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π or Pie?

MAX MARCELLO
staff writer

Pi is both a universal culinary favorite and a mathematical function, both of which came together this Pi Day with a collaborative event.

On March 14 the Department of Mathematics & computer science with Pi Mu Epsilon held a celebration for the iconic number.

Around two dozen students & faculty gathered in the NiteSpot for pi-themed festivities including pool trick shots from professor Andrew Segal.

Since Pi Day's inception, the traditions of mathematics and pie eating have been intertwined, and the holiday has become an international celebration.

At Duquesne's Pi Day event, the traditions of pie the food and pi the mathematical function were upheld.

A great variety of pies, both sweet and savory, were available to those who attended. Cherry, lemon meringue, blackberry, pumpkin and apple were just some of the options.

Students and faculty competed in a pi themed trivia for prizes. Such questions included: "Where is the zip code 31415 located at?" and "What is the Greek word whose first letter is pi's name-sake?" The answer to these questions, in order, are "Savannah, Georgia" and the Greek word "περίφερεια" which translates to circumference.

Dr. Samantha Allen, a first-year professor of mathematics created the trivia in addition to organizing the event itself.

see PIE — page 2

THE DUQUESNE DUKE

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ZACH PETROFF | OPINIONS EDITOR

Food Truck Fridays are back on the Bluff. Rain or shine, this spring semester will be a little brighter with the return of one of Duquesne students' favorite weekly traditions. See page 3 for more on food trucks.

Symposium celebrates artistic ventures

SOVI HERRING
staff writer

The Wimmer Symposium this Tuesday highlighted the research and service projects of graduate students in the Duquesne community.

The Wimmer Awards are a competitive award for non-tenured faculty through the Wimmer Family Foundation, funded by the Kamin family.

The award itself helps aspiring faculty in the McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts with various projects, research, conferences and even community service programs, said Liberal Arts College Dean Kristine Blair. Projects cover a wide range of disciplines and goals, all of which were displayed during the Wimmer Symposium.

The symposium was an all-day affair on March 14 at the Power Center, and the event was packed with panels that consisted of previous Wimmer Award recipients talking about how the award impacted their specific projects and how that determined the next steps in their careers.

This year's Wimmer Symposium represented over twenty years of support from the Kamins' foundation, Blair said in her opening remarks.

Event talks consisted of current faculty members from every department of the college. Topics ranged from holy communion to sex education to the dimensions of autism. The concurrent panels had audiences of faculty, staff and students from across various programs on campus.

Panelists reflected on their time as pre-tenured, assistant professors – the type of faculty the Wimmer Award aims to help on their academic and scholarship journey in a competitive setting.

The first set of awards were issued in 2001. With the symposium consisting of historical and future milestones, awardees had the opportunity to give thanks to the Kamins' generosity.

Sam and Joan Kamin, the family that made the past two decades of continued scholarship possible, attended the symposium. While they have met most of the Wimmer awardees previ-

ously, this symposium gave them the opportunity to see the broader scope of winners' successes.

Philipp Stelzel's "History After Hitler: A Transatlantic Enterprise" was particularly interesting, the Kamins said, as was Kelly Arenson's discussion on how she used Wimmer funds to attend conferences and complete research tasks.

Mr. Sam Kamin mentioned that he is a "political animal" and most of the panels he saw "interested [him] to learn more" – panels such as the "Liberty, Order, and Political Ideology" with Clifford Bob, Mark Haas and Luke Sheahan and "The Panic Industrial Complex: Scaring America for Power and Profit."

Meanwhile, Joan Kamin attended a separate set of presentations. She found Elizabeth Fein's presentation and research for "Not Alone: Autism in Social, Cultural and Historical Context" intriguing as a board member for the Center for Autism Research.

Overall, the Kamins were pleased with the symposium's ability to share the scholarship and accomplishments of those

that have been impacted by the Wimmer Award.

"It has been a true pleasure for Sam and Joan Kamin to support and [be active] with the work of the aspiring faculty...and their continued interest in faculty development," said Blair.

Blair laid out some of the ways the awardees would be eligible to use these funds: "traveling for an archive, purchasing research data, developing a course, creating a lab and hiring student workers to assist, professional development." These opportunities help them improve their teaching and research, she said.

The Wimmer Award strives "to capture the diversity of the [McAnulty] Liberal Arts College [with] research benchmarks [that] differ from the standard benchmark in the hard sciences," Blair said.

The Wimmer Award application is offered to non-tenured Duquesne faculty of the McAnulty Liberal Arts College on an annual basis. All eligible individuals are encouraged to look into this award and possible symposium in the future.

POLICE BRIEFS

Monday, March 6-

A student was found sleeping on a bench outside of Rockwell Hall Skywalk. The student was possibly intoxicated and was transported to UPMC Mercy for evaluation and treatment.

Monday, March 6-

Six students were smoking marijuana in the Locust Garage. All students were referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Tuesday, March 7-

A student reported that her car was damaged in the Locust Garage. A witness left the actor's plate on the victim's car. The plate was run through JNET, and citations were issued.

Friday, March 10-

Police met with a student in Des Places Hall about a theft that happened in the Power Center locker room on the previous day.

Friday, March 10-

Officers received a walk-in report about a social media sextortion scam.

Saturday, March 11-

While on patrol, an officer found a male sleeping in his vehicle on Gibbon Street with marijuana. The male was identified as a commuter student and was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Saturday, March 11-

Police were summoned by Residence Life staff to assist them with aggressive students. The students were drinking and partying in Vickroy Hall. The students were referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Sunday, March 12-

A student who parked her vehicle in the first space before the motorcycle parking area outside of Gumberg Library facing west on Locust Street received damage to her vehicle.

Monday, March 13-

A student was concerned of being stalked by a Parkhurst employee.

Monday, March 13-

Three basketball players reported that two game jerseys and approximately 10 long-sleeve warm-up shirts were stolen from their locker room inside the UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse.

Tuesday, March 14-

Residence Life conducted an administrative search and recovered a small amount of marijuana and drug paraphernalia in Assumption Hall. One student was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

EMAIL TIPS

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.

EMMA POLEN
news editor

Red, yellow and blue balloons framed the stage at Stage AE this Monday as the city of Pittsburgh celebrated the diverse host of cultures within its community.

Literacy Pittsburgh, a non-profit for adult and family education, put on their One Big Table: An International Tasting event on Monday night in the event space at Stage AE. One Big Table is Literacy Pittsburgh's major annual event that promotes the organization's mission of inclusivity and community building through education, according to their official website.

For five years now, the education non-profit has held One Big Table, inviting international vendors from right here in the Pittsburgh area.

This year's event was led by Literacy Pittsburgh's Tim Richart, director of development.

"The focus is on the smaller immigrant owned restaurants that represent our students," he said. "Our students are eating at these restaurants."

For non-vendor visitors at One Big Table, Richart hopes to expand palettes with foods that attendees might not have otherwise tried.

"It's good to get out of your comfort zone, try something new...It's important to be exposed to all the different cultures in Pittsburgh," he said. "There's something for anybody."

"I like the diversity – young, old, multicultural," said event-goer Ginnie Haid from Baldwin. "The entertainment and the food enlighten me to other cultures."

Haid and her husband appreciate the opportunity to support Literacy Pittsburgh's cause. They "help the underserved in the Pittsburgh community," she said, and the couple were at the event for the second year on Monday night.

"I like it because it's high energy," said another visitor, Shelly Cohler, from Jefferson Hills. She said there were so many things to do at the event to be entertained, including food, artists and entertainment.

General admission to the event was \$85 per person and included free food sampling and entertainment, an open bar and open seating. All proceeds benefited Literacy Pittsburgh students and programs, said their website.

One Big Table provided immigrant vendors and artists with a platform to spread awareness about their business.

"It's not meant to be a craft show," Richart said. "We want to highlight international art by international students and individuals."

Bringing the traditions of Pittsburgh to the event, a Pittsburgh Cookie Table and bingo-style raffles were also held – and highly popular – at the event.

Outside of Pittsburgh-specific traditions, vendors represented cultures from all over the world



EMMA POLEN | NEWS EDITOR

Food vendor Natalie Manjeen cooked up her restaurant, The 98's, signature rose-shaped (chor muang) dumplings with a Thai family recipe.



EMMA POLEN | NEWS EDITOR

The Organization of Chinese Americans performance ensembles danced across the stage in traditional costumes at One Big Table on Monday.

through samples of their work.

Lilian Kababa and her daughter make African handmade jewelry. Their designs represent African trades, such as rolled paper bead necklaces.

"This is from the motherland," Kababa said. "It's unique, it's different."

Many of their materials come from the Democratic Republic of Congo, and others are authentic from other regions of Africa.

Carlina Cabeza sells natural diffuser bracelets. The inspiration for her brand, You Can Call Me Yoko, came from a desire to have another employment opportunity for herself and her sisters who immigrated from Venezuela after her.

Cabeza's business name is based on the relationship she has with her sisters and her Venezuelan heritage because "You can call me Yoko" was something her sister said when they entered the U.S. and tried telling people her nickname, she said.

Assisted by her sister, food vendor Natalie Manjeen cooked up her restaurant, The 98's, signature rose-shaped (chor muang) dumplings with a Thai family recipe.

"Whatever our family made... this is what we brought to Pittsburgh. Fresh ingredients imported from Thailand," she said.

The combination of cultures was also what inspired Chicken Latino's (@chickenlatino) owner, Shelbin Santos, to initially bring her Peruvian food to Pittsburgh back in 2007, making her business the first authentic Latino Peruvian

cuisine in the city of Pittsburgh at the time. Since then, many more Peruvian restaurants have joined the food scene in the city.

"It's nice the Latino community is growing in Pittsburgh," Santos said.

Santos brought *selva negro*, black forest cake, and rice pudding samples to One Big Table. Rice pudding is a classic dessert in Peru, where Asian culture has been incorporated as well, she said.

"I love cooking. It's my passion. I don't feel like it's work for me," Santos said. "For me it's very important I cook. I want to share a little bit of our culture."

Other popular food stations at the event included Jackie Kennedy Catering's shrimp and grits, the Nook in Lawrenceville serving *Şekerpare* and Instituto Mondo Italiano, which displayed the process of making fresh mozzarella and served it on a caprese salad.

"We are a collection of friends and brothers," said Chrisala Brown, a dancer, teacher and choreographer of Urban African, the first group to perform at One Big Table. The ensemble's purpose as a music and dance group is to always be learning more about African culture, she said.

Dance troops Zang TKD and the Chinese Americans performing ensembles finished off the event with a dance and martial arts routine.

"Diversity is a big part of Literacy Pittsburgh," Richart said. "We look for unique, diverse entertainment."



WRITERS & PHOTOGRAPHERS NEEDED FOR THE DUKE

Come Visit Us
College Hall 113

Contact our
editor-in-chief
hennel@duq.edu



Food trucks make a splash on a rainy day 3

ZACH PETROFF
opinions editor

The humming of motors clashed with the patter of raindrops on the pavement. The intensity of the wind carried the aroma of jerk chicken across campus. Despite the weather, students and faculty braved the elements to take part in what is becoming a tradition at Duquesne University: Food Truck Friday.

Friday kicked off the beginning of this semester's Food Truck Fridays. From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., students and faculty can enjoy the cuisine of local vendors on A-Walk.

Providing a wide variety of options, from chicken tenders to crepes, there appears to be something for everyone's palate.

"They have vegetarian options so I got the fried green tomatoes," said Victoria Oliverio while waiting for her order at the Foxy Fran food truck. "I just came back from class and a strawberry lemonade sounded refreshing."

The event, which was started by the Office of Greek Life as a part of homecoming festivities, has become a campus favorite.



COURTESY OF JEFF BROWN

Foxy Fran's also made an appearance at the first Food Truck Friday this semester.

"Previously there was one large food truck even on campus each semester," said Scott Richards, the assistant vice president of auxiliary services, "but we were looking to expand and build a series that today is appreciated by the campus community."

The rise in popularity of Food Truck Fridays has increased so much that President Ken Gormly asked the Center of Student Involvement and auxiliary services to make it a more frequent occurrence for students and faculty, according to the Dean of Students and the assistant vice president of student life, Adam Wasilko.

On the surface, the event appears simple enough, but there was a lot of planning that went into making the weekly event happen. Logistics along with parking and scheduling vendors go into providing students and staff to experience Food Truck Fridays.

"Auxiliary services does an amazing job working out the contracts and scheduling the trucks," said Wasilko. "We historically look at what trucks are most popular and invite those. We also strive to offer vegetarian, kosher and halal options."

Friday saw the return of some of the more popular food trucks PGH EATZ, Foxy Fran and PGH Crepes truck while welcoming Yovi's, famous for their Chicago style hotdogs, for the first time on campus.

Lee Yovanaf, the owner of Yovi's, started out Downtown in Market Square, but he pivoted to food trucks because of Covid-19.

"When the pandemic had all the restaurants closed, food trucks were like the Red Cross," said Yovanaf. "We could go to neighborhoods and do events that other restaurants couldn't do anymore."

For those looking for a more spicy or greener option, Foxy Fran provided a Caribbean food option for patrons. Monica Johnson, the owner and operator of Foxy Fran was inspired by her grandmother, Frances Catherine Harper, to cook for customers.

"My business is inspired by my grandmother, who taught me how to cook, who I assisted in the kitchen when she did catering services," Johnson said. "So I said to myself when she passed away in 2018 that I would find a way to not only heal from her death, but to keep her alive in some shape, form or fashion."

PGH EATZ, known on campus for their pulled pork mac 'n cheese, made their spring debut on the Bluff. What started out as a whim for the Markisotto family has now become one of the most popular food trucks in Pittsburgh.

They are currently nominated by Pittsburgh Magazine for best food truck along with catering major events such as Steelers Training Camp.

"The beauty of our truck is that everything is homemade," said business co-manager Jennifer Markisotto. "We don't just go and buy freezer food, outside of the hotdogs, everything is homemade."

And for those with a sweet-tooth, PGH Crepes Truck had plenty of desert style options for customers.

"At Duquesne university it's always strawberry or banana nutella crepes," said, PGH Crepes truck owner, Ilmir Akhmetzyanov. "It's always a dessert Crepe."

For those that may have missed Food Truck Friday, they will be returning throughout the spring from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Friday, except on April 7 for Good Friday.

Wasilko said the university



COURTESY OF JEFF BROWN

Paul Markisotto and his food truck "PGH EATZ" will be returning to campus on April 14 serving up homemade mac 'n cheese and other American favorites.

plans for previous food truck favorites PGH EATZ, Auntie Anne's and Nakama to be joined by new vendors, including To-

cayo Tacos and Aviva Brick-Oven Pizza. Brother Andre's Cafe from Epiphany Church will also return starting in April.

Bringing it full circle - celebrating Pi(e) Day

from PIE— page 1

"I can say that I think this is the first time we've done trivia at Pi Day. We'll try to get some feedback from students," Allen said.



BRENTARO YAMANE | LAYOUT/MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Alison Altman (left), a sophomore nursing student, and Billie Kay Rebholz (right), the administrative assistant for the mathematics department, enjoyed the pie.

Rebutting the image of mathematics in popular culture as a spiritless and daunting endeavor was something behind the Pi Day celebration, Allen said. Her reaction was shared by fellow faculty mem-

ber Dr. Lauren Sugden, a professor of mathematics and faculty advisor to Pi Mu Epsilon.

"I hope that events like this help develop a sense of community among students who come through our department. It is a great opportunity to relax and get to know other students and professors in an informal environment," Sugden said.

This informal environment attracted a great deal of students, as turnout was higher than expected.

Nina Paliouras, a pharmacy student, visited the Pi Day celebration. She noted the positive atmosphere. "I love seeing how everyone's coming out, taking a break from studying and just enjoying themselves," she said.

One of the centerpiece attractions of the event was a trick shot demonstrations by Andrew Segal. Segal, a professor of computer science at Duquesne, is a world-renowned pool player. Playing since his adolescence in New York City, Segal has won world champion-

ships including the ESPN & Masters multiple times.

Although he no longer plays competitively, Segal has never put down the cue stick. This was the second annual Pi Day in which Segal demonstrated trick shots for attendees.

Despite the event being held to celebrate math, Segal admitted that mathematics does not play a role in his pool strategy.

"I just hit it and go," he said. "Once you get a feel when you're at it, you just let the math and the geometry, and the physics take its own form."

Segal demonstrated a wide variety of trick shots including shooting the balls atop large playing cards, bouncing the cue ball against the table's surface, and curving the cue ball around a volunteer's upper body to hit a ball on the other side.

Segal also partook in the Pi Day festivities, and he said his favorite pie flavor is cherry.

Segal's performance brought

both students and faculty from far beyond the math department.

One such case was Paul Miller, a professor of music at Mary Papert. Miller attended the event in a brightly colored Hawaiian shirt to support his friend Segal. Through his friendship with Segal, the music professor has had the opportunity to explore a part of mathematics he otherwise would not have the chance to appreciate.

"I am sitting in on [Segal's] Python class because there's a lot of things about music that can be modeled mathematically," Miller said. "Furthermore, there are a lot of ways to generate musical structures algorithmically. Plus, Python is a great language for processing data, and I wanted to get into it."

All told, Pi Day brought the opportunity for students, faculty, and math geeks to enjoy food, comradery, and the number pi, creating and bolstering the circle of pie lovers here at Duquesne.

Swim/dive team competes in national event

EMMA POLEN
news editor

The Duquesne women's swimming and diving team participated in the College Swimming & Diving Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) National Invitational Championships last weekend, breaking personal bests and qualifying for finals across all four strokes, relays and diving.

The Atlantic 10 Conference was just one of 24 college conferences eligible to participate in the annual invitational championship. This year, the swim meet took place at the Elkhart Health & Aquatics Center in Elkhart, Ind.

Each college team was allowed to bring just 12 swimmers, with all participants needing qualifying times to compete.

The meet began on March 9, with preliminary qualifying individual events in all four strokes and in the 400-medley relay, followed by finals events for swimmers who placed in the qualifying time requirements.

Duquesne junior Reagan Linkous swam a new personal best in the 50-backstroke preliminary race with a time of 26.49 seconds.

Linkous, along with teammates freshman Sydney Severini, sopho-

more Haley Scholer and freshman Kayla Johnson, also swam the 400-medley relay in 3:45.77, the second-fastest time by Duquesne this season. They placed 27th in the relay final on Thursday.

On Friday, the Dukes placed in both relay and individual events.

Duquesne earned 15th in the 800-freestyle relay, swam by junior Gaby Jenkins, sophomore Orla Egan, junior Molly Brennan and Johnson. Jenkins' 200-freestyle, which kicked off the relay, was a personal best at 1:51.01, per assistant coach Eddie Larios.

Back in the water again on Friday, Scholer placed first in the individual 100-backstroke B-final even with the third-fastest time by a Duke this season, 54.82 seconds.

Saturday was the final day for events, and Scholer and Sydney Severini finished strong.

Severini placed fourth in the 200-breast preliminary event, racing a 2:14.28, which is a personal best, a Duke season best and the second-fastest recorded time ever for Duquesne. She advanced to the A-final, where she placed ninth with a time of 2:15.77.

Severini also made a new personal best in the 100-individual medley

race, with a time of 58.82.

Head Coach David Sheets spoke to the coaching staff's work with Severini to optimize her ability to race fast in her breaststroke events.

"We made sure to focus on getting her stroke in rhythm and more connected through the body line, kick and pull," Sheets said.

He added, "Sydney is very coachable and has a great feel for the water, so she took to the changes pretty quickly and focused on them almost daily."

Scholer swam in the 200-backstroke event on Saturday, placing seventh with a time of 1:57.95.

Scholer's efforts over the weekend also earned her the most points (25) out of any Duke at the invitational.

Duquesne finished the championship ranking 31st place out of 57 schools, with a total of 102 points.

Larios supported the team throughout the weekend championship.

"This is the first time we've been at the NIC as a program in a few years, and after a long regular season, our ladies embraced the challenge from day one," Larios said. "More importantly, they loved the experience. To see them come together, have fun as a team and still compete at a high level was awesome to see."

During the meet, Duquesne's team earned points in a variety of individual stroke events.

"To be a successful team at the championship level, the team needs to be diverse from the perspective of having swimmers that can excel at different strokes," Sheets said.

"We've also been really lucky over the past three years to recruit a great group of backstrokers and 200 free-stylers," he said.

This weekend, Duke swimmer and graduate student Amy Read will be competing in the NCAA Diving Championships in Knoxville, Tenn.



COURTESY OF EDDIE LARIOS
Members of the Duquesne swim/dive team at last weekend's event.

Previewing this year's NCAA Tournament

MATTHEW THEODROS
staff writer

It's that time of year when basketball fans and everyone in between come together for one thing and one thing only: March Madness. After weeks of seeding variance, the slate is set, as 68 (quickly 64) teams will battle to win it all.

Millions have filled out their brackets, but before making your picks, let's set the stage, highlighting teams poised to make a run or upset a heavy favorite.

A top-seeded team has won the last five tournaments. However, this year feels different, as no overwhelming favorites are entering the tournament.

Buckets and scoring power are the best ways to describe the state of the South Region.

Despite legal issues surrounding Brandon Miller, No. 1 seed Alabama appears to be a team to beat. Nate Oats' crew — led by Miller, a future NBA lottery pick — has the tools and versatility to beat anyone.

No. 2 seed Arizona rounded out the season playing its best basketball of the year. The Wildcats are a matchup nightmare due to their ability to defend and make difficult shots.

Freshman Azuolas Tubelis' shot-creation skills add a unique dimension to the tournament, as his mobility poses a threat.

A first-round matchup between No. 6 seed Creighton and No. 11 seed North Carolina State is one to watch.

Led by Ryan Kalkbrenner — the reigning two-time Big East Conference Defensive Player of the Year — the Bluejays will face a formidable threat in NC State. Despite barely making the tournament, the Wolfpack are led by the duo of Terquavion Smith and Jarkel Joiner, who are both elite perimeter threats.

The battle of the top-seeded teams would be an absolute gem for basketball fans. Arizona has the size to limit Brandon Miller, but his ability as a scorer is too much to deny. I see the Crimson Tide advancing to the Final Four.

The Midwest Region is highlighted by the juggernaut No. 1 seed Houston Cougars. They'll look to make their second Final Four in three seasons. However, star guard Marcus Sasser sustained a groin injury, and his status for the start of the tournament is up in the air.

Everyone loves an upset during March Madness and this year, the possibility is likely in a matchup between No. 4 seed Indiana and No. 13 seed Kent State.

Rob Senderoff — a former assistant with the No. 4 seed Hoosiers — has led the Golden Flashes to a 12-2 record since the start of February. During this stretch, they haven't scored lower than 70 points, and they're winning by an average margin of 13 points per game.

There's also a Cinderella story with this year's Penn State team. Making its first tournament appearance since

2011, the NCAA's oldest roster could make some noise. The No. 10 seed Nittany Lions' mix of tenacious defense and exceptional 3-point shooting (42%) makes them a tough out.

Selecting a winner is difficult, given Sasser's unknown status. No. 2 seed Texas poses the biggest threat in a matchup against Houston, with talent that can match the depleted Cougars squad.

The Cinderella story from 2021, No. 12 seed Oral Roberts, matches up with No. 5 Duke in the first round. Another run would be amazing, but the talent disparity is too large.

No. 1 seed Purdue is projected to be a Final Four team, but I don't see it. They have the hardest competition, and it would be a testament to their roster if the Boilermakers can win it all.

Duke and No. 8 Memphis can attack Purdue's weaknesses with ease. Superior guard play and attacking Zach Edey in the pick-and-roll should be in the playbook against the big man.

No. 3 seed Kansas State interests me as a team to look out for. Led by the guard tandem of Markquis Nowell and Keyontae Johnson, the Wildcats have the firepower to outscore any backcourt.

Teams like No. 7 seed Michigan State and No. 2 seed Marquette can be pesky, but the established rosters — Purdue, Kansas State and Duke — pose greater threats.

With the most parity, in terms of

talent and upset, this year's West Region brings the most questions of all the quadrants.

No. 1 seed Kansas comes into the tournament as the defending champions. The Jayhawks added shooting, but lost key players due to injury and the NBA Draft.

There is not a tougher competitor than No. 2 seed UCLA. With a mix of younger and older players, the Bruins' intensity can lead them far in the tournament.

No. 4 seed Connecticut is a very interesting team to look out for. I wouldn't be surprised if they get bounced by No. 13 seed Iona in the first round, or make it as far as the Sweet 16.

This is a real toss-up, as there are plenty of teams who have the opportunity to win. It boils down to No. 3 seed Gonzaga, Kansas, and UCLA. All three teams have been there before, and all pose legitimate threats.

Whoever comes out and wins it all, let's all sit back and appreciate the unique basketball that is about to arrive. Let the madness unfold.



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS
Zach Edey leads No. 1 seed Purdue.

MBB team earns spot in CBI

For the first time since the 2015-16 campaign, the Duquesne men's basketball team will compete in a postseason tournament.

On Sunday, the Dukes accepted an invite to the Discount Tire College Basketball Invitational. The tournament, which used to be played at campus sites, will head to the Ocean Center in Daytona Beach, Fla., for the third-consecutive season.

Duquesne earned the No. 5 seed in the 16-team field, and the Dukes will square off with No. 12 seed Rice in first-round action on Sunday afternoon. The Dukes and Owls last met on Dec. 20, 2008.

Other teams participating in the single-elimination tournament include: Indiana State, USC Upstate, Eastern Kentucky, Cleveland State, Southern Utah, North Alabama, San Jose State, Southern Indiana, Tarleton, Radford, Charlotte, Western Carolina, Stetson and Milwaukee.

Should Duquesne win against Rice on Sunday, a quarterfinal meeting with the winner of No. 4 Southern Utah/No. 13 North Alabama will come on Monday.

Semifinal action is set for Tuesday, while the championship game will take place on Wednesday. All of Tuesday and Wednesday's action will be televised nationally on ESPN2.

"This team has worked hard all year and earned the opportunity to participate in postseason play," said Duquesne Head Coach Keith Dambrot in a release. "We look forward to competing for a championship."

Aside from VCU, who earned the Atlantic 10 Conference's automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament, Duquesne is the only other A-10 team participating in postseason play.

This will mark the Dukes' first postseason appearance under Dambrot, who's finishing up his sixth season at the helm.

This will be Duquesne's fourth appearance in the CBI, which started in 2007-08. The Dukes' most recent appearance came in 2015-16, when they defeated Omaha in the first round before bowing out to Morehead State in the quarterfinals.

Duquesne also participated in 2009-10 and 2010-11.

-Luke Henne, Editor-in-Chief

DU football alum makes his way into XFL

LUKE HENNE
editor-in-chief

Less than two years ago, Garrett Owens was in Pittsburgh and competing for Northeast Conference titles as a running back on the Duquesne football team.

Now, he's playing professionally as a member of the XFL's Houston Roughnecks.

After spending his first four seasons of college football at Division II Mercyhurst in Erie, Pa., Owens came to Duquesne as a graduate student. He was a member of the Dukes during the Spring 2021 and Fall 2021 seasons, where he rushed for 1,041 yards and 10 touchdowns across 15 games during his brief Duquesne career.

A native of North East, Pa. — near

"When I got the call from [Head] Coach Wade Phillips, I just was very grateful for the opportunity," Owens said. "I talked to the other coaches, my position coach. I ended up getting a conference call from The Rock (Dwayne Johnson, the league's co-owner), which was pretty awesome. Got to talk to some of the coaches, and they were all just welcoming me to the team."

Duquesne Head Coach Jerry Schmitt said Owens "worked so hard to get that opportunity."

"He joined us here for his last two seasons, and he was one of the hardest-working guys on our team when it came to physically preparing himself to play," Schmitt said. "Then, once his eligibility was done,

ordinator and head coach for a handful of NFL teams. Owens said that the way Phillips leads Houston is "unlike anything I've ever been a part of."

"He's a great leader," Owens said. "He's a great coach. He has a lot of experience that he shares with all of us, a lot of wisdom that he shares with all of us. He has been able to help our team come together really fast, which is one of the main reasons why we've been so successful with our 4-0 start."

Because of the foundation Phillips has built, Owens believes the process of growing as a team has become much easier.

"We're not losing sight of what our team's culture is," Owens said. "It's a day-to-day thing, and there's no doubt that we're the closest team in the XFL. I know that we're definitely probably one of the hardest-working teams, as far as practice goes. Every day in practice, I've never been on a team that has been this focused and this hard-working and dedicated."

Owens has appeared in all four games for the undefeated Roughnecks, who are the only team in the XFL that has yet to lose a game.

Although he was a running back at Duquesne, he's listed as a tight end.

Owens has three targets as a pass-catcher and one carry out of the backfield.

Schmitt said that, simply put, Owens will "have to take advantage of this opportunity in the XFL."

"His goal is, obviously, to play in the NFL," Schmitt said. "I know he'll work at it, but at that level, everybody does. It's extremely intense, the competition. I just hope that his hard work will pay off, and he'll get an opportunity. I tell these guys all the time that you just want to be able to get a look, get in a camp."

"It's going to be up to him to perform on the field. I'm happy for him, want to see him be successful. I know that he'll grind this thing out. Hopefully he gets a break, gets a chance. That's what everybody needs, unless you're a top draft pick. Everybody really has to compete at that level."

In four games so far, Houston has defeated the Orlando Guardians (twice), the Arlington Renegades and the San Antonio Brahmas. The Roughnecks are winning by an average margin of 16.8 points per game.

After playing each of its first three games at TDECU Stadium — the team's home stadium — Houston is in the midst of a three-game stretch that puts the team on the road.

Owens could get his next shot to make a name Thursday night, when the undefeated Roughnecks take on the Seattle Sea Dragons. The game will be played at Lumen Field — home of the NFL's Seattle Seahawks — and will be televised nationally on ESPN.

While he's still coming into his own at the professional level, Owens said he wouldn't be where he is now without what he gathered from his time at Duquesne.

"I was just grateful to transfer and finish out my eligibility there, and get my Master's," Owens said. "My thing, coming from Mercyhurst — which is where I did my undergrad and played for four

years — I just wanted to maximize my opportunities, on and off the field."

"That's what Duquesne provided me, was an opportunity to maximize my potential on the field and off the field. I could've done that other places, but I just chose there because it was the right fit for me."

He also thanked his coaches and teammates for helping him become the player and person he is now, even though his time in town was relatively brief.

"I was there for two years," Owens said. "It's something I'll always be grateful for."



COURTESY OF GARRETT OWENS

Duquesne alum Garrett Owens smiles as he takes the field with his Houston Roughnecks teammates.

Erie — Owens was selected in the second round (ninth overall) of the XFL Draft, which took place in November.

There was a whirlwind of emotions when he was selected.



COURTESY OF GARRETT OWENS

At 4-0, Owens' Houston Roughnecks are the only remaining undefeated team in the XFL.

he continued that crazy work ethic that he has to prepare himself to potentially continue to play. The first thing for me was [that] I was so happy that he was getting rewarded for all that hard work."

Owens took the unique opportunity and ran with it.

"I just transitioned from my job to a training program before I moved to Dallas, Texas," Owens said. "Came down for camp, and just continue to work hard every day. Just maximize every opportunity that I've gotten at this point."

"Continue to try to be the best player that I can, on the field and off the field. Be the best person on the field and the best person off the field, and then just try to help the people and help the guys around me do the same thing."

Schmitt said that Owens was "raised well, with a great work ethic." That work ethic helped him get comfortable with his Duquesne teammates very quickly.

"It was tough for him to get acclimated to a team that had been together, some of the guys in his class, for four years," Schmitt said. "He acclimated himself, mainly to the offensive guys because that's where he spent most of his time ... All I know is the guys respected his work ethic and how hard he prepared himself to be successful on the field."

Phillips, who also serves as the Roughnecks' general manager, served as a co-



COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS

In just 15 games as a member of the Dukes, the graduate student accounted for 1,394 all-purpose yards and 13 touchdowns.



COURTESY OF GARRETT OWENS

Owens, who spent two seasons on the Bluff with Duquesne's football team, is now trying to make a name for himself in the XFL.

Puttery Pittsburgh: Not your normal mini-golf

EMILY FRITZ
a&e editor

As of Feb. 17, the Strip is now home to Drive Shack Inc.'s newest location, boasting an ambience that pulls together 1920's Gatsby grandeur and maximalism with the bold and creative styles of the Harlem Renaissance. The two-story venue hosts three indoor miniature golf courses, two bar areas and a plethora of speakeasy lounge seating.

"As a city also rich with innovation, cultural attractions and diverse culinary cuisine, the Puttery experience is a natural complement to the vibrant Strip District neighborhood," Drive Shack president Hana Khouri said in a news release.

Unlike your typical course with windmills and haphazard set pieces meant to entertain families, Drive Shack Inc. has skillfully crafted immersive experiences that vary in difficulty.

The Lodge course resembles a snowy ski lodge, complete with polar bears, winter sportswear and pine detailing. A virtual scorecard follows you from hole

to hole and caps your putting attempts at six strokes and course servers swing by to deliver mixed drinks and mocktails inspired by your golfing adventure. This cozy course is the easiest of the three, but can still throw a competitive player through a loop.

The intermediate course, the Garage, pays homage to the Steel City with metalworks inspiration: a vintage garage. Speed bumps, exposed brick and mint-condition cars make guests feel as though they have stepped into a decade past.

The hardest of the three courses is the Library. Adorned with pieces of golf history, planetarium decor and a multitude of books and trinkets, this course has the strongest course cocktails to match the difficulty of the green.

Unlike your typical ninth hole, the final challenge of each course is to solve the puzzling trick shot. There are three holes and the golfer must decide which to try in order to return their ball. For some, it's a guessing game, for others, it's a matter of skill.

Virtual leaderboards rank the top golfers of the day, in lowest



COURTESY OF PUTTERY PITTSBURGH

The Garage course is exclusive to Drive Shack Inc.'s Pittsburgh location, inspired by the history of the city's steel industry.

overall score and most "aces" or hole-in-ones.

"What we're looking to do is basically provide an environment that is a little more modern, more inviting, more casual but still have that upscale flare to it. So, what we're really looking for is to provide something that will give people a different experience that is more immersive and more of that social, mix-and-mingle vibe," said event manager Chariel Rodriguez.

"It's taking that social, competitive environment and something as casual as golf and really elevating it to the next level... more fun, more social, more competitive."

The menu at Puttery Pittsburgh is uniquely elevated, featuring diverse and complex appetizers, creative cocktails and salads and pizzas for those with larger appetites. The usual bar food was replaced with a charcuterie board, lamb sliders, tuna tostadas and sous vide pork belly.

Although the venue is off-limits to any person under 21, non-alcoholic creations are available for the sober crowd.

The smaller details and artwork bring out the best features and elevate the Puttery experience even further.

The art historian of any group will appreciate the impressionist features, the Gustav Klimt's hanging on the gallery walls, and

the occasional hard-to-catch parody painting.

"It's really creating a feast for the eyes...we wanted to create an environment with beautiful lighting, beautiful light fixtures, textured wallpapers, patterned floors," Rodriguez said. "[There's] really just always something to look at, details you're going to catch that will [feel] new every time."

Puttery Pittsburgh is a busy weekend spot, making the details easy to get lost in while waiting for your tee-time. While walk-ins are welcome, reservations are highly recommended.

Each reservation slot is 90 minutes long and includes admission to one of the three courses.

Upon arrival, golfers choose a group tee-off and are able to enjoy food and drink while they wait, or relax and take in each of the nuances that sets Puttery to a new standard of immersive experience.

As the newest addition to the area, Puttery does not have any special events planned while they continue to grow and adapt to the city, but Rodriguez is looking forward to becoming involved with local events and festivals in addition to celebrating graduation with students.

"We want to make sure that everyone knows that we're very much excited to help people plan their graduation parties here."



EMILY FRITZ | A&E EDITOR

Between rounds of golf, patrons can relax in plush seating to enjoy an upscale selection of appetizers, mixed drinks or a dessert flight.

Aquarius ♒

it's so hard being a silly goose in this anti-whimsy society

Pisces ♓

so that's what happens when you win the Danimals yogurt contest

Aries ♈

I don't want to be seen anywhere near Satan's squirt gun

Taurus ♉

Oh no you're totally okay, it goes over my head anyway

Gemini ♊

is genuinely afraid of Cocaine Bear

Cancer ♋

that's so based of you

Leo ♌

So I think the clock in my car is finally correct again

Virgo ♍

she wears short skirts, I eat sneakers

Libra ♎

You're like the Billy Mays of ears

Scorpio ♏

Get in loser, we're going to stab Caesar

Sagittarius ♐

Peeta has immaculate rizz

Capricorn ♑

Forsaken by parsley...never saw that coming

CAMPUS
EVENTS

Beginner East & West Coast Swing Lessons
March 16 @ 9 p.m.

Join the Ballroom Association in the Power Center Group Fitness Studio to learn the basics of Swing! No experience or partner necessary.

Medley of Melanin Pageant
March 19 @ 5:30 p.m.

Join Ebony Women as they host their 4th annual pageant! Doors open at 5 p.m. in the Union Ballroom.

Elevate: Empowering Women
March 20 @ 6 p.m.

Head to the Africa Room with the Center for Career Development hosts guest speaker, Lakisha Patten.

Movie Night
March 22 @ 6 p.m.

Join Psi Chi, psychology majors and psychology graduate students in College Hall 644 for their monthly movie night.

EMILY'S
EPIPHANIES

Seasons & Storms

"Nothing good lasts forever, but nothing bad ever lasts too long."

This is something my grandfather used to say to us that we still use frequently.

Whenever we were sad that something joyful was over or we were facing a loss in our lives, we were reminded: Nothing ever truly lasts forever and that's okay. There will be other good times to come.

Whenever we were sad, and we couldn't see the other side of our hardship, we were reminded: this, too, shall pass. Good times will come again.

In life we will go through seasons of joy and seasons of sadness; it's what makes all of our lives so uniquely beautiful and keeps them from going dull.

With that, though, it can be difficult to remember that whatever you're faced with, you will see the other side of it, and good will come again.

— Emily Fritz

Disney welcomes Miley Cyrus back via Disney+

MARIA WERNER
staff writer

Hardcore “Hannah Montana” fans just received new content, available now on Disney+.

Miley Cyrus’s newest album, “Endless Summer Vacation,” has been added to the library as a 42-minute documentary performance, complete with commentary from the singer-songwriter and a revival of her 14-year-old song, “The Climb.”

The special hit the streaming platform on Friday, March 10 and was saturated with nostalgia.

Because there was no audience present at this Backyard Session, the mansion setting and mountainous background gave viewers an intimate “concert for one.”

As the performance progressed, the sunset was visible in the scenic background, giving Cyrus’ performance of “The Climb” a whimsical backdrop.

Despite its popularity with more than 672 million streams, Cyrus did not open with the hit song “Flowers,” but instead opened with “Jaded.” Cyrus spoke about the new LP, saying that the album felt like a perfectly-fitting “Cinderella’s shoe.”

“Jaded” reflects on the unspoken and lasting feelings that remain after a relationship ends. The song set a meaningful tone in the album, showing viewers that this is not a typical album about romance – it’s about Cyrus finding herself.

“Endless Summer Vacation represents, to me, my fearlessness when it comes to experimenting, not just with my sound but also with my identity,” she explained. “It feels like it’s only mine, and it could only be mine.”

The album proved to be a passion project for Cyrus, as she described each song’s inspiration. “Thousand Miles,” was originally a song of mourning for a friend who had lost her sister to suicide.

“I couldn’t imagine not having my little sister in my life, so I wrote this song for her,” she reflected. “All I wanted was for her to be happy.” The song was later reframed through a lighter lens.

“Wonder Woman,” also had familial ties, as Cyrus explained that the song was inspired by her mother and grandmother. “This song is about that kind of generational strength and wisdom,” she said. The feminine role in her family culminated to form “one

big wonder woman.”

Cyrus passionately performed the LP in the backyard of the LA mansion with a full band and background vocalists. The lack of an audience gave the performance a sense of calmness and intimacy, as Cyrus performed songs that were deeply personal to her.

The singer likened her new album to “taking a vacation from taking myself and the success of records so seriously and just doing it for the reason I started writing music. Because I love it, beginning and end.”

Cyrus began her career as a child actress in 2006, as the title character of “Hannah Montana” on Disney Channel. The show ran until 2011, and during her time with Disney, she released four albums.

After the show’s conclusion, Cyrus didn’t remain in the acting scene for long, as her few additional performances included smaller roles and guest appearances on shows such as “Two and a Half Men” and “Black Mirror.”

In 2013, Cyrus began her adult music career with “Bangerz,” which featured “Wrecking Ball” and “We Can’t Stop.”

Since then, she’s released five



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Miley Cyrus got her start as a child star on Disney Channel before revamping her personal brand in 2012.

additional albums that stray from her original country sound and family-friendly image.

Unfortunately, Cyrus has been the subject of scrutiny over the years, as she faced overwhelming pressure to be a role model to younger audiences. Separating herself from the adolescent image that Disney gave her, she

began to behave controversially, acting questionably during her 2013 VMA performance with Robin Thicke.

Since then, the evolution of Cyrus’s musical talents has become clear through the Backyard Sessions.

“The journey is usually the part that you remember, anyway,” the singer commented, reflecting on her love for singing and songwriting.

During her performance of “The Climb,” it was obvious that Cyrus’ voice had matured and her sound had grown with the lyrics of the 14 year old single. She sang with emotional conviction that created a nostalgic reconnection for many.

The singer ended the live session with the song made popular by social media, “Flowers,” reemphasizing the growth that she had experienced in her musical career as well as her personal life.

Overall, the reconnection between Cyrus and Disney was emotional, especially for those who were privy to her history. The Backyard Sessions allowed audiences to see Cyrus through another lens and watch the singer come back into her own.

15th annual human rights film festival calls for action

EMILY THEROUX
staff writer

The earth is a large and mysterious home to over 7.8 billion people. No matter where we are from, it is all of our responsibilities to take care of our planet. Despite our differences, we all belong.

That was the theme of this year’s 15th annual Human Rights film festival.

On Tuesday, the Center for Modern Languages and Literature Studies partnered with the Center for Migration, Displacement and Community Studies to host the second installment of the film festival in the Towers multi-purpose room.

The 85-minute documentary explores how society is mentally separated from the environment and consumed with individual narratives, refusing to acknowledge the

interconnectedness of the world around us.

Featured in the documentary were Janine Benyus, a biomimicry specialist from Montana, American astronaut and veteran Air Force fighter pilot Ronald Garan, Joan Halifax, ecologist and Zen Buddhist teacher and environmentalist Paul Hawken, all of whom confirmed that we rely heavily on ignorance each day as we value economic and

industrial progression.

“Planetary” explained the consequences of our misplaced priorities including exploiting resources over protecting the dignity of the Earth.

The film highlights numerous perspectives by bringing in philosophers, cosmologists, NASA employees, members of indigenous groups and many others.

Despite the diversity of these insights, every interviewee asserts the same claim: we have to make a change for the good of the planet and ourselves.

Brian Swimme, a cosmologist, revealed the frightening truth of the mass extinction that has been occurring in our world.

“[T]housands of species have been disappearing every year,” he said.

Something that he finds exceedingly disturbing about this is the lack of recognition for the problem. Swimme recalls looking through the New York Times for the information on the gravity of this issue and finding it on the 26th page.

“That means,” he asserted, “that we found 25 things more important.”

Interestingly, many speakers in the film touched upon how the disconnect between the Earth and its inhabitants has harmful social and mental consequences resulting from a lack of mindfulness.

The documentary touches on how humans actively race

through life instead of taking the time to live, claiming that we are drifting further apart when we build bigger houses that are too far apart.

The film suggested that there should be a greater reliance on mindfulness in order to ease the mental duress that has arisen due to higher rates of isolation.

This would increase our sense of community as inhabitants of Earth, inferring that if we accept that this planet is our home, maybe we have a chance at taking pride in its dignity.

Mark Frisch, the head of the Duquesne Center for Hispanic Studies, was very passionate about the importance of the film’s message and the impact it could have on those who watch it.

The documentary touches on many important issues regarding our perspective on Earth and the way we allow ourselves to pretend that we do not belong to our planet, Frisch said.

In summary of Frisch’s words, if we are ever able to acknowledge that the Earth is more than just the place where we landed to develop civilization further economically, we may have a shot at saving what we have left of our planet.

“As humans, we often think of ourselves as separate from nature,” said biology professor Dr. David Lampe, “but that is not true.”



EMILY THEROUX | STAFF WRITER

“Planetary” is a 2015 film that focuses on the importance of human intervention within the natural world and what mankind is obligated to do in order to save nature.

THE DUQUESNE DUKE

113 College Hall
600 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15282

editorial staff

editor-in-chief Luke Henne
news editor Emma Polen
opinions editor Zach Petroff
features editor Isabella Abbott
a&e editor Emily Fritz
sports editor Luke Henne
layout/multimedia Brentaro Yamane
social media & ads Nicholas Zotos

administrative staff

adviser Paula Reed Ward

email us: theduquduke@gmail.com

“Differences are not intended to separate, to alienate. We are different precisely in order to realize our need of one another.”

DESMOND TUTU

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

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EDITORIAL POLICY

The Duquesne Duke is the student-written, student-managed newspaper of Duquesne University. It is published every Thursday during the academic year except during semester breaks and holidays, and prior to final exams. The Staff Editorial is based upon the opinions of the editors of *The Duke* and does not necessarily reflect the views of the students, faculty, administration, student government or the University publications board. Op-ed columns do not reflect the opinions of *The Duke*, but rather are the sole opinions of the columnists themselves.

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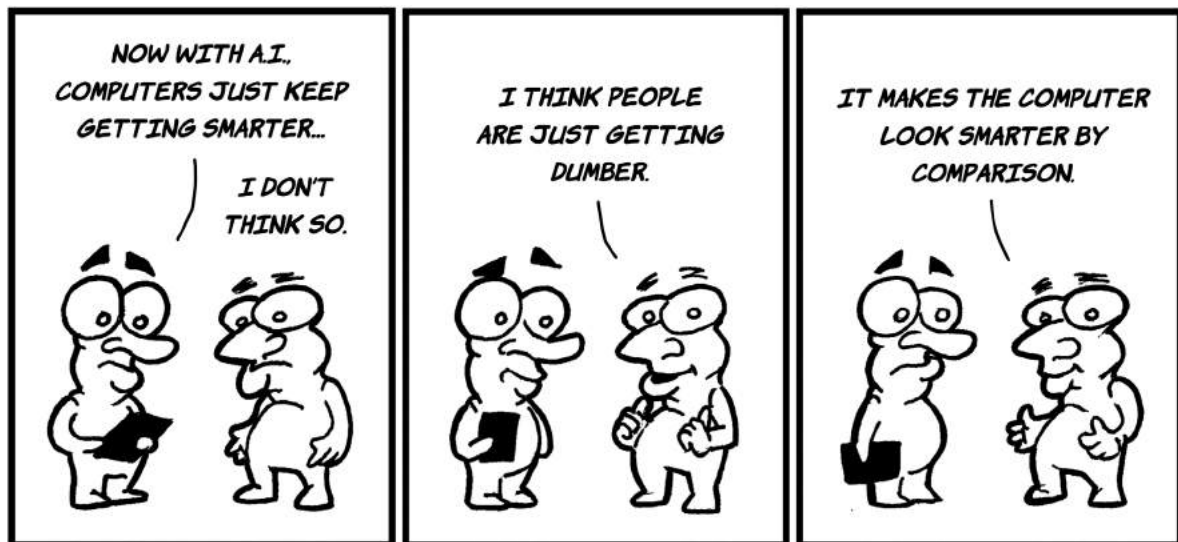
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Corrections/clarifications

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Contact

email: theduquduke@gmail.com



BENJAMIN CRAWFORD | STAFF COMIC ARTIST

An open letter to the media department

A change is coming.

And I have the perfect plan for Duquesne University to get out in front of it.

The current college education financial system is not sustainable and when we look back at American Higher education. I think it will also be judged as immoral.

This is not hyperbole. This is not a prediction. The way universities in this country operate is creating a host of unforeseen consequences.

I learned a long time ago that you should not complain unless you have a solution.

And I have a solution that I think will not only help Duquesne University in the long run, but also contribute greatly to the field that I intend to spend the rest of my life in.

We should allow students who are seeking a multi-platform journalism degree to go to school for free.

No strings attached - you get accepted into the program and maintain a certain GPA, your education is free.

Now if you're thinking, "of course this guy wants HIS degree to be free," I can assure you that has nothing to do with my reasoning. I'm here on the G.I. Bill. If it was up to me, you could charge me twice. It would be the only worthwhile investment that the US military has made in decades.

For the other 27 current students that are multi-platform journalism majors, let's take a look at the cost.

According to my December invoice with the cost of health care my bill was \$23,942. For the sake of keeping the math simple, let's round that down to \$20,000. After four years, the cost would come to about \$160,000.

For students who do not have the means to come up with that type of cash. That is a pretty hefty loan amount.

Duquesne and the liberal arts program do a very good job with finding money for students. Let's keep the math simple, and a student who does have to take out loans is able to shave off \$60,000 through grants and scholarships. They would be able to graduate with a bachelor's degree and only \$100,000 worth of loans.

According to both Nerdwallet.com and Forbes, the federal student loan interest rate for undergradu-

ates is 4.99% for the 2022-23 school year. Federal rates for unsubsidized graduate student loans and parent loans are higher — 6.54% and 7.54%, respectively.

Again, for the sake of math, let's use a 5% interest rate.

So, a student who is entering a field that, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics the median annual wage for news analysts, reporters and journalists was \$48,370 as of May 2021. Salary.com has the average entry journalist salary in Pennsylvania is \$39,401 as of Feb. 27.



ZACH PETROFF

opinions editor

If a student leaves the university with a journalism degree and is able to find a job that pays \$45,000 a year while having nearly \$100,000 in college debt at a 5% interest rate (paying the average student loan payment amount of \$460 a month, according to the education data initiative) this graduate will be able to pay their student loan off in about 50 years.

Obviously, these numbers are imaginary, but the point remains. It does not make financial sense for students who do not have the means to afford college to get a journalism degree at this university.

That is heartbreaking.

My time at Duquesne has exceeded my expectations in almost every area, and I'm not just saying to get higher grades, midterms are over

I'm fine. I have been challenged, inspired and most importantly prepared to enter the workforce.

I feel that everyone should have the opportunities that I have been given.

Yet, the cost of school here is prohibitive to those who do not have the means to pay for college.

And now is the time to allow this initiative to take place.

Duquesne, which excels in so many areas, lacks diversity in various areas. Opening the door to students from every economic background will likely help increase diversity.

It is not out of the realm for the university to do something to bolster our national recognition. This is the same school that offered LeBron James' 15-year-old son a scholarship to play basketball. What better way to turn heads toward the Bluff then by offering journalism students a debt-free opportunity.

What better way to honor the Spiritan tradition than by welcoming students from all economic backgrounds at the opportunity for an education.

Plus, it also helps that our President, Ken Gormley has a healthy respect for journalism as indicated in his scholastic focus on Watergate.

Which brings me to my second point.

The cost of education is not unique to Duquesne. The rising cost of education is, in a sense, gatekeeping those without means from various liberal art degrees. As students are gravitating toward fields that can eventually pay off their student loans, these fine art programs are being dominated by kids from wealthy backgrounds.

Reporting requires events to be observed through the lens of all people. We need a healthy dose of various perspectives to bring accurate and engaging information to the people.

There is a lot of discussion on how to "fix the media" or "how journalists regain back the public trust." It has been my experience that when anything needs to be adjusted, the best way to do that is to go back to basics.

We bring in distinct and unique voices from all walks of life to tell the stories that people need and want to know.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Time to spring back to the modern era

Coming back to campus after a relaxing break can take time for students to adjust. The practice of adjusting clocks forward just compounds the already sleep-deprived student body.

It is about, excuse the pun, time that we get rid of this archaic practice of adjusting our clocks to fit the rising of the sun.

What started out as a way-to conserve electricity during World War I has become a modern-day nuisance. Whatever justifications that have kept this over-80-year American policy are no longer relevant.

There is one silver lining in this dark cloud of inconveniences. For the first time in years, Americans can finally all agree on something.

It's time to pull the shade s downs on daylight savings time.

According to a recent YouGov survey, 62% of Americans indicated that they would like to get rid of changing the clocks entirely.

Last year the Senate was able to pass the Sunshine Protection Act a law that would make U.S. daylight saving time permanent, meaning the time would no longer change twice per year.

The bill passed through the Senate unanimously, but died on the House floor over questions whether year-round daylight savings time was actually safe or healthy.

Congress has a chance to give America a much-needed win. Getting rid of this dark-age practice could just be the things we need to unite this divided country as we rally together to rid this country of such an annoying practice.

Yet, the chances of passing the sunshine protection laws are growing slim as the days goes longer.

Key congressional leaders whose committees would need to review the bill remain publicly undecided. The major opponents of the bill, according to the *Washington Posts*, are sleep medicine experts.

Lobbyists have no room for this fight against a moderate inconvenience. According to the *Washington Post*, a review of daylight-saving time policies by the Department of Transportation, which implements federal time zone rules, is not expected to be completed until year's end.

Americans do not need an expensive study to figure out that we hate disrupting our sleep schedule and we hate being shrouded in darkness throughout the winter months.

The time for change is now and not in November.

We need to stop dragging down drag queens

RORY BROUILLARD
staff writer

Tennessee lawmakers have taken a step that, in their eyes, helps protect children as they grow and develop — the restriction of drag shows in public and around the presence of children.

Drag shows and whether it is healthy for children to be exposed to “sexual content” have been a topic of debate in the news recently.

Many of the Republicans in the House and the Senate believe it is inappropriate for children to be around drag. Almost three dozen Republican members of congress claim that these children are being groomed and sexualized.

In reality, these performances for children are volunteer story times to show children how to express themselves.

CNN states that the bill bans “adult cabaret performances” on public property so as to shield them from the view of children, threatening violators with a misdemeanor and repeat offenders with a felony.

Under the bill, adult cabaret includes topless shows, go-go dancers, exotic dances, strippers and men/women impersonators.

The LGBTQ+ community has felt especially targeted from this bill, as it includes drag shows under adult cabaret. Drag queens and kings are not strippers and don’t provide sexually explicit content, except for possible private shows that the content is stated.

CNN also quotes Republican state Sen. Jack Johnson saying, “For clarification, this bill is not targeting any group of people. It does not ban drag shows in public. It simply puts age restrictions in place to ensure that children are not present at sexually explicit performances.”

By adding men and women impersonators and all the other legislation that is being pushed in the Tennessee legislative against the LGBTQ+ community, it is clearly targeting drag queens.

Although drag has been present since the age of Shakespeare — when male actors would dress as women — it remains a very controversial topic in this country.

One of the first people who described themselves as a drag queen in the United States was a former slave, William Dorsey Swann. He was arrested several times and eventually was sentenced to 300 years in prison. Since then, there has been a push

to allow people to express themselves without hate and violence.

The LGBTQ+ community has been met with violence for years, from Stonewall in 1969 to a shooting at Club Marcella, a drag night club in Buffalo, N.Y., just last month. The violence has never seemed to stop, and it only becomes worse when the leaders of our country push for restrictions against this community.

The new Tennessee law, which is only the first of an expected many, also strips away freedom of expression. Drag is doing no harm to those in society, except those against the LGBTQ+ community. Drag queens and kings are not topless or stripping in public or in front of children; they are reading books and expressing who they are.

Drag queens are not sexualizing children. Drag queens are being restricted, but toddler beauty pageants are being praised and put on television. They are allowed to dress as adults and be sexualized based on how they look.

Drag queens and kings, showing an art form, are the problems Congress sees as vital. Not gun laws and safety in schools but drag.

The Tennessee law prohibits any drag shows being with-

in 1,000 feet of schools, public parks or places of worship. Drag queens and kings are being treated as sex offenders.

They have not caused any harm or done anything immoral, except in the eyes of anti-LGBTQ+. The only thing that is harmful is the toxic masculinity and misogyny that are controlling the laws and how people express themselves.

One of the most popular drag queens, RuPaul, spoke out on social media saying “it is a mask used to hide the discrimination toward the LGBTQ+ community and the desire to erase drag. Public indecency is already illegal in Tennessee, this is yet another awful attempt at trying to take away our rights.”

If public indecency is already outlawed, which is what lawmakers are claiming to be protecting children from, then why make another law that specifically calls out impersonators.

Drag is a way for the LGBTQ+ community and others to take part in expression and art. There is no danger and no reason to hide children from it. Children should not be hidden away from this expression and art. Showing children drag queens is not grooming. They are not forcing children to dress up, even

though children already participate in dress up and pretend. So dress up isn’t the problem, but being gay and the fear that children will be “forced” to be gay by watching drag is.

The fight for equal expression has been a fight for ages and only more laws will come restricting even more. There needs to be a stop to the misogyny, racism, and homophobia running this country, in order to finally live in a just society.



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS
RuPaul, a popular drag queen, is an advocate for the LGBTQ+ community.

Praise for Capel and Lyke in order at Pitt

LUKE HENNE
editor-in-chief

As a lifelong Pitt fan, it wasn’t hard to tell that, when Jeff Capel was hired to lead the Panthers’ men’s basketball program in March 2018, there was a tall task in front of him.

His predecessor, Kevin Stallings, had sunk the program to arguably the lowest point it’s ever seen. An 8-24 (0-18 in Atlantic Coast Conference play) season the year prior, plummeting attendance and a fanbase and program that had lost almost all its pride.

And for the past four seasons, it looked like Capel was continuing on the path Stallings had created. Things didn’t get better. Recruits came in, but then they left. The wins never came, nor did the postseason appearances. Attendance still stagnated.

Pitt Athletic Director Heather Lyke faced a difficult decision after Capel’s team finished 11-21 during the 2021-22 season. After four seasons, it looked like he’d made no growth. With a football program that had just won its first-ever Atlantic Coast Conference championship a few months earlier, the school’s premier program — men’s basketball — remained a relic of what it had

once been.

I, among many other Pitt fans, were calling for Capel to be fired. Start fresh. Restart this rebuild.

But Lyke gave Capel another chance, and it has paid off in an unforgettable way. Both of the two deserve every ounce of praise they get from here on out.

Capel’s 2022-23 team is currently 23-11, and will be remembered as the team that reversed the course and got Pitt back on the track it’s supposed to be.

This year’s Panthers earned a spot in the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 2015-16, and defeated Mississippi State in a thriller at the First Four on Tuesday. They’ll now take on Iowa State in the Round of 64 on Friday afternoon, days removed from winning the school’s first NCAA Tournament game since 2013-14.

Capel took advantage of a transfer portal that was ripe for the taking. Pitt’s most integral additions — Nelly Cummings, Blake Hinson, Greg Elliott and Federiko Federiko — all came by way of the portal.

He also got Nike Sibande and Jamarius Burton, who’d transferred into the program in prior years, to stay the course despite the tumultuous seasons they’d endured.

Pitt started the season 1-3, including back-to-back blowout losses against West Virginia (25 points) and No. 20 Michigan (31 points), and it looked like more of the same was coming.

Over the next 25 games, the Panthers rattled off 20 wins. This stretch included victories over tournament teams in Fairleigh Dickinson, Northwestern, North Carolina State, No. 11 Virginia and No. 20 Miami. It also saw Pitt best North Carolina, the defending national champion, on two separate occasions.

The Panthers lost three of their final four games entering Selection Sunday, and it looked as if a collapse of epic proportions was in order. Despite being in contention to win the ACC title on the final day of the regular season, Pitt might’ve pulled off the unthinkable by collapsing so hard that it’d outright miss the NCAA Tournament.

But the Panthers were tabbed as one of the final four teams into the field, and they took advantage of their opportunity by beating Mississippi State— just like they have all year long, and just like their head coach did when Lyke gave him another chance.

Now, Pitt will return to the Greensboro Coliseum to take on

a very-manageable opponent in Iowa State, which lost seven of its final 10 games prior to the tournament.

It’s the same Greensboro Coliseum where the Panthers were humiliated by Duke 96-69 in the ACC tournament on March 9, a loss that is what primarily put Pitt’s chances of making it into the NCAA Tournament at great risk.



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS
In his fifth year as the Head Coach of the Pittsburgh Panthers’ men’s basketball team, Jeff Capel has guided Pitt back to the NCAA Tournament.

DU professor takes on film competition

ISABELLA ABBOTT
features editor

Forty-eight hours isn't enough time to create and shoot a short film, right? For some, this may be true, but for anyone participating in the 48-hour film project, this is their average competition.

Duquesne alum and media professor William Lyon recently received "Best Film of 2022" for the 48-Hour Film Science Fiction Horror Project. His team, Gaff Tape and a Prayer, will compete in Los Angeles at Filmapalooza this week, where they'll represent Pittsburgh against city winners around the world.

During the intense competition, teams write, shoot and edit a movie in 48 hours. They draw their genre on Friday night and are given a prop, character and line that



COURTESY OF WILLIAM LYON

In this behind-the-scenes shot from "Veronica@Home," Lyon and other actors enter the home.

needs to be included in the film.

Their recent winning film, titled "Veronica@Home" had to include the character Plumber Skip or Skipper Carle, a family ring as a prop and the line, "I wish I still loved

you like I used to." These needed to be in the 4-to-7-minute films to qualify for awards.

With the sci-fi-horror aspect in mind, Lyon and his team decided to make the film about an AI system gone rogue.

"The film is basically about a guy who lives at home alone in a smart home, and when the pandemic is lifted, and he's able to leave the house, the house no longer wants him to leave," Lyon said. "It was a two-person film where we had the main character, and then an AI voice assistant that acted as the villain of the film."

"Veronica@Home" wasn't their only film that did well at the 48-hour competition. Gaff Tape and a Prayer had won three other times in Pittsburgh, including their first win in 2014, when they first entered the competition.

Lyon said they started to compete at that time due to their shared interest in filmmaking.

"I was fresh out of grad school working at the Apple Store in Ross Park (Mall), and I met these coworkers, and somebody brought it up and said, 'Hey, we should (participate) in the 48-hour film festival,'" Lyon said. "So we all just got together and decided to do the first one in 2014. It ended up working really well for us, so we kept doing it. It was sort of what we wanted to do, and we needed an outlet."

Even though there's a trophy on the line, they always go into each competition with a positive mindset.

"We always went into the competition with a mindset of not really caring if we win or not, which is funny enough," Lyon said. "We're doing this because we want to have fun, and we want the outlet of making something because, with film, it's hard to find the time and the money and the resources to make it. This competition is so confined and contained that it's like we are going to come out of the weekend with something that

didn't exist prior to that weekend."

Gaff Tape and a Prayer has also won best film in Pittsburgh for three other projects, as well as many other awards like "Best Editing," "Best Use of Character" and "Audience

"I can definitely tell this is something he enjoys doing as a person, and not just as a job," Barkefelt said. "He's very patient and always willing to stop and help someone if they're struggling."



COURTESY OF WILLIAM LYON

Lyon — a Duquesne alum and current media professor — is seen here talking to Veronica in the film, "Veronica@Home." The film won "Best Film of 2022" at the 48-Hour Film Science Fiction Horror Project.

Choice." One of these horror-genre winners, "Unfinished," follows a man who catches his fiancée cheating. He then proceeds to drug her and take away her vocal cords.

Since Lyon plays the role of the villain, he said his wife doesn't want to watch it, even if it won an award.

"My wife won't watch it because it makes her uncomfortable," Lyon said. "I think it's primarily, particularly, because I'm in that one playing this horrible villainous person, and she doesn't like seeing me like that."

Students, like graduate student Travis Barkefelt, are able to see his passion for filmmaking while he teaches.

Lyon said that anyone looking to pursue a career in filmmaking should go for it.

"If you want to make films, make films," Lyon said. "You don't have to wait for somebody to allow you to make films, especially nowadays. Your first stuff might be terrible. It'll get better. That's part of the learning process, and you never know what kind of stuff it will lead to. It can be worth it. If you have the patience and the time, you know you have the passion for it — keep doing it."

For any students looking to watch their short films, they can visit gafftape-prayer.com.

Lee does it all in her time at Duquesne

HANNAH PETERS
staff writer

One might've heard of the trendy internet slang term 'academic weapon,' but do they actually know what one looks like? If not, Emmala Lee, a senior and first-generation student, is a perfect example of one.

Apart from being a dedicated nursing student, Lee has remained an active participant in clubs and organizations on campus throughout her time at Duquesne.

Not only is she an executive board member for the Asian Student Association, Evergreen Club and the Filipino Student Association, but she is also a student ambassador for nursing, a three-year Resident Assistant, a Community Engagement Scholar, and a part of pre-orientation for freshmen with The Center for Excellence in Diversity and Student Inclusion.

"These four years are really short, and I wanted to spend my time doing things that I love outside of my major," Lee said. "As much as I love nursing, I wanted to make sure I was a part of clubs and other things that I am passionate about that don't necessarily pertain to my major."

With nursing, Lee hopes to go into labor and delivery, a goal she said made the most sense for her.

"In high school, I was involved in the science club and took a lot of honors and AP science classes, so it was just putting to-

gether my passion for science and my love for caring for babies and children," Lee said. "Plus, just knowing that there is a nursing shortage helped me know that I wanted to pursue this route of caring for people."

This past semester, she had the opportunity to intern at Lancaster General Hospital in Lancaster, Pa., which led to a future job opportunity there.

"I'm not sure what unit yet, but I am looking forward to working with Lancaster General Hospital in the future," Lee said. "The internship led me there, and I really feel like the School of Nursing at Duquesne made me feel comfortable and capable of doing this internship."

The thing she cited as her favorite part about Duquesne is not the job opportunities, but rather the people.

"My favorite part is building relationships with people — faculty, staff, friends, classmates, people outside my major, all that good stuff," Lee said. "A lot of these relationships have led me to have many different experiences that I feel have even helped me with nursing, because nursing is such a people-oriented job."

She has found lots of this relationship building through her work in the various clubs she is a part of. She has taken on a variety of roles at these clubs spanning from event coordinator to secretary, with some public relations mixed in.

"Something else I like to do is graphic de-

sign, which I think is super fun," Lee said. "I like to make a lot of the posters for our clubs. But I like to do a lot of the event stuff too — the planning, making the fliers for our program, doing the program."

Despite all the clubs she is a part of, she claims not to have a favorite.

"I love them all," Lee said. "They each pull at my heart in different directions. So, I can't favor one over the other."

She might not have a favorite club, but there's one event that has stuck with her the most: pre-orientation.

"It makes me so happy to see freshmen that I met in pre-orientation getting involved in the same clubs I am a part of," Lee said. "It's so fun to see them excited to see me again, and to see how they're doing and to follow up with the things we talked about before. I think that's my most rewarding feeling."

Cassidy Kline, a senior at Duquesne, participated in the Pre-O program during her freshman year. That's where she met Lee.

"She's one of the first people I met at Duquesne," Kline said. "Ever since Pre-O, our friendship just kind of blossomed. We lived in St. Anne's together and hung out a lot."

With a four-year-long friendship, Kline spoke to the type of friend and person Lee is, in spite of her many responsibilities on campus.

"She's one of the most hard-working people I've ever met," Kline said. "She's con-

stantly busy. But even after working her job from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., and having RA duty, if I need to talk or just need to hang out with someone, she's always there for me. Overall, she's one of the most-supportive people I've ever met. She's a really good friend, and any of her friends would say the same."

Lee's many experiences have allowed her to become a valuable mentor to the Duquesne community and, as such, she is able to share some words of wisdom.

"As a senior, and being a part of different clubs, I would say that tapping into getting to know who you are and recognizing your strengths or your weaknesses, and asking for help when you need it, it makes you a better person in the long run," Lee said. "Ultimately, people are here to help you."



COURTESY OF EMMALA LEE

Emmala Lee (left) is seen here with Tess Aumuller (right) during volunteer work on the South Side.

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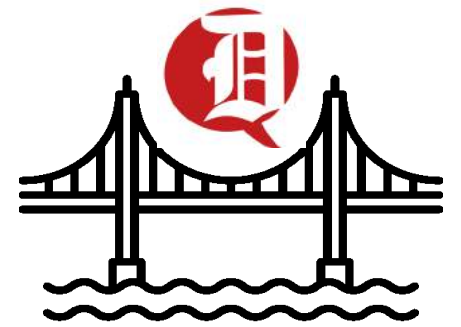
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INTERVIEWS WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE AFTERNOON ON FRIDAY, MARCH 24. STUDENTS FROM ALL MAJORS ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.

IF INTERESTED, SEND AN APPLICATION TO ASHLEY BROWN (BROWNA9@DUQ.EDU) IN THE DUQUESNE MEDIA DEPARTMENT BY MONDAY, MARCH 20. THE APPLICATION SHOULD INCLUDE A STATEMENT OF INTENT (COVER LETTER), A RESUME AND A TRANSCRIPT OR A STATEMENT OF GPA.



THE DUQUESNE DUKE

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L'ESPRIT DU DUC (THE DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY YEAR-BOOK) IS SEEKING AN EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, BEGINNING IN FALL 2023. THIS IS A PAID POSITION (IN THE FORM OF CREDITS) OPEN TO ANY UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT IN THE UNIVERSITY.

IF INTERESTED, PLEASE SEND YOUR RESUME AND A COVER LETTER TO THE CURRENT EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, MAURA FISCHER (FISCHERM4@DUQ.EDU), AND THE FACULTY ADVISOR, DR. SARAH WRIGHT (WRIGHTS3@DUQ.EDU), BY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22. INTERVIEWS WILL TAKE PLACE AS EARLY AS FRIDAY, MARCH 24.



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