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# SOUTHERN NEWS

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## College Democrats on the midterm elections

**By Ali Fernand  
Features Editor**

This year's midterms were full of toss-up races and controversial decisions. Early voting, abortion rights and LGBTQ+ rights were all issues on voters' minds at the polls.

Election Day was Tuesday, Nov. 8, marking the halfway point in President Joe Biden's term.

"There's a Democrat president in office, so Republicans will do better in midterms those years," Vice President of College Democrats Nate Gross said.

Typically, with a midterm election, the party opposite of the sitting president will do better. Under President Donald Trump in 2018, the Democrats had a successful election year.

Many Republican politicians and commentators have been anticipating this midterm to be a "red wave." This means they were expecting a sweeping victory to gain the majority in both the Senate and the House of Representatives.

"There's all this talk about this big red wave that was going to flip the senate, flip the house; it was just never going to happen," psychology major Thomas Robertson, a junior said.

Though Robertson was not shocked by the Republicans not doing as well in this year's midterms, a lot of people were. This includes Democrats, Republicans and those who are unaffiliated.

"As a Democrat, I was shocked that the Democrats did so well across the nation during the midterms," Student Government Association President Kyle Thaxton said.

According to Bloomberg as of Nov. 14, 50 seats in the Senate have been won by Democrats and 49 by Republican. This means that Democrats will keep control in the Senate. Alaska is still going through the election process because of their method of ranked voting, but all their candidates are Republican. The last seat in the Senate that will determine if Democrats gain a majority or if it will

be 50-50 is Georgia.

"Although most projections reflect that the Republicans will have a decent majority in the House, many Senate and Governor races are too close to call or they are going to a run-off election," Thaxton said.

Georgia will be having a runoff election for Senate between incumbent Raphael Warnock, a Democrat, and Herschel Walker, a Republican. This is because Georgia's electoral system requires a candidate to win over 50% of the votes, 2.1% of this election's votes went to Libertarian candidate, Chase Oliver. If Warnock wins the run-off in Georgia, Democrats will hold 51 seats in the Senate.

According to Bloomberg as of Nov. 14, Democrats hold 204 seats in the House of Representatives and Republicans hold 212 seats. It is projected that Republicans will win the majority in the House of Representatives, but it is currently a tossup.

In terms of local elections, Connecticut put a contentious decision on the ballots this year. The

decision the Connecticut citizens got to make this year was early voting.

"Early voting is going to allow more young people to vote, especially those who may be busy with classes, assignments and extracurricular activities at their college campus on Election Day," Thaxton said.

Despite originally taking place on a Tuesday because of agricultural workers, Tuesdays are a workday for a large portion of the population. Early voting will allow those who work or have school on Election Day to be able to vote at a time that is more convenient for them. However, early voting and mail-in voting has been a point of contention.

"In the last couple of years, election integrity has been a big deal," Robertson said.

Early voting was not the only contentious issue on the ballot. In Connecticut's 5th district, the race between incumbent Jahana Hayes and George Logan was extremely tight.

"I knew from all the radio ads, the vice

president visiting, the TV ads, that race was going to be close," Robertson said.

Both campaigns were tough on each other. Logan's campaign blamed the current high inflation rates on the incumbent.

The rest of the races for the many seats up for reelection in Connecticut were not as close.

"The most notable races in Connecticut were definitely the Governor, Treasurer, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Comptroller and Jahana Hayes' 5th District Congressional race," Thaxton said.

Many of the races in Connecticut were won by Democratic

incumbents. Most of these were races with people who have been in politics for a long time. They are recognizable to Connecticut voters, making it hard for the Republican opponents to win.

"It's notable that the governor won by such a large margin, I think the governor did very well with COVID and in general," Gross said.

According to the Associated Press, Ned Lamont beat opponent Bob Stefanowski by 163,777 votes.

"Voters showed that they don't like the policies that Republicans were promoting," Gross said.



PHOTO JALI FERNAND

**A Peter Mariano and Kathy Hoyt campaign poster.**

## The status of student debt relief Tuition Increase

**By Ali Fernand  
Feature Editor**

Financial relief is on the way for some college students. Between COVID-19 and college prices rising, students are going to be offered the opportunity to get up to \$20,000 in federal debt forgiven.

"There is a student debt crisis, so there are more and more students taking out more and more loans to afford college," President of Student Government Association Kyle Thaxton said.

Students in Connecticut are seeing the price of tuition rise every year. The state government has been paying the state schools less and less. To make up for this, the institutions have raised the price for students attending. There are other needs besides tuition like textbooks, fees and the rising cost of living. Those who are unable to room and board might feel left out of the college experience.

President Joe Biden's plan is to forgive those who owe loans to the federal government. Students who have loans from private vendors cannot receive federal forgiveness.

"For students, it's up to \$20,000 if you have federal loans and a Pell Grant. It's up to \$10,000 for students with federal loans and no Pell grant," Director of Financial Literacy and Advising Lew

DeLuca said.

These parameters allow relief for the people who need it the most. The students who receive the Pell Grant are in more financial need, so they can receive more money. Those who are not on the Pell Grant can receive up to \$10,000 if they have a single parent that makes under \$125,000 or married parents that make a joint income of under \$250,000.

The debt being forgiven also needs to be from debt that students currently have. New students and those who will be attending school in the future will not be able to apply for forgiveness as of now.

There have been a few pieces of legislation already passed regarding student debt. Loan repayment and interests were paused in March 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic hit.

"Normally what would have been happening up to the pandemic is your unsubsidized loans would have been adding interest," said DeLuca.

Those who were experiencing financial struggles during the pandemic were able to hold off paying their loans. This included those who were in school and those who were no longer in school. There was no application required; payments were frozen automatically.

"I think a big reason he passed the bill was

because it is something that the American people needed," Vice President of Student Democrats Nate Gross said.

Many members of the Democratic party have been paying attention to the progress of the agenda Biden originally set while campaigning in 2020. The midterm election is approaching this November. This has made the success of Biden's agenda a topic of conversation.

"I know there's been a lot of pressure on him to pass a bill like that from the Democratic Party," Gross said.

Democrats who lean more left have been putting pressure on Biden to keep his promise. They are looking for a bill like that to be passed to help their election efforts. President Biden's debt relief bill has created

controversy, creating a range of opinions.

"Some people are satisfied with it, some aren't, some think it's a bad idea," Thaxton said.

Those who are to the right believe that their tax money should not be used to pay for another person's debt. These people believe that this bill is unconstitutional and unfair to those whose families make too much to qualify for debt relief.

According to Politico as of Nov. 10, a federal judge in Texas is challenging the bill. This puts it at risk of being completely thrown out. The way this bill is challenged or passed in other courts of law could change the trajectory of students and voters.

"I think it will give a lot of optimism and hopefully get more students involved in politics," Gross said.

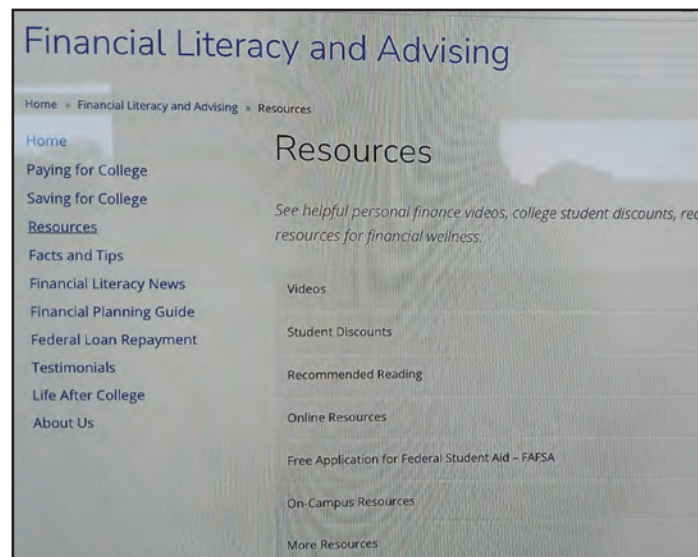


PHOTO DESTENE SAVARIAU

**The financial resources available on the university website.**

**By Destene Savariau  
News Editor**

Starting Fall 2023, students will have to pay up to \$12,847 more in tuition per year.

After a Connecticut State College & Universities Board of Regents for Higher Education meeting on Oct. 12, the Finance and Infrastructure Committee decided to raise university tuition by an average of 3 percent. This means students will have to pay an average of \$367 more per semester.

Psychology major Diamond English, a senior, commented on how her friend came to the university from the south but was forced to leave because he could not afford to pay for school any more.

"It's just straight up unfair. I just feel like all the funds they take is ridiculous. You know how many black students can't afford to go here already? This is going to be the most unfair to those who already struggle at paying for college," said English.

According to the finance report, this tuition increase applies to all state universities. However, it is the fees that vary from school to school. The university is increasing the housing fee by \$152 and the food service fee by \$161.

"I feel like as a social justice university, this

raise in tuition is going to hurt students of the global community more than they realize," Psychology major Steven Ibekwe, a junior, said.

Recreation and leisure studies major Carina Fortunato, a senior, comments on how difficult this is going to be for students to pay more money in tuition who already struggle to pay for college.

"I mean it's definitely not convenient and it's definitely going to put more stress on students who rely on financial aid, don't get scholarships or pay out of pocket. Especially for people who use payment plans while working two or more jobs, it's going to be even more stressful," said Fortunato.

"The 3% increase in tuition is to raise about \$13.4 million which will go towards paying off the \$56 million deficit for universities," according to the university's finance report.

This 3 percent tuition increase comes only one year after another 4 percent increase was placed on student fees from the school year 2022-2023.

"I'm not surprised. We pay more every year, we just don't notice. What's worse is that they continue to put money towards the wrong things. Like, where is this money really even going?" Social work major, Shoshana Mahon, a junior, said.

## Male fashion show held for Cystic Fibrosis

**Photos By**  
**Luke Molwitz**  
Photographer

**Story By**  
**Sarah Shelton**  
Photo Editor

Every year, the university's Delta Phi Epsilon, Alpha Pi Chapter, holds a "Deepher Dude" male fashion show in honor of fundraising. This year they supported the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. According to the sorority's Instagram, this philanthropy is "close to their hearts."

Communication major Liam Welsh, a senior, was the winner of the fashion show, which helped raise over \$1,000 for Cystic Fibrosis. They are also fundraising on the crowd change website.

"We, the Alpha Pi Chapter of Delta Phi Epsilon, work to raise funds for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (CFF),

a non-profit organization seeking to find a cure for CF," the crowd change description states. "Cystic fibrosis is a progressive, genetic disorder that affects the lungs, pancreas, and other organs. Delta Phi Epsilon welcomes you to our annual Deepher Dude event!"

As of Monday, Nov. 14, they raised \$794 on crowd change.

The site also states, "Deepher Dude is an unforgettable night of philanthropy & fun that invites male contestants from SCSU's fraternities and various other organizations to take a chance at winning the coveted title of Deepher Dude! Get ready for a night you'll never forget! The contestants will partake in various rounds throughout the evening including a formal wear, unique talent, and disco wear, which will all be judged by local campus celebrities & last year's Deepher Dude."



Communication major Liam Welsh, a senior, crowned Deepher Dude.



Media Studies major Jackson Simms, a freshman, on stage clapping.



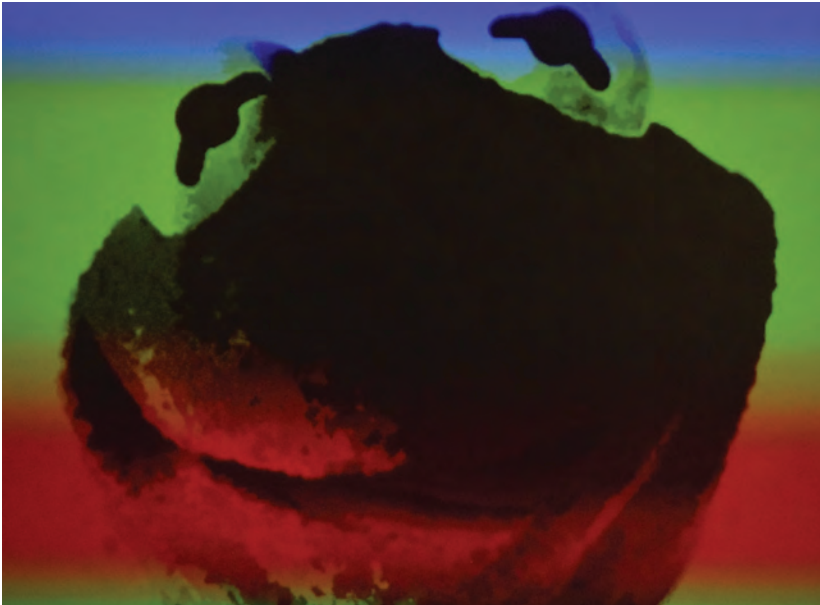
Liam Welsh modeling his 70s theme attire in front of a crowd.



Joseph Pinciario holding a microphone on stage.



Graphic design major Colin Pederson, a senior, showing off his strength during the talent portion of the show.



Kermit the frog being shown on the projector with flashing lights.



International business major Sebastian Garzon wearing his formal attire for the show.



Psychology major Joseph Pinciario, a senior, presenting a slide show with Delta Phi Epsilon sister Lily Ferranti.



Delta Phi Epsilon sisters and "Deepher Dude" contestants standing on stage with a youtube link behind them.

## Future star: Freshman looks to make it big in music

**By Trumayne Guy**  
Contributor

This past August on Move-In Day, Christian Caruso, musically referred to as Kid Caruso, brought along his passion for music to the university.

"I actually have a set-up in my room with a mic, headphones and my laptop," said the Wolcott, CT native. "I also brought my guitar. I like to work on music any time I have free time."

At the university, there is an underground presence of music artists on campus. A business marketing major, from Connecticut, Christian Caruso, a freshman who plans on minoring in music, is a Hip-Hop/R&B/Pop artist on the rise. Music is something that he is passionate about, and continues to bring it with him everywhere he goes.

The passion to create is something that started at a young age for Caruso, who started writing songs at the young age of six. It was his family and their Christian faith that inspired his music

early on in his career.

"I grew up in a Christian family, so the songs I was writing at first were Christian-based," said Caruso. "My grandpa did music for the church so he got me into it."

From then on, his expertise grew and by 11 years old his songwriting became more advanced.

"By 13 or 14-years-old I was making full-fledged songs with production," said Caruso. "This is when I started going to the studio."

Not only is Caruso inspired by family, but also by him grasping songwriting so well.

"It's a natural talent, you know? I love doing it and I'm good at it. It's a passion," Caruso said.

After 8th grade, Caruso moved from Naugatuck to Wolcott for high school, which is where he began to truly put himself out there, posting music on major platforms along with posting more promotion on social media platforms.

On his TikTok account, @kid\_caruso, he began to receive some traction with



Christian Caruso posing in his Hickerson dorm room in front of his recording set-up on Sept. 26.

his video promoting his song, "On Me," receiving 37,800 views and over 2,000 likes. More eyes were on Caruso, bringing on fellow musicians that took a

liking to his music.

"I started to have a lot of producers hitting me up," said Caruso, "but I work with this one guy out in St. Louis named Will Lorenz.

He's been producing most of my stuff."

Lorenz is a music producer and engineer who is also co-founder of "Mob Monopoly," a

collective of producers that sell beats along with selling sample packs and drum kits on their website, mobmonopolyrecords.com.

Not only does Caruso receive support from people on social media, but also from his loving parents, who anticipate great things from their musically-inclined son.

Caruso's mother, Stephanie Chimera, describes herself as "his biggest fan." "He's smart, funny and talented. I can't wait to hear him on the radio one day," she said.

Richard Chimera, Caruso's father, believes that his son's stardom is bound to happen.

"We're just sitting around waiting for the world to discover him because he's already better than anything out there," said Chimera.

Regardless of the people believing or not believing in him, Caruso believes in himself and plans on taking his music to new heights.

He sees himself eventually on a big stage but until then, he will be mastering his craft here at the university.

## Opinion: students need a day off to vote

**By Ali Fernand**  
Features Editor

This past Tuesday Nov. 8 we had our 2022 midterm elections. Many current American issues are threatening younger and marginalized people in America. The most concerning are reproductive rights and LGBTQ+ issues. These issues completely rely on us being able to elect state legislators for those living in the state.

It has always been bizarre to me that Election Day in America takes place on a Tuesday. Most countries that hold elections have them on a Saturday or a Sunday. That is when most of the workforce has their time off. That would align with democratic values of trying to get everyone's voice represented.

Most voter suppression happens to those who struggle the most to get their voices heard. This includes the poor, people of color, LGBTQ+, women, students and young people. Lots of people at our university fit under these populations. With many issues rising up among these populations, it is important that young people are encouraged to

be able to get their votes out. Though polls are open from 6 am - 8 pm in Connecticut, having college obligations on Election Day makes it difficult for students with many obligations to go out and vote. That also brings the case for early voting, which has been extremely under attack in recent years. Though early voting solves the issue of conflicts, I have spoken to many of my peers and a lot of them seem to be confused on how the process of early voting even works.

The university does not seem to help fill the gaps some students might have in learning about voting. There are many ways to vote, and as young adults it is important that our institution does what it can to encourage students to be active in their community. We need to be encouraged and given time to give our input into our futures. Young people are some of the most underrepresented people in elections. We should be given Election Day off from classes to not only get to the polls, but also have time to educate ourselves on what type of candidate we would like to see as college students.

## Marvel releases new Black Panther

**By Sofia Rositani**  
Editor-in-chief

That feeling of mourning, vengeance and protection is felt throughout "Black Panther: Wakanda Forever."

The first 20 minutes of the movie begins with T'challa, Chadwick Boseman, dying from an illness and his sister Shuri, Letitia Wright, trying to find a way to save him by recreating a synthesized version of the heart plant that gives the Black Panther powers. She is unsuccessful because he passes before it is finished. We see them hold his funeral in a beautiful but heart wrenching scene. The part that got to me the most was when Shuri put her body on the casket and started sobbing.

Following that we get to the intro of the film that is usually all the marvel characters. This time, it is Boseman in memory of him.

The movie did an excellent job with handling the unexpected death of Boseman on and off the screen. Boseman passed in 2020, prior to the filming of "Black Panther: Wakanda Forever." He passed away from cancer, an illness he kept private.

The most heartbreaking scene is when Shuri

is speaking to Mbaku, Winston Duke, about losing her brother and how her heart was buried with him and how much she misses him. It is a scene that really hits close to home if you have lost someone you genuinely care about.

This leads us to the villain, "Anti-hero" of the film. Namor or K'uk'ulkan, Tenoch Huerta, is the king of an underwater kingdom that is based off of Mesoamerican culture. He is the first indigenous hero with Mesoamerican background in the Marvel Cinematic Universe which is very exciting.

"Talokan's story begins in the 16th century, when an unidentified Mesoamerican community ingests a plant that grew in vibranium-rich soil. According to this community's shaman, the plant could save them all from the wrath of Spanish colonizers," according to Collider. "What the plant does, however, is change the people's morphology, giving them gills, enhanced strength and durability, and the ability to communicate with underwater creatures. So, the whole community decides to leave the surface world for good, going to the oceans and building the underwater city that would become Talokan."

Namor is not born until they are underwater, the

first to be born, and he is able to go to the surface unlike his people who cannot breathe outside of water. He gets the name Namor from a priest calling him "Niño sin amor" or a "child without love" when he goes to bury his mother on land.

We also are introduced to Riri Williams, a.k.a. Iron heart, Dominique Thorne, who is the reason Namor and Wakandan's meet, due to her creating a vibranium detector that, no shocker, the government decided to take for themselves.

We see Shuri go through the many stages of grief, especially after she loses her mother also, and by the end of it she is a new woman who has taken the mantle of Black Panther, but not the Queen of Wakanda. Instead she gives that title to Mbaku.

While the ending was good, I feel like this is not the end we see of Namor especially with how his cousin was acting at the end.

The mid credit scene was another melancholy scene where we see Shuri crying as she finishes the ritual and reminiscing. We are introduced to Nakia's, Lupita Nyong'o, and T'Challa's son.

The music played a huge role in the film and was beautifully done, especially

Rihanna's song "Lift Me Up." The soundtrack had a mix of African music and Latin music. The music really put the film together and the score made you feel like you are in Wakanda feeling their pain of losing their king and queen.

This film is extremely important because it is representation for the African American community, Latino community and the Indigenous community. The original was the beginning to bringing people of color into Marvel and we are seeing more each year.

"White men played every title hero during Phase 1 of the franchise (2008 to 2012). In subsequent phases, however, Marvel Studios increased diversity in its stories and its production teams. In the MCU's Phase 4 (2021 to 2022), only half the films feature White male leads," according to the Washington Post.

After watching the film just sit there and contemplate what you truly just watched, and you will understand the importance of this film and how truly breathtaking it is.

This movie hit the points of grief perfectly. Wright did an amazing job at playing Shuri and becoming the last in her family to take the mantle of the Black Panther.

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## Women's basketball wins first game

**By Ben Martin**  
Sports Writer

Drip, drop, drip, drop. The university's women's basketball team started Friday's game in a way that was not expected: a rain delay caused by a leak in the roof of the Moore Field House.

After the rain problem was taken care of, the Owls picked up their first win of the season against the Georgian Court University Lions 70-55 on Friday in their opening matchup of the season.

"We are excited," guard Delaney Connors, a graduate student, said. "We are just happy to be here, we are happy to play at home, just ready to play."

Along with Connors, guard Zoë Amalbert, a graduate student, was happy with the game.

"I'm glad we got the win," Amalbert said. "I think we came out strong in the second quarter to open the lead."

Coming into the second quarter, the Lions held a one-point lead; however, by the end of it the Owls would hold the lead.

The Owls outscored the Lions by five in the second quarter, 16-11, with seven of their 16 points coming from Connors. Connors would finish the game with 12 points, four assists and seven rebounds.

"I think I did well, but there's a lot to do," Connors said. "It's a long season, so we have a lot to work on personally and as a team."

After the second quarter, the Owls outscored the Lions in the third quarter 21-13 with six points coming from forward Ashley Evans, a junior.

Evans would finish the game with 12 points, tied with Connors for second most on the team in Friday's matchup.

Additionally, Evans added three rebounds. "I had a lot of excitement going into this game as it was my first game as an Owl," Evans, a transfer from Lafayette College, said. "I did a few things well but there are still improvements I need to make on defense and staying out of foul trouble."

Evans ended the game

with three fouls, and the Owls as a team finished the game with 21 fouls.

Along with Connors and Evans scoring 12 a piece, Amalbert led the scoring attack for the Owls with 17 points. Also, she added six assists and five rebounds.

"I did pretty well," Amalbert said. "In the first half I was struggling a little to put the ball in the basket, but I came back in the second half and stayed calm and played my game."

In the fourth quarter, the Owls outscored the Lions 19-16 which was a drop-off from the second and third quarters.

"You just have to work hard the whole 40 minutes," Connors said. "We cannot drop the energy; it has to be consistent the entire game."

Along with playing all 40 minutes the Owls had 21 turnovers which was a problem, according to Evans. Evans also added that the team's offense needs to flow better.

Along with Connors and Evans, Amalbert sees some improvements that need to be made over the course of



PHOTO | LUKE MOLWITZ

Guard Zoë Amalbert looks to pass the ball against Georgian Court University.

the season.

"We have to keep getting better every day and focus on the little things," Amalbert said. "Playing defense, getting out in transition and learning where people are open and get comfortable with each other."

Although the Owls may have dropped off in the fourth quarter, they won

the game which Evans said she was happy about.

"I think overall it was a good first game of the season," Evans said. "There are definitely things that we need to work on as a team, but it was great to put all the things we have been working on together in action."

## Column: On the NFL

**By Jaylen Carr**  
Sports Editor



For those who have not read my column about the NFL earlier this semester, I have been a fan of the Colts for many years, but it has been a struggle thus far this season. Currently, we stand as one of the bottom teams in the AFC, American Football Conference, which I am not accustomed to seeing.

Growing up seeing quarterback Peyton Manning leading the team to the playoffs and helping the team have multiple winning seasons made us Colts fans spoiled. We were always guaranteed a playoff spot and multiple national televised games, and Manning made the team relevant and won the franchise, a Super Bowl in the 2006 season and an appearance in the 2009 season.

News broke last week that Frank Reich, head coach of the Indianapolis Colts, had been fired. I was not shocked that Owner Jim Irsay made this decision early in the season. Irsay has been eager to win another Super Bowl and is growing impatient about the team's lack of winning. I understand that the team has not been playing well, but I felt like the organization owed Reich to at least finish the season as the head coach.

I hope he does well, but I think Irsay is getting into things he should not be involved in. For example, during the prime years of the Colts, 1999-2009, Irsay did not have any input on the team. Then general manager, Bill Polian, and head coach Tony Dungy, were leaders of the team and made all the decisions. The Colts should tank this year and get a better quarterback.

Plenty of talented quarterbacks are coming out of college into the NFL, like C.J. Stroud, Drake Maye, Bryce Young and Hendon Hooker. I believe we are a quarterback away from being a good team. We have star players like running back Jonathan Taylor, and receiver Michael Pittman.

I think Irsay, get out of the way and let general manager Chris Ballard build the team. I hope Saturday does well, but he should not be the permanent head coach. I would love for the Colts to hire Eric Bieniemy, the current Kansas City Chiefs offensive coordinator, or Super Bowl champion and Head Coach Sean Payton. They both have credible resumes and help the team produce wins.

## Students reacts to World Series 2022

**By John Pisano**  
Contributor

The Houston Astros are back on top once again. Students and faculty weighed in and gave their reaction after the Houston Astros won the World Series.

The Houston Astros defeated the Philadelphia Phillies in six games to win their second World Series title in six years.

"I enjoyed the World Series. I was hoping the Mets were in it because I'm a Mets fan," said an assistant professor in the recreation tourism & Sport Management Department, Deron Grabel.

"It was tough

to root for both teams because the Phillies are a rival and everything that Houston has gone through, but overall, I thought it was well played."

The Astros' offense was led by shortstop Jeremy Peña, the rookie phenom took home the MVP honors for the World Series. He became the first rookie position-player to win the award.

"This is the Astros' first championship since 2017, which was surrounded by controversy due to a sign-stealing scandal.

"As a fan, I think it makes it easier to accept that Houston was a good enough team to win the World Series, even

without cheating," said Grabel.

The Houston Astros have made the World Series three of the last four seasons, losing in 2019 to the Washington Nationals and losing in 2021 to the Atlanta Braves.

"I think the Astros were the perfect team," said sports management major, Peter Phillips, a senior. "They had offense, defense and pitching, the Astros were built to win."

The Astros are in position to make another push for the World Series thanks to a roster that will have many returning players.

## Men's basketball previews the season

**By Jaylen Carr**  
Sports Editor  
**Matt Cain**  
Contributor

The men's basketball team is eager to start the new season and ready to bounce back from last season's 7-18 record.

"I think we are really looking forward to rebound from last year," guard Ulyen Coleman, a senior, said. "Last year was a tough year."

Leadership and chemistry will be essential for the Owls as the team looks to improve their record from last

season. Center Zach Penn, a senior, provides rebounding ability and experience for the team.

"We have a lot of new guys that are falling right into position and ready to play," Penn said. Penn, whose minutes have been increasing since his first year, is expected to play a handful of minutes, as he averaged almost 25 minutes of playing time last season. Penn is eager to start the season with goals set for this season.

"My goal is to have a good record as a team," Penn said. The Owls are

playing with a chip on their shoulder and are looking to win the playoffs and the NE10 Championship.

Being the best player possible is an important goal for Coleman this year as he enters his fourth year on the team.

Coleman says he wants to accomplish some individual achievements too.

"I want to play all the teams, but I really want to play Pace. One of our guards from last year transferred there, so it's going to be fun," Coleman said. Head Coach Scott Burrell,

whose been the head coach since 2015, has been motivating the players to before the season gets started.

"We just want to come out and play hard," Burrell said. "We just want to be a competitive team."

Coach Burrell does not like to lose, just like experienced players such as Coleman and Penn.

"I love to win. I love seeing progress in the team and players individually, not just on the court, but seeing kids grow mentally and physically. That translates to winning," Burrell said.

## Football team loses season finale 54-14

**By Ben Martin**  
Sports Writer

The Owls' football team honored 19 seniors ahead of their matchup against the University of New Haven Chargers on Saturday,



PHOTO | SARAH SHELTON

Defensive back Jaaron Joseph gets in position on the field before the play.

which they ended up losing 54-14.

In addition to the seniors, this was the last game for many of the six graduate students on the Owls' roster. One of those graduate students was wide receiver Javon Jones who

ended the game with four receptions for 108 yards and a touchdown.

"This being my last game, I just wanted to come out here and play to the best of my ability," Jones said. "Catch everything that came my way do not try to force nothing, just play the game and let balls come to me."

As a part of Jones' performance, he caught the first touchdown that the university scored. After a one-yard rush by running back Diante Wilson, a sophomore, the Owls were faced with a third down and seven from their 48-yard line.

Quarterback Marc Reali, a sophomore, drops back to pass, he looks to the sideline

and delivers a pass over the defender to Jones.

Jones corrals the ball off a bobble at the 30-yard line and from there runs into the endzone untouched.

"After seeing the guys getting hyped after I caught that first touchdown, I was feeling it," Jones said. "I was feeling better, and I was feeling more motivated."

Although the Owls scored twice in the first half, they were shut out in the second as the Chargers kept scoring.

"The game did not go as we all planned," Jones said. "We had a slow start to the second half, and we just never got it going from there. We should have done more."

With the loss, the Owls finish the season with a record of 3-8 and a record of 2-5 in Northeast 10 conference play.

"We have got a lot of good players, individuals that have to do their own job, worry about their job specifically," Digello said. "If all eleven players do their job, you usually end up doing pretty well so that's something we really have to work on."

In addition to Digello, Owls' head coach Tom Godek saw some room for improvement from the matchup.

"Just compete," Godek said. "Keep playing, every play counts every play counts."