

THE RECORDER

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Potential Shooting Places Campus Safety Into Question



The CCSU Police Department is increasing campus patrol after a potential shooting.

KRISTINA VAKHMAN | STAFF

BY ISABELLA CHAN
NEWS EDITOR

With 255 mass shootings in 2019 to date, the number of shootings has officially surpassed the number of days in the year. This pandemic has made almost any environment perilous

and threatening, including the Central Connecticut campus.

Just a few weeks ago, a former Central resident student showed potential interest in committing a mass shooting using illegal, high capacity weapons. In a witness statement, the suspect claims he “did not have the intention of committing any mass

shootings at all whatsoever.”

Following the suspect’s arrest, President Dr. Zulma Toro released a statement proclaiming the former student is banned from the campus and is on interim suspension as the investigation goes further. The letter also states Central, New Britain and State police will be increasing patrols on and surrounding the campus.

“While we don’t anticipate any issues at this point, I want to assure you that we are taking this situation very seriously,” President Toro said. She is ensuring, “every precaution is [being] taken to ensure you and our campus remain safe.”

This past summer, CCSU Police and New Britain Police partook in training lessons in preparation for such events, including active shooter training and SWAT training.

Within the Central Connecticut Faculty Guide for Safety, which is available online for the public, it is advised for one to run, hide or fight when coping with an active shooter.

There is currently no active shooter training for students, which has become a concern for on-campus residents and for their parents. For those dropping off their children and just learning about the potential threat of a mass shooting is worrisome to say the least, regardless of the future protection plans.

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Why It’s So Hard To Fire CCSU Faculty

BY KRISTINA VAKHMAN
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

It took close to a year and a \$179,892.57 investigation, according to the Office of University Counsel, for now-former theater professors Joshua Perlstein and Thomas Delventhal, to be outed from Central Connecticut’s campus.

The two men have been embroiled in sexual misconduct allegations and it has ended with Perlstein resigning from Central before a May termination hearing and Delventhal fired a week after.

Christopher Dukes, CCSU’s former head of the Office of Student Conduct and accused of kidnapping and assaulting his wife, was terminated eight months after being arrested.

Math Professor Mihai Bailesteanu, who violated the university’s sexual misconduct policies based on the investigation, is still on campus.

Permanently removing CCSU faculty from their posts amidst damaging accusations is arguably a lengthy process.

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Former Students Remain Disgruntled Following Theater Professors Dismissals

BY DANIEL FAPPIANO
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

After Theater professors Joshua Perlstein and Thomas Delventhal were formally dismissed from the university, two former Central Connecticut State students remain disgruntled with how they exited.

The Recorder confirmed that Perlstein resigned prior to his termination on May 16, while Deleventhal was terminated on May 24 and is appealing the decision.

Anna Kelly, a former Central student, was enrolled in the Theater Department during Perlstein’s tenure. Kelly previously stated in the Recorder’s original April 8, 2018 issue that Pearlstein had kissed her, held her hand and grabbed her butt without her consent.

In a new interview with The Recorder, Kelly states that despite Perlstein’s resignation, she is not satisfied with how the process

played out.

“There are strong feelings of disappointment that he was able to resign before the hearing, which benefits him in almost every way,” Kelly said. “He deserved to be fired 10 times over and instead he has been on unpaid leave for a year and can move onto his next teaching position with full benefits and a ‘spotless’ record.”

Outside of Kelly’s feelings towards Perlstein’s resignation, the former student was also disappointed with his public apology.

In the statement published by the CT Mirror, Perlstein acknowledged his actions via email while stating some of the steps he has taken to move past the incident. Pearlstein stated that he spent time at a refugee camp in Palestine, trained in Restorative Justice techniques and became a Court Appointed Special Advocate through the Department of Children and Families among other actions.



Despite former professors Joshua Perlstein and Thomas Delventhal leaving Central, some students remain unhappy.

FACEBOOK

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ELIHU BURRITT LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS UNIQUE ART



Artist Robert Carley brought a new meaning to celebrities with big heads as his gallery adorned the walls of Elihu Burritt Library.

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FOOTBALL LOOKS TOWARDS NEW SEASON



With a new head coach and playmaking quarterback at the helm, Central Football is looking to make their mark during the 2019-2020 season.

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@TheRecorder on Twitter

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Guide to New Parking Zones



CCSU will have a new parking system in effect by Sept. 16, 2019.

CCSU

BY ISABELLA CHAN
NEWS EDITOR

Over the summer, Central Connecticut has created a new parking system amongst commuter students, resident students, staff and faculty. Each group will be assigned colors decals for their vehicles that will correlate with their designated spaces.

Commuter students will be permitted to park in red circle zones, resident students are given green square zones and staff and faculty have access to yellow pentagon zones. The redistribution will be eliminating a number of parking spaces due to major facilities projects for the future.

“During the peak of construction, a reduction of approximately 300 parking spaces is expected. Addressing its potential impact required significant consulting and planning to develop a strategy to accommodate the needs of our campus community,” Sal Cintonino, Interim Chief Facilities Officer, stated in public statement.

The CCSU Parking Task Force and the Walker Parking Consultants have been working on the new layout for the past year, according to Cintonino. This is part one of three phases for parking during the current and future construction period.

“The Library surface parking lot will become the site for the new Engineering

Building, and the Manafort Drive surface lot will be the location for the new 600-car parking garage. Once completed, these facilities will be incredible additions to our campus,” Cintonino explained.

Phase One will officially be in effect by Sept. 16

Color-coded parking will be in effect Monday through Friday from 5:00 AM until 5:00 PM but is not required on weekends or Monday through Friday from 5:01 PM through 4:59 AM.

For students that have not completed registered their vehicles on campus or receive a colored parking decal please visit one of many kiosks available on campus this upcoming week.

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Why It's So Hard To Fire CCSU Faculty

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The “additional rights and conditions” set forth in the collective bargaining agreement between CCSU and the CCSU American Association of University Professors is more often than not the reason why the process is elongated, CCSU President Dr. Zulma Toro explained.

“Whenever we are taking actions, we have to follow the processes established in that contract,” Dr. Toro said in an interview. The contract provides protections for tenure, tenure-track and part-time faculty, she added.

The CCSU-AAUP guarantees faculty everything from “representation during any investigatory interview” to paid leave, according to the union’s website – that’s why Perlstein, Delventhal and Dukes were all placed on paid leave as soon as allegations against them surfaced.

For instances when a faculty member believes the university has breached

the contract, there is also a grievance procedure in place; Bailesteanu took advantage of it and reversed his termination.

In a March email from CCSU-AAUP President Louise Williams to union members obtained by The Recorder, Williams wrote that Bailesteanu is “innocent” until “management [provides] ‘clear and convincing evidence’ of wrongdoing.”

Williams could not be reached for comment.

There are additional hurdles Central’s administration must leap through before being able to terminate a protected employee.

While each step provides safety nets for faculty, they lengthen the process, though Dr. Toro said that is standard and that “the process works.” Noting that it “speaks volumes” that the termination committee previously agreed with her on a case.

“There are a number of peer committees that have to

review the case once charges have been brought for a professor,” Dr. Toro stated. A case can pass through the mediation and termination committees and still not result in a faculty’s firing if it is appealed and placed in the arbitration process at the Connecticut State Colleges & Universities Systems Office. The Bailesteanu case, whose hearing is in October, is one of the cases going through the process. “We [tried to remove Bailesteanu when his contract came up for renewal], but that was also grief, so it’s going to arbitration.”

“I am committed to doing what I think is in the best interest of our students – everything that will protect the students, to make the students feel safe and welcome here, I will do that no matter how difficult it is,” she continued.

Dr. Toro assured that the reengineering of the Office of Diversity and Equity, which has a new leader and a new

location that is more discreet, will handle investigations better than in prior years, encouraging students to take make a complaint if necessary “no matter if the process is difficult.”

“We want people to feel we are hearing what they have to say and for people to feel that we have the capacity to deal with those cases in a timely manner no matter what type of case we’re dealing with,” she said.

Negotiations for a new contract will take place next October. Dr. Toro does not participate in the negotiations, but she said she is “willing to implement whatever actions are needed as long as we protect our students.”

“It has a little bit of bureaucracy to it,” Dr. Toro said. “I know it could be frustrating. But I’m convinced we’re making progress.”

@KRISDVP

@TheRecorder on Twitter

Potential Shooting Places Campus Safety Into Question

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After a potential shooting at CCSU was stopped, campus safety is in the spotlight.

INSTAGRAM

Deb Satonick was unaware of the potential threat that was posed on campus just weeks ago. As she moved in her daughter for her sophomore year, safety was not only a concern for her child but for the roommates as well.

"In light of everything going on with colleges across America it is almost like people have to be afraid to go to school," Satonick stated as she unloaded boxes.

"It is concerning because I believe in the Second Amendment, the right to hold and bear arms, but I'm very politically inclined and don't think we do enough background checks or vet them properly," Satonick expressed. "We have means in place for overseas terrorism that we are not allowed to do in our country and yet we have terrorism in our country."

Satonick recommended for random in-depth searches of dorm rooms, along with better connections with New Britain Police to ensure secure patrols of the campus. She fears that suspending the suspect would create more motive for them to return.

"Now, [they] have more motivation [to attack] because he is pissed off at the authorities and at Central. [They] should be on the watch list constantly," Satonick added. Despite the interim

suspension, she believes the suspect "can walk through campus and no one would notice."

Two freshmen who were uninformed of the possible danger had expressed feelings of insecurity on campus safety and protection.

"Now that I know there was a potential shooting situation not so good. They've could've amped it up a bit more because I don't want to get shot," Sarah Guadiana, elementary major, said after learning of the incident.

Although they hold concerns for the future, Katie Bate's believed "there's not much we can do about it until some legislation is passed." Which she is correct to a certain degree - within the state of Connecticut, it is legal for one to carry an unlimited number of firearms, dressed in combat gear as long as they possess a permit.

Although members of the Central community remain uneasy following the shooting threat, President Toro is ensuring the campus will working diligently to keep all protected.

"As we continue to prepare for the start of a new semester, have no doubt that the vibrancy, safety and well being of our Central Family will always be uppermost in my thoughts," President Toro said in her closing statement.

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Central Reacts To Trump's Response To Mass Shootings

BY KELLY LANGEVIN
COPY EDITOR

America has been faced with more mass shootings, bringing the total mass shooting rate to 251 in 2019 so far, according to the Gun Violence Archive.

Two mass shootings, one in El Paso Texas and the second in Dayton Ohio, occurred less than 24 hours apart. Combined, over 30 people were killed, according to VOX.

Following the shootings, President Donald Trump tweeted many statements.

"We can't let those killed in El Paso, Texas, and Dayton Ohio, die in vain and likewise, for those so seriously wounded. We can never forget them, and those many who came before them," Trump said.

"Republicans and Democrats must come together and get strong background checks, perhaps marrying this legislation with desperately needed immigration reform. We must have something good, if not GREAT, come out of these two tragic events," the tweet concluded.

Some found parts of his tweets to be questionable.

"The tie to immigration I think is ludicrous because clearly in recent years there has been a rise in right-wing extremism in this country," Political Science Professor El-Eid Ghassan said.

Ghassan addressed that he is, "all for reforming the immigration system," but that is not the whole problem.

"[Mass shooting occurrences] have to do with the gun laws in this country and the ability of the NRA to basically have a hold of congress and to prevent Congress from enacting effective laws to limit ownership of assault weapons," Ghassan said.

However, the tie between immigration and gun laws does not pose as bothersome to others.

"I do not personally have a problem with multiple concerns being mentioned in one statement and that is exactly what is happening here," Dante Solano,

President of College Republicans said. "Both are in major need of policy reforms and deserve the full attention of our representatives in Congress."

During an interrogation at the El Paso Police Headquarters, the gunman told a detective that he was targeting "Mexicans", according to a court affidavit obtained by The New York Times.

President Trump also held a press conference at the White House addressing the matters, in which he stated the attacks were an "assault upon our communities, an attack upon our nation and a crime against all of humanity."

He also addressed the 29 victims killed and injured in Dayton, Ohio by another white gunman and mentioned the El Paso shooter, "posted a manifesto online consumed by racist hate."

According to authorities, the manifesto consisted of a 2,300 word anti-immigrant screed that was posted minutes before the shooting to an online message board "8Chan".

During his speech, Trump called for red flag laws, also known as extreme risk protection orders, to stop those who pose a risk from being able to get a firearm. If they do obtain one then measures will be made to get the weapons taken away quickly.

"We must first make sure anyone who owns a firearm has a permit. All gun sales should include background checks prior to purchase, and nobody lacking a permit should own any type of firearm equipment," Salano said.

Ghassan brought up the shooting in New Zealand which occurred on March 15, 2019. The gunman opened fire at two Mosques killing over 50 people.

"The government was able to crack down on assault weapons and they outright banned these weapons," Ghassan said. "I think something needs to be done in our country as well."

Trump is also directing the Department of Justice to "propose legislation ensuring that those who commit hate crimes and mass murders



Donald Trump's tweets made headlines following the El Paso and Dayton shootings.

TWITTER

face the death penalty and that this capital punishment be delivered quickly, decisively and without years of needless delay."

Later in the speech, President Trump stated, "mental illness and hatred pull the trigger not the gun and perform demented acts."

"This is a mental health issue on top of a gun issue. Yes, it is the ill person who commits these acts, but how did he get the gun? Someone with clear mental disturbances that can manifest as violence has no right purchasing a weapon," President of College Democrats Matthew Kuroghlian said.

"There is a law in place that confiscates firearms from domestic abusers. It has been proven to save countless lives. We need to implement a similar plan for those who show signs of mental illness that can lead to violence," Kuroghlian, sophomore political science major said.

Although Democrats and Republicans views won't exactly align, both sides acknowledged more needs to be done in America for change to happen.

"First and foremost, we need to come together as a country and challenge ourselves to be more understanding with whom we disagree with," Solano said.

Ghassan, also stated that assault weapons should be banned and hopes Congress will enact effective gun laws because "this country badly needs them."

Kuroghlian, who walked out of his classroom with over 2,000 students to participate in a worldwide movement wondered "Where is that energy now?" "I understand how hard it is to maintain a movement. However, if we become too tired, more people will die," Kuroghlian said.

@KELLYLANGEVIN2

Former Students Remain Disgruntled Following Theater Professors Dismissals

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He ended his statement by saying, "It would have been my preference to sit with those harmed in a mediated setting; to listen deeply to their stories; answer any concerns they have; and begin the process of repair with their needs in mind. In lieu of that I hope that my recent work will satisfy them. And if not I hope they will contact me and let me know what more I can do."

Perlstein was unable to be reached for comment on this story.

Kelly shared that she felt disgust from Perlstein's apology and believes that it underlined his overall "self-obsession."

"[Perlstein] has so little self-awareness or empathy for any of the women he victimized over the years," Kelly said. "There was no admission of guilt, no personal responsibility and no apology. The whole thing was just a self-indulgent personal highlight and incredibly insulting to read."

Going forward, Kelly is hopeful that

Perlstein's actions will remain on the record.

"I can only hope that his actions will speak louder than his record and that future employers will be wise enough to get his full history before putting him in a position of authority over any marginalized group," Kelly said.

Kelly is not the only one who disapproves of how the professors' actions have been handled. Former Central student Brooke Emigh was "disgusted" by Delventhal's decision to appeal.

Emigh stated in The Recorder's original Jan. 21, 2019 issue that she experienced inappropriate advances from Delventhal, such as unwanted hugs, kissed and back massages, multiple times through out the Fall 2017 semester.

Delventhal was unable to be reached for comment on this story.

"Delventhal should never be allowed to teach again," Emigh stated during a recent interview. "I am disgusted that

there is an appeal happening and if CCSU re-hires him, it will completely dishonor all the individuals over the past 20+ years who have been affected by both Delventhal and Perlstein."

Following Delventhal's treatment, Emigh expressed that she has suffered from mental and physical health problems.

"I have nightmares of Delventhal and Perlstein almost every single night," Emigh said. "I would not feel safe knowing Delventhal and/or Perlstein would be allowed to teach again."

Emigh, who was forced to move to a different state, feels that Central should implement a consent form in the wake of Perlstein and Delventhal's terminations.

"I strongly believe that the Theatre Department needs a consent form for each theatre class," Emigh said. "It is not an explicit notion that one is going to be touched in a theatre class. That is not something individuals have to be okay with in order to take a theatre class."

While neither Kelly nor Emigh continue to attend the university, both were directly involved with Pearlstein and Delventhal's actions. As the Theatre professors leave campus, both students still have concerns with their dismissals.

In a statement to The Recorder, CCSU President Dr. Zulma Toro said, "It has been a long process, especially for the sexual assault survivors and the Theatre Department students and faculty. The investigation and termination proceedings have been challenging and frustrating, but we are moving forward."

Kelly remains hopeful that CCSU's decision will allow the campus to be much safer for future students.

"Seeing him removed from campus permanently is a huge victory for the university," Kelly said. "I believe it will continue to usher in an important new chapter for the school and specifically the Theatre department."

@DFAPPIANO14

Minimum Wage Change May Not Be So Great



Local sandwich shop Underground Deli breaks down what minimum wage change means to them.

FACEBOOK

BY ISABELLA CHAN
NEWS EDITOR

LITTLE FISH IN A LITTLE POND

The Underground Deli is famously known across the Central Connecticut campus for its 50 delicious, eccentric-named sandwiches, like "The Hypocrite" and "One Hot Chick", to choose from and the welcoming atmosphere, it is no wonder why customers are always coming back for more.

Nicole Hale has been running her deli shop since 2014 and has found much success in her small business. But things are likely to take a turn for the worse for Hale now that Governor Ned Lamont's proposal to increase the minimum wage is finally approved by the House of Representatives.

The approved House Bill 5004 states the current minimum wage of \$10.10 per hour will gradually increase to a fair wage of \$15 over the next four years.

The increase is said to be a fair, livable wage for Connecticut residents and would keep current residents from fleeing the state, according to Lamont, but small business owners would beg to differ.

"On paper, it's a really good idea but I just don't see it working out how we want it to," Hale said.

"I would have to cutback on my payroll, so people would lose hours and then I would have to do more myself, which I don't even want to do. I would rather [my employees] work but if I can't afford it then I just can't do it," Hale explained further.

Hale and her five employees work diligently to keep the sandwich shop running smoothly and productively for its customers. Despite being paid the minimum wage of \$10.10 per hour, the employees often earn "decent tips," and walk away at the end of the day earning almost \$13 per hour, Hale claims.

The Underground Deli could survive with the new minimum wage, but even so the employees would suffer and lose out on working hours or could potentially lose their jobs

in the process.

"If the number of jobs shrink because of [minimum wage increase] then people are still going to leave so how is that solving a problem?" Hale countered Lamont.

The \$15 wage would simply be disproportionately beneficial for a small business, like The Underground Deli, compared to larger businesses and franchises.

Although, Hale recognizes that the current minimum wage is not exactly a liveable one, she suggests there are other alternatives to making it easier on other businesses like hers.

"How much an employee makes should be based on maybe a percentage of how much that company makes or profits. Like I don't make as much as McDonald's does so I think I should have to pay a little less than minimum wage," Hale offered.

Along with Hale are a number of local businesses who have issued public testimonies opposing the proposal and have recommended their own ideas to make the minimum wage change lighter for them.

Jonathan Edwards, owner of Jonathan Edwards Winery Association and President of the Connecticut Vineyard and Winery Association (CVWA), is opposing SB 2, HB 5004 and HB 7191 on behalf of the CVWA.

While the ethics behind the legislature is understandable, CVWA argues Connecticut is "one of the costliest places to do business in the country."

With the current "weak economic climate," and short time frame, increasing the minimum wage would only counteract Lamont's goal to heal financial wounds.

SHOW ME THE MONEY

Since the 2018 Gubernatorial Election, Lamont has brought forward several ambitious plans for which he claims will better Connecticut for a long lasting, sustainable future. One of his most significant proposals being the increase of the state minimum wage.

Several bills, including SB 002, HB 5004 and HB 7191, have been advocating for the wage to gradually go up 12

percent over a four-year period, thus leading to \$15 an hour by 2023. Connecticut will be added to a list of other states who are enacting a \$15 minimum wage, including New York, California, Massachusetts, Illinois, Vermont, Maryland and New Jersey.

A number of businesses and organizations have rallied behind the bill because of the benefits it is likely to bring to low-wage workers in the state. Connecticut Voices For Children argues that the stereotypical low-wage worker is no longer a teenager trying to make a couple extra dollars but is realistically a 30-year-old adult trying to support their family.

According to the Labor and Public Committee, over 60 percent of low-wage workers are 25 or older, while only 10 percent are under 20 years old. Many of those in low-wage jobs are overqualified and have long-term experience in the food, retail and medical field.

"Working families are central to our state's success and we need to do more to support their long-term financial stability," Lamont said.

The HB 7191 claims, "raising the minimum wage will lift families out of poverty, reduce the burden on state services and help grow the economy."

"A \$15 minimum wage, enacted responsibly and over time would raise wages for almost a third of our workforce. A third of whom are female workers, forty percent of whom are African-American workers and more than half of whom are Hispanic workers," Lamont said during his budget proposal.

Democrats showcased similar evidence and data to support their stance of increasing the wage. When the Democrats and Republicans came head to head during House a 14-hour debate on the matter, it only emphasized the divide on the decision. In the end, the vote came down to 85 - 59 in favor of increasing the minimum wage to \$15 an hour.

With the new wage increase, there is high hope for better financial stability for Connecticut residents and more productivity in the work environment.

WHAT COMES NEXT?

The minimum wage will begin to change this year on Oct. 1 to \$11, followed by four other pay increases on Oct. 15 each being less than \$1. According to the H.B. 5004, the proposed increase will result in increased costs of \$1.1 million in the fiscal year of 2020.

The bill states that rates for trainees and employees under the age of 18 will be paid a minimum of \$10.10 per hour for their first ninety days or 200 hours of employment. This is said to keep the new wage change manageable for small businesses and employers when hiring new help.

It is undetermined yet as to how the new bill will influence "tip credit" for some employees who rely on a lower minimum wage and gratuities.

The labor commissioner is said to make changes to H.B. 5004 along the way if the bill creates negative growth for two consecutive quarters.

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News In Brief

BY SARAH WILLSON
SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

CT Senators Urge Trump To Support 'Common Sense' Gun Laws:

Connecticut Senator Chris Murphy urged President Donald Trump to commit to "common sense" gun laws, advocating that the president must support gun reform in order for Congress to take action, the Hartford Courant reported.

Senator Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut urged the same idea at a separate press conference at the state capitol late last week.

Murphy said that it was unlikely Republicans in Congress would act on "meaningful reform" without the president's support, thus hindering the process.

Both comments come two days after Trump said he was discussing gun reform with Democrats, Republicans and the NRA.

G7 Summit Greet Unexpected Visitor:

World leaders were forced to do a double-take when Iran's foreign minister, Mohammad Javad Zarif, made his arrival at the G7 Summit in France, unexpectedly greeting President Trump and dozens of European politicians.

According to BBC News, Zarif showed up as a result of a last-minute invitation from Emmanuel Macron, the French President who has urged both the United States and Iran to seek out diplomatic relations.

The drop-in came at a time of high tensions with Iran, which have been on the rise since Trump withdrew from the Obama-administered nuclear deal last year.

In a tweet, Zarif said his country has "active diplomacy in pursuit of constructive engagement continues," and that the road ahead is "difficult" but "worth trying."

The Amazon Is On Fire And What's Gone Can't Be Brought Back:

The Amazon Rainforest in Brazil is continuing to endure more than 72,000 fires since the beginning of 2019. Now, flames are so high, they can be seen from space.

The only cause- humans, according to environmentalists. NASA said that human activities and the drought the rainforest is facing due to climate change are to blame.

The Amazon is home to hundreds of thousands of animals and is often referred to as the "earth's lungs," as it produces 20 percent of the world's oxygen. Scientists are now warning that if action is not taken soon, deadly consequences, such as more greenhouse gases, would come as a result.

After mounting European pressure, Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro ordered armed forces to tackle the flames.

Activists on social media have sharply criticized the global response, citing that when the Notre Dame Cathedral in France caught fire, billions of dollars in donations poured in.

If you're looking for a way to help, scientists say reducing your meat intake and lessening your oil consumption can make a world of difference.

@SARAHRWILLSON

CCSU Residents Move In

STORY AND PHOTOS BY KRISTINA VAKHMAN
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Central Connecticut students started college life off with a bang even before the school year began with Monday's Resident Move-In Day. From food trucks to music, students beat the heat while hauling luggage with loads of fun.



CCSU residents made the move into their dorms.



Several food trucks offered treats in the Student Center Circle.



The CCSU Blue Devils Marching Band jazzed up Move-In Day with music.

SGA Briefs

BY KRISTINA VAKHMAN
NEWS EDITOR

- The Student Government Association meets every Wednesday at 3:05 p.m. in Bellin A and B in the Student Center. The SGA's first meeting of the semester is Aug. 28.

What's New, CCSU?

BY ISABELLA CHAN & DANIEL FAPPIANO
EDITORS

- Hartford Athletic soccer will be selling discounted tickets for \$10 at Dillon Stadium for the remainder of the season
- New parking system is in place, if needed visit parking kiosk by Student Center to register your vehicle and be assigned a parking pass.
- Events Management and the Student Center has combined, creating a new department inside the Student Center.
- The Inter-Greek Council is holding a barbecue in the Student Center circle at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 29



JOIN OUR TEAM

What are we looking for?

Motivated, creative, passionate, fun people who have an interest in working with kids.

After School Program Positions

The New Britain Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department is seeking staff for after school programs at elementary and middle school sites. After school programs run September 2019 thru May 2020, Monday-Friday, 2:30-6:30pm.

Available positions: Site supervisor, assistant supervisor and group leader positions

Daily responsibilities: planning and facilitating a variety of enrichment and recreational activities, assisting with homework, engagement with students and behavior management.

APPLY TODAY!

Application must include: City of New Britain application, supplemental questions and a letter of recommendation.

Please submit application to the New Britain Parks and Recreation Office, 27 West Main Street, New Britain, CT 06051.

Candidates available all five days are preferred.

For more information call (860) 826-3360 or visit www.nbparksrec.org

New Britain
**PARKS,
RECREATION**
and Community Services Department

EDITORIAL

The Recorder Will Not Print The Name Or Face Of Mass Murderers

Recently the Central Connecticut campus was under a potential attack as a former resident student posted threats of violence to the campus on social media. He was known to have a number of the weapons necessary to carry out the attack.

As the student newspaper, it is The Recorder's jobs to report the facts. Everyone on campus deserves and needs to know if there is a potential threat to their safety.

However, we have unanimously decided as a newspaper to not print the name or picture of the potential gunman. In doing so, we would be giving him the attention he was trying to acquire for actions that thankfully were not committed. His name and photo would always be in print thus memorializing him in The Recorder.

Although print and media share similarities there are vast differences amongst them. Within a newspaper company, the words are the power and a picture emphasizes such power. Whereas in the media, an image is the only power. Incorporating the identity of such a sick-minded individual in print would only give power to someone who is unworthy, thus drawing away attention to the people that matter: us.

It would have been our stories, safety and lives taken away if such a hateful act was committed, not his. Therefore we should make the community the primary focus.

In the past, it was understandable to provide an identity to a person willing to commit domestic terrorism in a newspaper. But with today's media and pandemic of mass shootings across America the identity of the gunman holds less value in words.

Number of journalists have also began to stand behind this, including CNN anchor Anderson Cooper, who vowed to not name mass shooters, and several European countries.

"In the next two hours we want to try to keep the focus where we think it belongs, on the people whose lives were cut short," Cooper stated during his broadcast of the Orlando club massacre. "They are more than a list of names, they are people who loved and who were loved."

In 2012 two parents of a victim in the Colorado movie theater shooting starting the "No Notoriety" Movement. The Movement vows that journalists do not name shooters due to a matter of public safety.

The idea of not naming these shooters, even if they are just potential threats, is a testament to where journalism is in our country. In an era of "fake news," every action of a journalist is being scrutinized.

In not naming this shooter, or any shooter that comes under our reporting, The Recorder hopes to be on the right side of history.

Our goal is to report nothing but the truth. But by withholding a name and photo it does not change the facts of the story.

Editor's Column: New Semester, Same Recorder



BY DANIEL FAPPIANO
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Through the years, The Recorder has grown and become more and more of an impactful news source. From sexual assault to the restructuring of the Athletics Department, The Recorder has been there every step of the way. While a new semester may be beginning, the same hard-hitting journalism that you have seen from The Recorder is going to remain.

My name is Daniel Fappiano. I've been on staff for two years, first as a sports reporter and then the layout editor. Now, I enter the Fall 2019 semester as The Recorder's new Editor-in-Chief.

I was able to learn from great EICs before me in Kimberly Pena, Angela Fortuna and Sarah Willson. All three women showed me what it meant to lead a staff and how to run a newsroom. More importantly, they all showed me the importance of The Recorder.

Last semester ended with racist remarks being sprayed on the walls and anti-LGBTQ+ pamphlets being spread around campus. Through the Recorder, students were able to learn of these actions. The Recorder staff was on scene, ready and willing to report the story as it was happening. Every reporter was able to report on the news quickly and allowed for students to speak out. Towards the end of the semester, those same students were able to participate in a silent rally.

More and more students are reading the Recorder. More and more have a better understanding of campus climate due to the words that are being written.

I have no clue what type of events will happen in my tenure. What I do know is that The Recorder will always be there to report on them.

Whether it be News, Arts & Entertainment or Sports, the team we have

put together is ready and willing to help make this campus more informed. We will continue to bring the facts and allow students to understand everything that is happening at Central Connecticut State.

Each and every week The Recorder promises to be there and assures that real journalism is taking place. We will leave no stone unturned.

Through my time at The Recorder, I have learned that it is much more than just a student newspaper. Often it is quoted by local news outlets. People continue to lean on us as we report on anything and everything going on at CCSU.

Going forward, I assure that anyone who picks up a copy of The Recorder will be more informed and intrigued to continue reading each week. We will continue to put out a product that meets the needs of anyone interested in CCSU.

The women before me have taught me what it means to work for The Recorder and now it is my turn to follow in their footsteps. I can only hope that you continue to look to us as a window into Central and allow The Recorder to continue being the go-to news source for all things CCSU.

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Democrats Need To Clean It Up

BY ISABELLA CHAN
NEWS EDITOR

After the outcome of the 2016 Presidential Election, I had high hopes for the Democratic party to come back strong and swinging for the future. But as I sat back and watched the Democratic primary debates this past summer, I was faced with varying emotions and none of which were hope.

The debate was comical, embarrassing and to the say the least, disappointing for any Democrat to witness. There were dirty looks, jabs and a lack of support all around, which is exactly how Donald Trump was able to slide into the Oval Office the first time around.

Of course in politics, it is every person for themselves but we have to take a step back and realize each party is trying to reach the same goals in different ways. Whether it is healthcare or immigration laws the Democrats are on the same team.

Yet candidates failed to remember this during the debates and were quick to shut down each other's strategies and discredit their potential.

"We can go down the road that Senator Sanders and Senator Warren want to take us, which is with bad policies like Medicare for all, free everything and impossible promises that will turn off independent voters and get Trump re-elected," John Delaney stated during night one of the debates.

"Or we can nominate someone with new ideas to create universal health care for every American with choice, someone who wants to unify our country and grow the economy and create jobs everywhere. And then we win the White House," Delaney continued.

Candidates were also quick to shut down Kamala Harris's 10 year insurance plan, which Former Vice President Joe Biden critiqued heavily for the amount of funding it would need and length of time it would take to succeed.

Harris was also called out for her "tough-on-crime" methods as a prosecutor, district attorney and state attorney general in the past, thus making her "For the People" campaign appear unreliable.



The Democratic debate has done more harm than good in trying to dethrone President Trump.

CURBED

"She put over 1,500 people in jail for marijuana violations and then laughed about it when she was asked if she ever smoked marijuana," Representative Tulsi Gabbard said during night two of the debates. She pushed for those "people who suffered under [Harris's] reign as prosecutor," to receive a well-deserved apology.

Although the career jabs do make me feel less inclined to vote for Harris, it did not make Gabbard any more appealing for me.

And what happens after the debates and next year we have to choose between one Democrat and one Republican as the President?

Am I expected to trust Bernie Sanders after John Hickenlooper called him too extreme to beat Trump because it would mean there is a Democrat sitting in the Oval Office? That wouldn't be right.

Democratic candidates must change their game plan if they are looking for a blue success. There should not be any pointing of fingers of whose have more skeletons in their closet but rather a better focus on how one's intentions in office can be realistically accomplished.

"This pitting against progressives, against moderates, saying one is unrealistic and the other doesn't care enough, that to me is dividing our party and demoralizing us in face of the real

enemy here," New Jersey Senator Cory Booker stated during night two of the debate.

Ultimately, the only sense of unity and agreement coming from the Democratic candidates was the need to give Trump the boot, which frankly half of America is already agreeing on.

"Donald Trump disgraces the office of the President every single day. And anyone on this stage tonight or tomorrow night would be a far better president. I promise, no matter who our candidate is, I will work my heart out to beat Donald Trump and to elect a Democratic Congress," Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren stated during night one of the debates.

It is unrealistic nor ideal to have all the candidates stand together on stage and promote each other's plans like best friends, otherwise, it wouldn't even be a debate.

That being said, there is no need for exposing fellow candidate's faults and discrediting them to make one's self look better or throwing in nasty jabs to prove a point.

Despite a cage suspending from the ceiling at the end of the night, this isn't a special on WWE Smackdown vs. Raw, this is the 2020 Presidential Election.

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Epstein's Horrific Sex Trafficking Case Is A Nasty Reminder Of Sexual Abuse

BY KELLY LANGEVIN
COPY EDITOR

The news of Jeffery Epstein and several others involved in corrupting so many women for years is mouth dropping and is bringing the issue of sex trafficking forward.

Epstein, a millionaire financier, was accused of child sex-trafficking and luring girls into privately-owned islands for “massages,” and other inappropriate activities. What likely happened paints a much darker picture.

In the United States 2018 human trafficking hotline statistics, 7,859 cases of sex trafficking have been reported out of 10,949 total cases of other human trafficking incidents.

In 2007- 2017, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children estimated that 1 in 7 endangered runaways reported to them were likely sex trafficking victims.

Epstein's first island began to undergo changes more than two decades ago. The land called Little Saint James Island, a small part of the U.S. Virgin Islands holds information of abuse that has taken place for years, according to The Cut.

According to the Associated Press, the island has gained nicknames such as “Orgy Island,” “Pedophile Island” and “Island Of Sin.”

The island was Epstein's main living area; the 72-acre property is scattered with tall trees, buildings and a helicopter pad, according to Bloomberg.

A large blue and white temple also sits on the island. The purpose of the temple is unknown, however, Associated Press reports that workers described it as a music room with acoustic walls and a piano sitting on the inside.

However, I and some of the skeptics

believe this temple may have been where Epstein lured women to molest them.

The horrific man that is Epstein allegedly had girls as young as 12 flown to the island and would hold them captive according to VOX.

As employees opened up, the story got more disgustingly interesting. One employee said Epstein would fly the underage girls into St. Thomas and then they would take a boat called Lady Ghislaine over to the private island, according to The Cut.

“There were topless photos of women everywhere,” said Steve Scully, a former contractor for Epstein from 1999-2005. “They were on his desk, in his office, in his bedroom.”

Another shocking piece of this is Epstein's alleged madam, co-conman in the making, sick-minded woman, Ghislaine Maxwell.

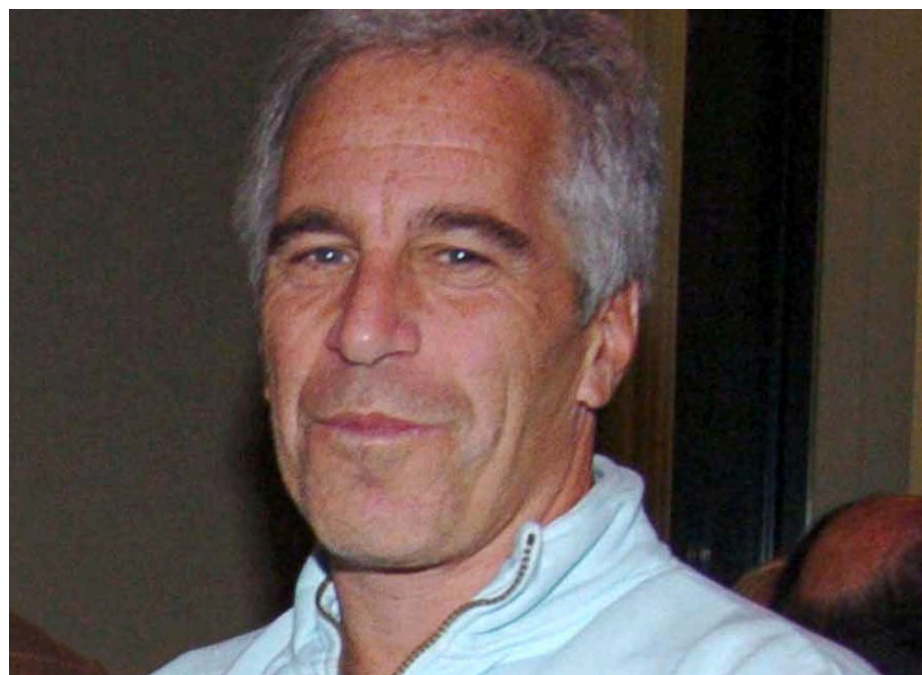
Maxwell, a 57-year-old British woman, is a suspect in recruiting women to the island and bringing them to Epstein to be part of the sex trafficking crimes.

Maxwell denies the claims made against her saying they are “entirely false”, according to The Cut.

Dozens of victims came forward to the FBI stating Epstein committed sex crimes in several locations, including his Palm Beach, Florida mansion, his Manhattan mansion, his property in New Mexico and the most known, the Virgin Islands.

Epstein was accused of sexually abusing women and in 2007 was indicted. He received 13 months in jail and a plea deal was made to conceal information about Epstein's crimes, according to the Miami Herald.

Epstein's plea deal is a slap in the face to all his victims as he deserved much



Jeffery Epstein's actions proved how immoral he truly was.

VANITY FAIR

more time for his actions.

Powerful connections such as Bill Clinton who has been rumored to have visited the island, as well as many other names and Donald Trump who may not have visited but was in several pictures with Epstein, may have been too monstrous to reveal.

Just weeks ago the accused sex trafficker was found dead by apparent suicide in his jail cell in Manhattan. The victims will not face their abuser in court and will never get the peace they deserve.

Prior to taking his life, Epstein was facing a 53-page federal indictment, according to the Miami Herald. His life would have been ruined. It should have been.

The victims did not get justice.

Sexual abuse from the wealthy has left a mark on mine and other peoples

lives. Bill Cosby and Harvey Weinstein are just a couple of the cases I will always remember. Now being taken over in my mind is Epstein and may do so for some time.

Epstein's case is one of many reasons why the #MeToo movement should continue to grow.

One in four girls and one in six boys will be sexually abused before they are 18, according to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center.

Rape is also the most under-reported crime with 63 percent of sexual assaults not being reported to police, according to the NSVRC.

The horrific person that is Jeffrey Epstein is a sex trafficking evil man whose name should be known. The world needs to know these issues and crimes will stand no longer.

@KELLYLANGEVIN2

It's Time To Tax Animal Meat

BY KRISTINA VAKHMAN
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Connecticut's plastic bag fee and eventual ban is, without a doubt, a step in the right direction for environmentalism. Yet, when it comes to addressing human errors that devastate our planet, it's time to hit the wallet not only for our plastic bag use, but for our love of meat as well.

One of the main reasons people don't make the switch from animal meat to vegan options is the difference in price.

While it's cheaper to forgo meat and dairy replacement items entirely and just live on bulk foods, fruits and vegetables, that is not an option for those without extra money and time to spare.

And as an American, sometimes, you just want a good ol' hamburger – with a low income, it's unsustainable to get two Beyond Meat vegan patties for \$5.99 from Whole Foods when you can get four ground beef patties at Stop & Shop for \$7.49.

Plant-based meat alternatives are already expected to decrease in price in the near future, with a 2019 report by the Good Food Institute predicting that an exploding demand and evolving production methods will drive the drop.

Additionally, companies like Beyond Meat are actively working to make their products less expensive than their animal counterparts, with CEO Ethan Brown telling Forbes in March that “there's no reason this shouldn't be cheaper than meat.”

Just as the impending ban on plastic bags has pushed consumers to purchase environmentally-friendly fabric totes, vegan meat being the more economically-sound option will push them to make the ethical decision of eating it instead.

In addition to companies lowering their

pricing, Connecticut and the United States as a whole can achieve this by taxing animal meat.

It seems impossible. There's no denying that the meat industry is a giant. But we have reached a point where reducing our meat intake is not just about saving animal lives, but our own and the planet's as well.

It takes about 460 gallons of water to make just one quarter-pound beef patty, according to the U.S. Department of the Interior. The water needed for other types of meat is just as wasteful for the amount you get to eat.

Moreover, “only 55 percent of the world's crop calories feed people directly,” with nearly all the rest used to feed livestock, the National Geographic Magazine reported.

In the U.S. specifically, just 27 percent of crop calories goes to humans, while more than 67 percent goes toward animal feed, according to Vox. That doesn't just hurt the planet, but the impoverished and hungry as well.

Not to mention, all of this water and feed – and the animals themselves – require space. As the world population booms and the demand for meat rises, the industry will need more of that space. That's why the Amazon rainforest has been burning for three weeks.

Brazil's National Institute of Space Research, which tracks deforestation and forest fires using satellite images, reported that the country's section of the rainforest has lost more than “1,330 square miles of forest cover in the first half of 2019.”

The devastation is man-made and caused by the slash-and-burn technique, which uses fire to clear vast portions of forest for agriculture.

It hasn't helped that since Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro's election, enforcement actions by Brazil's main environmental agency against illegal deforestation fell by 20 percent, a New York Times analysis found. And with

the Trump administration wanting to resume Brazilian beef imports, the deforestation will only worsen.

There's also the fact that the World Health Organization has labeled some types of meat as carcinogenic and the whole “cow farts” produce methane gas joke is actually a grim reality.

Taking all of these negatives into account, it is ridiculous that we consider meat as a staple in our diets.

Taxing animal meat or raising its price will lessen the market demand for it and encourage consumers to seek the plant-based alternative.

It's time for us to do that. It is irresponsible of us to continue eating animal meat considering the environmental impacts.

The plastic bag ban and the craze around reusable straws will both be futile if we don't swallow the harsh reality that our hamburgers, grilled chickens and bacon strips may fill the voids in our hearts, but are actively killing us and the earth.

@KRISDVP



Animal meat should be more expensive than its plant-based alternative.

KRISTINA VAKHMAN | STAFF

OPINION

‘Pray for The Wicked:’ One Year Later

BY CAROLYN MARTIN
ASSISTANT ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

“Pray For The Wicked” was the second album cycle I got to be a part of after being a fan of Panic! at the Disco. As a result, it has a pretty high place in my heart. I still remember the excitement I felt when new music videos and content were released. Debuting June 22 of last year, it has been with me through good and bad moments.

“(F*** a) Silver Lining:” This song always brings me back to driving. Along with “Living Proof” by State Champs, “Pray for the Wicked” came out about a week after I got my license. So any driving I could do on my own, those albums were my soundtrack to it. Even when I played the album a year later, I still was brought back to my driver’s seat on my way to meet a friend to play mini-golf.

“Saturday Night (Say Amen):” Considering this was the lead single to promote the album’s release, I don’t have a specific memory directly connected to the song. I always think of it randomly, and rarely, hearing this song on my local alternative station and being super excited. Panic!, at least at the beginning of this album cycle, did not get much radio play. Hearing them at all when I didn’t specifically play a song from them was, and still is, a big deal.

“Hey Look Ma, I Made It:” Now long before this song was on the radio, and people used it for their graduations, it was one of my favorite songs from this album. I love how the start of the song still to this day, brings me to this place of someone driving down a highway on a bright sunny day, traffic is not a mess and the sun is reflecting on their sunglasses.

“High Hopes:” Like I said, at the start of this cycle Panic! was not often played on the radio. But I still remember driving home from class one night and “High Hopes” came on. I was shocked & enjoyed it the whole way home. I couldn’t believe that in the year of 2018, Panic! at the Disco was on the radio.

“Roaring 20s:” This song was one of my immediate favorites when it came out last year and so far it’s held up. Granted, that’s not surprising considering “A Fever You Can’t Sweat Out” is my favorite Panic! album. This song calls back to that album.

“Dancing’s Not a Crime:” A song I don’t play often even though I should. This song can lift my mood anytime it’s on; it’s that fun. It’s a very groovy song. If this song doesn’t make your day a little bit better after hearing it, I’m not sure if anything will.

“One of the Drunks:” I feel like this is a wild card for Panic!. There’s nothing you can compare it to from the rest of their catalog. It doesn’t have a similar tempo or lyrical progression to anything else they’ve put out before. This song is underrated. Coming in at track seven it’s easy to skip over it or not give it the full attention that the first tracks got.

“The Overpass:” This is my least played song of the whole album. However, I’m not sure why. It’s not a bad song by any means. I like that there are background singers, it gives me Broadway vibes. I also always envision a car speeding down a roadway as the song kicks in. However, it’s never a first choice to play, and I’ll



Panic! At The Disco’s six studio album “Pray For The Wicked” turned one year old on June 22. CAROLYN MARTIN | STAFF

probably only hear it if I’m playing the album in full or if I put the album on shuffle. I just don’t have a connection with this song like I do with some of the others.

“King of the Clouds:” This is my all-time favorite song from this album. It felt my pains when I was going through some stuff last year. I still stand by the line, “I don’t trust anything or anyone below the sun.”

“Old Fashioned:” I really love the lyrical content of this one. The phrase, “We were borderline kids with a book of disorders/ medicating every day to keep the straightness in order” grabs my attention in a good way. However, I feel like I never choose to play this song. If it comes on I’ll let it play but I don’t specifically choose it often. I’ll have to change that.

“Dying In L.A. :” I love this song and I am so sad I could not experience Brendon flying over the crowd while playing piano in real life. This song divided a lot of fans. Some love it with their entire being and some hate it and think it’s overrated. When I first heard it, I liked it. I still like it to this day. I think it sounds pretty.

This album has been there for me through the good and the bad times and it will always have a special place in my heart.

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How To Deal With College Anxiety

BY SHWAR ZAIDI
STAFF WRITER

Are you anxious about your first week in college? You’re not alone. College can be overwhelming, especially if you are transitioning from high school. Here are some steps that can help you fight your battle with anxiety.

First, accept your feelings and understand why you are anxious. Sometimes there is a reason why your body is feeling a certain way. College is a big step, and it’s perfectly normal to feel anxious about your first day. Unlike high school, you’re on your own in college. Your parents will not be there to make sure you do your homework. You might have two-hour-long lectures and you’ll have books to read. You may have trouble getting out and meeting new people. All of your feelings are perfectly understandable, and it’s essential to accept how you’re feeling instead of pushing it down and avoiding it. Acceptance is the first step to recovery.

Once you accept your feelings, it’s time to change your thinking. Your anxiety is giving you negative thoughts and worrying you. You can write down all the things you are concerned about and transform those negative words into positive ones. For example: “I am

scared I will have no friends and I will be alone,” or “I am afraid my classes will be hard.” You can change your thoughts into, “This is a fresh start to meet new people. I will make healthy friendships,” and “I will work hard and ask for help if I am struggling on my exams.” Often, anxiety happens because we think the worst of ourselves. If you change your negative thinking into a more optimistic mindset, then you will feel ten times better and more excited about your journey.

Now that you have achieved positive thinking, make a list of some goals you would like to achieve in college. Goals like “I will work hard and expand my knowledge in class,” or “I will find a healthy group of friends who I can socialize with.” Having these goals will keep you busy and more determined about your future. It will help your anxiety as you let yourself know you are going to get an experience out of college life.

Now that you have your goals to accomplish, it’s vital to follow through on them. Find some clubs that can help you out. When you join different clubs, you can find out what you are passionate about, and you can make a change in your campus. You can meet new people, especially in your field. As you reach more people, you can build healthy friendships and get out of your comfort zone. Additionally, your anxiety may

lessen since you are not locked up in a dorm room alone with your anxious thoughts. As you get yourself out there, you can gain more experience and find out who you are as a person.

Moreover, find some hobbies that will distract you whenever your anxiety kicks in. It can be reading a good book, watching a movie, writing a novel or doing something else you are interested in. Try out different hobbies and find out what you like best.

Lastly and most importantly, remember that you are going to be okay. Relax; your anxiety tells you that you can’t do it, but it’s lying to you. You can do anything you set your mind to do. Anxiety causes you think about the worst possible scenario, but a lot of the times it is our fear that’s bigger than the actual problem. There are always solutions to everything. You must believe in yourself and trust that whatever comes your way, you will be able to get through it.

It’s okay to be cautious and mindful, but you can’t let anxiety stop you from enjoying your experience in college. College is a one-time opportunity where you can learn and grow. So, go out there and prove to yourself that you are stronger than what your anxiety makes you feel.

@centralrecorder on Instagram



How To Get Involved During Your First Semester Of College

BY JULIA CONANT

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Some people just view college as a place to get an education. And while that is the primary goal, Central Connecticut offers plenty of opportunities for students to get involved in a nonacademic sense. It's important to have a bit of fun in between all of the stress of homework and classes. Here is a guide to the best ways to get involved and have fun during your first semester of college.

Find a solid group of friends:

It can be scary to go to school events all by yourself. You might feel out of place and end up leaving before you've even gotten a chance to enjoy yourself. This is where a good group of friends comes in handy. Find people who have different interests than you. This way, you can introduce each other to different types of events and clubs you each might not have gone to on your own.

Check out the club fair:

How are you supposed to get involved when you don't know what clubs are available to you? The club fair is a great opportunity to walk around and see all of the people different clubs CCSU has to offer. Talk to a representative from each club and hear what they have to say. Some clubs even give away candy, t-shirts and other goodies as incentive to come talk to them. Take advantage of this; you may just find a club that you'll be a member of for the next four years.

If you don't see a club you like, start one!:

Central may have more than 100 clubs, but we always have room for more. If you had a club in high school that you thoroughly enjoyed but don't see on our



Devils Den @ 10 is a great place to meet other students.

JULIA CONANT | STAFF

campus, or if you have a great new idea for a club, you can easily start one up yourself. All you need to do is find an advisor and a handful of students who would also be interested in the club.

Download the "Corq" app:

When there is an on-campus event going on, posters will typically hung up in academic buildings, the Student Center or the library. However, CCSU also lists many of its events on an app called 'Corq.' Corq conveniently displays all of the upcoming campus events in one place. These events could be concerts, plays, dances or anything of that nature. This makes it easy for you and your friends to find something to do together if you're looking for something fun!

Attend 'Devils Den @ 10':

Pretty much every Thursday night during the school year, Devils Den holds an event called 'Devils

Den @ 10' in Semesters. Some previous examples of Devils Den @ 10 events are karaoke night, headphone disco, drag ball and a lip sync battle. These events are completely free for students, as well as food and souvenirs. If you are looking for a safe and fun way to spend a Thursday night, Devils Den @ 10 is definitely the way to go.

Get involved with your residence hall:

This one applies only if you live on campus. Each residence hall has a hall council that plans and hosts activities for residents to attend. These events could include movie nights, paint nights, or anything else each hall council can come up with. To get involved with your residence hall, you could either join a hall council or attend the events that they host. Either way, it's a great way to get to know your neighbors and resident advisors.

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OPINION

What Happens When You Spend Your Evening With Anthony Fantano



"The internet's busiest music nerd," Anthony Fantano.

JUNKEE

BY CAROLYN MARTIN

ASSISTANT ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Being an avid music fan, I tend to watch album reviews from time to time. One music critic in particular I have come back to often is Anthony Fantano. Fantano is a Connecticut native who describes himself as "the internet's busiest music nerd," and it's a pretty accurate statement.

On his channel, you'll find album reviews- some good and some bad. You'll also find weekly track reviews, each video spanning across multiple genres. That alone is commendable because most of us don't often venture outside of our own music bubble. He also decided to do a live tour, very similar to a comedy show.

Since Fantano is from Connecticut, he's always had my support- yet I will admit, I was on the fence when I saw this show pop up in my email. After all, what is a music critic going to do on stage for over an hour? A

quick search on YouTube will show you on his last run, he did a lyrical analysis of "All Star" by Smash Mouth from the movie "Shrek." Since that alone convinced me to go, here's what happened.

The show started off with a video of Cal Chuchesta, a character from Fantano's channel (played by Fantano), saying he was sorry he couldn't make it tonight. Chuchesta then came out on stage, waving to the crowd and letting us know we had gotten "goofed." Chuchesta then proceeded to mumble rap and start "beef" with another rapper. A video appeared of Fantano telling Chuchesta to come back or else his favorite cassette tape would be destroyed (in which Fantano actually pulled the tape out). Chuchesta ran off stage and we had a short break.

After the break, Fantano showed up and explained to us the beauty of 8D audio. 8D audio is a song that has eight dimensions or layers on it, supposedly sounding cooler. I'll be honest, I couldn't tell the difference.

However, Fantano wanted to show us something better: 420.69-XD audio. This was really just Fantano putting a snippet of Vanessa Carlton's song "A Thousand Miles" into a Metallica song.

After another short break an audience member was needed for the next segment. Alicia from Middletown was chosen to play the game "A Death Grips lyric or a Maya Angelou poem." Here, Fantano read off a set of lines and Alicia had to guess which it was. She was pretty good at it, and got a free shirt for her efforts. This part I genuinely did like.

Next came a Ted Talk on why Drake is the most influential rapper of the decade. Fantano had a slideshow presentation showing the change in rap music since the 1990s and how Drake has been able to create such an impact through memes and inspiring dance crazes.

After this came the lyrical analysis of Smash Mouth's "All Star." I know I've already mentioned watching this, but this is one of the only things that wasn't related to rap music, so I was very excited for this segment. The funniest part was when the crowd read the lyrics, but no one made the record scratch noise like Fantano wanted them to.

"We're gonna do it again, Connecticut is not that rhythmic it seems." We eventually got it down and the analysis continued.

The night concluded with a live version of "Let's Argue." This is a segment featured on Fantano's YouTube channel when he talks about unpopular opinions, hot takes and tough questions. For this segment, he took ideas from the crowd. The content ranged from "'Wish You Were Here' is the best Pink Floyd album," to "Anthony Fantano isn't real, he's a character played by Cal Chuchesta." It wasn't a bad segment. It was actually pretty funny.

If you like rap music and memes, then you should definitely spend a night with Anthony Fantano. You can find all content related to Fantano on Youtube, just search "The Needle Drop" or "fantano."

@CAROLYN_MARTIN

'People Of Note' Gives Musicians A Big Head

BY JULIA CONANT
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Have you ever wanted to see your favorite musicians drawn with highly disproportional bodies? If you visited the Elihu Burritt Library between July 8 to August 20, you probably did.

During the summer, an exhibit entitled "People of Note- Caricatures and Quotations of Famous Musicians" was held on the second floor of CCSU's library. The exhibit featured a collection of celebrity caricatures drawn by artist Robert Carley. Carley drew the artists with exaggeratedly large heads and skinny bodies. There were more than 80 caricature posters on display, featuring musicians such as Snoop Dogg, Elton John, Drake, and Lady Gaga. At least five glass cases were filled entirely with caricatures of musicians from several different eras and music styles. An artist reception for the exhibit was held on July 20, complete with live acoustic music played by Jim Hett.

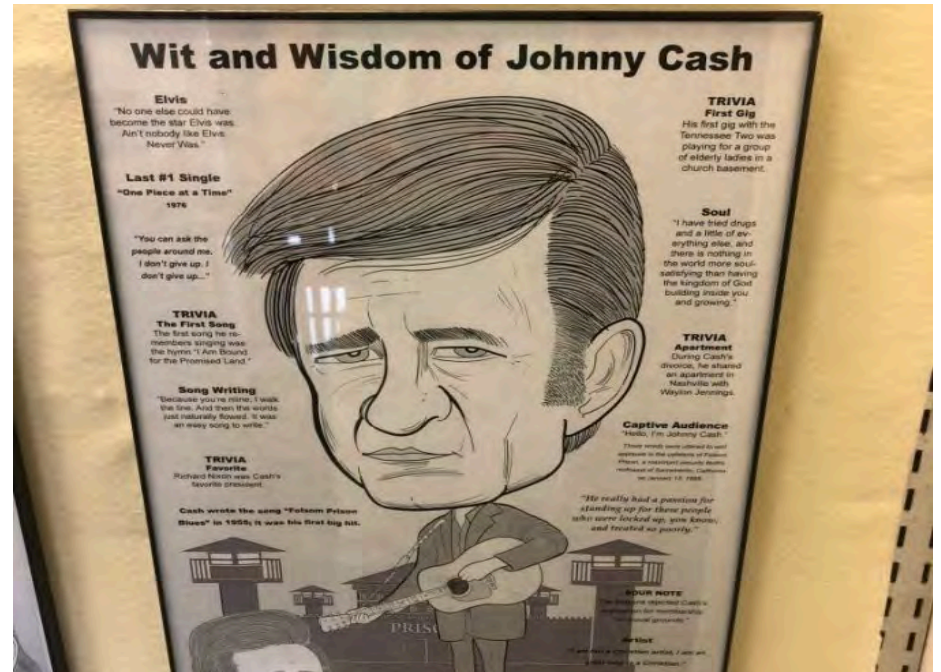
In addition to the celebrity caricatures, each poster also included famous quotes from each of the musicians. Some of these quotes were highly inspirational. One quote on Mick Jagger's poster was, "The past is a great place and I don't want to erase or to regret it, but I don't want to be its prisoner either." This quote forces people to wonder if they are letting their past control their future.

Another insightful quote comes from Sir Elton John's poster. In regards to music, he said, "If you write great songs with meaning and emotion, they will last forever because songs are the key to everything. Songs will outlast the artist and they will go on forever if they're good." This quote makes people think about the legacy they are leaving behind.

In contrast, other quotes Carley included from the celebrities were quite humorous. A quote on Snoop Dogg's poster read, "When I'm no longer rapping, I want to open up an ice cream parlor and call myself Scoop Dogg." Whether Snoop Dogg is serious or not, this is a funny scenario to think about.

Another funny quote comes from Rod Stewart. When talking about marriage, he said, "Instead of getting married again, I'm going to find a woman I don't like and just give her a house." Instead of dwelling on his failed marriage, Stewart makes a joke out of it.

Aside from the posters, Carley also displayed photos of him meeting some of the



Robert Carley's caricature of musician, Johnny Cash.

BURRITT LIBRARY BLOG

celebrities he drew. The photos were captioned with details of the encounters. One of them recounted his experience showing Latoya Jackson his caricature of her brother, Michael Jackson. Carley wrote, "I told Latoya, pointing to the caricature that she probably knew all the quotes that I had collected and I told her that I hoped she liked it... She responded, 'I don't like it, I love it.'"

In addition to meeting Latoya Jackson, Carley also had his caricatures signed by Billy Idol, Johnny Cash's daughter Rosanne and Cher's son Chaz.

"People of Note" was a lovely addition to the Elihu Burritt Library, providing entertainment to summer patrons. If you missed this particular exhibit, there will hopefully be more throughout the course of the semester.

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'Orange Is The New Black' Bids Litchfield Inmates Goodbye



Netflix's highly acclaimed television show "Orange Is The New Black" concludes their series run with an intense and emotional seventh season.

DIGITAL SPY

BY NATALIE DEST
MANAGING EDITOR

Spoilers ahead

The words "You've got time" lead the opening credits for "Orange Is The New Black," where serving time is exactly what the inmates of Litchfield Penitentiary have been doing for the past six seasons.

Premiering on July 26, the seventh and final season of one of Netflix's most successful and groundbreaking series finally bid its farewell.

"OITNB" sprung about from Piper Kerman's 2010 memoir about her 13-month stay in federal prison due to drug smuggling. However, the Emmy-winning-series gained popularity by looking beyond protagonist Piper Champan's [Taylor Schilling] story, and diving into the heavily diverse group of women she's incarcerated with.

It's hard to come by another TV series that features such a contrasting group of women, each portraying their own personal story. It's the final season where these stories explore growth, empowerment, mental illness and death, that makes the show's wrap so compelling.

During the fifth season, creator Jenji

Kohan decided that she would conclude the series after seven cycles, which is where the planning for the end began. But according to executive producer Tara Hermann, it wasn't easy.

"We are a room of debaters; for sure, there was a debate about how everybody ended us," Hermann told Vulture. "Jenji often has to make the final call. But mostly we fought and talked it out and got to a place where we all felt good about where they all landed."

The series finale entitled "Here Is Where We Get Off" included a montage detailing what became of each of the inmates. It even included characters the audience hasn't seen since the fifth season after the inmates were separated to different federal prisons.

"It was intended so you could hold those people in your mind and imagine them, just like we hope that everybody can keep imagining all of the characters living in this maybe-parallel universe," said Hermann. "Their stories go on, and we wanted to place them for people so you felt satisfied for their ending, and then also you can maybe visit them in your mind every once in a while."

Perhaps the most surprising part of the montage is when Alex Vause [Laura Prepon], is transferred to a prison in Ohio and reunited with several former

inmates of Litchfield Penitentiary.

Chapman began her final season trying to establish her new life after being released early from prison in the sixth-season finale. Torn about leaving her new wife Vause [wed in a prison ceremony] and being apart from her for up to three years, the two struggle to keep their relationship afloat. Vause suggested that the two try an open relationship, which results in Vause getting involved with prison guard CO McCollough [Emily Tarver]. This leads to a relationship of blackmail, drug sales, sex and stalking by the end of the season.

Vause ends up breaking up with Chapman due to her relocation to Ohio, however, in the finale we see Chapman moving to Ohio to be closer to Vause. The couple is last seen laughing together during a prison visitation.

"The Piper that we created on the show took a lot of turns and detours that the real Piper hadn't, so we definitely needed to make sense of all that through the character. She had gone to some dark places, but in the end, we knew we didn't want her to end up taking the easy road," said Hermann. Vause, however, was given a darker story to show how she responds to feeling vulnerable.

"She tries to bail," Hermann said. "She's foreseeing heartbreak or hurt, so

she tries to get out of it before it happens to her." But, in the end, the couple gets one of the few uplifting endings of the series. "Of all the stories, this is one where we could get away with a hopeful, happy ending," Hermann said.

As for one of the show's most memorable tragedies, the painful breakup of Taystee's and Black Cindy's relationship continues throughout season seven. After Taystee is wrongfully accused, and eventually convicted of murdering a prison guard, the inmate is sentenced to life in prison after Cindy testifies against her in exchange for early release.

Their relationship grows toxic after Taystee sends an anonymous letter to Cindy's family that causes much turmoil, leaving her homeless. In the final episode, we see her taking steps to mend her broken relationships while Taystee finds purpose again through tutoring other inmates for their GED's and starting a fund for the passing of inmate Poussey Washington from previous seasons ago.

Regarding the ending to the show's close trio, Nicholas is trying to stay sober and out of trouble's ways, Lorna Morello obsesses over the loss of her son Sterling after delivering him prematurely, whereas Galina "Red" Reznikov struggles in isolation and eventually becomes diagnosed with dementia.

For each of the inmates, the final season zooms in on each of their personal struggles with hopes of a happy ending. Although some characters are left with uncertain futures, the producers leave it up for the hopes and faith from the audience.

Just as the inmates of Litchfield have done their time, so has "Orange Is The New Black," itself. If you have yet to see the final season or any season for that matter, "OITNB" is no doubt of a worthy investment.

@NAT_DEST

The Brazen Blue Devils Promote School Pride



Members of The Brazen Blue Devils from left to right: Jovahn Brown, Owen O'Keefe, Jahzael Effend and Eric Rosen.

JULIA CONANT | STAFF

BY JULIA CONANT
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

If you've been searching for a community where you can show off your Blue Devil pride with other CCSU students, look no further than The Brazen Blue Devils. The club aims to promote excitement and school pride by attending school events such as sporting events. The club was created by students who noticed that CCSU students lack the amount of school spirit that bigger schools have and want to change that.

"At big schools it's very easy to gather school spirit because of the sheer numbers," Eric Rosen, Chief Marketing Officer of The Brazen Blue Devils said. "Here it's not as easy, so we're just really trying to make it easier for everyone to come out and support their school."

The Brazen Blue Devils want students to be unapologetically proud of the fact that they go to CCSU. In fact, this is insinuated in the name of the club.

"The club is called The Brazen Blue Devils, and to be brazen is to be bold, without shame," Jahzael Effend, President of The Brazen Blue Devils said. "That's something we were missing. That sense of being bold and out there and willing to kinda stand out above the rest."

One unique aspect about The Brazen Blue Devils is that they don't have traditional club meetings. Instead, members simply respond to emails to verify that they are still a member of the club. The Brazen Blue Devils adopted this system because they recognize that students are busy and that not every club member will be able

to attend scheduled meetings. The emails will inform club members of upcoming sporting events and what attire they should wear to show that they're part of the club.

"We can use sports as a middle ground for everybody to come together, meet one another," Owen O'Keefe, Vice President of The Brazen Blue Devils said. "When there's a game, that's an opportunity to go out, meet someone new, and maybe you'll meet your best friend out there."

The Brazen Blue Devils believe that in order for students to get excited about sports, they need to know the CCSU athletes on a more personal level. With this in mind, the club posts interviews with student athletes on their Instagram page. This causes the students to feel a connection to the players, causing more excitement and pride at sporting events.

Even though The Brazen Blue Devils is mostly centered around attending sporting events and supporting athletes, any CCSU student who wants to get involved in the campus is welcome to join. Jovahn Brown, Brand Ambassador of The Brazen Blue Devils, recounted the struggle of finding a club during his freshman year.

"A lot of freshman I noticed did not have anywhere to go, there wasn't a club for everyone, and I think this club could be for anyone that's coming to CCSU and wants to be able to show school spirit, or just have fun and make CCSU a good time other than just classes," Brown said.

Students can follow The Brazen Blue Devils on Instagram @thebrazenbluedevils.

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Blue Devils Weeks of Welcome Events

BY JULIA CONANT
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

During the first few weeks of school, Central Activities Network (C.A.N.) will welcome students to campus with a series of events that they are calling "Blue Devils Weeks of Welcome." While the first welcome week event "Central Park Coffeehouse" already occurred on Tuesday, you can still attend the other seven welcome week events.

Dive In With C.A.N.- Wednesday, August 28

Wednesday's C.A.N. event is based around an aquatic theme. It'll feature a mechanical shark, touch tank and photo booth. There will also be food, giveaways and games. "Dive In With C.A.N." will be held on Vance Lawn from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Blue Devil Trivia- Thursday, August 29

The first "Devils Den @ 10" event of the semester will challenge how well you know CCSU. All of the trivia will have to do with the university, and winners will win big prizes. "Blue Devil Trivia" will be held in Semesters from 10 p.m. to 12 a.m.

Kizer Trail with C.A.N.- Saturday, August 31

Tickets are on sale at the information desk for Saturday's trip to Brownstone Exploration and Discovery Park. The \$15 ticket will cover the cost of transportation, lunch and admission to the park. The trip takes place

from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

One Ton Fruit Frenzy- Tuesday, September 3

On Tuesday, C.A.N. will set up in the Student Center Circle and provide fresh fruit creations to students. Come grab a refreshing treat between classes. "One Ton Fruit Frenzy" will be held from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Bad and Bubbly Foam Party- Thursday, September 5

For this event, C.A.N. will bring a foam pit, slip and slide, DJ and more to Vance Lawn. There will also be DIYs and places for students to take photos. The "Bad and Bubbly Foam Party" will take place from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

C.A.N.chella- Tuesday, September 10

C.A.N.chella is spinoff of the popular arts and music festival Coachella. It will feature vendors, local performers, a roller rink and festival themed DIYs. The vendors will be located on Vance Lawn and the roller rink in the Student Center Circle. "C.A.N.chella" will be held from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Make Me Laugh- Tuesday, September 17

Comedian Jenny Zigrino will close out C.A.N.'s "Weeks of Welcome" with a comedy show. Zigrino has been featured on Conan O'Brien, Comedy Central and many others. "Make Me Laugh" will be held in Semesters from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

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@TheRecorder on Twitter

A Guide To All Of Your On-Campus Eateries



One of Central's dining halls, Memorial Hall.

JULIA CONANT | STAFF

BY JULIA CONANT
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Central Connecticut provides several different dining options for students, each one unique from the others. With so many options, it can be difficult to know which eatery to go to. Have no fear, this article weighs factors such as time, proximity, and food options to determine which eateries best suit you.

Devils Den:

Devils Den is CCSU's main commuter eatery, located in the Student Center. It is open from 10:30 a.m. until 11 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and from 10:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Friday. There is a wide array of food options. You can get a sandwich from SubConnection, a burger from The Grill, a rice bowl from Tres Habaneros, a smoothie from Natural! or pasta from Pizza! Pasta!. The Student Center is within close proximity to the majority of CCSU's academic buildings, making it a great place to grab lunch either before or after class. Beware, the Den becomes packed around lunch time, so if you're in a hurry, be sure to get there before the lunch rush!

Memorial Hall:

Memorial Hall, sometimes referred to by students

as "Mem," is one of two dining halls geared towards residents. It's open from 7:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. on Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. Friday, and from 9 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. on the weekends. Residents get to eat for free at Memorial, however, commuters can still pay to eat there if they wish. It is in the center of campus, meaning it is never too far of a walk. Memorial is set up like a buffet, meaning there are many options for students to choose from. Some foods that are offered daily include: burgers, fries, salads, bagels, and soup. Other options change daily, meaning students are unlikely to get bored of the food options provided.

Hilltop Cafe:

Hilltop is the other all-you-can-eat dining hall for residents. Once again, commuters are welcome to dine here as long as they pay upon entry. It's open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and from 11 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. on Friday. Hilltop is named after its location, as it is all the way on the top of the hill. This means it could potentially be a far walk, unless you live in the quad or are an athlete in Kaiser. Hilltop, just like Memorial, is also buffet-style. Hilltop is slightly smaller than Memorial and opens and closes later than Memorial does. However, Memorial is open on weekends, while Hilltop is not.

Social Sciences Grab & Go:

Social Sciences Grab & Go is located in Ebenezer D. Bassett Hall, making it the perfect place to go if you want to grab something quickly before or after any classes you may take in that building. Bassett Hall is also located towards the center of campus, making the Grab & Go an easy walk from most on-campus locations. It's open from 8:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. The Grab & Go offers chips, salads, coffee, candy and other small items. It does not offer full meals like Devils Den, Memorial, or Hilltop, making it the perfect place to go when you're hungry but you only have a few minutes before class begins.

Zime:

Zime is Central's newest eatery. It was built in Willard-Diloreto soon after the building first opened this past January. Since Willard-Diloreto is located at the front of the campus, it may not be the ideal eating option for students living in the quad or for students just coming out of a class in Copernicus Hall. However, it's open from 8:30 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Zime offers smoothies, salads, coffee, chips, pastries and other quick options. Just like the Social Sciences Grab & Go, it is a place to go when you want a quick snack before or after class.

Starbucks:

CCSU has a Starbucks located on the first floor of the Elihu Burritt Library. It's open from 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday, and from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday. Our on-campus Starbucks offers the same food and drink options a regular Starbucks would offer, such as coffee, tea, sandwiches and pastries. The library is within close proximity to the Student Center, Copernicus Hall, and Mid-Campus residence hall, so it is the best snacking option for students coming from any of those locations. If you're in a rush to get to class, there is a convenient walk up window outside of the library so that students don't even need to enter the building.

As a CCSU students, there are plenty helpful and convenient options for your snacking needs. Whether you're off to class or have some down time, Central's campus makes meals on-campus easy for both commuters and residents.

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Word Search: August 28

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

Word List

1. BRAZEN
2. FANTANO
3. PANIC
4. MEMORIAL
5. NETFLIX
6. WINCHESTER
7. MCLAUGHLIN
8. NFL
9. MCCARTHY
10. KAPRELYAN
11. TRUMP
12. SAFETY
13. MEAT
14. TENURE
15. PARKING

Women's Soccer Strives To Repeat Perfect Season

BY RYAN JONES
SPORTS EDITOR

After finishing 8-0 in the Northeast Conference last year, it's hard to find much room for improvement for Central Connecticut's Women's soccer team.

Though conference play is still a ways away, the Blue Devils are already early favorites to repeat as NEC champions and with the program that will be returning to play for the 2019-2020 season, it is clear to see why.

Key returnees to CCSU were some of the best at their position last season. Reigning NEC Rookie of the Year Roma McLaughlin will return with the experience that comes along with playing in the NCAA Tournament. The mid fielder finished her rookie campaign with two goals and five assists in her 17 starts.

"McLaughlin had a great rookie year and we were really happy with how she played for us," head coach Mick D'Arcy said. "We felt we needed to get a little more offense from her, so that goal against Rutgers was huge. Now it's her time to step up and shine for us."

McLaughlin and the rest of the underclassmen will be inheriting the most explosive offense in the league, one that ranked first in the division in nearly all offensive categories last year (points, goals, assists and shots.)

The offense is not the only side getting back a key player. Last year's NEC Defender of the Year recipient, Shauny Alteriso will be anchoring the defensive side of the ball one last time for her senior season. The 2018-2019 season saw the Blue Devils' defense ranked first in the conference in goals allowed, with only 13 scored on them in 20 games.

That's not to say CCSU did not suffer its fair share of losses. The Blue Devils will notably be without Ashley Cavanaugh, Danielle Pearse and Charlie Maurer due to graduation. Cavanaugh's role in the net can not be overstated, as the senior goalkeeper was responsible for 11 shutouts last season alone.

Maurer and Pearse's offensive output last season will surely be missed by the Blue Devils. The duo of Maurer and Pearse ranked first and second in points in conference, respectively.

Despite the challenges of replacing talent, D'Arcy sees it as simply a part of the game.

"It's the beauty of it: when you have success you're going to lose good players. We lost some great players last year but that's kind of been the tradition here at this program," D'Arcy said. "We lost seven great seniors and that happens. Also the players who didn't get to play as much last year, now have their chance to stand up."

With the former centerpieces of both the offense and defense absent from the team



CCSU Women's soccer is looking to repeat as NEC champions.

CCSU ATHLETICS

this season, there is still no shortage of talent for CCSU. The team's experience brings a new element to their game. The team has a combined 237 starts, with many second and third-year players poised to make the jump next season into a larger role. These players have the luxury of winning early into their collegiate careers; when they are deep into the playoffs, a year more practiced, having been there before is a skill that can't be taught.

Head coach Mick D'Arcy is quite familiar with winning championships as he enters into his 20th season coaching the Blue Devils. Along the way of becoming the program's most winningest coach, he's coached the Blue Devils to seven NEC

Championship victories. D'Arcy's Blue Devils weren't content with just bids to the tournament and in 2003 became the first CCSU sports team to win an NCAA Tournament game in their 1-0 victory over Boston College and even led Georgetown at the half in last year's Tournament game.

As for a championship hangover? Doesn't seem to apply much here. Central Connecticut is the only school in the NEC to win three or more consecutive NEC Tournament Championships, capping off a mind boggling four-peat from 2002-2006. Another ring this year would certainly get the train rolling on the idea of a five-peat.

@RYANJONES385

OPINION

BY TREVI ALICKOLLI
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

It's impossible to perfectly predict an NFL season, but with the way the National Football League has progressed with high flying offenses and superstars everywhere, you can lock in one easy prediction right now, there will be fireworks.

During the 2018-19 NFL season, there were 11 teams with double-digit wins.

As of now, three weeks into pre-season, there is the potential for 17 teams, more than half the league, to earn double-digit wins.

Looking into the way distant future, with only 12 playoff positions up for grabs and 17 very good football teams, there is the potential for a lot of heartbreak throughout.

The easiest and only sure-fire way into the playoffs is through winning your division.

The AFC West is shaking out to be one of the toughest divisions in the league, housing the Los Angeles Chargers and Kansas City Chiefs, both reigning playoff contenders poised to repeat.

The Chiefs have the reigning MVP in quarterback Patrick Mahomes, who few doubt will do anything but continue to emerge as the NFL's new "GOAT."

The Chargers tout a proven quarterback

of their own in Phillip Rivers, along with one of the league's better defenses.

The Chargers will win the division with the best record in the NFL (14-2), just beating out the Chiefs, who wind with a Wild Card spot despite posting a 13-3 record, the second-best in the NFL.

Tying the Chiefs record for the second-best record, enter the reigning Super Bowl Champions.

The New England Patriots have not gone undefeated within their division, the AFC East, since 2012, but the 20th year of the Brady-Belichick Era will see the team decimate the inferior competition of their division.

They do not have an easy schedule outside of their division, facing the likes of Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Philadelphia and Kansas City. The Patriots are one of the deepest teams in the league, however, and that should be a scary sight for the rest of the NFL.

They earn a 13-3 record and the second seed in the AFC.

The AFC North will be the second division to produce two playoff teams in the Baltimore Ravens and the Cleveland Browns.

The Browns have the most explosive

offense in the league on paper, but that won't be enough to win the division.

Both teams finish with a 12-4 record, but the Ravens win the division behind a new-looked defense led by former All-Pro safety Earl Thomas and dynamic second-year quarterback, Lamar Jackson.

Cleveland earns a spot in the Wildcard.

The final playoff team from the AFC is the Jacksonville Jaguars. After a lackluster 2018-2019 season, the Jaguars will revert to their former glory of dominant defense and with newcomer Nick Foles at the helm, a suitable offense.

Final AFC Playoff Picture: Chargers, Patriots, Ravens, Jaguars, Chiefs and Browns.

Looking towards the NFC, there are six teams with legitimate chances at a 12-4 record.

The NFC North will be a tough battle between the Chicago Bears and Green Bay Packers, but the Bears pull it out thanks to the Khalil Mack-led defense, seemingly a renaissance of the legendary '86 Bears team.

The Packers sneak into the playoffs as a Wild Card while the Bears earn the top seed in the division.

The reigning NFC Champion Los Angeles Rams will be near the top again with

a 12-4 record and the second seed.

Many expect a post-Super Bowl hangover in L.A. but I wouldn't bet against one of the best head coaches in the NFL.

The NFC East will also be a contentious one with the Dallas Cowboys and the Philadelphia Eagles, with both teams finishing at 12-4.

Dallas is in danger of losing a couple more games if they're missing star running back Ezekiel Elliott deep into the season, but Dallas will not let that happen.

The New Orleans Saints win the NFC South with an 11-5 record and get into the playoffs as the fourth seed.

Final NFC Playoff Picture: Bears, Rams, Cowboys, Saints, Eagles and Packers.

As mentioned prior, this NFL leaves five 10 or more win teams on the outside looking in for the playoffs.

Those teams include the Steelers (11-5), Texans (10-6), Panthers (11-5), Falcons (11-5) and Seahawks (10-6).

The NFL's 100th season kicks off Sept. 5, 2019, with a historic divisional rivalry between the Green Bay Packers and the Chicago Bears. If this season is anything like these predictions, there will be a lot of excitement in a wide-open league.

@ATREVI013

CCSU Weekly Sports Schedule



Football

- Saturday, Aug. 31, 6 p.m. @ Fordham

Men's Soccer

- Friday, Aug. 30, 6 p.m. @ Seton Hall

Volleyball

- Georgetown Invitational, Friday, Aug. 30 - Saturday, Aug. 31

Women's Soccer

- Thursday, Aug. 29, 7 p.m. vs. UConn
- Sunday, Sept. 1, 1 p.m. @ Albany

Roma McLaughlin: Her Time To Shine



Roma McLaughlin (above), enters her sophomore season as a team captain for the Blue Devils.

JULIA JADE MORAN | STAFF

BY TREVI ALICKOLLI
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

After rolling through the competition en route to their ninth Northeast Conference Championship in 2018, Central Connecticut has plenty of question marks heading into the 2019 season after losing a handful of productive seniors.

Sophomore captain midfielder Roma McLaughlin is not one of them.

McLaughlin is the reigning NEC Rookie of the Year after a two goal, five assist freshman campaign that included a lot of minutes in the playoffs.

“It has really helped, I think a lot of minutes in the tournament is gonna help any player become comfortable in their sport,” said McLaughlin about her freshman campaign.

Long-time CCSU head coach Mick D’Arcy, who is the program’s winningest head coach, has proven he knows a good player when he sees one and was impressed by McLaughlin.

“She had a great year for us last year,” said D’Arcy. “We’re really happy with how she played.”

The road to being a Blue Devil and a champion has not always been easy for McLaughlin, who originated from

Moville Community College in Ireland. But her leadership and maturity seemed to be there from an early age.

The sophomore captain proved she was wise beyond her years when she was presented an opportunity to come to the United States when she finished high school years ago, but she declined. She claimed she “was not ready.”

“I went to college in Ireland and I always thought I’d be coming to America,” said McLaughlin. “But I think coming at the age of 23 really helped me and I was prepared.”

Her maturity on and off the field also may have helped her earn the title of one

of the best players on the team and team captain one year later.

“It’s leadership on the field, it’s leadership off the field,” said coach D’Arcy. “Obviously, she’s a very good player but she also brings out the best in the players around her.”

He continues, “The game isn’t about Roma and for a player that’s as good as she is, she never makes it about herself.”

“I’m a different type of captain. I wouldn’t say much off the field, but on the field, I like to lead by example,” said McLaughlin about her leadership. “Do the right things and work hard so that other people have someone to follow.”

Make no mistake about it, beyond her leadership, McLaughlin also delivers on the field.

Two games into the young season, she already has scored her first goal and is only looking to get better the only way she knows how, “working harder.”

Aside from her own performance, her team is still actively trying to repeat as NEC champions and she knows it will be no easy task.

“I think it’s going to be a lot harder because everyone will be out to get us, but I think it all starts with hard work and believing we can get back up there,” said McLaughlin confidently.

Coach D’Arcy seems to be comfortable with the departures his team is facing from last season, stating “it’s part of the game,” but also seems confident heading into the future in part due to his 23-year-old sophomore captain.

“Now it’s her time to step up and shine,” said D’Arcy.

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Volleyball Looks To Build Upon Strong Offseason

BY RYAN JONES
SPORTS EDITOR

Linda Sagnelli has seen plenty of different teams throughout her tenure as Central Connecticut volleyball’s head coach, 20 to be exact. These teams have often been successful, proven no better than by Sagnelli’s 307 career wins with CCSU. So when she continually has high praises for this year’s team, it’s something to watch out for.

Talk is cheap for some, but Sagnelli has the facts to back up her faith in the team. Central has most of last year’s core returning, a strong group that showcased strong individual seasons while playing off of each other as a team when it mattered most. The team boasted the best hitting percentage in the league while also leading the NEC in blocks on the other side of the ball.

Coming off a crushing defeat in five sets to the would be champion Bryant Bulldogs, the Blue Devils trained with an extra edge coming into the spring.

“Sometimes you have maybe two or three athletes that have a really great spring,” but as Sagnelli sees it, “We had 10 this year.”

The Blue Devils all had one goal in mind as they went through spring camp: making each day their best one.

With so much of the team returning this season, the only change is an even tighter bond and communication.

“When you have such a strong core coming back,” Sagnelli explains, “They are simply just one year older and bring that experience with them, they really grow together and they are better. So we saw a lot of improvement in our core, then



Head coach Linda Sagenlli and the CCSU volleyball team are looking to shine after a strong offseason.

JULIA JADE MORAN | STAFF

added in five new players.”

After having no freshman on the roster last season, there will now be four rookies on the team, along with the addition of sophomore transfer Natalie Novak out of Binghamton.

Despite having to adjust to their new home, Sagnelli says the five newcomers to the team have all adapted easily to play at the next level. “They just got thrown right into the mix and just started at the pace that we were already at,” Sagnelli said. “It’s great.”

On their quick development in the program, Sagnelli attributes the learning style as the biggest help.

“I think a lot of learning comes from modeling behavior. Instead of being told what to do, they actually see what speed we want to practice at and how we want to behave and how we want to compete

and focus.”

The success of volleyball’s spring training has left Sagnelli and the team with high hopes for this upcoming season.

“I have really loved every single day of preseason,” Sagnelli professed. “First of all they are just a phenomenal group, from one to 15 I couldn’t ask for better people; better student athletes on the team.”

As mentioned by Sagnelli, volleyball’s academic performance is just as impressive as their work on the court. The team finished with a 3.62 average last semester, winning the American Volleyball Coaches Association Team Academic Award, the 13th year in a row the team has earned the acknowledgement. Their 3.62 average was the highest among athletics, something Sagnelli is very happy to report.

“[I’m] incredibly proud of the team as a whole,” Sagnelli said. “As a coaching staff, you look to recruit athletes that can handle that academic load and compete. We know the time demands that go into that process, so we work hard on recruiting and bringing in student athletes that are good enough in all the aspects of their life to handle that and be a good representative of Central. That’s what we have.”

Central Connecticut will be led by a trio of captains this season: Madeline Kaprelyan, Erin McDermott and Mackenzie Dobbins. They will put their work done this spring to the test this weekend as they take on the Georgetown Invitational Tournament in Washington D.C.

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OPINION

Foolish Front Office Fails Red Sox' Chances At Repeating

BY RYAN JONES
SPORTS EDITOR

Start spreading the news, (the Boston Red Sox' playoff hopes and dreams) areeeee leaving today.

After a historic regular season and a run to their fourth World Series victory in 14 years, the 2019-2020 Sox are now the laughing stock of Major League Baseball. Is it a championship hangover? Did they just happen to catch lightning in a bottle last season?

No and no. The Red Sox offense has produced at a more than contentious rate this season and it's hard to call a team with so much talent "lightning in a bottle."

No, no, rather, the real person who should be getting the blame for ruining any chance of the two-peat is the man calling the shots in Boston, General Manager Dave Dombrowski.

I should first clarify, this is not to say that Dombrowski has not done amazing things as GM. On the contrary, it's hard to imagine Boston finding half the success they have had it not been for Dombrowski. He traded away the farm for the right price and pieces and brought together a historically great roster that brought a rare championship to Boston sports fans.

THIS DOES NOT EXCUSE IGNORANCE.

Don't want to sign Craig Kimbrel, one of the most prolific closers in recent history to a big deal? Fine. Let Joe Kelly walk after a great postseason run? Sure. But not replacing EITHER of them is both poor planning and lack of care from one of the most passionate fan bases in sports' GM.

Instead of signing a closer in the offseason to replace these two, Dombrowski made sure to lock up starting pitcher Nathan Eovaldi to a four year contract valued at \$67.5 million. This signing was nothing short of a sentimental one. No GM with half a mind would sign Eovaldi, who already has two Tommy John surgeries under his belt and has been an up-and-down performer his entire career. There is a reason Eovaldi came here as a journeymen type of player. Since his lucrative contract signing, Eovaldi has started six games while putting up an earth shattering 6.64 ERA. I can't even blame Eovaldi for not playing more than half of the season due to injury, was this not to be expected?

Because Eovaldi simply was not burning enough money yet for the Red Sox, Dombrowski decided to also lock up Chris Sale to a massive five year deal. While this one is definitely more understandable seeing as Sale has been the Sox' ace the past few seasons, he has posted a 4.4 ERA this season while boasting an even more impressive 6-11 record. Now that they have these two locked up long term, they will not have to worry about going after someone like Gerrit Cole, who will be hitting free agency this offseason and will be demanding about the same amount of money as Eovaldi and Sale.

It should be clear who Sox fans should be mad at after this (beyond) frustrating season, and it isn't anyone on the field.

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CCSU's New QB1 Motto: 'Work Hard, Look To Win Everyday'



After transferring from Georgia State University, Aaron Winchester takes the role of QB1 for the Blue Devils.

CCSU ATHLETICS

BY TREVI ALICKOLLI
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Before the lights are bright and the Blue Devils season officially begins, in practice, a new QB1 is taking every first-team rep for Central Connecticut.

That quarterback is Aaron Winchester.

Calm, collected and even directing teammates to the correct spots in the formation, despite the fact that he's the newest member of the team.

"Aaron Winchester is the starter," first-year interim head coach Ryan McCarthy said. The new Central boss made clear who his guy is after a

long quarterback battle that lasted throughout summer.

"He's come in and taken command. He's been here all summer, he's had his nose in the playbook, he's composed and he's a leader," McCarthy continued, not short of compliments for his new starting QB.

Winchester made his way to the Blue Devils as a graduate transfer from the Georgia State University, where he appeared in 15 games and started three.

During his career with the Panthers, Winchester completed 61 passes for 721 yards and five touchdowns. He also added 405 rushing yards and three rushing touchdowns.

Winchester looks comfortable so far. However, it can't be overstated how big the shoes of the position, or player, he will be replacing will be.

Jacob Dolegala, who left Central as the school's all-time leader in passing yards and touchdowns, took his talents to the next level and currently is a backup for the Cincinnati Bengals. Dolegala's entrance into the NFL brings with it the departure of CCSU's most prolific quarterback.

For most, that would perhaps create extra pressure to perform. However, Winchester is not like most.

"I think that Jake did a lot of great things, but that's Jake," said Winchester. "He did his thing and he'll continue to do his thing...but there's no pressure."

He continued, "I'm confident in my ability and I know what I can do, so I'm just going to lead the offense as much as I possibly can."

That confidence has even made the transition from Georgia State to Central Connecticut somewhat easier for him.

"It's been smooth; I think that being able to have gone through a staff change at Georgia State prepared me for this," Winchester said. "Having different terminology, different philosophies and

different teammates helped me transition to this phase of my career."

A career that he hopes does not stop at Central Connecticut.

"Absolutely," Winchester said without hesitation, when asked if he expects an opportunity to go pro.

"That's what I work for. I'm a man of faith, so I know God always has a plan for me so I just do my part day in and day out and continue to get better," Winchester said.

Winning is the best way to be recognized on a national stage and bring scouts in the audience. But even with that in the back of his head, Winchester is smart enough to focus on the present.

"I think it's just taking it one day at a time. One day at a time, one game at a time," Winchester said. "I've been doing this long enough to know that if you look too far ahead that you can trip up and lose to teams you probably should have beat."

Aaron Winchester is hoping to be what this team, especially this offense, needs heading into a season as they are replacing a lot of playmakers.

He's a veteran presence, a leader, but most importantly, a playmaker looking to get Central Connecticut back to the top of the Northeast Conference by looking to win every day.

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Men's Soccer Looks To Bounce Back With Young Core

BY RYAN JONES
SPORTS EDITOR

Moving on after a losing season can be a daunting task for athletes, no matter the sport. The mental toll that losing takes can be tough to bounce back from, something that last year's men's soccer team knows all too well. After managing only one win over the 2018-2019 campaign, the Blue Devils will need to quickly forget those days and start working towards a more fruitful season.

That's not to say that last season was all negative, however. On the contrary, the young core the Blue Devils brought along last season has a lot of things to be excited about. The underclassmen were given a lot of responsibility in the early stages of their careers with the team. The freshman and sophomore on the team totaled 78 starts on the pitch for the Blue Devils last year, giving them some good experience that will only help develop their talent at an earlier stage than others might be equipped to. Among the most promising of the young Blue Devils last season was midfielder Noah Silverman. In his 15 starts on the pitch, the now sophomore Silverman racked up two goals and an assist, good enough to put him second on the team in total points.

Once again adding some young depth over the off season, the Blue Devils enter the season with eight new coming freshman. Similar to their "Team Connecticut" roster building method of last year, this year's class of freshman soccer features five players originally from Connecticut.

While they may have wracked up their fair share of losses in their last season, most of them were much closer than their final record would make it out to be. Of their 13 losses on the year, nine were decided by one goal.

Just a few short years ago, head coach Shaun Green and the Blue Devils were hoisting up the NEC Championship trophy. Not long before that, the Central Connecticut was making history, becoming the first athletic program from CCSU to make it to the sweet 16 of an NCAA Tournament. If their young core



CCSU Men's soccer is looking to bounce back after a one-win 2018-2019 season.

CCSU ATHLETICS

can continue to improve and develop, its not unrealistic to think that history could once again repeat itself. Before the team can even think about that, though, they will have to look towards their first opponent in Seton Hall on Saturday as they start their season on a three game road trip.

In last year's matchup, Central Connecticut was narrowly defeated by Seton Hall 2-1. The Blue Devils will play in their first home game Sept. 14 against the university of Massachusetts.

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Jenna Rae Covello (above) scored a key goal in the team's win over Maine. **CCSU ATHLETICS**



CCSU Women's soccer now sits at 1-1 on the season. **CCSU ATHLETICS**

Reigning NEC Champs Split Opening Pair Of Games

BY RYAN JONES
SPORTS EDITOR

The goliath of the Northeast Conference, defending champion Central Connecticut Blue Devils looked as tough to beat as ever against Maine and (#19 nationally ranked) Rutgers.

Despite dropping the first game of the 2019-2020 season against Rutgers, the story is much deeper than the final box score may tell. CCSU was actually the team poised to win for most of the game after taking the lead just 11 minutes in. The young core proved to be stars of the contest for Central, with sophomore midfielder Roma McLaughlin scoring the lone goal for the Blue Devils off an assist from freshman Sydnie Dorman.

The early goal from McLaughlin looked to be all it would take in the game until some late heroics from Rutgers. An unassisted goal would tie the game in the 69th minute, before a failed clear from CCSU would lead to Rutgers dribbling in the game-deciding goal in overtime.

This 2-1 loss is nothing for the Blue Devils to hang their heads after, especially when looking at some of the teams Rutgers went on to defeat last year (Northwestern, Penn State etc.).

After losing only two games overall last season, the last thing the Blue Devils wanted was to match this in only their second game of the year.

Against Maine, Junior Jenna Rae Covello would start the scoring in the match, knocking in an easy shot off of a perfectly executed cross from fellow

junior Erica Bardes. CCSU was close to putting the nail in the coffin mere seconds later, but another goal would be called back after an offside penalty on Central.

The two teams battled hard throughout the match, something head coach Mick D'Arcy expected. "Physically they're tough, tactically they give us challenges on both sides of the ball, we just weren't quite sure how those challenges would present themselves."

The Black Bears would fight their way back into the game in the second half, tying the match at the 52-minute mark. Despite a strong showing from their offense in the first half, the second half Blue Devil team looked a little more drained from playing such a hard brand of soccer.

"The first half was a little more controlled, we were able to create more

chances," D'Arcy explained. "Grit and determination played a bigger role in the second half. After they scored they had a good spell of about 10 minutes where we just needed to steady the ship. Getting the [second] goal when we did was great, it gave us a little extra confidence to end the game."

The aforementioned second and final goal of the game from Giavanna Inzerillo came by way of a perfectly executed corner kick from Erica Bardes. The game-deciding goal marked the rookie's first of her career.

The Blue Devils will look to continue this success in a battle of Connecticut Thursday, as UConn comes to visit Central Connecticut.

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Football: New Coach, New Playmakers, Same Goal



Tajik Bagley (above) is one of the senior leaders on the new-look Blue Devil football team. **JULIA JADE MORAN | STAFF**

BY TREVI ALICKOLLI
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Every season of college football brings with it the loss of players through transfer or graduations. The upcoming 2019-20 season for Central Connecticut is unlike any other.

The Blue Devils are going into the season with the task of replacing multiple starters on both sides of the ball. Quarterback Jacob Dolegala left for the NFL, while the team also lost wide receiver Courtney Rush, defensive back Tymir Hinton and defensive linemen Chris Tinkham to name a few.

In addition to these losses, they also had to handle the

departure of head coach Pete Rossomando. Rossomando coached Central since the 2014 season and led the team to their 2017 NEC Championship during his three-year stint.

The departure may have caught the team by surprise, but CCSU was quick to act and promoted offensive coordinator Ryan McCarthy as interim head coach.

After a 6-5 overall campaign (4-2 in the conference) last year, CCSU is hopeful they can repeat their 2017 performance with new pieces to the puzzle.

The Blue Devils have one of the strongest cores in the NEC, boasting strong offensive and defensive lines.

"The strengths of our team are right where I want them to be, the fronts," explains McCarthy. "If you can control

the first level, you have a shot to be in every game."

The offensive line did not take long to impress their new signal-caller, quarterback Aaron Winchester.

"Our offensive line is phenomenal," Winchester said. "We bring a lot of really good guys back and that gives you a lot of comfort as a quarterback."

Along with the team's lines, both Winchester and McCarthy are impressed with their new outside wide receiver Tyshaun James.

"That's the plan," McCarthy said when asked if James will be a focal point of the offense. "He's a multi-dimensional player, so we're going to try to give him the ball in different ways. He's a matchup problem for a lot of people."

James stands at 6-foot-3-inches and 210 pounds; the definition of a matchup problem at the receiver position.

Although there is high praise on the offensive side of the ball, it would be a disservice to understate the strength of the Blue Devil defense.

"They've been kicking our butt during the scrimmages," Winchester said. "Their front is just as good as our front and they've got guys in the back end too."

"Tajik (Bagley) and Dexter (Lawrence) are lockdown corners but I'm really excited to see what our front seven can do," Winchester said.

According to McCarthy, his team has had a "really, really good camp," but just like any other team during the preseason, "they're ready to go hit somebody else."

Central Connecticut will get that opportunity shortly, as they open their season on the road at Fordham University on Aug. 31 for a 6 p.m. kickoff.

The new-look Blue Devils will be challenged early and often with five of their first six games on the road. No matter the obstacle, the goal remains the same for CCSU this year: bring home another NEC Championship.

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