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Summit on racial inequality in media

JOSH DELIA
staff writer

Racial inequality is widespread in crime coverage and in the true crime genre, media professionals said at an on-campus seminar Friday.

The event, “Missing White Woman Syndrome” was hosted by Duquesne’s Cyril H. Wecht Institute of Forensic Science and Law, and co-sponsored by the Institute for Ethics and Integrity in Journalism. The event was attended by visitors in-person and online, for a total of about 50.

Margaret Jones Patterson, a professor of journalism at the university, talked about how society has created a “perfect victim.”

This victim in crime coverage is described as being young, pretty, slim, middle class, blue-eyed and blonde, “despite an increasing acceptance of a diversity of beautiful faces and diversity of body types,” Patterson said.

“To understand and grapple with the huge, huge problem of violence in America, we need to hear the stories of black women and indigenous women and the great majority of women because no real-life woman is a Barbie doll,” she said.

Patterson also explained that many crime reports glorify the victims of violence in a straightforward, good-versus-evil story with victims painted as completely innocent and perpetrators labeled as heinous.

Jean Murley, a professor of English at Savannah College of Art and Design, shared her observation of media coverage

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THE DUQUESNE DUKE

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Duquesne up in enrollment



PETER BOETTGER | LAYOUT/MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Students walk to Rockwell Hall on campus, passing the Duquesne Ring that graduates of the university wear to celebrate their studies.

EMMA POLEN
news editor

After Covid, many universities struggled bringing in new students. This year, Duquesne enrollment is seeing positive increases due to new action by the university and revived student interest in higher education.

Joel Bauman, vice president of enrollment at Duquesne, explained the impact the initial years of Covid had on the student population.

In 2018, 1,512 students enrolled at Duquesne. In 2020, that number was down to 1,195. This trend was seen all over Pennsylvania. In one statistic Bauman cited, enrollment was down about 12-20% in Pennsylvania state schools.

To clarify, these enrollment numbers come from the number of total students who apply for Duquesne, including part-time, full-time, commuter, graduate and on-campus students.

Official matriculation last fall put Duquesne at 1,441 newly enrolled students.

In order for Duquesne to see an increase in enrollment again, they made changes in how they had traditionally approached prospective students.

Bauman shared how decreased enrollment motivated the university to invent a new “recruitment-oriented” approach for finding new students.

“We had to be more visible, be more relevant,” Bauman said. This approach had to be more active, he said, in ways that clarified the university’s “identity and reputation.”

Brynn Tripp, freshman nursing major, said why she chose Duquesne coming out of the pandemic—for its big city, small campus qualities.

“My main reason was the nursing program. There’s a lot of good nursing programs, but also... I liked the city atmosphere, but it’s still a little community,” she said.

Tripp said Duquesne was not her first-choice school, but after weighing all the qualities she valued, including distance from home, tuition and the program of-

fering, “Duquesne overall seemed like the best,” she said.

Bauman recognized the fact that the college search can be an often overwhelming process.

“There’s a lot of options,” he said.

Duquesne’s new active recruitment aims to “break through the clutter,” he said. For example, the enrollment office knew that around 40% of the population of Pennsylvania was near Philadelphia, which is made up of the largest county in the state, the second being Allegheny County. Duquesne has since sent admission counselors to these areas to actively reach potential students.

In addition, Bauman believes A10 clinics in various areas of the U.S., post-graduate student success stories and grant matching for students from areas of rural Pennsylvania have also provided necessary action for Duquesne to reach its required audience of potential students everywhere.

Opportunities like these are the active changes Duquesne delivers for future generations, said Gabe

Welsch, university spokesperson.

Bauman also explained why the university stresses the importance of being welcoming to families when they visit the campus in-person.

“The visit is the most important indicator of [enrollment],” Bauman said, and, in addition, the visit helps families know the full Duquesne experience.

Abby Shoaf, a freshman majoring in psychology, agreed that the main reason she chose Duquesne was the experience she had in-person at one of the potential student events.

“I came for DUQ Day, and I liked how they approached psych as a human science,” Shoaf said.

The moment Shoaf knew she was going to choose Duquesne is actually still clear in her mind.

“I was standing on the Rockwell skywalk,” she said. Before her was a beautiful view of the city, but she still felt safe still on the Duquesne campus.

“I really liked how it felt small but so big,” she said.

see DUQUESNE — page 3

POLICE BRIEFS

Wednesday, Feb. 1-

Duquesne employee reported his tools stolen from university van on Duquesne property.

Saturday, Feb. 4-

Student was referred to the Office of Student Conduct for possession of a bong and alcohol in St. Ann's hall.

Sunday, Feb. 5-

Student in Thomas Kline law building called 911 claiming people were banging on lockers in the basement and an individual was running around with a yellow "gun" with a laser. A search of the building found claim negative.

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.

MAX MARCELLO

staff writer

The ultimate goal of any college student is a successful career, and last Monday, one club on campus was helping students achieve that goal during their time in undergraduate studies.

Duquesne University's chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) hosted guest speaker Maura Anderson on Monday.

Anderson, a marketing coordinator for Eat 'N Park Hospitality Group, was invited to give PRSSA students advice on how they should approach internships, and she offered information about Eat 'N Park's summer internship program.

PRSSA is a national organization that gives undergraduate students experience in the field of public relations and opportunities to network in a professional environment, according to their website.

The organization is open to all students regardless of major, and Duquesne's PRSSA members are from multiple majors from the liberal arts college. PRSSA's emphasis on networking is what drew in Grace Heaton.

Heaton, a sophomore double majoring in marketing and modern languages, was first introduced to PRSSA by classmate Allison Huth, the previous president of the organization.

Heaton recalled what Huth told her about PRSSA that encouraged her to join.

"PRSSA hosted guest speakers, networking events in Pittsburgh, PRSSA professionals in the region, and host a conference as well," she said.

Heaton felt intrigued about the organization and once she attended the first meeting she was hooked.

In addition to professional networking, PRSSA connects students to each other.

"We partner with Point Park every year to do a conference," Heaton said.

Heaton, now president of Duquesne's PRSSA chapter, discussed how the organization carries out its network building activities. The student society is linked to the national Public Relations Society of America.

"It's a group of PR professionals who meet monthly, and they host happy hours where the organizational members are encouraged to go and network," Heaton said.

Heaton attended a few of these networking sessions, and she found them useful as it taught her how to interact with professionals and navigate the professional environment, a skill many college students lack.

Anderson began her presentation by recalling her experience with PRSSA. She was a member herself as an undergraduate at Ohio University.

Being on both sides of the internship process has given Anderson a greater understanding and empathy with potential interns.

Anderson stressed the importance of internships and their ability to help students discover their interests in a professional environment.

Internships teach students skills such as time management and discipline in addition to providing students professional experience prior to graduation, she said in her presentation. Securing an internship can be an intimidating process especially for those unfamiliar with the process.

Anderson suggested students start building a portfolio of class assignments they were particularly proud of and to keep an open mind when considering where to apply.

Her next suggestion was regarding resumes. Anderson advised students to rephrase their work experience with specific action verbs and to use a single-sheet template rather than design one from scratch.

Moreover, students should update their resume every few months and tailor their application to use language that aligns with a company's mission statement and job description.

She advised students to comb through their social media presence as the frequency of employers checking an applicant's social media is increasing.

Exhibiting qualities both in person and online is very important Anderson said, "in terms of qualifications, it's not so much even the hard skills as it is showing an eagerness to learn and an eagerness to be involved."

She also encouraged students to get involved with student organizations related to their interests.

"I really personally like to see for upperclassmen, particularly, that they have become leaders in those organizations, kind of seeing how they've worked their way up through the ranks. That's really big to me," Anderson said.

Luke Szukalski, a junior public relations major, attended Monday's interactive program. He found the discussion helpful in his own search for internships.

"I found her tips on the subtle things during interviews to be extremely helpful. Because even though your interview hasn't begun, their impressions have," Szukalski said.

Anderson concluded the conference by giving students information about Eat 'N Park's summer internship program, Team Smiley Internship and Team Smiley Freelance.

Eat 'N Park stresses positivity, charm, and enthusiasm when representing the franchise, Anderson said to students.

While both opportunities give students experience, Team Smiley Freelance focuses on public engagement and brand promotion. The intern program serves as a brand ambassador and interacts with guests in various community events.

For both internship and networking opportunities, PRSSA will continue to share updates during their upcoming meetings in College Hall at 7 p.m. on Thursdays.

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"Missing White Women Syndrome" summit

from SUMMIT— page 1

concerning racially diverse victims. Murley specializes in the true crime genre in media.

While the genre, which primarily focused on white victims historically, is still flawed, positive progress has been made toward more diverse racial representation, Murley said.

"True crime now is much more responsive to these issues, and there are many more podcasts devoted to black victims, devoted to missing and murdered indigenous women, devoted to the cases that in an earlier media landscape, were not getting any attention," she said.

Murley used an example of a woman of color from Crown Heights, Brooklyn, who was thrown off a rooftop, later to be found dead in an air shaft, resulting only in "an inch of coverage" in a single newspaper.

She compared this to the Central Park Five case, which saw a group of young men of color wrongly convicted for raping and leaving a white woman for dead in 1989, with the original story reaching national coverage.

Murley expressed her disap-



JOSH DELIA | STAFF WRITER

Panelists (left to right) Jean Murley, Paula Reed Ward and Margaret Jones Patterson are media professionals who spoke at the summit.

pointment in how quickly upper and middle-class crime stories gain enormous media attention compared to lower class ones.

"What has traction is when there's beautiful people murdering each other, essentially," she said.

Paula Reed Ward, a reporter for the Pittsburgh Tribune Review and faculty advisor for *The Duke*, also spoke about discrimination in journalistic media at the panel.

Ward remembered there being

unfair criteria for what was worthy of being front-page news during her time at the Savannah Morning News.

She noticed that many homicide cases were not considered to be front-page material unless they involved middle- or upper-class white women.

"I found that discrepancy to be pretty disturbing. I didn't like that there was that inequity among the coverage," Ward said.

Ward had a meeting with her editors and was able to convince them to change the policy so that any homicide going forward would be put on the front page.

While race has been a factor that has influenced crime coverage, there are others at play as well, she said.

It also depends on where the crime has occurred, the victim's socio-economic status, whether the family is media savvy, what resources they have, the general details of each crime and the relationship between the media and the police, she said.

Peg Bittner, 70, a frequent guest of Institute of Forensic Science and Law programs, was one of about 8 in-person attendees present for the seminar, and she thoroughly enjoyed the discussions.

"I learned so much that it's going to take some time to get it digested," she said.

Patterson believes media consumers need to read news stories as citizens and view those involved as people shaped by our shared communities.

"Crime victims are rarely perfect, but each has a story to tell, and they don't deserve to be ignored because they fall outside some artificial standard of beauty," she said.

Stairway to Heaven: Elevators in Brottier having a hard time 3

ZACH PETROFF
opinions editor

It was close to midnight on Halloween night as Jane Glickman and Katherine Kane entered the elevator in Brottier on the main floor.

Eager to get to their room, Kane hit the button for the 15th floor but it did not illuminate, a suspicious omen for a building that doesn't recognize the 13th floor.

The heavy doors closed shut and soon the seconds turned into minutes. Kane tried pressing the "Open Door" and the "L" button, but to no avail. It took about two minutes until they realized that they were trapped.

It was midnight on Halloween and two college women were stuck in an elevator.

"I tried to play it off as a joke, but yeah, I was a little scared," Glickman said.

What these students experienced could be something straight out of a horror film, but this is a reality for several students and faculty across campus, especially those in Brottier hall. Across campus, elevators are out of order or in need of repair.

According to Kenneth Walters, university media relations manager, there are 60 passenger elevators, seven freight or service elevators, seven wheelchair lifts and one dumbwaiter among all the campus-owned buildings.

Duquesne University currently has a service contract with Otis Elevator Company and a resident mechanic who reports to campus full time to do preventive maintenance and answer calls.

"Otis reported 62 repairs in the past six months," Walters said. "That number is well within industry averages for repair calls. We attribute this to our robust service contract with Otis Elevator and the university's capital investments in the elevator equipment."



ZACH PETROFF | OPINIONS EDITOR

Elevators in Brottier always seem to be in disrepair. This open control panel inside the Brottier elevator is exposed as maintenance make repairs.

Students in Brottier Hall do not feel that the out-of-order elevators are "average."

"I haven't seen all three elevators working at all," said Brottier Hall desk-aid, Torge Witteborg. "Before I came here, [residents] were already talking about it."

Many students complain about the long wait times in the dormitories for a ride. Some have waited over 15 minutes before an elevator reaches their top floor.

Caitlin DeStefano is a student who lives on the 20th floor of Brottier

hall. Classes at Duquesne follow a similar schedule between all majors, so when students leave their dorms, it's not unusual to have a long line waiting to get to the main floor as others wait as well.

"I think the fact that they're always broken is really annoying because, living on the top floor, I rely on coming from class at the same time as everyone else does," DeStefano said. "On a good day there are two working."

While long wait times are not unusual for elevators that have a lot of

foot traffic, the breakdown of elevators is starting to become a common occurrence on campus.

Even when there are students inside.

"I was stuck on the ground level where the laundry is because the only way to get to the laundry room is you have to take the elevator," said DeStefano. "I was stuck in the elevator with another girl for about five minutes until we called someone at the front desk."

DeStefano's experience lasted, by her account, around five minutes. However, some students have been forced to wait over an hour-and-a-half before being rescued.

On Oct. 31, roommates Glickman and Kane were waiting inside an elevator for over an hour for maintenance to come and open the elevator doors.

"We were deciding if we were truly stuck," Glickman said, "then we decided we should probably call someone, so we just used the help button, and then I believe the front desk answered."

Duquesne University police were on the scene five minutes later to make sure everyone was alright, but they were unable to do anything at the time.

After 45 minutes of waiting in the elevator, Glickman and Kane were still stuck.

"We were like 'what is going on?'" Glickman said. "And then we were debating on actually calling the real police. So we pressed the help button again and [the front desk] said 'maintenance is here, but they're going to have to call the elevator company and get a service guy, and that is going to take an additional 30 minutes'."

University police were eventually able to open the elevator with a crowbar.

The roommates would take another

elevator to get to their floor.

"I didn't want to get on the elevator again, but I didn't want to [walk] up 15 flights," Kane said.

Walking up the steps might occasionally work more reliably than the mechanical elevators.

"Elevators periodically need major repairs which can include replacing motors, cables, and controls. The university also invests in full upgrades - all new mechanical components and cab finishes - for elevators that become obsolete due to age," Walter said in an email.

In addition to regular repair, Walter also shared future projects to assure optimal elevator operation on campus.

"Assumption Hall and two elevators in Libermann Hall are scheduled to be upgraded this summer," he said.

As far as safety is concerned, Walter made it clear on what someone should do if they are in a situation where they are stuck in an elevator.

"The industry lingo for that situation is 'entrapment,'" Walter said. He also shared what students should do if they find themselves stuck in a campus elevator.

"In that situation they should pick up the phone inside the elevator, which automatically rings through to public safety. Tell the dispatcher what building you are in and, if the elevator number is posted inside the car, what the elevator number is," Walter said. "A public safety officer and facilities maintenance will be dispatched to the building to meet the Otis Elevator."

Kane, who has already had to learn how to escape a stuck elevator, also had advice to give to those on campus.

"Don't take the elevator, if you don't have to. Live on the fourth floor or below."

Duquesne up in enrollment since pandemic

from DUQUESNE—page 1

Even for graduate students, Duquesne is looking ahead. The

program offerings need to be "future oriented"—"aware where future research, healthcare and sciences are going," Bauman said.

Kaitlyn Poad, a graduate student in corporate communication, considered Duquesne after attending a different university for her undergraduate degree.

"[Duquesne] was the only in-person integrated marketing communications graduate program I could find in the state and wasn't too far from my hometown," she said.

In addition to the program offering, Poad said money was a major reason she chose Duquesne.

"My biggest factor in deciding which school I attended came down to what I could afford," she said. "When I was offered an assistantship with the Honors College and Office of Residence Life I immediately accepted."

The future of Duquesne's current graduates now will be different than for those in the future.

Bauman has already observed student interests are changing which has challenged the university to make more opportunities available to meet those new needs.

Duquesne has seen a "trend of students interested in a lot of things," rather than one specific subject, Bauman said. Similarly, the university has also introduced two new admitted student day events that are not major-specific to welcome all potential students from all fields of study.

While new techniques might aid the increase in enrollment, Bauman also explained how Duquesne's tradition continues to be an important part of their reputation.

"We have a Catholic identity and a Spiritan mission," Bauman said.



PETER BOETTGER | LAYOUT/MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Students walk down A-Walk toward the historic Old Main building.

Memorial Service for Dr. Marinus Iwuchukwu



A memorial service/Mass of Resurrection in Dr. Marinus Iwuchukwu's honor will be held in the University Chapel of the Holy Spirit at 11 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 11. Space is limited for faculty and friends only, but the service will also be livestreamed at <https://youtu.be/gH2UfObNGAE>.

WBB defeats VCU, breaks two-game skid

BENJAMIN GOTTSCHALK
staff writer

The Duquesne women's basketball team narrowly escaped VCU in a 66-63 win at UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse Saturday afternoon, snapping a two-game losing streak.

The Dukes were propelled by a phenomenal start from Naele Bernard, who scored 11 of her team-high 17 points in the first

turnover. She played a really good basketball game tonight."

With Bernard's stellar shooting in the first quarter, the Dukes jumped out to an early 16-9 lead. But the Rams used the final two minutes of the first quarter to hold Duquesne scoreless and tie the game at 16 a piece.

"If they leave me open, I guess too bad for them," Bernard said.

Dukes led 27-24 going into the half.

Burt commended Townsend's offensive output in the game.

"It's a confidence game for Yanni. She's going to have nights like she did tonight," Burt said. "But there's another level that Yanni can go to and getting this type of confidence takes you one step. Then the next step is instead of being 6-for-11, being 8-for-11 and finishing with a double-double. That's our expectations for her."

The third quarter was neck and neck until the 4:27 mark. The Dukes went on a 12-0 run that gave them a 45-32 lead. The run was propelled by Tess Myers, who hit two 3-pointers, dished out an assist and recorded a steal in a span of under 3 minutes. By the end of the third, Duquesne was up 47-36.

The Dukes maintained the lead for the remainder of the game, but VCU was able to make it too close for comfort toward the end of the contest.

Free throws from Timaya Lewis-Eutsey and a layup from Chloe Bloom helped the Rams make it just a 2-point game at 62-60 with 22 seconds to go. They continually fouled the Dukes any time they got the ball, which led to four successful free throws from Myers to solidify the win for Duquesne.

"To me, it was a little bit more of a hanging-on type of situation," Burt said. "We're hanging on at the end, and we've got to find a way around that. We're continuing to invest in our young people that are there and trying to get them better to give us quality minutes when they do go in the game. But we're not quite at the point where I'm comfortable with us having a late lead."

In recent games, Duquesne has struggled with defensive rebounding, but against VCU, that issue was non-existent.

The Dukes outrebounded the Rams 46 to 31, with 19 of those 46 boards coming at the offensive end.

"We made a concentrated effort to do rebound drills the last two days, and it paid off, especially when you looked at the first two quarters," Burt said. "We did a really good job of boxing out, and overall we did [it] against the team that probably has more size than us. To rebound them by 15, and to have 11 more offensive rebounds, you have to feel really good about that."

With just five games left in the Atlantic 10 Conference regular season, it was important for Duquesne to secure a win and avoid a three-game losing streak.

"I used to not enjoy wins, and as you get older, you need to appreciate every time you win, and you have to take the lessons from them," Burt said. "You definitely don't want to have a three-game losing streak. And so, it's nice to get a win going into the break. It keeps everyone in a positive mood. It gives incentive for the kids to get in the gym."

The victory gave Duquesne its 12th home victory on the season, which is one win shy of tying the school record for most wins at home in a season.

"The school record is 13," Burt said. "There are two different teams that have held that, and our kids, they know that. They know that, and they'd like to set the record, so they're cognizant of it, and they're going to chase that record really, really hard."

Of Duquesne's five remaining games, two will be played at the fieldhouse.

The Dukes will return to action on Sunday, when they take on La Salle in Philadelphia.

Duquesne's next home game will be Feb. 18 against Richmond.



PETER BOETTGER | LAYOUT/MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Duquesne's Naele Bernard drives to the basket in the Dukes' 66-63 win over VCU at UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse on Saturday. Bernard scored a team-high 17 points in the Atlantic 10 victory.

quarter. Bernard also collected a career-high eight rebounds.

"I'm incredibly happy that she had eight rebounds tonight," said Duquesne Head Coach Dan Burt. "I'm even happier with her shot selection. And most importantly, I'm really happy that she only had one

Ayanna Townsend and Megan McConnell owned the second quarter, as they would combine for 9 of Duquesne's 11 second-quarter points. Duquesne's defense was key as VCU shot just 16.7% from the field in the second quarter, but the Rams were still able to keep it competitive. The

Super Bowl LVII loaded with storylines

SEAN O'DONNELL
staff writer

It will be a matchup of two teams with juggernaut offenses, when the Philadelphia Eagles and Kansas City Chiefs face off in Super Bowl LVII on Sunday evening.

Coming off a 2021-22 season that saw the Eagles going 9-8 and lose in the first round of the postseason, they arrived back at the big game sooner than many expected.

They managed to revamp their squad, ending this regular season with a league-high-tying 14 wins, matching none other than the Chiefs.

A big part of the Eagles' revamp was the acquisition of Pro Bowl wide receiver A.J. Brown from the Tennessee Titans during the 2022 NFL Draft. In his first year as an Eagle, Brown recorded career highs in both receptions (88) and receiving yards (1,496). His 11 touchdowns also matched a personal best, originally set in 2020.

Philadelphia is hoping this revamp will culminate with hoisting the Lombardi Trophy for the first time since 2018.

Kansas City is appearing in the Super Bowl for the third time in four seasons, having defeated the San Francisco 49ers in 2019-20 before falling to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in the 2020-21 campaign.

The Chiefs have enjoyed eight-consecutive seasons of winning at least 10 games. A big part of their stability during that stretch has been the consistent play of star quarterback Patrick Mahomes.

Arguably the sport's most-talented player has been dealing with a high-ankle sprain this postseason, but it did not seem to hold him back against the Cincinnati Bengals in the AFC Championship Game.

In that conference title contest, Mahomes played through his injury, throwing for 326 yards and two touchdowns in a 23-20 victory.

Mahomes will look to use his big-game experience to push his team over the edge. In Super Bowl LIV against the 49ers, Mahomes threw for 286 yards and won the game's Most Valuable Player award.

With more time now to recover from his injury, this should not play a huge role, but it is important to take note that the Kansas City quarterback might not be 100% come kickoff.

Philadelphia will certainly look to utilize the connection of quarterback Jalen Hurts and wide receiver DeVonta Smith. After winning a College Football Playoff National Championship at Alabama in 2017-18, the two were reunited when Smith was selected by the Eagles in the 2021 NFL Draft (Hurts was drafted a year prior).

Hurts, who is now in his third year in the league, faced a lot of doubters to begin the season. In 2021-22, he threw for just 16 touchdowns and nine interceptions. Hurts showed some flashes of greatness, but his true potential was still very much unknown.

This season, he silenced much of the doubt surrounding his name, turning himself into a dynamic, dual-threat quarterback. He threw for 3,701 yards and 22 touchdowns. Hurts is also dismantling teams with his running ability. He finished the regular season with 760 rushing yards and 13 touchdowns. In the NFC Championship Game against the San Francisco 49ers, he rushed for 39 yards and a touchdown.

The connection between Hurts and Smith has transferred well from college to the pros. Smith finished the regular season with 95 catches for 1,196 yards and seven touchdowns. In this postseason, Smith has recorded eight receptions for 97 receiving yards and a touchdown.

Kansas City has an electric duo of their own between Mahomes and tight end Travis Kelce. The two have been teammates since Mahomes was drafted back in 2017. Kelce finished the regular season with career highs in receptions (110) and touchdowns (12). Kelce has solidified himself

as arguably the league's best tight end, as he has now posted seven-straight seasons with at least 1,000 receiving yards.

One of the more-intriguing storylines will be the matchup between Travis and his brother, Jason, who is a center for the Eagles.

Although they won't get to share the field at the same time, they will be the first pair of brothers to play against each other in the Super Bowl. Brothers Jim (49ers) and John (Baltimore Ravens) Harbaugh coached against one another during Super Bowl XLVII.

In a battle of the league's top teams that both boast high-scoring offenses, expect a lot of points and a tightly-contested game to cap off this NFL season.



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Chiefs tight end Travis Kelce has spearheaded the offense of a Kansas City team looking to win its second Super Bowl in four seasons.

Dambrot earns 500th victory in blowout

LUKE HENNE
editor-in-chief

Behind a combined 37 points from starting guards Dae Dae Grant (20 points) and Tevin Brewer (17 points), the Duquesne men's basketball team coasted to a 75-52 victory over George Mason at UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse Wednesday night.



MARY GENRICH | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Duquesne President Ken Gormley celebrates with Head Coach Keith Dambrot after Wednesday's 75-52 win over George Mason. The victory was the 500th of Dambrot's coaching career.

The win was a historic one, as Duquesne Head Coach Keith Dambrot secured his 500th career victory at the collegiate level. Yet he's not too worried about that in the present. "I think it'll mean a little bit more to me once I'm done [coaching]," Dambrot said. "I just want to win as many games as we can and get these guys to get what they deserve, really. They put a lot of time into it."

Dambrot said that he purposely wore a LeBron James Nike-branded sweatshirt, just one day after James made history of his own by passing Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and becoming the NBA's all-time leading scorer. Dambrot, an Akron, Ohio, native, coached the fellow Akron product during James' high-school career at St. Vincent-St. Mary High School.

Dru Joyce III, Duquesne's associate head coach, was in attendance to watch James — his high-school teammate under Dambrot — achieve history in Los Angeles. Dambrot said that he wasn't awake to watch it, but that his wife woke him up. "I knew that [James] was going to get it last night," Dambrot said, "because 'Bron wouldn't have asked him and those guys from Akron to come if he wasn't going to get it last night. And, quite honestly, I get

up at 5 in the morning, so I wasn't watching the game because I knew he was going to get it anyway ... My wife watched the game, and I didn't."

Brewer said that he was grateful to witness Dambrot's milestone win. "Not too many coaches get 500 wins," Brewer said. "But just being a part of that, and being a part of his legacy, I thought that was a great game and a great team win."

Grant (from Miami of Ohio) and Brewer (from Florida International) both transferred into Duquesne prior to this season. The two guards praised the belief that Dambrot instilled in them. "What a guy," Grant said. "A loyal guy, a loving guy. And not just a guy, a coach and a mentor as well, on and off the court. He cares. He just plays a big role in all of our lives, that's just not only basketball. He cares for our academics, [about] us getting our degrees. And it's just more than basketball."

"He's going to worry about you as a person, not just as a basketball [player]," Brewer said. "He's going to always check up on you, make sure you're straight. And then on the court, he's not going to let you slack ... He means a lot to me because he gave me a second chance, to prove myself again, at a bigger stage. So I very [much] appreciate him for that."

The meeting between the Dukes and the Patriots was the first since Feb. 29, 2020, as Covid-19 issues prevented scheduled meetings in each of the past two seasons. The win was also Duquesne's second in a row, marking the first time the Dukes have won consecutive games since securing wins over Rhode Island (Dec. 31) and VCU (Jan. 4) over a month ago.

"It [the team's confidence]'s skyrocketing," Grant said. "And we're just con-

tinuing to gel. We're continuing to stick to our game plan, our defensive principles, to help us win games and continue to string out wins like this."

Grant and Brewer said that they "drowned" their head coach with water in the locker room afterward to celebrate the achievement. "Might as well say he jumped in the pool," Grant said.

Although Dambrot enjoyed the praise, he remains focused on the season in front of him. With seven regular-season games left, the Dukes (6-5 in Atlantic 10 Conference play) sit a half game behind St. Bonaventure (7-5), which they'll host at the fieldhouse Saturday afternoon.

"For me, it's nice, but now we're 16-8," Dambrot said. "Let's see where we can go from here. That's kind of how I view the night. I think we can go pretty good."



DYLAN FISTER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Dae Dae Grant scored a game-high 20 points in Wednesday's 75-52 home victory.

Atlantic 10 Conference Power Rankings (based on games through Feb. 5)

*Each week, in collaboration with other student newspapers across the Atlantic 10 Conference, members of *The Duke's* sports section will vote in a weekly conference power rankings poll.*

Contributor	Paper	School
Peter Boettger	The Duquesne Duke	Duquesne
Ben Gottschalk	The Duquesne Duke	Duquesne
Luke Henne	The Duquesne Duke	Duquesne
Cam Iasimone	The Good 5¢ Cigar	Rhode Island
Mia Messina	The Hawk	Saint Joseph's
Nathan Robillard	The Good 5¢ Cigar	Rhode Island
Aaron Tully	The Hawk	Saint Joseph's

MBB	WBB
(1) VCU	(1) Rhode Island
(2) Saint Louis	(2) UMass
(3) Dayton	(3) Fordham
(4) Fordham	(4) G. Washington
(T5) St. Bonaventure	(5) Saint Joseph's
(T5) Duquesne	(6) La Salle
(7) George Mason	(7) Duquesne
(8) G. Washington	(8) Davidson
(9) Richmond	(9) Saint Louis
(10) Saint Joseph's	(T10) Richmond
(11) UMass	(T10) George Mason
(T12) La Salle	(12) VCU
(T12) Rhode Island	(13) Loyola Chicago
(14) Davidson	(14) Dayton
(15) Loyola Chicago	(15) St. Bonaventure



PETER BOETTGER | LAYOUT/MULTIMEDIA EDITOR



AI fails to fill the role of 'man's best friend'

EMILY FRITZ
a&e editor

Anyone who has taken care of a Tamagotchi or a Webkinz pet or even named their Roomba vacuum understands the appeal of personifying their robot or virtual friends. With artificial intelligence agents like Siri and Alexa evolving faster than we sometimes realize, it can be easy to forget that we aren't actually interacting with a literal human substitute.

Dr. Noreen Herzfeld, Reuters Professor of Science and Religion at St. John's University & The College of St. Benedict, recently authored "The Artifice of Intelligence: Divine and Human Relationship in a Robotic Age," which focuses on how artificial intelligence affects the authenticity of our relationships with each other as well as with our virtual companions.

"We live in a society that is saturated with technology. Much of it is influencing us behind the scenes and we don't realize it," she said.

Using Karl Barth's four injunctions regarding embodiment, communication, agency and emotion, Herzfeld adequately describes how machines repeatedly fail to accompany us on a

level that is comparable to how we relate to each other.

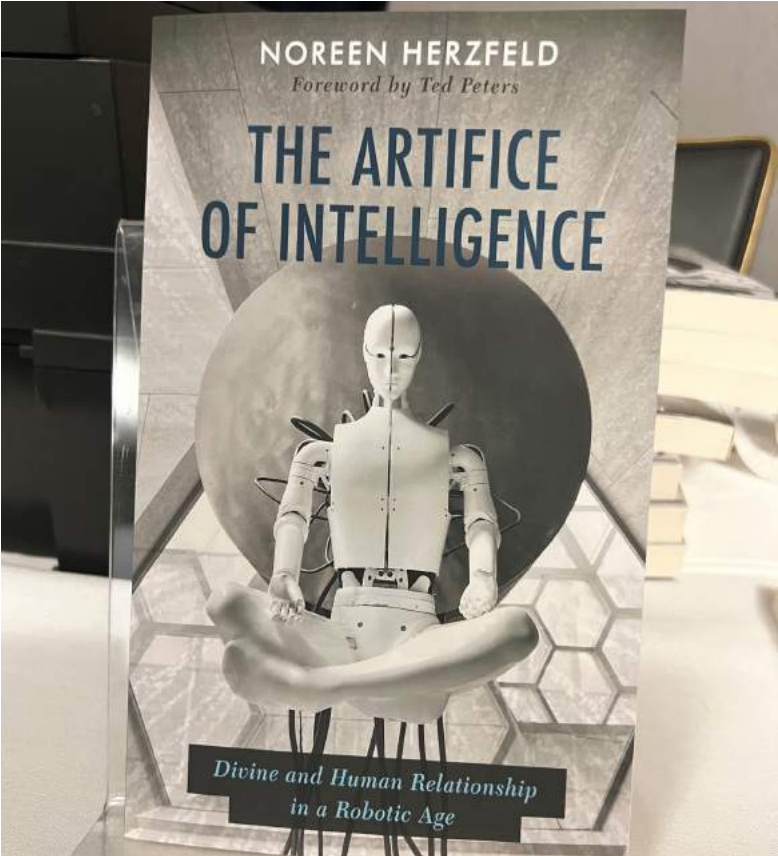
"The biggest shortcoming is AI's lack of emotion. It can't care about you, or anything. [It is] pretty sociopathic...But, as I pointed out, emotion depends on embodiment as [an essential]."

Duquesne University had the privilege of hosting Herzfeld on Feb. 7 for a lecture about her new book and then a brief Q&A session with Carnegie Mellon University's Dr. John Dolan, who serves as a principle systems scientist.

The event was sponsored through a partnership between Duquesne's own Carl G. Grefenstette Center for Ethics in Science, Technology and Law and the Pittsburgh-based Beatrice Institute.

Attendees present included Duquesne students and faculty, members of the Beatrice Institute and community members. Many audience members were eager to ask their own questions about the capabilities of AI for experiencing humanity through mercy or their efficiency and the opportunities to deploy AI robotics into the trenches of warfare.

There were also a number of questions that tied artificial intelligence to theology more directly, with particular discussion



EMILY FRITZ | A&E EDITOR

"The Artifice of Intelligence: Divine and Human Relationship in a Robotic Age" is available for pre-order now and regular release beginning Feb. 28.

about the uncanny valley and the numerous attempts to create machines in the likeness of people, or through God's image.

The evening ended with the opportunity for participants to purchase a copy of Herzfeld's book and have it signed.

Dr. John Slattery, director of the Grefenstette Center, explained to The Duke how the efforts of the organization on-campus continues to contribute to the conversation regarding the intersection of technology, theology and ethics.

"To understand the world in different ways, it doesn't have to be bifurcated. It doesn't have to be split. As humans, we naturally want to understand how the world works, which is sort of what we consider science today, but we also want to understand why we exist...which is really sort of the basis of all faith and philosophical practices today," he said.

"So if you think of those as a reflection of being human, then

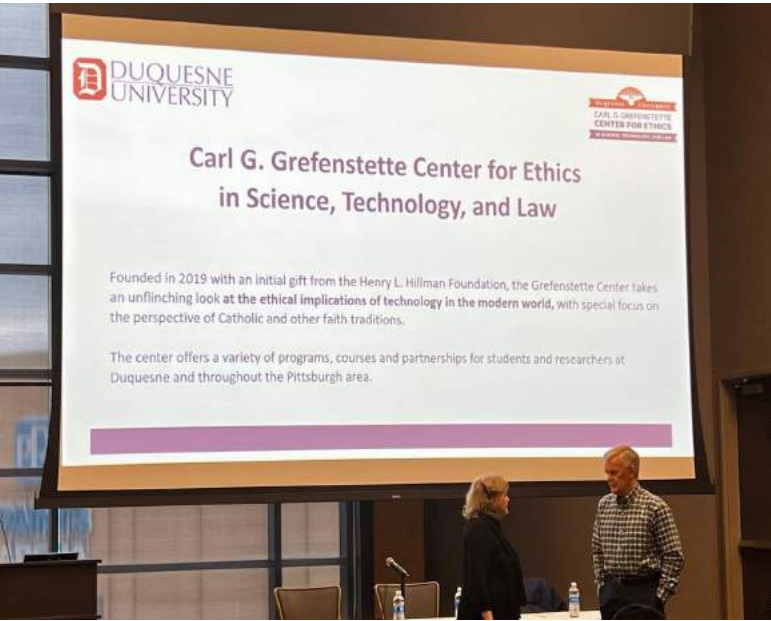
the split between science and religion is a very modern split."

Slattery had the opportunity to read "The Artifice of Intelligence" and spoke highly of the work.

"In this book, she does a really wonderful job, sort of breaking apart the hype from the reality of what AI is and then taking this real-world artificial intelligence, these real-world robots, other things and asking hard questions about 'what does it mean for human relationships?'"

"She does a great job of taking all of these technological examples and then using them as a lens to see this broader sort of religious question of 'what does it mean to be in a relationship with someone and what can we value about human relationships?'"

Herzfeld's book is available for pre-order before its official release on Feb. 28. Those looking for future events hosted by the Grefenstette Center can learn more at <https://www.duq.edu/research/centers-and-institutes/grefenstette-center/>.



EMILY FRITZ | A&E EDITOR

Dr. Noreen Herzfeld (left) and Dr. John Dolan (right) prepared to respond to a Q&A session after a lecture and response regarding Herzfeld's new book.

campus
events

The Musicians of Smoketown:
Pittsburgh Jazz
Feb. 9 @ 3:15 p.m.

Listen to the music and history of Smoketown to celebrate Black History Month in College Hall 105.

ACS Fe Chef 2023
Feb. 10 @ 4:30 p.m.

Join the American Chemical Society in Union 613 to learn about the chemistry of cooking!

Lebanon Appreciation Night
Feb. 13 @ 9 p.m.

Doctors without Borders: Friends of MSF is sponsoring an evening of Lebanese culture and food in the NiteSpot.

Women in Business
Galentine's Day
Feb. 15 @ 9 p.m.

Join the Women in Business club to paint tote bags and hang out in the NiteSpot! Snacks will be provided.

emily's
epiphanies

Take Your Day in Smaller Pieces
Some of the best advice I've ever received came from one of my high school teachers during my senior year.

He told me to live in each 41-minute increment of my day and to treat it as its own special vacuum of time where nothing else could matter or intrude on my thoughts. I could throw all of my energy into whatever task required my immediate attention.

As we approach midterms and Spring Break in the upcoming weeks, I encourage you to do something similar. Live in your 50-minute or 75-minute classes and focus solely on the work you have laid out in front of you.

Let go of your other troubles and try to genuinely enjoy each of your lessons for what you can take away from them. At the very least, it should allow you to take a break from the normal messiness and stress of other assignments, work schedules or life happenings.

Even if you had a terrible 50-minute class, you can leave it there in that tiny portion of your day, and allow yourself to indulge in the happier pieces that came before or after.
— Emily Fritz

Aquarius ♒

brb gonna sit in the sink

Gemini ♊

sold to parma-john boy

Libra ♎

fire hazard lol

Pisces ♓

Pigs in blankets should be the preview

Cancer ♋

Truly nothing going on inside my head.

Scorpio ♏

My God!
I think she's right...
They are marigolds!

Aries ♈

there isn't an orca warning, I'm so sorry

Leo ♌

that dog gaslit my grandpa for weeks

Sagittarius ♐

so you're saying you could comfortably limp a mile?

Taurus ♉

sometimes self care is mashed potatoes at 10:30 p.m.

Virgo ♍

"take a nature break" but in cursive

Capricorn ♑

funky fresh but still illegal

"The Last of Us": Not Just Another Zombie Show

ANDY KAMIS
staff writer

Set 20 years after a global pandemic ravaged almost all of human civilization to extinction, HBO's "The Last of Us" follows survivors Joel Miller (Pedro Pascal) and Ellie Williams (Bella Ramsey) as they make a grueling journey across the United States.

Throughout their adventure, Joel and Ellie will have to overcome many unforeseen adversities while also navigating through their own conflicting personalities. This new series was adapted from a popular video game title, which shares the same name.

The HBO adaptation was first announced in June of 2020, just as the second installment of the game was being released. So far the adaptation has paid a great tribute to the game, both through the game's story and through its mechanics as well.

"The Last of Us" premiered on Jan. 15 and had 4.7 million viewers tune in to watch the pilot episode. Every weekly episode afterward has increased in its viewership with the second episode raking in 5.7 million viewers, a 22% increase from the pilot. But it does not stop there: the third episode opened with 6.4 million viewers and the latest episode just reached 7.5 mil-

lion initial streams on Sunday, Feb. 5. So far, the hit show has grown more than 60% in viewership from its debut release.

Despite showing a post-apocalyptic world full of infected monsters and callous marauders, "The Last of Us" breaks the traditional zombie depiction seen in other forms of media and stands on its own in several different ways.

"The Last of Us" breaks the typical zombie genre in that its outbreak is actually scientifically backed in reasoning.

Unlike most zombie movies and television shows, it is not a virus that infects human hosts, but rather the real-world Cordyceps fungus that infiltrates a person's brain in order to control their every move. From here, the fungus keeps the host alive and forces them to bite others so that it can spread.

In reality, Cordyceps cannot survive in the human body due to its internal temperature. However, the show begs the question of "what if" and suggests that if the planet's temperature were to increase—via global warming—that Cordyceps or other fungi would be able to adapt and survive a higher temperature. This is the basis for the show, giving a refreshing—but scary—interpretation of the zombie franchise.

"The Last of Us" has also beautifully expressed many con-



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Cast members (from left to right) Neil Druckmann, Craig Mazin, Bella Ramsey, Pedro Pascal, Merle Dandridge and Gabriel Luna answered questions for fans at the 2022 Comic Con Experience.

voluted themes so far, such as grief, love and humanity. For instance, the third episode, titled "Long, Long Time," elegantly displays the love story between the characters Bill and Frank. Their full relationship is told over a majority of the episode including not just the happiness of being in love, but also the hardships that the characters had to overcome for each other.

The romantic subplot successfully demonstrates the purpose of living after the world has ended and how love has the ability to restore humanity within individuals despite hopeless times

and hardships.

Episode 3 also shows that it is important for the characters to truly feel alive in what they do and how they perceive the new world, instead of just merely living to survive. Bill and Frank's story truly tugs on the viewers' heartstrings and provides a great representation for the LG-BTQIA+ community as well.

Finally, HBO's "The Last of Us" is polished in its production and attention to detail. Each set displayed so far has been intricate, immersive and has been highlighted by some outstanding shots. The first

four episodes have taken viewers through overgrown wildernesses, abandoned suburbs and the ruins of Boston and Kansas City, Kan.

On top of that, Pascal and Ramsey have provided unmatched performances thus far, making their characters easy to follow and connect to.

"The Last of Us" will return for its fifth installment on Feb. 10 at 9 p.m. This episode is premiering two days earlier than the show's typical Sunday night release schedule so that it will not have to compete with Super Bowl LVII.

"Ferb, I know what we're going to do today"

EMMA POLEN
news editor

The fan-favorite Disney show "Phineas and Ferb" will return soon for 40 more days of summer vacation.

Ayo Davis, president of Disney Branded Television, officially announced the show's revival at the Television Critics Association winter press tour. There will be 40 new episodes, divided between two seasons, Davis said.

D23, the official Disney fan club website, collected quotes from the press tour.

Dan Povenmire, co-creator and executive producer of "Phineas and Ferb," will be leading the project for the show's revival.

"Dan is renowned for his ability to create universally beloved stories and characters with both heart and humor," Davis said at the press tour. "We couldn't be happier to continue our collaboration with him and bring back the iconic 'Phineas and Ferb' in a big way."

During its original run, Povenmire voiced several characters for

the show. Most memorable is his character Dr. Heinz Doofenshmirtz, an evil scientist who was always creating "inators" with a conveniently placed self-destruct button.

In addition, Povenmire wrote several songs and scripts and also illustrated for the 200-some total episodes of "Phineas and Ferb". He has continued to produce this creative content on his own social media platforms, most notably TikTok where he has 6.3 million followers.

"It has been the greatest pleasure of my career to see how an entire generation of kids and parents have embraced the characters and the humor of 'Phineas and Ferb,'" Povenmire said at the press tour. "I'm eagerly looking forward to diving back into the show for them and for a whole new generation."

While "Phineas and Ferb" await their episodic adventures to return, plenty of content remains available for fans of the show's family-friendly story, rockstar cast and catchy tunes.

The show's debut was in 2007, and ran until 2015 on Disney tele-

vision channels.

All episodes of "Phineas and Ferb," with additional content including the unreleased "O.W.C.A. Files" show about Perry the Platypus and his crew of animal agent friends, are available on Disney+.

After 2015, several other Povenmire-led projects were released to Disney channel and streaming services.

"Candace Against the Universe" was an hour-and-a-half movie featuring the storyline and characters of "Phineas and Ferb" released August of 2020—a welcome sight for fans stuck at home during the pandemic.

In addition to the adventures of "Phineas and Ferb," the show was also made worth the watch for its voice actors.

Main leads who returned every episode included Phineas Flynn (Vincent Martella), Candace Flynn (Ashley Tisdale), Ferb Fletcher (Thomas Brodie-Sangster), Linda Flynn (Caroline Rhea), Dr. Heinz Doofenshmirtz (Dan Povenmire, co-creator) and Major Francis Monogram (Jeff "Swampy" Marsh, co-creator).

The show also featured celebrity guest voice appearances including Corbin Bleu and bug adventurer duo Napoleon and Wendell, played by J.K. Simmons and Josh Gad respectively.

Povenmire, Marsh and the rest of the main crew will return for the new seasons, said Davis.

In case fans ever get bored rewatching their favorite "Phineas and Ferb" episodes, Disney has also released several series involving Povenmire, Marsh and their animation team.

The 2016 show, "Milo Murphy's Law," starred "Weird Al" Yankovic as Milo, a surprisingly optimistic middle schooler with a lot not going his way. "Anything that can go wrong, will go wrong" was Milo's catchphrase due to Murphy's Law, a curse that affected all of the men in his family.

In August, the series "Hamster and Gretel" premiered on Disney Channel. Gretel (Meli Povenmire) is a young girl gifted superpowers by aliens. By some strange events, her hamster, cleverly named Hamster, was also gifted superpowers and to-

gether the two save the city. A second season of the new Povenmire show was promised for renewal at the Television Critics Association winter press tour.

In addition to iconic episodes and catchphrases, "Phineas and Ferb" has a long list of catchy tunes that have remained popular since the show's last episode aired.

Songs like "S.I.M.P (Squirrels in My Pants)" by 2 Guys n the Parque and "Busted" by Candace and Vanessa (voiced by Ashley Tisdale and Olivia Olson) have remained popular on music streaming platforms. "S.I.M.P (Squirrels in My Pants)" experienced an interesting revival last fall as a TikTok dance trend. The Spotify artist "Cast of Phineas and Ferb" has almost 170,000 monthly listeners on Spotify.

"Phineas and Ferb" did more than grace the screen. The show's influence on pop culture and its creative team have continued to remain relevant after the show originally stopped airing new episodes. Now, fans will see a revival that brings their favorite characters back to life.

THE DUQUESNE DUKE

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“Don’t be in a hurry to

condemn because he doesn’t

do what you do or think as

you think or as fast. There

was a time when you didn’t

know what you know today.”

MALCOLM X

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

@TheDuquesneDuke

EDITORIAL
POLICY

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COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

A student’s life can be overwhelming. Features editor Isabella Abbott believes the key to finding balance and achieving student success is being organized. A good way to stay organized is by utilizing a planner.

Winging it or planning it?
Organization is key to success

It’s 11:49 in a class ending at 11:50, and the professor hasn’t announced homework yet.

While others are packed and ready to head out, I’m patiently sitting at my desk, purple pen in hand, waiting for the day’s assignment to be called out.

I know some have other places to be, like another class, but I know I need to get the homework done for next time so I’ll stick around a few extra minutes. Without it written in my planner, it won’t get done.

The saying “organization is key” always comes to mind when I think about success in college. You have to be organized to stay on top of classwork and work in general.

While some may say they don’t need to stay organized to get good grades, I’m someone who needs many different steps of an organization method to keep myself and my work accounted for.

Between internships, classes, club meetings and sports, there’s no time to not to be organized. There’s always something that needs to be planned beforehand or known about in advance, so organization is a big factor in my day-to-day life.

I’ll write down anything from a work schedule to a day I have to be on a race course. Nothing can be forgotten when it’s right in front of you on paper.

However, when I see unorganized people doing great in class, I always have to ask myself if I could do the same.

The answer is definitely not.

I’ve seen others without planners who get their work done on time and wonder how they can operate without a written down schedule showing them exact due dates and specifics.

They seem to have somehow memorized the homework rather than myself who would forget about it five minutes later when the class was officially over.

On the other hand, I’ve also seen unorganized students who’ve struggled to get work done on time and who turn in assignments late, it may just depend on the person.

These are the people who

forget the homework like me but don’t have a written down backup of it. So, their grades tend to drop fast as they scurry to turn in late assignments.

I’ve even seen classmates who have come into class asking if there was homework the night before, something I’ve never had to wonder about since I would always have a reminder telling me when it was due.



ISABELLA ABBOTT

features editor

And it’s not as if these homework assignments weren’t graded or unimportant, they were usually the ones that needed to get done for a decent grade in the class.

Do students not care about organization or do they not care about a class grade?

Although, I may just be forgetful in general with assignments and day-to-day activities since I go from practice to work to class then back to practice, if I wasn’t organized with my stuff, I’d miss events, assignments and probably even scheduled work hours.

Maybe I’d even miss the deadline for this story.

I’ve been using a planner ever since middle school, a time when I probably didn’t even need one, but each year I buy a new one, it

ends up filled with activities, events and homework assignments that need to get done. Some of these assignments probably even helped me get to where I am now in college.

I know I had to write down when college submission forms and essays were due, one of the last things you’d want to turn in late.

I’d like to think my organizational skills have allowed me to succeed.

I’ve been able to turn in assignments and job applications earlier rather than later. I even turned this story in early, knowing I had to get it done on time.

I would even say checking my email is a great way of organization too.

I don’t understand how students can leave their inbox filled with over 40 unopened emails, I would think I missed something important or even necessary for other assignments or work.

I’ve even had experiences with emailing other students who don’t get back to me until five or six days later.

Don’t even get me started on emails with members for group projects.

I saw a team member forget they had a final presentation and had to sit out after arriving at class as the group was presenting. That’s a big assignment to be unorganized for.

Wouldn’t they want to check to make sure they’re not missing deadlines and grades?

I guess not.

And that’s exactly why I over-check my email and write down everything that needs to be done throughout my days. It not only keeps me organized, but it allows me to know when items are due which helps me stay productive.

Not only has this helped me to thrive but I’ve been able to be known for my organizational skills, even convincing a coworker to get a planner.

He always turns in his assignments now.

For some, you may stick to your routine of remembering homework assignments off the top of your head.

But for me, I’ll stick to my over-written planner.

STAFF
EDITORIALMaking the case for
Super Bowl Monday

It’s no secret that the Super Bowl has become a cultural phenomenon in the United States. The National Football League’s annual championship game is not just a football game — it’s arguably this country’s most-popular social event.

According to data from the National Retail Federation, approximately 193 million Americans plan on watching this year’s Super Bowl between the Kansas City Chiefs and Philadelphia Eagles on Sunday. Roughly 104 million people will throw or attend a gathering to watch the game, while another almost 18 million will see it at a bar or restaurant.

Simply put, this game transcends sports. It’s a big deal on a national scale. With that in mind, is it possible that Super Bowl Monday — the day after the big game — should be a holiday?

Last week, two Tennessee politicians — Sen. London Lamar and Rep. Joe Towns Jr. — proposed replacing the Columbus Day holiday on the calendar with Super Bowl Monday.

Why not? What’s not to like about this?

A handful of schools in the Philadelphia area have already announced that they will operate on a 2-hour delay schedule Monday.

In the event that the Chiefs were to win, Kansas City Public Schools have said that, although classes will go on as scheduled Monday, they’ll be canceled Wednesday so that students have the opportunity to attend what would be the team’s victory parade.

Holidays are times designed for social gatherings, connectivity and celebration. It’s clear that, both in Kansas City and Philadelphia, as well as across the country, the Super Bowl will be watched, talked about and celebrated in a large capacity.

Remember, this wouldn’t be adding a day off. Substitute Columbus Day with this brand-new holiday.

If this were another sport, the argument may be different. Sports like hockey and baseball are more regionalized sports where even the championship series doesn’t draw as much national attention.

However, it’s a different story with football. Per Sports Media Watch, every Super Bowl’s main broadcast since 2006 has topped 90 million viewers. It’s a big deal, no matter where in the country it’s being watched from.

Everyone enjoys Super Bowl Sunday. Now, it’s time for them to enjoy the next day as well.

Left on read — my phone won't leave me alone

ZACH PETROFF
opinions editor

I don't do anything on Sundays. After a long week, I like to reward myself by having a full day where I do not have to have any obligations other than feed my cat.

I take that day to do whatever I want. That usually includes a quick trip to a Giant Eagle, so I can pretend to meal-prep, then come home and do nothing of importance.

Me and my aforementioned cat Athena usually spend the rest of the day watching football, catching up on my favorite podcasts and staring at screens until my eyes bleed.

While it may not seem like the most productive day, the brain is a muscle and like all muscle groups, rest is absolutely crucial.

This past Sunday was a little different because I usually spend most of the day watching football, but since the Pro Bowl is not football, I found myself open to a whole new world of options. I needed to find a new way to get dopamine into my brain. So, I decided to switch things up.

I spend all week looking at screens. I go from my laptop to my phone to my television. Some-

times, when the events are timed just perfectly, I'm actually indulged in all three. Watching football on my T.V., talking trash with my friends on my phone and looking at my bets on my laptop.

It's probably super healthy.

I decided to put the one screen away that usually demands the most attention from me; the one screen that I tend to exacerbate addiction behavior toward, the screen that makes me nervous when it is not physically on me, the screen that I cannot fathom the number of hours I waste staring at, filling my brain with useless knowledge as my brain cells start to rot.

I had a phone-free day.

When I came back to my phone that evening, I was astonished.

I had 52 notifications. 52 non-communication notifications. That is 6.5 notifications per hour.

Please keep in mind, that I am not what anyone would consider a "popular or important person." My existence consists of going to school, getting bossed around by my cat and hanging with girlfriend on the weekends. I have been able to craft a social circle so small one would need a microscope to examine it.

And while I may be on various social media applications, I do not

use them to socialize, I use them the way they were intended -- to judge people from a far.

Of course, I can always turn off my notifications, but there are apps that I find necessary to navigate my every day life as a student.

How do we function as a society when our attention is constantly being pulled in a million different directions?

I've made peace with the fact that my brain is already melted, but I have to think this cannot be good for a young person.

I'm a millennial in my (early) thirties, so while smartphones have been a prominent part of my life, they haven't been there forever. For the current generation, smart phones have been a permanent fixture (used already) in their lives. This cannot be good for their brains.

What are we doing to our young people?

The American Psychology Association found that when it comes to specific mental health issues, adult Gen Zers are more likely than some other generations to report they have been diagnosed with an anxiety disorder and more likely than all other generations to report they have been diagnosed with depression.

Correlation does not always equate to causation, but I think if

we put down our smartphones for a moment and looked around, we see what we've become.

We have cultivated a culture that requires the use of constant connectivity. These machines that buzz and blink directly connect to this idea of constant need for validation. This notion that we may only be as worthy as our online presence is fairly new and grossly misguided.

I understand the need for technology. The ability to connect with someone in an instant is one of those modern marvels shaping our future for the better.

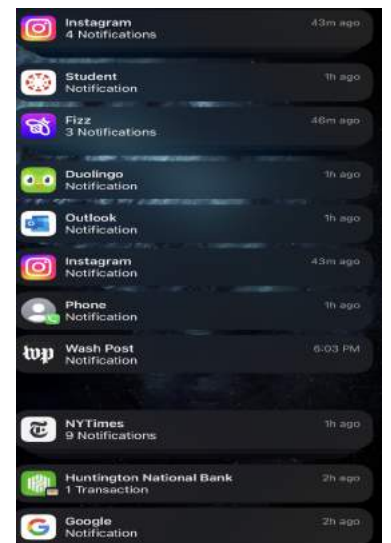
It is both a gift and a curse. We have this opportunity to communicate and share information in an instant, but we've also created this false sense of making everything instantly relevant, causing this addict-like behavior that has attached to the fear of not being left out.

These phones provide us a shield. We can avoid making eye contact and small talk as we tunnel into our own secluded worlds. We can subject ourselves to the things that only we find interesting, satisfying our dopamine dependent brain while killing our already thin attention span.

It's easy to get lost in a new world. It is easy to indulge in an online culture where our egos are

quickly fed and our inhibitions dissipate behind anonymity. It is just as easy to become controlled by the objects, as they tear away our self-worth and cognitively reorganize our priorities.

Like many things in our life, we need balance and moderation to maintain a healthy lifestyle. The platform has the capability to allow levels of creativity and expression we've never seen before. The world is in the palm of our hands.



COURTESY OF ZACH PETROFF

Zach Petroff's home screen after putting away his phone for eight hours.

China balloon doesn't cross the ocean blue

RUSSELL MACIAS
staff writer

Take that Ike!

The Military Industrial Complex succeeds in defeating an adversarial Chinese balloon!

In what was undoubtedly the wildest story of the week, the United States government used an F-22 Raptor to shoot down a suspected spy balloon. The Chinese balloon took a wondrous coast to coast trip before being shot down as it floated over the Atlantic Ocean on Saturday.

Immediately people, most notably from the right, were eager to discuss how disgusting and spineless America is for allowing a balloon to fly over the continent. Former director of the CIA and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo even crawled out of his post-Trump era cavern to chime in, claiming he would have never let that happen.

As the balloon casually meandered about, the suspected reasoning was to conduct surveillance of sensitive US military sites. China said it was a civilian weather balloon that drifted off course, which frankly would've made for a way funnier story than what the Chinese government is trying to feed us.

Perhaps the only thing that both political parties can agree on is that China had deceitful intentions.

If you ask the alt-right, the real reason China invaded U.S. airspace was to prove that Biden, and by affiliation - the U.S., is weak. This past weekend would give the Chinese a preview of the U.S.'s inability to quickly and aggressively act if they were to invade Taiwan.

It seemed many from the right were eager to see military action. The opportunity to shoot guns outside of their porch to stop an inflatable enemy seems like the perfect plot to the next Clint Eastwood movie.

This quickness to respond to any crisis with hostile force has become as American as the apple pie or racism. We love our violence even at the peril of a peaceful coexistence.

All of this ugly discourse over a balloon.

That balloon almost assuredly didn't give China any information they didn't already have. Truthfully, we live in an age of satellites and pictures from space. While maybe providing a moderately closer look, China likely already knows whatever it wants to know.

That's not to say this story

isn't meaningless, as it was actually the funniest story I've ever seen, as it's literally a balloon! The last time a major sect of the U.S. Population was affected by a balloon was when SpongeBob SquarePants and Patrick Star stole a pair of balloons and went to jail.

The Chinese spy balloon did receive obscene amounts of press coverage.

But why? I think that's the intriguing question. Why would the media choose to focus on something so obscure? There's been more coverage and discourse about this balloon seemingly than there was about the horrific death of Tyre Nichols. Is it because more people care about a balloon than human life?

The media also could've continued scrutinizing Congress and the gong show that's occurring there, with George Santos or more importantly, the week leading up to the State of the Union Address, but instead the country fixated on a balloon.

One is left to simply ponder then, is the balloon the easy story then? Is that why it got so heavily fixated upon? Obviously, the Republicans jump at any reason to show they're true patriots, and there's never been a better op-

portunity to prove that. But why then pander to them and give it so much press?

The whole story strikes me as so wildly innocuous yet fascinating, and maybe that's why it's got all the attention it's got.

Or maybe, it is exactly what Dwight D. Eisenhower warned us all about, some 60 plus years ago, that the Military Industrial Complex needed to be deconstructed, otherwise any tiny strands of things to be used to strengthen the military, will be seized.



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

The U.S. military deployed an F-22 Raptor to shoot down a suspected Chinese spy balloon over the Atlantic Ocean on Thursday afternoon.

Garnes donates bone marrow out of goodwill

HANNAH PETERS
staff writer

Ayden Garnes hated seeing his grandmother fight cancer. So when the chance came for the Duquesne sophomore defensive back to donate his bone marrow to help save someone else's life, the choice was easy.

On Jan. 4, he underwent surgery to give the life-saving marrow to a woman with blood cancer.

"That's the best gift in the world," Garnes said. "Hearing that you'll be able to have the surgery to stay alive."

He said that doctors made seven incisions around his hips and back to remove the bone marrow. From each of those seven incisions, 50 more incisions were made.

Garnes underwent one of the more invasive surgeries for willing donors, and a total of 1.5 liters of his bone marrow was taken.

"It went fine, really. The incisions didn't really hurt as much as I thought they would," Garnes said.

The only pain Garnes recalls is some irritation in his throat from the breathing tube. In fact, just 10 days later, he was back in the gym working out.

He first heard the news that he was a match for a patient in need of a transplant during the football season from an unexpected email.

"When I got the email, I had kinda forgotten all about it. My mom was a little timid about it at first, but I told them this is something I want to do," Garnes said. "I knew I wanted to do it ever since I was swabbed."

Back in April, the football team participated in a swab drive. Each one swabbed their cheek to be put in a database as po-

tential matches for blood cancer patients needing bone marrow.

"It was a big thing we all did, we all wanted to help somebody," Garnes said.

The drive has taken place annually on Duquesne's campus for the past 13 years through a program called Be The Match. Operated by the National Marrow Donor

on campus.

The head of the program at Duquesne and Defensive Coordinator for the football team, Mike Craig, said this was the first time he has gone through the whole process with a donor, and the first time he has seen a football player donate.

"I told Garnes, 'This is your legacy,

ing his college roommate battle leukemia, Craig knows the hardships of cancer all too well.

"Cancer affects everybody," Craig said.

And the statistics say the same: every three minutes someone is diagnosed with a blood cancer like leukemia, according to the Be The Match website.

"I think the message moving forward is to continue spreading awareness for this need that's out there and how simple it really is to help," Craig said. "What Garnes did was a great representation of our university and overall mission to serve others. He should be celebrated for what he did."

For Garnes, this also hits close to home.

"My coach and my grandma were my biggest motivation," Garnes said. "My grandma had cancer, and I hated how she had to suffer. I didn't want to have another family going through that, especially around Christmas time."

His efforts have also helped spark more engagement in the cause: The Duquesne community has another chance to participate in Be The Match this Saturday at the Duquesne men's basketball game. National television will also be covering the game, which will recognize Garnes at halftime.

The game begins at 12:30 p.m. at UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse and anyone ages 16-59 is eligible to join the registry by showing up and getting swabbed.

Garnes was also recognized at Hogan Dining Hall this past Wednesday for a honorary lunch in his name.

Craig credits Garnes for the increased interest in the cause at Duquesne.

"He made it a very real thing for our campus," Craig said. "It's a small sacrifice that means the world to someone else."



COURTESY OF AYDEN GARNES

Ayden Garnes, a sophomore defensive back on Duquesne's football team, recently donated bone marrow to a woman in need. Garnes went through the Be The Match program on campus to donate.

Program, they actively manage the most diverse marrow registry in the world.

Through its college program called Get in The Game, Duquesne has been able to gather more than 4,500 registrants and over 25 donors throughout its 13 years

man' This is doing something for other people. It's not what you do in football, it's about what you do for others that's going to make the biggest impact on the world," Craig said.

Surviving cancer himself and witness-

PHOTOS FROM AYDEN GARNES' ON-FIELD EXPERIENCE



COURTESY OF MIKE CRAIG

Duquesne defensive coordinator Mike Craig said Garnes should be "celebrated for what he did."



COURTESY OF AYDEN GARNES

Garnes said that donating his bone marrow to the woman on Jan. 4 was the "best gift in the world."

THE DUQUESNE DUKE JOIN US FOR OUR WEEKLY STAFF MEETINGS



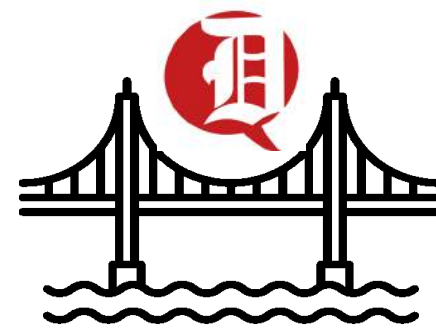
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Be safe this Valentine's Day...



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with either the perpetrator's alcohol consumption, the victim's alcohol
consumption, or both. *

* Sexual assault and alcohol consumption: what do we know about their relationship and what types of research are still needed? NIH, Oct. 2015.
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4616254/>.



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