

# The Recorder

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March 4, 2020

VOLUME 121 | ISSUE 7



Italy is the most affected by the coronavirus in Europe.

CIE

## State Takes Precautions Against Spread Of Coronavirus

BY BRUNA VILA ARTIGUES  
 NEWS EDITOR

Officials, public health and universities in Connecticut are taking precaution as the inevitable and fast outbreak of the coronavirus continues to spread and are recommending preventive measures for state residents to take.

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) began this past December in Wuhan, China and has already spread throughout 31 other countries, including the United States. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 16 cases have already been diagnosed in the U.S. and an additional 27 cases are presumptive positive, with the first two deaths reported during the weekend.

The COVID-19 mainly spreads from person to person via respiratory droplets, which is in part why it has transferred so fast. As of now, there has already been three cases of the respiratory illness in New England – Massachusetts and Rhode Island, – which means that no state is safe.

State officials aimed to assure the public that the government is working together to provide all of the support, supplies and personnel necessary for hospitals and health care providers.

“We have to be ready for the fact that it could come to our shores in a more aggressive way,” Governor Ned Lamont said during a press conference addressing the virus’s swift eruption.

“It’s not a call to make you nervous, it’s a call to give you confidence that we are ready for what’s

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## Coronavirus Outbreak Cancels Spring Break Trip To Italy

BY BRUNA VILA ARTIGUES  
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Under these circumstances, several universities in Connecticut — such as UConn and Trinity College— have been forced to suspend and cancel any study abroad programs and trips. CCSU is now another university being affected by the outbreak.

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spring break for a year. All the planning and hours invested came to a halt when President Dr. Zulma R. Toro sent a campus-wide email on Thursday Feb. 27 announcing the cancellation.

“Based on the CDC information, we have canceled the University-sponsored trip to Italy which was scheduled to depart in about 10 days. I feel for our students and faculty who had been planning this adventure for quite some time, but we have an obligation to keep them as healthy and safe as possible,” Dr. Toro stated.

Professor Ritzenhoff, who was understanding of the circumstances, was extremely heartbroken about the cancellation.

“We worked for a year to make it

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## New Vaccination Bill May Affect CCSU Students

BY SAMANTHA BENDER  
 ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

A new bill removing the religious exemption for vaccines will potentially impact Central Connecticut students who claim this immunization.

According to the pending bill, titled HB-5044 An Act Concerning Immunizations, institutes of higher education with students who had previously claimed that immunization would be contrary to his or her religious beliefs, must receive the immunizations prior to the first day of the fall semester of 2020.

Students must submit the form “prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health, from a physician or advanced practice registered nurse stating that an immunization against measles, rubella, mumps and varicella has been given to the student,” the section stated. “And that any additional necessary immunizations of the student...are in process under guidelines specified by the Commissioner of Public Health or as recommended for the student by the physician or advanced practice registered nurse.”

On Feb. 19, a public hearing held at



Thousands of concerned people gathered at the state Capitol to speak out against the bill.

CT MIRROR

the Connecticut State Legislative Building worked to repeal the state’s religious exemption to vaccination. Despite these efforts, the bill was passed by the Public Health Committee on Feb. 24; it still must pass both the House and the Senate before it can be made into an official law.

The overwhelming majority was opposed to the bill for several reasons, though freedom was among one of the biggest factors.

Among those in attendance at the hearing was CCSU graduate student,

Brittany Kilburn, who sat in for 12 hours out of the 21.5 hour duration. This proposed bill raised concern for Kilburn who has openly opposed mandatory vaccinations. In fact, she decided to take matters into her own hands and wrote an email to many Central staff and students pleading for help.

In an email, Kilburn explained the pending controversial legislation and the impact it would have, not only on college students but on all Connecticut students and their school districts.

“This will no doubt cause a decline in incoming enrollment, and, students using the Religious Exemption to vaccination who are currently enrolled, will no longer be able to take on-campus courses to finish their degrees,” Kilburn’s email read.

According to Kilburn, the main purpose of her mass email was to make people aware of the serious consequences that students and their families could face if the bill is passed and to encourage them to preserve the rights of their students and fellow classmates.

Kilburn emphasized the importance of freedom and the bigger issue, not about vaccinations, but about individuals having the ability to raise their children and make medical decisions as they see fit.

“This bill is a disaster,” Killburn said. “The hardship that will be imposed on Connecticut families will be far reaching and undoable. It will be life altering. Families will fracture, have to quit their jobs, sell their homes, leave friends and family. Children will be isolated from their peers and teachers they love. Other states have experienced children committing suicides after imposing school expulsions.”

As of Feb. 25, the bill was filed with the Legislative Commissioner’s Office.

## THE RECORDER

Student Center  
1615 Stanley Street  
New Britain, CT 06050  
860.832.3744

editor@centralrecorder.org  
centralrecorder.org

**Editor-in-Chief**

Isabella Chan  
She/Her  
chan2017@my.ccsu.edu

**Managing Editor**

Ryan Jones  
He/Him  
ryan.michael.jones@my.ccsu.edu

**News Editor**

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

**Lifestyle Editor**

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

**Sports Editor**

Trevi Alickolli  
He/Him  
talickolli@my.ccsu.edu  
George Attwood, Assistant  
He/Him  
gjattwood@my.ccsu.edu

**Layout Editor**

Julia Jade Moran  
She/Her  
julia.j.moran@my.ccsu.edu

**Copy Editor**

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

**Social Media Editors**

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

**Staff Writers**

Nat Dest, She/Her  
Sarah Willson, She/Her  
Shwar Zaidi, She/Her  
Gabriel Anton, He/Him  
Samuel Pappas, He/Him  
Ndengo Mwilelo, She/Her  
Amina Feratova, She/Her

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# Women Of Color Speak On Confidence And Support

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHY  
BY NDENGO MWILELO  
REPORTER

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an obligation to keep them as healthy and safe as possible," Dr. Toro stated.

Professor Ritzenhoff, who was understanding of the circumstances, was extremely heartbroken about the cancellation.

"We worked for a year to make it all happen and the students have been so incredibly excited," Ritzenhoff said. "I love the group. We had 19 students sign up; five of them are graduate students."

Many of the students registered for the course were disappointed at the cancellation. With the trip being less than three weeks away, the announcement was less than ideal as many of whom had already purchased items for the trip.

English student Olivia Grella explained that they had spent the class time doing presentations on different places and that she had already purchased many items for the trip.



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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

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English student Olivia Grella explained that they had spent the class time doing presentations on different places and that she had already purchased many items for the trip.

"The close time frame of the announcement made the cancellation more of a hassle after I spent a lot of time prepping for the trip," Grella added.

Even though most of them had a

feeling that the university would make this decision and understood the reasons for the the state and the university to take precautions, students said. "I'm glad the school is looking out for our best interest in the situation," Lavado said. "It would have been an amazing and memorable opportunity, but it's important to keep our health and well-being a first priority."

Aridyan Perez, a strategic communication student, explained that he was at work when he opened the email and that his "heart dropped" and "felt a lump in [his] throat forming."

"When I first heard the coronavirus had spread to Italy, my heart sank," Deena Lavado, a strategic communications student, said.

"I'm glad the school is looking out for our best interest in the situation," Lavado said. "It would have been an amazing and memorable opportunity, but it's important to keep our health and well-being a first priority."

Marketing student Victoria Veneziano was also "devastated over the trip being cancelled," since she is 100 percent Italian and it was going to be her first time visiting the country her family was born in.

Veneziano also understands that the

university wants to keep them safe and she is glad that no one's lives will be at risk.

However, all the preparation, hard work, time spent and even the money invested make it hard to swallow the decision.

Perez said that it still does not feel real, and he truly hopes that the Center for International Education considers the possibility of rescheduling the trip.

For the time being, the students are getting reimbursed and there has been no word on a possible future travel date.

@BRUNAVILA

# State Takes Precautions Against Spread Of Coronavirus

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Public officials suggest following the CDC recommendations to prevent spread of coronavirus going forward," he added. "Connecticut is ready, and we have been ready for a while."

Along with the state's preparation, Central Connecticut is also beginning to take its own precautions. In the midst of Connecticut taking action against COVID-19, President Dr. Zulma R. Toro released a statement explaining that "the preparations for a possible disease outbreak are well underway."

Dr. Toro also attached the CDC daily preventive guidelines and actions to prevent the virus from spreading.

The CDC suggests to avoid contact with those who are ill and to stay home if one feels sick. They also advise

to avoid touching one's eyes, nose and mouth, and to use a single-use tissue to cough or sneeze. It is also very important to clean and disinfect one's household and wash one's hand regularly for at least 20 seconds during the day.

"With all viruses, the one and most important thing that you can do is wash your hands frequently with soap and water," Dr. Marisol Ostrov, interim director of student health services, stated.

Dr. Ostrov explained that the health and safety of the students are their number one priority, so CCSU Health Services has also started to take steps in protecting the community from the virus.

The university has trained its front desk team members to use an actual script that they can follow for students calling in with symptoms that could possibly be signs of the disease. They have also provided disease assessment, treatment and decision-making algorithms to all clinicians and medical providers so that they follow CDC recommendations when seeing students.

Additionally, CCSU has set up an isolation exam room for any student who may need to be kept under observation with an adjacent room holding all the appropriate protective gear needed for its medical providers.

"Over the years, my experience at CCSU has been that we take any and all health alerts very seriously," Dr. Ostrov said. "We communicate effectively and collaborate closely with our state and local health departments, and we understand the importance of getting information out immediately to our students and campus community."

Department of Public Health Epidemiologist Dr. Matthew Cartter explained during the press conference that there are no vaccines or approved medication to combat the virus and there won't be any time soon.

Therefore, all of these precautions are key steps to try to slow the spread of the virus, to prepare the medical system and to reduce the number of people who get sick or even die.

For more information on preventing the spread of any respiratory diseases, check the CDC preventions and treatments at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention-treatment>.

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[www.ourschoolnewspaper.com/recorder](http://www.ourschoolnewspaper.com/recorder)

## News In Brief

BY SARAH WILLSON, REPORTER

### February Tied For Least Amount Of Snow In CT:

If you think this winter has been a quiet one, you're right.

Last month was tied for the least amount of snow in February with only a "trace" falling, according to the Connecticut Post.

Other years with only a "trace" of snow include 2002, 1998, 1984, 1982 and 1981.

It was also the fifth warmest February on record, with an average temperature of 37.6 degrees.

As of Monday, the temperature across the state this week is expected to skyrocket into the upper 50s and low 60s with a possibility for snow late Friday into Saturday.

### Coronavirus Spreads Across Country, Most Cases 'Mild':

Fears over the coronavirus are spreading after Washington state announced a second person had died as a result of the virus.

Over 60 cases Covid-19 have been reported across the US, including in New York and Rhode Island.

Despite the outbreak, experts say that 80 percent of cases are mild and that those who come in contact with the virus are most likely to only experience mild, flu-like symptoms.

With a mortality rate of about two percent, experts say those most at risk are the elderly and those with underlying health conditions, like heart disease or diabetes.

Experts recommend washing hands frequently for at least 20 seconds with an alcohol-based soap to help stay healthy.

### 'Millions' Of Refugees To Head Towards Europe:

The Turkish president has said that "millions" of refugees could soon head towards Europe as a result of being unable to "cope" with a new wave of Syrian refugees, BBC News reported.

Greek police have already used tear gas to stop thousands of migrants from entering the country.

According to BBC, nearly one million Syrians have fled to the Turkish border amid conflicts between Turkish-backed rebels and Syrian forces.

Turkey currently has 3.7 million Syrian refugees as well as migrants from other countries like Afghanistan.

# CCSU Offers Campus Climate Survey to Improve Campus Culture

BY SAMANTHA BENDER  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Central Connecticut is giving the campus community an opportunity to be heard and to create a safe, welcoming and inclusive campus culture for all by offering a voluntary climate survey.

The questionnaire aims to allow students to share their voice and assist in shaping the campus's future.

"We are working with the UCLA Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) to administer web-based surveys tailored to each facet of our community: students, staff, and faculty," President Dr. Zulma R. Toro stated to the Central community. "The surveys will be a blend of questions specific to CCSU with core questions that are part of a national survey."

The survey has been developed by HERI over a period of years and, once completed, all of the data will be sent to them so that they can perform an initial analysis for the university. As of now, the analysis is set to be finished some time this summer and it will then allow the university to begin their own interpretation of the data.

Interim Vice President for Diversity, Inclusion and Equity Dr. Nancy Barcelo is eager to get a sense of how individuals feel about the campus as well as finding where Central's strengths are and where the university has some gaps.

"It'll give us some key information and I think it'll also compliment the draft of our strategic plan if it gets approved," Barcelo said. "It'll provide the information that we need to make some objectives or actionable items to address during our strategic planning"



CCSU CLIMATE SURVEY

This year, the university had an opportunity to include some questions that they felt were necessary in order to address certain aspects of the campus. There are 20 additional questions on the faculty and staff survey which are geared more specifically to the campus, though the student survey remains fairly broad and open.

"Your responses are confidential and, with that in mind, we encourage you to be as honest, accurate and constructive as possible," Dr. Toro stated in her email.

Students, faculty and staff are also able to skip any questions in the survey that they do not feel comfortable answering.

Barcelo acknowledges that the survey is rather long, which can discourage individual's from completing it, though the university has seen an upsurge in responses. The residence halls in particular have been extremely helpful in encouraging students to take the survey.

The climate survey is a partnership between multiple

units at the university including the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment and Student Affairs.

"We're all throwing our hat in the ring, so to speak, to make this happen and if Student Affairs wasn't involved, I'm not sure we would get the response from residence halls," Barcelo said. "We also want to make sure commuter students have an opportunity to respond."

While participation in the survey is completely voluntary, as an incentive, the first 100 students to complete the survey will be entered into a raffle for either an Xbox One or a Playstation 4 gaming system. All students who complete the survey will receive a \$2 voucher for the Student Center's Devil's Den.

For all the students, faculty and staff that have not yet completed the survey and would like to do it, make sure to check the CCSU email for the access link now through April.

@SBENDER99

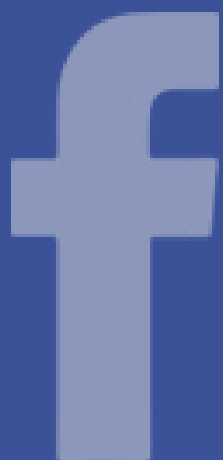
## What's New, CCSU?

- The 26th annual Africana Studies Conference will be held on March 5th from 9am-4pm in the Constitution Room, Memorial Hall
- The Engineering Career Fair will be hosted in Alumni Hall on March 5th from 5:30-8pm in Alumni Hall
- The Black Box Theater, in Maloney Hall, will be showing 'The Importance of Being Earnest' at 7:30 from March 10th-14th

## SGA Briefs

The Student Government Association meets every Wednesday at 3:05 p.m. in Bellin A and B in the Student Center. These briefs are from the SGA's meeting on Feb. 26.

- Motion to approve Talarski for Chair of External Affairs was unanimously approved.
- Motion to approve Choudhery for Chair of External Affairs was approved by majority and two abstentions.
- Senator Carpa will remain the Chair of Academic Affairs as a result of the ballot vote.
- Motion to approve Lopez for Chair of Public Affairs was approved by majority.



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## The Recorder at CCSU

## Editor's Column: Giving The Voiceless A Voice



BY ISABELLA CHAN  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

It's interesting to look at different careers and think about what their purpose is. Some are clearer than others: doctors aid and cure, while engineers create and build. And then there's journalists, what is it that they do?

As informants for the public, we provide people with knowledge on topics that impact and interest their daily lives. Whether it's an

inside look of their favorite teams' locker room, an in-depth review of an Oscar-nominated film or changes occurring in their local government, journalists do it for the people.

While some would think otherwise, I would argue that journalists are truly powerful and create some of the biggest influence in our world. We unmask hidden truths, report on life-changing information and give a voice to those who are unheard. Personally, my favorite part of being a

journalist is giving those an opportunity to share their experiences and speak their truth. Each person has a voice and although we may not all agree on this, their voice deserves to be heard, within reason.

Last week, when The Recorder published two articles focusing on the case of Christopher Dukes, Central Connecticut's former director of student conduct, we received a lot of support, but also criticism and judgment. Regardless, I would argue his story had a right to be heard as it was backed with several pieces of evidence.

The articles highlighted information that had not yet been released and would likely not have been distributed since the case did not continue onto a trial. Information regarding the official toxicology reports, state-tested DNA evidence, phone records and other pieces of evidence were cited in the articles.

By allowing Dukes to speak his truth, a perspective was given that did not exist prior to our publication,

as it can be argued that most of the media coverage surrounding the case was biased and did not draw attention to the accused's standpoint. Publishing this article brought light to that and unveiled a large amount of official evidence that was not used during the court hearings.

We stand by our work as it has allowed for unreported details to be publicized and it was appropriate to inform our readers of this information.

Prior to the publication, we discussed the importance of giving our readership the opportunity to be able to gain this knowledge. Although you may not always like what The Recorder publishes, it is important that you are aware of the information given; what you do with it is your decision.

As The Recorder continues to print articles and publications for the future, I hope our readers will be mindful that we value everyone's voice.

CHAN2017@MY.CCSU.EDU

## EDITORIAL

### A Switch To Free Transportation May Help Save The World

After months of hype, Luxembourg's free public transport has begun.

On March 1, Luxembourg made the switch to let residents ride buses, trams and trains for free. And no one needs a ticket to ride. The aim of this switch was to cut down on traffic congestion, as the country suffered from major traffic jams.

However, another important benefit of this move is that if public transportation is free, people will be less inclined to use their cars. If someone can get from point A to point B for free then, of course, they are going to take the option that is free. Less vehicles on the road means air pollution will be cut down.

With a population of only 614,000, Luxembourg may be one of Europe's smallest countries, being comparable in size to Rhode Island, and the idea of free transportation is not unprecedented. However, the fact the country has taken this leap most certainly is a big deal, as it is a clear indication that they are serious about trying to do what they can with climate change.

More countries should follow in Luxembourg's steps, including the United States.

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, "carbon pollution from burning fossil fuels is rapidly changing the earth's climate. The transportation sector is one of the largest sources of carbon pollution in the U.S.."

This could be easily cut by making public transportation free, since a large amount of Americans would likely take the bus if it meant they did not have to pay for gas.

The United States has taken steps to cut down on air pollution with the Clean Air Act and the removal of lead from gasoline, but the Environmental Protection Agency says, "many places in the United States still have poor local air quality and there is more to be done."

Another country that could benefit from making public transportation free is England. In England, a train ticket from London to Manchester costs £75 (\$96), this compared to the cost of fuel for the same trip £30 (\$40), means that most people are going to choose to drive as it costs almost half the price. One of the big talks in the recent general election was the cost of public transport, and with the conservatives staying in power the chances of the prices dropping are small.

If we are serious about fighting climate change then it is essential that governments seriously consider taking a leaf out of Luxembourg's book and make public transport free. The benefits would be more noticeable in the bigger cities such as London and Manchester.

Luxembourg is one of the richest countries in Europe, which may explain why there are able to afford to have free public transportation. This makes it harder for countries with lower economies to follow suit and also make transportation free. Therefore the switch to free, or at least cheaper public transportation, may have to be a gradual one but it is still one all countries should consider in order to better our planet's climate.

## Lets Talk About Bernie's Cuba Comments

BY RYAN BROOKS  
CONTRIBUTOR



Sanders is still the frontrunner for The Democratic party

NEW YORK POST

"But you know, it's unfair to simply say everything is bad," Senator Bernie Sanders said, in an hour interview, in response to a question regarding Fidel Castro. "When Fidel Castro came to office, you know what he did? He had a massive literacy program. Is that a bad thing? Even though Fidel Castro did it?"

Predictably, these comments on Fidel Castro have caused mass hysteria within the media and Democratic establishment, allowing two arguments to emerge.

The first argument claims that the comments made by Senator Sanders will hurt Sanders's chances of winning Florida against President Donald Trump, and will hinder house Democrats' chances of retaining the House of Representatives.

While there is some truth to this, due to Florida's large Cuban population and the visceral feelings they have toward Castro, it is not the fatal blow that many in the media and Democratic establishment would have you believe.

The second argument claims that Castro was a vicious dictator and that saying anything slightly positive about him cannot be tolerated. To be clear, it is true that Castro was an evil man who brutalized his people. As Sander does, one can accept this and the objectively good things that Castro did and that the media ignores.

Should we ignore the fact that while the United States government was blocking United Nations sanctions against the apartheid South African

government, Castro was sending troops to bring down the South African government in Angola? Maybe we should also ignore the years of U.S. imperialism that Castro ended by taking down the authoritarian U.S. funded gangster Fulgencio Batista?

What we should do, as Sanders does, is acknowledge these empirical facts about Castro while also condemning his authoritarian nature.

In his comments, Sanders mainly refers to the early years of Castro, when he was reversing the damage done to the Cuban economy by years of U.S. Hegemony over the island due to the Platt Amendment. After seizing power from Batista, Castro and his cabinet passed reforms that renegotiated labor contracts, redistributed land, capped rents, implemented tariffs and nationalized industries that were given to U.S. companies under Batista's reign.

Needless to say, the majority of the American people do not know the totality of Castro's legacy.

Many Americans, especially older Americans, are stuck in a cold war mind warp, facilitated by a media who continue to suppress any nuance insight about Castro.

However, it is not just the media that aid in this suppression. Joe Biden,

who was part of an administration that sent military assistance to an authoritarian theocracy in Saudi Arabia, claimed that Sanders's comments were abhorrent — as did Pete Buttigieg, Michael Bloomberg and other prominent Democratic candidates.

Suffice to say, almost any politician in America would be unwilling to make the type of nuance comments Bernie Sanders made about such a divisive figure as Castro.

It would have been easy for Sanders to flat out say that everything Castro did was awful and that his previous comments on him were wrong. However, unlike many politicians in America, Sanders is actually consistent in his beliefs.

He will not say what the media thinks he should say. It is evident to anyone willing to look close enough that this is why Sanders is the undisputed frontrunner in the Democratic primary and why he has millions of fervent supporters who will not abandon him.

Shockingly, people like when their politicians say what they mean and stick by their principle. Maybe a few more of them should try it, including the President.



@TheRecorder



MAURIAH JOHNSON

Performers at the Vagina Monologue brought heartfelt stories and acts to the audience.

## Redefining A Vagina

BY MAURIAH JOHNSON  
ASSISTANT LIFESTYLE EDITOR

The lit stage of Torp Theater welcomed the annual rock-star Vagina Monologues to its stage last week.

The ground was graced with beaming bright yellow flowers that danced whenever the actresses stepped foot on stage telling the stories of the strength of women through our most sacred victor — the vagina.

“The female body is so precious and it deserves to be safe and strong,” Nehway Sahn, an actress in the Central Connecticut Vagina Monologues said, “we have to channel our power.”

Power is one thing that surely dominated the stage in the midst of stories about pubic hair, orgasms, pregnancy and tampons — all things that women have

endured and have learned to accept and love despite it being natural.

Sahn delivered one of the most gut wrenching stories of them all, nearly bringing the audience to tears with her outstanding monologue of mutilation and rape — a story that needed to be told, shown and acknowledged.

While the monologues are very well-known for their blatant honesty, the backstory is the most impressive: bringing awareness to V-Day.

V-Day is a global movement aimed toward stopping violence against women and girls in creative events while raising money in order for anti-violence organizations and communities to continue to raise awareness for the issues that are shied upon and aren't given the attention they deserve — the attention women deserve.

“Vaginas in our society are highly undervalued on a larger scale and individually,” Sydney Craig, an attendee

of the event, said. “It’s such a critical part of a woman, but it’s not valued as such, even by a woman herself.”

The monologues helped women and men in the crowd, including the actresses themselves, find that value in their bodies. Sahn mentioned how through her experience she “was able to connect to her femininity,” acknowledging that she too can forget that she has a vagina, now seeing it as “something to be proud of, something worth the acknowledgement,” leaving her proud of her womanhood.

“This has been an experience to remember,” Marx Chiriboga, a CCSU student said, “to see women relate and be able to open up on a topic that they reserved and even finding humor in their connections.”

How right he was.

The audience filled with endless laughter, hanging on to each line, sound, moan and relentless female honesty that poured off the stage from every single

actress that took the stage telling the stories of women as if they were their own.

Truthfully, any woman in the room took on the role or could relate deeply to the monologues that told pieces of the untold stories of their lives and that is something money can't buy.

CCSU's Vagina Monologues didn't only redefine the meaning behind a woman's most sacred space, it opened the eyes of some women's deepest insecurities and gave them a whole new respect knowing that their worth cannot be measured by any man's standards because they are the bringers of life and the mother of all things.

Women will forever be needed because we are the future.

## Coffee And Kala Was A Night To Remember



Several performers came to the front of the room to perform throughout the night.

BY BRITTNEY WILLIS  
CONTRIBUTOR

It's no secret that Central Connecticut has an abundance of talent circulating within the campus. At Coffee and Kala, an open mic social held by the Center for Africana Studies, students with diverse gifts are able to showcase their craft among peers.

This past Thursday was the first Coffee and Kala event of the semester, and it certainly won't be the last. It all started with junior Nehway Sahn, an intern

at the Center for Africana Studies, who saw a need that had to be filled.

“I noticed there were a lot of talented people around me,” Sahn said. “I wanted them to share what makes them feel alive.”

Hence, the beginning of the open mic social.

Sahn, a Liberian native, ensured that Liberian fried dough type puffs called kala was featured as one of the many refreshments offered. But refreshments were not the only thing enjoyable to students.

The atmosphere of the room was undeniably something to talk about with lighting from white Christmas lights on display upon the walls around the Center for Africana Studies and dimmed lamps illuminating the room to create an intimate vibe.

The sounds of smooth jazz played by a live band filled the air with melodic tunes beautiful enough to attract anyone unbeknownst to the event. Body pillows were given to those who had not secured a seat on either a couch or cozy chair. One performer even stated that the room gave them an old jazz club type of vibe.

As Sahn hosted the event, she was also among one of the many performers featured that night. Singing an original song that she wrote while playing an electric guitar, she was the first act to help alleviate the pressure of going first.

Eruptions of applause and praise followed every act for the night, the audience showing their love. Some people stated their nervousness before beginning and audience members gave encouraging claps and shouts before and after to demonstrate their support.

Entertainers heavily acknowledged the live band and were ecstatic to have one featured at the open

mic social. Some even used the band as part of their performance to provide beats for their act.

There were singers, guitar players, spoken word artists, poets, rappers, a comedian, a storyteller and even a girl who performed a conversation with herself. In the show's ending, the mic was open to anyone who had not signed up for a spot that evening. Various performers even came together, free-styling in their way, but to the same beat with the help of the band. The energy between the crowd and performers was euphoric.

When nine p.m. rolled around signaling the end of the event, the center was still full of people. Sahn isn't sure of a March date as of yet, but says that the next Coffee and Kala event will be held on April 16th indefinitely.



Sahn and other performers coming together for a performance at the end of Coffee and Kala.

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# The Devil Went Down To Arch Street

BY JULIA CONANT  
LIFESTYLE EDITOR

The 21 and older crowd at Central can now enjoy an alcoholic beverage based on the university, thanks to a partnership between Five Churches Brewing and the CCSU athletics department.

The drink is called The Devil Went Down to Arch Street, as a reference to the Charlie Daniels song “The Devil Went Down to Georgia.” The Devil refers to Central’s mascot, and Arch Street is where Five Churches Brewing is located.

Austin Japs, head brewer and partner of Five Churches Brewing explained that he wanted to make a drink that was both tasty and affordable. The beer is an Indian Pale Ale and uses two hops to get it’s flavor.

“I took two hops that I think are vastly underrated and also reasonably affordable, which allows us to keep the cost down,” Japs said. “So we used comet and calypso hops in it.”

Japs said these were two hops that he liked and knew tasted good separately, but this was his first time putting the two together. He also pointed out that comet and calypso both start with the letter c, so they could stand for Central Connecticut.

“Coincidence? Maybe,” Japs joked.

The beer also has only six percent alcohol by volume, because Japs wanted the drink to be sessionable.

“It’s not a one and done beer, which is important for college students,” Japs said.

Last fall, Five Churches Brewing made an appearance at Central’s Homecoming game, handing out samples to attendees who were of age. While there,



The Five Churches Brewing team was unanimous on the design for the Devil Went Down to Arch Street beer can.

5 CHURCHES  
BREWERY

they asked what style beer people preferred and what they wanted to call the beer. In this sense, it is Central’s

beer.

Five Churches Brewing is owned by the Lemnotis family, who opened it in March of 2018. However, the Lemnotis’ have owned businesses in New Britain since 1949

“It always made sense to stay in New Britain for us,” Christina Caccioppoli, Five Churches Brewing partner said. She then went on to describe the location of the brewery. “It’s a second story tap room. It has nice big windows so you can actually see five churches on the skyline of New Britain, so that’s where the name came from.”

Five Churches Brewing had wanted to work with Central in some capacity since they opened, since both are located in New Britain. In 2019, Cody Collins, the new General Manager of Central’s athletics department reached out to the brewery.

“Coming in here, I understood as a fairly recent college graduate that college students love three things,” Collins said. “Alcohol, food and entertainment.”

Collins said that once he began the partnership with Caccioppoli, he knew it was the right move.

“I knew right away it made too much sense not to do something, with how close Five Churches is to the university and just how the family ties roll in,” Collins said. “I knew we had something brewing, no pun intended.”

There is a kickoff party for the beer scheduled for Thursday, March 12 at Five Churches Brewery at 5 p.m.

“I’m really excited to now kick off this partnership that’s been in the works for the past six months, so it’s gonna be great,” Collins said. “And I know at Central, the community outreach to the togetherness of this new beverage is gonna be next level.”

@JULIA\_CONANT

## Which Fried Chicken Sandwich Is Top Dog?

Brioche buns and delicious sauces paired with lettuce, tomatoes or even pickles, all to highlight delicious fried chicken. This phenomenon has taken over bellies nationwide or at least the ones belonging to people who eat meat. And while this debate on the best chicken sandwich rivals the intensity of any democratic debate, there will likely never be a clear winning candidate. Here are some of our staff’s personal favorites.

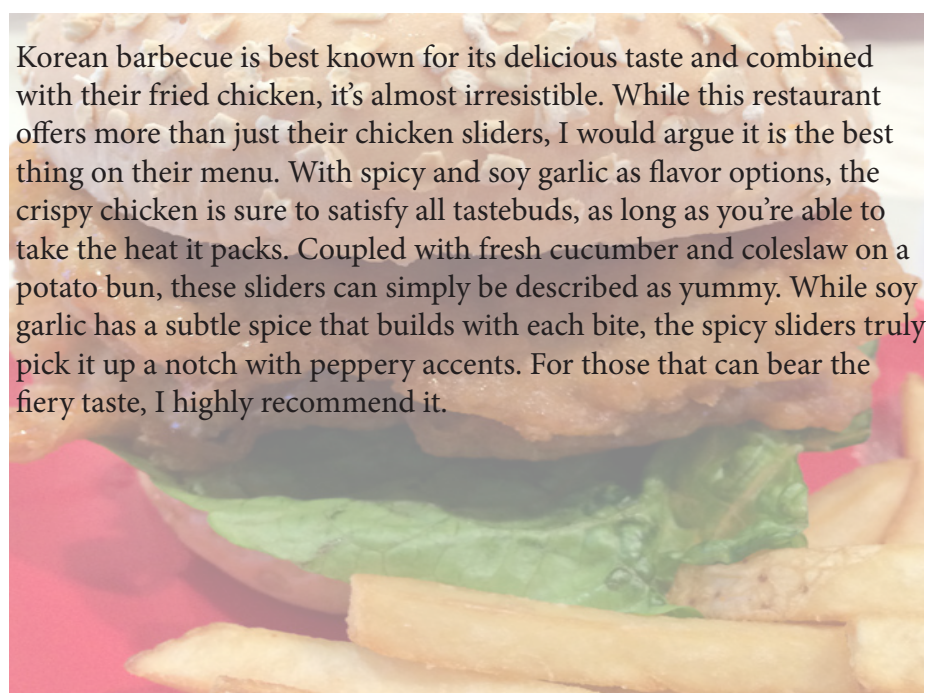
BY BRUNA VILA ARTIGUES,  
NEWS EDITOR

Used to the one dollar McChicken, the first bite I had of the Chick Fil A chicken sandwich was a life changer. With the perfect amount of meat and crispiness, the nation’s largest chicken chain does not disappoint. When you bite on the sandwich, you experience a very balanced explosion of flavors that accentuates the perfectly cooked chicken. The thin but very crispy fried layer is a welcoming party for the tastebuds, getting you ready for the 100 percent whole boneless breast of chicken that comes after. To accompany it, the soft and pillowy potato bun is the right size not to overshadow the meat. I personally like the Deluxe Sandwich that comes with lettuce and tomatoes. However, if you are not a vegetables person, don’t worry, another special and unique touch to the Chick Fil A sandwich are the sauces, which is also what they are known for. Polynesian, Honey Mustard, Garden Herb Ranch, Zesty Buffalo, Barbecue, Sweet and Sour Siracha and Chick Fil A sauce make it very hard for you to choose only one of them. In my opinion, Chick Fil A beat all the expectations and exceeded them. I recommend it to everybody without a doubt, and I am even thinking of starting a petition to spread the Chick Fil A chain overseas.

BY JULIA MORAN,  
LAYOUT EDITOR

Hot N’ Tender? I’d say so. Their “hand breaded” chicken is as moist as it is crispy; creating the perfect balance in every bite. While they offer signature bowls and chicken “Bites”, the magic is in the chicken sandwiches. I enjoyed every bit of my HNT Signature sandwich, starring a brioche bun, crispy onions with honey barbecue sauce. The chicken was cooked evenly and each bite had just the right amount of chicken, breading and sauce. I typically stick with a classic barbecue but HNT offers a wide variety of sauces for every taste bud. Although the sandwich is amazing on its own, the real powermove combo was investing in the HNT Box. The box includes your pick of their signature sandwiches, 1 HNT Classic Tender (plain), 1 regular side and a medium drink. The tender is an excellent follow up when you’re craving more chicken immediately finishing the juicy ‘wich. This has got to be a top contender for BEST chicken sandwich.

BY ISABELLA CHAN,  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



Korean barbecue is best known for its delicious taste and combined with their fried chicken, it’s almost irresistible. While this restaurant offers more than just their chicken sliders, I would argue it is the best thing on their menu. With spicy and soy garlic as flavor options, the crispy chicken is sure to satisfy all tastebuds, as long as you’re able to take the heat it packs. Coupled with fresh cucumber and coleslaw on a potato bun, these sliders can simply be described as yummy. While soy garlic has a subtle spice that builds with each bite, the spicy sliders truly pick it up a notch with peppery accents. For those that can bear the fiery taste, I highly recommend it.

BY RYAN JONES,  
MANAGING EDITOR

The sandwich that broke the internet. I knew I’d love Popeye’s spicy chicken sandwich the second it came across my screen back in August, but I held back from testing the sandwich during the first waves of obsession across America. Once I finally got my hands on it, though, my life got flipped and turned upside down. Long were the days of being a part of the Chic Fil A hive, the crunchy chicken had become the newest in the long line of fast food items I needed far too often, obviously paired with a dollar large Coke from McDonald’s. Popeye’s sandwich, similar to Chic Fil A’s, featured two pickles, which should be a staple on every spicy sandwich. Instead of a slice of unmelted cheese (why not just melt it?) Popeye’s utilizes a spicy mayo sauce that pairs perfect. While I will never say Chic Fil A’s sandwich is anything but amazing, it doesn’t hurt Popeye’s case that I won’t feel as bad giving them money. The crunchiness of the chicken is god tier.

# BTS Returns With ‘Map Of The Soul: 7’

BY AMINA FERATOVIC  
REPORTER

When the seven-member group from Seoul, South Korea first debuted in 2013 with their album “2 Cool 4 Skool,” there were many doubts that BTS would succeed on all fronts. Now the group has taken over worldwide and doesn’t seem to be slowing down.

Since their start, the group has had five concert tours, three of which being worldwide, while also becoming the first K-pop act to perform at the Grammys and are the first Korean act to remain on Billboard 200 for a whole year. BTS was also invited to become members of the Recording Academy and hold several Guinness World Records.

On February 21, BTS returned to the music world with their album “Map of The Soul: 7,” after their release of “Map of The Soul: Persona” which was released almost a year prior. The newest album contains 20 songs, some of which have been previously released as singles throughout the year.

Classic pop single “Boy With Luv” from “Map of the Soul: Persona” features an American artist Halsey and was released last spring. Lyrics such as, “I am curious about you, how’s your day?” and “I waited all my life” match the upbeat pop melody smoothly and shows how interested the boys are in the little things about the girl they like. They also feature other collaborations on their album with the song “Make It Right,” which was written with Ed Sheeran.

Aside from their pop singles about love, BTS also sings about their personal lives and self-acceptance, a theme that has been dominant throughout their careers, especially with their era of “Love Yourself” and other side projects. “Black Swan” is one of these songs.

It is a darker song which leans towards emo hip hop, and is essentially them confessing their fear of losing their interest in music because of the pressures of the music industry. They also urge their fans in this song to release similar fears of being different than what the world expects them to be. Being a black swan, in



BTS on the 2020 GRAMMYs red carpet.

BILLBOARD

this case, is not a bad thing but should be seen as an opportunity to do what you’re most passionate about.

The song “On” is for those searching for a song that makes them more self-aware. In this piece, the group makes it clear that you should accept yourself for who you are, no matter what other people might think of you. This song parallels the song “Idol” from the “Love Yourself: Answer” album.

Most notably, their song “UGH!” is a fire-filled rap song that expresses the frustration for the lies that have spread and been accepted as truth. It is a call-out

track similar to their “Cypher” tracks that have gained notoriety for the sub-unit called the Rap Line consisting of Suga, RM, and J-hope.

Overall, BTS has established their dominance in the music world and have positively influenced their fans in accepting themselves for who they are. Their success is simply another step towards achieving greatness and creates precedence in the music industry.

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

## Word List

1. Italy
2. Vaccine
3. Coronavirus
4. Climate
5. Diversity
6. Bioshock
7. Kala
8. Chicken
9. Vagina
10. Beer
11. Coleman
12. Rowe
13. Marshall Jr
14. Mozzicato
15. Parker



## REVIEW

## Bioshock: Undersea Anarchy

BY SAMUEL PAPPAS  
REPORTER

Want to shoot lightning or fire from your hands? Want to move objects with your mind? Want to somehow convince security systems to attack people you point at despite machines having no concept of allegiance? Want to shoot bees from your hands?

“Bioshock” lets you do all of these things. And the game is pretty dope. If you needed me to tell you that, then you probably are not the type of person to pick up a newspaper in the first place.

You play as a person in 1960 who gets caught in a plane crash over the Atlantic ocean, but swims away from the wreckage to a nearby lighthouse and ends up in a bathysphere bound for the underwater city of Rapture.

Back in the 1950s, Rapture was a glowing capitalist utopia led by the charismatic Andrew Ryan. Industry and scientific research were allowed to prosper without being constrained by government regulations or ethics, but after the discovery of a substance that allows people to change their genetic code called “Adam,” Rapture spiraled into chaos. Companies began selling evolutionary drugs called “Plasmids” that gave normal people frightening powers.

Plasmids sold like hotcakes to the populace. Unfortunately, this also has the side effect of turning people who use too many Plasmids into “Splicers,” deformed and deranged lunatics who desire to gather Adam and attack random passersby more than I desire the dining halls to be open past 7:30.

You are a fish out of water, which is ironic for a game entirely at the bottom of the ocean. Your only guidance comes from a man over the radio who calls himself Atlas and tries to keep you alive,



You can see that this player was wise enough to attack the enemy with angry bees before unloading his shotgun rounds into his face.

BIOSHOCK

so long as you help him save his family and maybe kill Andrew Ryan while you're at it.

The stage is set for one of the most intense and fun action-adventure games of all time, but that statement comes with a big qualifier.

Firstly, this game is only worth playing if you turn the Vita Chambers off. Vita Chambers are basically respawn points that charge you every time you use them, but they break the game balance entirely. And second, I hope you like taking pictures, because this game has a camera feature. You're going to be taking more photos than your one Snapchat friend keeping 200 streaks going at once.

Taking photos of enemies damages them, but if you avoid using the camera on your first play-through like I did, then you're going to have a rough time. Enemies soak up damage like sponges and react to bullets like I react to emails

from the CCSU Bookstore: ignoring them completely.

“Bioshock” also has a moral choice dilemma. For some reason, Adam is produced more effectively if the parasitic slug that carries it has a suitable host body. And the ideal hosts just happen to be little girls. And those little girls just happen to be protected by giant dudes in metal diving suits with gigantic drill hands called “Big Daddies.” You need the Adam if you want to keep those Bee Hands upgraded, so make sure to battle the Big Daddies whenever you can. The moral choice comes in the form of choosing whether to “harvest” the little girl, a process that kills her but gives you a large amount of Adam, or to “save” them, letting the girl escape, giving the player a small amount of Adam, money, upgrades and other Plasmids to supplement your Bee Hands.

There's only two endings to

“Bioshock.” In one of them you are a paragon of virtue and kindness. In the other one, you are a horrible monster who likes kicking puppies and putting food waste into the trash bins at the dining halls.

The only thing influencing each ending is whether or not you harvested all the girls, or none of them, so pick one and stick with it. All that matters in Rapture is your willingness to survive and the lengths you'll go to for fully upgraded Bee Hands.

There are also guns in “Bioshock.” They are okay I guess.

At the end of the day, “Bioshock” is still a stellar experience despite some fiddly gameplay quirks. The atmosphere, story and themes of the whole adventure really tie it all together and leave a lasting impression. One of the best games of the last 20 years, Bee Hands down.

## The Truth About The ‘Nice Guy’



Popular TV shows often emphasize ‘The Nice Guy.’

YOUTUBE

BY AMINA FERATOVIC  
REPORTER

For as long as the entertainment industry has been around, shows and films have featured the “nice guy” who, according to them, are the best for their female leads. While they may seem decent at first, over time television has shown that some of these guys aren't so nice after all — here is why.

For starters, the “nice guys” are over the top. They try to set themselves apart by putting the female lead on a pedestal. They think everything is going great up

until the girl rejects them, regardless of how sweet their gesture is, which is actually cringe worthy. After this, the guy reacts negatively and usually tries to put the girl or others down for rejecting them.

Take a look at “Pretty In Pink,” when Ducky gets mad that Andi, his love interest, loves someone else because he has been there for her the entire time and claims to have loved her endlessly. Essentially, Andi refused to lower her standards for Ducky and he was upset because he was a “nice guy.” If Ducky really was a nice guy, he'd acknowledge that she did not have any romantic feelings and just remain friends or leave the relationship altogether if he wanted.

Additionally, the “nice guy” cannot respect the other

person's boundaries or understand wanting to support themselves.

For example, Ross from “Friends,” delivers a barbershop quartet to Rachel's office when she starts establishing her independence. A true nice guy would not disrupt her in her place of work in a manner like this. Rather, a real genuine guy would do other things, such as treat her to dinner after a hard day and support her progress.

Lastly, the “nice guy” lives in his own head. The root of the “nice guy” is that he has his own vision of what this dream girl looks like, sounds like or even smells like. The girl in question is just a piece of a canvas in his envisioned masterpiece.

Take a look at the famous Netflix series “You.” The main character Joe Goldberg envisioned his first lover, Beck, as this girl who was perfect. She had everything he needed and he held an internal monologue about it, as if he were talking to her. She just needed to be his and only his.

What Joe failed to realize was that she had the right to reject him. But when Beck did reject him, he ended up kidnapping her which ultimately lead to murdering her. Yet, Joe still fails to see that he isn't a nice guy that cares too much but actually a psychopath.

There are genuine nice guys out there. For example, Emmett from “Legally Blonde” who's supportive and cares for Elle, even if she was being independent. He took his time to get to know her and genuinely loved her. Or look at Leslie and Ben from “Parks and Recreation” who exhibited a healthy, supportive and respectful relationship; their actions spoke louder than their words.

These genuinely good male characters show that you should be careful of those who call themselves “nice guys” because not all of them are.

# The Power Of Sport

BY GEORGE ATTWOOD  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

For some people, sports are essentially sweaty drama-queen athletes who do no good for the community and earn far too much money. For other people, sports have the power to inspire, unite communities from diverse backgrounds and create hope.

For many, sports are so much more than just a game and competition. They are a great way of uniting people. Sports teams unite people from all walks of life, all united behind their love for a team. Every year on the weekend closest to 9/11, football teams come together and show how patriotic they are and how they aren't afraid of terrorism or the threats that may present themselves. With American flags that cover the entire fields, the linking of arms between players and servicemen and women and flyovers from American planes, it shows unity for one common cause.

On Feb. 28, the biggest stars in Australian Rules Football played the first state of origin game in over 20 years to raise money for the Bushfire Relief, a charity created to help families that were affected by the Australian bushfires over this past summer. The match exhibited everything that is great about AFL: sharp skills, quick hands, piercing runs and occasional moments of brilliance, all of which were on display throughout Victoria's 46-point victory over the All-

Stars.

Despite the fact that it is currently pre-season, the game was sold out. What was also impressive that the players were prepared to play in pre-season and risk

injury. Even though the game was being played for charity, the players were still willing to risk the rest of their season. So the fact that they played shows how much they want to help. There has been a push in recent years for the game to be an annual thing but the players aren't too

keen to play in a game that doesn't mean anything. Before the game started, the tone for the evening was set when the players formed a guard of honor for a selection



Another example of the beauty of sports is the Soccer Aid event that occurs annually to raise money for Unicef. The event is a friendly-style football match between two teams, England and the Soccer Aid World XI, which are comprised of former professionals and celebrities. Over the seven games, Soccer Aid has raised £38 million for Unicef. No matter which stadium Soccer Aid is held in, it always sells out because of its unique combination of former professionals and celebrities. Football fans enjoy the fact that they can watch Steven Gerrard set up Robbie Williams to score. This only happens at Soccer Aid.

Both of these events show that sports can be so much more than just a game between the white lines or a form of entertainment. These "sweat drama-queen athletes" get together for a way bigger cause than to yell "GOAL" and get a paycheck. They use their visibility and popularity to get thousands of people united for a cause. Because, yes, it is human nature to help someone if one can get something out of it. For instance, you will most likely help a friend move out if they offer to pay for your dinner. People love to prove their haters wrong, so any chance to prove they are not a "sweat drama-queen athlete" they will take.

of firefighters, police and SES workers ran through a banner that read: "For those who were impacted, right across the land, with our game we honor you, tonight with you we stand." This shows the power of sport because only at a sporting event could fan be united for the greater good.

@THECHUNKYGADGIE

## Women's Lacrosse Off To The Worst Start In Five Years

BY GEORGE ATTWOOD  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Central Connecticut women's lacrosse team could not recover from a slow start against Iona College. The Blue Devils struggled offensively for the second straight game.

CCSU started the game by allowing the Gaels to jump out to an early four-goal lead within the first eight minutes. Central was able to get onto the scoreboard, but soon after, Iona took the lead back out to six goals and the Blue Devils couldn't recover, losing the game 17-7.

The Gaels and Blue Devils would trade goals and Iona went into the half up by five with the score 10-5 in favor of Iona.

The second half was much of the same for Central as Iona continued their strong offensive showing with the Blue Devils conceding seven goals in the second half. CCSU was outscored 7-2 in the second half.

Head coach, Betsy Vendel said that they need to create more offense and this will start with valuing their possessions.

"Well, it starts with valuing our possessions, it starts with the draw and then it comes down to executing efficiently and waiting to hit our shot," Vendel said. "We need to take the shot we want to take, not the shot defense gives us."

Vendel was impressed with the way the team was able to win more draws and get a foothold in the game.

"We struggled with getting possession of the draw control at Iona. Momentum shifted when we started winning a few more draw controls," Vendel said. "We had to shift our defense early on to disrupt their offense, the shift came a little late in the first half so we had a lot of making up to do on the offensive end. Offensively we had more opportunities this game we just needed to be able to push the ball harder and faster and stay disciplined and then capitalize when we had our opportunities."

Junior Nina Sutton led the Blue Devils with 6 draw



Central has started the year 0-5, which is their worst start in five years.

CCSU

controls, but despite her efforts, Central was out-drawn 14-12.

One of the bright spots for Central has been the offensive production from their freshman players. In the game against Iona, freshman Katelyn Parker scored twice and tallied an assist. Parker now has 5 goals in her first college season.

Vendel has always spoken highly of her freshman players and how versatile they are.

"I said early on that our freshmen class is a very talented class," Vendel said. "Some of them are rotating into different positions and I am very pleased with their performances so far. I think they need a little more game experience before they all really start becoming a force on the field."

Junior Emma Sullivan added a goal, an assist and led CCSU with seven shots, while freshman Madison Palumbo scored her first career goal. Also, junior Kaitlyn Rapp scored her 3rd goal of the season, while junior

Cooper Cowdin made 8 saves for CCSU.

Despite the poor start to the season, Vendel said that these games are good as it can get them prepared for Northeast Conference play.

"Our goal is set on NEC's, every game is preparation for those conference games. Every game we play we come away with ways we need to grow as a program as well as finding our strong points and utilizing them in our next competition," Vendel said. "We are evolving our game with every contest, it challenges us to work harder and smarter every day in practice. And with the underclassmen stepping up and contributing even more, we are becoming well rounded and more versatile."

The loss to Iona leaves the Blue Devils 0-5 to start the season. This is Central's worst start to a season in five years.

Central returns home on March 9, as it hosts Radford at 4 p.m. on Arute Field.

@THECHUNKYGADGIE

## Schedule

### Women's Lacrosse

3/9 | 4pm  
vs. Radford

### Track & Field

3/6-3/8 | All Day  
@ IC4A/ECAC  
Championships  
Boston, MA

### Women's Basketball

3/5 | 7pm  
vs St. Francis Brooklyn  
(Senior Night)

### Baseball

3/4 | 2:30pm vs. Hartford  
3/6 | 3pm, 3/7 12pm &  
3/8 12pm  
vs. Stony Brook  
3/10 3pm vs. Manhattan

# Nine Blue Devils Compete At BU's Last Chance Qualifier

BY ANDREW DECAPUA  
REPORTER

Only a select few of Central Connecticut State University men's and women's indoor track and field athletes competed in the Boston University Last Chance Qualifier on Saturday, February 28. Freshman Ashley Dana was the lone member of the women's team to compete, while eight members of the men's team competed.

Dana ran in the women's 1,000-meter run at the BU Last Chance Qualifier. She was able to finish the race in fifth place out of the 11 competitors that competed in the event. She posted a time of 2:55.21 which was a collegiate-best for the freshman.

Of the eight men's track and field athletes that competed three were able to put up personal bests. Senior Alex Norstrom and freshmen Elias Field and Eddie Nicholas all competed in the men's 3,000-meter run on Saturday and all three posted personal bests in the event. Norstrom crossed the finish line in thirteenth place with a time of 8:25.82. Field clocked in at 8:33.19 to take eighteenth place followed by Nicholas in twenty-first place with a time of 8:38.09.

Senior Edwin Alston finished the men's 60-meter dash preliminaries' first heat with a time of 7.20 seconds which was good enough for eighth place in the preliminaries and qualified him for the men's 60-meter dash finals. Alston went

on the cross the finish line of the finals in eighth place at 7.14 seconds.

Other CCSU men's track and field athletes that competed at the BU Last Chance Qualifier included senior Richard Grudzwick, junior Darius Wise and sophomores Jason Walton and Cam Whalen. Grudzwick crossed the finish line of the men's one mile run finals event in sixty-ninth place with a time of 4:25.06. Wise competed in the men's 200-meter finals event and finished in thirtieth place with a time of 22.75 seconds. Walton took part in the men's 400-meter finals event and came in nineteenth place with a time of 49.87 seconds. Whalen finished the men's 60-meter hurdles preliminaries' first heat in eleventh place with a time of 8.70. Whalen did not qualify for the 60-meter hurdles final event.

Both of Central's men's and women's track and field teams took this past week to rest some athletes to prepare them for the upcoming IC4A/ECAC Championships, head coach Eric Blake said.

"We rested the majority of our team. Some rested to get ready for IC4A's and ECAC's, while others are getting ready for outdoors," Blake said.

The members of the CCSU track and field teams that will be competing in the IC4A/ECAC Championships next weekend include four women's athletes and at least eight men's athletes, coach Blake said.

"We are still working on the exact number, but four women and about eight



Elias Field (pictured), ran in the 3000m and noted a personal best.

CCSU

to ten men," Blake said.

Up next for the Blue Devils' men's and women's track and field teams is a return trip to the Boston University Track and Tennis Center in Boston, Massachusetts to compete in the IC4A/ECAC Championships on March 6-8. The NCAA Championships will be held the following weekend in Albuquerque, New Mexico on March 13-14 and will conclude the indoor track and field season.

@ANDREWDECAPUA

# Baseball Looks Ahead After Dropping Four

BY RYAN JONES  
MANAGING EDITOR

Central Connecticut baseball traveled to warmer pastures this past weekend as they continue to wipe away the rust of a new season. The rust has not fully cleared, it seems, as Central dropped all four of its games of the RussMatt Central Florida Invitational.

The Blue Devils came into the weekend business trip rolling. In the team's inaugural series, CCSU took two of three against Bethune-Cookman on the back of some strong pitching performances.

After putting out the same rotation for the first three games, it appears head coach Charlie Hickey will be going with a starting rotation of Brandon Fox, Andrew Braun and Anthony Mozzicato, despite the third having just started his rookie campaign.

These starters only gave up five runs over 22 innings of work over the weekend.

Central's first three games of the weekend were closer contests than their finale. All three games came down to a pair of runs or less, but some ninth-inning meltdowns kept the door to a comeback shut for the Blue Devils.

Buddy Dewaine sent one past the fence to kick off the inning. Dewaine's homer was matched by Peyton Stephens, giving CCSU a 5-3 lead heading into the bottom half of the seventh against Pitt.

After the Panthers posted four runs to swing the pendulum the other way, the Blue Devils struck out swinging in a three up, three down manner in the eighth and grounded into a double play in the final

inning.

CCSU took on Lehigh in their next game. With the game even at one apiece, TT Bowens took advantage of an error to break the tie in the seventh.

Peyton Stephens, who has shuffled

liked Stephens would not take long to do so.

Finesse sent the two batters packing for Stephens, striking them out looking. With one out remaining in the inning, the Panthers struck, plating two runs for their



Chandler Debrosse (pictured) finished the day 3-for-5 with a run scored against Lehigh.

CCSU

around from the field to the mound often in his three seasons, was put in to potentially seal the victory for the Blue Devils, and the start of the eighth seemed

first lead of the game.

Two Blue Devils struck out swinging in the ninth, closing the door to a comeback.

# Starting Lineup Changes Lead Women's Basketball To Win

BY TREVI ALICKOLLI  
SPORTS EDITOR

Central Connecticut went with a different starting lineup against Long Island University and it propelled them to their first victory after eight straight losses.

Guard Forever Toppin started over Bruna Vila Artigues and in the process, contributed a career-high 18 points in her first start since the beginning of the season.

Toppin and interim head coach Kerri Reaves contributed her strong game to a good week of preparation in practice.

"She works every day in practice," Reaves said. "I'm glad she responded well to the start, she had two really good days of practice. We thought we'd give her a chance to start since she's worked really hard and she hasn't started since the beginning of the season."

"I think I came in prepared, I had two really good practices, I came into the gym early today and I had really supportive teammates behind me," Toppin said. "It was a really good day for me."

In addition to her scoring, Toppin also added two rebounds, two assists and two steals.

Three other Blue Devils scored in double figures against LIU. Ashley Chin scored 11, Ashley Berube scored 10 while Emma McCamus also scored 10.

Reaves said she believes this is a good stepping stone for her team, who was able to be consistent in all four quarters for the first time in a long time.

"We did a really good job of scoring in all four quarters," Reaves said. "I think for us, moving forward, it was really important for us to score 21 points in the fourth quarter. We also actually defended really well. I was really happy with the way that our team executed on offense and on defense."

As far as making the change in their starting point guard, Reaves said that she is confident in both of her point guards whether they're coming off the bench or not.

"We're very fortunate because they bring such a different dynamic every time one of them is in the game," Reaves said. "Bruna is very heady, she's going to get everyone in the right places, she's going to run really good offense, she's always going to be in the right spot. Forever, she's more of a transition point guard, she likes to get it out and go. It's literally like having the best of both worlds."



Forever Toppin scored a career high with 18 points against LIU in Monday night's game.

CCSU

Before they faced Long Island University, the Blue Devils faced Merrimack University and lost 56-46.

Central once again started the game playing well and was only down four at halftime against the Warriors but another slow third quarter, in which the Blue Devils scored a mere seven points, diminished any hope of a victory for them.

Last week, Reaves said she hopes this is not a trend for her team but that is exactly what it is shaping up to be.

After the slow start at the beginning of the second half, Reaves opted to pull the starters and roll with the backups the rest of the way. Four out of five starters for Central played less than 20 minutes and 13 different Blue Devils cracked the rotation this past Sunday.

Center Ashley Berube led her team with 14 points and was the only starter to play more than 20 minutes, logging in 27. She also added eight rebounds, which tied Forever Toppin for the team-high on Sunday.

Jenkins, Danielle Delano and Chin all scored six points and were tied for second on the team.

The Blue Devils attempted 64 shots against the

Warriors and connected on one more than their opponent but still lost by 10 points.

The difference came from downtown. Central did not connect on any of their three-point attempts while Merrimack made seven three-pointers.

"We kind of shot ourselves in the foot against Merrimack," Reaves said. "Going nine of 30 from inside of the paint. If we make those, we don't even have to shoot from the three."

Despite the loss to Merrimack University, the Blue Devils responded well against the Sharks and have a win going into their last game of the season.

Reaves said this is a big step for her and her program. "That's a big boost for our kids mentally," Reaves said. "Even to build on for next year."

Central will close out their regular season against St. Francis Brooklyn on March 5, and also honor their seniors on their last home game of the season.

Tipoff is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. as the Blue Devils look to close out their season with a two-game losing streak.

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## Men's Basketball Seniors Conclude Collegiate Careers With Career Highs

BY ANDREW DECAPUA  
REPORTER

Men's basketball concluded their 2019-20 season by honoring three seniors on Senior Night in Jamir Coleman, Tyler Rowe and Donyelle Marshall Jr. The Blue Devils lost their final two games of the season but fought hard, just as they have been in the second half of their season.

CCSU celebrated Coleman, Rowe and Donyell Marshall Jr. on Saturday at home against Saint Francis Brooklyn. The Terriers defeated the Blue Devils 85-79 in the final game of the season for Central but the Blue Devils were in it throughout and were within two in the closing minutes of the game.

Coleman led the attack during his final game as a Blue Devil, scoring a career-high 28 points. He also had 10 rebounds, securing a double-double, his second this season.

Rowe also put together a career night, scoring 15 points on 6/15 shooting from the floor. He added four rebounds, an assist and a steal while playing 32 minutes.

Marshall Jr. started his final game as a collegiate athlete but only played seven minutes. Despite the limited role, his father, head coach Donyell Marshall, said he played productive minutes for his team.

The three seniors said it was a blessing being able to play at Central Connecticut and for head coach Donyell Marshall.

"It was a blessing, coming from a division three school, coming as a walk-on and being able to play division one basketball especially here at Central it means a lot," Rowe said.

"Definitely a blessing," Coleman said. "Thanks to the coaching staff, thanks to the players, just thanks to the fans as well."

"I agree that it is a blessing too," Marshall Jr. said. "In the four years that have gone by, I've met tons of great people on the team and would love to do it all again if I could."

Sophomore Ian Krishnan also scored in the double digits with 10 and went 4-9 from the field.

In the second half, where Coleman scored 22 of his 28 total points, he said that he channeled his inner mamba mentality and broke down a defender to hit a turnaround jump shot from the baseline. He then belted out "They can't guard me."

"That was Kobe, that was just Kobe talking," Coleman said.

The Terriers' junior guard Chauncy Hawkins had a game-high 38 points and did most of his damage from the free-throw line going 19 for 20. Senior forward Deniz Celen and freshman guard Rob Higgins also had double-digit points

for Saint Francis Brooklyn with 10 and 13 respectively.

When asked what the team could have done better in the game Coach Marshall said stopping Hawkins would have helped the team secure a victory against St. Francis Brooklyn.

"Obviously, not letting Hawkins get 38. I think he did a very good job of getting to the free-throw line and making his free throws," Marshall said. "I thought we played well, I thought we played hard, we just can't let a guy like that have the type of game he had."

CCSU jumped out to a 10-5 lead with 14:52 left in the first half after Rowe scored five straight points. The Terriers went on an 8-0 run that helped them take the lead for good at the 12:17 mark. Just before halftime, a pair of Hawkins free throws gave SFBK a 42-32 lead going into the locker room.

The Blue Devils fought back in the second half by going on 7-1 run to cut the Terriers lead to just six points. With 1:54 left in the game. In the final minute of the game, Krishnan hit a three-pointer to cut the lead to 77-75. SFBK would then hold off the CCSU comeback attempt by going 6-6 from the free-throw line to ice the game.

Before facing the Terriers, Central was on the road against Merrimack University and lost 69-58 on Thursday. With the victory, the Warriors clinched the Northeast Conference's regular-season

title. The Warriors outshot the Blue Devils 41.4 percent to 33.3 percent from the field. Merrimack shot 9-28 from three-point range, while Central only made two of their 10 attempts from behind the arc. CCSU committed 19 turnovers that led to 22 points for Merrimack.

Freshmen Myles Baker and Greg Outlaw lead the Blue Devils in scoring with 12 and 10 respectively. Baker went 3-11 from the field with six rebounds, while Outlaw shot 4-8 and added eight rebounds.

Merrimack's senior guard Juvaris Hayes had a busy night. Hayes finished the game with 19 points, seven rebounds, five assists, and five steals.

CCSU was held scoreless in the final 2:12 of the first half. The Warriors scored the final five points of the opening half and led the Blue Devils 40-30 at halftime.

It was the same story in the second half as Merrimack scored the first four points to open the second half and held Central to just one field goal in the first three minutes after halftime.

The Blue Devils finished the season with a 4-27 overall record and 3-15 record in Northeast Conference play. Central will be without Coleman, Rowe and Marshall Jr. next year. Looking ahead to next season, the Blue Devils will hope to return 80 percent of their roster, develop their young core and build off what was an overall disappointing season for the team.