



## SGA elect arrested for alleged assault

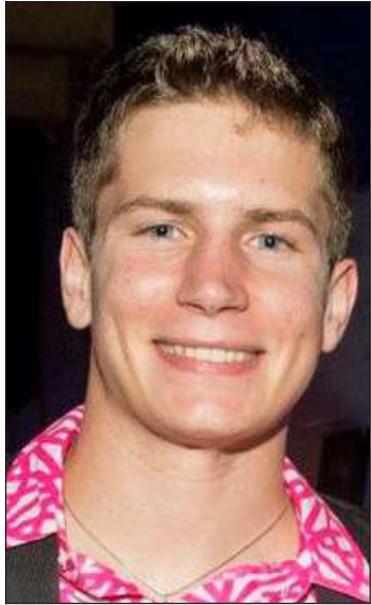


PHOTO OBTAINED FROM SOCIAL MEDIA

Stalker, the incoming SGA executive Vice President of Student Life, was arrested March 11. He faces charges of robbery, assault and escaping custody.

**BRANDON ADDEO AND RAYMOND ARKE**  
the duquesne duke

Current Student Government Association President James Daher said it is “not under [his] authority” to prevent the swearing-in of incoming SGA Executive Vice President of Student Life Kevin Stalker, although he says “there may be other university administrators” who may prevent it.

This clarified an earlier statement by Daher in which he said he would not stop the confirmation “without a court ruling.”

An anonymous SGA member said Duquesne Vice President for Student Life Douglass Frizzell and Duquesne’s Student Conduct Board are considering preventing Stalker’s confirmation, which is set to take place Sunday evening.

The source requested anonymity because no formal announcement has yet been made.

If Stalker’s nomination is withdrawn, a special election will occur

**see STALKER — page 2**

## Irish for some warm weather



LEAH DEVORAK/PHOTO EDITOR

Snow falls outside the window of an East Carson Street bar last Friday on St. Patrick’s Day as revelers sought cover indoors.

## Akinci set to become new DU health school dean

**RAYMOND ARKE**  
asst. news editor

A professional with international experience will take over as dean of Duquesne students in health sciences majors.

Last week, it was announced that Fevzi Akinci, formerly a professor and administrator at King’s College in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, will become the new dean of Rangos School of Health Sciences starting this July.

In a statement to The Duke, Akinci described his background in the field. He received his undergraduate degree in health administration from Hacettepe University in Turkey. Both his Master’s in health administration and a doctorate of health services research come from St. Louis University.

Currently, Akinci is the associate dean of the William G. McGowan School of Business at King’s College, along with being the director of and

professor in their Graduate Healthcare Administration program. He has taught there since 2012.

Before his work at King’s College, Akinci taught at Zirve University in Turkey. There he was the vice president for academic affairs and was the founding dean and professor of faculty of economics and administrative sciences.

Akinci got his start at Washington State University where he was an associate professor in the health policy and administration department and taught a variety of graduate courses in the health care fields.

He also cited his extensive background in his research field.

“[I have] an established track record in research as a Principal or Co-Principal Investigator with over \$1.6 million funded research projects,” he said in his statement.

Akinci said he is excited to start his

**see DEAN — page 3**



COURTESY OF THE OFFICE OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Fevzi Akinci, who is currently an administrator and professor at King’s College in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, will take up the new position at Duquesne on July 1.

## Grads achieve record rates

**HALLIE LAUER**  
layout editor

In the past year, Duquesne’s six-year graduation rate has gone up five percent from 72 to 77 percent, which is the highest rate ever recorded by the Office of International Research and Planning.

The rates are tracked in four, five, six and eight year rates, but six years is the standard for comparison and reporting for all four-year degree granting colleges or universities. According to the Office of Institutional Research and Planning, it is a federal requirement for institutions to keep track of their graduation rates if they want to be eligible for Title IV financial aid.

These numbers mean that of the freshman who started at Duquesne

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# Dance to raise money for pediatric cancer

LIZA ZULICK  
staff writer

Every day, 43 children are diagnosed with cancer, and twelve percent of those diagnosed do not survive, according to Cure-Search for Children's Cancer. A group at Duquesne hopes to raise money to help better those children's odds.

Four Diamonds, a charitable group which fundraises for child cancer patients, will host the second annual mini-THON at Duquesne University March 25 from 5:00 to 11:00 p.m. to raise money for children with cancer at Penn State Children's Hospital in Hershey. The event is mirrored after the annual THON event at Penn State, which also raises money for pediatric cancer.

According to the U.S. National Library of Medicine, families of children with cancer have debts between \$8,000 and \$53,000. All proceeds from the mini-THON benefit the Four Diamonds Fund. This non-profit organization helps children afflicted with cancer pay for medical bills at the Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital.

Any money left over goes to-



MAGGIE GATES/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Courtney Mickel staffs a Four Diamonds Fund table on March 21 in the Duquesne Student Union. Four Diamonds is hosting a mini THON fundraiser dance March 25.

ward extra support staff such as music therapists and on site cancer research.

Last year, 80 Duquesne students participated in the dance marathon.

"We're proud of the money we've raised so far and can't wait to see what we raise on Saturday. We're all about helping the kids," Eric Herrmann, a senior information systems management major and chair of the Four Diamonds

promotions committee, said.

According to Jamie Crain, a senior marketing major and one of the creators of the Duquesne mini-THON, not many students have an issue dancing for six hours. Students are allowed to take breaks and enjoy the food and drinks provided.

"We're not super strict on enforcement," Crain said. "In the next few years, this will be more of a goal, but for now we just

want to familiarize people with what we do."

Raffles will also take place every hour during the marathon. Gift cards, tickets to Pittsburgh events, baskets and autographs from Zach Galifianakis, actor and comedian, and the cast of "The Flash."

According to Herrmann, stretching is an important part of this marathon.

"Our goal is to have everyone dancing all night so people need to be nice and loose," she said. "Our DJ will be keeping the energy high, and we'll even have a line dance prepared that we'll be teaching all of the attendees."

Herrmann added that students should have a great time.

"If you love dancing and raising money for a great cause there is no reason you won't have a great time," he said. "Combine that with all the food we're having and that's a value you can't get anywhere else for our admission price."

A table for students to register will be available all week from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The price to join is \$10 per person or \$8 per person for a team of five or more. Participants can sign up at the door.

## BLUFF BRIEFS

### Chick-Fil-A Express coming to Options

Duquesne's dining options will be getting a big addition with a Chick-Fil-A Express opening in the Options food court in fall 2017.

The Chick-Fil-A station will offer their traditional chicken sandwich, grilled chicken, a variety of salads, waffle fries and more. There will also be lemonade and milkshakes available.

Other changes to Options include introducing a new Mexican food station. Parkhurst will be expanding the menu to include burrito bowls, burritos, tacos and salads.

## POLICE BRIEFS

Well folks, Cousin PB here with another thrilling installment of Law and Order: Duquesne Edition. And this week it's another action-packed episode.

Looks like #tbt stands for Trouble Tuesday. Last Tuesday, an administrative search of St. Ann's and found a small amount of marijuana and paraphernalia. The offending person was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Also, on Tuesday, a big ole' fashioned roundup occurred in Des Places. RAs smelled marijuana smoke while doing rounds and corralled five students and shipped 'em upriver to the Office of Student Conduct. Yeehaw! The students were referred for a small amount of marijuana, paraphernalia, and the possession of alcohol. One of the students will be issued a non-traffic citation.

Last Wednesday, a student in Towers was caught drinking underage.

That Wednesday in St. Ann's, Residence Life took marijuana-laced cookies and paraphernalia out of a student's room. The student is being referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Cousin PB loves getting baked goods, but now he can't trust what y'all offer him.

On the past Friday, a drunken Duquesne student was taken to Mercy's ER. He is being charged with underage drinking and disorderly conduct.

Saturday, another St. Ann's student was underage drinking and was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

## EMAIL TIPS

### We want your input!

The Duke's news section would love to hear from you about stories that you want to see in print. Know a talented professor or accomplished student? See something on campus that just doesn't make sense? You can send your tips and story ideas to News Editor Brandon Addeo at [addeob@duq.edu](mailto:addeob@duq.edu).

# Confirmation for SGA VP in doubt after March arrest



COURTESY OF PITTSBURGH POLICE  
Kevin Stalker, the incoming SGA officer.

### STALKER — from page 1

to fill the position, according to the SGA source.

Stalker is accused of assault, robbery and escaping police custody after an altercation on the South Side March 11, just two weeks before he is set to be confirmed by the SGA.

On March 21, Frizzell offered no comment due to the pending nature of the charges.

Stalker's preliminary hearing was originally scheduled for March 20, but a judge postponed the hearing to April 27.

Stalker ran unopposed with the Forward Party in last month's SGA election. The SGA Vice President of Student Life mediates all student concerns with the Duquesne administration, casts a tie-breaking vote in the SGA Senate and assumes "the duties of the President during the absence or incapacity of the President

or the Office of the President in the case of a vacancy within that Office," according to the SGA constitution.

According to his biography on the Forward Party's Facebook page, Stalker is a junior who is involved with campus charitable organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, Circle K and St. Vincent de Paul Society.

The post also says that as executive vice president of student life, he plans to "enhance the student body by bringing students closer together with new and exciting events on our campus [and] work closely with administrators and the Spritians."

In reference to his arrest, he made the following comment in a statement to *The Duke*: "I appreciate the support and love I have received from my Duquesne family."

On March 11, Stalker was waiting in line at the South Side bar Pregame at 1501 Sarah Street, when a Pittsburgh Police officer said he observed him take a pair of orange glasses off the head of another male in the line and put them in his own pocket, according to the criminal complaint.

Stalker and the other male "began to fight in the middle of the street" before officers intervened.

The complaint said police then told Stalker he would be detained. Eiland briefly turned away to assist an officer with another arrest. However, when he turned back the officer alleged he saw Stalker walking away from the scene.

Eiland said in the complaint that two officers observed Stalker go into a residence on South 16th Street. The officers then entered and placed Stalker under arrest.

He was detained in the Allegheny County Jail from March 12

through March 14, according to a docket sheet.

Stalker and the newly elected SGA officers are being confirmed at the March 26 SGA meeting.

Reporting from *The Duke* found Stalker was arrested twice before.

The first arrest occurred in May 2014 in Sarasota, Florida. According to an affidavit, Stalker was charged with the misdemeanor of resisting an officer without violence. The case was administratively dismissed after

Stalker paid a \$165 fine and completed 15 hours of community service, along with attending a one-day pre-trial intervention class.

In 2015, Pittsburgh police arrested Stalker for public drunkenness, of which he was found guilty in the municipal district court. However, Stalker later appealed the decision successfully and was found not guilty by the Court of Common Pleas.

Zach Landau contributed reporting.

## editor's note

After the online publication of a story on Stalker's arrest last week, many members of the Duquesne student body used social media to express their opposition. Some felt Stalker's arrest was a private matter, which should not be publicized. "[Stalker] is in college and college students make mistakes ... his mistakes deserve to be private," one comment read, while another asked, "Why would you share this?"

In light of these comments, this week's Staff Editorial (page 4) lays out the criteria *The Duke* staff uses to determine which stories are newsworthy. As highlighted in that column, one of the main criteria for newsworthiness is whether the person involved is a public figure. Stalker sought to become a public figure at Duquesne when he ran for an executive position within the Student Government Association. More than 1,000 students voted in this year's SGA elections, which means at least one sixth of the student body at Duquesne is familiar with Stalker.

The position of VP of Student Life

will put him in a place of influence and prominence on campus, and comes with many responsibilities. As a high-ranking SGA member, Stalker will also be a representative of Duquesne's students to the university administration and the world outside Duquesne.

It is my decision, and the decision of News Editor Brandon Addeo, that these facts make Stalker a public figure at Duquesne. Therefore, his conduct both on and off campus are of interest to the students of Duquesne.

That being said, Stalker has been arrested and charged. He has not been found guilty of anything, and there is every possibility that the charges will be dropped or he will be found not guilty. In that event, you can expect *The Duke* to cover this result with the same diligence, professionalism and drive with which we strive to approach every story. If you have further questions, feel free to reach out to me at [theduqduke@gmail.com](mailto:theduqduke@gmail.com). Thank you.

Kaye Burnet  
Editor-in-Chief

# Chinese dissident hosts lecture on human rights at DU

ZACHARY LANDAU  
asst. a&e editor

On March 20, Chinese lawyer and dissident Teng Biao gave a presentation on the state of civil rights in China to kick off Duquesne's involvement with the Scholars At Risk (SAR) network.

SAR, which Duquesne recently joined, is an international network of institutions and individuals whose mission it is to protect scholars and promote academic freedom, according to their website.

Biao himself relied on SAR to escape China during the recent "crackdown" of intellectuals and human rights lawyers for his work in fighting against the Chinese government.

While he has provided counsel for numerous human rights cases, Biao heavily focuses on the death penalty.

"The death penalty is required for a totalitarian system," Biao said during the presentation's Q&A section. "And the Communist Party needs the death penalty as a deterrent, as intimidation."

Biao has been a part of many movements and cofounded The China Human Rights Accountability Center and China Anti-Torture Alliance.

Unlike other dissidents, Biao has remained an outspoken critic of

the Chinese government even after leaving the country.

"Many lawyers, and many of them are my close friends, are in prison, and they suffer a lot," Biao said. "It's really my moral obligation to speak up."

"I've fought for freedom and democracy since 2003. It's my dream."

The focus of Biao's presentation was the history and current status of the human rights movement in China. He specifically called attention to practices used by the Chinese government to silence opposition, including detention centers, torture and capital punishment.

He also mentioned the different ways activists have started working to protest the government, including the rise of social media.

"In China, organizing an opposition party or a formal opposition is too dangerous. The price is too high," he said. "After the rights movement started, we used social media to develop all kinds of organizations, like New Citizens' Movement, the Southern Street Movement or the human-rights lawyers' group."

Currently, Biao is a visiting professor at New York University and is working on a book exploring his encounters with government enforcement. For example, Biao was kidnapped, detained and tortured in 2011.



TAYLOR CARR/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Teng Biao, a Chinese lawyer and political dissident, spoke at a lecture in College Hall Room 103 on March 20.

"I was forced to sit down on the floor, facing the wall and wearing handcuffs," Biao said. "And from 6 a.m. to 12 midnight. And I was forced not to move. If I moved a little bit, they'd beat me."

Biao emphasized the importance for students to pay attention to human rights in China because of its importance on the world stage.

"It's not easy to pay attention to human rights issues in other countries," Biao said. "But I hope more and more people, more and more Duquesne students, can pay attention to China and human rights."

"China is playing an important role on the international stage, and China has a lot of business in the United States."

SAR has been in operation since 1999. Its mission statement, as stated on its website, is "to protect and promote academic freedom" internationally by providing temporary positions at member universities. It also provides advice, updates and campaigns for intellectuals who are persecuted in their countries.

Clifford Bob, professor and chair of Duquesne's political science department, helped organize the event. He applauded Biao's decision to explain the struggle that Chinese human rights advocates face for speaking out against their government.

"I think a lot of us in the U.S. are not that aware of how Chinese lawyers in particular have been able to use Chinese law and the Chinese Constitution to try and fight

against the Communist Party's rule and try to help individuals who are threatened with everything from forced abortion to the death penalty to imprisonment for forming a democratic party," Bob said.

Bob echoed Biao's hopes that students will become more aware of the struggle that human rights activists face in China.

"I just generally hope that students from across the university... were able to learn about oppression of the Internet in China or the ways in which institutions we think as independent, like courts or universities, are very much controlled by the Chinese government," he said.

Bob also expresses hope that students will get involved advocating for at-risk scholars.

"There are varieties of ways one can get involved with [SAR]," he said. "One of them that you can do is to become part of these action campaigns, where there are lists of scholars, and whole countries [where scholars are targeted]."

Bob detailed a way that students can make their voices heard in support of the persecuted scholars.

"And you can send out messages and letters to the leaders of these countries as well as heads of the State Department here in the U.S. to help [scholars] get out of the situations they are in, often in jail or being persecuted or detained."

## Duquesne sets record graduation rates

GRADS — from page 1

in 2010, 77 percent of them had graduated by May of 2016.

"That means we've got a really strong university," said J.D. Douglas, director of retention and advisement. "When you look at national averages for private schools, it is 62.5 percent, so you can see we're well above that."

The National Center for Education Statistics reports the national average to be 58 percent at public institutions and 62.5 percent at private institutions.

"The statistics are important and outside entities look at these key performances because it's a measure of how well [the university] is doing," said Paul-James Cukkanna, vice president for enrollment management. "It means we are enrolling the correct students and we are supporting them."

Five years ago, the university put a campus wide retention committee in action in order to further help provide service to students.

"We've really worked hard in identifying key players that can make a difference and oriented to student success," Douglas said. "Everybody that comes to the table that talks about ways we can use the informational we're getting from students."

Showing students about resources they may have not pre-



LEAH DEVORAK/PHOTO EDITOR

A photo of the Duquesne University administration building also known as Old Main. Duquesne has set a record six-year graduation rate at 77 percent for 2016.

viously known about is another way the retention committee helps students.

"When we see that a student is not attending class, cannot pay their balance, we intervene and we try to help that student and see how we can assist them to be successful," Douglas said. "Part of

it is early identification of at risk students. We have tools in place to proactively identify students and intervene to help them."

The University of Pittsburgh has a graduation rate of 82 percent while Carnegie Mellon has one of 72 percent, according to statistics from the two schools.

## Health sciences school to get new dean

DEAN — from page 1

new position, and he hopes to help advance the Rangos School.

"I look forward to leading the John G. Rangos, Sr. School of Health Sciences to become one of the top Catholic health sciences schools both nationally and internationally," he said.

Akinci said he looks to make the Rangos school more interconnected with other programs at Duquesne and within the community.

"[My] key priorities include collaborative interdisciplinary research between departments, other colleges, Nursing, Pharmacy, Business, etc. as well as with other leading research universities ... [and] developing collaborative outreach [and] public engagement programs to highlight faculty and student success," he said.

President Ken Gormley said the search for the new dean was an important one that took time because of the reputation of the Rangos School.

"The Rangos School of Health Sciences has consistently grown in stature and reputation — both in this region and nationally — over the past two decades. We wanted to find a dean with impeccable scholarly credentials who had the vision and experience

to lead the Rangos School to the next level of excellence," he said.

The search committee Duquesne put together, led by Mary Ellen Glasgow, dean of the Nursing School, was called "top-notch" by Gormley. He also cited the "invaluable" help of students, other faculty, and the interim Rangos School Dean, Paula Turocy.

President Gormley had warm words for Akinci as he takes the reins.

"Dr. Fevzi Akinci is a dynamic leader who has a bold vision for the Rangos School ... he's a warm, enthusiastic, deeply dedicated individual who puts the interests of his students and faculty colleagues first in all of his work," he said.

Akinci has made a positive impact in his previous positions, Gormley explained.

"Across the board, colleagues and students have praised Dr. Akinci for his boundless energy, his ability to think creatively to grow programs, and his unique ability to work with colleagues to bring out the best talent in each individual on his academic team," he said.

Gormley said he is very excited for Akinci to take over the position.

"We are looking forward, very much, to his arrival on the Bluff. He will be a wonderful addition to the Duquesne family," Gormley said.

## THE DUQUESNE DUKE

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EDITORIAL  
POLICY

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

## Contact

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CARTOON BY SHELBY WASIL

if i do say so myself...

## Proposed Trump budget illogical, dangerous

If all goes well for President Donald Trump's plan, we'll shortly be living in a very different type of America. And for most, even those who voted for Trump in the first place, that's not going to be a good thing.

The Trump administration released a proposed budget for 2018 last Thursday, bursting with significant cuts to dozens of programs.

This document — entitled “America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again” — included slashing funding to the Environmental Protection Agency, NASA, the Small Business Administration, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Energy, the Department of Education and — if you can believe it — more.

Trump is using the cuts to bolster national security efforts and “the rebuilding of our nation's military” by increasing funding to Homeland Security (by 7 percent), the Department of Defense (by 10 percent) and Veteran's Affairs (by 4 percent).

There are several concerns with Trump's proposed budget. For starters, it is baffling that the president would opt to cut or entirely eliminate funding to literally dozens of fruitful programs to increase spending for the Department of Defense by \$52 billion. This is when, according to *The New York Times*, the United States already has the largest military budget of any other nation.

This money will also be used to start

construction on a wall between the U.S. and Mexico. But these cuts to get our nation a glorified pile of wood and an angry neighbor to the south will come in part from the elimination of other post-9/11 safety programs, such as training to help Transportation Security Administration employees recognize erratic passenger behavior and government funding to allow for local law enforcement to police airports.

For a president who is supposedly so fretful about keeping America terrorist-free, it doesn't seem logical for him to propose cuts to airport safety programs. But then again, illogical reasoning seems to be what Trump does best.

According to the budget blueprint, Trump's goal was to rebuild the military without adding to the U.S.'s deficit, a move that will leave the African Development Foundation, the Appalachian Regional Commission, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the National Endowment for the Arts and more completely defunded.

That also includes the United States Institute of Peace, because who needs that?

Office of Management and Budget Director Mick Mulvaney justified these cuts by saying, “One of the questions we asked was can we really continue to ask a coal miner in West Virginia or a single mom in Detroit to pay for these programs? The answer was no. We can ask them to pay for

defense, and we will, but we can't ask them to continue to pay for the Corporation of Public Broadcast.”

Not only does that statement severely stereotype the average blue-collar American as being completely disinterested — or worse, unable to see the value — in public television or the arts, but it shows how completely disillusioned the Trump administration really is.

America might have the largest military in the world, but that's not what makes this country great. It's what makes this country complicated. What makes America great, the phrase Trump loves to harp on again and again, is the diversity of the people of this nation. The rich culture. The ability to work hard and achieve dreams from all different sectors and interests. That can't happen without these programs that Trump is threatening to eliminate and cut.

Trump said in the opening of the budget document that his intention was to provide “a government that puts the needs of its own people first.” By doing that, this nation will “set free the dreams of every American and ... begin a new chapter of American greatness.”

If the president really wants to put his people first, he should know that this budget is doing the exact opposite of that. With this budget, he is only putting the selfish views of him and his administration first.

If this budget passes as-is, America will be the furthest from greatness it has ever been.

Rebekah Devorak is a senior journalism and advertising major and can be reached at devorakr@duq.edu.

STAFF  
EDITORIALThe process of  
creating a news  
story

*The Duke* doesn't write stories “just for clicks.”

Maybe that's not entirely true. Like any news outlet, *The Duke* and its staff want people to read our stories. It's frustrating to pour your time and effort into something that only eight people view on [www.duqsm.com](http://www.duqsm.com). When you write something, you write it so it will be read, not so it will sit on a newsstand and collect dust. However, *The Duke* is very lucky not to rely on pick-up rates and website clicks for our funding. While we earn some funding from advertising sales, we also receive a budget from Duquesne University. This means that we are not under pressure to generate a certain amount of views for our stories, and we have great freedom in which stories we decide to cover. In choosing which events and stories are newsworthy, we adhere to the following five elements of newsworthiness: proximity, prominence, timeliness, consequence and impact.

Proximity means asking the question, “Is this related to the Duquesne community?” You'll notice that *The Duke* does not do many stories on national news or even local politics, unless those stories have a direct impact on Duquesne students. If we have to choose between a story about the Trump administration and a story about traffic tickets for Duquesne commuters, we will always choose the latter, because it hits closer to home.

Prominence means asking the question “Is the person involved a public figure?” A public figure is someone who is well-known within his or her community or profession. For example, Duquesne President Ken Gormley would be considered a public figure to the Duquesne community, but is not well-known in Fujian, China. Someone in a position of authority or working as a public servant will usually meet this definition.

Timeliness is self-explanatory. It doesn't make sense to write a story today about a research grant received by the Bayer School in 2008, unless that grant has recently led to another current event. However, “timeliness” also means publishing breaking news as quickly as possible. In general, news organizations, including *The Duke*, prefer to publish a story sooner rather than later, under the assumption that the public values being informed in real time of ongoing events. This can become a problem when news organizations publish inaccurate information because they did not take the time to fact-check their story. At *The Duke*, we try to balance the urge to publish breaking news with a thorough verification process.

Consequence means asking “Does this actually affect the lives of our readers?” There are stories that have popped up in our newsroom that are salacious but not really relevant to the Duquesne community. If it is not

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# Nature will suffer under Trump blueprint budget

**LEAH DEVORAK**

photo editor

The world is beautifully diverse, especially in its wildlife. The United States is the perfect example of this, where animals abound and nature ranges from towering, snow-peaked mountains to soft, grassy plains. But under President Trump, it could all disappear.

Trump released a partial outline of his 2018 budget on March 16, revealing huge cuts to environmental protection.

According to the New York Times, the proposed cuts will remove a total of \$22.9 billion in funding from the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Commerce, the Department of the Interior and other state and development plans in order to: defund the enactment of the Clean Power Plan, a bill

that would help regulate greenhouse gas emissions from factories; defund internal and international climate change programs run by the EPA; eliminate all United States funding for all United Nations climate change programs; reduce funding for the National Forest System; eliminate the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's grants and programs for coastal and marine management, research and education; cut funding for programs like the National Wildlife Refuge Fund and more.

In other words, under the new Trump budget, the U.S. will suddenly stop its progress and take leaps back to once again become the tree-slashing, oil-guzzling, nature-polluting glutton it was 100 years ago.

Maybe that's just what happens when the ex-CEO of Exxon Mobil becomes Secretary of State, but something must be done about this.

The world still needs protection. One hard look at it can instantly reveal all the environmental degradation that rapid industrialization has caused thus far.

With these photos, you can see for yourself how nature already needs our help. It's not always in the best condition. The country's environment is still hurting, and since private industry isn't stepping up to solve the problems that it started, the government must. If anyone wants a future in this country – meaning an actual place to live in 30 years – then Trump's budget cuts cannot be approved. If they are, life as we know it will be doomed.

*Leah Devorak is a junior journalism major and can be reached at devorakl@duq.edu.*

*All photos by Leah Devorak, photo editor.*



A pile of rotting logs remains in front of a recently deforested area of woods in Kennedy Township, a suburb of Pittsburgh. Without money to purchase and protect lands, it's hard to stop lumberers or developers from tearing down any forest they wish.



Trash can be found virtually everywhere in today's world, from the side of the road to the bottom of the ocean. The government could play a vital role in getting it cleaned up in order to protect animals, but with no budget, that effort becomes impossible.

# Girl killed by unattended gun, purchased illegally



AP PHOTO

There are many gun owners in America, and a handful don't have to go through background checks.

**SHIVANI GOSAI**

asst. opinions editor

Gun violence is huge problem in America; this is apparent. It might seem like mass shootings are America's biggest gun-related issues, but those only make up a small percentage of overall gun violence. The issue is deeper than that.

On March 12, a 3-year-old girl, Yasha Ross, was pronounced dead after accidentally shooting herself with an unattended gun found in her home in Mt. Washington. Ross'

mother, Michelle Gandy, found her with a bullet wound in her upper chest and drove her to Allegheny General Hospital, where Ross was pronounced dead.

Accidental gun deaths make up a significant percentage of gun violence in America. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the annual average of children and teens killed by guns is 2,647, which amounts to seven deaths per day. This is a uniquely American issue; no other country has higher gun-related deaths than this nation. To reduce these numbers, we need to

stop allowing dangerous or irresponsible people to own guns.

The gun used in Ross' death was in the possession of 40-year-old Paul Parrish, who is a convicted felon. The federal law prohibits convicted felons from owning firearms. The woman who initially purchased the weapon, Jamaya Moore, is also being investigated. Authorities believe she purchased the weapon for Parrish's use.

In this instance, it seems fitting to charge Parrish with homicide. Most unintentional gun deaths involving children are seen as homicides because the firearms were irresponsibly stored. Everytown, an organization that researches gun violence, reports that more than two-thirds of these tragedies could have been avoided if the gun owner properly stored away their firearms. This is similar to more than half of reported school shootings, where the shooter obtained the gun from their home.

"When a felon is not supposed to possess [a firearm], and a child loses her life because that felon does in fact possess, there is a principal here that might make it appropriate to prosecute for the homicide," says Allegheny County District Attorney Stephen A. Zappala Jr. in an interview with the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

With the topic of gun violence comes the exhausting question of gun control. No matter your political party, I hope we can all agree that guns need to be safely regulated. The gun found in the Mt. Washington home was illegally owned. A survey conducted by

Harvard University, published in the Annals of Internal Medicine, determined that 22 percent of gun owners purchased a firearm without a background check. Although this only represents a smaller proportion of gun owners, millions of U.S. citizens continue to acquire guns without background checks. This is especially seen in states that do not regulate private firearm sales.

The top three most significant things we should be concerned about when lessening gun violence is background checks, limiting ammunition capacity and focusing on high-risk people. Limiting ammunition capacity is a more effective strategy in limiting the carnage from a mass shooting rather than banning assault rifles altogether. On top of proper regulation, it's important to focus on high risk people with the help of mental health professions, law enforcement and schools. Mental health is a serious factor in gun suicide, mass shootings, etc.

Whether you support owning guns or not, it's time to take a serious look at the way we allow guns to be distributed. America's gun homicide rate is more than 25 times the average of other high-income countries, according to World Bank. Our priority in preventing unintentional child deaths and school shootings is to make sure that children do not have access to guns and that if they do, the negligent adults involved are held accountable.

*Shivani Gosai is a junior journalism major and can be reached at gosais@duq.edu.*

# WI-FI WOES: THE STRUGGLE OF STAYING CONNECTED

SETH CULP-RESSLER  
features editor

Welcome to the *Continuing Misadventures of a Displaced Duquesne Student*, a series in which Features Editor Seth Culp-Ressler grapples with his newfound life off campus. For the veterans of apartment life, feel free to laugh at his incompetence. For non-veterans, perhaps the mistakes he chronicles are valuable lessons.

## Chapter Seven: The Internet

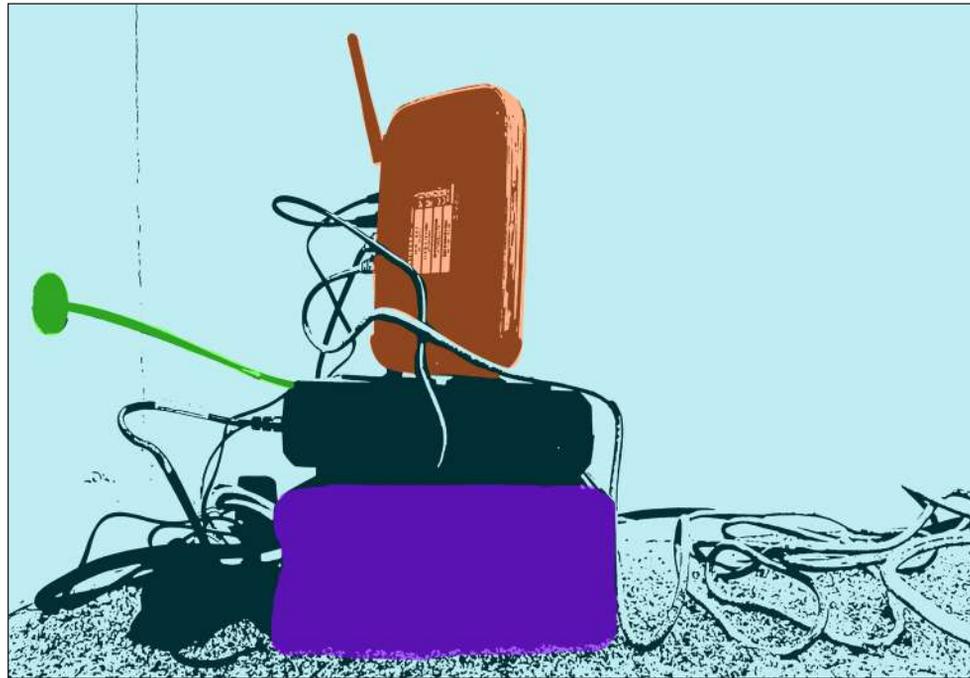
I really thought I had found the shortcut to end all shortcuts. The cheat code to beat that final boss. The answer to all my prayers.

### Free Wi-Fi.

Yeah, I know, talk about hitting gold, right? It's safe to say payment-free internet is the holy grail for any new apartment dweller. To top it all off, my solution wasn't even to steal from an unsecured neighboring network. Well, *technically* it was. But it was all kosher, I promise.

See, ever since middle school I've had a Comcast email address. In truth, it was the first email account I ever had. It was set up by my father using, just as you would guess, the email services available through our home internet and cable package.

Now, imagine my surprise when, newly moved into my apartment, I open up the Wi-Fi settings on my laptop and a network called "xfinitywifi" pops up, no password required. Naturally, I tried to join. Much to my surprise, a dialog box pops up, prompting me to login with my Comcast account. Hey, wait. *I have*



SETH CULP-RESSLER/FEATURES EDITOR

one of those. So I entered my credentials.

And then I had Wi-Fi. Just like that.

The clouds parted, the sun shone down and I'm pretty sure some angels sang. Instead of ponying up \$60 a month for internet I can get it for free. All thanks to Comcast's secure hotspot program, which has millions of these things around the country, free of charge for their customers. This one was running off the router owned by the first floor business in my building. There's probably one near you, too. Time to call up the parents for the login details, right?

Well, not so fast.

As you may remember from a few paragraphs back, *I thought* this was the answer.

This isn't a Comcast marketing pitch, and the hotspot was not a long term solution. After a week or two the connection started slowing to an agonizing crawl. I'll always argue that slow internet is worse than no internet. It was time for a change — a \$60 per month change.

Even better, that \$60 isn't for some comprehensive package that includes cable and internet. Nope, it's merely the cheapest internet-only option for Verizon Fios, the service our unit was already outfitted for. That sounds like a lot to cough up, but it's not all bad.

The reason my roommate and I didn't opt for cable is a simple one — we wouldn't use

it. All of our television consumption happens online. Streaming high definition video, though, requires a pretty robust connection speed. Luckily, that depressing Verizon bill does get us that.

But, yet again, things weren't what we wanted. The internet was great for a bit, and then, for me, things slowed down. As said, I despise slow internet. It angers me like perhaps nothing else in this world. I needed a solution.

I took to Google for some answers. What I learned is that our immediate area was way too clogged up with Wi-Fi networks. It's true; apparently there are only a set number of workable Wi-Fi frequencies, and only a set amount of data can be transferred at any one time. On an apartment-heavy block like ours, the noise was just too strong.

Thus we come to the final solution to my internet woes — hardwiring my connection. It turns out you can buy huge lengths of ethernet cable on Amazon for stupid cheap. So, with 50 feet of it and some sticky 3M wall hooks, I snaked that sweet, sweet internet straight to my computer.

Let me tell you something — there is *nothing* like reliable, ridiculously fast internet. Any streaming, downloading or uploading is done in a heartbeat. My blood pressure took a sharp dive after a few days of recovery from dealing with molasses for Wi-Fi.

After reading through my ramblings here, I'm not sure I've provided any kind of coherent lesson. At the very least, I hope my own headaches can help streamline the internet process for others. It sucks, it really does. But, hey, I made it to the other side and now I'm streaming 4K videos all day long. If I did it, you can too.

See you on the interwebs.

# Spring Fashion 2017: What to do when winter won't leave

ELSA BUEHLER  
staff writer

If the pessimistic memes on Twitter about bizarre weather conditions weren't enough to inform you, Spring 2017 is here. This year, the typically cheerful season promises sporadic sunny days and absolutely zero consistent weather patterns.

Already, we've seen extreme wind, countless rainy days and have even been affected in passing by Winter Storm Stella. Temperature range varies from day to day during this largely unpredictable beginning of spring. Nothing is certain. Nothing is guaranteed. So, if you're thinking that the first day of spring was your chance to trade in your layers for a light jacket, think again. In an effort to help our readers through the dreary days to come, we've developed this helpful Spring 2017 fashion guide to attack the coming season with sense and style.

Hot right now are the heavy winter coats that we've all been wearing since October of 2016 — and I do mean hot, since they never fail to result in making you an overheated mess for that one class you're always running a little too late to. This look works espe-



SETH CULP-RESSLER/FEATURES EDITOR

cially well when alternated on a daily basis with your slightly less warm jacket, in which you will likely freeze on your walks to class, thereby creating a vicious cycle of coat-swapping.

Spring 2017 may also be the perfect time to invest in that pricey pair of L.L. Bean, Hunter, UGG or

Dr. Marten's boots that are popular during the winter months on campus. There's a decent chance of catching a deal on them now, since no one (manufacturers included) could have anticipated a demand for them in the spring season. Another plus is that such fine shoes would likely last you well into April,

and would be of use to you for the majority of the calendar year.

Cocktail dresses are a wardrobe essential for many of Duquesne's female population. Designed to wear in ideal springtime weather, they may or may not be the most suitable, given the chilly conditions of late. Nonetheless, sorority

members can expect to be spotted on the occasional Tuesday sporting such dresses sans coat and en route to a formal chapter meeting. This same pattern is also noticeable around campus on weekend evenings, as many girls prepare for a night out after a long week. Sacrificing comfort in the name of outfit coherence, such girls, if asked, will insist mid-shiver that they are most definitely not cold.

Similarly, at the very first hint of a sunny spring day, or even one above 40 degrees, many male Duquesne students can be found wearing shorts. Guys, be assured that this enthusiasm does not go unnoticed on campus. Particularly commendable are the dedicated few that don shorts year-round, displaying both physical endurance and commitment to their decision to wear shorts based on an evidently generous forecast. This spring, the weather that shorts were intended for may come at any time. Until then, shorts lovers, do your thing.

Finally, it is important and practical to maintain a seasonally appropriate color scheme. It seems that every spring, designers and department stores alike fail to

see WINTER — page 11

# 2017 MBB COACHING SEARCH

## *Any takers? Coaches are fleeing to new opportunities and the Duquesne MBB position still remains unmanned.*

**ANDREW HOLMAN**  
sports editor

It's been nearly two weeks since Jim Ferry was fired, the King Rice era has ended before it could even begin and Atlantic 10 foes Massachusetts and Virginia Commonwealth have already filled their respective coaching vacancies with big-time hires.

As for Duquesne, it's still searching for that coach who might be able to reverse the misfortunes of its men's basketball program that hasn't danced in 40 years.

There is an incredible amount of pressure on the incoming ball coach to keep gifted freshman Mike Lewis II and Isiaha Mike on the Bluff, and to convince top recruit Jamari Wheeler to stand by his commitment to the Red & Blue. That's not even mentioning the burden of attempting to eliminate the negative aura associated with a losing program.

But here is a list of some coaches, proven winners more specifically, who could potentially successfully rebuild the sheer mess left behind by his predecessors.

### **1. Travis Steele — Associate head coach, Xavier University**

All Steele has done since I originally mentioned his name in last week's issue is help to guide yet another Xavier team to the Sweet 16, which now means he has five Sweet 16 appearances polished on his résumé.

Steele has established himself as one of the top recruiters in college basketball and has coached under high-profile coaches Chris Mack and Sean Miller. He is a young coach with valuable experience as part of a winning program. He would bring a plethora of recruiting contacts in the nearby Ohio and Indiana areas to help quicken the rebuilding process. Duquesne should feel honored to land Steele, even if it is his first head coaching gig.

However, Steele is believed to be a candidate for the coaching vacancy at Quinnipiac, so Duquesne fans will have to hope former Duquesne athletic director Greg Amodio doesn't steal this this up-and-coming winner.



AP PHOTO

Xavier University's associate head coach, Travis Steele, looks on as his team battles Marquette.

### **2. Mitch Henderson — Head coach, Princeton University**

During a rather uneventful NCAA tournament Round of 64, the No. 12 Princeton Tigers almost opened up the festivities with an upset of the No. 5 Notre Dame Fighting Irish.

In charge of the upset-minded Tigers is six-year head coach, Henderson, who took home Ivy League Coach of the Year honors for his team's success in 2016-17. Princeton finished the year 23-7 overall and with a perfect, 16-win Ivy League season.

The recent March Madness appearance was the first for Princeton under Henderson; however, he has also coached the Tigers to a 2016 NIT bid and a pair of trips to the CBI quarterfinals.

In his six years as the head man in charge, Henderson boasts a remarkable 119-60 record. Also take into consideration that Henderson deals with added recruiting challenges due to the academic rigors students face at Princeton University. He still brings in some of the Ivy League's top players such as 2017 Player of the Year Spencer Weisz and former AP honorable mention All-America Ian Hummer.

The challenge would be getting Henderson to take the job at Duquesne. He played his collegiate hoops for the Tigers and may be hesitant to depart Princeton unless a major, desirable opportunity presents itself. Tough to say if the opening at Duquesne would be considered that.

### **3. Matt McCall — Head coach, The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga**

Yes, Chattanooga had a rather disappointing season. But a disappointing season for McCall and the Mocs consisted of 19 wins, which included a 13-point win over the University of Tennessee and a two-point loss to NCAA qualifier, Vanderbilt University.

Starved Duquesne fans would drool over a season like that. Sure, the Mocs obviously face a much lighter conference slates than do the Dukes, but McCall also doesn't have guys with talent like Lewis II and Mike over in the Southern Conference.

But that's the worse of the two seasons that he has spent at the helm. In 2015-16, McCall and the Mocs relished in a school-record 29-win campaign that featured wins over the University of Georgia, the University of Illinois and the University of Dayton. The season ended with a Southern Conference tournament championship as well as Chattanooga's first NCAA tournament appearance since 2009. He was honored as the Southern Conference Coach of the Year for his remarkable performance in his first season.

He might only have two years experience as a head coach, but McCall sprouts from the Billy Donovan coaching tree. He began as the head team manager and moved into a role as the director of basketball operations under Donovan during the University of Florida's back-to-back championship runs in 2006 and 2007.

He returned as an assistant coach from 2011-15 and was a part of three Elite 8 teams and one Final Four squad. During that stint of success for Florida, McCall helped the Gators land two top-10 recruiting classes and the Gators averaged over 26 wins per season with his assistance.

The search committee and Duquesne fans should forgive a mediocre 2016-17 campaign for the Mocs and welcome the Billy Donovan-disciple with open arms before his name gets too hot to acquire.



AP PHOTO

Mitch Henderson coaches Princeton as they take on Notre Dame in the NCAA tournament.

**ADAM LINDNER**  
asst. sports editor

### **1. Bashir Mason — Head coach, Wagner College**

One of the youngest head coaches in all of Division I ball at 33, Mason has already spent five years at the helm at Wagner. The defensive-minded coach learned under Dan Hurley for two years before Hurley bolted Wagner for the URI job.

Mason guided the Seahawks to both a regular season title and the NIT in 2015-16 and Wagner's been consistently competitive during Mason's tenure except for one rebuilding year in 2014-15, albeit Wagner plays in one of the nation's worst conferences. The only thing Mason hasn't accomplished in his time at Wagner is an NEC tournament championship, necessary to earn an automatic NCAA bid.

Mason has gone 87-69 in his five seasons in Staten Island. He was named the NEC Coach of the Year in 2016 and has led the Seahawks to three seasons of 19 wins or more.

The lack of an NCAA appearance thus far has limited Mason's national profile, so there's been no speculation of Mason potentially jumping to a bigger program. Duquesne should take note of him before they miss their shot. Coaches with this much experience at such a young age are few and far between, and Mason has tons of potential for improvement. Plus, his background as a player (guard at Drexel from 2003-07) as well as the idea of the young Mason being able to relate to players and recruits may prove beneficial.

### **2. Brandin Knight — Assistant coach, Rutgers University**

The former University of Pittsburgh standout is now in his first season as an assistant at Rutgers. Formerly an assistant coach under Jamie Dixon at Pitt for eight years, the 35-year-old Knight has many fans and connections in this area.

The New Jersey native seems as though he'd be able to tap into the New York and New Jersey regions, as he surely knows this recruit-laden scene very well. Once again, his background and his youth could

potentially appeal to players, but patience would undoubtedly be required — patience that Duquesne has not shown that it has.

In his eight years as an assistant coach and two as the director of operations and program assistant, Knight helped Dixon lift the Panthers to a 252-101 record. Additionally, Pittsburgh made a postseason appearance in all 10 of those seasons, which were highlighted by eight NCAA tournament appearances and two trips to the Sweet 16.

Hiring a coach with no previous experience heading a team before could be taxing for both sides, but Knight is sure to be a head coach soon somewhere, and the potential he presents cannot be ignored. The homecoming-of-sorts would also generate some positive buzz surrounding the program, and may even entice some Pitt fans who miss the glory of the Big East days to come to the A. J. Palumbo Center next season.

### **3. Matt Driscoll — Head coach, University of North Florida**

Driscoll has helped to build North Florida into the relevant program that it is today essentially from the ground up.

Taking over in 2009-10 when the Ospreys were in their first season as a full Division I member, Driscoll was able to lead UNF to their first NCAA tournament appearance in 2014-15 via an Atlantic Sun championship. This was the year following Florida Gulf Coast University's magical run to the Sweet 16. Many believed the Eagles would repeat as conference champions, but Driscoll and the Ospreys ended up representing the A-Sun in the tourney that year.

A native of the area, and Slippery Rock graduate, there's definite allure to come back and resurrect a Duquesne program that has not reached the NCAA tournament in 40 years. While the job is a tough sell and resources aren't abundant here, it's somewhat tough to imagine Driscoll jumping from North Florida and landing a job in a conference more prominent than the Atlantic 10.

### **4. Mike Iuzzolino — Assistant Coach, Robert Morris University**

The former St. Francis (PA) star and current Robert Morris assistant coach is a bit of a dark horse of a candidate. Having grown up in Altoona and currently residing in Wexford, only about 30 minutes from campus, Iuzzolino has spent much of his life in the state of Pennsylvania. Plus, Iuzzolino is already familiar with the school in some capacity as he began his coaching career here as a women's assistant coach from 2005-07.

A knockdown shooter in his playing days, Iuzzolino was drafted by the Dallas Mavericks in the second round of the 1991 NBA Draft out of little-known St. Francis.

His track record as an overlooked talent that was able to make a career for himself in the NBA may appeal to players, but this is a long shot as his résumé isn't exactly up to par just yet. This would almost certainly infuriate fans, as a vast majority will have no idea who Iuzzolino is. One cool nugget of information, though: Iuzzolino was once infamously included as one of the two Dallas Mavericks players featured on NBA Jam, a basketball game that some deem the best video game ever.

# USA women's ice hockey takes stand with boycott

**BRYANNA McDERMOTT**

asst. photo editor

The United States women's national ice hockey team is fighting, and this time, it's not for puck possession.

Instead, some of the best female hockey players in the world are fighting for support, livable wages and better opportunities for themselves and future generations.

On March 15, members of the U.S. women's national team declared that they would be boycotting the 2017 International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) World Championship, which is set to begin on March 31, unless they can reach an agreement with USA Hockey for increased wages and support.

These women aren't asking for much.

The players are looking for a 4-year deal to help boost wages to cover costs for the 3-and-a-half years around the Olympics, including increased travel and insurance benefits. There is also a push for more competitive games during non-Olympic years and more investment in female hockey programs and development opportunities.

People often get caught up in the money. Why should the women receive the same wages as the men when the women's team generates less revenue?

But the women aren't even asking for equal pay; they're asking for livable wages. Right now, these ladies are paid a \$1,000 stipend per month by USA Hockey during the six-month Olympic residency period every four years.

It's important to note that USA Hockey doesn't employ any players, male or female; instead the organization offers stipends in accordance with the U.S. Olympic Committee. So the women aren't asking for a salary, but merely higher stipends.

Outside of Olympic years, the players are

forced to both train like world-champion athletes and work odd jobs to live and remain competitive.

In comparison, the Associated Press reported that Hockey Canada pays its women players between \$900 and \$1,500 per month depending on their level of seniority, and that's during non-Olympic years. For a nine-month period around the Olympics, the Canadian women's team is fully supported financially.

The U.S. women's national team is one of the best female ice hockey programs in the world. They have won 22 medals between both the Olympics and the World Championship, the same exact number as the men's squad. However, women's hockey wasn't added to the Olympics or given a world championship until the 1990s.

Also, the U.S. women are currently looking for their fourth-consecutive gold medal at the World Championship, while the men haven't won gold since 1933.

These women are impeccable athletes; they deserve support from the organization they represent. Time-and-time again they have proven their capability to perform and win championships; it's time for USA Hockey to give a little more back to the athletes.

It's obvious that women's hockey doesn't bring the same crowd or revenue as the men, but perhaps with more support and opportunities they can bridge the gap. After all, you get what you put into things.

That's why the U.S. women's hockey team isn't just fighting for themselves but for future generations to have equal opportunities as male players, including more developmental programs to help bring girls from across the country together to grow the sport.

Go to almost any ice rink across the country, and you can see for yourself that the support



USA national team member Hilary Knight celebrates her goal against Finland on March 29. AP PHOTO

for female teams is far inferior to that of their male counterparts.

If they are lucky enough to even have a female team.

USA Hockey recorded \$42.37 million in revenue during the 2015-16 fiscal year, over half of that number came from membership fees—\$26.5 million to be exact—which is the same price for both male and female members.

If these athletes pay the same membership fee, why can't they be given the same opportunities and support?

After key players announced the boycott, USA Hockey released a statement proclaiming that the organization has always been at the forefront of promoting women's hockey and already provides equal support to both the men and women who represent the country.

They also stated that they will field a com-

petitive women's team regardless of the boycott's outcome.

USA Hockey made it very clear that this boycott is just a minor inconvenience that can be solved by finding random players willing to accept inequality for the sake of passion.

With that statement, USA Hockey let it be known that every time a girl laces up her skates, she is not as valuable as the boy who practiced on the same ice just an hour before her, or her male teammate, or her brother who taught her how to skate.

No matter how hard a girl works or how great of a player she becomes, she is not worth the investment of the very organization she plays her heart out for every single game.

And it's time for that to change.

The U.S. women's national ice hockey team is going to make sure that changes.

## Women's hoops finishes off another strong campaign

**DAVID BORNE**

staff writer

Another season down, another impressive year for the Duquesne women's basketball program and head coach Dan Burt. It was a season that ended with a first round departure at Drexel in the National Invitational Tournament, but it ended a lot more promising than it began.

Losing their two leading scorers to graduation could have made this a rebuilding year for Duquesne, but the Dukes proved that the program can maintain itself as a perennial contender in the Atlantic 10 conference.

Many expected the team to find success again this season, but with 11 underclassmen on the roster, it was impossible to say exactly how this team was capable of performing. The young team also met a relentless nonconference schedule, which included the likes of the Ohio State University, St. John's, the University of California and the University of Maryland.

While the season had some downs, it showed Dukes fans that the only way to go from here is up.

The sophomore class continued to shine in their second season with the Dukes. Chassidy Omogrosso lead the team in scoring, with Julijana Vojinovic and Kadri-Ann Lass finishing third and fourth on the team in points per game. Conor Richardson also was able to provide quality minutes for Duquesne.

Vojinovic's emergence was huge for the

Dukes. After spending the majority of her freshman year on the bench, she was one of the team's go-to scoring options in her sophomore season. After graduating April Robinson and Deva'Nyar Workman, somebody needed to step up to help replace their scoring, and Vojinovic did the job.

With Omogrosso and Vojinovic up top, the future of the backcourt is bright. The duo provides Duquesne with the flexibility of working with two primary ball handlers, who can not only run the offense, but can knock down long distance shots as well. Omogrosso had 66 3-point field goals this season, and Vojinovic was right behind her with 61.

Unfortunately for Duquesne, the end of the season means the team will lose senior Amadea Szamosi. Szamosi, one of the team's two seniors, was an integral piece of Duquesne's success on both ends of the court. Brianna Thomas, who was a valuable starter this season, has also played her final game as a Duke. Now, the Dukes must find a way to fill the gap left by the departure of the two key seniors.

Both Anie-Pier Samson and Paige Cannon saw limited minutes for Duquesne this season. Judith Sole also missed significant time with an injury, and was restricted to a limited role when she returned. All three are legitimate candidates to step into Szamosi's spot in the starting lineup and bolster the frontcourt.

Coach Dan Burt has been able to establish what any Duquesne basketball program lacked for years. A winning culture and tra-

dition of excellence. The program saw success under its previous head coach with Burt on the staff as an assistant, but he has put Duquesne on the map since his promotion. After being named head coach prior to the 2013-14 season, he has won 89 games. His squad won 18 games this season, their lowest win total since the 2007-08 season, when they had just 15 wins.

At this point, postseason play has become an expectation. The team has qualified for postseason tournaments in nine consecutive seasons. Under Burt, Duquesne has participated in the WNIT three times (2014,

2015, 2017) and has one NCAA Tournament appearance (2016). I imagine the team wouldn't be even close to satisfied with anything less than a playoff berth.

On a campus that is starving for some sort of success in a major sport, the women's basketball program is able to provide that excitement for Duquesne sports fans. The team was arguably the most exciting basketball program to watch in Pittsburgh this season, and was definitely the most entertaining at Duquesne. With Burt in charge and a young core in place, Duquesne should be in a good spot for the foreseeable future.



The Duquesne women's basketball team jubilantly huddles after their win in the semifinal round of the A-10 women's basketball tournament on March 4. The Dukes beat Saint Joseph's 78-63. COURTESY OF DUQUESNE ATHLETICS

# YouTube accused of hiding LGBT content

ZACHARY LANDAU  
asst. a&e editor

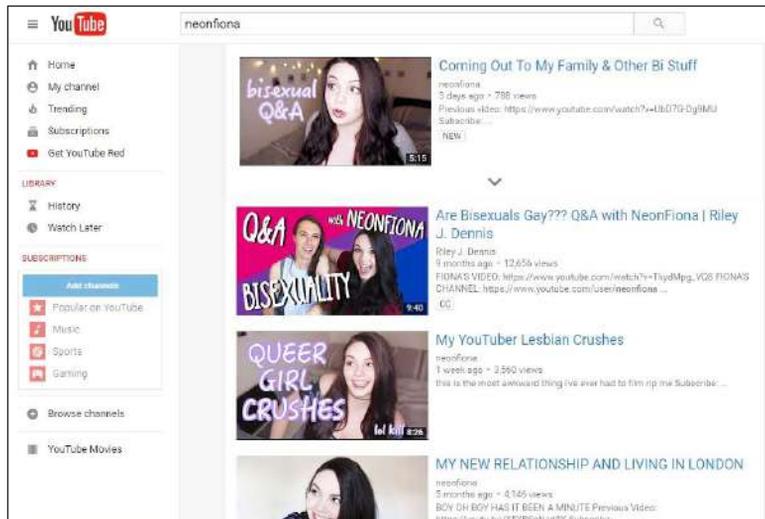
While ago (no specific or general date can be found), YouTube launched YouTube Restricted Mode, an extra method of protection for browsing the video-sharing website. In a support video designed to explain what the feature is and how to use it, the company explained that “You can think of Restricted Mode like a parental control setting for YouTube.”

“It helps filter out potentially objectionable videos and comments that you or your family might not want to see,” the video continues.

The feature uses community policing features, like notices of inappropriate content and age restrictions, and “other signals” to hide content.

Last week, however, some began noticing that videos containing LGBT content were being hidden by this feature.

The actual content in videos hidden by Restricted Mode ranges wildly from legitimately explicit content — such as the YouTube channel Sexplantations, a channel that focuses on sex education including gay sex and relationships



SCREEN SHOT COURTESY OF ZACHARY LANDAU/ ASST. A&E EDITOR  
YouTuber neonfiona produces many videos about her experience being bisexual. She joined other LGBT content creators in condemning YouTube.

— to vows between gay couples.

LGBT YouTubers decried this feature for keeping content away from people who need it most, such as LGBT youth who need a sense of community, as well as implying that any form of queer content is inappropriate for children.

Speaking to Gizmodo, YouTuber neonfiona, who has made content about her bisexuality, condemned the restrictions, saying, “Kids who want to know about different orientations and definitions and about the history

of LGBT people, etc., they can’t access that when their videos are being restricted.”

As well as the large amount of LGBT content being screened, topics about other sensitive subjects, like bullying, domestic abuse and racism, are also being hidden.

In a statement to Gizmodo, a YouTube representative stated that the feature is fully optional. However, as Gizmodo reports, the support page for Restricted Mode states that it can be implemented on a system-wide level, meaning

public computers may have restriction mode on, and the user cannot shut it off.

The YouTube Creator Blog uploaded a statement on March 20 acknowledging that “[Restricted Mode] isn’t working the way it should. We’re sorry and we’re going to fix it.”

In a video uploaded to her channel, YouTuber Rowan Ellis condemned the feature for demonizing the LGBT community.

“The sexualization of queer and trans people is still rampant,” Ellis states. “This kind of insidious poison which makes [the LGBT community] seem inappropriate is still around, still in effect.”

Ellis also emphasizes the double standard being held against LGBT individuals using YouTube.

“People talk about [the restrictions] being about protecting children,” Ellis said in the same video. “For me, it’s this completely nonsensical idea that has no basis in reality around protecting specifically straight and cis children, or children from straight and cis families.”

“Trans youth, queer youth are dying. They are killing themselves, they are being killed because this attitude is being allowed to be perpetuated, and it cannot go any longer.”

# ‘Iron Fist’ maintains quality, but fails to make impact

SEAN RAY  
a&e editor

The final series before the much hyped grand crossover, “The Defenders,” “Iron Fist” brings some much needed levity to the Marvel Cinematic Universe’s TV spectrum. While not exploring as deep of themes as its predecessors, “Iron Fist” does better encapsulate the feel of the comic book superhero than its contemporaries.

The show follows Danny Rand (Finn Jones), a rich business heir who was lost as a child in a plane crash over Tibet that took the lives of his parents. Raised by monks in the mystic city of K’un-lun, Danny takes on the role of the Iron Fist, allowing him to focus his chi into his hands, making them as hard as iron. After 15 years training, Danny decides to return to the United States to claim the company his father created, only to find an ancient enemy infesting his birthright.

“Iron Fist” very much represents a break from the other Marvel shows on Netflix. While “Daredevil” dealt with corruption and the morality of killing in a very serious and in-depth way, IF only briefly touches upon it. “Luke Cage” examined modern race relations through the lens of superheros, the most “Iron Fist” does is, thankfully, acknowledged that there is a difference between Chinese and



COURTESY OF MARVEL TELEVISION

The original character of Iron Fist appeared in 1974. He was most prominently featured in the 125-issue comic book series “Power Man and Iron Fist.”

Japanese cultures. And the psychology of rape-survivors that was so prevalent in “Jessica Jones” is nowhere near the adventures of Danny Rand.

Instead, “Iron Fist” goes for a much lighter tone. Rather than gangsters and serious criminals, Danny fights ninjas and supernatural threats. Most people he encounters are fundamentally good, and his uplifting view of the world is supported.

One of the best aspects of “Iron Fist” is its supporting cast. There were very few characters I found boring, and each storyline was interesting in a different way. Colleen Wing (Jessica Henwick) plays a great secondary hero to Danny, competent and

kick-butt in her own way. Danny’s childhood friends, Ward and Joy Meachum (Tom Pelphery and Jessica Stroup) struggle to deal with the aftereffects of his return to the company they are both now a part of, providing a corporate story along with the punching.

Most appreciated is Madame Gao’s (Wai Ching Ho) elevation to main villain role, after being in the background of “Daredevil.” She brings a very different kind of menace, seemingly always in control and with a combination of organizational strength and superpowers that makes her much more threatening than her contemporary villains.

However, the show is not without fault. For a character whose whole gimmick is martial arts, the fight scenes are fairly boring, with few stand-outs. The lack of a costume means Jones is doing many of the stunts himself, resulting in slow battles without the brutal attacks from “Daredevil.” The titular Iron Fist is rarely used to much effect, despite it being the character’s namesake.

Also, while the lack of social examination does maintain the light tone, it does mean that “Iron Fist” never quite reaches the same qualitative highs of the other Marvel shows. Episodes have less emotional impact and truly touching scenes.

On the other hand, “Iron Fist” does not fall into the drop-off “Luke Cage,” “Jessica Jones” and “Daredevil” season 2 experienced in their later halves, maintaining a consistently okay-to-good flow. The plotlines stayed interesting and move along with little filler to weigh things down, and there is no mid-season change-up to make the quality take a turn for the worst.

“Iron Fist” may only be just okay, but it is consistently okay, and certainly worth a watch for those hoping for, God forbid, more superheros in their superhero show. It is certainly not as bad as many of the other critics are making it out to be, and it has made me very excited to see Danny interact with the other Marvel heroes. Its strength lies in its characters, which thankfully means the plot and action can always improve.

## WEEK'S EVENTS

Waxahatchee with Kevin Morby & Special Guest Mary Lattimore  
March 23, 7 p.m.

Described by her label as a “solo musical project,” Katie Crutchfield comes to Carnegie Lecture Hall of Oakland under her moniker Waxahatchee with other indie artists Kevin Morby and Mary Lattimore. Tickets are \$18.

Green Day  
March 25, 8 p.m.

The renowned punk rock group will be performing at the Petersen Events Center on the University of Pittsburgh’s campus. Tickets start at \$73. For more information to this event, please visit [peterseneventcenter-pittsburgh.com](http://peterseneventcenter-pittsburgh.com).

## UPCOMING RELEASES

“Power Rangers”  
March 24

The reboot of the popular tokusatsu series follows a group of five teenagers given powers and weapons to combat the evil world conqueror Rita Repulsa (Elizabeth Banks.) Bryan Cranston plays the role of Zordon, the advisor to the Rangers.

“Grace and Frankie Season 3”  
March 21

After their husbands announce they are gay and leave them for each other, make-up industry millionaire Grace Hanson and art teacher Frankie Bergstein establish an unlikely friendship in this Netflix original series.

Season 2 saw a significant increase in positive reviews from critics, creating high hopes for the series’ continuation.

## MICRO REVIEW

“Can We Hang On” by The Cold War Kids

“The indie rock band’s latest single takes a reflective, nostalgic tone. Driven by a strong, constant drum and Nathan Willet’s powerful vocals, the song questions the listener ‘do we get better with time?’ This song certainly does. The band’s album, ‘L.A. Divine’ is due out April 7th.”

—Raymond Arke

# Past comes to life in live-action 'Beauty and the Beast'

EVAN PENROD AND SALENA MORAN  
staff writer

Managing to hold true to the original storyline while also adding new scenes and songs to enhance the story, Disney's live-action "Beauty and the Beast" successfully revives the classic story for a new generation.

The tale: a cold, pretentious prince (Dan Stevens) and his servants fall under an enchantress' spell that can only be broken if the prince, in his beastly form, can love another and have another love him in return. An intelligent, headstrong villager, Belle (Emma Watson) discovers the Beast has captured her father Maurice (Kevin Kline) in his castle and bargains with the former prince for her to take her father's place. With the help of a charming staff and a look into each other's past, Belle draws the Beast from his loneliness and proves that true beauty lies within.

The scenery, costuming and plot detail enhance both the film's aesthetic and the spirited charm of the classic Disney Tale. The castle possesses this size and grandiosity that is strikingly similar to the layout within the original film. The live-action version, however, went above and beyond with the tiniest and most intricate details. It felt as though one could actually step inside the castle.

The costuming is very appropriate and includes more traditional, upscale French 1800s attire, especially in the dancing scenes. Belle's signature blue dress accentuated her free and spirited lifestyle. In the cartoon, her dress was very crisp and clean

cut without any sign of wear and tear. However, the film shows a ruggedness and simplicity that accurately resembles a working villager. Moreover, her signature yellow dress took on a lighter, modern feel without losing its traditional charm.

While the cartoon left out important details, the live-action film takes the time to address any story gaps while maintaining the natural and sequential flow of the plot. For instance, the story establishes the loving bond between Belle and her father while also addressing what happened to Belle's mother.

The storyline also explains why no one has any recollection of the prince or the castle that lies isolated beyond their village. This part of the story is addressed at the very beginning when the narrator explains the effects of the enchantress' spell with greater detail.

Although the film nearly perfected the costuming, plot and set design, some of the primary flaws stem from the characters and animation. For example, Lumiere (Ewan McGregor) walks on two legs like a small metal human. However, part of the charisma of the original cartoon was that Lumiere hops around, as one would expect of an animated candelabra.

Additionally, the pompous village hunk, Gaston (Luke Evans) did not seem quite right. In a cartoon, it is easy to believe exaggerated features like huge muscular arms and larger than life personalities, however viewing those traits on a real life character make them seem less comical and unimportant. The live-action version seems to put more emphasis on his self-centered



COURTESY OF DISNEY

The live-action adaptation of the classic animated feature includes many added details. One of the more controversial inclusions is the implication that the side character LeFou is homosexual.

ego without giving much in terms of his strength and bulk, which is a staple for the Gaston character.

Gaston's lackey, LeFou (Josh Gad), looks and sounds accurate to the cartoon. However his part made him seem less like Gaston's dorky, obedient sidekick and more like an important, well-made character. This version gives him an overwhelming sense of purpose and development, almost as if he should have been the villain instead.

Upon the release of the movie, controversy surrounded Gad's character and his apparent homosexuality within the film. However, the movie includes no particular scene clearly depicting LeFou as gay, as his character seems to be more comical relief from the seriousness of Gaston's antics. For instance, LeFou is seen dancing with a woman

and makes a comical facial expression when he finds himself dancing with another man. Moreover, he marvels at himself in the mirror after watching Gaston do the same. If one was not aware of the aware of the media hype over his character, they would never really have known.

In terms of design and appearance, the Beast needed more practical makeup effects without the reliance of as much CGI. Some of his movements and characteristics, especially when in the same frame as Belle or another unaltered character, just look unnatural. Time and effort put into applying facial makeup and hair to create the look would have appeared more like a man-turned-beast that looks realistic when

see *BEAST* — page 11

## Sheeran album mixes world influences for fantastic experience

NICOLAS JOZEFczyk  
staff writer

Ed Sheeran's "Divide" is a spectacular album that culminates different sounds and genres together to form one cohesive work. Ed Sheeran traveled around the world during his three year hiatus, and that travel seems to have influenced the songs on his album. From "Barcelona" to Galway, Ireland, the 16 tracks take the listener on a small world tour through the different instrumentation found on each tune.

Sheeran's ability to fit the maximum amount of syllables into a measure, his gravelly voice, and songwriting prowess all shine through in "Divide." The album takes turns from fast paced tempos and staccato guitar strumming to slower, sultry beats accompanied by piano and violins. The change in pace and instrumental variety is refreshing and captures the listener's attention.

"Galway Girl" highlights the use of instrumentals and vocal chants to aid in the world-traveling imagery. The tune mainly uses short guitar strums, a pan flute and bagpipe to create a happy and carefree feeling. The final thirty seconds of the song features fast paced chanting, which puts the listener in an Irish bar drinking a beer and singing a drinking song.

"Supermarket Flowers" takes a completely different turn by applying just a piano which highlights Sheeran's voice and heart-wrenching vocals. Although it does not take the listener anywhere geographically specific, the ballad's focus is on Sheeran reminiscing about his grandmother, who passed away. This track is very powerful and able to evoke emotions about a person's parents, grandparents, or just loved ones in general.

"Eraser" is the opening track on the album and is highly influenced by rap and hip-hop genres. This song easily focus on Sheeran's ability to fit many lyrics into a measure as well as his impeccable breath control. It is relatively easy to compare this song to Eminem's rap style. Although Sheeran may not be a "Rap God," his ability to connect strings of lyrics that all work together is quite impressive.

Although it might sound like a copout, the only dislike I have about "Divide" is that I wish there was more of it. Yes, the deluxe album has 16 tracks, but I wish Sheeran would



COURTESY OF HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

After a three-year hiatus, Ed Sheeran will embark on a 48-stop across the United States and Canada, starting on June 29.

have written more for all of the emotions put on "Divide." The listener only gets a taste of Sheeran's different sides, instead of a whole album that focuses on the same genre.

"Divide" highlights rock, pop, rap, hip-hop and R&B genres, with an average of about three or four songs following into each category. Now that it is even more evident about how skillful Sheeran is, it would be nice to see more focused albums on each of the genres. Imagine Sheeran releasing a rap album, although it might sound crazy, "Eraser" is proof, at least for me, that he

could do that.

"Divide" is not only a great comeback album after a three year hiatus, but it further proves Sheeran's remarkable singing and songwriting ability. Yes, the album is sporadic switching between different instrumental sounds and genres, but I view that as a good thing. The switch keeps the listener on their toes and also helps pay attention to the lyrics instead of just daydreaming away. "Divide" is a required album purchase for any music lover in 2017.

## Cold weather hot for Spring 2017 fashion

**WINTER** — from page 6

revolutionize by promoting light, pastel colored clothing lines in Easter-y plaids and florals. Why draw more attention than necessary to your paleness (a direct result of your lack of a spring break beach trip) with colors that will only wash you out? Instead of embracing traditional tones like every other year, demonstrate your defeatism by wearing deeper-colored clothing. Try to stick with colors typically associated with the dreariness of winter: ma-

room, navy, olive, grays and blacks across the spectrum. How to accomplish this air of externalized seasonal depression? Easy: just keep wearing exactly what you've been wearing. This last tip not only saves you money that would otherwise be spent shopping for new clothes, but is actually necessary, since the weather hasn't improved much since winter anyway.

Trends may come and go, but if you follow these guidelines, you'll be dressed for success (or at least survival) this semester.

### For Rent

For Rent May And August 2017 1, 2, 3 and 4-bedroom Apartment and Houses 3 Blocks from Duquesne University. They have Wooden Floors, Dishwasher, New Kitchens, New Bathrooms, Whole House Air conditioning, Washer and Dryers, off Locust Street. Call 412-287-5712

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## 'Beast' lives up to classic

**BEAST** — from page 10

pictured with other characters.

While some aspects of the characters and animation did not feel right or suitable, other aspects in plot and setting work in just the right way. Disney's live-action "Beauty and the Beast" was an overall successful attempt at the original version, however it cannot easily replace the beloved cartoon classic.



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## Staff ed: what makes the news, news

**NEWS**— from page 4

clear that that a story has concrete consequences for Duquesne, we will likely not pursue it.

Finally, impact, which is similar to consequence, means asking the question "How many people does this event affect?" Stories that impact large segments of the Duquesne body will receive more attention and are more likely to be covered than those that only affect a few students. They are also more likely to be featured on the front page of The Duke and to be heavily promoted on social media.

Sometimes, stories that meet these criteria are positive, uplifting stories about the successes of students and faculty at Duquesne. At

other times, stories are about low moments for the Duquesne community, or they shine a light on problems that still need to be resolved. Whether a story is positive or negative does not come under consideration at *The Duke* in evaluating its newsworthiness. *The Duke* is not a mouthpiece for Duquesne University — we have no obligation to put the university in a good light. Alternately, we also have no reason to create problems where there are none, since we do not depend on views or "clicks" for our bread and butter. And at all times, we at *The Duke* keep in mind our foremost duty: to be a reliable and relevant source of credible information to the Duquesne community.

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## 'No Scrubs' writers get added to Sheeran hit

AP — The songwriters behind TLC's 1999 megahit "No Scrubs" are now listed as co-writers of Ed Sheeran's No. 1 hit "Shape of You." On the website for performance rights organization ASCAP, Kandi Burruss, Tameka Cottle aka Tiny and Kevin Briggs have been added as co-writers of "Shape of You," co-written by Sheeran, Steve Mac and John McDaid.

"Shape of You" is currently on top of the Billboard Hot 100 chart. Representatives for Sheeran and ASCAP didn't immediately respond to emails from The Associated Press seeking comment.

Burruss and Tiny were members of the R&B girl group Xscape. Burruss, also a reality star on Bravo's "The Real Housewives of Atlanta," posted about the news Sunday on her Instagram page.

"To be a part of such a great song is a blessing," Tiny, in an email to The Associated Press, said of being added to the "Shape of You" songwriters.

Last year The Chainsmokers' ubiquitous No. 1 hit, the Grammy-nominated "Closer," extended writing to two members of The

Fray because of similarities to the band's 2005 hit, "Over My Head (Cable Car)."

In 2015, a jury awarded Marvin Gaye's children \$7.4 million after finding Robin Thicke and Pharrell's "Blurred Lines" copied their father's hit "Got to Give It Up." A judge later cut the verdict to \$5.3 million.

That was the same year Sam Smith gave Tom Petty and Jeff Lynne writing credit on his Grammy-winning hit "Stay With Me" after some said it sounded like Petty's 1989 song, "I Won't Back Down," and Mark Ronson and Bruno Mars, for their worldwide, Grammy-winning "Uptown Funk," extended credit to the five writers of Gap Band's 1979 hit "Oops Upside Your Head."

"Shape of You" has spent almost two months at No. 1 on the Hot 100. The song set the record for the most one-day streams on Spotify with 10,123,630 streams.

"No Scrubs" had a big pop culture moment in the late '90s. It also reached No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100 and earned a Grammy for TLC.



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## On this day in history. . .

- **1775** - Patrick Henry proclaims, "Give me liberty or give me death" in a speech in favour of Virginian troops joining the U.S. Revolutionary war
- **1922** - First airplane lands at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.
- **1925** - Tennessee becomes first state to outlaw teaching theory of evolution
- **1933** - Enabling Act: German Reichstag grants Adolf Hitler dictatorial powers
- **1957** - U.S. army sells last homing pigeons
- **1960** - Explorer (8) fails to reach Earth orbit
- **1970** - US performs nuclear test at Nevada Test Site
- **1972** - NY Yanks agree to continue playing ball in the Bronx
- **1990** - Former Exxon Valdez Captain Joseph Hazelwood ordered to help clean up Prince William Sound and pay \$50,000 in restitution for 1989 oil spill
- **2003** - 75th Academy Awards: "Chicago," Adrien Brody & Nicole Kidman win
- **2013** - The U.S. Senate approves its first budget in four years by a margin of 50-49