



## Interactive Homelessness Display at DU



GRIFFIN SENDEK / PHOTO EDITOR

The Office of Residence Life along with the Mission Animation Office sponsored this display on homelessness in Pittsburgh. Here students were able to walk through the exhibit that aimed to increase understanding of those who experience homelessness in their lives. See more on this exhibit on page 6.

## Diversity in STEM seminar seeks equity

HALLIE LAUER  
news editor

Women in Science at Duquesne University recently hosted Bevelee Watford from Virginia Tech to hold a discussion on diversity in STEM fields. Watford's seminar, titled "Diversity in STEM: It is Past Time for Change," focused specifically on the number of women and minorities in the field of engineering.

Watford, a professor and associate dean at Virginia Tech, is also the executive director for the Center for the Enhancement of Engineering Diversity. This center was founded in 1992 as a way to increase the number of underrepresented students in the engineering and STEM programs at Virginia Tech, as well as making sure those students were getting the assistance and support they needed.

Watford started the seminar  
**see DIVERSITY — page 2**

## Holistic representation seeks to improve juvenile defense

KELLEN STEPLER  
staff writer

Two Duquesne University professors and one University of Pittsburgh professor have been given funding by a national leadership team from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to see if their innovative approach to holistic legal representation can improve the juvenile indigent defense representation.

Duquesne School of Law's Tiffany Sizemore and School of Education's Tammy Hughes are teaming up with Pitt's Jeffrey Shook to create the "Team Pittsburgh" cohort of the Interdisciplinary Research Leaders (IRL) program. Their research project is titled, "Improv-

ing Juvenile Indigent Defense and Health through Holistic Representation."

According to the IRL: Team Pittsburgh webpage, most youth enter the juvenile justice system with significant health, mental health and substance abuse issues and in turn are excluded from institutions and resources in the community.

"For many, their defense attorney serves as their primary advocate to help them obtain medical and mental health services and to connect them with supports and resources," the research project description reads. "Most of these youth, however, are unable to afford an attorney and must rely on the indigent defense system,



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which provides the free legal defense services guaranteed in the Constitution."

"Indigent legal defense raises equity concerns and represents a lost opportunity to connect young people with resources, supports and services that can address the health, mental health and substance use issues they experience," the research project description reads.

A month ago, the city of Pittsburgh released a report highlighting the disparities between gender and race in the area. In Pittsburgh Public Schools, 20% of black girls and 33% of black boys are suspended every year. Additionally, black children receive police referrals at 3 to 5 times the rate as their

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## POLICE BRIEFS

On Oct. 1, a student reported that her vehicle was damaged while parked in the Locust Garage.

On Oct. 3, a commuter student found that her vehicle had been scraped on the driver's side door while it was parked on the 11th floor of the Locust Garage.

On Oct. 4, a non-affiliate passed a counterfeit \$100 bill at Starbucks.

On Oct. 6, a student was found to be intoxicated and in possession of alcohol in the St. Martin's parking lot. They were referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Also on Oct. 6, an underage non-affiliate female was found intoxicated in the St. Martin's parking lot.

Later on Oct. 6, Duquesne police were notified by the Resident Director in Towers LLC that some marijuana paraphernalia had been confiscated from a room. Officers arrived on the scene and transported the paraphernalia to the police station.

Also on Oct. 6, a student reported her ID had been used to make fraudulent purchases at the Campus Market. The case was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Oct. 6 was a big day, while on patrol, Duquesne police observed a male lying on the ground being attended to by two of his friends. The male was found to be intoxicated and was transported to Mercy ER. He was also referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Finally on Oct. 6, a fire extinguisher was discharged, causing the fire alarm to go off in Towers LLC.

And on Oct. 7, a Duquesne resident student reported that his Lenovo Laptop was stolen from Rockwell Hall, room 102.

## EMAIL TIPS

## We want your input!

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

# New approach to legal representation seeks to help juveniles in the justice system

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white counterparts.

Sizemore said the report was deeply troubling, "especially in light of the fact that one instance of school exclusion increases a child's chances of dropping out of school, and one referral to the juvenile legal system increases a child's chances of getting additional cases."

"The degree of overrepresentation of youth of color cannot solely be explained by offending patterns," Hughes said.

Hughes notes a variety of reasons why youth of color are funneled into the juvenile justice system. Between poverty, disadvantage, certain law enforcement practices that target low-income urban neighborhoods where youth of color are likely to reside, institutional bias and racism and disparities in mental health and substance abuse treatment, youth of color will more likely be referred

to the juvenile justice system and experience suspensions and expulsions.

"The overrepresentation of youth of color in the juvenile justice system include what is referred to as the school-to-prison pipeline," Hughes said.

One approach to combat this problem is the Holistic Representation Model (HRM).

"HRM features interdisciplinary teams of professionals working together on youths' cases. Minutes legal and clinical services, such that social workers, psychologists and/or counselors are collaborating with attorneys," the research project description reads.

"[HRM] is based on the understanding that offering high-quality legal services requires interdisciplinary collaboration and training," Sizemore said.

Led by the clinic's supervising attorney, the team assesses all the client's needs and executes a plan

of representation with the client's informed consent. These cases are staffed by law student attorneys, masters-level social workers from the University of Pittsburgh and doctorate-level students from Duquesne's School Psychology program, according to Sizemore.

"Holistic representation seeks to address both the consequences of the criminal case as well as the complex and confounding factors that brought the individuals into the justice system," Hughes said.

HRM looks at everything surrounding the case and the client's needs – not just the legal issues.

"In our project, HRM team engages collaboratively to work on the client's legal, community and school needs; we advocate for and connect clients with supportive services to address these needs," Hughes said.

The group uses empirical data to determine if the process is keeping kids in school, and out of jail.

"The clinics have an IRB-approved traditional research study which seeks to validate the results of the holistic representation model by following our clients in both the short- and long-term to find outcomes across a variety of relevant domains for future indicators of success," Sizemore said.

Hughes notes that the goals of this project are not only to conduct "rigorous research," but also to improve the health, mental health and educational outcomes for youth who have juvenile justice contact. While Hughes knows that the challenges in the community are complicated, the team is thrilled to be part of a group selected to do this work.

"Ultimately we are working to support children, I think of that as 'keeping kids in school and out of jails,'" Hughes said.

"Improving the lives of our community's children is the end goal of all of this work," Sizemore said.

## STEM jobs lacking in women and minorities

DIVERSITY — from page 1

by asking the audience what diversity was to them. Many of the answers included gender, race, socioeconomic background, religion and intellect.

"There are a lot of aspects to diversity," Watford said. "It's not just race and gender."

Physical ability, language, experiences, job level and thinking styles were some of the others Watford listed.

"Reality is, there are populations who are favored in different areas," Watford said. "This is much, much more than gender and much more than race."

Intersectionality was also a major focus of the beginning of the seminar. Intersectionality according to Watford, is the idea that each individual has different types of traits and attributes that play into how a person acts, operates and behaves.

Watford went on to say that incorrect research conclusions were being drawn that were because they were assuming a single dimension of people, rather than acknowledging that a person is made up of many different characteristics.

The way people are identifying is changing, according to Watford. In surveys, there is now the presence of a "two or more race" category, which was not previously seen.

The problem for STEM becomes that "women and minorities don't often see engineering as a pathway," Watford said.

In high school, females partici-



HALLIE LAUER / NEWS EDITOR

pate in math and science courses at the same rate as their male counterparts. However, males in engineering courses are at about 21% while females are at 8%.

Those trends carry on into colleges and universities, as well. Women make up half of the bachelor's degrees in biological sciences, but only 20% in engineering, 18% in computer sciences and 39% in physical sciences. "Typically under-represented women have increasing and strong shares of bachelor's degrees in psychology, social sciences and biological sciences," Watford said.

Watford went on to explain that this can be related to cultural shifts.

In the 80s there were more women than men pursuing computer science, but in the years after that their numbers went down. The cultural shift, Wat-

ford said, was that computer games came out. They were marketed heavily toward men, i.e. the GameBoy. After that, men started to become more involved in computing and developing games, while women went toward the social sciences.

The problem doesn't just stop at education; it also spreads through the workforce.

Women make up half of the college-educated workforce, but only 28% of the science and engineering workforce.

"In engineering, and STEM in general, we need to have an ample supply for our future needs," Watford said. "The bottom line is we don't have enough people, I don't care what kind of people they are, we don't have enough. It's pervasive no matter what; we are not producing enough STEM students across all races."

The workforce need in com-

puter-related professions has been steadily increasing over the last few years. With the programs started by Watford at Virginia Tech, she hopes to meet that need with graduates.

"At least we are recognizing the problem, because for years we didn't," she said.

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# Turkey begins offensive aimed at Kurdish fighters in Syria

(AP) — Turkey launched airstrikes and fired artillery aimed at crushing Kurdish fighters in northern Syria on Wednesday after U.S. troops pulled back from the area, paving the way for an assault on forces that have long been allied with the United States.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan announced the start of the campaign, which followed an abrupt decision Sunday by U.S. President Donald Trump that American troops would step aside to allow for the operation.

Trump's move drew bipartisan opposition at home and represented a shift in U.S. policy that essentially abandoned the Syrian Kurdish fighters who have been America's only allies in Syria fighting the Islamic State group. After Erdogan announced the offensive, Trump called the operation "a bad idea."

There were signs of panic in the streets of Ras al-Ayn— one of the Syrian towns under attack with residential areas close to

cials who confirmed the suspension spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to provide details on the situation.

Turkey's campaign — in which a NATO member is raining down bombs on an area where hundreds of U.S. troops are stationed — drew immediate criticism and calls for restraint from Europe. In his statement, Trump emphasized that there are no American soldiers in the area under attack.

"Our mission is to prevent the creation of a terror corridor across our southern border, and to bring peace to the area," Erdogan said in a tweet announcing what he called "Operation Peace Spring."

He said that Turkish forces, with Ankara-backed Syrian fighters known as the Syrian National Army, had begun to eradicate what he called "the threat of terror" against Turkey.

Minutes before Erdogan's announcement, Turkish jets began pounding suspected positions of Syrian Kurdish forces in the town of Ras al Ayn, according to Turkish media and Syrian activists. The sound of explosions could be heard in Turkey.

potentially displacing hundreds of thousands.

Kurdish forces warned of a possible "humanitarian catastrophe."

A resident of Tal Abyad said one of the bombs hit an SDF office, and he fled with his wife and mother by car to Raqqa, nearly 100 kilometers (60 miles) to the south, to flee the bombing. The resident, who gave his name as Maher, said the road to Raqqa was packed with vehicles and families, some fleeing on foot "to get away from the bombing."

"People fled and left everything behind," he said in a text message after he reached safety.

Turkey has long threatened to attack the Kurdish fighters that Ankara considers terrorists allied with a Kurdish insurgency in Turkey. Expectations of an invasion increased after Trump's announcement Sunday, although he also threatened to "totally destroy and obliterate" Turkey's economy if the Turkish push went too far.

U.S. critics said he was sacrificing an ally, the Syrian Kurdish

tians, and ensuring no humanitarian crisis takes place — and we will hold them to this commitment."

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg, while noting that Turkey "has legitimate security concerns" after suffering "horrendous terrorist attacks" and hosting thousands of

no-fly zone in northeastern Syria to protect the civilian population from Turkish airstrikes.

The U.S.-backed Syrian Kurdish group urged Moscow to broker talks with the Syrian government in Damascus in light of the Turkish operation. The Syrian



COURTESY AP NEWS

Shortly after the Turkish operation inside Syria had started and backdropped by a graffiti of modern Turkey's founder Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, a Turkish soldier stands on the Turkish side of the border in Akcakale, Sanliurfa province, southeastern Turkey, Wednesday, Oct 9. Turkey launched a military operation Wednesday against Kurdish fighters in northeastern Syria after U.S. forces pulled back from the area, with a series of airstrikes hitting a town on Syria's northern border.



COURTESY AP NEWS

In this photo taken from the Turkish side of the border between Turkey and Syria, in Akcakale, Sanliurfa province, southeastern Turkey, smoke billows from targets inside Syria during bombardment by Turkish forces Wednesday, Oct. 9. Turkey launched a military operation Wednesday against Kurdish fighters in northeastern Syria after U.S. forces pulled back from the area, with a series of airstrikes hitting a town on Syria's northern border.

the borders. Cars raced to safety, although it was not clear if they were leaving town or heading away from border areas. Near the town of Qamishli, plumes of smoke rose from an area close to the border after activists reported explosion nearby.

At least one member of the Kurdish-led force known as the Syrian Democratic Forces was killed in the Turkish bombardment, Kurdish activists and a Syria war monitor said.

A U.S. defense official and a Kurdish official in Syria said the SDF has suspended operations against IS militants because of the Turkish operation. The offi-

It was difficult to know what was hit in the first hours of the operation.

Mustafa Bali, a spokesman for the U.S.-backed Syrian Democratic Forces, said Turkish warplanes were targeting "civilian areas" in northern Syria, causing "a huge panic" in the region.

Before Turkey's attack, Syrian Kurdish forces that are allied with the United States issued a general mobilization call, warning of a "humanitarian catastrophe."

The Turkish operation meant to create a "safe zone" carries potential gains and risk for Turkey by getting even more deeply involved in the Syria war. It also would ignite new fighting in Syria's 8-year-old war,

forces, and undermining Washington's credibility. Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham, a Trump ally, told "Fox & Friends" that if Trump "follows through with this, it would be the biggest mistake of his presidency."

Trump later said the U.S. "does not endorse this attack and has made it clear to Turkey that this operation is a bad idea."

Trump said he made clear from the start of his political career that "I did not want to fight these endless, senseless wars — especially those that don't benefit the United States. Turkey has committed to protecting civilians, protecting religious minorities, including Chris-

refugees, said the country should not "further destabilize the region" with its military action in Syria.

German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas condemned the offensive, saying it will "further destabilize the region and strengthen IS." The operation also was criticized by European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker.

The EU is paying Turkey 6 billion euros (\$6.6 billion) to help the country cope with almost 4 million Syrian refugees on its territory in exchange for stopping migrants leaving for Europe.

Fahrettin Altun, the Turkish presidency's communications director, urged the international community to rally behind Ankara, which he said would take over the fight against the Islamic State group.

Turkey aimed to "neutralize" Syrian Kurdish militants in northeastern Syria and to "liberate the local population from the yoke of the armed thugs," Altun wrote in a Washington Post column published Wednesday.

Erdogan discussed the incursion by phone with Russian President Vladimir Putin. Erdogan's office said he told Putin the military action "will contribute to the peace and stability" and allow for a political process in Syria.

In its call for a general mobilization, the local civilian Kurdish authority known as the Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria asked the global community to live up to its responsibilities as "a humanitarian catastrophe might befall our people."

The Kurds also said they want the U.S.-led coalition to set up a

Kurdish-led administration said it is responding positively to calls from Moscow encouraging the Kurds and the Syrian government to settle their difference through talks.

Syria's Foreign Ministry condemned Turkey's plans, calling it a "blatant violation" of international law and vowing to repel an incursion.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov accused Washington of playing "very dangerous games" with the Syrian Kurds, saying the U.S. first propped up the Syrian Kurdish "quasi state" in Syria and now is withdrawing support.

"Such reckless attitude to this highly sensitive subject can set fire to the entire region, and we have to avoid it at any cost," he said in Kazakhstan.

Earlier Wednesday, three IS militants targeted the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces in Raqqa, once the de facto IS capital at the height of the militants' power. An activist collective in Raqqa reported an exchange of fire and an explosion; the Observatory said two IS fighters engaged in a shootout before blowing themselves up.

IS claimed responsibility, saying one of its members killed or wounded 13 SDF members.

The SDF, which holds thousands of IS fighters in detention facilities in northeastern Syria, has warned that a Turkish incursion might lead to the resurgence of the extremists. The U.S.-allied Kurdish-led force captured the last IS area controlled by the mil-



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CARTOON BY JORDAN CALLAHAN

## Criminal justice reform starts at home

Amid the frenzy of this year's democratic debates, a slew of candidates released their master plans for criminal justice reform. Most involved reversals of mandatory minimums, overturning drug charges and releasing thousands of prisoners at once. It's clear that candidates and voters see the inherent problems in the criminal justice system, and plenty of solutions to mass incarceration are being offered. But are any of them remotely practical or beneficial?

Even though the U.S. ranks third in overall world population, it currently has the highest number of prisoners of any country in the world. Nearly 2 million American adults are currently behind bars. That is roughly one in every 100 Americans incarcerated.

To make matters worse, the national recidivism rate for prisoners is around 50%, meaning half of all prisoners will have a repeat offense after their release and find themselves back in jail and/or prison.

This return rate indicates the radical inefficacy of the criminal justice system.

Unfortunately, it is unlikely to change. Any changes to criminal justice reform, outside of presidential pardons, require congressional approval. The current political climate suggests that both sides of the aisle are not willing to cooperate on this issue. Democrats continually advocate for an end to privatized prisons while their republican counterparts attempt to keep current the system in place.

It is a gridlocked nightmare for those 2 million American serving time.

Because of this impossible political gridlock and the lack of practical solutions to the problems plaguing the criminal justice system, citizens should redirect their attention



COLLEEN HAMMOND

opinions editor

to improving the lives of prisoners after their release. Leaders may not have figured out how to address the mass incarceration crisis, but there are plenty of actions average citizens can do to help those who have paid their debt to society.

Although there is a societal fear of ex-convicts, communities need to remember that a criminal past does not erase a person's inherent dignity. Convicts deserve the same level of humanity and respect as the rest of the country. Their crimes may have been awful, but their time in prison was payment for those terrible deeds.

Communities need to take a more active role in helping released prisoners. The transition back into society can prove extremely difficult for

many ex-prisoners. Most prisoners are released with little to no money and an insufficient support system. This is why many former convicts find themselves homeless and broke. To assuage these needs, many turn back to a life of crime, typically selling drugs. This puts them back behind bars, and the vicious cycle continues.

To combat cyclical imprisonment, employers, especially small businesses, need to open their minds about hiring ex-convicts. Despite the cultural fear of former prisoners in the workplace, secure employment is the first step in helping ex-convicts begin their new lives.

Helping former prisoners may not be the most glamorous or widely celebrated act of charity, but it is necessary to realize the communal responsibility to this growing population. Increased aid after release will help lower the national recidivism rate.

The solution to mass incarceration is not fancy plans by politicians to release thousands of prisoners at once. The current political system is too gridlocked for top-down reform at the moment. The criminal justice system needs to be reformed from the ground up by communities recognizing their role in this crisis.

Providing ex-convicts with opportunities for employment, housing and communal involvement are not acts of societal weakness but instead are fundamental factors in the total rehabilitation of prisoners.

STAFF  
EDITORIAL

## Pittsburgh homelessness

No matter what direction you head off of Duquesne's campus, you are bound to run into some of Pittsburgh's many homeless residents. Pittsburgh homeless community is a large part of our own, even though they are treated like outsiders.

Homelessness in Pittsburgh is a serious issue, just as it is in cities across the world. According to an annual census taken earlier this year by the Allegheny County Department of Human Services, there are 774 people currently living within our community without a home.

Today is World Homeless Day, an event created to draw attention to the needs of homeless communities and motivate people to take action locally in aiding this problem. Students can participate in this event through a number of ways, whether it's educating yourself on the issues of homelessness, supporting local nonprofits aiding Pittsburgh's homeless community or volunteering with those same organizations and getting out into the community yourself.

Another way to engage with this community is through personal interactions.

The misconceptions of homelessness only drive the problem further. When approached by a homeless person asking for money, many people refuse to engage, not because they are cheap or hateful, but because of the horrible stereotypes at the back of their brain. You all know what stereotypes we're talking about – a middle-aged “junkie” that is too lazy to get a job.

The first problem with this belief is the assumption that all people living on the streets are there due to drugs, when according to the recent census, only 21% of Pittsburgh's homeless population were found to have substance use disorder. In fact, the greatest subpopulation in Pittsburgh was found to be those with a mental health disorder, at 34.5%.

In addition, homelessness does not equate unemployment. Lack of affordable housing is another reason many people find themselves living on the streets. Even those who do work full-time, often have difficulty finding housing that their minimum-wage jobs can support.

Other causes of homelessness include loss of employment, lack of affordable health care and physical illnesses. Most of these causes are not uncommon and can happen to anyone. The difference for many is having someone to fall back on. But when you have no one to turn to in times of

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## Columbus Day celebrations need to finally sail away

HALLIE LAUER  
news editor

There are a few things in this world that make me irrationally angry. Red Velvet Cake and paying for parking are just a few of these. However, I feel like my anger toward Columbus Day is rather justified.

This is a long-held anger. I remember coming home from school very early on, after learning about Native Americans and giving a very-fired up speech to my mother about how the education system lied to be me by saying Christopher Columbus discovered America. (I'm not joking, you can ask her).

When you boil it down to pure facts, Columbus really didn't do much except sail across the Atlantic Ocean. A difficult journey yes, but he wasn't the great explorer that history books make him out to be. And if he really was that, why is America not named after him, but rather Italian explorer Amerigo Vespucci?

Columbus Day originates from 1892, when the U.S. decided to commemorate the 400th anniversary of his land-

ing. President Benjamin Harrison (most well known for being President William Henry Harrison's grandson) signed a proclamation saying, "on that day let the people, so far as possible, cease from toil and devote themselves to such exercises as may be best express honor to the discoverer and their appreciation of the great achievements of the four completed centuries of American life."

It wasn't until 1937 that President Franklin Roosevelt declared the day a national holiday. This was rumoured to be the result of heavy lobbying from the Knights of Columbus, a Catholic fraternal organization.

Despite what our previous leaders have thought, Columbus was exploitative. He came to a new land, spread diseases and exploited the people and resources he found here. Raw materials were harvested in North America and shipped back to Europe to be created into goods that the Europeans would then prosper from, while the Native Americans were used for the harvesting.

A lot of the narrative surrounding Columbus is that he opened up the West and linked



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Native Americans protest the perseverance of Columbus Day celebrations nationwide.

the two hemispheres together. In actuality, he created a market in which the slave trade would boom. The Columbian Exchange, would be the precursor to the Triangle Trade. Through the Columbian Exchange people and diseases were imported into the Americas.

There really is no reason to continue to support this man. Not when we could make something more important a federal holiday -like a Voting Day. That

would give people the ability to go out and vote and to support something actually important in this country.

Or we could follow the lead of South Dakota and celebrate Native American Day. South Dakota also led the charge in 1989, deeming the second Monday in October, traditionally Columbus Day, Indigenous Peoples Day. However, if you check your planners, I bet they all still say Columbus Day.

When I checked my phone calendar, interestingly enough the second Monday of October wasn't listed as any holiday.

There are a lot of things we could do better as a nation. However, this is an incredibly easy fix. It is often not easy to reconcile with the ghosts of our nation's past, but this is one that has the ability to be put to bed and give recognition to a group of people that have been largely mistreated by the U.S.

## Myths about the efficacy of the flu shot must be dispelled

NICOLETTA VENEZIANO  
staff columnist

It's that time of year again. The time when one college student starts the never-ending cycle of sickness among all other students at the university; the constant sniffles, the heavy coughs and the evident look of exhaustion in everyone you make eye contact with. That's right, you guessed it. It's flu season.

For me, flu season was always just a time where my mom would drag me to the doctor's office to get my annual flu shot, and constantly tell me to wash my hands and not share drinks with friends. However, ever since becoming an actual adult, I have seen the consequences of how quickly the flu can spread, especially in this type of environment. Once one person you know gets sick, the entire floor gets sick. Then it leads to the entire building. Before you know it, everyone around you is in an inevitable cycle of stuffy noses and sore throats.

Although the flu is so visibly evident in its ability to spread in anyone and

everyone it comes in contact with, the importance of getting the flu shot has recently been a topic of controversy. I'm sure we've all heard someone's specific reasoning for an excuse to avoid the flu shot. It probably sounds something like this: "I've never gotten a flu shot and I've never been sick so why get it?" or "I hate shots" or the classic, and my personal favorite, "the flu shot gives you the flu."

First thing's first, let's get some facts straight. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the 2018-2019 U.S. flu season had up to 42.9 million cases of the flu, 647,000 hospitalizations, and 61,200 flu deaths. During this season, only 63% got the flu shot. Though that may seem like a high percentage, if more people got the flu shot, the number of hospitalizations and deaths would decrease significantly.

What exactly does the flu shot do you may ask? According to the CDC, the flu shot prevents up to 5 million influenza illnesses. It also reduces the risk of flu related hospitalization for people of all ages. One item not on the list of things



COURTESY OF CVS PHARMACY

Flu shots provide protection for groups vulnerable to respiratory illnesses

that the flu shot does is "give you the flu." Although it is possible to get the flu while still getting the flu shot, the symptoms will be far less severe, will last for a much shorter period of time, and will not derive any serious complications.

The popular and trending idea of not getting vaccinated out of fear of getting the illness is simply not practical. As college students, we should all be on the lookout for the safety and health of others. Whether that be washing your hands as often as possible, drinking a

sufficient amount of water or most importantly, getting the flu shot, your peers will thank you and so will your body.

The flu shot is meant to keep not only the people around you healthy and safe, but more importantly, to keep yourself healthy and safe. Getting the flu shot can only help your body. So what do you think, are you ready to get the flu shot? The next flu clinic is on Nov. 7 in the Student Union, so take care of yourself and those around you and get that vaccine.



## Interactive display on homelessness highlights experience through art

GRIFFIN SENDEK  
photo editor

Division of Mission Identity and Center for Community Engaged Teaching and Research collaborated with Light of Life Rescue Mission to bring an interactive display of homelessness to Towers MPR.

The purpose of the display was to give a tactile demonstration of what the homeless experience is in the city.

Playing on a loop was the short-film documentary *Eye of the Needle*, which delineates the opioid epidemic in Pittsburgh.



GRIFFIN SENDEK / PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR



GRIFFIN SENDEK / PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Projected on blue tarps were photographs of those experiencing homelessness and some of the items they carried.

“How so much of this is drug-related is very eye-opening,” pharmacy major Madison Henry said.

Isabella Gamboa, another pharmacy major, voiced the fact that there is an unspoken word among retail pharmacists handing over syringes, knowing full well they will be used for illicit drugs.

“If you do not give it to them, they’ll find them somewhere else,” Gamboa said.



GRIFFIN SENDEK / PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR  
Inside the tent, guests would find a mess of clothing and empty food wrappers. The display gave an accurate glimpse of what living under such harsh conditions might be like.



GRIFFIN SEDNEK / PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR



GRIFFIN SENDEK / PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Those without homes are often forced to withstand the cold winter temperatures with little more than tarps for warmth.



GRIFFIN SENDEK / PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Guests were welcome to walk through the exhibit and touch the items and even sit in the displays.



GRIFFIN SENDEK / PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

With only a few tarps, scattered leaves and garbage strewn about, the Towers MPR was completely transformed and almost unrecognizable.

## Homeless Shelters in Pittsburgh

### Bethlehem Haven Women's Shelter

412-391-1348

905 Watson Street

Pittsburgh, Pa 15219

### Shepherd's Hearts Veterans Home

412-391-1348

13 Pride Street

Pittsburgh, Pa 15213

### Light of Life Rescue Mission

412-258-6100

10 E. North Avenue

Pittsburgh, Pa 15212

### Wood Street Commons

412-765-2532

301 Third Avenue

Pittsburgh, Pa 15222

### Abiding Ministries Emergency Warming Center

412-401-2228

731 Excelsior St

Pittsburgh, Pa 15210

### Pleasant Valley Shelter For Men

412-321-4272

1601 Brighton Rd.

Pittsburgh, Pa 15212

### William Mildred Orr Compassionate Care Center

412-362-3550

6023 Harvard Street

Pittsburgh, Pa 15206



Sincere Carry to honor close friend with new jersey number

ADAM LINDNER  
staff writer

Duquesne’s basketball history, dating back more than one century, has been graced with the likes of numerous great players. 2019 Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame inductee Chuck Cooper was a Duke from 1946-1950, while Sihugo Green averaged a double-double in 1954-55, helping the program to a 1955 National Invitational Tournament championship title. Willie Somerset, a 5-foot-8 guard, averaged 22.7 points during his tenure at Duquesne, setting a program record that still stands to this day. The list goes on.

Six of Duquesne’s greatest players’ numbers have been immortalized by the program — the digits of Cooper, Green, Somerset, Dick Ricketts and Norm Nixon were each retired during a 2001 ceremony, while Mike James’ No. 13 was retired in 2017.

No more. While Cooper (No. 15), Green (No. 11), Somerset (No. 24), Ricketts (No. 12) and James’ numbers remain officially immortalized by the program, Nixon’s No. 10 will be donned by a Duquesne player in 2019-20 for the first time since the jersey’s

retirement. Sincere Carry, a rising sophomore point guard at DU, garnered the two-time NBA All-Star’s blessing.

Carry’s transition from No. 35, which he wore during his stand-out freshman campaign, to No. 10 began when he decided he wanted to honor his close friend, Khalil “Champ” Hopson, who passed away this past spring at age 24. At first, Carry looked into wearing No. 24 — signifying each year Hopson was alive — but the number was retired for Somerset. That’s when Carry, an Atlantic 10 All-Rookie Team selection in 2018-19, got to brainstorming.

“I’m wearing No. 10 this year,” Carry told *The Duke* on Oct. 1. “I was trying to find a number to represent my cousin, who was more like a big brother to me, [who] passed away. He died at 24, so I was going to wear No. 24, but that number was retired.

“Then, ‘Coach D’ (Keith Dam-brot) got in contact with Norm Nixon, and he was nice enough to say that he would un-retire it so I could wear it.”

Hopson, who Carry described as “more like a big brother” to him, wore No. 10 during his playing days at Sharon High School.

Carry said he’s planning on dedicating his basketball career to Hopson.

During *The Duke’s* conversation with Carry on Oct. 1, the stud ball-handler’s jersey number alteration was discussed, as well as a bevy of other topics.

The full Q & A, transcribed below, has been edited for brevity and clarity.

**The Duke:** You had some Nike KD 4’s, one of your favorite pairs of shoes, that tore in last season’s game against UIC. Do you have any ideas for what sorts of footwear you’ve got on deck for this season?

**Carry:** I got another pair (of KD 4’s); not the same ones, I got some different colors. But I was looking up some old Kobe’s, and I try to mix in some old LeBron’s, since him and ‘Coach D’ have a great relationship. I’ve always been into shoes since I was little.

**TD:** Favorite basketball player, all-time or current?

**Carry:** Kobe Bryant.

**TD:** Describe your freshman season in one word.

**Carry:** Rollercoaster.

**TD:** You played football in high school, and you were a particularly sturdy force in the back-court as a freshman. How did football prepare you for your freshman season?

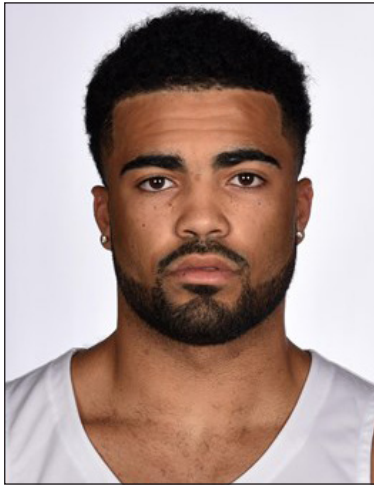
**Carry:** I wouldn’t even say it was football. I’ve faced a lot of knee injuries -- nothing like I had this year, that was really nothing. I had one back in either my freshman or sophomore year (of high school), but I was out a lot. I had to get screws in my knees, and it just took a lot of time to heal. All I could do was upper-body lifting. That was the year we got a weight room in our basement, so I was in there every day. Just lifting, bench pressing, doing all upper-body.

**TD:** You had some trouble with your knees at certain points this past season. How did your knees treat you this summer?

**Carry:** I have no problems. I’ve been able to do everything.

I haven’t sat out once. We’re on the right track.

**TD:** Do you have any favorite spots in the Pittsburgh area?



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS  
Carry’s 2.43 steals per game average was the second-best by a Duquesne freshman, behind only T.J. McConnell’s 2.48 spg in 2010-11.

**Carry:** Every once in a while, my sister will come up and see me. We’ll go to TopGolf. We both aren’t any good, but it just gets us away from the world.

**TD:** How was the Bahamas, and are you excited to go back in November?

**Carry:** The Bahamas was fun. It was great to bond with my teammates and see a different type of world. I think it was good to play against the teams down there, and we just bonded. We had fun. In November, it won’t be like that. It’ll be more of a business trip, but I’m still excited to go.

**TD:** You met NBA star Lou Williams in the Bahamas. Did anything he tell you stick with you?

**Carry:** He just told us to keep working. You never know how a person’s life will change over a year. But he said we’re on the right path, whether we in the NBA or not. We’re doing the right thing, just stay in school and get an education.

**TD:** With the UPMC Chuck  
*see CARRY — page 8*

Upcoming Events

The following events are all of Duquesne’s varsity athletic contests for the next several weeks.

- **Oct. 11, TBA**  
Women’s Tennis at Toledo Invite
- **Oct. 11, 4 p.m.**  
Women’s Swimming and Diving vs. Team Pentathlon
- **Oct. 11, 7 p.m.**  
Women’s Volleyball at La Salle
- **Oct. 12, 10 a.m./ 1 p.m.**  
Women’s Swimming and Diving at Pitt [LCM]
- **Oct. 12, 10 a.m.**  
Men’s Cross Country at Carnegie Mellon Invitational
- **Oct. 12, 10 a.m.**  
Women’s Cross Country at Carnegie Mellon Invitational
- **Oct. 12, 10 a.m./ 1 p.m.**  
Women’s Swimming and Diving vs. Villanova [LCM]
- **Oct. 12, 10 a.m./ 1 p.m.**  
Women’s Swimming and Diving vs. Youngstown State [LCM]
- **Oct. 12, 7 p.m.**  
Men’s Soccer vs. George Washington
- **Oct. 13, 1 p.m.**  
Women’s Soccer at Saint Joseph’s
- **Oct. 15, 7 p.m.**  
Men’s Soccer at Cleveland State
- **Oct. 17, TBA**  
Men’s Tennis at ITA Atlantic Regionals (Charlottesville, VA)
- **Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m.**  
Women’s Soccer at Dayton
- **Oct. 18, 9 a.m. / 3:30 p.m.**  
Women’s Swimming and Diving at Richmond Duals (Richmond, VA)

Fact of the Week

With 95 career wins at Duquesne, head football coach Jerry Schmitt is two victories shy of tying Greg Gattuso as the program’s winningest coach.



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS

Sincere Carry crashing towards to the rim last season against the Saint Louis Billikens at the A.J. Palumbo Center. Carry finished the night with 10 points.

NCAA Football AP Top 10 — Week 7

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall	Streak	Next
1.	Alabama (32)	2-0	5-0	W5	10/12 at Texas A&M
2.	Clemson (15)	3-0	5-0	W5	10/12 vs. Florida State
3.	Georgia (3)	2-0	5-0	W5	10/12 vs. South Carolina
4.	Ohio State (10)	3-0	6-0	W6	10/18 vs. Northwestern
5.	LSU (2)	1-0	5-0	W5	10/12 vs. Florida
6.	Oklahoma	3-0	5-0	W5	10/12 at Texas
7.	Florida	2-0	6-0	W6	10/12 at LSU
8.	Wisconsin	2-0	5-0	W5	10/12 vs. Michigan State
9.	Notre Dame	N/A	4-1	W2	10/12 vs USC
10.	Penn State	2-0	5-0	W5	10/12 at Iowa

NCAA FCS NEC Standings — Week 7

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall	Streak	Next
1.	Cen. Conn. St.	1-0	4-0	W1	10/12 at Columbia
2.	<b>Duquesne</b>	1-0	3-2	W1	10/19 at Sacred Heart
3.	Saint Francis U	1-0	3-2	W1	10/12 vs Robert Morris
4.	Wagner	1-0	1-5	L1	10/19 vs. Robert Morris
5.	Sacred Heart	1-1	3-2	L1	10/12 at Penn
6.	Robert Morris	0-0	1-4	L1	10/12 at Saint Francis U
7.	Bryant	0-1	1-5	W1	10/12 vs LIU
8.	LIU	0-3	0-4	L4	10/12 at Bryant



# Q&A with Duquesne point guard Sincere Carry

**CARRY** — *from page 7*

Cooper Fieldhouse undergoing renovations, has it been odd practicing in the Power Center? How do you like it, and do you miss the Palumbo Center?

**Carry:** We all miss the Palumbo. We all have to share that little gym. Like, this morning, the girls were in there until 8 a.m., and we start practice at 8:20 a.m., so usually I get up at 7 a.m. and go in there to work out before practice. But, we have to share the gym, so it's hard to find time. Even if you go in there at nighttime, it's hard to find time, but I think we all adjusted to it. We're all working it out.

**TD:** Are you excited for the Cooper Fieldhouse next year?

**Carry:** Yeah. I've seen pictures of it. The whole gym looks nice.

**TD:** The thing you're most excited about regarding the upcoming NBA season?

**Carry:** I'm a D'Angelo Russell fan, so I want to see how he's going to work with Steph Curry and the Warriors.

**TD:** How much more comfortable are you now compared to your freshman year?

**Carry:** It's pretty much all the same, but I'm way more comfortable. Last year, I didn't know what I was going into. I noticed yesterday, our first day of practice, the pace was calm and I could see our freshmen struggling with the pace. That was me last year, but now, since I

played a lot of games my freshman year, I'm more calm and collected. They are going to adjust to it, you've just gotta get out there. It's not anything you just watch. You have to play through it.

**TD:** How has it been getting to know the freshmen?

**Carry:** It's good. I think, with me knowing Maceo (Austin) -- since we come from the same area, that helps a lot. But I'm also vibing with all the other freshmen, too. They all can play, so it'll be the same as last year. Everybody's going to play.

**TD:** How has practice been thus far? I know you just started yesterday.

**Carry:** It's been good. Everybody's on the same page. We all want to win championships. The intensity, tempo and energy in the gym, it all has been great.

**TD:** What have you been focusing on this offseason?

**Carry:** Expanding my jumper. They changed the 3-point line (back to FIBA's 22 ft. 1¾ inch mark from the traditional NCAA length of 20 ft. 9 inches), so I've spent a lot of time on that, getting a lot of reps up. Just staying consistent with it. I should be comfortable.

**TD:** Any specific goals for the upcoming season?

**Carry:** Just winning as many games as possible, and making it to March Madness and the A-10 Tournament.

**TD:** Who are your role models?

**Carry:** My sister.



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS

Sincere Carry wearing his old No. 35 jersey during a game last season. Carry lead the Atlantic 10 in assists per game (5.8). Carry was the fifth freshman and second player in Duquesne history to lead the conference in assists.

## Football beats NEC newcomer LIU in conference opener

**JAMES LEO**  
staff writer

Picked as the preseason favorites to win the NEC, the Duquesne football team (3-2, 1-0) opened up conference play with a strong win over Long Island.

If Duquesne finishes atop the NEC (they are currently tied for first), they could earn a spot in the FCS Playoffs. Since joining the NEC in 2008, Duquesne has won the conference five times: in 2011, 2013, 2015, 2016 and 2018.

Duquesne set the tone early in the game. Of LIU's six first half drives, only two crossed into Duquesne territory, neither of which led to points.

Senior defensive back Daivon Ellison was notably impactful — he recovered a fumble late in the first half to stop a threatening drive from LIU and also tallied a pair of interceptions to halt two other LIU drives. This effort earned Ellison NEC Defensive Player of the Week honors.

Duquesne's offense, aided by the return of senior running back A.J. Hines, came out firing early. The Dukes' nine play, 74-yard opening drive helped them get out to an early 7-0 lead; the running back tandem of Hines and Mark Allen was simply too much for LIU to handle.

Hines, who had missed the last two games due to injury, was ecstatic to be back on the field. "It felt great to be back out there," Hines said. "It's been a long two weeks; I've been itching to get back on that field."

Hines' 140-yard day put him over 4,000 rushing yards for his career, a feat only two other running backs had achieved in Duquesne's history. Hines was extremely humbled to be such a large part

of Duquesne Football's history.

"It's definitely been a quick four years, but I've loved every bit of it," Hines said. "It feels great to be in the history books with the greats, as I continue to do whatever I can to help my team get better."

A field goal from senior kicker Mitch Maczura gave the Dukes a 10-0 lead early in the second quarter. Then, a sack from freshman linebacker Todd Hill forced a fumble, which was then recovered by Elli-



COURTESY OF ERIKA BAKIRTZIS

A.J. Hines celebrates with Connor Brennan (left) and Bill O'Malley (right) following a touchdown in the second half. With 41 career rushing touchdowns, Hines tied Pedro Bowman (1981-84) for most in program history.

son with under 30 seconds left in the first half. Junior kicker Jacob Gill then drilled a 45-yard field goal as the first half ended to give the Dukes a 13-0 first half lead.

Duquesne continued their defensive dominance into the second half. Ellison picked up his second interception of the day on LIU's opening drive of the second half, giving the Dukes good field position on offense.

Later in the third quarter, a successful 50-yard pass from LIU quarterback Clay Beathard to Tosin Oyekanmi gave the Sharks the ball deep in Duquesne territory. Five plays later, they were able to punch it in, making the score 13-7. Strong defense from both sides kept the score 13-7 as the third quarter came to a close. A ten-play, 80 yard drive (capped off by a touchdown from A.J. Hines) gave the Dukes a 21-7 lead early in the fourth quarter. However, LIU would answer back with a seven-minute drive of their own, making the score 21-14.

With four minutes left in the game and a 21-14 lead, Duquesne regained possession but was faced with a crucial 3rd and 2. After an LIU timeout, Hines pushed forward for six yards, giving Duquesne the first down and essentially icing the game.

Head coach Jerry Schmitt was proud of his team's performance.

"It was really important that we were able to establish a balance between the pass and the run," Schmitt said. "That deterred them for loading the box, especially against A.J."

He also had high praise for his defense.

"I thought our defense rallied to the ball really well; they gave a little bit, but they didn't break," Schmitt said. "There were a couple big plays, but for the most part we kept [LIU] in check."

While the team is focused on the bigger picture (winning the NEC), they are taking it one game at a time.

"It's good to get off to a good start; it's

a tough conference, and anybody can beat anybody," Schmitt said. "It'll be a challenge the whole season; we just have to stay focused on getting better."

A.J. Hines expressed a similar sentiment. "Of course, I think we can repeat as NEC Champions. But at the end of the day, we have to work to go get it, and thasstarts with our next game against Sacred Heart."

After a bye week, Duquesne will play at



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS

Daivon Ellison makes a leaping grab to intercept a pass on Saturday afternoon in Duquesne's 21-14 win over LIU. Ellison finished the day with two interceptions. With two inceptions and two fumble recoveries on the year, the senior leads Duquesne in takeaways.

Sacred Heart on Saturday, Oct. 19, as they look to build on their recent success.

Last season, the Dukes beat Sacred Heart 28-24 at Rooney Field. Overall, Duquesne has posted a 10-4 record against the Pioneers.



# Pink Floyd's music comes to life in laser show

**CAPRI SCARCELLI**  
staff writer

Carnegie Science Center's Buhl Planetarium laser show offers an array of musical genres to partake in what feels like a live concert, all the while providing the dome with dazzling portraits and patterns set to the very tempo of each song in the show's compilation.

On Friday, Oct. 4, I went to the 11 p.m. and 12 a.m. showings of Pink Floyd's *Dark Side of the Moon*, followed by *The Wall*.

Each set was roughly 45 minutes long, with a 15-minute intermission in between.

The setlist went through both albums in succession, following the storyline with an immaculate design that encapsulated frontman Roger Waters' ideologies and persona perfectly. Watching the laser show made me feel as though I could see a glimpse of Waters' mind.

Well-known as one of the 70s most impactful psychedelic rock bands, Pink Floyd brings to question the thematic elements of drug abuse, mental health, war and the impact of the younger generation's perspective on the world around us.

These are difficult concepts to convey in music, let alone through laser art.

To say I was impressed with the production of "Laser Floyd" would be an understatement. I was in awe

of the effort that was put forth to bring the band's rock opera to life.

Though the lasers themselves were disorienting at first, my eyes were soon able to adjust.

The Carnegie employees, or "laserists," were in charge of designing the show's layout, as they control the sound, lighting and rhythmic patterns in a booth behind the audience's seats. Because the laser shows are a live event, the laserists have the creative liberty to make the show their own.

The laser display was appropriate and aesthetically pleasing for each song in the setlist.

When "Money" played, there were lit-up dollar bills that appeared to rain from the ceiling, spelling out different words from the lyrics.

More abstract pieces, such as "The Great Gig in the Sky" thus called for more abstract laser patterns, such as pulsating clouds or layers of light that seemed to shift to the steady beat of the music.

"The Wall" in general followed the characters within the rock opera, drawing out each scene like a cartoon. This gave a visual of the storyline within the album as well as an entertaining interpretation of Waters' aura.

For example, there were various drawings of the infamous school teachers, as sung about in "Another Brick in the Wall Pt. 2."

The laser depiction of this song



COURTESY OF MEGHAN SCHILLER | KDKA

The Buhl Planetarium is host to the Floyd and Friends laser show series.

was comical, showing the audience a viewpoint of childhood rebellion and angst.

In "The Trial," which is toward the end of *The Wall*, the lasers pointed to what seemed to be Waters' main character in a cacophonous circus act, which I found was the most elaborate of the portraits. The teachers were swinging from the curtains like a pendulum as the display showed a dialogue between themselves and the main character.

The laserists seemed to have known they did a brilliant job. Toward the end of the show, the employees wrote "tip your laserists" in bright laser beams across the ceiling.

If I had cash on me, I would have tipped each of them.

Aside from technicalities, I enjoyed the simplicity of reclining my seat and watching the colors dance before my eyes — better yet, to the band that my dad and I have always loved. I was in awe of the spectacle before me and it was a wonderful late-night adventure.

Though the Pink Floyd shows are over, Carnegie offers a "Laser Halloween" show every day at 2 p.m. and "Laser Stranger Things" every Saturday at 4 p.m. until October's end.

Tickets are \$8, with an additional show being discounted to \$5. Carnegie Science Center members can see a show for just \$2.

If you are looking for a fun yet inexpensive activity to do with friends, this is your ticket.

## WEEK'S EVENTS

Food Trucks  
Oct. 11 @ 11:30 a.m.

A wide variety of food trucks, including Mac and Gold and La Palapa, will be parked in front of the Forbes Stevenson building, just off of campus, across from Mercy Hospital's parking garage.

Apple Fest  
Oct. 15 @ 4 p.m.

Duquesne Dining will host a fuji-licious array of apple-inspired and apple-based food and drinks in Hogan Dining Center.

## UPCOMING RELEASES

El Camino: A Breaking Bad Movie  
Friday, Oct. 11

Six years after the conclusion of the critically-acclaimed television series, Aaron Paul returns as Jesse Pinkman for this follow-up film.

Gemini Man  
Friday, Oct. 11

Will Smith plays a dual role — Henry Brogan, a trained assassin, and the younger duplicate of Brogan, who has been sent to kill him.

## MICRO REVIEW

Big Mouth  
Season 3

Season three of *Big Mouth* has finally hit Netflix. This season features more hilarious songs and biting social criticism. From slut shaming to double standards and the inevitable disaster that is Florida, *Big Mouth* dares to tackle it all.

-Colleen Hammond

# HORRORSCOPES



## Libra

(September 23-October 22)

Haters talk a big game, Libra, but when the heat gets turned up, you're the only one tough enough to stay in the kitchen, capisce?



## Scorpio

(October 23-November 22)

Self care is watching *Beetlejuice* on cable and eating a full box of orange Oreos. Engage in self care, Scorpio.



## Sagittarius

(November 23-December 22)

Mess with the bull, Sagittarius, and you get the horns. Mess with the horns, you get jazz.



## Capricorn

(December 22-January 19)

Still think the skeletal system is the spookiest decoration? Hang a lymphatic system on your wall and see how others react.



## Aquarius

(January 20-February 18)

You're a senior, Aquarius. At this point, it's not "dropping out," it's "retiring."



## Pisces

(February 19-March 20)

Pisces, the kind of behavior you've been displaying is unacceptable down on the bayou. Best straighten yourself out before the gators catch you.



## Aries

(March 21-April 19)

Oh no! The milk in the fridge has spoiled, and milk night with the boys is tomorrow! What are you going to do?



## Taurus

(April 20-May 20)

Uh-oh, Taurus! Leo's going to steal the mummy's treasure! Shout "no-no, Leo" to stop them!



## Gemini

(May 21-June 20)

The Smithfield Street McDonald's is closed. Plan a calming vigil to bring the community together in this hard time.



## Cancer

(June 21-July 22)

Whoa, Cancer! Careful with those biceps! This is a weapons-free campus!



## Leo

(July 23-August 22)

Fiddlesticks! Your master plan was foiled once again by Taurus! Better luck next time!



## Virgo

(August 23-September 22)

Time is running out to buy your Halloween costume on Amazon. There's only one extra small men's sexy Joker left.



# Expertly produced *Next to Normal* lets strong writing shine

HANNAH BOUCHER  
staff writer

In a quaint little theater, in the basement of the University of Pittsburgh's Cathedral of Learning, you'll feel like you're in an actual home, seeing into the lives of the Goodman family. You'll soon be exposed to drugs, schizophrenic delusions, therapy and classical piano — everything you need for a perfect show. *Next to Normal* is a contemporary musical that centers around a family that is anything but ordinary.

Upon entering the theater, I had a feeling that the performance would be amazing. Before the actors were on stage, or the pit had even started to play their instruments, I was visually transported into the show. The set represented the inside of a house, but the color scheme, along with the incorporation of quadrilateral shapes, created a very intriguing scene. The colors were very calming shades of blue, gray and purple, with the occasional pop of white.

As the lights dimmed, the mood was set with the overture. Initially, the music was calm, strictly piano, but then, out of nowhere, drums and electric guitar were layered on. As the heavier percussion faded out in a beautiful decrescendo, the piano

accompaniment slowed down, soon fading as well. This really got my attention, and the instrumentalists at this performance did a fantastic job of utilizing those contrasts.

Although I came to the theater with some background knowledge of the plot, I had no idea what to expect before attending the show, I would have easily been able to follow along. Each scene was engaging, especially because of the intimacy of the venue. The actors would come right up to the rows of seating, their emotions radiating off of them. With only six people in the cast, the size of the theater was perfect — allowing the audience to feel as though they are a part of the show themselves, while also making it possible for the actors to really convey their characters.

Diana Goodman (Meg Pryor) truly stole the show. Her versatility as both an actress and vocalist shined. Diana is a very complex character, but Pryor had no issue capturing all of her emotional sides. Her vocal range was phenomenal, which really showed in her solo and group songs. Diana is definitely not an easy character to portray — but Pryor stepped up to the challenge. Her performance was everything I could have hoped it to be, and more.

What makes *Next to Normal* such a spe-



COLLEEN HAMMOND | OPINIONS EDITOR

The University of Pittsburgh's Richard E. Rauh Studio Theatre, a black box theater, housed the production.

cial show is its relatability. It's a reassuring feeling to know that all families have to deal with some monster. There's no fantastical adventure, no damsel in distress. All of the characters are established as strong, independent people who could very well exist in the real world.

All aspects of this show came together to tell a tragic, yet beautiful story. All of the performances stood out on their own, while

also coming together as one — a true mark of a phenomenal cast. Each part could have easily stood on its own — the acting, the vocals, the set, the pit — but as one, a musical was made. I would definitely go see this show again if I could — and not just because it's one of my favorite musicals. The performance was so fresh and engaging, whether it was my first, second or my tenth time seeing the show, I would enjoy myself.

## A Few Good Men lives up to its reputation in Pittsburgh

COLLEEN HAMMOND  
opinions editor

The honor, glory and horrific secret practices of the U.S. military are brought to life in Aaron Sorkin's thrilling military drama, *A Few Good Men*.

While many feared the Pittsburgh Public Theater's production could not live up to the 1992 star-studded film, they were immediately proven wrong by the whirlwind of talent on stage.

The transition from stage to screen and back again is often a difficult one filled with awkward scene jumps and poor attempts at character mimicry. This production avoided all those problems.

Each scene change was attacked with military precision. Instead of using standard crossfades and a technical crew to move set pieces, various soldiers enacted training drills and sang marching songs as they jogged and quickly transformed the prison cells of Guantanamo Bay to a lavish military courtroom with ease. These smaller moments set the tone for the entire show and added immense production value. Every second of this show mirrored the discipline and meticulousness of the Marine Corps.

In addition to the spectacular drills and scene changes, the cast masterfully captured the essence of the beloved film without directly copying the voices, acting styles and physical manifestation of the characters. The original film cast featured an extremely famous cast including Tom Cruise, Jack Nicholson, Demi Moore, Kiefer Sutherland, Kevin Bacon, and many more. It can be a tall order to ask actors to fill those shoes and an even taller or-



COURTESY OF PITTSBURGH PUBLIC THEATER

Aaron Sorkin's *A Few Good Men* first hit the stage in 1989, loosely based on real-life events three years prior.

der to ask audiences to forget the film actors they have loved for decades. Luckily, this cast does not disappoint. Each actor honors the work of those who came before them while placing their own unique mark on the characters.

This job is made significantly easier by Sorkin's remarkable writing. Known for his success as the acclaimed writer of *The West Wing*, *The Social Network* and the current Broadway adaptation of *To Kill A Mockingbird*, Sorkin shows off his writing prowess through a wide variety of multi-dimensional characters. He is careful not to isolate his characters into a single military stereotype. Instead, he approaches them as real people in impossible situations. As is characteristic of Sorkin's writing, the characters are guided by varying,

yet fervent set of morals. From there, Sorkin crafts astounding conflict, putting every character to the ultimate test of his or her abilities.

*A Few Good Men* is no exception. Sorkin brilliantly uses the rigid morality and values of Marines in conflict with the sole female character's desire for truth and justice to create this stunning play.

Although the cast is predominantly male, Sorkin does not ignore the only female character nor does he make her appear weak. Joanne Galloway (Alison Weisgall) shows tremendous dedication to the truth as she defies the powers that be without reservation or fear. Weisgall's portrayal of Galloway is sensational and empowering. Despite being more petite than the domineering military men she

shares the stage with, Galloway stands tall and proves herself a true hero in this plot. As the title suggests, the play is filled with a handful of good men, but the show is stolen by the one valiant woman.

After the triumphant ending and roaring curtain call, the cast made the outstanding decision to honor the members of the cast and audience who have served in the U.S. military. This beautifully summarized the play by reminding all in attendance why so many men and women choose to fight for their country: the pursuit of truth and the preservation of justice.

*A Few Good Men* is worth every penny. From the outstanding cast to the magnificent scenic design and overall message, this show is a must-see and will continue its run at the O'Reilly Theater until Oct. 13.



## World Homeless Day motivates locals to take action

STAFF ED — from page 4

trouble, the streets are the only place to go.

When you spend so much time on Duquesne's campus, it's easy to forget about the struggles of our neighbors downtown. But as the weather grows colder, I implore you all to make an effort to engage during your next encounter with a homeless person. Whether you hand over your pocket change, leftovers or engage in a simple conversation; ensuring that you treat them as they are — human beings — is crucial in promoting change.

One simple gesture is using a meal swipe from Tower's Market and bringing it to the first homeless person you see on your way downtown.

To learn more about the injustices within the homeless community, Duquesne's School of Nursing will be hosting the Tenth Annual McGinley-Rice Symposium on Social Justice for Vulnerable Positions, which looks at the "critical issues in health care practice and policy through the lens of social justice." This event will take place Oct. 17-18 and you can register at [duq.edu/social-justice](http://duq.edu/social-justice).

Our university's Spiritan mission compels the students of Duquesne to aid those in marginalized communities throughout the world. What better place to start than right next door?

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Email [lynchk5@duq.edu](mailto:lynchk5@duq.edu) or visit Dr. Mirmotahari on the 6th floor of College Hall!

## THIS WEEK'S WEATHER

Thursday

72° Mostly sunny and pleasant

Friday

74° Mostly sunny and pleasant

Saturday

61° Cooler with a few showers

Sunday

64° Partly sunny

Monday

67° Partly sunny

Tuesday

68° An afternoon shower possible

Wednesday

58° Cloudy, chance for rain

Courtesy of AccuWeather



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