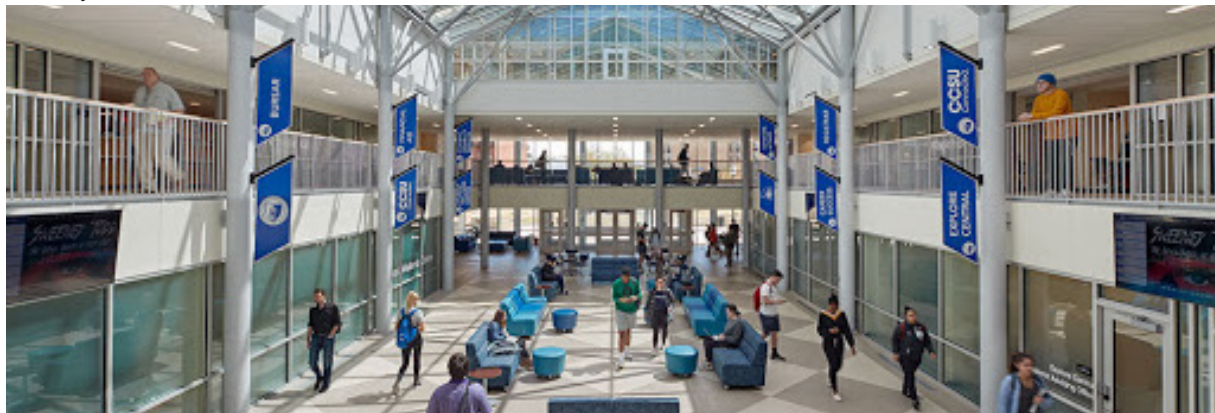


# The Recorder

February 12, 2020

VOLUME 121 | ISSUE 4



Student retention rate will likely decrease with tuition increase.

CCSU

## CCSU Tuition Set To Increase Again After One Year

BY ISABELLA CHAN  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Central Connecticut will be increasing their tuition rates and fees by approximately four percent within the next year, thus leading to an increase of roughly \$400 for commuter students and over \$800 for resident students in their tuition. This comes after the university raised its rate by 5 percent in the 2019-

2020 school year.

The decision was approved unanimously by the Board of Regents (BOR) on Feb. 6 and will begin to take action in the fall 2020 semester.

According to the BOR, the plan will be executed at Eastern Connecticut State University, Southern Connecticut State University and Western Connecticut State University as well, leading to an average increase of 3.8 percent at their universities. The tuition will remain the same

at Charter Oak State College and the state's 12 community colleges.

The community colleges' tuition freeze is said to be possible due to "the savings being achieved under Students First and anticipated revenue from increased enrollment due to the Pledge to Advance Connecticut (PACT)."

"The decision to ask university students to pay more is of course difficult, but in putting together this proposal, university leaders were able to balance their

institutional financial needs with our mission as public universities to provide the highest quality education at the most accessible price point," Mark Ojakian, Connecticut State Colleges and Universities President, said in a public statement.

For some students, the tuition increase is not a feasible option; commuting senior Sherene Francis argued that the BOR's decision will only deter students

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## Be Part Of The Change, Donate A Meal

BY KELLY LANGEVIN  
SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

Giving back during the month of February is possible with Central Connecticut's initiative to combat food insecurity by donating meal plan guest swipes to a student in need.

Food insecurity is more common among college campuses than expected. According to a study conducted by Hopes Labs at University of Wisconsin, 36 percent of college students were found food insecure in the last 30 days preceding the survey.

Food insecurity, as defined by the United States Department of Agriculture, is a lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life. CCSU is aware of this issue that many students face and wants to take steps toward targeting it on campus.

"February is going to be the month of giving, so students who have those guest meals and just being able to donate one of those I think will be very successful," Sodexo's general manager Jonathan Small said.

The program, called "Be The Change Donate a Meal," is also in conjunction with Central's Circle of Care, which provides support for students dealing with food insecurity, housing insecurity, homelessness or lack of basic needs.

The campaign will last for the first two weeks of this month and is geared towards residential students with a meal plan. However, faculty can donate a meal swipe as well. The type of meal plan each person has will determine the number of guest swipes a student receives.

Sodexo notes that the steps to participate are easy: "simply inform the cashier at either Hilltop Café or Memorial Hall that you would like to make a guest meal swipe donation. Meals donated are loaded onto a dining plan

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## The Women's Center's Support Groups Want To Hear Your Story



The support groups meet weekly in the student center.

BY BRUNA VILA ARTIGUES  
NEWS EDITOR

The Ruthe Boyea Women's Center at Central Connecticut has represented intersectionality, diversity and equity for years. The center has been running three support

groups to help people feel safe to discuss and share their personal experiences.

While they aim to expand and include others on campus, such as Islamic women and various women of color, the center offers three focus groups: United Sisters, Latina Leadership Personal Development Group and "It Takes A Village."

The United Sisters Group serves

as a place for African American and Caribbean women to come together and feel like they have a seat at the table, as some of the Women's Center employees have explained it.

"We encourage people to take risks, to come out, to be themselves, to know that we're open, willing to actively listen, to hear [their] story," Olawunmi Sodipo, a co-facilitator of the United Sisters, said. "This is a safe space and nobody's judging

you. No one's thinking anything about you. We're just here to support you and to love you."

The groups discuss topics of race, gender, class, personal life, community and team bonding, including micro aggressions or mental illness within the black community.

The Latina Leadership Personal

CCSU

CONTINUES ON PAGE 4

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THE RECORDER

Student Center  
1615 Stanley Street  
New Britain, CT 06050  
860.832.3744

editor@centralrecorder.org  
centralrecorder.org

Editor-in-Chief

Isabella Chan  
chan2017@my.ccsu.edu

Managing Editor

Ryan Jones  
ryan.michael.jones@my.ccsu.edu

News Editor

Bruna Vila Artigues  
bruna.vilaartigues@my.ccsu.edu  
Samantha Bender, Assistant  
samanthabender@my.ccsu.edu

Arts & Entertainment Editor

Julia Conant  
juliaconant@my.ccsu.edu  
Mauriah Johnson, Assistant  
mauriah.johnson@my.ccsu.edu

Sports Editor

Trevi Alickolli,  
talickolli@my.ccsu.edu  
George Attwood, Assistant  
gattwood@my.ccsu.edu

Layout Editor

Julia Jade Moran  
julia.j.moran@my.ccsu.edu

Copy Editor

Megan Brawner  
megan.brawner@my.ccsu.edu  
Kiernan Foster  
fosterk@my.ccsu.edu

Social Media Editors

Kelly Langevin  
kelly.langevin@my.ccsu.edu  
Bailey Murphy  
baileymurphy@my.ccsu.edu

Staff Writers

Nat Dest  
Sarah Willson  
Shwar Zaidi  
Gabriel Anton  
Samuel Pappas



About

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# Be Part Of The Change, Donate A Meal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Sodexo is hoping to fight food insecurity on campus

CCSU

card and provided to the Vice President of Student Affairs for distribution to students.”

Sodexo has already partnered with Central's food pantry, Maria's Place, back in October in a program called “Dine and Donate.”

In this initiative, all students, faculty and staff were allowed to purchase a meal plan during that month, based on the type of meal plan, to equal a certain amount of swipes. Those swipes would go toward Maria's Place for those who utilized it.

“[Sodexo] donated a meal voucher to Maria's Place for every meal plan purchased during the month of October. Those coupons are in circulation now and are available for students to use this spring,” Mitzie Martin, Sodexo's field marketing specialist, stated.

“For this particular campaign, however, all meal swipes will go directly towards the Circle of Care,” Martin concluded.

Vice President of Student Affairs Michael Jasek stated in an interview this

past December that the Circle Of Care program is not at the level they want it to be at quite yet, in terms of students knowing about the service. Therefore, they really wanted to make it well known during this semester.

For more information about “Be The Change, Donate a Meal,” visit CCSU's Dining services website or the Circle of Care website.

@KELLYLANGEVIN2



@TheRecorder



## Keeping Up With The Democrats

The journey to the 2020 Presidential Election has not necessarily been the easiest one to follow. People have become spectators to the largest number of diverse democratic candidates to run for president as well as witness the sitting American President go through an impeachment trial while running for re-election. For those who have gotten lost in the process, here is a quick rundown of the remaining Democratic candidates running in the election. Those remaining are the following democratic candidates that have qualified.

On The Issues	Joe Biden	Pete Buttigieg	Amy Klobuchar	Bernie Sanders	Tom Steyer	Elizabeth Warren	Andrew Yang
Abortion	Pro-Choice	Pro-Choice	Pro-Choice	Pro-Choice	Pro-Choice	Pro-Choice	Pro-Choice
Death Penalty	Opposes It	Opposes It	Opposes It	Opposes It	N/A	Opposes It	Opposes It
Environment Rating	D-	C	C-	B+	N/A	B	D+
Healthcare	Prefers Public Option	Prefers Public Option	Prefers Public Option	Medicare For All	Prefers Public Option	Medicare For All	Prefers Public Option
Gun Control	Ban Assault Weapons, Support Buy-Back Program, Do Not Require License	Ban Assault Weapons, Support Buy-Back Program, Require License	Ban Assault Weapons, Support Buy-Back Program, Require License	Ban Assault Weapons, Support Buy-Back Program, Require License	Ban Assault Weapons, Support Buy-Back Program, Require License	Ban Assault Weapons, Support Buy-Back Program, Require License	Ban Assault Weapons, Support Buy-Back Program, Require License
Legalization Of Marijuana	Let States Decide	Legalize It	Legalize It	Legalize It	Legalize It	Legalize It	Legalize It
Minimum Wage	Raise To \$15 An Hour	Raise To \$15 An Hour	Raise To \$15 An Hour	Raise To \$15 An Hour	Raise To \$15 An Hour	Raise To \$15 An Hour	Do Not Raise
Tax On Assets Held By Wealthy	No	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Student Debt Cancellation	Reform Loan Forgiveness	Partial	N/A	All	N/A	Partial	Partial

## What's New, CCSU?

- Thursday, February 13th in Founders hall their will be a civil rights lecture at 12:15pm with keynote speaker Breanna Zolff
- Career Success Center hosting an Internship & Career Fair in Alumni Hall in the Student Center on Tuesday, February 11th
- The Social Work club will be hosting a bake sale on February 13th from 11AM to 4PM in the Student Center lobby
- The Women's Center presents Love Jones, an open mic experience in Semesters in the Student Center on February 12th at 7pm

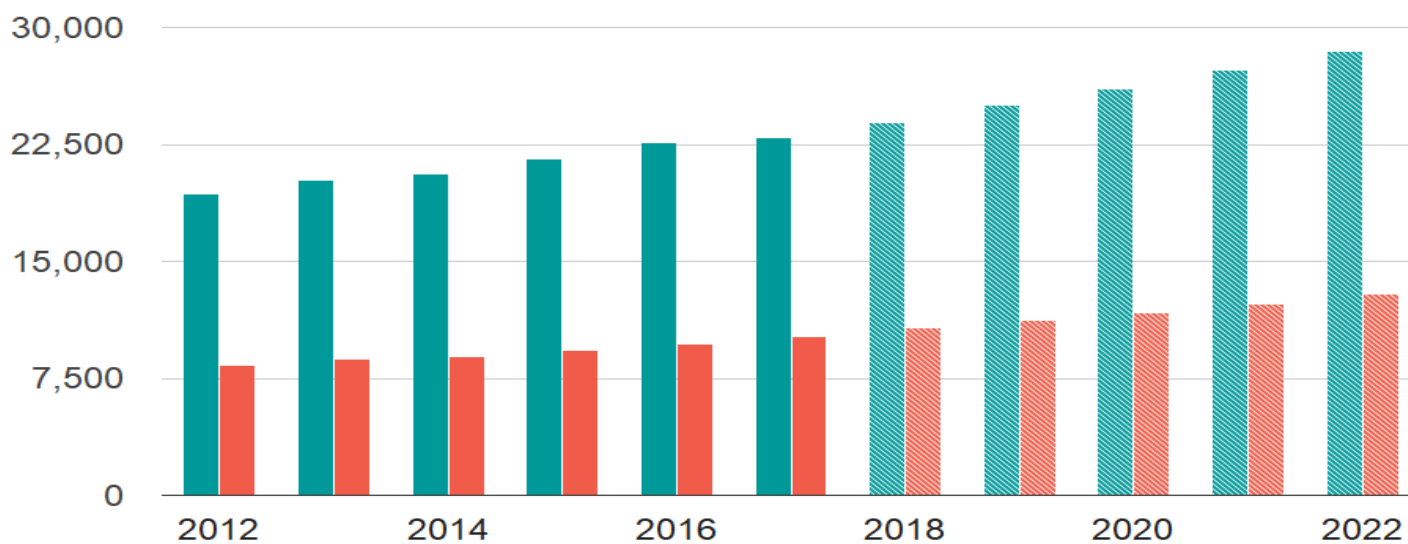




CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

## Tuition

Central Connecticut State University  
Tuition and Fees Trend



CCSU's tuition has substantially increased over recent years.

COLLEGE FINANCIAL REPORT

from attending universities within the state.

"I think it's sad because a lot of students sacrifice a lot to pursue an education. Eventually receiving an education will be out of reach for many students, including myself. I'd like to think Central values me — not my pockets," Senior Sherene Francis, sociology major, stated.

As of now, the university's rates per term fall at \$5,534 for in-state undergraduate students, with additional fees for out-of-state. But in the future, CCSU's tuition and fee proposal for the fiscal year of 2021 will "increase by

\$434 (3.9 percent) for in-state, commuting undergraduate students and \$622 (2.6 percent) for residential students."

Along with this, the university is requesting approval to increase the orientation fee to \$150 to cover the program expenses and to remain consistent with other state universities. This increase would begin to take place with incoming students for the fall 2020 semester.

Incoming CCSU students, as well as returning, will be left figuring out new ways on how to battle the higher increase for the fall semester.

[CHAN2017@MY.CCSU.EDU](mailto:CHAN2017@MY.CCSU.EDU)

## An Angela Davis Experience



Angela Davis closes off with a smile.

MAURIAH JOHNSON STAFF

**BY MAURIAH JOHNSON**  
ASSISTANT ARTS &  
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

In honor of Black History Month and the unforgettable Dr. Martin Luther King, Angela Davis graced Yale University's Woolsey Hall, where she discussed topics of today's modern-day overshadowed struggles such as mass incarceration, prison abolition, and the economic structure of our society.

Davis is well-known for her iconic activist role in the Black Panther Party in the 1960s and '70s and is a former member of the Communist Party, where she fought against the same issue that still dominates today: discrimination.

Discrimination is defined as the "unjust prejudicial treatment of different categories of people or things, especially on the grounds of race, age or sex," according to the Google dictionary. Yet, anyone who is considered a minority must be mentally prepared to face the possibility that they might be discriminated against, despite their

character or beliefs.

Although Davis touched on the key that has been missing all along, saying that "we cannot focus on racism alone; we have to think about the economic structure of our society," the truth is, the economic structure of our society is crumbling.

America is primarily a market-oriented economy where private individuals and business firms make most of the decisions, while our state and federal governments buy our needed goods from the same private marketplace.

"In 1963, the average wealth of white families was \$121,000 higher than the average wealth of nonwhite families. By 2016, the average wealth of white families (\$919,000) was over \$700,000 higher than the average wealth of black families (\$140,000) and of Hispanic families (\$192,000)," states the Urban Institute calculation from the Survey of Changes in Family Finances in 1963, and Survey of Consumer Finances from 1983 to 2016.

How could one succeed when the only ones with the key to unlock change for the economy are the same ones who have created the infrastructure we are trying to escape?

Minorities are still fighting the battle of not only racism, but the prison system as well, as if the odds are constantly stacked against them with no room for success — especially for a man.

According to a 2017 study by the Pew Research Center, "there were 1,549 black prisoners for every 100,000 black adults — nearly six times the imprisonment rate for whites (272 per 100,000) and nearly double the rate for Hispanics (823 per 100,000)."

"People of African descent in the Americas have embodied the quest for freedom for five long centuries," said Davis.

Still, we are all fighting the same war 500 years later; and it is no longer an African American war, it is just an American war.

Activists like Davis, King, Malcolm X and many more put their lives on the line for the change that should be evident in our society today. But now we have youth like Trayvon Martin, Eric Garner and Oscar Grant who suffered from the cause that has been claimed to have disappeared or declined, but truthfully it has only moved into a more protected atmosphere: our government and institutions.

While Davis's new silver Afro stood strong, her words of systematic change spoke volumes to the multi-colored crowd that filled Woolsey Hall to its full capacity — telling the solutions to the problems that we are facing today and the mishaps of the past that can shape our future.

"It is important to recognize how much black movements have transformed — the cry for black power emerged from a specific set of conditions. It was largely an effort to acknowledge the breadth of the movement," said Davis.

Those specific set of conditions Davis mentioned (prison abolition, economic structure, and racism) are still prevalent today and will not disappear by tomorrow, but the way we go about it this time can cause everlasting change and possibly stop the reversing decline of our cultures.

"You can't just bring down an institution and it'll be fine. We must recognize the way we ourselves bear the impact of those institutions," said Davis.

Near the end of her keynote speaking, she disclosed an unheard opinion that many wouldn't have assumed: her disapproval of black capitalism and assimilation — the end goal is peaceful unity for all — in hopes that won't take another five centuries.

"But I would also say Mississippi Goddamn," Davis closes with an angelic smile.

@MODERNISTABLOG



## CCSU Honors National Heart Month with “Save A Heart Day”



CCSU nursing student demonstrates how to apply a tourniquet.

SAMANTHA BENDER

BY SAMANTHA BENDER  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The Central Connecticut AED Taskforce teamed up with the campus's nursing department to offer free cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), automated external defibrillator (AED) and stop the bleed training to all students, faculty and staff at the second annual “CCSU Save A Heart Day” event.

The event's was initiated to educate individuals on the basics of early recognition; experts discussed signs and symptoms of heart attacks and strokes while acknowledging that CCSU is a heart safe campus with public access AEDs.

“The biggest thing is that anybody can be the first part of the chain of survival,” CCSU Fire Lieutenant Terrance Ferrarotti said. “Early recognition and early compressions are going to give the patient the best chance of survival. First responders here on campus will

arrive, on average, within three minutes.”

The campaign, which started after the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting, emphasizes the importance of quick teamwork and helping hands. Especially in large tragedies like Sandy Hook, the first objective of police officers is stop the individual creating the commotion, which is why it is crucial for others to know how to give the victims the help they need.

The event emphasized these situations are ultimately teamwork-based thus making it critical to saving a person's life. It starts with bystander CPR, followed by the arrival of first responders on campus and finally the ambulance which transports the victim to the hospital.

“We can't do this without the individuals in the building,” Ferrarotti, one of the campus's first responders, stated. “We need everybody to work together as a team.”

This year's event included a few new additions from the year's prior, including a presentation from a guest speaker and several teaching activities.

Guest speaker Heather Swales, M.D. from Hartford

Healthcare, gave a 45-minute presentation on heart health and preventative medicine while CCSU's nursing students were available to administer free blood pressure checks throughout the day to those in attendance.

The three classes that took place used the similar approaches: first teaching individuals the proper method to help someone in need and then allowing them to apply their new knowledge hands-on. In small groups instructed by experts, attendees were able to practice on CPR training manikins while receiving feedback on their performance.

CCSU student Damira Kandic was one of many of those in attendance. For the senior\*, it was her first time attending an event of this nature.

\*do you know what's her major? If so, add it\*

“Now I feel really prepared and motivated. God forbid a situation like this ever happens, I'd feel prepared for it,” Kandic said.

The “Stop The Bleeding,”\* training was taught by Kerri Langevin, a pediatric nurse practitioner, and her nursing students. They informed individuals that the number one cause of preventable death after injury is bleeding.

\*Is this the title or is it “Stop The Blood”???

The teaching opportunity educated individuals on the “ABC's” of bleeding control, which includes alerting 911, bleeding and compression. They then demonstrated how to handle a bleed and advised that using gloves is optimal, but makeshift barriers can also be used between an individual and the blood.

“As a nurse I always feel ready, but being able to help other people feel ready is awesome,” assistant nursing professor Langevin, said.

@SBENDER99

### News In Brief

BY SARAH WILLSON  
REPORTER

#### Student Stabbed At Hartford High School:

A student was in “critical but stable” condition as of Monday after a stabbing at Hartford's Weaver High School earlier that morning, according to the Hartford Courant.

The student, who was identified as being 17-years-old, was stabbed after a fight broke out in the school's hallway, the Courant reported. The teacher attempted to break the altercation.

The school was in “Yellow Code,” similar to a lockdown, and students were barred from leaving their classrooms until police gave the all-clear.

According to the Courant, police are considering the possibility of having an officer posted at the school due to

recent problems with violence.

The Courant said the police department's Major Crimes detectives are investigating.

#### Native Burial Sites Destroyed For Southern Border Wall:

Native American burial sites in Arizona have been blown up in order to continue the construction of the US-Mexico border wall, BBC News said.

The act, which has been condemned by citizens, lawmakers and a variety of tribal groups, began earlier this week. The US government also failed to consult the Tohono O'odham Nation before beginning the blasting, BBC said.

Environmental groups said they are also concerned about the damage, particularly to wildlife, the blasts could cause.

#### US Charges Chinese Military Officers Over ‘Huge Hack’:

At least 147 million Americans were impacted in 2017 as a result of a “huge cyber-attack” on Equifax, prompting the US to charge four Chinese military officials with the breach, according to BBC News.

Personal information, such as names, addresses and other sensitive information, were stolen.

Attorney General William Barr said the attack was “one of the largest data breaches in history.”

According to Barr, the hackers spent weeks in the company's system, ultimately breaking into security networks to steal personal data.

Barr said the whereabouts of the suspects is still unknown.

## The Women's Center's Support Groups Want To Hear Your Story

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Development Group serves as a safe space for Latina women to also have open conversations, break barriers and raise awareness about issues Latinas face in society. They partner with counseling, wellness and host events, as well as bring mentors and alumni to their group.

The “It Takes A Village” group is a student-parent support group dedicated to help student-parents succeed during their years in college and build a sense of community to reiterate that they are not alone. The group helps to support them personally, academically and professionally, as well as provide childcare for its members.

Within the support groups, important topics are covered that people may often be afraid to talk openly about. The groups are a safe space and sanctuary for everyone to feel like their own personal story and experiences are validated and important.

“What is your story? What makes you beautiful? What makes you bold? What makes you raw?” Sodipo asked.

She explained that many people feel like they do not belong or fit into a certain box. But at the end of the day, there is no specific box or criteria an individual must be confined to.



@centralrecorder  
on Instagram

“This is just being yourself,” Sodipo said. For Sodipo, being a part of United Sisters is even more of an opportunity to branch out and to develop leadership and communication skills.

With the groups, individuals are encouraged to take risks, listen, connect with others and invite friends to join. Trinitee Williams, a co-facilitator of United Sisters, said often times most members are quiet at the beginning, a feeling she, herself, even felt while participating in at The Women's Center.

Williams explained that she was quiet when she initially joined last year. However, running the support group this year has helped her to become more open and to motivate other people to speak up.

“By the end of the night, people tell personal stories and get really deep into their lives,” Williams said.

The United Sisters and Latina Leadership Personal Development Group meet weekly in room 215 of the Student Center at 5 p.m. on Wednesdays and 3 p.m. on Mondays. The Student Parent Support Group meet bi-weekly in the Sprague Carleton Room of the Student Center at 5 p.m. on Mondays.

@BRUNAVILA



## EDITORIAL

## Keep Newspaper In Print

Over the past few decades, it has become a commonplace for newspapers to either close or print less frequently. It has been said that print is a dying medium, with the internet being a more accessible tool for gaining information.

While things may look bleak for print media, not all hope is lost. In the humble opinion of a newspaper staff who publishes a printed version of a newspaper, print is not dead. While a website may be more convenient, there is nothing like the feeling of flipping the pages of a paper and seeing the well-thought out layout.

A lot of careful consideration goes into how a newspaper looks, and that artistic touch is lost when looking at an online formatted rendition.

On Friday, Feb. 7, the Enfield Press confirmed they will cease publication later this month. Other publications, such as the Hartford Courant, have substantially reduced their staff to a fraction of what it used to be in the past in order to maintain their print copies.

This is sadly the way of the modern world. Most people want to consume their news electronically and aren't going out to buy newspapers. Many people believe it is easier to go on their phone and download an app to read the news versus searching for a newspaper stand.

As more and more readers do this, a large amount of people are choosing to not buy a physical newspaper. As someone who works for a newspaper, this is a sad reality.

The Enfield Press was over 140 years old, starting under the name Thompsonville Press. The small paper focused only on local events, such as car accidents, marriages and town meetings, as well as miscellaneous information about the local farming area.

Former Enfield Mayor Scott Kaupin told Patch of his sadness that the Enfield Press is closing.

"The Enfield Press has truly been a community newspaper that focused on the good happening in our town," Kaupin said. "Recently, I have really enjoyed reading the 'Our Town - This Week in Enfield History' page of local news and gossip from 130 years ago. Losing this source for local news is really sad news."

Former employees also shared their disappointment, as Enfield Press was a reliable source of local news.

"I think it's the silencing of another editorial voice reporting the news of the day that is being lost here, and that is unfortunate," Frank Poirot, editor-in-chief of the Enfield Press, stated.

Although the Enfield Press was seen as a beloved news source, there were logical and financial reasons why the paper could not keep printing. People not buying a newspaper isn't great but journalists shouldn't abandon the idea of printing newspaper.

Considering the printing press is arguably the greatest invention, people shouldn't just forget about it.

According to the Journalism Inquirer, Fran Smith, the general manager of Remainder Publishing, "wasn't able to stand on its own two feet," as it had become redundant and was not financially viable. As of late, the paper only sold 1,000 copies per weekly issue.

According to Journalism.org, the estimated total of U.S. daily newspaper circulation (print and digital combined) in 2018 was 28.6 million for weekday and 30.8 million for Sunday, down 8 percent and 9 percent, respectively, from the previous year. Weekday print circulation decreased 12 percent and Sunday print circulation decreased 13 percent.

While online versions of the news should still be readily available, printed copies should still be available for those who appreciate the hard work that goes into laying out a paper.

It's called a newspaper for a reason, it is meant to stay in paper format.

## Brexit: The Proof Will Be In The Pudding

BY GEORGE ATTWOOD  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Let me take you back to 2016. My innocent fifteen-year-old self was anticipating the European Football Championships, blissfully unaware of the horror that would happen on June 24 when 52 percent of the United Kingdom voted in favor to leave the European Union (EU).

The referendum came about after David Cameron, the Prime Minister at the time, was placed under pressure by his own Members of Parliament and the growing United Kingdom Independence Party. Cameron announced that the referendum was official and it would be formally included in the Conservative Party's manifesto.

The vote was split that down the middle of the country, thus presenting the question: do we remain in the EU or do we leave? My own family was also torn on what to do in with the split, but they mainly wanted to remain within it.

After the vote happened, people were polled in an attempt to find trends or voting patterns.

Studies suggested that older people were more likely to vote to leave, while younger people were more likely to vote to remain.

According to Thomas Sampson, an economist at the London School of Economics, "older and less-educated voters were more likely to vote to 'leave.'"

The irony though is that a good percentage of those who voted to "leave" will be dead before they are even able to enjoy the full benefits of the new referendum known as Brexit.

Around the time of the election, there were calls for the voting age to be lowered to 16 or for students who were in year 11 (equivalent to an American's junior year in high school) to be permitted to vote. This opinion was mainly held by "remainers," as they felt that this would be their best chance to win the vote.

Unfortunately, this did not happen and everyone in the 15-17 age range, including myself, carried no say in what was probably the biggest vote of our lives. The vote impacted my entire life and would never occur again.

The Conservatives winning the general election before Christmas



Boris Johnson and the bus of lies

TWITTER

meant that it was only a matter of time before Brexit would become a reality.

On Jan. 31, 2020 at 11 p.m., Greenwich Mean Time, the nightmare became true. In the last session of European Parliament that the U.K. would be a part of, British politician Nigel Farage, gave a derogatory farewell speech directed towards the EU. He then proceeded to wave mini Union Jack flags, going against parliament policy — I found it highly embarrassing as they are representing my country.

But let us rewind back to the campaigns before the election, in which the hallmark of the "leave" campaign was their big red bus driving around the UK. The side of the bus read, "we send the EU £350 million a week, let's fund our Nation Health Services (NHS) instead. Vote leave."

"Remain" voters believe this to be untrue and that current Prime Minister Boris Johnson

did it intentionally to sway voters, but in fact the true number is around £350 million a year.

Now, in my opinion, this is false propaganda. This means that the people who voted to "leave" based off of this bus, including my own grandmother, were misinformed and lied to.

However, if we take this bus's statements to be true and we are sending the EU £350 million a week, then we should now have £750 million being put back into the NHS, as we left the EU two weeks ago. You would think that with all of this money Mr. Johnson would be rejoicing and announcing his plans of how he is improving the NHS in less than a month.

I will give Johnson the benefit of the doubt, but if nothing is announced in the next few weeks, then I can imagine that the "remainers" will definitely be letting Johnson know how they feel about him.

@THECHUNKYGADGIE

## Dear Democrats: What's Happening?

BY MEGAN BRAWNER  
COPY EDITOR

What a week for politics. There was certainly a lot to digest, especially the two shining moments for Democrats: the Iowa caucuses and the State of the Union address.

What was supposed to mark an exciting start to the week for Democrats ended in pure chaos. With a caucus and a presidential debate within days of each other, this was the time for Democrats to show why they are capable of beating President Donald Trump in November.

So what went wrong? The Democratic National Committee (DNC) launched an app that failed midway through the caucus and consequently, results were delayed because of quality checks and inconsistencies in reporting.

Ironically, Republicans have recently been pushing for a crackdown on voter fraud and the implementation of voter identification, while also criticizing the option to vote online. So what do the Democrats do? Introduce an app! Genius!

The new mobile app was designed to help officials collect information from the Iowa caucus sites quicker, but coding issues initiated the number of delays that occurred throughout the day. The

Wall Street Journal reported.

So you're telling me that the same individuals who want to handle every aspect of healthcare and implement taxes that have failed elsewhere can't even run a caucus?

The 2020 Iowa Caucuses lost all integrity. It was not well executed and the DNC failed to release results until days later. Nearly all the candidates claimed victory, but Pete Buttigieg and Senator Bernie Sanders led the polls in the end. Best caucus ever? I think not.

The highlight of the evening was presented by CNN reporter Wolf Blitzer, who was interviewing Iowa precinct captain, Shawn Sebastian.

In a live telephone interview, Sebastian told Blitzer that he had been on hold with the Iowa Democratic Party to submit vote results. After being on hold for more than an hour, Sebastian's call was silenced because Blitzer was too busy asking him if they could continue the interview. Well done CNN.

More was in store following the caucuses, as the State of the Union address began to take place. When Mr. Trump entered the House of Representatives chamber, he handed copies of his speech to Vice President Mike Pence and Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi. He did not shake Mr. Pence's hand, nor Mrs. Pelosi's.

I personally do not blame Mr. Trump for not shaking her hand — Mrs. Pelosi is vengeful. She sat behind the president of the United States

making faces and occasionally shaking her head throughout his address. This is not exactly a shining example of professionalism.

By addressing his economic record, the speech supported his theme, "The Great American Comeback." From low-unemployment rates to the net worth of the bottom half of wage earners increasing by 47 percent, Mr. Trump attempted to provide unifying news for the country.

Then came Mrs. Pelosi. As Mr. Trump's address concluded, she stood and tore her copy not once, but three times.

Her answer to reporters when asked why she tore her copy: "Because it was a manifesto of mistruths."

So what's my point here? There is no denying that the political division throughout the United States is not going away. If the Democrats wanted to have credibility after the address, they would have stood alongside Republicans for the good parts of news throughout Mr. Trump's speech. But no, they sat through the entire address with grim expressions.

What are these leaders teaching the younger generation? Both Mr. Trump and Mrs. Pelosi, two of the nation's most prominent figures in politics, acted like children this week. Whatever happened to being the bigger person? Will decency ever return to the White House? Only time will tell. Stay tuned folks.

@MEGANBRAWNER1



# C.O.L.A.D.A. Highlights Hispanic Culture



Members with COLADA pose for a photo together

COLADA VIA THE LINK



A photo from one of COLADA's annual end of the year events

COLADA VIA THE LINK

BY XAVIER WELLINGTON  
CONTRIBUTOR

Incorporating swift and fast-paced dance movement, Central's Organization for Latin American Dance Awareness (C.O.L.A.D.A.) is a club that has engaged students of the Central Connecticut community, especially those with a Latino/Hispanic background.

An average of 15 students attend C.O.L.A.D.A.'s meetings each Thursday for the dance-based exercises. Despite losing graduating seniors each semester, the club has always had a lot of incoming freshman that consistently join each year.

There are various dance styles that are practiced, ranging from in skill level. Some of which include salsa, rumba and samba. These basic dance styles then lead into more complex ones that may involve partners, such as bachata.

"The main purpose of C.O.L.A.D.A. is basically to embrace Latino culture through dance and to show who we are through movements of dance, and how

each dance defines different aspects of Latino culture," C.O.L.A.D.A. President Raymond Rodriguez said.

As C.O.L.A.D.A. continues create a community among Hispanic students on campus and allows them to engage in their own culture, it also allows other students that come from various backgrounds to learn and experience new cultures.

For example, a student from Canada and others that are not even of Latin descent attended a meeting, they just enjoy the atmosphere of dance.

"It helps bring CCSU students together because we in the Latino community sometimes feel like we get separated in a way. It doesn't just bring Latinos together, it also brings together those who just enjoy dancing," Rodriguez said.

Sophomore Dewlys Maldonado, a dance education sophomore, finds the club to be very useful for finding friends and building relationships on campus.

"We use this club to help bring other people from different diversities to help make an impact on campus," Maldonado said. "When I came here as a freshman, I was an [Educational Opportunity Program] student, I was very shy. But Ray was my mentor, and he introduced

me to C.O.L.A.D.A.. Over the past year I feel like I have gained so many friendships based on this one club."

Maldonado explained that the purpose of the club is not to be competitive, but instead to dance for fun.

Don't think you're good at dancing? That's okay because the students that attend C.O.L.A.D.A. are often times trying it for fun — in other words, this club does not require an audition.

C.O.L.A.D.A. performs its dances at multiple events, both on and off campus. They have performed at several events, including University of Hartford and charitable events such as one held in New Haven to raise awareness for kids with cancer at the hospital. Along with that, C.O.L.A.D.A. has collaborated with other university clubs, such as Latin American Student Organization (LASO) events, a conference in Canada with United Caribbean Club (UCC).

If you are full of energy and love to dance, the current members of C.O.L.A.D.A. are always welcoming new members with open arms.

C.O.L.A.D.A. holds meeting on Thursdays, which are located in the dance hall of Mid-Campus Residence Hall from 7 to 9 p.m.

## Last Minute Valentine's Day Presents

BY JULIA CONANT  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

### Gifts Based on the 5 Senses

Oh shoot. Did you forget to buy your valentine a present again? Is it way too late to do a high-effort gift? Do you not have the funds to get them something expensive? Well check out these last minute gifts that will be sure to assist in ensuring you don't let down your darling this year.

#### Homemade Card

The only materials you need for this present is a piece of paper and something to write with. It may seem cheap, but if you fill your card with meaningful words and sweet drawings from the heart (and if your partner isn't materialistic) then it can be quite an endearing gift.

#### Build-A-Bear

Build-A-Bear offers many options for a customizable stuffed friend. One adorable idea is to make a bear version of your sweetheart: dress it in clothes they would wear, make it their favorite animal and put a voice recording in it of something your honey always says.

This Pinterest-inspired present is actually the five senses rolled into one. Give your sweetie one present based on each of the five senses. Give them one thing that's nice to look at, one that smells nice, one that feels nice to the touch, one with a pretty sound and one with a pleasant taste. This is a creative present that your babe will be sure to appreciate.

#### Photo Collage

If you're the type of couple that takes a lot of pictures, it should be easy to put together some photos and make a collage. It could be a poster, scrapbook or even a video montage. Either way, all it takes is a few dollars to get photos developed and you're set. It's a great sentimental gift that will help your special someone remember all of the fond moments in your relationship.

#### Date Night

When you don't have the time or resources to get your valentine a physical present, you can resort to planning a date night for you two and you don't have to spend a lot of money to do so. You could build a fort out of pillows and blankets, snuggle up together and watch movies. Or you could cook them their favorite meal. All it takes is a little thought and planning.

#### Care Package

If your partner has a bunch of small items they like, such as candy bars or a favorite cologne, you can compile all of their favorites into one basket and make them a care package. This is a thoughtful gift, as it shows that you remember little things about them and you care enough to buy them. It's also a great last minute gift as it just requires a quick trip to the store.

#### Coupon Book

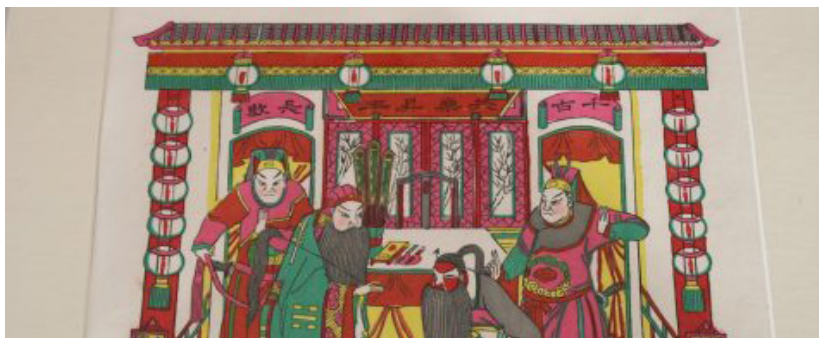
We are taught there is always someone smarter, prettier or better than us. But that is not true, nobody can ever be your kind of smart, your kind of pretty or just you. You are worth it and do have an impact on the world. We are taught to just blend in, but we are so much more. The only way we can see that is to forget about what society thinks and to be ourselves. We should love ourselves instead of waiting for society to acknowledge our worth. Only then can we feel whole.



# Elihu Burritt Library Helps Celebrate Chinese New Year

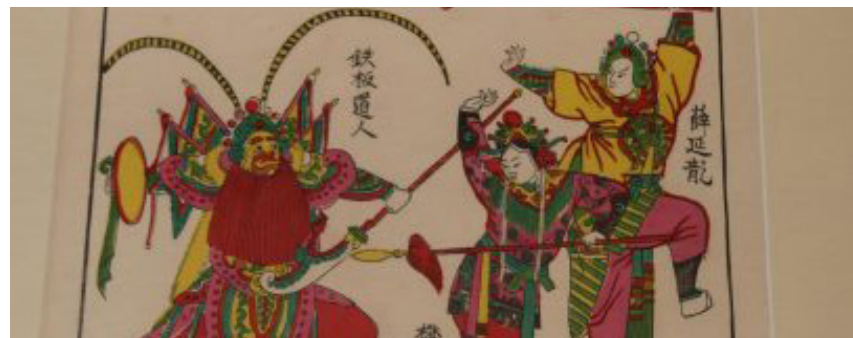
BY JULIA CONANT  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

The Elihu Burritt Library is currently celebrating and representing the Chinese New Year with woodblock prints. Woodblock printing is a common technique for printing in East Asia. It is seen as traditional folk art, and is used to decorate homes throughout China. It is displayed year-round, but you will most commonly see them during the New Year celebration. Central borrowed woodblock prints from the Peach Blossom Valley of Suzhou Art & Design Technology institute in China, after the University of New Hampshire featured them earlier this year. While Chinese New Year may have been on January 25 this year, the Elihu Burritt Library will display the prints until February 21. Below are just a small portion of the prints on display, along with captions that were provided along with the art.



## Golden Light Battalion Formation

“Xue Dingshan, a general from the Tang Dynasty (7th century AD), had an adopted son fought alongside of Xue’s wife Fan Lihua, a fierce female warrior. After their son was killed in the Golden Light Battalion Formation, Xue suspected it was Fan who forced their son to fight, and the two argued over the death of their son. Fan swore to the gods that she was not responsible and finally Xue believed her. The couple sought revenge and eventually broke the battalion formation and won victory. The picture shows the couple fighting with the enemy general.”



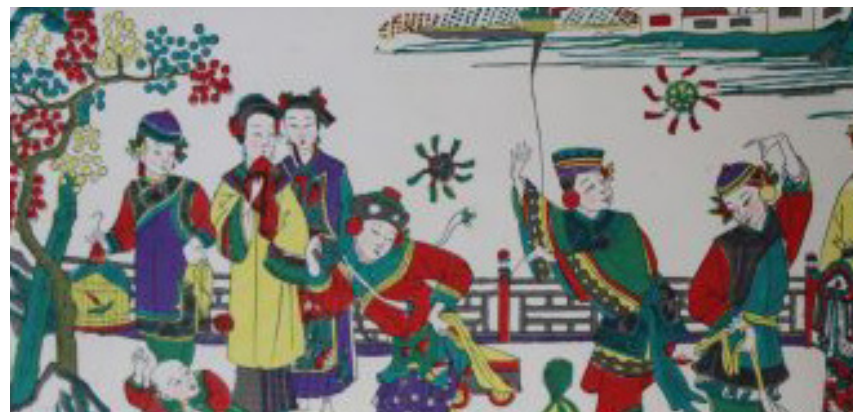
## The Fall of JiETING

“The scene in this print is taken from ‘Romance of the Three Kingdoms.’ The town of JiETING, a crucial strategic point for the securing of supplies, was lost from Shu Kingdom control after a tactical error by the over-confident general Ma Su, who did not listen to advice from his supporting general. The print portrays the heartbreaking decision by the strategist Zhuge Liang, who praised Ma Su for his brilliance, to execute him for putting the vulnerable Shu army in a dangerous situation. This was done to prove that everyone was equal in military law, no matter the status.”



## The Mouse Marries Off its Daughter to a Cat

“The popular myth about a mouse in a bottomless cave trying to find a son-in-law or daughter-in-law is a common subject of woodblock prints. According to the myth, the mouse wanted his daughter to marry into money and power and considered a cat an ideal choice. Unfortunately, when the bride came to the cat’s palace, she became a meal before the wedding ceremony. Painted on the picture is a long procession marching towards the cat palace with a beautiful sedan chair in the middle. In the upper right are Xuanzang and his three disciples from ‘Journey to the West’ and in the upper left is the cave. In this Chinese classic, Xuanzang was also abducted by the Mouse Demon in the Bottomless Cave. He was finally rescued with the help from the cat deity.”



## Ten Beauties Playing Ball

“The ball game originated in the Tang Dynasty as a sport of the imperial palace. According to records, emperor Xizong was fond of both this ball game and cockfighting. Later, it gradually became widespread among commoners. This print features ten beautiful women playing. Around the 1100s, this ball took on the shape of a modern soccer ball. The size, shape and pattern of such a ball has not changed much since its invention in China hundreds of years ago.”

Rush  
Φ Δ Θ  
Phi Delta Theta



Spring 2020 Recruitment: January 20<sup>th</sup> – February 14<sup>th</sup>

Questions? Contact our Recruitment Chairman: (860) 971-1502 or

Attend one of our informationals Saturday February 8<sup>th</sup> Student  
Center 1849 Room 220 from 12:00-1:00pm



# Expand Your Playlist

BY AMINA FERATOVIC  
CONTRIBUTOR



## “Die Hard” by Marc E. Bassy

With the release of his album “PMD (deluxe),” Marc E. Bassy uses “Die Hard” as a classic pop single that differs from the rest of the album. PMD stands for “Postmodern Depression” and the album is categorized as RnB/Soul.

Bassy talks about a love with the right person but at the wrong time and he promises to change. The other person “comes runnin’ in a heartbeat,” but he is “100 miles out the door,” which is a common action when the other person is not ready for a relationship. With a synth keyboard and high-pitched guitar strings, he gives the illusion of a post-1980s love song.

Similar artists to Bassy include Bryce Vine, Ruel and DaniLeigh. Other songs from Bassy include “Dirty Water” and “You & Me” from his “Groovy People” EP.



## “Video Game” by Aleyna Yim

Aleyna Yim is a Korean-American artist based in Los Angeles with singles on Spotify and SoundCloud. This pop song also features John the Asian, an artist based in Los Angeles’s Koreatown.

The song explores the concept of one-sided loyalty one might feel while the other person strings them along and “pushes all the buttons.”

The music itself gives an aura of an underground arcade by mixing low saxophones and deep bass guitar chords. Yim and John both put a twist on the music by using simple Korean phrases that most K-Pop listeners might have heard from similar artists such as Dean, Jay Park and BTS.

Other artists similar to the aforementioned include Hoody, Penomeco and G.Soul.



## “Cruise” by SHRETA

Putting her own spin on Kevin Ross’s original “Cruise” with softer vocals and steadier drumming, SHRETA brings a new type of style to the song by creating a softer aura and bringing home the message of the song. Her imitation of 90s RnB delivers the feeling of what she feels in the song, that the other person is perfect and everything with them goes smoothly.

With less than 800 followers on Spotify and over 15,000 listens per month, SHRETA has the potential to rise. This song is perfect for those who love fresh-faced RnB artists such as Ella Mai, Daniel Caesar and Aaliyah.



## “Welcome to Chili’s” by Yung Gravy and bbno\$

Known for his vintage inspired album and single covers, Yung Gravy has returned to the music world with a new Latin and hip hop track. The first verse begins with bbno\$ talking about a girl dancing and Yung Gravy continues the rest of the song with his classic pop-culture references.

This song is perfect for those wanting to explore new types of hip-hop or trying to explore outside of their current favorite genre. Similar songs include, “Mr. Clean,” “Gravy Train” and “Rotisserie” which also features bbno\$. Yung Gravy is often grouped with artists such as Dbangz, Famous Dex and Comethazine.

## Student Artwork @erpstudio



CCSU artist Emma Pons hand-makes these beautifully vintage designed mugs from scratch here on campus right in Maloney Hall. If you’re looking for a great addition to your morning donuts or the mug of your dreams, you can purchase a custom made one for just \$30! You can reach Pons on Instagram at @erpstudio .



## Find Us On Facebook

## The Recorder at CCSU

POEM

## Golden Eyes

BY TA’NINA GATISON  
CONTRIBUTOR

Wealthy eyes  
Preach to heaven  
eons of everlasting  
abundance. How blessed  
am I, swaddled in glowing  
warmth of your Soul’s  
lustrous window?

Indigo Child,  
enlighten me with  
those sacred secretions  
of your pineal gland.  
Life’s nectar emanates  
From your sweet spirit.  
You are irradiate.



# The Oscars Aren't Stupid, They're Just Discriminatory



There were few diverse nominees during the awards

OSCAR

BY RYAN JONES  
MANAGING EDITOR

The Oscars, once again, came and went this year without a host, with the true stars of the broadcast being the record low ratings and lack of inclusion and diversity.

After 2018's then-record low ratings with host Jimmy Kimmel and the controversy surrounding potential 2019 host Kevin Hart, the 2019 broadcast went without a host. This led to an 11 percent bump in viewership from the year prior with 29.6 million viewers.

This year's broadcast, despite following the same formula, saw a six million drop in viewings (23.6 million), the lowest number ever recorded in the award ceremony's 92 year run.

The Oscars were in murky water long before their broadcast started Sunday. When nominations were announced last month, many were quick to point out the shocking lack of diversity among the nominees, especially considering the star studded names who were snubbed.

Out of the 20 nominees eligible for best actor and

actress, Cynthia Erivo (starring in "Harriet") was the only person of color to get the nomination nod for Best Actress. This coming while performances from Lupita Nyong'o ("Us") and Park So-dam ("Parasite") were highly praised, but left off the list.

Likewise, women were notably snubbed in many facets of the night, something Chris Rock and Steve Martin joked about during their opening monologue.

"There's so many great directors nominated this year," Rock said, to which Martin replied, "I don't know, Chris, I thought there was something missing from the list this year."

"Vaginas?" Rock replied.

While funny, Rock's revelations are the sad truth about the Oscars. The nominations for Best Director were glaringly male-oriented. Despite "Little Women" getting a nod for Best Picture, the movie's director, Greta Gerwig, was missing from the Best Director list.

Apart from the lack of representation, the Oscars went largely as expected, minus a few surprises.

"Parasite" swept some of the night's biggest awards, taking home Best Picture and Original Screenplay while its director Bong Joon-ho won Best Director. Both wins knocked out some early favorites such as "Once Upon A

Time...In Hollywood" and "1917."

Renee Zellweger won Best Actress for her performance in "Judy," while Joaquin Phoenix won his first ever Oscar for his performance in "The Joker."

The night included many musical performances: Janelle Monae started off the night with an exciting number, highlighting some of the movies nominated and even getting some audience participation. She also took some time to remark on the Academy's lack of inclusion as she stopped her song to say "we celebrate all the women who directed phenomenal films."

Eminem performed his classic "Lose Yourself" to what can best be described as mixed reactions, while up and coming stars like Billie Eilish wowed with a rendition of The Beatles' "Yesterday."

One of Hollywood's most awarded soundtrack writers, Randy Newman even made an appearance and came out to perform his song, "I Can't Let You Throw Yourself Away," from "Toy Story 4."

While Hollywood continues to boast about woke culture and being ahead of the times, Sunday's showing of the Oscars only further proves this to be anything but the truth. But hey, at least there was some great wardrobe moments.

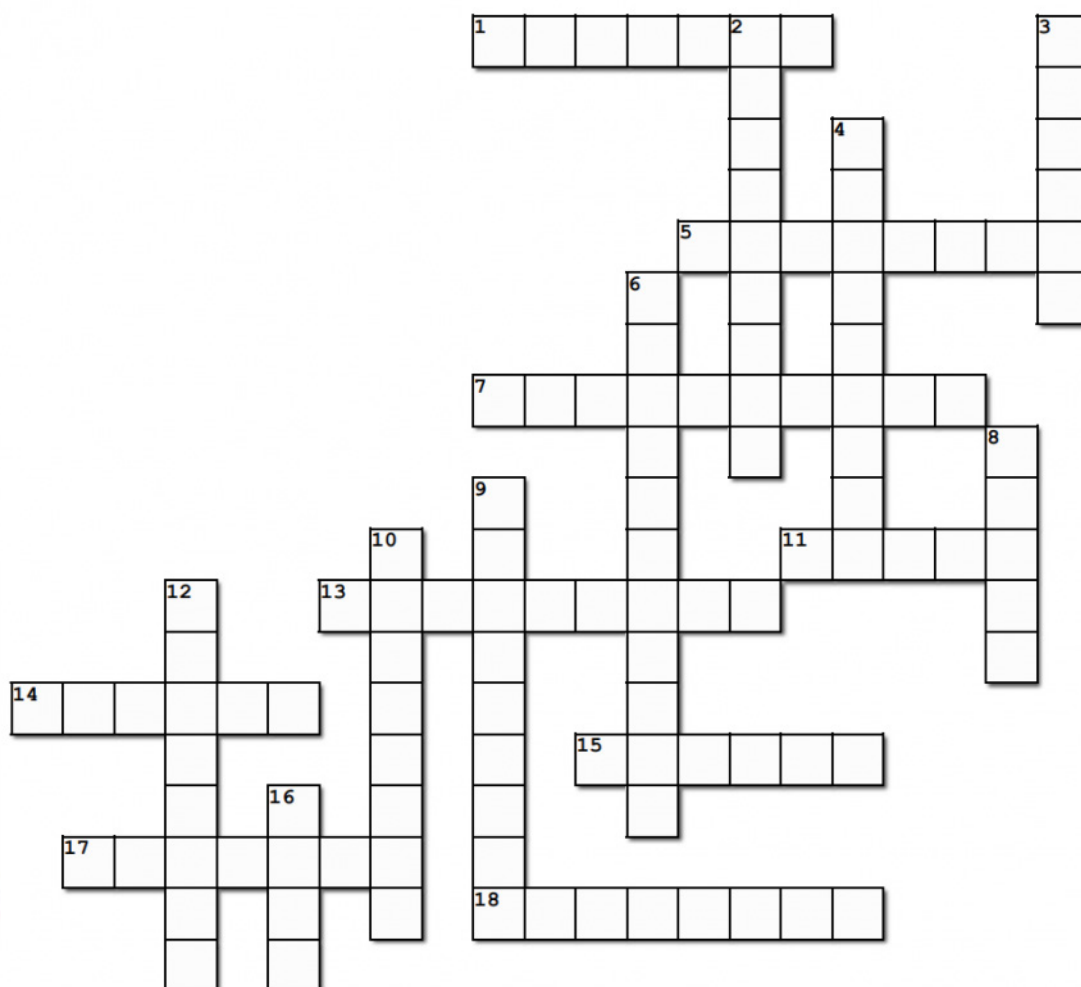
## CROSSWORD

### Across

- Synonym for encourage
- Track event \_\_\_\_\_ Games
- Aaron of the Blue Devil football team
- Save a \_\_\_\_\_
- Political party represented by a donkey
- Latin dance group on campus
- Central's main food provider
- Fee paid to attend college
- Male basketball player who led the team in scorin

### Down

- President of Colada
- Color of the sun just before sunset
- Saint who is the namesake of a holiday this month
- Requirement for living on campus
- Former Red Sox player Mookie
- Medium for the Chinese New Year exhibit in the library
- Synonym for due date
- Grouping of songs
- Basketball player who scored the most points against The Red Flash





# NBA Trade Deadline Recap: Winners and Losers

BY TREVI ALICKOLLI  
SPORTS EDITOR

A new era starts in Minnesota, a new philosophy begins in Houston, one Los Angeles team along with Miami continues to add weapons and other teams build for the future as the National Basketball Association trade deadline came and passed last Thursday.

More than three dozen players switched teams at the deadline as teams prepare to close out the regular season, compete in the playoffs and in some cases, rebuild for the years to come.

Here are some of the most important and impactful trades that took place this season, including the winners and losers of those trades.

**Clint Capela, Robert Covington headline massive four-team trade.**

The Houston Rockets are taking a massive risk and experimenting this season. After seemingly everyone in the NBA has moved away from small-ball, Houston elected to trade their only big man in their rotation, center Clint Capela. In return, the Rockets get one of the premier 3 and D players in the NBA in Covington.

As their roster is currently constructed, 34-year-old P.J. Tucker, standing at 6 feet 5 inches, is their starting center. In a Western Conference where Houston has to go through the likes of Anthony Davis, Nikola Jokic, Montrezl Harrell and Rudy Gobert, this fast-paced style of play will either be revolutionary for the Rockets or their downfall.

There are other options where they may pursue a bigger center such as the buyout market, but Houston has yet to make that move.

Atlanta is the new home for Houston's former center. The Hawks are one of the worst teams, record-wise, in the NBA this season but they are set up very well for the future with their young star Trae Young and now a center that can anchor their defense in Capela.

Before the deadline, the Hawks allowed the second-most points per game and were the seventh-worst rebounding team in the NBA. Adding a center who

averages 13.9 points per game, 13.8 rebounds per game and is known for having a good defensive presence is certainly a step in the right direction for Atlanta.

In addition, the Hawks have more than \$56 million in cap room this summer. A big turnaround may be on the horizon in Atlanta.

The other two teams involved in this trade, the Minnesota Timberwolves and Denver Nuggets, received a few role players and a 2020 first-round pick each.

**Timberwolves finally land D'angelo Russell.**

Minnesota has been connected to Russell ever since last summer during free agency. The Brooklyn Nets were unwilling to trade him to Minnesota then and chose to send him to Golden State instead.

Now, the Wolves get their guy as they send forward Andrew Wiggins, a 2021 top-three protected first-round pick and a 2021 second-round pick to the Warriors.

Just like that, Minnesota pairs Russell with Karl-Anthony Towns and has its two cornerstones for its franchise to lead them into the future, all while not having to give up their 2020 first-round pick, which is likely to be a top-ten, potentially top-five pick.

Russell is averaging nearly 24 points per game and should only get better as he is only 23 years old.

**Clippers continue to add while Lakers stand put.**

Many believe that the Western Conference is a battle of the L. A. teams this season. The reason why the Clippers are contenders this season is in large part due to the fact that their front office has been very smart and aggressive throughout the season.

They continued that trend as they acquired Marcus Morris Sr. who was one of the biggest fish on the market after a breakout season with the New York Knicks, averaging nearly 20 PPG while shooting above 40 percent from the field and three-point land.

Not only does this add to an already loaded roster for the Clippers but this move keeps Morris away from the Clippers direct competition, the Lakers, who had been in discussion to land Morris but ultimately decided the price was too steep.

This was a three-team trade, New York's biggest compensation was a 2020 first-round pick. The Washington Wizards received Jerome Robinson.

**Heat get more competitive, more flexible for the**

**future.**

In another three-team trade, the Miami Heat acquired Andre Iguodala, Jae Crowder and Solomon Hill. The Memphis Grizzlies received Justise Winslow, Dion Waiters and Gorgui Dieng. The Timberwolves got James Johnson.

This trade is a win-win-win for all teams involved as Miami adds experienced, veteran wing players as they gear up for the playoffs, Grizzlies add a young forward who fits their timeline better and the Timberwolves exchange players.

The Grizzlies are currently in a tough battle for the last and final spot for the playoffs and are positioned well for the future with Ja Morant, Dillon Brooks, Jaren Jackson Jr. and now Justise Winslow.

If there was a slight winner of this trade, Memphis edges Miami and Minnesota by an inch.

**Best of the rest.**

The Cleveland Cavaliers landed Andre Drummond for next to nothing at the deadline in one of the most shocking moves at the deadline. Cleveland sent John Henson, Brandon Knight and a 2023 second-round pick to the Detroit Pistons for Drummond.

The market was low for Drummond but it is shocking Detroit was not able to get anything better out of this deal. For the Cavaliers, this is certainly a step in the right direction. Some might view Drummond as overrated but he averages nearly 18 points per game, 15.8 rebounds per game and is a presence in the paint defensively. This is a steal for Cleveland.

Although this was not a trade deadline deal, an underrated move came from the Utah Jazz as they traded for Jordan Clarkson weeks ago. Clarkson is instant offense off the bench for the Jazz and they desperately needed it in the tough Western Conference. Clarkson averages 14.7 points per game this season. This move has the potential to make a big impact come playoff time for Utah.

For the most part, rosters are set and most teams are ready for the playoffs to begin. For teams like the Rockets, who may still have a few holes they'd like to fix, there is still the buyout market. For now, we wait. The fun is only just beginning.

@ATREVI013

## Schedule

**Women's Lacrosse**  
2/12 | 3pm  
@ UMASS Lowell  
2/16 | 1pm  
vs. St. Bonaventure  
University

**Track & Field**  
Women: 2/14 | All Day  
Men: 2/15 | All Day  
@ David Hemery  
Valentine Invitational  
Boston Univeristy

**Men's Basketball**  
2/13 | 7pm  
vs. LIU Brooklyn  
2/15 | 3:30pm  
vs. Bryant University

**Women's Basketball**  
2/15 | 1pm  
@ Bryant University  
2/17 | 7pm  
vs. Fairleigh Dickinson  
University

## Mookie Betts Is Gone, Will The Red Sox Matter Again?



Mookie Betts was traded to the Los Angeles Dodgers, making them World Series favorites

BLEACHER  
REPORT

BY RYAN JONES  
MANAGING EDITOR

“HIGH DEEP DRIVE! HE CRUSHED IT! IT'S A GRAND SLAM...WOW!”

Mookie Betts' 13 pitch at-bat against the Blue Jays which led to a grand slam that inspired the above call made by commentator Dave O'Brien is only one of the dozens of moments that defined Mookie Betts' career in Boston. In his six seasons with the Red Sox, the star outfielder brought smiles to fans' faces and home run balls to stadium seats across the league. The 27-year-old has already cemented himself as one of the best to ever do it, and rivals only Mike Trout for the best today.

To the Red Sox ownership, however, it seems Betts did little but help drive up ticket

sales and boost merchandise numbers.

That is judging off of this past week's news, which saw Betts and teammate David Price shipped off to an actual World Series contender, the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Betts will be hitting free agency for the first time in his career after this season and has made it apparent that he wants to be paid like the top player he is. To give credit to Sox ownership, they did try to entice Mookie with an offer on a number of occasions. Heading into the 2019 season, the Sox tried to further cement their chance at repeating as champions by inking Betts to an eight-year, \$200 million deal, just four years and \$230 million shy of what Mike Trout got the same offseason.

After Betts smartly rejected this offer, the Sox sent him another: 10 years, \$300 million. Betts then laughed and hung up the phone (probably). Betts, of course, countered with a deal similar to Trout's, 12 years, \$420 million.

So, the Red Sox did the only logical thing and traded away a generational talent for a couple of guys no one knows and some salary-cap relief. Wait...

For those who still are confused about this trade, don't feel bad. I'm sure the Babe Ruth trade didn't make sense when it first happened, but now who would disagree with it? Oh, everyone?

If Betts truly had no intention of returning to Boston, fine. Trade him away now and actually get something instead of no return and one year of play. The truth is Betts never said he would not return to the Sox, he just wanted to test the free-agent

market. As one of the best to ever do it, this is not only warranted, but how it should be. For the Sox to try and lowball the face of their organization is shameful, especially considering the team is worth more than any other in Major League Baseball.

Apart from simply trading him, the return is truly the most infuriating part for Sox fans. Did they get some good prospects for the future? Sure, guys like Alex Verdugo and Jeter Downs will instantly be some of the highest prospects in the farm system for the Sox. But the past of some of these players is what is truly reprehensible.

When Verdugo was still in the minor league system for the Dodgers, he and two other players drank partied with three girls, one of which being underage. When the underage woman started becoming ill, the two other women began physically assaulting her, which according to then assistant of player development Nick Francona, was filmed by none other than Boston's new guy. After this beating the woman received, she says she was sexually assaulted by one of the other players in the hotel room.

So far, this story has been essentially swept under the rug. "Meet the new members of the Red Sox" articles have been written to discuss the on the field performance from the returns of the trade, but as of yet, no one has delved into the troubled past of Verdugo.

The Red Sox traded away their MVP corner-stone player for a few prospects, salary relief and someone with a troubled past. Time will tell the winner of this trade.

@RYANJONES385



# NFL Draft Profile: Aaron Winchester

BY TREVI ALICKOLLI  
SPORTS EDITOR

The National Football League draft process can be a long, grueling process; just ask Aaron Winchester, who in preparation of getting drafted and realizing his NFL dreams, is training seven days a week, flying back and forth to Georgia from Connecticut every weekend and all while still trying to earn his college degree in Technology Management.

"It's a grind, seven days a week, but this is a once in a lifetime opportunity," Winchester said. "To be honest, if I said I saw myself doing this I'd be lying to you, but the fact that it's here and I'm working for it, I feel like I'm living a dream."

Winchester has put himself in a position to reach the NFL after a breakout season at Central Connecticut State after arriving as a graduate-transfer last spring.

During his four year career at Georgia State, Winchester appeared in 15 games and started only three games. He completed 61 passes for 721 yards while also rushing for 405 yards. Despite only playing in a limited role and serving as a backup for most of his career, Winchester was elected as a captain.

In his lone season as a Blue Devil, Winchester continued to be himself, was elected captain only a few weeks after arriving and led his new team to a Northeast Conference Championship. He said that he believes that he showed NFL teams he can be a leader of men in the future.

Winchester said that being a leader used to put a little extra pressure on him, but by now he is used to it.

"It used to, but as I got more comfortable, as I learned more and more who I am, I think it's just become who I am at this point," Winchester said. "I don't have to act, say certain things at certain times, now it's just me being myself. I think that's what people get attracted to the most, authenticity and being real."

"I've always been that type of guy ever since a young age," Winchester said. "In Little League, I was always that guy that was chosen to pick teams, so I always knew I had that type of ability. With that, I know that if I'm going to have that role, that responsibility, I know that I can't do dumb stuff. Knowing that there are people that look up to me lead, I don't take that lightly

and I think that attribute can carry me a long way."

Winchester is a leader off the field but he is also one on the field.

He finished his one and only season with Central with completing 65% of his passes for 2,549 yards and 19 touchdowns

He also added a different dynamic to the Blue Devils offense that has not been there in previous years with his legs. He led the team with 843 rushing yards and nine touchdowns.

Winchester earned NEC Player Of The Year Honors for his performances.

Since the season concluded with a tough loss against the University of Albany in the Football Championship Subdivision, the life of an NFL

Draft progress has

not been easy.

"It's been up and down, the big thing is the mental aspect of it," Winchester said.

Luckily for him, Winchester said that he has had some great mentors to lead him through uncharted territory.

"[Wide receiver] Penny Hart was my college roommate [at Georgia State], he's with the [Seattle] Seahawks now so he's been around through the whole process," Winchester said.

Detroit Lions quarterback Kyle Slotter has also been helpful to Winchester. They went to high school together and Winchester said he has helped him with how to deal with the business side of things like the agents among other things.

Winchester signed with a Detroit Based VIP Sports Management agency and agent Paul Bobbitt, who also represents Baltimore Ravens running back Mark Ingram among others.

Besides the agent hiring process, the speed of the game and knowledge of the next level is a challenge for any new pro going into the NFL. Winchester is prepared for that challenge.

"I know I'm a sponge, I'm not afraid to ask questions," Winchester said. "Some guys at that level think 'maybe if I ask this question I'll look dumb,' I don't care, if I don't know, I'm asking."

"Having Penny [Hart] helped a lot in that aspect too because I was able to see some of his practice film and get a little bit of a feel for it," Winchester said.

As Winchester is sharpening every aspect of his game, he said that he had a good season, but he is nowhere near a finished product as a quarterback, something that he believes is very attractive to NFL teams.

Going forward, Winchester will take part in Georgia State University's Pro Day on March 10 and is also working to get into Yale University's Pro Day, hoping to further boost his draft stock and impress teams.

Regardless of what happens in the future, Winchester is hopeful, but is not stressing the process.

"Being in this position is a blessing, if it doesn't happen then it doesn't happen, if it's meant to be, it'll be, I'm not really stressing it too much," Winchester said. "I'm just staying locked in on the vision and controlling what I can control."

The NFL draft will take place Apr. 23-25 and until then, the Blue Devils have to remain patient and see if they can go back-to-back years getting a quarterback in the NFL.

@ATREVI013

## Multiple Athletes Set Personal Bests in New York

BY ANDREW DECAPUA  
REPORTER

Several Central Connecticut State track and field athletes posted personal bests this past week as both the men's and women's teams compete, but fell short during the Millrose Games in New York City and the University of Albany Winter Classic at the Ocean Breeze Track and Field Athletic Complex in Staten Island, New York.

The Central Connecticut State University women's distance medley relay (DMR) team delivered a strong finish at the Millrose Games

The women's DMR team continued to have success, finishing fourth overall with a time of 11:48.74 at the Millrose Games this past weekend. The fearsome foursome consisting of senior Megan Brawner, sophomore Angie Rafter, freshman Ashley Dana and freshman Magnalen Camara is currently ranked sixth in the 2019-2020 IC4A/ECAC women's DMR rankings with a best time of 11:41.59, which they posted two weeks ago at the Boston University John Thomas Terrier Classic on Jan. 24.

Head coach Eric Blake said

consistency and the ability to pick each other up are the keys to the women's DMR team's success.

"The four are very consistent, which is important especially on a relay. We can count on them to perform," Blake said. "Even if one has an off day, they are only about a second or so off their best. Consistency is a good quality and this relay has it."

At the University of Albany, Winter Classic junior Teaira Edwards finished the women's weighted throw event in a twenty-fourth place with a personal best throw of 14.04 meters. Freshman Aaliyah Walker placed seventeenth in the women's triple jump with a leap of 10.93 meters. The women's 4x400 relay team consisting of Labbie, Walker, freshman Kamilah Diaz and freshman Kaylia Bailey finished in twenty-second place with a time of 4:14.01.

The CCSU men's track and field team also took part in the University at Albany Winter Classic this past weekend, highlighted by an eighth-place finish in the 500-meter dash from Senior Richard Grudzwick with a time of 1:05.69.

Senior Alex Norstrom led five Blue Devils in the men's mile run at the University of Albany Winter Classic with an eleventh place finish at 4:21.39.



The CCSU track and field teams are back in action next weekend to compete in Boston University Track and Tennis Center on Saturday, Feb. 15.

CCSU ATHLETICS

Freshman Elias Field also competed in the mile run and finished in fourteenth place with a personal best time of 14:21.97. Senior Julio Arredondo clocked in at 4:24.78 landing him in twentieth place in the mile run. Freshman Eddie Nicholas finished the mile run in twenty-eighth place with a personal best time of 4:28.85.

Senior Nana Kissi competed in both the weighted throw and shot-put events. He posted a personal best in the weighted throw with a toss of 14.13 meters and placed twenty-second. In the shot-put event, he came in fourteenth place with a

throw of 13.35 meters.

The CCSU track and field teams are back in Boston, MA next weekend to compete in the David Hemery Valentine Invitational at the Boston University Track and Tennis Center on Saturday, Feb. 15. They then head back to Staten Island, NY for the NEC Championships the following weekend on Feb. 21 and 22.

Megan Brawner is part of The Recorder staff.

@ANDREWDECAPUA





Bruna Vila Artigues scored a team-high 11 points against Bryant University.

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## Women's Basketball Drops Fourth Straight Game

BY GEORGE ATTWOOD  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

A win over Wagner College in late January gave Central Connecticut Women's Basketball an outside chance of reaching the Northeast Conference post-season. However, four straight losses make this a challenging task. The Blue Devils continued their three-game road trip against Saint Francis University and Bryant University. Central lost these games 72-68 and 59-47 respectively.

In the game against SFU, the Blue Devils went into halftime with the score 31-29. Central started the game strong on both sides of the ball as they hit back-to-back threes and forced two turnovers in the opening three minutes. The Blue Devils went on a 15-2 run and took a 21-10 lead with 1:42 left in the first. CCSU shot an impressive 5-9 (.556) from behind the arc in the opening 10 minutes. Coming off the bench, junior Tiffany Slicklein went 2-2 from three.

Senior Bruna Vila Artigues spoke of how the teams lack of confidence translates into their inability to close out games.

"We have problems closing games, I think we lack in confidence, it's hard to be confident and positive when we keep losing games but we're doing things right,"

Vila Artigues said. "Even when we do things well, this doesn't translate to results on paper which doesn't help with our confidence. I'm proud of the team for powering through the adversity."

At the start of the third quarter, things started to unravel for the Blue Devils. The Red Flash went on an 11-2 run to turn the game on its head and give Saint Francis a five-point lead. The Red Flash sank its first five shots of the final quarter and led 61-51 with 4:54 left in the game.

Junior Ashley Forker scored five of her nine points in the final 22.5 seconds of the game, including a three that put CCSU down 69-68 with 12 seconds left, but Saint Francis went 7-8 from the foul line in the last 30 seconds to secure the win.

Slicklein hit a season-high 14 points in just 15 minutes of action. She went 3-3 from beyond the arc. Sophomore Forever Toppin was the only other Blue Devil to hit double figures, as she finished with a career-high 11 points.

The second game of the week saw CCSU travels to Rhode Island in the first of back-to-back games against the Bulldogs. The Blue Devils were lead by Vila Artigues who dropped 11 points, just two shy of her career-high. She was the only player to hit double figures for Central.

"I think as soon as I hit my first three, I got a lot

more confident and I wasn't thinking about the shot, I was just going for it," Vila Artigues said. "I felt more confident in my offensive game and that's something I have been lacking in. We're all better when we're feeling confident."

Unlike the game against the Red Flash, the game against the Bulldogs didn't start well for Central as Bryant opened the game with an 8-1 scoring run. It took CCSU until 4:28 to score its first field goal of the game when junior Emma McCamus hit a lay-up. McCamus would go on to finish the game with nine points and four steals. Central closed the second quarter with nine straight points off triples by Vila Artigues and Jewel Porter.

The Bulldogs outscored the Blue Devils 19-13 in the third. Central entered the last 10 minutes of play trailing 47-39. The Blue Devils would only be able to drop eight fourth-quarter points and any form of a comeback.

CCSU sank seven triples throughout the game, including a perfect 4-4 from beyond the arc in the second quarter.

Central falls to 1-11 in conference play and 2-21 overall. The Blue Devils' next game is against Bryant at home on Saturday, Feb. 15.

Bruna Vila Artigues is part of The Recorder staff.

@THECHUNKYGADGIE

## Men's Basketball Loses Despite Late Game Push

BY RYAN JONES  
MANAGING EDITOR

Still looking to add a third game in the win column this year, Central Connecticut men's basketball fell short in their efforts at Bryant Saturday as their second-half rally fell just short, losing the game 64-60.

The Blue Devils fell into a hole early against the Bulldogs, going into the break trailing 31-22. CCSU only attempted one shot from beyond the arc in the first half and were not able to get to the line either. On the other end, the Bulldogs attempted 18 threes in the first half, but some stifling defense from the Blue Devils led to only five makes.

After the lethargic start on offense, CCSU kicked things up a notch in the second half of play.

Some familiar faces from last year's offense led the way through the second. Junior Ian Krishnan got 14 of his team-leading 16 points in the second as he went three-of-four from downtown. Senior Jamir Coleman, who is playing in his first game since January 20, scored all 11 of his points in the second.

Freshmen Greg Outlaw and Jamir

Reed also scored in double figures, each notching 10 points. Outlaw added three rebounds, two assists and a steal against

lead to just three with under a minute to play. With a three-point lead, Bryant wisely sent Krishnan to the line with

to the line, who nailed both free throws to ice the game. One final heave from Krishnan as the clock was expiring would not fall.

Offensively, the Blue Devils were unable to draw any contact on the Bryant defenders during the game. The Bulldogs only committed 12 personal fouls, which translated to only two trips to the line for the entire CCSU team.

Inversely, Bryant capitalized from the charity stripe, hitting 13 of their 18 attempts from the line. Though foul shots are few and far between, the biggest outlier, in a four-point loss, these points certainly played a difference in the end.

As this game was the finale of a three-game road trip, the Blue Devils will be back home this week to host three games of their own. After taking on LIU Thursday, CCSU will have a chance at revenge against Bryant Saturday at Detrick Gymnasium. They'll finish up the home stretch against Fairleigh Dickinson before heading back on the road for three of their final four games.

Now sitting at 1-11 in Northeast Conference play, the road to the NEC Tournament seems to be all but closed for the Blue Devils.



Ian Krishnan leads the Blue Devils with 13.3 points per game this season.

CCSU ATHLETICS

the Bulldogs while Reed was tied for a team-high six rebounds, dished out two assists and got two steals.

After leading by as much as 16, Bryant began having a bit of a breakdown in the closing minutes of the game.

Coleman and Krishnan each sunk a pair of clutch threes, cutting the Bulldogs

10 seconds left on the clock. If he sunk both, the Bulldogs would still have a lead, essentially icing the game and eliminating the chance of a three on offense from CCSU.

Krishnan made one and missed one, putting the game at 62-60 in favor of Bryant. CCSU then sent Elisias Hall

@RYANJONES385