



## Oh My Gourd! It's Halloween



GRIFFIN SENDEK / PHOTO EDITOR

The Duquesne National Panhellenic Council hosted a pumpkin painting event in the Africa Room Tuesday Oct. 29. The event was part of the organizations Hallo-week.

## Duquesne to display modern *St. John's Bible*

JESSICA LINCOLN

staff writer

Later this year, Duquesne students, faculty and visitors will have the opportunity to view the first modern illuminated Bible, *The Saint John's Bible*.

The Heritage Edition of *The Saint John's Bible* will be on display in the Popular Reading Room on the fourth floor of Gumberg Library from Nov. 11 to Dec. 20. The Heritage Edition is a full-size reproduction of the original manuscript, which was produced beginning in March 2000 and finished in May 2011.

Commissioned by Saint John's University and Abbey in 1998, *The Saint John's Bible* consists of seven volumes: Gospels and Acts, Pentateuch, Psalms, Prophets, Wisdom Books, Historical Books,

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## Duquesne Homecoming focuses on change and tradition

KELLEN STEPLER

assistant features editor

There's no place like home. This week, Duquesne University had its Homecoming celebration on campus. The festivities kicked off Sunday, Oct. 20 with the theme of "Seasons Change, Traditions Remain."

Sarah Sperry, the assistant vice president of alumni engagement at Duquesne and Monica Cooney, associate director of advancement communications, said the theme was picked because Homecoming is typically held around the time that the seasons change from summer to fall. They also note that as campus undergoes physical changes in appearance, traditions like



PHOTO BY SARAH SPERRY

President Ken Gormley holds up the Spirit Cup with members of the Phi Kappa Theta fraternity, the winner of the first ever Spirit Cup. They earned the most points by attending and participating in different Homecoming event such as Bubble Soccer.

Homecoming are constant from year to year.

"Even though the events that are held during Homecoming have evolved over time, the tradition of alumni coming back to campus to reunite each year is unchanged," Sperry said.

Duquesne was founded on Oct. 1, 1878 as Pittsburgh Catholic College by the Rev. Joseph Strub and the Congregation of the Holy Ghost. The college had 40 students and 6 faculty members, and held class in a rented space above a bakery on Wylie Avenue.

Obviously, a lot has changed since then, but Sperry notes that the mission and traditions of Duquesne remain unchanged.

"Alumni like to see the

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## POLICE BRIEFS

It's Halloween, but Sister PB is more afraid of the crimes you guys commit while no one is looking than the monsters and goblins that come out on Oct. 31.

On Oct. 23, a Duquesne commuter student notified officers about an incident that occurred in the Forbes Garage. There was damage to an unattended vehicle.

On Oct. 23, Duquesne Police were notified by the Resident Director on duty that some marijuana paraphernalia had been confiscated from a Towers LLC, room. Officers arrived on scene and transported the paraphernalia to the police station, and two students were referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Also on Oct. 23, a student filed a report for damage to an unattended vehicle. The report stated that the vehicle was hit on Oct. 22 while in either the Locust or Forbes Garages.

On Oct. 24, an intoxicated female resident was found in the lobby of Assumption Hall. She was transported to Mercy Hospital ER for treatment and will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

On Oct. 26, a Duquesne resident student was found to be in possession of marijuana, marijuana paraphernalia and alcohol. They were referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Also on Oct. 26, RAs in Towers found a water bottle smoking device with marijuana residue, a grinder and a lighter in the bathroom. A student claimed ownership and was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

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Duquesne exhibit to host *St. John's Bible*

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and Letters and Revelation. Made to resemble illuminated manuscripts from medieval times, the original manuscript was handwritten on calfskin vellum using turkey, goose and swan quills. Its designs include gold and silver leaf gild, as well as handmade inks and pigments.

The 299 Heritage Edition sets were printed on 100% uncoated cotton paper using state-of-the-art techniques in order to replicate the feel, look, and quality of the original. Each one is hand-bound in leather and initialed by Donald Jackson, the creative director of the original project.

The manuscript is meant to provide a modern interpretation of the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

In her guide *The Art of The Saint John's Bible*, which is available in the library, Susan Sink wrote, "This Bible is also intentionally multicultural and contemporary, with its imagery drawing on various traditions and aesthetics from both the ancient and modern world... On the pages of *The Saint John's Bible* you will see the double helix of DNA, images from the Hubble telescope, mandalas, patterns from Middle Eastern and South Asian textiles [and] an image of the Twin Tow-



GRIFFIN SENDEK / PHOTO EDITOR

ers of the World Trade Center."

Sara Baron, the university librarian, said that the images in *The Saint John's Bible* are "contemporary and timeless, scientific and traditional, inclusive and ecumenical."

"*The Saint John's Bible* is an amazing work of art that I have experienced personally several times, and is always a powerful reminder of the beauty of the Word," Baron said. "Fr. Ray French and I were talking about *The Saint John's Bible* one day and he suggested we work together to bring it to campus. The more we talked about it with Mission & Identity, Campus Ministries, Student Services

and faculty, the more we wanted Duquesne to experience this work in person."

The design of the manuscript is meant to encourage contemplation and "ignite the spiritual imagination of believers throughout the world," according to the official website for *The Saint John's Bible*.

"The illuminations are not illustrations. They are spiritual meditations on a text," said Father Michael Patella, chair of the Committee on Illuminations and Text, in Sink's guide to the manuscript.

Baron hopes that the exhibition will engage visitors, driving them to "see the Word in new ways and be reminded of the spirit

moving in their own lives."

Aside from the exhibition, which will be free and open to the public during library hours, visitors will have several opportunities to learn more about the manuscript.

From 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Nov. 19, Tim Ternes, director of The Saint John's Bible project, will give a lecture in the Power Center Ballroom entitled "From Inspiration to Illumination, an Introduction to The Saint John's Bible." In this lecture, which is open to the public, Ternes will discuss the history of the manuscript and its production methods.

Ternes will hold another event, this one open only to current Duquesne students, in the Power Center Ballroom from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. on Nov. 19. The event, "A Visual Discussion of Social Justice & Science in The Saint John's Bible," will cover the more than 160 illustrations in the manuscript and the underlying principles of social justice and science.

Finally, Duquesne faculty, staff, and administration can attend the Libermann Luncheon on Nov. 20 from 12 to 1 p.m. in the Africa Room, where Ternes will discuss the spiritual aspects of the manuscript in "Igniting the Spiritual Imagination with *The Saint John's Bible*." The manuscript will be on-site at this event.

## Pentagon releases new details on al-Baghdadi raid

(AP) — The general who oversaw the U.S. raid on Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi provided the most detailed account yet of the operation Wednesday and said the U.S. is on alert for possible "retribution attacks" by extremists.

Gen. Frank McKenzie, head of U.S. Central Command, said al-Baghdadi's remains were buried at sea within 24 hours of his death inside an underground tunnel where he fled as special operations soldiers closed in on him.

The Pentagon released the first government photos and video clips of the nighttime operation, including one showing Delta Force commandos approaching the walls of the compound in which al-Baghdadi and others were found.

Another video showed American airstrikes on other militants who fired at helicopters carrying soldiers to the compound. The U.S. also bombed the compound after the soldiers completed the mission so that it would not stand as a shrine to al-Baghdadi.

"It looks pretty much like a parking lot with large potholes right now," McKenzie said.

The attacking American force launched from an undisclosed location inside Syria for the one-hour helicopter ride to the compound, McKenzie said.

Two children died with al-Baghdadi when he detonated a bomb vest,

McKenzie said, adding that this was one fewer than originally reported. He said the children appeared to be under the age of 12. Eleven other children were escorted from the site unharmed. Four women and two men who were wearing suicide vests and refused to surrender inside the compound were killed, McKenzie said.

The general said the military dog that was injured during the raid is a four-year veteran with U.S. Special Operations Command and had been on approximately 50 combat missions.

The dog, a male whose name has not been released because the mission was classified, was injured when he came in contact with exposed live electrical cables in the tunnel after al-Baghdadi detonated his vest, McKenzie said. He said the dog has returned to duty.

Baghdadi was identified by comparing his DNA to a sample collected in 2004 by U.S. forces in Iraq, where he had been detained.

The U.S. managed to collect "substantial" amounts of documentation and electronics during the raid, McKenzie said, but he would not elaborate. Such efforts are a standard feature of raids against high-level extremist targets and can be useful in learning more about the group's plans.

Although the raid was successful, McKenzie said it would be a mistake to conclude that the Islamic State has

been defeated.

"It will take them some time to re-establish someone to lead the organization, and during that period of time their actions may be a little bit disjointed," the general said. "They will be dangerous. We suspect they will try some form of retribution attack, and we are postured and prepared for that."

In outlining the operation, McKenzie said al-Baghdadi had been at the compound in Syria's northwest Idlib province for "a considerable period," but he was not specific.

He said the raid was briefed to President Donald Trump on Friday, and McKenzie made the decision to go ahead on Saturday morning.

McKenzie offered no new details about al-Baghdadi's final moments.

"He crawled into a hole with two small children and blew himself up while his people stayed on the grounds," he said when asked by a reporter about al-Baghdadi's last moments and Trump's description of the Islamic State leader as "whimpering and crying and screaming all the way" to his death.

Other senior Pentagon officials, including Gen. Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, have said they could not confirm Trump's description.

Several times this month, President Donald Trump has said he is withdrawing from Syria and that

the troops are "coming home." But, in fact, the U.S. military remains in the country, shifting positions and gearing up to execute Trump's order to secure Syria's oil fields — not for the Syrian government but for the Kurds. Trump also has said he wants to "keep" the oil, although it's unclear what he means.

Earlier Wednesday, the acting homeland security secretary, Kevin McAleenan, told a congressional hearing that U.S. security agencies have been reminded of the potential for al-Baghdadi's death to inspire his followers to launch an attack "in the immediate aftermath."

Russell Travers, the acting director of the National Counterterrorism Center, told the same hearing that he does not believe al-Baghdadi's death will have "much impact" on the organization.

Within Syria and Iraq, he added, IS has at least 14,000 fighters.

"That's an important number," he said. "Because five, six years ago, when ISIS was at its low point, they were down under a thousand. To us, this tells us the insurgency has a lot of options."

FBI Director Chris Wray said the biggest concern in the United States was the "virtual caliphate" that inspires Americans to pledge allegiance to IS and commit acts of violence in the group's name even without traveling to Syria.





# DU celebrates Homecoming 2019

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physical changes and still see that Duquesne, still holds true to the same values and spirit that it did when they were on campus," Sperry said.

The university's mission statement is to serve God by serving others, and Sperry note several opportunities that students and alumni could give back to the community.

The Office of Alumni Engagement hosted a hat and scarf drive for the Red Door Program, an effort of Saint Mary of Mercy Church in Downtown Pittsburgh to provide assistance to people in need. During Tuesday of Homecoming week, students could donate blood, pack canned goods for a food pantry and make scarves for the Red Door Program.

"By inviting students to participate in events that show school spirit and service, we hope that they will be excited about Homecoming as alumni in the future,"



PHOTO BY SARAH SPEER  
This group of alumni was deemed the "Golden Dukes" as they celebrated their fiftieth class reunion.

Sperry also noted the importance of students and alumni connecting over Homecoming weekend. This year was Delta Zeta's 50th anniversary, and Alpha Phi Delta's 90th anniversary.

"While much has changed on campus over the years, students and

Wagner, Brett Walker, a senior in the Rangos school of Natural Sciences, was named Homecoming King and Taylor Martin, a senior Physical Therapy major was named Homecoming Queen.

Martin said it "was an absolute honor" to be named Homecoming Queen.

"I will forever be grateful for the opportunities I had to be involved at Duquesne and to all of the individuals who have become like a second family to me," Martin said.

During their freshman year, Martin and Walker worked with each other on executive board for Freshman Class Council.

"I feel like we have both come full circle since our freshman year and it was so special to share this experience with him," Martin said.

Over the past five years, Duquesne has made an effort to get current students involved through activities held the week before Homecoming.

This year was the first year of the Spirit Cup, which was awarded to the brothers of Phi Kappa Theta. Student organizations were able to earn points by attending events such as service projects and bubble soccer.

"By inviting students to participate in events that show school spirit and service, we hope that they will be excited about Homecoming as alumni in the future," Sperry said.

alumni share a strong Duquesne connection," Sperry said.

At the football game, while the Dukes were victorious over



COURTESY BRETT WALKER

Brett Walker and Taylor Martin were crowned Homecoming King and Queen at the Homecoming football game. Dominic Cristini and Mikayla Gilmer were the runners up.

Sperry said.

In addition to the Homecoming events, there is also Autumnfest, put on by the Duquesne Program Council (DPC).

Autumnfest, held on Saturday, is where organizations come together and sponsor activities and other items to bring students together with alumni, according to Emily Krieger, the special events director for DPC.

"It is a great way for students to connect and for alumni to see what's new at Duquesne. It is a day of fun and activities for people of all ages, including kids," Kreiger said.

Typically, the event takes place outside on A-Walk, but was moved inside this year due to the weather.

Autumnfest ties into Homecoming activities because it connects current students with alumni to raise school spirit, according to Kreiger.



COURTESY DUQUESNE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The Homecoming Court and the Duquesne Cheer Team made their way down A-Walk as part of the March To Rooney before the football game on Oct. 26.

# Student performance lags on Nation's Report Card



(AP) — America's eighth graders are falling behind in math and reading, while fourth graders are doing slightly better in reading, according to the latest results from the Nation's Report Card.

But there were some exceptions to the findings, which also showed declines among fourth graders in math.

Mississippi and the District of Columbia showed gains, along with some other big-city school districts.

Nationwide, a little more than a third of eighth graders are proficient in reading and math. About a third of fourth graders are proficient in reading, while more than 40% of fourth graders are proficient in math.

"This country is in a student achievement crisis, and over the past decade it has continued to worsen, especially for our most vulnerable students," Education Secretary Betsy DeVos said.

The nationwide test is given to a random sampling of students in the fourth and eighth grades every two years.

Students made big gains in math in the 1990s and 2000s but have shown little improvement since then. Reading scores have risen a little since the tests began in 1992.

The decline in both reading and math performance among eighth grade students preparing to enter high school was especially concerning, authorities said.

"Eighth grade is a transitional point in preparing students for success in high school, so it is critical that researchers further explore the declines we are seeing here, especially the larger, more widespread declines across states we are seeing in reading," Peggy Carr, associate commissioner of the National Center for Education Statistics told reporters during a conference call.

Both low- and high-achieving eighth graders slipped in reading, but the declines were generally worse for lower-performing students.

Carr said it's up to researchers and other to figure out why scores fell. "The assessment is designed to tell you what, not why," she said.

DeVos pointed to a widening achievement gap between the highest- and lowest-performing students and used the results to push for expanded school choice, including her proposals for federal tax credits for donations made to groups offering scholarships for private schools, apprenticeships and other educational programs.

"It's the only way to bring about the change our country desperately needs," she said.

Daniel Willingham, a professor of psychology at the University of Virginia, said it's hard to find a co-

herent story across different state and local school districts, but that he hoped the results would "spur us to do something a little more vigorous."

"We've just absolutely stalled," Willingham said.

One theory is that decreased performance is a residue of trauma suffered by families and spending cuts by school districts during the Great Recession. Michael Petrilli, president of education reform group the Thomas Fordham Institute, has pointed to data showing that performance has risen and fallen on the test in the past in sync with the economy.

"What we saw is that great calamity had lingering impacts," Petrilli said. He said that could also be why "we'd be seeing particularly disappointing results at the lowest end of the spectrum."

Officials noted gains in Mississippi, where for the first time in the test's history, fourth graders scored above the national average in math and at the national average in reading. The state remained behind national averages in eighth grade but continued to improve in math and held its ground in reading despite nationwide losses.

"Our achievement is at an all-time high in Mississippi," said state Superintendent Carey Wright.

The state has been among a number with a heavy focus on improving early literacy, but Wright said the state also has devoted resources to helping teachers improve math instruction after it adopted new standards.

"When you improve kids' reading ability, it's not surprising that kids' math ability falls in line," Wright said.

The nation's large-city public schools — they educate more poor students and English language learners — also saw good news in the results. Big-city schools still performed below the nation as a whole, but further narrowed the gap.

One of those big-city districts highlighted as making gains was the District of Columbia, where Carr said gains have outpaced the nation over the past decade.

In the last 20 years, the achievement gap between big-city schools and the nation has narrowed by about 50 percent in reading and math, the Council of the Great City Schools said. The schools are now about five to eight points below national averages on NAEP's 500-point scale.

"We still have more to do, but the era of poor performance in our nation's urban public-school systems has ended, and it has been replaced by results, accountability and promise," the council's executive director, Michael Casserly, said in a news release.



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"The further a society drifts from the truth, the more it will hate those who speak it."

GEORGE ORWELL

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EDITORIAL   
POLICY

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CARTOON BY ROBERT GWIAZDA

## "Sexy schoolgirl" culture sexualizes youth

In the world of torn fishnet stockings and ill fitting costumes, the word "sexy" has become as synonymous with Halloween as pumpkins and candy.

From naughty nurses to sexy nuns, and everything in between, the Halloween industry loves to sexualize all professions and walks of life. One classic Halloween costume for women is the so-called "sexy schoolgirl." This trend even expands past spooky season as many women wear these costumes for consensual sexual role play.

Women all across America wear short plaid skirts, knee-high socks and low cut, button down blouses to appear young and sexy. This practice and common fetish is widely accepted, not just in America, but in cultures all over the world.

For some reason, it seems the entire globe has gotten behind the notion of a sexy schoolgirl, but few actually think about the viscerally disgusting implications and ramifications of this practice.

The world seems to have forgotten who actually wears school uniforms: children. The only individuals who are required to wear a variation of plaid skirts and knee-high socks are underage girls who attend private or charter schools.

"Sexy schoolgirl" costumes are a blatant sexualization of children though few choose to acknowledge it.

Some argue a consenting adult adorning a school uniform for sexual escapades or Halloween costumes is entirely different from the sexualization of children and pedophilia. However, in these scenarios, the uniform is the subject of sexual desire. If the idea of a school-aged girl was not important to the sexual fantasy, the uniform would not be necessary.

Despite the widely accepted nature of the schoolgirl fantasy, it cannot be ignored that this is a socially acceptable form of pedophilia.

As someone who wore a school uniform throughout grade school and high school, I

can attest that the sexualization of schoolgirls has apparent and harmful effects on children.

As early as age 11, I remember grown men with their eyes glued to my sister and me as we got our usual slurpees at the local 7-Eleven after school. Groups of landscapers and construction workers gawked at my friends and me while we piled into carpools in our school parking lot. It was humiliating, confusing and deeply uncomfortable for all of us growing up, but it was simply considered normal, an occupational hazard of being a young girl in a private school.

With the heightened association



COLLEEN HAMMOND

opinions editor

between the school uniform and a sexual fantasy, it has become normal for everyday people to view these underage girls in a sexual context. The sexy schoolgirl promotes a culture where the sexualization of children is not only normal, but accepted.

This sexualization of children is apparent not just in fringe sexual spheres or the nearest Halloween store. Major celebrities like Britney Spears used the sexy schoolgirl in her iconic "Baby One More Time" music video. The sexualization of children, specifically young girls, is taught through nearly every form of mass media.

The obsession with the sexy schoolgirl is nothing new, but in the age of #Me Too and increased cultural awareness, how is this overt sexualization of children still

so widely accepted?

School uniforms were created to do the exact opposite of society's distorted connotations. Anyone who wore a school uniform can attest to the complete lack of sex appeal in uniforms. For those who grew up wearing uniforms, there is nothing sexy about a stiff polyester skirt and itchy wool sweater. In most private and charter schools, skirts are required to be knee-length, and shirts must remain buttoned almost up to the neck. These outfits were designed to be non-sexualizing.

Dress codes are strictly enforced in uniformed schools to ensure a level playing field among students. While it may have been a hindrance and source of complaint as a child, wearing a uniform placed me at the same starting point as my peers. There were no symbols of status or reasons to be self-conscious about my appearance. It was a source of normalcy and equality - not sexualization and objectification.

Although the sexualization of schoolgirls is typically a male preference, this is not a solely male issue. While men need to reject the sexualization of children as disgusting and beneath them, women need to take charge as well. Thousands of women every year willingly wear schoolgirl costumes for Halloween and sexual role play.

Instead of promoting this culture, women need to remember how horrible it felt to be objectified by older men as children and attempt to protect today's generation of young women from that experience.

The sexualization of young women through the popular "sexy schoolgirl" persona is a deep perversion of childhood innocence and the concept of a uniform. Through constant effort and denial of practices previously deemed socially acceptable, the world can move away from this overlooked form of pedophilia.



## Pittsburgh gun reform must remain

Following a mass shooting that killed 11 people at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Squirrel Hill last year, Mayor Bill Peduto passed three gun control ordinances that would "restrict the use of assault weapons, extended magazines and armor-piercing ammunition in public places within the city," according to CNN.

But on Tuesday, Oct. 29, a judge struck down these ordinances; Allegheny County Common Pleas Senior Judge Joseph M. James found that state laws prohibit local gun laws.

But the city plans to keep fighting.

It shouldn't be so difficult to implement laws limiting the use of guns like the Colt AR-15 — the weapon used by the synagogue shooter last year. These are pieces of artillery designed for the sole sake of killing as many people as possible very, very quickly. It isn't your hunting rifle that these laws would target. It isn't the handgun you keep for personal safety. It's military-grade weaponry and bullets that can pierce armor. There's no need for anyone to have any of these things.

On Sept. 1, CBS published an article explaining that there had been more mass shootings in the U.S. than there had been days in the year. With Sept. 1st marking the 244th day of the year, there had been 283 mass shootings in the country, according to data from the Gun Violence Archive. All of the deadliest mass shootings have the same thing in common: the terrorist had used an assault weapon.

The Aug. 4 shooting in Dayton, Ohio is one example of this. The attack resulted in the death of 9 people, and 27 more were injured. But the kicker? It only lasted 32 seconds; in just over half a minute, Dayton police were able to subdue the shooter, a 24-year-old gunman with an AR-15-style assault rifle and a 100-round drum magazine. But because of the caliber of the weapon used, he was still able to shoot more than one person per second.

Because of state laws, the Dayton shooter had purchased the weapon legally. Likewise, the shooter who killed 22 people in El Paso, Texas on Aug. 3, just a day before the Dayton massacre, had also purchased his weapon legally; in both states, laws protect the ownership of high-capacity weaponry and magazines, as long as the owner has a permit.

These weapons shouldn't be legal. No one outside of a warzone needs a weapon that can shoot 36 people in 32 seconds. It is not your God-given right to carry a gun. The Second Amendment was written about muskets, which took between 20 seconds and a minute to load. (In the time it took to load a musket, the Dayton shooter had already committed his crime.)

Assault weapons only feed into the destructive will of the terrorists and increase the amount of damage they can inflict. We as a society need to get our priorities straight and ask ourselves what we love more: our guns, or our futures?



## Other cultures are never acceptable Halloween costumes

NICOLETTA VENEZIANO  
staff columnist

No matter what age you are, some aspects of Halloween are bound to give you a scare. Whether it be the terrifying masks, the gory decorations or the classic movie marathons, Halloween is the time of year that makes everyone a little uneasy. For me, however, my fear is not in the blood or the monsters. My fear is in those who wear costumes that are clearly culturally inappropriate.

Although the term “cultural appropriation” has been a common idea within the past few years during the Halloween season, some may still be unfamiliar with its meaning. Cultural appropriation by definition is “the adoption or co-opting, usually without acknowledgment, of cultural identity markers associated with or originating in minority communities by people or communities with a relatively privileged status.”

In shorter terms, cultural appropriation is representing a culture or group out of ignorance of the true meaning behind it. This is continuously portrayed through costumes such as “Mexican man,” “gypsy,” “geisha” or any costume involving blackface.

Most people dress up in these outfits without even realizing their wrongdoing. Although those participating in these costumes may not be aware of their meaning, we cannot keep using ignorance as an excuse to wear costumes that fail to recognize significant historical events or experiences.

During this time last year, CNN political analyst Kirsten Powers dismissed concerns of white people who object to being labeled racist over Halloween costumes, tweeting, “Dear white people who are upset that you can’t dress up as another race or culture for Halloween: your feelings don’t matter.”

In support of Powers’ words, I believe that people who do not see or cannot recognize the evident racism in their costumes have a special kind of privilege. They are privileged to never have experienced the misfortune of any form of discrimination against their culture.

Although there are certain costumes that have clear usage of cultural appropriation, some have been a little controversial or even confusing for people who want to wear them. One of the most relevant stories in connection with cultural appropriation occurred in 2017 during the rise of the popular



Cultural appropriation through offensive Halloween costumes minimizes the rich cultures and histories of minorities.

Disney movie, *Moana*. The appropriateness of kids dressing up as Moana was a controversial discussion. Auli’i Cravalho, the voice of the popular character, spoke out about the topic.

“I think it’s absolutely appropriate. It’s done in the spirit of love and for Disney and for the little ones who just want to dress up as their favorite heroine, I’m all for it. Parents can dress up as Moana, too,” she said.

Cravalho made a clear point that kids dressing up as their favorite Disney princess is in no way insulting to her, a na-

tive Hawaiian woman. Is this enough to show what cultural appropriation truly means? Through this statement, it shows that wearing a costume out of love for a character is one thing, but wearing a costume out of ignorance is another.

The U.S. is a nation known for our wide variety of cultures and differences. We grow up learning how to accept our differences and see the beauty in them. Cultural food, art and music are spread out of love and passion for their people throughout the entirety of the year. Adopting

a culture, cuisine or tradition is not cultural appropriation. However, using a culture as a holiday costume out of ignorance is. It is about time we cut the ignorance of Halloween completely out of the season.

Plus, there are so many great halloween costumes that are both creative, and not racist or culturally inappropriate! We should continue to love the history of our nation’s cultures, not disrespect them for the simplicity of a costume.

## Jane Fonda’s weekly climate protests surprise spectators

ALYSE KAMINSKI  
staff columnist

Fridays are arguably the best day of the week. Everyone longs for the weekend and when it finally comes, it’s time to celebrate -unless you’re Jane Fonda in which case Fridays are for getting arrested on Capitol Hill.

Every Friday until January, Fonda, 81, has promised to peacefully protest on Capitol Hill to urge politicians to address climate change. She’s calling these demonstrations Fire Drill Fridays, which is pretty reminiscent of Greta Thunberg’s Fridays For Future.

Last week, Fonda brought along Ted Danson, 71, to the latest protest. It was pretty entertaining scrolling through Twitter and seeing Fonda and Danson smiling ear-to-ear with their hands in zip-tie handcuffs. One tweet read, “Me and my wife getting escorted out of a Chili’s happy hour,” with two photos of Fonda and Danson being taken away from the protest. Honestly, it was all very amusing. Fridays just got a lot more exciting if it means new content of Jane Fonda and company posing for pictures while getting arrested.

While Fonda’s main goal is to get politicians to act on climate change, she’s also increasing public awareness of the issue. Fire Drill Fridays are getting a lot of acknowledgement and like I said before,

it’s all over social media. People of older generations, who are more familiar with Fonda’s career but not as familiar with climate change, will see what she is doing, and who knows? Maybe they’ll educate themselves more on the latter.

And of course, students and anyone on social media will see what Fonda is up to, and could definitely be inspired to take part in their own Fire Drill Fridays protests. Greta Thunberg has certainly had influence over public awareness of climate change, so why can’t Jane Fonda? Any awareness of the climate change issue is good. The earth is dying and we need to act on it.

As much as I’ve enjoyed the last few Fire Drill Fridays and look forward to the upcoming ones, it’s important to note some potential flaws in the plan. First, what if instead of getting arrested and needing to pay bail, what if money was spent instead on projects or groups focused on ending climate change? Perhaps Fonda is donating to such causes, but that’s not what is getting press. That’s not to say that every time a celebrity donates to charity, it needs to be made public, but obviously Fonda wants people to know what she’s up to, and there hasn’t been much word going around about specific groups or projects she’s supporting.

Another issue that could be raised with Fonda’s intentional arrests is that it’s an ex-



Jane Fonda repeatedly gets arrested for climate protests on the steps of the U.S. Capitol.

ercise of privilege that only a certain group of people have. Not many people can necessarily afford to be arrested every Friday.

But what is a little more prevalent than just that, these arrests prove a flaw in the criminal justice system. For the rest of the year, Fonda is going to get arrested and then become free a few hours later when she pays her way out. But what about people who get arrested for minor crimes, like marijuana use, and will sit in jail for a few years because they can’t just bail themselves out?

This complaint isn’t against Fonda, it’s just a note about the unfairness of the system. People commit small crimes all the time, and there needs to

be a fix to a system that actively puts marginalized people in jail, instead of getting them the help they need. Fonda’s protests just put more emphasis on this issue, which is obviously separate from climate change, but an issue that still needs addressed and fixed.

Despite the fact that there may be some gripes with Fonda’s protests, personally I’m here for it. It’s providing great internet content while also increasing awareness of climate change for people of all generations. The dying earth is arguably the biggest issue our generation will face, so if Jane Fonda, at 81 years old, wants to get arrested each week because of it, well then... go off, sis.



## DuPo keeping campus safe on Halloween

ASHLEY NEWMAN  
staff writer



Dressing up, fun parties and watching scary movies are just some of the many things that make Halloween such a thrilling holiday. However, Halloween can quickly become even scarier when the party gets cut short because someone needs to be rushed to the emergency room.

The Duquesne Police Department, or DuPo, is always concerned with campus safety. Duquesne's Chief of Police Tom Hart explained that DuPo remains vigilant by regularly patrolling the streets of and around campus in marked vehicles and patrolling the rest of campus on bicycles and on foot.

DuPo takes extra precaution around Halloween for a variety of reasons. Between the long weekend, the parties surrounding Halloween and the number of underage students in attendance, it is no wonder that DuPo is concerned with keeping students as safe as possible.

Hart explained that in his opinion, alcohol abuse and drugs are the biggest concern for students.

"Not all students understand the negative and sometimes life-altering impact that illegal or careless behaviors involving illegal drugs and alcohol abuse can have on them," Hart said.

Hart has seen many Halloweens having worked in law enforcement on college campuses for 36 years. Unfortunately, no university, including Duquesne, is entirely safe from substance abuse, especially around holidays like Halloween.

"Duquesne students are highly motivated and focused, but there will be a few cases involving alcohol that require intervention," Hart explained. "And sometimes they may require medical treatment at a hospital."

Binge-drinking is a serious concern that many college students do not consider when



GRIFFIN SENDEK / PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

DuPo offers 24 hour campus escort service to all students.

attending parties. Binge-drinking, defined by the National Institute on Drug Abuse for Teens, is described as five or more drinks for males and four or more for females in two hours. This also correlates to a blood-alcohol level of 0.08% (the legal limit in Pennsylvania) or higher.

To stay safe on Halloween, Hart suggests that all students act as responsible friends and watch out for each other. If you are concerned about your friend, do not hesitate to call for help.

"Understand the Good Samaritan law that allows for people to summon medical assistance from First Responders like the Duquesne University Department of Public Safety when people need to be protected from themselves when involved in high risk behaviors," Hart said.

The Good Samaritan law allows someone to contact medical help for another person without getting in trouble for being intoxicated themselves.

In addition to Chief Hart's advice,

Duquesne's Vice President for Student Life, Doug Frizzell, sent a mass email to every student with additional safety tips.

Some of these tips include staying in well-lit areas where there are a lot of people, being aware of your surroundings, using the buddy system and following your instincts. As well, don't forget to always confirm your Uber driver's identity and let your family or friends know where you are, where you are going and when you have arrived.

Another helpful tip from Frizzell is to be familiar with the Campus Escort Service. Duquesne offers a 24-hour service that all students can use to get around campus. To utilize this, call (412) 396-6002.

Aside from the escort service, Duquesne's Student Government Association also offers loop buses. These buses go to and from campus to Oakland, the Waterfront and the Southside and leave every 30 minutes, 45 minutes and 60 minutes respectively.

## Spooky Urban Legends

### 1. Jack the Ripper

The infamous British serial killer may have lived in Pittsburgh for some time, according to Pittsburgh handwriting expert Michelle Dresbold. Jack the Ripper had handwriting that matched Pittsburgher's Francis Tumblety, a herb doctor recognized as a fake. Dresbold claims that the handwriting samples prove Tumblety is Jack the Ripper. Additionally, Tumblety was in London during Jack the Ripper's reign of terror.

### 2. Blue Mist Road

As the sun sets over Blue Mist Road – or Irwin Road – in the North Hills, a blue mist descends over the area. Where does this blue mist come from? Along the road lies a cemetery where two headstones lean toward each other, but do not touch. Legend has it that beneath those two headstones are lovers that never kissed. The headstones lead toward each other to share that forbidden kiss. According to urban legend, if the headstones ever touch, civilization will end.

### 3. Bunny Man Bridge

While being transported to an insane asylum, a man escaped near a bridge. Police tried to track him for weeks, but only found a trail of half-eaten bunny carcasses leading to nothing. The police gave up their search, and it is said that the man still lives near the bridge, killing passersby.

### 4. The Hookman

A young couple was hanging out in the boyfriend's car in Lovers' Lane when a warning came on the radio. The warning claimed that an escaped killer with a hook for a hand was on the loose in the area. The boyfriend blew off the warning and left the car to use the bathroom in the woods. The boyfriend never returned, and the last thing the girlfriend heard was the sound of scraping metal on the roof of the car.

### 5. Buried Alive

Before modern medical advances, a comatose man was believed to be dead. The family mourned, the funeral was held and the man was put six feet under in a wooden casket. Months later, a gravedigger was walking around the graveyard when he chose the comatose man's grave. Inside, he found that the man's fingers were bloodied and filed nearly down to the bone and there were scratch marks on the top of the coffin. The man had woken up and tried to scratch his way out.

I hope you found these stories particularly scary! Remember, urban legends are just legends...or are they?

## Duquesne NPHC hosts Pumpkin Painting event

KELLEN STEPLER  
assistant features editor

Halloween without festive pumpkins is no Halloween at all.

The Duquesne National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) agrees. On Tuesday, Oct. 29, the Duquesne NPHC held a pumpkin painting event in the Africa Room that started at 8 p.m.

Brandon Scott, president of the Duquesne NPHC, said the event was part of the organization's HalloWeek. HalloWeek began on Monday, Oct. 28 with a candy apple bake sale.

Tuesday, Oct. 29 was pumpkin painting, Wednesday Oct. 30 was a movie night, and the organization sold candy grams on Thursday, Oct. 31 - Halloween.

"We wanted to create a good environment and event for spooky season," Scott said.

The NPHC governs the Black Greek Lettered Organizations, also known as the "divine nine," on campus. They overlook five fraternities and four sororities.

The fraternities NPHC governs are Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc; Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc; Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc; Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc; and Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc. The sororities are Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc; Delta



KELLEN STEPLER / ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

Members of the Duquesne NPHC socialize while painting their pumpkins Tuesday night in the Africa Room.

Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc; Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc; and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.

NPHC is open to anyone to join, and they promote service-based events. The organization was reinstated on campus last semester and is going through a rebranding phase, said Grad advisor Darian Reynolds.

The NPHC Board has eleven total members, with one representative from each sorority and fraternity to make sure all voices are heard.

The NPHC's pumpkin painting event

was the first of its kind, but the group has done numerous other service projects as well, ranging from service, to social to informational events.

Reynolds explained that last semester, the NPHC put on a karaoke event with a water entry fee. Instead of paying money for admission, attendees were to bring cases of water that the group donated to Flint, Michigan.

"Events bring people together, but also have a cause behind them," Reynolds said.



# Football takes down Wagner at home, 28-24

**JACOB HEBDA**  
staff writer

Even the drizzling rain and brisk temperature couldn't contain the excitement of head coach Jerry Schmitt and his team. Following the game, the feeling of simultaneous enthusiasm and relief was palpable. The conditions may have been miserable, but the outcome certainly was not.



COURTESY OF ERIKA BAKIRTZIS  
Dukes' defensive back Mason Williams charging toward the Duquesne sideline following a turnover.

Duquesne held off a late Wagner rally to win 28-24, keeping them undefeated in NEC play.

Wagner, despite its now 1-7 record, proved to be a worthy opponent. After a scoreless first 15 minutes, the Seahawks jumped out to a 14-0 lead in the second quarter.

Quarterback Christian Alexander-Stevens found the endzone twice via the ground, giving his team an early upper hand.

Duquesne responded quickly and effectively though, putting 28 unanswered points on the board. Of those points, 21 came from the dynamic duo of A.J. Hines and Mark Allen.

At the 1-yard line with only 2.7 seconds left in the half and his team down 14-7, Jerry Schmitt made a gutsy decision. Rather than electing to kick a

field goal, he called on Hines to knot the score. Hines came through, punching it in to tie the game at 14-14.

In the second half, Allen was electric. Despite only 13 carries in the whole game, the Penn State transfer made his presence known with two touchdowns.

The first came on a 2-yard run to give the Dukes a 21-14 lead. Later, he returned a punt 65 yards extend the margin to 14 points.

Schmitt was pleased with the performance of his backs, saying, "We needed both of them."

Despite Duquesne's offensive burst, Wagner staged a near-comeback in the fourth quarter.

A third Alexander-Stevens rushing touchdown made it 28-21. A field goal soon after brought the Seahawks within four.

Nonetheless, as the clock dwindled, Duquesne found itself in control. With mere minutes left, the Dukes had possession.

Hines picked up a crucial first down with just over two minutes left. Wagner was out of timeouts and victory appeared certain.

On the very next play, however, as the Dukes looked to run out the clock, Hines fumbled the ball. Seahawks defensive back Javeon Ensley recovered it, putting a Duquesne win in jeopardy.

A personal foul penalty was also called against the Dukes, putting Wagner in prime position at the Duquesne 33-yard line.

But the defense stepped up. After an incomplete pass, Wagner attempted another.

The Dukes pressured Alexander-Stevens. The quarterback tried to get a pass off but was hit as he threw. The ball bounced off a defender and into the hands of a diving Mason Williams.

With that, the outcome was sealed. The win was crucial to



COURTESY OF ERIKA BAKIRTZIS  
Duquesne's Kam Carter after a tackle in the first half on Saturday

the Dukes' NEC Championship hopes.

Central Connecticut State and Robert Morris, currently tied with Duquesne in the standings, both won Saturday. This win allows the Dukes to keep pace with both conference foes.

Schmitt said his team focuses on one game at a time, but added, "I think our guys... understand what the situation is across the conference."

While critical for its playoff hopes, the victory also marked record achievements for Hines and Schmitt.

With his rushing touchdown, Hines became Duquesne's all-time leader in that category.

Schmitt, meanwhile, tied

Greg Gattuso for winningest coach in program history.

When asked about his record, Schmitt admitted he wasn't even aware of it until Gattuso himself visited on Friday.

Schmitt was quick to give credit to his team for the accomplishment, saying "...it means he [Gattuso] and I had a lot of great players."

He'll be looking to become the outright leader Nov. 2 as the St. Francis Red Flash visit the Bluff.

The Dukes will be seeking their fourth consecutive win, and their third straight against SFU.

Kickoff for Saturday's game is scheduled for 12 p.m.



COURTESY OF ERIKA BAKIRTZIS  
Duquesne's Davie Henderson (left) celebrates with Kellon Taylor (right) following Henderson's touchdown in the first half of Saturday's win over Wagner. Henderson finished the day with 35 receiving yards.

## Women's soccer secures postseason position

Duquesne's women's soccer will take on the No. 1 seeded Saint Louis Billikens in the quarterfinal round of the Atlantic 10 Championships on Saturday, Nov. 2 at 2 p.m. at Robert R. Hermann Stadium.

A 0-0 draw against Rhode Island in Duquesne's regular season finale ensured a berth into postseason play.

Saint Louis finished the regular season with a 9-0-1 record against Atlantic 10 opponents and finished 8-0-1 in all competitions on home turf.

## Upcoming Events

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

— **Nov. 1, TBD**

Women's Rowing at Head of The Occuquan

— **Nov. 1, TBD**

Men's Tennis at Cleveland State Invite

— **Nov. 1, 7 p.m.**

Men's Basketball at West Virginia [Exhibition]

— **Nov. 1, 7 p.m.**

Women's Volleyball at Fordham

— **Nov. 2, 9 a.m. / 11 a.m. / 6 p.m.**

Women's Swimming and Diving at Atlantic 10 Classic

— **Nov. 2, 10 a.m.**

Men's Cross Country at Atlantic 10 Championship

— **Nov. 2, 12 p.m.**

Football vs. Saint Francis U

— **Nov. 2, 2 p.m.**

Women's Soccer at Saint Louis (Atlantic 10 Championships)

— **Nov. 2, 6 p.m.**

Men's Soccer at Davidson

— **Nov. 2, 7 p.m.**

Women's Volleyball at Rhode Island

— **Nov. 5, 6 p.m.**

Men's Basketball vs. Princeton [PPG Paints Arena]

— **Nov. 5, TBA**

Women's Basketball vs. Kent State [PPG Paints Arena]

## NCAA Football AP Top 10 — Week 10 NCAA FCS NEC Standings — Week 10

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall	Streak	Next
1.	LSU (17)	4-0	8-0	W8	11/9 at Alabama
2.	Alabama (21)	5-0	8-0	W8	11/9 vs. LSU
3.	Ohio State (17)	5-0	8-0	W8	11/9 vs. Maryland
4.	Clemson (7)	6-0	8-0	W8	11/2 vs. Wofford
5.	Penn State	5-0	8-0	W8	11/9 at Minnesota
6.	Florida	4-1	7-1	W1	11/2 vs. Georgia
7.	Oregon	5-0	7-1	W7	11/2 at USC
8.	Georgia	3-1	6-1	W1	11/2 at Florida
9.	Utah	4-1	7-1	W4	11/2 at Washington
10.	Oklahoma	4-1	7-1	L1	11/9 vs. Iowa State

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall	Streak	Next
1.	Cen. Conn. St.	3-0	7-1	W4	11/2 at Wagner
2.	<b>Duquesne</b>	3-0	5-2	W3	11/2 vs. Saint Francis U
3.	Robert Morris	3-0	4-4	W3	11/2 vs. LIU
4.	Sacred Heart	2-2	4-4	W1	11/2 at Bryant
5.	Saint Francis U	2-2	4-4	L1	11/2 at Duquesne
6.	Wagner	1-2	1-7	L3	11/2 vs. Central Conn. St.
7.	Bryant	1-3	2-7	L2	11/2 vs. Sacred Heart
8.	LIU	0-6	0-7	L7	11/2 at Robert Morris





# Men's soccer loses home finale, fighting for playoff spot

**DOM FERRO**  
staff writer

Under the lights and pouring rain on Saturday night, the Dukes (8-7-1, 3-4) narrowly lost to the Saint Louis University Billikens (10-5, 6-1) 1-0.

It was the final home game of the season and the last time seniors Zach Hall, Robbie McKelvey, Scott Rissler and Owen Rossi would play soccer as a Duke at Rooney Field.

The game was crucial for the Dukes in securing a playoff spot in the A-10 Soccer Championship.

The Dukes are now tied for sixth place with three other teams and only one remaining game. This makes their upcoming game a must-win to make the playoffs.

With a win in Saturday's match, the Dukes would have been confident with their ranking in the A10 standings. Now they have La Salle, George Mason and George Washington right besides them at 3-4 conference records.

This year's team was looking to match a school record of home wins with 7 but they unfortunately finished just shy at 6-2-1 at home this year.

"Always when you're home, you want to put forward your best effort for your fans, friends and family. I think we've done that every time we've stepped on this field, so I'm extremely proud of the guys and how they've battled for every game we've had at

home," said head coach Chase Brooks.

Unfortunately the Dukes home field advantage didn't have much effect on the game. The inclement weather led to little fans in attendance, and not only did the constant rain affect the amount of fans, it affected the entire game.

"The ball is moving faster, everyone is tight. It adds a little feistiness to it," said Brooks.

Forward Manuel Busquets agreed. "Today was about fighting, couldn't really play the ball. Just fight, fight, fight."

It was a highly competitive and physical game. In total, 25 fouls were called during the game. One of the fouls was more costly than the rest.

In the 36th minute of the game the Billikens were awarded a penalty kick after Duquesne's Gavin Watt was called for a hand ball. Devin Boyce of Saint Louis scored in the lower left corner of the net and gave them the lead 1-0.

It was one of the two shots on goal in the game. The other goal was saved by Robbie McKelvey, the two time A-10 Defensive Player of the Week.

The penalty kick was one of the only opportunities either team had a shot to score during the game. Both defenses played strong, with only three shots on goal in the entire 90 minutes.

Tensions arose early in the second half when multiple players from both teams had a physical altercation, leading to a Billikens'

players jersey being almost completely ripped.

Players and fans were vocally upset about the delay of game after the fight. The game was delayed for several minutes for the referees to make a decision.

After the long assessment of what had happened seconds earlier, Duquesne's Nathan Dossantos was given a yellow card in the 54th minute.

From the kickoff to the final whistle the rain had poured with the same intensity. The rain fit the somber mood after the game.

The final score was 1-0. It was the twelfth time out of their 16 games the Dukes had lost by a single goal. Senior Robbie McKelvey pulled his jersey over his face in a showing of dissatisfaction with the game's outcome.

"At least we don't lose by five but it still hurts. We are always so close. But now we have to win next week to make the A10 Championship," Busquets said.

SLU came into Saturday's game sitting comfortably in second place in the A10, they have only lost to one conference rival this year. Duquesne still has never won against Saint Louis in soccer.

Saint Louis leads the overall series 11-0-1, including a 6-0 series advantage in Pittsburgh. Last season, Duquesne earned its first point against the Billikens in a 0-0 double-overtime draw in St. Louis.

"The nice thing about the sport of soccer is that anyone can beat anyone on any given day, and I don't think there's one thing. We



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS

Duquesne goalkeeper Robbie McKelvey boots a ball downfield. McKelvey finished the night with one save.

just need to do more and grow up as a program," said Brooks.

Duquesne will conclude their regular season at 7 p.m. on Saturday at Davidson to see if they can hold onto a top eight spot in the conference and make the A10 Championship tournament for the first time since the 2016 season.

## Love them or hate them, you should respect the Patriots

**JAMES LEO**  
staff writer

Regardless of how you feel about the New England Patriots, they have certainly been contenders in the NFL for the past 20 years. They have only missed the playoffs twice in that span and have won six Super Bowls under the direction of coach Bill Belichick.

However, recent reports from ESPN's Adam Schefter suggest that this dynasty may be coming to an end in the near future.

Ahead of the Patriots' recent matchup against the New York Jets, Schefter revealed his theories surrounding quarterback Tom Brady's future.

He pointed out that Brady and his trainer put their houses up for sale, and that Brady voided his contract, making him a free agent after this season. Schefter and other fellow analysts on Monday Night Countdown debated whether or not this meant Brady was going to play elsewhere or retire altogether.

Brady recently addressed the rumors, but did not do a lot to quell the suspicions. He did note that it was funny that these theories are only now being discussed, since his contract was reworked during the preseason.

If Schefter's claims are true, both options would make sense for Brady. On one hand, Brady is at a good age to retire-- he turned 42 in August. However, it would also make sense for him to pursue a change of scen-

ery; he has been on the Patriots since they drafted him in 2000. Or--the least likely option according to Schefter--Brady could continue to play for the Patriots.

Belichick's future, like Brady's, is also unsettled.

Belichick, who turned 67 in April, made clear in previous interviews his disinterest in coaching into his 70's. Recently, however, he has seemingly had a change of heart and appears more open to coaching into



AP PHOTO

New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady, left, celebrates with head coach Bill Belichick in 2014. Belichick has served as New England's head coach since 2000.

his 70's. Belichick won his 300th game as a head coach on Sunday. By reaching this mark, Belichick joins legendary coaches George Halas (324) and Don Schula (347). Belichick has been coaching in the NFL for over 40 years -- his first stint was with the Baltimore Colts in 1975 as a Special Assistant to the head coach.

While his greatest successes have been with New England, he too may want to move onto a new team or move on from the NFL altogether.

These rumors -- even if false -- allow us to pause and look back on this amazing Patriots' dynasty. Even with all of the amazing teams that have emerged over the last two decades, the Patriots have set the bar high during this time period -- finishing with a winning record every season except Brady's rookie year in 2000.

The Patriots have also consistently ranked in the top half of the league in yards per game and points per game.

Focusing on this year, the Patriots are showing that they could have arguably the best defensive unit they've ever had under Belichick.

They currently lead the league in turnover differential, opponent QBR (quarterback rating) interceptions, sacks, and touchdowns allowed, and many other categories.

As most avid NFL followers know, Belichick has experience as a defensive coordinator. He was the defensive coordinator for the New York Giants from 1985-

1990 (when their defense was considered one of the best in the league), and for the New York Jets from 1997-1999. Many have noted that this is the first year Belichick has really "coordinated" the Patriots defense. In other years, the Patriots had other coaches coordinate the defense. While it is still early in the season, the impact of Belichick's increased involvement speaks for itself.

Although many naysayers argue that the Patriots success this year may be due to a weak schedule, no one can argue that they aren't a scary opponent (see date -- pun intended). If they can stay healthy, the 2019-2020 New England Patriots can be viewed as a team with seemingly no flaws. In addition to having an impenetrable defense, they have an explosive offense and a disruptive special teams unit.

Also, they have a healthy mix of young players and veterans, many of whom have playoff experience. Simply put, odds are they will be playing in February.

Despite their past accolades (and success this season), this dynasty's legacy remains murky. Many dislike the Patriots because of their continued success, or because of the cheating allegations which may mar some of these successes.

However, no matter which side you land on, the Patriots' dynasty seems to be nearing the end of an era. A pure NFL fan should pause and admire what they have done for the NFL before the moment has passed.



## 2.5 Minute Ride a moving, funny monologue

OLLIE GRATZINGER  
editor-in-chief

The production of *2.5 Minute Ride*, written by Lisa Kron of *Fun Home* acclaim, has all of the things I enjoy in a play: queer themes, a Jewish narrative and a startling depth punctuated by brilliant acting.

Theatre professor Nancy Bach plays Kron in the one-woman show, taking the audience on a personal journey with its fair share of peaks and troughs, all based around photos from the Kron family album.

On one hand, she's retelling the heartbreaking and difficult story of the time she and her father took a trip to Auschwitz, where his parents had been murdered by Nazis 50 years prior. On the other, she's entertaining the audience with the absurd and comedic tale of her family's annual pilgrimage from Michigan to Ohio for a trip to Cedar Point. In the background of it all is the budding beauty and frustration of her brother's upcoming wedding; who is marrying a woman he met online.

Bach's delivery was wonderful. Memorizing nearly 70 minutes of monologue seems like a daunting task, but Bach did so seamlessly,

playing Kron's character with a sincerity that made the Genesius Theatre feel intimate and personal.

Kron's father, Walter, is a central character in *2.5 Minute Ride*; Kron explains that he left Germany at 15 by way of a Kindertransport train; his parents stayed behind, and though they'd write to him every week, the letters eventually stopped, and he received one from the Red Cross, instead. This letter informed him that his parents had been deported.

Returning to Auschwitz brings both the expected horror and a surprising reconciliation, as Kron is forced to confront a dark reality and the ghosts the past hangs onto.

Interspersing the comedy of the amusement park adventure not only eased tension at the most intense parts of the Holocaust narrative, but also played into Kron's idea that horror and humor can often occupy the same moment. Because most of the relatives on the trip were physically disabled, Cedar Point presented unique difficulties that Kron responded to with comedic exasperation; there was a brief monologue about eating a hamburger at 10 a.m. that was particularly hilarious.

The set was simple — a regal armchair and a side table with a



GRIFFIN SENDEK | PHOTO EDITOR

Nancy Bach is an acting instructor at Duquesne University.

glass of water, sitting neatly atop a carpet. There was a bench toward the center, which Bach sat on to act out parts of Kron's story that took place in the car.

Different colors were projected onto the set to convey different emotions, depending on which story was being told at the time. Blue shades represented the Holocaust narrative, while pink hues softened the mood for the amusement park story. The wedding narrative was cast in orange.

I was wary, at first, that more than an hour of one stage setting and one character would get boring, for lack

of a better term, but never once did I find myself hoping the play would end soon. The stories are captivating and interwoven so delicately; they capture the full range of the human experience and demonstrate the complex duality of emotion.

*2.5 Minute Ride* runs Oct. 30 through Nov. 3 at Duquesne University's Genesius Theater. Wednesday through Saturday performances begin at 8 p.m. Sunday performances begin at 2 p.m.

Ticket can be purchased for \$20 (plus \$1.99 online surcharge) through [www.duqredmasquers.com](http://www.duqredmasquers.com), or at the door of the theater.

## WEEK'S EVENTS

*2.5 Minute Ride*  
Oct. 30 - Nov. 2 @ 8 p.m.  
Nov. 3 @ 2 p.m.

Nancy Bach stars in this Lisa Kron-penned one-woman show about the main character's Holocaust-survivor father, family trips to Cedar Point and her brother's wedding.

*Nightmare on Bluff Street*  
Nov. 1 @ 8 p.m.

St. Martin's Residence Hall council will host a showing of *Hocus Pocus* in the Towers Multipurpose Room with free snacks.



## UPCOMING RELEASES

*Terminator: Dark Fate*  
Friday, Nov. 1

This installment of the long-running science fiction film series sees the return of Linda Hamilton as Sarah Connor.

*Jojo Rabbit*  
Friday, Nov. 1

Taika Waititi directs this World War II comedy, alongside an all-star supporting cast including Rebel Wilson, Stephen Merchant, Sam Rockwell and Scarlett Johansson.

## HORRORSCOPES

**Scorpio**  
(October 23 - November 21)

You may not believe in ghosts, but rest assured, they believe in you, Sagittarius.

**Sagittarius**  
(November 23 - December 22)

Jack-o-lantern? More like wack-o-lantern. I refuse to cut up a defenseless pumpkin, Capricorn.

**Capricorn**  
(December 22 - January 19)

Your professors will announce that they're having class on Friday anyway.

**Aquarius**  
(January 20 - February 18)

Gemini, for just one day this year, please, be anyone but yourself.

**Pisces**  
(February 19 - March 20)

"Skeletons! Bones! Leave them alone!"

Don't go graverobbing this Halloween!

**Aries**  
(March 21 - April 19)

Scooby-Doo, where are you?

In the sinkhole with the bus.

**Taurus**  
(April 20 - May 20)

Taurus, forgo the costume. For just one day this year, be *yourself*.

**Gemini**  
(May 21 - June 20)

Libra, there's a surprise waiting for you in the cadaver lab!

Hint — *it's cadavers*.

**Cancer**  
(June 21 - July 22)

Crud! You left your copy of *Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark* in Mrs. Brenda's math class, and it's due back at the library after lunch!

**Leo**  
(July 23 - August 22)

Candy is dandy! Haha, Leo, I can't think of a better day than today to chow down on some sweets!

**Virgo**  
(August 23 - September 22)

Virgo, Halloween's not about the candy, or the costumes. It's about scaring children who walk onto my property.

**Libra**  
(September 23 - October 22)

Libra, there's a surprise waiting for you in the cadaver lab!

Hint — *it's cadavers*.

## MICRO REVIEW

*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*

*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, Andrew Lloyd Webber's biblical themed musical spectacular, graced the Byham stage leaving audiences filled with excitement and disco-fever euphoria. This multi-genre musical performance expertly blends pop culture comedy with show-stopping dance numbers. From the top of the overture to the final curtain call, *Joseph* does not disappoint.

-Colleen Hammond



# Masterful *Mean Girls* musical adaptation comes to Pittsburgh

HANNAH BOUCHER  
staff writer

The current trend of revamping pop culture's most beloved films into musicals has selected a new target: *Mean Girls*. After enjoying more than a year of success on Broadway, *Mean Girls* is making its way around the country, with its current stop being Pittsburgh.

Fifteen years after debuting in theaters, *Mean Girls* is still just as relevant as it was in 2004. This was apparent on Tuesday when people of all ages lined up to take their seats opening night. The theater was a sea of pink, some in the audience even sporting shirts with the film's most iconic quotes on them.

Part of the reason why the musical has enjoyed such a successful run is because it stays true to its roots. While there are a few minor plot alterations, at its heart, *Mean Girls* is still *Mean Girls* — just with some catchy musical numbers added in. Fans of the film can definitely expect to hear some of their favorite lines, with some new ones still written by the comedic genius herself,

Tina Fey.

The best addition to this classic is without a doubt the music. Catchy, powerful and hilarious, the songs breathe new life into the show. As a whole, the songs move the plot along, while also showcasing the insane talent of the ensemble cast.

Something *Mean Girls* gets right is balance. Not every song is centered around having a good time. Not every song is meant to make the audience laugh. There is the perfect amount of humor in the numbers, so as to not distract from the overall plot.

The songs that stand out most in the show are Regina George's, "the queen bee." While technically, her character is portrayed as the antagonist, her powerful, no-apologies persona is oddly inspiring. While it's never encouraged to be a "mean girl," it is important to not care about what others think.

Mariah Rose Faith, the actress who plays George on tour, does a fabulous job of portraying this complex character. Faith has an incredible vocal range and a voice that sends shivers down the spine.



COURTESY OF JOAN MARCUS

The cast of *Mean Girls* from the 2018 Broadway production.

Never before has the mean girl been my favorite character in a show — until now.

The home-schooled jungle freak herself, portrayed by Danielle Wade, was even funnier in the stage adaption. Quirky and lovable, Cady Heron carries the show as she struggles to find her place in modern teenage culture. Wade's portrayal of Heron is wonderfully refreshing and entertaining. Her comedic timing is impeccable.

Another great addition to the show is the dancing. While the original film features "The Plastics" dancing in the talent show, the new adaptation includes many dance breaks. The best part of the dancing is when the performers switch from modern dancing to suddenly acting as animals. This pays homage to Heron's personal interpretation of teenage behaviors from the film.

All in all, *Mean Girls* has

managed to maintain the essence of the original film, while still updating some of its content for newer audiences. Witty, charming and nostalgic, whether or not you've seen the film should not prevent you from seeing this musical.

Until Nov. 3, this hilarious masterpiece will be at the Benedum Center. Tickets are available for purchase online or at the box office.



## Season 2 of *Castle Rock* off to chilling start

NEIL RUNGE  
staff writer

Good news for the spooky season — *Castle Rock*, based on the works of Stephen King, has returned. The first season premiered on Hulu last year, and this past Wednesday, the horror anthology is back with the first three episodes of its second season that bring famous stories to the screen with an all new plot.

The concept for *Castle Rock* is that each season will follow a central character from a piece of King's body of work, then connect the main character with other characters and settings featured in various works through an original plot. This season follows Annie Wilkes before her time in the novel *Misery*. Other major players in these first few episodes are Pop Merrill from the novella *The Sun Dog* and his son, Ace, from the novella *The Body* better known for its movie adaptation *Stand By Me*.

The casting choices for this show were spot on. Lizzy Caplan takes on the role of Annie Wilkes and gives a phenomenal performance that fills the shoes that Kathy Bates put out after the movie adaptation. Annie is a terrifying woman, and though she keeps a



COURTESY OF HULU

Lizzy Caplan stars as a young Annie Wilkes, the character made famous in the Stephen King story *Misery*.

helpful and cheery disposition, Caplan manages to capture that eerie happiness beautifully.

Following the tradition of bringing King adaptation alums, set by the first season with *Carrie*'s Sissy Spacek, Tim Robbins returns to the world of King by playing Pop Merrill. Robbins is known for his role as Andy Dufrane in *The Shawshank Redemption*. Robbins' character Pop is far different from Andy. Pop is a known criminal and a father that's determined

to handle his kids in his own strict way. The skills displayed by Robbins show that he's still perfect for a King work.

Creators Sam Shaw and Dustin Thomason continue to impress and excite viewers with their incredible talent for being able to give *Castle Rock* a classic King atmosphere without the show having to be a direct adaptation of his stories. Shaw and Thomason, with help from executive producer J.J. Abrams, have surpassed the

expectations for the horror genre.

The show goes beyond cheap jump scares and pure gore. *Castle Rock* has the ability to cause fear and let it grow until the viewers are at the edge of their seat, hiding behind their hands. From the music to the camera angles, everything is there to build the tension and drive home the idea that something just isn't right about this town or the people who live in it.

The horror in the show is built

by surrounding ordinary moments with scenes of terror. Using the same song in a road trip montage and a scene of someone disposing of a body adds an air of fear to the whole episode, because the audience now knows what that character is capable of doing. The familiarity of the characters also adds to the horror. Although the plot being told is new, the characters are ones that many fans of *Castle Rock* have grown up knowing.

When King fans open the first episode on Hulu, they're anticipating Annie Wilkes to constantly be a few steps away from murder. By the time the opening finishes, the viewers have already done a majority of the work on building the feeling of tension and suspense. The rest of the build up is handled by Shaw and Thomason, who take the preconceived notions of the audience and expand upon them.

The rest of the season should be a terrifying journey to go on. As the connections between Annie and the other characters are further fleshed out each Wednesday. It'll be exciting to see what twists and turns the writers throw into this new season.



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## THIS WEEK'S WEATHER



Thursday

67°



Heavy rain and a t-storm

Friday

46°



Clouds breaking and cooler

Saturday

51°



Times of clouds and sun

Sunday

45°



Chilly with clouds and sun

Monday

56°



Partly sunny

Tuesday

54°



A couple showers possible

Wednesday

53°



Rain and drizzle possible

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**Answer:**  
How many Pumpkins did you count? **13**

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## For Hire

### Layout Editor *The Duquesne Duke*

The Duke is currently looking for a new Layout Editor starting in the Spring 2019 semester. This is a **paid position** that is open to any full-time Duquesne student, but candidates with graphic design and layout experience are preferred. For those looking to apply, resumes and cover letters should be sent to **dukeads@yahoo.com** by Nov 30.

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