Multimedia, Web Development, and virtual reality at CCAC often major in dimensional environments and objects. and Unreal Engine to design three-programs such as Maya Autodesk, Unity, with industry-standard software.” students have the opportunity to work with multiple pieces of equipment they students have the opportunity to work taking classes in the Innovation Lab, allows students to design and immerse reality lab, which boasts Microsoft Elinich in the newly-opened Innovation reality, and mixed reality while taking experience virtual reality, augmented reality, and prepared individuals, regardless of their major, for the workforce or further academic studies. At North Campus, students can experience virtual reality, augmented reality, and mixed reality while taking classes instructed by Professor Rebecca Elinich in the newly-opened Innovation Lab. This contemporary space is complete with a virtual reality and augmented reality lab, which boasts Microsoft Dell visors and VIVE virtual reality systems. This cutting-edge technology allows students to design and immerse themselves into their own projects. Professor Elinich says, “While taking classes in the Innovation Lab, students have the opportunity to work with multiple pieces of equipment they may encounter in the industry. In addition, students have the opportunity to work with industry-standard software.” Currently, students can use programs such as Maya Autodesk, Unity, and Unreal Engine to design three-dimensional environments and objects. Students who wish to work with virtual reality at CCAC often major in Multimedia, Web Development, and Gaming. CCAC students who major in Multimedia, Web Development, and Gaming graduate with an associate of science and often pursue careers in the gaming industry. This academic program is fit for students who plan to become game developers, computer programmers, game designers, or simulation programmers. For those who already have a degree, certificates related to this academic program are available, as well. Specifically, students can obtain a certification in Multimedia Game Simulation or Multimedia Web Programming, if interested. No prerequisite courses are required for students to enroll in this academic program. In fact, students do not even need any prior experience with virtual reality or augmented reality. Professor Elinich says, “When I teach new students I assume that they have no previous knowledge associated with virtual reality. Although it always helps to be exposed to it, experience with virtual reality certainly is not required.” If students are unsure about enrolling in a course related to virtual reality, they can explore the subject by attending a training seminar hosted by CCAC. These training seminars occur periodically and are open to the public. Professor Elinich says, “I encourage students to attend these free training seminars, as they can be really helpful to students who may be interested.” According to Professor Elinich, CCAC is one of the few schools offering this academic program in the area.

Virtual reality gives North a new dimension

Shapiro highlights campus safety across PA

Providing support resources, training on witness intervention, and promoting mental well-being all help increase safety on college campuses, according to Josh Shapiro, Attorney General for the commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Shapiro came to the University of Pittsburgh earlier this fall to present the state’s 28th annual campus safety report, collecting data from throughout Pennsylvania. 67 colleges and universities were considered in the report. Altogether, 360 people were present for Shapiro’s presentation. Among his suggestions: enhanced student support networks, witness intervention training, reduction of stigma, and setting up a special victims unit within dorm police. Professors, he said, can insist the significance of mental well-being to students during introduction week, for example, and point out to students the resources on campus that can help them. But campus safety is challenging in Pennsylvania. There are 750,000 students at 200 colleges and universities throughout the commonwealth.

“We can’t have a one-size-fits-all policy,” Shapiro said. “You have to be able to be flexible. You have to be able to be attentive to the needs of the individual campuses and students. And it can’t just be law enforcement coming in and dictating what needs to be done.” It is important for academic institutions to keep students safe, Shapiro noted, and the roundtables pushed forward ideas from specialists across the commonwealth to assist them in keeping student safety a priority. The report also gleaned from five roundtables held at Slippery Rock University, the University of Pittsburgh, Drexel University, Lincoln University, and Dickinson College. These roundtables occurred over the course of the 2017-18 school year.

Campus safety is certainly on the minds of administrators at CCAC. Brian Johnson, Director of Safety and Security at North Campus and West Hills Center, says safety is a priority to everyone. “Students, faculty, and staff as a unit need to be reasonably assured that they are safe on campus,” says Johnson. “I insist on open communication between my staff, students, and faculty of CCAC.”

Johnson, who has experience as a sex assault detective, also thinks of safety in terms of supporting victims. The Attorney General’s report includes 31 instructions on a range of safety issues, together with topics like sexual abuse prevention, drug and alcohol abuse, and mental health issues. Overall, these four key campus safety concerns are relevant and regularly build

Photo by Morgan Cuda / CCAC Voice travel around the world and beyond virtual reality, it can often be difficult to get a job doing so in our area. One reason is because virtual reality is in its infancy. Another is because the technology can be difficult to integrate into an existing company.

Students from the Geek Culture Club using virtual reality headsets without ever leaving the classroom.

“Our academic program based in multimedia really fills a niche in the Pittsburgh area. From my perspective, many students demand multimedia programs in our community, but very few four-year institutions seem to offer them,” she says.

Although many students hope to work in the gaming industry or with

See VR, cont’d on page 2

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Candidate spend $5 billion in 2018

Campaign spending for the 2018 midterm elections is set to be the highest in history, totaling over $5 billion. In comparison, the 2016 presidential and congressional races combined totaled $8.8 billion, with $8 billion spent on the congressional races alone.

Democrats outspent Republicans for the first time in 10 years, the candidates spending $1 billion compared to $720 million for Republicans. Democrats raised more than $1.3 billion from individual donors, while the amount sits around $1 billion for Republicans.

Democrats raised large masses of funds through small donors. Republicans, however, received the most from outside spending, totaling $343 million compared to $248 million for Democrats. Outside groups spent more than $628 million, while the number sat at $421 million in 2014.

The election for the Senate seat in Florida between Sen. Bill Nelson (D) and Gov. Rick Scott (R) broke the record for the most expensive Senate contest in American history in terms of combined candidate and outside spending. The two candidates raised over $79 million. With $43 million spent by outside groups, the cost totals over $113 million. However, the bigger spender did not always come out victorious. In the highly publicized Texas senate race between Ted Cruz (R) and Beto O’Rourke (D), Cruz was re-elected by the narrow margin of 50.9% to 48.3%. O’Rourke’s campaign raised $70.4 million since he announced his candidacy in March of 2017, while Cruz has only raised $40 million since 2013. This campaign ended up breaking the record for most expensive congressional election in terms of candidate spending.

Pennsylvania was not immune to the expense of this year’s election. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, the District One House race in Pennsylvania, where republican Brian Fitzpatrick defeated democratic Scott Wallace, ranked seventh for money raised and spent, with over $17 million raised and over $15 million spent.

2019 may hold a few off-year elections, the next major party decisions will take place in 2020.

Fetterman brings education experience to Harrisburg

The 2018 election brings back an old governor but a brand new lieutenant governor. Tom Wolf won his reelection bid for Governor as John Fetterman, the former mayor of Braddock, won the seat for lieutenant governor.

Fetterman will be allowed to continue pushing his agenda through a divided PA General Assembly. But what will John Fetterman bring to the table, especially in education?

John Fetterman began his political career in Braddock. After winning a combative primary he was elected to Mayor. As mayor of Braddock, he oversaw a number of programs designed to benefit the community.

One of the most visible was his support of the arts. He believed that Braddock could attract artists by using its low-income nature to its advantage. He showed Braddock as an excellent place for young artists to be part of a community as well as live somewhere with low rent. Ramon Riley, an artist and teacher at Pine-Richland High School, grew up in Braddock and makes work about his childhood, the neighborhood, and it’s potential. Pittsburgh artist and former Pine-Richland student Samantha Mack notes that Riley “teaches young artists the importance of using their work to reflect on where they came from and bring energy into their communities.” Mr. Riley helped revitalize Braddock through his work, and other young artists have the potential to do the same.” Fetterman helped to foster this spirit of artistic revitalization in Braddock.

Before he was even mayor of Braddock, Fetterman helped start a program in the city that helped people earned their GED. This especially helped low-income people further their education. Fetterman believes in expanding education for more people, rather than focusing on making the top echelon of education better. We could expect a statewide program to help people focused on ensuring all-inclusive services to crime victims and participating with county-based resources.

Safety and emergency classes on college campuses have been carefully tracked and reported for decades thanks to the Clery Act. In 1986, a student named Jeanne Clery of Lehigh University was raped and murdered, resulting in the federal law which demands colleges to be more transparent about crime on campus.

The report asks that campus officials be quick to appropriately notify students who have experienced trauma. It further pushes for better counseling practices and creating resources for students in rehabilitation.

Therefore, all staff, officers, and administrators should be disciplined to respond to students using a trauma-informed approach.

Concisely, the safety report also recommends that school faculty send regular emails and that there be school assemblies on this topic.

Shapiro also publicized a different, unparalleled grant-funded partnership between the Office of Attorney General and the Office of Victim Advocate.

Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association

Aidan Segal / CCAC Voice
Brian Johnson, right, Director of Safety & Security for CCAC North and CCAC West Hills, acknowledges the importance of transparency.

Even if students have no intention of pursuing a career in this field, enrolling in an elective course associated with virtual reality can be beneficial, especially to those entering fields such as business, public safety, or healthcare.

According to Forbes Magazine, virtual reality is being used to train firefighters. Essentially, it is a safe and cost effective way to teach future firefighters to deal with dangerous situations.

In healthcare, virtual reality is being used to train new surgeons. Some businesses are even using virtual reality to tour houses and office spaces without ever being present in person.

Professor Elinich says, “Some understanding of design and development is often beneficial to those searching for careers in the entertainment industry and healthcare. Our students who have been exposed to new technology, such as virtual reality, are taking fresh ideas out into their chosen industry.”

Essentially, students who take advantage of this technology while studying at CCAC will be well-prepared for their next step, as virtual reality is becoming more popular amongst numerous career fields for everyday use and training purposes.
Amazon splits headquarters between NYC and Virginia

MARISSA WIESENBACH
THE VOICE EDITOR

The Steel City will not be the home of the new Amazon headquarters after all.

Last month, Amazon announced that the company will divide its sought-after second headquarters between New York City and Arlington, Virginia, despite the competitive bid proposed locally by Pittsburgh officials and by the state of Pennsylvania.

According to The Amazon Blog, this public contest – a project called HQ2 – promised 50,000 jobs and $5 billion in investment to the chosen location of the company’s second headquarters. Pittsburgh was one of 238 candidate cities vying for it.

Pittsburgh advanced to be among 20 finalists and many saw the city as a top candidate. But after more than a year of competition, the company did not pick Pittsburgh for its second headquarters because of the city’s small size. According to PublicSource, the amount of tax money proposed to Amazon were benefits including free land, state income tax reimbursements, and the pooling of local infrastructure costs would have been reimbursted, as well.

In addition, Pennsylvania leaders proposed reimbursing Amazon’s state income taxes, worth up to $4.5 billion over the next 25 years. According to PublicSource, the amount of tax money reimburseded would be based upon Amazon’s overall performance. Finally, leaders in Allegheny County proposed pooling local taxes paid by Amazon for the company’s own benefit. According to PublicSource, $2.1 billion of Amazon’s local tax expenses would be placed into a fund called Forging Pittsburgh’s Future, which could be allocated to areas such as affordable housing, job training, and public transit. Ultimately, Amazon would decide when and where their local tax money would be used.

According to PublicSource, local officials emphasized that Pennsylvania taxpayers would not bear the cost of the incentives offered to Amazon. Instead, the incentives would have been paid for by spending the tax revenue Amazon would have brought to the region and with funds raised by the state, local nonprofit organizations, and existing corporations.

PublicSource notes County Executive Rich Fitzgerald’s conversation with reporters. Fitzgerald said, “Locally, what was going to be the burden, if you will, or the cost to taxpayer? Zero. There were no existing tax dollars that were going to Amazon. So, whether you lived in Monroeville or Bloomfield or Ross Township or Brookline, none of your existing tax dollars that go to pay for road paving, police, parks, etc., were going to Amazon.”

According to PublicSource, the proposed Amazon bid encompassed a total of 35 sites the company could have occupied. Potential sites for Amazon’s second headquarters in Pittsburgh included a site at Pittsburgh International Airport, a site in the Hill District formerly home to the Civic Arena, and a site in Hazelwood formerly home to the Jones and Laughlin Steel Mill. PublicSource states that the proposal also offered up other sites in Pittsburgh such as Century III Mall, Southside Works, and Station Square as sites for Amazon’s second headquarters.

Included in the proposal was establishing a 100,000-square-foot research and development facility for Amazon at Carnegie Mellon University. This dedicated space on Carnegie Mellon’s campus could have been utilized as a place for students to train for jobs at Amazon.

According to PublicSource, the space on CMU’s campus – PGH-AMZN LAB – could have focused on new exploratory research, the prototyping of new technologies, and the development and training of future Amazon employees.

Despite the incentives presented to Amazon in Pittsburgh’s bid, the company did not pick Pittsburgh for its second headquarters because of the city’s small size. According to PublicSource, Amazon executives praised the city of Pittsburgh as being big of an impact on.
Student shines in ‘The Voice’ singing competition

ASHLEY MOAN
THE VOICE EDITOR

A few months ago, a fellow CCAC student was given the opportunity of a lifetime through a Snapchat story with the popular singing competition, The Voice. Sharuk Amra, a criminal justice major at CCAC North, took her chances and sent in an audition video.

The Snapchat auditions worked similarly to the actual TV show. After auditioning Amra made it to the top 16. These contestants were split into teams of 4, with Amra placed on Jennifer Hudson’s team.

The next step for the contestants was to get votes on their video on the Snapchat story to make it to the battle rounds in California. After a week Amra’s father had received a phone call from the producers letting her know that she had made it!

Eight contestants were flown out to California. These contestants were the two highest earning votes for each team. Each would compete against their fellow team member and whoever won would get to move on to the finale.

Amra says, “I have never been anywhere on the West coast, so being flown out to LA was an incredible experience.”

On their first day, all contestants showed up in hair and makeup and started interviews. The interviews went on for about an hour according to Amra. They were also able to perform their songs in front of the lights and cameras. Their solo songs were filmed so if they would win the producers would have their songs ready for the next episode of The Voice on Snapchat.

Amra and her partner, finished their songs and got the chance to meet Stevie Mackey. In their time with Stevie Mackey, they practiced their battle song.

Amra says, “Stevie Mackey is an amazing vocal coach for The Voice, who works with almost all the contestants on the actual TV show, along with JLo, Selena Gomez, Jolo, and many more.”

The second day consisted of more interviews and the real battle. They began the day rehearsing their battle song yet again while it was being filmed. Then they ran through their rehearsal with Stevie Mackey again, The Voice Season 10 winner, Alisan Porter, and surprise guest, Noah Cyrus.

Noah Cyrus acted as the judge who decided which contestants would get to move on to the finale.

After rehearsal the contestants were given some downtime before their battle. Amra said, “I spent those hours rehearsing, eating, drinking boat loads of hot tea and honey, and praying.”

Amra and fellow contestant, Courtney, gave their all and they finished their song. In the end, Courtney was selected to move on to the finale.

Amra made it so far in the competition and by putting herself out there was able to experience an adventure not many people can say they had made it.

Although Amra says nothing direct has come out of this experience regarding her singing, she was able to get out of her comfort zone. Amra says she even had stage fright. The experience allowed her to gain more confidence to put herself out there.

Amra and fellow contestants, Courtney and Myanmar, were interviewed on the set of The Voice and Amra was selected to move on to the finale.

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According to Amra music is her passion and even though she has not thought of it as a career if given the opportunity she would do it in a heartbeat. Currently, Amra is working towards getting a bachelor’s degree where she intends to go to law school after.

Amra says, “I have realized that if I have a passion for something, I have such

Kelly joins Student Life

Melissa Kelly has joined the staff of the Student Life Office as a Student Development Specialist at CCAC North Campus. Her office is located in room 1020, just off the Atrium.

Welding in a Winter Wonderland

Students in the welding program at CCAC West Hills created this metal tree just in time for the winter holidays.
North’s new partnership benefits students

LYNDSEY BUTELA
THE VOICE STAFF

The North Hills Community Outreach has partnered with CCAC North and CCAC West Hills campus to bring special programs within reach of the students. There are long-established services at CCAC North, like the food pantry that is free to students and available every Monday and Tuesday, but now both campuses are taking part in the Pathways Program, a free service that helps people achieve their goals.

Abby Reed is the NHCO representative for CCAC North campus and the case manager for the Pathways Program, which she describes as a “long-term case management program where individuals can work through various goals they have set for themselves.” She is able to help with budgeting, utility assistance, and referrals to different programs that may help save students both time and money. Shela Sluganski works in a similar capacity to Abby at the West Hills, helping students achieve their goals through the Pathways Program.

“The most beneficial aspect of the program is the opportunity for the student to work one on one with someone who is focused on helping to achieve his or her individual life goals—one step at a time,” Shela shares. “Students have a lot going on in life and it can be challenging to keep up with family, school, work, and other responsibilities. Through the Pathways Program, I can provide direction, resources, support, and encouragement.”

Abby shares Shela’s sentiments. “The personalized encouragement and support provided by the Pathways Program can be very beneficial.”

Abby and Shela are able to help with career development and relevant skills (resume building, interview skills, etc.), food pantry, transportation assistance, financial assistance, and job searching. These also happen to be some of the most-requested services within the program.

The ultimate goal of offering this service to students at two CCAC campuses is the students’ success. “I would ultimately like to see students succeed,” Abby says. “Success is different for every person and I want to help students recognize their strengths and build upon to achieve the goals they have set for themselves.”

The Pathways Program is free to use, and both Abby and Shela hope that students will come to them to make use this program and the myriad of other services available to them.

For more information, students are able to contact both Abby and Shela or visit http://www.nhco.org. Abby is at CCAC North’s Food Pantry every Tuesday from 1 PM-4PM, or you can email her at aereed@nhco.org. Shela can be reached via email at swsluganski@nhco.org.

Honoring veterans through blood donation

Jenna Korth / CCAC Voice

The CCAC Office of Military and Veterans Services sponsored a college-wide series of blood drives at the various campuses and centers for Veterans Day. The event at CCAC North was co-sponsored by the Veterans Club with the Psi Beta Psychology Honor Society and Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society.
Unfinished Orson Welles film released after 40 years

IVAN WEG-PALADROS
THE VOICE EDITOR

A huge aspect of art is accenting the truth. There is much in our world that we know but don’t acknowledge. We all know that we should be working hard toward our dreams of spending more time with our loved ones. Many movies will remind us of that fact, especially around the holiday season.

The Other Side of the Wind also accents a truth that I find relevant at this time of year. What’s at the core of this movie is what could be called a cyclical generational war. A battle that every person must go through twice.

Before tackling the themes of this art film let’s discuss the film itself as well as its context. This film perked my interest because it is Orson Welles’ latest film. For those of you who are fans, this fact may be surprising. For those of you who are not, let me be the first to tell you that Orson Welles died in 1985.

Welles is considered by many to be the greatest film director of all time. Even if you have not heard of him you probably have heard of his first movie, Citizen Kane or the infamous War of the Worlds radio broadcast. He then had a long and rather checkered career in Hollywood, and with his death left numerous unfinished projects. One of which was The Other Side of the Wind.

The Other Side of the Wind was “96% finished” so it wasn’t hard for a studio to gather up the people to finish it and that’s just what Royal Road Entertainment did. They hired the producers, editors, and directors they needed to finish the last 4% of what Orson Welles believed would have been his last masterpiece.

Now that we know the story of the movie let’s discuss its plot. The movie is a mockumentary about the last day of an aging directors’ life. The first thing we are told about the director is that he dies at the end of this day. We then follow him leave the studio and attend a viewing party. The film ends with him driving away alone to meet his fate in a car accident.

In this rather small plot, Orson Welles crams in an incredible amount of character interactions, imagery, even an entire other movie (which the namesake of the feature film). We see throughout the film parts of the movie that the director is trying to make. We meet the actors in the movies, the actors he’s trying to recruit, reporters, other filmmakers, and set workers.

The most important relationship in the film is between the director and his protégé. In this relationship, the generational civil war is embodied.

Orson Welles wanted to make a movie about the transition from the Classic Era of Hollywood into New Hollywood. Movies like The Wizard of Oz and Gone with the Wind are emblematic of the Classic Era of Hollywood.

As less Americans went to the movies in the 1960s and 70s there came a renewed interest in the old style of filmmaking. This brought in the era of New Hollywood, where directors instead of studios controlled the movies. This was the era of movies like The Graduate and Straw Dogs.

The Other Side of the Wind shows two men; the director and his protégé in the center of this transition. While they both seemingly respect each other there lies a great disdain for what the other represents. The old director is jealous of the money and fame made by his young protégé, and the young protégé resents that all his work is seen as a derivative of his mentor’s.

It doesn’t matter whose idea of filmmaking is purer or correct because what happened always what always happens. The old retire or die and the young take their place. Just as we know the director’s fate, we know the fate of old Hollywood and the old style of filmmaking.

The Other Side of the Wind takes this complex transition and makes it a truly engaging film that will leave you thinking about it for the week to come. Watch it because I have just scratched the surface.
Kip and Jessica were planning on having a relaxing evening with friends in celebration of the anniversary of their young marriage—until Dave shows up to collect an age-old bet. Dave, “part genius, part madman,” insistently stays for dinner and creates conflict by broadcasting secrets about his fellow guests, “claiming to have perceived truths and mysteries about the world which others cannot comprehend.”

This is the story of “Parlour Games,” a play written and directed by CCAC adjunct professor Dan Kirk, who after more than a decade since completing the script, has finally seen his story brought to the stage.

Kirk, 48, is a Baldwin native who has acted, directed and taught theatre for over 20 years. He has completed two novels, one of which was published upon taking a hiatus from play-writing, though would return in 2005 when the original draft of “Parlour Games” was finished. It is a play nearly 14 years in the making.

“The play began as a simple experiment to challenge myself to write something—anything—after I had been away from writing for the stage for a long time,” Kirk said.

Kirk describes the play which premiered on November 8th at Christ Lutheran Church in Duquesne, PA, as a “psychological drama” which “either ends tragically or within the ultimate sphere of hope.”

“Parlour Games,” Kirk says, will hopefully be published by one of the New York firms, Samuel French or Drama- tists Play Service, which requires stage production history before even being considered.

Super Smash Bros. Ultimate furthers the brawler’s successful legacy

AIDEN SEGAL
THE VOICE STAFF

This month marks the release of the highly anticipated game Super Smash Bros. Ultimate for the Nintendo Switch. Spearheaded by Masahiro Sakurai, Smash Bros. Ultimate is the fifth title in the Super Smash Bros. franchise and is advertised as the definitive compilation of the series thus far.

The Super Smash Bros. games are brawler-type fighting games with characters from varies Nintendo franchises as well as from third-party developers.

A title in the franchise has appeared on every Nintendo home console starting with the Nintendo 64 in 1999, making it a staple in the Nintendo community.

Sakurai, the head of the project, claims the game will be an exhaustive take on the series, recycling aspects from every iteration before it.

This includes bringing back every playable character from the previous game. The team also introduced community favorite characters into the roster, bringing the final count to 69 in the base game.

Some notable inclusions Ultimate’s main game mode are a near-complete collection of stages from the previous games and stage morphing, where two stages will cycle during a battle.

Data-miners have also confirmed a soundtrack of over 850 songs, from old staples to new remixes.

Super Smash Bros. Ultimate, harking back to Super Smash Bros. Brawl, will have a designated single player mode, much to the delight of fans of the franchise.

Unlike Super Smash Bros. Subspace Emissary, however, Ultimate’s Spirits Mode is based on board game movement and mild RPG elements. The player must navigate their way across the board, unlocking characters along the way. The player will also unlock upgrades, called spirits, which are represented by non-roster characters from Nintendo and third-party franchises.

The Super Smash Bros. fan base has been awaiting the arrival of Super Smash Bros. Ultimate since the beginning of this year, though nobody expected the product to be as dense and encompassing as it’s proving to be.

With multiple game modes, over 100 stages and the largest roster in the franchise’s history Ultimate has whipped the community into a frenzy and captivated those outside of the loop.

Even though hype can diminish a game’s final reception, Super Smash Bros. Ultimate will still no doubt be a beloved entry in the series and a must-have game for the year.

CCAC professor produces a new play, ‘Parlour Games’

AIDEN SEGAL
THE VOICE STAFF

Kip and Jessica were planning on having a relaxing evening with friends in celebration of the anniversary of their young marriage—that was until Dave showed up to collect an age-old bet. Dave, “part genius, part madman,” insistently stayed for dinner and creates conflict by broadcasting secrets about his fellow guests, “claiming to have perceived truths and mysteries about the world which others cannot comprehend.”

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Kirk describes the play which premiered on November 8th at Christ Lutheran Church in Duquesne, PA, as a “psychological drama” which “either ends tragically or within the ultimate sphere of hope.”

“I set a simple play in motion and explored what could happen if a character just arrived unexpectedly,” Kirk said. “I toyed around with 2 main concepts: the believable nature of what people tell us, and the truth of what people keep hidden, even if the secrets are monumental and life-shattering. Before long, I had a working script about a man (Dave) who claims he has tapped into the otherwise unused portions of human thought.”

“Parlour Games,” Kirk says, will hopefully be published by one of the New York firms, Samuel French or Dramatists Play Service, which requires stage production history before even being considered.
The Wrath of Iron Mike

BRIAN CARR
THE VOICE STAFF

Pittsburgh Steelers head coach Mike Tomlin has accomplished much in his career as the man in charge of the black and gold. He has won a Super Bowl, made the playoffs more often than not, and has a good winning percentage in the regular season. He has helped groom youngsters into established veterans with a family-type impact.

But one thing he apparently does not possess is patience with the referees of the National Football League.

His recent frustrations with the officials have boiled over to the point where he was fined $25,000 for his comments after a game several weeks ago. Clearly fed up with the way his team has been ill-treated, he publicly blasted the refs in a press conference.

While some believe he shouldn’t react that way, it could actually have a lot of positive repercussions.

An example would be that other coaches would benefit by making the referees patrol the game more accurately in the future. Now $25,000 is nothing to sneeze at, but to a man with integrity and honor like coach Tomlin, getting his point across is well worth making his wallet a bit tighter.

The reps clearly showed that Tomlin’s arguments were justified. There is no way around it. When it costs teams games and players jobs, as he has stated, it needs to be dealt with appropriately.

The NFL has needed a man like Mike to step up and show enough guts to make the league second guess their initial calls, and to allow coaches to have a voice when the officials make the wrong ones. The NFL’s commissioner Roger Goodell needs a wake-up call, and the Steelers coach may have given him it.

When one compares the loss in income for Tomlin with perhaps being able to win another Super Bowl by not having to worry about bad calls, it is a trade-off worth well it.

Maybe Tomlin could have been a bit kinder in his choice of words, although that’s easier said than done when the man was clearly frustrated after the game. One thing is for sure is that since then there have been no more real bad incidents with the officiating in the games for the black and gold. Maybe Tomlin’s complaining was justified. Maybe it was not. But the bottom line is that the officials most likely know they must perform better in order to not have this happen again. Too much is at stake for them to ignore it.

They were more than likely shown the press conference’s video, and will perform their duties more accurately in the future not just for the Steelers sake, but for the entire league and the fans as well.

Forge Rugby Club seeks for more members

JORDAN SCHNUER
THE VOICE STAFF

Like many Americans, Andrew Chapman grew up playing football. He found rugby after he took a break from college while trying to find another contact sport. “I have been playing for about 10 years now, and I wish I had discovered it sooner. In fact, knowing what I know now, if I had a choice to play rugby as a kid, I don’t think I ever would have played football”

Rugby is comparable to football and soccer with similar rules. Resembling football, the ball is to be carried over field into the goal line. Tackling is used but with quite a few rules regarding the way in which you can tackle. However, unlike football the ball must physically touch the score zone to be counted. After a score a conversion is kicked. The game features similar rules to soccer in substitutions and game times.

The Pittsburgh Forge Rugby Club is a new club. It was founded from two former clubs, The Pittsburgh Highlanders and The Pittsburgh Rugby Club. They are the goal is to “foster, promote and advance amateur participation in the growth and development of Rugby Union.” It currently hosts two men’s team and one woman’s team.

 Paxton Thomas, a CCAC North student is also involved in The Pittsburgh Forge Rugby Club. He played football in high school and was also looking for another sport to play. “It allows former football players to play something similar. “He plays a forward, in the second row, commonly referred to as the hooker. While talking about the reference to the culture of rugby he says, “After each game the both teams meet at a pub on the southside and nominate an MVP”, with a smile on his face. “This is my very first season, and I’ve already fallen in love with the sport and I would recommend it to anyone!”

Chapman considers rugby safer than football, quite counterintuitively. He says, “Basically, it can hurt like hell hitting someone without pads on. There isn’t that sense of ‘reckless abandon’ that you get being decked out in pads like in football. … It’s as easy to hurt yourself, as it is to hurt someone else”

Steelers move on without Bell

William Zytnick
THE VOICE STAFF

Le’Veon Bell’s time with the Pittsburgh Steelers has expired. The team now moves forward without their star running back.

The Le’Veon Bell saga officially has come to an end.

The star player of the Pittsburgh Steelers had been holding out for weeks. Finally, on November 13, Bell did not report to the Steelers facility to sign his $14.5 million franchise tag. Because of this, he is not allowed to play at all during the 2018 season – including the playoffs.

In his place, James Conner has assumed the role as the number one running back for the Steelers for the rest of the season.

What the Steelers are getting with Conner is a running back who has shown everyone he can do a little bit of what Bell did for the Steelers during his tenure. He is an explosive back that can score touchdowns, runs over the opposition and a playmaker even when not running the football.

Yes, even the great Le’Veon Bell is replaceable.

Truly the Steelers don’t need Bell to have a great team. Conner has proven to the players, the coaching staff, and the rest of the NFL that even though Le’Veon is extremely talented the Steelers can still be a great team that makes the playoffs based on the their current record.

A couple things haven’t changed even with Bell not here: As of this writing, the Steelers are in first place in the AFC North and currently second seed in the AFC playoff picture, Ben still has a reliable offensive line and the best receiver in the league, Antonio Brown.

The truth of the matter is the Steelers don’t need Le’Veon Bell to be great; Conner and the offense has made that clear. Talk is always cheap but performance never lies.

In the past few weeks, however, the Steelers broke a six-game win streak with two difficult losses. The game against the Chargers left Conner injured. Time will tell how quickly he will heal and if the team will continue to prosper without him.
The Penguins are about a quarter of the way through the 2018-2019 season and, at this point, it is hard to tell how they are doing and where they will finish. There have been several times so far this season where the Penguins have looked like the hockey team that won the Stanley Cup in 2016 and 2017, but there have also been times where the Penguins have looked like a team that will miss out on the playoffs in 2019. At this point in the season, one could say that they have played more like a non-playoff team, but given that the Penguins have won two Stanley Cups and made it to the divisional round once under Coach Mike Sullivan, what could be the cause of this? There are many reasons for the team's lackluster performance so far this season, but one stands out that has been a problem not just this season, but in past seasons as well: inconsistent goaltending. Penguins goaltender Matt Murray came in for the playoffs of the 2015-2016 season and led the Penguins to the first of two consecutive Stanley Cup championships. Everybody thought he was in for a stellar career. However, in the playoffs of the 2016-2017 season, Marc Andre Fleury, now goalie for the Vegas Golden Knights, led the Penguins through the first two rounds of the playoffs, and Murray played in the last two rounds to secure the second championship. One could argue that the Penguins would not have won that cup if Fleury had not played the first two rounds. In the playoffs for the 2017-2018 season, Murray did not look like his best quality of play due to some of the goals he gave up that probably could have been stopped. This hurt the Penguins when they needed a stop from him, and so far this season, Murray's goals allowed average is 4.08, which is horrible for an experienced goalie. Now that Murray is on injured reserve, Casey Desmith is the starting goaltender with Tristian Jarry as his backup. The fact that the Penguins now have a backup goaltender as a main starter is not a good sign for them, even though Desmith's goals allowed average is significantly better than Murray's. While Desmith has proven to be a solid goaltender, he still can have his off days. In short, we just never know what kind of goaltending we will see from a Penguins netminder.

JOSH SELZER
THE VOICE STAFF

The rules of tackling help keep players safe during contact. A player tackling must maintain two feet on the ground. They must attempt to wrap their arms around the person carrying the ball. The player must not lift the ball carrier. The final rule, which if broken results in immediate expulsion from the game is no contact above the shoulders. The culture of rugby is something Chapman felt a deep need to express. He described the culture of the club more like a family or a brotherhood. They frequently spend time together outside of practice and games. The weddings of rugby players tend to primarily be attended by their teammates. The family does not just stop with a local club but is worldwide as Chapman learned while traveling across the British Isles and welcome [sic] everyone I went as soon as they found out I played rugby in the states. The culture keeps me coming back year after year, where I probably would have retired a few years ago without that aspect. Rugby has been played in the United States since the late 19th century. The United States even defeated the France in the 1924 Summer Olympics. However, rugby began to lose players. It began a make a comeback in the 60s and 70s when colleges began creating rugby clubs. In 2009 the International Olympic Committee reinstated the United States into the Summer Olympics once again. The club encourages anyone to get involved and join the club. No matter if they are new to rugby or an experienced player.
OPINIONS

E D I T O R I A L:

Ignorant America

Back in high school, I was engaged in a heated political debate with a fellow student at lunchtime. It was becoming the sort of petty argument that you see on “The View” where everyone yells at each other and nothing comes of it. What the debate was about is not important, but what is important is that I lost. Why? Because I had no idea what I was talking about.

Ben Shapiro, on the other hand, does. Despised by the left and far-right, he is the fast-talking, sharp-witted conservative commentator who rose to fame after becoming the youngest nationally-syndicated columnist in the United States at 17-years-old. Now editor-in-chief of the Daily Wire and host of the number one conservative podcast in America, “The Ben Shapiro Show,” Shapiro travels around the country speaking to college students about the important issues while allowing an open-mic so that students challenge his own views and promote civil debate.

After my self-admitted defeat, I found Ben Shapiro on YouTube, who in turn introduced me to a slew of related political commentators and thinkers across the spectrum—like Dave Rubin, Sam Harris, and Jordan Peterson—who later became known as the “Intellectual Dark Web” by the New York Times.

What was so special about them? In one way they were diverse in thought and they were able to sit down and have a dialogue despite their differences. In another way, they were open to having their mind changed. They exchanged ideas and cited names of thinkers and philosophers that I never heard of, but endurantly looked up. More importantly, they had a passion for learning. You never saw them get emotionally involved because they were so well supported by facts. They never called each other names because they knew that they would never reach a consensus, or at the least an understanding. And no matter who I listened to, whether it was a liberal like Sam Harris or a conservative like Thomas Sowell, they always urged their listeners and admirers to read.

This is the root of America’s ignorance. Many Americans haven’t a clue about current events or history yet have the gall to make absolute claims about that which they don’t know. I hate to concede, but I was one of those Americans. I didn’t read, I just pontificated off of feelings and not evidence, losing every argument. But, once I discovered the many voices of reason amidst the yammering “professionals” on national news, I finally began to learn.

Everyone needs an awakening at some point, especially now. Not in the sense that the world will end if we don’t, but we are at the crossroads of fun-loving college students and responsible adults. We are ultimately in charge of the country’s fate and the first step to becoming a responsible American is to pick up a book.

Editorial prepared by Aidan Segal, editor-in-chief
Did you know?
All of the comics on this page are created by CCAC students!

Contact rvelella@ccac.edu to join the team.
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