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‘For students, by students’: On the Rocks relaunches, run only by students

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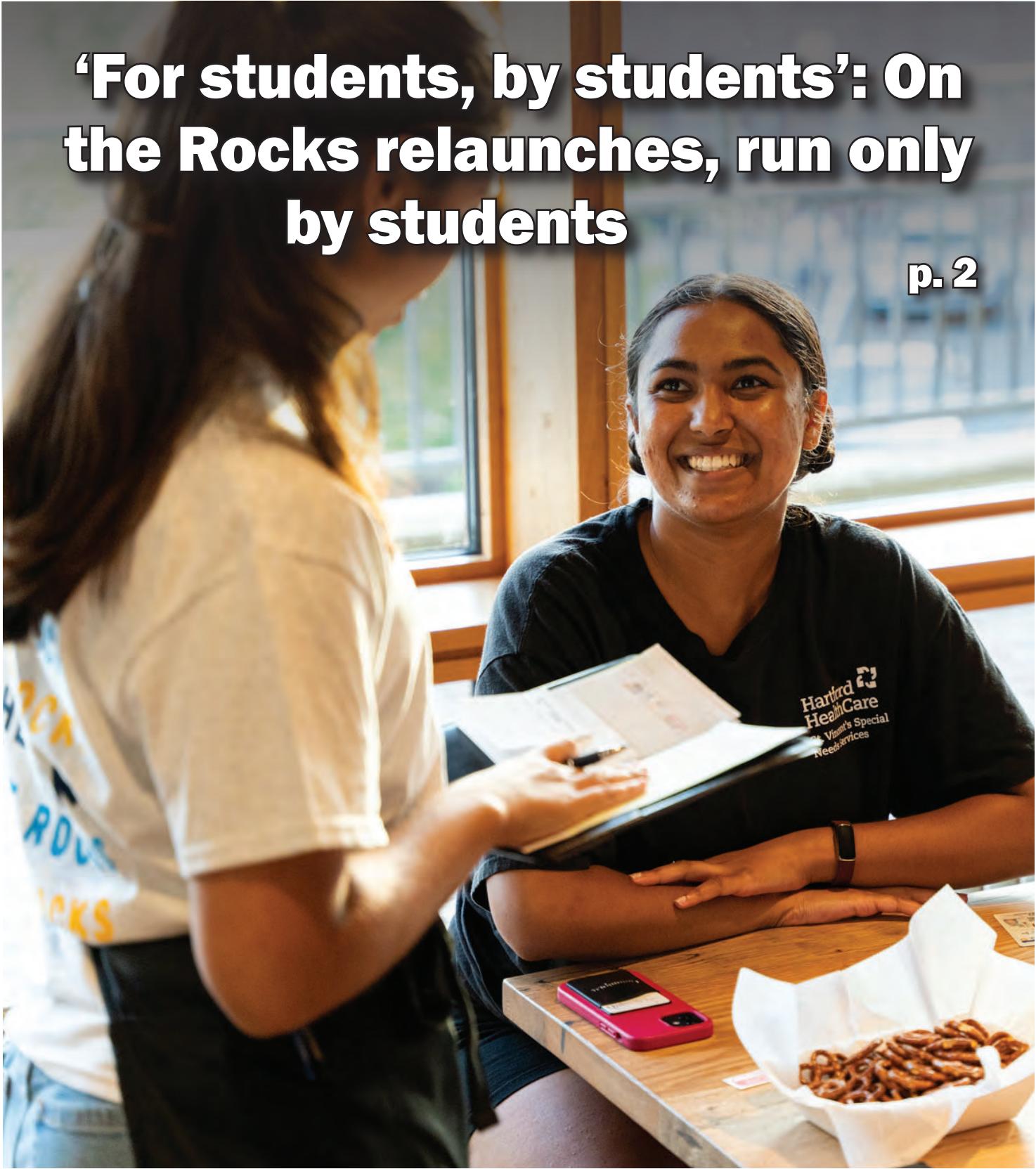


PHOTO BY ALEX BAYER/ CONTRIBUTED BY PEP BAND

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Quinnipiac Pep Band is always there to spread school spirit



ILLUSTRATION BY PEYTON MCKENZIE

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Long wait times, student frustration: QU postal service reopens in Carl Hansen Student Center

By **NICOLE MCISAAC**
Managing Editor

Amid loosened COVID-19 restrictions, Quinnipiac University reopened the Carl Hansen Student Center Post Office on the Mount Carmel Campus this fall. However, the resurrection of the location has resulted in increased wait times and disappointing experiences, some students say.

“I have kinda given up hope,” said Elena Dean, a first-year film, television and media arts major. “I am not going to be ordering from Amazon a lot anymore.”

The Carl Hansen Post Office was temporarily shut down in 2020, due to social distancing measures. Supervisor of Mail and Print Services Joseph Camporeale said the university decided to move all mailing services on main campus to the mailing center, located on New Road past the College of Arts & Sciences, as a way to relieve congestion in the Student Center of students trying to retrieve packages.

“We’re in a bad spot as far as location wise, sandwiched between the bookstore and dining,” Camporeale said. “The lines were just out of control. So we said, ‘Well, we’re not going to solve the problem, we’re just going to move the line.’”

While the Rocky Top Student Center Post Office on the York Hill Campus remained open during that time, many students who used the mail center during the pandemic said they still endured long wait times.

Brian Ortiz, a senior biology major, said he would wait in line at the mail center for anywhere from 15-30 minutes, depending on the day.

“Most days I’ve had mail and walk all the way down to CAS which is almost over a mile,”

“That was really tough. And then once you got there, it was pretty packed.”

However, on the administrative side, Camporeale said that utilizing the mailing center building was a great alternative for services because it moved the lines faster due to the amount of



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Students said they have had to wait in long lines at the mailroom location in the Carl Hansen Student Center.

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On the Rocks Pub rebrands under new student management

By KATIE LANGLEY
News Editor

Due to a new student-run venture supported by QU Dining and the Quinnipiac University School of Business, restaurant-goers at the On the Rocks Pub won’t only be served by a wait-staff of their peers; the pub’s management team is now entirely made up of Quinnipiac students. After reopening for the fall 2021 semester, On the Rocks Pub has become the site for multiple nights of magic shows, student organization gatherings, music acts and entertainment, as well as serving as a fully-functioning restaurant and bar on Mondays, Thursdays and men’s ice hockey game days. The managers running the show are students Louis Stamoulis, a senior health science studies major in the 4+1 public relations program, Joseph Coverly, a junior international business and computer information systems double major and Savitri George, a senior accounting major in the 4+1 business program.

The managers said they found out about the plan for students to take over the business last spring through an email sent to the School of Business and shared by multiple professors. Many students expressed interest in the managerial job, Stamoulis said, but the three managers were able to work with administration and QU Dining to secure the positions. “Quinnipiac knew they wanted a student venture, and they thought that (the pub) would be a great place to do it,” Coverly said. “... And the benefits are awesome for us, right? Because when does a student get to run a business? We are making real life decisions and we’re seeing all of this before we hit the workforce.” The On the Rocks Pub front house, including wait staff and managers, is currently composed only of students, with dining employees working as chefs in the back. The new student managers replaced non-student dining workers who are still stationed in other locations of university dining, Stamoulis said.



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On the Rocks student manager Louis Stamoulis spoke at the pub’s opening event Monday, Sept. 12.



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On the Rocks Pub, open Mondays, Thrudays and game days, offers students a place to dine out on campus.

The managers split the day-to-day responsibilities of running a business, with Stamoulis covering social media and programming, Coverly running staffing and training operations and George taking charge of financials. “We’re growing in staff every single day.” Coverly said. “We’re seeing some great interest in and wanting to join this team—this family—and we just want to make this the place to be on Quinnipiac’s campus.” The managers said they are hoping to bring in more student organizations, such as the acapella and orchestra groups, as entertainment for the pub. “(Hiring students) opens up more student jobs which is really nice because they’re hard to find,” said Megan Accardi, a junior 3+1 public relations major, about the new business model. The managers said their business mantra is “for students, by students.”

“When students come in here and they want to sit and have a meal and they see that they’re being served by their friends—it’s being run by kids their age, by students—I think it’s really going to enhance the experience here,” Stamoulis said. When it comes to juggling being a student and managing a business, George said that proper communication between the managerial team is paramount to their work relationship.

“I think (being a student manager) can be a little too much, but it’s more about having fun and working together,” George said. “We all lean on each other if we need help. We just say, ‘Hey, I can’t do this right now, help us out.’ We can tag along, and we work better as a team.” The new managers had an opportunity to show off their teamwork at a kick-off event at the pub on Monday, Sept. 12, which marked the opening of the pub for the new semester. The event was complete with a DJ, free raffles and a brand new menu. Students who attended the kick-off event said they were enthusiastic about the pub being under student management. “I think it’s great,” said Jillian Catalano, a junior 3+1 public relations major. “I think it opens up a sense of community especially for the York Hill campus, which is a little bit quieter. So I’m really excited.” Hennessy Spargo, a junior 3+1 marketing major, agreed that bringing in student workers benefits the restaurant and the workers themselves. “I think that (working as a student manager) would be great for the experience for the students and also maybe they’ll bring some student opinions to (the job),” Spargo said. The managers encouraged any student looking for work to consider joining the staff at the pub. They also said that any suggestions and feedback about the pub are welcome at ontherocks@quinnipiac.edu. “(On the Rocks Pub) is going to be the sickest place on Quinnipiac’s campus, every Monday and Thursday– not just the 12th– every Monday and Thursday,” Coverly said.

Krystal Miller contributed to this reporting.

MAILROOM from cover
.....
“regular employees there processing packages all day.”

“If the line started building, I could throw two or three people to help clear the line,” Camporeale said. “Here, (at the Carl Hansen Post Office) I can’t do that because I’m bound by whoever I have up here at the moment.” Cruz said he lives in a Quinnipiac-owned off-campus house this academic year, and has picked up books at the revived Carl Hansen Post Office for the first time since his freshman year. He said his maximum wait time was roughly 10 minutes. “I think right now it’s the best as it’s been for me during my four years of being here.” Cruz said. Grace McNamara, a first-year psychology major, said that although she has only used the Carl Hansen Post Office to pick up packages once this semester, she has noticed the build-up of students waiting for mail while passing by in the student center. “I always see the line long whenever I am passing through any time of the day,”

McNamara said. Camporeale said there are approximately 50 employed student workers combined at all three locations (Carl Hansen Post Office, Rocky Top Post Office and the Mail Center) throughout the course of an academic year. However, specifically at the Carl Hansen Post Office, he said roughly 20 students are scheduled to work at different times during the week. Despite receiving applications for students to work for Quinnipiac’s postal services, Camporeale said it is challenging to recruit new students and have them settle before the start of the semester. “Returning students are not a problem, (it’s) getting the new students on board or newly hired students is a bit of an issue the first week or two of the semester,” Camporeale said. “They have to be hired and then they have to go through the onboarding process.” Looking toward the future of postal services at Quinnipiac, Camporeale said he hopes the university would establish parcel lockers, a system many companies and offices use in their mailing centers. A parcel locker is a lockable storage box

where packages can be left and stored for collection by a mail carrier, delivery company, residents, and/or customers, according to the website All Copy Products. “(Parcel lockers) would help to not only expedite the process of handling those packages, but also enhance the student experience in that you won’t have the lines that you have now waiting to pick up packages, they would have 24 hour access,” Camporeale said. Although Camporeale said he does not know where the university stands on installing the lockers, he said having students ensure their packages are addressed properly will help smooth the pick-up process amid the long lines. “When they’re ordering, (they should) make sure everything is addressed with their full name, including middle initial, student box number, and then the correct mailing address, which is 275 Mount Carmel Avenue,” Camporeale said. The Carl Hansen Post Office’s hours of operation are from 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Monday-Thursday, and 11:00 a.m. to 3:45p.m. on Friday. Katie Langley contributed to this reporting.

New shuttle routes aim to improve student experience amid construction

By **KRYSTAL MILLER**
Associate News Editor

This semester, Quinnipiac University’s shuttle routes have been updated to reflect ongoing construction and new parking policies.

The blue and yellow shuttle routes are now green and orange. The red, orange and green shuttles are now being utilized as the York Hill express, which only travels between the Mount Carmel and York Hill campuses. The blue and yellow shuttles go to York Hill, Mount Carmel, Theatre Arts Center, Whitney Village and Westwoods.

“We were making some changes to the shuttles for this year, and naming the Bobcat Express, the colors of blue and yellow seemed appropriate,” wrote Patti Pragano, executive assistant to the chief of public safety, in an email to the Chronicle.

Haley Ruccio, a sophomore 3+1 film, television, and media arts major, said she felt that this new change has made navigating the shuttle more difficult.

“I think the routes and stops changing has been very confusing, especially because the routes of the green and orange shuttles have completely switched with the routes of the blue and yellow shuttles,” Ruccio wrote in an email.

Instead of a larger bus, there is now a smaller handicapped-accessible bus that goes to North Haven, said Tony Reyes, chief of Public Safety.

The arrival times have additionally changed, because shuttles arrive later than expected in previous semesters, Reyes said. Before they were listed out, but now the shuttle

mobile app updates with the shuttle locations.

The Westwood Lot is now a consistent stop, to encourage more students to use it, Reyes said. It is also because the Whitney Lot is no longer a stop, because of construction and lack of student use.

Due to construction, shuttles are currently not stopping at the South Lot shuttle stop. Instead, they now go to Harwood Gate in an effort to minimize student wait times, Reyes said.

“We are temporarily using the Harwood Gate as the shuttle stop until we find a more permanent location,” Reyes said. “And part of that is just finalizing some permits.”

Shannon Brickett, a junior mathematics major, said the stop moving did not have a huge impact on her ability to get to class on time.

“At first I was annoyed about the South Lot (stop) moving, but when I think about it you are either taking a long time to walk to the cafe (from) the Harwood Gate, if you’re at South Lot you’re taking a long time to walk to CCE, so it doesn’t really matter where it is,” said Brickett.

Brickett said while she usually waits at the stop for the next shuttle, the mobile app has accurate arrival times for her when using it.

However, Ruccio said that her experience with the mobile app has been confusing. She said she also had experiences where the shuttle did not travel the route it was listed under.

“There’s a lot of discrepancies between what the shuttle tracking app says and what is reality,” Ruccio said. “The times are never

accurate, and there are almost always more shuttles running that aren’t being tracked on the app.”

Reyes said he wants to improve the shuttle experience because more students are using the shuttle as their primary form of transportation.

“We want students to use (the shuttles), it’s going to help alleviate the parking situation on campus,” Reyes said.

The shuttle app now gives students the option to rate their shuttle experience. Suggestions collected from the app may change

the direction the shuttles function in the future, Reyes said.

Reyes encourages students to give feedback through phone or email, whether it’s about a good or bad experience they have had.

“Constantly we’re evaluating the experience for the shuttles,” Reyes said. “It’s very important to us to make sure that it’s the best it can be.”

Reyes said if there are any changes, such as a stop moving or shuttle breaking down, students will be updated via email.

Any student with questions or concerns can call public safety at (203) 582-6200 or email shuttle@quinnipiac.edu.



JACK MUSCATELLO/CHRONICLE

The red, green and orange shuttles now exclusively run between York Hill and Mount Carmel campuses.

Cuban UN ambassador speaks to QU students

By **JULIA BARCELLO and JACKLYN PELLEGRINO**

Quinnipiac University’s School of Business and Albert Schweitzer Institute hosted Cuba’s Permanent Representative to the United Nations Pedro Luis Pedroso Cuesta Sept. 9, to discuss topics such as Cuba’s political history and the nation’s ongoing fight for independence and education.

On the global scale, Pedroso Cuesta discussed rising tension between the United States and Cuba. He told The Chronicle he thinks the Biden administration “betrayed” the commitment that they would review Trump’s policy

against Cuba, that was made during the election while Biden was on the campaign trail.

“Not only have they not done that so far,” Pedroso Cuesta said. “But they also have two new measures that have contributed to further strengthen the party.”

Pedroso Cuesta also spoke about the relationship between Cuba and the U.S. He said that American citizens are not able to send money to families in Cuba because of the absence of open markets between the countries, ultimately preventing Cubans from rising financially.

“But the question means, how these people can flourish and progress if they cannot have

access to the closer market, we cannot move from where we are,” Pedroso Cuesta said.

Pedroso Cuesta received a masters in national defense in 1987 from the Raúl Roa García Higher Institute of International Relations in Havana, Cuba. Following his graduation, he joined the Cuban Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Among many other positions, Pedroso Cuesta has been a member of the Cuban delegations to different sessions of the U.N. General Assembly.

In regard to schooling, Cuba has free universal education from kindergarten through college and it is recognized today by The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

Mohammad Elahee, professor of international business, who attended the event said that since Cuba’s private sector is “booming” there may be opportunities for Quinnipiac students to go to Cuba to gain hands-on experience through “experiential learning” and “service learning projects.”

He also said that we have to realize that policy making happens at the government level but students can still make a difference in other countries.

“Regardless of what is at the government level, we can play a role in people-to-people collaboration, learning from each other, exerting help where we can help other people or people from other countries, and at the same time enrich our understanding of the world in the process,” Elahee said.

Elahee said that since so many students were in the audience he’s hopeful that students have shown that they can “take Quinnipiac to a new height.”

Taylor Proulx, a graduate business administration student, said prior to the event he heard the U.S. doesn’t have a great relationship with Cuba and they aren’t allowed to travel there and trade with them.

“I think having the ambassador come in today and talk about the history of Cuba and how they’re really trying to become independent to where they are today and just how the Trump administration, they didn’t know a lot about what was going on in Cuba and that embargo and now (Pedroso Cuesta) was very open to communicating with us,” Proulx said.

Proulx as well as Russell Jackson, a junior entrepreneurship and small business management major, said they attended the event to learn more about Cuba and to see what funding they could offer to small businesses there as a part of the program.

“I as well didn’t really know much about Cuba, I just knew there was tension between Cuba and the U.S., I wasn’t sure much of the tension, but I feel like this event, gave me a much bigger understanding and I look forward to potentially being able to work and unblock Cuba from all the sanctions against them,” Jackson said.

Pedroso Cuesta told The Chronicle that one of his main goals as ambassador is to contribute to a better world for humanity.

“To be in a future, where we can live in solidarity, which is that we can respond to your needs and you can respond to mine and we both together can respond to know this and respect the huge diversity that we all represent,” Pedroso Cuesta said. “Because we are all diverse and that is the richness of our humanity, the diversity that we represent.”



A.J. GUGLIOTTA III/CHRONICLE

Cuban Ambassador Pedro Luis Pedroso Cuesta spoke about U.S.-Cuban relations at an event at Quinnipiac University Sept. 9.

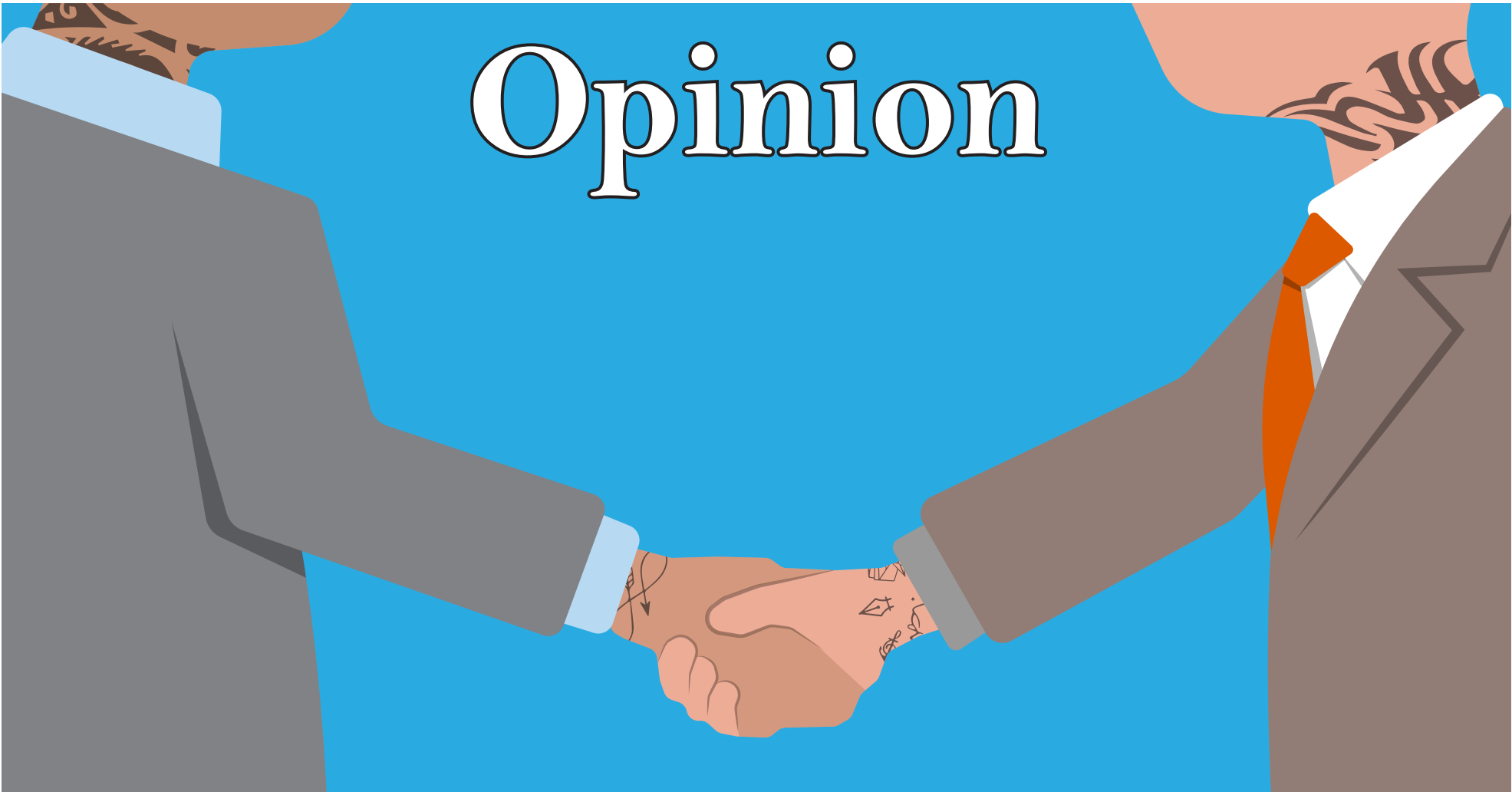


ILLUSTRATION BY PEYTON MCKENZIE

We don’t care what you ‘ink’

Tattoos shouldn’t discredit professionalism

By **MICHAEL BUNCE**
Contributing Writer

What do you see when you look at someone with tattoos? Do you immediately make assumptions about them and the type of person they might be? You’re probably not surprised to find out most people do, especially in places of employment.

For generations, tattoos have been looked down upon and generalized as taboo. Stigmas surrounding tattoos are painfully antiquated and there is simply no room for them in our current day. People get tattoos for an array of reasons, and they should not be viewed differently because of it.

We live in a world where our acceptance is at an all-time high, so why draw the line at tattoos? To think a completely qualified worker would be turned away from a job because of the ink in their skin is a form of discrimination we don’t talk enough about. According to a survey given to employers by StudyFinds.org, “Overall, 51% said they have knowingly discriminated against a potential employee because of the way they looked. Of those, 43% said they didn’t hire the candidate because of their visible tattoos.”

Barring any offensive or controversial art, the tattoos on a person’s skin have no effect on a worker’s ability to complete their job, and being seen as unprofessional because of aspects of someone’s physical appearance is ludicrous. Plain and simple, tattoos are art. Forcing people to cover them up does not just shame the artist and the owner of the tattoo, but it is an insult to human creativity.

Tattoos are put into skin for a reason: the ink is special to the wearer. It could represent something important to the wearer such as a lost loved one or sentimental memory from childhood. It could also be as simple as the wearer wanting to be covered in a stylish art piece. Either way, the person is entitled to do so, and the workplace should have no say.

Creativity is at the root of all human action, and to stifle it would be a disservice to how far we’ve come as a society. Tattoos do not make us unprofessional, they do not make us worse workers, and they do not make us worse people in any way. It can even be argued they make us better. Each tattoo

someone has can be a conversation waiting to happen, an artist’s most prized work or a passionate message to the world.

The world has not completely caught up with the idea of tattoos, but it’s getting there. Many workplaces are loosening or removing restrictions on tattoos and becoming more inviting to employees who have ink in their skin. The driving force behind this push for acceptance is the understanding of the importance of self-expression.

The National Institute of Mental Health predicts that 8.4% of all US adults suffer from some level of depression, and a lot of that comes from bottled up emotions. Our tattoos become us, and as a result we can express ourselves through the art in our skin. Tattoos are no longer exclusively for the rebellious crowd who live to defy authority, but for all those who have something they would like to express and keep with them forever.

I’ll end by saying personally, my parents raised me to stand by my choices and never be ashamed of who I am. As a man with tattoos, I simply would not accept working at a place where my employer required me to cover up a piece of myself that holds so much meaning. I think more vocalization for acceptance, and even some light protest (such as refusing to work for employers who require you to cover up tattoos) is a suitable place to start when striving for acceptance.

Of course, this is a small thing to fuss over when compared to other types of discrimination people face, but sometimes you must start small to achieve something more. We live in the United States of America, the land of the free, and nobody deserves to be turned away because of how they exercise their free will. The world will eventually catch up, and they will do it one tattoo at a time.

By **A.J. NEWTH**
Contributing Writer

My dad always told me that if I ever got a tattoo, I would be kicked out of the house. However, I came back from my first semester of college with my own tattoo gun and a fresh ink on my finger. Second semester I returned home with one on my thigh and plans for many more.

My dad’s biggest issue with tattoos was that as a woman in business, if they were visible, I would never be able to get a decent job. He makes a solid point, as according to Earth Web, only 35% of companies in 2022 are accepting of tattoos which is shocking considering 46% of the American population has at least one.

Additionally, 63% of workers 60 and older disapprove of tattoos in an office setting while only 22% of workers ages 18-25 disapprove, so this is clearly a generationally-based stigma. Where did that stereotype come from and why does it exist?

The stereotype surrounding tattoos stems from a long history of ink in correctional facilities, according to the U.S. Department of Justice. Tattooing became a popular recreational activity in prisons, and society began to associate tattoos with criminals. However, several studies show that inmates with tattoos feel more positive about their bodies than those without them.

It’s extremely ironic to think that criminal tattoos have left such a negative connotation on tattooing when in reality prisoners use them to heal their own insecurities. Even so, the association between criminal activity and tattoos is so strong that many villains in modern day media are inked up.

Tattoos have nothing to do with my degree of professionalism and everything to do with my identity. The Wall Street Journal recognizes that some professions are becoming more open to tattoos as a way to bring personality into the office, but this simply isn’t enough for me. I disagree with having to hide part of my identity for the acceptance of my coworkers and competitors. What is the point of decorating my skin if I have to hide it?

According to Forbes, businesses crave younger employees because they bring fresh ideas to the company. But as tattoos grow increasingly popular in newer generations, will ink be the barrier between hiring younger workers?

Many people choose to get tattoos as a form of self-expression, however this is not the only reason to get inked. Tattoos can be used to represent an important moment in your life or they can be dedicated to a loved one, according to The Guardian. The special part about tattoos is the feeling of connection to a whole community of people with a shared interest.

Some people use tattoos as a reminder of strength or part of a healing journey, like how, according to Newsweek, a Medusa tattoo represents survivors of sexual assault, or how a semicolon tattoo signifies conquering battles with mental illness. There are plenty of tattoos with deeper meanings that go unknown, according to On Your Journey. Being told to cover up tattoos when they are part of individuals’ stories and struggles is unfair and unjust.

Although I believe that everyone has the right to their own body and they can choose to decorate it however they want, I also understand that everyone expresses themselves differently, and some may choose tattoos that do not reflect the values of a business. Tattoos represent identity, so if a potential hire is sporting discriminatory or violent tattoos, the decision is simple: don’t hire them.

So why should my tattoos deem me unprofessional? Why is it that I can have an impeccable resume but still face adversity because of the way I choose to decorate my skin the second I sit down for an interview? I thoroughly believe that this stigma is reversible if we approach it with the same intensity as other discrimination issues in society.

Do not let your work ethic be defined by the way you look. Your abilities are not less than those of someone who’s body is a blank canvas. I can still respect the values of a company while simultaneously honoring who I am through the tattoos I carry with me. Just because I am 2% ink, does not mean I am not 100% capable of success.

Opinion

Beating honor roll anxiety

Stop putting unnecessary academic stress on yourself

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

A quick Google search on “how to get straight A’s” will turn up a WikiHow guide with suggestions like giving a good effort, being organized and even getting a good night’s sleep. But most 4.0 GPA students will tell you it’s not that easy. It’s also not necessary.

The famous saying goes: C’s get degrees. While cheesy, it’s true. At Quinnipiac University, undergraduate students must maintain at least a cumulative 2.0 grade point average, which equates to a C letter grade, to be in academic good standing with the university.

While a C grade is considered passing, and in turn the average standard to achieve, students tend to strive for above average. A 2018 study from the American Psychological Association found that perfectionism among college students increased an average of 20% between 1989 and 2016.

I have often found myself within this group that strives for perfection when it comes to grades. As a high school student, I was told how important getting good grades was in order to get into college. When I got to college, it turned into being told I needed good grades to get a good job.

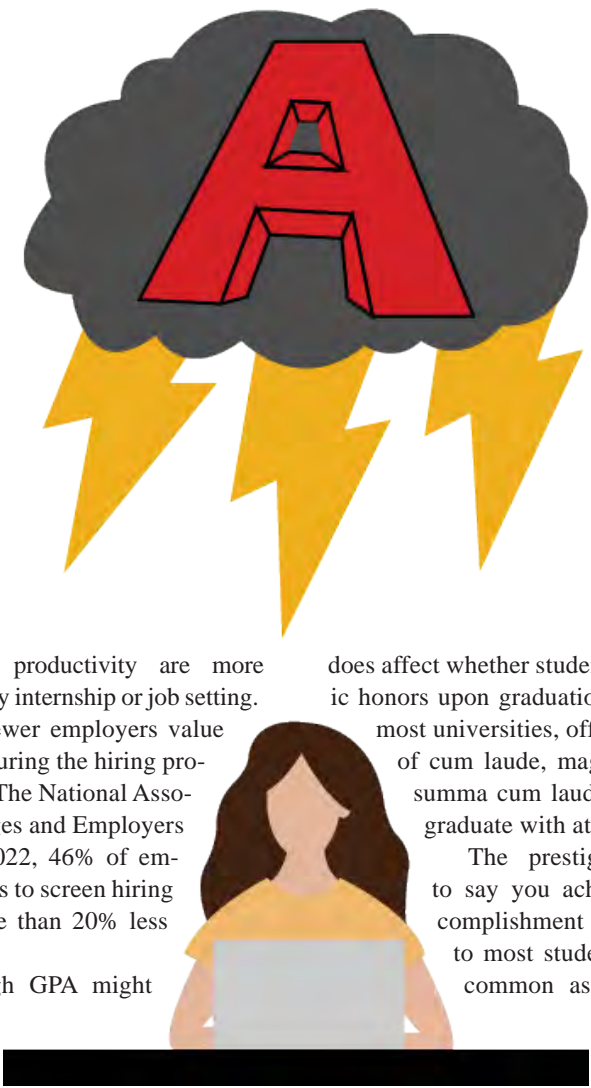
But the reality is, a letter on a transcript doesn’t accurately reflect how valuable a person’s skills and knowledge are. What makes someone a valuable team member or successful college student transcends just classroom comprehension. Things like life experience,

sociability and productivity are more worthwhile in any internship or job setting.

Moreover, fewer employers value college grades during the hiring process nowadays. The National Association of Colleges and Employers found that in 2022, 46% of employers use GPAs to screen hiring candidates, more than 20% less than in 2018.

While a high GPA might not matter for employers, it does affect whether students receive academic honors upon graduation. Quinnipiac, like most universities, offers the latin honors of cum laude, magna cum laude and summa cum laude for students who graduate with at least a 3.5 GPA.

The prestige of being able to say you achieved such an accomplishment may be appealing to most students, but it’s not as common as you might think. Student Assembly estimates 30%



of most graduating college classes graduate with honors — less than half of graduates.

While it’s unclear how many students graduate with honors from Quinnipiac, what does matter, (and probably why we’re all here in the first place) is to get a job. Quinnipiac has consistently been ranked by Zipia as the top university in the country for job placement post graduation at 96.1%. That means that nearly every graduate, whether they graduate with honors, or with a 4.0 GPA, still finds a job post-graduation.

Even though the status of achieving a 4.0 GPA or Latin honors matters to a lot of students, the reality is that the grades you get in college won’t matter in ten, five or even one year after you graduate. While being in the thick of classes and surrounded by peers, it is natural to feel the pressure to want to do well, and it’s good to. But doing well is not just limited to getting what you think are “good” grades. Doing well in college should be tied to greater things – like the friendships you form or the memories you make.

These reasons don’t justify slacking off or being apathetic toward your grades, especially because of the financial and personal investment that goes into pursuing higher education. But as a student, especially one at a prestigious university like Quinnipiac, understanding that success goes beyond just a numerical accumulation will allow you to better enjoy your college experience without unnecessary academic pressure.

Share judgements mindfully

Educated viewpoints contribute to the greater good

By **MICHAEL LARocca**
Opinion Editor

Let’s start this piece with a small thought experiment.

I am a 19-year-old white male from a suburban town in New Jersey. I worked my way up to being the opinion editor of The Chronicle during my first year at college. I am currently the one that has the final say on what opinions are published in the newspaper, but does that make me qualified to thoughtfully speak about abortion? Or racial injustice? Most people, including myself, would say no.

However, in today’s era of social media, many believe there are no limits to the topics we can share our views on. A recent example is how social media reacted to the death of Queen Elizabeth II. While the United Kingdom was in the process of mourning its monarch of more than seven decades, many took to Twitter to poke fun at the late queen’s passing.

An example of this was used in a recent Newsweek article, where they mentioned a tweet from comedian Tim Heidecker that said, “If you think the Queen’s death and the raid on Mar a Lago are just a coincidence you are a fucking idiot.”

This shows how people nowadays feel the need to insert their opinion into any discussion, no matter how unnecessary or unrelated it may be, strictly because they have the option to do so.

In a country where the prominence of disinformation can cause people’s understanding of the media to wane, what we as society need to avoid is someone’s uninformed

opinion contributing to the struggle we are facing as a nation. If someone is informed on a certain topic, I believe that adds to a more informed population, something that can benefit us all for the future.

Prior to social media, if you wanted to share your opinion on current events, you would either tell your friends about it, or maybe submit an article like this to a local newspaper. But now, the moment anything of note happens, people flock to their nearest keyboard and get to clacking away on things that are not of concern to them.

I would say I’m guilty of this myself. I share my opinion all the time, either in this section, or when I complain about sports on Twitter or Instagram. I will never be a professional football player, so who am I to criticize their efforts? One might even say this entire piece is hypocritical in its nature. While I am the opinion editor, I shouldn’t be the one to invalidate any opinions others may have. But, in my own defense, I think there is a fairly thick line we can all tread, and I take that line to heart in the position I hold.

When the Supreme Court’s draft opinion regarding the overturning of Roe v. Wade was released in May, I knew I wanted to publish a piece in my section about it. At that moment, I knew that I had nothing of value to say, so I didn’t say anything. Instead, The Chronicle’s managing editor, Nicole McIsaac, chose to vocalize her own perspective, and I believe our publication was all the better for it. The public was able to hear an opinion from someone that has a personal connection to the subject matter rather than one who would only prove they know nothing about the topic at hand.

In this world, everyone has the right to an opinion, and that is something I will maintain for the rest of my days. However, there are people more qualified than others when it comes to making those opinions public. For example, I would trust a Quinnipiac University School of Business professor’s opinion on the state of the economy much more than one of a high school freshman.

That was the mindset I took when I re-

ceived McIsaac’s opinion. I knew that she could produce a piece one million times more valuable to the public than anything I could have ever hoped to write on the topic. And I was fine with that. It’s okay to feel that way.

I believe that we as a society need to learn that while we all may have our preconceived notions about anything, we’re not always required to vocalize them. I think that we should all step back and let those who are more qualified speak. And if you are that qualified person, by all means shout your opinions from the rooftops, but think first. It’s not too hard to tell.



Arts & Life



PHOTO BY ALEX BAYER/CONTRIBUTED BY PEP BAND

A hurrah to QU's Pep Band

By **NEHA SEENARINE**
Arts & Life Editor

In the winter, as Quinnipiac University’s M&T Bank Arena is seated with thrilled attendees supporting the Quinnipiac basketball and hockey teams, there’s one group that’s always there: the Quinnipiac Pep Band.

“We represent the school, so we have to put on our best face,” said Tyler Horvath, co-director of Pep Band and molecular and cell biology graduate student. “We have to support the team through their ups and downs... we love the players a lot and we support them as much as we can.”

The Pep Band is a performing ensemble that plays at both men’s and women’s ice hockey and

basketball games with opportunities of traveling with athletics during championship games.

Madison Vale, spirit lead of Pep Band and a sophomore 3+1 graphic and interactive design major, makes sure everyone involved is enjoying themselves.

“We’re just here to get the crowd pumped,” Vale said. “We’re really making sure we limit our negativity and bringing in a positive light to games in general.”

The Pep Band is one of the Quinnipiac’s spirit groups alongside the Quinnipiac Ice Cats and the appearances of students dressed as the Teletubbies. The group creates signs catering to each athletic game and dedicates special horn movements to different plays.

“Most of us do not know the individual athletes personally, but we want them to win so bad it kind of is the fan mentality where we have signs,” said Justin Reid, co-captain of the Pep Band and senior history major. “We love to hold up signs that reference members or other team members. We played against Colgate and have a sign that says, ‘Crest is better.’ We make signs that are stupid, right? Of course, but it’s all part of being a fan.”

Although the Pep Band proves its loyalty, Evan Voyer, co-director and molecular and cell biology graduate student said sometimes the crowd can forget the group exists.

“We are at every single home game, men’s and women’s ice hockey and basketball teams, that’s four teams that we support,” Voyer said. “I think a lot of people like to appreciate and focus on some of the others (spirit groups) and we’re there at everything.”

The Pep Band plays a variety of music from start to finish. The group opens with “We Will Rock You” by Queen and “Tequila” by The Champs makes an appearance at the beginning of the third quarter. The band closes with either a winning or losing song.

“(The music) has to be pretty fast-paced, it has to be fun, we’re trying to be peppy,” Reid said. “We want to make sure that a lot of people know the song because it’s way more fun for everybody. We’re pulling from things like movies and TV

shows and songs that you would have heard on the radio, like ‘Shrek 2,’ a lot of people know that.”

After the basketball and hockey seasons were canceled in 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Pep Band noticed a loss of vibrancy between the group and the attendees when they returned to the stands.

“It was definitely different because the students knew a lot more of the chants that we did, and sort of the culture surrounding the games,” Voyer said. “The pep band started up again after the pandemic, so then, at that point, there were two classes, so half of the school that had never been to an in-person game... so it was a little bit of a transition to get back into, trying to get them to chant the chants that we’ve been doing.”

Voyer recalled a time when the Pep Band was spelling out Quinnipiac as a chant at one of last year’s games and a student questioned what the group was trying to say.

“They’re like, ‘What is that?’ And you’re like, ‘The name of our school?’” Voyer said. “Yeah, (that’s) a bit of a taste of what we’ve been dealing with.”

Though the group has seen a decrease in membership throughout the past three years, it doesn’t stop them from performing.

“We’re small but mighty,” Vale said. “Sometimes people are like, ‘There’s a band?’ and so just knowing that we’re here. Hopefully, we can continue pushing forward and going back to like, what Pep Band was like before COVID. Although I don’t really know what it was I can assume a lot of bands are rebuilding.”

The environment of the Pep Band is “do what you can” Horvath said. The group emphasized its gratitude for the members and the positive moments they shared together. Horvath described the Pep Band as a second home.

“We have four games a weekend and that’s four hours a game; every weekend, every Friday night, Saturday night, sometimes we have a game,” Horvath said. “I’m with these people a lot. These are people that come from all different majors and all different parts of campus and campus isn’t huge, but they’re people I never would have met otherwise.”



ILLUSTRATION BY LINDSEY ROMSON

How will the queen be remembered?

By DANIEL PASSAPERA
Multimedia Editor

The year Queen Elizabeth II ascended to the throne, Mr. Potato Head and Slinky Dog made their first appearances on store shelves, the U.S. president was Dwight Eisenhower and Rick Astley hadn’t yet been born to “rick” his first “roll.”

On Sept. 8, at age 96, the queen died at her Balmoral Castle estate in Scotland, marking the end of a prominent and tumultuous seven-decade tenure on the throne.

“The death of my beloved Mother, Her Majesty The Queen, is a moment of great sadness for me and all members of my family,” wrote King Charles III in a statement following the announcement of his mother’s death.

The queen represented stability within Britain as a monarch



ILLUSTRATION BY ALEX KENDALL

who adapted to various social changes in a modernizing world. She met with 13 U.S. presidents and worked alongside 15 British prime ministers during her tenure.

Christine Kinealy, professor of history at Quinnipiac University, said this adaptability is one of the reasons why the queen and the monarchy’s tradition still fascinates Britons and even Americans.

“I think she has, through a time of incredible change, been a unifying and stabilizing figure,” Kinealy said. “At the moment, in particular, the last few years have been such a period of change, turmoil, upset and uncertainty for people that this stability, this tradition, is almost like comfort food.”

Despite these achievements, the many faults and controversies of Elizabeth II’s tenure are hard to ignore and those downfalls came plenty.

Most recently, the controversies surrounding Meghan, Duchess of Sussex, a biracial American actress and wife to Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex, still looms.

Meghan, alongside Harry, accused the royal family of failing to defend her after multiple tabloid attacks and racist remarks on the appearance of their son Archie, in an interview with Oprah in 2021.

There were "concerns and conversations about how dark his skin might be when he's born," Meghan said in the interview.

Following the interview, Buckingham Palace released a four-line statement with one line reading "the issues raised, particularly that of race, are concerning.”

A year prior, in 2020, Meghan and Harry stepped down from royal duties and frequently spent time away from Britain up until recent visits, greeting mourners following the queen’s death.

This isn’t the first time members of the royal family stepped back or stopped their duties completely in an effort to protect their family unit.

In 1936, King Edward VIII abdicated from the throne, effectively stepping down from his role as king to marry Wallis Simpson, an American woman who had been divorced twice. To this day, the royal family website, states that Simpson “would not have been acceptable as Queen” because of divorce, a frowned upon act within the monarchy.

Elizabeth II did however allow her son, Charles, who was Prince of Wales at the time, to marry a divorcee in Camilla Parker Bowles.

Charles himself was a divorcee, following a strained

relationship with Princess Diana, who died in a car accident one year after their separation.

Diana was beloved and her popularity still remains true today. Despite reported rifts between her and the queen, Diana carried on in public life advocating for social issues and bringing a sense of normalcy to a posh family.

The queen left behind not only family issues but a longstanding British era of colonization. Today, aside from Britain, 14 countries are under the control of the Commonwealth according to the Council on Foreign Relations.

This continued rule includes authority over Indigenous people and land predating oppression and atrocities committed throughout the queen’s rule.

“This is a monarchy that is associated with the British Empire, with centuries of oppression and who has never really apologized,” Kinealy said.

King Charles III will now take the reins after having prepared for this moment his entire life alongside Camilla, Queen consort.

Before his proper induction, the English tax-payers will cover funeral expenses for the queen, whose body will be transported between estates before being laid to rest next to her husband, Philip, who died last year.

Kinealy said given the magnitude of the remembrances, ceremonies and coronation that proceed, the royal family’s affluence will continue to separate them from the average person.

“I do think that they’re out of touch in a way, that even if they try to appear accessible, they're not,” Kinealy said. “How can they be? They've been born to a life of privilege.”

Through the feats and faults, the symbolism that Queen Elizabeth II represented is completely dependent on which factors outweigh the others. If any indication, the reaction following the announcement of her death is the latter.

ILLUSTRATION BY AMANDA RIHA

Catch up with the Chronicle's Podcasts

By ANYA GRONDALSKI
Podcast Producer

The Quinnipiac Chronicle kicked off its podcasts for this semester, publishing episodes of “The Weekly Report” and “Generationzedia” last week. The semester's first episodes of “Lunchtime Legislation” and “Chronversations” published later this week. Laine Healy, a junior 3+1 major returns to the show, accompanied by new co-host Christiaan McCray, a senior journalism major.

“Generationzedia,” started by former Arts and Life Editor Ashley Pelletier, continued with an episode on Disney Channel’s shows. Pelletier was joined by guest host and Arts and Life Editor David Matos.

Later this week, Photography Editor Jack Spiegel and Associate Multimedia Editor Jack Muscatello talk about the raid on Mar-a-Lago and the January 6th hearing committee. For the rest of the semester, You can expect continued topics like political analysis, Gen Z nostalgia, campus news and even sports coverage.

Stay tuned for more of your favorite audio storytelling and reporting on campus. Listen wherever you download your podcasts.

JACK SPIEGEL/CHRONICLE

'Weekly Report' host, Laine Healy, recording in the Quinnipiac Podcast Studio.

Meet the mid-life crisis' evil younger brother, the quarter-life crisis

By **DAVID MATOS**
Arts & Life Editor

The societal pressure to have life mapped out like a game of MASH can easily put any 20-year-old into a bit of a funk, or rather, a quarter-life crisis.

MASH is a paper-and-pencil game meant to predict the player’s future. Some examples of the categories include how many kids you’ll have or what kind of car you’ll own. Though a harmless game played by children, it becomes all the more real as you enter your 20s and your more favorable predictions start to crumble.

Psychotherapist Tess Brigham wrote in a June 2022 Forbes article the concept of the quarter-life crisis is “something young people have been going through to varying degrees for several decades.”

Similar to a mid-life crisis, according to Bradley University, a quarter-life crisis is when someone in their early to mid-20s is apprehensive about the course of their future. Your early 20s come with distressing expectations like filing your own taxes or saving for your retirement.

A 2019 survey by The Harris Poll found 48% of young Americans surveyed had experienced a quarter-life crisis.

Growing up, children are always asked “What do you want to be when you grow up?” From my experience, that question will haunt you the rest of your life, or, at least until your early 20s. And even as a college senior, I hardly ever have a tangible answer.

Nearly every time I’ve been asked what my imminent career looks like, I’ve given different answers. From a veterinarian, actor, therapist to journalist, the pure amount of careers I wanted to conquer was enough to make Barbie jealous.

One of my earliest memories about being asked about career aspirations is when each of my classmates in kindergarten was tasked to voice what they wanted to be when they grow up on stage in front of our parents. Why are

children expected to know their place in society when they haven’t even taken algebra yet? Though I’m 21 years old and have completed all of my math courses, I still don’t have my life figured out.

Entering a quarter-life crisis while your peers are moving up in the ranks can also lead to a bit of jealousy.

Your friends might be taking major leaps in their new-found adulthood by landing job offers, buying their first car or renting their first home. While your friends are signing contracts you might be in the McDonald’s drive-through line wondering if you should go for the Big Mac or the 10-piece McNugget, and that’s OK. It’s not that you’re lazy, it’s just that everyone goes through life at a different pace and sometimes it’s better to slow down.

When you’re in the middle of a quarter-life crisis you might feel the need to say yes to an unpaid internship with negative reviews just for the “experience” or get into a loveless relationship because all of your peers already found their match. This is common when you’re looking to move things along in your life because, well, society expects you to. However, rash planning during any type of crisis is never the answer.

As cheesy as it sounds, taking the time to step back and reflect while letting go of that societal pressure is an exceptional way to conquer a quarter-life crisis. Hitting the pause button on your hypothetical remote can sometimes be the answer to finding your way through your most life-changing challenges.

Going through a quarter-life crisis is one of the most terrifying experiences any college student

just entering adulthood can have. Just know that if you ever find yourself in a position where you feel like you’re making big decisions out of desperation and not for yourself, it’s time for your metaphorical life lunch break.

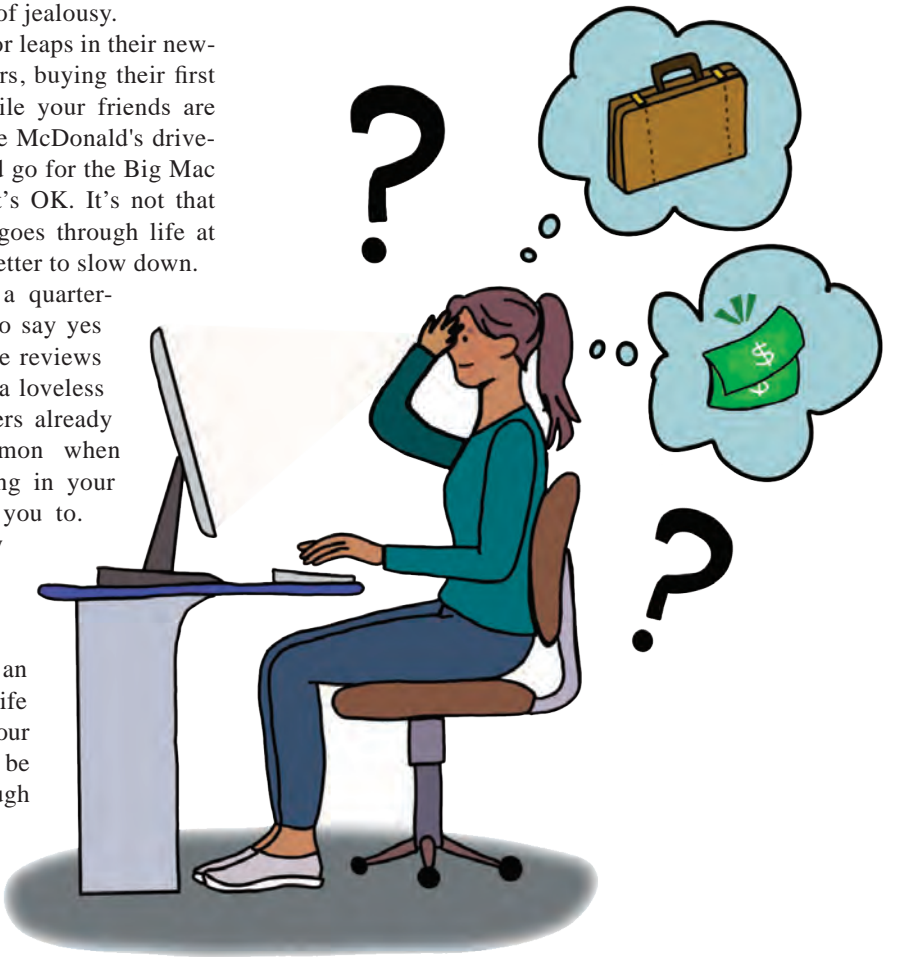


ILLUSTRATION BY SARAH HARDIMAN

'The Rings of Power': So far, not so precious

By **JACK MUSCATELLO**
Associate Multimedia Editor

Amazon’s venture into “The Lord of the Rings” broke ground on Sept. 1, with the two-episode premiere of the spin-off “The Rings of Power.” It’s been a slow start for the most expensive television production to date, with a lacking plot and subpar characters failing the flurry of colorful effects and wizardry on display. But with the release of the third episode on Sept. 9, the show’s future is starting to look almost as epic as its price tag.

The series stands as a prequel to the classic “The Lord of the Rings” film trilogy of the early 2000s, taking place thousands of years before author J.R.R. Tolkien’s most prominent works. The new story, streaming on Amazon Prime Video, weaves its way across different sections of the fictional world of Middle Earth, following various elves, hobbits and soldiers as they navigate an increasingly dire landscape. An ominous threat from the legendary villain Sauron looms over the first season, hinting at larger conflicts ahead.

Though the best is likely yet to arrive for the series, it feels like “The Rings of Power” has been stuck in a paradoxical enigma. While showrunners J.D. Payne and Patrick McKay have stuffed the opening episodes with multiple concurring storylines and a litany of unique characters, the story is still missing a few key ingredients.

To start, the characters are rather uninteresting. Galadriel, who has emerged as the centerpiece “action hero” for the series, is given little outside of larger-than-life lines of epic dialogue and frustratingly simple motivations. Actress Morfydd Clark is doing all she can, but this basic approach to a rather famous character leaves her feeling hollow, one-dimensional and somewhat unreliable.

Elrond, an elf and friend to Galadriel, is realized in a stronger fashion, taking on a properly youthful optimism that makes his segments of the story much more engaging. But most of the characters follow in the footsteps of

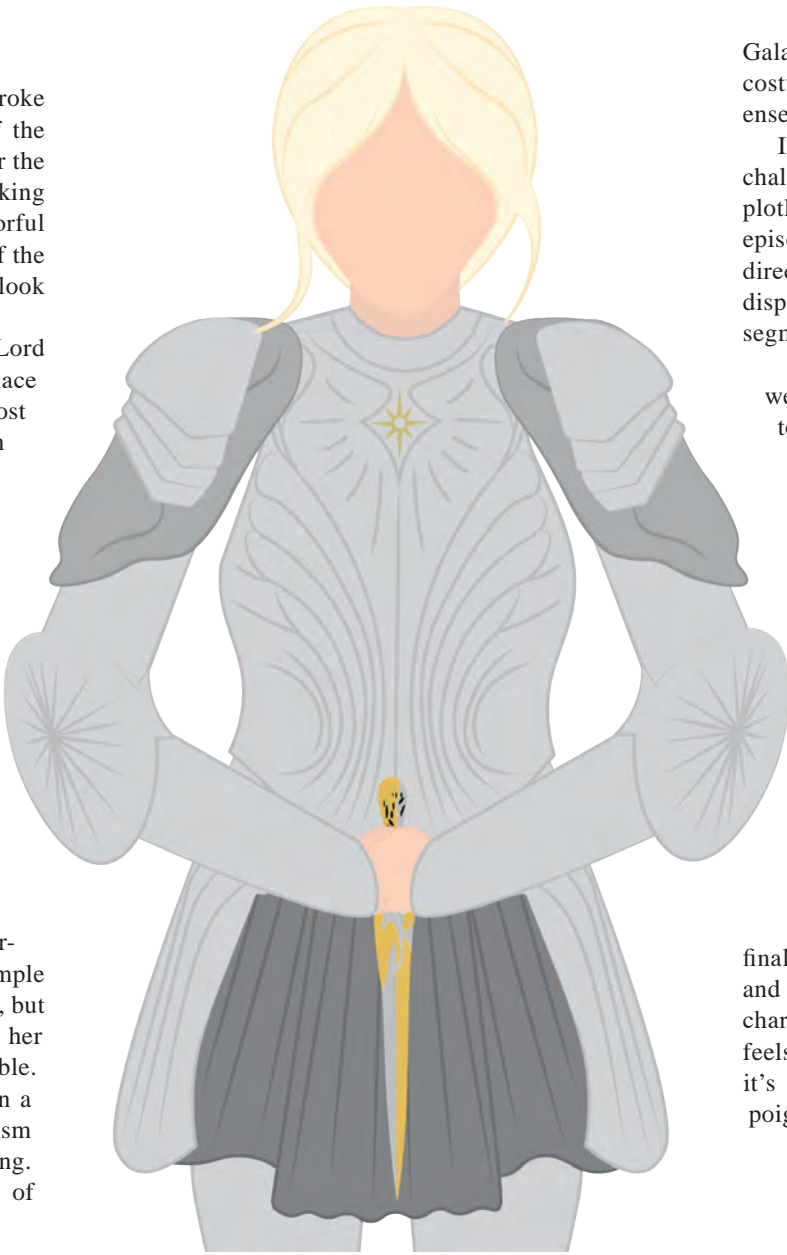


ILLUSTRATION BY SHAVONNE CHIN

Galadriel, with the writing routinely failing their promising costume design and the consistent performances from the ensemble cast.

In addition, the pacing of the narrative makes it a challenge to care for the characters. The abundance of plotlines introduced in the pilot has caused the succeeding episodes to feel almost aimless and messy. Though the direction has been solid and efficient, with a keen effort to display as much of the budget on screen as possible, each segment of the story comes across as half-baked and clumsy.

No amount of visual expertise can completely save a weak story, but “The Rings of Power” may get pretty close to accomplishing this feat. So far, the show is absolutely stunning. Establishing shots of the many locations showcases unrivaled attention to detail. The scale of the action set pieces supersedes even the majority of blockbusters out in theaters this year. The lighting evokes a familiar aesthetic to the original trilogy, the visual effects stand out in the best way possible and the set design combines a proper amount of practical elements to make it all feel real.

Amazon has previously hinted at a five-season plan for the series, banking on the popularity of the source material to carry the project as a tentpole for the studio. The budget would be ridiculous even for a new series of films, but for a television production, it seems almost asinine.

However, this is just the beginning for “The Rings of Power.” One plotline established in the pilot’s final scene promises a sizable mystery for fans to uncover, and teasers from the studio showcase a greater expanse of characters, locations and conflicts ahead. Though the series feels unfocused and a bit all over the place at the moment, it’s best to take heed of famed wizard Gandalf’s most poignant advice: “The journey doesn’t end here.”

Un Verano Con Ti: Bad Bunny’s worldwide influence

By AIDAN SHEEDY
Copy Editor

I don’t follow celebrities or pop culture very much. I have no idea what Kanye West tweeted or how Trisha Paytas’ pregnancy is going. However, there’s one guy that got me. Benito Antonio Martínez Ocasio, better known as Bad Bunny, has sucked me into his musical world of international superstardom.

Bad Bunny was bagging groceries at an Econo supermarket just 7 years ago, now he is at the peak of an illustrious career. He was Spotify’s most streamed artist in 2021 and is coming off the release of his fifth studio album “Un Verano Sin Ti,” which spent an egregious 17 weeks at No. 1 on the Billboard Top 200, he is selling out the biggest venues in the world, and doing it with ease.

He has sold out his first seven concerts of his “World’s Hottest Tour” that included iconic venues like Yankee Stadium, Fenway Park and Soldier Field. The show at Yankee Stadium made waves across the internet after the field was swarmed by fans, amassing 100,000 people, according to Vulture.

The Puerto Rican reggaetón artist also played DJ at the “party of the year” in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in early August with a record-breaking 18,700 people in attendance according to Vox. That number may not sound that impressive, but the scenes outside of the Coliseo de Puerto Rico were identical, if not bigger, to a New Year’s Eve in Times

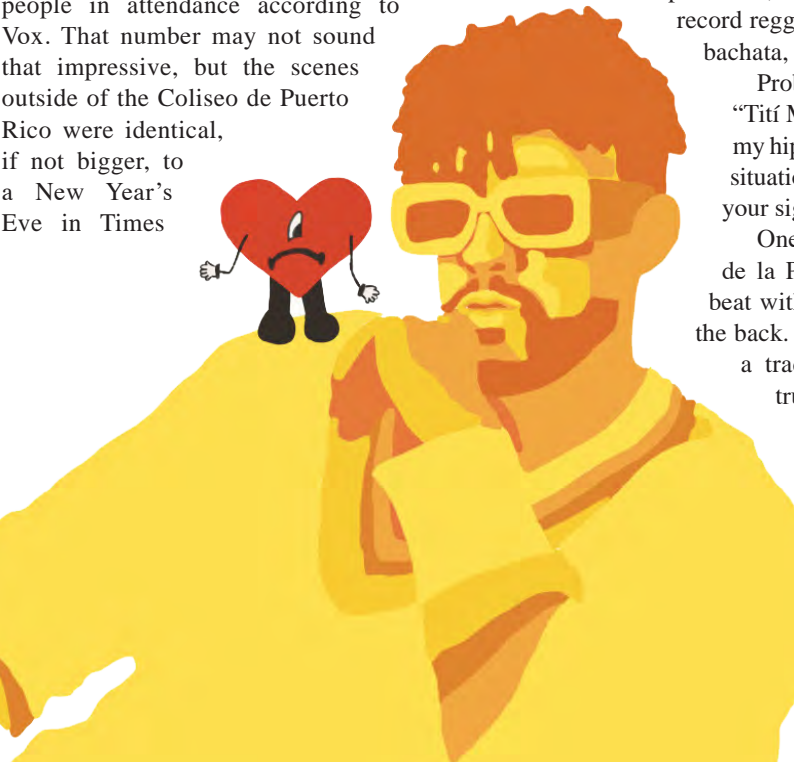


ILLUSTRATION BY AMANDA RIHA

Square. Massive block parties and celebrations surfaced all over Puerto Rico.

The 28-year-old demonstrates time and time again that he is making music for his fellow Puerto Ricans and no one else.

“I make songs as if only Puerto Ricans were going to listen to them,” he said in the June cover story of GQ Magazine. “I still think I’m there making music, and it’s for Puerto Ricans. I forget the entire world listens to me.”

While he is shattering records in the music industry left and right, Bad Bunny remains grounded and humble. During that show in San Juan, he made sure that there was time to talk about some serious topics.

Puerto Rico is still recovering from Hurricane Maria in 2017 and at the same time, Vox reported that the island is facing a massive uptick in gentrification from white Americans receiving significant tax breaks. Many Puerto Ricans are seeing their beaches invaded, their water supply polluted and their electricity becoming more and more unstable. As a result, Vox reported that blackouts have multiplied sevenfold, which was a subject touched on by Bad Bunny with his performance of “El Apagón,” which means “blackout.”

What had me wrapped into “Un Verano Sin Ti” in particular, was the diversity in his music. He didn’t only record reggaetón, but also included tracks of mambo, bomba, bachata, merengue and Dominican dembow.

Probably the most recognizable track on the album, “Tití Me Preguntó”, which never fails to make me move my hips and smile. It’s a wholesome song about awkward situations involving family members asking you about your significant other or romantic relationships.

One of my favorite tracks on the album is “Después de la Playa,” which begins as a signature Bad Bunny beat with a slow first verse and a quiet tropical sound in the back. But after one minute in, the song transitions into a traditional merengue/mambo tune; complete with trumpets, saxophones and tamboras.

It’s hard to come by now, but Bad Bunny is making music for everyone, and I mean everyone. A friend told me that every living generation of their extended family is listening to a different track from the album, each based on sounds from their childhoods in Puerto Rico. It’s truly a musical feat to cater to all audiences and do it successfully.

But Bad Bunny doesn’t just transcend musical sanctions, he annihilates social ones too. He is prideful of his Puerto Rican heritage, is politically outspoken and defies

traditional sexuality and gender-conforming normatives.

During his performance for the 2022 MTV Video Music Awards, in which he became the first Latin artist to win the coveted “Artist of the Year” award, Bad Bunny performed the aforementioned hit “Tití Me Preguntó.” During a break in the song, he had a group of dancers around him and proceeded to kiss one female dancer and one male dancer.

The clip of him kissing a male backup dancer went viral with insensitive claims of social media users claiming he’s gay or “at least bi” (Out). Others went to farther lengths of saying that he was “queerbaiting,” but to me this was his effort to break down and change what it means to be machismo, an expectation of manliness in traditional Latino households.

Bad Bunny has yet to directly address these claims on social media, but he has said numerous times over the years that his sexuality is fluid. Nonetheless, this surge of conversation about his sexuality has sparked conversation. Having a fluid sexuality allows him to not have to label himself for the convenience of other people, an important step in normalizing dynamic sexualities in society.

Bad Bunny is the biggest name in music right now and rightfully so. With the latest sold-out shows and the success of “Un Verano Sin Ti,” Celebrity Net Worth reported that he is now worth over \$18 million. Yet, Bad Bunny remains grounded and continues to not sell out.

“He was the same when I met him as he is today,” his manager, Noah Assad told GQ. “He’s definitely an introvert in many ways. Most people would think he’s the other way around—but very humble to this day.”

Of course, the Latin music star is always making an effort to stay true to himself.

“Some things change because it’s impossible for them not to when you get a lot of success and a bunch of money you didn’t have before,” he said. “But my inner self, my person is intact.”

His music is also intact. El Conejo Malo has certainly seen his music evolve, but he does it on his own terms, especially when the Latino voice lacks in the American music industry.

In an appearance on The Daily Show with Trevor Noah, Bad Bunny was asked if he would change for greater success in the United States. Without haste he replied with, “Why would I have to change? Nobody asks a gringo artist to change.”

Even if you are not Puerto Rican, there is something so empowering about Bad Bunny that is almost mythical. Any connection in the world that you can make to listen to his music and understand his platform, it’s the perfect reason to start right now.

An ever-lasting case of Bieber Fever

By EMMA KOGEL
Associate Design Editor

The late 2000s were defined by two things: screaming fangirls and lots of hair.

I remember flipping through the pages of “J-14” magazines, passing pictures of the Jonas Brothers, 5 Seconds of Summer and One Direction, to get to my favorite: Justin Bieber. After finding these treasured photos, I would plaster them all over my bedroom walls to show my love for the creator of the “Bieber hair flip.”

Elementary school lunch was when I would spend my time defending Bieber to the masses of other kids that didn’t see what I saw in my teenage heartthrob.

Bieber was brought into stardom with his debut album “My World” in 2009, quickly making the Canadian YouTuber a household name. During his first few years in the limelight, he quickly tackled controversy after controversy, from drag racing to egging houses to very public relationship issues according to The Guardian. It was clear that Bieber has had his fair share of drama and criticism.

Through all of his trials and tribulations, I supported him, even while many of his fans understandably stopped backing him.

I wanted to be Bieber’s “One Less Lonely Girl” that he brought onstage at concerts. I feel like I grew up alongside Bieber, as different pivotal moments in his career would also affect my own life. From the debut of his hit single “Baby” that broke Vevo records with hitting one billion views in 2014. To the release of the best album Bieber has ever created, “Journals,” which is not up for discussion, to forcing my roommates to watch his low budget YouTube documentary in 2020.

Even as the boy band craze of the late 2000s started to

sweep the nation, Bieber remained my No.1love.

I recall feeling betrayed when he snipped his beloved “Bieber flip,” but soon realized he could do no wrong in the looks department. No matter the era, Bieber never fails to impress when it comes to his iconic style. From his dog tag necklace, to his full leather ensembles, to the trendsetting Drew fashion line, the popstar seems to always know how to get all eyes on him. Time after time, Bieber released top hits, proving both his talent and longevity in the music world, even to this day.

Another facet of Bieber’s career that kept his name in the



ILLUSTRATION BY EMMA KOGEL

spotlight was his highly publicized relationships. His most public and tumultuous relationship was with the Disney Channel sweetheart Selena Gomez, which was on and off for several years.

Gomez was living my dream during this time, of course, until Bieber was publicly exposed for cheating on her. I remember feeling heartbroken when this news hit the media, and personally, I don’t know if I’m over it quite yet. Still, this Earth shattering news didn’t stop me from blasting “That Should Be Me” through my neon blue iPod Shuffle. Bieber’s music was just too good to stop listening, even after he broke the hearts of super fans everywhere.

Most recently Bieber has found himself settled down with super model Hailey Bieber. Backlash has always followed Bieber’s relationships, and it certainly did not stop when he married Baldwin. From fans bringing up his past relationship with Gomez, to constant criticism, it certainly hasn’t been an easy road for the married couple. Aside from relationship struggles, Bieber has faced many health setbacks. From his diagnosis of Lyme Disease in 2020, to his most recent bout of the partial facial paralysis caused by Ramsay Hunt syndrome, it hasn’t been an easy couple of years for Bieber.

Many people still consider Bieber to be a questionable celebrity, but I don’t believe that anyone can deny him of his exorbitant talent and killer looks. I mean, who could forget that cheeky mugshot? He clearly has had both high highs and low lows throughout his fruitful career, but through thick and thin, I stayed a true “Belieber.”

I’ve always imagined what I would say if I were to meet my teen idol in person, but I’ll just leave it at this: “Bieber, I would never say never.”

Scores
&
Schedule

Wednesday 9/7
WSOC won 3-1 vs Fordham

Friday 9/9
VB lost 3-0 vs Morehead State
(Comfort Inn-vitational)
VB lost 3-2 vs North Alabama
(Comfort Inn-vitaional)
WTEN @ Army (No Team Results)
FHOK won 1-0 @ Lafayette

Saturday 9/10
GOLF 8th of 15 @ Yale Invitational
WXC 1st of 13 @ Siena XC Invitational
MXC 10th of 14 @ Siena XC Invitational
VB lost 3-1 vs Robert Morris
(Comfort Inn-vitational)
RUGBY lost 48-19 @ Harvard
MSOC= won 2-1 vs CCSU
WTEN @ Fairfield (No Team Results)

Sunday 9/11
GOLF 7th of 15 @ Yale Invitational
FHOK lost 3-2 vs LIU
WSOC tied 2-2 @ Rhode Island
WTEN @ UConn (No Team Results)



SEPT. 10 A.J. GUGLIOTTA III/CHRONICLE

Wednesday 9/14
MSOC vs Sacred Heart 4 p.m.

Friday 9/16
MXC @ Iona Invitational
FHOK @ Temple 5 p.m.

Saturday 9/17
WSOC vs Niagara 12 p.m.
MSOC @ Harvard 12:30 p.m.
VB @ Niagara 1 p.m.
RUGBY vs Army 1 p.m.
WHOK @ UConn 3 p.m. (Exhibition)

Sunday 9/18
VB @ Canisius 1 p.m.

Monday 9/19
FHOK vs UC Davis 11 a.m.

Spiegel’s Eagle: Chips and dips
Quinnipiac navigates tough course conditions
at Yale Invitational

By JACK SPIEGEL
Photography Editor

The defending MAAC champion Quinnipiac women’s golf team opened the fall season at the Yale Invitational by posting a collective 30-over-par, earning them a seventh place finish after three rounds.

Athletes from 15 schools hit the patch-filled links at the 5,144-yard Yale Golf Course this weekend.

Quinnipiac head coach John O’Connor said that “putting on these greens is very, very difficult” due to dead grass and large undulations in the greens.

What was once renowned as one of the best golf courses in Connecticut lost its charm once the pandemic hit, and their superintendent of 17 years departed.

Golf Digest reported that Yale reduced the number of maintenance staff members from 24 to two, and restricted them to four hours of work per day.

The university did, though, announce a \$25 million restoration to the course in Sept. 2021. The goal was to revive the course back to its original state, but signs of the rehabilitation were few and far between.

One of the most unusual parts of this course was the par-3 ninth hole where a nearly 10-foot-deep valley in the middle of the green hosted the pin. This dip was an unexpected challenge for everyone on the team, except for captain Leeyen Peralta, who was the only player to shoot par or better in the third round.

O’Connor said that the third round was the only day of the tournament where the hole was located in that valley.

Following Saturday’s opening round 83 (+12), senior Kaylee Sakoda rebounded by shooting a second-round 71 and third-round 69 at the fall season opener.

Considering the wet and muggy weather, along with difficult course conditions, Sakoda posted her best score of the weekend on Sunday.

“Today was my best round,” Sakoda said on Sept. 11. She also acknowledged her first-round struggles saying that her third-round performance was “quite an improvement.”

Along with Sakoda, team captain Leeyen Peralta, Aimee Uchida, Meg Yoshida and Fuge Zhang were also playing this weekend.

Not all of the Bobcats were able to crack this difficult course. Neither Yoshida or Zhang were able to break par in any of the three rounds.

Despite the challenging course conditions, O’Connor considered the team’s third round to be record breaking.

Not only was the third round record breaking, but the team posted its best three-round, combined score (+30) in program history this weekend.

“We’re about four-over-par for the round for four scores, which is amazing,” O’Connor said. The Bobcats ended up finishing the day at 5-over-par.



PEYTON MCKENZIE/CHRONICLE

The Quinnipiac golf team finished 7th out of 15 at the Yale Invitational.

Though Quinnipiac posted one of the best scores of the third round, they could not beat Pennsylvania, Yale, JMU, Georgia Southern, Maryland or Harvard, who posted a 1-under.

Despite the result, O’Connor has a positive outlook on the rest of the season for the Bobcats, especially within the MAAC.

“Albany is our only competition in our conference,” O’Connor said. “And we’re ahead of them by 20 or 30 strokes.”

Though Albany may be its only in-conference competition, Quinnipiac struggled to fare on the national stage. The team came in last place out of 12 teams at the NCAA Regional tournament back in May.

Following last year’s MAAC championship, Sakoda is confident another one is on the way.

“Our squad is the same as last year,” Sakoda said. “So with another year of experience, I think we’re gonna do pretty well.”

O’Connor also said that he would consider this a successful year if his team defends their MAAC title.

The Bobcats will return home to Connecticut for the Quinnipiac Classic on Oct. 11, after traveling up and down the east coast for tournaments hosted by Boston College and Navy.



PEYTON MCKENZIE/CHRONICLE

Sophomore Meg Yoshida recorded three top-15 finishes as a freshman in 2021-22.



JACK SPIEGEL/CHRONICLE

Head coach Dave Clarke: ‘We are not one system’

A behind-the-scenes look at women’s soccer’s blistering-hot start

By **ETHAN HURWITZ**
Sports Editor

As the calendar flipped to September, the Quinnipiac women’s soccer team continues to be a bright spot on campus. Between the team’s 4-1-1 record, the unbelievable play of junior forward Rebecca Cooke and the stellar goaltending of sophomore Sofia Lospinoso, the Bobcats have lived up to their preseason expectations so far.

You don’t even have to be a soccer fan to be amazed by the fluidity of the team’s game in and game out. But like every sports team, a large amount of planning goes into Quinnipiac’s game management style.

Head coach Dave Clarke, currently in his 28th season at the helm, deserves a lot of credit for Quinnipiac’s impressive start, which includes multiple two-game win streaks. The amount of depth on the team, as well as intense practice sessions, have the Bobcats in second place in the current MAAC standings.

“We are not ... one system,” Clarke said. “The principles don’t change, no matter what the formation is, it’s about how you play, how you defend all over. It’s not a rigid system. Truthfully, we overload them at times, but I’m not going to change as a coach.”

These intense practices, which are often three-hour blocks, four days a week, have built a strong sense of competitiveness between the upperclassmen and freshman class. While Clarke admitted they may be overworked, the sense in the

locker room is that it is worth it.

After Quinnipiac’s 3-2 win over Maine on Sept. 3, Clarke said he wanted to make sure his team was focused on only one game at a time. While the Bobcats are “onto the MAAC,” these out-of-conference games give the team a good opportunity to try new playing styles.

“If you want to defend man-for-man, you bring extra players back, 4-against-3, 5-against-3 ... utilize it as much as we can,” Clarke said. “Every team will do game management, we do a lot of 1-nil up, 1-nil down (in practice). A lot of it is game management.”

Clarke is the one in charge, but looking past the main man, the team also has a group of assistant coaches who have helped the Bobcats get off to their strong start.

While Clarke sits back and observes during gamedays, associate head coach Steve Coxon is the vocal one on the sideline. The Connecticut Soccer Hall of Famer is in his 17th season with Quinnipiac and is an animated character during matches.

This past summer, former Binghamton coach and Connecticut native Shauny Alterisio was announced as a new hire. Alterisio has been a hands-on coach in her past experience with the Bearcats, handling everything from recruiting and sports performance, to scouting opposing teams and video analysis.

Bringing in a new face to help handle the day-to-day op-

erations makes life a lot easier in Hamden, especially for Clarke, who raved about his new assistant back in May.

“I have known Shauny since her club days with (Connecticut Football Club) and she has a huge personality, commitment to win and a great work ethic,” Clarke said. “These qualities will make her a great addition to the staff and will earn the respect of the players.”

That earned respect was seen instantly this season. On Aug. 25, when Cooke scored her first goal, she did not run to her teammates to celebrate. She ran to Alterisio.

The respect from the players for the entire coaching staff has been a constant since Clarke’s first season back in 1999. Although the head coach has seen a lot of changes within the program, he is not afraid to switch things up on the field.

“Whether we play four in the back, five in the back, six in the back,” Clarke said. “Nothing changes in terms of both sides of the ball.”

Based on the beginning of the fall, Clarke’s game plans have been working to perfection. Mixing and matching different players, alongside changing play styles have helped the Bobcats back up their top ranking in the recent preseason Coaches’ Poll.

But don’t get too comfortable watching this team. There could be a completely different game plan the next time you watch.

QUINNIPIAC WOMEN’S SOCCER WINS



ILLUSTRATION BY CAMERON LEVASSEUR



FOX PERELSON/CHRONICLE

‘She always stood out’

How Emilia Massarelli’s 5,000-mile journey led her to Big East stardom

By **RYAN RAGGIO**
Staff Writer

The Quinnipiac field hockey team had a tough 2021 season, but they did have one bright spot, and she traveled over 5,000 miles to join the Bobcats: Emilia Massarelli.

5,195 miles is the distance separating Quinnipiac from Massarelli’s hometown of Rosario, Santa Fe, Argentina. It’s not easy to leave everything you’ve ever known behind, let alone having to move to another country. Naturally, the transition to the U.S. came with a lot of learning curves, especially on the field.

“The most difficult thing was to communicate with my teammates,” Massarelli said. “The field hockey words, specifically, I couldn’t understand.”

With the support from her coaches and teammates, along with making new friends, she said that playing field hockey at Quinnipiac began to feel like a second home to her.

“I feel like everyone was very welcoming,” Massarelli said. “They were ready to help me with anything.”

Before Quinnipiac, Massarelli attended Colegio San Bartolomé, located a few blocks from the Paraná River in Rosario. She was a multi-sport athlete, playing tennis, golf, volleyball and field hockey. She was also a member of the Jockey Club de Rosario, a sports and social club based in the city and is one of the wealthiest clubs in Argentina, housing more than 1,500 members.

In her rookie season with the Bobcats, Massarelli was awarded 2nd Team All-Big East honors after she led the team in goals (10) and points (22). She ranked second in the conference in both categories, as well as leading Quinnipiac with four multi-goal games. Out of the Bobcats three victories last year, Massarelli registered two game-winning goals and started in all but two contests as a freshman.

The now-sophomore forward said her favorite thing about field hockey is that unlike the other sports she grew up playing, she gets to play with a team. Her love for the sport grew after watching her mother Pamela on the field.

“My mom used to play (field hockey),” Massarelli said. “She really enjoyed it and she transferred that passion to me.”

Head coach Becca Main is a big proponent of recruiting multi-sport athletes because of their level of fitness and natural ability. Massarelli fit perfectly with this ideal, having played four sports before coming to Quinnipiac. During practice or outside activities with the team, Main noticed how competitive Massarelli was.

“She’s a really good athlete,” Main said. “We don’t have enough of that...It doesn’t matter if we’re playing kickball or handball, she usually wins because she’s played a lot of sports.”

Being a multi-sport phenom gave the Argentine the opportunity to harness her skills. She said she was able to develop different skills from each sport. Her quickness and agility from field hockey, hand-eye coordination from volleyball, discipline from golf and mental toughness from tennis.

Massarelli put her competitive edge and otherworldly athletic ability in effect last season scoring 10 goals in 15 games. This season, she’s only tallied a single goal through five contests, which may cause some to speculate that her performance won’t be repeated. Her former teammate with Jockey Club de Rosario, Josefina Noguero, believes otherwise.

“She was one of the best players on our team,” Noguero said. “She scored a lot of goals and had the ability to avoid

players in an unbelievable way.”

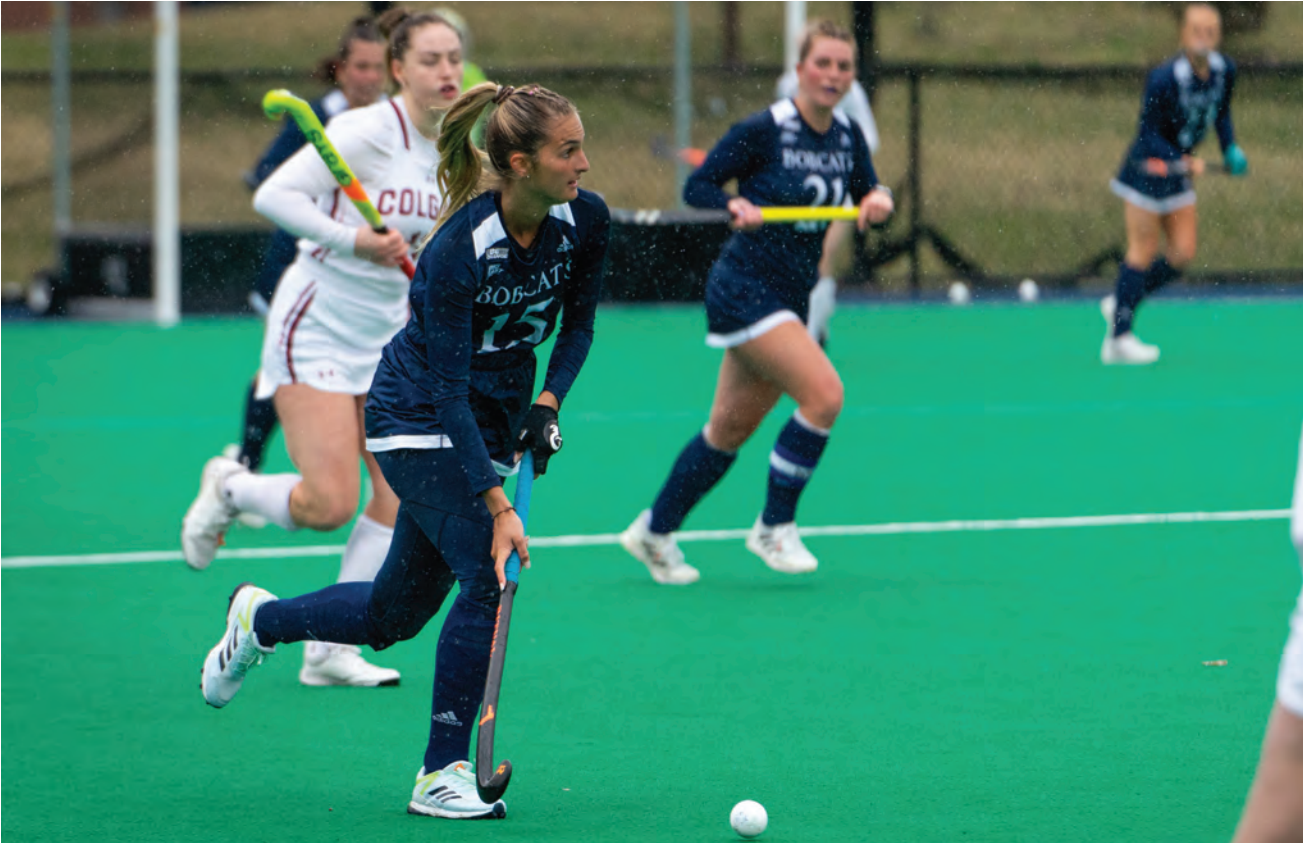
Giulia Astore, a former teammate with Rosario select, shares a similar sentiment.

“She always stood out,” Astore said. “Her play was incredible.”

Massarelli’s lone goal this season was the game winner in the Bobcats’ 1-0 victory over No. 22 Maine, the team’s first victory over a ranked opponent since 2016.

Regardless of her goal-scoring, her play outside of the box score continues to prove valuable. Massarelli creates scoring chances for the Bobcats. Using her slick hands, she is able to consistently dangle through defenders and set up teammates.

Through five games this season, Massarelli’s numbers don’t emulate the success she had last year, however, her contributions remain a key factor in the Bobcats success. And if history is any indication, once she gets going, she can’t be stopped.



DANIEL PASSAPERA/CHRONICLE

Sophomore forward Emilia Massarelli was named 2nd Team All-Big East after scoring 22 points last season.