

# DUKE

Basketball Preview  
2023-2024 Season



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# Men are picked fourth, but don't care

MATTHEW THEODROS  
Staff Writer

Duquesne opens its 2023-24 basketball season with a non-conference matchup Monday night against Cleveland State at home at the UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse (7 p.m. tip-off).

Ahead of Game One, let's take a look at what this Dukes' roster has to offer in a promising season.

Head Coach Keith Dambrot returns for his seventh season at Duquesne after leading a massive turnaround. They went from a six-win, last place finish in 2021-22 to a 20-13 team last year, finishing sixth in the Atlantic-10 Conference. This year's coaches' poll has Duquesne fourth, the highest ranking in the Dambrot era.

Dambrot has instilled culture and grit during his tenure with Duquesne. His expectations are high for this year's players, but he does not let the noise from outsiders or pre-season rankings have any effect on his team.

"It doesn't mean anything. They picked us [last] last year," Dambrot said. "None of it matters. We have been slowly developing because of our injury situation, but we are going to have a good team once we get it all together."

There is an expectation for Duquesne to take the next step after falling to La Salle in the second round of the conference tournament last season. The program has established winning and the players and coaching staff alike have the goal to make it to March Madness for the first time since 1977.

The Dukes return a strong core that's expected to take that next step for the program to reach new heights.

They also added talent that addressed many of their rebounding and defensive problems from last season. They are primed to make a run and have all the tools necessary to challenge anyone along the way.

Leading the charge is scoring threat and athletic combo-guard, Dae Dae Grant. His 15.5 points per game led the Dukes in scor-

ing last year. His 94 3-pointers made were the third most in the program's history.

After making significant progress, Grant takes pride in building on last year's success with only one intention: Winning.

"My expectations [are to] win it all," Grant said. "Be first in everything that we do. We will go from there. I really just want to win it all with my team, my brothers. That's all that matters to me."

In his first season with Duquesne, high-flyer and defensive-stopper Jimmy Clark III. was vital in their race to tournament play. He was named Duquesne's first Atlantic-10 All-Defensive team member since 2012 as his 2.30 steals per game led the A-10. His improved playmaking and decision-making were reflected in his career-high 81 assists and impressive 1.5 assist/turnover ratio.

"I want to take a bigger role on the defensive end and try to win defensive player of the year," Clark said. "That's something I am looking forward to doing this year."

To replace the graduated point guard Tevin Brewer, Kareem Rozier will serve as the ball-handler and playmaker for Duquesne. The sophomore will need to step up in his crucial role for the offense in his first opportunity as the lead guard. His remarkably efficient 40% from three is an indication that he should continue shooting the long ball for the Dukes to succeed.

The Dukes' frontcourt poses many issues due to injury and instability. Headed by Tre Williams, who's had an entire summer to rehab from a knee injury, he can return to being a strong defender, especially as a rim protector. If his rebounding can bounce back to his 2022 season numbers, he will be a solid paint presence for the Dukes.

Sophomore big men Halil Barre and David Dixon both returned from injury and provided the size to be versatile defensive pieces and lob threats for Dambrot's squad. The Dukes will need them to be impactful shot blockers as Duquesne only blocked about 11% of shots and allowed almost 43% of opponent shots at the rim on an unreal

58% shooting.

Duquesne maintained many key members of their core. However, the team lost a few members heading into the season. RJ Gunn, Austin Rotroff, Joe Reece, Brewer, and Quincy McGriff all departed the team this offseason. Brewer's facilitation and Reece's perimeter defense will be missed as the two started all but five games last year.

The Dukes were able to fill in the roles with the addition of new players including 6-foot seven-inch twins, Hassan and Fousseyni Drame. In addition, the Dukes added three multifaceted European swing-big men, Andrei Savrasov, Dusan Mahorovic, and Jakub Necas. To round it out the Dukes added Kailon Nicholls, a three-level scorer who comes in as a deadly shooter.

The Drame twins are heading across the state after their one season at La Salle. Both are Swiss-army-knife players who have the frame and athletic ability to do everything on the court. Their length allows them to defend the perimeter and paint which allows the Dukes to play small.

Savrasov is a graduate transfer from Georgia Southern who is a stretch-center who plays defense. His 1.3 steals per game as a big man gives Duquesne another perimeter defender who will be crucial in diversifying the lineups.

With that roster turnover and newly appointed roles placed on returning members of the roster, Coach Dambrot highlighted the necessary leadership among those returning players in assisting the new players

"Kareem [Rozier] is the best leader we have," Dambrot said. Dae Dae and Jimmy have done an unbelievable job of taking more ownership, they are good guys."

"Since we have our core group, we can all lock in so we can help the new guys," Clark said.

"We can help them understand and pick up faster. They affect rebounding and the defensive end. That's something I am looking forward to them helping us with."

## Duquesne MBB Schedule

Nov. 6: vs. Cleveland State @7

Nov. 10: Col. of Charleston @6\*

Nov. 6: vs. Stony Brook @7

Nov. 15: vs. Princeton @7

Nov. 17: vs. Rider @7

Nov. 22: at Nebraska @8

Nov. 29: vs. UC Irvine @7

Dec. 6: at Marshall @7

Dec. 8: vs. Saint Peter's @7

Dec. 18: Bradley. Time TBD \*

Dec. 23: Santa Clara @5 \*

Dec. 30: vs. Cleary @2

Jan. 3: at UMass @7

Jan. 6: at Loyola Chicago @4

Jan. 12: vs. Dayton @7

Jan. 16: vs. Richmond @7

Jan. 20: at Saint Joseph's @2:30

Jan. 23: vs. St. Bonaventure @7

Jan. 27: vs. Fordham @12:30

Jan. 31: vs. Chicago State @7

Feb. 3: at Rhode Island @12:30

Feb. 7: vs. Davidson @7

Feb. 10: at St. Bonaventure @2

Feb. 13: at Dayton @7

Feb. 17: vs. Saint Joseph's @2:30

Feb. 23: at Fordham @8:30

Feb. 28: vs. La Salle @7

March 2: at George Mason @4:30

March 5: at VCU @7

March 9: vs. GWU @2

\* Neutral site game

## TV Schedule:

Pink=SNP

Black=ESPN+

Blue=USA Net

Red=ESPN2/U

Green=Other



MARY GENRICH | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dae Dae Grant is hoping for a fun season of basketball on the bluff.

## A-10 MBB Preseason Coaches' Poll

Rank	Team (First-Place Votes)	2022/23	Last year's record	Kenpom Ranking
1.	Dayton (20)	3rd	22-12	69
2.	VCU (3)	1st	27-8	86
3.	St. Bonaventure (1)	10th	14-18	70
4.	Duquesne	6th	20-13	89
5.	Saint Joseph's	9th	16-17	105
6.	Saint Louis	4th	21-12	115
7.	Fordham (1)	2nd	25-8	163
8.	Loyola Chicago	15th	10-21	75
9.	George Washington	7th	16-16	217
10.	George Mason	5th	20-13	164
11.	Richmond	11th	15-18	126
12.	Davidson	8th	16-16	152
13.	UMass	13th	15-16	210
14.	Rhode Island	14th	9-22	193
15.	La Salle	12th	15-19	200

# Women geared for breakout campaign

SPENCER THOMAS  
Sports Editor

In this era of college sports, it has become increasingly difficult to maintain talent from year to year. That's what is so exceptional about the group Head Coach Dan Burt brings to the court this season. Nearly EVERYONE comes back.

Preseason accolades favor the Dukes in a way they haven't in years. Despite an 8-8 record in the Atlantic-10 Conference last season, the coach's poll slotted them fifth in the conference, and they even received a first-place vote.

"It was nice to talk about for 30 minutes. We moved on."

Burt sees his team as capable of achieving even more than that.

"Our expectations are greater than being fifth," he said. "Our expectations are to win 22, 23 games and be in the postseason. Our aspirations are to win 24, 25 games and be in the NCAA tournament."

Leading the returning starters is Preseason All-Conference guard Megan McConnell. She returns for her fourth year on the Bluff having been named to the preseason all conference team.

She was one of two players in all of Division I to record multiple triple-doubles last season, the other being Iowa's superstar Caitlin Clark.

To meet these expectations, McConnell has grown in the offseason both as a leader and physically.

"Megan has worked incredibly hard in the weight room to change her body," Burt said. "She looks like a pro. She's added a significant amount of muscle."

Joining her at the guard position for the fourth year running is Tess Meyers, who brings a ton of danger from beyond the arc.

Precious Johnson returns to establish a presence in the paint, where her ability

to block shots has made her a defensive stalwart. Burt says that the biggest thing Johnson can improve on is her aggression on the court. He described what he's told her to do.

"Precious, if you want to achieve all your team goals and individual goals, you're going to have to be real nasty, and you're going to have to have a mean streak," Burt told her. "If that can be consistently applied in games, watch out."

As high as he is on Johnson, Burt emphasized the strength of his paint play is the package of her and Ayana Townsend. The pair combine to average two blocks and 15 points per game. The depth at that position can be deployed to wear out opposing teams over the course of 40 minutes.

"We think that our 1-2 punch in the best in the league," Burt said.

Despite keeping the same core of players, it's not all the same old tricks for Burt and his staff.

"We're going to play a different way this year," he said. "We're going to play with a faster pace on offense, and on defense we're going to put pressure on people."

He continued with a bold teaser for Duquesne's fans, and maybe their opponents too.

"I don't want to give away a whole lot before the season begins, but you're going to see a different type of team than you've seen in the past."

The players have been together for so long and get to watch as the outside begins to take notice. Burt says that brings about some swagger.

"There's a big amount of confidence but we haven't done anything," Burt said. "We haven't been in the postseason in five or six years."

The returning group is joined by several additions from the transfer portal. Among them is Jerni Kiaku, who has moved north

from North Carolina Central.

Burt called her "probably the most explosive athlete I've been with in here in 17 years." Kiaku was the leading scorer among freshmen in the MEAC, scoring 10.7 PPG and snatching 1.4 steals per game. She put up double digit point games 15 times last year for the Eagles. She posted a career-high 25 points on Jan. 14 against South Carolina State, and won MEAC Rookie of the Week six times last year. Jerni will bring scoring and depth to the backcourt for the Dukes this year.

Burt also singled out Raymi Couëta and Gabby Grantham-Medley as freshmen who could earn roles this year.

The season starts with a three-game road trip to Princeton, Niagara and Howard. The opening night matchup with the Tigers will be a massive opportunity for the Dukes to measure themselves against some of the nation's best. The Tigers won 24 games last season, won the Ivy League, and advanced to the round of 32 in the NCAA Tournament.

They're known for a controlled and slow pace of play that runs counter to what Burt expects from his team. He sees the winner of that game as the team who can impose their style on the other. He says they'll need around 65 points to escape New Jersey with a victory.

The home opener isn't any less of a high-stakes game. The Dukes welcome Pitt to Cooper Fieldhouse and look to snap their two-game skid in the City Game rivalry. Burt's excitement for the game is palpable.

"We're hoping to have maybe the largest crowd we've ever had for a women's basketball game here at Duquesne. It's going to be a fun night," he said. "Not only are they and our team looking forward to it, but the girls basketball community in Western PA is."

### Duquesne WBB Schedule

Nov. 6: at Princeton @7

Nov. 11: Niagara @1

Nov. 14: at Howard @5:30

Nov. 18: vs. Pitt @2

Nov. 27: at Bowling Green @7

Dec. 3: vs. Delaware @2

Dec. 5: vs. Fordham @6

Dec. 10: vs Kent State @2

Dec. 14: Longwood @11

Dec. 16: at Vermont @2

Dec. 20: Maine @2:30 \*\*

Dec. 21: TBD \*\*

Dec. 30: at Dayton @8

Jan 7: vs. George Mason @12

Jan 10: at GWU @6

Jan. 13: at Saint Joseph's @

Jan. 17: vs. St. Bonaventure @6

Jan. 21: at Davidson @2

Jan. 24: vs. Richmond @6

Jan. 28: vs. Loyola Chicago @2

Jan 31: at VCU @6

Feb. 3: vs. Rhode Island @2

Feb. 7: at UMass @12

Feb. 10: vs. La Salle @2

Feb. 14: at St. Bonaventure @7

Feb. 17: at Saint Louis @8

Feb. 21: vs GWU @11

Feb 28 at Richmond @6

March 2: vs. Saint Joseph's @2

\*\*Tulane Holiday Tournament

### TV Schedule:

Pink=SNP

Black=ESPN+

Blue=USA Net

Red=ESPN2

Green=CBSSN

## A-10 WBB Preseason Coaches' Poll

Rank	Team (First-Place Votes)	2022/23	Last year's record
1.	Rhode Island (12)	2nd	26-7
2.	Saint Joseph's	6th	27-8
3.	Saint Louis (2)	3rd	17-18
4.	Richmond	5th	21-11
5.	Duquesne (1)	10th	19-12
6.	George Washington	7th	18-13
7.	Davidson	11th	14-16
8.	George Mason	9th	16-15
9.	Dayton	12th	7-21
10.	VCU	13th	7-22
11.	UMass	1st	27-7
12.	La Salle	8th	17-14
13.	Fordham	4th	19-13
14.	St. Bonaventure	14th	6-26
15.	Loyola Chicago	15th	6-24

## Dukes ink TV deal w/ Sports Net Pittsburgh

For the first time in four years, Duquesne basketball is back on local cable TV. Duquesne announced on Monday that select men's and women's basketball games will appear on Sports Net Pittsburgh this season.

Previously, watching any games not shown on national television required a paid subscription to online streaming service ESPN+. Now, games will be shown on the same network that carries the Pittsburgh Penguins. All games that run on the channel will be simultaneously shown on ESPN+

The network will show 10 men's and 11 women's games, as well as 11 editions of the Coach's Show, which features interviews with players and coaches.

Previously known as AT&T Sportsnet, the cable channel is available in 2.4 million households across the region. In late August, it was purchased by Fenway Sports Group, parent company of the Penguins. Its operations are managed by fellow FSG subsidiary NESN, which broadcasts Red Sox, Celtics, Bruins and Patriots games in the New England area. (Both programs' matchups at UMass will be their only road games shown on the channel).

Duquesne will debut on SNP on opening night, Nov. 6, against Cleveland State. A re-air of the Coach's Show will air 30 minutes before the game.

-Spencer Thomas, Sports Editor



# Getting to know the players this winter

BRENTARO YAMANE  
Multimedia Editor

**Dusan Mahorcic: Forward, Graduate Student, 6’10”**

With 6-10 forward Austin Rotroff graduated, the next big man to potentially replace him is Dusan Mahoric. For Mahoric, Duquesne is his sixth school in six years. Last season, he played for Power 5 school North Carolina State in which he averaged 8.7 points and 6.6 rebounds in 10 games. A knee injury abruptly was the reason why he only played 10 games last season. If healthy, with his stature and experience of playing Power-5 basketball, Mahorcic can be dominant on the court, whether it would be in the paint rebounding or putting up layups.

**Jimmy Clark III: Guard, Senior, 6’3”**

Clark showed his playmaking skills a lot last season as two of his heroic plays on offense landed him in the national spotlight. A game-winning, three-point basket against Ball State and a dunk against VCU were the plays that got him featured on SportsCenter, but those weren’t only accomplishments. Clark returns with the honor of being named 2023 Atlantic 10 All-Defensive Team as he led the A-10 with 76 steals. He averaged 12.2 points per game last season while scoring in double digits 22 times. With a full year under his belt at Duquesne, the expectations for Clark are bigger than ever.

**David Dixon: Forward, Sophomore, 6’9”**

Dixon saw action in 27 games with six starts last season as a freshman. He was third on the team with 24 blocked shots and the more experience he has, the more dangerous he can be. With Joe Reece no longer on the team, someone must fill the position as a regular starter at forward and Dixon has the opportunity to be that guy. At 6-9, Dixon can use his length and size to his advantage.

JACK MORGAN  
staff writer

**Megan McConnell: Junior, Guard, 5’7”**

McConnell has stepped into a leading role for the Dukes heading into the 2023-24 season after a breakout season last year. In the 2022-23 season, McConnell averaged 11.2 PPG while dishing out a team-high 5.5 assists per game last year. McConnell was named All-Conference Second Team last season, and is Preseason All-Conference First Team heading into this campaign.

**Tess Myers: Junior, Guard, 5’9”**

Myers enters her junior year with the Dukes after starting all 31 games last year. Myers was a big part of the team’s success, leading the Dukes with 11.7 points per game. She is a sharpshooter from long range, as she finished second in the A-10 in three pointers (90). She put up 23 points in three separate games last year, and proved to be a stellar free-throw shooter as well, shooting 82.7% from the charity stripe in 22-23 season.

**Naele Bernard: Junior, Guard, 5’5”**

Bernard shined in her first season with

**Dae Dae Grant: Guard, Senior, 6’3”**

Grant enters the season with 1,682 points and has a very good chance to reach 2,000 in his career. He was the only returning player to start every game last season, leading the team in points (511) and points per game (15.5), free-throws converted (.873). His 94 3-pointers that he made last season were the third-most ever by a Duquesne player. When you watch Grant play, you see someone that plays calm, takes control and doesn’t let the little things bother him. Grant and Clark will return as a 1-2 punch in the Duquesne backcourt.

**Tre Williams: Forward, Senior, 6’7”**

Another Dukes player that has a chance to surpass a milestone is Tre Williams who enters the season 72 points away from 1,000 in his career. Williams’ play on the glass will be essential for Duquesne’s ability to generate possessions. He was second on last year’s squad in that category.

**Halil Barre: Forward, Sophomore, 6’9”**

Better known by his nickname, “Chabi,” health issues kept Barre out of all but 12 games last season. He made his presence felt in his Duquesne debut with six points and five rebounds in a road contest against DePaul. Last season, Barre grabbed a team-high six rebounds in only 10 minutes against Richmond. A well-known and well-liked player around campus, students, fans, and coaches want to see the best version of Barre.

**Matúš Hronský: Forward, Sophomore, 6’8”**

Hronský was another freshman that had significant playing time last season as he appeared in 19 games. He scored a season-high 13 points in the season opener versus Montana, but the coaches knew he could perform even better. Hronský’s last game was Feb. 8 of last season due to personal reasons, but he is expected to have an even

Duquesne last year. Bernard spent two years at Salt Lake City Community College, where she averaged 9.9 PPG on 40.8% shooting. Bernard put up a career-high 23 points on 50% shooting and made six threes in a 69-38 drubbing of St. Bonaventure on Jan. 11, and continued to elevate her game as the season went on. She will look to keep making strides in her second year on the Bluff.

**Amaya Hamilton: Senior, Forward/Guard, 6’2”**

33.5 minutes per game in 2022-23 was a pretty big jump from 21.8 in 2021-22 for Amaya Hamilton. However, with this came an increase in production. She averaged four more points per game, almost three more assists per game and 1.5 more rebounds per game in 22-23 compared to the year prior. Hamilton put up a career-high 22 points three separate times. She did more than just score in conference play, putting up two double-doubles against St. Bonaventure and Dayton.

**Precious Johnson: Senior, Forward, 6’4”**

Johnson enters her senior year with the Dukes having already made an all-time mark with the program. She comes into the year

better season with more recognition and praise. With his height, Hronský is considered a forward but can play anywhere on the court.

**Andrei Savrasov: Forward, Graduate Student, 6’7”**

Savrasov is a two-time transfer who bolsters a strong corps of big men. Over his past two seasons as a starter at Georgia Southern, Savrasov averaged 12.5 points and 6.4 rebounds per game. Last season, he led the Eagles in points per game (14.3) and rebounds per game (7.8). Even though a good chunk of players return for Duquesne this season, with the impressive resume that Savrasov has shown, it will be interesting to see if he’ll come off the bench or star. Either way, it was a good pickup for the Dukes.

**Kareem Rozier: Guard, Sophomore, 5’9”**

Dambrot called Rozier “the best leader on the team,” despite having never started a game. He is expected to be the first man off the bench once again this season. With strong ball-handling ability and lightning speed, Rozier is Duquesne’s best bet for a guard who can drive inside to make plays with his precise passing. Once he’s in tight,

opposing defenses must be careful. Rozier had the second-best free-throw percentage on last year’s team.

**Hassan Drame: Forward, Grad Student, 6’7”**

Hassan and Fousseyni are twins from Bamako, Mali. Before they transferred to Duquesne, the Dukes coaching staff knew the twins well as both played for LaSalle last season. When the Explorers ended the Dukes season in March, both twins produced 8 points while Hassan recorded nine rebounds. He played all 34 games last season for the Explorers, starting in 26 of them. He averaged 6.4 points and 4.3 points per game. Big time players produce well against big time teams and that’s what Hassan did last season when he netted a season-high 17 points against then No. 16 Villanova.

**Fousseyni Drame: Forward, Grad Student, 6’7”**

Fousseyni was just as impactful at La Salle as his brother was. He led the Explorers in rebounds per game at 5.3. He has shown to be capable of explosive performances, such as when he put up 24 points and 13 rebounds against St. Joseph’s.

## “The Turnover Chart”

Head Coach Keith Dambrot has never shied away from public shaming when it comes to drilling down fundamentals. He’s done drills where one player shoots free throws in front of the entire team. If he misses, the entire team runs a sprint. He’s taken this to a whole new level this year, with his introduction of “The Turnover Wall”. On the baseline of their practice court, every player has a color headshot printed and posted on the wall. When that player gives the ball away in practice, somebody tapes an 11-by-8-inch paper below their face with two big red letters; “TO”- for turnover. Here’s what Dambrot had to say about their newest tradition:

*“We’ve been chucking it all over the damn gym. We’ve been trying to really work on making sure that we do a little bit better job with that. We put the pictures up there so they can’t hide from them. Now they’ve got their ugly mugs up there with their turnovers underneath them.”*

seventh in program history in blocks with 121, and leads all returning players in the conference in that category. She has been the rock of this Duquesne defense for a few years now, but don’t be fooled, she can put the ball in the hoop at an efficient rate, averaging over 10 points a game at a 49.6 percent clip.

**Ayanna Townsend: Senior, Center, 6’2”**

Townsend brings a certain level of pedigree that you can only get by spending four years at a Big East school like Xavier. She averaged 5.8 points per game and over four boards a game in her tenure. She continued her success at Duquesne last year, scoring over 10 points a game in 19.6 MPG. She also averaged a block a game, showing off that she can be a force in the paint alongside Johnson.

**Kiandra Browne: Senior, Guard/Forward, 6’2”**

Browne was a big get for the Dukes in the transfer portal this past off-season. Browne was ranked the 75th overall prospect by ESPN coming into her college career. She signed with Indiana, and she spent three years there, playing in 51 games. She started in eight games in 2022-23 for the Hoosiers. Overall, in 2023, she averaged 13 minutes

per game, and she put in an efficient shooting season as well. She shot 58.9% from the field in 22-23 and 57.7% in 2021-22. However, she was limited to just seeing action in seven games last year due to injury. But, if she can stay healthy, she will be a great addition to an already talented backcourt.



MARY GENRICH | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Naele Bernard stands tall in the backcourt, despite being the shortest player on the roster.



From the cover —  
Christain Daikeler | Staff  
Photographer  
Men's and women's basket-  
ball teams huddle prior to  
their games during  
the 2023 season.

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# THE DUQUESNE DUKE

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## Photo Story Inside: Event provides awareness of domestic violence “Chalk It Up”

### AI – how do we use it ethically?

NAOMI GIRSON  
staff writer

As technology continues to evolve quicker than we can anticipate Duquesne continues the conversation of how to create a code of ethics for artificial intelligence's place on college campuses.

To keep up with the change Duquesne is hosting a Tech Ethics Symposium with pre-conference discussions on Nov. 9 and a conference and poster competition on Nov. 10 in the Power Center Ballroom.

Artificial intelligence is a huge part of tech evolution, and to be ready for the ever changing technology, there is a push for people to be well informed as individuals and as a university.

For many individuals attending college currently they started their technology journeys in elementary or middle school, coveting flip phones as the prized possessions in their lives. Now, we carry oodles of technology, in our backpacks and in our pockets.

With laptops, smartphones and headphones with us all the time we can do so much more with these devices than ever before.

The Grefenstette Center for Ethics in Science, Technology and Law is diving into ethics, with special emphasis on student participation and partnered with the Institute for Ethics and Integrity in Journalism and Media.

Empowerment, knowledge and understanding are the pillars of the symposium. Students attending should take these core values with them as they learn about the ethics of technology

John Slattery, the symposium director, said the event will help to see exactly how the rules have changed or been enhanced by the new introduction of AI.

“One of the exciting things this year we’re doing differently is really trying to emphasize the student participation in

see AI — page 6



BRENTARO YAMANE | MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Paige Kunklemaun (left) writes a message on the wall while her friend Alexa Jogun (right) watches her write. “The more people that know (about domestic violence) helps out the awareness so if somebody is in a situation that they know it’s ok to seek help,” Kunklemaun said.

## Tree of Life shooting— what’s changed?

ZACH PETROFF  
opinions editor

As the crowd made its way to Schenley Park on Friday, a row of handcrafted flowers made by students of the Community Day School in Squirrel Hill provided a glimpse of brightness on the solemn afternoon.

Each flower bore the name of a victim of the Tree of Life Shooting.

At the root of the flowers were rocks, painted with bright colors bearing messages of hope such as “You are not alone,” “Love” and “Sweet.”

The memorials were not just a reminder, but a symbol for what the day would bring.

Despite the abundance of armed guards surrounding the park and the tragic circumstances that led to Friday’s commemorations —The City of Pittsburgh showed its resilient.

“Anthony Fienberg described his mother Joyce as the living embodiment of love and kindness,” said U.S. attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania, Eric Olshan. “Joyce Fienberg engaged in love and kindness everyday. She did it without being asked, not because she was supposed or it was somehow required. It was just who she was.”

Five years ago, the 75-year-old woman became 1 of 11 people killed at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Squirrel Hill.

A lone gunman walked into the Tree of Life synagogue building and killed Fienberg, 75; Richard Gottfried, 65; Rose Mallinger, 97; Jerry Rabinowitz, 66; brothers David Rosenthal, 54, and Cecil Rosenthal, 59; Bernice Simon, 84, and her husband, Sylvan Simon, 86; Dan Stein, 71; Melvin Wax, 87; and Irving Younger, 69

On Friday, at Schenley Park, the 10.27 Healing Partnership hosted a ceremony to honor the 11 victims.

The nearly two-hour event included a candle-lighting by the victims’ families, observations of first responders, prayers by Jewish community leaders, musical performances and comments from Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, Pittsburgh Mayor Ed Gainey, and Pittsburgh Councilperson Erika Strassburger.

The healing process for Pittsburgh has not been simple since the worst antisemitic attack in U.S. history. The city, along with the nation have seen an increase in violence and hate crimes.

It would take 1,689 days to convict the shooter on 63 counts including hate crimes resulting in death and obstruction of the free exercise of re-



ZACH PETROFF | OPINIONS EDITOR

Victim of the Tree of Life Shooting Joyce Fienberg’s son Howard Fienberg embraces fellow community members at Friday’s commemoration ceremony.

ligion resulting in death in August a jury sentenced him to die.

“I urge everyone to remember that five years ago, when our city faced a crisis, we had each other to lean on and build a healing path,” said Maggie Feinstein, executive director of the 10.27 Healing Partnership. “And today we hold this memory as there are more crises around us.”

Since the synagogue attack, the number of active shooter incidents have increased nationally. The FBI

defines an active shooter incident as one in which one or more individuals actively engages in killing or attempting to kill people in a populated area. In 2022, there was a nearly 67% rise in active shooter incidents — 50 of them — compared to 2018, when there were 30.

Of the 50 active shooters, 61 firearms were used, 29 handguns, 26 rifles, three shotguns and three described unknown.

see CHANGE — page 6



# Duquesne hosts Tech Ethics Symposium

from AI — page 5



COURTESY OF JOHN SLATTERY

The tech ethics symposium on Nov. 9 and 10th will cover discussions of artificial intelligence, with numerous panels, in-depth discussions and speakers.

symposium,” Slattery said. “This is highlighted by a special student panel in the afternoon, but even throughout all the other panels, we’re really sort of being intentional about not having these conversations be so high level if they’re just scholars talking to each other.”

Duquesne has not yet created much restriction or regulation regarding the use of AI in the classroom. Currently Duquesne’s code of ethics does not include anything about artificial intelligence and the regulation of such technology, though a provost level committee is working through discussions on the best policy for the university, according to Slattery said. The symposium will help Duquesne officials and students learn how to handle AI on campus and how

to keep classwork ethical with all of the new technological advancements.

Freshman Ava Shaffer, a nursing major, said that many people use AI programs like ChatGPT to complete assignments. However she thinks it’s morally wrong and has never used it for her schoolwork.

Shaffer’s viewpoint on the ethics of AI in education is one that may reflect the values that the symposium will discuss.

At this event, students and faculty will learn more about the ethics behind AI, through a plethora of informed speakers covering topics like how AI is changing the world and healthcare, AI’s effect on education in Pittsburgh, and how faith plays a role.

To register students should go to <https://form.jotform.com/222543953873060>.

## POLICE BRIEFS

**Tuesday, Oct. 24-**

A student experienced multiple strange text messages from multiple numbers. Officers attempted to make contact via text message and phone call.

**Wednesday, Oct. 25-**

DUPO was dispatched to St. Ann Hall for a report of a protest. While enroute, DUPO was also dispatched to a harassment-related complaint.

**Thursday, Oct. 26-**

DUPO responded to a St. Ann’s Hall report regarding possible theft.

**Saturday, Oct. 28-**

An Uber driver pointed out an unaffiliated student who was intoxicated. Student will be cited.

**Sunday, Oct. 29-**

While on patrol, DUPO came into contact with a highly intoxicated student. The student was then transported to the hospital.

**Sunday, Oct. 29-**

A vehicle drove around cones placed to prevent a car from entering Academic Walk.

## 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 at [polene@duq.edu](mailto:polene@duq.edu)

## FOLLOW THE DUKE

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## Sweeping to the end of the fall season

EMMA POLEN  
editor-in-chief

The Duquesne Women’s Rowing team headed to Philadelphia last weekend for the final invitational of their fall “prep” season that preparing them for the official championship season in the spring.

Duquesne raced four eight-person boats, which hold eight rowers plus their coxswain and their boats raced in three varsity rowing events, and one freshmen event.

The boats headed onto the river Saturday morning, just in time for the sun to come out.

“We’ve been rowing in colder weather,” said Catherine Egan, senior coxswain. But before this race, the team was putting on sunscreen.

“It was perfect racing conditions,” Nora Grace Foglia, sophomore rower, said. The water was flat and the temperature was nice.

During the fall season, the Duquesne team races both eight-person and four-person rowing events.

This fall season, the rowing team did more four-person, single and double boat races during prior meets, Foglia said. However, since this weekend’s race was the fall season’s main regatta, the team stuck with 8-person boats which are the most competitive in the championship season.

The invitational season differs from the Dukes’ championship season in the spring from the beginning of the race to its length. Like with runners, who do longer cross country events during one season and shorter sprints during track season, the rowing team races longer courses during the fall.

Including last weekend, the fall season include meets called head races, which is more of a time trial than a boat-to-boat competition.

Each team’s boat does not start at the same time, instead beginning at

separate intervals for a rolling start. This means that teams are not sure where they placed once they finished, and the results are posted once every team has raced.

Longer courses during the fall season can vary in length from 4ks to 6ks in bending water courses.

The championship spring season involves shorter races, about 2ks, in straighter waters.

Last weekend’s race in Philly lasted 4.2K, or 4200 meters along the Schuylkill River

Two 90-degree turns in the course made it harder to navigate, Egan said.

On top of calling motivation and stroke, more bends in the course requires more commands, Egan said, which requires more focus. A turn also makes the boat more unstable, which puts more pressure on the coxswain.

The starting line was just outside the downtown area, and the end finished with the city’s skyline still in sight.

The three varsity boats competed in three separate events. The second varsity boat to race placed eighth out of 42 competing teams.

Saturday marked the first time Duquesne had a boat finish in the top 10 on the Schuylkill course since 2016.

“We hadn’t worked a lot together this season, so getting out there and doing so well exceeded our expectations,” Foglia, sophomore, said.

“Finishing the course, it was really exciting because we passed a boat but we didn’t get passed which is a good sign in these types of races,” Egan said.

The freshman boat, which competed in the women’s college freshmen/novice event, placed fifth out of 19 teams.

“We were able, throughout the en-

tire race, keep our composure, which helped a lot.”

Kyra Tziouvannis, freshman rower, said. “There was just a lot of really tough competition.”

Duquesne’s boats beat most of the other competitors in the A-10 who were at Schuylkill, assistant coach Jill Peters said.

“Spring’s still pretty far away but I think that it’s a pretty good indicator of a successful outcome,” she said. “The girls put in a lot of hard work this season and I think it went really well.”

With the Head of the Schuylkill meet wrapping up the team’s fall season, they will be transitioning into

winter training. While the Allegheny River will become too cold to practice on, the Dukes will head inside for conditioning training with rowing machines, cross training and lifting.

“Winter training is focused on... building fitness, getting more meters, getting more technique, more competitive,” Peters said.

The rowers are looking forward to racing more and getting closer with the team.

“It will be a really speedy Spring,” Egan said.

*Features Editor Bella Abbott is a member of the Women’s Rowing team.*

## Tree of Life memorial service reveals lack of change

from CHANGE— page 5

The number of mass shootings, defined by the nonprofit Gun Violence Archive as an attack in which “a minimum of four victims shot, either injured or killed, not including any shooter” has also seen a nationwide increase.

The archive reported that mass shootings have steadily increased year over year since 2018 with a slight dip in 2022. In five years, mass shootings have increased at by almost 85% going from 336 mass shootings in 2018 to 647 in 2022.

As of Wednesday, according to the Gun Violence Archive, there have been a total of 585 mass shootings, averaging nearly two mass shootings a day in 2023.

Locally, the impact of the Tree of Life shooting has had limited effects on policy.

Just two days after the one-year anniversary of the events at Tree of Life, an Allegheny County judge struck down three ordinances passed by Pittsburgh City Council in the wake of the attack. They included an assault weapons ban, a ban on large-capacity magazines and measures that empowered courts to stop people from possessing firearms if they posed an imminent threat to themselves or others.

“Stated simply, under the doctrine of field preemption, the [Uniform Firearms Act] preempts any local regulation pertaining to the regulation of firearms,” Judge Joseph James wrote “The Uniform Firearms Act is a comprehensive statute that evidences an intent by the legislature to preempt the entire field of firearms and ammuni-

tion across the state of Pennsylvania.”

There have been attempts to aid and protect nonprofit organizations including places of worship. In November 2019, the General Assembly established funding to boost security at nonprofit organizations that serve marginalized communities. *SpotlightPA* reported last week that the General Assembly has allocated \$20 million to the program since its inception, but in the same period the commission has received about \$75 million in requests from hundreds of organizations.

Antisemitism along with hate crimes have also seen a rise.

The Anti-Defamation League found that in 2018 there were 39 assaults, defined as “cases where Jewish people (or people perceived to be Jewish) were targeted with physical violence accompanied by evidence of antisemitic animus.” The number of assaults saw a continuous increase year over year, except in 2020.

Last year, the number of assaults rose to 111, a nearly 185% increase.

Duquesne associate law professor and faculty advisor to the Jewish Law Student Association Rona Kaufman said that her mindset about violence toward the Jewish community is a “matter of when, not if.” Still holds hope for the Jewish community.

“I have hope for us,” Kaufman said. “I think that we’re a strong people and a strong nation in terms of longevity a Jew necessarily,” she said. “But I definitely don’t feel less safe in Squirrel Hill,” Kaufman said. “The fact that Oct. 27 happened that didn’t change anything about how I feel as a Jew living in America.”



COURTESY OF ISABELLA ABBOTT

(Clockwise) Isabella Abbott, Bridget Abbott, Julia Casey, Britta Wheeler, Hannah Valenty, Kiran Dahnke, Caitlin DeStefano, Cait Egan and Kelly Ardery.



# The colorful way Duq is raising awareness 7

Duquesne's Title IX Sexual Misconduct Prevention Office hosted an artistic event "Chalk It Up," for students to show support for survivors and spread awareness of domestic violence. People gathered on the side of the Student Union where Title IX faculty encouraged students to write thoughtful words and messages for people who have dealt with domestic violence.

This event was one of several events Title IX held in honor of October being Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence "On average, nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States. During one year, this equates to more than 10 million women and men."

– Megan Trotter



PHOTOS BY BRENTARO YAMANE | MULTIMEDIA EDITOR



Different colored pieces of chalk were given out to students who wanted to write thoughtful and caring messages to people who have dealt with domestic violence and who wanted to provide awareness.



Duquesne men's soccer players Jack Jennings (left) and Chris Philibin (right) stopped by the union to join other Duquesne students in writing positive messages on the wall to help spread awareness and prevent domestic violence.



Alicia Simpson, the Title IX Coordinator and Director of Sexual Misconduct Prevention & Response at Duquesne, took some time to write a message as well after seeing other students write on the wall earlier in the day. She has served in this position for over two years.



Ryan Sabolcik watches student Alice Kuncil write a message on the wall. Kuncil was playing frisbee with a class outside the front lawn of College Hall when the chalk caught her eye.



# Football silences Sacred Heart, 27-0

**MICHAEL O'GRADY**  
staff writer

Duquesne football took care of business in Connecticut last Saturday, shutting out Sacred Heart 27-0 for its third straight win, while keeping their Northeast Conference record a pristine 4-0.

Duquesne Head Coach Jerry Schmitt was blunt about the win, saying, "We played solid football today."

The Dukes dominated on both sides of the ball, rushing and passing for over 200 yards each while keeping Sacred Heart un-

his streak of strong outings, going 13-24 for 203 yards with two touchdowns and two interceptions. DJ Powell was the recipient of both touchdowns to add to his NEC-leading eight, and Keyshawn Brown made six catches for 82 yards. But Duquesne's rushing attack was the main catalyst in the game. Freshman back Edward Robinson exploded for the best game of his young career so far, totaling 120 yards on 16 carries with a touchdown. He was named an NEC Prime Performer for the week. Behind him, four other ball carriers rushed for an additional 109 yards, led by Taj Butts with 50.

yards rushing, but Duquesne punished them, forcing 23 yards for loss and keeping the Pioneer net yardage to 96. Perhaps the most telling stat of the day was that Sacred Heart punted on 11 of 13 drives, and the remaining two were used to run out the first and second halves.

Duquesne was firing on all cylinders from the jump, winning the opening kickoff and marching down the field for a 69-yard drive. Perrantes connected with Tedy Aful and Brown on the drive for two 20-plus yard plays before flipping a 4-yard TD to Powell less than two minutes in.

"I thought Darius and the receivers were clicking," Schmitt said. "He's managing the offense and doing the right things, making the right reads."

It would be more than eight minutes into the second quarter before Sacred Heart finally earned a first down, and at that point the Dukes had added six points courtesy of Brian Bruzdewicz's 33 and 34 yard field goals. That drive for the Pioneers stalled at their own 43, and they opted to punt to Duquesne, who responded with a 70-yard drive punctuated with a Perrantes deep shot to Powell for a 59-yard TD.

"The corner was trying to wait on me to stop and I just took off and ran past him, and Darius did a good job putting the ball where it needed to be," Powell said.

Duquesne was in good position to add to their 20-point lead on their first drive of the second half, but Perrantes was picked in the end zone trying to throw his third touchdown of the game. The backfield would make up for it on the next drive as Robinson and Brown combined to rush for 75 yards, Robinson scoring on a 33-yard TD.

Schmitt praised the offensive line for

making Robinson's big day possible.

"Eddie just had a really good day, he's a downhill guy, and he did a nice job, but that offensive line, I give them a ton of credit for allowing us to run and throw today."

Sacred Heart had a chance to score points when it crossed the Duquesne 40 for the first and only time late in the third



PHOTO COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS  
Darius Perrantes calls for a shotgun snap against Sacred Heart on Saturday afternoon.

quarter, but an unnecessary roughness penalty pushed it back and it wouldn't come that close again. The Dukes were happy to eat clock and cruise to the 27-0 win in Fairfield.

Sitting atop the NEC, Duquesne can clinch part or all of their sixth conference title and first since 2018 with a win over Wagner on Staten Island Saturday afternoon.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS  
Duquesne players preparing to take on the Pioneers. They're on the verge of the FCS playoffs.

der 100 in both categories. They had more than twice as many first downs than the Pioneers, and were disciplined as well, garnering only three flags all game for just 20 yards.

Quarterback Darius Perrantes continued

Despite not forcing a turnover and only getting a single sack, the Dukes' defense was phenomenal, holding every receiver but one to just one catch and keeping the Pioneers to 83 yards in the air. Sacred Heart had better luck on the ground, gaining 119

## WSOC bows out in conference semifinals

**SEAN MCKEAN**  
staff writer

After a victory on Friday afternoon against UMass, the Duquesne women's soccer team fell to Saint Louis University on Wednesday night, getting eliminated from the Atlantic 10 Conference tournament in the semifinal stage.

Going into the first game against UMass, confidence was high for the Dukes after a dominant victory from home against the Richmond Spiders. However, the Minutewomen also had their heads held high after a similarly dominant victory against Fordham. Overall, the game looked to be a good one.

As the game began, neither team appeared to have gained primary possession. Even though the Dukes got a shot within the first minute from Jaimi Araujo, the Minutewomen followed it up with three shots of their own, two from Ashley Lamond and one from Bella Recinos.

However, Duquesne started to gain some momentum, and it culminated into a surprising goal from Maya Matesa. Despite attempting to center the ball for Araujo, the ball swung toward the net, gaining a point for the Dukes early on.

After going down by one, UMass sought to level it back out. Two shots were put up by Ella Curry and Ashley Lamond at the 18-minute mark, but they would each swing wide.

Following a round of substitutions for the Minutewomen, they finally managed to materialize a goal in the 29th minute by virtue of Lauren Robles. Having been put in the game only 10 minutes earlier, a nice setup from Nia Hislop allowed Robles to score an equalizer.

Only 20 seconds later, Matesa would once again score a goal to put the Dukes up by one, after breaking away from the UMass defense for the shot.

As the first half came to a close, Duquesne and UMass had to battle for control, with the possession struggle once again showing itself. Though each team had shots on target from Lauren Robles and Kayla Leseck respectively, saves from goalkeepers Maddy Neundorfer and Bella Mendoza ensured the first half ended with a score of 2-1.

Coming out of the locker room for the second half, the Minutewomen came out explosively to try to equalize the score once more. Within the first five minutes of the half, Emma Pedolzy and Nia Hislop would each get opportunities to score, but each shot ended up swinging to the right.

The Dukes did not let this go unnoticed, however, as they would get two shots on target in the 50th and 54th minutes. In the 50th, Emma Campanella — coming off her first goal of the season against Richmond — found an opportunity for a shot, but Mendoza made another save. In the 54th, Mackenzie Muir found her way through defense to get a shot, but Mendoza would also bat that one away.

For the remainder of the game, the story of a struggle for possession continued. Though each team would put up quite a few shots on target, the game ultimately ended 2-1 in favor of the Duquesne Dukes. With this victory, they advanced to the semi-finals in the A-10 tournament, going up against top-seeded Saint Louis.

Despite the confidence they had going into Wednesday's game, it was going to be an uphill battle. Though the Dukes held their own in the opening 20 minutes, a goal from the Billikens' Emily Groark is where it began to unravel.

While the Dukes tried to gather their defense together, a combination of miscommunication and solid footwork for the Billikens allowed them to get two goals in 45 seconds to take a 3-0 lead.

As both teams exited the locker room, Saint

Louis were keen on keeping the momentum going, scoring another goal at the 46-minute mark and putting them up by four.

After the deficit-extending goal, the Dukes began to make better calls defensively, but Saint Louis still got another goal, bringing the score to 5-0.



MARY GENRICH | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Maya Matesa scored the Dukes' only tourney goals.



# MSOC earns fifth seed in A-10 tourney

AIDAN WEISS  
staff writer

On a Senior Day filled with drama across the conference, Duquesne pulled out a 2-1 victory over the La Salle Explorers to move into the fifth seed of this week's Atlantic 10 Conference tournament. Midfielder Ask Ekeland starred with two goals in the win.

The day began with multiple possibilities, as the Dukes were in seventh place to start the day but had a range of outcomes that could have placed them between second and eighth place in the conference standings. On the other hand, the Explorers were playing for pride's sake, trying to stay out of last place to end their season.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS

Ask Ekeland scored twice and is running into the Atlantic-10 tournament. He has caught eyes for a pair of spectacular long-distance goals in Duquesne's last two games.

The game started quickly with La Salle fighting hard in its last game, and its aggressiveness translated into a quick yellow card in the third minute. However, La Salle's fight quickly led to some early Duquesne turnovers, and one such turn-

over in their own half led to a corner kick. Explorer midfielder Dylan Kwasnik scored an "olimpico," where a player curls the ball into the net directly off a corner kick.

Ask Ekeland saw Kwasnik's outstanding, set-piece goal and went for another one of his own. Following his jaw-dropping, half-field goal against Wright State, Ekeland took a free kick from 35 yards out and calmly curled it into the top left corner to knot the game up in the 19th minute, giving him another highlight moment this season.

From there, the rest of the first half was tightly contested, with both sides having potential scoring chances. However, each goalkeeper made two saves apiece to keep

the game level at the half.

The second half got off to a chippy start. As a long ball to Duquesne's Jayden Da went into the air, La Salle goalkeeper Filip Sabatti came flying off his line and slid directly into the legs of Da, completely

missing the ball. Although the Duquesne sideline was clamoring for a red card, Sabatti was only assessed a yellow, and the game continued.

A great opportunity for the Dukes came in the 73rd minute when defender Christoffer Vie Angell found open space at the top of the box, but the shot was pushed wide.

The chippy nature of the game came to a head with a bizarre sequence in the 77th minute. Duquesne's Jaxon Ervin got a yellow card for a takedown, but it did not seem like an especially dirty challenge. However, the La Salle sideline shouted their displeasure. When the dust settled, La Salle's head coach had been sent off with a red card, and an assistant coach and bench player were also assessed yellow cards.

From there, Duquesne's relentless push for a second half goal continued, and they finally broke through in the 85th minute when Ekeland came flying down the field and put away a sensational pass from senior Nate Dragisich to give the Dukes the lead, which they would not relinquish.

After results were finalized throughout the league, the Dukes learned they would be traveling to North Carolina to take on the fourth-seeded Davidson Wildcats in the first round of the A-10 Tournament.

Head Coach Chase Brooks recognized the challenge of playing on the road in the postseason.

"This time of year, it's just about being healthy," he said. "That's going to be what we focus on, just making sure we're healthy and making sure we clean up some of our little deficiencies we have this time of year and continue to try to build momentum and build confidence."

"We just have to take every game like it's our last," said senior midfielder Nate Dragisich. "Elimination soccer is fun, nerve-wracking; it's all the emotions in one. We just got to go out and play our game."

Ekeland's two goals were also a hot topic, as his two strikes secured his finish as the second-leading goal scorer in the en-



CHRISTIAN DAIKELER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Two thumbs up from midfielder Nate Dragisich, who served up the game-winning assist.

tire league.

"Ask would be the first to tell you it wasn't his best game overall, but then he pops up with goals in big moments," Brooks said. "Those are things that you can't coach, those are the intangibles that you love to have, and Ask is a tremendous player who's had a great year."

Lost in the intensity of the game and the playoff race was the Senior Day celebration that occurred before the game. Among the veterans honored was Dragisich. He assisted on Ekeland's winner, and recently set the all-time appearance record at Duquesne.

"It's been a long ride," he said. "I came into a program that was not in a good spot, and I'm proud to have been a part of turning it upside down and making it become a year-to-year competitor in the A-10. It means a lot, I've had a lot of fun here, and I'm not done yet."

The Dukes are back in action for the first round of the conference tournament at fourth-seeded Davidson University on Friday at 7 p.m.

## Dukes in the rankings

Northeast Conference Football  
Standings

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall
1.	Duquesne	4-0	5-3
2.	Merrimack	3-2	4-4
3.	Saint Francis U	3-2	3-5
4.	Wagner	3-2	3-5
5.	LIU	2-2	2-6
6.	Stonehill	2-3	3-5
7.	Central Conneticut	1-3	3-5
8.	Sacred Heart	1-5	1-8

### Rangers Romp

The Texas Rangers defeated the Arizona Diamondbacks 5-0 last night, to clinch their first World Series in franchise history.

### A-10 Men's Soccer Tournament:

(All games are played on the campus of the higher seed. Teams will be reseeded after the quarterfinal round.)

Seed	Teams
2.	Saint Louis
7.	UMass

Seed	Teams
3.	Loyola Chicago
6.	Dayton

Seed	Teams
1.	VCU
8.	Fordham

Seed	Teams
4.	Davidson
5.	Duquesne



# Carnegie holds exhibit of ‘Titanic’ proportions

**ZACH PETROFF**  
opinions editor

Without having to leave the city of Pittsburgh, history buffs have the opportunity to experience the historically tragic event of the Titanic.

Before entering the exhibit, patrons are given a passport of a passenger that took the trip on April 10, 1912. At the conclusion of the tour, it is revealed if the traveler survived the trip from Southampton, England, to New York City.

“We are excited to bring ‘Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition’ to Carnegie Science Center,” said director Jason Brown. “The exhibition weaves together the realms of history, archaeology and oceanography, perfectly aligning with our commitment to fostering scientific education and exploration.”

The Carnegie Science Center is hosting the traveling Titanic Artifact exhibit which features over 150 authentic artifacts, full-scale room-recreation and dozens of replicas of the British passenger liner, the RMS Titanic. The exhibit which travels the country arrived at the Carnegie Science center on Oct. 26 and will be available to the public until Dec. 26.

“A lot of people have a basic background of the Titanic from the movie and recent events,”



COURTESY OF BECKY THURNER

The exhibit showcases authentic artifacts that have been found in the deepest crevices of the ocean close to the wreckage of the once grand RMS Titanic. Guests can follow the time line of historical victims, giving the tragedy a new layer of empathy.

said Norwell Webster, manager of gallery experience. “What this exhibit is able to do is bring the Titanic to life with real artifacts that actually have been brought up from underneath.”

The RMS Titanic, which was the largest ship at the time, struck an iceberg on April 15, 1912, during her maiden voyage to the United States. Of the 2,223 passengers and crew aboard, more than 1,500 people died.

It was the deadliest sinking of a single ship at the time.

The Titanic made headlines this summer when an underwater vessel, the titan submersible

from OceanGate, imploded while touring the wreckage site and killed five people.

“There is just something about the Titanic that draws people in,” Webster said. “It’s a tragedy, but it is also fascinating to a lot of people.”

Katheryn Kirk and her son, Aiden, of Pittsburgh, said one of the reasons they visited the exhibit was because of her ‘fandom’ of James Cameron’s 1997 movie “Titanic.”

“I probably watched it 100 times growing up,” Kirk said. “It was such a big part of my childhood and ever since I’ve been fascinated with it.”

Her son Aiden has not watched the movie yet; they are waiting until he’s a little older, Kirk said.

Even with multiple viewings of the movie, there is still something new to learn at the exhibit.

“When people come in, they’re able to see the different historical pieces that we have been able to recover from the bottom ocean around the wreckage,” Webster said. “You can find plates, personal items that have been retrieved from suitcases that were freed into the ocean due to the events and even get a little insight into what we have learned from survivor accounts as far as their experience of that night.”

Along with the artifacts, patrons have an opportunity to see the living conditions of the ex-

hibit and get a feel for what life was like on the Titanic for the first, second and third class passengers. Along with real-life replicas of the rooms onboard, first person accounts were displayed throughout the museum.

“This is a big piece of the Gilded Age. We get a glimpse into a time period right before the Great Depression so we’re able to see this rise in wealth and power in the world.”

“There was no moon, and I have never seen the stars shine brighter; they appear to stand out of the sky sparkling like diamonds. It was the kind of night that made one glad to be alive,” read the journal entry of first-class passenger Jack Thayer on the night before the carnage.

One of the more somber parts of the exhibit took patrons back to the night of the sinking. Chilling displays of deciphered morse code showed fateful messages along the walls.

The ending of the historical journey includes the name of every victim.

From artifacts to accounts, the exhibit brings history to life for all ages. The loss of human life left an impact on South Hills resident Marcia Morton.

“It doesn’t matter how long ago it was,” Morton said. “It’s just so sad to learn about all those people who died, and how cold it was. I could never imagine.”



COURTESY OF BECKY THURNER

The iceberg that tore through the ship has become immortalized in history and cinema, but the Carnegie Science Center pulls multiple generations into the past.

## Aquarius ♒

AKA: Croque monsieur diapers

## Pisces ♓

My bad dream had bonus content. It was very scary.

## Aries ♈

Only if you believe in cholesterol. It's a hoax.

## Taurus ♉

My baby cows are killing me.

## Gemini ♊

Tap dancing? This is a swim meet.

## Cancer ♋

Because she's happy. Because she's a lunatic.

## Leo ♌

Hyper vigilant, hyper violent.

## Virgo ♍

Hold the cream.

## Libra ♎

I've been craving water for the last three minutes.

## Scorpio ♏

Please don't summon demons in the bathroom.

## Sagittarius ♐

What did I even write that warranted the "Hang in there?"

## Capricorn ♑

That was some invasive fluoride treatment.

## CAMPUS EVENTS

Beginner Dance Lesson:  
Viennese Waltz  
Nov. 2 @ 8 p.m.

Join the Ballroom Association in the Power Center Group Fitness Room to learn the basic steps of Viennese waltz! No experience required.

Red Masquers: Deathtrap  
Nov. 2-5 @ 8 p.m.

Who is innocent?  
Who only *seems* that way?  
“Deathtrap” is a sharply funny play full of twists and turns that keep an audience on the edge of their seats. Tickets are free with a DU ID.

DPC DUNite: Fall Painting  
Nov. 3 @ 9 p.m.

Join DPC in the Union Nitespot to create your very own fall themed painting!

Skincare Night  
Nov. 6 @ 9 p.m.

Join the Center for Student Involvement in the NiteSpot for a skincare night! There will be goodie bags of CeraVe and La Roche Posay, facial masks, headbands and so much more!

## EMILY'S EPIPHANIES

Disappointing Sometimes

"Life is full of disappointments, innit?"  
~ Ursula ("The Little Mermaid," 1989)

Sometimes we are disappointed and sometimes we disappoint others.  
And that's okay.

Holding ourselves to unattainable standards can only lead to overextension, burnout and heartache.

This isn't to say that you shouldn't *try*, because of course you always should. And only give your best.

But I encourage you to strive for satisfaction that comes from within. It's perfectly healthy to have expectations and goals, and I encourage them.

The advice I'm looking to give is this:  
You must live up to your own standards, whatever those may be. Do not base your life upon the wants of others, as they do not walk in your steps. You must be the creator of your own happiness and your own ambitions.

— Emily Fritz



## SEE 'THE WIZ' UNTIL NOV. 5

Emily Fritz | A&E Editor

The Benedum Center is aglow with the brilliance of Oz as the Tony-award winning show experiences a revival after its original debut 50 years ago.

The sounds of "The Wiz" feature soul, gospel, rock and 70s funk, all of which lend to Dorothy's reprise, which is based heavily off of the 1939 film starring Judy Garland.

This contemporary adaptation of the film places new emphasis on the lives of urban Black Americans, causing New York Times journalist Frank Rich to write that "[the show] had something to say, and it said it with verve and integrity," during its 1984 revival.



COURTESY OF GENE REED

Nichelle Lewis, former national star of *Hairspray*, will make her Broadway debut as she enters the role of Dorothy.

"I feel like it's extremely important for people, especially right now, to see that they can be powerful just by being themselves and just by being individual and unique. So I think that's how the show speaks to me," 24-year-old Nichelle Lewis, recent cast for the role of Dorothy, told AP News.

Of the six opportunities left to see the show, tickets are quickly disappearing.

"There is no doubt that you should ease your way down the road," wrote Roy Burko of *Cool Cleveland* after seeing "The Wiz" visit Connor Palace in Cleveland, Ohio last week.

"Escape from our world of war, angst and government chaos, and thoroughly enjoy the reimagined Wizard of Oz."

Tickets begin at \$45 and can be purchased exclusively through [trustarts.org](http://trustarts.org).

## God of Mischief gets a taste of chaos in new season

HANNAH PETERS  
staff writer

In all its glorious purpose, Loki season two has arrived. Coming back from a hiatus that lasted over two years, the elements of time, mystery and world ending drama come out to play once more in the Disney+ spin-off series starring Tom Hiddleston.

In cable-TV like fashion, episodes are set to air on a weekly basis every Thursday, the first episode having made its debut on October 5. Akin to the first season, the second installment will contain six 45-60 minute episodes.

The new season picks up right where it left off [SPOILERS] — with a frantic, confused and slightly heartbroken Loki arriving in the TVA after being kissed and then pushed through a portal by Sylvie (Sophia Di Martino): a Loki variant, previous enemy and potential lover. Shown in the recap at the beginning of the first season, Sylvie does this in order to kill 'He Who Remains' (Jonathan Majors) at his residence, 'The Citadel at the End of Time.'

In doing so, Sylvie exposes the Sacred Timeline which was created and protected by He Who Remains to prevent countless versions of himself from starting another multiversal war. Before his death, he had given Sylvie and Loki two options: to take his place as dictator of time and the TVA or kill him and allow the process of war to begin again.

Season two is the aftermath of this choice — the Sacred Timeline is branching, creating an influx of timelines and chaos at

the TVA. Now, an almost-certified member of the TVA, Loki works alongside Mobius (Owen Wilson) to remedy the chaos, reforming the comically disordered but lovable duo formed in the season prior.

Introduced early in the first episode of season two is Ouroboros (Ke Huy Quan), a new and

fourth episode, this meaning is a central theme and plot point for this new season.

Revealing and clearing up plot altering details after the fact seems to be a trend for the Loki series. In dealing with time and the multiverse, Loki's plot line can be hard to follow at times and sometimes outright confusing.



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Tom Hiddleston (pictured) has become an iconic figure for Marvel fans since the debut of his character, Loki, in the 2011 film "Thor."

prominent character evidenced by the title of the first episode: "Ouroboros." As author of the TVA Guidebook and head of the 'Repairs and Advancement' department at the TVA, Ouroboros quickly takes on a key role after Mobius recruits him to fix Loki's "time slipping" problem.

A Greek word, Ouroboros represents an ancient symbol that "depicts a snake or dragon devouring its own tail and that is used especially to represent the eternal cycle of destruction and rebirth," according to Merriam-Webster. Although this isn't explicitly pointed out until the

For instance, [SPOILERS] Miss Minutes goes on the run, unable to be tracked by the TVA (despite being a form of AI) and TVA agents mourn the loss of destroyed despite their regrowth.

This may be done in part to create mystery and suspense, a tactic clearly used in Loki's torture scene where audience members are kept in the dark about whether or not Loki returned to his darker side, which was showcased in Marvel's earlier cinematic phases.

With Loki's past story line essentially erased from actions taken in the 2019 film "Endgame,"

Loki's character development is something the writers have clearly been intentional with throughout the series. Loki starts off the series as a villain, fresh from laying siege on New York City in the 2012 portion of canon. However, this version of Hiddleston's character is not the one that originally won the hearts of so many fans.

To make up for this, Loki's character transformation happens at a much faster rate than in the original story line: he alludes to his previous villain era as if a faint memory of the past, asking Mobius, "Do you remember that time I was so angry with my father and brother I went down to Earth and held the whole of New York City hostage with an alien army?"

While Loki has clearly established himself as more of a hero than villain in this series, executive producer Kevin Wright tells the Digital Spy that he and director Kate Herron wanted to ensure they were adding to the characters and not repeating the same story.

"I think it was about deepening the world [and] deepening the characters...we are pushing all of these characters into completely new territory," said Wright.

If there's one thing for certain, "Loki" dreams big. With visits to exciting time periods like the 1983 Chicago World Fair and 1977 London, this new season is sure to keep audience members captivated and on their toes.

With the final episode still on its way, there's no doubt that "Loki" will not stop the iconic mischief for this Norse god anytime soon.

## 'Zoo Boo' invites girls and ghouls for Halloween visit

EMILY FRITZ  
a&e editor



EMILY FRITZ | A&E EDITOR

Luna the barn owl (pictured) met with visitors during the Owl Encounter. Many of the owls, like Luna and her friend Hedwig, are named after Harry Potter characters.



EMILY FRITZ | A&E EDITOR

Residents of the Pittsburgh Zoo were gifted a number of holiday themed treats and decor. The meerkats (pictured) were introduced to a Jack-O'-Lantern carved especially for them. Other pumpkin fans included the African elephants, the fruit bats, the aquatic life of PPG aquarium and various members of the primate family.



EMILY FRITZ | A&E EDITOR

Evan, 2, enjoyed the Trick-or-Treat portion of the Zoo Boo, where he received candy from various community partners, such as UPMC for Kids and Goldfish Swim School.



EMILY FRITZ | A&E EDITOR

Additional decor lent to the family-focused festivities. Many of the younger attendees participated in various crafts, educational opportunities and parade spectating. The Zoo also invited additional party vendors to provide a 'Monster Mash Dance Party' and character meet and greets, featuring Jack Skellington from Tim Burton's "A Nightmare Before Christmas."



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“The key is not the will to win... everybody has that. It is the will to prepare to win that is important.”

Bobby Knight

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

@TheDuquesneDuke

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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 theduquduke@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.

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COMIC COURTESY OF ALEX RHOADES

# Letter to the editor : A call for humanity

*This letter was submitted by Jaclyn Berg.*

At the present moment, there is a cacophony of desperation, violence and hatred alongside a resounding silence from those who don't know how to respond. The thin line between grief and Islamophobia, between resistance and antisemitism, is being too easily crossed by some and so terrifying to encounter for others that they avoid speaking at all.

Hannah Arendt – a German-American Jewish-born political theorist – wrote in “Responsibility and Judgment” that “Acceptance of lesser evils is consciously used in conditioning government officials as well as the population at large to the acceptance of evil as such...Politically, the weakness of the argument has always been that those who choose the lesser evil forget very quickly that they chose evil.” This rings true today.

Over 13 years of study have shown me that those who value the lives and dignity of all humanity cannot depend on nation states to act in the interests of all humanity. Nation states and their militaries long ago took up the argument of the “lesser evil” and thoroughly convinced the people that this was the only way to seek justice and, maybe – someday in an undetermined future – peace.

Now many across the world either aggressively support or silently accept violence and massive loss of life, wrongly believing it's necessary, that it will somehow make everything right.

While those seeking to bring about the real justice of freedom, equality and education access to necessities like food, water and healthcare have been forced to do so outside the boundaries of nation states, or accepting military violence in order to reach the oppressed and suffering. Perhaps nation states have done more harm than good, and the world would be better without them.

In a country where we're not even taught our own history, we're being asked to learn the history of others who often feel remote from us. We're being

asked to face the history of nations, which includes the history of our own, and to choose in a situation that affects many lives across so many borders and identities that it can feel that no matter what you do or say, someone is going to be hurt or offended. Perhaps most importantly, in the absence of knowledge about this history, we're being asked to simply choose a so-called ‘lesser evil.’

There are those in media and governments trying to convince us that anyone who points to the thousands of murdered civilians in Gaza and demands a ceasefire is somehow supporting terrorism. Or that those desperately wanting their kidnapped loved ones returned safely are somehow in support of genocide.

They are trying to convince us that we cannot mourn for the civilians killed in Gaza and the West Bank AND the civilians killed in Israel.

But above all, they are trying to convince us that we don't understand enough to know what's right – that we have to choose a side of one nation or the other, or that we have to accept death as necessary for justice. They continuously appeal to arguments of the ‘lesser evil,’ constantly drawing us away from our shared humanity, as if we can't say, “I don't know the answer to how it got this way or what the solution is, but I do know that murdering innocent people is wrong.” But we CAN say that. We should be able to say that.

As a historian, I know that Israeli and Palestinian people have deep and ancient roots to that land, long before nation states ever existed. I know that Jewish, Muslim and Christian people have deep cultural and religious roots to that land as well – again, long before nation states existed. But as a philosopher, and more importantly, a human, I know that there is not, and never will be, a military solution to the question of whose land it is. I know that the murder of over 10,000 people in Gaza, and the genocidal violence happening right now, is not self-defense, no matter what

‘lesser evil’ argument is used. I know the deaths of those innocent people will not mean justice for the 1,400 innocent Israeli civilians murdered.

In truth, we are being asked to hold the grief of thousands of lives lost, to hold space for those who are angry, afraid or in mourning. We are being asked to do the seemingly impossible task of facing the tragedy of the worst parts of human existence and respond without adding to it. We are called to respond to a moment of incredible violence with love and shared humanity. If your heart feels broken and heavy, and your mind feels pulled in a hundred directions, I understand.

I want to appeal to that shared humanity to challenge the argument of the ‘lesser evil.’ To believe in the universal right of all people to live freely – free from the threat of violence, free to choose their own path in life, free to move through the world, free to express themselves – means that we should be opposed to anyone who tries to convince us that others are not fully human enough to deserve those rights.

We should be suspicious of those who claim that the deaths of others are collateral damage in the reality of war or a necessary sacrifice in the fight for justice. Belief in the universal right of all people to be treated with dignity and respect means that we can know that the actions of those doing the killing are wrong and that EVERY life lost has value and deserves to be mourned. Belief in that universal right means that we should all be able to demand, with one voice, an immediate ceasefire, an immediate opening of the border for aid into Gaza and an immediate return of the hostages taken by Hamas.

It is not easy to take a stand, in any situation, when there are so many quick to condemn anyone who does. It is not easy to raise a voice of love, peace and compassion amid so much hate, violence and callousness.

But history is watching.

STAFF  
EDITORIAL

## Get to know your ballot

This election on Nov. 7 may offer the chance for many decisive victories for progressive leaders in Pennsylvania's state and local government.

On the state level, Daniel McCaffery is running as a progressive for Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice.

McCaffery is a military veteran, and has received the support of many labor unions, Planned Parenthood of PA, and the Pennsylvania National Organization for Women, according to the Commonwealth Communications' Progressive Voters Guide.

He faces off against Republican Carolyn Carluccio. Carluccio has backed Trump as the true winner of the 2020 and 2022 elections. In an interview with the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, Carluccio did not outright disprove claims that she supported a denial of the 2020 presidential election. She also called for a “re-work” of Act 77, or Pa.'s mail-in voting option.

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court has been a 5-2 Democratic majority since 2015. After the death of Democratic Justice Max Baer on Sept. 30, 2022, a win by McCaffery would return the Court to a 5-2 majority.

The Allegheny County Executive election offers another progressive candidate an opportunity on the ballot.

Former state Rep. Sara Innamorato is a progressive, stressing the importance of social services. She faces a former PNC Bank executive and Republican nominee, Joe Rocky.

Innamorato won in the Democratic primary to succeed Rich Fitzgerald.

The Allegheny County Executive has control of \$3 billion spending per year, the power to appoint officials in major decision-making roles and a county elections board seat.

A significant race any year, this year's race for the county's top elected official could change the party largely in charge of western Pennsylvania.

If Rocky prevails, this would be the first time since 1999 that a Republican would win this position at the head of the county government.

The Allegheny County ballots will also feature a question about council members' salary, asking if the county charter be amended so that council members receive the \$10,939 in the form of an annual salary, instead of a yearly stipend depending on county council members' attendance at meetings.

According to sources who spoke with WESA, supporting this change would result in lower meeting attendance by council members, since the pay would be the same regardless.

Since these meetings support constituents' concerns, it would not be in the interest of voters to support the heightened possibility for elected members to miss meetings.

Last in the progressive candidates is Matt Dugan running for Allegheny County District Attorney.



## Paywalls have no room in education

MAX MARCELLO  
staff writer

For students and academic professionals, the pursuit of high-quality, scholarly work is an imperative, transcending the boundaries of their respective fields. Few frustrations can match the exasperation of uncovering a pertinent and potent scholarly article concealed behind the insidious veil of a paywall.

Initially, this paywall was a mere inconvenience. However, as I continued to hit paywall after paywall, my frustration gave way to curiosity. How could this research that was being subsidized by government resources cost so much to access?

Federal financing began in earnest at the dawn of the 20th century but did not escalate until the tumultuous years of the Cold War, as the government enthusiastically fueled the growth of “big science.” This in turn produced multiple groundbreaking developments ranging from NASA spinoff technology to the construction of Silicon Valley through defense R&D spending. These factors, among others, catalyzed the transformation of our nation from a growing industrial power into the unrivaled global titan of innovation and research, trailblazing the path to our modern world.

Yet, here lies the aforementioned disconnect. The vast pool of dollars funding

this monumental research mostly originates from government resources. Under our current system, this public financing finds its way into the coffers of profit-seeking enterprises and universities charging access to research whose cost was reduced in part due to federal grants. This vicious cycle keeps a substantial body of work out of the hands of the very public that, unwittingly or not, bankrolls it and spits in the face of the purpose of the research university, which espouses the goals of facilitating a meeting of the minds and making knowledge available to all.

In our contemporary era, the integrity of this system is unraveling, tainted by the corrosive effects of unchecked avarice. University libraries are compelled to pour vast sums into the procurement of access to databases and scholarly journals.

These very repositories of knowledge are, ironically, built upon the financial bedrock of public resources. Any research birthed from the womb of public grants ought to be a beacon, unburdened by monetary constraint. The current system, where research funded by the public is subsequently harnessed for private gain, defies the principles of transparency and equity. It stands as a testament to the incongruity of our times and as an area worth reform. It is a disquieting proposition, one that few people, philosophers or scientists would champion openly - the

commodification of knowledge, a betrayal of the public trust. Under this system, the government, and by extension the public, reaps no discernible, fiscal nor educational benefits from this transaction. Thus, I contend that any research conducted with the patronage of public coffers should in turn benefit those who financed it.

In making this declaration, I do not advocate for the nationalization of discovery or invention arising from universities and research enterprises. Instead, I assert that the fruits of this labor must be disseminated to the public, with due consideration for their rights. In this crusade for equitable knowledge access, I exempt the sanctity of copyright and patent laws. Under existing copyright laws which explicitly exempt material for educational purposes, every student, every curious mind, who yearns to partake in the intellectual banquet that their very tax dollars nourished should have unfettered access. Adopting a more open system will carry significant benefits for both countering erroneous statements made by numerous uncles during Thanksgiving arguments and students seeking access for more data than their university or public library has to offer.

Critics of the proposed system contend that it would serve as a deterrent to research and hinder collaborative endeavors. They believe that by diverting a

substantial portion of funding from the primary sources supporting universities and other organized research institutions, the capacity to engage in potentially life-saving research would be severely curtailed. Furthermore, they assert that the system might erode the very incentives that drive these institutions to strive for excellence.

The essence of this proposal is not to thwart the progress of profit-oriented technological and scientific ventures, but rather to break down the financial barriers that presently obstruct access to scholarly knowledge. It is imperative to clarify that research or journal entries originating from non-public sources would remain exempt from the protocols mandating public access.

Few would object to public spending on seminal research, especially considering if this research, although important, would not sustain private funding. My concern is the lack of accountability and profiteering from taxpayer contributions.

Yet I do contend that there are profits to be made, not in the form of monetary gain but instead reaping the fruits of living in a more informed country. By making information more available and accessible, all Americans regardless of education levels can fully immerse themselves and benefit from the knowledge that has been produced from the coffers we all pay into.

## Journalism has no room for activism

KAITLYN HUGHES  
staff writer

**\*Note: The Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) will publish a monthly column in the Duke's opinions section.**

In the wake of traumatizing events it is natural to demand a response and a call to action. Throughout times of tragedy, people look for answers, guidance and solutions.

Media is the logical source for immediate access to information. However comforting it is to have up-to-the-moment coverage, it could lead to a false sense of security.

With how accessible information is in our current society, this can lead to either incomplete or outright false conclusions. According to the Pew Research Center, over half of Americans are getting their news from social media, making the line between what is actual reporting and what is sensationalized-editorialism hard for readers to differentiate.

Information is produced at such a rapid pace, more and more Americans seem to be using social media as the source for their answers and knowledge. People have begun to disregard their own intelligent research and have been forming opinions solely based on what they learn scrolling.

Whether it's credible or not.

When journalists' work does not meet the standards of the falsified information on social media, they often receive backlash. Lack of research produces false claims against journalists that can cause danger in the form of death or prison time.

To protect journalists, one must educate themselves on the difference

between journalists and activists and understand the relevance of media literacy.

Journalists are truth tellers. They seek to inform the world about corrupt information without intervening. It is up to an audience to take information and apply it.

Journalists have an obligation to the public, activist fill an obligation to a cause.

People all around the world become angry with journalists for not advocating for a response that insinuates change. This puts journalists in an uncomfortable position, leaving them to question the duty of their profession.

When journalists act as activists it often leads to punishment.

According to *Time Magazine*, Vietnamese journalist Tran Thi Nga was sentenced to jail for nine years after authorities accused her of spreading propaganda. Her goal was never to go against the state but only advocate for human rights by exposing environmental spills and government corruption. By stepping outside the bounds of objective journalism her work was misinterpreted and she created a dangerous scenario.

The line between journalist and activist becomes blurred in a society consumed by the media. Journalists are not meant to take matters in their own hands. Their job, particularly in our democratic country, is to be the mouthpiece to the people.

According to the peer-reviewed journal *Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly*, journalism is to be seen

as the driving force within a democracy, and it allows for citizens to form rational, reasonable and educated responses. Citizens are failing the concept of journalism when they demand their world views to be represented in news.

Unbiased writing is important to establish trust with an audience. Former editor for *Washington Post* Martin Baron, defined unbiased writing as “work done carefully with an open-mind.”

Unbiased writing contains the belief that there is more to learn. Baron claims that journalists who practice unbiased writing do not assume they know all the answers, they always aim to seek more knowledge. When opinions of how the world should respond to ethical issues is assumed in writing, the writing begins to lack credibility. Transparent information is vital to create a society that trusts the media.

The overarching goal in journalism is to build off of facts. Ideal journalism follows the SPJ code of ethics which highlights seeking the truth, minimizing harm, acting independently and being transparent. When journalists follow these standards they present work that is trustworthy and accurate.

By using the SPJ code of ethics, journalism creates factual stories to lead citizens in the direction of pursuing change.

Objective journalism educates an audience allowing them to pursue social justice. When ethical work of a journalist and the use of media literacy by

an audience is combined, solutions are created. Both roles are important to global justice.

Where a journalist's job ends, the job of an activist begins.

People who protest and campaign to fight for political and social change are known as activists. Activists are formed from an audience that is displeased with the tragedies that are presented to them through unbiased journalism.

An audience plays an important role in ethical journalism through the process of media literacy. American writer and professor of communication and media studies at Fordham University Lance A. Strate argues in the *ETC: A Review of General Semantics* journal article that media literacy is an ethical obligation.

Media literacy can be described through the steps of evaluating, researching, engaging, initiating and establishing. Through these steps, one is able to critically analyze a writer's work and determine their own moral standpoint on the subject at hand. Once a piece of media has been explored through the lens of media literacy, protesting and campaigning can begin.

The only way we will create social change is if we go beyond what the news and social media bring to our immediate attention. It is our duty as citizens within a democracy to encourage others to move in the right direction and fight for change.

Instead of attacking journalists for upholding their role to provide unbiased work, take further action by: Boycotting businesses that are supporting opposing views, call state representatives, donate, peacefully protest and further educate others on the issue at hand.

Revolution you want to see in the world should not be sought in the media. Media is only the start of rightful action. Change needs to begin with you.





# Frzy's new album features Duquesne students

ISABELLA ABBOTT  
features editor

2018 Emmy award-winning artist and Pittsburgh native Frzy recently collaborated with seven Duquesne students on two tracks in his two albums, "Success" and "Popularity," which were simultaneously released on Nov. 1.

Student and sound recording major Dannon Johnson coordinated the choir in the two songs.

After being asked by him to assemble the choir, Johnson decided to ask her peers in the Mary Pappert School of Music.

Matthew Guadagnino, Abigail Hill, Anna Hladio, Alex Hladio, Miah Sirianni and Kyle Stiver, agreed and, after only one night of recording, are featured on the albums.

However, this is not the first time Johnson has worked with Frzy. She has collaborated on a couple of other projects, including a Nickelodeon commercial and a music video for one of his songs, "Ugly Face."

Johnson said over the past couple of years, Frzy has "taken me under his wing."

The seven students are featured in his songs "No Love" and "Hell and Back."

Johnson said she can hear her classmates throughout the tracks and can even pick apart who is singing.

She hopes to make her mark in the producer world, and collaborating with Frzy is a step in the right direction.

"My big goal is to be the first female to win the Grammy award for producer of the year because no one's done that," Johnson said.

After starting producing at the age of 14, Johnson's passion is obvious. Even her tattoos, a Rupert Neve 5088 console, her studio's first logo, a TV that ties into her studio's name, a vintage-style microphone and a pair of headphones show her love for producing.

Her studio, "Guffy Cam Studios," is a space she built from the ground up in the basement of her childhood home.

"I didn't want these musicians to have headphones because these guys aren't used to being in a studio, they're used

Johnson will also work at the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra as they and Frzy perform his newly released album "Success" on Nov. 8 at Heinz Hall.

She said that the show would be recorded and considered for a Grammy. If won, all students who participated would get credit for their work.

One of those students in the recordings, Abigail Hill, said recording the songs was "very different than anything that I'd ever done before" and that it was "really fun to explore different genres."

"I'm really excited to hear the album now that all the other elements have been added," Hill said.

Another student featured, Alexander Hladio said he enjoyed working with Frzy who had a "clear vision of how he wanted the music to sound."

"He stayed open to new ideas; though there was lots of back and forth discussion and I think our best cuts came from experimentation stemming from this discussion," Hladio said. "He was blown away when we came up with new harmonies on the spot."

The albums "Success" and "Popularity" are opposites of one another. Johnson said, "It's a back and forth between popularity and success."

"They tell different sides of what's more important to an artist, being commercially popular or being successful," Johnson said.

"Feeling successful versus having fake followers."

Johnson feels that she is successful in her work.

Her advice for students looking to get into the producing world is to get the most out of every experience.

"The way I've found the success that I have is by not being afraid to proudly wear that you want it," Johnson said. "It's owning whatever aspect of you is unique to you."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DANNON JOHNSON  
Pictured (from top left, clockwise) is Kyle Stiver, Nicole Buckland, Matthew Guadagnino, Abigail Hill, Miah Sirianni, Anna Hladio, Alexander Hladio, Tristan Mukherjee, Dannon Johnson and Frzy.

The name comes as a tribute to her father, who owned a business in their garage. He installed a camera overlooking their driveway and their street, Guffey Road, that ran to a TV to see incoming packages. Although he spelled the street wrong, Johnson named the space how he spelled it.

The one-night recording for Frzy's album required Johnson to make the 6 person choir sound larger. However, bringing them into a studio with headphones wasn't an option.

to being in a choir," Johnson said. "I'm a big proponent of whatever makes them comfortable will give me a better product than me doing whatever else."

So, Johnson decided to arrange them in an arc style at the PNC Recital Hall and then stacked the recordings on top of one another for the illusion of more singers. She thought the work turned out great.

"I was proud of myself for finagling that one I had some doubts from a couple of people that it wasn't going to come out as cleanly as it did," Johnson said.



Frzy has worked with Dannon Johnson before on a couple of projects including a Nickelodeon commercial. Johnson said he has "taken me under his wing."



Dannon Johnson has been running her studio since she was 14 years old. The name "Guffy Cam Studios" is a tribute to her late father.



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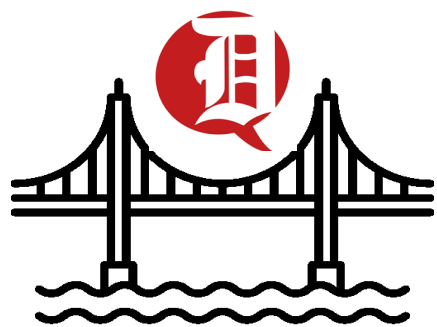


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