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# THE DUQUESNE DUKE

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## Hispanic Heritage Month kicked off by Society for the Advancement of Hispanics

### Red Masquers holds Play in a Day

NICHOLAS ZOTOS  
social media/ads manager

On Saturday, the Red Masquers performed a series of one-act plays that were anything but ordinary. The Red Masquers, the oldest amateur theater company in Pittsburgh, is a student performing arts organization within Duquesne. Last weekend, the organization hosted its annual series of “one-day, one-act plays,” where students are given 24 hours to write, create a soundtrack, choreograph and even memorize their short performances.

“This is a long standing tradition we have within the organization. The performers were given their assignments at 8 p.m. on Friday, and their respective plays commenced at 8 p.m. the next day. Having the students compose an entire act by themselves can be chaotic,” said Victoria Kapfer, President of the Red Masquers.

Despite the time constraint, the performers rose to the challenge. Each act was only 10 minutes in length, but the students spent most of the day extensively preparing.

“I have been up for a while. It was tough, but I wanted to do something different and help my friends. This has turned out to be super fun. I like making my own improvisations and the idea of creating a unique character,” said Alexa Cross, a freshman performer.

However, what made the “one-day, one-act plays” especially unique was not the time constraint, but rather the topic assigned to each student.

“It wasn’t just the one day constraint that made this difficult. It

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Some of the students participated in a domino tournament. Students had to pay \$5 to participate and were eligible to win different prizes throughout the night. Some of the prizes included t-shirts, pens, pencils and more. Students were also able to have arepas, catered by Cilantro and Ajo.

ALICIA DYE  
news editor

With Hispanic music blaring and the smell of Venezuelan food filling the room, it was hard for students to not have a good time at Hispanic Heritage Month Kickoff.

The kickoff, held by Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS), marked the first of many planned events on campus for Hispanic Heritage month, which takes place from Sept. 15 until Oct. 15.

The Heritage event started as a week, but became a month-long celebration after President Ronald Reagan signed it into law in 1988. Sept 15 is the starting point because it is the anniversary of the Cry of Dolores, which marked the start of the Mexican War of Independence and resulted in independence for the New Spain Colony (now Mexico and the Central American nations of Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Honduras and Nicaragua) which became the Federal Republic of Central America at the time.

Marie Sullivan joined SACNAS when she was a freshman and is now the president of the organization. Sullivan wants everyone to learn about different

Hispanic cultures. “I’m Cuban, and I have a lot of pride in my culture,” Sullivan said. “A lot of people don’t know about Hispanic Heritage month and we want everyone to learn.”

“We want everybody to be able to learn something,” Sullivan said. “There are so many different Hispanic cultures and it’s impossible to know everything about each of them, but during Hispanic Heritage, we want to highlight a lot of those cultures and want everyone to learn a little bit of each.”

For Bella Deborah Uwase, she wants to support all cultures even though she is not Hispanic.

“I was invited to this event by my friends, and I thought ‘why not?’,” Uwase said. “They showed up for Black History Month and supported us, so I wanted to support them.”

During the event, students played different games including dominoes and Lotería, a Mexican game similar to bingo. Students who won the games received a prize from SACNAS, including t-shirts and some other Duquesne gear.

For transfer student Paola Adorno, SACNAS and other clubs holding Hispanic Heritage month events, means a lot.

“I get to meet a lot of people,”

Adorno said. “Coming to a new school was scary, but events like this allow me to meet other people who speak Spanish and share a similar cultural background as me.”

The kickoff event is the only event SACNAS will be hosting during Hispanic Heritage Month. SACNAS hosted a movie night, renting out a theater at AMC to show “In the Heights”, free of charge to students this past weekend. SACNAS will also be hosting a Spanish speaking night, where students can learn how to speak Spanish.

“The best way to learn a language is to be immersed in it,” said Sullivan. “We want anyone who wants to speak Spanish to come. You could know a little Spanish and still come.”

Sullivan works a lot with the Modern Languages and Literature department when it comes to planning events.

“A lot of our funding comes from them. They are instrumental in our events and I cannot thank them enough for everything they’ve done,” Sullivan said.

Beyond SACNAS, the Center for Migration, Displacement, and Community Studies is also hosting events for Hispanic Heritage Month, including Latinx & His-

panic Heritage Month: Speaker Series: When Cooking Becomes Political, which was held Sept. 27. The next event held by the Center for Migration, Displacement, and Community Studies will be another speaker series event on Migration & Motherhood.

Uwase wants other students who aren’t Hispanic to come to the events happening throughout the month.

“This month is important because people of color get recognized,” Uwase said. “A lot of us have problems we face, and we should be supporting each other throughout all of it. It’s good to show up for others.”

Sullivan wants to reach more Hispanic students on campus, as well.

“We welcome anybody who is Latino/Hispanic and even people who aren’t,” said Sullivan. “We’re not hostile, and we welcome any culture or heritage. I know when I was a freshman I wanted to have a community and SACNAS did that for me. I want to do that for others as well.”

“Having a place where I could meet people has helped me immensely,” Adorno said. “I think

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## POLICE BRIEFS

## Sunday, Sept. 25-

A Resident Director conducted a room search after a report of a student possibly having a gun in St. Ann hall. Nothing was found. The student was off campus at time of report and no answer on phone call and no voicemail.

## 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-

There was illegible graffiti found at the construction site of the Osteopathic medicine.

## 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](mailto:hennel@duq.edu)

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## see PLAY — page 1

was the topic. On Friday, each director pulled out two words from a hat and paired them together. Each group received two unique words to base their acts on. My group's words were 'turkey' and 'hospital' said Amelia Lau, another freshman performer. "Turkey and hospital are not two words that go together. By pairing random words we had to think outside the box to create our one-act play."

The uniqueness of each play was evident as the students began to perform. The order of the scenes were as follows: "The Final

Frontier," "Greener Pastures," and "Turkey in a Hospital."

"The names are interesting, but they reflect upon what objects were assigned to each group. For example, 'Greener Pastures' is about three cows who live under an oppressive farmer. Their words were, 'cow' and 'tyrannical,'" said Morgan Sanzimir, another freshman performer. "I specifically play a nurse in 'Turkey in a Hospital.' I have also been acting since I was 9-years-old. To me, this is something that was unique and enjoyable."

While most of the cast were freshmen, there were upperclassmen performers as well. The performers

were also not exclusively theater majors. In fact, the majority of the cast were from a diverse set of majors like pharmacy, nursing and liberal arts.

The show lasted for approximately 45 minutes, and over 50 people were in attendance.

"I think the show turned out well. I know the process can be stressful, but everything has turned out absolutely phenomenal. At the end of the day everyone gets to experience three very interesting, funny and goofy shows," Kapfer said.

The organization has an upcoming event for the holiday season.

"Our next show is 'SpongeBob

[The Musical]' which we as a cast are very excited for. We also have a showcase event that is sponsored for charity in December. This is something that we take pride in, and we are looking forward to many more productions this year," Kapfer said.

Students are encouraged to join the organization and attend the events in the coming months.

"For me, this is something that all students can enjoy and partake in when they are feeling stressed or bored on campus. Having fun is so important, and doing this with my friends is a memory that will last," Lau said.



NICHOLAS ZOTOS | SOCIAL MEDIA & ADS MANAGER  
Students rehearsing the play, which they only got the script for hours earlier.



NICHOLAS ZOTOS | SOCIAL MEDIA & ADS MANAGER  
Students pose for a photo after the play finished, all within the 24 hours.

## Students help to spiff up South Side

## SAMANTHA HAUCK

staff writer

Student volunteers from Duquesne University helped clean up the South Side on Saturday morning. Events such as this happen frequently throughout the year, and have been a helping hand to the Pittsburgh community for over a decade.

Alia Pustorino-Clevenger is the Director of Extracurricular Community Engagement at Duquesne. She has co-facilitated clean-ups in the South Side for 15 years. Due to Covid-19, the involvement for these clean-ups has decreased in size.

"We recognize that, due to Covid, this might be the first clean-up that many students are participating in and [we're] excited for them to meet the residents and Block Watch participants on the South Side," Pustorino-Clevenger said.

This is an ongoing program, with preparation beginning in the spring. The team consists of Pustorino-Clevenger and members of the South Side Community Block Watch. These events are not only clean-up efforts, but are also a way to work on beautification of the community.

Preparation begins by recruiting volunteers. The Block Watch looks for volunteers and team leaders within their community, while stu-

dent volunteers are recruited from Duquesne's campus. Block Watch also reached out to neighbors in an effort to get them involved.

The team also had to agree on a date that would allow for large student, community and neighborhood involvement. A flyer was posted around campus to inform students and staff, complete with a link for potential participants to sign up.

The team created a list of needed supplies for the volunteers to have a successful clean-up. They also contacted the Department of Public Works to see what they can and can't collect, as well as what they can possibly reuse.

Like many cities, Pittsburgh is faced with littering and other illegal dumping. This effort reflects the large issue of systemic waste.

The Center for Community Engaged Teaching and Research is able to contact the city and state to reflect on their efforts to better the community and arrange for the city to pick up all of the waste when the clean-up is finished.

This, in turn, helps address larger issues of improper waste disposal beyond Pittsburgh.

Removing waste can also create a safer neighborhood. Not only are there many Duquesne residents living on the South

Side, but this is also a place where many college students spend their free time.

Evan Stoddard is the retired Associate Dean of the McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts. He's also a volunteer leader of the Block Watch.

"We want there to be no glass on the sidewalks to injure animals," Stoddard said. "We want our neighborhood to be clean, safe and welcoming for all who live, work and socialize here."

Edward Walsh is a second-year law student and is president of the Environmental Law Society. He participated in the clean-up because it aligned with the values embedded in the Environmental Law Society.

"I think this goes to show how tight-knit a community Pittsburgh truly is, compared to other large cities," Walsh said. "Duquesne, along with other members of the Pittsburgh community, came out in full force to clean up parts of the city that, for some, they don't even live in."

The clean-up program plays a very important part in both the Duquesne community and the South Side community. This event is more than just a clean-up and beautification effort. It helps bring the community together, provides mentorship and gets students more involved in the city.

This event was important to Stoddard, who has lived on 17th Street for over 50 years and raised his family in the South Side.

"The day was lovely, we enjoyed working together and we got a lot done," Stoddard said. "The neighborhood looks much better than when we started, and I believe we all left with a sense of satisfaction that we had done good work."

The event helped volunteers recognize the need for community efforts such as this and left students and South Side residents with a new outlook.

"This is a powerful opportunity to build relationships with residents who deeply care about their neighborhood, and for our Duquesne students to also develop relationships that they can expand upon during college if they become active volunteers in our South Side Community Council or Block Watch programs," said Pustorino-Clevenger.

Pustorino-Clevenger also added that it is not uncommon for volunteers to be stopped by residents who thank them for working to beautify the community.

Another South Side clean-up will take place in April. Students who are interested can contact Dr. Alia Pustorino-Clevenger closer to the event at [pustorino@duq.edu](mailto:pustorino@duq.edu).



COURTESY OF ALIA PUSTORINO-CLEVINGER  
Students and faculty join together to clean up the South Side community. Even former faculty joined in the effort to cleanup the area.



COURTESY OF ALIA PUSTORINO-CLEVINGER  
Students also clean up in the residential areas of South Side, not only East Carson Street. Removing waste and litter united the community.



# Learning and fun is important to SACNAS 3

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anybody who likes Hispanic culture should come to the events. You don't need to be Hispanic. It shows us that people are really listening and that they care about us."

While SACNAS is for science students, Sullivan encourages students of any major to join.

"Not everyone needs to be a science or STEM major. A lot of the current members are not, but we welcome anyone," Sullivan

said. "We just want everyone to have a good time during their time at college."

Many students are excited for Hispanic Heritage month, as they are able to celebrate their culture.

"It's important to celebrate these cultures," Sullivan said. "It's a month of acknowledgement and celebrates important dates for so many different cultures."

"We're trying to encourage people to

stand up for themselves. One example is we're encouraging people to tell their professors how to say their names correctly," Sullivan said. "It's small things that add up."

Uwase wants the minority population to stick together.

"We face a lot of different things here on campus," Uwase said. "We face microaggressions and even racism sometimes. Us stand-

ing up for each other and sticking together is super important in times like these."

Sullivan encourages everyone to learn as much as they want and to have fun during the month.

There will be more events for Hispanic Heritage month which can be found at <https://duq.campuslabs.com/engage/> events.



COURTESY OF MARIE SULLIVAN

Students smile as they enjoy arepas and win t-shirts for playing games throughout the night.



ALICIA DYE | NEWS EDITOR

Students in the middle of their dominos tournament, which got more intense through the night.

## Food for Thought: How cooking causes social change

MIA LUBRANI

staff writer

The center for Migration, Displacement, and Community Studies held "When Cooking Becomes Political: Documenting Spaces of Resistance by Latinx Chefs" presented by Cristina Carrasco, a professor and researcher at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Tuesday night.

Dr. Lucía Osa-Melero arranged the guest speaker. Duquesne's Center for Migration, Displacement and Community Studies helped to facilitate and plan this discussion. The Migration Club also co-sponsored the event.

"A lot of people see food for the surface level but there is a deep history and context behind it. This made me realize the historical significance and cultural tie that all foods hold for every culture," said Kendal Nasiadka after the presentation ended.

During the event on Tuesday, Dr. Carrasco reminded everyone that food is

a huge part of culture, comfort, tradition, memories, family, connection, inclusivity and so much more. Her presentation focused around her research into food studies, Latinx identity, food policy, social justice, and non-profit organizations. She currently teaches collaborative classes at UNC that combine food with sustainability, immigration, climate change, and even voting rights.

She is working with Pupusas for Education to host a beneficiary event at the UNC campus for Latinx and Hispanic Heritage month.

Along with informing us about Pupusas for Education, a nonprofit food truck organization helps to provide scholarships undocumented students, she showcased the stories of chef José Andrés and chef Cristina Martinez.

Chef José Andrés is a chef, humanitarian, founder of World Central Kitchen, restaurant owner, and undocumented activist. He has been devoted to feeding the hungry and uses World Central Kitchen (WCK) to

travel around the world and help struggling communities. Their organization also sponsors smaller nonprofits around the globe. Andrés tries to spread awareness how the US food industry relies on illegal immigrants and Latinx workers.

Andrés is even featured in the new National Geographic documentary, We Feed People. His constant devotion to helping underprivileged demographics and advocating for undocumented citizens in the U.S. has aided in spreading awareness.

Food can serve a political purpose and open doors to new cultures. Carrasco also mentioned Chef Cristina Martinez. Cristina Martinez is an undocumented immigrant currently running two businesses in Philadelphia. She crossed the US-Mexico border to find economic stability, escape domestic abuse, and provide a better future for her daughter. Since then, she runs the extremely popular South Philly Barbacoa and Casa Mexico. Martinez was also featured on Netflix's Chef's Table in Season 5 Episode one where she speaks on

her personal journey and acts as a voice for other undocumented immigrants.

It is important to recognize and advocate for the undocumented communities and underprivileged groups of people because of our shared humanity. Every person deserves equal opportunity and access to a safe environment.

"Being silent about injustice is being complicit about it," said Dr. Carrasco.

WCK also sponsors Crave Philly, a nonprofit food service that provides meals to hungry people around Philadelphia on a weekly basis. Their local organization offers insight into how even small ideas can help change.

Carrasco's informative discussion allowed students to walk away with a new appreciation for cooking and how it relates to politics.

"The presentation really helped me appreciate the connection between food and culture in my life, as well as the impact it has in the lives of others," said student Teresa Englehardt.

## Kennywood shooting leaves three injured

ALICIA DYE

news editor

Saturday night, three people, including two 15-year-olds, were injured in a shooting in front of the Musik Express ride at Kennywood.

Officials said the shooting happened after two groups were fighting inside the park and the fight progressed. Gunfire erupted around 10:46 p.m. and sent many running for cover.

According to a statement from park officials, Allegheny and West Mifflin officers were already at the park when shots rang out. Park security also responded to the situation.

The shooting happened on the first day of the 20th annual Phantom Fall Fest, a Halloween themed family-friendly event.

The park is shut down for operations until Sept. 30. The park is also implementing new security protocols, including a chaperone policy.

The new chaperone policy requires anyone under 17 to be accompanied by an adult 21 or older at all times.

Masks have also been banned after 6 p.m. with an exception for medical masks.

A handgun was also discovered at the scene, however the shooter re-

mains unidentified.

A new bag policy is going into effect starting Friday, and it will limit the size of bags to 8 inches by 5 inches by 1 inch, with exceptions made for medical and diaper bags. The park will also conduct more bag spot checks and closely monitor perimeter fences from now on.

The park also plans to add more police throughout the park.

"We are doubling the number of police officers contracted through local law enforcement agencies for each night of Phantom Fall Fest," the park said in a state-

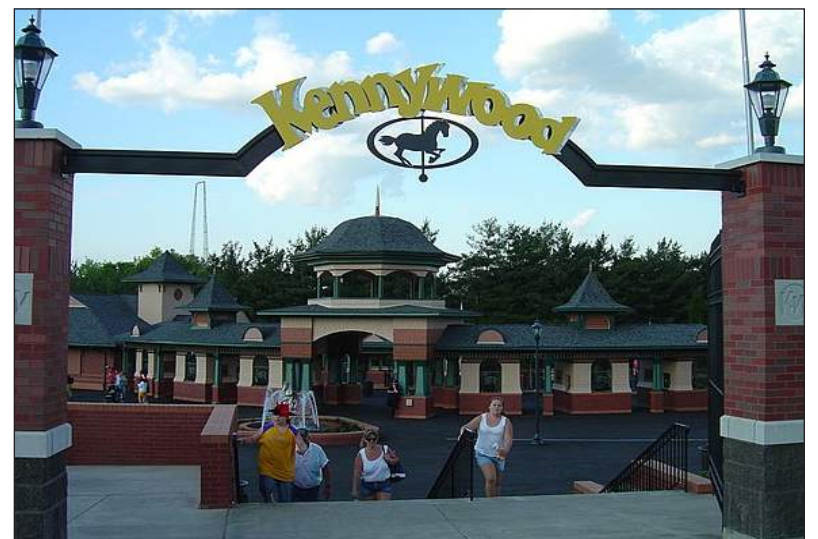
ment. "There will be a more visible police presence at the entrance and throughout the park."

Kennywood uses security technology from Evolv Technologies, which is also used Acrisure Stadium.

The police are currently investigating how the gun got into the park and are actively looking for the suspect.

Staff is also installing flood lights and security cameras are being installed.

"The safety of our guests and team members are our top priority," the park's statement said.



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Kennywood park, located in West Mifflin. The park is implementing new security measures after Saturday's shooting, such as including more bag checks.

visit our website at  
[duqsm.com](https://duqsm.com)



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4

SPORTS

MSOC's unbeaten streak comes to an end

BRENTARO YAMANE  
layout/multimedia editor

For the first time in 17 years, the Duquesne men's soccer team played as a ranked team (No. 25 at the time) on Saturday afternoon against UMass, a game that ended in a 0-0 draw.

After moving up a spot to No. 24 in this week's poll, the Dukes fell 1-0 in a road contest against No. 25 Akron on Wednesday night. The loss was the first of

snes. "We want to win every game that we play and represent our school well. I think that the focus for us is just to keep going and to take one game at a time."

Duquesne had a tough time generating shots in Saturday's contest, as the Minute-men outshot the Dukes 19-7 in the game. UMass' Alec Hughes recorded a game-high seven shots.

However, Domenic Nascimben made five saves and recorded his fifth shutout of the season in Saturday's game. His efforts,

the lads to strive for and try to emulate.

"Having a keeper like Dom in net definitely provides a lot of confidence for the other 10 on the pitch, knowing that we have a safe and trustworthy pair of hands as insurance."

Prior to Wednesday's game against Akron, Moksnes said that the key to winning would be to keep the ball out of the net, which they'd been doing "a very good job with."

"We know that Akron is a very good team, and we have to keep it tight in the back," Moksnes said. "We know that if we stick to our principles we will make it difficult for them to break us down, and we will put them in difficult situations to shoot from."

While players are excited about the ranking, winning is still the main focus.

"It's exciting knowing we are a ranked team, but the job doesn't stop there," Territo said. "Playing UMass was just like playing any other opponent, we had to stick to our principles. We came out with a good result, but not the result we wanted away from home."

In Wednesday night's loss to Akron, the lone goal from the Zips came in the game's 53rd minute, when Dyson Clapier netted his fourth goal of the season. The Dukes struggled to mount anything offensively, getting outshot 15-6 (8-1 in the second half). None of the Dukes' six shots were on goal.

While Nascimben allowed just one goal and made four saves, Duquesne was unable to muster anything at the opposite end.

With the bulk of Atlantic 10 Conference action in front of them, the Dukes will look to build from their successful non-conference run, as well as their two wins in A-10 games.

"The importance of not taking games off, especially in conference play, is crucial based on what we want to accomplish," said Dukes midfielder/forward Nate Draigisich. "The best teams cannot afford to take a game lightly because that's when

slip-ups happen. As a team, we just have to take a one-game-at-a-time mentality and play every minute of every game at the level we know we can play at."

The Dukes have also found a stable force in Head Coach Chase Books, who guided the team to the A-10 title game a season ago. That same level of achievement feels palpable among the team.

"Chase is great to have as a coach because he's aware of the level that we can grow to and will do his best to keep everyone on the path of achieving our potential," Draigisich said. "I'm very excited to chase the dream of a championship after coming so close last season, and I know my teammates would agree."

The Dukes will return to A-10 action on Saturday afternoon when they take on George Washington in a road contest. Duquesne will return home to take on Saint Joseph's at Rooney Field on Wednesday.



PETER BOETTGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Duquesne's Maxi Hopfer — pictured here in a Sept. 17 game — played 146 of a possible 180 minutes in two road contests this past week. Hopfer has started all nine games this season.

Duquesne's season.

Duquesne's draw against UMass helped the Dukes set the school record for most games played without a loss to open the season, which was eight games at the time. "Breaking the record is a stepping stone to everything that we've done so far this season," said Duquesne defender Jesper Mok-

coupled with a slide tackle from Cameron Territo in the 75th minute, helped Duquesne avoid a loss.

"Dom has been immense for us this season, and I think that is abundantly clear for everyone to see," said Duquesne forward Jacob Casha. "Being one of the captains, he has really set a standard for the rest of



PETER BOETTGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Nate Draigisich — seen here on Sept. 6 — played 81 of 90 minutes in Wednesday's game.

United Soccer Coaches Men's Soccer Top 25 Poll — Poll #5

Rank	Team	Prev.	Conf.	Record	Next Game
1.	Wake Forest	1	ACC	9-0-0	10/1 - vs. (4) Duke
2.	Washington	2	Pac-12	7-0-1	9/29 - at San Diego St.
3.	Marshall	4	Sun Belt	5-1-1	9/29 - at Coastal Carolina
4.	Duke	7	ACC	6-0-2	10/1 - at (1) Wake Forest
5.	Kentucky	5	Sun Belt	6-0-2	10/1 - at James Madison
6.	Stanford	5	Pac-12	5-0-3	9/29 - vs. California
7.	Syracuse	3	ACC	7-1-1	9/30 - at Virginia Tech
8.	Maryland	9	Big Ten	5-1-2	9/30 - vs. Old Dominion
9.	Portland	14	West Coast	6-0-3	9/30 - vs. Saint Mary's
10.	Pittsburgh	8	ACC	5-2-1	9/30 - vs. Virginia

Rank	Team	Prev.	Conf.	Record	Next Game
11.	Ohio State	13	Big Ten	5-1-3	9/30 - vs. Rutgers
12.	Tulsa	NR	American	5-1-1	9/30 - at UAB
13.	Denver	11	Summit	5-2-2	10/1 - at Omaha
14.	Charlotte	12	C-USA	7-1-0	10/5 - at Memphis
15.	Louisville	25	ACC	5-2-2	9/30 - at NC State
16.	Vermont	22	Am. East	7-1-1	10/1 - at UMass Lowell
17.	Clemson	10	ACC	7-2-0	9/30 - at North Carolina
18.	Xavier	19	Big East	6-0-3	10/1 - vs. UConn
19.	Dayton	24	Atlantic 10	7-0-1	10/1 - vs. George Mason
20.	Penn State	NR	Big Ten	4-3-2	10/2 - at Northwestern

Rank	Team	Prev.	Conf.	Record	Next Game
21.	UCLA	20	Pac-12	5-2-1	9/29 - vs. Oregon State
22.	Missouri State	17	MO Valley	5-1-2	10/1 - at Bradley
23.	Lipscomb	21	ASUN	7-1-1	10/1 - at Central Arkansas
24.	Duquesne	25	Atlantic 10	6-1-2	10/1 - at G. Washington
25.	Akron	15	MAC	5-2-2	10/2 - vs. Northern Illinois



# Runners come to town for Pittsburgh's Great Race

**ZACH PETROFF**  
opinions editor

It has become a familiar sight to see random streets in Downtown Pittsburgh closed off. This time, however, city streets became a running course for over 7,000 runners.

The sound of sneakers hitting the wet pavement was prevalent on Sunday, as runners participated in the 45th-annual Richard S. Caliguiri City of Pittsburgh Great Race presented by Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, as well as the

Runners came to Pittsburgh from 35 states and six countries to participate in the USA Track & Field (USATF) certified 5K and 10K courses. Despite the early-morning rain, runners were not deterred from participating in one of Pittsburgh's historic fall traditions.

The event started as a "community fun-run" in 1977, with Caliguiri, a former Pittsburgh mayor. The 45-year-old event has expanded from a 10K race to include a 5K run/walk, a running clinic, the Junior Great race and the Great Race expo. The race went virtual in 2020 due to Covid-19.

coming out of the pandemic, and continue to grow," Katze said.

The 5K race started in Oakland, while the 10K race started in Frick Park. The races ended at Point State Park. Runners in both races ran a predominantly downhill course that took them past Pittsburgh's three-largest universities: Carnegie Mellon University, the University of Pittsburgh and Duquesne University.

In the men's division, Nick Wolk from Pittsburgh earned a first-place finish in the 10K race with a 29:58 time. Clay Burnett headlined the 5K race with a time of 15:11.

On the women's side, Jennifer Bigham paced the group of 10K runners with a time of 34:37. Jordan Hasay finished first in the 5K race with a time of 16:56.

Every runner received a commemorative long-sleeve shirt for registering, as well as a medal for finishing. However, the motivations for running on Sunday spanned further than accolades.

Some ran to honor families and legacies.

Siblings Jane Hamlin and John Cucarese have been participating in the 10K race since the early 1990s.

"Our father used to run this race with us every year, he passed away a couple of years ago," Cooper said.

Hamlin and Cooper wore matching shirts to commemorate their father's service to the United States. He died in January.

Others ran to celebrate a milestone.

Connor Pardoe celebrated his 25th birthday by running his first 10K, alongside friends Hannah Brubaker, William Dunn and Taylor Randolph.

"We're definitely going to do it again next year," Brubaker said. "This was the perfect length at 6.2 [miles]. The downhill were nice, and the rain came and left at the per-

fect moment."

In order to keep each other motivated and keep the mood of the race light, the group of four all wore white shirts with "little white lies" that sarcastically included phrases like "I am enjoying this," and "I'm a runner. I'm a track-star."

For others, they wanted to simply prove to themselves that they could run the race.

When Nathan Funk's daughter was born, he decided he needed to get back into shape, and the best way to do that was to get ready for the 10K event.

"I ran three times a week, increasing the mileage by half a mile every week," Funk said. "I want to set a goal for myself and show that I could follow through with it. I wanted to make it in under an hour, and I finished in 55 minutes."

Funk's family, including his new-born daughter, waited at the finishing line with a colorful sign that read "Way to go Daddy! You did it."



ZACH PETROFF | OPINIONS EDITOR

Nathan Funk, alongside his wife and newborn daughter, after completing the 10K event in Pittsburgh's Great Race on Sunday. His goal was to finish in under an hour, and he finished in 55 minutes.

27th-annual Dollar Bank Junior Great Race.

"It turned out great, considering the weather and things like that," said director of special events Brian Katze. "We really had a strong turnout."

"We did return [in person] in 2021. We made some adjustments to how we normally operate after having to go virtual in 2020. We kept some of those adjustments here in '22 and we continue to mold the race, as every event is



ZACH PETROFF | OPINIONS EDITOR

Siblings Jane Hamlin and John Cucarese ran in Sunday's Great Race to honor their late father.

# WSOC falls to nationally ranked Saint Louis

**SEAN O'DONNELL**  
staff writer

A goal from Abbie Miller in the 55th minute was all No. 10 Saint Louis needed to defeat the Duquesne women's soccer team 1-0 at Rooney Field on Sunday afternoon.

Prior to the game, Duquesne honored and had a moment of silence for Kaitlyn "Moe" Rosensteel, a local high school soccer player who died in June 2019 at the age of 18. Duquesne freshman Cece Scott was awarded the 2022 Kaitlyn "Moe" Rosensteel Scholarship Award earlier this year.

The first half was a back-and-forth defensive battle, as the Dukes limited the Billikens to just two shots on goal. Duquesne did not allow Saint Louis to get a shot off until the 22nd minute, and did not concede a shot on goal until there were fewer than 15 minutes remaining in the half, when Biliken forward Emily Groark had her shot blocked by goalkeeper Maddy Neundorfer.

Duquesne Head Coach Al Alvine was pleased to limit the offensive opportunities had by one of the nation's better teams in the game's opening half. He said that the defense stayed "compact," while describing the performance as "su-

per well organized."

"That was some of the best soccer that we've played in the first half," Alvine said. "More commitment to focusing on the details of the game, and not beating ourselves."

Following a first half in which both teams' chances were limited, the Billikens began to dominate, outshooting the Dukes 16-2.

Less than a minute after an offside call against Duquesne in the 54th minute, Miller took a pass from Emily Gaebe and pocketed her fourth goal of the season.

Saint Louis continued to get scoring opportunities, but Neundorfer contained them, particularly on a shot from Gaebe that took Neundorfer to the bottom left of the goal in the 87th minute.

Alvine described his goalkeeper's performance as "fantastic," while also praising her for efforts in a Sept. 22 win over Richmond in which Neundorfer earned her first-career shutout.

"I thought she was going to get one today as well," Alvine said.

The Dukes were unable to muster any last opportunity, and the Billikens secured a victory, moving their season record to 11-1-0 (4-0-0 in Atlantic 10 Conference action).

"It was mistakes by us that people capitalized [on]," Alvine said of his team's struggles prior to the last few games. "So, taking that away, you saw the result. We got a shutout on the road on [Sept. 22], and we took the No. 10 team in the country to a 1-0 narrow victory for them."

Freshmen were at the forefront of Sunday's loss for Duquesne. Eva LaVecchia played all 90 minutes in just her fifth collegiate game.

"We started four freshmen today and used a significant number off of the bench, so it says a lot about the future," Alvine said.

Another freshman, Maya Matesa, logged 51 minutes and a shot on goal in the contest, slowly getting acclimated to game action as she recovers from injury.

"Maya is still not where she needs to be, obviously she's just come back," Alvine said. "But you can see the power, the physicality and the pace that she brings to the team. Once she gets her fitness up another level, then it'll be just another kid that we can count on."

Now sitting at 4-4-1 (2-1-1 in A-10 play) on the season, the Dukes are back in action on Thursday afternoon, when they travel to Amherst, Mass., to take on the UMass Minutemen.



PETER BOETTGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Duquesne freshman Brianna Moore — pictured on Sept. 18 — played 25 minutes in Sunday's game.



# Renaissance Fest welcomes merritime fun

CAPRI SCARCELLI  
a&e editor

Frolicking through meadows of 16th century folklore, the Pittsburgh Renaissance Festival delivered “music, magic and merriment” to the lively village of Morelandshire — orchestrated through live performances, craft shops, fried turkey legs and more.

Running annually from August to September at West Newton fairgrounds, the Renaissance Festival took the last bow of its 2022 season on Sunday. Rain or shine, the day persisted with muddy ankles and bounds of laughter and smiles from actors and visitors alike.

Live entertainment was offered hourly at various outdoor stages, as characters interacted with families passing by. Booth after booth of chalices, armor, jewelry, crystals, flower crowns, essential oils and wooden trinkets welcomed guests to souvenirs throughout their journeys, like tokens of a long day’s quest in support of local actors and small busi-

ent shows: including The Knights of Noble Cause, Thunder’s Power Show, Rin Tin Thoms Circus, Knightwings, The Duelists, Lady Amyella the Hypnotist and Dragonfire.

Sectioned off behind a red and yellow fence was the jousting tournament, where The Knights of Noble Cause duelled to preserve their honor. In authentic garb perched on horses, the crowd had to choose an opponent to side with, and heckle the other. The competition started with equestrian obstacle courses, then turned toward combat jousting. A percussionist would drum to the beat of the fight, which added to the effect for audience members. The cast even included a king, queen and princess watching, as “God Save the King” played as an intro and outro for the next event.

Thunder’s Power Show, however, was a vastly different event. “Thunder” insisted to young audience members, “this is what a degree in sociology will get you.” These jokes trickled throughout his set, which added a sharp, witty twist to



CAPRI SCARCELLI | A&E EDITOR

Knights in shining armor jostled for their honor in a competition of equestrian obstacles, swordfighting and more.

taken one step further, insisting that “Americans want stupid and dangerous, so that’s what I’ll give [them].”

Rin Tin Thoms Circus was in the grass away from the stages, with 20-foot tall poles for acrobatic structure. The duo, Rin and Thom, took turns performing their talents, then came together for their grand finale. Thom went first, performing some of the tricks previously seen at Thunder’s Power Show, but with less sarcasm and more charm. Thom had a knack for juggling and balancing, narrating each skill for the audience to understand his process, which was a great attention-grabber for kids in the audience. Rin was next, hoisting herself 20 feet in the air for her aerial silk choreography. She stunned audiences as she dangled upside down, twirling through pose after pose until her final “death drop,” where she fell through the silk until she caught herself two inches from the ground. Afterward, Rin and Thom performed a balancing act together, on top of tin barrels and blocks. Achieving this final set, the audience erupted in applause.

At this same venue, a falconist arrived — a professional bird-trainer that brought six different species from a facility that rescues, nurses and trains local species in the western Pennsylvania area. Thus, the Knightwings show featured a falcon given small cues by his trainer to hover through the audience and perch wherever the cue was set. Inviting volunteers to interact with the falcon as he zipped past them, Knightwings would refer to the falcon as a “cheater” for spoiling surprises and being so eager to perform their act. According to Knightwings, “every species is different, but it doesn’t make them untrainable.” He added, “If you find me sitting under a tree for a few hours trying to interact with more species after the show, don’t be surprised.”

The Duelists were an absolute fan-favorite: a comedic duo who introduced sword fighting through crass

humor and innuendos. Making jabs at one another’s height, age, hair-line and abilities to woo women, the two knights were fighting for honor — and masculinity. This show felt like a realistic display of both Renaissance and Medieval humor in literary tales, not pretending to be prim and proper in the slightest. Creating an interactive set with the audience, the duo heckled visitors young and old equally.

Lady Amyella is a professionally-trained hypnotist for counseling, acting and more. For her show, she described the psychology of hypnosis, explaining to the audience that “anyone can fall into a hypnotic state as long as they want to, though they will not if they do not want to.” In order to demonstrate this fact, Lady Amyella invited 12 volunteers up to the stage to be entranced live in front of their loved ones, walking them through a sleep stage and into a hilarious hypnosis, where volunteers were turning into rockstars, huggers, beach-goers and sports car drivers. As she stated in her set, “some folk are more susceptible to hypnosis than others naturally, depending on their willingness to sink into it.” Seeing the varying levels of the volunteers was entertaining and fascinating all in one.

The finale of the day was Sir Dragonfire himself: the man who can manipulate fire by the flick of a hand or a sharp inhale. Dragonfire casually lit and put out fires using only his hands, then began to light his tongue, his clothes and even his throat on fire, which he put out simply by breathing in the fumes. Bringing his fellow friends Rin, Thom and Sedwick on stage, Dragonfire used his castmates as a team to improvise different ways he could, quite literally, play with fire.

As the rain began to pour and the stage got too slippery to perform, the actors waved and shouted “farewell to thee!” as visitors trickled back into modern time after a long day of whimsical, merry fun.



CAPRI SCARCELLI | A&E EDITOR

Professional falconist “Knightwings” wowed families and friends as he signaled his bird to fly through the audience. Only adults with “a lot of bravery” could volunteer for his tricks.

nesses. Because festivals are a main source of income for those working the magic behind the scenes, it is courtesy to tip actors for their show or purchase something small from a booth to make sure the money goes directly to the cast members and businesses.

Throughout the day, I had the pleasure of attending seven differ-

a typical circus act. During his set, Thunder called an audience member on stage to help him onto a unicycle, then made her throw knives for him to catch mid-air. His uncertainty for his own stunts made the crowd cackle and cower in fear, as he stated “well if I mess this up, if I hit about 10 of you I’ll at least get a strike.” His precision and balance was always

## CAMPUS EVENTS

Fall Festival  
Oct. 1 @ 1 p.m.

Celebrate the 144th anniversary of Duquesne with hayrides, pumpkin painting, s’mores and more!

Edible Cookie Dough  
Sept. 29 @ 9 p.m.

Go to Union 119 for free cookie dough! Supplies limited.

DUNite: Tie Die  
Sept. 30 @ 9 p.m.

Come tie-dye your own shirt for free at Mellon Patio!

Trip to Soergel's Orchard and Pumpkin Patch  
Oct. 2 @ 10:30 a.m.

Enjoy fall festivities on a field trip to Soergel's Farm! Reserve your ticket at Union 305 for \$5. Transportation provided by Duquesne shuttle will pick students up at 10:30 a.m. in front of the student Union, and take students back to campus by 2:30 p.m. Supplies limited, so get your tickets fast!

## CAPRI'S KIND WORDS

Proudly wear your hats

Be proud of yourself for every hat you wear, every place you show up and give your all.

You deserve all the credit in the world for all you do. It can feel like a balancing act sometimes, wondering whether or not all of the pieces fit and whether or not you’ll fall. And it’s okay to fall, to rearrange the pieces and get up and do it again. There’s no timer, there’s no right or wrong way to do it, to do any of it.

You have to trust yourself to know that your balancing act looks different than the one next to you, and that what you do is magnificent, impressive and takes courage to juggle your school, your hobbies, your loved ones, your alone time. You can do it all, in different arrangements and different shapes and sizes, and you are allowed to take a breath and try again and again and again.

You don’t have to do what you do for others. I want you to be proud of yourself for performing at all. For doing what you love, for doing it well and rewarding yourself with rest and reassurance. You are capable of great things; no one can take that away from you.

— Capri Scarcelli



# Mary Pappert jazz ensembles swing through first set

**SOPHIE PERRINO**

staff writer

Duquesne's jazz ensembles gave us "something real" on Tuesday night when they held their first concert of the year. The event was a major success, drawing such a large crowd that many audience members stood.

Three groups and their instructors lit up Mary Pappert with a professional sound and an enthusiastic atmosphere. Students of all years participated in playing jazz standards and a variety of other complex pieces with fellow student musicians. There wasn't a dull moment during the two-hour concert, as a mix of upbeat and slower arrangements featuring extraordinary solo improvisations by students kept the audience on their toes.

The night opened up with the vocal ensemble, led by Kelley Krepin DeFade. The group included students of all grade levels and featured soloists Nathan Sekela, Mary Rose Rudegear, Miah Sirianni and Giulia Galante Golinelli.

DeFade's students were accompanied by a rock-solid rhythm section, composed of pianist Alex Luketich, bassist Mitchell Fleischman, drummer Soojin Park, saxophonist Jake McCormick and Alex Weibel on the guitar.

One of their major highlights was



PETER BOETTGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior music education major Nathan Sekela sings a solo segment in the ensemble's "Give Me Something Real."

a jazz standard, "Autumn Leaves," by Johnny Mercer and Joseph Kosma. Miah Sirianni soloed on the up-tempo classic, while her fellow vocalists built harmonies reminiscent of the vintage late-40s sound.

They concluded their set with a Brazilian favorite, "Triste," by Antonio Carlos Jobim. The song featured talented soloist Giulia Galante Golinelli. Golinelli is a Brazilian-born vocal performance major whose

native language is Portuguese.

The group earned a chorus of cheers and set a tone of excitement for the rest of the night. Their instructor, DeFade, is a Pittsburgh singer, actor, and dancer, who studied at Youngstown State University and the Opera Theatre of Lucca in Italy. She has performed around the United States and the Pittsburgh region and passes down her talents to her students at Duquesne.

The vocal ensemble was followed by the jazz workshop, instructed by Pittsburgh local Jeff Bush. Students in the workshop performed jazz classics, several of which were arranged by Bush or Mike Tomaro.

Bush is a Pittsburgh native and jazz legend, studied trombone at Youngstown State University and the Manhattan School of Music. He has played with several of America's famous groups such as the Glenn Miller Orchestra and the Cleveland Jazz Orchestra to name just a few.

His students described him as "extremely fun" to work with, and it was clear in their performance that he and the students in the workshop have developed a musical bond that allows them to feel comfortable going all-out in their playing and solos especially.

A highlight of their energetic set was "Blue Bossa," by Kenny Dorham, a standard that Bush says,

"everybody should know." The piece featured incredible solos by students Max Elliot on the saxophone, bassist Connor Behary and trombonist Justin Clark. The soloists took an average 12-bar blues piece to the next level with dynamic improvisations, a demonstration of the expert skills they've developed in the jazz program.

Their cohesion as a group was a testament to "the ear you have to have" as a jazz musician, trombonist and recent Duquesne graduate Tim Roehrick said. Brennan Paulsen agreed, noting that jazz music is unique in that it brings out "interesting colors" within its many sounds and leaves lots of room for self-expression.

The night concluded with Mike Tamaro's jazz ensemble, whose performances were nothing short of unbelievable. The group performed both ballads and fast-paced music, many of which brought their rhythm section to the forefront.

Their arrangement of "Give Me Something Real" by Clark Anderson and Mervyn Warren featured vocalist Nathan Sekela, who amazed audience members with his tone and vocal control.

The group moved from emotional to fast-paced by their last piece, "Fast Lane" by George Whitty, their most complex and exciting of the night.

Guitarist Jacob Zang, trumpet player Jonah Hanlon and drummer Soojin Park stole the show with their solos.

Tamaro's students made performing at the professional level look easy, demonstrating what Jonah Hanlon calls the "social art of communicating" without words. Hanlon was a high schooler sitting in a Panera Bread when he heard a Clifford Brown album playing over the speakers. He said he had been in love with jazz music ever since, describing a type of "fulfilment" and freedom that playing gives him.

Tamaro agreed, saying that jazz teaches musicians how to "musically react" to a variety of sounds and subtle cues from other players.

"Jazz is incredibly important to Duquesne's history," Tamaro said, describing jazz as a "mecca that has produced legends" such as trombonist Sammy Nestico. Duquesne's jazz instructors are teaching students "to make a living being creative" in an ever-changing and prosperous musical environment.

Duquesne's jazz ensembles will return for more exciting events in the first week of October, with CMC Jazz Workshops on Saturdays from 10a.m.-12p.m. and the This and That: Local Legends Redux at the PNC Recital Hall on October 18.

# Ricky Montgomery's Overtime Tour hits Pittsburgh

**ALICIA DYE**

news editor

On Tuesday at Spirit Hall in Lawrenceville, Ricky Montgomery made a stop in Pittsburgh for his 'Overtime Tour', making it the first time Montgomery ever played Pittsburgh.

Montgomery started making music when he was 14-years-old and later gained popularity on the discontinued app, Vine. Montgomery released his debut album "Montgomery, Ricky" in April of 2016, but never toured. Montgomery then founded The Honeysticks, a band he created with his childhood friend. The Honeysticks released an extended play and a few singles.

However, neither Montgomery's solo music nor his band's music would gain traction. Montgomery considered giving music up completely until his song "Mr. Loverman" blew up on TikTok during the height of the pandemic. After blowing up, Montgomery was signed to Warner Records and started making music again, and touring.

I've been listening to Montgomery since 2016. I discovered his music

through a playlist and have been keeping up with him ever since. I've never been able to see him live, as he never toured until 2021, and hasn't come to Pittsburgh until now.

When this show was announced, I was overwhelmed with joy. While Montgomery had started touring in 2021. A lot of the tour dates were the same cities, Washington D.C., New York and many other big cities.

I was lucky enough to get a VIP Meet and Greet ticket for the show. I showed up to the venue at 4:45 and waited outside. I eventually got my VIP lanyard, and was let into the venue.

For me, meeting Montgomery was somewhat a big deal. Having followed his music for years and having interacted with him a bunch of times, I was beyond excited.

I was the second person that night to meet Montgomery. I introduced myself to him and got to take multiple photos with him. Montgomery even signed my VIP lanyard and asked me if I had anything else for him to sign.

The concert lasted two hours, with opening act Delaney Bailey

performing first. Bailey performed seven songs, some of which were unreleased and some that have been released recently. A lot of her set was acoustic, and she interacted with the audience. Bailey was on stage for only 30 minutes but made the most of her time.

Montgomery came on stage around 9 p.m. The venue was a standing general admission show and I was able to stand front and center. Montgomery started off the show with an amazing performance of "Talk to you," which he released earlier this year. Montgomery then performed "Cabo" and "Line Without a Hook," both songs from his debut album. Montgomery's live vocals sounded almost the exact same as his studio vocals, something that is rare from artists.

In between songs, Montgomery would make jokes about his merch stand, "I want to mention something very important. We have merch! Tip Maggie please. Tip Maggie. Everybody loves to tip Maggie."

During Montgomery's song with the Honeysticks "I Don't Love you Anymore", he changed the words



ALICIA DYE | NEWS EDITOR

Front and center, Ricky Montgomery plays along to various ballads he's written over the six years of his career.

from "Maybe I'll go back to St. Louis" to "Maybe I'll go back to Pittsburgh," which received loud cheers from the crowd.

The crowd itself was energetic throughout the whole show, singing almost every lyric to every song, sometimes being louder than Montgomery himself was singing.

Montgomery wrapped up

the show with his most popular song "Mr Loverman" and put his whole heart into the performance. Montgomery even threw signed setlists into the crowd.

Having waited six years to see Montgomery, I can gladly say the wait was absolutely worth it. The show was perfect in almost every way.



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“Listen,  
then make up your  
own mind.”

GAY TALESE

You just read | Now tweet  
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EDITORIAL  
POLICY

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COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Talk show host and conservative pundit Sean Hannity, host of “Hannity” on the Fox News Channel, throws a football at the 2015 Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC), held in National Harbor, Md.

## Our modern media need a modern reformation

As the midterm elections draw closer, political conversations are starting to heat up. All 435 seats of the House and 34 of the 100 Senate seats are opening up, which could drastically reshape the political landscape. Historically, midterm elections have less participation than presidential elections. But, given the hostile political climate, voters might be more apt to go to the polls on Nov. 8.

In this election, voters are faced with a vast cast of characters, spanning from a Heisman winner to a talk-show host turned conservative politician. As political discourse has become more colorful, so have the candidates.

Yet, as the divide between Americans keeps growing, there is at least one thing that Americans seem to agree on — their mistrust of the media.

Can you blame us?

With the constant barrage of political rhetoric blasted on almost every communicative medium, it can be hard to differentiate between what is accurate, what is propaganda and what is just blatantly false. While news reporting has always an element of subjectivity, the veil of being balanced is now being replaced with a much more profitable model.

Internet sites that pose as news sites have been able to capitalize on political tribalism and have infiltrated social media platforms. Often looking and sounding like the news, these sites provide a one-sided look on issues that are much more opinion than they are news. Sites like Newsmax, which launched its own cable network in 2014, The Daily Caller and The Washington Examiner are looking to push an agenda rather than inform the people.

It's a lot easier to get people angry than it is to get people to think.

The press has been considered the fourth branch of government used to keep those in power accountable and provide information to the people so they can make informed decisions. The same issues, how-

ever, that make people distrust the federal government are the same reasons that people have turned their backs on the media — lack of accountability and money.

The most-successful cable news network by far is the Fox News Channel, having reached \$2.9 billion in revenue in 2020, according to the Pew Research Center. Fox News' business plan uses the network to combine news segments with sensational editorials



ZACH PETROFF  
opinions editor

that seem to serve just one party. This technique makes it hard for viewers to differentiate between facts and opinions, giving pundits a sense of false credibility.

Fox News' bias toward the right is apparent, and their viewers do not care. They look at Fox News as a counterbalance to a “liberal” media, thus justifying the organization leaning toward the Republican Party.

As for the non-conservative cable news outlets, their inability to match Fox News' profits have led them to face a more sensitized form of journalism. They often hype up stories or over exaggerate various situations in a feeble attempt to get their aging view-

ers not to turn the channel to watch “Wheel of Fortune.”

Other major media outlets find themselves skirting the credibility line. In 2002 Judith Miller of the *New York Times* reported falsely about weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. Her reporting legitimized a false narrative that plunged the United States into one of its worst foreign policy endeavors ever.

*The Washington Post* is owned by billionaire Jeff Bezos, while Bloomberg News is owned by Michael Bloomberg, the wealthy, one-time presidential candidate who also served as mayor of New York City.

When elites own the news, they control the flow of information.

While the criticism about the media is justified, there is a lot of amazing journalism being done with ethical and moral considerations, yet the work receives low viewership due to being unread behind a paywall. Or, an organization can't compete with the advertising budget of major news media outlets.

The problem with our news infrastructure in the United States is the economic model. The truth doesn't sell, but preying upon raw emotion does. This country needs more non-commercial module that is driven by quality and isn't for profit.

The United Kingdom, under the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport fund the *BBC* — the world's largest and oldest broadcaster by number of employees — through an annual television license fee. That fee is charged to all British households, companies and organizations using any type of equipment to receive or record live television broadcasts.

The U.S. could implement a hybrid model, which would allow news organizations to focus on actual news and not worry about competing for sensitized clicks, or being chained to their CEO, who might have skin in the game.

The American people are hurting for a news outlet that is honest, fair and free from profit-driven motives.

STAFF  
EDITORIAL

## Looking at Tennessee's license plate controversy

As Hurricane Ian descends on the East Coast, the crucial mid-term elections draw closer and inflation remains at abnormally high levels, Tennessee politicians and TikTok activists clashed to create a completely absurd conflict over the design of license plates.

The controversy revolves around the state's new license plate design that gives citizens the option to have “In God We Trust” in small writing on the plate. However, those plates have letters before numbers, whereas those without the inscription have numbers before letters.

Those on social media argue that the discrepancy makes it easy for people to recognize who is religious or not. For a state in the heart of the southern United States, some complain that people - like police - will discriminate or target those who don't have the saying on their plate.

This whole controversy is a complete waste of angst for people on both sides of the argument. Don't waste time worrying about something as inconsequential as this.

Both parties are worthy of eye-rolls. The mostly-Republican legislature that introduced the faith-based insignia seems to forget that the First Amendment attempts to distance government from religion. Yet, the government is essentially acting as a vessel for people to signal their religious beliefs. If this were truly about the freedom of religion, Tennessee would offer options with alternate writing for those of other faiths, such as Islam and Judaism. While the idea came from a good place, it's not the government's place to facilitate something like this.

For Christians who want the person behind them in traffic to know their religious beliefs, consider a bumper sticker. Better yet, demonstrate your faith through action. Don't tell people you are a good follower of Jesus, show them. If people are being turned away from eternal salvation because their state legislature did not put “In God We Trust” on their license plates, then this argument could be recanted. As of now, however, those involved are participating in nothing more than government-sponsored virtue signaling.

As for those worried they are more likely to be targeted by police if they don't shout their faith from the rooftops, relax. Forty percent of the state's population have chosen to use the standard plates. That's 2.8 million people, which is a pretty sizable minority to be oppressed like they fear. Similar plates are available in other states, and there have not been any acts of violence or mistreatment traced back to somebody's choice in license plate.

The internet is a melting pot of opinions, some of which are blown out of proportion because that's what gets views and makes people feel involved. Take a deep breath, and be grateful that you can complain about license plates.



## When will we learn about populism's errors?

**RUSSELL MACIAS**  
staff writer

There is a disturbing trend occurring around the world. Populism, the term that describes a feeling of the people against the system of politics in place, is on the rise in a significant way.

On Sept. 15, Swedish prime minister Magdalena Andersson, the country's first-female prime minister and leader of the left-wing party known as the Social Democrats, saw

Nazi movement. The party was initially seen as undesirable, but since 2005, they have been polishing their image under the leadership of Jimmie Akesson, and they now hold the second-largest majority of seats in the Swedish government, trailing only Andersson's party.

The platform that really swung the election for the right-wing parties in Sweden was heavy on anti-immigration and having an acute focus on strengthening prison sentences for gang violence. However, despite their rise, it is expected that a moderate

parties in the majority.

If that wasn't enough, the story that caught headlines last week was the election of Giorgia Meloni, an extreme populist in Italy who is a part of the Brothers of Italy political party, a party that traces its roots to Benito Mussolini and World War II.

Meloni and her party, which won an absolute majority in the Italian government, have focused on extreme anti-immigrant rhetoric. Additionally, Meloni herself is documented as being extremely anti-LGBTQ+.

Her victory, coupled with the growing gains in each French election for Marine Le Pen's far-right group show a disturbing trend in Europe. It feels like every country is barreling toward where Hungary has been the last decade — an anti-establishment and illiberal democracy, where power is consolidated by right-wing parties and a democracy essentially fails to exist.

This is a deeply concerning issue for anyone in the world, but especially in times where disinformation is spreading at a rapid rate. Throughout history, whenever a wave of populism has risen, authoritarian governments often take hold in the countries where that populism is most successful.

Take for instance, the rise of a fascist Italy in the 1920s. Behind a strong wave of populism and anti-government sentiment due to a lack of gains from World War I, coupled with a massive economic recession, Italians flocked to Mussolini. Behind a guise of nationalism, he said that he could fix everything.

Despite knowing he harbored some extremist beliefs, some chose to dismiss them and said the good would outweigh the bad. However, Mussolini overthrew the entire government, and established himself as an

absolute dictator.

Perhaps most disturbing of all, it has been said that American democracy is unconquerable, but it could be argued that it's never been more vulnerable. With undeniable social unrest, a shrinking middle class and people going to political extremes, it's almost certain to blow up in some way.

It already has, to some extent, with the election of Donald Trump in 2016. In that time, the most-common refrain about Trump at the office water cooler was "I don't like the things he's said or done, but he isn't as bad as Hillary Clinton, a career politician who's got dirty hands."

This dangerous anti-establishment led to a true cult of personality taking root around Trump, where he could say and do no wrong. Wherever he'd lead the country, his core base in this country would follow.

Trump is dangerous, but I believe Ron DeSantis is scarier. He has the young face and well-polished image that is often most desirable for populism to truly take a strong hold over a country.

With growing support and an anticipated run at the presidency in 2024, it can be expected that DeSantis, given the office of presidency with a Republican majority in Congress, would significantly erode social rights, such as LGBTQ+ rights. Also, they may dismiss any and all climate issues, making the world a worse place.

I implore anyone, and everyone reading this, to study history and realize that when populism is on the rise, there is going to be authoritarianism and removal of democracies behind it. Many people will suffer, and there is going to be an unrecognizable world if this surge of populism continues to grow.



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Sweden Democrats, guided by party leader Jimmie Akesson, became the largest member of Sweden's right-wing block and the second-largest party during the country's recent election.

the rise of a coalition of right-wing parties under the banner of the Sweden Democrats.

The Sweden Democrats were a party formed in the late 1980s as a part of the Neo-

leader named Ulf Kristersson will be leading the new government as prime minister. Despite his party being third in seat shares, he holds the most support from the other

## Baseball's home run chase great for sport

**SPENCER THOMAS**  
sports editor

In a time when baseball struggles to balance its rich tradition with modernity and evolution, this fall's home run chases are doing that perfectly. Both Albert Pujols (St. Louis Cardinals) and Aaron Judge (New York Yankees) spent the summer chasing down home run milestones that haven't been touched in decades.

For Pujols, who will retire at the end of the season, he successfully found his way to 700 career long balls, achieving the feat at historic Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles. That 700 mark is a feat that only Babe Ruth, Hank Aaron and Barry Bonds reached before him.

Judge is in the midst of a historic season, having currently hit 61 home runs. That ties him with Roger Marris for the American League single-season record. That's a number that is also considered to be the record in either league, American or National, for a player not on steroids (Bonds hit 73 in 2001, but was on steroids).

As the regular season winds down and the postseason approaches, there is renewed attention to September (and, maybe, October) baseball as these players look to chase down history.

With Judge closing in on No. 62, ESPN

cuts away from its original programming to air the opportunity live. Visitors to the Yankees website during a game are greeted by a notification alerting them when Judge is scheduled to hit.

St. Louis' road games saw crowds swarmed with traveling fans looking to witness magic on Pujols' farewell tour. When he hit No. 700 against the Dodgers, rival fans stood to applaud.

Any time either one of them comes to bat, fans in attendance rise to their feet and, to your grandfather's dismay, pull out a cell phone to record the moment.

The allure of baseball's tradition is instilled into many of our childhoods. For me, the golden era of the sport is the mid-20th century. Pee Wee Reese putting his arm around Jackie Robinson at Ebbets Field in Brooklyn, Connie Mack managing the Athletics in a business suit and the domination of Ruth and Gehrig's Yankees.

That was a magical time, as baseball grew to be the first sport that captivated the country. Now, the sport struggles to match that intoxicating image, as television ratings and attendance shrink. These chases are shooting adrenaline into what has become mundane.

Thanks to its century-long tradition, records and milestones in baseball mean more

than any other sport. Cal Ripken Jr.'s "Iron Man" streak (he played in a record 2,632 consecutive games), Joe DiMaggio's 56-game hitting streak and the 3,000-hit club all captivate fans of a sport that immortalizes its players by the numbers they put up.

The sport doesn't have flashy social personalities like Antonio Brown, Odell Beckham Jr. or LeBron James. Legacies have always been cemented with milestones, records and feats achieved on the field.

*Forbes* reports that last week's game between the Yankees and the Boston Red Sox was the most watched MLB game all season, and was the most-watched non-Subway Series (Yankees vs. New York Mets) game in New York City since 2018.

These races remind fans of what can make baseball beautiful. Baseball's stars, both young and old, are regularly making history.

For decades, we have looked back at the golden age of baseball, or at Roger Maris' 61-homer season in 1961, wishing that such a magical feeling would return to the diamond.

Judge's season forces us to look forward, in eager anticipation of the next legend being instilled with a "62" in the record book. A new home-run king gives the sour crowd of baseball fans one less reason to look at the past.

Pujols reminds us of the true greatness

that has been under our noses for the last 20-plus years, and to appreciate the youth who enter the game. After all, they may be replicating his success one day.

For now, enjoy the heart-racing anticipation when you see that baseball's rich history is about to grow.



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Aaron Judge hit his 61st home run of the 2022 season on Wednesday, tying Roger Maris' single-season AL home run record.



# Duquesne's BSU hosts BBQ on the Bluff

KAITLIN HUGHES  
staff writer

Members of Duquesne University's Black Student Union (BSU) came together on Mellon Lawn and Patio to attend Sunday evening's BBQ on the Bluff. Students gathered together to eat food, converse with other members, listen to music and play games.

The Black Student Union (BSU) is an organization dedicated to creating a safe environment for members of the Black community. They seek to gather together and meet new people at events, or discuss important subjects such as ethnic awareness.

Upon arrival, members were greeted with loud upbeat music as they walked toward members serving mac and cheese and pulled pork.

After they received their favorite barbeque dishes, they were then able to take part in games like Uno and cornhole.

BSU President Lindsey Harris said that this was an annual event that they try to put on before the weather interferes with outdoor activities.

"We usually like to bring the Black community together on campus and have that engagement, so they know that there is a place for them," Harris said. "We like to have these events to show support to each other."

BSU Vice President Antonia Allen said that the event was a great way to meet new people.

"People make new friends through our events," Allen said. "On a given day, they probably won't see each other, but when they attend events they are like, 'Oh, there is a nice Black population on Duquesne's campus,' so



COURTESY OF ANTONIA ALLEN

Attendees of Sunday's BBQ on the Bluff take part in a game of Uno. The event, which was held on Mellon Lawn & Patio, was hosted by the Black Student Union and also included music and lots of barbeque.

it's nice to see someone that looks like you and have a conversation and get to know those people and make friendships."

Harris said that their events typically attract 30 to 40 people.

Members of the organization are of all different ages, majors and backgrounds. Most members have multiple extracurricular activities, but still manage to attend the event and "pop-in" due to the joy it brings them.

"Everyone loves to come to events," Allen said.

The club originally started back in 2012, but it was reactivated in 2018-19 and gained a bigger presence on campus since then. Har-

ris said that since its reactivation, the club has "been going strong."

Even though there are countless benefits to the organization, members of the board praised the sense of community that it provides for them.

"I love the support," Harris said. "You really don't see a lot of people on campus, so it's an opportunity to see a lot of the Black community especially ... Having that unity at these events and meeting people, it's a really big helper for college."

Allen also talked about how the organization helps create a bond between students

because of the everyday challenges they have to face.

"I know most of their names now and we see each other, and you don't forget those faces," Allen said. "It's just nice to have comfort. And some people, it's their first generation, they don't know what they are doing, especially being Black at a large, predominantly white school, it can be intimidating."

BSU Vice President of Engagement, Eric Swain hopes the organization will continue to grow.

Swain said that he "wants to come back" to each new event, while also being appreciative of the fact that the organization's foundation and sense of community are always present.

Those involved with the BSU, like Allen, hope to carry on the group's tradition of helping others.

"It's the impact that we can leave on other people that others left for us," Allen said.

Rachel Means, a member of BSU, also expressed her love for the organization. She said that they all get along well and have a good time together.

"It's a tight community," Means said. "They always have fun events that I always want to go to."

The BBQ on the Bluff is BSU's back-to-school, kickoff event, but there will be many other events throughout the rest of the year.

One event that's coming up, Black Love Day in February, involves a dinner honoring the third nationally commemorated African-American holiday.

Means described the event as "really cool," and said that it's a great event for anyone to attend.

# Phi Lambda Sigma make bags for homeless

ISABELLA ABBOTT  
features editor

While most people may not think twice about buying hygiene products, these types of items aren't as accessible to the homeless community, who are in desperate need of them.

That's why on Sunday night, Phi Lambda Sigma members gathered in room 119 of the Union to make support bags for Pittsburgh's homeless community. Members of the Pharmacy Leadership Society, and some students outside of the society, wrote letters and put together bags full of essential items for a local organization, St. Vincent de Paul.

Marleah Schlick, Phi Lambda Sigma's service chair, said members of the society are always willing to give back.

She said that being in the society has allowed her to serve her community. She also said that she's started to "find a passion for serving the homeless."

At the start of the event, members were asked to begin by writing cards for the homeless. Since many members knew about this group's passion toward faith and God, they even included some Bible verses in their writing and words of encouragement.

Schlick said that when their society goes to serve the homeless community with St. Vincent de Paul Downtown every Sunday, she noticed that many of them are very in touch with God.

"We go down and ask for their prayer intentions every week," Schlick said. "Almost every single one of them asked for us to pray for them in some way."

Alyssa Ripper, a member of Phi Lamb-



BRENTARO YAMANE | LAYOUT/MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Phi Lambda Sigma members gathered on Sunday night to make support bags for the homeless.

da Sigma, said she went to the event Sunday night and joined the society because she enjoys outreach and volunteer work.

"I really liked that idea of being able to give back even more than I already was," Ripper said. "I think that's a really important way to do it."

The women who attended the event were able to make an assembly line, putting each item into a bag, along with a card for each person that read 'friend' on the front.

Member Bridget Trabbold said the efforts they made during the packing process were thoughtful and worthwhile.

"We kind of just set it up by first starting off with getting your letter done and making sure that it was really thoughtful and meaningful," Trabbold said. "And then packaging all those items in a bag."

Lined up across the table and ready to be packed were piles of essential products like socks, toothbrushes, tooth-

paste, body wash, deodorant, shampoo and conditioner and even a foil blanket for the winter months.

Ripper said having these essential items will give them a sense of cleanliness, as well as a new hope for people to view them as worthy of help.

"We see them everyday, especially in Downtown Pittsburgh, but I don't think enough people actually consider what they need and actually have the opportunity to give back," Ripper said. "I think it's really important, especially as we're heading into winter, that they have these resources available."

Schlick agreed with Ripper and said she wanted the people she gives back to to feel like they're a part of the Pittsburgh community.

"Being able to help them, clean up a little bit ... Feel a little bit more human, to feel like they're part of the community, I feel like that's super important," Schlick

said. "It can also help them maybe when they're going for a job interview."

All of the bags made during the event will go to St. Vincent de Paul, who will then give them to the homeless community Downtown. Any leftover items from the night that didn't fit in a bag will also be donated.



BRENTARO YAMANE | LAYOUT/MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

The bags contained items such as chapstick, toothpaste and toothbrushes, among other things.



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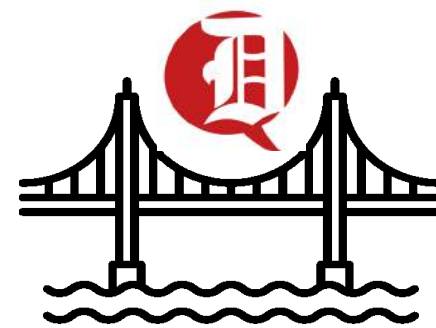
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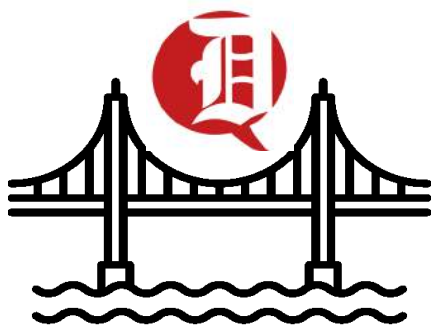
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