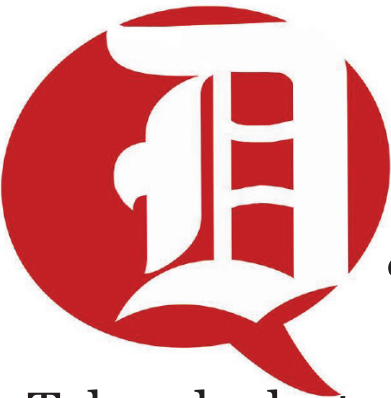


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Take a look at Pittsburgh's porta potties

EMILY AMBERY
layout editor

Downtown Pittsburgh welcomed new public restrooms at the Gateway Center T-station on Sept. 16. The 'Pittsburgh Potty' is part of a six-month initiative to supplement a lack of public restrooms in the city.

Supported by the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County and the Downtown business and property owner community, Pittsburgh Potty is open seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. and will host three restrooms, one being ADA accessible.

Team members from the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership (PDP) will maintain the bathrooms with regular servicing, cleaning and monitoring.

"It is our firm belief that everyone deserves access to secure, hygienic and dependable restrooms, and the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership is excited to have this opportunity to deliver this vital service to our community," said Richard Hooper, vice president of marketing and communication at the Downtown Partnership.

A study by Point Park University faculty and students cited public restrooms as imperative to public health and provided the strategy for implementing the temporary system.

Lead Point Park faculty researcher on the report, Heather Starr Fiedler, said public restrooms address the universal need of access to hygienic care.

"Having clean and safe restrooms really should be a right, not a privilege," Fiedler said. "It's important for people who are unhoused because that is their only option for having a restroom to use."

The pilot program will also provide another public restroom at Smithfield Street and Strawberry Way which will include two restroom stalls.

"We are really excited to see the plan moving forward and are thrilled that we were able to play

see POTTIES—page 3

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'This is a hate crime. This is not acceptable': Synagogue shooting survivors speak out



Amy Mallinger (left to right), Audrey Glickman, Jodi Kart, Michele Rosenthal and Johnathan Craig globally discuss their difficult experiences from the Tree of Life Synagogue shooting at the Eradicate Hate Global Summit after 4 1/2 years of needing to remain silent.

DELANEY KRAUS | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

MEGAN TROTTER
news editor

The 2023 Eradicate Hate Global Summit opened its doors Wednesday for its third annual conference. Founded after the Oct. 27, 2018, Tree of Life Synagogue shooting, the conference was the loved ones and survivors' first opportunity to speak publicly about the attack since the sentencing in August.

For roughly 40 minutes, speakers composed of survivors and victims' family members held the undivided attention of more than 1,600 participants at the David L. Convention Center.

For 4-1/2 years, the survivors of the attack were unable to speak freely about their experiences because they were afraid to share any information that could lead to a mistrial. Now, with the trial behind them, the speakers expressed relief to finally be able to talk about the attack in public.

Audrey Glickman, who was leading the for the Tree of Life Congregation when the shooting took place, expressed her frustration with not being allowed to speak about her feelings because of politicization and moralization by the public.

"Broadly speaking, it would be very nice if the general public would not presume to be speaking on behalf of any victims. Whether right or wrong in their opinions," she said.

Director Maggie Feinstein of 10.27 Healing Partnership moderated the panel. The speakers included Amy Mallinger who lost her 97-year-old grandmother, Rose Mallinger, Michele Rosenthal who lost her 54 and 59-year-old brothers, David and Cecil Rosenthal, Jodi Kart who lost her 87-year-old father, Melvin Wax, as well as Glickman and Pittsburgh Police Sgr. Jonathan Craig who responded to calls for the attack.

For all of them, the killers' trial loomed over their summer.

At the end of May, 12 jurors and six alternates were sworn in. On June 16, the gunman was found guilty on all 63 charges including obstruction of religious freedom. Then in June, the jury began work to determine if he was eligible to receive a death sentence under federal statute.

On July 13, the jury unanimously found that he was eligible and on Aug. 3, the assailant was sentenced to death for killing 11 worshippers in the synagogue shooting.

Despite the emotional chal-

lenge presented by the trial, Kart felt compelled to stand in for her father.

"It was brutal, and absolutely there was a choice. I didn't have to see what I saw. I didn't have to hear what I felt compelled to bear witness to. I don't wish it on anybody," Kart said. "I'm now a member of a club that I never asked to join. But as a result, I feel like I have a voice and I have to use it. Whatever I can do to help prevent this from happening in the future."

Many of the speakers echoed feelings of a family "6B," as they called themselves after their room, found within the shared traumatic experiences of the victims and family members in the courtroom.

"When you testify for your loved one, it's not something that's easy to do, but we all had to deal with it because of our loved ones," Mallinger said. "So, we knew right before, everybody was a bit nervous and everyone was a little bit scared, so we knew before give them a little space. But afterwards, everyone was very encouraging. And it was just so nice to be a part of that community."

The Eradicate Hate Global Summit was formed as a response to the synagogue shooting and held its first conference in the Fall of

2021. The "Pittsburgh Synagogue Shooting Trial: Claiming Our Voices in the Judicial Process" conference was one of 95 sessions scheduled over the three-day summit. 10.27 Healing Partnership assembled with the explicit intention to help those struggling after the attack.

"We often sort of think about it as we just need to keep everybody moving together. And know that in some moments, that's really easy, because some moments everybody wants to move together. They like each other or there's like a really amazing, powerful thing that they're doing together. But then there's also times where there's just disagreements," Feinstein said.

Now, 10.27 Healing Partnership continues to provide assistance to individuals like Mallinger, Rosenthal, Kart, Glickman and Craig, as well as general community members seeking support.

Craig shared that his experience testifying in the synagogue shooting trial was different because it was actually a victim impact statement.

see HATE—page 2

POLICE BRIEFS

Tuesday, Sept. 19-

Duquesne student reported damage to her vehicle while it was parked on campus.

Friday, Sept. 22-

Unknown actor(s) removed two 9x9 inch brass covers from on top of the sewage lines located on the sidewalk of Forbes Avenue, in front of the Gate A entrance of the Cooper Fieldhouse.

Friday, Sept. 22-

A student reported his bike was stolen.

Sunday, Sept. 24-

Duquesne police were dispatched to St. Anns Hall for a marijuana violation. The student was referred to the Office of 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 Emma Polen

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2023 Eradicate Hate Global Summit
shares insights into shooting trauma

DELANEY KRAUS | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Feinstein helped moderate the conference by asking victims and loved ones questions.

from HATE— page 1

"I was extremely embarrassed afterwards. I was very emotional while giving my statement. But everyone that was in the courtroom, people that I didn't know-- later on jurors, the family members, other victims were the kindest and most supportive people that I've ever met in my life," he said.

Rosenthal said that while standing in on behalf of her brothers, she had to remind herself that she alone was not against the defendant, but rather it was the prosecution team fighting for her loved ones.

Despite differing opinions on the gunman's death sen-

tence, the speakers remain close to one another and often don't even talk about the final decision.

Kart said it is always easy to decide that combating hate is too much so she appreciates everyone's willingness to tackle the difficult conversations and share their experiences.

Glickman, among the other survivors, said she was upset to not be able to use her voice and was relieved to finally be able to participate in the Eradicate Hate Global Summit this year.

"It was important for me to talk, from the very beginning to say: This is a hate crime. This is not acceptable."

First blood drive of the academic year

ZACH PETROFF

opinions editor

By the time you are done reading this sentence, at least two Americans will be in need of blood.

The Red Cross estimates that every two seconds someone in the U.S. requires a blood transfusion, and the nation is reaching a dangerously low supply of blood. That caused the nonprofit organization to announce a national blood shortage on Sept. 11.

"This is the worst national blood shortage we have seen since January 2022," said Nicole Roschella, the regional communications manager of the Red Cross. "Donor turnout dropped on the heels of one of the busiest travel seasons on record, back-to-school activities and an already active hurricane season."

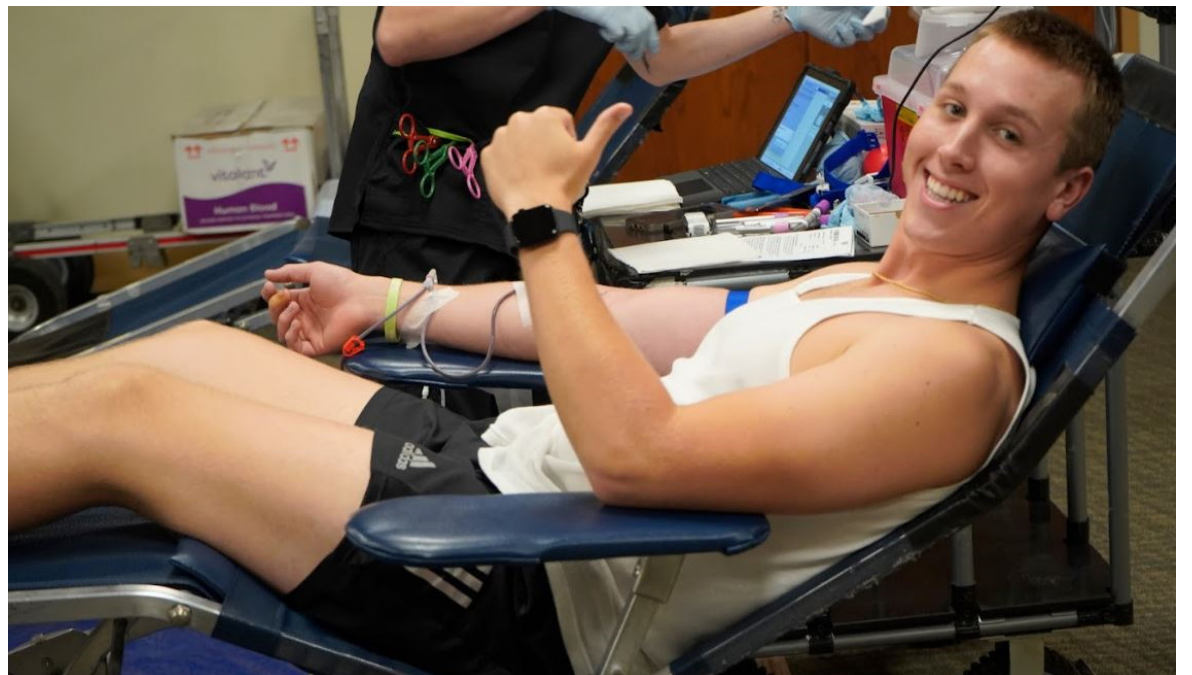
Last week the Tribune-Review reported that blood collection organizations are claiming that donations are down at least 25%, a continuing trend since the pandemic.

In an effort to combat the critical shortage of blood supplies, the nonprofit blood and biotherapies healthcare organization, Vitalant, hosted a blood drive in the Africa Room of the Duquesne Union on Wednesday. While walk-ins were accepted, potential donors were asked to schedule an appointment in advance to maximize the amount of donations for the five-hour blood drive. Nurse supervisor Celeste Brown considered the drive a success with a total of 36 pints of blood collected.

"Anything over single digits is good," Brown said. "When you donate a pint of blood, you save three lives."

This September blood drive is the first of a series over the current academic year that will enable the Duquesne community to support the heightened need of blood resources in the Pittsburgh region, said Alia Pustorino-Cleveland director of the center for community engaged teaching and research.

The Africa room featured a steady flow of blood donors throughout the afternoon, taking less than an hour to complete the transaction. Students moti-



ZACH PETROFF | OPINIONS EDITOR

Junior nursing student Maxwell Fischer tries to make a habit of giving blood every few months.

vation to give blood varied some donated because of the blood shortage, while others experienced first hand the importance of giving blood.

"My papa passed away from leukemia," said first-year student Molly Topa. "He'd always get blood transfusions so now that's my motivation to do it."

Junior nursing student Sloane Wells was also inspired by a personal family experience.

"I've donated several times before," Wells said. "Whenever my brother was born, my mother's life was saved because she was given several units of blood. Without that being available to her she wouldn't be here today."

Maxwell Fischer, a junior nursing student who tries to donate blood every three or four months, knows firsthand from working in hospitals how important donating blood can be.

"I just know blood is vital for everything, especially for emergency situations," Fischer said. "There's always a shortage of blood, so I want to do anything I can do to help. I want to do something that's bigger than me."

According to Roschella, people can give blood every 56 days.

However blood only has a shelf life of 42 days, thus the urgency for new blood donors.

"Blood product distributions to hospitals are outpacing the number of blood donations coming in, and distributions of some of the most needed blood types to hospitals have been reduced in recent weeks," Roschella said. "The Red Cross is working with hospitals around-the-clock to meet the blood needs of patients, but we can't do it alone."

First-year student Jacqueline Maendel was one of the donors to give for the first time. Motivated by convenience and her experience with a high school friend who often needed transfusions, Maendel said she was pleased with how smooth the process to donate was.

"It was much easier than I thought it would be honestly," Maendel said. "It really didn't affect me that much because I have had blood drawn before."

It was not just students who were willing to give blood. Faculty members like Paul Doerksen participated in Wednesday's drive. The music education professor said blood drives aligned with Duquesne's mission statement.

"We talk about serving the

community and serving others," Doerksen said. "It's a good way to do it. We're a community here on the bluff with a lot of capabilities so I think this is kind of a natural thing to do."

Along with helping others, donating blood is a way to tell what type of blood you have.

"It's one of the perks of giving blood," said Roschella. "In about two or three days we'll let you know what your blood type is, which can come in handy in case of emergency."

And for those worried about donating, first time donor Olivia Wegrzynowicz offered this advice.

"It only hurts for a second," Wegrzynowicz said. "It's not really uncomfortable. You kind of get to chill while you do it, and if you're uncomfortable just look away."

Fischer also had similar advice. "Just have trust and faith," Fischer said. "Don't worry about them sticking you with a needle. Remember that you're giving blood for someone else. Try not to think about the moment, think about the future and what you can do for someone else."

For those looking to donate blood can visit RedCrossBlood.org.

It porty time! Where you can find new porta potties 3



EMILY AMBERY | LAYOUT EDITOR

Downtown Pittsburgh launches Pittsburgh Potty for a cleaner future with more access to public restrooms for city residents, visitors and the unhoused population.

from POTTIES— page 1

some small part in proving the need and showing the data that this [city-funded restrooms] was worth doing," Fiedler said.

Pittsburgh Potties are equipped with running water, electricity, lighting and adjustable heating and cooling for varied weather conditions. The facilities also have a container to dispose of needles.

Each stall is single-occupancy and open to all genders.

"In the research we did about bathroom lines, the data shows that lines move much faster when anybody can go into any stall. It just makes more sense for them to be gender neutral," Fiedler said.

The initiative will also help the city collect data on how the restrooms help Downtown.

"They've opened these two portable bathrooms that are meant to be a pilot to see what the usage is like, the amount of people using it, the times of day, the types of people that are using it," Fiedler said. "That data will help them decide if they need to be open 24 hours a day, whether they need to be in a different location, do we need more than two."

Downtown residents and visitors are already taking advantage of the facilities and Fiedler hopes the pilot program will spark permanent change.

"So far, these temporary facilities have received an influx of consistently positive feedback from the public, with users noting their convenience, cleanliness and the attentiveness of staff," Hooper said.

According to Downtown Partnership each team member is trained in first aid and administering the overdose-reversal drug Narcan.

"I'm here to keep it clean, and keep it moving," Downtown Partnership employee Mary Hefferan said. "I make sure it's maintained well, nobody is staying in there too long, using it to wash up or doing drugs."

Hefferan, who works at the Gateway Center from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, greeted passersby with a smile. She said the potties will have a positive impact on all the city's residents.

"I think it will not only help the community but most especially help the homeless. They're the ones that need these facilities the most," Hefferan said. "I have a man who comes down every day to say good morning and use the facility and it's really nice to see."

Once upon a commuter book club dream

EMMA POLEN
editor-in-chief

Aside from PB&Js, the Office of Commuter Affairs is now serving up a commuter book club on Wednesdays in the commuter center.

The club originally was proposed before the semester as a way to allow commuter students to explore their hobbies outside of academics, said Tim Lewis, senior director of the Office of Commuter Affairs.

"Several of them [commuter assistants] mentioned how much they liked reading," Lewis said.

Veronica Walker, a fifth-year pharmacy student, said she loves to read, but with her job, commuting and course load, there is not a lot of time for reading just for fun.

She described the commuter life as "kind of lonely."

"We can get so focused on academics," Walker said, and the book club offers an additional way to "meet other people."

Rebecca Hrutkay, the co-leader and a sophomore commuter, said the club is looking for inspiration from TikTok book recommendations – or BookTok – as well as members' interests. At the club's first meeting, members could scan a QR code to fill out a survey about their favorite types of novels and what they would want to read.

With the survey, Hrutkay is hoping to gauge interest with book club meetings to be as engaging to new members as possible.

Both book club leaders recognized how different the commuter lifestyle typically is from on-campus student living. Many commuters go from school straight to work then straight back to school again, Hrutkay said. Book club, she said, is a way of "setting aside time just for you."

However, as a commuter assistant, Hrutkay said her job is to encourage her freshman commuters and "help them find their people," regardless of outside

responsibilities.

While there are already spaces for commuter students to bond over shared frustrations such as traffic, the book club provides another space for students to bond," Hrutkay said.

Despite her own fair share of frustrations as an off-campus commuter, Walker said her commuting experience has helped prepare her for real life. Finding a group outside of academics, a crucial part of making friends after graduation, was certainly a reason Walker teamed up with Hrutkay to start up the book club this semester.

Lewis said he was "incredibly proud and happy that they're doing this."

The commuter assistants and Lewis agreed on Wednesday that they hope the club continues to grow from this semester. Walker even said she hopes the club "outlives" their time at Duquesne.

Book club will continue to meet regularly in order to provide a constant space for commuters. They plan to meet biweekly depending on members' availability.

Anna Rutkowski, coordinator of commuter affairs, came back to Duquesne to offer another constant support to commuter students.

Rutkowski recently graduated from Duquesne where she commuted all six years of her undergraduate and graduate programs.

"The passion that runs through here tethered onto me and kept me here," she said.

While many of the commuter assistants, similar to resident assistants for on-campus residences, only stick around for a few years while they complete their academic courses at Duquesne, Rutkowski defines herself as more of a permanent companion for commuters.

The book club serves as an "opportunity to bring people together," she said. The club "create[s] a little space to get to know each other...and read for fun."

Members immediately started connecting



EMMA POLEN | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Veronica Walker (left) and Rebecca Hrutkay (right) pose with some of their favorite books in front of the commuter center's first ever commuter book club meeting.

at the meeting over their favorite book genres.

Hannah Repasky, a sophomore commuter, said her current genre of choice is mystery/thriller, especially works by Freida McFadden. Gabriella Garcia, a freshman commuter, prefers romance novels, but she is open to any book recommendations.

"That's why I'm here," Garcia said. "If you get out of your comfort zone...[it] enriches your ideas."

Both Repasky and Garcia said their decision to check out the book club meeting on Wednesday came from a love for talking with others, especially about shared book reads.

Out of all the clubs she could have chosen to join, Repasky said she was interested in the book club because of her love for reading and discussion-based activities. Plus, she said she's a big fan of book

clubs in general.

Rutkowski said there are many programs that she and the commuter council put on to keep students (even non-commuters) active.

While the book club meeting went on, faculty from the university Center for Student Involvement served PB&Js outside in the commuter center lobby.

In the same way that the PB&Js offer a chance for commuter students to see their professors outside the classroom, the book club is open to faculty and staff who, Rutkowski said, her office considers commuters.

Rutkowski and the commuter assistant staff continue to encourage new students to join their activities by communicating with students regularly over email and in-person.

"It's an open [an] door policy," Rutkowski said.



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Weiss: Pirates have a pulse entering '24

AIDAN WEISS
staff writer

After an up-and-down season, the Pittsburgh Pirates will finish fourth in the NL Central, despite a 10-win increase from last year's 62-100 campaign. They stayed in the playoff hunt until this past weekend when they were officially eliminated, but the future appears bright.

The key to the turnaround has been through the hitting core, who have led the way this season.

Star outfielder Bryan Reynolds bounced back from a difficult start to finish with a 20-plus home run season. Signed to an 8-year, \$106 million contract in the off-season, Reynolds has proved well worth it as his skills at the plate continue to develop, while still providing a serviceable glove in left field.

Third baseman Ke'Bryan Hayes's breakout season has also given Pirate fans hope for future years. He popped off at the plate for career highs in batting average, home runs and runs batted in. Additionally, he has continued to provide Gold Glove-caliber defense at the hot corner.

Finally, the youth movement came to the Pittsburgh hitting core this season. Catchers Henry Davis and Endy Rodríguez, second baseman Nick Gonzales, shortstop Liover Peguero and third baseman Jared Triolo all made their debuts this season to varying degrees of success, and all figure to be crucial pieces in the Pirates' future.

Lack of depth in the pitching staff exposed itself as the year went on. However, there is some talent to build upon.

The start of Mitch Keller's Pittsburgh career was terrible, and it seemed he would never live up to the status he earned as a highly touted prospect. However, the

2023 season has been a resurgence for the young arm. Keller has pitched like an ace this season, and his efforts resulted in the first All-Star appearance of his career. Additionally, he reached the 200-strikeout milestone, becoming only the seventh in team history to achieve this goal. His development as the ace of the staff will be essential for future success.

Closer David Bednar also had a fantastic season, earning his second All-Star appearance and setting career highs in saves and earned run average. Bednar's shut-down ability allows fans to relax when leading in the ninth inning, knowing that he will shut down the opposition.

The Pirates are on the right track. However, pieces need to be acquired by General Manager Ben Cherington to ensure the team succeeds in bringing playoff baseball back to Pittsburgh.

The infield is not a problem at all. With all the prospects above, plus star short-stop Oneil Cruz's return from injury next year, that area is strong. However, the first base position needs addressing as there are no eye-catching prospects in the system and no MLB-caliber first baseman on the roster.

The outfield is a bigger issue for the lineup. Besides Reynolds, the team was reliant upon 36-year-old Andrew McCutchen and players too raw to be ready for the big leagues. The team has only three true outfielders in its top 30 prospects, so it is necessary to secure talent outside the organization for next season.

However, the holes in the batting lineup pale in comparison to the pitching, which was disastrous, and the main reason why the team was not in the wild card hunt this year.

The starting pitching had two starters last the entire year; Mitch Keller and Johan Oveido, are more than serviceable options for next season. After that, there is nothing. The pitcher with the third-most starts was 43-year-old Rich Hill, who was traded on Aug. 1. The team desperately needs depth next season.

At the start of the year, it was expected that Roansy Contreras and Quinn Priester would graduate from the minor leagues to fill the voids in the rotation. However, both pitchers flopped and were sent to Triple-A Indianapolis. At least one of them must become a quality option next year.

Additionally, there are other top pros-

pects on the way. With the first overall pick in the 2023 MLB first-year player draft, Pittsburgh selected pitcher Paul Skenes, who was fresh off winning a national championship at LSU. He is currently ranked as the third-best prospect in all of baseball. He brings a 102 mph fastball and two extremely good breaking pitches, and the hope is that he can debut in 2024. Jared Jones, Anthony Solometo and Bubba Chandler are also starting pitchers also expected to debut in the next two years.

After this season of improvement, Pittsburgh fans look toward 2024 and hope to find a Pirate team ready to compete for a playoff spot and beyond.



BRENTARO YAMANE | MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

The Pirates currently have a 74-84 record, which puts them in fourth place in the National League Central Division. The Milwaukee Brewers clinched the division on Tuesday night.

MSOC earns point at Loyola Chicago

SEAN MCKEAN
staff writer

A Nate Dragasich goal helped Duquesne to a 1-1 draw on the road with Loyola Chicago on Saturday night.

Despite no goals being scored in the first half of the game, the opening 45 minutes were played at the frantic pace that has characterized Head Coach Chase Brooks's team this season. Within the first 20 minutes, the Ramblers had gotten off five shots on the Dukes. However, thanks to goalkeeper Zoltan Nagy, these never materialized into any goals for the opposition. Nagy made a career-high 10 saves.

Another shot would not be taken until the 31st minute, this time by Duquesne sophomore forward Evan Anderson.

As halftime edged closer, the Dukes saw an opportunity to go up on Loyola in the 38th minute, getting a goal. Unfortunately, the goal was taken off the scoreboard due to an offside call. Though another shot was put up by the Ramblers, the first half would end with a score of 0-0.

When the second half began, it looked to be a similar story to the first half. A

flurry of shots being put up but nothing materializing, and each team appeared to be at a dead-heat. But, after a series of shots by Loyola Chicago, Duquesne began an attack down their right side.

Tate Mohny's outswinging cross flew into the six-yard box. Dragasich slipped behind the defense, and connected with the ball for a powerful header that left no chance for Loyola goalkeeper Aidan Crawford. It was the senior's first goal of the year.

However, its lead would last exactly 60 seconds. Following two corner kicks by Loyola Chicago, they eventually scored a goal from Lukas Ender, leveling the game at one in the 64th minute.

As time began to wind down, so too did the shots. Not many shots were taken within the last 20 minutes, as each team kept jockeying for possession. As a result, the game ended in a draw at one.

The tie moved Duquesne to 4-2-2 on the season. They remain unbeaten in the conference and are in a tie for second with a cluster of future opponents. The Dukes will continue play this week with road games against St. Joseph's and Davidson.



BRENTARO YAMANE | MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Nate Dragasich's goal in the 63rd minute ended up saving a point in the conference standings for the Dukes. The goal was the senior midfielder's first of the 2023 season.

Volleyball splits weekend series in NYC

MICHAEL O'GRADY
staff writer

In a two-game series last weekend, Duquesne volleyball opened their Atlantic-10 Conference schedule with a split against Fordham in the Bronx.

The Dukes lost Friday night in a five-set heartbreaker before sweeping the Rams the next afternoon. The bounce-back win wasn't the only victory for Duquesne on the road trip, as freshman setter Chloe Wilmot won her second Atlantic-10 Conference Rookie of the Week award this season after putting up 92 assists and seven blocks over the two games.

Offense wasn't a problem for Duquesne on Friday night, as outside hitters Carsyn Henschen, Avery Hobson and Morgan Gish all had at least 15 kills, but the Dukes were prone to mistakes, which prolonged Fordham point streaks toward the ends of the critical fourth and fifth sets. After a first set loss, the Dukes found their footing in the second and third sets, totaling 13 and 15 kills respectively and keeping the Rams to nine both times.

It was at the end of the third set where Duquesne showed signs of the collapse to come. With a 19-15 lead, Fordham went on a 6-3 run that was inflated by three Duquesne errors to bring the score to 22-21. The Dukes were able to hold the lead with two kills from Hobson and one from Gish, but they couldn't repeat the escape act in the next two sets. Duquesne led 19-17 in the fourth set before letting up a

disastrous streak of six straight Fordham points, again with three errors mixed in, and they went on to drop the set.

In the deciding fifth frame, the Dukes had a four-point lead six different times and were a point away from winning the game before crumbling. With four errors in five straight Fordham points, the Rams took the lead 15-14. Duquesne fought, but lost 18-16 and went to bed having missed an opportunity to start 1-0 in the conference and win in the Bronx for the first time since 2018.

The Dukes righted themselves the next afternoon, however, with a three-set win. Once again, Henschen cleared the 15-kill mark, while sophomore middle Ariel Helm announced herself with a six-block day but the game's most important factor was that the team was able to keep composure after making errors.

In the first set, Duquesne jumped out to another four-point lead down the homestretch, and despite a few serving errors along the way, they were able to grab the point on serve, receive every time and keep the score back-and-forth, eventually winning the set. The second set proved to be much more calamitous.

From two points down, Fordham went on an 8-1 run with four kills and four Duke errors. Facing a 15-19 deficit, the Dukes climbed back to tie the score at 20 before winning five out of the last eight points to take a commanding two-set lead. The Dukes finished off the day with a blowout in the third. It was their third sweep of

the season and their first since nearly a month ago, when they beat Merrimack at the Binghamton Invitational. The win also broke a three-game losing streak and placed their overall record at 6-4.

Duquesne travels to Richmond this

weekend where they'll play a two-game series with VCU. Then, after a 33-day hiatus, the Dukes will return for their first home game at Cooper Fieldhouse against Dayton on Tuesday night.



NICK FERNBAUGH | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Duquesne outside hitter Avery Hobson prepares a serve during a match against Canisius University earlier this season. The freshman recorded a career-high four aces during Friday's loss at Fordham. She also leads the team in kills with 135 this fall.

WSOC on a tear, three straight shutouts

MATTHEW THEODROS
staff writer

Duquesne women's soccer got back to their winning ways last week, sweeping road contests with Rhode Island and St. Bonaventure. Both wins were shutouts, and ensured that Duquesne would return to a .500 record this season.

They got things on track Sept. 21 when they won a defensive contest against Rhode Island behind a late game-winning score by Anna Bundy.

Both sides struggled for most of the game to create many possessions in threatening areas. Even when Duquesne cleared the midfield, they were not able to convert despite many good attempts. Saved goals from Rhode Island's Faith Hutchins kept the game scoreless going into the half.

With less than six minutes to play, Duquesne was able to string consistent passing plays to get into the penalty box. Jayden Sharpless found Margey Brown near the opponent's goal line, launching a cross-field pass. Brown averted defenses to find Bundy for the game-winning goal. The Dukes played the remainder of the game steady and received their first road and conference win of the year.

Rhode Island offensive output was not efficient as they outshot Duquesne 12-2 in the second half, but only put 2 of their 12

on the goal.

Following the clutch performance, Bundy was awarded with the Atlantic-10 Conference Rookie of the Week honors.

The winning continued for the Dukes as they took on St. Bonaventure in unfortunate weather. With it raining uncontrollably, playing on the turf was a difficult but maintainable task for the team.

They put pressure on the Bonnies defense early in the contest with six shots on goal, however were not able to convert on any of them.

Going into the second half the score remained 0-0. As weather conditions began to worsen, the Dukes were able to capitalize on the Bonnies offensive struggle.

Duquesne racked up a season-high nine corner kick opportunities in the match compared to St. Bonaventure's four. The disparity worked out for the Dukes as they were able to convert on a big-time score.

In the 67th minute off a corner kick set up by the goal line, Duquesne defender Karley Steinher was able to put in the first goal of the game as well as the first of her season.

Shortly after, Brianna Moore fired a dagger over the St. Bonaventure goalie's head to take the 2-0 lead and end the day of scoring for the Dukes. Her goal was the fourth of the season and leads the squad for the 2023 season.

The Dukes outshot the Bonnies 8-4 in

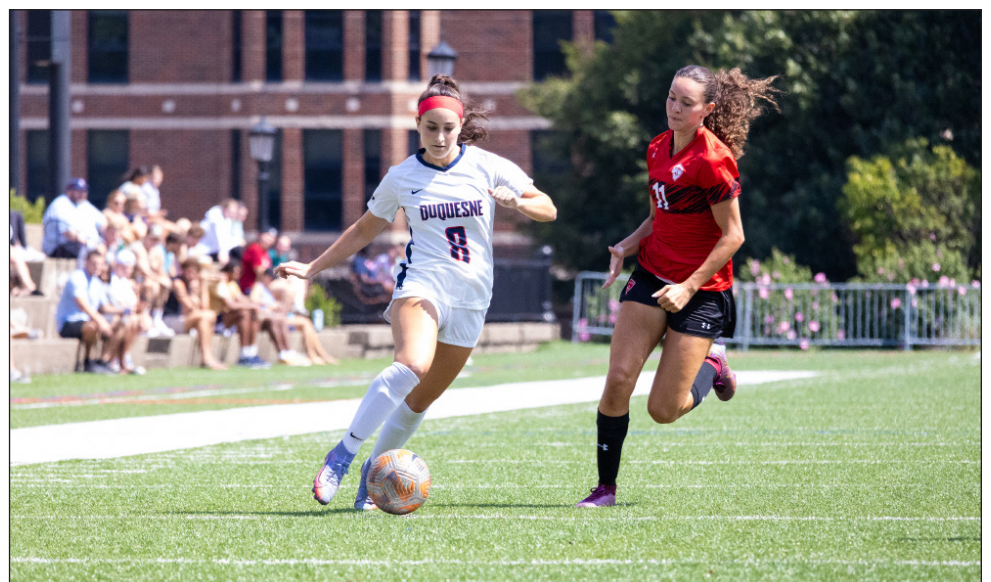
the second half alongside dominant ball control in comparison to the Bonnies.

Defensively, Duquesne shut things down for their third consecutive shutout. It is the longest such streak for the program since August of 2014, when they held their opponents scoreless for four straight games.

It was also a big week for the team as they reached milestones they have ob-

tained in many years. The Dukes second straight win in A-10 action moves them into second place in the standings after the first four games. Their 2-0-2 stretch during conference play is their best start since the 2016 season.

Duquesne looks to continue their early success through conference play when they return home on Thursday against UMass at 7 p.m. on Rooney Field.



BRENTARO YAMANE | MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Lindsay Kraftchick leads the Duquesne attack down the left side of the field. The sophomore defender has played at least 85 minutes in Duquesne's last four games, including all three clean sheets in their streak. She is third among all field players in minutes this season.

Cultural district crawl leaves spectators in awe

ZACH PETROFF &
ACE SEVIGNY

opinions editor & staff writer

In her first solo exhibition in the United States, Akudzwe Elsie Chiwa wanted observers to come away with at least one perspective from her life's work.

"Radical empathy," Chiwa said. "People don't know how to empathize with experiences that they have not had."

The Zimbabwean contemporary artist was one of many creators highlighted at Friday's Pittsburgh Cultural Trust Gallery Crawl in the Cultural District. From street magic to a race-based virtual reality experience, art enthusiasts had plenty of ways to emerge themselves in the different worlds of local artists' creations.

The first designated stop on the art crawl took place at the Trust Arts education center on Liberty Avenue where First Lady of Pittsburgh Michelle Gainey hosted a paint pop-up that highlighted Black and student multimedia visual artists from across the city.

With DJ Femi setting the ambience through her relevant hip-hop beats, art enthusiasts were fully immersed when exploring the creative work, such as seventh grader Hayal Anavata's portrait of an elderly man based on her grandfather.

"Old people have a focus around them, but they never get respect," Hayal said. "They have so much experience and are very wise, but no one really respects them. I wanted to bring the concept so people can recognize them and see that all

people are valuable."

The basement of the education center featured graffiti and mural artists. Among them were Shane Pilster and Max Gonzales, who were giving custom name tags created in street style.

"We have become full-time muralists, but absolutely our origins are in the traditions of graffiti," Gonzales said.

"It's important to us to help spread that art movement since it's not very [popular] in Pittsburgh."

Pilster and Gonzales along with DeV Vaughn Rogers were also showcasing a mural made by the students from the Art in the Garden and Rankin Christian Center summer camp.

"The project was made to unite the differing parts of Pittsburgh and allow creativity to join people together," Rogers said.

During this summer camp, Rodgers and company taught students the basics of art, such as shading and lining.

In the end, the group created a 4 x 14 banner using the skills they learned, and even though the banner was cut in half to be displayed, the symbol of unity shined through.

From the Education Center, the cultural district turned into a playground of vast artistic capabilities.

The magicians of Liberty Magic performed playful tricks to passerbys willing to watch or stop by the Arcade Comedy Club to catch a pop-up improv comedy show.

Duke alumna Chike Okwudior, an inspiring photographer and self-proclaimed lover of the arts,



ZACH PETROFF | OPINIONS EDITOR
Akudzwe Elsie Chiwa (left) showed her piece as part of her "Divinity/Femininity" presentation at the Cultural Trust Gallery Crawl.

wanted to celebrate his birthday by enjoying the artistic work of local artists.

"I wanted to explore the art of the city," Okwudior said. "I love Pittsburgh for that. I love supporting local creatives and supporting local business and stressing the use of art for personal changes."

Chiwa's presentation, "Divinity/Femininity," was one of the more popular exhibits.

A provocative and thought-provoking gallery explored God from the lens of her own religion, Māori, a South-African religion that focuses on ancestors and the relationship with christianity.

Telling her story with 12 different displays representing 12 different women was the focal point of the work.

Using abstract painting, facade sculptures combined with authentic hair and shourds representing femininity in her culture, Chiwa captivated audiences with the deep messages that challenged conventional thinking around femininity and acceptance inspired by her connection with her ancestors.

"When I make these pieces," Chiwa said, "I use the idea of intuition as my ancestral archive. I try to not have my hand or my idea, even though it's still my work, but that's the performative aspect of me making the work."

Chiwa said she tries to imagine herself as her ancestors when choosing the narrative her art is trying to tell.

"I see it as releasing a story that is attached to an emotion."



ZACH PETROFF | OPINIONS EDITOR
Muralist and graffiti artist Max Gonzalez (right) created custom street art for attendees alongside Shane Pilsner (left).



ZACH PETROFF | OPINIONS EDITOR
Hayal Anavata, seventh grader from Pittsburgh CAPA, presents her elderly man portrait at Michelle Gaincy's paint pop-up.

Aquarius ♒

Be your own daddy and make your own sugar.

Gemini ♊

You look like a muppet, calm down.

Libra ♎

Rake it reasy, cluck-cluck.

Pisces ♓

What's the point of painting something blue if you're going to paint it grey?

Cancer ♋

She hasn't figured out how to do squares, so...

Scorpio ♏

Let's go light our ears on fire.

Aries ♈

That makes my heart very palpitatious.

Leo ♌

For the bargain price of way too much...

Sagittarius ♐

Some days you're a vase, and other days you are a garbage panini.

Taurus ♉

Why did you order a country on Amazon?

Virgo ♍

I need cracked like a glow stick or pulled like a Bop-It.

Capricorn ♐

Tomato to feelings.

CAMPUS
EVENTS

Lambda x Art Club Fall Mixer
Sept. 28 @ 6:30 p.m.

Head to College Hall Lawn for a fun evening painting outside! Art supplies and free food will be provided on a first-come, first-serve basis.

22nd Annual Katie Westbrook 5K & Dog Walk
Sept. 29 @ 9 a.m.

Walk, run or cheer from the sidelines of A-Walk. All proceeds benefit the Public Interest Law Scholarships for Duquesne Kline Law Students.

Halloween Activities
Oct. 1 @ 9 p.m.

Kick off the start of October with the Center for Student Involvement for candy, spooky music and Halloween activities in the NiteSpot.

University Birthday Party
Oct. 4 @ 11 a.m.

Join the Division of Mission and Identity for games, treats and more in celebration of Duquesne's 145th birthday!

EMILY'S
EPIPHANIES

You Can't Pour from an Empty Cup

It's incredible that we're already in week six of the fall semester.

Many of us are anticipating the looming approach of midterms and feeling overwhelmed and overextended as we barely start to scrape the midway point of this batch of classes.

So what can we do when our "cup" is empty? Sometimes, we have to refill it ourselves.

It is easy to get lost in the hurricane of assignments, work shifts, internship applications and paying bills while we still try to juggle our basic necessities.

But sometimes, we must go back to the basics of what keeps us going: eating balanced meals, drinking water frequently, moving our bodies and getting restful sleep.

Working toward a degree can seem like the most base-level priority, but really, it should be pouring back into your own cup so you can continue to move forward.

— Emily Fritz

CHECK
THIS OUT**Pittsburgh Renaissance
Festival Ending Next Week**

Nick Fernbaugh | Staff Writer

Fantasy and adventure are what awaits one at the Pittsburgh Renaissance Festival over the past five weeks.

I had the opportunity to attend this weekend's renaissance festival, and I was welcomed to the sight of many individuals dressed in costumes relaxing while immersing themselves in the imaginative world around them.

The main event that caught my attention was jousting.

Held in the middle of the festival grounds, two knights took to their places and started off with a skills competition before turning to combat both on and off horseback.

The crowd erupted in screams and cheers, comparable to the contagious energy felt at concerts and live sporting events.

The six-week festival offers a variety of ways for people to creatively express themselves.

The cosplay ranged all throughout the event, from people wearing medieval commoner clothes to the more elaborate and skilled artisans who created competition-grade cosplay to wear during the day.

The food harkened back to older times and a number of the dishes were treated as hand foods, making the experience more authentic.

The festival produced a wide variety of pop-up stores selling food products, clothing, jewelry and other exotic creations like weaponry and fantasy accessories.

Even Duquesne University jumped at the chance to get involved with the festivities.

The Tabletop Society made a trip out on Saturday to partake in the events and sights of the Fair, mixing the creativity of Dungeons and Dragons and combining it with medieval experience with the Renaissance Festival.

'A Final Huzzah – Oktoberfest' marks the final week of the Pittsburgh Renaissance Festival, taking place Sept. 29 to Oct. 1.

Visit <https://www.pittsburghrenfest.com/> for more information.

Be sure to snag a ticket before the festivities retire for the 2023 season.

Carnegie showcases Pittsburgh's night sky

HANNAH PETERS
staff writer

"Welcome to SkyWatch, where I will show you the stars," said Kayla Waugaman, Buhl Planetarium's production observatory coordinator and the narrator of their monthly nighttime event.

The room darkened and the screen overhead filled with a replica of the night sky. These weren't just any stars, but the ones found right here above our own skyline.

Constellations, planets, stars and galaxies came to life as Waugaman explained their importance and history.

Waugaman kept it interesting by highlighting fun facts throughout the show. Guests learned of Pittsburgh's involvement in becoming a 'dark sky city' by switching to lower wattage bulbs in an effort to reduce light pollution and increase energy efficiency.

"This is a great introductory program but also great for more advanced telescope users as well," Waugaman said.

"As far as astronomy knowledge, there is nothing that you really need to know beforehand

because we are going to be teaching you all of that in the planetarium."

There are three planetarium experiences incorporated in the SkyWatch event including Waugaman's 'Stars over Pittsburgh,' 'A Beginner's Guide to the Universe' and 'Free Flow' where guests are invited to lead the session by requesting to view any part of the cosmos that they wish.

By the end, viewers had the knowledge to locate and identify the stars, constellations and planets in their backyard.

Tickets are available to purchase through the Carnegie Science Center website, starting at \$12 for nonmembers and \$10 for members.

Normally a feature part of the program, visitors are offered the chance to explore the skies with telescopes that are set up on the rooftop.

Despite Saturday's rain and change of plans, visitors like Mackenzie LeFoster still felt the value of the experience.

"They did a good job of compensating I thought," said LeFoster "I'm a sap for seeing the stars so just being able to see the entire sky was really cool."



COURTESY OF CARNEGIE SCIENCE CENTER

Guests of all ages were able to view the night sky from Buhl Planetarium, learning about local skies and greater astronomy through host, Kayla Waugaman.

The range of activities and attractions at the SkyWatch event reflected the overall mission of the Buhl Planetarium.

"Our motto is to 'delight, educate and inspire,'" Waugaman said. "So we do what we like to call 'Edutainment,' where we are educating you in a very entertaining way."

This is part of why volunteer and former middle school teacher, Peter Frischman, spends his time at the Carnegie Science Center.

"It's been a learning experi-

ence and that's what makes it fun because I'm still continuing to learn about different things," said Frischman.

Coming out of a three-year hiatus, they have hit their capacity of around 100 people at each monthly event.

"It's the 'a-ha' moment. That first time that you get to show someone the rings of Saturn or the moon up close," said Waugaman. "Those kinds of interactions are what really make it special."

Epic Bingo Requires Epic Collaboration

NATALIE RODRIGUEZ
staff writer

Many people associate bingo with grandparents and elementary school gatherings, but DPC brought new life to the game with their flagship event: Epic Bingo.

The Duquesne Program Council (DPC) is a student-run organization dedicated to improving student involvement around campus. DPC hosts events most Friday nights, but their Epic Bingo is on another level.

Approximately 400 students attended Friday's event with the hopes of winning, but only a handful came out on top. The first round's theme was "Trip to Paradise."

Players were asked to make the shape of a plane on their cards. Within minutes, a record-breaking six contestants stood up at once to declare bingo.

They were all asked to pick a number between one and 100. The two closest numbers moved on to a high stakes round of rock-paper-scissors.

After multiple tied games, a winner was finally declared. The champion walked away with a travel pack consisting of a Southwest gift card, a hotel gift card, an Uber gift card, a portable charger, packing cubes, a travel pillow and a luggage set.

These massive activities don't plan themselves; members of DPC meticulously planned every element.

Recreation directors Tessa Markham, Renee Mercer and Kiley Roman had been organizing the event since the summer.

"They began work for this in the summer, around June [and] July. A lot of the event was already plotted out — everything from the table prizes and even the [presentation] slides themselves," said Ethan Delp, executive director of DPC.

"We did a few things in the weeks before, like adding music to everything. I joke around and call it the 'Superbowl of DPC' because we go all out."

"Superbowl" is the perfect way to describe the energy in the room. Every round of bingo had a unique theme and a corresponding prize. The hours of organization manifested into smooth rounds and eager participants.

The recreation directors credit the ongoing success of the event to collaboration with DPC members past and present.

"We've been fortunate enough to have the help of past and current DPC board members to make this event run smoothly, and we are extremely grateful for that," Mercer said.

The bingo consisted of 10

rounds with various themes. Returning bingo players may have noticed parallels to previous years, as DPC strives to keep their prizes and themes consistent with student interests and values.

"We did rely on past Epic Bingo prizes and themes since they were always popular but tried to make them our own. We are currently planning Spring 2024 Epic Bingo and we're open to new prize ideas that everyone would enjoy. We want to make this the best it can be, and any prize input would help us keep the event lively," the recreation directors said.

Participants are encouraged to send suggestions and feedback about what items they might want to see in the future to DPC's general email, dpc@duq.edu.

Between every round, a table was randomly selected to win a giveaway prize.

Winnings included Squishmallows, coloring sets, salt lamps and more.

Individual students were also called by ticket number for door prizes. DPC members quickly ran to tables and oversaw every component of the evening.

"As with any large event, it can be challenging to coordinate all of the different moving pieces," Mercer said. "One of the challenges we faced was making sure that we found good quality prizes that

everyone would appreciate while staying within our budget. Since it was our first year planning Epic Bingo, we wanted to make sure that all of the logistics of the event were in place and that everyone had a fun night."

Every aspect of the logistics were already planned out. From tiebreakers to multiple winners, DPC prepared for it all. Very few rounds only had one winner, but students Giavanna Altmeyer and John Chekal won a highly coveted sports and activity package without having to enter a final round.

Duquesne has many activities to do on a Friday night. Why do so many people attend Epic Bingo?

"I think it's so popular because the giveaways are really big," said freshman Gabriella Rios "It's called Epic Bingo because it's crazier than you can imagine and there's no fee. You just enter and play and so many people win. There were table prizes, tickets and bingo itself, so everyone had a chance of winning."

The next Epic Bingo event will be in February and DPC is already working hard to make the next event even more impressive.

"We hope that everyone had a good time and is excited to see what we have in store for the spring...In the meantime, we can get hyped for Spooky Bingo [on Oct. 6]!" Mercer said.

THE DUQUESNE DUKE

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“The meaning
of life is to find
your gift. The
purpose of life is
to give it away.”

Pablo Picasso

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

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EDITORIAL POLICY

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COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

On Sept 15, the United Auto Workers officially went on strike seeking raises and better benefits.

United Auto Workers drive to the front of the picket line

There is a specter haunting the United States – the specter of unionized labor – and I'm all in.

Yes, it looks like unions are making a comeback in the U.S. Granted, rates of unionization are still falling, but we've certainly seen organized labor gain support from everyday Americans. According to Gallup, 71% of Americans approve of labor unions, the highest that number has been since 1965.

Now the United Auto Workers has started making noise in opposition to the big three automakers Ford, General Motors and Stellantis.

The fresh UAW strike came amidst a number of high-profile union stories. In 2021 Kellogg's workers went on strike demanding higher wages and improved benefits. Starbucks stores around the country have been unionized. Amazon, too, is under pressure from its overworked and underpaid workforce.

Hollywood writers and actors took to the picket lines outside of major production studios. Our country's economy was nearly crippled by striking rail workers before the federal government put the kibosh on them.

What a glorious time to be a worker in the U.S.

For too long, our country has put the wishes of the bosses before the needs of everyone else. It turns out that our economy does not automatically assure that hard-working people get what they need to live via the benevolent hand of the free market. It turns out that the free market, when left to act as it wants, would like to see working people crushed under the boot of a petty and tyrannical business owner.

Of course, not all business owners are evil. As a matter of fact, I'd argue that most business owners want what the rest of us want—safety and security. That's what drives us as people. We all want to meet the necessities of food, water and shelter.

Humans are lazy. We like to put as little work into something unless we feel like we are getting something good in return.

I remember when I worked for a local dry cleaner. I started working for \$12.50 an hour at 36 hours a week. Over time, I started doing more. I was constantly on my feet. I was rushed through every task and still expected to do them perfectly. I had to deal with soiled clothes from rude customers. Our competition closed so our business doubled. I did not feel like I was making what I deserved.

I asked for a wage increase and got it. I was now making \$15.00 an hour. However, my hours were cut from 36 a week to 25. A few months later we got



ELIYAHU GASSON

staff writer

a new employee. My boss took one of the days from my schedule and gave it to him because our new employee made less than I did.

I could never get over the thought that this man who I never saw and who was so blatantly screwing me over was able to take trips to Israel every four months for the holidays. It felt like I was producing more money for him than he was for himself and for some reason I was left poor and stressed while he went to Israel every four months.

So, I had been shafted by my boss, not a new story to be sure. Employers do it all the time, which is why unions are so important.

Bosses always have the incentive to pay their workers less and pay themselves more. Firms like Ford, General Motors and Stellantis see new technologies to get away with such a thing.

Employers love to argue that they need to keep wages low so that they can stay competitive. After all, to pay their workers more, they need to charge more for their product.

I don't believe any executive who says that. My old boss did less work than me or my co-workers and was still able to afford all of his nice vacations.

According to the *Detroit Free Press*, Ford CEO Jim Farley received nearly \$21 million in 2022 while Stellantis CEO Carlos Tavares made \$24.8 million and General Motors CEO Mary Barra made nearly \$29 million.

The AFL-CIO says that Kellogg's CEO Steve Cahillane made \$13,263,040 in 2022. According to Marketplace, Disney CEO Bob Iger is set to make around \$27 million per year.

Forbes indicates that Amazon chairman and founder Jeff Bezos is worth \$154.1 billion, and that former Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz is worth 3.1 billion.

The bosses have and continue to make more money than you or I could ever hope to see in our lifetimes. Companies like the Detroit big three can afford so easily to pay their employees a fair wage with good benefits. All they need to do is divert funds from their CEOs and other executives and give it to the people who make something of value, cars and trucks.

This is why unions are so important. Unions give workers a voice. They help to ensure that workers are treated fairly and that they receive a fair share of the profits they produce.

The unions are here to guide bosses into the right direction of compensating their workers fairly. This is why I am giddy with delight in seeing so many gorgeous strikes around the country.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Keeping students in the dark

Duquesne is constantly undergoing change and renovations, but outlets, which are essential to the college student, seem to go unnoticed.

The Duquesne Duke reported in August that the university underwent “the most ambitious” renovations on campus in the past 20 years. With student input being one of the motivating factors for the changes on campus, plenty of buildings enjoyed upgrades such as increased lighting, replaced facades, improvements to student housing buildings, suite seating in the field house and a new and improved home for the Wellness Center.

It appears that even with such a busy summer and the university's modern facelift one area may have been “left in the dark.” Students are still left searching forever to use inconveniently located outlets that barely work. Often described as “not working” outlets in high traffic areas, like the Union, need an upgrade.

Perhaps the worst building for power is College Hall, the parking garage turned academic building for the liberal arts. Most classrooms only have two or fewer outlets.

Liberal arts students are not known for their innovative technology, state of the art labs or 300-person lecture halls, so a few more working outlets would keep them from huddling around sockets like campers around a fire.

College Hall is home to a variety of classes and sees almost all majors at one point in their academic career. From freshmen taking core courses to clubs that hold meetings in the classrooms, many students use the centrally located building, but they better come with their devices charged.

Going to class with less than 10% power, students find themselves playing Russian roulette with their academic note taking. It's not unusual to see a cord twister game breakout in a scrappy attempt for electronic juice.

As much as we don't want to admit it, phones are an essential part of our lives. As safe as campus is, we're still in a city and no one wants to be stranded without a way to charge these life lines.

The new study space in towers features outlets at almost every table but does little to help people who no longer eat at hogan or live in towers.

This renovation sheds light on the obvious need for power, why can't newer tables and charging capabilities make their way to this side of campus?

The modern look taking over parts of Duquesne should provide more charging stations for students whose lives revolve around their devices.

More outlets means more charged phones which leads to happier students.

A lesson in fighting for your art

ZACH PETROFF
opinions editor

Alan Moore may not be a household name, but his work has inspired commercial and critically-acclaimed movies and television such as “V for Vendetta” and “The Watchman.” Moore has been dubbed as one of the greatest comic book writers in the English language by his peers and has a unique take on the comic book genre often taking readers to dark places and exploring themes such as fascism, depravity and the vulnerability of heroes.

The greatest foe, however, that Moore has created is not that on the page but are very much flesh and bone. The 70-year DC comic writer and illustrator absolutely hates Hollywood.

He hates it so much that last week he committed to doing the one thing that most artists would never fathom. He is no longer accepting royalty checks and instead having his residuals sent directly to the activist group Black Lives matter.

Not to shy away from self-imposed controversy, Moore has been vocal — and at times hypocritical — on his takes against Hollywood’s interpreta-

tion of work.

He lambasted the Wachowski sisters for their retelling of his 1980s comic book “V for Vendetta,” telling MTV magazine “[The comic] was specifically about things like fascism and anarchy,” Moore said. “Those words, ‘fascism’ and ‘anarchy,’ occur nowhere in the film... It’s a thwarted and frustrated and perhaps largely impotent American liberal fantasy of someone with American liberal values [standing up] against a state run by neo-conservatives — which is not what ‘V for Vendetta’ was about.”

When Zach Snyder brought the Watchman to the silver screen, Moore said he would never watch the film and called Snyder homophobic and the content of the film adaptation as “sublimely stupid.”

Moore asked for his name to be taken off of the movie credits for “Watchman” and all of his future work.

So what lessons can we possibly learn from this grumpy old man?

Moore is teaching us about not compromising one’s beliefs. While Moore’s public rants may be construed as a bit sophomoric, there is something to admire about an artist relentlessly stand-

ing up for their beliefs.

Like the poet E.E. Cummings once said, “The hardest challenge is to be yourself in a world where everyone is trying to make you be somebody else.” I often find myself adhering constantly to societal norms or waiving certain convictions to please cultural necessities.

To see someone so relentless in standing up for what they believe, even as absurd as it may seem on the surface, is admirable.

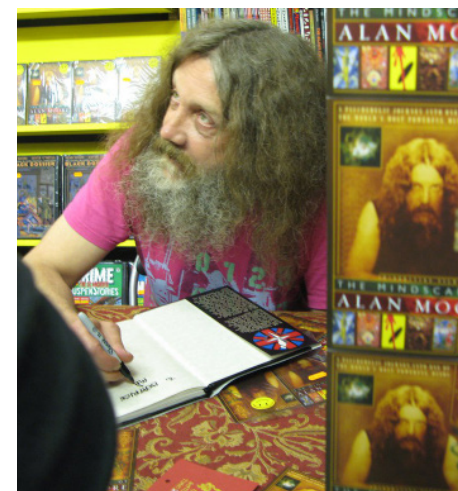
I can appreciate Moore’s passion to protect his work. Even if you do not appreciate the comic book genre as an art form, he really is a master of his craft, and to see someone willing to burn bridges to keep his creation’s integrity is something we can all aspire to achieve.

I think we can all hope, in some form, to create something so powerful that we will do whatever it takes to protect it. I am not sure what the meaning of life is, but I can imagine creating a work of art you love so much has to be a consideration.

Standing up for what one believes takes courage that I do not think a lot of people possess. Conviction requires a

level of loneliness that a lot of people are not willing or even able to experience.

The creator of the “Killing Joke” methods of fighting for his art may not be for everyone, but the fact that someone is willing to put commercial success ahead of the messaging of their work is something we should all adhere to.



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS
Alan Moore continues to battle Hollywood and is no longer accepting residual checks.

Book burning belongs in the past

RORY BROUILLARD
staff writer

Book burning has always been seen as a political statement to censor the content being received by the public. The censorship is an act of control over what information one is taking in and educating themselves with. The hope of this censorship is to keep people naïve and push one agenda, usually right leaning.

Book burning can be traced back to 213 B.C. during the Qin Dynasty in China. It was used to maintain power of the throne by limiting the education distributed to the public.

Since then, book burning has been seen in fascist governments such as the Soviet Union during communist rule and German territory during the Holocaust.

And still, all these years later, Missouri State Sen. Bill Eigel (R-St. Charles County) has spoken on the topic of burning banned books.

On Sept. 15, a picture was posted online of the senator torching cardboard boxes. ABC News reporter, Summer Ballentine brought up the debate over whether this is a symbol for book burning or not.

Despite this having nothing to do directly to burning books, it led to Eigel saying he would burn books that he saw as supporting liberal ideas. These ideas include LGBTQ+ rights, critical race theory or any opinions on race, immigration and women’s rights.

Burning books doesn’t just restrict them, like the process of banning books, but completely disrespects the topic and community that the authors write about.

Books are the door to knowledge and ideas. Knowledge gives the right

to opinion and freedom of thought. It is easier to control people if they only see one side of conflict and have no room for independent thought.

Republicans across the U.S. are backing conservative efforts to purge schools and libraries of materials with LGBTQ+ themes or books with LGBTQ+ characters. The issue resonates with Republicans in Missouri.

An AP VoteCast survey of Missouri voters in the 2022 midterm elections showed that more than 75% of those voting for GOP candidates thought the K-8 schools in their community were teaching too much about gender identity or sexual orientation.

Much of the Republican party believes that books that support the LGBTQ+ community are brainwashing children. In reality, the books are giving proper representation to all groups and allowing children to educate themselves outside of what they learn at home.

An example would be helpful here. Is there a book about the LGBTQ+ community that is proof of good representation?

For example: “The Color Purple” is a 1983 novel by Alice Walker which continues to be on required reading lists at high schools and universities outside local government book bans. Walker has received both a Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and the National Book Award for Fiction for the novel depicting interconnecting struggles with race, family and sexuality.

Eigel claims he wants to protect children from pornographic material, which he believes refers to LGBTQ+ books. In response to the social media video, Ballentine found that Eigel had said, “Let’s be clear, you bring those woke pornographic books to Missouri schools to try to brainwash our kids,

and I’ll burn those too — on the front lawn of the governor’s mansion.”

Giving children books that describe multiple backgrounds and ideas isn’t brainwashing. Limiting and censoring what resources children have access to and pushing one agenda is brainwashing.

Believe it or not, allowing people to think for themselves isn’t a bad thing.

The New York Times asked high school students to weigh in with their thoughts on banned books. One student said to the news outlet, “By banning these books we are withholding truth and education.”

Education is a right and not something to be restricted and disregarded.

Another student said that reading banned books “broadened my awareness of racial injustice, put me into someone else’s shoes, and made me want to change the world in whatever way I could.”

Reading books that lift up voices often pushed down and ignored opens the younger generation’s eyes to injustice in the world and allows them to become empathetic individuals who want a better future.

If reading is so important and gives so much to society, why ban books? It’s simple: The white, straight majority on the conservative side of politics want to maintain control over the country. They need to ban ideas to keep their power. Short of banning students from educating altogether, banning books and pushing out misinformation and discrimination is the next best thing for them to keep power.

Banning books takes away independent thought and freedom of speech expressed through literature. Burning books takes it a step further by showing complete disrespect for minority groups.

Having a politician openly state wanting to burn these books to avoid brainwashing makes me terrified for the future, especially as a future English teacher.

Knowledge is a right that everyone deserves and it is slowly being burned away before our eyes.



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS
Missouri State Sen. Bill Eigel (R-St. Charles County) advocates burning books.

Peace by Piece: A campus ministry craft

KAITLYN HUGHES
staff writer

The International Day of Peace is a harmonious event celebrated worldwide on Sept. 21 to encourage non-violent acts. According to the International Day of Peace website, the day was established in 1981 by the United Nations.

Campus minister Linda Donovan said that the holiday can be interpreted differently across the globe.

"A lot of universities, churches and organizations do something on this day whether they do marches, activities or prayers," Donovan said. "[There are] numerous ways you can celebrate the day."

On Thursday, students made peace poles to promote the main message of the holiday in the Union Nitespot. Peace poles represent the saying, "May Peace Prevail on Earth."

The event provided colorful papers, markers, stickers representing peace, peace pledges and a book titled, "365 Ways to Find Peace."

"It's not only world peace we focus on. It's peace in your heart and in your life."

"It's almost like the Washington Monument," Donovan said. "If you see peace poles that's what they look like."

This event is not the first time the university has celebrated the International Day of Peace. Donovan said Duquesne has been participating in peace movements on this day for more than 20 years in numerous ways including chalk drawings, informational booths, a moment of silence for peace and social media events.

The Spiritan Campus Ministry ran a campaign on their Instagram for the 17



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KAITLYN HUGHES

Members of the Men's Spirituality Group made peace poles Thursday night in honor of International Day of Peace. Each member said they try to promote peace in their daily lives.

days leading up to Sept. 21, each day highlighting a different sustainable development goal.

Some of these goals included "Zero Hunger," "Quality Education," "Reduced Inequalities" and "Climate Action." The campaign promoted the theme of this year's International Day of Peace, which was "Actions for peace, ambitions for the Global Goals."

According to Peace Child International

some other ways students can celebrate is by throwing a peace party, like a barbecue, or by giving to a local charity. Spreading awareness about the holiday is advised as well.

"I think it promotes awareness and promotes the idea of peace and has people focus on peace in their own lives," Donovan said. "It's not only world peace we focus on. It's peace in your heart and in your life because peace starts with us."

It's kind of an individual thing that we each have to do."

Student Aiden Buettner agreed with Donovan that promoting these types of events inspire more people to act out of the habit of peace.

"It brings the idea to mind," Buettner said. "I don't think I have thought about world peace since I got here."

Buettner hopes to act toward peace in the future.

"I'm not in any big position, but I would like to see what I could do," Buettner said.

Members of the Men's Spirituality Group on campus showed up on Thursday evening to help set up, have a fun time, encourage peace and create and decorate peace poles of their own.

One member, Vincent Tranghese, had never heard of the International Day of Peace until the event.

"It's just a fun way to relax, and I feel like we are all promoting peace, obviously. Not only with what we are making, but with the conversations we are having as well," Tranghese said.

He incorporates peace into his own life.

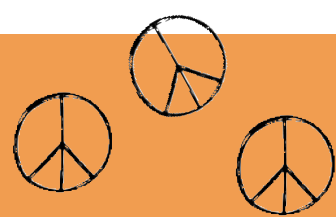
"I just try my best to get along with everyone. If someone disagrees with me, I just try my hardest to let it go," Tranghese said. "Not get into an argument with anyone."

Founder of the Men's Spirituality Group on campus, Mitchell Brown, said what peace meant to him.

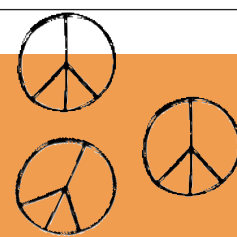
"Peace to me could be two things, it could be internal or external," Brown said. "Externally, it would have to be people coexisting in happiness and internally it's being happy with your current state and choosing to be."

Brown said we all must make contributions to create world peace.

"I think it's all individual. It's a choice, in my opinion. It coexists with happiness and it's a choice," Brown said. "You got to choose to be peaceful."



Make Your Own Peace Pole



The traditional obelisk-shaped Peace Pole has been a symbol of hopeful resolution for many years. The poles are now recognized internationally, in both religious and secular settings.

Materials

- colorful paper
- markers
- glue
- tape
- stickers



Instructions

1. Grab a piece of colorful paper and fold it in half long-ways
2. Open and fold the two sides toward the center to create four even folds in total.
3. Put tape halfway on the inside of one edge of the folded sides, and join the other folded side to make a completed rectangle of the obelisk.
4. On one of the long ends, cut four points in the top of the pole. Meet them to make the point and glue the points to keep them together.
5. Add messages and stickers to your Peace Pole. Don't forget to include the traditional Peace Pole line: "May Peace Prevail on Earth."

THE DUKE RECOMMENDED READS

These are the stories that caught the attention of the *Duquesne Duke* staff this week

“Why have there been no charges in the Hedingham mass shooting after nearly a year?” by Colleen Hammond - *The News & Observer*

Former *Duquesne Duke* editor-in-chief, Colleen Hammond, writes an in-depth story on why charges have not been filed a year after the alleged shooter killed five people and left two others injured.

“Fifth-generation brewer gets ‘memory for a lifetime’ making Iron City in East Deer” by Kellen Stepler- *The Tribune-Review*

Former *Duquesne Duke* editor-in-chief, Kellen Stepler, shares a heartwarming story about how a man with down syndrome was able to achieve his family’s dream of becoming a fifth-generation brewer.

“At White House meeting, Trib CEO urges support of bill to save local news” by Julia Felton - *The Tribune-Review*

Trib Total Media President and CEO Jennifer Bertetto met with white House officials to advocate for legislations to help local news outlets negotiate fair compensation from large digital platforms that use their content.

“Astra Taylor’s Age of Insecurity” by Molly Fischer - *The New Yorker*

Molly Fisher interviews Canadian American documentary filmmaker about her new book “insecurity” and how capitalism has become a

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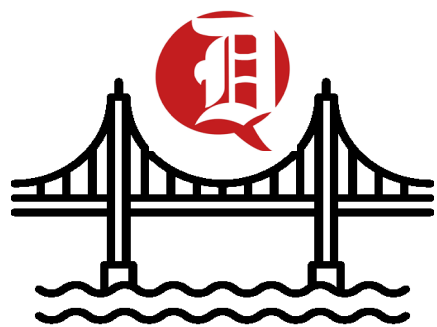
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