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Meet the new Chief Diversity Officer

COLLEEN HAMMOND
editor in chief



COURTESY OF GABRIEL WELSCH

On Thurs. Nov. 4, Duquesne administration announced that the search for the inaugural Chief Diversity Officer was over. Effective Jan. 5, Crystal McCormick Ware will fill this new role. She is an alumna of Duquesne and has an extensive background in enacting efforts that drive diversity forward at an institutional level.

"I'm delighted that Crystal McCormick Ware will be returning to the university where she holds two degrees and has a long history of service. Her extensive experience collaborating with faculty, staff and students at Pitt has prepared her well to help shape this new role at Duquesne," President Ken Gormley said.

This week, The Duke took a moment to get to know the newest face at Duquesne. Below are McCormick Ware's responses, detailing her goals for her new position.

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THE DUQUESNE DUKE

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Season-opening victory for Duquesne men's basketball



BRENTARO YAMANE | STAFF WRITER

Kevin Easley Jr. prepares for Rider to inbound the ball following a made basket by Duquesne in its season-opening victory over the Broncos on Tuesday.

LUKE HENNE
sports editor

Behind 14 points, a team-high-tying six rebounds and a team-high three blocks from newcomer Tre Williams, the Duquesne men's basketball defeated Rider University, 73-61, in its season opener at UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse Tuesday evening.

The win, which saw Duquesne in its all-time record in season openers to 88-18, helped the Dukes officially reopen the fieldhouse. It was just the third time the team played in the venue, and the first time the team played on campus without capacity restrictions since March 9, 2019.

Williams, who transferred to Duquesne from Indiana State, felt the key to victory was getting contributions from players up and down the roster.

"We learned that everybody can step up at any time," Williams said. "We found out that everybody is gonna be a major piece to this season, so we're just gonna need everybody to keep contributing."

In addition to Williams, three

Dukes also scored in double figures. Kevin Easley Jr. led Duquesne with 16 points, while Primo Spears matched Williams' total of 14. Leon Ayers III also scored 12 points.

Spears mirrored Williams' statement, saying that comradery was essential.

"Everybody just came together and fought, and it really showed that we could win at a high level," Spears said.

The Dukes shot just 36.7% during the first half, and the Broncos went into the locker room at halftime with a 33-30 edge. However, Duquesne outscored Rider 43-28 in the second half, sealing a 12-point victory in the first-ever meeting between the two programs.

Head Coach Keith Dambrot, working with a roster of nine new players and seven returning players, acknowledged that there will be plenty of room to grow in the season's first few weeks.

"One of my themes with this group has been [that] we have a chance to improve more than any team in the country because we are so new," Dambrot said.

"That's really what we're trying to concentrate on, and that's really what happened in the game. "We improved from the first half to the second half. We made enough plays to win the game."

Dambrot, who is now 22-4 in non-conference home games since coming to Duquesne, said the win was just about what he expected, also stressing the need to see his roster get to full strength before making any large assessments.

"It's not really much different than I anticipated," Dambrot said. "We're gonna have our issues until we get another couple three, four weeks and we get all our guys back."

Williams savored the opportunity to once again play not only in front of a large crowd, but in a refurbished venue like the fieldhouse.

"It was a new building, so I knew it was gonna be packed tonight," Williams said. "I'm glad everybody came out and we put on a show and got the win." He also knew that setting the tone was critical, especially in order to give fans a reason to

keep coming to games.

"It was just a lot of high emotions, a lot of people in the building," Williams said. "You want to get the win for everybody to keep them coming out, so I just feel like everybody was ready to play and just pumped up."

Dambrot praised the character of his team, emphasizing that operating at such a high level makes his job more enjoyable.

"They're an easy group to work with. It's refreshing," Dambrot said.

He also praised the student body turnout, saying that it gives his players a source of energy to feed off of, particularly after playing the majority of home games away from campus over the past two seasons.

"That made a big difference. Guys play hard when people are at the game. They're human beings as well," Dambrot said. "I thought it was really good, and I think it's good for the students too. That's why we go to college. We all went to college and supported our university and our

see basketball — page 2

POLICE BRIEFS

Thur. Nov. 4 - A student reported her vehicle was hit on the 5th level of the Locust Garage at 12:15 p.m. A violation was reported, and the case was closed.

Sun. Nov. 7 - A male student was receiving harassment calls and texts from a former female acquaintance. A disorderly conduct was reported and the case remains active.

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.

COVID-19 NUMBERS

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First-generation students are recognized and celebrated

MARY LIZ FLAVIN
news editor

Students gathered around the various tables and participated in raffles, a wheel of prizes and food and drink tables Monday as they celebrated what it means to be a first generation student attending Duquesne University. On Nov. 8, the First Generation Student Celebration was held on the third floor of the Student Union.

Angela Fichter, a first-generation student, said she enjoyed participating in the event.

"It's fun, I got a water bottle and some candy and I met some good friends. I'm having fun, that's all that matters," Fichter said.

Faculty and staff volunteers ranging from Student Life to athletics considered themselves first generation students or allies to the first-generation community according to Ashley Kane, lead planner and coordinator for student involvement and disabilities services. Staff from Parkhurst, Vice President for Student Life Doug Frizzell and Liberal Arts

School Dean Kris Blair also aided in this event.

Josephine Rizzo, an advisor at Duquesne's Spiritan Division, helped at a table that served various candy and cookies from Oakmont Bakery. She was glad she could share her experience as a first-generation student with others.

"I'm very proud. My parents were both Italian immigrants so they didn't have the opportunity to go to college so being a first-generation American and first-generation college student with a master's degree, I am ecstatic," Rizzo said.

The first time this event was held was in 2019. Prior to that, there was a higher education consortium conference in 2017 where faculty formed a committee and formally planned a function that celebrated first generation students, according to Kane.

"We kind of brainstormed together, formed a committee and said, 'OK, how can we show appreciation to our first generation students?'" Kane said.



MARY LIZ FLAVIN | NEWS EDITOR

Students gather in front of the prize table as they take a chance spinning the wheel of prizes, which included water bottles, Starbucks gift cards and more.

Incoming students can find more information about first-generation students during the FAST program in July, and parents can find out more through the parent and family portal located on Duquesne's website. In addition, the student involvement office can help with any additional questions.

Karyn Reinhart, an office manager in the school of music, is glad that students have the resources they need to be successful as first generation students.

"We didn't have anyone encouraging us when we went to school. There was nothing like this saying, 'Hey, we know you're special, we know there are certain difficulties you may not be able to have family to talk to about, but we are here and other people have experienced it, we are here to be good examples for other students,'" Reinhart said.

Blair showed her support for students by helping at the information table. She enjoyed seeing staff and faculty welcoming students to the event and creat-

ing a sense of community.

"It's just a matter of creating a support network, not presuming just by virtue of being on campus everyone automatically knows where to go on campus to ask questions about their academic program or about different kinds of resources on campus," Blair said. "The idea again that we can all be here today to provide those connections is a real honor and a treat for me."

Fatima Demlak, a first generation student, enjoyed the event and liked that it spread awareness to those who are not familiar with what students like her experience.

"I think it's cool and a good idea especially for people who aren't first generation students just to realize that there are others who aren't from the same background as them. It's just building first generation students a sense of community because most of us feel like we don't fit in or are ashamed. Seeing other people like you makes it feel a little more like home," Demlak said.



MARY LIZ FLAVIN | NEWS EDITOR

Staff lend a helping hand at the sweets and information table. Cookies from Oakmont Bakery were served as well as various candies.

Mens basketball shoots for a successful season

see basketball — page 1

teams. It's more of a good college experience compared to the last two years, where we had no college experience."

Much like Williams, Dambrot made it clear that the key to seeing fans continue to come to the fieldhouse is winning.

"Let's not undersell the importance of how many people were at the game tonight," Dambrot said. "We can do better than that, but we have to earn it."

"You can't really blame the Duquesne fans [in past years] for not coming. There haven't been many winners over the years. The return on investment hasn't been great, so you have to earn that support."

Dambrot feels if his team can work tirelessly every night,

they could draw the attention of more than just the Duquesne community.

"One thing I know about Pittsburgh people [is] that they respect teams that play hard and fight hard and play together, that are good people," Dambrot said. "That's what the Pittsburghers are. They're just good old souls, hard-working individuals. We have to be just like the city."

Duquesne will return to action on Saturday night when it hosts Hofstra. The Pride battled No. 15 Houston in their season opener Tuesday, leading by as many as 13 points before ultimately falling to the Cougars in overtime.

This will be the first all-time meeting between the Pride and the Dukes.



BRENTARO YAMANE | STAFF WRITER

Tyson Acuff prepares to inbound the ball during the second half of Duquesne's 12-point victory over Rider on Tuesday.

Crystal McCormick shares her excitement in being apart of Duquesne

see Q&A — page 1

Q: What drew you to taking on this role at Duquesne?

A: First of all, I am so honored to be interviewed by the Duquesne Duke, the student newspaper that I read every day as a student at Duquesne University.

I was drawn to the position first initially because I have always been an active alumna and past employee of the university. I started my higher education career at Duquesne University when I was hired in the Admissions Office in 1990.

When I heard about Duquesne's initiatives to improve its climate in terms of diversity and inclusion, I was very impressed that they were proactive with their plans to move forward and when the position was announced, I received an email about the position from the Alumni Office as well as several friends, and I knew immediately that I wanted to be a part of assisting to implement change.

Q: Can you speak about your connection to the City of Pittsburgh?

A: I am a proud resident of the Pittsburgh Region. I have strong Mon Valley roots and graduated from Steel Valley High School in Munhall and my family are life-long residents (5 generations) of West Mifflin, PA.

I elected to stay in Pittsburgh for my education because of a school teacher by the name of Janet Fletcher who graduated from Duquesne University. She was very influential in my life and she was one of a few African American school teachers in the Steel Valley school system at the time.

Through the years, I have been active in Mon Valley civic engagement as well as the City of Pittsburgh. It is important for me to give back to the communities that have given me the opportunity to flourish academically, personally and professionally.

I presently serve on several Boards of Directors.

Q:What do you want the Duquesne community to know about you?

A:I am a proud mother of a 2020 Duquesne alumna who is now in graduate school at WVU.

I am an avid reader, I love to

power walk (don't be surprised if you see me walking on campus on a daily basis) I have completed four Pittsburgh half marathons, I collect art, I am a history buff (I LOVE the History Channel), I make jewelry while watching TV (it is relaxing). I am an ENTJ (a class of personality based on the Myers-Briggs test).

Q:What are your top priorities during your first year at Duquesne?

A: It is my hope to become reacquainted with Duquesne again. Although I have been an active alumna, a recent Duquesne parent and volunteer, I still need to relearn the institution that has grown so much in recent years.

Diversity and inclusion is not a quick fix, it takes time and effort. I want to learn about what Duquesne has been doing well in terms of diversity, equity and inclusion in each unit and to promote or improve upon those successes. I plan to meet with all of the leaders on campus, including faculty, students and staff and hopefully the various Boards of Visitors and the Board of Directors to have transparent conver-

sations about diversity and inclusion and what it means to them.

I plan to earn the trust of the faculty, students and staff as the campus moves forward with its Action Plan for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. It will take time but I plan to implement change as thoroughly as possible with the help of the campus.

Q: Duquesne has a vibrant student life scene. How do you plan to work with Duquesne's minority student organizations to enact change?

A: I look forward to working with Dr. Anthony Kane and with the students. He is doing an outstanding job with the students on campus. I also plan to work with Student Life and Greek Life.

I was very active on campus as a student and it was always refreshing to see faculty and staff like Dr. Judith Griggs supporting the students. I plan to touch base with all student organizations to enact change. It is my mission for all Duquesne University students to know who I am and that diversity, equity and inclusion is a campus commitment. Anthony

is well respected on campus and I have volunteered at many student-focused programs throughout the years. Invite me to your events! Students are the heartbeat of the campus.

Q:What areas of campus life do you think need immediate attention from your new role?

A:I was hired to look at the overall climate of the university so that covers a very broad area with faculty, staff, students, etc. I will work with Duquesne University President Gormley to discern what areas need to be addressed immediately. He is very dedicated to the success of this position and also creating a more diverse and inclusive campus.

Q:What are you most excited to work on at Duquesne?

A: I am looking forward to coming back "HOME" and working with old friends and colleagues, meeting and working with new friends and colleagues, and most of all, having a positive impact through my work and my love of my alma mater.

Campus Ministry students make handmade-blankets for homeless

LENORA CIABATTARI
staff writer

As the temperature starts to drop, many begin appreciating the warm indoors – cozy sweaters, blankets and comforters. However, those experiencing homelessness throughout Pittsburgh don't have that same luxury.

Duquesne's Campus Ministry has been taking things into their own hands to help keep those in need warm this season.

On Sunday, students gathered in the Bayer Hall Rotunda to make fleece no-sew blankets for those experiencing homelessness in Pittsburgh. Working in groups of two, students were given fabric, scissors, templates and other materials to begin their blanket-making. Debbie Kostosky, a campus minister, is the coordinator of "All Hands

for a Cause," dedicated to performing good deeds for the homeless on the first Sunday of every month.

As the students got started, Kostosky talked about the organization "A Light in my City," a charity that supplies lanterns and flashlights to Pittsburgh's homeless population. Kostosky and the campus ministry aim to do something similar, but this time, the unmet need they tried to satisfy was warmth.

Kostosky said there have been similar events this semester for the general purpose of helping the poor and the homeless. In September, students helped to make plastic yarn bedrolls for the homeless. Using plastic bags, Kostosky taught students how to cut them into strips to create yarn, eventually weaving them together to make "water

repellent" bed rolls.

"Many homeless would sleep on cardboard," Kostosky said.

Since cardboard absorbs water, the plastic bed rolls' water repellent nature was particularly favorable when it came to rain or upcoming snow. It was also an efficient way to use plastic bags, rather than throwing them away.

In October, members of the Saint Vincent De Paul Society helped harvest apples and make homemade apple sauce for local homeless shelters. These were just the beginning of the ministry's mission to help the homeless.

There were many students participating in Bayer Rotunda on Sunday. All students were working in pairs. One pair of Duquesne students, Mollie Gallagher and Ceilidh Wagner, worked together to make their blanket.

"There is a handout that you can follow," Gallagher said.

Gallagher said she has had previous experience making blankets like these, but making them was not a difficult process. Kostosky was ready to help anyone who needed assistance and the handout was an efficient tool that most students used as they worked.

Wagner was also able to describe the process, regarding the steps in preparing the fabric.

"[First], you cut a square in the corner. Then you cut strips of two inches, and then tie them together...It's like tying shoelaces," Wagner said.

All students in the room were able to quickly learn the process and asked for help when it was needed. Teamwork also helped many succeed.



LENORA CIABATTARI | STAFF WRITER

Jimmy Hindley (left) and Pat Donovan (right) help prepare the fabric for cutting. This is the first step in the blanket making process.



LENORA CIABATTARI | STAFF WRITER

Sarah Ricketts (left) and Sydney Bibben (right) sit together while they cut into the 'no-sew' blanket. After they cut strips of cloth into the fabric they will tie them together to attach two pieces of fabric together.

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"Once everyone gets them done, we will donate to Saint Vincent De Paul...to [the] homeless in Pittsburgh," Kostosky said.

Students are encouraged to take their time making blankets, as there is not a set deadline.

"Some people came and took them home [to make them]," Kostosky said.

If any other student would like to make a blanket it's not too late, according to Kostosky. Campus Ministry is available for those who would like to help, and materials for blanket-making can be retrieved from Kostosky, as well. Students can also get involved in other ways.

"If anyone still wants to learn about plastic yarn, talk to me in Campus Ministry," Kostosky said.

The next event will occur on Dec. 5. Kostosky said Campus Ministry will continue programs like this on the first Sunday of February.

4

SPORTS

Football defeats LIU, snaps brief skid

BRENTARO YAMANE
staff writer

The Duquesne football team broke a two-game losing streak on Saturday, besting Northeast Conference foe Long Island, 34-28, at Bethpage Federal Credit Union Stadium in Brookeville, N.Y.

The Dukes' first quarter was less than ideal. On the game's first drive, LIU marched 75 yards down the field on six plays. With just 2:30 of game clock

ished the day completing 21 of 36 passes for 348 yards and two touchdowns.

For a fourth consecutive drive to start the game, points were put on the board.

Duquesne quarterback Darius Perrantes threw the first of his three touchdown passes of the day to wide receiver Cyrus Holder to trim the deficit to 14-10. Perrantes, who returned to the lineup following an injury which forced him to miss the previous week's loss against Saint Francis (Pa.), completed 19 of 32 passes for 215 yards.



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS

Duquesne's Billy Lucas ran for a career-best 137 yards and a touchdown in the Dukes' 34-28 victory over Long Island on Saturday. In Duquesne's last two games, Lucas has rushed for a total of 236 yards.

elapsed, the Sharks held a 7-0 lead following a 28-yard rushing score from Jonathan DeBique. After the Dukes cut into the LIU lead with a 45-yard field goal from Andrew Smith on the following drive, the Sharks immediately answered.

A drive which LIU started at its own 20-yard line ended with another touchdown, as quarterback Camden Orth threw a 25-yard touchdown strike to Derick Eugene to give the Sharks an 11-point lead. Orth fin-

ished the day completing 21 of 36 passes for 348 yards and two touchdowns.

From that point, things continued to look up for the Dukes. On LIU's second play of the ensuing drive, Orth threw an interception that landed in the hands of Dukes defensive back Tim Lowery.

Lowery knew that even though his team was still trailing, they had to find a way to secure a win.

"We knew that it wasn't going to be easy after trailing at the end of the first quar-

ter," Lowery said. "We just had to come together and take it one play at a time. We believed in one another, so as long as everyone did their job, good things will happen in the end and that's what happened."

Perrantes continued to throw the ball effectively, as the next two scores of the game were passing touchdowns. He was able to connect with Davie Henderson from 42 yards out before halftime to give the Dukes a 17-14 lead going into the locker room.

On the Dukes' second drive of the third quarter, Holder caught another touchdown pass, this time from 28 yards out to help Duquesne extend its lead to 24-14.

However, the Sharks kept fighting. They responded on the next drive with another rushing touchdown from DeBique. He ran the ball 16 times for 103 yards in the game.

Despite DeBique's solid performance, it could be argued that Duquesne running back Billy Lucas had an even stronger game.

On the drive following DeBique's second score of the game, Perrantes was facing a third down from his own 33-yard line. He handed the ball to Lucas, who was about to run into traffic up the middle, but decided to cut back to the left. That decision resulted in a 67-yard rushing touchdown.

Lucas ended the day with a career-high 137 rushing yards on 20 carries, ultimately averaging 6.9 yards per carry. Those stats helped him to be recognized as the NEC Player of the Week.

"It felt great to win and get things back rolling," Lucas said. "The team was happy, and it is motivating us for next week. It feels good to see all the practice reps paying off and being able to help the team win games."

The Sharks continued to try and come back, and they got close. After a 24-yard field goal from Joey Corado helped Duquesne push its lead to 34-21, Orth threw a 58-yard touchdown pass to Tosin Oyekanmi with 4:39 remaining in the game.

With the ball in their possession on what

would turn out to be the final drive of the game, the Sharks converted twice on third down and moved the ball all the way to Duquesne's 30-yard line. However, time expired following an Orth incompletion on second down, and the Dukes escaped with a one-score victory.

Duquesne linebacker Jahan Worth, who recorded eight tackles, was proud of his team's resiliency and composure in the victory.

"The game plan was to play our game of football, eliminate easy penalties and put pressure on them on both sides of the ball," Worth said. "We just emphasized to each other the importance of staying focused on every play. We wanted to win the game a play at a time, and trust that our teammates would have each other's backs, and that's what happened."

Duquesne's next game will be its final home game of the regular season, when it hosts Central Connecticut on Saturday.

The Dukes and Blue Devils are both 3-2 in NEC play.

Those two teams, in addition to SFU and Bryant, are locked in a four-way tie for second place. Sacred Heart currently leads the NEC at 4-1.

For Duquesne to have a shot at winning the conference title, it would need to win its final two games, in addition to Sacred Heart losing both of its final two games and SFU dropping at least one more game.

For Duquesne offensive lineman Roman Macek, he prefers focusing on Saturday's game rather than trying to look ahead.

"The only thing on our minds is to get better each day and go 1-0 this weekend against Central Connecticut," Macek said. "Both times I've played against Central Connecticut in my career, it has been for the conference championship, and it has come down to one of the last plays of the game to decide the winner."

"They're really a good team, but if we all collectively do our jobs, we have a great chance at coming out on top."

College Football Playoff Rankings - Week 11

Rank	Team	Prev.	Overall	Conf.	This Week
1.	Georgia	1	9-0	SEC	11/13 at Tennessee
2.	Alabama	2	8-1	SEC	11/13 vs. NM State
3.	Oregon	4	8-1	Pac-12	11/13 vs. Washington St.
4.	Ohio State	5	8-1	Big Ten	11/13 vs. (19) Purdue
5.	Cincinnati	6	9-0	American	11/12 at South Florida
6.	Michigan	7	8-1	Big Ten	11/13 at Penn State
7.	Michigan State	3	8-1	Big Ten	11/13 vs. Maryland
8.	Oklahoma	8	9-0	Big 12	11/13 at (13) Baylor
9.	Notre Dame	10	8-1	n/a	11/13 at Virginia
10.	Oklahoma State	11	8-1	Big 12	11/13 vs. TCU

Rank	Team	Prev.	Overall	Conf.	This Week
11.	Texas A&M	14	7-2	SEC	11/13 at (15) Mississippi
12.	Wake Forest	9	8-1	ACC	11/13 vs. (16) NC State
13.	Baylor	12	7-2	Big 12	11/13 vs. (8) Oklahoma
14.	BYU	15	8-2	n/a	Bye
15.	Mississippi	16	7-2	SEC	11/13 vs. (11) Texas A&M
16.	NC State	19	7-2	ACC	11/13 at (12) Wake Forest
17.	Auburn	13	6-3	SEC	11/13 vs. Mississippi St.
18.	Wisconsin	21	6-3	Big Ten	11/13 vs. Northwestern
19.	Purdue	NR	6-3	Big Ten	11/13 at (4) Ohio State
20.	Iowa	22	7-2	Big Ten	11/13 vs. Minnesota

Rank	Team	Prev.	Overall	Conf.	This Week
21.	Pittsburgh	25	7-2	ACC	11/11 vs. North Carolina
22.	San Diego State	24	8-1	Mt. West	11/13 vs. Nevada
23.	UTSA	NR	9-0	C-USA	11/13 vs. Southern Miss
24.	Utah	NR	6-3	Pac-12	11/13 at Arizona
25.	Arkansas	NR	6-3	SEC	11/13 at LSU

Women's basketball falls to UCF in season opener

GRACE HEIDINGER
staff writer

The Duquesne women's basketball team opened up its season in Orlando, Fla., on Tuesday, falling to Central Florida at Addition Financial Arena, 68-39.

Despite playing with a shortened bench as a result of four regular players not traveling due to injury, the Dukes managed to stay competitive for much of the game. Tess Myers had a game-high-tying

point edge. UCF quickly responded with a triple from Ahna Burney, and the score was tied at 14 at the end of the first frame.

Just 10 seconds into the second quarter, Myers gave the Dukes a 17-14 lead with a 3-pointer, but the momentum was short-lived.

The Knights started to test the Dukes' limits. UCF applied more pressure at both ends of the floor, making it difficult for the Dukes to capitalize on plays and add to their side of the scoreboard.



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS

Duquesne's Tess Myers shoots during Tuesday night's loss at UCF. Now in her second season with the Dukes, Myers put up a team-best 16 points and added an assist and a steal in her 34 minutes of action.

16 points, while Megan McConnell scored four points and dished out five assists.

In the final 30 seconds of the first quarter, McConnell was quick to head down the court following a Knights turnover. On a driving layup, she gave the Dukes a three-

A 10-2 run gave the Knights a 24-19 lead with just under three minutes to play in the first half. Duquesne's Precious Johnson hit a 3-pointer to trim UCF's lead to 24-22 with just under two minutes left before halftime, and neither team was able

to crack the scoreboard for the remainder of the half.

Libby Bazalak, who scored four points and grabbed four rebounds in the loss, said that the team's effort was valiant, but it couldn't be sustained for a full game.

"In the first half, we played well defensively and got to some rebounds, which helped us to get better looks on offense," Bazalak said. "We stuck with them through the third quarter and just weren't able to hang with their athleticism, size and depth."

The Dukes opened the second-half scoring with an equalizer from Johnson, but struggled to keep up with the fast-paced Knights. UCF took control of the court and went on their second large run of the night, using a 17-3 run to push itself out to a commanding 41-29 lead with 1:47 to go in the third quarter.

"With our shortened bench, we weren't able to run as much transition as we would've liked in the second half when our legs started to get a little more tired," Bazalak said.

A Duquesne scoring drought and six turnovers allowed UCF to gain its biggest lead of the game to that point. Heading into the final quarter, the Dukes trailed by a 42-31 score.

The Knights continued to capitalize in the final 10 minutes of the game. The tired Dukes could not close the gap against UCF's relentless defense.

A fourth quarter in which UCF outscored Duquesne by a 26-8 mark helped the Knights firmly secure a 29-point victory.

The Dukes shot 28.8% on the night, while the Knights were 37.9% from the field.

Behind 23 Duquesne turnovers, UCF scored 21 of its 68 points.

"We had some costly turnovers against

their traps and press and UCF was able to capitalize and knock down their shots," Bazalak said.

Missing four players called for more time on the court for the Dukes that were healthy and able to make the trip.

As the game progressed, the Dukes grew tired, which led to more opportunities for the Knights to steal the ball and swiftly head down the court.

The Dukes will be right back in action on Thursday, when they travel to Tulsa, Okla., to take on the Tulsa Golden Hurricane at Reynolds Center.

With such a short time in between games, Bazalak knows that flipping the page as quickly as possible is key.

"We are going to do a lot of recovery, icing and resting tonight [Tuesday]," Bazalak said. "Tomorrow [Wednesday], we will be traveling, going over scout for Tulsa and practicing."

The Dukes have not faced the Golden Hurricane since Dec. 30, 2000. Thursday will mark the third all-time meeting between Duquesne and Tulsa.

The Dukes will look to earn their first win of the season, while simultaneously earning what would be a third-consecutive victory over the Golden Hurricane.

Despite the loss, Bazalak knows that she and her teammates still have plenty of opportunities to grow throughout non-conference play.

"We have to get better every game, which I thought we did today," Bazalak said. "Now, we have to move on from this one and take it one game at a time from here on out."

Following the road clash with Tulsa, Duquesne will come home to UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse to host Lafayette Sunday afternoon.

Men's soccer upsets SJU in A-10 tourney

SPENCER THOMAS
staff writer

At 3:55 p.m. on Sunday, the Duquesne men's soccer team was staring down the end of its season.

Taking on Saint Joseph's in Philadelphia during the first round of the Atlantic 10 Conference tournament, the third-seeded Hawks had just scored with 10:18 remaining in regulation to take a 1-0 lead. It seemed inevitable that the sixth-seeded Dukes would soon face the reality that their season would be over.

However, the Dukes had other plans. Working with less than 10 minutes left on the clock, Duquesne found a way to keep its season alive.

Off a corner kick from Ryan Goodhew, Maxi Hopfer put a left-footed shot off the near post, and Tom Tzabari lifted the rebound past SJU goalkeeper Lars Haavie to tie the game with just over five minutes remaining.

Seemingly bound for overtime, the Dukes once again found a way to rewrite the story.

Ryan Landry drew a free kick from nearly the exact same spot that the Dukes had scored from less than three minutes earlier. Goodhew stepped up and took the outswinging free kick, with seven Dukes antici-

pating his cross in the box.

Jaime Borjas jumped into the air from the penalty spot and connected on a header directed toward the net's top left corner.

When he returned to the turf, Duquesne held the lead with just over two minutes to go in regulation.

Despite having their backs against the wall, Head Coach Chase Brooks sensed that his team had the motivation and desire needed to extend the campaign for at least one more game.

"We have a group of upperclassmen who will be leaving us, and nobody wanted it to be their last game," Brooks said. "We knew we had a very good shot today, as long as we took care of business."

By 4:09 p.m., the Dukes found themselves winning a game in the conference tournament for the first time since 2002 and advancing to the tournament's semifinal round for the first time since 2006.

Brooks was not oblivious to the importance of that achievement.

"These guys have worked so hard and sacrificed a lot to get to this point. We pushed really hard in preseason and talked about doing things differently than Duquesne men's soccer had ever done them before," Brooks said. "It's

now about capitalizing on that momentum and using it to keep progressing this program forward into future years."

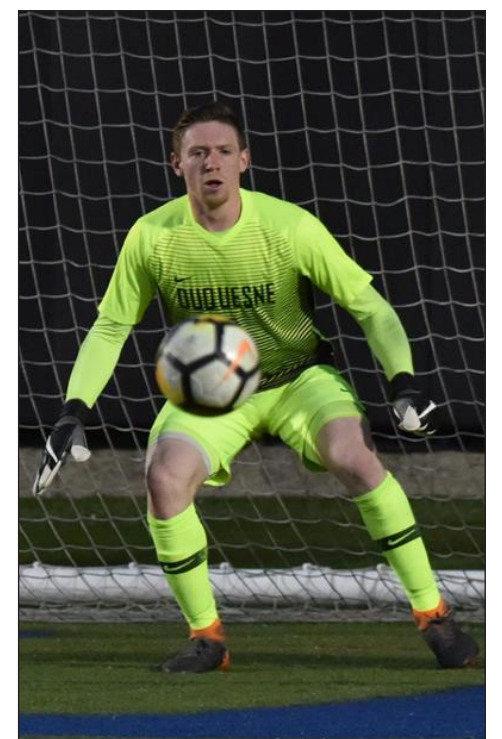
Despite the fact that both of the Dukes scorers recorded the first goals of their respective Duquesne careers, it was also experience that delivered when the pressure was at its highest point. Hopfer and Goodhew, who were each credited with an assist, respectively rank first and second on the team in shots.

Goalkeeper Domenic Nascimben made five saves on six shots on goal for Duquesne in the victory. Prior to the final five minutes, Duquesne had just three shots on goal in the entire game, but their conversion on the next two shots proved to be the difference in a game where the Hawks had a 19-8 advantage in the shot department.

With a spot in the A-10 conference championship at stake, the Dukes will travel St. Louis, Mo., for a neutral-site semifinal game against second-seeded Rhode Island on Saturday.

It will be the first time the programs have faced one another since Oct. 20, 2018, when the Dukes defeated the Rams by a 3-1 score.

On Sunday, the winner will face the winner of the other semifinal game between top-seeded Saint Louis and fourth-seeded Fordham.



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS

Goalkeeper Domenic Nascimben stopped five shots from Saint Joseph's in Sunday's 2-1 win.

"All Together Now!" cabaret tributes contemporary theater

WEEK'S EVENTS

MIA LUBRANI
staff writer

In conjunction with hundreds of performing arts groups across the country, this weekend, Duquesne's Red Masquers are set to perform "All Together Now," a cabaret-style musical revue.

To the average theater-kid, the name Musical Theater International (MTI) will likely ring a bell, as they are the company from which theater troupes purchase the rights to musicals. This year, in the wake of theaters being closed worldwide due to the pandemic, MTI decided — for one weekend only — to make an evening's worth of show tunes available for performance free of charge.

Typically, performance rights to a production like this could cost anywhere into the hundreds or thousands of dollars. But, since MTI has waived the fee, participating theaters, like the Masquers, can use this show solely as a fundraiser.

With audience support, all the proceeds from ticket sales will be used for the preservation and continued growth of the Red Masquers, according to the ticket listing.

This cabaret-style performance consists of musical theatre's most iconic songs ranging from the 80s through today. With no specific roles or characters, the entire cast is slated

to come together as an ensemble to display each of their unique talents. There will be solos, duets, trios, quartets and group numbers. About 15 songs will be sung throughout the evening, incorporating a variety of musicals ranging from *Into the Woods* to *Newsies* to *Waitress* in a variety of ballads, dance numbers and Broadway classics.

This production has also allowed for newcomers to take the stage, like Kyle Stiver.

"Personally, I am going to have to say doing the group numbers is my favorite part because you get to see how talented everyone is in their own way but also how well we work together as a group," Stiver said. "Just saying the finale is gonna knock your socks off."

In his first time performing with the group, Stiver said the environment has been extremely inclusive.

The show will be held with a "mocktail hour" feel in mind. A cabaret does not follow a plot line or character map, but displays live music, as if someone hit "shuffle" on their favorite Broadway playlist. This unique show allows theatre arts students to highlight their acting, dancing, singing and choreography skills.

Katheryn Hess, a recent Duquesne Theatre Arts grad, put on her dancing shoes to serve as choreographer for this production.

"It's exciting to return and see some old faces again and meeting a



ANDREW CUMMINGS | MULTIMEDIA MANAGER

Go to www.duqredmasquers.com to purchase tickets for this weekend's shows.

whole new slew of talented people," Hess said. "It's amazing to watch the cast bring their own style to the numbers."

To purchase tickets, head over to duqredmasquers.com. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, performances will be held at 8 p.m., and the final

matinée will take place at 2p.m. on Sunday. The ticket sales are \$10 for students and \$20 for adults.

"Overall, I'm just thrilled to be back in a live theater environment and watch the Masquers come back to the stage again," Hess said.



ANDREW CUMMINGS | MULTIMEDIA MANAGER

Senior Michael Kirk opens the show with his rendition of "Pure Imagination" from the musical *Willy Wonka & The Chocolate Factory*.



ANDREW CUMMINGS | MULTIMEDIA MANAGER

Red Masquers pose for their final company number of the show. This is one of the first in-person performances to take place at the Genesius Theater since lockdown in March 2020.

Please be advised that a member of the editorial staff is involved in this production. That editor was not involved in the creation or editing of this article.

Puzzle Night
Nov. 11 @ 9 p.m.

Join the Honor's College in the Union NiteSpot for some puzzles and fun! Sign up at the Assumption Hall front desk. 4 teams of 3 are needed.

Duquesne's Night of Lights
Nov. 12 @ 4:30 p.m.

Lighting up A-Walk as the sun is setting, holiday festivities will ensue, including sleigh rides, free food and even pictures with Santa! Come join the annual celebration of winter cheer.

DPC DUNite: Tumbler Decorating
Nov. 12 @ 9 p.m.

Design and decorate your own free tumbler provided at the NiteSpot! Supplies limited.

Trip to the Movies: The Eternals
Nov. 13 @ 4 p.m.

Take a field trip to the Waterfront movie theater for a Duquesne-only private showing of Marvel's next masterpiece! Tickets are \$5 in the Union Freshman Development Office.

CAPRI'S KIND WORDS

You are full of light

Have you considered how much energy you bring when you walk into a room? Think of how your personality, your outlook and your presence offers a steady rhythm to the world around you, and how it positively impacts your world and the world around you.

That feeling you get when you get complimented on your outfit, or acknowledged for bringing up an important point, or applauded for a job well done at something you've worked hard at.

It's not even the validation that brings you light. It's the effort you put in to make your life an abundant one.

Your happiness stems from a routine that you are fond of, and that you create. With time, it starts to feel less like a routine and more like a string of opportunities awaiting you, each and every day.

No one ever said you have to be at your very best all of the time. But growing into your best self is a journey that feels like sunshine.

— Capri Scarcelli

Aquarius
Maybe we got lost in translation...

Gemini
mmmmmmmm

Libra
Is that an avocado sandwich?

Pisces
And I ask, what qualifies you for the position of "swagger."

Cancer
Y'all cuddle with your bffs?

Scorpio
Cry (but make it celebratory).

Aries
Full moon in pisces, that's fishy!

Leo
Karaoke night but nobody knows the words.

Sagittarius
Not yet little flower....

Taurus
Keep it jazzy. Take a clarinet to your next class.

Virgo
Maybe I asked for too much...

Capricorn
Pretty cool you know, taking one for the team.

Arthur Rooney's story takes the stage with one-man tribute play

COLLEEN HAMMOND
editor-in-chief

Phillip Winters has Pittsburgh theater-goers crying “hail to the chief” as he takes on the solo role in the Public Theater’s production of *The Chief*.

In their first in-person production on the O’Reilly Theater stage since closing for the pandemic, eager Steelers fans and theater-lovers alike flocked to see Winters take on the role of Arthur Rooney.

In this one man show by Rob Zellers and Gene Collier, Winters brings a salt of the earth charm to the larger-than-life Steelers founder and owner.

Over the course of an hour and 20 minutes, audiences are drawn into the cluttered, relic-filled office of Art Rooney late one night in 1976, just before Rooney is set to receive an award from the Knights of Columbus.

Through a series of vignettes and personal anecdotes, Winters’ character takes audiences on an incline ride through Pittsburgh’s storied history, beginning with Rooney’s childhood in the North Side’s First Ward in the 1930s.

While Winter’s performance is a delight to any viewer, it was strikingly obvious through the detailed “old neighborhood” references and intense city history



Directed by Kyle Haden, Pittsburgh Public Theater pays tribute to Art Rooney.

lesson that the target audience for this production is a native-born Pittsburgher over the age of 65.

Although still enjoyable to a younger crowd, as someone who was not raised in the area and is not as familiar with the Pittsburgh

of Rooney’s childhood, the show can leave viewers with an outsider taste in their mouth.

Still, despite an audience member’s poor understanding of the central figure, Winters makes Rooney accessible and enjoyable.

He takes on the air of a fun, older uncle. His demeanor is warm and welcoming, yet a tad gruff, displaying a kind of manliness in line with the cultural norms of the time.

While the set was somewhat simplistic, scenic designer Britton Wayne Mauk attempted to bring visual interest with the use of a turntable covered in astroturf green, complete with yardline markers. Given that there is only so much director Kyle Haden could do with one man speaking alone on stage, the turntable helped to vary the stage picture just enough to retain the audience’s attention without drawing them out of the story entirely.

Unfortunately, the use of the turntable seemed to be employed as an underestimation of Winters’ storytelling abilities. While the turning helped to move the story along, it felt unnecessary, as Winters was captivating and engaging enough on his own without the additional technical elements.

However, the creative team struck gold with the projection design. The real crown jewel of the stage was the overhead projection created by media designer Sean Byrum Leo.

High above center stage hung an arena-style, circular projection screen. This way, all audience members could see the pro-

jections, despite the audience being seated in a three-quarter thrust arrangement. The projection screen showed photos, as Winters held them up in a scrapbook, ensuring everyone could take part in the imagery. He displayed photos of Pittsburgh during the hay-day of steel work and dozens of Rooney’s friends and players who went on to become sports legends. Additionally, the overhead placement harkened back to sports iconography that was at the center of this show.

Zellers and Collier expertly crafted this historical fiction, precisely weaving fact and fiction into one quilted image of Pittsburgh’s past. Brought to life by Winters’ heartfelt and honest portrayal of Rooney, *The Chief* was an excellent way to kick off the Public’s first season back.

For those who missed this first show back, the Public has a packed in-person season slated for the remainder of the year.

Later this season, the Public will be home to another one person show, this time in the form of a solo musical comedy. From Jan. 26- Feb. 13, *Downton Abbey* star Lesley Nicol will grace the Public stage in a one woman musical about her life, titled “How The Hell Did I Get Here?”

Student tickets are available through the Pittsburgh Public Theater’s website for \$16.50 each.

The Red of Fall: Taylor Swift to re-release 2012 album after 11 years

EMMA POLEN
layout editor

Taylor Swift is set to release the “Taylor” version of her 2012 *Red* album along with a brand new feature film this Friday, Nov. 12.

Swift’s *Red* re-recording will feature nine additional tracks. Of these nine, Swift announced she will have collaborations with Phoebe Bridgers, Ed Sheeran and Chris Stapleton.

The entire album will be available in two versions: one clean, and the other explicit. This leaves fans to wonder how much Swift will change the content of her revived hits.

On June 18, Swift announced on her Instagram that her next album release would be *Red*, and it would be out Nov. 19. Fortunately for fans, the release date was moved up one week to Nov. 12.

In the same teaser posted on

her Instagram last June, Swift said, “This will be the first time you hear all 30 songs that were meant to go on *Red*. And hey, one of them is even 10 minutes long.”

The elongated song will be the “Taylor” version of *Red*’s “All Too Well.” The song is about Swift’s late-2010 romance with Jake Gyllenhaal — and the lyrics involve the remnants of a cozy fall relationship: old scarves, rosy cheeks and autumn leaves.

“All Too Well” is arguably Swift’s most artistically successful work. Critics have been especially appreciative of this song compared to other Swift-favorites since its release, according to *Rolling Stone*.

Combining pop and country with poetically descriptive break-up lyrics, “All Too Well” creates a ballad that seemingly pleased lovers of every genre.

“All Too Well” never got its chance at being released as a single separately from the album,

but it will be delivered to fans this week in a unique way.

In addition to the release of Swift’s version of *Red* on Friday, she will also be releasing a short film with the title of the song.

The short film is written and directed by Swift. She will star in the short along with well-known actors Dylan O’Brien (*Maze Runner*) and Sadie Sink (*Stranger Things*).

All that Taylor Nation currently knows about “All Too Well” was shown in the 30-second trailer released last Friday.

The footage included a road cutting through autumn woods. A car sped past the camera, and the only sound in the video came from the colorful leaves and the car. No music or voices were introduced in the teaser, leaving much to be anticipated with the full short film coming this Friday.

This long-awaited album drop will signify an important



Fitting for a cold November, Taylor Swift’s *Red* re-release plans for a reminiscent experience of vulnerability, heartbreak and the wild nights of your early 20s.

time for Swift. Along with her album announcement, Swift also shared an explanation for her decision to redo *Red*. In it, she said, “Musically and lyrically, *Red* resembled a heartbroken person. It was all over the place, a fractured mosaic of feelings that somehow all fit together in

the end.”

Red was also a healing experience, Swift said, and that while heartbreak “takes you on a detour back to the past,” she was ready to learn from the experience she gained developing the 2012 album and “begin again.”

THE DUQUESNE DUKE

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Bad days happen to everyone, but when one happens to you, just keep doing your best and never let a bad day make you feel bad about yourself.

BIG BIRD

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

@TheDuquesneDuke

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COURTESY OF UNSPLASH.COM

Trouble for the Castaways on new Survivor Season 41

After 40 seasons of one of the most dangerous social experiments to hit our TV screens, the 41st season of CBS's "Survivor" has officially gone off the deep end.

Just as the host Jeff Probst said in episode one, "drop the four, keep the one, because this is a brand new game." Absolutely, it's a brand new game, and it doesn't even resemble "Survivor" anymore.

As a fan of the show since its origin, there's something so intriguing about castaways' abilities to survive on an island with minimal food, all the while competing in competitions in scorching heat and using their minds to figure out who to vote out at tribal council. The show's motto — outwit, outplay, outlast — has made me a fan so invested that even I want to try my hand at it someday... but now I'm rethinking.

The show came back swinging after its short hiatus during the pandemic, but with a condensed season of 26 days rather than 39 days on the island of Fiji. The season looked promising, with Probst breaking the fourth wall in the first episode telling us of all the twists and turns of the season, and that they're not giving the tribes the usual bag of rice — they have to find food all on their own. On top of that, their flint for fire-making would be taken away if they lost a challenge.

The new stipulations felt like they really were surviving.

There's no official survey on approval rating, but it seems like there's far more agreement among the "Survivor" fandom on both Twitter and Instagram that, despite the constant suspense and changes to gameplay, season 41 isn't working.

Because "Survivor" has been so great in the past, with a few minor exceptions (ahem, season 39), the expectations for this season were high. But the minor disappointments of the past don't compare

to what's happening now.

Although the excitement over the lack of food and fire-making equipment started off strong, these superficial changes have had no important role in the final edits of the episodes. There's no reason to force players to work harder to make fire or find food if it doesn't even make an appearance on screen nor become a staple in the storyline.

This leads me to the main issue of season 41: each episode is consumed by tacky twists and advantages to be found.

The introduction of the hidden immunity idol in season 11 was enough to outrage fans over its unprecedented power to save an



ZOE STRATOS
opinions editor

individual that didn't win the individual immunity challenge before the tribal council. But looking back, I miss the days when this was one of the only advantages to be found on the island.

And it required skill for the holder to find it hidden on the massive island.

Now, every episode involves two castaways being sent to the same island to get to know each other, and then they must make a decision in private to risk or not risk their vote. If the two choose opposite decisions, the one who risked their vote receives an advantage.

The idea behind this would have been cool if it only occurred once, but it's become boring and predictable. The risk your vote wheel has been used three times. Moreover, the advantage is just given to them — no searching or skill involved.

Almost each episode introduces a new advantage, making the game almost unplayable. Literally, some of the advantages prevent the holder from voting at tribal council until they can complete a task. One of the castaways, Xander Hastings, couldn't vote twice.

Not to mention it also makes it much harder on fans to keep track of all of the advantages at play. It's all we can focus on, rather than getting to know the players.

Bringing it back around to the social experiment, the entire point of "Survivor" — as with any reality TV show — is a way to see the interactions between a group of diverse people, but this concept is lost in all of the advantages.

Unfortunately, the only redeeming quality of this season — the amazing cast — is completely overshadowed, and we barely get to know anyone through their conversations with other castaways. We only seem to get a biography through confessionals.

It's even more disappointing to know that these players really are an embodiment of the outwit, outplay, outlast motto, but are so consumed by advantages that we don't get to see them actually play the game as castaways have done in the past.

"Survivor" 41 has a very strong cast of people who've shown up to play the game, but the game won't let them, and the editing won't let us see them. This group of superfans are playing a game that is now a game of chance, not strategy.

They waited through the pandemic to play a game that isn't what they've been watching for 20 years. Hopefully with the merge we'll see this season turn around.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Success breeds complacency in changing mascots

As the Thanksgiving holiday approaches, and Americans prepare to gather with close family and friends, chances are that a televised sporting event will be at the center of a conversation or social setting.

Whether you're watching a National Football League game on Thanksgiving Day or a college basketball contest on Black Friday, sports are impossible to avoid around this time of the year.

However, several offensive Native American logos and mascots will continue to be a recurring theme on the field this holiday season.

In an era where many teams are starting to rethink their nicknames and/or depictions, some organizations show no urgency to change.

Just last week, the Braves brought the city of Atlanta its first World Series title since 1995. The 'Braves' nickname has been carried across three cities (Boston, Milwaukee, Atlanta) and has been synonymous with the state of Georgia since 1966.

A team with that much tradition and current success has extremely little motivation to change its nickname and accompanying practices (like the Tomahawk Chop, for example). When you consider the political climate of the South, in addition to the fact the Braves are Major League Baseball's strongest representative of that region, the likelihood of change is miniscule.

You might come across the National Hockey League's Black Friday contest on ABC between the St. Louis Blues and the Chicago Blackhawks. Since 2010, the Blackhawks have won three Stanley Cups, the most in the entire NHL during that span. There's also been little to no discussion of this franchise changing its nickname, likely due to the team's success.

Correlation doesn't equal causation, but it seems like success breeds complacency.

However, other teams that have had less on-field success and carry nicknames that are perceived to be offensive almost immediately jumped to change their names following the racial unrest that unfolded across the country in the summer of 2020.

The Washington Football Team, who has not won a Super Bowl since 1991 and is in a more-accepting climate when it comes to removing an offensive name, is in their second year as the WFT following the dropping of the 'Redskins' nickname. The franchise plans to have a new nickname ready for the 2022 season.

After over 100 years as the Cleveland Indians, the franchise will begin competing as the Guardians in 2022. The 'Guardians' nickname pays homage to statues that lead visitors into the city. For what it's worth, Cleveland has not won a World Series since 1948, the longest-active streak in the entire MLB.

For the teams that have found success, there seems to be no rush to consider changing the nickname. For others, perhaps lack of on-field success and a need for good press were the way to go.

As the sports calendar becomes loaded with events, it's time for everyone to rethink and antiquated, offensive Native American franchises.

Looking out for each other, the safe way to rave

JOHN CANTWELL
staff writer

Since I was an angst-ridden 13 year old, I have been to my fair share of hardcore, punk and metal shows that have been considered to be “violent” or “unsafe,” due to the chaotic mosh pits and seemingly anarchic environment. I am now 22, so I consider myself to be seasoned in this realm of consensual rage and adrenaline.

In recent years, an abundance of this pent-up energy has transitioned its way into rap and hip-hop culture, with mainstream artists like Playboi Carti and Travis Scott leading the forefront for die-hard fans to get involved in what many call a “rager” environment.

At every punk show I have attended where there has been a mosh pit, although there is physical contact that leaves some in bruises, if someone falls over, the rule is to always pick that person up. More importantly, we don’t continue until the crowd and artist know for certain that the individual is safe.

Safety was evidently not a priority of Astrofest organizers on Saturday Nov. 6, as eight individuals have been confirmed dead and over 300 fans were injured in the aftermath of a packed, rage-filled

show.

After seeing the news of the festival on Saturday, I am overcome with feelings of sadness, confusion and, most prominently, disgust by how the festival was handled.

Was it Scott who is to blame? Is it the festival promoters? Is it the fans?

I believe it was an accumulation of all these factors that turned what should have been a day of euphoric fun into a living hell for attendees.

From the very beginning of the festival, fans were stampeding the entrances and trampling over each other in order to get to the front, while also destroying the metal detectors — as seen by cell phone videos of the event.

The charging of the entrances is something that isn’t new unfortunately, and a very similar occurrence happened at a Playboi Carti concert in Houston two weeks prior on Oct. 23; However as soon as the safety of the crowd was questioned, the show was immediately canceled.

This is what should’ve happened, or it should have at least had some form of postponement. As the venue became more populated, more problems arose; from the overpopulation of the area, to hundreds of fans being critically injured or passing out, to the in-

competence of the Live Nation staff — as well as under-trained medical personnel — it is conspicuously apparent that the organization deserves a great deal of blame and guilt with how much of a negligent and atrociously planned event Astroworld was.

Now, does Scott actually deserve the blame he has received from media outlets and fans alike? The short answer is yes.

Speaking from my own experiences of attending concerts for more than a decade at this point, I have seen my fair share of “rage” filled shows, as well as stood witness to intense injuries that have either occurred from moshing, or just passing out from heat exhaustion.

But the difference is that nearly every time I have witnessed these events happening, the artist has always halted the show.

Scott witnessed his distressed fans being taken out by security, and was screamed at multiple times by fans to stop the show, but instead he still performed like nothing was happening within the crowd.

Although he acknowledged that some fans were being taken out by paramedics, it wasn’t enough to prevent more harm. Unfortunately, Scott is no stranger to putting his



COURTESY OF UNSPLASH
Last weekend, eight fans died in a series of horrific accidents at the Astroworld Music Festival in Texas while Travis Scott was performing. He did not stop the show.

fans at risk, whether it’s for telling other fans to jump a member of the crowd who stole his shoe —which he actually stopped his show for — or commanding his crowd to rush past barricades, putting a multitude of teenagers and venue staff and security at physical risk.

Scott has been charged in the past for his chaotic actions at concerts. In 2017 he pleaded guilty for disorderly conduct due to him encouraging fans to rush the stage, leaving multiple concertgoers and staff severely injured. Scott also encouraged one of his fans that was hanging from a balcony to

jump, which left the fan, Kyle Green, paralyzed.

For someone who has adopted a punk aesthetic, the core of the genre is to be one with another; There is a specific form of etiquette and understanding that goes along with the scene, and although he adopted the energy, maybe he and his fans should become aware of the mutual respect.

The negligence and apathy towards human life by Live Nation, Scott and any of the other organizers will forever be a somber reminder of what could have been a preventable disaster.

A Big Bird-size dose of the Covid-19 vaccine

EMMA POLEN
layout manager

This week, Big Bird from “Sesame Street” tweeted that he got the Covid-19 vaccine. This comes after another big vaccination announcement: Children ages 5 through 11 can now receive their doses of Pfizer’s vaccine.

With the world in the state it’s in, it is important for everyone to consider receiving the vaccine for the first time, or the booster shot to keep their immunity strong.

In the tweet, Big Bird said, “I got the COVID-19 vaccine today! My wing is feeling a little sore, but it’ll give my body an extra protective boost that keeps me and others healthy.”

As a role model to kids everywhere, it was inspiring to see the 270,000 likes his tweet had received only two days after posting.

The tweet’s comments also showed that Big Bird had several different effects on his audience.

First off, some people criticized Big Bird for not getting the vaccine sooner. But this served as a great learning experience for them: Big Bird is actually six years old. He’s a fictional char-



COURTESY OF UNSPLASH

As the FDA approve the Pfizer vaccine for children ages five through 11, children’s characters and media outlets are stepping up to encourage youth vaccination.

acter: he’s always been six.

Other commenters brought up Big Bird’s child immunization campaigns of the past.

A tweet from @HistoryMuppet showed a black and white image of Big Bird holding up a sign encouraging child vaccinations. This picture was taken in 1976 during the push for children to be vaccinated to protect their health in high-risk areas.

Muppet Wiki’s Twitter account also shared an old clip

from “Sesame Street” showing Big Bird getting the measles vaccine. The clip originally aired in 1972, but the character’s determination to get the vaccine is still relevant today.

Still others in the comments were not in support of Big Bird’s vaccination status.

Critics like Sen. Ted Cruz took Big Bird’s tweet as an example of “government propaganda.” But Cruz, a government leader, used Twitter to prove his own

agenda.

He posted a meme of Big Bird kicking down a door with the caption, “Big Bird coming over to vaccinate your kids.”

Memes are a comedic communication format. If Cruz was hoping to be taken seriously, he sorely misjudged his message’s medium.

The various comments leave one to wonder what type of criticism children’s television shows dealt with during previous epidemics, or if vaccinations were as polarizing an issue as they are in 2021.

In 1977, “Star Wars” characters C-3PO and R2-D2 shared the importance of having children immunized in a brief PSA that aired on television.

Children’s entertainment idols encouraging vaccinations is nothing new. Today, though, they have to face the wrath of meme-challenged politicians.

It should not be a political battle. It should be a chance for members of our community to go about their daily life uninterrupted by the threat of contracting a hazardous virus.

Children are not the only citizens encouraged to be receiving a dose of the vaccine.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are highly encouraging anyone who re-

ceived a Covid-19 vaccination (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) six months ago or more to go back in for a booster.

Recipients of Johnson & Johnson’s Janssen as late as two months ago are eligible for a second dose, and I would advise it.

We are coming up on the six month mark since the university began supplying vaccinations to all students and faculty. With the stressful environment of the end of the semester approaching, our immune systems could use all the help they can get.

Furthermore, this is an increasingly dangerous time, as people stay inside during the colder months. In addition, there is the threat of the Delta variant, which according to Yale medicine is the predominant SARS CoV-2 variant.

Yale Medicine epidemiologist F. Perry Wilson also said that Delta spreads 50% faster than the Alpha variant, which was 50% more contagious than the original strain of SARS-CoV-2 (Covid-19).

In all, Big Bird got it right by proudly showing off his newly vaccinated status. In order to protect the people we love most, especially with the fun-packed family holidays approaching, we must consider how our actions

GetMactive promotes living in the moment

EMILY AMBERY
staff writer

Machaela “Mac” Simmons is a fourth-year physical therapy student at Duquesne dedicated to helping others navigate physical and mental health.

Beginning her collegiate athlete career as a walk-on on the basketball team, Simmons described the imbalanced value that college level athletics place on performance in a sport.

“A lot of my identity was wrapped up in the success I had in my sport,” Simmons said. “I had to find a new identity for myself that was independent of my status on a team.”

Simmons explained taking time to reflect and accept guidance to identify equal value both on and off the court.

“I began to find some of my passions, [for example], I started Ballers 4 Black Lives Matter during the summer of 2020, to provide a way for athletes to stand up for those affected by police brutality and our justice system,” Simmons said. “As an athlete who comes from an underprivileged community, it was very important to me to find a way for all athletes to use their talents and abilities to drive change.”

Simmons also suffered an ACL injury in 2017, which caused her to think more introspectively about her physical and mental health.

“My injury was a major wake-up call. Not only did it remind me that my physical status can change at any time, but it forced me to stop and be still long enough to recognize the mental aspects of my health that I had put off for so long,” Simmons said. “Instead of rushing my recovery

to return to play, I chose to use my recovery time to learn how I could be a better athlete and a better person.”

Using her expertise from her physical therapy studies and experiences with mental and physical health, Simmons created “GetMactive.”

Started in September, GetMactive is an Instagram page in which Simmons shares fitness content and collaborates with professionals certified in training and mental health to motivate and spread awareness for holistic fitness.

“The goal of creating GetMactive was to create a platform where college students can learn to stay engaged in the present moment, using fitness as an opportunity to connect with yourself in the present,” Simmons said. “With mental health advocates, certified trainers and coaches on board helping to produce content, GetMactive is going to highlight the mindfulness aspect of fitness and how it can be applied to our everyday life, while, of course, providing great workouts and tips.”

GetMactive shares workouts and finishes, health and fitness tips, injury prevention tips, recovery information and “Mactivities” of the week. GetMactive features infographics detailing a wide variety of tips for users, ranging from “Being Present” to “8 Sleep Tips.”

The account also features Instagram reels of Simmons and other collaborators demonstrating workout sets and specific techniques. Each reel is accompanied by a detailed caption of the video and additional tips.

“[GetMactive] is useful to me because it's Mac using her knowledge and experience to help me work out more efficiently and effectively,” said Drew Lutterodt, a



COURTESY OF MACHAELA SIMMONS

Duquesne physical therapy student Machaela Simmons runs the Instagram page “GetMactive,” where she shares fitness content and collaborates with professionals to create positive mental health tips.

PY1 Duquesne pharmacy student and a follower of GetMactive. “Some of those workouts are really crazy and you can see and feel the results really quick. No one is doing it like Mac right now.”

Given Simmons’ positive experience with holistic fitness, GetMactive provides balanced content for both mental and physical health.

Simmons entered the Unpack U Uprize 2.0 competition and won the competition’s grant to expand GetMactive’s reach. Along with funding, UnpackU also connected GetMactive with mentors and alumni of the competition to facilitate creating GetMactive’s brand.

“UnpackU awarded me with funding to get the resources I needed to grow Get-

Mactive and produce quality content, as well as connections to people who will help me develop a logo and design apparel,” Simmons said. “On top of that, the exposure from Pitch Day put me in contact with some really great people who are willing to help GetMactive grow.”

“Balancing my mental and physical health became way easier for me after I realized one simple fact: My body will only go as far as my mind,” Simmons said. “I believe that everything I do first starts with my thoughts, so I take time every morning to reflect on how I’m feeling and meditate.”

To stay up to date on the latest GetMactive content, follow @GetMactive on Instagram.

Panel talks challenges, hopes for AAPI students

RIO SCARCELLI
staff writer

Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) students can face tensions stemming from race relations in almost any environment they walk into. On Nov. 10 via Zoom, student panelists Cassie DiBenedetti, Emmala Le, Angel Alday and Jessica Cetorelli hosted an AAPI forum to have a more honest conversation about creating comfortable spaces for this community.

The event was the second time an AAPI panel at Duquesne was coordinated by DiBenedetti, a senior data science major. Earlier this spring, she was a recipient of the Center for Community-Engaged Teaching and Research’s Racial Equality grant. The efforts went toward “hosting and moderating a student discussion panel that emphasized the experiences and challenges AAPI students face in a college environment.”

Because of the success and positive feedback the first panel, “Asian-Americans and Race in the 21st Century: Challenges and Hopes” received, DiBenedetti was inspired to reach out to the Center of Teaching Excellence to host a similar panel this fall.

DiBenedetti said her goal for the panels is “to give AAPI students a chance to vocalize their experiences and try and improve inclusivity at Duquesne.”

Titled “Creating Inclusive Classrooms for AAPI students,” the November panel addressed some of the experiences and challenges that AAPI students face in college classrooms in relation to race, and focused on how to make learning environments more inclusive for AAPI students.

While moderating and sharing their own experiences, the students made it an option to accept anonymous feedback including personal stories, news and opinions surrounding what a college experience may be like for an AAPI student.

Cetorelli was candid about her own experiences where she felt isolated due to her race. In light of all that had happened to her, she was able to impart the knowledge that she gained and encouraged others to see the ways any form of racism can be treated with fairness and equality.

“When you stop looking at me as a human as a whole and only looking at the color of my skin is where I draw the line of what’s acceptable and what’s not,” she said. “I’ve learned that when people don’t know what to make of someone, they make less of them because it’s far easier to look down on someone than it is to face them on level ground. To me, education is how to overcome these barriers and teach people not to make less of others and begin to see each eye-to-eye. Panels like these play a huge role in educating people to reach this ultimate goal.”

Outside of a college environment, Asian bias and attacks in response to the spread of the Covid-19 virus have correlated to a rise in exclusion and negativity toward the AAPI community.

“As a Filipina American, this is a personal topic to me. I have experiences of exclusion in the college environment and in general. And the major increase in anti-Asian attacks due to Covid-19, I think it is past time to have these discussions,” DiBenedetti said.

The influx of anti-Asian bias had the potential to make many AAPI students uncomfortable in the environments they lived in, but behaviors and trends like these could be changed.

The ability to inspire a difference comes not only from the time taken to be educated, but also the willingness to listen to the needs of the people in groups like AAPI.

“If someone chose to open up to you, please listen because they are not obligated to do so. Self-education is the goal, but an audience with open ears is much better,” Cetorelli said.

DiBenedetti felt that one of the best ways for educators and students to create safe spaces for the AAPI community was to attend events like the panel and continue to destigmatize the normal race relations they would otherwise experience.

“Doing events like this has helped create and maintain a conversation on Duquesne’s campus about inclusivity, particularly for the AAPI community. And by having these conversations, the Duquesne community can learn how to foster inclusive environments for minority students, while giving a chance for AAPI students to have their voices heard,” DiBenedetti said.

Intentional or not, exclusion happens as often as it does because of the many incidental ways that people highlight the differences that a race creates as opposed to encouraging the similarities they share as human beings.

Cetorelli said that there is always a time to learn how to “make AAPI students feel seen, welcomed, heard, safe and loved.”

“Racism and hate are not innate; they are learned behaviors. Because of this, we must actively work toward educating others to prevent and eliminate these factors and get to the point where no one assumes less of someone because of the way they look,” she said.

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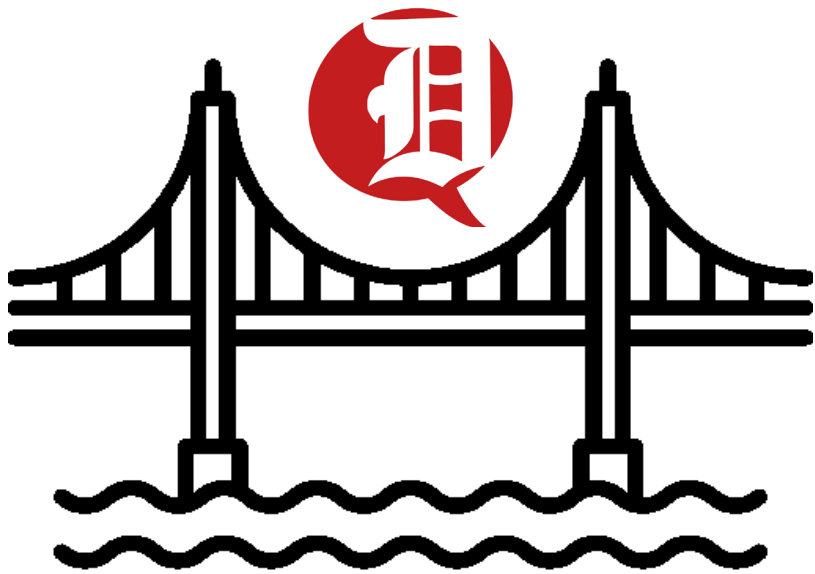
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