

THE RECORDER

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Huang Family Recreation Center Opens To Central Campus



The Huang Family Recreation Center will be available to all faculty, staff and students on campus.

Julia Jade Moran | Layout Editor

BY MEGAN BRAWNER
COPY EDITOR

Editor's Note: Megan Brawner is a member of the CCSU Track team

After two years of construction, the Central Connecticut campus has officially parted ways with the former Kaiser Annex to introduce the new Huang Family Recreation Center.

The \$25 million two-

story recreation center will serve as the new recreation facility on campus, replacing the 34,000 square-foot Kaise annex facility. It now features several new improvements, including volleyball, tennis and basketball courts. Along with that, each floor has cardio equipment ranging from ellipticals to treadmills, and an elevated wellness track on the second floor.

With the new additions and renovations, Scott

Hazan, Director of Student Activities and Leadership Development, said he is hopeful that the Huang Family Recreation Center will be beneficial for the university and its students.

"I think for our campus, it was something we desperately needed," Hazan said. "It is going to be a really big improvement to our campus and I believe it will really have an impact on recruitment. Having buildings like this is critical."

Hazan also said the

facility will change the way CCSU is able to attract more prospective students in the future.

"Overall, the university did a really good job with putting this building together. I think it was worth the wait," he said. "I think it is a home run."

Scott Kazar, the recreation specialist for RECentral, called the completion of the facility a win for the campus's students.

"I think the student body here deserves a recreation program of this stature," Kazar said. "I am very happy with the building as far as where we came from and where we are going."

Throughout the planning stages of the facility, RECentral met with several sports team coaches to discuss their wants and needs. Following these meetings, staff members worked with the teams to schedule practice slots.

"Student activities and RECentral have been tremendous in working with us to allow us to get in there

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Former Student Files Lawsuit Against Professor And University, Shares Story

BY SARAH WILLSON
REPORTER

A former Central Connecticut student who alleged sexual misconduct against theater professor Thomas Delventhal has filed a lawsuit against him and the university, according to the student and a federal court petition.

According to the lawsuit from Dec. 9, Brooke Emigh — who withdrew from CCSU in January of 2019 — was "the subject of severe and pervasive sexual harassment and emotional abuse by Theatre Department Professor Thomas Delventhal," who is in the process of appealing his termination from May.

Emigh said she is pursuing the lawsuit against CCSU for the institutions "failure to protect her" and against Delventhal for negligent infliction of emotional distress, intentional infliction of emotional distress and assault and battery. She said is filing the lawsuit in hopes to be

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New Britain Takes Larger Steps In Opioid War With \$650K Grant

BY BRUNA VILA
ARTIGUES
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The city of New Britain was awarded a \$650,000 Overdose Data to Action grant in order to assist and reduce the number of citizens struggling with opioid addiction.

With the rapid increase of misused prescription medication and opioid-based drugs rising in Connecticut, the drug-abuse problem has become a major concern for the state.

Researchers from University of Connecticut and Yale University have found "opioid overdose deaths in Connecticut doubled," from 2012 to 2018.

"Residents are more likely to die from unintentional drug overdose than a motor vehicle accident,"

the state Department of Health reported.

By utilizing grant, the city of New Britain will be in a three-year cooperative agreement with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention. This will focus on the drug overdose epidemic and the public health approach.

"The funds awarded as part of this agreement will support state, territorial, county and city health departments in obtaining high quality, more comprehensive and timelier data on overdose morbidity and mortality and using those data to inform prevention and response efforts," the CDC said.

The grant will also provide assistance in propelling the city towards their goals on drug abuse. New Britain Mayor Erin Stewart has put forth several initiatives in order to fight the number of opioid overdoses.

Stewart's first initiative, the H.O.P.E. (Heroin, Opioid Prevention and Education), assists people seeking treatment in lieu of being arrested. The initiative has helped 24 individuals within its first four months of launching in 2018, according to the official release.

The second initiative, the New Britain Opioid Task Force, was established to "reduce overdose deaths by half in three years [2021]."

Stewart has referred to the city as a "recovery friendly community."

The grant will also allow the city to introduce a number of activities for their Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system that will work with other recovery partners in the community.

The CEO of New Britain EMS, Bruce Baxter, said that the paramedics and EMTs are the first to help patients when they are

overdosing.

"(This gives them) the ability to navigate patients and their families to additional sources of follow-up care through the network of community recovery partners this grant will formalize," Baxter said.

This will be partnered with a new project that will arrange a mobile response team who will conduct an at home follow-up wellness check during the first 72 hours after an overdose. This follow-up will be done by a peer recovery specialist who will also help in referral, treatment and recovery.

To implement the action items, New Britain is partnering with contractors such as Beyond Lucid Technologies, the National Council for Behavioral Health, New Britain Emergency Medical Services, Community Mental Health Affiliates, and TechServ Corporation.

@BRUNAVILA

C.A.N YOU HANDLE THESE EVENTS?



The Central Activities Network introduces Disney week after winter break ends, with big plans for future events as well.

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MICK D'ARCY LEADS WOMAN'S SOCCER TO BACK TO BACK NEC CHAMPIONSHIPS



CCSU's women's soccer team, lead by Mick D'Arcy returned to the NEC championships once again to claim the title.

SEE PAGE 12



the 5 gyms voted #1 in hartford county



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Mumps Cases In Connecticut: What You Need To Know

BY RYAN JONES
MANAGING EDITOR

Central Connecticut President Dr. Zulma Toro urged students over break to get their MMR Vaccination after a several cases of the mumps were reported in Connecticut.

The email from Dr. Toro was sparked by six cases of mumps being reported in Dec. in Connecticut, three coming from the nearby Hospital of Central Connecticut and one involving a Central Connecticut student. Three more cases were later reported at the University of Connecticut Storrs campus.

Symptoms of the mumps do not appear for two to three weeks after the initial start of the infection, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. The most common symptoms include puffy cheeks and a swollen or tender jaw, but can also include:

- Fever
- Headache
- Loss of appetite
- Tiredness
- Muscle aches

In most cases, people afflicted by the mumps recover fully within two weeks. However, there are rare instances of complications with the disease. Children can contract meningitis, while cases in adults can, on rare occasion, lead to deafness or encephalitis.

The United States began to issue the Mumps vaccine on March 30, 1967, but it was not recommended for routine use until 1977. In 1989, a two-dose MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccination was implemented, which decreased cases of the mumps in the U.S. by 99 percent according to the CDCP.

Getting both of the MMR vaccinations



Each podium represents a person who lost their life to domestic violence.

ISABELLA CHAN | STAFF

is about 88 percent effective, while the rate of effectiveness of a single dose sits at 78 percent.

Besides getting vaccinated, both CCSU and the CDCP advise the following in order to prevent any future cases of the mumps:

Covering of the mouth when coughing or sneezing (no, not with your hands)

Washing hands often with soap and water

Not sharing any items that might have saliva on them

Clean and disinfect surfaces and items

While the vaccinations are effective, the U.S. has had an increase in mumps cases stemming back to 2006, when there were 6,584 reported cases in the country — a spike from the previous year's 314 cases. As of Dec. 28, 2019 there was a

reported 3,474 cases in America, the third most since the 2006 outbreak.

Connecticut was also in the news for a mumps outbreak in 2016, when 41 cases were reported at Harvard University and an additional eight at Sacred Heart University.

As a precaution, CCSU hired an "outside vendor to assist the Facilities Department in deep cleaning of residence halls, the Student Center, dining halls and other high traffic, public areas on campus," according to Dr. Toro's email.

Dr. Toro was also quick to point out in her email that one case of the mumps is not considered an outbreak by state health officials. This being the case, students are advised to stay alert and to contact their health provider if they are experiencing any of the listed symptoms.

@RYANJONES385

Huang Family Recreation Center Opens To Central Campus

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with our teams when we need to," Thomas Pincince, the interim Director of Athletics, said. "It is important for us to remember that it is a recreational facility first and that we are grateful that they are allowing us the ability to be in there when we can."

When Kaiser Annex was torn down in Oct. 2017, several spring teams lost

a crucial practice space in order to avoid harsh winter weather conditions. But even now with the building being available for use, some are still facing challenges.

Kazar said that he admitted it was difficult to meet all expectations, as not all teams were satisfied with the changes.

"This building does not

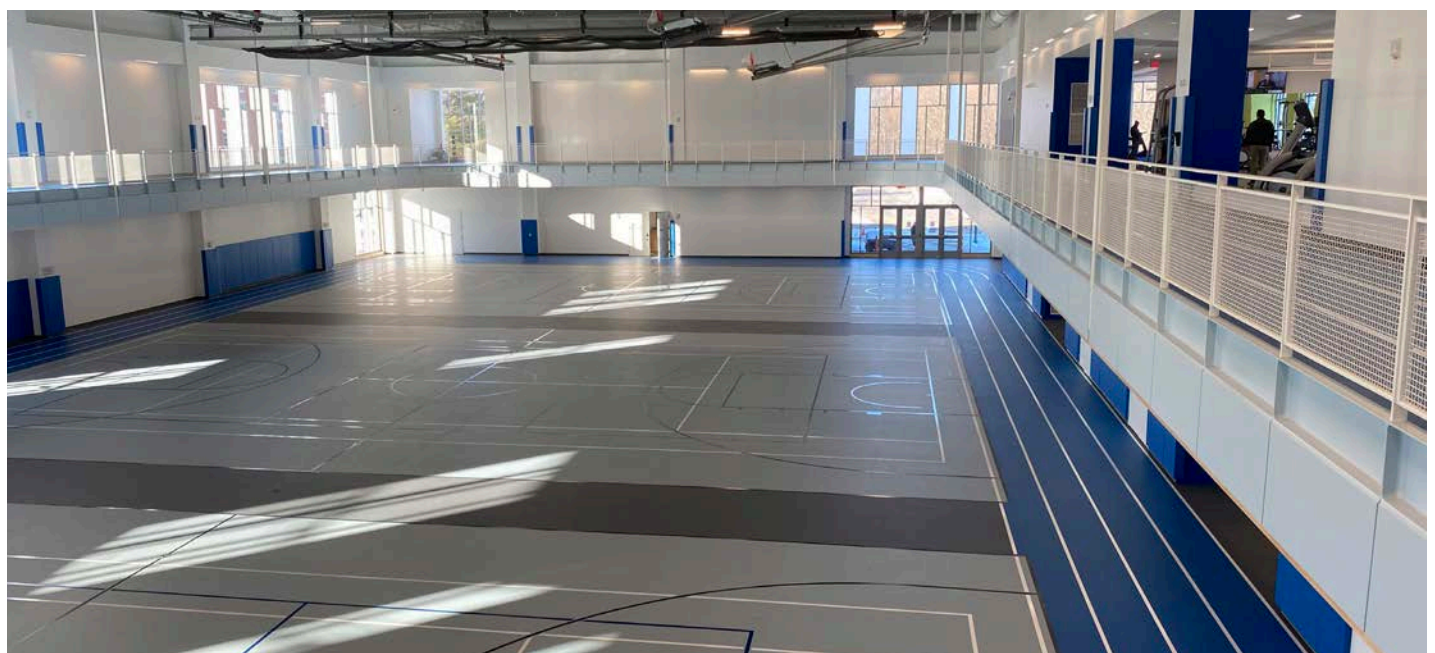
solve everything," he said. "I met with a lot of the coaches, teams and the general student body. There is always a compromise and a way to figure out what works best. It's just about taking what you have and making a run for it. It is tough because there are so many people who need it."

For the lacrosse and track teams, traveling off-campus

for training will still take place. The men's and women's track teams train at Hartford Public High School at 5:30 a.m. every Wed., while the women's lacrosse team will travel to a facility in Plainville.

"I know the new facility cost a lot of money," Nicole Dumpson, sprints and jumps coach for CCSU's track team, said. "I think for a little extra

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Former Student Files Lawsuit Against Professor And University, Shares Story

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an inspiration to all other survivors. "This is a case about an entire institution's deliberate indifference and abject failure to protect students like [Emigh] from calculated sexual harassment and emotional abuse by a former Faculty Member Thomas Delventhal, in violation of Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972," attorney Maria Garcia-Quintner wrote in the lawsuit.

The incidents began when Emigh, then a theater student, was cast in her first production. The suit said that Delventhal "used rehearsing of the play to become close to and lure [Emigh]" and that he scheduled one-on-one rehearsals and meetings during which he nonconsensually touched, hugged, kissed her and asked personal questions.

The suit alleges that Delventhal would try to have Emigh discuss "traumatic" events from her past in an attempt to get close and try to "comfort" her, which included touching her on her thigh. Delventhal would also touch Emigh on the buttocks using various objects such as rolled up pieces of paper or theatre props, the lawsuit continues.

In a January 2019 interview with The Recorder, Emigh recalled a time during her "Stage Combat" class when Delventhal "came up next to [her] and hit [her] butt with a sword and laughed about it."

In the same interview, she had at least 10 interactions with Delventhal where he had been "very physically

touchy" and gave her "many hugs, back massages and forehead kisses" without consent.

The suit also alleged that Delventhal invited Emigh over to his house if she got "lonely," called her "beautiful" and "irresistible" and told her that any guy would be lucky to date her.

Emigh said Delventhal would try to manipulate her and often tell her things like

"I'm the only one who can help you" and that "other people are abusing you."

Others, the lawsuit says, were harassed by Delventhal when he asked students to "perform warmups and stretches with other students in sexual positions."

In an interview on Sunday, Emigh said she left CCSU last winter because of "everything that happened" and that she changed her major and is currently taking online classes because it is "too triggering" to be in a classroom.

"The trauma associated with [everything] sent me into a depressed state," Emigh said. "I had to go inpatient in the hospital to protect myself and then I have been in an intensive outpatient program since June to help me as well."

Emigh said she moved back home to Idaho after withdrawing from the university and developed an eating disorder, severe depression and began self-harming as a

result of the trauma she faced.

"I was planning how I would end my life," Emigh said. "I have not been diagnosed with suicide ideation, an eating disorder, severe depression or severe anxiety before in my life until after what

happened at CCSU."

Emigh's lawsuit comes almost one year after the university released Shipman & Goodwin's investigative report into sexual misconduct allegations in the Theater Department that found Delventhal and former professor Joshua

Perlstein had "more than likely engaged in sexual misconduct."

After allegations were published, Emigh said Delventhal "became erratic, at times angry and retaliatory" against her.

"This harassment is not okay and I don't want anyone else to go through it. It's my fight to keep Delventhal out of the school so he doesn't do this again," Emigh said. "Now that my mind is better, I don't want to see others get harassed again."

CCSU's Media and Communications Officer Janice Palmer said the university is aware of the lawsuit.

Ana Kelly, who is one of many former students that came forward with allegations of sexual misconduct against former theater professor Joshua Perlstein, said she understands how filing the suit is important for closure and that she stands with Emigh "100 percent."

Delventhal could not be reached for comment.

"The trauma associated with [everything] sent me into a depressed state," Emigh said.



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[Informational #3: Saturday February 8th Location: 1849 Room Student Center Time: 12:00-1:00pm](#)

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Success Central's Initiative To Boost Retention

BY JULIA CONANT
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

For those freshmen and sophomores who didn't do so well last semester and need a GPA boost, consider getting a free peer mentor this semester through Success Central.

Success Central began in 2014 when the former Provost Carl Lovitt issued a proposal for a grant to begin the program. The proposal addressed graduation numbers and retention rate of Central Connecticut students in under-represented groups.

Dr. Reginald Simmons, a criminal justice professor at CCSU and the coordinator of Success Central looked into his department's statistics and realized that a number of the under-represented students were pursuing majors in criminal justice.

"I thought, 'My department is serving a lot of these students that are not graduating and persisting at the same general rate as the student body,'" Simmons said. "I'm gonna propose something that might address that."

Dr. Simmons then researched multiple methods of keeping up retention and promoting success, and found two that he liked and wanted to combine.

"One: peer mentoring. Peer mentoring at universities has been demonstrated repeatedly to work really well for all students," Simmons elaborated. "Then I came across another intervention called college success coaching. This is an intervention where post-graduate professionals support students to meet their goals. What's unique about success coaching is that they address the academic and the non-academic factors that can affect student success."

This combination of peer mentoring and success coaching is the basis of Success Central. Trained juniors and seniors at Central mentor freshmen

and sophomores through the struggles of college and act as a support system.

The mentor and mentee will typically meet once per week and discuss what's going on in the mentees life. Not only about academics, but also their home and social life.

The mentee and mentor also work together to set goals for the mentee. These goals range from being more social on campus to implementing new study habits or even ways to spend less money.

The appeal of Success Central is that the mentor was in the same position as the mentee not long ago, therefore it's easier for them to relate. When a mentee is stressed over finals, the mentor can relate and they can help each other through it.

"I think that is a unique aspect of this program that is different than traditional success coaching programs where you're talking about post-graduate professionals that are not students," Simmons said. "They may make a difference, but there's something about having that student that's still going through it that really helps that relationship."

A survey assessing the mentees comfort with the campus and confidence in their academic abilities is administered in the beginning of each fall semester and again at the end of the spring semester.

Four questions on the survey saw significant statistical change. These items were: "I am confident in my study skills and my abilities to succeed academically," "I manage my time well," "I can persevere through the challenges of my major" and "I understand how I can connect my current major with future career opportunities beyond graduation."

Although the focus of the program is helping freshmen and sophomores become acclimated to college, Success Central is beneficial to



Mentees and mentors play teamwork themed games together.

JULIA CONANT | STAFF

mentors too.

"There's the personal benefit that students have an increase in their efficacy and believe that they actually can help somebody, adding value to their educational experience," Simmons said. "But then the other side is it seems to have helped students stand out in the job market as well. This year actually I'm gonna start collecting some data, probably through focus groups that can get more at how the mentors benefit."

Mentors also learn leadership skills by planning a get together for the mentors and mentees at the end of each semester, completed with games, team building exercises and food. The only contribution Dr. Simmons makes is ordering the food the mentors tell him to order.

"That was their idea to have end of the semester get-togethers," Simmons said. "The idea was that we need some way to bring everybody together. To celebrate the mentees, the mentors, to have them all come together as a group and to kinda celebrate Success Central

and to do something for the whole cohort."

Simmons and some mentors have gotten to travel to two national conferences to present Success Central, the most recent one being to New Orleans this past semester.

"I actually worked with mentors to actually write a paper that was published and present that paper at conferences," Simmons shared. "The mentors were so proud of themselves for being able to give a high quality presentation in front of a large audience. It was a lot of work, but they got a lot out of it."

Success Central is always open to new mentees if any freshmen or sophomores feel they would benefit from having a peer mentor. They will also be actively recruiting mentors in March, but anyone interested in being either a mentor or a mentee should email successcentralinitiative@ccsu.edu.

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News In Brief

BY SARAH WILLSON
REPORTER

Connecticut Takes Step To End Homelessness:

Connecticut is providing \$1.1 million to help combat homelessness, according to Governor Ned Lamont. The funding decision comes just days before the annual Point-In-Time (PIT) count, which hand counts the number of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on a single night in January. Lamont said the funding will support the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness' (CCEH) efforts to help families and individuals without a permanent address. Homelessness in the state decreased by 24 percent in 2019 compared to 2018, according to the CCEH.

Thousands Gather In Richmond For 'Pro-Gun' Rally:

Thousands of gun rights supporters — some with assault rifles in hand — have taken to Richmond, Va. to protest against the states call for tighter gun laws. Virginia's governor ordered a state of emergency and banned guns from Capitol Square after threats and indications of potential violence, according to the Washington Post. President Donald Trump took to social media to tweet his support for the rally, writing that the states Democratic Party — which have called for stricter gun control laws — is "working hard to take away your 2nd Amendment rights."

Iranian Leader Defends Country's Armed Forces In Rare Address:

Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei defended his country's armed forces after it confessed to accidentally shooting down a passenger plane, BBC News reported. Khamenei said that the Revolutionary Guard— the elite branch of the country's armed forces — "maintained the security" of Iran. Despite protests and criticism from the United States, Khamenei focused on rallying support as he led Friday prayers in the country's capital for the first time in nearly eight years. The aircraft carrying 176 people was shot down in response to the US killing of Soleimani and took place just hours after Iranian missiles targeted two US airbases in Iraq.

@SARAHWILLSON

What's New, CCSU?

BY ISABELLA CHAN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

- Throwdown Thursdays for Freshman will begin on Jan. 30 in Maloney Hall at 7:30 p.m.. The event will include fun with clay and ceramics, as well as refreshments to enjoy.
- The annual Martin Luther King Jr. breakfast will take place on Jan. 24 at 8 a.m. in Alumni Hall. The event will be joined by keynote speaker Chef Jay Lewis.
- The Ruthe Boyea Women's Center is looking for singers, poets and dancers to perform in their Love Jones event, which will be held on Feb. 12 in Semesters.
- The Learning Center is looking for peer tutors for math, science, chemistry and physics. Typical work hours will be 2-20 hours per week, no experience is required. Pick up an application in The Learning Center in Williard-DiLoreto D316 or email Kate Ayotte at kateayotte@ccsu.edu.



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EDITORIAL

Meghan Markle Is Our American Princess

Earlier this month, the Duke and Duchess of Sussex revealed on Instagram that they planned to become financially independent. Since then, the media has had a field day with this information and everyone seems to have an opinion on it. However, they are not abandoning the United Kingdom altogether.

“We now plan to balance our time between the United Kingdom and North America, continuing to honor our duty to The Queen, the Commonwealth and our patronages,” Harry Windsor and Meghan Markle shared on their website.

The couple plans to move their family to North America, most likely somewhere in Canada. They will still help the Queen as much as they can and follow through with prior engagements, but aside from that they will be living independently.

Although we do not know which of the two decided to be financially independent, many people blame the decision solely on Markle. But why put the blame on her?

It is a common belief amongst Americans that the former actress is unfairly blamed due to her race, as the media has previously targeted her for her race before. She has been referred to as “(almost) straight outta Compton,” and the couple’s son has been said to look like a chimpanzee, according to Vox.

This blatant racism against Markle should not be tolerated, especially in 2020. It is particularly disgusting to read such criticism especially being from a university in New Britain, where 58.7 percent of the population is non-white based on a report from City-Data.

The British public are choosing to blame Markle as they believe it is she who has “brainwashed” her husband into thinking they should step back from royal duties. However, in an interview after the news broke, Windsor clearly explained that it was his decision as he believed it to be, “the best thing for his family.”

Buckingham Palace also announced a statement that the couple will no longer use their His/Her Royal Highness titles, are no longer going to receive public funds and will repay money used to renovate their Frogmore Cottage. In the same statement, the Queen thanked them for their dedicated work and supported their decision. She spoke of how proud she is of Markle to be one of the family.

Yet, some people of the British public beg to differ. As the royal family shows support for the couple’s decisions, Twitter frenzied with thousands of toxic tweets. One of which, tweeted @dasnjpa1, being: “The Queen and Prince Phillip did not deserve this at their advanced age. Harry could have put in a few more years until his grandparents have rested in peace. Shame on Me-gain for destroying family.”

How are they hurting the Queen? Just because they are The Royals, people believe that they have to live a perfect life. Also as the couples lives their lives in the public eye it means they are subjected to be intensely scrutinized on any decision they make by everyone. The average person can make the choice to not be apart of their family anymore without such judgment; it is amazing that being a monarch effects the little things you do.

One of the reasons they chose to leave is because of how they are treated by the media. The British media has double standards when it comes to Meghan Markle and the Duchess of Cambridge Kate Middleton. One thing that was acceptable for Kate is not the same for Meghan... we can only speculate as to why that is.

Editor’s Column: New Semester, New Year, New Decade



BY ISABELLA CHAN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

At the start of a new year, there is often a sense of renewal. It can feel like a cleansing from everything that took place in the year before. It’s a fresh start waiting to be taken.

As 2019 came to a swift close, there was something more than a new chance at stake. There was a feeling that this was to be a monumental time as a new decade was upon us.

In these past ten years, the world and its people, have witnessed a number of transformative events. Some of them were inspiring and uplifting, while others were tragic and truly heartbreaking.

During that time, millions of people got married and started families. The Pew Research Center reported that nearly 30 countries and territories legalized same-sex marriage. Others lost loved ones in gruesome acts of terrorism,

lost the feeling of safety in their classroom, religious centers and even movie theaters.

Americans witnessed the first African-American president to complete not one, but two terms in the Oval Office. He was then followed by a television personality star, who has since divided our country with his tweets.

Powerful social movements highlighted the inequality of human rights and need for constitutional changes. Black Lives Matter, the Women’s March, and March For Our Lives, among others, were able to show that despite our differences, people will stand together to fight for what’s important.

Speaking for myself, the last ten years have been a trip to say the least. I struggled with the ups and downs of puberty in this new age of technology and social media — where my duck face selfies will forever follow me in life— while I also graduated high school. I then realized I had to make decisions that would become consequential.

When 2019 came to a close I wasn’t sure what to

expect and now that I have spent some time in 2020, the energy of things being “monumental” is beginning to dull. But I continue to remain positive as there is still the possibility of that anything can happen.

The beginning of 2020 can mean many things to different people, for myself it means a new semester, year and decade.

With this new semester, I will proudly help lead The Recorder to bring newsworthy content to the Central Connecticut campus and surrounding area, in hopes to better our community.

With this new year, I pray that positive, wise constitutional change takes place as I vote in my first presidential election. I also look forward to seeing more of the Lil Nas Xs and Greta Thunbergs of the world surface to help redefine and shape our world.

And while this may sound like an answer for a beauty pageant, I hope that in this decade there are discussions on improvement that will become actions to help build a more peaceful, united world.

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World War III: The War that Wasn’t

BY MEGAN BRAWNER
COPY EDITOR

Three days into the new decade, President Donald Trump approved an attack at Baghdad International Airport that killed Maj. Gen. Qassem Soleimani. Despite media reports, this was one of the greatest foreign policy decisions made in recent times by a president.

Soleimani was the leader of Iran’s Quds Force, which was designated as a terror group in 2007 by the Bush Administration. He was also the general of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, which was designated as a terror group in 2019 by the Trump Administration. The State Department estimates that he was

responsible for 17 percent of all Americans killed in Iraq during his tenure.

As the Commander in Chief, Mr. Trump has the ability to use military force as he sees fit within certain bounds and limitations. Soleimani has killed thousands of people in the Middle East, a majority of them Muslim. This was far from an innocent man. To provide more context to the situation, lets review a few major events that led up to this.

Back in 2015, the Obama Administration teamed with other members

of the P5-plus-1 group, Britain, China, France, Russia and Germany to sign the Iran Nuclear Deal. These permanent members of the United Nations Security Council signed the agreement to limit Iran’s ability to enrich uranium fuel and other activities that are essential for making nuclear weapons.

However, there were no restrictions on missile testing so it did not permanently end nuclear weapon development. This was all temporary while providing billions of dollars into the country. This money was then used by leaders, such as Soleimani, to support its terrorist groups stationed throughout the Middle East, the Wall Street Journal reported.

Democrats stood by President Barack Obama and treated the Iran Nuclear Deal as a symbolic deal that ended all problems, but this was not the case. Mr. Obama claimed that deterrence was not an option in the region. Throughout his presidency, Obama made claims that there were only two ways to approach the issues occurring overseas: sign checks for this terror regime and live in a fantasy that this form of appeasement will work miracles or be thrown into a full-scale war.

Fast forward a few

years later to Sept. 2019, when the United States blamed Iran for missiles and drones that struck oil facilities in Saudi Arabia, which obliterated 50 percent of the country’s oil production. Then again last month, on Dec. 9, the U.S. blamed Iran for a rocket attack that wounded Iraq’s Counterterrorism Service members.

Days later on Dec. 27, an Iranian-backed militia orchestrated a rocket attack in Kirkuk, north of Iran’s capital of Baghdad, that killed an American contractor.

Enter Mr. Trump — he recognized that re-establishing deterrence was essential, especially when Iran has been anything but quiet these past few months so he needed to react.

From these events alone, this was clearly not a “rash” decision and yet, the media is claiming that the U.S. escalated the situation. But this was International Politics 101. Iran not only burned the U.S. Embassy, but was actively planning to kill American diplomats, Mike Pompeo, the U.S. Secretary of State, said. Did they prefer that Mr. Trump stand back and do nothing? According to The New York Times, yes.

There was a bevy of media attention following the killing, but just by

reading the original obituary published by The New York Times the day of Soleimani’s death, it is clear whose side the publication took.

“Qassim Soleimani, Master of Iran’s Intrigue and Force, Dies at 62,” The New York Times stated.

On that same day, The New York Times published another obituary belonging to Sam Wyche, a former Cincinnati Bengals coach.

“Sam Wyche, who was the last coach to lead the Cincinnati Bengals to the Super Bowl, but who was later fined by the National Football League for barring a female reporter from the team’s locker room, has died,” Ken Bilson’s lede stated. So, according to The New York Times, a sexist football coach is more evil than a terrorist responsible for countless acts of terror and deaths.

How is the Iranian government no longer a source of the problem? The Islamic Republic was established in 1979 yet the media is now placing Trump as the source of the issue.

So, I hope you enjoyed the draft jokes while they lasted, but Mr. Trump sent a message to the world and it is time that we recognize that he did not start this battle, but is working to end it.

C.A.N. You Handle All Of These Events?

BY JULIA CONANT
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Central Activities Network is back and they are hosting more events than they have any other semester.

“Get excited!” The caption of their Dec. 6, 2019 Instagram post read. “Next semester, we’re switching it up. We are hosting one major event week every month! This means more events, more free T-shirts and more fun.”

In past years, C.A.N. usually hosted two major event weeks per semester: Welcome Back Week and Spring Week. C.A.N.’s Vice President of Marketing and Promotions Nadia Santone explained why they decided to double their amount of event weeks.

“C.A.N. was interested in doing one major event week each month this semester to bring more creativity and buzz to our events!” Santone said. “We are looking to create fun events for students that cover all areas such as social, wellness, recreational, educational and multicultural. These event weeks will allow us to plan months in advance and really discuss the kinds of experiences a student will have at our events.”

January was announced to have Disney Week from Jan. 21 to Jan. 25. The week may have already started yesterday with “Be Our Guest: One Ton Pasta,” but you can still enjoy the other events C.A.N. has planned for the rest of the week.

Wednesday, Jan. 22- “Inside Out with C.A.N.”

This event is more educational than the others held this week. From 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. C.A.N. is holding another “C.A.N. on the Go.” Club members will be stationed at the Student Center Lobby tables, helping students learn how to process their emotions like Riley did in the Disney movie “Inside Out.” There will also be boxes filled with goodies available.

Thursday, Jan. 23- “C.A.N. You Hula?”

Following, C.A.N. will take over the first Devil’s Den @ 10 p.m. of the semester with hula dancing lessons. This “Moana” themed event will also give students the opportunity to make their own leis. Free smoothies and other items will be available as well.

Friday, Jan. 24- “Disney After Dark: Headphone Disco”



C.A.N. is hosting another silent disco, where music is played through headphones rather than out loud. Competing DJs will be playing their choices of hit Disney songs, and students have the chance to choose which DJ they want to listen to. The headphone disco will be held from 7 to 11 p.m. in Semesters.

Saturday, Jan. 25- “The Force AwaC.A.N.s”

Finally, C.A.N. wraps up Disney Week with a few rounds of indoor laser tag, inspired by Star Wars. From 1 to 4 p.m., students can come to Alumni Hall and enjoy battling their friends and classmates. Free food will also be available.

“The force is strong with this event!” C.A.N. wrote on their website. “Will you go to the dark side or the light side?”

Just like every Welcome Back Week, C.A.N. has also designed shirts for students to get when they attend events throughout the week, as well as other promotional items.

“We are giving away Disney themed t shirts at every event, while supplies last,” Santone said. “And we are giving away pink and green Disney Week logo enamel pins to earn as you travel to each event, starting at Inside Out with C.A.N.”

Students also have much to look forward to in terms of the other event weeks C.A.N. has in store. The next themed week will take place from Feb. 18 to Feb. 21.

“For our Winter Week, we have a circus theme,” Santone said. “Students can look forward to our annual Winter Formal: A Night at the Circus, in which the glam of the big top, close up magic and glow in the dark juggling meets CCSU.”

There will also be two more event weeks held throughout the semester.

“Students can look forward to our March Madness Week which is a game show themed week ranging from events inspired by shows such as American Ninja Warrior and Wheel of Fortune,” Santone revealed. “We are also partnering with IRC for our annual Spring Week in April, as well as we will be having our largest Spring Concert yet on Saturday, April 25.”

More details about upcoming events will be revealed as the semester goes on, but for now, be sure to attend the Disney Week events if you want to see what C.A.N. has been up to first hand. And if you would like to be involved in C.A.N. you can attend their first meeting of the semester tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Center room 203.

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Fun Places To Go This Winter

BY JULIA CONANT
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

When the weather outside is frightful, staying at home sounds so delightful. But just because it’s cold outside doesn’t mean you can’t go out and have fun during the winter. Here’s a list of some local indoor places to hang out when you feel yourself coming down with cabin fever.

Trampoline Parks

Those who have been to a trampoline park before know how much of a sweat it can work up. And sweating can be the perfect way to combat the chilly weather. As of early Jan., there are now two trampoline parks in New Britain. There’s Flight Fit N Fun at 140 Production Ct, which has been located there for years. But a new trampoline park, Funcity has recently opened in New Brite Plaza, where Ocean State Job Lot used to be. The exact address is 60 E. Main St.

Newington Arena

Whether you’ve been skating for years or you like falling on your butt 20 times in one hour, ice skating has something for everyone. Located eight minutes

away from Central is Newington Arena, which offers public skate hours for anyone to use the rink, typically in one hour time slots. Skates are also available to rent for \$3. Newington Arena is located at 300 Alumni Rd in Newington.

Laser Quest

You’re never too old to chase your friends or strangers around with a laser gun. And luckily, Laser Quest is right on the Berlin Turnpike. There you can roam around their multiple-level arena and take shots at anyone in your path. The Berlin Turnpike is littered with restaurants as well, so after laser tag wears you out you can grab a bite to eat. Laser Quest is located at 3005 Berlin Turnpike in Newington.

Lessard Lanes

Bowling is a classic go-to when brainstorming indoor activities, but that doesn’t make it any less fun. Lessard Lanes in Plainville isn’t too far of a drive away and they offer more than just bowling. A couple years ago, Lessard Lanes took out several bowling lanes and put in an indoor mini golf course. Lessard Lanes is located at 136 New Britain Ave in Plainville.

Dave & Busters

If jumping on trampolines, ice skating, laser tag and bowling are too physical for you, maybe arcade games are more your speed. If you’re willing to drive a slightly further distance, Dave & Busters is 23 minutes away from Central. It is also located next to Buckland Hills Mall, so you could make a day out of shopping and playing arcade games. It is located at 100 Buckland Hills Dr in Manchester.

Central Connecticut Campus

And finally, you could have fun at Central if you know where to look. If you’re looking for more athletic activities, Kaiser pool offers free swim hours, and free fitness classes will be held in the brand new fitness studio. If not, Breakers game room in the Student Center has pool tables, ping pong, air hockey and foosball. Lastly, the Esports lounge in Memorial Hall has many computers and gaming systems available to even students who aren’t in Esports club.

The moral of the story here is that you don’t have to travel far or be outdoors to have fun.

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@TheRecorder

Central Becomes ‘Industrially Inspired’



“Industrially Inspired” will open on Thursday, Jan. 30. CCSU ART GALLERY

BY JULIA CONANT
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Editor’s Note: Julia Conant works in CCSU’s Art Department.

The process of creating art, according to Illinois artist Tim Kowalczyk is as follows: “I make stuff out of stuff that looks like other stuff.”

Kowalczyk is just one of the artists whose work will be included in Central Connecticut’s newest art exhibition: Industrially Inspired. The title says it all; the works featured are all reminiscent of the Industrial Revolution and his idea of making stuff look like other stuff is a prominent theme of the exhibit.

On Thursday, Jan. 30, CCSU’s Art Gallery will hold an opening reception for exhibition.

All of the artists involved in the exhibit use ceramics as their medium of choice, however they are able to make their artwork look like rusted antique industrial pieces.

“This collection exemplifies industrially-inspired ceramic work by five artists,” Dr. Cassandra Broadus-Garcia, the curator of the exhibit, stated. “[Their] manipulation of materials, scale and form resulted in the creation of three-dimensional trompe l’oeil-like works that fooled viewers’ eyes.”

The five artists included in the exhibit are Tim See, Pedro Centeno, Kenneth Baskin, Chris D’Ambrose and the previously mentioned Kowalczyk.

See is an artist from New York, teaching art to students in Syracuse. His YouTube channel “Timsee clay” has over 34,000 subscribers, one video obtaining more than one million views.

See tells a fictional story through his hundreds of ceramic pieces. A fair amount of those pieces are made to look like mugs, bowls and cans with etchings of robots, pickles and other items on the side.

Centeno grew up right here in New Britain, receiving a Bachelor’s degree in ceramics from Central. However, he originally came to college with dreams of being a police officer.

“I’ve always had an interest in art, but never thought of it as a career option,” Centeno said on his website. “During my junior year, in order to fulfill an elective, I signed up for an introduction class to ceramics. I was instantly hooked.”

Baskin sculpted machine parts for his series of work he calls the “20th Century Artifact” series.

“The investigative properties of the 20th Century Artifact series are focused upon the mechanical objects or artifacts derived from the advent of the Industrial

Revolution,” Baskin explained. “Within this current body of work I am exploring the integration of actual and abstracted machine parts into homologous relationships.”

D’Ambrose crafts machine parts as well. His purpose in doing so is to demonstrate their complex nature and to highlight the positive and negative spatial relationships.

Kowalczyk is an Illinois artist who has been featured in “Ripley’s Believe It Or Not” for his ability to make ceramic material look like cardboard. He has also received several awards for his artwork, having his work displayed in private and various university collections.

“Pathetic, absurd, antiquated, banal or even garbage are words that best describe the objects I am drawn to,” Kowalczyk said in his artist’s statement. “These types of objects hold my attention because of the stories they can tell and what they can mean.”

While “Industrially Inspired” takes place in the main gallery room, the Inner Gallery will hold a similar exhibit titled “Inspired by Industry.” This smaller exhibit will feature objects from the New Britain Industrial Museum, which collects items that represent New Britain’s innovation and invention.

The exhibit is curated by students Georgia Exner and Angela Borges. It focuses on found objects, demonstrating how functional items can also be viewed as art.

The purpose of these exhibits is to show that there is beauty in everyday items and that even the most mundane things can be considered artwork.

The opening reception for both of these exhibits will be held from 4-7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 30 in Maloney Hall’s Art Galleries. The galleries are located on the second floor by the elevator. Anyone is welcome to come admire the artwork, listen to some of the artists speak about their work and enjoy a free spread of food.

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REVIEW

Is “High School Musical: The Musical: The Series” Worth The Watch?

BY JULIA CONANT
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

With the release of Disney+ came two new original series. One of these shows was “The Mandalorian,” a highly anticipated space opera taking place in the Star Wars universe that became the most in-demand streaming series in a matter of weeks.

The other show? “High School Musical: The Musical: The Series.” You may know it as the show that produced the song, “All I Want” which has been trending on TikTok for the past month.

As someone who started watching the series only to make fun of how stupid it was, I was surprised to find out that it was actually good. Others feel this way too, as the series has earned a 79 percent on Rotten Tomatoes’ Tomatometer, while the original “High School Musical” only has 63 percent.

“High School Musical: The Musical: The Series” is a mockumentary-style show with characters making comments to the camera in individual interviews and sometimes staring directly into the camera during an awkward exchange embodying Jim from “The Office.” It’s filled with romance, friendship and of course, lots of singing.

The show takes place at East High School, where the original “High School Musical” movie was set. A new theater teacher, Miss Jenn (Kate Reinders) gets hired and is appalled that East High has never put on a production of “High School Musical.” The show follows the students as they struggle to put on the best performance they can. Which is not easy, as much drama occurs behind the scenes.

Nini (Olivia Rodrigo), the girl playing Gabriella, and Ricky (Joshua Bassett), the boy playing Troy, are exes. But Ricky still has feelings for Nini. In fact, she’s the only reason he auditioned for the musical in the first place and Nini might be harboring some lingering feelings for him as well.

Nini’s new boyfriend EJ (Matt Cornett) is Ricky’s understudy, but he wants the role of Troy for himself. While another classmate, Gina (Sofia Wylie),



“High School Musical: The Musical: The Series” wrapped up its first season earlier this month, with a second season on the way.

DISNEY PLUS

is Nini’s understudy and wants the role of Gabriella as well. And honestly, Gina is more deserving of the role as she has more acting experience and is a far better performer in general. This results in EJ and Gina teaming up and scheming to sabotage Ricky and Nini to steal the leading roles.

So what is it about “High School Musical: The Musical: The Series” that keeps people coming back each week? I believe it has everything to do with the actors. Firstly, the casting directors did a great job of actually hiring actors and actresses that are high school aged. This adds to the authenticity of the show, since you know that you’re not watching 30 year olds pretending they’re 16.

The actors also have genuine chemistry that shows through the screen. Rodrigo and Bassett are both songwriters in real life. They were given a chance to collaborate on an original song for the series, writing “Just for a Moment.” This was not only an opportunity to show off their musical talents but it was also a bonding experience, which is important for two actors whose characters are meant to be in love with each other.

However, the show is not without fault. There are still plenty of aspects to laugh at or criticize. For

example, (spoiler warning) Nini gets invited to a prestigious acting school despite putting on an awful performance throughout most of the musical. Also, Miss Jenn lied on her resume when applying to be the new theater teacher, but didn’t get fired just because the students sang a song about how much they love her.

“High School Musical: The Musical: The Series” obviously isn’t for everyone. Viewers who haven’t seen the original “High School Musical” movie may not understand certain references or be as invested in the story. Also, people who hate musicals or romance may want to steer clear.

Is “High School Musical: The Musical: The Series” worth the watch? If you like musicals, are a sucker for a romantic subplot or just like poking fun at cringe-worthy plot points, then the answer is yes.

Season one wrapped up on Friday, Jan. 10, and season two has been confirmed but doesn’t have a release date yet. You can watch the first ten episodes now on Disney Plus.

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10-Year-Old Proves ‘Art is The Start’ For A Better Future



Chelsea Phaire teaches her peers that art can open doors for everyone.

ISABELLA CHAN | STAFF

**BY ISABELLA CHAN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**

Most 10-year-olds ask for a bike or an iPad for their birthday. Some may even ask for more obscure things like a dog. But for Chelsea Phaire, the only gift she wanted was to jumpstart her own charity.

After witnessing the abundant homeless population in Washington D.C. on a family trip to the White House, young Phaire was distraught. Deciding to take matters into her own hands, Phaire asked her friends and family to bring art supplies to her birthday party in lieu of gifts.

With the donations received from her guests and local supporters, Phaire gathered enough supplies to turn her dream into a reality. She founded Chelsea’s Charity, where she creates high-quality art kits for

children in need to spread the message “art is the start.”

“Art is my superpower,” Phaire said. “After I finish an art project, it really helps me with my self esteem because I’m just looking at it and saying, ‘Wow! I can’t believe that!’ You do not have to be the best artist in the world just to enjoy art. It’s yours. Whatever art you make, it doesn’t have to look like anyone else’s, it’s yours and that’s what makes you feel unique.”

Using her superpower, Phaire and her charity have been able to help spread the power of art across the country and overseas. Already, she has sent 500 kits to children in Haiti and plans to send hundreds more in the near future.

Recently, the fifth-grader traveled to elementary schools in El Paso, Texas, and Jersey City, New Jersey to provide art kits and a free lesson to students impacted by the mass shootings that rattled their hometowns. By doing so, she hoped it would teach them healthy ways to

cope with their trauma. This was a lesson Phaire picked up from her mother, Dr. Candace Barriteau-Phaire, an assistant professor and program coordinator for Early Childhood, Infant/Toddler Mental Health at Central Connecticut.

“Because of my work with early childhood, I do a lot of work with social and emotional learning,” Barriteau-Phaire said. “Which is why it makes such a difference when I work with my own children and see them recognize that this is important.”

Barriteau-Phaire said that she is proud of her daughter for using her art to empower others.

“It’s sad that she has to do this, but at the same time I’m glad she’s thinking of others and how to help them through these experiences, or at least expose them to this idea that art is a healer,” she said. “Maybe it might even help someone prevent a bully, they [might] think, ‘Hey we’re really supposed to help each other not hurt each other.’”

The entire Phaire family is actively involved in helping with Chelsea’s Charity and spreading the message, but it is 10-year-old Phaire’s voice that makes an impact on her peers. As she teaches her lessons, she shares how art helps in ways that they can relate to.

“Art can help you tell a story and communicate what you can’t,” Phaire said during an art lesson at CCSU’s Literacy Center. “Art has helped me — it’s kind of like a therapy for me. If I’m upset with my little brother or doing something I’m not supposed to be, I make art to say I’m sorry, to cool down, or help me do things I’m not going to regret.”

As an advocate for young leaders, Literacy Center Director Dr. Jesse Turner said she supports Phaire and her work. Turner described her as, “a little girl changing the world one little art kit at a time.”

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Word Scramble

1. PDOIIO

2. TEALRCRNE

3. SPUMM

4. INATURIDLS

5. HSEACLE

6. SCMIULA

7. IKMC

8. TFRREA

9. ASORTS

Mumps
 Opioid
 Mick
 Rec Central
 Rafter
 Industrial
 Chealsea
 Musical
 Astros

Mick D'Arcy Leads Woman's Soccer To Back to Back NEC Championships

BY GEORGE ATTWOOD
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

When you go to watch a game of women's soccer at Central Connecticut State University, you can't miss the unmistakable man that is Mick D'Arcy. D'Arcy is an incredibly tall man. When he stands on the sideline he towers over everyone, all of his players look up to him both physically and as a leader.

As head coach, he has built a sense of family within the program. When they played Rutgers, former players drove from Pennsylvania to support the team. After the game, D'Arcy's phone was blown up with text messages from former players congratulating the team for their win. They're proud of the program and the coach they once played for.

D'Arcy doesn't just want to know his players on the pitch, he wants to know them as human beings, which is what makes him such a likable person.

D'Arcy is one of Central Connecticut State University's most successful coaches. In his 20 years in the job, he has won the Northeast Championship 10 times and has won two NCAA tournament matches. As head coach of the Blue Devils, he has amassed 200 wins. This makes him the winningest women's soccer coach in Central's history.

In his office, your eyes are immediately drawn to his window sill. Upon which are a plethora of trophies, all of which showcase the achievements he has won as head coach. As the program keeps on winning, he may have to get a new window sill to continue to showcase their trophies.

When you go to interview Mick, you sit opposite him and your eyes are drawn to all the photos and memorabilia on the wall behind his desk. There is an Ireland shirt that pays tribute to his Irish roots.

His father Eamonn D'Arcy was a professional soccer player in Ireland and England and coached the Irish National Women's Soccer team.

"My parents have been the greatest influences on my soccer career," D'Arcy said. "My dad has always been my mentor. He had grown up being a professional player and then went onto be a coach as well. He shared his love for the game with me while my mother has always taught me how to keep the game in perspective."

Under D'Arcy, individual players have been

successful as well as the team. They are honored with a photo and their accomplishments around the top of his office. Which combined with all the trophies for Northeast Championships and personal coaching awards give the vibe that rather than an office, it is more of a museum, toasting to the successes of the women's soccer program.

Being the head coach of a college team means you have a consistent turnover of players. However, every year D'Arcy gives them a competitive side and has instilled in his team a sense of family. When you step out onto the pitch you are a part of something bigger than yourself.

When he goes out to scout players D'Arcy looks for, "blue-collar players". The type of players that put the team first over personal success. This type of culture that D'Arcy has created has made the team one of the most formidable teams in the NEC championship, also helping to deliver their first NCAA tournament win.

Despite the turnover of players in college soccer, D'Arcy always looks forward to the following season when there is a bunch of new challenges to overcome.

"Challenge-wise, it is reinventing the team every year," D'Arcy said. "The differences between club soccer and pro soccer is the natural four-year evolution. It really is a game of snakes and ladders, you work your way close to the top. You never win unless you're the one team that wins a national championship but you feel like you're getting close but then it's back to the start again."

Looking ahead to next year, D'Arcy and his coaches are trying to figure out how they are going to repeat as champions.

"I'm excited, right away we start looking at who we have next year and how it is all gonna play out," D'Arcy said. "We're gonna lose some great players, but that's the price of success, if you didn't lose good players, then you would be a bad team."

D'Arcy enjoys the challenges collegiate soccer presents him and his coaches.

"I think it's fun because you can't get burnt out," D'Arcy said.

He is able to bring in high-quality players which has always helped this program to be competitive.



Mick D'Arcy

CCSU ATHLETICS

On the current side they have NEC midfielder of the year, Roma McLaughlin. McLaughlin was in the Irish national team and is here at Central since D'Arcy is the coach. The chance to play under him is something that a lot of players want to experience. In the state of Connecticut, they have a long line of players all who want to play for D'Arcy.

As a coach D'Arcy has found himself constantly evolving in his approach to being a coach.

"I can certainly see how I have developed as a coach," D'Arcy said. "I think I was a lot more vocal in the olden days. I learned a great lesson because, at the old grass pitch, the press box was directly behind the bench so the video cameras picked up everything I said. It was like I was wearing a microphone. I'd go back and watch the games for video analysis and I would hear myself talking to the referees and players and I would think, look you sound like a fool, shut up and watch the game. So now I'm a lot less vocal on the sideline. I coach when I need to coach. It's now a case of less is more."

D'Arcy really enjoys being head coach and after winning his 10th title as head coach, he has no intentions of slowing down.

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CCSU defeated Fairleigh Dickinson University 1-0 for the 2019 Northeast Conference Championship.

TWITTER

WINTER BREAK RECAPS

Men's Basketball Registers First Win Of The Season

BY GEORGE ATTWOOD
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Central Connecticut basketball earned its first win of the season after a tough run of fixtures. The elusive win came against Connecticut College, as the Blue Devils won 89-55.

The Blue Devils welcomed back the return of sophomore guard Ian Krishnan, whose game-high 23 points enabled CCSU to put themselves in the win column. Central shot 34-of-61 (.557) from the field and was 12-of-20 (.600) from behind the arc. The Blue Devils forced 26 turnovers against the Camels. This was the first time the two sides had met.

At the turn of the new year, Central opened up conference play against Robert Morris, which the Blue Devils lost 89-78. For the second straight game, Krishnan scored a team-high 20 points, while freshman guard Greg Outlaw added 15 and rookie Jamir Reed finished with 14 points.

The Blue Devils collected 7 steals, their ninth game of the season with six or more. Outlaw had three. CCSU managed to get within 85-78 with 0:29 to play but the Colonials hit four foul shots to close it out.

The Blue Devils would then lose games against Saint Francis U, 93-69 and to LIU 90-78.

Next CCSU faced Merrimack, who in their first NEC season have already beaten Army, UMass Lowell and Hartford out of conference. Central went into the half tied at 25 but went on to lose 58-46. Senior Jamir Coleman and junior Stephane Ayangma hit consecutive layups in the first 1:13 of the second half to give CCSU a 29-25 lead, but Merrimack responded with an 11-1 run, holding CCSU without a field goal for over six minutes to take a 36-30 lead. Merrimack outscored CCSU by 19 (25-6) in points off turnovers.

The teams were meeting for the first time since Dec.



CCSU beat Connecticut College 89-55 behind Ian Krishnan's 23 points.

CCSU ATHLETICS

6, 1984. Central had won six straight in the series and is 13-5 all-time against Merrimack. The meeting was the first between the schools as members of the Northeast Conference.

The Blue Devils would start a three-game road trip against Sacred Heart, losing 66-55. Both teams scored 33 points in the second half but it wasn't enough to stop Central from losing their 5th straight game. CCSU was 0-of-4 on three-pointers in the first half, while SHU was just 2-of-10 from beyond the arc in the opening period. Central hit 3-of-6 in the second half, while SHU was just 2-of-9.

The Blue Devils have a slight advantage in the all

time series, leading 37-30. The Pioneers have won the previous nine matchups, with Central last winning on Feb. 21, 2015.

In the second game of their road trip, the Blue Devils travelled to Mount St. Mary's. Freshman Jamir Reed led the Blue Devils with 12 points. CCSU fell to 1-18 overall and 0-6 in league play, while Mount is 7-11 overall and 3-2 in NEC play. The Mountaineers turned 13 CCSU turnovers into a 20-2 advantage in point off turnovers. In conference play, CCSU is shooting 77.3% at the foul line.

CCSU is currently 1-19 overall this season with a 0-7 NEC record.

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Women's Basketball Earn Lone Victory Over Winter Break



Ashley Forker collected a career high 13 rebounds in Central's victory over Hartford.

CCSU ATHLETICS

BY TREVI ALICKOLLI
SPORTS EDITOR

Schedule makers were not kind to the Central Connecticut Women's Basketball team as they faced one of the toughest stretches in their schedule, a four-game road trip away from Detrick Gymnasium during winter break.

During a tough season to date, Head Coach Beryl Piper acknowledged the upcoming challenge months in advance.

"We have a tough schedule, we have a tough non-conference schedule," Piper said. "It's not easy. It's a tough swing."

While the Blue Devils had a rocky start to the break, they finished out the road trip with their first win of the season and a milestone for their head coach.

Following three straight losses on the road, Central bounced back for its first victory, beating the University of Hartford 61-54. Against the Hawks, the Blue Devils had two double-digit scorers from Junior center Ashley Berube and Junior forward Ashley Forker.

Berube scored a season-high 25 points while shooting

50% from the floor. She also hit her second three-pointer of the season while going a perfect 8 for 8 from the charity stripe.

Every point mattered from Berube as the Hawks battled late but she scored nine straight for Central during the last six minutes of the fourth quarter.

The 25 points are one shy of her career-high.

Berube also had eight rebounds and one block, but she was not the leading rebounder for Central like she typically is.

Forker was the leading rebounder with 13 on the day, a career-high, and five of the boards came on the

offensive side of the floor. She also scored 16 points while also shooting a perfect 9 for 9 from the free-throw line and led the team in assists with six.

The Blue Devils held the Hawks to just 26.3% from the field, 20% from downtown and only allowed their opponent to get 10 free-throw attempts.

Central had 15 assists on 18 made field goals and only 11 turnovers through the entire game.

Not only did Central finish the calendar year in the win column, but it also secured win number 150 for its head coach Beryl Piper.

Before the Blue Devils got their first victory, before they hit the road, they began the winter break facing the University of Massachusetts Lowell on Dec. 5, at home, where Central lost 56-54 on a last-second game-winner but outperformed the River Hawks in nearly every statistical category.

Central shot better from the field (38.2% to 37.3%), made more three-pointers while shooting better from deep, out-rebounded their opponent and had more assists than UMass Lowell.

The Blue Devils had 18 assists on 21 field goals made.

Berube led the way in the box score for the Blue Devils, scoring 19 points on 7 of 11 shooting and hauled in 10 rebounds. She also recorded an assist, a steal and for blocks, which tied a season-high.

Forker was the second-leading scorer with 12 points on 5 of 11 from the field and dished out a season and career-high 10 assists, securing her first double-double of the season at the time.

Following the close game, the Blue Devils would go on to lose their next three games on the road by double digits each matchup.

Central fell to the University of New Hampshire 70-59 on Dec. 8, Florida Atlantic University 72-54 on Dec. 15, and Florida Gulf Coast University 94-60 on Dec. 17. The loss against the Eagles was the most lopsided loss of the season for Central.

Following their victory over the Hartford Hawks, the Blue Devils opened up Northeastern Conference play with four games that spanned from Jan. 2 to Jan. 11.

Central opened its conference schedules with two straight home games against Robert Morris University and Saint Francis University. They lost both games, 86-56 and 64-52 respectively.

Junior guard Emma McCamus scored 13 points against the Colonials, the sixth time this season she hit double figures scoring.

In a losing effort to Sacred Heart University, Berube scored 16 points and collected a career-high 18 rebounds.

Berube then continued her hot streak against Merrimack College, scoring 20 points in a 65-56 loss. At the time, Berube had scored in double figures in her last six games (now eight straight).

Point guard Bruna Vila Artigues had a season-high six assists and a career-high seven rebounds.

As a team, the Blue Devils outscored the Warriors in the paint and won the rebound battle.

Central is currently 1-16 on the season (0-6 NEC) and will finish the season with only conference games remaining.

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Offensive Woes Keeps Men's Basketball In Losing Column

BY RYAN JONES
MANAGING EDITOR

Central Connecticut men's basketball is still looking for their first conference win after dropping their last three road games.

Offensive struggles plagued the Blue Devils in the losses, with only one player scoring in double digits in both games (Ian Krishnan had 10 against Sacred Heart before Jamir Reed scored 12 off the bench against Mount St. Mary's). The team shot a season-low 31.4 percent from the floor against the Mount (conference play only).

CCSU kept things contentious in the first half of play against the Pioneers. Stephane Ayangma came off the bench and immediately made his impact as Xavier Wilson found him wide open in the paint for a dunk to bring the score within two.

While SHU tried to pull away, Ian Krishnan drew a clutch foul on a three-point attempt and sank all three free throws to keep things within a score. The Pioneers used an 11-2 run late in the first to head into the break up 33-22.

The Blue Devils kept the ball moving in the second half. A string of quick passes found Zach Newkirk open for a three, which was followed up by a jumper from Jamir Coleman that brought Sacred Heart's lead down to six.

Jamir Reed laid one in to bring CCSU to within four, but the Pioneers finished the game on a 9-2 run to secure a SHU win.

While the offense struggled, the CCSU defense was able to buckle down against Sacred Heart. The Pioneers connected on just four of their 20 shots from long range,

which is an especially good sign for the Blue Devils, who have had trouble guarding the perimeter this season (currently allowing a Northeast Conference worst .418 from the arc to opponents).

Central was not as adept at defending the arc in their game against Mount St. Mary's. The Mount started off the scoring in the game with a three and went on to sink seven shots from deep in the first half, putting them ahead 42-21 heading into the break.

The barrage from downtown continued in the second half, as three of the first four scores from the Mount came from behind the arc. This pushed the mount to what was an insurmountable lead for Central as the Blue Devils fell 79-52.

Before CCSU comes home for a two-game stretch, they took on Fairleigh Dickinson University in New Jersey on Monday.

Four of the starters scored to start the game, helping the Blue Devils jump out to a 13-9 lead over the Knights.

The Knights were able to quickly storm back against CCSU by way of the three-point shot, going 8-of-13 from beyond the arc in the first. FDU headed into the half up 40-29.

Fairleigh Dickinson cooled down in the second half, going 3-9 from three in the second half. The Knights did finish the night shooting over 50 percent from the floor while Central could only shot at a 35 percent clip. The Blue Devils have only shot above forty percent in conference play twice thus far (against Robert Morris and LIU).

Central Connecticut will be back at home to take on Sacred Heart and Wagner this week before heading back on the road to continue to take on the rest of the Northeast Conference.



CCSU Mens Basketball is back at home for two games this week against the Pioneers and Seahawks.

CCSU ATHLETICS

@RYANJONES385

Cheating Scandal Puts MLB In Turmoil Once More

BY RYAN JONES
MANAGING EDITOR

Major League Baseball has often been linked with controversy. In 1919, members of the Chicago White Sox intentionally lost the World Series for money. Throughout the '80's, cocaine was running rampant through clubhouses. In the '90's and early 2000s, amazing feats were performed and unbreakable records were achieved, but many those records come with an asterisk thanks to the use of steroids.

The way teams cheat in baseball has taken many different forms since the MLB was founded in 1869. The Houston Astros, and potentially other teams, are just the latest in a long succession of cheaters.

The Astros lost in the World Series last season to the Nationals, but by all accounts were in line to becoming a dynasty in the MLB.

A mix of homegrown talent (Jose Altuve, Alex Bregman and Carlos Correa) and trades (Zach Greinke, Justin Verlander and Gerrit Cole to name a few) helped the Astros win their first ever World Series in 2017 and seemed to set them up for years of success to come.

That was until Evan Drellich's story with the Athletic was released, in which former Astro Mike Friers claims that the Astros illegally stole signs from opposing pitchers/catchers. The process involved a secondary party watching the catcher's signals and relaying to the batter what was about to come, via banging on a trashcan.

The MLB found the Astros guilty after an investigation, fining the team \$5 million, revoking draft picks and placing the team's manager on a year-long suspension (he was shortly thereafter fired).

The stats from the Astros 2017 World Series run are all the evidence needed to see that they were up to something:

At home, Jose Altuve had a batting average of .472 while putting together an insane 1.541 OPS (on base+slugging percentage) but on the road, where the Astros could not implement their cheating system, Altuve only batted .143 and had an OPS of .497.



The Houston Astros were caught for stealing opponents signals during games. TWITTER

Altuve is not the lone 'Stro to slump on the road. Bregman batted .273 in Houston and .154 away. Brian McCann had possibly the biggest difference, batting an impressive .300 at home while only hitting .037 on the road.

These numbers depict more than a home field advantage, but rather a clear edge over opposing teams.

It would be naive to think that Houston is the only team cheating in the MLB, but as it stands, they're the only team to get caught.

As history has shown, teams and players will continue to look for a competitive edge over their opponents one way or another. MLB Commissioner Rob Manfred's punishment might stop the Astros from sign stealing, but as the Red Sox and other teams have shown, trash cans aren't the only way to cheat in baseball.

@RYANJONES385

Event Schedule

Men's Basketball

1/23 7pm vs Sacred Heart University

1/25 3:30pm vs Wagner

Women's Basketball

1/25 1pm vs Wagner

1/27 7pm vs Sacred Heart University

Track and Field

1/24-25 - John Thomas Invitational @ Boston University

Swimming and Diving

1/25 12pm @ Northeastern

Men's and Women's Track And Field Earn Five First Place Finishes In Season Opener



CCSU earned 19 metals at the Ramapo College Season Opener on Friday, Jan. 17 in New York, NY.



CCSU ATHLETICS

BY GEORGE ATTWOOD
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Editor's Note: Megan Brawner is a member of the CCSU Track team

Central Connecticut men's and woman's track team earned five first-place finishes at the Ramapo College Season Opener. In total, the Blue Devils earned 19 medals. Richard Grudzwick won the 1,000 meters (2:29.04) and Edwin Alston won the 60-meter hurdles (8.23). Hailey Rospierski won the 60-meter dash (8.41), Angie Rafter won the 1,000 meters (2:57.96) and Briyanna Labbie won the 500-meter dash (1:23.11). The times for Rafter and Labbie were both personal bests.

Heading into the season, the men were predicted to finish third in the Northeast Conference and received two first-place votes in the Preseason Coaches Poll. The women were predicted to finish fourth in the Northeast Conference and received one first-place vote in the Preseason Coaches Poll.

Robert Moore and Kevorni Welsh took the silver in the 5,000 meters (15:26.66) and long jump (6.79m) events respectively. The run was a personal best for Moore. In addition to this, the 4x400 meter relay team came in second place with a time of 3:25.25. Jason Walton earned the bronze in the 400-meter dash clocking in at 51.04. In the men's 800 meters, Ryan McCauley finished third crossing the finish line in a personal best time of 1:58.90.

In the 5,000 meter run, Kaitlyn Stevens ran a collegiate-best and finished second at 19:13.13. Teaira Edwards threw 13.86 meters in the weighted throw for second place, which improved her previous best by 2.36 meters. Danyelle Engels also earned second place in the shot put with a 10.76-meter throw.

During the Dartmouth Relays, the men and women team both finish third out of nine teams at the meet. The men earned third with 89 total points, Dartmouth University won the meet with 114 points. The women's team earned a total of 50 points for third place. Dartmouth came in first place with 211 points.

The Blue Devils men's team earned a total of six medals. Richard Grudzwick earned first place in the 800 meters run with a 1:54.57 time. A pair of Blue Devils came in first and second in the 60-meter hurdles, Edwin Alston (8.19) and Tyrik Henry (8.38). In the 4x200 meter relay, Central's team finished first with a 1:30.73 time. Darius Wise finished in second place for the 60-meter dash (6.98).

The women's 4x800 relay team won their event with a time of 9:38.37. Angie Rafter and Hailey Rospierski came in second place in their respective events. Rafter earned silver in the one-mile run, finishing the race with a 5:06.43 time. Rospierski finished the 60-meter hurdles in 8.97 seconds and came in third in the high jump (1.59 meters). Megan Brawner came in third for the 800-meter run with a time of 2:16.98.

The men will next be in action on Sat. 25th at John Thomas Invitational. The woman will also be competing at John Thomas Invitational but on Fri. 24th.

@THECHUNKYGADGIE

Women's Basketball Drop Three Conference Games On the Road

BY TREVI ALICKOLLI
SPORTS EDITOR

Central Connecticut Women's basketball team is still searching for their first Northeast Conference victory after dropping three conference matchups against Long Island University, Mount St. Mary's and Fairleigh Dickinson this past week.

The Blue Devils were able to keep the games close, losing by single digits but were not able to close out late. Central lost 63-61 against the Sharks, 72-64 against the Mount and 66-47 against the Knights.

Junior forward Ashley Forker led the way for the Blue Devils as she posted a career-high 17 points against the Mount, 16 points against Long Island.

During her career night, Forker shot 50% from the field (5/10, 1/2 from 3), secured eight rebounds and dished out seven assists. Five of her eight total rebounds came on the offensive end of the floor.

Fellow classmate Ashley Berube was also a bright spot for Central. The center was the leading scorer in all three matchups for her team. Berube scored 16 against LIU while adding eight rebounds, 18 against Mount St. Mary's to go along with nine rebounds and 23 against Fairleigh Dickinson to close out the road trip.

Berube has recorded double-figure scoring in nine straight games. Her performances earned her an NEC prime performer last week.

Central's matchup against the Sharks was one the closest games of the year for the Blue Devils as they lost by two and the two teams were nearly identical in multiple categories.

CCSU shot 35.9% from the field compared to LIU's 35.4%. Central edged out the Sharks in free throws

(12 to 10), turnovers (10 to 13), points off turnovers (15 to 5), points in the paint (28 to 24) and fastbreak points (11 to 5).

Both teams banked in on 23 field goals, but where Long Island separated itself from the Blue Devils was the three-point line. The sharks hit seven threes compared to Central three. LIU also out-rebounded Central 50 to 38.

CCSU was not able to close out LIU and earn their second victory of the season despite the Sharks only making one shot out of 14 in the fourth quarter.

Centrals next opportunity for a victory came against The Mount, but defensively, the Blue Devils allowed their opponent the shoot over 50% from both the field and three-point land.

While the Mount was over 50%, CCSU shot 39% from the field and 35.7% from beyond the arc. Central also had 21 turnovers and allowed 23 points off of those turnovers. LIU scored 40 points in the paint.

Central won the rebound battle against The Mount 36 to 24 and edged them out in second-chance points, 11 to 0.

While the game was lost by eight points, Mount



Ashley Berube (33) has scored in double figures in nine straight games.

CCSU ATHLETICS

St. Mary's led by 22 points at one point before Central fought back, but fell just short of the victory once again.

The Blue Devils suffered the worst loss at the end of their three-game road trip, losing by 19 to the Knights. Central only made 15 field goals compared to their opponents 24 and shot 30.6% from the field. CCSU also only made one three-pointer, courtesy of Berube, against the Knights.

The Blue Devils lost the rebound and assist battle while committing more total turnovers.

CCSU returns home for a two-game home stand against the Wagner Seahawks and the Sacred Heart Pioneers this Saturday, Jan. 25 and Monday, Jan. 27. Tipoff is scheduled for 1 and 7 p.m. for each game.

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