



## Duquesne community remembers Kristallnacht

SAMANTHA ZAPACH  
staff writer

To commemorate the 80th anniversary of Kristallnacht, the Duquesne community came together to honor all victims, past and present, affected by anti-Semitic acts of violence.

A candlelight vigil was held on Friday, Nov. 9 on Academic Walk in front of the Student Union to not only mark the anniversary of Kristallnacht, but honor the 11 victims of the Tree of Life synagogue shooting.

Kristallnacht, directly translated as the “night of broken glass,” took place from Nov. 9 to Nov. 10 in 1938, where Nazis invaded and destroyed the homes, businesses, schools and synagogues of Jewish people. Nearly 100 Jews died and more than 30,000 other Jews were arrested and sent off to concentration

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## Students prepare for Thanksgiving break



MEGAN KLINEFELTER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

DU's chapter of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul gathered on the second floor of Towers on Wednesday, Nov. 14 at 8:30 p.m. to make Thanksgiving-themed treat bags to distribute during their weekly Sunday night Downtown outreach programs.

## University reveals new institutional master plan

KELLEN STEPLER  
staff writer

Could you imagine Duquesne University without the Power Center? Not too long ago, that was a reality. The university's Institutional Master Plan, implemented in 2004, which gave the Duquesne community the Power Center, has since expired.

The university's new Institutional Master Plan (IMP) will document Duquesne's proposed development for the next 10 years. The IMP is required by the City of Pittsburgh. The new plan will cover 2018 to 2028, with construction beginning in 2019.

Between the proposed IMP and the university's 2018-2023 Strategic Plan, the administration has many ideas to improve current buildings on campus and even build some new ones. However, it is important to note that all of these projects may not

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## DU library shares stories of veterans through oral history exhibit

LIZA ZULICK  
staff writer

Duquesne's Gumberg Library kicked off an early Veterans Day celebration in an attempt to share many personal stories through the Veterans' Oral History Exhibit. The exhibit is on display until Nov. 30.

Duquesne veterans who have previously participated in the Duquesne Veterans' Oral History Project (VOHP) volunteered to share their stories to be featured in the new exhibit. This project strives to honor Duquesne alumni who have served in the military.

The idea for this exhibit began in July 2016 by the university Oral History Initiative, in partnership with the Office for Military and Veteran Students. The purpose of this project was



CARLEE EVANS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Duquesne University's Veterans Oral History Exhibit is on display in the Gumberg Library until Nov. 30, where visitors can learn about veterans' experiences through DU alumni's first-person accounts of their service in the military.

to preserve Duquesne veterans' stories about their military service, in addition to their memories as a DU student.

Oral historian Megan DeFries, who helped spearhead the project, emphasized that although many people may know a veteran, they may not know his or her story.

“The exhibit is one way to share the oral histories we've gathered, which speak to the dedication and, at times, sacrifice of those who serve our country,” DeFries said. “It can help people understand what we ask of the men and women who serve our country every day and how they often continue to serve their communities long after their military service obligation ends.”

Veterans who have participated in this program include two World War II veterans, one

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## POLICE BRIEFS

PB&J here! This past week was jam-packed with delicious dishes, though many got their just desserts!

On Nov. 7, a St. Ann Hall resident reported that he never received Pittsburgh Steelers tickets after responding to an ad on Craigslist. Seems a little fishy, if you ask me.

On Nov. 8, a student reported that her ex-boyfriend is harassing her through phone calls via Snapchat.

On Nov. 10, DU dispatch received a report of a possible rape of a DU student. The report came from State College, Pennsylvania, Police Dept. The incident will be investigated by the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police Sexual Assault Unit. The case is still active.

Also on Nov. 10, an administrative search in St. Ann Hall resulted in a student being found in possession of several items of marijuana paraphernalia. The student shall be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Also on Nov. 10, a woman reported her purse stolen while attending a basketball game at the Palumbo Center. The case is active.

Also on Nov. 10, a vehicle was pulled over for a stop sign violation. Marijuana was recovered from the vehicle. A non-affiliate is being charged with summary traffic violations and disorderly conduct for the possession of marijuana. A resident student is being referred to the Office of Student Conduct for possession of marijuana, and another student is being referred to the Office of Student Conduct for a marijuana violation and disorderly conduct. Now this is a very smelly situation.

On Nov. 11, an intoxicated female student was located in the St. Martin parking lot. Being underage, she was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Also on Nov. 11, a DU employee found someone to be in his personal vehicle while it was parked in the Forbes parking lot. The employee yelled at the individual, who then fled on foot through the lot and west on Forbes Ave. Now, he did not make a reservation to be there. The investigation is continuing.

Also on Nov. 11, off-duty DUPO witnessed a male, who is banned from campus, panhandle on Forbes Ave and enter the upper Fisher parking lot. A state citation was issued.

Also on Nov. 11, Res Life discovered paraphernalia during an administrative search of a student's room in Assumption Hall. The student is being referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

On Nov. 12, a resident student reported that her purse was stolen from The Incline in the Union. The case is active.

## New 10-year development plan announced by DU

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happen in the next 10 years, as they are just ideas.

Plans for the UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse were recently revealed to the public, though the planning process had begun long before. The project will start as early as Jan. 2019, and the Palumbo Center is expected to close for construction on Mar. 19, 2019.

The new arena will lose about 400 seats, but despite the loss of seating, planners hope for a better fan experience, with closer seating to the players.

Additionally, with the new fieldhouse, McCloskey Field will be undergoing renovations. The field will be enclosed so that it can be used during all seasons, regardless of weather.

But it is not only the athletic facility undergoing renovations. Some dormitories will be experiencing improvements as well.

Brottier Hall, which has not been renovated since its opening in 1970, will look to receive improvements.

There may be a new residence hall in the works as well. Housing on Forbes Avenue may take the place of a parking lot, beside the Power Center and the Red Ring restaurant.

This new residence hall will have "amenities students want," according to Rodney Dobish, associate VP and chief facilities officer. Dobish also noted that



KAITLYN HOLTZ/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Duquesne University's newly announced Institutional Master Plan aims to add developments to campus throughout the next 10 years, in the hopes of benefiting both the DU community and the surrounding areas of Uptown and Downtown Pittsburgh.

the Strategic Plan for 2018-2023 states that "Duquesne will identify bold pathways to offer students the knowledge and skills they will need for productive and fulfilling lives and careers in the 21st century."

This new residence hall will aspire to meet the needs of students in the 21st century. Dobish added that Brottier Hall always fills up quickly with students who are looking for indepen-

dent, apartment-style living. With the addition of this new residence hall, not only will students benefit, but Uptown and the Pittsburgh community will thrive as well.

The IMP is focused on students first, but also looks to benefit the neighborhood. Duquesne wants to transform its 48.5 acres of campus to a space that does not only serve students, but the community as well.

According to the strategic plan, "Duquesne will become the region's flagship for community engagement through mutually beneficial partnerships that advance the city, the region and the world."

Students, faculty, staff and community members are encouraged to give planners feedback. Forms can be submitted anonymously at [duq.edu/imp](http://duq.edu/imp).

## DU veterans oral history exhibit displayed in library

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Korean/Cold War era veteran, four Vietnam War veterans and one Gulf War/Global War on Terror-era veteran.

"We wanted to find a unique way to share these valuable stories with the community, so we applied for and received a special projects grant from the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution to create an exhibit based on the VOHP," DeFries said. "The goal for the exhibit is to highlight the stories from the VOHP using the veterans own words, incorporating images, text and audio clips from the VOHP."

According to Don Accamando, director of the university's Office for Military and Veteran Students, veterans often choose not to talk about their time in the service. However, the veterans who have participated in this program go on to recount the good and bad times they remember from their days of serving our country.

"With so few people actually

serving, the sacrifice tied to that service must be shared so that those not familiar with life and service in the military might understand and appreciate what was done on their behalf," Accamando said.

An additional event was held on Wednesday, Nov. 7, where Duquesne alumni who have served our country were given the chance to share their stories face-to-face with those interested in learning during the story-gathering segment of the celebration.

"Let's face it: Freedom isn't free. You've heard that many times, I'm sure," Accamando said. "Hearing the stories of those who did serve helps those who have not appreciate and value the sacrifice committed on their behalf. That's why these stories are important."

The Duquesne Veterans' Oral History Project was funded by the sponsorship of Bethel Fife and Drum Chapter 2-106 PA and the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution.

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# Tree of Life victims honored during DU Kristallnacht vigil

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camps, where they were brutally treated and killed.

Speakers at the ceremony included Daniel Burston, associate professor of psychology; Laurie Kessler, assistant director for the university's Center for Counseling and Wellbeing; Eric Chatterjee, president of the Student Government Association (SGA) and Will Adams, associate professor of psychology.

As Burston mentioned in his opening remarks at the ceremony, "The Nazis named their brutal escapade Reichskristallnacht or more simply Kristallnacht, to emphasize the quantity of glass that was broken that night, as a way to divert attention from the broken communities, broken families, broken hopes and broken lives, for which the Jewish community was held entirely responsible, and paid for through the confiscation of property and businesses."

According to Burston, he felt that it was his responsibility to

help organize a vigil to raise public awareness about the rising tide of anti-Semitism and white supremacy.

"Killing Jews and destroying their places of worship was one of the Nazis' key objectives on Kristallnacht," Burston said. "This attack [at the Tree of Life synagogue] was inspired by the same bloodthirsty attitude."

The vigil featured a live musical performance from Noah Potvin, assistant professor of music therapy in both the Mary Pappert School of Music and the School of Nursing.

The event was sponsored by the Jewish Studies Forum in partnership with the University Center for Counseling and Wellbeing, the McAnulty College of Liberal Arts and SGA, as well as the Office for Student Diversity, Inclusion and Advancement.

In addition to the vigil, a Kristallnacht remembrance program was held on Monday, Nov. 12, in the Charles J. Dougherty Ballroom in the Power Center, where Roger Frie, professor and clinical psychologist at Simon Fra-



KATIA FAROUN/PHOTO EDITOR

Students, faculty and staff attended DU's annual Kristallnacht remembrance program on Monday, Nov. 12 at 4 p.m., where professor and clinical psychologist Roger Frie discussed his book, *Not in My Family: German Memory and Responsibility After the Holocaust*.

ser University in British Columbia, Canada discussed his award winning book, *Not in My Family: German Memory and Responsibility After the Holocaust*.

In his book, Frie reflects upon

not only his own heritage and family history, but the histories of others to explore the moral and psychological implications on one of the darkest moments in history to this day.

The event was sponsored by the McAnulty College of Liberal Arts as well as the Jewish Studies Forum in partnership with the Nathan and Helen Goldrich Foundation.

# Amazon passed over Pittsburgh, two cities chosen for HQ2

AP — The awarding of Amazon's second headquarters to two affluent localities has fanned intense speculation around a key question: For the winning cities, will the economic payoff prove to be worth the cost?

Amazon's decision will bring to Arlington, Virginia, and the Long Island City section of New York a combined 50,000 jobs and \$5 billion in investment over the next two decades. But the influx is sure to swell already-high home prices and apartment rents and could overwhelm public transportation systems. And the two areas combined are providing over \$2 billion in subsidies to one of the world's richest companies — a bounty that many analysts say probably wasn't necessary to sway Amazon.

The decision to bring those jobs, which Amazon says will pay an average of \$150,000 a year, to the New York and Washington areas will also exacerbate U.S. regional inequalities, economists say. Such midwestern cities as Columbus, Ohio, and Indianapolis, Indiana, which made Amazon's short list, would have helped spread the tech industry's high-skilled, high-paying jobs more broadly.

"It's ambiguous for the winners, not good for the 'losers' and not good at all for the nation," said Mark Muro, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution.

Still, on the surface, the deal appears to be better than most. Amazon says it's receiving \$1.525 billion in incentives and subsidies from New York state and \$573 million from Virginia and Arlington County. That works out to \$61,000 in incentives provided to Amazon for each job in Long Island City and roughly \$23,000 for each job in Arlington.

That compares with a much larger average figure of \$658,000 per job for other large deals, said Greg LeRoy, executive director of Good

Jobs First, a nonpartisan watchdog group. Taiwanese manufacturer Foxconn, for example, received \$4.8 billion in subsidies for a plant in Wisconsin on which it broke ground this year. That deal is expected to bring just 13,000 jobs.

Yet the true figure for New York's subsidies is likely closer to \$2.8 billion. Amazon will also qualify for \$897 million in tax credits from New York City over the next 12 years if it hits its target of creating 25,000 jobs. That's based on a tax credit of \$3,000 for each new employee. It would also receive a 15-year abatement of property taxes on its new Queens campus, worth an estimated \$386 million, according to New York's governor.

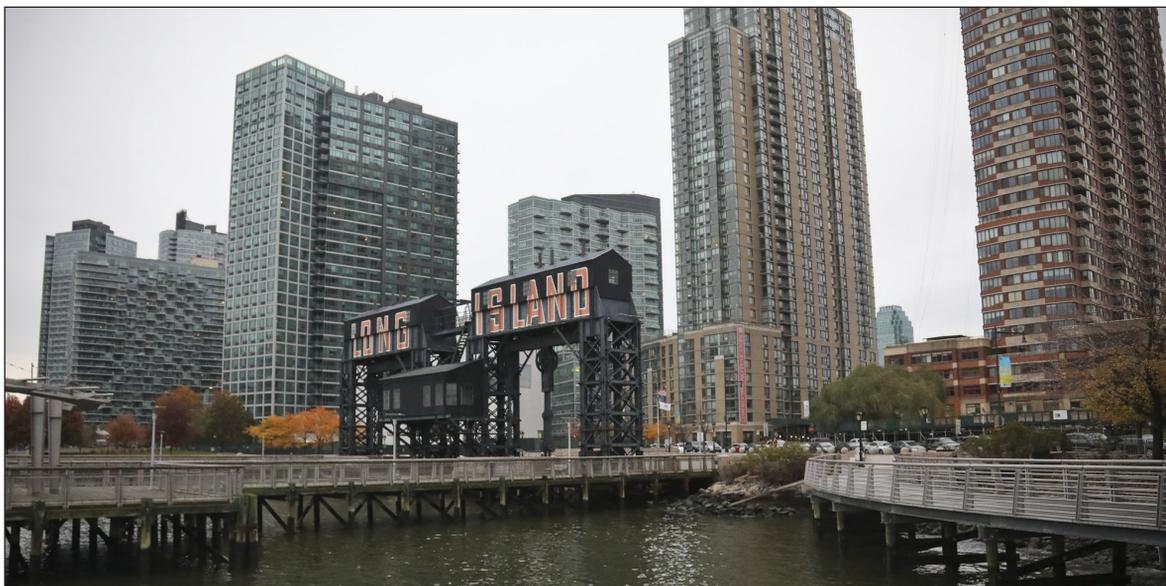
Those city tax credits aren't unique to the Amazon deal. The job creation tax credit is available to all companies in the city. And the property tax abatement is available for most development projects outside of business districts in Manhattan.

But Amazon's final selections suggest that all the subsidies and giveaways probably weren't needed, some economists said. Other state and local governments offered a lot more, including at least \$8.5 billion on behalf of Montgomery County, Maryland, and \$7 billion for Newark, New Jersey.

"If Amazon was pursuing subsidies, it made the wrong decision," said Michael Farren, a research fellow at George Mason University's Mercatus Center. "Even the biggest subsidies you can imagine really don't sway these kinds of decisions."

Rather, Amazon's top priority was having access to a sizable pool of highly skilled employees, Farren said, and it likely would have chosen the same two locations even without the subsidies.

"The only things they're useful for are the companies that get them and the politicians who get the



BEBETO MATTHEWS/AP PHOTO

Amazon announced on Tuesday, Nov. 13, that it has selected the Long Island City section of the Queens neighborhood in New York City, in addition to Arlington, Virginia, as the two sites for its new headquarters.

credit," he said.

Indeed, Jay Carney, an Amazon senior vice president, acknowledged in an interview on CNN that the company had chosen two locations that offered less in subsidies than others had.

"That reflects that talent was really the driving factor for us," Carney said.

Some experts in regional economics suggested that the payoff for the selected cities would go well beyond Amazon's initial investment. Stephen Fuller, an economist at George Mason University, estimates that the new headquarters in Arlington would generate roughly \$1.3 billion in spending each year after the initial construction is complete. That would support nearly 50,000 jobs in the state, Fuller said, in addition to those at Amazon.

"It's really a no-brainer," Fuller said. "They're going to pay an enormous amount in real estate taxes and sales taxes."

Fuller also argues that the region

is large enough to absorb the influx of new workers.

"The region adds 50,000 jobs every year, and no one complains about that," Fuller said. "They're not all coming at one time; they're coming over 15-20 years. It isn't as overwhelming as people think it's going to be."

At the same time, Tim Bartik, a senior economist at the Upjohn Institute, cautioned that with unemployment so low in both cities, many of the jobs Amazon will bring will likely go to people who don't now live in either Arlington or New York. The inflow of those workers could burden schools and transportation systems.

A coalition of nonprofit groups warned that Amazon's arrival will likely worsen housing affordability for many lower-income workers in the two cities. Roughly one-third of residents in Washington, D.C., and 40 percent in New York pay more than 30 percent of their income on housing, the groups, which include

LeRoy's Good Jobs First, pointed out. The typical rent in Queens, which includes Long Island City, is already \$3,000 a month.

Some analysts had thought Amazon might follow a trend that other companies have set and add jobs in cities where salaries and housing were often cheaper. A few Wall Street banks, for example, have sent many of their back-office jobs to states far from New York. The auto factories that once filled the Midwest have migrated to the South, where labor unions have held less sway.

Instead, Amazon chose to expand its footprint to two places where salaries and home prices are relatively close to those of Seattle, its current sole headquarters city, said Aaron Terrazas, senior economist at the real estate firm Zillow.

"These two markets definitely can absorb this kind of employment shock — and they have some time to prepare for it," he said.

AP Economics Writer Josh Boak contributed to this report.

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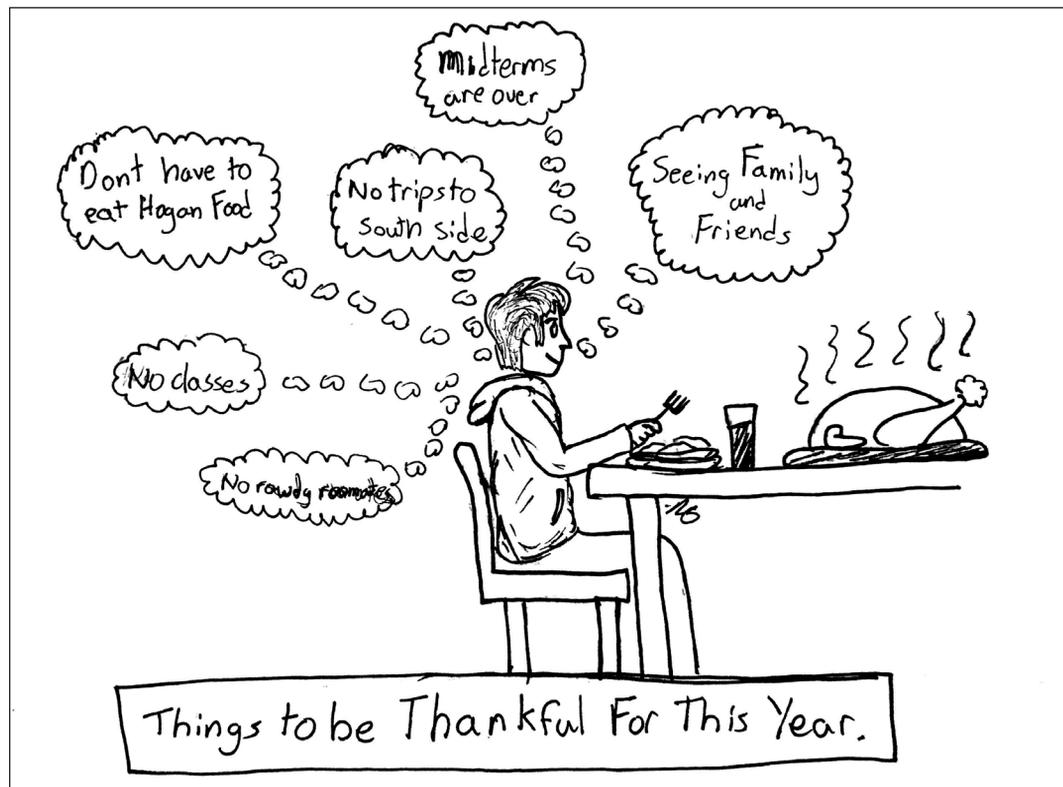
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CARTOON BY ROBERT GWIAZDA

in focus...

## Christmas Capitalism unfair to workers, buries true meaning

**OLLIE GRATZINGER**

opinions editor

The halls are decked, the stockings are hung, the mochas are minty and it isn't even Thanksgiving yet.

'Tis the season, I suppose, but every year, the season comes sooner. Malls were adorned with ornate bulbs and towering trees as early as Nov. 1. Stores sent out their holiday catalogues weeks ago, and towering signs for “holiday collections” and “Christmas sales” have been positioned in the windows of every shop in sight.

Now, there's no problem with getting into the spirit early. I love Christmas songs and pine-scented candles as much as the next guy, but it always felt to me like there was something sinister amid the focus on consumerism, something detracting fundamentally from the holiday's real substance.

For many, what used to be about spending time with loved ones, being thankful for what you have or celebrating one's religious beliefs is now about getting the best sale, finding the best gifts and, for companies, making the most money.

On a larger scale, the corporatization of Christmas highlights a trend that has always been present, but it seems like stores coming out with holiday-themed merch earlier and earlier only strengthens the connection between Christmas and consumerism. By putting up a big ol' pine tree in the mall and flyers in the windows of storefronts, businesses are incentivizing folks to buy stuff before the sale ends, before they lose

the deal, before someone else gets it first, and the idea of gift-giving becomes complicated by a sense of urgency and false necessity. These corporations use Christmas as a way to make products more marketable, exploiting their workers and preying upon the consumer's fondness for the holiday season.

There's no doubt in my mind that capitalism — and the materialism that goes along with it — has irreparable consequence on our moral character. Don't get me wrong; It's no sin to buy your friend a nice present. That isn't what I'm complaining about, here. The problem, instead, lies in the lack of responsibility on the part of companies to be conscious of retail workers' needs. Corporations rarely care about those who work for them — especially not during the holiday season, which the National

Retail Foundation estimates can yield 20 to 30 percent of its annual profit, depending on the store. Instead, corporations only care about how much the self-induced Christmas frenzy can put in the company's pocket.

Employees are forced to put in tireless hours and sacrifice their time with loved ones, just so customers can come in and buy that sweater, TV or cup of coffee. Most stores find themselves understaffed and unprepared to deal with the rapid increase in foot traffic, and consequently, managers pushed to breaking points take out their frustrations on associates and cashiers who might've been there for eight, 10 or even 12 hours. Maybe they missed Thanksgiving dinner with their family. Maybe they weren't

able to attend their kid's Christmas play at school. They had to be at work, instead, just because Christmas came early and it brought a bunch of sales quotas along with it.

Nevertheless, customers are almost always in a hurry, and when crowded stores yield long lines, they tend to forget that the folks ringing them out are people and not robots, and the words that are said tend to lack even the most basic kind of respect. Folks who would treat workers with dignity and perhaps even kindness during any other time of the year find themselves stressed by the holiday rush, and if they feel that the sale wasn't good enough or the service wasn't fast enough, all humanity goes out the window.

Is that really what Christmas is supposed to be about? Money and efficiency?

There's a reason that Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* portrays the fabulously wealthy businessman Ebenezer Scrooge, who rarely takes into account neither the comfort nor the plight of his employees, as a bad and selfish man.

If Dickens doesn't suit you, what about the Bible itself? Wasn't it Jesus who flipped the merchants' table in the temple and accused them of transforming a house of worship into a den of thieves? Something tells me that Jesus wouldn't be a huge fan of Christmas coupons.

For some, Christmas itself is as holy as a temple, and for others, it's just a time to relax with loved ones. By kicking off the Christmas festivities early, corporations have found a way to capitalize on holiday cheer. Corporations sell their product under a model that assumes the more you spend on a person, the more you love them. But as the Beatles said, you can't buy love, and you can't buy Christmas, either.

## STAFF EDITORIAL

### Climate change is a growing danger

The images coming out of California leave a horrific impression. It looks like one is witnessing Armageddon or taking a peek into Dante's mind when he envisioned Hell.

Since Nov. 8, California has been devastated by three incredibly destructive — and deadly — wildfires. The Camp Fire, located north of Sacramento, has killed 48 people and destroyed close to 9,000 buildings as of press time according to the *New York Times*. The fire is at 201 square miles and growing, which to put it into perspective, is 3.7 times the size of Pittsburgh, according to an NBC News graphic. It has been declared the most deadly and destructive wildfire in California's history. The Woolsey Fire also started on Nov. 8, and has grown to 95,000 acres, burning the posh neighborhood of Malibu north of Los Angeles. A relatively smaller fire, the Hill Fire, burns nearby the Woolsey one.

These wildfires are just the latest flashing red warning light of the irrevocable damage being done to our planet from climate change. Just last month, the United Nations warned in a report that the world is 12 years away from crossing the 1.5 degrees Celsius of warming threshold that scientists warn will bring dramatic environmental destruction. As America and much of the world stands idly by, unmotivated to change, our situation will just get worse.

Record-breaking hurricanes, fires, floods, tornadoes and droughts will continue to occur at an ever-alarming rate. If nothing is done, these will continue to become evermore the norm. The perils of human-made climate change have long been ignored by most of the media, many politicians and a large number of the American people. Distractions like Trump Cabinet drama should seem insignificant next to an existential crisis, yet it dominates our discourse.

For some reason, climate change always seems to take a backseat to whatever else is driving the news cycle. It is difficult to filter through all of the articles and hot takes in our feeds on a day-to-day basis, and while what is happening at the government level in our country needs to be paid attention to and addressed, all of that will end up being futile if we can't preserve our planet.

Our priorities have to refocus to the environmental and human tragedies in California and across the globe. Europe faced a record-setting heat wave this past summer, where according to the *Guardian*, there were wildfires above the Arctic Circle in July. In February 2018, cities in the Mid-Atlantic and New England saw the temperature rise above 80

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# OPINIONS

## Black Friday is a cultural tradition, albeit a problematic one

ZOE STRATOS  
staff columnist

In 2017, more than 70 million people participated in the busiest shopping day of the year: Black Friday. However, with all of the discounts, clearances, price tags slashed and doorbusters up for grabs, is the tradition really worth all the trouble braving sale-crazy crowds? After factoring all of the fine print, thoughtless buys and rip-off sale prices, the “great deals” shoppers claim to have grabbed usually end up racking the end price up and benefiting the stores more than the credit card.

Like the confusion surrounding Black Friday’s legitimacy, the history also has its share of ambiguity.

According to an infographic found on Ama.org and expanded upon on History.com, the term “Black Friday” was first used to describe a financial disaster. Due to the selfishness of Wall Street giants, the crash of the U.S. gold market in 1869 bankrupted the stock market.

The next use of the term was coined in the 1950s by the Philadelphia Police Department in response to the flock of shoppers who traveled there after Thanksgiving to watch the highly anticipated Army versus Navy football game the following Saturday. Police were required to take on long



COURTESY OF BGR.COM

CNBC reports that holiday sales could hit more than \$1 trillion, topping last year.

shifts to keep the chaos to a minimum, as well as to prevent shoplifters from benefiting from the overall craziness of the weekend.

Following the negative connotation associated with Black Friday, in the 1960s, Philadelphians began using the term regularly — even unsuccessfully attempting to switch the term to “Big Friday.” From then on, Black Friday began to catch on across the nation, and again, tracked in a new meaning and historical significance to the phrase.

The most common — and positive — story behind Black Friday partners with retailers going from “red to black” the day after Thanksgiving.

Prior to the day, most stores are at a loss, or in the red, but after the day of heightened sales and purchases most create profit, or enter into the black.

Even though it’s said to be the biggest sale day of the year, most retailers have been able to deceive the public through a multitude of methods to get the most amount of money possible out of consumers on the shopping holiday.

As an American pastime, Black Friday comes with a reputation of packed parking lots, overbearing ads and good deals across all stores. However, since everyone has become accustomed to venturing out the day after Thanksgiving every year, the

deals automatically sound good. A lot of people, including myself, even go just for fun hoping for a good or pointless buy here and there.

Not only has the day just become routine, multiple holidays following Thanksgiving have taken the place or even have offered better deals than those of traditional Black Friday shopping. Cyber Monday and Small Business Saturday have caused the quality of prices to decline, as less “doorbusters” are necessary on the big day of sales.

The most important part of Black Friday is reading the fine print. Ads and even signs in-store always include small print underneath explaining the return policy, exclusions and time frames. With that said, these types of sales happen often, not only on Black Friday.

Along with fine print, percentages off versus dollars off is important to notice as well. On most ads and signs in-store, the numbers appear much larger than the words, usually making the sale look much more appealing than it actually is. Taking 20 percent off of a \$30 object reduces the price only to \$24, whereas \$20 off reduces the price to \$10 — a major difference, and most stores use percentages off.

On another note, doorbuster sales may recur throughout the year dur-

ing other holiday specials. Specifically, stores like Best Buy, Macy’s and Bed, Bath & Beyond often mark prices as the lowest of the year on holidays like Memorial Day and Presidents’ Day — eventually bringing them back to pose as the lowest sales on Black Friday. This tool is extremely clever on retailers’ end; using the urgency of low price prompts consumers to want to buy the product before it sells out — and they are not even getting that great of a deal.

Another downside to Black Friday shopping is the exclusion of price matching across multiple well-known stores. Target’s policy states price matching is not available from Thanksgiving through the end of the following week.

With all of that said, Black Friday truly is not worth it and does not offer significant sales unless someone does major couponing, ad reading, storefront camping and price comparing. Preparation is key in actually saving a noticeable amount of money in the grand scheme of things.

However, that does not stop millions of people from waking up at 3 a.m., and I do not think it should. Even though Black Friday is a big scam for retailers to create quick profit, the fun and tradition can never be taken away.

## Trump-Acosta feud continues, rekindles discussion of fake news

MITCHELL TAYLOR  
staff columnist

CNN has come under fire for the actions of its chief White House correspondent, Jim Acosta, following an unusually heated press conference. Videos of the event show a persistent Acosta refusing to give up the microphone to the White House intern, despite President Trump’s repeated demands to do so. After he finally acquiesces, Trump proceeds to tell him that he is “a rude and terrible person” and that he “shouldn’t be working for CNN.”

The barrage of insults—and his subsequent attack on CNN—should come as no surprise to those who are familiar with Trump’s belligerent behavior. After reviling Acosta for lacking moral integrity, Trump goes on to claim that “when you report fake news, which CNN does a lot, you are the enemy of the people.” It’s easy to spot the irony in Trump’s self-contradictory statements, first claiming that Acosta is not worthy of working for CNN and then undermining the network’s credibility by accusing it of frequently reporting fake news.

The real perpetrator of fake news though seems to be Infowars editor Paul Joseph Watson, who released a different version of the original video. In it, Acosta appears to swiftly strike the intern’s arm away after she reaches for the microphone. Naturally, the White House pounced on the opportunity to defame Acosta by portraying him as having taken the exchange to a physical level. White House Press Secretary

Sarah Huckabee Sanders tweeted the altered video the following day, asserting that “[w]e will not tolerate the inappropriate behavior clearly documented in this video.” This video also conveniently omits the part where Acosta says “Pardon me, ma’am” to the intern. Despite the video’s dubiousness, it is unclear whether the original was deliberately doctored. In an interview with BuzzFeed, the Infowars editor Watson argued to the contrary: “Fact is, Daily Wire put up a gif, I download a gif, zoomed in saved it again as an mt2 file — then converted it to an mp4. Digitally it’s gonna look a tiny bit different after processing and zooming in, but I did not in any way deliberately ‘speed up’ or ‘distort’ the video. That’s just horse shit.”

Even if deliberate doctored of the video cannot be proven, the ease with which many accepted it as valid confirms that the rampant propagation of fake news in this country needs to be earnestly acknowledged. I don’t believe that Sanders knew that the video she was tweeting was not the original one. I may very well be wrong, naïve even, for thinking this. But it seems more likely to me that Sanders was simply another victim of fake news, one who clumsily accepted information without questioning its origins.

Granted, her subconscious search for information that supported her opinions was almost certainly a factor in this, but this is yet another symptom of those who fall prey to fake news. Too many people are either ignorant of their confirmation bias or are stubbornly unwilling

to acknowledge it.

Each scenario is equally pernicious, as it condemns its victim to obtuseness and gullibility. Anyone who researches anything must consider the credibility of the source, which can be done in several ways.

The most obvious strategy is to consider the reputation of the source. Is it a nationally recognized network such as CNN? Or is it some blogger with unrealistic aspirations of becoming a renowned journalist? Likewise, consider who the author is. Is it a renowned journalist with professional credentials and an abundance of experience? Or is it that aspirational blogger who most likely cannot be trusted? A way of judging the credibility of the article itself is by looking for clearly biased words or phrases. If the author suggests that the subject of discussion is either good or bad, for example, this should immediately alert you to the fact that the article is not entirely factual, if at all. It could also simply mean that you are reading an opinion piece, like the one you’re reading now (hopefully you’ve noticed). Whatever the case, be wary of the information you are given. Reluctance to believe something with scant evidence is far safer than ready acceptance of it.

In review of the press conference feud, it is also important to note that Jim Acosta was not without error. His ostensible questions were in fact devious criticisms of the president’s policies and statements, statements which required no clarification. Acosta partook in an unprofessional form of journalism that seeks to interro-



COURTESY OF THE HILL

gate rather than inquire. What’s more, he defied the president’s repeated demands to cease his line of questioning, and he resisted the White House intern’s attempts to take the microphone from him. It is of course a journalists’ job to press for information; it’s in the name. However, with that freedom also comes the responsibility of recognizing when to desist.

It is tempting for us Trump critics to dismiss his statements and to focus solely on his wrongdoings. It is necessary, though, to be aware of our confirmation bias and to confront it, rather than stubbornly deny its existence. If we acknowledge only our opponent’s mistakes, we strengthen their conviction that we are, in Trump’s words, “the enemy of the people.” Admit your errors, and you may just show your seeming enemy that you often want the same thing that they do—you just see a different way of getting it.

# New program assists in helping students find jobs

CLAUDIA HARDY  
staff writer

The university is made up of a diverse student body that includes people of all abilities who are working towards the same future goal: a career.

Thanks to the Jewish Family and Community Services Career Development Center (JFCS), students with physical, psychological and learning disabilities have the opportunity to get career advice specific to their needs right on campus.

The “Career and Wellbeing Initiative,” also originally known as “EmployABLE,” recognizes that job seekers with disabilities could potentially have struggles or challenges when searching for meaningful employment.

JFCS Career Counselor Kaitlyn Myers-Brooks has worked closely with the establishment of this program that is now available at the university.

“In 2017, JFCS reached out to local universities, working to address these challenges with students before they reached graduation,” Brooks said. “Duquesne recognized the need for this kind of support ... and we are excited about our strong partnership moving forward.”

The Career and Wellbeing Initiative hopes to help students successfully learn about important aspects of the job

search in relation to how their personal wellbeing intersects with their career goals.

“The more we can have conversations about the impact of personal wellbeing on future goals for employment,” Brooks said, “the more successful all Duquesne students will be.”

The program was established in 2017 when JFCS began working with Duquesne by providing training to staff on topics such as mental health and the job search, disability disclosure and career accommodations. As of September 2018, there are now regular career counselors on campus who are providing one-on-one career counseling and workshops for students.

Brooks noted that this program is not limited to students with a formal diagnosis, but is also available to those who have found that their academic success and career have been impacted by several aspects of their emotional, financial and physical wellbeing.

A common piece of advice that Brooks and her team give to students is the importance of learning about yourself.

“... giving yourself time for self-assessment is possibly the most important step in the entire career process,” Brooks noted. “You will discover not only what kinds of jobs align with your interests and skills but also the strengths that will help you reach your career goals.”

In addition to helpful career advice, students also have the advantage of accessing this program for free, thanks to funding from the United Way of Southwest Pennsylvania.

When compared to other similar programs at other universities, Brooks noted that the Career and Wellbeing Initiative stands out due to the importance of collaboration.

“Our career counselors, who all have backgrounds in clinical social work or clinical mental health, are working with four unique student services at Duquesne: the Center for Career Development, Disability Services, the Center for Student Wellbeing and the Office of Military and Veteran Students,” Brooks said.

In addition to collaboration, the career counselors look at each student as an individual and work with students to build a job search plan that meets their specific needs.

“Our program has helped over 1,000 individuals with disabilities find meaningful careers that match their skills and education,” Brooks noted. “Since launching the program at Duquesne University and Point Park University, we have seen about 50 students and conducted trainings for over 100 professors and staff members.”

The team is made up of 14 career counselors that work in the main office in Squirrel Hill, and a career counselor that serves on-site at each



OLIVIA HIGGINS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Disability Services Office, located in Union 309, started the Career and Wellbeing Initiative to help students whose academic success has been affected by an aspect of their wellbeing, included financial and emotional.

campus.

“I am excited to be serving as the Duquesne program’s on-campus career counselor,” Brooks said. “I am available to meet with students on Wednesdays.”

The team hopes to see attendance with this program increase in time and that students will take advantage of this service, whether it is through individual counseling or by attending the various workshops.

“We hope that the discussion of disability and student wellbeing becomes a normalized part of the conversation around career planning,” Brooks said. “We believe this

will help ensure that students have the support they need to succeed during their time at Duquesne and beyond.”

For students interested in participating in this program, please contact Duquesne’s Center for Career Development at 412-396-6644 and ask to meet with someone to discuss Career and Wellbeing. This program is also open to alumni, who can either meet with a career counselor on site at Duquesne, or contact JFCS Career Development Center at 412-422-5627 to meet with a counselor in the main office or one of the nine regional sites throughout the city.

## Horoscopes

**Sagittarius**  
(November 23-December 22)  
Like Florence and the Machine promised, happiness will hit you like a train. As a train, actually.

**Capricorn**  
(December 22-January 19)  
You will find yourself in a Ring-style cursed videotape situation, but with a DVD of the holiday classic *Miracle on 34th Street*.

**Aquarius**  
(January 20-February 18)  
The left eye twitch, once endearing, will fuel anger and disgust after the incident.

**Pisces**  
(February 19-March 20)  
You will perish in a Black Friday trampling, a martyr for a \$55 KitchenAid Mixer.

**Aries**  
(March 21-April 19)  
Hey! Stop! Put that down, this minute!

**Taurus**  
(April 20-May 20)  
Craigslist will prove an unwise source of organ transplants.

**Gemini**  
(May 21-June 20)  
You learn all the words to “We Didn’t Start the Fire,” but can’t find the words to bring your soulmate back.

**Cancer**  
(June 21-July 22)  
You make the best country-style turkey gravy your family has ever seen — but at what cost?

**Leo**  
(July 23-August 22)  
Your uncle’s Thanksgiving rant will open your eyes to the lizard cabal that even you are a part of.

**Virgo**  
(August 23-September 22)  
Forgetting to shave is like digging your grave. Have your follicles lasered.

**Libra**  
(September 23 - October 22)  
Your own mother will describe you as “gumpy.”

**Scorpio**  
(October 23-November 22)  
You’ll be shaken to your core when you discover *A Bug’s Life* is fictional.

# Dukes hit the ground hot, jump to 2-0

**ADAM LINDNER**  
sports editor

Prior to Nov. 10's season opener against William & Mary, the vast majority of observers were totally unsure of what to expect from the Duquesne men's basketball team this season.

With 11 newcomers on the team's roster, there was certainly cause for excitement surrounding the program's trajectory, as it's clear that the team possesses talent — and a lot of it at that. Nevertheless, much of that enthusiasm was supplemented by uncertainty, thanks to a severe lack of experience.

With only two returning contributors, Mike Lewis II and Eric Williams Jr., on the team's roster at the season's outset — forward Kellon Taylor won't join the team until his duties with Duquesne's football team end — nobody was quite sure of what to expect from such a new group of teammates.

Following an 84-70 victory over a solid William & Mary team on Nov. 10 and a thrilling, 89-88 overtime win against the UIC Flames two days later, pundits should have a pretty good idea of what to expect from Duquesne now: unpredictability.

Against the Tribe on Nov. 10, 73.8 percent of the Dukes' points came from new faces, including 17 tallies on 85.8 shooting from 6-foot-10 freshman Austin Rotroff — including a 3-for-3 clip from downtown.

Perhaps even more impressive was freshman guard Sincere Carry's debut. The Solon, Ohio native posted nine assists and zero turnovers in his first-ever collegiate game that also included two steals in 29 minutes of action. Described by Duquesne Head Coach Keith Dambrot as a defensive-minded, pass-first point guard that has the ability to score, Carry appeared extremely poised for a former West Liberty (Division II) recruit.

If anything, Dambrot certainly knows what he's doing when it comes to snagging overlooked talent. Williams, an eventual 2017-18 A-10 All-Rookie Team honor-

ee, hadn't received any Division I scholarship offers until Dambrot swooped in late and grabbed him during the 2017 recruiting cycle, either.

After the UIC game, Carry acknowledged that it felt nice to prove himself at the D-I level, but as his maturity on the court may suggest, he seems focused on something wholly different.

"It feels good. But, I'm just trying to prove that I'm a winner. I don't really care if it was D-I or D-II, I just want to prove that I'm a winner and I'm having fun," Carry said.

As for whether or not he could have asked for a better two games to begin his college career, Carry said, "Not really. I don't really care about my own stats, I just care about winning. And turning the program around. So, we won both games, so I wouldn't change nothing."

Fair enough.

Beyond strong individual performances, the nature of DU's two victories should give fans plenty of cause for enthusiasm.

Against William & Mary, the Dukes had to maintain focus on the technicalities of the game, paying close attention to the Princeton-style offense that Tribe Head Coach Tony Shaver employs. Dambrot said he was pleased with his team's ability

to disrupt the Tribe's offensive attack, forcing a good ball-handling team into 16 turnovers in the process.

"We'd like to trap a little bit more. I just didn't feel like it was the right time to really come at them," Dambrot said, referencing a more conservative defensive style than what was on display two nights later against UIC. "But we'd like to run at the ball — we did a couple times in the halfcourt, and I thought it frazzled them up a little bit."

Conversely, against UIC, the Dukes found themselves down early, largely thanks to superb shooting by the Flames. UIC shot 7-for-11 from 3-point range in the first half.

However, forward Marcus Weathers did acknowledge postgame that the Dukes had to up their physicality in the game's second half to get back into it.

Down by 12 with around three minutes left in regulation, Duquesne put together one of the most memorable late-game runs in recent program memory, tying its third-best comeback in the past 22 years, according to Duquesne basketball sports information director Dave Saba.

Such a gritty win couldn't have even been visualized in recent years, especially with perennial

top scorer Lewis struggling to find his groove, though he did hit a vital corner 3-pointer in transition in the game's winding minutes.



STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/ED MAJOR

Freshman guard Sincere Carry, pictured above, made impressive first impressions with fans during his first two games. DU won both contests, moving to 2-0 on the young season.

Against UIC, the Dukes were led by Carry again, who posted 32 points, eight assists, six rebounds, four steals and one very memorable block on a much taller UIC shooter's layup attempt. That's not to mention a contested layup at the buzzer that sent the game to overtime.

Freshman guard Lamar Norman Jr., who didn't see the court at all against William & Mary, hit several key shots down the stretch for the Dukes, including a crucial long-range bomb halfway through the overtime period that helped the Dukes regain momentum for good.

Next, the Dukes face reigning Big South champion Radford in Akron, Ohio, on Nov. 17, where Dambrot will re-visit his old stomping grounds at St. Vincent-St. Mary High School. Dambrot coached NBA great LeBron James from 1999-2001 at the school.

It remains to be seen what's in store for the Dukes in their next contest, and chances are, Dambrot isn't even too sure.

I'd bet he's probably just happy at 2-0 right now.



STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/ED MAJOR

Junior guard Mike Lewis II (right) bounces a post entry pass to forward Marcus Weathers during Duquesne's game versus William & Mary on Nov. 10. The Dukes won, 84-70, and handed the Tribe its first loss of the 2018-19 season in the process.

## Upcoming DU Sports Events

The following events are all of Duquesne's varsity athletic events for the next 10 days.

— **Nov. 16-18**

Women's Swimming & Diving @ Magnus Cup (at Cleveland State)

— **Nov. 16-18**

Women's Bowling @ Hawk Classic Invitational (at Millsboro, Delaware)

— **Nov. 16-18**

Women's Volleyball (A-10 Tournament; at Richmond, Virginia)

— **Nov. 17, 12 p.m.**

Men's Basketball vs. Radford (at Akron, Ohio)

— **Nov. 17, 12 p.m.**

Football @ Central Connecticut State (at New Britain, Connecticut)

— **Nov. 18, 2 p.m.**

Women's Basketball @ Toledo (at Toledo, Ohio)

— **Nov. 20, 7 p.m.**

Men's Basketball @ Notre Dame (at South Bend, Indiana)

— **Nov. 25, 1 p.m.**

Men's Basketball vs. UMass Lowell (**A.J. Palumbo Center**)

— **Nov. 25, 2 p.m.**

Women's Basketball @ Saint Francis (at Loretto, Pennsylvania)

## Duquesne to retire Robinson's No. 32

On Nov. 14, the Duquesne Department of Athletics announced that it will retire the jersey No. 32 in recognition of women's basketball guard April Robinson. The ceremony will be held prior to Duquesne's Jan. 27 game against George Washington at the A.J. Palumbo Center.

Robinson, who graduated in 2016, finished her career at DU ranked fourth in program scoring history with 1,598 points, first in 3-pointers with 249 and first in both games played and started with 133.

Robinson becomes the third women's basketball player in program history to have her jersey number retired, following Korie Hlede (No. 25) and Beth Friday (No. 40).

## NCAA CFP Rankings — Week 12

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall	Streak	Next
1.	Alabama	7-0	10-0	W10	11/17 vs. The Citadel
2.	Clemson	7-0	10-0	W10	11/17 vs. Duke
3.	Notre Dame	N/A	10-0	W10	11/17 vs. 12 Syracuse
4.	Michigan	7-0	9-1	W9	11/17 vs. Indiana
5.	Georgia	7-1	9-1	W3	11/17 vs. UMass
6.	Oklahoma	6-1	9-1	W4	11/17 vs. Kansas
7.	LSU	5-2	8-2	W1	11/17 vs. Rice
8.	Washington St.	6-1	9-1	W6	11/17 vs. Arizona
9.	West Virginia	6-1	8-1	W3	11/17 @ Oklahoma State
10.	Ohio State	6-1	9-1	W2	11/17 @ Maryland

## NCAA FCS NEC Standings — Week 12

Rank	Team	Conf.	Overall	Streak	Next
1.	<b>Duquesne</b>	4-1	7-3	W4	11/17 @ Cen. Conn. St.
2.	Cen. Conn. St.	4-1	6-4	W2	11/17 vs. Duquesne
3.	Sacred Heart	4-1	6-4	L1	11/17 vs. Saint Francis U
4.	Saint Francis U	2-3	4-6	L1	11/17 @ Sacred Heart
5.	Wagner	2-3	3-7	W1	11/17 @ Robert Morris
6.	Bryant	2-4	5-5	L3	11/17 @ Howard
7.	Robert Morris	0-5	2-8	L3	11/17 vs. Wagner

# Dukes, Blue Devils set for NEC Championship rematch

ADAM LINDNER  
sports editor

Just over one year ago, the Duquesne football team welcomed NEC foe Central Connecticut State to Rooney Field. Both teams were 4-0 in-conference at the time of the meeting, and since each of the remaining teams in the seven-team league already had at least two losses, the Nov. 11, 2017, date between the Blue Devils and Dukes effectively served as the 2017 NEC Championship. Furthermore, an automatic bid in the FCS playoffs was at stake.

It was Senior Day at Rooney Field for the Dukes, too, since their only remaining regular season game was set for Nov. 18 against Bryant in Smithfield, Rhode Island.

For the aforementioned reasons, Duquesne's game against the Blue Devils was of the utmost importance. With a win, its seniors would leave the Bluff with a victory, NEC Championship and FCS playoff bid in hand. Without one, though, its season would likely conclude in less-than-spectacular fashion at Bryant on Nov. 18.

Ultimately, however, Duquesne fell to the Blue Devils — and in none other than downright heartbreaking fashion. Up 27-14 with under seven minutes left to play, Duquesne went on to surrender 14 unanswered points to Central Connecticut State, forfeiting the game's lead in the process.

In the final minute of the contest, Duquesne managed to move the ball deep into Blue Devil territory, eventually setting up Dukes kicker John Domit with a 19-yard

field goal try with mere seconds remaining. But the attempt sailed left, and CCSU celebrated as a devastated Duquesne team looked on.

Not only had DU blown a late lead in its impromptu title game — it had done it on its own turf.

Fast forward 364 days to Nov. 10, 2018, and the Dukes found themselves in a familiar position. It was Senior Day again on the Bluff, with snow flurries complicating the forecast this time around. The opponent was Sacred Heart, the lone undefeated team



STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/ED MAJOR  
Duquesne quarterback Daniel Parr (left), running back A.J. Hines (center) and wideout Kelton Taylor (right) convene during the Nov. 10 game versus Sacred Heart. DU won, 28-24.

remaining in the Northeast Conference. At 3-1 in the NEC and 6-3 overall, Duquesne controlled its own destiny entering the matchup: if the Dukes topped the Pioneers, it would assure themselves a crack at another NEC crown on Nov. 18 — this time, at Central Connecticut State.

With a Duquesne loss, Sacred Heart would have clinched the NEC outright, as well as the conference's singular automatic bid for the FCS playoffs. At Rooney Field, too, nonetheless.

A.J. Hines & Co. were having none of that.

On an afternoon where neither offense could find any sort of consistency through its passing game, the junior tailback tallied a monstrous 213 rushing yards and one touchdown on 31 carries en route to his fourth-consecutive NEC Player of the Week nod.

The game was Hines' fourth straight contest with over 200 total yards from scrimmage.

Head Coach Jerry Schmitt, in his 14th season leading the Duquesne program, insisted after Saturday's game that Hines isn't "on a roll," per se, but is simply just playing his game, 100 percent healthy.

"He's just an extremely talented player that's playing healthy. I can't even say he's getting on a roll — it's the way he plays. He's a really good football player, and his offensive line is helping him a ton," Schmitt said of Hines.

The coach then expounded on the importance of this year's group of seniors, expressing gratitude and appreciation for not only their efforts, but also for their

collective character and maturity.

"They mean a ton to our program, and they're all good students, and even more so, they're great people," Schmitt remarked. "Great young men. So proud of them, and happy for them, and I just want to extend this and be able to coach them as long as I can here."

Only a junior, Hines expressed similar sentiments.

"It's a big win. Coming in, we knew what they were gonna do, and we're just glad that we gave it our all and got this win on Senior Day," Hines said. "Got it for the seniors, and we got a chance to do big things in these next few weeks."

If Hines' recent performances are any indication, he means business. And that's not to mention the added motivation from last season's disappointing ending — something Hines admits isn't lost on him.

"Yessir, of course," Hines said in response to whether or not he had revenge for CCSU on his mind. "We know what happened last year. I think we still got that bad taste in our mouth, and we just want to come out, have a great week of practice and go up there and show what we got."

Schmitt sounds equally excited for the opportunity to right last year's wrongs.

"It's been a very challenging season all across the board, in many different ways," Schmitt said. "For our guys to fight back, improve each week, and mentally, just get into a routine of playing football, and then have successes like this, it's huge for us to get to this point and have this opportunity next week."

# Steelers' Bell refuses to sign tag, out for 2018

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Le'Veon Bell's patience on the football field sets him apart.

In a game built on chaos, the star running back rarely hurries or makes hasty decisions.

His ability to put his hand on the back of an offensive lineman while waiting for the hole to open — much like a child sticking close to a parent in a crowded store — helps him make the remarkably difficult at times look remarkably easy.

His career at a crossroads partly of his own making, Bell will have to rely on that patience now more than ever after the two-time All-Pro declined to sign his one-year, \$14.4 million franchise tender with the Pittsburgh Steelers by Tuesday's deadline, making him ineligible to play for the AFC North leaders or anyone else this season.

The unprecedented move sets Bell up for the potentially big-time payday he has long been searching when he becomes a free agent in the spring, provided there's a team willing to splurge on one of the league's more talented if mercurial players.

While TV cameras set up outside the team's practice facility on Tuesday to catch Bell if he decided to show up for work for the first time in nearly 10 months, the 26-year-old never pulled up to the gates, ending — for now — one of the more unusual labor standoffs between a team and a player in the era of free agency.

Pittsburgh coach Mike Tomlin seemed resigned to Bell's decision shortly before

the 4 p.m. deadline, saying simply "so be it" when asked about the possibility of Bell not returning to the team that selected him in the second round of the 2013 draft and helped mold him into one of the league's most dynamic threats.

"Even when we don't understand it, we're sensitive to it, so we're not shocked when



AP PHOTO/MICHAEL WYKE  
In this 2017 photo, Steelers running back Le'Veon Bell (26) warms up before a game against the Texans in Houston. Bell had until 4 p.m. ET on Tuesday to sign his franchise tag with Pittsburgh for the 2018 season.

things happen from a business standpoint, no," Tomlin said.

The Steelers (6-2-1), who have won five straight to sprint to the top of the division heading into a visit to Jacksonville on Sunday, will turn to second-year back James Conner and reserves Stevan Ridley and rookie Jaylen Samuels to help shoulder the load with Bell out of the picture.

Conner, third in the NFL with 771 yards rushing, remained in the concussion protocol on Tuesday after leaving last Thursday's blowout win against Carolina but could practice as early as Wednesday.

All season Tomlin stressed he was focused on the players in the locker room and not the ones outside it. He hardly seemed bothered by the idea of Pittsburgh's quest for a post-season berth continuing without Bell.

"That train has left the station," Tomlin said. "We're comfortable with how we function, the people at our disposal, the division of labor and our ability to ready ourselves for the challenges."

The Steelers drafted Bell with the 48th overall pick five years ago, won over by his youth, size and versatility. Along with wide receiver Antonio Brown, Bell became the linchpin in which the Steelers rebuilt themselves on the fly as the franchise's identity shifted away from the defense that fueled three Super Bowl appearances in six years from 2005-2010 toward an offense that ranked among the most explosive in the league.

The makeover relied heavily on Bell, whose patient running style became his trademark while helping Pittsburgh to four straight playoff berths.

Bell is one of only three players in recent NFL history to be franchise tagged in consecutive seasons. The first two — linebacker Karlos Dansby and quarterback Kirk Cousins — played all 16 games during their second seasons under the tag then went and cashed in elsewhere in free agency.

As his profile rose, Bell insisted he wasn't merely a running back, pointing to his success as a receiver — he finished 10th in the league with 85 catches in 2017 — as proof that he should be paid far above his peers.

When Bell and the Steelers failed to reach an agreement on a new deal last summer, he said "both sides worked extremely hard" in an attempt to get something done. When it didn't happen, he skipped training camp again, just as he did in 2017. His teammates stressed it was no big deal, confident Bell would show up in time for the regular-season opener.

Only he didn't. And when preparations for Pittsburgh's Week 1 trip to Cleveland began without Bell, several Steelers — particularly the offensive line — vented their frustrations publicly.

The anger eased as the weeks passed and Conner thrived in Bell's absence while Bell remained in Florida, where encounters

see LE'VEON — page 11

## Illumination's *Grinch* a weak adaptation

SALENA MORAN  
& EVAN PENROD  
staff writers

With the holiday season fast approaching, Illumination Entertainment took a stab at another adaptation of Dr. Seuss's classic book *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*.

*The Grinch* (2018) boasts a famous cast including Benedict Cumberbatch (The Grinch), Rashida Jones, Kenan Thompson and Pharrell Williams, to name a few. The movie mostly stays true to the story, with the miserly Grinch stealing material items from Whoville in hopes of stopping all the ruckus of Christmas and ultimately undergoing a change of heart. This movie is what one would expect with Illumination Entertainment (creators of *The Lorax* and *Minions*) at the reigns — excellent animation and lackluster content.

Overall, the aesthetic and design are top notch. The setting of Whoville is alive with bustling activity and vivid colors. The textures on the Whos' faces and the Grinch's body show minute details, distinguishing between individual hairs and fabrics. From a visualization standpoint, the animation perfectly encapsulates the feelings and visual appeals of the Christmas season.

Even though this film has an original score, the directors mixed in a traditional Christmas soundtrack to evoke a sense of nostalgia and warmth



COURTESY OF ILLUMINATION

Benedict Cumberbatch serves as the fourth actor to voice an animated Grinch.

from the viewer, with songs by Nat King Cole and select orchestras. However, just when the music was appropriate, the movie would throw in a very cringeworthy rendition of a song that was almost painful to listen to and watch.

While this film deviates from the source in many ways, the parts that are closer to the book material are more interesting and entertaining. When the Grinch prepares and executes his plan to steal Christmas, for example, the peculiar inventions and animations were indicative of something Seuss would have imagined.

Unfortunately, *The Grinch* (2018) lacks a purpose or an identity. In the 1966 original cartoon, the animators followed the story with complete accuracy in a 26-minute TV special. On the other hand, the live action version with Jim Carrey portrayed an over-the-top character that was simultaneously disgusting and

hilarious. In both the original cartoon and Carrey adaptations, the Grinch was a distinct character — both unforgivingly mean and vile. The stories never provided much background on the character except that he was intrinsically grouchy and rude.

Cumberbatch's Grinch does not add anything unique or memorable to the character, as he seems only slightly disgruntled. This presents a major problem, as the Grinch has always been a children's version of Ebenezer Scrooge in the sense that a mean, despicable character goes through a dynamic character arc and becomes redeemable. Therefore, the more mean and cynical the character, the more the viewer can understand the magnitude of change he undergoes.

This movie gives the Grinch a tragic backstory, making viewers feel bad for his lonely childhood. In knowing of his youth, the movie almost excuses the Grinch's

behavior. When the Grinch's backstory is left ambiguous, the audience has the ability to make interpretations.

Furthermore, Cumberbatch's voice portrayal of the Grinch seems confusing, as he tries to maintain a nasal, higher range tone. Cumberbatch's famous strong, deep speaking voice would have worked well as the narrator as opposed to Pharrell.

Another shortcoming of this film is that Cindy Lou and the Grinch were not in scenes long enough for the audience to establish a connection with either of them. The Grinch and Cindy Lou in Carrey's *Grinch* interacted throughout the entirety of the movie. Even the short interaction in the original version established a kind of sweet relationship between the two characters. *The Grinch* (2018) seemed confused on where to put the focus and thus left the audience with a hollow shell of two characters whose motivations appear progressive, but in the end, led nowhere.

Although *The Grinch* (2018) invokes a bright and lively feeling of Christmas nostalgia through exquisite animation, it leaves the audience feeling empty, truly lacking a solid plot or character development. Where the original is a faithful adaptation of the book and the Jim Carrey version gave us a wacky and unique character, this adaptation of the Grinch falls short of finding a lasting identity.

## WEEK'S EVENTS

Mindfulness Through Art  
Wednesday, Nov. 14 @ 9 p.m.

The Student Wellbeing Club promises "a night of art and comfort foods" for attendees at this program in the NiteSpot.

Light Up Night  
Friday, Nov. 16 @ 9:30 a.m.

Pittsburgh's famous annual Christmas festival will feature carriage rides, food, fireworks and the traditional tree lightings across Downtown. Sponsored by Comcast, more information can be found at [downtownpittsburghholidays.com](http://downtownpittsburghholidays.com)

## UPCOMING RELEASES

Delta  
Mumford & Sons  
Friday, Nov. 16

Best known for their string of early-2010s folk rock hits, Mumford & Sons returns with their first LP since 2015's *Wilder Mind*, which saw a transition toward a more general alternative-rock sound.

Ralph Breaks the Internet  
Wednesday, Nov. 21

The sequel to 2012's *Wreck-It Ralph* sees the titular fictional arcade game protagonist venture into the confusing world of the internet, meeting other Disney-owned characters along the way.

## Masquers shine where writing fails in 'Dames'

CLAIRE NEIBERG  
staff writers

The Duquesne University Red Masquers continued its fall season with the opening of *Dames at Sea* last week on Nov. 8.

*Dames at Sea* is an hour-and-45-minute-long musical written by George Haimsohn and Robin Miller, with music composed by Jim Wise. While it is shorter in length, it does not fall short in action, as it is packed with musical numbers from beginning to end.

Going into the theater, I had high expectations for this show, as I love comedic musicals. When I first saw the advertisements, I immediately thought of one of my favorite musicals, *Anything Goes!* However, when I saw it, my hopes were fulfilled in some aspects but let down in others. The cast was phenomenal, but the actual plotline and aesthetics of the show left a lot to be desired.

The musical takes place on a 1930s cruise ship about to set sail. It is filled with Broadway entertainers, and Mona Kent (Mikayla Gilmer) is the over-dramatic diva and star of the show. Soon before the ship sets sail, Ruby (Audrey Nigh), an aspiring Broadway actress from a small town in Utah, hops on board with a hopeful heart to perform in the show.

She quickly falls in love with Dick (Christian Poach), a sailor who is aspiring to become a songwriter. Another performer on the ship, Joan (Erin Fulton) is in love with Lucky (Nathan Freshwater), another sailor.



GRIFFIN SENDEK / STAFF WRITER

The Red Masquers perform a song from *Dames at Sea*. From left to right: Dick (Christian Poach), Ruby (Audrey Nigh), Hennessy (Jarret Klunk), Lucky (Nathan Freshwater) and dancer Karli Sutton.

However, Mona causes trouble along the way which leads to Ruby having to step up and save the day, proving herself a star.

The show was similar to *Anything Goes!* as it had a similar setting, and both shows embraced comedy from beginning to end. *Dames at Sea* was classically comedy driven by the performers especially. The two sets of lovers had great chemistry, and all of the actors fully conformed to their roles. Gilmer stayed in character the entire time, and her facial expressions were priceless. Nigh's tap dancing was also excellent.

However, there was room for advanced steps that would have heightened the numbers, and the choreography as a whole could have been tighter. The set was also bare and minimal — it was hard to tell where the scene

was set for the first act. With that being said, the cruise ship was done nicely in the second act. The set did have some fun antics to it, such as a wrecking ball, but was lacking overall.

The show itself ran more as a revue, since it did not really have an enticing plot. The actors did what they could to elevate the show, but as a whole, it was oversimplified to the point it was hard to follow.

*Dames at Sea* was an entertaining, light-hearted and fun performance to see. However, it did not measure up to *The Foreigner*. It was much less complex in set design and the plot was not as enticing. With that being said, however, the cast itself was amazing further solidifying the fact that Duquesne is abundant when it comes to student talent.

## MICRO REVIEW

The Beatles  
(50th Anniversary Edition)  
The Beatles

Just like *Sgt Pepper's* last year, Apple Records has remixed and rereleased the seminal "White Album." Already one of the best entries in the Beatles catalog, these Giles Martin remixes breathe new life into the album. With hours of studio outtakes, this is as close as one can come to hearing a new Beatles album for the first time — a rare, awesome experience.

— Josiah Martin

# Imagine Dragons delivers strong, not flawless, *Origins*

GRIFFIN SENDEK  
staff writer

Imagine Dragons continues to spoil their fans with more new music through their fourth studio album, *Origins*, a little over one year since the release of 2017's *Evolve*. This new release marks the fourth brand-new album in the band's six-year history.

I was a huge fan of Imagine Dragons' debut album, *Night Visions* (2012), and I loved their sophomore saga — *Smoke + Mirrors* (2014). *Evolve* (2017), on the other hand, left me disappointed. I, for the most part, lost interest in Imagine Dragons; my excitement for their next release was almost nonexistent.

I'm delighted to say that *Origins*, while not perfect, far surpassed my expectations.

*Origins* delivers something new and different for the band, and at the same time manages not to stray too far from the style and sound that fans know and love.

*Origins* begins on a strong note, kicking off the record with a heavy hitter — "Natural." Those familiar with the band will be no stranger to lead singer Dan Reynolds' trademark booming vocals, which are in full fledge with "Natural." Apart from being an overall fun song, "Natural" sets up the tone and theme for the rest of the album.

Imagine Dragons' songs have always had their gloomier moments, but never before in the band's history has an entire album followed such a mellowed, somber tone.

The songs on *Origins* undoubtedly depict someone going through

a hard breakup. It is evident that Reynolds' recent divorce had a substantial effect on his songwriting process.

Taking a closer look at the even more upbeat songs of *Origins*, such as the excellent "Boomerang" or "Zero," you'll find hard-hitting messages such as not being able to let go of somebody and feeling worthless.

Compared to Imagine Dragons' previous work, this melancholy tone is the most significant change that *Origins* provides, and I am all for it.

Number four on the tracklist "Cool Out" has a slower pace, somber theme and is underscored with mellow beats, but it doesn't bog you down with its overall depressive atmosphere. "Cool Out" also houses my favorite pre-chorus interlude of *Origins*:

"Standin' on your front porch, sayin' Don't let go / You were lookin' at me wild, sayin' Just go home."

Two more standouts on the album are "Bad Liar" and "West Coast." "Bad Liar" is a pure outcry of emotion that translates almost perfectly into the music. The song is not overly complicated, comprising of synthesizer highlighting the verses before dropping into a series of beats for the chorus. I don't often listen to a song for the very first time and immediately imagine an entire concert hall singing the words in unison, but for "Bad Liar," the image was clear as day.

"West Coast" stands out among the rest due to the fact it is entirely acoustic. For a band that produces solely high-strung alternative rock, the calming sound of an acoustic guitar is a pleasant change. The

subdued instrumentals allow for Reynolds' vocal prowess to shine. Not the mention that "West Coast" holds one of the catchiest choruses of the album.

It isn't all sunshine and daisies though; *Origins* is far from perfect. In a 15-song album produced in a little over a single year, there are bound to be a few duds.

The latter half of *Origins* simply doesn't hold up to the strength of the first half. "Bullet In a Gun," "Digital" and "Only" all hark back to the loathsome style of 2017's *Evolve*.

"Bullet In a Gun" is the most promising of the three, but ultimately falls short and does nothing special. "Only" starts strong but devolves into a generic pop song with a message that has been redone many times before. Finally, the worst offender by far, and my least favorite track on *Origins*: "Digital," which has a decent chorus surrounded by a horrible cacophony of incoherent electronic beats.

Had these songs been on their own I might have viewed them a little more favorably, but they clearly do not follow the tone of *Origins* and felt very much out of place in the album.

The next four songs — "Stuck," "Love," "Birds" and "Burn Out" — all tackle different aspects and stages of love in relationships.

"Stuck" returns the album to the somber feel. The song's message about being unable to move on from someone is clear and easy to understand, packaged together in an overall decent song that fits nicely within *Origins*. "Love" uti-



COURTESY OF KIDINAKORNER / POLYDOR / INTERSCOPE RECORDS  
Imagine Dragons released *Origins* on Nov. 9, as regular and "deluxe" albums.

lizes background vocals in a style similar to stage choirs, creating a song with a lot of heart. "Birds" raises the mood with a more hopeful and slightly happier spirit, before bringing everything back down with "Burn Out." All are good songs on their own merits, but, in the grand scheme of the album, are ultimately forgettable.

Closing the album, with a more profound message than I ever expected from Imagine Dragons, is "Real Life." The song touches on the idea that the world is full of awful things that you'll never be able to stop, but you can't let it get the best of you; you still need to live your life. An Imagine Dragons song mention-

ing the 9/11 attacks and the Boston Marathon bombing is among one of the last things I expected. "Real Life" is reminiscent of the sound and feel of album opener "Natural," taking *Origins* full circle.

Going into *Origins*, I was expecting a relatively basic alternative-rock album that was to be good but at the end of the day unexceptional. *Origins* surprised me more than I ever expected; the album has its flaws, of course, but when its songs are good, they're firing on all cylinders.

*Origins* reminded me why I like Imagine Dragons in the first place. I strongly recommend giving it a listen.

## *Outlaw King* an action-packed take on historical tale

NEIL RUNGE  
staff writer

A historical narrative was brought to life on the small screen, including two hours of violence, lessons about honor, countless royals and adequate Scottish and British accents. All of this makes up Netflix's new movie, *Outlaw King*, released this past Friday.

Chris Pine stars as the lead of this movie — based on a true story — as Robert the Bruce, a Scottish warrior that was exiled by the English for rebelling against King Edward. After Robert's father passes, and the king makes it obvious that the nobles he rules over won't be shown any kindness, Robert decides to start a new rebellion.

After the spark of rebellion is ignited, the rest of the movie follows Robert, James Douglas, played by Aaron Taylor-Johnson, and many others as they reclaim their own land. Through stealthy takedowns and all-out battles against the strongest army in the world at that time, they take back what is rightfully theirs.

Pine gives an astounding performance. He has mastered the ability to play a leader that is also a man of the people but still

manages to lead the charge into dangerous battles that will result in the deaths of his allies. His female counterpart, Elizabeth de Burgh, played by Florence Pugh, was delightful to watch. Elizabeth has the poise and commanding personality that is perfect match for Robert, and Pugh has the acting skills to stand toe-to-toe with Pine.

Even though Taylor-Johnson didn't have as much screen time as the other actors, he used his time wisely. He displayed a funny yet ruthless Douglas who, after the events of the movie, went on to be called Good Sir James and the Black Douglas, showing that the real life counterpart that Taylor-Johnson played was both kind and ruthless.

Now, there's the nude scene everyone seems to be talking about. It wasn't worth the hype it received before the movie was released. It was a faraway blurry shot for what seemed to be two seconds. From all the talk it was getting, the expectation was that Pine's full frontal nude scene would go on for minutes and it would be made up of close up shots and cameras that slowly pan up his body. It was actually just a king bathing in a river standing then a cut to him getting dressed. It seemed like this nude scene was going to distract from the film but it doesn't. It's just a



COURTESY OF NETFLIX  
Chris Pine stars as Robert the Bruce, previously portrayed by Angus Macfayden in *Braveheart* (1995).

simple, ordinary scene.

This movie is easy to follow even if you don't know anything about the people or events it's based on. Facts are displayed across the screen before the opening notes of the score even start. They give all the background information someone would

need to catch up on their Scottish history.

*Outlaw King* is also a violent war film and historically dense narrative packed to the brim with accurate costumes and locations and a film score that amps everything up to 11. It's perfect for history buffs or just someone who wants a good action movie.

## California fires prove the environment needs our attention

STAFF ED – from page 4

degrees Fahrenheit, according to The Weather Channel. These bizarre events are canaries in the coal mine, warning us of the dangers humanity has caused.

The terror in California should serve as a motivator to start paying attention to the climate crisis. Join or donate to organizations like the Sierra Club, the Wilderness Society and the Natural Resources Defense Council. To assist the victims in California, there is the American Red Cross, the California Community Foundation's Wildlife Relief Fund, the California Fire Foundation and so many others. Or if you can't donate, put pressure on your local, state and national politicians to back solutions to eliminate the danger. Just do something, before it's too late.

## Le'Veon doesn't report to Steelers

LE'VEON – from page 8

captured on social media found him riding a Jet Ski or hitting the club. He returned to Pittsburgh last week and even played some pickup basketball at a fitness center.

It's as close to breaking a sweat with the Steelers as Bell will get.

Though the team could use the franchise or transition tag on Bell next spring, it's more likely he'll just walk away.



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## THIS WEEK'S WEATHER

Thursday

36°  Ice in the morning; later rain; cold

Friday

40°  Times of clouds and sun

Saturday

42°  Mostly cloudy

Sunday

43°  A bit of snow and rain

Monday

39°  Low clouds; cold

Tuesday

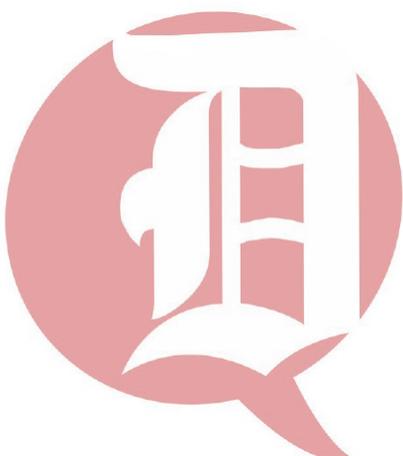
42°  Mostly cloudy; cold

Wednesday

44°  Times of clouds and sun

*Courtesy of AccuWeather*

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