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Duq student wins local case competition

MEGAN TROTTER
news editor

Law student, Joshua Kirkpatrick didn't even remember signing up for the Allegheny County Department of Human Services week-long Local Government Case Competition. However, that did not stop him from walking away with over \$1,100 in cash prizes.

The annual event ran Nov. 6-11 at the DHS Area Agency on Aging building.

Started in 2007, the competition attracts students from all over the Greater Pittsburgh Area. With around 50 students participating, each enrolled in graduate programs such as public policy, social work, business and law, the competition was an intense few days.

The competition kicked off on Monday as participants were introduced to their teammates and the topic for their case challenge. Students from different universities and backgrounds were put together to create an executive summary on how to combat involuntary commitment due to mental health crisis.

Project manager for Justice Collaborations at DHS, Kate Vander Wiede, said that it was her first year running the event.

"We had a committee that helped think through some ideas and then this is just a topic that we released a report on," Vander Wiede said. "It's just been something that we've been focusing on internally at DHS. So there was interest in presenting the challenge out and getting some innovative and fresh ideas for what could be done."

A total of 16 teams competed during the first few days of the event, but as the week progressed, the number of teams dwindled as students were eliminated.

On Thursday, six teams of finalists showed up to make their closing presentations. In the mix, there was only one Duquesne student who made it — law student Joshua Kirkpatrick.

"I actually forgot that I even signed up for this," Kirkpatrick said. "I honestly only got involved because I thought that personally, it would be something fun to do, and while it was, it definitely was a bit more of a challenge."

see LOCAL—page 3

THE DUQUESNE DUKE

Proudly Serving Our Campus Since 1925

Photo Story Inside: Duq Annual Light Up Night



DYLAN FISTER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

President Ken Gormley invited helpers to join him in flipping the ceremonial switch to turn on all the holiday lights across campus and Academic Walk. Students and faculty cheered as the lights made their first appearance this season before making their way to the Union Ballroom for a holiday feast. See page 3 for more.

Duq Thanksgiving dinner celebrates culture

KAITLYN HUGHES
staff writer

With an international student population of at least 500 students from 85 different countries, Duquesne held the Interreligious and Intercultural Thanksgiving in the Union ballroom on Monday night.

The event was co-hosted by the Consortium for Interreligious Dialogue, the Spiritan Campus Ministry and the Center for Global Engagement.

This dinner welcomed students to learn and share about different Thanksgiving traditions and cultures from around the world. Throughout the night, students engaged in conversation and listened to a multitude of presentations about interreligious communication.

The program was originally started in 2018 by the late Marinus Iwuchukwu, who was killed in his home this past January.

Co-leader of the Consortium for Interreligious Dialogue, Thérèse Bonin, said the goal of this group is to continue Iwuchukwu's mission of encouraging students to value diversity in a world where conflict is constant-

ly arising. They plan to release 11 chapters he wrote for his manuscript on Christian-Muslim dialogue in the near future.

Bonin expressed how this event was meant to increase understanding and appreciation for new

among those of different religions and cultures, in the hope that healthy, peaceful and mutually enriching interactions will result," Bonin said.

Information was presented about Catholic traditions, His-

community.

During the speeches, students indulged in Mediterranean chicken, beef curry, mashed potatoes, white rice, vegan vegetable curry and stir fry. The dinner was made to accommodate a variety of dietary restrictions.

The event welcomed anyone at Duquesne, but it was seen to be particularly beneficial for students who are not originally from the United States. During the meal, students reflected on the importance of learning about others and sharing where they came from.

"I am sure that especially for international students, they can feel very isolated when they first arrive here," Bonin said. "Anything we can do to make them feel welcome and as if they are a community here, we are glad to do."

International student Duaa Alzahrani is pursuing her Ph.D. in behavioral analysis. Alzahrani is not originally from the United States, but she has attended other American schools prior to coming to Duquesne. Duquesne has been the most progressive school in trying to include people of all cultures and religions she said.

see DINNER—page 2



BRENTARO YAMANE | MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Students gathered for Thanksgiving dishes from all cultures.

ideas through the perspective of our own faith and culture.

"These dinners are meant to promote mutual understanding

panic Thanksgiving culture, celebrations in a Christian-Nigerian family, Muslim holidays and foods special to the Jewish

Thanksgiving dinner reflects the holiday traditions of all cultures

from DINNER— page 1

A student from Brazil, Deva Gomes, expressed how she and other international students agreed that these events are viewed as necessary in developing relationships.

"You really feel alone when you come here, so it is important to have a connection with people who are in the same boat as you," Gomes said. "It is important to have these events, so we can all connect with each other."

This event not only provided a sense of community, but gave students the ability to share their own interpretations of Thanksgiving. Presenter and member of SACNAS, Alexa Gonzalez, was excited to provide insight on her Hispanic heritage.

"It is really fun to have the opportunity to talk about how we have adapted to American culture," Gonzalez said.

Even though Thanksgiving is seen as an American holiday, many countries have modified it

to meet the standards of their own traditions. Coming from Puerto Rico, Gonzalez said that Hispanic people add their own personalities to spice up traditional Thanksgiving celebrations.

Through her time of being a member of SACNAS, Gonzalez has recognized why it is crucial to be educated about different cultures.

"You can't fully connect with someone unless you understand where they come from," Gonzalez said. "We have presentations from people all over, and I think that is really important."

Co-leader of the Consortium for Interreligious Dialogue, James Swindal, said, apart from gaining initial exposure with other cultures, there is great importance in embodying the education of different cultures into our everyday lives, as well as owning our own culture.

"Own your own culture and your own faith," said Swindal. "You have to own your own identity before you can really gift other people with sharing



BRENTARO YAMANE | MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Hosted by many organizations on campus, attendees remembered the late Marinus Iwuchukwu, during the holiday dinner.

your identity."

Student Lydia Dennis elaborated on Swindal's idea and said she appreciates diversity in her day-to-day life and welcomes Duquesne's inclusion for all ethnicities.

"I think that one thing that Duquesne is great at is that we do have Iftars and we do have the menorah outside," said Dennis. "Even though it's a Catholic school, they still celebrate those different religions."

"Just in case," Duquesne offers Narcan tutorial

NAOMI GIRON
staff writer

Duquesne hosted an event for overdose awareness on Tuesday, complete with a souvenir of free Narcan, otherwise known as naloxone.

This presentation came at the right time, as opioid overdoses in America have been on a steady in-

cline since 2018, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

Speakers at the event included members of Helping to Educate and Rehabilitate Together (HEART), as well as DU Cares representative Daniel Gittins and Duquesne pharmacy assistant professor Robert Laux.

The main presentation was led by two Office of Residence Life of-

ficials Grace Scanlon and Madison Grube, and it gave step-by-step instructions on how to help a person overdosing on opioids.

First, the signs of an overdosing patient are shown in a number of symptoms such as slowed breathing, blue fingertips and what may look like falling asleep.

After the descriptions of what overdoses can look like, the speakers offered Amazon gift cards as prizes, and a Kahoot at the end to see how much everyone learned with prizes for top point-scorers.

Naloxone is a drug specifically designed for opioid overdoses, with an easy-to-administer nasal spray with no capacity to abuse the drug. There are also instructions right on the box, but the three P's are easy to remember: Peel, place and press.

Scanlon and Grube said how no one can give Narcan to themselves, so it was heartwarming to see so many people on campus caring about the health of others.

"If just one person helps someone using naloxone, even if it's not from us, that would be pretty cool," Scanlon said.

According to Laux and Gittins, opioids attach to a certain center in the brain, but naloxone interrupts this attachment. The effects of naloxone are stronger than opioids for 30 to 90 minutes, and they take the overdose victim out of their high completely. During this distress, which begins almost immediately, it is important to give the patient their space while trying to reassure them and make the individual aware that they were given naloxone.

Pittsburgh has a large history of

overdoses, and Laux and Gittins agreed it has been a problem in increasingly worse and new ways. First, it was an abuse of heroin and morphine. Then, once Purdue Pharma introduced opium and falsely advertised it as a nonaddictive opioid, there was a noticeable spike in overdoses. Now, fentanyl is the newest dangerous drug and has been found to be easily laced in any type of drug.

Gittins said that he believes students should be armed with Narcan when they go out on the weekends because bars and parties are where overdoses are most likely to occur.

"Be aware, be educated," Laux said.

Gittins echoed the sentiment and said they have seen too many young people die.

They agreed everybody should become familiar with naloxone, even if they don't know any addicts.

As of 2015, naloxone can be given to people without a prescription, and it is free when received directly from a pharmacist, said the pharmacist students representing HEART at the presentation.

Along with this, there has been implementation of the Good Samaritan Act, which gives a person who administered naloxone legal protection from prosecution or charges for drug-related crimes.

The group encouraged students to find more information and become naloxone certified by visiting <https://www.train.org/main/welcome>.

"Regardless of who you are or what medications you take, it's always good to have naloxone," said Emily Curtin, a member of HEART.



MARY GENRICH | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Resident assistant Grace Scanlon informs students on the dangers of addiction and how Narcan can save someone who is overdosing.

POLICE BRIEFS

Wednesday, Nov. 8-

Student reported she hit a vehicle while backing out. Victim was a student as well. Both vehicles were driveable.

Saturday, Nov. 11-

Student reported vehicle hitting another vehicle on Sietz Street.

Saturday, Nov. 11-

Officers responded to report of resident assistant confiscating marijuana. A non-traffic citation was issued to owner of marijuana.

Sunday, Nov. 12-

Officers responded to report intoxicated unaffiliated male geust acting disorderly at Towers. The male was passed out and transported to UPMC hospital. He was issued a citation for underage drinking and a defiant trespass warning.

Sunday, Nov. 12-

A Resident Director found marijuana and paraphernalia in Duquesne Towers on C-side. It was turned over to campus police.

Sunday, Nov. 12-

The glass door at the 6th floor stairwell of Forbes Garage was found shattered.

Sunday, Nov. 12-

Resident student reported that she left her purse behind The Incline Eatery. When returned by an employee, \$70 was missing.

Monday, Nov. 13-

PNC Bank Physical Security services contacted Duquesne police about a student who damaged their ATM in Forbes Garage. The student was identified and the investigation is ongoing.

Tuesday, Nov. 14-

A garage officer reported finding graffiti written on the wall in Locust Garage.

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

Its that time of the season again!

3

Local event awards \$3,500

from LOCAL— page 1

Panther Hollow, Kirkpatrick's group's team name, created the "ACCISS2 Mental Health Program." The group's summary document addressed the lack of ongoing support directed at immigrants and refugees despite their tendency to face serious challenges, such as leaving their home country, that negatively impact their mental health.

In addition to Kirkpatrick, Panther Hollow consisted of two other graduate students: Aakriti Kumar, a University of Pittsburgh master's student in Public and International Affairs, with a Human Security major and a Security and Intelligence Studies minor, and Eder Hernandez, who is attending Carnegie Mellon University for Public Policy & Management.

ACCISS2 stands for "Allegheny County Continuous Immigrant Support Services," and took a look at Allegheny's foreign-born population, cultural stigmas surrounding seeking treatment and the lack of linguistic preferences needed to service individuals speaking 32+ different languages aside from English.

"We wanted to have a specific approach, we didn't just want to try and figure out a solution that could be generally applied," Kirkpatrick said. "So we decided to focus on immigrants in Allegheny County...they oftentimes just don't utilize mental health services. We wanted to basically take a community approach to the problem and try to eliminate [the] stigma around mental health treatment and the distrust that exists between immigrant communities and the mental health professionals there to help them."

From 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., finalists took turns presenting their proposals to a panel of judges.

Vander Wiede said that each judge at the competition had agreed to attend the event as a volunteer.

"We wanted people to be representing different sectors," Vander Wiede said.

After a rough hour of deliberation, it was announced that team Panther Hollow had won.

The judges felt that Panther Hollow's presentation was a highly rational intervention and had a very clear problem statement. Their presentation accurately detailed the stigma the immigrant population faces and considered issues with stigma throughout their entire program design.

Individually, each group member put roughly 24 hours worth of work, Zoom and in-person, into their presentation and left with over \$1,100 in prize money.

Panther Hollow took photos with the ceremonial big check. Kirkpatrick was ecstatic to find out he could take the big check, the physical representation of his win, home.

"I am so so pumped," he said.

Despite describing the week-long event as "hectic," Kirkpatrick felt the work had paid off and shared what he planned to do with the money.

"I'm gonna spend it. Probably living it up a little bit," he said.



President Ken Gormley got extra love at the live nativity during Light Up Night. Faculty and staff brought their families to the festivities and enjoyed a Christmas dinner in the Union Ballroom after lighting up the campus.



Near the Union stands a large lit up nativity scene. Even in the dark of daylight-savings time, campus is still bright.

PHOTOS BY AVA RIEGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Maura Riscavage, Sophie Waibel, Maddie Sweeney and Leah Bennett made reindeer hats at Santa's workshop in the Africa Room.



Members of Duquesne's choir sang Christmas carols as students and faculty gathered to celebrate the Student Government Association's annual Night of Lights. Cookies, hot chocolate and apple cider kept viewers warm on the chilly November evening.



Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus (who kept their true identities secret to maintain holiday magic for Night of Lights) celebrated with students, faculty and their families with photo booth stationed on the second floor of the Union.



The live nativity stole participants' hearts. A baby camel, calves and goats enjoyed pets and pictures with students and staff.

Princeton hands Dukes first loss of year

SPENCER THOMAS
sports editor

Princeton pounced on Wednesday night, using timely shooting and stiff defense to hand Duquesne its first loss of the season, 70-67. The thrilling affair came down to the final shot, but the Dukes weren't able to sink a contested close-range shot, and Princeton survived to move to 3-0, while Duquesne fell to 3-1.

"It does hurt. I have to be honest," said guard Kareem Rozier.

Princeton is a much smaller and more mobile team than anyone that Duquesne has faced this year. No starter stood more than 6-feet, 7-inches tall, and they stretched all around the perimeter on both sides of the ball.

"It's a tough team to play early in the year," said Head Coach Keith Dambrot. "Their tempo control, they get it in their best players' hands. They run that Princeton stuff."

It forced Duquesne's big men to be more agile and dynamic in both their rebounding and defending.

"They move you around so much that you lose sight of the ball sometimes, and if you don't guard the ball well, there's not as much help," Dambrot said. "We didn't have great energy."

It didn't help that some of Duquesne's most athletic forwards weren't available. Tre Williams remains out with a dislocated thumb that should sideline him for several more games. Fousseyne Drame was limited due to some early foul trouble.

"We have enough guys," Dambrot said. "I would say it didn't affect us, but it did."

Duquesne also suffered from a sloppy start when adjusting to the Tigers' distinct play style. They were hampered by seven turnovers and temporarily lost Jimmy Clark and Drame to minor injuries in the first 10 minutes.

Despite their lack of size, Princeton did a fantastic job managing Duquesne's big men in the paint. They pushed very

far outside and simply would not allow the Dukes to possess near the rim. Either through dribbling or passing, they willed the ball to low-percentage shooting areas that left Duquesne with bad shots.

"They walled us up down low," Rozier said. "We've just got to do better in that area. Be ready to shoot the ball when we come out."

That meant that, at points, the game felt like a shooting contest, and the winner would be determined by whomever con-



AVA RIEGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Kareem Rozier expressed confidence in his ability to lead the team back from their first de-

tested the other team's jump shots better. If long range wasn't falling for Duquesne, they were in deep trouble. It was a bad night for Duquesne's core guards to shoot a season-low 28% from beyond the arc. Only one player on the entire team made multiple 3-pointers. It was Jimmy Clark, with two.

"Lost by [3], with a shot to win, and we shot bad," Rozier said. "We'll be alright."

"It just wasn't our night tonight, but that's okay," he said.

The deficit reached a low point of 9 in

the second half, but Duquesne was let back into the game by an increasing trend: Princeton's fouls. Even when the field goals weren't falling, Duquesne kept getting to the line. Eleven second-half free-throws let Duquesne back in the game.

Duquesne also generally lacked the high-power scoring runs they enjoyed in the first three games of the season. Any time it felt like the Dukes had some momentum, one of Princeton's shooters would bang in a corner three. No span of time felt like it spelled doom, but rather the accumulation of small moments. Duquesne was also held scoreless for a 5:07 span in the second half, the second time the offense had dried up during that window. By the end of the game, Duquesne had been outshot from the field by a 10% margin.

It was a bitter loss for Duquesne but seemed less like a problem with the talent on the floor than its ability to cope with Princeton's game. The Tigers relentlessly imposed their will from beginning to end.

The final minutes were as tight as could be, though Princeton never lost their lead.

Dae Dae Grant hit a pair of free throws to bring the Dukes within one. They got a defensive stop and had a possession with 43 seconds left. However, Grant was stripped. Rozier nearly stole it right back, but after a dog pile on the loose ball, the possession arrow went the Tigers' way. Duquesne got another stop, without even needing to foul. Out of timeouts with 10 seconds left, they rushed up the court. Drame drove in but barely missed his game-winning attempt with less than half a second left.

Dambrot was questioned after the game about his decision to burn his final timeout on the penultimate possession, which allowed Princeton's defense to get set. In all his wisdom, the 65-year-old knows better than to second guess himself.

"I've got my big-boy pants on, I think I can take anything anybody can throw at me,"

Dambrot said. "I don't think you can get any better than a 2-foot jumper in the paint. I'll take that every damn day of the week."

Another reason Rozier said the loss stings is the energy of the crowd and the opportunity the game presented to build real momentum in the fanbase. Over 2,877 fans packed Cooper Fieldhouse. After "Renegade" by Styx played on the loud-speaker, and Princeton suffered a shot clock violation on their first possession, the arena felt as loud as it's ever been.

"We had a live crowd tonight," Rozier said. "But if they're really fans, they'll be back. And we will bounce back, and we'll keep fighting."

However, Rozier sees the loss as an opportunity to learn.

"It's building us for when we get to the A-10 Championship. It's building us for when we get to the tournament," he said. "I truly believe this is the team that will be able to do it."

It'll be another quick turnaround for the Dukes, as they host Rider on Friday night at 7.



AVA RIEGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Dae Dae Grant follows through on a 3-point attempt. He went 1-for-7 from long range.

WBB takes back-to-back wins on the road

SEAN MCKEAN
staff writer

After a loss to begin the season, the Duquesne women's basketball team took two away victories against Niagara and Howard.

The game against the Niagara Purple Eagles proved to be a nail-biter, as both teams fiercely vied for control throughout the game.

The Dukes' offensive abilities were on full display, led by the standout performances of Tess Myers, Megan McConnell and Amaya Hamilton. Myers led the scoring charge with 17 points, showcasing her scoring versatility from inside the paint and at the 3-point-line. McConnell wasn't far behind, contributing 16 crucial points, while Hamilton added 11 to the tally.

The game was a testament to the Dukes' tenacity as they navigated the challenges posed by a fierce Purple Eagles squad led by Destiny Strother with a game-high 23 points, with Char-donnay Hartley not far behind with 21.

However, tight defense, strategic plays and effective teamwork were the hallmarks of the Dukes' performance. The team's ability to

maintain composure in critical moments – especially in a close fourth quarter – allowed them to secure their first win of the season in a hard-fought battle.

Building on the momentum from their victory over Niagara, the Dukes faced another tough opponent in the Howard Bisons. The game unfolded as a closely contested affair for the first three quarters, with both teams refusing to give the other control. However, it was in the fourth quarter that the Dukes showcased their dominance, outscoring Howard 17 to 7 and clinching a well-deserved victory.

Nae Bernard emerged as a standout performer in the game against Howard, leading the scoring charts with an impressive 18 points. Bernard's ability to deliver when the pressure was at its peak underscored her importance to the team.

Hamilton, consistent in her contributions, added 12 points, while Precious Johnson's 11 points further solidified the Dukes' offensive prowess.

However, the Bisons had great assets of their own as well. Iyanna Warren and Tyana Walker

each contributed 11 points for the Washington D.C. outfit, with Nile Miller not far behind with 10.

The fourth quarter surge not only highlighted the Dukes' physical conditioning but also their mental resilience and strategy. Their ability to

show smart decision making in the dying moments of the game will be a good thing to carry forward.

The team will finally debut on home hardwood when they take on the University of Pittsburgh on Saturday.



MARY GENRICH | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Senior guard/forward Amaya Hamilton tallied double-digits in both of Duquesne's victories last week.

Dukes falls into winner-take-all game

AIDAN WIESS
staff writer

Duquesne fell to Stonehill, 33-28, in a thriller Saturday afternoon, failing to clinch the Northeast Conference, and setting up a de facto conference title game against Merrimack.

“The Dukes did not play our best football game,” said Head Coach Jerry Schmitt. “We probably made more mistakes than we have in a long time.”

Schmitt’s squad nearly staged a miracle comeback but was simply unable to overcome a nightmarish start. Stonehill’s game-winning touchdown in the final minute means Duquesne still has work to do for their first playoff appearance since 2018.

After receiving the opening kickoff, the Skyhawks immediately went to work, with running back Jermaine Corbett gashing the defense for several long gains. However, the Dukes tightened and forced a field goal.

Getting the ball facing an immediate deficit, the Dukes made the first of several crucial mistakes when quarterback Darius Perrantes muffed the exchange to his running back and fumbled. The Skyhawks recovered and scored a touchdown three plays later, giving themselves a 10-0 lead.

On the very next Duquesne play, running back Edward Robinson was hit and lost the football, and Stonehill linebacker Justin Waters brought it back for a touchdown giving his team a 17-0 lead before the halfway point of the first quarter.

The Duquesne offense desperately needed a response, and they had one. Keshawn Brown brought the kick return to the Duquesne 40, Perrantes hooked up with Tedy Afful for a big third-down conversion, and Jamario Clements punched it in from 2 yards out.

Stonehill drove down the field and got another field goal, and Duquesne was forced into rough field position in the middle of second quarter. Enter Keshawn Brown, who caught a short slant from Perrantes and beat the entire defense down the sideline for an 89-yard touchdown making it a 20-14 game and giving the home crowd life for the first time.

The Duquesne offense wasted no time. On third-and-7, Perrantes found daylight on a scramble and bolted down the right sideline for a 34-yard touchdown. After being down 17-0 to start the game, the Dukes led 21-20 at halftime.

The second half started slowly, but Stonehill’s sloppiness again got the best of them. On a fourth-and-1 in Duquesne territory, the Skyhawks ran a wildcat formation for Corbett, who had been gashing the Dukes all game. However, Corbett fumbled while attempting to gain the yardage and took his anger out on the officials. He was ejected, costing Stonehill a key player and seemingly giving the Duquesne defense a break.

However, the Stonehill offense did not skip a beat. After the Duquesne offense lost the ball on downs, the Skyhawk backup running back, Zavion Woodard, came in and continued to pound the rock. He punched it in from a yard out to give Stonehill a 27-21 lead.

From here, the Duquesne offense got tantalizingly close to the end zone on back-to-back drives. On the first drive, a big Joey Isabella catch had the Dukes on the Stonehill 7. However, Perrantes threw a pass that got batted in the air at the line and intercepted.

After another Stonehill punt, Duquesne marched down the field with some big throws from Perrantes, and Edward Robinson scored from the 2 to give Duquesne a 28-27 lead. It seemed the game would come down to a Stone-

hill drive.

Things did not get off to a good start for Duquesne, as the kickoff was a baffling pooch kick that Stonehill fielded at the 35 that got their drive started with great field position. From there, a 29-yard-completion to tight end Noah Canty put the Skyhawks in field-goal range. Chris Domerant scored on an end-around to give Stonehill the 33-28 lead with 50 seconds left.

It seemed like Duquesne allowed the touchdown to leave themselves some time, but that was not the case.

“We were trying to stop them,” defensive end Ryan Lopez said. “A couple of guys knew jet sweep was coming. We were yelling out on the field, but the play we were in made us go inside. We tried to adjust to it last second but we couldn’t.”

Perrantes had time for a pair of last-gasp passes, but Stonehill cornerback Jahnez Williams made the play of the game, leaping up and scraping a fingertip on the throw, forcing an incompletion. Perrantes’ final pass was about five yards out of bounds in the end zone, and Stonehill celebrated their second win in a row over the Dukes.

Perrantes was plagued by incompletions all afternoon. He finished nine-for-25 passing, with a pair of interceptions. However, his gross production was still impressive. His 298 total yards meant that he averaged 33.1 yards per completion. For this performance, he was still tabbed as an NEC Prime Performer.

“The ball didn’t come out with the crispness that it does when he’s going down the field,” Schmitt said. “There are a few things I know he would have liked to have back.”

Early in the second half, a big play occurred that would affect the Dukes the rest of the game. While scrambling, Perrantes was hit by a Stonehill play and pulled up gimpy. Although he

stayed in the game, it was a struggle the rest of the way. Offensive tackle Tommy Brandt struck a similar tone to Coach Schmitt, and was confident in his quarterback.

“He’s a tough [guy], so I wouldn’t be surprised if he’s ready to go next week,” Brandt said.

Schmitt was disappointed but optimistic about next week’s affair against Merrimack.

“It would be huge for us to overcome this adversity. Major disappointment obviously, so I told [the team] we own this,” he said. “In 24 hours, we’re going to get back to work and play our last football game next week.”

“I think the biggest thing for us is going to be our short mindset,” Brandt said. “Just looking to next week, there are some things we could’ve executed better today and done better. We shot ourselves in the foot a couple times. I think the biggest thing for us is going to have to be looking forward to next week and getting to work this week and going to win that championship at Merrimack.”

Because of the loss, the Dukes will have their season on the line at Merrimack on Saturday. The Dukes lead Merrimack by one game for the top spot in the NEC standings. The winner of their game clinches the NEC championship, and an automatic bid for the FCS playoffs.



DYLAN FISTER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
It all comes down to Saturday for the Dukes.

Volleyball season ends with a dud

MICHAEL O’GRADY
staff writer

The Duquesne Volleyball team’s season came to an end last weekend with two losses to Davidson, 3-2 and 3-1.

The Dukes were in position for the Atlantic-10 Tournament entering Friday night’s game, but the loss moved them down in the standings, and the following day’s loss eliminated them.

Duquesne had started A-10 play 5-5, but since Oct. 2,0 they have won just one of their last six games, giving them a 6-10 conference record headed into the final weekend of the regular season. However, a relatively top-heavy conference allowed them to hold sixth place and the final playoff spot.

The weekend went the worst-case-scenario for the Dukes, who lost both of their Davidson games at home while another 6-10 team, Saint Louis, won both of theirs. The disappointing finish resulted in a final overall record of 11-15, albeit a fair improvement over last year’s 8-22 mark.

Friday night’s game was closer than the finale was. The first two sets were especially clean with only nine combined errors in each. Most points came off kills and aces.

Davidson opted for a hitter-by-committee approach, with four players racking over 10 during the match, while Duquesne kept feeding hitters Carsyn Henschen and Morgan Gish, who was in her penultimate college game. Both would finish with 17 kills.

Most of that production came from setter Chloe Wilmot, who had 47 of 52 Duke assists and nabbed her sixth A-10 Rookie of the Week award despite an injury.

“Chloe’s playing hurt, she has a sprained wrist and it aggravated again halfway through the match,” said Duquesne Head Coach Steve Opperman. “But she toughed it out.”

The Wildcats won the first set and were holding firm in the second, but a sudden run of attack errors tipped the scoreboard and allowed Duquesne to tie.

A pivotal third set was 15-14 Davidson when Davidson broke away by Duquesne’s inability to kill past blockers Sola Omaniye, Isabel Decker and Emma Slusser. Even so, the Dukes clawed their way back with a 5-point run before their momentum halted with another Omaniye block, and Davidson took the set by 2 points.

Duquesne forced a fifth set off 10 Wildcat errors and 12 combined kills from Gish, Henschen and Avery Hobson, but faltered there after being tied 7-7, sur-

rendering eight straight points en route to the loss.

“Could’ve been a quick night,” Opperman said, “but the nice thing about this group is that they battle. They laid it out on the floor and I thought they did a nice job getting it to five.”

The Dukes held onto hope that they could split hairs with Davidson and Saint Louis would lose, but it wasn’t meant to be. A 3-1 defeat on Duquesne’s Senior Day closed the book on both their season and the college careers of Gish and Camille Spencer.

Supported by seven blocks and their version of the committee attack Davidson had used the day before, Duquesne won the first set. Hobson would lead the team in kills on the day with 15, but three other Dukes had at least 10, and Wilmot topped off her banner rookie season with 38 assists, totaling her at 1,025.

None of that translated into another set win. Duquesne trailed the majority of the second and third sets before pushing Davidson to the brink in the fourth. Poised to force another fifth set with a 23-17 lead, everything went wrong for the Dukes from there and a 9-1 Wildcat run sealed the final. The blocking that had been in the first set was nowhere to be seen while Davidson hammered six

kills during the streak.

Duquesne returns almost all of their roster next season when they’ll look to achieve their first winning season since 2016.



MARY GENRICH | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Chloe Wilmot won a school-record six A-10 Rookie of the Week awards this season.

THE DUKESNE DUKE

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"The greatness of a man is not in

how much wealth he acquires, but

in his integrity and his ability to

affect those around him

positively."

Bob Marley

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

@TheDukesneDuke

EDITORIAL
POLICY

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

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Corrections/clarifications

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COURTESY OF WITF

With Ohio legalizing the use of recreational marijuana in last Tuesday's election, Pennsylvania and West Virginia remain the only states in the Mid-Atlantic region yet to legalize recreational marijuana.

It's 'high' time for Pennsylvania to
legalize marijuana

Let's be blunt, Pennsylvania is behind the times when it comes to marijuana.

With Ohio legalizing recreational marijuana use just last Tuesday, Pennsylvania and West Virginia remain the only states in the Mid-Atlantic region that have yet to make recreational marijuana legal.

Pennsylvania considers marijuana a Schedule 1 drug, meaning it is classified as having "No currently accepted medical use and a high potential for abuse," according to the Drug Enforcement Administration. However, this idea does not hold up to research or even Pennsylvania's own legislation.

In 2016 Pennsylvania passed legislation that legalized marijuana's medicinal use as long as you qualify for one of the 24 recognized medical conditions. As of July, there were over 942,000 registered patients in Pennsylvania's Medical Marijuana Program, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

Despite making strides in the medical field, Pennsylvania has yet to decriminalize marijuana, allowing for long lasting impacts on thousands of Pennsylvanians.

In an interview with the *Tribune-Review*, Patrick Nightingale, attorney and executive director for the Pittsburgh chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, explained how harmful a marijuana charge can be.

"The opposition pretends that being arrested, being prosecuted, placed on probation and having a criminal record is not important," Nightingale said. "It's not the most serious crime on the books, but if you get convicted you can lose professional licenses, you can lose employment, you can lose federally subsidized student loans, you can lose access to federally subsidized housing."

Abiding by the law is important, but the uprooting of life that can happen as a result of criminal charges related to marijuana does not match the severity of the crime.

Clearly the system is failing its people if a plant that can be prescribed as medicine has the power to upheave someone's life in the name of justice.

According to Pennsylvania

state law, possessing any amount of marijuana less than 30 grams is considered a misdemeanor punishable by incarceration and/or a fine. Possession of paraphernalia is also considered a misdemeanor and cultivating marijuana is a felony.

Over 13,000 arrests were made in Pennsylvania for marijuana possession in 2021, according to the Pennsylvania State Police. While this is a significant reduction from the year earlier, which reported over 20,000 arrests, these numbers highlight the need for decriminalization.

This idea has already been

has been a legal and socially accepted drug, besides a brief prohibition, since the founding of this nation. And while Pennsylvania's alcohol laws are stricter compared to other states, there are still plenty of opportunities for residents to purchase and consume booze.

In fact, alcohol arguably poses a much greater risk for harm and yet it is much more socially acceptable.

So why can't we treat marijuana the same?

Unlike other drugs, not a single death due to marijuana overdose has been reported according to the National Institute of Health.

Let me ask you this: would you rather have a parent who is an alcoholic or hooked on weed? Skunk smell and extra snacks or likely abuse?

Neither of these scenarios are ideal or healthy, but only one of these scenarios includes a legal substance- and it's not the mood-elevating one.

One might say legalization will only bring in a flood of new users, but refusing to legalize it for fear of widespread use is ridiculous and unrealistic.

This is not a new drug - legalizing it will not change people's mind on whether they want to start recklessly using a well-known substance. Let's be real, the law is not actually stopping people from using marijuana.

In fact, legalizing cannabis would allow for safer use. There would be opportunities for better education on the topic, something that could combat increased and reckless use.

Instead of people turning to a drug dealer and risk the weed being laced, faulty or contaminated by the seller, they would have a qualified expert ready to educate and sell certifiably-safe marijuana from a known source.

Not to mention the economic benefits that would be achieved by moving marijuana from an illicit market to a regulated one.

Ultimately, not only would legalization acknowledge marijuana for the medically beneficial substance that it is, but it would bring in additional advantages as well.



HANNAH PETERS

staff writer

recognized by 15 local ordinances in Pennsylvania, including Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, which have successfully passed decriminalization laws. It is still a crime, but the punishment doesn't go beyond a fine.

While these have been a step in the right direction, Pennsylvania has yet to take widespread action.

Typically, the reasoning behind criminalizing marijuana has to do with its status as a psychoactive drug and the potential threat it poses to public health.

Except this isn't the issue. The question really lies in whether or not the effects of the substance is enough to treat those who use it as criminals.

It can't be just that it's a mind-and-mood altering drug with potential dangers. Alcohol

STAFF
EDITORIALThe true meaning of the
holiday spirit

With the holiday season looming, family tensions are high and wallets are tight, but it's important to remember to be kind to retail and service workers everywhere.

Especially in the Duquesne community.

As Duquesne employees serve students with a smile and operate the complex meal swipe equivalency, staff workers ensure students are fed and have access to what they need.

For anyone that has worked in the service industry, long lines of customers can be an extremely stressful situation.

During this holiday season it's time to consider giving those who operate checkouts in markets, swipe access at Hogan and sanitation workers extra consideration as stress levels are high.

A study by Accenture's HR Services found that 66% of employees cited additional stress during the holidays due to emotional baggage, overwhelming responsibilities and financial strain.

The holiday season can be hard, it is important to keep that in mind as we navigate through the day.

Along with increased work stress, the National Alliance on Mental Health found 3 in 5 Americans feel their mental health is negatively impacted during the holidays.

From high stress to maintaining mental health, it's hard to know what others are going through and statistics show that the holidays can make work harder.

Similarly, many new employees are hired for the holiday rushes and keeping this in mind when wait times are extended is important. Waiting a little longer during holiday shopping never hurt anybody.

Offering additional grace to employees as they continue to work shifts throughout the holidays can start here on campus.

Whether it's asking how their day is going or thanking them for their continued commitment to serving students, a little extra care can go a long way.

It is easy to get lost in our world, own problems. It is easy to not think about the effects we have on people, even if the interactions are minor.

The environment provided at Duquesne is one not just of learning, but of becoming better people in general. Higher education is a privilege, and it is important to remember that in all of our interactions.

Duquesne's mission of serving God by serving others extends beyond campus.

Staff serve the students in a variety of ways and most go unnoticed. It is not hard to be polite, to clean up after oneself and to be kind to others.

This holiday season is a great way for students to serve God by recognizing and appreciating those who feed students and make sure their spaces are clean.

Debates do not sway voters, just entertain

ELIYAHU GASSON
staff writer

In the realm of politics in the United States, the spectacle of televised political debates has become a staple. The first of these debates was in 1960 when Democrat John F. Kennedy and Republican Richard M. Nixon took the stage to make their cases on CBS.

The medium supposedly offers voters a crucial glimpse into the minds and policies of potential leaders. However, with a bit of critical thinking, it becomes clear that these debates do not have as much influence on voters as we believe them to have.

Take the 2016 election, in which Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton stood as the candidates for their respective parties. Their unique personalities and controversial campaigns were new to mainstream politics. Trump's rhetoric was far cruder than the average Republican politician up to that point. Who else on the GOP primary stage would have called Ted Cruz's wife ugly on social media, or callously say this about the late Senator John McCain, a former prisoner of war: "I like people who weren't captured?"

In the case of the 2016 election cycle, having Trump on stage arguably caused terrible damage to political discourse in the U.S., not improved it.

According to a study published by the

National Bureau of Economic Research, the prevailing sentiment among voters is often that they have already made up their minds before the debates even commence.

The study found that if a person remains undecided by the time debates start, it is plausible that they were never fully committed to voting in the first place. In essence, the debates become a redundant exercise for a substantial portion of the electorate. The recent third GOP primary debate served as a

clear and effective example of this.

Despite the absence of Trump, the front-runner for the party since the beginning of the race, the remaining candidates failed to significantly alter the established order of popularity. Per the latest polling from FiveThirtyEight, the GOP candidates' standings remain relatively stable, affirming that these debates do little to sway the preconceived notions voters may already harbor.

Granted, the second GOP debate may have had some effect on the GOP primary.

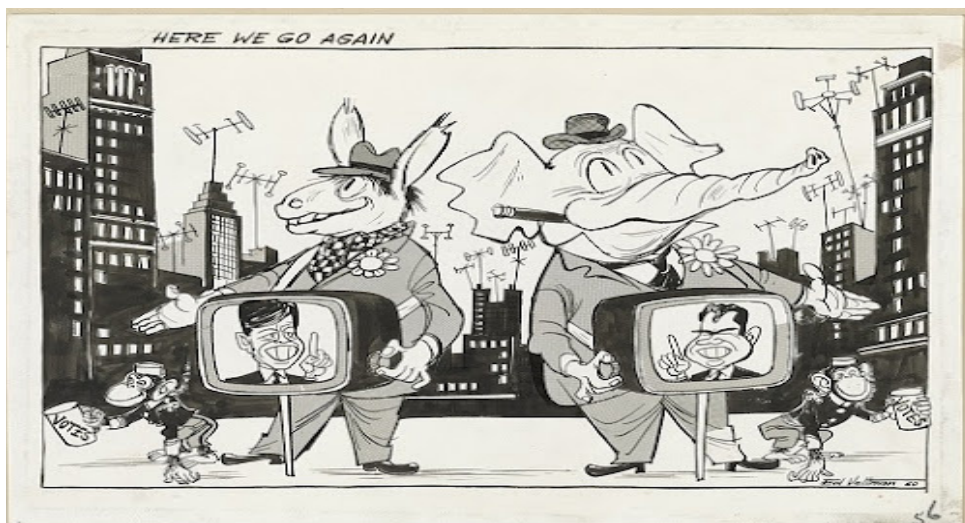
Almost a month later, former vice president Mike Pence dropped out of the race and former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley overtook Vivek Ramaswamy by 2.2 percentage points.

Televised debates are no more than UFC fights for political science enthusiasts. They act similarly to sporting events in that they are unscripted, games with referees who make sure the players stick to the rules. Does a Steelers fan decide to start rooting for the Ravens when the former loses a game to the latter? Do people who are undecided on what team they support suddenly pick a side that they stick with for the rest of the campaign when one does better than the other?

Typically, the answer to both cases is no. As we reflect on the enduring saga of televised debates in the American political arena, it's hard not to question the assumed weight we place on what are essentially rhetorical blood sports.

We've seen it in the inaugural Kennedy-Nixon showdown in 1960, the tumultuous clash between Trump and Clinton in 2016 and the anticlimactic GOP primary debates of 2023.

These spectacles have been cast as pivotal moments in the path to the presidency while critical analysis suggests that debates at best do little to change the political landscape, or at worst, lead to further deterioration of civil discourse in the realm of politics as a whole.



COURTESY OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

"Here We Go Again" by Edmund S. Valtman was published in the *Hartford Times*,

Political culture and the police state

MAX MARCELLO
staff writer

Last spring I penned a column on my visit to Washington, D.C. and compared the overreaching security apparatus to a military occupation. From the medieval walls around the Capitol to heavily armed police restricting daytime foot traffic on Pennsylvania Avenue, I left D.C. appalled, grappling with feelings of indignation at the sense of what our country has become.

What was once envisioned as the epitome of public trust, showcasing the finest aspects of the 'land of the free,' is now poised to become a glimpse into a dystopian future we are hurtling toward.

My whirlwind piece caught the attention of one of my professors, who shifted my focus from anger to inquisition.

Why was D.C. in this state, and could this become a bellwether for our country?

Addressing this question involves examining two critical factors: fear and the constitutional mandate.

Throughout American history, public fears have been used by government officials to justify otherwise unconstitutional expansion of the state's power.

The first large-scale growth of this power came during the Second Red Scare which saw American institutions rapidly construct a surveillance state in the name of safeguarding the country from a foreign ideology.

Following the Sept. 11 attacks, this surveillance state underwent a greater expansion than it had in the 1940s-50s, and it is now also computerized.

Practices such as warrantless raids, show trials and NSA mass surveillance became emblematic of the federal government's new standard operat-

ing procedures, all to protect America from threats abroad.

However, in 2023, the landscape has fundamentally shifted, with the current threat of politically-fueled violence originating from the United States itself thanks to the accessibility of online platforms that support all corners of radical, and often illegitimate, beliefs.

Since the 2000s, acceptance of political extremism has grown concerningly high. While most of this can be blamed on bad actors using the internet to spread their beliefs, we are forgetting a few critical elements, the political elite themselves.

The seeds of Jan. 6 were sown, not by Trump, but the 2008 presidential election. Birtherism, a racially-charged right-wing lie that believed former president Barack Obama was not a natural-born U.S. citizen, began to make its way through the Republican Party.

Although presidential nominee John McCain did not endorse or engage with this lie, his party would take a different approach. Some Republican voters and politicians actually convinced themselves that Obama was of foreign origin and openly questioned the legitimacy of his presidency. Although Obama would later release his birth certificate in 2011, the lie still loomed over his presidency.

Birtherism was the first large-scale smear campaign using social media to propagate misinformation for political means, setting a dangerous new precedent. It is here where we see a small subunit of the Republican party begin to exploit these tactics for control of the national conversation and electoral success. From Birtherism onward, the

line between online political discourse and real-world discourse fused into an amalgamation unlike anything in our history.

Republicans won a landslide victory in 2010, capturing control of Congress and the majority of state legislatures. This victory can partly be attributed to Birtherism. Trump himself promoted Birtherism on Twitter and during his media appearances, beginning his long-running habit of making false statements to drive political support.

During the 2016 campaign, Trump took advantage of this already-growing trust in misinformation and took part in the propagation. We can argue that without fake news spreading on Twitter, Facebook, etc., Trump may have lost his presidential bid.

After his victory, we saw fake news reach a fever pitch alongside growing rates of right-wing violence, culminating in the attack on the Capitol. The attack spurred Congressional Democrats to undertake the construction of large fences at these iconic buildings and restricting public tours.

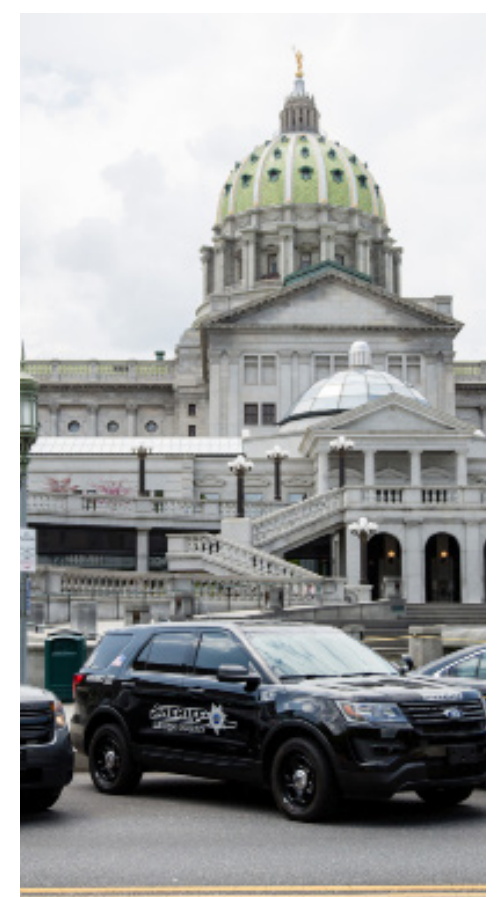
False rhetoric still remains harmful among Trump's supporters in Florida and Georgia who are making death threats toward those overseeing his criminal case. In an attempt to curb the real-world harm of these lies, Trump was subjected to a gag order which he has defied.

Today, we stand at a watershed moment in our nation's history. As our past has shown, when there is fear and violence among the citizenry, liberal democratic governments can devolve into a police state under the pretense of emergency powers.

Thankfully we are not at that point yet, giving us time to course correct.

Either we as Americans reclaim our political discourse, civilize it and think rationally, or we risk being subdued.

The choice is ultimately to be determined by Americans, and what online platforms they choose to consider as educational.



COURTESY OF THE WIKIMEDIA

Birtherism and misinformation is ushering a police state, argues staff writer Max Marcello

'It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood'

EMILY FRITZ
a&e editor

"I'll think of you when I'm not here, because thinking of people makes them seem near."

What better way to honor our favorite neighbor Fred Rogers than by supporting the 23rd Annual Mister Rogers' Neighborhood Sweater Drive?

Known for his compassion, empathy and kindness, Rogers entertained children through 895 episodes of the self-titled show, "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood," from 1968 to 2001.

Since his passing in 2003, he remains an icon for the Pittsburgh community.

Now, the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh continues his loving, community-focused legacy through the sweater drive. Started in 2000 by Rogers and his wife Joanne, the event has provided more than 44,000 sweaters to veterans, children and families across the tri-state area.

"Fred and Joanne Rogers taught all of us the importance of sharing and giving, and that legacy continues to live on today," said Jane Werner, Executive Director of Children's Museum of Pittsburgh.

"We are proud to continue this annual tradition as we carry on

their mission of spreading kindness and helping those in need."

From Nov. 13 through Dec. 15, donations of new and gently-used adult and child-sized sweaters will be accepted at the museum as well as three partner locations: The Oaklander Hotel, YogaSix South Hills and Club Pilates South Hills.

"We are grateful for the opportunity to partner with the Children's Museum and support families in need," Krissy Danburg, Studio Owner of YogaSix South Hills, told Channel 11 News.

"Last year, we collected over 240 sweaters, nearly twice as many as the year prior, which was incredible. It's important to us that we are more than just a yoga studio, we also have a passion and a mission to give back to our community," Danburg said.

Despite Rogers' locality to Pittsburgh, the sweater drive has also taken off in other areas of the country.

Arkansas PBS has also taken to helping their neighbors.

"Fred Rogers' iconic cardigan sweater symbolizes the gentle spirit and kindness of the neighborhood," Arkansas PBS executive director and CEO Courtney Pledger told 501 LIFE.

"All of us, at some time or other, need help," Fred Rogers said.



COURTESY OF MAX PIPMAN | CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF PITTSBURGH
The sweater drive has already seen several donations this year, following more than 1,000 sweaters donated last year.

"And, whether we're giving or receiving a sweater, each one of us has something valuable to bring to this world."

The Children's Museum is accepting donations every day from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the front entrance. Free parking is available for drive-up contributions.

The Oaklander Hotel allows for 24-hour drive-through donations at their valet station on Bigelow Boulevard.

To receive sweaters, please contact the museum at hi@pittsburghkids.org.

The Children's Museum's permanent exhibit, "The Kindness Gallery," is inspired by Fred Rogers and animated show "Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood."

To learn more about the Mister Rogers legacy, plan your visit today at www.pittsburghkids.org/visit/tickets. Admission to the museum can be purchased online for \$19.

"There are three ways to ultimate success: the first way is to be kind, the second way is to be kind, the third way is to be kind," said Rogers.

CAMPUS
EVENTS

Design Your Own Cup Night
Nov. 16 @ 5 p.m.

Design a tumbler with the Center for African Studies in the Towers MPR. First come, first serve.

12 Days of Giving
Nov. 16 to Dec. 5 @ 12 p.m.

Happy holidays! Stop by the 3rd floor of the Union to get a free treat and enter to win the prize of the day.

33rd Annual YMCA Turkey Trot
Nov. 23 @ 8 a.m.

Lace up your sneakers and make a difference this Thanksgiving! Save 20% on your registration with code: **2023CAMPUSTT**. The event helps to address food insecurity in the Pittsburgh region.

Christmas Candle Fundraiser
Nov. 28 @ 10 a.m.

Phi Sigma Lambda is hosting in the 3rd floor of the Union. Proceeds go to the PA Innocence Project which exonerates the wrongly convicted.

EMILY'S
EPIPHANIES

Holiday Heartaches

Thanksgiving break is finally here. Whether you are staying on campus, headed home for the holiday or spending the week with trusted friends, my wish for you is that you are able to find peace in your time off and thanks in your blessings.

While it may not be a true Thanksgiving without some sort of family feud or political debate at the dinner table, I recognize that some of us may not have the opportunity to share in the fellowship of the occasion.

There are many circumstances that may prevent you from the nuclear version of the holiday, but whatever your celebration looks like, please remember that it is most important to spend time checking in and caring for yourself.

If you're excited, I'm excited for you. If you're feeling alone, I hope you find someone trusted to lean on. For what it's worth, I am thankful for you.

— Emily Fritz

MISTER ROGERS' NEIGHBORHOOD®

SWEATER DRIVE

COURTESY OF MAX PIPMAN | CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF PITTSBURGH

Collected sweaters will be distributed to nonprofit agencies that work with families and children throughout the region.

| | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| Aquarius ♒ Who hurt you? And why do I know that it was Michigan? | Pisces ♓ There is confidential confetti in the trash can. | Aries ♈ It's not easy having a good time. | Taurus ♉ She broke her back lol. That kills people. Oh, sorry. |
| Gemini ♊ You're worth more than cold ravioli. | Cancer ♋ Hello, my name is eggs. | Leo ♌ You don't tell a pie when it's done, it tells you. | Virgo ♍ Exploding outwardly in a frenzy of sauce, cheese and noodles. |
| Libra ♎ Sorry, I don't listen to Thrasher. | Scorpio ♏ Water boarding isn't that bad. You know you're not going to die. | Sagittarius ♐ What if I went extinct? | Capricorn ♑ I will not be threatened by a walking meatloaf! |

'Priscilla' breathes new life into the Presley legacy

TRISTAN HASSEMAN
staff writer

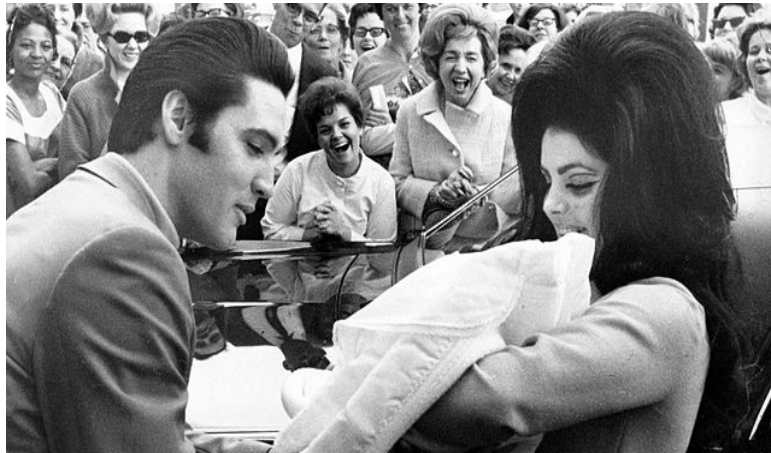
Often overshadowed by the grandeur and eventual demise of her ex-husband, Priscilla Presley has long carried on Elvis' legacy with an inspiring poise. However, the time has arrived for her perspective to be shared with the world. Based on the Presleys' autobiography "Elvis and Me," the film "Priscilla" is a poignantly honest film by acclaimed director Sofia Coppola and executively produced by Presley herself.

Opening on an Air Force base in West Germany 1959, "Priscilla" chronicles the relationship of Priscilla and Elvis Presley from the time she was a ninth-grade schoolgirl to their separation in 1973. As their relationship blossomed, a lonely girl connected with a lonely boy despite their age difference and the aggressive stardom attached to the pair. Their instant bond sparked an unparalleled story of life and love.

Caillee Spaeny effortlessly portrays Priscilla with extreme grace alongside Jacob Elordi who adds another controlling and corrosive character to his growing resume with his portrayal of Elvis Presley.

"Spaeny may be in her mid-20s, but she's impressively, and eerily, convincing in the role of adolescent Priscilla," said reporter Aisha Harris of NPR.

Spaeny's performance evolved throughout the film to reflect the couple's changing 14-year relationship with increasing depth. Elvis' slow descent into madness and addiction presented a personal perspective in "Priscilla" that was kept hidden from the general public at the time, but one that is necessary to under-



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Elvis Presley (left) and then-wife Priscilla Presley (right) were an iconic power couple of the 20th century before their divorce in 1973.

standing Priscilla's motives for parting ways.

Meanwhile, Elordi's take on Elvis Presley is more brooding and thoughtful than previous depictions, which focused more on his commercial success than his emotional unpredictability.

Peripheral prop work was an important element that allowed the film to be so personal and

attentive to detail. The watches, hair spray, curlers and perfumes that to many would seem insignificant or unnecessary are essential to understanding life in that era. Coppola captured the importance of innocence in youth and the naivety of our formative years, branded by what we wore and the things that were important

plethora of material belongings that surrounded Priscilla's character throughout the film showcased her desire for control over part of her life.

It is important to understand that "Priscilla" is not a traditional biopic but more so a film about the impact of love and its evolution over time. As the executive producer of an autobiographical movie, Presley focused on the key moments throughout her relationship that shaped her both personally and socially as a woman, a wife and a young person facing the scrutiny of the public eye.

Coppola crafted a visually stunning film that succeeded through its simplicity and attention to detail. The cool tones and pastel palette reflected Presley's mood and changing emotions. During the scenes without Elvis, the colors were bland and dark; when the superstar was in the room with Priscilla, the colors were more vibrant and exciting. The quiet beauty of the visuals reflect the natural beauty that Priscilla maintained throughout the times of comfort and chaos.

The shift in visual techniques throughout the movie brought a breath of fresh air to the often brooding plot, but it wasn't always enough to break up the slow ruts that the movie occasionally fell into.

Earlier in the year, Baz

Luhrmann directed "Elvis," a gloriously dazzling film displaying the highs and lows of stardom and fame. The complete opposite of "Priscilla," Luhrmann's film embodies the glamorous energy that "Elvis" brought to the world while "Priscilla" uncovers the sad and often unpredictable highs and lows of living with the King.

The contrast works favorably and together the films are complementary rather than conflicting. A double feature of both films should almost be required so that the audience can best understand the differing perspectives of such a scrutinized marriage.

As the movie draws to a close, Priscilla Presley realized her role as a mother is "queen," and she embraced her newfound independence. The final scene is the most touching as Priscilla left Graceland, the place she called home for ten years.

As she drove away to "I Will Always Love You" by Dolly Parton, her wistful smile and emotional eyes expressed that bittersweet feeling that occurs when one chapter of your life closes and you're faced with a fresh but uncontrollable future.

Elegant and inviting, "Priscilla" is a touching, emotional powerhouse that keeps audiences thoughtfully engaged in the history of the Presleys long after the end credits.

Deck the 'Burgh with boughs of holly-day fun this season

EMILY FRITZ
a&e editor

With Night of Lights behind us, there is only one way forward: through the holiday lights and baked sweets! Whether you're sticking around after finals or just sampling the holiday cheer between now and then, there is plenty to do around the city.

Theatre & Music

Nightmare Before Christmas

Heinz Hall is making the transition from spooky to sugarplum fairies with Danny Elfman's classic score. The Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra will play along to a live screening of the film on Nov. 16-17 at 7 p.m.

Miss Bennet:

Christmas at Pemberley

Set two years after Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice," this romance, directed by Kyle Haden, will run at City Theatre from Nov. 25 to Dec. 17.

A 1940's Radio Christmas Carol

Join the Red Masquers for their 2023 holiday production at Genesis Theater from Dec. 6 to 9. Gen-

eral admission is \$20, seniors are \$10 and student admission is \$5.

A Christmas Story: The Play

Dubbed a "laugh-a-minute" show for ages 9 to 99, this screen-to-stage adaptation is not for the "Fra-GEE-lay" at heart. Catch this classic at the O'Reilly Theater any weekend in December. Tickets start at \$35.

Holiday Lights

Phipps Conservatory Holiday Magic! Winter Flower Show

"Marvelous metallics, twinkling trees and fantastic florals" are a staple at Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens. Experience this dazzling array of frosted foliage from Nov. 15 through Jan. 9. Tickets can be purchased online at \$17.95 with a student discount.

Zoo Lights Drive-Thru

See the Pittsburgh Zoo glow with tidings of good cheer from Nov. 24 through Dec. 30. Adorned with over 150 animal lights and new displays, festive music and holiday treats, this unique opportunity to see the zoo after-hours is a must-do. The event is priced at \$45 per vehicle.

Glowland

Nestled in the heart of Oakland, this array of holiday fun lasts from Nov. 20 to Jan. 2. This year features Quebec-based art installation, EXPOSure alongside a silent disco, a drone show and a music festival.

Outdoor Activities

Ice Skating at PPG Place

Ice skating is a classic rite of passage for the winter months. Join the DU hockey team on Sunday, Dec. 3 for skating lessons and hot chocolate. The skating rink will remain open until Feb. 26, with regular pricing at \$11 for admission and \$5 for skate rental.

Holiday Lights Mini Golf

Fun Fore All Family Fun Park is hosting an interactive holiday light display until Jan. 3. Weather permitting, guests will pay \$15 to play one course or \$20 for both courses. The display has been named best holiday lights display by KDKA since 2017.

Visit a Tree Farm

Shadyside Nursery, Allison's Christmas Trees, Hozak Farms, Grupp's Christmas Trees and Pine

Hill Farms Christmas Tree Farms boast the best firs in the 'hood. Prices and sizes vary by location.

Holiday Markets

People's Gas Holiday Market

The 12th annual People's Gas Holiday Market will be available to help you finish your holiday shopping lists this season until Dec. 24 in Market Square. Donate to the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank and receive a free gift!

Handmade Arcade Holiday Market 2023

The David L. Lawrence Convention Center is hosting over 275 talented artists and crafts people at the largest holiday market of the season! From hands-on home-made activities to community art projects, Dec. 1 and 2 will include Friday night happy hour, followed by early bird shopping the next morning and general admission beginning at 11 a.m. Free timed tickets are available on Eventbrite.



EMILY FRITZ | A&E EDITOR

The Steel City will host its own "Light Up Night" on Saturday, Nov. 18. The 62nd annual celebration will mark the start of the holiday season.

oSTEM Puts on Fashion Show

ISABELLA ABBOTT
features editor

Cinderella corsets, tablecloths and cassettes walked the runway last Friday at the oSTEM club's first ever Upcycled Fashion Show.

The event featured 10 models wearing upcycled clothing pieces designed by oSTEM members.

Each model strutted out from behind a curtain across the Genesius stage and was introduced with their name and the details of their outfits.

The oSTEM (Out in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) club is new to Duquesne and aims to create community and opportunity for LGBTQ+ students in STEM.

Vice president Alanna Battle said the new club is great for queer students in science fields.

"I think it's very important to continuously make room for queer identities especially in STEM spaces," Battle said.

President Madison Fitzgerald said the show was a good way to bring awareness to the new club on campus as well.

"We didn't really have anything, especially within the school of science, for anyone in the queer community, which is problematic," Fitzgerald said.

An avid upcycler since high school Fitzgerald knew it was a necessity for the natural environment.

"Upcycling is important because it keeps a lot of clothing and textile waste out of landfills," Fitzgerald said.

Upcycling includes reusing clothes and other materials and creating something new with them. Fitzgerald sews old materials to fix old pieces or make new-looking ones.

An example of upcycling at the event was from pink pants that communications director Megan Mitchell was wearing. Fitzgerald designed Mitchell's pants

after a hole was found, which she patched up with heart patches, making the pants wearable while keeping them fashion-

garbage truck of clothes every single second, so it's important to remember that the most sustainable and affordable

tumes as a way to see the growth in previous designs.

And as a way to save money instead of buying expensive costumes.

"What I would have made in high school, my skills have improved a lot so I took the pieces that I had used before and use them as a kind of knowledge to see how much I've grown," Hufnagel said. "Upcycling really helps you see your skills over time."

Hufnagel is a grad student at Duquesne but was a member of the oSTEM club at Penn State when they were a student there.

They said Duquesne's club is more "science-themed fun" rather than only science-focused.

The three Hufnagel designs for the night included different colored corsets that they had owned in high school. One of the outfits they used was from a competition they were in 10 years ago.

Hufnagel was able to save the light blue Cinderella-style dress by cutting off the sleeves and the skirt and making it into a corset.

Someone who wore one of Taylor's outfits, Ashley Banks, said the event was a fun way to get involved with others. Her upcycled ensembles were comprised of one of Hufnagel's old blue and purple waist-length wigs, along with a flowy black skirt and long-sleeved top.

Hufnagel's own outfit was a long red cape paired with white high heeled boots, a black corset and black curly wig. Some other notable pieces of the night were a green cape, a fur coat, a gold crown and many statement jewelry pieces.

"It was nice getting to know other people in the STEM field," Banks said.

"A lot of times people think that science majors aren't very artistic, but I love art in general I love making things for people, it's a way to show people you care to do something differently."



AVA RIEGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

oSTEM club aims to create community and opportunity for LGBTQ+ students in STEM. Members of the club designed and upcycled clothes for the event Friday night.

able.

Fitzgerald's own outfit was made from an old table runner, which she made into a headband and a two-piece outfit. She also carried a purse made out of cassette tapes held together with zip ties.

The show started with a speech from Battle, who discussed the effects of textile waste.

"With the introduction of fast fashion, there have been over 92 million tons of textile waste that have been produced each year," Battle said.

"This is the equivalent to one whole

clothing that we can have is the clothing that we already own."

Battle brought up some helpful, cheap alternatives to popular fast fashion brands, like clothing swaps, to get newer or different clothes without as much waste.

One of the models and the designer of three upcycled outfits from the night, Taylor Hufnagel, said upcycling was a way to save money and reuse clothing they already owned.

Hufnagel upcycled old costumes they made in high school and treated these cos-



One of Taylor Hufnagel's designs is worn here by Marie Sullivan. Hufnagel took the light blue corset from a Cinderella-inspired outfit and made it into the piece seen here.



Taylor Hufnagel designed three outfits, including her own, for the upcycled fashion show. For each one of her outfits she used old costumes she already had.



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polene@duq.edu

THE DUKE RECOMMENDED READS

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

“Mike McDaniel needs a reboot” by Kent Babb
Washington Post

Mike McDnaiel doesn’t look or act like your average NFL coach. But the coach of the Miami Dolphins has taken the NFL by storm. From his media hijinks to his take on analytic gameplans, Kent Babb profiles the new prototype for NFL coaches.

“Allegheny County ranks among the worst nationally for lawn equipment emissions” by Andrew Cummings-
WESA

Duquesne student Andrew Cummings examines how lawn equipment can be “mass-producers of air and climate pollution.”

“How Steve Zappala was re-elected as Allegheny County DA running on the GOP ticket” by Jonathan D. Silver and Paula Reed Ward
The Tribune-Review

Duquesne adjunct professor and Duke facility advisor examines on how the lifelong registered Democrat, running on the Republican ticket, won reelection.

“Doppelganger: A Trip into the Mirror World” by Naomi Klein

Debuted at number eight on the *New York Times* best sellers list hardcover nonfiction weekly A heart-felt memoir and social critique that contrasts Naomi Klein’s worldview with Naomi Wolf’s, a writer who is often mistaken for Klein and vice versa.

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