



COVID-19 Testing required for all residents

COLLEEN HAMMOND

news editor

On many college campuses across the country who chose to open their doors this fall, the close-living quarters of the residence halls has allowed for the rapid spread of COVID-19, leading many to subsequently close their doors.

To prevent that scenario on Duquesne's campus, all resident students are required to receive a COVID-19 test.

"For all students living in a residence hall on the Duquesne campus, testing will be required for campus residents. Those who refuse to be tested will have to leave their campus residence," said Gabriel Welsch, vice president of marketing and communications at Duquesne.

Last week Duquesne reported 13 new cases of COVID-19, a noticeable increase from other weeks.

"Because the increase in numbers was different from the trend we had been observing, out of an abundance of caution the university is enhancing its testing, per its plan," Welsch said.

He was also quick to assure that "individual results are kept confidential and results are only reported in total numbers." Students' private, medical information and test results will be kept secure and only the numerical data of cases, as well as the distinction between "student" and "employee" will be reported to the university and necessary health officials.

The new testing requirement has been well received by students and Residence Life employees alike, but many have begun to question why this did not occur sooner.

Karli Sutton, a senior biomedical engineering student and resident assistant in Assumption noted that she feels Duquesne waited too long to test all students.

"I think you should have been tested when you got your key," Sutton said.

Sutton was not alone in her belief, as freshman and Assumption resident Zoe Ellis agreed with the sentiment.

"I think it's something they should have done before we all moved in," Ellis said.

Ellis and Sutton shared their



KATIA FAROUN / FEATURES EDITOR

The new COVID-19 testing tent is up on the Assumption Hall lawn. All resident students must be tested in the near future.

fear and apprehension of returning to in-person classes and campus life, given the risks of contracting COVID-19.

"I definitely questioned how long we would be here," Sutton said.

Despite wanting the testing to have occurred earlier, they both noted that they are pleased the university is doing it now and are pleasantly surprised with how the semester has panned out.

"I'm surprised at how well it's gone," Ellis said.

While her first semester of college has not quite gone as Ellis expected, she noted that she feels safe living in the dorms and thinks the majority of her fellow residents are abiding by the university's new COVID-19 protocols and rules.

"My residents have been very, very good," Sutton said. "I can't say the same for all residents."

This was echoed by Sutton's co-worker, fellow Assumption resident assistant, junior Steven Loebig. While Loebig stated that the majority of his residents have been abiding by the safety precautions, he noted the presence of a few "smug" residents who feel they can skirt the mask mandates while on the floor.

"The only thing I'm asking is that you wear a mask when you leave your room," Loebig said.

Loebig, who also works in a local

nursing home, has already been tested on three separate occasions since the pandemic broke out in early March. His frequent testing is a result of his work and a need to protect the residents of the nursing home. As a veteran COVID-19 test recipient, Loebig assured students that the test is not painful, only slightly uncomfortable.

"You feel it for a second, and then you're done and you're fine," Loebig said.

He noted that there is nothing to fear in the test, and that getting one is for the general health and safety of the community.

"This is a good thing the campus is doing," Loebig said.

However, many fear that these efforts are too little, too late on the part of the university.

"I think there was a false sense of confidence," Sutton said. "It's definitely here."

In September, to combat the spread of COVID-19, the university conducted "random testing" for students, staff and faculty.

"The university conducted COVID-19 tests for 724 randomly selected students and employees who are regularly physically present on campus this fall. The results of this testing are as follows: 719 tests were tested by Quest. 719 tests were negative," said a statement sent to students signed by Provost David Dausey and se-

nior vice president of student life Doug Frizzell.

Despite none of the random tests coming back positive, student fears over COVID-19 on campus have not been entirely quelled.

"Unless they got really, really lucky with the testing, it (zero positive cases) seems unlikely," Sutton said.

She also noted that six of her 25 residents have returned home for the remainder of the semester out of fear of contracting the virus.

"I can't control what they do outside the building," Loebig said. "It isn't a matter of if people get it, it's when."

The spread of COVID-19 has been a staple of discussion on campus as students, faculty and staff adapt to the new and ever-evolving rules and restrictions.

"I think any student who comes to campus should get tested," Sutton said.

While the official plans for testing commuter students have not been released yet, Welsch stated that they plan to test all students who spend time on campus.

"Plans for students living off-campus but attending in-person classes will be communicated soon," Welsch said.

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Shank receives termination letter

KELLEN STEPLER

editor-in-chief

Gary Shank, the Duquesne professor who was placed on paid leave Sept. 11 after using a racial epithet in a lecture, received a termination of employment letter Wednesday, Oct. 7 from university provost David Dausey.

In the letter, Dausey writes that he reviewed the report written by school of education dean Gretchen Generett and that, consistent to section 9.2 of the Duquesne faculty handbook, his "employment at Duquesne University is terminated for serious misconduct."

"Pursuant to Section 9.2 and Section 10 of the Faculty Handbook, you have the right to appeal this decision by filing a grievance within 30 days from the receipt of this letter with the University Grievance Committee for Faculty," Dausey wrote.

"We have 30 days to grieve the termination and certainly will do so," Shank's attorney, Warner Mariani, wrote in an email to *The Duke*.

In a Sept. 9 Zoom lecture to his Educational Psychology class, Shank used the N-word repeatedly and gave his students permission to use the word. A video clip of the lecture circulated on Twitter on Sept. 11, leading him to be placed on administrative leave.

Titled "Dismissal," section 9.2 in the Duquesne faculty handbook says that, "[F]aculty members may be dismissed and, where relevant, their tenure forfeited for reasons of serious misconduct or professional incompetence."

Serious misconduct, according to the faculty handbook, includes failures to adhere to the university's mission statement, conduct involving moral turpitude, observe university policies addressing discrimination and sexual harassment, treat colleagues, staff, students or administrators fairly, honestly and with respect

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POLICE BRIEFS

Here are the crimes reported from Sept. 28 to Oct. 5.

On Oct. 1, a resident student wished to report harassment via social media by non-affiliates.

On Oct. 3, a vehicle parked on the Forbes. Ave surface lot had a broken rear driver's side window.

Crime Alert

In light of a recent series of vehicle break-ins on campus, Duquesne's department of public safety sent a mass email to all students Oct. 6 on tips to deter further break-ins.

-Remove everything of value from your car, including change in your console.

- Park in well-lit areas.

-Lock the doors in your vehicle at all times.

-If you see something suspicious, call DuPo (412) 396-2677 or 9-1-1 immediately. Provide your location, a description of the perpetrator and a description of what you observed.

In the email, Public Safety wrote that "Duquesne University Police and Security Officers will continue to vigorously patrol to deter further break-ins and to identify the perpetrators."



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EMAIL TIPS

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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 hammond@c@duq.edu

Duquesne requires all resident students to get tested for COVID-19

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Plans to test all on campus faculty and staff have not been communicated yet, leaving some students frustrated.

"It feels like there's a bit of a double standard," Sutton said.

Sutton noted that she has seen staff and faculty disobeying mask mandates or not wearing their masks properly in recent weeks. She feels staff and faculty are not reprimanded in the same way students are — that students face tougher consequences for disobeying the COVID-19 restrictions than Duquesne employees.

Although plans for commuters and Duquesne employees are still up in the air, resident students can schedule their test for



KATIA FAROUN / FEATURES EDITOR

In the coming weeks, all resident students will be tested for COVID-19 in one of these outdoor tents on the lawn of Assumption Hall.

a half hour time slot online. All resident students should have received an email from the university with a link to schedule a time to get tested.

"The University is working

on a process for test scheduling that will accommodate a degree of flexibility should an individual miss a test time, though we are encouraging people to select their time carefully and make every effort to keep that time," Welsch said.

Ellis stated she found the system intuitive and that a wide variety of time slots were available.

"It was very easy," Ellis said.

Welsch has stated that students who refuse to comply with the testing will be asked to leave. Loebig encourages students to schedule a test, keep their time slot and abide by all COVID-19 restrictions and protocols.

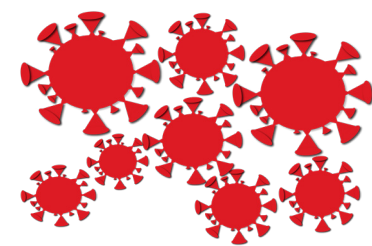
"It's not for you, it's for the safety of everyone else on campus," Loebig said.



KATIA FAROUN / FEATURES EDITOR

Students will be tested in outdoor tents, where transmission is less likely.

Campus COVID-19 Data: Case increase in students sparks concern



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



Scan here for latest Covid Data

Duquesne COVID-19 Data

-Total number of confirmed cumulative cases: 38

-Total number of suspected cumulative cases: 47

-Total number of students isolated on campus over time: 33

-Total number of students quarantined on campus over time: 75

-Total number of employees currently under isolation for covid-19 (reported to DU HR): 1

-Total cumulative number of employees under isolation for covid-19 (reported to DU HR): 5

Date	Lab Confirmed Cases Today	Suspected Cases Today	Currently Isolated on Campus Today	Currently Isolated at Home today	Currently Quarantined in Hotel Today	Currently Quarantined at Home Today
10/07/2020	0	0	8	22	39	66



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Tuesdays
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10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

10/9:
Mellon Patio — Rooney side

10/13:
Tower Multipurpose room

10/16:
Student Union 2nd floor

10/20:
Student Union 2nd floor

10/23:
Towers Multipurpose room

10/27:
Student Union 2nd floor

10/30:
Student Union 2nd floor

11/3:
Student Union 2nd floor

11/6:
Student Union 2nd floor

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Dannielle Brown speaks at "Prayer for Unity"

COLLEEN HAMMOND
news editor

On the evening of Sunday, Oct. 4, students, faculty, staff and invited guests gathered on a rain-soaked Rooney Field to participate in a group "Prayer for Unity."

The 20-minute ceremony, led by Duquesne chaplain the Rev. Bill Christy, featured opening remarks by Duquesne President Ken Gormley, readings from scripture and statements on di-

This council, although established in 2018, has garnered new attention and importance to the campus community as a result of Duquesne's Black Student Union, in accordance with nearly a dozen other minority organizations, issuing a formal list of demands to university administration calling for increased initiatives to make Duquesne's campus more inclusive and equitable.

Dannielle Brown, mother of late Duquesne student, Marquis Jay-

she was allowed to remain for the majority of the ceremony.

Sunday marked the two year anniversary of her son's death.

Brown was allowed to make a statement as a true symbol of solidarity on campus. Brown called for unity of Duquesne's students, administration and staff. She noted that despite her disagreements with administration over her proposed demands and three-month long hunger strike, she wants campus to be a united community. She stated she is continuing her fight "for you students" and expressed her and her late son's love for Duquesne. She even affectionately referred to Gormley as "Ken Ken."

Brown then compared herself to widely known figures of self-sacrifice.

"I think of Mother Teresa. I think of Gandhi. I think of Jesus. I think of myself," Brown said.

She then proceeded to paraphrase John 15:13, the famous Bible passage that states "man hath no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friend."

Brown then repeated the phrase "humility, humility, humility," over and over to communicate the need for service and self-awareness in the Duquesne community.

Also in attendance was Brown's other son, Jamal Brown. Brown noted that he surprised her in Pittsburgh to commemorate the anniversary of JB's death.



GRIFFIN SENDEK / MULTIMEDIA EDITOR
Dannielle Brown is greeted at Rooney Field for the Prayer for Unity service by Duquesne President Ken Gormley (pictured above with umbrella).

After Brown's statement and a subsequent prayer by a guest deacon from the diocese of Pittsburgh as well as Brantley's encouragement to make Duquesne a more diverse place, Brown was escorted from the stands and directed to JB's memorial bench near the entrance to Rooney Field.

JB's bench was decorated with a wreath of flowers, and the congregation was led in a moment of silent reflection and was instructed to face the memorial bench as Fr. Christy blessed the bench with holy water.

Brown said that the flowers that rested on her son's bench were donated by friends and family — not the university.

Although the service was presided over by a Catholic priest and was performed in the Catholic tradition, the ceremony was open to

students of all faith backgrounds.

After the final blessing, the roughly 60-person audience, mostly comprised of female student athletes, left Rooney Field in a socially-distant manner.

The ceremony also made sure to ensure proper COVID-19 protocols. Upon their arrival, students and faculty were required to have their temperatures taken, record that temperature and answer a basic health questionnaire. Attendees were also required to wear masks and maintain social distancing. Between each speaker, the microphone was wiped down and sanitized.

This "Prayer for Unity" is the first in a series of monthly prayers for unity sponsored by Duquesne's athletic department. They will be held outdoors in the same fashion as long as weather permits.



SAM LABASH / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Rev. Bill Christy blesses the memorial bench of JB Brown while standing next to JB's mother, Dannielle Brown, to commemorate the second anniversary of his death.

versity and togetherness from Sherene Brantley, associate athletic director and chair of the President's Advisory Council for Diversity and Inclusion.

len "JB" Brown, was also present at the prayer service. Once she arrived, she was greeted by Gormley and led to the stands with the other speakers at the event where

Professor Gary Shank receives termination letter after using racial slur

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and to maintain the standards of professional conduct written in Duquesne administrative policies or the faculty handbook.

It also notes that professional incompetence includes the repeated and unreasonable failure to meet classes on time and as scheduled, failure to respond to students' requests for appointments and assistance, failure to comply with faculty deadlines, failure to attend meetings to committees to which they belong and submitting reports and grades, and failure to meet the university's expectations for teaching, scholarship, and service.

The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE), filed a complaint to Robert King, the assistant secretary at the office of postsecondary education at the U.S. Department of Education, writing that, "Duquesne's departure from promises of freedom of expression is most recently illustrated by its unjustifiable punishment of faculty member Gary Shank, who has relied on Duquesne's promises of free expression and academic freedom throughout his 23-year teaching career at the university."

The non-profit organization whose mission "is to defend and

sustain the individual rights of students and faculty members at America's colleges and universities," is calling on the Department of Education "to investigate Duquesne for substantial misrepresentations of its educational program."

FIRE's letter, dated Oct. 2, notes that it "is not the first time Duquesne has imperiled its constituents' expressive rights," citing Duquesne's impeding of the use of the term "gender neutral" in the gender neutral fashion show held in fall 2019. Duquesne called the incident a "miscommunication" after receiving backlash.

Enclosed in FIRE's letter are excerpts to "relevant" Duquesne policies, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education Standards for Accreditation and Requirements of Affiliation, Standard II and previous correspondence between FIRE and Duquesne. FIRE wrote a letter to Duquesne Sept. 16 for university officials to immediately reinstate Shank and recommit to their promises of academic freedom.

In response to Duquesne's termination of Shank, Alex Morey, a representative for FIRE, said, "By firing Gary Shank for discussing a tough topic in his class, Duquesne betrays any commitment it purports to have to academic freedom, which protects the rights of faculty to choose

whether and how to approach difficult subjects. Duquesne students and faculty will rationally choose to say nothing rather than say something that others might find controversial, as their university won't bother to defend their rights. That's an unacceptable result at an educational institution of any caliber."

Duquesne spokeswoman Emily Stock said that the university would not comment "on the personnel matter," but did say that they are taking Shank's in-class conduct on Sept. 9 seriously.

"Duquesne University is deeply committed to providing a campus and learning experience that is respectful, safe and inclusive for all members of the Duquesne community," Stock wrote in an email.

The American Association of University Professors (AAUP) also demanded Shank's reinstatement, writing a letter to Duquesne president Ken Gormley on Sept. 27.



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

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OPINIONS

Amid COVID-19, students and parents seek reimbursement from universities

It's no secret that the pandemic has sparked unusual change in our everyday lives, and college is not an exception. With most universities suspending in-person instruction indefinitely, students across America are questioning the value of their college education.

With the emergence of COVID-19, institutions of higher education face steep economic challenges resulting from the cancellation of sports seasons and study abroad trips, refunded room and board costs, declining sales from on-campus stores and increased sanitation expenses.

The numbers suggest that these financial blows are immense and widespread. ABC News reported that California's university system endured a whopping \$558 million in unforeseen expenses in March. In addition, the University of Michigan projected heavy losses of \$400 million to \$1 billion during the 2020/2021 academic year alone.

Astonishing as these figures may seem, what's even more resounding is that nearly all 4,000 public and private universities in the U.S. continue to experience similar financial hardships, as the pandemic forces administrations to implement costly preventive policies.

In spite of the reductions in spending, hiring freezes and halted construction plans, these institutions are operating with significantly higher fixed costs, which are proving difficult to scale accordingly and leading to pa-

per thin profit margins.

Nevertheless, I am of the opinion that students are experiencing the bulk of the pain as a subpar college education coupled with fewer networking opportunities and limited access to campus resources has sparked legitimate outrage from students and parents.



NOAH WILBUR

opinions editor

The primary concern provoking this uproar is that students are receiving a substandard education with online learning. The substantially less involved and collaborative “hybrid model” is proving to be detrimental for motivation and focus with many finding it nearly impossible to learn.

Not to mention, students are losing the opportunity to physically interact with professors and industry professionals, as well as the chance to collaborate with their peers — all critical factors in the development of well-rounded individuals.

In response to this oversight and borderline negli-

gence, students are rebelling by threatening legal action, refusing to pay and demanding tuition refunds.

Despite the raised alarm, the majority of administrations refuse to offer any financial support for tuition and other related expenses. In fact, a quick search on Google reveals that tuition hikes — to which we've all grown accustomed — are continuing even as the pandemic disrupts traditional schooling.

Ultimately, I urge institutions of higher education to hold themselves accountable by offering full and partial refunds, tuition credits and tuition cuts as a result of the lower quality of education.

Although universities are obviously not at fault for the pandemic, they are responsible for the below average instruction we are currently receiving that is, without a doubt, indistinguishable from the standard of education received by our alumni.

Therefore, it is seemingly unnecessary for students and their families to pay significant amounts of money towards career development when only receiving half the experience. In other words, “Zoom University” is not worth \$30,000 to \$50,000 a year.

By providing some form of financial relief, universities demonstrate empathy and moral support on behalf of the students who, feeling reassured by their school's dedication, will continue to fill the hallways and, in today's world, online Zoom classes.

Letter to the Editor: Comments on Police Brutality

Police brutality is a term that is often thrown around whenever a police officer commits a biased action against a citizen, especially a citizen of color. But it is an inappropriate word to use when discussing problems of race and racism and the police.

It is biased against law enforcement, vague, and loaded; it's an overgeneralization. The term “police brutality” cannot even be defined: The term could be used in an incident when an officer uses a slur against a person of color, or it could be used when an officer shoots someone in a supposedly-racially-motivated incident.

This is not helpful to the conversation. When we as a country discuss these issues, we must try our best to remove our own biases from the conversation. Instead of using the term “police brutality,” I recommend describing the actual incident; call it as you see it.

Saying something like “The officer used undue force,” for example, is better than saying that the officer's actions were an example of “police brutality.” Saying that the officer used “undue force” or a racial slur gives me a better picture as to what happened in the incident, while “police brutality,” on the other hand presents the public with a fuzzy,

ill-defined picture; this does not benefit anyone.

Proponents of the belief of systemic racism may say that “police brutality” is the right term to use because it points out flaws in the police as an institution, but that is biased in itself.

Police are human beings, too, and are, like everyone else, flawed. Some forms of law enforcement may very well be in need of reform, but as long as the term “police brutality” is being used, these arguments will continue to vilify the police, who have a place in the conversation, and policy goals will go nowhere.

Sincerely,
Joseph Leckenby

STAFF EDITORIAL

President Trump paints a rosy picture of the coronavirus

Nothing screams “apocalyptic” like the president of the United States contracting the world's most deadly transmittable disease of our time. Worst of all, he is downplaying it.

President Donald Trump tested positive for coronavirus on Friday, Oct. 2, where he was swiftly transferred to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and treated with intensive care. How intensive? Five doses of dexamethasone daily, remdesivir injections, monoclonal antibody therapy and various over-the-counter drugs such as famotidine, melatonin and aspirin.

This cocktail of steroids is directly prescribed for “severe and critical illness,” especially in terms of dangerously low blood oxygen levels, according to the World Health Organization.

According to BBC, Trump has allegedly recovered from coronavirus symptoms in a record-breaking three days; however, what is not being taken into account is the extensive medical attention he has received that the average American would not be as fortunate to have.

These medications are only readily available for strenuous circumstances as classified by the FDA, wherein no medication has been fully approved, according to Coronavirus Today. Not to mention, health insurance can only cover so much.

Dr. Sean Conley, who treated Trump in Walter Reed, told Associated Press that the president has found himself in “uncharted territory,” as his treatment is purely experimental.

It's easy for our president to tweet, “Don't be afraid of Covid. Don't let it dominate your life,” when prominence of power ensures your safety and wellbeing.

We have read various heart-wrenching stories of elderly men and women dying alone in hospital beds, a fate that Trump is mitigating for the sake of his campaign.

This isn't a matter of reassurance — this is a matter of influence.

With the election less than a month away, the thought of a presidential candidate passing away before voting day is nevertheless frightening. Albeit, this nationwide panic has almost immediately subsided now that Trump has announced his return to the White House. What he has not announced, however, is his true health status.

On Twitter, Trump's series of messages were misleading; he had many American citizens believing he exited the hospital COVID-free — a miracle case. Trump's health specialists actually revealed that he not only is still contagious, but also has symptoms that have not yet alleviated, such as trouble breathing.

Twitter was quick to make note of this, with the hashtag “GaspingForAir” trending, meaning Trump's battle with coronavirus is far more apparent than he is letting on.

Trump's tactic to ease the tension of his case has been to vlog his recovery in full suit and tie on social media, business as usual. This distracts from his physical symptoms and makes the coronavirus itself seem more casual than it actually is.

Though in “quarantine” for the next two weeks, videos have shown Trump removing his mask as soon as he reached the balcony of the White House. MSNBC commentator Joy Reid noted that this was a “Mussolini moment” for Trump, as he posed triumphantly for a virus he truly has not yet defeated.

I fear for America's newfound perception of coronavirus based on the portrait our president has painted. There is no telling if American citizens will take pandemic protocols more or less seriously, let alone if coronavirus cases will increase or decrease soon thereafter. Despite the wavering health status of President Trump, it is up to each individual to protect one another, stay well and stay safe.

Pat Toomey announces retirement, what's next for Republicans?

ALEXANDER WOLFE
staff columnist

Senator Pat Toomey (R-PA) shocked Pennsylvania Democrats this week when he announced he would be retiring in 2022. To his Republican colleagues and staff, this was likely no surprise as Toomey is a closeted, run-of-the-mill conservative politician who made his name running as someone focused on lowering taxes for American families who, like any mainstream politician, is active in his party on the national and state levels.

The seat is certainly leaving Pennsylvania Democrats salivating at the thought of having two Democratic senators and as a rare seat with a legitimate chance to swing the Senate for at least six years.

Democrats have reason to be optimistic. Joe Biden maintains a 4-6 point lead over Donald Trump in Pennsylvania, and in 2018, redistricted congressional districts empowered Democratic capture of two additional House seats. So with two years to prepare, assuming we survive the upcoming election, Democrats will be stealthily preparing to reclaim the seat.

The Pennsylvania Democratic party is home to many politicians with a growing national profile and the popularity to offer a strong candidacy

for the vacancy. Lieutenant Governor John Fetterman, the former Mayor of Braddock, has thus far evaded any significant loss of popularity from his association with Governor Tom Wolf, and Fetterman's populist, approachable persona is likely to be appealing to Trump voters who carried the state for the president in 2016.

At the same time, his progressive positions are likely to earn him the blessing of the Democratic party's left-wing. Conor Lamb's historic upset in 2017 and high profile status as a blue-dog moderate Democrat in Congress makes him a clear candidate as well.

Moderate on policy, very much walking in the line of Senator Bob Casey (D-PA), Representative Lamb's statewide name recognition could potentially catapult him into the state Democratic party's crosshairs as a challenger to the Toomey seat.

Other high profile Pennsylvania Democrats may consider a run, although recent senate races have often featured political outsiders. Attorney General Josh Shapiro is arguably the state's most popular political figure, although insiders say he may be a candidate for Attorney General in a Joe Biden administration.

The conundrum facing state Republicans is much different. Trump's Republican party finds itself at odds with poli-

ticians like Toomey, despite their similarities on policy. Trump has called Toomey a RINO (Republican in Name Only) in the past, despite the fact that in his nine years as Pennsylvania's junior senator, he has only voted against his party 7.1% of the time, according to the Represent Project by ProPublica.

Few Pennsylvania Republicans have found solace in the national Republican party, save a select few who lack political experience in Pennsylvania politics. Sean Parnell, the candidate currently challenging Conor Lamb's seat in the 17th district, spoke at the Republican National Convention, and regularly appears on Fox News to promote his books and as a supporter of President Trump.

Before his retirement in 2020, Mike Turzai, the former long-time speaker of the House was a strong Republican power player, although his traditional Republican stance was at-odds with some Trump voters.

Many Republicans running for Congress this election cycle are young, charismatic and outspoken in their support of President Trump. These candidates may be a new generation of Pennsylvania Republicans, although few have been able to break through into the national consciousness.

The Pennsylvania Republi-



Sen. Pat Toomey's unexpected retirement is a setback for the GOP going forward. COURTESY OF POLITICO

can party has been blindsided by Trump. I would argue that Trump's 2016 victory in Pennsylvania came with only lip service from the state party, despite the state's importance as a swing state in the electoral college.

In addition to the governorship, key mayors are Democrats, prohibiting Republicans from making waves in state politics as anything other than upstart minority challengers. Many Republican challengers are activists as much as they are candidates, similar to progressive democrats running against their moderate counterparts or against long-time Republican officeholders.

Most importantly, this is all speculation. It's entirely

plausible that the Republican party rises like a phoenix from the ashes of Trump and reclaims the Pennsylvania governorship in 2021. A Republican-controlled Pennsylvania changes the field for a 2022 senate race, and Democratic politicians may fall out of relevance.

Today's Republican party is as volatile a political party as has been seen in American history, so there's no telling what will happen in the foreseeable future.

State Republicans need to plan now to successfully anoint Senator Toomey's successor, because the Senate is just as politically impactful as the Presidency.

The young vote plays a crucial role in the highly contested 2020 election

ZOE STRATOS
staff columnist

The 2020 presidential election is approaching fast with Election Day Nov. 3: a little less than a month away. As college students, we have the right to vote, and we should exercise that right when it's due. With the constant evolution of our political climate and an upcoming election that is arguably one of the most important in history, we must step forward as the American youth and vote for our leader — no matter what party we align with.

Political activism among youth is at an all time high, mainly because of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Black Lives Matter movement. Generation Z and millennials are taking to the streets to advocate for what they believe in, but advocating isn't going to elect the leader you ultimately want in office — only a vote can.

From this, a common misconception believed by the young vote population emerges: "My vote won't matter." However, that thought process could not be more wrong.

From this idea, a mob mentality emerges in the minds of these new voters that they cannot sway an election, when in reality, the young vote matters the most. The young vote — including people of the ages 18-29 — make up a little over 16% of the current U.S. population, so every vote counts.

To get an idea of the importance of this vote, we have to look at President Barack Obama's win over Sen. John McCain in the 2008 presidential election. Up until the 2008 election, party affiliation among the youth had almost been split evenly, and young voter turnout was low. This all changed when President Obama took a different approach to campaigning: focusing on the youth.

At the end of the election, it was clear that the young vote is part of what put President Obama into office. According to a Pew Research study, 66% of those in the young voter category voted for him — a massive shift from that almost 50-50 split across party lines. On top of this massive shift, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, the total young voter

turnout was a staggering 51%: one of highest turnouts ever.

After all of this progress toward a higher young voter turnout, the lack of participation remains despite knowing the young vote matters. The turnout hasn't been where it needs to be within the last few years.

The young vote dipped in the 2012 presidential election, with a modest 45% turnout. After that, the 2016 presidential election rose slightly to 46.1% turnout.

Knowing all of this data, the young vote really can change the course of an election, whether through voting or choosing not to; however, it's better to participate and have your voice heard. No one else is going to vote in the interest of young people, except young people themselves. After all, this 18-29 age range will be the most affected by governmental decisions within the near and far off future.

The key for young voters is to keep up to date on current events and all presidential candidates, regardless of party affiliation. It's crucial to keep note of where politicians stand



COURTESY OF BLOOMBERG

With election day quickly approaching, young voters are headed to the ballots.

on environmental issues, college tuition issues, healthcare issues — the list goes on, as it mostly affects this young voter category. It's better to vote for who you want in office now, than to wait until it's too late to change policy.

With all of this in mind, voting is easier than ever before through the mail-in system, and online voter registration is available in Pennsylvania. The deadline to register to

vote is Oct. 19, and the deadline to request a ballot by mail is (received by) Oct. 27. However, to ensure a spot in this year's election, registration should be done as soon as possible; the deadline is fast approaching.

In a country all about the freedom to elect our officials, it's time for the young vote to take the majority and make a statement — rather than just preaching.

Jazz Poetry Month closes out with lullaby for Emmett Till

EMILY AMBERY
staff writer

September is popularly recognized as the beginning of fall, football and pumpkin spice latte season, but it also begins City of Asylum's Jazz Poetry Month. City of Asylum has dedicated the month of September to celebrating these two arts for 16 years, but this year it looked a little different: City of Asylum provided all their concerts and poetry readings virtually.

On Thursday, Oct. 1, the City of Asylum held its last virtual program of Jazz Poetry Month which featured a reading of "Tallahatchie LullaBye, Baby" — a lullaby to Emmett Till by poet Douglas Kearney. The event also included four nationally recognized jazz artists' responses to the poem.

City of Asylum is an organization created to build a more just community by protecting and celebrating freedom of expression. It provides sanctuary to literary writers exiled under threat of persecution so they can continue to write and are not silenced.

To begin the event, poet and University of Pittsburgh professor Dawn Lundy Martin stated the significance of September at City of Asylum in Pittsburgh as a month to celebrate jazz and poetry.

"At its core, jazz poetry is about the exchange of languages and ideas. It's a celebration of the freedom of expression and the power of one's voice," Martin said.

Martin further explained the

importance of freedom of expression and how it is constantly threatened all around the world.

The event featured Sonali Samarasinghe, a Sri Lankan diplomat, writer, lawyer, human rights activist and former investigative journalist who now lives in Manhattan. Samarasinghe shared her story of being targeted by authorities for her newspaper's open criticism of government corruption, and how she was ultimately forced to flee her country.

Despite the challenges Samarasinghe faced, she encouraged the audience to think of exiled writers' stories as ones of hope.

"If we keep chipping away at the behemoth that is impunity and prejudice and hatred, we can achieve something. We can heal and reclaim what has been lost in our writing, our music and our creative expression," Samarasinghe said.

After Samarasinghe's message, Abby Lembersky, the director of programs at City of Asylum welcomed the audience to the last event of the jazz poetry month-long celebration. Lembersky highlighted Terrence Hayes, former MacArthur fellow and long time friend of City of Asylum, who chose the poem for the night's event.

Hayes reflected on the poem chosen for the night, "Tallahatchie LullaBye, Baby," before author Douglas Kearney began the reading.

Kearney wrote the poem in 2004, and noted that while it was timely then almost 50 years after the mur-

der of Emmett Till, it continues to be relevant today. Kearney touched on the idea of the "changing same," that whether it is a child or a person who identifies as transgender, the poem still identifies a historical pattern, repetition and persistence that the anti-Black violence does not stop.

"When I wrote 'Tallahatchie LullaBye, Baby,' I was thinking about how to write about that very specific murder of Emmett Till in 1955 at the hands of Roy Bryant and his brother-in-law Milam, and at the same time how not to necessarily re-present the violence of that. I wanted to talk about it without necessarily showing the violence," Kearney said.

Kearney expanded that framing the poem as a lullaby reminds the audience that Emmett Till was 14 years old when he was murdered.

The event then featured multiple interpretations and hearings of "Tallahatchie LullaBye, Baby," to spread awareness and foster a conversation about the longstanding issues of systemic social injustice and racial inequality. The four compositions and performances were by Pheeroan akLaff, Dee Alexander, Orrin Evans and Nicole Mitchell.

Pheeroan akLaff is a drummer and award-winning composer, who has worked with musicians all over the world. His international travels are influential in his music. Dee Alexander is a gifted and widely-known vocalist and songwriter from Chicago. She has experience performing in every genre, but has a strong love for and connection to



COURTESY OF UMN

Kearney wrote his poem for Emmett Till.

jazz music. Orrin Evans is an American jazz pianist who has worked with many talented artists. He is an award-winning pianist and has 25 albums as a leader or co-leader. Nicole Mitchell is an award-winning flutist, composer, conceptualist, bandleader and educator.

During the performances, the live chat feature of the virtual event was filled with praise for Kearney and the four jazz artists. The live chat encouraged the viewers to be engaged with the event and eliminated the distance that accompanies a virtual event. Kearney also utilized the chat feature to interact with viewers and to express his gratitude and awe for the musicians who put his words to music.

To conclude the event, Kearney shared a few more of his poems: "That Loud Assed Colored Silence: Protest," "Close: For My Family" and "Sho."

Following the event, Duquesne hosted a discussion with Dr. Anthony Kane, the director of diversity and inclusion. This discussion was set up as a safe space for students to come to after the event to discuss and reflect

on the poems, music and stories.

The discussion helped to relate Kearney's poem "Tallahatchie LullaBye, Baby" to what is happening today with respect to racial injustice.

"This event showcased the importance of the arts and more specifically how often we lose sight of how art imitates and reflects life," Kane said. "Knowing so much about what happened to Emmett Till and the parallels between his case and Breonna Taylor made it kind of a 'ah ha' moment."

Law student Gabby Kolencik was involved in the planning and organization of the event, and was able to attend the discussion with Kane afterwards.

"For me, what was so moving was to see how many different ways this single, powerful piece was interpreted," Kolencik said. "Although there was one poem, it took life in a plethora of ways that left me simply in awe."

The Jazz Poetry Month at City of Asylum provides its audiences with various events that encourage them to learn about poetry and music. By spotlighting Kearney's poem on racism and its many pervasive forms still relevant today, this event called attention to important current events like the Black Lives Matter movement. This event encouraged using creative outlets, like writing, poetry, art and music to fight injustice in the U.S. and around the world.

A schedule of City of Asylum's future events, along with a recording of the Oct. 1 event, can be found at <https://cityofasylum.org/>

Seniors wine and dine on Duquesne's dime

GRIFFIN SENDEK &
CARISSA HASLAM
the duquesne duke

Say what you will about them, but Catholics sure do know their wine.

Guests for senior wine tasting were greeted in the Shepperson Suite of the Power Center on Tuesday with half a dozen rounded tables, adorned in crisp white tablecloths topped with 16 half-full glasses of wine, equally dispersed amongst four place settings.

With Duquesne's reputation for stinginess and distaste for its students' relationship with alcohol, it was expected that there would only be enough wine to wet the lips and nothing more, making it a pleasant surprise to find the glasses full to an ample amount. The advertised "appetizers" were not simply munchies, but instead a four-course sampling of expertly curated food pairings — and some of the best food ever served on the Bluff.

The meals, prepared by



GRIFFIN SENDEK / MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Seniors paid a \$5 registration fee to attend one of the scheduled events.

Parkhurst, were so good, in fact, that it leaves one to wonder how the same dining service is responsible for the food served in Duquesne's dining centers.

The tasting was led by professional sommelier David Fortunado, who was as charismatic as he was knowledgeable about wine. Fortunado played a big role in making the night enjoyable. Being aware of the snobbery and pretension that is associated with the world of wine, Fortunado made it a point to dispel the presumption that only certain wines can be considered good.

"If you like them, it's good,"

Fortunado said.

The tasting began with the Villa Maria Sauvignon Blanc. Fortunado walked us step-by-step through the proper etiquette for wine tasting.

Before the wine can even touch lips, it must be inspected visually. Fortunado instructed us to peer through the glass at an angle, informing attendees about the rings that form on the surface of the wine which can be inspected to help discover the age of the sample. The Sauvignon Blanc had a subtle yellow glow; however, there were no rings to be seen — granted, we do not have the expert eyes and

years of experience of a professional sommelier.

Still it was not yet time to taste, for wine must be smelled before it can reach the pallet. With a swish and spin the wine danced around as the whole room room in unison stuck their noses in their glasses. Fortunado instructed us to compare the smell of the wine while it was still to the smell of the wine as it spun in our glass.

The Villa Maria, a 2017 harvest originating from Marlborough, New Zealand, carried a fruity aroma with hints of citrus and a pinch of kiwi. As Fortunado suggested, the smell intensified once the wine was aerated.

The wine was light and easy, with the flavor increasing as it traveled to the back of the throat.

Served with the Sauvignon Blanc was an arugula salad containing roasted beets and goat cheese, garnished with walnuts. The salty salad paired well with the acidic wine, balancing out the flavor. Though an excellent wine, the flight only got better with each consecutive drink.

The Clos Du Bois Chardonnay was next on the flight. This California Chardonnay had a golden shine with an almost smokey fragrance. This white wine was slightly dryer, with a flavor less intense than the Sauvignon Blanc but far more even. Fortunado paired it with a warm and creamy butternut squash soup. The hearty autumn soup was delicious on its own, but even better when matched with the white wine. It was an excellent pairing of flavors that complemented one another perfectly.

The third wine, a La Vieille Ferme rosé, was sweet and light, a nice balance of dryness with a kiss of tartness. The two previous wines offered fine examples of how the right pairing elevates a meal. However, one bite of the cavatappi pasta over red sauce topped with parmesan followed by a sip of the rosé was a transformative experience.

The best was saved for last, as the Clos du Bois Cabernet Sauvignon far surpassed all the previous samplings. The smell was

pleasant and unique, but to our untrained noses it was impossible to pin down any one fragrance in particular. A sip of this bold red wine went down smoothly and without effort.

Fortunado mentioned earlier in the night how red wine was traditionally paired with steak; now having been served a roasted tenderloin over a creamy polenta, it made perfect sense why this pairing had become a classic. As we emptied this final glass and finished the last bites of steak, the night slowly came to a close.

"I really like the way David presented the material," Bryan Partika, the graduate assistant at the Center for Student Involvement, said. "I think he presented it in a way that informed us for the future. It definitely helped me acquire different tastes."

Having consumed what wasn't an exorbitant amount of wine, but enough to fill the room with jovial giggles, the seniors in attendance happily filed out of the Shepperson Suite with their stomachs full and their minds packed with newfound knowledge of wine.

DU football team secures another recruit

BRENTARO YAMANE
staff writer

Duquesne’s football team has continued to impressively recruit lately, recently securing a verbal commitment from Jaheim Williams, a running back and linebacker at Cathedral Preparatory School in Erie, Pa.

Williams is currently a senior at Cathedral Prep and is making a big name for himself at the school in the process. He verbally committed to Duquesne on Sept. 28.

Luckily for him, he is able to have a senior year of high school football, as many prep football players across the country are unable to compete due to the COVID-19 virus. Some players’ seasons are canceled, others’ seasons are postponed.

Since Williams was a little kid, he fell in love with the sport of football. When he started watching professional football on television, he knew he wanted to be just like the athletes on the screen.

“I knew I wanted to play football since I was a little kid when I would watch the big boys on television,” Williams said. “I told my mom and

dad I wanted to be just like them playing in the NFL. Since then, I have just been in love with the game, grinding day in and day out.”

Many kids’ dreams include playing football, eventually working their way into the spotlight. However, Williams’ love of the game has motivated him to help his family in the future. Essentially, he puts his family first, even before himself.

“I do this for my family; I’m not going to get into it, but no one knows what my family has and still goes through. I have to make it. It’s my only choice,” Williams said. “I’m tired of my parents working day in and day out just to go to sleep and do it all over again.

“My high school number is 29 because I have two parents and nine siblings. I play football for them; that’s what really got me into the game of football. It’s not all about Jaheim Williams — it’s about the Williams’. Remember that.”

In high school, Williams has won two district championships (2018, 2019), and one state championship (’19). Duquesne specifically recruited him as a linebacker. Give Duquesne coaches Kory Gribbin and Scott Farison credit for Williams’ commitment, as they

were vital in his recruitment.

Williams has played a huge role on Cathedral Preparatory’s defense so far this season; it’s a huge reason why the Ramblers have been so good, boasting a 3-1 record so far this season.

Williams stands at 6-foot-1 and weighs in at 215 pounds. During his sophomore year in 2018, he recorded 97 tackles, then upped his total to 114 tackles during his junior year in 2019. The fact that he is naturally bigger gave him the confidence to know that he can play at the collegiate level — if he put his mind to it.

“When I was in ninth grade, everyone would comment on how bigger I was than everyone and how talented I was. Then, in my sophomore year, I started playing varsity. It really opened my eyes that, at this pace, if I keep growing and grinding and putting the work in, I could play at the Division I level. It was always a dream of mine anyway,” Williams said.

Clarion University, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Lake Erie College, University of Virginia’s College at Wise and Notre Dame College were some of the other schools that Williams was interested in attending. Duquesne was the only NCAA Division I school that offered Williams, and he took the offer in a heartbeat. He said he’s happy with his decision to commit to Duquesne.

“I was always told, ‘Go where you are wanted, not where you want to go.’ Duquesne’s coaching staff showed me and my family true care, and they showed that they actually wanted me,” Williams said. “Coach Gribbin would text me daily — he’d check in on me randomly to see how I [was] doing, and it’s the little things like those that made my decision.”

Currently, Billy Lucas, Jaelen Carson and Collin Johnson all play on Duquesne’s football team; all three of them were high school teammates with Williams at Cathedral Preparatory. The fact that

Lucas, Carson and Johnson told Williams how much they liked Duquesne helped Williams in making his decision.

“They all pretty much said the same thing, really, when they talked about Duquesne. Everyone gets along, team chemistry is great. Most importantly, even outside of football, the coaches want the best for you,” Williams said.

With Williams’ college decision now out of the way, he can focus on trying to help Cathedral Prep win another district championship, and perhaps even another state championship.

Even though his college decision is over, it does not change his attitude or who he is as a person.

“Nothing has really changed,” Williams said. “I am still the same ‘Jaheim’ I was before I committed. I’m just excited that I’m going to college. I’m a young Black man finishing high school, getting his diploma, going to college, playing Division I ball, and completing everything in life so far that I’ve wanted to complete. I feel good ... about my decision.”

Before Williams graduates in 2021, he wants to continue to grow as a man, get straight As for the rest of the year and have fun in his final year of high school. However, when he arrives on campus next school year, expect him to contribute on the Bluff as he expects to make a big contribution on DU’s football team.

“I work extremely hard,” Williams told *The Duke* on Oct. 6. “Whether or not I’m starting or on the second-string team or on special teams, I will work my tail off and make the team better every day.

“I will make everyone work. That’s just me. I feel like if I’m making you work hard trying to beat you, you’re making me work hard trying to stop me from beating you,” said Williams, who wants to study either business or athletic management.

see FOOTBALL — page 11



COURTESY OF GOERIE.COM

On Sept. 28, Duquesne’s football team secured another commitment for the 2021 recruiting class: Jaheim Williams, a linebacker from Erie’s Cathedral Prep, verbally committed to the Dukes, giving DU yet another Cathedral Prep product on its roster.

NCAA Football AP Top 25 — Week 6

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall	Streak	This Week
1.	Clemson (52)	2-0	3-0	W3	vs. 7 Miami
2.	Alabama (8)	2-0	2-0	W2	at Ole Miss
3.	Georgia	2-0	2-0	W2	vs. 14 Tennessee
4.	Florida	2-0	2-0	W2	at 21 Texas A&M
5.	Notre Dame	1-0	2-0	W2	vs. Florida State
6.	Ohio State (2)	0-0	0-0	n/a	Big Ten play begins Oct. 24
7.	Miami	2-0	3-0	W3	at 1 Clemson
8.	North Carolina	2-0	2-0	W2	vs. 19 Virginia Tech
9.	Penn State	0-0	0-0	n/a	Big Ten play begins Oct. 24
10.	Oklahoma State	2-0	3-0	W3	Bye

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall	Streak	This Week
11.	Cincinnati	1-0	3-0	W3	Bye
12.	Oregon	0-0	0-0	n/a	Pac-12 play begins Nov. 6
13.	Auburn	1-1	1-1	L1	vs. Arkansas
14.	Tennessee	2-0	2-0	W2	at 3 Georgia
15.	BYU	n/a	3-0	W3	vs. UTSA
16.	Wisconsin	0-0	0-0	n/a	Big Ten play begins Oct. 24
17.	LSU	1-1	1-1	W1	vs. Missouri
18.	SMU	1-0	4-0	W4	Bye
19.	Virginia Tech	2-0	2-0	W2	at 8 North Carolina
20.	Michigan	0-0	0-0	n/a	Big Ten play begins Oct. 24

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall	Streak	This Week
21.	Texas A&M	1-1	1-1	L1	vs. 4 Florida
22.	Texas	1-1	2-1	L1	vs. Oklahoma
23.	Louisiana	2-0	3-0	W3	at App. State (postponed)
24.	Iowa State	2-0	2-1	W2	vs. Texas Tech
25.	Minnesota	0-0	0-0	n/a	Big Ten play begins Oct. 24

Duquesne MBB Tidbits — Kelly cleared; team reported to be involved in multi-team event:

— On Oct. 6, CBS Sports’ Jon Rothstein reported that Duquesne redshirt sophomore forward Amari Kelly has been cleared for all basketball-related activities. Kelly has been rehabbing a knee injury that he sustained during his freshman season in 2018-19; he sat out for the entirety of the 2019-20 campaign as a redshirt.

Then, on Oct. 7, Rothstein tweeted that, alongside UNC Greensboro and Winthrop, Duquesne had committed to Louisville’s MTE (multi-team event). Rothstein added: “More teams are expected to be added.”

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, college basketball programs have been forced to get creative with their scheduling tactics for the upcoming season. As opposed to a customary scheduling model — complete with early-season tournaments at neutral sites and out-of-conference “buy games” — programs have begun planning MTEs, where several D-I programs can meet at a common location and play numerous out-of-conference games at once. The idea figures to aid in the scheduling efforts of D-I programs across the country, saving travel costs and negating extra exposure to the coronavirus in the process.

Previously, Pittsburgh Sports Now reported Duquesne’s non-league schedule to be nearly complete. The team had officially announced games against Wyoming (A-10—MWC Challenge; postponed until 2021), as well as Cal Baptist, San Jose State and Maryland in the Maryland Showcase (status of event currently unclear).

On This Day in Sports History:

On Oct. 11, 1992, two-sport star Deion Sanders played in an afternoon game with the NFL’s Falcons against the Dolphins in Miami; soon thereafter, he infamously flew to Pittsburgh to partake in the Braves’ NLCS contest against the Pirates. Sanders played for the Falcons that afternoon, but did not see the field for the Braves.

The bubble is the real MVP of this NBA season

AP — This season, a year that was longer than a year and difficult in almost every imaginable way, is nearing an end; the Los Angeles Lakers have a 3-1 lead in the NBA Finals over the Miami Heat, with a potential title-clincher in Game 5 coming Friday night.

"The job's not done," Lakers forward LeBron James said.

He's right, on many levels. The NBA came here to crown a champion; that hasn't happened yet. Players came here to use their platform to fight against racial inequality and voter suppression; those efforts continue. And the coronavirus pandemic rages on; no end in sight there, either.

Outside the bubble, problems reign.

Inside the bubble, things are not perfect. It has not been easy. Often, it was not fun.

But it worked.

"I wanted everybody to have perspective on how difficult this is, how extraordinary of an experience all of this is," Miami coach Erik Spoelstra said. "Being part of this bubble, being here for 80-plus days, surviving all of it and earning the right to compete for an NBA title."

When the Lakers got to Lake Buena Vista, there were 22 teams in the bubble — more than 1,300 people in all, teams living in three different hotels, crossing paths at times. Social distance guidelines and protocols are followed and people are tested daily.

Though there is no retreating to familiar surroundings to escape setbacks, failures

on the court or to go recharge their batteries, players are able to talk about their top priority: social justice. They talk about affecting change. White players talk about why it matters; Black players do the same, some at every opportunity.

Only two teams remain, and they're still talking about the same things. Heat All-Star Bam Adebayo ends every media session the same way: "Black Lives Matter, people." He says it because he believes America still needs that reminder.

"What's important to our players is important to us, but it wasn't just our players," Silver said. "The players know, and the NBA community knows, there is a long history in this league of fighting for social justice, for racial equality. And it seemed appropriate."

They put Black Lives Matter on the courts. They put it on jerseys. When players felt the message wasn't getting through, they shut down play — stopping for three days during the playoffs. Some players were willing to go home to make the ultimate statement. Things nearly came apart in a three-hour meeting.

"I will go to my grave not forgetting a single second of that meeting with the players," National Basketball Players Association executive director Michele Roberts said. "Watching them and their passion, not simply 'here's an excuse to go home because no one was loving the bubble,' but their passion and desire to talk

about whether or not they were doing the right thing, how they could do something. They wanted to roar and they wanted to know if they were roaring from the right mountain."

They feel they have made some progress. Key word: some. Most of the league's



AP PHOTO

NBA commissioner Adam Silver, pictured at an August Mavericks-Clippers game in the NBA bubble, hopes to open the 2020-21 NBA season in teams' home arenas, but plans aren't finalized.

eligible players are now registered to vote; that was far from being the case three months ago. More than half of the league's arenas are going to be voting sites or were involved in the process through registration drives.

"For many of these players, this is the most amount of time that they've ever not played organized basketball," NBA deputy commissioner Mark Tatum said as the season was restarting. "Then to come back into camp, to play in this environment that no one has ever done before, and then to go out, play with no fans, live fans, in the arena, the champion will be a true champion because they will have had to overcome so much adversity to get to that finish line."

Still, many unknowns remain.

The coronavirus led to a 4 1/2-month hiatus and disrupted this season, cost the league and its players hundreds of millions of dollars and cost plenty who work in and around the NBA jobs. Make no mistake, there will be fingerprints of the virus on next season in countless ways as well.

The demand-for-change messaging will continue next season, whenever it starts and wherever it happens. The league wants to be in arenas again, with fans, though nobody knows if that'll happen. Another bubble remains a possibility in some shape or form.

But for now, laud this NBA bubble before it closes. It did its job. It saved the season.

Trade action heats up at NHL draft ahead of free agency

AP — Two Stanley Cup-winning players got traded, a few others got new contracts and almost 200 prospects got to — virtually — live out their dreams by having their names called on the second day of the NHL draft.

It took over seven hours to complete rounds 2-7 Wednesday at the draft held online from 31 teams' draft rooms to the league's central registry and a TV studio in New Jersey. The draft dragged on with no need for general managers, scouts and coaches to catch a flight home, but that didn't tamper the excitement of young players finding out where they're going or stop the movement of established NHL players with free agency looming Friday.

Some creativity was needed to manage the flat, \$81.5 million salary cap, which is becoming the theme of the 2020 offseason.

"Making a trade as you can see is pretty easy: There's a lot of them, a lot of jockeying up and down for position in each round and people trading up for maybe a guy they like," said New York Rangers general manager Jeff Gorton, who traded 2017 seventh overall pick Lias Andersson to Los Angeles for a second-rounder. "If you're looking at some of the deals that are happening, money is almost a part of every deal here. You're not seeing too many hockey deals straight up."

Trade action started early with the Pittsburgh Penguins dealing goaltender Matt Murray to the Ottawa Senators and the Nashville Predators continuing to shed salary by sending center Nick Bonino to the Minnesota Wild.

"You just know on days like these if you get a

phone call from your GM, it's usually a trade," Bonino said. "We got a spam call that woke me up around 7 a.m. and it obviously wasn't (Predators general manager) David Poile. My wife slept through it luckily and then we were up at 9:30 a.m. and got the call from David and knew right away. It's weird how it works out."

Murray and Bonino became the third and fourth members of Pittsburgh's 2016 and 2017 back-to-back championship teams to be traded in the past few weeks. The Penguins previously traded winger Patric Hornqvist to Florida, and Chicago traded defenseman Olli Maatta to Los Angeles.

Vegas goalie Marc-Andre Fleury could



AP PHOTO

The Pittsburgh Penguins dealt goaltender Matt Murray to the Ottawa Senators on Wednesday.

make it five after the Golden Knights committed long term to Robin Lehner. Vegas is looking to trade the 35-year-old and even sweeten the deal with a pick but has to deal with an overflowing goalie market.

Several netminders will be available in free agency, including 2018 Cup champion Braden Holtby and longtime face of the New York Rangers Henrik Lundqvist. General manager Brian MacLellan said the Washington Capitals are a "solid candidate" to sign Lundqvist, who at 38 is still trying to win the Cup for the first time.

Pittsburgh got a second-round pick and forward prospect Jonathan Gruden for Murray, who split time with Fleury on two Cup runs and was in net for each clincher. Murray, 26, helped the Penguins win the Cup in 2016 and 2017, but they committed to Tristan Jarry, signing him to a \$10.5 million, three-year deal after his All-Star season.

The Penguins used the 52nd overall pick they got from Ottawa to select Finnish goalie Joel Blomqvist, one of hundreds of prospects who had to find out they were drafted by phone and do video interviews since they couldn't walk on stage in Montreal.

"This wasn't exactly what I dreamed of as a kid," said Sam Colangelo, the Anaheim Ducks' No. 36 pick out of Northeastern. "I dreamed of walking up on stage and walking down to get my jersey from someone there. But doing it on Zoom was incredible."

Colangelo and the others drafted in rounds 2-7 Wednesday had to wait, unlike No. 1 pick Alexis Lafreniere, who put on a blue Rangers jersey Tuesday night.

Bonino and new Predators forward Luke

Kunin will be swapping jerseys after the trade that continues the Wild's makeover. Minnesota got second- and third-round picks (37th and 70th overall) and sent a fourth (101st) to Nashville to take on the remainder of Bonino's contract. He's owed \$4.1 million next season, while Kunin is a restricted free agent.

"Luke Kunin is a solid, young, up-and-coming player with a great future ahead of him," Poile said. "He is a (2016) first-round pick with good pedigree that can play both center and on the wing, and in all situations, including on the penalty kill and the power play."

He will also come cheaper than Bonino, a big deal with many teams looking to clear money and space under the cap.

Nashville also put forward Kyle Turris and defenseman Steven Santini on buyout waivers. Turris had four years and \$24 million left on his contract, so he'll count \$2 million against the Predators' cap for the next eight seasons.

The Golden Knights re-signed a surprise key player, giving Chandler Stephenson \$11 million over the next four seasons, according to a person with knowledge of the move. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the deal had not been announced.

Columbus re-signed center Max Domi to a \$10.6 million, two-year deal after acquiring him and a third-round pick from Montreal for winger Josh Anderson in the only trade of established NHL players made on Tuesday, the first day of the draft.

"Both us are going into a situation where we're wanted," Domi said, "and all really a player can ask for is that."

Local artist Caleb LaDuke launches second EP release "R"

CAPRI SCARCELLI

a&e editor

Talent is teeming in Pittsburgh; with the steady rise of independent artistry in the music industry, 25-year-old Indie/Hip-Hop artist Caleb LaDuke holds nothing back for his second EP release entitled R.

Graduating from Geneva College in 2018, the Pittsburgh-native singer moved to Nashville to pursue his love for music, soon given the opportunity to perform his work.

His first EP release, GIRLS, became streamable to the public in June with over 70,000 streams. LaDuke said that the tone of this EP was "tough" compared to R, with this EP putting a heavier emphasis on healing and redemption.

"This EP release [R] means a lot more to me," LaDuke said. "This one is about my ex-girlfriend's daughter, and how I'm healing from the relationship and finding peace from God. I think here I'm more true to who I am because I wear my heart on my sleeve, and I want the audience to take from this experience and see my journey."

Showcasing his sensitive side, LaDuke said R is "a chance for the audience to get to know [him] better."



SAMANTHA FUNDERLICH / ARTIST MANAGEMENT

Raised in Pittsburgh, LaDuke branches out to a broader audience as his career kicks off.

According to LaDuke, his passion for music was sparked by a simple guitar riff he overheard in his dad's studio when he was just 12-years-old. LaDuke said he loved the sound, and wanted to learn more about music, eventually building a love for it as he became more invested.

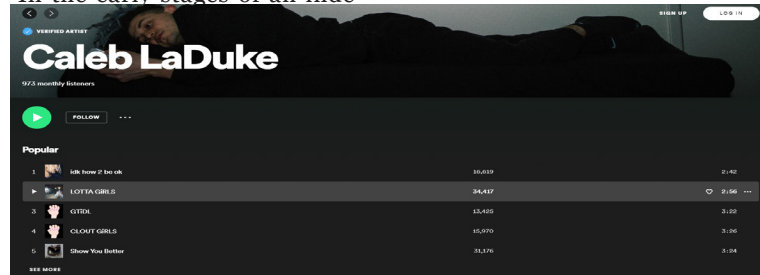
By the age of 15, LaDuke found himself writing and performing his own work, inspired heavily by RnB and eventually working his way into rap and now a "dark Hip-Hop base."

With the help of artist manager Samantha Funderlich and producers SEJOHFROGI and

Chris Binsfeld, LaDuke was able to develop his sound and furthermore grow as a person and an artist in the industry.

"Life experience affects the quality of music," LaDuke said. "It takes discomfort to get to where you need to be."

In the early stages of an inde-



COURTESY OF SPOTIFY

LaDuke's tracks can be played on repeat through streaming services.

pendent artist's career, a challenge faced when expanding your platform, according to LaDuke, is constant comparison.

"Seeing where other artists are will hold you back and discourage you, thinking you won't get as far as them. It takes patience and harnessing that creativity to let the music unfold," LaDuke said.

With the help of Funderlich, LaDuke was able to become more "business-minded" in his career, taking his status and musicianship to the next level.

"I hope for [R] to get big, it could be the launching point," LaDuke said. "I am blessed and honored to have this opportunity; I hope this EP impacts and helps people, and that they have their own experience with some good music."

R will be available to stream on Spotify Oct. 14. More information on LaDuke's musical journey can be found on his website: www.calebladuke.com

WEEK'S EVENTS

DPC Insomnia Cookies
Oct. 9, @ 9p.m.

Stop by Mellon Patio for free Insomnia Cookies! Supplies limited!

Virtual Cooking Series: LLC
Oct. 10 @ 6 p.m.

Enjoy a how-to virtual cooking guide! Grab your pre-packaged cooking kit for \$5 at Towers Campus Market. Preregister to reserve your spot!

UPCOMING RELEASES

The War with Grandpa
Friday, Oct. 9

Starring Robert DiNero, Rob Riggle and Uma Thurman, a young boy named Peter finds that he now has to share a bedroom with his crazy grandpa-- and he's not happy about it.

Gimme Some Truth
John Lennon
Friday, Oct. 9

John Lennon's beloved solo works remixed from scratch, available on all streaming platforms.

BREAKING:

Eddie Van Halen dead at 65

On Tues. Oct. 6, rock band Van Halen namesake, lead guitarist and songwriter Eddie Van Halen passed away at age 65 after a grueling battle with throat cancer.

Known for his wicked instrumental solos, pouring his soul into riffs, licks and runs on the guitar, Eddie Van Halen changed the game for the genre from 1972 and on, inspiring artists for years to come in an effort to match his fervent energy.

Daring tracks such as "Runnin with the Devil," "Hot for Teacher" and "Beautiful Girls" set a new groove for rock and roll, with Eddie's talent brimming from the core.

Van Halen will always have a special place in the heart of rock for his impact and immense love for making music an art of expression.

Virgo

If you're on some kind of medication this is your sign to take it, your alarm went off two hours ago.

Libra

Harry Styles has a better fashion sense than you and you have to accept that.

Scorpio

Oh so you answered a question in class. So you're smart.

Sagittarius

Please don't dye your hair this weekend please don't dye your hair this weekend please--

Capricorn

I see you have "All Too Well" by Taylor Swift on repeat. You good?

Aquarius

Someday, Aquarius, you'll be as famous as the fly that landed on Mike Pence's head.

Pisces

Seinfeld is not the answer my dear, not today.

Aries

Ukulele night! Bring on the crappy Billie Eilish covers and play out-of-tune!

Taurus

Welcome to the penalty box. Enjoy your stay.

Gemini

Just friends. Yup!

Cancer

Normalize an octopus playing an instrument other than the drums.

Leo

Remember in high school when you were the kid that didn't get called up on stage for the anti-bullying assembly

New Netflix show "Ratched" tries its hand at backstory

COLLEEN HAMMOND
managing editor

Just in time for the Halloween season, Netflix's newest attempt at a horror series, *Ratched*, is available to stream.

Ratched is the latest creation from the mind of gay television icon Ryan Murphy. Murphy, a six-time Emmy winner, is the creative mind behind some of the most groundbreaking television of the past decade. His vast credits include *Glee*, *American Horror Story*, *The People vs. O.J. Simpson*, *The Assassination of Gianni Versace*, *Pose* and *The Politician*.

Back in 2018, Murphy scored a \$300 million five-year deal with Netflix that included the production of at least 10 projects, including four TV shows, three movies and three documentaries. *Ratched* is just the newest show to be born out of this landmark deal.

Ratched, starring Sarah Paulson, puts a glamorous, campy spin on the origin story of Ken Kesey's infamous antagonist from *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, Nurse Mildred Ratched. Nurse Ratched, known for her icy demeanor and authoritarian tactics in Kesey's novel and the subsequent film of the same title, takes on a very different form under Murphy's supervision.

This new show paints the iconic character as an "angel of mercy"



COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA

Poised actress Sarah Paulson puts on a cunning display of Ken Kesey's character.

rather than a harbinger of domination and control. While she is despised in original text, her companions in the new show fall head over heels for her charm, wit and impeccable style.

Paulson's portrayal of Nurse Ratched is a sight to behold. Although the show greatly varies from previous renditions of the character, Paulson breathes new life into the role with spunk and class. Her biting sarcasm buried behind a facade of gentility makes her performance thrilling for the audience. Paulson brings a new life to a character often seen as one-sided, and it is fair to say she carries the show on her heavily padded shoulders. Paulson is just one

of several actors in the show who are frequently cast in Murphy's projects. Her presence in the show helps give it that classic touch.

As with everything Murphy does, this show is highly stylized. As a director and producer, Murphy has an extremely specific aesthetic, and it is so recognizable that any viewer of his work could easily pick it out in a crowd. Murphy is known for shows that hyper-romanticize an era. *Ratched* is no exception.

Set in California in the late 1940s, Murphy takes his affinity for bright colors to a new extreme. Every shot is saturated to the point where the colors appear neon. This is evident in the red lipstick frequently

worn in the time period, the vivid blue water on the California shoreline, Nurse Ratched's teal car and, most notably, the jarringly blue nurses uniforms worn in almost every scene. While Murphy's ambition and risks with color should be applauded, *Ratched* takes it just too far.

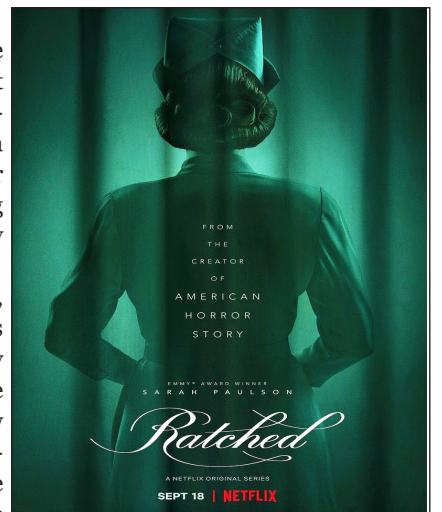
In addition to the overly noisy colors, *Ratched* fails to impress on the basis of originality. This feels like an amalgamation of all Murphy's previous work and lacks that freshness audiences are used to seeing with him. It has the soapy drama of *The Politician*, the stylized gore and violence of *American Horror Story*, the overt homosexual themes from *Pose* and the 40s glamour of *Hollywood*.

Unfortunately, audiences have seen Murphy do all this before. It is merely a repetition and rebranding of his past successes. For a director and producer known for pushing boundaries and taking risks, *Ratched* falls flat and greatly disappoints.

Aside from Paulson's acting, there are few redeeming qualities of the show. The writing is lazy and has obvious plot holes. The characters do very little to grow or develop, with many contradicting themselves over and over. The relationships across the board are flat and lack dimensionality and chemistry.

Despite these glaring flaws, there is one truly brilliant scene in the show. Set in children's puppet theater, the scene tells the story of Nurse Ratched's troubled childhood through some truly terrifying marionettes. This bizarre puppet show from hell is narrated by a ghastly pale carnival barker. The scene is haunting, skin-crawlingly creepy and altogether fabulous. Had Murphy matched this energy throughout the rest of the show, *Ratched* would have been significantly more successful.

Overall, *Ratched* fails to excite. It is the perfect show to half-watch while folding laundry, but is not worth eight episodes of intense binge-watching.



COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA

Ratched's first season is now available to watch.

Sherlock Holmes spin-off tells story from new perspective

GRIFFIN SENDEK
multimedia editor

Enola Holmes, Netflix's latest spin on a Sherlock Holmes tale, is a fun, heart-felt ride all the way through.

While still an important part in the story, Sherlock, played by Henry Cavill, is not main the focus. Millie Bobby Brown, most famous for her performance of Eleven in *Stranger Things*, plays the titular role: Sherlock and Mycroft Holmes' teenage sister, Enola.

The Victorian-era mystery kicks off when Enola's mother (Helena Bonham Carter) goes missing overnight, leaving behind a careful trail of clues only Enola could follow. Rather than following the commands of her older brother Mycroft (Sam Claflin) and attending finishing school, Enola runs away to find her mother in London. On the journey, through tragic happenstance, she meets the charming young Lord Tewkesbury (Louis Partridge). The two form an immediate and endearing bond.

The insightful storyline of finding the mother soon plays second fiddle as the mystery surrounding Tewkesbury and the menacing murderer — played by the always intimidating Burn Gorman — that's out for



COURTESY OF NETFLIX

Official poster captures new take on the original story.

his head.

The earnestness and childlike joy that Brown brings to the character is infectious, and the enate charisma she brings to every single one of her roles is present in every minute of *Enola Holmes*.

Many times throughout the film, Enola looks into the camera and speaks directly to the audience. This is a convention that often poorly used, but Brown's sincerity shines through and the fourth wall breaks work within the world that director Harry Bradbeer has crafted.

Cavill's Sherlock Holmes is a subdued take on the character that has more in common with the gentle giant archetype than the hyperactive manic-genius seen in Robert

Downey Jr. and Benedict Cumberbatch's portrayals. Cavill's commanding presence and loveable charm draws enough attention without resorting to the boastful one-upmanship present in other depictions of the character.

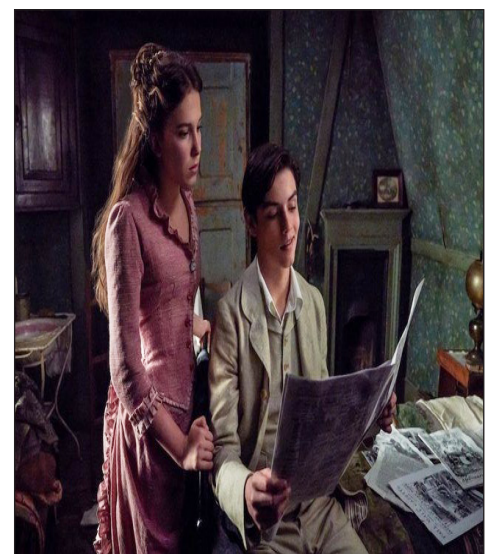
A standout performance in the film is from one of the least known names in the entire cast. Louis Partridge, playing the role of Tewkesbury, has an incredible amount of chemistry with Brown. Witnessing them become immediately entranced with each other is thoroughly enjoyable to see.

Enola Holmes is a film that knows exactly what it is, and doesn't overreach or overstay its welcome. From the very beginning the film establishes itself as a fun coming of age adventure full of young love, intense action and solving mysteries, and that's precisely what Bradbeer delivers.

The film has its flaws, but it's clear the creators weren't seeking to win any academy awards. As the plotline involving the mother and her band of women's suffragettes unfurls, several of the elements either become thin or are dropped entirely. In most cases this would have been a serious story issue, but somehow *Enola Holmes* manages

to walk across the plotoles unscathed.

There's something refreshing about a film that isn't attempting to change the game, but simply be an enjoyable two hours of leisure. *Enola Holmes* is a perfect example of an easy comfort movie — it's entertaining and cute without a need for major emotional investment. Millie Bobby Brown as Enola Holmes is both lovely and enticing. With the incredible positive critical reception the film has received, audiences are likely to see more from Enola's story.

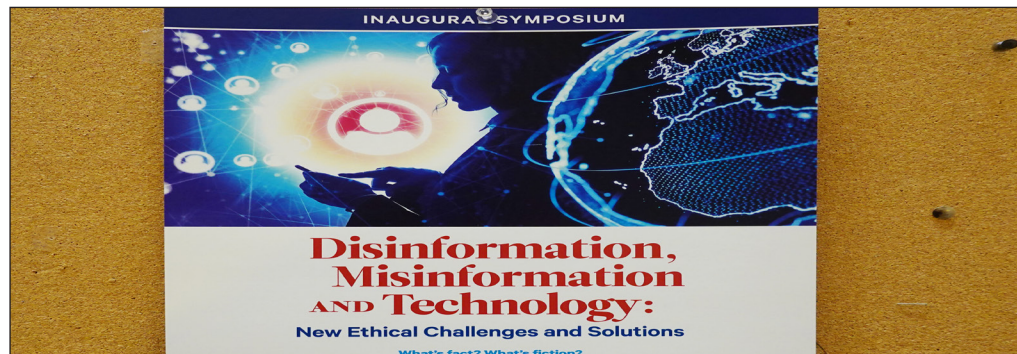


COURTESY OF NETFLIX

Millie Bobby Brown makes new appearance with stellar acting.



Duquesne holds disinformation symposium



GRIFFIN SENDEK / MULTIMEDIA EDITOR
The virtual event included experts discussing misinformation, disinformation and technology.

KELLEN STEPLER
editor-in-chief

With information changing rapidly, and our world shifting more virtual, it's only fitting for Duquesne's Carl G. Grefenstette Center for Ethics in Science, Technology and Law to hold a symposium via Zoom discussing misinformation, disinformation and technology.

The inaugural symposium, held on Wednesday, Oct. 7, featured speakers from Duquesne, Carnegie Mellon University, the University of Pittsburgh, Seattle University and Santa Clara University, who shared their expertise on ethical challenges and solutions involving disinformation and misinformation.

Brian Green, the director of technology ethics at Santa Clara University, defined misinformation as false information that may or may not be intentionally deceptive; and disinformation as false information that is intentionally deceptive, in his keynote speech entitled "Building Communities of Trust."

"Disinformation intentionally misleads people in order to lead them into error," Green said. "It has a harmful element to it; you're trying to harm people ultimately."

Green said that it destroys trust and groups and weakens target groups in power competitions.

Unlike disinformation, misinformation can be unintentional, and cannot split communities apart, he said.

"Asking the purpose of misinformation is a bit of an odd questions because in one sense; it's like asking the purpose of a piece of trash in the information ecosystem: where truth ought to be prized, misinformation ought to be tossed out," Green said.

One way to stay vigilant of misinformation and disinformation, Green said, is to have real relationships and experiences with people.

"Try not to spend more time online than in real life," he said.

Kathleen Carley, a computer science professor at Carnegie Mellon University, said that disinformation has always been with us, and that the concept of disinformation has many faces.

"Computers are neither the problem nor the solution in this case – people are the problem," Carley said.

She cited data that reports that 77% of the time, people in the U.S. are rebroadcasting messages by others in the U.S. spreading disinformation, and 80% of messages retweeting disinformation sites are from bots. In social media, Carley said that there are three concepts to understand disinformation: super-spreaders, super-friends and echo chambers.

Carley said that disinformation starts with a controversial issue, and bots and trolls are embedded on both sides. They foster fear with disinformation that feeds worry and send messages with URLs to disinformation sites. Like the Re-open America rallies in April in May, they call for protests, and spread disinformation about key leaders on the opposing side.

As citizens, our role in combatting disin-

formation is to call it out and not to spread it, Carley said.

The symposium touched on disinformation's impact on politics, media, COVID-19 and economics. David Danks, a professor at CMU and Michael Colaresi, a professor at Pitt, discussed the political dimensions of disinformation, and the real-world consequences it has on political discourse.

Beth Hoffman, a professor at Pitt, noted that we are fighting an infodemic as well as a pandemic. An infodemic, she said, is a rapid and far reaching spread of both accurate and inaccurate information. She noted the Plandemic video with discredited doctor Judy Mikovitz went viral this spring and was shared by many people who do not normally share conspiracy theories still shared it.

Pamela Walck, a journalism professor at Duquesne, compared media coverage from the Spanish flu epidemic of 1918 and the COVID-19 pandemic today. Newspapers at the time of the Spanish flu epidemic were not writing about hoaxes, but instead had advertisements hawked as "sure-cures" for the flu, and "advertorials" – advertisements disguised as news articles.

The solution to misinformation, according to Walck, is to arm ourselves with media literacy knowledge, be aware of our own biases, be skeptical of information before sharing and be part of the solution.

Michael Quinn, the dean of the college of science and engineering at Seattle University, along with Jane Moriarty, a law professor at Duquesne, noted the economics and ethics of misinformation. Quinn noted that responsible information consumption consists of understanding the information flow and confirmation bias.

People should skeptically judge news, he said, and question the authority of the author, the reliability and verifiability of the content, the soundness of the argument and the affiliation of the site.

To conclude the symposium, Duquesne President Ken Gormley said the event was a "thought provoking afternoon."

"We're so honored to have been able to collaborate with truly some of the most elite institutions, academic centers dealing with technology and ethics in the United States at CMU, Pitt, Santa Clara and Seattle, and thanks finally to a wonderful audience who joined us virtually and stuck with it for the afternoon," Gormley said. "We hope that next time we'll be able to gather here in person in Pittsburgh on our beautiful Duquesne University campus."

In an email Gormley sent to all students on Oct. 5, he said that this event was the first of three in three weeks to engage our entire campus community in an ethical kind of thinking. The second event, titled "The Rooney Rule and What's Next: Equity and Access in Athletics and Beyond" will take place on Thursday, Oct. 15 and the third event, "Politics, Contentious Elections and Civil Discourse," will be held Wednesday, Oct. 21 on Zoom. The events are free, but registration is required.

Erie LB picks Dukes

from FOOTBALL- page 7

Any high school football player knows that when they go on to play at the collegiate level, it can be tougher, and Williams knows that. He has a lot of strengths as a linebacker, but he knows he has weaknesses, too.

He remains committed to fixing his weaknesses. What is obvious is that Williams is a ball player that does not complain, and Duquesne can expect quite the player out of him when he arrives in 2021.

"I'm fierce and I'm determined. See, to me: I don't care if you are the best offensive lineman in college – I'm gonna get to that running back and stop the play or

I'm gonna get the quarterback and get that sack. You might just block me, but every time you do... You are going to feel me, best believe that," Williams said.

"I'm going to make sure of it. If you are hitting someone over and over again, they are going to get tired of it. My level of IQ is high, but it could use some work. My whole game could use some work. Never settle for less. I can work on everything to improve my game. I'm not the best yet; the day I am the best, though, I'll still need work and improvements to be done."



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