



NAACP: Black Lives Matter is not a trend

Registered sex offender harasses students

ELIZABETH SHARP

staff writer

During the second week of classes, registered sex offender Jonathan Caito caused a disruption among Duquesne students as he approached multiple female students near an off-campus residence

Caito had been staked out near the City View Apartments along Washington Pl. when he encountered students. He targeted multiple people and asked them for personal information, as well as following them up and down this street.

Caito has never worked, studied or taught at Duquesne.

Duquesne senior and City View resident Heather Umbel had a run-in with Caito on Sunday, Aug. 30 as she was leaving the building. She encountered him near PPG Paints Arena around 1:30 p.m. on her way to meet a friend near Duquesne's campus.

Umbel detailed the exact situation before Caito approached her.

"He was talking to a couple walking up the hill and then seemed to notice me walking and left them," Umbel said.

She explained that he was asking seemingly normal questions and making small talk, such as asking for the time. Despite not knowing Umbel, Caito continued to follow her the entire way down the hill.

Umbel noted that he "kept his distance" but also felt that "there was really no escape" while Caito was walking in her general vicinity. He then went on to insist that Umbel take his email address and asked her if she had been on any dates recently.

Caito also mentioned how he wanted to get coffee with her even though he had just approached her on the street, and the two did not know each other.

Umbel noted that he went on to say, "I do not like coffee but I'll get coffee with you, and don't worry, I am not going to touch you." Umbel was then able to leave.

see CITY VIEW — page 2



COLLEEN HAMMOND

news editor

In an attempt to bridge the racial divide from a social distance, Duquesne's chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) held an open discussion on the Black Lives Matter Movement in person and over Zoom Wednesday evening.

The two-hour discussion, which was open to students and faculty of all races, attempted to create a safe space for a cross-section of campus to discuss the recent social change surrounding the Black Lives Matter movement and its effects on Duquesne's Black community.

Since the death of George Floyd in late May, protests have erupted across the country — and social media— demanding racial justice in all aspects of American life.

The NAACP leaders began the group discussion by posing the question to the group "Is Black Lives Matter a trend?"

Over the summer, social media trends, such as posting a solid black tile or using the hashtag "BLM" soared in popularity, but many in the group found this deeply ineffective and even angering.

"Your heart's in the right place, but it's not enough," said Makeem White, a supporter of the Black Lives Matter Movement and member of the NAACP.

White and his peers expressed their concern that these posts and social media crazes turn this civil and political movement into a fleeting trend.

"I feel like for a lot of people, it's just performative," said Angel Williamson-Wheat, a member of the NAACP.

As an organization that is looking to impact social change on campus, several members reiterated the importance of engaging in civic discourse and activism outside of social media.

"If you're doing it in private, more power to you," said Roman Ramsey, a member of the Black



COLLEEN HAMMOND / NEWS EDITOR

Students and staff participated in an open discussion on the Black Lives Matter movement on the sixth floor of the Student Union on Wednesday evening.

Student Union and the NAACP.

For Ramsey and his peers, the best way to exercise true allyship is through persistent self-education and avid reading.

"The internet is bountiful with history," Ramsey said.

Ramsey advocated for delving into America's history and present, no matter how dark and uncomfortable.

The discussion also featured a variety of topics ranging from reparations, affirmative action, police brutality, corporate support of Black Lives Matter and support of the LGBTQ+ community within the Black community.

"All we want is to be treated equally," said Darian Reynolds, president of the Black Student Union.

Ramsey further described the backsliding of civil rights movements as an "Alice in Wonderland circle" where the same struggles are seen over and over with problems growing and shrinking repeatedly.

For the first hour of the event, the discussion remained productive with multiple students in-person and over Zoom sharing their ideas to improve the Black Lives Matter movement.

However, halfway through the event, the discussion took a turn as the president of the college Repub-

licans, Alec Skomo redirected the conversation to his opposition for the Black Lives Matter movement.

"My side is that I don't support Black Lives Matter," Skomo said

When Skomo was asked if he thinks Black people are oppressed in the U.S., he responded with a flat "no."

Skomo further went on to state that the Three Fifths Compromise of 1787 was not racist or racially motivated, that the Black Lives Matter movement would be the "detriment" of the Black community and that Black students have an easier time getting accepted to Duquesne because of affirmative action.

In the closing statement of the meeting, Reynolds also mentioned that this was not the first time Skomo had voiced similar views.

In a recent Zoom meeting held for all campus organization presidents, Skomo asked Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Anthony Kane, why white students were denied entry to an all-Black mental health support group. Although the group was designed to provide Black students with a safe place to share their experiences and struggles with racial injustice, Skomo felt white students should also be allowed to the event.

He went so far to state that denial of white students to the event was contradictory to the office's mission of diversity and inclusion.

Skomo's comments left many in the group noticeably uncomfortable with one student getting up and walking out of the room for a short time.

Although he had visibly upset several of the students present with his remarks, Skomo did not apologize and instead criticized the event. He also stated that had he known it was an NAACP event, he would not have attended at all.

Despite Skomo's comments to the group, the NAACP allowed him to speak freely and calmly addressed his points and questions. Several group members even said they were glad Skomo showed up to the meeting, hoping his views would change through this experience.

Skomo said to the group that his views had not changed nor evolved from attending the meeting.

The NAACP hopes to hold more events like this in the future to further educate and dialogue with the campus community on issues of race and diversity, including those who do not share their same social and political views.

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opinions

Money and Elections

the large influence of money on the election proves no surprise

PAGE 4

features

Deeper love by the second

Duquesne watchmakers share love for craft and each other

PAGE 6

sports

DU FB lands top transfers

football team snags commitments from three FBS transfers

PAGE 8

a & e

PGH mourns Mac Miller

Anniversary of musician's death sparks mental health conversation

PAGE 10

POLICE BRIEFS

It was a quiet week on campus...good thing you can't commit crimes over Zoom. Wait – don't get any ideas...

On Sept. 1, police responded to a male and female arguing on Watson Street behind the Koren Building. A defiant trespass warning was issued to both.

On Sept. 5, while responding to a call regarding people on McCloskey Field not social distancing, Duquesne police officers observed two males consuming alcoholic beverages in the bushes at the rear of the track. The males were identified and will be referred to the office of student conduct.

JOKE CORNER

WE HAVE A HALF DAY OF SCHOOL THIS MORNING. THE OTHER HALF IS IN THE AFTERNOON.

WHAT KIND OF TEA IS THE HARDEST? REALITY.

WHAT DO YOU CALL A BEAR WITH NO TEETH? A GUMMY BEAR.

WHAT DID THE PIRATE SAY ON HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY? AYE MATEY!

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 Colleen Hammond at hammondc@duq.edu

Sex offender approaches female students

from CITY VIEW — page 1

She later found out that he was a registered sex offender through an email from Duquesne Public Safety.

Because of her interaction with Caito, Umbel found herself driving to work on campus instead of walking and happened to see him again along the same street from the safety of her vehicle.

Umbel noted that there have been no significant changes in Duquesne Police presence around the apartment complex, but she feels that "they are taking the situation seriously" and knows "they have contacted him to warn him against bothering other students."

There have been other students in addition to Umbel who have been harassed by Caito but are choosing not to speak out for their own safety.

"I am worried about future encounters, but I am really glad the Duquesne Police are really looking into this," Umbel said.

In the schoolwide email sent on Sept. 1, Assistant Chief Michael Sippey explained this is not the first incident involving Caito.

"In November 2019, Caito approached a female student on campus, where he again asked for personal information and began to touch her, including on her thigh, without consent," the email stated.

"He is a Megan's Law sex offender, having been convicted of Indecent Assault on 01/09/2017 and is required to register as a sex offender for 15 years," the email continued. Megan's Law requires law enforcement authorities to make informa-

tion available to the public regarding sex offenders.

For these reasons, Caito was banned from Duquesne's campus back in 2016 and has since been banned from the campus permanently.

Sippey also included safety tips in the email including the following to be used if encountering a similar situation.

The following was provided in regards to what to do if encountering Caito on campus: "DUPD will provide a safety escort at any time on the campus property. Dial 412-396-6002 to request an escort," Sippey said. "Place the emergency contact for the police into your cellphone — DUPD 412-396-2677 while on campus, and 911 while in the surrounding Pittsburgh neighborhoods. Never hesitate to call DUPD."



John Caito has been approaching female students near an off-campus residence. If seen on or near campus engaging with students, please call Duquesne Police immediately.



Duquesne Police can be reached by calling (412) 396-2667.

Weekly COVID-19 Data

The data below is provided by Duquesne Health Services and is updated daily. Students are advised to seek medical treatment from Health Services if they begin to experience symptoms of COVID-19.

Date	New Confirmed Cases*	New Suspected Cases**	Currently Isolated on Campus	Currently Isolated at Home	Currently Quarantined in Hotel	Currently Quarantined at Home
9/08/2020	0	2	3	1	9	16

*Laboratory confirmed test using either Abbott ID test or Quest PCR Nasal Swab test

**Based on CDC Clinical & Epidemiological Criteria

Total number of confirmed cases cumulative over time: 6
Total number of suspected cases cumulative over time: 13
Total number of students isolated on campus over time: 5
Total number of students quarantined on campus over time: 19
All students who are undergoing isolation or quarantine must receive a letter of clearance from Duquesne University Health

More information on COVID-19 prevention and treatment can be found at duq.edu/covid or at cdc.gov.

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Visit us at the newsroom in 113 College Hall or email us at steplerk@duq.edu



Contact Carissa Haslam at dukeads@yahoo.com

New resources for students struggling with mental health

KELLEN STEPLER
editor-in-chief

In a time where physical, social distancing is a must — where hybrid classes, bans on off-campus gatherings and the option to take classes virtually are the new normal on the Bluff — mental health challenges at Duquesne have made this year different than ever before.

Recent research from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention noted that one in four people aged 18-24 seriously contemplated suicide in June, in a study highlighting mental health, substance use and suicidal ideation during the pandemic.

So, Duquesne, like colleges nationwide, is tasked with bracing mental health challenges along with meeting the social, emotional and mental health needs of students and staff.

Ian Edwards, assistant vice president for student wellbeing and director of counseling services at Duquesne, said that counseling services is delivering mental health services primarily through Zoom, utilizing a version of the program that is HIPAA-protected. Counselors can see students face-to-face when needed, as the Center for Student Wellbeing has been completely re-configured in accordance with CDC guidelines.

"Counseling services has developed a protocol for connecting with students who have been quarantined due to contact with COVID-19 and for

those who are self-isolating due to a positive or suspected COVID-19 diagnosis," Edwards said.

Virtual support groups — Meditation Practice for Challenging Times, The Village, Coniunctio, International Student Support Group Meeting and Support Group for Duquesne Students during these difficult times — are other outlets students can discuss issues.

Additionally, the Center for Student Wellbeing is developing a support group for LGBTQ+ students that will soon be available.

Student clubs like Active Minds, the Wellbeing Club and the Student Health Advisory Council will be working to offer weekly meetings for interested students as well as University community peer education workshops.

"The Center for Student Wellbeing also will offer regular virtual outreach events, featuring psychoeducational workshops on topics such as stress management, mindfulness and more," Edwards said. "The Center is also open to requests from groups of students who desire a workshop on a particular topic."

Protests and racial disparities in this country have also been impacting students and their mental health. Quincy Stephenson, the assistant director and outreach coordinator for counseling services and facilitator of The Village, said that in reference to mental health, racial inequality has

increased racial tension for many students at Duquesne.

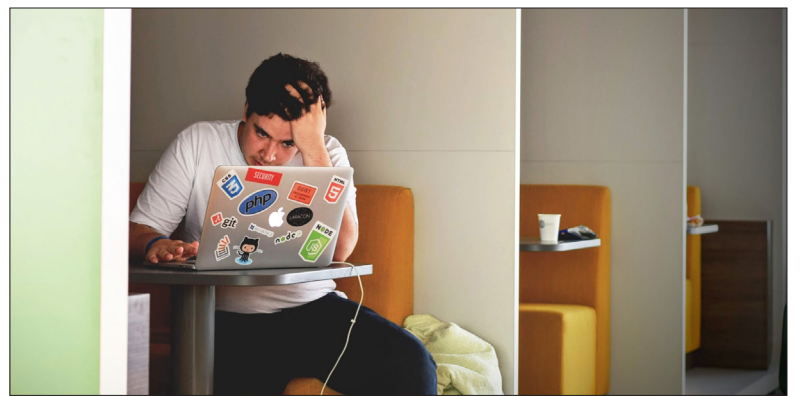
"Constant exposure to racial inequality occurring in 2020 has continued to present many students of color with increased racial stress," Stephenson said. "Students have voiced anger and confusion concerning why racial injustice continues to happen over and over again. Many students are searching for opportunities to support and provide meaningful change."

Adam Wasilko, assistant vice president of student involvement, said that resident assistants and community assistants have been encouraged to do virtual programs so that students in isolation and quarantine can participate.

Wasilko also said that outdoor spaces are being utilized while maintaining social distancing so that larger groups can participate in some programs. Virtual TikTok dance tutorials, in-person and virtual paint nights and a pick-up pizza lottery are some programs that the Office of Residence Life has shifted to be safe and socially distant.

"The Duquesne Program Council has small grab-and-go events in the NiteSpot and prolonged programs outside on the weekends," Wasilko said. "Freshman Development is hosting weekend online virtual events in which students can participate from any location."

In a year like no other, Edwards



Students grappling with mental health struggles can seek out virtual and in-person resources at the Counseling and Wellbeing Center.

said that a student wellbeing team was formed in April to address student concerns and issues, in response to the growing need to assist students in the wake of COVID-19. Duquesne has also created an emergency student assistance fund to help students dealing with the economic impact of COVID-19 and an interdepartmental solidarity group composed of students, staff and faculty was also developed to promote solidarity on Duquesne's campus.

"Living during a global pandemic and time of social unrest can present you with many challenges," Edwards said. "However, we believe that the vast majority of these challenges can also serve as opportunities for increased psychological and spiritual growth, as well as growth as a human community."

Edwards compared Generation Z

to the World War II generation. As the World War II generation was considered by many to be the "greatest generation," today's students are presented with an "opportunity to rise to the occasion."

"Defy the doubters who might call you 'selfish' by becoming part of new ways of being and living that actively promote wellbeing for all and dedicate yourselves to the ongoing evolution of human consciousness," Edwards said. "With each person you encounter, be a vehicle through which love, wisdom, and compassion is expressed."

Students can call the Center for Student Wellbeing at 412-396-6204 or visit their website at www.duq.edu/counseling for more information on support services available on campus.

Never forgetting what an entire generation can't remember

COLLEEN HAMMOND
news editor

In the aftermath of the horrific attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, the American people made a solemn promise to "never forget." Now, 19 years later, the problem is not necessarily forgetting, but never remembering 9/11 altogether.

For the first time since the attacks, nearly every college student and recent graduate is too young to remember the event or were not born until after.

This has presented a new wave of challenges for recent Duquesne graduate Mikayla Gilmer as she begins her first year of teaching at Musselman High School in West Virginia.

Gilmer, who was four years old at the time of the attacks, has no memories of the event. She learned about 9/11 through a combination of documentaries, photos, social studies class and, most of all, first person narration.

"I remember teachers telling their personal stories," Gilmer said.

Gilmer now faces a world where she, as a teacher, cannot educate her students the same way.

Andrew Simpson, a professor of contemporary American history at Duquesne stated first-hand narration and personal stories "show that there was an impact of the event beyond the people there."

Growing up, Gilmer recalled speaking about 9/11 annually in



COURTESY OF CNN

Firefighters raise the American flag at Ground Zero on Sept. 11, 2001.

several classes and learned more factual details about the event as she reached middle school.

Now, as a high school English teacher, Gilmer admitted that she had not even thought about teaching or speaking about 9/11 with her students until this week. She said there are "so many huge events" happening in the world that it is easy to overlook the tragedy of the past — especially when she has no memory of it.

"It's almost like we're leaving 9/11 to history," Gilmer said.

Given the new social context of COVID-19 and an ever-changing set of circumstances, Gilmer struggled to push 9/11 commemoration to the forefront of her teaching this week.

"Kids are already learning so much new stuff and all the new COVID-19 procedures. They're dealing with enough right now,"

Gilmer said.

Since the attacks, many American news agencies and commentators have used 9/11 as a benchmark for how serious a situation is. Under the new guise of the pandemic, Gilmer thinks this could potentially change.

"I think it's a new perspective for social studies teachers," Gilmer said.

In addition, Simpson mentioned the slow evolution of how history is presented, taught, studied and perceived as different age groups and distinct generations receive it.

"History gets reassessed by future generations," Simpson said.

Although neither Gilmer nor Simpson foresee 9/11 being ignored by educators of the future, they both noted how moving forward, new generations will likely perceive the event differently based

on their own life experiences.

"Every generation has a traumatic event that shapes who they are," Simpson said.

While there may not be wide consensus about what event that is in each generation, it is clear to Gilmer and Simpson that Generation Z has lived through a significant number of these events already.

"I fear that our generation is becoming desensitized to traumatic events given how often we experience them," Gilmer said.

Despite the fears of desensitization, Simpson has hope for students to gain perspective on 9/11 through first hand accounts and recorded images from the event.

"We live in a time and place where people have tremendous

access to primary sources," Simpson said.

With the advent of the internet in the post 9/11 world, nearly every classroom has the opportunity to access primary sources when teaching about the attacks. Simpson stated these accounts will become incredibly important as fewer teachers have their own personal memories of the event.

However, Simpson is certain of one thing.

"There's still going to be a long memory of the event," Simpson said.

Flags will be placed along the lawn outside college Hall to remember those who died on 9/11 from Sept.



COURTESY OF NEWSWEEK

The American flag graces the NYC skyline and the New World Trade Center.

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“You must not only have competitive-ness but ability, regardless of the circumstances you face, to never quit.”

ABBY WAMBACH

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OPINIONS



Comic By Kelsey Burtner

Don't act surprised by the influence of money in politics

As Joe Biden and Donald Trump begin the final stretch of the 2020 presidential election, every American is quite familiar with the countless political ads appearing while scrolling through Facebook, watching the NBA Playoffs or even listening to a local radio station.

These commercials and promotions are forms of campaign advertising; which is, broadly speaking, the use of media to convey political messages with the purpose of influencing voters and ultimately gaining more votes.

In recent years, it has become evident that an effective advertising strategy – coupled with the latest technology – holds the power to dictate an election as candidates with the superior approach can more quickly circulate their messages to larger target audiences, while simultaneously building name recognition among voters.

Developing genuine connections with supporters, communicating with voters virtually through social media and utilizing data analytics to create personalized advertisements are a few of the advantages gained from carefully constructed ad campaigns.

As a result, candidates implementing comprehensive and advanced campaign advertising – no matter how unfit and incapable of representing the nation – maintain a greater likelihood of defeating those who dedicate more time toward traditional methods of campaigning.

For example, an incredibly

unqualified New Yorker can win a presidential election by convincing hundreds of thousands to throw on MAGA hats and pledge unmovable support.

Alternatively, a former Vice President – who most believe to have limited mental capacity – can sit comfortably at the top of the polls with 53 days remaining until November 3rd.



NOAH WILBUR
opinions editor

What originated as door-to-door canvassing in towns across America, has evolved into a relentless battle between two opposing forces exchanging “punches” via tweets and Facebook posts, while unconsciously spending millions of dollars on ads to achieve a competitive advantage.

The sheer magnitude of funds exhausted while campaigning for any office is an excellent indicator of the critical role that advertising plays in winning an election. In fact, a recent forecast by WPP plc discovered that political ad spending will reach \$9.9 billion in the 2020 election cycle – a new record for the history books.

In the current presidential election alone, spending on digital advertising is predicted to surpass \$1 billion – another record amount.

With the unprecedented surge of campaign expenditures in the past two decades, an observable trend has taken shape: the majority of better-financed candidates have historically emerged victorious.

This trend is unsurprising as it can be inferred that the candidates with more available funds are certainly spending more on campaign advertising and, as a result, gaining a competitive edge.

The main point I am alluding to is that money significantly influences the outcome of congressional, presidential, and even local elections in today's society.

However, in my opinion, the enormous amount of monetary resources depleted from campaign advertising is not necessarily disgraceful; on the contrary, I believe this approach to be the most powerful for constructively engaging with a wide range of voters, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nevertheless, this is only the case if candidates refrain from sharing erroneous and deceitful political propaganda with the sole purpose of degrading their opponent and poaching his or her supporters.

With both Joe Biden and Donald Trump recently intensifying efforts to acquire more funding, we can reasonably predict the next president of the U.S. to be the candidate that outspends the other.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Stars and Stripes: A symbol of unity for Americans

Even as a nation that has adopted the value of freedom as foundational to its identity, threats toward the freedom of the U.S. press have been consistent and increasing in the past four years. The most recent victim: *Stars and Stripes*, the military newspaper that has served soldiers overseas for over a century.

Last week, multiple national news outlets released reports that the Pentagon's 2021 budget – approved by President Trump and released in February – did not include funding for *Stars and Stripes*. Under these cuts, the paper would have ceased publication as soon as Sept. 30. On Sept. 2, a bipartisan group of 15 senators wrote a letter to the Defense Department in support of the paper, calling it to continue funding *Stars and Stripes*.

On Sept. 4, hours after the widespread media coverage began, Trump tweeted his plans to reverse the budget cuts, claiming that “It will continue to be a wonderful source of information to our Great Military!”

Trump's plans to continue funding *Stars and Stripes* do not negate the threats journalism has faced throughout his presidency. The nation's ranking in the World Press Freedom Index has consistently decreased since 2016, marking the land of the free as the 45th freest country for the press. The denial of access for journalists for press engagement with the White House and Trump's numerous declarations of “fake news” have hindered journalists' access to accurate and truthful information.

Until now, the fight for freedom of the press has been mostly assumed by Democrats, with conservative news agencies like Fox News supporting Trump by actively furthering his agenda to eliminate “fake news.” But *Stars and Stripes*' identity as a newspaper for American soldiers garners bipartisan support: for the American press and the American military.

Stars and Stripes has acted as a lifeline for American soldiers since the Civil War. Soldiers in Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan, France and all over the world have relied on the information, comfort and editorial freedom the paper has always offered. Despite its funding from the U.S. government, *Stars and Stripes* gives soldiers a platform to freely comment on and challenge higher-ups or the military as a whole. Without it, overseas soldiers would have little-to-no reliable access to news from home.

There aren't many values that our majority two-party nation agrees on, yet *Stars and Stripes* symbolizes a union the United States lacks – and needs. The paper represents both Democratic support of the press and Republican support of the military, and acts as an image of unity of the two biggest parties in our country.

The passionate loyalty of both Republicans and Democrats to *Stars and Stripes* provides a glimmer of hope for the future of this split nation. The paper simultaneously represents values shared by both parties and the fact that by setting aside our differences and passionately pursuing justice, our nation can accomplish more united than divided.

OPINIONS

Conservative media's desperation in the twilight of Trump

ALEXANDER WOLFE
staff columnist

If like me, you experience the blessed curse of Apple News-enabled CNN push notifications, you may have heard about a recent scandal involving comments President Trump made regarding American service members.

An unexpectedly candid article in *The Atlantic* titled, "Trump: Americans Who Died in War Are 'Losers' and 'Suckers,'" has sparked a brush fire on Capitol Hill and media newsrooms.

Trump's disdain for service members, veterans, and their families who refuse to kowtow to the Republican party platform was well-documented long before this recent release, but the media's reaction to the piece and the White House's reaction to the media have been slightly at odds with the typical hysterics of the mainstream news.

That difference in how the president treats service members is quite apparent.

John McCain wasn't a war hero because he was captured, and Khzir Khan's son wasn't a war hero because his father said mean things at the Democratic National Convention, but Sean Parnell's unparalleled service is upheld as the pinnacle of patriotism — you get the gist of how these things go in a world where your opinions on anything lead to people attacking your politics.

What's notable in our current news cycle is the lengths to which conservative media, specifically Fox News, must go to protect the president. Breitbart, the Blaze and the Daily Wire have made

a cottage industry out of commenting on the work of real journalists, but Fox News remains the one overtly conservative news organization that employs an extensive network of correspondents to cover any news that might appear in our hellish 24-hour news cycle.

Fox News's longtime national security correspondent Jennifer Griffin confirmed large portions of this story, including comments Trump made while visiting the Vietnam Memorial with former Chief of Staff John Kelly, while *The Washington Post* confirmed the remainder of the details provided by the unnamed sources in *The Atlantic*.

This should be the way to combat fake news: an organization internally confirming reports to be true or false before commenting on their veracity. However, that day on Fox News, commentator Greg Gutfeld contradicted her reporting by calling the news "a hoax," and President Trump demanded Griffin be fired over her reporting.

This isn't a question of press freedom; rather, it's a question of addressing the backward reality in today's media, specifically conservative media. What does it say about Fox News that the organization felt compelled to air segments contradicting one another?

I believe this instance highlights the desperate measures Fox News will take to defend its own reality. In a world where negative media coverage of the president is fake, negative coverage from within your own network must be fake as well. If the viewer begins to question



COURTESY OF FOX NEWS

Trump's recent comments regarding fallen soldiers have sparked outrage.

the veracity of this story, the veracity of other "fake" stories may too be up for debate. Soon, the viewer's entire worldview is unraveling, and more importantly, they stop tuning in.

This is the dilemma currently facing mainstream conservative media.

Fringe outlets will always have an audience online, but conservative news hoping to generate widespread viewership is increasingly faced with a choice between reporting the truth and reinforcing its echo chamber.

Many Fox News viewers trust Griffin's reporting and Gutfeld's commentary, so how does the network synthesize the conflict without destroying its credibility?

I see two resolutions to this question,

one for each side of the story. The simple answer is to reaffirm Griffin's reporting, retracting the comments of any commentators that argue otherwise, and begin the long, painful process of returning to a world where its coverage is still conservative, but rooted in the same verifiable information as other news networks.

The more likely — and more concerning — answer is that Fox News will progress past the need for truth. Traditional reporters will be pushed from the network, and Fox News will become entrenched as a home for conservative commentary, spinning its own stories and nestling beside other fringe networks peddling conspiracies and falsehoods.

Differences in opinion do not justify offensive behavior

CHARLES VOGEL
staff columnist

As has been said countless times in the past few months, right now is a very difficult time in the U.S., politically, socially and so on. There are many negative things happening; however, this is something that seems to happen every year, months before a presidential election.

People often say negative things about others who have opposing beliefs. This is absolutely not right. We need to stop despising people who think differently or are voting for a different candidate than us.

It's more than fair to disagree with them of course, but to demonize them is simply unfair. This happens in various ways: viewing Muslims as bad people because of what religion they practice, viewing conservatives as evil racists and viewing liberals as brainwashed snowflakes.

Thinking this way leads to more issues; but mainly, it leads to hate and resentment. We have no idea why people choose to believe what they believe since we have never walked around in

their shoes.

All that truly matters is if a person is good or not. If a person is good and treats people well, then it should not matter. Whether someone is a Democrat or Republican shouldn't matter. We don't know why they chose to become either one, and frankly, it's none of our business. If we begin to treat each other as equals, everything will become much better.

I was always told that negativity attracts more negativity. However, if you say and do positive things, it will lead to more positivity.

If you really dislike Joe Biden or his supporters, and you walk by someone wearing a Biden t-shirt, don't frown or say, "Wow, how could they?" Just smile and go on with your life.

The same applies for the other side: If you hate Trump and see someone wearing a Make America Great Again hat, don't call them a monster or give them dirty looks; smile and go on with your day.

Doing the opposite and being unkind to those people will just make others dislike you and create greater



COURTESY OF TRAVELPULSE

Responding to disagreement with negative comments only instigates further dispute.

problems in the long run. Although, if you treat them with respect, I bet they will be respectful as well.

If you have a friend who has opposing political beliefs, instead of ending a friendship, simply don't talk about politics. There is so much more to life than Rs and Ds, and there are many things you may have in common with people who dif-

fer politically than you.

If you say you hate Trump supporters or Biden supporters, I bet you have something in common with the people you say you despise. How boring would it be if we all thought the same way? That's what makes this world great. Don't hate, because that just leads to more hatred and problems. Instead, just smile and go on.

Duquesne seniors falling in love one second at a time

GRIFFIN SENDEK
multimedia editor

It's said when you meet the one you love, time comes to a stop. However, for Jacob Schwab and Olivia Babyok, it's the passage of time that brought them together.

Together, the Duquesne seniors have found an immense passion for watchmaking, and through it fell deeper in love with one another.

The story of Jacob and Olivia's growth as watchmakers follows closely to that of their relationship.

Watchmaking began as a mere fascination of Jacob's spurned by a life of tinkering. The catalyst was when he received an old broken watch of his grandfather's, an Accutron. After taking it to be fixed, he realized how interested he was in the art of watchmaking. It was then the sophomore computer science major became committed to becoming a part of the watchmaking world.

Ever since he was a child, Jacob has always held a fascination for the mechanics of how things worked, constantly ripping stuff apart just to figure out how it all fit back together.

Traditionally, the craft of watchmaking is only mastered through either an apprenticeship or attending watchmaking school. Olivia and Jacob didn't have either of those



GRIFFIN SENDEK / MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Jacob and Olivia both graduate from Duquesne in spring 2021.

luxuries, but filled with an immense curiosity for timepieces and a heart for mechanics, they did everything they could to teach themselves.

"I'm very mechanically inclined. I like how things are predictable that way — engines, cars, watches. I like to take things apart," Jacob said.

This day and age there is seemingly nothing out there YouTube can't teach — including vintage watch assembly and repairs. Though not in any way formally trained, they became apprentices of the YouTube watchmaker community.

"He was able to watch YouTube videos of someone taking apart this specific watch and then do it himself," Olivia said.

No other time in history could someone like Jacob take a mild fascination for what truly makes a watch tick, and with no formal training turn it into a passion and business.

The learning process was never something he underwent alone; from the very beginning, Olivia has been by his side.

"I didn't know anything about watches really, but I loved that he was passionate about it. And I love stories and I love history, and I was like screw it, why don't you do it," Olivia, a biology major, said.

Jacob's passion was infectious. Learning the ins and outs of watchmaking took over their time together as they spent hours combing through antique store display cases and stayed up late into the night watching YouTube tutorials. Before long, Olivia became just as obsessed with the craft as Jacob.

"It would become a normal thing that he would invite me up and we would watch some YouTube guy talk about watchmaking or a new watch

that he made that was historically significant," Olivia said.

Jacob and Olivia are a team; he focuses on the fine-tuning and mechanical assembly while she takes on the important job of cleaning and has a much better eye for picking the pieces.

Their watchmaking efforts began in a small fashion with basic tools all within the cozy comfort of Duquesne dorm rooms.

"Since I'm a scientist I had pretty good knowledge of how to do intricate work," Olivia said, "so we started with a toothpick, a Q-tip, a toothbrush, water and a little bit of alcohol wipes. I would wrap the alcohol wipe around the toothpick and would take hours to clean these watches out."

As they improved and their love for the craft grew, more and more of their time became engulfed by watches.

"We used to do it all the time. That used to be date night for us: We'd pick up a vintage watch and I'd spend two hours cleaning it and he'd spend two hours fixing it," Olivia said.

Not a single moment of that time spent together slaving over a massive collection of the minutest gears, knobs and screws ever felt wasted.

"It's always good when you love someone to watch them

be really passionate about something," Olivia said. "It's so cheesy," she said to Jacob, "but it makes me love you even more when you get excited about fixing something, or finding something."

As he would talk about the small intricacies of reassembling watches piece by piece and share tidbits of knowledge only someone immersed so far in the watch world would know, Olivia would watch him speak with a wonderful grin on her face, looking on as if just for a moment, he was the only person in the world.

It was clear that their love for the history and craft of watchmaking is intertwined with their love for each other.

Watchmaking in many ways is more than a hobby — what they do is incredibly important. In a small but crucial way, they are taking the necessary steps to help preserve history and keep the industry, which quite literally is nearing

its deathbed, alive.

"The fact of the matter is it's a dying industry. Your independent watchmakers are all overloaded with work and they're all old," Jacob said. "I feel I preserve a piece of history, a piece of art. So if I can make something live longer, instead of just throwing it away or have it be disposable, I'm all for it."

The wrist and pocket watches they operate on are time capsules of bygone eras. Unlike clothing and other personal effects that have been withered, lost and worn, watches have been able to survive throughout the year, and with a few minor tweaks from students like Jacob and Olivia, they keep on ticking to this day.

Olivia and Jacob, through their joint nerdiness for mechanics and history and incessant need to learn, have created something truly unique and seldom seen.

They will forever and always be partners in time.



GRIFFIN SENDEK / MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Some watches Olivia and Jacob work with date back to the 1800s.

Multicultural STEM Group a "safe space" for students

KATIA FAROUN
features editor

As students of a less-than-diverse field, the members of Duquesne's Multicultural STEM Group devote themselves to continuing a conversation on diversity and its essential place in the sciences.

The Multicultural STEM Group (MSG) is just what it sounds like: a club for STEM students of all backgrounds to come together, share resources and be a little bit nerdy. But more than just a professional academic club, MSG acts as a safe space for students who sometimes feel alienated within their majors, on campus or within the field of STEM as a whole.

Intent on creating a safe and accepting environment for students, the club is dedicated to welcoming all STEM students, regardless of race or ethnicity. Its mission is to create an "environment for minorities to go to in which they can find other people like them with the same interests and same relative career goals," according to Kezia Jemison, a junior biochemistry major and president of the club.

"You come together by this one common thing, but then you stay together by so many other common things," Jemison said.

The club was started by Phillip

Palmer, assistant dean of the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences, with the objective of "increasing the underrepresented population within our school." The goal was to change the culture of the Bayer School to be more inclusive and diverse, and the club aims to achieve that at an undergraduate level.

MSG recognizes that diversity is lacking in the STEM field, and their presence on a predominantly white campus allows them to foster diversity before entering the field. However, Jemison emphasized that the club isn't only for students of color, and that STEM students of all backgrounds are encouraged to join the group.

"It is a place where we respect each other's differences, but we also acknowledge them, and we build from there," Jemison said.

For Razi Santos, a senior biology major and the club's chair for peer mentoring, MSG provides more than just opportunities to further her studies. As an Asian woman from California, she has often felt out of place on campus, but her involvement in MSG encourages her to speak up about the importance of being different.

"It's important for me to realize that I can take this opportunity — that there are different communities and I need to figure out ways to educate and inform them on how to

be more welcoming to other people," Santos said.

In addition to offering a safe space for STEM students of every color and background, the club is also a way for undergraduates to volunteer, build networking and find research opportunities. During each meeting, members discuss different ways to remain active in the community and find research opportunities on and off campus. They also encourage each other to apply for summer internships and find ways to build their resumes.

In order to draw in students, MSG partners with the Bayer School of Health Sciences' peer mentoring program. The program is designed to reach out to incoming students, pair them up with a student mentor from the school and help the incoming student adjust to college life and a rigorous academic schedule. If it wasn't for the peer mentoring program, both Jemison and Santos wouldn't have joined MSG their freshman year and wouldn't have received the support they needed as STEM students.

"Being a student in STEM already is hard, but also feeling like an outsider and feeling like you don't really have anyone to back you up or support you is also really difficult," Jemison said.

The essence of the club, according to Jemison, is found in the last few minutes of its meetings, when mem-



COURTESY OF RAZI SANTOS

MSG is open to undergraduate STEM students of all different backgrounds.

bers have "critical conversations" relating to diversity in STEM and on campus. In these moments, members are able to ask about and discuss topics that they are passionate about, such as the LGBTQ+ community in STEM or implicit bias they've witnessed on campus.

"Having these kinds of discussions with our members makes us really realize that we're not going through these things alone," Jemison said. "It's not just you, it's everyone. It happens and it exists and the only way that we can move on and progress is by acknowledging it, talking about it and figuring out a way to get past it."

Next on the agenda for the club is solidifying its partnership with the peer mentoring program and

adapting its meetings and activities to be COVID-friendly. As the club faces practical and logistical changes posed by the pandemic, the purpose of the group remains the same.

"You don't really know what's happening in people's lives until they tell you, and you can't really compare those experiences either," Jemison said, "so you just have to absorb that, take it in for what it is, and reflect on how or if you can do anything to help the person, or just help prevent something like that from happening again. Again, just fostering a more positive environment for everyone. That's all anyone ever really wants."

Those interested in joining MSG can email duq.msg@gmail.com or visit the club's page on Campus Link.

For the 'Great One'; Pirates, MLB honor Roberto Clemente

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Roberto Clemente's iconic No. 21 has been a fixture in Pittsburgh for more than 60 years. Its presence has only grown since the Hall of Fame outfielder's death at age 38 on New Year's Eve 1972 in a plane crash off the coast of his native Puerto Rico.

His jersey remains one of the franchise's most popular. It adorns the right-field wall named after him at PNC Park. It's ubiquitous in the stands during Pirates home games and on post-game strolls along the Allegheny River. First-year manager Derek Shelton has even caught his neighbors rocking it while cutting the grass.

On Wednesday night, the number found itself in a place where it hasn't been for nearly a half century: on the back of a member of the Pittsburgh Pirates. All of them.

The Pirates celebrated Clemente's legacy by wearing his number during the organization's first "Roberto Clemente Day" on Wednesday against the Chicago White Sox. The number was mowed into the right-field grass a few hundred yards from where Clemente stood at Three Rivers Stadium.

"He's our Jackie Robinson," said current right fielder Gregory Polanco, who is from the Dominican Republic. "He's our idol. He's the Great One, man. He's the player we all know growing up, like, 'Hey, Clemente.' He was the man. It was outside the baseball field. That's what makes it even more, the greatest person, what he did and

the way he was helping people always."

Major League Baseball granted the Pirates permission for everyone to don No. 21 last week, then extended it to all Puerto Rican-born players. Detroit pitcher Joe Jiménez and Milwaukee hurler Alex Claudio were among the Puerto Rican major leaguers who took part in the celebration. Clemente's family and the team he represented are hoping the league will one day honor Clemente by retiring his number across all of MLB as it did for Robinson's No. 42 in 1997.

"He deserves that," Polanco said.

The Pirates made sure to extend the tribute beyond the walls of PNC Park, where the Roberto Clemente Bridge stands. The team partnered with the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank to host a drive-through food distribution early in the day. They hosted a meal and mask distribution at the Latino Community Center and bought gift subscriptions to the New Pittsburgh Courier — a newspaper focusing on the city's Black community — for local libraries.

"One of the things that we have talked about a lot is Roberto Clemente, the player, is one of the greatest players of all time," Shelton said. "Roberto Clemente, the humanitarian, was probably the greatest humanitarian in the history of our sport."

The day was also celebrated in Clemente's hometown of Carolina, Puerto

Rico, and elsewhere across the island. Pirates third base coach Joey Cora, born in Caguas, Puerto Rico, received pictures of friends from back home of Puerto Ricans wearing their own No. 21 jerseys.

"This is something when we first started, it was a really cool initiative, but the fact

that it has grown into what it has grown into, the fact that all the Puerto Ricans will be able to don his uniform today, it's pretty cool," Shelton said. "It got a lot bigger, a lot faster, than I thought, but again, it's something that I'm extremely proud to be part of."



AP PHOTO

Pittsburgh starting pitcher JT Brubaker hurls a pitch during the first inning of the Pirates' Sept. 9 game against the Chicago White Sox at PNC Park. To commemorate Roberto Clemente Day, the Pirates all wore Clemente's No. 21. Pittsburgh lost to Chicago, 8-1, dropping the team's record to 14-27 overall.

Steve Nash eager to get started on new career as Nets coach

NEW YORK (AP) — Steve Nash was a leader, a guy who loved to get the best out of his teammates on the court and build relationships with them off it.

Those qualities helped him become a Hall of Fame player.

Now he thinks they can make him a successful coach.

Nash was introduced Wednesday by the Brooklyn Nets, who picked him to guide Kevin Durant, Kyrie Irving and the rest of a team with high expectations despite him having no coaching experience.

"I love to compete. I love to teach, to lead and to be a part of a team. And so to be in a position where I can use all those things on a day-to-day basis and focus all my energy on those tenets is a perfect fit," Nash said.

"So while I hadn't necessarily publicly stated my desire to coach, privately it's always been in my mind, it's always been an opportunity that suited me. When you can't run up and down the court anymore, what can you do? What can you contribute?"

The Nets believe there is plenty. General manager Sean Marks played with Nash in Phoenix, when the Suns helped usher in an exciting era of high-scoring basketball, and knows how his fearlessness can galvanize an organization.

"Look, there's nobody that I've been around that hasn't wanted to be pressure tested on the spot quite like Steve. He's never shied away from a moment," Marks said.

"This guy has never run from anything

and he wants the ball in his hands at the end of games and his career spoke for itself. He made the right decision more times than not, so the experience that he'll bring here speaks volumes."

The two struck up a friendship off the court, talking about life outside of basketball. When Marks was looking for a coach this summer, Nash called and asked if this was the time for him to pursue it.

Marks agreed it was, citing Nash's ability to connect people and drive a culture. And Nash, having played against Durant and Irving and becoming friends with both, is eager to impart his smarts on a roster that has plenty of skills.

"They're obviously at an incredible point in the history of this organization, so I think the timing is fantastic, the opportunity is fantastic," Nash said.

The hiring was a surprise, with Nash apparently not telling many of his friends within the league of his interest in coaching. And it led to some criticism that he got a coveted opportunity at the top without having to work his way up from the bottom.

"Well, I did skip the line, frankly, but at the same time I think leading an NBA team for almost two decades is pretty unique," Nash said. "So while I haven't necessarily learned some of the skills that I'll definitely seek to understand and learn as far as the technical aspects of coaching, I was never far from that."

There were also a criticism that Black assistants with similar qualifications don't

receive the same opportunities in a league where there are only five Black head coaches. Nash agreed that he has benefited from white privilege in some aspects but not this one.

"I'm not sure that this is an example that



AP PHOTO

Steve Nash, pictured during his induction to the Basketball Hall of Fame in 2018, was named the Brooklyn Nets' new head coach on Sept. 3.

fits that conversation but I own it and I understand why it's important to talk about it and that we do need more diversity and more opportunity for African American coaches and staff in all capacities," Nash said.

Nash had worked only as a player development consultant with Golden State, but Marks wasn't looking for coaching experience. The attributes he sees in Nash go far beyond X's and O's.

"His winning past, the way he's played the game, his family values, and just the curious and creative mind that he has brought to the game over a 20-year career," Marks said, "and also maybe more importantly than anything the joy with which he played the game and the joy with which he led his teams and his teams played were deciding factors in making Steve Nash the right choice for the Brooklyn Nets."

Brooklyn reached the playoffs even while Irving played only 20 games and Durant missed the entire season while they recovered from injuries. With them back and a number of players growing from the experience they got playing without them, Nash couldn't ask for many better places to start a new career.

"I think the chemistry and culture has been well lauded. We have a roster that is very wealthy, and I mean that from a basketball standpoint," Nash said. "We have talent, versatility and good human beings. So as a coach there's so much to be thankful for when you walk in the doors here. I just can't wait to get started."

Duquesne football transfers look to make impact

BRENTARO YAMANE

staff writer

Duquesne's football team has received nothing but spectacular news as of late, recently garnering three commitments from high-profile transfer players.

Todd Summers, Rahmon Hart Jr. and Nathan Proctor Jr. each transferred to Duquesne in the past month as they look toward embarking on the next chapter of their respective careers.

Summers, a graduate student, announced his commitment to DU on Aug. 17. A 6-foot-5 tight end, Summers spent the previous four seasons at Villanova, where he redshirted his freshman year, then recorded 48 receptions for 571 yards and nine touchdowns in 33 games over the course of the past three seasons.

His statistics have steadily improved since he entered college, and he is excited to continue his development on the Bluff.

"During my time at Villanova, I started my career as a very skinny player, but I was able to gain 30 pounds of muscle and was able to have a good meal plan. My improvement in footwork, reading coverages, perfecting my route running and learning my fundamentals better is what I got better at Villanova that I can attribute to Duquesne," said Summers, a 2016 Franklin Regional graduate.

At Franklin Regional, he was courted by numerous programs, including Villanova, Kansas State, Iowa State, Robert Morris and Duquesne.

Give current Duquesne football coaches Scott Farison and Matt Stansfield a lot of credit for recruiting Summers. When Farison was a linebacker's coach at Robert Morris, he kept close tabs on Summers, who was being recruited by schools as both a tight end and a defensive end.

Little did Farison know that even though Summers would attend Villanova out of high school, he would eventually be Summers' coach five years later at Duquesne.

Summers said he's also had a good relationship with his new coach, Jerry Schmitt, since he started living on campus two weeks ago.

"He [Schmitt] has been a great coach, and even a better guy. I am excited to play on his team and I want to win an NEC championship with him," Summers said.

After earning a bachelor's degree in economics in the spring at Villanova, Summers wanted to pursue a master's degree in business administration, with Duquesne ultimately being his preferred destination. Now back on campus, Summers said he enjoys being back in his hometown and is making new relationships with his new teammates, all while making new memories during a weird time in the world.

"Being back in the city of Pittsburgh is awesome. Growing up here is really nice and being back is even better. Knowing people that also attend Duquesne is really nice to me as well," Summers said.

"Even with COVID-19 regulations and precautions, practice has been different only with 10 other players at a time, but it is still fun," he continued. "Learning a new

playbook and watching new film is what I will have to get used to as I am also enjoying working out and creating new relationships with my other teammates."

Hart, a 6-foot-3 wide receiver, decided to transfer from Ball State to Duquesne on Aug. 27. The Pittsburgh native played one game at Ball State last year as a freshman before deciding to transfer in the spring.

The Imani Christian Academy product said, while it was two largely similar processes, his recruitment was simpler the second time around.

"Transferring from one college to another at the same level is not much of an adjustment, and you know what to expect," Hart said.

When Schmitt first spoke to Hart, topics such as Duquesne's mission as a football team and campus life were discussed, those talks eventually helping Hart to make his decision to commit to the school. Hart, who's currently living on campus, had ties with Duquesne before arriving on campus.

"I'm really familiar with Duquesne because my dad used to work there and I'm from around the area," Hart said. "Right now, they have me in quarantine. The biggest adjustment is that I don't know many people on campus and it's hard to get to know people because of the virus. There are not many activities to do outside of football."

Ball State competes in the Mid-American Conference, and following the MAC's announcement that its fall sports season was being canceled, Hart decided to transfer.

Even though Duquesne will not compete

during the fall semester, it is still possible that they can compete in the spring. Knowing there's still a possibility of football this season is what's going to keep Hart working, he said.

"I think the main thing is to keep working and stay ready. Other schools are still playing during the pandemic. Hopefully, they find out a plan in terms of the season," Hart said.

Duquesne being one of the first schools to reach out to Hart helped to make him feel comfortable, and especially confident

see FOOTBALL — page 11



COURTESY OF BALL STATE ATHLETICS

Rahmon Hart Jr., pictured during his days at Ball State, recently committed to Duquesne.

Steelers LB Ryan Shazier announces retirement

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Ryan Shazier wants to make something clear. His comeback from a spinal injury suffered nearly three years ago remains very much on course.

The end, however, won't include the Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker triumphantly running out onto the Heinz Field turf wearing his No. 50 jersey while waving a Terrible Towel.

For all the progress he's made since that frightening night in Cincinnati in December 2017 — when Shazier's ever-churning legs went lifeless following a routine tackle on Bengals wide receiver Josh Malone — standing in the huddle next to good friend and "Shake and Bake" partner Vince Williams is no longer an option.

Just don't mistake the retirement Shazier announced Wednesday as succumbing to the inevitable. He's still playing the game. Just in a different way. And he can still hit. Just ask his oldest son Ryan Jr.

"He tried to run away from me and I actually tackled him as if I was playing a football game," Shazier said. "I think I tackled him a little too hard, but it was kind of funny. I thought it was kind of an achievement that I actually was able to tackle my son, even though he's not an NFL running back. I thought it was kind of cool just to be able to chase your son and be able to play with him."

The two-time Pro Bowler insists he's not angry at how things turned out. He's not upset a play that began so innocently ended up requiring him to undergo spine stabilization surgery. That procedure forced him to the physically unable to perform list in

2018 and 2019 even as his rehabilitation became an inspirational touchstone.

Less than six months removed from leaving Paul Brown Stadium in an ambulance unsure if he would walk again, Shazier strode out onto the stage at the 2018 NFL draft to announce the Steelers' first-round pick. He became a fixture at the club's practice facility. Social media posts chronicling his progress have frequently gone viral, re-



AP PHOTO

Ryan Shazier watches an NFL football practice on June 6, 2018, in Pittsburgh. On Sept. 9, Shazier announced his retirement from football, years removed from a spinal injury that occurred in Cincinnati in December 2017.

plete with the #Shalieve hashtag.

Shazier, taken with the 15th overall pick in 2014, understands his grace and grit in the midst of such a shocking setback have turned him into an icon of sorts on the merits of perseverance. It's a responsibility he will gladly shoulder heading into the next chapter of his life.

In addition to beginning an NFL-centric podcast, Shazier plans to devote more time to the Shalieve Fight Foundation, which is dedicated to assisting people with spinal cord injuries.

"I just want to continue to help out others," Shazier said. "And we are revamping some things around to be able to help people out a lot more than we have before, and I am really excited about what the future holds for that."

The Steelers placed Shazier on the reserved/retired list in March in what was essentially just a paper move. Yet as the COVID-19 pandemic ravaged the offseason schedule, Shazier and his family sat down to weigh his options. Shazier opted to move on partly out of respect to his teammates. He didn't feel comfortable having his status hanging over a locker room where his stall has been largely untouched for the past 33 months.

"My rehab is continuing to still get better but I just feel that God had another plan for me and you know, I wanted the Steelers to go into the season excited about this season," Shazier said.

He is certainly excited about moving forward with his wife Michelle and his sons

Ryan Jr. and Lyon. Shazier insists he's at peace with his decision and while he will explore opportunities outside of the organization, he didn't rule out a potential return. He's served as a coach/mentor/scout for much of the last three years. General manager Kevin Colbert left no doubt that Shazier will have a place within the organization whenever he wants it.

"You can retire from the game of football, but you're never going to retire from being a Pittsburgh Steeler," Colbert said while crashing the video teleconference.

Shazier insists his passion for the sport has not waned. He spent 20 years sprinting down the path laid out in front of him, a journey that led him to Ohio State and eventually the NFL. He's financially secure. He's healthy enough to live a normal life. It's more than he could ask for.

"At the end of the day, I feel in love with this game," he said. "Some people fall in love with people, you get mad at them, but you know, you always make up — and that's how I feel about the game of football."

That feeling that will stick with him even as he gets on with his life's work outside of the game. His legacy — both on and off the field — is secure. If anything, his goal is to make sure it grows in the years to come.

"I'm going to continue to inspire people and let them know, 'Hey, you might be in a situation you never thought you'd be in, but if you continue to work hard and continue to try to get better, you know the sky's the limit,'" he said. "So continue to push forward."

Anniversary of Mac Miller's death impacts Pittsburgh

CAPRI SCARCELLI
a&e editor

Two years have passed since beloved rap/hip-hop artist Mac Miller tragically lost his life due to accidental drug overdose. On Sept. 7, 2018, the Pittsburgh native, age 26, was found unresponsive on the floor of his studio home in Los Angeles and later pronounced dead by paramedics; wherein, just days prior, Miller was quoted saying he was “in a good place,” according to the Rolling Stone.

Miller's death has opened conversation on breaking the stigma surrounding addiction and mental illness in the music industry. Disturbing as it is, Miller passed away during National Substance Abuse Prevention Month as well as Suicide Prevention Week.

According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), there are various mental health effects alongside the physical side effects of drug misuse. These include paranoia, depression, anxiety, aggression and hallucinations, which Miller said he struggled with periodically.

“It was days after his death that I had begun to research addiction and become more knowledgeable on the topic of drug and substance abuse,” said third-year physical therapy student Kat Koralewski said. “Two years later, and I have decided to pursue a law degree post-grad school and specialize in health care advocacy. I credit Mac [Miller] for giving me the push I needed to make a difference.”

The Hollywood scene constantly glorifies drug usage, though Miller always recognized that it was an underlying factor in his life that distracted him from the pain he felt on the inside. According to Medium, Miller had



COURTESY OF ROLLING STONE

Mac Miller's death sparks conversation to be more aware of one's internal struggles.

been working diligently on his recovery with a sobriety coach since 2016, delving more into exercise and other alternatives to keep on a healthy track, focusing especially on his music.

Having primarily struggled with depression throughout his career, Miller was bravely open about his mental strife, showing his humanity in his lyrics. In his album “Swimming” (2018), Miller goes over the thoughts that plagued him most, showing themes of insecurity, inadequacy and loneliness.

In his song “Come Back to Earth,” Miller sings, “I just need a way out of my head/ I'll do anything for a way out.” The title itself is eerie to fans, being that it vaguely foreshadowed his death.

“The words ‘addiction’ and ‘disease’ should always fall in the same sentence; his death has helped prove that addiction is not merely a choice one makes, but a disease one suffers,” Koralewski said. “His death speaks to the fact that we never know someone's internal struggles, and we are in no place to judge.”

Miller expressed that he feared being a part of the “27 club,” which is the large group of famous artists who have all lost their lives to drug addiction coincidentally at the age of 27; however, Miller didn't even

make it that far.

“Things can change within seconds. Mac Miller was my favorite artist growing up, and his music tended to really resonate with me due to his style and the fact that he lived in Pittsburgh. His death, I think, shows people that even though someone looks like they are doing well, you can never really know what demons they are facing behind closed doors.” Sophomore business major Ian Smith said.

Fans of Miller have honored his legacy in art, in song and in spirit all across the city of Pittsburgh, leaving his memory everywhere they go.



COURTESY OF REDDIT

Pittsburgh keeps Mac Miller in their hearts to honor his life and all he accomplished.

In Color Park in the South Side, there are multiple graffiti tributes to Miller that honor his life in the most subtle of ways.

“His death definitely hit hard in Pittsburgh for obvious reasons, but I think it has impacted the community in a positive way. You see people coming together to celebrate his life and do better things in honor of him; it was a wakeup call to many, but it also brought a lot of people together,” Koralewski said.

As a tribute to his legacy, Miller's production team released his posthumous album “Circles” in January of this year, releasing the deluxe edition a few months later. His mixtape album, “K.I.D.S.,” celebrated its 10-year-anniversary one month ago with a deluxe release as well, which is now available on streaming platforms.

“Since his death it has honestly changed my taste in music, and I have listened to ‘Swimming’ and ‘Circles’ on repeat,” Smith said. “Check in on people, show you care, reach out.”

WEEK'S EVENTS

DPC Ice Cream Night
Sept. 11. @ 9 p.m.

Join DPC on Mellon Patio for a free, on-the-go treat! Be sure to wear your mask.

SGA Virtual Senate Meeting
Sept. 13 @ 7 p.m.

Those interested in the Student Government Association can RSVP on the SGA campus link page to receive a link for the meeting.

UPCOMING RELEASES

I Am Woman
Friday, Sept. 11th

A 2019 Australian film attributed to the life of Helen Reddy and her impact on the 70s Women's Movement, now available in the United States.

WE ARE CHAOS
Marilyn Manson
Friday, September 11th

Hard rock/metal artist Marilyn Manson debuts first new album since 2017 in hopes of “com[ing] together as much as possible.”

MICRO REVIEW

Duquesne's Wifi

With all classes either being hybrid or fully online, the amount of devices signed on all at once is starting to cause technical issues for students and staff alike.

Zoom is lagging, which means students such as myself end up a few minutes late to class while still in the comfort of their dorm room. Luckily, I set up a hotspot from my phone.

Along with this, I had to change my password for DORI twice in one week, being told that my password was incorrect although it was not. Hoping for better connection soon!

—Capri Scarcelli

Keeping Up With the Kardashians Ending After 20 Seasons on E!

(Variety)— After 20 seasons, “Keeping Up With the Kardashians” will be coming to an end with the final season airing in early 2021.

The decision to end the show was made by the Kardashian-Jenner family and announced on Tuesday.

“It is with heavy hearts that we say goodbye to ‘Keeping Up with the Kardashians,’” the famous family said in a joint statement, signed by Kris Jenner, Kourtney Kardashian, Kim Kardashian West, Khloé Kardashian, Rob Kardashian, Kendall Jenner, Kylie Jenner and Scott Disick.

“After what will be 14 years, 20 seasons, hundreds of episodes and several spin-off shows, we’ve decided as a family to end this very special journey. We are beyond grateful to all of you who’ve watched us for all of these years — through the good times, the bad times, the happiness, the tears, and the many relationships and children. We’ll forever cherish the wonderful memories and countless people we’ve met along the way.”

The family thanked E!, the production team at Bunim/Murray and Ryan Seacrest, who

has been an executive producer on the show since the beginning.

E! released an official statement to Variety, regarding the ending of the monumental show that helped define the network as a destination beyond entertainment news. Over the years, with “KUWTK” as their flagship unscripted series, E! transformed into a cabler for hit reality programming, and in more recent years, delved into scripted content, as well.

“E! has been the home and extended family to the Kardashian-Jenners for what will be 14 years, featuring the lives of this empowering family,” the network’s statement reads. “Along with all of you, we have enjoyed following the intimate moments the family so bravely shared by letting us into their daily lives. While it has been an absolute privilege and we will miss them wholeheartedly, we respect the family’s decision to live their lives without our cameras.”

“KUWTK” has been a massive hit globally for the network, which airs repeats of the franchise constantly — and pays a pretty penny for those rights. In 2017, E! inked a mega-deal with

the family for a three-year extension, taking the show through 2020, valued at nine figures. At the time, insiders told Variety that the renewal deal was worth “below \$100 million,” though other reports stated the deal was worth up to \$150 million.

The show premiered in 2007, and turned the Kardashian-Jenner family into international superstars with a multimedia empire complete with clothing lines, cosmetics companies, apps and never-ending tabloid interest in their every move. When the show debuted, Kris Jenner, now known as one of the savviest businesswomen in the industry, was known to the public as the ex-wife of O.J. Simpson attorney Robert Kardashian. Her former spouse Caitlyn Jenner also ended up starring in her own E! spinoff, “I Am Cait,” which documented her transition into a transgender woman.

When the show hit the air, the family was best known for Kardashian-West’s sex tape, which brought worldwide attention to the socialite who was previously Paris Hilton’s sidekick. Today, Kardashian-West is one of the most recognizable faces



COURTESY OF VARIETY

The Kardashian-Jenner family take their bows for fourteen years of production.

on the planet, and has taken her power to the White House with her passion for criminal justice reform. Meanwhile, Kendall and Kylie Jenner were just kids when the show first started airing, and now are two of the most powerful — and lucrative — influencers in the world.

At the time of the series’ 10-year anniversary in 2017, Kris Jenner spoke to Variety about the show’s milestones and futures. In that interview, she spoke about when the time may come to end the show, saying, “I used to just joke and say it’ll be when Kylie gets married in 20 years, and here we are 10 years later. Who thought a decade later we would still be going as

strong as we are.”

The famous family members posted about the show ending on their social media accounts, which reach hundreds of millions of fans.

Kardashian-West posted to her 188 million followers: “Without ‘Keeping Up with The Kardashians,’ I wouldn’t be where I am today. I am so incredibly grateful to everyone who has watched and supported me and my family these past 14 incredible years,” she wrote. “This show made us who we are and I will be forever in debt to everyone who played a role in shaping our careers and changing our lives forever.”

HOROSCOPES

Libra
(September 23 - October 22)

You’re feeling selfless today Libra! Huh, that’s new. Put that to good use and lend a hand (after washing, of course).

Scorpio
(October 23-November 22)

Your mind right now: buzz buzz buzz buzz buzz...

Sagittarius
(November 23-December 22)

Mom said you can’t draw on yourself, but I’m giving you permission today.

Capricorn
(December 23-January 19)

Relax, bro.

Aquarius
(January 20-February 18)

You know when you fill up your water bottle at the fountain but then it spills everywhere? Yeah, that’s you today.

Pisces
(February 19-March 20)

If Phineas and Ferb can build a rocket, fight a mummy, and climb the Eiffel Tower, why can’t you?

Aries
(March 21-April 19)

You need some spice. Like Old Bay seasoning. Give your weekend a pinch of that.

Taurus
(April 20-May 20)

Slow down oh boy oh my you’re gonna crash!

Gemini
(May 21-June 20)

Gemini, miss me miss me now you gotta —socially distance— from me!

Cancer
(June 21-July 22)

Cancer. The floor is lava.

Leo
(July 23-August 22)

Leo, stream “Love Shack” by the B-52’s for clear skin.

Virgo
(August 23-September 22)

You’re in your own little world. Hello? How’s the view?

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FBS transfers add to DU football's roster intrigue moving forward

FOOTBALL — from page 8

that the program wanted him. Other factors helped him make his decision as well.

"I like the culture at Duquesne. They were one of the first schools to reach out to me. Being close to home, and the good academic reputation is what helped me make my decision," Hart said.

With everything that Rahmon learned at Ball State, he hopes he can take some of the fundamentals that he learned at Ball State and transfer them to Duquesne to make himself an even better player.

"It was a learning experience [at Ball State] seeing how people work hard at practice and seeing how they practiced transformed into the game, and the other players working on their craft. Hopefully, I can reach my potential at Duquesne and help my team out," he said.

The other athlete to make their decision to transfer to Duquesne is defensive lineman Nathan Proctor.

Proctor played at Virginia Tech in 2017-18 before transferring to Iowa Central Community College in 2019. In the 2018 season, Proctor recorded three tackles in eight games as a Hokie.

Besides Duquesne, he also received offers from Morgan State, North Alabama and Southern Illinois while he was at Iowa Central Community College. In the 10 games that he played at the community college in 2019, he recorded five sacks and had 46 tackles.

Overall, Duquesne has three transfer students coming in who have already played at the Division I level who possess the capability of helping the Dukes win an NEC championship. Hopefully, it can be sooner rather than later when students on the Bluff can watch football games again and see how Summers, Hart and Proctor do in their first years at Duquesne.



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