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Native American health in spotlight

ALICIA DYE
news editor

With Indigenous Peoples' Day being marked this week, Duquesne University welcomed a member of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara (MHA) Nation as a guest for the global health speaker series.

Michael Yellow Bird talked about the continuing disparity between U.S. citizens and Native Americans and the history of their health and healthcare.

"The IHS, Indian Health Services, spends around \$4,078 per person as opposed to United States national health spending which is \$9,726," Bird said. "There are huge health disparities between U.S. citizens and Native Americans."

Gerald Boodoo, Director of the Center for African Studies and associate professor of theology, opened up the discussion.

"We have attempted to highlight issues that are really underrepresented in this area," Boodoo said. "Indigenous people's day was Monday and we want to lift up indigenous voices and keep Indigenous people in the forefront of our minds."

Michael Yellow Bird, Dean and Professor of the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Manitoba, and a member of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara (MHA) Nation in North Dakota, was the guest speaker.

Bird first focused on Indigenous health before colonization and brought up how Indigenous people were advanced with medical treatment at the time.

"The Inca used botanical medicines that could treat infections from wounds. Indigenous doctors could set broken bones," Bird said. "Long before

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THE DUQUESNE DUKE

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Duquesne announces fundraising goal of \$333 million; \$235 million already raised



ZACH PETROFF | OPINIONS EDITOR

Duquesne President Ken Gormley spoke during Saturday's Homecoming and Family Weekend Celebration. Gormley announced the fundraising campaign — IGNITE: Forging the Future — and also revealed that the university raised over half its goal already. It is the largest campaign in the university's history.

ZACH PETROFF
opinions editor

When Duquesne University President Ken Gormley took over in 2016, he posed a question to his newly formed cabinet: "What would these founding Spiritan priests do if they came to Pittsburgh today, rather than in 1878?"

The Rev. Joseph Strub, Duquesne's founder, was known to walk around the city, listening to what the local church asked, to what people wanted. He then developed an education plan different from anything that had previously been done in Pittsburgh, said the Rev. William Christy, the director of campus ministry and university chaplain.

Gormley, who wants Duquesne to be synonymous with excellence, has similarly spent time talking to students and faculty to learn additional ways to advance the institution.

"I want us to be a national player, one of the greatest Catholic universities in the United States, and we're well on our way to doing that," Gormley said in an interview.

On Saturday, during Home-

coming and Family Weekend Celebration events, Gormley announced a \$333-million goal for a comprehensive fundraising campaign — IGNITE: Forging the Future. According to a news release, this is the largest campaign in the university's history.

It will focus on four components: access and affordability; academic programs and facilities; enhancing the student experience and supporting the university's proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine and other areas centered on integrative healthcare.

IGNITE was conceptualized two years ago, but was put on hold during the pandemic so that the campus could address other urgent needs. After getting through the most-difficult part of the pandemic, Gormley asked his team to start putting concrete ideas on paper, and the concept developed from there.

The campaign is structured around the historical relevance of the university's deep tradition with the Holy Spirit.

"It's a beautiful image and something that will convey the energy that we're seeking to generate with this campaign," Gormley said.

Saturday's announcement came on the heels of "positive momentum on a variety of fronts," including Duquesne alumnus Thomas R. Kline's \$50-million commitment to the university's law school last month.

The school was renamed the Thomas R. Kline School of Law. Gormley said that the university is putting Kline's donation toward scholarships for students in the law school, faculty awards and teaching and political programs that benefit the community.

Furthering that momentum, Duquesne has also seen an increase in this year's incoming class by 15%, according to the release. This comes at a time when first-year enrollment in college across the country has fallen 4.4% year-over-year, according to the National Center for Education Statistics in their annual report.

Gormley attributed the success of increased enrollment to the focusing of a "great deal of energy and creativity with our enrollment management group."

"I think it is an indication that more and more — and not just in Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania — but across the country, and to a certain extent around the globe, that the

Duquesne star is on the rise," Gormley said.

"There are so many good things happening here. I think it has caught the world's attention."

Duquesne has a long history of organized fundraising campaigns dating back to the early 1920s, when university president Father Martin Hehir raised money to build Canevin Hall. In the 1950s and 1960s, former university president Father Vernon Gallagher and Father Henry Joseph McAnulty also raised money to transform Duquesne into a modern campus, which included the building of the Student Union.

Continuing the expansion of Duquesne, President Dr. John Murray Jr. raised almost \$200 million to build Academic Walk, and former President Charles Dougherty was able to raise more than \$163 million to build the Power Center.

"The entire reason for doing this is to better our students, better our graduates so they have a more prestigious degree and have greater success in pursuing their careers, and ultimately have even more op-

see **FUNDRAISE** — page 2

POLICE BRIEFS

Friday, Oct. 7-

Two vehicles on Watson Street had broken windows. At the time of the report, it was unknown if anything was missing due to there being no victims.

Saturday, Oct. 8-

A desk aide in Duquesne Towers stated that a non-affiliate male was attempting to enter the Towers A side and was harassing a female. The male was given a defiant trespass warning.

Saturday, Oct. 8-

Duquesne University Public Safety was notified of a highly intoxicated resident student who entered the Towers LLC multi-purpose room. The student was under age and was referred to the Office of Student Conduct for possessing a false ID card and being under the influence. The student was also issued a non-traffic citation for consumption of malt beverages under age. The student was transported to UPMC Mercy without incident.

Saturday, Oct. 8-

A female resident student was found to be in possession of marijuana, marijuana paraphernalia and an oversized knife in Assumption Hall. The student was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Sunday, Oct. 9-

A cone was thrown at a window on the first floor of St. Ann Hall. The window was broken. This is an active case.

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 Luke Henne at hennel@duq.edu.

The Duquesne Duke supports local businesses



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see FUNDRAISE — page 1

portunity to serve others which is ultimately our mission at this university," Gormley said.

"We want to be part of that vision leading into the future where our students and graduates and faculty are part of addressing what is one of the most critical needs in our own coun-

try, and also in our own region."

Key priorities for this campaign include community engagement, expanding the health care reach which include a planned medical school, and providing scholarships to increase the accessibility of Duquesne.

"This campaign will allow us to provide scholarships for stu-

dents who want to be globally minded citizens," said Duquesne Provost Dr. David Dausey. "The more we can support our students, with the help of our alumni and friends, the more we are preparing students to make a difference in the world."

The campaign will conclude on June 30, 2025. To date, IG-NITE has raised \$235 million.

visit our website at duqsm.com



ISABELLA ABBOTT | FEATURES EDITOR

The stage gets set prior to Saturday's festivities at the UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse.



ZACH PETROFF | OPINIONS EDITOR

UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse was the site of Saturday night's announcement.

Indigenous health suffers from disparities

see INDIGENOUS — page 1

colonization, this was happening within Indigenous communities. As early as 9,000 years ago, there is evidence that Native peoples were using plants and fungi, known as entheogens today, for medicinal and spiritual properties. Today, doctors have successfully tested these entheogens for treating cluster headaches, depression, end-stage cancer anxiety and other forms of anxiety."

Bird talked about how Europeans coming to the Americas changed Indigenous health as well.

"They [Natives] were in generally good health before Europeans came over," Bird said. "The hugest change to happen to their health came when the Europeans landed in the Americas. They brought European diseases such as measles, small-

pox, cholera and more. But the deadliest was smallpox."

According to Bird, smallpox and other diseases killed 90% of the Indigenous population in the Americas, roughly 55 million.

The presentation also focused on modern-day Indigenous health and how there are many problems within the community and outside regarding health.

"Funding for IHS services has always been lacking," Bird said. "Less immediate health issues are often neglected, due to funding shortages or to the lack of staff or equipment for on-site services. If you've got gallbladder issues and it's not an emergency, you're not going to get surgery until money is available from the federal government."

"If you've got breast cancer, and there's not enough money, you cannot get service from the

federal government. If it gets to the point where it gets dangerous, then maybe they can contract care and send people off the reservation to another provider who will do the surgery. So there's a lot of neglect going on."

Bird also focused on mental health within Indigenous populations, pointing out how they have higher rates of mental health issues.

Many Indigenous people have higher rates of mental health disorders and psychiatric diagnoses such as post-traumatic stress disorder, substance use disorder and suicidal behaviors compared to other ethnic and racial groups, according to Bird.

About 19% of the Native population of the United States reported having a mental illness (over 827,000 people), according to Bird.

"Suicide rates are extremely

high. Death by suicide is five times higher within Indigenous communities compared to other groups," Bird said.

Bird lastly focused on cultural differences within the Indigenous population related to health concerns and beliefs.

"Some believe western evidence-based treatment may work with Indigenous people, while others may not," Bird said. "Some prefer traditional healing over Western approaches."

Russell Walsh, associate professor of psychology at Duquesne, wanted students who joined in on the session to gain a greater knowledge of Indigenous health.

"I hope that those watching today have a much deeper appreciation for both the history of Indigenous people in the U.S., and of the current state of things regarding health care."

A BRIEF HISTORY OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' HEALTH

Duquesne University
Center for African American Studies

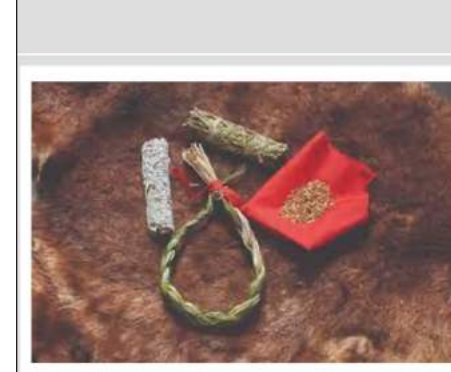
October 12, 2022

Michael Yellow Bird, PhD
Dean and Professor
Faculty of Social Work
University of Manitoba



ALICIA DYE | NEWS EDITOR

The title slide of Wednesday's lecture, which was held virtually on Zoom.



Some AIAN have trust in the health care system while other do not.

It is vitally important for those that have not practiced with AIAN to understand the history of colonization, the tribe's culture and history, level of education and assimilation, economic status, family structure, and health status, health behavior and beliefs, willingness to change bad habits, coping responses, self-agency, geographical and environmental status, feelings of vulnerability, strengths and resilience, etc.

ALICIA DYE | NEWS EDITOR

Bird discussed trust within the health care system during Wednesday's lecture.



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THE DUQUESNE DUKE

Nationally-ranked MSOC wins home contest

3

SPENCER THOMAS
sports editor

Ask Ekeland scored a pair of goals as the Duquesne men's soccer team coasted to a 5-1 victory against the St. Bonaventure Bonnies on Wednesday night at Rooney Field.

Despite being against a fellow Atlantic-10 opponent, the contest was not considered a conference game for the Dukes, but was instead an addition for both the Dukes, (9-1-3) and Bonnies, (3-8-2) to fill their schedule.

Despite being ranked 25th in the nation, the Dukes entered the contest having scored just three goals in their past five games. That number would be eclipsed by the 37th minute.

Ekeland's brace marked Duquesne's first two goals of the evening. He opened scoring just over 16 minutes into the game, when he collected a failed clearance from St. Bonaventure, and snuck it in from just outside the penalty box.

His second marker proved to be the game winner. With the game locked at one in the 31st minute, Duquesne put together a stream of pressure that included four consecutive corner kicks.

The intensity culminated with a give-

and-go between Ekeland and Maxi Hopfer. Ekeland completed the play by slotting the ball in the top right corner of the net. His team-leading sixth goal of the season gave the Dukes a lead they would not relinquish.

"There's a professionalism with [Ekeland]," said Duquesne Head Coach Chase Brooks, "He doesn't know how to take a play off."

Hopfer would dish out his second assist of the game just 12 seconds later, as he placed a free kick at the feet of Christoffer Vie Angell, who was clear of the defense. With no Bonnie within several feet, the sophomore slid the ball home to give the Dukes a 3-1 lead.

Hopfer attributed his success with distribution to the cohesion he shares with teammates.

"I know those guys, we are a family," Hopfer said.

"Off the field we are together for hours so at some point the chemistry builds up. The quality is definitely here."

Tom Tzabari would later score indirectly from a free kick, while Hopfer would score a goal of his own in the second half off of a corner.

By the end of the game, four of Duquesne's five goals had come immediately after a set

piece. Brooks felt that his team had capitalized on an opportunity presented to them as part of their game plan.

"In the scouting report we knew that there was some opportunity there," he said, "It still comes down to us taking advantage of those moments. I give the guys a lot of credit."

Their 22 shot attempts set a season high for Duquesne, and their 11 shots on target matched their record on the campaign.

"We try every game really hard to score us goals," Hopfer said, "Who knows what happened, but today it clicked and luckily we brought it into the net."

Despite the offensive output, the game was not without excitement for St. Bonaventure.

When the game was still scoreless, an odd-man rush crashed the net, which forced Duquesne goalkeeper Domenic Nascimben to leave his line and make a kick save with his right foot.

Minutes later, a headed Bonaventure corner kick was corralled at the mouth of the goal by Nascimben. Further review showed that the ball was likely past the goal line, but no goal was given, and Duquesne remained in the lead.

The Bonnies tied the game in the 26th minute of the first half, when Nascimben failed to corral a cross, where it fell to the

feet of St. Bonaventure's David Cubillos, who shot and scored on the vacated net.

"I think there was a little complacency in the first 15 minutes," Brooks said, "Once we kind of got those guys who were eager to get minutes in coming off the bench, the energy kind of changed."

A later opportunity for the Bonnies to tie the game in the first half ricocheted off the crossbar, sending Bonaventure players to despondently bury their faces in their hands, a common sight for the players in brown and white.

Nascimben would finish saving four of the five shots on target he faced, and has yet to concede more than a single goal in a game this season.

Currently, the Dukes sit one point clear of Saint Louis in the A-10 standings with three conference games remaining. Controlling their own destiny, if they outperform the Billikens in those three games, they would earn the A-10 regular season title as well as home-field advantage throughout the conference tournament.

Duquesne will get back into true A-10 play on Saturday night when they host the Davidson Wildcats. Eyes will then turn to Monday night's City Game against the Pitt Panthers, who are the first team out of the national rankings.

PICTURES FROM MSOC'S WIN OVER ST. BONAVENTURE



PETER BOETTGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Duquesne forward Maxi Hopfer (No. 10) had two assists during the game Wednesday.



PETER BOETTGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ask Ekeland (No. 31) and Elmar Jonsson (No. 14) celebrate after Ekeland's second goal on Wednesday.



PETER BOETTGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ade Akinjogbin (No. 12) has started in 10 of Duquesne's 13 games in the 2022 season.



PETER BOETTGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Duquesne's Tom Tzabari (No. 6) had a goal and two shots in 71 minutes of action on Wednesday.



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Writers & Photographers needed for the Duke

Contact our editor-in-chief

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Volleyball falls at home to Loyola of Chicago

BENJAMIN GOTTSCHALK
staff writer

The Duquesne volleyball team dropped all three sets in a defeat at the hands of Loyola of Chicago at UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse on Sunday afternoon.

The loss dropped Duquesne to 3-16 on the season and was the Dukes' eighth loss in a row.

"I think we are getting too comfortable with losing. We need to turn that around and just play more as a team," said senior setter Hailey Poling.

Poling had a team-high 25 assists in the loss for Duquesne. Fellow senior Morgan Kelly chipped in with a team-best 10 kills and two blocks.

Each team made a few runs during the first set. It was back-and-forth, with the score being tied seven different times in the frame. After falling behind 16-15, the Ramblers closed on a 10-5 run to secure the first set by a 25-21 tally.

"[Back-and-forth sets] are super disappointing because when you're fighting that hard, you want to win," Poling said. "It's a huge momentum change if you're

giving it your all, you lose those points, and you see the other team cheering."

With the second set separated by just one point at 15-14, Loyola of Chicago used a 4-0 run to grab a 19-14 lead, and they'd go on to win the second set by an identical 25-21 mark.

In what was the decisive third set, the Ramblers cruised to a 25-16 win and a three-set sweep of the Atlantic 10 Conference match.

Despite the contest ending in three sets, the Dukes were in it for most of the afternoon.

"That's when it's kind of hard to stomach that because we are back and forth with them, and we keep beating ourselves," said Head Coach Steve Opperman. "There are still some unforced errors that keep biting us in the butt. I thought, for the most part, we did a decent job."

Opperman believes that the team will be competitive once the Dukes can overcome the obstacle of mental mistakes, which he attributed to the lack of success.

"It's not a 3-16 team. If you've watched us play and you watch how hard our kids work, you see that the team is better than their actual record is," Opperman said. "Once we eliminate some of the controllable errors on our side of the floor, our kids are just going to take off."

Opperman described Loyola of Chicago as being "good out of system or in transition," and he said that he thought "that's where they capitalized on [Duquesne]" during losses on both Saturday and Sunday.

When asked about competing against a team with heavy veteran leadership (just two freshmen), Poling said that that's not an excuse, but it can be a factor, especially by contrast.

"We do have a very young team, we have about four to five freshmen playing every game," Poling said. "That does make a huge difference when you talk about team chemistry."

In a season that has had a lot of downs and very few ups, Duquesne is still looking to build chemistry within its young team.

"I don't think we have the mindset that other teams have," Poling said. "We don't have that fire under us, and that's what we need to change."

The Dukes will be in action on Friday and Saturday, when they battle Rhode Island on the road on consecutive days. After a two-game swing to George Mason next weekend, Duquesne will return home to host Dayton on Oct. 25.



PETER BOETTGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Members of the Duquesne volleyball team — seen here during Saturday's contest — celebrate after securing a point. The Dukes dropped both weekend matches to Loyola of Chicago.



PETER BOETTGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Duquesne's Hailey Poling (No. 11, red) said, "I think we're getting too comfortable with losing."

Henne: Expectations should be high for Penguins

LUKE HENNE
editor-in-chief

Entering an offseason that left the Pittsburgh Penguins with more questions than answers, the team responded by keeping its core fully intact.

Star forwards Evgeni Malkin and Bryan Rust, and defenseman Kris Letang returned to Pittsburgh despite persistent speculation that there was virtually no possibility that all three could be kept around due to cap-related issues. With the exception of a few depth moves on defense and in the bottom-six forward lines, Pittsburgh has the pieces in place to replicate the success it found by making the Stanley Cup Playoffs in each of the last 16 seasons.

Defensemen John Marino (traded to the New Jersey Devils) and Mike Matheson (traded to Montreal Canadiens) were swapped for Ty Smith and Jeff Petry, respectively (Pittsburgh also acquired Ryan Poehling from Montreal).

Depth options like Evan Rodrigues and Radim Zohorna went elsewhere, but that depth will be addressed through signings of forwards like Josh Archibald and Drake Caggiula. The Penguins also added defensive depth in free agency, inking Jan Rutta and Xavier Ouellet to multi-year contracts.

Other than that, the re-signings of Malkin, Rust and Letang, as well as forwards Danton Heinen and Rickard Rakell, show that general manager Ron Hextall is all in

with the core of talent at his disposal.

There was no rebuild or retooling. Hextall is trusting his gut and believing in the players on this roster. That's a sign of confidence, and that's admirable.

With that in mind, there is no reason that the Penguins shouldn't be a realistic threat to win the Stanley Cup this year. According to FanDuel Sportsbook, the Penguins have the ninth-best odds to hoist the Stanley Cup at the end of this season.

Pittsburgh's main obstacles will be the Carolina Hurricanes and New York Rangers, Metropolitan Division rivals that occupied the division's two spots ahead of the Penguins a season ago. Both Carolina and New York have better odds to win it all in 2022-23.

The National Hockey League's Eastern Conference got stronger, but much of that came through the moves made by teams like the Ottawa Senators and Detroit Red Wings—both members of the Atlantic Division.

With all things considered, the Metropolitan Division looks to pave a very-favorable path for the Penguins.

The Devils and Columbus Blue Jackets each made splash moves by signing Ondrej Palat and Johnny Gaudreau, respectively, but each of those two teams still appear to be a few years from legitimate contention.

The New York Islanders are a team that lacks a true identity, and could see their season go south extremely quickly.

The Philadelphia Flyers are expected to be one of the NHL's worst teams under John Tortorella in his first year with Phila-

delphia. While the Washington Capitals have maintained their core of players in a fashion similar to Pittsburgh, their window looks to be closing rather quickly.

The Penguins' goals should be well within reach, and the only thing that might prevent them from getting there — aside from the Hurricanes and Rangers — are injuries.

Pittsburgh held a 3-1 series lead in the quarterfinal round of last year's postseason against the Rangers, but injuries to captain Sidney Crosby and starting goaltender Tristan Jarry allowed New York to

sneak its way back into the series and, ultimately, come back to defeat Pittsburgh.

Last season, the Penguins proved they could only bend for so long before they broke against a team as strong as the Rangers.

If the health is not too big a factor and the production of core players like Crosby, Malkin and Letang holds up, the Penguins will be in good shape to make another run at the Stanley Cup.

The Penguins' run begins on Thursday, when they host the Arizona Coyotes in the season opener at PPG Paints Arena.



LUKE HENNE | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In 2021-22, the Pittsburgh Penguins made it to the Stanley Cup Playoffs for the 16th season in a row. With the majority of the team's core back, Pittsburgh will look to make a deep run in 2022-23.

Football falls to 1-5 after home loss to Merrimack

RUSSELL MACIAS
staff writer

The Duquesne football team hit another speed bump on Saturday afternoon, as they fell 28-21 to Merrimack at Rooney Field.

Joe Mischler started the game at quarterback for Duquesne.

His offense started out as well as it could've hoped for, as the first drive of the game went 12 plays and spanned 70 yards, culminating with a 1-yard touchdown run

Donovan Wadley. The drive spanned 75 yards in 18 plays, and took nearly 10 minutes off the game clock.

After a quick Duquesne drive of less than three minutes, Merrimack regained possession. On a 3rd-and-6, Dukes captain Jeremiah Josephs secured a momentum-swinging interception at his own 32-yard line.

A pair of Lucas runs got the Dukes near midfield, and Mischler then unfurled a 56-yard deep ball into the arms

Merrimack took over with just over eight minutes to go in the second quarter. After taking nearly six minutes of game time off the clock, the Warriors' Victor Dawson ran it in from nine yards out to even the score.

After another sustained drive by Merrimack kept Duquesne's offense on the bench, the Dukes returned to the field and went three-and-out.

However, on the punt, punter Michael Beraducci got roughed, and the Dukes were handed a 1st-and-10. They failed to muster anything, and the teams went to the locker room tied at 14.

Out of the half, things looked promising for the Dukes. For only the second time in 11 tries, the Dukes stopped the Warriors on third down and got a quick punt out of Merrimack, giving the offense a chance to set the pace and reclaim the lead early in the second half.

After another quick three-and-out from the Duquesne offense, Merrimack took over at its own 41-yard line. The Warriors needed less than three minutes to drive almost 60 yards, taking a 21-14 lead thanks to a 20-yard touchdown pass from Gavin McCusker to Hayden Fisher.

On a 3rd-and-13 during Duquesne's ensuing drive, Mischler was sacked and fumbled the football, allowing Merrimack's Chiebuka Aduaka to recover and gain possession on the Dukes' 18-yard line.

The very next play saw Dawson run the ball in for his second score of the day as Merrimack doubled its lead.

From there on out, Mischler's day was finished. Darius Perrantes came off the bench to lead the Dukes on their next

drive. After four runs totaling 27 yards from redshirt freshman JaMario Clements pushed the Dukes from their own 25-yard line into Merrimack territory, Perrantes found Abdul Jannah on a 48-yard touchdown connection. Jannah's one-handed catch brought the Dukes back to within one possession with 51 seconds to go in the third quarter.

Despite switching things up under center, Jannah felt the offense was able to gel with both quarterbacks.

"Whoever's in, we try to make something happen," Jannah said to Pittsburgh Sports Now after the game. "Both [Mischler and Perrantes] throw differently, but they're our guys, and we make something happen."

Despite a fourth-quarter drive from Merrimack that took nearly seven minutes and forced Duquesne to use all three of its timeouts, the Warriors punted it back to Duquesne.

With less than three minutes to go, the Dukes had one final chance to even the game at 28.

A 13-yard connection between Perrantes and Jannah got the Dukes to their own 41-yard line, but four-straight incompletions and a turnover on downs ended Duquesne's chances of tying the game.

"With me, I always gotta stay ready, and I try to stay ready for my team," Perrantes said to Pittsburgh Sports Now. "The team did a great job and helped me out a lot, and I couldn't be more happy with their effort. It's a loss, it sucks, but we gotta take it one day at a time."

After a bye week this week, a 1-5 Duquesne squad will travel to take on o-6 Central Connecticut on Oct. 22.



PETER BOETTGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Multiple Duquesne players attempt to tackle a Merrimack ball carrier during Saturday's contest at Rooney Field. Merrimack won the game 28-21, handing Duquesne its fifth loss in six games.

from Billy Lucas.

On the ensuing Warriors' drive, Merrimack converted six third downs on their way to a 3-yard touchdown run from

of Dwayne Menders, who shrugged off a tackler and waltzed into the end zone, giving Duquesne its second lead of the day at 14-7.

WSOC earns point in draw with Davidson

SPENCER THOMAS
sports editor

The Duquesne women's soccer team used another strong second half to earn a 1-1 draw against Davidson in an Atlantic 10 Conference clash at Rooney Field on Sunday afternoon.

Jaimi Araujo's second-half goal leveled the game and helped the Dukes to earn another point in conference play. Duquesne has now earned at least one point in five of its seven A-10 games.

Duquesne opened the excitement in the 25th minute when Araujo got a shot on goal, but she lost her angle and had the shot turned aside by Davidson goalkeeper Mary Grace Bunch.

The Dukes would come to rue the missed opportunity, as the Wildcats' Sophia Caruso opened the scoring four minutes later.

Davidson entered the match with a record of 10-2-2, aided by a defense that had posted 10 shutouts on the campaign.

"With our performance in the first half I think we were kind of a little bit lucky to get away with a tie," Araujo said, "Because they really outplayed us."

Duquesne was able to penetrate that backline relatively well and held their own offensively in the first half. Exactly

one week after outscoring La Salle 3-0 in the second half, the Dukes would once again find their success in the contest's latter frame.

"I was not happy with the first-half performance," said Duquesne Head Coach Al Alvine. "I thought the energy and intensity was lacking. Complete 180 in the second half."

Less than two minutes into the second half, Emma Bundy found Araujo with a pass, six yards out and center of the goal. Araujo cashed in on this opportunity, lifting the shot up with such velocity that it bounced off the crossbar, the turf and then the crossbar again before finally going in.

"I picked my head up and saw where the goalie was," Araujo said. "It came off a little high off my foot, but a goal is a goal."

The goal was Araujo's team-leading fifth of the season, and Bundy's first goal contribution on the season.

Araujo would have another opportunity soon after the goal, when she hit the near post on a free kick in the 49th minute.

From then on through the end of the contest, the game was relatively balanced.

Davidson had a stream of pressure midway through the half, but Duquesne was able to repel the chances, thanks to goalkeeper Maddy Neundorfer, who had a pair of saves on the day.

"She manages the game well. She makes those crucial stops when she needs to," Alvine said. "She has been a real high point in the season so far."

The Dukes outshot the Wildcats 5-2 in the second half and spent much more time threatening offensively.

"I'm happy with the resilience," Alvine said. "We've got to put together a good 90-minute performance. That's the key for us."

"When we play the way that we're capable of playing, we can beat anybody in the league. We just have to bring it from the start."

Araujo echoed her coach's message.

"We need to be able to do that in both halves, and I think we'll have a little bit more success and start turning those ties into wins," Araujo said.

At 3-2-2 in conference play, Duquesne and Davidson are currently tied for the fourth seed in a conference that invites its top-eight finishers to the conference tournament.

The Dukes will be back in action on Sunday afternoon, when they travel west to take on Loyola of Chicago.

Following the road contest in Chicago, the Dukes will have a home game against St. Bonaventure (Oct. 20) and will conclude the regular season at George Washington (Oct. 23).



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS

Jaimi Araujo — pictured here in 2021 — scored her team-high fifth goal of 2022 in Sunday's draw.

Trundle Manor showcases spooky surprises

MEGAN TROTTER
staff writer

One place to immerse yourself into the world of weird and unusual displays this Halloween season is Anton and Rachel Miriello's Trundle Manor, a privately owned collection of cryptozoology, vintage taxidermy and jarred specimens.

Located inside their suburban residence in Swissvale, the Miriellos, otherwise known as Mr. Arm and Velda Von Minx, offer weekly tours by appointment only. Guests can expect to be greeted by Velda dressed in vintage all-black, gothic-chic attire.

Inspired by the 1991 supernatural comedy film "The Addams Family," Arm and Velda transformed their house into an exhibit of the eerie and odd. Almost every object in the collection was acquired through donations or vintage antique shops; those who visit must have a strong stomach



ANDREW CUMMINGS | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Trundle Manor's unique charm consists of a multitude of uncanny trinkets and eerie collections.



ANDREW CUMMINGS | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

An array of whacky artifacts are showcased in Velda and Arm's humble abode.

and be prepared to see some potentially upsetting items.

The collection features surgical equipment, animal and human remains, self-made taxidermy, devil masks, pet leeches and several other disturbing items. Since the walls are completely covered it is hard to take everything in at

once. Luckily, Velda and Arm took the time to guide visitors from one item to the next, carefully explaining what each was and how they came to own it.

One of the more notable pieces in the collection is a tumor that came from the inside of one of their friends — Arm and Velda pull a velvet cloth off of the dis-

play jar and, when revealed, it begins to play an eerie song.

They even offered to let me pet their deceased cat, Little Devil, who had been freeze dried and placed into a glass display.

The exterior of the manor resembles the remains of a house abandoned during a zombie apocalypse — the windows are boarded up with wooden slabs and the grass is heavily overgrown. In the lawn stands a 12-foot skeleton next to a large white "Ghostbusters"-esque van. There Antique radios and experiment chambers are scattered throughout the yard, with security cameras everywhere as well. In the car garage outside sit two of the most interesting modified vehicles, with one car painted completely purple and shooting out flames.

Tour groups reach a maximum of eight people and are expected to show up on time and wear masks for the duration of the tour. Anyone who assumes they

will be permitted into the house without an appointment or a minute before their scheduled time will be disappointed.

Arm and Velda happily answer any and all questions pertaining to the oddity of their collection — they seem excited to share their passion with others. However, parents should be aware that some of the language and humor used on the tour may not be appropriate for younger audiences.

Despite the house appearing relatively small, the tour lasts about 45 minutes and only features the downstairs living area. Their tours are light-hearted, and despite being surrounded by disturbing items, Arm and Velda make you feel right at home.

Though payment is not necessary when exploring the manor, Arm and Velda encourage visitors to donate: whether by means of \$20 per group or through more artifacts and trinkets to be added to their home. Visit trundlemanor.com to book a tour today.

CAMPUS EVENTS

Dia de los Muertos
Oct. 13 @ 7 p.m.

Decorate calavera cookies in
Towers 13A Lounge!

Root Beer Floats
Oct. 13 @ 9 p.m.

Go to Union 119 for free root
beer floats! Supplies limited.

Food Truck Fridays
Oct. 14 @ 11 a.m.

You know the drill! Head to
A-Walk for an array of food
truck festivities. Meal plan
not accepted.

Pumpkin Decorating Contest
Oct. 14 @ 7 p.m.

Paint your way in a pumpkin
decorating contest! There will
be food and drink provided,
and supplies are limited.
Winner gets a \$10 Starbucks
gift card.

Southern Sunday
Oct. 16 @ 6 p.m.

Join the Black Student
Union in the Africa Room for
southern-style dinner, line
dancing, trivia and more!

CAPRI'S KIND WORDS

Battling brain fog

Someone reminded me recently: your
brain is a muscle too.

Overuse of any muscle can lead
to soreness or fatigue, which we
take gracious care of with rest and
recuperation. What about the same for
your mind?

You can only do so much work in a
day. Or have so many conversations.
Or stare at your phone for so long.
Your head can only handle so much
interaction and immediate attention
until it starts to shut down.

At that point, what's the use of pushing
yourself further than what you are
willing to nurture?

Take a sip of water each time your
head feels a little muddled. Plan your
meals accordingly to support your
health. Sleep a full night (yes, more
than 5 hours) to ensure a day you
can look back fondly on for all you've
accomplished. Step away from your
phone, take a 20-minute walk and let
yourself sit in silence. Let yourself shut
down for a moment: you can't run on
5% forever.
— Capri Scarcelli

Aquarius

I think at the salon they should
give you fidget toys and maybe
a hug

Pisces

I would very much like to own
a lemon farm! Why does no one
talk about their lemon farms!

Aries

Hot girl walk? More like hot girl
three-hour traverse!

Taurus

The Beatles were like: "Baby you
can drive my car!" Well I mean
you *can* drive it but you *may not*
drive it.

Gemini

I blame everything on the planets
in retrograde, the Aries full moon
and the fact that I ran out of pro-
volone cheese this morning.

Cancer

I blame Ronald Reagan.

Leo

My private story is just a picture
of my forehead with a description
of my intrusive thoughts.

Virgo

The goldfish are swimming in my
head! I can feel them!

Libra

Snoozefest! Boring! Falling
asleep!

Scorpio

I only seek chaos on the occasion
(every occasion).

Sagittarius

Ranting as a form of showing I
acknowledge my surroundings
and I am somewhat emotionally
aware.

Capricorn

I want to carve a pumpkin but
instead of making a spooky face
I want it to say like "will you give
me academic validation"

WILLOW's new album experiments with punk sound

BUNNY SCHAFF

staff writer

WILLOW, otherwise known as Willow Smith, is the daughter of Will and Jada Pinkett Smith, whose music career took off with the release of her album "ARDIPITHECUS" in 2015, and, prior, "Whip My Hair" in 2010.

Her career has always remained within the pop scene. However, with the release of "lately I feel EVERYTHING" in 2021, the young artist redefined her sound with more post-punk and afrofuturism elements. She also worked with artists like Avril Lavigne and Cherry Glazerr on this album, who themselves had gained popularity from teenage audiences for pop punk and electronica focuses within their music. For the past year, WILLOW has been acknowledged as a post pop-punk artist. This reputation continues with the release of her latest album, "<COPINGMECHANISM>," released on Oct. 7.

"Split" was the hit single most recently released to promote the album, which does a relatively good job of displaying Smith's vocal control within the first minute of content, exploring her range and keeping even the heavier, punky backing track to the wayside to focus on the softness and intonation of her voice.

This presents a theme that is common throughout the entirety of this new album: the refined nature of her new work. While "lately, I feel EVERYTHING," earned its own praise, it lacked the production that "<COPINGMECHANISM>" clearly has as WILLOW cements her style.

"<maybe> it's my fault," is the opening track of the album, as well as a previously released single, and explores all of the previous – and current – genres that WILLOW has aligned herself with: indie rock, bedroom pop, pop punk and metal. The blend of elements works well, and they're united by Smith's confident

vocal performance.

The following few tracks of the album, especially "curious/furious," remain relatively reserved with more focus on the modern pop sound. Despite this, "WHY?" and "Falling Endlessly" in particular showcase impressive guitar and vocal work that align with the evolving sound of post-punk and mainstream metal in 2022. This parallels to artists like Poppy, a metal, post-punk vocalist, and Rico Nasty, an afrofuturism and metal rapper, earning WILLOW a spot among some of the most popular artists within her genres.

"<Coping Mechanism>," the title track, abandons the focus on softer vocals that remain present within the first half of the album and serves as a taste-breaker when listening through "<COPINGMECHANISM>". Despite some of the taunting or desperate lyrics – "I need a coping mechanism from you," and "...you couldn't help it, or could you?" – WILLOW delivers a talented and relatively seasoned performance for her young age.

Among the latter half of the album, "hover like a GODDESS" especially stands out. It contrasts every other song on the LP aside from its follow-up track, "ur a <stranger>," by incorporating a more ethereal sound throughout the melody and more interesting lyrics as well, deviating from the sadgirl narrative that had thus far littered the release, while still maintaining the theme of infatuation and desperation that has been carried on throughout the album's storyline.

The auditory texture is much more successful in these songs despite the incorporation of several genres in the prior tracks. These make for the most successful songs on the entire album, with a notably high production value and the impressive, smooth transition between stereotypical pop punk and something much more interesting.

The final track on the album is



COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS

WILLOW's solo career expands with her recent album release, "<COPINGMECHANISM>."

"BATSHIT!" which also happens to be the most intense song, incorporating most of WILLOW's metal inspiration and having the least pop-focused sound; though, Smith's vocals do not take the spotlight here. The actual musical value, the performance of the musicians, is the most stunning aspect. "BATSHIT!" provides the most impressive backing track out of all of the songs on the album and, to be honest, I wish the rest of the album would have delved deeper into the sound found in "BATSHIT!" and "hover like a GODDESS."

"<COPINGMECHANISM>" is not a bad album. However, there are discrepancies between the auditory interest of the songs.

There are some impressive compositions, especially later in the album, as well as confidence from WILLOW that has not necessarily been heard in such consistency before, and high production value,

but there is simply not enough interest there to make the entire album successful.

Many of the songs on the album blend together. While this can work in some cases as a storytelling device or intentional flow of music, it does not work here. I can't tell when certain songs end and others begin, which makes the album feel monotonous and repetitive. Despite WILLOW's movement toward punk and metal, the sentiment of generic pop songs and pop sound still have a hold on a lot of her music. Additionally, songs like "Perfectly Not Close To Me" and "curious/furious" turn me off of the album for their poor lyrical and musical choices. This is especially unfortunate as "Perfectly Not Close To Me" is the only collaboration on the album, something WILLOW saw success with in "lately, I feel EVERYTHING."

I really wish Smith would have explored more of the unconventional

and art-focused elements found in some of the songs. If she would have taken time to incorporate more of the elements from "hover like a GODDESS," "Split" and "BATSHIT!," I believe she would have found more success in individualizing herself within the pop punk sphere, and shedding her reputation as a pop artist.

For an album intended to be a 'spiritual exploration' of her music career, "<COPINGMECHANISM>" largely feels like another processed pop album that has taken an edgier stance in order to distinguish itself. Smith's voice and some of the production choices can make the album more interesting or successful at times, but all-in-all, the release is neither good nor bad. It's okay, and it fulfills the role it takes on.

Regardless, "<COPINGMECHANISM>" is worth the listen if you enjoy pop music, but don't expect to be saving every song off of the album.

Death Cab for Cutie makes waves in Pittsburgh

ZACH PETROFF

opinions editor

On Monday, Stage AE was taken over by a crowd of millennial hipsters, as if the concert venue had turned into a thrift shop offering a half-price sale: Indie-rock band Death Cab for Cutie was in town. The band's self-titled world tour is supporting their tenth album "Asphalt Meadows" which was released on Sept. 16.

Opening act Thao & the Get Down Stay Down replaced band Low, an indie-rock band from Duluth whose drummer and singer Mimi Parker is recovering from cancer treatment. According to the band's Twitter Page, Parker is still in a "fragile state" and not healthy enough to travel.

Thao & the Get Down Stay Down played songs from their five albums, including one of their biggest hits "Holy Roller" from their "We Are

Common" album released in 2013.

The Grammy-nominated band led by singer, vocalist and piano player Ben Gibbard played songs from their new albums and the classic hits spanning from the band's entire 10 album discography. The often-categorized "emo band's" setlist masterfully blended their commercial hits such as "You are a Tourist" and "I Will Possess Your Heart," with more fan favorites such as "Brothers on a Hotel Bed" and "Soul Meets Body."

The light show accompanied the bands ability to create a retro ambience that shuffled between a lone spotlight on Gibbard and a colorful spectacle that lit up the stage. The audience was given a glimpse into the lead singer's relentless work ethic and talent. Between songs, Gibbard was either changing his guitars or running to the piano, often genuinely thanking the audience for coming out.



ZACH PETROFF | OPINIONS EDITOR

Lead singer Ben Gibbard graces Stage AE with classic indie-rock hits.

The band started in Bellingham, Washington, in 1997 and found commercial success with their 2003 album "Transatlanticism." While there have been some changes in the band, such as guitarist and songwriter Chris Walla

leaving in 2014, the core of the band has been centered around Gibbard's signature sappy voice and meaningful lyrics. Since 2006, the band has been nominated for eight Grammys.

The major highlights of the night

included an acoustic version of their hit song "I Will Follow You into the Dark," a soulful love song that deals with everlasting love in the face of death. A lone spotlight shined on Gibbard as the sound of his lone guitar erupted the venue with emotion. The lyrics cut through the audience as to suspend time for that moment. It was the essence of live music.

During another fan favorite "Soul Meets Body" Gibbard stopped singing the chorus as the audience took over, sloppily imitating the lead singer's high notes. The band softly accompanied the off-key performances of concert goers.

For over an hour and a half, the indie-pop band captivated an audience by relying on the fundamental pillars of what has made them successful. Short and emotional songs that capture the feelings of love, loss and loneliness with some existential dread sprinkled in.

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“Think higher,
feel deeper.”

ELIE WIESEL

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

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Letters to the editor must be typed, double-spaced and include the writer's name, school/department and phone number for verification. Letters should be no longer than 300 words and should be delivered to *The Duke* office at 113 College Hall or e-mailed to theduquduke@gmail.com by 5 p.m. Tuesday. The editors reserve the right to edit any and all submitted copies. All letters must be verified before being published.

Corrections/clarifications

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

Contact

email: theduquduke@gmail.com

Correction:

Jacob Thomas, a student who was in a class Sept. 29 when the instructor used a racial slur, said he was uncomfortable at what occurred.

“It’s uncomfortable. I’m not going to argue that. It’s definitely uncomfortable to hear,” he said.

A story that ran on page 1 of the Oct. 6 issue was incorrect.



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Artist Ye recently had his post removed from Twitter and Instagram for his antisemitic remarks.

Ye’s antisemitic remarks echo a rising hateful rhetoric

It is my staunch belief that there should be a level of lee-way afforded to the true geniuses of our time. While the word “genius” has become diluted due to its presence in our everyday lexicon — the title should be reserved for those that truly have an “exceptional intellectual or creative power or other natural ability.”

Ye, formally known as Kanye West — while incredibly polarizing and unorthodox — is a true genius.

Ye’s unapologetic demeanor, artistic vision and unique perspective has turned the Chicago-based rapper into an American icon. His contributions to not only the hip-hop community, but to all of music have spanned all genres while heavily influencing two generations of music.

His fearless approach to speaking his mind, as convoluted as it may be, has been a distinct aspect of his career. His perspective has granted him a level of credibility for those that truly take the time to listen to the initial message. While his antics are just that, antics, the intended message is usually with merit.

It is not unusual for an artist to challenge the popular perspective on various subject matters, only to be crucified by the public; The Chicks, formally known as the Dixie Chicks were lambasted for their disapproval of the Iraq War, Lenny Bruce’s arrest and conviction for obscenity and Marinas Abramovic’s performances are a few examples of artists going against the grain to speak truth to power.

There have been a number of outspoken Ye moments that have challenged societal norms and sparked a national debate.

In a world that finds itself politicizing every action of every event, it would be nearly impossible to find anyone whose ideology aligns perfectly with our own. While Ye’s recent stance on the Black Lives Matter movement, the Me Too movement, his uncredited academy and support of the MAGA movement are in stark contrast to my personal beliefs, I still appreciate his artistry.

Ye has been very public about his struggles with mental-health and it is important to recognize that he

has said he was taking himself off of medication for his bi-polar disorder diagnosis. The public discourse surrounding mental health is often rooted in problematic judgmental dogma and has been a driving force for some of the public scrutiny that Ye has faced throughout his career.

However, his latest cry for attention is a bridge too far.

On Friday, Ye made an Instagram post condemning fellow rapper Diddy for “being controlled by the media.” His post was removed



ZACH PETROFF
opinions editor

and his account was banned within a few hours. Ye would then move his rant to Twitter, praising Elon Musk and claiming he was ready to go “Death con 3 on JEWISH PEOPLE.” Twitter would remove the post and block his account as well.

Ye’s blatant disregard for the Black and Jewish community comes at a time when political figures are openly embracing the Q-Anon narrative, a conspiracy-theory led movement that is rooted in antisemitism and xenophobia.

Likely Republican candidate and former President Donald Trump, whose affiliation with the conspiracy movement has been held at bay, said in a 2020 press conference, “I don’t know much about the movement other than I understand they like me very

much, which I appreciate.”

As Trump is gearing up for a presidential campaign, he is openly embracing the fringe group. Using his Truth Social platform, he reposted an image of himself wearing a Q lapel pin. During his recent rallies Trump has played the QAnon anthem to close out his speeches.

A recent analysis by the Associated Press found nearly 75 accounts Trump has responded to on his Truth Social profile, more than a third of them have promoted QAnon by sharing the movement’s slogans, videos or imagery. About 1 in 10 of the accounts include QAnon language or links in their profile bios.

The FBI has designated this extremist movement as domestic terrorism. When one peels the shallow layers of the fringe conspiracy theories, it becomes quite clear. QAnon is an antisemitic hate group that is having success finding its way into the mainstream.

Ye’s recent antisemitic stance promotes this hateful rhetoric that aligns too closely with the fundamental teaching of QAnon. His stance coupled with Trump’s courtship of the hate group emboldens those who practice and preach hate.

Words matter.

When Trump famously referred to Covid-19 as the “Wuhan Flu” hate crimes against Asians rose 76% in 2020, according to the FBI. The Anti-Defamation league reported a 34% rise in hate crimes aimed at the Jewish community in 2021, an average of more than 7 antisemitic incidents per day.

As the presidential election creeps closer, the voice of these deranged and hateful people will be echoed through their candidates. The normalizing of hate and intolerance seems to grow every day. False narratives dripping with the same ideology of neo-Nazis groups are making their way into the conscience of society like a festering cancer.

This is not a time to make excuses for the ignorantly ill-informed. This is a time to call out spewers of violent hatred and hold them accountable for damage they are causing.

STAFF
EDITORIAL

Athletes’ preferential treatment going too far

Way too often, we tend to treat athletes as larger-than-life figures, capable of achieving surreal things.

We prop them up and persistently praise them, but at what point should their shortcomings be sufficiently called out?

Following a one-point loss to the Kansas City Chiefs on Monday night, Las Vegas Raiders wide receiver Davante Adams pushed a man who was later identified as a freelance photographer for ESPN’s “Monday Night Football” as he went to the locker room.

Adams apologized after the game, according to ESPN, saying that it “was just frustration mixed with him literally just running in front of [Adams],” while also adding that he “shouldn’t have responded that way.”

Good on Adams for taking accountability, but what if accountability wasn’t enough?

The victim of Adams’ anger had to make arrangements to be privately transported to the hospital, but preliminary reports on his injury are that it is thought to be non-life threatening, according to the Kansas City Police Department.

Repercussions could have been a lot more severe had the injuries sustained by the victim been more severe. On Wednesday, Adams was charged with misdemeanor assault for his behavior.

With a police report filed against Adams and an investigation into the incident underway, ESPN’s Adam Schechter reported that Adams is also facing discipline from the National Football League.

This is what has to be done, and it should set a clear precedent moving forward.

Just because Adams is on a 1-4 team after having spent the last eight seasons with a highly successful franchise - the Green Bay Packers - he does not have the right to let his anger out on an innocent media member who had every right to be on the field.

After the game, Raiders Head Coach Josh McDaniels said that while what the wide receiver did isn’t acceptable, he doesn’t think there was any intent on Adams’ part.

Emotions are a part of sports and life, and that’s completely natural. It is not natural, however, as a professional athlete to be incapable of containing your emotions.

The NFL needs to discipline Adams. Not doing so would stain its image, but this should also serve as a reminder that these athletes are role models.

Young kids idolize players, buy jerseys and seek to emulate the talents of superstars like Adams. While Adams does not have a repeated pattern of behavioral issues, it’ll be imperative to follow to ensure that this was just a one-time incident.

While athletes are humans that have their own shortcomings, there’s still a fine line to walk. They are role models that need to behave as such.

Walker's repeated gaffs invalidate credibility

RUSSELL MACIAS
staff writer

The 2022 midterm elections are less than a month away, with highly contested races for U.S. Senate seats across the nation. Arguably the most seismic race is taking place in Georgia, where incumbent Democrat Raphael Warnock takes on challenging Republican Herschel Walker, a former Heisman Trophy-winning running back at

tential to swing control of the Senate back to the Republicans.

A scandal rocked Walker's campaign last week when it was revealed that, in 2009, he allegedly paid for an abortion for his then-girlfriend. This could be damaging to Walker's campaign, especially given the campaign's emphasis on a pro-life platform. There is evidence to suggest that Walker is hypocritical.

This controversy is not the first for

falsehoods throughout the Covid-19 pandemic and his denial of evolution.

Walker and Warnock will debate for the first time Friday. Ahead of the debate, Walker said, "I'm this country boy, you know. I'm not that smart. And he's a preacher. He's a smart man, wears these nice suits. So he is going to show up and embarrass me at the debate Oct. 14, and I'm just waiting to show up, and I'm going to do my best."

It's clear that Walker is not competent to hold public office. Does that matter, though? The Republican Party rallies behind him and funnels money to him.

That's just what the conservative movement has become today—a soulless, morally corrupt group that strips away rights from people. It's a party that feasts on disinformation, while pandering to fear-mongering. The party's members have also engulfed the country in social unrest by playing into unprovoked anxieties that tend to center around minorities.

This, of course, is not to say that Democrats are without flaws. But, the flaws in the Democratic Party mostly don't involve issues related to blatant racism, homophobia and xenophobia.

This election cycle, we're seeing just how far the Republican Party is willing to go to win elections, putting up celebrities such as Mehmet Oz in Pennsylvania, as well as Walker. They continue to drum up their perceived "illegitimacy" of the 2020 presidential election. Coincidentally, Walker appeared on televi-

sion in Atlanta earlier in the campaign and said that he's never heard former president Donald Trump say that he thought the election was stolen.

At this point, it's clear that Walker is both a hypocrite and, in his words, "not that smart." So then, what is it that draws voters to him?

Walker's main appeal seems to be his popularity. In addition to winning the Heisman Trophy in 1982, Walker helped guide the Georgia Bulldogs to a college football national championship in 1980. He is considered one of the greatest college football players of all time, and this contributes to his cult-like following in Georgia, where football comes before almost all things, especially in the Southeastern Conference (SEC).

In a purple state where a popular sports figure entered the race, it seemed like a guarantee that Walker would have a good shot to win.

But between his blunders, harsh views and bold-faced lies, Walker has become one of Georgia's most-divisive people.

Walker should be considered unelectable, but he's not campaigning in a state like Hawaii or Illinois.

He's in Georgia, where he made his name, and the effects of that are keeping his political hopes alive. This is aided by the support from Trump, the Republicans' predominant voice.

There are enough factors at play that, despite all of the clear signs of Walker's ineptitude, a win remains a realistic possibility.



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Herschel Walker, a former running back at the University of Georgia who won the Heisman Trophy in 1982, is now running as a Republican for the U.S. Senate seat in Georgia.

the University of Georgia.

Georgia, a state that has turned purple in recent years, has the po-

Walker, and it might not be the last. Examples include his alleged denial of three of his four children, spreading

Algorithms presenting detrimental issues

SIMON JARONSKI
staff writer

The harmful effects of social media algorithms have been a much-debated topic as of late, with numerous parents, conscientious youth and journalists rallying against the unprecedented monopoly on attention being cultivated by Silicon Valley.

Thus, the question of feed optimization is not only rooted in policy, but in morality as well: What is to be said for the ability of companies like Meta and ByteDance to both stupefy and radicalize today's youth?

The design behind various algorithms, perhaps most-notoriously that of Facebook's, is simple: getting user engagement. However, the precise designs are infinitely more complex and perhaps out of reach to those who are less tech-savvy.

Indeed, a core part of the problem is the inability of the public to pierce such a complex issue, let alone a national legislature dominated by geriatric politicians.

Essentially, major social media companies are successfully maximizing the amount of time we spend scrolling through waves of stimulating content. This incentive structure is facilitating the slide of America's youth into unreflective and uncritical habits.

The effect on political opinion and discourse may be obvious, as it is deteriorating social media's myriad of benefits for communicative efficiency and community-building

potential. How can anyone be said to form an intellectually supported argument if their information is dictated to them by an algorithm formulated to reinforce their beliefs?

This is a particularly difficult nut to crack for the American polity, which values unrestricted expression. In comparison, Germany had no problem guarding the copyright for "Mein Kampf" until very recently, and a current bill winding its way through the Canadian Parliament seeks to provide the government with the power to leverage patriotic content on YouTube.

The traditional argument against censorship or regulation of private companies goes something like this: In the free marketplace of ideas, the most-valuable opinions will naturally find their way to the top. But is this the case when millions of Americans absorb a carefully curated stream of ideas designed to fortify their own beliefs and boost further engagement? One can't help recalling the notion of a "bubble." At what point will the great content binge become unsustainable? It could be when hyperreal political fantasies boil over into civil breakdown and total polarization.

As far as a solution goes, forcing Big Tech companies to relinquish some control over their own algorithms and monitoring practices may not be a violation of free speech as such, but rather a mechanism to provide for the flourishing of a genuinely stable and equal distribution of information. But is

regulation really the answer when greater problems lie beneath the surface?

The fraudulent ethical vision of Zuckerberg and Co. revealed itself as a sham during the 2016 Cambridge Analytica scandal. These developments necessitate a moral response among the American public that should start with responsible family and community guidance.

By first addressing these concerns at the moral level, effective public policy will have more room to maneuver, with a robust sphere of digital liberty protected.

A common understanding of morality's inseparable link to expressive potential surprisingly supports the responses to tech policy from both ends of the political spectrum. This may indicate a favorable consensus at the most-basic levels of society, able to temper the worst excesses of the digital public sphere. If the value of constructive free speech is reclaimed, perhaps the dangerous echo chambers of social media lose their appeal. If more free speech as a corrective to an already poisoned - and realistically rigged - well of public discussion offends your common sense, chances are your inclination is sound.

Beware the Big Tech robber barons, who are remarkably capable of channeling anxieties about digital tyranny for their own benefit. The recent controversy over Twitter's bot problem conceals the larger issue of Twitter being a potentially unsustainable and mor-

ally problematic means of communication in the first place. The fact that Elon Musk and other tech giants often successfully peddle a brand of other-worldly wisdom does wonders to conceal their self-interest in manipulating public opinion for the worse.

Will our historic and much-lauded public sphere diminish into a cash cow for those seeking to profit off political radicalization? Will the cognitive capacities of our nation's youth dwindle into oblivion, robbing them of the potential for authentic and reason-based discourse on politics and social issues?

The robust civil society of print media and associations that Alexis de Tocqueville once found so compelling is no more. Only the ineffable digital nexus of senseless extremes remains to nourish the young political observer and preserver of democracy. What is to be done?



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Social media's algorithms have detrimental effects on consumers of various apps.

Swain, Le honored as homecoming king, queen

ISABELLA ABBOTT
features editor

Duquesne students, alumni, faculty and football fans witnessed the crowning of Eric Swain Jr. and Emmala Le as king and queen during halftime of the football team's annual homecoming game on Saturday afternoon.

Swain represented the Black Student Union, while Le represented both the Asian Student Association and the Filipino American Student Association.

Each year, members of the court are chosen based on campus-organization involvement and resume achievements. Although dozens of nominations were made this year, only 12 students — six females and six males — were selected to walk down the 45-yard line as part of the homecoming court.

The seniors nominated for queen were Le, Veronica Philipson, Taylor Hopkins, Mackenzie Pifko, Olivia Price and Brianna DeKlever. These women represented many different student organizations, including the Duquesne Student Nurses' Association, Strong Women Strong Girls and Kappa Delta Epsilon.

On the other side, king nominees included Swain, Brentaro Yamane, Zachary Mansberry, Cody Trusik, Wade Brogno and Domenic Nascimben. These men represented organizations like The Duke, The Duquesne Program Council and The Student-Athlete Advisory Council.

Going down the field in pairs, each dressed-up court member — except for Nascimben, whom Student Government

Association President Ethan Delp filled in for — was announced over Rooney Field's loudspeakers.

Once the introduction was finished and each nominee's university accomplishments were recognized, the court then lined up for the anticipated announcement. From there, Duquesne President Ken Gormley placed crowns on Swain and Le, while his wife Laura presented Le with a bouquet.

Both winners, Swain and Le, were honored and shocked to have won this year.



PETER BOETTGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Eric Swain Jr. and Emmala Le pose with Duquesne President Ken Gormley and his wife, Laura, after being announced as the university's homecoming king and queen on Saturday afternoon.

Le said she was grateful to have won after also winning homecoming queen during her senior year of high school. When Le told her family members about the honor, she said that they couldn't believe that she had a "two-peat."

Being involved in high school as the president of her Spanish club, while also holding a position in the school's honor society allowed her to love being involved in school organizations. Le said that she wants to get involved as much as she can outside of the classroom and on campus.

"I was really involved in high school among a different crowd," Le said. "And I wanted to continue that here."

She says that after receiving this honor, she'll continue to try and make an impact at Duquesne.

"I feel like what I'm doing now is basically the reason I got this honor, because of who I am and how I represent myself on campus," Le said. "I think just continuing that, like I'm not going to stop being who I am, and I'm not going to stop participating and [showing] that Duquesne pride."

In addition to the homecoming court being involved on campus, there were a large number of students who participated in the voting for homecoming king and queen this year, a number that has risen from the past year.

Ashley Kane, Duquesne's coordinator

said. "It's good to have my family in the stands and actually celebrate with them, especially [with them] coming all the way from Georgia."

For Swain, this honor meant that he can continue to help his communities and get to know more people on campus. He said he hopes to engage with as many people as he can following this award.

"I think I would really impact more of the people of color, specifically Black men on campus, who may want to pursue bigger roles or more involvement on campus," Swain said. "Even though you may not know the area, I think getting to know people, talking with others and the kind of engagement where you can get to know people can definitely make an impact."

As the BSU's vice president of community engagement, Swain has been doing just that.

Swain and Le want to return next year to crown the next homecoming king and queen. Swain said he'll try his best to make the trip back to see familiar faces.

"I would love to come back next year, especially because I love Duquesne. It's been my home for the past four years," Swain said. "I think it's always good to be on campus and see the faces I've seen throughout those years."

Le said she'd want to come back to visit all the friends she's made throughout her time here.

"It's only a three-and-a-half-hour drive [from Mount Joy, Pa.], but my friends are still here," Le said. "So I will definitely be willing to make the trip to crown the next queen."



PETER BOETTGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Emmala Lee, this year's homecoming queen, represented both the Asian Student Association and the Filipino American Student Association.



PETER BOETTGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Eric Swain Jr., this year's homecoming king, serves as the vice president of community engagement for Duquesne's Black Student Union.

Duquesne welcomes homecoming festivities

SOVI HERRING
staff writer

Duquesne celebrated its annual homecoming weekend on Friday and Saturday, attracting strong crowds of supporters and fresh faces to encounter.

The festivities began on Friday, with families of students and alumni attending various events such as class reunions and luncheons.

As part of the homecoming theme, the class of 1972 celebrated its 50th anniversary. For some, it was their first time on campus in decades.

Richard King, a sociology major from the class of 1972, was "overwhelmed with the changes on a great campus." King participated in the weekend's events with his college friends and their families. He told freshmen to "keep the faith" when

encountering challenges at school.

On Saturday, the events that attracted the usual student crowds gathered in preparation for the homecoming football game.

AutumnFest on Academic Walk hosted various student organizations fundraising for causes and club events for the semester.

While students, alumni and family members walked around A-Walk and the family fun zone, the Fire Dancers kept a crowd of their own.

The team of four held their show with traditional Hawaiian music, storytelling and fire dancing. The two primary dancers made onlookers feel a bit colder than the weather, as they watched their traditional garb flow in the wind and their bare feet stomp on the concrete.

Several lucky people were welcomed on-stage to learn the basic moves of the hula,

causing an uproar of laughs and cheers.

Of the student organizations on campus, most had a large turnout with alumni that were former members, as well as recent alumni who were looking to help. The crowd that walked to and from booths were covered in face paint, spray painting pumpkins and carrying various souvenirs from each table along the way.

The Encore Show Choir (ESC) on campus "got a lot of support from former members and lovers of the arts," according to president Kylie Snellbaker.

Stephanie Cairns, a member of the ESC, said that kids loved the game they had, and that their raffle was successful.

As the AutumnFest on A-Walk ended during the third quarter of the football game, the organizations packed up their booths and the crowds retreated to the bleachers.



SOVI HERRING | STAFF WRITER

The Fire Dancers perform on A-Walk on Saturday.

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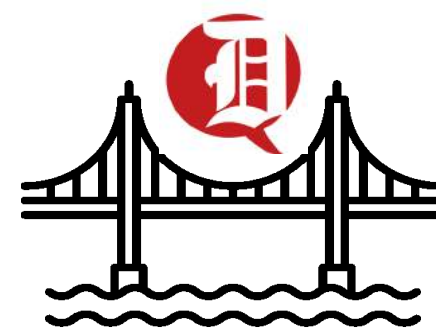
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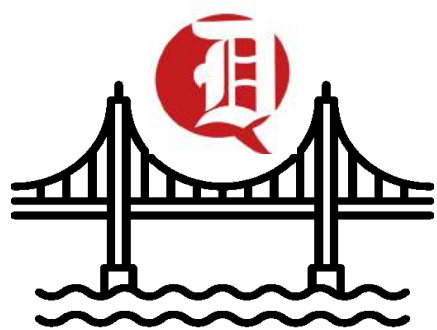
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