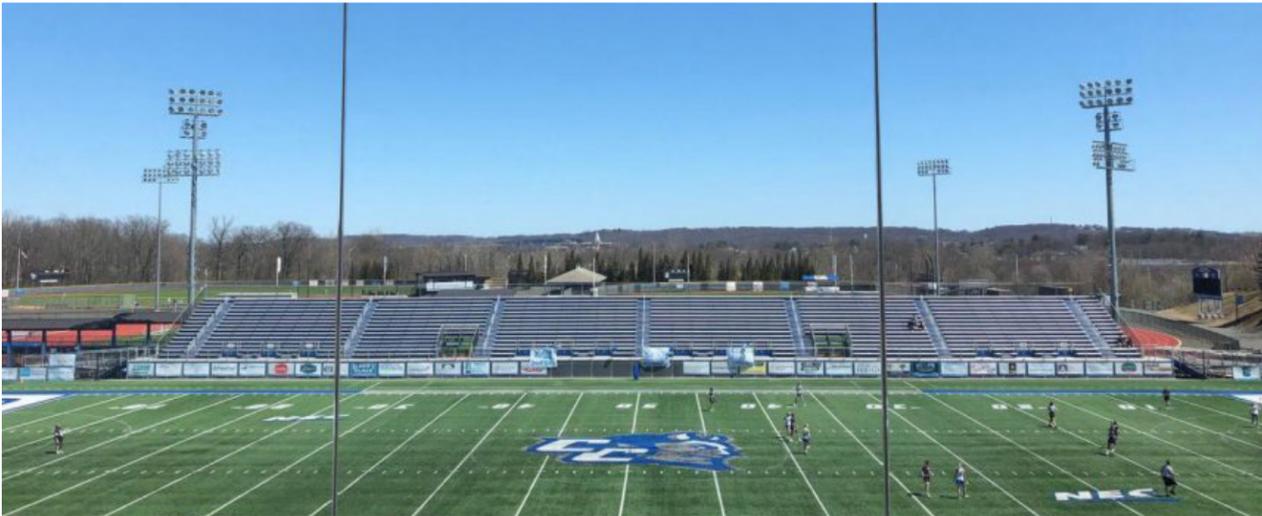


THE RECORDER

April 8, 2021

Volume 128 | Issue 6



The spring commencement ceremony will be held on Arute Field.

Ryan Jones

Spring Commencement to be Held in Person

BY RYAN JONES
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

After a long deliberation over safety protocols, Central Connecticut State University announced on March 24 that its commencement ceremony for the spring 2021 semester will be held in person.

This is CCSU's first in-person ceremony since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This year's ceremony will look different from previous graduations. Instead of one event with all of the graduating class, there will be four separate ones taking place on May 22 and May 23.

Students will be grouped into their respective schools for each ceremony.

The Carol A. Ammon College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences graduates on May 22 at 9 a.m. and the School of Education & Professional Studies will

follow at 2 p.m.

The commencement ceremonies for the School of Engineering, Science & Technology and School of Business will take place on May 23, again separated at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., respectively.

The graduating students will be seated on CCSU's Arute football field. Each student is granted two tickets for guests, who will be seated in the bleachers. Both seats will be spaced out in compliance with CDC guidelines.

Interim Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. John Tully said that this year's ceremony means even more after going through the pandemic for the past year.

"For all intents and purposes, once you graduate and you get the degree that's all well and good," Tully said, "but there is something very powerful about coming together as a community and going through these rituals that sustain us. In these days that have been so difficult for us as a university

community and so difficult as a country, some return to normality and some celebration of what our graduates have been able to accomplish is just extremely satisfying."

Tully said that CCSU's goal was "always to try and do as much as we could to have students on the ground for a commencement," though they faced many roadblocks in planning due to regulations and guidelines that have frequently changed.

The commencement schedule leaves time between ceremonies for a deep sanitation but also to stagger attendants upon arrival.

"It doesn't do us any good to have spacing in the stands if we have 1000 people crammed and waiting to get through the tiny gates at Arute," Tully said.

More details regarding the ceremony will be sent to student's emails in the upcoming weeks.

Contract Dispute Continues for CSU AAUP

BY RYAN JONES
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Connecticut State American Association of University Professors and the Board of Regents' dispute over contract proposals is still ongoing, now four months removed from the BOR's initial proposal. The CSU AAUP is working to counter these proposals, which they say would "gut what a university is meant to be."

In an interview with the Recorder, CSU AAUP co-chairs Dr. John O'Connor and Dr. Cindy Stretch discussed the ongoing negotiations as well as how the BOR's proposals would impact the CSU's.

The two groups exchanged proposals on Dec. 1 of last year.

"When we actually saw the proposal we were shocked at how draconian they were, how nasty they were," O'Connor said.

Under the BOR's proposal, the workloads of full-time professors would increase. Instead of the four course requirement currently in place, professors would now need to teach five classes per semester. For context, UConn professors teach two courses per semester. The BOR also proposed that faculty decrease its salaries back to its 2019 base.

University administrators could also transfer faculty to a different department if they are divided or merged under the new proposal. Stretch gave an example as to what this could spell for both professors and students.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

COVID-19 Vaccine Available to CCSU Students

BY SAMANTHA BENDER
NEWS EDITOR

Central Connecticut State University announced last week that all students enrolled at the university are eligible to receive vaccinations from the school.

This comes shortly after Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont provided updates on the state's coronavirus response efforts and its plans to accelerate its vaccine program even further by allowing all adults in Connecticut over the age of 16 to schedule a vaccination appointment beginning April 1, 2021.

In an email issued to CCSU students, President Zulma R.

Toro said that "before the semester ends, CCSU will hold an on-campus COVID vaccination clinic for students." The vaccine available to students will be the Johnson & Johnson variation, per Lamont's orders.

Central freshman and music performance major Madison Dunn said she is pleased with Governor Lamont's decision to offer this option for students at colleges and universities in the state.

"I am thinking about getting the vaccine provided at Central so that I feel comfortable going back home and going back to work," Dunn said.

Dunn was not surprised to learn of this news as Central has already demonstrated their

commitment to the health and safety of the community.

"They already do COVID testing and have us fill out a daily symptoms tracker," Dunn said. "Providing the vaccine will help them make campus a lot safer, as they are doing now."

CCSU junior Rachel Nardello, she said she isn't happy that the Johnson & Johnson vaccine is the only one being offered on campus. She said she plans to get the vaccine elsewhere because of this.

Though the previous eligibility date for all individuals in the state over the age of 16 was set for April 5, Connecticut's vaccine providers have been getting doses out at an efficient speed

thus far, allowing for an earlier date.

Connecticut currently ranks second in the nation in percentage of population that has received at least one dose of the vaccination.

"Connecticut's healthcare providers have been doing a tremendous job getting the vaccine to our residents, and the reason why our state is among the most vaccinated in the country is because of the remarkable work they have been doing," Governor Lamont said. "I urge everyone to please be patient and check back as new appointments are being added every day."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



PAGE 8 Swimming wins three events at NEC Championship.



PAGE 5 A look inside of CCSU's esports scene.

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Unemployment Guide for College Students

BY SOPHIA MUCE
CONTRIBUTOR

Over the past year, various establishments such as restaurants, gyms and movie theaters employing part-time workers have shut down. Many college students who work part-time jobs while attending school have been left unemployed and confused and applying for unemployment benefits is not an easy task. Not having the proper documentation or failing to answer a question correctly could mean being denied benefits that many of us desperately need right now.

Working at a gym during a pandemic is not a sure thing; my place of work has shut down multiple times since March 2020. I've had to turn to unemployment benefits twice and I have run into many issues with the Connecticut Department of Labor. It is a stressful time for all of us right now and being on hold with customer service for 30 minutes is one more problem we don't need.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics show that as of January 2021, people aged 16 to 24 hold the current highest rates of unemployment. More specifically, 14.2% of 18 and 19 year olds are unemployed while 9.7% of 20 to 24 year olds are unemployed.

This means that heading to the unemployment website to file for benefits during the pandemic may be inevitable for many college students. According to the Connecticut Department of Labor, anyone who was fully or partially employed, unemployed for no fault of their own, and mentally and physically able to work is eligible for unemployment benefits. With the current \$300 bonus per week, most part-time workers, such as college students, could rely solely on unemployment benefits to fund their day-to-day needs.

While some of us may be lucky enough to qualify for and

live off of state benefits, that doesn't make filing for them much simpler.

As of February, Sasha Krivosky, a Central Connecticut State University student who lost her job at a fitness center in December due to the COVID-19 pandemic, still has yet to receive any unemployment pay due to issues filing her claim.

"I answered one of the questions wrong and my application was denied," Krivosky said.

Since being denied, Krivosky has called the Connecticut Department of Labor multiple times but has been unable to get in touch with them.

"Every time I call I get put on hold and eventually hung up on," Krivosky said. "I have tried to fix the issue so many times, but obviously one mistake meant that I would have no income for two months now."

Krivosky said that she urges those applying for unemployment to pay close attention to the questions and take their time. It is crucial that you take your time and be thorough when applying.

Now that I am three months into my second stint of receiving unemployment, I have picked up a few tricks to make the process fairly painless. Navigating services provided by state governments is never a walk in the park, but following these steps should simplify the lengthy process.

1. Have Your Documents Ready Before You Begin

The most aggravating issue I have run into is scrambling to find information while filing an unemployment claim. The Connecticut Department of Labor website will time-out if you are inactive for more than 10 minutes, which means that leaving the tab to search for your financial records could result in starting the entire process over. Have your financial records for the past year readily available before you begin. You

will be asked specific questions about your finances, so the more information you have, the better. I would also ask your former employer for an unemployment notice. This has specific information you will need that you probably wouldn't know otherwise, such as your employer's registration number, the exact date you began working, etc. Getting all of this information ready may seem unnecessary, but it is better to be safe than sorry.

2. Head To the Connecticut Department of Labor Website

Whether this is your first or third time filing for unemployment, you will need to file a new claim. You can start this process by going to the Connecticut Department of Labor website. The site has a lot of information and can seem overwhelming, but only pay attention to the "New Claims" section. When you begin to file a new claim and make your account through the website, use an email that you access regularly; you will be sent important information from the department in the future. Once you have an account set up, you are ready to begin the filing process.

3. Read Each Question Very Carefully

I keep drilling this point in for a reason; you do not want to enter a question incorrectly. Be sure to be honest and meticulous when submitting your answers. The department's website is riddled with warnings about providing fraudulent information. I found the "Guide for Filing CT Unemployment Claims" provided by the Connecticut Department of Labor to be extremely helpful. The guide breaks down each question and explains it. Double check all of your answers before submitting to be sure that they are accurate. Once you have submitted your application, you should receive a confirmation email letting

you know that it went through.

4. Be Sure to Set Up Your User Account

Although you have already made an account in order to file your claim, you have to create a separate user account in order to receive your payments. To do this, go back to the Connecticut Department of Labor website and create a user account. Be sure to save your login information in a safe place for future reference. Once you have created this account, you will be able to link a bank account for all future payments. It is imperative that you do not skip this step, otherwise you will be unable to collect payments

5. Keep An Eye On Your Email

All future correspondence with the department will be through email. Your next email regarding unemployment will likely either be a notice that your claim has been processed, is on hold, or has been denied. All of these emails will provide you with the next steps to take. The second time I filed, my claim was originally put on hold. Sadly, there is not much you can do about this. In my case, it was put on hold so that they could verify my unemployment. While this was frustrating, I received an email 13 days later that my claim was processed. If your claim is on hold for more than two weeks or if it is denied, reach out to the department to move the process along. Once your claim has been processed, be sure to keep up with your weekly claims. This can be done through the department's website. You have to answer a few questions every week in order to keep your unemployment benefits active. Set a reminder on your phone to do this every week because missing a week will likely result in having to file a new claim all over again. Isn't that fun?

R

The Recorder is looking for writers/
Editor positions for next semester!

If interested, email ryan.michael.jones@my.ccsu.edu

Stop The Script

BY RYAN BROOKS
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The actors may change, the directors might switch, the audience will vary, but the story will always remain the same. That is, unless we change the script.

Who were the actors of yore? Well, the 19th-century gave us American protestants, who came to America 200 years prior from England, as they felt they were being persecuted and discriminated against solely because of how they worshiped god.

So, when Irish, Polish, Italian and other Catholics from Europe commenced in their voyage to America in the mid 19th century, surely the American protestants, no stranger to being ostracized, welcomed these Catholics with open arms?

Of course, that was not in the script; the directors had other plans. In this context, these directors were the leaders of the Know-Nothing party, an anti-catholic xenophobic political party. They organized the actors, middle and lower class American protestants, to hate the others who were coming to harm them, the European Catholics.

The script never changes.

On December 7th, 1941, America, by no choice of its own, joined World War 2 after being attacked by the Japanese Empire at Pearl Harbor, leading President Franklin Roosevelt to utter the famous line that the “only thing we have to fear is fear itself.”

Contrary to those words, the actors of the time, white Americans on the pacific coast,

feared the Japanese and other Asian Americans living among them.

It is no surprise then that Franklin Roosevelt and other politicians orchestrated the scene, rounding up Japanese Americans across the country and placing them into internment camps.

I needn't discuss the rhetoric and actions aimed at Muslim Americans following 9/11, or the now decades-long quest by some directors on the right to ostracize Spanish immigrants fleeing broken countries.

The examples presented exemplify the foundational framework of the centuries-long script: find a vulnerable community of people, spread fear about them and then watch the movie unfold while reaping the benefits.

Now, we look to Asian Americans once more, who are again the antagonist of the movie.

I harbor no illusions as to who bores the blame. Former President Trump and his band of propagandists, who insisted on calling the Coronavirus the “Kung flu” and “China Virus” play a pivotal role in this all.

After months of Trump and his allies spewing this rhetoric, Stop Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) hate reported 1,800 anti-Asian hate claims, with Asian Americans reporting being spit on, called racial slurs, and harassed.

Perhaps the American people finally had their eyes opened for them following the killing of several Asian American women in Atlanta, Georgia, or maybe after an Asian American woman was kicked and beaten outside of a store in New York City.

There is a saying that discrimination is as American as apple pie and baseball, and there may be some truth in that.

However, that does not have to be the case.

Already, thousands of civil rights and racial equity groups have committed to organize and protest to ensure Asian Americans are treated with dignity and feel safe in their own country.

CCSU even has committed to exploring initiatives aimed at helping Asian Americans recover from this period of hate.

Ultimately, to break this cycle of discrimination and flip the script, those in the audience who usually watch from the sidelines, the passive members of American society, must take a stand whenever and wherever a group faces otherization.

United is when good defeats evil and the directors of fear lose their power. This is the task of our generation: let us rise to it.

Contract Dispute Continues

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“I have discovered that I am a much better teacher in person than I am online,” Stretch said. “But if some manager somewhere wants me online because he thinks he can make my classes bigger and make me use some packaged curriculum, then that’s about managerial control and that’s not how education actually works.”

Stretch is referring to two other parts of the BOR’s proposal here that are targeted towards online education. Anything course material that is used online would be the intellectual property of the administration, not the faculty. Along with this, these classes would not be capped and faculty would not get extra pay for larger classes.

Stretch said that “I would rather light my materials on fire.”

O’Connor and Stretch said that these proposals from the BOR would have an immediately negative impact on students’ experience.

“The question that needs to be asked is: to what extent has the BOR done anything to really improve the educational experience of students? To what extent have they ever done anything to help faculty members do their job,” O’Connor said. “I think you would have a real difficult time pointing anything out. It really seems to be a failed



A recent protest against the BOR’s proposals.

Provided by
John O’Connor

entity. They’re quite content, I would argue, in turning these institutions that are communities of learning into diploma mills. What matters is that increasingly students are a revenue stream.”

According to Stretch and O’Connor,

the BOR did not notify any of the CSU Presidents before it made this proposal.

Other areas the BOR proposal could change are academic freedom and funding. Under it, there are no protections for academic freedom granted and no funding for market adjustment, conferences and workshops, university research grants, curriculum-related activities, faculty development or retraining of members.

The CSU AAUP is prepared to fight these proposals to its fullest power, according to O’Connor.

“We’re not going to roll over because what’s at stake is too high,” O’Connor said. “Whatever way we can we’re going to push back.”

However, Stretch noted that the voice of students will be necessary in this fight.

“Students have to decide whether this is okay with them at some fundamental level,” Stretch said. “If it’s not, which I can’t imagine it would be if they start paying attention, they just have to find ways to say it’s not. There are polite ways to say its not like emailing local representatives and there are a little less polite ways like showing up at the rallies we have and signing up to testify at the BOR meetings.”

Vaccine for CCSU Students

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Thanks to the efforts of the Biden administration, the number of doses being delivered to Connecticut is significantly increasing each week, and I am confident that within this next month we will get the vaccine to everyone who wants it.”

More than 100 additional pharmacies have begun offering vaccinations in the

state over the past several days.

“With the recent increase in cases in Connecticut, it is crucial that everyone who wants a vaccine, gets one as quickly as possible,” Connecticut Acting Public Health Commissioner Dr. Deidre Gifford said. “While general availability of vaccines is a cause for celebration, we

must also remember to keep up our guard against the spread of COVID-19. Even after you are vaccinated, you should continue to wear masks, social distance, avoid large gatherings and test and isolate if you are sick.”

All state colleges and universities will be joining Central in offering vaccinations

from the campus.

Though the details such as where students can register remain uncertain, Toro stated in her email that the university doesn’t require students to get a vaccination, but they strongly encourage it.

Central Art Gallery Holds Faculty Art Exhibition

BY JULIA CONANT
LIFESTYLE EDITOR

Do you ever wonder what your professors do in their free time? If you visit Central's art gallery, you can find out. Central's Art Gallery is currently hosting their 2021 Faculty Art Exhibition, where art professors display their work. Mediums range from pottery to digital collage to paint.

The professors whose works are featured are Thomas Edwards, Theodore Efremoff, Sherinatu Fafunwa-Ndide, Terry Donsen Feder, Brian Flinn, Sean Gallagher, Vicente Garcia, David Holzman, Jennifer Knaus, Eben Kling, Glenn LaVertu, Adam Niklewicz, Mark Strathy, Rachel Siporin and Patricia Weise.

Some works in the exhibition were inspired by the isolated feeling of the COVID-19 pandemic. One example of this is Holzman's work.



David Holzman's piece, "Four Personages."

"The wall relief titled 'Four Personages' dates from one year ago when we were making the transition from normal reality to the pandemic," Holzman included in his artist's statement for the show. "Quarantine had a big effect on my work. I was about to be cut off from regular contact with my students and colleagues and forced into working in isolation."

Another example of artwork inspired by the pandemic is Feder's watercolor paintings.



Terry Donsen Feder's 2020 piece, "Activation of Green."

"The three pieces in the show... are all COVID work done last year when I was feeling confined," Feder's artist statement reads. "The objects in the drawings are familiar things in my house, some given to me or made by students and colleagues I was missing."

Weise also took inspiration from objects around the house with her art series, "Kitchen Clutter."



Patricia Weise's, "Dishdrainer: Plastic Bag."

"I started these paintings thinking of them as close-ups of larger paintings of interior spaces, but they have taken on their own direction," Weise said regarding the collection of paintings. "Perhaps the repetitive, meditative quality of some household tasks is not a far stretch from the actual activity of painting the scene."

While Feder and Weise used inspiration from close to home, Ndibe was inspired by the aspects of another country.



Sheri Fafunwa Ndibe's, "Vessel Form (large)."

"My art is influenced by the traditions and aesthetics of West African and Western ceramics as well as encaustic and textile design," Ndibe wrote. "I attempt to manipulate form and shape in order to convey the idea both of a physical as well as a spiritual containment."

This has only been a fraction of the works featured in the 2021 Faculty Art Exhibition. To see the rest, make an appointment to visit the gallery using the link provided in the online version of this story at centralrecorder.org.

The gallery is currently only open to members of the Central community, and COVID-19 guidelines must be followed in the gallery.

A Look Inside CCSU's "Smash" Scene

BY SAMUEL PAPPAS
STAFF WRITER

Last month, The CCSU eSports Club finished the second of its three Super Smash Brothers: Ultimate tournaments.

The pandemic has taken a massive toll on the Smash and Competitive Fighting Game scene. Players at CCSU universally agree that the online fighting experience is inferior to playing in person.

"It's really bad. Nintendo tried to remove a bug with one of the characters attacks, but it resulted in an error where you are more often disconnected from your match at any time."

Sam "Greenbolt" Baker, who won the latest Smash tournament on March 19th, says the only way he can really play the game is locally. Staying socially distant during an intense battle is a challenge in itself however.

"I hope next semester we will be able to have more tournaments and more people showing up." Baker said.

There were 12 entrants at this tournament, down from the 20 entrants that attended the tournament in February.

With COVID restrictions rolling back in the Fall, Baker and others hope for a



CCSU esports players are hopeful for more in-person tournaments this fall.

Nintendo

reopened eSports Center and a return to weekly tournaments for CCSU.

During the February tournament, victory went to Richard "Sticky" Hoyt, after a bracket reset from another

competitor, Hoyt, managed to close out the game.

"That was definitely one of the greatest sets I've ever played. The Smash scene over here has a lot of potential to become

the greatest crew in the state." Hoyt said.

Hoyt was not able to make it to the last tournament, but said he is excited to play more once restrictions are lifted.

"The feel of tournaments during the COVID-era has completely changed. It's a lot different fighting your opponent through a computer monitor than sitting right next to them. Competition is much less intimate this way."

The Smash community has endured much in the past year. Top players in the world have been banned from major events due to controversy. Nintendo issued a DMCA takedown to a major tournament organizer for using an emulator to play Super Smash Brothers: Melee with online capabilities.

Despite interruptions to the competitive experience, Smash Players at CCSU and around the world remain committed to playing the game and improving their skills, ready to show off new techniques to their opponents once the world is ready to return to normal.

"If we keep grinding and pushing each other past our limits, our power is limitless," Hoyt said.

Dancentral Prepares for Virtual Showcase "Legends"

BY MOLLY INGRAM
STAFF WRITER

Dancentral, Central Connecticut's dance company, will air its virtual showcase "Legends" on April 18 at 3 p.m.

The company's dancers and faculty have choreographed and rehearsed following social distancing protocols or virtually throughout the semester. This has been a major change caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

"The company and department-at-large struggled to continue pursuing our passion for dance safely," CCSU Dance Program Director Pascal Rekoert said. "As artists, we're used to thinking out-of-the-box and we used Zoom to continue the creative process."

Specific restrictions included allowing only nine dancers in the Dance Education Center at one time, making rehearsing large pieces difficult. Masks were worn at all times and will be worn when filming the show. The dancers also faced restrictions regarding the ways in which they could interact with one another on the stage.

"Although we are still limited in our options [full-body partnering is not on the table], we are using our restrictions to our advantage," Rekoert said. "Instead of fixating on constraints, we look at what we can do."

By dividing larger casts up between video chat and in person, the company was able to safely choreograph certain pieces that had more than 10 dancers. However, practicing the choreography was difficult to do through a computer.

"Zoom is an excellent platform for social and academic enrichment, but it is not designed for dance rehearsals," Rekoert said. "As a community, we needed to adapt to rehearsing in virtual spaces. Kinesthetic learning from a 2-dimensional laptop image is different than learning from a real-life person. Verbal communication is also compromised when music is playing and dancers are masked."

Although the company had originally hoped that they would be able to host an in person show, they did not want to risk having to cancel the performance all together and instead opted for a pre-recorded performance.

"We wanted to make it as 'live' as possible and give our audience as much of a theater experience as we could, so we decided to film everything onstage with full lights and professional videography," Dancentral Director Erica Nelson said. "To make that work, there are a lot of moving parts, technology and an extensive team of creatives and professionals to coordinate."

Despite all of the difficulties associated with producing a virtual show, there have been some benefits. While students with families that live far away may not have had familiar audience members in years past, they will be able to share their talent across the world this year.

"The most apparent benefit to broadcasting the performance is not being bound to geographic limitations," Rekoert said. "Instead of having the audience travel to us, we are streaming directly into people's homes. Family and friends from across the world can tune in. I look forward to connecting to our community beyond Connecticut state."

Another positive is the opportunity for dancers to fine tune their final product during the show.

"One benefit is that you'll see the absolute best version of our show," Nelson said. "In a live performance in the theater, anything can happen, from technical errors with music or lights, small dancer mistakes, or that one distracting audience member with the blinding full-flash camera that you get every year!"

The show's theme "Legends" is an ode to musical heroes from the 20th century as well as Catherine Fellows, a CCSU alumna. Catherine Fellows, who was the CCSU Dance Program Director until her retirement in June 2020, is widely known in the dance community.

"Legends' is a dance performance honoring music icons of the '60's, '70's, and '80's," Rekoert said.

"This performance also celebrates CCSU dance icon Catherine Fellows, who through her 44-year long career as a professor left us with a rich legacy that includes a beautiful dance complex dedicated specifically to dance, a wide range of dance programs and courses and state-wide K-12 dance certification. Ultimately, this show is a gift to our audience members. As performing arts lovers, we need to acknowledge that our legacies lie with our audiences. We celebrate that and choose to do so through music that inspires and that you could sing along to."

Members of Dancentral are excited to perform to the iconic music. "I love the idea of honoring the legends that came before us," Dancentral Vice President Tiana Boccuzzi said. "It feels like a huge

milestone in my dance career to perform to songs written by musical legends."

Audience members can expect many different genres of dance, as well as multiple musical legends. "You'll see a wide range of choreography, including modern, contemporary, jazz and ballroom set to classic tunes from artists such as Frank Sinatra, Etta James and many more," Nelson said. "As our first show together in over a year, we wanted to use music that was comforting and familiar to all as a way to bring our community together, no matter how far away they might be."

Looking forward, Dancentral is hoping to dance with fewer restrictions during the Fall semester. "This year, I have missed seeing people's faces," Rekoert said. "I look forward to seeing students smile."

"It is simply not the same online," Nelson said. "Nothing beats moving in a studio with your fellow dancers." As part of a community that was hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic, Nelson reminds the CCSU community to support the arts in any way they can.

"Without the arts, this past year would have been immensely more difficult."

While the pandemic is slowly improving, many arts venues remain shuttered or permanently closed and it will take a long time for the art world to recover. Art is all around us and has consistently helped us heal and grow as a people. Now more than ever, we need to show our appreciation for art and arts education for the benefit of future generations.

"Legends" can be watched via livestream on April 18 at 3 p.m. at the following link: www.ccsu.edu/dance.

Netflix It: “Ginny and Georgia”

BY JULIA CONANT
LIFESTYLE EDITOR

“Ginny and Georgia” is a show about a daughter and mother navigating their new lives as they move from Texas to Massachusetts. Georgia (Brianne Howey) is hiding many aspects of her past: her family, a history of abuse, thievery and even murder. Ginny (Antonia Gentry) just wants a normal, teenage life. She also wants her mother to stop keeping secrets, but Georgia insists the less Ginny knows, the better.

The show bounces between the past and the present. In the past, Georgia gives birth to Ginny at 15 years old, leaves home and runs an illegal gambling ring out of her apartment. In the present, Ginny becomes friends with a tight-knit group of girls and Georgia seems to attract every man she comes into contact with.

Georgia’s promiscuous ways are a point of contention for Ginny and her little brother, Austin (Diesel La Torraca). They had seen their mom go through many tumultuous relationships, each one resulting in them moving away from home and starting fresh.

The reason for the most recent move was the death of Georgia’s most recent husband. The death was originally ruled as heart failure. However, throughout the series, a private investigator suspects Georgia of murdering her husband.

Back in Ginny’s life, everything seems to be going great. She finally has a solid friend



The show has ten episodes, each an hour in length.

Netflix

group and even has a sweet boyfriend, Hunter (Mason Temple). But Marcus (Felix Mallard), the boy next door, can’t seem to get away from Ginny. She can’t resist him

either, which leads to Ginny cheating on Hunter. This affair also becomes a problem within the friend group, because Marcus is the twin brother of Ginny’s new friend,

Maxine (Sara Waisglass).

Austin is also showing signs of trouble. He constantly gets bullied at school, until he strikes back and stabs his bully in the hand with a pencil. Austin is suspended and refuses to speak a word once he returns to school.

“Ginny and Georgia” seems to tackle every relevant issue plaguing today’s society. Racism, self-harm, eating disorders and more. That being said, watch with caution.

It’s also worth noting that the show doesn’t handle the topic of race particularly well. A scene being referred to as, “the Oppression Olympics Scene” went viral on Twitter recently, in which Ginny and Hunter argue about which of them is whiter. Ginny tells Hunter she knows more mandarin than he does, and Hunter says he’s never seen Ginny “pound back jerk chicken.”

The positive aspect of the show is that it currently only has ten episodes, each one being about one hour long. That means it could easily be binged in a matter of days.

Overall, regardless of how over-the-top or inappropriate the show may be, it was a fun watch. As hard as it is to admit, Ginny and Marcus’ forbidden love was captivating, and watching Georgia’s past slowly unravel was interesting. If you’re looking for a way to pass the time, watching “Ginny and Georgia” may be a good idea.

WORD SEARCH

H	Y	N	N	I	G	N	I	U	O	E	T	G	O	X
K	S	K	J	Z	Z	O	Q	S	O	J	U	U	U	H
D	D	A	Y	G	I	I	N	E	W	I	L	Y	W	Y
W	E	R	M	V	O	T	Q	V	Y	H	L	C	I	T
K	C	X	H	S	L	A	Y	X	O	K	E	B	H	U
S	C	P	M	V	P	U	W	C	E	F	Y	X	Y	K
Q	M	O	K	J	P	D	O	D	O	G	R	Z	K	K
P	P	B	V	J	O	A	L	S	N	E	J	G	C	G
M	C	K	K	E	N	R	Q	I	G	O	R	C	S	F
X	N	P	A	V	L	G	K	E	A	S	K	U	T	M
X	B	B	D	W	I	L	N	N	S	T	I	W	Z	G
P	T	O	L	Y	K	T	O	N	Q	W	C	E	O	H
V	B	R	N	F	S	F	U	C	U	U	K	X	W	P
E	N	U	C	G	G	B	R	A	U	N	S	E	T	Z
Q	T	B	M	U	D	O	O	W	A	X	B	R	G	Z

WORD BANK

Tully

Regents

Ginny

Smash

Graduation

Braun

King

Covello

SPORTS BEGINS ON BACK PAGE

Baseball Sweeps Series With The Mount

BY RYAN JONES
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Central Connecticut baseball continued their impressive start to this season this past weekend, sweeping Mount St. Mary's in a three game series.

The Blue Devils outscored the Mount 16-6 over the three games and improved their conference record to 7-2, a game behind Bryant for first place in the Northeast Conference standings.

While the Blue Devils run support helped lighten the load, the pitching stole the show in game one of the series. Senior southpaw Andrew Braun struck out nine batters Thursday and only allowed one run across his six innings. Junior Dylan Sabia struck out four more batters en route to the three inning save.

The cold weather Thursday was not a problem for Braun, who comes from California originally.

"It goes both ways," Braun said. "As pitchers you think your arm is going to be too tight, as hitters you're not swinging the bat like you want to. If you think about it too much it'll effect you in the wrong way."

The game was not a complete runaway for CCSU, however. The Mount loaded up the bases in the final frame of the game and had its best hitter, Myles Nicholson, up to bat. Sabia delivered a swinging strikeout that halted the late comeback.

"Those are things you have to clean up," head coach Charlie Hickey said after the game. "Against better teams those mistakes are going to come back and haunt you."

The start of the second game was a pitcher's duel. Going into the bottom of the fifth, the Blue Devils had only mustered one hit against MSM's pitching. The Mount used the quiet bats to its advantage, hitting three straight singles to load the bases and a sacrifice to put one on the board. Senior pitcher Brandon Fox was

able to get out of the inning with a ground out to second.

CCSU's offense came to life in the fifth inning. The Blue Devils used a double, a triple and a single in that order to put three runs on the board. Two more insurance runs were added in the eighth, allowing CCSU to cruise to another easy victory.

Jay Devito lead CCSU in hits (3) and RBIs (2) Friday. He leads the team so far with 18 hits on the year.

The Blue Devils fell behind early in the final game of the weekend. The Mount strung together four hits in the top of the second inning that put three runs on the board. This would be the final score of the weekend for MSM, however.

Devito doubled in the next inning to earn himself another RBI and tie it up for CCSU. The Blue Devils were able to take advantage of some erratic pitching from the Mount, scoring on a failed pickoff attempt to give them the lead.

Sophomore Tim Buchuek got himself in a jam in the top of the seventh. After recording two straight outs, the Mount loaded up the bases for the sophomore right hander.

Devito got CCSU out of the jam with a force out at third that ended the inning.

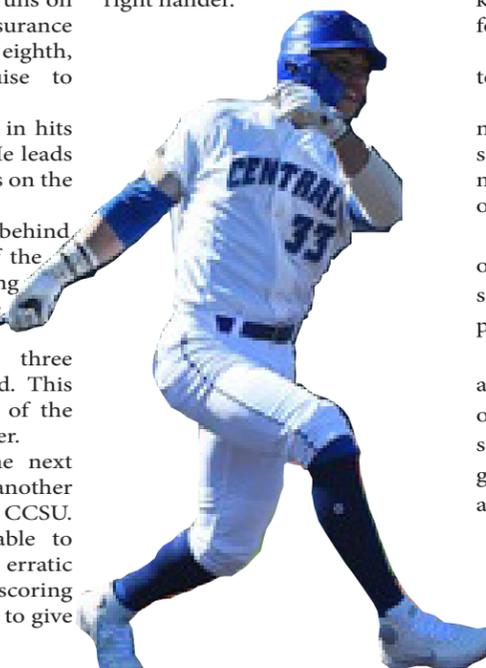
Though the Blue Devils are off to a hot start so far, the team knows it can do better going forward.

"Winning is good, but we have to get better," Hickey said.

"We're doing good as of right now, but we're not done," Braun said. "We still need to keep the momentum. We've still gotta lot of work to do."

This sweep marked the first of the season for CCSU and the sixth win in a row against MSM, per CCSU Athletics.

The Blue Devils will be back in action this weekend as they take on Merrimack in a three game series at home. First pitch for game one is set for Friday April 9 at 3 p.m.



Women's Soccer Continues Perfect Start

BY RYAN JONES
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Central Connecticut women's soccer continued its streak of shutouts Tuesday, defeating Wagner 3-0. CCSU has won four games this season and has yet to give up a goal.

Outscoring teams 9-0 overall, the Blue Devils are the only team in the Northeast Conference who has not allowed a goal.

The Blue Devils controlled the momentum the whole way Tuesday. Wagner only mustered two shots on goal against Central while CCSU sent 13 shots towards the goal.

Freshman Kelly Brady had a breakaway opportunity in the first but the shot missed wide left. When Wagner's goal keeper sent the ball into play, rookie Kristina Kelly intercepted it with a header that was sent to Brady. Brady passed it across the crease to Jenna Rae Covello who sent it into the back of the net.

Junior Roma McLaughlin scored on a free kick to put CCSU up 2-0 going into the half.

The final goal of the game came 66 minutes in. Covello sent a pass into the box to senior Erica Bardes who scored her first goal of the

season on the kick.

Covello, Brady, Kelly and McLaughlin have each scored two goals on the young season. The forward Kelly leads the team in points (6) in her first collegiate season. Kelly is first in the league in assists per game (0.50) and is second in points per game (1.5).

Central Connecticut is back in action Friday April 9 when they take on the Bryant Bulldogs at home at 7 p.m. Bryant is 3-2 on the year and ranked towards the bottom of the NEC in goals and shots per game.

Including Bryant, there are only two games left in this shortened season, unless the postponed game against LIU is played. This year only two teams make the postseason, with the one seed hosting the two seed to determine the NEC Champion. As it stands, the reigning champion Blue Devils would host the Championship game.

Last season the Blue Devils advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament after taking the NEC title. Their loss came after a first round win over Rutgers.



The Blue Devils are the only team who has not allowed a goal this season.

Steve McLaughlin

Weekly Sports Schedule

Baseball:

Friday, April 9 v. Merrimack, 3 p.m.

Saturday, April 10 v. Merrimack, 1 p.m.

Sunday, April 11 v. Merrimack, 1 p.m.

Cross Country:

Saturday, April 10 @ Vermont

Women's Soccer:

Friday, April 9 v. Bryant, 7 p.m.

Men's Soccer:

Monday, April 12 v. Sacred Heart, 2 p.m.

Softball:

Saturday, April 10 v. Bryant, 1 & 3 p.m.

Sunday, April 11 v. Bryant, 1 & 3 p.m.



Swimming Takes Second in NEC Championship



The Blue Devils finished with a team score of 615.5 points.

Steve McLaughlin



King took home the award for Outstanding Swimmer of the Meet.

Steve McLaughlin

BY RYAN JONES
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Central Connecticut swimming and diving repeated as runner ups to the Northeast Conference title last week, winning nine individual events and finishing second behind Bryant in total points.

Junior Jeannete King was named Outstanding Swimmer of the Meet after three individual wins in the 50 free, 100 yard backstroke and 200 yard freestyle. She won her three events by a combined 1.37 seconds.

On the opening day of the Championship, King and fellow junior Katie Czulewicz each won took home gold

in individual events. While King won the 50 free by .07 seconds, Czulewicz won the 500 free with a time of 4:53.96.

Lindgren narrowly missed the gold in the 200 IM. She finished with a 2:06.55 time, just over a second behind the first place finisher.

The Blue Devils also took home a victory in the final event of the first day, the 400 medley relay. The winning team was composed of King, Alex Lingdren, Simona Visinski and Ashley Calderon. They finished the relay with a time of 3:46.53.

Lindgren narrowly missed the gold in the 200 IM. She finished with a 2:06.55 time, just over a second behind the first place finisher.

CCSU again took home three medals

on the second day of the Championship.

Czulewicz and King each won gold again on day two. Czulewicz finished the 200 free at 1:50.09. Finishing behind her was teammate Shannon Welcome (1:51.22).

In the 100 yard backstroke, King squeaked by the competition, touching the wall first by just .15 seconds.

The final event of the night was another victory for CCSU. In the 800 free relay, Czulewicz, Welcome, Visinski and Abby Keane used a late push to win the event with a 7:32.16 time.

The 200 medley relay was a tough fought race for the Blue Devils. The team comprised of Calderon, Mariana Espino, Hallie Perrin and King were less than a second away from a first place finish, but

still finished with the silver medal with a 1:43.23 time.

The conclusion of the three day Championship was fruitful for CCSU.

King earned her third and final individual gold medal of the weekend in the 100 free, finishing with a first place finish of 50.20.

Lindgren won herself another medal in the 200 breaststroke, finishing first at 2:17.04.

The NEC Championship marked the end of a successful spring season for CCSU.

The Blue Devils won all four of its regular season duels, including a victory earlier in the season over Bryant, who ultimately took home the title this weekend.

CCSU Basketball Coaching Search Continues

BY RYAN JONES
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The job posting for the next coach of Central Connecticut men's basketball team closed last week, meaning the next step in the search will soon be underway: preliminary interviews.

There were more than 80 applicants to the position according to Interim Athletic Director Tom Pincince. Pincince added that he is "extremely happy" with the pool of candidates that applied.

"We have quality applicants in this pool," Pincince said. "Everything from up and coming assistants to head coaches who have had success."

Pincince is the hiring manager for this job search, but there is also a committee of six people who will be involved in the interview and hiring process.

Interviews over Zoom will start taking place sometime next week according to Pincince. Once that pool is further narrowed down, candidates will be visiting CCSU's campus for in-person discussions and interviews.

The pandemic has brought some benefits to the coaching search for CCSU. The preliminary interviews are normally conducted over the phone. With Zoom, Pincince noted that things like body language can also be observed.

The Zoom interviews should take two to three days to complete, according to Pincince. The Interim AD made a point of explaining that this search, one of CCSU Athletic's most important hires in recent history, will not be rushed.

"I know there's some anxiety with getting this done as soon as possible but I also think that we're talking about bringing in the right person to help us get this program back to where it needs to be," Pincince said. "We're not going to rush the decision. Yes it takes longer than most



There were over 80 applicants to the CCSU job.

Stadium Journey

searches may take but as I've mentioned to you before this is an important hire for us. That person that comes in we need to know that they're the right person for the job. If that takes us a little extra time then I'm okay with that."

Pincince added that while there have not been many updates yet, "we'll get there. It's been a process up to this point. There's work being done throughout these past few weeks. We're not just sitting around waiting, we're doing our homework."

While it might be a tough pill to swallow for some fanatics, Pincince is focused on rebuilding the program more so than immediate success for the hire.

"I'm not looking for this person to bring in 10 transfers and all of the sudden we're the best team in the NEC," Pincince said. "The person that we hire needs to be willing to be invested in building this program back to where it needs to be. I'm not looking for somebody who is

going to have the quick fix."

Still, the NCAA transfer portal's current state makes the CCSU job even more intriguing. There are more names entering it than are normally seen in a given year thanks to extra years of eligibility being added. Pincince did acknowledge the opportunity this brings with it.

"There is a lot of talent out there," Pincince said. "What we need to make sure is anyone we bring into this program is the type of student athlete we think we can build around. The type of student athlete that can help us be successful on the court, in the classroom, in the community and has that mentality that we're looking for to help get us back to where we need to be...It doesn't necessarily start on the court."

"We are working on this everyday. We're finding the best fit for Central."