mindset that can, in turn, help them generate multiple revenue streams through their creative abilities in all media including performance, recording, producing, composing, engineering, managing, publishing and distribution, gaming and more."

Like most industries, the music industry is all about connections. Kikta says that IEMMA will absolutely benefit students in the music school through networking.

"We are better positioning our students in the world and industry," Kikta said.

Kikta also noted the advantage Duquesne students will have, because they will already have these connections in school. These connections through IEMMA make the university more competitive for prospective music school students. Founded on Duquesne's Spiritan tradition, the mission of IEMMA is to awaken and equip each student's

unique talents and aspirations for their career, to instill excellence and professionalism with a foundational and ethical core and to provide the entertainment industry with visionary leaders and professionals for the field.

Kikta notes that not only does the program align with Duquesne's Spiritian mission, but also is part of the university's strategic plan.

Not only can Duquesne students benefit from IEMMA, but the Pittsburgh region can as well. For the Jeff Bergman event, Kikta invited the Carnegie Mellon and Point Park acting department to attend. While Duquesne students will be front and center at the clinics, the region can benefit by seeing what's going on at Duquesne.

According to the website, "Students benefit from an environment equipped with the latest hardware and software necessary for development of the advanced techniques required to be successful."

Additionally, IEMMA Sound Stage Sessions, a program through which music technology students can prepare, set up, run and strike recording sessions for music ensembles at Duquesne.

It simultaneously helps ensemble performers learn how to conduct themselves in a recording studio environment. Students will perform, mix and master recordings to be broadcast, downloaded and streamed under the guidance of Grammy Award-Winning sound recording faculty and seasoned stage musicians.



COURTESY DUQ.EDU

# SGA to focus spending on student body

SGA-from page 2

less" also includes doing more for the students.

"We feel SGA in the past has spent a lot of money on itself, rather than for the benefit of the student body," Megginson said.

Megginson said that SGA plans to cut institutional money spent on dinners, as well as combining the SGA awards and the SGA end of the year banquet. In 2019, nearly \$3,000 was budgeted for those two events, this year only \$1,500

In prior years, SGA had been hesitant to release their budget to The Duke.

"It was politicized, and in politics there is the idea of politics and media being at ends. SGA is incorrectly named," Megginson said. "We aren't governing anybody. We are de-politicizing."

These sentiments are echoed in the 2020 Strategic Plan: Building a bridge to a better tomorrow. SGA also is looking to "repair relationships with organizations on campus who have felt disenfranchised by the Student Government in the past."

In the Strategic Plan, Megginson also recognizes that "a proper strategic plan cannot possibly be developed and implemented in short year. I've created what I believe to be a realistic and measured foundation for future student leaders to build on and evolve."

SGA is also in the works of creating an online student feedback portal.

In addition, The Duke will be running a side column after each SGA meeting, outlining what was discussed, the next meeting will be Sunday, Sept. 29 at 7 p.m. in room 203 of the law school.

# Visit website duqsm .com

# Gender neutral terminology barred from event

GENDER-from page 1

neutrality is nothing new; in the 18th century, fashion was very ambiguous, and men's high fashion was often marked by wigs, makeup and high heels. She also mentioned that the initial pushback from the administration could send a negative message to students.

"Students need to feel safe and know that they have allies and advocates," she said.

In the statement, the university said that it ever cancelled or banned the event. Rather, Blair and Weaver wrote that, before approving space and resource allocation for the fashion show, "[the university] has sought to determine that the program is academically-focused and that promotional materials are not designed in a fashion that will unnecessarily offend others."

They also claim that the process took 11 months because of leadership changes and staff turnover in other offices. Blair and Weaver both began their tenures as dean and associate provost respectively in July.

James Swindal, who was McAnulty's dean at the time of last year's event, had signed off on the posters, according to Shirey, and was in attendance at the fashion show. Swindal could not be reached for comment by press time.

On Sept. 25, faculty of the WGS department met with university administration to discuss an alternative event. At that meeting, according to Linda Kinnahan. professor of English and founding member of WGS, the Gender Forum was cleared to hold an event similar to last year's fashion show, as long as they abided by the restrictions outlined by the university — eliminating "gender neutral" and similar language, and refraining from using images that the university could consider offensive.

"It's our understanding as of today that we can proceed with an event," Kinnahan said. "But we've been told that the image [on the poster] was a problem in combination with the language, particularly the term 'gender neutral."

By failing to communicate the aforementioned issues sooner, some students and faculty still feel as though the university effectively hindered the show's production, even if it was never cancelled outright.

"When these complaints were made, we were never informed except for ... complaints about the image on the poster," Kinnahan said. "All of these delays have had the effect of endangering, if not cancelling the event."

Kinnahan and other faculty members also worry about the possible implications of the uniwhat words can or cannot be used in an academic setting.

"The questioning of this event administration to erase the

versity putting limitations on as the inclusion of queerness is erased, is a continuation of the initial position by the Duquesne

> "I HOPE THAT THE HIGHER AD-MINISTRATION CAN LIVE UP TO THIS COMMITMENT, **RECOGNIZING AS THE** WEBSITE ALSO SAYS, THAT 'WE **WELCOME DIVERSITY BECAUSE** IT ENRICHES US ALL."

- FAITH BARRETT, GENDER FORUM **FACULTY ADVISER** 

and the restrictions that have now been placed upon it endanger the sense of belonging that students have here," she said. "Gender neutral' is an academic, theoretical and popular culture term that has a broad range of meanings. But nonetheless, that language seemed to stir up some complaints."

According to Danielle Vecchione, the Gender Forum's president last year when the fashion show first took place, this is not the first time the club has faced complications with the administration.

"Students were ripping down our posters and ... faculty and staff did nothing to help or support [us]. Basically, there has been a lot of 'we don't want to rock the boat' from the school, faculty and staff," Vecchione said.

Faith Barrett, faculty adviser to the Gender Forum and chair of the WGS department, highlighted a part of Duquense's Mission Statement, which advocates for celebrating all students.

"The Duquesne University website notes among university goals the intention to 'create an environment of unconditional inclusion," Barrett said. "I hope that the higher administration can live up to this commitment, recognizing as the website also says, that 'we welcome diversity because it enriches us all."

Barrett also said that Blair and Swindal have both been allies to the department.

Stew Frick, a nonbinary fashion designer, does not attend Duquesne, but they were set to resume their role as featured designer at this year's show. But as the event faced an adverse reaction from the administration, Frick said they were "really disappointed."

"The development of being offered a fashion show, as long queerness of their students," Frick said. "The offer of putting on a show while simultaneously eliminating the original purpose of having a gender neutral fashion show - to signal to queer students that they are welcome, accepted and that they have the right to feel secure in the clothes they choose to wear - fills me with disappointment and sadness for the queer students of Duquesne."

Shirey and Frick both share the sentiment that the university has taken a stance against LG-BTQ+ students and community members.

"It was us versus the university, which sucks when you're a student," Shirey said. "You're paying them. You are a leader of a lot of students who are putting money into a university which clearly does not support them."

Frick said they've been inspired by the LGBTQ+ students of Duquesne, and that they do not envy those students for attending an institution "which has so clearly shown that it is unwilling to support and defend them."

"Not only has the administration shown that they are unwilling to weather a few homophobic complaints about a completely school-appropriate poster, but they are also willing to erase those same queer students' identity while trying to pose that same erasure as an olive branch, a compromise.'

The Gender Forum and WGS department has decided to move forward with the show despite the university's restrictions. It will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 23 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Union Ballroom. Anyone interested in participating as a model in the event should contact the Gender Forum at thegenderforum@gmail.com.



COURTESY EMMA SHIREY

Shirey at last year's Gender Neutral Fashion Show

# **OPINIONS**

#### **THEDUQUESNEDUKE**

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

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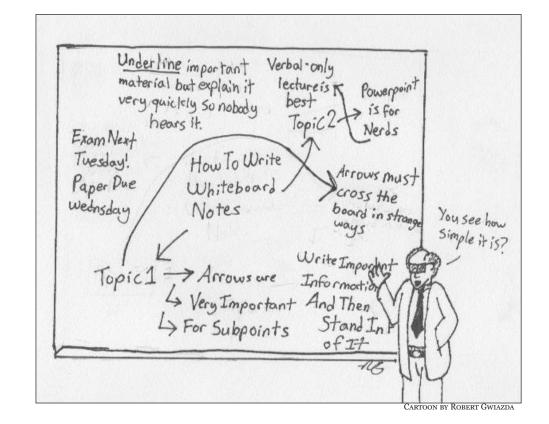
**Letters policy**Letters to the editor must be typed, double-spaced and include the writer's name, school/department and phone number for verification. Letters should be no longer than 300 words and should be delivered to The Duke office at 113 College Hall or e-mailed to theduqduke@gmail.com by 5 p.m. Tuesday. The editors reserve the right to edit any and all submitted copies. All letters must be verified before being published.

#### Corrections/clarifications

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

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## Sino-African relations mirror colonialism

developing nations continue to grow, globalized trade systems have become a staple of modern economics, and Sino-African relations are no exception.

For decades it has become commonplace for larger, developed nations to seek cheaper labor in less wealthy areas of the world. In recent years, this practice has become more and more prevalent in developing African nations.

Chinese corporations are continuing to branch into the African sector at a record setting rate. In the past decade alone, China has finally surpassed the United States as Africa's No. 1 trading partner.

However, Sino-African relations go far beyond standard trade agreements. Chinese companies, with their vast resources and capital, have overtaken most major African industries and govprojects. ernment Instead of hiring native, African workers to build railways, power plants, oil refineries and other forms of infrastructure, many companies are importing temporary contractors

from China. Estimates now project that over million Chinese citizens are living and working in Africa.

To many experts, Sino-African relations are beneficial to both parties. China gets to expand its global trade and internatheir version of religious missionaries: Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) doctors and experts.

Since the late 1970s, China has been sending "missionary" medical teams to various African nations to



COLLEEN HAMMOND opinions editor

tional corporations, and Africa gets to develop at a faster rate through the increase of industry and infrastructure.

Despite the praise of economists, Sino-African relations bear a jarring resemblance to early colonialistic tactics.

The beginning days of Dutch control of Africa began with business ventures and religious missionaries. Similarly, Chinese influence in Africa started with corporate interest and investment as well as

provide healthcare to impoverished areas. While this appears as a selfless act of humanitarianism, the Chinese government likely has darker intentions. TCM is rooted in dietary health and herbal remedies; therefore, Africa, with its abundance of plants and high rates of species diversity is an opportunity for Chinese financial gian. TCM's influence across Africa also increases China's soft power in the region.

This illustrates

the greatest problem with Chinese presence in Africa: Chinese culture is attempting to diminish African cultures.

This problem has escalated to terrifying levels across all aspects of culture. Within the last five years, countries like South Africa, Kenya and Zimbabwe have started mandating Mandarin as part of school curriculums. In addition, many African newspapers, airports and railway stations have started to be published and built with entirely Mandarin signage.

Total immersion in Chinese language, industry and traditions with little regard for African involvement reeks of colonialism. These are the same tactics used by colonial governments hundreds of years ago.

Africa's horrific history of colonialism should serve as a warning for the turmoil ahead if African governments refuse to halt Chinese influence on the region.

While African development of infrastructure, education and medicine is beneficial to locals, those benefits cannot be bought in exchange for Africa's economic, political and cultural independence.

#### **STAFF EDITORIAL**

#### Pittsburgh is not livable for all citizens

The city of Pittsburgh was rated the No. 3 most liveable city in the U.S., according to the Economist Intelligence unit. However, Pittsburgh is quickly becoming one of the most unlivable places for black men and women.

Pittsburgh is home to some 302,500 people, 66.64% of which are white. The second largest demographic is the 23.63% who are African-American.

Difficulties begin at birth: A study by the city of Pittsburgh's Gender Equity Commission found that fetal deaths are twice as likely among Pittsburgh's black women compared to white women.

"For Pittsburgh's black women, 18 out of every 1,000 pregnancies end in fetal death."

Being white and living in Pittsburgh is for the most part a comparable living experience in cities elsewhere in the country. For black residents, on the other hand, any other city is immediately more "livable."

"What this means is that if black residents got up today and left and moved to the majority of any other cities in the U.S., automatically by just moving, their life expectancy would go up, their income would go up, their educational opportunities for their children would go up, as well as their employment," said Junia Howell, assistant professor of sociology at the University of Pittsburgh and a co-author on the study.

The economic opportunity for black Pittsburghers is diminishing. According to the National Community Reinvestment Coalition, Pittsburgh is the eighth most gentrifying city in the U.S.

The continued gentrification of lower-income neighborhoods is slowly pushing portions of the black population out of the city. For the continuation of economic growth of this city, it is necessary to invest in the people. Opportunity is out there, but for black residents, it is not in Pittsburgh.

If the lives of black residents are more likely to improve immediately upon leaving, the irony of rating Pittsburgh one of the top liveable cities is immediately present.

Pittsburgh should not be touting a "most-liveable" status without taking into consideration its population as a whole. Being a top-rated place to live for only a single demographic is not something that should be celebrated, but rather an example of precisely what needs to be changed about this city.

Pittsburgh is in need of change; it has the potential to be a phenomenal place to live for all, but not if it continues to sweep the black population under the rug.

# **OPINIONS**

# Big Food perpetuates the national obesity epidemic

staff columnist

opeye's Louisiana Kitchen took the world by storm on Aug. 12 with the release of their special chicken sandwich, but another big fried chicken company had a swift answer. On Sept. 16, 2019, Kentucky Fried Chicken released the chicken and doughnuts sandwich.

That's right: KFC had an answer to what was more unhealthy than deepfried Oreos, and that is slamming a piece of fried chicken between two glazed doughnuts and selling it for \$5.99 a piece. Questions regarding the sandwich being good aside-which by the way it is- my question very simply is: are we not going a bit too far with this comfort foodstuff?

Don't get me wrong, I love all kinds of unhealthy food, but do we need this? There seems to be a trend in our modern culinary culture to essentially make food as unhealthy and as fatty/ sugary as possible. From making pizzas as large as possible to single burgers taking up more than half of the recommended daily calorie intake, it seems as though the outcry against harmful diets is falling on deaf ears.

This is a trend that has long been recognized, a common critique thrown at so-called Big Food, but we must analyze this as a culture and recognize how harmful it is.

We are still in the prime of the obesity epidemic. America has an obesity rate of



Audiences rave over Popeye's new special chicken sandwich, released on Aug. 12,2019.

almost 40%, meaning that 2 out of every 5 people are now obese in the U.S., according to the CDC in a 2017 brief. This has been an increase from past years, with us rising by almost 10% since 2000, despite the concern for it. As much as Michelle Obama's crusade against unhealthy dieting was honorable, it seems that it may have been in vain.

A lot of people do choose to be obese, and that's fair enough for them, but there's also a lot of people that are obese but have lots of difficulties losing weight. However, I think if we analyze why people choose to be obese, I think we find a much darker answer. That being that Big Food indeed fetishizes unhealthy eating.

Eating unhealthily is glamorized on TV. While we all go to the doctors and hear about how much dieting and exercising is important to living a healthy life, we all go home and are bombarded by advertisements to eat the brandnew fatty thing from our local fast-food joint. Obesity and unhealthy lifestyles are being commercialized for the sake of making a profit by corporations.

These corporations prey upon people's desires to feel good while eating, to feel that relaxation that comes with overloading our system on grease and sugar. They glamorize it to make people want it, to normalize unhealthy eating for the sake of profit.

If Big Food was seriously concerned about the obesity epidemic, they'd do more than just include calorie counts that most people ignore. Instead of glamorizing fried chicken, let's glamorize healthier options like grilled chicken. Instead of sugary sauces, focus on lean seasonings. Society should be looking to make things flavorful sugar and fats.

And yes, I do recognize that obesity is something that people need to personally contend with. Ultimately if people want to lose weight, no law or giant societal shift will help people lose weight. There is a large degree of personal responsibility that comes with living a healthy lifestyle, and a person can't blame their own unhealthy life choices entirely on big corporations. But we can at least acknowledge that enabling people to feel positively towards unhealthy choices certainly impacts that rate and would go a long way in helping people make the right choice.

We are amid a public health crisis, one that is getting worse with each passing year despite plenty of research and public outcry. The time for action is now. In the U.S., alcohol companies have adopted policies wherein their adverts at least attempt to discourage underage drinking. There are also rules and regulations about alcohol commercials, such as distilled spirits requiring a stated alcohol content. Why should fast food companies get a pass on encouraging unhealthy eating?

The point is that these trends in Big Food are hurting our society, and they're aware of it. While an unhealthy chicken and doughnut sandwich might be good occasionally, we should remember that's it. These companies must take responsibility for their part in the obesity epidemic, for glamorizing this excess eating.

# Cancel culture continues to pervade pop culture and politics

**ZOE STRATOS** staff columnist

rom Justin Trudeau to James Charles no influencer is safe from the wrath of the public.

Over the past decade, social media has become a huge societal norm in which every day people are able to share their opinions on celebrities, political voices and news out- also referred to as the fifth estate. The critical mass of users on these platforms act as a watchdog; they are able to unapologetically use bias and state facts about people and events that certain outlets conveniently leave out of their articles.

From this spawned the creation of a new culture: cancel culture, Cancel a trend on multiple social media platforms —especially Twitter — which a large group of people essentially 'call-out' influencers in attempt to eject them from fame due to their actions, words or beliefs.

Most of the time these call-outs come from accusations with little proof, but people jump on the bandwagon regardless of its affirmity; however, sometimes these accusations are then backed up with more proof due to the spread of the news to the general public.

One of the most recent 'canceled' public figures is Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau after a leaked photo of him in brownface surfaced. The photo was taken in 2001 and was featured in a yearbook of the

school he was teaching at.

After the photo was released, thousands took to Twitter to share their opinions, ultimately resulting in political party conflicts. Twitter user @RubinReport described it as 'asymmetry.'

"The fact is if this was anyone on the Right it would be a massive scandal and they'd be forced to step down. Trudeau is progressive media darling thus will get a pass. Cancel culture is bad enough but the asymmetry of it can't stand much longer."

The user does make a point about the lack of repercussions Trudeau has received professionally thus far; however, the fifth estate overall has expressed their disappointment in Trudeau, as they should.

The use of brownface in 2001 is just as unacceptable as it is now in 2019. There is no excuse for his actions and the public should call him out for it - as they are. With that said, Trudeau has publicly apologized and does not condone his own ac-

"I shouldn't have done that," said Trudeau in a statement. "I should have known better and I didn't. I'm really sorry." He then continued on to agree that it was racist. "I didn't consider it racist at the time, but now we know better."

The questions then become, do we forgive them? How much is too much?

In this case, Trudeau's credibility is knocked and there should be repercussions; however, over the past few years, he has



Canadian Prime minister Justin Trudeau addressed allegations of racist brownface at 2001 party

shown his support for progressivism and inclusion, and his contributions to his country prove his growth as a human. With that said, the public should be wary of what he says and remind him of his serious mistake.

Another recent 'canceled' celebrity to it the headlines is YouTube star. beauty influencer, James Charles.

After a conflict between Charles and his mentor, Tati Westbrook, over a vitamin promotion Charles took part in, Westbrook released a YouTube video titled "Bye Sister," condemning Charles for his betrayal of her brand. A series of other videos followed between the two, eventually causing Charles to lose around three million subscribers -Westbrook gained around four

million. The cancel culture of Twitter even went as far as creating a trending hashtag: #JamesCharlesIsOverParty.

In this case, cancel culture walks the line between call out and bullying. The toxic side of cancel culture includes death threats and unnecessary insults thrown at people who have barely done anything wrong. Charles made a mistake to help promote another brand; however, the gravity of his mistake comes nowhere near that of Trudeau's. Yet here users were destroying Charles public image over a commercial.

see CANCEL— page 11

# **FEATURES**

# Katie Westbrook Memorial Race going strong for 18th year

GRACE ROSELLO staff writer

n Saturday morning on Mellon Patio, dogs, from a teacup Yorkshire terrier to a huge fluffy husky named Socrates, barked, whined and wagged their tails at each other. Duquesne University School of Law provided red and blue bandanas hung around the dog's collars in honor of the Katie Westbrook 5k and Dog Walk Memorial Race.

Runners stretched as students, supporters and organizers were milling around, drinking coffee, playing cornhole. Most everyone was smiling over the dogs' antics and in anticipation of the run. Set up along the patio were different stands representing organizations from the law school, including the Buck-a-Duck game representing the Black Law Student Association and a 50/50 raffle sponsored by the Sports & Entertainment Law Society, among others.

"Katie was a huge animal lover," said Kerry Westbrook, Katie's younger sister said."I'm super elated everyone remembers her and comes together in her honor. She was a sweet and loving spirit with a strong sense of justice."

The story of the 5k, which is 18 years strong, begins with Katie.

Dr. John T. Rago, an associate professor of law at Duquesne, describes Katie as someone with a "passion for life, for all things big and small, with an energy and intensity and depth of compassion that some people go through their whole lives without ever experiencing. You couldn't meet this girl without knowing there was something very special about her."

Katie's life was forever changed when she was diagnosed with a rare form of bone cancer called osteosarcoma. The condition occurs when a tumor forms around bone and then metastasizes, meaning that the cancer spreads to different or secondary sites from its origin.

Whenever Rago was contacted by a friend at Childrens' Hospital who knew a young woman who probably wasn't going to make it and who desperately wanted to be a lawyer, the friend asked if the law school at Duquesne could send her a hat or

"My God, we could do better than that!" Rago declared, smiling. Katie attended trial classes at the law school and made connections with law school faculty and staff, who likewise "fell in love with her," according to Rago. One student gave her a few of his books to read. Another gave her his class ring.

Katie's two goals in her last year of life were to make it to her birthday and graduation.

"She achieved both," said Maria Comas, director of career services at the law school, stated. The day of Katie's death at age 15 was the day Duquesne University was going to honor her at commencement with an honorary degree.

"Bittersweet doesn't begin to describe [commencement,]" Rago said. "Her mother Beth accepted the degree on her behalf hours after her daughter was gone. There were nearly 3000 people there."

Katie first dreamed of becoming a veterinarian, and after much "ricocheting," according to Westbrook, she changed paths and desperately wanted to become a lawyer in order to "represent the underdog.'

Rago wholeheartedly agreed that despite the pain Katie was going through, she accomplished a lot with the short life that she had.

Eighteen years later, Katie still remains part of the law school. Through the efforts of Dr. Rago; Beth Bauer, student organizations assistant with the dean's office at the law school and Comas, the 5k and dog walk has been organized in honor of a young woman's dream to become a lawyer.

"Katie's spirit lives on here at Duquesne. We can feel it today," Bauer said. "These law students are



GRACE ROSELLO / STAFF WRITER Maria Comas and Kerry Westbrook with Socrates the husky.

living her dream. We want them to know that and also to know that as a law school, we want to build a family and a community.

The dream and the goal were definitely realized as people spent time together, remembering Katie and matching her forceful presence through those who knew her.

Charlie Possino, owner Socrates the huge fluffy dog and president of the Student Bar Association, sees the event as representing "one university, one family." He encourages more undergraduate students to join the cause. The

money made from the 5k goes to law school scholarships for prospective students at the university.

Rago keeps a piece of art Katie made for him in his office at the law school. When he thinks of her, he is reminded of her presence as a strong woman and a human presence which inspires him to take measure of what's important in life.

Fletcher Dunham was the first mens' finisher, running at 19:00. Michelle Smith was the first womens' finisher, running at 25:04. The first dog to cross the finish line was Peanut.

GRACE ROSELLO / STAFF WRITER

Money raised from the 5k contributes to law school scholarships for prospective students

# **HOROSCOPES**



The walk of shame might as well be the walk of mild embarrassment at this point.

#### Scorpio

(October 23-November 22)

We know you stole the Hydro Flask.

## Sagittarius

(November 23-December 22)

Love will blossom in the middle of DU Cares.

# Capricorn

(December 23-January 19)

Don't settle for boys that call the Red Ring "going out."

#### **Aauarius**

(January 20-February 18)

You tried to be clever, but nothing gets past

#### **Pisces**

(February 19-March 20)

Who needs an emotional support animal when you could have an emotional support haircut?

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Your roommate knows about your "secret" girl-

#### Taurus

(April 20-May 20)



You're not the "traditional" clown.

#### Gemini

(May 21-June 20)

If you hiccup one more time!!

#### Cancer

(June 21-July 22)

You don't deserve an appreciation breakfast.

#### Leo

(July 23-August 22)



The Pittsburgh Parking Authority wants you, dead or alive.

#### Virgo

(August 23-September 22)

There's a date with an elderly man in your future.

**SPORTS** 

# Women's soccer defeats VCU in overtime

**JAMES LEO** staff writer

An underdog heading into Sunday's matchup against rival VCU (6-2-1, 0-1-1), the Duquesne women's soccer team (3-2-2, 1-0-0) commenced this season's conference slate with a convincing win.

VCU has always been a viable opponent for Duquesne. In their last meeting, VCU got the better of Duquesne, and went on to finish the year 2nd in the A-10. Duquesne currently leads the all-time head-to-head series 4-3.

This game was truly a tale of two halves for the Dukes. VCU's defense stifled them in the first half; while Duquesne had many good opportunities, they had just one shot on goal.

Despite their first-half offensive struggles, the Dukes held VCU to only one goal during that half. Out of 10 first half shots, VCU's lone goal came in the 26th minute from forward Idelys Vazquez.

"We had a game plan going into the game, playing against this team specifically," coach Al Alvine said. "We did it too infrequently over the course of the first half."

The second half saw a more efficient and exciting Dukes team. They continued to keep VCU from scoring, allowing a mere three (unsuccessful) shots on goal in the second half.

The Dukes offense got back on track as well, attempting six which were on target.

The Red and Blue tied the game in the 73rd minute with a goal from midfielder Deena DeBaldo. With this goal, she now leads the A-10 in goals scored (6) and is tied with Richmond's Alyssa Walker for points scored (13) on the year.

"I knew I was up there in goals," DeBaldo said. "I knew I was tied with someone, but I didn't know who. I'm very excited to be where I am."

The Dukes took a 2-1 lead with a corner kick goal in the 84th minute by defender Ashley Briscoe and successfully fended off two corner kicks in the final six minutes from VCU to win 2-1.

Coach Alvine was proud of his team's performance in the second half.

"In the second half, we came out and made a real commitment to the way we wanted to play," he explained. "I thought we dominated the second half and created a lot of really good chances. I'm thrilled to get our first conference win under our belts against a very good VCU team."

He also emphasized that while this win was important, he is thinking of the bigger picture.

"Based on what I saw today, if we can show that same level of commitment to each other good things will come our way."

"This was a huge win for us; we've always had tough battles with VCU, and getting this win was a great start to conference play," she said. "I think we can go all the way. I believe in our team; I think we can do it."

This conference win marks the first time the Dukes have won their opening conference game since 2016. They went on to finish 7-2-1 in conference play that year, and went to the A-10 Championship game.

The Dukes will continue their A-10 play with a game at Davidson at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sep. 26.

They will head to Philadelphia to take on La Salle at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 29 to wrap up their short road-stint. Both of these games can be viewed online via ESPN+.

Any who wish to catch the Dukes in person may do so when they return to the Bluff on Thursday, Oct. 3 to play Richmond.

shots in the second half, four of and commitment to playing our game and that level of organization, the sky is the limit," he said. "I told them before the game that we can beat anyone on our day, especially on our field. I think the sky is the limit for our team; if we stay healthy and focused,

DeBaldo shared a similar sen-

#### – Sept. 28, 1 p.m.

- Sept. 27, 7 p.m.

Football at New Hampshire

**Upcoming Events** 

The following events are all of Duquesne's varsity

athletic contests for the next several weeks.

Women's Soccer at Davidson

Carnegie Mellon Invitational

Women's Volleyball at David-

- Sept. 26, 7 p.m.

- Sept. 27, TBA

- Sept. 28, 7 p.m.

Men's Soccer at La Salle

- Sept. 29, 1 p.m.

Women's Volleyball at VCU

– Sept. 29**, 1 p.m.** 

Women's Soccer at La Salle

– Oct. 1, 7 p.m.

Men's Soccer at Liberty

- Oct. 3, 7 p.m.

Women's Soccer at Richmond

– Oct. 4, **7 p.m.** 

Women's Volleyball vs. George Washington

#### - Oct. 5, TBA

Women's Rowing (Head of the Ohio Regatta; Pittsburgh)

#### - Oct. 5, 9 p.m.

Men's Cross Country (Paul Short Invitational; Lehigh)

#### - Oct. 5, 9 p.m.

Women's Cross Country (Paul Short Invitational; Lehigh)

- Oct. 5, 1 p.m. Football vs. LIU

#### - Oct. 5, 7 p.m. Men's Soccer vs. St. Bonaven-

- Oct. 6, 1 p.m. Women's Volleyball vs. George Mason

#### **Fact of the Week**

Duquesne women's basketball has four true freshman on this year's roster. Each of the newcomers represents a different country (Albania, Macedonia, Sweden, USA).



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS

The Dukes after Deena DeBaldo's goal in the 74th minute.

# Football beats Dayton, heads to UNH

**JACK BREEN** staff writer

After a 20-point loss to Youngstown State, the Dukes managed to pull off a win at Dayton this past Saturday by a score of 35-31. This win was Duquesne's fourth consecutive victory against the Flyers.

Mark Allen led the team in rushing with 201 scrimmage yards and two touchdowns, including the game winner. Allen has been named NEC Co-Offensive Player of the Week for his superb performance against the Flyers.

Quarterback Daniel Parr will look to follow up a solid outing after finishing with a noteworthy 81.8% (18-22) completion percentage with three total touchdowns (two passing, one rushing) and zero turnovers. His 182 passing yards is a season-high for the senior.

Senior wide-receivers Kellon Taylor and Kareem Coles Jr. picked up their first touchdown receptions of the year which both came in the first half. After the defense gave up 21 points in the first half, they settled in in the

second half, allowing only 10 points. Seven of Dayton's second- half points came on a 97vard kickoff return to begin the

Also on the defensive side, senior defensive back Reid Harrison-Ducros recorded his first career interception in the endzone while the match was tied at 28 with 7:23 left in the third quarter. With 1:34 left to play in the game, the Dukes' defense down as Jassir Jordan deflected the pass to give the offense the ball at their own 36, which sealed the game for Duquesne.

Following the win against Dayton, Duquesne will look to carry the momentum to New Hampshire, who will also be riding into the matchup with a head of steam after a thrilling win against Rhode Island.

The Dukes will head to Durham, New Hampshire this upcoming Saturday (9/28) to face



COURTESY OF ERIKA BAKIRTZIS

Mark Allen eanred NEC Co-Offensive Player of the Week honors for his performance.

the 1-2 Wildcats at Wildcat Stadium.

The Wildcats beat Rhode Island 27-24 at home as kicker Jason Hughes kicked a 29-yard field goal through the uprights in the final seconds to seal New Hampshire's first win of the season. Saturday's game for the Dukes will be their third straight on the road after playing backto-back games in the state of Ohio. Duquesne will look to finish their three-game road streak and hope to head home with a 3-1 overall record.

Duquesne's defense strive to take advantage of a young quarterback, freshman Max Brosmer, who has already thrown three interceptions on the year. Brosmer originally lost the starting job to teammate Bret Edwards, but replaced Edwards in the second half of Week 1 and will start his third consecutive game against Duquesne. Brosmer threw for two touchdowns and 187 yards last weekend.

Saturday's game will kick off at 1 p.m. The matchup marks the first-ever football game between Duquesne and New Hampshire.

# Fantasy Sports Edge: Tips for this weekend's games

JASON MIGNANELLI staff writer

Just as summer has come and gone, so too has Week 3 in the NFL. By now, most of you probably have a good idea of how your fantasy football team is looking. Many of you are pondering your draft mistakes and kicking yourselves for saying, "Patrick Mahomes in the first round? That's way too early for a quarterback who is bound to take a step back after last year's record-breaking 50 touchdown season."

Well, if you said this and then passed on Mahomes in the first round, then you are just like me. I, too, fell into the trap of taking a running back or a wide receiver in the first rounds of my leagues. Even though I did end up with Christian McCaffery and a couple of other studs, I am still kicking myself for not drafting Mahomes immediately.

If you were one of the few people who looked past all of the fantasy football talk and simply went with your heart and took Mahomes, my props to you because even if you completely butchered the rest of your draft, you are probably still leading your league or you are somewhere close to the top.

Now that we have established that the Patrick Mahomes owners are doing just fine, what about the rest of us? Even if you didn't take Mahomes, you could still be sitting pretty in your leagues. Maybe you got a steal in Lamar Jackson or Mark Ingram, or even both. Maybe you were like me and took Christian Mc-Caffery with your first pick, and aside from last week's outlier, I'm pretty happy with McCaffery's production to this point. Additionally, you could have taken Dak Prescott and got a steal in Amari Cooper. Any way you look at it, the players that you drafted are probably doing what you expected.

The most exciting thing about fantasy football is that every year there are a ton of guys that become famous after the first three weeks. Why is Week 3 the magic number? Because Week 1 in the NFL is usually an overhyped "lion out of the cage" type or "cabin fever is over" type, outlier. You can't take the results from Week 1 as anything besides that. Now, if a guy continues to produce in Week 2, then we begin to take notice. If

he does it again in Week 3, then we can say it's probably going to be consistent.

The only problem with waiting until Week 3 to make roster moves is that every league has a guy like me who tries to predict those breakout players and hits the waiver wire hard and heavy Weeks 1, 2 and 3.

By this point, the cat is out of the bag on names like Terry McLaurin, Marquise Brown, Jon Ross, Mark Andrews and Mecole Hardman. Most of those guys got snagged up after the first two weeks.

I encourage you to take a look at this week's "Money Makers or Money Takers" advice that I list below. In this section I will give you my waiver wire moves for this upcoming week. I'll do my best to help you to begin thinking in the right direction. The Money Makers are the guys that I believe are worthy of a roster spot. The Money Takers are guys that I think you should drop.

#### Money Makers Wayne Gallman, RB, New York Giants

An injury opening up a starting spot always creates a tough waiver wire add situation. Unfortunately, if your league has a waiver wire process with an order then you may not even have a chance to get Wayne Gallman. More than likely, the Saquon Barkley owner is going to be jumping on Wayne Gallman here.

It's too early to tell how long Barkley will be sidelined, but you can't wait to find out on this one. You need to add Gallman ASAP. I know, I know, he did absolutely nothing last week when he took over for Barkley, but after seeing Barkley in a boot on the sidelines, this could be serious.

Perhaps a week of practicing as the starter will help Gallman to become an acceptable flex player.

#### Darrel Williams, RB, Kansas City Chiefs

He had more touches than veteran LeSean McCoy in Week 3. McCoy got the touchdown, but Williams showed a lot of promise with nine carries for 62 yards, and five receptions for 47 yards. Not to mention, McCoy is banged up, and the Chiefs would like nothing more than to save those old legs for a Super Bowl run. In a Mahomes offense, it's only a matter of time until Williams blows up. If



COURTESY OF KIM CLEMENTS, USA TODAY SPORTS

Wayne Gallman hasn't seen much action in the first three weeks of the season. With Saquon Barkley sidelined with an ankle inury, Gallman should see a major increase in production, and is worth picking up in fantasy football leagues if possible.

you can still get him in your league, do it

#### Gardner Minshew, QB, Jacksonville Jaguars

Remember the three-week rule that I talked about before? Minshew has gradually shown his worth over the first few weeks of the season. His numbers aren't exactly jumping off the page but he has consistently scored over 17 points in each of the first three weeks.

Minshew Mania, the mustache, the underdog, I'm buying it all. Gardner Minshew just looks comfortable. He has weapons in D.J. Chark and Chris Conley at wide receiver. He has a serviceable running game with Leonard Fournette and last but not least, he has a solid defense on the other side of the ball. Minshew may already be gone in some of your leagues but he is my

Wayne Gallman is on my Money Makers list only because he is the single tailback on the Giants' roster aside from Barkley. Jones has the benefit of being able to run and scramble, but I still see the rookie needing some more time to become fantasy relevant.

#### James Conner, RB, Pittsburgh Steelers

I know, I know. Before you flip out and swear up and down to never read my articles again, let me explain. Do I think that any James Conner owner should simply drop him? NO! Of course not. However, if you have someone in your league that just loves those Pittsburgh Steelers through thick and thin, now would be the time to try and unload him.

I think we are going to be seeing a lot more of Jaylen Samuels and Benny Snell



AP PHOTO

first option, if available.

#### Kyle Allen, QB, Carolina Panthers

Everyone who drafted Cam Newton is probably kicking themselves over and over again. I saw signs last year that he was falling apart, so I avoided him at all cost this year. However, if you drafted Newton, it isn't too late to pick up Kyle Allen. Most people in your league are going to get all twinkly eyed about Daniel Jones. I believe Allen is the better option. Allen has something that Jones no longer has, for the time being. That is, he's a running back that can catch short passes and break off long touchdown runs.

Look at the other quarterbacks who are scoring high points. Yes, they have good receivers, but nothing is easier on a young quarterback than being able to dump off the ball to a great running back and watch him take it to the house. Remember, if the quarterback throws it to the running back it doesn't matter if the ball flies 60 yards to a receiver or five yards to a running back, either way the quarterback gets credited with a

Additionally, Allen has big time weapons around him. Greg Olsen looked great last week and his receivers are getting better each week. For me, I'm higher on Allen right now. I'll take the "wait and see" approach on Jones without Barkley.

## Money Takers Daniel Jones, QB, New York Giants

Don't get me wrong, Jones looked great last week. He has weapons like Sterling Shepard and Evan Engram and will be getting Golden Tate back sometime soon. However, losing Barkley hurts the young quarterback.

moving forward. Once again, Conner is banged up and quite frankly doesn't even resemble the guy from last year. Would the real James Conner please stand up? Unfortunately, I don't think the real Conner will be standing up anytime soon.

Look on the bright side, you could have been one of those Pittsburgh Steelers fans who stretched for JuJu in the first round, yikes.

I'm just as surprised as you are by the Steelers lack of production so far this season, but when the offensive line looks this bad, that's when I start to wave the terrible white towel.

#### Jordan Howard, RB, Philadelphia Eagles

I didn't see this one coming. Although, I never had high hopes for the Eagles backfield as a whole. Miles Sanders has clearly taken over the lead role and I don't even think Darren Sproles will see much work moving forward.

Jordan Howard is nothing more than a touchdown dependant, dart throw at this point.

This really gets me thinking. As good as he looked in Chicago at times when he was the workhorse, do some running backs just need the volume to succeed?

I think in almost any other system, Howard would be having a decent season.

In Philadelphia, I think he is getting lost in the shuffle and is being under used. It almost makes me wonder why Philly even signed him.

Miles Sanders is clearly the guy that Doug Pederson wants to lead the backfield. So from a fantasy perspective, that's the guy we want on our team.

**SPORTS** 

# **ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

# Season 2 of Disenchanment a success for Groening

**HANNAH BOUCHER** staff writer

little over a year after the release of a 10-episode season on Netflix, Matt Groening works his magic yet again with Disenchantment, season 2.

The concept of an "adult" cartoon is not a new one - in fact, Groening has been whipping out animated shows for grown-ups since 1989 with the release of The Simpsons. Unlike Groening's other creations, Disenchantment is a fantastical experience, full of magical creatures, somewhat noble quests and a kickbutt heroine.

Picking up right where season 1 left off, the main antagonist, Princess Tiabeanie, or Bean, (voiced by Abbi Jacobson), finds herself in a new land far from her home of Dreamland. Consumed by guilt, due to the events of the previous season, Bean sets out to make things right.

Recruiting help from her own personal demon-pal, Luci (Eric Andre), the two go on an epic journey, picking up the loveable Elfo (Nat Faxon) along the way. Once the trio is reunited, they embark on yet another adventure.

Throughout season 2, viewers get to see Bean, as well as those around her, cope with the aftermath of season 1. Many of the regulars begin to display a different side of their character than previously seen.

Groening successfully develops his characters into dynamic individuals, capable of carrying their own subplot. Between Luci, Elfo, Bean and others, Groening fills each second with more than just empty humor. While the jokes are a constant, they are methodically woven into the dialogue, careful not to take attention away from the plot.

Bean's father, King Zog (John DiMaggio), develops a stronger relationship with his daughter, while also dealing with a major heartbreak. Although his character is mostly used for comedy in season 1, audiences get to see a different side of Zog due to this new relationship with Bean. This adds some more emotional depth to the humorous cartoon.

What makes Disenchantment so different from other modern adult cartoons is its content. While there are some crude jokes thrown in here and there, a major social issue is brought up this season — gender equality.

From the beginning of the series, Bean is established as a strong character, willing to take risks and go against the grain. Although Bean is a princess, she does not fit the archetype of a damsel in distress. In fact, she is the one doing most of the rescuing. Bean is initially forced into following what is expected of a princess, she eventually is able to show her father that the expecta-



Broad City creator Abbi Jacobson stars as Princess Bean.

tions set before her are ridiculous.

This time around, however, Bean is faced with the fact that she is not allowed to do everything a man can do in her kingdom. Whether it is attempting to address her father in court, put on her own play or even help rule the kingdom, Bean finds herself being shut down by the oldfashioned men in her kingdom. Recognizing the issue of gender discrimination, Bean begins to fight back, but this issue is still not fully resolved by the end of the season. I predict it will continue to be dealt with during the third season.

My favorite part of this season was

the ninth episode, titled, "The Electric Princess." While Disenchantment is a fantasy show, this episode tackles the sci-fi genre, much like Groening's other show, Futurama. While I hope this episode doesn't permanently change the set-up of the show, it provided a great toneshift for the season finale.

Overall, the second season of Disenchantment does not disappoint. Like with most Netflix shows, I found myself bingeing the new episodes as soon as they were released. Groening has truly proved himself to be a versatile writer, finding the humor in all different settings.

## WEEK'S **EVENTS**

Andy Warhol Museum Sept. 27 @ 6 p.m.

Brottier Hall staff welcomes students to visit the Andy Warhol Museum. Tickets are available at the Office of Residence Life and are free for the first 40 attendees.

> Pittsburgh Gallery Crawl Sept. 27 @ 5:30 p.m.

Downtown Pittsburgh's Cultural District will be home to a countless variety of art galleries and events as part of this annual celebration of local creatives.

# **UPCOMING**

Sound & Fury Sturgill Simpson Friday, Sept. 27

Indie country artist Sturgill Simpsons leans into the heavier, rock-inspired aspects of his sound on this, his fourth album, to be paired with a Netflix film.

<u>Judy</u> Friday, Sept. 27

Renée Zellweger stars as Judy Garland in this biopic, focusing on the final years of the entertainer's troubled life.

# **RELEASES**

## **MICRO REVIEW**

"Summertime" **Ariel View** 

An indie pop-rock single with crystal-clear production, gentlebut-driving guitars and a fantastic lead vocal performance. What else could you ask for? This style of music may have hit its peak a few years ago, but this is a fine effort nonetheless.

-Josiah Martin

# = THE RED RING =

# **WEEK NIGHT SPECIALS**

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WEDNESDAY

**\$6.50 BURGERS** 

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**FIESTA NIGHT** 

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# **GALLERY CRAWL**

WWWWW PREVIEW /////////

It's Gallery Crawl weekend in Pittsburgh! Below are some of the many events and where to find them, thanks to the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust.

**World Market** 

TrustArts Education Center 5:30 p.m.

The World Market will feature art representative of many immigrant communities.

Art in the Alley: Visit Pittsburgh Tito Way 5:30 p.m.

90 painted "parking chairs" serve as a tongue-in-cheek tribute to the Pittsburgh tradition and earnest salute to the city.

Free Henna India Palace 5:30 p.m.

Free Henna, complimentary beverages and a menu discount are available at this new event.

Art in the Alley: Ibeji Drum Solo Exchange Way, near 9th 6:00 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 9:00 p.m.

The Ibeji Drum Ensemble aims to showcase musical stylings of West African nations.

The Last Dragon screening TrustArts Education Center 10:00 p.m.

DJ Sov Sos provides a live soundtrack to this cult-classic '80s flick.

# Cambodian Rock Band explores an untold story in a fresh way

**CLAIRE NEIBERG** staff writer

ambodian Rock Band rocked the City Theatre Company's stage in Pittsburgh's Southside. I saw this play on Sunday, Sept. 15 as part of my Social Justice in Educational Settings class in the School of Education. Directed by Marti Lyons, the performance was as electrifying as its title, as it creatively tells the story of the Cambodian genocide through the relationship of a father and daughter.

Going into the theatre, I had high expectations for what I was about to see because I am passionate about history and always find it interesting when history and entertainment are brought together. However, I did have my doubts because I was afraid upbeat music and flashing lights would make too much of a spectacle about a horrendous time in history which caused many to suffer.

The play tells the story of Neary (Aja Wiltshire). A young, enterprising woman, she is both the lead singer of her rock band but also an intern working to uncover the harsh realities of the Cambodian genocide. When her Cambodian father, Chum (Greg Watanbe), comes to visit her unexpectedly, she uncovers the dark tale of her family history.

Lauren Yee, the playwright, stated in an

interview with the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette that, "In so many instances, when you hear stories about genocide or any kind of atrocity, your mind goes educational. All the pictures in your mind suddenly go black and white, sepia-toned, very sad. And I didn't want to tell a story about victims. I wanted to tell a story about survivors."

Because genocide is, needless to say, a far from comical event, Yee crafted her play by weaving the comedic lines into the relationships between the individual characters. The aspects of the play that were heavily based on the events of the genocide were taken seriously and even involved realistic fake blood and gunshots to amplify the effect on the audience.

While the sets and costumes were fairly simple, the show was a brilliant work of art. The music was original, catchy and had the audience singing along in a standing ovation at curtain call. As a pre-service teacher, theatre is of great importance to me, as it inspires us to educate our students to think outside the box and utilize the materials we already have to create art.

The most influential aspect of Cambodian Rock Band was the Asian representation. The Cambodian genocide is not commonly taught in American schools and Asians are not heavily represented



COURTESY OF LIZ LAUREN

Aja Wiltshire and Greg Watanbe as they appeared in Chicago's Victory Gardens Theater.

in the media. However, it was incredibly heartwarming to see an entire auditorium of people gather to hear the story of an underrepresented minority. It also inspired me to implement diversity into my future classroom through the arts.

I highly recommend going to see Cambodian Rock Band before the final show on Oct. 6. The play was a stunning example of how the arts inspire us to be braver than we can imagine. In two hours, the play embodied the concepts of a rock band, comedic interjections and familial relationships. It left my class in tears of both joy and sadness, as it unveiled the chilling, and underrepresented history of the Cambodian genocide. It gave us all a point of inspiration to create a socially just classroom environment in the foreseeable future.

# Human Discoveries is Facebook's hidden gem

HALLIE LAUER managing editor

need everyone to take a deep breath and just bear with me for a couple hundred words. I have recently discovered a show on, drumroll please ... Facebook Watch. It is an animated series called Human Discoveries created specifically for this platform.

Human Discoveries is exactly as it sounds - it is prehistoric humans discovering the world. The tagline for the show is "Go back in time with a group of friends who are trying to figure it all out, for the first time."

It's basically like The Flintstones got remade for modern viewers; the only difference is this show is much more crass. For instance in episode 2 titled "And then they got drunk," the group of friends discovers what happens when you drink "rotten grape juice." They get drunk and as a consequence, they also get to discover the first hangover. Welcome to the party, friends.

The two main characters Gary (Zac Efron) and Jane (Anna Kendrick) are in traditional roles for the time. Gary is a rather unsuccessful hunter and Jane is a gatherer, much displeased with her job.

Efron and Kendrick are also both executive producers for the show.

These two, displeased with their roles in the newly formed society, create the premise for the rest of the series. They desire to do more than "just survive" as Jane puts it (despite the fact that a minor character dies in nearly every episode by things totally avoidable like being eaten by a tiger or drowning in a river).

Jane is the rebel of the group, and Gary... Gary is like that nerdy dude in an 80's rom-com that is funny and somehow manages to get the girl even though she's ten times smarter than him.

Gary and Jane muddle their way through dating, without any of the modern tools of dating. Like knowing what dating is, or what it is to be with someone exclusively. It's funny in a primitive ironic way.

Though the main plotline revolves around Jane, Gary and their desire for more than survival, the minor characters are not forgotten and often have some of the funniest moments in the show.

My personal favorite character is Jane's best friend Minerva (Jillian Bell). She's sarcastic and by her own admission "only does things out of spite." She steals the show with her one liners.

Another minor character is Ugg - like the shoe. He is the camp's number one hunter and carries that more brawn than brains character trope. He often needs things explained to him, and it is through his character that the show tackles more modern societal issues like gender roles and norms.

Aside from watching these humans understand the world for the first time, we also get an in-



COURTESY OF FACEBOOK WATCH

Zac Efron and Anna Kendrick contribute to the series' voice cast and also serve as executive producers.

side look at the lives of elk. The for the camp. However, Judy and easily all be watched in a day. B-plot to this show follows two elk, Judy (Lisa Kudrow) and William (James Adomian) in search of a leader and a way to live in harmony with the humans.

The problem the elk have, is every leader they appoint creates an elaborate plan to interact with the humans, which ultimately ends in them being killed for food

William manage to avoid being hunted somehow.

Human Discoveries is one of those shows that you put on when you need something mindless. So instead of watching The Office for the fifteenth time, try this out. Each episode is only around 25 minutes. The first season has 10 episodes, which could

The series premiered in July of this year, and there is no word yet

on if a second season is in the works.

Listen, I don't know how we got here. I'm not sure how I discovered a TV show on Facebook. I didn't even know they did that, but Human Discoveries is worth getting back on Facebook just to watch it.

# Unhealthy food trends create health problems for Americans

 $FOOD-from\ page\ 5$ 

plenty of research and public outcry.

The time for action is now. In the
US, alcohol companies have adopted
policies wherein their adverts at least
attempt to discourage underage drinking. There are also rules and regulations about alcohol commercials, such
as distilled spirits having to require a
stated alcohol content. Why should fast
food companies get a pass on encouraging unhealthy eating?

The point is that these trends in Big Food are hurting our society, and they're aware of it. While an unhealthy chicken and doughnut sandwich might be good occasionally, we should remember that's it. These companies must take responsibility for their part in the obesity epidemic, for glamorizing this excess eating.

# Social media channels further lies within cancel culture

 $CANCEL-from\ page\ 5$ 

toxic," said Charles in his video titled "No More Lies." "It's very concerning to me that, as a society, we're becoming okay with guilty until proven innocent instead of the other way around. I truly hope that everyone who participated in this...take the time to think about your words and the impact that they may have on others because I assure you and I promise you, it's a lot stronger than what you may think."

The biggest problem with cancel culture is its toxicity and escalation over mostly simple things. The best way to handle it is canceling the behavior, not the people. It gives celebrities no room for mistakes that people make every day. The idea of it is great; it gives people the opportunity to teach the youth what not to do, but it can turn ugly. The people sending out threats and unconfirmed facts are no better than the people making the mistakes.





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# THIS WEEK'S WEATHER

## Thursday

75°



## **Friday**

79°



Times of clouds and sun

## Saturday

86°



A t-storm in spots

# Sunday

82°



Clouds breaking for some sun

## Monday

82



Periods of sun; very warm

## Tuesday

87°



Clouds limiting sun

## Wednesday

86°



Sunshine and patchy clouds

Courtesy of AccuWeather



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