

# Zoning application for South Quad project delayed

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# Quinnipiac shuts off half-dozen blue light systems for a week amid construction

By CAT MURPHY and CARLEIGH BECK

Some students are raising concerns again about campus safety after Quinnipiac University disabled six blue light systems on the Mount Carmel campus between Oct. 21, and Oct. 28.

There are 56 total blue light phones located throughout Quinnipiac’s three campuses. However, the six disabled boxes in North Lot accounted for nearly half of the 13 blue light emergency systems located on Quinnipiac’s Mount Carmel campus.

Chief of Public Safety Tony Reyes notified the Quinnipiac community via email on Oct. 21, that six blue light emergency systems located throughout North Lot would be out of service for an “indefinite” period of time due to construction.

“My understanding is that they had to electrically disable certain boxes due to construction in the lot,” Reyes wrote in an email to the Chronicle on Oct. 23. “The affected boxes were all on the same grid.”

Reyes later wrote to the Chronicle in an email Oct. 28, that the half-dozen disabled blue light phones had since been returned to service.

Yale University, which is approximately a 10-mile drive from Quinnipiac’s Mount Carmel campus, has a similarly sized campus and undergraduate student population in comparison to Quinnipiac. Although Yale is located within a city, there are more than 500 blue light systems on the university’s 261-acre New Haven campus, according to Yale’s website.

Unlike Quinnipiac’s Mount Carmel campus, which has one blue light per every 19 acres of land, Yale has one blue light per every half-acre of land.

“Personally, I think it’s been an issue ever since I’ve gotten here,” said Kevin Barry, a junior health science studies major in the dual-degree physical therapy program. “There are several spots on campus

where you look around and you just can’t see one.”

Barry, who commutes to Mount Carmel campus, also expressed frustration with the location of blue lights around campus.

“(Quinnipiac claims) that having them on the perimeter is somehow helpful,” Barry said. “I think integrating more within the campus itself would just be way more beneficial.”

Reyes told the Chronicle that blue light emergency phones “are now considered by many in the industry to be outdated.”

“Studies show they are rarely used because almost everyone now possesses a cell phone,” Reyes wrote. “We continue to use (blue lights) at QU because they serve as a visible deterrent, and they provide (an) extra layer of safety.”

There is currently no initiative to permanently disable any of the blue lights on any of Quinnipiac’s campuses, Reyes said.

However, he added that the emergency systems are “just one of the many strategies

the university has implemented over the years to improve campus safety,” and directed students to download the RAVE Guardian mobile app.

The app is “like having a Blue Light emergency call phone in the palm of your hand,” according to the Public Safety section of Quinnipiac’s Undergraduate Student Handbook.

“Earlier this year, QU renewed their contract with the RAVE security platform and upgraded the platform to improve effectiveness and efficiency,” Reyes told the Chronicle. “It gives the user immediate and direct access to campus dispatch, 911, and local emergency responders.”

Reyes wrote in the initial email on Oct. 21, to students that Public Safety officers would “maintain high visibility in the area” while the blue lights were electrically disabled.

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Mount Carmel campus rezoning for South Quad project faces repeated delays, public criticism

By CAT MURPHY  
Staff Writer

The Hamden Planning and Zoning Commission moved to continue Quinnipiac University’s application to rezone the Mount Carmel campus for a third time on Oct. 25, amid public criticism from some local residents.

University officials are aiming to alter the campus’ existing residential-two zone prior to beginning construction on the three buildings identified as part of Quinnipiac’s \$244 million South Quad project.

An R-2 zone is meant “to encourage development of low-density residential uses,” according to Hamden zoning regulations.

“For years, we’ve always had to go get variances and things because the underlying zoning of the university is an R-2 district,” said Sal Filardi, vice president for facilities and capital planning at Quinnipiac, in an interview Oct. 21. “It has a lot of limitations, as if you’re building all single family homes.”

Quinnipiac officials are hoping to change the entirety of the campus’ underlying zone to a planning and development district.

A planned development district zone is “intended to encourage and accommodate unique and desirable development that is not able to be accommodated by conventional zoning,” according to a zoning update issued by the commission Oct. 13.

“The Mount Carmel campus currently is a residential-two, so some of those standards are probably not the most appropriate for university type development,” Hamden Town Planner Eugene Livshits told the Chronicle on Sept. 13. “So, what the planning developing district does is allow them some flexibility within their development as they’re proposing to do an academic building, the residence hall and the business school on the site.”

The Hamden Planning and Zoning Commission adopted the PDD zoning regulations in July 2022. Although PDD zoning



CAT MURPHY/CHRONICLE

Bernard Pellegrino, an attorney representing Quinnipiac University, presented the university’s rezoning application for the new South Quad.

is typically only available in transit zones, Hamden town zoning regulations carve out an exception for properties owned and operated by universities.

“We actually helped them craft the language to put it forward,” Filardi said. “It keeps us out of trying to get variances through the Zoning Board of Appeals process.”

The multi-step PDD approval process requires the commission to approve an applicant’s initial concept development plan before the applicant can submit a final site development plan.

The commission planned to hear the university’s initial PDD application at a bi-monthly meeting on Sept. 13. However, Joe McDonagh, one of the five commissioners present, revealed his involvement in “some public issues with the university” and recused himself from voting.

As a result, there were not enough commissioners to form a quorum, and the hearing was continued to the commission’s next meeting on Sept. 27, according to the meeting minutes.

Bernard Pellegrino, an attorney at Pellegrino Law Firm in New Haven, Connecticut, presented the university’s zoning application at the meeting on Sept. 27.

Pellegrino, who said the Mount Carmel campus’ current R-2 zone does not “effectively recognize” the purpose of the property, stated in his presentation that a PDD would “more appropriately regulate” the property.

Several Quinnipiac administrators, including Chief Experience Officer Tom Ellett, Provost Debra Liebowitz and Vice President for Equity, Inclusion, and Leadership Development Don Sawyer, also spoke in favor of the application during the meeting.

The length of the university’s three-hour-long presentation prompted the commission to again continue the public hearing to Nov. 15.

The commission opened the hearing to public comments for the first time at the meeting on Oct. 25.

Fifteen members of the public, including multiple faculty members, local officials and Hamden residents, spoke in favor of the university’s application.

More than a dozen members of the public, the majority of whom were Hamden residents, voiced their opposition to the PDD application. Several individuals supported Quinnipiac’s South Quad project but questioned the scope of the university’s rezoning, saying that it would lead to unwanted development and be environmentally detrimental.

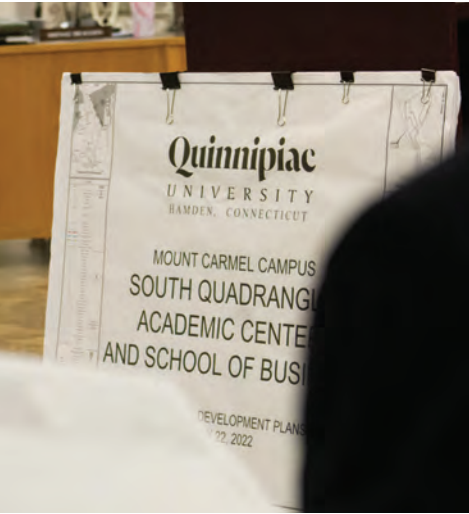
The commission limited public comments to three minutes due to the number of speakers. Bethany Zemba, vice president for strategy and community relations, interrupted John Parese, an attorney representing an individual whose property borders the Mount Carmel campus, to inform the commission that he had been speaking for 17 minutes.

Although the chair of the commission allowed Parese to continue and later asked for his notes, the incident prompted criticism from several individuals in attendance.

“When one of our people goes a little long, somebody from Quinnipiac wants to yell he’s been talking,” one member of the public said. “The optics here are it’s a conflict of interest, and that’s a strong optic with a lot of taxpayers in this town.”

The commission continued the public hearing on the university’s application for a third time after public comments ran past 10:30 p.m. Pellegrino said he will present the university’s “rebuttal” to the public’s concerns at the meeting Nov. 15.

John Morgan, associate vice president for public relations, declined on Oct. 27, to comment on the matter, stating that “the university is not commenting on any aspect of the South Quad building project while the Planning and Zoning Commission’s public hearing on our PDD application is going on.”



CAT MURPHY/CHRONICLE

Local residents questioned Quinnipiac University’s South Quad rezoning plan during a Hamden Planning and Zoning Committee meeting Oct. 25.

BLUE LIGHTS from cover

“The North lot is one of the most patrolled areas of the Mt. Carmel campus,” Reyes wrote to the Chronicle. “There is a security gate at the entrance of the lot that is staffed around the clock, and officers regularly patrol the lot and surrounding areas.”

Some students voiced frustration with the lack of operational blue lights but said that the increased presence of Public Safety

officers in the affected parking lot mitigated some of their concerns.

“It definitely is a little bit concerning,” Barry said. “As long as they’re doing something to make up for that, then it shouldn’t be too much of an issue.”

Olivia Paleski, a junior 3+1 advertising and integrated communications major, agreed that the university took the proper safety precautions while the blue lights were electrically disabled.

“When I first read (the email), I thought

that it was relatively unsafe,” Paleski said. “But just the other day, I saw a public safety vehicle around North Lot, so that kind of made it somewhat better.”

However, other students expressed concerns about the potential safety hazards posed by the disabled blue light systems.

“I haven’t used it myself, but I think it’s really nice to have that sense of security,” said Haley Castillo, a first-year 3+1 biochemistry major. “If you’re in certain areas, what if you need it and it’s not working?”



# Ukraine, abortion, social media: QU Democrats, College Republicans host annual debate

By **KRYSTAL MILLER** and **ZACK HOCHBERG**

The Quinnipiac University Democrats and College Republicans organizations came together to discuss pressing political topics through a debate in the Carl Hansen Student Center on Oct. 26. This year was the fifth annual debate and has been moderated by Quinnipiac Political Science Association.

Zachary Foti, a first-year political science major who represented the Republican side, said the topics discussed were valuable and pressing current issues. He said there were civil interactions on both sides of the debate.

“I think it was a very well rounded debate overall, covering different aspects of issues in today’s world,” Foti said.

When it comes to the Democrats’ side, Paul Cappuzzo, a senior political science and economics double major and president of the Democrats, said the debate showcased that both sides respected each other.

“I think that you can still disagree with people and get along at the end of the day,” Cappuzzo said.

Being able to find a common ground in today’s intense political climate is beneficial for both sides because they were able to have a successful discussion, said Miles Ellsworth, a junior accounting major and treasurer of the Republicans. Ellsworth went into the debate hoping to learn more about the other side and maybe even change his mind.

“I think it’s nights like tonight, I think really gives us all hope for the future, and hope that we can really unite our country,” Ellsworth said.

Nearly 8 in 10 Americans say Republican and Democratic voters cannot agree on basic facts according to 2018 data from Pew Research Center.

One of the topics debated was whether the U.S should support Ukraine in The North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The Democrats stated how NATO has helped fight conflicts

and terrorism across the world, which is why it is essential for NATO to allow membership for Ukraine.

“The primary objective of the organization is to guarantee the freedoms and security of its members political and military,” said Stephanie Suarez, a senior political science major and general board Liaison.

The Republicans argued that allowing Ukraine into NATO would have the U.S. suffering great consequences for the economy and military.

“Has the United States of America not helped enough to the Ukraine already?” said Thomas Taheny, a first-year economics major. “We have spent 54 billion dollars in defense of the Ukraine and the Russian invasion.”

The parties were then questioned why there is a double standard for supposed safety when it comes to the issue of censorship. The Republicans discussed the issue surrounding social media and the First Amendment to the constitution, which deals with free speech.

“This is essentially a tool that big tech companies are using and with influence by the government, to control who gets to have a platform of what they deem is appropriate speech and conduct,” said Kevin Alston, a junior business analytics major representing the Republican side.

The Democrats’ argument centered around social media platforms are mostly private companies and regulate four types of speech: hate speech, obscenity, misinformation and harassment. Although the First Amendment protects people from government censorship, social media does not need to comply with the same standards.

“Whether it be a celebrity like Kanye West or a political figure like Donald Trump, social media platforms have every right to censor what a person says when they are spreading obscenity,” said Taylor Byo, a first-year graphic and interactive design major.

Both parties debated reproductive rights and sparked a more heated discussion.

The Democrats argument focused on the notion that abortions will always happen and making them illegal creates an unsafe and possibly deadly situation for women across the country.

On the other hand, the Republicans argued that a federal abortion ban would help promote safe sex and that life begins at conception and not when the child is born.

The Democrats and Republicans also discussed prescription drugs and whether or not physicians should be more educated on the prices of the drugs they prescribe. While both sides agreed that the price of drugs was an important issue in the United States, the parties disagreed on how to fix it.

Money spent on healthcare and related activities has reached \$4.1 trillion in 2020, which is \$12,530 per person, according to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services from 2020.

Thomas Taheny, a first-year economics major, argued for the Republicans in favor of pa-

tient privacy. Taheny noted that it’s the physician’s job to recommend the best possible cure to a patient’s problem, but it’s the patient’s job to understand what drugs they can afford and to ask for other remedies if there are some available.

“I don’t believe it’s a physician’s place to feel the need to have to before every patient to have to look at their insurance, how affordable it is for each individual patient,” Taheny said. “I think that’s the patient’s privacy and if we are maintaining that it should be kept with the patient.”

Nicholas Fizzano, a first-year political science major who represented the Democrats, said he wanted to have a healthy civil debate, which he feels was achieved during his discussion of pharmaceutical prices.

“I just wanted to really hit on affordability and not only should doctors have to tell their patients about their affordability, but I want them to always be able to tell their patients you can afford this,” Fizzano said.



JACK SPIEGEL/CHRONICLE

**Zachary Foti (left), a first-year political science major and Paul Cappuzzo (right), a senior political science and economics double major and the president of the Quinnipiac Democrats, were among those who spoke at the Political Science Association Debate.**

# Students gain access to new equipment, workout facilities in upgraded Recreation and Wellness Center

By **JACKLYN PELLEGRINO** and **A.J. NEWTH**

Quinnipiac University students are now able to utilize the new cardio wing and attend fitness classes in the new studios of the renovated Recreation and Wellness Center.

The new center features a yoga studio, a large dance studio, a zen room with outdoor access and a new cardio wing, which all opened for student use Oct. 24.

Tami Reilly, director of fitness and well-being, said the new cardio wing has new treadmills, ellipticals and step-mills and there will be rowing machines, bikes and a row of heavy bags in the future. The new equipment includes built-in technology so students can watch TV, sync their smart-

watch and wirelessly charge their phone while in the facility.

“We’ve also moved over any dance-based fitness class into the large dance studio, we did not get all of our equipment in yet, that’s why we only moved that piece,” Reilly said. “We have our barre classes, our Zumba, our balletone and we’ve moved all of those into the new studio.”

Reilly said that her hope is that students who might have been intimidated by the old space will feel more comfortable and inclined to attend classes.

“I’m most excited to deliver a different view of what fitness and wellness can be,” Reilly said. “It’s so much more than just (getting) on the treadmill.”

In addition to new studios and equipment, there are a variety of outdoor spaces coming to the new center such as outdoor seating surrounding the building, an amphitheater and a rain garden, Reilly said. In addition, she said the medium dance studio will have a retractable wall with an outside terrace so students can also take classes outside.

Reilly said some of the classes that will be offered include more meditations, bootcamp style classes like “butts and guts” and a “gymology” class, which is a class that focuses on educating first time gym users on how to lift and exercise properly.

Students can sign up for a multitude of student-taught classes 24 hours in advance by signing in to the website IMLeagues using their Quinnipiac email address.

Ellie Bissell, a junior 3+1 biology major and balletone instructor said balletone is a ballet-based fitness class that doesn’t require any dance experience and takes ballet and dance inspired moves and puts it into a fitness format.

“I love having new people come and see what balletone is, it’s a very niche thing, everyone knows what Zumba is, what spin is...but balletone is pretty unique and not very popular yet,” Bissell said.

Alyssa Carroll, a junior political science major and Zumba instructor wrote in an email to the Chronicle that the new space has a lot more room with “amazing views” of the Quad and library.

Carroll wrote that the new space “definitely has its perks,” such as a new sound system that

is being installed and more natural lighting. Although, she said she still feels like she is teaching in a construction zone.

“The room technically isn’t ready to use, as the speakers still have covers on them (we use temporary speakers in the corner of the room) and it looks like a water filling station is in the process of being installed so I would almost prefer to wait teaching until the room is in its fully glory,” Carroll wrote.

Students are able to use the new cardio wing Monday-Thursday and Sunday from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m., Friday from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Michael Dieli, a first-year business undeclared major, used a treadmill in the new cardio wing and said the equipment was definitely an improvement from the previous facilities.

“It was a little confusing at first because there were so many gadgets and apps you can use... but it’s really interesting that you can watch stuff, they have a Kindle app so you can read while you’re running or walking which I thought was really cool,” Dieli said.

The Recreation and Wellness Center will have even more spaces available to students come Thanksgiving, Reilly said. Additionally, she said the juice bar and some fine tuning things will be coming in January, which will mark the completion of the new center.

“Moving into finals I think we can do some fun programming in there to get people to relax and destress before they enter finals,” Reilly said. “We will come back ready to utilize the whole building in January.”



PEYTON MCKENZIE/CHRONICLE

**The cardio wing of the Recreation and Wellness Center opened for students Oct. 24.**



# Opinion



GOV. TOM WOLF/FLICKR

## Why Fetterman is the better man

### How the Pennsylvania Lieutenant Governor can make the jump to senator

By **JOE BASKE**  
Contributing Writer

Amid an onslaught of attacks following a lackluster debate performance against his Republican counterpart, Dr. Mehmet Oz, Pennsylvania’s Democratic senatorial candidate John Fetterman’s run to shift the balance of power in the Senate has started to stagnate.

While Fetterman’s eloquence has declined tremendously following a stroke he suffered in May, the left cannot overlook political competency with so much at stake.

Fetterman’s dedication to human rights and the preservation of democracy is evident in roughly every policy he’s either personally enacted or passionately pushed for.

As mayor, Fetterman officiated same-sex weddings in 2013 before it was legal to do so in his state, per The Advocate. Likewise, he is pro-union and a vocal supporter of the Protecting the Right to Organize Act – a policy that would enable workers to democratically organize for better wages and increased benefits, according to NPR.

In terms of health care, Fetterman is supportive of universal health care coverage, according to his website. Universal healthcare should sound appealing to anyone who doesn’t want to live their life with the impending threat of any uncontrollable health scare financially devastating their future.

Endorsed by prominent activist organizations such as the Human Rights Campaign as well as the Planned Parenthood Action Fund, Fetterman is far from a moderate, run-of-the-mill Democrat content with the social state of the U.S. This is what should matter.

In a political environment where the left too often finds themselves forced to defend themselves against the impassioned political activism of the right, Fetterman’s proposals will constantly work to enact further progressive change as a direct counter to Republicans’ aggressive push to achieve the widespread revocation of human rights.

However, Fetterman’s senatorial victory is far from a guarantee.

After a Sept. 15, poll from polling website FiveThirtyEight revealed that Fetterman possessed 51.2% of Pennsylvania’s support in comparison to Oz’s 41%, the Hollywood personality has managed to creep his way back into contention, now facing a miniscule 1.1% deficit to his opposition.

The Oct. 26, senatorial debate between the two has played a crucial role in this dropoff.

After Fetterman’s stroke forced him to take three months off the campaign trail, the nominee made the choice to step back into the public light before fully recovering from the health scare – a decision that, while necessary, nonetheless provided his opposition with ample ammunition.

While on the debate stage, the lingering symptoms of Fetterman’s stroke were put on national display.

As a result of an auditory processing disorder sustained during the incident, the candidate relied on two oversized teleprompters featuring a live closed captioning system to process the questions of the moderators and responses of his opponent. The quippy, fast-paced nature of the debate essentially guaranteed that the night would be an uphill battle for Fetterman.

“Hello, goodnight everybody,” certainly wasn’t the most ideal of openers.

By the time the curtains had closed, Fetterman’s roller coaster of a performance had sparked doubt and confusion among voters.

Naturally, the Republicans desperately at-

tached themselves to the aesthetics of the event, equating the soundness of Fetterman’s policy proposals with the quippiness and pizzaz with which he delivered them.

Fetterman’s fight to turn health care into a basic human right, raise the minimum wage, legalize marijuana and enact large-scale prison reform were nonchalantly overlooked by mainstream right-wing critics as they proceeded to hyper-focus on the insignificant optical mishaps of the recovering stroke victim.

This brand of devastating political cynicism has evolved into the norm not only among voters, but among media outlets alike.

As the November election date creeps closer, conservative media outlets have shifted their attention to degrading the Democratic nominee as a quiet concession to voters that they can’t actually find a way to speak positively on the man they’re supposedly in support of.

“Fetterman Failure: Why no one can spin his painful debate performance,” was the headline that dominated the cover of Fox News’ website following the debate.

“The Lieutenant Governor repeated he ‘supports fracking’ three times in one sentence at Tuesday night’s debate,” the articles’ subheadline reads.

In hyper-fixating on the minor oratory mishaps of a man in the midst of recovering from a stroke, right-leaning news sources have shown their hand. Such coverage exemplifies what can

only be interpreted as Fox News’ best attempt to once again redirect the conversation away from the destructive political propositions of the candidate they’ve found themselves cornered into endorsing by ways of blind, uncritical party loyalty that has plagued the right in recent years.

What’s more: this race is bigger than Fetterman. The current Senate consists of 50 Republicans, 48 Democrats, and two Independents – both of whom are currently caucusing with the Democrats. This divisive 50/50 split in political perspective has significantly decreased the efficiency with which policy can be passed, stagnating the political ambitions of both parties.

For spectators such as myself that don’t reside within the borders of Pennsylvania, this is what makes this race so important — its outcome won’t only influence the policy enacted within the singular state in which the election is being held, but will instead drastically alter the balance of power in one of the government’s most prominent political institutions.

With Republican Sen. Pat Toomay having already served two terms, his decision not to run for reelection has opened up a Senate seat that could play an integral role in the Democrats regaining the majority say.

A Democrat taking the place of the incumbent Toomay in Pennsylvania would play an integral role in the passing of progressive policy that this country desperately needs. This would follow the increased intensity with which the right has applied throughout their ongoing pursuit to force regressive policy down the throats of a nation overwhelmingly comprised of voters opposed to such practices.

In the midst of America’s ever-melancholic political atmosphere, voting out of contention for a candidate’s opposition has become a common ritual at the ballot. While Fetterman’s opposition – a celebrity doctor who decided on a whim to fulfill a fantastical impulse to run for Senate – certainly doesn’t make things difficult for this ever-expanding base of voters, Fetterman may be one of the few candidates truly worth getting excited about.

**“Fetterman is far from a moderate, run-of-the-mill Democrat content with the social state of the U.S. This is what should matter.”**

**– Joe Baske**  
**CONTRIBUTING WRITER**



# Opinion

## Swift’s ‘Anti-Hero’ music video controversy should be part of a larger conversation about weight stigmatization

By **MELINA KHAN**  
Editor-in-Chief

As a massive Taylor Swift fan, when her tenth studio album alongside the music video for one of the album’s tracks, “Anti-Hero,” dropped Oct. 21, I felt my serotonin levels almost instantaneously increase. Since then, I’ve been shuffling the album any chance I get, but I’ve found myself with complicated feelings after recent conversations around the aforementioned music video.

In “Anti-Hero,” Swift is describing her stream of critical internal thoughts, repeating an all-too-familiar sentiment for all the overthinkers out there, the idea that “I’m the problem.”

The music video brings all those thoughts to life “The Parent Trap” style, with two Swifts personifying the two sides of her inner monologue.

What’s caused some controversy, though, is a scene that aimed to address Swift’s eating disorder. In a 10-second clip, Swift stepped on a scale that promptly reads “fat.” After Swift turned to the antihero version of herself, the latter shook her head left to right, the universal indicator for “not good.”

The insinuation that being fat is not okay has led some to label the scene as fatphobic.

According to Boston Medical Center, fatphobia is “the implicit and explicit bias of overweight individuals that is rooted in a sense of blame and presumed moral failing.”

On the flip side, some say the scene is aiming to address the struggle of battling an eating disorder.

After the inclusion of the scale scene began to cause controversy, the scene was edited to remove the word “fat” from the video on Apple Music and YouTube on Oct. 26. Swift has not commented publicly on the conversation to date.

I think the situation is much more complicated than just “OK” or “not OK.”

An artist should use their platform to open up about their personal struggles in a way that

feels meaningful to them. As Swift directed and wrote the music video, the scale scene was how she chose to portray her eating disorder.

The fear of gaining weight, or obesophobia, is a symptom for many who struggle with eating disorders, according to the Cleveland Clinic. This means that a fear of fatness could very likely be something that Swift faces in her eating disorder, and calling that unacceptable as many have in the context of the scale scene invalidates a condition that is faced by many.

As someone with an eating disorder, I understand the fear of gaining weight is a deeply personal one, and I empathized with Swift when I first saw the scene.

However, someone who has a massive audience like Swift (whose “Anti-Hero” video has racked up more than 44 million views as of publication), must also consider the responsibility to open up about their struggles in a way that does not cause harm to others. The scene is still impactful without the inclusion of the word “fat” on the scale, as it now appears.

The argument that we should not villainize fat people for simply existing is a valid one. However, it’s important to consider why the perception that fatness is not OK exists in the first place.

American women idealize thinness at a higher rate than women in other countries, according to a 2018 study. In a thin-ideal culture, images of pro-thinness are perpetuated in the media, therefore spreading the message that it is not OK to be fat.

For example, a 1998 study found that after Western media and television was introduced in Fiji, 74% of Fijian girls and women reported feeling too fat. Prior to this media shift, slim Fijian women were seen as “weak,” a Fijian beauty queen told researchers.

Hence, the larger cultural emphasis on thinness needs to be a more significant conversation than the fear of fatness.



ILLUSTRATION BY AMANDA RIHA

Swift has openly spoken about her eating disorder in the past, such as in her 2020 Netflix documentary “Miss Americana.” In the film, Swift said the influx of photos and criticism about her physical appearance in the media triggered her disordered eating.

In a 2020 interview with Variety, Swift said she is “not as articulate as (she) should be,” about her eating disorder.

“There are so many people who could talk about it in a better way. But all I know is my own experience,” Swift said at the time.

Seeing Swift be more open about her struggles has led me to reevaluate my perception of celebrities, especially ones as private as Swift. Though people in the public eye often seem to have problems that differ vastly from those of regular people, they struggle with issues like mental health just like the rest of us.

Swift’s use of her platform to discuss her mental health is important to increase awareness and break down stigmatization. A 2020 study in the Academic Psychiatry journal

found that discussion of mental illness by celebrities in the media increases awareness of and normalizes these issues.

I understand the all-consuming toll an eating disorder can take on one’s mental health, so I appreciate Swift’s vulnerability in sharing her experience. After all, the song is about self-criticism, which is more pervasive in individuals with eating disorders than those without, according to a 2017 study by The British Psychological Society.

As a public figure and artist, there is significant value in Swift opening up about her eating disorder, and though cliché, portraying herself stepping on a scale is how she chose to do it.

While the conversations around whether the scene perpetuates fatphobia are important ones, the fear of gaining weight and feeling fat is unfortunately not unfamiliar for those struggling with eating disorders. The controversy around Swift’s video is part of an important discussion on the stigmatization of fatness in our culture.

## We’re all on the same internet, stop gatekeeping

By **A.J. NEWTH**  
Staff Writer

There is no such thing as a “fake fan.”

The internet can be a blackhole of manipulative theories, and gatekeeping is one of them. The Cambridge Dictionary defines gatekeeping in its essence as “the activity of trying to control who gets particular resources, power or opportunities, and who does not.”

I noticed the term “gatekeeping” became increasingly popular during the pandemic, which led to seeking out and exposing gatekeepers becoming a popular pastime for members of Generation Z on social media. All platforms have experienced some spike in

gatekeeping fads, however, this trend is most frequent on TikTok, according to Bustle.

Gatekeeping can come in many forms, which is why it’s difficult to choose a side on whether or not gatekeeping is positive or negative. Being a gatekeeper could mean a celebrity refusing to share the brand of their favorite drink with fans for fear of it selling out, or it could mean withholding your favorite brownie recipe to a friend, according to Insider.

I feel that gatekeeping has the largest influence on the internet community, which largely consists of Generation Z and younger. It’s impossible to scroll too far on TikTok before running into a video in which you may like the creator’s outfit, recipe or activity of choice. Many viewers will choose to leave a comment asking where a piece of clothing is from out of curiosity or interest in that particular item.

The trouble comes when the creator withholds that information for no apparent reason except to keep it to themselves. Is a pair of leggings from Forever 21 really so special that it needs to be kept a secret? What happened to the online community of people who loved finding new things and sharing their discoveries with other users?

This is why we must go against gatekeeping, because it doesn’t only apply to Chrissy Teigen’s recipes or Gigi Hadid’s skin care tips, it comes from the average person and it’s toxic.

Another hotspot for gatekeeping is the idea that fans of media, music and television are gatekeepers because they refuse to share their fandom with newcomers, according to Forbes. Not every fandom is like this, and many “original” fans welcome new followers and subscribers with open arms. However, this is not always the case.

Music is a big target for potential gatekeeping. Many listeners will find a band that is considered “underground,” a term used to describe artists who are fairly new to the industry and mostly unknown. As these artists rise to fame, those original fans will tout their previous knowledge of the band or even withhold song names from other curious listeners, according to Musician Wave.

I believe gatekeeping music comes from a long history of glorifying band groupies, but trying to keep music private makes no sense. Music is for everyone and there’s no point in keeping it to yourself. As much as I support individuals having their own preferences, why not share them with others and celebrate a bond over a shared interest?

Melodies and rhythms are not the only victims of gatekeeping. Television, art and almost every media imaginable are also potential recipients. Content creators, streamers, celebrities and actors are all fair play in the world of gatekeeping and it needs to come to an end.

The purpose of media is to create enjoyment for the viewers. I don’t understand

the point of claiming individuals are “fake fans” simply because they are new to the content. Our society is lucky enough to have the freedom to enjoy whatever content we want, so why not embrace that instead of closing it off?

I understand there is a distinct difference between privacy and gatekeeping. Some things should remain private, like keeping a location private to protect it from tourism, a popular choice by many locals in exotic places. Personal information is also another thing that should remain private. I do not consider these decisions to be examples of gatekeeping.

However, media should not be gatekept. Share your knowledge, your access and your opportunity with those around you and watch as an entire community is created over shared enjoyment. Imagine the friendships that can be built through appreciation of a new band, movie or artist.

Consider how many things you have in common with those around you. Is there a favorite television show that you enjoy with your friends? A favorite song that’s played in the car whenever you drive with a specific group of people? A favorite local restaurant that would not be the same without company?

Gatekeeping is such an unnecessary part of our internet culture. There is no point in discovering something and having no one to share it with. Media belongs to everyone, no matter if you’re the first fan or the last.



ILLUSTRATION BY ALEX KENDALL



# Arts & Life

## Live music, writing and celebration: Quinnipiac students win the Massaro Prizes

By **KRYSTAL MILLER**  
Associate News Editor

Students and faculty gathered in the Buckman Theater on Oct. 27 to celebrate late Quinnipiac University student and aspiring writer Tony Michael Massaro.

Massaro was a sophomore philosophy major at Quinnipiac when he died in an off-campus biking incident in 2018. His mother Linda Massaro said he had been writing his entire life and had won awards for his writing.

“I thought that it was just a natural way to honor Tony and to create a legacy of his memory and his passion by creating number one a scholarship for philosophy majors, and then starting a student contest, which will help students and preserve the importance and beauty of writing,” Linda Massaro said.

The Anthony Massaro Endowed Scholarship Fund was given to Quinnipiac student Brian Daly this year. The Massaro Prize series is a satirical writing competition that has 10 total winners. The event included live music and free pizza, and students gathered in the theater to listen to the winners announced and read out their submissions.

The Massaro Prizes were \$1,000 in total, including one \$200 gifted wit prize, two \$150 grand wit prizes, three \$100 great wit prizes and four \$50 very-very good wit prizes. Associate professor of English Timothy Dansdill said the prizes were according to which submissions were the most witty, playful and satirical.

“From my son, Tony, in a world of words, he used his pen very skillfully to make his voice heard,” Linda Massaro said. “And I thought that was really something that stayed with me, and I wanted to continue his passion of writing.”

To enter the competition, students had to email Dansdill their submissions by Oct. 20. Submissions were completely original and on any topic. It was open to undergraduates in any major.

Linda Massaro contacted Dansdill because she remembered he was one of the professors her son had mentioned to her. Dansdill said Tony was in his creative writing course and another rhetoric course. Dansdill met with the Massaros and discussed establishing the Anthony Massaro Endowed Scholarship Fund and writing prize

series in 2019, but its implementation was delayed because of COVID-19.

“I’m exceptionally grateful to Professor Timothy Dansdill,” Linda Massaro said. “Tony was a student of his, and he never forgot, and he never gave up and three and a half years later despite all the delays and the COVID interruption, this event finally took place.”

Dansdill said Quinnipiac has been less focused on liberal arts in recent years, and he wanted to bring that back to the school with events such as the Massaro Prize series.

“I have not seen any event like this happening for years on this campus, this is one of a kind,” Dansdill said. “That didn’t used to be that way.”

Dansdill decided to include live music at the event because he started a band called the Rhythm Doctors 15 years ago. It is an active faculty band and has performed at

Christmas and back to school parties. Since he said similar events have not been as popular among students, Dansdill was not expecting a large audience. He said he was delighted to see students read their work.

“I was completely blown away by the turnout given that given that history,” Dansdill said. “We had 60 people in there, which is pretty amazing.”

Dansdill hopes for the future of the event to be even bigger and better.

Michael Yohe, a sophomore health science studies major in the PT program, decided to attend the event just to enjoy it after writing a submission for the contest.

“I just felt like expressing myself a little bit more than just having it there in my camera roll,” Yohe said.

Emma Grady, a first-year biology major, was one of the winners of the very-very good wit prizes.

“Recently, while being here, I realized that I enjoy writing and like journaling,” Grady said. “So I thought it was like a good opportunity to test out the waters.”

Grady said she was in shock when she was named a winner for the contest, she was not expecting to be the winner especially when all grade levels were competing.

“I’m very grateful, that’s for sure,” Grady said.

Rooster Smith, a sophomore biomedical science major, was another winner of the very-very good wit prizes.

“I wasn’t expecting it, honestly,” Smith said. “But I’m just glad I could make people laugh, that was fun, that was my main goal.”

When finding out about the event, he was interested in listening to live music. He hopes Quinnipiac continues doing events such as this one in the future.

“Honestly, I was sitting here at my desk and I got the email and I just thought it’d be cool,” Smith said.

Jakob Potemri, a junior 3+1 film, television and media arts and English double major, won the very-very good wit prizes as well.

“Especially since after COVID, it is really nice to go to an in-person event,” Potemri said.

Potemri decided to attend the event because a few of his English major friends submitted entries as well, it was a chance for them to get together and write, but also attend an event. He said he has gone to other events on campus such as open mics and writing events, but he did not expect to see a band playing songs like Werewolves of London.

“I love how active everyone seems to be here, they have all the instruments set up and it’s a real commitment,” Potemri said.

He said it was nice to get his work recognized and win a prize, but it was cool to see a tribute done for one particular student, rather than a group of people.

“I think it was definitely a nice tribute to a former Quinnipiac student who was a creative writer and the fact that they’re continuing on his legacy is special in a way because, in a lot of cases, we don’t exactly see that for individual students,” Potemri said.



JACK SPIEGEL/CHRONICLE

Professor Dansdill and his band The Rhythm Doctors perform live music during the event.

## New QU organization starts the overdue discussion on women's health

By **NEHA SEENARINE**  
Arts & Life Editor

If half of the population are women, why is it difficult to open up the discussion on their health?

Madison Murphy, co-founder of Quinnipiac University’s Women’s Health Organization and molecular and cell biology graduate student explained half of the world’s population are women and experience similar health issues.

“So when we’re talking about health concerns, and the fact that we’re ignoring, essentially 50% of the population is a detriment,” Murphy said.

WHO is a new organization on campus this semester with a mission to bring awareness to gynecological health issues through the community. The club focuses on preparing resources for the student body and young women in the Hamden community.

Co-founder and sophomore biology major Chelsea Enabosi is a Nigerian native and noticed the culture in the U.S. surrounding women’s health was similar to Nigeria — no one wanted to talk about it.

“When the conversations do happen, there is a lot of cutting corners, people are trying to almost find alternative words for periods or cancers,” Enabosi said. “They try to make it very simplified and that could actually be very difficult for women who are actually dealing with this issue.”

Enabosi recalled the feedback WHO received when the organization tabled at the engagement fair in the beginning of the academic year. She said students and professors were sharing positive reactions for opening the discussion of women’s health.

“Whenever I would distribute flyers, a lot of girls would come in groups,” Enabosi said. “They would say, ‘Oh my god, I have endometriosis. Oh my god, I have PCOS.’”

The Office on Women’s Health reports that 11% of American women between the age of 15-44 have endometriosis, when tissue similar to the lining of the uterus grows outside of the uterus. Also, 1 in 10 women suffers from polycystic ovary syndrome, a hormonal imbalance and metabolism problem that may affect their overall health and appearance.

Murphy said women are often taught to be ashamed when it comes to speaking up on their health and aren’t provided the right resources.

“Women’s Health is, as you know, a taboo topic, right? No one likes to talk about what goes on,” Murphy said. “These young women aren’t learning about their bodies and so they’re not asking the right questions. That can be if you’re not recognizing the signs and symptoms of certain things, and you’re allowing them to progress, you don’t want them to progress too far.”

WHO plans to provide educational resources to the Quinnipiac community simply with people walking by the organization’s tabling events in the Carl Hansen Student Center.

“A conversation of, ‘This is what proper hygiene looks like when you’re on your period, or this is what you should be on the lookout for if your boobs are sore after (an) extended period of time,’” Murphy said. “I’m not going to be able to diagnose you, but I like to be able to point you in the right direction.”

Catherine Takizawa, WHO’s faculty advisor and assistant teaching professor of biology said the organization brings people together to

discuss women’s health-related topics, “Together we can make a bigger impact than each person working in isolation.”

The organization is looking forward to having conversations with both women and male-dominant clubs whether it is Greek life or sports teams.

“They might have daughters, they might have sisters, friends, and other family members who are affected by these things,” Murphy said. “We want to make sure that it’s a cohesive conversation between everybody, and that everybody is aware of everything.”

Enabosi looks to expand WHO beyond the Quinnipiac community and teach young women how to advocate for themselves.

“I see a lot of fundraising events that will help create funds (and) resources for a lot of women who don’t have access to pads, or sanitary resources during their periods,” Enabosi said. “I also do see us creating curriculums, remaining a permanent part of the Hamden public education for girls who need that like extra source of information.”



# Rethink the spirit of the rink

## From a Teletubby's point of view

**By SARAH HARDIMAN**  
Contributing Writer

Tinky Winky, Lala, Dipsy and Po. The iconic Teletubbies as seen on TV starting in 1997, were a nostalgic part of my childhood and the pinnacle of the spirit at Quinnipiac University hockey games. If I could look back on my first year as a student at Quinnipiac, I would never believe that I would suit up as one of my childhood idols.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY SARAH HARDIMAN

Sophomore Sarah Hardiman shares sportsmanship at Quinnipiac's ice hockey games as a Teletubby.

The reason I joined QU Spirit, a student organization focused on growing school spirit and collaboration with sports teams, was to be involved in the greater Quinnipiac and Hamden community. I do not just want to be another student – I want to engage in the community. College is a part of growing and maturing, and I want to expand my community further into a larger range of Connecticut.

As someone from a different state, I wanted to be as involved as I could in this small town. I am from Rhode Island, the smallest state with the biggest heart, which means so much to me, but I have always had a love to explore new areas in New England. Another reason for joining the Teletubby troupe is because I was a cheerleader in high school – spirit is just a part of my DNA. Coming from an all-girls small catholic high school, I was not used to the large crowds of hockey games. Even though it was a big difference, it made me enthralled to be a part of this amazing on-campus organization.

Being in this organization has

made me feel like I am a part of something bigger – an ongoing tradition at the university. I am not the first Teletubby and I am certainly not the last.

A Quinnipiac teletubby is a deep-rooted tradition that draws so many individuals in. It makes QU special. Being a Teletubby is a silly, fun, yet well respected role at the infamous hockey games.

The first thing you do as a Teletubby on gameday is getting to the hockey game an hour early. We then suit up, practice our dance moves and warm up our voices. Both times I was a Teletubby, I was so glad that I was the yellow Teletubby because it resembles sunshine.

One of my favorite parts about being a Teletubby is all the little kids who attend the hockey games. Their faces light up when they see us walk by and I always challenge them to give me the most difficult high five that they can give me. As someone studying elementary education, this is by far the highlight of the hockey games. Being a Teletubby is a high position to hold because I not only represent the QU Spirit troupe, but Quinnipiac as a whole.

Although I have only been Lala, the yellow Teletubby, I feel as though I have grown so much from this experience. Being a Teletubby at two hockey games so far has been exciting. I got to cheer on Quinnipiac as they played Providence College, my mother's alma mater. She felt so proud and a little bit annoyed for cheering against her team. Nonetheless, she supported me all the way with my love for the school and wore her "Quinnipiac Mom" sweatshirt.

At that time, I was used to the classic Friday night lights of football games in high school, not the bright strobe lights shining down on the rink. When I was a first-year student last year, I went to my first hockey game to watch the game just for fun. I was

ecstatic to see part of Quinnipiac's culture — the Teletubbies — that is so iconic here. Part of the reason I chose QU was because of the culture of hockey games.

I wish I joined QU Spirit as a first-year student because of how much it has helped me get out of my comfort zone. The process to become a Teletubby includes auditioning in front of the QU Spirit executive board and learning a few dance moves, such as the pep band's iconic rendition of The Champs' "Tequila."

As a sophomore, I am proud to say that I am part of the QU Spirit club on campus, known to me as the "Tubby Community." The process of becoming a Teletubby on campus is rather simple: anyone with a love for Bobcat sports and a witty personality is perfect for the job.

Although being a Teletubby is an amazing part of QU Spirit, there are so many other amazing ways to be involved in the organization, such as collaborating with the sports teams and fans to cheer on fellow Bobcats.

Cheering to the music and dancing to the beats of the drums makes my heart feel full. I hope that being Lala has not only impacted on me but impacted and inspired those around me.

I aspire to be a good role model, as well as a positive face for this university during hockey games. Sports games usually have bad reputations for screaming and vulgar language against the other team. Quinnipiac's spirit team has turned the tables for what good sportsmanship is defined as. The teletubby troupe at Quinnipiac is for the people who want to "kill them with kindness."

# Preheat the oven to 350 degrees and be stress free

**By NICOLE MCISAAC**  
Managing Editor

Life gets stressful, especially in college. While some turn to exercise, painting or maybe even therapeutic shopping to curb their daily tensions, I turn to baking an obscene amount of fresh goods.

Cookies, bread, cakes and brownies — you name it. Stress baking is a common coping mechanism in which an individual unnecessarily bakes to deal with a lot on their shoulders.

I mean, how could I handle having the first draft of my senior capstone enterprise story due at 11:59 p.m. without baking over 50 pumpkin pie snickerdoodle cookies in two hours?

Although I have always loved to bake since I was young, the measuring and stirring of ingredients took a different meaning once the COVID-19 pandemic hit. It tackled the uncertainty of times and allowed me to take control of what I could physically manage during a period that was completely out of my hands.

However, I am not the only one who turned to the baking sheets during such "unprecedented times."

According to a 2021 study performed by Denison Digital Commons at Denison University, researcher Ellen Pitstick spotlighted how college students used stress baking as a direct result of being forced to stay in the confinement of their homes during the pandemic.

"The initial lockdown in the United States introduced a multitude of unfamiliar sources of stress: daily routines were required to change

and individuals found nearly all aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic to be outside of their control," Pitstick wrote.

While stress baking didn't necessarily start during the pandemic, I believe the time of uncertainty and lockdown encouraged many individuals to finally take out the measuring cups.

Over two years later, I am still learning new recipes on Pinterest and showing up to my friends' houses on a weekly basis to deliver large amounts of pastries for absolutely no reason.

And don't get me wrong, baking that amount of sweets is probably eating up more time that I could be spending on hitting the textbooks and not the cookbooks. But it's important to incorporate a healthy balance of leisure activities while tackling my insane schedule and workload.

While you might be quick to call stress baking a distraction, don't be so eager to put down the whisk and not give it a stir. The productive element of baking and cooking could be your solution to stop your next breakdown.

According to an article from CNET, senior writer Erin Carson highlights how baking serves as a healthy coping mechanism because it "engages just about your whole body."

"Your senses of touch, taste and smell; your brain, which is required to follow a recipe; your muscles for kneading, shaping, rolling," Carson wrote.

When the world seems to be caving in

around you and your to-do list is rolled down to the floor, finding a way to really ground yourself as an individual is beneficial for all involved. It's a way to better focus.

Plus, who doesn't love the smell of banana bread lingering in the air of your home? It's a more calmer scent than your lavender or sage diffuser spritzing out mist in the back of your room.

In addition to engaging all parts of yourself while in the kitchen, stress baking also serves

as a way to tap into your creative side. I mean, baking is technically an art, right?

Decorating and focusing on the detail closely correlates to that of picking up a paintbrush in your free time. Except for whatever you make while baking, you can actually eat.

If you're looking for another alternative to dealing with your stressors, try heading to the kitchen to channel your Betty Crocker. It might just make your life a little sweeter.



NICOLE MCISAAC/CHRONICLE

With a pile of assignments on her to-do list, Managing Editor Nicole McIsaac made over 50 pumpkin pie snickerdoodle cookies as a way to destress.



# Graphic violence against women is a central plotline in 'House of the Dragon'

By ZOE LEONE  
Staff Writer

When the “Game of Thrones” Targaryen-focused prequel, “House of the Dragon” was announced, many fans wondered how the new installment would handle the criticisms of the hit HBO show, including that it had too much gratuitous violence against its female characters.

Throughout the eight-season run of the medieval fantasy series, both actors and audiences alike spoke out against the numerous abuse, rape and torture scenes the women had faced.

During an interview with “The Hollywood Reporter,” “House of the Dragon” showrunner Miguel Sapochnik assured audiences that gratuitous violence wouldn’t be a feature of the prequel, saying, “You can’t ignore the violence that was perpetrated on women by men in that time. It shouldn’t be downplayed and it shouldn’t be glorified.”

However, the first episode wastes no time in continuing the predecessor’s legacy. When one of the first scenes involves Queen Aemma going into brutal labor, her doctor informs King Viserys that he must choose between saving his wife or saving his child. Viserys, who desires a male heir, gives the go-ahead to save the child, as Aemma lays in bed and cries her confusion.

The scene takes a vicious turn as Aemma is forced into a cesarean section. Her arms are held down as the camera focuses on a knife dragging across her belly, her screams of pain echoing in the room. It’s bloody and painful to watch. When it ends with both the mother and child dead, it leaves viewers wondering what exactly the point of such in-your-face violence was.

The blatant brutality towards the women on the show only amps up from there. There are three more explicit birth scenes, one of which ends with the mother being burned alive by her dragon and another which features Rhaenyra Targaryen pulling her dead and bloodied child from her own body.

The violence is not limited just to childbirth. A 15-year-old Alicent Hightower endures a marital rape as Viserys’ second wife, with the focus of the scene on her dead eyes as her husband takes his pleasure from her. As an adult, we see the same look return to her when one of her advisors

offers her an exchange of life-saving information for the chance to masturbate on her feet.

One of the main romances of the show follows Targaryen and her uncle, Daemon Targaryen. While incest is a common occurrence in the “Game of Thrones” universe, the relationship begins when Rhaenyra Targaryen is 15 years old, while her uncle is over double her age and saw the season finale featuring Daemon Targaryen savagely choking her for disagreeing with him.

Several more female characters are tortured, abused or killed for the sake of a male

character’s plotline. While it’s true that the medieval world “House of the Dragon” takes place in would realistically be plagued with such violent displays of patriarchy, the sheer volume of graphic instances of it throughout the show leaves you wondering what’s awareness and what’s glorification.

As women, we know the violence we face. So why is it that we’re made to watch it be enacted every Sunday night for ten weeks in excruciatingly gory detail? Why do we have to see the skin being cut and bruised, the blood pouring out, the tears and the screams and the faces contorted in agony?

Sapochnik believes that the violence perpetrated by men against women during medieval Europe is impossible to ignore. But when the show also features characters riding on dragons and talking about magic, it’s rather difficult to believe that historical accuracy is the reason that such graphic violence keeps taking place.

Brutalizing women on screen is used all too often as a way for showrunners and writers to have an easy way to brag about the “feminism” and awareness that their show includes. But feminism is not scenes of women being raped, abused, and suffering. Awareness of gender violence and patriarchy is not to graphically enact it over and over again on a TV screen.

Overall, “House of the Dragon” is enjoyable. The characters and their complexities are interesting. For fans of “Game of Thrones,” it’s enthralling to emerge back into the universe. But as the violence rages on, it’s difficult not to let it become a defining trait of the show.



ILLUSTRATION BY ALEX KENDALL

# Young The Giant reaches new heights with anticipated four-part album ‘American Bollywood’

By AIDAN SHEEDY  
Copy Editor

I first heard Young The Giant playing NHL15 on my Xbox. Their 2010 certified-platinum hit “My Body” played endlessly on my TV. Seven years later, the band has brought me back to a sound I can fall in love with.

Young The Giant completed the extended release of their four-part album “American Bollywood” on Oct. 21. The album contains four parts: Origins, Exile, Battle and Denouement. Each part has four tracks, but in unison, they share the same message. All parts allude to lead singer Sameer Gadhia and his family’s story as immigrants, as well as Gadhia’s own spiritual journey.

“American Bollywood” is more of a symbol

than an album. Four years in the making, it represents the changes and identities of this band and each of its members. “So much of me is imprinted into this music,” Gadhia wrote in an Instagram post. “So much of myself and my identity has fused with this project that it’s hard to know where I end and American Bollywood begins.”

### Act I: Origins

The first EP begins with the title track “American Bollywood,” which shares Gadhia and his family’s story of struggle from India to the U.S. and the pressure of fulfilling a duty as a man. It is this song alone that has been anticipated by fans and it definitely met expectations.

The lone single released on June 15, “Wake Up,” previewed what to expect from the rest of the album. This song is where the story of "American Bollywood" begins. “A fever dream from the poet Vyasa of last lives and visions,” the band wrote in an Instagram post. “The journey of this band and all of our collective identity over the last four years.”

It starts with a smooth bass and satisfying lyrics of a rhyming Vyasa, an Indian sage. Cannata’s solo toward the end might be one of his best since “Eros” in the deep tracks of the 2014 album "Mind Over Matter." Overall, this song is one of the best-produced tracks in the entire collection.

### Part II: Exile

The second EP, "My Way" is a dreamy 3-minute twinkle about someone who yearns for a new way to love, other than traditional American life. The feeling is described with lyrics like “could have been a classic / Fatally attractive, suicidal kind of love,” and “move into the suburbs, father and a mother / Simple kind of appetite.”

A personal favorite, “The Walk Home” is a story of losing your true identity as it’s “lost in the algorithm of someone else.” There’s something familiar and soothing about Gadhia’s vocals asking, “can somebody walk me home?” Like a best friend or just someone you trust — that’s what Gadhia and Young The Giant have been to me for the last eight years. Young The Giant brought me back home with this one, and I thank them.

### Part III: Battle

The opening track “Dollar \$tore” is similar to “Jungle Youth” of 2016’s "Home of the Strange" album in that it serves the purpose of a break from the fluidity of Gadhia’s vocals and tranquil

sounds to really lash out and scream. I love it when Young The Giant gets edgy. It shows another side of the band that is rarely seen and brings out each band member’s personality.

“Dancing in the Rain” is my favorite sound in Battle and competes with “The Walk Home” as my favorite in the album. Young The Giant utilizes Hindu imagery as Gadhia takes his journey back to his roots. This song is as powerful as it is catchy. All that needs to be said is, “Welcome to the kingdom kid / It’s good to be back home.”

### Part IV: Denouement

While the first two tracks on this EP are not my favorite, it’s the last two tracks that make up what Gadhia and Young The Giant is all about.

“Otherside” is a story of boldness. If anyone wants to know how talented Gadhia is, this is the song I will share. What makes his voice so special is the range he possesses. Gadhia can change octaves instantly and produce a sound that can send chills down your spine.

Another exceptional track, in a Jack Johnson-like way, “Same folk” hit me right in the heart. Like a classic folk tale, this song is a children’s book written as a love story for adults, put into a song. It’s absolutely beautiful.

From these eight tracks alone, Young The Giant will reclaim their spot in my Spotify Wrapped No. 1 artist for the fifth time. “American Bollywood” was a musical extrusion. The layers of Gadhia’s spirituality and the musical talents of Young The Giant made me fall in love with what this band is all about. They’re real. These men write their own music, rehearse together and became a family. That’s what American Bollywood means— love and family.



ILLUSTRATION BY EMMA KOGEL



# Book of the week

## 'The Anthropocene Reviewed' opens a window into John Green's life

**By ASHLEY PELLETIER**  
Podcast Host

If there’s a staple in the Chronicle’s arts & life section, it’s the review. Movies, albums, TV shows, you name it, but why stop there? Why not review everything worth reviewing in life? That’s exactly what award-winning author John Green does in his nonfiction essay collection, “The Anthropocene Reviewed.”

In “The Anthropocene Reviewed,” Green reviews everything from Diet Dr. Pepper to Disney World on a five-star rating scale. Through each essay, Green weaves tales and anecdotes from his life and connects them to the Anthropocene, the geologic time period where humanity has the largest influence on the planet, as described by Green.

Nonfiction has never been my genre of choice. I’d almost always rather pick up a copy of “Twilight” than read a book titled after a geologic period, but I’ve followed Green for almost half of my life, so I picked “The Anthropocene Reviewed” up anyways.

Like many works of art that have come out in the past two years, “The Anthropocene Reviewed” is largely connected to Green’s experience through the COVID-19 pandemic. One of the essays details a picture Green has in his house taken a few months before COVID-19 shutdowns and how he perceives that picture in a different light because of how blind to the future he and the other subjects were.

Several essays also discuss Green’s

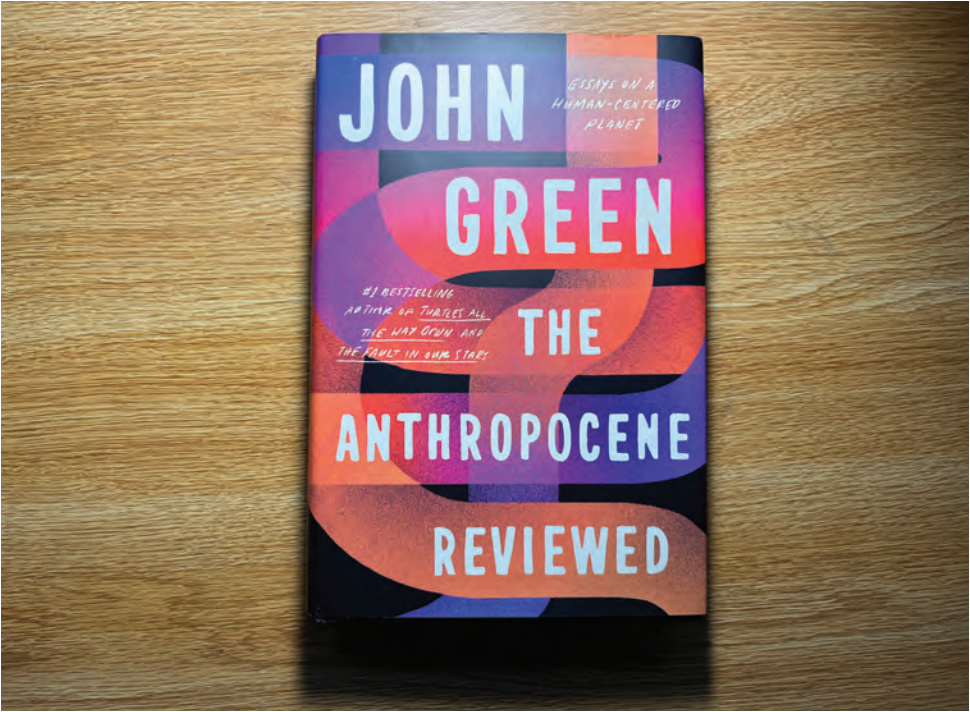
ongoing struggles with obsessive-compulsive disorder and other mental health struggles. While many great writers have faced mental health issues, we often forget that those we deem successful can experience them. Success does not preclude suffering.

Green opened a window into his life that few get to see. The author’s fans get weekly doses of him and his brother, Hank Green, through their YouTube channel, vlogbrothers, their podcast, “Dear Hank and John,” Crash Course and his five other bestselling novels.

Of course, it is impossible for us to claim we know John Green when the content that he edits and chooses to put out into the world is the basis for that knowledge. That is the beauty and apathy of opening yourself up to a parasocial relationship with that vague human on the other side of the book, video or podcast — you feel as though the creator is someone you understand, even care about, but they are reduced to what they share with their audience.

I was first introduced to John Green through his novels “The Fault in Our Stars” and “Looking For Alaska.” I have consumed hours of his and Hank Green’s content on YouTube and I even have a T-shirt with his mustached-face and the word “pizza” on it. Despite all of this, he didn’t feel like a person to me.

“The Anthropocene Reviewed” peeled back some of the parasocial layers I’ve had John Green wrapped in for the past 10 years.



ASHLEY PELLETIER/CHRONICLE

**'The Anthropocene Reviewed' covers topics from Diet Dr. Pepper to Super Mario Kart through the lens of John Green's life.**

Reading about a man who I felt lived in this whole different world from me writing his own book reviews and having an ongoing feud with the groundhog living under his shed connected me to him in a way years of consuming his other content didn't.

I still don't know John Green. I know he drinks Diet Dr Pepper as a small rebellion and that he has a strong love for Indianapolis, but I don't have the full picture. Of course, we never have the full picture of anybody, even the people closest to us, but for one small moment, I felt connected to John Green.

In the spirit of “The Anthropocene Reviewed,” I give the book four out of five stars.

# PHOTOS: Frights and sights of Boomer’s Boo Bash



AIDAN SHEEDY/CHRONICLE

**Hamden resident Spencer had his spidey senses tingling with fun on Saturday, Oct. 29. No villains were present at this event, all thanks to Spider-Man.**



AIDAN SHEEDY/CHRONICLE

**Sisters Evelyn (front) and Quinn (back) of North Haven challenged a Quinnipiac student to an old-fashioned sack race. Evelyn claimed victory in an exciting finish.**



AIDAN SHEEDY/CHRONICLE

**Although she leads all NCAA Division I players in goals this season, Quinnipiac women’s soccer player Rebecca Cooke, a junior psychology and criminal justice double major, couldn’t put one past any of the kids that challenged her.**



AIDAN SHEEDY/CHRONICLE

**Ryan of Cheshire attempts to sink a putt while simultaneously keeping the traffic flowing on the Quad of the Mount Carmel Campus.**



Scores  
&  
Schedule

Wednesday 10/26

MSOC won 5-0 @ Mount St. Mary's  
WSOC won 3-0 vs Mount St. Mary's

Friday 10/28

FHOK won 4-2 vs Providence  
MTEN @ Connecticut State Championships  
(no team results)  
WHOK won 4-1 vs No. 8 Cornell

Saturday 10/29

MSOC won 2-0 vs Canisius  
MXC 9th of 11 @ MAAC Championships  
WXC 1st of 11 @ MAAC Championships  
MTEN @ Connecticut State Championships  
(no team results)  
WHOK won 3-0 vs No. 4 Colgate  
RUGBY won 62-10 vs Mount St. Mary's  
VB lost 3-0 vs Fairfield

Sunday 10/30

FHOK won 3-0 vs Sacred Heart  
MTEN @ Connecticut State Championships  
(no team results)



OCT. 29 DANIEL PASSAPERA/CHRONICLE

Wednesday 11/2

MSOC @ Niagara 2 p.m.

Thursday 11/3

WSOC vs Canisius 2 p.m.

Friday 11/4

WHOK @ No. 8 Yale 6 p.m.  
MHOK vs Colgate 7 p.m.

Saturday 11/5

VB @ Manhattan 1 p.m.  
WHOK @ Brown 3 p.m.  
MHOK vs Cornell 7 p.m.

Sunday 11/6

VB @ Iona 1 p.m.  
WSOC vs MAAC Championship TBD

Monday 11/7

WBB @ No. 10 NC State 5 p.m.  
MBB @ Rhode Island 7 p.m.

Thursday 11/10

MBB @ Stonehill 7 p.m.  
MSOC vs MAAC Semifinals TBA

Title run complete  
Women's cross country crowned MAAC champions



CONTRIBUTED BY QUINNIPIAC ATHLETICS

Quinnipiac women's cross country scored 26 points on Saturday, the lowest by a MAAC champion since 2018.

By ETHAN HURWITZ  
Sports Editor

Quinnipiac took home its first conference championship of the 2022 school year on Saturday. Despite what you may think, it was neither one of the nationally ranked ice hockey teams or conference-leading soccer teams who claimed the title.

That distinction would go to the women's cross country program.

The Bobcats' win is their second ever MAAC title, the first since 2015. With only 26 total points, Quinnipiac became the lowest-scoring championship school since Iona in 2018 (21 points).

Leading the pack was graduate student Emily Young, who came in second place overall, and junior Liv DiStefano, who reached new heights with her career-best third-place finish. Not to be outdone, three more Bobcats placed in the top nine, earning All-MAAC honors and launching an upset over the favorite Iona Gaels, who finished third.

Young, the face of this program, reached the top-10 in the conference meet for the third time in her collegiate career. After finishing in both sixth and seventh in the past, the 2019 All-MAAC team member recorded a career-best second place finish. Her 21:23.2 time in the 6K was just 13 seconds behind Siena graduate student Olivia Lomascolo for Saturday's best performance.

Rounding out the top three was DiStefano, who was running in her third-straight conference championship. While her performance on Saturday takes the cake for her best as a Bobcat, she has cracked the top five in all three of her trips to the MAAC's biggest race.

Freshman Rachel St. Germain (fifth place), junior Alesandra Zaffina (seventh place) and junior Corinne Barney (ninth place) all rounded out the championship effort for Quinnipiac, who traveled almost 150 miles to the host site of Loudonville, New York.

Zaffina was another runner who had a personal-best performance on Saturday. The Trumbull, Connecticut, native clocked a 21:41.6 finish. Her seventh-place standing was the highest of her collegiate career as well.

Looking past the team title as a whole, a few Bobcats were personally honored this past weekend as well. St. Germain, a Somers, Connecticut, native, was awarded the 2022 MAAC Rookie of the Year as well as being named to the MAAC All-Rookie Team. Since the award was introduced back in 2016, St. Germain joins Kaitlin Bakas as the only Bobcats to win the conference's rookie award.

While the five at the pinnacle may get more of the conference-wide recognition, the whole program exceeded expectations. Sophomore Grace Michaud (22:42.6), junior Ana Caliri (23:14.0), junior Asia Mercier (23:23.0) and sophomore Christina Gunsalus (24:13.7) all recorded personal bests in the 6K race.

But all great teams start at the top and for these Bobcats, it begins with head coach Carolyn Martin. The 13-year veteran continued her excellent coaching career in Hamden

with the MAAC title, and did not leave empty handed personally either. Martin was awarded the conference's Coach of the Year for the second time in her Quinnipiac tenure, the first being in 2015 in the wake of the program's first MAAC championship.

In addition to the on-course honors, nine different Bobcats were named to the MAAC All-Academic Team this past weekend, tying for fourth in the conference. Quinnipiac's honorees (Young, DiStefano, Zaffina, Barney, Caliri, Mercier, senior Clare Veverka, and graduate students Cassidy Phillips and Marisa Keiser) all qualified for the second-straight year.

So what is next for Quinnipiac this season? On Nov. 11, it will head to Columbia for the NCAA Northeast Regional Championships, which have historically been a challenge for the Bobcats. The team's best finishes were in 2005, 2007 and 2008, where the Bobcats finished 14th each time. In order to reach the national championship, Quinnipiac would have to place top two in the regional meet or be selected as one of 13 at-large bids from the nine regionals.

Time will tell if this 2022 edition of Quinnipiac can crack the top-10 for the first time in program history, but based off of this past weekend's outcome, don't be surprised to see some more hardware return to Hamden in the near future.

MAAC CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

1		QUINNIPIAC — 26 POINTS
2		SIENA — 46 POINTS
3		IONA — 65 POINTS
4		MARIST — 131 POINTS
5		RIDER — 144 POINTS
6		CANISIUS — 161 POINTS
7		MANHATTAN — 211 POINTS
8		FAIRFIELD — 221 POINTS
9		NIAGARA — 252 POINTS
10		MOUNT ST. MARY'S — 264 POINTS
11		SAINT PETER'S — 335 POINTS

INFOGRAPHIC BY CAMERON LEVASSEUR



# Taking the next step

## Quinnipiac men’s basketball look to fulfill high preseason expectations

By **CONNOR WILSON**  
Contributing Writer

As the clock ran out in Atlantic City last March, the Quinnipiac men’s basketball team quickly realized the harsh reality they were facing: its season was over.

The then-No. 11 Bobcats ended the year on a high note, upsetting No. 6 Marist and No. 3 Siena before falling to No. 2 Saint Peter’s, a squad that would go on to not only win the MAAC Tournament, but make a run all the way to the Elite Eight in the NCAA Tournament.



CONNOR LAWLESS/CHRONICLE ARCHIVES (2022)  
**Redshirt senior guard Matt Balanc averaged 14.6 points per game in 2021-22, earning All-MAAC Third Team honors.**

Head coach Baker Dunleavy wasn’t surprised by his team’s efforts in Atlantic City.

“I think the main positive take away from the season was how we finished and also the mentality we were able to keep all the way through,” Dunleavy said.

Entering his sixth season in Hamden, Dunleavy has a career 66-81 record, but things are looking up this year thanks to a combination of experienced veterans and newcomers to the program.

“One thing about our roster that I really like is that we can go somewhat big, with a guy like (graduate student forward) Ike Nweke at the four,” Dunleavy said. “We can also size down and be versatile and go a little bit smaller.”

Nweke is one of the headliners of a solid transfer class for the Bobcats. The graduate transfer forward from Columbia brings the experience the staff has been searching for.

Dunleavy also secured a pair of higher major players to come to Hamden. Sophomore wing Alexis Reyes is a New England native who played at East Carolina last season and helps improve the perimeter shooting depth for the Bobcats. Notre Dame transfer and junior forward Elijah Taylor also joined the team, but will miss the entire season after suffering a torn ACL.

“We’ll miss Elijah,” Dunleavy said. “He’s got a long road ahead in terms of rehabbing his ACL, but he has all the resources here to do that and he’ll attack it. He’ll do great.”

These three transfers will play alongside junior forwards JJ Riggins and Paul Otieno in the frontcourt. Riggins is beginning his fourth season with the program and Otieno is in his first season after transferring in from Kilgore College in Texas.

With the frontcourt consisting of mostly transfers and newcomers, the backcourt is the opposite. Quinnipiac is returning six guards from last season, all of which have the ability to contribute.

Some of those guards already have received accolades this season. Redshirt senior Matt Balanc was named to the Preseason All-MAAC First Team and junior guard Dezi Jones was named to the third team.

Dunleavy thinks highly of his backcourt and believes that they could be the key to the team’s success this year. He has a good reason to think this, as five of the six returning guards

averaged at least eight points per game last season.

“I thought last year towards the end of the year Dezi Jones was one of the better point guards in our league,” Dunleavy said. “Obviously Matt was pretty consistent throughout the season.”

Outside of the two preseason All-MAAC guards, the remainder of the depth is made up by a pair of perimeter threats in junior Tymu Chenery and graduate student Tyrese Williams and a pair of ball handlers in junior Luis Kortright and redshirt senior Savion Lewis.

Lewis suffered a season-ending Achilles injury in December last season against Manhattan, but appears to be ready to go once the new season begins.

“He’s been a total warrior in his approach,” Dunleavy said of Lewis.

With a healthy Lewis competing with Jones for the starting point guard spot, Dunleavy is put in a challenging situation, but it’s a good problem to have.

“I’d be lying if I told you we have it all mapped out exactly as it will be,” Dunleavy said. “As you see from last year, you’re not always going to have everybody available to you the whole year. You’d love it, but it’s not realistic. So it’s good to have depth in that position.”

When it comes to the rest of the conference, the Bobcats were picked fourth in the preseason poll, their highest positioning since they were picked to finish third in 2019-20.

Iona, Manhattan and Rider were the three teams named ahead of Quinnipiac. The Gaels lost a lot of their talent from last year, but still return a solid core and are led by Rick Pitino, a Hall of Fame coach with two NCAA Tournament championships. Rider is returning four starters from a team that, like Quinnipiac, also advanced to the MAAC semifinals last season.

Manhattan, on the other hand, recently fired their head coach Steve Masiello and as a result many players have entered the transfer portal, including preseason MAAC Player of the Year Jose Perez, who has since transferred to West Virginia.

With all the preseason hype around the program, it will be interesting to see how the Bobcats respond. They open up their season Nov. 7, on the road against Rhode Island.

# Finishing the job

## DeWees, Morris and Caverly lead hungry women’s basketball team

By **ZACK HOCHBERG**  
Staff Writer

Following a tournament run to the second round of the WNIT, its farthest postseason run since 2019, the Quinnipiac women’s basketball team will bring back a large part of that core into the 2022-23 season.

All three of the Bobcats’ leading scorers from last season will return to the squad in 2022, including graduate student guards Mackenzie DeWees and Rose Caverly and senior center Mikala Morris.

DeWees led the Bobcats in scoring last season, finishing top-10 in the MAAC in points (6th), field goal percentage (9th), assists (7th) and assist-to-turnover ratio (3rd).

In addition to her offensive abilities, DeWees has long been a staple of the Bobcats’ defense, tallying 106 steals last year, good for fourth in the NCAA.

The ability to play on both sides of the ball is a large reason why DeWees was named to the preseason watch list for the 2023 Becky Hammon Mid-Major Player of the Year Award as well as the Preseason All-MAAC First Team.

Outside of DeWees, the Bobcats are deep. Their depth played a large part in their postseason run, as they battled injuries throughout the season. But, it was clear those injuries were just too much to overcome as the final buzzer sounded on their season. DeWees missed all but 12 minutes in the season finale against Boston College and Caverly dealt with her own injuries as well.

Despite the fact that Quinnipiac will return a large part of their core, they will miss guard Amani Free, who graduated in the spring. Free played over 22 minutes per game and was one of its best scorers. Additionally, junior guard Halee Smith transferred to Lafayette and graduate student forward Sajada Bonner moved to in-state rival Sacred Heart.

To combat those losses, the Bobcats spent time in the transfer portal ring the summer, poaching graduate student center Mary Baskerville from Providence College. Baskerville will join Quinnipiac with only one year of eligibility left, but that comes with a plethora of experience playing

high level basketball in the Big East.

“We are excited to see the impact she will have on our program and are happy to offer her the opportunity to improve her education at Quinnipiac. She will bolster an already formidable frontline and make us even more competitive in both our non-conference and MAAC schedule,” head coach Tricia Fabbri said in a press release on May 23.

As Fabbri said, Baskerville’s addition to the Bobcats’ front line will be a dangerous weapon. Baskerville and Morris make up undoubtedly one of, if not the best frontcourt in the MAAC.

Baskerville was a dominant force in the Big East straight out of high school. She led Providence in rebounds, blocked shots and field goal percentage as a freshman before going on to lead the team in scoring as a sophomore.

She only got better as a junior, leading Providence again in scoring, as well as rebounding, blocked shots, steals and field goal percentage. In her senior season, she battled injuries throughout the year, but managed to appear in 23 games while still leading the Big East with 43 blocks.

The MAAC seems to have taken note of the Bobcats’ additions to their frontcourt and retention of the bench depth over the summer, as the conference named Quinnipiac as its No. 1 team in their pre-season poll, garnering eight of the 11 possible votes for first place.

Following last season’s final game, DeWees said her favorite moment of the year was the first home game, which was a loss to then-No. 4 Indiana, as they beat Quinnipiac 67-59.

“You could see it in our eyes and coach’s eyes, I think it really stunned (Indiana),” DeWees said. “I think the crowd really got into it, and that was the first time we really had a big crowd back in the arena. I really think that that is just like the most fun time.”

Albeit the game being on the road, the Bobcats will have another chance to matchup with an opponent of that caliber when they open their season against No. 10 NC State on Nov. 7, and have a rematch with No. 11 Indiana on Nov. 20.

Expectations are high for this team, but Fabbri has never shied away from expectations. She led the Bobcats to an NCAA tournament appearance in 2019, 2018 and 2017, and they expect nothing less than another NCAA tournament appearance this season.



CONNOR LAWLESS/CHRONICLE ARCHIVES (2022)  
**Graduate student guard Mackenzie DeWees averaged 13.8 points and 7.3 assists per game in 2021-22.**





PEYTON MCKENZIE/CHRONICLE

# Quinnipiac women’s soccer prepares for MAAC playoffs

By COLIN KENNEDY  
Staff Writer

As New England Patriots head coach Bill Belichick once said, “Do your job.” That is exactly what the Quinnipiac women’s soccer team has done all season long. Coming into the regular season ranked No. 1 in the MAAC preseason poll, the Bobcats had lofty expectations to meet. Not only did they meet those predictions, but they have surpassed them.

Quinnipiac wrapped up its regular season on Oct. 26, when the team defeated Mount St. Mary’s 3-0. In doing so, they clinched a share of the MAAC regular season title with Fairfield. On the way to the regular season title, the Bobcats bulldozed their way through the MAAC boasting a 9-1 conference record, with their only loss coming to Iona. They also finished the regular season with an 8-0 record at home, the best in the MAAC.

Although Quinnipiac had a great regular season, it has to turn its attention towards the conference playoffs. After all, the reason you play regular season games is to see the hard work pay off in the playoffs.

“I think we knew this was coming and we deserve it,” senior forward Paige LaBerge said. “We worked so hard for this.”

The Bobcats have definitely put themselves in the best position to succeed, having clinched a first-round bye and will play in the semi-finals on Nov. 3, against No. 5 Canisius. Quinnipiac also received home-field advantage throughout the MAAC tournament due to its top seed, which, considering its dominance at home, may be the most important aspect of all.

This incredible run to getting the No. 1 seed in the MAAC has been a year in the making for the Bobcats. Only a day after falling to Monmouth in last season’s championship, Quinnipiac had its sights set on the 2022 campaign by establishing three goals.

“We said winning the league, No. 1 seed and six shutouts,” head coach Dave Clarke said. “That was on the board in January, and then that was on the board 81 days ago.”

Success starts at the top and that’s no different with the women’s soccer program. The Bobcats are led by Clarke, who is in his 23rd season at the helm for Quinnipiac. He’s the winningest coach in program history with a 174-162-37 record with the Bobcats. However, the one accolade that has eluded Clarke in his career at Quinnipiac is a MAAC championship.

Since joining the MAAC in 2013, the Bobcats have been the runner-up twice, both times losing to Monmouth, who left

the conference after last season. Clarke has the experience and resume to lead this team to its first conference title since 2001.

“I’m giving you the exam, all you have to do is go out there and do it,” Clarke said. “So they have all the answers.”

The Bobcats have taken a very academic approach to their dominant regular season, they haven’t failed many tests and have a team full of straight A players on the field.

One of those players is junior forward Rebecca Cooke. Cooke has had an outstanding season so far and is one of the main reasons that Quinnipiac is in the position that it is. Cooke currently leads all of NCAA Division I with 19 goals, including five game-winning goals. Cooke was one of seven Bobcats named to the All-MAAC First Team, and earned the league’s Golden Boot, given to the top goal-scorer in the conference.

The Dublin native isn’t the only standout on this team. Junior forward Courtney Chochol has also made her impact on the path to the No. 1 seed. Chochol finds herself near the top of the national leaderboards, tied for third in assists with 12. With a one-two punch like Cooke and Chochol, it’s not hard to envision this team back in the finals.

Although many of the Bobcats fly under the radar, many of them received long-awaited recognition when the All-MAAC teams were announced. Seven Quinnipiac players received first team honors including: Cooke, Chochol, senior midfielder Olivia Scott, junior midfielder Emely van der Vliet, senior defenseman Kayla Mingachos, graduate student defenseman Emily DeNunzio and senior midfielder Markela Bejleri.

Two Bobcats were also named to the All-MAAC second team, graduate student defenseman Lauren Triglione and junior goalkeeper Sofia Lospinoso. Senior forward Paige LaBerge was named to the third team.

Harkening back to their academic approach, Quinnipiac’s stellar play also translates to the classroom. The Bobcats had a conference-best 21 players named to the MAAC All-Academic team.

If the Bobcats are going to finally get over the hump, they are going to need contributions from the top down like they have gotten all season long.

Now the Bobcats must check off the final, most challenging task on their to-do list.

“We’ve done two out of the three and now everyone has the same goal with the last one,” Clarke said.

Quinnipiac and its semi-finals opponent, Canisius, have a long history. The Bobcats and the Golden Griffins last played

back on Sept. 24, where the Bobcats won 1-0. Cooke scored the lone goal of the game in what was a tough and physical matchup. Expect the intensity to raise to another level on Nov. 3, when the playoff atmosphere takes over.

The Bobcats could potentially face either No. 2 Fairfield or No. 3 Niagara for the MAAC championship game on Nov. 6. Quinnipiac last played Niagara on Sept. 17, where they won 4-0. The Bobcats defeated Fairfield, 3-2 on Oct. 1, in the game that ultimately gave them home-field advantage.

Quinnipiac has had the answers all season long. With that being said, the hardest test is yet to come for the Bobcats. When it’s time to take the exam on Nov. 3, we’ll see if Quinnipiac is finally ready to ace that test and reach the top of the MAAC.



DANIEL PASSAPERA/CHRONICLE

Quinnipiac women’s soccer finished the regular season with a 13-2-1 record.