

duquesne reacts

How do you feel about the sports cuts?



"I think it really sucks, and it's not very fair to all these kids," said Lindsay Chesmar, a sophomore mathematics and education major. "If anything, they should really cut the teams that aren't doing very well — like football."



"It's sad they got cut, but I think the fact they are trying to give money to other sports maybe that will help boost other sports," said Sean Naccarelli, a junior public relations and advertising major.



"I know a lot of bigger sports that make more revenue need the money. There had to be some cuts with the recession going on," said Josh Lott, a sophomore criminal justice major. "I feel for the kids that don't have their sport to play anymore. It's a tough decision."



"I think they should have better informed the students coming here [that] the athletic department might be making cuts, because part of the reason they came here was for that event," said sophomore pharmacy major Michael Shedlock. "Now, they have to change their lives around."

— Compiled by Brad Morocco

City withdraws G-20 bill

Citizen review board seeks police policies

WILL DODDS
the duquesne duke

After a brief debate, a bill for more than \$6,000 that the Thomas Merton Center received for G-20 Summit police services ended up right where it began — in the hands of the City of Pittsburgh.

Last week, the Thomas Merton Center, a Pittsburgh-based social justice organization, received the bill from the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police, charging them for police services during G-20 protests that the center organized. Earlier this week, however, Mayor Luke Ravenstahl withdrew the bill.

Melissa Minnich, a spokeswoman for the Merton Center, said the center was less than pleased with the bill.

"It's not our duty at all to pay for policing protests," Minnich said. "It's free speech and the right to offer our opinion on the G-20 coming to Pittsburgh."

In a 2004 case involving the People Against Police Violence and the City of Pittsburgh, U.S. District Judge Joy Flowers Conti issued an order that prohibited the city from charging security fees to nonprofit groups who protest or march on city streets. A federal judge lifted the order in 2006, and City Council adopted the permit ordinance that was in effect during the G-20.

According to the Pittsburgh branch of the American Civil Liberties Union's Web site, part of the ordinance states that groups cannot be denied access to a permit if they can't afford security fees, with the exception of groups with more than 5,000 protesters.

No G-20 protest exceeded that mark, and, according to Minnich, the center is "off the hook."

"I appreciate that [Ravenstahl] acknowledged it



TONY PIMPINELLA/THE DUQUESNE DUKE

Police arrest a protester in Bloomfield during the G-20 Summit last September. A hearing Feb. 5 will determine whether the Citizens Police Review Board will have access to documents concerning G-20 police tactics policies.

was a mistake. We weren't properly billed," she said.

Calls to the mayor's office were not returned by deadline.

The Pittsburgh Bureau of Police finds itself involved

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DU: efficiency improves image

LEED — from page 1

are shopping around for a university that has values that they want to associate with."

The \$2.57 million project began in January 2008 and was completed in September 2008. The renovations were limited to the second floor of the Union, meaning the LEED certification plaque that hangs on the wall by the new student lounge applies only to the second floor, not the entire building.

Fuhrman sees the Union's face-lift as a good financial decision.

"In terms of the engineering and design that goes into the rating ... there is certainly a financial ben-

efit for the efficiency you get out of it," Fuhrman said.

He added that the biggest benefit was "just having that plaque on the wall for students and faculty to see."

Alexis Barone, a junior psychology major, agreed that catering to prospective students' values will be a factor in drawing new students.

"Especially with the city trying to be environmentally green and friendly, I think it's important that the school does it as well," Barone said.

But not all students believe Duquesne's efforts to go green are as important.

"I guess it's good to follow the environmental trend," said Ryan Boultz, a senior finance major.

"But I don't think environmental efficiency would play into whether or not I chose a school."

Junior Kate Straub believes the LEED certification could reassure students who already consider Duquesne one of their top choices for schools.

"Once you've decided on a school, that may be a perk — a nice thing to hear about," Straub said.

The LEED rating system ranks buildings and renovations on a point scale based on the sustainability of the project site, and categories such as water efficiency, indoor environmental quality, and energy and atmosphere. Out of 34 attempted points, the Union project earned 33. Gold certification requires a site to score between 32 and 41 points.

Facilities Management is also looking to renovate the first floor of the Union, though changes will be focused on furniture and rugs rather than a full-scale renovation. Fuhrman says he hopes to have that project completed before next semester.

Fuhrman also hopes to begin work on Gumberg Library for LEED certification, though he says there is "no definite timeline" for that project.

Sharrard, who works with other local schools such as Carnegie Mellon and University of Pittsburgh on their LEED projects, said the GBA had little influence in the Union project.

"They knew what they were doing from the Power Center, which is good," Sharrard said. "That's what you like to see."



BRAD MOROCCO/PHOTO EDITOR

Senior political science major Andrew Solic throws paper in the Union's recycling bin Wednesday. The Union's second floor is now LEED Gold certified.

Council approves Paramount

New owner wary of historic designation

JOHN BOJARSKI
staff writer

By the time Pittsburgh City Council voted Tuesday to designate the Paramount Pictures Film Exchange as a historic building, a local real estate developer and playwright had already made a move to ensure the building's survival.

Rick Schweikert, who purchased the building from UPMC last Wednesday, said he plans to finish renovating the building into artist studios and offices for rent within six months. But unlike many groups in the city who fought for the building's historical designation, Schweikert said he is opposed to the designation, but "not actively opposed."

Historical designation, Schweikert said, is not conducive to the type of renovation he wants to do.

"I'm more interested in the interior of the building," Schweikert said. "Designation forces me to focus on grants for the exterior, not grants for the interior."

Although Schweikert opposes the designation, he said he wants to preserve the building's history. In addition to keeping the Paramount Pictures logo on the building's façade, he wants to use some of the interior as a museum and screening room that will be open to the public. He also said he wants to collaborate with Pittsburgh filmmakers for the screening room to be part of the group's film festival.

According to David J. Montgomery, an attorney representing UPMC, the property had been on the market since August 2009. Since UPMC no longer owns the building, Montgomery said designation does not matter to the company.

Dan Holland, CEO of the Young Preservationists Association of Pittsburgh, met with Schweikert before he purchased the building. The YPA supported the historical designation, and Holland said he thinks it will help Schweikert.

"[It] can provide guidance to owners ... it kind of assists owners in restoration of their properties," Holland said.

Despite the disagreement, Holland said he thinks Schweikert will have a positive impact on the building.

"We wish him luck and hope we can help out and be an asset to the whole thing," Holland said.

Uptown Partners of Pittsburgh

see FILM — page 3

like reading
The Duke?

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Police scrutinized

G-20 — from page 2

in another post-G-20 discrepancy; in this case, however, they are the ones under scrutiny.

According to Beth Pittinger, a spokeswoman for the Pittsburgh Citizen Police Review Board, police tactics during the G-20 have raised "tremendous controversy." The CPRB is looking into these numerous complaints, but Pittinger said police are not cooperating.

The board asked the police department to release its policing records during the G-20, but the department has not turned over procedural policies.

"The city says that everything went terrific, that everything went according to plan," she said. "If everything went according to plan, then show us the plan."

During the G-20 summit, police arrested nearly 200 people, including University of Pittsburgh students and journalists who were caught behind police barricades during protests.

The CPRB said it is unsure of how many lawsuits relating to police actions during the G-20 have been filed against the city.

A spokesperson for the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police could not be reached for comment by deadline.

Pittinger said the CPRB specifically seeks documentation of officers' use of force, their supervision, and the general environment surrounding any suspicious citizen-police encounters during the G-20, as well as police training practices before the event.

The CPRB is seeking a court order that would force Pittsburgh Police to release its policies to the board. A hearing is set for Feb. 5.

A Super preview

ALT — from page 8

Saints QB Drew Brees is a big favorite of the announcers, and the Saints have their wonderful, feel-good story about post-Katrina New Orleans. The Colts just won a championship in 2007. Looks like the Saints win here.

So, in summary, the Saints have the advantage from upstairs, the Colts have the physical advantage between the mascots, and the Saints have the pity factor.

Unfortunately for them, they also have a leaky defense and happen to be facing off against Peyton "Mr. Clutch" Manning and his crew of merry men.

So if you had to take a bet, I'd suggest picking the AFC champion Colts. After all, if the Steelers can't win, we at least want our conference to take it. We'll make it three in a row next year.

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Contact Rachael Kiesling, Student & Academic Services, School of Education, for questions and more information. kieslingr@duq.edu or 412.396.5193

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