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THE DUQUESNE DUKE

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Holmes takes on Duquesne as university's new chief of police

Campus parking leaves students frustrated

ALICIA DYE
news editor

South Side commuter Tyler Johns has never had such a hard time finding parking with his friends, who he carools with.

"I lived on campus my first two years, and then moved off campus. Last year wasn't hard for us," Johns said. "We were always able to find parking. Even when we lived on campus, we could always find a spot. Now it's virtually impossible."

Johns isn't the only student having issues, as even resident students struggle to find parking on the surface and in the garage. One of the changes in parking passes is that there are not just garage passes or just surface passes, as it had been in previous years. A student who buys the garage/surface pass can park on either the surface or in the garage.

While the cost may deter some, many students who have parking passes live on campus. This includes the freshmen class, who were able to purchase passes for 2022-2023, despite not being able to purchase passes until the spring semester last year.

Parking on Duquesne University's campus has always been an issue, especially at the start of the semester. However, students and faculty have had more parking issues this semester than in recent years.

A year-long parking pass will cost students \$1,275, while an academic year pass will cost a student \$825, whether they park in the garage or on the surface, according to parking information provided by the university.

Michaela Gett, a campus resident, has trouble finding parking when she leaves campus and

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LUKE HENNE | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Eric Holmes was recently named as Duquesne University's new chief of police and director of public safety. Holmes is committed to helping students build better relationships with campus police, saying, "The reason why we're here is the students."

ALICIA DYE
news editor

Most people know what career they want to pursue when they grow up. Some want to be an astronaut, some firemen, some teachers. Eric Holmes knew he wanted to be a teacher. He ended up in police work instead but he has no regrets.

Holmes, the new chief of police and director of public safety at Duquesne University, went to college at Slippery Rock University and majored in communications, with the intention of becoming a teacher. That is, until an interaction with the police changed his career trajectory. "Growing up in the suburbs of Penn Hills, I never had a bad experience with police," Holmes said. "While in college, I had a negative experience and realized I could make a change in law."

"I couldn't change my major, as Slippery Rock didn't have a criminal justice program then, but I knew that I had to be an officer."

Holmes started his police career at the University of Pittsburgh as a member of their campus police department. Holmes went through the police academy while at the University of Pittsburgh, and later became a member of the City of Pittsburgh police department.

Chief diversity officer and senior advisor to the president for diversity, equity and inclusion Crystal McCormick Ware said Holmes was the perfect pick for the position.

"We have a true jewel in Chief Holmes," Ware said. "He is respected regionally and nationally and Duquesne is blessed to have someone of that caliber serving as our chief of police and director of public safety."

Holmes has been in law enforcement for 25 years, and one of his favorite things has been connecting with people over the years.

"There were little to no opportunities to engage in the community when I worked in municipal agencies," Holmes said. "Here, I get to engage with students and connect with them."

"It's a lot easier to connect with people. When we connect with people, they are a lot more willing to work with us. We always say 'connect before you correct.'"

That's what Holmes wants to do with students and faculty at Duquesne, to connect with them as much as possible.

Holmes is enacting a 'ticket' system, where he and other officers give students a ticket, but for being safe. The 'tickets' are simple

scratch-offs, and students can win a prize if they match a safety sign.

Another way Holmes is trying to get officers to connect more is by allowing officers to show arm tattoos, something they could not do before.

"We want to connect with students in any way possible. Some students have tattoos and they can bond with our officers who also have tattoos," Holmes said.

Holmes has always been connected to Duquesne. While working for Pittsburgh Police, Holmes responded to a shots fired call in 2003 on campus. Since then, he's been invited back to Duquesne multiple times and worked with former chief of police Thomas Hart over the years.

"I was Zone 2 Commander for a time, so I worked with Hart often since Duquesne is in Zone 2," Holmes said. "When he was retiring, he told me to apply for the position."

"Having worked in the city, I bring all those connections I made with me. I'm all about connections and partnerships. They're important to me."

That's why connecting with students is so important to Holmes. He wants to learn about students, learn from them and get to know them.

"The reason why we're here is the students," Holmes said. "We're trying to engage with

students on a personal level. We know that everyone has a different experience with law enforcement and we want students to have a good experience with us."

Holmes received his master's degree in criminal justice from Point Park University in 2018, which made him want to teach again, fulfilling what his original dream career was.

He teaches other law enforcement professionals about criminal justice in the 21st century and teaches about the history of policing and how it started as a form of oppression to divide groups.



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY
Eric Holmes said, "The university is like an oasis, and that's what I love about it."

"I'm a lifelong learner," Holmes said. "I believe in always looking to improve myself."

Even at Duquesne, Holmes is

see HOLMES — page 3

POLICE BRIEFS

Tuesday, Aug. 23-

A student's vehicle received damage to its left front bumper while parked on the sixth level of the Locust Garage.

Wednesday, Aug. 24-

A desk aide in Brottier Hall reported a homeless male at the front desk asking to use the restroom. The male actor had an outstanding warrant out of Indiana state and was taken to Allegheny County Jail.

Thursday, Aug. 25-

A student in Vickroy Hall was in possession of marijuana and paraphernalia. The student was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Thursday, Aug. 25-

A Parkhurst employee struck an unoccupied car on the 10th floor of the Forbes Garage. Both drivers were located, and information necessary for a report was obtained.

Friday, Aug. 26-

A reporting officer observed resident students seated on the city steps in possession of marijuana and other drug paraphernalia. The students were referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Monday, Aug. 29-

A commuter student reported that her bicycle was stolen from Duquesne Square. Video footage of the incident was captured. This is an active case.

Tuesday, Aug. 30-

Unknown actors entered into the secured construction site for the Duquesne University School of Osteopathic Medicine at 1323 Forbes Ave.

The actors attempted to break into a construction trailer owned by Abate Irwin Inc., by using a piece of rebar to twist the lock/hasp combination from the door, but were unsuccessful.

Actors also set up a ladder to look into a window of a second trailer owned by Rycon Construction, but there were no signs of attempted forced entry into this trailer.

No items or materials were reported missing at the time of the report.

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

see PARKING—page 1

returns.

"I leave for work or to shop and when I come back, it's so hard to find a spot near my building," Gett said. "The St. Ann's lot is always full, and parking by the music school is also super hard. I've tried to park almost everywhere on the surface and it's just never available."

Even with new transportation options available for students, including the now-free South Side Shuttle, students find driving to campus

more convenient than relying on bus times.

"The shuttle stops aren't close to my house, so I'd have to walk three or four blocks to even get to the stop," Johns said. "Plus, there are no specific times that the shuttle arrives at each stop. I could be standing there for 30-plus minutes before the shuttle comes."

While the new UPass system gives students a discount on Pittsburgh Regional Transit (PRT) rides, there is no direct stop from South Side to

Duquesne; students who use PRT would have to ride until a stop in Oakland, then transfer buses and ride the bus to a stop closer to the university.

"I just wish there was more parking available," Gett said. "There are more and more students who come to Duquesne every year, and more spots are filled. It doesn't help that some spots are reserved by the university."

The spots Gett is referring to are spots on the roof of the Forbes Avenue garage,

where multiple spots are reserved for "Future Duquesne Dukes," which is for students and families who are visiting the university to tour.

Students are encouraged to not park in those spots, although during peak hours, students do. Locust Garage is the garage that students are supposed to park in, although the garage fills up quickly during the average class day.

Jason Conlogue, associate director of parking and DU card services says that park-

ing passes do not have a set amount available each year.

"Because [Duquesne's] enrollment figures change yearly and class schedules vary per student, there is no set number of parking permits," Conlogue said.

According to Conlogue, there is not a predetermined number of passes available for each school year and passes are still being sold.

Students can contact the parking office for more information about passes.



ALICIA DYE | NEWS EDITOR
A line of cars form every morning to enter the Locust Garage.



ALICIA DYE | NEWS EDITOR
Vehicles come in to the university's Locust Garage via this entrance.

Students take in bookstore renovations

SPENCER THOMAS

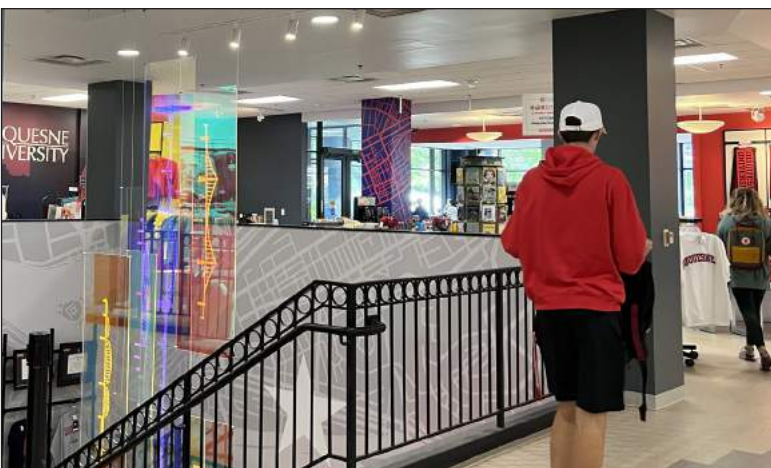
sports editor

As students flock to the ground floor of the Power Center to pick up their textbooks for this fall, they may notice that the surroundings have changed. A new-look bookstore has debuted on the Duquesne campus.

With the university-wide rebrand that saw Duquesne adopt a new logo, script and mascot, it was only

merchandise has changed, with sections of the wall specifically delegated to mounting white hats and coffee mugs on display, and clothing sections are carefully organized by brand.

Most notable is the bold introduction of color. Bright red and blue murals now adorn the walls and pillars across the space. They depict famous Pittsburgh architecture in school colors, as well as the new logos and wallpaper.



ALICIA DYE | NEWS EDITOR
Students walk through the campus bookstore during the first week of fall-semester classes. The bookstore underwent massive renovations during the summer.

right that the new merchandise would be sold in a place that matches its novelty.

The Barnes & Noble bookstore was partially shut down over the summer in order to be completely renovated. With the construction complete, it has fully reopened and is now available to students in search of Duquesne apparel, equipment and, of course, textbooks.

Among the changes are completely redone flooring, walls and a fitting room. Those who were asked to describe the changes struggled to think of things that were not completely redone in the process. The layout of

New lights also accent the ceilings. Gone is the older lighting system that gave the store a dim look. It has been replaced with fluorescents that give a much cleaner and hospitable aesthetic to the area.

Senior Gianna Marasovich was very keen on the changes that were made.

"It doesn't feel ancient," Marasovich said. "The old bookstore kind of just felt like it was an old university being here."

While the rustic look is important to note the history of a University founded nearly 150 years ago, Duquesne also looks to not fall be-

hind the curve in modernity.

"This is very modern and the little holographic glass and everything makes it look new and fresh", Marasovich said. "[It] makes you want to look around."

The holographic glass that Marasovich praised is composed of colored, translucent panels hanging from the ceiling, lit up to reveal images of Pittsburgh's many bridges. It adds an element of artistry and creativity that one wouldn't necessarily expect to find in a Barnes & Noble.

Junior Bailey Golvash, who works at the store's register, was also thrilled with the makeover.

"I think it's really appealing when you walk in," Golvash said. "I thought it was really cool how it had the bridges and all the bright colors."

Scott Richards, the assistant vice president for auxiliary services wanted to connect the bookstore to the city more with the renovations.

"The conceptual discussions led to a tremendous vision that connects Duquesne to its neighborhood community while also providing a fresh perspective on its historical relationship to Pittsburgh," Richards said.

"Although many still refer to Pittsburgh as 'The Steel City' and are proud of the city's past connection to industry, I believe the wall graphics, selfie stations and art installations at Duquesne's Barnes & Noble Bookstore and Café offer an opportunity to interact with these iconic images in a new way."

Despite all of the changes, the store keeps old favorites in stock, with the far wall covered in new hats in every school color, and shirts neatly folded along the aisles.

As an employee, Golvash was happy with the updated layout, saying the organization by brand made it look and feel "much more professional."

Foam fingers, Duquesne-branded footballs and other memorabilia

find their respective places in the store, housed under the watch of the Duquesne lion, whose silhouette is painted on the wall.

"I think it's kind of cool, but it doesn't make total sense because we're not the lions," Golvash said. "But the colors are cool."

The adjoining Starbucks remains, having also been touched up over the summer with a new paint job above the counter.

The bookstore joins a series of new and renovated buildings that line Forbes Avenue on Duquesne's campus.

The School of Osteopathic Medicine broke ground at the corner of Forbes Avenue and Magee Street. Across the street lies the UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse. The bookstore is open six days a week, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday.



ALICIA DYE | NEWS EDITOR
New clothing options and a fitting room were part of the renovations.

Holmes committed to connecting with students 3

see **HOLMES**— page 1

learning from other officers, especially with different situations.

"We believe in second chances. We'd rather send someone to [The Office of] Student Conduct rather than arrest," Holmes said. "For example, we're letting officers have more discretion to fake IDs. We want them to learn, so we don't want them to get a citation from the city first.

"We want them to be educated. Their first

incident with a fake ID, we'll send them to Student Conduct instead of giving a citation."

Richard Linzer, professor and director of the graduate criminal justice administration program at Point Park University, thinks Duquesne is lucky to have Holmes.

"[Holmes] was a great find for Duquesne," Linzer said. "It's a loss for the City of Pittsburgh, but I think he'll make it [Duquesne public safety] into a top notch operation."

Holmes couldn't be happier to be at Duquesne.

"The university is like an oasis, and that's

what I love about it," Holmes said. "My favorite thing about the university is the people.

"Everyone has been so nice and everyone is so supportive. I'm so happy to be here, especially for the students."

Holmes looks to the future of Duquesne and how everyone tries to work together.

"I experienced my first freshman move-in and it was so rejuvenating. Every year should be like that," Holmes said. "I get to see all the hard work paying off between residence life, us and everyone else."

Linzer is happy for Duquesne to gain

Holmes, especially for the students.

"He's ideal for the students and the university," Linzer said. "He's patient, sincere and well-respected in the community. He's not heavy-handed. He's just a really good guy."

Above anything else, Holmes wants to develop relationships with students.

"I have an open door policy. We don't want anyone to suffer in silence, and we're always open to suggestions," Holmes said. "I want to work with students and organizations on fun projects. They don't have to be police-related. We're really open to everything."

Duquesne Dining presents new nutrition for students

SAMANTHA HAUCK
staff writer

This school year, Duquesne Dining has added new options and brought back others for students that haven't been available since the 2019-20 academic year.

Duquesne Dining has taken student input into consideration, and some options that were discontinued have made a comeback for the 2022-23 school year.

The news was announced Duquesne Dining's Instagram account. The Parkhurst

plementing new programs," Marcarelli said.

Two new additions were NOODLE, the pasta bar back by popular demand, and an Inspired Eats section that tailors to students' dietary needs.

"First, we added a new Inspired Eats," Marcarelli said. "It serves hot entrees and hot and cold sides that are completely free of the top-nine allergens for lunch and dinner seven days a week."

Parkhurst has also expanded on some already-present options in the dining hall. Stations like the salad bar in Hogan

This menu can be seen on various screens throughout Hogan, and is also made simple on the FoodU app. FoodU is a free mobile app that allows students to see the hours each dining option is open, and some menus of each dining location.

Rather than just using a meal swipe at Hogan, students can now go to other locations to use as well. Meal swipes are valid at The Incline for purchases under \$8. At the Campus Market, students can now get a late-night hot meal using a meal swipe from 7:30 to 11 p.m.

Many students expressed their want for Duquesne Dining locations to expand their hours. Cinco Cantina, Connections, Business Leader Bistro and Fisher Market have adjusted to these wishes. Cinco Cantina has extended its hours by only accepting mobile orders from 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Other locations like Connections, Business Leader Bistro and Fisher Market have adjusted their hours to be open in accordance with full building hours and beyond with a new self-checkout service, in use at all of the locations, in addition to Campus Market.

And pasta bar is back by popular demand at Hogan.

"We have brought back a favorite that upperclassmen and faculty may remember — an updated version of our made-to-order pasta station, NOODLE," Marcarelli said. "It features a rotating selection of proteins and veggies that guests can choose from, which are then tossed and sauced to their liking."

Students like senior Rachel Means are thrilled to have some old favorites back.

"The new additions to Hogan have been great," Means said. "I've enjoyed the pasta bar being brought back since the last time it was open was during my freshman year."

All of these changes were considered after sending out surveys to students in an effort to pay better attention to their needs. The goal was to provide specific needs for all students, so that everyone can find an option that suits them.

"Our chefs and dining professionals know that more students today have specific dietary needs that may be restrictive," Novak said. "Therefore, the concept

for V2 (vegan and vegetarian) last year, then Inspired Eats (allergy-free) this semester became a necessity."

Marcarelli and Novak put in work over the summer to develop the new menu and program for Inspired Eats. According to Novak, it was a tough but rewarding process.

"Being allergy-free is more than just cooking without the top-nine allergens, it's making them taste great too," Novak said. "So, our chefs spent the summer testing new recipes and training our staff on the safety and procedures necessary to serve our guests safely."

All Hogan Dining chefs, managers and supervisors are AllerTrain certified. AllerTrain is an industry leader for those that deal with food allergies and gluten-free menus.

Both Marcarelli and Novak thought that these changes were important and crucial to the students at Duquesne. Novak said that food and mealtime is a bonding experience for students.

"For freshmen, it's meeting new friends and classmates, and meeting over food is a great buffer for any new, exciting or nerve-wracking experience," Novak said. "For upperclassmen, it's a way to bond over last year's experiences and plot out your plans for the semester."

New students like freshman, Skyler Henshaw, eat at Hogan on a daily basis, and she enjoys the variety of choices available.

"I like the options where you actually make your own decisions of what you want," Henshaw said. "Like the panini press, for example, because you make your own."

Follow @duquesnedining on Instagram to keep in touch with new events and options. There will be a Labor Day barbecue at Hogan on Monday, and Hershey's Milkshakes will be available at Hogan on Sept. 12. Outside of Hogan, fall drinks are now available at the Starbucks location in the Student Union.

"No matter the dietary need, our guests will be able to find something that suits them at Hogan Dining Center, and they'll never miss out on the opportunity to connect with friends and classmates," Novak said.



SAMANTHA HAUCK | STAFF WRITER

Chicken pasta primavera is served with a garden salad, sugar snap peas and carrots at Hogan Dining Center's new Inspired Eats section. Inspired Eats is committed to delivering tasty, allergen-free foods to students.

Dining organization is in charge of making these changes happen for Duquesne University.

According to Duquesne Dining, changes include an updated menu, adding more meal swipe options, extended dining hours, a pasta bar and more locations that are available for online ordering.

Parkhurst employees like Nick Marcarelli (resident direct manager) and Christopher Novak (marketing manager) have helped implement the new additions.

"This summer, we were hard at work creating new menus, adding stations and im-

Dining Center have been updated.

"We've expanded the salad bar's rotating-themed menu offering," Marcarelli said. "After receiving great feedback last semester with its introduction, we're adding a wider variety of fresh choices, and themed topping combinations, such as southwestern, Mediterranean, Asian fusion and more."

New changes have not just been added to make students' stomachs happy, but to try to make things easier as well. Hogan has made its menu easier to read by having a simpler background and larger fonts.



SAMANTHA HAUCK | STAFF WRITER

Hogan Dining Center's brand-new Inspired Eats section, which is located near the center's V2 station.



SAMANTHA HAUCK | STAFF WRITER

The pasta bar made its return to Hogan Dining Center after leaving during the spring 2020 semester.

MSOC defeats Robert Morris, moves to 3-0

BRENTARO YAMANE

layout/multimedia editor

The 2022 campaign couldn't have started any better for the Duquesne men's soccer team.

The season started with a 1-0 victory at Michigan. The win was Duquesne's second win all-time against a Big Ten Conference team, and it was the program's first victory over a Power 5 program since Sept. 3, 2003.

2-1 in a non-conference matchup at North Athletic Complex.

The Dukes were able to earn a 3-0 start to the season after Dukes defender Cameron Territo, a transfer student from Western Illinois, scored the game-winning goal in the game's 47th minute. Territo enjoyed the feeling of scoring his first goal as a Duke, and credits his teammates for setting him up for glory.

"It's a great feeling," Territo said. "We're starting 3-0. It's my first goal as a Duke, but I

minute behind a goal from Logan Muck, Robert Morris struck back 10 minutes later. Colonials forward Logan Gilley tied the game at 1 after taking a shot that bounced in a weird direction. It was a shot that Duquesne goalkeeper Domenic Nascimben couldn't track down.

That is the only goal that Nascimben has given up so far this season. After that first goal, the Dukes' defense and Nascimben stood strong for the rest of the game.

"Dom's been great. He's such a hard worker," said Duquesne Head Coach Chase Brooks. "He's one of the best shot-stoppers I've ever seen in the college game, and I can't say enough good things about him.

"I give a lot of credit to the guys in front of him, too. We're blocking a lot of shots, and we're protecting him in a lot of ways, which is great."

After the Colonials tied the game, they started gaining momentum. They were recording more shots, earning more corner-kick opportunities and committing fewer fouls in the first half.

"In the first half, they caused us a bit of trouble," Brooks said. "They were finding gaps in our defense. But in the second half, we were able to make some changes and were able to counter that pretty well."

It was a physical game, as both teams committed more than 10 fouls. While some of those fouls could have been controversial, the Dukes knew that they had to find a way to win.

"Away from home, the refs are always going to be against you," Muck said. "We've just got to stick to our principles like we did. We just dealt with it as a team and kept working. It was a little physical, the refs were calling weaker fouls, and it is what it is."

The Dukes' next game is on Tuesday night,

when they host James Madison at Rooney Field. The game will serve as Duquesne's home opener.

Duquesne fans showed up to the non-conference road game on Wednesday. The players noticed, and they fed off the support.

"It's great to have the fans come, especially to an away game," Muck said. "They brought the energy, and we love seeing them here."

With how the season has started for the Dukes, there is a lot of optimism that it can be just as successful as 2021, when Duquesne made it all the way to the Atlantic 10 Conference's championship game.

Brooks has recognized and appreciated the immediate success.

"We couldn't ask for a better start," he said. "The guys are grinding. They are working hard. They bought into the process, and that's what we need."

"It doesn't matter who comes off the bench. Everybody was eager and ready to go, and that's what we need."

The Dukes have already won more road games (three) this season than in 2021 (two).

"We just take it one game at a time," Territo said. "We don't look ahead. We take [it] one day at a time."



BRENTARO YAMANE | LAYOUT/MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Logan Muck (29) carries Jesper Moksnes (4) on his back as teammates celebrate during Wednesday's 2-1 win over Robert Morris. The Dukes have won each of their first three games this season.

On Sunday, the Dukes earned their second-consecutive shutout in a 1-0 win at Canisius.

Duquesne was back in action on Wednesday, collecting another road victory. The Dukes defeated Robert Morris

cannot do it without my teammates."

Duquesne has had its way over Robert Morris recently. In the past six head-to-head matches, the Dukes are 5-0-1.

After the Dukes took a 1-0 lead in the 4th



BRENTARO YAMANE | LAYOUT/MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Cameron Territo (32) celebrates with teammates during Wednesday's 2-1 road victory.

Henne: Sullivan has earned his extension

LUKE HENNE

editor-in-chief

To find a clear blueprint for consistent success, look no further than PPG Paints Arena and the Pittsburgh Penguins organization.

The Penguins have not missed the Stanley Cup Playoffs since the 2005-06 season — the longest active streak in all of North American professional sports — winning a league-high-tying three Stanley Cups in that span.

Head Coach Mike Sullivan, the man who's been responsible for maintaining that model of success since being hired in December 2015,



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Penguins Head Coach Mike Sullivan signed a three-year contract extension on Tuesday.

inked a three-year contract extension on Tuesday that will keep him with Pittsburgh through the 2026-27 season.

He's earned every penny of that deal.

When Sullivan was named the successor to Mike Johnston on Dec. 12, 2015, Pittsburgh was 15-10-3 and looked to be in serious jeopardy of missing out on a playoff berth. He coached the team to a 33-16-5 record down the stretch (including a combined 14-5-0 record in March and April) to vault the team to the second-highest point total in the Eastern Conference.

On June 12, 2016, exactly six months after he was named head coach, Sullivan led Pittsburgh to its fourth Stanley Cup in franchise history with a 3-1 victory over the San Jose Sharks.

Nearly a calendar year later, Sullivan and the Penguins captured another Stanley Cup with a 2-0 victory over the Nashville Predators on June 11, 2017.

Pittsburgh did it against all odds, becoming the first team in the National Hockey League to win back-to-back championships since the Detroit Red Wings in 1997 and 1998. The team also did it without star defenseman Kris Letang, who missed the entire postseason due to neck surgery caused by a herniated disk.

In the five seasons since 2017, the Penguins have extended their streak of consecutive bids to the Stanley Cup Playoffs, but they made it out of

the opening round just once (in 2018).

An especially tough elimination came this past season, when the Penguins fell to the New York Rangers 4-3 in overtime of a decisive seventh game, blowing a 3-1 series lead and bowing out in the opening round for the fourth-consecutive campaign.

Rumors of a change behind the bench had swirled, but they are nothing more than rumors.

Consider the circumstances of this most-recent elimination. Third-string goaltender Louis Domingue was forced to play the majority of the series with very little notice. Captain Sidney Crosby was dealt a hit to the head by New York defenseman Jacob Trouba and missed much of game five, as well as all of game six. Starting goaltender Tristan Jarry was rushed back from a broken foot injury for the deciding seventh game, and he still managed to give Pittsburgh a shot.

Every team deals with injuries, but the series might have looked a whole lot different had Jarry and Crosby been around for its entirety.

Most franchises across the NHL would love to have a sustained successful culture much like the Penguins have built, and Sullivan has been a catalyst in keeping that culture intact.

Sure, the last five seasons could be classified as disappointments. But the Stanley Cup is regarded as the hardest trophy in sports to win. And Sullivan did it twice in his first two seasons.

That's a winner.

The offseason was expected to bring about change. Letang, as well as forwards Evgeni Malkin and Bryan Rust, were all free agents that faced the potential of never putting on a Penguins uniform again.

General manager Ron Hextall restructured the team's salary cap and found a way to not only re-sign these three franchise cornerstones, but also got forwards Danton Heinen and Rickard Rakell to ink new deals with the club.

There were a few deals that saw defenseman swapped. John Marino was dealt to New Jersey in exchange for Ty Smith. Mike Matheson was traded to Montreal for Jeff Petry.

However, the majority of the roster will look identical to the way it did a season ago. Hextall is banking on a team that went 46-25-11 in 2021-22 to replicate a similar level of success this coming season.

With a contract like the one given to Sullivan on Tuesday, Hextall has instilled his trust and belief that Sullivan is the man to guide the ship.

Malkin is 36. Crosby and Letang are 35. There's not much time left before the core starts to retire, and the Penguins are all but forced to enter rebuild mode.

Enjoy the playoff runs while they still last.

And be thankful that they've got a head coach that can get them to the playoffs annually.

Football drops opener at Florida State

RUSSELL MACIAS
staff writer

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — “Make sure before you leave this field, hug a couple buddies,” said Duquesne Head Coach Jerry Schmitt. “We play together, and we stick together.”

Schmitt said this to his players following Saturday’s season-opening contest, a 47-7 loss, against Florida State at Doak Campbell Stadium.

Though a loss is a loss, Schmitt wanted his squad to cherish the opportunity presented to his team — opening the season in an Atlantic Coast Conference environment against a college football blueblood in front of over 50,000 people.

After landing in Tallahassee, Fla., on Friday, a challenge was drawing closer.

What awaited Duquesne was the program’s first meeting with an ACC school since 1950, the last year the team fielded a major-level program until 1993. The game was also the Dukes’ first against the Seminoles’ in program history.

Schmitt was well aware of the opportunity that awaited his team.

“I think the kids are extremely excited for this opportunity,” Schmitt said on Friday. “They’re super excited to open up with an opponent like this, against such a historic opponent in the ACC. It’s a dream-making moment for the boys. It’ll be very fun.”

It was a daunting challenge. While Florida State has struggled to find its footing in recent years, the program won a national title in 2013 and appeared in five-straight New Year’s Six bowl games between the 2012 and 2016 seasons.

Florida State Head Coach Mike Norvell, who’s led the Seminoles since 2020, was quick to praise the schemes developed by Mike Craig, Duquesne’s new defensive coordinator.

“They’re very multiple in their concepts,” Norvell said in a press conference in the week leading up to the game. “They’ve got a new defensive coordinator, [they’re] going to be very multiple in their approach and blitz packages.”

Duquesne lost a lot from last season’s roster and faced the challenge of finding out who fits where, an obstacle that could begin to be addressed in Saturday’s opener.

Jake Dixon (last year’s starting left tackle) signed as an undrafted free agent with the Pittsburgh Steelers, while Roman Macek (last year’s starting left guard) signed a development contract with World

Wrestling Entertainment (WWE).

The team did return two-time All-Northeast Conference selection Maxi Hradency to its defensive line.

On the opposite side of the ball, the team lost last season’s top-five receivers, but did return Joey Isabella and Abdul Jannah, each of whom missed games in 2021 due to injury.

Rather than dismiss the losses, Schmitt showed optimism for what this year’s batch of receivers has the potential to do.

“I think we have the best depth we’ve had in a long time,” Schmitt said. “We have no go-to guy.”



RUSSELL MACIAS | STAFF WRITER
Duquesne Head Coach Jerry Schmitt and his players are escorted into Florida State's Doak Campbell Stadium by Florida state troopers prior to Saturday evening's season-opening contest.

After suffering an injury in the 2021 season-opening loss at TCU, quarterback Joe Mischler returned and would start Saturday’s contest against the Seminoles.

Come Saturday, Tallahassee was buzzing. By noon, a fan fest was set up and ready to go, and fans had started tailgating and counting down the hours until the scheduled 5 p.m. kickoff.

Amongst the sea of Florida State garnet and gold was some familiar blue and red. Set up on a great lawn close to where the Seminoles would walk past en route to entering the stadium was a group of Duquesne alumni, spearheaded by Craig Riner — a 1997 graduate.

The group, which consisted of roughly 35 to 40 people, consisted of alumni and friends with graduation years ranging from 1990 to 2003.

By 2:20 p.m., the Dukes had left their hotel and were on the way to the stadium.

The entire way, sirens blared. Those sirens, which came from state troopers who escorted Schmitt and his team from the Tallahassee International Airport to the team hotel a day earlier, were doing it again, this time from hotel to stadium.

Walking into the stadium, Schmitt was stone-faced, but he had something he’d wished for on Friday: to have a Florida state trooper on each side of him.

He said Friday that he wanted “to be escorted — the way they would escort Bobby Bowden (Florida State head coach from 1976 to 2009), two state troopers on either side, with the big hat.”

71 yards and a touchdown.

Duquesne’s offensive line, though severely outmatched by Florida State’s defensive line, held its own. The line was praised by Schmitt postgame.

“We did some good things. We got some good cracks for Billy Lucas and DeMarcus Ware to run [through],” Schmitt said. “Without watching the film, I’m glad they did a solid job creating opportunities.”

Lucas, a Second-Team All-NEC selection in 2021, rushed for 13 yards on seven carries. Ware, a transfer from Samford, ran for 30 yards on 11 gives (longest run was for 20 yards).

Jannah led all Duquesne receivers in receptions (three) and yards (44), while also scoring the Dukes’ lone touchdown. He also got praise from Schmitt postgame.

“[Jannah] did a really good job. He was one of the bright spots of the evening,” Schmitt said. “He scored. I was happy to see him get into the end zone.”

One thing that every coach hopes to avoid is injuries, but the Dukes were not able to do so in Saturday’s loss.

Hradency and Ezekiel M. Daure both left with injuries during the game’s first half.

“Zeke’s probably going to be okay, he probably has a hip pointer, one to two weeks probably,” Schmitt said. “Maxi had to be taken to the hospital emergency room for a hit to his head.”

Since then, both players have been listed on the team’s two-deep for their upcoming game against Youngstown State Saturday at 2 p.m.

Duquesne’s trip to Stambaugh Stadium on Saturday will mark the fourth all-time meeting between the Dukes and the Penguins.

Youngstown State has won each of the prior contests by an average margin of 27 points. The last head-to-head meeting came on Sept. 14, 2019, when the Penguins were victorious by a 34-14 score.

While this was a high-caliber opportunity against a marquee program, many games versus FBS-level teams await Duquesne in the coming weeks and years.

On Sept. 17, the Dukes will travel to Honolulu to take on Hawaii (Mountain West Conference), a team that they lost to in 2018.

Duquesne will play at West Virginia (Big 12 Conference) and at Coastal Carolina (Sun Belt Conference) during the 2023 campaign.

The Dukes will also travel to Toledo (Mid-American Conference) in 2024 and Air Force (Mountain West) in 2026.



COURTESY OF CHRIS LEDUC | TALL TIMBER PHOTOGRAPHY

Duquesne defensive back Ryan Webb celebrates during the team’s game against Florida State at Doak Campbell Stadium in Tallahassee, Fla., on Saturday. Webb had a 50-yard interception return in the game. The Edgewood, Md., native was limited to just two games during the 2021 campaign.

The game’s start was delayed until 6:30 p.m. due to inclement weather in the area.

When asked about that setback postgame, Schmitt said that it wasn’t a factor.

“We were ready. We were prepared,” Schmitt said. “We just walked into a really good football team.”

Duquesne won the game’s coin toss, and deferred. Florida State started with the ball and immediately ran with high tempo, employing a no-huddle offense early on.

Less than five minutes into the game, the Seminoles were on the board thanks to a five-yard touchdown run from quarterback Jordan Travis.

By the end of the opening quarter, the Dukes found themselves in a 20-0 hole. By halftime, it was 26-0, and the game was all but out of reach.

The key catalyst for Florida State’s offensive success came from the backfield. Three running backs (Treshaun Ward, Trey Benson and Lawrance Toafili) each rushed for over 100 yards, and all six of Florida State’s touchdowns came on the ground.

Perhaps the most notable play for the Dukes came late in the third quarter, when defensive back Ryan Webb intercepted a pass from Florida State’s Tate Rodemaker and returned it 50 yards.

“Ryan Webb is a really good player for us,” Schmitt said. “He battled big receivers at TCU [in 2021] ... I was very impressed then, and he’s picked up where he left off [after going down to injury].”

Just two plays later, Mischler connected with Jannah for a 22-yard touchdown, Duquesne’s only score on the evening.

In his first game in almost a year, Mischler completed seven of his 17 pass attempts for



RUSSELL MACIAS | STAFF WRITER

The scoreboard at Doak Campbell Stadium reads “Noles Win!” following Florida State’s 47-7 victory over Duquesne in Saturday’s season opener.

VegFest offers plant-based food for all

EMILY FRITZ
staff writer

This past Saturday, tents lined Allegheny Commons Park in North Side for Pittsburgh's eighth-annual VegFest, inviting passersby to see for themselves what there was to offer, regardless of dietary commitments. As two-time consecutive winner of Pittsburgh's Best Food Festival, VegFest shared the talents of the local small businesses, culinary innovators, non-profit organizations and musicians alike.

The inviting atmosphere and desire to share invaluable knowledge about sustainability, animal welfare and a plant-based lifestyle outweighed the skepticism of any meat lovers who felt hesitant to join in the festivities. According to Pittsburgh VegFest, "Most of the thousands of people at [the festival] are not vegan or vegetarian. We have nearly 8,000 attendees a year."

Many small business vendors came to VegFest to promote locally made, all-natural, 100% organic or vegan products. There was something for everyone, from Soapy Solutions to The East End Food Coop to Earth Kandy Nail Polish.

Attendees looking to further their sustainability or animal welfare journey on an individual level found food-focused organizations to be especially helpful. Dylan Nagy from Vegan Pittsburgh said, "A lot of plant-based food options tend to be more environmentally friendly than alternatives."

According to Nagy, Vegan Pittsburgh is a non-profit whose mission is to help "people who are looking for vegan options find vegan-friendly businesses in Pittsburgh." To participate with Vegan Pittsburgh, restaurants and businesses must have two clearly labeled vegan options on their menu year-round.

The list of food vendors was extensive, including, but not limited to, Veggies N'At, Everest Eats, Botanical Vegan Café and Franktuary. Everest Eats featured a tuna melon poke bowl, which gave a vegan twist to a traditionally pescatarian dish by utilizing watermelon as a plant-based fish alternative.

For more vegan options in your area, go to www.veganpittsburgh.org.

Among newcomer vendors was Louis Mennel, founder of Carbon Compost. Mennel, a lifelong vegetarian himself, shared that his attendance was not for-profit as he engaged with visitors about the importance and benefits of composting.

"Outside of creating awesome soil, [compost] has a substantial environmental impact by reducing methane generated at landfills," Mennel said.

Mennel's goal, like many others, was to approach VegFest as a networking opportunity, as well as a platform to educate.

"A lot of people don't know that there is a problem with waste going to landfills," Mennel said.

As he distributed free compost samples to visitors, he said that "composting can work on the institutional level with schools such as Carnegie Mellon Univer-

sity and the University of Pittsburgh [by] offering organic waste management services through commercial composting firms such as AgRecycle." According to Mennel, this company works with large institutions to reduce waste and effectively reshape the carbon footprint in the area.

Mennel said he encourages Duquesne students to advocate for similar processes to take place in the Bluff.

"Get people thinking [about] 'what is composting' and start the conversation," Mennel said.

Mennel's services can be found on his website, www.carbonpostpgh.com.

VegFest wouldn't be complete without their numerous non-profit animal advocacy groups. The Proper Pit Bull, Pigsburgh Squealers Rescue and Kindred Spirits Rescue Ranch were among those in attendance who invited people to interact with their respective animal companions.

Nicole Garritano of The Proper Pit Bull works to reduce stigma against pit bulls. She said it is important to "support adoption over purchasing a dog because of the number of dogs, especially pit bull-type dogs, in the shelter system."

Garritano said she warns others of for-profit, "backyard breeders," who implement improper or unsafe care for their canines by "not [breeding for] proper temperament."

The Proper Pit Bull lacks a brick-and-mortar location, but for students looking to get involved, many volunteer oppor-

tunities take the form of tabling at events, coordinating events, outreach and shelter visits, according to their website, www.theproperpitbull.org.

Pittsburgh VegFest reaffirmed their mission in sharing the festival with locals. "We hope that



EMILY FRITZ | STAFF WRITER
Pigsburgh Squealers Rescue gives love and attention to their animals.

coming to VegFest [enables] folks ... to make the connection between the animals they share their home with and the ones on their plate."

To learn more about Pittsburgh VegFest and future events, follow @PittsburghVegFest on Instagram or sign up for their newsletter at www.pittsburghvegfest.org.

CAMPUS
EVENTS

- Swing Lesson
Sept. 1 @ 9 p.m.
Duquesne University Ballroom Association welcomes students with a beginner lesson to swing! Located in the Power Center Fitness Studio.
- Edible Cookie Dough!
Sept. 1 @ 9 p.m.
Go to the Student Union for free cookie dough! Supplies limited.
- Food Truck Fridays!
Sept. 2 @ 11 a.m.
Go to A-Walk for a variety of food from local companies!
- DU Nite:
Pittsburgh Craft Night
Sept. 2 @ 9 p.m.
Head to Room 119 of the Student Union for canvases, food and more! Supplies limited.
- Paint 'n' Sip
Sept. 3 @ 9 p.m.
Go to Towers MPR for buffalo chicken dip and mocktails!

CAPRI'S
KIND WORDS

It's Only Just Begun!

The weird thing about change is that it moves swiftly, yet slowly, in the most unexpected ways.

I've never understood the passage of time, and yet I count on every sunrise and full moon to symbolize the weight I've carried and the growing pains I've felt to show me new chapters, new faces and new memories to be made.

It's wonderful to think that in a single semester, your life can create new stories that you'll recall for years to come. Remember, of course, it's only just begun.

There's assignments to do, there's clubs to join, there's coffee with new classmates and nights in with new roommates that you have plenty of time for — and deserve the time to enjoy. If you think you're missing out, or think you need a break — don't worry! It's only just begun.

Change is okay. Change can feel like heartache sometimes, even when it's good. And if not? Don't worry, it's only just begun.

— Capri Scarcelli

MORE PICTURES FROM VEGFEST



EMILY FRITZ | STAFF WRITER
Pittsburgh VegFest was accompanied by a live band, live animals and a wonderful selection of vegan-friendly and vegetarian-friendly food.



EMILY FRITZ | STAFF WRITER
Everest Eats provides Tuna Melon Poke for a sweet twist on a classic dish. For unique recipes, visit www.veganpittsburgh.org.

Aquarius Is everyone a twin here?	Pisces President of the Big Laughter Club.	Aries Left-handed people are not demons! We are actually witches.	Taurus The Gateway Clipper is hiring "swag assistants." Care to apply?
Gemini I MISS MY DOG!	Cancer That is not a valid ticket. That is a parking pass.	Leo Walk walk fashion baby!	Virgo I lost something once. I lost something I couldn't live without.
Libra Headline: Yung Gravy applies to Pitt.	Scorpio Funny points!	Sagittarius Hi Taylor Swift <3	Capricorn Dye your hair green.

Shadyside Arts Festival supports small business

CAPRI SCARCELLI
a&e editor

Annually showcasing an array of craftsmanship, creativity and beauty, “Shadyside... The Art Festival” got to celebrate 25 years of strolling through the outdoor galleries of Walnut Street — all in support of small businesses.

Local and out-of-town artists alike lined the street in their respective tents last weekend, Aug. 27-28 from

and lotions from her grandma’s collection since she was young, Bene was set on making a makeup company that “formulat[ed] ingredients that are good for the skin.”

“When I found out I had a whole bunch of food allergies, and I couldn’t find a company that had both healthy ingredients and allergen-free, I created my products to help other people and share the love of Jesus,” Bene said.

According to Bene, Carina Dolci, which means “pretty, nice, kind sweets

a selection of Harry Potter-themed lotions as well, asking each customer what Hogwarts House they were in.

This was Bene’s first time at Shadyside’s Art Festival, as she usually can be found in Rocky River, Ohio or in pop-up festivals in Florida. Since her sister is a 2003 Duquesne University alumna, she felt inspired to set up shop at a Pittsburgh festival for a “fun sort of nostalgia.”

Bene’s all-natural self-care spa can be found on www.carinadolci.com, or @carinadolci.

With an egg-celent depiction of cross-contextualized art and surrealism, Claudia Rivera, creator of Art by Loca Lola, features a painting series called “The Egghead Series” that aims to make each faceless image relatable to all audiences.

“Whether it be a wedding, or food [imagery], or a particular time period, anything that makes you feel a certain way and you can relate to it because there’s no face on them,” Rivera said. “And this is definitely a growing, popular series of mine at every event I’ve taken them to.”

A proclaimed eclectic artist, Rivera said she is most inspired by pop culture and the natural world. Typically gravitating toward acrylic paint, Rivera said that this form of art is easy to manipulate to bring about the vividness she strives for in her art. “That’s my madness to it,” she laughed.

Another growing series of hers is the “Octopus Series” which conveys plastic pollution and ocean conservation support. Rivera said she does this to speak out on these issues and depict them in her art.



CAPRI SCARCELLI | A&E EDITOR

Art by Local Lola takes stunning time period pieces to a faceless state.

As a New Jersey-based artist, this was Rivera’s first time in Pittsburgh, and she was thankful to share her art to new faces.

Rivera’s work can be viewed and purchased @artbylocalola.

Ryan Curran, a carpenter and artist who works with stained glass, wood-work, copper and more, combines his love for art and music in honor of his parents.

“My father is a musician and my mother is an artist, so the combination of the two I kind of grew up in both worlds, and that is how I express it in my own artwork,” Curran said. “I do try to have something for everyone though and do my work in different themes, but my main theme is music in art.”

Evolving throughout the years, Curran said his first musical piece was created from the stained-glass piano keys.

Throughout the years, he began to make these models larger and larger, adding in different materials to make it more elaborate than before.

“It’s always changing, and that’s what I like about the work that I do. It keeps evolving and it keeps it interesting,” Curran said. “My favorite thing I’ve done recently is [incorporate] copper. It’s got good energy to it, it brings good energy to the art work and it was the finishing touch that really made a difference.”

Curran said he was “happy to be there,” arriving in Pittsburgh twice a year in the spring and fall to showcase his work.

Interested buyers can scroll through his creations on his social media, @ryancurranart.

For a complete list of vendors and their art, go to www.artfestival.com/shadyside.



CAPRI SCARCELLI | A&E EDITOR

Carina Dolci provides a wide variety of all-natural self-care products.

10 a.m. to 5 p.m., to share what they’ve created. From natural sugar scrubs to homemade jewelry to portraits of Venice, there was something for everyone, as passersby could window shop grand oil paintings or buy small prints to show their support.

Catherine Bene from Carina Dolci Cosmetics & Apothecary always wanted to be an artist. Trying out lipsticks

in Italian,” formulates “everything on the science and pH of skin.” Her products are gluten-free and grain-free with no dairy or soy.

Neatly color-coded and labeled were rows of lip balms, moisturizers, hand creams and perfumes, which corresponded ingredients with their symbolic meanings; such as lavender for calm or citrus for energy. Bene had

VMAs showcase big surprises for music fans

MIA LUBRANI
staff writer

From songs, performances, outfits and awards to endless drama, the MTV Video Music Awards (VMA) always seem to exceed expectations. The VMAs happen every year to celebrate the top songs and upcoming artists; this year, the VMAs shocked fans once again on its 41st anniversary on Sunday.

Endless talents were showcased Sunday as Taylor Swift made a new music announcement, Nicki Minaj won Video Vanguard, Johnny Depp made a surprise appearance and Yung Gravy kissed Addison Rae’s mom.

Taylor took the win as she gave a beautiful performance of “Lover” and won the award for Video of the Year with her “All Too Well (10-Minute Version) (Taylor’s Version) Short Film.” Swift also announced in her acceptance speech that her new album, “Midnight,” comes out Oct. 21.

To provide some background to the Taylor Swift excitement, it has been 13 years since her interruption by Kanye West at the 2009 VMAs, where West told the audience that



COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS

In 2009, Taylor Swift was interrupted on stage at the VMAs. Now, she announces her 10th studio album.

Beyonce deserved the award over her. Recently, Taylor has been releasing “Easter eggs,” which hint to the re-releases of her previous albums. Her silver outfit hinted at an outfit from her “Reputation” album “Look What You Made Me Do” music video.

Most skeptics thought that her new album would be a re-recording of one of her most iconic albums,

“Reputation.” Many thought that because of the 13 year anniversary of her interruption on stage, Swift would be releasing “Reputation,” which featured the 2016 drama with previously married Kim Kardashian and Kanye West.

Instead of the assumed album, Taylor announced that a completely new album, “Midnight,” would be released this October. Taylor and her team most likely provided false hints to keep fans on their toes and further feed the rhetoric that Taylor is always one step ahead of her fans. No one knows what “Midnight” will focus on or if “Reputation” is still a futuristic goal, but it can be assumed all Swifties will be more than happy to accept both albums and more.

Taylor Swift was not the only surprise as Nicki Minaj warmed hearts and captivated fans. Minaj performed “Super Freaky Girl,” “Anaconda,” “Monster” and other favorites. She also accepted her Video Vanguard award with a long, emotional, funny and spontaneous speech.

Fergie also surprised fans for the first time in years as she performed “First Class” and “Glamorous” alongside Jack Harlow. Her classics were

able to get everyone on their feet to sing along. Jack Harlow also won Best Collaboration with Lil Nas X. Their acceptance speech pointed attention toward Lil Nas X, as Harlow highlighted his major creative skills.

Red Hot Chili Peppers offered a unique performance once again as they took to the stage with their guitars. They sang one of their hit songs, “Can’t Stop,” and a newer song, “Black Summer.” Their speech was heartwarming and unexpected, as pink-haired bassist Flea got the microphone to spread the love.

Flea’s Best Rock Award acceptance speech goes as follows:

“To my bandmates: I love you so much. To my wife, Melody, I love you. To my children, Sonny and Clara, I love you. To everyone of you out there watching on TV in here, I love you. I love cockroaches and dirt and trees and every human being and fish. And deer and deer antlers and birds and sky and love. And everything that isn’t love is cowardice. I love you. Thank you so much for your support.”

Bad Bunny amazed everyone as he performed remotely from Yankee Stadium. He incited major Twitter discussions when he kissed male and female dancers as he sang his hit

song, “Tití Me Pregunto.”

Also interesting to note is that Sheri Easterling, Addison Rae’s mom, was Yung Gravy’s date. Yung Gravy is known for liking older women and is often joked about on TikTok. Sheri and Yung Gravy also shared a few kisses and intimate moments during the award show.

Some of the disappointing performances are equally important to note.

Fans were disappointed when Snoop Dogg and Eminem performed “From the D 2 the LBC” as Bored Ape Yacht Club NFTs. The song was played as a music video for the audience rather than the typical live performance. Their cartoon apes rapped inside a large pinball machine and spider web until the rappers “woke up” on stage and finished the song.

Lastly, Johnny Depp made an appearance in hologram form. As a life size signature VMA astronaut trophy, Johnny Depp’s hologram was portrayed in the face of the helmet. He popped in to crack a few jokes after some commercial breaks.

Depp said he made an appearance because he “needed the money,” but some surmise that it is his comical ease back into the spotlight.

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PETER BOETTGER | STAFF COMIC ARTIST

The cost of education is more than just money

It was one of those miserably hot days in Hemland, Afghanistan, as my unit was on a foot patrol. Our mission was to provide support to the Afghan Army by integrating within their squad and establishing a presence in our area of operation. It was a pretty standard mission, one we had done many times before.

It was business as usual, until I heard a sound every marine loathes.

An explosion erupted about 70 yards away. Someone in the front of formation had stepped on a pressure plate that set off an Improvised Explosive Device (IED). From there, chaos ensued.

Your mind goes to really strange places when someone tries to kill you. There's an unequal marriage of confusion, anger and fear that depends on the immediate severity of the conditions. It gives your anxiety, anxiety. Your vision gets narrow, your breathing speeds up and your heart starts beating in your temples.

Fortunately for us, the IED was neither potent nor crafted well. There was not an ambush, follow up IEDS or, thankfully, any casualties.

However, a fellow marine and friend of mine had received multiple pieces of shrapnel that pierced the right side of his body; he had wounds in his extremities and parts of his face.

We held a protective perimeter around the wounded marine as we waited for a medical extraction. As we waited, my buddy did what every marine innately does when facing a traumatic experience: They use dark humor to cope.

I'll never forget what he said as we waited for the Osprey to fly him to safety. His tone inflected in a way to truly express his sarcastic, but very real, disdain for the situation.

“Hey, at least I'm getting my college paid for,” he said.

There is often truth said in jest, and it begs the question — is this the cost of a college education? Going to a foreign country and possibly facing unbelievable harm in order to have a chance to participate in higher education?

The price of education has risen so steeply that it is becoming nearly off limits for a section of the population. As the deterioration of the

education system becomes more apparent, we are starting to see the residual effects. We live in a time where people believe that the world is flat, that vaccines are government tracking devices and that a former dead senator is leading a behind-the-scenes revolution against evil actors in our government.

Student debt is crippling a generation. Those who do not have the initial means to pay for education will find themselves burdened with an astronomical amount of debt. The process in which a person can obtain financial aid is pur-



ZACH PETROFF
opinions editor

posely complex.

After the military and before I went back to school, I worked at a car dealership. If an 18-year-old, who had no real work or credit history, walked into my office and asked for a vehicle loan, they would have been laughed out of the building. There was no way a bank would take on that type of risk. It would be fiscally irresponsible.

Yet these student loan companies have no problem dishing out loads of cash to this vulnerable and unknowing demographic. They do not carry any real risk when it comes to giving loans because student loans are with you until you die. They are virtually impossible to declare in bankruptcy.

Once you sign for those loans, no matter the outcome or the circumstances, those loans stay with

you forever.

We are making higher education unattainable and thus creating an anti-intellectualism narrative that is plaguing this country. While there has always been an ostentatious perception when it comes to those with degrees, this divide is driving a force further separating Americans from one another.

Adding almost prohibitive limitations through cost is going to cause irreversible damage down the road. There is nothing wrong with not going to college, as there are plenty of trade schools where you can make a comfortable living and incur little to no debt. However, by limiting certain professions or avenues of profession to only those whose parents can afford it, we're depriving our society of the country's truly most gifted, while decreasing the quality by lessening the diversity of those in said field.

We are becoming dangerously close to having a society whose education and expertise comes from Netflix documentaries and YouTube videos.

I know the main question of those that oppose lessening the burden of their fellow Americans from the predatory cost of higher education and student loans is: Who is going to pay for it?

In 2008, when major financial institutions crashed the housing market due to their own recklessness and unethical behavior, they were able to get, essentially, a blank check from Congress.

When the airlines went bankrupt, Congress gave them a blank check, then the airlines went bankrupt again — yet they were given another blank check.

Or how about the robust defense budget that accounts for over half of our entire budget? They can't even win a war.

How about we take money from the defense budget and instead of investing it in killing people across the globe, we invest in our own people?

Education should be available for everyone.

We, as a society, need to really evaluate our priorities before our country ends up in a place worse than it is now.

STAFF
EDITORIAL

Where to draw the line in high school sports

High school sports should be a safe, accessible space for all students — no matter a person's gender, sexuality, race, religion, disability or ethnic background.

Utah High School Activities Association (UHSAA), however, must beg to differ: after Utah parents accused a cisgender female student of being transgender, UHSAA launched a private investigation to track the gender of this athlete — without her or her family's permission. The accusation itself? “That female athlete doesn't look feminine enough.”

DeseretNews reported that the undisclosed school, “opened [the] girl's enrollment records dating back to kindergarten to confirm she was female.”

This particular set of parents, according to legislative representative David Spatafore, asked UHSAA to investigate their daughter's rival because she “out-classed” her competitors in a statewide event.

If jealous parents/guardians can lie about a rival students' gender — or out them as transgender in front of a whole community in order for their own child to score higher — where is the line drawn for students who are female at birth but masculine-presenting? Or transgender women who have the same physique as their cisgender teammates?

What we see here is a witch hunt for non-feminine presenting athletes, whether cisgender or transgender. This furthers the harmful beauty standards we've set for women for generations to come, on top of the transphobia that keeps talented students from pursuing their hobbies.

In 1972, as part of Title IX's Education Amendments to the Civil Rights Act, women were finally allowed to participate in high school-level sports teams. In 2022, there is still a debate on what “counts” as female.

According to the Utah State Legislature bill, H.B. 11 Student Eligibility In Interscholastic Activities, only assigned-at-birth females can participate in girls' sports, as of March 2022. After being vetoed and then again overridden, Judge Keith Kelly has decided, as of Aug. 19, to postpone any bans on trans youth participating in sports.

The whole point of having students compete in high school sports is to give them a sense of belonging. No student should have to worry about what they look like to others, and whether their looks will affect scores or chances of earning respect in a scholastic setting.

No adolescent should have to publicly announce their gender in order to compete in what they love. Moreover, no adolescent should have strangers poking through their legal documents, either.

What is truly baffling about this case is the lack of privacy in the American education system. Each coming year, students line up to turn in their physicals, their emergency contact sheets and other various documents of personal information. What if this search doesn't stop at enrollment records?

What if angry parents find students' addresses or medical information?

Equality in sports, though safe for now, can soon become an unsafe environment for students simply trying to enjoy their high school years.

No harm in offering Bryce James a scholarship

BRENTARO YAMANE

layout/multimedia editor

In the past five months, Duquesne's athletic programs have been receiving more national publicity and are finding their way onto the map.

With Duquesne hosting 2022 NCAA Division Men's Basketball Tournament games at PPG Paints Arena in March, announcing in April it will add three new varsity sports by fall 2024 and playing a nationally televised football game against Florida State last weekend, there is optimism that the school's athletic programs are becoming more well-known nationwide.

And just when people thought they would stop hearing about Duquesne athletics, the men's basketball staff did something that no other institution has done: They offered a scholarship to 15-year-old Bryce James, the son of NBA superstar LeBron James.

Duquesne's men's basketball Head Coach Keith Dambrot coached LeBron for two years at St. Vincent-St. Mary High School in LeBron's hometown of Akron, Ohio.

Bryce's offer came nearly four months after Duquesne hired Dru Joyce III, a high school teammate of LeBron's, to join the staff as the associate head coach. Even though Bryce played as a freshman on the junior varsity team last year at Sierra Cannon High School in California.



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

LeBron James guards Kobe Bryant during a 2016 game between the Cleveland Cavaliers and Los Angeles Lakers. LeBron's son, Bryce, was recently offered a scholarship to play basketball at Duquesne, although he's just 15 years old.

Some people might think that Duquesne offering Bryce is a marketing tactic, and whether it is or not, it is genius. Media outlets are talking about Duquesne because the men's basketball staff took a chance and became the first school to offer a scholarship to Bryce, even though it's likely that he'll receive an abundance of offers from higher-level programs.

A lot of people might think that Bryce won't attend college because LeBron jumped straight to the National Basketball Association (NBA) in 2003. When it comes to players wanting to play in the

NBA, they have to wait until they are 19 years old, or they have to play at least one year of college basketball.

However, it remains unknown what LeBron wants for his son and what Bryce wants for himself. There is no harm for someone to want to further his or her education, and maybe college will afford him opportunities that jumping straight to the NBA wouldn't.

Before Bryce is eligible for the NBA, maybe he'll consider joining Duquesne to increase his own draft stock, while also helping his dad's old head coach achieve success.

Something to note about

Bryce's offer from Duquesne is that the staff offered him before offering Bronny James, LeBron's oldest son. Bronny is entering his senior year of high school and has consistently shown that he can play at a high level on varsity and AAU teams. Bronny has not announced anything regarding potential scholarship offers.

Wouldn't it have made more sense for Duquesne to offer Bronny before Bryce? Maybe there's something that the men's basketball staff knows that other people don't when it comes to Bronny's post-high school graduation plans.

If no other schools of-

fer Bryce, people might start to think it was just a way for Duquesne to market itself, knowing that he will not actually go to college. But if other colleges offer him, then it might become more possible that Bryce is considering college.

Some people might think it was unnecessary to offer Bryce because he is young and hasn't played at the varsity level yet, but it was simply normal what Duquesne did. A lot of schools offer athletes at a young age.

This isn't the first time that a Duquesne athletic team has offered someone at a very young age. Back in February 2020, the women's basketball team offered Karis Thomas, a Washington, Penn., native. At the time of the offer, she was only in sixth grade. This school year, she will be a freshman in high school. In February 2015, the team also offered Mackenzie Amalia, who currently plays at Robert Morris. At the time of the offer, she was in seventh grade and enrolled at Blackhawk School District.

Bryce getting the offer puts Duquesne on the map when it comes to recruiting and increased publicity, and there's really no harm. If he doesn't attend the school, Dambrot looks elsewhere.

If he does choose to come to Duquesne, then Dambrot will have recruited a promising talent that has the potential to take the program to heights it hasn't seen in a long time.

The decision is still a ways away.

How far does Trump's executive privilege extend?

MIA LUBRANI

staff writer

It is no secret that just about everyone is tired of hearing about former President Trump and the drama surrounding him. Even though he has been out of office for two years, he is still commanding the headlines. The Trump "drama" has been an ongoing issue since the Jan. 6, 2021, riots.

This newest continuation of relevance is due to the fact that a violation of national security may have occurred. This should be dealt with in the fastest manner possible.

During most of his presidency, people debated over impeachments and morality. The United States government finally had enough to make a case against Trump after the riots and even more after the recent Mar-A-Lago incident.

On Jan. 6, 2021, there was an attack on the U.S. Capitol. A mob of Trump's supporters decided to violently break into the Capitol building in order to impact the certification of electoral votes from the 2020



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

After both the Capitol riots on Jan. 6, 2021, and the recent raid of former President Trump's Mar-A-Lago home, questions of executive privilege are at the forefront.

presidential election.

Earlier that day, Trump also declared election fraud and called upon Vice President Mike Pence to further delay the certification process.

Some argue that this is a random occurrence of a group of people attempting to protect elections.

Trump is under severe criticism for inciting his followers to unite

and take over a government building. Before the rally in Washington turned into a riot, Trump told his followers, "We're going to walk down to the Capitol" and that "if you don't fight like hell, you're not going to have a country anymore."

Contempt of Congress is the act of obstructing the work of the United States Congress or their committees. I believe that Trump displayed

contempt for his government by trying to undermine the authority of the United States and the right to a free and fair election.

During that January, Trump also transferred at least 15 boxes of top-secret files that included sensitive and compartmentalized information and special access programs to Mar-A-Lago. Some of these programs or cases are matters of national security that have been ongoing for decades. The former president did not return the boxes.

His legal team told the National Archives and Records Association (NARA) to wait until the documents had been determined "subject to privilege" and let the former president decide if he wanted to claim "a protective assertion of executive privilege made by counsel for the former president." The documents were secured a month later when the boxes were finally transferred back in January 2022.

Since then, it has been debated if Trump has the privilege to still assert these claims, especially without the support of the

current president.

Executive privilege has been a central part of the discussion when it comes to Trump's actions. According to the Cornell Law School, executive privilege is defined as "the power of the president and other officials in the executive branch to withhold certain forms of confidential communication from the courts and the legislative branch." Presidents often invoke this privilege because it would be in the best interest of the public to not speak about confidential information.

Precedent from a former president helps decide what is best for the citizen before enacting such privilege. There is a general consensus that many Americans want to see justice for the riots, consequences for election interference and a basic respect restored to the nation.

As a country that values honesty and equality, we can only hope the former president faces some consequences for inciting a riot and prolonging governmental affairs.

No man is above the law.

Taste-testing Duquesne's newest restaurant

ISABELLA ABBOTT
features editor

Newly located on Duquesne's campus, Moonlit Burgers, a trendy burger joint, has been a smashing success since opening its doors on Aug. 22. I was lucky enough

ner burger.

And boy, did I find out why it was so famous. As I walked through the big glass doors and past a clean white motorcycle, I was greeted by the vibrant array of colors lining the walls showing that the modern aspect of the restaurant was absolutely up-



BRENTARO YAMANE | LAYOUT/MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Moonlit Burgers is open 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and is closed on Sunday. Happy hour (for those 21 years or older) runs 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday.

to see why students are flocking there for delicious meals, paired with quick service on Monday.

With a quick trip down to Forbes Avenue, the bright-neon signs in the windows are can't-miss, and they entice and invite students, like myself, to try their famous "smashburger." The popular burger gets its name from a process in which the patty is smashed on the grill, producing a thin-

to-date. Workers and students alike can agree with this.

Server Aubreauna Scott, who's been with the company for about three months, said customers can see the trendy vibe of the restaurant right when they walk through the doors.

"It's very lighthearted, very modern," Scott said. "Whenever you come, and you look at it, you know exactly what you're

going to get into."

Taking in the view before I ordered, I turned to my left to see the one wall filled with multicolor cafeteria trays, which added to the restaurant's warmth. The other surrounding walls displayed painted lines of color.

When it was my turn to order, the many burger and snack options stared back at me as I struggled to pick from an overwhelmingly intriguing menu. But when I asked for a recommendation, I was drawn to the bacon double cheeseburger and an order of their "shoestring fries."

While the burger doesn't usually come with their "moon sauce," to get the whole experience, I knew I had to try it. So, my double burger came smashed, with iceberg lettuce, tomato, sweet onion and garlic Dijonnaise (mix of Dijon mustard and mayonnaise) on a Martin's potato roll.

After just a few short minutes of waiting, my burger and basket of fries came hot and ready to my booth, filled with toppings galore. With each bite, I could taste every flavor, and the crunchy smashed patty brought it all together, making it a burger heaven. It was the best-tasting burger I've had on campus.

Other students praised the flavorful food, especially sophomore Sarah Zadrozny, who says she'll be coming back for future dinners.

"I came last weekend with my sister to try it out, and we both thought it was really good," Zadrozny said.

If students aren't inclined to try a burger, the menu has many different food options to choose from, like their seven-bean salad, which Scott named as her absolute favorite dish on the menu.

"My favorite, definitely the seven-bean

salad, and I'm a picky eater," Scott said. "It's very sweet ... nothing crazy."

When asked about another great meal for anyone who may not want a burger, Scott said their chicken sandwich, called the "moon bird," has been a staple meal for students so far.

"Like I said, I'm a picky eater, but [students] seem to eat it up, they love it," Scott said.

Other menu items include their "smash fries," which contain a double patty, onion, cheese sauce, "moon sauce" and pickled jalapeños. All of these toppings are mixed with their "shoestring fries" and are delivered in a basket.

Moonlit's portions aren't too overwhelming either. Even a double burger is a good meal for anyone. If the two patties seem like too much, Scott said it's the perfect amount of food.

"It takes people off guard because it's a double ... but it's not as bad as people think," Scott said. "It's not that filling because the patties are so flat and smooshed down."

After they're finished with lunch or dinner, students can stop by the ice cream station in the back and order a tasty cold milkshake or soft serve from Millie's Homemade Ice Cream, which is exactly what Lori Gatz, a fourth-year pharmacy student, had in mind.

"I got the cookie monster ice cream sandwich," Gatz said. "It was good. It wasn't what I expected, but it was good, still."

Moonlit Burgers staff members are thrilled to have more customers and are waiting for them to start flooding in. They want to show customers what they, as workers, get to experience every time they come into work.

"It's all light," Scott said. "Everybody's a little community."

On Your Nerves celebrates first album release

LUKE HENNE
editor-in-chief

"I have friends, but the guys in the band are different. They're my best friends," Chase Andrykovitch said. "After working together in this kind of unit, it's a much closer bond."

Andrykovitch, a commuter student studying supply chain management at Duquesne, and four friends make up On Your Nerves, a pop-punk band that released its first album, "Brace for the Best," last month.

The band consists of Andrykovitch, fellow Duquesne student Seth Toops (lead guitar), Kevin Turcovsky (rhythm guitar/backup vocalist), Roman Backus (bass) and Evan Blenko (drummer).

Toops said that the process for choosing the band name was not an easy one.

"We were in between a lot of names. We wanted to think of one that stuck," Toops said. "We had a couple ideas that were too embarrassing to even mention because it was so bad."

He said that they eventually decided upon On Your Nerves because they were "the annoying kids in high school" that were "playing shows and having people jump around and crowdsurf at dive bars."

However, the album name is easily understood.

"We knew this was our first cohesive project, at least that was well-recorded and at a professional standard," Toops said. "We wanted to signify that this was our first thing with a phrase. The [name] 'Brace for the Best' kind of

comes from [the fact that] there's more to come. Just stick around and you'll see."

Andrykovitch said that while Backus and Blenko were added to the band more recently, Toops, Turcovsky and himself got the idea off the ground.

"We [Turcovsky and Andrykovitch] have been friends since first grade. We're also friends with Seth from high school [Norwin], just kind of high school friends," Andrykovitch said. "It was kind of a no-brainer to start a band together because we all liked the same music and all had the interest and the skill."

Andrykovitch attributed a lot of the success to his experience with Safety Last, a band he was in before On Your Nerves.

"That band was super important for me, just to learn how to run a band," Andrykovitch said. "Because of the stuff I learned, as far as booking shows through agents and little things like making set lists, running all our equipment, all our sound, through that I kind of learned how to manage everybody's time. It gave us a huge head start."

Toops said that the process all got started in the basement of Andrykovitch's home in North Huntingdon in 2019, and that Andrykovitch carried some unfinished songs from his previous band into the newly formed group.

"As friends, we were just like, 'Let's see if we can jam. Let's see if we can turn [Caleb's unfinished songs] into something else,'" Toops said.

Andrykovitch said that the band's earliest writing came during the "lockdown lockdown of Covid," when that was just about all the band could do.

"We kind of were just writing these songs

with no idea of what would actually come out of them," Andrykovitch said. "We didn't know how we'd release them, whether it be an EP (extended play) or an album or whatever."

That is, until they met Zac Eisenstein, a member of Man Overboard, a pop-punk band.

"We just wanted him to listen to [what they had produced so far] because we were big fans of his music, and he was like, 'Let's make an album.' He loved the music," Andrykovitch said. "After that, we'd write a song, we'd record it ourselves, send it to [Zac] and he'd change up a few things structurally about it. From there, we'd go on to the next song until, eventually we had 10 songs."

After that, the band went to New Jersey to begin the song-recording process. While Andrykovitch credited Eisenstein for his help, he also gave special thanks to Len Carmichael, who owned Landmine Studios in Ewing, N.J. (where the band recorded).

"[Len] was super kind and let us stay in his empty house that his dad had lived in," Andrykovitch said. "It was huge for us because we weren't old enough to rent a hotel room out there."

Andrykovitch said that it was worth it, as the band has listeners in at least 58 countries and recently passed 1,000 monthly listeners on Spotify.

It was eight straight days, from early morning to late at night, just in the studio, recording these songs," Andrykovitch said.

Toops said it is easy to lose hope sometimes.

"Performing certainly has its highs and lows," Toops said. "We've had a pretty good following locally, but there's a good amount of shows

where we'll show up and the only other people there are the people in the band that's playing after us, or our parents when we were younger and needed a ride."

According to Andrykovitch, the album's message is all about fun.

"We just want to uplift people who listen to it. We just want them to get basic enjoyment out of it," Andrykovitch said. "The subject matter isn't super deep. It's pop music. It's kind of like something that you just hum in your head. It's not meant to be super pondered upon, and that's how we write."

While there is still time to grow, Toops is grateful for the opportunity they've had so far.

"There are nights where we have two people show up. There are nights where we have 200 people show up," Toops said. "It has its variations, but when it's good, it's an out-of-this-world experience. It's so much fun."



COURTESY OF CHASE ANDRYKOVITCH

The five members of On Your Nerves pose during a promotional shoot for their new album.

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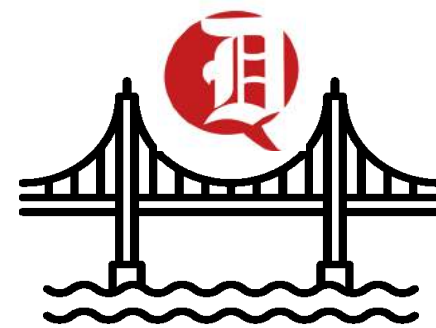
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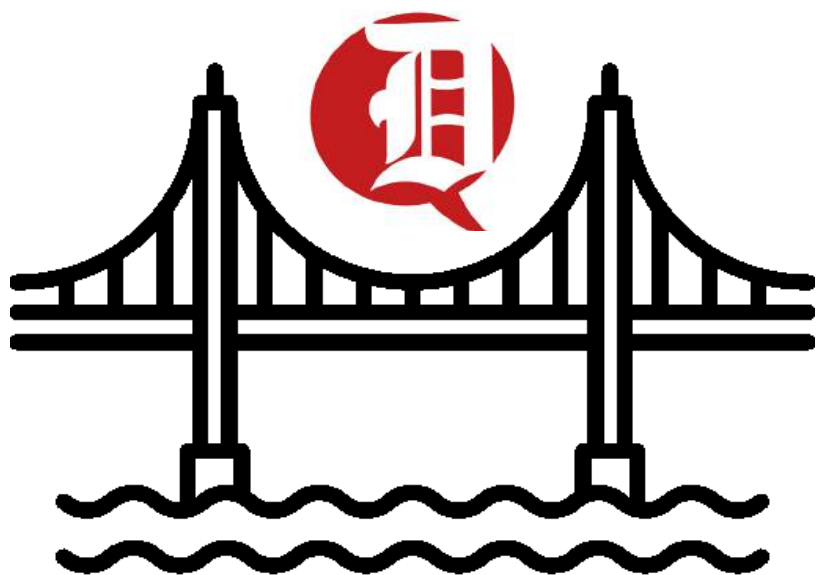
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