

sports	a & e	opinions	features
Last trip around the bases	The power of flowers	DUQ: A place for no hate	'Burgh to Boston
Henne says farewell after three years at <i>The Duke</i>	Phipps holds new multi-sensory exhibit	Support for LGBTQ individuals needed	Rookie marathoner runs across Boston finish line
PAGE 3	PAGE 4	PAGE 5	PAGE 6



THE DUQUESNE DUKE

Proudly Serving Our Campus Since 1925

Reaching an agreement: Duquesne Police Union Strikes deal

Capstones: Plan for 2023

EMMA POLEN
news editor

At the beginning of this year, junior music student Kyle Styver went out on his own to produce music in order to grow his professional resume.

Now, with the Capstone requirement across all majors, he's getting class credit and additional resources for his project, too.

As part of the Bridges Common Curriculum installed fall of 2020, every undergraduate, beginning with those who matriculated that same semester, must complete a Capstone, whether for 0 credits or as part of their major's requirements.

All students must complete a Capstone, or experiential learning project, in order to graduate.

From health science to music production, students and faculty are finding ways to be creative in their Capstones.

Darlene Weaver, associate provost for academic affairs, oversaw the introduction of Bridges in fall of 2021.

Bridges replaced the university core, or general education, curriculum, and the change will have lasting impacts on class requirements for students at Duquesne. However, students enrolled with Bridges requirements should already have been taking the Bridges replacements for university core, such as the "thematic concentrations" that replaced gen-ed classes like UCOR math, science and writing.

Weaver was greatly involved in the integration of the new Bridges curriculum, but this summer she will leave Duquesne for a position as provost and executive vice president at the University of Dayton.

"It's a bittersweet moment," Weaver said in a university statement announcing her new position, "since embracing this opportunity means leaving a university I love and colleagues I deeply admire and enjoy."



Duquesne police officers, who would not provide their names, strike along Forbes Avenue on Monday to protest the lack of a fair deal between their union and the university.

EMILY AMBERY
staff writer

Duquesne University and University Police came to a tentative agreement on Wednesday after a two-day strike for a new contract.

The strike ended when both the police and Duquesne expressed satisfaction with the terms discussed after eight hours of meetings on Tuesday.

Sgt. Dan Baker appreciates that the university recognized safety "and making it a top priority."

Negotiations began nine months prior, in August when DUPD's contract expired. The union's motivations to strike were healthcare, wages and pension.

The five administrative DUPD officers, including Chief of Police Eric Holmes, continued to work through the strike.

On Wednesday, Sgt. Frank Cortazzo said that the full complement of officers had returned, and

they looked forward to continuing their duty.

"We had a lot of support," Cortazzo said. "But our biggest fans, the students, faculty and staff really won the day."

Students on a Duquesne social media platform showed their support for their officers with an attempt to organize a rally on campus during the strike.

"Both groups worked hard, and we put in a long day," Cortazzo said. "Both sides made concessions."

In a statement, the university said they appreciated the good faith efforts of all involved.

Unsatisfied with negotiations prior to Wednesday's decision, the police and Teamsters Local 249, the union representing DUPD, announced their intention to strike on Sunday, April 16 after a two-hour meeting. Union members took to the picket line at 7 a.m. the next day.

Union officials expressed frustration with Sunday's meeting.

Cortazzo and Teamster Local 249 Vice President Keith Frank both said time at the table with Duquesne was only about five minutes.

"We were prepared to meet all night," Cortazzo said. "Then we sat for two hours and met with them for about two minutes."

Frank said the university continued to offer the same deal, noting that limited pay increases over the years have stifled progress.

"They continue to throw the same offer across the table; we want to be paid for the work that we do," Frank said on Monday.

Baker said he believed Duquesne's offer needed to be competitive with Pitt, CMU and Carlow.

In an email sent to students on Sunday evening, Duquesne said their offer "included the highest guaranteed wage increases since the 2001-2006 contract."

The university maintained the compensation offered was among the most generous in higher education in the region.

Frank said on Monday that the 3% raise the university offered was a net-zero gain given the cuts the offer made in healthcare and pension.

"Teamsters can do math," Tammy Sabo, treasurer and secretary of Teamsters Local 249, added on Monday.

While on strike, the officers emphasized their reluctance to not patrol campus.

"We do not want to be out here," Baker said on Monday while striking on Forbes. "We want to get back to work, and we want to keep you guys safe."

Cars passed by honking in support as officers stood on Stevenson Street and Forbes Avenue with signs and megaphones.

"This morning I was woken up by them striking on the mic," sophomore Matt Blank said. "I hope something can be resolved to keep safety a priority on campus."

see **POLICE**—page 2

POLICE BRIEFS

Wednesday, April 5-

The fire department was called for a fire alarm in Genesius Theater that turned out to be a false alarm.

Wednesday, April 5-

Duquesne students reported dissemination of nude photos of a minor.

Thursday, April 6-

The Mellon Hall fire alarm was activated. It was determined to be a false alarm.

Saturday, April 8-

Drones reportedly flew around Brottier Hall and Trinity Circle.

Tuesday, April 11-

Campus police cited and towed a vehicle found on Boyd Street with an altered/fake permit.

Tuesday, April 11-

Student reported that an unknown person had breached her bank account online and stolen money.

Wednesday, April 12-

The Mellon Hall fire alarm was activated from multiple floors. It was determined to be a false alarm.

Wednesday, April 12-

A parent of a school of nursing student was upset that the student was not graduating accordingly, and they made accusations and threats directed at the university.

Wednesday, April 12-

A man was found passed out in the campus bookstore, rolling around on the floor. He was transported to UPMC Mercy Hospital.

Thursday, April 13-

Campus Police were dispatched to a St. Martin's Hall room when a student was discovered to be in possession of paraphernalia.

Friday, April 14-

Police responded to a report about an intoxicated male student in front of St. Martin Hall. The student was transported to his room in Des Places and will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Saturday, April 15-

A student was transported to the UPMC Mercy Hospital ER for a hamstring injury incurred while playing soccer.

Monday, April 17-

A third-floor Mellon Hall smoke alarm was activated, but no signs of smoke or fire were detected.

from POLICE — page 1

The day the strike began, Duquesne locked all Living Learning Centers. Students needed to swipe into both the building and the front desk.

"Following a security review," a statement from the Office of Resident Life said, "the university has made all Living Learning Centers accessible by card swipe only."

Concerns for safety were at the forefront of discussions during the strike.

"I saw they made the buildings swipe access, and I didn't really think that much about it," said physician assistant student Evelyn Foster said on Monday.

This is not the first time Duquesne has combated unionization. Adjunct faculty attempted to unionize in 2012, and Duquesne sued after the National Labor Relations Union rejected the university's request to disallow the union.

In 2022, a federal appeals court decided that on the basis of Duquesne's religious affiliation, it was exempt from the NLRB's rules.



BRENTARO YAMANE | LAYOUT/MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Police union business agent Thomas Huck (far left) and (left to right) Cpl. Rick Bogdanski, Officer Cara Scagline and Sgt. Frank Cortazzo strike outside of Gumberg Library on Monday.

Engineering a major change

ZACH PETROFF
opinions editor

The current Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences is combining with biomedical engineering, math and computer science programs, and it will be adding new engineering programs.

On Sunday, in an address to potential future Duquesners, university President Ken Gormley announced that the Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences will be changing its name to the School of Science and Engineering to "reach for bigger goals, we are excited to bring this opportunity to our current and future students," Gormley said.

"Duquesne is well positioned to train and educate the next generation of engineers," Gormley said. "With our strengths in the sciences, physics, math and biomedical engineering, we already have the resources in place to create a top-flight engineering program."

In September of last year, Duquesne's biomedical engineering program was accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, the global accreditor of university programs in engineering and engineering technology. In previous years, the program has been recognized by NASA for their work in material science.

"One of the strengths of our science and engineering programs is that students will gain hands-on experience early in their academic careers," said Duquesne Provost Dr. David Dausey. "We will open our maker

spaces and labs to them as first-years and sophomores so they are better prepared to produce high-quality work that readies them for their next move."

The university plans to offer degrees in mechanical engineering, environmental/energy engineering, systems engineering and engineering physics in fall 2024. In the meantime, students will still have the opportunity to take general engineering courses in fall 2023 as part of an early-access engineering program before choosing a specialized field.

"This is an exciting time for our current and future engineering students," the Dean of the School of Science and Engineering Ellen Gawalt said. "With the establishment of the new School, we will welcome the biomedical engineering students, binary engineering and future engineers into a school that offers a complete suite of basic and applied sciences, math and engineering offerings."

The curriculum and faculty will remain unchanged for current students, according to Gawalt.

"Current and future students can continue to expect the hallmarks of a science and engineering education at Duquesne," Gawalt said. "[There will be continued] close interactions with faculty, mentoring, access to research opportunities and small class sizes."

Junior Hannah Valenty welcomes the "logical reorganization of current departments."

"As a physics major, I'm happy to have the math department in the same school," Valenty said "I think Duquesne will benefit greatly from the new engi-

neering programs by attracting prospective students with this high-demand field."

Biomedical engineering student Tony Carbrino is also excited for the addition.

"The creation of the School of Science and Engineering is a really awesome way to broaden our research and curriculum within biomedical engineering and the sciences while bolstering existing programs," Carbrino said. "Adding more programs, courses and personnel to the exciting STEM curriculum at Duquesne is really exciting because of this potential to be even more interdisciplinary in our education."



ZACH PETROFF | OPINIONS EDITOR

The new School of Science and Engineering had a brief open-house at admitted students' day on Sunday.

FOLLOW THE DUKE

Instagram

@TheDuquesneDuke

YouTube

The Duquesne Duke

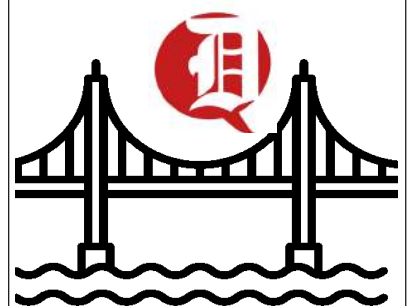
Twitter

@TheDuquesneDuke

Advertise with us!

duqdukeads@gmail.com

The Duquesne Duke supports local businesses



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.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you

LUKE HENNE
editor-in-chief

This is the one I've been dreading writing. I'm no good at goodbyes. I'm no good with change. I'm no good with uncertainty.

I remember officially arriving at Duquesne in August 2019. After one day of classes, I called my mom. As I cried and talked to her, I told her this college thing wasn't for me.

Fortunately, I was wrong.

I knew from the time I was 10 years old that I wanted a career in the sports media industry, but I even hesitated to join *The Duke* until the end of my freshman year — I was uneasy about the change that it would bring about in my life.

As I look back and prepare for graduation, all I can say is how thankful I am that I took the chance and joined *The Duke*. I don't say this lightly, but my three years here — one as a staff writer, one as the sports editor and one as the editor-in-chief — have been the best three years of my life.

This newsroom has not only enabled my growth as a writer and as an aspiring sports media professional, but it's also cultivated friendships and relationships that I'll carry with me for the rest of my life.

I love what we've accomplished as a staff in my time here. I'm indebted to the fellow writers and editors who've not only made my job easier, but who've also made this newsroom a place I GET to come to every Wednesday night.

I want to take some time to recognize all the integral people in my life who've made this journey so enjoyable and worthwhile.

To Mom and Dad — thank you for always believing in me, and for letting me live out my dream. You've always pushed me to work relentlessly to achieve what I want, and I wouldn't have made it this far without your love and support.

To other family, friends and loved ones, especially: Gooch, Grandma and Grandpa (my grandparents), my great aunt Kathy, Brendan (my brother), Jordan and Rachel (my sisters) and Katherine (my girlfriend) — thank you for always hyping me up and telling me not only what I want to hear, but what I need to hear to humble myself sometimes.

To Professor Healy — thank you for selling me on Duquesne. I'll never forget how timid I was the first time I met you in April 2018. You eased all my worries and made this a place that I wanted to come to. I consider you to be one of my greatest mentors.

To Dr. Walck and Dr. Dillon — thank you for helping me grow and gain confidence as a young writer. Without each of you, I might've

never had the confidence I needed to take on larger roles at *The Duke*.

To David Borne and Adam Lindner — thank you for encouraging me to get involved at *The Duke*, and for recognizing my potential. You two each set a standard for what it means to be a sports editor, and you laid the foundation for me to be successful here.

To Paula Ward — thank you for making sure I took the editor-in-chief position. I was so uncertain in my level of capability when it came to holding this position, but you instilled all your faith and belief in me. I'm so grateful that you did.

To Dave Saba, Paul Hightower, Liam Hal-

tive sections during your time working with me. Each of you always came ready to work every single Wednesday, and you could always be counted on to make sure that your job was done right. I have immense respect for the work ethic that each and every one of you brought to the table on a weekly basis.

To Zach Petroff — thank you for always being ready to pick up a story when asked, give me a compliment I probably don't deserve or just be a genuinely good person. Whether it's 3AM or I am UNWELL, I know that you'll always be there to PUSH me around.

To Spencer Thomas — thank you for being the second-best sports editor that has

about where my future will take me after I walk across the stage at the UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse — where I spent plenty of nights covering the men's and women's basketball teams — in just over two weeks.

However, just like my mom told me on that day nearly four years ago — it's unbelievable how fast time goes — I'm here because I belong here. Wherever my career takes me, I will be able to sleep easy knowing that that's the place I'm meant to be.

I'm honored and humbled that, for the past four years, Duquesne is the place I got to call home. I'm even more appreciative of the fact that 113 College Hall — aka the newsroom — was the place I got to spend 14 Wednesdays a semester for each of the last two years.

I only live half an hour away in Cranberry Township, Pa., but this place and the people here have become a second home for me.

When I completed my first day of classes as a freshman, I cried and cried because I didn't think I was capable of succeeding here. Now, I'm going to cry because I don't want to leave this place.

The newsroom has become my safe space. My happy place. Even on other days of the week, other editors and myself gather here to work, talk and enjoy each other's company.

Paula and I met last summer to discuss what my vision was for the paper coming into the 2022-23 academic year, and I found myself continually arriving at the same goal: make this a place where people — writers and editors — want to come, not where they have to come.

Sure, I'll walk away from *The Duke* with plenty of portfolio items and a career path that's only been bolstered since I started working here — I told you I need to be humbled sometimes. Despite those two truths, if I leave 113 College Hall knowing that those that I've fostered a relationship with — either personally or professionally — enjoyed coming here and enjoyed being with one another on a weekly basis, then I'll know that it was all worth it and that I was successful.

With that, I leave Emma in charge of this paper. After 28 weeks leading the way, it's her turn to help *The Duke* continue to not only succeed, but to excel.

Thank you to everyone who contributed along the way. It was a pleasure to work here every week, and I'm sure going to miss it.



LUKE HENNE | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

During his tenure as the sports editor in 2021-22, Luke Henne (left) got to cover the 2022 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Tournament at PPG Paints Arena with Brentaro Yamane (right) for *The Duke*.

ferty, Andrew Woodley and Alex Pepke — thank you for making my life so much easier when it came to covering Duquesne's athletic teams. Each and every one of you worked tirelessly to make my job easier, and I'm very appreciative of all that you've done for organizations like *The Duke*.

To Dan Hart and Michelle Crechiolo — thank you for taking a chance on me. You each gave me an opportunity to work for my boyhood teams, the Pittsburgh Pirates and Pittsburgh Penguins. Both of you said that my work at *The Duke* helped me to stand out during the respective interview stages, and my time working alongside each of you has made me not only a more-seasoned individual in the sports media landscape, but a better professional as well. I appreciate all the guidance that each of you has given me.

To Isabella Abbott, Alicia Dye, Emily Fritz, Capri Scarcelli and Nicholas Zotos — thank you for holding down the fort in your respec-

served the staff this year. The sports section will greatly benefit from having you back as its editor (must've been nice to complete a semester from Italy). It was fun filling in for you this semester, but I have no doubt that you'll take this section to new heights. Don't let that go to your head, though, because I know there's a good chance you will.

To Emma Polen — thank you for quickly becoming one of my best friends here at Duquesne. Before this semester, I knew what you were capable of. But you've exceeded even my expectations — I witnessed it firsthand in our coverage of the Dr. Iwuchukwu story. From that point forward, I knew that I was leaving this paper in the proper hands. You are going to crush it as the next one in charge of *The Duke*.

To Brentaro Yamane — thank you for taking every step of my college journey with me. I mentioned that uneasy first day of college earlier. By the second day, when we officially met at Hogan Dining Hall, I felt comfortable here. You quickly became my best friend, and we've tackled it all together — roommates for three years, classmates for four years, co-anchors at Duquesne Student Television, editors at *The Duke* and best friends. I don't like to pick favorites, but my life is not going to be the same without you. I'm going to miss you a lot.

There's a good chance that I missed a large amount of people that are owed thanks. An abundance of students and faculty turned my four years on the Bluff into years that I will never forget.

Like I said in the open, I am not a fan of change or uncertainty. I'm excited to graduate on May 5, but I'm also genuinely scared.

I'm currently spending another season with my beloved Buccos, but I am uneasy



LUKE HENNE | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

During this semester, Luke Henne served as a staff writer intern with the Pittsburgh Penguins. He covered home games at PPG Paints Arena and practices at UPMC Lemieux Sports Complex. He was responsible for publishing articles, which appeared on Penguins.com and in the "Puck Drop" magazine.



LUKE HENNE | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Luke Henne began working with his boyhood team — the Pittsburgh Pirates — in their communications department in 2022, and he still interns there.

Stop & smell the flowers: Phipps indulges the senses

EMILY FRITZ
a&e editor

Aromatic florals, singing song-birds, touch-sensitive greenery, springtime snacks and a vibrant array of colors.

From March 18 through April 16, Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens in Schenley Park put on an inviting display for their annual “Spring Flower Show: Five Senses of Splendor.”

This year’s theme touched upon the five senses, featuring “a giant perfume bottle, harmonious chime canopies, a cascading fountain and more, all surrounded by blooms in a rainbow of shades,” according to their press release.

The conservatory in Oakland, which is situated on 15 acres, hosts 14 climate- and moisture-controlled rooms and 23 gardens in total.

In the Welcome Center Ikebana displays highlighted the Japanese art of floral arrangement. Dubbed the “Ikebana International Exhibit,” the pieces were provided courtesy of the Ikebana International Pittsburgh Chapter.

Moving through the conservatory, visitors found themselves immersed in a sunken garden, a desert display, a tropical forest and of course, vivid blooms.

To appeal to more senses, some areas were equipped with chimes and a gentle airflow alongside an interactive xylophone, while others were decorated with interactive water displays and fountains.

Other areas feature fragrant beds of rosemary, sage, lavender and lemon fizz. Some plants, such as the sensitive plant, reacted to touch, closing its leaves after being handled.

Café Phipps also offered special, limited-edition spring-inspired dishes and beverages, pushing the limits of the sensory experience even further.

Interactive, family-friendly areas allowed guests to manipulate water features and garden statues or investigate other popular plants, such as the produce one would find in the grocery store or the pungent plants in the Tropical Fruit and Spice Room.

Familiar flowers included lilies, amaryllis, petunias, daffodils, tulips and hyacinths, while less commonly known plants such as an octopus cactus, an American century plant, dormant African tree grapes and a Swiss cheese plant gave guests a botanical curiosity that wouldn’t normally be organic to the Pittsburgh region.

“Tropical Forest Hawai‘i: Aloha ‘Āina” was also open for patrons looking to learn more



EMILY FRITZ | A&E EDITOR

Accessory pieces such as statues, fountains, chime canopies and art installations help bring the exhibits to life.

about “the rich history, nature and culture of the Hawaiian archipelago,” according to their website.

“Aloha ‘Āina,” meaning “love of land,” exemplifies the harmonious living of Indigenous Hawaiians.

The Tropical Forest Conservatory offers rich educational opportunities about watershed and biocultural resource management, in addition to hosting a small aquatic area full of fish.

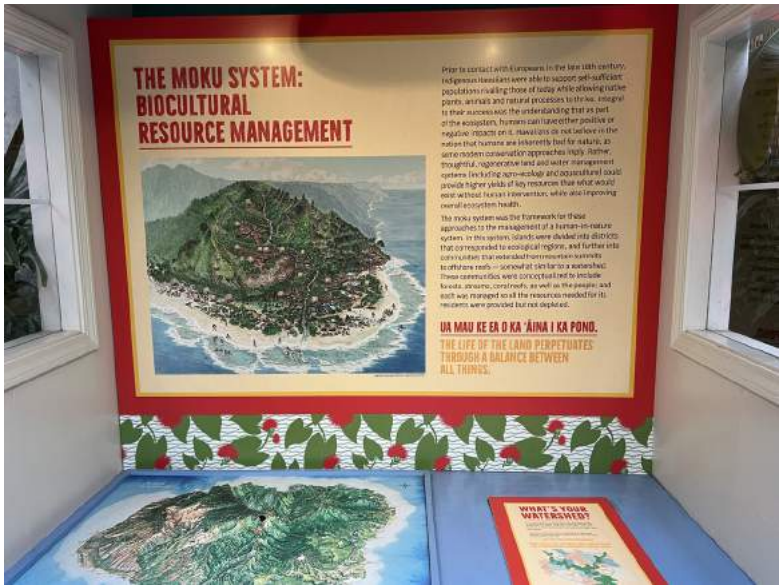
Phipps hosts a number of sustainability classes and programs

alongside special events.

In the coming months, the conservatory will be hosting their summer flower show, “Flowers Meet Fashion: Inspired by Billy Porter,” from May 6 through June 25.

Advance tickets will go on sale beginning at noon on Friday.

To learn more about upcoming events, commissioned exhibits, sustainability classes or how the conservatory contributes to a greener world, visit their website at <https://www.phipps.conservatory.org/>.



EMILY FRITZ | A&E EDITOR

Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens take several opportunities within their exhibits and events to educate visitors about environmentalty.



EMILY FRITZ | A&E EDITOR

The conservatory boasts 14 climate-controlled greenhouses with a total of 23 gardens. Each section showcases a different theme of flora and foliage.

CAMPUS EVENTS

Pancakes with the President
April 20 @ 8:30 a.m.

Serving on A-Walk, near the Union until 10:30 a.m.

Waste is Wack
April 21 @ 11 a.m.

Evergreen’s annual zero-waste Earth Day event on A-Walk! Paint a succulent or tote bag, DIY sugar scrubs and participate in a clothing swap.

Festival on the Bluff
April 22 @ 3 p.m.

Head to A-Walk to enjoy karaoke, a pie-eating competition, mini basketball, blanket making, rock climbing, inflatables, a DJ glow party and more!

Late Night Breakfast Study Break
April 28 @ 9 p.m.

FREE breakfast food, caricatures & bingo in Hogan until midnight. Celebrate the end of the semester with shaved ice mocktails, root beer floats, canvas painting and sugar scrubs!

EMILY'S EPIPHANIES

The Freedom to Start Over

“It’s no use going back to yesterday, because I was a different person then.”

~ Lewis Carroll

“The time has come,” the Walrus said, / To talk of many things”

~ Lewis Carroll

We’ve reached the end of our time together this semester, and what a whirlwind it’s been.

The beautiful thing about starting anew is reflecting and reinventing yourself again.

Whatever comes next for you, I encourage you to make a better tomorrow, find your best path, embrace this new season of change and forgive yourself for whatever plagues you.

This is the season of renewal and I hope that you’re able to revel in the healing of the summer sun.

There’s no use going back to yesterday, because you were a different person then.

— Emily Fritz

Aquarius ♒

Live, laugh, love that for you <3

Pisces ♓

Don’t be sad, be glad

Aries ♈

You’re in your tinned fish era

Taurus ♉

Thanks, it’s the depression lol

Gemini ♊

Crocs contamination

Cancer ♋

I am a moneymancer and my only real spell is summon dollar \$\$\$

Leo ♌

Don’t forget to water your grandma

Virgo ♍

If I see one more shrug emoji from him, I simply might pass away

Libra ♎

You, my friend, are a few plums short of a fruit pie

Scorpio ♏

It always comes back to the furies

Sagittarius ♐

Having ‘mom guilt’ over leaving her dog for the day

Capricorn ♑

Funky like lettuce

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: theduqduke@gmail.com

“Comparison
is the thief
of joy.”

TEDDY ROOSEVELT

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

@TheDuquesneDuke

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.

Letters policy

Letters to the editor must be typed, double-spaced and include the writer's name, school/department and phone number for verification. Letters should be no longer than 300 words and should be delivered to *The Duke* office at 113 College Hall or e-mailed to theduqduke@gmail.com by 5 p.m. Tuesday. The editors reserve the right to edit any and all submitted copies. All letters must be verified before being published.

Corrections/clarifications

Readers should report any story or photo error to *The Duke*. All legitimate errors will be corrected in print the following edition.

Contact

email: theduqduke@gmail.com



WHAT THE LAST WEEK OF CLASSES FEELS LIKE

BENJAMIN CRAWFORD | STAFF COMIC ARTIST

Don't confuse hate speech with free speech in America

We are in the midst of a new Lavender Scare. The rights of people in the LGBT community — especially transgender and non-binary people — are being threatened by reactionaries whose aims are to silence people and destroy the progress they have made for equal rights and representation.

These people hide behind facades claiming that their “just protecting biological women” and their “putting the well being of children first.” They justify their hateful actions and rhetoric about trans and gender non-conforming people through their own twisted morality — a morality that they probably don't entirely adhere to themselves.

Because of these people, the lives of those who are transgender and non-binary are under threat. My claim is not hyperbole. This is the case, and reactionary pundits have said as much.

Last month, Daily Wire host Michael Knowles was given a platform by CPAC to rail against transgender people.

“Transgenderism must be eradicated from public life entirely,” Knowles said to thunderous applause from the suckers at CPAC.

The man was ridiculed online for his remarks advocating for the “eradication” of transgender people. Despite having clearly said it on stage, he was somehow upset that outlets like *Rolling Stone* were using his own quotes against him. Knowles can claim that he isn't advocating for genocide, but his own rhetoric proves otherwise.

I heard what he said via Twitter. In the same thread, I found out that he would be speaking at the University of Pittsburgh in April — just one month away. As soon as he gave his speech, progressives online were signing petitions against his event which was organized by the College Republicans at Pitt.

In the lead-up to the event, Pitt released a statement about the decision to host Knowles on campus. They claimed that they

are “committed to cultivating an environment of mutual respect, concern for others, diversity, inclusion and belonging.”

Of course, if this were true, they would not allow an event called Should Transgenderism be Regulated by Law. The very notion that a groups' identity should be



ELIYAHU GASSON

staff writer

regulated is absurd and evil to any sane and polite member of society. Knowles is not a sane or polite member of society. He is a ghou, a grifter and a bigot. His ideas, if put into effect, would limit the expression and the bodily autonomy of adults, which is anti-American.

It seems like many American conservatives dread a diverse America. The leaders in the conservative movement are intentionally making life more painful for minorities in this country.

Legislatures led by Republicans around the country are enacting laws that make it near impossible for adults to receive the gender affirming care they need. It's not just about the children like they said, it's about the adults, too. Trans people continue to be legislated back into the closet.

And conservatives have the gumption to criticize protestors for becoming violent when their right to exist as they are is being debated.

Those who dare to question whether or not a minority group should be allowed to exist peacefully do not deserve a platform. Knowles does not deserve a platform. That Pitt would let him have a microphone on their supposedly safe and inclusive campus is absurd. All people have a right to exist peacefully.

Protestors did show up to Pitt's event with Knowles this week. Roads were closed, entrances were blocked and effigies were burned. Unfortunately, these efforts did not put an end to the event.

I'll admit here that I am worried about the rhetoric surrounding trans issues. I believe that all people have the right to bodily autonomy. I am also a part of the LGBT community, and I worry about what legislation against trans people could mean for my future.

I also have a younger brother who is trans. He came out about two years ago. I have noticed an improvement in his mental health as he transitioned from life as a girl to life as a boy. Before transitioning he was quiet and depressed, and my parents were concerned about self harm.

Now, he is outgoing and cheerful (or about as cheerful as adolescents can be around their older siblings). He's even taken after me and joined my high school's marching band. I am so proud of my brother.

It genuinely hurts to think about where he would be had he not been able to get the help he needed. Thank God my siblings and I are lucky enough to have supportive parents. I wish that it could be the same for everyone.

Seeing people like Knowles be given a platform to express their disbelief and conspiratorial attitudes about transgender people worries me greatly. There is no place for fascists in academia or in this country.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Recent strikes show what's best about Pittsburgh

It's always essential to, in any aspect of life, know your worth.

You should never compromise your morals or your integrity, and you should always stand up for what you believe in. Those are principles that ought to always guide you.

That's why the recent strikes of union members in Pittsburgh are worthy of recognition.

In October, employees at the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* walked off the job, protesting ownership's decision to pay an extra \$19 per week per employee to maintain existing health insurance. It's a strike that has persisted for over half a year, and there's been no indication that those striking will back down.

On Monday morning, members of Duquesne University's police department — represented by Teamsters Local 249 — began a strike that lasted until an agreement was reached on Tuesday night, citing a need for improved health care, pension and fair wages.

Keith P. Frank, Teamsters Local 249's vice president, told WTAE that “the parties worked to achieve a fair contract for the hard-working men and women who proudly serve the Duquesne University community.”

Even ushers at PNC Park — home of the Pittsburgh Pirates — were set to go on strike and protest outside the stadium prior to the Pirates' game on Thursday against the Cincinnati Reds.

Represented by the Pittsburgh Stadium Independent Employees Union, the ushers had set out to go on strike to challenge the wages they were being paid for their work. The union and the Pirates also reached an agreement on Tuesday, preventing the possibility of what would've been a major black eye for a team that is often surrounded by negative press.

In just our city, we've seen workers from all walks of life fight for what they believe they're worth. It seems so simple, but it's so worthy of admiration.

It shouldn't be so challenging to get what you're worth. Nonetheless, major institutions often have a tendency to shortchange workers from getting properly compensated for the labor that workers provide to their employers.

Challenge the status quo. Let your voice be heard, even when others might try to tell you to quiet down and stop being so loud.

What's going on in Pittsburgh has drawn many eyes to this city, but it's brought out the best about Western Pennsylvania.

The people that call Pittsburgh home will never back down, and they'll always fight for what is right. The recent strikes from our city's employees are the most recent examples of this.

Carlin runs in Boston for worthwhile cause

ISABELLA ABBOTT
features editor

The Boston Marathon is one of the world's most prestigious road racing events, which can take many years and marathon completions to qualify for. But, for Duquesne graduate student Carlin Long this process was short.

Long qualified for the 127th Boston Marathon after his first Pittsburgh Marathon in May.

To qualify for the marathon in his 18-34 age group, he needed to get a time under three hours. His time for the Pittsburgh Marathon was two hours and 57 minutes, enough for an instant qualification.

Long didn't run for exercise or for the times, but rather for a purpose — to raise funds for a charity in memory of his friend, Cynthia Phillipson, who died from cardiac arrest in 2014 at age 15.

"Boston is kind of a special race for a lot of people," Long said. "Some go for personal goals, but in addition to that, they're running for something there. So I thought that was the perfect kind of combination — to honor her legacy and her generous heart, and then at the same time run that race with everyone doing the same thing."

Cynthia's sister, Veronica Phillipson, said it's amazing to see Long still helping Cynthia live on.

"Carlin and Cynthia were super close friends, and she always felt like she could be herself around him as a good friend and as a person," Veronica said. "It is just amazing to see that he still wants to carry on her legacy, and it makes us remember that there's people who are still thinking about her every day, even though she's not physically here with us."

Mary's Meals is an international charity, whose mission is to provide the most effective help to those suffering the effects of extreme poverty in the world's

poorest communities. The organization works with communities in 18 different countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean.

What was an important mission for Phillipson is now a goal for Long.

"I'm honoring my best friend, Cynthia, and spreading awareness for Mary's Meals and her kitchen to carry on her

"So, that a young man or a friend of hers would continue to honor her memory is extremely touching. We couldn't be more appreciative. A lot of people move on, so it's really special to see that he still continues to honor her memory."

After raising money from the Pittsburgh Half-Marathon and Marathon, as well as money from Long and Cynthia's

"I think she's smiling down on him," Carol said. "One of her quotes that she tweeted out was, 'We all die. The goal isn't to live forever. The goal is to create something that will,' and she tweeted that out maybe six weeks before she passed away. We feel like this is her way of living on."

"She was all about joy and positivity, and that's what Carlin's helping to spread — more joy to these children."

During the race, despite obtaining a stress fracture along the way, Long persevered and ended in three hours and 10 minutes.

"I was pretty strong 'til mile 24, and then I ended up getting some cramps and a stress fracture in my shin," Long said. "So I had to stop there for a little bit to get the cramps out, and then I was able to run the last mile, so I was happy about that."

Like most of the runners that day, Long was thrilled to compete in the marathon.

"It was a really cool experience," Long said. "There's so many different elite runners out there, and everyone was around your same time, and the whole city was great, too."

"A ton of people in the city of Boston came out to support, and you really felt like the city was kind of pushing you through to the finish line along with the other runners. So, all in all, it was a great experience."

"Every year, it's a reminder that there's something positive that came from something so tragic for us," Veronica said. "There's children being fed and educated because Carlin was motivated by losing his best friend, and that shines a positive light of silver lining on everything."

Veronica said that Cynthia was "always a positive person" and that Carlin was always supportive of her no matter the circumstances. She thinks her sister would be proud of his efforts.

"Just to see that — that's exactly what she would have wanted us to do, and we're carrying it out."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CARLIN LONG

Carlin Long ran the Boston Marathon this past Monday in honor of best friend, Cynthia Phillipson, who died in 2014 due to cardiac arrest. His fundraising efforts will go toward feeding children.

legacy in her memory," Long said.

Cynthia's mother, Carol Phillipson, said she's grateful for the work Long has put into keeping her daughter's legacy alive.

"It's been quite some time now, and most people move on," Carol said. "And obviously, for our family, it's a day-to-day [thing]. There's not a minute [or] a second that goes by that we don't think about her."

junior and senior high schools, they were able to adopt a kitchen in Bomi, Liberia, named Cynthia's Kitchen.

According to Mary's Meals, the organization helps feed over two million children every school day, and Cynthia's Kitchen is just one of their contributors.

Carol believes her daughter would be overjoyed about the effort and progress Long has made on the charity.



Cynthia Phillipson's mother, Carol Phillipson, was in attendance for Carlin's Boston Marathon debut. Although the day consisted of rainy conditions, many patrons cheered the runners on.



Long finished the Boston Marathon in three hours and 10 minutes. Supporting him were his parents, along with many other Boston runners, who also ran for different causes for the race.



SEE YOU IN AUGUST! THANK YOU FOR YOUR READERSHIP!

New curriculum offers Capstone opportunities for all

from CAPSTONE — page 1

The Capstone is required across all schools and disciplines, but every department is responsible for making the Capstone experience meaningful to their specific school.

For most students, the Capstone will not change much of their class curriculum from years prior, because the type of required experiential learning is already integrated into their majors, Weaver said.

For example, clinical and teaching placement, which existed prior to fall of 2021, count as Capstones for many schools at the university. However, for schools like McAnulty liberal arts, the Capstone offers more new opportunities.

Capstones show up on a student's final transcript, but the actual project can count for 0 credits, volunteer hours or a paid position, depending on the chosen project. The idea is to have students make connections with work that applies their academic learning to an additional experience, Weaver said.

"One of the things that I think is commendable about having the capstone project as an option for students ... is that, I think we have a chance to support students who are creative, imaginative, who have goals or ideas that they would be interested in exploring," she said.

In a university setting, students have the opportunity to gain help from faculty and staff at Duquesne to mentor and assist with their projects.

Jason Scibek is the chair of athletic training and health science departments in the Rangos School of Health Sciences.

In fall of 2020, the school implemented a new health science major, which involves classes from various health fields, including healthcare, exercise science and nutrition.

Right now, Scibek and his departments are hoping to create a Capstone for rising seniors in the health science program that provides a "cumulative experience," completing the requirements for Bridges and the school's own goals.

Some ideas the department will decide on for a Capstone by next fall include internship or research opportunities alongside staff or community partners. They even suggested a "Capstone Day," where students would share the results of their individual projects.

"There is no cookie-cutter approach ... I wouldn't be surprised if other things continue to emerge as the program continues to evolve," Scibek said, encouraging students to submit Capstone proposals themselves.

Any undergraduate student at

Duquesne can propose a Capstone project of their own design. Weaver suggests interested students contact their program director or fill out a Capstone request with their student success coach.

Within the music school, faculty are already seeing students reaching for opportunities with personal projects.

Benjamin Binder is the chair of the musicianship department and an associate professor of music at the Mary Pappert School of Music. His role with Capstones is the program director for undergraduate bachelor arts/music degree.

The Bachelor of Music degree through the music school (e.g. music education, music therapy and music technology) has a Capstone "already built in" through specialized recitals required in their curriculum, Binder said. Meanwhile, the Bachelor of Arts degree in general music gives students more flexibility in their Capstone project.

The Capstone is giving students like Styver, a current junior enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts music major with a theater minor, the option to pursue a personal EP – or mini album – project for university credit.

Originally, Styver came up with the idea of making an EP for resume building and production ex-

perience, which is something that fits into his plans for working in the recording industry as a music artist.

"I didn't think about it being my Capstone. I was just planning on putting this project out in general," Styver said.

After speaking with his advisor at the music school, though, Styver realized his project could count for class credit as a Capstone.

As part of his Capstone, Styver's personally devised project had to meet three of the Bridges curriculum concentrations. For his EP, he chose Creative Expression, Thinking & Problem Solving and Cultural Fluency concentrations.

While creativity and problem solving are fairly self-explanatory in a musical production project, Styver explained how the cultural fluency fit in. Next semester, he will be taking a steel drumming class, and with that experience he plans to add steel drumming to his album in some way.

"Not only am I able to do something that I really enjoy doing, but also something that's going to benefit me when I'm working toward my career after I leave here," he said.

Styver is gaining songwriting, and vocal, melody and lyrical writing experience while working on the project.

The music student has not been assisted by a professor from Duquesne, but Styver has found a group of people in the music industry that he wants to work with on his own.

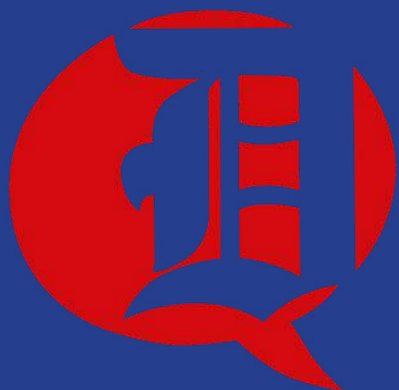
Styver has already begun working on his EP, and the first song is already streaming on Spotify and all music listening platforms, called "I dropped the line," by Kitko Silver.

His album will discuss topics including mental health and burnout, Styver said. "[It's a] big amalgamation of everything I love in music, and what has inspired me, and the different sounds and stuff."

He hopes to have the EP finished by the fall.

"For a degree like BA," Binder said, "it puts students in the position of having to reflect on what makes them unique as a scholar and a musician and a person, and to express that in the process of they're able to design themselves."

Weaver hopes that, as more students become aware of the creativity available with the Capstone, "We're going to see larger numbers of students who want to utilize that as an opportunity to be imaginative and bold and undertake high impact activities that otherwise might not have happened," she said.



SEE YOU IN AUGUST!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR READERSHIP ALL YEAR LONG!

JOIN THE DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY STUDENT PUBLICATIONS TEAM!

Are you interested in:

- Writing for the *The Duke*?
- Producing video news and programming?
- Producing your own live radio show?
- Producing your own podcast?

Follow the QR code and tell us your interests!



Writers & Photographers needed



Come Visit Us
College Hall 113

**Contact our incoming
editor-in-chief**

Emma Polen
(polene@duq.edu)

APARTMENTS FOR RENT



40 Gist St, #40, Pittsburgh, PA
15219



44 Gist Street, APT 3, Pittsburgh,
PA 15219



THE DUQUESNE DUKE

ADVERTISE WITH US!

CONTACT DUQDUKEADS@GMAIL.COM

“
★★★★★
"My roommates and I have
absolutely loved living here."
Google review

LIVE SOUTHSIDE
SPACIOUS 1, 2, 3 AND 4 BEDROOM
APARTMENTS RIGHT OFF OF EAST
CARSON STREET.

**8 MINUTE DRIVE TO DUQUESNE
UNIVERSITY + EASY BUS ACCESS!**

Visit our website!

(412) 253-2533 26 S 28th St, Pittsburgh, PA 15203

University of Pittsburgh | School of Social Work

**Top-Ranked
MSW
Program**

Transform Your World, Your Future, Yourself

JOIN US IN FALL 2023 | APPLY TODAY! [SOCIALWORK.PITT.EDU](https://socialwork.pitt.edu)

Join!
The Society of Professional Journalists

**Duquesne University
Community**

Campus Link
Duquesne University

SCAN ME

Email
duqspj@gmail.com
for more information.

SEE YOU IN AUGUST!