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Duquesne hosts voter registration event

LUKE HENNE
editor-in-chief

Duquesne University welcomed the League of Women Voters to campus on Monday, where they hosted a voter registration event at Gumberg Library, hoping to “share information, remove barriers and encourage voter participation for all eligible voters.”

Members of the league — an all-volunteer organization — stood outside and inside the library, assisting those who passed by and those who entered the building. They answered questions and helped those who were interested in filling out the necessary forms to get registered.

Devon George, an accounting and economics student at Duquesne, was happy to get registered in a state like Pennsylvania which has become a “swing state” in recent elections.

In a time where disinformation is prevalent in the political sphere, the organization hopes to provide a nonpartisan perspective that encourages individuals to think for themselves.

Judy Clack, vice president of voter services, has been in the league for nearly five decades, and it all started with something simple that blossomed into a larger cause.

“Forty-six years ago, I was interested in recycling, and I got involved in the League of Women Voters at that time,” Clack said. “Now, my major focus is voter service, where we do voter education, voter registration and candidate forums.”

Dallas DiLeo, a volunteer for the LVW’s voter service committee, said that she’s not happy with “all

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THE DUQUESNE DUKE

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Duquesne Disability Services trying to make campus more accessible



ALICIA DYE | NEWS EDITOR

The lift from the Locust Street entrance of College Hall sits in the basement of the building. There are no elevators on this level of College Hall, so students and faculty that are impacted must use this lift to get to the elevators, which can transport them throughout the upper levels of the building.

ALICIA DYE
news editor

Duquesne is a unique college campus. Located in the heart of Pittsburgh, one would expect students to have to walk through traffic to get to classes and possibly even take buses, but that isn’t the case. The university is built on a hill, giving it a unique feel of being away from the city, even though it is steps away. However, the hill and many other areas on campus cause issues for students with physical disabilities, but Duquesne Disability Services wants to help every student they can.

Director Tiana Brophy and Assistant Director Margaret Allen want to accommodate any challenges that students with disabilities may face on campus.

“Our heart is in this work,” Brophy said. “We strive to support their success. So many students need an extra layer of support, and we’re here to do that.”

“We want students to seek out our services if they need it,” Allen said. “We’re always here to help them, whether that be getting paperwork in place, discussing accommodations and anything else.”

Sophomore Nicolette Topping appreciates all that Disability Services

has done for her.

“I struggle getting around with my mobility aide, and they’ve helped me so much,” Topping said. “They’ve provided me with living accommodations, elevator privileges and so much more. I cannot thank them enough.”

Allen wants to make campus even more accessible to current and future students, even if it is a slow process.

“It’s really hard to hear that students are struggling because we want to be as accessible as possible,” Allen said. “It just takes time. We’re talking to admissions about more accessible tours for future students, getting better signage on doors, getting better fonts on signs.”

“We want to be more accessible all around. We’re working with so many other offices so we can make everything more accessible. We are ADA compliant, but that’s not always enough. We want to go beyond that.”

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was passed in 1990. The act prohibits discrimination based on disability, and requires covered employers to provide reasonable accommodations to employees with disabilities. It also imposes accessibility requirements on public accommodations, according to the ADA website. The act was also amend-

ed in 2008 by President George W. Bush, to broaden what was defined as a disability.

Disability Services knows that coming to college with a disability can be challenging and different from high school, but they want to make a smooth transition for students.

“In high school, they use a lot of accommodations to promote success. In college, we have a priority to promote access and to put things in place so it’s a level playing field,” Brophy said. “We want [having a] disability to not have to be a barrier to success, so by leveling the field, they can succeed.”

Senior Audriana Michrina has struggled getting around, but knows Disability Services is doing its best.

“Before I got my current wheelchair, my friends would have to push me up and down the hills around campus,” Michrina said. “Disability Services can’t control the hills, but they always made sure I was informed on my options, which I really appreciated.”

Brophy wants students to always feel welcomed, and wants them to be comfortable coming to them with disability issues.

“We have an intentional, collaborative process,” Brophy said.

“Everything is very individualized, making sure it’s equal for everyone.”

Michrina has worked with Disability Services throughout her entire time at Duquesne, and thinks they have been very helpful.

“They’ve helped me with getting housing accommodations when I lived on campus,” Michrina said. “They told me that I could ask DUPO for a ride to class.”

“They even helped me a lot once I moved off campus. They provided me with an accessible parking spot and made sure I could still get to my classes. Whenever I have an issue, I always express it to them, and they always try to fix it.”

Disability Services doesn’t just deal with physical disabilities. The office also helps people with psychological and learning disabilities.

“Students need to provide proper documentation, which is something we’re willing to help them with,” Allen said. “We want to work with them to make sure they get the reasonable accommodations they need, whether that be more testing time or extended deadline.”

Allen even wants to make the dorms on campus more accessible to students as well.

see **ACCESS** — page 2

POLICE BRIEFS

Sunday, Sept. 25-

Rumors of a student possibly having a firearm on campus. Resident Director conducted a room search and nothing was found. The student was off campus at time of report and no answer on phone call and no voice mail.

Monday, Sept. 26-

Officers were dispatched to Assumption Hall for a sick student.

Monday, Sept. 26-

DUPS officers responded to a fire alarm call at the Van Kaam Building. After investigating, it was determined to be a false alarm.

Tuesday, Sept. 27-

Criminal Mischief at construction site of Osteopathic illegible graffiti.

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

Interested in
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The Duke?



Visit the
newsroom at
our
OPEN HOUSE

on Sept. 28
at 8:30 p.m.
113 College Hall

Contact hennel@duq.edu for more
information!

see ACCESS — page 1

"Adding more accessible doors is a big priority for us," Allen said. "We test every door ourselves. We just need to be told about the issues so we can work on them."

Disability Services wants to work with other clubs and organizations with assisting and in-

forming on disabilities.

"We want organizations and clubs to reach out to provide insights. We can do inclusivity training and educate them more," Allen said. "We always want to do programming to educate more students so they know we are here to help."

"We want to make sure that everyone has everything they



ALICIA DYE | NEWS EDITOR

One of the two accessible entrances to College Hall, located on Locust Street. The other entrance is located on A-Walk. Many of the buildings on campus have at least two accessible entrances.

need. Educating people is a priority to us."

Working with Disability Services is a continuous, collaborative process, according to Brophy. Accommodations are different for every student.

Students who want to meet with Disability Services can find them in rooms 305 and 309 of the Union.

"Like I mentioned before, be-

ing ADA compliant is just the bare minimum," Allen said. "Sure all the door handles are compliant, but are the doors too heavy? Are all the bathrooms truly accessible? Are the classrooms as accessible as they can be?"

"We're here to help. Students just need to reach out, and we'll be here to talk and to help them with almost anything."



ALICIA DYE | NEWS EDITOR

Duquesne's Disability Services office is located in the third floor of the Union. The office wants students to "seek out [their] services if they need it, whether that's in the form of getting paperwork or discussing relevant accommodations."

FASA begins another year of serving campus

MAX MARCELLO

staff writer

In the spring of 2019, student Sam Espiritu founded the Filipino Student Organization, which would later become the Duquesne branch of the Filipino American Student Association (FASA). While its initial focus was on the Filipino-American community, it has since expanded to include other students across different ethnicities and backgrounds. According to FASA, its mission is to create a welcoming and supportive community for Duquesne Filipino students.

The organization aims to explore cultural connections through cuisine, family history and various activities in order to foster a place of belonging for all Filipino-American students connected to the diaspora experience. What started out as a handful of friends has since become a university recognized club with over 20 members to help with this mission.

On Sept. 15, the organization inaugurated its 2022-2023 season with its returning and new members. After distributing Lumpia, also known as Filipino Spring Rolls, the executive board mapped the fall agenda. FASA's executive board current membership is president Carme-

la Gorres, vice president Alexis Epondula, secretary Emmala Le, and treasurer Sloane Irwin. Although FASA primarily focuses on the needs of the Filipino community, it also works closely with other student clubs.

Since its inception, FASA has been sponsored by Giovan Cuchapin, a faculty member at Duquesne's Campus Ministry. Cuchapin has been frustrated at the negative impact the Covid-19 pandemic had on the emerging organization's growth and participation.

"We did not have that many activities during Covid," Cuchapin said. "We stayed afloat by organizing Zoom meetings."

However, following the easing of restrictions, FASA soon rebounded. Its first major event, a karaoke night at the Laval House, was attended by almost 50 students. Cuchapin is convinced that despite the setbacks of Covid, the organization will continue to grow and strengthen in the semester ahead.

"We are still in the rebuilding phase, and we are planning on building upon our success from last year," Cuchapin said.

Another longtime member is Carmela Gorres. Gorres, a forensic science and law major, has participated in FASA since her freshman

year. Now a senior, she is the president of FASA and plans to implement several changes to FASA to prepare it for the future.

One change is the creation of two new executive board positions by the spring semester. Another topic she and the board hope to address is continuing FASA's growth by holding a karaoke night and more events throughout the year.

"Karaoke is a much-loved event and we hope to host karaoke night once every semester," Gorres said.

FASA, in conjunction with the Asian Student Association, has announced "Bite of Asia," an event which celebrates the different culinary styles of Asia. It will be held on Oct. 19 at 6 p.m.

Another event discussed was a FASA-sponsored Kamayan, which is more commonly known as a Boodle Fight in the United States. It is a Filipino feast, where there is a strong sense of community with a casual atmosphere of sharing a meal by using your hands to eat.

In addition to broadening students' cultural frame of reference, FASA also stays true to its roots and seeks to meet the needs of Filipino students settling in the United States. Vito Palou, a fresh-

man from Quezon City, acknowledged the adjustments he had to make when coming to the United States, such as applying for car and health insurance, in addition to obtaining a driver's license.

He stressed how much FASA has helped him, while also explaining that his experience at Duquesne has been a positive one, as he feels welcomed.

While a date and time for karaoke night have not yet been solidified, students interested in both karaoke night and FASA are encouraged to follow their Instagram account @fasa.duq for the latest information.

As the 2022-2023 season commences, the atmosphere at FASA is one of optimism and inclusion, as students from all backgrounds and experiences are welcome to join. Gorres discussed her aspirations for FASA this year.

"I hope that the group will become closer and that we will be able to build a positive, safe community around us," Gorres said.

The organization remains committed to meeting the needs of the Filipino-American students at Duquesne, as well as introducing a new cultural perspective to the greater university community.



MAX MARCELLO | STAFF WRITER

FASA members at the Sept. 15 meeting. From left to right: Giovan Cuchapin (advisor), Carmela Gorres (president), Alexis Epondulan (vice president), Sloane Irwin (treasurer), Emmala Le (secretary).



COURTESY OF CARMELA GORRES

The Kamayan, more commonly known as a Boodle Flight, from a previous year. Students share a meal and typically eat with their hands. The purpose is to bring a sense of community to those sharing the meal.

League of Women Voters comes to Duquesne 3

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the rhetoric and disinformation” surrounding elections and voter participation.

“We just have to convince more people that it is so important on every level,” DiLeo said. “... You have to be a registered voter to advocate for any cause that you want to support, whether it’s clean water, better animal protections. They funnel up through government. [For] a registered voter, that’s your voice.”

Clack said that it “makes [her] very sad” when she hears individuals refrain from the voting process for reasons such as believing that their vote doesn’t matter or that their voice can’t truly be heard.

“I try to encourage them to register and to vote, because their vote does matter,” Clack said. “If you saw the number of people who say their vote doesn’t matter, they would outnumber the people who are voting. That means that the people who are voting are making the decisions for us all.”

“We want everyone to register and everyone to vote, no matter what their political party or

feeling is on issues. It’s very important for our country to represent the people. We hope everyone will register, and everyone will vote.”

DiLeo said that the first event she attended as part of the league was on Juneteenth, which coupled itself with a pride-related event in Downtown Pittsburgh.

While she was thrilled to talk about what people cared about, it was already a very-active demographic when it comes to civic participation. In a nonpartisan line of volunteering, she wants to make sure everyone’s voice is accounted for.

“We didn’t register many because it was already the population that was Downtown,” DiLeo said. “[Those are] already motivated populations, so we only got one or two, but we had a lot of great conversations with people.”

“We need everybody telling everybody how important it is to vote.”

Clack encouraged those seeking more guidance to utilize the website, vote411.org, to find pertinent information on candidates’ answers

to questions, in the candidates’ own words. Individuals can also register to vote and/or verify voter registration on the website.

DiLeo, a librarian by profession, said that she appreciates a good information source. She described the league’s website, connected with Vote411, as “fabulous.”

There’s been an added layer to the LVW’s challenge in recruiting individuals to register, given that the group just recently resumed traditional events like Monday’s voter registration event following the Covid-19 pandemic.

Clack said that she had to cancel 34 registration events at the height of the pandemic. In the interim between then and now, Zoom became the prevailing way of holding these sessions.

Although it might not be the most entertaining thing in the world, Clack knows that some will be more than willing to do their civic duty.

“I think people appreciate being reminded to vote, and feeling good that they already are

registered,” Clack said. “It’s very energizing to register people.”

Regardless of whether the league holds an event on a college campus or at a farmer’s market, DiLeo hopes that they can assist by any means necessary, and whenever possible.

“I’m doing this today. I’m going to Clairton Public Library tomorrow,” DiLeo said. “I’ve never been to Clairton. It’s only 15 miles from my house. I’m going. And I’m going to a block party, a community day thing, on Saturday in Coraopolis. That’s also only about 15 miles away from me. A lot of it is just chatting people up.”

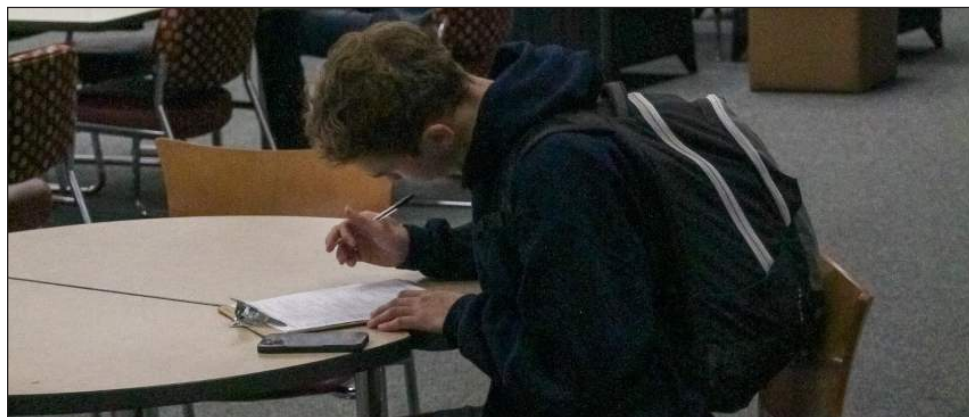
While George said that he doesn’t see politics making a large impact in his day-to-day life, he knows that not everyone can say the same, making an event like Monday’s essential.

“It may not matter to you, but it’ll probably affect someone else,” George said. “Do it for them.”



PETER BOETTGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gumberg Library hosted the League of Women Voters for a voter registration event on Monday.



PETER BOETTGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Devon George fills out his voter registration form during Monday’s event at Gumberg Library.

Bayer School's new dean looks to mentor students

ZACH PETROFF
opinions editor

Ellen Gawalt will serve as the first female dean for the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences at Duquesne University.

Gawalt, the interim dean of the school since July 2021 and a professor at Duquesne since 2003, is a distinguished member of the scientific and academic community. She has degrees from both Duke University and Princeton University, and completed her postdoctoral work at the University of Chicago.

She has won the University Creative Teaching Award and the Bayer School’s Excellence in Teaching Award.

In a news release, Duquesne President Ken Gormley acknowledged Gawalt’s commitment to the study body.

“She is a wonderful collaborator, whether partnering with faculty on a research project or working together with students in the lab or classroom,” Gormley said. “The school’s faculty, staff and students will continue to benefit from her expertise.”

Her work as a surface chemist has been impactful, and she has a plethora of academic articles. She’s also the holder of 10 patents.

As impressive and ground-breaking as Gawalt’s contributions to the scientific community are, her work with students might be her greatest achievement.

“In all of the roles she has held — faculty, department chair and dean — I have found her to be very student-focused and driven by the importance of science and research in society,” said Senior Vice Provost Jeff Miller.

In May, Gawalt co-authored an academic article in the *Journal of Chemical Education* titled, “The Scientific Method as a Scaffold to Enhance Communication Skills in Chemistry.” The article articulated why soft skills, such as writing and speaking, are needed to be successful in scientific fields. These are skills that could be undeveloped at the undergraduate level.

A proposed solution to this would be to apply the scientific method approach to help understand real-world scenarios. The article says that “the intent is to expand the knowledge of students, and encourage their ownership, sense of curiosity and ability to defend the rationale supporting their work.”

This is one of the philosophies that Gawalt has implemented at the Bayer School.

“We want to make sure our students are supported in the best possible way, so every department has a new career development class this year, whereas before, it was a school class,” Gawalt said. “It wasn’t as tailored to helping students find the pathway that they needed.”

To help first-year students, who may not have fully developed some of the necessary soft or study skills due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Bayer School is offering freshman courses that are not only about their major. Some classes

detail some intricacies of first-year student life, such as how to write an email to a professor or how office hours work.

These courses will bring in the Counseling Center and other offices to make sure that students are aware of everything that’s offered on campus.

Gawalt said that the idea is to “make sure that people are getting assistance they need, [and] not just finding a job, but in feeling comfortable in life and feeling good about themselves.”

“We try to be supportive of our students in all areas,” Gawalt said.

Gawalt is aware of how educators can be a great influence, as she credits a high school teacher for making her want to get into chemistry.

“A teacher made a big difference in my life. I had an excellent high school chemistry teacher,” Gawalt said. “She just made it interesting and exciting and fun to be in her class ...

“She just made it come alive for all of us, and I think that makes a big difference to students, whether it be a teacher in high school, a professor at the undergraduate level or even your graduate advisor.”

Gawalt also credits her Ph.D. advisor at Princeton as a major influence in her life.

“He just was very good at making what we did understandable to us ... He taught all of us how to be mentors to our students, and I think that’s very important, and I would say that’s what attracted me to Duquesne and why I love working here,” Gawalt said. “All the faculty in the Bayer

School care so much about mentoring their students in the classroom, in the laboratory and helping them find their career pathway.”

Whether it’s bringing in alumni for an undergraduate research program instead of outside scientists, proudly keeping all of her previous students’ dissertations in her office or simply trying to explain surface chemistry to a undergraduate student in another school, one thing is apparent: Gawalt’s passion is not only the advancement of her field, but the advancement of all students.

“Mentoring is what we do here in the Bayer School,” Gawalt said.



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY
Ellen Gawalt is the Bayer School’s new dean.



Follow us on Instagram
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Join us for our open house on Sept. 28!
College Hall 113 - 8:30 p.m.

Contact hennel@duq.edu for
more information!

Football drops road clash with Hawaii

RUSSELL MACIAS
staff writer

The Duquesne football team completed their out-of-conference schedule with a road loss in Honolulu against Hawaii 24-14 on Saturday night.

Leading up to Saturday's game, the Dukes flew into Honolulu on Tuesday, and used the acclimation period to both practice and experience the island.

Head Coach Jerry Schmitt described

start of 2021.

On Duquesne's first drive of the game, the Dukes went 56 yards on a drive that spanned 14 plays. Duquesne got it to the goal line, but failed to convert. The Dukes settled for a field goal, taking an early 3-0 lead.

On the ensuing kickoff, the Rainbow Warriors got a massive return of 58 yards, setting them up on Duquesne's side of the field. It took just six plays and one third-down conversion for Hawaii to score the

later block a 35-yard field goal attempt.

In the ensuing drive, Schmitt opted to remove starting quarterback Joe Mischler from the game in favor of 2021 starter Darius Perrantes.

Perrantes led the Dukes up the field with a good pace, both throwing and using his mobility to gain chunks of yards. Kicker Brian Bruzdewicz nailed a 30-yarder as the game went to half, with the Dukes trailing 14-6.

When asked at halftime why Mischler was pulled and Perrantes was inserted, Schmitt told a sideline reporter covering the game for Hawaii that he "just wanted a different look" at quarterback.

Mischler returned to the field after halftime to lead the offense inside the Hawaii 20-yard line. Dwayne Menders Jr. caught a ball short of the sticks on 3rd-and-7, and cut back to set up a 1st-and-goal for Duquesne midway through the 3rd quarter, trailing by just a possession.

But on 2nd-and-goal from the 3-yard-line, Mischler misplaced a pass, and it was intercepted by the Rainbow Warriors.

Despite having a massive edge in time of possession in the third quarter (12:11 to 2:49), Duquesne had no points to show for it.

Then, disaster struck. An already struggling Mischler looked to get a pass to Billy Lucas, but Mischler's throw was off line and went well behind Lucas. It was intercepted, and Hawaii took it all the way back for a touchdown, moving the score to 21-6. It was Mischler's sixth interception in the last three games.

The Dukes' defense could only do so much. A visibly frustrated Schmitt threw his arms up in the air as a face mask penalty was called on Lucas D'Orazio. Hawaii wound up settling for a 29-yard field goal, pushing its lead to 24-6 with just under seven minutes left in the game.

With not much time to mount a comeback, Duquesne marched down the field behind the arm of Perrantes, with the

highlight of the drive being a 29-yard completion in the end zone to Menders, who had to lay out to haul it in. A two-point conversion on a pass to Rahmon Hart Jr., moved the score to 24-14.

Another lifeline Duquesne received was recovering an onside kick with just over two minutes to play. Lucas then caught a ball about 10 yards out, and ran it all the way to the Hawaii 16-yard line. Two plays later, Perrantes threw an interception, effectively sealing the game.

For Duquesne, it's a loss in which the team out-possessed Hawaii by nearly an entire quarter's worth of minutes (37:02 to 22:58), but succumbed to their own offensive miscues.

The Dukes' defense played well and allowed only three points when Hawaii started drives on their own side of the field. But that didn't reflect in the result.

Self-inflicted wounds hurt the Dukes immensely, and now questions will be raised about the starting quarterback position going forward, as Schmitt has shown that he is willing to give playing time to either quarterback.

After traveling over 5,500 miles for three non-conference games, Duquesne will get some much needed rest with a bye this week.

"Rest is going to be huge," Schmitt said. "Heal up, get back to a routine. I think these road games will help us significantly down the line."

Despite a 1-3 record, Duquesne is still considered to be a favorite in the Northeast Conference. The Dukes were picked to finish second in the NEC behind Sacred Heart, who is already 1-0 in conference play.

The Dukes will return to action on Oct. 1, when they head to North Easton, Mass., for a meeting with Stonehill — the NEC's newest member.

Duquesne's next home contest will come on Oct. 8, when the Dukes battle Merrimack at Rooney Field.



PETER BOETTGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Running back Billy Lucas — pictured here in Duquesne's Sept. 10 win over Thomas More — rushed for 70 yards on 18 carries in the Dukes' 24-14 loss at Hawaii on Saturday night.

the week of practice at the historic Saint Louis School, which produced NFL quarterbacks like Marcus Mariota and Tua Tagovailoa, as well as the team's recreational time.

"We also went to Pearl Harbor, so there's been educational time," Schmitt said. "It's great for young men, many won't get here again. We balanced it real well."

The Dukes were set to face an FBS opponent for the fourth time since the

game's first touchdown.

The Rainbow Warriors extended their lead in the second quarter, with a key play coming from a Duquesne punt. Hawaii had a jump on the play and blocked the kick, gaining possession inside the Dukes' 15-yard line.

Hawaii running back Dedrick Parson would outrun Dukes defenders to the sideline, scoring to give his team a 14-3 lead.

The heroics on special teams weren't just reserved for Hawaii, as the Dukes would

Thomas: Embrace the new era of tennis

SPENCER THOMAS
sports editor

It's not often you see the sun set so broadly on an era of sport, but that is what we are seeing in the tennis world. One week ago, Roger Federer announced his retirement from the game, just weeks after Serena Williams competed in what was likely her last major tournament, the U.S. Open.

Since 1999, the pair have combined for 43 Grand Slam titles, approximately one-fifth of all titles up for grabs. The rest of those were likely collected by Federer's compatriots in tennis' "big three." But even their time is fleeting. Rafael Nadal is 36 years old, and Novak Djokovic is 35 and unable to compete in two of the four major tournaments due to his Covid-19 vaccination status.

While seeing what was essentially the "Mount Rushmore" of a sport end their careers may be a bitter sight for fans around the globe, it also introduces a period of mystique in tennis for the first

time in a generation.

The year's final major event, the U.S. Open, ushered in the new era of tennis. Nadal, the only participating member of the "Big Three," was eliminated by American Francis Tiafoe in the event's round of 16. Tiafoe would become the first American to reach the semifinals of his home tournament since 2006. At just 24 years old, he has the potential to be the American representative to tennis' new landscape, giving the Yanks a reason to tune in to a historically global sport.

Of the eight quarterfinalists, five were aged 24 or younger, and only one was over the age of 26. That would be Nick Kyrgios, who, with a mixture of talent and entertainment value typically reserved for professional wrestling, has become the sport's most-famous outsider, trailing only the "big three" in Instagram followers.

The tournament champion was 19-year-old Spaniard Carlos Alcaraz, who became the youngest man to ever top the ATP world rankings.

Personally, I watched more tennis from this tournament alone than I had during the first 19 years of my life. I was not alone. Television ratings for this year's event were up 50% from 2021, and the venue — situated in the Queens borough of New York City — boasted record attendance figures.

For both men and women, the field is wide open for the first time in a generation. Gone is the monotony of wondering which of the three Europeans are going to dominate all challengers.

While the greatness of Federer and Williams must be appreciated, their talents robbed us of the variety and unpredictability that makes people fall in love with sports.

The newfound parity is undoubtedly good for the sport, as is the possibility of an American contender in the men's division. Of course, young and familiar faces like Kyrgios, Naomi Osaka and Coco Gauff remain to usher fans into a new generation.

But for now, it seems that the kids have arrived, and are ready to take over.



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

At just 24 years of age, Francis Tiafoe made it to the semifinal round of this year's U.S. Open.

MSOC stays unbeaten, bests Loyola of Chicago

BRENTARO YAMANE

layout/multimedia editor

Tom Tzabari had not recorded a goal or any points for the Duquesne men's soccer team in the first six games of the 2022 campaign.

Little did Tzabari know that his first goal of the season would be a game-winning goal in the 58th minute of Duquesne's 2-1 victory over Loyola of Chicago at Rooney Field on Saturday night.



PETER BOETTGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Duquesne's Cameron Territo (32) defends Loyola of Chicago's Bryan Silver (14) in Duquesne's 2-1 victory over Loyola at Rooney Field on Saturday. Territo played 68 minutes in the Dukes' A-10 win.

The game was each team's first of the Atlantic 10 Conference season. For Loyola, it was their first-ever A-10 contest, as the Ramblers joined the conference after departing from the Missouri

Valley Conference in July.

Tzabari did not play a minute in the first half of the game, but when he got the call to enter the game in the second half, he took advantage.

"I think whenever you put me in, regardless of the minutes, I'll give 100% of myself," Tzabari said. "It doesn't matter if I start the game or play in the second half, or if I go five minutes before the game ends."

"I really don't think about trying to im-

drew Mitchell in the corner-kick spot to the left side of Loyola's net. Mohnhey then passed it to Tzabari across the middle, and with no opponents closely in front or behind him, Tzabari drilled the ball to the top right corner of the net.

Tzabari's game-winner helped Duquesne extend its home unbeaten streak to 11 games, a stretch that began on Aug. 29, 2021.

"As soon as I kicked the ball, I knew it was going to go in," Tzabari said. "I've been practicing that shot the whole week. Practice makes perfect, and I'm more than happy to help my team win."

Minutes before Tzabari scored the game-winning goal, Dukes goalkeeper Domenic Nascimben made a momentum-shifting save in which Loyola's Billy Hency shot the ball right into Nascimben's groin. Hency got the rebound, but hit the crossbar right after. Nascimben fell to the ground after that attack by Loyola Chicago, but managed to get up and shake it off.

Nascimben has shown throughout this entire season that he has the capability to make crucial saves, and a big win to start conference play is a source of motivation.

"Man, that was an awesome start [to begin A-10 play]. I think that it's important to start off on the right foot with any competition, and I feel like today we've come out, we've put a really good effort in, and we got the result we wanted," Nascimben said. "And I'm really proud of the boys. I think we deserved that. We really wanted that result, and I think that goes down to our character."

"As long as we can bring this character all the way through to the end of the season, I see really good things for us. We want to be champions. So that's awesome to get a good start."

Christoffer Vie Angell started the scoring by tallying his second goal of the season in the game's third minute. The Ramblers capitalized less than six minutes later, as Andrew Schweinert scored his first goal of the campaign.

In the first half, Loyola outshot Duquesne 11-5, but the Dukes attacked more aggressively in the second half, matching Loyola's shot total of 10.

"I think, in the first half, we settled in and didn't quite solve what they were throwing at us, and we just got opened up a little bit too much. So thankfully, we learned from it," said Duquesne Head Coach Chase Brooks. "We closed up shop in the second half, and then shots were even in the second half."

"So, I think it shows that you just got to kind of adjust. Sometimes you see things that you're not quite prepared for, but, ultimately, you can fix it, as long as you don't break."

After the win, Duquesne improved to 6-0-1 and tied the school record for most games without a loss to open a season, a feat that was also accomplished in 2019 (6-0-1) and 2002 (5-0-2).

In Tuesday's United Soccer Coaches Top 25 poll, Duquesne was tied for 25th with Louisville in the national rankings. It was the first time the Dukes were ranked nationally since 2005.

"I think rest and recovery, first and foremost [are important for the next game]. We need to make sure we're healthy going into UMass, and it's going to be a heck of a battle. They're a very good team," Brooks said.

The Dukes will battle the Minutemen in Amherst, Mass., on Saturday. UMass enters the contest with a 5-0-3 record.

WSOC blows 2-0 lead, draws game with SJU

SPENCER THOMAS

sports editor

The Duquesne women's soccer team conceded a pair of goals in under 90 seconds, ultimately drawing a 2-2 contest with Saint Joseph's on Sunday at Rooney Field. Jaimi Araujo scored her team-leading fourth goal of the season, and remains the only Duke with multiple goals this fall.

Despite earning a point in the Atlantic 10 Conference standings, Duquesne Head Coach Al Alvine was none too pleased with his team's performance, and the ramifications it will have when the postseason rolls around. Rather than one point gained for the tie, Alvine said he considers the result to be two points lost.

"I told them it wasn't good enough. We're at the part of the season where every point counts," Alvine said. "Maybe you're not getting into the tournament because of those two points. It's unacceptable."

To add to Alvine's dismay, his team seemed to be cruising toward victory. Just over 17 minutes in, a hectic play in front of goal drew the Hawks goalkeeper off of her line, but Araujo got a foot on the ball, giving Duquesne the lead.

"I thought we created the better chances;

we had the better opportunities," Alvine said. "We just need more of those times when we're on top."

Duquesne doubled their advantage less than four minutes after halftime thanks to an own goal from SJU. Fifty-two seconds later, the Hawks climbed back within one, after a shot off the crossbar was shortly followed by one from Jiselle Daniels that found the back of the net.

Still holding the lead, the Dukes would fall victim to their own mistakes. A turnover in their own end gave the Hawks an odd-man rush, and SJU's Marian Boyle kept it herself, with a long-and-low shot beating Duquesne goalkeeper Maddy Neundorfer to the right side of the net, leveling the contest.

All three of the game's second-half goals were scored in a span of under three minutes. Alvine said that his team has to "be able to close the game," especially when up by two goals in the second half.

"The manner in which we conceded them was laughable," Alvine said.

He would go on to express his displeasure with the sloppy nature in which the lead was surrendered.

"When we just give them goals like that, like 'Just come on in! Score!' ... It's embarrassing," Alvine said.

Alvine felt that part of the problem came from the team's inability to play to their crafty identity.

"We're not built to bomb balls forward and have our players compete with their players for balls in the air," Alvine said. "We're a team that gets the ball on the ground and plays. When we get into a ... contest like that, we're going to lose, because we can't compete on that level."

Alvine felt that it was a winnable game, as the Hawks entered the contest with a 1-5-3 record.

"That's a team that hasn't scored a goal in three or four games. We just gifted them two," Alvine said. "Charity. I know we're a Catholic school and everything but jeez, come on."

Though Alvine felt his team took too much time to recover from the scoring onslaught to start the second half, he wasn't entirely frustrated with some of their offensive looks.

"[They were] a positive, definitely. We had our opportunities. We didn't take them. I'm happy that we never stopped," he said, "We kept going after them, we kept trying to get the winner. It was too late at that point. The damage had already been done."

Duquesne is now .500 on the season,

with a 3-3-1 record. The Dukes will look to bounce back on Thursday when they travel to Virginia for an A-10 clash with Richmond.



PETER BOETTGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Duquesne goalkeeper Maddy Neundorfer made five saves in Sunday's 2-2 contest at Rooney Field.

Artists, audiences celebrate Pittsburgh jazz

SOPHIE PERRINO
staff writer

The 12th annual Pittsburgh International Jazz Festival made a triumphant post-Covid return to the city Sept. 16-18 at the August Wilson Cultural Center and Highmark Stadium. The festival featured 18 artists and musicians from around the area and afar; including Ron Carter, Buster Williams, Ledisi, Average White Band, Butcher Brown, Samara Joy and more.

Each day's lineup was diverse, mixing traditional greats with contemporary artists. The event was first created in 2011 by Janis Burley-Wilson, President, CEO and Artistic Director of the AWAACC. As a champion for jazz music in Pittsburgh for over 20 years, Burley-Wilson also created the Highmark Blues & Heritage Festival, which took place on Sept. 14-15, as well as the Blue Sessions music series and Truth-Sayers speaker series.

Star-studded shows opened at the August Wilson Center on Friday night with "Ron Carter Foursight" from renowned bassist Ron Carter. Carter is a three-time Grammy award winner and was a member of the Miles Davis Quintet for five years. Apart from boasting over 2,200 album recordings, he won his latest Grammy, Best Jazz Instrumental



SOPHIE PERRINO | STAFF WRITER

Supporting local and international artists alike, Pittsburgh International Jazz Festival gave audiences a glimpse of jazz, blues, R&B and more.

Album, earlier this year for "Sky-line." Following Friday, events moved to Highmark Stadium for a weekend of continuous concerts from 12-10 p.m. each day.

Saturday featured Melissa Aldana, the Dan Wilson Quartet, the Gonzalo Rubalcaba & Aymee Nuviola Band, the Vanisha Gould Quartet, Nate Smith & Kinfolk, Donald Byrd @90 and Stanley Clarke N 4Ever.

D Byrd @90 is a tribute band to Donald Byrd and the Blackbyrds.

Donald Byrd III, the Donald Byrd Cultural Foundation President, made an appearance alongside original Blackbyrd Keith Killgo. The tribute band was composed of icons Gary Bartz (saxophonist), Nate Smith (drummer), Endea Owens (bassist), Frank Lacy (trombonist) and Brett Williams (pianist). In an interview with WZUM Pittsburgh, Killgo said that Byrd would want young people to know that "you can't know enough," and that being well-rounded "gives you the ability to be creative."

On Sunday, the festival wrapped up with a solid lineup of contemporary jazz, funk and R&B artists: including Butcher Brown, Samara Joy, Buster Williams & Something More, Chief Adjuah, Average White Band, Ledisi and Incognito, featuring Maysa Leak. The night began with more traditional jazz musicians and moved into a series of funk and R&B sets. Combining a variety of artists of different ages and styles brought together Pittsburghers looking to hear jazz standards and innovative works.

Another highlight of the night was the Average White Band, an ensemble of Scottish musicians who have released several hits since their start in 1972, including their #1 hit "Pick Up the Pieces," which they performed for their finale. "It's good to be back," Alan Gorrie told the enthusiastic crowd, who were already on their feet after their first song, "What-

cha Gonna Do for Me?"

The band is celebrating their 50th anniversary at this festival, about three years after the death of Malcolm "Molly" Duncan, the original tenor saxophone player and co-founder of the band. Duncan died of cancer in 2019, leaving Alan Gorrie and Onnie McIntyre as the only two original band members. Despite the tragedy during the pandemic, the band, also including vocalist Brent Carter, saxophonists Fred Vigdor and Cliff Lyons, drummer Rocky Bryant and Rob Aries on the keyboard, had the Pittsburgh audience moving for the entire set of jazz funk and R&B.

The Average White Band was discovered in 1973 and was signed by Atlantic Records the following year. The group's influence has spread into a variety of genres, from sampling by groups like The Beastie Boys and Arrested Development to Marvin Gaye.

Following Average White Band, Ledisi took to the stage for one of the most energetic sets of the night. Born in New Orleans and raised in Oakland, California, Ledisi is a Grammy winner and 12-time nominee, as well as the recipient of three Soul Train music awards to name just a few of her accomplishments. She had the audience singing along to every lyric, featuring songs of her own such as "Add to Me" and "Knocking" with powerful messages about feminine power and self-love. Ledisi's motto is "love yourself by any means necessary." As a young woman, she was inspired by Nina Simone's lyrics about being a confident black woman. Now, she carries on Nina's legacy by preaching love and faith to her audience and encouraging her listeners to realize their worth.

The festival returned to a thriving time for the arts in Pittsburgh, with in-person concerts and community engagement activities re-establishing the music and arts scene as Covid subsides. In addition, the AWAACC is launching an exciting fall season. The center will be hosting numerous engaging events such as Lit Fridays with Mel D Cole, Graffiti workshops and Soul Sessions. This upcoming weekend, an interactive exhibition of "Step into The American Century Cycle" will take place, as part of the RADical Days 2022 series.

CAMPUS EVENTS

Multicultural Night
Sept. 22 @ 9 p.m.

Go to Union 119 for American Sign Language lessons in both Puerto Rican and Japanese! Free food provided.

Pig Roast Luau
Sept. 22 @ 4 p.m.

Wear your best shirt to Hogan's Hawaiian-themed dinner!

Hispanic Heritage Kickoff
Sept. 22 @ 6:00 p.m.

Celebrate Latin-American identity with free food, domino tournaments and more! Third floor of the Union.

DPC Epic Bingo
Sept. 23 @ 9:00 p.m.

It's back: DPC's most-anticipated event of the semester! Join DPC and your fellow peers for an all-out bingo-fest in the Union Ballroom. Students can win HUGE prizes!

CAPRI'S KIND WORDS

Be patient: have patience

It's important to be patient with yourself. To be patient is to have courage that there is more ahead of where you are now, and that your efforts right now are more than enough. Simply put, you have to trust your current self.

Think of your journey through time zones. You may not be in the same time zone as another, but you are still moving at the same time, in the same direction. It is not fair to compare.

You may feel in one moment like the skies were made for you, and other days you may feel like you are merely flesh and bone. You have to remind yourself that these moments cycle through, day-by-day, until you find a peaceful equilibrium to be proud of.

Be kind to yourself on flesh and bone days. Be kind to others as they navigate their days, too. Happy moments come when we least expect it; there is something beautiful about the pleasant subtleties that life has to offer that we cannot name, nor define.

Be patient for these moments, for these people, and for yourself.
— Capri Scarcelli



SOPHIE PERRINO | STAFF WRITER

Pittsburgh concert-goers enjoy a full day of music at Highmark Stadium.

Aquarius

Maroon 5? More like Maroon 4 :(

Pisces

I'm awesome. Do you know this fact?

Aries

But what if I put water in a Cheez Its box.

Taurus

"I want cookie cake"
"Do you want cookie cake?"
"No thanks"

Gemini

Dave n Busters? More like David and Butler :)

Cancer

SUPER SLAY!

Leo

New York State of Mind, Pennsylvania minimum wage wallet.

Virgo

Taylor Swift day! Taylor Swift month! Taylor Swift year! Stream Red!

Libra

Why is it called "Boogie Wonderland?" Doesn't anyone blow their noses?

Scorpio

At the Renaissance Festival King Henry VIII said he wouldn't have killed me <3

Sagittarius

5th Ave is bumpin! No literally I can't drive my car it's been 3 years

Capricorn

Hear me out: DIRTY ICED CHAI LATTE WITH PUMPKIN SYRUP

Wildblue Yonder debuts new, jazzy album

CAPRI SCARCELLI
a&e editor

Local, independent band Wildblue Yonder released their debut album “Dancing Astray” on Friday, Sept. 16. With an album release party at Mr. Smalls Theater, the band did a run-through of their album front to back, including a few unreleased songs as a teaser.

The band is composed of six Pitt and Duquesne students: pianist Joe Hodges and strings/vocalist Daniel Sawyer played music together since high school. Eli Alfieri (bass/guitar/vocalist) brought his high school friend Frank Mileto (drummer), who joined forces with Duquesne students Spencer McNeill (saxophone/flute) and Alex Perez (trumpet). The group forged

toward the end of the pandemic, and is now performing their music in the Pittsburgh area.

Alfieri and Sawyer agreed that the show was “pretty sweet,” being that the band hasn’t played together recently, giving them an opportunity to workshop songs in front of an audience again and simply enjoy the energy of performing.

Alfieri describes the sound of the band as improvisation-based, though “tries to avoid genres.”

“It’s really fun to experiment with different styles and grooves. Cool thing is we have different textures, and with a six-piece band, there’s a lot of unique solos so we can build and communicate off of that,” Alfieri said.

Pulling inspiration from jazz, Wildblue Yonder offers a con-



ANDY CUMMINGS | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wildblue Yonder sits for a Q&A interview after their debut album performance.



ANDY CUMMINGS | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Duquesne trumpet Alex Perez plays an improvised solo in a performance.

temporary twist to classic composition, trying on different styles without committing to just one sound. Overall, Sawyer said the band is simply “trying to play the good kind of music.”

Hodges describes their style as a “musical playground” of opportunity.

“We don’t play our parts the same way every single time,” Hodges said. “I might put [a] different inflection in the melody, or Spencer [McNeill] might do a different solo, but really no song is played the same way twice.”

Sawyer, a Computer Science and Applied Statistics major at Pitt, alternates between bassist, guitarist and vocalist of Wild Blue Yonder – he also is one of the band’s main songwriters.

“I do a lot of arranging and writing. For the studio I overlay parts, it’s fun to experiment,” Sawyer said. “For album two we’re trying to add tones and sounds, experimenting with what we can create and what’s possible.”

Teasing this album before its release, Pitt student Owen Gambill helped Wildblue Yonder direct a 15-minute short film that explained “why the album didn’t come out.” Following the hashtag #WheresTheAlbum on Instagram, this piece was put together by local student actors and followed zany excuses for their album postponement – like the bandmates being kidnapped by “super fans.” To Wildblue Yonder, it wasn’t about the publicity or marketing, but rather sharing their art and enjoying it with friends.

“It was a blast. We want to experiment more with multimedia and collaboration with Owen [Gambill] for future projects and just having fun,” Sawyer said.

Alfieri said to stay tuned for a second album and performances in the area.

To keep up with their musical journey, follow their Instagram @WildblueYonderJams for more updates and stream “Dancing Astray” on Spotify.

Sir Elton John makes final stop in Pittsburgh

MARY GENRICH
staff writer

Sir Elton John performed his last concert in Pittsburgh as part of his tour named “Farewell Yellow Brick Road: The Final Tour” on Friday.

PNC Park was packed full of people dressed up in Elton-inspired outfits and lots of funky sunglasses. The sold-out crowd was more than ready to see this musical legend perform. For many, it was likely the last time they’d ever see him live and in-person.

As Elton was about to get on stage around 8:05 p.m., the crowd was roaring with excitement.

He started the night off with one of his biggest hits “Benny and the Jets,” which was accompanied by his famous piano playing.

Elton is also well known for his fashion, and of course he had outfit changes throughout a concert that lasted approximately three hours.

He entered the stage in a black

coat that looked more like a cape, and the outfit had gold sequins on it. His “EJ” initials were embroidered on the back.

To top off his first look, Elton wore his oversized pink sunglasses, full of rhinestones.

The best video enhancement throughout the night came when Elton performed “Rocket Man.” Graphic displays near the performance stage showed pictures from space, in addition to a view of Earth from space. Surrounding sounds made concert attendees feel like they were taking off in a rocket ship bound for outer space, as there was also a countdown to zero that accompanied these sounds.

Aside from the visuals displayed during “Rocket Man,” Elton’s visuals on graphic boards during other song performances were disappointing and a major distraction from the amazing music being played. These visuals likely could’ve been enhanced or eliminated.

He also played “Tiny Dancer” and “Candle in the Wind,” which were crowd favorites leaving concert-goers emotional.

Before Elton changed his outfit, his piano brought him closer to the stairs, so he was able to exit the stage and quickly change. He reentered the stage a few minutes later in a baby blue suit that also had diamonds on the cuffs of the sleeves.

“Crocodile Rock” and “Saturday Night” got the crowd on its feet, as many danced to the classic hits. It was apparent that Elton enjoyed playing these songs, and was getting joy out of the crowd’s favorable reactions.

Elton ended the lineup of songs with “Goodbye Yellow Brick Road,” all but cementing his farewell in Pittsburgh. Before leaving the stage, he said that he appreciated the people that dressed up and came out to support him at the concert.

Before people left the venue, a cartoon rendering of Elton waving goodbye as he skipped down a yellow brick road was displayed on the

video boards.

In the ultimate farewell, the 75-year-old captivated his Pittsburgh audience and put on an exceptional performance.



MARY GENRICH | STAFF WRITER

Elton John came to Pittsburgh as part of his “Farewell Yellow Brick Road: The Final Tour” performance.

Oktoberfest comes to town

Hofbräuhaus is a local favorite, located in Pittsburgh’s SouthSide Works. Hofbräuhaus offers authentic German cuisine and a special array of Bavarian biers, or as we spell it — beer.

Their brewed beers have become a favorite around Pittsburgh. Since the German Purity Law of 1516, Hofbräuhaus’s history has been focused on brewing the best beers. This law was put into place in Bavaria to regulate the ingredients and distribution of the commodity to protect the citizens.

It is safe to say that their long history of quality brews has helped them to gain major popularity in Pittsburgh and the rest of the United States. Although they are known for their food and drink, Hofbräuhaus is just as much about entertainment as it is about food.

Live music is not the only good part of a night at Hofbräuhaus. In the main bier hall, it is almost a requirement to sing and dance along. Patrons are encouraged to stand on the benches and sing to the live music. People often hold their drink in the air and sing passionately to the songs. The songs are often German-inspired, but they will typically throw in a crowd favorite like Neil Diamond’s “Sweet Caroline.”

During last weekend’s Oktoberfest activities, Steve Grkman and Paul Milovac wowed the crowd on Friday night. Most patrons at the brewery did not want the music to end. On Saturday, Hofbräuhaus was the spot to listen to Grkman, the Grkman Duo, the Alpen Glow Trio and the Haus Duo. The environment was full of talent and spirit all night long.

This coming weekend, Hofbräuhaus will continue the Oktoberfest celebrations. Grkman, the Grkman duo, the Alpen Glow Trio, the Haus Duo and Milovac will all be back in attendance. The German-inspired musicians will be playing in the main hall, strolling area and garden areas. The atmosphere is sure to be just as lively.

Be sure to check out the Oktoberfest event at Hofbräuhaus this weekend.

A night of entertainment and amazing food will be sure to await anyone interested in the annual event.

—Mia Lubrani, Staff Writer

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“If you want
something said,
ask a man.
If you want
something done,
ask a woman.”

MARGARET THATCHER

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

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Corrections/clarifications

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COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

In 2019, Halley Bailey was announced as playing “Ariel” in the 2023 live-action edition of Disney’s “The Little Mermaid.” Critics of Disney’s choice to cast a Black actress have taken to social media to voice their disapproval.

New live-action Disney movie sparks racial outrage

In 2019, it was announced that actress Halle Bailey would be portraying “Ariel” in the live-action edition of Disney’s “The Little Mermaid.” Set to release in 2023, older-generation Disney fans expressed outrage for the highly-anticipated movie for one illogical reason – Ariel is now a person of color.

Upon the movie trailer’s release, the reviews were met with over a million dislikes on Walt Disney Studios’ YouTube page. Critics claimed to be upset over “forced inclusion” and “not sticking to the original plot,” blatantly unaware that their non sequitur would have to be traced back to the fairytale’s origin.

Grimm’s *Brothers Fairytale*s, or *Fairytale*s of Hans Christen Andersen, wrote Ariel as “the prettiest of them all; her skin was as clear and delicate as a rose-leaf, and her eyes as blue as the deepest sea; but, like all the others, she had no feet, and her body ended in a fish’s tail.” What does this mean? That Ariel was either pink, like a petal, or green, like an actual leaf. No indication of ethnicity or whiteness. Aside from this point, a sea creature such as Ariel cannot be physically confined to a race, since she is inhuman.

This argument of whether a sea creature can present as a different race shows how far people will go to keep Black artists out of fiction.

The original movie was released in 1989, using Christie Brinkley as inspiration for the animated drawing of the character. Ariel was supposed to be drawn as blonde, though Disney’s animation team decided that red would be a good contrast for the green of her tail, and the rest is history. According to Insider, Disney princesses were often modeled off celebrities circulating at the time (which, in film and music, were still predominantly white).

Since various books, movies and television shows have previously-scripted white characters, it makes the acting industry increasingly difficult for women of color to find roles that specifically are written for

them. In this case, Disney has the creative liberty to change the characterization of a protagonist, especially since the original fairytale did not distinguish Ariel to be of a particular race. Besides – they turned Shakespeare’s “Hamlet” into a movie about lions and meerkats, so why can’t they change the casting of a live-action to be more culturally-responsive? Because microaggressions are disguised as literary critiques, coming from audiences



CAPRI SCARCELLI

a&e editor

who hate to see change.

Supporters of “The Little Mermaid” casting noticed that the trailer seemed washed out by the low saturation, making Bailey appear more light-skinned. Though this is not an accusation of an intentional white-washing, it makes audiences think that Disney might be hesitant about their casting decision, even if they aren’t.

Disney is working toward being more inclusive in their casting, though they have failed plenty of times in the past. The first (and only) Black princess came to the big screen in “The Princess and the Frog” with Tiana (2009). For “Aladdin,” (1997) both voice actors for Jasmine and Aladdin are white, despite taking place

in the Middle East (Not to mention the 2019 live-action casted an Indian actress as Jasmine, instead of casting an actress of the correct descent). For “Mulan,” (1998) the Chinese princess’ vocal singer is Filipina Lea Salonga. This is not including the long history of racial stereotypes depicted in films; such as “Peter Pan” (1953) and “Pocahontas” (1995) with harmful depictions of American Indians, “Dumbo” (1941) with inappropriate nods to Jim Crow laws and “Lady and the Tramp” with mistreatment of Asian culture (1955).

Yes, these movies are now met with content warnings as of 2020, but this does not change the fact that audiences who grew up with this racially-motivated narrative want it back. And will do anything they can to protest new perspectives and new voices.

Trending on TikTok, Black mothers are showing videos of their young daughters watching “The Little Mermaid” live-action trailer – crying tears of joy and pride. Some girls press their faces against the television in silence, while other girls shout to the heavens: “MOM! She looks like ME!” Many of us are in a position of privilege where we could say we resembled a Disney princess once, dressed up as one or related to their story. Now, Black girls can see themselves in the media, soak it in and enjoy that they can finally see themselves on screen.

I believe that every child should feel seen. Every child should be able to feel included in things that bring them joy. These movies are made for children, and are adored by children. If kiddos decide that this is the Ariel they want, then this is the Ariel they whole-heartedly deserve – and no one should say otherwise.

Bailey said this opportunity was “something special,” saying she is “proud to bring [her] locs to Ariel,” and “take the essence of [herself] and mix the two.”

STAFF
EDITORIAL

Political games call for accountability

One of the most-surprising, yet least talked about aspects of the House Jan. 6 committee, is the Democratic Party’s ability to operate efficiently and cohesively. One of the weakest points of their leadership, since at least the Clinton administration, has been their inability to unilaterally come together for a common goal – and all it took was for the republic to be pushed to the brink of extinction.

The Jan. 6 committee hearings may not result in the expulsion, or even full accountability, of the former president. However, what it has done has, both directly and indirectly, led to questions about Trump’s inner circle and the arrest of 910 rioters.

However partisan these moves may appear, the Democrats, with the help of a few ousted Republicans, may unknowingly save the United States from an existential threat.

With the Jan. 6 committee hearings and the continuing investigations of the former president’s inner-circle, the Democrats are limiting the growing power of the executive branch. With every new administration, the president has been able to expand his authority while avoiding accountability from the other branches. The office, once shackled with restraint by design and nobility, has seen its power increase consistently.

As justified or as partisan as it may be, the Democrats holding a president accountable post-presidency will be met with equal vigor from a more-unified Republican Party. While the actions that the former president is being accused of undoubtedly warrant investigations, the Republican leadership views this as a partisan attack and will respond accordingly.

The Republicans have shown, even when their strategy puts the nation’s best interests in jeopardy, that they’re not afraid to play dirty politics.

This back-and-forth game that Democrats and Republicans play is unproductive and harmful. However, if Congress’ childish games mean that the other side of the aisle will be more willing to go after a president for their actions, then we should welcome this type of political behavior.

The president’s role has expanded almost exponentially since the creation of the branch. The number of appointees, their ability for manufacturing military operations and their executive-order capabilities are all but a few of the more-recent examples of the authorities that the executive branch has been granted.

The root cause of this exceeding growth of power is simply a lack of accountability. Administration after administration has shown us that there have been few presidents whose actions did not warrant some sort of consequence. Iran-Contra, almost everything W.Bush did and Obama’s drone initiative are just a few examples of how detrimental the expanding power of the executive branch can be.

Adnan Syed deserved his freedom years ago

ALICIA DYE
news editor

After serving 23 years for first-degree murder, Adnan Syed was freed from prison Sept. 19 after a judge vacated his conviction. It was long awaited and well deserved.

Syed was charged and convicted of first-degree murder, kidnapping, false imprisonment, and robbery after his ex-girlfriend, Hae Min Lee, went missing. Her body was found almost a month after she went missing.

Syed was investigated after police learned he had apparently stated that he wanted to murder Lee. However, Syed has maintained his innocence since his arrest and convicted, even turning down a plea bargain in 2018 for a shortened sentence. Syed appealed his conviction multiple times throughout his time in prison.

There has been plenty of evidence that came out after Syed's conviction, a lot of it proving that his counsel at trial was ineffective. Syed's counsel failed to interview an alibi witness,

who said they were with Syed at the time prosecutors said he attacked Lee.

In 2015, Syed's new counsel brought forward new evidence that the cell tower evidence used by prosecutors was misleading and should not have been admitted at trial. His new counsel also brought up two other suspects in the case. Syed's conviction was overturned in 2016, but the Maryland Court of Appeals reversed the overturned conviction in 2018, keeping Syed in prison for another four years.

While it is good that Syed is now free, Syed should have been freed years ago.

A guilty conviction in court means that the jury is convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that the person committed the crime.

For Syed, there was a lot of evidence against him, but also some for him, even in the years after his conviction, including a DNA test. Syed's DNA did not match any of the DNA present at the crime scene.

Since the popular podcast *Serial*, many have debated about Syed's innocence, but believe that he did not com-

mit the crime. Yet, it took until 2022, four years after the DNA evidence cleared him, to vacate his conviction.

The legal system within the United States has had a history of freeing innocent minorities too late. For Syed, who is Muslim, he's maintained his innocence since day one, yet it took 23 years to vacate his sentence. For other minorities in the U.S., it can take even longer.

In Delaware, a Black teen got his sentence vacated after 91 years, after he had been executed. George Stinley Jr., a 14-year-old Black teen had his sentence vacated in 2014, 70 years after his conviction which took a jury 10 minutes to deliberate. Stinley was sentenced to death by electrocution and was executed later.

For many minorities, justice comes too late. Syed deserved his freedom years ago, before the case got major attention in the media. He deserved a better trial and deserved to prove his innocence with counsel who supported him and looked into every detail.

He deserved it sooner, like many within the justice system do.



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS
Syed was freed from prison after 23 years.

A new social media app: Is BeReal really real?

ISABELLA ABBOTT
features editor

Almost everyone who owns a smartphone knows about the new social media app, BeReal.

For those not familiar with the trendy app, BeReal sends out a notification to its users every day stating they have two minutes to take and share a photo of what they're doing at that exact moment. This photo, which requires the user's back and front camera, captures their surroundings and typically reveals their face.

After it's posted, users can then react with pictures of themselves, on their friend's posts, showing their emotions for each photo taken.

A contradiction of the app's realness is its retake button, which allows users to retake their photos as often as they'd like. So, if a friend wasn't smiling or the first picture taken was blurry, users have time to capture their favorite versions of their moments.

Yet, for an app that markets itself on authenticity, are users really "being real?" Are we to believe people always click on that notification right away and show their real view at the exact time it was sent to them?

The answer is no – and not just because of the app's consistent lagging.

Admittedly I've had the occasional "late" post, which may be necessary when the notification goes off at the wrong place at the wrong time. I've had them go off during class and had to decide if I should include my professors and classmates.

I've even had one go-off during a funeral.

However, I have seen some bold individuals whip out their phones during class to "be real" for their followers. Users who'll shout in the middle of a conversation that the BeReal notification came out and gather around for a photo. Some frequent users have even used it in the bathroom just so their posts won't read as late.

Those are the type of people who are keeping it real.

The main issue, though, is the staged photos, which are obviously faked.

I've seen plenty of these pictures on my feed posted hours, and in some cases a full 24 hours later. This begs the question, why not just wait until the next day?

Users are worried. They are worried that they won't have something interesting to post the next day, which is a pivotal downfall of social media. We always want to appear entertaining, the fear of being

mundane is frightening.

BeReal was created with the intention of allowing users to truly reveal themselves. With so many other apps boasting a world where insincerity is rewarded with false validation, this app was supposed to allow the users to cut through the barrier of false personas.

Instead, it feeds into it.

Our inability to show others what's happening during the two-minute time frame speaks volumes on our societal need to be noticed. This app, like many others, takes advantage of our dwindling self-esteem.

BeReal is yet another app that creates a void of genuineness.

If the app was exclusively made for authenticity and realness, why are people using it for the exact opposite reason?

I know they probably want friends to see an exciting life filled with sunsets, concerts and friends, but not everything can be thrilling every second of every day.

But honestly, the best photos are always the unplanned ones, ones where friends are giggling instead of smiling or in the middle of getting ready for the photo but not fully ready yet.

If the app wants people to be as real as they can be, then why make a feature that

allows for these photos to change? Why not just make it so that the first photo is the photo that's used for the app?

BeReal isn't real, it's fake. It's a social media app that's using its photos unauthentically, which defeats its whole purpose.



COURTESY OF CAITLIN DEStEFANO
BeReal is the newest social media app that is sweeping across the United States.



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Duke alum earns byline in major publication

ISABELLA ABBOTT

features editor

Duquesne University graduate Ollie Gratzinger earned a significant achievement last month, when he got his first byline in *The New York Times*.

His story about the opening of the August Wilson House, located in Pittsburgh's Hill District, made its way into the national publication on Aug. 14.

Gratzinger worked his way up from editor-in-chief at *The Duke* in 2019-20 to being hired as senior editor at *The New York Times* in August 2022, where he had previously worked as a stringer. He said his experiences at Duquesne, especially his involvement in the newspaper, helped push him in the right career direction.

"I credit *The Duke* with basically all of my success in journalism," Gratzinger said. "Rather than having to wait to get an internship, I would just go downstairs to College Hall and do this journalism work right away ..."

Working at *The Duke* also sprouted Gratzinger's love for journalism.

"I think if I wasn't at *The Duke*, I don't think I would have learned to love journalism in the way that I did," Gratzinger said. "I really think *The Duke* was the beginning of it all. I don't think I would have really amounted to that much if I hadn't had those experiences at *The Duke*."

He credited *The Duke* for his successful start to a career, and also recommended the experience to anyone interested in the journalism field.

"I would recommend everybody who's a journalism student at Duquesne to get in, or even if you're not in journalism ... to get involved,"



COURTESY OF OLLIE GRATZINGER

Ollie Gratzinger, a Duquesne alum and former editor-in-chief at *The Duke*, had a story published in *The New York Times* on Aug. 14. The story talked about the opening of Pittsburgh's August Wilson House.

Gratzinger said. "Because having those clips when you're applying to internships is really great. To be able to say, 'Here's this experience I had, I know what I'm doing.'"

His clips in the publication not only allowed him to work his way toward countless journalism awards — like finishing in first place in the 2020 Gertrude Gordon Writing Contest — but also helped him master his reporting and interviewing skills. He said he goes into every situation with an open perspective.

"I go to the event with such an open mind," Gratzinger said. "I don't try to write the story in

my head beforehand, or I don't like to prewrite if I can help it, because you never really know what the story is going to be until you're there.

"You never know if there's going to be some big development, or if you're going to talk to somebody or see something that gives you this entirely new angle."

Another piece of advice he gave was the idea of letting loose during an interview and not making it a robotic and unemotional conversation. He said the talk should feel like building a new relationship with someone else.

"When I'm interviewing people, I always try to

make it personal, like we're just having a conversation," Gratzinger said. "I really like to sort of build a rapport with the sources, because I think that it's really what journalism is all about."

He also said he wants a conversation to be more than overly prepared and expected, but more like two friends talking amongst themselves.

"I think it's important to go beyond saying, 'Here are the questions I have for you,'" Gratzinger said.

By using these skills and applying them to real-world jobs, Gratzinger was able to showcase his writing and editing abilities, which allowed him to move up in the journalism world. He said he couldn't have done any of it without learning how to believe in himself and trusting that he was capable of doing the work he studied so hard to do.

"Every time I go somewhere I'm like, 'Oh my gosh, do I really deserve to be here?' And you have to ignore that voice in your head that is telling you these critical things," Gratzinger said. "Ignore that voice, and really sort of be present within the work that you do."

He wanted students to know that although applying to jobs they may not expect to receive can be intimidating, they should strive to do it anyway.

He said they'll never know what they can do until they put themselves out there. That's what he did when applying to *The New York Times*, and it paid off immensely.

"Apply to positions you don't know that you'll get, because maybe you will," Gratzinger said. "The worst they can say is no, and they might say yes."

Voodoo Brewing Co. comes to North Shore

HANNAH PETERS

staff writer

For being less than a month old, you'd think there would be some kind of magic going on at Voodoo Brewing Co., a new brewpub located on Pittsburgh's North Shore.

On Saturday night, the new location co-owned by a Duquesne University alumni was bustling with people, barely a chair empty or unhappy customer in sight. Approaching the restaurant, the buzz of a weekend night was palpable, and there was no shortage of good spirits.

First greeted by a large area of outdoor seating, guests can find a colorful, thrilling atmosphere. Local artists have adorned the inside with bright, eye-catching murals, creating an environment that feels like the place to be.

At the brewpub, patrons have access to a full bar, as well as 20 taps that pour beer, wine, mead and seltzer.

Voodoo also boasts its own beer, "Oh Mama", which is a traditional golden American lager, and the creation of a collaboration between Voodoo and the band Styx.

Styx is well-known in Pittsburgh for "Renegade," a song that is traditionally played in the fourth quarter of Pittsburgh Steelers home games at Acrisure Stadium. The song begins with the words "Oh, mama."

For those under 21, there is certainly still reason to pay this brewpub a visit. Voodoo maintains an extensive menu, where one can find intriguing dishes like beer mussels, vood-



HANNAH PETERS | STAFF WRITER

Voodoo Brewing Co. opened its newest location on the North Shore Aug. 27, serving as a prime night spot.

ill pickle pizza, or their chimichurri duck wing starter. They are also working on assembling a full vegan menu, but vegan and vegetarian diners can still find several options to enjoy on the current menu.

Jake Voelker, co-owner of Voodoo Brewing Co., is a Duquesne University alum. Graduating last May, Voelker was a part of the veterans program at Duquesne. Christopher Boissonnault, Director of the Office for Military & Veteran Students at Duquesne, remembers Jake as a dedicated student, businessman and father.

"He is a multi-tasker. Being a full-time student here, studying for the MCAT, co-owner of a business, and also having a family, he is able to tie all of it together," Boissonnault said. "Very

early mornings and very late nights, he would be over here in the veterans' quiet study room doing school work, business work and even family work."

Voelker was taking time off from work at the time of this story, and was unable to be reached for comment.

Voodoo Brewing Co. is not just new as an establishment, but also in its service model. With the exception of the bar, there are no servers here. Rather, they employ food runners that respond to digital orders. This is the first and only Voodoo Brewing Co. location that has implemented this service model. Guests are also able to seat themselves upon entry.

Their service model is effective. Customer

Brianna Rojas praised the brewpub's work.

"My friend picked this place, so I didn't know what to expect, but I actually really love it," Rojas said. "It's really fun in here, and their drinks are really good, too."

Still in the works at Voodoo are their hosted events. Currently, they offer bookings for private events, but they are planning on also holding events like comedy night, trivia night and bingo in the future. Additionally, they are arranging to hold brunch on Saturdays and Sundays in the coming months.

Another impressive attribute of Voodoo Brewing Co. is their resourcefulness. The spent grain that is left over after the brewing process would normally go unused. However, Voodoo gives Mancini's — a local bread company — their spent grain, where it is then used to provide Voodoo with the majority of their bread and pizza dough. They also use their beer in several of their sauces, as well as their cooking.

Being located near both Acrisure Stadium and PNC Park, as well as Stage AE, Voodoo holds a convenient location for fans of all types of entertainment looking to grab a bite or drink.

Chase Fraicola, Voodoo's general manager, has been with the company since July and has high hopes for the North Shore location.

"One of the big things with Voodoo is building a sense of community," Fraicola said. "We are hoping that, with our service model and outdoor seating, that we can create a go-to pub for drinks and conversation."



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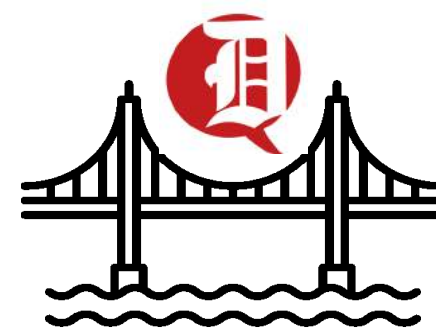
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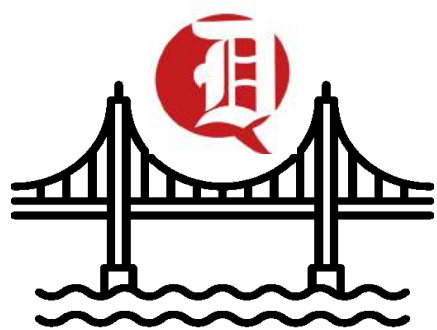
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