

DANIEL PASSAPERA/CHRONICLE



## Cameras installed to analyze parking in Hogan Lot

p. 2



ILLUSTRATION BY EMMA KOGEL

### OPINION P.4: ENVIRONMENTAL WAR

Podcast Host Anya Grondalski emphasizes the US' overreliance on oil as the country bans imports from Russia



CONNOR LAWLESS/CHRONICLE

### ARTS AND LIFE P.6: 'LITTLE WOMEN'

A breakdown analysis and review of the Fourth Wall's sold-out production of 'Little Women'



CONNOR GORMAN/CHRONICLE

### SPORTS P. 10: JUGGLING, FORTNITE AND GOALIE DADS

Kat Henselder's path from elementary school basketball player to a top goalie

## SGA senator facilitates summer storage partnership

By JACKLYN PELLEGRINO  
Staff Writer

The OnDemand storage service will be available to Quinnipiac University students for the second year in a row before the semester's end in May, in an initiative started by a Student Government Association senator.

OnDemand Storage will come to campus from May 11-13 during move-out week. The company will bring students' items to a storage unit over the summer for a set price depending on the items they store. Students can schedule a pick-up date through the company's website. All items will then be brought back to the campus during move-in week in August.

The company has three different periods: spring, summer and fall, allowing students to pay for the summer period rather than paying monthly. Students only have to pay based on the items they store, not a set storage space. Items have varying price points depending on size and how long the item will be stored.

Karen Owolabi, SGA sophomore senator, said her main goal when she ran for the position was to provide a good storage option because she felt there wasn't enough information on available options.

As an international student herself, Owolabi said she wondered what she was going to do with all her items when summer came. She con-

tinued the initiative from former international senator Mary Dudani, who worked on it previously. The first thing Owolabi, a sophomore law in society and political science double major, did was brainstorm storage companies to collaborate with.

The idea began as one collective storage space that all the students could put their belongings in, but too many problems arose. Sarah Driscoll, director of international student services, thought of OnDemand Storage because the company had previously contacted her about a partnership with Quinnipiac.

Before taking further steps, they brought in Mark DeVilbiss, director of residential life. They also met with Joe Zanca, the founder of OnDemand storage. The partnership was made official in May 2021, with OnDemand Storage coming to pick up items for students that month.

"I had my stuff picked up last spring and had it brought again this fall and the process was so smooth," Owolabi said. "(The) employees are great, they help you with whatever you need. I think this is definitely going to be an option that's provided for years and years. I think more and more students are going to be using it."

Owolabi said OnDemand Storage makes her feel reassured that her items will be safe because



ILLUSTRATION BY LINDSEY KOMSON

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# Quinnipiac utilizes camera in Hogan Lot to study parking behavior

By CAT MURPHY  
Contributing Writer

Amid mounting frustration with on-campus parking, Quinnipiac University installed a camera in Hogan Lot March 29, to monitor student parking.

"With parking such a focus of the university community's needs at this time, we were looking to determine how best we are all utilizing our current parking spaces and lots and how might data play a role in informing all of the campus constituencies," One Stop and Registrar Assistant Vice President Joshua Berry wrote in a statement to The Chronicle.

The university partnered with local vendor Municipal Parking Services to conduct the pilot program as part of a coordinated effort with One Stop, the Facilities Department and the Department of Public Safety, Berry said.

Chief Experience Officer Tom Ellett announced the pilot program in an email to students on March 24. He said a graduate student

class in the School of Business will be working alongside the university to analyze the data collected by MPS to devise more effective policy-making strategies.

"The camera will capture the total number of vehicles that enter and exit the lot, the timing of the entry and egress of the vehicles, and how many of those parking there have the appropriate decal," Berry said. "We hope to capture data that identifies parking trends, space utilization, and whether our current enforcement and decaling practices are helping to direct parkers to the proper parking areas."

The university's new initiative includes a 30-day plan to collect data from the camera in Hogan Lot. Berry said the month-long, single-lot pilot has the potential for development if its data prove to be informative.

"Depending on the findings of the research, it is possible that we would expand to other parking locations," Berry said.

The pilot "has no connection to the com-

muter parking fee" and its findings would result in "no changes" to the fee, Berry said. He said the data collected by the camera will be a primary consideration in future parking policy. In particular, he expressed the university's desire to consider the findings of the pilot program in conjunction with those of other university initiatives focused on student parking.

"With the gathering of this data, the formation of the parking advisory group, as well as the findings of the MBA consulting course tasked with providing student-driven decisions, we hope that we can devise an equitable parking approach that supports our commuter students and all of the community," Berry said.

However, some Quinnipiac students have expressed displeasure with the university's new initiative.

"This is not an appropriate response to the outrage of the parking issue," said Kelsey Darcy, a junior public relations major. "This is a Band-Aid fix and doesn't by any means get to the root of the issue."

Darcy, a commuter, said she appreciates the timing of the efforts to monitor the on-campus lots amid rising crime rates in Hamden but was critical of the university's approach.

"That money should be used for more parking," Darcy said. "I think this is a fancy way to say that they will probably just go even harder with ticketing and towing."

Another commuter, Daniella Villon, a first-year health science studies major, expressed a similar sentiment.

"Cameras would be great (alongside more) parking spots and an actual form of security," Villon said. "I don't think cameras should be the main concern right now."

Villon, like Darcy, commended the initiative but expressed frustration with the university's execution.

"I'm sure (Quinnipiac) has good intentions," Villon said. "It's just frustrating when people have been complaining about parking and security, and the response is 'cameras.'"



ILLUSTRATION BY CAT MURPHY

### STORAGE from cover

the company specializes in student storage.

"I would say this program gives you a little bit of security," Owolabi said. "You know that your stuff is safe and you know that you have people in the school to reach out to in the unlikely circumstance that something would go wrong."

Driscoll said the initiative solves a lot of issues for students because they don't need to worry about bringing their items to a storage facility.

"I think it's a really good opportunity," Driscoll said. "It's a program that we're really proud to offer. I think that students will feel like it's one less thing that they have to worry about. Particularly for students that may live outside of the U.S. or further distances, it's really helpful, I think."

Mahlet Sugebo, a Chronicle staff writer, public relations graduate student and international student, used OnDemand Storage last year. She said the process for signing up and picking dates was "fairly easy" and the day she had to fly home, OnDemand picked up her things in a "very seamless" fashion.

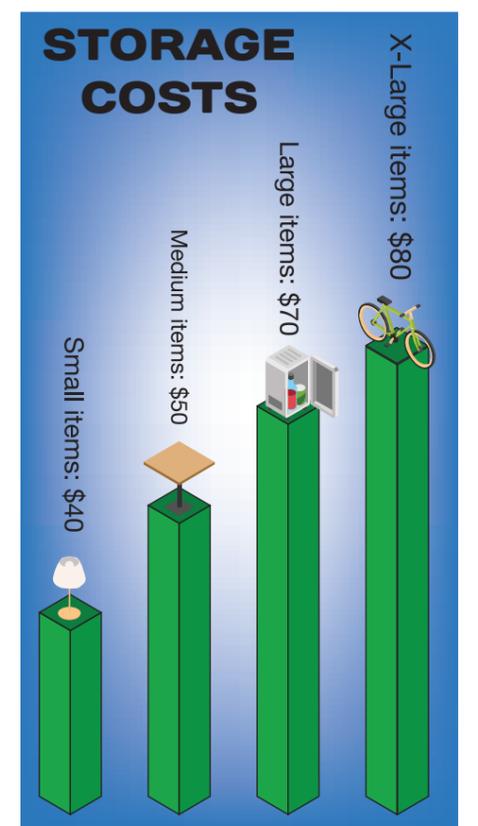
Sugebo said the scheduling website glitched after her attempt last summer.

"I thought that meant I accidentally picked a permanent storage option instead of a temporary storage option, and I got scared because my entire dorm room was in those three boxes," Sugebo said. "So, then I just emailed the help contact information ... and they were like, 'I'm sorry I don't know why that happened, you can go in and schedule it now,' and it was perfect."

Sugebo said that it "worked out really well" because the day she flew back and moved into her room was the same day her stuff was dropped off.

During her first year, Sugebo said she used a different company which she found was more expensive.

"Freshman year, I used Dorm Room Movers, and it was crazy expensive," Sugebo said. "It was \$300 to store it for the entire summer and I was like, 'That's a ridiculous amount of money. I don't want to have to pay that every summer.'"



INFOGRAPHIC BY CONNOR LAWLESS

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# New 3D modeling and printing class builds its way to all majors

By NICOLE MCISAAC and KRYSTAL MILLER

In an effort to enhance students' engineering experiences, Quinnipiac University will offer a 3D Model and Printing for Innovators course this fall.

Led by Mary Phillips Ho, associate professor of mechanical engineering, the course is designed for students to use the Innovation Hub and Maker Space to create models and prototypes with 3D-modeling software. Students can use the technology outside of class to work on projects.

"There's an idea, a push to get faculty from across the university together with this idea of building these connections across the university and really helping to encourage and incubate that innovation," Phillips Ho said.

The course does not require any experience or prerequisites and is open to all majors. Phillips Ho said the class is structured for students to engage in a full hands-on experience by learning the software and applying it to create a design.

"There's something really cool and satisfying about being able to create and make something yourself," Phillips Ho said. "And that's not something that just engineers find satisfying."

The course will teach students how to use the software, but Phillips Ho said it goes beyond just 3D modeling and printing.

"The idea is to have it broader, looking at how different industries and different disciplines even outside just the traditional ones that you think of, how are they using this technology and how is this technology impacting other aspects of society," Phillips Ho said.

Kevin Rodriguez, a first-year software

engineering major, said he would take the course because of the importance of understanding 3D printing and how the design process is used to solve problems.

"Engineers hope to find solutions to problems and 3D printing and modeling is a tool that can help make that possible," Rodriguez said. "Plus, it's something great to add on your resume."

Rodriguez said that because the university is offering the course to all majors, more students will have greater comprehension of the design process as a whole.

"I think it's important for everyone to be aware of how engineers use tools such as 3D printers to come up with a solution to the problem they're trying to solve," Rodriguez said.

William Nocar, a senior mechanical engineering major, said he would take the course as he has taken other courses involving 3D modeling.

"However, the (aforementioned) course mostly deals with the learning of software tools, and not the actual 3D modeling creation process physically," Nocar said.

Though other students who are more familiar with the material said they are not as inclined to enroll in the class.

Gina Greco, a senior mechanical engineering major, said she is a superuser in the makerspace. That means she supervises, trains and creates operating manuals for the equipment such as 3D printers, laser cutter, heat presses, embroidery machine, and vacuum press.

"I think that this course would be very beneficial to students outside of mechanical engineering to give them an idea of how prototyping works and especially for majors

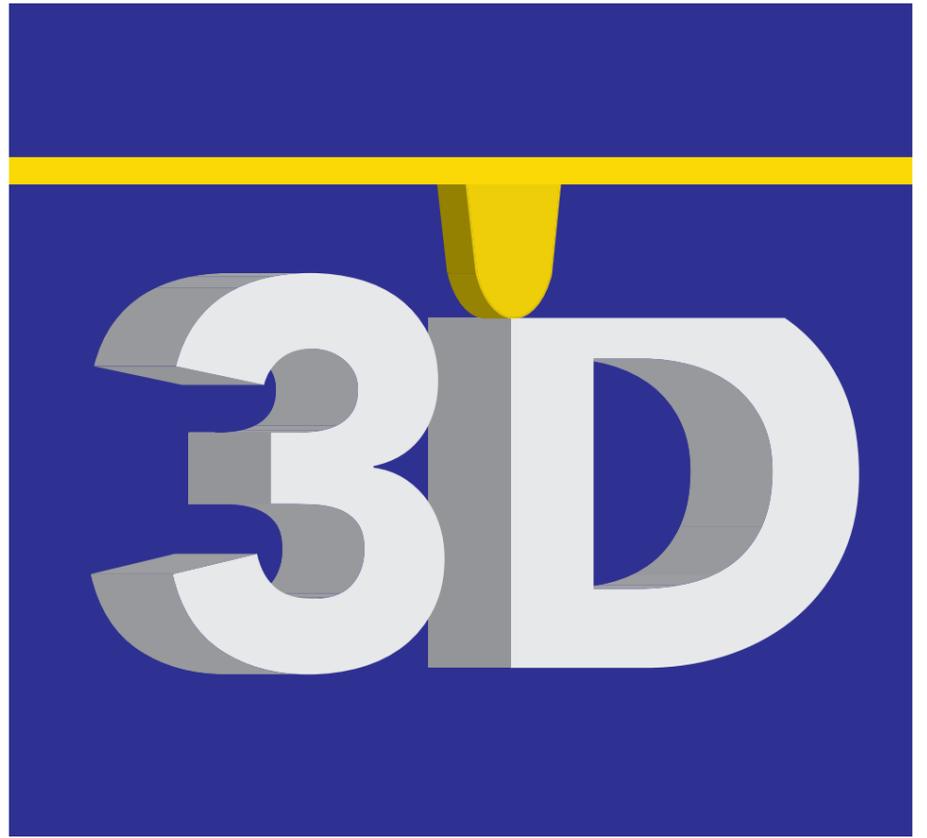


ILLUSTRATION BY SEAN FORMANTES

such as entrepreneurship so that they can model their own ideas," Greco said.

"I think we have just a lot of creative students across the campus at Quinnipiac who have these creative ideas and this is one way for them to develop those ideas and express

their ideas," Phillips Ho said. "We want to give this as just an additional outlet for them to do that."

Any student interested in learning more about enrolling in the course is encouraged to contact Mary.Ho@quinnipiac.edu.

# Legal studies professor seeks CT House seat for third time

By JACK SPIEGEL

Staff Writer

Quinnipiac University legal studies professor Sujata Gadkar-Wilcox began her American Constitutional Law class April 5, by pulling out her "pocket constitution" – reading word for word the religious freedoms outlined in the First Amendment.

Engaging her students in the verbiage of free exercise and the establishment clause, Gadkar-Wilcox broke down where religion is appropriate in government. Later, the class broke off into groups to discuss hypothetical scenarios in which these legal standings were questioned.

As an admirer of the U.S. Constitution, Gadkar-Wilcox is putting her legal and teaching experience to the test by running to be the next representative of Connecticut's 123rd House District.

This will not be Gadkar-Wilcox's first time running for this seat. She unsuccessfully campaigned against incumbent Rep. David Ruti-

gliano (R-Trumbull) in 2018 and 2020, who she hopes to defeat in November's midterm elections.

Getting the community involved in politics is one of Gadkar-Wilcox's most prominent goals.

"I think we need more people that actually love politics, and politics as a public service, not politics for some other ambition," Gadkar-Wilcox said. "I'm not a fan of career politics. I'm a fan of public politics. And that's why I got involved in politics."

Putting traditional political stances aside, Gadkar-Wilcox said that the key to her success will be knocking on the doors of her constituents.

"When you knock on doors, you realize that (most people) just want to be heard," Gadkar-Wilcox said.

Though Gadkar-Wilcox said her 2020 campaign was cut short due to the COVID-19 pandemic, she closed a nearly 23-point deficit in 2016 to just 1.6 points in 2020.

"Whenever I go door knocking, what I talk

about first is that we have public financing, and talk about what people need in the community," Gadkar-Wilcox said. "For me that means a grassroots campaign, it means getting students involved, it means getting community members involved, and everything is really that community-based politics."

The greatest concern Gadkar-Wilcox said she is hearing from voters is equal access to a public education. Gadkar-Wilcox proposed creating a state fund to offset some of the fixed costs that schools are faced with.

"There are some fixed costs in the schools that I think creating a state fund, for example, to help offset those costs would be important," Gadkar-Wilcox said.

Two of Gadkar-Wilcox's biggest inspirations are her daughters who are currently part of the Trumbull Public Schools.

"My younger daughter, her name actually means persistence and determination," Gadkar-Wilcox said of her daughter Aksita. "I think it's OK to say, 'Look, you failed and you get up.' And you do it again, because you're committed to the ideal."

Gadkar-Wilcox said she also dedicates her life's work to the Constitution and passing that knowledge along to her students.

"I think the Constitution is much more radical than people understand for its time," Gadkar-Wilcox said. "The framer's vision was that you're committed to the office, itself, and all you get for that is compensation, nothing else, no additional rewards."

Sarah Annabi, a third-year political science major in the 3+3 law program, is a student of Gadkar-Wilcox.

Annabi praised Gadkar-Wilcox's ability to challenge one's thoughts and said the way she structures her classes and assignments pushes students to dive deeper into readings and question their ideals.

"She would assign these readings, and I would spend hours trying to figure all these things out," Annabi said.

Annabi said her relationship with Gadkar-Wilcox goes beyond just the classroom.

"Sujata is like a mother figure to me," An-

nabi said. "She gives me advice and pretty much every aspect of life, education, personal, social, financial, all of the above."

Another member of the Quinnipiac community, who was involved in hiring Gadkar-Wilcox is professor and former Chair of the Legal Studies Department Jill Martin.

"There are a lot of people who practice law, there's a lot of good lawyers out there," Martin said about what stood out from her interview with Gadkar-Wilcox. "But what we're looking for are people who will interact with our students and will work with our students."

Samantha Murdock is a first-year law student, former student of Gadkar-Wilcox and a former campaign employee.

"She shows respect for you, and you give that respect back," Murdock said. Gadkar-Wilcox "treats you like more of a colleague, as opposed to a student which, personally, I liked a lot."

Martin and Murdock are strong supporters of Gadkar-Wilcox, and are confident she will be giving a victory speech in November.

Martin says the keys to Gadkar-Wilcox's success will be her enthusiastic view on community politics and her deep involvement in Trumbull.

According to a 2020 Gallup Poll, only 8% of respondents said government officials have a very high amount of honesty. Gadkar-Wilcox said she is hoping to gain the trust of her constituents by compromising on issues.

"Democrats and Republicans don't always expect that the person they have elected is going to agree with them 100% of the time, they expect to be heard," Gadkar-Wilcox said. "What I've learned at the doors (is) when it comes to people, they want to believe that somebody is there who genuinely believes in government, who's genuinely willing to listen."

While Gadkar-Wilcox has desired to be a legislator for years, she will continue to teach at Quinnipiac regardless of the election results.

"I love what I'm doing," Gadkar-Wilcox said. "For me being a representative is a platform to amplify the voices of students who otherwise don't get heard."



JACK SPIEGEL/CHRONICLE

Professor Sujata Gadkar-Wilcox is campaigning to be the next representative of Connecticut's 123rd House District.

# Opinion

## The Environmental War

### Conflict with Russia is exposing US' overdependence on fossil fuels



ILLUSTRATION BY EMMA KOGEL

By **ANYA GRONDALSKI**  
Podcast Host

I'm tired of hearing people complain about gas prices.

I admit I haven't been behind the wheel since January because public transportation and walking have become my two best friends while living in Washington, D.C. But that doesn't mean I don't have the personal experiences or knowledge to see that our focus on gas prices is misplaced.

The U.S. is feeling the pain after banning all imports of Russian oil, liquified natural gas and coal in support of Ukraine. A lack of supply to meet demand means a drastic rise in prices.

However, what we should realize from the strain on our wallets is how easily crippled our economy and society is when non-renewable resources are threatened. The war in Ukraine is equally as much a war on environmentalism, and that side is invisible to many.

The U.S. has been the economic leader of the international landscape since World War II, also retaining one of the world's most powerful militaries. Yet, we are vulnerable because of our reliance on non-renewable energy.

It's staring us in the face. Oil is our weakness.

When the cost of gas rises dramatically, consumers spend less money on other goods and services. The U.S. is experiencing demand destruction.

However, we've been more fortunate than most. It was revealed at the NATO meeting in Brussels, Belgium, on March 24, that the U.S. is the only country of the leading industrial nations to cease purchasing from Russia. Other major nations can't spare the expense,

as the European Union accounts for nearly 70% of Russia's gas exports.

World leaders can threaten sanctions and diplomatic action all they want. But our reliance on oil is making us frozen, unable to take a stand against Russia in ways we could if the world was smarter about its choice of fuel decades ago.

The rest of the world is buying so much oil from Russia that its stock market is still open and slowly starting to stabilize. That signals that all efforts to dampen its economy have all but failed, essentially guaranteeing continued violence.

Gas is just one factor in the equation. Ukraine's environmental infrastructure and institutions have also taken a major blow.

Over 1,000 people across the world issued an open letter

through the Environmental Peacebuilding Association March 3, where they publicly addressed how attacks on Ukrainian civilian homes and military sites are causing air and water pollution, as well as damaging food security. Ukraine is a major export of wheat and corn, and the chain reaction to follow from the war will likely be devastating.

Additionally, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced on March 29, that it will help rebuild where it can, mirroring its continued aid to Soviet Bloc countries for 30 years.

Ukraine's good work could also be at risk. If attacks continue, Russia will likely target the country's hydroelectric dams and hazardous waste storage

sites, undoing any eco-friendly progress and polluting the nation, an unnecessary loss of human and time capital.

It's only after a country is in crisis that we want to help them build back sustainably.

President Joe Biden has made memorable moves in the fight against climate change since his inauguration. Just recently, the White House proposed budget for the 2023 fiscal year included a \$2 billion increase in the EPA's budget. He's set goals to achieve a 50% reduction in greenhouse gas pollution by 2030. Biden seems unable to give a speech without emphasizing the need for green jobs.

But it all comes at a time when my New England nostalgia withers at the sight of a mere 3 inches of snow in the dead of winter.

Following the example of countries like Iceland and Sweden, we could power our country on hydroelectricity, geothermal energy and solar. Beneath our feet lies energy that could power our nation, we just have to place focus on funding infrastructure to achieve networked green energy solutions.

Electric cars are on their way to becoming more accessible to the average American, decreasing in price by 70% between 2010 and 2016. However, until we've achieved this, companies should subsidize workers that can reasonably get to work by biking, something attainable in almost every major city in the U.S.

The war in Ukraine is an international environmental war. The economy and the environment are closely woven into the fabric of our political landscape.

Next time you sigh at the pump, think about the brighter, greener, cleaner reality we could be living in if we removed oil from the center of our universe.

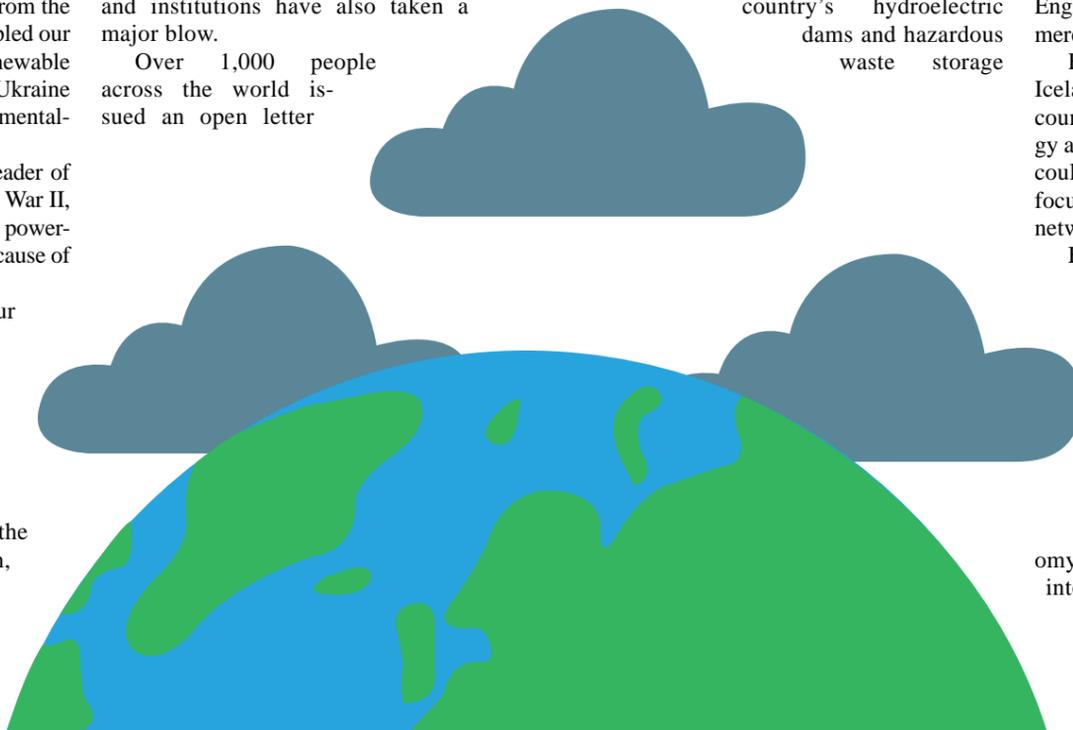


ILLUSTRATION BY EMMA KOGEL

# The blind robbery of inflation

By NEHA SEENARINE  
Associate Arts & Life Editor

If you thought inflation was bad, just wait until you hear about the latest selfish move companies are making.

“Shrinkflation” is ruining my life. It is when companies are reduce the sizes of products while the price remains the same or goes up.

This year, wallets suffered more from increased prices. I’ve shed tears watching gas prices go up, but five fewer chips in the Doritos bag is where I draw the line.

“Inflation is hitting everyone ... we took just a little bit out of the bag so we can give you the same price and you can keep enjoying your chips,” a Frito-Lay representative told Quartz.

Supply shortages during the COVID-19 pandemic are a strong factor leading to shrinkflation. The problem isn’t that the Doritos bag is practically 90% air and five chips out of the bag will make it empty. The problem is that consumers are not getting the entire value out of the price they paid.

I’ve noticed shrinkflation in headlines focusing on the snack industry. Then, I found a subreddit on shrinkflation and my jaw dropped.

The most shocking post was about toilet paper width shrinking. Charmin cut its toilet paper roll of 20 sheets from 264 to 244, according to AARP. Although that doesn’t seem like a huge drop, the impact can go a long way.

Depending on how sparing someone is, 20 sheets can be another two to three goes in the bathroom, causing another roll to be used and soon another trip to the grocery store. People shouldn’t have to spend their money sooner if they don’t have to.

Shrinkflation is inflation’s evil coun-



ILLUSTRATION BY ALEX KENDALL

terpart. Companies find ways to reduce the quantity inside of products without losing profit. Its product changes are so slight that customers don’t notice a difference.

I had no idea that the product sizes are decreasing. Although inflation rose 7.9% in the past year according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, it feels like businesses are keeping a secret from me like a cheating boyfriend

I found myself to be more frugal. I don’t buy the things I want anymore, instead

I focus on my needs knowing my monthly bill will be higher each time it comes around.

As a single woman without children, I can most likely survive a jump in prices. I’m purchasing for one person: myself. However, what about people with dependents?

There are people who work tirelessly to afford their bills and put a roof over their family’s heads. Rent is up 15.2% from last year, according to Redfin. Imagine you’re working day and night, so you don’t get an

eviction notice. Then, you constantly have to make a trip to the grocery store because you finish eating faster than you expected.

If people have to bust their butts to keep a roof over their heads, can there at least be enough chips in the bag? The small transactions from the bank account add up, and companies slowly taking away their products is unfair.

# Cancel culture doesn’t exist, the Grammys just proved it

By XAVIER CULLEN  
Opinion Editor

Every unfunny comedian’s go-to talking point is how they face so much hate and discrimination from some nebulous woke mob. They’ll complain that Twitter warriors are ready to cancel anyone’s careers as soon as they feel offended by a joke.

Ricky Gervais, Dave Chappelle, Bill Maher, Joe Rogan — they’re all the same. They think they’re so persecuted and that their lives can be ruined by random people on social media.

In reality, they live in luxury by accepting multi-million dollar deals from major streaming services.

The biggest smoking gun that proves cancel culture outrage is fake was Louis C.K.’s Grammy win for Best Comedy Album on April 3. During Sexual Assault Awareness Month, an admitted sexual assaulter of five women was given an honor by the most prestigious music awards shows in the U.S.

Kanye West, who has harassed his ex-wife Kim Kardashian online, won two Grammys for his album featuring other “canceled” artists such as DaBaby and accused rapist Marilyn Manson.

In a world supposedly filled with overly emotional and easily triggered liberals, how could this happen? There’s a very easy answer — cancel culture is a myth. I wish it was real because then people would take proper responsibility for their actions, but it’s not.

Time after time, powerful people are called out for their heinous actions, yet nothing is being done about it. Rogan promotes anti-vaccine and racist lies. Chappelle dehumanizes trans people, yet these supposed comedians have the biggest platforms in the



GRAPHIC BY XAVIER CULLEN, PHOTO OF LOUIS C.K. BY DAVID SHANKBONE/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

world to spew their hateful messages.

Ye, formerly known as Kanye West, is one of the most famous rappers in country, Rogan is the highest-grossing podcast host in the world and Chappelle makes \$20 million for every Netflix special. How can cancel culture be real if the biggest names that have been canceled are more famous now than ever before?

That’s a problem. In a perfect world, these people would be rightfully punished for the horrible things they’ve done. Ye would be shunned by the music industry, Rogan would

be deplatformed and C.K. would be in jail. The lack of justice shows that the current way of “canceling” artists isn’t working. When disgusting people thrive through controversy, then the process of tearing them down is flawed.

Perhaps it’s our use of social media. Every day, there is a main villain on Twitter. Each day, that person receives mounds of backlash for whatever dimwitted thing they said, but their tweet is forgotten about the next day.

This news cycle is baked into the social media apps that we use. Twitter thrives off of the live conversation its trending tab

promotes. Everyone is craving the new news, looking to find something to get mad every day. We chase these dopamine rushes of a mob mentality so hard that we lose our individuality. If we all took a step back and looked at why we were getting mad at something, our grievances would look childish compared to the big issue at hand.

What activists should be worried about is not just what bigots said in the past, but more about the people in power who are allowing them to say it.

Sure, it might feel like you’re making a difference by ratioing some random user, but what does that accomplish? While keyboard warriors are stuck to their screens, furiously typing a Twitter thread, the powers that be are counting their money all the way to the bank.

I don’t mean to downplay the feelings many disillusioned young people have about the crumbling world around them. When you have no power at all, the small flexes of it can make you feel strong. I feel that exact way when I feel my voice fall on deaf ears. To those Twitter users, joining into the hate mob fills an inner desire everyone has — to feel impactful. We all want to be the main characters of our own stories.

What these comedians see as a cancel-culture mob trying to kill them is instead a group of people begging to be heard. But if nothing is permanent when someone is canceled, are they really canceled at all?

The power balance in our society has not shifted despite the invention of social media. We’re all given a voice, but that doesn’t mean we’ll all be heard.

I wish that all of these celebrities that are worrying about cancel culture had to actually worry about being deplatformed or forgotten.

# Arts & Life

## NO SMALL PARTS, ONLY 'LITTLE WOMEN'

Fourth Wall Student Theater delivers another triumphant production

By DAVID MATOS and MICHAEL LARocca

Everyone has to suffer through the aggravating transition into adulthood. It's the stage in life where you have to moderate between societal expectations and your interests. Times like these are tough, especially if you're a young woman tied to your small town in the middle of the Civil War.

The Fourth Wall Student Theater at Quinnipiac University presented Kate Hamill's adaptation of the American classic "Little Women," in the Theatre Arts Center from April 1-3.

The coming-of-age story tells the tale of the four March sisters — Jo, Meg, Beth and Amy. Each with a unique identity and ambition, they all go through the passage from adolescence to womanhood differently.

Growing up during the Civil War with her three sisters, Jo March, played by Autumn Hirsch, a second-year 3+1 public relations major, is an ungovernable young woman. She yearns to not be weighed down by traditional Victorian ideals for women of the 19th century but instead strives to someday be a reputable American novelist.

"Jo is really interesting," Hirsch said. "She's the first feminist we really see in mass media, especially that's taught in schools."

Hirsch expressed her lines effortlessly and did a remarkable job as the lead of the production, conveying the headstrong March sister. She said that she wanted women to see themselves in her character as there are many scenes where Jo stands her ground against the men in the play.

"I really want everybody, but especially the women in the audience to be able to relate to (Jo)," Hirsch said. "And to be able to understand that she was such an outspoken person, especially in the time period she was living in."

Emma Poirier, a third-year 3+1 biology major, directed the play. She said the cast only had four weeks of rehearsal, losing a week to spring break on March 13-18. Despite the limited amount of preparation, the "Little Women" cast operated harmoniously with one another.

"We have a really, really great cast," Poirier said. "They all get along ... sometimes theater kids have big personalities. But that's not a problem for us, which is really, really great. We were on a tight timeline."

Amy March, played by Sam Hart, a junior film, television and media arts major, is the youngest of the sisters and is not afraid to throw a tantrum or pick a fight with her other sisters, especially Jo. Hart said her character's combativeness posed a challenge to portray as Hart's personality couldn't be more

dissimilar from Amy's.

"She is the spoiled brat ... I think playing her has been so interesting, because that's totally the opposite of how I am in real life," Hart said. "I never had a role that's like the antagonist, so it's been super fun to kind of explore how she fits in her family."

Despite Hart taking on a demanding role, she depicted the argumentative character brilliantly on stage. Amy's assertive and spiteful ways echoed nicely through Hart, cementing her radiant talent as an actress.

Jessica Clark, a sophomore media studies major, played Beth March, the most reserved sister. Beth spends most of her days at home and unlike Amy sees Jo to some degree as a role model of feminist ideals.

Though her personality was small, Beth had big ideas that aligned beautifully with the thoughts of the protagonist of the show, Jo. The show ended with Beth in a captivating death scene that played with the emotions of the audience. You were meant to feel for the timid character throughout the whole of the play, and Clark portrayed that excellently.

"Little Women" marks Clark's first production at Quinnipiac, which led her to make many new friendships in the process of being a part of such an amazing production. Clark's chemistry with the cast behind the scenes was just as evident during the final production.

"This experience is so great because I'm meeting new friends and getting back into the theater world," Clark said. "And just this play holds a special part of my heart, because it's about feminism and that's a really big thing I'm passionate about."

Despite the long workdays, Jacob Cedor, a first-year international business major who played Theodore "Laurie" Laurence, the Marchs' next-door neighbor and Jo's love interest, made many connections with the cast after hours.

"When you get released from rehearsal, you go for a ride to wherever together just singing songs in the car," Cedor said. "The fact that you still want to hang out with people after you've been with them for like, four or five hours, five days a week is just a bond that you don't really see anywhere other than here."

Christina Stoeffler, a sophomore English and theater double major, believes that the friendships made during the preparation for the production were present in everyone's performance.

"I've made a lot of great friends in this program in general," Stoeffler said. "And I think that relationship really just comes through in the acting."

Aside from being the show's publicity coordinator,

Stoeffler also played the role of Meg March, the oldest sister, who acts as a mother figure to her younger siblings.

Stoeffler does an inspiring job playing such a prominent character while attending to her job on Fourth Wall's executive board.

"It's definitely a lot of work," Stoeffler said. "But we really are dedicated to the program and we want to put on the best show that we can."

After Fourth Wall's production of "Proof" last semester was put on with a much smaller cast and crew, "Little Women" was an interesting challenge for the group as it was one of the largest casts the organization has seen in recent years.

"There's not a whole lot of overlap between (the two shows)," Poirier said. "Everyone was really collaborative with making decisions together so that everything matched up. Sets (department) talked to costumes (department), and costumes talked to lights (department), which is really great."

With "Little Women" being the American classic it has been lauded as for the past 150 years, the Fourth Wall team made it a point of emphasis to do its source material justice while also putting a spin on it that allows their actors to shine.

"(The play) not being set-heavy is going to really rely on the acting," said Cortney Hannula, a senior computer information systems major and the play's technical director. "That focuses on the director and the actors, being able to work with the creation of how the actors perform."

Putting more emphasis on the acting also allowed for creative problem solving when it came to how the crew wanted to portray some of the play's most iconic set pieces, especially the March family home.

"This was a flat where the family comes around, and they gather for Christmas, or for Sunday dinner, this was a meaningful focal point," Hannula said. "What's the space going to look like inside? We can only use half the stage for the March house and another half for the Laurence house or being outside. It was really up to the directors and the actors to create the things."

All of the work and dedication put into the production over the past month paid off as "Little Women" sold out each of its four weekend showings. With much of Fourth Wall's cast and crew being undergrads, it is safe to say that there is a lot to look forward to in Quinnipiac theater in forthcoming semesters.



CONNOR LAWLESS/CHRONICLE

All four of Fourth Wall Student Theater's four showings of Kate Hamill's adaptation of 'Little Women' sold out last weekend, April 1-3.

# 'HE'S A ROCK STAR': QU STUDENT AMAZES CROWD WITH HIS VEGAS-BOUND MAGIC TRICKS

By **XAVIER CULLEN**  
Opinion Editor

Most businesses need an owner, CEO and a full staff of workers. TJ Salta just needs a deck of cards.

Salta, a senior 3+1 entrepreneurship major at Quinnipiac University, has been making magic since he was in high school. Inspired by Shin Lim and David Blaine, Salta said he likes the “seductive” side of magic, especially close-up and on-the-street performances.

His style was why the Rocky Top Student Center was packed with family, students, professors and fans coming to see Salta perform April 1, before he took his talents to Cirque du Soleil's Mad Apple show in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Salta started his act by handing out slips of paper to dozens of audience members, telling them to write something they would bring to a party. After collecting them in a box, he had two random people each select a slip. The first slip chosen said “condom” to the dismay of Salta and laughs of the crowd. The second was a much more family-friendly word: “piñata.”

Salta then picked up a large gift bag, pulled out a piñata and shocked the crowd.

After putting both to the side, Salta riffled through a deck of cards and had one viewer tell him when to stop. Revealing the chosen queen of spades to only the audience, Salta put it back into the deck. As he attempted to find the card, he turned the entire deck's back from blue to red — except for the queen of spades.

The audience gasped and cheered, but nobody was prepared for when Salta turned every card blank with just the wave of his hand. Every trick looked so effortless for Salta, but that didn't come easy.

“When I started, it could be six to eight hours a day (of practice),” Salta said. “Now, because it's in my blood and I don't have a choice to do it, it's more the creative side ... Especially with the internet out there, how can I create tricks that no one can find online?”

But the best was yet to come in the show, as Salta had one guest draw an “X” on the queen of spades, and seemingly burned it to thin air. The magician went to the llama-shaped piñata, picked up a bat and handed it to a selected guest, Andrew Constantouris, a business administration graduate student.

With one homerun swing, Constantouris decapitated the piñata, almost hitting a front-row spectator with the headless body.

“I was hitting that thing as hard as I can,” Constantouris said. “But I knew something was in there.”

As Salta looked down at the candy guts of the piñata, one thing shined bright among the lollipops. It was a condom, still in its wrapping, just like the slip from before said. The crowd went bananas. But when Constantouris ripped open the wrapper to reveal the marked queen of spades, the ensuing cheers could

probably be heard from the Mount Carmel campus.

“It was just mind-blowing,” Constantouris said. “I'm really happy for (Salta). Just the environment here, everyone's supporting him. It's so cool that one of our Quinnipiac students gets a chance to do this ... He's a rock star.”

After a couple more tricks, Salta walked into On The Rocks with a deck of cards to perform up-close magic with bar patrons. That day was the amalgamation of years of practice, and nobody was more proud of Salta's progress than his parents, Liza and Tom Salta, who saw him perform.

“We both have an overwhelming sense of pride, of course,” Tom Salta said. “It's surreal in a way ... Now we're standing here and our son is up there. Not only is he graduating, but he's going to Vegas, and all these people are here to see him.”

The pressure of the spotlight and schoolwork has been a lot for TJ Salta, but he said his parents, peers and professors have made his dreams easier to obtain.

“It's a lot to juggle,” TJ Salta said. “As you saw the support, the network. Just seeing people in this program and in this school having that same mindset of doing something they love, that's kind of pushed me and given me that hope that I'm not alone.”

As TJ Salta leaves campus to join the rest of the Cirque du Soleil crew, he'll be studying remotely. He lived just 40 miles away from home while at Quinnipiac, so his parents are naturally worried about how he'll handle being 2,600 miles west.

“As a mom, I have some concerns with the whole atmosphere (in Las Vegas), and there's a lot of things out of his control,” Liza Salta said. “But I know he's with a good company ... and he's got one of the top managers out there, so I feel comfortable with that.

But, you know—”

“But we're still parents, right?” Tom Salta said.

However, TJ Salta said he's ready for whatever Vegas throws at him, even if it'll be a bumpy road.

“Obviously, I'm (an independent) college student,” TJ Salta said. “But I'm dependent financially, and I have a home at home with my parents. So dropping all of that at once, it's not really something I'm being eased into. I'm being thrown in the water. It's exciting, but it's very overwhelming. I'm just ready for the ride.”



CONNOR LAWLESS/CHRONICLE

Quinnipiac senior TJ Salta is taking his magical talents to Las Vegas, Nevada, with the famed Cirque du Soleil.

## PURSUE A CAREER FOR HAPPINESS, NOT JOBS

By **AIDAN SHEEDY**  
Copy Editor

As I ended my first semester of college, I had branded myself as a journalist. A first-year in the 3+1 Communications program and an editorial board member of the school's student newspaper, I became known by many as the kid who's always taking photos and writing for The Quinnipiac Chronicle.

So what is this article's purpose? I am no longer a journalism major. Instead, I will be pursuing a career in my true, lifelong passion — teaching.

Ever since I was about 6 years old, I was a teacher. I remember going out of my way to help the kindergarteners learn how to swing or use the monkey bars during recess. In the classroom, I would finish my work quickly to have time to help my classmates who were struggling.

As I grew older, I took that mindset more seriously. On a sixth-grade overnight field trip, I spent most of my time hanging out with an autistic student. I would have supported him no matter what, but his usual aide could not come on the trip with him, so I took it upon myself to make sure he was comfortable and safe.

In high school, my first job was as a baseball umpire for the local Little League program. My main goal was to make sure the kids were smiling and having fun. Between innings, I would warm up with them and talk to them about playing varsity or their favorite MLB players.

Today, I have two part-time jobs with the YMCA. During the school year, I am a teacher at a program called “School's Out,” which provides child care for parents who either leave for work early or stay late. For the last four summers, I have been a camp counselor working primarily with kids ages 7-10.

All I did over spring break was work in the School's Out program with some of the most wonderful and brilliant kids I've ever met. Days after I returned to campus, all I could think about was how happy that job and the kids made me.

That's when it dawned on me — I need a career that prioritizes my happiness. Don't get me wrong, I would've been a great journalist, but would I have been happy?

My only goal in life is to have a family. I picture myself in a similar role to my father, a teacher who makes time to spend with his children at home while doing everything in his power to make his students happy.

This lifestyle would be impossible if I continued into the world of journalism. Most news writers and editors work from home now. A study by the Reuters Institute and the University of Oxford found that 79% of news organizations are committed to being remote-only.

I couldn't live like that. It would also be infeasible to maintain a separation of work and family. The on-call readiness of a journalist was also a detriment, as I am someone who needs to have room for personal time.

I want others to think of this as a mature change and not a rash decision. When I told my friends and professors, the most common reaction I got was, “Wait really? Why?” and “Since when have you wanted to be a teacher?” But one reaction from a professor stood out to me.

They sat down next to me and said the following: “I wish you talked to me about this. I could've talked you out of it.”

That is not a response anyone going through a career change wants to hear. After a week of turmoil, guilt and regret, the last thing I want is to feel that again.

Although the intention may have been different in their head, it made me feel as if I'm making the wrong decision. I was very disappointed to hear that from a respected professional in the journalism field, but I kept reminding myself that I was making the right choice.

I am eager to absorb all the new information it takes to become an elementary school teacher. Any students thinking about a new career, just know that whatever decision you make is what is right for you. There may be people that you'll surprise, but this is your life and only you know what is best for you.

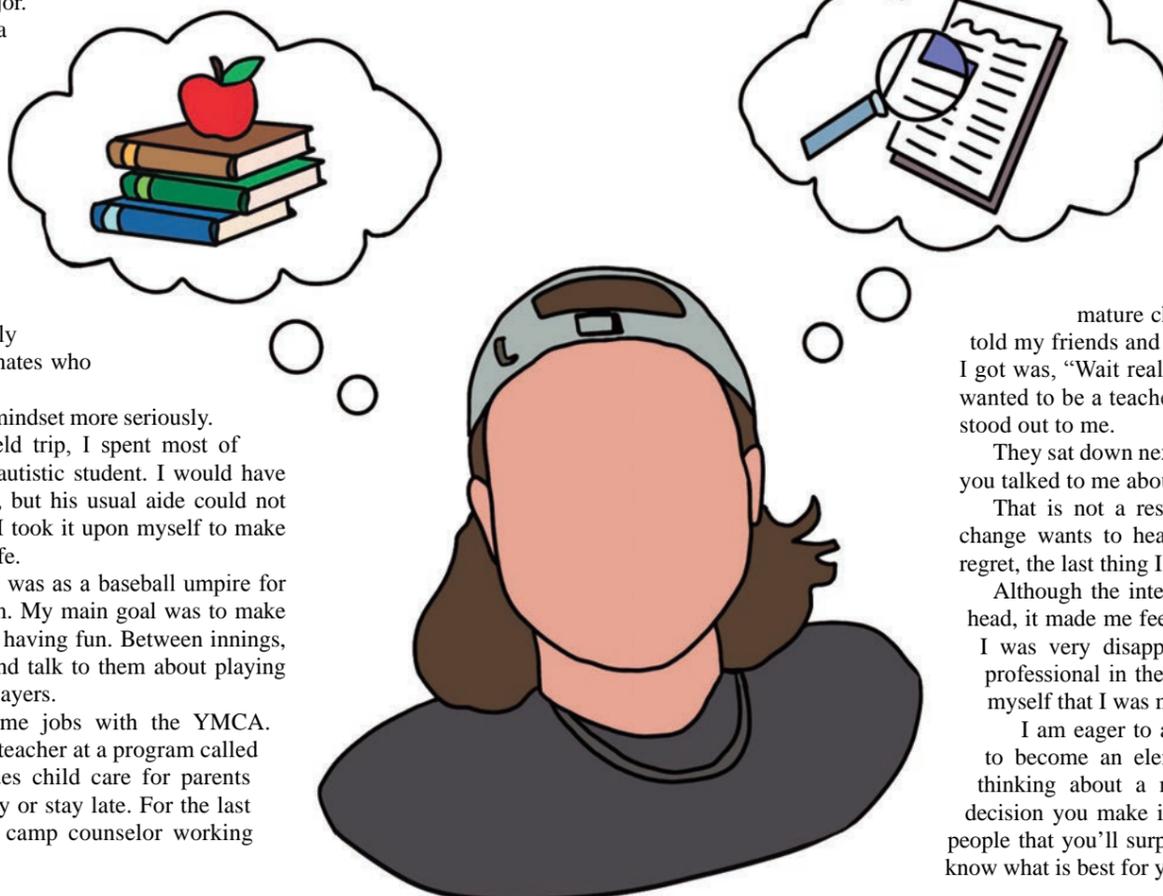


ILLUSTRATION BY SARAH HARDIMAN

# LEADERSHIP STARTS WITH A WOMAN

Hang Black, activist for women in the workplace, honored at the inaugural Eileen Peters Farley '68 speakers series

By **NEHA SEENARINE**  
Associate Arts & Life Editor

A powerful leader striving for a better future walks through the door. Who did you imagine? Did you see a white man in a dry-cleaned suit or a Vietnamese woman with purple hair?



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY HANG BLACK

Quinnipiac People's United Center for Women & Business gave activist Hang Black the Impact Award for her positive influence on female leaders.

Hang Black is the vice president of revenue enablement at Juniper Network. She advocates for leadership for women in the workplace, restructuring the way women should be included.

"There's been a lot of effort (improving the workplace for women), a lot of programs have been designed without the target audience included in the design," Black said.

The Quinnipiac People's United Center for Women & Business honored Black with the Impact Award at its inaugural Eileen Peters Farley '68 speakers series on March 30. The series was in memory of Farley's legacy in the Quinnipiac community as one of two women that took business classes in the mid-1960s.

Farley's daughter, Jessica Geis, expressed the impact her mother made.

"Her superpower was not only in her relentless work ethic and her incredible resourcefulness but also in seeing the amazing potential in others and giving them the courage to believe in themselves and take risks while she cheered and paved a road to success," wrote Geis in a LinkedIn post, reflecting on the speaker series.

Farley paved the way for women in business, and Black is doing the same decades later advocating for women to be heard in the workplace.

"These ladies of QU had attended the Converge Technology Solutions EmpowHer event I moderated last year," Geis wrote. Our keynote speaker was Hang Black. (Dr. Kiku Jones, Dr. Julia Fullick-Jagiela and Hannah Hejmowski) read Hang's book and unanimously voted her as the esteemed recipient of the Impact Award."

Black encourages women to embrace their unique identity in the workplace even though the corporate world was not made with them in mind.

"Meritocracy works for a while when you're a visual contributor," Black said. "It is really important to think about networking and branding which is uncovering uncomfortable ... I've just learned to do it in a way that's not only authentic but vulnerable and compassionate. This is the

benefit of having more females and leadership, this is what powerful feminine adds to the equation."

Black learned to throw out the formulas that were written for white men to succeed such as networking with who you know and climbing the ladder. She overcame adversity by navigating through the dark without inheriting access.

"What do brown people do when they're not succeeding? Put your head down and work harder," Black said. "I worked myself to the (emergency room) twice. On the cab back, I was like, 'OK, no more. Something's got to change.' Life is giving you signals that I've just not been listening to. These formulas for success out there don't work for people like us, because they were not written for people like us by people like us, who share our human experience."

Black did not stop fighting when she was hit with a whirlwind of obstacles — her parents' deaths, three layoffs, a move across the country, involvement with a lawsuit and a few burglaries. She decided enough was enough.

"I really disliked the phrase 'Don't be afraid to fail,' it's a very privileged statement," Black said. "With the adversity that I've had, I cannot really afford to fail, but what I would say to my younger self is it's OK to experiment."

Each guest from the event was given a copy of Black's book, "Embrace Your Edge." Black noted that someone without access must establish trust and competence.

"Mistrust of misfits is biological," Black wrote. "And the only way to fix it, is to flip the script ... As a minority woman without access, you're already starting on the backfoot ... You can't control bias, but you can definitely control your output."

Black emphasizes that the journey to success does not start with a free handout.

"(Access is) not an invitation to the room, and inclusion does not ensure access," Black said. "Do you know your role in the room? Are you serving? Are you sitting? Are you speaking? And for me, I'm standing for myself."



DANIEL PASSAPERA/CHRONICLE

## Dear Counselor

'Dear Counselor' is a column written by Mary Pellitteri, a member of Quinnipiac University's Counseling Services, to answer questions students have regarding mental health and wellness. To submit questions to Dear Counselor, email [quchronicle@gmail.com](mailto:quchronicle@gmail.com). All chosen questions will be anonymously published.

To schedule an appointment, call Counseling Services at 203-582-8689. If you need immediate assistance, call Counseling Services at 203-582-8680 and choose option three to speak with a licensed mental health professional available.

*This content is not intended to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment, and does not constitute medical or other professional advice.*

### What can I do around campus to help manage my stress?

"I'm glad you asked! There are so many things to do, and sometimes a reminder is helpful!

- Let's start with fitness, with options on all three campuses. Each campus has a fitness center, and we have about 75 classes per week from Zumba to yoga to Spinning. Sign up as early as 24 hours ahead of class time on [www.imleagues.com](http://www.imleagues.com)

- The Wellness Wednesday table is on the Mount Carmel campus each Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. with a variety of topics and resources. Can't make it in person? Look for Wellness Wednesday emails that are sent out each week to all students with a great deal of information and articles for students to use as resources.

- Campus Well has a plethora of information, on several different topics at <https://quinnipiac.campuswell.com>.

- Sometimes it's important to take a break from what may be contributing to your stress. One way to do this is by getting involved. There are around 140 student organizations on campus, there's something for everyone.

- Take the shuttle to one of the campuses you aren't regularly on and explore!
- Get out and hike the Giant! Did you know that Sleeping Giant State Park has over 32 miles of hiking trails?

- Go to an athletic event, join an intramural team or attend a play.
- Read the daily announcements on MyQ, there's always something to do!

Feeling stressed is a normal part of life. What we do about it can make all the difference. Taking a break to clear your mind, do something fun or laugh with friends can make all the difference in the world!

Of course, if you feel that your stress has become unmanageable, and you would like additional help with this, contact Counseling Services to schedule an appointment."

# THE ENEMIES-TO-LOVERS CLICHÉ IN 'BRIDGERTON' SEASON TWO IS ASTOUNDING

By **DAVID MATOS**

Associate Arts & Life Editor

Lavish updos, feather quills and a seemingly impossible romance that's both frustrating and burning of intrigue are all encompassed in the second season of "Bridgerton."

The much-anticipated second installment finally premiered on Netflix on March 25, and it did not disappoint.

Set in glamorous 1813 London during the era-appropriate marriage season, the show is based on a series of romance novels written by Julia Quinn.

The first season followed the lascivious romance between the town's diamond Daphne Bridgerton (Phoebe Dynevor) and the Duke of Hastings, Simon Basset (Regé-Jean Page). The show captivated viewers because of the chemistry between the season's leading couple and sex scenes that left very little to the imagination.

There was an alarming amount of butt shots, to say the least.

Now, if you were hoping for another season of ruthless amounts of spontaneous sex, then I have some bad news for you — there's rarely any. Aside from an occasional glimpse of a Bridgerton's backside, there's a significant lack of intimacy between the second season's leading couple. Despite this, Anthony Bridgerton (Jonathan Bailey) and Kate Sharma (Simone Ashley) expressed their passion brilliantly through the twinkle in their eyes every time they met.

Hardly any words were ever exchanged on how this season's couple truly felt for one another. Through several subtle gestures of desire, whether it was a passing look or an embrace that's always interrupted before they could seal the deal, Anthony and Kate's yearning for each other was evident. This made it even more maddening when their ambitions could not be satisfied due to foregoing plans that did not involve finding love.

Anthony does not desire to find a soulmate, but rather a woman that's fit for the role of his wife so he can honor his duty as a gentleman during the regency era. As part of his plan, he chooses to unify with this year's diamond, Edwina Sharma (Charithra Chandran), handpicked by Queen Charlotte (Golda Rosheuvel).

The annual ceremony is a mating ritual where the queen of England names a woman that encapsulates beauty and grace.

They become the town's most prized jewel, or the diamond of the season.

Edwina's older sister, Kate, disapproves of the pairing after overhearing his true agenda for her sister. Needless to say, Kate and Anthony are set up to be enemies from the start. This makes their eventual romance all the more gratifying.

In one scene, Kate and Anthony are mid-argument when a bee stings her on the shoulder. Someone Anthony loved dearly died years prior in the exact same way. He starts going ballistic until she places his hand on her chest to express that she's fine.

Their apparent hatred for one another was interrupted with an act of tenderness. It was arguably the most intimate scene the show has ever had, even compared to the sex-filled first season, and I loved every second of it.

In an exceptionally revealing scene, Anthony utters the line "You're the bane of my existence and the object of all my desires," as he declares his love to Kate. The single phrase encompasses their complicated relationship, and some real-life affairs between viewers of the show, perfectly.

There's something so relatable and exciting about loving someone you can't be with due to societal expectations. You might feel the need to fulfill a role that doesn't involve who you desire the most. Everything is working against you to be with your soulmate, which makes your shared love even stronger. In Anthony's case, Edwina's veil is what's separating him from his happiness, Kate.

Though I don't usually acclaim romantic shows, "Bridgerton" has undoubtedly caused me to sing a different tune. I will admit the first two episodes were slow, but the episodes to follow were engaging and full of scandal that I was devoted to finishing the series in one sitting.

The storytelling of this go-around was just as strong as the previous season. Bailey and Ashley are impeccable actors, and I hope to see them in more endeavors as each character's story comes to a satisfying finish.

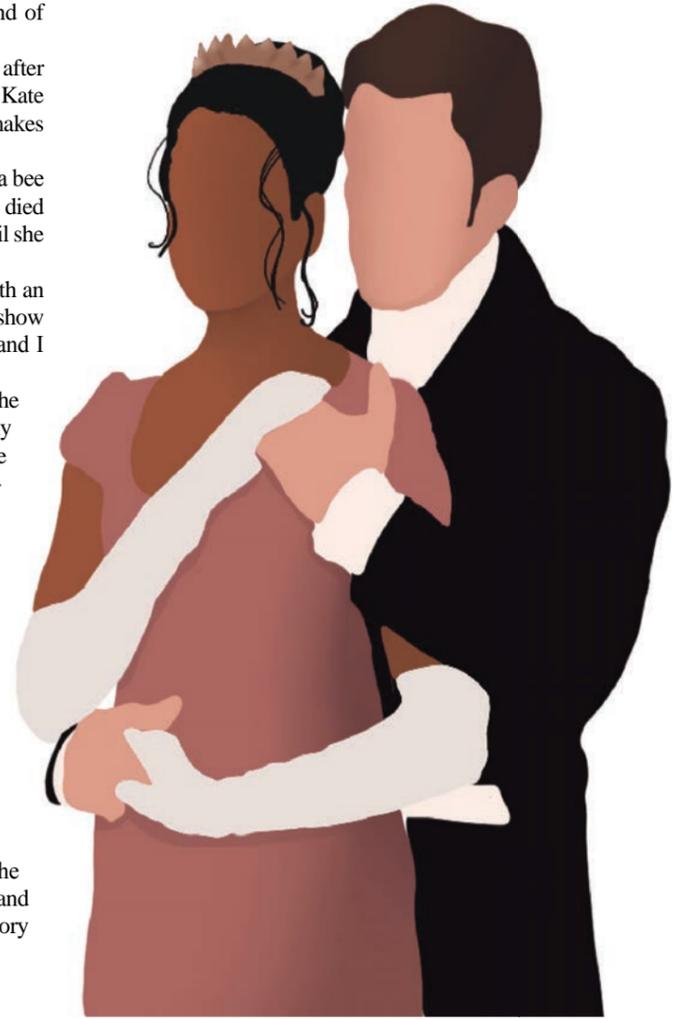


ILLUSTRATION BY AMANDA RIHA



ILLUSTRATION BY CONNOR LAWLESS

By **MELINA KHAN**

Sports Editor

*This article is for comedic purposes only. Actual names and likenesses used in this article are used in a parodic context, and are not a reflection of any actual person.*

In an unexpected turn of events, Quinnipiac University's Student Programming Board revealed there will be a second act at the Wake the Giant event after all.

After a series of posts on the popular social media app YikYak speculated a secret performer, SPB posted a statement on its Instagram story March 30, announcing that in addition to "Impractical Jokers" star Sal Vulcano, the night's headlining event would be a roast of President Judy Olian, hosted by former President John Lahey.

The speculation of a secret act began March 28, after WTG tickets went on sale. A flyer on the online ticket portal included Lahey's name, leading to several YikYak posts questioning his involvement. SPB President Shayna Fogarty told The Chronicle the flyer was mistakenly posted online.

"We planned to announce Lahey's involvement at some point before Wake the Giant, but the freshman in charge of distributing flyers emailed the wrong one to Campus Life," Fogarty said. "That ultimately led to the flyer being posted on the ticket portal, and after seeing theories being posted, we decided to clear

## Former QU president Lahey to roast Olian at Wake the Giant

up the confusion."

YikYak is a platform used to post anonymous discussion threads for users within a five-mile radius to view and interact with. Several posts within proximity of the Mount Carmel campus hypothesized the nature of Lahey's involvement at WTG.

"if lahey isn't wrestling tom ellett at wake the giant, i don't want it," one user wrote.

Prior to the announcement of the Olian roast, several students said they were disappointed with this year's performer.

"Sal is cool but the Giant would be in a coma if he was the only act," said junior entrepreneurship major Matt Scampi. "I want all the Impractical Jokers or none at all."

As for Lahey's return to Quinnipiac, he told The Chronicle he was looking forward to socializing with students again.

"I haven't been involved with students in an extracurricular capacity since the WiGo party," Lahey said. "This time around I'm looking forward to engaging in humorous discourse without repercussions, especially if it means I get to dunk on Judy."

## Scores & Schedule

### Wednesday 3/30

SOFT won 10-7 @ CCSU  
WLAX lost 13-7 vs. San Diego State

### Friday 4/1

WOT&F vs. William & Mary Colonial Relays  
(No Team Results)

### Saturday 4/2

WOT&F 4th Place vs. William & Mary  
Colonial Relays  
GOLF tied for 2nd of 15 @ JEL Intercollegiate  
MLAX lost 17-10 vs. Marist  
BASE won 5-2 vs. Canisius  
MTEN won 5-2 vs. Niagara  
WLAX lost 9-8 vs. Niagara  
SOFT lost 10-0 & 5-1 @ Canisius  
WTEN won 5-2 vs. Niagara  
BASE lost 15-9 vs. Canisius

### Sunday 4/3

BASE lost 5-4 vs. Canisius  
GOLF 3rd of 15 @ JEL Intercollegiate  
FH lost 2-1 vs. Fairfield  
FH tied 1-1 vs. Bryant  
FH lost 2-1 vs. Colgate  
SOFT lost 9-1 @ Niagara  
ACRO won 268.450-267.620 vs. Oregon  
SOFT lost 5-4 @ Niagara

### Monday 4/4

MTEN lost 7-0 vs. Monmouth

### Tuesday 4/5

WTEN won 6-0 vs. Monmouth

### Wednesday 4/6

WLAX vs. Fairfield 3 p.m.  
BASE @ Boston College 4 p.m.

### Thursday 4/7

MTEN & WTEN @ Rider 2 p.m.

### Friday 4/8

BASE @ Marist 3 p.m.

### Saturday 4/9

WOT&F vs. Southern Connecticut State  
GOLF @ Georgetown Invitational 9 a.m.  
MLAX @ Canisius 11 a.m.  
SOFT vs. Saint Peter's 12 p.m. & 2 p.m.  
FH vs. Holy Cross 12 p.m.  
BASE @ Marist 1 p.m.  
WTEN vs. Marist 1 p.m.  
WLAX @ Manhattan 2 p.m.  
ACRO @ Gannon 5 p.m.

### Sunday 4/10

GOLF @ Georgetown Invitational 9 a.m.  
GOLF @ Sacred Heart Spring Invite 9 a.m.  
SOFT vs. Manhattan 12 p.m. & 2 p.m.  
MTEN vs. Marist 1 p.m.  
BASE @ Marist 1 p.m.

# Juggling, Fortnite and goalie dads

Kat Henselder's path from elementary school basketball player to a top MAAC goalkeeper



CONNOR GORMAN/CHRONICLE

Head coach Tanya Kotowicz called Kat Henselder the team's 'anchor' and the 'hub of our defense.'

By MELINA KHAN  
News Editor

When she showed up to her first day of lacrosse practice, 11-year-old Kat Henselder had finally given in to the bids of her dad, a former lacrosse goalie. But she wasn't there because of him — she was there because her brother had recently succumbed to the same plea, and like most siblings, Henselder wanted to follow him.

What Henselder found that day was an intrigue for the crease and a lasting desire to experience the adrenaline it had to offer. It was the only place on the field where she could be all alone, doing something no one else on the field could do — protecting her net.

"My coach was walking around the field explaining what the crease (was) and said, 'No one is allowed in the crease, (only) the goalie can be in the crease,' and I was really determined to be allowed in the crease. I was immediately drawn to it," Henselder said.

Although Henselder comes from a lacrosse family, it wasn't her first sport of choice. Growing up, she preferred a basketball to a goalie helmet. Nowadays, the goal is the only place Henselder should be, as her teammate, junior midfielder Sophia Iaccino put it.

"She's really good at her job as a goalie, but if I put any other sport in front of her, it's kind of brutal to watch," Iaccino said, laughing. "We're getting her better and better at basketball. So that's a start."

Iaccino and Henselder have been roommates since last year, and Iaccino described her goalkeeper as quiet but "hilarious."

"It's a different side of her that you get to see living with her," Iaccino said. "She's studying often, but when she's not studying, she's a beast at Fortnite. And she's always a great person to live with and have by your side."

When she's not jumping out of the Battle Bus, facing shots is what Henselder does best. So far this season, Henselder has seen 203 shots, allowing only 106 goals. That puts her at roughly a 48% save percentage, third highest in the MAAC.

The junior health science studies major said her favorite part of playing lacrosse — specifically goalie — is the impact she can have on her team, as well as the "rush of adrenaline" that comes with facing a shot.

Off the field, Henselder's game preparation doesn't stop. When she has a frustrating practice or wants to sharpen her

reflexes, she turns to juggling to hone her hand-eye coordination. Like Henselder's introduction to lacrosse, her dad's hounding sparked her juggling career.

"My dad was like, 'All the goalies know how to juggle, (you) have to learn it,'" Henselder said. "I was just like, 'that's just silly,' and then I got to eighth or ninth grade and he was like, 'Everyone else can juggle, and you're the only goalie that can't on the team,' so that was when I sat down to learn."

When Henselder finally did give in, she discovered that juggling isn't as hard as she thought — just a five-minute YouTube video and three days. It's conceivably a testament to Henselder's "never-settle attitude," as head coach Tanya Kotowicz described her.

"I think more than anything, her focus has been how to make the unit better," Kotowicz said. "And it's only made her own play better, which is awesome."

Kotowicz said Henselder is the "hub of our defense" and "more talented than she knows."

"She is the anchor," Kotowicz said. "(She) just keeps bringing a little bit more every day, so obviously, we rely pretty heavily on her."

In addition to playing basketball growing up, Henselder ran cross country and winter track in high school between lacrosse seasons. It was also in high school when Henselder decided to play lacrosse at the collegiate level because of her experience with her travel team.

"My team was close knit, and I knew that in college I could get an experience similar with girls that all shared similar passions that would become my family," Henselder said.

When she underwent her college search, Henselder said she became interested in Quinnipiac after talking with Kotowicz during the recruiting process.

"I really liked how she viewed the team (and) how she was looking to change the program, and I just really wanted to be part of it," Henselder said.

Despite being in her first normal season as a junior due to the pandemic, Henselder's close bond with her team has given her an overwhelmingly positive college experience.

"Some people go to college and play sports, and they just hate going to practice every day," Henselder said. "That's really the difference here — everyone actually enjoys it. We're such a close knit team, we're always together. It's such a great environment to be in."

# Yeargin's Yard: Lack of pitching depth proves costly

## Baseball's subpar rotation struggling to match offensive production

By **BENJAMIN YEARGIN**  
Staff Writer

The Quinnipiac baseball team (6-16, 1-2 MAAC) opened its 2022 conference slate by losing two out of its three games against the Canisius Golden Griffins (11-13, 3-3 MAAC).

If Quinnipiac wants to consistently win, it needs to start junior left-handed pitcher Brandyn Garcia every day. Pure exaggeration, obviously, but there's a morsel of truth in that. In Garcia's seven starts on the year, the Bobcats have won four, which account for 66% of their total wins on the year.

In the first game, Garcia took the mound against Canisius sophomore right-handed pitcher Matt Duffy. Both pitchers showed off a similar arsenal: a fastball sitting around 90-92 mph complemented by a wipeout slider. Garcia has slightly more velocity on his breaking ball, sitting around 80 mph whereas Duffy consistently clocks in around the mid 70s. Both pitchers epitomize the phrase "keep it simple, stupid," simplifying their approach and ultimately dominating their starts.

Garcia made an early blunder, catching too much of the plate with a fastball. Golden Griffins sophomore infielder Max Grant hit it over the fence, giving Canisius a one-run lead. Save for that mistake, Garcia and Duffy filled the strikeout column through four innings. Garcia tallied seven, while Duffy had nine.

The Granby, Connecticut, native finished the day with six innings pitched, three hits allowed, two runs, one earned, five walks and nine strikeouts.

Garcia's lapse of command continues to determine the outcome of his starts this season, which has plagued him throughout his Bobcat career. Five walks in just over half a game is not a number to be proud of. Last year, he pitched 33.1 innings and yielded 16 walks, ninth most in the MAAC. Rider junior Frank Doelling, the conference leader in walks last year, pitched 57.1 innings and walked 29 batters.

Besides Garcia's stellar outing, Canisius' dismal defense was the second-biggest reason Quinnipiac came away with a win. Duffy allowed one earned run on the day, but while he was on the mound, the Golden Griffins gave up five runs.

Canisius committed two more errors. A passed ball went right through graduate student catcher Mike Mazzara's legs, letting the Bobcats score another run. Another Mazzara error, a pick-off throw to third that soared into left field, allowed Quinnipiac senior infielder Kyle Maves to trot home. The Bobcats also scored two runs in the fifth and sixth, giving them a 5-2 advantage.

Quinnipiac senior left-handed pitcher Anthony Ambrosino entered the game in the seventh inning and was magnificent, pitching three scoreless innings while allowing one



PEYTON MCKENZIE/CHRONICLE

**Junior Brandyn Garcia is 4-3 on the season, posting a 5.03 ERA in 39.1 innings.**

hit and zero runs. Ambrosino peppered his mid-80s mph fastball throughout the zone and used his curveball and changeup to keep the Golden Griffins hitters on their toes. He pitched the final three innings and recorded the save, leading the Bobcats to take game one.

Now let's look at what happens when Garcia is not on the mound and Quinnipiac has to rely on its bullpen, like it had in games two and three. Hint, hint: it lost both games.

In game two, which occurred 30 minutes after the Bobcats' game one win, Quinnipiac junior pitcher Kevin Seitter took the rubber. Seitter threw 97 pitches in four innings for the Bobcats, allowing eight hits, five earned runs and three walks while striking out four.

The Bobcats had to go to their bullpen early, first calling on graduate student pitcher Carter Poiry, who did not record an out on the mound. The walk bug bit him, as he only al-

lowed two hits, but four earned runs. He had two walks, one with the bases loaded and a crucial passed ball, which allowed another run to score.

Sophomore pitchers Chris Mazza and Andrew Cubberly were the next two out of the bullpen, both being responsible for a combined six runs, three earned.

The Quinnipiac offense was not stagnant or dead, which you would usually expect from a team that has struggled like the Bobcats. However, they did too little too late.

Quinnipiac batters tallied 11 hits in the second game, with senior first baseman Michael Kohn, and senior outfielders Gianni Arici and Keegan O'Connor all having multi-hit days. Senior infielder Sam LaChance pinch-hit and went deep for his second home run of the year.

The Bobcats exploded for a massive ninth inning, loading the bases. LaChance and junior outfielder Braydon Seaburg walked in a run and Kohn drove in two runs. That was all Quinnipiac had in the ninth inning, ultimately losing 15-9.

After the game, spectators heard head coach John Delaney voice his frustration toward the whole team in his post-game huddle. Expletive after expletive was fired onto the already exhausted Bobcats.

Game three was bright and early Sunday morning, with first-pitch at 9 a.m. Bobcats sophomore left-handed pitcher Tate Copeland got tattooed early, allowing a two-run home run in the top of the first inning, to graduate student outfielder Mike Steffan. The next inning, Copeland allowed a two-run shot to graduate student first baseman/outfielder Vinny Chiarenza. Copeland's day was over after that and senior pitcher Gabriel Romano came in for long relief.

Romano was phenomenal, going 6.1 innings, five hits, one earned run and striking out five. Romano's pitching was the principal reason Quinnipiac was still in this game. The Bobcats had a massive fifth inning, courtesy of Maves. The senior was involved in all three runs scored in the inning, driving in the first, forcing an error for the second run and scoring the third himself. Quinnipiac scored its final run courtesy of a double play from junior outfielder Anthony Donofrio.

The hosts didn't put up a fight in the bottom of the ninth, ending the game and securing a loss in the rubber match.

The Bobcats' offense is not bad, but the pitching is not deep enough to keep the team in games. When anyone besides Garcia or junior pitcher Jimmy Hagan (2.70 ERA in 13.1 innings) is on the mound, the team performs worse. It struggles to hold on runners, it allows too many walks and it puts too many pitches over the plate.

Of course, you'll get great outings from guys like Romano or Ambrosino, but ultimately Quinnipiac needs to have its pitchers go longer so it doesn't have to rely entirely on the bullpen.

The Bobcats will continue their season on April 6, at Boston College at 4 p.m.



CONNOR LAWLESS/CHRONICLE

**The Quinnipiac baseball team is 6-16 in 2022, having yet to win back-to-back games.**



AIDAN SHEEDY/CHRONICLE

# Problems on the professional stage

Quinnipiac women's hockey develops pro talent, but a divide at the next level fails to let it be seen

By CAMERON LEVASSEUR  
Associate Sports Editor

The prolonged anticipation. The roar of the crowd. The sigh of relief as a lifelong dream is finally realized.

That's the typical draft-day storyline for any of the major professional sports in the U.S. But it was not the case for Taylor Girard, a former Quinnipiac standout forward who was selected first overall by the Connecticut Whale in the 2021 National Women's Hockey League (now the Premier Hockey Federation) entry draft.

As Girard's name was called, the Macomb, Michigan, native was met not with the cheers of a packed arena, but rather a crowd of 12-year-olds at the Premier Ice Prospects Camp in New York where she was coaching at the time.

"After I got drafted, I came downstairs and it was kind of like a huge party," Girard said. "That was something that was super special that I feel like a lot of people in women's sports don't really get to have — that kind of 'whoa' moment."

Those "whoa" moments, while on a smaller scale than other sports, are becoming more common in women's hockey, a sport that has shown significant growth in the 21st century.

"I'm incredibly optimistic about where we're going," Quinnipiac women's hockey head coach Cass Turner said. "You look at the excitement around the Olympics ... the product, just how good women's hockey is. I think it's exciting, but we're at a really pivotal moment to come together and create products that people can watch all year round."

Both Girard and former Quinnipiac goaltender Abbie Ives are part of the generation of players looking to seize the moment to bring the sport to the forefront.

"The dream ... and what I want for all the girls that are coming up is to have this really good, solid league to aspire to," Ives said. "So hopefully that's coming in the future."

Ives and Girard are two of 15 Quinnipiac alumni to have played locally for the Whale, the largest such pipeline in franchise history.

"I do think it's helped in Connecticut because you do see these young girls going and watching women play," Turner said. "They look at it and they say, 'wow,' ... 'I can go and try to be Kelly Babstock one day, I can go and try to be Abbie Ives,' and they look up to these women, and I think that's the amazing thing."

The Quinnipiac women's hockey team has been a force in developing professional talent in its 20 years of existence, largely due to the way it approaches the game.

"We really work to collaborate with our athletes in a way that

they're invested in their development, but (also) in their happiness and their success in enjoying hockey every day," Turner said.

Ives credits the Bobcats' coaching staff for allowing her to grow both on and off the ice.

"I think it's just the staff's attention to detail and the workouts they put you through, and the prep they put you through," Ives said. "It just teaches you how to be a successful, first, hockey player, but just a successful worker. Cass is unreal. She's so detailed and she just works so hard. It's the same thing for Coach B — Brijesh Patel — the strength coach."

One of the biggest issues stunting the growth of the game is the divide between the two major professional women's leagues. The PHF and the Professional Women's Hockey Players Association have been at odds since the latter league's formation in the wake of the Canadian Women's Hockey League folding in 2019.

A large portion of the animosity between the two leagues stems from the management of Dani Rylan Kearney, the founder and former commissioner of the NWHL prior to its rebrand. Rylan Kearney infamously oversaw the league's salary halving during its second season, which spurred a number of players to move on from the league.

"I think what everybody wants is just all the best players playing in one league, making a living salary and having the resources to be real professionals and the facilities to be real professionals," Ives said.

While there are improvements being made on the financial front in the PHF, with the salary cap set to more than double to \$750,000 next season on top of a two-team expansion, many have called for the NHL to subsidize the league much like the NBA does with the WNBA. However, the NHL has made clear it will not do so until a single unified league exists.

While both leagues can see their own individual successes, the consensus is that in order to reach new heights the PHF and PWHPA need to put aside their differences and work to unify, something that Turner is optimistic will be a reality 10 years down the line.

"I'm hoping that we're sitting here saying that there is a professional league for it," Turner said. "There's a place to play and really earn a viable wage and have women's hockey players, those names be common names not just for young girls, but for fans, for sports fans, for hockey fans everywhere."

Talent-wise, the growth is there, as Turner noted while reflecting back on her own playing days with Brown and later the Toronto Aeros of the old NWHL. The league was later disbanded in 2007 and refounded in 2015.

"It's just so much more skilled," Turner said. "There's more college teams, there's more money in terms of budgets for programs, there's more girls playing all across North America and across the world ... there used to just be a few talented players and now you have a ton of talented players."

Women's hockey is on the rise, with Quinnipiac alumni helping lead the charge. The players are incredibly talented and there's a clear appetite for the sport, as attendance records were set in 2019. It's up to those involved with the day-to-day operations to realize the gravity of the moment they're in and forgo their grievances for the good of the game.



CONNOR LAWLESS/CHRONICLE ARCHIVES (2020)

Taylor Girard recorded 33 points in two seasons with the Bobcats from 2019-21.