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Professors discuss anti-racist pedagogy

KELLEN STEPLER
features editor

One challenge white educators face when teaching about race is that it's often not a skill set that most have, but Duquesne's Antiracist Pedagogy Community of Practice (APCP) is hoping to change that.

The organization is hoping to create a space where faculty and staff can discuss topics like race and antiracist pedagogy in the classroom.

"The way in which our own educational journeys, as well as the ways our society works, is that we don't talk about race," said Jessica Mann, Assistant Vice President of Community Engagement of Duquesne's Center for Community Engaged-Teaching and Research. "In that case, white folks often don't see themselves as racialized beings because whiteness has become the norm, it's the standard, and that anybody who is not white is other, so you then have the luxury of not thinking about your race and what it means to both yourself and to others."

The APCP was formed in January in an attempt to create spaces for Duquesne faculty and staff to learn and talk about race, racism and intersectionality, and apply antiracist techniques and ideas in their classrooms.

The first APCP session for the fall semester was Tuesday, Oct. 19 on Zoom. The discussion looked at numerous ways that one's personal and social identities are constructed, and how those characteristics influence professional roles and relationships.

What is the APCP?

In the Fall 2020 semester,

see **PEDAGOGY**— page 3

THE DUQUESNE DUKE

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DU welcomes Black Business Expo "the process is more rewarding than the top"



LUKE HENNE | SPORTS EDITOR

Wade Anthony showcases products from his business, Anthony's Lckr, during Wednesday's Black Business Expo in the PNC Atrium of the Duquesne Union.

LUKE HENNE
sports editor

As part of its second-ever Black Cultural Awareness Week, Duquesne University's Black Student Union hosted the Black

Business Expo on Wednesday.

The event, which was held in the PNC Atrium of the Duquesne Union, welcomed Black businesses from the Pittsburgh region to promote their companies to the campus community.

Wade Anthony is the founder



LUKE HENNE | SPORTS EDITOR

Logan Williamson, founder of Olvidadobeats, shares a presentation and business cards for his music-production company during Wednesday's expo.

of Anthony's Lckr. His store, which is located at 4314 Butler St. in the Central Lawrenceville neighborhood of Pittsburgh, offers a variety of products like snapback hats and retro t-shirts.

However, Anthony also specializes in the sale and restoration of sneakers. It's something he's done for a fair amount of time.

"When I was playing ball here in 2008, I started slinging shoes," Anthony said. "I just kept moving, opened up the store in 2015."

Anthony also described himself as "a product of the culture."

"Everything that's my life, I just turned it into a store," Anthony said. "Being with my friends and going off of music and stuff like that, a lot of these inspirations just made sense. I put it all together, put the sneaker community with the fashion community. It's been fun lately."

Anthony believes the most rewarding part of the job is see-

ing someone who "has an idea of what they want to do."

"[From there], I can push them off the ledge to do it," Anthony said. "Leading by example is so important."

Anthony also offered a key piece of advice for those looking to take a path similar to his.

"If you want to see success, I can tell you that the process [en route to achieving that success] is more rewarding than the top," Anthony said. "Everything matters. You have to go to small events. You have to go to big events."

For Logan Williamson, the founder of Olvidadobeats, it's all about understanding what potential clients in the music industry want from him.

"Olvidadobeats is everything music-related. It's my DJ company," Williamson said. "I engineer, produce and mix and master as well. What I try to do

see **BUSINESS**— page 2

Pumpkin Chocolate Chip Muffins

Emma Polen | Layout Editor



EMMA POLEN | LAYOUT EDITOR

Looking for an easy fall recipe to serve up at a gathering, or eat them all yourself, Here is a family fav recipe that never fails to be appreciated wherever we bring it. These ingredients make about 3 dozen regular size muffins, or 6.5 dozen mini muffins. I usually do a mix of both!

Ingredients

- 4 eggs
- 2 cups white sugar
- 1 (15 oz.) can pumpkin
- 1 cup oil
- 3 cups flour
- 2 tsp baking soda
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1 tsp salt
- 2 C chocolate chips

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 400°
2. Grease muffin pans with cooking spray
3. Beat eggs in large bowl
4. Mix in sugar, pumpkin and oil
5. Add the remaining dry ingredients
6. Fold in chocolate chips
7. Fill muffin cups, about 3/4 of the way with batter
8. Reg. size muffins: Bake for 15-20 mins. Mini muffins: 10-12 mins.

Food for the soul: a homestyle meal students can enjoy

MARY LIZ FLAVIN
news editor

Pans of mac and cheese, yams and pulled pork lined a table in a buffet-style set up as students gathered to the Africa Room in the Student Union to take part in a soul food celebration.

On Sunday, Oct. 17, Duquesne's Black Student Union (BSU) hosted "Swingin' Soul Food Sunday," a dinner that kicked off the organization's Black Cultural Awareness Week.

Soul food is a cuisine that originated in the mid-1960s when the word 'soul' was used to describe African-American culture. According to Britannica, the term was first used when many aspects of African-American culture were celebrated during the rise of "Black Pride", including soul music for their contribution to the Ameri-

can way of life.

Re'Naye Waklatsi, vice president of programming for BSU, said she was excited to be a part of the event. She got to collaborate with the other members of BSU. Together, they came up with the idea of a soul food style dinner.

"It's like we are all hosting the event because we all bring something to the table," Waklatsi said.

Waklatsi said that members of BSU came in a little earlier before the event's start to check in with one another making sure they were all in the right headspace. She said it "made her heart warm" to see her friends attend the dinner.

"I liked it most because I got to meet those who cooked the food and more often than not, we don't get to talk to people behind the scenes," Waklatsi said.

BSU was able to team up with Parkhurst Dining Services and create a full meal for the estimated 25 students in attendance. Options included mac and cheese, chicken, yams, collard greens, cornbread, pulled pork and peach cobbler, an overwhelming favorite of BSU members.

"It was awesome, especially the vibe, everything was really well done," said Eric Swain Jr., BSU's vice president of community and engagement. "The food was really good."

Rose Reyes, a member of BSU, said she enjoyed the food and her friends beside her.

"We've gone through a whole Duquesne experience with these people so it feels like being around family," Reyes said.

According to executive vice president Lindsey Harris, the event brought forth a feeling of

community. Harris said that she "loved the fact that this is happening in the first place."

"It's nice to see all these Black people together -- I love it," Harris said.

BSU president Taylor Hopkins was thrilled with the event, the first of celebrations for Black Cultural Awareness Week.

"It was a successful way to start off the week and I think this event went very well. This was a good start and a great way to bring people together," Hopkins said.

Other events included in Black Cultural Awareness Week were The Power of Black Hair with guest speaker St. Clair Detrick-Jules; Black Business Expo featuring a variety of Black businesses from Pittsburgh; and Black Music and Art Appreciation: A safe space for students to appreciate Black art. Students can learn more by attending these events.



MARY LIZ FLAVIN | NEWS EDITOR

BSU members dished out food to students such as mac and cheese, yams, collard greens, and pulled pork.



COURTESY OF CHRISTIAN BERNARD

Taylor Hopkins, president of BSU (far left), stands beside her fellow BSU committee members as well as two chefs from Parkhurst, all who helped make the night a success.

Black Business Expo: "a product of the culture"

see **BUSINESS**—page 1

is offer the highest sound quality possible for all my clients, no matter what needs they have."

Williamson has had a passion for this industry for a long time. He wasted no time in turning that passion into a practice, a practice that he could capitalize off of.

"I've been DJing for quite a while, since the seventh grade," Williamson said. "The music production aspect picked up in high school around my sophomore year. That's when I really started to turn it into a legitimate business where I could monetize my talents and what I'm doing."

Williamson said that the main goal for his company is to "offer people a good time when it comes to DJing" and "a great sound when it comes to [his] music production and engineering."

Williamson praised the university for holding such an event, an event in which individuals like himself could begin

make a name for themselves.

"Events like this are significant in pretty much any and every way because the number one thing about having a business is getting your stuff out there and knowing how to network," Williamson said. "Being able to have events like this, especially for the Black students on campus, where we have very limited representation, is awesome. It's awesome that Duquesne is giving us a chance to get our businesses out there."

Annie Ribeau, a senior at Duquesne, appreciated the event, saying that she'll always give a shot to businesses like these, ones that are "economically affordable."

Anthony was grateful solely for the opportunity to be able to present.

"It's rewarding in itself just to be here," Anthony said.

DU alumnus promoted in Spiritan order

DUQUESNE DUKE
editorial staff

Duquesne University announced on Monday that alumnus the Rev. Alain Mayama was elected Superior General of Spiritan Congregation.

The Spiritans founded Duquesne in 1878.

According to a news release, the Superior General is the highest position of authority that leads the Spiritan Congregation, along with his council. He is the first African Spiritan to hold the position.

Mayama earned his master's degree and Ph.D. from Duquesne in 2007. He served as chaplain of a hospital in Port Huron, Michigan, before completing four years of mission work prior to joining the General Council in Rome in 2012.

In a news release, university President Ken Gormley said that Mayama is "a wonderful choice and example of service to lead the Spiritans globally."

"Fr. Mayama is a wonderful choice and example of service to lead the Spiritans globally," Gormley said in the release. "We certainly are delighted that a Duquesne alumnus is the leader of the congregation that founded and animates our university today. We are equally proud of the record of service and leadership that Fr. Mayama has built. Fr. Jim McCloskey and I had the privilege of meeting with him when we visited Rome a few years ago, and his wisdom and humility will serve the congregation well."



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY

EMAIL TIPS

We want your input!

The Duke's news section would love to hear from you about stories that you want to see in print. Know a talented professor or accomplished student? See something on campus that just doesn't make sense? You can send your tips and story ideas to Editor-in-Chief Colleen Hammond at hammondcd@duq.edu

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Victory on the docket for Duquesne Mock Trial Team

COLLEEN HAMMOND
editor-in-chief

The verdict is in: Duquesne's Mock Trial team is slated for victory this season, already beating two of the best teams in the country.

In a unique blend of acting, public speaking, debate, improv, role playing games and the legal system, the team of roughly 30 people seeks to give students courtroom experience and assist in developing analytical thinking skills. Team members compete against other schools in fictitious trials. Some members serve as witnesses while others, attorneys.

Together, the team creates a story and develops case theory around it. As the team presents the case throughout the season, they look at their scores from competition judges and adjust their case

accordingly, said Duquesne junior and third year team member Riley Moore.

At this stage in the season, the team is broken up into subgroups by color. Later in the year, these groups will be split into an A, B and C team. Each team prepares separate cases and can compete at different competitions, but all compete under the banner of Duquesne Mock Trial. The teams are "stacked in order of competitiveness," Mock Trial President Kelsey McCafferty said.

In her fourth year in mock trial and her second year as president of the organization, McCafferty is attempting to lead her team to another successful year.

After the group's best season on record in 2020, this year's mock trial team is positioned to continue their recent legacy. Last year, Duq Mock Trial placed in the top 25% of



COURTESY OF RILEY MOORE

Mock Trial President Kelsey McCafferty stands among the Blue Team winners.



COURTESY OF KELSEY MCCAFFERTY

Riley Moore, Khloe Manupelli, Kelsey McCafferty and Nathan Gierczynski stand with masked smiles after an early season mock trial victory.

APCP provides space to talk race and intersectionality

see **PEDAGOGY**— page 3

Duquesne's Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) facilitated a discussion of readings on race and pedagogy on Zoom. Mary Parish, Duquesne's associate director of online learning and strategy, attended CTE's session along with Mann, and was interested in what she heard.

"We heard some excellent, excellent discussions that emerged during the breakout sessions, and just a real interest expressed by many of the folks who were there to learn more," Parish said.

Parish, Mann and CTE's Erin Rentschler held their first event of the APCP in January – the first of two events for the spring 2021 semester. Parish said that the events were "very well attended," drawing around 40 to 50 people.

In the Spring 2021 sessions, Anthony Kane, director of Duquesne's Center of Excellence in Diversity and Student Inclusion presented about inclusive classrooms, and Alydia Thomas, assistant director of student development and programming, discussed students' experience of racism on campus.

"Those sessions were really to elevate the voices of students without inviting the students into the room, so that they wouldn't have to defend their experience and sort of relive any associated trauma," Mann said. "But, we re-

ally wanted faculty and staff that were participating to understand what the reality of marginalized students is on this campus, how it manifests in both the classroom and their residence halls or just walking on campus."

Mann said they marked out baseline definitions of terms like intersectionality, racism and inclusion; and then provided a better understanding of those terms. Tuesday's session asked staff members to map out their identities from an intersectionality perspective.

Some of the reflection in that session includes what an educator represents when they enter a space, how people interpret an individual when they enter a space, and how that aligns with how one views themselves, Mann said.

"With that information, we're going to move toward strategies for inclusive practice [and] inclusive leadership; thinking about how to incorporate those things into the structure of syllabi and curriculum," Mann said.

The APCP, Rentschler said, offers an opportunity for space and reflection in ways that are both "safe and brave." She also noted that CTE offers different outlets for faculty to learn more about race and pedagogy; including an "inclusive teaching challenge" workshop that comes with a newsletter that introduces faculty to concepts, readings and suggested actions to make a class-

room more inclusive.

Additionally, CTE offers a two-part book study, discussing the book "What Inclusive Instructors Do: Principles and Practices for Excellence in College Teaching."

"I think having these different places for faculty and staff to engage in different ways brings value to making this as effective as we can in the positions that we have," Rentschler said.

A space for self-reflection

The APCP is an inviting environment, Mann said, and creates a space for educators to discuss topics in a space that feels non-threatening.

"We need to be empathetic, we need to recognize that we are all products of systems that we're a part of, and that the beautiful thing about this type of work is

that we're capable of change and growth," she said.

There's also been a shift in cultural norms over time about how humans view race, Parish said. In the 1970s and 80s, there was a "notion that to see race was to be racist."

"The reality is if you can't see race, then you can't see racism," Parish said. "We want to help people who are already on their journeys of learning, and are very, very focused and caring about the many implications of race and higher ed."

Having this space to explore these matters, Parish said, is important, and lives Duquesne's mission.

"This just gives it a focus, it gives it a space for discussion



ANDREW CUMMINGS | MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

The APCP hopes to give educators and staff a space where they can reflect on their own intersectionalities, and create an inclusive teaching environment for all.

F L U

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NFL season full of storylines near campaign’s halfway point

BRENTARO YAMANE
staff writer

The number one can represent Arizona Cardinals quarterback Kyler Murray in a lot of different ways.



LUKE HENNE | SPORTS EDITOR

After a 2020 season highlighted by stadiums with capacity-restricted crowds (or no crowds at all), stadiums across the country — like FedEx Field in Landover, Md. — have returned to full capacity.

Throughout his collegiate career at Texas A&M and Oklahoma, his jersey number was always No. 1. In his final year at Oklahoma, he ranked first in the Big 12 Conference in completion percentage (69%), passing yards (4,361) and passing touchdowns (42). His outstanding performance that year helped him earn the Heisman Trophy, given out annually to college football’s top player.

Soon after, the Cardinals selected Murray with the first overall selection in the 2019 NFL Draft. After two bumpy seasons to start his career, Murray’s Cardinals are currently 6-0. As the only remaining undefeated team, a 6-0 record pits the Cardinals as the league’s top team.

Perhaps what is most impressive about Arizona’s start is that four out of its first six

games were played away from the confines of State Farm Stadium. Three of those opponents (Tennessee Titans, Los Angeles Rams, Cleveland Browns) earned playoff berths a season ago.

Murray’s lineup of offensive weapons

contains perennial pro bowlers like wide receivers DeAndre Hopkins and A.J. Green, but also serviceable running backs like Chase Edmonds and James Conner.

The Cardinals added to the lineup this past week, when they acquired tight end Zach Ertz from the Philadelphia Eagles.

Ertz — who caught the game-winning touchdown in Philadelphia’s 2018 Super Bowl victory — provides veteran leadership to a younger, less-experienced team.

While the NFL season has been loaded with interesting dynamics, no team has been as surprising as the Arizona Cardinals.

However, other noteworthy storylines have caught the eyes of many fans.

Since meeting in the 2016 Super Bowl, the Carolina Panthers and Denver Broncos have

each struggled to find consistent success. It’s been more of the same this year.

After acquiring quarterback Sam Darnold from the New York Jets, the Panthers bolted out to a 3-0 start, but have since lost three consecutive games.

Likewise, the Denver Broncos won their first three games behind the play of quarterback Teddy Bridgewater, whom Carolina traded in order to make room for Darnold. Denver has also regressed, losing three straight contests.

Both teams are looking to reestablish an identity and stay in the playoff hunt as a result.

In his age-44 season, Tampa Buccaneers quarterback Tom Brady still hasn’t missed a beat.

The seven-time Super Bowl champion currently leads the league in passing yards (2,064) and completions (183). His 17 passing touchdowns are good for second in the league, trailing only the Kansas City Chiefs’ Patrick Mahomes.

With all 22 starters from last year’s title team returning this season, the team began the season as a favorite to win a second consecutive title. At 5-1 and in first place in the NFC South, Tampa Bay is priming itself for another deep playoff run.

Arguably no division has been as strong as the AFC North to this point. All four teams have a record of .500 or better, combining for a record of 15-9. The Baltimore Ravens, who have won the division in two of the past three seasons, are leading the way at 5-1. At 4-2, the Cincinnati Bengals trail the Ravens by one game prior to a showdown between the division stalwarts at M&T Bank Stadium this Sunday.

The Cleveland Browns and Pittsburgh Steelers are 3-3. An injury-plagued Browns team will take on the Broncos on Thursday night. The Steelers will get a bye week before traveling to Cleveland for a pivotal divisional matchup on Oct. 31.

After a disappointing 2020 season that saw the Dallas Cowboys go 6-10 and finish in third place in the NFC East, Dallas has cemented itself as the team to beat in the division. Quar-

terback Dak Prescott, who was lost to injury in the team’s fifth game of 2020, returned from injury and has led the Cowboys to five straight victories following an opening-week loss against the Buccaneers.

The first two picks of the 2021 NFL Draft



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Arizona Cardinals quarterback Kyler Murray has propelled his team to a 6-0 start to the season.

are not having hot starts.

Jacksonville Jaguars quarterback Trevor Lawrence, the draft’s top selection, is 1-5. During his collegiate career at Clemson, Lawrence was never responsible for a regular-season loss.

Zach Wilson was drafted by the Jets with the second pick. In five games, he’s thrown over twice as many interceptions (nine) than he has touchdowns (four).

Will Arizona’s success last? Will the class of rookie quarterbacks finally hit their stride? With six weeks gone in the NFL season, these questions will soon be answered, just as new storylines begin to unfold.

College Football AP Top 25 Poll — Week 8

Rank	Team	Prev.	Overall	Conf.	This Week
1.	Georgia	1	7-0	SEC	Bye
2.	Cincinnati	3	6-0	American	10/23 at Navy
3.	Oklahoma	4	7-0	Big 12	10/23 at Kansas
4.	Alabama	5	6-1	SEC	10/23 vs. Tennessee
5.	Ohio State	6	5-1	Big Ten	10/23 at Indiana
6.	Michigan	8	6-0	Big Ten	10/23 vs. Northwestern
7.	Penn State	7	5-1	Big Ten	10/23 vs. Illinois
8.	Oklahoma State	12	6-0	Big 12	10/23 at Iowa State
9.	Michigan State	10	7-0	Big Ten	Bye
10.	Oregon	9	5-1	Pac-12	10/23 at UCLA

Rank	Team	Prev.	Overall	Conf.	This Week
11.	Iowa	2	6-1	Big Ten	Bye
12.	Ole Miss	13	5-1	SEC	10/23 vs. LSU
13.	Notre Dame	14	5-1	n/a	10/23 vs. USC
14.	Coastal Carolina	15	6-1	Sun Belt	10/20 at App. State*
15.	Kentucky	11	6-1	SEC	Bye
16.	Wake Forest	16	6-0	ACC	10/23 at Army
17.	Texas A&M	21	5-2	SEC	10/23 vs. South Carolina
18.	NC State	22	5-1	ACC	10/23 at Miami (FL)
19.	Auburn	NR	5-2	SEC	Bye
20.	Baylor	NR	6-1	Big 12	Bye

Rank	Team	Prev.	Overall	Conf.	This Week
21.	SMU	23	6-0	American	10/21 vs. Tulane
22.	San Diego State	24	6-0	Mt. West	10/23 at Air Force
23.	Pittsburgh	NR	5-1	ACC	10/23 vs. Clemson
24.	UTSA	NR	7-0	C-USA	10/23 at Louisiana Tech
25.	Purdue	NR	4-2	Big Ten	10/23 vs. Wisconsin

Wednesday Night Action

-The Coastal Carolina Chanticleers were the 14th-ranked team in the poll entering this week.

-They played at the Appalachian State Mountaineers on Wednesday evening, prior to publication.

*The Mountaineers defeated the Chanticleers, 30-27.

DU volleyball wraps up prolonged homestand

LUKE HENNE
sports editor

Anita Parrott, a middle hitter on the Duquesne volleyball team, could think of just one word to describe a stretch that saw the Dukes play five games in a 10-day span: behemoth.

"It took a lot of treatment, hydration and stretching to make the most of it," Parrott said. "Those things were easier to do with a home-court advantage."

Outside hitter Ashley Larson did not take the long stretch of home games for granted.

"It was nice not having to stress about traveling, especially with midterm week in the midst of it all," Larson said. "It was nice to be able to just stress about playing volleyball and not how we would get there or what the other team's home gym and atmosphere would be like."

Despite finishing the homestand with two wins and three losses, setter Hailey Poling is proud of the way her team has re-

ready looking ahead toward next weekend at Davidson and VCU."

Poling played in each of Duquesne's eight sets during the two weekend contests, recording a total of 100 assists in the process.

Despite this performance, she'd rather focus on the team's continued growth and success in the season's second half.

"Our defense is really stepping up, and our offense is finding ways to score," Poling said. "The most important thing to me is to continue learning how to be the best teammate on and off the court."

Parrott, who posted a season-high 10 kills in the victory over Fordham, felt that the win couldn't have come at a better time.

"Beating Fordham was definitely the boost I think we needed," Parrott said. "It's always a really great thing to see us really come together as a team and fight it out, but it's even better when that fight gets us the results we were looking for."

Throughout the Fordham contest, there was a palpable energy on Duquesne's bench. Regardless of the score, teammates were dancing and supporting one another throughout the entire match.

Larson attributed that energy to a strong sense of chemistry.

"Having good team chemistry is huge," Larson said. "We try to spend time together as much as possible to work on that chemistry, to understand each other and work through rough spots because that's what makes us a team and what allows us to be more successful."

Poling supplemented Larson's praise of the team's chemistry, saying that having energy is "the biggest part of the game and a huge determining factor of which team is going to fight more in the end."

The Dukes are currently 4-5 in Atlantic

10 Conference action following the loss against Rhode Island. They're set to embark on a four-game road trip that will keep them away from their home court until Nov. 5.

Parrott knows that there is no more room for error.

"I think the goal is definitely to rise to the occasion and make sure that we're playing the game we know how to play," Parrott said. "We don't really have any matches we can afford to just figure things out in, so it's full steam ahead now."

A tangible goal for the team is to reach the Atlantic 10 Volleyball Championship, which will be hosted by Duquesne and held at the UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse from Nov. 19 to Nov. 21.

The tournament awards berth to the conference's top six teams. Entering play this weekend, the Dukes sit in fifth place in the conference's standings.

Poling is eager to try to reach the aforementioned goal.

"We're going to continue to have a short memory and keep on fighting," Poling said. "This is an opportunity we plan to take advantage of and really use these [upcoming] games as momentum leading us into the A-10 tournament."

Larson is prepared for opponents to bring their best for the remainder of the season.

"We know teams are going to be fired up and wanting to win, so we are going to have to respond with that same energy," Larson said. "We are going to continue training hard and pushing each other to be the best versions of ourselves."

In order to be successful, Poling knows that sustaining team unity will be essential.

"We are one team," Poling said. "When one of us falls, we pick her up. When one of us rises, we all rise."



LUKE HENNE | SPORTS EDITOR

Members of the Duquesne volleyball team stretch and warm up prior to Friday's Atlantic 10 Conference match against Fordham at the UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse. The Dukes defeated the Rams in four sets.

Each of the five games were played within the confines of UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse. Duquesne concluded the season's longest homestand with a four-set victory over Fordham on Friday before falling in four sets to Rhode Island on Sunday.

sponded to the struggles.

"Although we had a minor setback against Rhode Island, we took two big steps forward in our wins over Davidson [on Oct. 10] and Fordham," Poling said. "We let this tough one go, and we're al-

DU women's soccer defeated by La Salle, Rhode Island

SPENCER THOMAS
staff writer

Despite a pair of strong performances from goalkeeper Megan Virgin, the Duquesne women's soccer team was not able to capitalize in its two most-recent Atlantic 10 Conference defeats.

The Dukes fell to La Salle, 2-1, at Rooney Field on Thursday before dropping a road contest at Rhode Island by the same tally on Sunday.

La Salle initially struggled to connect on its passes at the field's offensive end in Thursday's contest. However, once the Explorers got rolling, they began to produce unrelenting offensive pressure. A diving save from Virgin in the game's fourth minute kept La Salle off the board at that point.

For much of the first half, Duquesne struggled to clear the ball out of its end, and La Salle continued applying pressure. The Explorers posted nine first-half shots, with five of them coming on net. By comparison, the Dukes mustered just one first-half shot.

After Virgin was able to weather La Salle's attack for much of the first half, the Explorers finally broke through in the game's 36th minute.

A corner kick bounced around in the box be-

fore La Salle's Kelli McGroarty put it on net. The ball narrowly trickled past the goal line before Virgin was able to corral it, and the Explorers took a 1-0 lead into halftime.

The Dukes came out stronger in the second half, but were matched by the Explorers' physical style of play.

Duquesne created some danger about 10 minutes into the second half, when a sudden pass into the box found the foot of Ashley Rodriguez. She was taken down, and ultimately got the opportunity to tie the game on a penalty kick.

She took a slow run-up, then rapidly accelerated before driving the ball into the top left corner. Rodriguez's shot struck the net's crossbar before ricocheting in. Her second goal of the season helped the Dukes even the score.

However, Duquesne was unable to maintain that momentum, and La Salle continued to make Virgin work. She charged out 25 yards to clear a counterattacking chance with 23 minutes left.

Her outstanding play failed to ignite her offense, and La Salle finally capitalized on one of its many opportunities when Lauren Costello headed home a cross with just over 18 minutes left in the contest.

Even when the desperate need for goals was

abundantly clear, the Dukes were stifled by some chippy play from the Explorers. Late in the second half, MacKenzie Leeder was taken to the turf by a La Salle attacker, and she remained down for several minutes.

However, Leeder felt that physical play was to be expected throughout the night.

"The game was intense on both sides. We knew going into the game La Salle was going to come in strong," Leeder said postgame. "Our mindset was to maintain our game and possess the ball around them. Once the game got intense, the physicality escalated and took our mindset off our game plan a little."

Despite receiving a pair of yellow cards with 10 minutes to go, the visitors were able to thrive in the emotional environment, ultimately outshooting the Dukes by an 11-6 mark in the second half.

After the loss, Duquesne's focus immediately shifted to Sunday's game against Rhode Island.

"We are never going to dwell in the past," Leeder said. "We will get up, dust ourselves off and move forward. In this conference, with how competitive it is, that's what we need to do."

The Dukes came out flying on Sunday. Hannah Nguyen scored just 83 seconds in, giving

the Dukes an early lead. However, the Rams responded just over two minutes later when Brooke Cavino beat Virgin and tied the game.

Much of Rhode Island's offense went through Cavino, and the Duquesne defenders were unable to contain her. She broke the tie with just under 12 minutes left with a shot from beyond the 18-yard box.

Despite a season-high nine saves from Virgin, the Dukes could not break through, and the Rams held on for a 2-1 victory.

Duquesne will square off with George Washington on Thursday at Rooney Field in what will be the team's final regular-season home game.



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS

MacKenzie Leeder was on the receiving end of a physical play in Thursday's loss to La Salle.

Monster Pumpkin Fest: a smashing good time

EMMA POLEN
layout editor

Last weekend, Oct. 16 and 17, Monster Pumpkin Fest returned to Pittsburgh at the 3 Crossings Campus between 28th and 29th street.

Free admission provided countless opportunities to be immersed in the pumpkin Halloween spirit, and for a few more dollars, visitors had the chance to try out some of Pumpkin Fest's paid attractions.

Mist Lane Farms came with their white horses and pumpkin carriages for those who booked a ride in advance. It was no wonder the carriage rides were in such high demand: the experience was something right out of a Cinderella movie.

The festival booths featured a variety of local vendors selling everything from signature pumpkin beverages to fall-inspired pet treats. However, most of the pumpkin-themed items were sold out by Sunday.

The free attractions at Monster Pumpkin Fest started right at the gate...or should I say, the giant wall of pumpkin graffiti art. The theme of Pumpkin Fest was evidently medieval characters, as the walls depicted images of wizards, castles, knights and dragons.

According to the official Monster Pumpkin Fest website (monster-pumpkin.com), the pumpkin wall was made up of 1,200 pumpkins hand-tied to a wooden grid and spray painted by local graffiti artists David Scott Brozovich, Max 'Gems' Gonzales and Shane Pilster.

Another local business boasting

their artwork was Vessel Studio Glass. Drew Hine told *The Duke* that he and his wife, Jeannine are the owners of Vessel, and look forward to Pumpkin Fest every year.

Hine blew glass pumpkins on the festival grounds. He was safely separated from his large audience with a metal barrier.

While Hine drew a substantial crowd during his demonstrations, he had to deal with the challenge of Pittsburgh weather. Unfortunately, Hine said, "You can't blow glass in the rain."

Nevertheless, Hine said he always loves coming to Monster Pumpkin Fest.

"It provides entertainment and gives us a chance to sell our wares," he said.

Even with the gleaming glass pumpkins and the enormous pumpkin graffiti wall, it was impossible to miss Greg Butauski and his team's giant carved pumpkin art.

Butauski is a professional pumpkin carver. For this year's medieval theme, he carved out multiple designs into giant pumpkins including Rapunzel, a jester and a "mermacorn" (mermaid unicorn).

What constitutes a giant pumpkin is that it weighs over 1,000 pounds. With this in mind, it usually takes professional carvers like Butauski eight to ten hours to carve artwork onto a single giant pumpkin.

While this endeavor might seem time-consuming enough, there is also the task of scooping the seeds and fleshing out the pumpkin. For this step, Butauski said, "It's not done by the artist."

Usually, carving out the pumpkin



EMMA POLEN | LAYOUT EDITOR

With a medieval theme, pumpkins were carved to perfection for all to see.

is done by the giant pumpkin growers themselves, because the giant pumpkin seeds are prized for their genetics. One single seed from the biggest pumpkin at the fair can sell for \$1,000.

The 2021 North American Pumpkin Champions were on display at the festival this weekend. The first-place winning pumpkin, grown by Andy Wolf in Little Valley, New York, was 2,365 pounds. The second-place winner weighed in at 2,134 pounds, and the third place champion weighed 2,100 pounds.

"North American Pumpkin Champion" was not the only title being awarded at Pumpkin Fest. On Sunday, the annual Pumpkin Pie Eating Plunge Contest was hosted.

The goal of the competition was to devour an entire pumpkin pie in one minute and thirty seconds. The person who finished their pie first or got closest to eating the whole pie was the winner.

There was only one rule to the contest: contestants were not allowed to use their hands to eat the pie.

Of the seven competitors, two were winners from previous years.

It began with the whipped cream opening ceremony in which every contestant's pumpkin pie was topped with a generous amount of whipped cream.

After a man — dressed as David S. Pumpkin — started the contestants off, the countdown began.

All contestants immediately dug in, all except Tyler Dillon who first flipped his pie tin over with his teeth and dumped the entire pie right onto the table.

Dillon's method must have worked, because at the 1:30 mark,

he and the other returning champion had tied. In order to break the tie, David S. Pumpkin told the audience to cheer for their favorite competitor. Dillon received the loudest applause and was crowned winner of the 2021 Pie Eating Plunge.

Dillon's prize was a \$50 Amazon gift card, a free Vessel Glass hand-blown pumpkin and the greatest bragging rights ever.

After the competition, the ecstatic Dillon told *The Duke* that the reason he signed up for the Pie Eating Plunge was because he had already won before. "It was so much fun the first time, I just had to come back," Dillon said.

The final big event of Sunday night was the Pumpkin Drop. Every year, a few pumpkins are selected to be dropped from a crane into a small kiddie pool 140 ft. below.

The minimum pumpkin weight for the drop is 1,000 pounds. According to the official Pumpkin Fest information tent, one of the pumpkins dropped this year was about 1,800 pounds. For the full Pumpkin Drop experience, check out last year's footage on the Monster Pumpkin Fest website.

Monster Pumpkin Fest will be back next year, but until then, here are a few other fall festivals happening soon in Pittsburgh to keep you busy:

Punkin' Chunkin', Oct. 23 from 3-8 p.m., Hartwood Acres

Owl-O-Ween, Oct. 16 - 24, National Aviary

Halloween Hoopla, Oct. 24 from 12-5 p.m., Bakery Square

Halloween Happenings, Oct. 25 from 4-8 p.m., Phipps Conservatory

WEEK'S EVENTS

Bite of Asia
Oct. 21 @ 5 p.m.

Go to the Union Ballroom for free Asian cuisine, live performances and games provided by Duquesne's Asian Student Association!

Black Art Appreciation
Oct. 21 @ 8 p.m.

Check out Tower's MPR to celebrate Black poetry and music! Students are welcome to bring their own/favorite pieces to share.

Video Game Club: Smash Ultimate Tournament
Oct. 21 @ 9 p.m.

Good at Super Smash Bros.? Go to the NiteSpot to compete!

Epic Bingo!
Oct. 22 @ 9 p.m.

It's that time of year! Join DPC in the Union Ballroom for a chance to win BIG!

Crazy Carving
Oct. 23 @ 7-9 p.m.

Enjoy some pumpkin carving and spooky stories in Vickroy's kitchen!

CAPRI'S KIND WORDS

Take some alone time

Hey you! When's the last time you prioritized yourself?

I mean like actually give yourself the chance to nap when your body needs it, watch the new season of that TV show you've waited for, listen to that album you said you'd get around to, or simply take a walk outside for a little to get some fresh, cool air and some sun in your soul.

If you're anything like me, you probably are *meaning* to do these things, but you get caught up.

With what though?

Are you on your phone too much? Saying "yes" every time someone wants to grab a bite to eat? Spending too many hours straight on an assignment?

It happens, I get it.

But if you don't give yourself the time to heal your inner-health... your efforts elsewhere won't be at your full potential. Remember to connect with yourself; you deserve these moments.
— Capri Scarcelli



EMMA POLEN | LAYOUT EDITOR

Pumpkins of all sizes were displayed throughout the festival, sizing up "monstrously."

New releases revive returning pop artists to the music scene

CAPRI SCARCELLI & EMMA POLEN

a&e editor & layout editor

October has been a month of turbulence for many. However, it's brought a ton of new music, with various artists releasing on the same day.

After six years since her last released song, Adele still has the same pipes.

The British pop singer's new single, "Easy On Me," gained steady momentum among fans, released on music platforms Oct. 15. Her Youtube video already has 77 million views — four days after release.

Adele first posted publicly on her Instagram about a possible new album on her 31st birthday — May 5, 2019. After a long message about the changes that happened in her lifetime since her last studio album release, she wrote, "30 will be a drum n bass record to spite you."

It has been rumored that the new release and upcoming album were inspired by Adele's recent divorce and raising of her child. With this new sense of growth, fans can expect a heartfelt, mature sound to her upcoming works.

Though this post was two years ago, fans took it as a sign that an album would be arriving soon. However, the pandemic delayed the album's production.

"Easy On Me," has already hit radio stations and restaurant playlists and is accompa-

nied with a music video; at less than one week old, the video is already at 83 million views.

According to *The New York Times*, the rest of Adele's newest album will reach platforms on Nov. 19, as she has announced on social media.

She wrote, "No matter how

<https://www.bustle.com/entertainment>.

Also returning from a long hiatus is British rock band Coldplay. With their last studio album *Everyday Life* (2019), the band announced they would not tour until they found an eco-friendly means of travel and perfor-

ity running. Simultaneously, the band will be on electric bikes to help power the stage as well.

To help outside of their performances, each Coldplay ticket purchase will plant one tree per ticket.

This album, according to Coldplay, is a moving instrumental piece that mostly reflects the movements of the universe, with cute little emojis titling most of the songs. The hit single off of the new release, "My Universe," featured K-Pop idol group BTS, bringing together audiences from all over to celebrate Coldplay's evolving, atmospheric sound.

Tickets for the *Music of the Spheres* tour are available for purchase now.

Also released on Oct. 15 was an artful, "from the vault" experience: Mac Miller's SoundCloud archive, *Faces*. His second posthumous album released under

McCormick Family Trust, *Faces* gives fans 25 new songs that show Miller's vulnerability from his early career as an upcoming artist. Knowing his potential and seeing his growth, Pittsburgh-native fans can rejoice with a piece of his work to keep his memory alive.

Originally purposed as a mixtape, the album was released independently in 2014 to follow his second studio album, *Watching Movies with the Sound Off* (2013). Continuing his pattern of dark lyricism, Miller wrote this mixtape with a twist of jazz and psychedelic root, opposing the lines like a paradox. Many fans are excited to hear his old sound with the truthful emotion behind it.

Faces is available for streaming on all platforms.



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Continuing her pop legacy, Adele returns to the mic for her next milestone album.

long we're here for, life is constant and complicated at times."

With this in mind, "30" has the potential to capture the same energy as Adele's past albums while bringing a new dimension of her growth as a person and as a producer.

Check out the music video and lyrical analysis of "Easy on Me:"

mance. Now entering the *Music of the Spheres* era, this Oct. 15 release was not only a breakthrough for the artists' return, but also for their announcement to tour once more.

According to BBC, the concerts will be powered by "kinetic flooring —" meaning, when fans move, it keeps the concert's electric-



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Coldplay jumps in head first with new music and a plan for change in the industry.

New releases revive returning pop artists to the music scene

RIO SCARCELLI
staff writer

It is highly likely that any avid Netflix-user has run into the new Korean drama *Squid Game*. The series was released on Sept. 17 and has gained a gross income of approximately \$900 million since it debuted. As well as this, *Squid Game* garnered 142 million views within the first month of its air date, making it the most-streamed Netflix series in the platform's history.

Squid Game actually took much longer than the average series to gain traction. The show's writer, Hwang Dong-hyuk, conceived the idea for the script in 2008 as a feature film after reading various sci-fi mangas. This came as a surprise to Korean studios, as they rejected *Squid Game* on account of it being too violent.

Some time for reflection allowed for Hwang to elongate the plot and add side stories that would allow it to become a series. Taking another shot, Netflix dropped *Squid*

Game in 2018.

Filming began with notorious Korean actors Lee Jung-jae (Seong Gi-hun) and even HoYeon Jung (Kang Sae-byeok) making their debut on the silver screen.

The show was able to amass so many views in the first month that it topped *Bridgerton*, Netflix's prior most popular series. The British drama was only able to achieve half the amount of views that *Squid Game* did, even during the Covid-19 lockdown when it came out.

A recent statistic released by NBC stated that two-thirds of Netflix subscribers have watched *Squid Game* as well as received a net increase of 4.4 million subscribers for their third quarter. Interestingly enough, 70,000 of those subscribers came from the U.S. and Canada, where the remaining amount had an international spread.

So what is it that made the show so popular?

First, the demographic made a huge impact on viewership. Because of the representation

of Korean media on a largely Americanized platform, director Hwang said that the plot line heavily resembled recurring themes within Korean pop-culture.

"What got me to watch the show was how interesting the concept sounded and the many good recommendations," sophomore Zarena Neves said.

She said she felt the show was "overhyped" or "slow," and only gained traction because of the demographic appeal. Regardless, Nieves gave the show a chance, and overwhelmingly supported its popularity.

"I think the show is so popular because it is so intriguing and different when compared to others," Nieves said.

The drama is riddled with strong, loveable characters that are able to find a sardonic mix of humor, tension and selfishness as they attempt to portray the true dynamics of desire in a fight to the death. What makes this show so stand-out is that it gave the viewers a break from knowing their favorite charac-

ters could die at any moment.

Given how much time Hwang had to revise and embellish his show, it is no surprise the amount of Easter-eggs and attention to detail that is present within each episode. With fans already beginning to ask about a season two, the director revealed how much of a toll it was on him to create his first drama.

"Writing *Squid Game* was harder than normal for me as it was a series, not a film. It took me six months to write and rewrite the

first two episodes," he said.

Most of the work Hwang has done is within the movie realm. He said he wishes to continue his vision in assembling a larger team.

"I don't have well-developed plans for 'Squid Game 2.' It is quite tiring just thinking about it. But if I were to do it, I would certainly not do it alone. I'd consider using a writers' room and would want multiple experienced directors," Hwang said.



COURTESY OF PIXABAY

The iconic symbols from *Squid Game*, worn by guards to indicate character's rank.

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“We learned about honesty and integrity - that the truth matters... that you don’t take shortcuts or play by your own set of rules... and success doesn’t count unless you earn it fair and square.”

MICHELLE OBAMA

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

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KATIE SECAUR | STAFF COMIC ARTIST

Couric’s courage in journalistic coverage

Katie Couric did way more than just “Going There” in her new memoir — she went above and beyond. Even though the book hasn’t been released yet, there’s been enough leakage of the contents to flood a house.

Couric left nothing to the imagination of her longtime fans and colleagues. She opened the closet on her racist family skeletons, work relationship with former co-anchor Matt Lauer and his 2017 sexual misconduct scandal and many other messy moments.

The book exudes vulnerability, and we have to credit Couric for her honesty, but some of her messiest moments need to be discussed.

The former TODAY co-anchor opened up about an interview she had with the late Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg that has been at the center of news outlets’ coverage, and calls into question her credibility as a journalist.

The story follows a 2016 interview with RBG during the release of her book “My Own Words.” However, Couric admittedly left some choice words out of the final video made for Yahoo News.

At the time of the interview was the height of the NFL protests, in which the then-San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick knelt during the national anthem — a protest then joined by many other players throughout the season to fight racial injustice.

According to the article that accompanies the video on Yahoo News’s website, when asked about how she feels about Kaepernick, and others athletes, refusing to stand for the anthem, Ginsburg said, “I think it’s really dumb of them.”

“Would I arrest them for doing it? No,” Ginsburg continued. “I think it’s dumb and disrespectful. I would have the same answer if you asked me about flag burning. I think it’s a terrible thing to do, but I wouldn’t lock a person up for doing it. I would point out how ridiculous it seems to me to do such an act.”

Couric then asked, “But when it comes to these football players,

you may find their actions offensive, but what you’re saying is, it’s within their rights to exercise those actions?”

“Yes,” Ginsburg said. “If they want to be stupid, there’s no law that should be preventive. If they want to be arrogant, there’s no law that prevents them from that. What I would do is strongly take issue with the point of view that they are expressing when they do that.”

As a prominent figure for left-winged citizens, these comments were enough to make headlines, causing Ginsburg to backpedal, telling listeners she was “barely aware of the incident or its purpose, my comments were inappropriately dismissive and harsh. I should have declined to respond.”

But truthfully, Ginsburg was saved from harsher critiques, ac-

life. ... Which they probably could not have lived in the places they came from ... as they became older they realize that this was youthful folly. And that’s why education is important.”

After consultation from friends and colleagues, with a mixed bag of responses, according to Couric, she ultimately decided she “wanted to protect” Ginsburg and felt the issue of racial justice was a “blind spot” for her. Moreover, Couric believed Ginsburg was elderly and didn’t quite understand the question.

Even though I can respect Couric for the honesty in her memoir, it comes too late. As journalists, we’re bound by truth. The explanation for the omission, though Couric admits she still struggles with the decision, isn’t justified.

Protecting, at the time, an 83-year-old Supreme Court justice wasn’t part of her job, nor was listening to the requests of a PR aide. And as for Ginsburg’s elderly status, if she couldn’t understand the hot button issue, how could she clearly make decisions as a Supreme Court justice?

Being a fan of an interviewee is more than fine: Everyday I’m star-struck by who I talk to for stories. But it doesn’t matter if I like them or not, their direct quotes, good or bad, are what go into the paper — or in this case, the video.

Journalists can’t pick and choose who they’re partial to. Had Couric interviewed Brett Kavanaugh with similar results, would his answers have been edited? Or any other justice?

Moreover, American trust in mass media is lower than ever. According to a report from Gallup, 33% of Americans have no confidence at all in news outlets reporting fully, accurately and fairly. The 2020 report is the second-lowest mark on record, right behind 2016.

In journalism, no one should be immune from critique, and our most important step now is to reel in the trust of our citizens. Couric took a step in her book with the confession, but we need to continue that moving forward — on the first try.

STAFF EDITORIAL

The real cost of Uber

Despite the claim that the word is at our fingertips, the unreliability of many transportation and food service apps make them incredibly frustrating to use. Many people depend on these apps to either have drivers transport them from one location to the other or deliver food easily and quickly right to their door. However, problems such as higher prices, longer waiting times, and cancellations are causing grief amongst users of apps such as Uber, Lyft, UberEats and DoorDash.

Uber Technologies Inc. is known for their “convenient” transportation services, and has expanded to food delivery in recent years. There are 93 million active riders using the Uber app and 12.5 million active riders using Lyft each quarter, according to Backlinko.

Many people rely on these services to get them from place to place, but it is not always possible to get a ride to a specific location due to low driver turnout.

The average salary for an Uber driver in Pennsylvania is around \$36,602, according to Statics.com. Still, many drivers have been experiencing pay reduction and, subsequently, wait time has gone up and even prevented service in some areas. According to CNBC, Uber and Lyft drivers were about 40% below capacity in 2020.

In order to accommodate drivers, cancellation fees are in place. A fee is charged if a driver has to wait on a rider for over two minutes. To combat the low turnout, giving drivers better reviews and larger tips may further incline them to stick with the position. Although the number of drivers has gone down, people using food delivery apps is on the rise. These apps allow users to easily get a meal delivered from almost any restaurant of their choosing right to their door.

The main concern users face with these services is cancellation, which is also exacerbated by the lack of drivers. Essentially, the restaurant will have the food, they will be able to fulfill the order, but there is not a driver available to get the food to the customer.

We have had several experiences where UberEats has cancelled our orders. One editorial staff member on three separate occasions waited up to two and a half hours before the order was finally cancelled. Although the issue with the food wasn’t that the restaurant ran out, or that the driver couldn’t reach the location; the order was simply pushed back until the driver dismissed the initial pick up and delivery completely.

According to UberEats policy, “If a merchant runs out of an item or can’t accommodate your allergy or other special request, you may receive a notification giving you 10 minutes to update your order before it’s automatically canceled. You will not be charged if the merchant cancels your order.”

In our experience UberEats will delay your order until someone can pick it up. But if no one is in the area, then the order is ultimately cancelled. This may also have to do with the shortages in drivers since fewer drivers in the area make it harder for orders that fall through to get taken care of.

Restaurants, drivers, riders and pickup services must work together to make the process smoother and cost efficient for all parties, especially the drivers. Until then, good luck getting an Uber.



ZOE STRATOS
opinions editor

cording to DailyMail.com, as Couric admitted she omitted the worst of RBG’s comments on the subject. Following the 2016 interview, Couric received an email from a Supreme Court public affairs aide requesting that material be excluded from the story because Ginsburg had “misspoken.”

A self-proclaimed “big RBG fan,” the Yahoo global anchor ultimately heeded the request, and left out potentially the most vital quote to that portion of the interview:

The protests demonstrate “contempt for a government that has made it possible for their parents and grandparents to live a decent

Artists shouldn't have to suffer for their work

ANDREW CUMMINGS
multimedia editor

Pain is one of the most powerful human sensations, and it is one that people are often drawn to when creating art.

The tortured artist is a constantly perpetuated cliché. Whether it be songs that detail the harrowing experiences of drug abuse and alcoholism, or movies that detail the intricacies of divorce, many popular works of art seem to revel in their despair.

The idea that an artist needs to suffer to produce meaningful art is dangerous and promotes unhealthy practices. The trope romanticizes unhappiness and can encourage people to live unhealthily.

The creator of "Squid Game," Hwang Dong-hyuk, revealed that he lost six teeth due to stress from filming the series. Though not endorsed by the creator, he is still setting an example. He is an artist that was able to create an ultra-successful TV show, but at a severe cost to his physical health.

It is inevitable that there will be other artists that look to situations like this and internalize it. Whether it is conscious or subconscious, there will likely be some part of them that thinks it is okay to sacrifice their well-being to create a high-quality or commercially successful work of art.

The stereotype can have other negative side effects for artists. When Kanye West's divorce was made public, there was discussion about how it may affect his next musical project. Some people seemed to think that because of his tumultuous life circumstances, he would have a lot of "material" to cover, which would lead to a better album.

This approach treats artists more like vessels than people — a problematic commonality in today's world. To wish for or encourage something negative to befall someone in the hopes that it will lead to gorgeous art is horrifying.

According to a 2014 Swedish study at the Karolinska Institute, people working in creative fields were 8% more likely to live with bipolar disorder.

Writers were an astounding 121% more likely to suffer from the condition, and nearly 50% more likely to commit suicide than the general population.

This goes against one of the fundamental reasons for art, which is to express the human experience in the hopes of bettering people.

It makes sense why this trope is so prevalent. There is something naturally alluring about watching someone experience hardship and overcome it. People are able to relate to it through their own troubles. But this does not make it right.

Art is one of the ways that people experience the world. If the only art that people experience is based on negativity, then it will likely reflect in their lives. Personally, I know that the type of music I listen to can affect my mood, so I try to be conscious of what I play.

This kind of art is of course still valid, and it is important. It is a means to express pain in a non-destructive way that other people can learn from. But I think that there is too



COURTESY OF UNSPLASH

People have many different things that they need to keep track of and tend to, but health and happiness should not be forgotten in the process.

much focus on tragic art and not enough appreciation for works born from positive experiences.

This topic can be extended to include all types of work and passions beyond art. There seems to be a popular mindset based around "the grind," the idea that if you work hard you can accomplish great things.

While it is important to put in work, it is only healthy to a certain degree. If someone be-

comes unhealthy or miserable as a result of overworking, then it brings into question the point of it all.

If sacrificing your health and happiness is what it takes to "get to the top," then is it really worth it?

Life is about balance. People have many different things that they need to keep track of and tend to, but health and happiness should not be forgotten in the process.

It smells like Duquesne University spirit

PETER BOETTGER
staff columnist

As a part of the production team for the Athletic Department this semester and after covering four soccer games, two volleyball games and two football games, I've seen a lot of great moments.

One of those games, for football, came down to an official's review in the last seconds of the game. But looking around, I have been asking myself a question recently — where's the spirit?

Duquesne isn't some major college with 20,000 plus students, but you'd think that when the football team gets its first FBS win in school history, there'd be more enthusiasm within the student population, right? Wrong.

As a witness of the crowd at the back-and-forth game between Bryant and Duquesne, it was dead, and I swear my high school averages more fans than we do.

But it's not just football. Our men's soccer team is also undefeated at home. Doesn't that make you want to go to a football or soccer game and watch our team continue this victory streak on the Bluff?

The student body and players alike need to spread the word about our wins. Tell your roommate, your friends, parents, siblings, dog — everyone. Game after game the metal stands are less than a quarter full, and the stands by A-Walk are practically empty.

For our women's soccer team, we're 4-2-1 at home. Not to mention, the one loss at home versus

UMass went into overtime, and the game-winning goal narrowly escaped the goalie's reach.

As a cameraman during that game, the game versus the Minutewomen was the best Duquesne soccer game I've been to. So what's the problem?

The first thing to cover about the withering spirit of Duquesne sports is the students. Why aren't we showing up? Sophomores Juan Carujo and Emily Makarewicz shared their opinions.

Both students admitted they haven't attended any sporting events on campus, and aren't exactly intrigued by our teams' successes.

When it comes to persuading students to go to games, Carujo feels a "greater emphasis on sports, or perhaps a sense of community of people going to sports games [would help]. It feels like we need a culture here for me to get behind."

According to the university's enrollment data, there are 8,367 students total, including part-time undergraduate and graduate students, yet the football team's Instagram account only has a following of 3,333 (as of Oct. 19). And some of those followers may be faculty, alumni or even parents.

Carujo admits that he doesn't follow any of the teams, but instead looks for results on the unsponsored Barstool Instagram account. On the other hand, Makarewicz follows scores closely.

"I do follow most of the teams actually, like football, basketball,

women's soccer, rowing and swimming," Makarewicz said. "I don't think anything would change my mind [about attending], maybe advertising. That's mainly because I don't know when games are."

But there's plenty of reasons why students should attend and ways the university can bump up attendance. First and foremost, all games — no matter the sport — are free for students.

There's also the Red & Blue Crew. The spirit-focused club was very underwhelming in numbers in the competitive game against Bryant, not to mention they're underwhelming on social media.

On Instagram, to be more specific, while they have 963 followers, an Instagram account about the squirrels on campus has over 1,500 followers. A Duquesne meme account has over 1,100 followers.

As for the university, there's a lot of blank walls to stare at when walking around campus. How much effort does it take to hang-up a poster?

Perhaps to make it interactive, the first 100 students to scan a QR code on the poster could get a deal off of merchandise, or their names could be put in a raffle for a better seat if a certain game is held at UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse.

But the biggest thing for us is to start recognizing and supporting our teams and their success. The school year is still only in the beginning phase, and there are many sports to support as we progress into the winter and spring months. Until then, it's time for students to support



BRENTARO YAMANE | STAFF WRITER

Quarterback Darius Perrantes throws during Duquesne's Oct. 9 victory over Bryant.

our fall sports as they near the end of their seasons.

First, men's soccer. We're undefeated at home games this year and we should cheer on the soccer team to continue our streak. The last two home games are on Oct. 23 against UMass (7 p.m.) and Oct. 26 against Wright State (7 p.m.).

For football, the Dukes have maintained a winning record since 2012. We're currently on a four-game winning streak and we're also first overall in our conference. Do I have to add that we made it to the conference championship last year? The last two home games are on Oct. 30 against St. Francis (3 p.m.) and Nov. 13 against Central Connecticut (12 p.m.).

Finally, women's soccer. As of Oct. 19, we have an overall losing record of 4-8-2; However, all of those wins have happened

at home games. Be sure to cheer on the women's soccer team Oct. 21 against George Washington (7 p.m.).

But Duquesne spirit doesn't only apply to sports; it applies to everything that is a part of the Duquesne community. Whether it's the student radio station, webinars, panels or the Red Masquers, we should support fellow students and cultivate a college community worth bragging about.

The radio station is available to stream online. Duquesne Student TV is busy live-streaming on their YouTube channel and setting up their brand new broadcast center in the Union, and Duquesne's Red Masquers have a play called Psycho Beach Party running until Oct. 23rd.

Soon it might smell like Duquesne spirit on campus, and our clubs, sports and events are here to entertain us.

"Not just a coffee shop": Br. Andre's Cafe is a coffee shop with *cause*

COLLEEN HAMMOND
editor-in-chief

The smell of freshly-baked snickerdoodles and wafts through the air as visitors are greeted with an abundance of smiles past the bright blue doors of Br. Andre's Cafe.

Located in the lower level of Epiphany Church on Washington Place, Br. Andre's Cafe is the newest and nearest coffee shop in the Downtown area. However, unlike any other coffee shop in Pittsburgh, Br. Andre's employs almost exclusively adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).

Founded in Nov. as an online coffee and cookie retailer, Br. Andre's Cafe is the passion project of Mike and Terri Fitzgerald. As a child, the Fitzgeralds' youngest son, Patrick, was diagnosed with autism. Although Patrick had an abundance of resources growing up, Mike and Terri struggled to help Patrick find a job once he aged out of the school system.

Although Patrick excelled in the food service program at Community College of Allegheny County, Mike said, upon his completion of the program, the Fitzgeralds grappled with helping Patrick find work.

"We went from agency to agency," Mike said. "But we couldn't find a job."

Despite Mike's lengthy background in human resources and the couple's knowledge of opportunities for adults with disabilities, they could not find a place that would provide Patrick with employment while making necessary accommodations for him.

Hitting a brick wall in the job market, the Fitzgeralds decided to find food service volunteer opportunities for Patrick. Eventually, the family found a safe space for Patrick at Red Door Ministries, an arm

of Divine Mercy Parish that serves food and supplies to those experiencing homelessness.

While at Red Door, the family watched Patrick flourish in the company of his new work partner, the Rev. Chris Donley.

"Patrick was working there and they loved him," Mike said.

But when lockdown hit in March 2020, the Fitzgeralds found themselves back at square one in their employment quest.

"If you think Covid was bad for us, think about how it was for people with disabilities," Mike said.

Unsure of how to proceed, the Fitzgeralds discussed some ideas with Donley. And the general concept of Br. Andre's Cafe was soon born.

Even against the challenges of the pandemic, the Fitzgeralds and Donley wanted to find a way for Patrick to share his passion for food service — specifically baking — with their community. Last Nov., they began selling homemade cookies and coffee in bulk online.

After the "shocking" success of their online store, the group looked into a brick-and-mortar location that would employ Patrick long term. Seeing an abundance of unused spaces in the Catholic Churches of Pittsburgh, Donley offered the lower level of Epiphany Church as a home base for the cafe.

"Fr. Chris really has a heart for the most vulnerable," Mike said.

As the project progressed, the group recognized that Patrick was not alone in the ongoing battle for employment.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, only 17.9% of adults with a disability were employed in 2020, compared to the 61.8% of adults without a disability who were employed.



COLLEEN HAMMOND | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Patrick Fitzgerald, right, embraces his father, Mike at Br. Andre's Cafe in downtown Pittsburgh. The Fitzgerald family manages the shop, which employs almost exclusively individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Subsequently, the Fitzgeralds discovered they were not the only family in the area struggling to find employment for their grown child with a disability. Soon word got out, and the Br. Andre's family only grew from there.

Now, in just their first few weeks of opening, Br. Andre's Cafe employs nine adults living with disabilities ranging from both ends of the autism spectrum to traumatic brain injuries, Down Syndrome and fine motor issues.

"We're establishing a community, not just a coffee shop," Mike said.

Now, Terri Fitzgerald frequently works alongside her son, helping him make his "famous snickerdoodles" as well as a host of other sweets, including cinnamon crunch scones, chocolate peanut butter chip cookies, chocolate chip cookies and, of course, cups of coffee.

"We have a nice little system down, Patrick and I," Terri said.

While Patrick excels at baking, Mike and Terri realize that all the employees would have different abilities and skill levels, so they attempt to tailor jobs at the cafe for each employee.

For example, Julia Fieldhammer has a physical disability that confines her to a wheelchair and affects her speech. But, according to the Fitzgeralds, she is an amazing writer. Fieldhammer works at Br. Andre's as their resident blogger and social media writer.

"As a new employee, I was really excited to spend some time with the other team members!" Fieldhammer said in her inaugural blog post.

It's intentional efforts like this that caught the eye of cafe program director Ree Mitra. After working as the Fitzgeralds' coffee supplier while Br. Andre's was still fully online, Mitra felt "called" to

work in this unique environment.

"I'm working in coffee with a cause," Mitra said with a smile.

He hopes to see the cafe expand in the months to come and invites Duquesne students, staff and faculty to stop by for a visit to meet the young people that are shaping his life.

"They make you feel like a rockstar every time you come in here," Mike said.

In the future, Mitra and the Fitzgeralds hope to hire a full-time occupational therapist to assist the employees in their work. Although all the employees need some form of accommodations, Mitra sees this as an opportunity "to do something meaningful in this season of life."

"It's not so much us helping them, Mitra said. "It's them helping us."

IF YOU GO

What: Br. Andre's Cafe

Hours: Monday through Friday; 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon.

Where: The lower level of Epiphany Church, 164 Washington Place, Pittsburgh.



COLLEEN HAMMOND | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Fitzgerald family established Br. Andre's Cafe, a coffee shop in downtown Pittsburgh that serves Patrick Fitzgerald's "famous snickerdoodles" as well as cinnamon crunch scones, chocolate peanut butter chip cookies, chocolate chip cookies and coffee.

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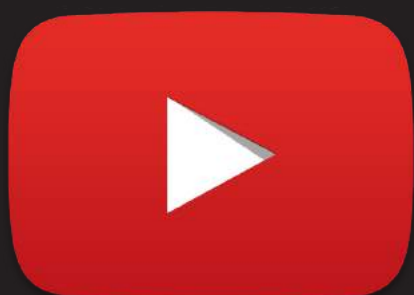
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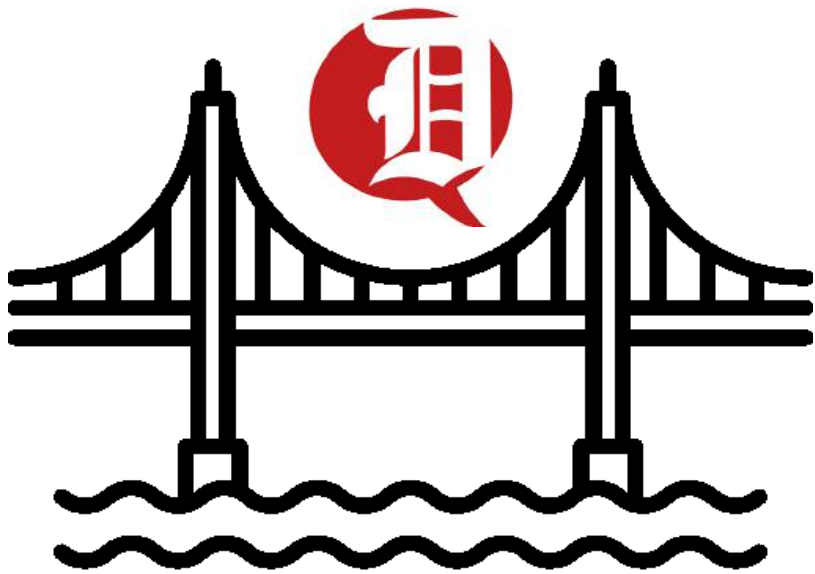
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