



Pictured above is The Seagrape restaurant and bar, a popular spot for Fairfield beach residents, including Fairfield University students. Fairfield U seniors are allowed to elect to live in the off-campus beach community for their senior year, and many students live alongside full-time Fairfield Beach residents.

Students Excited At Return of In-Person Classes After Thanksgiving Break

By Thomas Coppola Sports Editor

This year's Thanksgiving break may look very different - and much less gloomy - from last year's holiday for Fairfield University students.

Last year, most universities across the nation, like Fairfield University, decided to keep students at home for the rest of the fall semester after returning to their families for Thanksgiving.

With this, the in-person classes from the fall semester moved online, with professors teaching classes strictly over zoom up until winter break. Final exams for the Fall 2020 semester were administered online, as well.

In the spring semester, comparatively, exams were able to be taken in person, and mostly all classes returned to either a hybrid or fully in-person learning experience thanks to the widespread availability of the vaccine by May of 2021.

This upcoming fall season, however, will look different from last year, with the student body making a full return to campus after spending Thanksgiving at home with their families.

After the break, Fairfield plans to "continue testing our unvaccinated population twice a week and out of an abundance of caution will test a random sample of our vaccinated population post-break," stated Vice President of Marketing and

Communications Jennifer Anderson.

field should've let students return to campus after Thanksgiving break last year, whereas others felt as though administrators made the right call.

"Personally, I am ecstatic to be on campus for the Christmas season this year," Elizabeth Viggiano '24 commented. "However, I feel as though with the wide dispersal of people during this season, it might be better to do campus-wide COVID testing."

After breaks like summer and winter, the University has employed repopulation testing in the past.

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Many students feel like Fair-

time residents than they ever did.

"I think it's difficult for students your age or for those that are coming up behind you to realize

Tensions Simmer Between Beach Residents and Fairfield U Students

By Molly Lamendola Editor-in-Chief

The relationship between the Fairfield beach residents and the Fairfield University students that live on the beach has always been tumultuous at best.

The Mirror's website is filled with articles like "Beach Resident Relations Not 'On Point'", "Tensions with Beach Residents Alter Uber Policy" and "Town-gown relations: No day at the beach" that highlight the nearly decades of tension between the two groups.

In an interview with The Mirror, Carolyn Kamlet, the President of the Fairfield Beach Residents Association, states relations with University students at the beach have gotten better than it has been in the past, "But it's like saying your fever used to be 105 and now you're 103."

The FBRA is an advocacy organization for homeowners from "from the Old Post Road south to Fairfield Beach Road west to the end of the road, and Reef Road east to Beach Road," as stated on their website.

Kamlet adds that their organization was started in the 1950s to try and make the beach more suitable for full-time residents. Eventually, it transitioned into more of an advocacy, community group trying to band together against beach erosion, beach beautification and just working to maintain the area as much as they can.

She adds that the beach area has changed a lot over the years and even more so recently. What were once tiny beach bungalows have grown into larger family homes and they currently have many more full-

that we're no longer beach bungalows," Kamlet states. "We literally are a community, much of which are similar to where the students have been living with their parents or guardians.'

C I think it's difficult for

students your age or for those that are coming up behind you to realize that we're no longer beach bungalows. We literally are a community, much of which are similar to where the students have been living with their parents or guardians."

> - Carolyn Kamlet President of the FBRA

She continues that she understands where Fairfield students are coming from, "They looked forward to doing that [living at the beach] since they were Freshmen and they're sowing their wild oats and the residents are saying, 'Wait a minute, this isn't a booze cruise in Fort Lauderdale on Spring Break!"

Around four years ago the Beach Advisory Group was formed as a group, "...that comes together every six weeks or so and the University does, in fact, reach out to us and includes the police, the fire department, the residents, the health department" with University administrators all meeting to discuss the beach community.

This group comes after years of tense relations between the **CONTINUED ON PAGE 1**



Break Housing Request

Pictured above is the Fairfield University's downtown bookstore located
on Post Road. The bookstore celebrated its 10th anniversary this
week. There was a celebration on Saturday, Nov. 13 with an opening
ceremony, a small pep rally, activies and crafts for children and a spe-
cial read-aloud by children's book author Lizzy Rockwell.

Student ID *		
Housing Assignment *		
Student Email *		
Student Mobile Phone *		
Student Grad Year *		
Reason for Request (max 500 Characters) *		

Pictured above is the Break Housing Request form students need to fill out if they wish to extend their stay on campus past 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday Nov. 23. There will be a fee attached to their stay unless they are an international student.

Fairfield University will close for Thanksgiving break on Tuesday, Nov. 23. Residence halls will close on Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. and will not reopen until Nov. 28. The Daniel and Grace Tully Dining Commons will close at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 23. The Office of Residence Life asks students that live on campus to be aware that they won't have access to their room during this time without filling out a break housing form at breakhousing.fairfield. edu. If students have a class that ends at or after 6:30 p.m., traveling, or just requesting to stay for a reason you will have to fill out that form. There will be a cost to extra nights staying unless you are an international student.

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The NHL is in a desperate need for a culture shake-up.

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Stags To Still Go Abroad Despite COVID

By Madeline West Assistant News Editor

By Molly Lamendola Editor-in-Chief

On Feb. 25, 2020, all 142 students enrolled in the Florence, Italy Study Abroad program were told to return home. Global Fairfield, the study abroad office on campus, cancelled all Fall 2020 abroad experiences and told students that they were going to return for Spring 2021. By Oct. 26, 2020, Global Fairfield

finalized their decision that all Spring 2021 abroad trips would also be cancelled and questions arose regarding when the program would possibly be back. But, as reported in The Mirror last week, Study Abroad is back and students are once again traveling, learning and experiencing what life is like outside the United States.

But the question of whether or not the risk and the tense nature of the pandemic has stopped student interest in studying abroad still lingers.

Sophomore Jada Ormsbee states, "I have always wanted to study abroad and Covid hasn't changed that because Fairfield is taking many precautions to keep their students safe."

As reported by The Mirror last week, all students studying abroad must be fully vaccinated.

Junior Sally Caron, who's currently studying abroad in Florence adds that students seem to follow all of the COVID-19 guidelines and Global Fairfield gave them a thorough enough orientation that indirectly emphasized being respectful of the COVID protocols. "A lot of people were really hesitant

about hosting study abroad students and

Junior Sally Caron is currently studying abroad in Florence, Italy, but is pictured above in Milan. Despite current COVID-19 restrictions for study abroad students, Caron states the experience hasn't been largely impacted by the changes.

Photo Contributed by Sally Caron

a lot of people from the city were like not completely into the idea of having a bunch of American college kids here," Caron says, adding, "So they let us know that all, and that warning was enough that within a week or even a few days, that if people were having their temperature checked or had to sanitize their hands before going into a store, everyone was pretty respectful of it because you just had to say."

wasn't "transparent", but, "I would say

can't control what we do when we

Sophomore Luiza Sperling thinks to study abroad, I still believe that I will. However I think that there are more precautions we must take before traveling and while we are abroad as well."

to study abroad I don't want to miss

"Once I had been accepted to the program and once I decided it was going to be something I was going to do... I didn't really think about how it was going to be different with COVID because I kind of just felt pretty lucky that we were able to even go in the first place." Caron states, "I have not felt like COVID has made much of a difference here, like everyone still goes out to eat, everybody can still go shopping

"We've been at this for almost door seating accommodations... and



they gave a pretty fair warning and did pretty much the best that they could." Caron adds, "Obviously they

leave orientation, but I would say they did a pretty good job of convincing us to all follow these protocols."

more precautions must be made before she studies abroad. "I've always wanted Caron continues that the only

thing she was thinking through was how much of her college experience on-campus was already gone. "COVID altered my decision in the sense that I felt like I had already missed out on a lot of my college experience and that's would've been why I wouldn't have gone. Because I wanted to be on campus," Caron said.

Sophomore Catherine Zarrella states that she wants to do a Summer

program instead because of COVID. "I have thought about study[ing] abroad a lot, especially because of how Covid impacted my first year," Zarrella said. "As much as I would like

out with more time on campus so I am thinking of a summer program."

and a lot of restaurants are at full capacity."

two years now," Caron continues, "Almost every restaurant has out-



Pictured above is a canal in Venice, Italy taken by a Fairfield University student studying abroad. After closing due to the COVID-19 pandemic in the spring of 2020, Study Abroad is back for Fairfield students. Despite the return, many underclassmen students debate the idea of studying abroad due to continued COVID-19 risks and impacts.

I've never been to Italy before, so I could never picture it a different way."

As reported by The Mirror, the Office of Residence Life seems to be hoping study abroad numbers return to normal. Charles Sousa, the senior associate director of housing operations in ResLife state added that it would be a huge help on their housing model and give them back some flexibility for movement.

"I wanted to study abroad because in my head I was like, I'm graduating college and I'm going to get a job and I'm never going to be able to leave America ever again," Caron states, "It sounds so dramatic, but that was really my mindset! Going abroad to me was like, 'When else am I going to be 20 years old, being able to live in Italy for three months?"

With COVID still impacting everyday life, it will remain to be seen if the abroad experience is enough to regain student interest.

I wanted to study abroad because in my

head I was like, I'm graduating college and I'm going to get a job and I'm never going to be able to leave America ever again. It sounds so dramatic, but that was really my mindset! Going abroad to me was like, 'When else am I going to be 20 years old, being able to live in Italy for three months?

- Sally Caron '23





Compiled by Madeline West Information contributed by the Department of Public Safety.

11/11

3:09 p.m.

There was a burglary in Regis Hall. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Department of Public Safety.

11/12

6:20 p.m.

A student reported being struck by a vehicle in the Barnyard Manor parking lot. It is currently under investigation.

11/13

1:56 a.m.

Disorderly conduct was reported. The individual was later identified as a student who refused to surrender a fake ID. The student was referred to student conduct.

11/13

3:10 a.m.

An unknown, unconscious person was identified at the Kelly Center West parking lot. He was later identified as a student and was referred to student conduct.

11/14

12:53 a.m.

Narcotics were found at the Townhouses. They were confiscated and they students were referred to student conduct

11/14

4:02 a.m.

A criminal trespass arrest was made to a non-student stemming from a previous incident when he was told not to return to campus.

11/14

4:40 a.m.

An unoccupied vehicle was found with the lights on and keys in the ignition. Attempts to find the owner were unsuccessful

THE MIRROR

Incorporated 1977

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Fairfield To Do Partial Re-Population Testing After Thanksgiving

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This process was an integral part of move-in day last year, where students had to produce both a negative saliva test to move into their residence halls. The saliva tests began producing unpredictable results, leading Fairfield University to make the switch to rapid antigen tests.

Randomized testing has been employed after large gatherings for this school year, like the President's Ball, where a percentage of attendees were selected for random COVID-19 testing.

Other students, like Julia Kilroy '24, saw both positives and negatives to staying home for the rest of the semester last year.

"I had mixed feelings about the school's decision to keep everyone home from Thanksgiving to the end of winter break last year. I was glad that I could go back home and take a much-needed mental break, but I was still bummed because there wasn't much energy on campus that made me want to stay." Some students, however, saw this as a complete success. "I personally liked the decision, it was a great opportunity to spend time with family especially around the holidays," Nicholas DiStefano '24 commented. Nursing students have also stressed the need for repopulation testing.

"My family is fully vaccinated and every single one of them has a breakthrough case of COVID, it can literally happen to anyone even if you don't know it," Ashley Lampros '22 said. "So, absolutely, the school should test everyone after break."

This testing plan is in place upon students' arrival back to campus, according to Anderson.

Anderson added that, "Fairfield is also hosting a vaccination and booster clinic on Friday, Dec. 10 for students, faculty and staff here on campus in partnership with Griffin Hospital."

The University also partnered with Griffin Hospital for the vaccination clinic hosted last academic year.

To begin preparing for the process of moving students out of residence halls for the break, the Office of Wy family is fully vaccinated and every single one of them had a breakthrough case of COVID, it can literally happen to anyone even if you don't know it. So, absolutely, the school should test everyone after break."

- Ashley Lampros '22

Residence Life has sent two emails to students, one on Oct. 27 and another on Nov. 14.

In this set of emails, Residence Life noted that each residence hall will lock at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 23, and will reopen at noon on Nov. 28. Also included is a set of reminders and procedures to follow, like closing windows, setting the heat to low and unplugging electrical appliances.

With Gates Open, Questions Raised Regarding Guest Policy

By Madeline West Assistant News Editor

COVID-19 has reshaped college life to a new normal. Fairfield students have complied with new guidelines regarding social distancing and mask wearing.

One of these changes instituted was a change to the university's guest policy. With the return of students to campus last year, the University established a stringent no-guest policy in an attempt to stop the spread and ensure the safety of those on campus.

Prior to COVID-19, students were allowed to fill out an overnight guest pass to allow their guest on campus. Now, this pass is unavailable due to the health risk of bringing others onto campus.

Another safety measure that the University took to ensure there was a record and better control of who was going in and out of campus, was to close most of the gates on campus. All gates other than the front entrance on North Benson Road and the Barlow Gate near Faber Hall were closed.

The University built another Public Safety booth near Faber Hall, and both open gates required swipe access with a valid Stag Card. Though the main gate remained open 24/7, the gate on Barlow Road closed at night.

On Nov. 1 all the gates were re-opened on campus and the requirement to swipe in was lifted during the day. As of now, all of the gates other than the main North Benson Gate will close at 11 p.m. and Stag Cards will be Townhouse and Jogues gates will close at 6 p.m. on Fridays through Sundays.

With the new changes virtually anyone can get onto campus without proof of a stag card or ID in general during the day.

While it makes a commute on and off campus easier, it is an eerie feeling knowing that basically anyone can get on and off campus." - Caroline McConville '23

This has raised mixed opinions from students. For senior beach students such as Caroline Kavanagh '22 the gate opening is a good thing, as the gates have helped traffic congestion.

"Opening the gates was a great move on behalf of the University. I find that opening all gates reduced a lot of the traffic that resulted from the main gate being the sole entrance and exit for all vehicles." She states, continuing, "The gate near the Dolan School of Business and the townhouses provides an alternate way to get into campus, decreasing my commute time."

Junior Caroline McConville echoed this sentiment."I initially was very happy all the gates were being opened because it makes getting on and off campus so much easier," McConville said. townhouse gate is honestly a game changer being so close to me."

However, McConville shared some worries with the change. "While it makes a commute on and off campus easier, it is an eerie feeling knowing that basically anyone can get on and off campus."

McConville goes on to mention that "...especially with regards to who is vaccinated, I feel like our school has done such a good job this semester [so] it would be a shame if unvaccinated guests caused an uptick in cases potentially."

In The Mirror's weekly crime beat report with Captain Frank Ficko of the Department of Public Safety there have been 15 instances of COVID guest policy violations this semester. From trying to sneak individuals on campus, to showing fake IDs to DPS, to driving through the gate at night.

Junior Cristiana Callegari has similar sentiment to that of McConville stating, "...while I think that opening all the gates can be convenient for traffic and commuting, the risk of having guests and what that entails for safety and COVID can be concerning."

Callegari believes that "It is nice to see a switch in trying to make our campus look as it did before COVID, it is important that we still all realise the pandemic is ongoing and the risk is still high for the spread."

The Mirror will continue to cover guest policy infractions in our weekly crime beat and also update students on any other changes made with the guest policy and gate opening policies.

Staff Photographer Kyler Erezuma

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The Mirror is the recognized student newspaper of Fairfield University. Opinions and ideas expressed herein are those of the individual student authors, and not those of Fairfield University or its Board of Trustees required between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. The Sile continues, ...the



Pictured above is the Barlow Road Gate next to Faber Hall. This gate and the main gate on North Benson Road were the only gates used during the majority of the pandemic. Students had to swipe in and thus no guests were allowed on campus. With the gates now open, many have positive and negative opinions regarding the opening and the impact this has on the guest policy.

FBRA President States Issues At The Beach Are Multifaceted

if people show up at your house and they're students or under-

classmen whoever they are and

you don't want them there, you

do have the right to call the cops

yourself." Kamlet states, adding

"When bad things happen inno-

cent people can get caught up in it."

does not tell them how many stu-

dents are caught for behavior that

breaks the student code of conduct,

Cameras, that's how I get pictures."

Kamlet continues that Fairfield

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

full-time residents and students leading to a court injunction to block any more than 250 students from gathering on Lantern Point and playing music that's volume exceeded state and local codes.

Kamlet states the injunction occurred because there were "thousands of attendees" and that it was "disruptive to the community."

She adds it was the "trash, the lewdness, the drunkenness, underage drinking" that caused the injunction. And it's important to note that

the injunction still holds true today. "I do think that Fairfield students get caught oftentimes in the middle of disruptive behavior when it may not have been them initiating the behavior," she adds, continuing, "But there are other people who come to the beach, and I know they're underclass persons who come to the beach. It's not just your seniors that come to the beach, so it can get out of hand."

presence of both male and female strippers in some instances."

The injunction on Lantern Point was made permanent that same year.

In 2006, the First Selectman Kenneth Flatto told The Mirror he supported the injunction as, "There wouldn't be a way to enforce crowd behavior without these sanctions ... The beach is public property and unfortunately, bonfires and poor behavior have resulted in proposals for fencing and other things."

Even with the injunction, the Mock Wedding tradition caused further issues in 2008 when damages to the buses caused the Student Beach Resident Association President Erin Hickey '08 to be charged solely for the damages as she was "completely liable" as reported by The Mirror.

"Not every student is disruptive, I mean that has to be out there, not every student is disruptive" Kamlet adds, stating that "Many of them come with great respect for our community."

C "When I first began with Fairfield Beach Residents Association eight years ago Fairfield University would give us the numbers that they were releasing. In the last two years, we've been told that while we

may want to know, we don't need to know."

- Carolyn Kamlet President of the FBRA

Kamlet highlights one event in particular where there were strippers at the annual Mock Wedding event. "Not that that happened now in 2021, but those kinds of events are not something that families want their families to witness, as well as what it does to the community.

It was reported by The Mirror in 2006 that the bus company Laidlaw "refused to bring students back from the reception of the Mock Wedding at the Stamford Marriott... [as] a result of students' inappropriate behavior on the bus on the way to the reception."

Further, the 2006 article continues that the events of that day were "highlighted by the

Yet, she continues by adding she doesn't go one weekend without an email with, "... a complaint from a resident about students urinating on their property or on the reef, on the jetty... tres-

She mentions that Fairfield University has a website that residents can use to send in videos or complaints regarding students either anonymously or not. Students also have the opportunity to report actions, "Students who will say to the University, 'there's really a bad house next to me and I don't want to be affiliated with this."

"One of the things we've tried to say to students is, you know

passing into their private property."



dent, I don't mind Fairfield University selling the fact that we have a beach population ... but the second line needs to be 'it is a 'residential' beach community."

She continues that students should know they need to move their trash cans out and not block a parking spot. of like some of our landlords.

of money to live at the beach."

She adds that, by law, there can be no more than five in a house, and that number is reduced to four in the beach district. "We now have a certificate of rental occupancy which makes it a misdemeanor if you violate that."

G "As a resident, I

don't mind Fairfield University selling the fact that we have a beach population... but the second line needs to be 'it is a residential beach community." - Carolyn Kamlet

Kamlet continues, "It's sort

President of the FBRA

Julia Lanzillotta / The Mirror Pictured above is the street sign on the corner of Fairfield Beach Road and Reef Road. As many as 500 Fairfield students live in this area during their senior year, but FBRA states Fairfield has stopped sharing





Many Fairfield University students live in houses on the path of the Lantern Point community. FBRA has stated that they want Fairfield students to understand that the beach is a "residential" community and students need to respect the full-time residents living within the community.

Kamlet also adds that speed on the road continues to be an issue as Fairfield Beach Road has no sidewalks and just one stop sign.

"I can walk down my street... and tell you what time of day it is, when classes start and when classes end, because they're zooming up and down.... It's like gun it all the way down to Fairfield Beach Road or gun it up."

She states the number of students living on the beach is important as, "Every 100 persons who live at the beach has a huge impact on traffic and speed and trash."

Kamlet also mentions that landlords play a role in the issue.

"We also have a lot of landlords who are making very large amounts of money by renting to students." Kamlet states and later continues, "Unfortunately, we have some landlords who take advantage of students and their families by charging exorbitant amounts

who will say to the students, it's really okay that you have seven living there, and nobody really cares. Yeah people really do care! It is against the ordinance. It is against the law! You really can't, but they'll say don't worry about it."

When asked if the ever-increasing class size is a concern to her, as overcrowding is already an issue at the beach, Kamlet states, "Well absolutely...I don't believe that Fairfield University could in fact house all of you on campus if all of you stayed for four years. There's just no physical way to do that."

She continues that she respects the university for their privacy and what they want to do as an institution, "...that's up to them and their board and your President. But we had always hoped that we would be eventually reducing that number down, and we don't know that it's going down."

Opinion Students Need More Course Offerings with Social Justice Attributes

By Peyton Perry Opinion Editor

Course registration for the upcoming spring semester is near complete, with only the first years left to register this Friday, Nov. 19 with the exception of student-athletes. As a sophomore student entering the new semester, certain aspects of the Magis Core curriculum have caught my attention more so than previous semesters; these being, the signature elements.

For those who may be unaware, the signature elements consist of seven course attributes that every student at Fairfield is expected to complete before they graduate. These attributes include an interdisciplinary course, MSID, a social justice introduction course, MSJ1, a social justice course, MSJ2 a social justice focus on race course, MSJR, two writing across the curriculum courses, MWAC and one additional MWAC course or one within a major, MWID. There are more specific parameters on Fairfield University's webpage, but for this article's purposes, this is all that is important to know.

This year, in particular, signature elements have undergone much student debate regarding the ease at which stu-

dents can fulfill them.

I want to make clear before I go any further that I appreciate the incorporation of the signature element attributes in our Magis Core at Fairfield. Having the Magis Core, in whole, cultivates wellrounded, intuitive and socially immersed individuals, which would be restricted if courses were confined to merely one's major. Further, the signature elements highlight two very important skills, intensive writing and activeness within the realm of social justice.

The frustrations that I've heard from junior students, who are the first class to have the signature elements required as part of their core, as well as sophomores are geared towards lack of availability. I have heard little to no resentment regarding their status or level of importance within our core.

Basically, there just needs to be more courses offering the social justice attributes to students.

Focusing on this upcoming Spring semester alone and according to the "Browse Classes" feature on Course Registration found on my.fairfield.edu, there are 24 MSJ1 courses with 6 already filled, 13 MSJ2 courses with seven already filled, and 12 MSJR courses with eight already filled being offered to students.

The MWAC and MWID courses, in contrast, are generally not problematic to students because a lot more of them are offered. For instance, this upcoming spring semester there are 61 MWAC courses being offered with 20 already filled and 27 MSID courses with nine already filled.

One can easily see that, comparatively, there are many more writingintensive courses than there are social justice ones. The average class size at Fairfield is usually around 25 students. Even if one were to assume there were 20 seats offered in each course, there would only be enough MSJ1 courses to hold 480 students, MSJ2 courses to hold 260 students, and MSJR courses to hold 240 students.

With class sizes of over 1,000 students, it seems as though there are not enough of these courses being offered to help the majority of students complete their core before graduation.

Junior Amy Knott shares the significance she finds in the signature elements. "I 100 percent see the importance of taking classes that have these attributes, which is also why I think the university needs to make these course components more frequent and accessible," she says. "It's challenging to obtain the signature elements, but especially the social justice ones."

Another stress that a lack of courses containing these attributes brings students is that some end up having to take courses completely unrelated to their own interests due to a very narrow amount of options to choose from.

"I think it would be very beneficial for the University to incorporate social justice components into more classes so that way you don't have to take a class just to fulfill one of those elements, especially if you already have a really packed schedule," Knott says.

It is generally known by students that professors have to undergo extensive measures to meet the specific requirements that fall under each attribute. This takes time and with signature elements being relatively new to the Magis Core, it makes sense that not a lot of professors have completed the measures yet to have their courses include these social justice components for students.

"The Magis Core Curriculum Committee reviews proposals for courses from faculty every two weeks," says Director of the Magis Core Curriculum Elizabeth Petrino. "The coordinators of the signature elements who work with faculty subcommittees, have been incredibly hard-working and dedicated."

Petrino acknowledges the challenges currently being faced in ensuring that enough signature element courses are offered for students. "I have been reaching out to faculty in the College and the professional schools to encourage them to propose courses at the appropriate levels within the curriculum that will qualify for signature elements," she says.

It is imperative, however, that focus is drawn to the offering of more of the social justice courses, specifically. Whether that be by professors, the directors of the signature element courses or a combined effort of both, the social justice attributes need to increase.

Offering only 13 courses with the MSJ2 attribute and 12 courses with the MSJR attribute places undue stress on students. It fosters a highly competitive environment and tension as only a select few are able to fulfill these attributes in a timely manner.

Especially with class sizes rising each year, more social justice attributes need to be implemented for students.

Academic Advising Experiences Should Be Equal For All Students

By Amy Gordon Contributing Writer

Academic advisors are essential in guiding college students to success, as registering for classes and meeting certain course requirements can be a difficult thing to navigate. By assigning each student an advisor to assist them personally during their college career, a school can keep students on the right track and ensure that they earn a degree in their chosen major. Although not impossible, it would be much more difficult for someone to go through this without any guidance or advice on academics, especially if it is foreign to them. With the process of registering for Spring 2022 classes beginning, advisors are in their prime time for helping students.

As a first-year student, I was extremely relieved in April of 2021, when I had committed to Fairfield University and found out that all of my first semester courses were chosen for my undecided major in the College of Arts and Sciences. Because I am undecided, my schedule was filled with introductory classes to help complete Magis core requirements.

While my friends who were not attending

to have this experience. After talking with my friends, I realized a lot of first-years had complaints about their academic advisors and still felt rather confused with registering for classes. Some advisors had such busy schedules that finding an appointment was nearly impossible, while others took weeks to respond and students had to follow up with them. Some never bothered to reach out to their students at all, which could be a major problem, especially if the student does not take initiative.

Although it is expected that students should be responsible and stay on top of registering for classes, this does not mean that one should be able to fall through the cracks of academic advising. Advisors should also prioritize taking the responsibility of making themselves known to students.

I was told one advisor didn't even walk their student through the process of picking classes out at all and gave no advice to them in switching their major. Without good advising, students are left on their own to not only pick courses but also go through the process of switching a major, which is a completely new idea and could be confusing if never done before. This is a stressful time for students, regardless of whether this is their first time registering or not. There is preparation for the holidays, mid-terms and endless hours of studying and homework on top of other responsibilities. Dealing with confusion and problems from their academic advisor should not be added to their list. Meeting with their academic advisor to work on their Spring schedule should be a stress-free activity, and one that brings a student more secureness and confidence than frustration or worry. Although I have heard about positive experiences with academic advisors, like mine, Fairfield needs to make this experience the same for all students. Advisors should be reaching out to students more often and much sooner before the registration process. They should be over-seeing the students' courses intensely and reaching out here and there in case the student has any questions or concerns.

Hot Take: The Best Study Spot On Campus Is DSB

By Thomas Coppola Sports Editor

There are a lot of solid study spots on campus that allow you to really hone in on your course material and cram your brain with facts! I've found this to be the case in a bunch of different places around Fairfield University; I've had my fair share of spontaneous study setups in a wide spread of buildings.

There is no better place to study, however, than the Dolan School of Business, specifically the second floor study rooms. Out of all the places I have sat down and worked, this is easily the best one by far.

I am a marketing major, so naturally it might seem like I am biased to the business school. I want to let you know, however, that this is not the case at all; I've done work in the Egan School of Nursing, the Dimenna-Nyselius Library and even the Barone Campus Center! You name the place, and I've studied there. These are all great locations, but Dolan's offerings have allowed me to focus on



ronment. Rain or shine, morning or night, these rooms allow a whole wall's worth of natural light, with a breathtaking view of the library lawn and chapel.

Fairfield University were stressing out about what classes to take and meeting with their advisors, I was content, knowing that Fairfield had it all under control and that I would receive a schedule that worked best for me and my major. I had no need to meet with my advisor and did not hear from anyone in the Office of Academic Support and Retention, besides from receiving my schedule.

When I realized that I had to pick out my own classes for this coming spring semester, initially I was panicked. I had no idea how this process would work and I had no idea who my academic advisor even was. It wasn't until early October that I received the email address of my advisor. I reached out to her, and thankfully she responded immediately and was very flexible with times that we could meet.

During the meeting, I had all my questions answered and found out the courses that I need to take in order to stay on track with core requirements. I was also encouraged to make plans of my schedules and send them to my advisor so that they could "okay" them.

After the meeting, I felt confident in selecting my classes for the Spring semester and I was relieved that I didn't have anything to worry about.

I didn't realize, however, how lucky I was

(To read full article visit www.fair-fieldmirror.com)

my work the best, even on material that isn't business related.

I am a believer in the "vibes" of a building; this might sound stupid but I feel like this is something that a lot of people unconciously follow. Whenever I am learning a topic, I like to review that material in the room or environment that I learned it in. For example, when I want to study for a Spanish quiz, I go to Canisius Hall to study, because that is the environment where I learned the material initially.

I have found, however, that the DSB study rooms transcend this preconceived notion that I've always followed in my efforts to cram for exams. I have been able to focus on any and all subjects I work on in this room, without any real distraction.

First of all, simply securing one of these study rooms allows you an unreal boost of serotonin before you can sit down because scoring one of these rooms is like hitting the jackpot! With only three of these team rooms on the second floor, it is rare to find one empty.

After your excitement of securing a room dwindles, it's now time to study. This room's versatility is unmatched in any enviNow, you can sit down and focus without any distractions. The smaller size of the room is perfect for a solo study session or a group effort.

I should also add that these rooms allow for four students to comfortably study, but any more might be a bit crammed. Whether you are by yourself or with a group of classmates, this room is very accommodating, and in my opinion, it is one of the most versatile. The whiteboard walls on each side of the room add another reason to work here with a whole group.

Don't twist my words; my intention is not to knock on other study locations. What works for you may not work for me, and vice versa. There are a lot of really great places to do your work on campus; some other places that come to mind are the lobby area of the upper level BCC, the top floor of the library and any open classroom you can find in Canisius Hall.

All of these, however, come with some type of distraction. In the BCC, someone always seems to be walking by, and your friends may pass and say hello, which will disrupt your train of thought. (To read full article visit www.fairfieldmirror.com)

By Brooke Lathe Vine Editor

On Friday, Nov. 5, Travis Scott was set to perform his annual two-day long Astroworld festival in Houston, Texas. But what was supposed to be a fun concert for all attendees, instead turned into a tragic and unforgettable scene at the fault of Travis Scott, the venue workers and some of the concertgoers.

Before this event, it has been a known pattern that Travis Scott encouraged his fans to rush event gates and portray rowdy behavior at his performances. In 2015, Scott pleaded guilty to "disorderly conduct" charges for Chicago's Lollapalooza music festival as he told his fans to jump the security barricades. And just two years later, Scott was again arrested on suspicion of inciting a riot at a concert in Bentonville, Arkansas. It's obvious Scott only really cares about his audience numbers rather than the safety of his fans.

This was proven once more earlier this month at his Astroworld festival, but this time, causing 10 deaths, ranging from ages nine to twentyseven, and hundreds of injuries. At an outside venue that is equipped to host over 200,000 people, it might not have seemed like an issue to have over 50,000 attend Astroworld fest. However, when Scott started to rile up his crowd, a surge pushed everyone to the front which caused people to suffocate and get trampled on.

In one video I watched, it was clear that the venue was not prepared to stop the mass overflow. It would have been impossible for the handful of security guards to try and stop the insane amount of people storming the field. And while this can definitely be blamed on the venue for not hiring enough security and not building a better barricade system, it was ultimately Scott's fault for encouraging his fans to storm the show in the past.

The first time I heard about everything that took place was the night after on Nov. 6. It seemed like right after I learned about it, all of my social media accounts were flooded with updates and videos regarding Astroworld. Specifically, countless people were posting videos on Tik Tok, showing the audience that couldn't move, were begging for help, and were being injured. After watching these short documentaries, I was heartbroken and frustrated that something preventable like this could happen.

Travis Scott posted a short oneminute and thirty-second video on his Instagram story, a social media device that allows a user to share a post for only 24 hours, on Nov. 7. In this temporary statement, he fidgeted with his face the entire time and even put a black and white filter over the video. How much more insincere could it get?

Scott never actually apologizes, but instead mumbles, "anytime I can make out anything that's going on, I'd stop the show." But in videos that were resurfaced, the story seems the exact opposite.

A concert attendee, Seanna McCarty, was seen climbing the stage and shouting "people are dying". The cameraman and security guards all disregarded her and pushed her off of the stage. On her social media, she posted a five-page story of everything she went through. She writes "breathing became something only a few were capable of" and "if someone's arms had been up, it was no longer a possibility to put it down". Further into the story, she recounts a herd of people yelling for help, but everyone ignores them. I highly urge you to read her entire post at @seannafaith on Instagram to fully understand the severity of the situation.

Even though reading McCarty's story gave me better insight into the tragedies that occurred, her point of view wasn't needed because I had already witnessed everything she said online. I watched people fall into piles, unable to breathe. I watched an overhead video of the crowd swaying in motion, inert of their movements. I watched people struggle to pull audience members out of the crowd because the pressure between others surrounding them held them so firmly into place. I wasn't even there, but just seeing a handful of one-minute videos was enough to invoke a horrible feeling inside of me.

I understand how people want to defend Travis Scott, but I can't find any reason that he's not in the wrong. Maybe with the headphones, you aren't able to hear specific people over those who are chanting lyrics or just screaming in general. But there was one video that I saw where a crowd was chanting to "stop the show" clear as day and he bluntly ignored it and continued his set.

Furthermore, as a performer,

you can 100 percent see everything that is going on. Scott had a complete birdseye view of the audience, overlooking the crowd. There is no possible way he did not see the piles of people being stepped on or how most of his fans were unable to move.

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Many artists, like Harry Styles and Adele, have stopped their show after seeing a single person faint in the back of the crowd. There were thousands of people in front of Scott, how would he not see this?

(To read full article visit www.fairfieldmirror.com)



Communion Shouldn't Be Denied To Anyone

By Anne Tomosivitch Contributing Writer



In an increasingly divided nation, American Catholics have established a new point of disagreement. A new controversy has arisen on the question of receiving Holy Communion, particularly with regard to politicians: who is worthy to receive, and who is not?

This developing scrutiny has been particularly focused on President

Joe Biden recently, whose policies on the issue of "reproductive rights" are vehemently pro-choice. This stance, however, is "at odds with fundamental Catholic values" and has thus been used as a rationale in denying the president Holy Eucharist at mass, among other political figures.

I would argue, however, that this new political obsession about the

distribution of communion is counterproductive to the most inherent and essential of the Church's teachings.

My argument stands free of any discussion or judgment of the "reproductive rights" issue, nor does it attempt to minimize the sanctity of receiving the Eucharist. My thinking, however, is rooted in the fact that receiving communion is deeply personal.

Theologically, it is understood that each individual ought to receive communion in a state of grace. This state, however, cannot and should not be discerned from an external entity. Whether one is prepared to receive the Eucharist is deeply intertwined with one's intentions in acting: was the individual aware of the implications behind their wrong actions? Did they understand the gravity behind their mistake? Did they know what they did was wrong when they did it?

I would like to make the argument that these questions cannot be answered on behalf of the President. Even if we were to be conservative in following Church teachings, assuming the President's state of worthiness to receive is inherently presumptuous.

I would also like to raise the point that the Eucharist is fundamentally rooted in the concept of reconciliation. Receiving communion is essentially the basis of our Catholic faith; it is our modern covenant, the way by which we receive grace. It is the foundation of our faithful lives, and it is not our prerogative to decide who is worthy of God's grace. In fact, this denial of communion seems far from prolife, considering the fact that Catholics believe the Eucharist to be the bread of life.

This whole scrutiny of who is worthy and who is not, seems to abandon the broader reconciliatory culture behind the sacrament itself; the whole notion of communion is about forgiveness. Even if one were to consider Biden's actions wrong, denying him an opportunity to receive grace is exclusive, it's not our prerogative, and it shouldn't be what we stand for. With the question of worthiness aside, the implications of denying someone communion, in the public eye no less, are hugely impactful. Whether we'd like to admit it or not, this new uproar paints the Church as a condemning entity.

Whatever happened to "come as you are" (James 4:8-9)?

As a Church, we are supposed to be a home for the hurting, not a pedestal for the righteous. When did we lose our dedication to this, one of the most fundamental of our principles?

Should we encourage the individual to reverently receive communion? Yes. But should we be focusing our discussion on judgment, in an age of mass media? No.

The world is hurting outside of our stained glass windows. In the words of one of my favorite authors, Bob Goff, "people need love and acceptance a lot more than they need advice."

In light of Jesus's teachings, "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone" (John 8:7).

Editorial

BOARD

"Some Words of Encouragement"

Julia Lanzillotta Executive Editor As a first-year student at Fairfield University, I had absolutely no idea what I wanted to do with my life. I was certain of very few things, one being that I loved hockey. Because of that, I had declared that I would be a sports journalist, stopping at nothing to work for the New York Rangers. Though that didn't really pan out (and probably for the better), this little ambitious plan of mine inspired me to join The Mirror. Such a decision would go on to remarkably impact my college experience.

I so vividly remember anxiously walking from table to table at the activities fair, drawn by the odd bunch sitting at the student newspaper's booth. I knew that if I wanted to get into sports writing, there was no better place to start. I apprehensively signed myself up, and shortly after, received an invitation to my first pitch meeting!

The little glass office that I have since grown to be so familiar with smelled of pizza and unfamiliarity, but I am so glad I resisted the (very strong) urge to turn and run. Instead, I gathered myself and walked up to the intimidating desk in the corner, manned by three senior guys in backward hats and basketball shorts.

After a brief introduction, I was thrown to the wolves and claimed the only sports article on pitch that wasn't taken by another student. The sports editors gave me a nice pat on the back and sent me on my way to write "as much as possible"... whatever that meant. I still read that first article of mine and cringe, but since September of 2018, I've grown immensely as a person and a writer.

I've thoroughly enjoyed covering Fairfield sports- whether that be reporting on games from up in the luxurious press box of Rafferty Stadium, or in the bitter, cold weather out on University Field when the field hockey team advanced to the postseason well into November. Through the countless hours I've spent at sporting events, and interviewing athletes and coaches, I've learned more about myself and, more importantly, the people around me. Although "sports journalist" is not a title I look to keep in my post-graduate career, I'm proud to have been able to assume that role, even if just for a few years. Isn't that what college is all about; exploration and development?

When new writers sign up for The Mirror, I see little glimpses of myself in them, and I become excited for the future of this paper, which has grown to feel like my own. The point of my reminiscence is that I believe everyone should find their "Mirror" at Fairfield, whether that be through participation in intramural sports, Campus Ministry or even in academic honor societies. I truly believe that everyone has a place on this campus. Some are just easier to find than others.

One tiny, spur-of-the-moment interest was the catalyst that drove me to find my 'place,' I say running the risk of sounding painfully cheesy. After approximately 122 published pieces, three years of weekly pitch meetings, Mirror Tuesdays and many, many laughs, I am so grateful to be where I am today. I encourage you to go out of your comfort zone, especially while you're a university student. Do your best to be present, no matter where you might find yourself, and be patient that in time, you will be where you are supposed to be.

The Vine: Thanksgiving Edition





















By Matthew Adamski Contributing Writer

air is chillier, the leaves are golden and if you listen closely, you can almost hear Mariah Carey in the near distance. Thanksgiving is here!

We all, of course, know the traditions we celebrate on Nov. 25 - the roasted turkey, the bowls of mashed potatoes and enough cranberry sauce to drown in.

But let's take a journey to understand the historical origins of this holiday and its crucial meaning in the story of America.

To take us back to the early days of America, Plymouth colony was founded in 1620 by Puritan separatists. It was to be a new colony designed to cater to their religious views and customs.

easy, but even less so was establishing life on the beach of Plymouth.

The conditions were difficult. The first winter proved challenging as the Pilgrims tried to survive whilst dealing with the terrain, weather, lack of food and disease.

The Abenaki tribe was the group nearby of the Pilgrims, and they ended up being the ones who taught the Europeans how to harvest corn, which became a novel crop for them.

Pilgrims the basics of survival on the New England coast, teaching skills like catching fish and setting up farms in the new land.

This remains one of the few examples It's that familiar time of year again: the of natives and settlers working together towards a common good.

> This cooperation would become the roots of our holiday today.

> After the first corn harvest, with the help of the natives proved plentiful, the appointed governor, William Bradford, organized a celebration between members of the Abenaki tribe and the Pilgrims.

> This would be known as the first Thanksgiving.

> Their meal no doubt looked different from ours. For one thing, there were probably more meats on the table than just turkey. Edward Winslow, a member of the colony recorded the following:

"Our harvest being gotten in, our gov-The voyage on the Mayflower was not ernor sent four men on fowling, that so we might after a special manner rejoice together after we had gathered the fruits of our labors; they four in one day killed as much fowl, as with a little help beside, served the Company almost a week."

> The aforementioned fowling could have included any animals found in the woods, including deer, turkey, duck and others. After all, this was a feast for the colony and for the local tribe, the tables had to be plentiful. One too could imagine that additional

The Native Americans also taught the food was whatever the Pilgrims had harvested that year, including corn, along with Native American foods.

remember the real hardships of the first on what's important in life.

And so this year as we sit around our Thanksgiving in our history and give an exdining room tables, in our warm homes tra thanks for this holiday and the opportuand opinionated family members, let us nity it presents us to give thanks and refocus



"The First Thanksgiving, 1621" by Jean Leon Gerome Ferris (1912). This is an artistic representation of the first Thankgsiving capturing an idealized view of the event.

10 YEARS AND EVEN MORE MEMORIES AT THE DOWNTOWN BOOKSTORE

By Molly Lamendola Editor-In-Chief

I have a few fond memories surrounding Fairfield's downtown bookstore but one, in particular, stands out

My freshman year, I was doing homework in the Starbucks on Post

Road, inside the bookstore, and the first snow of the season started.

A friend of mine who was an exchange student from Australia jumped up from his chair, ran outside and started running up and down the street with hands stretched out wide shouting, "It's snowing! It's snowing!" Though it's a bit away from campus, the downtown Fairfield bookstore is still an important part of the larger Fairfield community and just this Saturday on Nov. 13, the bookstore turned 10 years old, with the University celebrating in full force.

There was a welcome ceremony, where different Fairfield staff and administrators, along with those who work within Fairfield County's local government spoke about some of the history of the bookstore and its impact on the community.

Once that wrapped up, there was orvtime for kids with books read The Bookstore's biggest cheerleader Steve Gaynes— who was always ready to hop into a costume character when needed," Quinn shares.

She continues that it's been a "privilege" to work with all of the people that she has over the years. From the authors to artists to musicians to town officials and schools and the entire Fairfield University community.

"The opportunity to represent Fairfield University, Follett and my hometown of Fairfield have been the most rewarding years of my adult

Quinn continues by highlighting their event "Our Kids Story Time" that grew from just "10 kids sitting around a small table listening to a story ready by our staff to hosting 60+ kids during our Downtown Cabaret Story Times."

The bookstore continues to have fun events like "Read Across America" with University Athletes, Waldo Scavenger Hunts, Star Wars Reads Day, two town-wide Read-Aloud during the Holidays, Grinch Story Time, The Nutcracker Story Time with the CT Dance School, Zoo Story Time with the Beardsley Zoo and Lizzy Rockwell with a trip to St. Thomas Aquinas School Garden. Quinn also adds that the bookstore does more than just sell books, but they showcase art in the stairwell leading up to the second floor. They've also hosted the 375th Fairfield Community Group Art Exhibit, the Fairfield University 75th Exhibit and the teachers and students from Fairfield Public School Art classes.



The downtown bookstore provided treats and raffles for visitors to enter!

from some Fairfield athletes.

Kids could also participate with some crafts and an author signing with Lizzy Rockwell.

Oh, and did I mention that there was a balloon artist there? Kids could just go up and select something to be made right before their eyes.

Though all exciting, it's important to focus on how the staff at the bookstore feels about reaching ten years.

Nancy Quinn, special events & community relations coordinator has worked at the store for eight and a half years.

She tells me that her duty has "... been all about forging relationships and bringing people together."

"I've had the privilege of working closely with and learning from event planning genius Craig Kennedy, numerous managers, Bookstore associates that have come and gone, and life," said Quinn.

Quinn states that "We would need a 10 volume book to list the plethora of events created and hosted over the years," but highlights a few standouts.

Julie Andrews, Kate DiCamillo, Jan Brett, Dav Pilkey, Mike Lupica, Martha Stewart, Sarah Dessen, Jane Green, Liv Constantine, Lizzy and Anne Rockwell, Rosemary Wells, Tim Green, Laurie Halse Anderson, Delia Owens and Ivan Maisel... are just a few celebrities that visited our downtown bookstore.

Quinn continued, "...not to mention all the Campus faculty author events, One-Book-One Town, and Quick Center Open Visions Forum events we've participated in, thanks to the support and efforts over the years of Jim Fitzpatrick, Elizabeth Hastings, Lori Jones, Peter Van Heerden, and Philip Eliasoph."

They've also even used the coveted Starbucks space to host Live Musicians.

"I could go on and on," Quinn adds, "But mostly I'd like to thank our loyal customers for their patronage over the years especially during the pandemic.

We are here to serve you and thank you for all your support over the years!"

THE BEST OF THE BEST FIR THE "BEST IN SHOW"

By Molly Lamendola Editor-In-Chief

I only like the theatrics involved in Thanksgiving. I'm not much of a fan of the history, the actual cooking aspect or sitting around a table with random distant relatives. But, I am definitely a fan of two things: The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade and the National Dog Show.

And though I truly love the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, there's something that just makes it less fun. It's painfully early in the morning. Not to ruin the magic, but I'm at a time in my life where I just record it and watch it later on.

The National Dog Show, though, has perfect timing in the afternoon. You can curl up with a glass of wine or a festive cocktail and watch some dogs you didn't even know existed prance around on the carpet as deep voices talk about their "coats" or "curl pattern."

The National Dog Show, or the Kennel Club of Philadelphia Dog Show, has been around since 1879, but started airing after the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in 2002.

Since then, 20 dogs have been named "Best in Show." Simply due to the fact that I have no shame and do not believe in the concept that "every dog is cute," I'm going to rank some of the real winners here.

I have no knowledge in dog breeds or what makes one dog more special than another, this is a completely shallow all-by-looks list. So without further ado, here's my list.

"Buff Cap Creslane Arctic Mist" the Australian Shepherd:

I'm sure I should say something about how these people choose to name their dogs,

but I feel like this name speaks for itself. I also get the feeling that these are similar to "drag names" for the dogs and their families actually call them something else. As on the Wikipedia page for the 2005 "Best in Show" winner "Rocky Top's Sundance Kid" it has "aka: 'Rufus" right next to it, so "Buff Cap" seems to be a stage name for this queen of a dog.

I just love Australian Shepherds. They're cute little spotted things and I love that they tell you to be cautious with them around small children because they herd. Buff Cap was cute, spritely and for no reason other than I like them, they're coming in at number one.

"Roundtown Mercedes of Mary Scot" the Scottish Terrier:

I think one of these dogs is in my future. I mean they're classy,

Scottish, and look like little slippers! What more could you want? "Roundtown" is on this list simply because of her Scottish descent and her beautiful color. The black Scottish terriers have a bit of mystique about that that I'm truly a fan of.

She's also one of only two of the dogs with her own Wikipedia page, so that's pretty cool. She was the first-ever Triple Crown winner, as she secured the National Dog Show,

the AKC National Championship,

and the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. This is all pretty cool, but she secured her spot on my list because of her slipper-looking body and based on the fact that there is a good chance that I'll have one of these dogs one day. **"Windntide Mr. Sandman" the Irish** Setter:

I love a dog that's all legs and the Irish Setter is just that dog. It just looks like if it stood up on its hind legs it'd give you a great hug and that's why it's here on this list.

Mr. Sandman also gets this spot simply because there's a photo on the website announcing her unfortunate passing of him in rain boots with a beautiful yellow sweater thrown over her shoulders. He's giving style, grace and thus she comes third on my list.

"Flessner's International S'cess" the Bloodhound:

This dog gets this position for two reasons.

Firstly, the dog's actual name is Nathan and there's very little more hilarious than naming a dog Nathan. Secondly, I love the look of bloodhounds and their connection to the detective lore and thus Nathan has a deserving spot on this list at number four.

He's not as high as the other dogs, just because he lacks the boots and personality the other dogs have. But, his ability to aid in the pursuit of criminals makes him deserving of this position.

"Cragsmoor Good Time Charlie" the Skye Terrier:

This dog looks like a swiffer for dust-related messes. That and its generally poor name leads it to my fifth and final ranking.

He just could've been better in all categories, but since his ears look like little space buns, he's able to make my list.

There are many more dogs who won "Best in Show" but just didn't stand out as deserving a place on this list.

Maybe it'll change after this coming holiday season; I'll be watching and I hope you will be too.

DISHES TO BE THANKFUL FOR

By Brooke Lathe Vine Editor

Although I am a firm believer that everyone should try to be thankful all year round, Thanksgiving is a wonderful reminder to be grateful for all of our blessings all day long.

And even further, we get to celebrate it with some of the most delicious foods surrounded by the people we care most about!

As an avid Thanksgiving lover, I have no shame in sharing in detail what foods I pile onto my which of course, she always does because she's amazing.

This cheesy Velveeta pile of broccoli topped with crushed ritz crackers finds itself undoubtedly at the top of the list, even with my dairy sensitivity.

It's quite possibly the best dish to have at Thanksgiving dinner and the following days after for lunch.

Stuffing - I absolutely love stuffing, and I think that has to do with my father's special stuffing-making skills.

g in I've been spoiled by his fluffy, my flavor-filled bread mixture all of my life. I was never a fan of the white meat areas because I think of them as dry and flavorless.

But the dark meat, or legs, are insanely tasty.

I say try different parts of the bird and see which one is your favorite because you might not even know you like it until you try it.

A turkey also takes a long time to prepare, which some people feel like they don't want to spend the time on.

But it's a holiday occasion, so why not take the time it needs when it's only a yearly thing? This all-too-buttery and garlicky side serves as another great inclusion for this annual meal.

Biscuits - At any dinner, a basket of rolls is obviously needed. So, it's no shocker that biscuits are just as important as the other dishes on here.

I especially love Pillsbury layered biscuits which my family has on Thanksgiving.

They are incredibly tasty with our Land O Lakes cinnamon sugar butter, and they make for a good leftover sandwich roll.

Cornbread - Cornbread

night.

Just make sure you don't forget the nice dollop of whipped cream on top.

Wikimedia Commons

Apple pie - And of course, what fall holiday would this be without apple pie?

Though I almost always never even have any more room in my stomach to possibly fit another bite of food, once I unbutton my pants, I feel like I gain just enough power to push through the final course.

I absolutely love the gooey filling of apple pie, and with vanilla ice cream, there is truly nothing better.

dinner plate. my life.

And while the only thing I don't like is Cranberry sauce, I love everything else that is served on my dining room table each year!

Broccolí cheddar casserole - This dish has always been and will always be my number one Thanksgiving side.

Each year, I make sure to double-check with my mom that she got the ingredients from the store,

This Thanksgiving staple is a tasty must-have on any plate and is even more delicious on a leftover sandwich the next day!

Turkey - Okay, I feel like most people I talk to say they don't like having turkey as their main dish on Thanksgiving.

To me, I feel like it's because they aren't making it right or aren't finding the parts they like. Brine and season that turkey

to ensure the flavors pop out! Mashed potatoes - I'm not sure if Thanksgiving actually has amazing food or if my family is just made up of amazing cooks because my stepfather's mashed potatoes are easily another thing I eat way too much of on this holiday.

He somehow always makes it right with no chunks and so much flavor.

another great carb alternative if you don't have biscuits. And honestly, having both is fine too!

My favorite cornbread is the ones that have actual pieces of corn in them because the additional texture just adds an extra flare.

Pumpkin pie - As for dessert, pumpkin pie is a staple musthave for each Thanksgiving.

The spiced, cinnamon flavors are the perfect way to wrap up the

I hope that while you enjoy your Thanksgiving feast this year, you are not only thankful for those who helped prepare your meal, but for everyone who plays a special part in your life.

Show them you care by telling them, writing them a message or doing so in your own personal, special way.

Happy Thanksgiving!



MARVELOUS MACY'S DAY PARADE PERFORMANCES

By Molly Lamendola Editor-In-Chief

I'm a passive observer of broadway. I grew up listening to my mom's playlists on her pink knock-off iPod device, and thus have known the words to "Opening: I Hope I Get It" from "A Chorus Line" and "Defying Gravity" from "Wicked" before I started the third grade.

Yet, there was something particularly special about the Broadway performances during the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. They were just always better than the random celebrity performances on top of floats with out-of-place dancing puppets.

These were experts in their craft

performing in the street and thus I'm going to list some of my favorites in no particular order.

"Anastasia" (2017):

I know I said in no particular order, but this is my favorite. I grew up watching "Anastasia" and so the music was already memorized before the musical came out, but Christy Altomare completely knocked the vocals out of the park. It's beautiful and provides the perfect comparison other Macy's Thanksgiving performances need to follow. It has the songs, the acting and the costumes, and just fully draws you into the performance without needing to know a lot of the backstory.

> *"Kinky Boots" (2013)* Alright, again, I know I said in

Photo Contributed by Wikipedia

The Macy's Day Parade in New York City will take place on Nov. 25 from 9 a.m. to 12 a.m.

no particular order, but this is probably my second favorite. I'm a big fan of "Kinky Boots" and Billy Porter. There's something about thigh-high heels and Cyndi Lauper that makes me pay attention to a performance, making this just stand out to me.

"Transylvania Mania" (2007) I just really love Sutton Foster. She's amazing and if you want to see anyone absolutely kill "Anything Goes," it's her. She's fabulous, so she's the main reason this is on my list at all as she does a little dance number in this performance. But this is just a generally fun one.

I don't understand why Broadway shows come on and perform their slowest, saddest songs. For heaven's sake keep it peppy and energized people! This keeps it cheerful and highlights a show I don't think many just naturally know, so it's up there in my favorite performances.

"Shrek The Musical" (2009)

"Shrek The Musical" makes me feel a lot of things; none of them are good, but this is a pretty iconic performance nonetheless. It's Shrek and Fiona on top of a tree thing playing "I'm a Believer" by Smash Mouth with people in pig mascot costumes as their backup vocalists. I'm sure I liked this a lot when I was nine years old, and now I just sit and wonder what we did to warrant the creation of "Shrek" in this reality. But it's there and I thought it was worth a men-

"NEWSIES" (2011)

tion.

I think tap is pretty hot. Though not my favorite song from "NEWS-IES," this performance had The Paper Mill Playhouse cast of "NEWS-IES" perform "King of New York." There's something so right about this being performed on the streets of New York. The location in addition to all the tap numbers and cool costumes secures this a mention on my list.

"Dear Evan Hansen" (2017)

This gets a mention just because we have a lot of fans of "Dear Evan Hansen" on staff; so this is for them. They also performed "You Will Be Found", which is probably my favorite song from the show. It's all the layered harmonies and vocal mixing ... but it's not my favorite performance.

I want a Macy's Thanksgiving performance with ridiculous costumes and rosy cheeks because these poor dancers are out in their costumes at the end of November. These people could be someone's distant family members with strong vocal cords, so they don't get an A+ rating from me.

"Wicked" (2003)

"Wicked" is a classic and they're actually set to perform on this Thanksgiving Day Parade, so giving a quick shout-out to their 2003 performance is important. This gets a spot because it's Idina Menzel and Kristin Chenoweth in all their classic perfection performing "One Short Day." It's not a favorite of mine, nor one of their more well-known pieces, but it's Idina Menzel and Kristin Chenoweth, they were going to get on this list whatever they sing.

"Mary Poppins" (2010)

I think this was one of the more successful Disney to Broadway transitions as the music, the sets, the costumes and the energy just transformed so well to the stage. This parade had the show performing "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" and it was incredible. Though I'd say it wasn't as good as their performance on their Royal Variety Performance where the Royal Family comes and watches, still it is incredibly good.

"White Christmas" (2008)

I love the movie "White Christmas" and not just for Vera-Ellen's tiny waist and great footwork. It's got the music, the great costumes and it just gets you into the spirit of the holiday. So this performance was magical and with all of the men in red suits, it's a perfect addition to this list.

This year "Six", "Moulin Rouge!" and "Wicked" are set to perform and I can't wait to see how it is and if we're back to slightly normal after last year. I want the costumes, the singing and any tap routines these people are willing to give me!



Instructions:

I. Preheat oven to 325 degrees and spray a regular-sized loaf pan with nonstick spray or

By Sheila McCombs Managing Editor

Nonstick baking or vegetable oil spray

vegetable oil spray

2. Whisk together the dry ingredients in a bowl: flour, pumpkin pie spice, baking soda, baking

powder

- 3. Combine the two eggs, pumpkin puree, white and brown sugar in another bowl until combined.
 - Then add in the butter and oil until totally combined and smooth.
- 4. Add the dry ingredients little by little until fully combined and be careful not to overmix because
 - it will make the bread tough and dry.
- 5. Pour the batter into the prepared loaf pan and top with demerara sugar for a crunchy crust
- 6. Bake for 80-90 minutes to have the perfect Thanksgiving treat!



- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 tsp. pumpkin spice
- I tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 2 large eggs
- One 16 oz can of pumpkin puree
- I cup white granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 butter (melted)
- 1/2 olive oil
- 2 tbsp demerara sugar for topping

Claudia Hart Lectures "The Real Fake"

By Thomas Senesac Contributing Writer

On Wednesday, Nov. 10, the Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts hosted "Through a Different Lens: Innovation Lab Lecture Series." At this event, renowned intermedia visual artist Claudia Hart gave her lecture titled, "The Real Fake". In her speech, she discussed the stages of her career up to her present day, her experimental artworks and the future of art in terms of its relationship to technology.

Hart began her artistic career in Europe in the mid '90s as a part of a generation of artists concerned with identity and representation. She was initially interested in the art of the 18th and 19th centuries. Her journey as an intermedia artist concerned with animation, however, began in 1995, in Berlin, when she was given a free ticket to see a prerelease showing of the Pixar animated feature film, "Toy Story".

Hart was fascinated by how the animation seemed to be the intersection of a renaissance painting and a photograph, how animated characters seemed real and casted shadows in their environment and the characters seemed to surpass twodimensionality.

Becoming obsessed with simulated art, and believing that it would bring about the end of photography, she moved back to the United States, where the technology to create special effects were available and began her journey working with "computer-driven production machines" to create art. A significant metamorphosis in Hart's artist

ic career occurred when she was commissioned to create a piece called "The Dolls". This series of videos began as a six-person ballet and soon became a complex, immersive work of projections that would come to exemplify Hart's style.

After speaking of her influences and the effect of the technology she uses, Hart presented some of her artworks, making it so all could see and understand how they both culminated together in her beautiful, mesmeric visuals. Of her works that she presented, the first was "The Dolls," which was constructed solely out of simulation technology. It was also taken from the projection mapping of an entire was done consciously and with intent.

Hart self-describes herself as a "trance artist" in the lecture, relying upon algorithmic patterns in order to create a hypnotizing effect in her works. She seeks to create art that is 'liminal,' which is something that is between the real and the spirit world: between a simulation and reality.

As with all properly constructed works of art, whether it be a poem, sculpture, painting or photo-



Shown above is Hart's project entitled, "Elixir".

room, and that of art studio models, which created a hypnotic, entrancing visual that was both of this world, and not. It's shape and depth was comprehensible to the eye and was certainly synthetic.

However, the work could not help but radiate a physical experience to the eyes, as if the visual was trapped between the spiritual and the real world. And as Hart spoke of in her presentation, this effect graph, they all seem to have a radiance behind them or inside of them which makes them much more significant than just words or an appealing visual.

All beautiful works of art, of which the classification is decided in the eyes of the beholder, seem to radiate divinity, radiate the spiritual world. Claudia Hart is pushing the boundaries of this aspect of art by seeking to create a space of liminality. In this concept, Hart is experimenting, not only with the forms of art, but with the subtext of its beauty.

With the invention of Virtual Reality, and the development of the COVID-19 pandemic, Hart was able to adapt and apply her fascination with liminality even further with the creation of her 'Social VR Spaces'. In this work, those that view her piece are able to experience and move around her constructed simulations. In these spaces, friends of hers and critics were able to virtually gather together and socialize, as though they were living fully in a simulated world; a world where you live in yet another work of art.

She also shared in the lecture that as a "digital artist married to the physical," Hart is excited for the future of simulated constructions, especially with the invention of NFT's (Non-Fungible Tokens). These act as a sort of 'digital copyright,' melding digital property with private property and making it so that digital works of art can finally be singular, and can create a closer tie between art and the artist in the digital world.

Hart is currently a professor at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago where she teaches one of the only courses for art students that is dedicated solely to the application of simulation technologies in students' work. The course is titled "Experimental 3-D".

Hart's lecture was recorded and is available for all to view on the 'Quick Center for the Arts' website under the 'Quicklive Archive' section at the bottom of the homepage.

The next event hosted by the Quick Center, as part of the Inspired Writers' Series, will be a lecture presented by Megha Majumdar, titled "Politics and Power" on Thursday, Nov, 18 at 7:30 p.m. The event is free to attend and will be held virtually.

Let's Talk (Taylor's Version): "Red"

By Tatiana Ryan Contributing Writer

With its original release in by J 2012, Taylor Swift's fourth album witt "Red" stood as the beginning of her venture into pop. "Red" itself was a patchwork quilt of different genres, writing styles and instruments, between the 16 tracks of the album lived pure country anthems like"Begin Again" and "Stay Stay Stay", as well as new-age pop hits including "I Knew You Were Trouble" first and "22".

sic which is almost always owned by the recording company. A few years ago, Swift's masters were sold by her record label for \$300 million without her knowledge, and without giving her the opportunity to buy it herself.

Taylor Swift decided that she was not going to allow all of the songs she's written about her own life to be owned by someone else, so she took on the all-consuming task of going back and re-recording her first six albums. The album consists of the original 16 tracks including the four bonus tracks, nine songs "From The Vault" that didn't make it onto the album back in 2012 and the fanfavorite, long-awaited, ten-minute version of "All Too Well".

Renowned by most reviewers and fans to be her best song, "All Too Well" has created a storm of feeling and an expansive take on the painful heartbreak song that reflects the best abilities of Taylor Swift. With new lines added to the classic will it be cute, all this crying in my room?/When you can't blame it on my youth". "Nothing New" was a side of 2012 Swift that no one had seen, but it further completes an already seminal album.

Taylor Swift's re-recorded albums don't only give her new voice to her decade-old stories, but with the vault tracks, Swift has found a way to do something only she could do: tell the full story of her works. Only she knows which songs were left off the album, only she knows to return for the same background vocals they did in 2012 and only she can have a re-recorded album become the most-streamed album by a female in a day on Spotify.

Her superstardom is only matched by her undeniable talent and overwhelming enthusiasm for the joy and art she has created. Taylor Swift is not only at the top of her game but rather at the top of "the" game. "Red (Taylor's Version)" is Swift at her best, bold and emotional self, and is a must-listen-to

After the release of the first single off of "Red", entitled "We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together," Taylor Swift had begun her journey to being known as one of the most versatile artists of this generation.

Taylor Swift's decision to rerecord and re-release her first six albums seemed to be a nearly impossible feat. To completely remake near-exact copies of her previous albums while Swift could spend that time making new music seemed difficult to understand by many.

But when you think about it, Swift's exclusive history of deeply honest records and putting every aspect of her personal life into her music makes it necessary that she is the one who owns it.

A musician's masters refers to the publishing rights of their mu-

To take a line from the song

"It's time to go" off of her album "Evermore," Swift sings "He's got my past frozen behind glass/But I've got me".

"Red (Taylor's Version)" is nothing like anybody expected. Made up of an incredible thirty tracks, Taylor Swift made what only she could make: the full, unedited version of her seminal heartbreak album.

"Red" was written and recorded in 2012 when Swift was first 20 and finished at 22 years old. Now a decade later, Swift's mature voice ascends over the tracks of heartache and growth. "Red," at its root, is a mosaic of human emotion. It is a whirlwind of bold colors combined with immense sadness and the confusion that comes with entering your twenties. like, "You kept me like a secret/But I kept you like an oath" and "I was thinking on the drive down, 'anytime now, he's gonna say it's love'/ You never called it what it was".

In its essence, "Red" is about heartbreak. It reflects all of the feelings that come after the end of a painful relationship that was still sometimes wonderful. But between all the shades of heartbreak, "Red" is filled with coming-of-age and feeling lost.

The vault track "Nothing New" features Phoebe Bridgers and reflects the somber start of your twenties and realizing that you're getting older. Swift and Bridgers singing about the female musician experience with feeling like you have moved past your prime is just as sad as you think it is. In the second verse, Bridgers sings, "How long how to get her old backup singers for 2021.



Taylor Swift on the Red (Taylor's Version) album cover.



Tis' the Season...for Registration Woes

Written by Nick Silvia, Contributing Writer

Christmas is now a little more than a month away. Between Santa-con, sledding down Bellarmine lawn, Christmas music filling the Tully, and the lights of Egan's tree bathing the campus in a warm glow, it's easy to see how it was dubbed "the most wonderful time of the year."

Unfortunately, one huge obstacle stands between students and Christmas: Spring Course Registration, or as you might know it "the least wonderful time in human history."

Registration is like Daylight Savings, except instead of gaining an hour of sleep, you lose three hours and wake up at 6:45 a.m. to register for "The History of Literature in 14th Century Nepal" because all of your other classes were stolen by the athletes the day before.

Particularly incensed are the business students, who already have trouble getting the classes they want. However, some say it's a fair price to pay for basing your entire career on Leonardo DiCaprio's performance in "The Wolf of Wall Street."

Less angry were the university's 20 English majors, who can get any class they choose.

"I don't get why everyone thinks this whole college thing is so hard," a junior communications major said. "I think maybe I'm just a genius."

We also reached out to a nursing major for their thoughts, but could not get a comment because they would not stop talking about how hard their major is.

Whatever your major, hang in there, Stags. Even though course registration can be a pain, at least housing applications are en-

tirely seamless and definitely won't give you the exact same problems.

The Mirror's Takes

Coffee Break has been running a section this semester called "The Mirror's Takes"! Every week, we will put out The Mirror team's opinion on a new topic and we encourage you to carry these debates on with your friends, roommates

and classmates!

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This week's poll was: Best Pizza in the Area?





Do you agree or disagree? Let us know what you think! If you have any interesting things you would like to hear The Mirror's take on, DM us on Twitter @FairfieldMirror to let us know, and keep an eye out for your suggestion in the Coffee Break section!

Sports

Sports Editor: Tommy Coppola >>thomas.coppola@student.fairfield.edu



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Nov. 17	Nov. 18	Nov. 19	Nov. 20	Nov. 21	Nov. 22	Nov. 23
FRIRFIELD	FRIRFIELD	Men's and Women's Swim & Dive at Terri- er Invitational Day 1 Boston, M.A. All Day Volleyball at Siena College 2021 Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Championshio Loudonville, N.Y. 11:00 a.m. Women's Basketball vs. Stetson University MAAC?ASUN Challenge Lake Buena Vista, Fla. 1:30 p.m.	Men's and Women's Swim & Dive at Terri- er Invitational Day 2 Boston, M.A. All Day Women's Basketball vs. Florisa Gulf Coast University MAAC/ASUN Challenge Lake Buena Vista, Fla. 12:00 p.m. Fairfield Men's Basketball at Sacred Heart University Fairfield, Conn. 8:00 p.m.		FRIRFIELD	Women's Basketball at The United States Naval Academy Annapolis, M.D. 6:00 p.m.

Arena 100: November Progress Report

By Thomas Coppola Sports Editor

As the weather gets colder, it is no surprise that construction on the brand new "Arena 100" on campus will become slower. Soon enough, the construction crew may need to pause work entirely when the first snowfall of the year arrives.

Regardless, progress from October to November has been fairly minimal, but visual changes have been made. It appears as though the construction crew has laid the framework of the building, with some floors even being put in. However, this may be more of a transitionary period, where they are planning the next big steps of the project.

Many more facilitating appliances can be seen, with more cranes, trucks and ladders around the building. Additionally, the fence that wraps around the entire site has been extended outward to reach closer to the lower entrance of the Barone Campus Center.

The foundation of the arena seems to be finished at this point. The metal framework of the stadium itself is connected all the way around, except for the one opening



adjacent to the BCC that allows for trucks to come and go.

After the fall and winter seasons pass, it is likely that progress on the inside will begin to be made, since there is already flooring for the second level. With very rapid progress since September, it only makes sense that the project will begin to slow down for the winter months, and pick up steam again in the spring.

In this week's issue...

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Field Hockey Dances with Delaware in NCAA Playoffs



The Fairfield University field hockey team fell to the University of Delaware Blue Hens in the opening round of the NCAA playoffs, days after securing the Northeast Conference championship title.

By Julia Lanzillotta **Executive Editor**

In an anxiety-inducing overtime battle in the opening round of the National Collegiate Athletic Association Field Hockey Championship on Wednesday, Nov. 10, the Fairfield Stags fell to the #17 University of Delaware Blue Hens, 4-3 in enemy territory.

The Stags had another remarkable regular season, with an overall 14-8 record, and a spotless 7-0 Northeast Conference record. The Stags took on the 2021 Northeast Conference Championship tournament by storm, knocking out Rider University and Long Island University, earning them the NEC Championship title.

The last time the Stags were in the tournament was in the fall of 2019. They had made it past American University in the opening round, but were stopped in overtime by

the University of Connecticut, cutting their postseason run short.

Prior to the NCAA Tournament, Fairfield did not have a great history against Delaware, having lost both of their two matchups since 2014, however, they were riding on a six-game long win streak. Considering the season they had, the game was sure to be a tossup

In the first quarter, the Blue Hens beat the Stags to the scoreboard. In Fairfield's prior two matches in the NEC Tournament a similar trend followed, and they were able to come back from a deficit. In the second quarter, the Stags seemed to respond, registering six shots to Delaware's three. Despite their best efforts, Delaware was able to get past graduate student Zoe Rosen in goal.

After halftime, the Stags would be in dire need of catching up. This couldn't happen before Delaware scored again, putting Fairfield

at a huge disadvantage with time running out. Graduate student Danielle Profita fed Julianna Kratz '23 a pass off of a corner, opening up a golden opportunity that she would take advantage of. Kratz' seventh goal of the season was exactly the pick-me-up that her team was looking for, and it shifted the trajectory of the game.

Senior Malen Iglesias earned an opportunity off of a penalty stroke, and found the back of the net to put the Stags within one, with just a minute and a half of play in the third period. The fourth and final quarter was life or death for Fairfield. Their only shot on goal in the final fifteen minutes of play would happen with less than five seconds on the clock. Once more, Profita was in the right place at the right time, and was able to pass from the top of the circle to Luzi Persiehl '22, who delivered the ball to Iglesias. Iglesias' last-second goal secured her spot as the team leader in scoring, and her

eleventh goal of the season was what kept the Stags holding on.

Stuck at a 3-3 stalemate, the opening round of the NCAA tournament would go into overtime. In the final seconds, Delaware took advantage of a scoring chance and came out on top.

Statistically, Fairfield had the upper hand throughout, out-shooting Delaware 16 (10 SOG)-13 (7 SOG). Fairfield also tallied nine penalty corners, while Delaware only had four. The Blue Hens had a force to be reckoned with in goal, Lizzie Gaebel, who managed to stop seven shots, as compared to Rosen's three.

Despite the fact that the season didn't come with a picture-perfect ending that the Stags may have hoped for, they have once again fought with the type of grit and passion that drove them as far as they went.



Because we have witty things to say ...

What is the best



Tommy Coppola Sports Editor

Molly Lamendola Editor-in-Chief

Win



Julia Lanzillotta **Executive Editor**

mplata with

Tobenna Ugwu

Managing Editor nac & cheese



Sheila McCombs Managing Editor

What is the best Thanksgiving side dish?	sweet potatoes are the greatest side dish of all time, no ques- tions asked.	Wine.	No meal is complete without dinner rolls. My aunt always makes sure to get turkey- shaped butter for them which makes them taste even better.	5-cheese mac & cheese and corn bread are staples at my family's thanksgiving table.	Hands down, the sour cream and onion smashed potatoes I make every year from Allison Roman's recipe.
How are you plan- ning to spend your break?	Hopefully eat some good food with family and then attempt to shop on Black Friday.	Dog show and outrageously long baths.	With all of the shipping-time nightmares this year, I really have to get started on Christ- mas shopping.	I am flying to Cincinnati to spend thanksgiving with my uncle and cousins.	Getting rested up to finish out the fall semester out strong after break!
How would you improve the course registration process?	Maybe move up the time to the evening when everyone is awake, as opposed to 7 a.m.	Hunger Games type battle in the Kelley Center.	I would weed out the courses that aren't being offered that semester in the course search catalog.	In person, just like the trading floor of the NYSE.	I would calculate the amount of class sections that are being offered based on the number of students who need to take them in that major.
What is the most entertaining sport to watch?	I'm biased, but the fast pace of hockey is unmatched.	Rhythmic gymnastics or same sex partner ice skating.	I may not agree with Tommy's music taste, but I agree with his take on this matter.	Soccer. Hockey is just a bunch of kids hitting each other.	I have to stand firm for foot- ball. Come on, it's America's game!

Club Golf Takes On NCCGA Championship in Hilton Head

By Annika Johnson **Contributing Writer**

Charles Cerami '22 and five additional members of Fairfield University's Club Golf team will be traveling to Hilton Head, South Carolina this weekend to compete at the National Collegiate Club Golf Association National Championship.

Club golf, a group consisting of twenty players, practices at the local Fairchild Wheeler Golf Course to prepare for the tournaments.

In order to secure a ticket to Nationals, the Club Golf team had to face two regional qualifiers, where they competed against teams from Quinnipiac University, Sacred Heart University and other surrounding colleges.

Cerami, the club golf team's president, was excited to play against local rival and first year team from Quinnipiac University.

To get a bid to Nationals, the team needed to win both regional qualifiers. Eight of the team members compete in a tournament and the team score is a collection of the five best



The team played at the Palmetto Springs Course in Florida.

scores from the group.

At the first regional qualifier at Longview Country Club, the team celebrated with a landslide victory, winning by over 30 strokes. Alex Kassabian, a senior member of the club golf team, was a noticeable standout after shooting even par for the two-day event.

Despite the overall excitement of the huge victory, the team still faced one final qualifier tournament. This time, in Middlefield, Conn., the team battled against an intense field of colleges.

Winning by a narrow margin of only two strokes, Fairfield had punched their ticket to Nationals by ranking 29th in the country for all club golf teams on the collegiate level.

While the southern schools that the team will compete against play in weekly matches, Fairfield's club team will go into the tournament with only the two regional tournaments under their belt.

"It's only the regional tournament and we only have two [total tournaments]," Cerami said. "Meanwhile, teams have tournaments every weekend and the fact that we're still in the top 30 just from two tournaments is incredible to think about."

The team's impressive rank puts them against a tough competition of colleges, as schools including the University of Tampa, the University of Oregon, the University of Alabama and Michigan State University will be in attendance at Nationals.

The Fairfield Nationals' lineup consists of six upperclassmen, including Charles Cerami, Andrew Hliboki '22, Alex Kassabian '22, Nick Aicardi '23, Brendan Huelbig '23 and William Leonard '23.

As the six players prepare for the trip to South Carolina, they anticipate a strong performance.



The course in Hilton Head, SC, will host the NCCGA tournament.

"Out of the 18 to 20 teams going, we're looking at 12th to 15th right now," Cerami said. "But my team is going in there with the mindset that we're placing in the top five and we're getting the win."

Cerami will be attending his third Nationals this year, as he prepares his team for the challenging two-day tournament ahead of them.

Cerami added that the team has a positive outlook for their trip, as they look forward to spending time together as a team, bonding in the hotel, and playing on a great golf course. As soon as they arrive, Cerami plans to take the team directly to the course to begin practicing in anticipation for the tournament.

The Club Golf team left Friday, November 12 for South Carolina. The National tournament was held from November 13th to 14th at the Palmetto Dunes course in South Carolina, where the team ended in 20th place out of the 35 teams pres-

Opinion: The NHL Needs a Culture Change

By Thomas Coppola Sports Editor

It is no secret that the social climate of 2021 has become much more open and inviting for people sharing stories of past abuses they have endured. In my opinion, this is a positive trend, but that is obviously a topic for another time

I bring this up because as a lifelong fan of the National Hockey League, I have become increasingly disgusted in the lack of care I have seen for players in the league. As a kid, I always grew up watching games and consuming the league's content, completely unaware that there were multiple scandals being swept under the rug by the league's owners, executives and even coaches, who have allowed abuses to go unchecked.

If you do not follow the NHL or do not keep up on news in professional sports, I can break down what I am alluding to fairly simply: in 2010, the year that the Chicago Blackhawks won the Stanley Cup, an anonymous sexual assault scandal was brought to the team, with the abused party being referred to as "John Doe". In the last week of October 2021, former Blackhawks player Kyle Beach revealed himself as the anonymous character in this case, stating that he was raped in the days before the championship parade by the team's video coach Brad Aldrich.

he put himself in the situation, and even added that everyone in the locker room knew that the assault had happened. He stated that the case worked its way up to the front office, who shook off the rumors and deemed them meritless. Former general manager Stan Bowman resigned last week, likely because he felt as though he would've lost his job either way with his lack of attention to the case.

Teammates like Patrick Kane and Jonathan Toews, the latter who has been captain of the Blackhawks since the 2008-09 season, never addressed the problem until now. In the same interview, Toews calls Bowman a good person but also addresses the fact that he wished he did more as captain at the time.

You might know me as the disgruntled New York Rangers fan who argued that Tom Wilson should've faced stricter punishment for an extremely aggressive hit and that the Rangers should not have gotten a much larger fine for simply calling the league to fix the problem last season. Basically, I argued that the league's commissioner, Gary Bettman, handled

the situation incorrectly; yet again, months later, I find him using his power in the wrong way. How is he misusing his power this time? By fining the Blackhawks organization a measly two million dollars for the "inadequate" and "untimely" response to the situation back in 2010. I mean, I send my respect to the league for recognizing that there exists a problem, but only \$2 million to an established professional sports franchise is pocket change; rookies in the NHL can make more than that off of their first contract alone. The fact that he mismanaged both an extreme player safety violation (by basically siding with the wrongdoer), and now is currently working through a much more serious (and might I add, ignored) sexual assault case feels like

culture change.

According to an article posted by NBC Chicago, the Blackhawks organization released a public statement apologizing for their previous inaction. They stated:

"First, we would like to acknowledge and commend Kyle Beach's courage in coming forward. As an organization, the Chicago Blackhawks reiterate our deepest apologies to him for what he has gone through, and for the organization's failure to promptly respond when he bravely brought this matter to light in 2010. It was inexcusable for the then-executives of the Blackhawks organization to delay taking action regarding the reported sexual misconduct. No playoff game or championship is more important than protecting our players and staff from predatory behavior."

Thankfully, some change was recognized by the NHL, who, according to an article by NBC Sports, recently X'ed out Aldrich's name on the Stanley Cup under where the winners of the 2009-10 season are located.

What the Blackhawks did in 2010 was inexcusable and wrong, and it has served as a wake-up call to the entire league that sexual

may be done. I am not necessarily calling for the resignation of anyone, but I feel as though there should be younger and more rationally minded people in the league's positions of power, whatever level of power that might be.

This would not only allow the league to be more mindful of players' mental health, but it would support a much more open stream of dialogue between the upper-level managers of the league and the players themselves who may have problems that need to be addressed. If Beach was surrounded by a group of individuals who are more in touch with our modern-day ways of thinking, it seems as though his case would have been swiftly addressed, given the social climate of today's generation.

Another way of handling a culture change would be serious fines or restrictions placed on certain teams. Making a franchise have to pay heaping sums of money for their inaction to keep their players safe would likely teach them a lesson (hopefully more than \$2 million). Suspending or dropping coaches, managers and organization executives that allow for a culture of assault to take place, to begin with, would likely help set the NHL on a better path as well; a path towards safety and solace in the locker

Yes, 11 years later. You read that correctly.

It gets worse. The allegations against Aldrich, at the time, were shaken off, and he was allowed to continue his work with the team. Only days after the incident, he was free to hoist the Stanley Cup during the parade and celebrate with the whole city of Chicago.

Recently, the allegations have been piling up, with both a high school player as well as another anonymous NHL player suing the Blackhawks for Aldrich's actions, which, according to an article by the New York Times, included threats of violence as well as damaging or ruining the players' careers.

Beach went through more than anyone could imagine. In an interview with TSN only a few days after revealing his involvement in the case, Beach was told that he was at fault because

good enough evidence to me Former Chicago Blackhawks video coach Brad Althat it might be time for a drich name was removed from the Stanley Cup.

assault cases like this will no longer be tolerated by the NHL's executives. But, in my eyes, the current delayed action of the league is beginning to worry me, as I feel like if other players are going through a similar situation, they may be hesitant to act until the league comes to a decision on the Aldrich investigation, and time is of the essence. Time was a massive factor in the way Beach's assault case played out, and with 11 years of silence, there is no doubt that this took a serious mental toll on him.

We cannot wait any longer; it's time for action. I think that the National Hockey League is in desperate need of a change of culture, however that

room.

There are multiple ways to go about a culture change in the league, but I feel like the best place to start would be on the ground level with the players themselves. Team captains creating a comfortable locker room culture is no different than a CEO creating a comfortable company culture; they are vested with the power to delegate and make the important decisions on behalf of everyone else.

Once the problem is worked out on that level, then players would likely feel more comfortable sticking up for their teammates and advocating for their safety with the team executives. If more players feel comfortable rallying for the safety of themselves and their teammates, then owners, presidents and everyone in the front office will have the opportunity to act and create change. The sad reality is that this did not happen with the Blackhawks in 2010, but hopefully going forward the culture is changed from the ground up with all teams so that they can have a safe and positive NHL experience.



Contributing Writer The Fairfield University men's basketball team faced off against Providence College this past Tuesday, Nov. 9 in their season opener. The Stags put up a strong effort against a tough Providence College team on the road in an 80-73 loss. The team hung with the Friars the entire game in a tight spirited match-up. Forward Zach Crisler '23 led the team with 14 points, and graduate student guard Taj Benning poured in 13 points for the Stags.

By Emily Miller

Head coach Jay Young is positive about the team's performance

and aims for improvement with each game.

"I think we competed for 40 minutes [against Providence] and that is a great place to start. It's the price of admission," said Young. "If you're not going to compete you have no chance. I was happy with the way we competed, but our message is we lost the game. We have to be a better basketball team, and we will."

Coach Young is the 13th head coach of the men's basketball team at Fairfield. Before Fairfield, he spent three seasons as the assistant coach at Rutgers University. In the 2020-2021 season, Young led the Stags to the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference

Championship in Atlantic City, N.J, stirring back-to-back victories against second-seeded Monmouth University and third-seeded Saint Peter's University.

Young looks back on last season's successes and is hopeful for the future. "I think it showed all of us that we could be a good basketball team. Certainly, the way we ended the season, we were a much different team than when we started last year [...] It gave us confidence that we could be a good basketball team but we know how much work we still have yet to do."

Coach Young is exceptionally excited for the return of the Stags

fans after a difficult last season due to COVID-19. "We are all fired up to see our fans. The guys couldn't see their families at games last year," he noted. "For the guys to play for the students and have their families back in the stands, it's everything for them. We can't wait to get everybody back, this is what it's all about [...]"

Next up for the Stags is a road game to Massachusetts at Boston College. Coach Young stressed the team's consistency and repetition of routine for preparation for Boston College and all future opponents. "It is kind of the same process [...] there is always stuff to fix and after the Providence game, we watch a lot of film with the

guys and try to continually improve on errors we think we can improve on. That's really our process after every single game, and we'll do the same after Boston College, and that's whether we win or lose."

Coach Young and the team take it game by game, aiming for a better performance each time. "Our goal is improvement and that is what we are continually trying to strive for." The Fairfield Stags take on the Boston College Eagles on the road at 4 p.m. on Sunday, November 14. The game will be featured on ESPN+. The Stags' home opener will be Tuesday, Nov. 16 when they host Medgar Evers College.



The Fairfield University men's basketball team travelled to Providence College on Tuesday, November 9, where the Friar's offense was able to stifle the Stags in a tight 72-80 loss.

FAIRFIEL

Stags Stomp Bears in Home Opener Matchup

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By Zachary Stevens **Contributing Writer**

The Fairfield University Women's basketball team hosted Brown on Nov. 9, at the Webster Bank Arena in Bridgeport, Conn., where the Stags prevailed over the Bears in a 76-52 victory.

During the game, Lou Lopez-Senechal '22

team's first kind of kid," said Frager. "She takes a great deal of pride and plays well, for our team, for our program and for the University."

This is a remarkable achievement for the senior forward, and one that will keep her fueled for this year. Although Lopez-Senechal is happy with her achievement, she has bigger and better goals for the rest of this

scored her 1000th career point, becoming the 32nd Stag to reach the mark and the third fastest in program history.

Lopez has been a key contributor for Fairfield over the years and scored 19 points in 33 minutes in the season opener, helping her team get a very important first win.

Since Lopez's arrival on campus as a firstyear, she has been admiring the 1000 point club members, now that she is a part of that special group, it is surreal to her.

"Coming from France to play Division I basketball, I never thought I could achieve this and have an impact like that at Fairfield," said Lopez. "It also means how much my coaches and teammates trust me and want me to shoot the ball. I'm grateful evervday."

Truly humble, Lopez-Senechal is a perfect example of what it means to be a Fairfield Stag and represent us each time she steps on the court.

A person who is also grateful everyday for the presence of Lopez is head coach Joe Frager, who has had the pleasure of coaching Lopez-Senechal throughout the years and watching her progression as a player and a person.

Photos Contributed by the Sports Information Desk

Senior Andrea Hernangomez and graduate student Sydney Lowery "Lou is a great young woman to coach. And she's just the were key contributors in the Stags' success over Brown University.

year's campaign.

"The main goal with the team is to win the championship," said Lopez-Senechal. "We want to be the best that we can be, and we've been working hard towards that goal."

Although a championship seems like a big feat, the Stags are more than capable of going on a big run this year with their offensive weapons and strong defense.

On the attacking end, the Stags had four players: Lou Lopez-Senechal '22, Callie Cavanaugh '22, Andrea Hernangomez '22 and graduate student Sydney Lowry who all had 15 or more points in the game against Brown.

Along with tremendous scoring from multiple players, the Stags recorded 12 steals in the contest and were pests on defense, never letting Brown get comfortable in their offense.

With all cylinders clicking on both ends of the court, Fairfield will be very tough to stop, especially at home where they had a 4-2 record last year.

Fairfields next opponent will be Stetson University, where the Stags will travel to Lake Buena Vista, Florida on Nov. 19.

Fans can watch the game on ESPN3 or could get live updates from the Fairfield University official Athletic website. Show your support and Go Stags!