



BSU hosts Black Cultural Awareness Week



GRIFFIN SENDEK
multimedia editor

In one of the biggest events since the revitalization of Duquesne University's Black Student Union (BSU) this summer, Black Culture Awareness Week seeks to educate and celebrate all aspects of Black culture.

The week-long series of events began on Oct. 18 and continues through Oct. 23. With a new event each day, Black Culture Awareness Week is an approachable and entertaining forum discussing topics from Black spirituality and soul food to microaggressions and the history of Black representation in the media.

"I would say that we kinda wanted a build-up, starting with easier conversations and leading up to big celebrations of us being Black," said vice president of BSU Kayla Harris.

Black Cultural Awareness Week has been a big step for organization president Darian Reynolds.

"This is one of the few events we've done since reactivating the organization," Reynolds said. "Through events, we really are establishing our foundation and for rebranding and rebuilding BSU."

The ongoing pandemic has placed campus organizations in difficult situations, forcing them to rethink in-person events and move to online platforms. In place of BSU's typical fall celebration, the Soul Cabaret, Reynolds and his peers at BSU got creative to devise a series of events that could be powerful and informative while also keeping the community safe.

"Just being creative in a sense to what things people would want to be a part of to not just come in and talk but make it more interactive as well," Reynold's explained. "This was the next best way to be able to come together to celebrate and uplift the heritage, the ideologies, everything



Duquesne's Black Student Union Executive Board (from left to right): Roman Ramsey, Adele Bradley, Taylor Hopkins, Rose Reyes, Kayla Harris and Darian Reynolds. This week marks Duquesne's first ever Black Cultural Awareness Week.

that goes around in the Black culture."

On Tuesday, Oct. 20, BSU hosted their third event, "Learn the Legends" Black History Trivia Night, via Zoom.

The night held a casual feel, and questions were administered through a game of Kahoot! The trivia night garnered a small, but involved crowd. The seven participants duked it out, challenging each other's knowledge of Black historical figures for the chance to win a \$25 gift card.

Harris moderated the event. Though the majority of the participants' cameras remained off, as the trivia rounds got rolling a sense of togetherness, despite the separation, was created.

The trivia tested facts of notable Black figures such as poets and playwrights, record-breaking athletes, politicians and civil rights heroes.

Although some of the questions throughout the night were common knowledge, the majority of trivia was difficult for the room to answer. The graphics outlining how many times each answer was selected revealed that the majority of the takers gravitated to the wrong answers.

However, these blank spots in the participants' knowledge were transformed into learning opportunities. BSU member Taylor Hopkins would explain the correct answers and detail the

significance of lesser-known historical figures.

The overall response to the Black Culture Awareness events has been very positive, according to Harris.

"I think people are pretty receptive. I think if people are going to show up they're obviously gonna be looking to learn something about the subject that the event's on," Harris said..

Both Reynolds and Harris have been very pleased with the turnout from the events thus far. They hope this week can not only spread awareness of Black culture but also help BSU to create a diverse and informed community on Duquesne's campus.

"We've had a decent showing of students so far. It would be more of a goal to get more white students and other backgrounds to participate too, 'cause again: we're not just looking to serve the Black community, although that is our focus," Reynolds said.

Reynolds believes that events like these are a useful opportunity to educate those less conscious of Black culture in a comfortable, welcoming setting.

"I think it's a lot easier putting out this education through putting out meetings like this because the issue with race and justice and everything is not an easy topic for all, so it's just a way to figure out how to include everyone," Reynolds said.

The week of informative events leads to one final celebration.

Reynolds hopes that participants will be able to take away knowledge from these events and apply it, even in a small fashion, to their daily life.

"Culture can be defined in so many ways," Reynolds said. "It's something that we would urge people to think about in their daily interactions, thinking about something you're saying, something you're doing, is that affecting someone's culture? Just really take a step back and think about how it affects people."

"Our last day is the fashion show, which is basically us expressing ourselves," Harris said. "Walking around on our campus just being Black. That's something we wanted to celebrate. Just a week of events of just us being ourselves on our campus."

BSU's Black Culture Awareness week continues on Thursday, Oct. 22 with "The Beauty of Melanin: History of Black Beauty and Media Representation" and Friday, Oct. 23 with "Self-Love is the Best Love."



Scan here to read more of *The Duke's* BSU coverage.

Campus COVID-19 Update

ZOE STRATOS
staff writer

As the number of Duquesne's COVID-19 positive cases rise, the university is taking steps to prevent that number from getting any higher, including testing for all students living on campus.

In an email sent by the university on Friday, Oct. 2, Duquesne administration commended students for their commitment to following preventative guidelines such as wearing masks and social distancing, but then mentioned that there had been a slight spike in cases since the last round of random testing.

Before the required testing for all students living on campus started on Thursday, Oct. 8, Duquesne University Health Services and Mary Ellen Smith Glasgow, dean of the school of nursing, gathered volunteers from the school of nursing and pharmacy school to help them test the thousands of students. An email was sent out to all nursing students to sign up, one of which was junior Kayla Barr.

Barr became involved with the COVID-19 testing after one of her clinicals was put online for the semester. In place of her usual clinical, volunteering for COVID-19 testing allowed her to log some clinical hours.

In preparation for testing, Barr and other nursing students were sent a PDF with instructions and diagrams as to how they are to conduct a COVID-19 test. Along with this, on their assigned testing day, they were able to watch a demonstration before diving right into testing themselves, and received a test of their own.

"We got there first, got all of our PPE: gown, N95 mask, hairnet, shoe covers — the whole shebang," Barr said. "We went over to the tent, and they gave us a demonstration along with all of the supplies. The patient would give us a Ziplock bag that they picked up at a different tent. All I had to do was test."

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POLICE BRIEFS

Here are the crimes reported from Oct. 12 to Oct. 19.

On Oct. 12, two Des Places resident assistants smelled the odor of marijuana in the hallway while making their rounds. They traced the smell to one of the rooms, where they found a small amount of marijuana. The R.A.s contacted Duquesne police, and an officer responded to the scene and took possession of the marijuana.

On Oct. 13, female students reported being harassed by a male student off campus.

Also on Oct. 13, three male students were found in possession of drug paraphernalia in Des Places Hall.

Also on Oct. 13, a student in St. Ann's Hall was found with marijuana and related paraphernalia by residence life staff. The case was referred to the office of student conduct.

On Oct. 16, a student was found to be in possession of paraphernalia and a fake ID card. The student will be issued a state citation for the fake ID, and will be referred to the office of student conduct for possession of paraphernalia.

On Oct. 17, spray paint and graffiti were located on the side panel of the foot bridge spanning across Boulevard of the Allies.

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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 hammondcd@duq.edu

Resident COVID-19 testing results come back, less than 1% positive

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But with numbers rising around campus, Barr was uneasy during her testing time last Wednesday.

"I was scared at first, but it's always scary to interact with a lot of patients in a short period

ing, I went to breakfast with my friend and a few others, and an hour later she texted me saying she tested positive. After that I got retested Friday and was negative again. I didn't go outside; I stayed in my dorm and wore an N95 to go to the bathroom until they called

about the bigger issue at hand. The healthcare workers don't deserve it, they're just trying to help."

With a university employing the best strategies known as of now without restricting student rights, it all comes down to the students' decisions to follow policies put in place.

"I think rising cases are expected, but I think that people need to take it more seriously," Micklow said. "It's come down to personal responsibility; the university has done as much as they can. Just stop going out and leaving campus."

In an email sent to students Wednesday, Oct. 21, Duquesne president Ken Gormley said he was "very proud to recognize that the vast majority of you (students) have met the challenge and are following the guidelines established by the university for social distancing and wearing face masks faithfully."

He wrote that the university received the test results from the past week, and that the rate of new cases was less than 1%. Gormley then invited all students for ice cream Friday, Oct. 23 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on A-Walk "to show [his] appreciation for [our] efforts in helping keep our Duquesne community safe."

"Thanks for your extraordinary efforts in showing the strength and collaborative spirit of the Duquesne University family, for the entire world to see!"



GRIFFIN SENDEK / MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Resident students line up for COVID-19 testing outside Assumption Hall.

of time," Barr said. "I'm happy I got the opportunity to do this, though, and get that exposure."

On the other side of the swab is sophomore Noelle Micklow, as she was recently sent home after being contact-traced by a COVID-19 positive student on campus during the required campus-wide testing.

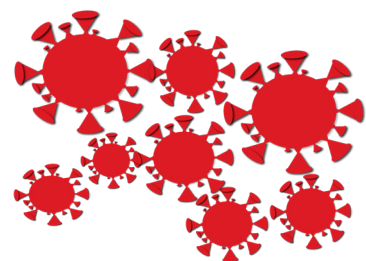
"I was first tested on Thursday and it came back negative," Micklow said. "On Friday morn-

me and told me I had to go home or stay at the hotel until Halloween."

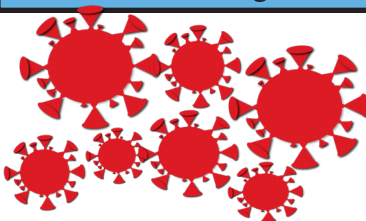
Despite these rising cases across campus and across the country, Micklow feels Duquesne has done its part to prevent the spread of COVID-19 as best as it can.

"I think they're doing a really good job with COVID policy and enforcing it," Micklow said. "I kind of feel bad for them; students are really rude to them. They just want to go out and party and don't care

COVID-19 Update: Over 100 students quarantined at home



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



Duquesne COVID-19 Data

-Total number of confirmed cumulative cases: 101

-Total number of suspected cumulative cases: 47

-Total number of students isolated on campus over time: 68

-Total number of students quarantined on campus over time: 134

-Total number of employees currently under isolation for COVID-19 (reported to DU HR): 0

-Total cumulative number of employees under isolation for COVID-19 (reported to DU HR): 4



Scan here for latest Covid Data

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
10/20/2020	12	0	29	25	88	125

FLU

SHOTS
Tuesdays & Fridays
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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

11/10:
Student Union 2nd floor

11/13:
Student Union 2nd floor

11/17:
Student Union 2nd floor

11/20:
Student Union 2nd floor

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Duquesne hosts virtual panel on the state of civil discourse

COLLEEN HAMMOND
news editor

On Wednesday, Oct. 21, the office of the Duquesne University President hosted the highly publicized virtual event “Politics, Contentious Elections and Civil Discourse.”

Moderated by Duquesne University President Ken Gormley, the event featured a lengthy and full discussion on the value of civil discourse in democracy from both sides of the aisle and how the U.S. can move forward in a time of intense political deadlock.

The panel included a wide variety of local and nationally known political figures including Tom Ridge, former governor of Pennsylvania and secretary of the Department of Homeland Security;

working with his long-time Republican colleague, U.S. Sen. Pat Toomey (R-PA), and that despite their ideological differences, the two senators have been able to successfully appoint numerous judges over their years of work together.

“Try not to denigrate someone personally,” Casey said in relation to discussing politics with disagreeing parties.

His sentiment was echoed in a written statement by Toomey, who suggested that viewers “stress-test one’s beliefs” to ensure they hold up to scrutiny.

Collectively, the panelists shared their suggestions for how to combat the extreme political polarization seen across the U.S. in recent years, heightening with

passionately and respectfully.”

“You are not born a Republican or Democrat,” Ridge said. “You’re born an American.”

After Ridge spoke, Turner, a longtime friend and colleague of Gormley, attempted to illustrate a more practical guide of how to properly engage in productive civil discourse. He stated the importance of making decisions and basing beliefs on more than mere feelings.

“You are entitled to your own opinions,” Turner said. “You are not entitled to your own set of facts.”

Turner also spoke about the importance of developing and allowing one’s opinion to evolve based on relevant facts and new information.

“There’s nothing wrong with changing,” Turner said. “There’s nothing that says just because you started here means you have to end up there.”

Gormley echoed Turner’s point by stating that on the occasions where he has changed his views, he “gained respect” and felt that he “listened to people.”

Turner also reminded the audience about the importance of civility and respect in civil discourse and political discussion, frequently stating that after a conversation occurs, one should always be able “to sit down to breakfast, lunch, dinner or grab a drink with the other person.”

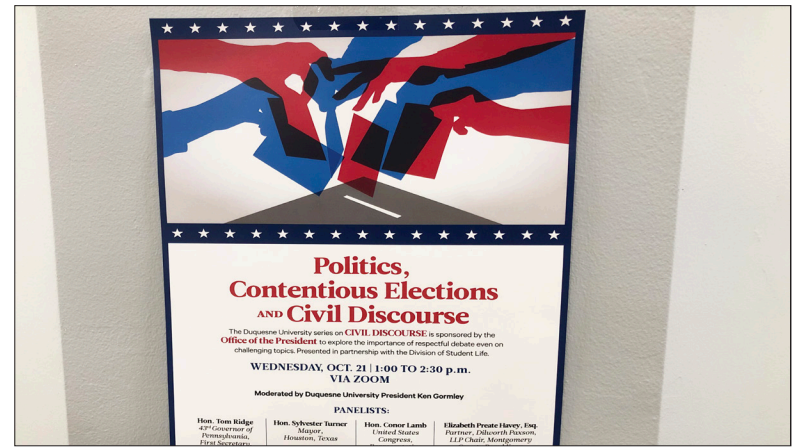
All the panelists stressed the importance of remembering the dignity and respect for their fellow human beings during difficult and contentious discussions.

“You start from there and work for common ground,” Ridge said.

In addition to this segment on practical attempts at civility, the panelists went on to discuss the damaging effects social media and life in the public arena.

“It (politics) is a bloodsport,” Preate Havey said.

She said that she has been the



GRIFFIN SENDEK/ MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

The office of the President hosted this virtual panel on civil discourse in the U.S.

victim of frequent “below the belt personal attacks” during her long career in politics. To avoid these negative, harmful and sometimes threatening attacks, Preate Havey said that she simply doesn’t read them. These comments, mostly made online from people with opposing political ideologies, have become more frequent and intense in recent years.

“Because you’re involved in politics, all rules of decorum are gone,” Preate Havey said.

She noted that all people in politics — especially her fellow panelists — develop “a thick skin” and “an inner strength.”

“The number one thing we need to agree on is love of country,” Preate Havey said.

Subsequently, Gormley led the discussion into matters of racial justice issues and increasing racial tensions as a result of a new civil rights movement making way across the U.S.

“When you combine race and politics, it can be highly combustible,” Turner said.

He said that while these conversations about race in the U.S. are desperately needed, there is a select group of people “who have made up their minds a long time ago.”

“If you try to plow down a stump, you’ll be there all day,” Turner said.

However, Turner and his fellow panelists applauded students for attending the event, frequently stating the value of young people in politics.

“I think young people feel a sense of urgency about the issues we’re facing today,” Lamb said.

Lamb, one of the youngest members of Congress, was vocal about the importance of young people participating in the democratic process.

“They (government institutions) are the way we make change,” Lamb said.

Despite Lamb’s personal disappointment and slight disillusionment with the U.S. government during his time in the Marine Corps in the early 2000s and 2010s, he said that he hopes his work “renews faith in democracy for another generation.”

As the discussion concluded with a few student questions about mail-in voting and political opponents refusing to accept the results of an election, the panelists held to the theme of the event. They repeatedly restated the importance of respecting others’ views in order to engage in an effective dialogue that will propel the nation forward.

“Politics will always be divisive,” Casey said. “But we have to find a way to move forward.”



COLLEEN HAMMOND/ NEWS EDITOR

Panelists spoke on the need for bipartisanship and collective patriotism.

Mayor Sylvester Turner of Houston, Texas; U.S. Rep. Conor Lamb (D-PA); and Elizabeth Preate Havey, secretary of the Republican Party of Pennsylvania.

After all the panelists were introduced by Gormley and Student Government Association President Kallie Crawford, a pre-recorded opening remark was provided by U.S. Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA).

In this video, Casey proceeded to set the tone for the event and offered “not wisdoms,” he said, but “insights from the road.”

He boasted of his strong record

the current election.

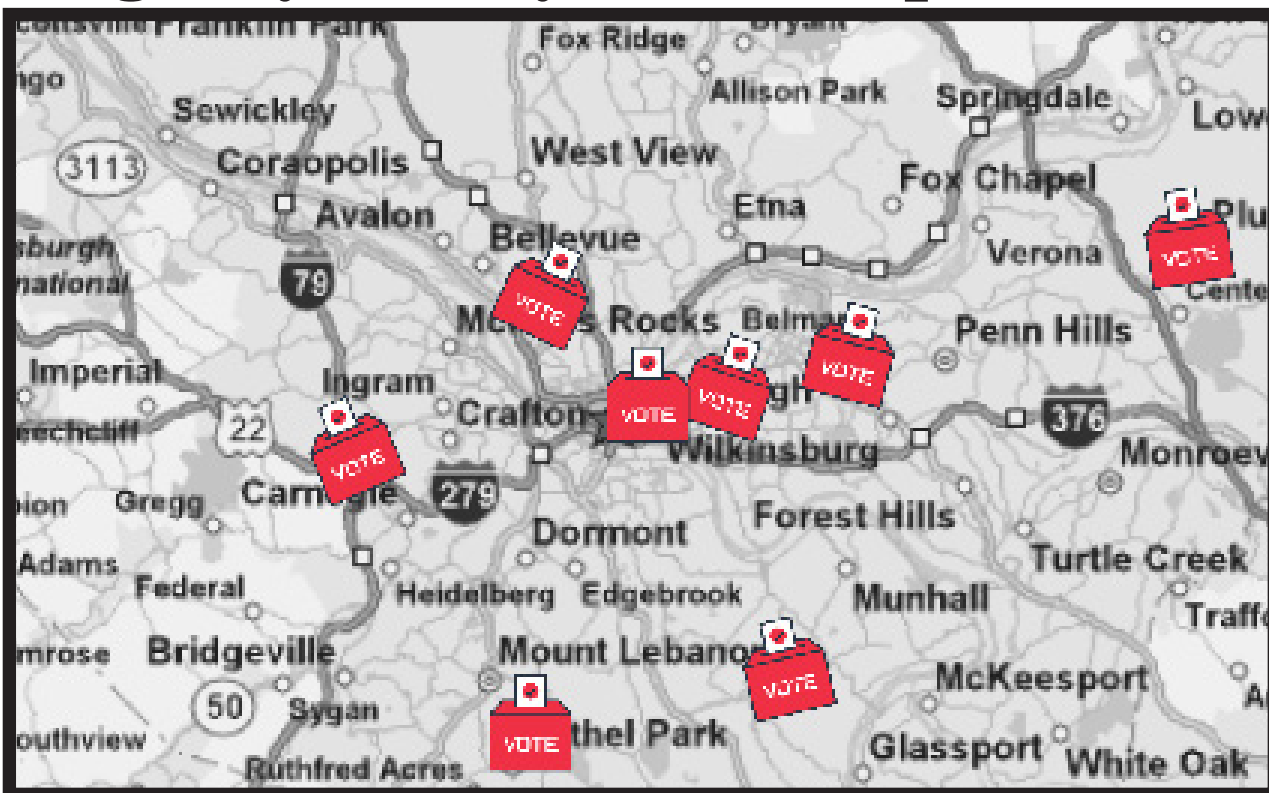
“The ‘art of the deal’ is really the art of compromise,” Ridge said.

He voiced his opinion that the real, impactful change can only happen in this country when politicians and citizens reach across the aisle.

“Highway or my way: it doesn’t work, not in the U.S.,” Ridge said.

He further emphasized the need to work together in times of great tribulation. Ridge noted that the best way to approach contentious political discussion is “openly,

Allegheny County ballot drop boxes



DROP BOX LOCATIONS:

Boyce Park Ski Lodge
901 Centerview Drive
Plum, PA, 15239
(10/24-10/25)
Sat: 9am-5pm
Sun: 11am-7pm

CCAC
808 Ridge Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15212
(Only 10/24-10/25)
Sat: 9am-5pm
Sun: 11am-7pm

CCAC South
1750 Clairton Road
West Mifflin, PA 15122
(10/24-10/25)
Sat: 9am-5pm
Sun: 11am-7pm

County Office Building
542 Forbes Avenue
Room 601
Downtown
Pittsburgh, 15219
M-Fri: 8:30am-4:30pm
Sat: 9am-5pm
Sun: 11am-7pm

North Park Ice Rink
12000 Kummer Road,
Wexford, PA 15090
(10/24-10/25)
Sat: 9am-5pm
Sun: 11am-7pm

113 College Hall
600 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15282

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between you and your
success, move it.
Never be denied."

DWAYNE "THE ROCK" JOHNSON

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

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OPINIONS



Comic By Kelsey Burtner

Most nations endowed with a wealth of natural resources fail to achieve economic prosperity

In a world dominated by finite resources and an endless desire for consumption, nations around the globe are in a continuous effort to discover the next major shale formation or iron ore deposit to achieve economic prosperity.

With rapid population expansion and ever-increasing consumer demand, natural resources are ubiquitously viewed among world leaders as essential for driving growth and gaining a competitive advantage on an international scale.

Significant revenue gains, reductions in poverty and social order are few of the outcomes that resource-rich countries can potentially derive from rich deposits of natural capital.

Despite these apparent perks, I am of the opinion that natural resources adversely impact economic development and lead to declining quality of life. Although contingent on other relevant factors as well, it is the case that extreme poverty and inequality are characteristic of "resource-rich" countries.

A notable real-world case is Venezuela, and its immense supply of proven oil reserves. Once hailed as the richest country in South America, the economy has now collapsed with Venezuelans suffering severely from hunger, human rights' violations and political turmoil.

The resource curse – or, the paradox of plenty – alludes to this paradoxical situation in which nations endowed with a wealth of natural resources experience stagnant economic growth and social unrest in comparison to resource-poor countries.

Without diving into complex economic theory, a simple theoretical example clearly demonstrates the logic behind this phenomenon. Let's imagine that a country discovers a major natural gas reserve deep

underground. With this abundance of natural gas, governmental officials and institutional investors begin shifting the majority of labor, capital and other resources toward production.

By diverting nearly all its resources to the production and exportation of natural gas, the country becomes dependent on the performance of one commodity. If prices surprisingly decrease resulting in a bear market, then the country will



NOAH WILBUR

opinions editor

fall into a recession for as long as the bear market lingers.

The failure to diversify into other industries leaves the country vulnerable to a downturn in the natural gas industry, resulting in extreme volatility regarding Gross Domestic Product (GDP), fiscal revenue, and unemployment.

In a nutshell, natural resources have a negative impact on economic growth because resource-abundant countries are too reliant on a single industry, causing them to forgo ample investment opportunities that are vital for driving an economy's long-run growth.

Although still viewed as unpopular opinion, a growing number of studies have confirmed the validity of the resource curse with considerable evidence.

In their study "Natural Resources and Economic Development: The curse of natural resources," authors Jeffrey Sachs and Andrew Warner offer a simple rationale explaining the paradox of plenty: "Natural Resources crowd-out activity x. Activity x drives growth. Therefore Natural Resources harm growth."

Admittedly, this statement seems rather dubious and suspect due to its elementary nature. However, by continuing the theoretical example from above, I can demonstrate the viability of this theory.

Following the framework, let's assume that education is activity x – in other words, education is necessary to drive economic growth.

When the country contributes a great deal of productive resources to retrieve natural gas, the activity necessary for growth – education – is crowded out. There is an underallocation of capital invested in academia. In turn, future generations fail to acquire the necessary knowledge and professional skills pertaining to emerging markets, developing technologies and innovation.

Without this expertise, future leaders are unable to develop and implement new profit creating endeavors once the natural gas finally dries up, leaving the country exposed to the perils facing an undiversified economy.

One fact that cannot be denied is that there are indeed several examples of resource-rich nations unharmed by the so-called "resource curse" who have ascended the global hierarchy as world leaders.

Nevertheless, from Venezuela and Saudi Arabia to Zimbabwe and Nigeria, the list continues to grow of countries – primarily developing nations – with large supplies of natural resources that failed to diversify their economies and are now in the midst of a financial crisis.

STAFF EDITORIAL

The science backing COVID-19 cannot be denied

Science is nonpartisan.

Take Dr. Anthony Fauci, for example. Now a household name, Fauci has worked under six U.S. Presidents – four Republicans and two Democrats – and is dubbed by some to be "America's Doctor." Fauci didn't get to his position as the nation's top infectious-disease specialist by playing politics.

So, with under two weeks to go before the presidential election – and the start of the second wave of COVID-19 – President Donald Trump has begun his attack on Fauci.

After the doctor's 60 Minutes interview on Sunday, Trump called Fauci a "disaster," and that "people are tired of hearing Fauci and all these idiots, all these people that have gotten it wrong." He then tweeted that Fauci seems to get more airtime than Bob Hope, and that he has a "bad arm."

Seriously?

The cheap shots, digs and even threats made against Fauci are part of the reason why COVID-19 cases in this country haven't been going down. Other countries have been figuring it out, why haven't we?

The COVID-19 pandemic is relatively new, but Fauci is not. As stated above, Fauci has had this job since the 1980s – or, as Trump would say, "500 years" – and is a trained medical expert in this field. What's to gain by attacking him, other than to make a mockery of and downplay the virus?

It's ridiculous to think that Fauci is pushing some sort of agenda to keep Americans living in fear, and to make the president look bad. An experienced infectious disease expert, Fauci has no axe to grind and no agenda, except one to ensure the public's health and safety. Trump – who tested positive for the virus not too long ago – should know this more than anyone.

Additionally, Fauci has been receiving death threats from American citizens, and is now accompanied by security. Nothing like sending threats to a public health official trying to keep others safe during a pandemic.

And, to top it all off, Trump said that if democratic candidate Joe Biden were elected president, he'd "listen to the scientists."

Is this some sort of ploy by the president to win over voters? To push an anti-science, anti-education bias to win re-election? To those attacking Fauci, including the president: Stop playing bogus politics, and please focus on the greatest health crisis of our time.

Duquesne's traditional distaste for all things political is outdated and privileged

ALEXANDER WOLFE
staff columnist

An alarm blares in a dimly lit, carpeted and decently organized room. A student rolls over and leans up, he looks at his phone and rushes out the door, quickly grabbing his computer.

Outside, he's searching for a better internet connection – DuqNet hasn't exactly been working well for a few weeks – and is able to join a Zoom call with a handful of other volunteers. For the next hour, they begin the first-ever university-authorized voter outreach effort in Duquesne's history.

The students are paid fellows of the Campus Vote Project working with the Center for Community-Engaged Teaching and Research (CETR). So far, the group has reached out to many students through phone banking. You may have received a text yourself, encouraging you to make a plan to vote this year, or to register.

We sometimes forget about politics or controversy on the Bluff. In my previous three years living on campus, the only truly contentious moment

on campus seen in my time was the rainy afternoon the West-boro Baptist Church was scheduled to protest on Forbes Avenue, but the protest was called off due to bad weather.

This year has been quite different. In June, protests occurred on Forbes Avenue that bordered, but never reached, Duquesne's campus. In September, Dannielle Brown led a march onto campus the same week a professor 'allowed' his students to use a racial slur. The Duquesne community has begun to speak up in ways it has not in some time.

For many of us, look no further than in letters to this paper's editor, the summer was spent grappling with both our health and our privilege. The idea that Duquesne's primary devotion to physical and health sciences could shield it from political responsibility has been unacceptable, but now, some are starting to see it, and act.

Beyond the tacit campus organizations representing the Democratic, Republican and Libertarian parties, no political organizations are allowed on campus. Students are prohibit-

ed from inviting political candidates to speak on campus, and other students are not allowed to form chapters of other political organizations.

We hear more about our civic duty from commercials on Monday Night Football than from Duquesne, other than friendly, off-hand reminders from our professors and advisors to register to vote.

Happily, Duquesne has not entirely refrained from interacting with our politics, and this semester especially, the administration has organized more events than in previous years. Wednesday's civil discourse event featured many figures of historical and political note and the conversation on the Rooney Rule outlined how the fight for racial justice must be fought in every arena.

These events, and similar past events, unite our community around a dialogue in a way that A-walk pop-ups and other campus events do not.

What makes the Campus Vote Project so special is its impact. Duquesne students are mostly residents of towns and cities in or around Pittsburgh,



COURTESY OF XQ INSTITUTE

Student groups look to get their peers more involved in the 2020 election.

Philadelphia and Buffalo. Voting matters in these districts, and Duquesne's unwillingness to allow students to promote voting diminishes turnout in ways that can substantially swing elections.

Ultimately, Duquesne is a private university, and the administration can hold whatever opinion it desires regarding the activities of political organizations on campus. However, that the administration maintains its position against political organizations being active on campus is a sign of the sense

that Duquesne University is above politics or the struggles for justice in this country. Living on the Bluff does not excuse an explicitly apolitical mindset.

The Campus Vote Project is important, and I sincerely hope that Duquesne continues to fund it, or at least promote efforts to help students register to vote and make plans to vote. This is just one more way Duquesne can serve God by serving students, and by encouraging and assisting student participation in our democracy, Duquesne would be serving our country as well.

While many struggle, some students find online learning to be beneficial

MOHAMMAD SAJJAD
staff columnist

It's safe to say that COVID-19 has turned our world upside down. In a matter of months, the way we interact with each other has completely changed and has inadvertently caused a fiery political debate that has polarized our country in a vital election year.

The pandemic has also affected the way education is being delivered, a topic that may be more personal for students. Undoubtedly, remote learning has been a negative for many individuals.

Not only are students missing valuable interaction with their classmates and professors, but low-income students who don't have access to resources needed for an online education are automatically at a disadvantage.

For some students, however, the switch to remote learning may have been beneficial for them.

Varied reactions to remote learning should make us realize that the way each student

learns is different and that education should be tailored for the individual, rather than the masses.

Regardless of what someone is studying, the amount of information that students are required to learn and retain can seem daunting. On top of that, depending on the professor, content isn't always delivered in the most steady manner.

In my own experience, I've struggled to keep up in live classes given how fast the professor was delivering their lecture. Information went in one ear and out the other. When it came time to studying for the exam, I was essentially looking at the material for the first time.

The pandemic has ushered in an era where professors are posting pre-recorded lectures for their students, in lieu of synchronous classes. While this may not be preferred by many students, it can be a blessing in disguise for individuals like me who learn more efficiently at their own pace.

Some students may identify as independent learners and prefer to take responsibility for their own education. For these

students, attending synchronous classes may not be the best use of their time. This is not to imply that these students don't need professors; rather, professors in these cases serve as guides for their students to answer their questions and make sure they are on the right track with the material.

Mental health is another issue to consider for students during the pandemic. For many individuals, being isolated from their peers and community has negatively impacted their mental wellbeing. For other students, however, the switch to remote learning has alleviated fear and anxiety that comes with attending live classes.

Entering a large lecture hall filled with students eager to learn can be a tall task for someone who simply struggled to get out of bed that day. These students are at a disadvantage compared to their peers and are at risk of falling behind. However, with remote learning, individuals that experience depression or anxiety can find comfort knowing that they have the opportunity to



COURTESY OF eSCHOOL NEWS

A growing number of students believe that online instruction has its advantages.

learn from home and not fall behind in their classes.

The point of this article is not to argue which mode of learning is better, but to emphasize that students have responded differently to the transition to remote learning and that this should be taken into account when approaching education in the future.

It's easy to say that a particular mode of learning is more effective for the majority of students. But what about the minority? I believe this pan-

demic has given educators an opportunity to tailor the delivery of education in a way that is accommodating for all students and takes into account students' personalities, learning preferences, and mental health states.

To professors and administrators: once this pandemic is behind us, why not continue live streaming your classes to give students more flexibility? Depending on the individual, it may make a huge difference.

Minority-owned business challenges increased by pandemic

KATIA FAROUN
features editor

Not far into the start of the pandemic, there seemed to be an emphasis on supporting small businesses. Advertisements highlighted these businesses, and people encouraged each other to order takeout at the local Mexican place down the road instead of Chipotle. But it's been more than half a year, and small businesses are still suffering — and some more than others.

Minority-owned businesses make up about 29% of all U.S. firms, or about 8 million firms, according to the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) in the U.S. Department of Commerce. Over recent years, that number has grown, having increased 38% between 2007 and 2012, according to U.S. Census Bureau data.

This growth looks good from a diversity standpoint, but what's hidden are the challenges minority-owned businesses face, and how they've increased due to the pandemic.

The pandemic put small businesses across the board in jeopardy. Access to credit and capital were specific challenges for minority-owned businesses, according to Richard Longo, director of Duquesne's Small Business Development Center.

"What goes across all small businesses ... is the downturn because of this pandemic — loss

of customers, loss of volume, expenses rising without the margins that small businesses need in place from a cash-flow perspective," Longo said.

A report published by McKinsey & Company shows that minority-owned businesses are especially vulnerable to these challenges, as they are more likely to have lower incomes than white owners, leaving them less of a financial cushion for starting and maintaining a business. Minority business owners have also reported more difficulty in obtaining loans and a greater fear of going out of business, according to the Department of Commerce. Lack of collateral, credit history and lower net-worth are issues faced by all small businesses, but more so those with minority owners, who are more likely to start out with less.

At the beginning of the pandemic, organizations that support small businesses offered resources and toolkits to help businesses survive the initial shutdowns. Companies ranging from corporations to nonprofits across the nation dedicated funds and offered loans to small and minority-owned businesses. In Pittsburgh, the city partnered with PNC to provide loans offering up to \$100,000 to minority-owned businesses impacted by COVID-19.

Despite attempts to offer aid and programs to minority-owned businesses, many haven't received

the help they need. Larger companies have received more aid due to their relationships with banks, while smaller minority-owned businesses lost out due to lack of connections, or social capital.

In the 2018 Small Business Credit Survey, large banks approved about 60% of white-owned business loan applications, 50% of Latinx or Hispanic business owners' requests and 29% of Black business owners' requests — and that was before the pandemic.

Out of all minority-owned businesses, those owned by Black people have been hit especially hard by the pandemic. A study by the National Bureau of Economic Research reported that over 40% of American Black-owned businesses shut down for good after the start of the pandemic, compared to 17% of white-owned businesses. However, western Pennsylvania has seen a growth in its amount of Black-owned businesses, and progress seems promising, according to Doris Carson Williams, president and CEO of the African American Chamber of Commerce of Western Pennsylvania.

"There's some forward movement to suggest that we're raising the conscious level for non-Blacks on the role that Blacks play in this region," Carson Williams said.

Though western Pennsylvania hasn't held the best track record historically for Black business owners, Carson Williams believes that growing national awareness



COURTESY OF NEW AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Though the number of minority-owned businesses has increased, challenges continue.

has encouraged companies to see the benefits of partnering with minority-owned businesses.

"Part of what has happened since the pandemic with the Black Lives Matter movement and the demonstrations — it has opened the eyes to a lot of those who are engaged in white privilege, and they're now seeing the benefit of what happens when you include people," Carson Williams said.

While the pandemic has increased the challenges already faced by minority-owned businesses, especially those owned by Black people, Carson Williams sees a stronger sense of unity among businesses — small and large, minority-owned or not — that the pandemic has created.

"Black business owners deserve to move forward, because we're all in this together," Carson Williams said. "That's what companies are realizing: this isn't just affecting U.S. Steel or UPMC or Highmark — it's everybody. And if we all work together, we can help to make things happen."

This is an introduction to a series highlighting minority-owned businesses in the Pittsburgh region. This series aims to give minority business owners a platform for their voices, where they can share their stories of challenges and hope with the Duquesne community.

The 'best' vintage fashion shops Pittsburgh has to offer

GRIFFIN SENDEK
multimedia editor

Pittsburgh is a vibrant home for vintage fashion, as East Carson Street alone is home to two of the most comprehensive vintage stores that can be found: Three Rivers Vintage and Highway Robbery Vintage.

So, Pittsburgh City Paper annually conducts a readers' poll to discover the "Best of Pittsburgh," — and these top-tier vintage stores were decidedly missing from the list of winners.

The poll includes more than 200 nominees, placed into five large categories: goods and services; people and places; culture and nightlife; and food and drink. Within the goods and services category, crowned victorious by the readers of City Paper as the "best local place to buy vintage clothes" was Red White & Blue Thrift Store, followed by Avalon Exchange and Zeds.

While Red White & Blue is a lovely thrift store full of incredible finds for decent prices, a vintage store it is not. Avalon Exchange, a resale store with the occasional vintage item, does not have vintage as a focus. Zeds, coming in third place, is the only one on the list that better meets the criteria for the title of a vintage clothing shop.

The disagreements with City Pa-



GRIFFIN SENDEK / MULTIMEDIA EDITOR
Three Rivers Vintage's vast selection ranges from the 1860s to 1970s.

per's consideration of "best place to buy vintage clothes" is in no way a point of contention between the paper and the shop owners.

"It doesn't bother me — I'm actually amused by it," said Scott Johnson, owner of Three River Vintage.

The whole situation is little more than an excuse to make fun of the more questionable choices for winners. However, it brings up the conversation of what difference the simple addition of a category could create.

"City Paper just needs to define the categories better, so it should be best 'thrift store' and best 'vintage store.' Not just 'best place to buy vintage,'"

Johnson said. "We can't compete with a thrift store that gets their stuff for free, and doesn't wash it or clean it or put the love into it."

At a passing glance, it would be easy to amalgamate a thrift store with a vintage store. Both sell clothing that had previous owners, and both typically have older items, but among the Pittsburgh vintage clothing scene, that's where the similarities end.

The most significant difference between the local thrift spots and vintage stores is the time, attention and care put into each item that goes on the shelf. At both Three Rivers and Highway Robbery, the curation

process is by far the most important part of what makes their shops stand out — and puts their selection a rung above the rest.

"I think it's good that a lot of different places carry vintage items," said Kate Minton, the owner of Highway Robbery Vintage. "But I think proper vintage stores really spend a lot of time with their inventory, —we're repairing things, we're cleaning things, we're reworking things to give them a new life."

Every item is hand-selected, carefully cleaned and undergoes any necessary repairs. This ensures that the clothing sold is always top quality.

The careful curation and hand selection has created an entirely unique shopping experience. Three Rivers and Highway Robbery are stores full of vibrant color and life, with clothing that can't be found anywhere else — everything is perfectly organized, run by people extremely knowledgeable of nearly every garment in the store. Shopping at these places is reminiscent of browsing through luxury boutiques — without the luxury prices.

"Red White & Blue is great, but [Highway Robbery Vintage] has a lot more curated finds, and I trust her quality," Highway Robbery customer Emily Mull said. "You don't have to really look for the good stuff — it's just all good, so you just find what-

ever is your size and your style, and you can trust it."

In a traditional thrift store, customers have to search for quality first before searching for style and size. In Pittsburgh's vintage scene, the quality is always a given.

In the realm of fashion, the exact definition of "vintage" is up for debate.

Minton wholeheartedly disagrees with the assumption that if something is used, it's vintage.

"They're not vintage stores, you know, that specialize in the curation of vintage. I don't have any problems with those stores and they do what they do very well, but I think no one is better at being a vintage store than a full-on vintage store," Minton said.

"I think the term vintage means different things to different people, so I also could see it from that perspective," he added. "I thought it was maybe a bit strange because it was hard to find vintage in those places, 'cause they're not specifically a vintage store."

Perhaps next year, the categories for "Best of Pittsburgh" will be slightly adapted, giving some of the true best vintage stores in the city a fair shake. More important than a yearly poll, though, is taking a journey into Pittsburgh's wonderful world of vintage fashion.

Henne: Big Ten unfit for CFP this season

LUKE HENNE
staff writer

As the NCAA Division I FBS college football season enters its eighth week, the Big Ten Conference will return to the field of play, just a few short months after this reality looked to be impossible.

A marquee conference, with powerhouses like Ohio State, Penn State, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin, will compete in an abbreviated eight-game schedule before each of the conference's 14 teams plays the team that finished in the same standing as them in the opposite division during a Dec. 19 championship week.

Since the inception of the College Football Playoff in 2014-15, the Big Ten has been represented in four of six instances (Ohio State in 2014-15, 2016-17 and 2019-20 and Michigan State in 2015-16), while even winning one national championship in the process (Ohio State in 2014-15).

However, this year should be different. The Big Ten may or may not field a team or teams worthy of competing in this year's edition of the College Football Playoff, but they shouldn't even get the chance.

As the circumstances created by the coronavirus pandemic put this current college football season in jeopardy, conferences around the country adopted revised schedules to limit travel and competition to

within the conference as best as possible. The Big Ten was no exception.

On Aug. 5, the conference trimmed each member's schedule from the traditional 12 games to 10 games, making the schedule a conference-only one. Just six days later, on Aug. 11, 11 of the conference's 14 schools voted to postpone the season due to COVID-19 circumstances, with Iowa, Nebraska and Ohio State voting against the majority decision.

What was the point of releasing a schedule, only to scrap it less than a week later? What changed in that six-day window that made the conference decide that it was suddenly a significant risk for its athletes to compete?

The uncertainty to field a season in such circumstances is certainly understandable, but why was a uniform decision not made across the NCAA? Why would it be OK for conferences like the Atlantic Coast Conference and Southeastern Conference to field a season, yet it was unsafe for a league like the Big Ten Conference to do so?

The conferences that were willing to play proceeded to do just that. The ACC and Big 12 adopted schedules of 11 and 10 games, respectively, with one non-conference game permitted. The SEC decided to field a 10-game, conference-only schedule.

For teams that have been playing for nearly two months now, there have been hiccups.

Coronavirus outbreaks and contact tracing issues have been the root cause of many canceled and postponed games, yet the season has not had to be entirely shut down. This is a testament to the hard work and dedication of many coaches, athletes, faculty and administration who were willing to put football on the field from the beginning in order to bring some hope to the country in such adverse times.

Upon postponing the season, Big Ten commissioner Kevin Warren — despite pleas from athletes and their

families — was adamant in saying that the decision would not be revisited. He said this as his son, Powers, was preparing for his junior season as a wide receiver with the SEC's Mississippi State Bulldogs.

If it was so dangerous for the Big Ten to compete in fall football, why was Commissioner Warren OK with his son competing at Mississippi State? The hypocrisy was — for lack of a better word — insufferable.

On Sept. 16, just days before the college football season's third week was ready to begin, the conference reversed course and announced that it would be returning to play during the weekend of Oct. 24, with a nine-game schedule on the table. This was great news for many around the college football community, but it just didn't sit well with me.

By deciding to return to play once they saw that other conferences were successful in fielding a season amid the circumstances, it conveyed the impression that the Big Ten and its fellow cancelers (Mid-American Conference, Mountain West Conference, Pac-12) treated its fellow conferences like test subjects to make sure the scene was safe before heading in themselves.

For what it's worth, all of these conferences have since reversed course and adopted revised schedules to field a 2020 campaign, just months after preaching about the potential pitfalls of playing a season.

Let's make one thing clear: This disgust isn't directed at people who always wanted this season to happen and knew it could happen.

This isn't directed at Ohio State quarterback Justin Fields, who pioneered a petition to get the league to return as he watched fellow quarterbacks like Trevor Lawrence (Clemson) and Kellen Mond (Texas A&M), both potential first-round picks in the 2021 NFL Draft, get the opportunity to play from the very beginning.

This isn't directed at Nebraska

Head Coach Scott Frost, who has been a vocal voice in his Cornhuskers competing, even declaring that they would play in Uzbekistan if need be.

The disgust is directed at the higher-ranking officials who told the athletes, coaches and their families that it was simply unsafe to play, only to change their minds after realizing not only how successful other conferences were, but also how much money from sources like television revenue would be lost if a season were not played.

In addition to these types of circumstances, due to the late start of the season, conferences like the Big Ten will be playing fewer games than their fellow counterparts in the ACC, SEC and Big 12, among others.

Let's look at a hypothetical: Say Penn State goes 9-0 with ranked wins over Ohio State, Michigan and Wisconsin (in the conference championship). Say the SEC's Georgia goes 10-1 with a conference title and its only loss coming to then second-ranked Alabama. Why, in this instance, would Georgia (who played two more games and, thus, had more opportunities to lose) be less worthy of a berth than a team like Penn State?

As the Big Ten returns to play, some sense of normalcy will return. Ohio State's annual beatdown of Michigan and Wisconsin's likely run to the Rose Bowl will make it feel like nothing ever happened. But something did happen.

The Big Ten Conference turned their back when its athletes, families and fans needed them the most, only to change their mind once other conferences put themselves out there to make sure it was safe. And unfortunately, as is the case with many decisions, money talks.

Hopefully, the College Football Playoff Selection Committee will consider the Big Ten's initial inclination once it's time to award four berths in December.



COURTESY OF CBS SPORTS
Ohio State quarterback Justin Fields

A-10 favorite Spiders to be without star guard Sherod in 2019-20

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Richmond guard and captain Nick Sherod will miss the coming season after tearing the ACL in his right knee in practice, coach Chris Mooney said Monday.

Sherod, a redshirt senior, was injured Thursday, a day after the team's first official practice. It was his second season-ending injury.

He started 31 games for the Spiders last season, averaging 12.7 points and 5.4 rebounds. He led Richmond with 78 3-pointers and led the Atlantic 10 Conference by shooting 43.8% from 3-point range. That was 10th best in the nation among Division I qualifiers.

Sherod received a medical redshirt in 2018-19 after missing the final 27 games of the season with a torn left ACL he suffered against Hampton on Nov. 25, 2018.

For his career, Sherod has averaged 11.5 points in 104 games for the Spiders. He is a graduate student pursuing a master's degree in teaching.

Other Sports News:

— On Wednesday, Pat Chambers resigned as Penn State's men's basketball coach following an internal investigation into allegations of inappropriate misconduct.

Penn State athletic director Sandy Barbour said in a press conference that NCAA matters were not part of the investigation.

Earlier this year, Iowa State guard Rasir Bolton — a former Penn State player under Chambers — made allegations of inappropriate misconduct by Chambers to The Undeclared.

Former Duquesne coach Jim Ferry, who served as an assistant under Chambers for the past three seasons, has been named the Nit-tany Lions' interim head coach.

In five seasons as Duquesne's head coach, Ferry's teams were 60-97 and 21-65 in conference. Ferry has been an assistant under Chambers since his firing in 2017.

— On Friday, the NCAA announced it is revoking wins in men's basketball and women's tennis from Massachusetts.

The decision stems from an NCAA finding that UMass overpaid 12 student-athletes about \$9,100 in financial aid over three years from 2014-17.

Among UMass' punishments: The NCAA will be revoking 59 basketball wins and an A-10 women's tennis championship, and UMass will be on probation until October 2022.

— Sports Editor Adam Lindner

NCAA Football AP Top 25 — Week 8

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall	Streak	This Week
1.	Clemson (54)	4-0	5-0	W5	vs. Syracuse
2.	Alabama (8)	4-0	4-0	W4	at Tennessee
3.	Notre Dame	3-0	4-0	W4	at Pittsburgh
4.	Georgia	3-1	3-1	L1	Bye
5.	Ohio State	0-0	0-0	n/a	vs. Nebraska
6.	Oklahoma State	2-0	3-0	W3	vs. 17 Iowa State
7.	Texas A&M	3-1	3-1	W2	Bye
8.	Penn State	0-0	0-0	n/a	at Indiana
9.	Cincinnati	1-0	3-0	W3	at 16 SMU
10.	Florida	2-1	2-1	L1	Game vs. LSU postponed

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall	Streak	This Week
11.	Miami	3-1	4-1	W1	vs. Virginia
12.	BYU	n/a	5-0	W5	vs. Texas State
13.	Oregon	0-0	0-0	n/a	Pac-12 play begins Nov. 6
14.	North Carolina	3-1	3-1	L1	vs. 23 NC State
t-14.	Wisconsin	0-0	0-0	n/a	vs. Illinois
16.	SMU	2-0	5-0	W5	vs. 9 Cincinnati
17.	Iowa State	3-0	3-1	W3	at 6 Oklahoma State
18.	Michigan	0-0	0-0	n/a	at 21 Minnesota
19.	Virginia Tech	3-1	3-1	W1	at Wake Forest
20.	Kansas State	3-0	3-1	W3	vs. Kansas

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall	Streak	This Week
21.	Minnesota	0-0	0-0	n/a	vs. 18 Michigan
22.	Marshall	2-0	4-0	W4	vs. Florida Atlantic
23.	NC State	4-1	4-1	W3	at 14 North Carolina
24.	USC	0-0	0-0	n/a	Pac-12 play begins Nov. 6
25.	Coastal Carolina	2-0	4-0	W4	vs. Georgia Southern

Panelists discuss Rooney Rule in conversation hosted by DU

DOM FERRO
staff writer

As the United States evaluates its complicated racial history with ongoing Black Lives Matter protests across the country, Duquesne University continued the discourse on racial equity with an event titled, “The Rooney Rule & What’s Next: Equity & Access in Athletics & Beyond.”

The Rooney Rule is the National Football League’s policy that requires all teams to meaningfully interview at least one minority candidate for head coaching and senior football operation jobs. The rule was instituted in 2003 and is named after Duquesne alum Dan Rooney.

The event was partially pre-recorded on Sept. 29 at 2 p.m. and was moderated by Duquesne University President Ken Gormley in the Duquesne Student TV studio. He was joined remotely by guests N. Jeremi Duru, a law professor at American University and sports law expert, and Jim Rooney, Dan’s son and the author of *A Different Way to Win*, an account of his father’s life and legacy.

The second half of the event was live-streamed to the public on Thursday, Oct. 15 at 1 p.m., and this time included co-moderator Brian Baptiste, La Salle University’s athletics director. The symposium was kicked off by Atlantic 10 Commissioner Bernadette McGlade.

McGlade said the newly-formed commission “will allow the A-10 to effect positive change in the area of social justice and equity for all.”

After the introduction by McGlade, the virtual audience was shown the pre-recorded segment featuring Gormley, Duru and Rooney. Gormley explained the background of the Rooney Rule and its relevance today.

“Today we’re thrilled to host a discussion about the historic origins, impact and potential future promise of the Rooney Rule,” Gormley said. “Duquesne University is the ideal place to have this conversation because the Rooney Rule is named after Dan Rooney, one of Duquesne’s most distinguished alums. Former owner of the hometown Pittsburgh Steelers, an iconic figure in the world of professional sports and later ambassador to Ireland, appointed by Barack Obama.”

Dan Rooney was born in 1932 in Pittsburgh, one year before his father, Art, founded the Steelers in 1933.

In 1960, Dan began working for the Steelers as director of personnel. Less than a decade later, Rooney aided in the hiring of Head Coach Chuck Noll, eventual four-time Super Bowl champion and Hall of Fame inductee.

Rooney was later appointed team president in 1975 and was given full operational control of the franchise. Meanwhile, his father still served as chairman and face of the organization.

While working for the Steelers, Dan was widely considered to be one of the league’s biggest social activists. In the 1960s, Rooney was introduced to Bill Nunn, a sportswriter for the Pittsburgh Courier, a primarily Black news publication.

As a sportswriter for the Courier, Nunn focused on football programs at historically Black colleges and universities (HBCU). Every college football season, Nunn would name the one and only “Black College All-

American.”

Rooney and the Steelers took notice of Nunn’s coverage of HBCU athletes and his criticism toward the Steelers for not drafting certain minority players. Rooney met with Nunn and hired him as a part-time scout; the Steelers proceeded to draft more players from HBCUs than any other professional football team from 1968-80, and won a then-record four Super Bowls in the process.

During the 1970s, the Steelers were one of the first dynasties in the NFL, and their success is due in part to Nunn and Rooney’s evaluation of the overlooked HBCU athletes.

As president of the Steelers, Dan Rooney continued to fight for disenfranchised individuals, especially minority coaches in the NFL. In 2003, the Rooney Rule was introduced and helped lead to the hiring of current Steelers Head Coach Mike Tomlin.

Duru explained the reason the rule was introduced: “After the 2001 season, Tony Dungy — current Hall of Famer, and Dennis Green — one of the greatest head coaches for the Minnesota Vikings — were both terminated within two weeks from each other and it really caused a commotion in the NFL, but also outside the NFL.”

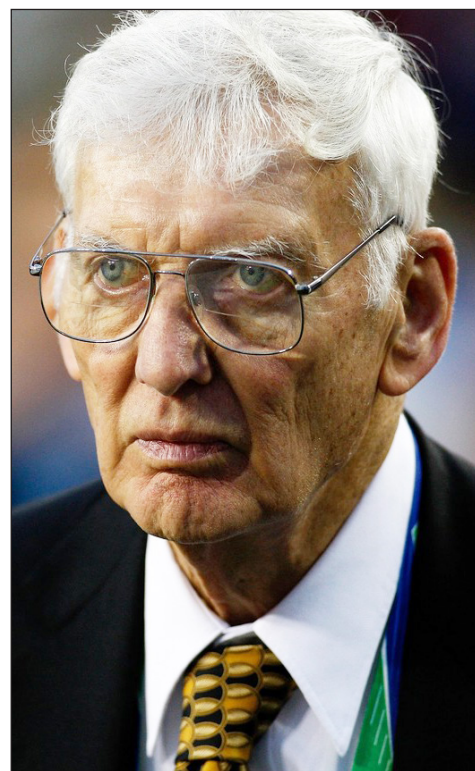
The reason for the commotion was that the NFL was now only left with one Black head coach out of its 32 teams. Furthermore, Dungy had a winning record at the time of his firing, and Green had just suffered his first losing season in 10 years.

Jim Rooney said the NFL consists of “77% [minority players] and less than 5% of NFL coaches are minorities. That just doesn’t make sense. The conclusion from sports law experts was that this was employment discrimination in the NFL.”

Duru provided evidence that was collected by outside activists and lawyers brought to the NFL.

“Black head coaches won 2.7 more games per season than white head coaches — almost three games in a 16-game season. And in the year they were terminated, almost 1.5 more games (won).”

Duru continued, “The conclusion wasn’t



COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES

In this 2009 photo, Dan Rooney looks on as the Steelers win Super Bowl XLIII against Arizona.

that Black people were better coaches; the conclusion was Black coaches were being fired at a much higher rate.”

Fredrick Douglas “Fritz” Pollard was the first minority head coach in the NFL when he was hired in the 1920s. From the time he was a head coach to the installation of the Rooney Rule in 2003, there were a total of only six minority head coaches.

With the overwhelming evidence showing racial inequity in the league, the Rooney Rule was implemented immediately.

Initially, the rule was working. At the start of the 2006 season, the overall percentage of African-American coaches had jumped to 22% from the 6% mark it stood at prior to the Rooney Rule’s installation.

Unfortunately, the rule has not been as effective in recent years.

Since the rule was instated there have been more minorities hired in a short time period; nevertheless, many of the same non-white coaches lost their jobs after only a few seasons.

Currently, the best look we can get at

“The NFL is trying to strengthen the rule to meet the challenges of the day,” Duru said. “Making sure there is a clear penalty and [letting] folks know if they don’t do this, there will be punishment. The foundation is strong. The boldness is in the enforcement and penalty.”

Rooney agreed with Duru’s assessment of strict punishment for not following the rule. He also suggested changing the rule to enforce a meaningful interview for two minority candidates.

“If you only have one minority candidate in the pool, you almost reinforce bias. You increase by one or even more than that, you increase the odds of hiring a minority candidate.”

The Rooney Rule has also gotten traction outside of football. The Oregon state legislature passed a law requiring any team looking for a coach to interview at least one person of color. There has been a push from the NCAA to adapt their own Rooney Rule.

Outside of sports, companies such as



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS

Pictured above is a flyer for the event, which was hosted virtually on Thursday, Oct. 15. Duquesne University and DU’s athletic department hosted the event in conjunction with the newly-formed Atlantic 10 Commission on Racial Equity, Diversity & Inclusion.

how the rule is doing in today’s world is to look at the 2019 season. Eight NFL teams had head coaching vacancies; only one team, the Miami Dolphins, hired a non-white coach.

“Many people view the results as being disappointing,” Baptiste said to Rooney. “The NFL only has three minority head coaches [and] two minority general managers. How would you assess the league’s progress since the advent of the Rooney Rule? Is there a better way to make sure organizations are acting in good faith and actually following the parameters of the Rooney Rule?”

“Unfortunately, we are back to the numbers from 2003,” Rooney responded. “My father would be disappointed.”

Gormley then chimed in, asking, “Have we been bold enough? Do we need to take the foundation of the Rooney Rule and ratchet it up in new ways if we are really going to be successful, and get concrete wins when it comes to diversity, equity and inclusion when it comes to programs and initiatives?”

The NFL is trying to adapt the rule to modern times and now requires a minority candidate be interviewed for all senior football operations positions.

Pinterest and Facebook have similar rules set in place for hiring processes related to diversity.

“The journey that’s been traveled for African-American coaches has been a long one,” Duru said. “From ‘Fritz’ Pollard in 1921 to the next hiring of a non-white coach, Art Shell, in 1989, to just over a decade later the Rooney Rule being introduced.”

A related issue is the lack of minority candidates available to interview. Duru believes part of solving that issue is getting more minorities on the pipeline to even be considered for a head coach position.

With the solid backbone of the Rooney Rule, the NFL is on the right path to racial equity but the job is not finished. The rule needs adapted and it must be ever-changing, because social science is not solved with one rule. The rule has the potential to continue to grow outside of football and become a national policy for workplace diversity.

While the event was streamed live, it is available to rewatch on YouTube, titled “The Rooney Rule & What’s Next: Equity & Access in Athletics & Beyond,” on the Duquesne University Conference & Event Services YouTube channel.

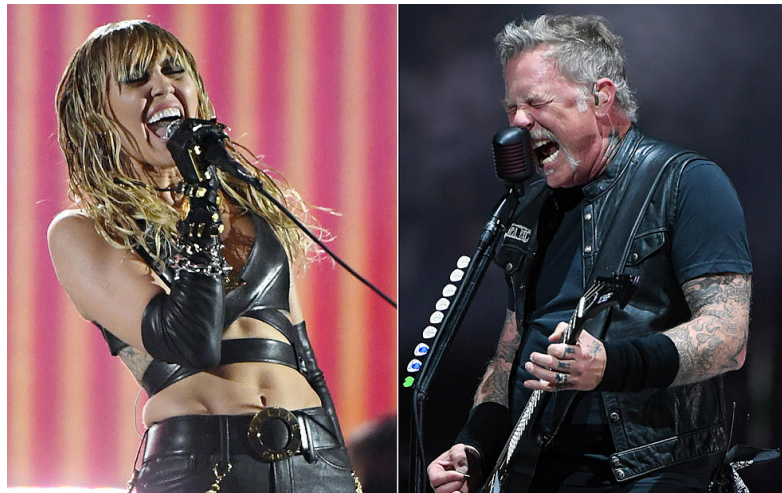
Upcoming music releases await chart-topping success

CAPRI SCARCELLI

a&e editor

Today's music scene has an especially booming release radar. With artists not being able to perform live, the pandemic has given ample opportunity for musicians to put out more of their work.

In the span of a week, various artists – both known and new to the industry – have announced or teased upcoming single or album releases through social media platforms such as Instagram, Twitter and TikTok. Whether an official date was given or simply a hint toward the near future, the music industry is providing listeners with plenty of content to listen to throughout the rest of the semester.



Taking on a new style, Miley Cyrus prepares audiences for more bold cover performances. COURTESY OF ULTIMATE CLASSIC ROCK

new studio album, followed by a discography update on his website www.paulmccartney.com. The third of its kind, McCartney first released “McCartney” in

“We’re so lucky to be able to work on our art during all of this [coronavirus stress],” Cyrus said. “At first, it felt uninspiring, and now I’ve been totally ignited.”

Experimenting cover songs with rock influences such as Blondie, The Cranberries, Pink Floyd and now Metallica, Cyrus is diverging from her pop/country-pop roots to delve into a grittier side of her vocal range, impressing audiences young and old.

Leaving hints throughout their website and social media pages, rock band The Smashing Pumpkins revealed a release date of Nov. 27 for their upcoming album, “Cyr.” According to The Rolling Stone, this double album will feature 20 new tracks for listeners. The entire track list was pieced together and revealed to fans by The Smashing Pumpkins, and can be found on The Rolling Stone website.

English singer Dua Lipa has been speculated to have a collaboration with either Grande or Cyrus, writing “coming soon” on an Instagram post @dualipa.

On her TikTok @dualipaofficial, she posted a choreography video with the caption “rehearsing for [something] v[ery] special... can’t wait [to] tell [yo]u all about it.” Her single, “Levitating,” with rapper DaBaby released two weeks ago, which has listeners wondering if she is releasing another collaboration or working toward another studio album.

Though announced earlier in the year, artists and bands such as Bruce Springsteen, Sam Smith and Wallows are all set to release new music in the next coming weeks.

Springsteen, at 71 years old, joins E Street Band for his 20th studio album, “Letter to You,” to be released Oct. 23. In an inter-

view with the New York Times, Springsteen said he is disappointed he will not be able to tour his album due to the dangers of the pandemic.

“That act of playing [live] has been one of the only consistent things in my life since I was 16 years old,” Springsteen said. “That would be a bit of a life change for me [if I couldn’t perform live again.]”

However, Springsteen is still hopeful to “carry on a legacy” with his past works, and now the upcoming success of “Letter to You.”

Also set to release on Oct. 23, indie/alternative band Wallows gained popularity with album “Nothing Happens,” and are now back for more with mellow EP release “Remote.” According to NME, critics expect the Los Angeles-born trio to continually expand their fan base with this upcoming release.

Sam Smith’s new album “Love Goes” will be released Oct. 28. Their lead single “Diamonds” was released as a teaser in September, while working on the album as a whole for the past two years since expanding their R&B roots with previous 2017 album “The Thrill of It All.”

With the stress of our current times, these artists provide a reprieve for audiences looking for a change of pace, or change of song, for all of your playlist needs. Make sure to keep an open ear for new music coming your way.



COURTESY OF ARIANAGRANDE.COM

New cover art for “Positions” single preps fans for another “Grande” hit.

WEEK'S EVENTS

Harry Potter Horcrux Scavenger Hunt
Oct. 22 @ 4 p.m.

Sign up at Assumption Hall front desk to get a link to the GooseChase app for some Potterworld fun!

DPC DUNite: Halloween Crafts
Oct. 23 @ 9 p.m.

Stop by Mellon Patio to make your very own Halloween-themed arts and crafts! Supplies limited.

UPCOMING RELEASES

The Empty Man
Thursday, Oct. 22

A horror/supernatural film, this movie is centered around a missing teenage girl, an ex-cop, and a group summoning of a supernatural entity. Rated R.

Coming Home Again
Friday, Oct. 23

Originally produced as an essay in the New Yorker in 1995, this American-South Korean film adaptation brings author Chang-Rae Lee's heartfelt story to life.

CAPRI'S COMPLAINTS

Where is all of my flex going?

I'm serious. I spend all of my flex at Starbucks and act shocked when my money is depleting.

This is due to a myriad of factors: My classes made me surrender any semblance of a healthy sleep schedule; I convince myself I need coffee throughout the week just because I've practically worked it into my schedule to do so; and now I'm in unspoken competition with those around me to see how much caffeine intake it takes to start twitching.

Maybe I want chips and salsa from the market! Maybe I want a strawberry milkshake from Chick-fil-A!

If Duquesne Dining sees this message, I ask for at least a bonus of \$20 in flex to hold me over.

—Capri Scarcelli

McCartney



COURTESY OF PITCHFORK

His 18th studio album, Paul McCartney lays out the third album of his self-produced series since 1980.

27-year-old pop artist Ariana Grande has been gearing to tell fans of new music coming soon, tweeting “I can’t wait to give [yo]u my album this month” on her Twitter account @arianagrande on Oct. 14. Three days later, Grande posted a cryptic video on both her Instagram and Twitter: a slow-motion video of her typing the word “position” on her laptop, followed by a link to her website, arianagrande.com.

Fans soon discovered that her new single, “Positions,” is set to release Oct. 23, followed by her sixth studio album release on Oct. 30, referred to as “AG6” until an official album title is announced, according to Us Weekly.

Produced, composed and entirely performed by former Beatles member and solo artist Sir Paul McCartney, “McCartney III” comes to streaming services Dec. 11. Announced on Oct. 21, McCartney left a video compilation on his Instagram to tease the

1970 and “McCartney II” in 1980.

Up-and-coming singer-songwriter Billie Eilish also subtly announced new music on the way. With a Q&A set up on Eilish’s Instagram story @billieeilish, Eilish replied to a fan asking when new music would be released, simply telling her fans “November,” according to NME. This single release will be the first release since July’s single “My Future.” Eilish said she has been working on an album since January, though is not planning to release it until 2021.

Former Disney Channel star Miley Cyrus, on the other hand, very openly announced her excitement for her upcoming works. In a recent talk with Interview magazine, Cyrus announced she is working on a Metallica cover album, set to be released in November alongside her upcoming seventh studio album “She is Miley Cyrus,” which is a response to her 2017 album “Younger Now.”

Borat 2 review: "Fascinating and urgently satirical"

BBC NEWS-- He's back! Sacha Baron Cohen's greatest creation, the iconic character who encouraged stag-night attendees to squeeze into lime-green manikinis, has returned for a second film.

Fourteen years after he shocked cinema-goers everywhere in *Borat: Cultural Learnings of America For Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan*, Amazon announced the new film was ready, a mere month ago. It was exciting, but it was worrying, too. How could a belated sequel possibly compare with a side-spitting, gobsmacking all-time comedy classic? The answer, I'm afraid, is that it can't. *Borat Subsequent Moviefilm* is nowhere near as hilarious as its predecessor. The pranks tend to be longer and baggier, more audacious than funny, and there is nothing to match the gross-out brilliance of the naked wrestling, or the magnificent silliness of keeping a bear in the back of an ice cream van. But be patient: the last half hour of *Subsequent Moviefilm* has enough fine material to make it all worthwhile.

Before that, the inevitable problem is how familiar the road-movie mockumentary format has become. As in the first film, *Borat Sagdiyev* (Sacha Baron Cohen) is trundling across the U.S. on a mission to meet a celebrity. In 2006, his target was Pamela Anderson. In 2020, he has been digging ditches for years in a Kazakh gulag, having embarrassed his country with his 'documentary', but he is informed that he can redeem himself by visiting the U.S. Vice President, Mike Pence, along with Kazakhstan's Minister of Culture (who happens to be a monkey). Soon, he is driv-



14 years later, comedy film "Borat" returns to audiences with even more satirical scenes that hit close to home.

ing around Texas, Oklahoma and Georgia, saying rude things to locals, and hearing rude things from them in return. He can still prompt some chuckles, as well as some gasps of disbelief, but you can usually guess what is going to happen, and that simply wasn't true of the original film.

Borat is such a well-known figure now that the filmmakers have to disguise him in several scenes. They didn't have much choice. If Baron Cohen had stuck to the boxy grey suit, the curly hair and the big moustache, too many of the non-actors he speaks to would have realised that they were being conned. But the elaborate disguises don't make sense in the fictional world of the film. A foreign reporter wouldn't want to travel around the U.S. incognito, and, anyway, his wigs and costumes are too effective for someone as incompetent as *Borat* to have come up with. It's not that they're perfect. They're like the *Quasimodo* and mafia godfather outfits that Peter Sellers wears

in *The Pink Panther* series. (And if anyone could reboot *Inspector Clouseau*, it's Baron Cohen.) But whenever he puts on a fat suit, a fake beard and a false nose, you are reminded that you aren't watching a clueless Kazakh journalist asking naive questions, you're watching a crafty British comedian fooling his interviewees. Some of the charm is lost. *Subsequent MovieFilm* is closer in spirit to Baron Cohen's 2018 series, *Who Is America?*, than it is to 2006's *Borat*.

Perhaps it suffers from having a different director: Jason Woliner has taken the reins from legendary *Seinfeld* / *Curb Your Enthusiasm* alumnus, Larry Charles. But another, more significant reason why it is less enjoyable is that the world has changed since 2006. YouTube had barely launched back in that dim, distant era, so it was rare to see pranksters catching people off guard in public. Nowadays, you can watch countless *Borat*-style routines at the click of a mouse.

A related point is that, in the

first film, Baron Cohen amazed us by getting Americans to make the most outrageously toxic statements on camera. These days, in contrast, some Americans make those statements on camera every day. They don't need anyone to coax or trick them into expressing opinions that might have been classed as extreme 14 years ago; they do so loudly and proudly.

Subsequent Moviefilm isn't a write-off, though. It is saved by its satirical focus (which I'll get to shortly), and by its secret weapon, Maria Bakalova, a Bulgarian actress who plays *Borat*'s 15-year-old daughter ("the oldest unmarried woman in Kazakhstan"). I missed Ken Davitian's *Azamat*, and I was piqued that a new sidekick had been introduced in his place. But Bakalova is a real discovery.

Most of the scenes that had me covering my eyes in mortified glee were the ones in which she took the lead. She is so wide-eyed and heartfelt in her interactions with strangers that her plotline becomes

strangely emotional, and so fearless and quick-witted in the stunt sequences that she gives the film the surprise value that it lacks elsewhere. We already know that Baron Cohen can do this stuff; the thrill comes from seeing that someone else can do it, too.

Indeed, that climactic gotcha might explain why *Subsequent Moviefilm* has been released in such a hurry. The 2006 *Borat* was made during George W. Bush's presidency, but it didn't comment explicitly on his administration. This one is far more topical. It has parts that could have been shot at any time, but most of it is about coronavirus, Facebook conspiracy theories, white supremacy, the sexual harassment that led to the MeToo movement, and various Trump-related scandals. Baron Cohen and his team are clearly more intent on influencing viewers at the ballot box than they are in making them laugh. They even finish with a caption: "NOW VOTE. OR YOU WILL BE EXECUTE." [sic]

Having been made with a specific political purpose, *Subsequent MovieFilm* won't age as well as the previous *Borat* did. Whereas that one will stand as an ever-green comedy, this one might be as ephemeral as a newspaper's editorial cartoon or an episode of *Spitting Image*. But it's the ripped-from-the-headlines relevance that makes it so fascinating, and it's the boiling rage at current politics that makes it so bracing. There aren't many films as urgently satirical as this one. You might not want to re-watch it in a few years' time, but you should definitely watch it now.



Libra

Attention! "The O" in Oakland is, yes, still closed forever. Get your fries from Incline this weekend instead.

Scorpio



Hear me out: ChinaWok dumplings.



Sagittarius

Private zoom message a dad joke to your professor. See if they giggle.



Capricorn

This is your Troy Bolton moment. Take that as you wish.

Aquarius



If you're looking for a sign to get a grande instead of a tall, this is it.

Pisces



Imagine waking up to pumpkin seeds spilled everywhere around your room... this is your warning.



Aries

(March 21-April 19)

Go Marines! (Marine wildlife, of course. Shout out to the manatees).

Taurus



I heard texting your crush to edit your essay is the best way to win them over.



Gemini

Duck...

Cancer



Remember, licking doorknobs is illegal on other planets.

Leo



Channel that energy inside you and put it toward cartwheeling across A-Walk.



Virgo

Play the ukulele at 1 a.m.: you can't get a noise complaint if you make it a sing-a-long.



Election Day is
November 3.

You can vote early.

You can vote
by mail.

You can vote on
Election Day.

Go to voteamerica.com/students



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IN

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THE FIRST STEP
TO MAKING CHANGE.

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